

CPL Applications
(Total to date: 129)**Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Application****CPL1000127****Spreadsheet****Name and Contact**

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--|-------------------|--------------------|
| Project Identifier: | CPL1000127 | Street Address 1: | 2357 Ventura Drive |
| Project Name: | Southeast Minnesota Prairie Enhancement | Street Address 2: | Suite #106 |
| Organization Name: | Audubon Minnesota | City: | Saint Paul |
| Organization Website: | http://mn.audubon.org | State: | MN |
| Organization Contact Person: | Mark R. Peterson | Zip Code: | 55125 |
| Contact Email: | mpeterson@Audubon.org | | |
| Contact Phone: | 651-739-9332 | | |

Location

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Primary County: | Olmsted |
| Nearest City: | Rochester |
| Township: | Marion & Eyota |
| Project Site Name: | Chester Woods County Park |
| Project Site Land Ownership: | County and Local |
| Other Land Ownership: | city parks |

Project Information

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Primary Activity: | Enhancement |
| Primary Habitat Type: | Prairie |
| Total Project Acres: | 194 |
| Total Project Sites: | 4 |
| Total Grant Amount Requested: | \$200455 |
| Total Match Amount: | \$22310 |
| Total Project Cost: | \$222765 |
| Project Completion Date: | 06/2012 (MM/YYYY) |
| Project Summary and Outcomes: | Audubon and its partners propose to enhance remnant bluff prairie and oak savannah habitat which aerial photos show are rapidly declining due to the explosive growth of invasive species. Our project will encompass invasive plant removal, chemical treatment, burning and supplemental re-seeding at 4 sites across 4 counties of southeastern Minnesota totalling 194 acres. |

Attachments

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

[Back](#)

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program

Project Site Information

Contact information

| | |
|--|---|
| Project name: | Southeast Minnesota Prairie Enhancement |
| Organization: | Audubon Minnesota |
| Organization contact person (Project Manager): | Mark R. Peterson, Ph.D. Executive Director - Audubon Minnesota |

Project information

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------|----|-----|-----|
| Project site: | Magelssen Bluff | | | | |
| Project site land manager | Legal : | T104 | R8 | S14 | QNE |
| or easement holder: | City of Rushford | | | | |
| Private land owner | County: | Fillmore | | | |
| (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: | Coon Hill | | | | |
| Project site land manager | Legal : | T113 | R15 | S31 | QSW |
| or easement holder: | City of Red Wing | | | | |
| Private land owner | County: | Goodhue | | | |
| (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: | Botcher Park | | | | |
| Project site land manager | Legal : | T103 | R6 | S20 | QSW |
| or easement holder: | Houston County | | | | |
| Private land owner | County: | Houston | | | |
| (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 | Delineate projects sites/devise plan/develop bid specifications | Spring 2012 | Conduct prescribed burns as needed |
| Fall 2010 | Put projects out for bid | Late spring 2012 | Conduct follow-up treatment of invasives as needed |
| Fall 2010 | Collect prairie plant seed | June 2012 | Conduct final site visits and write report |
| Winter 2010 | Conduct enhancement work | | |
| Spring 2011 | Conduct prescribed burns on sites ready for burning | | |
| Spring 2011 | Spread prairie seed on areas newly opened up | | |
| Late Spring/Summer 2011 | Conduct follow-up treatment of invasive species as needed | | |
| Fall 2011 | Collect prairie seed | | |
| Late fall 2011 | Spread prairie seed | | |

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

The bluff prairie and oak savannah habitats that are the focus of this proposal have been largely reduced in acreage and remain today mostly as small remnants. Many of these remnants are in decline. This habitat type is recognized as a priority habitat for southeast MN in the Blufflands subsection of "Tomorrow's Habitat." Comparison of current and historical (1950s) aerial photography shows significant changes to bluff prairie habitat in southeastern MN as a result of cedar and brush encroachment on once vastly open habitat (using MNDNR aerial photos available in ArcView). These changes are exponential -- bluff openings are closing in faster in the past 17-year period (1991-2008) compared to the previous 40-year interval (1950-1991). Most of these changes are a result of fire suppression and reduced grazing on the bluffs. The rate of habitat degradation is of grave concern as many of our current bluff openings will likely be lost in the next 20 years without restoration work. Encroachment of invasive species puts these habitats at risk. Minnesota's "Statewide Conservation & Preservation Plan" (2008) identifies invasive species as one of the seven key natural resource issues facing our state. Importantly, these habitats support numerous wildlife populations identified as "Threatened" or as "Species of Greatest Conservation Need" (SGCN).

