

Conservation Partners Legacy Grants - Online Applications

Jamie Gangaware

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Project Summary Project Info Site Info Budget Info Review & Approval Additional Info Application Submission

Project Summary

Project Name and Contact

Project Name:	Nyroca Flats	Project Manager:	Brad Nylin
Organization Name:	Minnesota Waterfowl Association	Title:	Executive Director
Organization Type:	Non-Profit	Phone:	952-767-0320
Mailing Address 1:	901 First Street N	Email:	brad.nylin@mnwaterfowl.com
Mailing Address 2:			
City:	Hopkins		
State:	MN		
Zip Code:	55343		

Project Location Summary

Primary County:	Lyon	Secondary Land
Nearest City:	Florence	Ownerships:
Project Site Name:	Nyroca Flats	
Primary Land Ownership:	State	

Project Activity Summary

Primary Activity:	Enhancement	Primary Habitat Type:	Wetland
Additional Activities:	Restoration	Additional Habitats:	
Total Project Sites:	1		
Total Project Acres:	30		

Project Funding Summary

Total Grant Amount Requested:	\$98,900
Total Match Amount Pledged:	\$24,600
Additional Funding:	\$500
Total Project Cost:	\$123,500
Estimated Project Completion Date:	2013-06-30

: The Balaton Sportsman's Club will be contributing \$500 towards this project. The club feels this would greatly enhance a basin that does not function well in it's current condition.

Summary

This 30 acre basin was traditionally an excellent type IV wetland. However its value for waterfowl has declined significantly because of high water and rough fish. A temporary drawdown is needed to restore the basin's potential as an excellent waterfowl habitat. To accomplish the draw down a sheet pile water control structure will be installed at the outlet of the basin. This will regenerate the basin and reestablish aquatic vegetation needed for nesting or migrating waterfowl.

Problem Statement

The basin has too deep of water with rough fish. A sheet pile water control structure is needed to draw down the basin to restore the nutrients in the basin. By doing this, the basin will have more productive water for nesting and migrating waterfowl.

Project Objectives

By adding a sheet pile water control structure, there will be a slow draw down, to lower the water level, over time there won't be any rough fish and the lake bed will be exposed, regenerating the aquatic plants to grow. This will create better use by waterfowl and other wetland birds and animals.

Methods

To accomplish the draw down, a sheet pile water control structure will be installed at the outlet of the basin. Draining of existing outlet channel downstream of the water control structure will be required to facilitate basin draw down. The structure will have a 7' wide crest elevation 1655.5'. The structure will closely match the flow capacity of the existing outlet channel. The sheet pile structure will include a 5' wide stop log bay to allow for periodic draw down phase, water will be discharged gradually by removing one stop log at a time until there is two inches or less of water flowing over the next stop log. At that time, another stop log will be removed. This process will be repeated until all the stop logs have been removed.

Project Timeline

Time Frame	Goal
Summer 2011	Design and construct water control structure
Fall 2011	Begin draw down

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
Oversee construction process and take care of engineering plans	MWA	MWA
Routine maintenance and monitoring for future draw downs	MN DNR	Grant

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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 project is supported by the Minnesota Waterfowl Association, Balaton Sportsman's Club, as well as the DNR.

2. Describe the degree of collaboration for this project.

The Minnesota Waterfowl Association is partnering with the DNR as well as the Balaton Sportsman's Club will be contributing \$500 towards this project. The Balaton Sportsman's Club is a local club in the area.

3. Describe any urgency associated with this project.

We believe that it is urgent to fund this project now. The reason we believe that is the case is that the water levels are too high for any good. By doing a draw down this will allow for bird use and nesting activities in the near future. We feel that by doing this project, it will have positive impacts on waterfowl populations as well as shorebirds.

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

There would be multiple benefits to doing this project, such as for nesting waterfowl and nesting shorebirds, as well as providing feeding and resting areas in the spring and fall, by doing this project.

5. Discuss the habitat benefits resulting from your project.

By doing a draw down, this will regenerate the wetland with vegetation, needed for food etc. The current status of the wetland is deep dirty water. After the draw down the regenerated wetland will be clearer and will have aquatic vegetation that is needed for waterfowl broods as well as migrational stopping points.

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

Sound conservation science calls for the restoration of native habitats. this wetland no longer experiences the natural draw downs and water level changes that it once did due to upstream influences in the watershed. Agricultural drainage upstream has resulted in the basin remaining at high water levels consistently. Additionally, due to the introduction of carp to North American, this wetland continues to be infested with carp due to upstream migration from the water shed. these are the two primary unnatural influences that maintain this wetland in poor condition. Each of these influences can be mitigated with a properly managed water control structure.

