# Connecting River, Watershed and Community











## Dear Friends:



For Friends of the Mississippi River 2008, our 15th year working on behalf of this great river, was a year of considerable accomplishment. The significant advancements in our key strategic areas —

land protection and restoration, river corridor stewardship and watershed protection — are detailed throughout this report. Thank you to our board of directors, staff, donors, volunteers and program partners for a year of considerable progress in the midst of significant economic challenges facing Minnesota and our country.

As we navigate in the coming year the very real impacts on all nonprofits of unprecedented economic challenges, we remain committed to our mission to be a tenacious voice for the Mississippi River corridor in the Twin Cities region. The board's decision many years ago to build a modest operating reserve and our budgeting discipline have served us well. Your contributions are critical to achieve our mission and we thank you for your continuing support.

At a recent event sponsored by a corporate partner, an executive recalled a childhood experience on the river where a family member told him it was not safe to drink the water, swim or eat fish caught in the Mississippi. One of the reasons we founded FMR was to advocate for a cleaner, swimmable river that is the source of drinking water for millions in the Twin Cities, and from which fish can be safely eaten.

We're very proud of the progress that has been made in the last 15 years, but more is yet to be done. We look forward to working with you our members, volunteers and donors — to continue this important work!

Sincerely. htmline

Peter L. Gove Chair. FMR Board of Directors

## 2008: FMR's Major Accomplishments

- Supported the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area Study Group, chaired by Rep. Rick Hansen and Sen. Katie Sieben, which resulted in the introduction (and passage in 2009!) of the Mississippi River Critical Area Reform Bill.
- Championed passage of the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment through the successful Vote Yes For Minnesota campaign, securing dedicated funding for Minnesota's environment for years to come.
- Conducted workshops with local decisionmakers, commission members and citizens in the cities of Ramsey, Brooklyn Park, Cottage Grove and Hastings to discuss planning and land use for each community's riverfront.
- Permanently protected three ecologically important properties totaling 347 acres. including the Freitag property, a 300-acre parcel located in the Vermillion river bottoms at the confluence of the Mississippi, Vermillion and St. Croix rivers.
- Developed eight natural resource management plans for the ecological restoration of 254 acres of land.
- Inspired 3,055 volunteers to dedicate 11,245 hours to helping the river, including 98 "Super Volunteers" who contributed over 20 hours of service each.
- Organized 1,367 volunteers who contributed 2,795 hours to Storm Drain Stenciling, a water quality education project.
- Led 56 habitat restoration events, in which a total of 1.609 volunteers contributed 6,157 hours of restoration work.
- Conducted 31 educational and interpretive events, with a combined total of 1,290 participants.



# River Corridor Stewardship

Friends of the Mississippi River advocates at the local level for development policies and other land-use policies that protect and enhance the ecological, cultural, historic, scenic and recreational assets of the Mississippi River Corridor.

In 2008, FMR and National Park Service staff conducted outreach workshops with local decisionmakers, commission members and citizens in the four river communities of Ramsey, Brooklyn Park, Cottage Grove and Hastings. The purpose of these workshops was to provide an overview of the significance of the river's resources and to educate community leaders about tools and resources available to help realize local, state and national goals for the Mississippi River Corridor. A lively discussion about local opportunities, issues and threats was included in each workshop, and just as the character of the river changes from one community to the next, so do the key issues.

FMR continues to examine and evaluate the effectiveness of river corridor protection policy for the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area and the Mississippi River Critical Area and work toward strengthening state and federal policy.

A series of stakeholder engagement meetings held in 2007 to gather and document input from corridor cities, river businesses and developers, and environmental, civic and neighborhood groups about the strengths and weaknesses of the Mississippi River Critical Area program resulted in the formation of the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area Study Group, chaired by state legislators Rep. Rick Hansen and Sen. Katie Sieben.

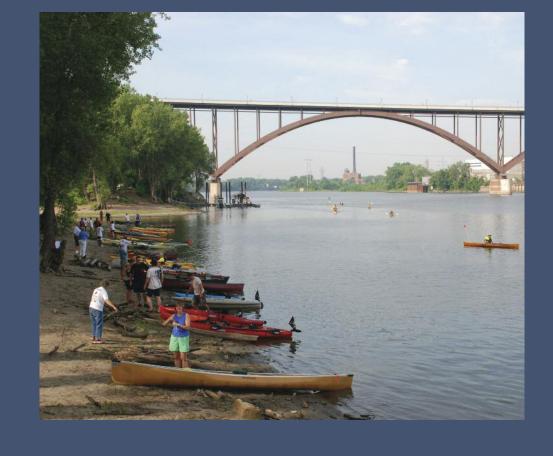
Through a series of meetings with the study group last fall, FMR established general agreement with stakeholders around some key elements of a Mississippi River Critical Area Reform Bill, which was introduced in the 2009 session. The legislation calls for a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) rulemaking process to revise critical area land-use districts, standards and guidelines, it refines bluff-related definitions, and it clarifies the enforcement responsibilities of local corridor municipalities and the DNR.



the story of how the Mississippi Gorge was transforme from rapids to reservoirs in an interpretive tour of the Meeker Island Lock & Dam Ruins.

