

2001 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2006

TITLE: Restoring Minnesota's Fish and Wildlife Habitat Corridors Phase I

PROJECT MANAGER: Matt Holland - Coordinator

ORGANIZATION: Pheasants Forever and 19 organizations

ADDRESS: 679 West River Drive, New London, MN 56273

WEB SITE ADDRESS: <http://www.mnhabitatcorridors.org>

FUND: Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2001, 1st Special Session, Chp. 2, Sec. 14, Subd. 04e

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$11,745,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

The Habitat Corridors Partnership was formed to work together to restore, enhance, and conserve habitat corridors for the purpose of sustaining fish, wildlife, and native plant communities. The Partnership provides for statewide coordination of existing federal, state and private land and water conservation programs and focuses resources on identified habitat corridors.

Using land acquisition, conservation easements, and restoration, the 18 participating corridors partners used existing programs in eleven designated project areas to connect fragmented habitats, strengthen migration routes, and enhance species ability to reproduce and survive. The partnership expended \$11,739,273 of ETF funds directly impacting 31,343 acres (23,841 acres restored or managed, 3,710 easement acres acquired, 3,792 fee-title acres acquired) and brought \$39,480,571 in other funds to Minnesota through this partnership (\$3.36 for every Environmental Trust Fund dollar) directly impacting 32,763 acres (3,093 acres restored or managed, 25,727 easement acres acquired, 3,943 fee-title acres acquired).

Lands acquired in fee-title by the partnership are open to the public for uses consistent with land management system in which they are enrolled (e.g. Wildlife Management Area System). The Partnership would like to acknowledge the numerous agency, NGO, and private partners who assisted with project accomplishments.

Partners include: Ducks Unlimited; MN Deer Hunters Association; MN Department of Natural Resources Divisions of Ecological Services, Fisheries, Forestry and Wildlife; Minnesota Land Trust; U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service; National Wild Turkey Federation; The Nature Conservancy; Pheasants Forever; The Trust for Public Land; U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs; Red Lake Band of Chippewa; Leech Lake Band of Chippewa; Fond du Lac Band of Chippewa; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; MN Board of Water and Soil Resources; The Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. The Habitat Corridors Partnership website is at <http://www.mnhabitatcorridors.org>.