

1997 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 1999

This project was supported by the Minnesota Future Resources Fund, 17(b)

TITLE: Cannon River Watershed: Integrated Management: Phase 2
PROJECT MANAGER: Allene Moesler, Executive Director
ORGANIZATION: Cannon River Watershed Partnership
ADDRESS: PO Box 501, Faribault, MN 55021
WEB SITE ADDRESS: <http://www.nco.northfield.mn.us/crwp>
LEGAL CITATION ML 1998, Ch. 216, Sec. 15, Subd. 17(b)
APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$350,000

Statement of Objectives: To integrate the existing technical resources and programs available through local, state and federal agencies by providing facilitation, focus and resources not available elsewhere. These combined resources were taken to groups and individuals throughout the watershed in order to make real changes in land use and practices that will "improve and/or protect the surface and ground waters and the natural resources of the Cannon River Watershed."

Overall Project Results: Thirty individuals representing 17 lakes are now serving their neighborhoods as Shoreland Volunteers. One new lake association was formed and at least four others reactivated. The Big Woods Project, a strong local organization focusing on the Big Woods landscape and the environmental integrity of a four township area, is offering a conservation overlay district concept to Rice County and successfully applied for funding of an erosion research project through LCMR. They have planted thousands of trees at Nerstrand Big Woods State Park, River Bend Nature Center and the Cannon River Wilderness Area. Friends of the Cannon River Wilderness Area designed and implemented projects to restore the environmental integrity of this 800-acre county park while also improving public access. They also created an informational brochure about the park. CRWP facilitated citizen initiatives, provided technical expertise and support services, while lessening their dependence on CRWP. Where interest already existed, such as the Big Woods and lake areas, the citizen efforts became dynamic relatively quickly. In areas where attempts were made to stimulate interest, the responses by local residents was slower and the time it took to generate self-sustaining groups was underestimated.

Stewardship plans were prepared for 71 landowners covering 5,098 acres; of these 325 were planted to trees or prairie using CRWP cost-share. 29 farm families received farm plans and 31 more implemented nutrient and manure management plans covering 14,021 acres. A specially designed cost share program resulted in: 1,136.7 acres of erodible lands or those buffering high quality natural areas being planted to native vegetation; 17.2 acres of buffers installed along riparian corridors; 3,000' of stream fenced from cattle; 3,925' of diversions and/or grass waterways were installed; 722' of lakeshore were restored on Fox Lake. Three cluster septic systems were initiated to address non-compliant systems on lakeshore properties. Ten side-inlet structures were installed to reduce sedimentation into Mud Creek; one was installed on Wolf Creek and seven on Spring Brook (Result 4).

The Minnesota Land Trust, Cannon River Chapter has 22 active members. 73.5 acres of permanent conservation easements were completed on two properties; seven easements totaling 280.3 acres were approved and are awaiting finalization. Another 350 acres are under consideration. Voluntary conservation easements are working very well; several landowners were referred to US Fish and Wildlife. Again, offering a menu of options allows landowners to make choices that meet their individual needs and their desire to preserve or protect natural areas.

The Spring Brook Committee, a group of 14 landowners and technical advisors, prepared an 18-page plan to protect this stream which is home to a self-reproducing native brook trout population. Included are six recommendations that were presented to Northfield, Dundas and to Bridgewater township. Planned urban infrastructure is a primary threat to the stream. Seven side inlet structures were installed to repair extensive storm damage and reduce erosion into the stream. A \$3,800 grant proposal (non-LCMR) for stream bank restoration and fencing was approved and will be installed in 1999.

Project Results Use and Dissemination: Demonstration sites are signed and available to the public. Those on public lands, such as the Cannon River Wilderness Area are available as per Rice County park policy. Those on private lands are available by permission. A 15-minute video featuring highlights of CRWP programs and projects is available. Citizen groups will continue; the Shoreland Volunteers are trained to provide local service and will receive additional training and support; the Big Woods Project has strong leadership and commitment as does the Minnesota Land Trust, Cannon River Chapter.

