



Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources.  
Minutes.

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July 2002

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES  
PRAIRIE WOODS ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER  
12718 – 10<sup>TH</sup> STREET NE  
SPICER, MN 56288  
PHONE: 320-354-5894  
THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2002**

**AGENDA**

**9:00 a.m.     Call Meeting to Order**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Adopt Agenda**

**Minutes of June 26, 2002**

**Open Mike (10-minute agenda time, two-minute limit/person)**

**Reports**

- Chair – Lee Coe
- Executive Director – Ron Harnack
- Dispute Resolution Committee – Lee Coe
- Wetlands Committee – Darrell Bruggman
- Cost-Share/Soil Conservation Committee – Dwain Otte
- Education and Public Relations Committee – Paul Krabbenhoft
- Administrative Advisory Committee – Lee Coe

**Agency Reports**

- Department of Agriculture – Sharon Clark
- Department of Health – Bruce Olsen
- Department of Natural Resources – Steve Morse
- Minnesota Extension Service – Jim Anderson
- Pollution Control Agency – Lisa Thorvig

**New Business**

1. Lake of the Woods SWCD Resolution to Change Supervisor Boundaries – Ron Harnack – DECISION
2. Review and Decision of EQB Water Resources Priorities for the 2004-05 Biennium – Ron Harnack – INFORMATION

3. General Discussion of Budget Reduction Implications for Local Governments and Local Soil and Water Resources Program Implementation – Ron Harnack - INFORMATION

**Advisory Comments**

- Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) – Dave Weirens
- Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees (MACDE) – Tim Gieseke
- Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) – LeAnn Buck
- Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) – Sandy Hooker
- Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) – Ray Bohn
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – Tim Koehler

**Upcoming Meetings**

- Next BWSR Meeting, August 28, St. Paul
- BWSR Meeting, September 25, in conjunction with the Local Water Planners Conference, September 23-25, Hinckley

12:00 p.m.

Adjourn





DATE: July 16, 2002  
TO: Board of Water and Soil Resources Members, Advisors, and Staff  
FROM: Ronald D. Harnack, Executive Director *RDH*  
SUBJECT: July 24-25 BWSR Tour and Meeting

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will tour Kandiyohi County on Wednesday, July 24, 2002. See attached tour itinerary. We will gather in the lobby of the Comfort Inn in Willmar (2100 East Highway 12 – behind the Holiday Inn) at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday. Welcome and introductions will begin at 8:05 a.m. The coach bus will promptly depart from the Comfort Inn at 8:30 a.m. for a tour of Kandiyohi County. The coach bus will return to the Comfort Inn at 2:30 p.m. A roundtable discussion will be held at the Holiday Inn, in the "Gallery 5" Room, from 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

An informal social hour will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the "Blue Heron" Restaurant (on the golf course) in Willmar. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. in the "Rookery Room". From the Holiday Inn, take a left onto Highway 12 to the first stop light (Lakeland Drive), take a right. Go over the railroad tracks to the stop sign. Go left, across traffic, curve right onto Highway 71. You'll see the "Golf Course" sign – turn left onto County Road 24. The "Blue Heron" Restaurant is on your right.

A block of sleeping rooms have been reserved for the nights of Tuesday, July 23 and Wednesday, July 24, at the Comfort Inn in Willmar. Attached is the list of room reservations. The rooms have been direct billed (you do not pay for them), unless noted on the rooming list. If you do not need a room reservation, please contact Mary Jo Anderson (651-297-4290) immediately. A complimentary continental breakfast is included with the room reservation.

The Board of Water and Soil Resources will meet on Thursday, July 25, at 9:00 a.m. at the Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center (PWELC) in Spicer. From Willmar, travel 10-12 miles north of Willmar on Highway 71 to County Road 29. The intersection is at the north end of Ringo Lake which is on the west side of Highway 71. Turn left (west) on County Road 29. At this point it is 1-1/4 miles to the PWELC main entrance. Follow Country Road 29 generally west. It will make a sweeping right-hand curve. After the curve you will be traveling north. On your left you will see a gravel drive with a double green farm gate. You will also see a large brown and yellow sign – Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center, take a left into the driveway and follow it to the parking lot. The meeting will be held in the upper building, the "Westby Observatory".

|                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Bemidji</b><br>3217 Bemidji Avenue N.<br>Bemidji, MN 56601<br>phone (218) 755-4235<br>fax (218) 755-4201 | <b>Brainerd</b><br>217 S. 7th Street<br>Suite 202<br>Brainerd, MN 56401<br>phone (218) 828-2383<br>fax (218) 828-6036 | <b>Duluth</b><br>394 S. Lake Avenue<br>Room 403<br>Duluth, MN 55802<br>phone (218) 723-4752<br>fax (218) 723-4794 | <b>Fergus Falls</b><br>413 W. Stanton Avenue<br>Fergus Falls, MN 56537<br>phone (218) 736-5445<br>fax (218) 736-7215 | <b>Marshall</b><br>1400 E. Lyon Street<br>Box 267<br>Marshall, MN 56258<br>phone (507) 537-6060<br>fax (507) 537-6368 | <b>New Ulm</b><br>261 Highway 15 S.<br>New Ulm, MN 56073<br>phone (507) 359-6074<br>fax (507) 359-6018 | <b>Rochester</b><br>40 16th Street S.E.<br>Suite A<br>Rochester, MN 55904<br>phone (507) 285-7458<br>fax (507) 280-2875 | <b>Saint Paul</b><br>One West Water Street<br>Suite 250<br>Saint Paul, MN 55107<br>phone (651) 282-9969<br>fax (651) 284-0000 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The following information pertains to the agenda items:

#### New Business

1. Lake of the Woods SWCD Resolution to Change Supervisor Boundaries: The Lake of the Woods SWCD Board of Supervisors passed a resolution on June 13, 2002, to change the supervisor nominating areas. Effective June 14, 2002, the Lake of the Woods County Commissioner district boundary lines were redrawn. The Lake of the Woods SWCD desires to keep the supervisor boundaries the same as the county commissioner boundaries, which passage of this resolution by the Board would accomplish. The attached certification of the Nomination District Resolution is in order. As similar situations arise where county commissioner boundaries are changed and SWCD's that have been using the county commissioner districts for nominating supervisors wish to continue doing so, it would be desirable for the Executive Director to certify nomination district resolutions without Board approval each time. Therefore, staff recommend the Board pass a resolution that allows the Executive Director to certify SWCD nomination district resolutions when the SWCD nomination districts are being changed from the previous county commissioner district boundaries to the new county commissioner boundaries. DECISION
2. Review and Decision of EQB Water Resources Priorities for the 2004-05 Biennium – You can access it at: <http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/eqb/pdf/2002/WaterUnificationFinal.pdf>  
INFORMATION
3. General Discussion of Budget Reduction Implications for Local Governments and Local Soil and Water Resources Program Implementation. INFORMATION

Staff have posted a new Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) status map to our website depicting the season and year that county water plans expire. You can access it at:  
<http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/watermgmt/complocalwatermgmt/cntywaterplan.pdf>

This version uses colors making it easier to read on the screen or a color print out, but doesn't necessarily print out well in black and white. There will always be an up-to-date copy on the website for you to access.

If you have any questions regarding the agenda, please feel free to give me a call. If you have any questions regarding accommodations for the Board tour and meeting, please contact Mary Jo Anderson at 651-297-4290. I look forward to seeing you in Willmar!

## Tour Itinerary

Sites for BWSR tour of Kandiyohi County on July 24, 2002

1. Willmar High School, Dovre, 36, erosion control structure
2. Steve Halvorson, Green Lake, 19, erosion control structure, multi-purpose dam
3. Dennis Peterson, Green Lake, 6, farmstead windbreak and filter fabric
4. City of Spicer, Green Lake, 3, gabion wall and rock rip rap
5. Robert Brauchler, Roseville, 10, living snow fence and filter fabric
6. Terry Schaefer, Roseville, 3, erosion and water control structures; farmstead windbreak
7. Fred Roguske, Roseville, 9, hybrid poplar tree planting
8. Oliver Rolfhus, Roseville, 19, nitrate ag well
9. Alan Olson, Colfax, 33, ag waste pit
10. Brian Olson/Dan Strootman, Norway Lake, 26, erosion control structure
11. Hamborg/Freese, Norway Lake, 35, wetland restorations (CREP)
12. Audrey Rudningen, Norway lake, 35, native seedings, wetland restorations, tree planting (CREP)
13. Doug Willner, Arctander, 2, native seedings, wetland restorations, tree planting, filter fabric (CREP)
14. Norway Lake, Norway Lake, 36, water quality & erosion control structure/sheet pile structure
15. Norway Lake (Mark Solberg), Lake Andrew, 6, rip rap shoreline stabilization and erosion control
16. Phillip Hatlestad, Lake Andrew, 8, buffer strips (CREP)
17. Sherman Mankell, Lake Andrew, 17, native grass seeding (CREP)
18. RIM Memorial, Mamre, 26 & 27, native grasses, wetland restoration (CREP)
19. Manfred Akerson, Mamre, 27, native grasses, wetland restoration, tree plantings (CREP)
20. Curtney Carlson, Mamre, 33, ag waste pit
21. Larry Thiery, Willmar, 7, native grasses, tree plantings, wetland restoration, (CREP)
22. Erwin Rau, Willmar, 7, native grasses, tree plantings, wetland restoration
23. Ridgewater College, Willmar, 4, rock waterway, various tree plantings
24. Grass Lake Restoration Project

**Comfort Inn**  
**2100 East Highway 12**  
**Willmar, MN 56201**  
**Phone: 320-231-2601**

**BWSR Rooming List**

**Tuesday, July 23**

1. Jim Anderson\*\*\*
2. Mary Jo Anderson
3. Darrell Bruggman
4. Sharon Clark\*\*\*
5. Lee Coe
6. Jerome Deal (smoking room)
7. Tom Fischer
8. Jack Frost
9. Karen Harder
10. Ron Harnack
11. Chris Hughes
12. Ginny Imholte
13. Char Kahler (smoking room)
14. Paul Krabbenhoft
15. Steve Morse\*\*\*
16. Clair Nelson
17. Jeff Nielsen
18. Victor Ormsby
19. Dwain Otte
20. Carla Swanson-Cullen
21. Lisa Thorvig\*\*\*

**Wednesday, July 24**

1. Jim Anderson\*\*\*
2. Mary Jo Anderson
3. Darrell Bruggman
4. Sharon Clark\*\*\*
5. Lee Coe
6. Jerome Deal
7. Tom Fischer
8. Jack Frost
9. Karen Harder
10. Ron Harnack
11. Chris Hughes
12. Ginny Imholte
13. Char Kahler
14. Paul Krabbenhoft
15. Steve Morse\*\*\*
16. Clair Nelson
17. Jeff Nielsen
18. Victor Ormsby
19. Dwain Otte
20. Carla Swanson-Cullen
21. Lisa Thorvig\*\*\*

\*\*\* will pay for room upon arrival

Revised 7/15/02

Dispute Resolution Report  
July 11, 2002

There are presently nine appeals pending. All of the appeals involve WCA.

The most recent appeal is of an exemption determination in the City of Zumbrota. The appeal will likely be held in abeyance as it is remanded to the Goodhue SWCD since a TEP was not held and a staff individual made the decision.

Another appeal is of a replacement plan in the City of Albertville in Wright County. The appeal is in abeyance since it has been remanded to the city because a TEP was not held.

There are two appeals of a replacement plan approval in Brooklyn Center for a highway project. The Shingle Creek WMO made the WCA decision. Both appeals have been accepted, a pre-hearing was held and a hearing is scheduled for September 9.

There is an appeal of the Board's remand to Mower County regarding a landfill site. Under remand, the county denied an application for no-loss. The appeal has been accepted and a pre-hearing was held on April 11. The appeal is in abeyance since the appellants have filed a new WCA application and are waiting for a decision on the new application before proceeding with the appeal.

Another appeal is of an exemption determination in Hennepin County. The appeal involves a horse barn that is already built. The appeal has been accepted, a pre-hearing was held and a hearing is scheduled for September 9.

Another appeal involves the Board's remand to McLeod County. Under remand, the county approved an agricultural exemption. The appeal has been accepted, a pre-hearing was held and a hearing is scheduled for September 9.

Another appeal is of a replacement plan denial in Stearn's County. The appeal involves a single family dwelling site near the Mississippi River. The appeal has been accepted, a pre-hearing was held and the appeal is in abeyance as settlement is explored.

Another appeal involves a wetland banking site in Chisago County. The appeal has been accepted and is being held in abeyance to see how the site looks this summer.

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES  
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PHONE: 320-354-5894  
THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2002**

**PRELIMINARY AGENDA**

**9:00 a.m.     Call Meeting to Order**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Adopt Agenda**

**Minutes of June 26, 2002**

**Open Mike (10-minute agenda time, two-minute limit/person)**

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**Upcoming Meetings**

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- BWSR Meeting, September 25, in conjunction with the Local Water Planners Conference, September 23-25, Hinckley

12:00 p.m.

Adjourn

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Lake of the Woods SWCD  
Resolution to Change Supervisor  
Boundaries  
DECISION



**COPY**

**Nomination Districts Resolution**

REVISED

Be it resolved by the Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors that pursuant to M.S. 103C.311, the district be divided into five areas for nominating candidates for the positions of Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors to be elected at large as follows:

| <u>District</u> | <u>Description of Boundaries</u>                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I               | West Baudette and that portion of the Baudette Township lying East of C.R. #75.                                                                                                   |
| II              | East Baudette, Gudrid Township, Rapid River Township, UT 157-30, UT 158-30, Boone Township, Swiftwater Township, and Kiel Township.                                               |
| III             | Walhalla Township, Potamo Township, Rulien Township, Victory Township, Forest Area, Spooner Township, that portion of McDougald Township lying South of S.T.H. #11, and Williams. |
| IV              | Wheeler Township, Wabanica Township, that portion of McDougald Township lying North of S.T.H. #11, and that portion of Baudette Township lying West of C.R. #75.                  |
| V               | Lakewood Township, Prosper Township, Zippel Township, Myhre Township, Chilgren Township, Northwest Angle and Islands, and Roosevelt.                                              |

I, Lynn Hilbrand, Secretary of the Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District, do hereby certify that the above resolution relating to the division of the Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation district into five nominating areas was adopted by the said District Supervisors at a regular meeting held on June 13, 2002, that I have compared the above copy with the original resolution as set forth in the minutes of said meeting, and it is a true and correct copy of and transcript from said original and the whole thereof. I further certify that said meeting of the Board was duly called and held, that a quorum of members of said Board was present thereat, and that said resolution was duly adopted thereat by a vote of five to zero of the members present.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District

Be it resolved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources that the division of the Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District into five nominating areas as set forth in the above resolution adopted by the supervisors of said district on June 13, 2002, is hereby approved.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Executive Director of the Board and Water and Soil Resources, do hereby certify that I have compared the above copy of resolution relating to the division of the Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District into five nominating areas adopted by said Board at a regular meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2002, with the original and the whole thereof. I further certify that said meeting of said Board was duly called and held, that a quorum of members of said Board was present thereat, and that the said resolution was duly adopted thereat by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ of the members present.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Director  
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Filed \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2002.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Auditor  
Lake of the Woods County

## **NEW BUSINESS**

2. Review and Decision of EQB  
Water Resources Priorities for  
the 2004-05 Biennium  
INFORMATION

June 26, 2002

To: Governor Jesse Ventura

Fr: Dean Barkley, Acting Chair  
Environmental Quality Board

Re: Environmental Quality Board Priorities for the Biennial Budget

The Governor's Water Unification Initiative (Executive Order 99-15) and Minnesota Statutes call for the Environmental Quality Board to determine the state's water priorities and to set the framework for water-related elements of the biennial budget. Pursuant to your order and state law, and following a thorough process of public involvement, the Board approved five priorities at its June 20, 2002 meeting:

- Improve the monitoring and assessment of Minnesota's waters
- Help agriculture protect, restore and enhance Minnesota's waters
- Manage water for smart growth
- Take new steps to protect Minnesota's lakes
- Secure stable financing for Minnesota's waters

The Board also found it important, should further cuts be required, to maintain key elements of the infrastructure of the state's water program. The key elements are:

- The ability to monitor and understand Minnesota's water resources and important threats to them
- Water-related data management and information sharing tools and expertise
- Integrity of the basic water regulatory program

While a number of factors must be considered in determining the biennial budget, the priorities represent a key step to securing Minnesota's environmental and economic future. Accordingly, we recommend that this framework be used by the Department of Finance and state agencies as they develop the next budget over the coming months. The attached document, "Water Priorities for the 2004-2005 Biennium" provides additional detail about the Board's priorities.

Thank you for your leadership on these issues.

Attachment

G:\EQB\WATER\WaterUnification\Policy Report 2002\Biennial Priorities\EQB  
Approval\BiennialPrioritiesMemoII John 6-25-02.rtf

cc: Pam Wheelock, Commissioner of Finance  
Craig Johnson, Governor's Office

## *Water Priorities for the 2004-05 Biennium*

Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103A.43 and 103B.151 direct the Environmental Quality Board to prepare water policy recommendations and priorities each biennium. The Governor's executive order on water unification, Order 99-15, requires that the board's assessment be used to determine the administration's water priorities and policies for the biennial budget.

The Environmental Quality Board finds that the following priorities represent a key step to securing Minnesota's environmental and economic future. They are intended to build upon the existing framework of water programs, and in some cases fill gaps inadvertently created by budget cuts of the last decade. Should additional cuts in the state's water program be required, the priorities can aid in making those tough choices. If viable funding alternatives can be agreed upon, counterproductive cuts should be reduced.

If future cuts must be made, the state must take care to retain a few key, core elements of the water program. These are necessary to safeguard the quality and availability of Minnesota's drinking waters and its fish and wildlife in the face of a growing population. They are key to protecting Minnesota's investment in water. The elements include:

**First, the ability to monitor and understand Minnesota's water resources and important threats to it.** This requires an adequate network of water monitoring stations to define ambient quality, record the effects of pollutants, understand pollutant sources, and understand the effectiveness of practices to address problems. It also requires understanding of water availability and the geologic and land use characteristics that profoundly influence and affect water.

**Second, water-related data management and information sharing tools and expertise.** These are essential ingredients to capturing the information, linking water quality, availability and land use, and informing decision-makers at every level of government.

**Third, integrity of the basic water regulatory program.** The regulatory program for water quality and availability provides a safety net to ensure basic protection of the resource from those who might not appreciate the effect of their actions, or who might not care. It includes rule development and standard setting, permitting, compliance monitoring and program administration, outreach and evaluation. These activities provide the backbone of Minnesota's water protection and management system, and must be kept effective.

To tap opportunities to protect Minnesota's water resources and to rebuild essential elements, the Environmental Quality Board finds that the state must:

■ **Improve the monitoring and assessment of Minnesota's waters.** Like trying to read a book in the dark, we can't manage what we don't measure. Over a decade after passage of the Ground Water Protection Act we still cannot tell people much about the trends in nitrate contamination of ground water. That is just one example. This priority supports water monitoring initiatives essential for basic support of the water program, including ambient monitoring of ground water sufficient to characterize the quality and availability of this valuable source of much of the state's drinking water; geologic atlases and regional hydrogeologic assessments in areas of the state at risk or under pressure; surface water monitoring sufficient to inform state efforts to control or manage point and nonpoint sources of contamination; and basic information management technology and information systems needed to integrate, assess and share data collected by a wide range of agencies and individuals.

■ **Help agriculture protect, restore and enhance Minnesota's waters.** Row crop agriculture takes place on about 40 percent of Minnesota's land surface. This percentage is much higher in the Minnesota and Lower Mississippi river basins. Animal confinement facilities are also prevalent in these areas. This priority will build on the federal 2002 Farm Security and Rural Improvement Act to enhance the sustainability of Minnesota's agricultural industry. It will target conservation efforts to critical areas, including highly erosive lands, watersheds with set total maximum daily loads (i.e., TMDLs), source water protection area needs, and areas sensitive to ground water contamination. Targeting may require and allow shifts in the allocation of state resources, both to ensure effective use of federal funds and to give needed state attention to other priorities. Another need is to build on the sensitive area delineations developed by the Department of Natural Resources in response to the Ground Water Protection Act of 1989. The goal is to identify suitable activities and land uses for the state's most vulnerable areas consistent with state ground water and drinking water protection policy.

■ **Manage water for smart growth.** Minnesota is growing, but this growth often occurs without thought to the implications for the environment, particularly water. This priority will make sure key water elements, knowledge and expertise are adequately brought to bear in growth management decisions. It includes smart growth guidelines and targets for water and sewer project funding, financing of water quality and availability monitoring and data management, and other support needed to define the concerns and limits to growth from a water perspective. A key element is development of aquifer management plans (determining sustainable yields and resource protection needs) for those aquifers at risk from urban growth. Another key element is providing this information to local governments and helping them build and carry out solid comprehensive plans that incorporate the issues from water plans. The priority includes a new federally mandated storm water program that will impact development and protect surface waters from urban storm water runoff. And, it calls for policies and actions to enhance the connections cities make with urban rivers. Finally, support for preparation of a state development strategy is also included. The strategy will help focus and integrate state efforts for smart growth and will make the state more responsive in meeting local growth management needs.

■ **Take new steps to protect Minnesota's lakes.** Lakes are perhaps Minnesota's most prized natural resource, and additional state, local and citizen-based efforts to safeguard them are warranted. This priority integrates state water quality protection efforts and provides new, integrated support to local governments and lake interests consistent with local comprehensive plans. There is strong public support for improving lake water quality protection efforts and strengthening the involvement of local governments and citizen groups.

■ **Secure stable financing for Minnesota's waters.** A number of state water programs receive funding through various fees or federal grants, while others are supported solely by the general fund. This priority will examine legitimate fee-based opportunities to provide reliable, inflation-adjusted support to those functions that comprise the foundation for the state program. First, this should include support for the state's water quality and availability permit programs. Second, it should consider ways to provide a baseline of support for ambient water monitoring and assessment efforts. A key principle will be to make the system sufficiently broad-based so that fees can provide reliable support to the activities of a range of agencies. This approach is necessary to rebuild important efforts undermined by budget cuts of the last decade, and to ensure that the overall system is balanced in a way that reflects the need, not merely the success of agents at securing money. The approach is unusually important in the water arena, since water management involves a complex network of interrelated activities and programs, with each depending on others for the whole to work.



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

July 25, 2002

- BWSR "UPDATE"
- Updated Board Member Listing  
(Jack Frost's new e-mail address and Joann Coover's vacancy)
- Vesledahl Wetland Restoration Project Takes Shape





# Board of Water and Soil Resources UPDATE

A publication of the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

July 2002

## LAND & WATER

Producer interest continues to be strong in the development of managed rotational grazing plans. Since Oct. 1, Howard Moechnig, along with Wayne Monsen from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, completed 46 grazing plans on 8,000 acres of range and pasture lands. Much of this interest is because of the USDA Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), although about 50 percent of the plans have been for producers not in a cost-share program. This underscores the economic value of managed grazing systems for livestock producers in Minnesota.

Approximately 5 percent of the plans done and being requested are on native prairie lands. These are remnants of original prairie that existed at the time of settlement, as well as areas that were heavily utilized as pasture and that can be regenerated with proper grazing management. About 75 percent of the native prairie remnants in Minnesota are privately owned. In response to this, a publication giving insight into proper management options for these areas is nearing completion. The primary author is Dan Svedarsky, wildlife biologist at Northwest Research and Outreach Center at Crookston. Howard Moechnig is among five other contributing authors. Management options covered in this publication include prescribed burning, mowing, haying, grazing, and seeding. Integrating these management options is emphasized.

Alternative water systems are useful in the event that electrical power is not available. These are not common in Minnesota. This summer, one hydraulic ram will be installed in southeast Minnesota, and battery/solar powered systems in central and northwest Minnesota. These will be good demonstration sites after the installations are complete.

The MPCA 319 grant request, Grazing Management for Trout Stream Improvement, submitted by BWSR, has been approved. This project concentrates technical assistance in four counties in southeast Minnesota:

Wabasha, Winona, Houston, and Fillmore. Workshops for service providers and producers will be held, 120 grazing plans will be completed, and monitoring will be done to determine the effects of the changes in management of the pasture areas adjacent to trout streams.

Since Oct. 1, 11 workshops and field days have been held relating to grazing issues. These events have reached approximately 225 producers. Subjects include weed control in pastures, planning managed rotational grazing systems, livestock watering systems, and pasture monitoring.

*-Submitted by Howard Moechnig*

Minnesota Statute 103G.222, Subd. 1, Item (l) requires that the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) replace all wetland impacts due to the repair, rehabilitation, reconstruction, or replacement of existing state, city, county, or town public roads. This requirement has been in law since 1996 and has become the standard operating procedure for road authorities in dealing with unavoidable wetland impacts for these projects.

Road authorities, state agencies, federal agencies, and environmental interests have all realized the fiscal and environmental benefits from doing the wetland replacement for these road projects through a consolidated system. Continuing uncertainty about funding for this program has again raised itself due to the Governor's veto of the appropriation for this purpose in the 2002 Bonding Bill. An effort will be made in the upcoming legislative session to reconcile the policy in the law cited above with the funding requirements.

BWSR has determined that there will be sufficient future credits established in the next two years to meet all of the reported and anticipated wetland impacts through the remainder of calendar year 2002. To accomplish this we may need to also consider: i) taking advantage of an upcoming rule change that allows partial crediting for

## Board of Water and Soil Resources Update, Page 2

projects through the wetland banking process prior to completion, ii) using, if necessary, the wetland credits established under Minnesota Statute 103G.222, Subd. 1, Item (k) that have been identified for subsidized sale to local road authorities for new road projects, and iii) making a recommendation to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) that their discretionary authority to allow this program to be used for the replacement of impacts to wetland areas of Public Waters be put on hold until permanent or sufficient funding is available for the program.

Wetland impacts due to road projects constitute approximately half of annual wetland impacts that occur in Minnesota and nationwide. Public transportation authorities were among the pioneers of establishing mitigation for wetland losses even before current state regulations were adopted. The consolidated system developed in the 1996 and 2000 amendments to the Wetland Conservation Act has been adopted by the U.S. Corps of Engineers (COE), other federal agencies, and the DNR as accomplishing the goals of their regulatory programs, thus providing the regulatory streamlining road authorities say is critical to accomplishing road improvement projects during the short Minnesota construction season. However, the COE and DNR will be forced to reevaluate their policy due to the funding uncertainty for this program.

In summary, local road authorities should continue to use the process in law to report all wetland impacts using the reporting forms especially developed for these projects available on the BWSR web site at <http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/wetlands/wca/updatedforms/index.html>. Securing adequate, dedicated funding or resolving the discrepancy between the funding and the policy requirements will be necessary during next year's legislative session.

*-Submitted by John Jaschke*

### ENGINEERING

Here are some highlights from the Engineering Section:

#### CREP/RIM Wetland Restoration Engineering –

- Development of construction plans and specifications is going strong. This involves BWSR staff, several Nonpoint Engineering Assistance staff, SWCD staff, two private engineering consulting firms, and other partners.
- For the past several months, we've focused on getting

designs developed and approved for projects to be constructed this year and providing construction engineering assistance.

- Greg Larson is utilizing an ATV-mounted drill rig to do borings for a number of wetland restoration projects with substantial dikes. Getting clearance from Gopher State One-Call has been a challenge, but is getting worked out.

- Gene Clark, lakeshore engineer, is getting involved in providing engineering assistance for CREP wetland restorations.

- The 11 standard drawings developed for wetland restorations are being used more and more, as intended, to speed the design process for many projects and enable more people to get involved in design. These drawings were updated recently and will soon be available in electronic format on the NRCS web site with other conservation practice drawings.

- A new ACCESS database for wetland restoration project management is nearing the data migration phase. This should be a substantial advancement for project management and reporting.

- The long-developing JD 10 wetland restoration project in Faribault County recently had a positive development when the absentee daughter of an absentee landowner decided to enroll part of a large drained wetland basin in CREP. This is the last part of the third and largest wetland basin involved in this project. The landowner got in near the end of the CREP enrollments. This enrollment will greatly enhance and simplify this project, which is being done in conjunction with the county drainage authority.

**Lakeshore Engineering** – Unfortunately, BWSR's LCMR proposal (involving a partnership with the DNR) to move rock from the Iron Range to the North Shore for shoreline stabilization and safe harbor breakwater construction didn't survive the allocation process. Like many other LCMR proposals that made it to the allocation stage, there wasn't enough money available and support among LCMR members to keep this proposal afloat. Our lakeshore easement proposal also crashed and burned during the initial phase of the allocation process. The consequence? A lost opportunity for water quality protection and leveraging of some federal funding.

Gene Clark recently worked with North Shore SWCDs to update the erosion site investigation process to

## Board of Water and Soil Resources Update, Page 3

increase the initial SWCD roles and decrease his roles. This is in response to our redirection of most of Gene's technical assistance to CREP wetland restoration engineering. The lack of special project and EPA 319 grant funding for shoreline stabilization is also a major factor. North Shore SWCD staff are adapting as necessary to collect more information about erosion sites before Gene gets involved and to reduce SWCD and landowner expectations about turn-around time.

**Feedlots** – Some of the NPEA joint powers engineers report that feedlot technical assistance workload has dipped recently because the EQIP allocations are being delayed due to development of revised rules under the new Farm Bill. We expect a major resurgence of EQIP funded feedlot projects once the new and previous 2002 funding is allocated. Recall that 60 percent of the new EQIP funding must go to practices associated with livestock operations.

The SE MN Water Resources Board recently hosted training sessions about the Feedlot Evaluation Model (FLEval) and the Open Lot Agreement provisions of the Feedlot Rules for staff hired under an EPA 319 grant project. Al Kean provided available FLEval training materials to the NRCS area engineer, who conducted the training. Feedlots with less than 300 animal units that aren't designated a CAFO are eligible for the Open Lot Agreement, which allows for a 50 percent fix of a feedlot pollution problem by Oct. 1, 2005, and 100 percent fix by Oct. 1, 2010. Many small feedlots in SE MN are expected to participate in this provision of the Feedlot Rule.

- Submitted by Al Kean

### METRO

The mid-summer vacation window hit just in time to provide some relief from the expected WCA workload and the not-as-expected review of new WD rules. Minnehaha Creek and Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek watershed districts have submitted new rules for review that address issues such as buffers and infiltration standards. In just a handful of years these concepts have sprung forth from academic concepts to demonstration projects, from sharing findings regarding new BMP designs at conferences to become a fairly

common feature in rules and ordinances. While there are certainly communities and interest groups that differ in their support of these methods, there are sufficient numbers of believers such that we expect more local units of government to surface that hear not only the voices of caution, but also the growing chorus of conservation and infrastructure professionals singing the praises of the benefits of implementing these standards through local land use controls.

