



Project 8-1 Chester Creek Stream Channel Restoration

Background: The ponds on Chester Creek within the city park are having extreme temperature impacts on the lower mile of stream. Temperatures routinely exceed thermal tolerances for trout below the ponds, while temperatures above are within the range for trout to survive.

Problem Statement: Chester Bowl ponds are impacting both temperature and flow in the lower mile of this trout stream, to the point of eliminating this reach as a viable trout stream. In addition, the disruption of sediment transport within the channel by these structures can cause increased erosion in the lower reaches.

Goals: Restore stream connectivity and a natural stream channel where the Chester Bowl ponds currently exist.

Priority: High

Task Duration: 2 years

Potential Mechanism: CPL, LSOHC, GLRI, TS, LCCMR

Potential Partnering Organization(s): DNR, NRRI, City of Duluth, Chester Bowl Improvement Club, IWLA

Estimated Cost: \$100,000

Comments: Issues need to be worked out related to alternatives for access to the ski hill, as well as alternative parks programming to replace pond activities.

Special Considerations: Additional fishing opportunity through DNR stocking would be available in the excellent habitat in the lower mile of Chester Creek following correction of the temperature impairment.

Accomplishments:

Measure(s) of Success: Restoration of viable trout stream below Chester Bowl ponds.

Primary Contact: Deserae Hendrickson, DNR Fisheries, (218)525-0853

Vision Statement: Maintain, protect, and restore healthy cold water ecosystems with relatively stable flows and a diversity of habitat for fish and wildlife to enhance our quality of life.

For project information: www.lrcd.org/links/lscg_projects.htm