

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. Minutes.

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Version 3
August 20, 2018

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
HOLIDAY INN
1500 HIGHWAY 71
INTERNATIONAL FALLS, MN 56649
THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2007

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Dana Allen, Paul Brutlag, Bob Burandt, Paul Eger, MPCA; Quentin Fairbanks, Larry Kramka, DNR; Randy Kramer, Paul Langseth, Joe Martin, MDA; Brian Napstad, Ken Robinson, Louise Smallidge, Gene Tiedemann, LuAnn Tolliver

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
Jim Anderson, MES
Brian Kletscher
Dan Wilson, MDH

STAFF PRESENT:
Mary Jo Anderson, Jon Fure, John Jaschke, Kari Keating, Les Lemm, Jim Lemmerman, Jeff Hrubes, Chad Severts, Ron Shelito, Wayne Zellmer

OTHERS PRESENT:
Ryan Heinen, Koochiching SWCD Technician
Pam Tomevi, Koochiching SWCD Coordinator
Richard Lehtinen, Koochiching County Environmental Services Director
Josh Stromlund, Lake of the Woods SWCD Manager
Mike Hirst, Lake of the Woods SWCD Resource Technician
Wayne Edgerton, Department of Natural Resources

Chair Kramer called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

** 07-66 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Moved by Louise Smallidge, seconded by Ken Robinson, to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-67 **MINUTES OF JUNE 27, 2007** – Moved by Quentin Fairbanks, seconded by Paul Langseth, to approve the minutes of June 27, 2007, as circulated. Motion passed on a voice vote.

WELCOME – Ron Shelito introduced Pam Tomevi, Koochiching SWCD Coordinator, and Richard Lehtinen, Koochiching County Environmental Services Director. Pam Tomevi thanked the Board for touring this area of the State. Chair Kramer thanked Pam and Ryan Heinen for graciously co-hosting and facilitating the tour. Chair Kramer also acknowledged and thanked the Lake of the Woods' staff participation, facilitation, and co-hosting the tour. Chair Kramer thanked all those involved in organizing the successful tour.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES
Ron Shelito introduced Chad Severts, newly hired Board Conservationist located in the BWSR Bemidji office. Chad's work area covers the northwestern area of the State. Chad gave an overview of his background and stated that he's pleased to be with BWSR. Chair Kramer thanked Chad for attending the Board tour and meeting.

Chair Kramer introduced and welcomed Paul Eger, MPCA Assistant Commissioner. Paul is a new agency board member representing MPCA. Paul stated that he was appointed as Assistant Commissioner last month and appreciates the opportunity to work with the Board. Chair Kramer stated that he appreciated Paul's attendance at the Board tour and meeting, and looks forward to his participation on the Board.

REPORTS
Chair's Report – Randy Kramer reported that he added Larry Kramka, DNR Assistant Commissioner, to the RIM Reserve Planning Committee. Chair Kramer reported that he attended the LCCMR tour in Renville County. Chair Kramer attended the Grand Marais Creek Watershed dedication on August 21, in Euclid. Chair Kramer reported that he and John Jaschke met and attended Farmfest.

Executive Director's Report – John Jaschke reported that he attended the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District tour. John encouraged board members to contact Cliff Aichinger at the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District if they're interested in rain gardens or would like a tour of the many innovative stormwater management practices on display and functioning at the district office.

John reported that he met with DNR and legislators regarding wetland enforcement. BWSR and DNR will be developing a work plan; DNR will lead the effort. John participated in the MASWCD Resolutions Committee. John attended the Minnesota Waters "River Night" last week. John reported that he participated in a panel forum with Bill Hunt, NRCS, and LeAnn Buck, MASWCD, at the NRCS National Hispanic Employees meeting in Bloomington. John reported that WCA rulemaking is now complete; training sessions have been held statewide. John attended a panel forum at Farm Fest with federal legislators and USDA dignitaries. John facilitated a meeting with SWCDs, WDs, cities, and contractors who are part of the Minnesota Erosion Control Association (MECA) on how to become influential on stormwater management.

John reported that he met with local officials, state agency staff, and the CoE in International Falls on August 16th to look at responsibilities and options for WCA implementation that also addresses federal requirements. Local officials and agency staff will jointly explore a more customized approach for their communities.

John presented an overview of the "BWSR To Do List" from the 2008-09 Budget/Policy Bill. Items on the "to do list" include: Administrative; Local Government Relations; Clean Water Legacy; Drainage Buffers and Assistance Team; Oversight; Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM); Wetland Conservation Act; and 2008 Bonding.

John briefly commented on the State's disaster assistance. BWSR coordinated with DNR and USDA on the drought and the Governor's declaration of emergency haying and grazing. BWSR has not yet responded to the flooding issues in southeastern Minnesota but will work with NRCS, MDA, DNR and others on an emergency assistance response.

John reported that BWSR will be developing a response, in consultation with DNR, to an LCCMR RFP to accomplish enhanced easement oversight and maintenance due in early September.

John will be on vacation the week of August 27; back in the office on September 4, 2007.

Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC) – Chair Kramer stated that the DRC report is in the board members' packet for information. John Jaschke has asked Jim Haertel to hold a workshop for the Dispute Resolution Committee that explains how the appeal process works, the recent WCA law changes, and the roles and responsibilities of staff.

Wetlands Committee – LuAnn Tolliver reported that the Wetlands Committee met on July 25; recommendations will come to the full Board in the next few months. The Wetland Committee will meet on September 25th at 5:30 p.m. at the Kelly Inn in St. Paul.

Grants Program & Policy Committee – Louise Smallidge reported that the Grants Program & Policy Committee met on July 25; recommendations will be coming before the full Board in the next few months.

Public Relations, Outreach & Strategic Planning Committee – Brian Napstad reported that the Public Relations, Outreach & Strategic Planning Committee met this morning and made good progress. The Committee will continue to meet to discuss the BWSR Strategic Plan, a mission, and strategic issues. The Committee will present a summary to the full Board next month.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Northern Water Planning Committee

Aitkin, Cass, and Kittson County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension – Ron Shelito reported that the Northern Water Planning Committee met on August 8, 2007, to review the requests of Aitkin County, Cass County, and Kittson County, for a two-year extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plans. The Committee recommends approval of their requests for extension. Moved by Quentin Fairbanks, seconded by Louise Smallidge, to award a two-year extension to the Aitkin County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan; the Cass County Local Water Management Plan; and the Kittson County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-68

Crow Wing County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Ron Shelito reported that the Northern Water Planning Committee met to review the Crow Wing County Priority Concerns Scoping Document and recommends approval.

** 07-69 Moved by Quentin Fairbanks, seconded by Paul Brutlag, to approve the Crow Wing County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Kanabec County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan – Ron Shelito reported that the Northern Water Planning Committee met to review the Kanabec County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan and recommends approval of the Plan with an inclusion of a five-year review and program schedule.

** 07-70 Moved by Quentin Fairbanks, seconded by Gene Tiedemann, to approve the Kanabec County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Koochiching County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan – Ron Shelito reported that the Northern Water Planning Committee met to review the Koochiching County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (CLWMP). MPCA recommended holding the CLWMP in abeyance until Koochiching County adopts MN Rule 7080 for Individual Sewage Treatment Systems. The Committee recommends approval of the Koochiching County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan.

** 07-71 Moved by Quentin Fairbanks, seconded by Brian Napstad, to approve the Koochiching County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan; provided that by June 1, 2008, Koochiching County has fulfilled the plan commitments stated in Goal 1; Objective A, under the Priority Concerns "Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems" to prepare and adopt a local Subsurface Sewage Treatment Ordinance. Discussion followed. Paul Eger thanked the Committee for working through these interesting issues, good discussions, and the importance of open lines of communication. MPCA is committed to getting this Plan to work. Paul also thanked Ron Shelito and everyone involved for their efforts in getting this Plan to this point. Larry Kramka wants the resolution to state that if this is not done by June 1, 2008, the plan approval would be null and void. Ron Shelito stated that the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is in compliance. Joe Martin is concerned with the language "provided that" he questioned whether a legal consultation is necessary, or should it read, "in the interim". It was decided that the current language in the Order would suffice. Ron Shelito explained that this is a good example of how the comprehensive local water management process works; it's an opportunity to meet and discuss with State agencies and local officials. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Southern Water Planning Committee

Jackson County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Paul Langseth reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee met on July 18th to review the Jackson County Priority Concerns Scoping Document and recommends approval. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Dana Allen, to approve the Jackson County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-72

Chair Kramer reported that he was unable to attend the Southern Water Planning Committee meeting due to a conflict with the EQB meeting.

Chair Kramer called for a break in the meeting at 10:05 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 10:20 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Lake of the Woods Water Sustainability Foundation – Ron Shelito thanked Nolan Barranto, MPCA, for his working relationship with the Lake of the Woods Water Sustainability Foundation. Ron introduced Todd Sellers, Executive Director of the Lake of the Woods Water Sustainability Foundation, Kenora, Ontario, Canada. Mr. Sellers presented information on the Bi-National Strategy to Sustain Our Lakes, and related water management issues in Canada. He explained that the border area in Canada has a tremendous working relationship with MPCA. Mr. Sellers reported that the Foundation was established two years ago and they continue to work on goals and objectives for conservation. The Foundation is an advocate for international relationships with Minnesota. Mr. Sellers explained the Conservation Authorities of Ontario, and expressed the frustration for the lack of attention to water conservation issues in western Canada. Chair Kramer thanked Todd Sellers for his informative presentation.

Mike Hirst and Josh Stromlund, Lake of the Woods SWCD, arrived at the meeting at 10:55 a.m. Chair Kramer welcomed them to the meeting and thanked them for all their efforts with facilitating and graciously co-hosting the tour.

Forestry Conservation Practice – Jim Lemmerman presented background information on the Forestry Practices Addition to the State Cost-Share Program. Jim explained that the Grant Program and Policy Committee does not recommend a "forestry practice docket" but does recommend adding a forestry practice which would directly address forestry concerns. This practice will contain numerous eligible components common to forestry situations. Brian Napstad suggested partnering with county foresters as we do with soil and water conservation districts, because they are a resource of informed practitioners. Jim

stated that staff will work with the necessary partners to draft a forestry practice cost-share standard.

Supplemental 2008 Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant (FWQMG) Allocations – Wayne Zellmer presented background information on the new FY08 FWQMG eligibility requirements limit funding to feedlots with less than 300 AUs and to feedlots that occur in impaired watersheds. Wayne reported that the Grants Program and Policy Committee met in July and recommend allocating all of the available $126,000 of roll-over for the highest priority remaining feedlots. The recommendation will fully fund the projects listed on the spreadsheet - #3, ** #15, and #17. It will provide partial funding of $31,773 to #20. Moved by Louise 07-73 Smallidge, seconded by Paul Langseth, to approve the supplemental 2008 FWQMG allocations as presented. Discussion followed. Joe Martin asked if this could be a potential source of funds for flood relief. Wayne stated that the Grants Program and Policy Committee will review projected roll-over funds for future projects in southeastern Minnesota. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board, FY08 Annual Work Plan – John Jaschke explained that the Legislature appropriated a $100,000 grant to the Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board. John presented the Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board Annual Plan of Work for FY08. Staff recommends approval of the work plan and the grant of $100,000 to the Minnesota River Basin ** Joint Powers Board. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Gene Tiedemann, to 07-74 approve the $100,000 grant for FY08 to the Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board. Motion passed on a voice vote.

AGENCY REPORTS

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) - Larry Kramka reported that DNR has been involved with the flooding disaster; there is considerable damage to state parks in southeastern Minnesota. DNR continues to work with BWSR on the RIM Clean Energy initiative. LuAnn Tolliver asked if DNR could provide a report on the DNR wetland enforcement fly-over assessment. Larry stated that DNR will continue to work on this effort and will provide a report at a future Board meeting.

Department of Agriculture (MDA) – Joe Martin reported that MDA has been involved with the drought issue on crop stress. Joe stated that 24 counties received official declarations, about 90% of the producers will receive crop insurance. The forage lands, pastures and hay lands have been particularly hit by drought, that forces cattle liquidation; there are no easy answers. MDA is working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. MDA has been involved with

inspections and clean-up and emergency disaster assistance for the southeast flooding. MDA expects 50-100 livestock producers will be affected by the flooding, this also forces cattle liquidation. MDA is gathering information on how to assist.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) – Paul Eger reported that MPCA has been involved with the bridge collapse, drought issues, and flooding. MPCA is concerned with water quality issues and is participating in emergency response for flooding. Paul reported that MPCA is in the process of a draft 2008 impaired waters list; statewide meetings to be held in late September. Paul distributed MPCA's publication "Minnesota Environment" and made note of the article that included commentary from Randy Kramer on page14.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- The Wetland Committee will meet on September 25th at 5:30 p.m. at the Kelly Inn in St. Paul.
- Next Board Meeting, September 26, 2007, in St. Paul
- Administrative Advisory Committee Meeting, September 26th at 8:00 a.m.

Chair Kramer thanked board members for attending the tour and meeting. Although International Falls is a long way from home for most, it shows your commitment to the Board.

** 07-75 Moved by LuAnn Tolliver, seconded by Louise Smallidge, to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 a.m. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Chair Kramer thanked Mary Jo Anderson and Ron Shelito for their work on arranging the tour and logistics.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Kramer
Chair

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
Attendance Roster

	Name	Affiliation	Phone #
1.	Rich Lehtinen	Kooch Co. ESD	218 283-1157
2.	Ryan Hainen	Kooch SWCD	218-283-1175
3.	Pam Tomevi	Kooch SWCD	218-283-1174
4.	Mike Hart	Low SWCD	218-634-1842
5.	Josh Stromland	Low Cty	218-634-1945
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Other Items of note

Drought Response
Governor Pawlenty has requested and the USDA has declared 24 counties in the state as drought disaster counties. Those counties are Aitkin, Anoka, Benton, Brown, Carlton, Cass, Cook, Crow Wing, Douglas, Hennepin, Hubbard, Itasca, Kanabec, Lake, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pipestone, Pope, St. Louis, Sherburne, Swift, Todd, Wadena, and Wright. More counties may be added to this list in the near future. The guidelines in this e-mail will apply to those counties as well.

In response to the drought disaster declaration the BWSR has instituted the provisions of MS 103F.515 subd 4 (3) to allow haying and grazing on it's RIM Reserve and PWP conservation easements in these declared drought disaster counties. SWCD staff will need to work with landowners to prepare requests from landowners and submit them to Tim Fredbo, Easement Specialist, at BWSR in St. Paul for approval.

These requests must adhere to the following guidelines:
Requests must only be for landowners personal livestock needs. No hay or any grazing rights are to be sold. A minimum stubble height of 6 inches must be maintained if haying or grazing is approved.No haying or grazing will be allowed in restored wetland basins and associated structures for water control (RR8 practices).No haying or grazing will be allowed within 100 feet of a stream or other permanent water body.SWCD staff should submit requests to Tim Fredbo at BWSR along with an aerial photo of the easement area showing the areas that are proposed for haying or grazing utilizing the above guidelines.

Easements enrolled in CREP are subject to USDA CRP rules for emergency haying and grazing. This means that the Farm Services Agency will have sole authority for requests on these lands. Thus far they have opened haying/grazing on CRP lands in Morrison, Pipestone and Meeker Counties.

SE MN Flooding
Will make an estimate of the C-S rollover funds we'll have available as of December of this year making note of those that have been earmarked and those that are without designation. NRCS partnership; if we can free up some feedlot $ through EQIP we can package it with state C-S funds to offer 75%.
>>> "Bob Lefebvre" <blefebvre@mnmilk.org> 8/20/2007 1:06 PM >>>
Dear Mr. Hunt and Mr. Jaschke,

The historic amounts of rainfall in Southeastern Minnesota over the last weekend and large rainfall events earlier this summer, have created some manure storage capacity issues. MMPA requests, on behalf of dairy producers in the affected area, emergency assistance to reconstruct manure storage facilities and assistance for other runoff control measures.

Thank you for the consideration of our request.
Bob Lefebvre, Executive Director, Minnesota Milk Producers Association, blefebvre@mnmilk.org, www.mnmilk.org, 320-203-8336

WCA - International Falls and Koochiching County
Meeting with International Falls and Koochiching County on Aug 16th with the COE to look at responsibilities and options for WCA implementation that also addresses federal requirements. Local officials and agency staff will jointly explore a more customized approach for their communities.

LCCMR
BWSR will be developing a response, in consultation with DNR, to LCCMR RFP to accomplish enhanced easement oversight and maintenance due in early Sept.

BWSR "To Do" List From 2008-09 Budget/Policy bill *(Aug 20th, 2007 Update)*

- **Administrative**
  - Staffing plan developed and vacancies sequenced
  - Space needs accommodated in field and Central Office
  - E-Link (conservation results reporting) remodeling project staged
  - Regular financial audit for FY04-07 to be finalized in Sept. or Oct.
  - Strategic Plan: stakeholders input, Board committee shaping
- **Local Government Relations**
  - SWCD request/grant process posting information on SWCD web-sites
  - $40,000 to SWCD's for web-site development
  - Develop vegetation buffers, weed cooperative program, and forestry docket for Cost-Share program
  - Public Officials filing with Campaign Finance and Disclosure Board
  - Demographic Survey of SWCD and WD officials completed by mid-Nov.
  - SWCD Non-point Engineering program assessment to start on Sept 5th
- **Clean Water Legacy**
  - Develop a agreement with MCC for contracting for services
  - Grants RFP
  - Manage funding for the NE wetland mitigation strategy - report to the legislature by June 30, 2009
  - ISTS inspection report number of systems inspected & number that are imminent threat to PCA by February 1st, each year.
  - Report to legislature on feedlot cost needs by January 2008 (w/MDA)
- **Drainage buffers and assistance team**
  - Develop preservation and modernization guidelines (June 2008)
  - Update MN Drainage Manual (June 2009)
  - Facilitate & manage work of the Drainage Workgroup
- **Oversight** *($100,000/year one-time for agency implementation)*
  - Local Govt./BWSR development team assembled (start Sept 4th). Admin. Advisory Committee to shape.
  - Develop performance standards and evaluation criteria (June 2008)
  - Develop BWSR ability to post/maintain oversight information on agency web-site
  - Report required each year, beginning February 2008, to the legislature on the performance of local water management entities
  - Begin evaluation on a limited basis in FY2009
  - Prepare possible submission of supplemental budget request
- **Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM)**
  - Assemble ***RIM - Clean Energy*** technical committee Sept 11th and develop program by January 2008, connection to Next-Genexpectation that BWSR will participate on DNR related technical teams for native seed harvesting and working lands initiative. MEI and U of M – Applied Economics = contractors ($200K)
  - Award research grants per legislative directive, monitor and report at end - $300K to Forest Resources Council via U of M, $200K via Commerce
  - Complete RIM program plan to assure another 20 years of success.
- **Wetland Conservation Act**
  - Emergency rulemaking complete
  - Grant allocation process for 11 metro counties - $250,000/year
  - Coordinate the transfer of $250,000/year to DNR for enforcement activities
  - Administrative Penalty Order authority – not yet started
  - Appeals fee increases
  - Banking fees come to BWSR rather than General Fund
- **2008 Bonding**
  - RIM (to complement WRP)
  - RIM-CE
  - Wetland Roads Mitigation
  - Clean Water Legacy (streambanks, lakeshore, roadsides)
  - Grass Lake, Kandiyohi Co.

Dispute Resolution Report
August 10, 2007
by: Jim Haertel

There are presently 28 appeals pending. All of the appeals involve WCA except File 05-24. There have been six new appeals filed since the last report dated June 15, 2007.

File 07-25. This is a new appeal of a replacement plan decision in Benton County. The appeal involves the approval of a replacement plan application for 7.8 acres of wetland fill. A previous decision on the project had been appealed and was remanded for a hearing at the local level. No decision has been made on the appeal.

File 07-24. This is a new appeal of an exemption determination in Stearns County. The appeal regards the denial of an incidental wetland exemption request. A previous determination on the exemption application had been appealed and was remanded for a hearing at the local level. No decision has been made on the appeal.

File 07-23. This is a new appeal of two restoration orders in Pine County. The appeal involves the filling of wetland in association with the construction of roads. No decision has been made on the appeal.

File 07-22. This is a new appeal of a restoration order in St. Louis County. The appeal regards the filling of wetland in association with the construction of a house and garage in a shoreland area. The filling of wetland is greater than the amount approved in a replacement plan. No decision has been made on the appeal.

File 07-21. This is a new appeal of a restoration order in Morrison County. The appeal regards the filling of shoreland wetland in association with the construction of a house. No decision has been made on the appeal.

File 07-20. This is a new appeal of a replacement plan decision in Morrison County. The appeal involves the deposition of excavated material in wetland from a permitted wildlife habitat project involving excavation in wetland. No decision has been made on the appeal.

File 07-19. This is an appeal of an exemption determination in Roseau County. The appeal involves the approval of an exemption application for War-Road Estates. The appeal has been remanded for further work at the local level.

File 07-15. This is an appeal of an exemption determination in Carver County. The appeal regards the denial of a wetland exemption application on agricultural land. The appeal has been remanded for a public hearing at the local level.

File 07-14. This is an appeal of an exemption determination in Carver County. The appeal regards the denial of a wetland exemption application on agricultural land. The appeal has been remanded for a public hearing at the local level.

File 07-7. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in Blue Earth County. The appeal regards the approval of a wetland replacement plan involving the realignment of a county road. The appeal has been remanded for a public hearing at the local level, however settlement discussions have taken place and a new replacement plan application is being pursued.

File 06-43. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Morrison County. The appeal involves the placement of fill in wetland near a lake. The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration order has been stayed pending field review by the Technical Evaluation Panel.

File 06-28. This is an appeal of a restoration order in St. Louis County. The appeal regards the placement of fill in Type 7 wetland associated with construction of a road. The appeal has been remanded for TEP review of a wetland delineation and measurement of the wetland fill areas.

File 06-27. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in Otter Tail County. A permanent road was constructed in Type 6/7 wetland with a portion of it in the shoreland zone. A Restoration Order was issued and a replacement plan application was submitted to retain the road. An LGU staff individual denied the replacement plan. The appeal has been remanded for a public hearing at the local level.

File 06-23. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in Kanabec County. The LGU denied the wetland replacement plan application. A previous denial of the same replacement plan application had been appealed, the appeal was remanded for a hearing, and now the current denial has been appealed. The appeal has been placed in abeyance pending the outcome of a lawsuit between the landowner and the county. The lawsuit concerns the county's possible noncompliance with the 60-day rule. The county prevailed in district court, however the decision has been appealed to the Court of Appeals.

File 06-17. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in the City of Montgomery in LeSueur County. The LGU denied an after-the-fact wetland replacement plan application based on a lack of sufficient reasons why the restoration could not be completed. The appeal has been remanded for further processing at the local level.

File 06-12. This is an appeal of a no-loss decision in Stearns County. It involves the same project and issues as File 06-6. After a restoration order was issued, a no-loss application was submitted by the developer and denied by the LGU. The appeal has been remanded for further technical evaluation.

File 06-6. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Stearns County. At issue are numerous wetlands impacted by filling, sedimentation, reduction of hydrology and lack

of Best Management Practices associated with a residential development. The appeal has been denied in part. The Restoration Order has been affirmed in part and has been stayed in part.

File 06-5. This is an appeal of a wetland boundary and type decision in the City of Hermantown in St. Louis County. The appeal concerns the denial of a wetland delineation. There are issues regarding the soils and vegetation in a disturbed area. The area has been disturbed by wetland filling and a cease and desist order has been issued to the developer. The appeal has been remanded for further processing by the LGU.

File 06-4. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Carlton County. At issue is the unauthorized placement of fill in wetland for a roadway. The appeal is in abeyance pending completion of a wetland delineation during the growing season.

File 06-2. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Mille Lacs County. At issue is the unauthorized placement of fill in wetland for construction of a road. Also, unstable steep slopes exist along the edge of the fill in wetland. The appeal is in abeyance pending further technical work during the growing season.

File 06-1. This is an appeal of a replacement plan approval in Itasca County. The appeal contends that sequencing was not followed. The TEP recommended denial on a 3:1 vote. The SWCD approval was on a 3:2 vote. The application sought wetland filling for three outbuildings and lake access. The appeal has been accepted and is in abeyance pending settlement discussions.

File 05-24. This is an appeal, actually three appeals, of the Bois de Sioux Watershed District compensation to landowners related to a project. The appeal has been held in abeyance pending settlement discussions, was starting to be move forward for a hearing before the DRC, and now is in settlement discussions.

File 05-20. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in Cokato, Wright County. The decision approved the filling of a 0.2 acre Type 2 wetland on a residential lot for construction of a residence. There is a question about the alternatives proposed for sequencing. Also, no TEP was held. The appeal has been remanded for a TEP to be held and sequencing to be addressed.

File 05-17. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in the City of Holdingford in Stearns County. At issue is the denial of a replacement plan application relating to a residential development. Wetland impacts of 0.7 acres were proposed for construction of a road and multi-use trail. The TEP recommended approval of the application. The LGU denied the application on finding the development could proceed without wetland impacts. The Corps issued a permit for the project. The appeal has been accepted and is in abeyance pending settlement discussions.

File 05-1. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision by the Rice Creek Watershed District. The District previously made a decision that was appealed which resulted in a

remand for an expanded TEP. Now there is an appeal of the decision made under remand since the decision differed from the TEP report. At issue is a wetland delineation and the Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan that BWSR approved. After a hearing before the DRC, the board remanded the matter for a new wetland delineation and for submission on an updated, complete replacement plan application.

File 04-26. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Spring Lake Township, Scott County. At issue is the placement of 4,300 feet of fill in a wetland for a driveway. The approved plat showed access to the lot without wetland impacts. The appeal is in abeyance pending a decision on a replacement plan application.

File 04-23. This is an appeal of a forestry exemption decision in Kittson County. Unpermitted fill was placed in a Type 7 wetland for a road. A Cease and Desist Order was issued. Additional filling has recently occurred in violation of the CDO. Corps and DNR violations also exist. The appeal has been accepted and is in abeyance pending completion of a wetland delineation and submittal of a replacement plan application.

File 04-15. This is an appeal of a wetland boundary and type decision in Anoka County. At issue is the decision by the Rice Creek Watershed District to classify a site as effectively drained. Previously a wetland delineation report identified most of the site as wetland. The appeal has been remanded for a technical evaluation panel to meet onsite. The appeal remains in abeyance under the remand.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Northern Water Planning Committee

1. Aitkin County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension – Quentin Fairbanks – ***DECISION ITEM***

2. Cass County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension – Quentin Fairbanks – ***DECISION ITEM***

3. Crow Wing County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Quentin Fairbanks – ***DECISION ITEM***

4. Kanabec County Local Water Management Plan – Quentin Fairbanks – ***DECISION ITEM***

5. Kittson County Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) Extension – Quentin Fairbanks – ***DECISION ITEM***

6. Koochiching County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan – Quentin Fairbanks – ***DECISION ITEM***

DATE: July 27, 2007

TO: Northern Region Water Management Review Subcommittee

FROM: Dan Steward, BWSR Board Conservationist

SUBJECT: Aitkin County Request For CLWP Extension

I received a request from Aitkin County to extend their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan on July 17, 2007.

Attached is a copy of the June 28, 2007 resolution of the Aitkin County Board. The Aitkin County CLWP expired July 1, 2007. Aitkin County administers their water plan through the Aitkin SWCD. The SWCD and task force began work on the CLWP update in May 2007.

