

Date of Report: July 1, 1997

LCMR Final Work Program Update Report

LCMR Final Work Program 1995

I. Program Title: Turn In Poachers Youth Activity Book Subd. 10e ZM-2

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A. Legal Citation: ML 95, Chp. ____, Art. ____, Sec. ____, Subd. 10 e.
Total biennial LCMR appropriation: \$ 50,000
Balance: \$ 0.00

Appropriation Language This appropriation is from the future resources fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with TIP, Inc. to print and disseminate an activity book to inform and educate children about poaching and its impact on natural resources, and to promote ethical hunting and fishing. This appropriation must be matched by at least \$12,500.00 of nonstate money.

B. Status of Match Requirement:

Match Required:	\$12,500
Amount Committed to Date:	\$12,500
Match Spent to Date:	\$12,500.00

II. Project Summary: The TIP Activity Book is a 32 page book providing information on poaching (examples and penalties), animal identification, hunting safety, the positive role of conservation officers, and the interdependence of wetland ecosystems which affects a broad range of natural resources. While a lot of information is available on hunting safety, few children are exposed to factual information about poaching, hunting and fishing ethics, or the need to conserve game and fish resources. This activity book is written for children, ages 11 and 13 years old, and seeks to instill an understanding of the fragility of the environment, and the need to respect our game and fish resource. This book is being issued to all children who complete the Firearms Safety Training Courses as well as many fifth and sixth grade children, statewide (an estimated 50,000+ children annually).

Project Summary (continued)

Through the publication and distribution of the initial run of 39,000 Youth Activity Books the potential for adding further educational environmental information became quite evident. Upon the subsequent publication of 142,000 copies several additional educational articles and tools were incorporated through condensation of information on existing pages. Again it became very apparent of the plethora of potential additions which could also be involved. Since the last publication of the activity book further professional support has been offered by individuals on a volunteer basis to update, add, edit or enhance further publications of the book.

III. Final Work Program Update Summary:

July 1, 1997 Objectives are on schedule. The second printing of the book was completed with the publishing of 142,000 copies in late 1996. Distribution is ongoing with copies ongoing delivery of books to the Firearms Safety Classes, 5th & 6th grade classes, Adopt-a-School programs via Conservation Officers, State Parks and others. Inquiries and requests for books are greater than in 1996. Future publication funding appears to be very possible through private donations.

IV. Objectives: A. Informing future hunters about poaching

1. Summary: To promote ethical hunting and fishing through an informational activity book, to be distributed annually to the approximately 20,000 children (100%) attending the DNR Firearms Safety Training Courses.
2. Outcome: 100% of young hunters receiving the Firearms Safety Training will be informed about poaching and its consequences.
3. Budget: 40,000 copies = \$21,039.00
LCMR Budget: \$17,539.00
Match (TIP): \$3,500.00

IV. Objectives: (continued)

Objectives: B. Informing children, statewide (at the fifth grade level) about poaching.

- 1. Summary: To promote ethical hunting and fishing through an informational activity book, being distributed through public and private classrooms, state parks, county parks and DNR Adopt A School Program with Conservation Officers
- 2. Outcome: Thousands of fifth graders annually are receiving a greater understanding of poaching and its negative effect of natural resources. However, the blanket coverage of "all fifth graders" is not being accomplished. Incorporation of the activity book through "all" schools has not been feasible. The MN Education Dept. was not appropriately utilized to accomplish this huge task. On the other hand, it is becoming apparent that adult interaction with children while learning from the book is a necessity if a true appreciation toward the value of our natural resources is actually to be obtained by the child.
- 3. Budget: 142,000 = \$63,610.00
LCMR Budget: \$32,461.00
Match (TIP): \$9,000.00
Additional resources provided by TIP: \$22,149.00

Timeline for Completion of Objectives:

	7/95	1/96	6/96	1/97	6/97
Objective A:					
Print	XXXX				
Distribute		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX			
Objective B:					
Print			XXXX		
Distribute			XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX		

V. Final Project Evaluation/Comment

The success of the TIP Youth Activity Book is without a doubt far beyond the expectations of initial expectations. The ferocious appetite displayed by youth for natural resource oriented materials is evident at every turn. Also, the lack of further good, concise, accurate, non-judgemental natural resource oriented materials is painfully evident. Teachers, instructors, youth leaders, program directors of youth programs, etc. are elated at the applications possible with the TIP Youth Activity Book especially in the light of the lack of available materials. While intended for 11-13 year old children, the activity book is currently being used in high school and jr. college courses as a specified resource. It is quite apparent that a more advanced, or possibly more age-inclusive resource book would be eagerly received and implemented by student and instructors alike. In total the TIP Youth Activity Book has come to be an outstanding success. It has been received with unimagined fervor by instructors, students and contributors. Current plans by TIP are to continue the activity book program with potential edits and additions to the current format in future issues. We hope to be able to continue providing the activity book free of charge and with the help of private contributors will strive to that end.