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

There are 14 WMAs existing within a 5 mile radius of this site that are all open to public hunting and fishing activities.

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

All costs of the project are identified as we know them now. There are sufficient funds available to cover the entire cost of the project. The sources of funding are from MWA Shetek Prairie Chapter, and the Balaton Sportsman's Club. The match contributions will follow guidelines. We do have the letters of commitment for this project.

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

This project supplement's existing funds. The only impacts to our organization's budget will be the administration of the grant. Otherwise the match will come from our Shetek Prairie Chapter and the Balaton Sportsman's Club.

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

There is public hunting on this wma currently, with parking and access. The wma is open for all hunting activities during the hunting season.

11. Describe the sustainability of your project.

This water control structure should last 25 - 50 years.

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

Once the wetland goes through it's draw down and the land basin is exposed the dormant seed from long ago vegetation will finally be able to grow. This should happen very quickly.

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

While working with the local area manager on the budget, we feel that the budget is complete for the location and restoration effort. There is some unknowns but we're sure that we can cover everything within the budget. The cost is high because an approach needs to be constructed off of US Highway 14, a fair amount of channel work needs to be done, working in wet conditions at the edge of the wetland causes problems and the sheet piling structure proposed by the DNR Engineer in his feasibility study is expensive.

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 MWA has a long history, (over 43 years) and a lot of history doing projects. We have been active with grants in the past, made some mistakes, corrected them and have received 3 CPL grants last year. The grants that we were awarded last year are in various forms of work. We have one acquisition that we are waiting for the appraisal on, and two others where we are waiting on the weather to cooperate to move forward. I believe that the MWA does have the ability to successfully complete this work as we have in the past. MWA has worked with the NRCS, USFWS and the DNR for past grants.

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

The proposed project is consistent with landscape habitat restoration with the Minnesota portion of the North American Prairie Pothole Region. Restoring and preserving Minnesota's shallow lakes and other wetlands (as proposed in this application) is believed to support all Minnesota landscape level plans.

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

This project conforms to approved practices in Minnesota's Long-Range Duck Recovery Plan and a Vision for Wildlife and Its Use-Goals and Outcomes 2006-2112. The species that would likely received the greatest benefit would be wetland dependant species especially waterfowl, wading birds, and shorebirds during draw down periods.

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

This project fulfills the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plans' Habitat Recommendation HR 5 (Restore land, wetlands and wetland-associated watersheds) and HR 6 (Protect and restore critical in-water habitat of lakes and streams), by recreating the natural draw down cycles in the wetland and removing invasive carp. Water quality benefits are also realized down stream in lake Minnetaga and within the watershed.

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

The Statewide Conservation Plan notes that wetland preservation and restoration are high priorities. This project proposal is consistent with those priorities.

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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:	Bob Meyer	Phone:	507-537-6250
Organization:	MN DNR	Email:	Bob.W.Meyer@state.mn.us
Title:	Area Manager		

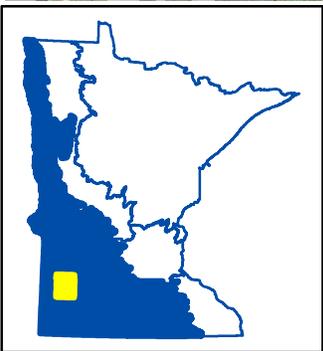
Site Information

Land Ownership:	State	Acres:	30
Site Name(s):	Nyroca Flats WMA	Click here to View Site Map	
Activity:	Restoration		
Habitat:	Wetland		



Legend

- FY2011 CPL Project Site
- State Wildlife Management Area Boundaries



CPL FY11-066
Nyroca Flats
Minnesota Waterfowl Association
Lyon County
LSOHC Prairie Planning Section



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Organization's Fiscal Contact Information

Name:	Brad Nylin	Street Address 1:	901 First Street N.
Title:	Executive Director	Street Address 2:	
Email:	brad.nylin@mnwaterfowl.com	City:	Hopkins
Phone:	952-767-0320	State:	MN
		Zip Code:	55343

Budget Subtotals

Budget Item	Grant	Match	Total		
Personnel					
Contracts	\$52,750	\$17,000	\$69,750		
Fee Acquisition with PILT					
Fee Acquisition without PILT					
Easement Acquisition					
Easement Stewardship				In-kind Total	Cash Total
Travel (in-state)				\$0	\$39,600
Professional Services					
DNR Land Acquisition Cost					
Equipment/Tools/Supplies	\$46,150	\$7,600	\$53,750		
Additional Budget Items					
Total:	\$98,900	\$24,600	\$123,500		

