

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Application

CPLI 000077

Spreadsheet

Name and Contact

Project Identifier:	CPL1000077	Street Address 1:	4701 Hwy 61
Project Name:	Willow Creek Wetland Restoration	Street Address 2:	
Organization Name:	City of White Bear Lake	City:	White Bear Lake
Organization Website:	whitebearlake.org	State:	MN
Organization Contact Person:	Mark Burch	Zip Code:	55110
Contact Email:	mburch@whitebearlake.org		
Contact Phone:	651-429-8531		

Location

Primary County:	Ramsey
Nearest City:	White Bear Lake
Township:	
Project Site Name:	Willow Creek Wetland
Project Site Land Ownership:	Local
Other Land Ownership:	

Project Information

Primary Activity:	Restoration
Primary Habitat Type:	Wetland
Total Project Acres:	18
Total Project Sites:	1
Total Grant Amount Requested:	\$182565
Total Match Amount:	\$20356
Total Project Cost:	\$202921
Project Completion Date:	12/2011 (MM/YYYY)

Project Summary and Outcomes: The City, in collaboration with other agencies, proposes a project on the site of Willow Creek Wetland to enhance the native wildlife habitat and increase biodiversity of the site. The existing 88.2 acre site is owned by the City and is composed of the key habitat types of non-forested wetland and oak savannah. It is encompassed by a developed area and is currently experiencing a significant invasive species infestation and cattail overgrowth. Through removing and replacing the buckthorn with native flora, cutting back the cattails, and installing a weir to increase the open water area, the expected outcome is increased biodiversity and improved water quality at the site.

Attachments

- [Project Site Information Form](#)
- [Project Budget and Match Description](#)
- [Partner Commitment Letter](#)
- Financial Documentation
- Conservation Easement
- [Supplementary Attachment #1](#)
- [Supplementary Attachment #2](#)

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Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program

Project Site Information

Contact information

Project name:	Willow Creek Wetlands Restoration
Organization:	City of White Bear Lake
Organization contact person (Project Manager):	Mark Burch

Project information

Project site:	Willow Creek Wetlands				
Project site land manager	Legal :	T30	R22	S34,35	QE,W
or easement holder:	City of White Bear Lake				
Private land owner	County:	Ramsey			
(if applicable):	N/A				

Activity (may choose more than one): ☒ Enhancement ☒ Restoration ☐ Acquisition
Predominant Habitat (choose one): ☐ Forest ☐ Prairie ☐ Wetland ☐ Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat
Activity quantity: 17.94 ☒ Acres ☐ Miles ☐ Feet ☐ Structures ☐ Wetlands

Project Site #2, if needed.

Project site:					
Project site land manager	Legal :	T	R	S	Q
or easement holder:					
Private land owner	County:				
(if applicable):					

Activity (may choose more than one): ☐ Enhancement ☐ Restoration ☐ Acquisition
Predominant Habitat (choose one): ☐ Forest ☐ Prairie ☐ Wetland ☐ Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat
Activity quantity: ☐ Acres ☐ Miles ☐ Feet ☐ Structures ☐ Wetlands

Project Site #3, if needed. Use Additional Project Sites form if needed.

Project site:					
Project site land manager	Legal :	T	R	S	Q
or easement holder:					
Private land owner	County:				
(if applicable):					

Activity (may choose more than one): ☐ Enhancement ☐ Restoration ☐ Acquisition
Predominant Habitat (choose one): ☐ Forest ☐ Prairie ☐ Wetland ☐ Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat
Activity quantity: ☐ Acres ☐ Miles ☐ Feet ☐ Structures ☐ Wetlands

Project timeline:

Time frame	Goal	Time frame	Goal
Spring 2010	Plant Survey & Inventory on site		
Late Spring 2010	Plan & Design habitat restoration		
Winter 2010-2011	Buckthorn & Cattail removal		
Winter-Spring 2011	site debris removal		
Mar - Apr 2011	Construct water control weir		
Apr 2011	Remove temporary weir		
Apr-May 2011	Habitat Restoration Planting		
Fall 2011	Residual Buckthorn removal		

Project description and benefits (box will expand as typed into, not to be longer than 2 pages):

The City of White Bear Lake, in collaboration with Pheasants Forever (PF), the Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District (RWMWD), and the Ramsey Conservation District (RCD) propose a project on the site of Willow Creek Wetland to enhance the native wildlife habitat and increase biodiversity of the site. The existing 88.2 acre site is owned by the City, designated as parkland, and is composed of the key habitat types of non-forested wetland and oak savannah lying within the St. Paul – Baldwin Plains and Moraines subsection. It is encompassed by developed residential, light industrial, and railroad land uses, and is currently experiencing a significant invasive species infestation (buckthorn) and cattail overgrowth. The project site is adjacent to Willow Lane Elementary School. The enhanced habitat will allow for increased public educational opportunities on the importance of water quality and protection of natural ecosystems.