JUL 01 1999

July 1, 1999

Project End Date: 6/30/99

LCMR FINAL WORK PROGRAM UPDATE REPORT

I. Project Title: CANNON RIVER WATERSHED: INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT

Project Manager: Allene Moesler, Executive Director
 Affiliation: Cannon River Watershed Partnership
 Mailing Address: PO Box 501
 Faribault, MN 55021
 Telephone Number: 507 332-0488 Fax: 507 332-0513

Total Biennial Project Budget:

\$ LCMR		\$350,000.00
LCMR Amt. Spent:	\$ 203,709.47	<u>\$340,960.83</u>

=LCMR Balance	\$ 146,290.53	<u>\$ 9,039.17</u>

Legal Citation: ML 1997, Chap. 216, Sec.15, Subd. 17(b).

Appropriation Language: 17(b) Cannon River Watershed Partnership This appropriation is from the Future Resources Fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for an agreement with the Cannon River Watershed Partnership for the third biennium to implement activities in the Cannon River watershed through easements, matching grants and technical assistance.

B. Status of Match Requirement: N/A

II. PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS:

- **Result 1: Resource Protection:** Increase permanent native vegetation to stabilize soils, enhance natural communities and protect water and soil resources. Provide management assistance to farmers and other individual landowners for natural resource protection and implementation of best management practices. Citizen initiatives begun in three sub-watersheds of the Cannon River with 1995-97 LCMR funding will continue (Proposal F2) as will projects which address non-point source pollution, protect and/or restore stream and lake shoreline, and preserve or enhance natural resources. Local citizens direct projects with technical support from agencies, academic institutions and organizations. Landowners will share their knowledge and concerns as they also learn more about how their resources can be maximized to meet individual, family, and community goals. Emphasis is on riparian and high quality natural areas identified in the County Biological Surveys of Rice and Goodhue counties.
- **Result 2: Cost Share:** Management assistance and cost share incentives will be delivered to landowners with a menu of state and federal program options. CRWP cost share is for priority projects not qualifying for state or federal programs (i.e. forest tracts less than 20 acres; most area woodlands are small). Permanent native vegetative cover on highly erodible sites will reduce runoff and erosion meanwhile, preserving and/or restoring biologically significant ecosystems.
- **Result 3: Conservation Easements/Acquisition** A Cannon River Chapter of the Minnesota Land Trust will place conservation easements on or acquire and donate priority lands primarily through landowner donation of easements/and or property. This funding targets sites that would not otherwise be protected. Conservation clubs are active partners by donating funds for conservation easements.

- **Result 4: Trout Stream Protection:** Spring Brook, the only cold water trout stream in Rice County will be protected from the impacts of impending development through proactive and collaborative efforts with landowners and multiple local jurisdictions. Side inlet structures will be repaired as needed with funding reallocated from Result 3.

III. PROGRESS SUMMARY

RESULT 1 and 2: Resource Protection/Cost Share, Final Summary, June 30, 1999

3 Lake Basin and Related Projects:

A 28 member task force of lake, rural and farm residents, and eight resource professionals was formed to identify areas of concern in the 3 Lake Basin watershed; Lake Mazaska, Fox and Circle Lakes. It evolved from the citizen initiative started 1995 by CRWP. Outcomes include:

- Appliances and other trash was removed from a ravine; erosion control is planned.
- One farmer discontinued renting lakeshore property for cattle grazing and sold the wetlands to US Fish and Wildlife Service. CRWP provided him \$500/year to compensate for rental loss while awaiting USFWS finalization. Another used local, state and federal agency programs to construct dikes, ponds, and waterways to address major runoff and erosion problems on his farm which is connected to the lake by a ditch. (Success is measured not only by participation in projects funded by CRWP, but also implementing best management practices on a voluntary basis or by those using state and federal programs.) Both are task force members.
- CRWP offered funds for cluster septic system feasibility studies to help landowners address failing shoreland septic systems. Three such systems were initiated.
- Thirty lakeshore volunteers were trained and are serving their neighbors on 17 lakes, 1 pond and 1 river. One new lake association formed, Four others were reactivated by shoreland volunteers.
- Citizen Lake Monitoring increased. The MPCA is monitoring five area lakes.
- A 722' shoreland restoration on Fox Lake was installed in May, 1998. Damage from two severe rainstorms required considerable repairs. Six landowners participated. The project was designed by an engineering firm and installed by CRWP staff, MCC crews, Sentence to Serve and landowners. Wave break structures made by bundling branches survived much better than the expensive coconut fiber rolls. Native vegetation is taking hold; survival checks will continue for three years. Photo documentation and a summary are available. This project appears to be successful at this time, but it was much more expensive than others in the area designed by local technicians from the Department of Natural Resources, SWCD, and NRCS. These technicians understand local conditions and have a long-term commitment.
- Three septic system workshops were attended by about 70 individuals.
- Four lake issue meetings were attended by audiences of 10-45.

