

Conservation Partners Legacy Grants - Online Applications

Jamie Gangaware

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Project Summary

Project Name and Contact

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|------------------|---------------------------|
| Project Name: | Stadsvold Easement Enhancement | Project Manager: | Dale Livingston |
| Organization Name: | Friends of Morris Wetland Management District | Title: | President |
| Organization Type: | Non-Profit | Phone: | 320-589-1970 |
| Mailing Address 1: | 43875 230th St. | Email: | kdliving@yahoo.com |
| Mailing Address 2: | | | |
| City: | Morris | | |
| State: | MN | | |
| Zip Code: | 56267 | | |

Project Location Summary

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Primary County: | Pope | Secondary Land Ownerships: | Federal |
| Nearest City: | Sunburg | | |
| Project Site Name: | Stadsvold Easement | | |
| Primary Land Ownership: | Private | | |

Project Activity Summary

| | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Primary Activity: | Enhancement | Primary Habitat Type: | Prairie |
| Additional Activities: | Restoration | Additional Habitats: | Wetland |
| Total Project Sites: | 1 | | |
| Total Project Acres: | 320 | | |

Project Funding Summary

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Total Grant Amount Requested: | \$71,750 |
| Total Match Amount Pledged: | \$25,000 |
| Additional Funding: | |
| Total Project Cost: | \$96,750 |
| Estimated Project Completion Date: | 2013-06-30 |

Summary

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".

Problem Statement

Native prairies need disturbance in order to sustain themselves. Grazing, burning, and haying are some of the most important tools for prairie management. In this instance the trees are too large and grazing is not helping to reduce the trees on this native prairie. Mechanical removal is necessary, followed by prescribed fire, and then long term good grazing management using a grazing management plan will help to ensure trees do not become established on this site again. The wetland restoration is needed to fully restore this prairie pothole tract and to provide the maximum amount of waterfowl habitat possible on this site. Stadsvolds are prairie enthusiasts who make there living grazing cattle. Their willingness to work with us to preserve and protect this size of a piece of quality native prairie is a wonderful opportunity to preserve a little bit of what Minnesota used to be.

Project Objectives

We plan to remove invasive trees from 320 acres of uplands including 200 acres of native prairie. We also plan to restore 3 large wetlands totaling 30 acres. If the trees can be removed and a grazing plan is developed this native prairie could be managed well to the benefit of many native dry prairie obligate birds, insects and plants. Numerous species of birds, plants and insects that are prairie obligates are state threated or endangered. By getting rid of this woody vegetation problem, we will be helping to remove the seed source trees for this entire area not just this tract. This area still contains quality native prairie in one of the largest contiguous blocks in Minnesota. Nearly 40% of the native grassland within the Ordway Working Lands Initiative Target Area, which this tract is within, have already received tree removal including a Waterfowl Production Area and the TNC's Ordway Prairie. Ordway Prairie's trees were cut in part by a private stewardship that was overseen by our organization about five years ago. Cutting trees from the Stadsvold tract helps to ensure the integrity of all of the other tracts that have had tree removal, more than 2,000 acres in this area.

Methods

This project entails cutting and brush hogging the invasive trees during winter and spring 2010 - 2011, piling some of the trees or leaving them in the draws on the property. The tract will have to be idled during 2011 to build up enough litter to carry a fire. There are three wetlands totaling 30 acres on the property that will be restored on the wetland and habitat easements during the summer of 2011. These restorations will bring the total acres of wetlands to 71 acres on this 320 acres of land. A prescribed fire will be used to consume the downed trees and slash and stimulate the native prairie during the fall in 2011. Stadsvold's are cattlemen and their easement allows grazing. They will need an alternative area to graze for a season. The cattle will be moved to a Waterfowl Production Area for one season. USFWS's Habitat Easement does not limit grazing in any way, but Stadsvold's have committed to implementing a grazing management plan and installing needed infrastructure in order to better manage their native prairie. USFWS will work with USDA to get them enrolled in the EQIP program to have a grazing management plan written and a grazing system designed. Infrastructure needed by Stadsvold's to implement this plan that is not covered by the EQIP cost share can be covered by USFWS. Biomass utilization of tree material will be pursued for the largest portion of the trees on this tract. We have had a very difficult time getting tree biomass utilized in western Minnesota, but we will try to get some of the biomass off of this site so that it all does not have to be burned.

