

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund  
2009 Phase 1 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

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**LCCMR ID: B08**

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**Project Title:** State Parks Land Acquisition

**Total Project Budget:** \$ \$1,500,000

**Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested:** July 2009 - June 2011 (2 yrs)

**Other Non-State Funds:** \$ Unknown at this time

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**Region:**

Statewide

**County Name:**

Statewide

**City / Township:**

1) DNR, Reg. IV-Monson Lake State Park-Swift Cty 2) Reg. II-Crow Wing State Park near Brainerd-Crow Wing Cty 3) Reg. II-Cuyuna Country SRA near Ironton-Crow Wing Cty 4) Reg. III – Whitewater SPK near Altura-Winona Cty 5) Reg. II – Scenic State Park near the City of Bigfork 6) Reg. II – Tettegouche State Park near City of Silver Bay

**Summary:** Acquire land from willing sellers within the statutory boundaries of state parks. These acquisitions, help reduce impacts of development that would otherwise occur on the property and protect quality resources.

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**Main Proposal:** 0808-1-045-proposal-Peterson-Main\_Proposal.doc

**Project Budget:** 0808-1-045-budget-Peterson-Budget.doc

**Qualifications:** 0808-1-045-qualifications-Peterson-Qualifications.doc

**Map:** 0808-1-045-maps-Peterson-Map.doc

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# MAIN PROPOSAL

## PROJECT TITLE: State Parks Land Acquisition

### I. PROJECT STATEMENT

The state park acquisitions will provide riparian buffers along many wetlands, creeks, rivers and lakes, help reduce impacts of development that would otherwise occur on the property, protect high quality resources and give the Department control over access to other state-owned property that currently suffers degradation from unauthorized use.

### II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT RESULTS

**Result 1:** Acquire 5 acres in Crow Wing State Park **Budget: \$ 295,000**

DNR proposes to acquire a 5 acre lot with over 400 feet on the Crow Wing River. This acquisition will provide additional shoreline protection and add to the recreational opportunities now offered in this area such as hiking and access to the river.

**Deliverable:**

December 31, 2009 - The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation will appraise, negotiate and acquire a 5-acre lot from the Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota

**Result 2:** Acquire 280 acres in Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area **Budget: \$ 300,000**

DNR proposes to acquire 280 acres from multiple owners. Once all transactions are completed, the State will have 100% interest in the land. Then the DNR can increase the recreation opportunities in Cuyuna Country SRA and improve administrative efficiencies. Some large sites are completely surrounded by park-managed land and some are key access points that will provide controlled access into the SRA.

**Deliverable:**

August 30, 2010- The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation will appraise, negotiate and acquire up to 100% interest over 280 acres within the Cuyuna Country Recreation Area (6 transactions involved).

**Result 3:** Acquire a 17-acre parcel in Whitewater State Park **Budget: \$ 300,000**

DNR proposes to acquire a parcel that straddles the Whitewater River and lies adjacent to the park visitor center. Our current trail system lies close to the boundary and could be extended for additional river resource interpretation. The parcel also will provide a natural buffer between our visitor center and private development.

**Deliverable:**

June 30, 2010- The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation will appraise, negotiate and acquire this 17-acre parcel within Whitewater State Park.

**Result 4:** Acquire a 3-acre parcel in Monson Lake SPK **Budget: \$ 5,000**

This 3-acre parcel is part of an island within Monson Lake and was added to the park boundary in 2004. The remaining portion of the island is managed by state parks for recreation purposes. This acquisition would consolidate the whole island as parkland, provide for better enforcement and enhance recreational opportunities.

**Deliverable:**

February 28, 2010 - The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation will appraise, negotiate and acquire this 3-acre parcel.

**Result 5:** Acquire a 160-acre parcel at Scenic State Park **Budget: \$360,000**

This parcel provides lakeshore protection along two lakes (securing the last remaining private parcel on one) and has a CCC era cabin on site for cultural interpretation and potential park use. Existing hiking/ski trails can also be extended into this area.

