

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2010 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

LCCMR ID: 043-A3

Project Title:

HLWD - Community Effort to Enhance Fulda Lake

LCCMR 2010 Funding Priority:

A. Water Resources

Total Project Budget: \$ \$218,000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: 1 year, 2010 - 2011

Other Non-State Funds: \$ \$0

Summary:

This project complements a joint effort of the DNR, USFWS, and HLWD to improve Fulda Lake by installing four sediment ponds and restoring eight shorelines, as requested by concerned landowners.

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Sponsoring Organization: Heron Lake Watershed District

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Location:

Region: SW

County Name: Murray

City / Township: Bondin

_____ Knowledge Base	_____ Broad App.	_____ Innovation
_____ Leverage	_____ Outcomes	
_____ Partnerships	_____ Urgency	_____ TOTAL

MAIN PROPOSAL

PROJECT TITLE: HLWD – COMMUNITY EFFORT TO ENHANCE FULDA LAKE

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

1. WHY

Fulda is a rural community in southwestern Minnesota with a population of approximately 1,200. The majority of landowners and operators in the Fulda Lakes' subwatershed are concerned about soil health and water quality. These residents have been involved in a redetermination of benefits for Murray County JD #13, filter strip installation, and other conservation efforts since 1997. Landowners were receptive to conservation practices along the ditch system. The Fulda community is concerned about their lake system and has requested assistance from the HLWD. In 2007, the lake landowners organized meetings to discuss the deteriorating condition of the outlet dam and possible alternatives and solutions. They were also concerned about shoreline erosion occurring around the lake. An Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 319 grant was awarded to the HLWD in 2008. The grant had two main goals: to install two lakeshore restoration demonstration sites and to provide financial incentives for critical area plantings and conservation tillage implementation. These efforts will provide sediment and nutrient reduction in this 4,000-acre subwatershed. Funding from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) allowed for two additional shoreline restoration sites. There are eight more landowners who have expressed interest in implementing shoreline restoration on their properties. This LCCMR grant complements the 319 grant received by the HLWD, with additional funds provided by the DNR and USFWS for lakeshore restorations, as well as efforts implemented by the DNR for an in-lake management project completed in early 2009 (replaced fixed-crest dam with a variable-crest structure, manipulated water levels, fish eradication, and fish stocking). LCCMR funds would enable this project to be completed in its entirety.

2. Overall GOALS

Project Goal 1: Implement best management practices to reduce non-point pollution loads in order to reach the long-term goals for phosphorus that were established in 1992.

Basin	Long-term goal	Average from 1997-2008
First Fulda Lake	60-140 ug/L	123.56 ug/L
Second Fulda Lake	25-105 ug/L	122.11 ug/L

Monthly water samples will be taken as part of the Clean Water Partnership (CWP) grant currently in progress.

3. HOW

Method 1: Improve water quality through the installation of four sediment ponds, each approximately one acre in size, on critical streams in the Fulda subwatershed. These ponds would have shallow basins with gradual side slopes to reduce sediment loading to the streams and allow emergent vegetation to grow, providing an additional advantage of maximum wildlife benefits.

Method 2: Improve water quality by restoring the shorelines of the remaining eight property owners who have expressed an interest in the project. The shorelines would be reconstructed using native plants and grasses rather than riprap.

This subwatershed drains to Jack Creek, which is the major tributary that drains to Heron Lake. Heron Lake drains to the West Fork Des Moines River (WFDNR), which is one of the major drainage basins of Minnesota. A TMDL Implementation Plan for Heron Lake and the WFDNR watershed is currently being written, with an anticipated completion date of August 2009.

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT RESULTS

Result 1: Four Sediment Basins Budget: \$100,000

Ross Behrends, HLWD Technician, would determine eligible sites using a geographic information system (GIS) program, meet with landowners, work with the Joint Powers Organization (JPO) to develop plans, designs, and cost estimates, obtain contractors' bids, obtain the required permits (State of Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act, DNR Protected Water Permit, and USDA Wetland Regulations), obtain HLWD board cost-share approval, and supervise construction through project completion.

Deliverable

1. Install four sediment basins

Completion Date

June 2011

Result 2: Lakeshore Restorations Budget: \$120,000

The HLWD would coordinate with the DNR and USFWS to restore eight shorelines, using native plants and grasses. Landowner input will be considered and applied whenever possible.

Deliverable

1. Restore eight lakeshores

Completion Date

June 2011

Result 3: Water Quality Improvement of Fulda Lake Budget: \$0

This portion of the project will be completed through the CWP currently in progress.