Project Timeline

| Time Frame | Goal |
|-------------------------------|--|
| February to June 2011 | Cut Trees |
| May 2011 | Move cattle to alternative site |
| Sept. to Nov 2011 | Burn Site to consume trees |
| Dec 2011 to April 2012 | Established Grazing Management Plan |
| July to Sept 2011 | Restore 3 drained wetlands |

Identify short and long term maintenance and management work required to sustain this project and source(s) of funding

Work needed

Who is responsible

Funding source

Grazing Management Plan

**Landowner/ USFWS
Partners**

**EQIP / Partners /
Landowner**

**Prescribed Fire as needed - Forever as
easement mgmt**

USFWS

USFWS Budget

Partners for Fish and Wildlife Habitat Development Timeline and Budget (Appendix A)

| | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| Project Site: <u>Stadsvold Habitat Easement</u> | Project Location: County: Pope Township Name: Gilchrist Township: 123N Range: 37W Section(s) 36 | UTM N: 0 UTM E: 0 Zone: 0 Datum: 0 | Project Type: <u>Tree removal/fencing/wetland rest</u> |
|--|--|---|---|

Agreement #: 201104 **Acres:** 320

Note: All figures are estimates based on current rates.

| BEGIN | END | TREATMENT | RESOURCES NEEDED | PERFORMED BY | # UNITS | UNIT | COST PER UNIT | TOTAL EST. COST | FWS \$ | FWS IN-KIND | (EQIP / WLI) PARTNER \$ | (EQIP) PARTNER IN-KIND | LANDOWNER \$ | LANDOWNER IN-KIND |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|------|---------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 12/1/10 | 9/30/11 | Tree Cutting and removal | | Contractor | 200 | ac | \$350.00 | \$70,000.00 | | | \$70,000.00 | | | |
| 12/1/10 | 9/30/11 | Tree Cutting and removal | | Landowner | 120 | ac | \$100.00 | \$12,000.00 | \$12,000.00 | | | | | |
| 7/1/11 | 9/30/11 | 2 wetland restorations | Dozer / Scraper | Zacher Excavating | 2 | ea | \$2,500.00 | \$5,000.00 | \$5,000.00 | | | | | |
| 12/1/10 | 12/31/13 | Grazing plan establishment | EQIP Contract / Grazing specialist | NRCS / Landowner | 320 | ac | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | | | \$2,000.00 | | |
| 4/1/12 | 11/30/12 | Rest Pasture ** | FWS WPA to graze | USFWS / Landowner | 240 | ac | \$0.00 | \$3,000.00 | \$3,000.00 | | | | | |
| 4/1/12 | 6/30/13 | Prescribed Burn | FWS Burn Crew | USFWS / Landowner | 320 | ac | \$20.00 | \$6,400.00 | | \$6,400.00 | | | | |
| 6/1/13 | 11/30/13 | Interior X fence *** | EQIP Contract/ USFWS / WLI | Landowner/ NRCS / WLI | 6750 | ft | \$0.89 | \$6,007.50 | | | \$6,010.00 | | | |
| 6/1/13 | 11/30/13 | Exterior fence repair *** | USFWS / WLI | Landowner / WLI | 14175 | ft | \$0.15 | \$2,126.25 | | | \$2,125.00 | | | |
| 6/1/13 | 11/30/13 | New Exterior Fence *** | EQIP / WLI | NRCS / WLI | 3085 | ft | \$0.89 | \$2,745.65 | | | \$2,750.00 | | | |
| TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS: | | | | | | | | \$107,279.40 | \$20,000.00 | \$6,400.00 | \$80,885.00 | \$2,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |

**Materials used to fence/repair fence on the WPA to REST PASTURE on Stadsvold Easement could be reused for INTERIOR or EXTERIOR fences on Easement

*** Materials used to fence/repair fence on the WPA to REST PASTURE on Stadsvold Easement could be reused for INTERIOR or EXTERIOR fences on Easement.

These fences were not guaranteed as part of the project for the CPL Grant. They were only referenced as probable.

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Answer each of the following questions in 1000 characters or less; descriptions/definitions are available in the [Criteria and Scoring Table](#).

1. Describe the local support for this project.

This tract is within a working lands initiative target area that has more landowner enthusiasm than most others in the state. The main issue is invasive tree encroachment, and the locals have been cutting trees on their properties as well as The Nature Conservancy and the US Fish and Wildlife Service ownership. The USFWS has met with the county and the township regarding this easement, and has heard no opposition.

