

# FINAL REPORT

Susan Thornton

From: Susan Thornton  
Sent: Thursday, November 20, 2003 4:41 PM  
To: 'larryschwarzkopf@fdlrez.com'  
Cc: John Velin; Susan Von Mosch; Susan Thornton  
Subject: RE: Final Report for Phase I?

*3E de*  
*ok & Fond du Lac*

Larry, one more message. I was confused by your comment about needing to complete the work program. We have one for phase ii already.  
Susan

-----Original Message-----

From: Larry Schwarzkopf [mailto:larryschwarzkopf@fdlrez.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2003 12:56 PM  
To: Susan Thornton  
Subject: RE: Final Report for Phase I?

----- Original Message -----

From: Larry Schwarzkopf  
<larryschwarzkopf@fdlrez.com>  
Date: Wed. Nov. 19, 2003 ~ 1 PM

Hi Susan:

The agreement with MDNR is alright. I will work on approval of the agreement of the tribal council as soon as possible, probably after Thanksgiving. I will be travelling to Arkansas next week, because we are visiting with my wife's mom and dad. Her dad is not doing well.

Larry S.

From: "Susan Thornton" <Susan.Thornton@commissions.leg.state.mn.us>  
Date: Wed, 19 Nov 2003 12:54:30 -0600

>Larry, thanks. This is what we assumed, but we didn't want to assume. I will also follow up with Bill. I am ccing him on this email.

>Susan

>

>-----Original Message-----

>From: Larry Schwarzkopf [mailto:larryschwarzkopf@fdlrez.com]  
>Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2003 4:25 PM  
>To: Susan Thornton  
>Subject: RE: Final Report for Phase I?

>

>

>----- Original Message -----

>From: Larry Schwarzkopf,  
><larryschwarzkopf@fdlrez.com>  
>Date: Tues. 11-18-03, ~4:22 PM

>

>Dear Susan:

> This is the completion of Phase 1, and we do not plan to expend the \$6,005. I informed Matt Holland that these funds could be used for other LCMR projects. We do not have the 2003-04 agreement with the MDNR in place as yet. Bill Becker just sent us 3 copies, however the dollar amount was incorrect. It was \$2,425 per year, instead of \$20,425/yr. I called him but we are playing phone tag, as I was in an environmental conference all day. I also have to complete the work program, but it will be very similar to last years work program.

>

>I should be in the office most of Wed. 11-19.

>

>Auf wedersehen,

>

>Larry S.

>

>

>

>From: "Susan Thornton" <Susan.Thornton@commissions.leg.state.mn.us>

>Date: Tue, 18 Nov 2003 12:21:00 -0600

>

>>Larry, thank you for your Phase I November 2003 report. We wish to confirm that this submission is a Final Report for Phase I and you do not intend to spend the remaining balance of \$6005.58. Please respond. Phase II can begin once you confirm closure to Phase I. You may continue spending through June 30, 2004 the Phase I money if you wish. Phase I money does, however, continue to be under contract through BIA and not direct to Fond du Lac Reservation like the Phase II money. Please make sure that your Phase II contract with DNR is in place. Also, please send an electronic copy of the November 2003 work program and attachments to Matt Holland and Bill Becker.

>>Susan Thornton

>>

>>-----Original Message-----

>>From: Larry Schwarzkopf [mailto:larryschwarzkopf@fdlrez.com]

>>Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2003 3:00 PM

>>To: Susan Thornton

>>Cc: lcmr@commissions.leg.state.mn.us

>>Subject:

>>

>>

>>From: Larry Schwarzkopf

>>Date: Nov. 13, 2003

>>

>>I will attach the Report, the Attachments, and the Abstract. Please let me know if do not receive any of the attachments.

>>

>>Thanks for the help on completing these reports.

>>

>>Larry S.

>>

>>PS. The Report and the Abstract are MS Word 2000 documents. Please let me know if you want them in a different format.

>>

>

## Susan Thornton

---

**From:** Susan Thornton  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 19, 2003 12:55 PM  
**To:** 'larryschwarzkopf@fdlrez.com'  
**Cc:** John Velin; Susan Von Mosch; Susan Thornton; 'bill.becker@dnr.state.mn.us'  
**Subject:** RE: Final Report for Phase I?

