

Deer-Vehicle Crash Information and Research Center (DVCIR Center) Research Progress Report for the Quarter Ending December 31, 2012

Pooled Fund Program Number: TPF-5(120)	Part: II Research and Development
Project Title: Deer-Vehicle Crash Information and Research Center	Project IDs (Internal): 402531, 402521 (TTI Prime Contract and UMN Subcontract)
Technical and Administrative Contact: Keith Knapp, UMN Center for Excellence in Rural Safety	Sponsors: IA, CT, MD, MN, NH, NY, OH, TX, WI, and FHWA
FHWA Lead Agency Contact: Bill Ostrum, FHWA	Approved Starting Date: 3/19/07 (Admin. Contract) Approved Ending Date: 3/19/09 (Admin. Contract) Extension Approved: 3/19/10 (Admin. Contract)

Description: The Deer-Vehicle Crash Information and Research Center (DVCIR Center) was created to continue the tasks being completed by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation multi-state Deer-Vehicle Crash Information Center (DVCIC). The center will also fund research projects as defined by the participating pooled fund members. A commitment of \$10,000 to \$25,000 per year and a two-year involvement were requested for participation. Committed funds (per www.pooledfund.org) currently total \$330,000 and include \$50,000 from MN, NY, OH, WI, and IA. WI has also provided the project with the use of their DVCIC website (www.deercrash.com). An additional \$10,000 and \$20,000 has been committed by CT and MD, respectively, and \$25,000 added by NH and TX. A total of \$50,000 in match funds is also being pursued from FHWA. Potential second year funds for participation from several states in year two of the project could total about \$35,000.

Two 2-year contracts (now extended), totaling \$130,000, were initiated between TTI and the FHWA (the lead agency) on March 19, 2007 for the continuation of DVCIC activities and administration activities of the DVCIR Center. Subcontracts have been negotiated between TTI and the University of Minnesota (UMN) and were completed in the first quarter of 2009. A no-cost extension to the contract (to account for the last year of no charging) was finalized in March 2009. The contract has been extended to March 2010. Contracts for the completion of the research portion of the project with the remaining available funds (\$200,000 with the potential for another \$35,000) will follow in individual research contracts. The kick-off meeting for the pooled fund was January 30, 2007. The first kickoff meeting was not funded by the pooled fund but by the Southwest University Transportation Research Center. A second meeting was held October 2007.

The lead agency of this pooled fund is currently the Federal Highway Administration Office of Project Development and Environmental Review.

Progress This Quarter:

The following activities have occurred between October 1 and December 31, 2012:

- DVC Pooled Fund Advisory Committee contact list was updated
- The Advisory Committee reconvened for a conference call
- Two final reports have been reviewed and approved: Methods to Identify and Prioritize Deer-Vehicle Crash Locations: Final Report (March), Deer-Vehicle Crash, Ecological and Economic Impacts of Reduced Roadside Mowing – Final Report (May)
- Discussions have begun with Iowa DOT regarding updating the deercrash.org website with new research information

Approximate Percentage of Project Complete: The vast majority of the original pooled fund budget has been spent. The remaining funds in the pooled fund account will be used to update the deercrash.org website.

Work Next Quarter (January to March 2012):

- Begin updates to deercrash.org website including posting the two studies mentioned above.
- Establish Advisory Committee goals for 2012
- Continue Quarterly conference calls
- Continue discussions regarding additional funding opportunities or establish timetable for closing existing pooled fund.
- Establish method of tracking the funds spent on the research contracts would be developed.

Circumstances affecting progress/budget:

- The Advisory Committee had not met in two years. The contact list needed to be updated to reflect changes in personnel at numerous DOTs. This issue has been resolved and the list updated.
- Exact remaining funding has yet to be determined. This should be resolved in the coming weeks.