Throughout the legislative process, FMR worked with legislators, local cities and other stakeholders to modify the bill in response to concerns raised. The final bill, which passed the Legislature this spring, seeks to strike a balance among the diverse interests by providing appropriate flexibility and adequate protection of the river's significant resources. The rulemaking process will begin in late 2009 or early 2010.

In addition to policy work and outreach to local cities in the river corridor, FMR engages hundreds of volunteers in land and habitat stewardship within the corridor. The Gorge in Minneapolis and St. Paul and the Pine Bend Bluffs in Inver Grove Heights and Rosemount are two primary focus areas for stewardship. Corridor education and interpretive programs continue to be popular and served close to 1,000 people in 2008. Read more about these programs on the map in this report or on our website (www.fmr.org).



## 2009 Mississippi River Challenge

A fully supported paddle event to promote a cleaner, healthier river. PADDLE IT. PROTECT IT. JULY 25 & 26.

If you've never experienced the Twin Cities from the perspective of the river, the Mississippi River Challenge is the way to do it! Let the cities recede beyond the trees and atop the bluffs while you paddle stretches of quiet beauty, then emerge again as you paddle the urban riverfronts and pass through the locks. This one-of-a-kind journey showcases the ecology, history, scenic beauty and cultural value of our stretch of the Mississippi in a way that no other event can. Stay close to home this summer, and experience your local river. Paddle the Mississippi River Challenge.

www.mississippiriverchallenge.org



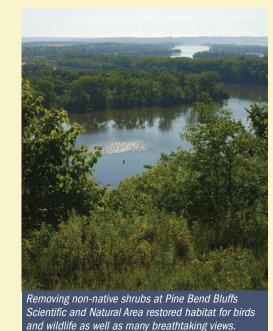
## Land Conservation

Friends of the Mississippi River continued its commitment to working with public and private landowners to enhance stewardship in locations critical to a healthy river and thriving ecosystem.

Thanks to the work that FMR completed in 2008, in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and with the help of dozens of volunteers and numerous hard-working contractors, the 78-acre Hastings Sand Coulee Scientific and Natural Area in Marshan Township is well on its way to providing better habitat to its native prairie denizens. The removal of a 4-acre stand of red pine trees that had encroached on this remnant sand-gravel prairie, prescribed burns and weed removal by volunteers all served to rejuvenate the native plant community. It is hoped that these improvements will help to ensure survival of the many rare plant and animal species found at the site.

FMR's effort to protect the native prairie in the Sand Coulee took another step forward in 2008, as the Murnane family donated a conservation easement to the Dakota County Farmland and Natural Areas Program on six acres of prairie that they own. The family's action to protect their portion of the Sand Coulee was in loving memory of their parents, Joe and Joann Murnane, who both passed away several years ago. Both Joe and Joann had a deep appreciation for the land and valued the prairie that existed on the property. They also provided leadership in getting other landowners to partner with FMR to conduct restoration activities throughout the Sand Coulee. This donation was a fitting tribute to them, and we are honored to have known them.

The Pine Bend Bluffs Natural Area in Dakota County encompasses nearly 1,300 acres of very high biodiversity habitat at the bend of the Mississippi River, which is one of the most significant migratory bird routes in the world. FMR's ecological restoration efforts, begun in 1999, progressed in 2008 with removal of non-native shrubs at Pine Bend Bluffs Scientific and Natural Area. The results provide expansive views of the river for people and improved habitat for birds and other wildlife. In 2008, FMR



and Great River Greening conducted restoration activities on Flint Hills Resources' native and rare sand-gravel prairies and oak savanna, and within the property's woodland. We would like to thank Flint Hills Resources for its strong commitment to the health of its river bluffland.

FMR also assisted in protecting a large and ecologically important riverfront property in 2008 through a partnership with the Minnesota DNR, Dakota County Farmland and Natural Areas Program, and the City of Hastings. The 300-acre Freitag property, located near the confluence of the Mississippi, Vermillion and St. Croix rivers, serves as the western terminus of the extensive Vermillion-Cannon Rivers floodplain. This was a significant event in our effort to protect and improve the health of the Mississippi River as there are few remaining opportunities to protect such large tracts of land along the river in the Twin Cities.

