

# Conservation Partners Legacy Grants - Online Applications

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## Project Summary

### Project Name and Contact

Project Name:	<b>Root River Floodplain RIM</b>	Project Manager:	<b>Skip Langer</b>
Organization Name:	<b>Olmsted SWCD</b>	Title:	<b>District Technician</b>
Organization Type:	<b>Government</b>	Phone:	<b>507-280-2850</b>
Mailing Address 1:	<b>1485 Industrial Dr NW</b>	Email:	<b>skip.langer@mn.nacdn.net</b>
Mailing Address 2:			
City:	<b>Rochester</b>		
State:	<b>MN</b>		
Zip Code:	<b>55901</b>		

### Project Location Summary

Primary County:	<b>Olmsted</b>	Secondary Land
Nearest City:	<b>Chatfield</b>	Ownerships:
Project Site Name:	<b>Matt Hanson Floodplain RIM</b>	
Primary Land Ownership:	<b>Private</b>	

### Project Activity Summary

Primary Activity:	<b>Acquisition</b>	Primary Habitat Type:	<b>Fish, Game or Wildlife</b>
Additional Activities:	<b>Restoration</b>		<b>Habitat</b>
Total Project Sites:	<b>1</b>	Additional Habitats:	<b>Prairie and Wetland</b>
Total Project Acres:	<b>104</b>		

### Project Funding Summary

Total Grant Amount	<b>\$220,885</b>
Requested:	
Total Match Amount	<b>\$36,282</b>
Pledged:	
Additional Funding:	
Total Project Cost:	<b>\$257,167</b>
Estimated Project	<b>2014-06-30</b>
Completion Date:	

## Summary

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.

**Problem Statement**

The farm is subject to regular flooding events that have eroded river banks, created scars across the landscape from scour erosion and deposited and eroded tons of soil onto and off of the site. The farming history shows a pattern of cropping, haying and grazing that have been disrupted by these flooding events. The floodplain has been identified on FEMA's FIRM's mapping as an area of special flood hazard and aerial photos show the evidence of a long history of damaging flooding creating permanent scour sites in the fields. Southeast Minnesota has lost most of its grassland habitats that once covered the rolling hilltops and broad valleys. This project will return 173 of those acres allowing the river to once again scour shallow riparian wetlands for amphibians and shorebirds.

**Project Objectives**

This project will benefit the area in many regards. The RIM easement will provide permanent protection of the eroded floodplain from future flooding events. By reducing erosion, there will be a significant reduction of sediment delivery to the river. This will help reduce pollutant delivery that often binds with soil and creates hyper-eutrication in backwaters of the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico. The mix of cool season grasses and warm season grasses will provide benefits for wildlife species such as whitetail deer, turkey and pheasant as well as habitat for smaller species of wildlife that provide food for the growing Bald Eagle population through the Root River valley. Permanent grass cover will also benefit the songbird population in the valley by creating nesting habitat, drawing in insects as a food source and providing escape cover for many of the species already listed. The permanent grass cover will reduce erosion and minimize sedimentation to the Root River protecting valuable fish species like small mouth bass and brown trout. It will be a compliment to the DNR fisheries warm water fishing easement already in place in the southern portion of the site and another currently in the works in the northwest portion of the site. The Natural Heritage database lists the Black Red Horse, (*Moxostoma duquesnei*) as being located within the area. This project will also provide benefit to this species through fisheries bank stabilization projects and the reduction of soil sedimentation by establishing the permanent grass cover. The haying and grazing option gives that landowner access to the cover to be utilized in his beef cow operation and a means to manage to cover that will help control weeds, woody invasives and keep the fields free of debris that may be deposited during flooding events, creating additional scour erosion.

