1. Proposal Cover and Summary

Project Title: Crooked Lake Restoration

Project Manager: Jerome Haggenmiller, Douglas SWCD (320)763-3191 ext. 3 jerome.haggenmiller@mn.nacdnet.net

c. Lead Partner: Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District

Collaborating Partners: Sauk River Watershed District, Ducks Unlimited, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

d. Contact Information Lead Partner: Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District, 900 Robert Street, Suite 102, Alexandria, MN 56308, (320) 763-3191 ext. 3

e. Designated 8-digit focus area and 12-digit HUC subwatershed(s): Crooked Lake Ditch-070102020101, Sauk-07010202, Minnesota, Douglas County, 7th Congressional District

f. Project Summary: The Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and its partners are requesting funds to secure permanent easements and restore 2204 acre Crooked Lake to improve the water quality in Lake Osakis and the Sauk River, eliminate flood damage, and provide feeding and resting habitat for waterfowl and other water birds and wildlife. Crooked Lake was a shallow (approximately 5 foot maximum depth), flat-bottom lake that outletted into the Long Prairie River. The lake likely supported a diverse community of submerged aquatic plants and invertebrates across much of its lakebed providing important food and resting resources for migratory and resident waterfowl and other water birds. Crooked Lake's shallow, flat lakebed, however, made it a prime target for drainage as larger ditch systems were developed in the early 1900s to meet growing agricultural needs. With the construction of Judicial Ditch #2 (JD#2) in 1902, Crooked Lake was drained and converted to cultural uses. Further, the new ditch was routed to empty into Lake Osakis, just 3 miles to the east.

ditch outlet, however, is not adequate enough to handle inflows in the Crooked Lake basin from moderate to heavy run-off events. As a result, the basin is very flood prone and in most years provides only marginal hay and pasture benefits. More recently, Judicial Ditch #2 and Lake Osakis have been listed as impaired by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Water monitoring data indicates the ditch contributes approximately 20,000 pounds of phosphorous and two-three million pounds of sediment annually to Lake Osakis. As a result, water quality and transparency in Lake Osakis has declined, algal blooms are common and recreational users are cautioned about using the lake for swimming and other in-lake activities. In 2004, the Sauk River Watershed District completed a sediment basin near the outlet of JD#2 that provides some mitigation to nutrient and sediment loading into Lake Osakis, but nutrient loading is still a problem. See attached Crooked Lake Ditch monitoring results graph.

The Douglas SWCD and its partners propose to use WREP funds to help secure permanent easements and restore Crooked Lake and associated wetlands and buffer uplands. The restoration and management of Crooked Lake just three miles from Lake Osakis will reduce nutrient and sediment loading into Lake Osakis. Under management, a restored Crooked Lake will provide 2000 or more acres of submerged and emergent plants that will filter and take up nutrients and stabilize sediments. Further, the restoration of Crooked Lake will provide critical habitat resources for migratory and resident birds and other wildlife. Finally, the restoration of this system will eliminate basin landowner frustrations that revolve around continuing ditch-tax assessments for a segment of judicial ditch that at best returns marginal and often flooded/saturated agricultural land. See attached aerial photo from 2003 when this area experienced 7 inches of rain and shows the Crooked Lake basin partially flooded and the lack of drainage provided by JD#2.

g. Project Area: The project will encompass approximately 3397 acres. This total includes 2204 acres of Crooked Lake basin associated wetland acres and 1193 acres of associated uplands.

h. Proposed project start and end dates: Begin October 2010 and continue for a five year period (end October 2015).

i. **Project Budget:** The total budget for the Crooked Lake project is $7,526,148 (see attached table).

2. Project Natural Resources Objectives and Actions: The proposal must address wetland restoration, including water quality concerns in 12-digit subwatershed(s) located within the 8-digit focus areas, and the objectives of the project to address those concerns.

a. Identify and provide detail about the natural resources concern(s) to be addressed and how the proposal's objectives will address those concerns. Objectives should be specific, measurable, achievable, results-oriented, and include a timeframe for completion.

