

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program FY2011
Recommended for Funding Application Summary Sheet

Proj ID	Organization Name	Project Name	Primary Habitat	Acres	Amount Funded	Activity	Project Summaries
051	City of Chaska	Seminary Fen Restoration	Wetland	6	\$51,040	Restoration	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. The portion of the Seminary Fen targeted for this project is a formerly farmed wetland that has been ditched and tilled. This project proposes to restore the natural hydrologic regime by rendering the tile and ditch ineffective. The project will restore the native plant community by controlling reed canary grass and re-introducing native plant species as well as restore the groundwater feeding Assumption Creek. Once completed it 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.
040	Comfort Lake Forest Lake WD	Bone & Moody Lakes Low Velocity Fish Barriers	FGW	256	\$283,000	Enhancement	The project involves the design and installation of 3 low velocity fish barriers on Bone and Moody Lakes. This project will provide for the long term enhancement of native aquatic vegetation, a high quality fishery, and improved water quality by controlling rough fish populations. The barriers along with future harvesting will allow for the control of rough fish at populations that are conducive to achieving the management goals of the DNR & District for these lakes. This technique which is new to Minnesota will allow for the almost complete prevention of fish migration in an area where there is not enough slope for a standard velocity barrier and to avoid the high operating cost and uncertain control of electric barriers. This type of barrier would be valuable in numerous locations throughout the state with flat topography and future designs can further refined and guided by the experience in Bone and Moody Lakes.
049	Crow Wing County	Crow Wing County Jack Pine/White Pine Restoration	Forest	202	\$79,727	Restoration	Jack pine woodlands and mixed conifer forests have been decreasing across the landscape in CWC, especially compared to their historic abundancies. The proposal is to restore (plant) and protect approximately 200 acres of jack and white pine habitat in priority areas across Crow Wing County. The expected results are increased and enhanced wildlife habitat for many species while also achieving the goal of increasing conifer forests on the landscape. This will occur within the realm of "working conifer forests" which have declined over the last 100 years.

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036	Crow Wing County Public Land Mgmt.	Undivided Interest Acquisition	Forest	626	\$189,600	Acquisition	This grant will allow Crow Wing County-Public Land Management (formally named the Land Department) to secure full interest/ownership in 626 acres of property that are currently held as undivided interest parcels. Undivided interest parcels are parcels of real estate with multiple owners each sharing a fractional interest of the entire parcel. Crow Wing County(CWC) has majority of the interest in 15 of 16 parcels and strongly wishes to purchase the private interest holdings to better achieve a balanced management approach for the property. Management and resource protection efforts are non-existent on these parcels due to the fractional interest of multiple owners for each parcel. Acquisition of the private interest in these parcels will consolidate the full public ownership currently managed by CWC and allow access to the public for hunting opportunities and provide habitat protection.
043	Fox Lake Conservation League, Inc.	Center Creek WMA Carlson Addition	Wetland	40	\$110,812	Acquisition	The Fox Lake Conservation League is partnering with the Martin County Conservation Club, Inc. to acquire this second parcel to serve as a nucleus for the Center Creek WMA. This area holds high quality native plant populations that will serve a wide range of both game and non-game species. This parcel holds upland and wetland native prairie habitats. Rare plants are found on this parcel as well as in adjacent areas.
016	Fox Lake Conservation League, Inc.	Four Corners WMA Kittleson Addition	Prairie	130	\$400,000	Acquisition	In an area of highest priority for acquiring additional habitat, acquire 130 acres of high quality habitat for the Four Corners WMA, adding to a concentration of public and privately owned protected habitat. While the majority of this parcel was farmed at one time, a few acres of diverse high quality native prairie survived, and still exist on the slopes of a steep draw of a drainage-way that gives this parcel some extra character. Pasturing of this site in recent years has helped the spread of some species of local ecotype native plants to become established throughout the site.
018	Friends of Morris Wetland Management District	Stadsvold Easement Enhancement	Prairie	320	\$71,750	Enhancement	The Stadsvold Easement is a newly acquired USFWS Habitat Easement that protects uplands and wetlands on 239 total acres. A wetland easement also protects another 30 acres of wetlands. The whole tract is 320 acres, and the uplands need to have invasive trees removed on all 320 acres, and 30 acres of wetlands need to be restored. Over 200 acres on this site are native prairie. This project is a partnership between The Friends of Morris Wetland Management District, The Morris Wetland Management District, Stephen and Lou Ann Stadsvold, and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Working Lands Initiative Project. This area near The Nature Conservancy's Ordway Prairie has been noted in the report by the Minnesota County Biological Survey ("Norway Lake Prairie", January, 2003); the area, "...represents one of the best remaining areas of high quality native habitat in the state...and merits the highest level of protection available".

