

2005 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2008

PROJECT TITLE: Local Initiative Grants (Conservation Partners and Environmental Partnerships)

PROJECT MANAGER: Wayne Sames

AFFILIATION: Department of natural Resources

MAILING ADDRESS: OMBS, Box 10, 500 Lafayette Road

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Saint Paul, MN 55155-4010

FAX: 651-296-6047

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WEBSITE:

FUNDING SOURCE: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2005, First Special Session, Chp. 1, Art. 2, Sec. 11, Subd. 5(e)

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$500,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

The objective of this program is to foster public/private and intergovernmental partnerships through state matching grants to private organizations and local governments for "on the ground" fish, wildlife and native plant habitat improvement projects and related research and environmental service and conservation projects.

Grants totaling \$404,911 were provided to private and non-profit organizations, educational institutions, local governments and soil and water conservation districts. Of that total, 19 Conservation Partners grants were made for "on the ground" fish, wildlife and native plant habitat improvement projects and research or surveys of fish and wildlife directly related to specific habitat improvement. The remaining 18 Environmental Partnerships grants were made for community environmental service, education, information, and conservation projects.

A number of habitat restorations were completed, including lake, pond, river and stream shoreland restorations and prairie, oak forest, and oak savanna restorations. Other projects included invasive species control, research related to proposed fen restoration, and Dwarf Trout Lilly habitat protection. Among the Environmental Partnerships projects funded were educational exhibits, prairie restoration and homeowners natural habitat project guides, GIS modeling, resource assessments, stream and river clean-up projects, a Prairie Chicken video, water quality monitoring, and a stormwater treatment project.

These projects are located throughout the state, therefore many Minnesotans will benefit directly by having access to the project areas. Minnesotans will also benefit from information or research that may be applicable in many locations, such as the Prairie Restoration Guide, or habitat improvements that benefit fish and wildlife populations and help protect water quality. Environmental education, interpretation, and information projects also foster an appreciation for the need to conserve our natural resources, particularly for younger generations.

For more detailed information on any of the projects contact the DNR Local Grants Unit. A list of funded projects is included in the final report.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

Information from these projects has been used and/or disseminated in a number of ways. Some of the projects involve habitat improvement that can be accessed by the public. Other projects involved development of informational materials such as interpretive signing, written reports or guides, data bases, traveling educational trunks, field visits, videos, workshops, and training of community volunteers. Project managers sent copies of written materials, guides, etc., to the DNR with their final reports. See the individual project descriptions in the final report for more details.

LCMR 2005 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: September, 2008

LCCMR 2005 Work Program Final Report

Date of Work program Approval: June 14, 2005

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2008

I. PROJECT TITLE: Local Initiative Grants (Conservation Partners and Environmental Partnerships)

Project Manager: Wayne Sames **Affiliation:** DNR Local Grants Program

Mailing Address: OMBS, Box 10, 500 Lafayette Road

City / State / Zip : St. Paul, MN 55155-4010

Telephone Number: (651) 259-5559

E-mail Address: wayne.sames@dnr.state.mn.us

FAX Number: (651) 296-6047

Web Page address:

Location: Statewide.

Total Biennial LCMR Project Budget:	LCMR Appropriation:	\$500,000
	Minus Amount Encumbered:	\$444,911
	Equal Balance:	\$55,089

Legal Citation: ML 2005, First Special Session, Chp.1, Art. 2, Sec. 11, Subd. 5(e)

Appropriation Language:

\$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide matching grants of up to \$20,000 to local government and private organizations for enhancement, restoration, research, and education associated with natural habitat and environmental service projects.

Subdivision 16 of this section applies to grants awarded in the approved work program. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2008, at which time the project must be completed and final products delivered, unless an earlier date is specified in the work program.

II. and III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY:

Overall Project Outcome and Results

The objective of this program is to foster public/private and intergovernmental partnerships through state matching grants to private organizations and local governments for "on the ground" fish, wildlife and native plant habitat improvement projects and related research and environmental service and conservation projects.

Grants totaling \$404,911 were provided to private and non-profit organizations, educational institutions, local governments and soil and water conservation districts. Of that total, 19 Conservation Partners grants were made for "on the ground" fish, wildlife and native plant habitat improvement projects and research or surveys of fish and wildlife directly related to specific habitat improvement. The remaining 18 Environmental Partnerships grants were made for community environmental service, education, information, and conservation projects.

A number of habitat restorations were completed, including lake, pond, river and stream shoreland restorations and prairie, oak forest, and oak savanna restorations. Other projects included invasive species control, research related to proposed fen restoration, and Dwarf Trout Lilly habitat protection. Among the Environmental Partnerships projects funded were educational exhibits, prairie restoration and homeowners natural habitat project guides, GIS modeling, resource assessments, stream and river clean-up projects, a Prairie Chicken video, water quality monitoring, and a stormwater treatment project.

These projects are located throughout the state, therefore many Minnesotans will benefit directly by having access to the project areas. Minnesotans will also benefit from information or research that may be applicable in many locations, such as the Prairie Restoration Guide, or habitat improvements that benefit fish and wildlife populations and help protect water quality. Environmental education, interpretation, and information projects also foster an appreciation for the need to conserve our natural resources, particularly for younger generations.

