

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

LCCMR ID: B09

Project Title: State Trails 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: \$ 4,100,000

First Name: Stan

Last Name: Linnell

Sponsoring Organization: DNR

Address: 500 Lafayette Road, Box 52
St. Paul MN 55155

Telephone Number: 651-259-5626

Email: stan.linnell@dnr.state.mn.us

Fax: 651-297-5475

Web Address: www.dnr.state.mn.us

Region:	County Name:	City / Township:
Northwest, Central, Southeast	Beltrami, Chippewa, Dodge, Houston, Olmsted, Swift	

Summary: State Trails Land Acquisition: Acquire land from willing sellers along state trail corridors, providing significant recreational and resource corridors between communities, local parks, and other state and local trails.

Main Proposal: 0808-1-047-proposal-DNR State Trail 2009 LCCMR Proposal Form. 8.25.Final.doc

Project Budget: 0808-1-047-budget-DNR State Trail 2009 LCCMR Proposal Budget Form. 8.25.Final.doc

Qualifications: 0808-1-047-qualifications-DNR State Trail 2009 LCCMR Proposal Qualifications Form. 8.25

Map: 0808-1-047-maps-2009 LCCMR State Trail Proposal Map.Draft.25Aug08.pdf

MAIN PROPOSAL: State Trails Land Acquisition

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

The State Trail acquisitions will: provide significant safe, recreational trail connections between communities and other public recreational facilities; assist in the preservation or restoration of diverse, locally significant natural plant communities; and create contiguous wildlife corridors between diverse habitats.

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT RESULTS

Result 1: Acquire approximately 1.25 miles of the Paul Bunyan State Trail. **Budget:** \$300,000

The DNR proposes to acquire a single narrow linear parcel located along the southeastern shoreline of Lake Bemidji, and which containing 13.5 acres extending over approximately 1.25 miles. The property to be acquired is comprised entirely of former industrial property, located adjacent to the shoreline of Lake Bemidji. This proposed acquisition will provide the necessary connection Paul Bunyan State Trailhead on the southeastern corner of Lake Bemidji and the Segment of the State Trail currently beginning acquired through the City of Bemidji. Funding provided through Capital Bonding (2005 and 2008) will also be used for this project.

Deliverable: June 30, 2010 - The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Trails and Waterways will appraise, negotiate and acquire multiple parcels along the trail corridor.

Result 2: Acquire approximately 2 miles of the Douglas State Trail. **Budget:** \$500,000

The DNR proposes to acquire a single narrow linear property, containing approximately 24 acres extending over approximately 2 miles and comprised of narrow bands of urban woodland located on either side of a abandoned railroad grade. This parcel represents the final southern segment of the Douglas State Trail and will provide the critical connection between the Douglas State Trail's current southern terminus and the City's of Rochester trail system.

Deliverable: December 31, 2009 - The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Trails and Waterways will appraise, negotiate and acquire this single parcel.

Result 3: Acquire parcels along 14 miles of the Stagecoach State Trail **Budget:** \$250,000

The DNR proposes to acquire multiple parcels along the authorized Stagecoach State Trail, between the Douglas State Trails and the communities of Mantorville and Wasioja. As proposed, the trail corridor will to traverse properties ranging from level to rolling agricultural uplands and the wooded valley of the Zumbro River's upper reaches to urban areas within the communities of Mantorville and Wasioja. Acquisitions completed with these funds will help establish the initial and eastern most section of the legislatively authorized Stagecoach State Trail, providing a recreational connection between Mantorville/Wasioja, the existing Douglas State Trail and the City of Rochester. Bonding 2008 funds will also be utilized for this project. Funding provided through Capital Bonding (2008) will also be used for this project.

Deliverable: June 30, 2011 - The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Trails and Waterways will appraise, negotiate and acquire multiple parcels along the trail corridor.

Result 4: Acquire parcels along 20 miles of the Root River State Trail **Budget:** \$250,000

The DNR proposes to acquire multiple parcels along the authorized Eastern Extension of the Root River State Trail. This section of the State Trail is to follow the Root River valley from the current terminus of the Root River State Trail in Houston, through the town of Hokah and into the city of LaCrescent, connecting with the proposed Wagon Wheel Trail, eventually providing a link to Wisconsin's Trail System at LaCrosse. The trail corridor to be acquired consists of multiple parcels, comprised of former railroad grade and undeveloped agricultural and forested properties. The Root River State Trail's Eastern Extension will provide for the eventual completion of a trail link between Minnesota and Wisconsin. Funding provided through Capital Bonding (2006 and 2008) will also be used for this project

Deliverable: June 30, 2010 - The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Trails and Waterways will appraise, negotiate and acquire multiple parcels along the trail corridor.

