

LCCMR Work Program Final Report
Restoring Minnesota's Fish and Wildlife Habitat Corridors Phase 4
Habitat Conservation Partnership

3A: Shorelands Protection Program - Minnesota Land Trust

Project Manager:	Jane Prohaska	Fund:	Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
Affiliation:	Minnesota Land Trust		
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Total Biennial Project Budget

Result	ENTF Balance	ENTF Funds Spent	ENTF Balance	Other Funds Proposed	Other Funds Spent
Easement	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,239,400
Total	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,239,400

Work Program Summary

Overall Project Outcome and Results

In the fourth phase of our Shorelands Protection project, the Minnesota Land Trust continued to work with landowners to secure permanent conservation easements on quality habitat that borders or contains critical riparian lands. We initiated or continued contact with 67 landowners, completing 10 conservation easements. 7 of these easements directly complement or enhance projects completed under previous stages of this grant.

Collectively, these easements preserve 1,270 acres of land—almost tripling our goal of 300 to 500 acres—and protect more than 32,000 feet of fragile shoreline. Our individual projects are detailed below.

8 of the 10 conservation easements were donated. 2 were purchased, one at well below fair market value. These easements have a known value that exceeds \$5,325,000 with landowners generously donating more than \$5,160,000 in value. The cost to the State to protect this land was barely \$236 per acre—well below the cost to purchase land along our increasingly threatened shorelines.

Additionally, the Land Trust prepared baseline reports for each easement, documenting the status of the property for future monitoring and enforcement.

To fund our required perpetual easement management, monitoring and enforcement obligations, the Land Trust also received and dedicated funds to its segregated Stewardship and Enforcement Fund for several of the completed projects. For these projects, we estimated the anticipated annual expenses for each project and the investment needed in order to generate annual income sufficient to cover these expenses in perpetuity—all in accordance with our internal policies and procedures as approved by LCCMR. We have also provided LCCMR with a letter documenting our commitment to protect the conservation values of these projects in perpetuity and will report to LCCMR annually on the status of the Stewardship and Enforcement Fund and the easements acquired with funds from this grant.

We are extremely pleased with our results under this grant. We will continue to work with many landowners initially contacted here during the next phase of this project, demonstrating the importance of ongoing funding. Enhanced federal income tax benefits available during this stage of the project to landowners donating easements certainly enabled us to exceed our project goals. However, our experience also leads us to continue to believe it will be necessary to purchase more easements if we wish to be increasingly more targeted and selective.

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Project Results Use and Dissemination

Through each individual project and through managing our growing portfolio of easements, the Minnesota Land Trust continually learns more about using and managing conservation easements effectively and efficiently. We remain convinced in the value of conservation easements as important land protection tools in appropriate circumstances. We continue to work with other easement holders--and potential holders--to share what we our learning from our extensive experience.

We also disseminated information about the specific land protection projects completed under this grant through our newsletter, annual report, website and press releases.

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Easement Activities

Project Name:	Ten Mile Lake
Project Area:	2 - Mississippi Headwaters Township: 141, Range: 30, Section: 31
Description:	<p>This 43-acre project in Cass County consists of seven parcels of land around the shore of Ten Mile Lake and includes more than 3,100 feet of shoreline. The protected parcels are located in four areas on the lake, and the parcels were selected from properties thought to be highly vulnerable to future development.</p> <p>The protected property includes approximately wetlands, forest and grasslands. The property is located in close proximity to large expanses of the Chippewa National Forest as well as State and County-administered lands. Ten Mile Lake is one of the cleanest and deepest lakes in the state. Plant life has been documented as deep as 29 feet. The property provides needed habitat for wildlife species including bald eagles, gray wolves, red-necked grebes, loons and trumpeter swans.</p> <p>The value of the easement is unknown.</p>
Easement Recorded in LCCMR office:	No