**Deliverable:**

December 31, 2009 - The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation will appraise, negotiate and acquire this single parcel.

**Result 6:** Acquire 55 acres at Tettegouche State Park **Budget:** \$240,000

This parcel will preserve over 700 feet of the Baptism River gorge and views from nearby Illgen Falls. The state park surrounds this parcel on three sides and may offer additional hiking trail opportunities.

**Deliverable:**

June 30, 2010 - The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation will appraise, negotiate and acquire multiple parcels.

Parcels in this application may be revised during the course of this funding cycle due to an inability to complete the negotiations or other factors.

### III. PROJECT STRATEGY AND TIMELINE

#### A. Project Partners

The Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota has secured three properties and is working on a fourth property within the state park request. These three critical properties (Crow Wing State Park, Whitewater State Park and Tettegouche State Park) were acquired when DNR funds were not available at the time the landowners were ready to sell.

#### B. Project Impact

The state park projects will add to existing protection along the Crow Wing River, enhance the park visitor's experience by controlling the access points within Cuyuna Country SRA, provide for additional watershed protection along the Whitewater River, allow for consistent management of an Island used by fishermen within Monson Lake, provide visitor access to lakes, interpret a fine example of CCC construction, and secure additional lands within the Baptism River watershed.

#### C. Time

All six projects will be completed between December 31, 2009 and June 20, 2010. Timing depends heavily on the length of negotiations and the acquisition process. Funding will be used for land costs, appraisals and professional services costs.

#### D. Long-Term Strategy (if applicable)

To acquire critical inholdings within state park statutory boundaries and along authorized state trail corridors. The state currently owns 226,000 acres (84%) of the 268,000 acres within state park boundaries. The Division expects close to \$2.5 Million available parcels from willing sellers each year.

**Trust Fund 2009 Project Proposal Project Title: State Park and Trail Land Acquisition**

**Project Budget**

**IV. TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST BUDGET**

<b>BUDGET ITEM</b> <i>(See list of Eligible &amp; Non-Eligible Costs, p. 17)</i>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>% FTE</b>
<b>Acquisition (Including Easements):</b> Approximately 542 acres for parks	\$ 1,300,000	
<b>PARKS- Professional Services for Acquisition such as Appraisal, Survey, Title Work and Professional Services</b>	\$ 200,000	
<b>TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET REQUEST TO LCCMR</b>	\$ 1,500,000	

**V. OTHER FUNDS**

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Remaining \$ From Previous Trust Fund Appropriation (if applicable):</b> The Division of Parks and Recreation has funds remaining from M.L 2007, (Chap.30), Sec. (2), Subd.4e and M.L.2008, (Chap.367), Sec. (2), Subd. 3h.	\$ 1,042,711	Acquisitions in Progress
<b>Other Non-State \$ Being Leveraged During Project Period:</b>	\$ -0-	
<b>Other State \$ Being Spent During Project Period:</b> The Division of Parks and Recreation has Capital Funding remaining from M.L. 2006(Chap. 258), Sec. (7), Subd 17.and M.L. 2008 (Chap.179), Sec. (7), Subd.22b.	\$ 2,812,436	Acquisitions in Progress
<b>In-kind Services During Project Period:</b>	\$ -0-	
<b>Past Spending on Parks Acquisitions not related to the 2009 proposal:</b> M.L. 2007 \$790,000, M.L. 2005 \$2,000,000		

## **Trust Fund 2009 Project Proposal**

### **Project Title: State Park and Trail Land Acquisition**

#### **Qualifications**

As Manager of Real Estate and Development for the Division of Parks and Recreation, Larry Peterson oversees the acquisition planning process to ensure the Division acquires the more critical parcels within our state park statutory boundaries.

#### **Organization Description**

The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation operates 66 state parks and 7 state recreations, and 9 state waysides throughout Minnesota. The Division of Parks and Recreation is committed to improving public recreation opportunities and preserving and restoring natural resources within the state park system.

**LCCMR 2009  
State Park Land Acquisition  
Proposed Projects**

