

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program Annual Accomplishment Report Form

Due by September 1st of every year the grant is still active. Report on July 1st of the previous year to- June 30th of the reporting year. Report only on the work accomplished within the Fiscal Year being reported- **this report is not cumulative.**

Contract/ PO Number	Organization	Project Name
56632/3-31491	Heron Lake Watershed District	HLWD Aquatic-Upland Prairie Restoration

Person completing this report	Daytime phone number	Fiscal Year Reporting on
Jan Voit, District Administrator	507-793-2462	FY 2013

I certify that the information contained in this Annual Accomplishment Report is true and accurate and that I am authorized by the organization listed above to complete and submit this report. If at any time this information is no longer accurate, I will contact CPL Grant staff as soon as possible and provide the updated information.

Project Summary (what the overall scope is):

The Heron Lake Watershed District (HLWD) is located in southwest Minnesota in the Coteau Moraines, which is known to have significant habitat loss, habitat degradation, invasive species, and pollution problems. Through this effort, the HLWD intends to enhance and restore both shallow water and upland habitat in our ownership by converting 16.5 acres from brome grass to DNR prairie specialist approved native upland mix, removing accumulated sediment from 4.8 wetland acres, and implementing an aquatic plating of 0.6 acres.

The project will improve the quality of the habitat currently at the site by increasing the biodiversity of the area through the restoration of the aquatic and upland vegetation. This site is the location of a flood storage project established by the HLWD in 1975. The site has been adversely affected through heavy sedimentation from upland agricultural runoff. In its current condition the site exhibits very low diversity, dominated by non-native vegetation including smooth brome, reed canary grass, and narrow-leaved cattail. At the conclusion of the project, the site will contain a diverse mixture of native vegetation providing the platform for maximum wildlife and water quality benefits.

Narrative description of work completed and what is remaining to complete:

Work completed:

- * Secure contractor - Ross Behrends met with Gass Trenching on January 15, 2013 to discuss the project and determine if it was feasible to complete the excavation work. It was determined that excavating the site at that time was not possible. Ross met with Gass Trenching on August 14, 2013 for a preconstruction meeting and bid documentation.
- * Burn plan - email correspondence was sent to the DNR Area Wildlife Manager in Windom on August 21, 2013. This correspondence requested assistance in developing a burn plan for spring of 2014. The DNR Area Wildlife Manager forwarded the request to DNR Wildlife in Slayton, DNR Eco Prairie staff, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Ross Behrends met with Eric Earhardt, USFWS on August 26, 2013. The USFWS is optimistic that they will be able to assist with the spring burn, but did not promise their services.
- * Grant administration and reporting - the annual report was drafted and submitted on August 26, 2013.

Work remaining:

- * Excavation
- * Meet with DNR prairie specialist regarding seed mixture
- * Burn plan
- * Controlled burn

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- * Site preparation
- * Upland seeding
- * Aquatic seeding
- * Annual monitoring and maintenance

Tell us more about your project (what worked, what didn't, changes made, etc.):

Weather conditions in 2012 were extremely dry. Had the contract been issued before freeze-up, excavation could have been done in the fall or early winter. Because of spring and summer rainfall, there is water in the pool area. It is unlikely that excavation will be possible in the entire project site.

The Accomplishment Timeline, Table 1 does not provide adequate space to include all of the planned milestones and accomplishments identified in the grant work plan.

Please list all attachments to accompany this form:

None.

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Accomplishments: Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Project Site #1

Project site name:	Section 21, Seward Township	County:	Nobles
Land manager/	Ross Behrends, Watershed Technician		
Acres proposed:	22	Acres completed:	0

Project Site #2

Project site name:	n/a	County:	
Land manager/			
Acres proposed:		Acres completed:	

Project Site #3

Project site name:	n/a	County:	
Land manager/			
Acres proposed:		Acres completed:	

Project Site #4

Project site name:	n/a	County:	
Land manager/			
Acres proposed:		Acres completed:	

Accomplishment Timeline, Table 1

Planned Milestone/ Accomplishment	Original Planned Completion Date	Actual Completion Date	Reason For Difference (if any)	Accomplished Acres
sediment removal, deposition area	August - December 2013			
burn and grass treatment, site preparation, seeding	Spring 2014			
aquatic seeding	Spring 2014			
mowing, weed control	Summer/Fall 2014			
weed control	Spring 2015			
mowing, weed control	Summer/Fall 2015			
weed control	Spring 2016			

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Accomplishments by Habitat/ Activity, Table 2

Activity- choose from drop down	Habitat- choose from drop down	Planned Acres	Accomplished Acres	Difference (+/-)	Reason for Difference (if any)
Restoration	Prairie	22	0	22	Restoration efforts have not started

Grant Expenditures by Habitat/ Activity, Table 3

Activity- choose from drop down	Habitat- choose from drop down	Planned Funds	Expended Funds	Difference (+/-)	Reason for Difference (if any)
Restoration	Prairie	\$24,999	\$0	\$24,999	Restoration efforts have not started

Match Expenditures by Habitat/ Activity, Table 4

Activity- choose from drop down	Habitat- choose from drop down	Planned Funds	Expended Funds	Difference (+/-)	Reason for Difference (if any)
Restoration	Prairie	\$8,732	\$518.28	\$8,213.72	Grant is not complete

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Table 4a. Grant Budget.

Budget Line Items	Original Funds	Expenditure	Difference (+/-)
Personnel			
Contracts	\$18,876.00	\$0.00	\$18,876.00
Travel			
Equipment/Tools	\$6,123.00	\$0.00	\$6,123.00
Materials/Supplies			
Fee Acquisition w or wo/ PILT			
Easement Acquisition			
Easement Stewardship			
Professional Services			
Additional Budget Items			
TOTAL	\$24,999.00	\$0.00	\$24,999.00

Table 4b. Match Budget.

Budget Line Items	Original Funds	Expenditure	Difference (+/-)
Personnel	\$7,700.00	\$472.50	\$7,245.00
Contracts			
Travel	\$1,032.00	\$45.78	\$986.22
Equipment/Tools			
Materials/Supplies			
Fee Acquisition w or wo/ PILT			
Easement Acquisition			
Easement Stewardship			
Professional Services			
Additional Budget Items			
TOTAL	\$8,732.00	\$518.28	\$8,213.72