For example, these habitats support the timber rattlesnake which is classified as a Threatened species in Minnesota. It is classified as a "protected wild animal" in Wisconsin and is considered a vulnerable species in Iowa, with legal protection in the northeastern portion of the state. Timber rattlesnakes are at the northern extent of their range in Minnesota, and exist today in only six counties in the far southeastern portion of the state. Long-term viability of these populations in four of these six counties are questionable. Thus, it is imperative that we retain the populations that exist and restore/enhance habitat to ensure their long-term viability.

This project, through the proven work of its experienced local partner organizations, agencies, and contractors, will address the following priority conservation actions identified in Minnesota's "State Wildlife Action Plan" at four sites in four counties of southeastern Minnesota:

- Enhance and maintain 194 acres of native prairie and savanna habitats being degraded;
- Implement Minnesota's "Timber Rattlesnake Recovery Plan;"
- Provide technical assistance related to listed species;
- Work with local partners to address SGCN needs, especially the numerous bird species dependent upon these bluff prairie and oak savannah habitats;
- Enhance public awareness about the importance of snakes, birds of greatest conservation need, and their prairie habitats.

We propose to enhance remnant bluff prairie and oak savannah habitat through invasive plant removal, chemical treatment, burning and supplemental re-seeding as needed across 4 sites in 4 counties of southeastern Minnesota as follows:

MAGELSEN BLUFF is an 80+ acre city park in Rushford, open for public recreation. This site has been ranked as a site of outstanding biodiversity by MN County Biological Survey (MCBS). This project entails cutting cedars from the bluff prairie, and cutting and treating invasive brush, in an effort to restore the remnant prairie. This project will help the MN DNR non-game program implement their timber rattlesnake recovery plan. It will also benefit several listed species and several species of greatest conservation need (SGCN).

COON HILL is a 97-acre city park in Red Wing and 40+ acres of public school land. It is open to special hunts and other recreational activities. The site has been ranked as a site of outstanding biodiversity by MCBS. This project entails removing scattered cedars and invasive trees and brush, in an effort to restore the remnant bluff prairie. This project will benefit an endangered plant [REDACTED] as well as several SGCNs.

BOTCHER PARK is a 30-acre+ Houston County park, open for public recreation. This project would entail removing cedars and invasive brush, in an effort to restore the remnant bluff prairie. It is ranked as a site of moderate biodiversity by MCBS. This project would help the MN DNR non-game program implement their timber rattlesnake recovery plan. The park is adjacent to RJD Memorial Hardwoods State Forest, creating a larger block of public lands.

CHESTER WOODS is a 1300-acre Olmsted County park, and has been ranked by MCBS as a site of outstanding biodiversity. Chester Woods has registry status, per MN DNR criteria. This park is open to special hunts for turkey and deer, as well as fishing, camping, hiking, and horseback riding. There are over 130,000 annual visitors to Chester Woods. Olmsted County has been working to control and remove buckthorn in Chester Woods for 15 years. This project entails removing invasive brush and trees from bluff prairie, savanna, and oak woodlands. This project will benefit numerous SGCN as well as game species. (See separate Project Site Information Form for additional details).

The four prairie projects outlined in this proposal will benefit the following reptile species of greatest conservation need: six-lined racerunners, eastern racers, fox snakes, eastern and western hognose snakes, milk snakes, bullsnakes, and five-lined skinks. In addition, many declining bird species listed on the SGCN list will also benefit, including the whip-poor-will, red-headed woodpecker, field sparrow, brown thrasher, golden eagle and rose-breasted grosbeak. Aside from SGCNs, several rare plant species will also benefit, including several state-listed species, such as [REDACTED]

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?

Magelssen Bluff is managed by the City of Rushford.
Botcher Park is managed by Houston County.
Coon Hill is managed by the City of Red Wing and Twin Bluffs Middle School.
Chester Woods is managed by Olmsted County.

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

Magelssen Bluff will require periodic prescribed burning. Invasive species treatment will need to be followed-up in 2-3 years for addressing new seedlings. Some of this can be achieved with burning, but spot herbicide treatment may be warranted.

Botcher Park will require periodic prescribed burning. Since cedars are the primary species being addressed here, little immediate follow-up is necessary. However, the site should be monitored for invasive brush in 2-3 years.

Coon Hill will require periodic prescribed burning as well as follow-up invasive species treatment as new seedlings and resprouts emerge.

Chester Woods will need periodic prescribed burning as well as follow-up invasive species treatment for emerging seedlings and resprouts.

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

Prescribed burning will be conducted by MN DNR Nongame Program on Magelssen Bluff and Botcher Park, costs will be covered by DNR. Invasive species will be monitored by DNR, who will work with the respective landowners to find funding for future maintenance.

The City of Red Wing and Twin Bluffs Middle School will be responsible for long term maintenance of Coon Hill. There are good potential sources for maintenance funds, but no long term funds have been pursued.