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## Susan Thornton

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**From:** Susan Thornton  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2003 12:21 PM  
**To:** 'larryschwarzkopf@fdlrez.com'  
**Cc:** 'bill.becker@dnr.state.mn.us'; Susan Thornton; Sandy Smith; John Velin; Susan Von Mosch; Matt Holland (E-mail)  
**Subject:** RE: Final Report for Phase I?

Larry, thank you for your Phase I November 2003 report. We wish to confirm that this submission is a Final Report for Phase I and you do not intend to spend the remaining balance of \$6005.58. Please respond. Phase II can begin once you confirm closure to Phase I. You may continue spending through June 30, 2004 the Phase I money if you wish. Phase I money does, however, continue to be under contract through BIA and not direct to Fond du Lac Reservation like the Phase II money. Please make sure that your Phase II contract with DNR is in place. Also, please send an electronic copy of the November 2003 work program and attachments to Matt Holland and Bill Becker.  
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**From:** Larry Schwarzkopf [mailto:larryschwarzkopf@fdlrez.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 13, 2003 3:00 PM  
**To:** Susan Thornton  
**Cc:** lcmr@commissions.leg.state.mn.us  
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**From:** Larry Schwarzkopf  
**Date:** Nov. 13, 2003

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Sandy Smith

NOV 13 2003

From: Larry Schwarzkopf [larryschwarzkopf@fdlrez.com]  
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2003 3:00 PM  
To: Susan Thornton  
Cc: lcmr@commissions.leg.state.mn.us

JRV \_\_\_\_\_  
SAT \_\_\_\_\_  
SVM \_\_\_\_\_  
YF \_\_\_\_\_  
CS \_\_\_\_\_

100% of  
needs to  
renewal  
unreimbursed  
parts



Attachment B, 2003 Attachment 2001 Project LCMR Work Prog.  
LCMR update, 10,... A, 11,12,03.xl... Abstract, 11,6,03... Rpt. 11,5,03.d...

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Is this a final? - release or held 6<sup>th</sup>  
start ph 2? if so we should say ok to  
him to start ph 2

~~the attorney for factoring~~

He called to ask some Q's  
how to get the unreimbursed  
money sent to him. I referred him to  
Bill B. - who knows the  
reimbursements and I think has the  
earlier unreimbursed bill.

## 2001 Project Abstract

for the Period Ending June 30, 2003

FINAL REPORT

**PROJECT TITLE:** Fond du Lac Band – Wild Rice Habitat Restoration

**Project Manager:** Larry Schwarzkopf, Program Manager, Fond du Lac Natural Res. Prog.  
**Organization:** Fond du Lac Reservation  
**Address:** 1720 Big Lake Road, Cloquet, Minn. 55720  
**Web Site Address:** www.fdlrez.com (click on Natural Resources)  
**Fund:** Restoring Minnesota's Fish and Wildlife Corridors - #CH-01  
**Legal Citation:** M.L. 2001, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Session, Chapter 2, Section 14, Subd. 04 (e)

**Appropriation Amount:** \$85,598

### Overall Project Outcome and Results

A wild rice restoration project is being conducted which will result in a significant increase in the wild rice stands on Rice Portage Lake, and thereby improve wildlife habitat and forage for migratory waterfowl. The wild rice lakes, on the Fond du Lac Reservation, are currently being restored by the Fond du Lac Natural Resources Program (NRP), to their historical size and abundance. A grant from the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources will provide some of the funds for the restoration of the wild rice habitat on Rice Portage Lake.

The restoration Rice Portage Lake has recently been implemented by the construction of a water control structure on the outlet. This will increase the size of the lake from 114 acres to 634 acres. The partial drainage of this lake by a judicial ditch dug in 1916 to 1921 resulted in hundreds of acres of cattail and sedge mat displacing former wild rice habitat. An ambitious vegetation control program has been initiated to convert competing vegetation to the original wild rice habitat. The NRP's sedge mat cutter ("cookie cutter") is operated on Rice Portage Lake to eventually cut up about 350 to 400 acres of floating cattail and sedge mat. In order to restore these areas to wild rice habitat, a new aquatic plant harvester was purchased with funds from this LCMR grant and the Circle of Flight-Tribal Wetland and Waterfowl Enhancement Initiative. In the first phase of this project approximately 25 acres of wild rice habitat has been cleared of competing vegetation and seeded with wild rice. The full restoration of the hundreds of acres of wild rice habitat on Rice Portage Lake will require at least 8-10 years to complete.

