

CPL Applications
(Total to date: 129)

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Application

CPL1000021

[Spreadsheet](#)

Name and Contact

Project Identifier:	CPL1000021	Street Address 1:	901 First St NE
Project Name:	MWA Weber WPA Grassland Enhancement Project	Street Address 2:	
Organization Name:	Minnesota Waterfowl Association	City:	Hopkins
Organization Website:	www.mnwaterfowl.com	State:	MN
Organization Contact Person:	Adam Benker/Brad Nylin	Zip Code:	55343
Contact Email:	adam.benker@mnwaterfowl.com		
Contact Phone:	952-767-0320		

Location

Primary County: Kandiyohi
 Nearest City:
 Township:
 Project Site Name: Weber WPA
 Project Site Land Ownership: Federal
 Other Land Ownership:

Project Information

Primary Activity: Enhancement
 Primary Habitat Type: Prairie
 Total Project Acres: 15
 Total Project Sites: 1
 Total Grant Amount Requested: \$7880
 Total Match Amount: \$5096
 Total Project Cost: \$12976
 Project Completion Date: 10/2010 (MM/YYYY)

Project Summary and Outcomes: This project is a grassland conversion from a poor stand of brome to a diverse native grass and forb planting on 15 acres of the Weber Waterfowl Production Area. This 420 acre WPA is part of the National Wildlife Refuge System and is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Litchfield Wetland Management District. The Weber WPA has a diverse complex of habitats including native prairie, wetlands, oak woodlands and formerly farmed land. The Weber Waterfowl Production Area is federal land open to the public for various activities including hunting and fishing. The Evenson WPA, 140 acres, is less than a mile away. The USFWS Approve this project.

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:

Weber WPA Grassland Enhancement Project

Organization:

MWA, Prairie Pothole Chapter

Organization contact person (Project Manager):

Brad Nylin

Project information

Project site:

Weber WPA

Project site land manager or easement holder:

Scott Glup

 Legal :

T120N	R35W	S28	QNW1/4
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Private land owner (if applicable):

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 County:

Kandiyohi

Activity (may choose more than one): Enhancement Restoration Acquisition

Predominant Habitat (choose one): Forest Prairie Wetland Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat

Activity quantity:

15

 Acres Miles Feet Structures Wetlands

Project Site #2, if needed.

Project site:

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Project site land manager or easement holder:

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 Legal :

T	R	S	Q
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Private land owner (if applicable):

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 County:

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Activity (may choose more than one): Enhancement Restoration Acquisition

Predominant Habitat (choose one): Forest Prairie Wetland Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat

Activity quantity:

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 Acres Miles Feet Structures Wetlands

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

Project site:

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Project site land manager or easement holder:

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 Legal :

T	R	S	Q
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Private land owner (if applicable):

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 County:

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Activity (may choose more than one): Enhancement Restoration Acquisition

Predominant Habitat (choose one): Forest Prairie Wetland Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat

Activity quantity:

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 Acres Miles Feet Structures Wetlands

Project timeline:

Time frame	Goal	Time frame	Goal
Spring 2010	first spraying of Roundup		
Late spring 2010	plant seed into field		
Late spring 2010	post spraying of seeded field to control weeds		
Summer/fall 2010	monitor weeds and mow as necessary		

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

This project is a grassland conversion from a poor stand of brome to a diverse native grass and forb planting on 15 acres of the Weber Waterfowl Production Area. This 420 acre WPA is part of the National Wildlife Refuge System and is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Litchfield Wetland Management District. The Weber WPA has a diverse complex of habitats including native prairie, wetlands, oak woodlands and formerly farmed land. The Weber Waterfowl Production Area is federal land open to the public for various activities including hunting and fishing. The Evenson WPA, 140 acres, is less than a mile away. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has focused on restoring, enhancing and managing the prairie on this WPA. Efforts have been made to improve the nesting cover for migratory waterfowl and grassland nesting birds. Management activities include removal of invasive tree species and burning the existing prairie.

This 15 acre field has had the invasive trees removed, which lead to the determination that the poor stand of brome grass should be broken out and seeded back to a diverse mix of local ecotype prairie grass and forbs. The grass mix will include at least 9 species, a mesic forb mix of at least 20 species and the USFWS, as an in-kind match, will provide 18 species of local ecotype forbs collected from WPAs in Kandiyohi and Meeker Counties. Natural Heritage Site identified a dry sand-gravel prairie on Weber WPA. This is one of the sites that the USFWS collected local ecotype forbs and grass seed from. Some of the seed collected from that site will be used to seed the project site.

In-kind values for prairie plant seeds were determined as follows: In 2009, USFW staff and a local Boy Scout Troop began collecting native plant seeds from native prairies on WPAs that had been burned in the spring of 2009. These seeds have been processed to determine the quantity of seed collected. FWS asked for bids from four native plant seed companies in Minnesota for each species collected. They used the lowest price based on the bids provided to determine the value of the seed collected. For the Weber WPA, they determined that we would seed at approximately one ounce per acre for each of the 18 species that were collected and multiplied the ounces needed by the value per ounce based on bids received.

This project improves the landscape for migratory birds, grassland birds and many insect and mammal species by providing high quality diverse grassland habitat.

The Long Range Plan For The Ring-necked Pheasant in Minnesota identifies a strategy of improving reproductive habitat through Department of Natural Resources (DNR) programs by maintaining and improving 50,000 acres of reproductive habitats per year on WMAs and other lands.