**Methods**

The project will provide permanent protection to 175 acres of eroded floodplain on the Root River by planting the site to a mix of warm season prairie grass and cool season pasture. A managed haying and grazing plan will be developed by the NRCS grazing specialist to define when and which areas can be utilized for forage in any given year. The rotation between cool and warm season cover types allows each cover type to thrive and provides weed control that would typically be achieved through mechanical means such as mowing. The seed mixes in each cover type will be agreed on by the SWCD, TNC, NRCS and the DNR. The cool season cover will be planted by the landowner who will provide the labor and equipment to establish the seeding. The cool season grasses will be planted in the main floodplain acres where they will establish quickly to provide the protection needed during flood events. There will be no haying or grazing allowed during establishment. The landowner will mow or chemically treat as necessary to control broadleaf weeds. The warm season prairie acres will be planted to a diverse selection (15 species or more) of native species from an approved vendor. The mix will be approved by the SWCD staff. The planting will be installed by a private vendor utilizing no-till drill equipment that will minimize soil disturbance. The landowner will provide all site seeding preparation including mechanical or chemical seedbed preparation, planting and subsequent mowing required during establishment to control weeds and other invasive species. Due to flooding potential, the end date for the grant completion has been extended to June 30, 2014 in case the project is delayed due to a wet spring. The intention is to utilize the project timeline to the best of our ability but to make sound judgment based on weather forecasts and good soil planting conditions.

**Project Timeline**

Time Frame	Goal
February 2011	Close on RIM Easement
Sept. 2011	fall herbicide application

April-May 2012	seedbed prep, cool season grasses planted
May15-June15, 2012	sed bed prep, warm season grasses planted
summer 2012	broadleaf herbicide application or mowing of cool season grasses to contro weeds
summer 2012	mowing of warm season grasses for weed control
spring 2013	1x mowing warm season grasses-weed control
summer 2013	monitoring of plantings by SWCD, continued mowings if necessary
spring 2014	prescribed burn of warm season grasses
After grant period	status reviews by SWCD, maintenance as prescribed by SWCD staff

For all lands acquired in fee title or permanent conservation easement, provide a description of the selection process used to identify parcels to be acquired.

**In August of 2010, Rich Biske of TNC and Matt Hanson had talked about a protective floodplain easement for his site on the Root River and how TNC might play a role in the process. The Olmsted SWCD was contacted by TNC and the discussion of a CPL grant application arose, as there was no funding from BWSR at this time. Through discussions with the landowner, TNC, DNR, OSWCD, and BWSR, the CPL grant seemed to be a good fit for the proposed floodplain restoration project.**

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
<b>Write RIM application/work through easement process</b>	<b>Olmsted SWCD</b>	<b>TNC &amp; Olmsted SWCD funds</b>
<b>Planting warm season grasses</b>	<b>Landowner</b>	<b>Landowner &amp; CPL grant</b>
<b>Manage prairie establishment (mowing)</b>	<b>Landowner</b>	<b>Landowner in-kind</b>
<b>Prescribed burning (long term)</b>	<b>Landowner</b>	<b>Landowner in-kind</b>
<b>Haying and/or grazing site (according to approved plan)</b>	<b>Landowner</b>	<b>Landowner in-kind</b>
<b>RIM status reviews (long term)</b>	<b>Olmsted SWCD to BWSR</b>	<b>Olmsted SWCD/BWSR</b>

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## 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 has support from the Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District who will provide technical support to the landowner and the project as well as help develop and monitor the ReInvest in Minnesota easement between the landowner and State of Minnesota. The Nature Conservancy supports the project by providing cash and technical assistance as needed to ensure that the easement conditions are met. TNC will also be a liaison between agencies to create a unified understanding and support for the project. The project meets the objective of the BALMM (Basin Alliance of the Lower Mississippi in Minnesota) and Olmsted County's water plan by controlling erosion, reducing sediment delivery to local waters and creating wildlife habitat. There has been no opposition voiced to the project. The landowner has talked to neighbors who are interested in birding and supportive to permanent easement and habitat creation concepts.

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

The landowner, The Nature Conservancy and Olmsted SWCD have been discussing protection and restoration options for the site over the past year. TNC and Olmsted SWCD have been working on a protection and restoration plan that would not only work for this site, but also serve as a model for floodplain habitat protection, restoration and maintenance for Southeast MN. The MN DNR fisheries has been working with the landowner on a warmwater fisheries easement for 4 years. They have a 66' easement along the southern portion of the river for public fishing access. Streambank restoration work has been completed in this area. They are also currently working on a 100' warm water fishing easement on the remaining stream length along the northwest portion of the site. This fishing easement creates over 30 acres of public fishing access and shows the landowners willingness to do conservation work.

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

The urgency comes from the fact that the floodplain is subject to consistent annual flooding events that continue to deliver sediment and pollutants to a priority watershed and riverine system, the Root River. If the landowner does not find a means to receive funding for the protection of the site, he will likely sell the fee title. If this does occur, there is a strong likelihood that this site will be cropped.