Fond du Lac is cooperating with the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College and the Univ. of Minn./Duluth to conduct a wild rice ecology study of the changes to the plant community and lake sediments before and after restoration activities.

### Project Results Use and Dissemination

The restoration of a wild rice lake by mechanically removing competing vegetation is a new and novel method. Presentations on this restoration technique have been made to groups of tribal, state, and federal natural resource professionals, and most recently at the Society of Conservation Biologists-International Conference in Duluth, this past summer. A full page article on our wild rice restoration work was published in the Duluth New-Tribune and the St. Paul Pioneer Press in 2002. The information on this project will be posted on the Fond du Lac Reservations website.

After observing our method of restoration the Bois Forte Reservation has purchased a cookie cutter and aquatic plant harvester this year to clear competing vegetation on Nett Lake, the state's largest wild rice lake.

Date of Report Nov. 12, 2003

Date of Next Report:

Date of Work Program Approval: July 24, 2001

Amendment Approved: December 13, 2001

Project completion Date: June 30, 2003

## LCMR WORK PROGRAM 2001

### **I. PROJECT TITLE: Restoring Minnesota's Fish and Wildlife Corridors- #CH-01**

Area 5 – Lower St. Louis River

1. Fond du Lac Band – Wild Rice Habitat Restoration

**Overall Coordination:** Bob Jackson

**Affiliation:** Bureau of Indian Affairs

**Mailing Address:** One Federal Drive, Room 550, Ft. Snelling, MN 55111-4007

**Telephone Number:** 612-713-4400

**Fax:** 612-713-4401

**Project Manager:** Larry Schwarzkopf

**Affiliation:** Fond du Lac Reservation, Fond du Lac Natural Resources Program

**Mailing Address:** 1720 Big Lake Rd., Cloquet, MN 55720

**Telephone Number:** [218] 878-8088

**E-Mail:** [larryschwarzkopf@fdlrez.com](mailto:larryschwarzkopf@fdlrez.com)

**Fax:** [218] 879-4854

**Web Address:** fdlrez.com

#### **Total Biennial Project Budget:**

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Approp</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Wild Rice Habitat Restoration (ETF) 2001		\$85,598		
	Fiscal Year I: 2002	\$66,479	\$61,651.72	\$4,827.28
	Fiscal Year II: 2003	\$19,119	\$17,940.70	\$1,178.30
		\$85,598	\$79,592.42	\$6,005.58

**Legal Citation:** 04(e) M.L. 2001, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Session, Chapter 2, Section 14, Subd. 04(e) \$11,745,000  
(Environmental Trust Fund) Restoring Minnesota's Fish and Wildlife Habitat Corridors

\$5,874,000 the first year and \$5,872,000 the second year are from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for acceleration of agency program and cooperative agreements with Minnesota Waterfowl Association, Minnesota Deer Hunters Association, Ducks Unlimited, Inc., National Wild Turkey Federation, Pheasants Forever, The Nature Conservancy, Minnesota Land Trust, Trust for Public Land, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the U.S. Forest Service to restore and acquire fragmented landscape corridors that connect areas of quality habitat to sustain fish, wildlife, and plants. \$352,000 is for program coordination, corridor identification, and mapping. \$3,343,000 is for restoration and management activities in wildlife management areas, wetland habitat, lakes, wild rice beds, grasslands, and fisheries habitat. \$2,650,000 is for conservation easement programs on riparian areas, big woods forests, native prairies, and wetlands. \$5,400,000 is for habitat acquisition activities on prairies, riparian areas, and other fish and wildlife habitat corridors. As part of the required work program, criteria and priorities for planned acquisition and restoration activities must be submitted to the legislative commission on Minnesota resources for review and approval. Land acquired with this appropriation must be sufficiently improved to meet at least minimum management standards as determined by the Commissioner of Natural Resources. Any land acquired in fee title by the Commissioner of Natural Resources with money from this appropriation must be designated: (1) as an outdoor recreation unit under Minnesota Statutes, Section 86A.07, or (2) as provided in Minnesota Statutes, Section 89.018, subdivision 2, paragraph (a): 97A.101; 97A.125-97C.001; and 97C.001. The Commissioner may so designate any lands acquired in less than fee title. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2004, at which time the project must be completed and final products delivered, unless an earlier date is specified in the work program.