Metro staff has continued their involvement with the Metropolitan Council and the Association of Metropolitan Municipalities (AMM) to help shape the Metro Blueprint through the Regional Environmental Partnership. AMM has been a much appreciated team member on the group working to reshape the metro water planning rules.

A major metro issue is the SWCD's interest in defining how the 103C modernization/District Capacity initiative can help keep metro districts a vital player in the future when it comes to managing resources. We've participated in their strategic planning efforts that aim to find commonalities. A major hurdle we've encountered is that districts tend to view the proposals in terms of current individual district wants and needs, and not what they or other districts *may want to have available to them* to effectively meet future governance and operational responsibilities and opportunities.

-Submitted by Steve Woods

*Deadline for next edition:  
August 21*

### BRIEFS

#### Collaboration expands Living Snow Fence program

State and federal government officials announced July 16 the expansion of the Living Snow Fence program. An event was held in Gibbon, Minn., the site of a two-year-old living snow fence, to announce the program, which program pays farmers and landowners for designating part of their land for living snow fences under the Conservation Reserve Program, part of the 2002 Farm Bill.

Living snow fences are plantings that trap snow and are located 150 feet to 300 feet from the highway. Shrubs such as dogwood and lilacs are common choices for this type of program.

Dan Gullickson, Mn/DOT's living snow fence coordinator, believes that the living snow fence in Gibbon shows how living snow fences can be incorporated into farming operations.

A new agreement links the Minnesota Department of Transportation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Minnesota's Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

"Farmers can now receive payments under the Conservation Reserve Program as well as support from the Minnesota Department of Transportation for living snow fences which save lives, money, and time by keeping highways open for travelers," said Mn/DOT Commissioner Elwyn Tinklenberg. "Besides being aesthetically pleasing, they are an environmentally sound solution for making transportation safer and more efficient during Minnesota winters."

Ron Harnack, BWSR executive director, was emcee for the event. Jim Lemmerman, forester from BWSR's Duluth office, and Pete Raeker, communications director, served on the event planning committee.



**MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**  
**ONE WEST WATER STREET, SUITE 200**  
**ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55107**  
**Phone: 651-296-3767**  
**Fax: 651-297-5615**

| <b><u>Appointed Members</u></b>                                                                                                                  | <b><u>Appointment Designation</u></b> | <b><u>Term Expires</u></b> | <b><u>Telephone/Fax</u></b>                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Leland Coe, Chair</b> , 3948 Nebish Road NE<br>Tenstrike, 56683<br><a href="mailto:leecoe@paulbunyan.net">leecoe@paulbunyan.net</a>           | Citizen                               | 01-06-03                   | 218-243-2597    Home/Fax                                              |
| <b>Karen Harder</b> , 4601 Emerson Ave. S.<br>Minneapolis, 55409-2339<br><a href="mailto:ktharder@efg.com">ktharder@efg.com</a>                  | Citizen                               | 01-03-05                   | 612-824-4136    Home<br>612-824-4312    Fax                           |
| <b>Char Kahler</b> , 1966 50 <sup>th</sup> St.<br>Fairmont, 56031<br><a href="mailto:chark@kaco.net">chark@kaco.net</a>                          | Citizen                               | 01-05-04                   | 507-235-9837    Home<br>507-238-2244    Office<br>507-235-9619    Fax |
| <b>Paul Krabbenhoft</b> , 1119 - 25th Avenue South<br>Moorhead, 56560<br><a href="mailto:pkkrabbenhoft@yahoo.com">pkkrabbenhoft@yahoo.com</a>    | SWCD                                  | 01-02-06                   | 218-233-0313    Home<br>701-281-3033    Office<br>701-277-1570    Fax |
| <b>Victor Ormsby</b> , R.R. 3, Box 163<br>Winona, 55987-9515                                                                                     | SWCD                                  | 01-03-05                   | 507-454-7676    Home                                                  |
| <b>Dwain Otte</b> , 606 Zanmiller Drive West<br>Northfield, 55057<br><a href="mailto:dnotte@rconnect.com">dnotte@rconnect.com</a>                | SWCD                                  | 01-05-04                   | 507-645-4370    Home                                                  |
| <b>Jerome Deal</b> , 1501 Second Ave., So.<br>Wheaton, 56296                                                                                     | Watershed                             | 01-02-06                   | 320-563-8377    Home<br>320-563-4987    Fax                           |
| <b>Jack Frost</b> , 2324 Maple Lane<br>Maplewood, 55109<br><a href="mailto:jlfrost@tcinternet.net">jlfrost@tcinternet.net</a>                    | Watershed                             | 01-05-04                   | 651-602-1078    Office<br>651-602-1130    Fax                         |
| <b>Ginny L. Imholte</b> , 720 So. Shore Drive<br>Box 663, Detroit Lakes, 56501<br><a href="mailto:imholte@lakesnet.net">imholte@lakesnet.net</a> | Watershed                             | 01-06-03                   | 218-847-4236    Home<br>218-847-4433    Office<br>218-847-5059    Fax |
| <b>Darrell Bruggman</b> , 45898 State Hwy. 65<br>McGregor, 55760                                                                                 | Co. Commr.                            | 01-06-03                   | 218-426-3330    Home<br>218-927-7374    Fax                           |
| <b>Clair Nelson</b> , Lake County Courthouse,<br>601 Third Avenue, Two Harbors, 55616                                                            | Co. Commr.                            | 01-02-06                   | 218-353-7385    Home<br>218-834-8320    Office<br>218-834-8360    Fax |
| <b>VACANT</b>                                                                                                                                    | Co. Commr.                            | 01-03-05                   |                                                                       |

**State Agency Members:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                  |                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sharon Clark</b><br>90 W. Plato Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155<br><a href="mailto:Sharon.clark@state.mn.us">Sharon.clark@state.mn.us</a>                                          | <b>Department of Agriculture</b>                 | 651-297-1551    Office<br>651-297-5522    Fax |
| <b>Dan Wilson</b><br>Well Management Section, P.O. Box 64975, St. Paul, MN 55164-0975<br><a href="mailto:Daniel.Wilson@health.state.mn.us">Daniel.Wilson@health.state.mn.us</a> | <b>Department of Health</b>                      | 651-215-0812    Office<br>651-215-0978    Fax |
| <b>Wayne Edgerton</b><br>500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155<br><a href="mailto:Wayne.Edgerton@dnr.state.mn.us">Wayne.Edgerton@dnr.state.mn.us</a>                           | <b>Department of Natural Resources</b>           | 651-297-8341    Office<br>651-296-4799    Fax |
| <b>Jim Anderson</b><br>439 Borlaug Hall, 1991 Upper Buford Circle, St. Paul, MN 55108<br><a href="mailto:Ander045@umn.edu">Ander045@umn.edu</a>                                 | <b>U of M/Dept. of Soil, Water &amp; Climate</b> | 612-625-0279    Office<br>612-625-2208    Fax |
| <b>Lisa Thorvig</b><br>520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155<br><a href="mailto:Lisa.Thorvig@pca.state.mn.us">Lisa.Thorvig@pca.state.mn.us</a>                                 | <b>Pollution Control Agency</b>                  | 651-296-8811    Office<br>651-296-6334    Fax |

# Vesledahl Wetland Restoration Project Takes Shape

By Peter Raeker

A piece of land two miles west of Winger in northwestern Minnesota's Polk County is being restored to a landscape that will someday resemble what it looked like before it was farmed.

The wetland and grassland restoration is a joint project between the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MN/DOT).

The project will be used by BWSR and MN/DOT to offset wetland impacts that cannot be mitigated on site for state, city, county and township road repair, rehabilitation, reconstruction, or replacement projects.

The Vesledahl project will restore 750 acres of wetlands and 500 acres of native vegetation. The entire piece of land covers 1,900 acres. The 130 basins restored will range from 0.5-50 acres in size. The state purchased the land from Steve and Bob Vesledahl.

"Having an opportunity to restore a piece of land this size and leave a legacy of such magnitude rarely comes around in one's lifetime," observed Dan Eklund, a BWSR wetland specialist from the agency's Brainerd office.

The project could not have been possible without funding, interagency coordination, and acceptance by neighbors, he noted.

"When I initially viewed the site, I knew we were onto something special."



This project will produce a number of benefits, according to Bill Best, a BWSR board conservationist whose region includes Polk County.

"This large tract of land restored to native prairie and wetlands will create a greenway that will connect DNR (Minnesota Department of Natural Resources) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service lands," he said. "Certainly, everyone's hope is that the area will

become a sanctuary for wildlife. This in turn will help attract birders and hunters to the county, which will help support the local economy."

People should be able to see and identify a wide variety of grasses, forbs and wetland vegetation at the site once it is open to the public, said Best, who is housed in BWSR's Bemidji office.

"Big and little bluestem, switchgrass, Indian grass, prairie cord grass, purple



*Aerial view of Vesledahl project.*

prairie clover, black-eyed Susan and asters are just some of the vegetation that has been planted on site," he noted.

Seeds that might still be dormant in the wetland basins could germinate naturally, he added. "Schools should be able to take advantage of these resources for educating students on plant identification and the importance of natural ecosystems."

Because of the scope of the project, it will be completed in three phases. Phase-one construction took place in fall 2000 and spring 2001. Phase-one planting took place in summer 2000.

Phase-two planting was completed in summer 2001. Phase-two construction was planned for spring 2002 this spring, with phase-three planting scheduled for this summer. Phase-three construction is planned for fall 2002.

The 600-plus-acre phase-one planting was the largest single block of native planting ever done by a Minnesota state agency, according to Bruce Sandstrom, the project coordinator from BWSR. All seed planting for the restorations has been from local native harvests, he said.

"We were able to use seed from a nearby native prairie that was never plowed before. That's pretty hard to find," Sandstrom pointed out.

By using seed harvested by nearby native prairies, the resulting restoration will closely resemble the species composition that existed on the landscape prior to being drained and farmed. Seventy-five different native species were identified in the mix used. Standard seed mixes usually have 15 or fewer varieties, according to Sandstrom.

Another of the project's unique features is that much of the water is by design taken out of the upstream end of an existing ditch system and is routed through numerous wetland basins over the course of two miles before re-entering the ditch system, according to Sandstrom.

The combination of routing the water this way and the establishment of the native prairie will reduce runoff and flooding downstream.

When the project is finished, it will yield a total of 1,200 acres of wetland credits, which will be divided between BWSR and MN/DOT based on their proportional contributions. BWSR's wetland credits will be used to mitigate wetland impacts

reported to the agency by county, township and city road authorities. MN/DOT's share will be used to mitigate wetland impacts to the state highway system.

Once the restoration is complete, control of the land will be transferred from MN/DOT to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to become a wildlife management area (WMA).

The WMA will link two existing federal waterfowl production areas and will create one contiguous public land complex more than 2,600 acres in size that will be open to public hunting, bird watching and other forms of passive outdoor recreation.

"The dividends for this project will go much further than just replacing public road impacts," Sandstrom added.

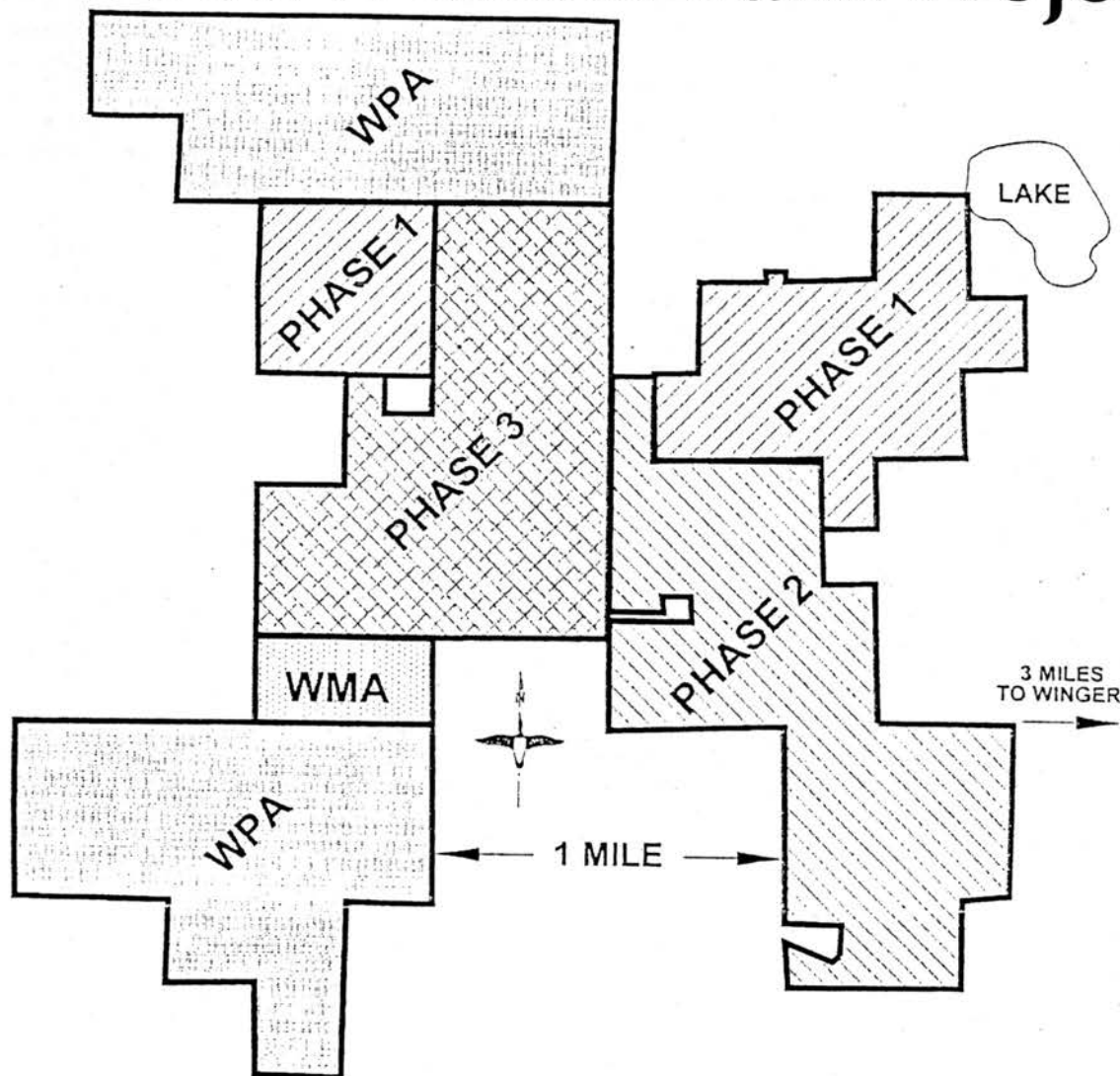
The public is asked to stay off the land until the WMA is officially opened. Any disturbances to the native plantings could harm the restoration.

Digital photos of this project are available on BWSR's web site: [www.bwsr.state.mn.us/news/index.html](http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/news/index.html).



*Peter Raeker is communications director for the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. For additional information on this and other BWSR projects, he may be contacted at 651-296-0884.*

# Vesledahl Wetland Bank Project



(Con-Con Lands continued from page 8)

policy director, has been leading the Con-Con issue for the DNR.

"The trail mileage stipulation will be difficult to achieve," Edgerton acknowledged. "However, we have already identified about 50 miles of potential trail in Beltrami, Marshall and Roseau counties.

"We will work with the recreational users, both motorized and nonmotorized, to do what is appropriate and in a manner that will protect both the wildlife and the wildlife habitat on these WMAs."

The history of Con-Con lands in Minnesota dates back to the late 1800s and early 1900s when nearly 2 million acres of primarily peatland bog was ditched and drained in northern Minnesota in an attempt to convert them into productive agricultural land.

The work was paid for by "ditch bonds" issued by the counties. Much of the land, however, proved unsuitable for agriculture and by the 1930s many of the farms failed.

Many farmers were unable to pay the liens

or property taxes and the counties were in imminent danger of defaulting on the ditch bonds. The Minnesota Legislature eventually intervened and agreed to pay off the liens and bonds in exchange for clear title to the lands.

Approximately 1.9 million acres of forfeited lands in seven counties was turned over to the Department of Conservation (which later became the DNR). Income from those lands (primarily timber sales and agricultural and gravel leases) was "consolidated" into one fund—hence the name Consolidated Conservation or "Con-Con" lands.

Over the years, about 400,000 of the original 1.9 million acres were sold to private individuals. Most of the remaining 1.5 million acres were designated as state forests or wildlife lands. Some of the land, however, was never designated. The future of those undesignated lands eventually became embroiled in a debate between the affected counties and the state.

After a series of public meetings in 1999, the DNR recommended how thousands of

individual land parcels (totaling about 260,000 acres in five counties) should be managed. Most were designated as WMAs or state forests and those recommendations were approved by the 2000 Minnesota Legislature.

That same piece of legislation, however, allowed Beltrami, Marshall and Roseau counties to request a similar DNR review of 102,315 acres of Con-Con lands in those counties that had been classified for wildlife in 1991.

Further, the legislation mandated that the DNR, along with county governments and local representatives of both motorized and nonmotorized recreational user groups, begin to identify potential ATV trails on or adjacent to Con-Con lands in northwest Minnesota.

Now, with the last of the Con-Con lands finally designated and approved by the Legislature, Edgerton said the final chapter of Con-Con's long history has been written.

"We can finally put our efforts into managing these acres for their natural resource values rather than debating their fate," Edgerton said. 

August 2002



**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES  
ONE WEST WATER STREET  
LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM  
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55107  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2002**

**AGENDA**

**9:00 a.m. Call Meeting to Order**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Adopt Agenda**

**Minutes of July 25, 2002**

**Open Mike** (10-minute agenda time, two-minute limit/person)

**Reports**

- Chair – Lee Coe
- Executive Director – Ron Harnack
- Dispute Resolution Committee – Lee Coe
- Wetlands Committee – Darrell Bruggman
- Cost-Share/Soil Conservation Committee – Dwain Otte
- Education and Public Relations Committee – Paul Krabbenhoft
- Administrative Advisory Committee – Lee Coe

**Agency Reports**

- Department of Agriculture – Sharon Clark
- Department of Health – Dan Wilson
- Department of Natural Resources – Steve Morse
- Minnesota Extension Service – Jim Anderson
- Pollution Control Agency – Lisa Thorvig

**Committee Recommendations**

*Northern Water Planning Subcommittee*

1. South Two Rivers Watershed District Watershed Management Plan – DECISION

**New Business**

1. Sauk River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan – Presentation by Jim Haertel and Limberg Ekola - DECISION

2. Enlargement, Name Change, and Increase in Number of Managers of the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District – Jim Haertel – DECISION
3. Boundary Change for Browns Creek and Valley Branch Watershed Districts – Jim Haertel – DECISION
4. Presentation on Flood Recovery, Disaster Counties, Assessment and Activities - Curtis Borchert, Norman SWCD Manager - INFORMATION
5. RIM Funds Available for Flood Recovery – Ron Shelito – DECISION
6. Challenge Grant Funds for Flood Recovery – Ron Shelito – DECISION
7. FY 03 Non Point Engineering Assistance Grant – Wayne Zellmer – DECISION

**Advisory Comments**

- Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) – Dave Weirens
- Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees (MACDE) – Tim Gieseke
- Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) – LeAnn Buck
- Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) – Sandy Hooker
- Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) – Ray Bohn
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – Tim Koehler

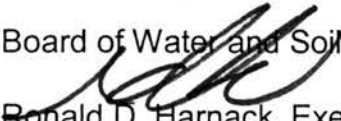
**Upcoming Meetings**

- Next BWSR Meeting, September 25, in conjunction with the Local Water Planners Conference, September 23-25, Hinckley
- BWSR Meeting, October 23, St. Paul

**12:00 p.m. Adjourn for lunch break**

**12:30 – 3:00 p.m. Convene as a Committee of the Whole: Budget Reduction Alternatives and Policy and Budget Initiatives**



DATE: August 20, 2002  
TO: Board of Water and Soil Resources Members, Advisors, Staff  
FROM:   
Ronald D. Harnack, Executive Director  
SUBJECT: August 28th BWSR Meeting

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will meet on Wednesday, August 28, 2002, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held in the BWSR conference room, lower level, at One West Water Street, St. Paul. Parking is available across the street from the building. Please display the enclosed "temporary parking permit" on your vehicle's dashboard.

The following information pertains to agenda items:

#### **Committee Recommendations**

##### *Northern Water Planning Subcommittee*

1. South Two Rivers Watershed District Watershed Management Plan: See attached. DECISION

#### **New Business**

1. Sauk River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan: See attached. DECISION
2. Enlargement, Name Change, and Increase in Number of Managers of the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District: A petition to enlarge, change the name, and increase the number of managers of the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District was filed with the Board on May 13, 2002, by the Marshall County Board of Commissioners. The proposed enlargement area is approximately 422 square miles of land in the Tamarac River watershed. On May 22, 2002, the Board ordered a public hearing be held on the petition. The hearing panel was comprised of Ginny Imholte, Jerome Deal, and Lee Coe as chair. After hearing testimony at the public hearing, the hearing panel decided to leave the hearing record open for one week. The hearing panel reconvened on August 5, 2002, and unanimously decided to recommend to the full board that the petition be granted in its entirety per the attached draft order. DECISION

|                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Bemidji</b><br>3217 Bemidji Avenue N.<br>Bemidji, MN 56601<br>phone (218) 755-4235<br>fax (218) 755-4201 | <b>Brainerd</b><br>217 S. 7th Street<br>Suite 202<br>Brainerd, MN 56401<br>phone (218) 828-2383<br>fax (218) 828-6036 | <b>Duluth</b><br>394 S. Lake Avenue<br>Room 403<br>Duluth, MN 55802<br>phone (218) 723-4752<br>fax (218) 723-4794 | <b>Fergus Falls</b><br>413 W. Stanton Avenue<br>Fergus Falls, MN 56537<br>phone (218) 736-5445<br>fax (218) 736-7215 | <b>Marshall</b><br>1400 E. Lyon Street<br>Box 267<br>Marshall, MN 56258<br>phone (507) 537-6060<br>fax (507) 537-6368 | <b>New Ulm</b><br>261 Highway 15 S.<br>New Ulm, MN 56073<br>phone (507) 359-6074<br>fax (507) 359-6018 | <b>Rochester</b><br>40 16th Street S.E.<br>Suite A<br>Rochester, MN 55904<br>phone (507) 285-7458<br>fax (507) 280-2875 | <b>Saint Paul</b><br>One West Water Street<br>Suite 250<br>Saint Paul, MN 55107<br>phone (651) 282-9969<br>fax (651) 284-0000 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

3. Boundary Change for Browns Creek and Valley Branch Watershed Districts: A joint petition to change the boundary of the Browns Creek Watershed District and the Valley Branch Watershed District was filed with the Board on May 22, 2002. On June 26, 2002, the Board ordered a public hearing be held on the petition. The boundary change petition is the result of two-foot contour mapping recently becoming available and due to the extensive subdividing of large parcels that has occurred since the districts were established. The Metropolitan Water Planning Subcommittee presided over the public hearing. The Subcommittee unanimously recommends the boundary change be approved per the attached draft order. DECISION
4. Presentation on Flood Recovery, Disaster Counties, Assessment and Activities: Curtis Borchert, Norman SWCD Manager, will provide information on flood disaster counties in northwestern Minnesota. INFORMATION
5. Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Funds Available for Flood Recovery: BWSR staff request authorization to allocate \$640,000 in RIM funds for easements in counties affected by the 2002 floods. This is a one-time program for a special flood recovery sign-up beginning September 2002. See attached. DECISION
6. Challenge Grant Funds for Flood Recovery: BWSR staff request approval to allocate \$103,000 in challenge grant funds to do a flood damage inventory and map compilation in all disaster declared counties. See attached. DECISION
7. FY 03 Non Point Engineering Assistance Grant - This is a noncompetitive annual grant allocated to the 11 SWCD Joint Powers Boards (JPBs). It is to be used by each JPB to provide engineering/technical services to help landowners to implement erosion control and water quality improvement practices. This allocation procedure was recommended by MASWCD and approved by the Board in February 2001. DECISION

**Convene as Committee of the Whole:** Budget Reduction Alternatives and Policy and Budget Initiatives.

If you have any questions regarding the agenda, please feel free to give me a call at 651-296-0878. I look forward to seeing you on August 28!

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES  
ONE WEST WATER STREET  
LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM  
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55107  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2002**

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**Minutes of July 25, 2002**

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- Minnesota Extension Service – Jim Anderson
- Pollution Control Agency – Lisa Thorvig

**Committee Recommendations**

*Northern Water Planning Subcommittee*

1. South Two Rivers Watershed District Watershed Management Plan – DECISION

**New Business**

1. Sauk River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan – Presentation by Jim Haertel and Limberg Ekola - DECISION

2. Enlargement, Name Change, and Increase in Number of Managers of the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District – Jim Haertel – DECISION
3. Boundary Change for Browns Creek and Valley Branch Watershed Districts – Jim Haertel – DECISION
4. Presentation on Flood Recovery, Disaster Counties, Assessment and Activities - Curtis Borchert, Norman SWCD Manager - INFORMATION
5. RIM Funds Available for Flood Recovery – Ron Shelito – DECISION
6. Challenge Grant Funds for Flood Recovery – Ron Shelito – DECISION
7. FY 03 Non Point Engineering Assistance Grant – Wayne Zellmer – DECISION

**Advisory Comments**

- Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) – Dave Weirens
- Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees (MACDE) – Tim Gieseke
- Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) – LeAnn Buck
- Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) – Sandy Hooker
- Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) – Ray Bohn
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – Tim Koehler

**Upcoming Meetings**

- Next BWSR Meeting, September 25, in conjunction with the Local Water Planners Conference, September 23-25, Hinckley
- BWSR Meeting, October 23, St. Paul

**12:00 p.m. Adjourn for lunch break**

**12:30 – 3:00 p.m. Convene as a Committee of the Whole: Budget Reduction Alternatives and Policy and Budget Initiatives**



# **TEMPORARY PARKING PERMIT**

**BWSR Meeting  
One West Water Street  
Lower Level Conference Room  
AUGUST 28, 2002**

Dispute Resolution Report  
August 15, 2002

There are presently ten appeals pending. All of the appeals involve WCA.

The most recent appeal is of a replacement plan decision on French Lake in Wright County. No decision has been made on accepting the appeal.

Another appeal is of a replacement plan decision for an apartment complex in Apple Valley. The appeal will be denied since the WCA decision was made in 1996, which is outside of the 30 day appeal period.

Another appeal is of a replacement plan decision in the City of Hermantown, near Duluth. It appears the appeal will be withdrawn after a stipulation is signed by the parties that was agreed to at a mediation.

Another appeal is of a replacement plan in the City of Albertville in Wright County. The appeal is in abeyance since it has been remanded to the city because a TEP was not held.

There are two appeals of a replacement plan approval in Brooklyn Center for a highway project. The Shingle Creek WMO made the WCA decision. Both appeals have been accepted, a pre-hearing was held and a hearing is scheduled for September 9.

There is an appeal of the Board's remand to Mower County regarding a landfill site. Under remand, the county denied an application for no-loss. The appeal has been accepted and a pre-hearing was held on April 11. The appeal is in abeyance since the appellants have filed a new WCA application and are waiting for a decision on the new application before proceeding with the appeal.

Another appeal is of an exemption determination in Hennepin County. The appeal involves a horse barn that is already built. The appeal has been accepted, a pre-hearing was held and a hearing is scheduled for September 9. However, the appellants have not filed their written brief and are considering withdrawing the appeal.

Another appeal is of a replacement plan denial in Stearn's County. The appeal involves a single family dwelling site near the Mississippi River. The appeal has been accepted, a pre-hearing was held and the appeal is in abeyance as settlement is explored.

Another appeal involves a wetland banking site in Chisago County. The appeal has been accepted and is being held in abeyance to see how the site looks this summer.

## **OVERVIEW**

### **South Two River Watershed District Overall Plan**

#### **Background**

On August 5, 2002, the BWSR Water Planning Subcommittee recommended approval of the South Two River Watershed District Overall Plan to the BWSR Board. The BWSR Staff also recommends approval of the South Two River Watershed District Overall Plan.

#### **Summary of Plan Review Process and Plan Strengths**

In a letter dated October 2001, the BWSR commented on the initial draft South Two River Watershed District Overall Plan and outline. As a "bottom line", staff recommended that the Plan should outline the District's future activities and expenditures – justified by resource data. The BWSR recommended replacing the Introduction chapter with a concise Executive Summary section. Staff complimented the District for use of the SWOT (strength, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis which provided a unique overall framework of issues that can serve as the focus point for the remainder of the Plan and connected the conditions/problems and the goals /implementation.

In a letter dated June 11, 2002, The BWSR Staff conducted its review of the March 2002 final draft of the STRWD Overall Plan in context of our previous reviews and meetings. As a result of a January 30, 2002 follow-up meeting the Plan was improved from the initial draft plan by having added a clear and concise list of implementation actions associated with each issue /goal topic that generally describes future activities and expenditures. Staff again commented on the effectiveness of the issue identification process that was able to accurately display the relative priority and rank of the issue. Staff also stated that the implementation chapter has been much improved by providing a detailed listing of the tools or activities needed to achieve each measurable outcome. The Plan does comply with the fundamental planning expectations articulated by BWSR.

The highlights of the Plan include 1) definition of specific projects/actions, responsible parties and set time line, 2) Identification of priority issues determined through citizen involvement and agency participation, 3) Concise implementation section with identified management and activities, and 4) Communication and partnership on management and monitoring programs.