I support Aitkin County in their request for an extension. The resolution cites the unique status of the Aitkin Flood Diversion Channel, as one of the reasons the SWCD will not be able to complete work on the update in time. The SWCD also cites the potential to work with the Clean Water Legacy as another circumstance that will require more time. The extension will give Aitkin County the time needed to address these important water management issues.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan
For Aitkin County (1995 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 184,
Section 24, authorizing BWSR to grant extensions).

Whereas Aitkin County has a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan that was effective until July 1, 2007, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 1990, Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution requesting an extension for the Comprehensive Local Water Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on June 28, 2007, pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, and

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

Now therefore, the Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On June 28, 2007, the Board of Water and Soil Resources received a resolution from Aitkin County requesting an extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan to July 1, 2009.

2. On July 27, 2007, Board of Water and Soil Resources staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Aitkin County.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board of Water and Soil Resources has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan of Aitkin County.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby approves the two-year extension of the Aitkin County Comprehensive Local Water Plan until July 1, 2009. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 23rd day of August 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

By: Randy Kramer, Chair
August 23, 2007

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

August 24, 2007

Aitkin County Commissioners
Aitkin County Courthouse
209 2nd Street NW
Aitkin, MN 56431

Dear Commissioners:

This letter is to inform you that the Board of Water and Soil Resources, (BWSR) at its August 23, 2007 regular meeting, approved your request to extend the effective date of your Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Enclosed is a copy of the BWSR order granting the extension. The new effective date for the Aitkin County Local Water Plan is July 1, 2009.

Sincerely,

Randy Kramer,
Chair, Board of Water and Soil Resources

C: Steve Hughes, Aitkin SWC D
Dan Steward, Board Conservationist

Bemidji
701 Minnesota Avenue
Suite 234
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Trail
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
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Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
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New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
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Rochester
2300 Silver Creek
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520 Lafayette Road N.
Saint Paul, MN 55155
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fax (651) 297-5615

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Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan
For Aitkin County (1995 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 184,
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Whereas Aitkin County has a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan that was effective until July 1, 2007, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 1990, Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution requesting an extension for the Comprehensive Local Water Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on June 28, 2007, pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, and

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

Now therefore, the Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On June 28, 2007, the Board of Water and Soil Resources received a resolution from Aitkin County requesting an extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan to July 1, 2009.

2. On July 27, 2007, Board of Water and Soil Resources staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Aitkin County.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board of Water and Soil Resources has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan of Aitkin County.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby approves the two-year extension of the Aitkin County Comprehensive Local Water Plan until July 1, 2009. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 23rd day of August 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

By: Randy Kramer, Chair
August 23, 2007

DATE: July 31, 2007

TO: Northern Region Water Management Review Subcommittee

FROM: Dan Steward, BWSR Board Conservationist

SUBJECT: Cass County Request For CLWP Extension

On July 30, 2007, I received a resolution from the Cass County Board of Commissioners requesting an extension on their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (CLMP). Attached is a copy of the County's resolution. The Cass County CLMP is due to expire on October 22, 2007.

I support Cass County's request for an extension. The resolution cites the upcoming update of the County's Comprehensive Land Use Plan, as the need for the extension. Cass County's Land Use Plan includes the CLWP as one of it's four sections. By continuing to update the CLWP simultaneously with the Land Use Plan, both plans will benefit.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan For Cass County (1995 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 184, Section 24, authorizing BWSR to grant extensions).

Whereas Cass County has a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan that is effective until October 22, 2007, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 1990, Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, the Cass County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution requesting an extension for the Comprehensive Local Water Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on July 3, 2007, pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, and

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

Now therefore, the Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On July 30, 2007 the Board of Water and Soil Resources received a resolution from Cass County requesting a two-year extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan to October 22, 2009.

2. On July 31, 2007, Board of Water and Soil Resources staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Cass County.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board of Water and Soil Resources has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan of Cass County pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby approves the two-year extension of the Cass County Comprehensive Water Plan until October 22, 2009. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 23rd day of August, 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair
August 23, 2007

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

August 24, 2007

Cass County Commissioners
P.O. Box 3000
Walker, MN 56484

Dear Commissioners:

This letter is to inform you that the Board of Water and Soil Resources, at its August 23, 2007 regular meeting, approved your request to extend the effective date of your Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Enclosed is a copy of the BWSR order granting the extension. The new effective date for the Cass County Local Water Plan is October 31, 2009.

Sincerely,

Randy Kramer,
Chair, Board of Water and Soil Resources

C: John Sumption, Cass Env. Services Dept.
Dan Steward, Board Conservationist

Bemidji
701 Minnesota Avenue
Suite 234
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
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Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan For Cass County (1995 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 184, Section 24, authorizing BWSR to grant extensions).

Whereas Cass County has a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan that is effective until October 22, 2007, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 1990, Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, the Cass County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution requesting an extension for the Comprehensive Local Water Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on July 3, 2007, pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, and

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

Now therefore, the Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On July 30, 2007 the Board of Water and Soil Resources received a resolution from Cass County requesting a two-year extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan to October 22, 2009.

2. On July 31, 2007, Board of Water and Soil Resources staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Cass County.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board of Water and Soil Resources has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan of Cass County pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby approves the two-year extension of the Cass County Comprehensive Water Plan until October 22, 2009. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 23rd day of August, 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

R. J. Kramer

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair
August 23, 2007



Kittson County

Hallock, Minnesota 56728
TDD 218-843-3535

RECEIVED
MAR 21 2007
BD OF WATER & SOIL RESOURCES-BEMIDJI

To: Board of Water and Soil Resources

From: Kittson County Board of Commissioners

RE: Extension request to update the LWMP

The Kittson County Board of Commissioners would like to request an extension of time to update the Kittson County Local Water Management Plan due to expire on Dec. 31, 2007, based on the following reasons:

1. Local Water Management Coordinator Holly Anderson is also the zoning administrator for Kittson County. Anderson is currently in the process of updating the Kittson County Zoning Ordinance.
2. As required by MPCA, an update of the Kittson County Septic Ordinance must begin in 2007. Anderson is also the administrator of the County's septic program.
3. Also, the County may consider putting together a feedlot ordinance. Anderson is also the feedlot officer for the County.
4. And lastly, Jeff Hrubes, Board Conservationist with the Board of Water and Soil Resources, has announced that he is leaving that position. Since Hrubes would have been working with Anderson on the water management update and a replacement has not yet been named, Anderson would be without direction on how to conduct the update.

Therefore, the Kittson County Board of Commissioners would like to request an extension, in accordance with the BWSR Local Water Management Plan Update Guidance, for a period of two years. This extension would allow adequate time to be spent on each of the phases of the update process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joe Bouvette
Board Chair

KITTSON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER PLAN EXTENSION

(FOR BOARD ACTION)

Kittson County has a Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) that was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) at the September 2002 board meeting. The CLWP update was approved with an effective end date of December 31, 2007. On March 21, 2007, The BWSR received a request from the Kittson County Board of Commissioners requesting an extension of the end date to December 31, 2009. The County Board passed a resolution requesting the extension on May 1, 2007.

The amendments to the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, MS 103B.301, gave the authority to BWSR to grant extensions to counties for the purpose of extending the effective date of their water plans. These extensions must be requested in writing and cannot be for more than two years.

In December of 1999 the BWSR approved expectations for local water planning updates. Included in this document was a provision for coordinating local water planning with other planning efforts being conducted by other water management agencies and governments.

Kittson County is currently in the process of updating the local zoning ordinance. The Local Water Management Coordinator Holly Anderson is also the zoning administrator for Kittson County. The County is also in the process of updating the septic ordinance as required by MPCA. The extension will allow the County to be more consistent with these other area planning efforts.

BWSR guidelines will be used and staff assistance will continue to be made available to the CLWP staff as they proceed with the completion of the plan update. Board Conservationist Chad Severts recommends approval of the Kittson County Local Water Plan extension request to December 31, 2009.

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

In the Matter of Extending the Local Water Management Plan Update for Kittson County (Minnesota Statutes , Section 103B.311, Subdivision 4, authorizing BWSR to grant extensions.)

ORDER EXTENDING LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, Kittson County has a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) that is effective until December 31, 2007, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

Now therefore, the Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On May 1, 2007, Kittson County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution requesting an extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan to December 30, 2009.

2. On August 8, 2007, Board of Water and Soil Resources Northern Water Planning Committee reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Kittson County.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board of Water and Soil Resources has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan of Kittson County pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.311, Subd. 4.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil resources hereby approves the extension of the Kittson County Comprehensive Local Water Plan until December 31, 2009. Dated at International Falls, Minnesota, this 23rd day of August 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Randy Kramer, Chairperson
August 23, 2007

DATE: July 27, 2007

TO: BWSR Northern Plan Review Subcommittee

FROM: Dan Steward, Board Conservationist

SUBJECT: Review of the Crow Wing County Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD)

The original Crow Wing County Local Water Management Plan (LWMP) was approved in 1990. The first update to the original plan was completed in 1997. The current or third generation water plan will expire October 23, 2007.

Since the County began development of their original water plan in 1989, the County delegated implementation of the LWMP to the Planning and Zoning Department. However, in 2006, the County transferred LWMP implementation responsibilities to the Crow Wing SWCD. The SWCD is now working through the update process for the first time.

On March 28, 2006 the Crow Wing County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution to update the LWMP.

On May 22, 2007, Crow Wing County submitted their Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for review. The attached Crow Wing PCSD identifies the following priority concerns, and proposes the update be focused on these six water management issues.

1. Protect Surface Water Quality
2. Address and Minimize Stormwater Runoff
3. Protect Groundwater Quality/Quantity
4. Address Wastewater needs throughout the county
5. Protect Marginal Land and address Shoreland Ordinance Violations
6. Promote Environmental Education

The County used the following process to develop the PCSD:

- March 28, 2006 a survey regarding priority water management concerns was mailed out to twenty-seven townships and eighteen cities in Crow Wing County. The parties were given 35 days to respond. 23 surveys were returned.
- August 15, 2006 a written notice was sent to all interested parties informing them of intent to update. The notice further requested that the party identify any conflict, problem, or opportunity they would like examined in the process. The parties were given 45 days to respond. Notice was sent to all twenty seven townships, eighteen cities, one watershed district, SWCD's of the 4 surrounding

counties, and representatives of the MDA, DNR, EQB, BWSR, MPCA, MDH, and Crow Wing County Planning and Zoning.

- October 25, 2006 Special meeting held with the WPAC to discuss priority concerns.
- January 11 and February 8, 2007 WP Survey published in the Echo Newspaper.
- January 7 and February 4, 2007 WP Survey published in the Brainerd Dispatch.
- January 10 and February 7, 2007 WP Survey published in the Crosby-Ironton Courier.
- January-February 2007 the survey was posted on the Crow Wing County website.
- January 2007 the survey was printed in the SWCD's newsletter. Surveys were due back February 28, 2007. 109 surveys were received.
- March 2007 WPAC meeting discussed survey and selected priority issues.
- March 19, 2007 and misc. other dates, met with Dan Steward (BWSR) to discuss the update.
- April 4, 2007 WPAC Special meeting to discuss priority concerns actions and assessment.

The following priority concerns were submitted by the state review agencies:

- MDA: Manure management, Individual Sewage Treatment Systems, and open lot feedlot runoff.
- MDH: Protection of ground water-based drinking water sources, and sealing unused unsealed wells.
- BWSR: Protection of water quality during and after land development in riparian areas, erosion and sediment control in developing areas, forest land conversion and water quality impacts.
- MPCA: Impaired waters/Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL), feedlots, and sensitive/high quality water bodies needing protection.

On May 22. 2007 the PCSD was sent to the required state agencies for review. Agencies were asked to send comments to Ron Shelito by June 22, 2007, the following agency comments were received:

MDH: The MDH in its comments on the PCSD concurred with the priority concerns selected by the county. The MDH commended the county on the process used to identify priority concerns, and for recognizing the value of protecting and preserving groundwater quality/quantity

MDA: The MDA in its comments concurred with the priority issues selected, and commended the county on the process used to identify water management concerns.

MPCA: The PCA in its comments concurred with the priority concerns selected. The MPCA also asked the county to consider placing emphasis on reducing impacts from shoreline development, and to consider implementing the water plan on a watershed basis.

DNR: The DNR in it's comments concurred with the priority concerns selected and commended the county for the process used to collect input.

After reviewing the PCSD submitted by Crow Wing County along with the comments provided by the review agencies, I conclude that the guidance requirements have been met in general. The county is to be commended for developing a list of priority concerns that is quite focused. I recommend the subcommittee approve the PCSD for Crow Wing County.

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

1601 Minnesota Drive, Brainerd, MN 56401

August 23, 2007

Crow Wing County Commissioners
C/O Keith Pohl, Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District
7118 Clearwater Road
Baxter, MN 56425

RE: Official Comments Pertaining to the State Review of the Crow Wing County Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Dear Crow Wing County Commissioners:

Pursuant to M.S. section 103B.313, subdivision 5, this letter communicates the State's official comments pertaining to the priority concerns Crow Wing County has chosen to address in the update of their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. The Board of Water and Soil Resources, along with the state review agencies, were sent the Crow Wing County Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) on May 22, 2007, and asked comments be sent by June 28, 2007, to Ron Shelito, BWSR Regional Supervisor.

Several water resources concerns were submitted to the Crow Wing County Water Planning Advisory Committee. Many of these concerns had similar themes which allowed the Advisory Committee to arrange them into the following priority concerns that will be addressed in the Water Plan Revision.

1. Protect surface water quality
2. Address and minimize stormwater runoff
3. Protect groundwater quality/quantity
4. Address wastewater needs throughout the county
5. Protect marginal land and address shoreland ordinance violations
6. Promote environmental education

The Minnesota Department of Health, Agriculture, Pollution Control, and Natural Resources all concurred with the priority concerns identified.

On August 8, 2007, the Northern Regional Water Resources Subcommittee (hereinafter referred to as the subcommittee) met with the Crow Wing County/SWCD representatives to discuss local water management activities within Crow Wing County, the process used to gather public input, the content of the PCSD, the state review agency comments and recommendations for the content of the final plan.

Bemidji
701 Minnesota Avenue
Suite 234
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Trail
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
2300 Silver Creek
Road N.E.
Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 281-7797
fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N.
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

Based on the subcommittee's recommendations, the Board of Water and Soil Resources commends Crow Wing County for the process used to select the concerns. The priority concerns to be addressed in the plan were deemed to be appropriate, and do not require any changes to the PCSD as submitted. BWSR encourages Crow Wing to continue to take advantage of opportunities to play the coordination role that is often key to improved local water management.

Sincerely,

Randy Kramer, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

cc: Dan Steward, BWSR
Ron Shelito, BWSR
Wayne Edgerton, DNR
Lisa Thorvig, PCA
John Wells, EQB
Becky Balk, MDA
Beth Kluthe, MDH
Craig Engwall, DNR

Bemidji
Minnesota Avenue
Suite 234
midji, MN 56601
ne (218) 755-4235
x (218) 755-4201

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1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
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Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

1601 Minnesota Drive, Brainerd, MN 56401

August 23, 2007

Crow Wing County Commissioners
C/O Keith Pohl, Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District
7118 Clearwater Road
Baxter, MN 56425

RE: Official Comments Pertaining to the State Review of the Crow Wing County Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Dear Crow Wing County Commissioners:

Pursuant to M.S. section 103B.313, subdivision 5, this letter communicates the State's official comments pertaining to the priority concerns Crow Wing County has chosen to address in the update of their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. The Board of Water and Soil Resources, along with the state review agencies, were sent the Crow Wing County Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) on May 22, 2007, and asked comments be sent by June 28, 2007, to Ron Shelito, BWSR Regional Supervisor.

Several water resources concerns were submitted to the Crow Wing County Water Planning Advisory Committee. Many of these concerns had similar themes which allowed the Advisory Committee to arrange them into the following priority concerns that will be addressed in the Water Plan Revision.

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The Minnesota Department of Health, Agriculture, Pollution Control, and Natural Resources all concurred with the priority concerns identified.

On August 8, 2007, the Northern Regional Water Resources Subcommittee (hereinafter referred to as the subcommittee) met with the Crow Wing County/SWCD representatives to discuss local water management activities within Crow Wing County, the process used to gather public input, the content of the PCSD, the state review agency comments and recommendations for the content of the final plan.

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Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
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Based on the subcommittee's recommendations, the Board of Water and Soil Resources commends Crow Wing County for the process used to select the concerns. The priority concerns to be addressed in the plan were deemed to be appropriate, and do not require any changes to the PCSD as submitted. BWSR encourages Crow Wing to continue to take advantage of opportunities to play the coordination role that is often key to improved local water management.

Sincerely,

Randy Kramer, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

cc: Dan Steward, BWSR
Ron Shelito, BWSR
Wayne Edgerton, DNR
Lisa Thorvig, PCA
John Wells, EQB
Becky Balk, MDA
Beth Kluthe, MDH
Craig Engwall, DNR

Bemidji
Minnesota Avenue
Suite 234
nidji, MN 56601
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DATE: 8/3/2007

TO: BWSR NORTHERN REGION AD HOC COMMITTEE

FROM: JASON WEINERMAN

RE: REVIEW OF KANABEC COUNTY FINAL LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN (LWMP)

Kanabec County submitted their Local Water Management Plan to the Brainerd office of the BWSR on February 6, 2007. From my observation of the plan development and review of the first draft of the final plan, I determined that there were significant omissions in the plan and requested that the water planner revise the plan to address the omissions. A second draft of the final water plan was received on July 27 and reviewed on July 30. During this review I arrived at the conclusion that the local water management plan meets many of the guidelines established by BWSR, as well as the requirements of 103B.313-103B.314 but there were significant sections that were substandard or missing. It was this second draft of the local water management plan that was submitted to the northern region ad hoc subcommittee for their review. On August 2, I met with the water planner to discuss the substandard sections and the water planner agreed that she would update the plan in time for the subcommittee meeting. On August 3, the water planner submitted an implementation plan and schedule that contained a budget and the parties responsible for each action item. After reviewing this additional implementation schedule, I find that the local water management plan, as amended, meets statutory guidelines. Therefore, I recommend that the Board of Water and Soil Resources approve the Kanabec County Local Water Management Plan as amended.

During the Priority Concerns Scoping phase, the County contacted state and local agencies and partners to solicit input and developed four priority concerns, which were approved by the BWSR on June 29, 2006. These concerns are:

1. The protection of shorelands and tributaries from erosion, sedimentation and nutrient loading
2. Drainage ditch maintenance
3. Ground water concerns
4. Ground and surface water

In addition to the above listed priority concerns, the northern region ad hoc subcommittee recommended that the county consider the significance of residential and recreational development on the use and quality of lakes, rivers and streams, consider how to preposition the county to address challenge grants for ditch assessment and management, enhance public and local participation in the development of the final plan, and develop a strategy to inform local residents about the importance of the comprehensive local water management plan.

These recommendations have been adequately addressed during the water plan process and specific recommendations have been incorporated into the amended plan.

On February 9, 2007 the plan was routed to the reviewing state agencies who returned the following comments.

PCA: The plan does not violate any statutory or rule requirements administered by our agency and recommends BWSR approve the entire plan as submitted. The PCA offered the following comments:

- Encourage the county to use the MPCA's Environmental Data Access to find information that may be useful in future water management efforts.
- Recommend the county become a delegated county for animal feedlot permits allowing for better local planning, coordination and enforcement
- Recommend the county increase adoption of shoreline riparian best management practices along shoreland areas, specifically maintaining or restoring shoreline buffers strips of natural vegetation.

No other agency comments were received.

On January 24, 2007, the Water Plan was presented to the County Commissioners and held before a public hearing during the Commissioners regularly scheduled meeting. There were no comments from the public.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

A. AUTHORITY

The authority to prepare comprehensive local water plans was granted to counties in 1986 when the Minnesota Legislature passed the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act. The legislature recognized the need to manage the State's surface and ground waters in a comprehensive manner and determined that water resource planning should occur at the county level as local residents are in the position to recognize problems and identify and carry out needed actions to effectively address local water resource issues.

B. PURPOSE OF PLAN

The purpose of Kanabec County's Comprehensive Local Water Plan is:

- To identify existing and potential challenges or opportunities for the protection, management, and development of water resources and related land resources in Kanabec County and the Snake River Watershed.
- To develop and implement an action plan to promote sound water management decisions, and
- To achieve effective environmental protection of Kanabec County's water and land resources.

Based on the understanding of existing conditions, county officials can then decide:

- What water resources are necessary and desired for future growth and development;
- And determine a course of action to achieve and maintain the quality of life desired in Kanabec County.

Kanabec County recognized that counties must develop their own local plan for managing water resources. If not, they will eventually lose the opportunity to make intelligent, local choices that anticipate or prevent water resource problems in the future.

Kanabec County also recognizes that a well-developed comprehensive water plan can also integrate local initiatives with existing state and federal water related programs and funding sources. This integration also allows more effective management of all programs developed for the protection of water resources and the general environment.

C. PLANNING PROCESS

The Kanabec County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution on June 13, 1990, to engage in this water planning process and enter into an agreement with the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. On August 24th, 2005, the Kanabec County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution, indicating their intent to update the 2001 plan. The Kanabec County Board of Commissioners delegated the task of coordinating water planning to the Kanabec County Water Plan Administrator. In addition, the Water Planning Committee was charged with the task of updating the comprehensive local water plan for Kanabec County. The Kanabec County Comprehensive Local Water Plan update was coordinated with the assistance of a committee of eight members. Information obtained through the scoping document process dictated priority concerns for the county. The Kanabec County Water Plan is a plan for the entire county and covers all municipalities within Kanabec County.

The priorities and concerns established in the scoping document will establish guidelines for the Water Plan Committee and help to meet goals to achieve protection for the waters of Kanabec County. This will be done by reviewing plans and proposals brought before the Water Plan Committee and referring projects to appropriate federal, state and local agencies for assistance.

KANABEC COUNTY WATER PLAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS
2001 - 2006

nce approval of the current Kanabec County Comprehensive Local Water Plan, the following items have been nded. Several of these are on-going items that will continue to be addressed in this updating of the plan.

lucation and Information

ıe Kanabec SWCD and the NRCS have worked with local schools to establish a water quality education program lled "River Watch". The program is conducted each spring and fall and includes Mora and Ogilvie schools.

'om 2002 through 2006, the Water Plan Committee hosted a booth at the Mora Area Home Show showing projects sisted through the water plan program.

ı 2005 and 2006, the Water Plan Committee hosted a booth at the Kanabec County Fair. This reached a more diverse 'oup of people then the Home Show.

ıventory and Mapping

ı 2005, the Water Plan Committee started funding the county ditch inventory. This ongoing mapping of the ditches ill help access the county ditches for future water projects.
/ater Plan funds have been used to assist with the completion of a soil survey for Kanabec County. In 2005, the ırvey was completed. This is the first detailed soil survey of Kanabec County.

)uring 2000, septic system compliance inspections were completed for several residences around Lewis Lake. Water lan funds were used to complete the inspections. By 2001, all participants made the required repairs or replacements.

and and Water Treatment

eedlot Improvements – Water Plan funds have been used to provide technical assistance for feedlot improvements. 'his has been ongoing and will continue throughout the upcoming years.

/anure Management Plans – Water Plan funds have been used to provide technical assistance for manure management lans. This includes calculating application rates to best protect water quality and provide proper crop nutrients. \dditional manure management plans are underway and will continue in the upcoming years.

;horeline Erosion Control – Water Plan funds have been used to provide technical assistance and cost sharing for levelopment and installation of shoreline erosion control plans. The emphasis on natural vegetative buffers will be)ngoing through the upcoming years.

Water Monitoring and Data Collection
n 2005 a joint project involving MPCA, SWCD, Kanabec County Environmental Services and the neighboring county)f Mille Lacs, started to access the TMDL for the Groundhouse River within the Counties. This will be ongoing and :ould apply to other waters in the county.

Well testing for families with new babies is another project, where Water Plan money has been used. This on-going program is a valuable tool in preventing health risks to newborn infants. This will be ongoing throughout the upcoming years.

The monitoring of lakes within Kanabec County has also been established using Water Plan funds. Water samples are collected on area lakes from April through September. Samples are tested for levels of nitrates, phosphorous, and chlorophyll. This will continue.

Priority Concerns Goals and Objectives:

The Kanabec County Local Water Management planning process of addressing water management priorities has included the following actions:

- On August 24th, 2005, Kanabec County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution to revise and update the Kanabec County Water Plan.
- On September 6th, 2005, the Environmental Services Department sent out notification of intent to update the Kanabec County Water Plan to local units of government, surrounding counties and state review agencies with a request to send concerns for input into the proposed plan.
- On October 28th, 2005, Environmental Services created a "Water Plan" survey that can be found on the Kanabec County website (see attachment). This asked citizens input as to what they regarded as issues to the waters of Kanabec County.
- On February 9th, 2006, a public notice was published in the Kanabec County Times, to inform all interested parties of the intent to update the Kanabec County Water Plan and to request public input.
- On February 15th, 2006 a public hearing was held for Water Plan input at the Kanabec County Courthouse.

After reviewing all submitted concerns, the Water Plan Committee chose the following concerns with obtainable goals:

Priority Concern 1:

The protection of shore lands and tributaries from erosion, sedimentation and nutrient loading -

- Surface Water Quality as it relates to development adjacent to riparian areas.
- Cropland sedimentation and erosion control.
- Feedlot runoff of excess nutrients to surface waters.
- Nutrient management planning to control excess application of nutrients to cropland.
- Livestock Exclusion from surface water areas.
- Grazing Management near surface waters.
- Storm water Runoff – controls for urban areas.
- Construction site – sedimentation and erosion control measures.
- Other runoff from impervious areas including residual oils, gas and solvents from vehicles.
- Runoff controls to wetlands and surface waters as result of timber harvest.

ıiority Concern 1 Goal:

ıe protection of shorelands and tributaries from erosion sedimentation and nutrient loading-
ıis will be addressed through on-going "Best Management Practices" established through forestry, shoreland, ɹriculture and SWCD plan development impact can be addressed through county and state regulations with shoreland gulations and MPCA storm water regulations.

ıis will be an ongoing process for the Kanabec County Environmental Services Department, Kanabec Soil and Water ɔnservation District and the MPCA and various state agencies.

ɾiority Concern 2:

ɾainage Ditch Maintenance -

- Maintain existing drainage ditches (including judicial ditches) where possible and feasible, for agricultural purposes.
- Maintain ditch systems on new road projects. Example Hwy 47 Road Improvement Project resulted in excess runoff onto farm fields and private properties.

ɾiority Concern 2 Goal:

ɾainage Ditch Maintenance –
.anabec County Highway Department has started an inventory of the ditches, within the County. Establishing existing ɪtches will set the ground work for the maintenance, abandonment and any future ditch projects. This project is being ınded in part by the Water Plan Fund.

riority Concern 3:

ɨround water concerns –

- Homes with new babies/nitrate level in drinking water
- Unsealed abandoned wells
- Septic contamination from non-compliant systems

ɾriority Concern 3 Goal:

ɨround Water Concerns –
Ɛanabec County Water plan has and will continue funding for well testing of homes with new babies. This helps to ddress issues and concerns for nitrates Kanabec County through the County septic ordinance will continue to bring no-ompliant shoreland septic systems into compliance. Kanabec County SWCD through funding for well sealing will ontinue to provide for the sealing of wells.

Priority Concern 4:

Ground and Surface Water –

- Emergency spill contamination
- Hazardous waste
- Solid waste

Priority Concern 4 Goal:

Ground & Surface Water –
Kanabec County sponsors a county household hazardous waste day and a county clean-up day. Both will continue in an effort to protect ground and surface waters from contamination. Through the solid waste plan, for Kanabec County, the education and promotion of recycling and disposing of solid waste properly will continue to reduce water contamination.