The Big Woods Project: Direct CRWP participation in the Big Woods Project began in 1995. Two large tracts of Big Woods are in the Prairie Creek watershed, so the Big Woods Project became the "watershed" organization intended to improve Prairie Creek. Outcomes of the Big Woods Project:

- The Big Woods Project was incorporated and is governed by a Board of Directors.
- The ad hoc committee presented a conservation overlay district proposal to four town-ships and to Rice County for inclusion in the counties comprehensive plan.
- A plan for the Cannon River Wilderness Area, an 800 acre Rice County Park, was developed and implemented by a volunteers, "Friends of the Cannon River Wilderness Area." The park holds a large remnant of "Big Woods" and is bisected by the Cannon River. Buckthorn removal, controlled burns, tree and prairie plantings were done. A boardwalk and stairs was built to provide public access and minimize erosion. Funding by CRWP from this proposal covered materials, MCC labor, technical assistance and printing of a brochure. The Friends provided labor, environmental expertise, some funding, coordination and design. Neighbors were targeted for forest stewardship plans; one put property into a conservation easement. Without the Friends group and funding for projects, the park would have continued to

degrade. The environmental integrity of the park was improved; the public has better access and information.

- The Water Committee of the Big Woods Project successfully applied to LCMR for approval of an erosion control study at the park and technical advisors held a public meeting about the high fecal coliform counts in Prairie Creek.

River Bend Nature Center, Faribault: A forest stewardship plan for RBNC was implemented by tree plantings, prairie restorations, and buckthorn removal. A self-guided tour of the forest management demonstration site was installed. CRWP sponsored three events at Family Fun Forestry Day. CRWP staff assisted major trash removal at RBNC. 450-500 students from Carleton College removed at least 17 dumpsters of cans, fencing, and other trash in their one day efforts in 1997 and 1998. They also cut trails and removed buckthorn.

Forest stewardship plans were written for 71 landowners covering 5,098 acres.

Plan Implementation: 164.3 ac. of trees and 161 ac. of prairie were planted and/or improved.

County Technical Assistance: Cooperative agreements between CRWP and Soil and Water Conservation Districts specifying delivery of on-site visits, resource and nutrient management results:

- 76 on-site farm visits and 29 farm plans.
- 35 nutrient management plans covering 14,021 acres were completed. Scales purchased in 1996 by CRWP are regularly used for field day demonstrations and for individual on-site manure calibrations.
- The steering committee devised a program to offset costs of native vegetation for CRP-CP2, CRP3A, and CRP4D, in target areas. 1,136.7 acres of highly erodible and/or riparian land was planted with native vegetation.
- 1 wetland dike was installed.
- 17.2 acres of riparian buffer were installed.
- 4 Diversions and/or grass waterways total 3,925'
- Almost 3,000 feet of stream was fenced off from cattle.
- 10 side inlet structures were installed along Mud Creek in Rice County; 1 on Wolf Creek, 7 on Spring Brook (Result 4)

County staff were unable to fulfill the CRWP agreements because of feedlot inventories and storm damage repairs. Funds not used on agreements was added to cost share and/or monitoring plans and equipment. Enhancing or complementing existing local, state and federal conservation programs and funding projects that fall between those programs was very successful. Technicians custom designed plans to erosion or water quality problems and met landowner needs. NRCS and SWCD technicians were very supportive of this program, saying that it filled important gaps and improved rapport with landowners who had given up on federal programs. It will be revised and continued with a 1999 legislative appropriation to CRWP.