#### **Watershed Description**

The South Two River Watershed District was established on December 31, 1986 and encompasses a total of 93 square miles. Lands within the District are distributed in the following counties: Stearns (93.5%) and Morrison (6.5%). The STRWD contains the cities of Albany and Holdingford and has two major lake resources including Pelican and Two River Lakes.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources  
One West Water Street, Suite 200  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

**In the Matter of prescribing a Revised  
Watershed Management Plan for the  
South Two River Watershed District  
pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103D.405**

**ORDER  
PRESCRIBING  
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT  
PLAN**

**Whereas**, the Board of Managers of the South Two River Watershed District (STRWD) filed a proposed Revised Watershed Management Plan (Plan) dated March 2002 with the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) pursuant to M.S. Section 103D.405, and;

**Whereas**, The Board has completed its review of the Plan;

**Now Therefore**, the Board hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. **District Establishment.** The STRWD was established by the Minnesota Water Resources Board on December 31, 1986.
2. **Requirement to Plan.** The Plan includes an executive summary, an inventory of water resources information, updates of hydrological information, specific implementation projects and programs, a description of problems, a summary of completed studies, a summary of the district's program, and a summary of the financial tools available to the district. The district's major issues are to address the following: 1) poor water quality in the lakes and water ways, 2) seasonal lake flooding and significant lake level variations, 3) stream flooding, 4) sediment and erosion problems, 5) poor storm drainage facilities, 6) frequent flooding in septic tanks in shoreland areas and residential areas.
3. **Nature of the Watershed.** The STRWD is approximately 93 square miles in size and is located in central Minnesota. The district occupies parts of Stearns (93.5%) and Morrison Counties (6.5%). The STRWD contains the cities of Albany and Holdingford and has two major lake resources including Pelican and Two River Lakes.
4. **Local Review.** The STRWD sent a copy of the draft Plan to local units of government for their review pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103D.405.
5. **State Review Agency Review.** State Review agencies did not provide review of Plan.
6. **Board Review.** In a letter dated October 2001, the BWSR commented on the initial draft South Two River Watershed District Overall Plan and outline. As a "bottom

line”, staff recommended that the Plan should outline the District’s future activities and expenditures – justified by resource data. The BWSR recommended replacing the Introduction chapter with a concise Executive Summary section. Staff complimented the District for use of the SWOT (strength, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis, which provided a unique overall framework of issues that can serve as the focus point for the remainder of the Plan and connected the conditions/problems and the goals/implementation.

In a letter dated June 11, 2002, The BWSR Staff conducted its review of the March 2002 final draft of the STRWD Overall Plan in context of our previous reviews and meetings. As a result of our January 30, 2002, meeting between BWSR staff, District administrator and planning consultant the Plan was improved from the initial draft plan by having added a clear and concise list of implementation actions associated with each issue/goal topic that generally describes future activities and expenditures. Staff again commented on the effectiveness of the issue identification process that was able to accurately display the relative priority and rank of the issue. Staff also stated that the implementation chapter has been much improved by providing a detailed listing of the tools or activities needed to achieve each measurable outcome. The Plan does comply with the fundamental planning expectations articulated by BWSR.

7. **Publish Notice of Filing.** Legal notice of public hearing was published in the Stearns Morrison Enterprise on June 18 and 25, 2002; and in the Morrison County Record on June 16 and 23, 2002.
8. **Water Planning Subcommittee meeting.** On August 5, 2002, the BWSR Water Planning Subcommittee recommended approval of the South Two River Watershed District Overall Plan to the BWSR Board. The BWSR Staff also recommends approval of the South Two River Watershed District Overall Plan.
9. **Highlights of the Plan.** The critical elements included in the Plan are:
  - a. Definition of specific projects/actions, responsible parties and set time line;
  - b. Identification of priority issues determined through citizen involvement and agency participation;
  - c. Concise implementation section with identified management and activities;
  - d. Communication and partnership on management and monitoring programs.

## CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant, substantive and procedural requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled.

2. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Revised Watershed Management Plan for the South Two River Watershed District pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103D.405.
3. The South Two River Watershed District Revised Watershed Management Plan attached to this Order defines water-related problems within the STRWD boundaries, possible solutions thereto, and an implementation program.
4. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Section 103D, BWSR guidelines for Watershed District Plan content, and is consistent with the affected county comprehensive water plan.

### **ORDER**

The Board hereby prescribes the attached Plan as the Revised Watershed Management Plan for the South Two River Watershed District.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August 2002.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

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BY: Leland G. Coe, Chair



## **OVERVIEW**

### **Sauk River Watershed District Revised Overall Plan**

#### **Background**

At the August 5, 2002, public hearing on the Sauk River Watershed District (SRWD) on the Revised Overall Plan (Plan), the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) North Region Plan Review Subcommittee heard testimony from the SRWD Board of Managers, SRWD staff, BWSR staff and a member of the advisory committee in support of Plan approval. After receiving the testimony, the Subcommittee decided to recommend approval of the SRWD Plan to the BWSR Board.

#### **Summary of Plan Review Process and Plan Strengths**

The SRWD was established in 1986, with water quality restoration of the district's lakes and streams being the primary issue. The district has completed 29 major projects totaling \$7.5 million since its inception. Surface water quality restoration continues to be the driving issue.

BWSR staff Pete Waller, Dan Steward, and Phil Belfiori met several times with SRWD managers, staff, and their planning consultant to provide input on the draft Plan. BWSR also provided financial assistance with \$34,600 in planning grants. A critical issue that surfaced early in the process was the need for the SRWD to develop greater project funding capacity. Over time, a consensus was reached that the Plan should focus on providing support for the development of enhanced project capability by utilizing the storm water utility provisions of 103D. Following is a list of some of the strengths of the Plan.

- Ten separate water management districts or subbasins are defined. By having these areas identified in the Plan, the district can later establish stormwater utilities for some or all of these areas, as they deem necessary.
- Very strong resource inventory section (Volume 1).
- Strong resource assessment section (Volume 2).
- Excellent citizen input process.
- Revitalized citizens advisory committee.
- Implementation oriented Plan.

#### **Watershed Description**

The SRWD covers 1,040 square miles in central Minnesota. The District includes parts of five counties including Douglas, Meeker, Pope, Stearns and Todd. The SRWD has three major lake systems including Osakis, Sauk, and the Horseshoe Chain. The district is 75 miles long by 20 to 30 miles wide, and lies in a northwest to southeast orientation. The Sauk River flows southeasterly through the watershed for 120 miles before outletting to the Mississippi River just upstream from the city of St. Cloud. The district lies in the Minnesota transition zone, with agricultural land uses dominant, but with rapid urbanization occurring in the eastern parts of the watershed. A nine-member board of managers serves the SRWD.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources  
One West Water Street, Suite 200  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

In the Matter of prescribing a Revised  
Watershed Management Plan for the  
Sauk River Watershed District pursuant  
to Minnesota Statutes Section 103D.405

**ORDER  
PRESCRIBING  
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT  
PLAN**

**Whereas**, the Board of Managers of the Sauk River Watershed District (SRWD) filed a proposed Revised Watershed Management Plan (Plan) dated May 2002 with the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) pursuant to M.S. Section 103D.405, and;

**Whereas**, The Board has completed its review of the Plan;

**Now Therefore**, the Board hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. **District Establishment.** The SRWD was established by the Minnesota Water Resources Board on July 22, 1986.
2. **Requirement to Plan.** The Plan includes an executive summary, an inventory of water resources information, updates of hydrological information, specific implementation projects and programs, a description of problems, a summary of completed studies, a summary of the district's rules program, and a summary of the financial tools available to the district. The district's major issue is protecting or improving water quality in the district's lakes and streams, with an emphasis on Lake Osakis, Sauk Lake, and the Horseshoe Chain of Lakes. This issue is made more complex by the major growth occurring in the area. The District's mission is "to apply our unique abilities and authorities in ways that protect and enhance our watershed's resources for today and tomorrow."
3. **Nature of the Watershed.** The SRWD is approximately 1,040 square miles in size and is located in central Minnesota. The district occupies parts of Douglas, Pope, Meeker, Stearns and Todd Counties. The SRWD straddles Interstate 94, is 75 miles long, and 20 to 30 miles wide. The Sauk River flows through the center of the watershed in a northwest to southeast direction. The Sauk River flows southeasterly for 120 miles before emptying into the Mississippi River just upstream from the city of St. Cloud.
4. **Local Review.** The SRWD sent a copy of the draft Plan to local units of government for their review pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103D.405.

5. **Department of Natural Resources Review.** In a letter dated July 29, 2002, the DNR commented on the SRWD's sound watershed based approach to managing water resources. The Department noted in particular the formation of ten sub-watershed management districts within the overall Sauk River watershed.

The Department also provided detailed comments on each of the Plan's three main sections. Several of the comments related to detailed hydrologic information. Other comments referred to groundwater quantity, buffer strips on ditches, and providing training to the advisory committee. The Department closed their comments by noting that the Plan is well thought out and is embarking the District on an ambitious ten-year effort.

6. **Pollution Control Agency Review.** In letters dated August 2, 2002, and August 5, 2002, the MPCA provided comments on the Plan. The August 2, 2002 letter from Jim Hodgson, commented from the perspective of the Upper Mississippi Basin Planning Process, and how to include the bulk of the Plan in the Basin Plan. The MPCA also recommended identifying any specific projects that the District is considering for funding over the next five to ten years. The letter also commented on existing Clean Water Partnership Projects within the district and specific water quality goals for phosphorus reduction.

In a separate letter dated August 5, 2002, Lisa Kraemer of MPCA provided comments on the Plan. The comments focused on encouraging the District to identify specific projects in order to not restrict future funding opportunities. The comments also noted that in general, the Plan looks very good.

7. **Stearns County Review.** In its comments dated June 6, 2002, the county commented on municipal stormwater ponds, a comprehensive wetland management plan and low cost options for feedlot runoff problems.
8. **SRWD Staff Review.** On August 2, 2002, the SRWD administrator provided written comments on the Plan. The comments related to the role the District would play in implementation of various projects or programs, lake management plans, various education related comments and expanding the citizens lake-monitoring program.
9. **Board Review.** Board staff met numerous times with SRWD staff and the Plan consultant to assist with development of the Plan. As a result, Board staff comments were provided while the Plan was being developed and Board staff did not develop formal written comments. Informal staff comments were focused on the fiscal tools the SRWD could use to implement the Plan.

10. **Highlights of the Plan.** Critical elements in the Plan include:
  - a. Strong citizen input process,
  - b. Enhanced citizen advisory committee involvement,
  - c. Comprehensive resource inventory,
  - d. Strong resource assessment, and
  - e. Inclusion of ten sub watershed units as implementation tools.

11. **Publish Notice of Public Hearing.** Legal notice of public hearing was published in the Stearns Morrison Enterprise on June 18 and 25, 2002; and in the Morrison County Record on June 16 and 23, 2002.
12. **Public Hearing.** On August 5, 2002, the Board's Northern Region Water Planning Subcommittee presided over a public hearing on the Plan. The subcommittee heard testimony from the SRWD Board of Managers in support of Plan approval. Board staff also recommended approval of the Plan. After receiving oral and written testimony on the Plan, the subcommittee decided to recommend approval of the Sauk River Watershed District Revised Watershed Management Plan to the full Board. The subcommittee agreed that SRWD staff would make minor changes to the Plan in response to comments. The subcommittee decided to not hold the record open.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

1. All relevant, substantive and procedural requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled.
2. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Revised Watershed Management Plan for the Sauk River Watershed District pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103D.405.
3. The Sauk River Watershed District Revised Watershed Management Plan attached to this Order defines water-related problems within the SRWD boundaries, possible solutions thereto, and an implementation program.
4. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Section 103D, BWSR guidelines for Watershed District Plan content, and is consistent with the affected county comprehensive water plan.

### **ORDER**

The Board hereby prescribes the attached Plan as the Revised Watershed Management Plan for the Sauk River Watershed District.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August 2002.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

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BY: Leland G. Coe, Chair

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources  
One West Water Street, Suite 200  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

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**In the Matter** of the Enlargement, Increasing  
the Number of Managers, and Name Change of  
Middle River-Snake River Watershed District  
pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 103D.261 and .305.

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**ORDER ENLARGEMENT, INCREASE  
NUMBER OF MANAGERS, AND  
NAME CHANGE OF MIDDLE RIVER-  
SNAKE RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT**

**Whereas**, the Marshall County Board of Commissioners filed a Petition dated May 7, 2002, with the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on May 13, 2002, to enlarge and change the name of the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 103D.261, and to increase the number of managers of the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 103D.305, and;

**Whereas**, the Board has completed its review of the Petition;

**Now Therefore**, the Board hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Order.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. **Petition.** The Petition (Exhibit 1) to enlarge, change the name, and increase the number of managers of the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District dated May 7, 2002, was filed by Marshall County with the Board on May 13, 2002.
2. **Property Description.** The territory to be included in the watershed district, the Petitioned Area, is located in Marshall, Roseau and Kittson Counties and is approximately 442 square miles of land in the Tamarac River watershed contiguous to the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District, which includes land in the Townships of Eagle Point, Donelly, Sinnott, Augsburg, Nelson Park, Lincoln, East Park, Huntly, Como, Fork, Parker, Tamarac, Wanger, Wright, West Valley, New Maine, Middle River, and Alma in Marshall County; Lind, Deer, Huss, and Poplar Grove in Roseau County; and Deerwood and Arveson in Kittson County;



and further depicted on a map (Exhibit 2) and table of land tracts identified by Section, Township and Range (Exhibit 3), both attached to the Petition.

3. **District Name.** The Petition specifies the name of the enlarged district shall be the "Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District".
4. **Number of Managers.** The Petition specifies the number of managers shall be increased to seven (7) managers from the present number of five (5) managers.
5. **Reasons for Change.** The Petition specifies the following:
  - A. Without the structure of a watershed district, certain drainage, flood control and water management projects are not being accomplished.
  - B. The ability of a watershed district to accomplish the specific purposes provided in Minnesota Statutes will be a benefit to the area.
  - C. It is important that an entity with expertise in water management oversee the area proposed to be added.
  - D. Adding the area proposed would be conducive to the public health and welfare.
6. **Hearing Order.** At its regular meeting on May 22, 2002, the Board determined that the Petition met the requirements of Minn. Stat. §§ 103D.261 and 103D.305, and consequently ordered a public hearing to be held on the Petition and appointed three Board members to be the hearing panel. (Exhibit 6)
7. **Hearing Notice.** Legal notice of the public hearing on the Petition, pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 103D.261, Subd. 1 (c) and 103D.305, Subd. 4, was published in the North Star News on June 27 and July 4, 2002 (Exhibit 7), in the Thief River Falls Times on June 26 and July 3, 2002 (Exhibit 8), in the Greenbush Tribune on June 26 and July 3, 2002 (Exhibit 9), in the Warren Sheaf on June 26 and July 3, 2002 (Exhibit 10), in the Crookston Daily Times on June 25 and July 3, 2002 (Exhibit 11), and in the Stephen Messenger on June 27 and July 4, 2002 (Exhibit 12). Further, a copy of the hearing notice and map was mailed to several addressees notifying them of the public hearing, including the Kittson, Marshall, Pennington, Polk and Roseau County Auditors, Boards of Commissioners and SWCD's; all of the cities in the Petitioned Area; and legal counsel for the watershed district. (Exhibit 13)



8. **Public Hearing.** A public hearing was held on the Petition on July 22, 2002, at the Stephen Community Center, 319 Fifth Street, Stephen, Minnesota. The proceedings were tape recorded. The hearing panel was Ginny Imholte, Jerome Deal and Lee Coe as chair.

Jim Haertel, Board staff, entered Exhibits 1 through 13 into the record by reading a brief description of each exhibit.

Exhibit 1. Petition to enlarge, increase the number of managers and change the name of the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District from the Marshall County Board of Commissioners dated May 7, 2002.

Exhibit 2. Map of the watershed district and proposed enlargement dated 12-01, submitted with the Petition which is Exhibit 1.

Exhibit 3. Listing of proposed enlargement area by Section, Township and Range dated 12/28/01, submitted with the Petition which is Exhibit 1.

Exhibit 4. Letter dated May 10, 2002, from Blake Sobolik forwarding the Petition and Exhibit 5.

Exhibit 5. Certification and Extract of Minutes from the July 16, 2001 Middle River-Snake River Watershed District Board of Managers' meeting supporting the proposed enlargement.

Exhibit 6. Order dated May 22, 2002, from the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a public hearing on the Petition.

Exhibit 7. Affidavit of Publication dated July 5, 2002, of Legal Notice in the North Star News on June 27 and July 4, 2002.

Exhibit 8. Affidavit of Publication dated July 3, 2002, of Legal Notice in the Thief River Falls Times on June 26 and July 3, 2002.

Exhibit 9. Affidavit of Publication dated July 3, 2002, of Legal Notice in the Greenbush Tribune on June 26 and July 3, 2002.

Exhibit 10. Affidavit of Publication dated July 3, 2002, of Legal Notice in the Warren Sheaf on June 26 and July 3, 2002.

Exhibit 11. Affidavit of Publication dated July 1, 2002, of Legal Notice in the Crookston Daily Times on June 25 and July 3, 2002.

Exhibit 12. Affidavit of Publication dated July 5, 2002, of Legal Notice in the Stephen Messenger on June 27 and July 4, 2002.

Exhibit 13. Letter dated June 12, 2002, from Jim Haertel to several addressees notifying them of the public hearing, including copies of the legal notice and map.

Exhibit 14. Written statement from Delray Larson, Marshall County Commissioner, in opposition to the proposed enlargement.

Exhibit 15. Karlstad City Council resolution dated July 16, 2002, requesting a postponement in the decision on the proposed enlargement.

Exhibit 16. Strandquist City Council resolution dated May 15, 2002, in opposition to the proposed enlargement.

Exhibit 17. Strathcona City Council resolution dated May 7, 2002, in opposition to the proposed enlargement.

Exhibit 18. Roseau County Commissioner resolution dated June 4, 2002, in opposition to the proposed enlargement.

Exhibit 19. Written statement from Tim Hividsen in support of the proposed enlargement.

Exhibit 20. Citizen petition in opposition to the proposed enlargement with 260 signatures.

Exhibit 21. Como Township resolution dated May 26 and 27, 2002, in opposition to the proposed enlargement.

Exhibit 22. Nelson Park Township resolution dated May 14 and July 9, 2002, in opposition to the proposed enlargement.

Exhibit 23. Huss Township resolution dated June 7, 2002, in opposition to the proposed enlargement.

Exhibit 24. Poplar Grove Township resolution dated May 20-29, 2002, in opposition to the proposed enlargement.

Exhibit 25. Huntly Township resolution dated April 24, 2002, in opposition to the proposed enlargement.

Exhibit 26. East Park Township resolution dated April 27, 2002, in opposition to the proposed enlargement.

After all people present at the public hearing were given an opportunity to speak, the hearing record was left open for one week until 4:30 PM on July 29, 2002, for receipt of written comments. The following exhibits were received while the record was open.

Exhibit 27. Letter dated July 23, 2002, from Ronald J. Adrian, Engineer, Middle River-Snake River Watershed District regarding preparation of the map of the proposed enlargement area, land areas and population.

Exhibit 28. Letter dated July 29, 2002, from A. Szczepanski in favor of the proposed enlargement.

Exhibit 29. Letter dated July 25, 2002, from Ronald J. Adrian, Engineer, Middle River-Snake River Watershed District regarding preparation of the map of the proposed enlargement area and the watershed boundary with the Two Rivers Watershed District.

Exhibit 30. Citizen petition from Wanger Township in support of the proposed enlargement with 22 signatures.

9. **Hearing Panel.** The hearing panel met on August 5, 2002, and, based on the oral and written record in this matter, decided with a unanimous vote to recommend to the full Board that the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District be enlarged as proposed in the Petition, that the name be changed as proposed in the Petition, and that the number of managers be increased to seven as proposed in the Petition. The hearing panel further decided that the two additional managers should be appointed from Marshall County. The hearing panel noted that the enlargement and increase in number of managers would be for the public welfare and public interest and the purpose of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103D would be served.

The hearing panel discussed the need for a boundary change between the enlarged Middle River-Snake River Watershed District and the Two Rivers Watershed District. The record (Exhibit 29) supports that a joint boundary change petition should be promptly submitted, which the hearing panel concurred with.

The hearing panel also recommended that the watershed management plan for the enlarged Middle River-Snake River Watershed District be amended within two years to include the enlargement area.

## CONCLUSIONS

1. The Petition for the enlargement, name change, and increasing the number of managers of the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District is valid in accordance with Minn. Stat. §§ 103D.261 and 103D.305.
2. Proper notice of hearing was given and the public hearing was held in accordance with applicable laws.
3. All relevant substantive and procedural requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled.
4. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of ordering a watershed district enlargement, name change and increase in number of managers.
5. The enlargement and increase in number of managers of the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District as proposed in the Petition would be for the public welfare and public interest and the purpose of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103D would be served.
6. The name of the enlarged Middle River-Snake River Watershed District should be changed to the "Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District" pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 103D.261, Subd. 2 (b).
7. A joint boundary change petition should be promptly submitted to the Board to correct the common boundary between the enlarged Middle River-Snake River Watershed District and the Two Rivers Watershed District.
8. The Middle River-Snake River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan should be amended within two years to include the enlargement area.

## ORDER

The Board hereby orders that the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District be enlarged per the Marshall County Petition (Exhibit 1) dated May 7, 2002, according to Exhibit 3 of said Petition attached and made a part of this Order hereof, that the name be changed to the "Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District", and that the number of managers be increased to seven with the two additional managers appointed from Marshall County.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 28th day of August, 2002.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leland Coe, Chair

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources  
One West Water Street, Suite 200  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

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**In the Matter** of the Boundary Change for the  
Brown's Creek Watershed District and the Valley  
Branch Watershed District in Washington County  
pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 103D.251

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**ORDER  
BOUNDARY  
CHANGE**

**Whereas**, the Brown's Creek Watershed District and the Valley Branch Watershed District filed a joint Petition dated March 28 and April 8, 2002 with the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on May 22, 2002, to change the boundary of the Brown's Creek Watershed District and the Valley Branch Watershed District pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 103D.251, and;

**Whereas**, the Board has completed its review of the Petition;

**Now Therefore**, the Board hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Order.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. **Petition.** The Petition (See Exhibit 1) to change the boundary of the Brown's Creek Watershed District (BCWD) and the Valley Branch Watershed District (VBWD) was filed by the BCWD Board of Managers and the VBWD Board of Managers with the Board on May 22, 2002.
2. **Property Description.** The territory included in the boundary change, the Petitioned Area, is located in Washington County entirely within the metropolitan area and totals approximately 310.77 acres of which approximately 161.51 acres are being transferred from the BCWD to the VBWD and approximately 149.26 acres are being transferred from the VBWD to the BCWD. The Petitioned Area includes land in the Cities of Grant, Lake Elmo and Oak Park Heights. The Petitioned Area is depicted on a map attached to the Petition as Exhibit 1 and further identified in a listing of the parcel identification numbers (PID, or Geocode) in Exhibit 2 of the Petition.



3. **Reasons for Boundary Change.** The Petition lists the following (See Exhibit 1):
  - A. At the time the boundary was established, the topography in the area of the common hydrologic boundary was mapped only in 10-foot contours. Two-foot contour mapping is now available for the entire area along the hydrologic boundary. This allows for the hydrologic boundary to be located now with substantially greater accuracy than it was at the time the jurisdictional boundary was established.
  - B. Oftentimes watershed jurisdictional boundaries have been set to follow property lines which diverge from the hydrological boundary. At the time the boundary was established, much of the petitioned area was unplatted and the watershed boundary deviated substantially from the hydrologic boundary in a number of locations to avoid splitting individual land parcels. Extensive subdivision since then has occurred and in the petitioned area it is possible to follow the hydrologic boundary much more closely without splitting parcels.
4. **Hearing Order.** At its regular meeting on June 26, 2002, the Board determined that the Petition met the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 103D.251 and consequently ordered a public hearing to be held on the Petition for the Boundary Change of the Brown's Creek Watershed District and the Valley Branch Watershed District. (See Exhibit 3)
5. **Hearing Notice.** Legal notice of the public hearing on the proposed boundary change, pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 103D.251, Subd. 6 and 103D.221, Subd. 2, was published in the Stillwater Evening Gazette on June 26 and July 3, 2002, and in the Lillie Suburban Newspaper the Oakdale-Lake Elmo Review on June 26 and July 3, 2002. (See Exhibits 4 and 5) Further, a copy of the hearing notice was mailed to several addressees including the Washington County Auditor, Washington County Administrator, legal counsel for the two watershed districts, all of the cities affected by the proposed boundary change, the SWCD, and the DNR. (See Exhibit 6)
6. **Public Hearing.** A public hearing was held on the boundary change petition on Thursday, July 18, 2002 in Room 560 at the Washington County Government Center, 14949 North 62<sup>nd</sup> Street, Stillwater, Minnesota. The proceedings were tape recorded. The hearing panel was the Metropolitan Water Planning Subcommittee which consisted of Board members Karen Harder, Dwain Otte, and Jack Frost as chair.

Jim Haertel, Board staff, entered Exhibits 1 through 7 into the record by reading a brief description of each exhibit.

Exhibit 1. Petition to change the boundary of the Brown's Creek Watershed District and the Valley Branch Watershed District filed jointly by the two watershed districts and dated March 28 and April 8, 2002.

Exhibit 2. Resolution Number 02-01 dated March 25, 2002, from the Brown's Creek Watershed District to file the Petition.

Exhibit 3. Order dated June 26, 2002, from the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a Public Hearing on the Petition.

Exhibit 4. Affidavit of Publication dated July 5, 2002, of Legal Notice in the Stillwater Evening Gazette on June 26 and July 3, 2002.

Exhibit 5. Affidavit of Publication dated July 3, 2002, of Legal Notice in the Lillie Suburban Newspaper the Oakdale-Lake Elmo Review on June 26 and July 3, 2002.

Exhibit 6. Letter dated June 26, 2002, from Jim Haertel to several addressees notifying them of the public hearing, including copies of the legal notice and map.

Exhibit 7. Letter dated July 17, 2002, from Kimberly Kamper, City of Oak Park Heights Acting Administrator, stating that the city does not object to the proposed boundary change.

7. **Hearing Panel.** After hearing oral testimony, the public hearing was closed. Based on the oral and written record in this matter, the hearing panel decided with a unanimous vote to recommend to the full Board that the proposed boundary change by the Valley Branch Watershed District and the Brown's Creek Watershed District be established. The proposed boundary change would benefit the public welfare and public interest and advance the purpose of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103D.

## CONCLUSIONS

1. The Petition for boundary change of the Brown's Creek Watershed District and the Valley Branch Watershed District is valid in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 103D.251.
2. All relevant substantive and procedural requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled.
3. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of ordering a watershed district boundary change.
4. The proposed boundary change should be approved per the Petition. (See Exhibit 1)
5. The proposed boundary change is consistent with the requirements of, and would advance the purpose of, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103D.
6. The proposed boundary change would benefit the public welfare and public interest.

## **ORDER**

The Board hereby orders that the boundaries of the Brown's Creek Watershed District (BCWD) and the Valley Branch Watershed District (VBWD) are changed per the Petition. (See Exhibit 1) The boundary change is as specified in Exhibit 2 of said Petition attached hereto and made a part of this order hereof.

Dated this 28th day of August, 2002.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leland Coe, Chair

# EXHIBIT 2 Properties Affected by Boundary Change

A. *To be Added to VBWD and Removed from BCWD*

| AREA | PID<br>(Geocode) |
|------|------------------|
| 1    | 602920110007     |
|      | 602920110010     |
|      | 602820110011     |
|      | 602920110012     |
|      | 602920110013     |
|      | 602920110014     |
|      | 602920110015     |
|      | 602920110017     |
|      | 602920110018     |
|      | 602920120007     |
|      | 602920120010     |
|      | 602920120012     |
|      | 602920130002     |
|      | 602920130003     |
|      | 602920130004     |
|      | 602920130006     |
|      | 602920130007     |
|      | 602920140007     |
| 3    | 102921130002     |
| 4    | 102921210006     |
| 5    | 3603012130006    |
|      | 3603021230007    |
|      | 3603021230008    |
| 6    | 3503021110001    |
|      | 3503021110002    |
|      | 3503021110003    |
|      | 3503021110004    |
|      | 3503021110005    |
|      | 3503201110010    |
|      | 3503021110011    |
|      | 3503021120004    |
|      | 3503021120005    |
|      | 3503021120006    |
|      | 3503021120007    |
| 9    | 2603021320001    |
|      | 2603021320002    |
| 11   | 2703021130003    |
| 13   | 2703021230006    |
|      | 2703021240001    |

B. *To be Added to BCWD and Removed from VBWD*

| AREA | PID<br>(Geocode) |
|------|------------------|
| 2a   | 602920210001     |
|      | 602920210004     |
|      | 602920210005     |
|      | 602920240003     |
|      | 602920240004     |
|      | 602920240005     |
|      | 602920240006     |
|      | 602920240007     |
|      | 602920240008     |
|      | 602920240009     |
|      | 602920240010     |
|      | 602920240014     |
|      | 602920240015     |
|      | 602920240016     |
|      | 602920240017     |
|      | 602920240018     |
|      | 602920240019     |
|      | 602920240020     |
| 2b   | 602920310010     |
|      | 602920310013     |
|      | 602920310014     |
|      | 602920310015     |
|      | 602920310016     |
|      | 602920310017     |
|      | 602920310018     |
|      | 602920310019     |
|      | 602920310020     |
|      | 602920310021     |
|      | 602920310022     |
|      | 602920310023     |
|      | 602920310024     |
|      | 602920310025     |
|      | 602920310026     |

| AREA       | PID<br>(Geocode) |
|------------|------------------|
| 2b (cont.) | 602920310027     |
|            | 602920310028     |
|            | 602920310028     |
|            | 602920310029     |
|            | 602920310030     |
|            | 602920310031     |
|            | 602920310032     |
|            | 602920310033     |
|            | 602920310034     |
|            | 602920310035     |
|            | 602920310036     |
|            | 602920310037     |
|            | 602920310038     |
|            | 602920310039     |
|            | 602920310043     |
|            | 602920320016     |
|            | 602920320017     |
|            | 602920320018     |
|            | 602920320019     |
|            | 602920320020     |
|            | 602920320021     |
|            | 602920320026     |
|            | 602920320027     |
|            | 602920320028     |
|            | 602920320029     |
|            | 602920320030     |
|            | 602920320031     |
|            | 602920320032     |
|            | 602920320033     |
| 7          | 3503021210002    |
| 8          | 2603021340001    |
| 10         | 2703021410003    |
| 12         | 2703021230001    |

C. *To be Added to BCWD (Currently Unassigned)*

| AREA | PID<br>(Geocode) |
|------|------------------|
| 8    | 2603021330001    |



## RIM FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR FLOOD RECOVERY

BWSR staff are proposing to authorize approximately \$640,000 in Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) funds for easements in counties affected by the 2002 floods. The following counties are currently listed as flood disaster counties: Becker, Beltrami, Clay, Clearwater, Itasca, Kittson, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, McLeod, Mahnomen, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, East Polk, West Polk, Red Lake, Roseau, Hubbard, and Wright. If approved by the BWSR Board, landowners in these counties will be eligible to apply. Easements will be targeted to sites affected by the 2002 flooding or to sites that could reduce the effects of future floods.

SWCDs in eligible counties will be asked to hold a sign-up as soon as practicable after notification that the program has been authorized by the BWSR Board. If approved, applications will be accepted in the following categories.