The current site condition can be improved through the removal and management of woody invasive species on 9.4 acres (buckthorn), cutting back of the existing cattails on 8.4 acres, removal of miscellaneous debris (lumber, trash, tires, sediment, etc.), and re-establishment of native plant species (trees, shrubbery, grasses & forbs, and emergent grasses) [State Conservation and Preservation Plan - Recommendation H5]. The removal of the invasive buckthorn will improve oak, white cedar, and white pine survival in the savannah areas. The cutting back of the cattails, as well as the raising of the water level one inch through the installation of a weir, will increase the area of open water of the wetland as well as increase the detention time of storm water run-off from the adjoining urban areas [SCPP -Recommendation H7]. We will work with RWMWD to ensure that sediment removal and other proposed enhancements do not have an adverse impact on the wetland itself in accordance with all requirements of the Wetland Conservation Act. The Minnesota Conservation Corps has been contacted for possible involvement in the above areas. The expected over-all benefits of these actions will result in a sustainable increase in bio-diversity of water fowl (specifically ducks and geese) and other avian species (possibly attracting birds such as Least and American bitterns), improvement of the habitat for the resident species, replacement of native ecosystem plants choked out by the buckthorn, and increased runoff water storage capacity and treatment by natural means. The initial mechanical work will be accomplished during the winter months in an effort to have minimal impact on the resident species in greatest conservation [REDACTED]

This project will require some short term maintenance for the continuing removal of residual buckthorn (approximately seven years) as well as ensuring the establishment of the newly planted native vegetation. Part of this project will result in the development of a comprehensive management plan with the assistance of biologists and other environmental specialists.

The project will support one of the goals of the City's 2030 Comprehensive Plan to "continue to preserve and protect all wetland, both publicly and privately owned." A specific objective identified in this plan is to "Look for opportunities to protect and enhance wildlife habitat within wetlands and other natural spaces within the City." To this end, the City has sponsored and coordinated other voluntary efforts to solve similar situations (Rotary Park, Lakewood Hills buckthorn removal) since 1997 and remain ongoing. The project at Willow Creek Wetlands will require a more extensive effort

than the previous volunteer projects were capable of to be effective. The City, RWMWD, and RCD have limited funding for projects at this time and CPLG funding would allow this project to proceed where it otherwise would not resulting in the further degradation of the existing conditions.

An additional grant will be pursued through the Clean Water Fund for wetland enhancements and water quality improvements. A grant will also be pursued through the Parks and Trails Fund for construction of a boardwalk and wood chip trail to provide recreational and educational opportunities for the community. A master plan will be developed to ensure the trail is compatible with the wetland restoration and enhancement project.

Please provide the answers to the following questions. Boxes will expand as typed into.

1. For lands acquired in fee title that will be turned over to a public agency for long-term management:

- a. Provide a description of the work necessary to bring the land up to agency standards and an estimate of the associated cost.

N/A

- b. What short- and long-term work is required to manage the land you acquire?

N/A

2. For enhancement/ restoration projects on public lands:

- a. Who is/will be the long-term manager for the project site?

The long-term manager for the project site is the City of White Bear Lake

- b. What short- and long-term maintenance work is required to sustain the habitat work you will do?

The short-term maintenance work required to sustain the habitat includes temporary erosion control measures and residual buckthorn removal. The long-term maintenance work required to maintain the habitat includes residual buckthorn treatment as well as continued trash and debris removal.

- c. Who will complete this maintenance work, and how will it be funded?

The City of White Bear Lake will responsible for completing and funding the maintenance work.

- d. Will the CPL funds supplant any existing funds?

No, CPL funds will not supplant any existing funds.

