2009 Project Abstract
For the Period Ending June 30, 2012

PROJECT TITLE: State Parks Acquisitions (4a)
PROJECT MANAGER: Jennifer Christie
AFFILIATION: DNR Division of Parks and Trails
MAILING ADDRESS: 500 Lafayette Rd
CITY/STATE/ZIP: St Paul, MN 55155
PHONE: 651-259-5633
E-MAIL: jennifer.christie@state.mn.us
WEBSITE: [If applicable] www.dnr.state.mn.us/
FUNDING SOURCE: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
LEGAL CITATION: M.L. 2009, Chap. 143, Sec. 2, Subd. 4(a)

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: $590,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results
The Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund funding allowed for the following:

- Ownership of approximately 87 acres in the Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area. Acquisition of this parcel provides for unified ownership of park-managed land and includes a key access point into the recreation area. This parcel also has over one mile of water frontage on three lakes within the recreation area.

- Ownership of a 17-acre parcel in Whitewater State Park. Acquisition of this parcel provides protection on the Whitewater River and adjacent to the park visitor center. The current trail system lies close to the boundary and could now be extended for additional river resource interpretation. The parcel also provides a natural buffer between the visitor center and private development.

- Ownership of approximately 20 acres of land in Nerstrand Big Woods State Park due to partially funding from the Trust Fund. This property is identified by Minnesota County Biological Survey as having outstanding biodiversity significance and has not been logged in over 100 years. The spring ephemerals prevalent in this area of the park are now protected. The site is also key to maintaining the closed canopy and diverse understory characteristic of ‘big woods’ in Nerstrand Big Woods State Park.

All acquisitions are from willing sellers, and located within the statutory boundary of state parks.
Trust Fund 2009 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: August 1, 2012
Date of Work program Approval: June 16, 2009
Date of Work program Extension Approval: July 1, 2011
Project Completion Date: June 30, 2012

I. PROJECT TITLE: State Parks Acquisition

Project Manager: Jennifer Christie
Affiliation: Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Trails
Mailing Address: 500 Lafayette Road
City / State / Zip: St. Paul, MN 55155
Telephone Number: 651-259-5633
E-mail Address: Jennifer.Christie@state.mn.us
FAX Number: 651-297-5475
Web Page address: www.dnr.state.mn.us

Location: Acquisitions include, but not limited to, 1) Central- Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area near Ironton in Crow Wing County and 2) Southeast- Whitewater SPK near Altura in Winona County and 3) Southern-Nerstrand State Park in Rice County. See attached map for locations.

Total Trust Fund Project Budget: Trust Fund Appropriation: $590,000
Minus Amount Spent: $590,000
Equal Balance: $-0-

Legal Citation: ML 2009, Chap.143, Sec. 2, Subd. 4A
Legal Citation: Carry forward ML 2011, Chap. 2, Sec.2, Subd.18a.

Appropriation Language: State Parks Acquisition has been extended to June 30, 2012
$590,000 is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire in-holdings for state parks. Land acquired with this appropriation must be sufficiently improved to meet at least minimum management standards as determined by the commissioner of natural resources. A list of proposed acquisitions must be provided as part of the required work program.

II. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS: Trust Fund funding allowed for the following:

- Ownership of approximately 87 acres in the Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area. Acquisition of this parcel provides for unified ownership of park-managed land and includes a key access point into the recreation
area. This parcel also has over one mile of water frontage on three lakes within the recreation area.

- Ownership of a 17-acre parcel in Whitewater State Park. Acquisition of this parcel provides protection on the Whitewater River and adjacent to the park visitor center. The current trail system lies close to the boundary and could now be extended for additional river resource interpretation. The parcel also provides a natural buffer between the visitor center and private development.

- Ownership of approximately 20 acres of land in Nerstrand Big Woods State Park due to partially funding from the Trust Fund. This property is identified by Minnesota County Biological Survey as having outstanding biodiversity significance and has not been logged in over 100 years. The spring ephemerals prevalent in this area of the park are now protected. The site is also key to maintaining the closed canopy and diverse understory characteristic of ‘big woods’ in Nerstrand Big Woods State Park.

See attached map for locations.

All acquisitions are from willing sellers, and located within the statutory boundary of state parks.

III. FINAL REPORT SUMMARY:

In December 30, 2009, the 87 acre parcel at Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area was appraised and anticipated to be acquired by February 2010. The 87 acre parcel at Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area was acquired on March 12, 2010.

In December 30, 2009, the 17 acre parcel at Whitewater State Park was in the acquisition process of being appraised with an anticipated completion date within the next 60 days. In October 22, 2010, the 17-acre parcel at Whitewater State Park appraisal was completed and an offer was made in April 2010. In December 30, 2010, on-going discussions between the MnDNR and Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota were occurring regarding the offer to purchase the property. The 17-acre parcel at Whitewater State Park was acquired on June 6, 2010.

On January 25, 2012, due to declining property values, MnDNR requested a workplan amendment to add the partial funding of Nerstrand State Park acquisition. On January 31, 2012, the workplan amendment was approved. On July 1, 2011, the Work program Extension Approval was given to extend the completion date to June 30, 2012. The 20 acre parcel at Nerstrand State Park was acquired on December 28, 2011.
IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: Ownership of approximately 87 acres within the statutory boundary of Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area.

Description: The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Trails will appraise, negotiate and acquire this parcel. This 87 acre parcel is completely surrounded by park-managed land and includes a key access point into the recreation area. This parcel also has over one mile of water frontage on three lakes within the recreation area.

