



Project 12-1 Aquatic Stewardship Plans for Private Landowners

Background: There is a need and a desire by many landowners to better manage the riparian area of streams flowing through their property.

Problem Statement: Need to communicate stream stewardship BMPs to interested landowners.

Goals: This project would improve fish habitat and water quality by creating a publication, website and one-on-one conversations with land owners to implement aquatic BMPs on their property to protect and restore aquatic environments, specifically stream corridors in the Lake Superior watershed. This program could also be used in other areas of the state. It would be similar to the Forest Stewardship Plans for private landowners, but it would be focused on Aquatic Stewardship Plans for private landowners. Once developed we envision that the forest and aquatic stewardship programs could be delivered together creating a synergy and increased efficiency of program delivery and resource enhancement for private landowners. Many landowners and resource users have been requesting such a program.

Priority: High

Task Duration: 2 years

Potential Mechanism: NFHI, USFWS-PFWP, MLSCP, SWCD

Potential Partnering Organization(s): UofM, DNR, NRRI, MN-SG, MLSCP, PCA, SWCD, counties, townships, watershed districts/organizations

Estimated Cost: \$ 75,000 over 2 years

Comments: Larger version available. Turned into other funding sources as well. Coastal Program may fund a graduate student to develop the required material. Once material has been assembled work with MNDNR, MPCA, SWCDs, counties, townships and various watershed districts and organizations to assist in getting the information out to landowners. Eventually partner with MNDNR Forestry to incorporate an Aquatic Stewardship plan into, or in addition to, the Forestry Stewardship Plan for landowners that desire this information.

Special Considerations: Once BMPs are completed there is a need distribute beyond 2 years to interested landowners. Could be done thru various agencies already charged to do similar work (see above).

Accomplishments:

Measure(s) of Success: Number of landowners that request stewardship plans or information packets.

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