<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funds Use</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Prorated Acres</i>	<i>Grassland Acres</i>	<i>Woodland Acres</i>	<i>Wetland Acres</i>	<i>Shoreline Feet</i>	<i>Riparian Feet</i>
Other Funds	Stewardship	\$10,000.00	43.00	1.59	26.02	15.83	3,144.00	0.00

Project Name:	Manitou River
Project Area:	5 - Lower St. Louis River Township: 58, Range: 6, Section: 35
Description:	<p>This property in Lake County consists of approximately 8 acres of mature birch forest located northwest of a 9-acre conservation easement owned by the same landowner that is also held by the Land Trust. The original 9-acre easement also protects approximately 1,300 feet of shoreline along Lake Superior. The northern boundary of the 8-acre easement fronts Highway 61, a scenic byway. The property is adjacent to the Caribou Falls WMA and is located between the Little Manitou and Caribou Rivers. Caribou Falls State Park is less than 1/2 mile away. This area is a critical wintering habitat for whitetail deer and other native wildlife species that winter along the lake in the birch, cedar and pine forests, taking advantage of the lake-effect temperatures. The property is also a component of an identified migratory corridor for waterfowl, shorebirds and neo-tropical songbirds.</p>
Easement Recorded in LCCMR office:	No

<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funds Use</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Prorated Acres</i>	<i>Grassland Acres</i>	<i>Woodland Acres</i>	<i>Wetland Acres</i>	<i>Shoreline Feet</i>	<i>Riparian Feet</i>
Other Funds	Donated Easement Value	\$36,000.00	7.02	0.27	6.82	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Funds	Stewardship	\$5,000.00	0.98	0.04	0.95	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total:		\$41,000.00	8.00	0.31	15.54	0.00	0.00	0.00

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Project Name:	Circle Lake
Project Area:	10 - Southern Lakes Township: 111, Range: 21, Section: 16
Description:	<p>This 72-acre property in Rice County is located approximately 10 miles west of Northfield on Circle Lake. About 20 acres of the property were cultivated at one time and have since been planted in trees or allowed to grow wild. Extensive wetlands are located along the shoreline of Circle Lake. The property is located in a rapidly developing region of Rice County. Several new large lot developments are being constructed across Circle Lake from the property. Directly west of the property is an undeveloped tract of land with a USFWS conservation easement. Directly north across the lake is a portion of DNR-owned land with a fishing access pier and boat launch.</p> <p>The extensive forest and grasslands of the property provide habitat for migratory and resident wildlife common to the area, and the extensive wetlands of the property and the shoreline along Circle Lake provide excellent aquatic near-shore and wetland habitat for a variety of wetland obligate wildlife and aquatic wildlife dependent on undeveloped shorelines</p>
Easement Recorded in LCCMR office:	No

<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funds Use</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Prorated Acres</i>	<i>Grassland Acres</i>	<i>Woodland Acres</i>	<i>Wetland Acres</i>	<i>Shoreline Feet</i>	<i>Riparian Feet</i>
ENTF	Easement Acquisition Costs	\$30,000.00	3.27	0.86	1.23	1.18	165.91	0.00
ENTF	Stewardship	\$14,000.00	1.53	0.40	0.57	0.55	77.42	0.00
Other Funds	Donated Easement Value	\$616,000.00	67.20	17.73	25.20	24.27	3,406.67	0.00
Total:		\$660,000.00	72.00	19.00	81.00	26.00	3,650.00	0.00

Project Name:	Chippewa Lake
Project Area:	3-7-8 - Border Prairie Transition Zone Township: 129, Range: 38, Section: 7
Description:	<p>This 195-acre property in Douglas County is a mix of lakeshore, woodlands, and fallow fields. The landowner has planted hybrid poplar trees for harvest in portions of the property. The protected land includes 1,696 feet of undeveloped shoreline along Chippewa Lake and two ponds. The undeveloped, wooded, rolling hills of the property provide scenic views prominently visible to the public from Chippewa Lake and from County Road 12, and the property provides habitat for a variety of terrestrial and aquatic wildlife species.</p>
Easement Recorded in LCCMR office:	Yes

