

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Laws of Minnesota 2011 Final Report



Date: October 20, 2016

Program or Project Title: Accelerated Shallow Lakes and Wetlands Restoration and Enhancement , Phase 3

Funds Recommended: \$936,000

Manager's Name: Ricky Lien
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Legislative Citation: ML 2011, First Sp. Session, Ch. 6, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 4(b)

Appropriation Language: \$936,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources to develop engineering designs for shallow lakes and wetlands and restore and enhance shallow lakes.

County Locations: Becker, Clearwater, Itasca, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Roseau, Todd, and Yellow Medicine.

Regions in which work was completed:

- Northern Forest
- Forest / Prairie Transition
- Prairie

Activity types:

- Enhance
- Design work

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Wetlands

Summary of Accomplishments:

Water control structures and dikes were designed and constructed on six Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) in the counties of Becker, Clearwater, Itasca, Lincoln, Roseau, and Yellow Medicine. Dike work at Roseau River WMA protects and enhances 3200 acres of wetlands wetlands in Pool 2 of the WMA. Roseau River WMA has 10 large water control structures, seven moist soil cells, and four large pools covering 11,800 acres. Cells for a moist soil unit were constructed at Lac Qui Parle WMA in Lac Qui Parle County. Engineering design work was initiated at Staples WMA in Todd County, but as is our policy for 'design-only' projects, no acres will be claimed until construction is initiated and completed in a future OHF grant.

Process & Methods:

Minnesota DNR wetland and shallow lake projects are identified by area wildlife managers and shallow lake specialists. Project identification often comes from either failing wetland infrastructure or shallow lake assessments. Potential projects are submitted by area wildlife managers into a project database with subsequent regional and central office review. Priority projects are selected based on available funding. Project survey, engineering design work, contract bid documents, and construction oversight are provided by regional DNR engineering staff. Needed permits are obtained by area wildlife or shallow lakes staff.

Completed projects provide habitat for wetland dependent species, especially for all stages of waterfowl life needs - spring and fall migration, breeding, and brood rearing. The completed projects additionally provide the benefits that result from managed and

enhanced wetlands: hunting locations, clean water, floodwater retention, etc.

Explain Partners, Supporters, & Opposition:

Ducks Unlimited remains an invaluable partner in doing wetland and shallow lakes work in Minnesota. Throughout the life of each grant, communication between DU and the DNR ensures that projects are coordinated between each entity's OHF grants.

Additional Comments:

Exceptional challenges, expectations, failures, opportunities, or unique aspects of program

Wetland and shallow lake projects present some of the more challenging habitat work done by the Minnesota DNR due to weather constraints, permitting, engineering, and construction challenges. The five-year life of these grants and the ability to edit the parcel list is important to grant managers' ability to shuffle projects between grants to ensure that the available funding is used efficiently.

We are pleased to note that while only 85% of the grant funding was expended, the acreage impacted was 25% more than anticipated in the initial accomplishment plan.

Other Funds Received:

- Not Listed

How were the funds used to advanced the program:

Not Listed

What is the plan to sustain and/or maintain this work after the Outdoor Heritage Funds are expended:

Area land managers will monitor project sites and take any necessary actions to sustain the habitat improvements as part of their public land management responsibilities. Maintenance work will be carried out by existing staff, CCM crews, temporary project staffing or through vendor contracting. Periodic enhancements (beyond routine management) will be funded through annual funding requests from a variety of funding sources, including Game and Fish Fund, Bonding, Gifts, Federal Sources, Environmental Trust, and Outdoor Heritage Fund.

Outcomes:

The original accomplishment plan stated the program would

Programs in the northern forest region:

- Not Listed

How will the outcomes be measured and evaluated?

Completed projects are reviewed by DNR area wildlife managers and engineering staff to ensure project contract minimums are met. Follow-up "warranty" inspections are conducted 6 months post-construction to determine that projects are adequately functioning. Shallow lakes specialists and interns are used as needed to conduct standardized shallow lake assessments. Area and assistant area wildlife managers conduct on-site visual assessments to determine project effectiveness and identify any needed maintenance needs.

Programs in forest-prairie transition region:

- Not Listed

How will the outcomes be measured and evaluated?