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104	Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR)	Hastings Sand Coulee Restoration	Prairie	182	\$94,374	Restoration	FMR will conduct restoration and enhancement activities at an important natural area that includes the Hastings Sand Coulee SNA (160 ac) and a city-owned property (25 ac). The coulee contains natural communities of outstanding biodiversity significance, with 14 rare plant and animal species. Ecological restoration has already taken place at this site. This project expands the prairie restoration to new areas, and addresses non-native invasive species control at the native prairie remnants. Natural resource management plans have been completed for most of the coulee and one will be developed for the remaining areas prior to implementing the proposed treatments. A primary activity will be to convert 42 acres of non-native dominated grassland to native prairie, removing 20 acres of woody plants for biofuels. After locally harvested seed is broadcast, 3 years of follow-up tasks continue-mowing, spot-herbicide, burning. Other areas of the coulee will be managed for exotic invasive plants.
064	Lake County Forestry	Mixed Hardwood/Conifer Restoration #2	Forest	220	\$81,518	Restoration	Lake County Forestry is seeking \$81,518 grant dollars to assist in the restoration of 220 off-site aspen acres, divided into five stands, to a mature mixed hardwood and conifer forest. This grant has the same goal as a previous grant Lake County was awarded. This grant will continue the successes and create a larger area of beneficial habitat. A mixture of spruce, pine and tamarack will be planted, protected and released in this area with a goal of retaining as much hardwood as possible. This grant will fund tree planting site preparation, tree seedlings, seedling planting, seedling protection, and seedling release. The resulting stands of trees will include a mixture of trees that benefits many wildlife species and restores a habitat type once fairly common in the North Shore area.
068	Minnesota Waterfowl Association	Burr Oak Lake WPA Grassland Enhancement Project	Prairie	132	\$30,548	Enhancement	This proposal will result in enhancing 70 acres of poor quality grassland on the Burr Oak WPA that has been invaded by woody vegetation by destroying the existing vegetation and reseeding a high diversity of native grasses and wildflowers. An additional 62 acres of adjacent grassland will be improved by removing invading woody vegetation that degrades the quality of the grassland and serves as seed sources for reinfestation.
078	Minnesota Waterfowl Association	Ella Lake WPA Water Control Structure	Wetland	10	\$7,200	Enhancement	Construct a water control structure on a 9.5 acre restored wetland on the Ella Lake Waterfowl Production Area (WPA) to provide water level management. This water control structure will allow manipulation of water levels required to control rough fish populations and improve submergent plant development to improve the quality of habitat for waterfowl and other wetland dependant birds.

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066	Minnesota Waterfowl Association	Nyroca Flats	Wetland	30	\$98,900	Enhancement	This 30 acre basin was traditionally an excellent type IV wetland. However its value for waterfowl has declined significantly because of high water and rough fish. A temporary drawdown is needed to restore the basin's potential as an excellent waterfowl habitat. To accomplish the draw down a sheet pile water control structure will be installed at the outlet of the basin. This will regenerate the basin and reestablish aquatic vegetation needed for nesting or migrating waterfowl.
082	Minnesota Waterfowl Association	Pelican Lake SE MWA-USFWS Wetland Restoration	Wetland	4	\$7,000	Restoration	The 510 acre Pelican Lake East WPA is located on Pelican Lake, a designated wildlife lake in eastern Wright County. The south unit of the WPA is crossed by a tileline that drains the cropland to the east, and part of the WPA into Pelican Lake. The proposed project would replace the existing tile with non-perforated tile to maintain the neighbors drainage, and prevent drainage of the wetland proposed to be restored on the WPA. In addition, two earthen dams would be constructed to enhance water holding capacity of the restored wetland basin. This will create additional waterfowl breeding pair habitat next to Pelican Lake.
074	Minnesota Waterfowl Association	Sieg Slough	FGW	65	\$168,750	Acquisition	The Minnesota Waterfowl Association will be purchasing the Sieg Slough in Watonwan County. MWA will work with the DNR Lands and Minerals to follow the required steps to obtain a proper appraisal for the property. Following the appraisal and subsequent acquisition of the property, MWA will then donate it to the DNR to become the Sieg WMA. The property consists of 65 acres, of which 12 are CRP, 18 acres are cropland and 36 acres of lake. This property will provide public access and control over the outlet channel for a future control structure site.
077	Minnesota Waterfowl Association	Water Control, #47-31P	Wetland	119	\$6,000	Restoration	The existing water control structure at the outlet of 119 acre Mud Lake (#47-31P) is severely corroded and in danger of washing out. If this CPL grant application is successful the structure will be replaced with a new one, consisting of non-corrosive High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) material. Project site is private lands but all necessary easements are held by State of Minnesota. Mud Lake is adjacent to a federal Waterfowl Production Area and provides important shallow lake habitat for waterfowl, other migratory birds, and resident wildlife.
061	MN Deer Hunters Association, Brainerd Chapter	Wildlife Habitat Enhancements in Central MN	FGW	524	\$76,000	Enhancement	Project is a multiple activity proposal to improve wildlife habitats (forest, prairie/grassland and wetland) on State Wildlife Management Area (WMA), State Forest lands and/or County lands in the Brainerd Wildlife work area (Aitkin, lower Cass, Crow Wing counties). Project will be accomplished through the hiring (contract) of a four person Conservation Corps Minnesota (CCM) crew for six months and student support from the Central Lakes College's Natural Resource Program (CLCNR) that will perform various wildlife habitat enhancement efforts summarized in Attachment A.

