

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

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**LCCMR ID: B15.03**

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**Project Title:** MeCC - Lower Minnesota River Watershed Restoration & Enhancement (2.4)

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

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

**Other Non-State Funds:** \$ 75,000

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**First Name:** Joseph

**Last Name:** Pavelko

**Sponsoring Organization:** Friends of the Minnesota Valley

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Region:	County Name:	City / Township:
Metro	Carver, Hennepin, Le Sueur, Scott, Sibley	

**Summary:** Restore/enhance 150 acres of significant biological communities throughout the MeCC mapped corridors within the Lower Minnesota River Watershed. An additional 75 acres will be restored/enhanced using other, non-state funds.

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**Main Proposal:** 0808-1-041-proposal-FMV\_MeCC\_Main\_Proposal\_2009.doc

**Project Budget:** 0808-1-041-budget-FMV\_MeCC\_Project\_Budget\_2009.doc

**Qualifications:** 0808-1-041-qualifications-FMV\_MeCC\_ManQuals\_OrgDesc\_2009.doc

**Map:** 0808-1-041-maps-FMV\_MeCC\_Map\_2009.pdf

**Letter of Resolution:** 0808-1-041-resolution-FMV\_MeCC\_Board\_Resolution\_2009.doc

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# MAIN PROPOSAL

## I. PROJECT STATEMENT

A rapidly growing human population and resulting urban sprawl within the Twin Cities Metropolitan area has placed tremendous pressures on the remaining ecosystems of the area. Ecosystems are becoming increasingly fragmented, are losing their native plant and animal species, and are losing the ability to perform natural processes. The project aims to reduce fragmentation, combat habitat loss, and protect native plant and animal species through the restoration and enhancement of wetland, floodplain forest, and prairie communities.

Restoration and enhancement work will increase and protect water quality, provide quality habitat for migrant and resident wildlife species, and will protect the diversity of native ecosystems.

## II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT RESULTS

**Result 1:** Restore and Enhance Significant Habitat

**Budget:** \$ 150,000

Restore and enhance 150 acres of significant biological communities and wildlife habitat throughout the MeCC mapped corridors of the Lower Minnesota River Watershed within Carver, Hennepin, LeSueur, Sibley, and/or Scott Counties. An additional 75 acres will be restored/enhanced using other, non-state funds.

Restoration efforts will focus on public lands such as the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, land purchased by the Minnesota Valley Trust, Inc., and on private lands through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's Partners For Fish and Wildlife Program. Friends of the MN Valley and its partners will restore and enhance the hydrology of wetlands such as shallow lakes, for the benefit of wildlife and water quality, plant retired agricultural fields to prairie using native ecotype seed, remove and manage exotic species, and restore important floodplain forest communities along the Minnesota River.

### **Deliverable**

### **Completion Date**

**1. Restore / Enhance 150 Acres**

**June 30, 2011**

## III. PROJECT STRATEGY AND TIMELINE

### **A. Project Partners**

US Fish & Wildlife Service, MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc., local units of government, private landowners, and other partners.

### **B. Project Impact**

Restoration efforts will increase breeding/migratory habitat for resident/migrant waterfowl including wood ducks and lesser scaup, resident/migrant shorebirds, as well as a myriad of other species including resident game species such as pheasant and deer.

Restoration efforts will improve and protect the water quality of the Minnesota River and its tributaries through wetland restoration and restoring retired cropland to native habitat such as prairie and floodplain forest.

### **C. Time**

2 years – July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011

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

NA

## Project Budget

Metro Conservation Corridors – Phase V – Friends of the MN Valley – 2.2, Lower Minnesota River Watershed  
Restoration & Enhancement Project

### IV. TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST BUDGET

<b>BUDGET ITEM</b> (See list of Eligible & Non-Eligible Costs, p. 17)	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>% FTE</b>
<b>Personnel:</b> Conservation Projects Manager (.25 FTE): Wages, benefits, and transportation expenses.	\$ 15,000	.25%
<b>Restoration:</b> 150 acres <i>Funds will be used to: purchase seed, trees, chemical, culverts, water control structures and accessories, erosion control materials, etc. Funds will also be used to: hire contractors to construct earthen dams, break drain tile lines, install water control structures, install seed, prepare soil for seeding, remove exotic species, create engineering designs, etc.</i>	\$ 135,000	
<b>TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET REQUEST TO LCCMR</b>	\$ 150,000	

### V. OTHER FUNDS

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Remaining \$ From Previous Trust Fund Appropriation (if applicable):</b> Phase III (2007) - \$34,000 Phase IV (2008) - \$107,000	\$ 141,000	<i>Unspent or Not Legally Obligated</i>
<b>Other Non-State \$ Being Leveraged During Project Period:</b> Project partners to be determined	\$ 75,000	<i>Pending</i>
<b>Other State \$ Being Spent During Project Period:</b>	\$ None	<i>Secured or Pending</i>
<b>In-kind Services During Project Period:</b> <i>Engineering for water control structure design and construction management</i>	\$ 20,000	<i>Pending</i>
<b>Past Spending:</b> Phase II (2005) - \$40,000 ETF and \$5,000 other non-state funds Phase III (2007) - \$34,000 ETF and \$5,000 other non-state funds (to be completed) Phase IV (2008) - \$107,000 ETF and \$54,000 other non-state funds (to be completed)	\$ 245,000	

## ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION AND PROJECT MANAGER QUALIFICATIONS

Metro Conservation Corridors – Phase V – Friends of the MN Valley – 2.2, Lower Minnesota River Watershed Restoration & Enhancement Project

### **Project Manager: Joseph Pavelko – Conservation Projects Manager**

Joe joined the Friends team as an independent contractor in January of 2006. The Friends hired him as a full-time employee in May 2007. After receiving his degrees in biology and environmental studies from St. Olaf College in 2004, Joe worked throughout the Lower Minnesota River Watershed as a biological technician in the Private Lands Office at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. He then started an environmental consulting company in which he managed the restoration work for clients like the Minnesota Valley NWR Trust Inc. Joe has experience in all types of restoration projects from farm building removal to wetland restorations in the floodplain.