Objective #1 of this proposal is to restore Crooked Lake and associated wetlands and uplands to improve water quality in JD#2 and downstream Lake Osakis. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has listed JD#2 and Lake Osakis as impaired waters. Lake Osakis is listed for excessive nutrients and JD#2 is listed because it is non-supportive to aquatic biota. A Total Maximum Daily Load study is expected to be completed in 2010 and that study will provide guidance as to actions that can be taken to improve water quality within the two systems. One of the primary objectives will be to improve water quality entering Lake Osakis from JD#2. The restoration of Crooked Lake will restore a wetland system that extends over four miles of the main branch of JD#2. As water enters this restored basin, it will slow down and spread out. Submerged and emergent aquatic plants within the restored lake and associated wetlands will create a natural filter for nutrients entering and moving through the system. Sediments entering the system will settle out in the lake basin prior to continuing downstream. Once restored, proper management of lake water levels should encourage and maintain aquatic plant populations that in turn will help to stabilize sediments and limit re-suspension of sediments (and thus nutrients) back into the water column. Given that JD#2 is a primary source of nutrient loading (60%) into Lake Osakis (and thus into the Sauk River), the restoration of Crooked Lake just three miles east of Lake Osakis will have positive impacts on water quality. Improvements to water quality will occur shortly following the completion and operation of a water control structure to restore hydrology to the Crooked Lake basin (5 years). Fully restored aquatic plant populations should occur within two to three years following the restoration of hydrology and maximum water quality benefits will be reached at that time.

Objective #2 of this proposal is to restore critical wildlife habitat. The restoration of Crooked Lake will provide critical habitat to migratory and resident waterfowl and other water birds and wildlife. Minnesota's shallow lakes (lakes with an average depth of six feet or less) provide critical food and resting resources for migrant birds and nesting and brood habitat for resident birds. The lesser scaup duck is one example of a bird species that is reliant on shallow lakes to provide its preferred food item, amphipods, during spring migration. Due to higher than normal precipitation in the last two decades, severely drained landscapes, lack of management, invasive fish and connectivity between wetland systems, shallow lakes in Minnesota's prairie and transition zones suffer from degraded water quality and reduced plant and invertebrate populations. Shallow lake degradation has been identified as a possible cause of lesser scaup population declines since 1980. As a result, the restoration, enhancement and protection of shallow lakes has been identified as a key objective in numerous state conservation plans including the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources *Long –Term Duck Recovery Plan* and *An Action Plan for Minnesota Wildlife: Minnesota's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy* and the *Minnesota Conservation and Preservation Plan*. The restoration and subsequent management of over 2,000 acres of shallow lake habitat will provide a critical and sizeable resource for wetland birds and other wildlife. Additionally, upland wildlife will benefit from the restoration of native prairie vegetation on cropped associated uplands secured under easements. Wildlife benefits will be met fully upon the completion and operation of the water control structure on the outlet of Crooked Lake basin (5 years).

Objectives #1 and #2 will be measured by continued water quality monitoring at established water quality monitoring stations in JD#2 downstream of Crooked Lake and within Lake Osakis. The Sauk River Watershed District should also be able to measure sedimentation reductions based on maintenance periodicity of a sediment basin near the mouth of JD#2 (3 miles downstream from the proposed project). Water quality monitoring will also be conducted in the restored Crooked Lake along with vegetation sampling and water transparency readings. Wildlife benefits will be measured indirectly based on water and vegetation quality in Crooked Lake (good water quality and plant densities equals high wildlife value) and directly by monitoring visits and recording of actual wildlife use. See attached photo of 12 digit HUC.

b. For each objective, identify the actions to be completed to achieve that objective and address the identified natural resource concern. Specify which action are to be addressed through this project using WREP assistance, and which are being addressed through alternate no-Federal funding sources or resources provided. seems like no buy in yet by 1/6

