

**CPL Applications**  
(Total to date: 129)

## Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Application

**CPL1000106**

### Spreadsheet

#### Name and Contact

Project Identifier:	CPL1000106	Street Address 1:	434 Great Oak Drive
Project Name:	Ottertail County Easement Wetland Restoration	Street Address 2:	
Organization Name:	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	City:	Waite Park
Organization Website:		State:	MN
Organization Contact Person:	Sheldon Myerchin	Zip Code:	56387
Contact Email:	sheldon_myerchin@fws.gov		
Contact Phone:	320-253-4682		

#### Location

Primary County:	Otter Tail
Nearest City:	Fergus Falls
Township:	Western
Project Site Name:	DouP Habitat Easement
Project Site Land Ownership:	Private
Other Land Ownership:	

#### Project Information

Primary Activity: Restoration

Primary Habitat Type: Wetland

Total Project Acres: 65

Total Project Sites: 1

Total Grant Amount Requested: \$30000

Total Match Amount: \$22800

Total Project Cost: \$52800

Project Completion Date: 12/2010 (MM/YYYY)

**Project Summary and Outcomes:** The Douglass Habitat Easement located in SW Otter Tail County was recently acquired by the USFWS. The easement permanently protects 325 acres and gives the USFWS management rights. The tract has over 3 miles of ditches that drain 30 wetland basins totaling approximately 65 acres. All upland acres were seeded to native prairie mix in June 2009 by the USFWS. The USFWS will restore the 30 wetlands via ditch plugs, ditch filling, and sediment removal from the basins. Rock weirs/spillways will be placed on two of the basins due to watershed size. The USFWS will survey, design, and supervise construction of the wetland restoration project and re-seed disturbed areas.

#### 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:	Ottertail County Easement Wetland Restoration - Douglass
Organization:	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Organization contact person (Project Manager):	Sheldon Myerchin

### Project information

Project site:	DouP Habitat Easement				
Project site land manager	Legal :	T131N.	R44W.	S29	Q
or easement holder:	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service				
Private land owner	County:	Ottertail			
(if applicable):	Pat Douglass				

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

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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

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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
Fall 2009	Begin Topo. survey of project area		
Winter 2009	Identify individual wetland basins		
Winter 2009	Begin restoration design		
Spring 2010	Complete topo. survey as needed		
Spring 2010	Complete restoration design		
Summer 2010	Begin wetland restoration construction		
Fall 2010	Complete restoration construction		
Fall 2010	Re-seed disturbed areas		

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

The Pat Douglass Habitat Easement, located in Western township in Otter Tail County, was recently acquired by the USFWS. This habitat easement permanently protects this 325 acre tract and gives the USFWS land management rights on the entire tract. The landowner still controls trespass and can post it as private property. The 325 acres has been farmed for many decades and has over 3 miles of shallow ditches to drain runoff water from more than 30 basins totaling approximately 65 acres. The two fields planned for restoration lie on either side of an old beach ridge of glacial Lake Agassiz. Both fields are very flat as they used to be in the bottom of Lake Agassiz. All upland acres were seeded to a diverse mixture of native grasses and forbs in June 2009 by the USFWS. The USFWS plans to restore the 30 basins (65 acres) via ditch plugs, ditch filling, and sediment removal from the basins. Rock weirs/spillways will be placed on two of the basins due to the volume of water moving through the site in the spring. The majority of the restored wetlands will be temporary and seasonal types providing habitat for a wide variety of migratory birds and resident wildlife. Due to the extensive loss of these wetland types, temporary and seasonal wetlands in the prairie pothole region of Minnesota are identified as priority and key habitats in the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan and Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare: An Action Plan for Minnesota Wildlife. The project site is located directly adjacent to Reinvest in Minnesota conservation easements held by the Bureau of Water and Soil Resources and DNR Wildlife Management Areas. Once restored, this area will form a large wetland and prairie complex of habitat approximately three and one-half miles long that also includes a State Natural Area and USFWS Waterfowl Production Areas. Water quality in Rabbit Creek will also be improved as the the drainage ditches that dump directly into the creek will be closed and all former cropland will be restored to wetland and prairie habitat. Local staff from MN DNR, BWSR, and SWCD have collaborated on various parts of establishing this large block of habitat. The USFWS utilizes federal appropriated funds and some grant funds to purchase easements or fee title tracts but must rely on grant funds or partner contributions to complete the majority of the habitat restoration once a tract is acquired. If grant funds are not received, wetlands may remained drained for several years until funds are secured from other sources. The USFWS will survey, design, and supervise construction of the project and will seed all upland areas where ground is disturbed with a diverse native prairie mix.

