

Grant Announcement for Terrestrial Invasive Species Inventory and Management Grant Period June 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012

Applications due: April 8, 2011

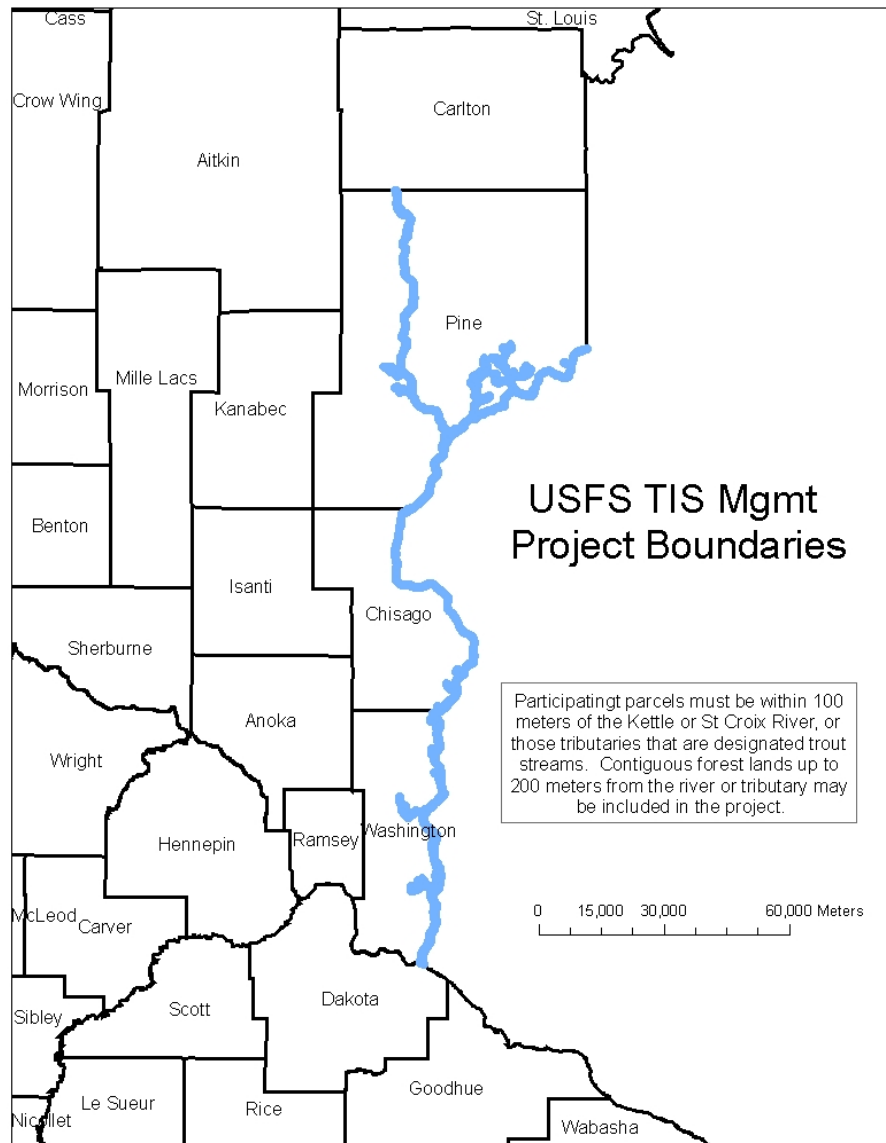
Who Is Eligible?

Private landowners with native woodlands within the project boundaries may apply for a cost-shared grant to manage garlic mustard, buckthorn or other woody invasive species. Project funds are available to inventory and manage invasive plants in woodlands adjacent to the Kettle or St Croix Rivers, or their significant tributaries (designated trout streams) in Pine, Chisago and Washington counties (see map below).

What are the Program Requirements?

Comply with all aspects of the grant guidelines. For accepted management practices, see “Accepted Management Practices for Projects within Minnesota Wild and Scenic Riverways” under separate cover.

- Be able to match 50/50 all grant dollars provided with either in-kind services (labor) or eligible expenses (see list on next page).
- Give permission for grant program representatives to enter your property for post-treatment monitoring purposes, through June 30, 2015.
- Support a county-led inventory of all eligible woodlands, or demonstrate the capability (time & training) to inventory eligible woodlands as an in-kind match using state protocols, to identify and map the occurrence of terrestrial invasive plants.
- Be willing to define and prioritize areas to be managed based on inventory results.



- Demonstrate the capacity to effectively manage all high priority areas and as many of the medium priority areas as grant funding allows using accepted management practices.
- Comply with all state and federal regulations.
- Complete all work within the grant period.

When Will Funds Become Available?

Successful applicants will be notified of their grant award by May 1, 2011 and be sent a landowner agreement to sign and return. Grant funds become available on June 1, 2011 and are contingent on receipt of the signed landowner agreement.

How Will Grant Applications Be Evaluated and Scored?

An interagency scoring team will score each application using the criteria and point values listed below. Each grant application will be reviewed by at least three individuals. Applications will receive all or none of the points allowed for each criteria. Applications will be funded from the highest to lowest score as funding allows. If necessary, project administrators may negotiate a lower grant amount before the grant agreement is signed.

