

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2011-2012 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

LCCMR ID: 106-D-2h

Project Title: 2h - HCP 7 - Restoration & Management - DNR Fisheries

Category: D. Land Acquisition for Habitat and Recreation

Total Project Budget: \$ \$200,000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: 2 yrs, July 2011 - June 2013

Other Non-State Funds: \$ 0

Summary:

To ensure quality fishing, improvements in water quality and aquatic communities will be addressed in SW through habitat work on shores and through technical assistance.

Name: Linda Erickson-Eastwood

Sponsoring Organization: DNR

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Saint Paul MN 55155

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Web Address: _____

Location

Region: SW

Ecological Section: No. Minnesota Drift and Lake Plains (212N)

County Name: Statewide

City / Township: _____

_____ Funding Priorities	_____ Multiple Benefits	_____ Outcomes	_____ Knowledge Base
_____ Extent of Impact	_____ Innovation	_____ Scientific/Tech Basis	_____ Urgency
_____ Capacity Readiness	_____ Leverage	_____ Employment	_____ TOTAL _____%

2011-2012 LCCMR MAIN PROPOSAL

PROJECT TITLE: HCP7-2h Restoration & Management–DNR Fisheries

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

Currently 2/3 of Minnesota,(primarily non-forested areas of the state) have disturbed aquatic systems with resulting poor water quality and limited habitat to sustain “quality” fish and wildlife communities. Minnesota’s multimillion dollar fishing industry is in jeopardy due to this disturbance. We can help improve fish populations, fishing opportunities and water quality, by doing projects that maintain or upgrade existing habitat projects, isolate unwanted or exotic fish species from those water bodies, restore fish and wildlife habitat, and conserve high quality shorelines.

Minnesota has numerous fish habitat improvement needs on the 3,000 lakes actively managed by the Department. This project will address less than 1% of the anticipated needs. There is currently a limited budget to support these types of projects and an increasing need to provide quality fishing and fishing opportunities around the state. For example, aerating basins in Southern Minnesota to support game fish populations increases the amount of angling opportunities in areas of the state where they are limited due to lake availability, lake depth, and winter kill. Along with habitat improvement projects, it is also important to maintain existing habitat sites and improve degraded ones to allow for continued benefits these areas provide to fish, wildlife and water quality.

This project will include administering and managing aquatic restoration and habitat improvement work that will be done on public areas and provide technical advice for private land work. Lake management plans and project proposals are drafted for each water body that direct the work that is needed to be done at that site. Existing sites will be assessed by area fisheries staff. The results of this review will be prioritized by regional and central office staff and will be looked at in reference to the work that is being done by others in the HCP Partnership. Once this prioritized list of projects is completed, then area staff will implement the needed actions through contracts and use of temporary staff as needed. There will be up to 3.5 miles or 35 acres of rivers, streams, or lakes benefited from this proposal. Through these combined efforts we are improving and protecting habitat for aquatic species in our lakes, streams, and their surrounding sensitive shorelands more effectively and efficiently than would otherwise be possible.

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Activity 1: Restoration Budget: \$200,000

Aquatic habitat work may include but is not limited to invasive control to restore or reestablish habitats impacted by them, stream channel restorations, installation of aeration systems, spawning area development, dam modifications, bank stabilization, plantings of native vegetation, fish barrier installation projects that occur adjacent to or in lakes and streams, and erosion control, and culvert improvements for fish passage. Also included will be monies to pay for surveys, engineering design, and legal assistance. Temporary project staff or intermittent labor will be hired as needed to implement

aquatic habitat improvements. Cultural and environmental reviews in addition to necessary permits will be completed as required.

Outcome	Completion Date
3.5 miles or 35 acres of waterbodies benefited from habitat work such as the following projects <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Crocker Creek near Faribault Shoreland Habitat 2. Swenson Lake Aeration Kandiyohi County 3. Diamond/Hubbard Lake Fish Barrier Kandiyohi County 4. Wakanda Lake Shoreland Habitat Kandiyohi County 5. Eagle Lake Shoreland Habitat Otter Tail County 6. Hattie Lake Aeration – Stevens County 7. Technical Assistance on aquatic habitat work 8. Other projects as work is identified 	June 30, 2013

III. PROJECT STRATEGY

A. Project Team/Partners

Minnesota DNR Division of Fisheries and Wildlife staff – Site identification and evaluation, project prioritization, project design and oversight and some project implementation.