## II. PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS:

The Fond du Lac Natural Resources Program will conduct a cooperative wild rice restoration project under the LCMR Proposal #CH-01 Restoring Minnesota's Fish & Wildlife Habitat Corridors. The wild rice restoration project will result in a significant increase in the wild rice stands on Rice Portage Lake, and thereby improve wildlife habitat and forage for migratory waterfowl. The project will also expand our Program's capability to work with other Reservations and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to manage and restore wild rice lakes.

The wild rice lakes, on the Fond du Lac Reservation, are currently being restored by the Fond du Lac Natural Resources Program [FDL-NRP], to their historical size and abundance. The six major wild rice lakes on Fond du Lac have a total acreage of 1,401 acres, and have a total watershed area of about 22,740 acres. The largest area of wild rice habitat will be restored on Rice Portage Lake. The open water wild rice and associated wetland ecosystem provides a large contiguous fish and wildlife habitat with unique importance for waterfowl and other wildlife species. Waterfowl especially use this series of lakes during the fall migration.

### Fond du Lac - Wild Rice Habitat Restoration Project

Restoration has recently been implemented by the construction of an outlet water control structure on Rice Portage Lake. This has increased the size of the lake, which was partially drained by a judicial ditch in 1921, from 114 acres to 634 acres. In conjunction with the improved water level and discharge control, an ambitious vegetation control program has been initiated to convert competing vegetation to the original wild rice habitat. The FDL-NRP's sedge mat cutter ["cookie cutter"] is operated on Rice Portage Lake to cut up about 350 to 400 acres of floating cattail and sedge mat. In order to restore these areas to wild rice habitat, a new aquatic plant harvester with special modifications is necessary to work with the cookie cutter. This work will require at least several years to complete on Rice Portage Lake.

## III. PROGRESS SUMMARY

### **Cumulative: July 2001 – October 2003:**

**October 2003:** The sedge mat cutter ("cookie cutter") and the aquatic plant harvester (harvester) were used on Rice Portage Lake in the summer of 2003 to cut up and remove cattail mat on the southeast side of the lake, and cleared a channel from the northwest side of the lake that was obstructing water flow into the Lake from Miller Lake. Another area on the northwest side of the lake was made accessible for the equipment and the two areas, cleared in the southeast and northwest side of the Lake, were seeded with wild rice purchased from harvesters at the landing in late August and in September. A total of about 10 additional acres were cleared and seeded.

**June 2003:** The sedge mat cutter and aquatic plant harvesters have been repaired and the annual maintenance has been completed. Airboat and sickle bar cutter being repaired. Cookie cutter and harvester launched on Rice Portage Lake on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cutting and removal of floating cattail mat, sedges and horsetail plants will be worked on through June, 2003.

### **November 2002: Wild rice seeded on Rice Portage Lake**

Wild rice was seeded on Rice Portage Lake in early September. Most of the wild rice was flooded by seven inches of rain in the first week of July, however we were able to seed some wild rice in September (Result 2, LCMR: Development \$276).

### **June 2002: 15 acres cleared of competing vegetation and 8 acres seeded with wild rice**

An 8 acre area, on Rice Portage Lake that had been cleared of a floating cattail mat, was seeded with wild rice in early September, 2001. The Fond du Lac Reservation purchased \$7,192 of wild rice for this purpose from hand harvesters on Rice Portage Lake in September, 2001. The LCMR grant has an annual budget of \$6,000 for wild rice seed, and this amount has been reimbursed. The new H-620

Aquatic Weed Harvester was received in the spring of 2002 and was used in the summer of 2002 (Result 1, LCMR: Equipment \$47,360). The cookie cutter cut up a total of 15 acres, and the new aquatic plant harvester was able to pick up and remove the floating plant debris to restore open water wild rice habitat (Result 1, LCMR: Personnel \$7,161.52; Development \$1,130.20).

#### IV. Outline of Project Results

**Result #1: Cookie cutter will cut up cattail and sedge mat and the new harvester will collect remaining plant material from restored open water wild rice habitat.**

<u>Budget</u>	<u>Amount Spent</u>	<u>Reimbursed</u>	<u>Not Reimb.</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<b>Total: \$73,598</b>	<b>\$67,592.42</b>	<b>\$47,360.00</b>		<b>\$6,005.58</b>
<b>Personnel: \$22,704</b>	<b>\$17,519.27</b>		<b>\$17,519.27</b>	<b>\$5,184.73</b>
Personnel: \$24,000	(FDL in-kind)			(FDL in-kind)
<b>Equipment: \$47,360</b>	<b>\$47,360.00</b>	<b>\$47,360.00</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Equipment: \$65,000	(BIA in-kind)			(BIA in-kind)
Equipment: \$19,748	(FDL in-kind)			(FDL in-kind)
<b>Development: \$3,534</b>	<b>\$2,713.15</b>		<b>\$2,713.15</b>	<b>\$820.85</b>
Development: \$205,500	(FDL in-kind)			(FDL in-kind)

