

CPL FY2011 Round 2, Project Summaries- Funded Projects

Id	Organization Name	Project Name	Primary Habitat	Grant Amount Requested	Grant Amount Funded	Score	Project Summary
125	Anoka County Parks and Recreation Department	CCCA Prairie Habitat Restoration	Prairie	\$91,000	\$54,600	151.20	The focus of this project will be to restore native prairie habitat for game and non-game species within the newly acquired Cedar Creek Conservation Area (CCCA). The CCCA consists of 550 acres of oak woodland, wetlands, riparian forests, and agricultural fields at the confluence of the Rum River and Cedar Creek in Andover, MN. Through this project, 168 acres of agricultural fields would be restored to native prairie habitat providing a seamless transition from the oak woodland habitat to the riparian zones of the Rum River and Cedar Creek. Restoration of the agricultural fields to native prairie would provide nesting and bedding cover, and forage for a variety of upland bird species, waterfowl, reptiles and mammals. In addition, restoration of the agricultural fields would result in decreased sediment and nutrient loading into both the Rum River and Cedar Creek protecting this vital fishery. Restoration of the prairie habitat will result in increased hunting and fishing opportunities.
113	Balaton Sportsmans Club	Peterson/Woodbury WPA	Wetland	\$18,000	\$18,000	151.40	Seeding upland native prairie on newly acquired USF&W WPA. 112 ac. cropland to be converted to native grasses with 48ac. in fall of 2011 and 64 ac. in fall of 2012. The Balaton Sportsmans Club has been working with USF&W on the seeding plan and hopes to secure funding to complete this local project.
118	Cook County Soil & Water Conservation District	Little Brule + Gauthier Crossings on Caspers Hill	FGW	\$52,350	\$52,350	0.00	Cook SWCD has partnered with landowners on Caspers Hill Rd, TSA3 and the Laurentian RC&D Council to address erosion and fish passage problems at 2 crossings on Caspers Hill Road. The proposed culvert replacements are at the Gauthier Creek and Little Brule River crossings, both of which are designated trout streams and spawning areas for Lake Superior migratory trout. The culverts are inadequately sized and placed creating barriers to fish and other aquatic organisms. In addition, the both crossings receive a significant amount of erosion due to inadequate road grading and ditching. The eroded sediment degrades habitat for trout spawning and nursery conditions. The primary activities of this grant would be to improve fish habitat by replacing the 2 crossings and reduce erosion into the streams with erosion control methods. Funding currently in place from Cook SWCD's GLC grant will be used for the roadway erosion control methods and would be used as match to the culvert replacements.

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131	Dakota SWCD	Lilly Pond Restoration	Wetland	\$15,000	\$15,000	146.25	<p>The proposal includes full reconstruction of a earthen berm with outlet structure. Approximately 10 feet of the existing corrugated metal pipe on the downstream side of the berm has rusted and fallen off. This now shorter pipe on the downstream side of the berm generates increase velocity and has created a scour hole which is eroding back into the embankment. The riser pipe in the wetland pool has also rusted and stop logs can no longer be held to manage the pool within the wetland. The berm is leaking and the wetland pool will go completely dry by July of each year. The berm will be fully removed to replace the drop pipe structure, anti-seep collar and conduit. The earthen berm will be raised two feet and a new emergency spillway will be constructed. Native grass seed mix will be used on all exposed soil including the berm.</p>
107	Fergus Falls Fish and Game Club	Wetland Restorations on Waterfowl Production Areas	Wetland	\$24,750	\$24,750	161.40	<p>Two properties located in Grant County and one property located in Otter Tail County, MN were purchased via Migratory Bird Conservation Funds by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). These additions to existing Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs) in the Fergus Falls Wetland Management District (FFWMD) have cropping history and drained, ditched, or tiled wetlands which require restoration. The Fergus Falls Fish and Game Club (FFFGC) would like to partner with the USFWS to survey, generate restoration designs, and work with contractors to restore altered basins. These restorations will be carried out on properties within key habitat areas of Minnesota (Minnesota River Prairie and the Red River Prairie) according to the State Wildlife Action Plan. Positive results from these restorations include: benefits to species of greatest conservation need (SGCN), improved water quality, flood reduction, and land open to the public for hunting, fishing, trapping, and environmental education.</p>
132	Friends of Rice Lake Refuge	Hardwood/Conifer Restoration at Rice Lake NWR	Forest	\$52,500	\$52,500	180.75	<p>The Friends of Rice Lake Refuge seeks \$52,500 in grant dollars to assist Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge in the restoration of 130 acres to a mature mixed hardwood and conifer forest. The project is divided into 2 sites, a corridor 120 acre old field between mature forest and a conifer restoration site in 10 acres of newly cut aspen/hardwood. The corridor 120 acre site would be planted to hardwoods and conifers at a rate of 550 seedlings per acre. The conifer restoration 10 acre site would be planted with 3 foot/5 gallon white pine saplings at a rate of 5 per acre. White pine sapling protection would be via bud-caps. Multiple habitat and species benefits are expected. Habitat benefits include additional young forest acreage, reduced forest fragmentation, increased forest block size, conversion from exotic species to native species, and restoring native conifers to the landscape. Multiple and diverse species will benefit.</p>