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

The benefits will be many from the project, warm season prairie will create nesting habitat for pheasants, meadow songbirds, and turkeys. The whitetail deer will use the area for bedding down, cover and forage. The diverse forb component will help attract useful insects that will keep pheasant broods through the season. The warm seasons also provide tremendous winter cover for birds. The cool season grass areas will also provide quick cover for species in the spring and additional forage for wildlife. Areas along the river can be accessed by turtles for nesting as well as creating additional habitat for the species previously listed. Protection of vulnerable soils will also improve water quality in the Root River through reduction of sediment delivery and increased bank stability. This will directly benefit all aquatic species.

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

The project will create and protect 173 acres of diverse habitat area along an important river system in southeast Minnesota. This habitat will provide benefit for a wide multitude of game and nongame species, including many considered species of greatest conservation need.

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

The planned conservation practices for this project have been implemented on thousands of acres of Conservation Reserve program (CRP), ReInvest in Minnesota (RIM), Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) and State wildlife management areas (WMA's) throughout Southeast Minnesota. These programs create, improve and restore habitat for all of Minnesota's wildlife.

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

The project is adjacent to a DNR warmwater fisheries easement consisting of approximately 31 acres along the Root River through the proposed project site. The USDA's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) also has several fields downstream of this project enrolled in 10-15 year set aside contracts. All of the lands are in private ownership but the fishing easement provides public access to the Root River for angling.

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

The project's completion is reliant on funding through this grant. In addition, The Nature Conservancy has agreed to provide cash match to fully fund the project and meet the in-kind requirements of the grant. The landowner has also agreed to make a significant in-kind commitment to help see the project come to fruition.

**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 funds will only be used for the Matt Hanson Floodplain RIM project. The Olmsted SWCD operates with funding primarily through Olmsted County and the Board of Water and Soil Resources appropriations. There is no existing funding for a project like this.

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

The RIM program does not require public access for hunting and other recreational purposes. Hunters interested in using the easement acreages must attain permission from the landowner for ingress to hunt the property. The site could be hunted during any legal hunting season that is open through the year. The DNR warm water fisheries easement does allow public access for angling all along both sides of the Root River within the acquired easement boundaries.

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

Due to the permanent nature of the RIM easement and the language that governs the RIM, the project site will be protected into perpetuity as wildlife habitat. The RIM easement will require the Olmsted SWCD to provide regular status reviews to look at the easement site and ensure that the conservation plan is being followed and the practices prescribed are being maintained. The grass planting will be maintained the same way prairies were sustained historically, with large ungulates and periodic fire.

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

The proposal has been revised to include 60 acres of cropland that will be restored to warm and cool season native prairie grasses to provide improved ecological diversity across the floodplain landscape. The cover is intended to attract and provide habitat for a more diverse population of wildlife species, protect the vulnerable floodplain soils from erosion due to flooding and provide a native vegetated species component that can be managed through creation of a haying and grazing management plan developed by the NRCS State Grazing Specialist working out of southeast Minnesota. The native mix is yet to be determined but will include species such as Big Bluestem, Switchgrass, Canada Wildrye, Kalm's Brome, Native Timothy, Indian grass and possibly some additional forbs and legumes. The mix will be in accordance with the CPL grant requirements and meet the purposes intended in the grant application. A final seed mix will be provided for review when it is created.

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

The original Se Mn RIM Flood program was paying over \$4000 per acre for easements in the Root River watershed with a 70% reduction for haying and grazing provision. The

landowner is willing to accept \$2000 per acre for the same type of permanent RIM easement providing a significant reduction in payment and cost savings to the state while delivering the same benefit to the public and environment. The project also leverages privately sourced funds from the landowner and The Nature Conservancy.

**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.**

The Olmsted SWCD administers all RIM contracts within Olmsted County and has successfully guided the implementation of hundreds of acres of wildlife projects similar to this one. The SWCD staff also does the status reviews and provides written corrective actions to the landowners as required. The Olmsted SWCD recently was part of a LCCMR grant proposal for a LiDar study that has been tentively approved for funding in 2011. The grant was written by the Zumbro Watershed Partnership in cooperation with the SWCD and MN Department of Agriculture.