- First Priority:**        **Permanent easements on sites suited to temporary storage of floodwater.** Watershed district project teams will make recommendations for these sites to the SWCD.
- Second Priority:**    **Permanent easements on sites damaged by the flood.** These will generally be sites where soil erosion or sedimentation has damaged the landscape to a point where restoring the site to cropland is improbable.
- Third Priority:**      **Permanent easements on sites that currently have a continuous CRP contract.**
- Fourth Priority:**    **Limited duration easements on sites that are suited to temporary flood storage.**
- Fifth Priority:**      **Limited duration easements on sites that have been damaged by floodwaters.**

BWSR will fund applications based on the above listed priorities. This is a one-time program. Any money not used through this special sign-up will be made available statewide. This RIM money must be encumbered by December 31, 2003.

We are asking Board approval to allocate the \$640,000 in RIM funds for a Special flood recovery sign-up beginning in September 2002.

Prepared by Ron Shelito

## **Challenge Grant Funds for Flood Recovery**

Excessive rainfall in June 2002 caused overland and ravine flooding in many counties in Minnesota. As a result of the flooding, President Bush has responded to Governor Ventura's request and declared a major disaster for the state of Minnesota. Landowners in many counties are now eligible for federal assistance. The eligible counties are Clay, Becker, Clearwater, Mahnomen, Norman, Polk, Red Lake, Pennington, Marshall, Beltrami, Kittson, Roseau, Koochiching, Itasca, McLeod, and Wright.

The floods of 2002 have washed out many roads, damaged vast areas of cropland, damaged buildings, caused loss of livestock, and caused server erosion and sedimentation on many sites. State, federal, and local agencies are working together to assess the total scope of the flood damages. Much of the effort is going into addressing the community related damages and the damages to crops. BWSR is also concerned about the damage to conservation practices caused by the flooding, and the erosion and sedimentation that have occurred on unprotected areas. Trees in field windbreaks have been flooded out, shoreline stabilization structures have been damaged, fish and wildlife habitat destroyed etc.

BWSR staff is proposing to make \$103,000 of returned Challenge Grant money available to disaster eligible counties to inventory damaged conservation practices and new areas of significant erosion or sedimentation caused by the floods of 2002. A portion of the \$103,000 will be divided and allocated to eligible SWCDs to conduct the inventories. The remainder will be used for data compilation.

We anticipate completion of this project by February 2003.

We are asking Board approval to allocate the \$103,000 for the purposes described above.

Prepared by Ron Shelito

## **PROPOSED FY 03 NPEA BASE GRANTS**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Non Point Engineering Assistance (NPEA) Grants are allocated annually to the eleven NPEA Joint Powers Boards for the purpose of providing technical assistance to landowners to apply conservation practices. The legislature appropriates \$1.13 M annually for this Program.

### **ISSUE**

These base grants are allocated according to policy adopted at the February '01 BWSR Meeting, as follows:

- A) The entire FY 03 legislative appropriation will be allocated equally, (currently \$102,727 per JPB) up to the total requested amount.
- B) Any unused FY 02 grant funds will be used for FY 03 budget expenses.
- C) JPBs will be responsible for their budget shortfalls.
- D) JPBs will be required, to submit a Board Conservationist approved budget and plan detailing how they will resolve their budget shortfalls, and provide adequate engineering assistance in their JPB area.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the approval of the FY 03 NPEA Base Grants as listed in the "Adjusted Base Grant" column on the enclosed spreadsheet. The BWSR SWCD Accounting Coordinator has approved all FY 02 Financial Reports. All FY 03 JPB budgets, including "budget shortfall plans", have been approved by Board Conservationists.

NOTE: "Budget shortfall plans" include the following:

- Charging fees for services
- SWCD contributions
- Grants from other sources
- Spending down JPB fund balances

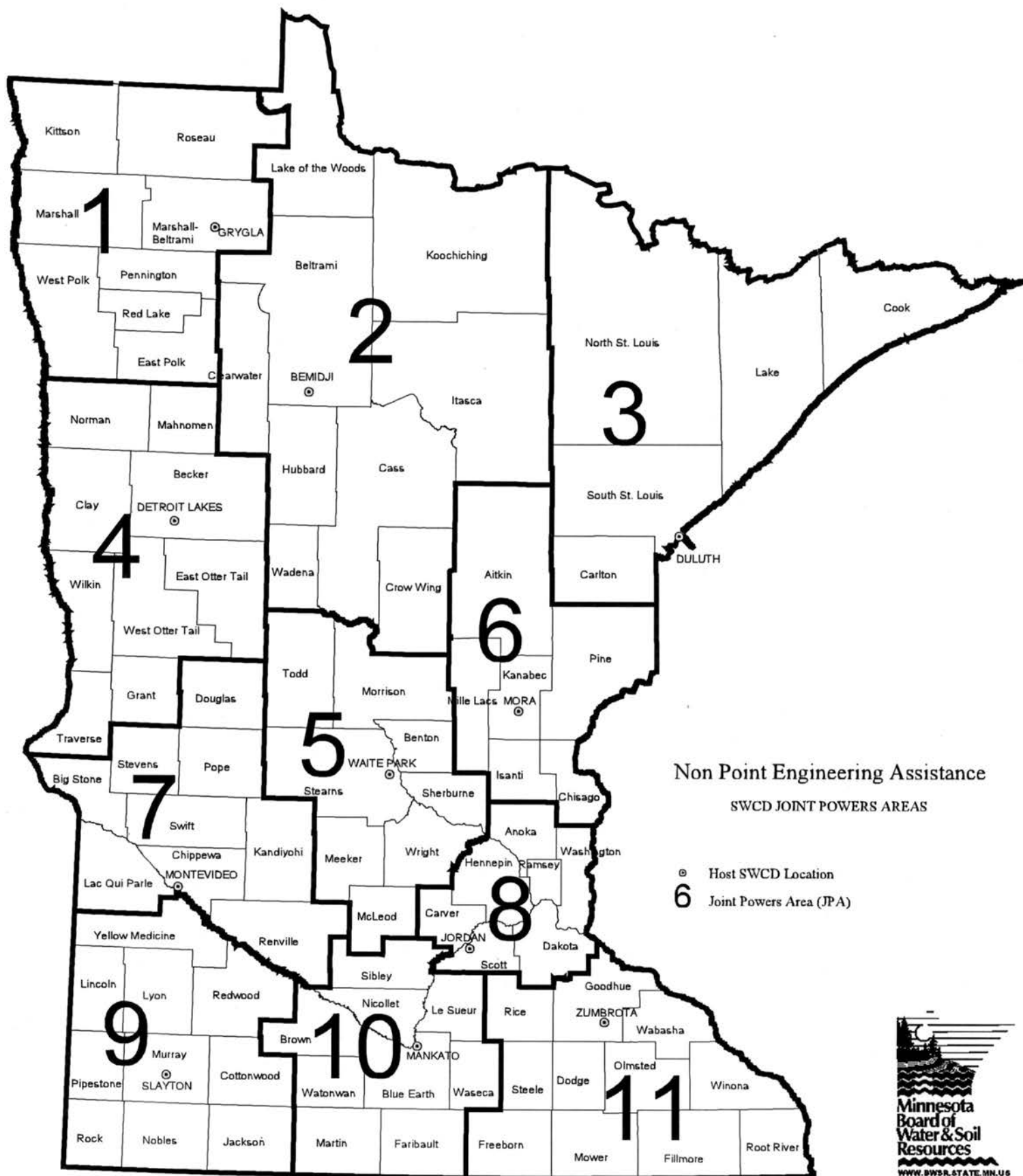
**PROPOSED FY 03 NPEA BASE GRANTS**

AMOUNT AVAILABLE - \$1,130,000

| JPB   | FY 03<br>BASE GRANT | FY 02<br>CARRYOVER | FY 03<br>BUDGET | FUNDING<br>SHORTFALL | ADJUSTED<br>BASE GRANT |
|-------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1     | \$102,727           | \$5,809            | \$127,450       | (\$18,914)           | \$102,727              |
| 2     | \$102,727           | \$0                | \$144,394       | (\$41,667)           | \$102,727              |
| 3     | \$102,727           | \$49,636           | \$183,699       | (\$31,336)           | \$102,727              |
| 4     | \$102,727           | \$21,543           | \$131,254       | (\$6,984)            | \$102,727              |
| 5     | \$102,727           | \$4,575            | \$145,648       | (\$38,346)           | \$102,727              |
| 6     | \$102,727           | \$43,412           | \$148,825       | (\$2,686)            | \$102,727              |
| 7     | \$102,727           | \$45,195           | \$152,550       | (\$4,628)            | \$102,727              |
| 8     | \$102,727           | \$33,019           | \$145,500       | (\$9,754)            | \$102,727              |
| 9     | \$102,727           | \$2,602            | \$191,530       | (\$86,201)           | \$102,727              |
| 10    | \$102,727           | \$806              | \$121,557       | (\$18,024)           | \$102,727              |
| 11    | \$102,727           | \$60,273           | \$172,267       | (\$9,267)            | \$102,727              |
| TOTAL | \$1,129,997         | \$266,870          | \$1,664,674     | (\$267,807)          | <b>\$1,129,997</b>     |
| AVE.  | \$102,727           | \$24,261           | \$151,334       | (\$24,346)           | <b>\$102,727</b>       |

H:03NPEABG

# Non Point Engineering Assistance



## **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**(August 28, 2002)**

- BWSR "Update:
- Updated board member listing (Jerome Deal's fax number)
- Memo to Board Members dated August 27, from Marybeth Block regarding Cass County's Local Water Management Plan
- Memo to Board members dated August 27, from Marybeth Block regarding Crow Wing County's Local Water Management Plan
- Memo to agencies regarding Cass County's Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan 90-day Review
- Memo to agencies regarding Crow Wing's County's Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan 90-day Review
- Memo to SWCDs from Kevin Lines, regarding "No 2002 Fall RIM Reserve Sign-Up"
- Newspaper article "Protecting natural resources a complex challenge"



# Board of Water and Soil Resources UPDATE

A publication of the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

August 2002

## NORTH

### WCA

The Polk County TEP met in early June to complete the final review of the 1,800-acre Vesledahl Wetland Restoration, Phase 1. The SWCD, Mn/DOT, and BWSR were represented. The TEP concluded that the sites were beginning to develop the functions and values planned in the application. The warm season grasses and forbs hadn't developed at that time, but have since grown rapidly because of the warm and wet weather. Dan Eklund worked with Bruce Sandstrom to get Phase 1 banked.

Dale Krystosek and Bill Best completed WCA program reviews in Kittson and Pennington counties. The majority of the project files were either avoidance or exemptions. Both counties had one or two projects that needed closure.

Bill flew with DNR Conservation Officer Don Murray (from Grand Rapids) over Bill's work area. They noted a few possible violations in Lake of the Woods, Clearwater, and Beltrami counties. They wanted to fly over some violations and projects that were being built or were completed. Bill also flew with Les Lemm to check some violations in Lake of the Woods County and spent most of that time over the Bailey violation.

### Watershed Districts

On June 17, Phil Belfiori and Dan Steward traveled to Brooten to meet with Allan Kuseske, the North Fork Crow River Watershed District administrator, to review the district's progress on the draft overall plan. One of the key issues was the need to coordinate the Rice Lake and Koronis Lake plans with the draft watershed plan. Both plans are being funded in part by BWSR and will address key issues in the same watershed. Phil and Dan left with an agreement from Allan that the Rice Lake and Koronis Lake plans should identify how aggressively they want the watershed district to deal with the water quality issues sure to come with the urbanization of the area around Rice and Koronis lakes.

### Red River Basin

Pete Waller assisted Red River Basin Commission staff in completing the Red River Basin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Proposal final draft. The proposal is posted on the Red River Basin Decision Information Network web site ([www.rrbdin.org](http://www.rrbdin.org)). Tentative timetable to present the proposal to the BWSR Board is prior to Labor Day.

### Other

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District is updating its long-range plan. The watershed district's plan must incorporate goals and action strategies for both Flood Damage Reduction (FDR) and Natural Resource Enhancements (NRE). The NRE action strategies are likely the same type of actions undertaken in the local water plans or the soil and water conservation districts. Coordination of these plans will strengthen all the plans by defining who's doing what on this same piece of ground.

Wilkin County's meeting has been completed and went well. County meetings for Big Stone, Stevens, Grant, Traverse, and Otter Tail were scheduled for July. Staff and board members of the county, SWCD, and watershed district were expected to participate.

Lake of the Woods SWCD and Lake of the Woods County are developing a "roles and responsibilities" agreement to allocate NRBG resources. The SWCD will take the lead on water planning, feedlots, and provide support for WCA; the county P & Z will retain the lead for WCA, shoreland, and ISTS portions of the NRBG.

Wadena SWCD staff members had some preliminary discussions with the instructors of the heavy equipment classes at the Staples campus of Central Lakes College about doing a WCA training session for students.

*-Submitted by Ron Shelito*



## Board of Water and Soil Resources Update, Page 2

### LAND & WATER

In recent years, feedlots, and the associated wastes generated thereof, have received increased attention from the private and public sectors alike. Feedlot inventories are being conducted, new feedlot rules regulating the use of feedlots have been implemented, and the legislature has increased BWSR's State Cost Share Program appropriations to accelerate the treatment of feedlot related water quality problems. The State Cost Share Program is administered by BWSR, and locally by SWCDs, according to Minnesota Statutes, the Cost Share Rule, and BWSR policy. These three entities work together to deliver the program according to legislative intent.

Our previous State Cost Share Program Policy has not adequately addressed all current feedlot cost share issues, especially those associated with feedlot roofs and relocating feedlots. Feedlot roofs that minimize or eliminate feedlot runoff, in certain situations, have and should be considered viable alternatives and are becoming more popular with producers. In other feedlot pollution abatement situations, relocating a feedlot to a different site may be more cost effective than installing a pollution abatement system on the existing site.

The feedlot industry has become more innovative and complex in dealing with pollution abatement issues. On some issues, BWSR and SWCD staff members have found our policy to be "silent." Over the years, Cost Share policy has been developed on an as-needed basis, and needed to be collected and clarified.

To guide BWSR and SWCD staff, the executive director issued interim policy last August. Meanwhile, the Cost Share Committee directed staff to collect, examine, and clarify our current feedlot Cost Share policy, and develop and revise our policy to include relocation and roof situations for FY 03.

At its June 2002 meeting, the BWSR adopted its *State Feedlot Cost Share Policy*. The policy is effective immediately and affects all new feedlot projects. To view this policy, please refer to our web site (home page, under What's Hot).

-Submitted by Wayne Zellmer

### ENGINEERING

The MPCA recently announced the opening of the annual application period for EPA 319 competitive grants. These applications require an approved Clean Water Partnership (CWP) Phase 1 Diagnostic Study or a Watershed Restoration Action Strategy (WRAS) as a work plan.

Recall that a 319 grant application submitted last year by the Lake Superior Association of SWCDs for shoreline and streambank stabilization cost-share was disqualified during the proposal ranking period because the 1997 Lake Superior CWP Phase 1 report was determined to be an inadequate work plan. R.C. Boheim, South St. Louis SWCD manager, has expressed a willingness to help lead the development of a WRAS to enable a 319 proposal this year. We're still hoping that MPCA staff in Duluth will also be able to assist. The Lake Superior Watershed Assessment has dominated the time of MPCA Duluth staff in recent months. A 319 proposal could be a potential source of funding for cost-share and engineering assistance for lakeshore and streambank erosion control along the North Shore. Cuts of the BWSR budget have severely limited funding for both cost-share and lakeshore engineering assistance.

The north central Minnesota Nonpoint Engineering Assistance (NPEA) joint powers board, located in Bemidji, has agreed to have its engineer and technician provide construction inspection assistance for Phase 2 of the Vesledahl wetland-banking project in Polk County. Recall that this is a large multi-agency banking project for local and state government replacement credits for road impacts to wetlands. Construction of Phase 2 began in July. The majority of construction inspection for Phase 1 was provided by temporary DNR staff under contract to the BWSR and Mn/DOT and by BWSR engineering staff. Due to the CREP wetland restoration workload, the state hiring freeze, and NPEA program funding constraints, Al Kean helped Bruce Sandstrom set up a partnership agreement with JPB 2. This should be a win-win arrangement.

The CREP wetland restoration engineering partners continue to focus on getting as many projects as possible designed and constructed yet this year to help reduce the wave of projects to implement during the next two construction seasons. We also have many topographic surveys to accomplish yet this fall for the last wave of

## Board of Water and Soil Resources Update, Page 3

CREP wetland restoration applications. We continue to stoke the furnace of engineering assistance.

At the request of the Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Work Group, the Technical and Scientific Advisory Committee (TSAC) recently started a new project to assess issues and options for on-channel floodwater storage in the Red River Basin. A goal of the project is to develop guidance for siting, design, and operation of on-channel floodwater impoundments to help avoid, minimize, or mitigate negative environmental impacts. This assessment is on the fast track, due to increased focus on potential floodwater storage after the recent floods in the Red River Basin.

- Submitted by Al Kean

### BRIEFS

#### Martin County drafts wetland protection and management plan

At one time, wetlands existed on nearly one-third of Martin County's land area. Much of the county's wetlands disappeared with mass draining in the early 1900s, done to create additional agricultural land and supported by federal and state laws of the time.

Today, only 5 percent of the county's original wetlands remain, most of which are located within shoreland areas of lakes, rivers, and streams, according to Becky Schlorf Von Holdt, Martin county water planner/environmental technician.

The value of wetlands is now recognized in public laws and natural resource management. Society's views of wetlands have also changed. Martin County has recently drafted its own wetland protection and management plan in place that sets a course for preserving, enhancing, restoring, and establishing wetlands countywide. "It's important for us to protect what we have left," Von Holdt said.

The county board approved the plan Aug. 6. The next step will be to draft a new county ordinance and submit the plan to BWSR in 2003, according to Von Holdt.

Martin County's draft plan has a number of specific goals and policies. It includes strategies for education of public officials and the general public about wetlands, promoting protection of existing wetlands, and promoting restoration of wetlands.

A 25-member technical advisory committee guided Martin County's planning process. Writing this plan was a spin-off of the county's local water plan, which set forth a goal to "preserve and protect the wetlands that remain in Martin County," Von Holdt noted.

A team of students from Rushford-Peterson High School, which represented Minnesota, placed seventh out of 49 teams in the Canon National Envirothon, held July 29-Aug. 4 in Amherst, Mass.

This is the fourth year in a row that the school sent a team to the national Envirothon event, which is a competition that tests students' knowledge of environmental issues. Teams from Rushford-Peterson had fifth, 12th, and 6th-place finishes the previous three years. This year's team was the only Midwest team in the top 10.

Team members for 2001 include Eric Norton, Kristin Washburn, Tessa Hovland, James Colbenson, and Amber Feine. Coach is Craig Colbenson.

"The students felt they represented the Midwest really well," said Colbenson. "They were really happy with how well they did."

*Deadline for next edition:  
September 18*

**MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**  
**ONE WEST WATER STREET, SUITE 200**  
**ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55107**  
**Phone: 651-296-3767**  
**Fax: 651-297-5615**

| <b><u>Appointed Members</u></b>                                                                                                                  | <b><u>Appointment Designation</u></b> | <b><u>Term Expires</u></b> | <b><u>Telephone/Fax</u></b>                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Leland Coe, Chair</b> , 3948 Nebish Road NE<br>Tenstrike, 56683<br><a href="mailto:leecoe@paulbunyan.net">leecoe@paulbunyan.net</a>           | Citizen                               | 01-06-03                   | 218-243-2597 <i>Home/Fax</i>                                                      |
| <b>Karen Harder</b> , 4601 Emerson Ave. S.<br>Minneapolis, 55409-2339<br><a href="mailto:ktharder@efg.com">ktharder@efg.com</a>                  | Citizen                               | 01-03-05                   | 612-824-4136 <i>Home</i><br>612-824-4312 <i>Fax</i>                               |
| <b>Char Kahler</b> , 1966 50 <sup>th</sup> St.<br>Fairmont, 56031<br><a href="mailto:chark@kaco.net">chark@kaco.net</a>                          | Citizen                               | 01-05-04                   | 507-235-9837 <i>Home</i><br>507-238-2244 <i>Office</i><br>507-235-9619 <i>Fax</i> |
| <b>Paul Krabbenhoft</b> , 1119 - 25th Avenue South<br>Moorhead, 56560<br><a href="mailto:pkrabbenhoft@yahoo.com">pkrabbenhoft@yahoo.com</a>      | SWCD                                  | 01-02-06                   | 218-233-0313 <i>Home</i><br>701-281-3033 <i>Office</i><br>701-277-1570 <i>Fax</i> |
| <b>Victor Ormsby</b> , R.R. 3, Box 163<br>Winona, 55987-9515                                                                                     | SWCD                                  | 01-03-05                   | 507-454-7676 <i>Home</i>                                                          |
| <b>Dwain Otte</b> , 606 Zanmiller Drive West<br>Northfield, 55057<br><a href="mailto:dnotte@rconnect.com">dnotte@rconnect.com</a>                | SWCD                                  | 01-05-04                   | 507-645-4370 <i>Home</i>                                                          |
| <b>Jerome Deal</b> , 1501 Second Ave., So.<br>Wheaton, 56296                                                                                     | Watershed                             | 01-02-06                   | 320-563-8377 <i>Home</i><br>320-563-4194 <i>Fax</i>                               |
| <b>Jack Frost</b> , 2324 Maple Lane<br>Maplewood, 55109<br><a href="mailto:jlfrost@tcinternet.net">jlfrost@tcinternet.net</a>                    | Watershed                             | 01-05-04                   | 651-602-1078 <i>Office</i><br>651-602-1130 <i>Fax</i>                             |
| <b>Ginny L. Imholte</b> , 720 So. Shore Drive<br>Box 663, Detroit Lakes, 56501<br><a href="mailto:imholte@lakesnet.net">imholte@lakesnet.net</a> | Watershed                             | 01-06-03                   | 218-847-4236 <i>Home</i><br>218-847-4433 <i>Office</i><br>218-847-5059 <i>Fax</i> |
| <b>Darrell Bruggman</b> , 45898 State Hwy. 65<br>McGregor, 55760                                                                                 | Co. Commr.                            | 01-06-03                   | 218-426-3330 <i>Home</i><br>218-927-7374 <i>Fax</i>                               |
| <b>Clair Nelson</b> , Lake County Courthouse,<br>601 Third Avenue, Two Harbors, 55616                                                            | Co. Commr.                            | 01-02-06                   | 218-353-7385 <i>Home</i><br>218-834-8320 <i>Office</i><br>218-834-8360 <i>Fax</i> |
| <b>VACANT</b>                                                                                                                                    | Co. Commr.                            | 01-03-05                   |                                                                                   |

**State Agency Members:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                  |                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sharon Clark</b><br>90 W. Plato Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155<br><a href="mailto:Sharon.clark@state.mn.us">Sharon.clark@state.mn.us</a>                                          | <b>Department of Agriculture</b>                 | 651-297-1551 <i>Office</i><br>651-297-5522 <i>Fax</i> |
| <b>Dan Wilson</b><br>Well Management Section, P.O. Box 64975, St. Paul, MN 55164-0975<br><a href="mailto:Daniel.Wilson@health.state.mn.us">Daniel.Wilson@health.state.mn.us</a> | <b>Department of Health</b>                      | 651-215-0812 <i>Office</i><br>651-215-0978 <i>Fax</i> |
| <b>Wayne Edgerton</b><br>500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155<br><a href="mailto:Wayne.Edgerton@dnr.state.mn.us">Wayne.Edgerton@dnr.state.mn.us</a>                           | <b>Department of Natural Resources</b>           | 651-297-8341 <i>Office</i><br>651-296-4799 <i>Fax</i> |
| <b>Jim Anderson</b><br>439 Borlaug Hall, 1991 Upper Buford Circle, St. Paul, MN 55108<br><a href="mailto:Ander045@umn.edu">Ander045@umn.edu</a>                                 | <b>U of M/Dept. of Soil, Water &amp; Climate</b> | 612-625-0279 <i>Office</i><br>612-625-2208 <i>Fax</i> |
| <b>Lisa Thorvig</b><br>520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155<br><a href="mailto:Lisa.Thorvig@pca.state.mn.us">Lisa.Thorvig@pca.state.mn.us</a>                                 | <b>Pollution Control Agency</b>                  | 651-296-8811 <i>Office</i><br>651-296-6334 <i>Fax</i> |

**27-Aug-02**

**To: Board Members**

**From: Marybeth Block, BWSR Water Plan Coordinator**

**RE: Cass County's Local Water Management Plan.**



**Board Conservationist: Dan Steward**

**Duration of the proposed plan: Five Years; October 2002-2007**

**Note: Water Plan is a chapter of the county's Comprehensive Plan.**

**Attached is the executive summary of the plan.**

**DRAFT FOR REVIEW**

**COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL  
WATER  
MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE  
CASS COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**7/1/02 VERSION**

**SEPTEMBER 1, 2002-AUGUST 31, 2007**

**FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**John Sumption, Water Plan Coordinator  
Cass County Environmental Services  
PO Box 3000  
Walker, MN. 56484  
(218) 547-7256  
[john.sumption@co.cass.mn.us](mailto:john.sumption@co.cass.mn.us)**



# **COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN CASS COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### ***INTRODUCTION AND AUTHORITY***

Cass County is pleased to present our third generation Comprehensive Local Water Plan. We continue to recognize that our greatest asset is our immense and varied natural resource base. We also recognize that these high quality resources provide a unique opportunity for development and growth. We must place the highest priority on maintaining and preserving the unique environment of the County by tempering growth through wise management.

This plan is organized under the specifications and guidelines set forth in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 301B.301 to 301B.355; and Minnesota Rules, Chapter 9300. After review and approval, this version will become effective on July 1, 2002.

### ***SCOPE AND PURPOSE***

This plan is an analysis of Cass County's ground and surface waters and related land resources with a five-year action strategy designed to achieve County water resource and management goals.

The scope and purpose of the plan is to:

- Identify existing and potential problems and opportunities for the protection, management, and development of water and related land resources
- Preserve the pristine quality of the county's ground and surface waters and, where degradation has occurred, provide for water quality restoration
- Monitor water quality, use, and availability
- Develop objectives and carry out a plan of action to promote sound hydrologic management, effective environmental protection
- Provide coordinated and efficient delivery of environmental services to assure the long term protection of water resources and watersheds

### ***DIFFERENCES FROM PREVIOUS PLAN***

After reviewing the original 1990 plan and the 1996 update, the Water Plan Committee decided that a complete update was necessary. The major differences from the previous plans are:

- The water plan is being merged into a new county comprehensive plan
- Significant new resource data has been collected
- More sophisticated technology (GIS and computer models) allows better resource assessment
- Increased cooperation between departments, agencies, and supporting groups in plan implementation
- Greater emphasis on information and education

- Greater emphasis on management by major watershed
- Addresses problems and opportunities relating to population growth and greater development density

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

The following is a list of accomplishments realized under the 1996-2000 water plan update. They are organized under each major resource goal area:

**GROUND-WATER QUALITY GOAL:** Preserve the quality of the County's ground-water and where degradation has occurred, provide for restoration of ground-water quality.

- Inspected 3,367 new or upgraded septic systems
- Organized 5 community drainfield systems-subordinate service districts
- Promoted soil nutrient testing for crop production and lake-adjacent fertilizer application.
- Amended the Cass County Individual Sewage Treatment System Ordinance -1998
- Drafted a feedlot ordinance in cooperation with Crow Wing County
- Began level II feedlot inventory

**GROUND-WATER QUANTITY GOAL:** Monitor and regulate water use to assure adequate ground-water resources.

- Participated in bi-annual USGS Williams Lake Research symposiums
- Worked with well drillers to verify aquifer data
- Completed regional groundwater flow model in cooperation with U of M-Duluth

**SURFACE WATER QUALITY GOAL:** Preserve the quality of Cass County's surface water, and where degradation has occurred, work to restore the surface water quality.

- Supported activities of the Tri-County Leech Lake Watershed Project
- Assisted in creating and served on the Board of the Pine River Watershed Protection Foundation
- Created Upland Functional Analysis Model for development evaluation
- Updated 132 agricultural conservation plans
- Completed wetland functional analysis model to prioritize significant wetlands
- Enacted Minnesota's first county wetland ordinance
- Maintained wetland bank account for use by Cass County landowners
- Worked with 14 lake associations and the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe to sample water chemistry
- Conducted Hydrolab testing and compiled data for physical parameters on 70 lakes annually
- Expansion of volunteer water resource monitoring:
- 47 lakes (through MPCA's Citizen Lake Monitoring Program)
- 22 lake level gauge readers (DNR's Lake Level Monitoring Program)



- 7 precipitation volunteers (SWCD's Rain Gauge Program)
- 5 MHB River Watch high schools (Cass Lake, Walker, Longville, Remer, Pine River)
- 7 groundwater monitoring wells (DNR Obwell Program)
- Attended and/or spoke at 50+ lake association meetings
- Spoke at 15 Association of Cass County Lakes Board meetings
- Established a bio-control program for purple loosestrife with 8 lake association volunteers and support from the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Mn DNR, and the Dept. of Agriculture
- Amended the Cass County Shoreland Ordinance -1996, 1998, 1999
- Amended the Cass County Subdivision Ordinance -1998
- Updated 19 ag waste management plans
- Reviewed stormwater plans on all plats, subdivisions and conditional use permits
- Assisted local governments with stormwater and erosion control projects
- City of Walker Stormwater Project--\$40,000 challenge grant
- Shingobee Twp. #14 Erosion Project--Engineered design and \$9,000 special project grant
- Cass County Road #137--Engineered design and \$13,000 special project grant
- West Winnibigoshish homesite erosion control-\$18,000 challenge grant
- Assisted private individuals with stormwater and erosion control projects
- Engineering assistance to 54 landowners
- Over \$40,000 in SWCD cost sharing assistance
- Assisted 6 lake associations in developing lake watershed management plans in cooperation with the Initiative Foundation's Healthy Lakes Program. 8 more lakes scheduled for 2001.
- Support for the establishment, and continuing support for a University of Minnesota Extension specialist in shoreland revegetation. The incumbent assists ESD with shoreline revegetation designs for variances, permits, conditional uses, and violations. She also assists landowners with questions and trains lake association volunteers.
- Supported MPCA Basin Planning Program--Upper Mississippi and Crow Wing/Long Prairie rivers
- Completed 4 streambank erosion control projects including an alternative livestock watering facility--\$10,000 in special project funding
- Secured Minnesota's first lakeshore easements--219 acres and 8,200 feet of lakeshore--\$250,000 special LCMR appropriation through BWSR
- Assisted the Leech Lake Watershed Foundation with referrals and technical assistance on 7 conservation easements or acquisitions including the \$2.6 million Mule Lake acquisition

**SURFACE WATER QUANTITY GOAL:**

Monitor and regulate water use to assure adequate

surface water resources.