Our efforts in 2008 will benefit the ecology of the river for many years to come and we are looking forward to a successful 2009.

### **Board of** Directors

Chair

Peter Gove Vice-President, St. Jude Medical (Retired)

Vice Chair Stewart Crosby Senior Landscape Architect, George Dunn SRF Consulting Group, Inc. Attorney at Law. Tilton &

Secretary

Forrest Flint Candace Campbell Vice-President of Dental Vice President, Sustainability Programs, Avant Energy Services

Treasurer Perry McGowan CPA, LarsonAllen

**Past Chair** Lvnn Moratzka Retired Dakota County Office of Planning Manager and former Hastings City Council member

At Large John Anfinson Historian, National Park Service, Mississippi National River and Recreation Area

Dunn, PLLP

Plan, HealthPartners

Principal, Cincinnatus, Inc.

Diane Herman

Chris Higgins

Hokan Miller

Services, Inc.

Beardsley

Director, Padilla Speer

Dispatcher, Upper River

Edward Oliver Michelle Beeman Principal, Oliver Financial Director of Environment and Director, First Minnesota Ban Natural Resources, Member, Great Lakes Dakota County

Steve Novak

Division Manager,

Anoka County

Governmental Services

Terra Penny Assistant Controller. University of St. Thomas

John Linc Stine Division Director. Environmental Health Minnesota Department of Health

Sarah Strommen Conservation Director, Central Region, Minnesota Land Trust

Deanna Wiener Realtor, Cardinal Realty Staff Michele Bevis Administrative Assistant

Program Assistant

Bruce Freidson

Finance Manager

Heather Haynes

Irene Jones

River Corridor

Program Director

Tom Lewanski

Conservation Director

**Development Director** 

Watershed Program Director Whitney Clark Executive Director Karen Schik Ecologist and Meghan Dudle

Project Manager Karen Solas Stewardship Coordinator

sue rich

Volunteer Coordinator

Trevor Russell

**Bob Spaulding** River Advocate

Kerry Walsh

Randy Twait

Development Associate Council of

**Advisors** 

Peter Bachman

Council

Control Agency

Legacy Program

Management

Rice Creek

Shirley Hunt Alexande

Noah Mundahl Internet and Data Systems Manager

Hynnek Fund of the

HRK Foundation

Irwin Andrew Porter

Kaemmer Fund of the

Steven Leuthold Family

Dwight E. Malcolm Trust

Marbrook Foundation

McKnight Foundation

National Fish & Wildlife

HRK Foundation

Foundation

Foundation

Nash Foundation

Charles K. Dayton Kristin Nierengarter David Durenberg Development and Special Events Associate George Latimer Ted Mondale

Phil Riveness Don Vegoe Tina Smith Ron Nargang

### **Internal Support** Super **Volunteers** Jason Anderson John Anfinson

Dr. Michael Osterholm

**Gorge Leadership Team** Monique Auge-Bodin Christine Bohn Tim Boyle Laurie Bruno Bill Davnie Barbara Gibson Lisa Hamze Maggie Hill Karen Jenkins Elaine Jervis Jeanne LaBore Catherine Malave Cordelia Pierson Eric Ramstad Victoria Rebeck Sarah Risser Paul Sawver Jim Stengel

Fred Tyler Sharon Wheeler Martha Zemur

Michelle Beeman Stewart Crosby Gerald Dastych George Dunn Liz Fisher Forrest Flint Peter Gove Beth Havden Chris Higgins Richard McCarthy Larry McGough Perry McGowan Hokan Miller Lynn Moratzka Edward Oliver Terra Penny Phil Riveness Jov Robinson

Michael Reeves Dan Smith Andy Tatham Dan Smith Meghan Untz Richard Wahls Sam Wils

Laura Recker

Brenda Reeves

Mississippi River Challenge Tony Andrea Sandee Blanchard Adam Brewer Gail Conzemius Dennis Davidson Carol Davidson Doc Drone Anna Lewanski Alex Lewanski Josh Lewanski Hamilton Medved-Lufkin Bill Newman

KT Simon-Dastych

Nathan Solas

Restoration

Joe Beattie

Jennifer Burt

Veda Kanitz

Amanda Putz

Charlie Rader

Revenue

**Foundations** 

Government

Corporations

Individuals

Other

Fees

Workplace Giving

Total Revenue

Land Conservation

Expenses

**River Corridor** 

Stewardship

Management

Total Expenses

Fundraising

Debbie Jahnke

Warren Stortroen

Craig Zimmer

**Stream Health Evaluation Program** Garv Averbeck Wendy Barron Bob Bartlett Barbara Bor Jim Bukowski Ralph Butkowski Christy Dolph Glenn Fuchs Susan Fuller Julie Glanton Linda Grundtner Debbie Hartmann Barb Hoernemann