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111	Hamburg Hunting and Fishing Club	Severance Lake WMA - Hamburg Club Unit	FGW	\$125,000	\$125,000	166.75	Hamburg Hunting and Fishing Club purposes to purchase 85 ares near Severance Lake on the border of the High Island Creek Watershed and Bevens Creek Watershed. The primary purpose is wildlife habitat and public access for hunting and nature enjoyment. The parcel consists of 51 acres of cropland and 34 acres of existing habitat that is under a USFWS private lands easement. The cropland will be restored to a diveres mixture of native prairie and wetland plants. This will enhance the overall area for wildlife habitat. The land is located on the fringe of the metropolitan area where there is a great need for increased public access for hunting and other nature enjoyment.
127	Lake of the Woods School, School Forest Committee	Agassiz Lowlands (ALELA) Wetland Enhancements	Wetland	\$32,300	\$8,720	80.00	The Lake of the Woods School Wetland Enhancement Project will enhance 38 acres of non-forested wetland and shrub lowland habitat which is currently preserved through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources School Forest Program. The projects will focus on enhancing wildlife habitat in the Agassiz Lowlands Environmental Learning Area (ALELA). ALELA is a 120-acre tract of land set aside through the DNR School Forest Program. This area provides a variety of wildlife habitat along with educational opportunities. ALELA is a wetland complex comprised of a mix of lowland brush, sedge meadows and forested wetland. The enhancement projects will include: shearing and burning to improve openland habitat, and re-vegetating a degraded wetland, which was once a borrow pit, through topsoil replenishment and native grass and forb seeding. These projects will enhance key habitat for over 46 species in greatest conservation need, including the short-eared owl and sharp-tailed grouse.
129	MN Prairie Chicken Society	Open Vistas for Grassland Birds - 2	Prairie	\$125,000	\$125,000	152.00	When the first settlers reached Minnesota's western prairies, they found a landscape without trees. Today, many conservation lands have high densities of trees. Some of these trees were planted, while others have taken advantage of the wet cycle Minnesota has been in since the 1990s. Ideally, we control trees with fire. However, many of these trees are growing in wet areas that never burn or have become so dense that they have eliminated fuels below them and are virtually fireproof. The goal is to use fire for long-term maintenance after this initial treatment. Trees provide perches for predatory birds and dens for mammals, and obstruct the horizon which inhibits many grassland birds from nesting near trees. Trees are detrimental to the waterfowl, gamebirds, and songbirds that require grassland and prairie habitat. Our goal with this project is to remove trees from public lands in an effort to increase the habitat quality for all the bird species that nest in grasslands.