- Completion of Middle Boy River Cleanwater Partnership Project--1997.
- Participated in the Lake Winnibigoshish/Cass Lake Clean Water Partnership, 1998-2001.

**PLAN ADMINISTRATION GOAL:**

Provide coordinated and efficient delivery of environmental

services to assure the long term protection of water resources.

- Established a county internet website including environmental information
- Integrated all GIS data onto a data server used by all County departments

- Completed digital parcel coverage for the County
- Adopted county-wide zoning ordinance--1998
- Drafted "Welcome to Cass County" environmental directory to be distributed to every new landowner as well as the general public.

## **OVERVIEW OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Water plan implementation has very successful over the past 5 years. The County has enjoyed support of the County Board as well as cooperation between County departments, and local and state agencies. Lake associations, foundations, and citizen organizations have begun to work together and embraced the water plan goals, incorporating key elements into their plans.

## **FACTORS LIMITING SUCCESS**

There was no shortage of worthwhile projects, but money and manpower were limiting factors. Millions of dollars could have been spent on projects and programs if funding were available and personnel were available to deliver them. Often choices had to be made between projects, all of which were important and environmentally beneficial. Greater future state-level priority must be directed toward lake-based programs.

## **PLAN ORGANIZATION**

This plan is one of four components of a revised Cass County Comprehensive Plan. The others are the private land use plan, the public land use plan, and the public infrastructure plan. Integrating these components will afford a clear understanding of overall county involvement and strategies, and place the full force of the county and supporting agencies and groups behind the implementation of its objectives.

This Water Plan component includes:

- An introduction and executive summary including accomplishments of the previous plan
- An update of the 55 data elements from the original 1990 plan
- An update of the resource assessments including a watershed assessment
- A set of goals, objectives, and actions to implement the plan
- A timetable for implementation
- A method and schedule for evaluation and update

## **IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

This is a complete update of the current plan to be implemented over the next 5 years. All original plan priorities are updated. In addition, wetland, watershed, education, data, and regulatory goals have been developed to consolidate related objectives from other sections. The Cass County Environmental Services Department will continue to be the lead implementation agency. The ESD Advisory Committee will be given an increased level of responsibility and involvement in work plan and budget development, project review, and policy update.

## **WATER PLAN PRIORITIES**

The water plan priorities to be update include the following goals:

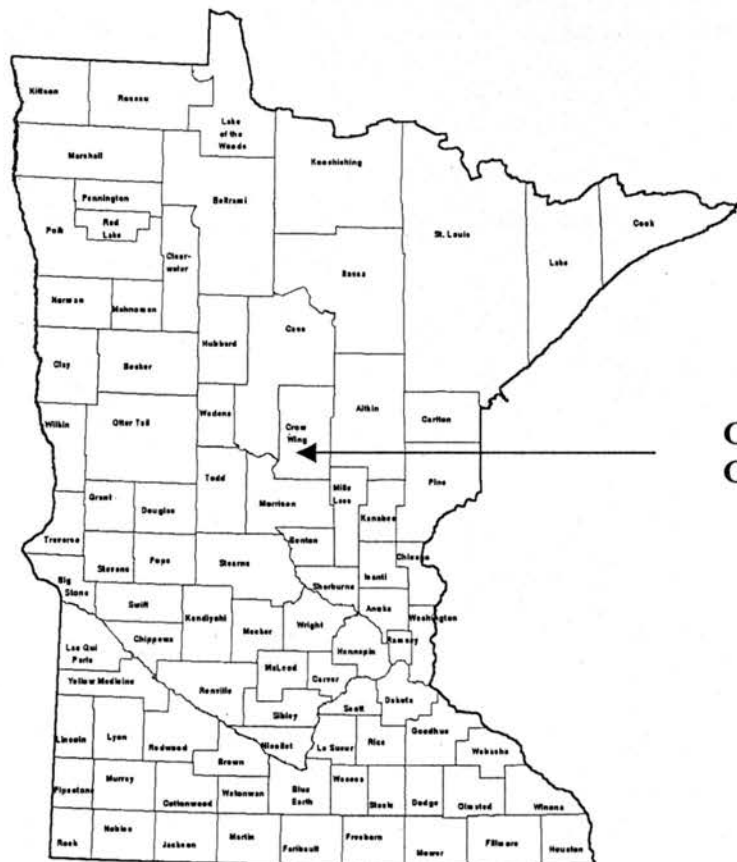
- **GROUND-WATER QUALITY GOAL:** Preserve the quality of the County's ground-water and where degradation has occurred, provide for restoration of ground-water quality.
- **GROUND-WATER QUANTITY GOAL:** Monitor water use to assure adequate ground-water resources.
- **SURFACE WATER QUALITY GOAL:** Preserve the quality of Cass County's surface water, and where degradation has occurred, work to restore the surface water quality.
- **SURFACE WATER QUANTITY GOAL:** Monitor water use to assure adequate surface water resources.
- **WETLAND PROTECTION GOAL:** Preserve the functions, values, and extent of the County's wetland resources and support programs that protect wetlands from development impacts.
- **EDUCATION AND INFORMATION GOAL:** Work cooperatively with other departments and agencies to provide accurate, useful environmental information.
- **WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GOAL:** To work cooperatively with other agencies in implementing plans and projects based on watershed-wide priorities.
- **DATA MANAGEMENT GOAL:** Assemble and manage historical and current surface and groundwater data in efficient, useable formats that afford easy access and analysis.
- **REGULATORY GOAL:** Enact and enforce policies, rules, and ordinances that are administered equitably and that protect the County's natural resources.
- **PLAN ADMINISTRATION GOAL:** Provide coordinated and efficient delivery of environmental services to assure the long-term protection of water resources.

27-Aug-02

To: Board Members

From: Marybeth Block, BWSR Water Plan Coordinator

RE: Crow Wing County's Local Water Management Plan.



Crow Wing County,  
County Seat: Brainerd

Board Conservationist: Dan Steward

Duration of the proposed plan: Five Years; October 2002-

Attached is the executive summary of the plan.

---

# **2002 Crow Wing County Comprehensive Local Water Plan**

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*To Protect, Preserve & Improve Water Resources in  
Crow Wing County for 2002 - 2007*



## *Draft*

**June 25, 2002**

Planning & Zoning  
200 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Brainerd, MN 56401

Phone 218 824-1125  
Fax 218 824-1126  
[www.co.crow-wing.mn.us](http://www.co.crow-wing.mn.us)



## **Introduction and Water Plan Summary**

### **Introduction**

Water is this Central Minnesota County's life-blood and, of its 731,000 acres, 14% or approximately 102,000 are covered by this liquid heritage – scenic lakes, rivers and streams, not to mention an additional 14% of the county being covered by wetlands. Crow Wing County is located 100 miles northwest of the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area (Figure 1). Its length, north to south, is 45 miles and its width, east to west, stretches 27 miles. To the north and west, Cass County borders Crow Wing County; to the south and southeast, lie Morrison and Mille Lacs Counties; and to the east, Aitkin County. What is now a booming tourism industry started with the fur traders and trappers, followed by harvesters of White and Red Pine trees, Iron mining has come and gone as well. Our natural resources have been exploited by previous generations and we may be in the process of doing the same thing to our lakes. Every generation has its resource challenges and opportunities, we have a great opportunity to look well into the future and protect our vast water resources as a sustainable resource.

### **County Water Planning History**

The Crow Wing County Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) is a comprehensive analysis of water and related land resources coupled with a recommended series of action strategies designed to achieve maximum water resource use and achieve management goals. The plan has been developed under the legislative authority and mandate of the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act (Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 110B) and its associated State Rule (MCAR, Chapter 9300).

The first water plan (1990) was authorized by resolution of the Crow Wing County Board of Commissioners. A Water Management Plan Task Force comprised of 12 county residents was appointed to provide citizen input, help analyze data and assist in plan preparation. The County, together with the Task Force, sponsored a public hearing to gain input relative to management and preservation of the County's water resources. The original water plan was adopted in 1990.

In 1997, the CLWP was updated. This update built upon the framework of the original plan and added three areas of assessment - wellhead protection, wetland prioritization, and storm water management - and created new goals and objectives. Numerous implementation efforts have taken place in the past several years.

The original Water Plan Advisory Board (WPAB) was made up of five members who were appointed by each of the County Commissioners. In 1998, the WPAB was expanded to a 16-member board representing the following sectors of the community: Municipalities, Business, Area Planning and Zoning, ISTS Field, Agricultural, Resorts, Township Supervisors, Public Education, Lakeshore Owners, Forestry, Well Drillers, Lakes and Rivers Coalition, Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment, SWCD Board of



Supervisors, an Interested Citizen from the Northern Part of the County and an Interested Citizen from the Southern Part of the County.

The process to update the CLWP in preparation for the third five-year interval began in the summer of 2001. The 2002 CLWP aims at promoting better planning and management of our shared natural resources by working in conjunction with neighboring communities and internally with planning county-wide.

## Purpose of Local Water Planning

The purpose of Local Water Planning is to:

- Identify existing and potential problems and opportunities for the protection, management, and development of water and related land resources; and
- Develop objectives and carry out a plan of action to promote sound hydrologic management of water and related land resources, effective environmental protection and efficient management.

## Scope of the 2002 Update

The scope of the 2002 water plan is to create goals and objectives based on public input to be implemented in the next 5 years and to be updated again in September, 2007.

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 301B and Minnesota Rules, Chapter 9300 require that fifty-five key resource data items be reviewed in the water management planning process. In addition, 18 resource assessments (found in the gray textbox) are required to evaluate resource conditions and the impact that various land uses may have on those resources.

In addition to the basic information, there are a number of items that this round of water plan updates need to address. The following requirements are:

- Identify and prioritize current problems and opportunities based on assessments and public opinion.
- Update goals, objectives, and actions.
- Add new or revised data if any.
- Review resource assessments and amend as necessary in addition to addressing storm water management, source water protection, and flood damage reduction.
- Develop an implementation plan.
- Continue to place emphasis on framing the plan in the context of watersheds.

The 2002 CLWP is a stand-alone document. This plan has been completely updated with the backbone of the original 1991 plan and the 1997 update. Supporting documents and additional information, gathered since the 1991 plan, are available in the Crow Wing County Planning and Zoning Office in Brainerd.

## Planning Process and Public Participation

In order to tailor the water plan update to the goals and objectives of County citizens, the planning process strongly focused on public participation. Personal invitations, local media, and website technology were the three approaches used to obtain input for the 2002 CLWP. Over 250 personal invitations were sent out to invite local government units, local citizens, lake associations, and state and federal agencies to participate in a "Public Informational Meeting" for the update. In addition to personal invitations, local media were contacted and a local environmental cyber newsletter also informed groups of the Public Informational Meeting. A survey was also posted on the County website to allow individuals who could not attend the Public Meeting an opportunity to help prioritize and comment on the 2002 CLWP.

There were over 40 people who attended the public informational meeting. The local paper also wrote an article giving an overview of the event. Surface water quality, adequacy of shoreland ordinances, and wetlands were the areas that received the most attention. A copy of the minutes from the meeting and a summary of the survey information is available at the planning and zoning office.

## Evaluation of Past Water Plan Efforts

Water planning in Crow Wing County has been quite a success. The following goals from the 1991-1996 water plan were achieved:

- A clearinghouse for monitoring data was established using Data-Ease.
- Over 32 lakes and rivers were routinely monitored for water level.
- Numerous lakes are involved in the Citizen Lake Monitoring Program (CLMP) and Lake Assessment Programs (LAPs).
- The WPAB assisted the City of Baxter in mapping and prioritizing wetlands for planning.
- Bay Lake Township was assisted with mapping of water resources to help them build local capability in planning and managing wise use of water resources.
- Over 2000 acres of forest stewardship plans were written by the Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).
- Over 300 private wells were tested for nitrates with help from the Crow Wing County Extension Office, SWCD, and Minnesota Department of Agriculture.
- A pilot project to promote septic system upgrades was conducted on Mission Lake.
- A drained wetland inventory was developed for a majority of the townships in the County. These sites may be used as restoration sites that will assist the implementation of the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA).
- A challenge grant was secured from BWSR in 1994 to assist livestock producers in implementing water protection strategies.
- Water quality on the Mine Pit Lakes was monitored.

As water planning became more established, the list of accomplishments from the original water plan grew substantially. There was a period from 1999 to 2000 where the water planner position was vacant. Then, the water planner position was reclassified from a half-time employee to a  $\frac{3}{4}$  time employee. About the same time, the WPAB was expanded from a 5-member board to a 16-member board. Subcommittees were established and by-laws were created. Below is a list of the accomplishments from the 1997-2002 CLWP:

- The WPAB became a member of the Mille Lacs Lake Clean Water Partnership, where a 3-year position was funded in addition to funding for phase 1 monitoring and education.
- A wellhead protection plan was created for the City of Brainerd and will be used as a template for other municipalities.
- The shoreland ordinance was modified to prohibit wetland fill within the first (lakeward)  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the lake setback.
- The Highway #371 Commercial Corridor plan was developed, which addresses storm water management.
- Riverwatch was implemented in the Crosby-Ironton, Pequot Lakes, and Brainerd School Districts.
- A feedlot inventory was conducted.
- An erosion inventory was conducted on the Mississippi River, the Whitefish Chain of Lakes, Ross-Twin-Stark Lakes, Platte Lake, and Mille Lacs Lake.
- A GIS database was developed of all the lakes within the County, which provides the following information (when available):
  - Lake Association Contact
  - Water Quality Data (morphometric and chemical)
  - Monitoring Status (CWP, LAP, CLMP, etc.)
  - Sampling Schedule for upcoming years
- Over 3,500 wells were located with a GPS unit in order to assist the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) with the County Well Index.
- Additional private wells were sampled for nitrates.
- Septic system inventories were conducted on the following lakes: the Whitefish Chain (16 lakes), North Long Lake, and Portage-Crooked Lake. As a result, 2,682 properties were inspected and 580 failing systems identified (22%). The failing systems have been upgraded or are in the process of being upgraded.
- An enforcement officer was hired in 1998 by the Planning & Zoning office.
- An upland suitability model was developed for the Pine River Watershed, which shows areas suitable for development.

- Over 5,000 table tents were distributed to county restaurants advertising water quality Best Management Practices (BMPs).
- A "water day" was held for local 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students in which they went to a local conservation center and rotated to different stations where they learned about water resource protection.
- Twelve microscopes were purchased for the Paul Bunyan Nature Learning Center to aid in their water quality education class.
- Over 50 lakes in the County were sampled for Trophic Status by our local youth in cooperation with the County Extension Office.
- Water quality monitoring on Whisky Creek (which runs through the Northland Arboretum and ultimately into the Mississippi River) to establish baseline data and document impacts from adjacent runoff.
- A shoreline buffer workshop was held by the local SWCD and Water Plan with over 50 people attending.
- The County has contracted with the Minnesota Geological Survey (MGS) and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to develop a Geological Atlas for the County.
- A Bay Lake Township Road received funding to prevent erosion from of a roadway from entering an adjacent wetland.
- Additional forest stewardship plans were created from the SWCD.
- Over 16 lake associations have completed lake management plans where they went through a training course, held special meetings, and created a management plan for their lake.

## Summary of the 2002-2007 Water Plan Implementation Program

The 5-year implementation plan was established through public participation and assessments based on existing data. The WPAB currently has 5 committees (Education & Information, Monitoring & Data Collection, Inventory and Mapping, Land and Water Treatment, and Regulation/Ordinance & Planning) that will help implement the 5-year plan. There are 5 goals, 12 objectives and 35 action items to be completed in the next 5 years.

In the past, the Water Plan Advisory Board was able to provide considerable financial contributions to lake associations and other groups to help implement the Water Plan. With recent budget shortfalls and cutbacks at the federal, state and local level, implementation of the Water Plan will be a challenge. The next few years we will focus on more "service" based projects and continue to seek outside funding for the projects that require significant financial resources. We will also try to establish relationships with other groups such as Minnesota Land Trust, Sertoma Clubs, Rotary Groups, Scouts and faith communities to create community benefits and building "public ownership" of the water plans priorities.

July 25, 2002

TO: Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)  
Commissioner Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA)  
Chair, Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB)  
Director, Minnesota Geological Survey (MSG)

FROM: Ronald D. Harnack , Executive Director

SUBJECT: ***Cass County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan***

---

On Thursday, July 25, 2002, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will begin the official 90-day state review of the updated Cass County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Pursuant to Minnesota Rules, Chapter 9300.0170 the BWSR is forwarding the county water plan for your agency's review and comment. You have 45 days from receipt of this letter to submit comments, in writing, to the BWSR identifying the portions of the plan that the agency has determined to be inconsistent with the state law.

The Cass County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is being sent to your agency's 103B Technical Review Committee Member under separate cover. The 103B Technical Review Committee Members are:

- MDA, Mark Zabel
- MDH, Art Persons
- DNR, John Fax
- PCA, David L. Johnson
- EQB, Mike Tietz
- MGS, Barb Palen

Thank you for helping local resource managers protect and conserve their water resources through comprehensive local water management plans.

cc: Agency 103B Technical Review Committee Members  
BWSR Board Members  
BWSR Executive Team  
Dan Stewart, BWSR Board Conservationist  
John Sumption, Local Water Plan Coordinator

F/LandW/LanData/Local Water Planning/Water Plan Final Review



mga.

July 30, 2002

TO: Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)  
Commissioner Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA)  
Chair, Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB)  
Director, Minnesota Geological Survey (MSG)

FROM: Ronald D. Harnack, Executive Director *R.D.H./da*

SUBJECT: ***Crow Wing County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan***

On Wednesday, July 31, 2002, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will begin the official 90-day state review of the updated Crow Wing County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Pursuant to Minnesota Rules, Chapter 9300.0170 the BWSR is forwarding the county water plan for your agency's review and comment. You have 45 days from receipt of this letter to submit comments, in writing, to the BWSR identifying the portions of the plan that the agency has determined to be inconsistent with the state law.

The Crow Wing County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is being sent to your agency's 103B Technical Review Committee Member under separate cover. The 103B Technical Review Committee Members are:

- MDA, Mark Zabel
- MDH, Art Persons
- DNR, John Fax
- PCA, David L. Johnson
- EQB, Mike Tietz
- MGS, Barb Palen

Thank you for helping local resource managers protect and conserve their water resources through comprehensive local water management plans.

cc: Agency 103B Technical Review Committee Members  
BWSR Board Members  
BWSR Executive Team  
Dan Steward, BWSR Board Conservationist  
Bonnie Finnerty, Local Water Plan Coordinator

F/LandW/LanData/Local Water Planning/Water Plan Final Review

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| <b>Bemidji</b><br>3217 Bemidji Avenue N.<br>Bemidji, MN 56601<br>phone (218) 755-4235<br>fax (218) 755-4201 | <b>Brainerd</b><br>217 S. 7th Street<br>Suite 202<br>Brainerd, MN 56401<br>phone (218) 828-2383<br>fax (218) 828-6036 | <b>Duluth</b><br>394 S. Lake Avenue<br>Room 403<br>Duluth, MN 55802<br>phone (218) 723-4752<br>fax (218) 723-4794 | <b>Fergus Falls</b><br>413 W. Stanton Avenue<br>Fergus Falls, MN 56537<br>phone (218) 736-5445<br>fax (218) 736-7215 | <b>Marshall</b><br>1400 E. Lyon Street<br>Box 267<br>Marshall, MN 56258<br>phone (507) 537-6060<br>fax (507) 537-6368 | <b>New Ulm</b><br>261 Highway 15 S.<br>New Ulm, MN 56073<br>phone (507) 359-6074<br>fax (507) 359-6018 | <b>Rochester</b><br>40 16th Street S.E.<br>Suite A<br>Rochester, MN 55904<br>phone (507) 285-7458<br>fax (507) 280-2875 | <b>Saint Paul</b><br>One West Water Street<br>Suite 250<br>Saint Paul, MN 55107<br>phone (651) 282-9969<br>fax (651) 284-0000 |
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July 31, 2002

**TO:** Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
**FROM:** Kevin Lines, Conservation Easement Section Manager  
**SUBJECT:** NO 2002 FALL RIM RESERVE SIGN-UP

Unfortunately, the Board of Waters and Soil Resources (BWSR) did not receive an appropriation for the RIM Reserve Program during the 2002 legislative session. Due to this fact, there will not be a general RIM Reserve signup this fall.

BWSR will continue to work hard at the Legislative session this year and in the future to restore funding for this extremely popular and valuable conservation program. However, it is critical that Soil and Water Conservation District's contact their legislator's regarding the importance of RIM Reserve Program locally.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. The future of RIM Reserve may depend on it!

If you have any questions comments, suggestions, feel free to contact me at your convenience (651-297-1894).

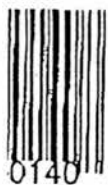
Cc: Ronald Harnack, Executive Director ✓  
Doug Thomas, Assistant Director  
Tim Fredbo, Conservation Easement Specialist  
Regional Supervisors  
Board Conservationists  
LeAnn Buck, Executive Director MA SWCD

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B5-8  
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0140 8

bobbed for apples Friday. Apple bobbing was one of the activities for children attending Willmar Area Courage Day Camp. The two-week camp which began July 15 is for children ages 5 to 14.

et, Thomas Roy, 51, and drop a basket and pull the men  
nephew-in-law, Blaine up.  
Mayhew were trapped below,  
remained confident about **Mine/ Page A12**

## Protecting natural resources a complex challenge

By Tom Cherveny  
Staff Writer

WILLMAR — Protecting the natural resources that make possible Kandiyohi County's economic vitality has become as complex a matter as it is an important one.

Just ask dairy farmer Alan Olson of Colfax Township. He turned to those charged with the job for help when he wanted to modernize his dairy's waste management system.

The staff at the Kandiyohi County Soil and Water Conservation District provided technical assistance and helped Olson obtain low-interest financing for the \$90,000 liquid waste system recently installed for the 60-cow dairy operation.

The fourth-generation farmer said the investment represents more than just a commitment to the dairy. It keeps open the option that his children could become fifth-generation dairy farmers.

This was part of the message that members of the state's Board of Water and Soil Resources heard as they toured 23 different conservation projects in the county this week.

The rare visit by the state board was an opportunity for the local



Tribune photo by Tom Cherveny

Dairy farmer Alan Olson, left, of Colfax Township turned to the Soil and Water Conservation District for the technical assistance he needed when making a more than \$90,000 investment in a liquid waste system for the dairy. He described the project to members of the state Board of Water and Soil Resources, including Leland Coe, chair, and Karen Harder, citizen member.

SWCD's staff. They wanted to show the state board members how diverse the conservation needs have become in the county, and how important they remain, said Rick

Reimer of the local office.

Not all of the projects are as complicated as the engineering behind the 650,000-gallon waste storage pit recently installed on the Olson farm.

State board members also viewed sites where trees and grass strips were strategically planted to stop wind and water erosion on farm lands. Reimer said the office sold more than 80,000 trees last year alone.

Along with protecting farm soil and homes from harsh winds, an increasing number of trees are being planted as "living snow fences." They trap winter snows and make the county's roads safer and less costly to keep open, he said.

Teaming up with the National Resources and Conservation Service, staff members take on a wide variety of projects to address erosion problems.

A \$16,000 grant and technical help from the two agencies made possible two water retention ponds on the Terry Schaefer farm in Roseville Township. The ponds capture water that once raced down the hills from a 1,000-acre watershed after every big rainfall.

Thanks to the project, the gully-gusher events that used to flood crops and carry a muddy mix to the Little Crow River are a thing of the past, Schaefer told board members as they toured the site.

**Resources/ Page A10**

July 2002  
West Central Tribune

Minnesota Republican Party, Ron Eibensteiner, argued that the law will help incumbents, by solidifying their built-in fund-raising

"Soft money is where national parties target incumbents, where they can allocate a lot of money to challengers."

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## Resources

*Continued from A1*

Many SWCD projects serve dual purposes of protecting farmland and water resources alike. That's important in a county where water figures so largely. Waters from the county flow into three different watersheds — the Little Crow and Chippewa rivers and Hawk Creek.

Water covers some 50,000 acres, or about one-tenth of the surface area in Kandiyohi County, said Ryan Peterson of the SWCD staff.

It helps explain why lake property owners, hunters and anglers are just as likely to come knocking on the SWCD office door as are farmers, according to Reimer.

Lake Association members in the county actively protect the county's water resources, he added. The Norway, West Norway and Games Lake Association helped initiate a grass filter strip project that is credited with reducing the amount of farm soil washed

into the lakes during heavy rains.

Many conservation projects the SWCD and NRCS staff assist are also initiated by private landowners looking to be good stewards of the land, said Reimer. In one case, a property owner enrolled land in conservation programs in order to ensure that a wetland remains undeveloped.

Restoring wetlands remains a priority for the SWCD. Staff members said they still remain hopeful of seeing the Grass Lake project carried out.

So does Ron Harnack, executive director of the state Board of Water and Soil Resources. After touring the former lake bed, Harnack said he believes the city of Willmar will look again to the project as a means of solving its storm water drainage problems.

The project calls for pumping storm water from about one-half of the city into the former lake bed. Sediments would settle and vegetation in the wetland would filter out nutrients before the water flows to Lake Wagonga and eventually the Little Crow River.

## RECORDS

### Thefts

**WILLMAR** — Police are investigating two thefts of women's billfolds reported at different stores on South First Street on Thursday. A Willmar woman told police that her billfold with credit cards, driver's and identification cards and \$20 cash was taken. A second Willmar woman said her billfold held \$13 cash and identification cards.

**WILLMAR** — Police are investigating the reported theft Thursday evening of a Gortex jacket, cell phone and other items from a vehicle parked on Northwest Ella Avenue.

### Marriage Licenses

**Kandiyohi County**

Michael Ray Gunnink,

Spicer; Naomi Renec Whittenbaugh, Spicer  
Robert Paul Goode Jr., Minneapolis; Elizabeth Jane Reigstad, Willmar  
Wade Dayle Werder, Willmar; Alison Jeanette Madsen, Sunburg  
Philip Daniel Patrick McClelland, Medina, Ohio; Shiloh Xylina Alexander, Willmar

Jeremy Christopher Bell, Willmar; Sandra Emilie Lambrecht, Long Prairie  
Eric Robert Jex, St. Louis Park; Jessie Rae Thompson, St. Louis Park

Matthew Taylor Rossell, Willmar; Angela Love Drogosch, Willmar  
Gary Joseph Hartman, Willmar; Patricia Ann Kluer, Willmar

David Lawrence Opsahl, Willmar; Sandra Ann Laingen, Willmar

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## HOSPITAL

### Rice Memorial Hospital

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September 2002

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES  
GRAND HINCKLEY INN  
HINCKLEY, MINNESOTA  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2002**

**AGENDA**

**9:00 a.m.     Call Meeting to Order**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Adopt Agenda**

**Minutes of August 28, 2002**

**Open Mike** (10-minute agenda time, two-minute limit/person)

**Reports**

- Chair – Lee Coe
- Executive Director – Ron Harnack
- Dispute Resolution Committee – Lee Coe
- Wetlands Committee – Darrell Bruggman
- Cost-Share/Soil Conservation Committee – Dwain Otte
- Education and Public Relations Committee – Paul Krabbenhoft
- Administrative Advisory Committee – Lee Coe

**Agency Reports**

- Department of Agriculture – Sharon Clark
- Department of Health – Dan Wilson
- Department of Natural Resources – Steve Morse
- Minnesota Extension Service – Jim Anderson
- Pollution Control Agency – Lisa Thorvig

**Committee Recommendations**

*Dispute Resolution Committee*

1. WCA Appeals Involving Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission (WMC) in Brooklyn Center – *Decision*

**New Business**

1. Minnesota Lakes Association's Mission, Initiatives and Ties to Water Planning - Paula West – *Information*
2. Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Funds Available for Flood Recovery – Ron Harnack – *Discussion/Decision*



3. Red River Basin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program - Kevin Scheidecker, Red River Basin Commission, Kevin Lines and Pete Waller, BWSR – *Discussion and Draft Endorsement*
4. Update on Special Session – Ron Harnack – *Discussion*
5. Red River Valley Set-Aside Termination Options – Ron Harnack – *Discussion/Possible Decision*

**Advisory Comments**

- Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) – Dave Weirens
- Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees (MACDE) – Tim Gieseke
- Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) – LeAnn Buck
- Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) – Sandy Hooker
- Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) – Ray Bohn
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – Tim Koehler

**Upcoming Meetings**

- BWSR Meeting, October 23, St. Paul
- MAWD Annual Meeting, December 5-7, Alexandria
- MASWCD Annual Meeting, December 8-10, St. Paul
- AMC Annual Meeting, December 9-11, Duluth
- BWSR Meeting, December 4, 11, or 18 ???

**12:00 p.m. Adjourn for lunch break**

**1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Convene as a Committee of the Whole: “Water Planning Integration”**





DATE: September 17, 2002

TO: Board of Water and Soil Resources Members, Advisors, Staff

FROM: Ronald D. Harnack, Executive Director

SUBJECT: September 25th BWSR Meeting

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will meet on Wednesday, September 25, 2002, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Grand Hinckley Inn, in Hinckley (across the parking lot from the Grand Casino), in the main lobby conference room. Take 35E north to the Hinckley exit (Hwy. 48). Go east (right) one mile, take a right, the Grand Hinckley Inn is on your right.

If you are registered for the Local Water Planners Conference, your breakfast and lunch on Tuesday are included in the registration fee. Tuesday dinner is on your own. If you registered for the boat cruise on Monday evening, dinner is included.

A block of sleeping rooms have been reserved for the nights of Monday, September 23, and Tuesday, September 24, at the Grand Hinckley Inn. Attached is the list of room reservations. The rooms have been direct billed (you do not pay for them), unless noted on the rooming list. If you do not need a room reservation, please contact Mary Jo Anderson (651-297-4290) immediately, to cancel the reservation. A complimentary continental breakfast is included with the room reservation.

