

2007 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2010

PROJECT TITLE: LAWCON Federal Reimbursements
PROJECT MANAGER: Wayne Sames
AFFILIATION: MN Department of Natural Resources
MAILING ADDRESS: 500 Lafayette Road
CITY/STATE/ZIP: St. Paul, MN, 55155-4010
PHONE: (651) 259-5559
FAX: (651) 296-6047
E-MAIL: wayne.sames@state.mn.us
FUNDING SOURCE: State Land and Water Conservation Account
LEGAL CITATION: ML 2007, Chap. 30, Sec. 2, Subd. 2(h)

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$500,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

The appropriation was used to pay for the state's administration of the LAWCON program. This included administration of annual LAWCON grant solicitations for local projects, all grant management activities related to funded projects, all federal reporting requirements, management of funds used for state projects, management of several conversions of previously funded projects, and all monitoring and inspection activities required as a condition of acceptance of the federal funds. The cost of these administrative activities was \$252,844.

In addition, \$125,000 was used to fund purchase of picnic tables and fire rings/grates, most of which are accessible, for several state parks as follows:

State Park	Total # Tables	Accessible Table	Fire Rings*
Crow Wing	25	25	15
Father Hennepin	0	0	9
Fort Snelling	10	10	6
Frontenac	25	6	15
Maplewood	53	9	34
McCarthy Beach	25	8	15
Sibley	0	0	31
Upper Sioux Ag.	25	25	15
Wild River	25	10	15
Afton	4	2	4
Total	192	95	159

* All fire rings are accessible.

An additional \$110,000 was spent on a new information center (providing self-registration, park information and some interpretive information), an office/shop building and additional park improvements at Great River Bluffs State Park.

This project was consistent with action priorities outlined in the state's 2008-2012 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) including:

- "Maintain and adequately fund current infrastructure, including improvements for safety, accessibility and energy efficiency."

- “Identify and address barriers to outdoor recreation, including economic issues, facility design, public awareness, and safety and security concerns.”

Project Results Use and Dissemination: See chart above for location of funded tables and fire rings.

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Report: November 17, 2010

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program Final Report

Date of Next Status Report: N/A

Date of Work program Approval: March, 2007

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2010

I. PROJECT TITLE: LAWCON Federal Reimbursements

Project Manager: Wayne Sames

Affiliation: MN Department of Natural Resources

Mailing Address: 500 Lafayette Road

City / State / Zip : St. Paul, MN, 55155-4010

Telephone Number: (651) 259-5559

E-mail Address: wayne.sames@state.mn.us

FAX Number: (651) 29606047

Web Page address:

Location: Projects may be located anywhere in the state; to be determined when grants are approved.

Total Trust Fund Project Budget:	Trust Fund Appropriation:	\$500,000
	Minus Amount Spent:	\$487,844
	Equal Balance:	\$12,156

Legal Citation: ML 2007, Chap. 30, Sec. 2, Subd. 2(h)

Appropriation Language: “\$500,000 is from the state land and water conservation account (LAWCON) in the natural resources fund to the commissioner of natural resources for priorities established by the commissioner for eligible state projects and administrative and planning activities consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.14, and the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Act. Subdivision 12 applies to grants awarded in the approved work program. This appropriation is contingent upon receipt of the federal obligation and remains available until June 30, 2010, at which time the project must be completed and final products delivered, unless an earlier date is specified in the work program.”

II. and III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY: This report is amended from the one submitted in August 2010. The amendment is requested because of confusion and miscommunication within the DNR regarding use of funds for a state park project. Part of this confusion was due to the early stages of a transfer of responsibility for managing the LAWCON program from the Office of Management and Services to

the Parks and Trails Division. The misunderstanding involved the use of \$110,000 of the 2007 LAWCON appropriation for the Great River Bluffs State Park project rather than using the 2009 LAWCON funds for that purpose. This resulted in the addition of the Great River Bluffs State Park project to the Result 1, State Projects section of the final report.

The appropriation was used to pay for the state's administration of the LAWCON program. This included administration of annual LAWCON grant solicitations for local projects, all grant management activities related to funded projects, all federal reporting requirements, management of funds used for state projects, management of several conversions of previously funded projects, and all monitoring and inspection activities required as a condition of acceptance of the federal funds.

