

M.L. 2014, Chp. 226, Sec. 2, Subd. 09g Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2017

PROJECT TITLE: Minnesota Pollinator Partnership

PROJECT MANAGER: Drew Larsen

AFFILIATION: Pheasants Forever

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FUNDING SOURCE: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: M.L. 2014, Chp. 226, Sec. 2, Subd. 09g

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$100,000.00

AMOUNT SPENT: \$85,558.72

AMOUNT REMAINING: \$14,441.28

Overall Project Outcomes and Results

The Minnesota Pollinator Partnership was created because species like domesticated honey bees and monarch butterflies are experiencing alarming declines in their populations, and pollinating insects are an essential component in global food production. Our objectives of this program were to educate youth groups and the general public in MN about the value of pollinating insect species and the habitat on which they rely on to survive, provide hands-on opportunities for youth groups and the general public in MN to establish pollinator habitat projects, establish quality pollinator habitat projects that provides foraging habitat for native pollinators, and to create a model that would aide other Pheasants Forever (PF) chapters, land managers, biologist and the general public in MN in the establishment and maintenance of future pollinator habitat projects.

During the last three years, PF staff worked with our volunteer chapters and partners to engage youth groups and community groups across MN to establish pollinator projects. Small grants were offered to Pheasants Forever Chapters and our partners to establish pollinator projects. In order to take advantage of the grants, PF chapters and partners had to engage a youth group and/or community group in the establishment of a pollinator projects. In addition, PF chapters and partners had to provide educational activities and/or curriculum to those youth groups and community groups they were working with to establish the project.

Since the program's inception, we have helped establish 43 projects on 137 acres. There have been 4,297 individuals who have participated in a pollinator partnership event, and those volunteers have donated over 4,500 hours of time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites. In addition, the program has been so successful that it helped us build a model that has been replicated across the entire country; and we have now completed youth pollinator projects in 20 other states.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

Information from this project has been used and disseminated in the following ways:

- The program and projects have been promoted at Pheasants Forever meetings (i.e. District Meetings, State Meeting, Pheasant Fest, Professional Meetings, Program Website, Newsletters, Videos, Flyers, Facebook, Twitter, Press Releases, and News Paper Articles).
- The program has helped produce program standards that are now used across the country to implement Youth Pollinator Projects. We now have projects in 20 states outside MN that follow the same protocols developed for the MN Pollinator Partnership.

- In order to determine the impacts on those involved in the MN Pollinator Partnership, we distributed a survey and conducted post survey interviews with Pheasants and Quail Forever volunteers and staff members. Sixty-seven adult Pheasant Forever and Quail Forever Chapters volunteers responded to the survey.

Information created from this program will continue to be disseminated through Pheasants Forever channels. We plan to continue and grow this program across MN and the Midwest with the materials we have created through the MN Pollinator Partnership.



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) M.L. 2014 Work Plan Final Report

Date of Report: August 3, 2017
Date of Next Status Update Report: Final Report
Date of Work Plan Approval: June 4, 2014
Project Completion Date: June 30, 2017
Does this submission include an amendment request? No

PROJECT TITLE: Minnesota Pollinator Partnership

Project Manager: Drew Larsen
Organization: Pheasants Forever, Inc.
Mailing Address: 1783 Buerkle Circle
City/State/Zip Code: St. Paul, MN 55110
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Web Address: www.pheasantsforever.org

Location: Statewide - Projects will most likely occur in counties where Pheasants Forever chapters, Quail Forever chapters and our partners are located throughout MN (see visual element). However, projects will not be limited to these areas if there is interest outside Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever's footprint in MN.

Total ENRTF Project Budget:	ENRTF Appropriation:	\$100,000
	Amount Spent:	\$85,558.72
	Balance:	\$14,441.28

Legal Citation: M.L. 2014, Chp. 226, Sec. 2, Subd. 09g

Appropriation Language:

\$100,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever to complete 40 community pollinator education and habitat projects. This appropriation must be coordinated with appropriations provided by the outdoor heritage fund. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2017, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

I. PROJECT TITLE: Minnesota Pollinator Partnership

II. PROJECT STATEMENT: National attention has been brought to the plight of pollinators and their key role in the production of our human food supply in recent years. Pollinator issues are related to habitat loss, habitat fragmentation, disease, and pesticides as well as unknown factors. The current knowledge base for improving conditions for pollinators is lacking (Marla Spivak, Personal Communication), yet it is known that by adding a diversity of flowering plants to the landscape, we not only provide nectar and habitat for pollinators, it also improves habitat for birds and other wildlife while furthering the aesthetics of the landscape of our state.

One urgent issue is that domesticated honey bees and native pollinating insects are experiencing alarming declines in their populations. Pollinating insects are an essential component in global food production. Approximately one-third of all food and beverages consumed by humans is delivered by pollinators. Popular foods like apples, bananas, berries, melons, coffee, chocolate, and almonds would not be available without pollinating insects. In the United States alone, the economic value of insect-pollinated crops is estimated to be \$18 to \$27 billion dollars annually. Many scientists believe that a major cause in the decline of domesticated honey bees and native pollinators is habitat loss and degradation.

Another urgent issue is that today's youth spend the majority of their time fixated on electronic devices and less than half of the time outdoors than their parents did. One in four children are obese, and as a result, diseases like type 2 diabetes are showing up at an alarming rate. Research has shown that children who spend time outdoors are healthier, receive better grades, have longer attention spans, and are less prone to depression than children who spend most of their time indoors. If this trend continues, children today will not develop a conservation ethic or attachment to the land with-out experiences that are fun and involve them personally.

Pheasants/Quail Forever (PF/QF) and its many partners intend to provide these hands-on experiences by completing 40 community pollinator projects on at least 40 acres, educating 800 youth & engaging an additional 200 adults through the creation of the Minnesota Pollinator Partnership. The objectives of the Minnesota Pollinator Partnership are as follows:

- Educate youth groups and the general public in MN about the value of pollinating insect species and the habitat on which they rely on to survive
- Provide hands-on opportunities for youth groups and the general public in MN to establish, maintain, and monitor pollinator habitat projects
- Establish quality pollinator habitat projects that produce and provide foraging habitat for native pollinators
- Create a model that will aide other PF/QF chapters, land managers, biologist and the general public in MN in the establishment and maintenance of future pollinator habitat projects

In order to accomplish these objectives, the Minnesota Pollinator Partnership will provide grants to PF/QF chapters and other partners to educate and engage youth, families and communities in establishing and monitoring pollinator habitat projects. Grants up to \$2,500 per project will be made available to chapters and/or partners who meet the following criteria:

- Chapters/partners must engage a youth and/or community group in the establishment, maintenance, and monitoring of a pollinator habitat project (i.e. classrooms, 4H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, FFA, etc...).
- Pollinator projects must meet minimum pollinator habitat specifications set by the USDA.
 - Pollinator projects must be a minimum of 1/2 acre in size
 - If planted in a strip, strip must be a minimum of 20 ft. wide
 - Pollinator seed mix must include a minimum of 9 native wildflower species (we expect to greatly exceed the minimum)

- At least 3 species shall have their primary onset of blooming during each period of April-June 15, June 15-July, and August-October
- Chapters/partners must provide a dollar to dollar match in order to receive grant funding for their projects. Match would include cash match from chapters and partners as well as in-kind match from donations and volunteer time spent establishing, maintaining and monitoring projects.
- Chapters/partners must include educational/monitoring activities in conjunction with the establishment of the pollinator project.
 - Educational/monitoring activities will be provided to chapters/partners by PF/QF staff and partners. Examples of educational/monitoring activities could include, but would not be limited to the following:
 - THE MONARCH LARVA MONITORING PROJECT (MLMP) - MLMP engages citizens and students in collecting data that will help to explain the distribution and abundance patterns of monarch butterflies in North America. Participants commit to monitor patches of milkweed weekly to count monarch eggs and larvae, and assess milkweed density.
 - BEE HUNT - By taking photos of bees and submitting them online, classrooms can join in this scientific study to understand the impact of climate change and other factors on plant-pollinator interactions, geographic distributions, and seasonal abundances. Bee Hunt will build a network of research sites across North America that will collect data on plants, pollinators, and their interactions. Study sites can include schools, parks, nature centers, farms, gardens, and other areas of biological interest. Participants will follow rigorous protocols that will ensure that they collect, manage, and share very high-quality data. Educationally, Bee Hunt will enable teachers to meet state science standards by doing hands-on science. Bee Hunt will provide data management, analysis, and mapping tools that will enable participants to compare data within and across sites.
 - RUDY'S RESTAURANT – This fun educational activity demonstrates the importance of pollinating insects on the global food supply. Students will select meals from a menu at Rudy's Restaurant. After meals are selected, all food items that are made possible by pollinators are removed to demonstrate how important pollinating insects are to their daily food supply.