**Note:** July 1, 2001-June 30, 2002. The new H-620 Aquatic Plant Harvester was purchased with \$47,360 in funds from the LCMR, and with \$65,000 in funds from Circle of Flight/BIA. The sedge mat cutter ("cookie cutter") was used to cut up a total of 15 acres of cattail and sedge mat, after which the harvester picked up the remaining plant debris to restore wild rice habitat on Rice Portage Lake. The \$7,161.52 for personnel to operate restoration equipment was spent in Year 1 of the project. The cost of diesel fuel, gas, and biodegradable hydraulic oil was \$1,130.20, leaving a balance of \$2,403.80 for these costs in Year 2. The Fond du Lac Reservation bought a new airboat (\$19,748) to allow us to deliver crews and fuel to the cookie cutter and the harvester on the lake. Fond du Lac also constructed a new heated garage (\$200,000) for storing and maintaining the project equipment over the winter. The cost of repairs and maintenance on the equipment in 2002 was paid for by Fond du Lac (\$5,500). The personnel costs for restoration work in the summer of 2003 was \$9,316.26, and the cost of fuel and hydraulic fluid for the equipment and project truck was \$1,582.95. There is a remaining balance of \$6,226.22 in the Personnel line item and \$820.85 in the Development line item. There is a remaining balance because the amount of wild rice habitat restoration that could be accomplished in the summer of 2003 was less than planned, due to the thick ice remaining under the cattail bogs through June and into July. This prevented the efficient cutting and removal of this plant material. An additional \$20,000 in personnel costs from BIA-Circle of Flight funds were used in late 2002 and early 2003 to maintain and repair the equipment.

#### **Result Status: June 2003 – October 2003**

**Total Wild Rice Acres Restored: 25 acres (estimated)**

**October 2003:** The sedge mat cutter ("cookie cutter") and the aquatic plant harvester (harvester) were used on Rice Portage Lake in the summer of 2003 to cut up and remove cattail mat on the southeast side of the lake, and cleared a channel from the northwest side of the lake that was obstructing water flow into the Lake from Miller Lake. Another area on the northwest side of the lake was made accessible for the equipment and the two areas cleared in the southeast and northwest side of the Lake were seeded with wild rice purchased from harvesters at the landing in late August and in September. The harsh winter resulted in thick ice under the cattail bog, which prevented as much clearing as planned for this summer. The technicians cleared several acres of cattail bog in the southeast side of the lake, and opened a channel to the inlet on the northeast side of the lake. This channel also opened an access to an open water area of about 8 acres that was seeded with wild rice. Work will continue on the restoration of wild rice habitat in 2004, in the next phase of this project.

**Result Status: November 2002 – June 2003**

**June 2003:** The sedge mat cutter and aquatic weed harvesters have been repaired and the annual maintenance has been completed (More than \$45,000 expended by Fond du Lac on materials, tools, and labor for repairs and maintenance). Airboat and sickle bar cutter being repaired. Cookie cutter and harvester launched on Rice Portage Lake on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cutting and removal of floating cattail mat, sedges and horsetail plants will be worked on through June, 2003.

**Result Status: November 2002**

**Total Wild Rice Acres Restored: 15 acres**

The Fond du Lac Natural Resources Program operated the cookie cutter, the new aquatic weed harvester, and airboat in May and June of 2002 to cut up and clear the remnants of a 15 acre area, on which the floating cattail mat was removed to restore wild rice habitat. The new harvester required a number of repairs to work properly and some of these and the annual maintenance will be completed this winter. Wild rice was seeded on this area to ensure the growth of wild rice next year.

