

CPL Applications
(Total to date: 129)

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Application

CPL1000088

[Spreadsheet](#)

Name and Contact

Project Identifier:	CPL1000088	Street Address 1:	1 City Hall Plaza
Project Name:	Seminary Fen Restoration	Street Address 2:	
Organization Name:	City of Chaska	City:	Chaska
Organization Website:	www.chaskamn.com	State:	MN
Organization Contact Person:	Bill Monk	Zip Code:	55318-1962
Contact Email:	Bmonk@chaskamn.com		
Contact Phone:	952-448-9200		

Location

Primary County:	Carver
Nearest City:	Chaska
Township:	116
Project Site Name:	Seminary Fen
Project Site Land Ownership:	Local
Other Land Ownership:	

Project Information

Primary Activity:	Restoration
Primary Habitat Type:	Wetland
Total Project Acres:	6
Total Project Sites:	1
Total Grant Amount Requested:	\$57420
Total Match Amount:	\$6380
Total Project Cost:	\$63800
Project Completion Date:	06/2012 (MM/YYYY)

Project Summary and Outcomes: The intent is to begin a multiple phased restoration of the natural hydrologic regime, native plant communities and to control sedimentation from an adjacent ravine into the Seminary Fen portion owned by the City of Chaska. This involves the restoration of 6 acres of the Seminary Fen; proposing to restore the natural hydrologic regime by rendering the tile and ditch draining the wetland ineffective and eliminate the man made hydrologic scope and effect on the wetland. Native plant communities will be restored by controlling reed canary grass and re-introducing native species. A Fen Management Plan will be developed and include input from a Technical Advisory Committee (DNR & Local experts).

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:
 Organization:
 Organization contact person (Project Manager):

Project information

Project site:
 Project site land manager Legal :
 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 #2, if needed.

Project site:
 Project site land manager Legal :
 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 :
 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
Summer 2010	Restoration and Management Plan. Submit Fen Restoration Plan for approval	Summer 2010/Fall 2010	Receive agency input and submit Management Plan for Approva
Summer 2010	Site Survey and Construction Document	Summer/Fall2010	Complete Site Survey and Construction Documents
Fall 2010	First spray of Rodeo	Fall 2010	1 st step in removal of reed canary grass
Fall 2010	Prescribed Burn	Fall 2010	reed canary grass control/site prep for seeding
Spring 2011	Two more treatments with Rodeo	Spring/Summer2011	reed canary grass control
Summer 2011	Native Seed installation	Summer/Fall 2011	Native seed establishment
Summer 2011	Mowing Maintenance	Summer/Fall 2011	Seed establishment
Fall 2011	Construction - Tile removal/blocking and ditch grading	Fall/Winter 2011	Restore hydrology to this portion of the Seminary Fen
Spring 2012	Spot Herbicide treatment	Spring 2012	Native Seed establishment/removal of invasive species

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

Seminary Fen, located on the slopes above the Minnesota River in Chaska and Chanhassen, is a high quality wetland complex that includes a rare calcareous fen, a DNR trout stream, and is home to a number of rare species. It is a site of state-wide ecological significance, and the calcareous fen represents a plant community system that is among the rarest in North America and the world. Assumption Creek is a DNR trout stream that runs through the Seminary Fen. It is one of sixteen cold water streams in the seven county metro area that still supports wild populations of trout. The headwaters of Assumption Creek are directly adjacent to and influenced by the proposed project site.

Development along the bluffs above the fen and trout stream, degradation of adjacent plant communities, thermal impacts, and changing land uses within the watershed threaten the long term viability of these features. The Carver County Water Management Plan, the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District's 2004 document, "Guidance to Implementation", and the Chaska Surface Water Management Plan all support this proposed project.

Numerous groups, ranging from the Mn DNR to non-profits such as the Sierra Club and Trout Unlimited, recognize the uniqueness of these features and have worked actively to protect the area. In 2003, the MN State Legislature provided \$1.5 million towards the purchase of Seminary Fen. While this attempt to protect the site via direct acquisition of private property failed due to a change in purchase price, the remarkable effort put forward illustrates the significance of the area.