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

The project meets the objective of the BALMM (Basin Alliance of the Lower Mississippi in Minnesota) and Olmsted County's water plan by controlling erosion, reducing sediment delivery to local waters and creating wildlife habitat. Floodplain protection and restoration is also a priority objective in The Nature Conservancy's Root River Conservation Action Plan. The project is also consistent with the statewide and SE Forest Section of the LSOHC Plan by increasing the connectivity and size of critical fish and wildlife habitat for both game and non-game species, especially along river corridors and floodplains.

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

This project does not directly benefit single species plans within the area. However, it would benefit trout by providing watershed protection.

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

The project protects critical shoreline habitat along rivers and streams as described in the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan.

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

The project is located in the western portions of the Blufflands Ecological Subsection. The project meets goal I of the Subsection action plan by addressing habitat loss and degradation of species of greatest conservation need.

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## 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:

**Skip Langer**

Phone:

**507-280-2850**

Organization:

**Olmsted SWCD**

Email:

**skip.langer@mn.nacdnet.net**

Title:

**District technician**

### Site Information

Land Ownership:

**Private**

Acres:

**104**

Site Name(s):

**Matt Hanson floodplain  
RIM**

Click here to [View Site Map](#)

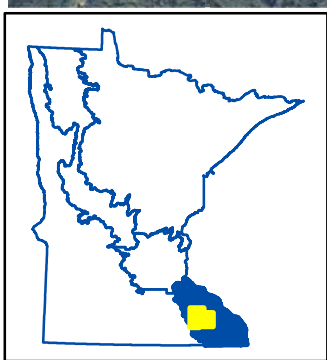
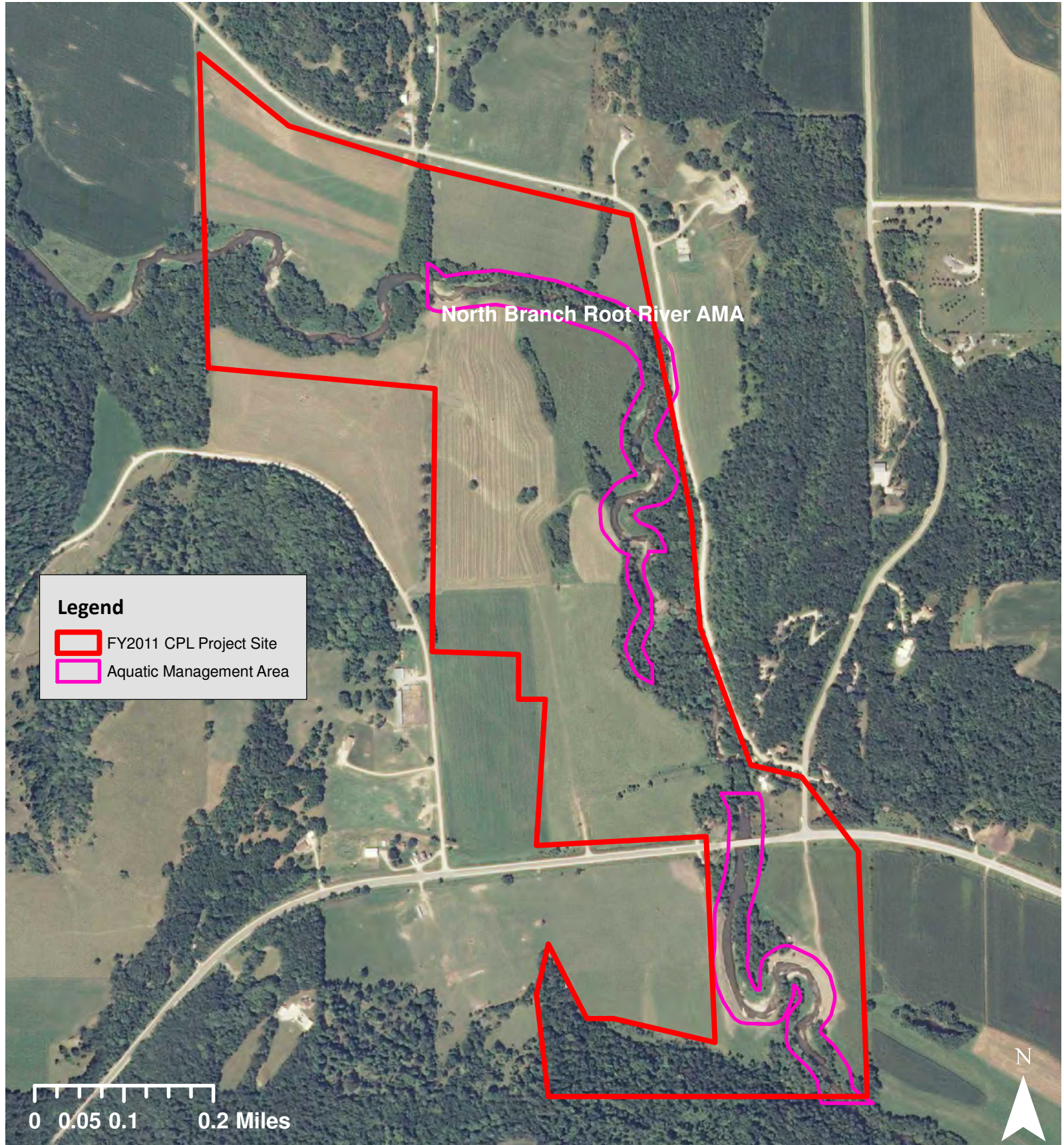
Activity:

**Restoration**

Habitat:

**Fish, Game or Wildlife  
Habitat**

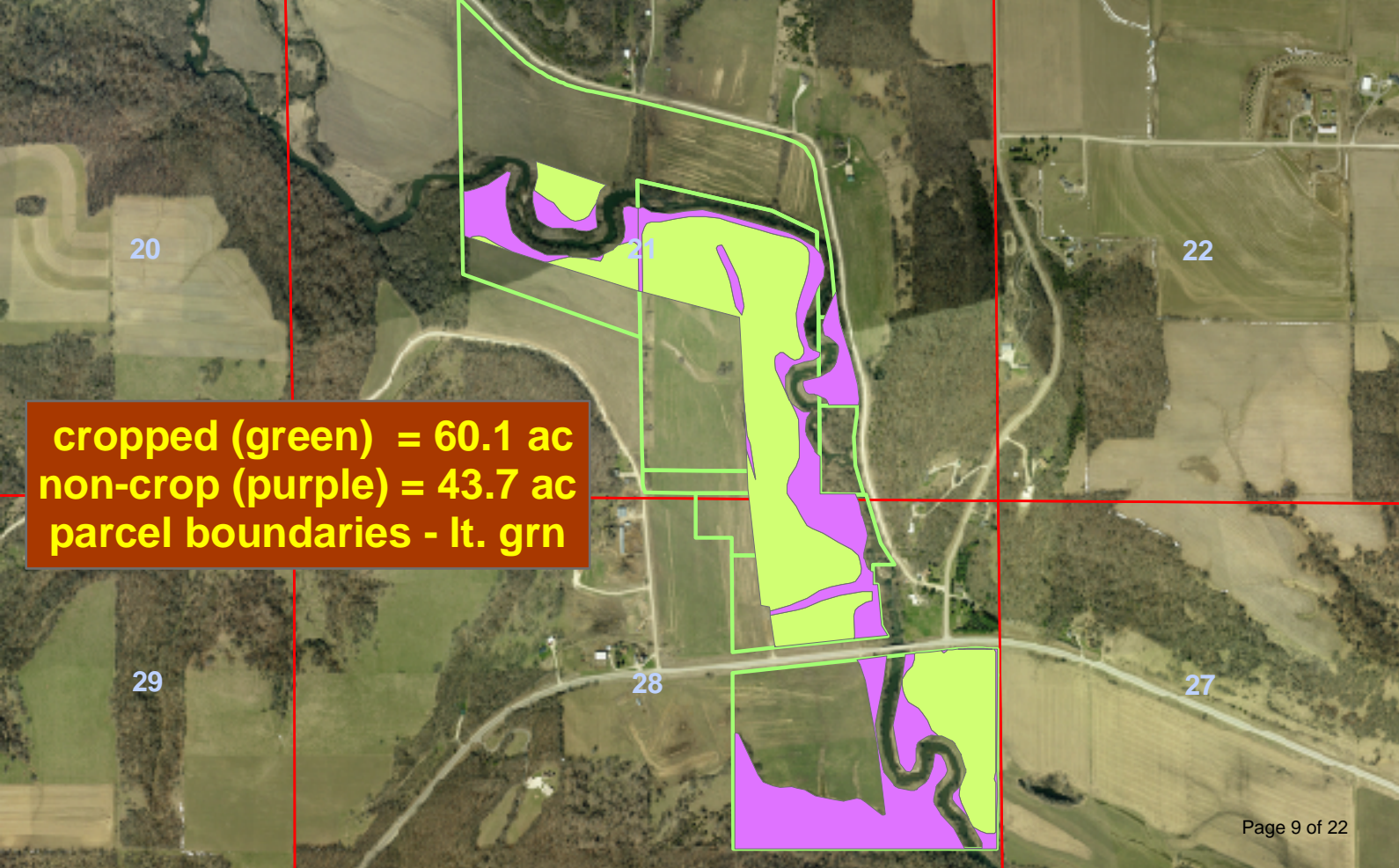




**CPL FY11-047**  
**Root River Floodplain RIM**  
**Olmsted SWCD**  
**Olmsted County**  
**LSOHC Southeast Forest Planning Section**







20

21

22

**cropped (green) = 60.1 ac**  
**non-crop (purple) = 43.7 ac**  
**parcel boundaries - lt. grn**

29

28

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## Budget Information

### Organization's Fiscal Contact Information

Name:	<b>Floyd Whitaker</b>	Street Address 1:	<b>1485 Industrial Dr NW</b>
Title:	<b>District Coordinator</b>	Street Address 2:	
Email:	<b>floyd.whitaker@mn.nacdn.net</b>	City:	<b>Rochester</b>
Phone:	<b>507-280-2850</b>	State:	<b>MN</b>
		Zip Code:	<b>55901</b>

### Budget Subtotals

Budget Item	Grant	Match	Total		
Personnel					
Contracts					
Fee Acquisition with PILT					
Fee Acquisition without PILT					
Easement Acquisition	<b>\$205,109</b>	<b>\$16,023</b>	<b>\$221,132</b>		
Easement Stewardship		<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	In-kind Total	Cash Total
Travel (in-state)				<b>\$5,259</b>	<b>\$31,023</b>
Professional Services					
DNR Land Acquisition Cost					
Equipment/Tools/Supplies	<b>\$15,776</b>	<b>\$10,259</b>	<b>\$26,035</b>		
Additional Budget Items					
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$220,885</b>	<b>\$36,282</b>	<b>\$257,167</b>		

### Details

#### Easement Acquisition

Parcel Name	Parcel Purchase Price	Amount	Grant/Match	In-kind/Cash