Chapters and partners that agree to meet the minimum standards above will have the opportunity to apply for funding through the Minnesota Pollinator Partnership. All chapter/partner grant applications will be reviewed and scored by a panel of Pheasants Forever staff (Drew Larsen, Habitat Education Specialist; Matt Holland, Director of Grant Development; and Rich Wissink, National Youth Program Coordinator). All grant applications will be reviewed, scored and ranked based on the following criteria:

- Educational value (i.e. number of students and adults the project will educate)
- Matching funds (i.e. amount of money the chapter/partners are going to contribute to the project)
- Pollinator value (i.e. number of acres impacted)

If there are more applications than available grant funding, funding will be distributed to the highest scoring applications. If funding is still available after the first grant announcement, additional grant opportunities will be made available to chapters and partners until all ENRTF funding has been exhausted.

Chapters/partners that receive grants will be required to complete training provided by Pheasants Forever staff at regional workshops and/or via online webinars. Trainings will provide chapters and partners step-by-step

information on how to establish, maintain, and monitor pollinator habitat projects. In addition, chapters/partners will receive information on a number education and monitoring activities they can use in conjunction with the establishment of their pollinator project. These educational/monitoring activities are designed to insure continuing education on project sites after they are established.

After chapters/partners have received their training, they will work with local community partners to create pollinator habitat projects on public and private property in their local communities. Project sites could include state owned wildlife management areas, nature centers, state parks, county parks, city parks, school yard habitat projects, and privately owned land. Sites will then be prepped (mowed, sprayed, burned, tilled, disked, etc...) prior to planting by volunteers or by selecting contractors in the area through a competitive bid process.

After project site has been prepped, chapters/partners will then enlist the help of classrooms and youth groups (i.e. Conservation Clubs, 4H, FFA, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts) to hand plant project sites. Adult volunteers and students will hand broadcast native wildflower mixes and hand plant native plugs/plants at project sites. In addition to planting the project site, youth groups and adult volunteers will be exposed to various educational/monitoring activities designed to further educate participants on pollinators and pollinator habitat.

At the completion of the project, chapters will be required to file a final report summarizing the details (i.e. number of youth, number of volunteers, total dollars spent, and number of acres impacted) of the project. In addition to the project summary, chapters would be required to post a project sign that would display all major program partners.

Drew Larsen, Pheasants Forever's Habitat Education Specialist will serve as the project coordinator. Drew will be assisted by Pheasants Forever colleagues Matt Holland (Director of Grant Development), Rich Wissink (National Youth Program Coordinator), Eran Sandquist (Regional Biologist), and Chad Bloom (Regional Director). No ENRTF funding is being used to pay for employees or employee time to implement the MN Pollinator Partnership program. All time spent by the individuals listed above to implement the program will be counted towards in-kind match.

In brief, by providing the best science & information to educate youth and communities about the real and present issues related to pollinator habitat, both best management practices and an awareness of the plight of pollinators will be achieved. Additionally, pollinator projects will serve in future years to provide educational and community events to highlight pollinators (e.g. national pollinator week), their habitat and their importance.

EXAMPLE PROJECT EXPENDITURES:

Common total expenditures for pollinator projects could include, but would not be limited to the following (ENRTF, PF/QF chapter and partner expenditures have been separated below):

- **Site preparation (ENRTF Funds)**
 - Tillage/disking
 - Herbicide application (Note: Herbicide application is only used to prepare site prior to planting. Depending on plant composition present on site, herbicide application may have to be used to reduce competition and kill existing vegetation prior to broadcasting seed mix and planting plugs. Impact on native pollinators, human health and water quality will be taken into account prior to herbicide application.)
- **Planting/Establishment (ENRTF Funds)**
 - Pollinator seed mix
 - Native plugs/plants/shrubs/trees
 - Seed mix filler – filler is used to aid in the even distribution of seed mix when hand broadcast seeding (i.e. kitty litter, saw dust, zero germ seed, etc...)

- Planting equipment (i.e. buckets, seed spreaders, dibble bars, etc...)
- Signage
- **Maintenance (PF/QF Chapter & Partner Funds)**
 - Chemical weed control (Note: This technique will only be used as a last resort to control any noxious weeds on project sites that cannot be controlled manually.)
 - Manual weed control (i.e. pulling weeds and mowing weeds)
 - Supplemental plantings (plugs, plants & shrubs)
 - Mulch
 - Prescribed burning
 - Fencing supplies (Note: Fencing will only be used if livestock need to be excluded from project site)
 - Watering supplies (Note: Watering may need to be used to water shrubs and trees the first few growing seasons to aide in establishment)
- **Education/Monitoring (PF/QF Chapter & Partner Funds)**
 - Educational activity supplies & handouts
 - Citizen science monitoring supplies
 - Curriculum
- **Other (PF/QF Chapter & Partner Funds)**
 - Promotional materials (banners, signs, t-shirts, hats, handouts, etc...)
 - Food & beverages
 - Program administration
 - Bus transportation for youth/community groups
 - Safety equipment (i.e. gloves, sun screen, bug spray, etc...)
 - Photography & Videography

III. PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:

Project Status as of January 1, 2015:

The MN Pollinator Partnership kicked off on July 1, 2014. Pheasants Forever staff spent a great deal of time the last six months promoting the partnership by developing a number promotional items that were used at professional meetings and Pheasants Forever district meetings that were conducted in July of 2014. (note: the MN Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund logo was placed on all promotional materials created).

Potential applicants were encouraged to attend a webinar that was conducted to promote the partnership and to walk potential applicants through the application process. The webinar was also recorded and placed on our blog to allow for easy access for our chapters and partners. The deadline for grant applications was set at October 1, 2014.

After the grant deadline, a team of Pheasants Forever employees reviewed 14 grant applications. After a thorough review, the grant committee approved all 14 applications for funding. A total of 678 participants are estimated to take part in the program, 18.7 acres are projected to be established, and over 28 partners are expected to assist with the completion of the projects.

All chapters/partners scheduled to receive funding were required to attend a webinar that was produced to walk successful applicants through the grant reimbursement process as well as provide valuable information on how to plan and conduct a successful event. Since July 1, 2014, a total of 136 hours have been spent by Pheasants Forever staff on program delivery and training.

Project Status as of July 1, 2015:

As of July 1, 2015, Pheasants Forever and our partners have completed 9 projects on 18.7 acres (see attachment for a detailed summary of completed projects). There were 630 individuals who participated in a pollinator partnership event, and volunteers donated over 957 hours of their time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites.

Since January 1, 2015, Pheasants Forever staff has spent a total of 108 hours assisting chapters and partners with ordering supplies for their events, creating seed mixes, providing educational materials for participants, attending pollinator partnership events, attending partnership meetings, shooting video at events, promoting events on social media, and summarizing data for periodic reports.

Overall, we felt projects conducted this spring were very successful. However, there are always challenges to every new program. The one major challenge encountered during the project was dealing competitive grass on project sites. Species like Smooth Brome and Big Bluestem are very aggressive and they will out-compete many native wildflower species that are important to pollinators. It's always best practice to kill these competitive grass species prior to planting. Sometimes one herbicide application will do the trick, but sometime it takes two herbicide applications to completely eradicate the grass from the project site. A few of the projects that we had scheduled for the spring of 2015 are being pushed back to the fall of 2015 in order to adequately prepare the site for a successful planting.

Pheasants Forever staff continues to work hard to promote the program and work with our chapters and partners to conduct successful events. We plan to produce new training videos from video shot at events this spring to help chapters and partners plan future events. We have several projects scheduled to be established in the fall of 2015, and interest in the program has been increasing due to the publicity of many projects that occurred this spring. We expect a number of new applications for projects this fall and for the spring of 2016, and we expect to meet our goal of 40 projects by June 30, 2016.

Amendment Request (01/01/2016)

It has come to our attention that the end date of our project was incorrect in our work plan. The end date of our project was listed as June 30, 2017 in the appropriation language, but it was listed as June 30, 2016 in our work plan. We have requested that the date be changed to June 30, 2017 in our work plan to match the language in the appropriation.

Amendment approved by LCCMR 1-8-2016

Project Status as of January 1, 2016:

From July 1, 2015 to January 1, 2016, Pheasants Forever and our partners have completed 4 projects on 10.34 acres (see attachment for a detailed summary of completed projects). There were 898 individuals who participated in a pollinator partnership event, and volunteers donated over 764 hours of their time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites.