In addition, \$125,000 was used to fund purchase of picnic tables and fire rings/grates, most of which are accessible, for several state parks as follows:

State Park	Total # Tables	Accessible Table	Fire Rings*
Crow Wing	25	25	15
Father Hennepin	0	0	9
Fort Snelling	10	10	6
Frontenac	25	6	15
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McCarthy Beach	25	8	15
Sibley	0	0	31
Upper Sioux Ag.	25	25	15
Wild River	25	10	15
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Total	192	95	159

* All fire rings are accessible

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: State Projects

Description: Of the total appropriation, \$125,000 was used to fund the purchase and installation of new picnic tables and fire rings/grates at ten state parks. About one-half of the picnic tables and all of the fire rings/grates are accessible. The fire rings/grates are also of a safer design compared to previous models. A total of 192 picnic tables and 159 fire rings/grates were purchased (see the table above for details).

An additional \$110,000 was spent on a new information center (providing self-registration, park information and some interpretive information), an office/shop

building and additional park improvements at Great River Bluffs State Park. (See the attached information on this project).

The entire amount allocated to this result was spent.

Summary Budget Information for Result 1:	Trust Fund Budget:	\$235,000
	Amount Spent:	\$235,000
	Balance:	\$0

This project was consistent with action priorities outlined in the state's draft 2008-2012 State Comprehensive Outdoor recreation Plan (SCORP) including:

- "Maintain and adequately fund current infrastructure, including improvements for safety, accessibility and energy efficiency"
- "Identify and address barriers to outdoor recreation, including economic issues, facility design, public awareness, and safety and security concerns"

Result 2: Administrative Expenses Necessary to Maintain Eligibility for the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund

Description: The requested budget supported three years of DNR personnel and administrative costs required not only to maintain eligibility for future LAWCON funding, but also to fulfill the state's contractual obligations to ensure that the \$70 million in federal investments in state and local outdoor recreation made over the past 40 years are properly and fully carried out. This included staff time required to implement annual grant solicitations, an open project selection process, processing reimbursement requests and payments, pre and post completion project inspections, long term project monitoring that included hundreds of project inspections per year, submitting required reports and updates to the National Park Service, and processing conversions when requests were made to change the use of assisted project areas. It also included staff time and expenses needed to complete an updated State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), which was required to be submitted to the National Park Service for review and approval by the end of calendar year 2007.

The balance is due, in part to an overlap in funding from the previous appropriation which extended into the first year of the 2007 project period. There was also a reduction in LAWCON apportionments during the FFY 2006 and 2007 periods, which resulted in a smaller number of funded projects from those years and a reduction in staff time required.

Summary Budget Information for Result 2:	Trust Fund Budget:	\$265,000
	Amount Spent:	\$252,844
	Balance:	\$12,156

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET:

Staff or Contract Services: \$252,844

Equipment:

Development: \$125,000 (purchase accessible and safe picnic tables and fire grates for various state parks.); \$110,000 (develop new information center and other improvements at Great River Bluffs State park).

Restoration: \$

Acquisition, including easements: \$

Balance: \$12,156

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: \$500,000

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$3,500: See table on picnic tables/grates expenditures and information on Great River Bluffs State Park improvements.

VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: DNR Division of Parks and Trails

B. Other Funds Proposed to be Spent during the Project Period: Division of Parks and Trails staff time was used for the purchase and installation of the picnic tables and fire rings/grates as well as DNR staff time spent on the Great River Bluffs State Park improvements..

C. Past Spending: In 2005 the Legislature appropriated \$1,600,000 for this activity.

D. Time: Project funds were encumbered by June 30, 2010.



TRAILS

- Hiking and Skiing (depending on groomed ski trails)
- Hiking Only
- Skiing Only
- Skiate Ski (on road)
- Snowshoe
- Interpretive
- Hiking Club
- Major Trail Intersections (Trail segment lengths are shown in tenths of miles and indicate distance between intersections)
- 0.1

FACILITIES

- Orientation/Registration
- Park Office
- Campground
- Picnic Area
- Overlook
- Primitive Group Camp
- Bicycle Touring Camp
- Shelter
- Sliding Hill (Winter)
- Great River Road
- State Park Land
- Private Property (except on designated trails)