Chester Woods will be maintained by Olmsted County Parks. Park staff have been performing this type of natural resource maintenance and enhancement for 25 years, and have over 140 man-years of experience. Park staff have degrees in forestry, wildlife ecology, park administration, and natural resource management. Park staff, along with volunteers and Friends of Chester Woods, will monitor sites to determine maintenance needed. Park staff will conduct prescribed burns and some follow-up invasive species work, however, large scale maintenance will need to seek additional funds.

- 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: Mark R. Peterson | Organization/ Agency: Audubon Minnesota |
| Title: Executive Director | Date: November 2, 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 Program

Project Site Information

Contact information

| | |
|--|---|
| Project name: | Southeast Minnesota Prairie Enhancement |
| Organization: | Audubon MN |
| Organization contact person (Project Manager): | Mark Peterson, Ph.D. |

Project information

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---------|-----|-----|---|
| Project site: | Chester Woods County Park | | | | |
| Project site land manager | Legal : | T106 | R13 | S13 | Q |
| or easement holder: | Tom Ryan, Parks Superintendent - Olmsted County | | | | |
| Private land owner | County: | Olmsted | | | |
| (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 : | 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



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Nongame Wildlife Program, Ecological Resources

2300 Silver Creek Rd NE, Rochester, MN 55906 (507) 206-2820 phone (507) 285-7144 fax

22 October 2009

To: Mark Peterson, MN Audubon
From: Jaime Edwards, MN DNR
RE: Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program, Natural Heritage Database Review

Dear Mark,

I have received your request for a Natural Heritage Database Review specific to your Conservation Partners Legacy Grant application, titled SE MN Prairie Enhancement Project. The following information is the result of that review, completed for the project sites within your proposed project.

Botcher Park, Houston County

[REDACTED] just south of the Park border. I do not feel the project will adversely impact this species.

Coon Hill, City of Red Wing

[REDACTED] has been documented [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] This is a prairie/savanna plant that should benefit from the work you intend to do. Care should be taken when using herbicide to hit target plants only. To minimize potential impact, no foliar application of herbicide should be used unless it is used when native species are dormant.

Magelssen Bluff, City of Rushford

There are 5 species that occur within one-mile of the proposed prairie enhancement project.


[REDACTED]

Your project will enhance the plant species. To avoid potential impact to timber rattlesnakes, work should be conducted during the inactive season for snakes, which is between October 15 and April 15. Work may occur during the active period provided it is on the edges of the bluff, rather than directly on the face.

Chester Woods, Olmsted County

This site has 11 species within 1-mile of your proposed project. Because several of these species occur in areas that will not receive enhancement work as described in your project, there is minimal risk. The plant species that occur in the prairie and savanna habitat will benefit from the enhancement project. However, care should be taken with any herbicide application to minimize drift. Thus, foliar application of herbicide is not recommended unless native plants are dormant.

[REDACTED]



If you have any questions about the potential impact to rare species, please feel free to contact me at (507) 206-2820 or jaimedwards@dnr.state.mn.us.

CPL Project Application Review and Approval Form

REVIEWER INFORMATION

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Land manager/ easement holder name: | Thomas J. Ryan/ Olmsted County Park Division | | |
| Title: | Parks Superintendent | Date of meeting: | October 27 th 2009 |
| Phone: | 507-328-7086 | Proposal ID #: | |
| Email: | ryan.tom @co.olmsted.mn.us | (assigned by agency, optional) | |

PROJECT INFORMATION:

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Project Name: | SE Minnesota Prairie Enhancement | Organization: | Mn. Audubon |
| Contact Person: | Mark Peterson | | |
| Email: | mpeterson@audubon.org | Daytime Phone: | 651-739-9332 |

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:

Review was done by jaime Edwards and sent to CPL staff.

- ☐ 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](#) 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:

- ☒ 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 Peterson |
|-------|---------------|

Comments:

| | | | |
|--------|--|--------|--|
| Name: | | Phone: | |
| Title: | | Email: | |

Additional
necessary):

Comments(including approval or denial, reasoning):

review (if

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: | <i>Larry Connery</i> | Phone: | 507-725-5803 |
|-------|----------------------|--------|--------------|

☒ 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: | Larry Connery |
|-------|---------------|

Comments:

Botcher Park is County-owned land. It includes a remnant bluff prairie, oak woods, and access to Beaver Creek, a designated trout stream. The site was not specifically surveyed by the Minnesota County Biological Survey, however, a bluff prairie was identified in their mapping effort (this one as a drive by). The area is ranked medium biodiversity. The MNDNR Nongame Wildlife Program has not surveyed the bluff on Botcher Park, however, they expressed interest in the site as it is located within their project priority area for timber rattlesnakes. Timber rattlesnakes are found in the surrounding area.