Since July 1, 2015, Pheasants Forever staff has spent a total of 112 hours assisting chapters and partners with ordering supplies for their events, creating seed mixes, providing educational materials for participants, attending pollinator partnership events, attending partnership meetings, shooting video at events, promoting events on social media, updating webinars and training materials, and summarizing data for periodic reports.

The highlight of this this fall occurred at the Ramsey County Pheasants Forever pollinator event in October. This event was conducted at Otter Lake Elementary School where 629 participants helped plant a 2.34 acre pollinator

project on school property. This was the largest Pheasants Forever pollinator planting event to date, and the newly established pollinator plot will serve as an outdoor classroom for many years. Other projects that were completed during this reporting period include the following locations: Sibley State Park, Pelican Lake Waterfowl Production Area, and New Ulm City Park.

Pheasants Forever staff continues to promote the program and work with our chapters and partners to plan successful events. A few projects that were scheduled to take place this fall were re-scheduled to the spring of 2016 due to inclement weather and site preparation issues. We also have a number of new projects scheduled to take place in the spring of 2016. As of January 1, 2016, Pheasants Forever and our partners intend to conduct 19 projects in the spring of 2016.

Project Status as of July 1, 2016:

From January 1, 2016 thru July 1, 2016 Pheasants Forever and our partners have completed 11 projects on 33.7 acres (see attachment for a detailed summary of completed projects). There were 594 individuals who participated in a pollinator partnership event, and volunteers donated over 1,582 hours of their time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites.

Since July 1, 2015, Pheasants Forever staff has spent a total of 163 hours assisting chapters and partners with ordering supplies for their events, creating seed mixes, providing educational materials for participants, attending pollinator partnership events, attending partnership meetings, shooting video at events, promoting events on social media, updating webinars and training materials, and summarizing data for periodic reports.

The highlight of this Spring occurred at the Scandia City Park project where all project participants were given a post event survey where they were asked how likely they were to plant wildflowers and/or native grasses at their home. 81.8% of participants said they would be extremely likely or very likely to plant wildflowers and/or native grasses at their home! One of the major goals of the program was to influence participants to plant native wildflowers on their own property after attending our events. It appears we were able to accomplish this goal in Scandia! Other projects that were completed during this reporting period include the following locations: Big Stone State Park, Alexandria High School, Upper Sioux State Park, Lac Qui Parle State Park, Ravenna Township, New Ulm City Park, Boston Scientific Campus, Mayer Lutheran High School, Fergus Falls WMA, Vetsch Park, and Scandia City Park.

Pheasants Forever staff continues to promote the program and work with our chapters and partners to plan successful events. We have a number of new projects scheduled to take place in the Fall of 2016 and Spring of 2017. As of July 1, 2016, Pheasants Forever and our partners intend to conduct 22 projects in the fall of 2016 and Spring of 2017.

Project Status as of January 1, 2017:

From July 1, 2016 thru January 1, 2017 Pheasants Forever and our partners have completed 8 projects on 52.5 acres (see attachment for a detailed summary of completed projects). There were 1,527 individuals who participated in a pollinator partnership event, and volunteers donated over 700 hours of their time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites.

Since July 1, 2016, Pheasants Forever staff has spent a total of 103 hours assisting chapters and partners with ordering supplies for their events, creating seed mixes, providing educational materials for participants, attending pollinator partnership events, attending partnership meetings, promoting events on social media, updating webinars and training materials, and summarizing data for periodic reports.

Projects that were completed during this reporting period include the following locations: Agassiz Audubon Nature Center, St. Croix Prep School, Butternut WMA, Stalhs Lake County Park, Springbrook Nature Center, St. Paul Central High School, Martin County West High School, and Gruven WMA.

Pheasants Forever staff continues to promote the program and work with our chapters and partners to plan successful events for the Spring of 2017. We have a number of new projects scheduled to take place in the Spring of 2017, and we plan to promote the partnership at our upcoming national convention (Pheasants Fest) that will take place in Minneapolis in February 2017.

Project Status as of July 1, 2017:

From January 1, 2017 thru July 1, 2017 Pheasants Forever and our partners have completed 11 projects on 21.95 acres (see attachment for a detailed summary of completed projects). There were 648 individuals who participated in a pollinator partnership event, and volunteers donated over 1,500 hours of their time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites.

Since January 1, 2017, Pheasants Forever staff has spent a total of 100 hours assisting chapters and partners with ordering supplies for their events, creating seed mixes, providing educational materials for participants, attending pollinator partnership events, attending partnership meetings, promoting events on social media, updating webinars and training materials, and summarizing data for periodic reports.

Projects that were completed during this reporting period include the following locations: Tatanka Elementary, Afton State Park, Farhagen WMA, Brookside Park, North Junior High School, Gustavus Adolphus College, Wayzata Senior High School, Pomme De Terre County Park, Hardwood Creek WMA, Irish Avenue Park, St. James Catholic Church - Aitkin.

Even though the official partnership with the MN Environmental Trust ends on July 1, 2017, Pheasants Forever staff will continue to promote the program and work with our chapters and partners to plan successful events for the Fall of 2017. We have a number of new projects scheduled to take place in the Fall of 2017, and we plan to continue to establish projects as long as there is demand from our volunteer chapters.

Overall Project Outcomes and Results:

The Minnesota Pollinator Partnership was created because species like domesticated honey bees and monarch butterflies are experiencing alarming declines in their populations, and pollinating insects are an essential component in global food production. Our objectives of this program were to educate youth groups and the general public in MN about the value of pollinating insect species and the habitat on which they rely on to survive, provide hands-on opportunities for youth groups and the general public in MN to establish pollinator habitat projects, establish quality pollinator habitat projects that provides foraging habitat for native pollinators, and to create a model that would aide other Pheasants Forever (PF) chapters, land managers, biologist and the general public in MN in the establishment and maintenance of future pollinator habitat projects.

During the last three years, PF staff worked with our volunteer chapters and partners to engage youth groups and community groups across MN to establish pollinator projects. Small grants were offered to Pheasants Forever Chapters and our partners to establish pollinator projects. In order to take advantage of the grants, PF chapters and partners had to engage a youth group and/or community group in the establishment of a pollinator projects. In addition, PF chapters and partners had to provide educational activities and/or curriculum to those youth groups and community groups they were working with to establish the project.

Since the program's inception, we have helped establish 43 projects on 137 acres. There have been 4,297 individuals who have participated in a pollinator partnership event, and those volunteers have donated over 4,500 hours of time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites. In addition, the program has been so successful that it helped us build a model that has been replicated across the entire country; and we have now completed youth pollinator projects in 20 other states.

Information from this project has been used and disseminated in the following ways:

- The program and projects have been promoted at Pheasants Forever meetings (i.e. District Meetings, State Meeting, Pheasant Fest, Professional Meetings, Program Website, Newsletters, Videos, Flyers, Facebook, Twitter, Press Releases, and News Paper Articles).
- The program has helped produce program standards that are now used across the country to implement Youth Pollinator Projects. We now have projects in 20 states outside MN that follow the same protocols developed for the MN Pollinator Partnership.
- In order to determine the impacts on those involved in the MN Pollinator Partnership, we distributed a survey and conducted post survey interviews with Pheasants and Quail Forever volunteers and staff members. Sixty-seven adult Pheasant Forever and Quail Forever Chapters volunteers responded to the survey. To measure impact on community members, we asked participants if they had shared something about the project or pollinators with those not directly involved in the project - 91% of respondents said, "Yes". The top ways in which they shared this project with others was through social media postings, presentation to youth groups, television, private conversation with family and friends, and formal public presentations to community members. Topics covered in these instances of sharing included: steps for conserving pollinators, restoring habitat, and the causes of pollinator decline. Additionally, participants were also asked to comment on the ways their understanding of pollinator conservation had changed as a result of this project. The top category of change reported was a better understanding of the need to educate youth about pollinator conservation and how children can play a role in helping pollinators. The second most mentioned change as a result of their involvement in the project was an increased realization that they (individually) need to do more to help pollinators (e.g. planting habitat). Other ways in which their pollinator conservation knowledge changed included factual information about pollinators, pollinators' connection to human food supply, and general conservation steps.

Information created from this program will continue to be disseminated through Pheasants Forever channels. We plan to continue and grow this program across MN and the Midwest with the materials we have created through the MN Pollinator Partnership.

