



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) M.L. 2016 Work Plan

Date of Report: May 29, 2016

Date of Next Status Update Report: February 1, 2017

Date of Work Plan Approval: June 7, 2016

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2018

Does this submission include an amendment request? NO

PROJECT TITLE: Wolf Management Education in the Classroom – Phase II

Project Manager: David Kline

Organization: International Wolf Center

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Location: 7100 Northland Circle North, Suite 205 Minneapolis, MN 55428 (New address as of 11/19/15)

Total ENRTF Project Budget:

ENRTF Appropriation: \$240,000

Amount Spent: \$0

Balance: \$240,000

Legal Citation: M.L. 2016, Chp. 186, Sec. 2, Subd. 05g

Appropriation Language:

\$240,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the International Wolf Center to expand the Wolves at Our Door classroom education program to assist students in understanding wolves and associated management issues.

I. PROJECT TITLE: Wolf Management Education in the Classroom – Phase 2

II. PROJECT STATEMENT:

The expansion of wolf range in Minnesota has been a polarizing issue. What risks do this pose to people who live and work in these areas and will conflicts with humans increase, as wolves inhabit new areas? There is so much misinformation about wolves in the media and in both pro-wolf and anti-wolf organizations that people are not accurately informed. This project will educate children and the public about wolves while gathering information to better understand how to teach them about wolves.

The program, branded as “Wolves at our Door,” has been a proven success in answering these questions for over 6,400 Twin Cities urban and suburban students. We taught 307 classrooms in the program’s first year, (beating our goal by 30%). As a result, teachers from schools throughout greater Minnesota want the opportunity to bring this popular new program to their students. With the aim of teaching children how to live safely with this misunderstood predator, “Wolves at our Door” helps young people understand the complexities of our co-existence with wolves – preparing them to be the next generation of engaged citizens.

Our goal is to expand the availability and impact of “Wolves at our Door” to all Minnesota public schools. Presentations contain unbiased, scientific information that provide a balanced look at the impact wolves have on humans and ecosystems. In addition to being expanded to all Minnesota public schools, the program would also be available to public libraries, nature centers and Minnesota State Parks.

As an element of the program, in-class surveys will be conducted using interactive technology to learn about things like the attitudes students have towards wolves and to gauge their understanding of wolf biology and behavior. At the conclusion of the project, findings will be published to help the public understand how young people view this apex predator and perceive the complex issues surrounding wolf-human relationships.

III. OVERALL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:

Project Status as of [February 1, 2017]:

Project Status as of [August 1, 2017]:

Project Status as of [February 1, 2018]:

Project Status as of [August 1, 2018]:

Overall Project Outcomes and Results:

IV. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:

ACTIVITY 1:

Description: On-Site Classroom Presentations

Conduct 60-minute in-person programs in 700 Minnesota public school classrooms, libraries, nature centers and state parks statewide. Each student/participant will receive a take-home handout that complements the presentation material as well as helpful safety tips when in wolf territory. About 21,000 students will be impacted by these engaging presentations (average of 30 students in 700 classrooms).

Summary Budget Information for Activity 1:

ENRTF Budget: \$ 236,800

Amount Spent: \$ 0
Balance: \$ 236,800

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Adapt (if necessary) and print handouts for students so that language is grade-level appropriate for grades 2-12	July 2016
2. Add and print info in the handouts about how habitat preservation reduces wolf-human conflicts, and safety tips for being around wolves and other wildlife	July 2016
3. Organize a volunteer effort to collect contact information for schools throughout the state to be used in marketing the program	August 2016
4. Print postcards to mail to teachers and districts (postage covered by International Wolf Center general operations funds)	July 2016
5. Develop and implement scheduling strategy to minimize travel and related expenses in serving schools in greater Minnesota	September 2016
6. Purchase two projectors for 2 nd and 3 rd educator for specific use of Wolves at our Door and three wireless microphones	July 2016
7. Update the International Wolf Center’s wolf.org website to promote the expanded “Wolves at our Door” program and house teacher resources	July 2016
8. Schedule programs and deliver presentations	June 2018

Activity Status as of [February 1, 2017]:

Activity Status as of [August 1, 2017]:

Activity Status as of [February 1, 2018]:

Activity Status as of [August 1, 2018]:

Final Report Summary:

ACTIVITY 2:

Description: Collect and Disseminate Program Survey Results

Before and after each classroom presentation, students use an electronic survey device or “clicker” to quickly answer a few simple questions about their understanding of basic wolf facts, safety, and attitudes about wolves. These age-appropriate questions help us measure the effectiveness of the presentation with the hopes that students comprehend the main themes; that wolf-human issues are complex, safety in and around wolf territory, and basic biology/behavior. If we identify weak improvements on a particular question topic, we can adjust the time spent during a presentation on the topic or adjust the curriculum to achieve better student comprehension. Because time is limited, these survey questions take around 5 minutes of the total 60-minute presentation time. We have found that the “clickers” are much faster than “hand-raising” or paper collection. Some younger kids raise their hands to match their friends instead of answering truthfully. Paper collection also takes longer due to staff tabulation time.