<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funds Use</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Prorated Acres</i>	<i>Grassland Acres</i>	<i>Woodland Acres</i>	<i>Wetland Acres</i>	<i>Shoreline Feet</i>	<i>Riparian Feet</i>
ENTF	Stewardship	\$5,000.00	2.11	0.47	0.48	0.10	92.87	0.00
Other Funds	Donated Easement Value	\$452,000.00	190.78	42.43	43.82	8.76	8,395.26	0.00
Other Funds	Stewardship	\$5,000.00	2.11	0.47	0.48	0.10	92.87	0.00
Total:		\$462,000.00	195.00	43.37	134.37	8.95	8,581.00	0.00

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Project Name:		Glacial Ridge						
Project Area:		3-7-8 - Border Prairie Transition Zone Township: 121, Range: 34, Section: 14						
Description:		This 305-acre property in Kandiyohi County is situated along the Glacial Ridge Scenic Byway (a state scenic byway) and consists of rolling forested terrain with some agricultural land used for cattle grazing and haying. The property also has an open-water pond on its western edge, which is visible from Highway 23. Strawberry Lake lies just to the east of the property and is connected to the property by wetlands. This property is the fourth project in the Glacial Ridge site that the Minnesota Land Trust has helped to protect with conservation easements. The property lies within the New London Hills portion of Kandiyohi County, which is the most heavily forested and steepest portion of the county.						
Easement Recorded in LCCMR office:		No						
<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funds Use</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Prorated Acres</i>	<i>Grassland Acres</i>	<i>Woodland Acres</i>	<i>Wetland Acres</i>	<i>Shoreline Feet</i>	<i>Riparian Feet</i>
ENTF	Stewardship	\$13,000.00	1.67	0.35	0.78	0.02	8.09	0.00
Other Funds	Donated Easement Value	\$2,359,000.00	303.33	63.30	141.61	3.54	1,467.91	0.00
ENTF	Stewardship	\$13,000.00	158.00	0.00	133.34	21.45	1,206.00	0.00
Total:		\$2,385,000.00	463.00	63.65	418.12	25.01	2,682.00	0.00

Project Name:		High Hope Farm						
Project Area:		3-7-8 - Border Prairie Transition Zone Township: 121, Range: 25, Section: 18						
Description:		This project adds 35 acres to an existing 80-acre conservation easement held by the Land Trust in Wright County. The additional land consists primarily of rolling grasslands. Protection of the property preserves additional shoreline along a pond partially protected in the original easement and helps maintain the rural character of the area.						
Easement Recorded in LCCMR office:		No						
<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funds Use</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Prorated Acres</i>	<i>Grassland Acres</i>	<i>Woodland Acres</i>	<i>Wetland Acres</i>	<i>Shoreline Feet</i>	<i>Riparian Feet</i>
ENTF	Stewardship	\$6,000.00	0.47	0.28	0.00	0.10	15.28	0.00
Other Funds	Donated Easement Value	\$435,000.00	34.14	20.31	0.27	7.12	1,107.98	0.00
Other Funds	Stewardship	\$5,000.00	0.39	0.23	0.00	0.08	12.74	0.00
Total:		\$446,000.00	35.00	20.82	0.84	7.30	1,136.00	0.00

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Project Name:	Lake Emma
Tract:	Green
Project Area:	3-7-8 - Border Prairie Transition Zone Township: 133, Range: 39, Section: 8
Description:	<p>This 103-acre project in Otter Tail County is adjacent to Glendalough State Park. The property is a mix of forest, wetland, and grassland and features extensive shoreline on Lake Emma, a shallow waterfowl lake. The forest is a high-quality oak forest that is part of a much larger expanse of forest protected by Glendalough State Park and two other conservation easements held by the Land Trust at the Lake Emma site. Protection of this tract of land completes the protection of all of the shoreline of Lake Emma in private ownership.</p> <p>The property also has significant scenic value as viewed by the public from two observation platforms on Lake Emma in Glendalough State Park. As a component of a migratory corridor, it provides feeding and nesting habitat for migrating ducks, geese, and other waterfowl, as well as Neotropical migratory forest birds.</p>
Easement Recorded in LCCMR office:	No