The following information pertains to agenda items:

### Committee Recommendations

#### 1. *Dispute Resolution Committee*

WCA Appeals Involving Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission (WMC) in Brooklyn Center – Two WCA appeals were filed concerning the replacement plan approval made by the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission for the relocation of France Avenue in Brooklyn Center. Both of the appeals were accepted and combined to be heard as one since the appeals involved the same project and the same WCA decision. The Shingle Creek board held a public hearing so there was an extensive record and a transcript of the hearing. After written briefs were filed the Dispute Resolution Committee met on September 9 to hear oral arguments on the appeals. Since there was no formal

| <i>Bemidji</i>                                                                            | <i>Brainerd</i>                                                                                    | <i>Duluth</i>                                                                                    | <i>Fergus Falls</i>                                                                           | <i>Marshall</i>                                                                                    | <i>New Ulm</i>                                                                       | <i>Rochester</i>                                                                                    | <i>Saint Paul</i>                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3217 Bemidji Avenue N.<br>Bemidji, MN 56601<br>phone (218) 755-4255<br>fax (218) 755-4201 | 217 S. 7th Street<br>Suite 202<br>Brainerd, MN 56401<br>phone (218) 828-2383<br>fax (218) 828-6036 | 394 S. Lake Avenue<br>Room 403<br>Duluth, MN 55802<br>phone (218) 723-4752<br>fax (218) 723-4794 | 413 W. Stanton Avenue<br>Fergus Falls, MN 56537<br>phone (218) 736-5445<br>fax (218) 736-7215 | 1400 E. Lyon Street<br>Box 267<br>Marshall, MN 56258<br>phone (507) 537-6060<br>fax (507) 537-6368 | 261 Highway 15 S.<br>New Ulm, MN 56073<br>phone (507) 359-6074<br>fax (507) 359-6018 | 40 16th Street S.E.<br>Suite A<br>Rochester, MN 55904<br>phone (507) 285-7458<br>fax (507) 280-2875 | One West Water Street<br>Suite 250<br>Saint Paul, MN 55107<br>phone (651) 282-9969<br>fax (651) 284-0000 |

TEP report in the record and due to questions about the estimated costs of the project alternatives, the DRC unanimously recommends the matter be remanded to the Shingle Creek WMC per the attached draft order. DECISION

### **New Business**

1. Minnesota Lakes Association's Mission, Initiatives and Ties to Water Planning - Paula West – INFORMATION
2. Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Funds Available for Flood Recovery: At the August meeting, the Board authorized \$640,000 in RIM funds for easements in counties affected by the 2002 floods. A meeting with SWCDs, WDs, and agricultural organizations will be wrapping up on September 23. See attached. DISCUSSION/DECISION
3. Red River Basin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (RRB CREP) - The Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) decided to initiate development of a CREP proposal at their December 13, 2001. Three primary resource issues to be addressed by the RRB CREP are flood damage reduction, water quality improvement and increase wildlife habitat. A Red River Basin CREP is one critical component of a multi-faceted solution to complex resource problems. The full draft RRB CREP proposal can be downloaded at <http://www.rrbdin.org>.

The RRB CREP will utilize RIM as the "Enhancement" to USDA's Conservation Reserve Program. Board endorsement of the proposal will begin the final state/federal review and approval leading to the Governor's request for approval to USDA. DISCUSSION AND DRAFT ENDORSEMENT

### **Convene as Committee of the Whole: Water Planning Integration**

If you have any questions regarding the agenda, please feel free to give me a call at 651-296-0878. I look forward to seeing you September 24-25!

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES  
GRAND HINCKLEY INN  
HINCKLEY, MINNESOTA  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2002**

**PRELIMINARY AGENDA**

**9:00 a.m.    Call Meeting to Order**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Adopt Agenda**

**Minutes of August 28, 2002**

**Open Mike** (10-minute agenda time, two-minute limit/person)

**Reports**

- Chair – Lee Coe
- Executive Director – Ron Harnack
- Dispute Resolution Committee – Lee Coe
- Wetlands Committee – Darrell Bruggman
- Cost-Share/Soil Conservation Committee – Dwain Otte
- Education and Public Relations Committee – Paul Krabbenhoft
- Administrative Advisory Committee – Lee Coe

**Agency Reports**

- Department of Agriculture – Sharon Clark
- Department of Health – Dan Wilson
- Department of Natural Resources – Steve Morse
- Minnesota Extension Service – Jim Anderson
- Pollution Control Agency – Lisa Thorvig

**Committee Recommendations**

*Dispute Resolution Committee*

1.    WCA Appeals Involving Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission (WMC) in Brooklyn Center – DECISION

**New Business**

1.    Minnesota Lakes Association's Mission, Initiatives and Ties to Water Planning - Paula West – INFORMATION
2.    Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Funds Available for Flood Recovery – DISCUSSION/DECISION

3. Red River Basin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program - Kevin Scheidecker, Red River Basin Commission, Kevin Lines and Pete Waller, BWSR – DISCUSSION AND DRAFT ENDORSEMENT

**Advisory Comments**

- Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) – Dave Weirens
- Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees (MACDE) – Tim Gieseke
- Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) – LeAnn Buck
- Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) – Sandy Hooker
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- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – Tim Koehler

**Upcoming Meetings**

- BWSR Meeting, October 23, St. Paul
- MAWD Annual Meeting, December 5-7, Alexandria
- MASWCD Annual Meeting, December 8-10, St. Paul
- AMC Annual Meeting, December 9-11, Duluth
- BWSR Meeting, December 4, 11, or 18 ???

**12:00 p.m. Adjourn for lunch break**

**1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Convene as a Committee of the Whole: “Water Planning Integration”**

**DRAFT**

**DRAFT**

**DRAFT**

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES  
ONE WEST WATER STREET  
LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM  
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55107  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2002**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Lee Coe, Jerome Deal, Jim Anderson-MES, Wayne Anderson-MPCA, Darrell Bruggman, Sharon Clark-MDA, Jack Frost, Ginny Imholte, Char Kahler, Karen Harder, Steve Morse-DNR, Clair Nelson, Victor Ormsby, Dwain Otte, Dan Wilson-MDH

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Paul Krabbenhoft

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Ron Harnack, Mary Jo Anderson, Steve Woods, Ron Struss, John Jaschke, Jim Haertel, Ron Shelito

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Richard Zupp, Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD)

Sandy Hooker, Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT)

Mark Dittrich, Department of Agriculture

Curtis Borchert, Norman SWCD

**BWSR Meeting Minutes**  
**August 28, 2002**  
**Page Two**

**Chair Coe called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**\*\* Adopt Agenda** – Moved by Jack Frost, seconded by Sharon Clark, to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion passed on a voice vote.  
02-58

**\*\* Minutes of July 25, 2002** – Chair Coe stated that two corrections are needed on page two, under Open Mike, it should read "Jerome Deal reported on the Red River Basin "River Watch." Under Reports, the last sentence of the Chair's Report should be stricken regarding the DRC meeting date. A correction on page three, under Dispute Resolution Committee, the committee will hear four appeals, not nine as stated. Moved by Sharon Clark, seconded by Jerome Deal, to approve the minutes of July 25 as corrected. Motion passed on a voice vote.  
02-59

Chair Coe introduced Wayne Anderson, Lisa Thorvig's alternate, representing the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

**REPORTS**

Chair Coe reported that he met with Jerome Deal and Ginny Imholte in Sauk Centre regarding the Middle River-Snake River enlargement petition to make a final determination. They also had meetings on the Two Rivers Watershed and the Sauk River Watershed water plans. Chair Coe provided a brief report of the items acted upon at the EQB meeting which he attended on August 15<sup>th</sup>. Chair Coe and Ron Harnack met with the Department of Agriculture Commissioner Gene Hugoson and Deputy Commissioner Sharon Clark yesterday to discuss items of mutual interest.

Executive Director – Ron Harnack reported that budget discussions continue with the Senior Management Team and staff of DNR, MDA, and PCA, as they look at program issues, adequate assessment of impacts and revenue options. Ron stated that draft internal white papers will be developed on revenue issues. Ron stated that agencies are looking at Phase I and Phase II of the budget reductions and how these impact local governments. The Administrative Advisory Committee will meet to review the budget options and revenue with papers, more specific information will be available in September or October.

Ron reported that Minnesota Recovers meets weekly to discuss the flooding issues in northwestern Minnesota. Doug Thomas represents BWSR, Greg Larson is the alternate. An agriculture subcommittee has been established to look at options to address the significant impacts to the land and existing



**BWSR Meeting Minutes**  
**August 28, 2002**  
**Page Three**

conservation practices. There appears to be some real opportunities through the new farm bill. The new flexibility provisions will be available under the NRCS provisions "Cooperation and Partnerships."

Ron reported that he has meetings scheduled with DNR Commissioner Allan Garber and Deputy Commissioner Steve More and also MPCA Commissioner Karen Studders and Assistant Commissioner Lisa Thorvig to continue to look at issues of common concerns, policy and human resource issues, policy initiatives, and SWCD law modernization.

Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC) – Chair Coe stated that the DRC will meet on September 9 to hear appeals. Ron Harnack stated that the Hermantown wetland issues are being addressed. Jim Haertel was commended for his great efforts and skills involving the dispute resolution process.

Wetlands Committee – Darrell Bruggman reported that Dan Eklund has accepted a new position with the U.S. Forest Service, as the Wildlife Biologist in charge of program management and implementation for the Chequamegon and Nicolet National Forests in Park Falls, Wisconsin. Darrell stated that he will personally miss Dan and his fine efforts. Darrell stated that wetland rules training sessions will be held this fall, registration information will be forthcoming.

Cost-Share/Soil Conservation Committee – Dwain Otte reported that the Cost-Share Committee will meet in mid-September before the next BWSR meeting. Dwain attended a meeting in St. Cloud last week regarding digesters.

Education and Public Relations Committee – Ginny Imholte stated that the Education Committee will meet in October. Ron Harnack stated that he met with the chair of the Minnesota Bell Museum; there's potential for educational sharing.

Administrative Advisory Committee – Chair Coe stated that the Administrative Advisory Committee will meet next month.

**Agency Reports**

Sharon Clark, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), reported that MDA is part of the Minnesota Recovers sub-group regarding flooding disaster/prevention. Sharon reported that MDA Commissioner Gene Hugoson and the Governor will be going to Cuba. Sharon stated that the budget reduction process is taking a tremendous amount of time. Sharon reported that the West Nile Virus has affected 210 horses statewide. A brochure is being developed regarding Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) and will be available for distribution soon.

**BWSR Meeting Minutes**  
**August 28, 2002**  
**Page Four**

Dan Wilson, Department of Health, reported that MDH has done exercises on 15% and 20% budget reductions. Dan stated that several grants have been awarded to MDH from the federal government regarding terrorism messages to work on security for primary water systems. MDH has facilitated an environmental health leadership team, with federal, state, and local government, to work on issues and the vision of environmental health for the future, focus on roles of government interaction. Dan will make a presentation to the Board on source water protection at an upcoming meeting.

Steve Morse, Department of Natural Resources, stated that he appreciated BWSR staff and board members attendance at the dairy farm tour in Nerstrand. Steve reported that DNR has met with staff statewide regarding the budget process for the next biennium; 128 position reductions. Steve stated that DNR has charted out the "price of government" to get a sense of where they're going. Steve distributed the "Price of Government" document for board members' information. Steve stated that the challenge is to try not to squeeze everything down, but just stop doing things. Steve reported that the ATVs task force is moving forward to come up with some new recommendations by the end of the year. Steve reported that an interagency group is working on efforts to prevent CWD, consolidate regulations, discussions to do away with feeding of wild deer, monitoring, and massive eradication efforts. The concern is that the deer population is high in Minnesota, there is no data to relate CWD to humans. DNR has additional information on CWD on their web site; it's important to education before hunting season. Steve acknowledged that DNR staff have been participating with BWSR staff on the next generation of water plans. However, Steve stated that DNR staff will likely not have extra time to review local water plans, but will continue to work on the current updates.

Jim Anderson, Minnesota Extension Service (MES), reported that MES, on a regional basis, has been in discussions with NRCS regarding education of technical service providers, cost-share and third party vendors. Workshops will be held this fall at Iowa State University in conjunction with NRCS. Jim distributed a fact sheet on "New phosphorus lawn fertilizer law aims to protect Minnesota lakes and rivers" for board members' information. Jim reported that the Field Day in Lamberton held sessions regarding drainage issues. Jim stated that a memorandum of understanding with Iowa State has been established to conduct a series of in-state forums on drainage issues.

Wayne Anderson, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), reported that model training will be held this fall regarding the common tool to evaluate feedlot runoff. Wayne stated that it's a challenge on how to correct the feedlot

**BWSR Meeting Minutes**  
**August 28, 2002**  
**Page Five**

operations. Wayne reported that open-lot agreement producer training will also be held. The Association of Feedlot Operators will hold a meeting on October 29-30. Minnesota will report on the GEIS animal feedlot survey. Wayne stated that stakeholders met last week to discuss construction requirements relative to general permit for discharge; change in federal Phase II requirements on the storm water rule. The storm water program is a federal mandate and PCA is looking at all options to address the concerns raised by cities, counties, developers and agency comments.

Ron Harnack stated that agencies received a notice from Craig Johnson, Governor's office, regarding EPA's priority watershed program. The state, in order to be considered, needs to submit a request to EPA. Ron stated that a meeting of agency representatives has been scheduled for September 6, in the Governor's office.

Ron Harnack reported that in addition to Dan Eklund leaving as earlier reported, Doc Snyder is leaving to take a position with the City of Minneapolis as administrator of the Mississippi WMO. Doc's last day with BWSR will be September 10. Due to the hiring freezes these positions will be difficult to refill in the short term. Both staff have had a significant impact on the programs of BWSR and their leaving is a significant loss for the agency.

**Committee Recommendation**

*Northern Water Planning Subcommittee*

South Two Rivers Watershed District Watershed Management Plan – Ginny Imholte reported that though this is a small watershed, there is concern for phosphorus in the wetland and how to treat that and the affected water bodies downstream. Moved by Jerome Deal, seconded by Ginny Imholte, to approve the South Two Rivers Watershed District Watershed Management Plan. Motion passed on a voice vote.

\*\*  
02-60

**New Business**

Sauk River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan – Phil Belfiori introduced representatives of the Sauk River Watershed District: Lindberg Ekola, Planning Consultant; John Kolb, Legal Consultant; Julie Klocker, Administrator; and Don Kanten, President. Lindberg Ekola presented the purpose of the plan, integration through planning and implementation, and challenges. John Kolb presented the project funding options and the management model for the final plan model. Don Kanten commended Doug Thomas, Dan Steward, and Phil Belfiori for their assistance on the plan. Chair Coe commended the working team of the Sauk River Watershed District. Lindberg stated that it's critical for agency

**BWSR Meeting Minutes**  
**August 28, 2002**  
**Page Six**

- \*\*  
02-61 staff to remain involved with implementation of the plan. Moved by Ginny Imholte, seconded by Jerome Deal, to approve the Sauk River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Enlargement, Name Change, and Increase in Number of Managers of the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District – Chair Coe stated that he, Jerome Deal, and Ginny Imholte attended the hearing. Jim Haertel presented the Order that the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District be enlarged per the Marshall County Petition dated May 7, 2002, that the name be changed to the Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, and that the number of managers be increased to seven with the two additional managers appointed from Marshall

- \*\*  
02-62 County. Discussion followed. Moved by Jerome Deal, seconded by Ginny Imholte, to approve the Order as presented for the enlargement, name change, and increase in number of managers of the Middle River-Snake River Watershed District. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Boundary Change for Brown's Creek and Valley Branch Watershed Districts – Jim Haertel presented the Order that the boundaries of the Brown's Creek Watershed District and the Valley Branch Watershed District are changed per the Petition. The Metro Water Planning Subcommittee unanimously recommends the boundary change be approved per the draft Order. Moved by Jack Frost,

- \*\*  
02-63 seconded by Karen Harder, to approve the Order for the Brown's Creek and Valley Branch Watershed Districts boundary change. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Presentation on Flood Recovery, Disaster Counties, Assessment and Activities – Doug Thomas introduced Curtis Borchert, Norman SWCD Manager. Curtis presented a power point presentation showing the devastating damage to roads and lands in northwestern Minnesota due to the floods in June 2002. Discussion followed. Curtis stated that coordination efforts are the biggest challenges at this point. Chair Coe thanked Curtis for his presentation.

Challenge Grant Funds for Flood Recovery - Ron Shelito distributed a map showing the 17 disaster counties. Ron presented a proposal requesting assistance for the eligible flood disaster counties by allocating \$103,000 of returned Challenge Grant funds to inventory damaged conservation practices and new areas of significant erosion or sedimentation caused by the floods of 2002. A portion of the \$103,000 will be divided and allocated to eligible SWCDs to conduct the inventories, the remainder will be used for data compilation. Moved by Steve Morse, seconded by Jerome Deal, to approve \$103,000



**BWSR Meeting Minutes**  
**August 28, 2002**  
**Page Seven**

- \*\*** challenge grant funds for flood recovery to be allocated as identified. Motion  
**02-64** passed on a voice vote.

Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) Funds Available for Flood Recovery - Ron Shelito presented a proposal to authorize \$640,000 in RIM funds for easements in flood disaster counties affected by the 2002 floods. This would be a one-time program, special sign-up as soon as possible, applications based upon five priority categories. Any money not used through this special sign-up will be made available statewide. These RIM funds must be encumbered by December 31, 2003. Discussion followed. Sharon Clark requested the Board to delay action on this today so the Flood Recovery Group has an opportunity to communicate, provide time for the agricultural commodity groups to meet, and take action at the September Board meeting. Ron Harnack recommended that the \$640,000 be authorized today, the five priorities looked at, with action at the September meeting. Karen Harder recommended authorizing the first priority.

- \*\*** Moved by Jerome Deal, seconded by Victor Ormsby, to authorize the \$640,000  
**02-65** now with final action on the other options at the September meeting. Discussion followed. Motion passed on a voice vote.

FY03 Non Point Engineering Assistance (NPEA) Grant – Wayne Zellmer explained that this is a non-competitive annual grant allocated to the eleven SWCD Joint Powers Boards (JPBs) to provide engineering/technical assistance to landowners to implement erosion control and water quality improvement practices. Work plans have been received and approved by the board conservationists. Staff recommends approval of the grants. Moved by  
**\*\***  
**02-66** Dwain Otte, seconded by Victor Ormsby, to approve the FY03 Non Point Engineering Assistance Grants as presented. Motion passed on a voice vote.

**Advisory Comments**

Tim Koehler, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), reported that Bill Hunt approved \$4.5M in allocations for EQIP. Tim said that the allocation did acknowledge BWSR's resolution relating to funding of feedlot upgrades. OMB has not approved money for WRP. The OMB will allocate about \$2M for flood projects in the northwest.

Dave Weirens, Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), announced AMC's two-day forum in Alexandria on September 5-6. AMC's platform will focus on the fact that there is no more money for 04; how can things be done with reduced costs.

**BWSR Meeting Minutes**  
**August 28, 2002**  
**Page Eight**

Richard Zupp, Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD), commented on the SWCD NPDES questionnaire responses. The MASWCD Annual Meeting will be held December 8-10, in St. Paul. District capacity assessment is moving forward. Richard read a letter to Ron Harnack regarding MASWCD's recommendation that BWSR accelerate the implementation of the District self-assessment program.

Jack Frost distributed an article, "So-called soil crisis is just a pretense" for board members' information.

**Upcoming Meetings**

- Next BWSR Meeting, September 25, Grand Hinckley Inn, Hinckley
- BWSR Meeting, October 23, St. Paul

**\*\*** Moved by Clair Nelson, seconded by Jack Frost, to adjourn the meeting at 1:10  
**02-67** p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leland Coe  
Chair



**Grand Hinckley Inn**  
777 Lady Luck Drive  
Hinckley, MN 55037  
320-384-4700

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**  
**Rooming List**

**Monday, September 23**

1. Jim Anderson \*\*\*\*
2. Phil Belfiori
3. Marybeth Block
4. Darrell Bruggman
5. Sharon Clark \*\*\*\*
6. Lee Coe
7. Jack Frost
8. Karen Harder
9. ~~Ron Harnack~~
10. Ginny Imholte (double queen)
11. John Jaschke
12. Char Kahler
13. Paul Krabbenhoft
14. Steve Morse \*\*\*\*
15. Clair Nelson
16. Victor Ormsby
17. Dwain Otte
18. Doug Thomas
19. Lisa Thorvig \*\*\*\*

**Tuesday, September 24**

1. Jim Anderson \*\*\*\*
2. Phil Belfiori
3. Marybeth Block
4. Darrell Bruggman
5. Sharon Clark \*\*\*\*
6. Lee Coe
7. Jack Frost
8. Karen Harder
9. Ron Harnack
10. Ginny Imholte (double queen)
11. John Jaschke
12. Char Kahler
13. Paul Krabbenhoft
14. Steve Morse \*\*\*\*
15. Clair Nelson
16. Victor Ormsby
17. Dwain Otte
18. Doug Thomas
19. Lisa Thorvig \*\*\*\*
20. Mary Jo Anderson

Dispute Resolution Report  
September 12, 2002

There are presently seven appeals pending. All of the appeals involve WCA. No new appeals have been filed since the last report of August 15.

There are two appeals of a replacement plan approval in Brooklyn Center for a highway project. The Shingle Creek WMO made the WCA decision. Both appeals have been accepted, a pre-hearing was held and a hearing was recently held. The appeal will be an agenda item at the September 25 Board meeting.

There is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in the City of Hermantown, near Duluth. It appears the appeal will be withdrawn after a stipulation is signed by the parties that was agreed to at a mediation.

Another appeal is of a replacement plan in the City of Albertville in Wright County. The appeal is in abeyance since it has been remanded to the city because a TEP was not held.

There is an appeal of the Board's remand to Mower County regarding a landfill site. Under remand, the county denied an application for no-loss. The appeal has been accepted and a pre-hearing was held on April 11. The appeal is in abeyance since the appellants have filed a new WCA application and are waiting for a decision on the new application before proceeding with the appeal.

Another appeal is of a replacement plan denial in Stearn's County. The appeal involves a single family dwelling site near the Mississippi River. The appeal has been accepted, a pre-hearing was held and the appeal is in abeyance as settlement is explored.

Another appeal involves a wetland banking site in Chisago County. The appeal has been accepted and is being held in abeyance to see how the site looks this summer.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources  
One West Water Street, Suite 200  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

In re Wetland Conservation Act Replacement Plan Determination by the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission ("SCWMC") BWSR File Nos. 02-8 and 02-9

ORDER

This matter involves combined appeals brought by Diane Niesen and Paul S. Oman pursuant to the Wetland Conservation Act ("WCA") challenging a wetland replacement plan determination made at the March 14, 2002, SCWMC meeting. Both appeals involve the same France Avenue highway relocation project and were combined and heard as one by the Dispute Resolution Committee ("DRC") of BWSR. After the parties were allowed to brief issues related to this proceeding, the DRC met on September 9, 2002, to hear the oral arguments. The hearing was conducted at the BWSR offices at One West Water Street, St. Paul, Minnesota. DRC members, Leland Coe ("Chair"), Clair Nelson, Dwain Otte, Char Kahler, and Jerome Deal were in attendance. Appellants Diane Neisen and Paul Oman represented themselves before the Committee. Charles L. Lefevere of Kennedy and Graven Law Firm, 470 Pillsbury Center, 200 South 6th Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402, appeared on behalf of the SCWMC.

Based on the entire record in this matter and all the proceedings herein and after discussion and consideration, the DRC voted unanimously to remand the decision of the SCWMC for further development of the record in this matter. That recommendation was then presented to the BWSR Board.

At its meeting on September 25, 2002, the BWSR Board adopted a resolution to accept the recommendation of the DRC and authorize the Chair of BWSR to issue this Order.

Based on the record of these proceedings, BWSR makes the following:

ORDER

The March 14, 2002, determination of the SCWMC is hereby remanded for more full development of the record. The determination on remand shall be completed within 90 days of this Order and specifically must include:

1. A noticed public hearing;
2. Consideration of a formal Technical Evaluation Panel ("TEP") report by the Commission; and
3. Consideration by the Commission of a more detailed analysis of costs for the alternatives presented.

The prior record items before the LGU are to be incorporated by reference into the final record for this matter. Additional testimony and exhibits related to these items will be included as part of the record developed at the public hearing.

The attached Memorandum is included by reference in this Order.

Dated: September \_\_\_\_, 2002. Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Leland G. Coe, Its Chair

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources  
One West Water Street, Suite 200  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

In re Wetland Conservation Act Replacement Plan Determination by the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission ("SCWMC") BWSR File Nos. 02-8 and 02-9

MEMORANDUM

Pursuant to Minnesota Rule 8420.0250, this matter is being remanded to the local unit of government ("LGU") for the development of a more adequate record to be reviewed upon appeal. The rule provides as follows: The board will affirm the local government unit's decision if the local government unit's findings of fact are not clearly erroneous; if the local government unit correctly applied the law to the facts, including this chapter; and if the local government unit made no procedural errors prejudicial to a party. Otherwise, the board will reverse the decision, amend it, or remand it with instructions for further proceedings.

Further, proceedings in this matter are necessary for the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission ("SCWMC") to give consideration to a formal Technical Evaluation Panel ("TEP") report on the impacts of this particular wetland replacement plan, along with the documentation of more detailed costs for alternatives that were reviewed by the Commission. Those factors, along with relevant public input from a public hearing, will provide the basis for a more fully developed record in this appeal. These items should be reflected in more detailed findings demonstrating the factual basis for the conclusions supporting the LGU's determination.

## RIM FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR FLOOD RECOVERY

BWSR staff are proposing to authorize approximately \$640,000 in Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) funds for easements in counties affected by the 2002 floods. The following counties are currently listed as flood disaster counties: Becker, Beltrami, Clay, Clearwater, Itasca, Kittson, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, McLeod, Mahnommen, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, East Polk, West Polk, Red Lake, Roseau, Hubbard, and Wright. If approved by the BWSR Board, landowners in these counties will be eligible to apply. Easements will be targeted to sites affected by the 2002 flooding or to sites that could reduce the effects of future floods.

SWCDs in eligible counties will be asked to hold a sign-up as soon as practicable after notification that the program has been authorized by the BWSR Board. If approved, applications will be accepted in the following categories.

- First Priority:** Permanent easements on sites suited to temporary storage of floodwater. Watershed district project teams will make recommendations for these sites to the SWCD.
- Second Priority:** Permanent easements on sites damaged by the flood. These will generally be sites where soil erosion or sedimentation has damaged the landscape to a point where restoring the site to cropland is improbable.
- Third Priority:** Permanent easements on sites that currently have a continuous CRP contract.
- Fourth Priority:** Limited duration easements on sites that are suited to temporary flood storage.
- Fifth Priority:** Limited duration easements on sites that have been damaged by floodwaters.

BWSR will fund applications based on the above listed priorities. This is a one-time program. Any money not used through this special sign-up will be made available statewide. This RIM money must be encumbered by December 31, 2003.

We are asking Board approval to allocate the \$640,000 in RIM funds for a Special flood recovery sign-up beginning in September 2002.

Prepared by Ron Shelito

## **Red River Basin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program**

The Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) decided to initiate development of a CREP proposal at their December 13, 2001 meeting in Grand Forks, ND. Late in December 2001, RRBB staff convened a multijurisdictional interagency meeting of resource professionals to discuss a Red River Basin CREP and begin the process of developing the proposal. This paper provides a conceptual framework for the eventual CREP proposal. It is intended to generate discussion and feedback from the various Red River Basin stakeholders and benefactors from a Red River Basin CREP.

Resource professionals and others have been discussing a Red River Basin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) for some time. Successful CREP initiatives have been implemented in North Dakota (Cover Locks for Conservation) and MN (Minnesota River Valley CREP). Lessons from these efforts provide the foundation for implementing an effective Red River Basin CREP. However, political and social circumstances will require development of innovative regionally specific and meaningful CREP implementation strategies in the Red River Basin.

### **Goals**

The program will address three chronic resource problems in the Red River Basin, flood damages, poor water quality, and habitat loss. Although not specified, implementing a CREP targeting these issues will provide numerous benefits to residents of the Red River Basin, their respective States, as well as directly and indirectly providing solutions and treatments for a myriad of social, economic, and other resource problems in the Red River Basin. Evidence and justification of these problems are readily available from a number of existing sources. These sources will also provide the basis for the required "measurables" as the program is implemented.

### **Treatments/Easement length**

Landowner involvement and enrollment in the program is voluntary. The Red River CREP will provide incentives for a number of land treatments including, but not limited to, filter strips, riparian buffers, shallow water areas for wildlife, and wetland restoration. Options for contracts (easement) will include a range term options, from minimum term lengths, to perpetual or long-term contracts. Concerns over perpetual easements are well known; however, in some areas, the only true "fix" for chronic recurring resource problems is permanent land retirement and conversion to other uses. The Red River Basin CREP will include numerous adaptive contract options that best meet the needs of basin landowners while addressing the identified resource issue problem.

### **Payment Rates**

Developing "saleable" payment rates for contracts is the charge of resource professionals who best understand what landowners require. Numerous payment rates and schedules are envisioned. Lessons learned from implementing existing programs will provide the framework for the payment rates and schedules. Critical areas for landuse changes will be identified through disaster payments information and other efforts underway including impaired reaches identified through the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) process, and portions of watersheds unidentified through source water protection efforts currently underway. Longer-term easements will be preferred in these chronic resource problem and protection areas. Professionals who regularly work with landowners to address resource problems understand the needs of landowners. These experienced professionals will provide the foundation for the developed payment rates. The rates will ensure the public's roughly \$132 million investment is sound and profitable.

### **Local Support**

Resource problems in the Red River Basin are immense and exhort considerable financial and social burden on residents of the basin and the states they reside in. Subsequently, addressing these problems in a meaningful fashion will require considerable financial and agency in-kind commitment from ND and MN and, to a lesser extent, SD. Successful implementation of a Red River Basin CREP will provide treatments to less than 1% of the agricultural lands in the Red River Basin, other programs and incentives are needed to completely resolve many of the identified problems. A Red River Basin CREP is one critical component of a multi-faceted solution to a complex resource problem. It will provide financial incentives to many basin residents wrestling with chronic resource and economic problems. At the same time, the program will reduce the need for federal emergency funds following local and regional "disasters" and provide a more stable regional economy for the Red River Basin.

The full draft RRB CREP proposal can be downloaded at <http://www.rrbdin.org>



## A vision for BWSR's Local Water Management Programs: Updated, improved, integrated

- ☆ ➤ Plans and corresponding actions focus on priority concerns<sup>1</sup> that citizens and government units<sup>2</sup> establish early on.
- ☆ ➤ Assessments, actions, and agency comments are focused on the priority concerns, and the priority concerns are endorsed by the board midway in the process, in addition to final plan approval.
- ☆ ➤ Plans coordinate actions and programs among government units to address priority concerns and minimize duplicating efforts.
- Actions are measurable, watershed-focused, and connected to land-use plans and official controls.
- The planning framework is adaptable to counties or watershed districts/management organization as well as geographic boundaries.
- There is a single simplified process for developing, approving, and amending all local water management plans.
- There is a process and authority to prevent or reconcile incompatibilities between water management plans that target the same or adjacent geographic areas.
- Annual reports are submitted that measure progress.
- ☆ State agency involvement focused here.

<sup>1</sup> Concerns can be issues, areas (e.g., subwatershed), or resources (e.g., lake).