Deliverable

1. Take monthly water samples.

Completion Date

June 2011

III. PROJECT STRATEGY

A. Project Team/Partners

Management of this project would be the responsibility of the HLWD, who would act as project sponsor and fiscal agent. The DNR and USFWS would be providing technical assistance for the lakeshore restoration sites. The JPO would develop plans, designs, and cost estimates for the sediment basins. These partners work together in almost every aspect of HLWD's overall purpose, such as our Clean Water Partnership (ongoing since 1996), semi-annual public meetings regarding the Heron Lake watershed, watershed tours for the general public, and our Rock Intake Cost-Share Program. This project provides an excellent example of how agencies can partner with local landowners to improve lake water quality.

With each contact, landowners will have opportunities to provide input. Project sponsors will use their suggestions to improve communication and gain a deeper knowledge of constituent needs and concerns.

B. Timeline Requirements

The work for this project would commence July 1, 2010, and continue until completion, with a deadline being the conclusion of the funding period in June 2011. Projects will be constructed during the spring, summer, and fall of each year.

C. Long-Term Strategy

This proposal would complement and complete an existing project, but no additional funds will be necessary over time.

The project sponsors would also like to provide an interesting note regarding this project. The HLWD volunteered to participate in a Social Indicators Pilot Project currently being administered by the Region 5 EPA and MPCA. The Social Indicators committee chose the Fulda project to be part of this effort because of the rural and urban components. The rural survey was the first to be tested in Minnesota. The residents of Fulda are very excited that they are part of this pilot project and extremely proud of the work that has already been accomplished to clean up their lake. The HLWD encourages you to provide funding to continue this endeavor for these people who have taken such an active interest in their resource.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our proposal.

Project Budget

IV. TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST BUDGET (2 years)

BUDGET ITEM	AMOUNT
Contracts:	\$ -
Sediment Basins (4):	
Landscaping contractor(s): \$24,500 per basin	\$ 98,000
Lakeshore Restorations (8):	
Landscaping contractor(s): \$10,000 per site	\$ 80,000
Equipment/Tools/Supplies:	\$ -
Lakeshore Restorations:	
Native plants and grasses: \$3,000 per site	\$ 24,000
Coir blanket and bio logs: \$2,000 per site	\$ 16,000
Additional Budget Items:	\$ -
Sediment Basins:	
Permits: \$500 per basin	\$ 2,000
Two newsletters:	
Project start: \$1,500	\$ 1,500
Project end: \$1,750	\$ 1,750
Public meetings:	
Kickoff meeting	
Room reservation: \$150	\$ 150
Mailing (invitation + postage): \$100	\$ 100
Conclusion meeting	
Room reservation: \$200	\$ 200
Mailing (invitation + postage): \$125	\$ 125
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET REQUEST TO LCCMR	\$ 218,000

V. OTHER FUNDS

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	Status
In-kind Services During Project Period:	\$ -	
Sediment Basins:		
HLWD Technician: 50 hours per basin at \$16 per hour	\$ 3,200	
Lakeshore Restorations:		
HLWD Technician: 20 hours per site at \$16 per hour	\$ 2,560	
DNR: 5 hours per site at \$25 per hour	\$ 1,000	
USFWS: 5 hours per site at \$25 per hour	\$ 1,000	
Two Newsletters:		
HLWD District Administrator: 10 hours each at \$20 per hour	\$ 400	
HLWD Education Coordinator: 5 hours each at \$18 per hour	\$ 180	
Public Meetings:		
HLWD District Administrator: 6 hours each at \$20 per hour	\$ 240	
HLWD Education Coordinator: 6 hours each at \$18 per hour	\$ 216	
HLWD Technician: 4 hours each at \$16 per hour	\$ 128	
TOTAL INKIND MATCH	\$ 8,924	

Project Area

Bondin Township
Murray County

Legend

- Section
- Lakes
- Towns
- Streams

Fulda Lakes

- 51030



0 1,600 3,200 6,400 Feet

Project Manager Qualifications

Jan Voit, District Administrator, has worked for the Heron Lake Watershed District for 26 years and has 13 years experience in implementing grants. This includes CWP/EPA 319 grants for implementation and education activities, US Fish and Wildlife Service grants for implementation activities, and USDA/NRCS Conservation Innovation Grants for a conservation tillage demonstration plot and conservation drainage research site.

The HLWD has an excellent record of providing accurate, detailed reports to funders. The HLWD has submitted every grant report before the due date. MPCA contacts have often expressed their appreciation for the timeliness and thoroughness of our reports. End products from previous projects have been used by MPCA as they work with other organizations in the state.