Tours, field days, workshops, public information meetings and the annual Cannon River Summit provided opportunities for informing decision makers and the public about natural resources and the responsibility everyone has to protect them. CRWP events and projects were the subject of many newspaper articles.

It works to give citizens the information, tools and opportunity to make wise land use decisions that protect and/or improve natural resources. Informed and trained citizens are willing to share their ideas with neighbors. Providing technicians with flexible and practical programs to take to landowners increases participation. One-on-one on site visits such as those done with forest stewardship plans are labor intensive, but have a high success rate. Offering to help a landowner find solutions and funding results in greater cooperation than sending the landowner from program to program.

RESULT 3: Conservation Easements; Final Summary, January 30, 1998 The newly formed Minnesota Land Trust, Cannon River Chapter (MLT/CRC), originally targeted the six landowners of property surrounding Fish Lake, a unique high quality lake. Despite initial interest, the organization holding a key property declined to participate and this project was not pursued. Instead, the MLT/CRC turned to a broader audience and sought publicity. The MLT/CRC annual meeting was a front page feature in the Faribault Daily News. A total of \$51,500 intended for easement purchase was reallocated to Results 1,2 and 4.

At this time, the high quality 192 acre parcel in Dakota County is not completed. However, \$900,000 toward the project has been approved through the Metro Greenways Program and from the Minnesota Legislature. The final decision on a \$300,000 request will be made on 6/30/99. The property will most likely become a wildlife management area. This project is no longer connected with Result 3, but it is strongly related to the concept of protecting high quality natural areas.

Members and volunteers were trained to do site evaluations and property checks. A conservation development workshop for area planners and developers was held. MLT/CRC is governed by a 6 member Board of Directors and has a membership of 22. Twenty-eight people attended the Annual Meeting on June 16 at the Cannon River Wilderness Area. Two easements totaling 73.5 acres were completed. One easement is adjacent to the Wilderness Area. Seven easements totaling 280.3 acres were approved by the local and state MLT Boards and are near completion. Eight more projects totaling 350 acres are being evaluated.

The original intention was to purchase conservation easements from willing sellers unable to afford to do so otherwise. Once the focus was broadened, interest in volunteer easements increased. The time estimated to complete conservation easements was underestimated. Landowners considering this step need time to consult with family, attorneys and financial advisors. However, once they enter the process, most are likely to follow through. CRWP will continue to provide basic support services to the Minnesota Land Trust, Cannon River Chapter. It is an excellent tool for landowners wanting to protect the resources on their property in perpetuity.

RESULT 4: Spring Brook June 30, 1999 (Final Summary)The model used for this project is one in which stakeholders are informed about issues through a series of information meetings, a committee emerges to take on leadership and make recommendations, a plan is developed and implementation begins. By January, 1998, an overall strategy was designed, materials developed and about 60 landowners and 6 jurisdictions received invitations to participate. A committee of 14 representing the major interest groups formed after several meetings. Newspaper coverage stimulated broad interest. Partially as a result of this project, the Mill Towns Trail, installed a bridge at the mouth of Spring rather than extend the existing culvert. A freak rainfall of 7-10" on June 26, 1998 resulted in severe damage; a township road bridge was washed out and the railroad tracks over the creek collapsed. CRWP began working with Bridgewater Township and the Department of Natural Resources to assist with bridge design for the replacement. The bridge has not yet been replaced, but recommendations from the committee were incorporated into the design. Two grant proposals were submitted in 1999 for funds to cover additional costs of native vegetation. A \$3,800 grant was awarded. Seven side inlet structures were installed to repair storm damage and prevent further erosion. Several landowners would not consider erosion control without cost share. Two landowners applied for cost share (Result 2) to install conservation practices.

Alternative development and designs to increase infiltration were presented to landowners, committee members, city and township officials. This was done to acknowledge that some landowners will develop their lands and to introduce practical solutions to protect the Cannon River as well as the trout stream.

Individual interviews with landowners were done in addition to the on-going meetings. A statement of support was written and signed by owners of 15 properties. The statement authorized CRWP to proceed with requests for changes in plans and/or ordinances and other actions needed to protect Spring Brook.

