

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Final Accomplishment Plan Report

Date: November 2, 2011

Program Title: Green Corridor Legacy Program Phase II

Fiscal Agency/organization: Redwood Area Communities Foundation

Contact: Pat Dingels

Title: Executive Director

Mailing Address: 200 S. Mill St., Redwood Falls MN 56283

Telephone: 507.637.4004

Fax: 507.637.4082

E-Mail: pat@redwoodfalls.org

Web Site: www.radc.org

Manager's Name: Bradley H. Cobb

Title: Program Manager

Agency/organization: Green Corridor Inc.

Mailing Address: 200 S. Mill St., Redwood Falls MN 56283

Telephone: 320.493.4695

Fax: 507.637.4082

E-Mail: 1231tlc@charter.net

Web Site: www.radc.org

Funds Recommended: \$1,651,000

Legislative Citation and Appropriation Language:

ML 2010, Ch. 361, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 2(b) Green Corridor Legacy Program - \$1,651,000 in fiscal year 2011 is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Redwood Area Communities Foundation to acquire and restore land for the purposes allowed under the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 15, in Redwood, Renville, Brown, Nicollet, Murray, Lyon, Yellow Medicine, Chippewa, and Cottonwood Counties to be added to the state outdoor recreation system as defined in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 86A. A list of proposed fee title acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan. The commissioner of natural resources must agree in writing to each proposed acquisition. All restorations must comply with subdivision 9, paragraph (b).

Outcomes

While protecting natural resources, wildlife, and aquatic habitats this program also promotes publicly owned natural resource infrastructure (e.g. WMA, AMA, etc) which invigorates local and regional economies by providing public access to outdoor recreation systems. New and/or expanded business opportunities related to outdoor recreational tourism are likely to arise as a direct result of this appropriation and have been advanced and promoted by the Green Corridor Legacy Program.

The Green Corridor Legacy Program - Phase II appropriation protected high quality fish, game, and wildlife habitats by creating complexes or corridors of three (3) new and/or expansions of MN DNR Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) within the Program area totaling 447.51 acres in fee title.

Specifically; the Grunflur WMA at 164.36 acres is a new WMA complex located in Cottonwood County just south of Sanborn MN has protected a wetland structure and a small remnant native prairie parcel and is in close proximity of the Cottonwood River. This tract also protects habitat for upland game and waterfowl. This new WMA now provides greater public access to regional communities like Sanborn to this new outdoor recreational system and has the potential for future development and expansion.

The Lamberton WMA addition at 89.5 acres located in Redwood County northeast of Lamberton MN provides protection to a significant riparian drainage area and expands the existing Lamberton WMA complex. This tract also protects critical wildlife and waterfowl habitats (grasslands) that are usually associated to these types of riparian areas.

The Granite Prairie WMA at 193.65 acres is a new WMA complex located in Renville County northwest of Morton MN. This WMA protects numerous exposed granite outcrops, remnant native prairie, existing and restored hardwood forested areas, several wetland/shallow lake structures, and also protects nearly 1.1 miles of aquatic habitats along the Minnesota River shoreline. Numerous species of game and non-game wildlife inhabit this WMA and also provides water and fishing access to the Minnesota River. This tract is also adjacent to a portion of the Minnesota River Valley Scenic Byway transportation system.

The Green Corridor Legacy Programs success has been demonstrated by the numerous partnerships that have been developed from a wide variety of disciplines that will assist in monitoring outcomes, provide long range management of the acquired lands, provide technical support, and ensure that program activities will continue to advance the goals, objectives, and strategies of the various state-wide conservation plans and provide public transparency and input.

Maintenance

The DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife will permanently manage these properties. Routine maintenance will be managed by area DNR staff funded by their traditional sources like the Game & Fish Fund. Due to the proximity to other DNR properties will help keep maintenance costs less than average due to shared resources. Periodic enhancements or improvements will be funded by special funding requests. The DNR requires management plans for each project which identify periodic inspections and continuing management of the property site. These management practices include such things as; prescribed fire, weed control, and invasive tree removal. Regional partners may also support these management activities/practices by applying for state funding/grants for maintenance as needed.

Initial restoration funding of a portion of the Lamberton WMA addition was transferred to the acquisition budget to help offset an acquisition funding shortfall and was approved by the LSOHC. This restoration effort will take place in the Green Corridor Legacy Program – Phase III appropriation from FY12 OHF.

Sustainability

The fee simple acquisition of these 447.51 acres will be administered by the MN DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife for management and enforcement of state laws on these acquired properties in perpetuity. This program has acquired land in fee title from willing and supportive landowners and was transferred to the appropriate state agency for long-term habitat conservation, outdoor recreational access, sustainability, and monitoring. Payment in Lieu of tax (PILT) will be established by current or traditional methods. The Program Manager and DNR have submitted an approved Initial Development Plan (IDP).

Table B-2. Other Outcome Table

(This table should be used for activities that are not counted in acres, miles etc.)

N/A for this Table.

Program Name:	Green Corridor Legacy Program Phase II
Date:	2-Nov-11
Legal Citation:	ML2010, Ch. 361, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 2b

Table 1 and Table 3 column totals should be the same AND Table 2 and Table 4 column totals should be the same

If your project has lakes or shoreline miles instead of land acres, convert miles to acres

for Tables 1 and 3 using the following conversion:

Lakeshore = 6 acres per lakeshore mile / Stream & River Shore = 12 acres per linear mile, if both sides

Table 1. Acres by Resource Type

Table 1 & 2 ask for Initial and Final information. INITIAL information means the data in the FIRST accomplishment plan approved by the Council, NOT approved versions thereafter.

