

M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art.3, Sec. 2, Subd. 04j4i Project Abstract
For the Period Ending June 30, 2014

Project Title: HCP VII - Habitat Acquisition – DNR Professional Services (4i)

Project Manager: Rick Walsh

Affiliation: MN DNR

Address: 500 Lafayette Rd, Box 20

City: St Paul **State:** MN **Zipcode:** 55155

Telephone Number: (651) 259-5232

Email Address: rick.walsh@state.mn.us

WEBSITE: www.mn.dnr.gov

FUNDING SOURCE: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art.3, Sec. 2, Subd. 04j4i

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$20,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

The purpose of this funding was to help cover the cost of professional services related to transfer of Wildlife Management Area (WMA) property to the DNR from Habitat Conservation Partnership (HCP) partners. Several HCP partners have received funding for WMA acquisition. The process of conveying title to this land from partner to DNR results in direct costs to DNR for things such as staff time for DNR Division of Lands and Minerals and the Attorney General's Office, survey costs, recording fees, abstracting fees, property taxes, and deed taxes. These costs can be considerable and often create strain on other DNR budgets. This funding has supported the conveyance of thirteen WMA parcels from three HCP partners. These thirteen parcels added over 840 acres to the WMA system to be permanently protected and open to public hunting, fishing, and trapping. Although this was a 36-month (FY12 to FY14) appropriation, it was largely spent in the first 18 months. Therefore most of the FY13 and FY14 costs for conveyance of these lands have been paid from other DNR budgets. For these 13 properties approximately \$21,500 has come from those other budgets. This illustrates that the costs associated with conveying land acquired by partners are protracted and do not end once the land is acquired. Appropriations that fund acquisition of land to be conveyed to DNR need to adequately budget for associated costs. This will ensure that newly acquired lands can be entered into DNR's Outdoor Recreation System in a timely manner, and that other DNR budgets do not bear the brunt of such costs.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

Acquired parcels are found on the [DNR Recreation Compass](#) and on DNR's website at www.mndnr.gov. In addition, HCP partners may have published news releases, articles, or other documents regarding these parcels. It was not the intent of this appropriation to fund or orchestrate dissemination. Dissemination was a function of the funding provided to the HCP partners that acquired and reported upon the land.



**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
M.L. 2011 Work Plan Final Report**

Date of Report: 08/15/2014
Date of Next Status Update: Final Report
Date of Work Plan Approval: 6/23/2011
Project Completion Date: 6/30/2014 **Is this an amendment request?** N

Project Title: HCP VII - Habitat Acquisition – DNR Professional Services (4i)

Project Manager: Rick Walsh
Affiliation: MN DNR
Address: 500 Lafayette Rd, Box 20
City: St Paul **State:** MN **Zipcode:** 55155
Telephone Number: (651) 259-5233
Email Address: rick.walsh@state.mn.us
Web Address: www.mndnr.gov

Location:

Counties Impacted: Statewide

Ecological Section Impacted: Lake Agassiz Aspen Parklands (223N), Minnesota and Northeast Iowa Morainal (222M), North Central Glaciated Plains (251B), Northern Minnesota and Ontario Peatlands (212M), Northern Minnesota Drift and lake Plains (212N), Northern Superior Uplands (212L), Paleozoic Plateau (222L), Red River Valley (251A), Southern Superior Uplands (212J), Western Superior Uplands (212K)

Total ENRTF Project Budget:	ENRTF Appropriation \$:	20,000
	Amount Spent \$:	19,989
	Balance \$:	11

Legal Citation: M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art.3, Sec. 2, Subd. 04j4i

Appropriation Language:

\$1,737,000 the first year and \$1,738,000 the second year are from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the acceleration of agency programs and cooperative agreements. Of this appropriation, \$125,000 the first year and \$125,000 the second year are to the commissioner of natural resources for agency programs and \$3,225,000 is for agreements as follows: \$637,000 the first year and \$638,000 the second year with Ducks Unlimited, Inc.; \$38,000 the first year and \$37,000 the second year with Friends of Detroit Lakes Wetland Management District; \$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the second year with Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe; \$225,000 the first year and \$225,000 the second year with Minnesota Land Trust; \$200,000 the first year and \$200,000 the second year with Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.; \$242,000 the first year and \$243,000 the second year with Pheasants Forever, Inc.; and \$245,000 the first year and \$245,000 the second year with The Trust for Public Land to plan, restore, and acquire fragmented landscape corridors that connect areas of quality habitat to sustain fish, wildlife, and plants. The United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, is an authorized cooperating partner in the appropriation. Expenditures are limited to the project corridor areas as defined in the work program. Land acquired with this appropriation must be sufficiently improved to meet at least minimum habitat and facility management standards, as determined by the commissioner of natural resources. This appropriation may not be used for the purchase of habitable residential structures, unless expressly approved in the work program. All conservation easements must be perpetual and have a natural resource management plan. Any land acquired in fee title by the commissioner of natural resources with money from this appropriation must be designated as an outdoor recreation unit under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.07. The commissioner may similarly designate any lands acquired in less than fee title. A list of proposed restorations and fee title and easement acquisitions must be provided as part of the required work program. An entity who acquires a conservation easement with appropriations from the trust fund must have a long-term stewardship plan for the easement and a fund established for monitoring and enforcing the agreement. Money appropriated from the trust fund for easement acquisition may be used to establish a monitoring, management, and enforcement fund as approved in the work program. An annual financial report is required for any monitoring, management, and enforcement fund established, including expenditures from the fund. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2014, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

I. PROJECT TITLE: HCP7-4i Habitat Acquisition – DNR Professional Services

II. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY:

The purpose of this funding was to help cover the cost of professional services related to transfer of Wildlife Management Area (WMA) property to the DNR from Habitat Conservation Partnership (HCP) partners. Several HCP partners have received funding for WMA acquisition. The process of conveying title to this land from partner to DNR results in direct costs to DNR for things such as staff time for DNR Division of Lands and Minerals and the Attorney General’s Office, survey costs, recording fees, abstracting fees, property taxes, and deed taxes. These costs can be considerable and often create strain on other DNR budgets. This funding has supported the conveyance of thirteen WMA parcels from three HCP partners. These thirteen parcels added over 840 acres to the WMA system to be permanently protected and open to public hunting, fishing, and trapping. Although this was a 36-month (FY12 to FY14) appropriation, it was largely spent in the first 18 months. Therefore most of the FY13 and FY14 costs for conveyance of these lands have been paid from other DNR budgets. For these 13 properties approximately \$21,500 has come from those other budgets. This illustrates that the costs associated with conveying land acquired by partners are protracted and do not end once the land is acquired. Appropriations that fund acquisition of land to be conveyed to DNR need to adequately budget for associated costs. This will ensure that newly acquired lands can be entered into DNR’s Outdoor Recreation System in a timely manner, and that other DNR budgets do not bear the brunt of such costs.

III. PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:

Project Status as of Nov 1, 2011

Project Status as of May 1, 2012 Amendment Request 05/01/2012: Minor change affecting staff time rate in Activity 1 description, Dissemination description, and project manager and legal citation in Attachment A. Progress to date has been to support conveyance of seven parcels of land to DNR by providing funding for professional services associated with the transactions. These parcels will become parts of the following state Wildlife Management Areas: Alvstad, Cambria, Clare Johnson, Dora Lake, Mannanah, Rice Lake, and Sangl.

Project Status as of Nov 1, 2012 Progress to date has been to support conveyance of seven parcels of land to DNR by providing funding for professional services associated with the transactions. These parcels were acquired with ENRTF funding and will become parts of the following state Wildlife Management Areas: Alvstad, Cambria, Clare Johnson, Dora Lake, Mannanah, Rice Lake, and Sangl.

Project Status as of June 30, 2013 Progress to date has been to support conveyance of twelve parcels of land to DNR by providing funding for professional services associated with the transactions. These parcels were acquired with ENRTF funding and will become parts of the following state Wildlife Management Areas: Alvstad, Benderberg, Cambria, Clare Johnson, Dora Lake, Florida Creek, Mannanah, Milan, Maple Meadows, Rice Lake, Sangl, and White Bear. See table below for details.

<u>WMA name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Landowner name</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>HCP Partner</u>	<u>Date acquired</u>
Alvstad	Grant	Alvstad	10	Pheasants Forever	11/21/2011
Benderberg	Chippewa	Kvistero	82	Pheasants Forever	12/29/2010
Cambria	Blue Earth	Overn	87	Pheasants Forever	5/28/2010
Clare Johson	Lincoln	Madsen	36	Pheasants Forever	9/30/2011
Diamond Lake	Le Sueur	Hogan	36	Pheasants Forever	6/26/2013
Dora Lake	Le Sueur	Bohn	146	Trust for Public Land	9/30/2011