Goals for the four priority concerns will be met with funding from NRBG grant to Kanabec County through the Environmental Services office, with monies and in-kind at this time of $100,006.00 for fiscal year 2007 (subject to charge with legislature). Kanabec Count Score funding will be used to promote waste cleanup.

Kanabec Soil and Water Conservation project funds for Best Management Practices for 2007 Water Plan Projects were at $20,000, 2006 funds where $50,000 based on budget and need.

The Snake River Water Management Board through the Snake River Watershed "water quality monitoring program" states the waters of Kanabec County will be evaluated as to the type of impairment and projects will be defined accordingly. Technical assistance and funding in the form of cost share grants is available for up to 70 percent of most practices. This cost share is funded through a federal grant.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

CONFLICTS WITH EXISTING OR PROPOSED PLANS OF CONTIGUOUS COUNTIES, OR LOCAL UNITS OF GOVERNMENT.

At this time, there are not known conflicts between the Kanabec County Comprehensive Water Plan, and plans of local units of government or other counties. If conflicts should arise in the future, they will be addressed in an informal or formal resolution process.

Informal Resolution Process

The County or other local unit of government may request a meeting with the chair of the Board of Water and Soil Resources to informally resolve the following disputes: to determine the meaning of any provision of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103B; to resolve conflicts between any two comprehensive water plans; or to settle any other dispute relating to a comprehensive water plan. The informal resolution process is as follows:

1. A meeting with the chairman of the State Board of Water and Soil Resources may be requested in writing by any of the involved parties.

2. The nature of the provision or omission causing the conflict must be described, whether it is in the comprehensive water plan, local plan, or other control. All parties in the conflict must be identified.

3. The chair shall acknowledge the request in writing, and request a meeting of all parties. If a request for a meeting does not satisfy the parties, or if there is no response from one of the other parties, the chair shall make a reasonable effort to obtain the information needed for resolution in another manner.

4. The chair shall establish the meeting time and place, and inform all parties in writing. A local unit of government may be represented by any person or persons of its choosing, subject to control of the chair. The chair may consider any relevant and reasonable evidence or argument by local unit of government in reaching a resolution.

5. The decision of the chair may be announced at the meeting, or made later. In any case, the decision shall be submitted in writing to all parties, and will be effective 60 days following the decision of the chair.

6. A petition may be filed within that time pursuant to Minnesota Statues, Section 103B.25, Subdivision 3, for a contested case hearing under that section.

ormal Resolution Process

county or other local unit of government may petition for a contested case hearing if: the interpretation and nplementation of a comprehensive plan is challenged by a local unit of government aggrieved by the plan; if two or ore counties disagree about the apportionment of the costs of a projects implemented in a comprehensive plan; or if a unty and another local unit government disagree about a change in a local water and related land resources plan or fficial control recommended by the county under Statute 103B. The process for a formal resolution of a conflict is as llows:

. A petition must be filed within 60 days after the date of adoption or approval of the disputed ordinance, or the date a local unit of government receives a recommendation of the County Board under Section 103B.12. The petition must be made in writing, addressed to the state board, and include the following: the names, phone numbers, and addresses of the parties or their representatives involved in the petition; a request for a hearing; a statement of the allegations or issues to be determined by the hearing; and proof of service of a copy of the petition on all other involved local units of government.

. The petition is considered filed with the State Board when it is received by the Board. The Board shall acknowledge receipt of the petition in writing.

. Within 5 days of the receipt of the petition, the State Board shall file a request for the assignment of an administrative law judge.

. Hearings are governed by the contested case procedure of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 14. The Board shall not be considered a party to the hearing for the purpose of apportioning the fees of the Office of Administrative Hearings and for transcript fees.

. Following the hearings and the report of the administrative law judge, the BWSR must make a final decision on the issue. All parties will be informed of the decision in writing.

. A decision of the Board may be appealed to the court of appeals.

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

In the Matter of Reviewing the Local Water Management Plan Update for **Kanabec County** (Minnesota Statutes , Section 103B.311, Subdivision 4 and Section 103B.315, Subdivision 5.)

ORDER APPROVING LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Whereas, the **Kanabec** County Board of Commissioners submitted a Local Water Management Plan Update (Plan Update) to the Board on **February 6, 2007** pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the Plan Update;

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1) On **April 4, 2006,** the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources received a Priority Concerns Scoping Document from **Kanabec** County, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.312.

2) On **June 29, 2006,** the Board of Water and Soil Resources approved official comments on the **Kanabec** County Priority Concerns Scoping Document, which were mailed to the county on **June 30, 2006.**

3) The priority concerns the local water management plan addresses include:

   A) The protection of shore lands and tributaries from erosion, sedimentation and nutrient loading
   B) Drainage ditch maintenance
   C) Ground water concerns
   D) Ground and surface water

4) On **February 6, 2007,** the BWSR received the **Kanabec** County Plan Update, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the plan update to the Board for final State review pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5.

5) On **August 8, 2007,** the regional Water Planning Committee of the board reviewed the recommendation of the state review agencies regarding final approval of the **Kanabec** County Plan Update. Recommendations of the state review agencies were:
   A) Minnesota Pollution Control Agency recommends Approval
   B) Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources regional staff recommends Approval
   C) Board Water Plan Review Committee Meeting recommends Approval with an update process to be completed in five years. The regional water planning committee also commends Teresa Bearce

for developing the water plan while fulfilling the many other duties required of her in her role as the Director of the Environmental Services Department.

6) This update will be in effect until **August, 2017.**

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Water Plan Update of **Kanabec** County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes , 103B.315, Subd. 5.

2. The **Kanabec** County Plan Update attached to this Order states water and water-related problems within the county; possible solutions; general goals, objectives, and actions of the county; and an implementation program. The attached Plan Update is in conformance with the requirements of M.S. Section 103B.301.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached update of the **Kanabec** Local Water Management Plan **August 8, 2007 to August 31, 2017 with** the Goals, Objectives and Action Items being amended prior to December 31, 2012.

Dated at **St. Paul,** Minnesota, this **twenty third day of August, 2007.**

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

August 24, 2007

Kanabec County Commissioners
c/o Teresa Bearce
Kanabec County Environmental Services Department
18 North Vine Street, Suite 291
Mora, MN 55051

Dear Kanabec County Commissioners:

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is pleased to inform you it approved Kanabec County's revised Comprehensive Local Water Plan at its regular meeting held on August 23, 2007. Attached is the signed Finding of Fact, Conclusion, and Order that documents approval of the plan and indicates it meets all relevant requirements of law and rule. This update of the Kanabec County Comprehensive Local Water Plan is effective for a ten-year period until August 2017; with the Goals, Objectives and Action Items amended by August 2012.

The county must adopt and begin implementing the plan within 120 days (1990, M.S. 103B.08 Subd. 6, Adoption and Implementation). An example of a resolution adopting the plan can be found on BWSR's website at http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/watermgmt/guidance/Adoption.doc.
Upon adoption, please forward the resolution to your Board Conservationist.

The Kanabec County Environmental Services Department staff and water plan advisory members are to be commended for writing a plan that clearly presents the water management goals, actions and priorities. With continued implementation of your water plan the protection and management of Kanabec County's water resources will be greatly enhanced. The BWSR looks forward to working with you as you implement this Plan and document its outcomes.

Sincerely,

Randy Kramer, Chair

Enclosures
cc: Teresa Bearce, County Water Plan Coordinator
File copy

Bemidji
701 Minnesota Avenue
Suite 234
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Trail
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
2300 Silver Creek
Road N.E.
Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 281-7797
fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

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Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

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c/o Teresa Bearce
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Sincerely,

Randy Kramer, Chair

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cc: Teresa Bearce, County Water Plan Coordinator
File copy

Bemidji
701 Minnesota Avenue
Suite 234
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Trail
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
2300 Silver Creek
Road N.E.
Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 281-7797
fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

Web: www.bwsr.state.mn.us TTY: (800) 627-3529 An equal opportunity employer Printed on recycled paper

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
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   B) Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources regional staff recommends Approval
   C) Board Water Plan Review Committee Meeting recommends Approval with an update process to be completed in five years. The regional water planning committee also commends Teresa Bearce

for developing the water plan while fulfilling the many other duties required of her in her role as the Director of the Environmental Services Department.

6) This update will be in effect until **August, 2017.**

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Water Plan Update of **Kanabec** County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes , 103B.315, Subd. 5.

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Dated at **St. Paul,** Minnesota, this **twenty third day of August, 2007.**

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Koochiching County Local Water Management Plan was updated by a sixteen-member Water Management Plan Advisory Committee led by Richard Lehtinen, Koochiching County Environmental Services Director. The new Plan originally had a July 27, 2005 deadline for adoption. The County requested and was granted a two year time extension to July 27, 2007. This Plan finally started making great progress in September 2006 and will be prepared for adoption close to the July deadline. The purpose of the planning process was to develop a plan of work that would protect and enhance surface water, groundwater and related land resources within Koochiching County. The Advisory Committee developed a process designed to incorporate input from citizens, local, state, federal and Canadian units of government, and to develop a plan that was consistent with local, state and federal plans and controls.

The Committee used as a starting point the Rainy River Basin Plan, prepared by MPCA, and the second generation County Water Management Plan. By deriving the new Plan from these existing plans, the Committee was assured the new plan would address issues relevant to both the county and the state. The Committee identified issues it believed ought to be included in the new plan. These issues were then compressed into general categories. From these general categories the Committee proceeded to develop goals, objectives and action plans.

The Committee, after sifting through the Basin Plan, the Local Water Plan and the results of a survey conducted for this project, developed a set of priority concerns which the Plan would address. These priority concerns are:

1. Erosion
2. Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems
3. Education/Collaboration
4. Monitoring
5. Protection of Water Quality
6. Forestry

With these priority concerns, the Committee developed a total of fourteen goals, three for Erosion, one for SSTS, one for Education, three for Monitoring, four for Water Quality and two for Forestry. It also created forty-six objectives and seventeen action plans. All these elements included ongoing activities of SWCD, ESD and state agencies and activities that were either new or given higher emphasis which qualified them as High Priority Concerns.

This Plan has been reviewed by local, state, federal, Canadian and cities in Koochiching County as well as adjacent counties. This level of review assured the Committee that this new Plan is consistent with the plans of other pertinent local, state and regional plans. Other plans do not have to be amended in order for this Plan to be adopted and implemented.

Priority Concerns

Priority Concerns of this Plan are identified and expanded upon in Appendix A the "Priority Concerns Scoping Document" (PRSD). The goal, objectives and implementation schedule, or action plans are found in the Management Plan section of this report. They are all found together because that is the way this Plan was developed by the Committee and it made sense to the Committee that all these components be presented together in order better to understand the interrelationships of the goals, objectives and action steps.

The costs identified in this Plan assume that much of the work in the Plan cannot be done without grants or loans from state and federal sources. However, much of the work can be accomplished within the budgets of SWCD and ESD. Some of the Plan components will be implemented by state agencies with local entities playing a supportive role. The total estimated cost to implement the Plan is $4,435,000 with some additional costs being unknown.

WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTION PLANS

A. Erosion

Goal 1: Carry out activities and programs that are an ongoing function of the SWCD office, NRCS and Land and Forestry.

Objectives:

a. Continue to pursue and support cost share programs for erosion, provision of technical assistance to property owners with erosion problems, dissemination of best management practices to area farmers and dissemination of Forest Resource Council Guidelines to private property owners of forest lands.

b. Seek additional funding sources to address erosion problems on both private and public lands.

Action Plan:

1. Priority: Low
This is a low priority because it is an ongoing activity for SWCD staff.

2. Activities
Process cost share applications for erosion control projects for private property owners. Apply for grants to fund erosion control projects.

3. Responsibility
Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) has the primary responsibility in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) regional office plays a secondary role, as does the Koochiching County Lands and Forestry.

4. Timeline: Ongoing program for SWCD

5. Cost: Approximately $20,000 per year plus staff time

Goal 2: Support MPCA's efforts to do a TMDL Study of the Little Fork River.

Objectives:

a. Support and participate in MPCA's TMDL study of the Little Fork River to determine the causes of turbidity and actions that may reduce turbidity.

b. Support and participate in MPCA's paired river study of the Big Fork and Little Fork Rivers.

Action Plan:

1. *Priority: Low*

2. *Activities*
SWCD and ESD will play supportive roles

3. *Responsibility: MPCA has primary responsibility*

4. *Timeline: 2006 – 2010 (this study is currently underway)*

5. *Cost: unknown*

Goal 3: Apply specific measures to improve shoreland protection in order to protect against erosion and to benefit wildlife habitat.

Objectives:

a. Follow shoreland protection standards as described in the County Zoning Ordinance.

b. Adopt a new zoning ordinance by or before the end of 2007 which incorporates provisions for shoreland protection, some of which will derive from DNR's Alternative Shoreland Standards.

Action Plan:

1. *Priority: High*

2. *Responsibility / Timeline*
The Environmental Services Department (ESD) has a consultant under contract to prepare a new Zoning Ordinance. The new Ordinance will be completed and adopted in 2007. Shoreland protection provisions will be included in the ordinance.

3. *Cost: $45,000 contract with CR Planning*

c. Establish a Shoreland Protection Program, consistent with DNR's shoreland protection standards, which will include proactive enforcement, educational workshops and brochures and other steps as needed.

Action Plan:

1. *Priority: Medium*

2. *Responsibility*

SWCD and ESD have primary responsibility. The State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) also plays a primary role.

3. Activity
While shoreland protection has been somewhat important, it will occupy a higher level of effort as a result of this Water Management Plan (WMP). The shore impact zone along Rainy Lake shores on the mainland and the islands has been deteriorating due to vegetation removal, construction of lawns to the shoreline and other destructive activities. Efforts to reverse this trend are needed. DNR, SWCD, ESD and the Army Corps of Engineers will work together to offer workshops each year.

4. Timeline: 2007 through 2009. After 2009, ESD, SWCD and DNR will evaluate the effectiveness of the ramped up effort to improve shoreland protection.

5. Cost: $15,000 for educational materials plus staff time

B. Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS)

Goal 1: Assure that all residences with or needing SSTS have compliant sewage treatment systems.

Objectives:

a. Prepare a Local SSTS Ordinance to be adopted by the end of 2007.

b. Determine which governing structure will be used in Koochiching County to oversee SSTS performance systems, a Water Quality Cooperative or special district, and seek funding to finance the start-up of the chosen governing structure.

c. Do a septic system compliance inventory of the Rainy Lake area by the end of 2009 and an inventory of the rest of the county by 2011.

d. Prepare performance standards for effluent after treatment that will be required in high population areas, in the shoreland zone and in remote areas.

e. Identify problem areas, such as Rainy Lake, Meadowview, and others all in the context of an overall county-wide strategy for SSTS.

f. Seek grant or loan money to help low income households afford new or upgraded septic systems.

Action Plan:

1. Priority: High

2. Activities
Objectives "a" through "f" are all high priority items after several years of implementing MPCA ISTS Rule 7080. With the completion of the Jackfish Bay sewer collection system, ESD can turn closer attention to SSTS and, possibly, to extending centralized sewer further east to the end of Highway 11 East.

The firm of CR Planning is currently working on a Local SSTS Ordinance, which should be adopted before the end of 2007. Koochiching County is still interested in activating a Water Quality Cooperative to be responsible for the care of septic systems, but grant seed-money is needed. All the other objectives will require funding from State or Federal sources in order to activate work on their objectives.

3. Responsibility
ESD will be primarily responsible for implementing the SSTS program. MPCA will also play a role. SWCD plays a secondary role as an office that can facilitate obtaining SSTS loans for new or upgraded septic systems.

4. Timeline: 2007 – 2012. Progress in implementing this goal will be evaluated, at the latest, in 2012.

5. Cost: Approximately $1,000,000

C. Education / Collaboration

Goal 1: Emphasize education and collaborative ventures to allow residents and visitors alike to be good stewards of the county's water.

Objectives:

a. Support the Water Resources Center of the Rainy River Basin in its attempt to become an active research center, a water quality monitoring leader, a data management center where information is disseminated and citizen-based programs are organized and coordinated.

Action Plan:

1. Priority: Low

2. Activity
The low priority is because the County should play a support role rather than a lead role in establishing the functional credibility of the Water Resources Center. Rainy River Community College needs to develop a

physical place for the WRC. Partnering with four year universities, such as St. Cloud State, will increase the likelihood that a solid resources center will emerge. Canadian and Minnesota agencies should contribute to the WRC. Universities should make efforts to assure that any of their research focused on the Rainy River basin is delivered to the WRC.

3. Responsibilities
Rainy River Community College is of central importance. Agencies such as MPCA, DNR and BWSR in Minnesota and OMNR, MOE and the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans will all be needed. ESD and SWCD should promote the WRC as a valuable resource and help the WRC identify how best to allocate its resources.

4. Timeline
2005 – 2012. During 2012 the status and effectiveness of the WRC shall be evaluated.

5. Cost: Approximately $ 2,000,000

b. Convene the WMPAC one time per year to review progress on implementing the Plan.

Action Plan:

1. Priority: Low

2. Activity
Annual meeting of WMPAC to be convened in January or February of each year. WMPAC will evaluate the effectiveness of Water Plan implementation and suggest changes where needed.

3. Responsibility
ESD shall convene the meeting.

4. Timeline: Annual

5. Cost: None

c. Prepare and disseminate information on water quality, shoreland practices, septic requirements and forestry practices.

d. Work with the Arrowhead Water Quality Team to prepare regionally-oriented educational materials.

e. Work with Minnesota agencies and Ontario agencies to develop educational materials pertinent to the entire Rainy Basin.

f. Prepare a property owner's resource guide which can be made available to all property owners in the county.

g. Prepare and disseminate a homeowner's newsletter which will be distributed one to two times per year.

h. Re-establish subsidized water testing to be done by the County Public Health Department.

Action Plan:

1. Priority: Medium

2. Activities
Objectives c – h all involve the development and distribution of educational materials. This program emphasis is epitomized in the slogan "education over regulation". This does not mean regulation should not be practiced, for it should and must, but it does rely on the hope that an educated public will largely be self-regulating. Brochures, newsletters, DVD's, videos and workshops will all be needed. Local, state and federal agencies should collaborate together and with their Canadian counterparts.

3. Responsibilities
ESD and SWCD shall be primarily responsible for assuring an educational program is sustained.

4. Timeline: 2008 – 2012. The effectiveness of the educational program shall be evaluated in 2012.

5. Cost: Approximately $ 50,000

D. Monitoring

Goal 1: Establish a county-wide, watershed, condition monitoring program for surface water consistent with the Rainy River Basin Condition Monitoring approach.

Objectives:

a. Continue the following existing monitoring programs:
   1. Big Fork River Board River Watch
   2. Rat Root River/Rainy Lake Monitoring Partnership

b. Establish the following monitoring programs:
   1. Little Fork River
   2. Black River
   3. Rapid River

4. Rainy River
5. Selected lakes in Koochiching County

c. Partner with local organizations to ensure that the monitoring efforts have local involvement and buy-in:

1. Rat Root River/Rainy Lake Monitoring Partnership – Little Fork/Rat Root River Board, Rainy Lake Conservancy
2. Little Fork River – Little Fork/Rat Root River Board
3. Black River
4. Rapid River – Rapid River Board
5. Rainy River – Rainy/Rapid River Board

d. Partner with neighboring counties where appropriate to ensure that the programs cover the entire watershed

e. Encourage collaboration through the Water Resources Center to involve citizens, local government, tribal government, state agencies, federal agencies and Ontario agencies in water quality monitoring

f. Each watershed monitoring program will:

1. Be locally led (i.e. lake or river association or other appropriate organization)
2. Include a local commitment (a balance of local money and in-kind contributions)
3. Have a monitoring plan, which at a minimum includes the following:
    - identifies local, basin, state (including TMDL effectiveness monitoring where appropriate) and federal goals and objectives
    - phased implementation of plan components
    - timelines
    - budget
    - descriptions of methodology options
    - QA/QC Plan for field methodology, lab analysis (where appropriate) and data management
    - a plan for data use consistent with the monitoring goals
    - integrates existing monitoring programs and activities into the plan
    - an effectiveness evaluation plan

g. Help assure stored and managed data are delivered to the Water Resources Center and widely disseminated by the WRC.

Action Plan:

1. Priority: <u>Medium</u>

2. Activities

This is a broadly scoped, ambitious water quality monitoring program. It is important because its goal is to identify "baseline" conditions for all significant surface water in the Rainy Basin. Waters in the basin that have been sampled meet or exceed state and federal standards for quality (except for turbidity in the Little Fork River and mercury in a variety of other surface waters). By establishing "baseline" conditions for all major surface water, any changes in water quality can be detected, and corrected if deemed appropriate.

International waters such as Rainy Lake and Rainy River would benefit from bi-national, coordinated monitoring. This approach is already being taken in Lake of the Woods. Bi-national collaboration is also encouraged for the Rainy Basin's tributaries as water from both Minnesota and Ontario affect Rainy Lake, Rainy River and Lake of the Woods. In the center of all this monitoring, hopefully, will be the Rainy Basin Water Resources Center.

3. Responsibilities

MPCA should lead and coordinate the monitoring program on the Minnesota side of the Rainy Basin. On the Ontario side it is likely that the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) would organize the monitoring program. ESD and SWCD should be strong supporters of this effort as should other state, federal and Canadian agencies. RRCC must necessarily be actively involved if only through its status as the Water Resources Center. Citizens and schools also will need to participate in a massive monitoring program.

4. Timeline: 2006 – 2017

5. Cost: $ 1,000,000 or more

Goal 2: Support funding for further studies of aquatic invasive species and of cyanobacteria toxicity on Rainy Lake and other Rainy Basin lakes as appropriate.

Objectives:

a. Recognize that the lead agencies to conduct these studies are DNR, MPCA, VNP, OMNR and the Ontario Ministry of Health.

b. Anticipate additional aquatic invasive species and sources of toxicity that may need to be studied in the Rainy River Basin.

Action Plan:

1. *Priority: Low*
2. *Activities*

There is recent evidence of aquatic invasive species and of cyanobacteria toxicity on Rainy Lake. This plan supports continued monitoring of such species by MPCA and other entities. ESD and SWCD are unlikely to be directly involved in these detection activities.

3. Responsibility
DNR and MPCA are responsible for detecting aquatic invasive species and cyanobacteria although other agencies both from Minnesota and Ontario will be involved. These agencies include State Dept. of Health, Fish and Wildlife Service, EPA and VNP from Minnesota and OMNR and the Ontario Ministry of Health (OMH) from Ontario.

4. Timeline: Ongoing

5. Cost: Unknown

Goal 3: Evaluate groundwater quality and quantity.

Objectives:

a. Retrieve and analyze the State's database on wells in Koochiching County.

b. Prepare a report or reports on wells in Koochiching County and what the well information reveals about aquifers, groundwater quality and groundwater quantity.

Action Plan:

1. Priority: Low

2. Activity
SWCD and ESD will request access to the State's data base on wells. They will seek grant money to hire someone to analyze the data and to prepare a report describing the findings.

3. Responsibility
SWCD and ESD will be primarily responsible with technical help from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH).

4. Timeline: 2010: study will be initiated

5. Cost: Approximately $ 25,000

E. Protection of Water Quality

Goal 1: Ensure the quality of water in the Koochiching County portion of the Rainy River Basin is maintained or improved.

Objectives:

a. Work with other counties and Canada to protect water quality within the Rainy Basin.

b. Bring all septic systems, over time, into compliance to help assure the quality of Rainy basin waters is being improved.

c. Encourage the retention or planting of native vegetation along the shoreline to protect wildlife habitat and to discourage lawns, impermeable materials, and others with the intent to improve the quality of Rainy basin waters.

d. Partner with the State Department of Health to prepare wellhead protection plans.

e. Take actions to reduce local sources of mercury and other toxic materials from polluting the county's waters by continuing the bi-annual collection of hazardous waste, by collecting for safe disposal, mercury thermometers and by publishing educational materials about mercury and other toxic material.

f. Provide for basin-wide application for the MPCA's non-degradation regulations.

1) This objective calling for rigorous implementation of the State-wide Non-degradation Rules (Minnesota Rules 7050.0185) is intended to serve as an interim measure to prevent any degradation to current watershed health, pending development of a water quality baseline for all lakes, rivers and streams in the basin.
2) When the existing quality of the stream, river or lake (receiving water) is unknown, efforts should be undertaken to establish and document the present water quality prior to setting permit discharge limits.
3) Permit effluent limits should include consideration of cumulative effects from all inputs (point and non-point) for the watershed.
4) Ultimately, comprehensive monitoring should provide baseline information and information needed to establish quantitative goals based on current and desired future conditions for lakes, rivers and streams within the basin.

g. Utilize stormwater runoff evaluation methodologies such as the Non-point Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) in evaluating community-wide impacts of runoff.

Action Plan:

1. Priority: <u>High</u>

2. Activities
ESD will need grant money to pay the cost of bringing all septic systems into compliance. Both ESD and SWCD along with DNR will take steps to assure there is wide spread retention of native vegetation and fewer lawns being put in. ESD will work with the MDH to prepare wellhead protection plans. Communities, such as International Falls may benefit from the preparation of community-wide stormwater runoff plans. MPCA's non-degradation regulations are useful to the Rainy Basin because water quality exceeds thresholds for degraded water. Koochiching County needs to continue its household hazardous waste collection program, its mercury collection program and its mercury and other toxic materials education program.

3. Responsibilities
Both ESD and SWCD have primary responsibility to implement these objectives in partnership with MPCA, DNR, DOH, other counties and Canadian agencies.

4. Timeline: 2007 – 2012 and then an evaluation will be done

5. Cost: Approximately $250,000. Loan and grant money will be required.

Goal 2: **Utilize Koochiching County's Wetland Flexibility Plan as the primary implementing plan for wetlands, consistent with the County's Comprehensive Land Use Plan. (Note: Wetland Flexibility Plan was developed collaboratively with SWCD, ESD, MPCA, BWSR, DNR and the Corps of Engineers)**

Objectives:

a. Seek funding for wetland restoration and creation, and apply for wetland bank status as deemed appropriate by SWCD, BWSR and the Army Corps.

b. Promote wetland mitigation standards that reject a "one size fits all" assumption and acknowledges the wetland stewardship practiced by over 80 percent counties.

c. Allow wetland mitigation sites anywhere in Minnesota for loss of wetland in Koochiching County.

d. Allow flexible wetland replacement as to wetland type.

e. Encourage frequent use of the Wetlands Technical Advisory Committee to work with landowners in mitigating wetland impacts.

f. Support stream restoration as a mitigation for wetland impacts.

Action Plan:

1. *Priority: Medium*

2. *Activities*
Koochiching County has identified wetlands as a high priority issue because over-regulation of wetlands will have adverse impacts on development potential. Almost every development project is affected by wetlands and sometimes the presence of wetlands even precludes development. The Water Plan is not the document upon which wetlands action is based. It is the Wetlands Flexibility Plan that this Water Plan defers to.

3. *Responsibilities*
ESD and SWCD are primarily responsible at the local level. BWSR and the Army Corps of Engineers have primary responsibility at the State and Federal levels. DNR is also involved in wetland issues but more directly responsible for surface waters.

4. *Timeline: Ongoing*

5. *Cost: Primarily staff time*

Goal 3: Offer technical assistance to help property owners avoid detrimental impacts on water quality and promote projects which make use of or restore natural vegetation on shoreland areas.