During and at the conclusion of the project, program highlights and survey results will be shared through: 1). The International Wolf Center’s website wolf.org – approximate 1.6 million views annually, 2). The International Wolf Center’s Facebook page – 70,000 current followers, 3). The *International Wolf* magazine – over 5,000 hard copies mailed to supporters in all 50 states and 37 countries, 4). Press releases to local newspapers and media outlets in communities where classroom presentations have occurred, 5). Media packets to school district newsletters writers where classroom presentations have occurred, 6). The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources leaders and public affairs personnel, 7). The 2018 International Wolf Symposium in Minnesota.

Summary Budget Information for Activity 2:

ENRTF Budget: \$ 3,200
Amount Spent: \$ 0
Balance: \$ 3,200

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Complete a post-program survey summary and report	June 2018
2. Post a web page at wolf.org and a web page link on the International Wolf Center Facebook page	June 2018
3. Distribute post-program report to media outlets, the Minnesota DNR, and school districts	June 2018
4. Publish report in <i>International Wolf</i> magazine	August 2018
5. Showcase project at the International Wolf Symposium held in Minnesota	October 2018
6. Purchase a <i>Turning Point</i> survey unit for second educator - 60 clickers + 10 extra for replacements (purchase of participant assessment tool to be used before and after program and post program evaluation)	July 2016

Activity Status as of [February 1, 2017]:

Activity Status as of [August 1, 2017]:

Activity Status as of [February 1, 2018]:

Activity Status as of [August 1, 2018]:

Final Report Summary:

V. DISSEMINATION:

Description:

The project evaluation will be available through a Web link on the organizations Web site, www.wolf.org; a limited number of printed copies will be produced for participating partners in the project and other interested parties. The cost of the dissemination of materials will be secured through private funds.

Status as of [February 1, 2017]:

Status as of [August 1, 2017]:

Status as of [February 1, 2018]:

Status as of [August 1, 2018]:

Final Report Summary:

VI. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY:

A. ENRTF Budget Overview:

This program is labor-intensive as wolf expert educators visit the classrooms in person teaching and engaging students. Projectors for visual presentations and basic wireless survey devices help present visual material and measure outcomes. Each student receives a printed booklet to reinforce the presentation and dive deeper into subtopics. Students often share these booklets with parents, siblings and friends, thus expanding the program's

impact. Some promotional postcards are also printed (and mailed at International Wolf Center expense) to spread the word to schools about the program. The majority of travel expenses reimburse mileage to the educators. Some efficient overnight travel to present multiple presentations in a two or three day span will be planned when it makes sense.

Budget Category	\$ Amount	Overview Explanation
Personnel:	\$193,985	Total cost of salary and benefits for two Twin Cities-based full-time and one Ely-based 10% FTE educator for two years. (A grand total of 4.2 FTE positions for the duration of the project).
Equipment/Tools/Supplies:	\$7,438	Projectors, bulbs, microphones, survey devices or "clickers"
Printing:	\$12,250	Take-home booklets, promo postcards
Travel Expenses in MN:	\$26,327	Carefully planned cluster travel: miles & hotel
TOTAL ENRTF BUDGET:	\$240,000	

Explanation of Use of Classified Staff:

1. Tara Morrison, Outreach Director, IWC. Will promote, schedule and present programs.
2. Second Full-time Educator – to be hired. He/she will promote, schedule and present programs.
3. Kelly Godfrey - Program Director, IWC. Kelly will spend 10% of her time promoting, scheduling and presenting programs close to Ely, Minnesota where she works (at the Center’s interpretive center).

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$5,000: NA

Number of Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Directly Funded with this ENRTF Appropriation: 2.1

Number of Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Estimated to Be Funded through Contracts with this ENRTF Appropriation: 0

B. Other Funds:

Source of Funds	\$ Amount Proposed	\$ Amount Spent	Use of Other Funds
Non-state			
The International Wolf Center’s general budget. These general operations funds are raised throughout the year from private contributions including individuals and foundations.	\$61,010	\$	Office space for educators, phones, copiers, new computer, meals while traveling, cell phone stipend, office supplies not covered by LCCMR. Marketing and promotions: (MN Professional Educator Conference booth, State Fair, exhibit postcard handouts, MN principals and teachers direct mail and list buy, MESPA membership email (free), MN Educator magazine “opportunities” section (free), weekly membership email announcement (2x/year), MREA membership email announcement (2x/year), MN Field Trip Library program.