PROPOSED WORK: The City of Chaska owns several parcels of land that are part of the Seminary Fen complex. The intent of this project is to begin a multiple phased restoration of the natural hydrologic regime, native plant communities and to control sedimentation occurring from an adjacent ravine into the Seminary Fen portion owned by the City of Chaska. The portion of the Seminary Fen targeted for this project is a formerly farmed wetland that has been ditched and tiled. It is labeled as project 1 on the attached exhibit. Currently, the ditch system receives runoff from the tiled wetland, routing water away from the Seminary Fen and directly into a main tributary to the headwaters of Assumption Creek. This project proposes to restore the natural hydrologic regime by rendering the tile and ditch ineffective in draining the wetland by partial removal and blocking of tile and ditch modifications to eliminate the man made hydrologic scope and affect on the wetland. In addition to an altered hydrologic system, the natural plant community in this wetland has been choked out by the invasive species reed canary grass. The project will restore the native plant community by controlling reed canary grass and re-introducing native plant species. Collection of seed for this project will be from City owned land adjacent to the project site to insure local ecotype seed is utilized. Restoring native vegetation will offer further vegetative buffering protection to the Seminary Fen, protecting the Fen's native plant diversity.

The City has already completed runoff rate control in a major ravine that historically has been discharging sediment to the fen. Future projects will involve stabilization of the ravine and potentially removal of accumulated sediment from the fen as shown on the attached exhibit as project 2. These future projects will be included in the Seminary Fen Management Plan development as described below.

Development of a Seminary Fen Management Plan - Our conversations with DNR staff indicate that a Fen Management Plan (FMP) will need to be developed as part of this proposed project. To complete this, we anticipate that development of a FMP will include gathering existing background information and site specific botanical and hydrologic research, creation of a Technical Advisory Committee (including key DNR, city and Lower MN River Watershed District staff, Carver County and other Local experts) to give input during the development of restoration goals and on-the-ground activities, and review the Draft FMP. Importantly, the FMP will help guide and prioritize restoration work at the site. The Final FMP will then be submitted to the MN DNR Commissioner for review and approval per Minn. Rules 8420.0935 (Wetland Conservation Act).

APPLICATION CRITERIA

Local Support: There is not opposition to this project. The Lower Minnesota Watershed District, Carver County, Carver County SWCD and City of Chaska comprise the local support for this project.

Urgency: The project site is surrounded by sites of Outstanding Biodiversity Significance. The area has been left fallow and reed canary grass has become the dominate species. If work to remove the reed canary grass and restore this site to native vegetation is not completed the reed canary grass has the potential to spread into the adjacent areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Significance.

Multiple Benefits: This project is expected to improve the conditions for Brook Trout in Assumption Creek which is adjacent to the propose restoration as well as Species in Greatest Conservation Need including Sedge Wren, Marsh Wren and Least Flycatcher.

Habitat Benefits: The work proposed will benefit wetland habitat by restoring hydrology and vegetation to a partially drained wetland. There will be a positive impact to the plant community by the removal of the invasive species reed canary grass and developed of native vegetation.

Consistency with sound conservation science: As discussed previously the project will involve input from a Technical Advisory Committee comprised of DNR and local resource experts and will require a Fen Management Plan to be approved by the Commissioner of Natural Resources.

Adjacent to protected lands: 75% of the property surrounding the project site is owned by the City of Chaska.

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?

City of Chaska.

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

We anticipate that following initial grow-in maintenance of the proposed native seeding, ongoing management will include activities such as prescribed burning and spot herbicide treatment of invasive herbaceous plants, and other similar activities. The city will continue this commitment into the future.

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

The city has dedicated staff time and funds in the past to perform natural resource management work and will continue to do so.

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

No

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: Bill Monk	Organization/ Agency: City of Chaska
Title: City Engineer	Date: November 3, 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.

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Project Budget and Match Worksheet, Application Requirement

Project name:

Seminary Fen Restoration

 Organization:

City of Chaska

 Organization contact person (Project Manager):

Bill Monk, City Engineer

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				
Contracts	\$28,720.00	\$11,920.00	\$1,300.00	\$41,940.00
Grant Administration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Administration/ Environmental Compliance				
Fee Acquisition				
Easement Acquisition				
Easement Stewardship				
Equipment/Tools/Supplies	\$240.00	\$15,000.00	\$240.00	\$15,480.00
Travel				
Additional Budget items				
Total	\$28,960.00	\$26,920.00	\$1,540.00	\$57,420.00

DETAILS: detail the amounts listed in the above table.