IV. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:

ACTIVITY 1: Providing Grants to Chapters and Partners

Description: The Minnesota Pollinator Partnership will provide grants to PF/QF chapters and other partners to educate and engage youth, families and communities in establishing, maintaining and monitoring pollinator habitat projects. Grants up to \$2,500 per project will be made available to chapters and/or partners who meet the minimum criteria listed in the narrative above. Grants will be made available to chapters and partners beginning July 1, 2014. If there are more applications than available grant funding, funding will be distributed to the highest scoring applications (see scoring criteria in narrative above). If funding is still available after the first grant announcement, additional grant opportunities will be made available to chapters and partners until all ENRTF funding has been exhausted.

Chapters/partners that receive grants will work with youth groups (i.e. classrooms, 4H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, FFA, etc...) to hand plant and hand seed pollinator habitat projects. In addition to helping establish pollinator

projects, youth groups and community groups will be exposed to educational/monitoring activities that demonstrate the importance of pollinators and pollinator habitat.

ENRTF grant funds will be used to pay for site preparation and establishment of pollinator projects. ENRTF grant funds will be matched with chapter/partner dollars to provide maintenance, education/monitoring and other items deemed appropriate to complete projects. The Minnesota Pollinator Partnership will result in the establishment of 40 pollinator habitat projects on 40 acres and provide hands-on participation of at least 1,000 Minnesotans. In addition, the program will serve as a model for landowners and other community groups interested in providing habitat for native pollinators.

Summary Budget Information for Activity 1:

ENRTF Budget: \$100,000
Amount Spent: \$85,558.72
Balance: \$14,441.28

Activity Completion Date: 6/30/2017

Outcome	Completion Date	Budget
1. Establishment of 40 Pollinator Habitat Projects (Involve 1,000 People, 40 acres)	6/30/2017	\$100,000
TOTAL		\$100,000

Activity Status as of January 1, 2015:

Starting July 1, 2014, Pheasants Forever staff began promoting the MN Pollinator Partnership. Pheasants Forever staff created a number of promotional items that were provided to Pheasants Forever chapters and partners via email, social media and direct contact at meetings (see a complete list of promotional items under Part V: Dissemination). Chapters and partners were given until October 1, 2014 to complete grant applications for youth pollinator habitat projects. After the grant deadline, a team of Pheasants Forever employees (Matt Holland - Director of Grant Development, Rich Wissink - National Youth Program Coordinator, Eran Sandquist – State Coordinator, and Chad Bloom – Youth Fundraising Coordinator) reviewed the grant applications. A total of 14 applications were reviewed by the grant review team. After a thorough review, the grant committee approved all 14 applications for funding. Locations approved for pollinator habitat projects include the following MN cities:

- Hawley, MN
- New London, MN
- Glencoe, MN
- Grove City, MN
- Little Falls, MN
- Ferguson Falls, MN
- White Bear, MN
- Duluth, MN (n=2)
- Sauk Centre, MN
- Preston, MN
- Monticello, MN
- Shakopee, MN
- Carver, MN

Actual locations of projects include Wildlife Management Areas, The Nature Conservancy property, school owned property, County owned property, private property, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service property. As long as the weather cooperates, the majority of these projects will occur in the spring of 2015. A total of 678

participants are estimated to take part in the program, 18.7 acres are projected to be established, and over 28 partners are expected to assist with the completion of the projects. Partners participating in the program include the following:

- MN Department of Natural Resources
- Boy Scouts
- Private Landowners
- Farm Service Agency (FSA)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- New London / Spencer Middle School
- Glencoe / Silver Lake Outdoor Classroom
- Q4 Lawn Service
- 4H
- Little Falls Community High School
- Future Farmers of America (FFA)
- Morrison County Solid Waste
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- Shakopee High School
- Morning Sun School
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
- 12 Pheasants Forever Chapters

All chapters/partners who were approved for funding were notified via email and phone. All chapters/partners scheduled to receive funding were required to attend a webinar that was produced to walk successful applicants through the grant reimbursement process as well as provide valuable information on how to plan and conduct a successful event. The webinar was recorded and placed on our blog (www.pfqfhabitated.blogspot.com) to provide easy access for grantees.

At this point, no money has been spent on the partnership as the majority of these projects will not occur until the spring of 2015. However, a great deal of time has been spent by Pheasants Forever's Habitat Education Specialist creating promotional materials and providing technical expertise to Pheasants Forever Chapters and partners. Since July 1, 2014, a total of 136 hours have been spent by Pheasants Forever staff on program delivery.

Activity Status as of July 1, 2015:

As of July 1, 2015, Pheasants Forever and our partners have completed 9 projects on 18.7 acres (see attachment for a detailed summary of completed projects). Locations of pollinator partnership projects in MN include Glencoe, New London, Duluth, Shakopee, Little Falls, (n=2), Maple Grove, Sauk Centre, and Preston. All but one project was conducted on publicly owned property (The project in Sauk Centre that was conducted on private property. No ENRTF dollars were spent on this project). Actual project sites include New London Public School property, Glencoe – Silver Lake Public School property, Morrison County Landfill, Weaver Lake Elementary Public School property, Shakopee Public High School property, Duluth Lake Walk (City Property), and Preston Elementary Public School property.

Site preparation was conducted at each project site prior to planting. Site prep included a herbicide application to control competitive grasses and in some cases tillage to properly prepare the site for a broadcast seeding. Custom seed mixes were created for each project that will provide quality nesting and foraging habitat for a variety of pollinating insects. Also included in every mix was at least one milkweed species to provide the host plant for the monarch butterfly. A project sign was placed at each project site promoting the program and displaying all major project sponsors (attached is an example sign).

There were 630 individuals who participated in a pollinator partnership event, and volunteers donated over 957 hours of their time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites. Youth groups and classrooms that participated in pollinator partnership projects include: New London / Spencer Middle School, Glencoe / Silver Lake High School, Little Falls Community High School, Weaver Lake Elementary, Shakopee High School, Fillmore Central High School FFA, Duluth East High School, and Sauk Centre Community Ed. The youth groups and classrooms listed above all hand planted each project site. Hand planting included a hand broadcast seeding and/or hand planting native wildflower plugs. In addition to hand planting the project sites, youth groups and classrooms participated in various hands-on activities at events designed to educate participants on common foods made possible by pollinating insects, important native plant species, and common pollinators in decline (i.e. monarch butterfly and the honeybee).

The grant application process is now open for projects occurring in the fall of 2015 and the spring of 2016. With all the positive promotion from projects that occurred this spring, we have seen an increased interest in the program from other Pheasants Forever Chapters and our partners. We intend to create a new promotional video from video shot at projects this spring to further help promote the program to our chapters and partners. We expect an increase number of applications by the end of the summer.

Activity Status as of January 1, 2016:

As of July 1, 2015, Pheasants Forever and our partners have completed 13 projects on 29.04 acres (see attachment for a detailed summary of completed projects since inception). There have been 1,528 individuals who have participated in a pollinator partnership event, and volunteers have donated over 1,721 hours of time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites. Completed project sites include New London Public School property, Glencoe – Silver Lake Public School property, Morrison County Landfill, Weaver Lake Elementary Public School property, Shakopee Public High School property, Duluth Lake Walk (City Property), and Preston Elementary Public School property, Sibley State Park, Pelican Lake Waterfowl Production Area, and New Ulm City Park.

From July 1, 2015 to January 1, 2016 Pheasants Forever and our partners completed 4 projects on 10.34 acres. There were 898 individuals who participated in a pollinator partnership event, and volunteers donated over 764 hours of their time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites. Youth groups and classrooms that participated in pollinator partnership projects include: Otter Lake Elementary, Pinewood Elementary, Creative Kids Pre-School, New London/Spicer Schools, and New London/Spicer Boy Scout Troop. The youth groups and classrooms listed above all hand planted each project site. Hand planting included a hand broadcast seeding and/or hand planting native wildflower plugs. In addition to hand planting the project sites, youth groups and classrooms participated in various hands-on activities at events designed to educate participants on common foods made possible by pollinating insects, important native plant species, and common pollinators in decline (i.e. monarch butterfly and the honeybee). Project signs were also placed at each site recognizing the MN ENRTF and other local partners for supporting the project.

The grant application process is now open for projects occurring in the calendar year of 2016. Pheasants Forever and our partners plan to conduct 19 projects in the spring of 2016. This number doesn't include any new applications that will be submitted prior to July 1, 2016.

Activity Status as of July 1, 2016:

As of July 1, 2015, Pheasants Forever and our partners have completed 24 projects on 62.74 acres (see attachment for a detailed summary of completed projects since inception). There have been 2,122 individuals who have participated in a pollinator partnership event, and volunteers have donated over 3,303 hours of time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites. Completed project sites include New London Public School property, Glencoe – Silver Lake Public School property, Morrison County Landfill, Weaver Lake Elementary Public School property, Shakopee Public High School property, Duluth Lake Walk (City Property), and Preston Elementary Public School property, Sibley State Park, Pelican Lake Waterfowl Production Area, New Ulm City Park, Big Stone State Park, Alexandria High School, Upper Sioux State Park, Lac Qui Parle State Park, Ravenna Township, Boston Scientific Campus, Mayer Lutheran High School, Fergus Falls WMA, Vetsch Park, and Scandia City Park.