408,643

316,827

188.746

292,922

38,266

73,667

18.675

1,337,746

476,062

300,256

141,848

197,372

1,393,314

Elan Majkrzak Katherine Maikrzak Ted McCaslin Analiese Miller Frank Neumann Gwenn Neumann Tere O'Connell Bill Radmer Marilyn Radmer Dana Raines Don Vegoe Nancy Wilberts Susan Young

Eileen Zierdt

Wayne LeBlanc

Cathi Lyman-Onkka

Special thanks to Timothy Boyle, whose photographs appear throughout this report.

# and expanded its efforts in watershed protection to target watersheds, volunteer monitors continue to sample and identify benthic macroinvertebrates stream health. Last year, our 30 volunteer monitors once again proved that well-trained volunteers can assist local governments in providing high quality have profound positive impacts on stream health ecause clean water begins with clean land, voluntee

Watershed Protection

A clean river begins with a clean watershed. Friends

of the Mississippi River has broadened its scope

In the Rice Creek Watershed, one of FMR's two

tiny stream-dwelling bugs whose presence or

data. In 2008, our volunteers exceeded our

accuracy goals, accurately identifying 96.5%

of all samples. Better still, the data shows that

recent restoration and water quality projects in

the Rice Creek Watershed District are starting to

In the Vermillion River Watershed, another target

area, FMR's 2008 Vermillion Stewards program

helped 369 volunteers contribute more than 845

hours of volunteer time protecting and preserving

local water quality. FMR organized twelve public

stewardship projects and three educational/

interpretive events at multiple sites across the

Vermillion River Watershed. These activities ranged

from invasive species removal and trout surveys to

the installation of 1,200 native prairie plants in the

Sand Coulee, a rare dry sand prairie near Hastings.

experts and took part in stewardship, education and

restoration activities that will help improve water

quality and watershed health for years to come.

The big news for FMR Watershed Protection is an

expanded water quality focus in the coming years.

FMR has broadened our scope of water quality

work to include a wide variety of local and

statewide advocacy, education and outreach

programs. FMR is now active in a number of

watershed and agency water protection and

Volunteers learned from a wide range of local

in the area.

absence in a stream is an excellent indicator of

work toward a simple goal: clean water.

have dedicated their time to improving watersheds that are critical to the health of the Mississippi River. cleanup programs, and will work with the

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on several to help local governments find water protection strategies that work for their communities. In addition to our Special Places Tours and water quality workshops, FMR continues to coordinate statewide water protection and education program.

Through our expanded Watershed Program, beautiful for generations to come.

# Supporting Organizations

### Corporations

3M Corporation Adventures in Fitness Alliance Pipeline **Aquarius Plumbing** Aveda B & C Marathon Transportation

Barr Engineering Bibelot Shops Body & Mind Chiropractic Bremer Bank Brookdale Health City of Rosemount SKB Environmenta Trust Fund Copeland Trucking Cottage Grove

Landscaping **Dunn Brothers** Eagle Bay Consulting East Lake Liquors EcoTrust Eddy's Auto & Body Repair Inc. Flint Hills Resources Garden Expressions **Goldleaf Plastics** 

Great River Energy Highland Bank Hoigaard's Lawrence Transportation Malt-O-Meal McDonagh Brothers Minneapolis Earthdance

Merlins Rest Minnesota Canoe Association Morr Construction Services, Inc. Mother Earth Gardens Clinic

Noran Neurological Northeast Bank Northern Sun Merchandising Northwest Canoe Organic Valley Midwest Otogawa-Anschel Design-Build, LLC **RBC Blue Water Project** Riverview Economic

Elmer L. & Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation Beim Foundation Beverly Foundation Bush Foundation Patrick and Aimee **Butler Family** Foundation Development The Carolyn Foundation Association Ecolab Foundation Rogers Auto Body Friends of Bruce Vento Room & Board Gabe Cyr Race Saint Paul Riverfront Corporation

Sauk Rapids Sportsmans Club SIRVA Relocation Smartwool Advocacy Fund

3M Foundation

Smead Manufacturing Co Steve's Collison Inc. Tarraf Construction Thousand Hills Cattle Company Toro Giving Program Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign

Foundation Foundations The Patchwork

Charitable Foundation Sampson Family Charitable Foundation Wallace Genetic Foundation Dare L. White & William F. White Foundation Xcel Energy Foundation