A stream monitoring program (transparency, temperature and flow) was established that volunteers will continue. A flow gauge was purchased for long term (3-5 year) flow monitoring. An 18 page (included with packet of additional materials) committee report was prepared, including a list of six recommendations for local jurisdictions. Presentations of the trout stream requirements and recommendations were made to the Northfield Planning Commission and City Council, Dundas City Council and Bridgewater Township. Most of the local jurisdictions are revisiting their comprehensive plans as Rice County moves forward with its plan.

Activities of the past two years created partnerships between landowners, Trout Unlimited, local college students, and committee members so that long term protection of this unique resource seems very likely. Spring Brook will continue to be a priority with some funding appropriated to the Cannon River Watershed Partnership by the 1999 Minnesota legislature being dedicated to continue this project. Comment: Emphasis on the information meetings resulted in some loss of interest and momentum. The landowners and committee were willing to move ahead before the series of planned meetings were completed, pointing out the need for flexibility. A social gathering is being planned for late summer to show appreciation to landowners and committee members and also to prepare following up on the zoning recommendations.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS

- Result 1: Resource Protection
- 6,000 acres of forest/natural resource stewardship plans will be completed on private and public lands in the Cannon River Watershed. For residents with adjoining natural areas, group plans and educational materials will be done on a "neighborhood" basis. 400 acres will be reforested or restored to prairie with cost share provided under Result 2. At the end of this biennium, the total acreage under plan will be over 30,000 with 1,000 acres planted. This will be accomplished by the CRWP staff stewardship forester and/or contract forester under supervision of the area DNR Foresters. The foresters are the primary contact with landowners of non-agricultural lands. The Nature Conservancy has committed \$20,000 to match.
- Landowners will receive management assistance and planning of their entire landscape. Planners will promote a "menu" of agricultural and natural resource programs and practices, combining federal and state program information. Plans will include recommendations for erosion control, nutrient and pest management, riparian buffers and/or other appropriate techniques to protect soil and water resources. Whole farm planning training for individuals and groups will be offered. The primary contacts for agricultural landowners will be the SWCD, NRCA and/or Extension.

<u>Completed Date:</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Cost</u>
June 1998	3,092 acres forest stewardship plans, site visits; 1,300 acres manure mgmt. plans; 17 Shoreland volunteers trained and active; Public Events/tours attended by about 350. 500 students attended Enviro-Ag Days	\$39,599 \$ 600
<u>Projected Completion:</u>		
Dec. 1998	719 acres forest stewardship plans; farm plans nutrient management/site visits/follow-up Public events/tours	\$25,663 \$ 3,400
<u>April, 1999</u>	<u>959 acres forest stewardship plans, 14 trained Shoreland volunteers, public programs.</u>	<u>\$15,144</u>

June 1999	1500 <u>902</u> acres forest stewardship plans; farm plans, nutrient management	\$14,524	<u>\$ 11,803.59</u>
	Public programs,	\$ 1,000	<u>1,000.00</u>

Budget: \$93,000 Balance: \$15,024 \$ 2,722.41

Vouchers will be submitted on a monthly or bi-monthly basis, depending upon results. Activity will be seasonal; therefore completion dates may vary somewhat. Meetings are intended to be inclusive and informative, serving to inform, involve and empower local citizens.

- Result 2: Cost share incentives for practices not addressed by other programs: shoreline erosion, agricultural resources management assistance, rotational grazing, prairie and forest restoration on small tracts. A pilot nutrient management incentive program will target ~~10~~ 4 farms in the Little Cannon watershed. On site manure calibrations will continue with soil and manure tests included. Actions necessary to protect sites having high natural resource value will be site specific. The focus areas for cost share coincide with the above: the Little Cannon River Watershed, the Prairie Creek/Big Woods area, and the Three Lake Basin (Mazaska, Fox & Circle Lakes). This will allow implementation of the above plans. It will also be used to address rural septic issues in the Three Lake Basin of Rice County, resulting in a cluster system organizational format and processes for funding worked out with local units of government. Selection committees comprised of local citizens and technical advisors choose projects. Cost share will be based on a 50% cash or in-kind match by landowners. Technical expertise will be provided by the technicians in Result 1 and through in-kind support by local, state and federal agency personnel. The uncertainty of CRP sign-up acceptance may result in a shift in emphasis.