For more detailed information on any of the projects contact the DNR Local Grants Unit. A list of funded projects is included in the final report.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

Information from these projects has been used and/or disseminated in a number of ways. Some of the projects involve habitat improvement that can be accessed by the public. Other projects involved development of informational materials such as interpretive signing, written reports or guides, data bases, traveling educational trunks, field visits, videos, workshops, and training of community volunteers. Project managers sent copies of written materials, guides, etc., to the DNR with their final reports. See the individual project descriptions in the final report for more details.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS: These programs provide financial assistance and incentives to private organizations and local governments for projects that result in improved habitat, environmental education activities, and a variety of community environmental service projects.

Result 1: Conservation Partners Matching Grant Program

Description: A total of 19 matching grants totaling \$229,932 were made to private organizations or local governments to provide "on the ground" fish, wildlife and native

plant habitat improvement projects and research or surveys of fish and wildlife directly related to specific habitat improvement through cooperation by private organizations and local governments. Personnel costs of \$20,000 included a portion of one FTE to process grant agreements and payments and additional administration support for project solicitation; application evaluation and ranking; review and approval of project billings; project liaison with grant recipients; oversight and monitoring; closeout and reporting; etc.

(See attached list of projects).

Summary Budget Information for Result 1:	LCMR Budget	\$249,932
	Balance	\$0

Completion Date: June 30, 2008

Final Report Summary: Nineteen projects were completed for a total grant amount of \$229,932. Since these grants require at least a 50% match, at least \$229,932 of matching funds was added for a total project investment of at least \$459,864. Most of the projects involved habitat restorations for a number of different environments. Projects included lake, pond, river and stream shore land restorations and prairie, oak, oak forest, and oak savannah restorations. Other projects included invasive species control, research related to proposed fen restoration and Dwarf Trout Lilly habitat protection. **(See attached list of projects)**

Result 2: Environmental Partnerships Matching Grant Program

Description: A total of 18 matching grants totaling \$174,979 were made to private organizations or local governments to fund a variety of research, environmental service and conservation projects. Personnel costs of \$20,000 were included, as described in Result 1. **(See attached list of projects)**

Summary Budget Information for Result 2:	LCMR Budget	\$194,979
	Balance	\$0

Completion Date: June 30, 2008

Final Report Summary: Eighteen projects were completed for a total grant amount of \$174,979. Since these grants require at least a 50% match, at least \$174,979 of matching funds was added for a total project investment of at least \$349,958. Among the projects funded were educational exhibits, prairie restoration and homeowners natural habitat project guides, GIS modeling, resource assessments, stream and river clean-up projects, a Prairie Chicken video, water quality monitoring and a storm water treatment project. Personnel costs are the same as described in Result 1. **(See attached list of projects).**

A balance of \$55,089 was unspent due to project under – runs or projects that were not completed.

TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET:

All Results: Personnel: \$40,000

All Results: Equipment: \$

All Results: Development: \$404,911

All Results: Acquisition: \$

All Results: Other: \$55,089 unspent

TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET: \$500,000

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500:

V. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: DNR staff are responsible for soliciting, evaluating and ranking applications; developing grant agreements; reviewing and approving reimbursement requests; project liaison; review and monitoring of results; processing payments; and project closeout. Projects are implemented by local governments and private organizations.

B. Other Funds being Spent during the Project Period: Both programs require at least a 50/50 match by the grant recipients. The local match for projects funded under these programs met or exceeded \$404,911.

C. Required Match: See paragraph B above.

D. Past Spending: The Conservation Partners matching grant program was first funded with LCMR funds in 1995. The total funding appropriated for the program since then is \$2,834,737. The Environmental Partnerships matching grant program was first funded with LCMR funds in 1997. The total appropriated for the program since then is \$887,263. The total appropriated for both programs in 2003 was \$512,000. These totals have been matched by at least an equal amount of local government and private organization funds.

E. Time: Extension of the time period to June 30, 2008 would help with project completion by providing two full development seasons. This is helpful for these types of projects that tend to be affected by seasonal and weather related restrictions.

VI. DISSEMINATION:

VII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports were submitted not later than December 2005, June 2006, December 2006, June 2007, and December 2007. A final work program report and associated products was submitted in September, 2008.

Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2005 Projects

Proposal Title: Local Initiative Grants (Conservation Partners and Environmental Partnerships)

Project Manager Name: Wayne Sames

LCMR Requested Dollars: \$500,000

2005 LCMR Proposal Budget	<u>Result 1 Budget:</u>	Amount Encumb.	Balance	<u>Result 2 Budget:</u>	Ar Er
	Conservation Partners Matching Grants			Environmental Partnership Matching Grants	
BUDGET ITEM	275,000		275,000	225,000	
Personnel: Staff Expenses, wages, salaries (see specific staff listed below:					
Joe Hiller, Local Grants Program, DNR	10,000	10,000	0	10,000	
Audrey Mularie, Local Grants Program, DNR	5,000	5000	0	5,000	
Wayne Sames, Local Grants Program	5,000	5,000	0	5,000	
Other: Matching Grants for habitat, etc.	255,000	205,500	49,500	205,000	

COLUMN TOTAL	275,000	225,500	49,500	225,000
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Conservation Partners

CP05-010	Andover High School	High School Restoration Project	\$12,469
CP05-001	Anoka Conservation District	Herb Beach Site Restoration	\$19,000
CP05-002	Anoka Conservation District	Sandhill Crane Buckthorn Control	\$5,563
CP06-001	Becker	Great River Woodland Habitat Restoration	\$10,000
CP06-002	Carnelian Marine Watershed	Silver Creek Corridor Restoration	\$15,000
CP05-011	Central Middle School	Ecology Lab Oak Forest Restoration	\$2,700
CP05-003	Cottage Grove	NSP Prairie Restoration	\$20,000
CP05-012	Elk River	Highland Park	\$5,836
CP05-013	Fifty Lakes Foundation	Shoreline Restoration Project	\$10,000
CP05-004	Great River Greening	Mounds Park Inventory and Management Plan	\$12,000
CP05-014	Gun Club Lake WMO	Environmental Monitoring of Nicols Fen	\$19,000
CP05-015	Hutchinson	Miller Woods Oak Savannah Restoration	\$19,500
CP05-005	Maplewood	City Hall Campus Natural Restoration	\$18,619
CP05-006	Mille Lacs Lake Watershed	Enhancement of the Mille Lacs Lake Watershed	\$2,548
CP06-003	Minneapolis	Above the Falls - Shoreline Restoration	\$9,500
CP05-008	Nature Conservancy	Study of Aspen Encroachment	\$18,000
CP05-009	Ramsey County	Invasive Species Removal and Savanna Restoration	\$8,500
CP06-004	River Bend Nature Center	Dwarf Trout Lily Protection	\$10,000
CP05-016	School of Environmental Studies	Birch Pond Restoration	\$11,697

Projects: 19	Total Program Award:	\$229,932
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Environmental Partnerships

EP05-018	Anoka Conservation District	A Homeowner's Guide	\$10,500
EP05-019	Bonestroo, Rosene, Anderlik & Assoc., Inc.	Prairie Restoration Guide	\$15,000
EP05-027	Cannon Rv Watershed Part.	Roberds Watershed Assessment	\$9,820
EP05-028	Cannon Rv. Watershed Part.	Spring Brook Assessment	\$13,987
EP06-001	Deep Portage Learning Center	Deep Portage Learning Center Exhibits	\$6,640
EP05-020	Friends of the Miss. River	Mississippi River Gorge Stewardship	\$10,000
EP06-002	Gateway Trail Association	Oak Savanna Restoration	\$10,000
EP06-003	Lakeville	East Park Natural Restoration	\$10,000
EP06-004	Mendota Heights	Pilot Knob Savanna Restoration	\$14,800
EP06-005	Minneapolis	Above the Falls - Site Cleanup	\$5,500
EP05-021	MN Prairie Chicken Society	Prairie Chicken Video	\$19,000
EP05-030	MN Rivers Revitalization Inc.	Mississippi River Cleanup Project	\$20,000
EP05-022	Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway	Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway	\$1,844
EP05-023	Pheasants Forever	Education Displays	\$888
EP05-024	Prairie Ecology Bus Center	Healthy Water & Project "Can-Do"	\$14,000

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EP05-025	St. John's Arboretum	Education Reform Initiative	\$5,000
EP06-006	Washington Conservation District	Stormwater Treatment Project	\$6,000
EP05-032	White Iron Chain of Lakes Association	Rainy River Basin Monitoring Plan	\$2,000
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Projects: 18		Total Program Award:	\$174,979

Appropriation Summary:

Appropriation Total:	500,000
Administration Costs:	40,000
Project Approp. Total:	460,000
Project Awards:	404,911
Balance:	55,089
Total Projects Funded:	37

Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2005 Projects (December, 2005)

Proposal Title: Local Initiative Grants (Conservation Partners and Environmental Partnerships)

Project Manager Name: Wayne Sames

LCMR Requested Dollars: \$500,000

2005 LCMR Proposal Budget	<u>Result 1</u> <u>Budget:</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Result 2</u> <u>Budget:</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance</u>	
	Conservation Partners Matching Grants			Environmental Partnership Matching Grants			
BUDGET ITEM	275,000	249,932	25,068	225,000	194,979	30,021	TOTAL FOR BUDGET ITEM: \$500,000
Personnel: Staff Expenses, wages, salaries (see specific staff listed below:							
Joe Hiller, Local Grants Program, DNR	10,000	10,000	0	10,000	10,000	0	20,000
Audrey Mularie, Local Grants Program, DNR	5,000	5,000	0	5,000	5,000	0	10,000
Wayne Sames, Local Grants Program	5,000	5,000	0	5,000	5,000	0	10,000
Other: Matching Grants for habitat, etc.	229,932	229,932	0	174,979	174,979	0	404,911
COLUMN TOTAL	249,932	249,932	25,068	194,979	194,979	30,021	500,000