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112	Nicollet Conservation Club	Swan Lake WMAs #1	Prairie	\$16,200	\$16,200	151.20	<p>These two units both fall within the Swan Lake WMA Project Area. 1.) The North Star Unit is 441 acres. For this unit, we plan to remove 35 acres of sparse trees in the grassland areas followed by a large burn of 137 acres that would encompass the newly cut areas, previously planted grassland and approximately 8 acres of remnant prairie where the trees have been previously been removed through a Heritage Grant. 2.) The MacKenzie Unit is just over 150 acres in size located on the north shore of Swan Lake. This site was newly acquired in 2010. 91 acres of the grassland was planted under a previous Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contract. The DNR partnered with Pheasants Forever to enhance the seeding mix on the area enrolled in CRP. A small portion of the site was not enrolled and thus was not planted. We proposed to plant this 2 acre site to a highly diverse forb mix for pollinators and brood rearing cover.</p>
123	Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department	Grass Lake Prairie	Prairie	\$82,730	\$82,730	107.60	<p>The Grass Lake portion of Snail Lake Regional Park is a 265-acre site located in Shoreview, MN. The site is mapped on the DNR's Regionally Significant Ecological Areas, and the Metro Corridors. On the site is a 140-acre Northern Mixed Cattail Marsh which is surrounded by old field, shrub swamp, and degraded oak woods/savanna. Grass Lake provides habitat for state-listed Blanding's turtles and red-shouldered hawks. There is a paved pedestrian/bike trail that will bisect part of the prairie. This trail is used by numerous citizens in order to enjoy nature. The new prairie will enhance that experience and build a stronger base for habitat restoration and protection. This project will restore and enhance 33 acres of prairie. This restoration will improve habitat for the state listed species and provide nesting habitat for grassland/savanna bird species listed as SGCN.</p>
120	Rollie Johnson Natural and Recreational Area	Rollie Johnson Island Project - Steamboat Island	FGW	\$18,000	\$18,000	159.75	<p>The Rollie Johnson "Steamboat Island" is a one acre island in Upper Whitefish Lake. A major threat to Steamboat Island fish, plant and wildlife habitat is the loss of vegetative cover and shrubs and trees in the upland areas due to shoreline erosion. The Goal of this funding application is to complete approximately 225 linear feet of shoreline restoration. Once completed, the area will have sufficient vegetative cover to prevent shoreline and upland erosion and allow for the area and adjacent littoral zone to support expanded plant, wildlife and aquatic communities. Note that the size of the actual restoration area is 0.155 acres - 225 feet by 30 feet high.</p>

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117	Washington Conservation District	Immediate Protection of Reptiles	FGW	\$37,550	\$37,550	118.50	<p>The purpose of this project is to provide immediate protection for reptiles and their associated habitat within the Big Marine Park Reserve. Reptile Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) known to utilize the park reserve include: Blanding's Turtles, Snapping Turtles, and the Eastern Fox Snake. This project will focus on immediate protection of reptiles through five major actions: 1) fencing to direct safe road crossing 2) enhancement of nesting habitat 3) development of a predator management plan 4) education of park visitors and area residents and 5) monitoring of Blanding's Turtles (an overarching species) to track project success. Washington County's 2030 Comprehensive Plan predicts that the population will grow by 128,842 by 2030 and that the daily traffic volume on County Road 4, which bisects the Park Reserve, will increase by more than 1,500 vehicles per day by 2030. Immediate protection is needed to protect reptiles today and as pressure increases in the near future.</p>
		13 applications		\$690,380	\$630,400		