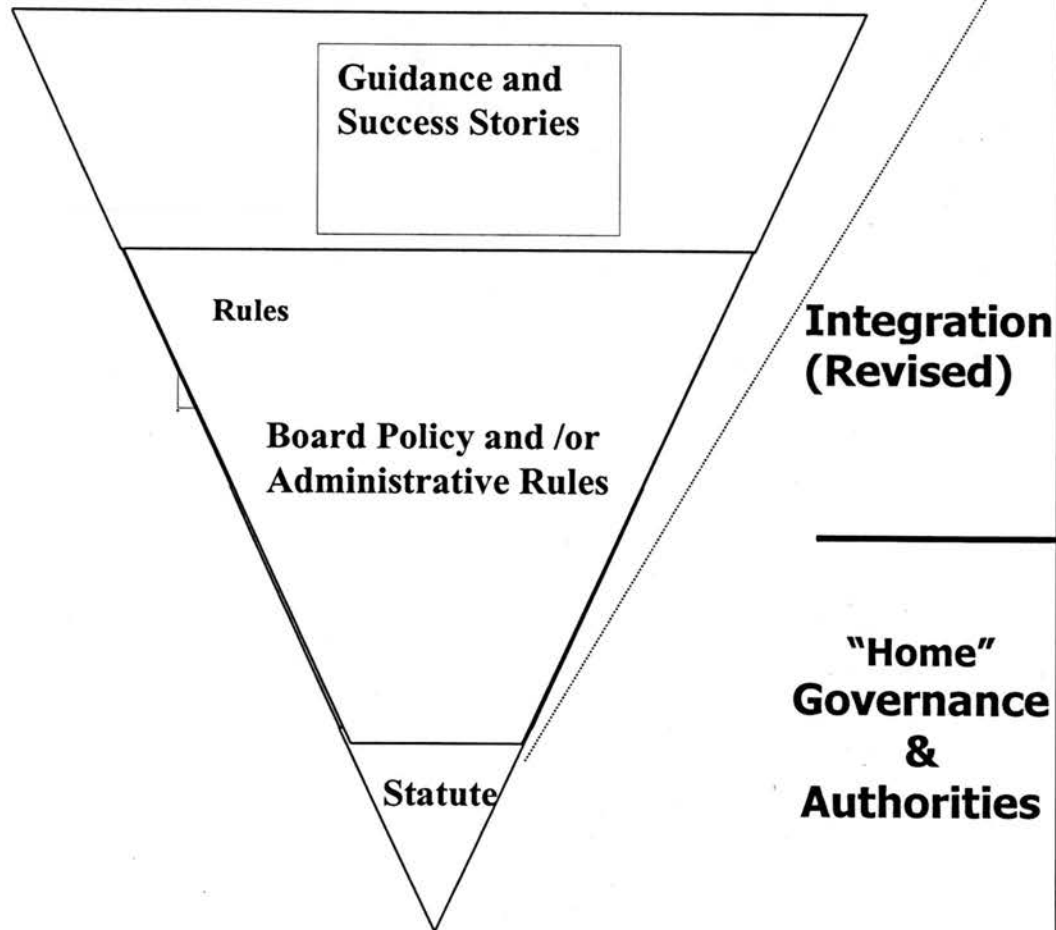
<sup>2</sup> Government units include local, regional, and state.

# Local Water Management



## Integration Work plan – The Big Picture

## Proposed Statute Framework



**"103Z"**  
Common Plan  
Content, Process and  
Coordination  
(Attached)

**"103X"**  
Common Implementation  
Financing Options

### "Home" Governance & Authorities

103B  
County – (.301 - .3369)  
Metro – (.201 - .251)  
GW --(.255)

103D  
Watershed  
District

103C  
SWCD

103G  
Wetland  
Management  
Plan

Note: Statutes will be supplemented by Board policy and guic  
Administrative rules will not be needed.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

September 25, 2002

- BWSR "Update"
- Land & Water Treatment Projects, Local Water Planning Projects, Costs & Benefits Reported via LARS 1998-2001
- "Local Water Management: The Next Era" -- workshop schedule
- News Release -- Steven Woods Named Assistant Director for Operations at BWSR
- Memos to Agencies Regarding County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan 90-day Review:
  - Kandiyohi County
  - Kittson County
  - Lake of the Woods County
  - Lyon County
  - Mahnomen County
  - McLeod County
  - Renville County
  - Wilkin County



# Board of Water and Soil Resources UPDATE

A publication of the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

September 2002

## SOUTH

Over the next 2 ½ years, a representative from the Rock County Land Management Office (RLMO) and a BWSR BC will visit all 618 registered feedlots in Rock County. This information-gathering endeavor is the result of a plea agreement arranged by the U.S. Attorney's office involving a feedlot enterprise and several local businessmen. A fine levied against a defendant will help reimburse the state and county for the cost of the Level III Feedlot Inventory process.

A Level III Feedlot Inventory includes the gathering of detailed information such as the total number of animals (in animal units), measurements of open lots, proximity to surface waters, a determination of run-off problems, manure storage and handling measures, nutrient management arrangements, and a site analysis through use of the Feedlot Evaluation Model (FLEVAL) computer program. Properly managed total confinement facilities generally do not necessitate the FLEVAL analysis.

In early June, staff from the MPCA, BWSR, and the RLMO jointly developed a workplan detailing a timeline for project completion and individual agency responsibilities. The workplan noted that BWSR will take the lead on data collection and verification, as well as overall quality control and oversight of the FLEVAL. Rock County will take the lead in scheduling site visits, implementing a public communications plan, and mediating a compromise with uncooperative producers. Staff from both agencies will assist in database improvements and accounting of financial expenditures. The MPCA will provide assistance with project oversight and feedlot rule clarifications.

Site visit efforts began July 1, with about 80 feedlots inventoried by early September. The FLEVAL computer program has been implemented on about one half of the sites visited. The annual harvest may reduce the number of the site visits by the inventory team this fall, but

database and FLEVAL updates should adequately fill this gap in the timeline. The Rock Land Management Office staff visiting feedlots includes Douglas Bos, Arlyn Gehrke, and newly hired technician Jeff Sehr. The BWSR staff representative completing the site visits has been BC Tom Kresko, with oversight provided by Jeff Nielsen.

One half of the BC's time is being spent assisting in the completion of the inventory, with the other half committed to regular BC duties in the Marshall office. The feedlot workplan timeline notes that the site visits will be complete in two years, with another six months necessary for project wrap-up.

*-Submitted by Tom Kresko*

Taking a page out of the BALMM Basin Plan Scoping Document, Rice County leaders recently passed a resolution encouraging "soybean producers to eliminate the unnecessary fall tillage of soybean stubble in Rice County."

The county's Board of Commissioners, Soil and Water Conservation District Board, the Farm Service Agency County Office Committee, and the County Extension Committee all voted to pass the resolution to show public support for curtailing a practice that often is agronomically unnecessary and environmentally harmful.

Tom Coffman, district conservationist with the NRCS in Rice County, was quoted in an *Agri-News* article on the resolution. He noted that soybean acreage has soared 35 percent in the county over the past five years, displacing pastures, hay, and small grains as livestock numbers have decreased. It is estimated that 50 percent of soybean acreage is tilled in the fall, according to the annual Rice County Tillage Transect Survey. Tillage buries soybean residue, leaving the soil subject to erosion, which has been severe in recent years.

## Board of Water and Soil Resources Update, Page 2

Clarence Anderson is Rice County SWCD supervisor and director of Area 7 SWCDs, which covers an 11-county area of Southeast Minnesota. Anderson suggested that each SWCD in the area consider passing resolutions encouraging farmers to avoid fall tillage of soybean stubble.

The idea originally came from Winnishiek County in Northeast Iowa, where a county ordinance was used as a platform for a concerted campaign to reduce fall tillage of soybean stubble, which was identified as the leading cause of soil erosion.

-Story from *BALMM Currents*, Norman Senjem, MPCA

### NORTH

#### WCA

Dale Krystosek is assisting with the development of a restoration and replacement plan to mitigate impacted wetlands from the Enbridge Pipeline Company 250,000-gallon oil spill that affected 11.2 acres of wetland in Itasca County.

Dale and Mark Nelson are auditing the Hermantown WCA program and developing recommendations to resolve WCA implementation issues. Recommendations include holding interagency Technical Advisory Committee meetings where the LGU can hear agency input on projects; provide one-on-one training for WCA staff; and work with the city to promote development of a Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan. Dale will participate in TEPs on difficult projects.

Dale met with the Otter Tail County attorney and Mr. Ruther's attorney in pre-trial discussions about 20 acres of wetland filling violations by Mr. Ruther. Dale also met with EPA, COE, DNR, and local staff to determine the status of restoration work on the Bailey violation in Lake of the Woods County.

On July 31, a TEP (including representatives from Mille Lacs SWCD, planning and zoning, DNR, and BWSR) met on the Lawrence Kreger site in Mille Lacs County to certify completion of a wetland restoration order. The restored 40-acre basin along Battle Creek received a cease and desist order from the DNR in March 1998. This violation, combined with illegal activity in two other adjacent counties, made this one of the largest violations in state history. Mille Lacs County attorney Janelle Kendall, assistant county attorney Marcus Miller,

Mille Lacs SWCD manager Ed Beck, and DNR conservation officer Julie Olson are to be commended for the hard work and professionalism used in bringing closure to this violation.

#### Forestry

Jim Lemmerman participated in living snow fence training put on by Mn/DOT and MASWCD for highway engineers and local resource professionals. Jim is also assisting local work groups to get living snow fences out on the landscape.

-Submitted by Ron Shelito

### METRO

Budget uncertainties have taken a toll on the Metro Region staff with the departure of Doug

Snyder. Doug leaves to become the first administrator for the Mississippi WMO. This watershed is primarily in Minneapolis. He's a major loss of a triple-threat BC that could do WCA, planning, and grants equally well at an outstanding level.

The hiring freeze will limit our options somewhat for backfilling the work area. The three regional supervisors and the Land and Water supervisor have taken a comprehensive look at statewide service areas and upcoming budget scenarios in an effort to lay out a strategy. In the short-term the plan is to run short-handed and divvy up responsibilities over a pool of a half-dozen individuals. In broad terms, Lynda Peterson will be the Metro WCA contact and Phil Belfiori the planning contact. Steve Woods will address association contacts, NPEA grant administration, and general inquiries from managers and supervisors. Land and Water staff will assist us with WCA and complex WD authorities questions. North and South regional BC's have also been pledged to help out in adjacent counties, primarily for WCA issues.

We're eager to see the state fiscal crunch resolved so a more permanent solution may be forged. Until that time, we have alerted our metro clientele about our staffing situation.

-Submitted by Steve Woods



## Board of Water and Soil Resources Update, Page 3

### ENGINEERING

BWSR engineering staff are working with many SWCDs, landowners, and contractors to construct wetland restorations this time of year. This is especially so this year, as the CREP project implementation phase continues to build. We're also moving into a prime surveying time of year, after crops are harvested and before the snow flies (which we hope will be later than average again this year).

Several engineering technician candidates are being interviewed to refill the position that Jeremy Larson left earlier in September. We intend to have someone on board soon, depending somewhat on availability of the candidates.

Although some of the most recent easement information is not yet in our new wetland restoration project database, we expect to have a total of about 625 CREP wetland restoration projects. Note that "projects" can include a number of adjacent easements required to restore a specific wetland or complex of wetlands. The total number of CREP restorable wetland basins is expected to be about 1,200-1,300. The current total of "cropping cessation only" wetland easements (i.e. additional wetland restoration not needed or not feasible) is about 120. This number will increase somewhat as the most recent easements are evaluated in more detail or other projects are determined to be infeasible to restore at this time due to land and drainage rights issues that can't be resolved. To date, about 70 percent of the CREP wetland restoration projects have been surveyed and about 30 percent designed.

BWSR staff involved with Lake Superior continue to work with the PCA, DNR, and North Shore SWCDs to develop a couple of EPA 319 grant applications for submittal in October for erosion control and coastal engineering assistance. One is a partnership between the Lake Superior Association of SWCDs and BWSR and the other a partnership between BWSR, PCA, and DNR. With the current state funding constraints, we expect the competition for 319 grants to be substantial. Although the 319 competitive pot of funding is also more limited this year than last year, these proposals will involve some good partnerships that should be competitive.

One of the presentations at the Local Water Planners Conference this year will be about a North Shore slope

regrading and revegetation project funded by a GLC grant that BWSR and South St. Louis SWCD had sought and received. Jim Lemmerman, forester, and Gene Clark, lakeshore engineer, will present at the conference. This demonstration project included several alternative surface erosion control methods, in addition to hundreds of hybrid poplar plantings. The project site is the Sucker Bay shoreline stabilization project involving four properties, where, in the mid '90s, BWSR helped design and construct an armor stone revetment at the toe of the high, eroding bank. This was a subsequent phase of the project to restabilize the high slope above the revetment.

As a member of the Red River Mediation Work Group's Technical and Scientific Advisory Committee and the International Red River Board's Hydrology Committee, Al Kean, chief engineer, continues to be involved with a number of tasks related to flood water storage and other flood damage reduction issues, project monitoring, wetland research, interjurisdictional drainage, and water usage issues. These committees are part of the ongoing efforts to combine available technical expertise to help clarify issues and find consensus regarding complex water management issues in the Red River Basin. It's interesting and challenging work.

- Submitted by Al Kean

### BRIEFS

Following includes information on recent staff departures:

**Dan Eklund** has accepted a position with the U.S. Forest Service as the wildlife biologist in charge of program management and implementation for the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest in Park Falls, Wis.

In an e-mail to BWSR staff, John Jaschke said: "It is a great opportunity for him to lead and coordinate a team approach to wildlife management using some of the skills he honed while at BWSR. Dan has been a major part of wetland conservation and administration in

*Deadline for next edition:  
October 16*



## Board of Water and Soil Resources Update, Page 4

Minnesota as the Wetland Conservation Act came of age." Dan will be going home to manage places he grew up in and being closer to his family was too good to pass up, Jaschke noted. Dan reports to his new assignment Nov. 4.

**Doug Snyder** has taken a position as administrator with the Mississippi WMO (City of Minneapolis). His last day at BWSR was Sept. 10.

Steve Woods, in announcing Doug's departure in an e-mail, said: "We really hate to see him go, but it's a new position with a lot of potential that he couldn't pass up. He will leave a sizeable hole in our staff since he has been here since starting as an intern in August 1994 and achieved regular employee status in February 1998."

**Jeremy Larson** has accepted a position with the NRCS in the Lyon County field office. He wanted to work out of Marshall on a longer-term basis, which his new position will enable. Jeremy started his new job Sept. 9.

Jeremy joined BWSR's wetland restoration engineering team in early December 2000. He worked out of BWSR's satellite office in Montevideo, where the NPEA Joint Powers 7 office is located and the CREP wetland restoration workload is high. His engineering technician roles and responsibilities have included surveying, design, and construction assistance for a number of SWCDs in the western part of the Minnesota River Basin.

"We expect that he'll continue to work on wetland restorations in Lyon County (as much as possible, we hope), so we'll stay in touch," Al Kean said in an e-mail to BWSR staff.

### **eLINK tested in September; Roll out expected in February**

Several testing sessions were held this month for the new eLINK program in anticipation for a roll out expected for February 2003.

"Things are looking good," said Tim Ogg, eLINK project manager and information technology manager at BWSR.

eLINK is a relational database that is being developed to replace LARS, a reporting system currently used by local

governments. Primary users of the system will be soil and water conservation districts.

The system will help local governments analyze and track information on projects, clients, and budgets. It also has a built in reporting system that will help BWSR and LGUs to track environmental benefits.

Ogg said that several district employees, BWSR board conservationists, and BWSR central office staff were involved in testing. He expects that training will take place in January.

Once the system is ready, a mass e-mail announcement will be sent to LGUs. The software will then need to be downloaded from the Internet. There will be no cost to LGUs to access the software, Ogg said. eLINK runs on Windows 98 or higher.

### **LAND & WATER**

While we are eagerly awaiting the new eLINK system, we are still relying on that old work-horse, LARS, to track local government accomplishments in natural resource management. Figures have been compiled and tables have been created to summarize accomplishments (and costs) for calendar years 1998-2001 as reported via LARS. They pretty much speak for themselves.

What is most striking is the huge amount of work getting done out there through the unique state-local partnerships put in place through BWSR.

The report has been compiled in a pdf document and is on the BWSR web site, attached to this month's edition of the *Update*.

*-Submitted by Eric Mohring*

**Land & Water Treatment Projects  
Local Water Planning Projects  
Costs & Benefits  
Reported via LARS 1998-2001**

**LARS 2001 calendar year reporting**

**Land & Water Treatment Projects**

- Number of projects: 3763
- Cost (in *thousands* of \$)
  - State Grants
    - BWSR: \$3,430
    - MPCA: \$1,383
    - Other State: \$1,955
    - Total: \$6,768
  - State SRF Loans
    - MPCA: \$ 867
    - MDA: \$2,442
    - Total: \$3,309
  - Federal \$2,165
  - LGU \$1,527
  - Occupier \$4,900
  - Other \$ 351
- Benefits
  - Soil Loss Reduction (Soil Saved) in thousands of tons per year: 349
  - Sediment Reduction in thousands of tons per year: 59.4
  - Phosphorus reduction in thousands of lbs. per year: 131

**Local Water Planning Projects – see spreadsheet table**

## LARS 2000 calendar year reporting

### Land & Water Treatment Projects

- Number of projects: 3879
- Cost (in *thousands* of \$)
  - State Grants
    - BWSR: \$ 3,436
    - MPCA: \$ 794
    - Other State: \$ 1,512
    - Total: \$ 5,742
  - State SRF Loans
    - MPCA: \$ 241
    - MDA: \$ 2,326
    - Total: \$ 2,567
  - Federal \$ 1,790
  - LGU \$ 779
  - Occupier \$ 4,773
  - Other \$ 126
- Benefits
  - Soil Loss Reduction (Soil Saved) in *thousands* of tons per year: 283
  - Sediment Reduction in *thousands* of tons per year: 81
  - Phosphorus reduction in *thousands* of lbs. per year: 226

Local Water Planning Projects— see spreadsheet table

## LARS 1999 calendar year reporting

### Land & Water Treatment Projects

- Number of projects: 3685
- Cost (in *thousands* of \$)
  - State Grants
    - BWSR: \$ 3,232
    - MPCA: \$ 714
    - Other State: \$ 257
    - Total: \$ 4,203
  - State SRF Loans
    - MPCA: \$ 82
    - MDA: \$ 1,484
    - Total: \$ 1,566
  - Federal \$ 1,474
  - LGU \$ 1,052
  - Occupier \$ 5,025
  - Other \$ 175
- Benefits
  - Soil Loss Reduction (Soil Saved) in *thousands* of tons per year: 488
  - Sediment Reduction in *thousands* of tons per year: 108
  - Phosphorus reduction in *thousands* of lbs. per year: 172

Local Water Planning Projects – see spreadsheet table

## LARS 1998 calendar year reporting

### Land & Water Treatment Projects

- Number of projects: 2545
- Cost (in *thousands* of \$)
  - State Grants
    - BWSR: \$ 2,162
    - MPCA: \$ 239
    - Other State: \$ 1,850
    - Total: \$ 4,251
  - State SRF Loans
    - MPCA: \$ 447
    - MDA: \$ 913
    - Total: \$ 1,360
  - Federal \$ 1,185
  - LGU \$ 3,396
  - Occupier \$ 3,340
  - Other \$ 135
- Benefits
  - Soil Loss Reduction (Soil Saved) in *thousands* of tons per year: 294
  - Sediment Reduction in *thousands* of tons per year: 59
  - Phosphorus reduction in *thousands* of lbs. per year: 283

Local Water Planning Projects – see spreadsheet table

## Summary of Local Water Planning Projects Reported via LARS

| Number of Local Water Planning Projects by Calendar Year<br>(source: LARS reporting 1998-2001) |      |           |       |      |           |       |      |           |       |      |           |       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------|-------|------|-----------|-------|------|-----------|-------|------|-----------|-------|
| Category                                                                                       | 1998 |           |       | 1999 |           |       | 2000 |           |       | 2001 |           |       |
|                                                                                                | Base | Challenge | Total | Base | Challenge | Total | Base | Challenge | Total | Base | Challenge | Total |
| Education                                                                                      | 681  | 4         | 685   | 670  | 23        | 693   | 555  | 19        | 574   | 573  | 33        | 606   |
| Monitoring                                                                                     | 436  | 10        | 446   | 427  | 11        | 438   | 325  | 15        | 340   | 282  | 11        | 293   |
| Inventory                                                                                      | 115  | 9         | 124   | 108  | 15        | 123   | 64   | 10        | 74    | 70   | 11        | 81    |
| Planning                                                                                       |      |           |       |      |           |       |      |           |       |      |           |       |
| ordinances enacted                                                                             | 21   | 0         | 21    | 4    | 2         | 6     | 8    | 0         | 8     | 3    | 0         | 3     |
| ordinances revised or amended                                                                  | 47   | 0         | 47    | 16   | 0         | 16    | 20   | 1         | 21    | 16   | 2         | 18    |
| new plans adopted                                                                              | 255  | 0         | 255   | 31   | 254       | 285   | 37   | 11        | 48    | 13   | 1         | 14    |
| plans revised                                                                                  | 26   | 0         | 26    | 153  | 2         | 155   | 23   | 3         | 26    | 24   | 1         | 25    |



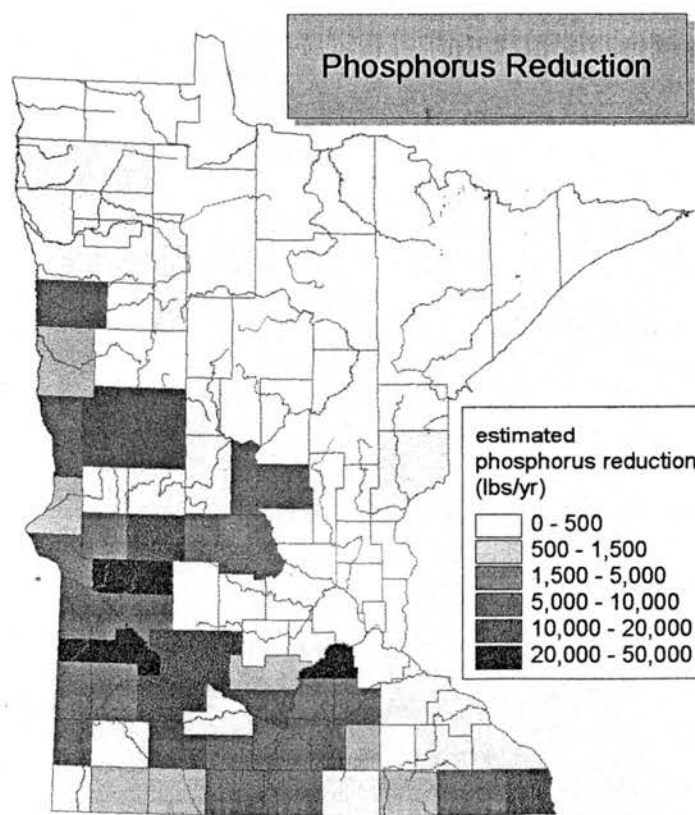
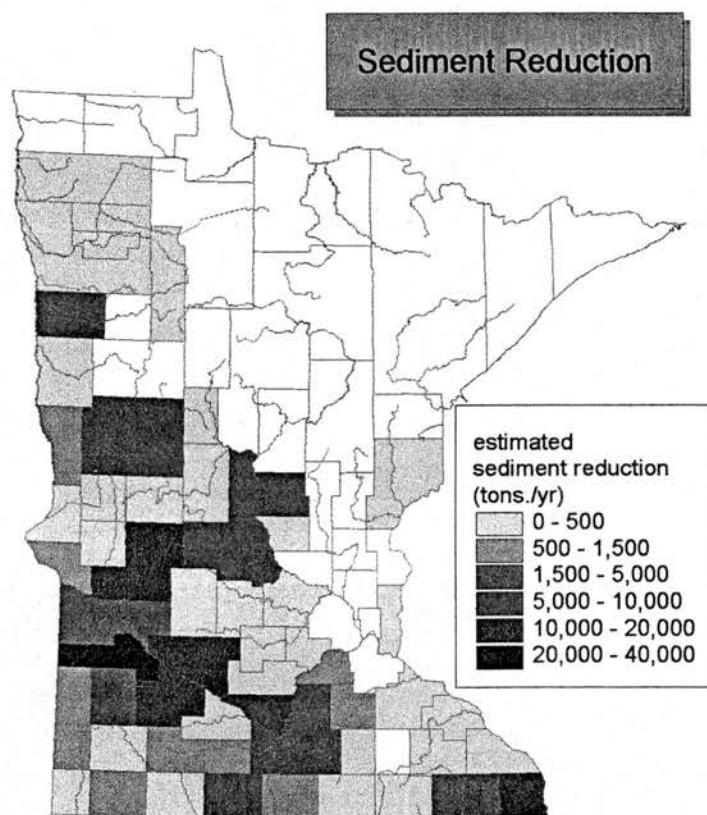
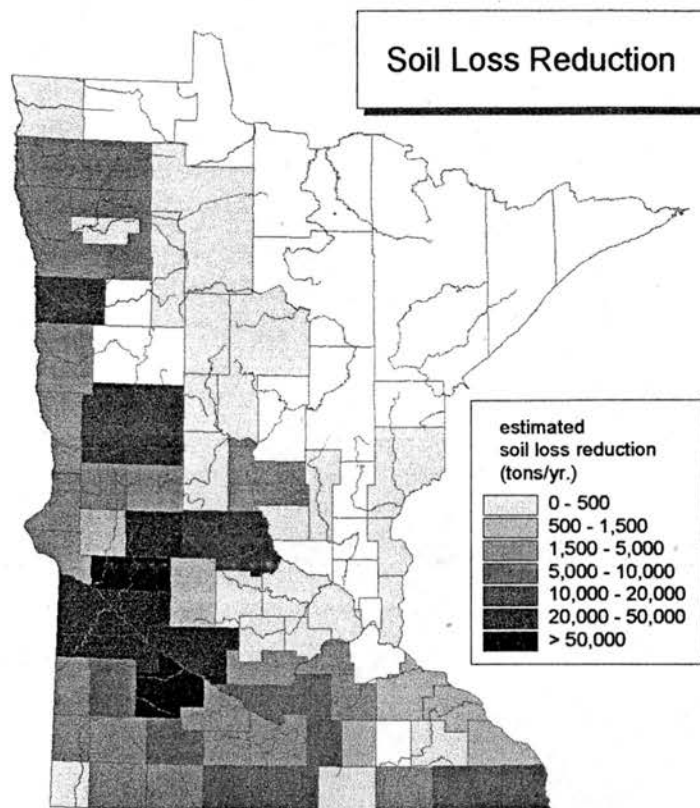
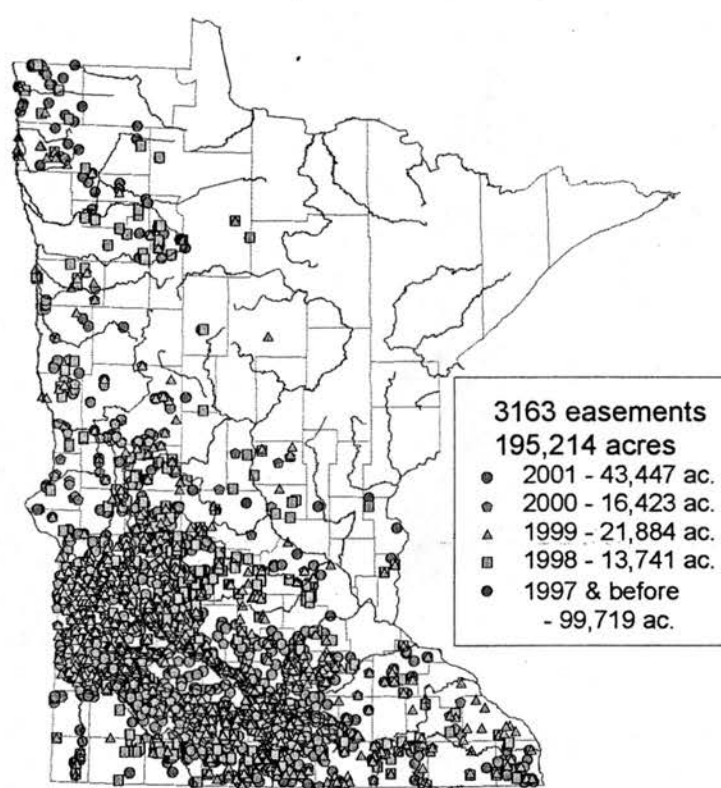
**Land and Water Treatment Project Cost**  
source: 1998-2001 LARS data

| Rep-<br>orting<br>Year | Project<br>Count | Total BWSR<br>Grants | Total<br>MPCA<br>grants | Other State<br>Grants | Total State<br>Grants | Total State<br>SRF Loans<br>(MPCA &<br>MDA) | Total<br>Federal<br>Grants | Other Cost       | Total LGU<br>Cost  | Occupier<br>Cost    |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1998                   | 2,545            | \$2,162,124          | \$238,691               | \$1,850,152           | \$4,250,968           | \$1,359,862                                 | \$1,185,002                | \$134,657        | \$3,396,487        | \$3,339,795         |
| 1999                   | 3,685            | \$3,232,069          | \$713,811               | \$257,448             | \$4,203,328           | \$1,565,963                                 | \$1,474,265                | \$175,270        | \$1,052,021        | \$5,025,308         |
| 2000                   | 3,879            | \$3,435,567          | \$793,913               | \$1,512,284           | \$5,741,763           | \$2,566,675                                 | \$1,790,972                | \$125,714        | \$778,989          | \$4,773,436         |
| 2001                   | 3,763            | \$3,430,356          | \$1,382,958             | \$1,954,949           | \$6,768,262           | \$3,309,435                                 | \$2,164,886                | \$351,138        | \$1,527,097        | \$4,900,230         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | <b>13,872</b>    | <b>\$12,260,116</b>  | <b>\$3,129,373</b>      | <b>\$5,574,832</b>    | <b>\$20,964,321</b>   | <b>\$8,801,936</b>                          | <b>\$6,615,124</b>         | <b>\$786,779</b> | <b>\$6,754,594</b> | <b>\$18,038,769</b> |