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059	MN Deer Hunters Association, SE MN Chapter	Schwerin Creek WMA Hagen Tract 2	FGW	31	\$100,266	Acquisition	This application is for a 30.8 acre tract of land that adjoins the existing 37 acre Schwerin Creek Wildlife Management Area near Elkton in Mower County, Minnesota. Schwerin Creek runs through the target acquisition to the WMA. Hunting opportunities for the area include deer, small game, pheasant, and turkey. The acquisition will nearly double the size of the WMA, and provide additional hunting opportunities for the public. Four of the new acres will be restored to natural prairie grassland habitat.
073	MN Prairie Chicken Society	Open Vistas for Grassland Birds	Prairie	203	\$124,999	Enhancement	The prairies of western Minnesota would have originally been devoid of trees. Today, many areas have significant levels of trees. Trees affect the very character and nature of prairies and grasslands. Tree leaves shade the sun-loving prairie grasses and wildflowers. The branches provide perches for hawks, owls, and crows. The bases of the trees provide den sites for foxes, raccoons, and skunks. All of these predators can have dramatic impacts on nest success of waterfowl, gamebirds, and songbirds near these trees. Our goal is to remove trees from western Minnesota prairies and restored grasslands to recapture the feel of presettlement Minnesota as well as benefit the wildlife species that depend on these habitats. In the Audubon Societies 2009 State of the Birds Report, grassland birds have declined more than any other group of bird in this country. We hope to increase populations of these species for their own benefit as well as the benefit of birdwatchers and hunters.
076	MN Prairie Chicken Society	Prairie shrubland for openland birds	Prairie	100	\$100,000	Enhancement	This project will manage aspen and other woody species at the Neal/Cupido/Syre WMA and Twin Valley Prairie SNA complex, hereafter Syre Complex, in Norman County. This is one of our largest grassland blocks in northwest Minnesota. As such, it is a key habitat block for grassland species such as prairie chickens, upland sandpipers, and numerous grassland songbirds. However, because the area is so wet, there are also significant amounts of brood habitat for American woodcock, a species traditionally thought of as an early successional woodland species. Much of this aspen habitat has become overmature, creating poor habitat for species such as woodcock and deer. The tall trees also discourage grassland nesting birds. The goal of this project is not to eliminate woody cover on the WMAs but return them to a younger successional stage. The shorter aspen trees will provide cover for woodcock, browse for deer and moose, and will create improved grassland habitat in adjacent areas.

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047	Olmsted SWCD	Root River Floodplain RIM	FGW	173	\$257,167	Acquisition	The Matt Hanson farm lies in the floodplain of the north branch of the Root River. The project will create a perpetual easement through the ReInvest in Minnesota program and planting perennial vegetation to protect floodplain soils from future scour erosion. A grazing-haying plan will be developed by the NRCS grazing specialist and managed by the landowner with oversight by the Olmsted SWCD. The Minnesota DNR division of fisheries has already been working with the landowner to fix streambanks and provide angling easements for the public along the adjacent reaches of the Root River. This project will provide a large tract of managed habitat for fish and wildlife, protect critical soils, reduce sediment delivery to the river and improve water quality here and downstream. This project will provide 173 acres of much needed habitat for grassland nesting birds, amphibians, shorebirds, deer, pheasant, turkey fish along its banks and downstream for perpetuity.
032	Pheasants Forever Inc	Horseshoe Lake Restoration	Prairie	50	\$23,220	Restoration	This is a recent DNR Fisheries acquisition, the Horseshoe Lake AMA, George and Margaret Weaver Tract. The property consists of 90 acres and 4200 feet of lakeshore on Horseshoe Lake. There is a 50-acre field on the property, of which 39.7 acres is in soybeans and approximately 10.3 acres is smooth brome. We propose to break existing tile to restore shallow wetland features and to plant prairie on 50 acres.
033	Pheasants Forever Inc	Kummer Restoration	Prairie	22	\$5,344	Restoration	The Kummer parcel of the Vermillion River Aquatic Management Area was purchased by MN DNR in 2009 to provide fishing access for trout anglers, as well as secondary uses such as upland hunting. In 2010 Dakota Ringnecks Chapter of Pheasants Forever paid for planting of 26 acres of farm fields on the parcel into native prairie, but one 22-acre field remains in row crops. We are requesting funding to seed prairie vegetation on this remaining field and control weeds during establishment. Grassland bird species such as pheasant, bobolink, and dickcissel will benefit from the restoration, as will water quality in the nearby Vermillion River. The parcel is open to public hunting.
046	Pheasants Forever Inc	Rabbit River WPA Enhancements	Prairie	135	\$21,540	Enhancement	This project will enhance the nesting and brood rearing habitat on three existing Waterfowl Production Areas in Otter Tail and Grant Counties. Quality nesting and brood rearing habitat is paramount to maximum pheasant production. Completing grasslands enhancements like this also provides for greater recreation opportunities and hunter satisfaction on our public hunting areas.
081	Pheasants Forever, Inc.	Southern Minnesota Wetland Initiative	Wetland	55	\$45,000	Restoration	The Southern Minnesota Wetland Initiative sets out to accelerate restoration of wetlands within permanently protected Waterfowl Production Areas, open to the public, to ensure these wetland complexes are providing the maximum benefits for waterfowl, wetland dependant species, and resident game species. Pheasants Forever, Minnesota Waterfowl Association, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will work in partnership to restore 19 palustrine emergent wetland basins totaling 55 acres within 8 existing Waterfowl Production Areas in Southern Minnesota.

