

## Outdoor Heritage Fund Proposal

### Forest Habitat Type

Your name: Ronald Severs, Director – Senior Scientist  
 Your organization: University of Minnesota, Cloquet Forestry Center  
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Program/project short name: Wildlife Research Buffer Lands Acquisition  
 FY10 Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars requested: \$ 118,000  
 Additional funds leveraged and source: \$ 118,000 , University of MN  
 Expected outcomes at completion (e.g., XX acres protected, restored, enhanced):  
 Expected outcome will add 240 buffer acres of research forest that will be open to the public, providing research opportunity to compare environmental impacts from open public recreational use VS closed to public recreational use.

Short narrative of program/project, location(s), timeline for completion and measures of success (100 words or less):

The University of Minnesota, Cloquet Forestry Center is a research forest that has State Game Refuge status. Acquiring adjacent lands that **will be open to public recreation/hunting** would provide opportunity for paired study research, where environmental/wildlife impacts from open public use VS closed to the public, in similar adjoining environments could be researched. This would be of particular interest to the on going Ruffed Grouse Research Project. Acquisition of the 240 acres would also prevent forest land fragmentation caused by increasing development in the area, expand the contiguous forest cover on the research forest and protect an additional one mile of designated trout stream.

Generalized budget:

Budget Item	Outdoor Heritage Fund \$\$	Other Fund \$\$	Total Funds \$\$
Salaries/benefits			
Contracts			
Equipment (> \$5000)			
Materials, supplies			
Travel			
Land (fee, easement)	\$110,000	\$110,000*	\$220,000
Other (list)	\$8000	\$8000	\$16,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$118,000</b>	<b>\$118,000</b>	<b>\$236,000**</b>

\*from timber sale receipts on the Cloquet Forestry Center

\*\* \$236,000 Total includes \$220,000 (\$916/ac.) appraised land value. OTHER includes \$2,400 appraisal fee plus approximately for \$13,600 surveying, environmental hazard report and closing

Describe how long-term costs for sustaining project, monitoring and/or addressing property tax implications will be met: The acquired lands would become part of the University of Minnesota's Cloquet Forestry Center and administered as other University property at the Center, i.e., under a comprehensive long term forest management plan.

Describe how local governments will be involved/informed if relevant:

The University of Minnesota Cloquet Forestry Center is recognized locally, through out the state, nationally and internationally for it's research contributions to Natural Resource management. The Center has strong community and University support for its research mission.

Describe how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs this will provide:

Any revenue derived from future management (timber harvesting) on the tracts will be used to partially support two FTE's Field Technicians assigned to the Center's forest management and research program.

Other considerations:

The Cloquet Forestry Center will celebrate its 100th year in 2009. Today it encompasses 3505 acres of forest, wetland and stream resources. Over the century the Center has served as a key resource for forest and wildlife management research. As land parcelization and residential development of the forested landscape of Northern Minnesota increases, so will the need for a research forest where diverse aspects of forest use impacts can be examined, especially for wildlife habitat management. Acquiring these lands to promote additional research opportunities and buffer the existing research program at the Cloquet Forestry Center, is a fundamental step forward providing citizens, landowners, natural resource professionals and agencies the answers to existing and new environmental management questions well into the future.

Cloquet Forestry Center is located in Carlton County in Northeast MN.