Government

Capitol Region Watershed District Hastings Public Schools City of Saint Paul

Dakota County Farmland and Natural Areas Program

Dakota County Water Resources Office Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources Metropolitan Area **Conservation Corridors** Longfellow Community

Foundation Metropolitan Council Minnesota Department Thomson Legal & of Natural Resources Regulatory Minnesota Pollution Mississippi Watershed **US Bancorp Foundation** 

Organization In Kind Watershed District Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization Washington County Land and Water

## Employer Match

Incorporated Ameriprise Financial **Burlington Northern** Santa Fe Foundation Dan McGuiness & Associates, LLC The Prudential Tennant Foundation Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation

Aggregate Industries American Canoe Association Bell Canoe Works Big River Magazine Chippewa/Premium Waters

Ben & Jerry's Foundation

Cities 97

### Hoigaard's KARE 11 Midwest Mountaineering

Eagles Nest Outfitters

Finnegans Irish Amber

Historic Fort Snelling

East Lake Liquors

Minnesota Monthly Mississippi Market Mother Earth Gardens National Park Service Patagonia Peace Coffee Pioneer Press/ TwinCities.com Sea Kayaker Sir Speedy Sisters Sludge

Coffee Café Spot Design Summit Brewing Co. Thousand Hills Cattle Company

Wenonah Canoe/ Current Designs Whole Foods Market

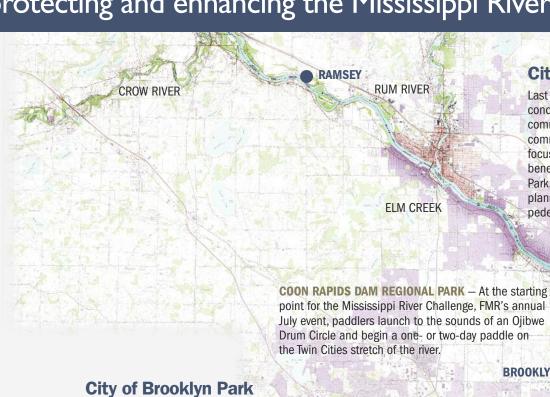
FMR meets all the accountability standards of the Charities Review

Watershed Protection 277,776

FMR is a proud member of the Minnesota Envrionmental Fund

# large-scale efforts to clean up the Mississippi River in coming years. We've also expanded our reach to cities and townships across the metro area, working the Clean Water Minnesota Media Campaign — a

FMR will continue to reach out and bring more Minnesotans face-to-face with the long-term solutions to keeping our Mississippi clean and Friends of the Mississippi River has been connecting Minnesota communities to the river and its watershed for over 15 years through education, engagement and advocacy. This map highlights only a few of the projects that FMR undertook in 2008 to further its goal of protecting and enhancing the Mississippi River and its watershed in the Twin Cities area.

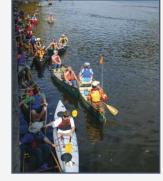


In Brooklyn Park, workshop discussion included managing the river shoreline and islands on privately owned land through technical assistance and costshare programs, improving river trails and access, maintaining neighborhood character and the need to update the city's critical area ordinance.



## St. Anthony Falls Drawdown

On a bitterly cold day in February, some 200+ people attended tours of a pool drawdown at St. Anthony Falls organized by FMR and the National Park Service. The drawdown is an unusual event that only occurs when it is necessary for lock, dam



## **Gorge Paddle**

In October 2008, paddlers traveled six miles through the only true gorge on the Mississippi River and experienced an urban wilderness at the peak of fall foliage colors. Along the way, FMR staff and the National Park Service rangers provided interpretation of the history, ecology and



In 2008 Gorge Stewards programs involved approximately 1,500 people in educational programs and volunteer events. Highlights of the season included bringing 350 people to the gorge for the annual Minneapolis Earth Day Watershed Clean Up, training and facilitating the innaugural Gorge Stewards Leadership Team and adding a new focus area at Crosby Park in St. Paul.



**BROOKLYN PARK** 

Last year FMR and National Park Service staff conducted workshops with local decision-makers, commission members and citizens in four river communities. In the City of Ramsey, discussion focused on creating a river destination that will benefit from the new Mississippi West Regional Park, and plans to connect the river and park to the planned town center and transit station with a pedestrian bridge over Highway 10.

RICE CREEK

**City of Ramsey** 



**Rice Creek Initiative** 

St. Paul Storm Drain Stenciling

distributing education materials in the City of St. Paul.

**FMR Offices** 

1,367 people contributed 2,795 hours to the stenciling program

in 2008, painting educational messages near storm drains and

Rice Creek is an important tributary to the

Mississippi River where thoughtful action now can

make a big difference in protecting water quality.

