

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Laws of Minnesota 2009 Final Report



Date: June 22, 2015

Program or Project Title: Prairie Heritage Fund - Acquisition and Restoration, Phase 1

Funds Recommended: \$3,000,000

Manager's Name: Eran Sandquist

Title: MN State Coordinator

Organization: Pheasants Forever

Address: 410 Lincoln Ave S

Address 2: Box 91

City: South Haven, MN 55382

Office Number: 320-236-7755

Mobile Number: 763-242-1273

Email: esandquist@pheasantsforever.org

Website: www.pheasantsforever.org

Legislative Citation: ML 2009, Ch. 172, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 2(c)

Appropriation Language: \$3,000,000 in fiscal year 2010 is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever or successor to acquire and restore land to be added to the state wildlife management area system. A list of proposed fee title acquisitions and a list of proposed restoration projects, describing the types and locations of restorations, must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan. The commissioner of natural resources must agree to each proposed acquisition. To the extent possible, prairie restorations conducted with money appropriated in this section must plant vegetation or sow seed only of ecotypes native to Minnesota, and preferably of the local ecotype, using a high diversity of species originating from as close to the restoration site as possible, and protect existing native prairies from genetic contamination.

County Locations: Brown, Chippewa, Goodhue, Lyon, Pipestone, and Watonwan.

Regions in which work will take place:

- Northern Forest
- Prairie

Activity types:

- Restore
- Enhance
- Protect in Fee

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Wetlands
- Forest
- Prairie

Abstract:

Pheasants Forever, in cooperation with partners acquired and restored five parcels totaling 1,051 acres within Southern Minnesota and enrolled the parcels into the MNDNR WMA system. In addition, 66 acres of grassland enhancement was completed on existing WMAs.

Design and scope of work:

Working with numerous partners throughout the state of Minnesota, Pheasants Forever acquired 1,051 acres of land from willing sellers

throughout Southern Minnesota. These lands have been enrolled into the state Wildlife Management Area (WMA) System and will be protected and managed in perpetuity by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. In addition, these newly acquired WMAs will provide public access and recreational opportunities for ALL Minnesotans, so fundamentally important to our outdoor heritage.

More specifically, a total of 5 parcels were acquired within Brown, Goodhue, Lyon, Pipestone, and Watonwan Counties. A total of 7 landowners were presented with offers and PF was successful in securing 5 of those parcels (71% success rate). Offers to landowners were based on appraised values and seemed to be competitive with the market at the time. Most projects were closed early in the project period, and therefore the agricultural land boom of 2012 seemed to have little affect on our ability to secure parcels. Parcels were identified in conjunction with DNR wildlife professionals and based on criteria in addition to minimum WMA standards that included: habitat restoration potential, landscape scale significance, presence of significant natural communities, future expansion potential, and multiple benefit analysis.

In total, \$2,969,300 of Outdoor Heritage Funds were matched with \$862,500 of non-state funding to complete this work. Striving to build upon past investments in wildlife habitat conservation and landscape level habitat complexes that protect and sustain wildlife populations, 4 of the 5 parcels are additions to existing WMAs or are adjacent to existing permanently protected lands. All parcels acquired have been restored and/or enhanced to as a high quality as practicable. All agricultural row crops on these parcels have been restored to native grassland/wetland complexes. The grasslands were restored using a broadcast or drill seeded method with a diverse mix of native grasses and forb species. 15 acres of native prairie have been protected and all parcels have been opened for public use. In addition, 66 acres of grassland enhancements were completed on an existing WMA in Chippewa County. These restored and permanently protected acres will provide critical habitat for breeding/migrating waterfowl as reproductive and winter habitat for grassland game and non game species.

Which LSOHC state-wide priorities are addressed in this proposal:

- Allow public access. This comes into play when all other things about the request are approximately equal
- Are able to leverage effort and/or other funds to supplement any OHF appropriation
- Are ongoing, successful, transparent and accountable programs addressing actions and targets of one or more of the ecological sections
- Produce multiple enduring conservation benefits
- Provide Minnesotans with greater public access to outdoor environments with hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreation opportunities
- Restore or enhance habitat on state-owned WMAs, AMAs, SNAs, and state forests
- Use a science-based strategic planning and evaluation model to guide protection, restoration and enhancement, similar to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's Strategic Habitat Conservation model

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this proposal:

Prairie:

- Protect, enhance, or restore existing wetland/upland complexes, or convert agricultural lands to new wetland/upland habitat complexes
- Protect, enhance, and restore remnant native prairie, Big Woods forests, and oak savanna
- Convert agricultural land to wetland/upland to protect, enhance, or restore existing habitat complexes, such as WMAs
- Restore or enhance habitat on public lands
- Protect, enhance, and restore migratory habitat for waterfowl and related species, so as to increase migratory and breeding success

Northern Forest:

- Not Listed

Relationship to other funds:

- Not Listed

How will you sustain and/or maintain this work after the Outdoor Heritage Funds are expended:

Parcels acquired are now enrolled into our 30 year history of working with DNR land managers to restore, enhance and maintain high quality habitat on our state WMA's and will continue to do so as needed.

