Clear Form

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program
Accomplishment Report

Contract/ PO Number	Organization	Project Name
3-88643	Koochiching Soil and Water Conservation District	Rat Root River Habitat Enhancement

Person completing this report	Daytime phone number	Date
Pam Tomevi	(218) 283-1176	12/16/16

Choose 1:

☑ **Annual Report (Due December 31st each year the grant is active)**

☐ **Final Report (Due upon completion of the project)**

☑ I certify that the information contained in this 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 Rainy Lake Sportfishing Club (RLSC), in partnership with the Koochiching Soil & Water Conservation District (KSWCD) and Koochiching County (County), plan to restore and enhance walleye spawning habitat in the Rat Root River, a major tributary to Rainy Lake. Methods will include construction of spawning riffles, installation of a cross vein, removal of channel blocking log jams, and erosion control to reduce sedimentation. This 2016 CPL funding will allow us to construct one-two spawning riffles, install one cross vein to reduce active erosion and sedimentation near spawning riffle sites, and remove newly formed log jams in the expanded 18.5 mile project area of the Rat Root River, ultimately improving walleye spawning and migration. Methods and designs for the spawning riffles as well as the bank restoration efforts by Koochiching County Highway Department will include using natural channel designs and oversight/technical assistance will be provided by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Fisheries division in order to ensure proper placement and installation of the walleye spawning enhancement riffles. Additionally, funding allocation for the removal of log jams will allow for expansion of this phase of the project further upstream beyond the bridge at Hwy 217, expanding the project area from the original 15 to 18.5 river miles. This will decrease the potential for dead wood to migrate downstream and support the overall project success we have achieved thus far.

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

The Conservation Corps of MN (CCM) was contracted for wood removal and perfomed work from 9/12/16 through 10/1/16. The crew removed log jams over a six mile stretch of river or 42 acres. The work done by the CCM crew will allow ease of fish passage and also allow the local DNR fisheries department to maneuver boats and equipment upstream in order to assess fish populations and complete surveys. In the fall of 2016, a request for proposals was issued to construct a walleye spawning enhancement riffle which will be the 3rd riffle to be constructed under the CPL grants we've received. A local contractor was selected to construct the riffle with a completion date of on or before April 1st 2017. Plans and specifications have been completed by Sandy Verry of Ellen River Partners and the construction of this riffle will be overseen onsite by DNR stream specialists in order to ensure quality and functionality and The remainder of work left to complete is continued wood removal throughout the river to increase fish and human navigability and design/install 1 cross vein in order to direct flowing water away from and eroding banks. We will also seek more areas to install a fourth spawning riffle depending on sufficient funding and DNR approved location.

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

The CCM crew did a good job but there were some minor issues. Communication on both ends during the log jam removal process could have been better as there was some confusion regarding how much wood should be removed and how much should be left for fish habitat. Also, access routes to the river were provided by the SWCD using detailed maps and marked locations, however, due to excessive rainfall, access points became saturated and the crew used alternate routes with their vehicles and ended up rutting up a state trail maintained by a local landowner. All together the project went well and we would use them again in the future. To ensure better communication, the SWCD has already lined up DNR and SWCD field staff to work with the crew on site next fall.

Please list all attachments to accompany this form:

Photos of CCM wood removal

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program
Accomplishment Report

Accomplishments: Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Project Site #1

Project site name:	Log Jam removal			County:	Koochiching
Land manager:	MN DNR				
Acres proposed:	112.0	Acres previous year(s)	0.0		
Acres current year:	42.0	Acres remaining	70.0		

Project Site #2

Project site name:				County:	
Land manager:					
Acres proposed:		Acres previous year(s)			
Acres current year:		Acres remaining	0.0		

Project Site #3

Project site name:				County:	
Land manager:					
Acres proposed:		Acres previous year(s)			
Acres current year:		Acres remaining	0.0		

Project Site #4

Project site name:				County:	
Land manager:					
Acres proposed:		Acres previous year(s)			
Acres current year:		Acres remaining	0.0		

Accomplishment Timeline, Table 1

Planned Milestone/ Accomplishment	Original Planned Completion Date	Actual Completion Date	Reason For Difference (if any)	Accomplished Acres
Log Jam Removal	06/01/19		ongoing	42.0
Walleye Spawning Enhancement Riffle #1	04/01/17		in progress	
Cross Vane	04/01/18			
Walleye Spawning Enhancement Riffle #2	04/01/19			

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program
Accomplishment Report

Accomplishments by Activity/ Habitat, Table 2

Activity- choose from drop down	Habitat- choose from drop down	Planned Acres	Total Acres To Date	Status	Comments
Enhancement	FGW Habitat	112.0	42.0	On target	log jam removal is ongoing
Choose	Choose			Choose	
Choose	Choose			Choose	
Choose	Choose			Choose	

Grant Expenditures by Activity/ Habitat, Table 3

Activity- choose from drop down	Habitat- choose from drop down	Planned Funds	Expended Funds	Difference (+/-)	Reason for Difference (if any)
Enhancement	FGW Habitat	$ 219,000.00	$ 26,189.12	-$,192,810.88	Ongoing work
Choose	Choose			$ 0.00	
Choose	Choose			$ 0.00	
Choose	Choose			$ 0.00	

Match Expenditures by Activity/ Habitat, Table 4

Activity- choose from drop down	Habitat- choose from drop down	Planned Funds	Expended Funds	Difference (+/-)	Reason for Difference (if any)
Enhancement	FGW Habitat	$ 25,000.00	$ 2,396.38	-$ 22,603.62	Ongoing work
Choose	Choose			$ 0.00	
Choose	Choose			$ 0.00	
Choose	Choose			$ 0.00	

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program
Accomplishment Report

Table 4a. Grant Budget.

Budget Line Items	Original Funds	Expenditure	Difference (+/-)
Personnel			$ 0.00
Contracts	$ 219,000.00	$ 26,189.12	-$,192,810.88
Travel			$ 0.00
Equipment/Tools			$ 0.00
Materials/Supplies			$ 0.00
Fee Acquisition w or wo/ PILT			$ 0.00
Easement Acquisition			$ 0.00
Easement Stewardship			$ 0.00
Professional Services			$ 0.00
Additional Budget Items			$ 0.00
TOTAL	$ 219,000.00	$ 26,189.12	-$,192,810.88

Table 4b. Match Budget.

Budget Line Items	Original Funds	Expenditure	Difference (+/-)
Personnel	$ 14,000.00	$ 2,396.38	-$ 11,603.62
Contracts	$ 11,000.00		-$ 11,000.00
Travel			$ 0.00
Equipment/Tools			$ 0.00
Materials/Supplies			$ 0.00
Fee Acquisition w or wo/ PILT			$ 0.00
Easement Acquisition			$ 0.00
Easement Stewardship			$ 0.00
Professional Services			$ 0.00
Additional Budget Items			$ 0.00
TOTAL	$ 25,000.00	$ 2,396.38	-$ 22,603.62

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