Objectives:

a. Maintain as an ongoing activity technical assistance to residents and property owners by ESD, SWCD, NRCS.

b. Work with state and federal agencies to provide assistance when appropriate to residents and property owners.

Action Plan:

1. *Priority: Medium*

2. *Activities*
These are ongoing activities of ESD, SWCD and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

3. *Responsibilities*
ESD, SWCD, NRCS have responsibility at the local level and MPCA, DNR and BSWR at the State level.

4. *Timeline: Ongoing*

5. *Cost: Staff time*

Goal 4: Promote environmentally responsible new development in Koochiching County.

Objectives:

a. Adopt a new Zoning Ordinance during 2007 which sets higher development standards than those currently in place.

b. Require a constraints analysis prior to designing residential or commercial/industrial projects with the primary purpose to avoid adverse impacts on wetlands and on water quality.

c. Encourage projects which respect the characteristics and suitability of the site for which a development project is being proposed.

Action Plan:

1. Priority: Low

2. Activities
This goal and objectives anticipate the adoption and implementation of the new Koochiching County Development Ordinance, which will include Zoning, Subdivision and Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems. ESD will be responsible for implementing this ordinance. The existing Zoning Ordinance dates back to 1975.

3. Responsibility
ESD will implement this whole section.

4. Timeline: Ongoing, starting late 2007.

5. Cost: $ 75,000 plus staff time

F. Forestry

Goal 1: Continue to provide technical assistance for forestry.

Objectives:

a. Continue SWCD's tree sales program to encourage the proliferation of native trees throughout Koochiching County.

b. Encourage SWCD, in conjunction with Minnesota Extension, to teach forestry management and other forestry-oriented classes.

c. Offer preparation of Forest Stewardship Plans for private property owners by the Soil and Water Conservation District office.

d. Encourage SWCD to support programs and activities which promote multiple uses of wood and forestland.

Action Plan:

1. Priority: Low

2. Activities
SWCD has responsibility to conduct a forestry program for private property owners. The four Objectives describe the forestry program conducted by SWCD.

3. Responsibility
SWCD is responsible for this forestry goal and objectives.

4. Timeline: Ongoing

5. Cost: Staff time

Goal 2: Promote sustainable forestry practices on all lands within Koochiching County.

Objectives:

a. Follow Voluntary Site-Level Forest Management Guidelines (as developed by the Minnesota Forest Resources Council) on all public and private forestlands.

b. Protect riparian areas during timber harvesting operations and road building.

Action Plan:

1. Priority: Medium

2. Activities
This is rated a medium priority rather than low because it represents a new emphasis for SWCD. SWCD in the past has not actively promoted the Voluntary Site-Level Forest Management Guidelines on private lands. These Guidelines, while voluntary, are actively followed on forest-industrial land, state, county and federally administered lands. SWCD will promote use of the Guidelines to private landowners.

3. Responsibility
SWCD will work with DNR Forestry to implement this goal and objectives.

4. Timeline: 2008 – 2017

5. Cost: Staff time

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

Koochiching County Commissioners
Koochiching County Courthouse
715 4th Street
International Falls, MN 56649

August 23, 2007

Dear Koochiching County Commissioners:

This letter is being sent to inform you that the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) approved Koochiching County's revised Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan with the conditions recommended by our Northern Water Planning Committee at its regular meeting held on August 23, 2007. Attached is the signed Finding of Fact, Conclusion, and Order that documents approval of the plan and indicates that the plan meets relevant requirements of law and rule. This update of the Koochiching County Comprehensive Local Water Plan is subject to a condition that the goal of preparing and adopting a local SSTS ordinance contained in Koochiching County's Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is accomplished by June 1, 2008. As presented, the plan envisions an effective ten-year period until December 31, 2017; with the Goals, Objectives and Action Items reviewed and updated as necessary by December 31, 2012.

Statutory requirements of M.S. 103B 315 Subd. 6 (Comprehensive Water Plan Review and Adoption) include passage of a resolution and initiation of implementation activities within 120 days of notice of approval from the Board. An example of a resolution adopting the plan can be found on BWSR's website at http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/watermgmt/guidance/Adoption.doc. Upon adoption, please forward the resolution to your Board Conservationist.

The Koochiching County Planning and Zoning staff and the Water Management Plan Advisory Committee have developed a plan that reflects the priorities for water management in Koochiching County. With continued implementation of your water plan, the protection and management of Koochiching County's water resources will be greatly enhanced. The BWSR looks forward to working with you as you implement this Plan and document its outcomes.

Sincerely,

Randy Kramer, Chair

Enclosures
cc: Richard Lehtinen, County Water Plan Coordinator
File copy

Bemidji
3217 Bemidji Avenue N.
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
217 S. 7th Street
Suite 202
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Drive
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
40 16th Street S.E.
Suite A
Rochester, MN 55904
phone (507) 280-2874
fax (507) 280-2875

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N.
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road N
St. Paul Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Reviewing the Local Water Management Plan Update for **Koochiching County** (Minnesota Statutes, 2003, Section 103B.311, Subdivision 4 and Section 103B.315, Subdivision 5.)

ORDER APPROVING LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Whereas, the **Koochiching** County Board of Commissioners submitted a Local Water Management Plan Update (Plan Update) to the Board on **August 23, 2007**, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the Plan Update;

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1) On January 15, 2007, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources received a Priority Concerns Scoping Document from **Koochiching** County, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.312.

2) On March 27, 2007, the Board of Water and Soil Resources approved official comments on the **Koochiching** County Priority Concerns Scoping Document, which were mailed to the county on March 28, 2007.

3) The priority concerns the local water management plan addresses include:

   A) Erosion
   B) Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems
   C) Education/Collaboration
   D) Monitoring
   E) Protection of Water Quality
   F) Forestry

4) On June 29, 2007, the BWSR received the **Koochiching** County Plan Update, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the plan update to the Board for final State review pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5.

5) On August 8, 2007, the Northern Water Planning Review Committee of the board reviewed the recommendation of the state review agencies regarding final approval of the Koochiching County Plan Update. Recommendations of the state review agencies were:
   A) Minnesota Department of Agriculture: recommended approval;
   B) Minnesota Department of Health: no recommendation received;
   C) Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: recommended approval;

D) Minnesota Pollution Control Agency: recommended holding the CLWMP in abeyance until Koochiching County adopts Mn Rule 7080 for Individual Sewage Treatment Systems;
E) Minnesota Environmental Quality Board: no recommendation received;
F) Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources regional staff recommends approval in accordance with Northern Review Committee conditions.

6) The Board Water Plan Review Committee met on August 8, 2007, and recommended s approval with the following conditions:

a) Change the date identified in Goal 1, Objective A under the Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Priority Concern calling for preparation of a Local SSTS Ordinance to be adopted; from the end of 2007, to June 1 2008.

b) The Northern Water Plan Review Committee will review the Koochiching County Local Water Management Plan at that time to appraise the progress of ordinance development and adoption.

7) As presented, this update will be in effect until **December 31, 2017.**

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Water Plan Update of **Koochiching** County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes , 103B.315, Subd. 5.

2. The **Koochiching** County Plan Update attached to this Order states water and water-related problems within the county; possible solutions; general goals, objectives, and actions of the county; and an implementation program. The attached Plan Update is in conformance with the requirements of M.S. Section 103B.301.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached update of the **Koochiching County** Local Water Management Plan provided that, by June 1, 2008, Koochiching County has fulfilled the plan commitments stated in Goal 1, objective a, under the Priority Concern "Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems " to prepare and adopt a local Subsurface Sewage Treatment Ordinance.

Dated at St. Paul , Minnesota, this **twenty-third day of August, 2007**.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Southern Water Planning Committee

1. Jackson County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Paul Langseth – ***DECISION ITEM***

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

DATE: 6-1-07
TO: Jeff Nielsen, BWSR Southern Region Supervisor
FROM: Tabor Hoek, BWSR Board Conservationist

RE: Review of Jackson County Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Jackson County has submitted their Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) for the 2007 Local Water Management Plan Update to BWSR and other state agencies. BWSR received this document on April 10, 2007.

State agency comments have been received from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). All agencies concurred with the priority concerns identified and noted that they felt the process to identify the concerns was commendable. No comments on the completed PCSD were received from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), or Environmental Quality Board (EQB).

Priority Concerns were developed from public meeting input, state agency comment and the Jackson County Task Force.

Representing BWSR staff, I have completed my review of the Priority Concerns Scoping Document for Jackson County and recommend that BWSR concur with the priority concerns identified:

1. Prevent Soil Erosion
2. Feedlots & ISTS (Individual Sewage Treatment Systems)
3. Drainage Management
4. Improve Surface Water Quality
5. Protect Groundwater

I look forward to working with the County officials, residents, and technical staff as the Plan Update moves forward. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at 507-537-7260, or tabor.hoek@bwsr.state.mn.us.

Bemidji
217 Bemidji Avenue N.
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
217 S. 7th Street
Suite 202
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2585
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Drive
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
2300 Silver Creek
Road N.E.
Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 280-2874
fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N.
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

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Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

August 23, 2007

Jackson County Commissioners
c/o Gordon Olson
Office of Environmental Health
405 Fourth Street
Jackson, MN 56143

RE: Official Comments Pertaining to the State Review of the Jackson County Priority Concerns Scoping Document for the Local Water Management Plan Update

Dear Jackson County Commissioners:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.313, subdivision 5, this letter communicates the official comments of the State of Minnesota pertaining to the priority concerns Jackson County has chosen to address in the update of the Jackson County Comprehensive Local Water Management (CLWM) Plan. The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), along with the state review agencies, received the Jackson County Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) on April 10, 2007.

The Jackson County Water Planning Advisory Committee reviewed the concerns raised during the input process and selected the following general priority concerns for inclusion in the CLWM Plan update.

1. Prevent Soil Erosion
2. Feedlots & ISTS (Individual Septic Treatment Systems)
3. Drainage Management
4. Improve Surface Water Quality
5. Protect Groundwater

The BWSR Southern Water Planning Committee (hereinafter referred to as Committee) met on July 19, 2007, to discuss comments received from state review agencies and others, discuss the content of the Jackson County PCSD, and make recommendations for the content of the final plan.

The BWSR received comments from BWSR staff, the Department of Agriculture (MDA), the Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The Department of Health and the Environmental Quality Board did not provide comments on the PCSD.

The MDA concurred with the priority concerns identified and noted they felt the process to identify the concerns was commendable. MPCA concurred with the priority concerns identified and highlighted a MPCA data source regarding surface water monitoring information for the County's use. The DNR also concurred with the priority concerns process completed by the County. The BWSR agreed with the priority concerns.

The Committee commends Jackson County for the process they used to select the concerns – including soliciting input from local government, citizens, and state agencies – and incorporating that information into the three priority concern areas. The priority concerns to be addressed in the Jackson County CLWM Plan are deemed to be appropriate.

In summary, the Board encourages the County to continue to engage in a process that includes a broad range of citizens and interest groups, in addition to local government officials, and state and federal resource managers during the development of goals, objectives, and an implementation plan. We look forward to the completion of your plan and its implementation!

Sincerely,

Randy Kramer, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

c: Becky Balk, MDA
John Wells, EQB
Art Persons, MDH
Mark Matuska, DNR
David L. Johnson, MPCA
Joe Martin, MDA
Dan Wilson, MDH
Dana Allen, BWSR Board
Brian Kletscher, BWSR Board
Paul Langseth, BWSR Board
Jeff Nielsen, BWSR Southern Region Supervisor
Tabor Hoek, Board Conservationist

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

August 23, 2007

Jackson County Commissioners
c/o Gordon Olson
Office of Environmental Health
405 Fourth Street
Jackson, MN 56143

RE: Official Comments Pertaining to the State Review of the Jackson County Priority Concerns Scoping Document for the Local Water Management Plan Update

Dear Jackson County Commissioners:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.313, subdivision 5, this letter communicates the official comments of the State of Minnesota pertaining to the priority concerns Jackson County has chosen to address in the update of the Jackson County Comprehensive Local Water Management (CLWM) Plan. The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), along with the state review agencies, received the Jackson County Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) on April 10, 2007.

The Jackson County Water Planning Advisory Committee reviewed the concerns raised during the input process and selected the following general priority concerns for inclusion in the CLWM Plan update.

1. Prevent Soil Erosion
2. Feedlots & ISTS (Individual Septic Treatment Systems)
3. Drainage Management
4. Improve Surface Water Quality
5. Protect Groundwater

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Bemidji
Minnesota Avenue
Suite 234
nidji, MN 56601
ie (218) 755-4235
: (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Trail
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
2300 Silver Creek
Road N.E.
Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 281-7797
fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N.
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

NEW BUSINESS

1. Lake of the Woods Water Sustainability Foundation – Todd Sellers, Executive Director, Kenora, Ontario, Canada – *INFORMATION ITEM*

2. Forestry Conservation Practice – Jim Lemmerman – *INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM*

3. BWSR Strategic Plan – Brian Napstad and Cliff Tweedale – *INFORMATION ITEM*

4. Supplemental 2008 Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant (FWQMG) Allocations – Wayne Zellmer – *DECISION ITEM*

5. Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board, FY08 Annual Work Plan – John Jaschke - *DECISION ITEM*

Forestry Practices Addition to State Cost Share Program

Background

The Laws of Minnesota 2007 in Senate File 2096 states:

> *The Board shall develop a forestry practice docket for cost-share money. The Board shall develop standards or policies for cost share practices for the following purposes: . . . . .establishment of soil and water conservation practices on private forest lands.*

Issue

The State Cost Share Program currently does not address forestry concerns very well. Although the Program **can** be used for forestry issues now, via eligible components of existing practices and the ORTP provision, the approved practices are rather silent on forestry issues and do not address them pro-actively.

Recommendation

The Grants Program and Policy Committee does not recommend a "forestry practice docket" but does recommend adding a forestry practice, which would directly address forestry concerns. This practice will contain numerous eligible components common to forestry situations.

Staff will engage the necessary partners to draft a forestry practice cost share standard.

See attached D.13 Forestry Conservation Practice

The goal is to have it ready for FY 09.

D.13 Forestry Conservation Practice

Forestry Conservation Practice

Forestry practices to establish permanent trees, shrubs, and/or grasses on sites that have or are expected to have high erosion rates.

Eligible Component(s):

- Streambank and Shoreland Protection (580)
- Fencing (382)
- Use/Livestock Exclusion (472)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Reforestation and Aforestation **(would this be the same as tree/shrub establishment?)**
- Grade Stabilization (410)
- Forest Trails and Landings (655)
- Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)

The number in parentheses corresponds to the practice number in the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG). Please refer to the FOTG for a definition of the practice, its purpose, applicability, and recommended standards and specifications.

Policies

A **Forest Stewardship Plan** is required for cost share if parcel is over 20 acres, if the parcel is less than 20 acres a **Small Acreage Assessment** must be completed to document needs.

Cost sharing is authorized for the materials and activities required to establish the practice and protect the site during construction of the practice. They include, but are not limited to:

Materials:

- Seed
- Trees/Shrubs
- Herbicides
- Fertilizer
- Minerals
- Fence Materials
- Mulch
- Tubes
- Mats

- Grading (Earthwork)
- Planting
- Fertilizer/Herbicide Application
- Fencing Labor
- Mulching Labor
- Site Preparation

Activities:

- Cost share is authorized where at least 80 percent of the contributing watershed controlled by the land occupier has the appropriate cultural, management, or structural practices in place (or scheduled to be installed) to stabilize sources of sediment and reduce surface water runoff.
- Cost share is not authorized where runoff or sediment from the contributing watershed would prevent the practice from achieving its intended purpose with normal operation and maintenance. The contributing watershed includes land not controlled by the land occupier.

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Small Acreage Assessment

Name:_____ Assessment Date: _____
Address: _____ Planner: _____
City: _____ E911 Sign _____
Agency: _____ LAT / LONG (X / Y): _____
Township Range Section: _____

Stand Inventory Worksheet (Complete one sheet for each stand or different area on the property.)

_____ Stand number or letter (mark this on your map) ☐ Neighboring property

Soil – dig a small hole about a foot deep. Is the soil at the bottom of the hole:
☐ Sand ☐ Wet **OR** ☐ County Soil Survey: _____
☐ Clay (sticky and hard to dig) ☐ Dry Soil Type: _____
☐ Loam (rich, black dirt)

Slope – is the land: ☐ Level ☐ Hilly (If it's hilly, which direction does the hill face:
☐ North ☐ East ☐ South ☐ West ☐ Rolling, no specific direction

Comments / suggested opportunities: _____

Woodland – Predominant tree type:
☐ Deciduous (broadleaf, loses leaves in fall). List species you recognize in order of predominance: _____
☐ Evergreen (leaves are needles). List species you recognize in order of predominance: _____

Predominant tree size:
☐ Seeding (under 5 feet tall) ☐ Sapling (5 feet tall to 5 inches in diameter)
☐ Pole (5 to 8 inches in diameter at 4 feed above the ground [Dbh]) ☐ Sawtimber (over 8 inches Dbh)

Comments / suggested opportunities: _____

Tree condition:
☐ Vigorous (no leaf discoloration, stems are straight without blemishes, few dead branches in the crown)
☐ In trouble – check conditions that apply:
☐ Discolored or shredded leaves ☐ Odd growths on stems and branches
☐ Many dead branches in tree crowns ☐Many dead trees in the area
☐ Other observed problems_____

Comments / suggested opportunities: _____
Are trees in rows? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Undergrowth: ☐ Pine needles or bare soil ☐ Short (<1 ft.) shrubs & form (species): _____
☐ Medium brush (1-3 feet tall) (species): _____
☐ Tall brush (over 3 feet tall) (species): _____
Density: ☐ Heavy (hard to walk through) ☐ Moderate ☐ Sparse
Comments / suggested opportunities: _____

Developed:
☐ Homesite:
Predominant trees: ☐ Deciduous ☐ Evergreen – list species: _____
Tree size: ☐ Seedlings ☐ Saplings ☐ Pole ☐ Sawtimber
Tree condition: ☐ Vigorous ☐ Problems. List: _____
☐ Hard space mitigation needs: _____
Other significant features: _____
Comments / suggested opportunities: _____

Conservation Needs Assessment

Name:_____

Basic type:

☐Open (grassland, bare soil, pasture, crops, predominantly brush or shrubs – few or no trees)
☐Woodland (predominantly trees)
☐ Wetland (open water, wet soil, or periodically wet area)
☐Developed (property with buildings on it or utility right of way)

Comments / suggested opportunities: _____

_____

Shoreline:

☐ River
☐ Lake
☐ Small stream or intermittent stream
☐ Wetland

Riparian zone condition: ☐ None ☐ Poor ☐ Good

Concerns or suggested opportunities: _____

_____

Wetland character:

☐ Open water: ☐ Lake ☐ Stream ☐ Pond ☐ Forested Wetland
☐ Seasonally wet area (not always open water). Predominant vegetation:
☐Bare soil ☐ Grasses ☐ Cattails ☐ Shrubs ☐Type _____

Concerns or suggested opportunities: _____

_____

Invasive species present:

☐ Open ☐ Wooded ☐ Wetland

Concerns or suggested opportunities: _____

_____

Water Quality:

Erosion:
☐ Gullies present
☐ Other _____

Concerns or suggested opportunities: _____

_____

Wildlife:

Types:
☐ Animals: _____
☐ Food ☐ Habitat ☐Water
☐ Birds: _____
☐ Food ☐ Habitat ☐Water

Concerns or suggested opportunities: _____

_____

Other significant features:

☐ Nest (bird?): _____ ☐ Animal den (animal?): _____
☐ Beaver dam ☐ Steep slope ☐ Water seep or spring ☐ Other: _____
☐ Special species of concern present:_____

Concerns or suggested opportunities: _____

_____

MN Forest Stewardship Plan Content Requirements

Landowner's goals
Map of property
Landscape information
Interaction with surrounding properties
General property description
Rare Threatened or Endanger species
Cultural Heritage information
Ecological Classification System info
Soils information
Cover types
Description of vegetation
Tree size class (sapling, pole timber, etc)
Description of understory
Stand age class
Stand health
Indication of site quality
Stand stocking density
Timber volume and quality
Field plot information
Habitat and wildlife uses
Insect and Disease concerns
Stand history
Aesthetic values/issues
Water quality issues
Acknowledgement of known site limitations (topography, seeps, sinkholes, etc.)
Cover type long-term objective
Recommendations to achieve cover type objective
Alternative long-term cover type objectives
Recommendation to achieve alternative long-term objectives
Description of the effects of recommendations on wildlife, water quality, recreation, wood production
Schedule for completion of recommended activities for at least 5 years
Next steps are outlined in a plan summary

SUPPLEMENTAL 08 FEEDLOT WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT GRANT ALLOCATIONS

BACKGROUND

The new fy 08 FWQMG eligibility requirements limit funding to feedlots with less than 300 AUs and to feedlots that occur in impaired watersheds. At their June 2007 Meeting, the BWSR considered applications for funding and funded 39 riparian feedlot projects that met these criteria. Six high priority riparian feedlots that either exceeded 299 AUs or that were located in watersheds not currently listed as impaired were not funded.

ISSUE

The BWSR Grants Program and Policy Committee discussed at their June meeting using available State Cost Share roll-over funds, appropriated in previous years, to fully or partially fund these remaining riparian feedlots that did not meet the less than 300 AU and impaired water eligibility criteria in recognition of this eligibility criteria transition.

Rep. Hansen, chair of the Watersheds, Wetlands, and Buffers Subcommittee, which has jurisdiction over this matter, and where this was primarily discussed during the 07 legislative session, offered his support for this approach.

RECOMMENDATION

At their July 2007 meeting, the Grants Program and Policy Committee recommended to allocate all of the available $126,000 of roll-over for the highest priority remaining feedlots. This recommendation will fully fund the following projects listed on the attached spreadsheet: #s 3, 15, and 17. It will provide partial funding of $31,773 to #20.

K:S08FWQMGA

FISCAL YEAR 2008 FWQM GRANT APPLICATIONS REPORT
By Ranking Criteria
Total Project Cost: $6,902,560
Total FWQM Requested $2,403,995
Total Producers: 87
Total Funding Available $1.5M

	Applicant	Stewardship Plan	LANDOWNER	RIPARIAN	FLEVAL RATING	PRACTICE STATE DATE	COMPLETE INVENTORY	LEVEL	ANIMAL UNITS	ANIMAN SPECIES	TOTAL PROJECT COST	EQIP FUNDS REQUESTED	EQIP AMOUNT	FWQM FUNDS REQUESTED	T/A FUNDS REQUESTED	TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED	CRITERIA ELIGIBLE CUMULATIVE	Out
1	PIPESTONE SWCD	Yes	BILL	B	43	8/1/2007	Yes	3	228	DAIRY	$102,008	Yes	$51,004	$25,502	$2,550	$28,052	$28,052	
2	STEARNS SWCD	Yes	GREG	E	41	10/1/2007	Yes	2	121	DAIRY	$97,500	Yes	$39,000	$34,125	$3,413	$37,538	$65,590	
3	**PINE SWCD**	Yes	MICHAEL	B	38	8/1/2008	Yes	2	208	DAIRY	$102,000	Yes	$51,000	$25,000	$2,500	$27,500	$65,590	Not impaired
4	STEARNS SWCD	Yes	STANLEY	B	36	10/1/2007	Yes	2	191	DAIRY	$7,600	Yes	$1,500	$7,500	$750	$8,250	$73,840	
5	WABASHA SWCD	Yes	NEIL	B	33	7/1/2007	Yes	3	250	DAIRY	$75,000	No	$0	$45,455	$4,545	$50,000	$123,840	
6	STEARNS SWCD	Yes	KEN	B	28	10/1/2007	Yes	2	146	DAIRY	$31,000	Yes	$12,700	$10,550	$1,055	$11,605	$135,445	
7	STEARNS SWCD	Yes	WILLIAM	B	18	10/1/2007	Yes	2	75	DAIRY	$200,000	Yes	$3,180	$2,520	$252	$2,772	$138,217	
8	STEARNS SWCD	Yes	SHAWN	B	16	10/1/2007	Yes	2	60	HORSE	$30,000	Yes	$51,000	$25,000	$2,500	$27,500	$165,717	
9	FILLMORE SWCD		JIM	B	63	9/1/2007	Yes	3	250	BEEF	$240,535	No	$0	$45,500	$4,500	$50,000	$215,717	
10	PIPESTONE SWCD		PAT	B	58	7/1/2007	Yes	3	208	DAIRY	$166,662	Yes	$83,310	$41,666	$4,167	$45,832	$261,549	
11	FILLMORE SWCD		DAN	B	58	5/1/2008	Yes	3	299	BEEF	$75,000	No	$0	$45,500	$4,500	$50,000	$311,549	
12	MORRISON SWCD		KEVIN	B	58	7/1/2007	Yes	3	160	DAIRY	$125,000	Yes	$58,560	$35,153	$3,515	$38,668	$311,549	Not impaired - funded w/ swcd slippage
13	FILLMORE SWCD		LLOYD	B	56	9/1/2007	Yes	3	120	sheep	$70,000	No	$0	$45,500	$4,500	$50,000	$361,549	
14	FILLMORE SWCD		MATT	B	52	9/1/2007	Yes	3	84	BEEF	$30,000	No	$0	$22,500	$2,250	$24,750	$386,299	
15	**ROCK SWCD**		MOSS	B	52	9/1/2007	Yes	3	580	DAIRY	$310,000	Yes	$30,000	$33,500	$0	$33,500	$386,299	
16	FILLMORE SWCD		BLAISE	B	51	9/1/2007	Yes	3	200	BEEF	$180,000	No	$0	$45,500	$4,500	$50,000	$436,299	
17	**JACKSON SWCD**		KEVIN	A	50	7/16/2007	Yes	3	375	BEEF	$138,000	Yes	$73,273	$30,227	$3,000	$33,227	$436,299	Not impaired
18	FILLMORE SWCD		DAVE	B	50	5/1/2008	Yes	3	150	BEEF	$38,000	No	$0	$28,500	$2,850	$31,350	$467,649	
19	MORRISON SWCD		ROBERT	B	50	7/1/2007	Yes	3	155	DAIRY	$168,000	Yes	$84,000	$42,000	$4,200	$46,200	$513,849	
20	**NOBLES SWCD**		KEVIN	C	49	9/1/2007	No	3	469	DAIRY	$154,266	Yes	$77,133	$38,566	$3,857	$42,423	$513,849	
21	WASHINGTON SWCD		DENNIS	A	48	8/15/2007	Yes	1	30	HORSE	$20,000	No	$0	$15,000	$1,500	$16,500	$530,349	
22	FILLMORE SWCD		DEAN	B	46	5/1/2008	Yes	3	250	DAIRY	$180,000	No	$0	$45,500	$4,500	$50,000	$580,349	
23	WINONA SWCD		WAYNE	B	45	7/1/2007	Yes	3	168	DAIRY	$20,795	No	$0	$15,596	$1,160	$16,756	$597,105	
24	MOWER SWCD		JACK	B	42	8/15/2007	Yes	3	121	BEEF	$34,180	No	$0	$25,635	$2,564	$28,199	$625,304	
25	MILLE LACS SWCD		CHARLIE	B	41	7/1/2007	Yes	2	256	DAIRY	$12,636	Yes	$6,318	$3,159	$315	$3,474	$625,304	Not impaired
26	RICE SWCD		SCOTT	B	40	9/1/2007	Yes	3	68	BEEF	$55,000	No	$0	$41,250	$4,125	$45,375	$670,679	
27	MORRISON SWCD		KURT	B	39	7/1/2007	Yes	3	110	DAIRY	$125,000	Yes	$62,500	$31,250	$3,125	$34,375	$670,679	Not impaired - funded w/ swcd slippage
28	ROCK SWCD		DAVID	B	39	9/1/2007	Yes	3	197	BEEF	$36,000	Yes	$18,000	$6,000	$600	$6,600	$677,279	
29	WINONA SWCD		IHRKE	B	35	7/1/2007	Yes	3	107	DAIRY	$41,710	No	$0	$31,283	$3,128	$34,411	$711,690	
30	WINONA SWCD		STEPHEN	B	34	7/1/2007	Yes	3	40	DAIRY	$11,360	No	$0	$8,520	$852	$9,372	$721,062	
31	WINONA SWCD		ANTHONY	B	34	7/1/2007	Yes	3	90	DAIRY	$15,610	No	$0	$11,708	$1,171	$12,878	$733,940	
32	ROOT RIVER SWCD		JIM	B	32	8/1/2007	Yes	2	180	BEEF	$67,000	No	$0	$32,300	$3,180	$35,480	$769,420	
33	PIPESTONE SWCD		DARREL	B	31	7/1/2007	Yes	3	200	DAIRY	$50,000	Yes	$25,000	$12,500	$1,250	$13,750	$783,170	
34	CARLTON SWCD		LINDA	B	31	10/1/2007	Yes	3	96	BEEF	$86,500	Yes	$43,250	$21,625	$2,163	$23,788	$806,958	
35	GOODHUE SWCD		JEFF	B	28	8/1/2007	No	3	141	DAIRY	$112,500	No	$0	$50,000	$0	$50,000	$856,958	
36	RICE SWCD		PETE	B	28	6/1/2008	Yes	3	45	BEEF	$29,830	No	$0	$22,375	$2,237	$24,612	$881,570	
37	ROOT RIVER SWCD		DAVID	B	28	9/1/2007	Yes	2	36	BEEF	$21,141	No	$0	$15,855	$1,585	$17,440	$899,010	
38	WINONA SWCD		ROY	B	28	7/1/2007	Yes	3	82	DAIRY	$12,035	No	$0	$9,026	$903	$9,929	$908,939	
39	ROCK SWCD		KURT	B	28	9/1/2007	Yes	3	285	BEEF	$28,000	No	$0	$21,000	$2,100	$23,100	$932,039	
40	FILLMORE SWCD		GLEN	B	26	5/1/2008	Yes	3	150	BEEF	$30,000	Yes	$11,250	$11,250	$1,125	$12,375	$944,414	
41	MILLE LACS SWCD		DUANE	B	24	7/1/2007	Yes	2	112	DAIRY	$185,298	Yes	$92,649	$46,325	$3,675	$50,000	$944,414	Not impaired
42	STEARNS SWCD		TF	A	22	10/1/2007	Yes	2	216	DAIRY	$55,000	Yes	$5,617	$8,446	$845	$9,291	$953,705	
43	ROOT RIVER SWCD		JOHN	B	22	9/1/2007	Yes	2	40	BEEF	$70,945	No	$0	$45,500	$4,500	$50,000	$1,003,705	
44	FILLMORE SWCD		JAMES	D	20	9/1/2007	Yes	3	150	BEEF	$28,500	No	$0	$21,375	$2,137	$23,512	$1,027,217	
45	ROCK SWCD		GEORGE	B	16	9/1/2007	Yes	3	267	HOGS	$84,914	No	$0	$45,000	$4,500	$49,500	$1,076,717	
46	STEARNS SWCD		JEFF	A	3	10/1/2007	Yes	2	240	DAIRY	$18,750	Yes	$18,877	$22,373	$2,237	$24,610	$1,101,327	
47	WINONA SWCD		STEVE	B	0	7/1/2007	Yes	3	258	DAIRY	$15,000	No	$0	$11,250	$1,125	$12,375	$1,113,702	Proposed Funding Recommendation