Bluff prairies are a rare plant community and are in jeopardy of disappearing in the short term as a result of cedar and invasive species encroachment, coupled with a lack of fire. Enhancing this plant community on Botcher Park will directly benefit numerous prairie obligate grass and flower species. It will also help meet the habitat objectives identified in the Timber Rattlesnake Recovery Plan. Aside from timber rattlesnakes, other species (both listed and of greatest conservation need) benefit from bluff prairie enhancement, including bullsnakes, eastern racers, six-lined racers, five-lined skinks, tiger beetles, wild turkeys, and many others.

Additional review (if necessary):

| | | | |
|---|--|--------|--|
| Name: | | Phone: | |
| Title: | | Email: | |
| Comments(including approval or denial, reasoning): | | | |

CPL Project Application Review and Approval Form

REVIEWER INFORMATION

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Land manager/ easement holder name: | City of Red Wing/Twin Bluffs Middle School | | |
| Title: | Brian Peterson | Date of meeting: | October 20, 2009 |
| Phone: | (651) 385-3617 | Proposal ID #: | |
| Email: | brian.peterson@ci.red-wing.mn.us | (assigned by agency, optional) | |

PROJECT INFORMATION:

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Project Name: | SE MN Prairie Enhancement | Organization: | MN Audubon |
| Contact Person: | Mark Peterson | | |
| Email: | mpeterson@audubon.org | Daytime Phone: | 651-739-9332 |

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:

Review was conducted by Jaime Edwards and sent to CPL staff.

- ☐ 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: | Brian C. Peterson AICP | Phone: | 651/385-3617 |
|-------|------------------------|--------|--------------|

☒ 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 Peterson |
|-------|---------------|

Comments:

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

| | | | |
|--------|---------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Name: | Stan Slessor | Phone: | 651-385-4500 |
| Title: | Superintendent of Schools | Email: | seslessor@redwing.k12.mn.us |

Additional
necessary):

Comments(including approval or denial, reasoning):

Brian Peterson was in contact with Stan Slessor to explain the project and the School District agrees to provide permission to complete the project on School District property.

review (if

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: | <i>Larry Connery</i> | Phone: | 507-725-5803 |
|-------|----------------------|--------|--------------|

☒ 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: | Larry Connery |
|-------|---------------|

Comments:

Botcher Park is County-owned land. It includes a remnant bluff prairie, oak woods, and access to Beaver Creek, a designated trout stream. The site was not specifically surveyed by the Minnesota County Biological Survey, however, a bluff prairie was identified in their mapping effort (this one as a drive by). The area is ranked medium biodiversity. The MNDNR Nongame Wildlife Program has not surveyed the bluff on Botcher Park, however, they expressed interest in the site as it is located within their project priority area for timber rattlesnakes. Timber rattlesnakes are found in the surrounding area.

Bluff prairies are a rare plant community and are in jeopardy of disappearing in the short term as a result of cedar and invasive species encroachment, coupled with a lack of fire. Enhancing this plant community on Botcher Park will directly benefit numerous prairie obligate grass and flower species. It will also help meet the habitat objectives identified in the Timber Rattlesnake Recovery Plan. Aside from timber rattlesnakes, other species (both listed and of greatest conservation need) benefit from bluff prairie enhancement, including bullsnakes, eastern racers, six-lined racerunners, five-lined skinks, tiger beetles, wild turkeys, and many others.

Additional review (if necessary):

| | | | |
|---|--|--------|--|
| Name: | | Phone: | |
| Title: | | Email: | |
| Comments(including approval or denial, reasoning): | | | |

CPL Project Application Review and Approval Form

REVIEWER INFORMATION

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Land manager/ easement holder name: | City of Rushford, Magelssen Bluff | | |
| Title: | Jeff Copley | Date of meeting: | October 22, 2009 |
| Phone: | (507) 864-2664 | Proposal ID #: | |
| Email: | publicworks@acegroup.cc | (assigned by agency, optional) | |

PROJECT INFORMATION:

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Project Name: | SE MN Prairie Enhancement | Organization: | MN Audubon |
| Contact Person: | Mark Peterson | | |
| Email: | mpeterson@audubon.org | Daytime Phone: | 651-739-9332 |

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:

Review was conducted by Jaime Edwards and sent to CPL staff.

- ☐ 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:

☒ 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.