o meet the above objectives, the first action item to be completed will be to meet one on one with project landowners to begin discussions that will lead to securing WREP easements within the project area. Due to the flood prone nature of the ditch, marginal agriculture value of basin land, and substantial ditch assessments that have been levied over the last eight years for clean outs, a number of large-acre landowners (comprising nearly 900 acres) are interested in options such as WRP and there are several smaller perpetual easements in and around the basin. However, taken alone, most properties within the basin either score poorly or are ineligible for existing easement programs due to a lack of cropping history and difficulty of restoring only a portion of the basin. An effort to seek full landowner participation in WRP was made in 2002 but failed because landowners were embroiled in a highly contested dispute to clean or not to clean the ditch. The ditch was cleaned shortly after, but the basin still continues to flood during the growing season due to the inadequacies of the ditch and outlet. Given basin conditions have not improved with recent cleanouts, known landowner interest in program options, the recent impaired listings of both JD#2 and Lake Osakis and the soon expected TMDL study, the time is right to make a full-scale push to secure easements and restore the basin via WREP. This effort will also be greatly assisted by LIDAR mapping results of the project site that should be available in the fall of 2010. With these results, preliminary easement boundaries can be drawn and project impacts can be demonstrated to landowners with more confidence than existed in the past. Landowner contacts will be made by Douglas SWCD staff, Ducks Unlimited (DU) staff and WRP contractors, and Sauk River Watershed District staff. As landowners are brought on board, DU WRP Contractors and SWCD and NRCS staff will administer the easement process that will lead to closing the WREP easements. All easements will be purchased using federal funding through WREP.

Once all landowners have entered into the easement process, DU will complete a full topographic survey of the basin and necessary adjoining properties and improvements (roads, driveways, culverts, etc.). From this completed survey, DU gineering staff will develop preliminary design plans and then work with stakeholders and the ditch board to seek input d discuss concerns. Following that process, DU engineers will finalize the design plans and seek appropriate approvals and permits. Once all easements have closed and permits and approvals have been granted, DU will begin and complete construction work on the water control structure and associated improvements (e.g., county roads, culverts, etc.). Ducks Unlimited will cover costs necessary to survey, design and complete construction on all items associated with the restoration of Crooked Lake hydrology.

As easements close, restoration of cropland to native tall grass prairie vegetation and small prairie wetlands (if any) will be completed using federal funding via WREP. All restoration of uplands and small prairie wetlands should be completed by the end of the five year timetable.

c. Identify the total acres that require wetland protection, restoration, and enhancement.

The proposed restoration of Crooked Lake would restore and permanently protect approximately 2204 acres of drained wetland. See attached photo of proposed WREP boundary.

3. Detailed Proposal Criteria: Information provided in the proposal must include:

a. A description of the partner(s) history of working with landowners to address natural resource issues.

The Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District was established in 1954 and has a long history with working with landowners on natural resource issues. The Soil and Water Conservation District has worked with landowners on both state nd federal cost-share programs (ACP cost-share, EQIP cost-share, and WHIP cost-share) to correct natural resource oblems on private landowners land for over 50 years. More recently the Soil and Water Conservation District had been nvolved with the State of MN Reinvest in Minnesota Easement (RIM) program. These are perpetual easement between the State of Minnesota and the landowners. Practices installed on these easements include wetland restorations, and upland grass planting. Douglas County has 1,685 acres in the RIM Program. Douglas County was also involved in the Minnesota

River CREP program that enrolled acres for wetland restorations and upland buffers. Douglas County has 2,342 acres in the CREP program. The Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District also works with the Wetland Reserve Program and has closed contracts on 677 acres.

A detailed description of the 12-digit subwatershed(s) within the designated 8-digit focus area covered by the proposal, including specific watershed map which indicates the project location. Proposals should state whether and MRBI-WREP proposal is integrated with and MRBI-CCPI proposed project, and include the name of the MRBI-CCPI proposed project.

The Crooked Lake Ditch (070102020101) is the headwaters of the Sauk River Watershed (07010202) and also the largest watershed for Lake Osakis, encompassing 38,633acres. Land use within Crooked lake Ditch watershed is primarily agricultural with residential around Lake Osakis. The land use within the proposed Crooked Lake Restoration Project is agricultural. A few areas of Crooked Lake basin are row cropped with the majority of the basin being used for grass hay production when dry enough to cut. This MRBI-WREP proposal is part of a MRBI-CCPI proposal titled Accelerated Protection and Restoration of Targeted Watersheds in the Sauk River Watershed.

c. A description of the partner(s) and the roles, responsibilities, and capabilities of the partner(s). Proposals which include resources from partners other than the lead partner must include a letter or other documentation confirming the commitment of resources.