Florida Creek	Lac qui Parle	Peterson	60	Pheasants Forever	5/27/2011
Mannahan	Meeker	Mahn	121	Pheasants Forever	12/28/2007
Milan	Chippewa	Olson	65	Pheasants Forever	12/16/2010
Maple Meadows	Polk		40	Nature Conservancy	8/4/2008
Rice Lake	Faribault	Wahe	28	Pheasants Forever	6/4/2012
Sangl	Jackson	Bristow	80	Pheasants Forever	9/21/2009
White Bear	Pope	Kalina	50	Pheasants Forever	12/6/2010

Project Status as of November 1, 2013. Progress to date has been to support conveyance of thirteen parcels of land to DNR by providing funding for professional services associated with the transactions. These parcels were acquired with ENRTF funding and will become parts of the following state Wildlife Management Areas: Alvstad, Benderberg, Cambria, Clare Johnson, Diamond Lake, Dora Lake, Florida Creek, Mannahan, Milan, Maple Meadows, Rice Lake, Sangl, and White Bear. See table above for details.

IV. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:

ACTIVITY 1: Habitat Acquisition – Professional Services

Description: The Minnesota DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife will provide professional services and pay the associated costs of conveying lands acquired by partners under this project to the Department. Professional services include the following: staff time for the Division of Lands and Minerals (\$83/hour) and the Attorney General’s Office (\$123/hour), survey costs, recording and abstracting fees, and deed tax. The total cost to process and complete the estimated land conveyances to the DNR under this program is approximately 10% of the total value of these acquisitions.

DNR cannot start work until the Partners have completed acquisition on each parcel. DNR and Partners have estimated that **400 acres** will be acquired and turned over to DNR, but it is unknown how many final parcels will be acquired, or when the acquisitions will be completed. The work completed under this proposal is dependent on the acres, types, and condition of lands acquired by the partners. All work will be completed by June 30, 2013.

Summary Budget Information for Activity 1:

ENRTF Budget: \$ 20,000
Amount Spent: \$ 19,989
Balance: \$ 11

Activity Completion Date:

Outcome	Completion Date	Budget
1. The Minnesota DNR will have provided professional services and paid the associated costs of conveying lands acquired by HCP partners under this project to DNR.	June 30, 2013	\$ 20,000

Activity Status as of Nov 1, 2011

Activity Status as of May 1, 2012 Dollars spent to date have been to pay for professional services provided by MN Attorney General’s Office staff, recording fees, abstracting fees, and copy fees related to seven parcels being acquired by HCP partners that will ultimately be conveyed to DNR.

Activity Status as of Nov 1, 2012 Dollars spent to date have been to pay for professional services provided by MN Attorney General's Office staff, recording fees, abstracting fees, and copy fees related to seven parcels being acquired by HCP partners that have been or will be conveyed to DNR.

Activity Status as of June 30, 2013 Dollars spent to date have been to pay for professional services provided by MN Attorney General's Office staff, MNDNR Lands & Minerals staff, survey charges, recording fees, abstracting fees, property tax, and copy fees related to twelve parcels acquired by HCP partners that have been or will be conveyed to DNR. The table below summarizes costs by category.

Activity Status as of November, 2013. Dollars spent to date have been to pay for professional services provided by MN Attorney General's Office staff, MNDNR Lands & Minerals staff, survey charges, recording fees, abstracting fees, property tax, and copy fees related to thirteen parcels acquired by HCP partners that have been or will be conveyed to DNR. The table below summarizes costs by category.

Expense Category	Amount to date
DNR Lands & Minerals services	\$10,300
Survey charges	\$3,000.00
AGO services	\$838.8
Property tax	\$5,350.00
Deed tax, recording fees,	\$411.25
Abstracting fees	\$89.00
TOTAL	\$19,989.05

Final Report Summary: As of June 30, 2014, \$19,989 dollars have been spent from this appropriation to pay for professional services provided by MN Attorney General's Office staff, MNDNR Lands & Minerals staff, survey charges, recording fees, abstracting fees, property tax, and copy fees related to thirteen parcels acquired by HCP partners that have been or will be conveyed to DNR. The table above summarizes costs by category. Although this funding was very helpful in paying for these costs that DNR incurs by accepting WMA lands acquired by HCP partners, it was not enough to cover the full cost of conveying those lands to DNR. Other DNR budgets had to contribute approximately \$21,500 in addition to the \$20,000 from this appropriation. The spending from other budgets occurred primarily in late FY13 and FY14 after the ENRTF funding was depleted. Appropriations that fund acquisition of land to be conveyed to DNR need to adequately budget for associated costs. This will ensure that newly acquired lands can be entered into DNR's Outdoor Recreation System in a timely manner, and that other DNR budgets do not bear the brunt of such costs

V. DISSEMINATION:

Description: Accomplishment will be reported through DNR press releases and can be found on DNR's website. Completed acquisitions will be added to Statewide PRIM maps and Wildlife Lands maps. Signs acknowledging ENRFT funding will be posted at all acquired lands.