Result 5: Acquire parcels along 8 miles of the Minnesota River State Trail **Budget:** \$200,000
The DNR proposes to acquire multiple parcels along the approximately eight mile segment of the Minnesota River State Trail between the Communities of Appleton and Milan, At Milan the proposed trail segment would connect with an existing 33 mile long trail that presently connects Milan and Milan Beach. The trail corridor to be acquired will consist of multiple parcels, comprised primarily of abandoned or vacated former roadway and agricultural properties.

Deliverable: December 31, 2009 - The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Trails and Waterways will appraise, negotiate and acquire multiple parcels along the trail corridor. 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 City of Bemidji will assist the DNR in trail corridor acquisition planning for the Paul Bunyan State Trail. The City of Rochester will assist the DNR, Division of Trails and Waterways in acquisition planning for the Douglas State Trail project. The Stagecoach State Trail project will include the following partners: the Dodge County Trails Association, Olmsted County, the communities of Mantorville and Wasioja. The Root River State Trail's Eastern Extension will include the cooperative activities of the Cities of Houston, Hokah and LaCrescent, and the local trail support association. The completion of the proposed segment of Minnesota River State Trail is to include the participation of the communities of Appleton and Milan, Swift and Chippewa Counties, the local trail committee. It is anticipated that the Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota will play a critical role in the negotiation and timely acquisition of many of the individual properties prior to State acquisition.

B. Project Impact: These State Trail projects will provide the recreational user significant new, safe, recreational trail connections at or between a number of communities throughout the State, including: Rochester, Mantorville, Wasioja, Houston, Hokah, LaCrescent, Appleton, Milan and Bemidji. These trail segments will also provide connections to several other existing public recreational facilities. The acquisition of these trail segments will also provide the opportunity to continue to preserve, restore and manage the diverse, natural plant communities that are found along these a contiguous corridors which create unique linear, wildlife corridors. These trail projects will also provide the opportunity to provide educational public outreach through the development of interpretive materials, which reference the significant natural and cultural features located along each of the trails.

C. Time: All five projects will be completed between December 31, 2009 and June 30, 2011. 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 parcels along the State Trail system that as currently authorized, is comprised of approximately 2500 miles of potential recreational trail corridor, approximately 45% of which is presently in public ownership. With the continued support of the LCCMR, the DNR expects to be able to complete the acquisition of a minimum of \$1.5 million in available properties from willing sellers each fiscal year over the next 10 years.

The acquisition of properties along the authorized State Trail corridors will provide the opportunity for the DNR to continue to increase the number of recreational trail miles in the State Trail System available to the user, while also providing the opportunity to continue to preserve, restore and manage the natural plant communities contained within these corridors.

Trust Fund 2009 Project Proposal Project Title: State Trail Land Acquisition

Project Budget

IV. TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST BUDGET

BUDGET ITEM <i>(See list of Eligible & Non-Eligible Costs, p. 17)</i>	AMOUNT	% FTE
Trails - Acquisition (Including Easements): 15 to 20 miles of trail corridor (180 to 240 acres)	\$ 1,300,000	
Trails - Professional Services for Acquisition such as Appraisal, Survey, Title Work and other Professional Services	\$ 200,000	
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET REQUEST TO LCCMR	\$ 1,500,000	

V. OTHER FUNDS

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	Status
TRAILS- Remaining \$ From Previous Trust Fund Appropriation (if applicable): The Division of Trails and Waterways has funds remaining from M.L. 2001, (Chap.2), Sec.(14), Subd.5(j); M.L. 2003, (Chap.128), Sec.(9), Subd.6(f); M.L. 2005, (Chap.1), Sec.(11), Subd.6(g-l); M.L.2007, (Chap.30), Sec.(2), Subd.4(e); and M.L. 2008, (Chap.367), Sec.(2), Subd. 3(h).	\$ 3,338,700	Acquisitions in Progress
Other Non-State \$ Being Leveraged During Project Period:	\$ -0-	
TRAILS- Other State \$ Being Spent During Project Period: The Division of Trails and Waterways has Capital Funding remaining from M.L.2005 (Chap.20), Sec. (7), Subd. 14. M.L.2006 (Chap.258), Sec. (7), Subd. 21. and M.L. 2008, (Chap.179), Sec. (7), Subd.27. for the acquisition and development of state trails. (*These funds are all targeted to specific State Trail Projects. M.L. 2008: \$550,000 in funding for acquisition along the Stage Coach State Trail, \$1,500,000 for the acquisition and development of the Minnesota River State Trail-Appleton/Milan (8 miles), \$100,000 for the acquisition of the Eastern extension of the Root River State Trail, M.L.2006: \$100,000 for acquisition eastern extension of the Root River State Trail, \$1,000,000 for acquisition of trail corridor along shoreline of Lake Bemidji. M.L. 2005: \$850,000 for acquisition of trail corridor along shoreline of lake Bemidji.	\$ 28,814,200	Acquisitions in Progress
In-kind Services During Project Period:	\$ -0-	
Past Spending on Parks and Trails Acquisitions not related to this proposal: <u>TRAILS</u> -M.L. 2006 & M.L. 2005 expended Bonding = \$3,031,022		