<u>Completion Date:</u>	<u>Project:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>
June, 1998	63 acres planted to permanent vegetation, 700 acres enrolled in pilot nutrient program, 2,719' of fence installed, 760' shoreline restored (carryover from last biennium) Cost share projects approved total \$70,000	\$9,709
Dec., 1998	Cost share projects completed, flood repair on Fox Lake 614 acres to permanent vegetation, 15 ½ acres buffer, 2300 ft of fence, 2929' of diversion on 3 sites, 492 acres pilot nutrient mgmt,	\$66,232
April, 1999	Cost share projects completed, recruited, approved.	\$8,883
June 30, 1999	All Cost share projects completed including 1600 1,576 acres to permanent vegetation, buffer strips installed, natural area protection projects approved. (A list of approved projects is available upon request.)	<u>-\$113,726</u> <u>\$105,736.96</u>
Budget:	<u>\$200,500 (Reflects shift of funds from Result 3)</u>	
Balance:	<u>4/30/99 \$89,226 + \$24,500 = \$113,726</u>	<u>\$ 7,989.04</u>

Most cost share projects are seasonal and dependent upon weather conditions. It is expected that all projects under this program will be completed by June 30, 1999. Completion of individual projects will be accomplished throughout the biennium. Reports and vouchers will be submitted monthly.

- **Result 3:** The Cannon River Chapter of the Minnesota Land Trust will place conservation easements on 200-250 acres. The project target is Fish Lake in LeSueur County, one of the few high quality lakes in the watershed; however, circumstances may result in other projects taking precedence during the two year period. The Land Trust will manage the conservation easements and serve as a vehicle through which local sportsman's clubs can contribute funds for land protection. Charter status was achieved in November 1996. The CRWP River Advocate is facilitating the process. Land protection criteria were adopted in May 1997.

<u>Completion Date:</u>	<u>Project:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>
June, 1998	<u>Donation</u> of easements 87 acres approved, awaiting completion	\$ 7,201.51
Dec., 1998	Donation of easements, \$24,000. 11 acres, programs, on site visits.	\$ 7,474.00
April, 1999	Workshop, training, 103 acres approved By local chapter; on to state level	\$ 4,718.08
June, 1999	Donation of easements, —\$7,106.06 —156 <u>73.5</u> Acres; workshop, land checks, Ongoing activities include promotion, landowner contact, property reports, and monitoring of existing easements.	<u>\$ 8,046.08</u>

Budget: ~~\$55,000~~ \$26,500 (Reflects shift to Results 1,2 and 4)

Balance: 4/30/99 ~~\$35,606.06~~ ~~\$28,500~~ = \$7106.06 (-\$ 940.02)

This phase of the project will be concluded by June 1999. The organization will then be firmly established and functioning independently as a "Partner" organization.

- **Result 4:** Spring Brook, which enters the Cannon River just south of Northfield, will be protected from the impact of development, mining and agricultural runoff through easements, zoning and storm water management. Protection policies, development design and other means to be worked out with landowners, municipalities, nearby industry, Rice County and other interests will be developed with the CRWP River Advocate and local team facilitating the process. The goal is to protect a unique population of trout and enhance this rare cold water stream. In-kind and match of at least \$3,000 is anticipated. Baseline monitoring is included with the process to be developed with the Department of Natural Resources. Flood damage will be repaired.

<u>Completion Date:</u>	<u>Project:</u>	<u>Cost</u>
June 30, 1998	Committees, stakeholders organized; and Background data, maps, etc. assembled. 12 citizen meetings and/or tours held	\$ 6,340
Dec. 1998	Goals/Consensus/Preliminary plan Statement of Support	\$ 3,537
April 1999	Signed statements, on site visits 5 side inlet structures	\$ 2,711 \$ 6,978
June 30, 1999	Final Plan/Policy Flood damage repair Gauging station	\$ 1,913 <u>\$2,644.65</u> \$ 8,021 \$ 2,500

Budget: ~~\$29,000~~ \$30,000

Balance: 4/30/99 ~~\$8,434~~ +4,000 = \$12,434 (-\$ 731.65)

(Note on 12/97 the error of including \$3,000 match on the budget was made and carried forward. It is now correctly shown, including the \$18,000 and \$4,000 transfers from Result 3.)