			Training and support @ 15% project cost (\$36,000).
TOTAL OTHER FUNDS:	\$61,010	\$	

VII. PROJECT STRATEGY:

A. Project Partners:

The International Wolf Center (IWC) does have signed contractual agreements with project partners. Debbie Hinchcliffe, Dick Thiel, and Dr. L. David Mech are all unpaid volunteer board members contributing to the operations and guidance of our education and mission of the International Wolf Center.

1. Rob Schultz, Executive Director, IWC. Supervisor of project leaders and designated support staff.
2. Sharon Reed, Director of Admin & Finance, IWC. Oversees expenditures and prepares financial reports.
3. David Kline, Development Director IWC. Manages the project and ensures fulfillment of grant obligations.
4. Kelly Godfrey, Program Director, IWC. Advises development of curriculum and handout materials.
5. Debbie Hinchcliffe, Chair, Education Committee, IWC. Advises development of curriculum and handouts.
6. Dick Thiel, Board Member, IWC. Technical advisor and curriculum co-editor.
7. Dr. L. David Mech, Founder and Vice Chair IWC. Technical advisor and curriculum co-editor.

B. Project Impact and Long-term Strategy:

The “Wolves at our Door” program will have a direct, long-term impact on participants through an increased understanding of wolves, their biology, the complexities of wolf-human relationships, and safety considerations for being around wolves and other wildlife. The knowledge young people gain from participation will prepare them to be the next generation of engaged citizens. The program will also have a direct, long-term impact on teachers by increasing their knowledge about wolves, modeling the Center’s time-tested approach to teaching the public about wolves without bias, and in learning how to access the Center’s curriculum resources. Parents, family members, friends and other acquaintances of program participants will be indirectly impacted as participants share what they have learned verbally and by way of take-home booklets. Additionally, millions of people – in Minnesota and around the world – may become familiar with the program and its messages through the extensive promotion the Center will provide through its network of members, online users, social media followers, media outlets, printed materials and our international network of leading biologists. In terms of long-term strategy, it is not our intention to extend the project beyond LCCMR’s grant award period unless a new funding source(s) is secured following an internal evaluation of the program’s results and approval for extension by the Center’s board of directors.

C. Funding History:

Funding Source and Use of Funds	Funding Timeframe	\$ Amount
LCCMR – MN WolfLink programs	July 2010- June 2013	\$193,000
LCCMR – Wolf Management Education (Wolves at Our Door)	July 2014 – June 2016	\$120,000
Total		\$313,000

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
M.L. 2016 Project Budget**



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Legal Citation: M.L. 2016, Chp. 186, Sec. 2, Subd. 05g
Project Manager: David Kline
Organization: International Wolf Center
M.L. 2016 ENRTF Appropriation: \$ 240,000
Project Length and Completion Date: July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2018
Date of Report: May 29, 2016

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	Activity 1 Budget	Amount Spent	Activity 1 Balance	Activity 2 Budget	Amount Spent	Activity 2 Balance	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
BUDGET ITEM								
	On-Site Classroom presentations			Collect and Disseminate Post-program Survey				
Personnel (Wages and Benefits) 4.2 FTE	\$193,985						\$193,985	\$193,985
First 100% FT Outreach Educator salary and benefits (\$47,740 per year x 2 years = \$95,480)								
Second 100% FT Outreach Educator salary and benefits (\$45,465 per year x 2 years = \$90,930)								
Third 10% FTE Outreach Educator salary and benefits (\$37,875 per year x 2 years x 10% = \$7,575)								
Equipment/Tools/Supplies	\$4,238			\$3,200			\$7,438	\$7,438
3 Wireless Microphones for educators: \$738								
2 Projectors for 2nd and 3rd Educator for specific use of Wolves At Our Door (\$750 each) Includes five replacements bulbs @ 400/piece: \$3,500								
Second Educator Turning Point survey unit & 60 clickers + 10 extra for replacements (purchase of participant assessment tool to be used before and after program and post program in evaluation): \$3,200								
Printing	\$12,250						\$12,250	\$12,250
Postcards to mail for teachers and districts - printing only: \$700								
21,000 Handouts - updated and reprinted (700 classrooms X 30 students/class x \$.055 each): \$11,550								
Travel expenses in Minnesota	\$26,327						\$26,327	\$26,327
Hotel stays for educators @ 100/night average (not to exceed state rate at each location) - projected 30								
Mileage for three outreach educators (projected 30,100 miles x \$0.575/mile = \$17,250) + 10 trips for each FT outreach educator for training @ .525 miles x .0575/mi = \$ 3,019. Total								
COLUMN TOTAL	\$236,800			\$3,200			\$240,000	\$240,000

*Wolves
at Our Door*

Why Expand the Program?

- Many teacher/parent requests in Greater Minnesota
- Students statewide need to know fact from fiction
- 99% of surveyed teachers would recommend program.
- 32% of 5th-12th grade students better understood the reasons for wolf-human conflicts after the program.