<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funds Use</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Prorated Acres</i>	<i>Grassland Acres</i>	<i>Woodland Acres</i>	<i>Wetland Acres</i>	<i>Shoreline Feet</i>	<i>Riparian Feet</i>
ENTF	Easement Acquisition Costs	\$100,000.00	69.88	3.39	25.10	27.14	740.84	0.00
ENTF	Stewardship	\$13,000.00	9.08	0.44	3.26	3.53	96.31	0.00
Other Funds	Easement Acquisition Costs	\$34,400.00	24.04	1.17	8.64	9.34	254.85	0.00
Total:		\$147,400.00	103.00	5.00	111.00	40.00	1,092.00	0.00

Project Name:	Otter Tail River
Project Area:	3-7-8 - Border Prairie Transition Zone Township: 132, Range: 44, Section: 30
Description:	<p>This 257-acre property in Otter Tail County consists of cultivated farmland along the Otter Tail River. There are low rolling hills in the fields and trees along part of the river bank. The Land Trust holds an easement over another 140 acres about two miles to the east owned by the same landowner. Also, the Orwell Wildlife Management Area lies a few miles to the east. There is public access to the Otter Tail River, which is a designated canoe route.</p>
Easement Recorded in LCCMR office:	No

<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funds Use</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Prorated Acres</i>	<i>Grassland Acres</i>	<i>Woodland Acres</i>	<i>Wetland Acres</i>	<i>Shoreline Feet</i>	<i>Riparian Feet</i>
ENTF	Stewardship	\$5,000.00	2.12	0.07	0.20	0.07	0.00	102.45
Other Funds	Donated Easement Value	\$594,000.00	251.50	8.57	24.02	7.84	0.00	12,170.64
Other Funds	Stewardship	\$8,000.00	3.39	0.12	0.32	0.11	0.00	163.91
Total:		\$607,000.00	257.00	8.76	73.65	8.01	0.00	12,437.00

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Project Name:	Stoney Ridge
Project Area:	3-7-8 - Border Prairie Transition Zone Township: 121, Range: 34, Section: 6
Description:	This 96-acre property is located near New London in Kandiyohi County. It is adjacent to two other conservation easements held by the Land Trust in the Stoney Ridge site. Sibley State Park lies further to the west across Highway 71. Additionally, the Glacial Ridge site, where the Land Trust holds several other conservation easements, is located to the southeast on the other side of New London. The property is primarily forested with a mixed hardwood forest consisting of oak, elm, birch, green ash, ironwood and red cedar. There is quite a bit of buckthorn, and the landowner hopes to more actively control it in the future. There also are two food plots (corn and clover) and some grassland areas, which are enrolled in CRP. The natural and restored ponds and wetlands on the property provide habitat for a variety of aquatic plants and animals and contribute to the ecological viability of the larger complex of wetlands and small glacial lakes in which they are located.
Easement Recorded in LCCMR office:	No

<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funds Use</i>	<i>Funding Amount</i>	<i>Prorated Acres</i>	<i>Grassland Acres</i>	<i>Woodland Acres</i>	<i>Wetland Acres</i>	<i>Shoreline Feet</i>	<i>Riparian Feet</i>
Other Funds	Donated Easement Value	\$670,000.00	94.59	19.50	29.79	28.60	2,441.56	0.00
Other Funds	Stewardship	\$10,000.00	1.41	0.29	0.44	0.43	36.44	0.00
Total:		\$680,000.00	96.00	19.79	60.46	29.03	2,478.00	0.00

Easement Totals (By Funding Type)