From January 1, 2016 to July 1, 2016 Pheasants Forever and our partners completed 11 projects on 33.7 acres. There were 594 individuals who participated in a pollinator partnership event, and volunteers donated over 1,582 hours of their time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites. Youth groups and classrooms that participated in pollinator partnership projects include: Alexandria FFA, Granit Falls Boy Scouts, Granite Falls 4H, Hastings High School Trap Team, Park High Trap Team, Morning Sun Christian School, La Crescent High School, Mayer Lutheran High School, and Scandia 4H. The youth groups and classrooms listed above all hand planted each project site. Hand planting included a hand broadcast seeding and/or hand planting native wildflower plugs. In addition to hand planting the project sites, youth groups and classrooms participated in various hands-on activities at events designed to educate participants on common foods made possible by pollinating insects, important native plant species, and common pollinators in decline (i.e. monarch butterfly and the honeybee). Project signs were also placed at each site recognizing the MN ENRTF and other local partners for supporting the project.

Activity Status as of January 1, 2017:

As of January 1, 2017, Pheasants Forever and our partners have completed 32 projects on 133.19 acres (see attachment for a detailed summary of completed projects since inception). There have been 4,265 individuals who have participated in a pollinator partnership event, and volunteers have donated over 5,440 hours of time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites. Completed project sites include New London Public School property, Glencoe – Silver Lake Public School property, Morrison County Landfill, Weaver Lake Elementary Public School property, Shakopee Public High School property, Duluth Lake Walk (City Property), and Preston Elementary Public School property, Sibley State Park, Pelican Lake Waterfowl Production Area, New Ulm City Park, Big Stone State Park, Alexandria High School, Upper Sioux State Park, Lac Qui Parle State Park, Ravenna Township, Boston Scientific Campus, Mayer Lutheran High School, Fergus Falls WMA, Vetsch Park, Scandia City Park, Agassiz Audubon Nature Center, St. Croix Prep School, Butternut WMA, Stalhs Lake County Park, Springbrook Nature Center, St. Paul Central High School, Martin County West High School, Gruven WMA,

From July 1, 2016 to January 1, 2017 Pheasants Forever and our partners completed 8 projects on 52.5 acres. There were 1,527 individuals who participated in a pollinator partnership event, and volunteers donated over 700 hours of their time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites. Youth groups and classrooms that participated in pollinator partnership projects include: Agassiz Audubon Society Volunteers, Agassiz Audubon Boy Scouts, St Croix Prep Academy (K-12), Meeker County 4-H Shooting Team, Springbrook Nature Center Youth Volunteers, St. Paul Central High School, Martin County West FFA, and Fairmont Public Schools.

The youth groups and classrooms listed above all hand planted each project site. Hand planting included a hand broadcast seeding and/or hand planting native wildflower plugs. In addition to hand planting the project sites, youth groups and classrooms participated in various hands-on activities at events designed to educate participants on common foods made possible by pollinating insects, important native plant species, and common pollinators in decline (i.e. monarch butterfly and the honeybee). Project signs were also placed at each site recognizing the MN ENRTF and other local partners for supporting the project.

Activity Status as of July 1, 2017:

As of July 1, 2017, Pheasants Forever and our partners have completed 43 projects on 137.2 acres (see attachment for a detailed summary of completed projects since inception). There have been 4,297 individuals who have participated in a pollinator partnership event, and volunteers have donated over 4,500 hours of time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites. Completed project sites include New London Public School property, Glencoe – Silver Lake Public School property, Morrison County Landfill, Weaver Lake Elementary Public School property, Shakopee Public High School property, Duluth Lake Walk (City Property), and Preston Elementary Public School property, Sibley State Park, Pelican Lake Waterfowl Production Area, New Ulm City Park, Big Stone State Park, Alexandria High School, Upper Sioux State Park, Lac Qui Parle State Park, Ravenna Township, Boston Scientific Campus, Mayer Lutheran High School, Fergus Falls WMA, Vetsch Park, Scandia City Park, Agassiz Audubon Nature Center, St. Croix Prep School, Butternut WMA, Stalhs Lake County Park, Springbrook Nature Center, St. Paul Central High School, Martin County West High School, Gruven WMA, Tatanka Elementary, Afton State Park, Farhagen WMA, Brookside Park, North Junior High School, Gustavus Adolphus College, Wayzata Senior High School, Pomme De Terre County Park, Hardwood Creek WMA, Irish Avenue Park, and St. James Catholic Church.

From January 1, 2017 to July 1, 2017 Pheasants Forever and our partners completed 11 projects on 21.95 acres. There were 647 individuals who participated in a pollinator partnership event, and volunteers donated over 1,500 hours of their time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites. Youth groups and classrooms that participated in pollinator partnership projects include: Tatanka Elementary, Hastings High School Trap Team, Twin Lakes 4H Club, St Cloud Jr. High, John Ireland Catholic Middle School, Wayzata High School, Morris Middle School, Forest Lake 4H, Hugo Elementary School, and St. James Catholic Church members.

The youth groups and classrooms listed above all hand planted each project site. Hand planting included a hand broadcast seeding and/or hand planting native wildflower plugs. In addition to hand planting the project sites, youth groups and classrooms participated in various hands-on activities at events designed to educate participants on common foods made possible by pollinating insects, important native plant species, and common pollinators in decline (i.e. monarch butterfly and the honeybee). Project signs were also placed at each site recognizing the MN ENRTF and other local partners for supporting the project.

Final Report Summary:

Since the program's inception, Pheasants Forever has helped establish 43 projects on 137 acres with the support of the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. There have been 4,297 individuals who have participated in a pollinator partnership event, and those volunteers have donated over 4,500 hours of time planning, planting, and maintaining project sites.

In order to determine the impacts on those involved in the MN Pollinator Partnership, we distributed a survey and conducted post survey interviews with Pheasants and Quail Forever volunteers and staff members. Sixty-seven adult Pheasant Forever and Quail Forever Chapters volunteers responded to the survey. We found that individuals who participated in a pollinator event shared what they learned at the event with their peers and they also left with a better understanding of just how important pollinator are to the global food supply.

The largest challenge we faced delivering this program was the weather. Several projects were delayed due to the weather making it difficult to conduct the necessary site preparation for a successful project. Weather also forced us to reschedule a few planting events as we didn't want kids exposed to cold wet weather conditions. Other than the weather, we feel the program ran into very few issues.

Lastly, the program has been so successful that it helped us build a model that has been replicated across the entire country; and we have now completed youth pollinator projects in 20 other states. Outside MN, we have completed 241 projects on 382 acres, and have educated an additional 14,990 participants. The program has been so popular that we plan to continue the program in MN with the gracious support of other partners who want to see the program continue.

V. DISSEMINATION:

Description: Pheasants Forever Chapters/Partners will work with their local community partners to develop a comprehensive plan to distribute and promote information related to the MN Pollinator Partnership. A few of the ways PF and its partners intend to disseminate information include the following:

- Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever publications including our signature magazines (*Quail Forever Journal*, *Pheasants Forever Journal*, *Forever Outdoors*) which reach over 135,000 people 5 times each year
- Pheasants/Quail Forever website and Facebook page
 - www.pheasantsforever.org
 - www.quailforever.org
 - <https://www.facebook.com/pheasantsforever>
 - <https://www.facebook.com/quailforever>
- Pollinator Habitat Project signs that will be placed at each project site
- National conference, Pheasant Fest & Quail Classic
- MN Pheasants Forever State Meeting
- Pollinator Habitat Project Events and Trainings

Pheasants Forever expects there will be other ways in which MN Pollinator Partnership information will be disseminated and we intend to provide that information in future status reports.

Status as of January 1, 2015:

Since July 1, 2014, the following items have been created and disseminated to all Pheasants Forever chapters and partners throughout Minnesota (note: the MN Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund logo was placed on all promotional materials created):

- Press Release
- Promotional Handout
- You Tube Video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZVwRdX_ebl)
- Creation of Blog (www.pfqfhabitated.blogspot.com)
- Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/PFQF-Habitat-Education/1510164209219529?ref=hl>)
- Twitter Account (#habitated)
- Instagram Account (#pfqfhabitated)
- Webinars (n=2)
- Emails to Pheasants Forever Chapters & Partners
- Grant Application Packet (application, budget, and agreement)
- Example project sign template

All promotional materials above have been disseminated to Pheasants Forever chapters and partners via social media, emails, meetings, and webinars.