**Result Status: May 2002**

**The H-620 Aquatic Weed Harvester was purchased.**

The new H-620 Aquatic Weed Harvester was purchased Aquarius Systems with LCMR and Circle of Flight (BIA) funds. The cookie cutter and harvester were transported to Rice Portage Lake to begin wild rice restoration efforts. The cookie cutter cut up the floating cattail mat and the new harvester picks up and removes the remaining floating plant debris, after most of the organic peat settles to the lake bottom. After the organic peat settles the area is seeded to restore the wild rice stands. The plant material removed by the harvester, are placed along the shoreline perimeter, so that these organic materials will decompose and the nutrients will return to the lake. Wild rice lakes, in general, have very good water quality and are usually nutrient deficient, so we do not want to remove large quantities of plant material, which hold significant amounts of plant nutrients.

**Result #2: Wild rice will be seeded where needed to restore wild rice stands.**

<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Amount Spent</u></b>	<b><u>Reimbursed</u></b>	<b><u>Not Reimb.</u></b>	<b><u>Balance</u></b>
<b>Total: \$12,000</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Personnel: 0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>0</b>
Personnel: \$1,440	(FDL in-kind)			(FDL in-kind)
<b>Equipment: 0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>0</b>
<b>Development: \$12,000</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Development: \$1,192	(FDL in-kind)			(FDL in-kind)

Note: The Development Budget includes \$12,000 for wild rice seed. The Fond du Lac Reservation (FDL) purchased \$7,192 of wild rice from Rice Portage Lake in September, 2001. \$6,000 was reimbursed for wild rice seed, and FDL is contributing the balance of \$1,192 to the project. Most of the wild rice on Rice Portage was lost due to flooding in July of 2002, so we were only able to purchase 0 \$276 of wild rice for seed in September, 2002. FDL is contributing \$1,440 in personnel costs for purchasing and seeding the wild rice on Rice Portage Lake in 2001 and 2002. The Fond du Lac Reservation purchased 3,840 lb of wild rice from Rice Portage Lake between 8/30/03 to 9/3/03, which was used for seeding areas on the Lake. The wild rice was purchased for \$4.00/lb for a total of cost of \$15,360. The remaining balance of funds for seed was \$5,724, which would provide a cost share of \$1.490625/lb for the 3,840 lb seeded. The balance of the cost of the seed (\$15,360-\$5,724=\$9,636) is contributed by Fond du Lac. The personnel cost for this work is donated by Fond du Lac, which would be about \$1,200, for the two technicians time of 40 hours each.

**Result Status: June to October 2003:**

**Wild rice seeded: \$15,360**

Wild rice for seeding was purchased from harvesters on Rice Portage Lake between 8/30/03 to 9/3/03. A total of 3,840 lb was purchased and seeded on the Lake. After purchasing the wild rice each day, the two technicians would seed the wild rice by hand from the airboat.

**Result Status: June 2003:** No work done on seeding between November, 2002 to June, 2003.

**Result Status: November 2002**

**wild rice seeded: \$276**

Wild rice was seeded on September 12, 2002, however because of a 95% crop loss we could only purchase \$276 of wild rice seed. The wild rice seed was dispersed on the area cleared in May and June. The area seeded in 2001 grew wild rice in 2002, so we are confident that our method of mechanical habitat restoration and seeding will work on this Lake. The area seeded in 2001 was not as affected as other wild rice stands by the flooding in July, 2002, probably because it is shallower than most of the Lake. Fond du Lac is contributing the personnel cost of purchasing and seeding the wild rice.

**Result Status: May 2002**

**wild rice seeded: \$7,192**

In September 2001, \$7,192 of wild rice was purchased for seeding on Rice Portage Lake and \$6,000 of this amount was reimbursed in March 2002. Fond du Lac is contributing the personnel cost for purchasing and seeding the wild rice.

**V. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET**

<b>All Results: Personnel:</b>	\$22,704 (LCMR)		\$25,440 (FDL in-kind)
<b>All Results: Equipment:</b>	\$47,360 (LCMR)	\$65,000 (BIA)	\$19,748 (FDL in-kind)
<b>All Results: Development:</b>	\$15,534 (LCMR)		\$206,692 (FDL in-kind)

**Total Budget:** \$402,478.00 (\$85,598 LCMR; \$65,000 BIA; \$251,880 FDL in-kind)

Note: An additional \$20,000 from BIA for personnel costs, and \$9,363 from Fond du Lac for purchasing wild rice was contributed in 2003.