Comments:

| | | | |
|--------|--|--------|--|
| Name: | | Phone: | |
| Title: | | Email: | |

Additional
necessary):

Comments(including approval or denial, reasoning):

review (if

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant

Project Budget and Match Worksheet, Application Requirement

| | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| Project name: | SE MN Prairie Enhancement | |
| Organization: | Audubon Minnesota | |
| Organization contact person (Project Manager): | Mark R. Peterson | |

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 |
| Contracts | \$5,400 | \$177,800 | \$10,000 | \$193,200 |
| Grant Administration | \$150 | \$4,880 | \$405 | \$5,435 |
| Administration/ Environmental Compliance | | | | |
| Fee Acquisition | | | | \$0 |
| Easement Acquisition | | | | \$0 |
| Easement Stewardship | | | | \$0 |
| Equipment/Tools/Supplies | | \$100 | \$70 | \$170 |
| Travel | \$550 | \$550 | \$550 | \$1,650 |
| Additional Budget items | | | | |
| Total | \$6,100.00 | \$183,330 | \$11,025 | \$200,455 |

DETAILS: detail the amounts listed in the above table.

Personnel Details:

| Name | Title | Amount |
|------|-------|--------|
| None | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Contract Details:

| Contractor Name | Contracted Work | Amount |
|-----------------|---|-----------|
| tbd | Delineate areas, prepare bid specs, 2 visits/site, create maps, photomonitor | \$5,400 |
| tbd | Cut invasive woody plant, treat stumps with herbicide; follow-up on invasives | \$187,800 |
| | | |
| | | |

Grant Administration:

| Administrative Activity | Description/ Amount | Amount |
|---|-------------------------------|------------|
| Mgmt, contracting, planning, organizing, public outreach, accounting systems, written reports | Allowable 2.5% of grant total | \$5,410.00 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Administration/ Environmental Compliance

| Activity | Description | Amount |
|------------------|-------------|--------|
| None anticipated | | \$0 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Fee Acquisition/ Easement Acquisition/ Easement Stewardship Details:

| |
|------|
| None |
|------|

Equipment/Tools/Supplies Details:

| Item | Use | Amount |
|----------------|---|--------|
| | All equipment costs included in contract work | \$0 |
| Misc. Supplies | Work gloves for volunteers, signage, flagging tape, and other small, miscellaneous supplies | \$170 |
| | | |
| | | |

Travel Details:

| Miles | Purpose | Amount |
|---------|--|---------|
| 2400 mi | Oversight/planning in 4 counties/4 sites - travelling from St. Paul office: 800 mi/yr x 3 yrs x \$0.55/mi (IRS rate) | \$1,320 |
| 600 mi | Local travel volunteer leaders: 200 mi/yr x 3yrs x \$0.55/mi | \$330 |
| | | |
| | | |

Additional Budget Items Details:

BUDGET NOTE: Restoration and enhancement costs on bluff prairies are higher than on other prairie types due to their steep terrain that makes using the normal mechanized equipment impossible and instead requires handwork by individual laborers. This consideration was factored into our cost calculations.

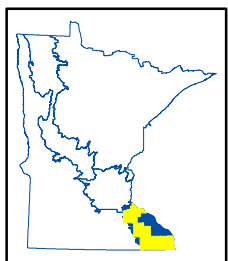
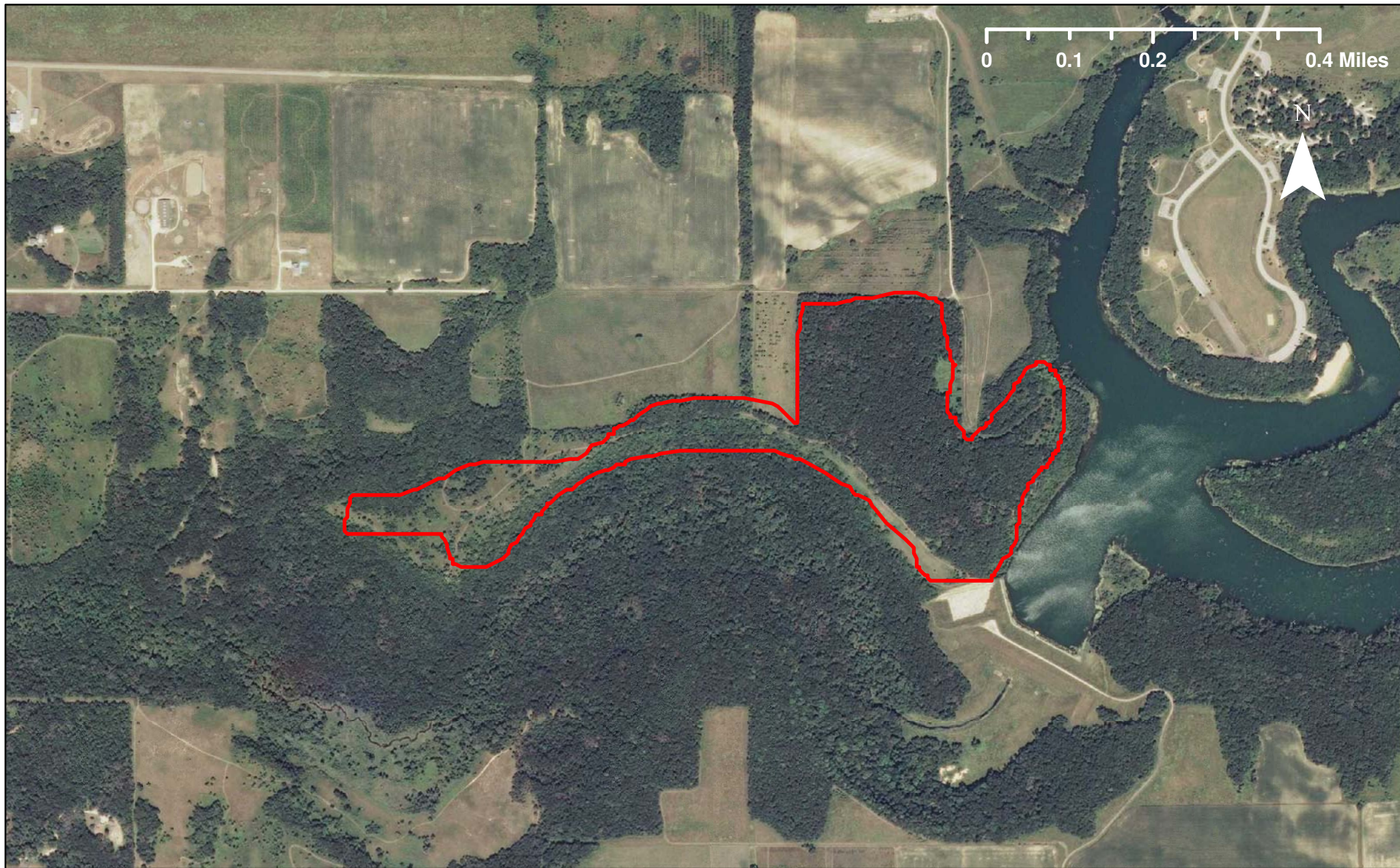
MATCH: Required 10% of total project funds, to be fulfilled by end of Fiscal Year 2012. Use provided rate sheet to determine unit rate and total value of in-kind services to be used as matching funds if applicable.