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038	Pheasants Forever, Mcleod County Chapter	Phasianus WPA/WMA Complex Enhancement Project	Prairie	231	\$17,425	Enhancement	The Phasianus Complex is located in central McLeod County and contains 621 acres of permanently protected public hunting land; 517 acres of USFWS WPA and 50 acres of MN DNR WMA. The USFWS and DNR are partnering with the local PF chapter on a four-phase enhancement/restoration project on restored prairie and wetland habitats. Phase I, Winter, WPA; Cutting trees in and around the wetland basins over frozen ground (because of very wet conditions this year). Phase II, June, WPA; After a spring prescribed burn and some cutting of stumps to prevent tire damage, an application of Milestone herbicide on the Canada thistle (and sprouting cottonwood) will be done. Phase III, Summer, WMA (some WPA); A MCC crew will be cutting and treating all WMA trees and some WPA re-sprouts. Phase IV, September, WPA; A 12.5 acre wet-mesic prairie restoration. All phases of this project (except on the WMA) will be followed up USFWS monitoring and long-term maintenance.
071	Rainy Lake Sportfishing Club/Koochiching SWCD	Rat Root River Log Jam Removal	FGW	55	\$22,500	Enhancement	The Rainy Lake Sportfishing Club (Club) has partnered with the Koochiching Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) to address the increase in number of log jams along the Rat Root River as well as the decline of the walleye spawning run. The Club was organized to assist in the enhancement of the fisheries resources on Rainy Lake, Rainy River and their tributaries and has invested considerable time and treasure in the last several years to identify problems that have led to the decline of the Rat Root River system with regard to fish habitat. Primary activities include log jam removal to improve access, walleye spawning bed protection, and water quality improvement in an ongoing effort to improve fish habitat in these waters.
101	Redwood SWCD	Calcareous Fen Habitat Protection	Wetland	126	\$242,658	Acquisition	The 126 acres to be permanently protected through this grant contain a remnant calcareous fen, one of the rarest types of wetland in the United States. Located northwest of Redwood Falls in the Minnesota River Valley, this excellent wetland site includes five species of state-listed rare plants and important wildlife habitat. According to the Minnesota DNR Fact sheet on Calcareous Fens, "Calcareous fens are rare and distinctive wetlands characterized by a substrate of non-acidic peat and are dependent on a constant supply of cold, oxygen-poor groundwater rich in calcium and magnesium bicarbonates". With only two calcareous fens still in existence in Redwood County, it is essential to permanently protect and maintain the remaining habitat. Through a combined effort of three local landowners, the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) we are submitting a grant for a perpetual Re-invest in Minnesota (RIM) easement.

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095	Redwood SWCD	Mesic Maple-Basswood Forest Protection Project	Forest	87	\$225,805	Acquisition	The 87 acres of deciduous hardwood forest proposed for permanent protection lie 1/2 mile east of the Lower Sioux Agency along the Minnesota River Valley. The offered lands include a combination of intact plant communities as well as significant archeological resources. The dominant communities include Southern Mesic Maple-Basswood Forest (MHs39) which is noted on the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Natural Heritage Database and Southern Floodplain Forest (FFs68). The MN County Biological Survey identifies this MHs39 forest as the only known in Redwood County. The site is adjacent to the Lower Sioux Agency Historic Site and contains several Native American burial mounds and relics from the 1862 US-Dakota War. With increasing fragmentation pressure, the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), three local landowners, and the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) are submitting a grant request for a perpetual Re-Invest in Minnesota (RIM) easement.
100	Saint Paul Parks and Recreation	Highwood Nature Preserve	Forest	13	\$24,000	Enhancement	The Highwood Nature Preserve Project will enhance and manage 13.5 acres of native oak woodland, oak savanna, aspen forest, and prairie through invasive species removal and control, prescribed burning, and reforestation efforts. This project will reintroduce fire into this fire-dependent landscape, decrease sedimentation of impaired waterbodies, reduce forest fragmentation by increasing the connectedness of high-quality forests, and improve habitat for fish and wildlife. Several activities listed within the Highwood Park Nature Preserve Management Recommendations plan have been initiated. CPL funding will allow Parks to fast-track the remaining activities identified in the management plan to protect the site's small remnant prairie, its oak woodland, and populations of purple twayblade, a rare woodland orchid. In addition to the direct environmental benefits, restoring the Highwood Nature Preserve will lead to habitat and landscape conservation training for Saint Paul citizens.
069	Steele SWCD	CREP Easement Project	Prairie	158	\$24,862	Enhancement	In cooperation with USDA-FSA, we will assist six landowners on 158 acres of CREP easements with maintenance of diverse native prairie seeding. These easements were established in 2001 to take marginal cropland out of production and reestablish native habitats. Despite our attempts to maintain these as sites as native prairie habitat, invasive trees and shrubs have established on the native prairie and wetlands. This project would control the trees and shrubs. The maintenance activities consist of spot spraying tree and shrub with Element 3/Platoon, followed by a controlled burn and a second herbicide application the following year. We will actively work to provide education on the management of prairies. Management of these easements will preserve the integrity of the native prairie seedings. This will in turn provide numerous benefits to game and nongame species, including nesting and brood rearing pheasants, prairie songbirds and waterfowl.