As required by 2009 MN Session Law, Chapter 172 subd. 10 (8), “any agency or entity receiving an appropriation must, for any project funded in whole or in part with funds from the appropriation, give consideration to and **make timely written contact with the Minnesota Conservation Corps** for consideration of possible use of their services to contract for restoration and enhancement services”. Contact MCC at cplg@conservationcorps.org, or email a copy of this form to the same address. For more information on costs, crew capabilities, etc., visit MCC’s website at <http://www.conservationcorps.org/useacrew.html>.

Signature:

☒ I certify that I have read the Conservation Partners Legacy Grants Program **Request for Proposal, Program Manual** and other program documents, and have discussed this project with the appropriate public land manager, or private landowner and easement holder. I am authorized to apply for and manage these grant and match funds, and the project work by the organization or agency listed below. I have made timely written notification to MCC regarding my restoration or enhancement project.

Signature: Mark Burch	Organization/ Agency: City of White Bear Lake
Title: City Engineer	Date: 11/01/2009

Please save this document to your computer or electronic storage device and attach this document as specified on the online submittal form when ready to apply. Contact [CPL Grant Staff](#) with any questions.

CPL Project Application Review and Approval Form

REVIEWER INFORMATION

Land manager/ easement holder name:		Mark Burch	
Title:	City Engineer	Date of meeting:	10/22/2009
Phone:	651-429-8531	Proposal ID #:	10-06
Email:	mburch@whitebearlake.org	(assigned by agency, optional)	

PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project Name:	Willow Creek Wetlands Restoration	Organization:	City of White Bear Lake
Contact Person:	Mark Burch		
Email:	mburch@whitebearlake.org	Daytime Phone:	651-429-8531

Please check the appropriate boxes:

- ☒ I have read the application and discussed this proposed project with the above listed Organization Contact Person.
- ☐ For work on easements, the private landowner has been contacted and has given support and approval for this project.

I have performed a Natural Heritage Database review and found:

- ☐ this project to have no features within one mile.
- ☐ this project to have features within one mile, but project is not likely to adversely affect those features. I have recommended the following minimization strategy:

- ☐ this project is likely to adversely affect Natural Heritage features. I feel that this project is important and should be forwarded to DNR Ecological Resources staff for further review.

☒ I do not have access to the Natural Features database and will forward this completed form to DNR within 3 business days to [CPL Staff](mailto:CPLStaff@LSCPLGrants.DNR@dnr.state.mn.us) at LSCPLGrants.DNR@dnr.state.mn.us for review.

I have discussed what role my office will be expected to have in this project and find that the project, as described will require:

- ☐ minimal or no involvement from my office for completion.
- ☒ a commitment of involvement by staff that is reasonable and can be accomplished with current staffing levels and workload.

- ☐ an amount of staff involvement that cannot be committed during the project time period with current staffing levels. Unless additional staffing can be committed from other offices, Divisions or appropriate partners, I feel this project cannot be completed within the project timeline to our desired standards.

CPL Project Application Review and Approval Form

☒ I have discussed permits and applications that the applicant may be responsible for using the Working on DNR Lands and Working on Public Lands, or Working on Private Lands documents.

Upon final review of this project:

- ☒ I find this project to be consistent with sound conservation science. This work will benefit area fish, game and wildlife by restoring, enhancing or protecting forests, wetlands, prairies and habitat and is consistent with the management or stewardship plan for this land. (APPROVAL)
- ☐ I find that this project does not follow the management or stewardship plan for this land and does not fit within the long range goals for this land at this time on the local level. (DECLINE)
- ☐ I find that this project should be sent up to a higher level within the agency for further review and decision. I have forwarded the Project Planning Form and this Review and Approval Form for further review to:

Name:	Mark Burch	Phone:	651-429-8531
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☒ By checking this box and typing my name below I certify that I have met with the above applicant and discussed the proposed project and have provided feedback to the applicant.

Name:	Mark Burch
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Comments: **The proposed project will remove a large area of invasive Buckthorn and re-establish open water habitat to approximately the 1950's era conditions**

Name:		Phone:	
Title:		Email:	

Additional
necessary):

Comments(including approval or denial, reasoning):

review (if



Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program Natural Heritage Database Review

Jayson Stejkal, City of White Bear Lake

We have received your request for a Natural Heritage Database Review specific to your Conservation Partners Legacy Grant application, titled Willow Creek Wetlands Project. The following information is the result of that review, completed for the project location(s) within your proposed project.

