

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

LCCMR ID: B15.11

Project Title: MeCC - Fish & Wildlife Land Acquisition (3.5)

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

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

Other Non-State Funds: \$ 500,000

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Sponsoring Organization: DNR

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Region:

Metro

County Name:

Dakota, Scott, Washington

City / Township:

Summary: Project will secure approximately 180 acres (3.0 miles of shoreline). Priority will be given to regionally significant habitat that will build on the existing shoreline habitat and provide angler access.

Main Proposal: 0808-1-030-proposal-3.5 Main Proposal.doc

Project Budget: 0808-1-030-budget-3.5 Project Budget.doc

Qualifications: 0808-1-030-qualifications-3.5 Project Manager.doc

Map: 0808-1-030-maps-3_5 map.jpg

Main Proposal - Metropolitan Conservation Corridors (3.5)

Partner Project Title: Fish and Wildlife Land Acquisition (3.5)

Project Manager: Mike Halverson

Affiliation: MN DNR – Fish and Wildlife, Section of Fish Management

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I. PROJECT STATEMENT

Fish & Wildlife will focus on habitat linkage projects that have the following characteristics: high risk of development, angler access, environmental protection of the shoreline and riparian zone, and access for DNR personnel and constituent cooperators to do habitat improvement projects. These acquisitions would be from willing landowners for long-term stewardship; final acreage protection as part of this project will ultimately depend on landowner willingness to sell key parcels. Parcels will be managed as Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs).

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT RESULTS

Result 1: Aquatic Management Area Land Acquisition Budget: \$1,000,000

This project will secure fee title or easements on approximately 120 acres (2 miles of shoreline), and leverage about 60 acres (1 mile of shoreline) of acquisition through partner funds. Priority will be given to acquiring regionally significant fish and wildlife habitat that will both build on the existing shoreline habitat and provide angler access. This request includes \$75,000 for professional services to be used for appraisals, legal fees, surveys, environmental assessments, closings, etc. Approximately \$25,000 will be used to insure that all parcels meet minimum maintenance standards, including but not limited to signage, determining boundaries, and invasive species control. Projects may occur anywhere within mapped corridor area including, but not limited to, Dakota County (Vermillion River), Scott County (Eagle Creek), and Washington County (Browns Creek) depending on priorities, risk of development, and potential partners. Collaborative partnerships will be promoted in order to acquire key lands. Project money is expected to generate additional non-state funded acres and shoreline miles, for a grand total of 180 acres, including 3.0 miles of critical shoreline habitat.

Summary Budget Information for Result 1:	Trust Fund Budget:	\$1,000,000
	Amount Spent:	\$ 0
	Balance:	\$1,000,000

Deliverable	Completion Date	Budget	Status
1. 180 acres (3.0 miles of shoreline)	June 30, 2011	\$1,000,000	

III. PROJECT STRATEGY AND TIMELINE

A. Project Partners

Metro Conservation Corridors partners as well as local units of government, fishing groups, landowners, etc.

B. Project Impact

Fish & Wildlife will focus on habitat linkage projects that have the following characteristics: high risk of development, angler access, environmental protection of the shoreline and riparian zone, and access for DNR personnel and constituent cooperators to do habitat improvement projects. These acquisitions would be from willing landowners for long-term stewardship; final acreage protection as part of this project will ultimately depend on landowner willingness to sell key parcels. Parcels will be managed as Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs).

C. Time

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

D. Long-Term Strategy

This project is part of a long-term acquisition strategy identified in “Minnesota’s Aquatic Management area Acquisition Plan 2008-2033”. This plan came as a report to DNR – Fish and Wildlife, focusing on “Shoreline Habitat, Angling, and Clean Water For Our Future”. Minnesota’s AMA Plan is listed as one of the Land Protection Options (2A) listed in the Minnesota Conservation and Preservation Plan.

Project Budget

Fish and Wildlife Land Acquisition (3.5)

IV. TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST BUDGET

<u>BUDGET ITEM</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>% FTE</u>
Acquisition (Including Easements): 180 acres (3.0 miles of shoreline) through fee title or easement to become Aquatic Management Areas.	\$ 900,000	
Professional Services: Lands and Minerals, AGs Office, Survey, etc.	\$ 75,000	
Initial Development: Parking, gates, native plants, etc.	\$ 25,000	
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET REQUEST TO LCCMR	\$1,000,000	

V. OTHER FUNDS

<u>SOURCE OF FUNDS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>Status</u>
Remaining \$ From Previous Trust Fund Appropriation (if applicable): Phase III (2007) Phase IV (2008)	\$ 7,150 \$ 400,000	Not Legally Obligated
Other Non-State \$ Being Leveraged During Project Period: No other non-state funding is secured at this time. Dakota County has pledged to be an ongoing partner.	\$ -	Pending
Other State \$ Being Spent During Project Period: Additional State Funding may be used for acquisition of AMAs, such as State Bonding, Heritage, General Fund, RIM-CHM, etc	\$ -	Pending
In-kind Services During Project Period: No in-kind services have been identified.	\$ -	
Past Spending: Phase I (2003) \$ 330,000 ETF (other state and non-state \$ reported by TPL) Phase II (2005) \$290,000 ETF and \$237,000 non-state Phase III (2007) \$172,000 ETF and \$100,000 non-state Phase IV (2008) Not Completed	\$ 330,000 \$ 527,000 \$ 272,000 \$ 400,000	

Project Manager - Fish and Wildlife Land Acquisition (3.5)

AMA Description

Aquatic management areas (AMAs) may be established to protect, develop, and manage lakes, rivers, streams, and adjacent wetlands and lands that are critical for fish and other aquatic life, for water quality, and for their intrinsic biological value, public fishing, or other compatible outdoor recreational uses. MS 86A.05 Subd. 14(a)

Guiding Principles

- Conserve critical shoreline habitat for all fish and wildlife species
- Conserve vital fish spawning and rearing areas
- Provide angling and management access corridors on trout and warm-water streams
- Provide non-motorized angler access on lakes and streams
- Preserve examples of healthy shoreline habitats as maps for future restoration of disturbed sites.

Project Manager Qualifications

Mike Halverson, Project Manager

Mike Halverson is a 31-year employee of the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife. Twelve years were spent doing Fisheries fieldwork in SW Minnesota, eleven years as an Aquatic Plant Management Specialist in the Metro Region, and the past 8 years as statewide Fisheries Land Acquisition Coordinator.

Mike has a BS degree in Biology from Mankato State University. Accomplishments throughout his career have been centered around aquatic habitat.

Metro Conservation Corridors - Phase V

Fish and Wildlife Acquisition 3.5