0=high priority unfunded projects

FISCAL YEAR 2008 FWQM GRANT APPLICATIONS REPORT
By Ranking Criteria
Total Project Cost: $6,902,560
Total FWQM Requested $2,403,995
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Total Funding Available $1.5M

	Applicant	Stewardship Plan	LANDOWNER	RIPARIAN	FLEVAL RATING	PRACTICE STATE DATE	COMPLETE INVENTORY	LEVEL	ANIMAL UNITS	ANIMAN SPECIES	TOTAL PROJECT COST	EQIP FUNDS REQUESTED	EQIP AMOUNT	FWQM FUNDS REQUESTED	T/A FUNDS REQUESTED	TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED	CRITERIA ELIGIBLE CUMULATIVE	Out
48	STEARNS SWCD	Yes	ROBERT		52	10/1/2007	Yes	2	133	DAIRY	$82,730	Yes	$70,000	$35,000	$3,500	$38,500	$1,152,202	
49	STEARNS SWCD	Yes	FRED		49	10/1/2007	Yes	2	161	DAIRY	$34,800	Yes	$13,920	$12,180	$1,218	$13,398	$1,140,989	Not impaired
50	STEARNS SWCD	Yes	AA		30	10/1/2007	Yes	2	267	DAIRY	$140,000	Yes	$41,365	$20,683	$2,068	$22,751	$1,163,740	
51	WINONA SWCD		TOM		70	7/1/2007	Yes	3	542	BEEF	$169,345	Yes	$109,100	$47,500	$2,500	$50,000	$1,163,740	Not impaired
52	STEARNS SWCD		RANDY		66	10/1/2007	Yes	2	61	DAIRY	$17,500	No	$0	$43,125	$4,313	$47,438	$1,211,178	
53	STEARNS SWCD		JOSEPH		65	10/1/2007	Yes	2	15	SWINE	$30,000	Yes	$40,685	$20,343	$2,034	$22,377	$1,211,178	Not impaired
54	PIPESTONE SWCD		MIK		64	7/1/2007	Yes	3	263	DAIRY	$78,720	Yes	$39,360	$19,680	$1,968	$21,648	$1,211,178	Not impaired
55	STEARNS SWCD		JAMES		58	10/1/2007	Yes	2	134	DAIRY	$126,500	Yes	$16,250	$12,250	$1,225	$13,475	$1,211,178	Not impaired
56	STEARNS SWCD		STEVE		53	10/1/2007	No	2	400	BEEF	$65,000	Yes	$2,605	$3,395	$340	$3,735	$1,211,178	Not impaired
57	FILLMORE SWCD		JOHN		52	6/1/2008	Yes	3	250	BEEF	$66,000	Yes	$31,020	$30,480	$3,048	$33,528	$1,244,706	
58	WINONA SWCD		TERRY		50	7/1/2007	Yes	3	204	DAIRY	$103,500	Yes	$23,813	$19,687	$1,969	$21,656	$1,266,362	
59	WINONA SWCD		STEPHAN		48	7/1/2007	Yes	3	420	DAIRY	$235,939	Yes	$8,840	$12,723	$1,272	$13,995	$1,266,362	Not impaired
60	STEARNS SWCD		JOE		44	10/1/2007	Yes	2	998	DAIRY	$40,000	Yes	$36,625	$19,625	$1,963	$21,588	$1,266,362	Not impaired
61	STEARNS SWCD		JOE		43	10/1/2007	Yes	2	149	DAIRY	$54,000	No	$0	$30,000	$3,000	$33,000	$1,299,362	
62	LINCOLN SWCD		GENE		41	8/15/2007	Yes	3	494	BEEF	$310,000	Yes	$25,000	$16,250	$1,625	$17,875	$1,299,362	Not impaired
63	STEARNS SWCD		GERARD		40	10/1/2007	Yes	2	156	DAIRY	$70,000	Yes	$9,993	$8,752	$875	$9,627	$1,299,362	Not impaired
64	STEARNS SWCD		ROGER		40	10/1/2007	Yes	2	108	DAIRY	$92,374	Yes	$10,127	$8,623	$862	$9,485	$1,308,847	
65	FARIBAULT SWCD		DON		39	7/1/2007	Yes	3	144	BEEF	$35,800	Yes	$21,221	$20,967	$2,097	$23,064	$1,331,911	
66	STEARNS SWCD		JAMES		35	10/1/2007	Yes	2	92	DAIRY	$50,000	Yes	$6,200	$21,925	$2,193	$24,118	$1,356,029	
67	STEARNS SWCD		CHRISTINA		35	10/1/2007	Yes	2	73	BEEF	$41,250	Yes	$39,606	$20,394	$2,039	$22,433	$1,356,029	Not impaired
68	STEARNS SWCD		RICHARD		33	10/1/2007	Yes	2	154	DAIRY	$37,500	Yes	$15,228	$15,710	$1,571	$17,281	$1,373,310	
69	WABASHA SWCD		KEVIN		31	7/1/2007	Yes	3	400	BEEF	$118,490	Yes	$16,837	$20,663	$2,066	$22,729	$1,373,310	Not impaired
70	STEARNS SWCD		THOMAS		28	10/1/2007	Yes	2	82	DAIRY	$80,000	Yes	$35,000	$17,500	$1,750	$19,250	$1,392,560	
71	YELLOW MEDICINE SWCD		PAUL		28	7/1/2007	No	2	873	BEEF	$330,000	Yes	$46,187	$23,094	$2,309	$25,403	$1,392,560	Not impaired
72	CHISAGO SWCD		JIM		27	8/1/2007	Yes	2	100	SWINE	$20,000	Yes	$11,000	$19,000	$1,900	$20,900	$1,413,460	
73	STEARNS SWCD		DOUG		27	10/1/2007	Yes	2	185	BEEF	$56,250	Yes	$27,000	$13,500	$1,350	$14,850	$1,428,310	
74	KANABEC SWCD		PETER		21	9/1/2007	No	0	144	DAIRY	$22,770	Yes	$12,400	$10,100	$1,010	$11,110	$1,439,420	
75	MILLE LACS SWCD		DAVID		21	8/1/2007	Yes	2	60	DAIRY	$32,197	Yes	$54,472	$40,403	$4,040	$44,443	$1,439,420	Not impaired
76	STEARNS SWCD		LAWRENCE		21	10/1/2007	Yes	2	68	DAIRY	$25,000	Yes	$27,662	$21,088	$2,109	$23,197	$1,462,617	
77	STEARNS SWCD		ARNOLD		20	10/1/2007	Yes	2	70	DAIRY	$25,000	Yes	$3,465	$9,660	$966	$10,626	$1,473,243	
78	STEARNS SWCD		THERESA		18	10/1/2007	Yes	2	77	DAIRY	$55,000	Yes	$67,100	$48,000	$2,000	$50,000	$1,523,243	
79	STEARNS SWCD		ALVIN		18	10/1/2007	Yes	2	150	BEEF	$40,000	Yes	$15,375	$8,773	$877	$9,650	$1,532,893	
80	STEARNS SWCD		MARK		11	10/1/2007	Yes	2	141	DAIRY	$75,000	Yes	$148,434	$28,520	$2,852	$31,372	$1,564,265	
81	STEARNS SWCD		MICHAEL		11	10/1/2007	Yes	2	92	DAIRY	$28,750	No	$0	$17,077	$1,707	$18,784	$1,583,049	
82	STEARNS SWCD		DAVID		8	10/1/2007	Yes	2	136	DAIRY	$58,000	No	$0	$45,500	$4,550	$50,050	$1,633,099	
83	STEARNS SWCD		DARRELL		4	10/1/2007	Yes	2	158	DAIRY	$82,000	Yes	$11,825	$45,500	$4,550	$50,050	$1,683,149	
84	STEARNS SWCD		MARTIN		3	10/1/2007	Yes	2	50	DAIRY	$8,000	No		$45,500	$4,500	$50,000	$1,683,149	Not impaired
85	STEARNS SWCD		KEVIN		3	10/1/2007	Yes	2	180	SWINE	$38,000	No	$0	$45,500	$4,500	$50,000	$1,733,149	
86	STEARNS SWCD		JEROME		2	10/1/2007	Yes	2	66	DAIRY	$81,370	Yes	$22,903	$3,947	$395	$4,342	$1,737,491	
87	WASECA SWCD		RICHARD		0	10/7/2007	Yes	3	300	DAIRY	$57,500	No	$0	$15,000	$1,500	$16,500	$1,737,491	

Project #47 is for milk house waste

***Riparian Locations**

A=within 1,000 feet of a lake 3
B=within 300 feet of a stream 33
C=within 100 year floodplan 0
D=sinkhold catchment area 1
E=Drinking water Supply Management Area 1

Application period March 1, 2007 through April 17, 2007

Total FWQM request is for all applications submitted



Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board

Plan of Work
July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008 (FY08)

Contact Information:
Shannon J. Fisher, Executive Director
Minnesota River Board
184 Trafton Science Center South
Mankato, MN 56001
(507) 389-5491;
shannon.fisher@mnsu.edu
www.minnesotariver.org

MRB Approved on 7-16-07
Submitted by _____
Shannon Fisher, Executive Director

JUL 27 2007

Minnesota River Board – A Re-Introduction

In 1992, the Minnesota River Citizen's Advisory Committee (MRCAC) was formed. In 1994, the MRCAC released the report, *Working Together: A Plan to Restore the Minnesota River.* The report detailed ten recommendations (listed below) that the participants believed would improve Minnesota River health.

- restore floodplains and riparian areas,
- restore wetlands,
- manage drainage ditches and storm sewers as tributaries,
- improve land management practices,
- monitor water quality throughout the Minnesota River Basin,
- establish a "Minnesota River Commission" to oversee the clean-up effort,
- establish local joint powers agreements,
- improve technical assistance to local governments,
- engage the general public, and
- enforce existing laws

As a result of the MRCAC recommendations and increasing Minnesota River awareness, the Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board (hereafter referred to as MRB) was forged in 1996 (*Minnesota Statute 103F.378*). The MRB was founded on

- the desire to collaborate and leverage in a judiciously appropriate manner and
- the desire to assume a leadership role and be more pro-active in the coordination of efforts at the local level.

Mission and Vision

The MRB is founded on and conducts its business based on the principles and objectives outlined in our Mission and Vision statements.

MRB Mission Statement

"To provide leadership, build partnerships, and support efforts to improve and protect water quality in the Minnesota River Basin"

MRB Vision Statement

"Conservation and restoration of Minnesota River resources and our way of life can only be achieved by a cooperative effort between citizens and all levels of government and business."

Organizational Structure

The MRB structure (Figure 1) has been in place since 2003 and remains a desirable and productive organizational profile. This is a good model and should be preserved. The relationship between the Water Resources Center and the MRB was notably highlighted by several legislators during the last session – cited as a great partnership that facilitates stability and progress for both entities. Significant dedication to re-establishing relations and partnerships with the watershed programs needs to and will occur over the next few years.

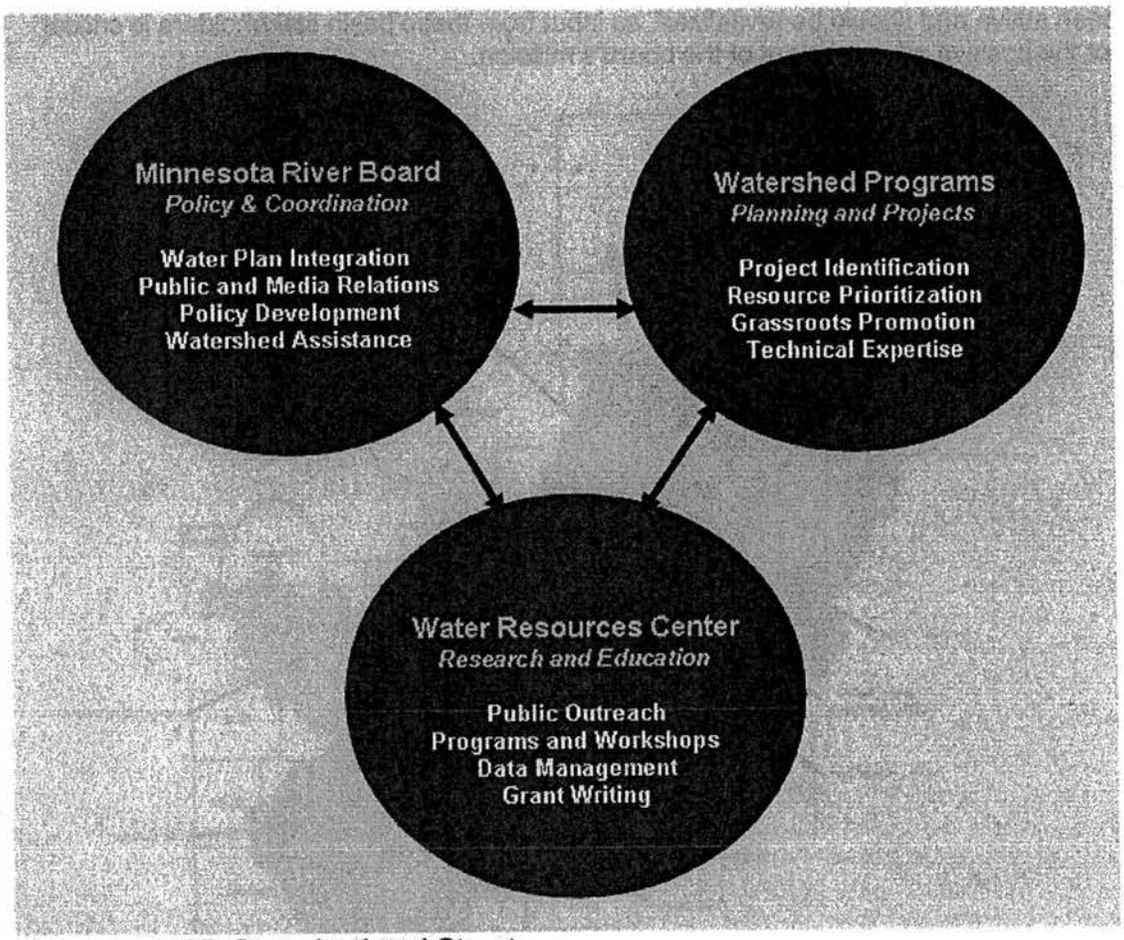


Figure 1. MRB Organizational Structure

Membership

The MRB is a joint powers board charged with coordinating efforts to improve water quality in the 38-county Minnesota River Basin and providing reporting for and assistance to 12 major watersheds (Figure 2). Upon acceptance of the joint powers agreement, each county with dues paid in full shall have one county commissioner as its delegate to the board and one county commissioner as an alternate. A technical and citizen advisory committee was established to advise the board and consisted of a technical representative from each participating county in the basin and citizens who are not county employees, but who have an interest in agriculture, conservation, sporting activities, and other relevant areas as determined by the board. This committee has not been active and should be revitalized, as input from these basin stakeholders is critical for the positive advancement of the board's mission.

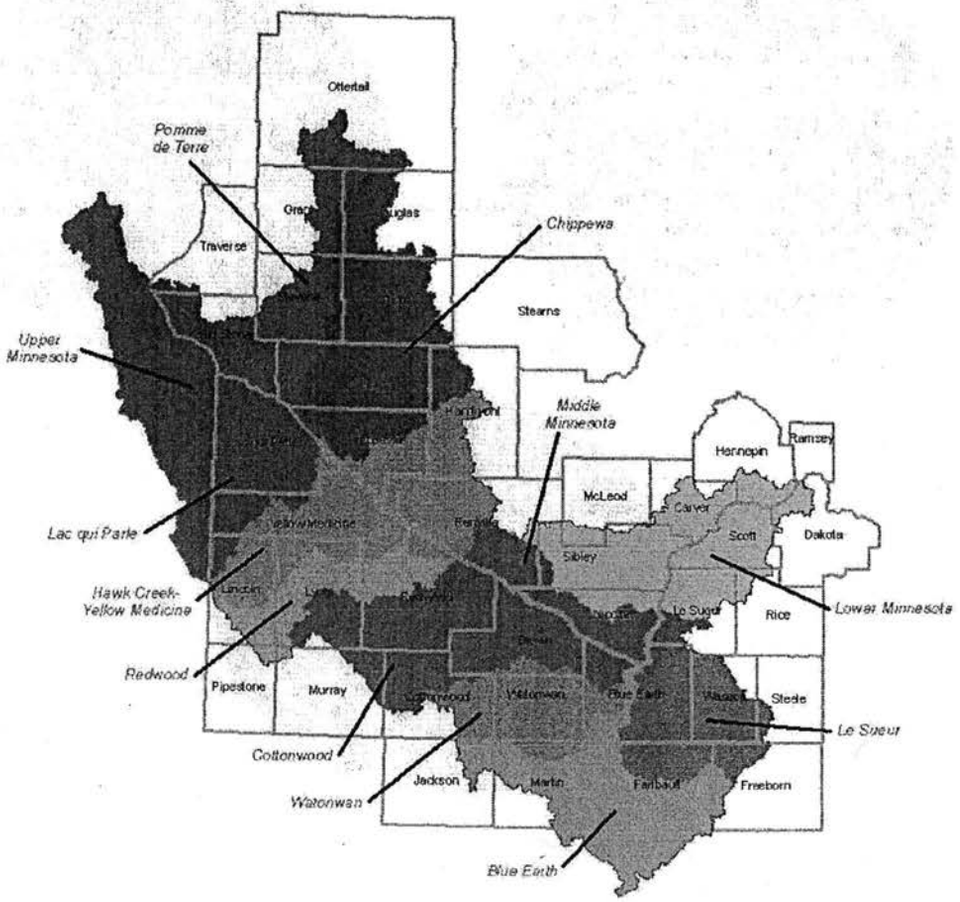


Figure 2. Figure denotes the Minnesota River basin made up of 12 major watersheds and 38 counties associated with the Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board.

FY08 Plan of Work

In 2006, the MRB completed a "Procedures Guide and Strategic Plan (2006-2010)" to guide our work (http://www.minnesotariver.org). As a result of the plan, a substantive review of our statutory obligations was completed. For each component, the plan identifies several strategies for improvement. The following plan of work is detailed via a series of goal statements that highlight specific actions to be accomplished in FY08. *For each component, progress measures are listed and targeted completion dates are noted in parentheses.*

1) **Complete MRB fiscal adjustments, including MRB fiscal year procedures and budgets, as a result of additional legislative funding.**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Secure MRB approval to adjust start of fiscal year from January 1 to July 1 of each year (July 2007),
        ii. Extend calendar year 2007 budget to end June 30, 2008, rather than December 31, 2007 (July 2007),
        iii. Secure an audit for activities prior to July 1, 2007 (October 2007), and
        iv. Prepare, obtain MRB and BWSR approval for, and implement a new work plan and budget for FY08 (August 2007).

2) **Develop a position description for and hire a full-time staff member for the MRB to assist in the implementation of this work plan.**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Develop position description (July 2007),
        ii. Obtain MRB and State of MN approval for the position description and announce the position opening (September 2007),
        iii. Convene search/interview committee (September 2007), and
        iv. Complete interviews for and hire staff member (November 2007).

3) **Develop a process to measure and report the results of projects in the 12 major watersheds within the Minnesota River basin and complete the first report (2007 legislation requirement).**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Contact representatives from agencies, watersheds, and counties to discuss and recommend a reporting plan and its components, including funding acquired, projects implemented, potential water quality improvements, and future needs (January 2008),
        ii. Develop a set of measures to be used to gauge progress (January 2008),
        iii. Complete a draft report and circulate to those involved in 3.a.i above (April 2008), and
        iv. Finalize and submit a progress report to the legislature, governor, basin stakeholders, and other interested parties (June 2008)

4) **To help facilitate #3 above, compile water and strategic plans for counties and watersheds in the Minnesota River basin and summarize to identify common themes, priorities, and missions.**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Provide a county water plan summation report to the MRB and other interested stakeholders (December 2007), and
        ii. Facilitate #3 above by developing a draft set of suggested parameters to use to measure basin-wide success in county water planning based on product 4.a.i (March 2008).

5) **Contact and visit with each of the non-participating counties (non-members) and present the results of #11.**
    a. Progress Measures
        i. Complete a visit with each non-member county board and water planning staff to present benefits information and determine the needs of non-member counties to fully evaluate modes of change that could increase the potential for each to return to the board (January 2008) and
        ii. Bring at least one county back to the MRB from non-member status to full-member status (June 2008).

6) **Convene a multi-disciplinary task force to update the Minnesota River basin water plan that includes clean up goals, milestones, and measures of success that are consistent with the results of #4 above.**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Conduct a meeting (possibly in conjunction with 3.a.i above) and MPCA to discuss the potential for MRB involvement in a new Minnesota River Basin plan (December 2007) and
        ii. If deemed appropriate for the MRB to lead such a plan, initiate development of and complete a draft plan (June 2008).

7) **Evaluate MRB relations with and modes of assistance to basin partners, including the major watersheds, counties, NGOs, South Dakota, Iowa, and the citizens.**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Complete at least one visit with each member county board, each of the major watersheds, and as many other stakeholders groups as possible (March 2008) and
        ii. Prepare a report on our evaluation for the MRB and various basin partners and develop an outreach plan, with detailed programming options, to better serve the basin water quality planners and watershed staff (June 2008).

8) **Complete at least two executive committee planning sessions.**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Complete a mid-term progress planning session to go over strategies for the upcoming year with new and old officers (December 2007) and
        ii. Complete an end-of-year planning session to finalize the upcoming year's work plan and budget (April 2007)

9) **Develop and implement an MRB communications process.**
   a. Progress Measures:
      i. Evaluate communication options, such as newsletters, email lists, press releases, etc…and determine the best course of action to pursue (January 2008),
      ii. Determine items to be included in regular communications (January 2008), and
      iii. Implement action described in 9.a.i (June 2008).

10) **Re-initiate formal annual reports that will be provided to state agencies (including BWSR), basin partners and legislators, and the Governor.**
   a. Progress Measures:
      i. Evaluate the potential combination of this task with #3 above (January 2008) and
      ii. Complete an annual report the reviews and highlights MRB programs, progress, and use of public funding (June 2008).

11) **Develop a presentation that highlights the activities of the MRB and the benefits and values of MRB membership, to include, but not be limited to reduced cost/complimentary professional development opportunities, technical services, grant writing, and meeting facilitation.**
   a. Progress Measures:
      i. Collect information from participating counties about services, benefits, and values they attribute to being part of the MRB (October 2007),
      ii. Develop a "package" of services and perks available to MRB members (November 2007), and
      iii. Prepare a presentation and/or other media products to help convey the message about MRB membership values to non-member counties and other interested parties (December 2007).

12) **Reconvene the technical and citizen advisory committee (or other input capacity), either as one unit or separately, to advise the Minnesota River Board about strategic directions for work, topics of need, and modes in which the MRB can be of assistance and provide services for the watershed to lobby legislators and other policy makers as needed. Serve as a sounding board for water quality and watershed policy issues.**
   a. Progress Measures:
      i. Establish a budget to help cover the costs of participant travel and meetings expenses, or other communication needs, to collect information as needed (August 2007),
      ii. Establish a committee of technical representatives and citizen representatives whose input is critically important to the future work of the MRB and develop a plan on how to gather input (November 2007),
      iii. Conduct at least one technical and citizen advisory committee, or other formal input gathering process (December 2007), and
      iv. Provide a set of recommendations and tasks to the MRB based on the input from the technical and citizen advisory committee (January 2008).