<b>Matt Hanson RIM easement</b>	<b>easement payment-cropland</b>	<b>\$120,200</b>	<b>Grant</b>	
<b>Matt Hanson RIM easement</b>	<b>easement payment-non-cropland</b>	<b>\$84,909</b>	<b>Grant</b>	
<b>Matt hanson RIM easement</b>	<b>RIM pymt reduction</b>	<b>\$16,023</b>	<b>Match</b>	<b>Cash</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>Grant: \$205,109 Match: \$16,023</b>	<b>Total: \$221,132</b>		

#### Easement Stewardship

Activity	Description	Amount	Grant/Match	In-kind/Cash
<b>Establishment/Defense</b>	<b>TNC Cash to BWSR</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>	<b>Match</b>	<b>Cash</b>
<b>Monitoring</b>	<b>TNC Cash to BWSR</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>Match</b>	<b>Cash</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>Grant: \$0 Match: \$10,000</b>	<b>Total: \$10,000</b>		

#### Equipment/Tools/Supplies

Item	Purpose	Amount	Grant/Match	In-kind/Cash
<b>site prep/planting/maintenance</b>	<b>establish perennial cover</b>	<b>\$15,776</b>	<b>Grant</b>	
<b>Native Seed landowner</b>	<b>TNC Cash for Native Seed time and equipment</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>Match</b>	<b>Cash</b>
		<b>\$5,259</b>	<b>Match</b>	<b>In-kind</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>Grant: \$15,776 Match: \$10,259</b>	<b>Total: \$26,035</b>		

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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](#)

[Uploaded Form 2](#)

