# SCOPE OF WORK

***Project Title****:*The Little Menomonee Parkway Grassland Restoration Project

***Project Manager****:*

Brian Russart – Natural Areas Coordinator

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***Project Applicant****:*

John Dargle, Director

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**DUNS #**: 172896383

***Project Location and Background****:*

Little Menomonee River Parkway, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin (map attached). The project area is a 32-acre site within the Little Menomonee Parkway, bounded by Appleton Avenue to the South, Little Menomonee River Parkway to the east, 107th Street to the west and Lynx Avenue to the north.

This project will enhance/expand the grassland habitat in the Milwaukee Estuary AOC, and will improve breeding opportunities for grassland species that are designated as state and/or local species of concern. Currently, there is a lack of grassland habitat areas of any significant size elsewhere within the AOC.

The objectives of this project are to:

* Restore native grassland habitat on the site.
* Improve breeding and migratory habitat for bird and invertebrate while also providing breeding habitat for herptile grassland species of local concern.
* Reduce erosion from the site to the Little Menomonee River and its 100-year floodplain.

This restoration project is a component of a larger 169-acre Milwaukee County Parks restoration and management (R&M) plan for this section of the Little Menomonee River. The R&M plan is

a ten-year project that encompasses all short and long term goals/activities such as invasive species control, wildlife habitat management, hiking trail maintenance, natural resource inventories, and public use activities. All R&M plans are developed by DPRC Natural Areas staff, reviewed and approved by the DPRC Chief of Operations and the Parks Director. Once a restoration & management plan is approved by the Director, Natural Areas staff begins implementation.

The Milwaukee County Department of Parks Recreation and Culture (landowner) will be the managing agency that will oversee all project activities. The County’s restoration plan accounts for all invasives species control for the 10-yr term of the plan. Any site where aggressive invasives control has been done in the Park System is put in the annual plan of work for additional control as needed so that the gains that are achieved aren’t lost.

***Proposed Work (listed chronologically)****:*

Restoration activities in the first year of the project will use a forestry (fecon) mower and chainsaws to remove the stands of non-native invasive woody species. Vegetation removed by chainsaws will be stump-cut treated with herbicide to prevent regrowth. Vegetation removed with the forestry mower will receive a secondary treatment with herbicides after it regenerates during the following growing season. The proposed timeframe to begin woody vegetation removal is November 2013 through March 2014, which allows for minimal soil disturbance and reduces negative impacts on desirable plants species and breeding wildlife.

This restoration project will consist of removing 20 acres of woody vegetation (mainly invasive species) using a forestry mower and chainsaws. One full year of invasive species control must be conducted after forestry mowing prior to planting native grassland/prairie species. Invasive species control will consist of foliar application and cut-stump treatments. The final phase of the project will take place at the end of 2014 and include planting 20 acres of the site to native prairie. Additional invasive species control on the entire 32.5 acres will be required by the Parks Department which is committed to the long-term maintenance of this project site.

Specifically:

* Remove 20 acres of woody vegetation (primarily invasive species) from County parkland through forestry mowing and chainsaw.
* Treat stumps left behind from chainsaw with herbicide to prevent regrowth.
* Provide herbicide treatment to mowed areas in spring where woody vegetation is sprouting.
* Prepare area and plant the 20 acres with native prairie seed mix following nearly 1 year of invasive species removal.
* Ongoing native plant establishment and invasive plant control will be accomplished by County Parks staff as part of their long-term maintenance for the Little Menomonee River Parkway Natural Areas Plan.
* Contractors working on site will be required to obtain Milwaukee County Right of Entry Permit. No other permits are required for the project.

***Timetable****:*

November 2013 through March 2014

Mowing, chainsaw work and herbicide treatments will be conducted.

 Spring/summer of 2014

Additional herbicide treatment will be conducted.

October/November 2014

Apply native prairie seeds during dormant season.

 January 2015 – September 30, 2015

Observe plantings through one full growing season to evaluate success.

Project completion by September 30, 2015.

The site will continue to be maintained over a 10-year period by the County, as specified in the Milwaukee County Parks restoration and management (R&M) plan for this section of the Little Menomonee River. After the initial 10-year maintenance period a subsequent 10-year plan will be developed to continue monitoring and maintenance of the site.

***Deliverables***:

Quarterly Project updates documenting work completed and funds spent are due:

January 10, 2014 (for Nov/December 2013 quarter)

April 10, 2014 (Jan-March 2014 quarter)

July 10, 2014 (April-June 2014 quarter)

October 10, 2014 (July-September 2014 quarter)

January 10, 2015 (October-December 2014 quarter)

April 10, 2015 (Jan-March 2014 quarter)

July 10, 2015 (April-June 2014 quarter)

October 10, 2015 (July-September Final Report)

Final report will be completed documenting all site activities including maps and before and after photographs and final invoices due 60 days after project completion.

***Project Budget****:* $37,000 – for materials and supplies, equipment rentals and labor as described below. Please note these are estimated costs for each line item.

