

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

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**LCCMR ID: B15.01**

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**Project Title:** MeCC - Mapping and Coordination (1.1)

**Total Project Budget:** \$ \$150,000

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

**Other Non-State Funds:** \$ 0

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**Sponsoring Organization:** DNR

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**Region:**

Central

**County Name:**

Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota,  
Goodhue, Hennepin,

**City / Township:**

**Summary:** Improved targeting of restoration and acquisition through better mapping of corridors and reduced lost opportunities for restoration and acquisition of priority habitat through coordination of partners.

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**Main Proposal:** 0808-1-015-proposal-2009 MeCC mapping and coordination Proposal.doc

**Project Budget:** 0808-1-015-budget-mapping and coordination budget.doc

**Qualifications:** 0808-1-015-qualifications-William H Becker Qualifications.doc

**Map:** 0808-1-015-maps-map.doc

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**Project Title:** Metro Conservation Corridors Phase IV – Mapping and Coordination

## **I. PROJECT STATEMENT**

The Metropolitan Conservation Corridors partners work to protect and improve key habitat in the rapidly developing Metropolitan Region and the surrounding counties of Wright, Chisago, Isanti, Goodhue, Rice, LeSeur, Sibley, Nicollet and Sherburne. The major issue is the fragmentation of contiguous habitat or reduction in the density distribution of prime habitat islands. Both landscape changes impede species transport, which can affect the robustness of the gene pools and health of species populations. In addition, some species migrate through the region. We believe fragmentation can lead to migratory failure, which affects breeding success and leads to population declines. The purpose of this project is to prevent these effects of fragmentation from occurring. This part of the overall project brings improved prioritization through enhanced mapping of the corridors. Incorporating the information in the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan will enhance the corridor maps. Secondly, this project provides the opportunity to better collaborate and coordinate acquisition, restoration and technical assistance. Each partner has a specialty. Properly combining these special skills yields the best use of all the partners. And sometimes money is a barrier. Coordination can ensure available funds are jointly applied to the best project.

## **II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT RESULTS**

### **Result 1: Partnership and Program Coordination**

**Budget: \$75,000**

**Description:** This result provides the leadership to coordinate the conservation efforts of the partners and to optimize results by focusing and leveraging external resources in the protection and restoration of significant natural habitat threatened by development. The coordinator 1) provides strategic direction for partnership action; 2) facilitates partnership meetings; 3) manages reporting and mapping requirements for LCCMR, 4) assists partners with cartographic needs. We have recently completed software to enhance reporting of work so as to improve coordination.

#### **Deliverable**

#### **Completion Date**

1. Program coordination

6/30/2010

### **Result 2: Revise and Improve Corridor Mapping**

**Budget: \$75,000**

**Description:** The LCCMR managed State Conservation and Preservation Plan (SCPP) conducted a geographic analysis to identify areas of ecologically high quality lands for conservation and protection. Ecologically high quality lands are important to the definition of important corridors for species movement. We will conduct an analysis of the SCPP data and incorporate it into our current corridors map during this project period. Those changes will be amended into the ongoing LCCMR work programs governing MeCC appropriations. This is a new task for the partnership and is in response to the directive E. 2. (a.) in the 2009 Phase 2 Funding Priorities that reads:

Metropolitan Conservation Corridors (MeCC) ...should utilize the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan mapping efforts to help further identify the highest priority lands for protection, conservation, and restoration. Acquisitions must be based on protecting the highest ecological value in addition to willing sellers. *(Italics added)*

#### **Deliverable**

#### **Completion Date**

**III. PROJECT STRATEGY AND TIMELINE**

**A. Project Partners:**

Trust for Public Land	Critical Land Protection Program
MN Land Trust	Protect Significant Habitat by Acquiring Conservation Easements
Friends of the Mississippi River	Mississippi River Valley Habitat Restoration
Friends of the Minnesota River	Lower Minn. River Watershed Restoration & Enhancement Project
MN Valley Nat. Wildlife Refuge Trust	Expansion of MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge
Great River Greening	Restore/Enhance Significant Habitat
DNR Metro Greenways	Metro Greenways
DNR Fish and Wildlife	Acquisition and Restoration
DNR SNA Program	Scientific and Natural Area Acquisition and Restoration

**B. Project Impact:**

Acquisitions and restorations will directly impact the health of species (plant, animal and fish) using and residing in the 16 county area. The habitat provided will help meet species requirements resulting in larger and healthier species populations. Because this project includes the concepts of adjacency and density of habitat activities done by this project will have the added benefit of improving the productivity of lands already under protection in the corridors. This additional direct benefit may come from buffering habitat or enhancing the continuity of habitat complexes.

**C. Time**

This project will continue thorough the build-out of the 16 county area, which is measured in decades. .

**D. Long Term Strategy (if applicable)**

MeCC will continue to employ a three pronged strategy protection through acquisition, restoration of important lands, and working through the efforts of local governments and foundations

## Project Budget

### IV. TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST BUDGET

<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>% FTE</b>
<b>Personnel:</b>	\$ -	%
Unclassified DNR employee	\$ 75,000	90%
<b>Contracts:</b>	\$ -	
Contract with DNR GIS Professional and Technical Services for integrating SCPP data in existing corridors map and reporting system improvements	\$ 75,000	
<b>Equipment/Tools:</b>	\$ -	
<b>Acquisition (Including Easements):</b>	\$ -	
<b>Restoration:</b> .	\$ -	
<b>Other:</b> .	\$ -	
<b>TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET REQUEST TO LCCMR</b>	<b>\$ 150,000</b>	

### V. OTHER FUNDS

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Remaining \$ From Previous Trust Fund Appropriation (if applicable):.2008 Session Laws</b>	\$ 50,000	<i>Programmed for coordination and mapping efforts through 6-30-10</i>
<b>Other Non-State \$ Being Leveraged During Project Period:</b> .	\$ -	
<b>Other State \$ Being Spent During Project Period</b>	\$ -	
<b>In-kind Services During Project Period:.</b>	\$ -	
<b>Past Spending:</b> <i>List money spent or to be spent on this specific project, cash and/or in-kind, for 2-year timeframe prior to July 1, 2009</i>	\$ 315,000	

*William H. Becker*

William H. Becker is a 30+-year employee of the Department of Natural Resources. Career accomplishments include leadership of change in DNR, legislative liaison activities, statewide planning, business planning, and social, economic and geographic research and data systems management.

