

Chapter 5: Implementation and Monitoring



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Essential Staffing, Mission-Critical Projects and Major Maintenance Needs

The Service relies on two systems to track the needs of the Wetland Management Districts and other units of the National Wildlife Refuge System. These systems are the Refuge Operating Needs System and the Maintenance Management System. Each station has scores of projects in each system, representing a need which is often beyond the realities of funding. However, each station has identified its most critical needs which form a realistic assessment of funding needed to meet many of the goals, objectives, and strategies identified in the CCP. These needs also form the basis for the President's budget request to Congress. These critical needs are listed below in the categories of essential staff, mission-critical projects, and major maintenance projects. A complete listing of projects in the Operating Needs System is found in Appendix F and it represents the long-term needs of Fergus Falls Wetland Management District to operate at optimum levels.

Essential Staffing Needs

Wildlife Biologist

Mission-Critical Projects

Waterfowl Habitat Management
Grassland Habitat Restoration
Provide Environmental Education
Pest Fish Control

Major Maintenance Projects

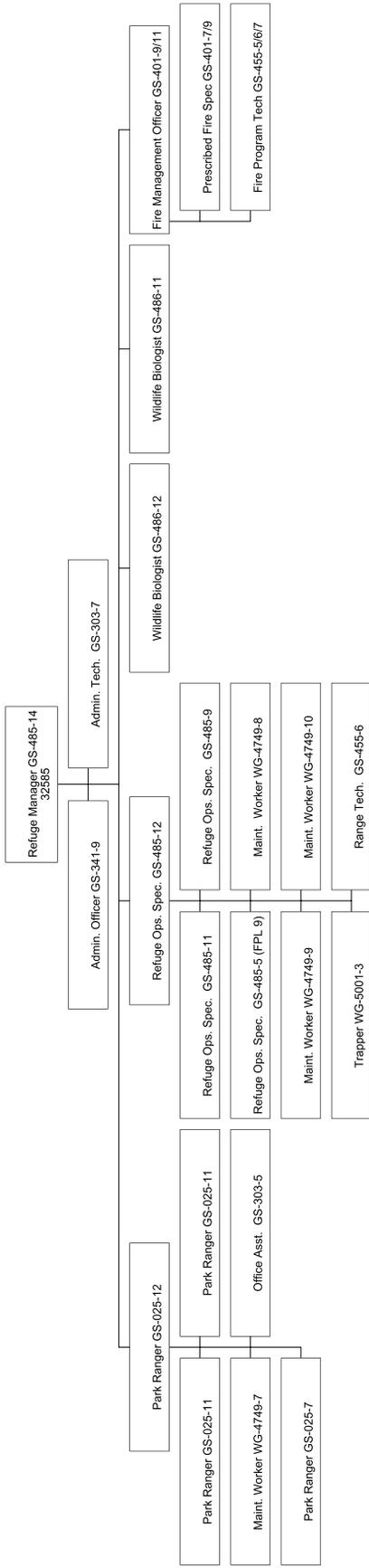
Replace Cargo Truck
Replace WPA Boundary Fence
Replace WPA Boundary Signs
Repair Redhead Water Control Structure
14 Additional Projects

Total: \$3,071,000

Step-down Management Plans

Existing Step-Down plans that only need a slight modification to implement the direction of the CCP include the following:

Figure 11: Staffing Chart



Plan	Completion Date by December of:
Public Use Plan	Done
WPA Development Plans	Updated annually as lands are acquired
Predator Mgt. Plan	Done
Law Enforcement Plan	Done
Fire Mgt. Plan	Done
Wildlife Inventory Plan	2005
Water Mgt. Plan	2006

The draft list of Step-Down Management Plans necessary to implement the direction of the CCP include:

Plan	Completion Date by December of:
Grassland Mgt. Plan	2008
Forest Mgt. Plan	2007

A cultural resource management plan will also be prepared to meet the requirements of Section 14 of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act and Section 110(a)(2) of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Partnership Opportunities

Within the Private Lands and other station programs, the District maintains partnerships with the following governments, agencies and organizations:

State Agencies

Minnesota DNR Divisions: Wildlife, Fisheries, Waters, Forestry, Parks, Trails and Waterways, Ecological Services and Law Enforcement.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Minnesota Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources

Minnesota Environmental Education Board

Local Governments

Otter Tail County: County Commissioners, Land & Natural Resource Office (Ditch & Weed Inspector, Wetland Conservation Act Coordinator), Soil and Water Conservation District, County Highway Dept., County Engineer, County Waste Officer.

Grant County: County Commissioners, Wetland Conservation Act, Weed and Solid Waste Officer, Ditch Inspectors, Soil and Water Conservation District, County Highway Department and County Engineer.

Douglas County: County Commissioners, Land & Natural Resource Office (Solid Waste Officer, Shoreline Manager), Soil and Water Conservation District (Wetland Conservation Act Coordinator), County Highway Dept., County Engineer (County Ditch & Weed Inspector).

Wilkin County: County Commissioners, Weed Officer, Ditch Inspector, Solid Waste Officer, Soil & Water Conservation District, County Highway Dept. and County Engineer.

Wadena County: County Commissioners, County Highway Dept., County Engineer.

136 Township Boards
Bois De Sioux Watershed District
Buffalo Red Watershed District
Sauk River Watershed District
Little Pine Watershed District

Federal Agencies

U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
Natural Resource Conservation Service (5 County Offices and 1 Area Office)
Farm Service Agency (5 County Offices)

Private Groups

Friends of the Prairie Wetlands Learning Center	Ducks Unlimited
Fergus Falls Fish and Game Club	Minnesota Waterfowl Association
Fergus Falls Gun Club	Evansville Sportsmen
Grant County Sportsmen	Viking Sportsmen
Coots Unlimited	Stalker Lake Sportsmen
Elizabeth Sportsmen	Otter Tail Rod and Gun Club
Otter Tail County Conservation Clubs	Kent Rod and Gun Club
Pheasants Forever	Millerville Sportsmen
Fergus Falls Photo Club	Minnesota Deer Hunters
Minnesota Wildlife Federation	Knob Hill Sportsmen
The Wildlife Society	Wild Ones
Red Rock Lake Association	The Nature Conservancy
Pocket Lake Association	Wall Lake Association
Pomme de Terre Lake Association	Lobster Lake Association
Douglas County Trail Association	Christina-Ina-Anka Lake Association
	Otter Tail County Trail Association

School Districts

Fergus Falls	Underwood
Battle Lake	Rothsay
Pelican Rapids	West Central
Evansville	Alexandria
Breckenridge	

We will seek to develop partnerships with additional public and private groups as opportunities arise.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring is critical to successful implementation of this plan. Monitoring is necessary to evaluate the progress toward objectives and to determine if conditions are changing.

Accomplishment of the objectives described in this CCP will be monitored annually by the District Manager's supervisor. Successful performance will be tied to the accomplishment of objectives that are scheduled for that year. The public will be informed about the activities of the District staff through news releases and information on each District's web site.

The effectiveness of proposed management actions will be monitored throughout the life of this plan as described in the objectives and strategies of this document. In

addition, techniques and details for monitoring related to specific objectives will be specified in the Inventory and Monitoring Step Down Plan.

Substantial changes are likely to occur within the Service and the Fergus Falls community during the next 15 years. The Plan and its objectives will be examined at least every 5 years to determine if any modifications are necessary to meet the changing conditions.