Funding Type:	Funding Amount	Prorated Acres	Grassland Acres	Woodland Acres	Wetland Acres	Shoreline Feet	Riparian Feet
ENTF	\$199,000.00	248.13	6.27	473.35	54.13	2,402.72	102.45
Other Funds	\$5,239,400.00	1,023.87	176.02	308.39	106.00	20,360.28	12,334.55
Total	\$5,438,400.00	1,272.00	182.29	473.37	160.13	22,763.00	12,437.00

Work Program Expenditures (Not Attributable to Specific Projects)

<i>FundingType</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Description</i>
ENTF	Personnel Expenditures	\$74,750.00	Salaries and related benefits for staff working on contacting landowners, negotiating conservation easements and completing all aspect of easement projects. Because of the large number of potential conservation projects involved in this grant and because many projects initiated or worked on under the grant are not actually completed in this phase of the project, the Land Trust does not allocate salaries to specific conservation easement projects.
ENTF	Supplies and Misc	\$26,250.00	Title work, surveys, appraisals, mapping, film, recording fees and other miscellaneous acquisition expenses related to projects pursued under this grant. Because of the large number of conservation projects involved, the Land Trust does not allocate these expenses to specific easement projects.
Total:		\$101,000.00	

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Work Program Expenditures (Not Attributable to Specific Projects) By Funding Type

Funding Type	Amount
ENTF:	\$101,000.00
Total:	\$101,000.00

Work Program Expenditures Breakdown

Funding Type:	Easement Projects	Not Attributable to Specific Projects	Total
ENTF	\$199,000.00	\$101,000.00	\$300,000.00
Other Funds	\$5,239,400.00	\$0.00	\$5,239,400.00
Total	\$5,438,400.00	\$101,000.00	\$5,539,400.00

Funding Type Definitions

ENTF:	Grant dollars provided through the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
Other Funds:	Non-state, non-state leveraged dollars (if partner funds are leveraging State Funds (e.g. RIM) they are not eligible to be considered Other Funds)
State Funds:	State Funds expended on HCP projects (not eligible for use as Other Funds commitment)
Partner's State Leveraged Funds:	Non State Funds that have leveraged State Funds as part of an HCP project (not eligible for use as Other Funds commitment)
Other:	Any other expenditures (e.g. grant income funds)

Attachment A: Budget Detail**Project Title:**

Habitat Corridors Partnership
Minnesota Land Trust - Shoreland Protection Program -3(a)