Trust Fund 2009 Project Proposal

Project Title: State Trail Land Acquisition

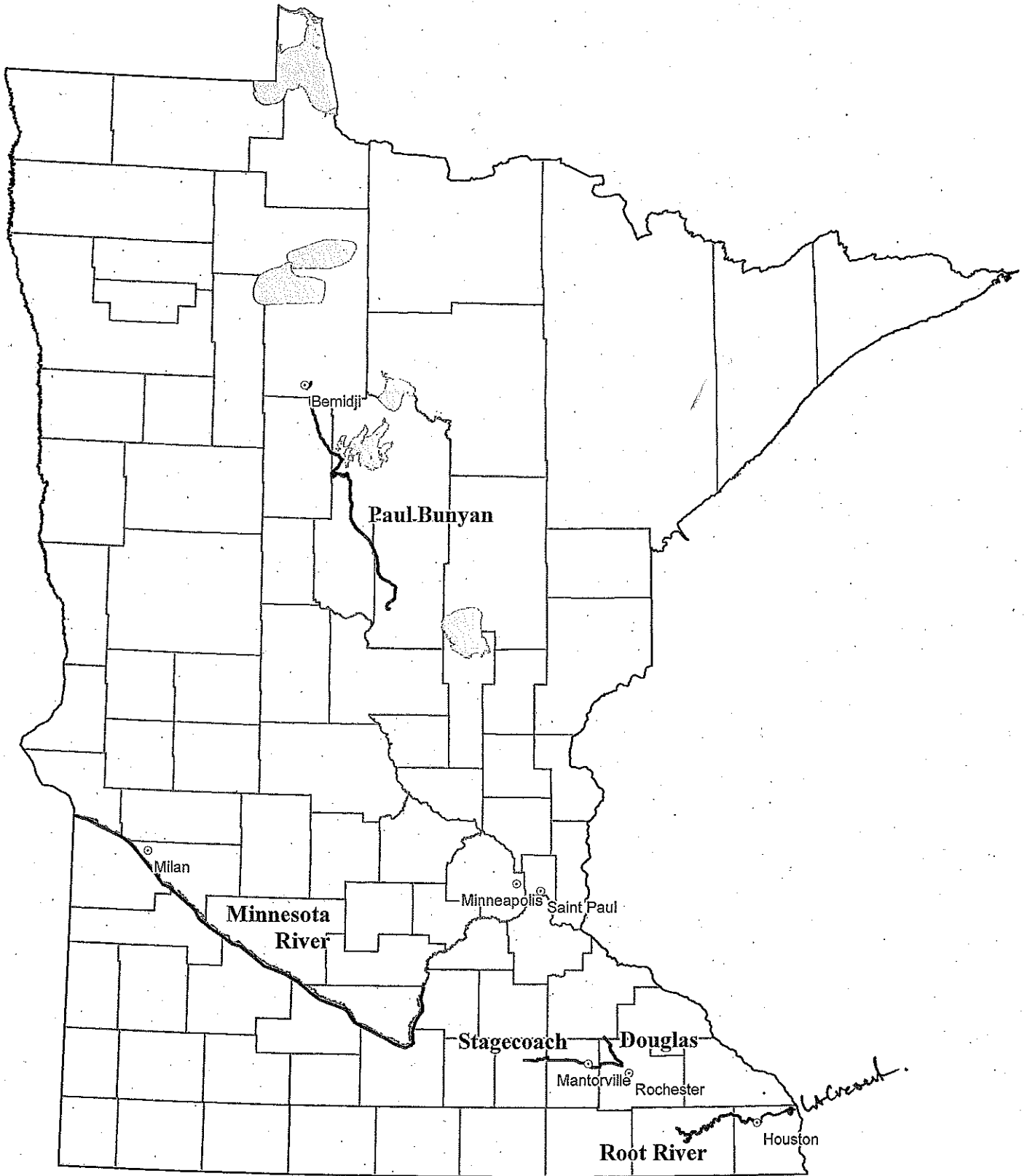
Qualifications

As Planning, Acquisition, and Development Manager for the Division of Trails and Waterways, Stan Linnell oversees the designation of new state trails, planning for trail placement and the acquisition process.

Organization Description

The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Trails and Waterways provides access to the outdoors and connects people to the natural resources through a system of State Trails, Public Water Access facilities, Canoe and Boating Routes and Fishing Piers. The Division of Trails and Waterways is committed to improving public recreation opportunities and preserving and restoring natural resources along State Trails and within each water recreation property.

LCCMR 2009 Trail Land Acquisition Proposal Projects



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