## CPL Project Review and Approval Form

### REVIEWER INFORMATION:

Land manager/ easement holder name:	Bob Welsh
Agency:	DNR-Wildlife
Title:	Assistant Regional Wildlife Manager
Phone:	651-296-5201
Email:	bob.welsh@state.mn.us

### PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project Name:	Matt Hanson Floodplain RIM
Contact Person:	Skip Langer
Organization:	Olmsted SWCD
Email:	skip.langer@mn.nacdn.net

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:

11/8/1982 during stream surveys of the North Branch of the Root River at river mile  
The proposed project will not adversely impact this species but will likely improve water quality conditions in the Root River by decreasing sedimentation, pollutant loading and stabilizing cut streambanks along this riparian corridor.

- ☐ 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>			

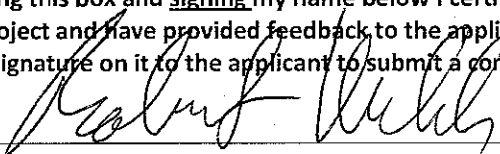
**Upon final review of this project:**

- ☒ 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:

9-27-2010

Comments:

## CPL Project Review and Approval Form

### REVIEWER INFORMATION:

Land manager/ easement holder name:	State of MN-RIM
Agency:	Tabor Hoek, BWSR
Title:	Private Lands Coordinator
Phone:	507-537-7260
Email:	tabor.hoek@state.mn.us

### PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project Name:	Hanson-Olmstead
Contact Person:	Skip Langer
Organization:	Olmstead SWCD
Email:	skip.langer@mn.nacdn.net

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](mailto:CPLStaff@LSCPLGrants.DNR.state.mn.us) at [LSCPLGrants.DNR@state.mn.us](mailto: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: Tabor Hoek	Phone: 507-537-7260
------------------	---------------------

- ☒ 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:



# Conservation Partners Legacy Grants - Online Applications

Jamie Gangaware

Admin

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 **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.

## 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](#)

[Uploaded Document 2](#)



Matt Hanson Floodplain RIM (revision)			11/30/2010
easement acquisition payment			
landuse	acres	pymt/ac	total pymt
cropland	60.1	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 120,200.00
noncrop	43.7	\$ 1,943.00	\$ 84,909.10
dnr easement (already paid)	31.5	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total floodplain easement</b>	<b>103.8</b>		<b>\$ 205,109.10</b>
<b>NOTE: dnr easement already exists along riparian corridor</b>			

cost share payment			
cover type	acres	pymt/ac	total cost share
100% warm season	60.1	\$ 350.00	\$ 21,035.00
Total planting cost	60.1		\$ 21,035.00
<b>TOTAL CPL cost share request</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>75% =</b>	<b>\$ 15,776.25</b>
<b>landowner 25%</b>		<b>25% =</b>	<b>\$ 5,258.75</b>

<b>Total acquisition &amp; cost share (CPL) =</b>	<b>\$ 220,885.35</b>
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RIM pymt calculation background info	
Olmsted Co 2009 RIM easement pymt =	\$ 3,238.00
Olmsted RIM w/grazing option (70% reduction) =	\$ 2,266.60

<b>Match funding sources (15% required by grant) =</b>			<b>\$ 33,132.80</b>		
Typical RIM pymt w/graze opt.	M. Hanson RIM pymt	Difference	acres	Inkind	Cash
\$ 2,266.60	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 266.60	60.1		\$ 16,022.66

<b>Labor by landowner 25%</b>				
labor/equipment/planting =				\$ 5,258.75

The Nature Conservancy					
swcd administration					\$ 2,000.00
bwsr adminstration					\$ 8,000.00
add'l TNC contribution					\$ 5,000.00

<b>TOTAL IN KIND =</b>	<b>\$ 5,258.75</b>	<b>\$ 31,022.66</b>
	2.3%	14.00%

September 15, 2010

Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District  
Attn. Skip Langer  
1485 Industrial Drive NW Rm 102  
Rochester, MN 55901-0750

Re: Matt Hanson Floodplain RIM CPL Proposal

Dear Mr. Langer:

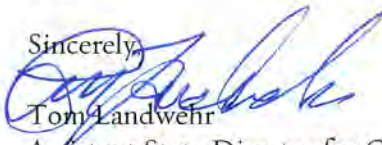
The Nature Conservancy ("TNC") is pleased to continue working with partners in the Root River Watershed to protect and restore habitat. TNC supports your efforts to protect and restore habitat corridors along the Root River and its tributaries, including the proposal you are submitting for a CPL Grant to fund a Floodplain Easement on property owned by Matt Hanson in Olmstead County, Minnesota. If the project proposal is awarded, The Nature Conservancy will provide \$15000 to be used to administer the easement transaction and assist with habitat restoration on the property. The funds are privately raised and will be contributed during the grant period.