| Source | Description | Units | Unit Rate | Total Value |
|--------------------------|--|-------|-----------|-------------|
| Friends of Chester Woods | volunteer labor | 165 | 13 | \$2,145 |
| Zumbro Valley Audubon | volunteer labor - prairie seed collection | 40 | 15 | \$600 |
| Olmsted County | Herbicide: 10 gals Garlon @ \$120/gal; 15 gal Pathway @\$90/gal | | | \$2,550 |
| Olmsted County | employee labor: treat cut stumps with herbicide; 20 man-hours @\$25/hr | 20 | 25 | \$500 |
| Olmsted County | employee labor: piling and burning brush; 40 man-hours, @\$25/hr | 40 | 25 | \$1,000 |
| Olmsted County | employee labor: spreading prairie seed; 10 man-hours @ \$25/hr | 10 | 25 | \$250 |
| Olmsted County | managing contractors at Chester Woods: 80 hours over 2 years, @ \$30/hr | 80 | 30 | \$2,400 |
| Olmsted County | mechanical seed collection of seed of major prairie grasses: 10 acres @\$28/acre | 10 | 28 | \$280 |
| Olmsted County | prescribed burns: 60 acres over 2 years; 144 man-hours @\$30/hr | 144 | 30 | \$4,320 |

Matching description/ comments: if needed

Match Sources, Description. and Amount (continued):

| | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------|
| Olmsted County | (spreading prairie plant seed) | 5 hrs @ \$25/hr | \$125 | |
| Prairie Smoke Chapter of The Prairie Enthusiasts | (cash contribution) | | | \$5,000 |
| Zumbro Valley Audubon volunteer labor: (piling and burning brush) | | | | |
| 70 hrs, @\$13/hr | | | \$910 | |
| Zumbro Valley Audubon volunteer labor: (photography and documentation) | | | | |
| 10 hrs @\$13/hr | | | \$130 | |
| City of Red Wing (technical assistance/facilitation) | 30 hrs x \$35/hr | | \$1,050 | |
| Audubon Minnesota (additional grant mgt costs) | minimum of 22 hrs x \$48/hr | | \$1,050 | |
| TOTAL MATCH | | | \$22,310 | |
| TOTAL PROJECT | | | \$222,765 | |



CPL100-127
Southeast Minnesota Prairie Enhancement
Olmsted, Fillmore, Goodhue and Houston Counties
LSOHC Southeast Forest Planning Section