FMR has made the Rice Creek Watershed one of

two key focus areas in our Watershed Initiative

### **Rice Creek SHEP**

Data collected in 2008 by the 30 volunteers in the Rice Creek Stream Health Evaluation Program (SHEP) showed that recent restoration and water quality projects in the Rice Creek Watershed District are starting to have profound positive impacts on stream health in the area. SHEP was designed in partnership with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Minnesota Waters. The program utilizes trained volunteers to evaluate the biological health of streams by sampling benthic macroinvertebrates —

## Rice Creek Paddle

In May 2008, FMR and Anoka County Parks guided a paddle on Rice Creek, an important tributary to the Mississippi River that flows through the northern suburbs.

More than just great scenery, the event was a preview of the newly formed Rice Creek Water Trail, which runs from the Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Regional Park Preserve through to the Mississippi River in Fridley.



## **Crosby Park Restoration**

Work was completed on a new interpretive prairie in 2008, which included planting, watering, and mulching almost 1,000 native prairie plants as part of a restoration project in partnership with St. Paul Parks and Recreation, funded by Capitol Region Watershed District. This 4-acre floodplain prairie restoration does double duty: not only does it help clean polluted runoff before it enters the river, but it serves as a demonstration prairie to help visitors learn about watershed-friendly landscaping.

## **City of Cottage Grove**

In fast-growing Cottage Grove, workshop participants expressed interest in developing stronger connections from the city to the river, bluff, islands and natural areas that are mostly privately owned. Much of our discussion focused on Lower Grey Cloud Island, which will see a land use change from mining to something else in the coming decades.

## Freitag Property

A large and ecologically important riverfront property was protected in 2008 by a partnership that included the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Dakota County Farmland and Natural Areas Program, the City of Hastings and FMR. The 300-acre Freitag property — located near the confluence of the Mississippi, Vermillion and St. Croix rivers — serves as the western terminus of the extensive Vermillion-Cannon Rivers floodplain complex that parallels the Mississippi River from Hastings to Red Wing.

**City of Hastings** 

In outreach meetings FMR and National Park Service staff conducted with local decision makers, commission members and citizens in Hastings, the focus was on the historic downtown area. With a new Highway 61 bridge coming online, there could be numerous opportunities for the City to reshape its riverfront and expand connections to downtown through parks and trails.

GREY CLOUD ISLAND - Two-day paddlers of the Mississippi River Challenge finish their amazing journey by coming around the final bend to a large cove and taking out on a beach at Grey Cloud Island mid-afternoon on the last Sunday of July.

**VERMILLION RIVER** 

## Sand Coulee SNA

HISTORIC

HASTINGS

DOWNTOWN

dry prairie in Marshan Township, is well on its way to providing better habitat to its native prairie denizens after restoration efforts, including prescribed burns and the removal of a 4-acre stand of red pine. It is hoped that these improvements will help to ensure survival of the many rare plant and animal species found at the site.

## **Gorge Leadership Team**

The Gorge Stewards Leadership Team was formed in 2008 with funding from the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization. The 21 members of the Gorge Leadership Team each committed to volunteering at least 25 hours in the gorge in 2008. The team carried out a variety of tasks associated with caring for the mesic prairie and remnant oak brushland/ woodland that is being restored to an oak savanna near 36th Avenue and West River Parkway in Minneapolis. This involved removing invasive species, such as buckthorn, reed canary grass and sweet clover. Volunteers also helped in existing plantings by weeding and watering during the dry period last summer and seeded the area toward the end of the season.

FORT SNELLING STATE PARK & HISTORIC FORT SNELLING - Paddlers take out on the beach in the state park, hike up the bluff to the historic fort, and are joined by friends and family for a night of great food and drink, live music, historic re-enactments and more at this mid-point of the Mississippi River Challenge.

MINNEHAHA CREEK

**OAK SAVANNA** 

## **Pine Bend Bluffs SNA** The Pine Bend Bluffs Natural Area in Dakota County

encompasses nearly 1,300 acres of very high biodiversity habitat at the bend of the Mississippi River, which is one of the most significant migratory bird routes in the world. FMR's ecological restoration efforts, begun in 1999, progressed in 2008 with removal of non-native shrubs at Pine Bend Bluffs SNA. The results provide expansive views of the river for people and improved habitat for birds and other wildlife.

PINE BEND

FLINT HILLS

**BLUFFS SNA** 

82 volunteers contributed 2,293 hours of internal support,

including office volunteers, board members and interns.

## Pine Bend - Flint Hills Resources

In 2008, the ninth year of FMR's partnership with Flint Hills Resources, FMR and Great River Greening conducted restoration activities on Flint Hills Resources' native and rare sand-gravel prairies and oak savanna, and within the property's woodland.