13) **Develop MRB informational materials that can be made available for various Minnesota River events and utilize these products as part of a visibility plan that will identify and propose strategies to increase the awareness of the MRB and its programs.**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Develop an MRB visibility plan (October 2007),
        ii. Develop a brochure that highlights the MRB mission, programs, and strategic objectives (October 2008),
        iii. Develop a high quality display for use at county fairs, basin events, etc.... (January 2008), and
        iv. Begin implementation of visibility plan components (June 2008).

14) **Continue the current MRB Awards and expand the awards program to demonstrate support for water-related education in the basin.**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Develop and implement an awards/incentive program for junior and senior high students from the basin participating in sanctioned science fair programs (January 2008),
        ii. Develop and implement an undergraduate scholarship program for students in the basin studying water quality issues (February 2008), and
        iii. Award two deserving participants from the basin with the "Confluence" and "Tributary" awards (May 2008).

15) **Improve the MRB role in educational and research-based outreach.**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Complete at least one major and one minor workshop, training event, or conference based on the plan developed as part of #6 and #7 above (June 2008).

16) **Prepare a calendar that establishes activities for the MRB on an annual basis.**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Development of calendar that sets the upcoming calendar year's meeting times and locations, officer nominations and installments, budget preparation, staff reviews, etc.... (November 2007).

17) **Serve as a resource for fiscal information dissemination, application assistance, and grant preparation to basin partners regarding Clean Water Legacy Act and other potential funding opportunities.**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Hold at least one information meeting to facilitate the dissemination of grant information associated with Clean Water Legacy Funding and other programs supported by BWSR, MPCA, and other agencies/funding sources (October 2007) and
        ii. Provide grant preparation assistance to at least 2 collaborations that benefit MRB members and/or local partners (June 2008).

18) **Review Minnesota Statute 103F.378 and determine if changes are needed during the 2008 session.**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Evaluate the need for statutory change based on input from MRB members and partners (November 2007) and
        ii. If changes are deemed necessary, work with basin legislative leaders to submit bills to make suggested modifications on the 2008 session (January 2008).

19) **Secure new "projects" that focus on broad watershed research, outreach, and or communications that support local projects and will bring in external funding to the Minnesota River Board.**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Write at least one successful grant and/or contract that will bring external funds into the MRB program or bring additional funds into the Water Resources Center that can be used to offset expenses that would otherwise be accrued by the MRB (June 2008).

20) **Identify new partnerships and bring people together to facilitate coordinated funding applications and continue to promote and enhance our existing project partnerships.**
    a. Progress Measures:
        i. Meet with the Middle Minnesota River team and prepare at least one additional grant application, which also helps satisfy 17.1.ii (September 2007),
        ii. Provide a minimum of 2 presentations on behalf of the BMP Challenge and Nutrient Trading AgFlex/CIG project and sign up at least 100 acres in the BMP Challenge program (May 2008),
        iii. Meet at least twice with the Lake Crystal Clean Water Partnership and determine if any additional MRB assistance is needed at this time (May 2008), and
        iv. Identify at least one new partnership and provide services in the form of grant application assistance, facilitation, and or other technical services (June 2008).

Proposed MRB FY 08 Budget

Line Items (details listed below budget)	Funding Source Used for Line Item Expense: State of MN	County Dues*	External**	Totals
Available Funds	$ 100,000	$ 29,900	$ 20,000	$ 149,900
Expenses				
0.5 FTE Executive Director	$ 13,000	$ 15,000	$ 10,100	$ 38,100
0.2 FTE Assistant Director	$ 1,000	$ 1,100	$ 0	$ 2,100
1.0 FTE Watershed Specialist	$ 33,100	$ 0	$ 0	$ 33,100
Student Worker	$ 0	$ 0	$ 2,100	$ 2,100
Fringe Benefits (All Staff)	$ 16,900	$ 5,800	$ 3,700	$ 26,400
MCIT Insurance	$ 0	$ 2,400	$ 0	$ 2,400
MRB Meeting Expenses	$ 0	$ 750	$ 0	$ 750
Communications	$ 2,700	$ 1,000	$ 0	$ 3,700
Travel	$ 9,700	$ 1,450	$ 250	$ 11,400
Printing	$ 3,500	$ 0	$ 950	$ 4,450
Awards Program	$ 600	$ 400	$ 0	$ 1,000
Audit	$ 1,800	$ 1,000	$ 0	$ 2,800
Supplies/Equipment	$ 2,500	$ 0	$ 600	$ 3,100
Marketing/Promotions	$ 7,200	$ 300	$ 400	$ 7,900
Outreach/Programming	$ 8,000	$ 700	$ 1,900	$ 10,600
Total Expenditures	$ 100,000	$ 29,900	$ 20,000	$ 149,900

*County Dues for calendar year 2007 are being stretched for 6 additional months (January 2007 to June 2008) to get the county dues contributions into a state fiscal year cycle, thus county contributions are slightly less than projected on the original budget. County 2008 dues will then be applied to the July 2008 to June 2009 fiscal cycle.

**External funds include estimates on grants/contracts for projects and other paid services provided by the MRB/WRC.

Executive Director: 50% of the Executive Director Fisher's annual salary

Assistant Director: 20% of Assistant Director Wiley's annual salary

Watershed Specialist: 100% of watershed specialist salary (10/07 - 6/08) yet to be hired

Student Worker: 224 hours of student worker assistance

Fringe Benefits: Estimated Health Insurance, Required Leave, FICA, etc.... for all MRB staff listed above

MCIT Insurance: Estimated Annual Insurance Payment

MRB Meeting Expenses: Expenses for 6 MRB business meetings ($600, facilities and refreshments), 2 executive committee planning sessions ($150)

Communications: Postage ($2,125), cellular phone and data services ($1,575)

Travel: Designated Vehicle for MRB use (8/07 – 6/08; $5,450), Guest Travel to various MRB Meetings ($4,050); staff and executive committee per diem and personal mileage ($1,900)

Printing: Preparation of various reports, newsletters, stationary needs, in-house copy needs ($4,450)

Awards Program: "Tributary" and "Confluence" Awards ($350), MRB Scholarship ($350), Science Fair Awards ($300)

Audit: Estimated cost for an audit on financial records leading up to July 1, 2007

Supplies/Equipment: Office furniture for watershed specialist ($700), Palm Treo and two cell phones ($400), computer for watershed specialist ($1,300), office supplies and items for meetings ($700)

Marketing/Promotions: Advertising for new position ($1,800), Brochure development and printing ($1,000), Display development and construction ($2,000), Marketing/visibility implementation ($3,100)

Outreach/Programming: Technical/citizen advisory committee meetings ($2,200), workshop, trainings, and conferences on grants/funding opportunities, ongoing research, program updates, etc... ($8,400)

BOARD RESOLUTION 07-74

Whereas, the Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board was granted $100,000 of General Funds in FY 2008 from the 2007 Minnesota Legislature;

And whereas, the Minnesota River Board has developed and adopted an Annual Plan of Work for FY08 on July 16, 2007;

And whereas, the BWSR staff have completed its review of the Plan;

Now therefore be it resolved, the Board of Water and Soil Resources enter into a grant agreement with the Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board for these funds.

Randy Kramer, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

8/23/2007
Date

MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENT

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency



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Summer 2007

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MINNESOTA
ENVIRONMENT

Information and solutions for improving Minnesota's air, land and water

Volume 7, Number 1

The mission of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is to work with Minnesotans to protect, conserve and improve our environment and enhance our quality of life

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Barbara Skoglund, St. Paul Office

For current events and up-to-date information about MPCA services and programs, visit the Web site at **www.pca.state.mn.us**.

For a free subscription to *Minnesota Environment,* contact Barbara Hannegan at (651) 296-6619 or **barb.hannegan@pca.state.mn.us**.

For other questions or comments, contact editor Rebecca Helgesen, MPCA, 520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155, (651) 282-6244, toll-free/TDD (800) 657-3864, or e-mail **becky.helgesen@pca.state.mn.us**.

This publication can be made available in other formats, including Braille, large type, computer disk or audiotape, upon request.

Minnesota Environment is printed with soy-based ink on New Leaf Reincarnation 80# matte text, 100 percent recycled paper with 50 percent postconsumer content made with a chlorine-free process.

From the Editor

In 1969, two years after the creation of the MPCA, a booklet was published. It was called *Your Minnesota Pollution Control Agency*, and its opening page still resonates today.

"Just as owning a broom so you can clean up after yourself is part of the cost of owning your home, so pollution control is part of the cost of living, part of the cost of doing business and part of the cost of government. ... [The MPCA uses] ... the same sort of judgement you make when you choose between a broom and a vacuum cleaner for your home. ... The role of the MPCA is also one of teaching. The staff ... tries to teach individuals, industries and municipalities how to do the best job of pollution control at the least cost. They do this impartially, just as consumer organizations report impartially the cost versus quality of brooms and vacuum cleaners."

This year we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the creation of the MPCA. Some environmental problems haven't changed (wastewater treatment, air pollution) and some are newly recognized (climate change, airborne mercury). Our purpose remains the same, though: to help keep our air, land and water clean and safe.

Our mission today incorporates different strategies than we used 40 years ago. In 2007, partnerships are key to environmental protection — partnerships with industry, municipalities and even individuals. The time is past when the MPCA alone can take responsibility for our environment. We need all Minnesotans to be our partners, and we're not afraid to ask.

The MPCA still handles "typical" pollution issues, but we have conservation goals, now, too. We urge Minnesotans to buy green products and services, conserve resources and act on their environmental knowledge. We urge you to learn ways you can help keep our air, land and water clean. With you — Minnesota farmers, plant operators, business owners, environmentalists, citizens and students — we can cope successfully with the complex issues that face us today.

To learn more about your role in environmental protection, go to the MPCA Web site at **www.pca.state.mn.us**. We look forward to being your partner for another 40 years!

Sincerely,

Rebecca Helgesen

Rebecca Helgesen

Correction: In the previous issue of *Minnesota Environment*, the *Emergency!* issue, the article "Lust is the Word" (p. 10) erred in describing a gasoline leak in 2005 at a gas station in Minnetonka. The article incorrectly named the station, and also said inaccurately that residential drinking water wells in the contamination area were sealed.

A petroleum leak was reported to the MPCA in August of 1994, not 2005, at an Oasis Market gasoline station. We incorrectly identified the station as a Fina station (it was not a Fina station at the time of the leak).

During the course of the assessment, sealing residential wells was considered but not done. Today, some residential wells are monitored, though all homes in the neighborhood are connected to city water.

— Editor

Cover Photo: Concerned citizen George Serbesku shows Governor Karl Rolvaag dead ducks resulting from the disastrous oil spill on the Mississippi River (April 2, 1963).
Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul Dispatch-Pioneer Press News Negative Collection

Minnesota's environmental movement... ahead of the federal curve

In 1967, before the federal Clean Water Act or Clean Air Act and three years before the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency was established, the Minnesota Legislature created the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

What led to the MPCA's creation? According to Sir Isaac Newton, for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction. In this case, many actions over a long period built enough momentum for development of a state agency devoted to controlling pollution.

During the early years of the state, communities and businesses routinely dumped raw wastes into streams and lakes. In 1885, to control diseases spread through poor quality drinking water, the first legislation was passed to prevent pollution of rivers and other sources of drinking water. Responsibility for polluted state waters rested with the State Board of Health — later the Department of Health — for many years.

In 1945, because too many communities dumped raw sewage into lakes and rivers, the legislature authorized a new state Water Pollution Control Commission. One of the Commission's jobs was to encourage communities to build wastewater treatment plants to stop the flow of raw sewage into rivers and lakes.

In 1962, Rachel Carson's book *Silent Spring* outlined the dangers of pesticides such as DDT. The book raised the public's consciousness of the environment, prompted public outcry and, some say, set the national environmental movement in motion. Environmentalists demanded not only protection of the natural world, but new regulations and punishment for those who broke them. As the environmental movement gained attention, national leaders, including presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson, added environmental issues to their political agendas and legislative programs.



Duck rescuer Mrs. Serbesku holds a survivor of the 1962-63 oil disaster.
Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul Dispatch-Pioneer Press News Negative Collection.

Close to home, 1962 was significant in Minnesota. Late that year, Minnesota witnessed two of the most catastrophic oils spills in the history of the state.

In December, sub-zero temperatures caused a pipeline break at Richards Oil in Savage. The ruptured line released a million gallons of oil into the Mississippi River. Shortly thereafter, a storage tank at the Honeymead plant in Mankato burst, releasing more than three million gallons of soy oil onto the ice of the Minnesota River. Oil from both spills slowly traveled downstream.

With the spring thaw, the tragic results were evident. Although Governor Rolvaag activated the the National Guard to coordinate cleanup (a project rather quaintly known as Operation Save-a-Duck), and citizens volunteered to rescue and rehabilitate oil-covered ducks, it was not enough. The survival rate of oil-coated ducks was dismally small. Despite everyone's best efforts, more than 10,000 waterfowl and countless beaver, muskrats, turtles and fish died.

Because of this and other major environmental incidents during the next few years, the Minnesota Legislature finally created the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in 1967. Its mission was to protect the air, land and waters of the state.

Minnesota's environmental timeline

1800s
Garbage, sewage, sawdust and industrial waste are dumped directly into rivers, impeding boat navigation and creating epidemics.

1872
Minnesota Board of Health established.

1885
First state pollution legislation.

1945
Water Pollution Control Commission established.

Dec. 7, 1962
Pipeline breaks in Savage, sending more than one million gallons of oil onto Minnesota River ice.

Jan. 23, 1963
Soybean oil storage tank collapses in Mankato, releasing three million gallons of oil onto the ice of the Blue Earth and Minnesota Rivers.

Spring, 1963
More than 10,000 ducks and more other wildlife die as the oil-laden ice melts into the rivers.

1967
MPCA established by the legislature, taking over authority from Water Pollution Control Commission and with added air quality and solid waste authority.

1969
State water and air quality standards adopted.



George Serbesku holds up two dead beavers, victims of the oil spill. *Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul Dispatch-Pioneer Press News Negative Collection.*

Minnesota's air, land and water are indeed cleaner today than they were 40 years ago, despite a population that grew from 3.5 million to 5.1 million, and corresponding growth in industry and transportation. The Twin Cities is one of only three major metropolitan areas in the country that today meets all federal ambient air quality standards. Minnesota is one of only 11 states to meet those same stringent standards statewide. In addition, compared to 1990 levels, mercury emissions from Minnesota sources have been reduced by 70 percent.

In 1967, we were ahead of the federal curve in recognizing and taking action to safeguard our environment. We're still ahead of the federal curve and continue to maintain our reputation as a national model of environmental protection.

— Nancy Miller



MPCA photo

MPCA Citizens' Board

In 1967, when the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency replaced the State Water Pollution Control Commission, the entire agency consisted of seven citizens appointed by the governor. In order to deal with the complex environmental issues, professional staff were soon hired.

The agency has grown considerably since then to include the state's leading environmental scientists and engineers, and a variety of other experts, inspectors and permit writers.

But the concept of the Citizens' Board remains intact.

The Board sets the MPCA's policy and direction, and takes action on significant or controversial issues. Under the authority of delegations from the Board, the commissioner of the MPCA directs the day-to-day work of approximately 800 staff.

The Citizens' Board now consists of the commissioner and eight members appointed by the governor to four-year, staggered terms. One member must be knowledgeable in the field of agriculture, and one member must be a representative of organized labor.

The agency's commissioner, currently Brad Moore, serves as the Board's chairperson at monthly meetings. Meetings are open to the public. The Citizens' Board schedule can be found at: **www.pca.state.mn.us/about/board/bdschedule.html**.

— Dan McLean







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In the bad old days ...

Many older folks remember the days when smoke billowed out of the smokestacks that lined the Minneapolis and St. Paul skylines. Both large and small businesses produced unregulated air and water pollution 40 years ago, and this became the major focus of the newly-created MPCA. However, even at the time, agency staff recognized that the practices of individuals also added significant contributions, particularly in terms of waste disposal and vehicle emissions.

It was sadly routine 40 years ago for home and business owners to dump garbage and unwanted items in woods, wetlands and ditches, leaving ugly mysteries — often headline-making and sometimes toxic — for others to clean up 20 or 30 years later. Many containers of liquid wastes broke open and leached into the groundwater that Minnesotans used for drinking.

In cities, oil, paint and other polluting liquids were regularly dumped down drains and sewers, only to end up in rivers and lakes. Hazardous waste was casually stored and disposed of without regard for the danger it could pose, either immediately or in the future. Old, dirty, industrial sites were vacated and left too polluted for any further use, blighting cities and towns.

As late as 1976, 450 communities in Minnesota still had no or inadequate treatment of sewage and industrial waste. More than 40 percent of industries in the state did not treat their own wastes but simply dumped them in rivers and lakes.

Before trash removal service was mandated, people often burned garbage in backyard burn barrels. Air quality in residential neighborhoods was occasionally smoky and unpleasant in the 1960s. Mrs. Walter Gehrke of Minneapolis wrote a letter to the *Minneapolis Star*, saying, "I would like to know what one ordinary individual can do to help herself from being gassed to death without wearing a gas mask… trash burns in our neighborhood, smoldering seven to eight hours at a time, making it impossible for us to open our windows" (*Letter to the Editor, July 21, 1965*).

"Most backyard garbage-burning has ceased in the metro area, but it still takes place in rural areas," says the MPCA's Mark Rust. While Minnesota law banned burning industrial waste, garbage, and hazardous wastes, the law still allows farmers to conduct open burning if regularly scheduled trash pickup is not reasonably available. Rust says that as a result, in 2005, more than 45 percent of rural Minnesotans — less than half of whom are actually farmers — still burned their garbage, releasing a variety of toxic fumes into the air.

After the advent of catalytic converters in the 1970s, gasoline in cars burned cleaner. Some drivers, though, removed the devices illegally, willing to trade cleaner air for what they perceived as better performance. The *Minneapolis Tribune* reported on February 26, 1967, that "Some car owners in the Twin Cities have disconnected anti-smog devices on their autos, apparently assuming the devices impair gas mileage and engine performance … one service manager received calls to disconnect the devices and had also seen devices that had been manually placed out of order."

It took years of hard work by citizens, local government, legislators and the MPCA to bring us to where we are today. Although we continue to have plenty of environmental work in front of us, we have made tremendous strides in cleaning up and preventing a great deal of pollution in Minnesota.

— Jen Groebner

Minnesota's environmental timeline (cont'd)

1970
First Minnesota air-monitoring station set up.

Congress creates U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Congress enacts the federal Clean Air Act.

First national Earth Day observed April 20.

1971-1972
Federal Water Pollution Control Act enacted.

First air pollution alert called in Twin Cities Feb. 10-11, 1972 (sulfur dioxide).

200,000 gallons of fuel spills at airport, ends up in river.

MPCA regional offices established in Duluth, Brainerd, Rochester, Marshall and Fergus Falls (later moved to Detroit Lakes).

1973-1974
Legislature passes Minnesota Environment Policy Act.

MPCA authorized by EPA to regulate hazardous waste management and some water permits.

1975-76
PCBs found in Mississippi and Minnesota River fish.

St. Paul Dispatch photo







MPCA photos

The way we were: 40 years of environmental memories

Although the focus on protecting and improving the environment remains the same as it always has been, both the work of the MPCA and the nature of pollution have changed.

"We got the obvious problems under control," says Rod Massey, 1972 hire and longtime MPCA division director. "You no longer see the disgusting streams and rivers or the black smokestacks."

The nature of Minnesota's pollution has evolved from the 1960's billowing black smokestacks, unnavigable rivers and illegal dumps to microscopic particles and toxic pollutants measured in parts per billion. In a quirk of perception, though, says emergency response supervisor and unofficial MPCA historian Stephen Lee, "the better it gets, the worse things seem."

In the mid-1960s, many Minnesota rivers and lakes were heavily polluted; almost any action was better than nothing. Some communities dumped raw sewage into waterways. Waste flowed from timber harvesting, often clogging rivers so badly that boats could no longer navigate. Harold Wiegner, who joined the MPCA in 1969, remembers dipping a small magnet into Lake Superior and pulling it out covered in iron mine tailings that had been dumped into the lake.

> "Back then, everything seemed so clear. There was a right way and a wrong way. Things are so much more complicated today ..."
>
> *Mary Palmer, MPCA*

Wiegner also recalls using old-fashioned methods to do his work. "Engineers did calculations with slide rules, and draftsmen turned sketches into designs." He also had to camp out overnight to collect water samples. Today, no one camps out, and computers help analyze water samples.

Craig Affeldt remembers when phosphates were banned from household detergents in the 1970s (about half the phosphorus in wastewater came from detergents). Too much phosphorus makes algae grow rapidly in lakes and rivers, choking out other life and causing problems for boaters and swimmers. Thirty years later, as a St. Croix River basin coordinator, he brokered an agreement between Wisconsin and Minnesota to work together to reduce phosphorus in the St. Croix.

Engineer Don Kyser joined the MPCA in 1969 as one of the first solid waste employees. "There were only five of us," remembers Kyser. Their first job was to conduct 1,500 dump surveys. "We were just finding all the dumps then." Kyser later moved to the Waste Management Board, later the Office of Environmental Assistance (OEA), where he helped communities develop solid waste policies. With the 2004 merger of OEA and the MPCA, Kyser is back where he started — but with a difference. Now he helps local governments plan recycling and resource recovery.

Technology bytes

Technological advances have changed the way most MPCA work is accomplished. Like other employers, the MPCA once had steno and typing pools. A copy of a document could be made only with carbon paper as it was being typed. Juline Holleran was hired as a legal secretary in 1977. Her assignment was to type documents related to the Reserve Mining case. "There were so many legal briefs to type!" she recalls. Peggy Hicks started in 1976 as a clerk-stenographer and used shorthand to take minutes of Citizens' Board meetings. "I remember when they finally bought me a transcribing machine!" she says. "It sure allowed me to take more accurate minutes."







MPCA photos

When Roger Karn started inspecting sewer ponds in 1972, he had to draw pictures of facilities to illustrate problems. After bringing one city into compliance by drawing a picture for the mayor, the MPCA bought him a camera. Today no inspector leaves the office without a digital camera. One inspector has a pilot's license and helps other staff take aerial photos of pollution problems.

Anne Jackson remembers filing wastewater discharge monitoring reports on handwritten index cards. When personal computers were first put into the office, Jackson admits she thought "no one is going to put computers in their homes!" Today, many businesses submit permit information electronically, and most of the environmental data collected by the MPCA is available online.

Environmental partnerships transform work

John Hensel was hired fresh out of engineering school in 1972. He's witnessed many changes in how the MPCA works. "Rather than being the 'big regulator,' we now work in partnership more," says Hensel.

Recent retiree Loren Voigt joined the MPCA in 1976 and has seen community involvement grow over time. "For many years, environmental groups weren't plentiful. Now there are several well-organized groups."

Voigt says the MPCA is doing a much better job reaching out for public opinion and is pulling more people into decision making. Rod Massey agrees. "As we try to solve more complicated problems that involve choices and complex solutions, we are bringing the public into decision making."

Mary Palmer joined the MPCA in 1973. "Back then, everything seemed so clear," she reflects. "There was a right way and a wrong way. Things are so much more complicated today, and we need everyone around the table."

Gene Erickson found his true calling when he joined the wastewater operator training program in 1974. Not only have his visual aids switched from slides in a projector to slides on a laptop, the technology used by wastewater treatment operators has evolved as well. The MPCA wastewater training program is so well regarded that in the 1990s, the EPA invited Erickson and his colleagues to travel to Moscow with them to help improve the city's wastewater treatment. Long eligible for retirement, Erickson says, "I just enjoy what I do."

"I think our biggest challenges are still ahead of us," says Gary Pulford, a solid waste manager who first joined the agency in 1970. "Our pollution problems are about the way we live, work and play just as much as they are about pipes and stacks," he continues. Pulford isn't ready to retire either. "I don't know what I'd do. You can only remodel so many times."

— Barbara Skoglund

Minnesota's environmental timeline (cont'd)

1979-1980
Legislature passes Waste Management Act.

MPCA's Hazardous Waste Strike Force identifies 25 dump sites.

1982-1983
Acid Rain Control Act passed.

State Superfund law enacted.

1985-1987
Williams Pipeline explodes in Mounds View; two die.

Legislature enacts laws to control pipelines, underground tanks, polluted runoff, household hazardous waste, and establishes Clean Water Partnership to help local governments improve lakes and streams.

Mayflies return to Mississippi River in metro after 30-year absence, indicating water quality improvement.

1988
Legislature enacts Ground Water Protection Act.

1990-1991
Congress enacts Clean Air Act Amendments.

Legislature limits mercury in batteries.

Vehicle inspection begins in Twin Cities due to violation of federal carbon monoxide standard.

Legislature enacts "spill bill" after pipeline rupture near Grand Rapids that spills 1.7 million gallons of crude oil.





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Today's environmental challenges:
less visible but more complex

"The most obvious environmental issues we face today are those that challenge the entire planet," says Bill Sierks, MPCA manager for energy and climate change. "We've gone from solving environmental problems that states and communities could tackle to problems that require a regional or global approach."

Forty years ago, government used regulations to address smokestack industries, filthy rivers and lakes, and garbage piled in town dumps. These regulations have resulted in cleaner air, water and land. Today, we face different stresses on our environment — from rising population, increased energy consumption, and changes in how we use land.

"Before, rules and technological fixes could address problems without requiring people to change their behavior," said Sierks. "Now we face problems, like air pollution from energy use, that require us to make behavior changes like how we drive."

Shifts in farming

Wayne Anderson is the agricultural liaison for the MPCA. He has worked for the MPCA for 34 years, and has seen a dramatic shift from mostly family farms to larger, more industrial ones.

"Forty years ago Minnesota had 100,000 farms with relatively few animals each. Today, we have about 30,000 feedlots, with about a thousand of those having more than a thousand animals."

Intensively-farmed animals produce a great deal of manure in one place. This must be managed if it is not to damage the environment.

"The technology of feedlots has changed, from a barn and open manure ponds where runoff was a major pollution issue to confined buildings with manure storage systems," Anderson said.

"Now, one focus is on how to get the most benefit from the manure, which is to get it onto the land in a way that minimizes odor by injecting into the soil or tilling within 24 hours of application."

Anderson added, "Producers are doing a better job at using the manure. It used to be considered waste. Now farmers are using the waste as fertilizer."

Pollution from all of us

It isn't all smokestacks and industry anymore. We are facing greater challenges now from nonpoint sources of pollution, meaning non-industrial but numerous sources, such as family yards, farms, small businesses, vehicles and recreational activities. These sources individually produce small amounts of pollution, but when added together, they make big amounts.

According to the MPCA publication, *Minnesota Environment 2005 — How are we doing?* (**www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/reports/mne-2005.html**), "Minnesota's lake and stream quality ranges from very good in some parts of the state to very poor in others. Although Minnesota has assessed only a small portion of waters, many are unhealthy for aquatic life or unsafe for swimming and other water recreation. Many lakes and streams also have advisories limiting fish consumption because of unsafe mercury levels."



The original goal of the federal Clean Water Act was to ensure "fishable and swimmable" waters for all Americans. To address the nonpoint pollution challenge, the act was amended in 1987 to deal with polluted runoff from farm fields, roads, and residential sources.

We are creating more waste

While Minnesota's recycling rates are the second highest in the country, this is outpaced by increases in how much garbage per person we throw away. Studies show that much of our garbage has more value if it is recycled or composted than if it is landfilled or incinerated. Garbage represents wasted energy and natural resources and, when disposed of, creates air and water pollution.

New challenges require new approaches

"The top environmental problem we face is climate change," said Sierks. Wayne Anderson agrees that carbon and climate change are a priority. He acknowledged that this has not been much of an issue for the agricultural community, but he says it will be.