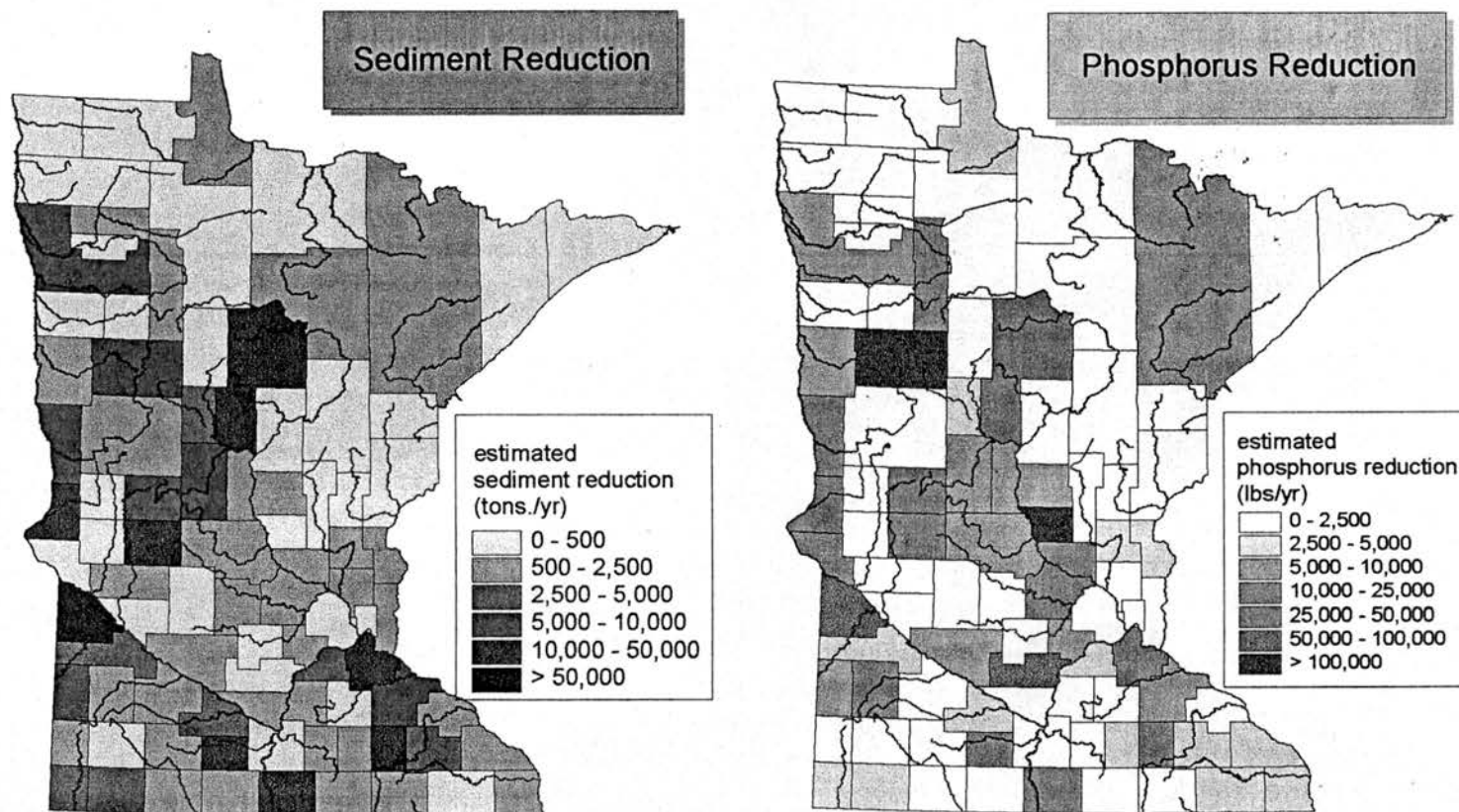
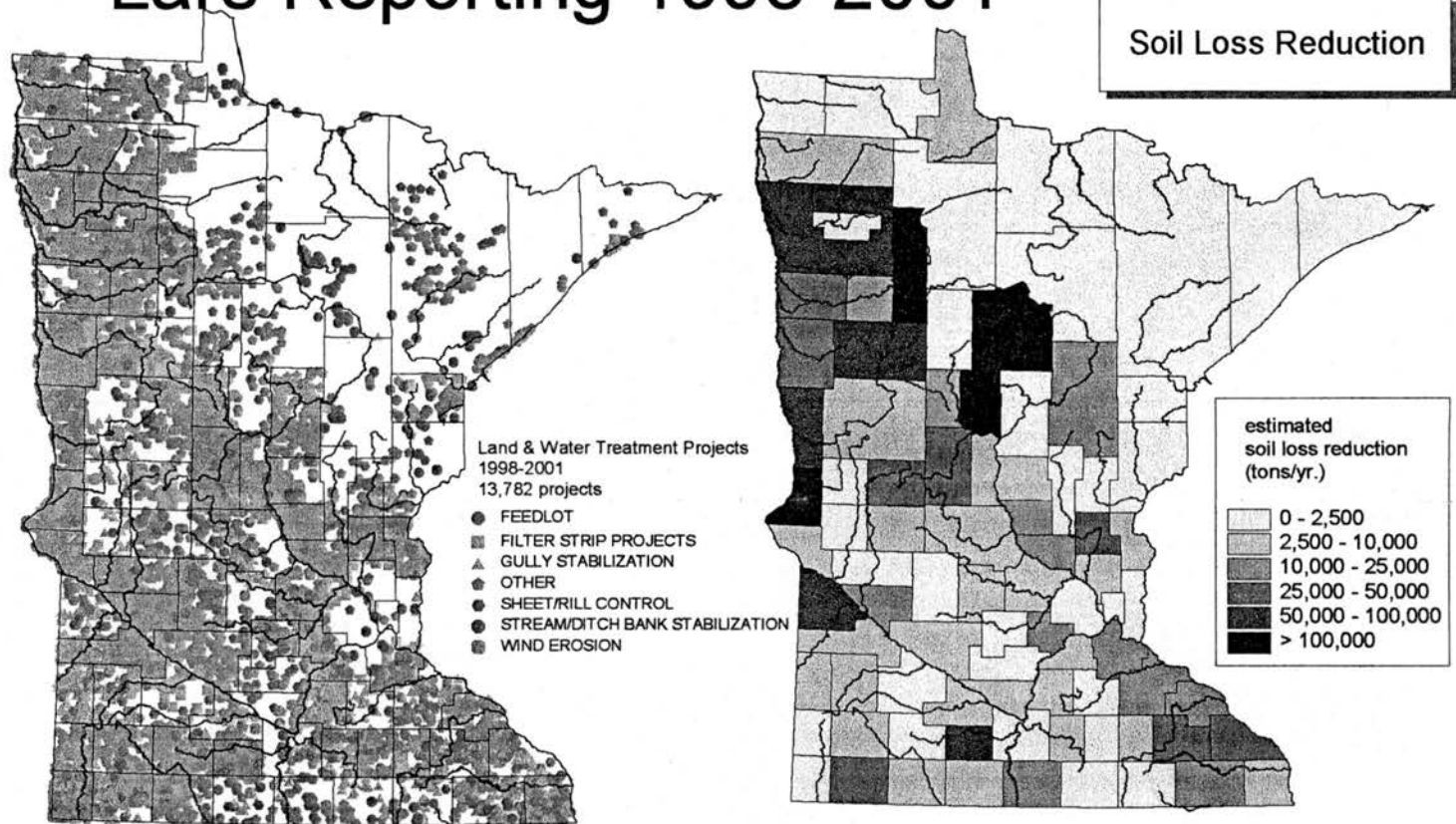
**Land and Water Treatment Project Benefits**  
source: 1998-2001 LARS data

| Rep-<br>orting<br>Year | Project<br>Count | Soil Loss<br>Reduction<br>(Tons/Year) | Sediment<br>Reduction<br>(Tons/year) | Phosphorus<br>Reduction<br>TOTAL<br>(Lbs/yr) |
|------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1998                   | 2,545            | 293,855                               | 58,988                               | 282,685                                      |
| 1999                   | 3,685            | 488,250                               | 107,637                              | 172,050                                      |
| 2000                   | 3,879            | 282,949                               | 81,132                               | 225,922                                      |
| 2001                   | 3,763            | 349,268                               | 59,390                               | 131,153                                      |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | <b>13,872</b>    | <b>1,414,322</b>                      | <b>307,147</b>                       | <b>811,810</b>                               |

# Easements Reported via LARS 1997-2001



# Land & Water Treatment Projects Lars Reporting 1998-2001



**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**Local Water Management:**  
**The Next Era**

Registration fee: \$25

Name

Organization

Address

City State ZIP

Phone Fax

E-mail

**INFORMATION FOR STATE AGENCY PARTICIPANTS:**

Fund: 200 Appr. SWF Agency: R9P

Org: 2LRM Rev. Source: 8700

PV #

Date paid:

Please fax a print screen to: (651) 215-1144

*This brochure is available in pdf format on the  
BWSR web site. See "Quick Links" at  
[www.bwsr.state.mn.us](http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us).*

This brochure is available in alternative format upon request.  
BWSR is an equal opportunity employer.

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**Local Water Management: The Next Era**



**Local Water Management:**  
**The Next Era**

*A workshop offered by the Minnesota Board of  
Water and Soil Resources for local staffs, advisory  
committee members, elected or appointed  
officials, and regional state agency field staff.*

**Plan to attend one of these sessions:**

**Wednesday, October 9**

Kelly Inn/Green Mill

Hwy. 23 and 4th Ave. South, St Cloud

**Tuesday, October 15**

Shooting Star Casino Hotel & Event Center

Hwy. 59 & Jefferson St., Mahanomen

**Wednesday, October 16**

Sawmill Inn, 2302 Pokegama Ave. South,  
Grand Rapids

**Wednesday, October 23**

Cabela's, 3900 Cabela Drive, Owatonna

**Thursday, October 24**

Redwood Area Community Center, 901 Cook St.,  
Redwood Falls

**Monday, October 28**

Community Center, 4600 Victoria St. North,  
Shoreview

**Thursday, November 7**

Minnesota Department of Health, 1645 Energy  
Park Drive, St. Paul



### Introduction

Increased urbanization, agriculture, recreation, and industry all place high demands on water resources. As more pressure is put on the state's water resources, the need for strong local plans that provide a context for sound local decision-making escalates.

Increasingly, Minnesota citizens and public and private groups will look to counties, watershed districts, and water management organizations to propose and carry out efficient water management strategies. BWSR is sponsoring *Local Water Management: The Next Era* to help position local resource managers, including agency field staffs, in meeting those expectations.

The morning speakers will share planning and implementation approaches that have proven successful in the world of local water management in Minnesota. They will relate key concepts BWSR proposes to incorporate into statutory and policy changes for the state's local water planning program. They'll also discuss a major effort in the integration of water management programs that will result in putting energy where it pays off the most.

*What does that mean?* Focus on the issues, areas, or resources of the most concern and coordinating actions of all relevant local resource managers to effectively address those concerns.

### Outcomes

Participants in this workshop will:

- Learn about successful approaches to plan and implement water management at the local level;
- Become more familiar with changes BWSR is proposing for local water management programs;
- Gain insights and experiences from other local resource managers.

### Proposed Agenda:

|            |                            |
|------------|----------------------------|
| 9:30 a.m.  | Welcome/Introduction       |
| 10 a.m.    | Speaker                    |
| 10:45 a.m. | Break                      |
|            | Speaker                    |
| 12:00 noon | LUNCH                      |
| 1 p.m.     | Integration Update         |
|            | Regional Priority Concerns |
| 3:30 p.m.  | Wrap Up                    |

Check BWSR's web site (see Quick Links at [www.bwsr.state.mn.us](http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us)) for more information regarding the speakers and subjects for the session you plan to attend.

### Registration

Check the session you plan to attend (*registration must be received one week prior to the workshop*):

- ☐ **Wednesday, October 9**  
Kelly Inn/Green Mill, Hwy. 23 and 4th Ave. South, St. Cloud
- ☐ **Tuesday, October 15**  
Shooting Star Casino Hotel & Event Center  
Hwy. 59 & Jefferson St., Mahanomen
- ☐ **Wednesday, October 16**  
Sawmill Inn, 2302 Pokegama Ave. South, Grand Rapids
- ☐ **Wednesday, October 23**  
Cabela's, 3900 Cabela Drive, Owatonna
- ☐ **Thursday, October 24**  
Redwood Area Community Center,  
901 Cook St., Redwood Falls
- ☐ **Monday, October 28**  
Community Center, 4600 Victoria St. North, Shoreview
- ☐ **Thursday, November 7**  
Minnesota Department of Health, 1645 Energy Park Drive, St. Paul

**Registration fee:** \$25 (includes lunch)

**Please note:** Pre-registration and payment are required. Fees cannot be accepted the day of the workshop. Send your payment (checks only!) made out to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, along with this registration form to:

**Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources**

**Attn: Debbie Anderson**

**One West Water Street, Suite 200**

**St. Paul, MN 55107**

**Phone: (651) 282-9969**

**TTY: (800) 627-3529**

*Fill out both sides of this panel.*



# NEWS RELEASE

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources • One West Water Street, #200 • St. Paul, MN 55107  
Contact: Peter Raeker, Communications Office; 651-296-0884; fax: 651-297-5615 • [www.bwsr.state.mn.us](http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us)

For immediate release  
September 23, 2002

Contact: Peter Raeker, 651-296-0884

## **STEVEN WOODS NAMED ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS AT BWSR**

ST. PAUL, MN – Steven C. Woods, metro region supervisor for the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) since 1999, has been named BWSR's assistant director for operations. Woods was acting assistant director at BWSR since March 2001.

Woods, who holds an agricultural engineering degree from the University of Minnesota, is a licensed civil engineer. Among his duties at BWSR, Woods directs agency soil and water resource management programs carried out by the regional offices, coordinates development of legislative initiatives with the agency's local government clientele, and works with various groups to assure understanding and input into the agency's resource management programs and activities.

"Because 78 percent of the state's land is privately owned, BWSR's emphasis on private lands is critical for the state to attaining its goals for clean water, clean air, and abundant fish and wildlife," said Ron Harnack, executive director of BWSR. "Our local government clientele, who deliver programs to private landowners in the state, will be well served by Steve's multi-state perspective."

Prior to joining BWSR, Woods was at Montgomery Watson Americas, Inc., from 1987-1999 and worked on watershed management and stormwater design services to watershed districts and municipalities across the Midwest. Additionally, he was a research analyst at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources from 1985-1987.

###





September 11, 2002

**TO:** Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA)  
Chair, Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB)  
Director, Minnesota Geological Survey (MSG)

**FROM:** Ronald Harnack, Executive Director *RH*

**RE:** *Kandiyohi County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan*

On Wednesday, September 11, 2002, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will begin the official 90-day state review of the updated Kandiyohi County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Pursuant to Minnesota Rules, Chapter 9300.0170 the BWSR is forwarding the county water plan for your agency's review and comment. You have 45 days from receipt of this letter to submit comments, in writing, to the BWSR identifying the portions of the plan that the agency has determined to be inconsistent with the state law.

The Kandiyohi County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is being sent to your agency's 103B Technical Review Committee Member under separate cover. The 103B Technical Review Committee Members are:

- MDA, Mark Zabel
- MDH, Art Persons
- DNR, John Fax
- PCA, David L. Johnson
- EQB, Mike Tietz
- MGS, Barb Palen

Thank you for helping local resource managers protect and conserve their water resources through comprehensive local water management plans.

**cc:** Agency 103B Technical Review Committee Members  
BWSR Board Members  
BWSR Executive Team  
Tom Fischer, BWSR Board Conservationist  
Jeff Bredberg, Local Water Plan Coordinator  
Matt Johnson,

|                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Bemidji</b><br>3217 Bemidji Avenue N.<br>Bemidji, MN 56601<br>phone (218) 755-4235<br>fax (218) 755-4201 | <b>Brainerd</b><br>217 S. 7th Street<br>Suite 202<br>Brainerd, MN 56401<br>phone (218) 828-2383<br>fax (218) 828-6036 | <b>Duluth</b><br>394 S. Lake Avenue<br>Room 403<br>Duluth, MN 55802<br>phone (218) 723-4752<br>fax (218) 723-4794 | <b>Fergus Falls</b><br>415 W. Stanton Avenue<br>Fergus Falls, MN 56537<br>phone (218) 736-5445<br>fax (218) 736-7215 | <b>Marshall</b><br>1400 E. Lyon Street<br>Box 267<br>Marshall, MN 56258<br>phone (507) 537-6060<br>fax (507) 537-6368 | <b>New Ulm</b><br>261 Highway 15 S.<br>New Ulm, MN 56073<br>phone (507) 359-6074<br>fax (507) 359-6018 | <b>Rochester</b><br>40 16th Street S.E.<br>Suite A<br>Rochester, MN 55904<br>phone (507) 285-7458<br>fax (507) 280-2875 | <b>Saint Paul</b><br>One West Water Street<br>Suite 250<br>Saint Paul, MN 55107<br>phone (651) 282-9969<br>fax (651) 284-0000 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



September 9, 2002

TO: Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)  
Commissioner Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA)  
Chair, Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB)  
Director, Minnesota Geological Survey (MSG)

FROM: Ronald D. Harnack, Executive Director *R.D.H./da*

SUBJECT: ***Kittson County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan***

On Monday, September 9, 2002, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will begin the official 90-day state review of the updated Kittson County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Pursuant to Minnesota Rules, Chapter 9300.0170 the BWSR is forwarding the county water plan for your agency's review and comment. You have 45 days from receipt of this letter to submit comments, in writing, to the BWSR identifying the portions of the plan that the agency has determined to be inconsistent with the state law.

The Kittson County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is being sent to your agency's 103B Technical Review Committee Member under separate cover. The 103B Technical Review Committee Members are:

- MDA, Mark Zabel
- MDH, Art Persons
- DNR, John Fax
- PCA, David L. Johnson
- EQB, Mike Tietz
- MGS, Barb Palen

Thank you for helping local resource managers protect and conserve their water resources through comprehensive local water management plans.

cc: Agency 103B Technical Review Committee Members  
BWSR Board Members  
BWSR Executive Team  
Bill Best, BWSR Board Conservationist  
Holly Anderson, Local Water Plan Coordinator

F/LandW/LanData/Local Water Planning/Water Plan Final Review

|                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Bemidji</b><br>3217 Bemidji Avenue N.<br>Bemidji, MN 56601<br>phone (218) 755-4235<br>fax (218) 755-4201 | <b>Brainerd</b><br>217 S. 7th Street<br>Suite 202<br>Brainerd, MN 56401<br>phone (218) 828-2383<br>fax (218) 828-6036 | <b>Duluth</b><br>394 S. Lake Avenue<br>Room 403<br>Duluth, MN 55802<br>phone (218) 723-4752<br>fax (218) 723-4794 | <b>Fergus Falls</b><br>413 W. Stanton Avenue<br>Fergus Falls, MN 56537<br>phone (218) 736-5445<br>fax (218) 736-7215 | <b>Marshall</b><br>1400 E. Lyon Street<br>Box 267<br>Marshall, MN 56258<br>phone (507) 537-6060<br>fax (507) 537-6368 | <b>New Ulm</b><br>261 Highway 15 S.<br>New Ulm, MN 56073<br>phone (507) 359-6074<br>fax (507) 359-6018 | <b>Rochester</b><br>40 16th Street S.E.<br>Suite A<br>Rochester, MN 55904<br>phone (507) 285-7458<br>fax (507) 280-2875 | <b>Saint Paul</b><br>One West Water Street<br>Suite 250<br>Saint Paul, MN 55107<br>phone (651) 282-9969<br>fax (651) 284-0000 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



September 11, 2002

**TO:** Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA)  
Chair, Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB)  
Director, Minnesota Geological Survey (MSG)

**FROM:** Ronald Harnack, Executive Director *RH*

**RE:** *Lake of the Woods County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan*

On Wednesday, September 11, 2002, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will begin the official 90-day state review of the updated Lake of the Woods County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Pursuant to Minnesota Rules, Chapter 9300.0170 the BWSR is forwarding the county water plan for your agency's review and comment. You have 45 days from receipt of this letter to submit comments, in writing, to the BWSR identifying the portions of the plan that the agency has determined to be inconsistent with the state law.

The Lake of the Woods County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is being sent to your agency's 103B Technical Review Committee Member under separate cover. The 103B Technical Review Committee Members are:

- MDA, Mark Zabel
- MDH, Art Persons
- DNR, John Fax
- PCA, David L. Johnson
- EQB, Mike Tietz
- MGS, Barb Palen

Thank you for helping local resource managers protect and conserve their water resources through comprehensive local water management plans.

**cc:** Agency 103B Technical Review Committee Members  
BWSR Board Members  
BWSR Executive Team  
Jeff Hrubes, BWSR Board Conservationist  
Les Lemm, Local Water Plan Coordinator

|                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                               |
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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



*marygo*

September 10, 2002

TO: Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)  
Commissioner Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA)  
Chair, Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB)  
Director, Minnesota Geological Survey (MSG)

FROM: Ronald D. Harnack, Executive Director *R.D.H./da*

SUBJECT: ***Lyon County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan***

On Tuesday, September 10, 2002, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will begin the official 90-day state review of the updated Lyon County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Pursuant to Minnesota Rules, Chapter 9300.0170 the BWSR is forwarding the county water plan for your agency's review and comment. You have 45 days from receipt of this letter to submit comments, in writing, to the BWSR identifying the portions of the plan that the agency has determined to be inconsistent with the state law.

The Lyon County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is being sent to your agency's 103B Technical Review Committee Member under separate cover. The 103B Technical Review Committee Members are:

- MDA, Mark Zabel
- MDH, Art Persons
- DNR, John Fax
- PCA, David L. Johnson
- EQB, Mike Tietz
- MGS, Barb Palen

Thank you for helping local resource managers protect and conserve their water resources through comprehensive local water management plans.

cc: Agency 103B Technical Review Committee Members  
BWSR Board Members  
BWSR Executive Team  
Tom Kresko, BWSR Board Conservationist, Fergus Falls Office  
Rose Anderson, Lyon County, Local Water Plan Coordinator

F/LandW/LanData/Local Water Planning/Water Plan Final Review

| <i>Bemidji</i>                                                                            | <i>Brainerd</i>                                                                                    | <i>Duluth</i>                                                                                    | <i>Fergus Falls</i>                                                                           | <i>Marshall</i>                                                                                    | <i>New Ulm</i>                                                                       | <i>Rochester</i>                                                                                    | <i>Saint Paul</i>                                                                                        |
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| 3217 Bemidji Avenue N.<br>Bemidji, MN 56601<br>phone (218) 755-4235<br>fax (218) 755-4201 | 217 S. 7th Street<br>Suite 202<br>Brainerd, MN 56401<br>phone (218) 828-2383<br>fax (218) 828-6036 | 394 S. Lake Avenue<br>Room 403<br>Duluth, MN 55802<br>phone (218) 723-4752<br>fax (218) 723-4794 | 413 W. Stanton Avenue<br>Fergus Falls, MN 56537<br>phone (218) 736-5445<br>fax (218) 736-7215 | 1400 E. Lyon Street<br>Box 267<br>Marshall, MN 56258<br>phone (507) 537-6060<br>fax (507) 537-6368 | 261 Highway 15 S.<br>New Ulm, MN 56073<br>phone (507) 359-6074<br>fax (507) 359-6018 | 40 16th Street S.E.<br>Suite A<br>Rochester, MN 55904<br>phone (507) 285-7458<br>fax (507) 280-2875 | One West Water Street<br>Suite 250<br>Saint Paul, MN 55107<br>phone (651) 282-9969<br>fax (651) 284-0000 |

pharnack



Central Office: One West Water Street ■ Suite 200 ■ Saint Paul, MN 55107 ■ Phone: (651) 296-3767 ■ Fax: (651) 297-5615

September 10, 2002

TO: Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)  
Commissioner Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA)  
Chair, Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB)  
Director, Minnesota Geological Survey (MSG)

FROM: Ronald D. Harnack, Executive Director *R.D.H./da*

SUBJECT: ***Mahnomen County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan***

On Tuesday, September 10, 2002, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will begin the official 90-day state review of the updated Mahnomen County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Pursuant to Minnesota Rules, Chapter 9300.0170 the BWSR is forwarding the county water plan for your agency's review and comment. You have 45 days from receipt of this letter to submit comments, in writing, to the BWSR identifying the portions of the plan that the agency has determined to be inconsistent with the state law.

The Mahnomen County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is being sent to your agency's 103B Technical Review Committee Member under separate cover. The 103B Technical Review Committee Members are:

- MDA, Mark Zabel
- MDH, Art Persons
- DNR, John Fax
- PCA, David L. Johnson
- EQB, Mike Tietz
- MGS, Barb Palen

Thank you for helping local resource managers protect and conserve their water resources through comprehensive local water management plans.

cc: Agency 103B Technical Review Committee Members  
BWSR Board Members  
BWSR Executive Team  
Jeff Hrubes, BWSR Board Conservationist  
Aaron Neubert, Mahnomen Local Water Plan Coordinator

F/LandW/LanData/Local Water Planning/Water Plan Final Review

| <i>Bemidji</i>                                                                            | <i>Brainerd</i>                                                                                    | <i>Duluth</i>                                                                                    | <i>Fergus Falls</i>                                                                           | <i>Marshall</i>                                                                                    | <i>New Ulm</i>                                                                       | <i>Rochester</i>                                                                                    | <i>Saint Paul</i>                                                                                        |
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September 11, 2002

**TO:** Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA)  
Chair, Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB)  
Director, Minnesota Geological Survey (MSG)

**FROM:** Ronald Harnack, Executive Director *RH*

**RE:** *McLeod County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan*

On Wednesday, September 11, 2002, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will begin the official 90-day state review of the updated McLeod County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Pursuant to Minnesota Rules, Chapter 9300.0170 the BWSR is forwarding the county water plan for your agency's review and comment. You have 45 days from receipt of this letter to submit comments, in writing, to the BWSR identifying the portions of the plan that the agency has determined to be inconsistent with the state law.

The McLeod County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is being sent to your agency's 103B Technical Review Committee Member under separate cover. The 103B Technical Review Committee Members are:

- MDA, Mark Zabel
- MDH, Art Persons
- DNR, John Fax
- PCA, David L. Johnson
- EQB, Mike Tietz
- MGS, Barb Palen

Thank you for helping local resource managers protect and conserve their water resources through comprehensive local water management plans.

**cc:** Agency 103B Technical Review Committee Members  
BWSR Board Members  
BWSR Executive Team  
Tom Fischer, BWSR Board Conservationist  
Roger Berggren, Local Water Plan Coordinator  
Matt Johnson, Mid Minnesota Regional Development Commission

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| <b>Bemidji</b><br>3217 Bemidji Avenue N.<br>Bemidji, MN 56601<br>phone (218) 755-4235<br>fax (218) 755-4201 | <b>Brainerd</b><br>217 S. 7th Street<br>Suite 202<br>Brainerd, MN 56401<br>phone (218) 828-2383<br>fax (218) 828-6036 | <b>Duluth</b><br>394 S. Lake Avenue<br>Room 403<br>Duluth, MN 55802<br>phone (218) 723-4752<br>fax (218) 723-4794 | <b>Fergus Falls</b><br>413 W. Stanton Avenue<br>Fergus Falls, MN 56537<br>phone (218) 736-5445<br>fax (218) 736-7215 | <b>Marshall</b><br>1400 E. Lyon Street<br>Box 267<br>Marshall, MN 56258<br>phone (507) 537-6060<br>fax (507) 537-6368 | <b>New Ulm</b><br>261 Highway 15 S.<br>New Ulm, MN 56073<br>phone (507) 359-6074<br>fax (507) 359-6018 | <b>Rochester</b><br>40 16th Street S.E.<br>Suite A<br>Rochester, MN 55904<br>phone (507) 285-7458<br>fax (507) 280-2875 | <b>Saint Paul</b><br>One West Water Street<br>Suite 250<br>Saint Paul, MN 55107<br>phone (651) 282-9969<br>fax (651) 284-0000 |
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September 11, 2002

TO: Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA)  
Chair, Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB)  
Director, Minnesota Geological Survey (MSG)

FROM: Ronald Harnack, Executive Director *RH*

RE: *Renville County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan*

On Wednesday, September 11, 2002, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will begin the official 90-day state review of the updated Renville County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Pursuant to Minnesota Rules, Chapter 9300.0170 the BWSR is forwarding the county water plan for your agency's review and comment. You have 45 days from receipt of this letter to submit comments, in writing, to the BWSR identifying the portions of the plan that the agency has determined to be inconsistent with the state law.

The Renville County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is being sent to your agency's 103B Technical Review Committee Member under separate cover. The 103B Technical Review Committee Members are:

- MDA, Mark Zabel
- MDH, Art Persons
- DNR, John Fax
- PCA, David L. Johnson
- EQB, Mike Tietz
- MGS, Barb Palen

Thank you for helping local resource managers protect and conserve their water resources through comprehensive local water management plans.

cc: Agency 103B Technical Review Committee Members  
BWSR Board Members  
BWSR Executive Team  
Tom Fischer, BWSR Board Conservationist  
Diane Mitchell, Local Water Plan Coordinator  
Matt Johnson, Mid Minnesota Regional Development Commission

|                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                               |
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September 5, 2002

TO: Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)  
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)  
Commissioner Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA)  
Chair, Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB)  
Director, Minnesota Geological Survey (MSG)

FROM: Ronald D. Harnack, Executive Director *R.D.H. / da*

SUBJECT: ***Wilkin County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan***

On Friday, September 6, 2002, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will begin the official 90-day state review of the updated Wilkin County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Pursuant to Minnesota Rules, Chapter 9300.0170 the BWSR is forwarding the county water plan for your agency's review and comment. You have 45 days from receipt of this letter to submit comments, in writing, to the BWSR identifying the portions of the plan that the agency has determined to be inconsistent with the state law.

The Wilkin County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is being sent to your agency's 103B Technical Review Committee Member under separate cover. The 103B Technical Review Committee Members are:

- MDA, Mark Zabel
- MDH, Art Persons
- DNR, John Fax
- PCA, David L. Johnson
- EQB, Mike Tietz
- MGS, Barb Palen

Thank you for helping local resource managers protect and conserve their water resources through comprehensive local water management plans.

cc: Agency 103B Technical Review Committee Members  
BWSR Board Members  
BWSR Executive Team  
Pete Waller, BWSR Board Conservationist, Fergus Falls Office  
Bruce Poppel, Wilken County, Local Water Plan Coordinator

F/LandW/LanData/Local Water Planning/Water Plan Final Review

| <i>Bemidji</i>                                                                            | <i>Brainerd</i>                                                                                    | <i>Duluth</i>                                                                                    | <i>Fergus Falls</i>                                                                           | <i>Marshall</i>                                                                                    | <i>New Ulm</i>                                                                       | <i>Rochester</i>                                                                                    | <i>Saint Paul</i>                                                                                        |
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