Personnel Details:

Name	Title	Amount
NA		

Contract Details:

Contractor Name	Contracted Work	Amount
Bonestroo	Develop Fen Management and Restoration Plan, Site Survey, Construction Documents, Rodeo Treatment, Prescribed Burn, Native Seed Installation, Spot Herbicide Treatment, Seeding	\$31,520.00
TBD	Tile removal and blockage, ditch grading	\$10,420.00
	SUBTOTAL	\$41,940.00

Grant Administration:

Administrative Activity	Description/ Amount	Amount
In-kind	provided in-kind	

Administration/ Environmental Compliance

Activity	Description	Amount
N/A		

Fee Acquisition/ Easement Acquisition/ Easement Stewardship Details:

Not applicable (N/A)

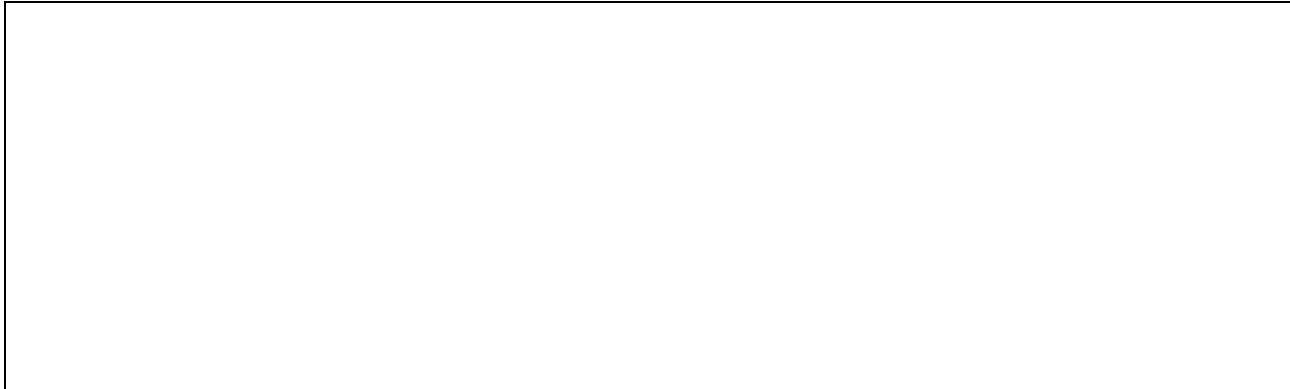
Equipment/Tools/Supplies Details:

Item	Use	Amount
Native seed	Local Ecotype seed collected from adjacent city owned land (potentially MCC crews for collection)	\$15,000.00
Herbicide	Treatment of invasives	\$480.00

Travel Details:

Miles	Purpose	Amount
Not Applicable		

Additional Budget Items Details:



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	Cash for Design and Construction Documents	N/A	N/A	\$6,380.00
			Total	\$6,380.00

Matching description/ comments: if needed

Total Budget: \$6,380 match + \$57,420.00 CPL = \$63,800.00 total budget
Match = 10%

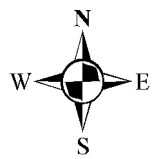
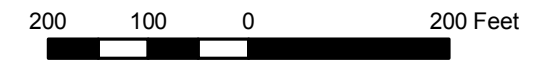
Clean Water Legacy Grant Application
Project 1: Wetland Restoration - Hydrology & Vegetation
Project 2: Ravine Stabilization