Status as of July 1, 2015:

Since January 1, 2015, program promotion and information has been disseminated through the following channels:

- Press Release at [www.pheasantsforever.org](http://www.pheasantsforever.org/Newsroom/2015-June/Pheasants-Forever-Youth-Pollinator-Habitat-Program.aspx): <http://www.pheasantsforever.org/Newsroom/2015-June/Pheasants-Forever-Youth-Pollinator-Habitat-Program.aspx>
- WCCO channel 4 CBS story: <http://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2015/05/28/5th-graders-hope-planting-meadow-can-attract-butterflies/#.VWhcJE9Pm6Q.mailto>
- KARE 11 NBX story: <http://www.kare11.com/story/life/2015/05/28/monarch-mission-maple-grove-fifth-graders-plant-a-prairie/28125679/>
- Promotional Handout (attached)
- You Tube Video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZVwRdX_ebl)
- Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/PFQF-Habitat-Education/1510164209219529?ref=hl>)
- Twitter Account (#habitated)
- Emails to Pheasants Forever Chapters & Partners
- Project Signs (attached)
- MN State Habitat Meeting
- Monarch Partnership Meeting (April 6th & 7th)

The program promotion above has increased the interest in the program from Pheasants Forever chapters and partners. We expect an increase number of applications for projects in the fall of 2015 an the spring of 2016.

Status as of January 1, 2016:

From July 1, 2015 to January 1, 2016, program promotion and information has been disseminated through the following channels:

- Program Promotional Handout
- You Tube Video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZVwRdX_ebl)
- www.pfqfhabitated.blogspot.com
- Emails to Pheasants Forever Chapters & Partners
- Project Signs
- NCLI Newsletter
- Ramsey County Pheasants Forever Facebook Page
- Wright County Pheasants Forever Facebook Page
- *New Ulm Journal* Article (Attached)
- Pheasants Forever Staff Meetings

Status as of June 30, 2016:

From January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016, program promotion and information has been disseminated through the following channels:

- Program Promotional Handout
- You Tube Video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZVwRdX_ebl)
- www.pfqfhabitated.blogspot.com
- Emails to Pheasants Forever Chapters & Partners
- Project Signs
- NCLI Newsletter
- Otter Tail County Pheasants Forever Facebook Page
- East Medicine Pheasants Forever Facebook Page

- Douglas County Pheasants Forever Facebook Page
- Pheasants Forever Facebook Page
- City of Scandia Facebook Page
- Pheasants Forever State Habitat Meeting
- Pheasants Forever Journal
- MN State Pheasants Forever Facebook Page

Pheasants Forever staff also created a promotional video from the McLeod County Pheasants Forever event in 2015. This video was played at their annual banquet and will be promoted on the MN Pheasants Forever Facebook page. The video can be view at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJyXGR_CgyQ&feature=youtu.be

Status as of January 1, 2017:

From July 1, 2016 to January 1, 2017, program promotion and information has been disseminated through the following channels:

- Program Promotional Handout
- You Tube Video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZVwRdX_ebl)
- www.pfqfhabitated.blogspot.com
- Emails to Pheasants Forever Chapters & Partners
- Project Signs
- Meeker County Pheasants Forever Facebook Page
- Martin County Pheasants Forever Facebook Page
- MN State Pheasants Forever Facebook Page

Pheasants Forever staff and our partners have also been working to promote the MN Pollinator Partnership at our Nation Convention (Pheasant Fest) that will be taking place in Minneapolis in February 2017. Pollinators will be a focus of the event and our Partners at the University of MN will be on hand to provide presentations on bees and Monarch Butterflies. This event usually draws approximately 24,000 people annually.

Status as of June 30, 2017:

From January 1, 2017 to July 1, 2017, program promotion and information has been disseminated through the following channels:

- Program Promotional Handout
- You Tube Video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZVwRdX_ebl)
- www.pfqfhabitated.blogspot.com
- Emails to Pheasants Forever Chapters & Partners
- Project Signs
- Pheasants Forever, Inc Facebook Page
- Chapter Facebook Pages
- MN Pheasants Forever Facebook Page
- Pheasants Forever Press Release
- Pheasant Fest
- MN State Pheasants Forever Facebook Page

Pheasants Forever staff and have also been working to send out surveys to adult volunteers who participated in a pollinator project event. The purpose of the survey is to see if these events actually help change participants behavior. Results of this survey should be complete by the final report on August 11th.

Final Report Summary:

Information from this project has been used and disseminated in the following ways:

- The program and projects have been promoted at Pheasants Forever meetings (i.e. District Meetings, State Meeting, Pheasant Fest, Professional Meetings, Program Website, Newsletters, Videos, Flyers, Facebook, Twitter, Press Releases, and News Paper Articles).
- The program has helped produce program standards that are now used across the country to implement Youth Pollinator Projects. We now have projects in 20 states outside MN that follow the same protocols developed for the MN Pollinator Partnership.
- In order to determine the impacts on those involved in the MN Pollinator Partnership, we distributed a survey and conducted post survey interviews with Pheasants and Quail Forever volunteers and staff members. Sixty-seven adult Pheasant Forever and Quail Forever Chapters volunteers responded to the survey. To measure impact on community members, we asked participants if they had shared something about the project or pollinators with those not directly involved in the project - 91% of respondents said, "Yes". The top ways in which they shared this project with others was through social media postings, presentation to youth groups, television, private conversation with family and friends, and formal public presentations to community members. Topics covered in these instances of sharing included: steps for conserving pollinators, restoring habitat, and the causes of pollinator decline. Additionally, participants were also asked to comment on the ways their understanding of pollinator conservation had changed as a result of this project. The top category of change reported was a better understanding of the need to educate youth about pollinator conservation and how children can play a role in helping pollinators. The second most mentioned change as a result of their involvement in the project was an increased realization that they (individually) need to do more to help pollinators (e.g. planting habitat). Other ways in which their pollinator conservation knowledge changed included factual information about pollinators, pollinators' connection to human food supply, and general conservation steps.

Information created from this program will continue to be disseminated through Pheasants Forever channels. We plan to continue and grow this program across MN and the Midwest with the materials we have created through the MN Pollinator Partnership.

VI. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY:

A. ENRTF Budget Overview:

Budget Category	\$ Amount	Explanation
Grants to Chapters/Partners:	\$100,000	Grants up to \$2,500 will be offered to PF/QF chapters and partners. ENRTF grant dollars will be used to pay for site preparation (i.e. herbicide, herbicide application, disking and tilling) to establish 40 community pollinator habitat projects. Agricultural contractors who can complete all site preparation services above will be sought in communities conducting projects. A competitive bid process will be used to select contractors. In addition to site preparation, ENRTD dollars will also be used to pay for pay for materials and tools used to establish pollinator habitat

		projects (i.e. pollinator seed mixes, plugs, plants, shrubs, trees, seed mix filler, buckets, seed spreaders, dibble bars, signage, etc...)
TOTAL ENRTF BUDGET:		\$100,000

Explanation of Use of Classified Staff: N/A

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$5,000: N/A

Number of Full-time Equivalents (FTE) Directly Funded with this ENRTF Appropriation: N/A

Number of Full-time Equivalents (FTE) Estimated to Be Funded through Contracts with this ENRTF Appropriation: N/A

B. Other Funds:

Source of Funds	\$ Amount Proposed	\$ Amount Spent	Use of Other Funds
Non-state			
Pheasants & Quail Forever Chapters/Community Partners	\$65,000 (Cash)	\$63,406.94	<p>PF/QF chapter and partner funds will be used to conduct project maintenance, pay for education and monitoring materials, and any other items deemed necessary to complete project (i.e. chemical weed control, manual weed control, prescribed burning, mulch, fencing supplies, watering supplies, curriculum, memberships, student transportation, promotional materials, food and beverages, safety equipment, photography/videography, and program administration).</p> <p>In addition, PF/QF chapter and partner dollars may be used to pay for site preparation work and to purchase additional establishment materials (i.e. herbicide, herbicide application, tilling, disking, seed mixes, plugs, plants, shrubs, trees, buckets, spreaders, dibble bars) for larger projects.</p>
Pheasants Forever/Community Partners	\$41,034 (In-kind)	\$125,763.49	<p>Pheasants Forever and its partners will provide in-kind match in the way of volunteer labor and donated materials to provide site preparation, establishment, maintenance, and education/monitoring activities (\$21.91/hour). Additional in-kind match will come in the form of donated time from PF's Habitat Education Specialist to provide training and program administration (\$30/hour).</p>
TOTAL OTHER FUNDS:	\$106,034	\$189,170.43	

VII. PROJECT STRATEGY:

A. Project Partners: The MN Pollinator Partnership will be led by Pheasants Forever’s Habitat Education Specialist, Drew Larsen, and the Pheasants Forever staff of Minnesota. However, a program of this size and scope will need many valuable partners in order to meet the program’s objectives. Pheasants Forever has a proven track record of building successful partnerships, and the MN Pollinator Partnership will offer MN Pheasants Forever chapters and community partners opportunities to build new partnerships which will be critical to the program’s success. The following is a list of potential partners that will be solicited to support the MN Pollinator Partnership:

- MN Department of Natural Resources
- MN Soil & Water Conservation Districts
- MN Honey Bee Producers Association
- University of Minnesota Bee Lab
- U.S Fish & Wildlife Service
- School Districts
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- MN 4H
- MN FFA
- MN Boy Scouts
- MN Girl Scouts

Many other community groups and like minded organizations will be sought to partner and support pollinator habitat projects in their local areas. We expect this list to grow and will provide any updates in future status reports.

