

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

LCCMR ID: B14.12

Project Title: HCP - Prairie landscape Restoration: Oak Savanna, Grasslands, and Wetlands (20)

Total Project Budget: \$

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: July 2009 - June 2010 (1 yr)

Other Non-State Funds: \$ 50000 (pending)

First Name: Greg

Last Name: Hoch

Sponsoring Organization: Friends of the Detroit Lakes WMD

Address: Biology Dept - Concordia College
Moorhead MN 56562

Telephone Number: 218-299-3799

Email: hoch@cord.edu

Fax: 218-299-3804

Web Address:

Region:	County Name:	City / Township:
Northwest	Becker	Callaway Township

Summary: We will remove brush and trees to restore oak savannas, plant diverse native seed mixes in uplands, and improve wetlands through removal of silt at Kruger WPA in Becker County

Main Proposal: 0808-1-025-proposal-2009_main_proposal_DLWMD.doc

Project Budget: 0808-1-025-budget-RFP_2009_Project Budget_DLWMD.xls

Qualifications: 0808-1-025-qualifications-manager_org.doc

Map: 0808-1-025-maps-krugerWPA_DLWMD.jpg

Letter of Resolution: 0808-1-025-resolution-resolution_DLWMD.tif

MAIN PROPOSAL

PROJECT TITLE:

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

This project utilizes private/public partnerships to fund critical habitat restorations on public lands, directly complementing existing investments in habitat for wildlife, fish and native plant communities. Many Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA) located within LCCMR project areas have been purchased, seeded to native grasses and wildflowers, and now await funding for wetland restoration. This proposal seeks to conserve and build upon this existing habitat, facilitating the contributions of these lands to wetland dependent species in the broader landscape. Proposed wetland restorations are located in priority landscapes for wetland/grassland restoration, as identified by HAPET through the Working Lands Initiative priority areas.

In addition to efforts to restore wetlands, this project also utilizes partnership efforts to restore imperiled oak savanna habitats. Many WPAs also contain oak savannas that have become overgrown with buckthorn, Russian olive, hybrid poplars, cottonwood, green ash, and other woody species. Savannas that were historically maintained by low intensity fires are becoming fire-proof. The high density of trees reduces or eliminates herbaceous vegetation below the trees that historically carried these fires. These same trees are also preventing the regeneration of young oaks within these savannas. Savannas are becoming recognized as critical habitat for many of our bird species that are showing the greatest rate of decline, including the red-headed woodpecker and others.

This project uses a partnership to focus limited restoration dollars where they can provide the largest benefits, leveraging project accomplishments in a mutually agreed upon priority landscape. This partnership brings an opportunity to implement “on the ground” habitat gains in a targeted manner. HAPET WLI models allow multiple partners to focus their efforts in a targeted way to leverage partner accomplishments in priority landscapes. The Friends of the DLWMD is a non-profit conservation group dedicated to fulfilling the mission of the Detroit Lakes WMD and the National Wildlife Refuge System. Funding of this proposal will allow these community leaders to take an active role in fulfilling both the mission of the DLWMD, as well as that of the HCP through the partnership.

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT RESULTS

This project will restore approximately 30 prairie wetland basins (approximately 20 acres) on Kruger WPA previously identified on aerial imagery. Silt and fill will be removed from existing wetlands to improve, deepen, and remove the seedbank and rhizomes for species such as reed canary grass and hybrid cattail. The seeds will be buried below germination depth when the silt and dirt are used to fill existing drainage ditches on the property. Dirt along the ditches will then be spread out to remove all traces of the ditch. Approximately 20 acres of oak savanna habitats will be restored through the selective removal of competing woody species. Wetland basins, filled ditches, savannas, and any areas disturbed by equipment will reseeded with local ecotype seed collected mechanically and by hand in Becker County.

Result 1: Wetland Restoration On Kruger WPA

Budget: \$ 30,000

Deliverable	Completion Date
1. Remove silt / fill from wetlands	12/09
2. Fill ditches on property	12/09
3. Reseed wetland basins and ditches	12/09

Result 2: Oak savanna restoration on Kruger WPA

Budget: \$ 20,000

Deliverable	Completion Date
1. Cut and remove trees from savanna	12/09
2. Burn or bury trees	12/09
3. Reseed savanna	12/09

III. PROJECT STRATEGY AND TIMELINE

A. Project Partners

The project will be coordinated through the Friends of the Detroit Lakes Wetland Management District. The work will be done through private contractors and USFWS personnel.