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067	Stevens SWCD	Engebretson CREP Enhancement	Wetland	47	\$54,000	Restoration	The Engebretson CREP Easement was acquired by BWSR in 2002 from Phil Allen and totals 49.2 acres. This project only includes about 47 acres of the easement on which we would like to restore a 10 acre wetland and improve the existing cover. At the time the easement was acquired, funds were not available to cover the construction of the significant wetland restoration structure needed to restore a drained wetland in the center of this tract. Mr. Allen could not pay for the restoration personally. When Mr. Engebretson acquired the property in 2008, he wanted to pursue the restoration to provide additional wildlife habitat. He also recognized that a diverse mix of upland cover would be more beneficial to ground nesting birds and waterfowl than the monotypic stand of smooth brome that it is currently becoming.
021	The Nature Conservancy	Chippewa Prairie Conservation Grazing	Prairie	2866	\$32,000	Enhancement	The Chippewa Prairie is jointly owned and managed by the MN DNR and TNC. Both agencies have been purchasing land in the project area for nearly 30 years, cooperatively maintaining the prairie landscape via traditional methods, primarily prescribed fire. For over a decade, managers from both agencies have been researching, assessing need, and formulating a vision for re-introduction of grazing management. A grazing plan has been developed that implements a cooperative conservation grazing system that focuses on the need to mimic natural processes via the re-introduction of large ungulates. It was determined that a large, open, cooperative patch-burn grazing system was most appropriate to meet the management objectives of the property. Implementation of the plan started in 2009 when six miles of perimeter fence was installed on the TNC portion of the project site. We are seeking funding to finish the remaining 4.5 miles of DNR fence to bring the project to completion.
041	The Nature Conservancy	Pembina Beach Ridges #1	Prairie	160	\$170,600	Acquisition	Fee acquisition, restoration and enhancement of a 160 acre parcel including approximately 114 acres of native prairie and 46 acres of former CRP acres in the Aspen Parklands Subsection. The Nature Conservancy proposes to restore the former CRP lands using seed collected at the adjacent Tympanuchus WMA and restore a fire regime to the tract to encourage regeneration of prairie species. This property links the Thorson and Tympanuchus WMA's allowing for greater ease in land management, expanding acres open to public use and increases the amount of protected prairie habitat in the area for future generations.

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062	The Nature Conservancy	Tallgrass Aspen Parkland - Protection 2010 - 001	Prairie	279	\$208,331	Acquisition	Fee acquisition of 279 acres. This property adjoins 370 acres of TNC land and surrounds 40 acres of School Trust land. Within 5 miles of the property are 12,634 acres of WMA land and 1,301 acres of TNC land. The owner seeks to sell the property. Not conserving this property would threaten its conservation values with conversion and make management more difficult on the adjacent TNC land and School Trust Lands. The property is primarily composed of 2 major plant communities that are conservation targets in the Tallgrass Aspen Parklands, lake plain wetlands and upland mosaic. It provides habitat for mobile mammals such as elk, bear and wolves. It is also suitable habitat for any parkland species identified in the State Wildlife Action Plan that require sedge meadow, aspen woodland or upland plant communities, including Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Upland Sandpiper, American Bittern, American Woodcock, Marbled Godwit, Ovenbird, and Sharp-tailed Grouse.
099	Woodcock Minnesota	Enhancing Woodcock Habitat in the MN River Valley	FGW	50	\$50,000	Enhancement	A collaborative effort between state (MN DNR) and federal (USFWS) agencies and nonprofit conservation organizations (Woodcock MN and The Nature Conservancy) will enhance 50 acres of early successional habitat in the Minnesota River Valley. The project will test and demonstrate the ability of biomass markets to subsidize future public and private land management costs. The project will maintain a mosaic of habitats in the floodplain of the Minnesota River and will benefit game and nongame species like American woodcock, ring-necked pheasant, white-tailed deer, blue-winged warbler, willow flycatchers, and field sparrows. By maintaining dense forest cover the project will also reduce overland water flow to the river and improve groundwater infiltration.
35 Applications funded					\$3,505,936		