With more than a million supporters, Ducks Unlimited is the world's largest and most effective wetland and waterfowl conservation organization. Established in 1937 to improve habitat conditions for waterfowl, DU has helped restore, enhance or protect over one million acres of wetland and upland habitat within the United States. Through its Living Lakes Initiative in Iowa and Minnesota, DU is assisting the MN DNR, USFWS, NRCS and other conservation partners in enhancing, restoring and protecting shallow lake habitat to provide critical feeding and resting resources to migratory and resident waterfowl and other water birds. As part of this initiative, DU's expert engineering staff and team of biologists survey for, design and construct variable crest water control structures and fish barriers to provide drawdown management capabilities targeted to improving water quality and restore plant and invertebrate populations within managed shallow lakes. Through this effort, DU has worked with its partners to enhance, protect and restore 224 shallow lakes in Minnesota and Iowa since 2005. DU is committed to providing the funds and staff necessary to complete design, survey and construction of a water control structure and associated improvements to restore Crooked Lake.

The Sauk River Watershed District SRWD was established in 1986 and has 24 years of monitoring experience and data on the 1,000 square miles that aid in the efforts to protect and restore our impaired waters. The Watershed has approximately 25 impaired lakes and 21 impaired streams stretches. Impairments with the watershed include: fecal coilform, mercury, dissolved oxygen, PCBs, invertebrates IBI, and excessive nutrients. The SRWD has worked for a number of years at the headwaters of the watershed to improve Osakis Lake. Osakis Lake is on the impaired waters list for excessive nutrients. The lake is currently undergoing a TMDL study to determine the load and areas where reductions will be needed. Judicial Ditch #2 is the primary source of water into Osakis Lake, Approximately 60%. Therefore, it is imperative to address the issues on JD#2. Monitoring has been done on JD#2 by the SRWD over the past 14 years. The SRWD has implemented projects in the past to address the impairments to Osakis Lake. One project that has been completed is the Sediment Reduction Project. Data has been collected prior to entering the Sediment Reduction Project and at the outlet of the project. This project was one of several that would need to be implemented to protect and remove Osakis Lake from the MCPA 303(d) impaired waters list. The SRWD would take the lead role in conducting the effectiveness monitoring portion of the Crooked Ditch restoration project. The SRWD would be responsible for data collection, analysis, data storage and providing the general public the project results and the benefits to Osakis Lake. The SRWD will pursue other funding sources to continue long term effectiveness monitoring. SRWD staff hours will be committed to assist Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District with the public outreach and education efforts for this project. Staff hours will also be set aside for technical assistance as needed by the project sponsor.

d. A description of the project duration, plan of action, and project implementation schedule. Project proposals cannot exceed 5 years.

s mentioned above this proposal will be a 5 year project. In late summer/early fall 2010; LIDAR maps will be reviewed to nfirm the boundaries of the wetland restoration. Once this is complete landowner contacts will be made to discuss MRBI and the WREP program. During these series of one-on-one appointments, landowners will be presented with proposals on acres and payment rates for land they own within the project boundary. Applications will be ranked and submitted for funding. Once easements have been secured ((2-3 year expected time frame), Ducks Unlimited will begin a full topographic survey of the project site and begin design work following completion of the survey results. Once completed, DU will distribute design plans to gather approvals and required permits from the ditch authority, Douglas County and other stakeholders. Once revisions have been made and all required approvals and permits are secured, DU will complete construction of the project. It is estimated that the survey, design and construction process will take two years to complete. Overall, the project will require an estimated five years to complete.

e. A description of the financial assistance resources that are requested through the MRBI-WREP, and the non-Federal resources provided by the partner(s) that will be leveraged by the Federal contribution. The partner is required to contribute a financial match of a least 5 percent of the acquisition or restoration costs toward the project. Proposals that include additional non-Federal resources will be given higher priority consideration in the selection process. The partner needs to clearly state how they intend to leverage Federal funds along with partner resources. The funding and time contribution by landowners to implement agreed-to wetland restoration and enhancement practices may not be considered any part of a match from potential partner for purposes of WREP.

Ducks Unlimited will provide a portion of the required 5% restoration costs non federal match for this project in the form the cost associated with survey, design and construction of the water control structure and associated improvements needed to restore Crooked Lake. It is estimated that these costs will total $400,000 or slightly more than the required 5% match of e total projected project restoration cost. Ducks Unlimited will secure restoration funds from either the newly established tdoor Heritage Fund (dedicated sales tax dollars) or from the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund (state ottery funds). Ducks Unlimited has been very successful at securing funding from these two sources over the past eight years for shallow lake enhancement, restoration and protection work. Other partners in addition to the Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District include Sauk River Watershed District, Viking Sportsman Club, and Lake Osakis Lake Association.

f. An estimate of the percentage of potential landowners in the project area that may participate in the project along with and estimate of the total number potential landowners located in the project area. A statement on how the partner will encourage participation to increase the likelihood of project success.