Completed projects are reviewed by DNR area wildlife managers and engineering staff to ensure project contract minimums are met. Follow-up "warranty" inspections are conducted 6 months post-construction to determine that projects are adequately functioning. Shallow lakes specialists and interns are used as needed to conduct standardized shallow lake assessments. Area and assistant area wildlife managers conduct on-site visual assessments to determine project effectiveness and identify any needed maintenance needs.

Programs in prairie region:

- Not Listed

How will the outcomes be measured and evaluated?

Completed projects are reviewed by DNR area wildlife managers and engineering staff to ensure project contract minimums are met. Follow-up "warranty" inspections are conducted 6 months post-construction to determine that projects are adequately functioning. Shallow lakes specialists and interns are used as needed to conduct standardized shallow lake assessments. Area and assistant area wildlife managers conduct on-site visual assessments to determine project effectiveness and identify any needed maintenance needs.

Budget Spreadsheet

Final Budget line item reallocations are allowed up to 10% and do not need require an amendment to the Accomplishment Plan

Total Amount: \$936,000

Budget and Cash Leverage

BudgetName	Request	Spent	Cash Leverage (anticipated)	Cash Leverage (received)	Leverage Source	Total (original)	Total (final)
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Contracts	\$924,000	\$746,200	\$0	\$0		\$924,000	\$746,200
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Easement Acquisition	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Easement Stewardship	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Professional Services	\$0	\$50,700	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$50,700
Direct Support Services	\$12,000	\$11,800	\$0	\$0		\$12,000	\$11,800
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Supplies/Materials	\$0	\$100	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$100
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Total	\$936,000	\$808,800	\$0	\$0		\$936,000	\$808,800

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	Spent	Cash Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Manager of Programs	0.00	0.00	\$0	\$0		\$0
Admin Asst	0.00	0.00	\$0	\$0		\$0
Total	0.00	0.00	\$0	\$0		\$0

Explain any budget challenges or successes:

Our ability to estimate engineering expenses is on a steep learning curve. Future grants will take into account the need to budget adequately for this needed expense. Expensive projects are often caused by specific engineering challenges that come with taking on challenging wetland habitat projects. They are scrutinized to ensure that they are worth the cost.

Output Tables

Table 1a. Acres by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands (original)	Wetlands (final)	Prairies (original)	Prairies (final)	Forest (original)	Forest (final)	Habitats (original)	Habitats (final)	Total (original)	Total (final)
Restore	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	5,841	7,262	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,841	7,262
Total	5,841	7,262	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,841	7,262

Table 2. Total Funding by Resource Type

Type	Wetlands (original)	Wetlands (final)	Prairies (original)	Prairies (final)	Forest (original)	Forest (final)	Habitats (original)	Habitats (final)	Total (original)	Total (final)
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$936,000	\$808,800	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$936,000	\$808,800
Total	\$936,000	\$808,800	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$936,000	\$808,800

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro Urban (original)	Metro Urban (final)	ForestPrairie (original)	Forest Prairie (final)	SE Forest (original)	SE Forest (final)	Prairie (original)	Prairie (final)	N Forest (original)	N Forest (final)	Total (original)	Total (final)
Restore	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	5,634	3,769	0	0	47	202	160	3,291	5,841	7,262
Total	0	0	5,634	3,769	0	0	47	202	160	3,291	5,841	7,262

Table 4. Total Funding within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro Urban (original)	Metro Urban (final)	ForestPrairie (original)	Forest Prairie (final)	SE Forest (original)	SE Forest (final)	Prairie (original)	Prairie (final)	N Forest (original)	N Forest (final)	Total (original)	Total (final)
Restore	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protect in Easement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enhance	\$0	\$0	\$351,000	\$229,800	\$0	\$0	\$70,000	\$496,500	\$515,000	\$82,500	\$936,000	\$808,800
Total	\$0	\$0	\$351,000	\$229,800	\$0	\$0	\$70,000	\$496,500	\$515,000	\$82,500	\$936,000	\$808,800

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles (original)

0

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles (final)

0

Explain the success/shortage of acre goals:

Not Listed

Parcel List

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

Becker

Name	TRDS	Acres	Total Cost	Existing Protection?	Description
Hubbel Pond WMA	13935205	69	\$64,771	Yes	Construct water control structure

Clearwater

Name	TRDS	Acres	Total Cost	Existing Protection?	Description
Upper Rice Lake	14536205	1,791	\$12,580	Yes	Channel cleanout

Itasca

Name	TRDS	Acres	Total Cost	Existing Protection?	Description
Morph Meadows	14729216	1,500	\$66,974	Yes	Construct water control structure/dike