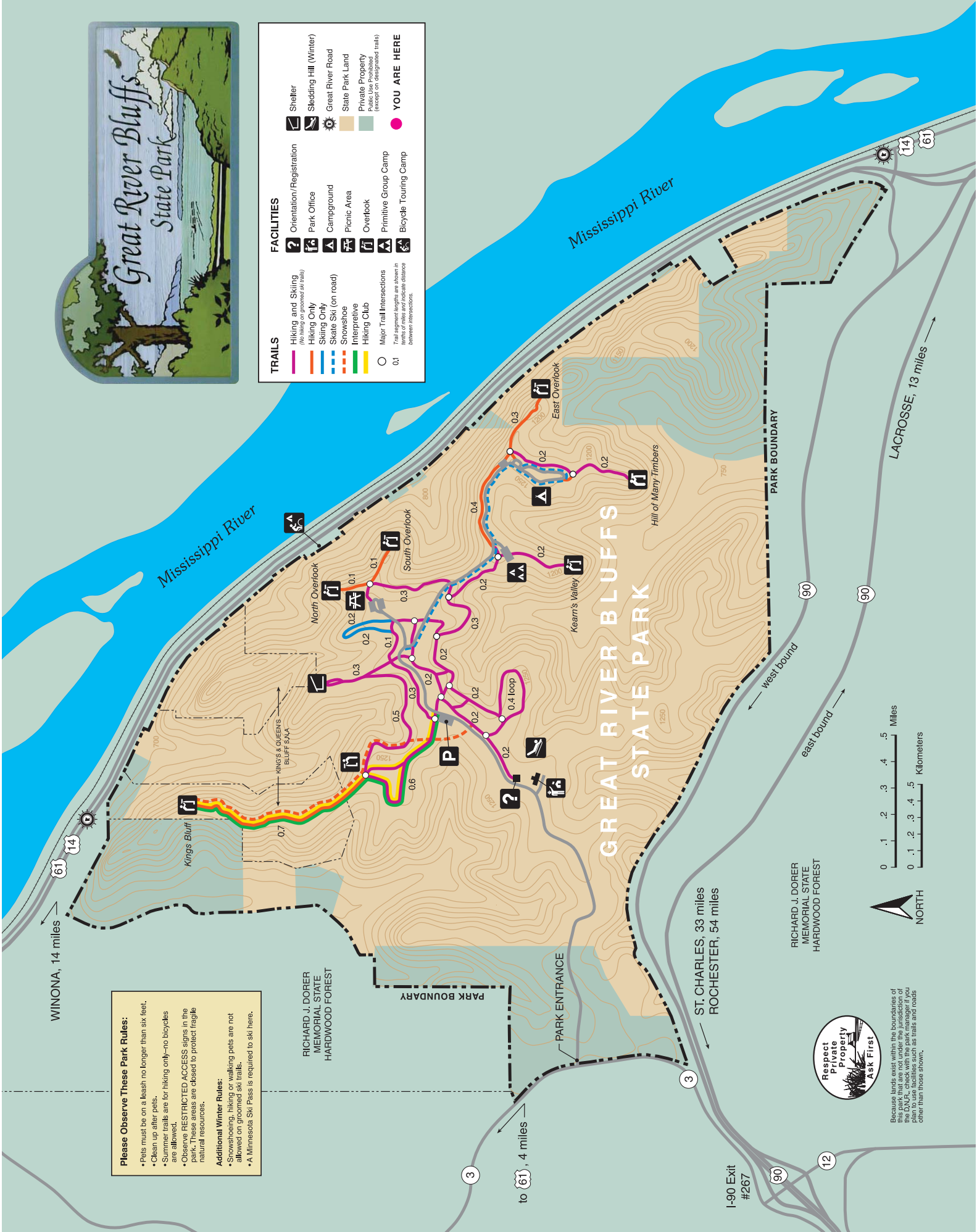
YOU ARE HERE

Please Observe These Park Rules:

- Pets must be on a leash no longer than six feet.
- Clean up after pets.
- Summer trails are for hiking only—no bicycles are allowed.
- Observe RESTRICTED ACCESS signs in the park. These areas are closed to protect fragile natural resources.

Additional Winter Rules:

- Snowshoeing, hiking or walking pets are not allowed on groomed ski trails.
- A Minnesota Ski Pass is required to ski here.



Because lands exist within the boundaries of this park that are not under the jurisdiction of the DNR, check with the park manager if you wish to use such as trails and roads other than those shown.





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