The proposed restoration of Crooked Lake could involve up to 40 landowners based on current soils data. The Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District has had previous meetings with landowners within the Crooked Lake Watershed. Interest for the project has been fare and the reason this has project has not gone any farther than just information meetings is because of lack of Federal or State funding. The Sauk River Watershed has not been eligible for CREP and limited WRP funding as well as ditch politics have been a stumbling block for this project. Although not all landowners in the basin have been contacted in the past 10 years because a full promotion effort has never been attempted, we estimate that approximately 65% of the basin landowners have shown interest in restoration options.

g. A statement describing participation by beginning farmers and ranchers, socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers, limited resource farmers or ranchers, and Indian tribes.

lost of the landowners in the basin have owned the land for at least 10 years and while recent ditch assessment taxes have n difficult for many of the landowners to financially bear, it is likely that none of the project landowners fit the above efinitions. Income information for Osakis Township Douglas County MN indicates that 11.4% of the township population is below poverty level.

h. A description of the wetland protection, restoration, and enhancement activities to be implemented during the project timeframe, and the general sequence of implementation of the project. Activities may include those efforts undertaken by the partner and those that the partner requests NRCS to address through financial support.

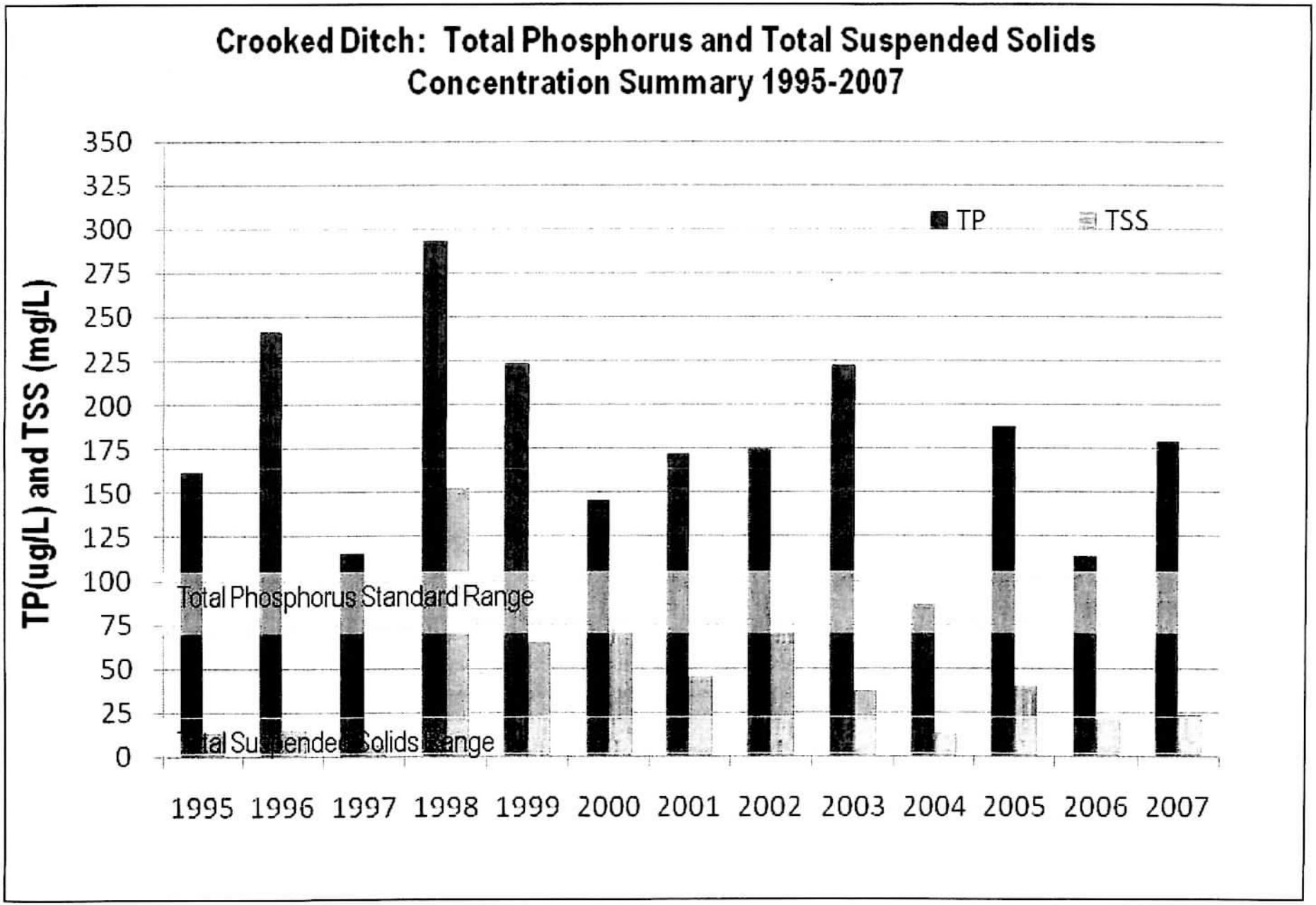
ucks Unlimited will provide the costs necessary to survey design and construct a water control structure and associated improvements (e.g., county road improvements) to restore Crooked Lake. It is anticipated that the cost to complete this work will meet or exceed the 5% restoration requirement for MRBI WREP funding. To restore associated cropland back to native grasses and forbs and or smaller isolated wetlands, partners may provide some resources, but will primarily rely on NRCS to provide financial support.