2. Describe the degree of collaboration for this project.

We are cooperating with USFWS, who holds the easement, the Ordway Working Lands Initiative Team, who is coordinating most of the habitat management in this area, the landowner, who is supportive of the project, The Nature Conservancy, who has a vested interest in this area and may be contracted to do the prescribed fire.

3. Describe any urgency associated with this project.

The tree encroachment on this site is severe. Waiting any longer will make this site very difficult to remove trees and manage long term. Right now the shading out of native plants has not been severe, but that will get worse every year.

4. Discuss if there are multiple benefits resulting from your project, identifying those species, habitats, etc.

This project will benefit a large tract of native prairie and native prairie obligate plants and animals. It also has a very diverse complex of wetlands, so the diversity of wetland types should benefit numerous wetland dependant species. In addition ensuring this tract is quality native prairie with more residual grass should help improve water quality in the Chippewa River Watershed.

5. Discuss the habitat benefits resulting from your project.

The proposed work will benefit native prairie that is being overtaken by invasive trees and will improve the wetland complex on this site. The native prairie is high quality dry prairie and if the trees are not removed soon, that diversity could be lost as tree shade out prairie species.

6. Describe how your project is consistent with sound conservation science.

Tree removal is a highly accepted practice for enhancing native prairie that is being overtaken by trees. Without mechanical removal of the trees at this point in their life stage, it will be very hard to protect this tract and the other prairie tracts in this area. These are some of the largest and highest diversity tracts in Minnesota.

7. Indicate if your project is adjacent to protected lands, describing those lands (ownership, public access, etc.)

This tract is surrounded by RIM easements to the north and south. Within one mile is TNC's Ordway Prairie and USFWS's Brenner Lake WPA. Just outside of the working lands target area that this tract is within, over 3,000 acres of permanently protected land adjoins the WLI Target Area.

8. Discuss if there is full funding secured for this project and the sources of funding.

All funds are secured, and any additional funds needed will be provided by USFWS or WLI. USFWS will manage this tract into the future since it protected by a permanent easement.

9. Discuss if CPL Grant funds will supplement or supplant existing funding. Discuss how these CPL funds will impact your organization's current budget.

These are additional funds that we would not have been able to get elsewhere to do this work. This will allow us to utilize about a quarter of our private lands funds to match the grant dollars and will make our private lands funds go much farther. We would not have been able to complete the whole tree removal on this tract without grant funds. We probably could have gotten enough money pulled together to do the wetland restoration.

10. Describe public access at project site for hunting and fishing, identifying all open seasons.

This tract is privately owned and is not open to public hunting or fishing, though the landowner would reserve the rights to open his tract to public hunting or leased hunting.

11. Describe the sustainability of your project.

This land will get managed by USFWS via prescribed fire or grazing management or by the landowner via grazing management forever. This tract is actually the key piece of land to get the trees off of in this area to remove a huge seed source for all of the native prairie in this area. If we can get the trees removed from this tract, we can ensure

12. Discuss use of native vegetation (if applicable).

No seeding will occur on this tract, NA

13. Discuss your budget and why it is cost effective.

In the end this project will average \$300 an acre. A bargain for the habitat gained. The size of the project actually helps to lower the per acre cost. \$300 per acre is the usual bill for all aspects of seeding a 25 species seed mix to restore a grassland tract. This is native prairie and is arguably much more valuable.

14. Describe your organization's ability to successfully complete this work, including experience in the area of interest and ability to successfully implement the proposed project. Include descriptions of your most recent grant experience and if the expected outcomes were achieved.

We have managed a USFWS Private Stewardship grant to remove invasive trees in 2005 for \$58,000, and in the past 8 years we have managed over \$100,000 in grant funds. The trees were removed by contractors and the projects proceeded without too many hitches. These projects are always weather dependant, and our largest tree removal project was delayed slightly by significant snowfall, regardless is we completed on time.

15. Discuss how your project supports landscape level plans. Use additional sources for information if needed or available.

This project is integral to the plans for the local Working Lands Initiative Target Area and their goals to enhance, restore and protect native prairie in the target area. This project will also support the Chippewa River Watershed's grazing initiative, and it will support USFWS's plans for restoring migratory bird habitat on habitat easements. This project will support any grassland or wetland obligate species or native prairie specialist identified in any state or regionwide species or wildlife management plans. These species include waterfowl, pheasants, grassland songbirds, grassland T & E species, and Dakota Skipper (Federal Candidate species)

16. Discuss how your project supports species plans. Use additional sources for information if needed or available.

This project will support any grassland or wetland obligate species or native prairie specialist identified in any state or regionwide species or wildlife management plans. These species include waterfowl, pheasants, grassland songbirds, grassland T & E species, and Dakota Skipper (Federal Candidate species). This project will also benefit native prairie plants and insects in addition to the larger species mentioned above.