Acres Upland: 260

Acres Wetland: 65

**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?

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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

Primarily vegetation management surrounding the restored wetlands.

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

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with federal appropriated 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](mailto: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: Sheldon Myerchin	Organization/ Agency: USFWS
Title: Project Leader/Private Lands State Coordinator	Date: 11/02/09

**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.**

## CPL Project Application Review and Approval Form

### REVIEWER INFORMATION

Land manager/ easement holder name:	Sheldon Myerchin for USFWS Fergus Falls Wetland Management District		
Title:	State Coordinator, Private Lands Program	Date of meeting:	
Phone:	320-253-4682	Proposal ID #:	
Email:	sheldon_myerchin@fws.gov	(assigned by agency, optional )	

### PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project Name:	Ottertail County Easement Wetland Restoration	Organization:	USFWS
Contact Person:	same		
Email:	same	Daytime Phone:	same

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:

Please note: This project will benefit those species identified in the Natural Heritage Database located in close proximity to this project by providing additional wetland and prairie habitat on which they are dependent.

- ☐ 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](mailto: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.



Additional  
necessary):

Comments( including approval or denial, reasoning):

review (if



# Conservation Partners Legacy Grant

## Project Budget and Match Worksheet, Application Requirement

Project name:	Ottertail County Easement Wetland Restoration - Douglass
Organization:	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Organization contact person (Project Manager):	Sheldon Myerchin

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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 it would be FY2010; December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2010= FY2011; May 2012= FY2012

Budget Item	Fiscal Year 2010	Fiscal Year 2011	Fiscal Year 2012	Total
Personnel				
Contracts	\$30,000.00			\$30,000.00
Grant Administration				
Administration/ Environmental Compliance				
Fee Acquisition				
Easement Acquisition				
Easement Stewardship				
Equipment/Tools/Supplies				
Travel				
Additional Budget items				
Total	\$30,000.00			\$30,000

**DETAILS:** detail the amounts listed in the above table.

### Personnel Details:

Name	Title	Amount

### Contract Details:

Contractor Name	Contracted Work	Amount
To Be Determined based on federal bid process.	Dirtwork Construction of wetland restorations.	\$30,000.00

**Grant Administration:**

Administrative Activity	Description/ Amount	Amount

**Administration/ Environmental Compliance**

Activity	Description	Amount

**Fee Acquisition/ Easement Acquisition/ Easement Stewardship Details:**

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**Equipment/Tools/Supplies Details:**