### **Organization Description: Friends of the Minnesota Valley**

Citizen leaders in the Lower Minnesota River Valley were instrumental in helping establish the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge in 1976. The activities of this core group led to the founding of Friends of the Minnesota Valley six years later. The Friends of the Minnesota Valley is the primary private support group for the Refuge and the Lower Minnesota River Watershed.

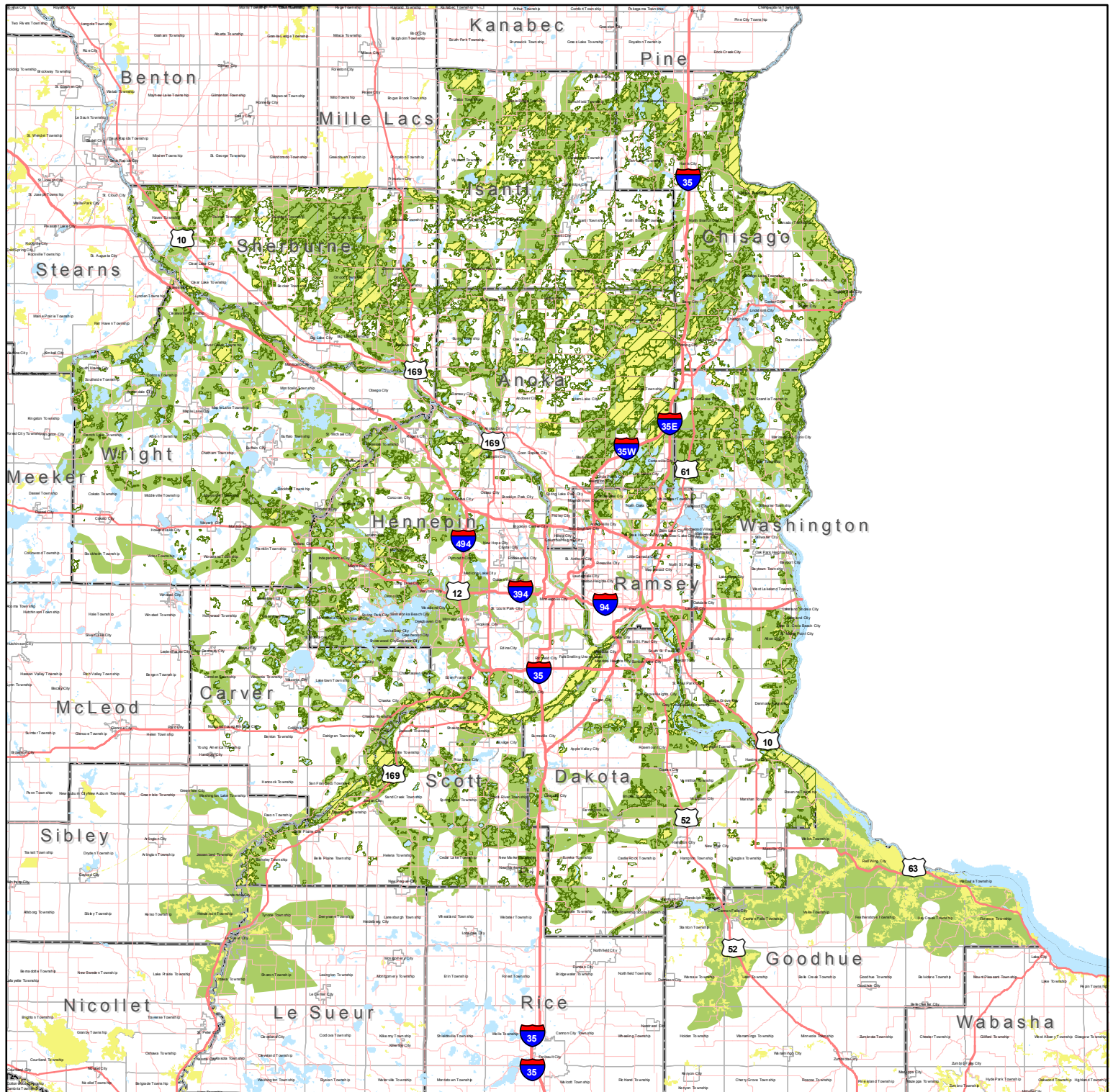
Mission: Conserving the Resources of the Lower Minnesota River Watershed





Friends of the Minnesota Valley, a 501(c)3 tax-exempt nonprofit organization, works to protect and enhance the natural resources of the Lower Minnesota River Watershed, including the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

Vision: A Healthy, Sustainable Minnesota River Valley

Friends of the Minnesota Valley envisions a healthy Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Minnesota River, and surrounding lands and waters. The Friends envision a core Refuge and River constituency of citizens, elected officials and landowners who are educated on the importance of the River and the Refuge. We envision partnerships that promote habitat conservation, improved water quality of the Minnesota River and its Watershed, and sustainable land use.

# Metro Conservation Corridors - 2007



-  Metro Conservation Corridors
-  Regionally Significant Ecological Areas
-  MCBS Sites of Biodiversity Significance
-  Lake, Pond, Stream, River

-  Interstate Highways
-  Secondary Highways
-  County Roads
-  County Boundaries