CPL FY2011 Round 2, Project Summaries- Ineligible & Not Funded Applications

Id	Organization Name	Project Name	Primary Habitat	Grant Amount Requested	Not Funded	Score	Project Summary
130	Big Stone SWCD	Big Stone Cooperative Weed Managment Area	Prairie	\$40,000.00	Ineligible	0.00	Our proposal is an improvement on and continuation of the Big Stone Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) project, which is an effort aimed at protecting and enhancing permanently protected lands and remnant prairies under public ownership which are either being invaded or under imminent threat of invasion from non-native weeds. Roadsides are conduits for invasive weeds and while state and county departments have the means to treat problem areas, those under township jurisdiction are the weak link to addressing weed invasions. The target species will be invasive plant species that have recently started to establish within the Big Stone County area and that are still limited to manageable infestations within close distance of perpetual easement lands, WPA's, WMA's, etc.
115	Carver County WMO	Benton Lake Fish Biotic Restoration	FGW	\$96,000	Not Funded	68.00	Benton Lake is an impaired lake for excess nutrients. Currently, a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Study is completed, but not signed, that has outlined different implementation projects to restore the lake. Rough fish, specifically common carp, dominates the fish community. This project will focus on reducing common carp in the lake to reduce the amount of phosphorus cycling within the lake. This will be achieved through the installation of a fish barrier at the outlet of Benton Lake, and application of rotenone to remove fish from the lake. Reintroduction of game and native fish species will insure that Benton Lake will become a local fishing spot. According to research conducted by Dr. Peter Sorenson, pan fish, specifically sunfish, prey upon carp eggs, helping to maintain a sustainable carp population. Native aquatic plants will be reestablished from the natural seed bank due to the increase in transparency from the decrease in suspended solids and algae.
108	City of Andover	Kelsey Round Lake Park Restoration Project	Prairie	\$30,000	Not Funded	74.80	The City would like to restore approximately 35 acres of prairie and 15 acres of woodland area in its largest park, Kelsey Round Lake Park, by allowing a diverse array of local ecotype, indigenous plant material to dominate their respective areas. The prairie will be comprised of grasses and forbs and the woodland area will be comprised of trees, shrubs and woodland forbs.

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110	City of Cottage Grove	Cottage Grove West Draw Prairie Restoration	Prairie	\$20,000	Not Funded	92.30	The city of Cottage Grove desires to restore 15 acres of public land to its native prairie habitat. This project will provide the city the unique opportunity to continue its effort in establishing a "prairie belt" through the community to provide environmental, educational and beautification benefits to the community. A paved trail through the prairie belt already exists giving citizens great access to this prairie ecosystem. Interpretive signage will be included in the project to educate the public on the historical significance and benefits of the prairie.
128	MN Prairie Chicken Society	Fencing for Conservation Grazing	Prairie	\$44,250	Ineligible	0.00	Grazing, along with fire, is one of the key components for managing grasslands. Indeed, grazing by herds of large mammals such as bison or cattle largely define grassland ecosystems. Grazing affects the structure of the grass, nutrient cycling, and fire behavior. Each of these in turn impacts the plant community and the habitat for wildlife. Grazing increases plant diversity, often doubling or tripling diversity (Towne et al 2005). This creates more habitat structure for grassland nesting birds. The increase in plant diversity also increases the diversity and abundance of native pollinators. This has positive feedbacks for ecosystem services on surrounding agricultural landscapes. Grazing on wildlife habitat helps with public perceptions, especially in the agricultural community. People see these acres as 'working lands'. Grazers serve the dual role of public relations and habitat management.
126	Morrison SWCD	Sullivan Lake/Platte River Dam Reconstruction	FGW	\$125,000	Not Funded	150.00	The project will involve removing the present unstable dam and constructing a new water control structure. By replacing the current dam, 2785 acres of lake and stream habitat along with wildrice will be protected.
133	Onanegozoie RC&D	Rum River Wild and Scenic Habitat Restoration	Forest	\$125,000	Not Funded	82.75	There are 53 permanent state wild and scenic river scenic easements held by the DNR on the Rum River, totaling over 1000 acres of riparian shorelands. The scenic easements are a key vehicle for protecting and restoring these riparian corridors and their flyways. This proposal will ultimately work at habitat and shoreline restoration along the Rum River within scenic easement lands. The Onanegozie RC&D has worked with the DNR Scenic Easements Program to target scenic easement landowners for this and future projects. Projects will enhance habitat, improve water quality, and re-establish native plant communities on the Rum River.

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134	Say Goodbye to William Budd	Budd School Oak Tree Preservation	Forest	\$125,000.00	Ineligible	0.00	The main objective for this project request is the following: Relocate a 150 year old Bur Oak Tree from the current William Budd Elementary School location to its new location, which is an addition to the Five Lakes Elementary School.
8 applications		\$605,250.00					