Item	Use	Amount

**Travel Details:**

Miles	Purpose	Amount

**Additional Budget Items Details:**

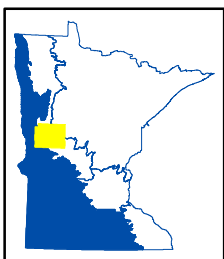
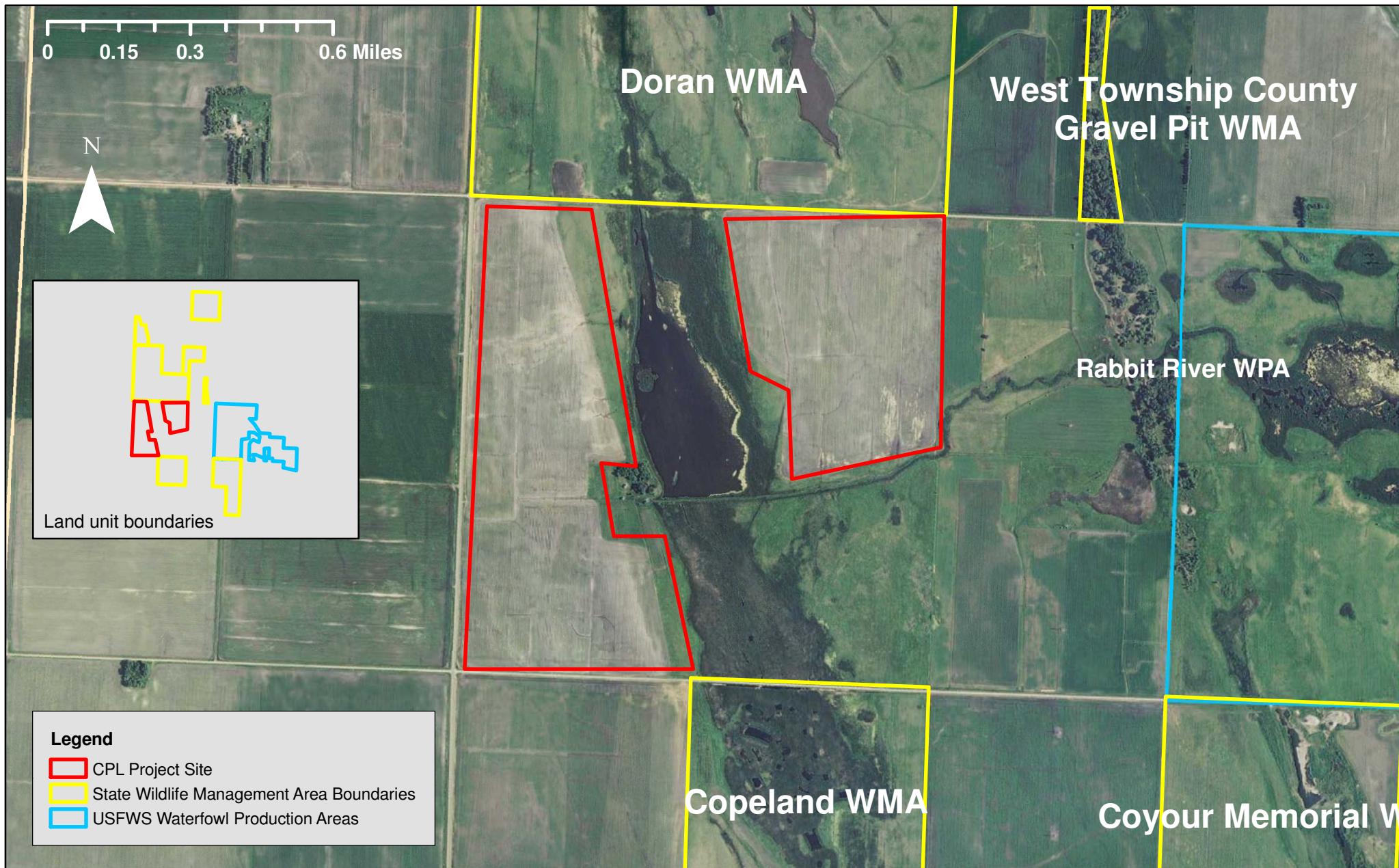
The full amount of the grant awarded will be used to hire a excavation/dirtwork contractor to complete the construction of the wetland restorations.

**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	Cash to be applied to dirtwork contract.			\$10,000.00
USFWS	In-kind Engineering salary to survey and design restorations	Hours	\$40	\$3,200.00
USFWS	In-kind Biologist salary to assist survey and design, oversee construction and re-seed	Hours	\$30	\$3,000.00
USFWS	In-kind native prairie seed and seeding for 20 acres of disturbed areas	acre	\$330	\$6,600.00

**Matching description/ comments:** if needed

In-kind salary is approximate based on USFWS employee rate and amount of hours required to complete this project. Cash match will be added to awarded contract and also used to purchase any needed supplies/materials such as erosion control blanket or rock rip-rap for spillway control. Seed cost is based on approximate market rate for seed plus seeding.



CPL100-106

Ottertail County Easement Wetland Restoration

Otter Tail County, LSOHC Forest/Prairie Transition Planning Section





**United States Department of the Interior**  
**Fish & Wildlife Service**  
434 Great Oak Drive  
Waite Park, MN 56387



In Reply Refer to:  
FWS/PL-OCPD

**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?** Ottetail County Easement Wetland Restoration

**What is the name of your organization (private landowners use "Private Landowner")?** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**When will you make the contribution?** When grant has been awarded and contract has been signed with contractor.

**What is the value of your contribution and how did you determine the value? Does the contribution have a non-state origin?** \$22,800.00 - based on actual cash contributed and estimated in-kind staff time and market value of seed harvested by USFWS staff.

**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:** Sheldon Myerchin

**Printed Name, Title, and Affiliation:**

Sheldon Myerchin  
Project Leader/State Coordinator Private Lands Program

**Date Signed:** 11/02/09