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083	Anoka Conservation Distirct	Anoka Nature Preserve Buckthorn Treatment	Forest	12	\$21,600	Restoration	Not Funded	The woodland area in the Anoka Nature Preserve provides important habitat in an area that is highly developed. However, the woodland has been overrun with common buckthorn. The goal of this project is to treat woody invasive species in at least 12 acres of the woodland. The work will be completed by volunteers coordinated by the Anoka Conservation District as well as District and City staff. Efforts will start in the areas of the preserve where previous inventories show infestations are sparse (northwest), and work towards areas of heavier infestation (southeast). This way we will develop a "front" that can be extended over time as funding and volunteer labor provide.
086	Blue Earth SWCD	City of Mankato Native Plant Restoration Projects	Prairie	9	\$14,205	Restoration	Not Funded	The City of Mankato and the Blue Earth Soil and Water Conservation District are proposing a native plant restoration project involving two parkland sites within Mankato. The first is a 5.2 acre area adjacent to Sibley Park and the Minnesota River. This area was formerly a washout pond for a concrete company. Following the pond closure, the City undertook a river bank stabilization project that involved weirs to divert the flow and stream bank plantings. The result of the river bank stabilization has been successful with reduced erosion and sediment load into the river. The plan is to replace turf and weed vegetation with a diverse native habitat. The second is a 3.8 acre plot located within Rasmussen Woods nature park. The plot in need of restoration is bordering trails, a wetland pond and other wooded natural areas in the 150 acre nature park. Like the Sibley Parkway location, we plan to eradicate the current vegetation and revitalize the area with diverse native vegetation.
034	City of Andover	Kelsey Round Lake Park Native Restoration Project	Prairie	50	\$30,000	Restoration	Not Funded	The City would like to restore approximately 35 acres of prairie and 15 acres of woodland area in its largest park, Kelsey Round Lake Park, by allowing a diverse array of local ecotype, indigenous plant material to dominate their respective areas. The prairie will be comprised of grasses and forbs and the woodland area will be comprised of trees, shrubs and woodland forbs.
050	City of Anoka	Mississippi River Kings Island Channel Restoration	FGW	10	\$203,330	Restoration	Not Funded	Kings Island includes a 4,800 foot side channel that meanders through a floodplain forest area. This side channel is currently only partially connected to the Mississippi as a result of 2 land bridges built within the channel in the 1960's. This resulted in unnaturally high sedimentation rates in the side channel with water depths reduced to just 6-18 inches since the channel was obstructed with the land bridges. Removal of the 2 land bridges, along with restoration of riffles and plunge pools will restore the quality and availability of habitat for aquatic species and terrestrial wildlife. Habitat will also be improved during this project by removal of debris, including tires, refrigerators, bottles, and materials dumped into the area in the past. This project will result in substantial improvement and availability of historically important backwater habitats along this reach of the Mississippi River for aquatic and terrestrial wildlife.

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087	City of Fridley	Springbrook Wetland and Stream Restoration	Wetland	2	\$160,000	Restoration	Not Funded	With a grant from the Conservation Partners Legacy Grant program, the City of Fridley will design and conduct on-the-ground restoration of three wetland control structures, restore over 1 acre of wet meadow/shallow marsh wetland area, and restore 470 linear feet of stream at its 127-acre Springbrook Nature Center. The proposed activities will restore the hydrology, water quality, and habitat of a natural watershed area with outlets to the Mississippi River.
024	Crow Wing County Public Land Management	Crow Wing County Conifer Seedling Protection	Forest	255	\$19,500	Enhancement	Not Funded	Crow Wing County (CWC) presents this proposal to protect and enhance the conifer cover type across its managed lands. Due to heavy deer browse of pine seedlings within county-managed lands, protection measures are needed to ensure successful growth of its pine planting sites. A total of 18 sites encompassing 255 acres of county-managed lands are in need of pine seedling deer browse protection. The proposed protection measures include bud capping and the application of a deer repellent.
048	Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District	Klinder Conservation Easement	FGW	77	\$137,500	Acquisition	Not Funded	Darrell Klinder a landowner in Douglas County wishes to have a perpetual Conservation Easement recorded on 77.2 acres of his land to protect it from any future development. The proposed easement area has been enrolled in the Federal Conservatin Reserve program for the last 20 years and is fully restored. Wetlands have been restored and enhanced, tree planted, and grasses established. Darrell Klinder a landowner in Douglas County wishes to have a RIM Perpetual Conservation Easement recorded on 77.2 acres of his land to protect it from any future development. The proposed easement area has been enrolled in the Federal Conservation Reserve program for the last 20 years and is fully restored. Wetlands have been restored and enhanced, tree planted, and grasses established.
020	Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance (GBERBA)	Native Habitat Enhancement Project	Prairie	1135	\$100,000	Enhancement	Not Funded	The goal of this project is to assist land managers with the enhancement and restoration of native habitats that are being pressured by invasive species. We will remove invasive plant species that are encroaching on or displacing native habitat and restore native vegetation using local ecotype native plant materials from the site or from a source as close to the site as is available.
029	Hennepin County Environmental Services	Expansion of Kingswood Easement	Prairie	41	\$172,500	Acquisition	Not Funded	Kingswood Camp is located in western Hennepin County, 25 miles west of Minneapolis. The Camp is used as a retreat with a focus on environmental outreach and education. Kingswood welcomes citizens throughout the year, including children, from the urban core to experience first-hand five unique ecosystems once common in this area. This is a unique parcel of land that currently includes 65 acres held in permanent easement by the Minnesota DNR. This proposed project would expand the current easement by an additional 41.2 acres totaling 106.2 acres of permanently protected critical habitat in an area where it is quickly disappearing due to pressure by development. The additional acres include the remaining piece of a Maple/Basswood Forest, a unique glacial esker, a restored tall-grass prairie and tamarack bog. This proposed easement would protect and preserve, from further fragmentation, one of the few remaining large remnants containing these critical habitats in Hennepin County.

