



Project 8-2 Tischer Creek Channel Restoration

Background: The pond on Tischer Creek within Hartley Nature Center (Hartley Pond) is having extreme impacts on temperature and flow in the lower half of Tischer Creek. Temperatures routinely exceed thermal tolerances for trout below the ponds, while temperatures above are within the range for trout to survive. The dam is also a fish barrier.

Problem Statement: Hartley Pond is impacting both temperature and flow in the lower miles of this trout stream, to the point of eliminating a reach as a viable trout stream. During dry conditions, the mile of stream below Hartley Pond is frequently dry due to evaporative losses from the pond, and does not resume flow until points of new groundwater input downstream. 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 Hartley pond currently exists.

Priority: High

Task Duration: 3 years

Potential Mechanism: LSOHC, GLRI, LCCMR, NFPP

Potential Partnering Organization(s): DNR, Hartley Nature Center, City of Duluth, NRRI, IWLA, TU, AFF

Estimated Cost: \$750,000, cost would be considerably less without pond construction

Comments: There is a strong desire to retain a recreational pond in Hartley Center. The stream valley is wide enough for that to be possible, but increases the cost.

Special Considerations: Additional fishing opportunity through DNR stocking would be available in the excellent habitat within and below the current impoundment following correction of the temperature impairment.

Accomplishments: MN DNR presented issues and concern for stream impacts to Hartley Board.

Measure(s) of Success: Restoration of viable trout stream below Hartley pond including fish passage, base flows, and temperature.

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/lsc_projects.htm