**VI. PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE SPENDING:**

The restoration of several wild rice lakes on the Fond du Lac Reservation has been a goal of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe for many years. The Fond du Lac Natural Resources Program has been working on this goal since 1988. The restoration of Perch Lake, Rice Portage Lake, and Deadfish Lake required the construction of 4 water control structures in order to return lake water levels and water management to historic conditions. A judicial ditch, which was dug between 1916 to 1921 partially drained these lakes. The North American Wetland Conservation Act provided \$268,000 towards the construction of these dams. Other partners contributed substantial support for the planning and construction of the dams, including: the Fond du Lac Reservation (\$472,000); the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources (MDNR, \$55,000); the Natural Resources Conservation Service (\$151,000); Ducks Unlimited (\$30,000, specifically towards the Rice Portage Lake dam), the US Fish & Wildlife Service (\$5,000); and private corporations (\$9,000). After the water control structures were completed the task of removing the competing aquatic vegetation, which had displaced the wild rice on the partially drained lakes, has begun. The Fond du Lac Reservation purchased and refurbished a sedge mat cutter ("cookie cutter") from the MDNR, for a total investment of about \$100,000, for cutting up the

competing vegetation. A aquatic plant harvester was acquired by Fond du Lac to pick up and remove this vegetation, and it worked well to remove pickerel weeds from Perch Lake; however it's design did not work well on Rice Portage Lake. Another aquatic weed harvester was designed for Rice Portage Lake and it has been purchased with funds from the LCMR and the BIA. The cookie cutter and the new harvester will be used to remove competing vegetation and restore wild rice habitat to about 400+ acres on Rice Portage Lake in the coming years. The large area of floating cattail mat and sedges on Rice Portage lake will probably require 8 more years to restore these areas to wild rice habitat. The planned completion date for restoring Rice Portage Lake is June 30, 2010. Although the Fond du Lac Reservation is contributing considerable funds towards the restoration of Rice Portage Lake and the other wild rice lakes, we appreciate the additional funds from the LCMR and the BIA, and the cooperation of the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources.

## **VII. DISSEMINATION:**

The Fond du Lac Reservation and the Fond du Lac Natural Resources Program has contacted State and federal agencies about wild rice lake restoration efforts and has sought partners to help fund the cost of these efforts on the Fond du Lac Reservation and within the 1854 Ceded Territory. The Fond du Lac Natural Resources Program is cooperating with the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College and the Univ. of Minn./Duluth on a Wild Rice Ecology Study in order to understand the changes to the plant communities and lake sediments in the restored wild rice lakes. We have participated in wild rice conferences and meetings with state, federal, and tribal resource agencies to further the goals of proper wild rice lake management, harvest regulations, and to research wild rice ecology. Our Reservation has also cooperated with the media in the creation of a show about wild rice on Public Television, the filming of video stories about wild rice and newspaper articles about our wild rice restoration project.

The restoration of a wild rice lake by mechanically removing competing vegetation is a new and novel method. Presentations on this restoration technique have been made to groups of tribal, state, and federal natural resource professionals, and most recently at the Society of Conservation Biologists-International Conference in Duluth, this past summer. A full page article on our wild rice restoration work was published in the Duluth New-Tribune and the St. Paul Pioneer Press in 2002. The information on this project will be posted on the Fond du Lac Reservations website.

After observing our method of restoration the Bois Forte Reservation has purchased a cookie cutter and aquatic plant harvester this year to clear competing vegetation on Nett Lake, the state's largest wild rice lake.

## **VIII. LOCATION:**

Project area #5 Lower St. Louis River. (see attached maps)

- IX. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:** Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted to the LCMR not later than May 31, 2002, November 30, 2002, March 30, 2003. Final work program report and associated products will be submitted by November 15, 2003, or by the completion date as set in the appropriation.

**Attachment B -- Habitat Corridors Partnership PHASE I -- Individual Work Program Summary  
November 2003 Progress Report (For all completed activities thru 10/31/03)**

					Proposed Accomplishments			Current LCMR Accomplishments								
					LCMR			LCMR								
					Lakes			Lakes								
					Restored			Restored								
					Miles/			Miles/								
					Shoreline			Shoreline								
					Acres			Acres								
					Committed			Committed								
					Expenditure			Expenditure								
					Balance			Balance								
					Acres			Acres								
					Miles/			Miles/								
					Shoreline			Shoreline								
					Lakes Restored			Lakes Restored								
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## November 2003 Progress Report (For all completed activities thru 10/31/03)

[illegible]

Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2003 Projects - Summary and a Budget page for each partner

Proposal Title: Fond du Lac Band-Wild Rice Habitat Restoration, Area 5, 2(e)