i. The amount of funds needed annually for easement acquisition and wetland restoration and enhancement activities.

Please see the attached spreadsheet for a breakdown of funding needs. It is anticipated that the majority of landowners will sign applications within the first year or year and a half of the project. Full closure of easements is estimated to take place within three years and easement purchases will likely take place in years two and three. Restoration funds for individual easements (cropland and small, isolated wetlands) via NRCS will be required in years four and five. Funds associated with restoring Crooked Lake will be expended in years four and five.

j. A description of how the partner will provide outreach, especially to beginning farmers or ranchers, socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, limited resource farmers or ranchers, and Indian tribes.

Douglas SWCD and Sauk River Watershed District staff, along with Ducks Unlimited Contract WRP Specialists will promote the MRBI-WREP option to project landowners through one-on-one contacts and public meetings. Outreach will involve initial mailings followed by phone calls and face-to-face meetings as would be carried out to promote similar nservation programs (e.g., WRP). The goal of these meetings is to fully inform landowners of the scope of the project, oject benefits (both public and private) and the WREP process and easement. Given that some of the landowners in the basin have been financially stressed via ditch tax assessments (up to $40,000 in some cases) and some agricultural use of the basin takes place, promotion staff will no doubt need to assure that all aspects of the project and easement process are fully explained and understood. Project staff assisting with promotion has a solid understanding of the WRP easement process and have assisted in promoting WRP with private landowners of all levels for the past decade.


Crooked Ditch: Total Phosphorus and Total Suspended Solids
Concentration Summary 1995-2007
TP(ug/L) and TSS (mg/L)
350
325
300
275
250
225
200
175
150
125
100
75
50
25
0
TP
TSS
Total Phosphorus Standard Range
1995
1996
1997
1998
1999
2000
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007