17. Discuss how your project conforms to the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan.

This project will support any grassland or wetland obligate species or native prairie specialist identified in any state or regionwide species or wildlife management plans. These species include waterfowl, pheasants, grassland songbirds, grassland T & E species, and Dakota Skipper (Federal Candidate species). This project will also benefit

native prairie plants and insects in addition to the larger species mentioned above.

18. Discuss how your project conforms to the State Wildlife Action Plan (if applicable).

This project will support any grassland or wetland obligate species or native prairie specialist identified in any state or regionwide species or wildlife management plans. These species include waterfowl, pheasants, grassland songbirds, grassland T & E species, and Dakota Skipper (Federal Candidate species). This project will also benefit native prairie plants and insects in addition to the larger species mentioned above.

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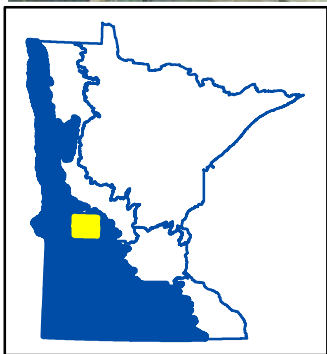
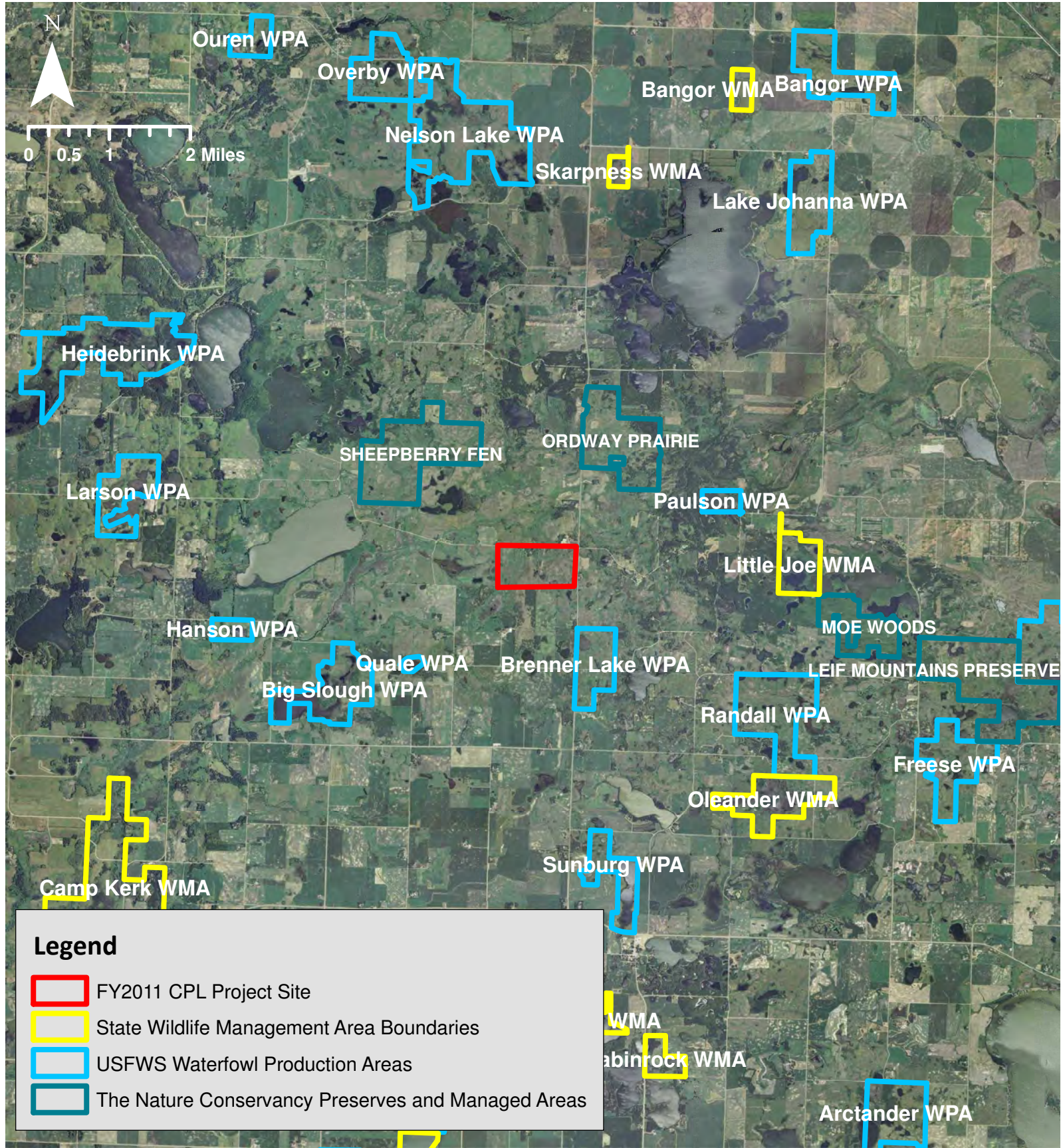
*you may group your project sites together as long as land ownership, activity and habitat information is the same for the land manager