## **Vermillion Watershed**

The Vermillion River is an important tributary to the Mississippi River, and is one of two key focus areas in our Watershed Initiative. FMR's 2008 Vermillion Stewards program helped 369 volunteers contribute more than 845 hours of volunteer time protecting and preserving local water quality. FMR organized twelve public stewardship projects and three educational/interpretive events at multiple sites across the Vermillion River Watershed.





memory of Paul Wright · Fran Shepardson in memory of Paul Wright · Roger Roffler Memorial Fund: James & Janet Borgschatz, Tara Borgschatz, Vivia

accuracy. If you identify an error or omission, please contact us at 651-222-2193 x20. Thank you for your support!

The individuals and organizations listed here made contributions of \$50 or more to Friends of the Mississippi River during 2008. We make every effort to ensure

Thank You Donors \$1,000 and up Anonymous · Sharon & Terry Avent · The Walter S.

ell · Sandee Blanchard & Dan Smith · Terry Brueck & Kathryn Mitchell · Ellen Butler · Steve Christenson & Lisa Hondros · Tom & Ellie Crosby · Bruce & Ruth Dayton · Edward & Sherry Ann Dayton · Lisa Doerr & Ron Erickson · Joe Dowling & Siobhan Cleary · David Durenberger · Forrest & Lisa Flint · Jon Hemp · Mary Hilfiker · Tony & Diane Hofstede · Kathy & John Junek · Art & Martha Kaemmer · Donald & Phyllis Kahn · Joan Kreider · Peggy & David Lucas · Perry

McGowan & Sheila Smith · Lynn & Tim Moratzka · Bill Newman · Steve Novak · Jim Nystrom · Matt Schuerger · Gerald Seck · Kate Smith · Kathy Stack Sue Vento · Scott Vreeland & Lorie Bergstrom **\$100 to \$499** Anonymous · Eunice Abresch · Paul & Peggy Adelmann · Alfred & Dorothee Aeppli Courtney Ahlers · Clifton Aichinger · Erick Ajax & Kristen Olsen · John Albers · Stacey Aldrich · Bill Allen · Michael Alter · Charles Anderson · Mike Anderson · Craig Andresen · Nancy Andrews · John Anfinson · Scott Appelwick & Edward Sootsman · Tony & Colleen Armlin · Mary Kay Arthur · Brett Astor and William Waltz · Peter Bachman & Janet Rice · Kristen Baertsch · Walter & Virginia Bailey · Vivian Bardwell & David Zarkower · Wendy Barron · Ms. Claire L. Barry · Marlys Barry · Jeff Barum · Tony & Kathy Bassett · Brian Beaubien · Michelle Beeman & Barbara Tretheway · Bruce Behm · Chad Beitler · Benessere Body

in Balance · Harrison & Patti Benjamin · Chuck Bennett · Toby Bent · Charlie Betz & Sue Magdalene · Ellen Biales · Eric Biederman · Pamela Bilovesky · John & Judi Blomquist · Daniel Boyer · Martha Brand & Gerald Rosen · David Brasel & Andrew Haukebo · Chris Bray · Adam Brewer · Clifton Brittain & Margare

Ladner · Kris Brodersen & Sharon Kimble · Ernest Brody · Raina Brody · Ronnie & Roger Brooks · Andy & LuAnn Brown · Linda Bruemmer · Steve Bubul & Lee Lewis · Mark Bundgaard · Andrew Burgdorf · Roy Burt · Robert Bussell · Mary Cady & Steve McCauley · Ann Calvert · Candace Campbell · Cory & Ellen

Campbell · Hugh Campbell · Rolf Carlsen · Gregory Carlson · H. Mead & June Cavert · Bruce Chamberlain & Melissa Mrachek · Natalie Chapman · Laurie Chasteen & Gary Douglas Laurent · Helen Yvonne Cheek · Jean Chesley · Eric Christensen · Heather Christensen · Hazel Christenson · Janet & Robert

Christianson Jr · Bill & Sharon Clapp · Merritt Clapp-Smith · Whitney & Sarah Clark · Barry Clegg & Roberta Swanson · Deborah Clemmensen · Naomi Cohi & Ray Phillips · Ken Collier · Patti Combs · Beverly Conerton · Kathy Connelly & Carolyn Sampson · Mr. Andrew N. Cook · Sue Cornelius · Hans W. Courant