In the Minnesota document "Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare: An action Plan for Minnesota Wildlife" the project area is located in the Minnesota River Prairie subsection. One hundred and sixteen Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) are known to occur in this subsection and 49 of them are directly linked to Prairie. The project is located in the Dovre Township in Kandiyohi County and has had between 21-50 SGCN documented since 1990. Native prairie once covered 77.6% of this subsection and now less than 1% remains. The loss of native prairie is identified as the primary contributing factor affecting SGCNs. The Weber WPA has 7.5 acre acres of native prairie that had invading woody vegetation removed and was prescribed burned in 2009. This proposal will result in an additional 15 acres of non-native cool season grassland being converted to a diverse mix of native forbs and grasses which will be maintained by prescribed fire. This proposal meets all five Priority Conservation Actions identified for native prairie habitats in the Minnesota River Prairie subsection.

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.

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

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 is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Litchfield Wetland Management District.

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

Short-term maintenance will be monitoring annual weed growth and mowing to reduce competition. Long-term maintenance will include mowing of the planting unitl the native grasses and forbs are established, montoring, identitying and treatment of invasive plants and trees, and burning to improve the prairie.

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

The maintenance work will be completed by the USFWS as in-kind match.

- 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 project.

Signature: Brad Nylin	Organization/ Agency: Minnesota Waterfowl Assoc
Title: Executive Director	Date: 11/2/09

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:

Weber Lake WPA Grassland Enhancement Project
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Organization:

MWA, Prairie Pothole Chapter

Organization contact person (Project Manager):

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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				
Grant Administration				
Administration/ Environmental Compliance	\$155.00			155.00
Fee Acquisition				
Easement Acquisition				
Easement Stewardship				
Equipment/Tools/Supplies	\$7,725.00			\$7,725.00
Travel				
Additional Budget items				
Total				\$7,880.00

DETAILS: detail the amounts listed in the above table.

Personnel Details:

Name	Title	Amount

Contract Details:

Contractor Name	Contracted Work	Amount

Grant Administration:

Administrative Activity	Description/ Amount	Amount

Administration/ Environmental Compliance

Activity	Description	Amount
	2% line item of total project	\$155.00

Fee Acquisition/ Easement Acquisition/ Easement Stewardship Details:

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Equipment/Tools/Supplies Details:

Item	Use	Amount
Roundup	field prep and spray weeds	\$225.00
grass and forb seed	used to seed 15 acres to native ecotype grass and forbs	\$7,500.00

Travel Details:

Miles	Purpose	Amount

Additional Budget Items Details:

Mesic grass seed mix will include a minimum of 9 species local ecotype, mesic forb mix to include a minimum of 20 local ecotype species, 18 species of forbs will be provided as in-kind match by USFWS. Additional forb and grass species once common on prairies, like porcupine grass (\$1000/lb) and prairie dropseed (\$310/lb), will also be purchased to further diversify the seeding if the project is fully funded.

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
USFWS	seed grass with native grass seed drill	15 acres	\$30.00	\$450.00
USFWS	donate local ecotype forb seed, 18 species	136 ozs	\$27.60	\$3,754.00
USFWS	mow weeds	15 acres	\$14.10	\$211.50
USFWS	spray Roundup, 2 applications	15 acres	\$6.00	\$180.00
MWA, Prairie Pothole Chapter	purchase local ecotype forb seed mix	2.77 plslb	\$180	\$500

Matching description/ comments: if needed

In-kind values for prairie plant seeds were determined as follows: In 2009, USFWS staff and a local Boy Scout Troop began collecting native plant seeds from native prairies on WPAs that had been burned in the spring of 2009. These seeds have been processed to determine the quantity of seed collected. FWS asked for bids from four native plant seed companies in Minnesota for each species collected. They used the lowest price based on the bids provided to determine the value of the seed collected. For the Weber WPA, they determined that we would seed at approximately one ounce per acre for each of the 18 species that were collected and multiplied the ounces needed by the value per ounce based on bids received. Species include: wild licorice, purple coneflower, white prairie clover, lead plant, prairie sage, prairie onion, prairie coeopsis, showy tick trefoil, prairie rose, rough blazing star, northern bedstraw, dotted blazing star, showy goldenrod, golden Alexander, grass-leaved goldenrod, round headed bush clover, purple meadow rue, Kalm's brome.



**United States Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service**

**Wetland Management District
22274 615 Avenue
Litchfield, Minnesota 55355
(320)-693-2849**



**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?

Weber Grassland Enhancement Project
Minnesota Waterfowl Association, Prairie Pothole Chapter

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

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Litchfield Wetland Management District

When will you make the contribution? 2010

What is the value of your contribution and how did you determine the value? Does the contribution have a non-state origin? The total value of the contribution is \$4591.50.

Seeding grasses and forbs: native grass drill/acre of \$30/15 acres = \$450, spraying chemical/acre of \$6/15 acres X 2 applications = \$180, and mow/acre of \$14.10/15 acres = \$211.50. The total for spraying, mowing and seeding is \$841.50. The value for the seeding, spraying and mowing was determined using the Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program: In-kind rates for matching funds.

Plus the Litchfield WMD will contribute an additional \$3750 of local ecotype forb seed. In-kind values for prairie plant seeds were determined as follows: In 2009 our staff and a local Boy Scout Troop began collecting native plant seeds from native prairies on WPAs that had been burned in the spring of 2009. These seeds have been processed to determine the quantity of seed collected. We asked for bids from four native plant seed companies in Minnesota for each species we collected. We used the lowest price based on the bids provided to determine the value of the seed we collected. For the Weber WPA we determined that we would seed at approximately one ounce per acre for each of the 18 species that were collected and multiplied the ounces needed by the value per ounce based on bids received.

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:

Scott Glup
Project Leader
UFWS, Litchfield Wetland Management District

Date Signed: