

# 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

## Project Summary

### Project Name and Contact

Project Name:	<b>Horseshoe Lake Restoration</b>	Project Manager:	<b>Scott W. Roemhildt</b>
Organization Name:	<b>Pheasants Forever Inc</b>	Title:	<b>Regional Representative</b>
Organization Type:	<b>Non-Profit</b>	Phone:	<b>507-327-9785</b>
Mailing Address 1:	<b>1783 Buerkle Circle</b>	Email:	<b>sroemhildt@pheasantsforever.org</b>
Mailing Address 2:			
City:	<b>St. Paul</b>		
State:	<b>MN</b>		
Zip Code:	<b>55110</b>		

### Project Location Summary

Primary County:	<b>Le Sueur</b>	Secondary Land Ownerships:	
Nearest City:	<b>Waterville</b>		
Project Site Name:	<b>Horseshoe Lake AMA</b>		
Primary Land Ownership:	<b>State</b>		

### Project Activity Summary

Primary Activity:	<b>Restoration</b>	Primary Habitat Type:	<b>Prairie</b>
Additional Activities:		Additional Habitats:	<b>Wetland</b>
Total Project Sites:	<b>1</b>		
Total Project Acres:	<b>50</b>		

### Project Funding Summary

Total Grant Amount	<b>\$23,220</b>
Requested:	
Total Match Amount	<b>\$2,580</b>
Pledged:	
Additional Funding:	
Total Project Cost:	<b>\$25,800</b>
Estimated Project Completion Date:	<b>2011-11-30</b>

## Summary

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

## Problem Statement

The George and Margaret Weaver Tract of the Horseshoe Lake State Aquatic Management Area protects almost one mile of the shoreline of Horseshoe Lake. When added to the existing Horseshoe Lake AMA, a total of two miles of lakeshore, more than 40% of the total shoreline, will be preserved in a natural state, along with 170 acres of adjacent upland habitat. This 90-acre property includes a 50-acre row-crop field. In order to realize all potential wildlife habitat and aquatic habitat benefits, the field must be converted to native vegetative cover. As part of the AMA

purchase agreement, the landowner retained cropping rights in 2009 and 2010. Prairie establishment will occur in 2011, following removal of the 2010 soybean crop.

## Project Objectives

This project will restore prairie vegetation on 50 acres of row-crop field located on the Horseshoe Lake State Aquatic Management Area, George and Margaret Weaver Tract. This AMA now protects more than forty percent of the shoreline of Horseshoe Lake, a 393-acre lake located in Le Sueur and Rice Counties, along with 170 acres of adjacent upland habitat. Prairie restoration on this lake-adjacent field will benefit many species of upland wildlife. It will also provide critical infiltration function which will result in direct, significant benefit to the aquatic habitat of Horseshoe Lake.

## Methods

Prairie restoration will consist of a) Site preparation – Field-adjacent areas of non-native vegetation will be mowed and then sprayed three times with Rodeo at two-week intervals in the spring of 2011. b) Seed application - After site preparation is completed, a local ecotype native forb and grass seed mix that is consistent with BWSR Native Buffer guidelines will be broadcast on the site at recommended rates. The site will be compacted before and after seed application to maximize seed/soil contact. c) Maintenance mowing - The site will be mowed to an eight-inch height four times during the first (2011) growing season and up to twice the second (2012) growing season, depending on weather conditions, to eliminate seed deposition by annual weeds and to allow enough light penetration for native plants. Timing of the described restoration steps can vary somewhat, depending on weather conditions and restoration vendor preference. The work will be done by a prairie restoration vendor with a proven track record, for example Tom Bauman.

## Project Timeline

Time Frame	Goal
Spring 2011	Mow non-native vegetation
Spring 2011	Spray non-native vegetation 3x with glysophate at 2-week intervals
June 2011	Pack soil and drill in native seed mix
Summer 2011	Mow new seeding 3x to eliminate seed deposition by annual weeds
Fall 2011	Mow 1x to eliminate seed deposition by annual weeds
Spring 2012	Mow 2x to eliminate see deposition by annual weeds

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
Mowing of new seeding	Contract vendor	CLP grant/local dollars
Prescribed burning	DNR	DNR

# 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

## Project Information

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 project is supported by the LeSueur Co Chapter of Pheasants Forever and MN Pheasants Forever.

**2. Describe the degree of collaboration for this project.**

DNR Fisheries could not complete this project without the assistance and participation of Pheasants Forever. They have a proven track record of success on previous projects.

**3. Describe any urgency associated with this project.**

The area described has been seeded into soybeans for the 2010 crop year. If the area is not put into native seedings in 2011, the prep work will be lost and considerable additional cost will be involved with preparing the seed bed at some point in the future. Water quality is also a concern and should not be delayed.

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

Upland game species, songbirds, turkeys, deer and a variety of reptiles will benefit. Water quality in Horseshoe Lake will also improve through this restoration.

**5. Discuss the habitat benefits resulting from your project.**

A 50-acre row crop field that presently has very little habitat value, will be converted to native prairie, creating greatly improved nesting cover and brood cover for multiple species.

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

The project will restore the parcel to its original plant community. Work with the DNR will guarantee that proper plant selection and diversity are used. Techniques used to establish the planting will be consistent with current best-practices.

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

When added to the existing Horseshoe Lake AMA, a total of two miles of lakeshore, more than 40% of the total shoreline, will be preserved in a natural state, along with 170 acres of adjacent upland habitat.

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

CPL grant funding and local funding are sufficient to complete this project. The LeSueur Co Pheasants Forever chapter will provide local funding.

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

The CPL grant funds will supplement existing funding. The LeSueur Co Pheasants Forever chapter regularly contributes to worthy habitat projects. Grant funding will allow those local dollars to go further and positively impact more acres of habitat.

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

As an Aquatic Management Area, the parcel is open and available to the public, year round. It is open to hunting and gets most of its use during the hunting seasons.

**11. Describe the sustainability of your project.**

Utilizing the current best-practices of establishing native plantings, this parcel will yield high quality native prairie. Intense short-term maintenance through mowing and periodic prescribed burning in the years following will allow the piece to provide

excellent habitat well into the future.

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

All species used will be native to this region of Minnesota and appropriate to the historic plant community. Seeds will be purchased from a local seed producer with a preference for local genotype.

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

By using local and proven vendors, we will save a considerable sum of money. 1. Travel time will be minimal and this makes a dramatic impact as the vendor will be required to be at the site for up to 10 different steps. 2. Prairie seeding is an art and a science. We will use a vendor with a proven track record. If an inexperienced vendor is used, there is a high probability that the seeding will fail, wasting resources.

**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.**

Pheasants Forever has considerable experience with grants, including those from CPL, LSOHC, LCCMR and NAWCA to name a few. Since 1984, Minnesota PF has spent more than \$77 million on habitat and conservation education, impacting more than 260,000 acres of habitat.

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

This project is being developed using all facets of the MN DNR "Natural Area Development Plan". Of particular note is section "E." of the plan, "Analysis". This land was originally acquired because of the very unique opportunity to protect and preserve nearly a mile of shoreline of Horseshoe Lake, a sensitive water in a intensive agriculture area. It also provides public access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. In coordination with sections "G" and "H", a plan has been carefully thought out that is very aware of the existing landscapes, historical perspective and, of course, costs associated with development and ongoing management.

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

The MN DNR Action Plan for Pheasants call for improvement of grassland habitat on DNR lands to increase reproductive success, and to provide increased opportunities for public hunting.

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

Conservation Plan Recommendation 3: Improve access to outdoor recreation. Project provides public hunting land in an area sensitive to both intensive farming and significant residential development pressures due to the proximity to the Twin Cities. Conservation Plan Recommendation 5: Restore Land. Project will restore prairie, a habitat type that is significantly rarer than it was pre-settlement.

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

According to SWAP, prairies are amongst the most altered habitats in Minnesota and contain more SGCN than any other habitat identified in the Plan. This proposal courages restoration of prairie to provide habitat for 33 species of greatest conservation need.

# 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

## Site Information

\*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:

**Hugh Valiant**

Phone:

**507-362-4223**

Organization:

**MN DNR**

Email:

**[hugh.valiant@state.mn.us](mailto:hugh.valiant@state.mn.us)**

Title:

**Area Supervisor -  
Fisheries**

### Site Information

Land Ownership:

**State**

Acres:

**50**

Site Name(s):

**Horseshoe Lake AMA**

Click here to [View Site Map](#)

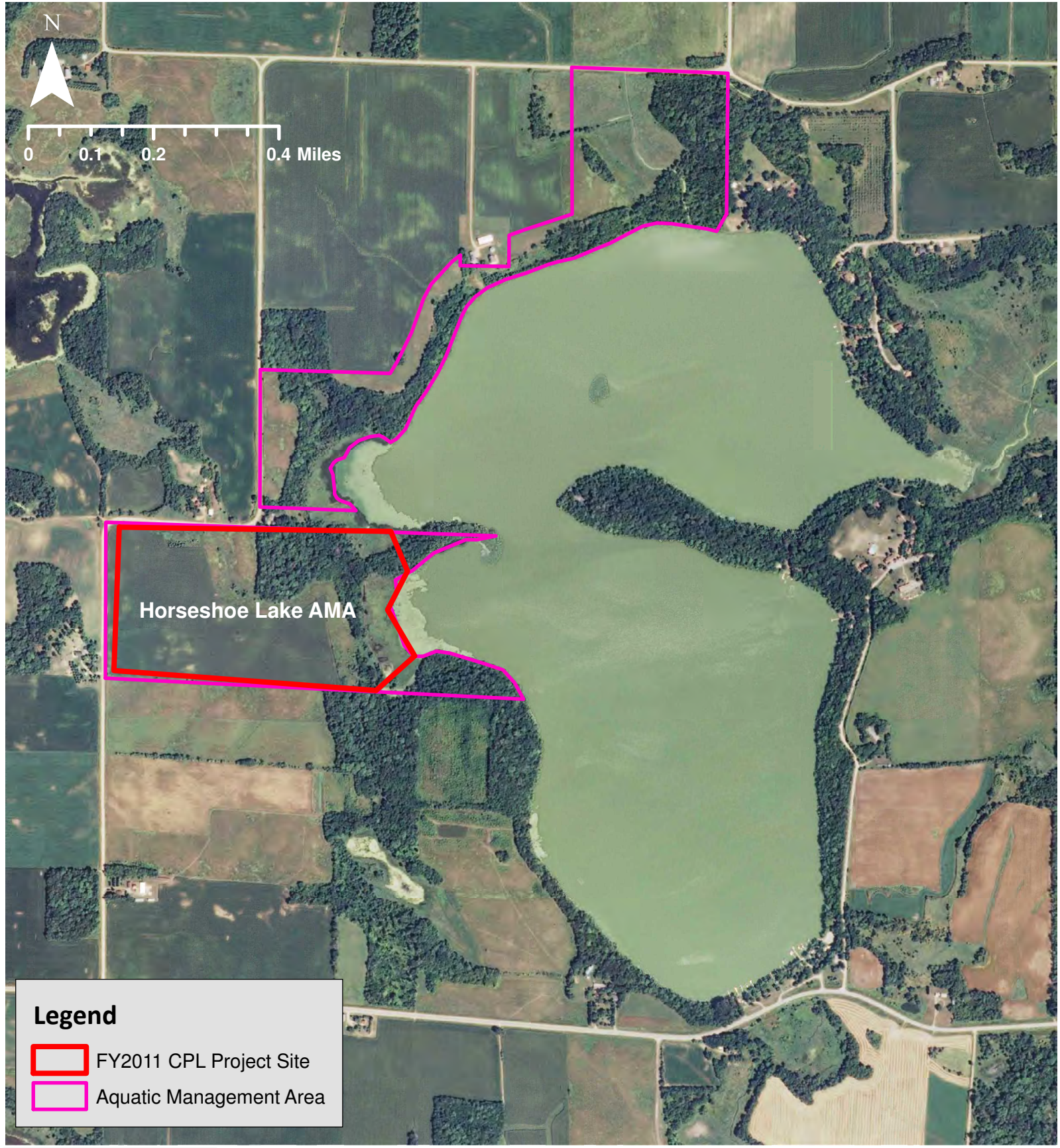
Activity:

**Restoration**

Habitat:

**Prairie**

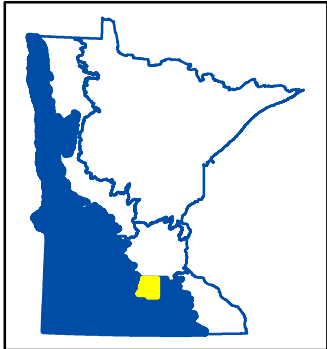




**Legend**

 FY2011 CPL Project Site

 Aquatic Management Area



**CPL FY11-032**

**Horseshoe Lake Restoration**

**Pheasants Forever Inc.**

**LeSueur County,**

**LSOHC Prairie Planning Section**



# 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

## Budget Information

### Organization's Fiscal Contact Information

Name:	James Koerber	Street Address 1:	1783 Buerkle Circle
Title:	Chief Financial Officer	Street Address 2:	
Email:	jkoerber@pheasantsforever.org	City:	St. Paul
Phone:	651-209-4913	State:	MN
		Zip Code:	55110

### Budget Subtotals

Budget Item	Grant	Match	Total		
Personnel					
Contracts	\$23,220	\$2,580	\$25,800		
Fee Acquisition with PILT					
Fee Acquisition without PILT					
Easement Acquisition					
Easement Stewardship				In-kind Total	Cash Total
Travel (in-state)				\$0	\$2,632
Professional Services					
DNR Land Acquisition Cost					
Equipment/Tools/Supplies					
Additional Budget Items	\$464	\$52	\$516		
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$23,684</b>	<b>\$2,632</b>	<b>\$26,316</b>		

### Details

#### Contracts

Contractor Name	Contracted Work	Amount	Grant/Match	In-kind/Cash
LeSueur River Seeding	3x glyphosate application	\$2,025	Grant	
LeSueur River Seeding	6x mowing of new seeding	\$4,860	Grant	
LeSueur River Seeding	Seeding of 50 acres	\$1,575	Grant	
LeSueur River Seeding	Local ecotype seed	\$14,760	Grant	
LeSueur River Seeding	3x glyphosate application	\$225	Match	Cash
LeSueur River Seeding	6x mowing of new seeding	\$540	Match	Cash
LeSueur River Seeding	Seeding of 50 acres	\$175	Match	Cash
LeSueur River Seeding	Local ecotype seed	\$1,640	Match	Cash
Totals	Grant: \$23,220 Match: \$2,580	Total: \$25,800		

#### Additional Budget Items

Item	Description	Amount	Grant/Match	In-kind/Cash
Administration/ecological fee	Requirement of grant	\$464	Grant	

Administration/ecological fee	Requirement of grant	\$52	Match	Cash
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Totals	Grant: \$464	Match: \$52	Total: \$516
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# 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

## 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](#)

[Uploaded Form 2](#)

[Uploaded Form 3](#)

## CPL Project Review and Approval Form

### REVIEWER INFORMATION:

Land manager/ easement holder name:

Agency:

Title:

Phone:

Email:

### PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project Name:

Contact Person:

Organization:

Email:

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 27<sup>th</sup> 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
<b>Totals</b>					

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
<b>Total</b>			

### 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: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

☒ 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: This is an excellent project. Specifically, the restoration of prairie on land adjacent to Horseshoe Lake will benefit both upland and aquatic habitats.

Date: September 7, 2010\_\_\_\_\_

To: Whomever it Concerns

From: Mike Halverson

DNR Fish and Wildlife Land Acquisition Coordinator



Subject: Horseshoe Lake AMA, Le Sueur County\_\_\_\_\_

☐ As we discussed

☒ For your information

☐ For your signature

☐ other: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments from Mike Halverson: Attached is a map of a Heritage Review search done for the area surrounding Horseshoe Lake in Le Sueur County. The closest features are located more than a mile away to the South and East - in the vicinity of Sakatah Lakes. All located heritage features are associated with forest communities and forest plant species.

This does not mean that rare and endangered plant species are not found on and adjacent to this parcel. It just means that rare and endangered plant species have not been identified. The most likely locations for rare and endangered plant species occurrence near this parcel are in the wet areas adjacent to Horseshoe Lake.

# 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

## 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.**

Founded in Minnesota in 1982, the mission of Pheasants Forever (PF) focuses on protection and enhancement of pheasant and other wildlife habitat through habitat improvement, management, education and legislation. PF's 75 MN chapters have completed thousands of habitat projects affecting more than 242,000 acres of wildlife habitat in the state. Organization documents will be sent via email due to size limits.

## 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](mailto:LSCPLGrants.DNR@state.mn.us)

**Uploaded Document 1**





Sept. 4, 2010

To whom it may concern:

This letter provides our commitment and support for the restoration of the George and Margaret Weaver tract of the Horseshoe Lake State Aquatic Management Area. This is an extremely important project, as the restoration will:

- a) Help restore prairie to an area that has very little.
- b) Protect an environmentally sensitive area that otherwise would be subject to intensive agriculture or residential development.
- c) Provide public access for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities.
- d) Improve water quality by protecting nearly a mile of shoreline on Horseshoe Lake.

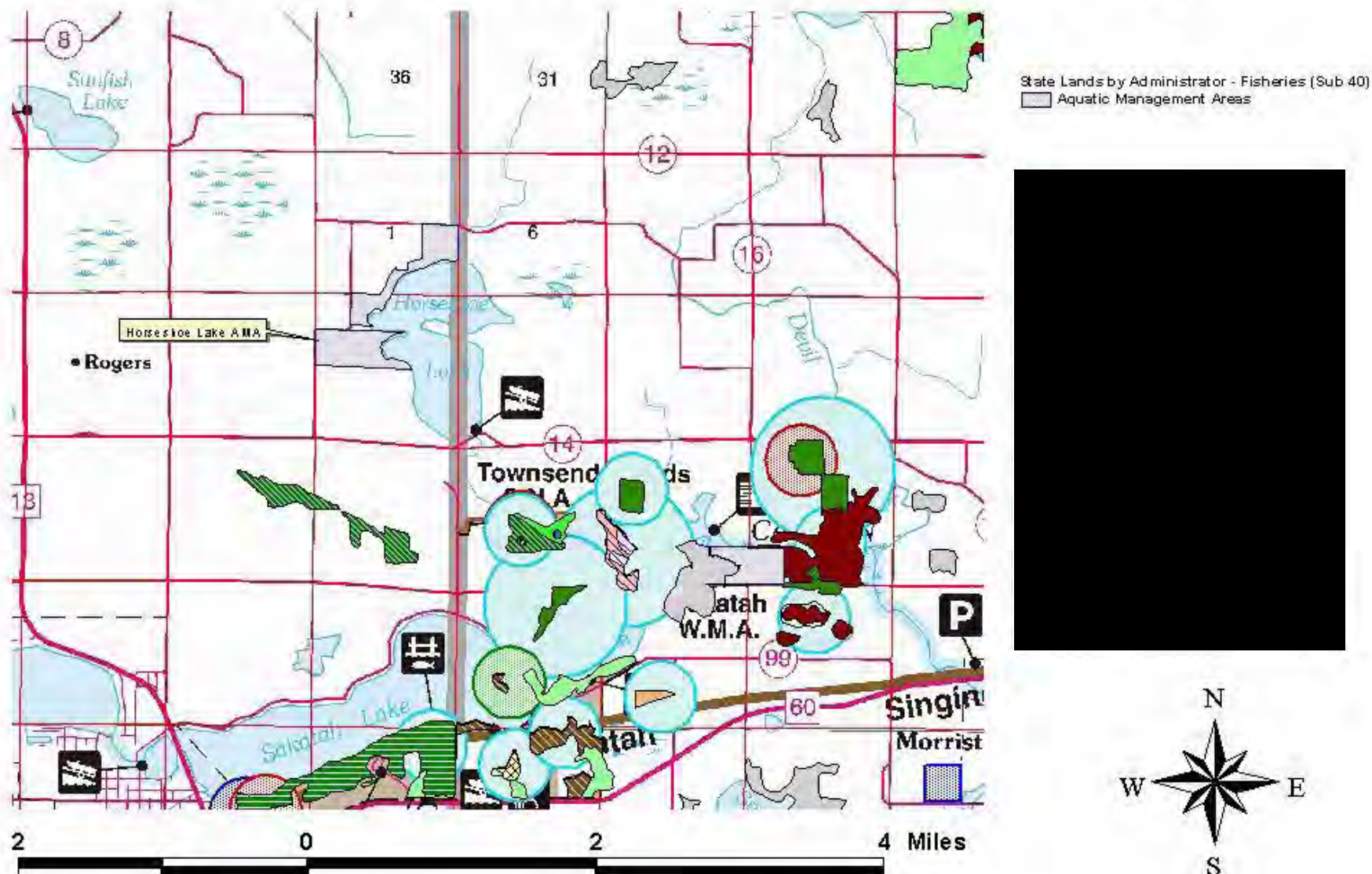
We will contribute local match dollars in the amount of \$2,580 to the project. We look forward to receiving Conservation Partners Legacy assistance, so that this vital project may move ahead.

Sincerely,

*Executive Board and Officers  
LeSueur County Chapter of Pheasants Forever*

# Environmental Review Search

## Horseshoe Lake, LeSueur County



# 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:

**Scott Roemhildt**

Organization / Agency:

**Pheasants Forever, Inc.**

Title:

**Regional Field  
Representative**

Date:

**2010-09-16**

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
32	Pheasants Forever Inc	Horseshoe Lake Restoration	Prairie	What are total acres in row crop, and restored to wetland/prairie? Details a little fuzzy. Would like to see better info on seed source in all apps, if possible.	\$23,220	122	States that DNR is not able to do this themselves???	Y	M	4	All agree with this one being funded, good project.

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.

PF\_32\_Horseshoe  
Lake Restoration.

	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
	5.00	5.00	6.00	6.00	7.00	8.00	8.00	6.00	7.00	6.00	10.00	7.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
	7.00	4.00	4.00	5.00	6.00	6.00	2.00	4.00	5.00	7.00	10.00	6.00	1.00	6.00	6.00
	4.00	4.00	5.00	3.00	5.00	6.00	7.00	6.00	7.00	8.00	10.00	7.00	8.00	7.00	8.00
	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	2.00	8.00	7.00	9.00	6.00	5.00	8.00	7.00
	3.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	7.00	8.00	9.00	3.00	8.00	8.00	10.00	7.00	8.00	7.00	9.00
AVERAGES	4.80	4.60	5.00	4.80	6.40	7.00	6.60	4.20	7.00	7.20	9.80	6.60	6.00	7.20	7.60
TOTAL SCORE	122.20														

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
7.00	7.00	7.00	8.00
6.00	6.00	6.00	5.00
7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
7.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
9.00	8.00	9.00	9.00
7.20	6.60	6.80	6.80