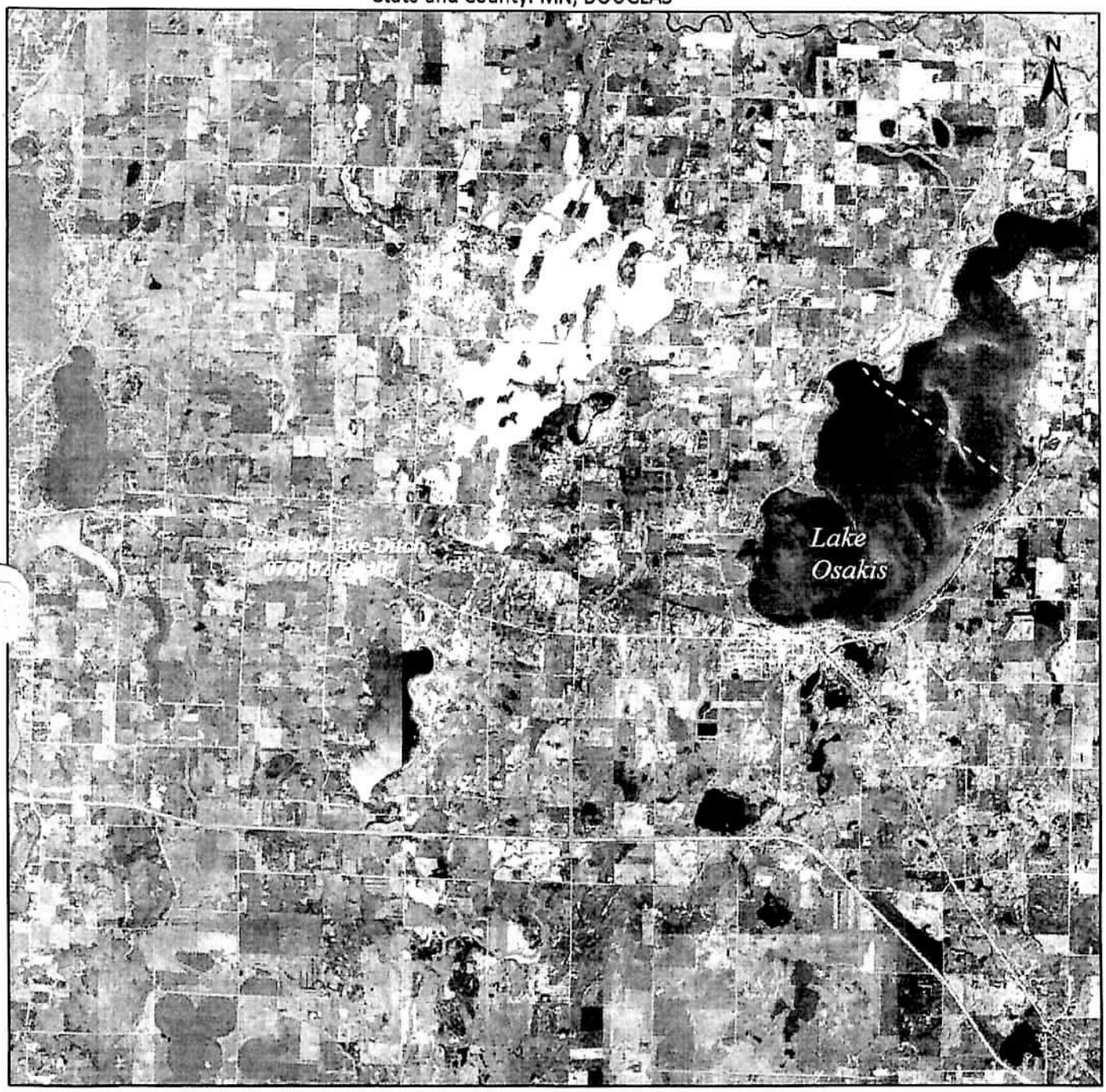
Crooked Lake WREP

Date: 4/29/2010

DOUGLAS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Approximate Acres: 2204 ac Wetland Restoration

State and County: MN, DOUGLAS



1 0 1 2 3 4

Miles

Judicial Ditches

HUC_12: 070102020101

Crooked Lake Restoration: ~2,204 acres

Crooked Lake WREP

Date: 4/29/2010

DOUGLAS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Approximate Acres: 2204 ac Wetland Restoration

State and County: MN, DOUGLAS

524 4th St South
Sauk Centre, MN 56378
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Visit us online at: www.srwdmn.org

April 14, 2010

Jerome Haggenmiller
Douglas County SWCD Administrator
900 Robert St Suite 102
Alexandria, MN 56308

RE: USDA Mississippi River Basin Initiative for the Sauk River Watershed

Dear Mr. Haggenmiller:

The Sauk River Watershed District has agreed to be a cooperator and partner on the USDA Cooperative Conservation Partners Initiative: Mississippi River Basin Initiative for the Sauk River Watershed grant application.

The Sauk River Watershed District is committed to provide the necessary staff and resources to assure this important and necessary project is completed within the budget and time limits specified in the proposal. Our specific contributions are expected to be, but are not limited to, the efforts outlined below:

- Help facilitate and assist in the education and outreach efforts.
- Provide guidance to the Douglas County SWCD and project partners on establishing and maintaining a comprehensive communication effort, thorough project evaluation, and group facilitation when appropriate.
- Assist in the identification of critical areas, project selection, and overall project planning efforts.
- Assist with edge of field water quality monitoring equipment setup, quality control and assurance, data analysis and interpretation, and reporting.
- Provide financial assistance when possible.