B. Project Impact and Long-term Strategy: Pollinator awareness and habitat awareness must continue as long as pollinator populations continue to decline and habitat continues to disappear. Pheasants Forever looks to insure long-term impact of the MN Pollinator Partnership through habitat establishment, continued education and project promotion. Pollinator habitat projects that are created through this partnership are intended to serve as outdoor classrooms for schools and youth groups to continue to learn about pollinators and other important species long after the projects are established. In addition, youth groups and classrooms will be given educational materials to be used in conjunction with pollinator habitat projects. These educational materials can be used by future generations of young Minnesotans to learn about important pollinator species and pollinator habitat. Lastly, we intend to share and promote the results of this program in hopes that other communities throughout the country will establish pollinator projects. Guidelines will be developed from the program that can be used by other groups across the country wanting to establish similar projects.

C. Spending History:

Funding Source	M.L. 2008 or FY09	M.L. 2009 or FY10	M.L. 2010 or FY11	M.L. 2011 or FY12-13	M.L. 2013 or FY14
ENRTF – Habitat Conservation Partnership – 4a	\$350,000.00	\$350,000.00		\$434,000.00	
ENRTF – Habitat Conservation Partnership – 1a – Project Coordination	\$70,000.00	\$100,000.00		\$51,000.00	

VIII. ACQUISITION/RESTORATION LIST: N/A

IX. VISUAL ELEMENT or MAP(S):

Pheasants Forever / Quail Forever MN Pollinator Partnership

The photos below were taken at PF/QF community pollinator habitat project events that took place in 2013. The MN Pollinator Partnership intends to offer grants to PF/QF chapters across MN to conduct a minimum of 40 community pollinator habitat projects.



X. ACQUISITION/RESTORATION REQUIREMENTS WORKSHEET: N/A

XI. RESEARCH ADDENDUM: N/A

XII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

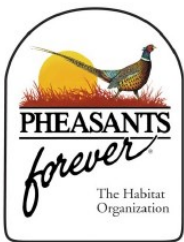
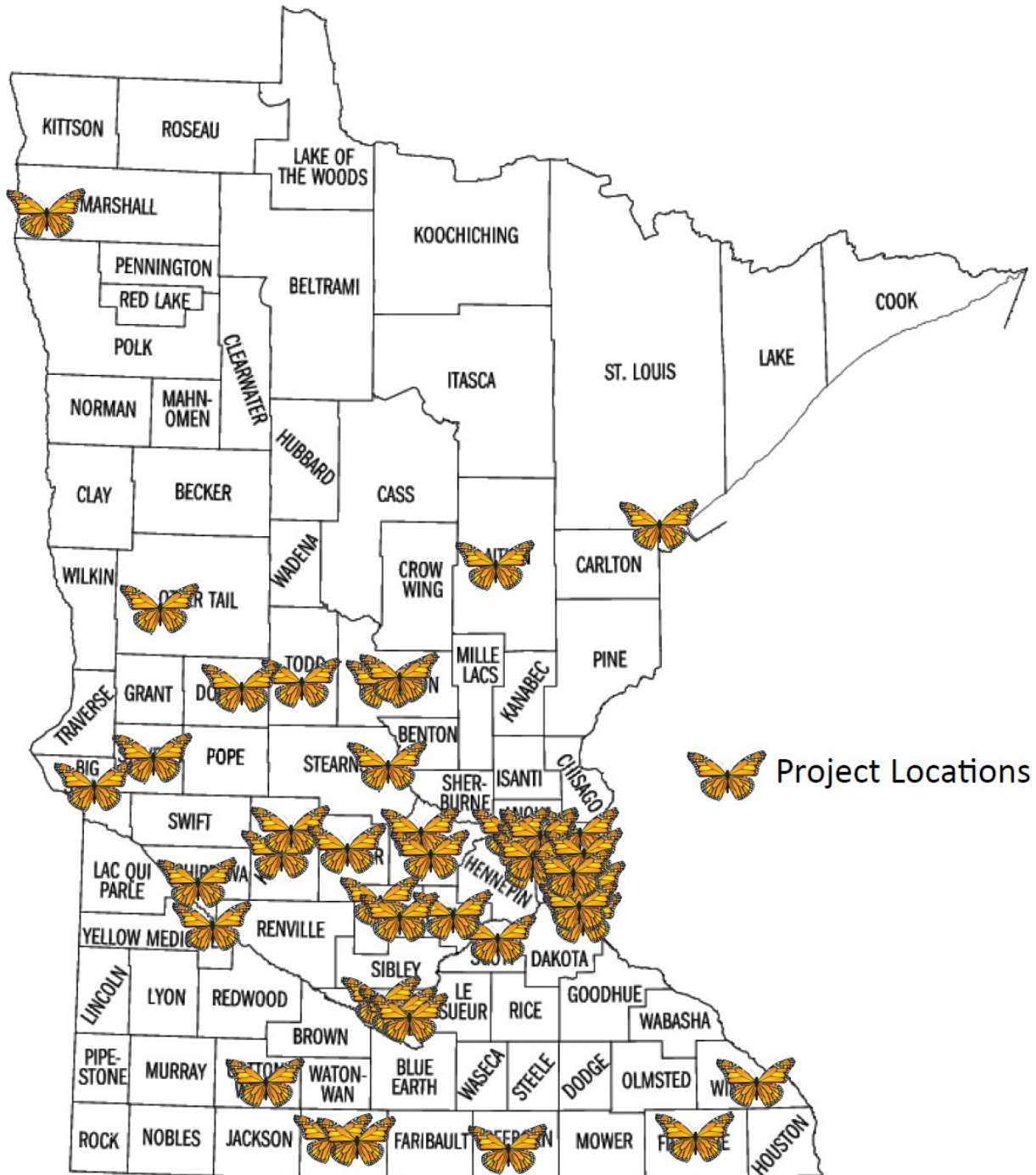
Periodic work plan status update reports will be submitted no later than January 1, 2015, July 1, 2015, January 1, 2016, July 1, 2016, January 1, 2017, and July 1, 2017. A final report and associated products will be submitted between June 30 and August 15, 2017.

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund					
M.L. 2014 Project Budget					
Project Title: MN Pollinator Partnership					
Legal Citation: M.L. 2014, Chp. 226, Sec. 2, Subd. 09g					
Project Manager: Drew Larsen					
Organization: Pheasants Forever, Inc.					
M.L. 2014 ENRTF Appropriation: \$100,000					
Project Length and Completion Date: 3 Years June 30, 2017					
Date of Report: July 1, 2017					



ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	Activity 1 Budget	Amount Spent	Activity 1 Balance	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
BUDGET ITEM	<i>Establishing Pollinator Habitat Projects</i>				
Personnel (Wages and Benefits)					
Grants to PF/QF Chapters & Partners: Chapters and partners will use ENRTF grant dollars to pay for site preparation (i.e. herbicide, herbicide application, disking, and tilling) to establish 40 community pollinator habitat projects. Agricultural contractors who can complete all site preparation services above will be sought in communities conducting projects. A competitive bid process will be used to select contractors in each location where a contractor is needed. Site preparation was estimated at \$500 per project (n=40 projects). In addition, ENRTF grant dollars will be used to pay for project supplies (i.e. pollinator seed mixes, plugs, plants, shrubs, trees, seed mix filler, buckets, seed spreaders, dibble bars, and signage to establish 40 community pollinator habitat projects. Project supplies were estimated at \$2,000 per project (n=40 projects)	\$100,000	\$85,558	\$14,442	\$100,000	\$14,442
COLUMN TOTAL	\$100,000	\$85,558	\$14,442	\$100,000	\$14,442