	Wetlands		Prairies		Forest		Habitats		Total	
	Initial	Final	Initial	Final	Initial	Final	Initial	Final	Initial	Final
Restore			54	0					54	0
Protect Fee			275	447.51					275	447.51
Protect Easement									0	0
Enhance									0	0
Total	0	0	329	447.51	0	0	0	0	329	447.51

Table 2. Total Requested Funding by Resource Type

	Wetlands		Prairies		Forest		Habitats		Total	
	Initial	Final	Initial	Final	Initial	Final	Initial	Final	Initial	Final
Restore			\$ 27,000	\$ -					\$ 27,000	\$ -
Protect Fee			\$ 1,557,700	\$ 1,596,195					\$ 1,557,700	\$ 1,596,195
Protect Easement									\$ -	\$ -
Enhance									\$ -	\$ -
Total	0	0	1584700	1596195	0	0	0	0	\$ 1,584,700	\$ 1,596,195

Tables below only ask for final amounts and achievements.

Table 3. Final Acres achieved within each Ecological Section

	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N Forest	Total
Restore						0
Protect				447.51		447.51
Enhance						0
Total	0	0	0	447.51	0	

Total Acres (sum of Total column)

Total Acres (sum of Total row)

Total Acres from Table 1.

447.51

447.51

0

These three cells should be the same figure.

Table 4. Final Amount spent within each Ecological Section

	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N Forest	Total
Restore						\$ -
Protect				\$ 1,651,000		\$ 1,651,000
Enhance						\$ -
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,651,000	\$ -	

Total Dollars (sum of Total column) \$ 1,651,000 *These two cells should be the same figure.*
 Total Dollars (sum of Total row) \$ 1,651,000
 Check to make sure these amounts are the same as the Funding Request Amount on page 1 of Main Funding Form.

Table 5. Target Lake/Stream/River Miles

miles of Lakes / Streams / Rivers Shoreline

Table 6. Acquisition by PILT Status (enter information in acres)

		Wetlands	Prairies	Forests	Habitats	Total
Acquired in Fee with State PILT Liability			447.51			447.51
Acquired in Fee without State PILT Liability						0
Permanent Easement State PILT Liability	NO					0

Table 7. Estimated Value of Acquisition by PILT Status (enter information in dollars)

		Wetlands	Prairies	Forests	Habitats	Total
Acquired in Fee with State PILT Liability			\$ 1,596,195			\$ 1,596,195
Acquired in Fee without State PILT Liability						\$ -
Permanent Easement State PILT Liability	NO					\$ -

Program Name:	Green Corridor Legacy Program Phase II
Date:	2-Nov-11
Legal Citation:	ML2010, Ch. 361, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 2(b)

[Link HERE to definitions of the budget items below.](#)

Total Amount of Request \$ 1,651,000 *From page 1 on the funding form.*

Personnel

Position breakdown here	FTE	Over # of years	Initial OHF Request	Actual OHF Expended	Actual Cash Leverage	Cash Leverage Source
Total	0			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Budget and Cash Leverage *(All your LSOHC Request Funds must be direct to and necessary for program outcomes.)*
Please describe how you intend to spend the requested funds.

Budget Item	Initial OHF Request	Actual OHF Expended	Actual Cash Leverage	Cash Leverage Source
Personnel - <i>auto entered from above</i>		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contracts	\$49,800	\$ 49,800		
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT <i>(breakout in table 7)</i>	\$1,557,700	\$ 1,593,700	\$ 2,495	Cash Donation
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT <i>(breakout in table 7)</i>				
Easement Acquisition				
Easement Stewardship				
Travel (in-state)				
Professional Services				
Direct Support Services				
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	\$7,500	\$ 7,500		
Other Restoration Costs	\$36,000			
Capital Equipment <i>(auto entered from below)</i>				
Other Equipment/Tools				
Supplies/Materials				
		\$ 1,651,000	\$ 2,495	\$ -

Capital Equipment *(single items over \$10,000 - auto entered into table above)*

Item Name	Initial OHF Request	Actual OHF Request	Leverage	Disposition Plan
Total	0	-	-	

Program Name:	Green Corridor Legacy Program Phase II
Date:	2-Nov-11
Legal Citation:	ML2010, Ch. 361, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 2(b)

Please include ALL parcels in which OHF money was spent, regardless of whether acquired.

Parcel Name	County	Township	Range	Direction	Section	TRDS	# of acres	Cost to OHF	Primary habitat type: wetland, prairie, forest, aquatic	Activity: R=Restore PF=Protect Fee PE=Protect Easement E=Enhance (Note: these figures should be the same as those in Attachment B)	LSOHC Section: Metro-Urbanizing = MU Southeast Forest=SEF Northern Forest= NF Prairie-Transition PT Prairie= P	Open to hunting and fishing? (yes/no)	Identify state or federal disposition: WPA, WMA, AMA, SNA, State Forest	If easement, what is the easement cost as a percentage of the fee acquisition?
Granite Prairie WMA	Renville		113	35	2	18	11335218	193.65	\$714,010	Prairie	PF	P	yes	WMA
Grunflur WMA	Cottonwood		113	35	2	2	11335202	164.36	\$657,440	Prairie	PF	P	yes	WMA
Lamberton WMA addition	Redwood		109	37	2	11	10937211	89.5	\$222,250	Prairie	PF	P	yes	WMA