Both Sierks and Anderson agree that a broader, more global approach will be necessary to deal with nonpoint pollution and climate change.

"I'm working on the hypoxia issue in the Gulf of Mexico. It seems strange, but a lot of pollution in the Gulf of Mexico originates in midwestern states, including Minnesota, and travels down the Mississippi. In other words, in today's world, sources of pollution may be very far from where the problems are; the same is true for mercury pollution. Today's problems are bigger, global and more complex," said Anderson.

— Laurie Gustafson

Enforcement and penalties

The MPCA uses environmental rules and regulations to protect Minnesota's environment. These rules and regulations set standards for environmental quality and limits on pollutants that can be released from facilities. When these rules and regulations are broken, it is called a "violation."

The MPCA does not set monetary penalties for the majority of environmental violations. Many enforcement actions simply require that the problem be corrected.

When the MPCA does set a monetary penalty for a violation, the dollar amount is determined using a formula that takes into account:

- The risks a violation posed to public health or the environment;
- Whether the violation was an isolated incident or part of a pattern of violations;
- The damage the violation caused to Minnesota's natural resources;
- Whether the violation was intentional or accidental;
- How quickly a violation was reported to appropriate authorities;
- Whether a business gained an economic benefit from the violation;
- How prompt and cooperative the party was in correcting the problem.

MPCA's 10 largest enforcement penalties

1. Koch Refining, 1998: $6.9 million.
2. Darling International, 1996: $4 million.
3. Marvin Windows, 1990: $2 million.
3. Koch, 1989: $2 million.
5. Reserve Mining, 1977: $1 million.
5. 3M Co., 1989: $1 million.
7. Potlatch Corp., 2005: $725,000.
8. Koch, 1989: $600,000.
9. USG Interiors, 2005: $555,791.
10. Boise-Cascade, 1991: $535,000.

For more information on enforcement, go to **www.pca.state.mn.us/rulesregs/enforcement.html**

Source: MPCA



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1992-1993
Land Recycling Act enacted to speed cleanup of brownfields.

Train derails and spills benzene into Nemadji River forcing evacuations in Duluth and Superior.

1994-1995
Landfill Cleanup Act creates the Closed Landfill program.

First deformed frogs found by students near Henderson.

Office of Environmental Assistance established.

1996-1998
Ten-year, $332 million Twin Cities sewer separation completed; fecal coliform drops in metro Mississippi River.

MPCA levies $6.9 million fine against Koch Refining for air, water and hazardous waste violations, the largest civil penalty ever issued in Minnesota for environmental violations.

1999-2000
Twin Cities declared in attainment with carbon monoxide standard; vehicle inspection program ends.

Feedlot rule revision requires 30,000 feedlots to be registered.







SEA Grant photo *MPCA photos*

EXTRA, EXTRA: reading between the headlines reveals an evolving MPCA

We Minnesotans love our state. So when something happens that compromises the quality of our environment, it's news. Looking back at pollution stories that made headlines during the past four decades shows the many environmental problems we've overcome.

News articles about pollution have by no means disappeared, though. Nowadays, instead of stories about big business, we're just as likely to see stories about the role that individuals and communities play in preventing and reducing pollution.

Headline: Lake Superior inundated with taconite tailings

One of the biggest pollution stories in the country — not just Minnesota — began in the 1960s, when public concern grew about the Reserve Mining company's practice of dumping waste from processing iron ore pellets into Lake Superior. These "taconite tailings" were potentially hazardous because of their similarity to asbestos fibers, which are known to cause cancer.

In 1972, the federal government sued Reserve Mining for violating the federal Water Pollution Control Act, the Refuse Act of 1899, and the common law of nuisance. The five-year-old MPCA joined the case as a plaintiff. During the next 10 years, there was a series of seemingly endless rulings, appeals, ruling reversals, permit issuances, permit revocations, court orders, court order reversals and other actions for and against Reserve Mining.

Finally, in 1980, Reserve Mining stopped dumping tailings into Lake Superior and began disposing of them on land. The MPCA had scored a major victory.

The story did not end there. In 2006, more than 2,000 barrels of contaminated grease and other hazardous waste were found in a landfill on former Reserve Mining property in Silver Bay. Leaks have contaminated groundwater there. In May 2007, workers finished removing the last of the barrels, making a total of 12,507.

Headline: Superfund rides to the rescue

The word "Superfund" was frequently in the news in the 1980s and 90s. Superfund was first created by the federal government in 1980, partly in response to headline-grabbing situations such as the birth defects of children born in Love Canal, New York. It placed the financial responsibility for cleaning up polluted sites with facility owners, operators and waste generators. If they did not clean up, Superfund would do so, and send the business the bill. Three years later, in 1983, Minnesota became the second state in the nation to create its own state Superfund law — the Minnesota Environmental Response and Liability Act (MERLA), in part to provide a 10-percent state match to federal cleanup dollars.

Superfund spawned complementary legislation and programs, including now familiar ones such as community right-to-know, environmental justice and emergency planning. Superfund also stimulated the science of toxicology, cleanup technology, community participation and risk assessment.







MPCA photos

Minnesota's state Superfund sites reached a total of 230 in 2002, after many of the worst had been cleaned up. For more information about the MPCA's Superfund program, including a searchable database of sites, see **www.pca.state.mn.us/programs/superf_p.html**.

Minnesota created another variation of Superfund called the Voluntary Investigation and Cleanup Program, or VIC, which helps property-owners with a contamination problem they did not cause. If they agree to investigate and, if necessary, clean up their property, they can receive liability protection. VIC has put more than 11,000 formerly-contaminated acres back to productive use. Other states and the EPA have used Minnesota's VIC as a model for their own voluntary cleanup efforts.

Headline: Toxic fog rolls in, residents roll out

In late June 1992, three Burlington Northern liquid container cars derailed into the Nemadji River where it flows into Lake Superior. The resulting spill of the chemical benzene vaporized into a chemical fog that spread over Superior, Wisconsin and Duluth. More than 50,000 people were evacuated from both cities.

MPCA emergency responder Steve Lee was visiting EPA officials in Chicago when they got the call. The spill was considered a Wisconsin event, but Lee accompanied EPA staff to the scene. Being an eyewitness provided Lee with a key lesson in dealing with an emergency involving different local, state and federal jurisdictions.

Most important, said Lee, "is to have a single incident command system in place," meaning that all local, state and federal emergency responders use one standard method of working an emergency. "With that standardized training, emergency responders who may not know each other can work together and respond effectively," Lee said. "This has been a key focus of the MPCA's emergency response program ever since the Nemadji spill."

Headline: 500-year flood socks Red River valley

Until 1997, most of Minnesota's big environmental stories involved either accidents, lack of preparedness or intentional misdeeds. In 1997, Minnesota faced a new kind of environmental event. In the spring of that year, record snows and heavy spring rains combined to create a 500-year flood in the Red River valley in northwest Minnesota. The flooding caused widespread devastation along the Red and its tributaries from Breckenridge all the way to the Canadian border. In East Grand Forks, out of 2,500 homes, only 27 were undamaged.

Fortunately, the MPCA had learned the lesson of the Nemadji spill. "We immediately established an incident command center in Detroit Lakes," said Doug Bellefeuille of the MPCA's Detroit Lakes office, "and worked with emergency responders in cities such as Ada and East Grand Forks to coordinate pollution control and cleanup efforts."

2001-2002
MPCA and St. Paul Police Department partner to train Clancy, the first mercury-detecting dog in America, in order to help eliminate mercury from Minnesota schools.

MPCA organizes and co-sponsors the first Living Green Expo.

2004-2005
Legislature combines MPCA and Office of Environmental Assistance into one agency.

MPCA reports to legislature that mercury emissions in Minnesota have declined 70 percent from 1990 levels.







MPCA photos

Headline: Un-Golden Pond — frog stories leap to front page

When a news story runs for a long time, we say it has legs. That's true in more ways than one in the curious case of the malformed frogs.

In August 1995, students studying wetlands near Le Sueur, on the Minnesota River between Minneapolis and Mankato, discovered large numbers of frogs with deformed, missing or extra legs, as well as other deformities.

By the end of the next year, the MPCA had received more than 175 reports of malformed frogs in two-thirds of the state's counties. Malformed frogs were also reported in other states. The story garnered media attention across the U.S. and in other countries, with ABC's television show Nightline devoting two entire shows to the frogs.

In 1997, researchers from the MPCA and the University of Minnesota released findings of studies in two wetlands with large numbers of malformed frogs. Results showed that something in the water caused abnormalities as the tadpoles developed.

Researchers were unable to identify just exactly what that "something" was.

Because of its many other responsibilities, the MPCA ended its formal participation in malformed frog research in 2001. Other scientists continue to work on the issue. The MPCA maintains a heavily-visited Web page about the frogs to this day (**www.pca.state.mn.us/hot/frogs.html**).

Headline: Point, nonpoint, what's the point?

In the past 40 years, permitting processes have been developed that allow businesses and communities to build factories and wastewater treatment plants while keeping air and water pollution relatively low.

With the vast majority of these "point sources" of pollution now in compliance with environmental regulations, some of the best opportunities for protecting Minnesota's environment involve "non-point" sources, pollution that results from smaller, more individual sources.

Getting people to make wise choices that reduce runoff, increase recycling levels and reduce energy use requires education and voluntary compliance.

That's why today you may see headlines about efforts like cleaning up Minnesota's impaired waters using partnerships with watershed districts, lake associations and landowners. Since 1987, the MPCA has provided funding and technical assistance for more than 1,000 such "clean water partnership" projects, which have significantly reduced non-point sources of water pollution.

Headline: Minnesota River gets an extreme makeover

The idea that we're all part of the problem and all need to be part of the solution was captured in a challenge by Governor Arne Carlson as he stood on the banks of the Minnesota River in the early 1990s. He asked citizens to help make what many people considered the state's "dirtiest" river once again "fishable and swimmable" within 10 years.

Since then, more farmers have set aside land in conservation programs and adopted best management practices to help prevent soil and nutrients from reaching the river. Communities are improving sewage treatment systems to reduce dumping bacteria into the river.

2006
MPCA Citizens Board approves the first statewide TMDL for mercury in the nation.

MPCA presents the new Eco-Experience at the State Fair.

2007
Workers finish removing 12,507 leaking barrels of hazardous waste buried over a period of 40 years at the old Reserve Mining site in silver Bay. Cost to Minnesota taxpayers: $13 million.

Minnesota passes Next Generation Energy Act, which sets aggressive greenhouse gas emission-reduction targets. Minnesota Climate Change Advisory Group begins meeting to develop specific emission-reduction activities.





MPCA photos

Watershed groups are working on proj ects throughout the Minnesota River basin to reduce contaminants.

While Carlson's vision has not yet been fully realized, there are encouraging signs the battle is being won: a 2005 phone survey of 673 Minnesota River basin residents showed that 96 percent agreed that they had a responsibility to protect water quality for future generations. Another sign: the blue sucker — absent from the river for decades because of too much sediment — is now once again reproducing there.

Headline: Mighty Mississippi cleans up

Once upon a time, the Mississippi River would have given the Minnesota River a good run for the title of dirtiest river. For much of the river's history since the settlement era, the Mighty Mississippi in Minnesota was a Mighty Mess, receiving untreated wastewater from every town, factory and home along its banks. Even after wastewater treatment, pollution continued to be a problem where the river flowed through the heavily populated Twin Cities. In the 1980s, special funding was approved to separate the Twin Cities' combined storm and sanitary sewers to reduce sewage overflows during heavy rains. In 1996, the Twin Cities became one of the few metropolitan areas in the country to accomplish this goal. Recently, mayflies returned to the river after a long absence, a sign of improving river health.

Headline: Everything old is new again

Not all of Minnesota's environmental headlines have focused on what's wrong. Minnesota is one of the top recycling states, with a rate of 44 percent, just behind Oregon. This success didn't come about by accident.

In 1980, Minnesota adopted the Waste Management Act, which established a waste management "hierarchy." The best way to reduce waste is not to create it to begin with. Re-using and recycling waste is good, too. The worst choice for health and the environment? Send garbage to a landfill.

In 1989, the Governor's Select Committee on Recycling and the Environment (SCORE) recommended a stable source of funding for recycling efforts. That helped boost Minnesota's recycling rate from 25 percent in 1991 to today's 44 percent.

The bad news is that the amount of garbage each of us generates is rising. If this trend continues, the state's landfill capacity will be reached in about 10 years.

Tomorrow's headlines

Solving the many environmental issues we face now and will face in the future will take time, thought and yes, money. Solving them will also, more and more, require us to engage individual Minnesotans in taking charge of their own environmental attitudes, behaviors and practices.

But that's another story.

— Dan Olson



In the year 2047:

Lee Frelich, Director of the Center of Hardwood Ecology, University of Minnesota



Explore Minnesota

Climate change will bring Minnesota a warmer climate by 2047. That means a longer season without ice, and that means more evaporation. If evaporation predominates over precipitation, which is the most likely scenario, the levels of lakes could fall quite dramatically and rivers could slow or dry up, because more water would be evaporating.

Some lakes will warm up, and that will change the species of fish that live in them. There'll be fewer cold-water habitats that support trout, for instance, and more lakes with carp and other fish that live in warmer waters.

There are two possible climate scenarios about trees. One scenario is warm and wet, which will probably result in forests like those in Ohio, with sycamore, black walnut and oak. Our northern conifer forests could change to oak, sugar maple, white pine and hemlock. The second scenario, warm and dry, would result in more savanna and grassland in presently forested areas.

I don't think there's much of a future for lynx and moose in Minnesota. They are boreal [northern forest] species, and if the boreal forest disappears, they will, too. That goes for a number of warblers, too.

Laura Kelnhofer, Sierra Club, Northstar Chapter, Population Specialist



MPCA photo

The U.S. population is not increasing as quickly as some other countries, but our environmental footprint is much greater because we have higher levels of consumption. We need to slow population growth worldwide and, at the same time, teach people to use resources more wisely.

In the 20th century, the world's human population multiplied from 1.6 to 6.1 billion people. During this same period of time, CO_2 emissions grew twelve-fold. Population, consumption patterns and global warming are inextricably linked in their collective environmental impact. Industrialized countries' wasteful consumption patterns demonstrate that it is not just the size of a country's population that influences climate change, but also the proportion of resources a country consumes. Although the U.S. makes up only five percent of the world's population, we create 25 percent of the pollution that causes global warming. The average U.S. family affects the environment 40 times more than a family in India and 100 times more than a family in Kenya.

Minnesota's population will increase by more than a million people in the next 20 years, which will affect all our resources.

David Morris, Vice-President, Institute for Local Self-Reliance



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The problem with the environmental movement until very recently was that its goal was to "clean up the planet." The first question is, "what do you mean by clean?" You end up with Ph.D. chemists and parts per million and technical regulatory bodies. It becomes an absolute black hole.

If we use human ingenuity to extract useful work out of all the resources we currently waste, then we can get from here to there. If we harness the sunlight that falls on our roofs, the heat energy that's underground, the wind that blows in our backyards and the plants available within 100 miles of our gas tanks, then we reduce waste and pollution and increase sustainability.

Based on how well we've done in the past 40 years, I think we won't be very far along that path in 40 more years. On the other hand, one can be optimistic. After the oil shock of 1973, we had to invent new technologies. Solar cells were developed, wind turbines built and ethanol plants set up. We've built standards, warranties and maintenance, the infrastructure to support these new technologies. In 2007 and the future, we have to bring them from one or two percent of the economy to 30, 40 or 100 percent of the economy.

Greg Pratt, Research Scientist, MPCA



NRCS photo

The seminal environmental issue of our time is climate change, and this will determine what I think Minnesota will be like in another 40 years. We are utterly dependent on fossil fuels now, and we're facing some structural deficiencies because we're going to run out of a lot of them.

I think our climate is going to change. We're doing a big experiment, and we don't know what the end result is going to be. I think we can safely say we're going to lose the boreal forest in Minnesota.

We don't live very sustainably on the land, and I think that's going to come back to bite us. Technology can only save us up to a point. As we see shortages — and we're already starting to experience some — resources like water and fuel will become scarce and people will start to fight for them. We don't really recognize the seriousness of what's before us.

I hope that by 2047, the internal combustion engine will be a thing of the past. But even with future non-polluting cars, that won't solve congestion and environmental problems.



U.S. Census Bureau

Peter Gillaspy, Minnesota State Demographer



U.S. Census Bureau

In 40 years, Minnesota's demographics will look very different than today. Our population will have grown from 5 million to more than 6.5 million. Our "over 65" population will almost double, from 12 percent to 21 percent. More than a quarter of a million Minnesotans will be 85 or older.

Families will be smaller and older, and there will be more single folks, perhaps causing reverberations in the housing market. The labor market may be depressed due to a limited number of young workers, restrictions on immigration and other factors.

Urbanization and expansion of the metro area will continue. Because of the trend toward concentrating more population in the metro area, regional counties may merge to broaden the tax base.

Demand for water will be huge nationwide, even in Minnesota; and competition between residential and agricultural use will grow. As dry areas of the country continue to experience growth (e.g., the southwest), these folks will look with lust (and thirst) at our water. Imagine piping Lake Superior water to Phoenix! It's already been proposed.

For an imaginary look at a Minnesota 25 years in the future, see the *Not Yet Gazette*, a fictional newspaper showing one possible future. The stories, although fictional, reflect demographic trends projected for Minnesota (**www.demography.state.mn.us/notyet/**).

Peter Ciborowski, Global Climate Change Scientist, MPCA



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Here's an interesting fact: if the world stopped emitting CO_2 today, temperatures would stop rising in about 40 years. But the world will not stop emitting CO_2 today, so temperatures will continue to rise.

Climate changes of the magnitude scientists expect — we are, after all, talking about returning the earth to a level of warmth not seen for tens of millions of years — aren't necessarily slow or linear. There can be surprises and dramatic, unexpected shifts. However, we can make educated guesses from the science and climate history we have to work with.

In general, northern latitudes are more strongly affected by climate change. My best guess is that Minnesota will:

- On average, be about four degrees F warmer
- Have shorter winters, of one and a half to two months
- Be wetter, with more precipitation in fewer, more intense events
- Possibly have drier summers, or at least more frequent periods of drying between fewer but more intense rains
- Plant hardiness zones have already shifted dramatically in this state. Much of Minnesota was Zone 3 or 4. Southern parts of the state are now Zone 5. This rewrites the rules for plant and animal species.

Randy Kramer, Bird Island farmer and Chairman – Board of Water and Soil Resources



Minnesota SEA Grant

I see a lot of change coming in agriculture during the next decades. The use of technology will continue to advance, both in equipment and in crop varieties and genetics. By using global positioning systems, farmers will be able to be more precise in applying fertilizer, which will benefit the environment by using less fertilizer overall. The advancement of genetically-modified crops will allow more efficient use of fertilizers and chemicals.

But weather will always be a factor for agriculture. If the warming trend continues, the climate in Minnesota in 40 years could be like Kansas is now.

The development of bio-energy is just getting started and will be a win-win situation. So far, what we've seen is just the tip of the iceberg. Energy needs will create economic incentives for alternative crops such as switchgrass and other cellulosic materials, which will benefit both farmers and the environment. We could see many alternative crops over the next 40 years, for energy and for new uses such as clothing and medicines.

Economics will be the main driving force for change. If our cheap food policy continues, I see farms getting larger; in some cases, farms may get too large. Otherwise, many farms will continue to need an off-farm income to stay in business and receive health insurance. I see people from other cultures getting involved in agriculture. Overall, I'm excited about the future of agriculture. I hope to farm for another 10 or 15 years, and that the next generation will carry on.

Mike Robertson, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, Environmental Policy Consultant



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Looking ahead to the future of the Minnesota business community, I believe our trend toward attracting high-tech industries, such as those involved in medical research and medical technology, will continue. I think we will still have a good mix of businesses, and that agriculture will remain our dominant sector.

I also see fast and sustained development on the Iron Range, as steel prices continue to rise and we find ourselves with a competitive advantage in providing inexpensive feedstock. Accompanying that will be a boom in non-ferrous metal mining. Mid-century may well be the high point for the precious metals industry in Minnesota.

Climate issues and aggressive greenhouse gas reduction targets will drive change statewide, while high fuel prices and the need to develop renewable energy options will top the list of concerns for business. A changing climate will cause a significant impact, not only on the way we do business but on the way we live, affecting our natural resources, our forest resources, and, of course, our agriculture. Water quality will continue to be of concern, as the state works with agriculture and urban areas to address complex non-point water runoff issues.



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Dave Kleis, Mayor of St. Cloud



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In the future, it's going to be imperative that cities, counties, townships cooperate more and do more joint efforts. A new wastewater treatment plant, which we will build in the next 10 years, is an example of five cities (St. Cloud, Sauk Rapids, Waite Park, Sartell, St. Augusta/ St. Joseph) working together, to meet standards and to keep costs down.

In St. Cloud, we're already doing a number of things to reduce consumption of energy and to reduce waste. We're in the midst of a $30 million project for a library that will have a green roof. It's something that's being used around the world as an energy-saver, but we'll be the first city to do so in central Minnesota. We're looking at other energy savings: as we build new police and fire stations, we're planning on making those as energy efficient as possible.

In the coming years, I think you'll see more rail in Minnesota. Hopefully, the North Star commuter line will extend as far as St. Cloud and beyond. Forty years from now, you'll see rail lines to Rochester, Duluth, Minneapolis and St. Paul, like a rebirth of the rail networks of a hundred years ago. Ridership of mass transit has increased in our area, and I think you'll see continued growth in that. Also, we've seen Minnesota pretty much lead the nation in biofuels, and I expect this to create considerable change in our area.

Most cities now do a good job of planning cooperatively and regionally to minimize environmental impact. You'll see a lot more of that in years to come, including probable consolidation of local government units — cities, townships, counties.



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The headlines are worrying: "*Are Pharmaceuticals in Your Watershed?*"; "*Hormones, Other Organic Wastewater Contaminants Found in Streams*"; "*Personal Care Products are Environmental Pollutants.*"

"The general population has historically banked on consumer products being safe, but we're entering a period when all of us need to be more cautious and ask a few more questions," says Laura Solem, MPCA toxicologist with the Risk Evaluation and Air Modeling Division.

"Consumers need to understand the practical consequences of creating demand for new, high-tech, better, faster-working products," Solem adds. "We have to consider the environmental persistence of new chemicals and their long-term effects on human health."

Solem works in the growing field of emerging contaminants, meaning chemicals in our environment that we are only beginning to learn about. For example:

- PFCs (perfluorochemicals from product coatings), recently found in drinking water in the Twin Cities east metro area
- Endocrine (hormone) disruptors in certain fertilizers
- Nanoparticles in certain creams and lotions that pass into the your bloodstream

Solem expects many of today's emerging contaminants to be in our air and groundwater for decades or even centuries. She is skeptical that we can "science our way" out of all of these challenges. She's hopeful, though, that environmental awareness and new technologies can help turn the tide.

"I see our focus on pollution prevention and resource conservation as helping us move in front of the curve to take care of some of these pollutants," she adds. "But I'm not sure we'll ever be able to predict which 'X, Y or Z' will be the next big problem."

— *Colleen Coyne*



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National Cleaner Air Week



It's National Cleaner Air Week

Clip from the *Minneapolis Tribune* of October 22, 1970, shows Barbara Baker, Minneapolis Queen of the 22nd Annual National Cleaner Air Week (now called Air Quality Awareness Week and moved to spring instead of fall). The purpose of the balloon launch about to take place was to demonstrate how air currents carry pollutants. We'd love to hear from you, Ms. Baker, or any other participants in National Cleaner Air Weeks! Contact the editor at becky.helgesen@state.mn.us.

The Good Old (Polluted) Days...

To the editor:



Minnesota Historical Society

Regarding all this flap about air pollution, water pollution, etc., I have lived in Minneapolis all my life, 61 years, and I think the air has never been cleaner. When I was a little boy, all homes and industries were heated with soft coal. After a new snow, it was dirty grey in 24 hours. Also, the railroad yards and roundhouses were belching black smoke 24 hours a day.

I wonder how many remember the streets laden with horse manure, which in the hot, dry summer, pulverized by the horse-drawn traffic, was blown about by the wind?

Few of us had garbage cans. We burned garbage in the kitchen range in winter and either buried it in summer or threw it over the fence into the alley. That was a catch-all in those days; any dead cat or other refuse could be hidden behind the old high-board fence in the alley.

As for water pollution, we used to swim under the Plymouth Avenue Bridge at a "resort" called Garber's Bath .... I remember the river was so brown you couldn't see more than 10 inches into it. My father used to warn us not to swim towards the main channel, as there was a big sewer emptying just across from the island on the west bank.

I have been to the West Coast, the East Coast, seen many big cities, but none more free of air pollution than Minneapolis. I will say, however, that our real estate taxes are too high, when you consider what it costs to live here because of our long, hard winters.

— *Henry Leinfelder, Minneapolis; Minneapolis Star, May 13, 1967*



MPCA exchanging fishing tackle for lead-free

Loons, eagles and other birds can be poisoned by ingesting fish that have swallowed lead sinkers. Ingesting just one sinker can kill a bird. Anglers can help keep toxic lead out of the environment by trading in lead-containing sinkers, jigs and other weights at tackle exchange events sponsored by the MPCA and the DNR. In exchange, anglers receive lead-free fishing tackle. Fishing tackle exchanges will run through mid-August at locations around Minnesota. For dates and locations, go to: **www.pca.state.mn.us/oea/reduce/sinkers.cfm**.

Free statewide air pollution alerts sent to your e-mail

If you or someone you know has respiratory or heart problems, or you would just like to be aware when air quality is unhealthy, sign up for the MPCA's secure and free e-mail air health alerts **http://aqi.pca.state.mn.us/hourly/** and, in the far left column, click "sign up for e-mail notices of air alerts." Next, enter your e-mail address and click the "join or leave" button. If the air quality index (AQI) becomes unhealthy anywhere in Minnesota, you will be notified by e-mail.

Minnesota Supreme Court agrees with MPCA

In a May 17 decision, the Minnesota Supreme Court overturned a lower court ruling, saying that the MPCA had the authority to interpret the federal laws it enforces, and was correct in issuing a permit for a new wastewater treatment plant for the cities of Maple Lake and Annandale three years ago. Thirty-two communities have had wastewater treatment proposals on hold while this case made its way through the courts.

Climate change takes center stage



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On April 20th, Governor Pawlenty convened the first meeting of the new Minnesota Climate Change Advisory Group. The group includes private citizens, industry and environmental organization representatives. Its task is to develop comprehensive plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Minnesota. Minnesota also recently joined the national Climate Registry as one of 31 founding member states. The Registry measures, tracks and reports greenhouse gas emissions consistently across borders and industry sectors. This is a critical first step in developing programs to reduce the greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. For information on climate change in Minnesota, see **www.pca.state.mn.us/hot/global warming.html**.

Lake Superior conference to be held in October



A bi-national conference on Lake Superior will take place at the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center Oct. 29-31, 2007. Session topics will include invasive species, climate change, lake levels, fisheries and toxic pollutants. Conference sponsors are the U.S. EPA, Environment Canada, Lake Superior Binational Program, and the Sea Grant programs of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. For more information, go to: **www.seagrant.umn.edu/superior2007/**

Windows, air conditioning — take your pick

You've probably heard that rolling down your car windows creates aerodynamic drag, using more gasoline than if you use your car's air conditioning. Others think air conditioning burns more fuel.