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Proj ID	Organization Name	Project Name	Primary Habitat	Acres	Amt Req.	Activity	Status	Project Summaries
026	Lake of the Woods School District, 390	Lake of the Woods School Forest Habitat Projects	Wetland	43	\$51,250	Enhancement	Not Funded	The Lake of the Woods School Forest Habitat Projects will enhance 43 acres of critical habitat which is currently preserved through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources School Forest Program. The projects will focus on enhancing wildlife habitat in three areas of the Agassiz Lowlands Environmental Learning Area (ALELA). ALELA is a 120-acre tract of land that serves as an outdoor classroom. It provides outdoor learning opportunities for students and is open to the general public for hiking, skiing, and wildlife viewing. ALELA is comprised of brushland and sedge meadow wetlands and forested areas, making it an ideal mix of habitat for wildlife. The projects involved will include: developing openland habitat for sharp-tailed grouse, enhancing a degraded wetland which was once an old gravel pit, and enhancing the forested areas within ALELA. These enhancements will provide suitable habitat for game and non-game species, including white-tailed deer and the yellow rail.
022	Martin Soil and Water Conservation District	Expansion of Local Native Seed	Prairie	151	\$96,252	Restoration	Not Funded	Conservation Partners Legacy Grants Activity Definitions and Measures defines the Collection of Native Seed as, "all efforts related to collecting and processing seeds of native species for use as seed stock for seeding operations and nursery operations that produce seedlings for reestablishing, restoring, or enhancing native vegetation." The primary goal of this CPL Grant application is to develop and expand the native plants inventory of local ecotype species. We have known for some time that local ecotype plants are an invaluable tool to such programs as the Rim-Riparian (BWSR), Conservation Reserve Program (FSA), county ditch redetermination programs, or any riparian improvement. Native plant species are also important for their ability to hold soil, promote water infiltration, and restore habitat for diverse bird, insect, and animal life. The process of placing such plants on conservation easements has two major challenges- limited inventory and high cost.
072	Minnesota Waterfowl Association	Spring Creek WMA	Wetland	8	\$20,000	Acquisition	Not Funded	This project tract was acquired by Pheasants Forever in in 2007 and subsequently conveyed to the DNR as an addition to the Spring Creek WMA. Prior to conveyance, the Fish and Wildlife Service was a project partner during the Initial Development Plan phase. Part of the IDP was a wetlands enhancement(scrape outs) project which was partially completed in 2009 with FWS private lands funding, but not completed due to site weather conditions. Since conveyance, FWS private lands funds are no longer available to complete this portion of the project. This project proposal will provide the necessary funding to complete the wetlands enhancement project.

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Proj ID	Organization Name	Project Name	Primary Habitat	Acres	Amt Req.	Activity	Status	Project Summaries
070	Pheasants Forever Inc	West Central MN Grazing Initiative	Prairie	1029	\$75,716	Enhancement	Not Funded	We will construct a high tensile fence on three Waterfowl Production Areas. This functional boundary fence will permit the use of multi-species (sheep/cattle), targeted grazing to control invasive vegetation such as wild parsnip, buckthorn, box elder, Siberian elm, and reed canary grass. Grazing as a habitat management tool is supported and accepted by neighboring landowners, local governments and local organizations. Prescribed grazing is consistent with sound conservation science and will result in increased habitat quality that will support numerous grassland wildlife species. Additionally, controlling invasive species and enhancing grasslands supports landscape level plans and species specific plans including the Morris Wetland Management District Comprehensive Conservation Plan, North American Waterfowl Management Plan, state wildlife action plans and numerous other Partners in Flight Plans.
030	Renville SWCD	Darrel Tufto-Renville Co	Prairie	58	\$186,060	Acquisition	Not Funded	The proposed project will purchase a Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources conservation Reinvest In Minnesota perpetual conservation easement on privately owned property leveraging federal funds through an existing Conservation Reserve Program contract. The project is approximately 58 acres of restored native prairie and existing riparian habitat that is part of the Minnesota River Corridor in South Sacred Heart Township in Renville County. The prairie portion of this project was seeded to a high diversity of local ecotype native grasses and forbs under the BWSR native buffer cost share program. This project would add significant value to prairie wildlife in this part of the state, providing much needed nesting and brood rearing cover for upland prairie dependent bird species. In addition, the easement will also provide nesting and brood rearing cover for wild turkeys. White-tail deer will also utilize the riparian portion of the site for browse and the prairie for bedding.
105	Renville SWCD	Frank-Renville Co.	Prairie	35	\$78,338	Acquisition	Not Funded	The Renville County Perpetual Easement Program is geared towards adding to the already extensive number of perpetual easements in Renville County. As of 2010, Renville County is the leading county for CREP and RIM in the State of Minnesota with 17,815.9 acres in easements. In addition, there are 5,763.9 acres of CRP. Renville County has been, and continues to be, a leader in conservation activities, especially in the perpetual conservation easement area. The Frank-Renville Co. Project looks toward securing an easement on expiring CRP. The easements will be developed with a conservation plan to restore and maintain native prairie, wetland complexes, and other local land cover types. These easements will add needed habitat for many species including upland game such as pheasants and hungarian partridge. In addition, morning doves, waterfowl and big game species including white-tail deer and wild turkeys will benefit.