No.	Scoring Criteria	Possible Points	Awarded Points
	Is at least a portion of the parcel being included in the proposal within 100 meters of the Kettle or St Croix rivers or a significant tributary? (If not, the proposal will not be considered for funding)	Y / N	
1	Is at least a portion of the parcel being included in the proposal within the Wild and Scenic River District?	25	
2	Is there evidence the landowner is committed to maintaining currently wooded areas in native woodlands long-term?	25	
3	Is this the first time the individual or family has received public grant funds?	20	
4	Do the wooded lands fall adjacent to state or federal lands?	10	
5	Do the wooded lands include frontage on the Kettle or St Croix Rivers?	10	
6	Do the wooded lands include stream frontage on one of the major tributaries of the Kettle or St Croix Rivers?	10	
7	Is it clear which lands are wooded or not?	10	
8	Are more than 50% of the lands wooded (i.e. >50% canopy cover)?	10	
9	Is post-treatment monitoring addressed in the proposal?	10	
10	Are the practices being proposed clear and appropriate?	10	
11	Is the budget detailed, understandable and the costs eligible?	10	
12	Is the grant request being matched by more than 50%?	10	
13	Is garlic mustard known to occur on the site?	5	
14	Is common or glossy buckthorn known to occur on the site?	5	
15	Are restoration needs addressed in the proposal?	5	
	Total Possible Points	175	

What Project Expenses Are Eligible for Reimbursement With Grant Funds? (50% of costs incurred on lands within 100 meters of the river or major tributary. Grant funds will not be used to reimburse expenses associated with work beyond that distance)

- Contract work to inventory, map and/or manage known infestations within 100 meters of the river or significant tributary.
- Glyphosate or triclopyr products in the smallest quantity available to cover the area to be treated within 100 meters of the river or significant tributary.
- Back-pack or hand-held sprayers up to \$200 total.
- Pulling or frilling tools up to \$100 total.
- Contract or equipment rental to chip woody invasive plant material.

What Management Practices are Included in the Eligible Expenses? (For more details, see “Accepted Management Practices for Projects within Minnesota Wild and Scenic Riverways”)

Treatments for Woody Invasive Species >1 meter tall

- Basal bark treatments of woody invasive species >1 meter tall
- Cut stump treatments of buckthorn or other woody invasive species
- Frill/hack and squirt treatments of buckthorn or other woody invasive species
- Brush hogging

Treatments for Invasive Plant Material <1 meter tall

- Foliar applications of woody invasive seedlings or herbaceous invasive species
- Mowing
- Hand-pulling
- Prescribed burning

Disposal methods

- Piling brush for wildlife cover
- Chipping brush
- Burning brush
- Hauling material off-site for biofuel or landscape purposes

What Project Expenses Can Be Used as a Landowner Match? (Up to 50% of costs incurred on lands within 100 meters, plus 100% of costs incurred on lands within 200 meters of the river or major tributary)

- In-kind or contractor labor for inventory work within 200 meters of the river or tributary
- In-kind or contractor labor to manage or restore infested sites within 200 meters of the river or tributary
- In-kind or contractor labor needed for post-treatment monitoring the year after planting or seedling areas within 200 meters of the river or tributary.
- Seed, seed mats, plant material or erosion control materials used in restoration
- Field supplies, such as flagging, marking paint, etc.
- The cost of any permits needed for vegetation management within Wild and Scenic River boundaries.

What Project Expenses are NOT Eligible for Grant Reimbursement OR as a Private Match?

- Costs incurred on lands more than 200 meters from the river or major tributary.
- Removal of native plants for any purpose.
- Costs covered by revenue from the sale of timber or woody biomass.
- Costs covered by other public grant funding.
- The cost of picloram, 2,4-D or other herbicide not listed under acceptable practices.
- Costs associated with management practices not covered in “Accepted Management Practices for Projects within Minnesota Wild and Scenic Riverways.”

Are There Any Other Limitations I Should Know About?

Grant awards will be limited to a maximum of \$2500 per landowner. Reimbursed expenses (paid for by the grant) will be limited to a maximum of \$500.00 per acre. To calculate your match, you can use \$15.00/hr for general in-kind labor, \$20.00/hr for chain saw work and \$40.00/hr for large equipment work (which include labor and equipment costs).

The lands included by successful applicants will be reviewed by the State Historical Preservation Officer, Minnesota Heritage Program and Fish and Wildlife Service Rare and Endangered Species Program. Grant proposals will also be reviewed by the state and federal Wild and Scenic River Programs. If rare or historic features are present, some or all management practices in the immediate vicinity may be restricted. If that is the case, or if proposed practices conflict with Scenic River easement stipulations, successful grant applicants will be notified and management options discussed. In the unlikely event that rare features or easement restrictions significantly impact the proposed management practices, the grant amount may be renegotiated and perhaps altered.

Landowners within state Wild and Scenic River boundaries are required to get a permit before doing any vegetation management. The county contacts below can facilitate that process.

How Do I Apply?

Interested applicants should:

- Confirm you are eligible to apply by checking the attached map.
- Complete the enclosed application form
- Be sure to review the scoring criteria before writing your project description.
- Attach no more than three additional pages to answer project questions.
- Attach a signed copy of the permission slip giving state and county officials access to your property.
- Attach a map or sketch of the acreage to be included in the project, preferably with an airphoto.
- Mail or deliver three copies of your completed application with all pages to the appropriate county representative listed below. All applications must be received by 4:30pm on April 8, 2011.

County Representatives:

Washington County Terrestrial Invasive Species Management Project

Jyneen Thatcher

Washington Conservation District

1380 W. Frontage Rd, Hwy 36

Stillwater, MN 55082

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Chisago County Terrestrial Invasive Species Management Project

Jason Rehn

Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District

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