Figure 1

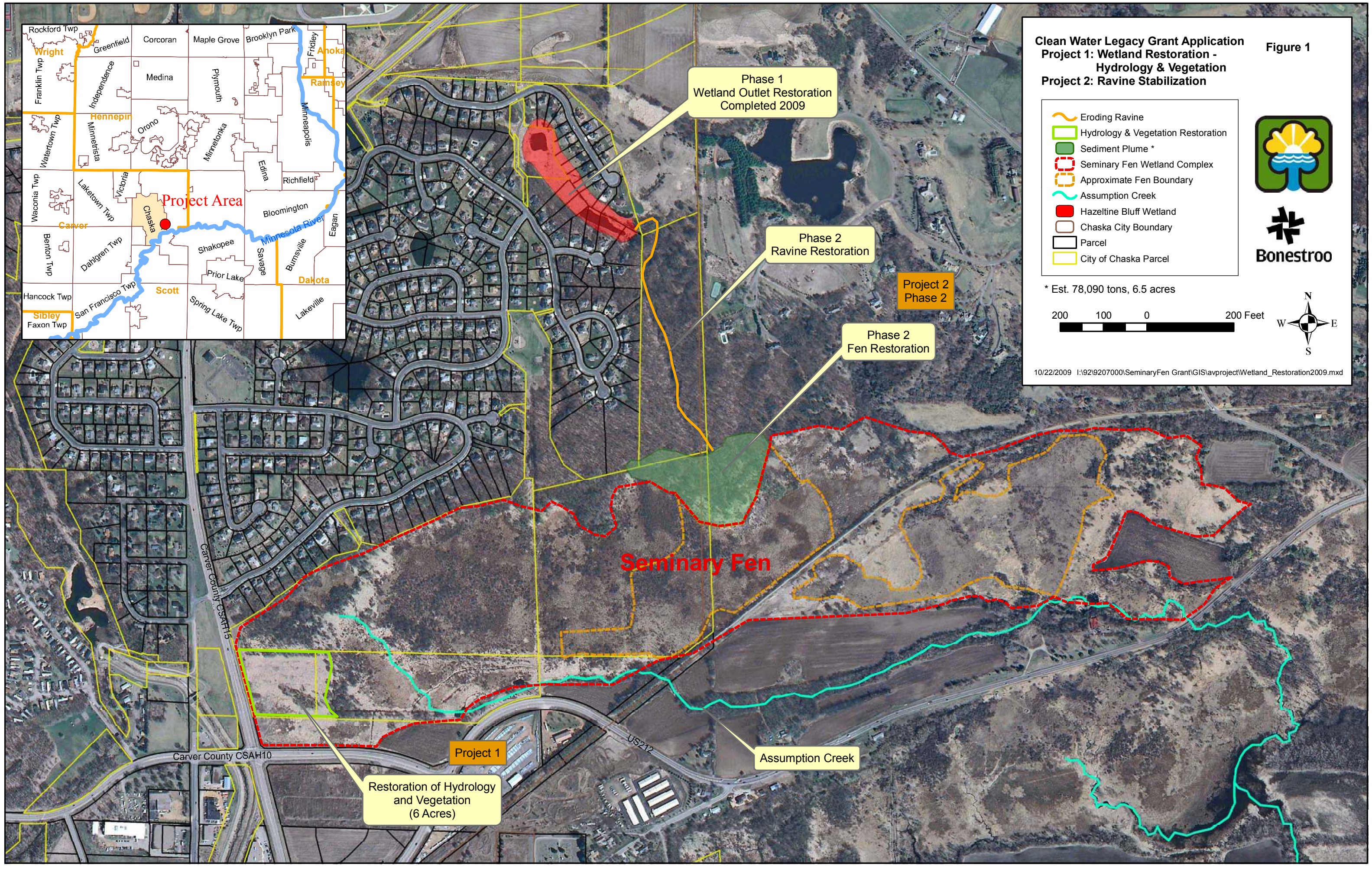
-  Eroding Ravine
-  Hydrology & Vegetation Restoration
-  Sediment Plume *
-  Seminary Fen Wetland Complex
-  Approximate Fen Boundary
-  Assumption Creek
-  Hazeltine Bluff Wetland
-  Chaska City Boundary
-  Parcel
-  City of Chaska Parcel



* Est. 78,090 tons, 6.5 acres



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Phase 1
Wetland Outlet Restoration
Completed 2009

Phase 2
Ravine Restoration

Project 2
Phase 2

Phase 2
Fen Restoration

Seminary Fen

Project 1

Restoration of Hydrology
and Vegetation
(6 Acres)

Assumption Creek



Project Area

Carver County CSAH10

US212

Carver County CSAH15