There are 2 species recorded within one mile of your project site that could be impacted by your proposed work on buckthorn removal and cattail mitigation and replacement:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

As you have described the above project, it is planned to be completed during late fall and winter months, with the cattail removal being mechanical above the ice. As described, your planned work on the buckthorn and cattail should not impact these species in a negative way.

Should your project plans change and these avoidance measures no longer be applicable, you must contact CPL staff to discuss other options.

Please note:

- This review may apply only to the Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program application referenced above.
- This information has no bearing on any related permits for this project or projects not covered under the request for review.
- This information will not be valid after March 1, 2010. The only use of this data is to record potential impacts and minimization or avoidance techniques for any Natural Heritage Database records found in or within 1 mile of the listed project site(s).

Please contact CPL Grant staff at LSCPLGrants@state.mn.us with any questions. Thank you for your interest in the CPL Grant Program.

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant

Project Budget and Match Worksheet, Application Requirement

Project name:	Willow Creek Wetlands Restoration	
Organization:	City of White Bear Lake	
Organization contact person (Project Manager):	Mark Burch	

Please complete all sections and be as detailed as possible for all descriptions under the Details sections. Limit entries in large tables to numbers only, **round to the nearest dollar**. Do not edit table categories, only enter values or text into the table. The tables will adjust to accommodate additional text in each box. If all categories are not needed, please leave those fields blank.

BUDGET: amounts being requested **Note: FY refers to State Fiscal Year: July 1- June 30, with the year reflecting the year that June falls in. For example: if today were September 3rd, 2009 it would be FY2010; December 3rd 2010= FY2011; May 2012= FY2012

Budget Item	Fiscal Year 2010	Fiscal Year 2011	Fiscal Year 2012	Total
Personnel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Contracts	\$25,000.00	\$139,850.00	\$0.00	\$163,850.00
Grant Administration	\$1,857.00	\$1,857.00	\$943.00	\$4,657.00
Administration/ Environmental Compliance	\$2,029.00	\$2,029.00	\$0.00	\$4,058.00
Fee Acquisition	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Easement Acquisition	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Easement Stewardship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment/Tools/Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Additional Budget items	\$3,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$10,000.00
Total	\$31,866.00	\$146,736.00	\$3,943.00	\$182,565.00

DETAILS: detail the amounts listed in the above table.

Personnel Details:

Name	Title	Amount

Contract Details:

Contractor Name	Contracted Work	Amount
TBD by Bid	Survey, Planning & Design	\$10,000.00
TBD by Bid	Habitat restoration	\$94,300.00
TBD by Bid	Habitat enhancement	\$59,550.00

Grant Administration:

Administrative Activity	Description/ Amount	Amount
Design & Const. Admin	Project Management	\$4,657.00

Administration/ Environmental Compliance

Activity	Description	Amount
Engineering Inspection	Project Inspections	\$4,058.00

Fee Acquisition/ Easement Acquisition/ Easement Stewardship Details:

N/A

Equipment/Tools/Supplies Details:

Item	Use	Amount
N/A		

Travel Details:

Miles	Purpose	Amount
N/A		

Additional Budget Items Details:

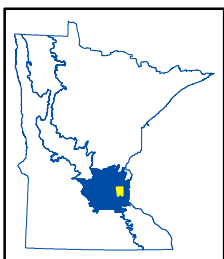
\$10,000 unexpected conditions contingency fund - to be returned to the DNR fund in case of non use.

MATCH: Required 10% of total project funds, to be fulfilled by end of Fiscal Year 2012. Use provided rate sheet to determine unit rate and total value of in-kind services to be used as matching funds if applicable.

Source	Description	Units	Unit Rate	Total Value
City of WBL	Grant Administration	1	LS	\$4,285.00
Pheasants Forever	Volunteer Labor - habitat restoration planting (39 volunteers working one 8 hr shift ea.)	312 hrs	\$13/hr	\$4,056.00
RWMWD	cash match from Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District	1	LS	\$4,000.00
City of WBL	cash match from City of WBL	1	LS	\$4,000.00
Pheasants Forever	cash match from Pheasants Forever	1	LS	\$2,000.00
RCD	Planning & Design	31 hrs	\$65/hr	\$2,015.00

Matching description/ comments: if needed

The City of White Bear Lake will perform grant administration responsibilities and Pheasants Forever will provide volunteer labor necessary for planting the emergent grasses. Ramsey Conservation District will provide technical expertise for habitat restoration and enhancement planning & design. Volunteer hours worked indicated above are a projected minimum for the project and the agencies involved are expecting a higher turnout.