Land Manager

| | | | |
|---------------|---|--------|-----------------------------|
| Name: | Bruce Freske | Phone: | 320-589-1001 |
| Organization: | Morris Wetland Management District | Email: | bruce_freske@fws.gov |
| Title: | Refuge Manager | | |

Site Information

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---|------------|
| Land Ownership: | Private | Acres: | 320 |
| Site Name(s): | Stadsvold Habitat Easement | Click here to View Site Map | |
| Activity: | Enhancement | | |
| Habitat: | Prairie | | |



CPL FY11-018
Stadsvold Easement Enhancement
Friends of Morris WMD
Pope County,
LSOHC Prairie Planning Section



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Organization's Fiscal Contact Information

| | | | |
|--------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Name: | Kate Livingston | Street Address 1: | 43875 230th Street |
| Title: | Secretary | Street Address 2: | |
| Email: | kdliving@yahoo.com | City: | Morris |
| Phone: | 320-589-1970 | State: | MN |
| | | Zip Code: | 56267 |

Budget Subtotals

| Budget Item | Grant | Match | Total | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Personnel | | | | | |
| Contracts | \$70,000 | \$20,000 | \$90,000 | | |
| Fee Acquisition with PILT | | | | | |
| Fee Acquisition without PILT | | | | | |
| Easement Acquisition | | | | | |
| Easement Stewardship | | | | In-kind Total | Cash Total |
| Travel (in-state) | | | | \$5,000 | \$20,000 |
| Professional Services | | | | | |
| DNR Land Acquisition Cost | | | | | |
| Equipment/Tools/Supplies | | | | | |
| Additional Budget Items | \$1,750 | \$5,000 | \$6,750 | | |
| Total: | \$71,750 | \$25,000 | \$96,750 | | |

Details

Contracts

| Contractor Name | Contracted Work | Amount | Grant/Match | In-kind/Cash |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Stempower | Tree removal / chipping | \$58,000 | Grant | |
| Zacher Excavating | Wetland Restoration | \$12,000 | Grant | |
| USFWS | Tree removal and fencing | \$20,000 | Match | Cash |
| Totals | Grant: \$70,000 Match: \$20,000 | Total: \$90,000 | | |

Additional Budget Items

| Item | Description | Amount | Grant/Match | In-kind/Cash |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Grant Admin | Admin fee for Friends Group | \$1,750 | Grant | |
| Burning | USFWS Burn Crew Expenses | \$5,000 | Match | In-kind |
| Totals | Grant: \$1,750 Match: \$5,000 | Total: \$6,750 | | |

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Project Review and Approval

A Project Review and Approval Form must be completed by each Land Manager named within the Site Info tab and Land Managers only need to complete one form for all sites they manage. Submitting this form fulfills the following requirements:

- Provides the results of the Natural Heritage Database Review,
- Allows for technical review of the project by the Land Manager, and
- Verifies that the public agency approves the work to be done (or acquisition) on land they manage.

You, as the applicant, are responsible for meeting with the Land Manager and receiving a completed Project Review and Approval Form. This form must contain an original signature from the Land Manager and you must upload it below as a PDF.

Each project will require at least one Project Review and Approval form. You may attach up to 4 forms on this page, but if you need more room you may attach up to three more on the "Additional Info" tab. If your project is working under 3 Land Managers, you must receive and submit a form from each manager.

No late Project Review and Approval Forms will be accepted. Applications lacking any necessary approval forms will be deemed incomplete and not considered for funding.