Lac qui Parle

Name	TRDS	Acres	Total Cost	Existing Protection?	Description
Lac qui Parle-Killen	11842203	153	\$345,549	Yes	Construct moist soil units

Lincoln

Name	TRDS	Acres	Total Cost	Existing Protection?	Description
Blue Wing WMA	11246236	21	\$76,500	Yes	Construct water control structure

Roseau

Name	TRDS	Acres	Total Cost	Existing Protection?	Description
Roseau River WMA, Pool 3	16343218	3,700	\$157,657	Yes	Dike construction and repair

Todd

Name	TRDS	Acres	Total Cost	Existing Protection?	Description
Staples WMA	13333225	0	\$0	Yes	Design water control structure

Yellow Medicine

Name	TRDS	Acres	Total Cost	Existing Protection?	Description
Teardrop WMA	11544201	28	\$70,054	Yes	Construct water control structure

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

No parcels with an activity type protect.

Section 2a - Protect Parcel with Bldgs

No parcels with an activity type protect and has buildings.

Section 3 - Other Parcel Activity

No parcels with an other activity type.

Completed Parcel: Blue Wing WMA

# of Total Acres:	21
County:	Lincoln
Township:	112
Range:	46
Direction:	2
Section:	36
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	21
# of Acres: Forest:	
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	
Amount of Shoreline:	
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	
Has there been signage erected at the site:	
Total cost of Restoration/Enhancement:	\$76,500

Completed Parcel: Hubbel Pond WMA

# of Total Acres:	69
County:	Becker
Township:	139
Range:	35
Direction:	2
Section:	05
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	69
# of Acres: Forest:	
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	
Amount of Shoreline:	
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	
Has there been signage erected at the site:	Yes
Total cost of Restoration/Enhancement:	\$64,771

Completed Parcel: Lac qui Parle-Killen

# of Total Acres:	153
County:	Lac qui Parle
Township:	118
Range:	42
Direction:	2
Section:	03
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	153
# of Acres: Forest:	
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	
Amount of Shoreline:	
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	
Has there been signage erected at the site:	Yes
Total cost of Restoration/Enhancement:	\$345,549

Completed Parcel: Morph Meadows

# of Total Acres:	1500
County:	Itasca
Township:	147
Range:	29
Direction:	2
Section:	16
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	1500
# of Acres: Forest:	
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	
Amount of Shoreline:	
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	
Has there been signage erected at the site:	Yes
Total cost of Restoration/Enhancement:	\$66,974

Completed Parcel: Roseau River WMA, Pool 3

# of Total Acres:	3700
County:	Roseau
Township:	163
Range:	43
Direction:	2
Section:	18
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	3700
# of Acres: Forest:	
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	
Amount of Shoreline:	
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	
Has there been signage erected at the site:	No - Property manager wants to place sign at site location that will be most visible during fall hunting and birding visits. That location is currently not reachable due to water levels, but manager will place sign when trail becomes passable.
Total cost of Restoration/Enhancement:	\$157,657

Completed Parcel: Staples WMA

# of Total Acres:	0
County:	Todd
Township:	133
Range:	33
Direction:	2
Section:	25
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	0
# of Acres: Forest:	
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	
Amount of Shoreline:	
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	
Has there been signage erected at the site:	No - This was funding (\$2,940) to begin preliminary survey work for the replacement of a water control structure at Staples WMA. Further design work will be needed in the future. No acres will be claimed and no sign will be placed until project is actually constructed.
Total cost of Restoration/Enhancement:	\$0

Completed Parcel: Teardrop WMA

# of Total Acres:	28
County:	Yellow Medicine
Township:	115
Range:	44
Direction:	2
Section:	01
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	28
# of Acres: Forest:	
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	
Amount of Shoreline:	
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	
Has there been signage erected at the site:	Yes
Total cost of Restoration/Enhancement:	\$70,054

Completed Parcel: Upper Rice Lake

# of Total Acres:	1791
County:	Clearwater
Township:	145
Range:	36
Direction:	2
Section:	05
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	1791
# of Acres: Forest:	
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	
Amount of Shoreline:	
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	
Has there been signage erected at the site:	
Total cost of Restoration/Enhancement:	\$12,580

Parcel Map

Accelerated Shallow Lakes and Wetlands Restoration and Enhancement , Phase 3