A Ray Prillings - Netr Collier - Patu Cornos - Beverly Confertor - Rathy Corner - Rathy Collier - Patu Cornos - See Cornellos - Rathy Courant - Bay & Page Cowles - John & Sage Cowles - Rebecca & Scott Cramer - Mary & John Crampton - Paul & Georgia Crockett - John & Laura Crosby - Brewster Crosby - Andre Crouch - Ms. Lisa Cumpston - Andrew Currie - Marianne D'Angelo - Austin Damiani - Chris Davis - Mary Ann Davis - Douglas & Wendy Dayton - Paul & Cy De Cosse - Dave Dempsey - Gary Derethik - Bernice Dickson - Paul Dietl - Ron & Barb Dody - Scott Dohmen - Ruth Olson & Don Magnuson - Kristine Dooley - Mr. David Douglas - George Dunn & Donna Harris - Louis Dzierzak - Julia Eagles - Christy Edwards - Holly Einess - Mr. Robert Ellis - Van Horn Ely -

Brett Emmons · Durwood Engelking · Matt Entenza & Lois Quam · Cheryl Epps · Theresa Evans · Tom & Lorraine Evans · Nick Faber · Donna Feidt · Nancy & Robert Feldman · Mrs. Margy Filson · Bonita Fisher · Vincent Fogarty · Dallas Fogg · Kathryn Foley · Clare Fossum · Bill Fox · Aaron Fox · Gail Fraser · Brad Frederiksen · Alan Fredregill · Nita & Mike Fronk · Elizabeth Frost · Andrew Fuller · Susan Funk & Wood Kidner · Joan Furlong & Randy Strobel · Katie

Galloway Thoele & Owen Thoele · Hans Gasterland · Erin Gerba · Mr. & Mrs. R. James Gesell · Helen Gilbert · Randy Gillenwaters · Dan Gjelten & Lisa Burke · Stephnine Glanz-Vasquez · Ms. Siana Goodwin · Lisa Gorsch · Nancy Gove · Tony B Graham · Kerry Gray · Tim & Julie Griffin · Matthew Grigal · Ted & Michele Grindal · Anne Marie Gromme · Michael Guest · Karen Gutierrez · Tracy Hadley · Mary Hall · Jon & Diane Hallberg · Steve Hamilton · Luther Hamilton McCloud · Jenna Hannigan · Krista Harris · Adam Harrison · Eric Hart · R.E. & J.P. Haselow · Colleen Haviland · Jim & Joan Hayden · Bud & Carol Hayden · Kathryn & James Haymaker · David Hedlund · William Hefner · Diane & John Herman · Ellen Herman & Chrispian Shelton · Bernie Hesse · Phil Heywood &

Paula Vollmar-Heywood · Thomas R. Hiendlmayr & Jan Ormasa · Richard Higgins · Marjean Hoeft · Susan & Charlie Hoffman · Eric Hoggard · Karla Hollinshear · Randall Holmes · Eric Holt · Jennifer Holtorf · Max Horn · Michael Hreha · Patsy & Bob Huberty · Julia & Eric Hynnek · Mari B. Ito · Harriet Iwamoto · Davis

& Sharon Jasper · Mark Jay · Susu Jeffrey · Karen & Marc Jenkins · Shotsy & Ward Johnson · Steven & Debbie Johnson · Marion Johnson · Jim Johnson · Mary E. & Barry J. Johnson · Timothy Johnson · Roger & Louise Jones · Irene Jones · Mary & Mike Kallok · Brian Kantar · Robert Kastan · Thomas & Marlene Kayser

Kubokawa & Conchita Davis · Edward Kuch · Cynthia & Dave Kunz · Paul & Susan Labovitz · Kristen Lafavor · Darren Lake · John Lampe & Nikki Newman Steven Landberg · Jeanne C. Landkamer · Amy Larson · Brad Larson & Jennifer Johnson · Greg Lecker · Stephen Lee · Kristine Legler Kaplan · Gretche

eiterman · Cara Letofsky & Jim Davnie · Rand Levy · Glenn Lewis · James Lewis · Jeanne Lewis · George Logan · Paul & Cindy Lorah · Ed Loss · Keith Loss Robert Loss · Susan Louris · Tim Louris · Jane Lufkin · Felicity Lufkin · Thomas Lufkin · Mike Lynch · Charles & Rebecca Lyon · Mary MacDonald · David

Keith Keeling · John Kehr · Martin & Esther Kellogg · Rich Keppers · John & Lynda Kern · Bruce Kessel · Bryce & Sherie Kilene · Sheila Kim · Joe Kinard Chuck King · Adam Kirst · Thomas Kleven · Ann & Paul Kloth · Julie Klovstad · Ms Patricia L. Koors · Ken Kozachok · Steve Kozachok · John Kraft · James





The 78-acre Hastings Sand Coulee Scientific and Natural Area, a rare

COULEE