B. Project Impact

The impacts of this project will be improved or new habitat for many species of migratory songbirds and waterfowl. Many of the species that would potentially use the restored habitat are on the DNR's list of Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN). This WPA is located within a larger landscape with numerous WPAs, WMAs, and other properties owned by groups such as The Nature Conservancy.

C. Time

We anticipate being able to complete the project and funding for the project by December 2009.

D. Long-Term Strategy (if applicable)

This project is part of long-term ongoing efforts to restore and enhance wildlife habitat in the Wetland Management District. This project continues funding from the previous LCCMR funding cycle on different areas within the District.

Project Budget

IV. TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST BUDGET

BUDGET ITEM <i>(See list of Eligible & Non-Eligible Costs, p. 17)</i>	AMOUNT	% FTE
Personnel:	\$ -	%
	\$ -	%
	\$ -	%
Contracts:	\$ -	
Strom Construction - wetland restoration	\$ 30,000	
Strom Construction - tree thinning on savannas	\$ 20,000	
Equipment/Tools: <i>What? List general description of needs.</i>	\$ -	
Acquisition (Including Easements):	\$ -	
Restoration:		
Other:	\$ -	
	\$ -	
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET REQUEST TO LCCMR	\$ 50,000	

V. OTHER FUNDS

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	Status
Remaining \$ From Previous Trust Fund Appropriation (if applicable):	\$ -	NA
Other Non-State \$ Being Leveraged During Project Period: We will be submitting a NAWCA Grant next month to match to these dollars	\$ 50,000	Pending
Other State \$ Being Spent During Project Period: <i>What additional state cash \$ (e.g. bonding, other grants) will be spent on the project during the funding period? For each individual sum, list out the source of the funds, the amount, and indicate whether the funds are secured or pending approval.</i>	\$ -	NA
In-kind Services During Project Period: <i>Staking/Marking of wetlands and reseeded with local ecotype prairie grasses and forbs will be done by USFWS personnel from the Detroit Lakes office</i>	\$ 10,000	
Past Spending:	\$ -	

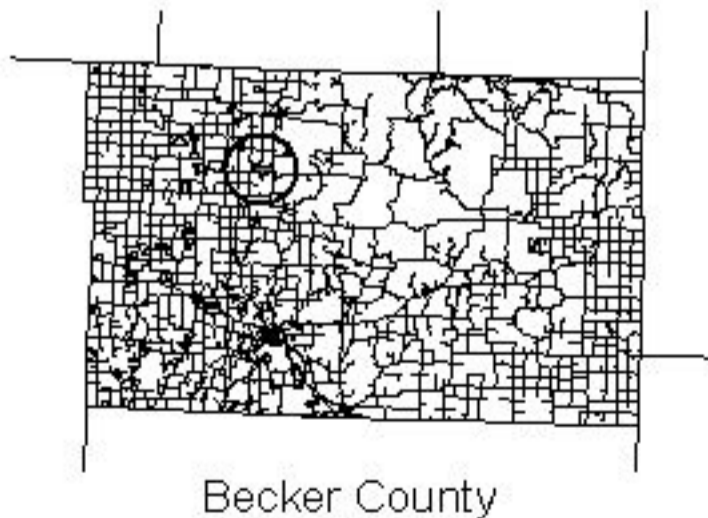
Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description

Dr Greg Hoch is a professor in the Biology Dept at Concordia College in Moorhead MN. He has a number of on-going research projects with both the DNR and USFWS in Minnesota studying both birds and grassland plant communities. Greg is a member of several state boards/committees including the MN Prairie Chicken Society, Bird Conservation Minnesota, technical cmte for the MN Breeding Bird Atlas, the prairie/ farmland cmte chair for the MN Chapter of The Wildlife Society, and Friends of the DLWMD. He is managing the current LCCMR grant for the Friends group as well as three Heritage Enhancement Grants through the MN Prairie Chicken Society. He has received two DNR Conservation Partnership Grants.

The Friends of the Detroit Lakes Wetland Management District is a private non-profit organization. The Friends group is part of a larger network of Friends groups across Minnesota and the United States. The mission of the Friends of the Detroit Lakes WMD is to support the operations and mission of the Detroit Lakes WMD.



0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles



Becker County