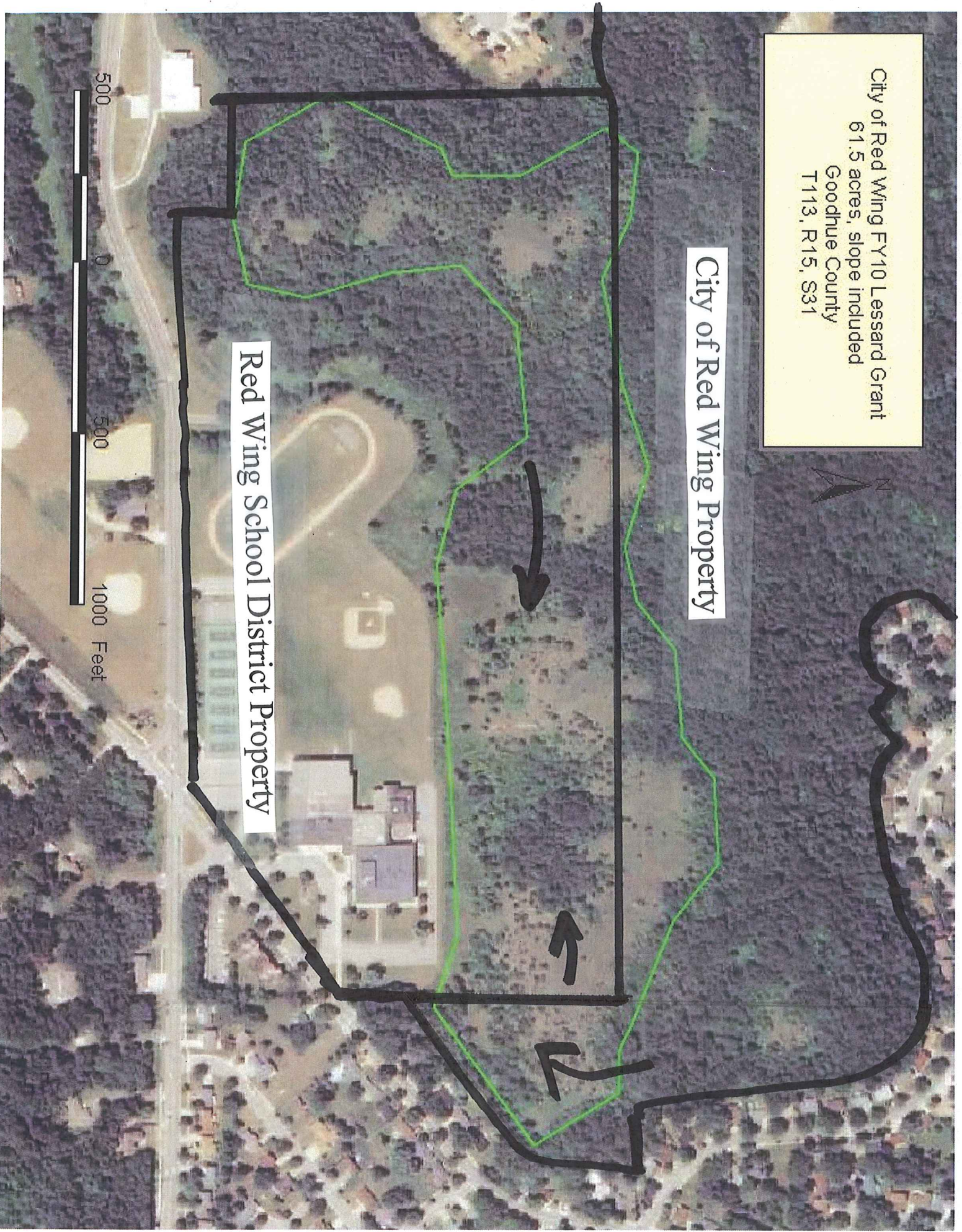
City of Red Wing FY10 Lessard Grant
61.5 acres, slope included
Goodhue County
T113, R15, S31



City of Red Wing Property

Red Wing School District Property

500 0 500 1000 Feet



Botcher Park FY10 Lessard Grant
5 acres, slope included
Houston County
T103, R6, S19

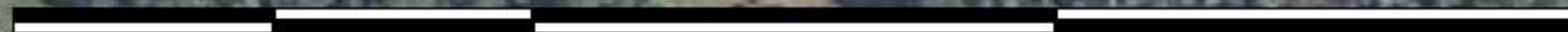


600

0

600

1200 Feet



Magellsen Bluff FY10 Lessard Grant
43.83 acres, slope included
Fillmore County
City of Rushford
T104, R8, S14



500 0 500 1000 Feet





**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?

Name: Southeastern Minnesota Bluff Prairie Restoration
Applicant: Audubon Minnesota

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

City of Red Wing
Planning Department
Community Development Building
419 Bush Street
Red Wing, MN 55066

When will you make the contribution?

City Planning Director will provide technical assistance with project oversight and as a project liaison with the City of Red Wing and the Red Wing School District in 2010, 2011, and 2012; ten hours of assistance in each year.