Outcomes:

Programs in the northern forest region:

- Not Listed

How will they be measured and evaluated?

Not Listed

Programs in prairie region:

- Not Listed

How will they be measured and evaluated?

Not Listed

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: \$3,000,000

Budget and Cash Leverage

BudgetName	Request	Spent	Cash Leverage (anticipated)	Cash Leverage (received)	Leverage Source	Total (original)	Total (final)
Personnel	\$57,500	\$57,500	\$0	\$6,900	Non-State	\$57,500	\$64,400
Contracts	\$450,000	\$58,900	\$0	\$32,400	Non-State	\$450,000	\$91,300
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	\$2,492,500	\$2,805,400	\$725,000	\$823,200	Non-State	\$3,217,500	\$3,628,600
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	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Direct Support Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$0	\$47,500	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$47,500
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Other Equipment/Tools	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Supplies/Materials	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
DNR IDP	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Total	\$3,000,000	\$2,969,300	\$725,000	\$862,500		\$3,725,000	\$3,831,800

Personnel

Position	FTE	Over # of years	Spent	Cash Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
PF Personnel	0.00	0.00	\$57,500	\$6,900	Non-State	\$64,400
Total	0.00	0.00	\$57,500	\$6,900		\$64,400

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	1,400	0	0	0	0	0	1,400	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	1,100	1,051	0	0	0	0	1,100	1,051
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	0	0	0	66	0	0	0	0	0	66
Total	0	0	2,500	1,117	0	0	0	0	2,500	1,117

Table 1b. How many of these Prairie acres are Native Prairie?

Type	Native Prairie (original)	Native Prairie (final)
Restore	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	15
Protect in Fee W/O State PILT Liability	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0
Enhance	0	0
Total	0	0

Table 2. Total Requested 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	\$507,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$507,500	\$0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$0	\$0	\$2,492,500	\$2,966,700	\$0	\$2,600	\$0	\$0	\$2,492,500	\$2,969,300
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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$0	\$3,000,000	\$2,966,700	\$0	\$2,600	\$0	\$0	\$3,000,000	\$2,969,300

Table 3. Acres within each Ecological Section

Type	Metro Urban (original)	Metro Urban (final)	ForestPrairie (original)	Forest Prairie (final)	SEForest (original)	SEForest (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	1,051	0	0	0	1,051
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	0	0	0	0	0	66	0	0	0	66
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,117	0	0	0	1,117

Table 4. Total Requested 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	\$2,966,700	\$0	\$2,600	\$0	\$2,969,300
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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,966,700	\$0	\$2,600	\$0	\$2,969,300

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

0

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

0

Parcel List

Section 1 - Restore / Enhance Parcel List

Chippewa

Name	TRDS	Acres	Total Cost	Existing Protection?
Benderberg WMA Addition - Grassland Restore	11941233	66	\$12,027	

Section 2 - Protect Parcel List

Brown

Name	TRDS	Acres	OHF Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Verona WMA	10833202	165	\$359,848	No	Full	Not Applicable

Goodhue

Name	TRDS	Acres	OHF Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Warsaw WMA Tract 3	11118208	164	\$607,500	No	Full	Not Applicable

Lyon

Name	TRDS	Acres	OHF Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Clifton WMA Addition	11140205	334	\$985,863	No	Full	Not Applicable

Pipestone

Name	TRDS	Acres	OHF Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Winter WMA Addition	10846228	233	\$385,000	No	Full	Not Applicable

Watowan

Name	TRDS	Acres	OHF Cost	Existing Protection?	Hunting?	Fishing?
Younger Brothers WMA Addition	10731225	155	\$435,000	No	Full	Not Applicable

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: Benderberg WMA Addition - Grassland Restore

# of Total Acres:	66
County:	Chippewa
Township:	119
Range:	41
Direction:	2
Section:	33
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	
# of Acres: Forest:	
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	66
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:	\$12,027

Completed Parcel: Clifton WMA Addition

# of Total Acres:	334
County:	Lyon
Township:	111
Range:	40
Direction:	2
Section:	05
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	
# of Acres: Forest:	
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	334
Amount of Shoreline:	
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	
Has there been signage erected at the site:	Yes
Annual Reporting Organization Name:	MN DNR - Wildlife
Annual Reporting Manager Name:	Pat Rivers
Annual Reporting Address:	500 Lafayette Road
Annual Reporting City:	Saint Paul
Annual Reporting State:	MN
Annual Reporting Zip:	55155
Annual Reporting Email:	kim.hennings@state.mn.us
Annual Reporting Phone:	651-259-5210
Purchase Date:	October 07, 2010
Acquisition Title:	
Purchase Price:	\$1,366,200
Appraised Value:	\$1,366,200
Professional Service Costs:	\$3,747
Assessed Value:	\$750,900
Total Project Cost:	\$1,366,200
Fees Received:	\$0
Donations:	\$0
Related Parties:	
Property Managed By:	DNR - Wildlife Management Area -
Name of the unit area or location government unit or land manager:	MN DNR Wildlife

