

# WRE03: Wetland Habitat Protection and Restoration Program

Phase 9



The Minnesota Land Trust and the US Fish and Wildlife Service are restoring and enhancing wetland and upland habitat through native prairie plantings, scattered tree removal, wetland restoration, or a combination of treatments on a number of protected properties. This work is restoring hydrology and opening the prairie/oak savanna landscape.

Below are examples of properties the partnership has been working. Two of them are working lands easements, which provide the landowner with the opportunity to graze and/or hay, while the third has permitted grazing rights.



**The Sitter Property** is a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Grassland Easement in Big Stone County. Restoration/Enhancement work on this property has two phases, funded through our Phase 3 and Phase 6 grants.



*Left: Contractors and partners worked late into the evening to finish up wetland scrapes before a coming snowstorm in fall, 2022. Right: Shorebirds and other waterbirds are enjoying the restorations.*

## The Sorlie and Evavold properties

are U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Grassland Easements in Otter Tail County. This is truly a landscape-level project; these properties are both part of a larger conservation estate, extending miles in all directions, totaling >5,000 acres of connected protected land within the Lake Christina Prairie Core.



*Left: Cattle graze on a recent tree removal/wetland restoration site. Right: welded wire going in on the front slope of a ditch plug. The wire protects the structure from muskrat use and therefore potential structure failure, ensuring the wetland is restored for the long term.*

WER03: Wetlands

Results to Date through 8/13/2023

Grant Phase	Budget						Output												
	Protection		Restore/Enhance		Total		Protection										Restore/Enhance		
							Protection Leverage			Acres Protected			Shoreline (mi) Protected			Projects	Acres Restored/Enhanced		
	Award	Spent / Comitted	Award	Spent / Comitted	Award	Spent / Comitted	Proposed	Actual	% of Goal	Proposed	Outcome	% of Goal	Proposed	Actual	% of Goal		Proposed	Outcome	% of Goal
2013 Wetlands (Complete)	\$ 1,980,000	\$ 1,966,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,980,000	\$ 1,966,200	\$ -	\$ 1,209,705		1,100	1,962	178%	0.0	14.2		14			
2016 Wetlands 2 (Complete)	\$ 1,629,000	\$ 1,627,187	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,629,000	\$ 1,627,187	\$ 315,000	\$ 386,975	123%	750	1,025	137%	0.0	17.6		9			
2018 Wetlands 3 (Complete)	\$ 1,302,900	\$ 1,307,565	\$ 483,100	\$ 474,648	\$ 1,786,000	\$ 1,782,213	\$ 223,500	\$ 10,315,000	4615%	646	666	103%	0.0	9.5		5	745	880	118%
2019 Wetlands 4 (In Progress)	\$ 1,542,500	\$ 1,501,853	\$ 586,500	\$ 500,000	\$ 2,129,000	\$ 2,001,853	\$ 277,000	\$ 456,527	165%	800	816	102%	0.0	10.6		5	978	82	8%
2020 Wetlands 5 (In Progress)	\$ 1,838,000	\$ 677,876	\$ 845,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 2,683,000	\$ 2,477,475	\$ 360,000	\$ 630,748	175%	1,040	1,138	109%	0.0	4.9		4	942	96	10%
2021 Wetlands 6 (In Progress)	\$ 2,260,000	\$ 209,386	\$ 828,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 3,088,000	\$ 2,323,386	\$ 336,900	\$ 475,700	141%	1,213	883	73%	0.0	0.8		7	870	0	0%
2022 Wetlands 7 (In Progress)	\$ 2,042,000	\$ 11,471	\$ 1,288,000	\$ 1,150,000	\$ 3,330,000	\$ 1,161,471	\$ 369,000	\$ -	0%	1,144	0	0%	0.0	0.0		0	992	0	0%
2023 Wetlands 8 (In Progress)	\$ 1,776,000	\$ 30	\$ 1,236,000	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 3,012,000	\$ 1,100,030	\$ 233,000	\$ -	0%	745	0	0%	0.0	0.0		0	945	0	0%
2024 Wetlands 9 (Proposed)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		0	0		0.0	0.0		0	0	0	
Program Totals	Budget						Protection												
	Protection		Restore/Enhance		Total		Leverage			Acres Protected			Shoreline Protected			Projects	Restoration		
	Award	Spent / Comitted	Award	Spent / Comitted	Award	Spent / Comitted	Proposed	Actual	% of Goal	Proposed	Outcome	% of Goal	Proposed	Actual	% of Goal		Proposed	Outcome	% of Goal
Complete	\$ 4,911,900	\$ 4,900,952	\$ 483,100	\$ 474,648	\$ 5,395,000	\$ 5,375,600	\$ 538,500	\$ 11,911,680	2212%	2496	3,653	146%	0	41.2		28	745	880	118%
In Progress	\$ 9,458,500	\$ 2,400,617	\$ 4,783,500	\$ 4,250,000	\$ 14,242,000	\$ 9,064,215	\$ 1,575,900	\$ 1,562,975	99%	4942	2,837	57%	0	16.2		16	4727	178	4%
Totals Across All Grants	\$ 14,370,400	\$ 7,301,569	\$ 5,266,600	\$ 4,724,648	\$ 19,637,000	\$ 14,439,815	\$ 2,114,400	\$ 13,474,655	637%	7,438	6,490	87%		57.5		44	5472	1,058	19%