The Nature Conservancy has identified the Root River as a priority watershed in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. The Conservancy completed a Conservation Action Plan in 2007 that identified restoration of floodplains as a priority strategy. Floodplain protection and restoration like proposed in this project is essential to expanding and connecting existing habitat while restoring hydrology within the watershed. The Root River, like other Driftless Area watersheds has few wetlands. Wetland and aquatic habitat is often limited to the floodplain. Therefore, restoration projects like this are essential to providing habitat for amphibians and shorebirds.

The Conservancy also strongly supports the compatible use of floodplain outlined in the proposal. Managing native grass floodplains with large grazers and fire is the most suitable use of Driftless Area stream corridors. Using grazers and fire in this way demonstrates a productive use of a sensitive resource while providing multiple terrestrial and aquatic habitat benefits.

TNC will continue to seek additional funds and expand our partnership to continue this and other riparian and floodplain conservation efforts in the future and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Tom Landwehr

Assistant State Director for Conservation

# Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

**Division of Fish and Wildlife**  
**2300 Silver Creek Road NE**  
**Rochester, MN 55906**  
**PHONE: (507) 206-2859**  
**FAX: (507) 285-7144**



September 14, 2010

Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District  
Attn. Skip Langer  
1485 Industrial Drive NW Rm 102  
Rochester, MN 55901-0750

Re: Matt Hanson Floodplain RIM CPL Proposal

Dear Mr. Langer:

I have reviewed and support your proposal to protect via easement 173 acres and establish floodplain habitat on 130 of those acres. Because the Root River and other southeastern Minnesota river systems have very few wetland habitats, it is important to protect, restore and maintain the ones that do exist, typically in floodplains. This project will establish grassland habitat along the Root River corridor providing nesting cover for birds and a movement corridor for reptiles, amphibians and mammals.

I wish you success in your application and the eventual protection and restoration of this site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Donald Nelson".

Donald Nelson  
Area Wildlife Supervisor

# Conservation Partners Legacy Grants - Online Applications


Jamie Gangaware

Admin

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## 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:

**Skip Langer**

Organization / Agency:

**Olmsted Soil & Water**

Title:

**Olmsted SWCD District  
technician**

Date:

**Conservation District  
2010-09-16**



Proj ID	Organization Name	Project Name	Technical Review Committee Scoring Comments	Amtount Requested	Score	Technical Review Committee Final Rank Comments	Regional Comments	Meets Regional Plan?	Rank	Region	Division Director's Comments Make sure fish easement not included in this new easement. Public access helps it score higher, begins to address public benefits. Easement surrounds an important trout stream (uplands in addition to stream itself). Great public benefit, expensive.
47	Olmsted SWCD	Root River Floodplain RIM	Two AMAs and one fisheries access easement in southern portion of area, one in work in NW. Any fisheries easement would allow public access. All vegetation will have to meet native, local ecotype vegetation requirements, so may have to adjust seeding plan.	\$366,352	141	no public access	Water quality benefits and fishing access along Root River. Part of work outlined in a management plan. Rank #7/ 12	Y	M	3	

Olmsted SWCD\_47\_Matt Hanson Floodplain RIM

	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
	6.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	5.00	6.00	9.00
	7.00	5.00	6.00	3.00	8.00	9.00	8.00	9.00	7.00	8.00
	8.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
	6.00	7.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.00	9.00	7.00	8.00	9.00
AVERAGES	6.75	6.50	7.00	6.25	8.00	8.00	8.25	7.25	7.25	8.50

TOTAL SCORE	140.50
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15)Capacity to Successfully Complete Work	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
10.00	9.00	9.00	6.00	8.00
7.00	8.00	8.00	7.00	7.00
7.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	7.00
8.00	9.00	6.00	8.00	8.00
8.00	9.00	8.25	7.75	7.50