Answer the following questions, then attach the form(s)

No **Natural Heritage** elements were found within my project site(s):

Project Review and Approval Forms

[Uploaded Form 1](#)

CPL Project Review and Approval Form

REVIEWER INFORMATION:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Land manager/ easement holder name: | Frank Durbian |
| Agency: | US Fish and Wildlife Service |
| Title: | Deputy Refuge Manager |
| Phone: | 320-589-1001 |
| Email: | frank_durbian@fws.gov |

PROJECT INFORMATION:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Project Name: | Stadsvold Ease. Enhancement |
| Contact Person: | Dale Livingston |
| Organization: | Friends of the Morris WMD |
| Email: | kdliving@yahoo.com |

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 listed the features below and recommended the following minimization strategy:



- 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 by Friday, August 27th 2010 to **CPL Staff at LSCPLGrants.DNR@state.mn.us** to complete the Natural Heritage 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.

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.

CPL Project Review and Approval Form

For Acquisitions Only:

- This project is for an acquisition to be transferred to a public agency by applicant:
- I have discussed any required Initial Development (facilities, habitat, etc.) work that is required before the transfer with the applicant.
 - I have discussed all applicable costs of those developments and what party is responsible for those costs.

Complete the following cost tables (required work to bring to agency standards).

| Habitat Development | # Acres | Cost/ Acre | Total | Funding Source | Applicant is responsible for: |
|---------------------|---------|------------|-------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Prairie Grassland | | | | | Choose |
| Forest/ Woody Cover | | | | | Choose |
| Wetland | | | | | Choose |
| Totals | | | | | |


| Facility Development | Cost | Funding Source | Applicant is responsible for: |
|---------------------------------------|------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Boundary Survey | | | Choose |
| Posting/ Fencing | | | Choose |
| Wood Routed Sign | | | Choose |
| Access Roads and Trails | | | Choose |
| User Facilities, Access, Parking Lots | | | Choose |
| Well Sealing/ Site Clean-up | | | Choose |
| Total | | | |

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: | Frank Durbian | Phone: | 320-589-1001 |
|-------|---------------|--------|--------------|

By checking this box and signing 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. I understand I must provide this document as a PDF with my original signature on it to the applicant to submit a complete application.

Name:  Date: 9/14/2010

Comments: This Project directly benefits one of the most significant areas of native prairie remaining in Minnesota, and in addition is the highest priority tract for invasive tree removal in the Ordway WLI Target Area. The Ordway WLI Target Area is surrounded by 3050 acres of public land and TNC's Ordway Prairie. This project will benefit all of these lands. Nearly 2000 acres in the Target Area have already received invasive tree control since 2000. This project will only continue to build on those acres and provide grassland bird and dry prairie species habitat.

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Additional Information

List any additional details about your project here. Include your organization's history or charter to receive private contributions for local conservation or habitat projects. This is not required.

Our group will need an advance of funds or some guarantee that payment can be made to us in 30 days or less. We have administered grants up to \$58,000 in a single year, and over \$100,000 in grant funds over the past 8 years. We have explored the option to take out a line of credit, and the expense for that line of credit could not be covered by the 2.5% administration fee allowed by this grant. We receive private contributions but most of those funds go back into environmental education.

Supplemental Documents

If you / your project does not need to upload any of these documents, you may leave these upload boxes empty.

Upload additional information here, limited to Partner Commitment Letters, Letters of Support, Easement information, etc. You may email easement information only if it exceeds size limit while trying to submit the application; all other supporting documentation must be uploaded. Reference CPL Application # and name when emailing (provided upon application submission) or your email will be returned. Send emails to LSCPLGrants.DNR@state.mn.us

[Uploaded Document 1](#)

[Uploaded Document 2](#)

[Uploaded Document 3](#)

[Uploaded Document 4](#)

[Uploaded Document 5](#)

[Uploaded Document 6](#)

Financial Information Required for Non-Profit applicants requesting over \$25,000

990 Form or EZ990

[Form 990 / EZ990](#)

Audited Financials, unaudited financials as a second choice

[Financials](#)

Does your organization have a Conflict of Interest Policy?

No - Provide a brief description of how your organization would handle any conflicts of interest that may occur.

If a conflict of interest were detected, we would stop the process and investigate.