HCP Partners working in the same area to coordinate efforts

Local lake associations, lake improvement districts and sportsman’s groups – Design assistance, labor and equipment, electricity costs, and leases.

Outside contractors – Project design and implementation

B. Timeline Requirements

We propose a two year grant beginning July 1, 2011 and ending on June 30, 2013.

C. Long-Term Strategy and Future Funding Needs

This project will help protect and upgrade habitat improvement on disturbed water bodies and will look at ways to partner with others local units of government to address watershed issues that are beyond the scope of the Department. It will also provide increased fishing opportunities and improved water quality to support game fish populations and other wildlife. It is important to the economy and way of life in Minnesota to ensure that the Department can continue to provide quality fishing and fishing opportunities around the state. In the future additional funds will be needed to continue to maintain and upgrade these important habitat resources. Sources of funding beyond LCCMR will be looked at including license fees, stamp fees, Midwest Glacial lakes Partnership, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, LCCMR, and LSOHC funds.

2011-2012 Detailed Project Budget

HCP 2g Restoration & Management – Wildlife Management Areas

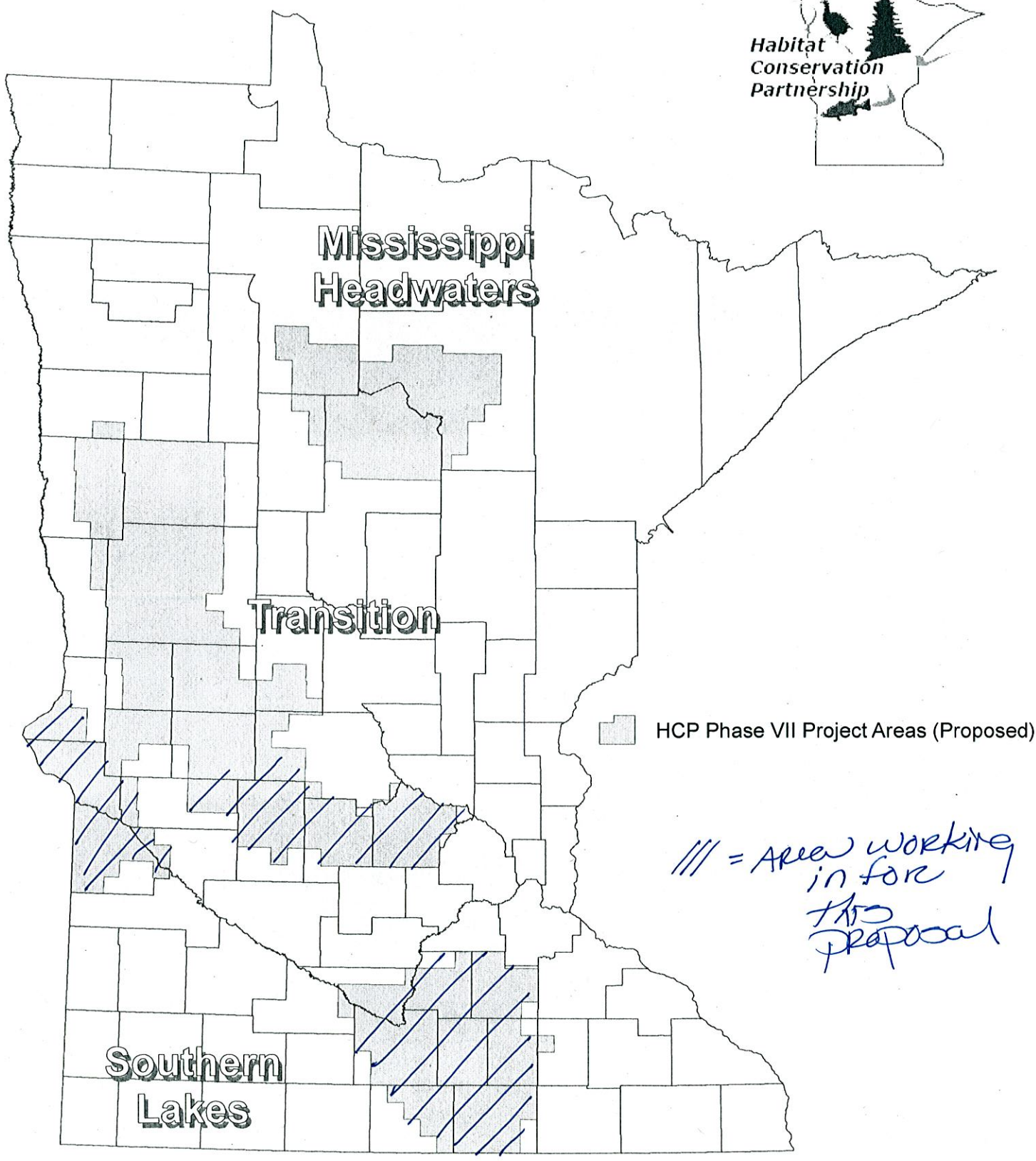
IV. TOTAL TRUST FUND REQUEST BUDGET: two (2) years