V. DISSEMINATION

The annual "Cannon River Summit" will continue to bring decision-makers, technicians and local citizens together in order to share priorities, progress and concerns. Tours, field days and workshops on specific techniques allow local citizens to share successes and failures. Careful documentation of contacts, cooperation, plan development and implementation will be analyzed and made available in print form. At some point, CRWP will go "on-line" to allow easy access to reports and data. The process and outcomes will be shared as requested on local, state and regional levels.

VI. CONTEXT

Significance: There are numerous programs, projects, options and opportunities for landowners. Most however are directed at a single specific outcome. The overall goal is to implement strategies that meet landowner needs, address environmental concerns and fulfill goals of the Cannon River Watershed Plan, county water plans as well as those of "Partners." This is done by integrating the multiple resources and programs for individuals and/or specific natural resources and moving rapidly from plan to implantation. Successful programs in rural areas are those that focus on the goals of the landowner, are promoted on-site, and offer a variety of options. This project will supplement the Goodhue County SWCD staff in the Little Cannon River watershed and Rice County SWCD staff in the Big Woods/Prairie Creek and Three Lake Basin watersheds to take the menu of options to landowners. Forest stewardship plans by CRWP staff under the supervision of DNR Forestry will continue. They will deliver the same options as other contacts. Appropriate technicians will be sought as needed to provide management assistance and project design. The "neighborhood plan" concept is unique and participation and implementation will determine its success. Successful programs will be applied elsewhere in the watershed and shared elsewhere. Less successful efforts will be analyzed and either altered or dropped. The outcome will be a reduction of sedimentation in local waters; improved land management and areas of rare biological integrity will be protected as development and recreational pressure on the watershed increase. The biological/chemical stream monitoring done for three consecutive years (1994-96) will be repeated in 1999 to measure water quality improvements. Several sites inventoried on the county biological surveys will be revisited to determine if biological integrity has been strengthened by landowner activities.

A. Time: As this primarily a continuation of the 1995-97 LCMR proposal, the anticipated completion is June 30, 1999. In 1997, CRWP will be developing strategies for long term funding independent of the LCMR.

B. Budget Context:

	<u>July 1995- June 1997</u>	<u>July 1997- June 1999</u>	<u>June 1999-June 2001</u>
	<u>Prior expenditures on this project</u>	<u>Proposed expenditures on this project</u>	<u>Anticipated future expenditures on this project</u>
LCMR	\$325,000	\$350,000	0
Other State			
Non State	115,000	98,000	To Be Determined
Cash			
Total	\$440,000	\$448,000	

BUDGET: (Note that the detailed budget on the next page includes the LCMR and match by result, broken down into personnel, expenses, and program.

VII. COOPERATION:

Personnel	Stewardship Forester (Dan Milbert)	\$ 35,000
	River Advocate (Chris Robbins)	26,000
	Project Coordinator (Unnamed)	25,000 *
	Project Manager (Allene Moesler)	6,000

*This position has been eliminated as a separate entity. Dan Milbert will assume this role and a contract forester will assume 50% of the stewardship plans in Result 1.

The following local and state government organizations are cooperators for various aspects of the implementation:

Goodhue Co. SWCD (farm contacts, mgmt. assist., Result 1 & 2)	\$15,000
Rice County SWCD (farm contacts, mgmt. assist., Result 1 & 2)	\$15,000
Richard Peterson, Keith Jacobson, DNR Forestry	In-Kind
Brad Carlson, Rice County Extension Educator	In-Kind
Hugh Valiant, Al Schmidt, DNR Fisheries	In-Kind
Jeanine Vorland, DNR Wildlife	In-Kind
Renay Leone, Minnesota Land Trust	In-Kind
Nancy Falkum, The Nature Conservancy	In-Kind

IX. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress will be submitted on:

- January 31, 1998
- July 30, 1998
- January 31, 1998
- June 30, 1999

A final work program report and associated products will be submitted by June 30, 1999, or by the completion date as set in the appropriation.

X. NOT APPLICABLE