MN Pollinator Partnership



MN POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM RESULTS July 1, 2014 - July 1, 2017

Date	Chapter Name	Projects	Acres	# of Youth	# of Adults	Project Location (City)	Project Location
9/18/2014	St. Louis & Carlton County PF	1	0.6	15	11	Duluth	Duluth Lake Walk
11/6/2014	Morrison County PF	1	4	23	4	Little Falls	Morrison County Landfill
4/16/2015	Morrison County PF	1	3	25	4	Little Falls	Morrison County Landfill
5/28/2015	Northwest Suburban PF	1	0.5	120	7	Maple Grove	Weaver Lake Elementary
5/21/2015	McLeod PF	1	6.1	190	5	Glencoe	Glencoe / Silver Lake High School
5/27/2015	Kandiyohi County PF	1	1	114	3	New London	New London / Spicer Middle School
5/26/2015	Scott County PF	1	1	20	2	Shakopee	Shakopee High School
5/27/2015	Winona / Root River PF	1	1	60	7	Fillmore	Preston Elementary
6/27/2015	Todd County PF	1	1.5	13	7	Sauk Centre	Private Property
10/24/2015	Kandiyohi County	1	3.5	30	16	Willmar	Sibley State Park
11/4/2015	New Ulm Project	1	0.5	38	7	New Ulm	New Ulm City Park
10/20/2015	Wright County	1	4	160	18	Monticello	Pelican Lake WPA
10/15/2015	Ramsey County	1	2.34	580	49	White Bear Lake	Otter Lake Elementary
5/23/2016	Otter Tail County	1	1.5	67	6	Fergus Falls	Fergus Falls WMA
6/2/2016	Big Stone County	1	2	8	10	Ortonville	Big Stone State Park
6/18/2016	Soaring Eagles 4-H	1	1.7	29	26	Scandia	Scandia City Park
5/24/2016	Winona Root River	1	2.5	70	6	La Crescent	Vetsch Park
5/31/2016	East Medicine	1	1	29	12	Granite Falls	Upper Sioux State Park
6/6/2016	Chippewa County	1	2	15	9	Montevideo	Lac Qui Parle State Park
5/18/2016	Carver County	1	2.5	90	5	Mayer	Mayer Lutheran High School
6/4/2016	New Ulm Project	1	14	26	55	New Ulm	New Ulm City Park
6/1/2016	NW Suburban	1	0.5	53	25	Maple Grove	Boston Scientific Campus
6/1/2016	Douglas County	1	1	23	10	Alexandria	Alexandria High School
6/4/2016	Mississippi Longtails	1	5	13	7	Revenna	Revenna Town Hall
10/1/2016	Agassiz Audobon	1	1	39	25	Warren	Agazziz Audubon Center
10/28/2016	Washington County	1	9	1100	150	Bay Port	St. Croix Prep Academy
10/1/2016	Meeker County	1	1.3	10	4	Grove City	Butternut WMA
7/14/2016	McLeod County	1	34.2	16	9	Hutchinson	Stalhs Lake County Park
7/14/2016	Springbrook Nature Center	1	1.5	36	11	Fridley	Springbrook Nature Center
9/27/2016	St. Paul Central High School	1	0.5	70	3	St. Paul	St. Paul Central High School
9/30/2016	Fox Lake Conservation League	1	4	15	6	Sherburn	Martin County West Schools
11/14/2016	Martin County	1	1	19	14	Fairmont	Gruven WMA
5/25/2017	Wright County	1	0.5	170	13	Buffalo	Tatanka Elementary School
6/10/2017	Mississippi Longtails	1	5	6	4	Hastings	Afton State Park
5/21/2017	Cottonwood County	1	1	5	8	Windom	Farhagen WMA
6/3/2017	South Central	1	1.4	21	15	Albert Lea	Brookside Park
5/31/2017	Stearns County	1	1.3	80	14	St. Cloud	North Junior High
5/5/2017	Nicollet County	1	2.5	25	15	St. Peter	Gustavus Adolphus College
5/30/2017	Northwest Suburban	1	0.75	40	4	Plymouth	Wayzata Senior High School
5/31/2017	Stevens County PF	1	1	100	13	Morris	Pomme De Terre County Park
5/28/2017	Washington County	1	1.5	40	5	Forset Lake	Hardwood Creek WMA
6/10/2017	Washington County	1	3	30	8	Hugo	Irish Avenue Park
6/29/2017	Aitkin, MN Project	1	4	26	6	Aitkin	Aitkin St. James Catholic Church

TOTALS

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Matt Christensen (320) 965-2423

Morris Students Provide Habitat for the Birds and the Bees

Local Students Spend Time Helping Mother Nature

Morris, Minnesota – May 31 – On May 31st, the Stevens County Pheasants Forever (PF) chapter hosted 5 classes of 4th and 5th graders for their 1st annual youth pollinator habitat event. During the event, students hand planted over 1000 plugs of native prairie wildflowers and hand seeded a seed mix that included over 50 species of native wildflowers and grasses at the Pomme De Terre Park. The event also included help from the wood, water, and wildlife class and educators talked with students in the classroom prior to the event about the important role pollinators play in producing many of our favorite foods that we eat daily.

This project is part of the organization's National Youth Pollinator Habitat Program which supports local chapters across the country in educating and engaging youth and community groups on establishing critical pollinator habitat. Essential to global food production, approximately one-third of all food and beverages are delivered by pollinating insects; however, many species of native pollinators and domesticated honey bees are in decline. Pheasants Forever's Youth Pollinator Habitat Program is aimed at increasing awareness about decreasing pollinator populations and establishing critical pollinator nesting and foraging habitat.

"I really appreciated Pheasants Forever's willingness to get me and my classmates outside for the day," stated Trevor Voges, a Junior student of the woods, water, and wildlife class who was helping with the event. "I am glad for the chance to help teach younger kids a little about the importance of pollinators, and to have them get their hands a little dirty in the process!"



This project was made possible by funding from the MN Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, Bayer Bee Care, Cabela's Outdoor Fund, DuPont Pioneer, and Pheasants Forever. Other partners include the city of Morris for providing the location and the Morris Area High School and educators for their willingness to participate and educate our young people.

The Stevens County Pheasants Forever Chapter was established in 1986 and has been a leader for PF ever since. Minnesota is home to 70 PF chapters and 2 QF chapters and included over 24,000 members. For more information on Stevens County PF, or to join and get involved contact Gabe Arnold at (320) 815-6067.

[Pheasants Forever](http://PheasantsForever.org), including its quail conservation division, [Quail Forever](http://QuailForever.org), is the nation's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to upland habitat conservation. Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever have more than 149,000 members and over 700 local chapters across the United States and Canada. Chapters are empowered to determine how 100 percent of their locally raised conservation funds are spent; the only national conservation organization that operates through this truly grassroots structure. Since creation in 1982, Pheasants Forever has spent \$708 million on 517,464 habitat projects benefiting 15.81 million acres nationwide.

For additional information please visit www.PheasantsForever.org and www.QuailForever.org



Pollinator park will be installed to help restore bees and monarchs

On June 3, a pollinator park will be planted in close proximity to the Brookside boat landing, just south of the Albert Lea Community Dog Park, according to a press release.

What started out as an idea and passion for pollinators by Carol Hegel Lang, a local gardener and freelance writer, is becoming a reality.

The dream and passion to help save pollinators came about as a result of Lang noting the loss of pollinators in her own gardens, and reading various articles stating that nearly 90 percent of the milkweed in roadside ditches had disappeared over the past 10

years — resulting in a 90 percent loss of monarch butterflies. Not only were monarchs being lost at a rapid rate, but the collapse of the bee population was just as devastating.

With the philosophy of even one person being able to make a difference creating a domino effect when multiplied by many, Lang decided it was time to take action to help save pollinators.

In January 2016 she formed the group Save the Monarchs of Freeborn County and started talking to local officials about making a pollinator park.

The grant was made possible by both the Pheasants Forever

national group and local South Central Pheasants Forever No. 455 to provide quality foraging and nesting habitats, as well as opportunities for youth to get outside and gain an appreciation for wildlife and conservation.

The grant was funded by Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, DuPont Pioneer and Pheasants Forever, who created the Minnesota Pollinator Partnership. The grant is also sponsored by Cabela's Outdoor Fund and Bayer Bee Care.

The project is being planted with the help of the Twin Lakes



A new pollinator park will be installed near the Brookside boat landing on June 3. PROVIDED