BUDGET ITEM	AMOUNT
Personnel: Two temporary staff or interns working full time for the summer on habitat work each year. 90% salary 10% benefit package	\$ 30,000
Contracts: Professional services: Ex: Engineering designs, Land Surveys, Historical/cultural review . Also low bid contracts for implementation of projects	\$ 140,000
Equipment/Tools/Supplies: Two lake aeration systems and the electrical cords	\$ 20,000
Travel: Fleet costs for vehicles and heavy equipment.	\$ 10,000
TOTAL ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST	\$ 200,000

V. OTHER FUNDS

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	Status
Other Non-State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period:		Pending
Other State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period: From Game and Fish Fund and will cover the shared services and Division Support.		Pending
In-kind Services During Project Period:	\$ 10,000	Pending
ETF 2008	\$10,000 and	Secured
2009	\$15,000	Secured
2010	\$100,000	Pending
Funding History:		
ETF 2007	\$280,000	
2008	\$200,000	
2009	\$100,000	
Trout Stamp annual approximation	\$200,000	
Game and Fish annual approximation	\$400,000	

Habitat Conservation Partnership Proposed Phase VII Project Areas



Program Manager Qualifications

Project Manager: Linda Erickson-Eastwood, Fisheries Program Manager
Affiliation: Department of Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife Division
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Linda Erickson-Eastwood is the Fisheries Program Manager. Ms. Erickson-Eastwood is responsible for coordinating and administering all fisheries programs designed to meet section goals both on public and private lands. She provides programmatic direction and management to staff and is responsible for working with the Fisheries Management Section Chief on the oversight of the sections budget. She has been involved with the implementation of several previous bonding and LCMR projects and oversees the Section's \$35 million dollar budget.

Ms. Erickson-Eastwood has served as the Fisheries Program Manager since 1998. Other related experiences include: Fisheries Ed Coordinator, Fisheries Information Specialist, Fisheries Management Supervisor, Research Assistant, and Waterfowl Technician.

Education: Graduated from the Iowa State University in 1981 with a bachelor's degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Management. Graduated from University of WI – LaCrosse in 1986 with a Master's degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Management with computer programming minor.

Ms. Erickson-Eastwood will provide overall management to this proposed LCCMR project. She has effectively demonstrated her capacity to manage programs and budgets, maintain accurate records, and direct staff. Ms. Erickson-Eastwood has experience and demonstrated an ability to collaborate with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders in addressing complicated and contentious management issues. She knows how to get work done on the ground.

Organizational Description

The MN DNR – Section of Fisheries' mission is to "to conserve and manage Minnesota's aquatic resources and associated fish communities for their intrinsic values and long-term ecological, economic, and recreational benefits to the people of Minnesota." **Broad Goals:**

1. To make recreational fishing as good as it can be in the state of Minnesota for the present and future.
2. To conserve, maintain, enhance, or rehabilitate Minnesota's aquatic resources to serve environmental, social, and commercial purposes.
3. To foster an ethic of natural resource stewardship among all Minnesotans.