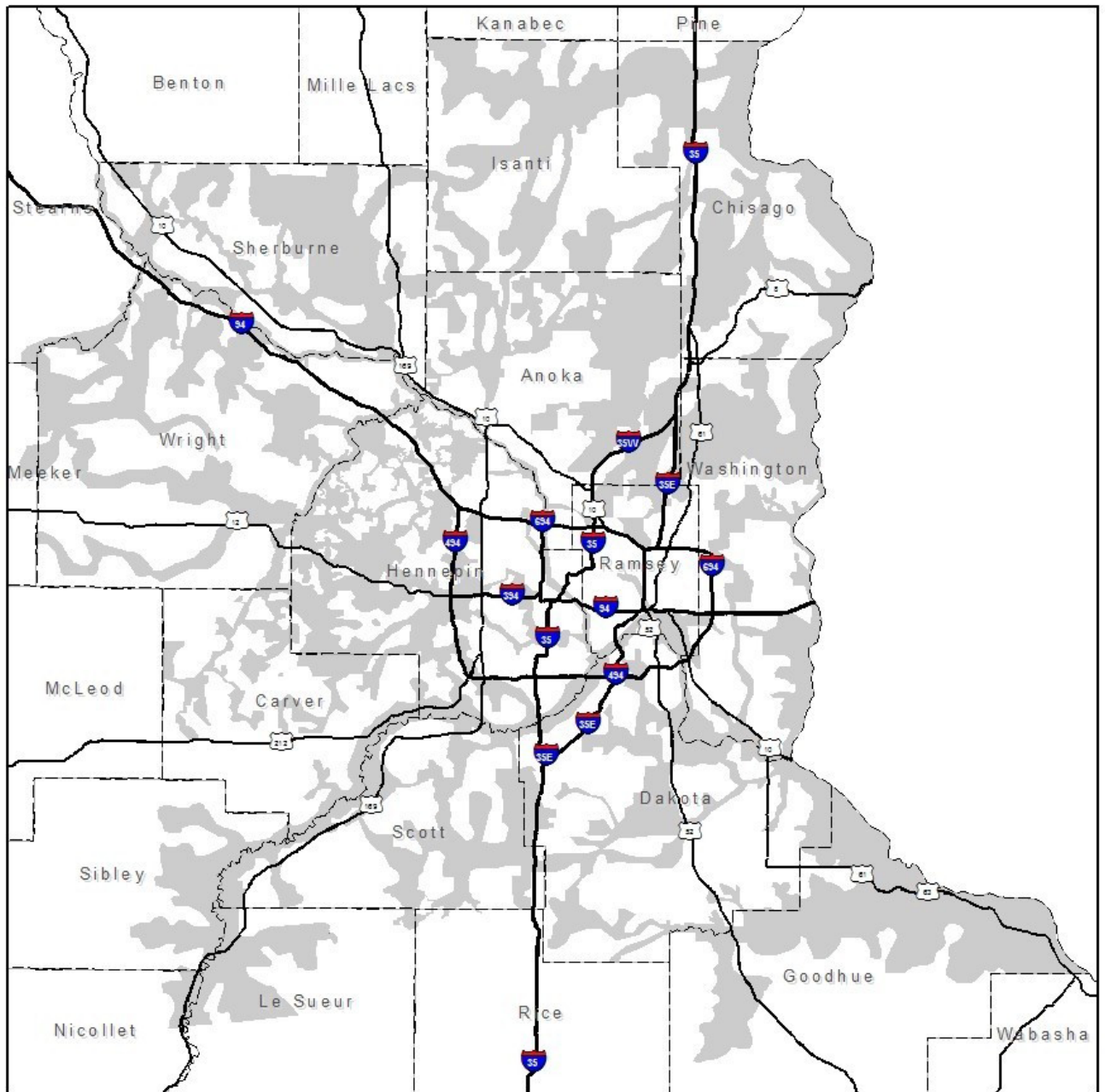
He has a Bachelor of Science degree in business from the University of Missouri and a Master of Science degree in outdoor recreation management from Utah State University.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is the State of Minnesota's flagship resource conservation and protection executive branch agency. It manages 5.2 million acres of state owned land, 11,000 plus lakes, and 97,000 plus miles of streams and rivers in the state. It cooperatively manages border resources with four neighboring states and Canada. Program delivery is divided into eight divisions (Ecological Resources, Enforcement, Fish and Wildlife, Forestry, Lands and Minerals, Parks and Recreation, Trails and Waterways, and Waters.) These operational divisions are assisted and overseen by the Commissioners Office, Regional Administration (4 regions), and support service bureaus.

D:\William H. Becker III\Metro Corridors Management\2008 work program MeCC Overall Final Submission.doc

# Metro Conservation Corridors 2008 Focus Areas



- Interstate Highways
- Secondary Highways
- County Boundaries
- Metro Conservation Corridors