CPL100-077
Willow Creek Wetland Restoration
Ramsey County, LSOHC Metropolitan Urbanizing Area Planning Section





NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
1783 Buerkle Circle
St. Paul, Minnesota 55110
(651) 773-2000
(651) 773-5500 FAX

**CONSERVATION PARTNERS LEGACY GRANT PROGRAM
PARTNER COMMITMENT LETTER**

What is the name of the project that you are contributing to, and who is the applicant?

Pheasants Forever is partnering with the City of White Bear Lake on the Willow Creek Wetlands project.

What is the name of your organization (private landowners use "Private Landowner")?

Pheasants Forever, Inc.

When will you make the contribution?

PF contributions to the project will be made toward restoration activity during the project period.

What is the value of your contribution and how did you determine the value? Does the contribution have a non-state origin?

Pheasants Forever is committed to providing up to \$2,000 in cash and/or in-kind match toward the project. In-kind contributions for habitat design and donated labor will be based on actual hourly billable rates for Pheasants Forever biologists and the "in-kind rates for matching funds" sheet in the RFP.

If this is based on a fund-raising event or other future action, if that future action fails, will you still provide the contribution amount?

Yes. Pheasants Forever is committed to seeing this project succeed,

Signature:

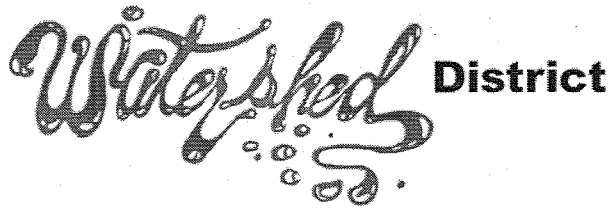
Printed Name, Title, and Affiliation:

Howard K. Vincent, President & CEO, Pheasants Forever, Inc.

Date Signed:

11/2/09

Ramsey-Washington Metro



2665 Noel Drive
Little Canada, MN 55117
(651) 792-7950
fax: (651) 792-7951
email: office@rwmwd.org
website: www.rwmwd.org

Mark Burch, City Engineer
City of White Bear Lake
4701 Highway 61
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Re: Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Application – Willow Creek Wetland Restoration.

Dear Mark:

The Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District is supportive of the City's grant application for the Willow Creek Wetland Restoration project and pledges our staff technical support as the project advances. The Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District also hereby commits to provide \$4,000 in matching funds to the Willow Creek Wetland Restoration project proposal if awarded to the City by the DNR. The District funds are available as of January 1, 2010. The District funds are from our local tax levy.

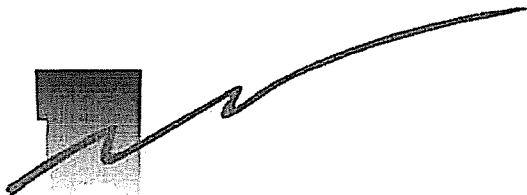
I believe this project will be a significant benefit to the community and the open space corridor between Willow Lake and the City park east of White Bear Avenue and north of I-694. This area is already a great wetland habitat, but could be significantly enhanced through invasive plant management and habitat enhancement. The long range plan of the City for enhanced public use and enjoyment is to be commended.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Clifton J. Aichinger".

Clifton J. Aichinger,
Administrator

Ramsey Conservation District



1425 Paul Kirkwold Drive
Highway 96 & Hamline Avenue
Arden Hills, MN 55112
Telephone 651-266-7270
Fax 651-266-7276
www.ramseyconservation.org

**CONSERVATION PARTNERS LEGACY GRANT PROGRAM
PARTNER COMMITMENT LETTER**

What is the name of the project that you are contributing to, and who is the applicant?

Willow Creek Wetland Restoration

What is the name of your organization (private landowners use "Private Landowner")?

Ramsey Conservation District

When will you make the contribution?

Limited and ongoing in-kind technical service contribution.

What is the value of your contribution and how did you determine the value? Does the contribution have a non-state origin?

Value: \$65/hr - number of hours – to be determined

If this is based on a fund-raising event or other future action, if that future action fails, will you still provide the contribution amount?

NA

Signature:

Printed Name, Title, and Affiliation:

Tom P. Petersen, District Manager, Ramsey Conservation District

Date Signed: ***October 30, 2009***