Completed Parcel: Verona WMA

# of Total Acres:	165
County:	Brown
Township:	108
Range:	33
Direction:	2
Section:	02
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	
# of Acres: Forest:	
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	165
Amount of Shoreline:	
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	
Has there been signage erected at the site:	Yes
Annual Reporting Organization Name:	MN DNR - Wildlife
Annual Reporting Manager Name:	Pat Rivers
Annual Reporting Address:	500 Lafayette Road
Annual Reporting City:	Saint Paul
Annual Reporting State:	MN
Annual Reporting Zip:	55155
Annual Reporting Email:	kim.hennings@state.mn.us
Annual Reporting Phone:	651-259-5210
Purchase Date:	December 11, 2009
Acquisition Title:	
Purchase Price:	\$400,848
Appraised Value:	\$545,000
Professional Service Costs:	\$4,499
Assessed Value:	\$301,500
Total Project Cost:	\$400,848
Fees Received:	\$0
Donations:	\$0
Related Parties:	
Property Managed By:	DNR - Wildlife Management Area -
Name of the unit area or location government unit or land manager:	Verona WMA

Completed Parcel: Warsaw WMA Tract 3

# of Total Acres:	164
County:	Goodhue
Township:	111
Range:	18
Direction:	2
Section:	08
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	
# of Acres: Forest:	
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	164
Amount of Shoreline:	
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	
Has there been signage erected at the site:	Yes
Annual Reporting Organization Name:	MN DNR - Wildlife
Annual Reporting Manager Name:	Pat Rivers
Annual Reporting Address:	500 Lafayette Road
Annual Reporting City:	Saint Paul
Annual Reporting State:	MN
Annual Reporting Zip:	55155
Annual Reporting Email:	kim.hennings@state.mn.us
Annual Reporting Phone:	651-259-5210
Purchase Date:	August 25, 2010
Acquisition Title:	
Purchase Price:	\$671,000
Appraised Value:	\$671,000
Professional Service Costs:	\$16,748
Assessed Value:	\$471,908
Total Project Cost:	\$671,000
Fees Received:	\$0
Donations:	\$0
Related Parties:	
Property Managed By:	DNR - Wildlife Management Area -
Name of the unit area or location government unit or land manager:	Warsaw WMA

Completed Parcel: Winter WMA Addition

# of Total Acres:	233
County:	Pipestone
Township:	108
Range:	46
Direction:	2
Section:	28
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	
# of Acres: Forest:	
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	233
Amount of Shoreline:	
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	
Has there been signage erected at the site:	Yes
Annual Reporting Organization Name:	MN DNR - Wildlife
Annual Reporting Manager Name:	Pat Rivers
Annual Reporting Address:	500 Lafayette Road
Annual Reporting City:	Saint Paul
Annual Reporting State:	MN
Annual Reporting Zip:	55155
Annual Reporting Email:	kim.hennings@state.mn.us
Annual Reporting Phone:	651-259-2510
Purchase Date:	September 09, 2009
Acquisition Title:	
Purchase Price:	\$582,500
Appraised Value:	\$582,500
Professional Service Costs:	\$4,264
Assessed Value:	\$405,200
Total Project Cost:	\$582,500
Fees Received:	\$0
Donations:	\$0
Related Parties:	
Property Managed By:	DNR - Wildlife Management Area -
Name of the unit area or location government unit or land manager:	Winter WMA

Completed Parcel: Younger Brothers WMA Addition

# of Total Acres:	155
County:	Watonwan
Township:	107
Range:	31
Direction:	2
Section:	25
# of Acres: Wetlands/Upland:	20
# of Acres: Forest:	36
# of Acres: Prairie/Grassland:	99
Amount of Shoreline:	3500 (Linear Feet)
Name of Adjacent Body of Water (if applicable):	Watonwan River
Has there been signage erected at the site:	Yes
Annual Reporting Organization Name:	MN DNR - Division of Fish and Wildlife
Annual Reporting Manager Name:	Pat Rivers
Annual Reporting Address:	500 Lafayette Road
Annual Reporting City:	Saint Paul
Annual Reporting State:	MN
Annual Reporting Zip:	55155
Annual Reporting Email:	kim.hennings@state.mn.us
Annual Reporting Phone:	651-259-5210
Purchase Date:	August 25, 2010
Acquisition Title:	
Purchase Price:	\$485,000
Appraised Value:	\$485,000
Professional Service Costs:	\$3,551
Assessed Value:	\$299,400
Total Project Cost:	\$485,000
Fees Received:	\$0
Donations:	\$0
Related Parties:	
Property Managed By:	DNR - Wildlife Management Area -
Name of the unit area or location government unit or land manager:	MN DNR Wildlife

Parcel Map

Prairie Heritage Fund - Acquisition and Restoration, Phase 1