Project Manager: Larry Schwarzkopf

LCMR dollars requested: \$26,232.42

2003 LCMR Proposal Budget	Result 1 Budget:	Amount Spent (date)	Balance (date)	Result 2 Budget:	Amount Spent (date)	Balance (date)	Result 3 Budget:	Amount Spent (date)	Balance (date)	
	Wild rice habitat restoration			Wild rice seed in restored areas			Fill in your result title here.			
BUDGET ITEM										TOT ITEM
PERSONNEL: Staff Expenses, wages, salaries – Be specific on who is paid \$, to do what? Make each person paid a separate line item										
Larry Schwarzkopf, Program Manager, Yr.1 work with techs on field trip, equipment repairs and maint.		385.14								
Terry Perrault, Tech. Yr. 1, operate cookie cutter and other restoration equipment		2,448.50								
Charles Nahgahnub, Yr. 1. Operate aquatic plant harvester		1,991.18								
Reggie Defoe, Tech. Yr. 1, assist in restoration on refueling, maintenance, and equip. operation		567.00								
Russell Northrup, summer Tech., assist in harvester operation and maintenance		420.00								
Joel Martineau, summer Tech., assist in maintenance and refueling		143.00								
Personnel: Staff expenses & wages, Fiscal Year 1 (subtotal)		5,994.82								
Charles Nahgahnub, Yr. 2. Operate and maintain cookie cutter and aquatic plant harvester		3,044.22								
Reggie Defoe, Supervisor/Tech., assist in operation, refueling, and supervising project.		298.40								
Russell Northrup, Tech. Operates and maintains aquatic plant harvester on Rice Portage		3,346.54								



Chuck Greensky, Tech., Yr. 2, assists in operation and maintenance of equipment		920.64								
Chris Ojibway, Tech. Yr. 2, assist in operation and maint. Of equipment on Rice Portage		482.24								
Personnel: Expenses and wages for Yr. 2, Subtotal:		8,092.04								
PERSONNEL: Staff benefits – Be specific; list benefits for each person on a separate line item										
Larry Schwarzkopf, Program Manager, Yr. Benefits 10.85% + 0.67/hr (dental & med)		55.26								
Terry Perrault, Tech. Yr. 1, Benefits for Techs 17.29%+0.67/hr (dental & med)		535.62								
Charles Nahgahnub, Yr. 1. "		355.06								
Reggie Defoe, Tech. Yr. 1, "		123.46								
Russell Northrup, summer Tech., Yr. 1, Benefits: 17.29% (no med.)		72.66								
Joel Martineau, summer Tech., "		24.64								
Personnel: Staff benefits Subtotal for Fiscal Year 1		1,166.70								
Charles Nahgahnub, Tech. Yr. 2, benefits 28%		852.32								
Reggie Defoe, supervisor/Tech., benefits 28%		83.55								
Russell Northrup, Tech. "		937.03								
Chuck Greensky, Tech., Yr. 2, "		257.78								
Chris Ojibway, Tech. Yr. 2, "		135.03								
Personnel: Staff benefits Subtotal for Fiscal Year 2		2,265.71								
Personnel: Wages and Benefits, Total for Fiscal Year 1 & 2	22,704.00	17,519.27	5,184.73							
Other direct operating costs (for what? – be specific)										
Development: Diesel, gas, hydraulic fluid and lubricants for cookie cutter and aquatic plant harvesters.		1,130.20 for Year 1								
Development: Diesel, gas, hydraulic fluid and lubricants for cookie cutter and aquatic plant harvesters. (For Fiscal Yr. 2)		1,582.95								

Development: Diesel, gas, hyd. Fluid and lubricants for equipment. Total for Fiscal Year 1 & 2.	3,534.00	2,713.15	820.85							
Equipment: Aquarius Systems, Aquatic Plant Harvester-H-620, total price \$118,610 for restoring wild rice habitat.	47,360.00	47,360.00	0.00							
Result 2: Development: Wild rice of seeding restored areas on Rice Portage Lk. Year 1		6,276.00			6,276.00					
Result 2: Development: Wild rice of seeding restored areas on Rice Portage Lk. Year 2		5,724.00			5,724.00					
Result 2: Development: Wild rice seed	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00				
Total for Fiscal Year 1 & 2										
Other (Describe the activity and cost)										
COLUMN TOTAL	73,598.00	67,592.42	6,005.58	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00	\$			