The Sauk River Watershed District looks forward to partnering with the Douglas County SWCD on the USDA MRBI Sauk River Watershed initiative. We are proposing in-kind support and public outreach for all pertinent grant activities. The District will continue to pursue funding toward the project. We will leverage applicable funds, programs, and staff to support this grant proposal.

Sincerely,

Holly Kovarik

Holly Kovarik, Administrator
Sauk River Watershed District

DUCKS UNLIMITED

GREAT PLAINS REGIONAL OFFICE
2525 River Road
Bismarck, ND 58503-9011
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www.ducks.org

May 3, 2010

Jerry Haggenmiller
Douglas County SWCD Administrator
900 Robert Street NE, Suite 102
Alexandria, MN 56308

RE: USDA Mississippi River Basin Initiative for Crooked Lake Ditch—Sauk River Watershed

Dear Mr. Haggenmiller:

Through our living lakes initiative, Ducks Unlimited is actively working with landowners and conservation partners to restore, enhance and protect shallow lake habitat in Minnesota and Iowa. Since 2005, DU has made conservation investments on more than 205 shallow lakes and large marshes and we're making progress toward our 10 year, 400 wetland goal. The restoration of Crooked Lake would restore over 2,000 acres of critical shallow lake habitat for waterfowl as well as improve water quality in Lake Osakis. Ducks Unlimited believes this project is a high-priority and is pleased to be a partner with the USDA Cooperative Conservation Partners Initiative: Mississippi River Basin Initiative for the Crooked Lake Ditch--Sauk River Watershed grant application.

Ducks Unlimited is committed to provide the necessary staff and other resources to assure the survey, design and construction of a water control structure and associated improvements that will be needed to restore Crooked Lake under the budget and time limits specified in the proposal. Our specific contributions are outlined below:

- Help facilitate and assist in the education and promotion efforts.
- Provide guidance to the Douglas County SWCD and project partners on establishing and maintaining a comprehensive communication effort, thorough project evaluation, and group facilitation when appropriate.
- Provide the staff and finances necessary to survey, engineer and construct a water control structure and associated improvements necessary to restore Crooked Lake.
- Assist with water quality monitoring following project completion.

Ducks Unlimited looks forward to partnering with the Douglas County SWCD on the USDA Mississippi River Basin Initiative Crooked Lake Ditch--Sauk River Watershed project. Subject to DU's success in securing new private and public resources, we are proposing a contribution estimated at $400,000 which includes professional services to survey, design and construct the water control structure and associated improvements required to restore Crooked Lake. This contribution will also be contingent upon the successful enrollment of land within the drained basin that will provide the necessary authorization for the restoration to move forward.

Sincerely,

Steve Adair
Director, Great Plains Region

Cc: Ryan Heiniger, Jon Schneider, Robert Usgaard

MRBI--WREP Proposal
Crooked Lake Ditch--Sauk River Watershed

Total Acres:	3,397
Crop Acres	1500
Non-Crop Acres	1897
Total Project Cost	$7,526,148
Federal Portion:	$7,126,148
*Purchase cropland easements	$3,711,000
**Purchase non-cropland easements	$2,815,148
Restoration of grasses/small wetlands	$600,000
Non-Federal Portion:	$400,000

Time Line Item	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Finalize Boundary Needs (LIDAR use)	X					
Promote Program (secure applications)	X	X				
Process and Close Easements			X	X		
Restore associated uplands/isolated wetlands				X	X	
Survey and Design Basin Restoration				X	X	
Seek Basin Restoration Approvals/Permits					X	
Begin and Complete Basin Restoration					X	X

Budget

Easement Promotion/Application Generation						
Purchase Easements			$4,275,688	$2,850,460		
Restore croplands and isolated wetlands				$300,000	$300,000	
Survey and Design Crooked Lake Restoration					$80,000	
Construction of Water Control Structure/Improvements						$320,000
TOTAL Expenditures	**$0**	**$0**	**$4,275,688**	**$3,150,460**	**$380,000**	**$320,000**

* 2010 cropland rate of $2,474/acre for WRP used to estimate easement cost

** 2010 non-crop rate of $1,484/acre for WRP used to estimate easement cost