Details

Contracts

Contractor Name	Contracted Work	Amount	Grant/Match	In-kind/Cash
TBD	Construct field approach	\$8,000	Grant	
TBD	Excavation/Embankment	\$8,700	Grant	
TBD	Install/Construct Structure	\$16,550	Grant	
TBD	Seed / Mulch	\$4,500	Grant	
TBD	Sheet Pile Install	\$15,000	Grant	Cash
TBD	"Final" Engineering	\$17,000	Match	Cash
Totals	Grant: \$52,750 Match: \$17,000	Total: \$69,750		

Equipment/Tools/Supplies

Item	Purpose	Amount	Grant/Match	In-kind/Cash
Sheet Pile Materials	Watercontrol Structure	\$46,150	Grant	
Sheet Pile Cap	For Watercontrol Structure	\$7,600	Match	Cash
Totals	Grant: \$46,150 Match: \$7,600	Total: \$53,750		

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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:	Robert W. Meyer
Agency:	MN DNR - Wildlife
Title:	Area Wildlife Supervisor
Phone:	507-537-6250
Email:	Bob.W.Meyer@state.mn.us

PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project Name:	Nyroca Flats WMA
Contact Person:	Brad Nylin
Organization:	MWA
Email:	brad.nylin@mnwaterfowl.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:	Robert W. Meyer	Phone:	507-537-6250
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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: Robert W. Meyer Date: 9-15-10

Comments:

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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.

Minnesota Waterfowl Association is a 501C-3 organization dedicated to waterfowl. Our mission is: The Minnesota Waterfowl Association is dedicated to the preservation, protection and enhancement of Minnesota's wetlands, related waterfowl habitat, and our hunting heritage". The MWA was started in 1967 by people that were concerned about the declining waterfowl numbers in Minnesota. Since the MWA was started we have been involved with on the ground habitat projects all across the state, to try and make a difference on the landscape. MWA is dedicated to waterfowl conservation and will continue making a difference for the future.

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

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?

Yes - Upload Conflict of Interest Policy here:

[Conflict of Interest Policy](#)

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

Brad Nylin, Executive Director Luci Patch, Bookkepper/Administrator

List your organization's Board of Directors with affiliations:

John Wolf, President Mark McNamara, Vice President Greg Meyer, Vice President Justin Sommor, Vice President Robert Page, Treasurer David Larson, Secretary John Schroers, Past President

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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:

Bradley D. Nylin

Organization / Agency:

**Minnesota Waterfowl
Association**

Title:

Executive Director

Date:

2010-09-16

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program
 FY2011 Technical Review Comments and Scoring, Regional and Divisional Directors Comments

Proj ID	Organization Name	Project Name	Technical Review Committee Scoring Comments	Amount Requested	Score	Technical Review Committee Final Rank Comments	Regional Comments	Meets Regional Plan?	Rank	Region	Division Director's Comments
66	Minnesota Waterfowl Association	Nyroca Flats	Fish barrier?? Is there an existing structure, just not variable? (appears to be on aerial photo) Also provides water quality benefits. Good migratory/brood marsh, can be somewhat isolated. Should be successful from size of watershed. Seed/mulch at \$45,000??	\$98,900	137	Check on \$45,000 for seeding--or is it for ditch work? (staff contacting MWA) #8 recommended, wetland committee	Possible moist soil management???	Y	M	4	All agree with this one being funded, good project.

	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
	8.00	7.00	7.00	5.00	6.00	6.00	7.00	6.00	6.00	8.00	10.00	7.00
	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.00	8.00	9.00	8.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	10.00	7.00
	8.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	8.00	7.00	4.00	6.00	10.00	10.00	7.00
	5.00	6.00	7.00	6.00	6.00	5.00	6.00	5.00	5.00	6.00	9.00	8.00
	8.00	9.00	8.00	7.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.00	7.00	8.00	10.00	9.00
AVERAGES	7.40	7.40	7.40	6.40	7.00	7.20	7.20	5.80	6.20	7.80	9.80	7.60

TOTAL SCORE 137.40

13)Use of Native Plant Materials	14)Budget and Cost Effectiveness	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
8.00	7.00	8.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
7.00	6.00	7.00	9.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
6.00	7.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.00	8.00
6.00	4.00	7.00	7.00	4.00	6.00	7.00

9.00	5.00	9.00	8.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
7.20	5.80	7.80	7.60	7.00	7.20	7.60