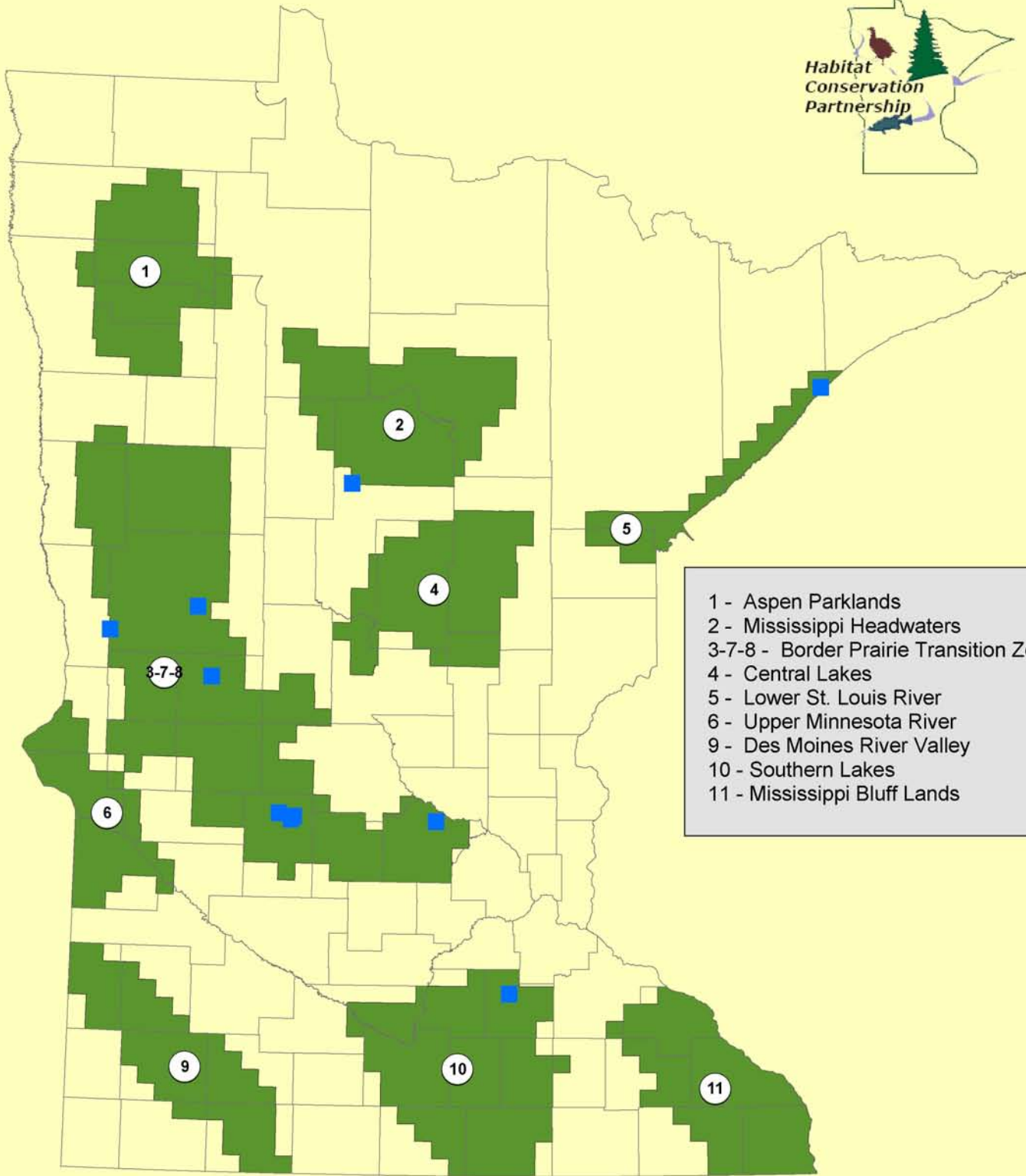
Project Manager: Jane Prohaska

LCCMR Requested Dollars: \$300,000

	Result 1 -- Acquiring CEs - Shoreland Protection Program 3(a): BUDGET	Result 1 -- Acquiring CEs - Shoreland Protection Program 3(a): AMENDED BUDGET	AMOUNT SPENT
BUDGET ITEM			
Personnel: Staff expenses including salaries, benefits (FICA,FUTA. SUI, worker's comp health insurance, 401 (k), etc.) and related costs for approximately .75 FTE for one years as follows:	\$50,000.00	\$74,750.00	\$74,750.00
Conservation directors or other land protection staff (aproximately .50 FTE)			
Staff attorney and other support staff (approximately .25 FTE)			
Easement acquisition costs	\$200,000.00	\$156,250.00	\$156,250.00
Purchase price of conservation easement(s)			
Title work, title insurance, recording and closing fees, etc.			
Maps, GIS (including project mapping by Community GIS)			
Film			
Other (including appraisals, surveys, etc.)			
Easement stewardship	\$50,000.00	\$69,000.00	\$69,000.00
TOTAL	\$300,000.00	\$300,000.00	\$300,000.00

Habitat Conservation Partnership Phase 4 - Accomplishments

3A - Shorelands Protection Program - Minnesota Land Trust



- 1 - Aspen Parklands
- 2 - Mississippi Headwaters
- 3-7-8 - Border Prairie Transition Zone
- 4 - Central Lakes
- 5 - Lower St. Louis River
- 6 - Upper Minnesota River
- 9 - Des Moines River Valley
- 10 - Southern Lakes
- 11 - Mississippi Bluff Lands

 Restorations	 Easements	 Acquisitions
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