List key staff or members here that will be participating with this project:

Dale Livingston, president Kate Livingston, Secretary Ron Rosen, Treasurer

List your organization's Board of Directors with affiliations:

Dale Livingston, President Ron Kubik, Vice President Kate Livingston, Secretary Ron Rosen, Treasurer Victor Gades, Board Member Joan Boleman, Board Member



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Morris Wetland Management District
43875 230th Street
Morris, Minnesota 56267



July 27, 2010

Dale Livingston
Friends of the Morris Wetland Management District
43875 State Highway 28
Morris, Minnesota 56267

Dear Mr. Livingston:

I am writing to express the US Fish and Wildlife Service commitment of \$25,000 worth of Federal cost share toward the restoration of the wetlands and the enhancement of the uplands on the Stads vold wetland and habitat easements in Pope County, Gilchrist Township, Sec 36. It is our understanding that you are using our contribution as non-state match for a Conservation Legacy Grant Application being made by the Friends Group called Stads vold Easement Enhancement. This project is the highest priority tree removal tract within the Ordway Working Lands Initiative Project Area as well as new USFWS Habitat and Wetland Easements. We are the easement holder, and we are strongly supportive of this project!

We will reimburse Mr. Stads vold for a portion of the tree removal and grazing infrastructure work once it has been completed and invoiced to Mr. Stads vold. We will also contribute our time to all of the on the ground construction, potential prescribed fire and contract management. Thank you for your willingness to work on projects of this nature.

Sincerely,

Bruce Freske
Refuge Manager
Morris Wetland Management District

RECEIVED

AUG 9 2010

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Wetland Management Office
Morris, Minnesota

[REDACTED]

July 27, 2010

Dale Livingston
Friends of the Morris Wetland Management District
43875 State Highway 28
Morris, Minnesota 56267

Dear Mr. Livingston:

I recently signed options for a habitat and wetland easement with the US Fish and Wildlife Service on my land in Pope County, Gilchrist Township, Sec 36, S 1/2. I am fully committed to working with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to remove the invasive red cedar on my property, possibly resting my pasture for a growing season to build up enough fuel to carry a fire, and burning the grassland to remove the trees and stimulate the native prairie. In the future, we also plan to work with USFWS to install a couple of cross fences so that I can better manage my pasture to keep out invasive trees and plants in the future. I recognize that my land is in the heart of the Ordway Working Lands Initiative Target Area, and this project is the highest priority tree removal tract within the Ordway Working Lands Initiative Project Area.

Thank you for your willingness to make this grant application to help improve my pastureland and new habitat and wetland easements. This will improve wildlife habitat in this area as well as improve the forage availability and quantity in my pasture allowing me to better manage my native prairie. Thank you for your willingness to work on projects of this nature.

Sincerely,



Stephen Stadvold



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Morris Wetland Management District
43875 230th Street
Morris, Minnesota 56267



July 27, 2010

Dale Livingston
Friends of the Morris Wetland Management District
43875 State Highway 28
Morris, Minnesota 56267

Dear Mr. Livingston:

I am writing a letter of support representing the Ordway Working Lands Initiative team for the restoration of the wetlands and the enhancement of the uplands on the Stads vold easements in Pope County, Gilchrist Township, Sec 36. This project is the highest priority tree removal tract within the Ordway Working Lands Initiative Target Area. The team is focused on preserving and protecting one of the largest blocks of native prairie remaining in western Minnesota. Working Lands Initiative is a partnership among multiple conservation and agricultural agencies and organizations focused on improving wildlife habitat while still allowing landowners to utilize their land for production. The team is focused on invasive tree removal, wetland restoration, and land protection. We are also promoting ways for landowners to earn a living from their native prairies while managing them appropriately. Some of the options we suggest are managed haying or grazing or harvesting local ecotype native seed.

This project team has already removed trees from nearly 30% of the native grasslands in our 13 square mile project area. This tract is right at the center of the target area and has the largest infestation of eastern red cedar trees. It also has over 200 acres of native prairie, 71 acres of wetlands, and a complex of both small and large wetlands that is ideal for waterfowl production. Removing these invasive trees and helping the landowner better manage this tract will improve wildlife habitat, threatened dry hill prairie species and cattle production. Thank you for your willingness to work on projects of this nature.

Sincerely,

Stacy Salvevold
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Ordway Working Lands Initiative Team Leader
Morris Wetland Management District

Conservation Partners Legacy Grants - Online Applications

Jamie Gangaware

Admin

[List Applications](#)

[Summary Spreadsheet](#)

[Log Out](#)

Project Summary

Project Info

Site Info

Budget Info

Review & Approval

Additional Info

Application Submission

Final Application Submission

This completes your CPL Grant Application. Please take the time to revisit the previous sections and make sure you have entered everything completely and correctly. Once you hit the submit button below, you will not be able to return to this application to make changes.