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Proj ID	Organization Name	Project Name	Primary Habitat	Acres	Amt Req.	Activity	Status	Project Summaries
025	Renville SWCD	Schafer-Renville Co.	Prairie	32	\$72,766	Acquisition	Not Funded	The Renville County Perpetual Easement Program is geared towards adding to the already extensive number of perpetual easements in Renville County. As of 2010, Renville County is the leading county for CREP and RIM in the State of Minnesota with 17,815.9 acres in easements. In addition, there are 5,763.9 acres of CRP. Renville County has been, and continues to be, a leader in conservation activities, especially in the perpetual conservation easement area. The Schafer-Renville Co. Project looks toward securing an easement on expiring CRP. The easements will be developed with a conservation plan to restore and maintain native prairie, wetland complexes, and other local land cover types. These easements will add needed habitat for many species including upland game such as Pheasants and Hungarian Partridge. In addition, Morning Doves, waterfowl and big game species including White-tailed Deer and Wild Turkeys will benefit.
16 applications, not funded					\$1,439,017			
084	Brown's Creek Watershed District	Brown's Creek Trout Stream Restoration	FGW	2	\$105,000	Restoration	Incomplete	Brown's Creek Watershed District and Oak Glen Golf Course will partner to improve 1,300 linear feet of trout habitat in Brown's Creek. Brown's Creek is one of a limited few DNR protected trout streams in the metropolitan area. In recent years, the fish surveys have shown reduced numbers of trout, especially young of the year. Surveys of the aquatic insects have shown a reduction in numbers and diversity. Due to changes in land use, the trout habitat is degrading. The temperatures are exceeding what the trout can tolerate. Increased sediments are getting into the stream, filling in rock and gravel and leaving a silt bottom with little spawning value. The proposed project will restore the trout habitat by reducing in-stream temperatures, adding refuge, and providing spawning habitat and habitat for food species. Work would be within the public water and consist of reshaping of the stream channel; adding woody debris, vegetative overhangs, series of pools and riffles.
045	Eagle Lake Sportmans Club	Jensen WMA Grassland Restoration	FGW	133	\$13,000	Restoration	Incomplete	This WMA is part of the Pomme De Terre water shed that encompasses approximately 17% of the P.D.T. flowage. The headwaters start at Eagle Lake then flows to the east through Middle Lake, on to Jolly Ann Lake, and eventually to Pomme De Terre Lake. Very little Ag drainage enters this watershed until after Jolly Ann Lake. The objective is to make sure the WMA has well buffered vegetation along waterway. This will be accomplished by eradicating the invasive species and restoring the native remnant prairie.

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Not Recommended for Funding and Incomplete Application Summary Sheet

Proj ID	Organization Name	Project Name	Primary Habitat	Acres	Amt Req.	Activity	Status	Project Summaries
023	Martin Soil and Water Conservation District	Elm Creek Reroute	Wetland	3	\$201,900	Restoration	Incomplete	The creek reroute will use the current channel to create more water storage during times of high flow. This practice will create an environment friendly to both fish and ducks, and provide habitat for all game and non-game species of wildlife. Martin SWCD is currently, collecting local native plants and seeds that will be used in reseeding the new stream corridor and creating a more diverse environment. The reroute will employ proven best management practices to prevent stream bank erosion. Studies by Carrie Jennings, University of Minnesota Geological Survey, indicate that 50% of the sediment in the stream comes from side bank erosion during times of high flows. This project is designed to reduce the sediment from the eroding hill by approximately 500 tons/year. The practices used in the successful Mair Elm Creek Restoration Project will be duplicated at this site. All of these practices were designed by the University of Minnesota and tested at the Mair Restoration Project.
031	Pheasants Forever Inc.	Minneopa Prairie Restoration	Prairie	157	\$89,100	Restoration	Incomplete	At the time of European settlement, this region was covered by tallgrass prairie. Today agriculture dominates the area and remnants stands of tallgrass prairie are rare. Minneopa State Park plans to reconstruct 210 acres of historical native prairie landscape. The project began in the 1970s when the land was purchased by the State of Minnesota. The first project in the 1970s opened around 70 acres of the prairie by felling encroaching trees. In 2008, Minneopa State Park worked in a partnership with Pheasants Forever to receive a \$40,000 grant, used to continue the prairie reconstruction by felling nearly 60 acres of trees and seeding the same acres in native grasses and forbs. Park management now plans to aggressively attack the woody stem problem. The project will use a contractor to fell and remove trees off of the prairie, mow and chemically treat large smooth sumac stands, and plant 100 acres in native prairie seeds.
080	Waseca SWCD	Upper Cannon River Restoration	FGW	104	\$321,000	Acquisition	Incomplete	This 104-acre parcel, located at the headwaters of the Cannon River watershed, will be protected by applying a permanent conservation easement on the property. Work associated with the project include establishing 20 acres to native prairie, disable any existing tile and discontinue the use of the drainage ditch. This tract is contiguous with the Boyd WMA to the west, RIM easement (perpetual) to the north, and RIM/WRP (perpetual) to the south. Therefore its protection will add significantly to an existing natural corridor. Cannon River Watershed staff (CRWP) have monitored the Upper Cannon, results from the data indicate the need to improve the water quality, especially from nonpoint sources. This project will assist in meeting their goals. The diverse natural habitats, Maple/Basswood forest, emergent marshes and upland within this tract contribute to the value of the area and also contributes directly to the aquatic habitat function downstream.

5 applications, incomplete	\$730,000
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