Status as of Nov 1, 2011

Status as of May 1, 2012 No results to date

Status as of Nov 1, 2012 Acquired parcels are found on the [DNR Recreation Compass](http://www.mndnr.gov), on DNR's website at www.mndnr.gov, and at the HCP website www.mnhabitatcorridors.org.

Status as of Jun 30, 2013 Acquired parcels are found on the [DNR Recreation Compass](http://www.mndnr.gov), on DNR's website at www.mndnr.gov, and at the HCP website www.mnhabitatcorridors.org.

Status as of November 1, 2013. Acquired parcels are found on the [DNR Recreation Compass](http://www.mndnr.gov), on DNR's website at www.mndnr.gov, and at the HCP website www.mnhabitatcorridors.org.

Final Report Summary: Acquired parcels are found on the [DNR Recreation Compass](http://www.mndnr.gov), on DNR's website at www.mndnr.gov, and at the HCP website www.mnhabitatcorridors.org. In addition, HCP partners may have published news releases, articles, or other documents regarding these parcels. It was not the intent of this appropriation to fund or orchestrate dissemination. Dissemination was a function of the funding provided to the HCP partners that acquired and reported upon the land.

VI. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY:

A. ENRTF Budget:

Budget Category	\$ Amount	Explanation
Professional Services for Acq:	\$ 20,000	Lands & Minerals, AGs Office, Survey, etc
	\$	
TOTAL ENRTF BUDGET:	\$ 20,000	

Explanation of Use of Classified Staff: NA

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: NA

Number of Full-time Equivalent (FTE) funded with this ENRTF appropriation: NA

B. Other Funds:

Source of Funds	\$ Amount Proposed	\$ Amount Spent	Use of Other Funds
Non-state			
	\$ NA	\$	
State	\$ 0	\$21,570	<u>professional services</u>
	\$ NA	\$	
TOTAL OTHER FUNDS:	\$ NA	\$21,570	

VII. PROJECT STRATEGY:

A. Project Partners: HCP partners that may transfer parcels to DNR include, but are not limited to, Pheasants Forever, Minnesota Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy.

B. Project Impact and Long-term Strategy: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife Division (FAW) is a partner in the nonprofit organization of Habitat Conservation Partnership. The mission of Minnesota's Habitat Conservation Partnership is to restore, enhance, and conserve habitat for the purpose of sustaining fish, wildlife and native plant communities for all generations. Pheasants Forever (PF) is the main organization that has identified parcels for acquisition that would be transferred to DNR-FAW. Joe Pavelko, PF MN Director of Conservation Programs, is the lead contact for PF for land acquisitions and transfers. Other partners including, but not limited to, Minnesota Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy may transfer parcels to DNR as well.

C. Spending History:

Funding Source	M.L. 2005 or FY 2006-07	M.L. 2007 or FY 2008	M.L. 2008 or FY 2009	M.L. 2009 or FY 2010	M.L. 2010 or FY 2011
ENRTF		25,000	30,000	25000	

VIII. ACQUISITION LIST: NA

IX. MAP(S): NA

X. RESEARCH ADDENDUM: NA

XI. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

Periodic work plan status update reports will be submitted not later than Nov 1, 2011, May 1, 2012, Nov 1, 2012, June 30, 2013, and November 1, 2013. A final report and associated products will be submitted by June 30, 2014 as requested by the LCCMR.

Final Attachment A: Budget Detail for M.L. 2011 (FY 2012-13) Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Projects					
Project Title: HCP7-4i Habitat Acquisition – DNR Professional Services					
Legal Citation: M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art.3, Sec. 2, Subd. 04j4i					
Project Manager: Rick walsh					
M.L. 2011 (FY 2012-13) ENRTF Appropriation: \$ 20,000					
Project Length and Completion Date: June 30, 2014					
Date of Update: August 15, 2014					
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	Activity 1 Budget	Amount Spent	Balance	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
BUDGET ITEM	<i>Fill in your activity title here.</i>				
Professional Services for Acquisition	20,000	19,989	11	20,000	11
		0	0	0	0
COLUMN TOTAL	\$20,000	\$19,989	\$11	\$20,000	\$11