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 certify 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 certify this organization to have the financial capability to compete this project and that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

I certify that all of the information contained in the application is correct as of the time of the submission. If anything should change, I will contact CPL Grant Staff immediately to make corrections.

I certify that if funded I will give consideration to and make timely written contact to Minnesota Conservation Corps or its successor for consideration of possible use of their services to contract for restoration and enhancement services. I will provide CPL staff a copy of that written contact within 10 days after the execution of my grant, should I be awarded.

I certify that I am aware at least one Project Review and Approval form is required for every application and I must submit all completed forms by uploading them into this application. I have attached one form as necessary for each different Land Manager within my project.

I am aware that by typing my name in the box below, I am applying my signature to this online document.

Signature:

Dale Livingston

Organization / Agency:

**Friends of Morris
Wetland Management
District**

Title:

President

Date:

2010-08-31

| Proj ID | Organization Name | Project Name | Habitat | Technical Review Committee Scoring Comments | Amount Request | Score | Regional Comments | Meets Region Plan? | Rank | Region | Division Director's Comments |
|---------|---|--------------------------------|---------|--|----------------|-------|-------------------|--------------------|------|--------|--|
| 18 | Friends of Morris Wetland Management District | Stadsvold Easement Enhancement | Prairie | Is a WLI area. Pretty good match \$. Grazing--seems plan should be in place first, would be nice to know more about this. Only 50 acres mapped native prairie, but still very significant area, lots good landscape context. Easement has few limits, but landowners seem to have good mgmt intentions. What if landowner changes? Concerns about long-term. Tree removal primary process--very good--rest is additional bonus. Nice job giving additional context of impact to local area. Long-term maintenance--will grazing keep trees out again? Would like to see landowner agreement for EQIP, etc., other solid assurance that it won't be intensely grazed. Tree removal is always an ongoing thing, at least to get them down to a low profile, USFWS to continue monitoring, etc. | \$71,750 | 126 | | | | | What is a habitat easement? No public access. Is WLI area. Agree with previous grazing concerns- we should have a grazing plan in effect before funding these types in the future- what's the protection in place? |

Final Ranking Comments, Tech Review Committee

Admin costs for all RIM--is it actual or percent? Seems high compared to others. Partially fund admin costs? (Staff had confirmed these costs with applicants and this is their request.)

1st cut: anything below 99 is gone

2nd cut: Anything below 115 gone. That's 60% score--tough to fund things getting less than 50% of the total points.

3rd cut: Anything below 120 is gone. Not totally sold on the Renville - Frank and MPCS prairie shrubland apps.

4th cut: Moved Friends of Miss River up to being funded

5th cut: If dipping lower than recommended projects, look at MPCS--is small club; and Hennepin Co--environment education focus. Pretty even applications when considering outcomes, MPCS scores higher due to criteria.

Expansion of local native seed shouldn't be funded at all.

Bottom three no funding for sure.

Friends of
Morris_104_Stadsvold
Easement

| | 1)Amount of Habitat | 2)Local Support | 3)Degree of Collaboration | 4)Urgency | 5)Multiple Benefits | 6)Habitat Benefits | 7)Sound Conservation Science | 8)Adjacent to Protected Lands | 9)Full Funding of Project | 10)Supplants Existing Funding | 11)Public Access for Hunting and Fishing | 12)Sustainability | 13)Use of Native Plant Materials | 14)Budget and Cost Effectiveness | 15)Capacity to Successfully Complete Work |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| | 9 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 10 |
| | 6 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 9 |
| | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 5 |
| | 7 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 8 |
| | 5 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 7 |
| | 9 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| AVERAGES | 7.00 | 5.83 | 6.50 | 4.33 | 6.00 | 7.00 | 7.50 | 8.17 | 7.83 | 6.67 | 2.00 | 4.83 | 6.33 | 6.67 | 7.83 |
| TOTAL SCORE | 126.33 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| 16)Supports Existing Landscape Level Plans | 17)Supports Species Plans | 18)Conforms to Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan | 19)Conforms to State Wildlife Action Plan |
|---|----------------------------------|--|--|
| 10 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| 5 | 7 | 8 | 8 |
| 8 | 7 | 8 | 7 |
| 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| 7.83 | 7.83 | 8.17 | 8.00 |