Summary Budget Information for Result 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trust Fund Budget:</th>
<th>$280,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount Spent:</td>
<td>$280,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance:</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Deliverable | Completion Date | Budget | Status
----------|----------------|--------|-------
1. 87 Acres Acquired | June 30, 2012 | $280,000 | Completed

Final Report Summary:

This acquisition was completed on March 12, 2010.

In December 30, 2009, the 87 acre parcel at Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area was appraised and anticipated to be acquired by February 2010. The 87 acre parcel at Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area was acquired on March 12, 2010.

Result 2: Ownership of a 17-acre parcel within the statutory boundary of Whitewater State Park

Description: The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Trails will appraise, negotiate and acquire this parcel. This 17 acre parcel straddles the Whitewater River and lies adjacent to the park visitor center. The current trail system lies close to the boundary and this property may be used to extended the trail for additional river resource interpretation. The parcel also provides a natural buffer between our visitor center and private development.

Summary Budget Information for Result 2:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trust Fund Budget:</th>
<th>$279,418</th>
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<tr>
<td>Amount Spent:</td>
<td>$279,418</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balance:</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Deliverable | Completion Date | Budget | Status
----------|----------------|--------|-------
1. 17 acres acquired | June 30, 2012 | $279,418 | Completed

Final Report Summary:

This acquisition was completed on June 6, 2010.

In December 30, 2009, the 17 acre parcel at Whitewater State Park was in the acquisition process of being appraised with an anticipated completion date within the
In October 22, 2010, the 17-acre parcel at Whitewater State Park appraisal was completed and an offer was made in April 2010. In December 30, 2010, on-going discussions between the MnDNR and Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota were occurring regarding the offer to purchase the property. The 17-acre parcel at Whitewater State Park was acquired on June 6, 2010.

Result 3: Ownership of approximately 20 acres within the statutory boundary of Nerstrand State Park.

Description: Partially fund the acquisition of approximately 20 acres of land in Nerstrand Big Woods State Park located in Rice County. This property was identified as outstanding biodiversity significance by Minnesota County Biological Survey and has not been logged in over 100 years. The spring ephemerals are prevalent in this area of the park and the site is important to maintaining the closed canopy and diverse understory characteristic of ‘big woods’ in Nerstrand Big Woods State Park.

Summary Budget Information for Result 3:  
- Trust Fund Budget: $30,582
- Amount Spent: $30,582
- Balance: $-0-

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deliverable</th>
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<th>Budget</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. 20 Acres Acquired</td>
<td>June 30, 2012</td>
<td>$30,582</td>
<td>Completed</td>
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Final Report Summary:  
This acquisition was completed on December 28, 2011.

On January 25, 2012, due to declining property values, MnDNR requested a workplan amendment to add the partial funding of Nerstrand State Park acquisition. On January 31, 2012, the workplan amendment was approved on January 31, 2012. On July 1, 2011, the Work program Extension Approval was given to extend the completion date to June 30, 2012.

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET:  

Staff or Contract Services: $15,000 (Appraisal Services and Professional Services from DNR, Division of Lands and Minerals and the Attorney General’s Office)

Acquisition, including easements: 125 Acres, The State of Minnesota (DNR)

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: $590,000

VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: Local state park support groups and the Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota. Project partners will only receive market value of project sites
in their ownership. Project partner may receive up to $1,500 reimbursement for appraisal costs.

**B. Other Funds Proposed to be Spent during the Project Period:** Bonding 2006 and 2008 funds, RIM Match funds when appropriate

**C. Past Spending:**
- Land Acquisition for the Division of Parks and Recreation
  - M.L. 2008 $ 750,000
  - M.L. 2007 $ 750,000
  - M.L. 2005 $2,000,000
  - M.L. 2003 $1,500,000
  - M.L. 2001 $1,726,000

**D. Time:** To acquire by June 2012

**VII. DISSEMINATION:** Update state park maps and website as land becomes available for public use.

**VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**
Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted no later than December 31, 2009, June 30, 2010 and December 30, 2010. A final work program report and associated products will be submitted by June 30, 2012 as requested by the LCCMR

**IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS:** NA

SEE ATTACHMENT A - LCCMR 2009 Budget Detail
Project Title: State Park Acquisition

Project Manager Name: Jennifer Christie

Trust Fund Appropriation: $590,000

### 2009 Trust Fund Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result 1 Budget</th>
<th>Amount Spent</th>
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<th>Result 2 Budget</th>
<th>Amount Spent</th>
<th>Balance</th>
<th>Result 3 Budget</th>
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#### BUDGET ITEM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of 87 acres in Cuyuna Country SRA</th>
<th>Ownership of 17 acre parcel in Whitewater SPK</th>
<th>Ownership of 20 acre parcel in Nerstrand SPK</th>
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</thead>
</table>

#### Land Acquisition

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Ownership of 87 acres in Cuyuna Country SRA</th>
<th>Ownership of 17 acre parcel in Whitewater SPK</th>
<th>Ownership of 20 acre parcel in Nerstrand SPK</th>
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<th>$585,582</th>
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#### Professional Services for Acq. Such as Appraisal, Survey, Title Work and Professional Services

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Ownership of 87 acres in Cuyuna Country SRA</th>
<th>Ownership of 17 acre parcel in Whitewater SPK</th>
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<th>$0</th>
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#### COLUMN TOTAL

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<tr>
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<th>Ownership of 17 acre parcel in Whitewater SPK</th>
<th>Ownership of 20 acre parcel in Nerstrand SPK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| COLUMN TOTAL | $280,000 | $280,000 | $0 | $279,418 | $279,418 | $0 | $30,582 | $30,582 | $0 | $590,000 | $0 |