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

Standard City rate for City Planning Director is \$35/hour X 30 hours = \$1,050

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?

This contribution is not based on a future fund raising event or future action.

Signature:

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Brian C. Peterson".

Printed Name, Title, and Affiliation:

Brian C. Peterson AICP, Planning Director, City of Red Wing

Date Signed: November 2, 2009



Prairie Smoke
MN Chapter of the
Prairie Enthusiasts

**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?

SE Minnesota Prairie Enhancement. The applicant is Audubon Minnesota

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

Prairie Smoke, the Minnesota chapter of The Prairie Enthusiasts

When will you make the contribution?

When it is time to pay the vendors for their work.

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

\$5000 This is money our chapter has already raised from Prairie Smoke member contributions.

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:

Dave Edwards, Treasurer, Prairie Smoke chapter of The Prairie Enthusiasts

Date Signed:

FRIENDS OF CHESTER WOODS

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?

Southeast Minnesota Bluff Prairie Enhancement. The applicant is Audubon Minnesota

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

Friends of Chester Woods, a 501(c)3 organization

When will you make the contribution?

At the time it is needed

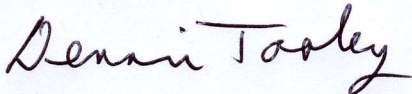
What is the value of your contribution and how did you determine the value? Does the contribution have a non-state origin? No

FOCW has volunteers willing to donate time for bluff prairie enhancement work. A total of 165 hours has been pledged for brush removal and burning, hauling debris and assisting with prescribed burns at \$13/hr for a total \$2145.

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?

N/A

Signature:

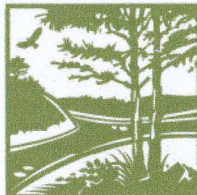


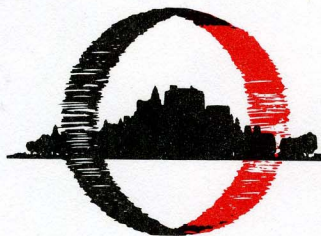
Printed Name, Title, and Affiliation:

Dennis Tooley, President, Friends of Chester Woods

Date Signed:

10/29/09





COUNTY OF

Olmsted

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
2122 CAMPUS DR SE - SUITE 200
ROCHESTER MN 55904-4744
www.olmstedpublicworks.com
507.328.7070

**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?
Southeast Minnesota Prairie Enhancement. The applicant is Audubon Minnesota

What is the name of your organization (private landowners use "Private Landowner")?
Chester Woods Park – Olmsted County, Minnesota

When will you make the contribution?
At the time it is needed.

What is the value of your contribution and how did you determine the value? Does the contribution have a non-state origin? NO.

Olmsted County Park Staff is a willing partner in this proposed endeavor. We understand the commitment required and accept our collaborative responsibilities.

Olmsted County Parks will provide the following:

Herbicide - \$2,550; Employee Labor – 70hrs @\$25.00/hr = \$1750.00; Managing contractors and volunteers- 80 hrs @\$30.00/hr = \$2400.00; Mechanical Seed Collection – 10 acres @ \$28.00/acre = \$280.00; Prescribed Burns – 144 hrs @ \$30.00/hr = \$4320.00; Site hand seeding - 5 hrs @ \$25.00 for a total of \$125.00.

Total contribution from Olmsted County Parks: 309 hrs and a total value of \$ 11,425.00.

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? Not applicable.

Signature:

Printed Name, Title, and Affiliation: Thomas J. Ryan, Parks Superintendent, Olmsted County, Minnesota

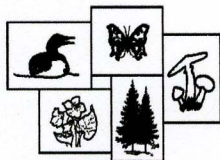
Date Signed:

10/30/09

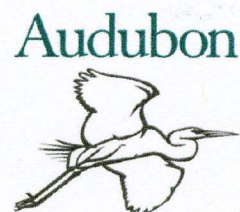


AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Administration Building Maintenance Surveying and Mapping Engineering Highway Maintenance Parks & Agriculture Solid Waste



Zumbro Valley Audubon
www.zumbrovalleyaudubon.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?
SE Minnesota Prairie Enhancement. The applicant is Audubon Minnesota

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

When will you make the contribution?
At the time it is needed

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

ZVAS volunteers are willing to commit time to assist park staff with bluff prairie enhancement. A total of 120 hrs has been pledged; 70 hrs of brush piling and burning at \$13/hr (\$910), 40 hrs of seed collection at \$15 /hr (\$600), and 10 hours of documentation of before/after conditions at \$13/hr (\$130) for a total value of \$1640.

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?

N/A

Signature: *Joel Dunnette*

Printed Name, Title, and Affiliation:
Joel Dunnette, President, Zumbro Valley Audubon

Date Signed: *10/30/09*