Neither is right. The automotive Web site **www.edmunds.com** and consumer watchdog **www.consumerreports.org** compared fuel economy at highway speeds with and without air conditioning, and studied how open windows affected gas mileage. They found little significant difference in fuel economy under either condition. *Consumer Reports* says that a vehicle's air conditioning uses about one mpg. Open windows made no measurable difference in gas mileage, even at 65 miles per hour. Edmunds notes, however, that installing a truck bed cover dramatically improves gas mileage in a pickup truck, because the shape becomes more aerodynamic.

Other *Consumer Reports* fuel-saving tips include:

- Drive smoothly. *Consumer Reports* notes that frequent starts and stops reduce mileage by 2-3 mpg.
- Shut off the engine if you'll be idling more than 30 seconds.
- Drag rises with speed. Slowing from 75 to 55 mph boosted gas mileage 33 percent in both the sedan and a large SUV.
- Remove car-top carriers unless you need them. At highway speeds, more than half the engine's power goes to overcoming drag. Removing a car-top carrier raises gas mileage about six mpg.



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Plan ahead for winter heating

Use of outdoor wood-fired heaters has increased in recent years, causing complaints about smoke and concerns about air pollution. Key manufacturers now offer new models that burn 70 percent cleaner; a special orange hang-tag will identify these. For more information, see **www.epa.gov/woodheaters**.

Power plants making major pollution reductions

Current and upcoming pollution reduction projects at nine Minnesota power plants will dramatically cut emissions of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides over the next couple of years. The plants include Xcel's Alan S. King, Riverside and High Bridge plants; Minnesota Power's Boswell, Laskin and Taconite Harbor plants; Rochester Public Utilities; and Ottertail Power's Hoot Lake plant. Emissions reductions range from 45 percent to 98 percent.

Awards and more awards

Three Minnesota healthcare facilities were recognized at the national Hospitals for a Healthy Environment Environmental Excellence Summit. Ridgeview Medical Center (Waconia) received the Environmental Leadership award. Hutchinson Area Health Care (Hutchinson) and University of Minnesota Medical Center-Fairview (Minneapolis) received the Making Medicine Mercury-free award.

Minnesota applicants captured two awards in the EPA's Clean Air Excellence Awards, which recognizes outstanding efforts in achieving cleaner air. The recipients were the Minneapolis Environmental Services Sustainability Initiative, and 3M's Sustainability Program Reduces Air Emissions Worldwide.

Home Depot to display environmental labels

The home-improvement chain, Home Depot, announced in April that it would label nearly 3,000 products that promote energy conservation, sustainable forestry and clean water. The plan, which will include 6,000 products by 2009, would be the largest green labeling program in American retailing. The new "Eco Options" label can be found on many common items, including compact fluorescent light bulbs, organic plant food, window sealants, cleaners and wood products.

Newsweek reports St. Cloud State professor's fish studies

Newsweek's June 4 issue featured an article about Heiko Schoenfuss, director of St. Cloud State's aquatic toxicology lab, who studied minnows to learn about emerging environmental contaminants such as household cleaners, soaps and medicines. Schoenfuss' study last year exposed male minnows to chemicals found in common cleaners and the environment. He found that, as adults, the minnows did not behave as male minnows and were unable to reproduce. He is now studying walleye found in the Mississippi River.

Minnesota closing the gap in wind energy

The American Wind Energy Association (www.awea.org) says that Minnesota is the fourth-ranked state in wind energy output, following Texas, California and Iowa. The association expects Minnesota's output will top 1,000 megawatts in 2007. One megawatt of wind energy produces enough electricity to serve 250 homes. Wind energy is expected to provide a large segment of Minnesota's energy needs in the coming years, in line with the Next Generation Renewable Energy Initiative. Next Generation requires that, by 2025, a quarter of the electricity Minnesotans use comes from renewable resources, including wind.



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News headlines from the 1960s and 1970s

Minneapolis Star,
Minneapolis Tribune,
St. Cloud Times



Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
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Change Service Requested

Presort Std.
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BWSR Tour Information

Board of Water and Soil Resources Tour

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

August 22, 2007

Hosted by
Koochiching SWCD and
Lake of the Woods SWCD



The bus will depart from the Holiday Inn of International Falls at 8:30 a.m.

7:30 am	**Check-in** (coffee and rolls)
8:00	**Welcome and Tour Preview** City Welcome from Shawn Mason, International Falls Mayor County Welcome from Charles Lepper, Koochiching County Board Chairman Tour Preview by Koochiching and Lake of the Woods SWCDs
8:30-11:30	**Koochiching County Site Visits** Site 1 – Wetland Identification • City of Littlefork proposed building site • Larson Lumber and Building Center, incidental wetlands Site 2 – Beneficial Reuse of Wood Ash (remain on bus) Site 3 – Forest Stewardship/Tree Farm (refreshment break)
11:30-12:15	**Lunch at the Birchdale Community Center**
12:30-12:55	Site 4 – Nelson Park Erosion Project
1:00-4:00	**Lake of the Woods County Site Visits** Site 5 – Jean Reinhardt's Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant Project Site 6 – Willy Walleye and Rainy River Basin River Watch Program and SWCD Water Monitoring Projects (photo opportunity and refreshment break) Site 7 – Bostic Creek and Judicial Ditch Erosion and Sedimentation Issues (remain on bus) Site 8 – Lake of the Woods and the Graceton Beach
4:00	**Arrive at Sportsman's Lodge on the Rainy River**
4:15-5:15	**Forum of Local Issues**
5:15-5:30	**Break**
5:30	**Dinner**
6:45 pm	**Depart for International Falls**

Site Visits along the 2007 BWSR Tour Route

Koochiching County

Site #1—Wetland Identification Site. Side-by-side examples of wetland determinations at Larson Lumber and Building Center and the City of Littlefork proposed Industrial Park.

Site #2—Beneficial Reuse of Wood Ash. Reusing wood ash benefits the mills, the landowners, and the environment.

Site #3—Forest Stewardship Planning Site. Visit Rowland Hamley's property for discussion on the growing trends in forest management, and the increasing need for forest stewardship planning.

Site #4—Nelson Park Shoreline Stabilization Project. A visit to a cooperative shoreline stabilization project between the County Lands and Forests Department and the SWCD using state cost share dollars.

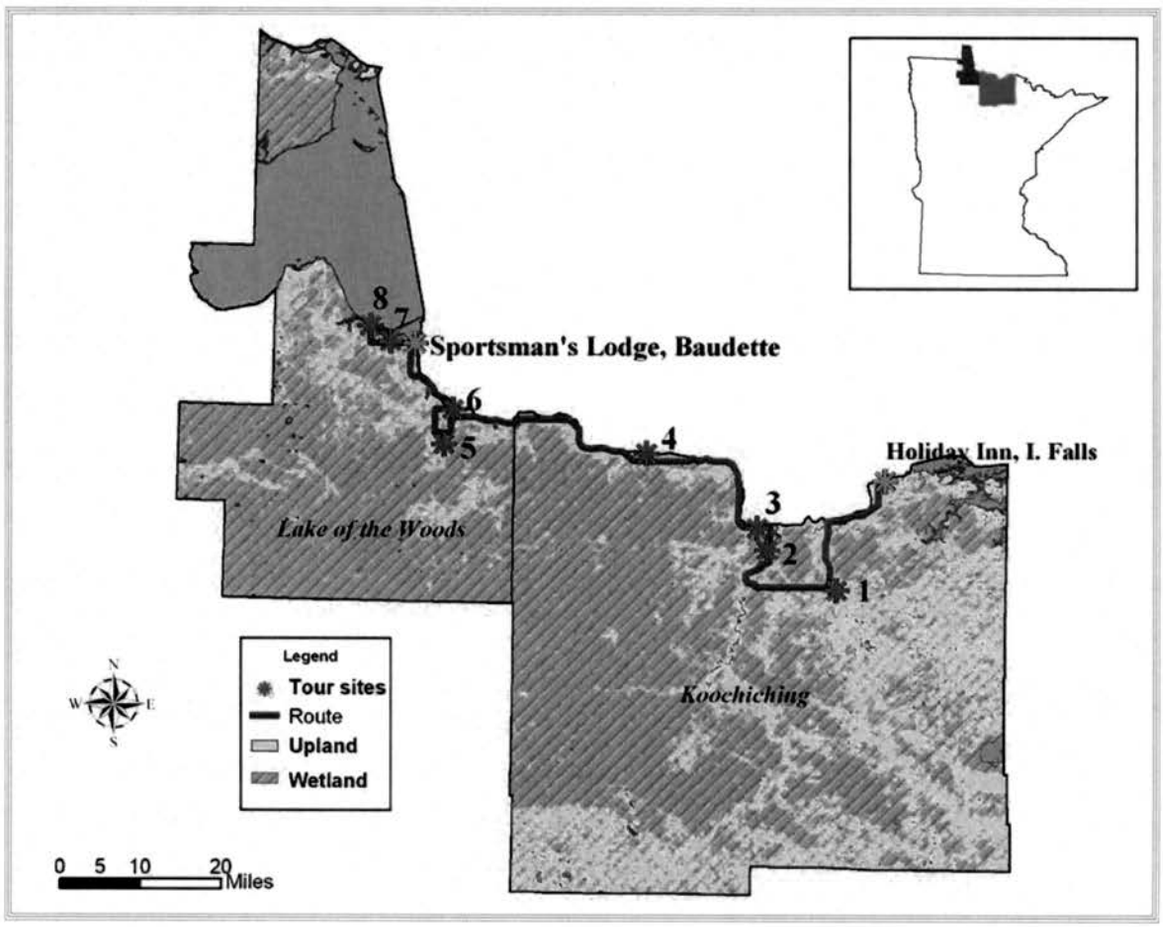
Lake of the Woods County

Site #5—Reinhart Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant. Visit to a feedlot relocation project designed by the NC MN JPB engineers and installed using FWQMG funding.

Site #6—Rainy River Basin River Watch Program. This new program is a cooperative effort between the high school and the SWCD. The stop will provide an opportunity to watch local students sampling and hear about SWCD monitoring efforts.

Site #7—Bostic Creek Watershed. The County and the SWCD are working together to solve severe erosion issues in this watershed.

Site #8—Lake of the Woods. This stop provides an opportunity to view Lake of the Woods and hear about some of the challenges of such a large lake which is also an international waterbody.



Interesting Facts about
Koochiching and Lake of the
Woods Counties

THUNDERBIRD LODGE
On Rainy Lake • Voyageurs National Park
www.thunderbirdrainylake.com
email: thbird@frontiernet.net

Rod Haanen ~ *rhtbird@frontiernet.net*
Mary Jane Haanen ~ *mjtbird@frontiernet.net*

(218) 286-3151
1-800-351-5133
Fax: (218) 286-3004

2170 Cty Rd. 139
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And for over twenty years, the Thunderbird has been owned by the Dougherty family with the Haanen family joining them in 2005. We are committed to providing exceptional accommodations and hospitality for *your* family.

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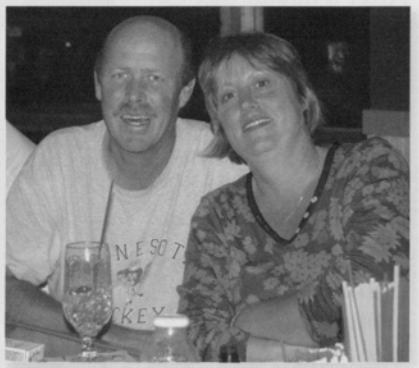
Prior to 1971, the lodge was known as Scottie's Place, Belle Haven and Anglers Resort.











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This pristine wilderness is an outstanding setting for outdoor adventures twelve months a year.

We provide family vacations, weddings, and reunions; and corporate meetings, holiday parties and retreats—all customized to the needs of your group and tailored to the offerings of each season.

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"We've been coming to Thunderbird for 11 years and you always go out of your way to make us feel like family."









Lodge amenities

- Fully furnished & carpeted
- Air conditioning & heat
- Telephone & television
- High-speed wireless internet
- Hair dryers & coffee makers
- Non-smoking
- Two suites feature lake-side decks, refrigerators & microwaves

Cabin amenities

- Decks with lake views
- Docks close to cabins
- Air conditioning & heat
- Telephone & television
- High-speed wireless internet
- Towels & sheets
- Gas grills
- Two deluxe "lake home" cabins with full kitchens, washer/dryer & central air



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We also have off-sale beer, wine and spirits.





WORLD-CLASS FISHING.

Rely on superb fishing for everyone from seasoned anglers with the latest hi-tech gear to youngsters excited by the slightest dip of a bobber.

In 1994, Rainy Lake became a leader in establishing slot limits to protect breeding walleye, and today our guests enjoy exceptional—and often trophy-sized—catches. The lake is also home to teeming populations of northern pike, sauger, smallmouth bass and black crappie.

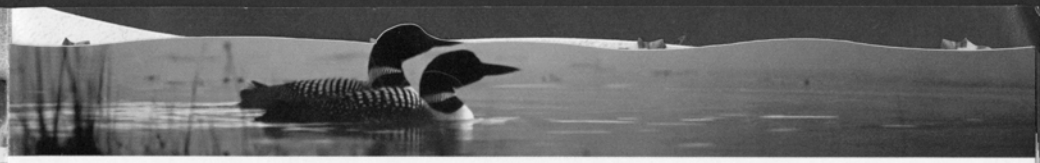
Fishing professionals rank Rainy Lake as one of the world's leading multi-specie fisheries, and in the top five internationally for smallmouth bass.

Expect muskies to hit hard, and if sturgeon is more your style, try your luck just a few miles away in the Rainy River.

Our peak season runs from May through October—perfect overall conditions to land a lunker and take home treasured memories.







REEL 'EM IN WITH OUR PROFESSIONAL GUIDES.



Our licensed guides bring a lifetime of local knowledge aboard for exciting and productive fishing. A typical day begins at 7:00 a.m., and includes a delicious shore lunch. After a victorious return at 4:00 p.m., our kitchen will be happy to serve you your catch of the day.

The renowned Rainy Lake Shore Lunch recipe has been part of Thunderbird Lodge for generations.







Big Fun on Big Water. Pick your pleasure to enjoy the lake or relax on the beach.

Boat Rentals
- 16-foot boats with 15 hp motor
- Deluxe fishing boats with 40 hp motor, trolling motor & depth finder
- Pontoon boat

Free use of boat launch, canoes and paddleboats

Full service marina
- Seven docks reserved for guest boats
- Premium & mixed gas

Fish cleaning house
- Fish cleaning service available

See our web site for pricing and other details.







MAGIC, MYSTERY AND MEMORIES— RAINY LAKE AND VOYAGEURS NATIONAL PARK.

From the lodge, you can boat or snowmobile over 30 miles to Kettle Falls, and even further into the Canadian bays.

One of the few lakes in the lower 48 states with true wilderness characteristics, Rainy Lake offers fun and adventure whether you're into serious fishing, sightseeing by boat, or sunning and swimming on one of its many beaches. As a Border Waters lake, U.S. residents can make arrangements to visit, boat and fish in Canadian territory.

Voyageurs National Park's 218,000 acres contain only ten miles of road and more than enough islands, bays, beaches, rocky shorelines, cliffs and forests for unlimited exploring.



Most visitors travel by boat, but there are also numerous summer hiking and biking trails. In winter, enjoy ice roads and groomed snowmobile, ski and snowshoe trails.

Rainy Lake Visitor Center is conveniently located just one-half mile from Thunderbird Lodge.





















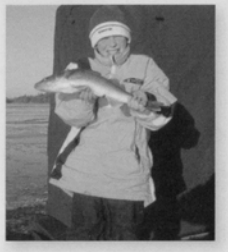
Rainy Lake has 929 miles of shoreline and 1,600 (count 'em!) islands.



WINTER ADVENTURES.

Many guests return time and again to play in the snowy beauty of the lake and the park. For snowmobilers, Voyageurs National Park alone has 110 miles of groomed trails, and Rainy Lake and the surrounding area boast hundreds more additional miles.





Ride in a new direction every day! From the lodge, there are groomed trails to the west, east, south and southwest, and a border crossing pass allows you to run north into Canada. Exceptional conditions make riding 1000 miles a week easily attainable, and we have plenty of parking and a heated garage for repairs.

The area also features 41 miles of groomed cross country and snowshoe trails. The Black Bay and Tilson Creek ski trails are just a few miles from the lodge. And the two-mile Oberholtzer snowshoe trail is just down the road at the park Visitors Center—they'll even provide complimentary snow shoes!

The Chain of Lakes trail is rated as one of the ten most beautiful rides in the U.S.

Trail conditions are posted weekly at 800-FALLSMN. You can also check our web site for updated information.



Ice fishing enthusiasts can expect to catch black crappie, smallmouth bass, walleye, northern pike, sauger and more.

We offer packaged pricing that includes food, lodging and fish-house rental. See our web site for details.













"Thunderbird is a world-class snowmobile resort. We can ride right from the lodge, the trails are awesome, and the accommodations and food are outstanding."



CORPORATE SERVICES.



Your entire team will be given professional and friendly service during your event.

Many corporations and nonprofit organizations have utilized the lodge and our recreational services for a full range of year 'round support.

Meeting services include:

- Strategic planning
- Training sessions
- Retirement parties
- Sales meetings
- Holiday parties
- Client appreciation events

Our catering services, meeting and training facilities, and teambuilding adventures and social events can help you meet your business goals.

Contact us for a custom-designed program.







"This is the third time in two months our company has used the Thunderbird for training seminars. I just make one phone call and your staff takes care of everything. Thanks for making my job so much easier."

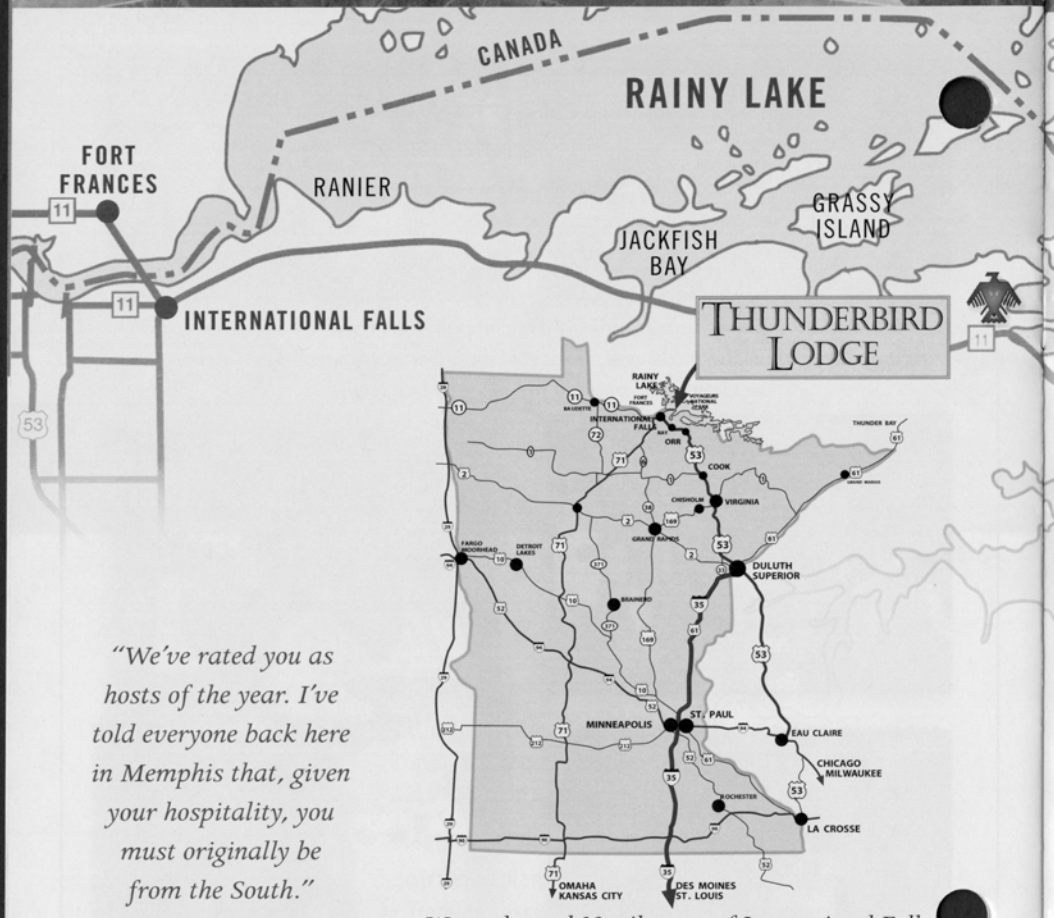












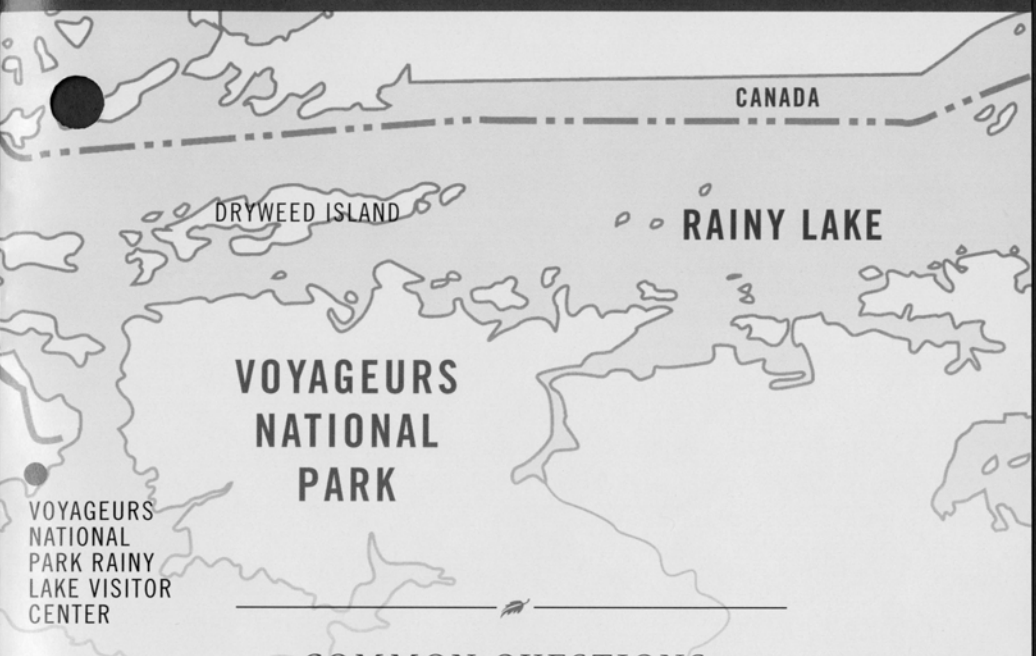
"We've rated you as hosts of the year. I've told everyone back here in Memphis that, given your hospitality, you must originally be from the South."

"Everything for our daughter's wedding was picture-perfect. Your help with the planning was more than we expected, and the guests raved about the fabulous food. We will cherish the memories forever."

"We love what you've done to the banquet room!"

We are located 10 miles east of International Falls on Highway 11 East.

Handy things to bring…	…and fun things to do!
Waterproof footwear	Birdwatching
Polarized sunglasses	Golfing
Cap or hat	Biking
Windbreaker & gloves	Antiquing & shopping
Vital medication	Museum & gold mine tours
Sunscreen	Lake tour
Insect repellent	Summer concerts in the park
Camera	4th of July festivities
Binoculars	Ranier summer festival
Games & cards	Bass fishing tournament
	Blast on the Border winter festival



COMMON QUESTIONS.

Do you allow pets? Pets are allowed in all of our rooms and cabins for $10 per day. We simply ask that they be well-behaved. Pets should be kenneled when you are away from your room or cabin.

Is there a place to park my boat? Yes, we have plenty of free guest dock space, with power available.

Do you supply bed linens and towels? Yes, and we have daily maid service.

Rainy Lake gives back what the rest of the world takes away.

What airlines fly into your area? Northwest Airlines has daily service from Minneapolis to International Falls. We can arrange to pick you up at the airport.

How do we know if we're in Canadian waters? You must follow your charts closely—Canadian waters are clearly marked.

Do you provide life jackets? Yes, as well as landing nets and minnow buckets.

Do you have fishing licenses and bait for sale? No, but both are available right next door at Rainy Lake Houseboats.

What are the requirements to fish in Canada? An additional license and Remote Border Crossing Document are required. See our web site for further details.



Do you have depth finders? Yes, we have depth finders for rent.

How far should we book in advance? To reserve specific dates, we recommend booking 10 months in advance. Many guests book next year's reservation when they check out, and some will even book several years in advance.

Is child care available? Yes—we do our best to help you enjoy some time alone! Please contact us to book this in advance.

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THUNDERBIRD LODGE

2170 County Road 139
International Falls, MN 56649-8832

1-800-351-5133
218-286-3151
www.thunderbirdrainylake.com
info@thunderbirdrainylake.com

NOW TAKING RESERVATIONS
FOR A LIFETIME
OF MEMORIES.

Ron Shelito	cell: 218-820-3794
Jeff Hrubes	cell: 218-368-7683
Erin, Reservations/Holiday Inn	218-283-8000
Frieda, Sales/Holiday Inn	218-283-8000
Mary Jane, Thunderbird Lodge	218-286-3151
Diana, Sportsman's Lodge	218-634-1342, ext. 439
Kelli, Laidlaw Bus Company	651-224-2844
Jean, Voyagers Charter Bus	218-377-4343
Lois Lewis, Birchdale – Lunch	218-634-2048
Corryn Trash, Lake of the Woods	218-634-1842
Pam Tomevi, Koochiching	218-283-1174 cell: 218-290-5662

PHONE NUMBERS FOR BWSR STAFF

USE LAST FIVE DIGITS WHEN TRANSFERRING*

Main Line: 651-296-3767 – FAX: 651-297-5615 - Updated 8/10/07

Central Office

Central Office	296-3767
Fax #	297-5615
Anderson, Mary Jo	297-4290
Bonde, Karen	297-3998
DeVoe, Natasha	205-4664
Donnelly, Conor (cell 612-408-7002)	282-3815
Engineers Cell Phone	485-8466
Eisele, Bill	282-2929
Fredbo, Tim	296-0880
Fure, Jon	296-0884
Girolamo, Dan	215-1703
Haertel, Jim	297-2906
Hubbell, Dianne	296-0873
Jaschke, John (cell 612-202-3815)	296-0878
Kean, Al (cell 651-245-6531)	297-2907
Keating, Kari	296-3767
Larson, Greg (cell 612-998-1674)	297-7029
Lewis, Michelle	296-2428
Lines, Kevin	297-1894
Luniewski, Jim	297-2622
Mack, Kristie	215-9420
Mohring, Eric	297-7360
Ogg, Tim (cell 651-295-5737)	297-8024
Remick, Polly	297-4365
Salinas, Debbie	297-8025
Schmidt, Tom	215-9008
Shaw, Dan (cell 612-236-6291)	296-0644
Sokatch, Char	297-4016
Spence, Aaron	296-0660
Straumanis, Sarma	297-7965
Strojny, Carol (cell 612-518-5545)	297-1893
Swenson, Karli (cell 612-807-0445)	282-2600
Wenzel, Tom (cell 612-720-1412)	296-0883
Weirens, Dave (cell 763-229-4308)	297-3432
Zellmer, Wayne	297-7361
Zeug, Leon	296-0714

Metro Office

Lemm, Les (cell 651-341-4208)	296-6057
Peterson, Lynda **(cell phone only)**	(612) 201-9806
Woods, Steve (cell 651-402-6997)	297-7748
Wozney Brad (cell 651-233-6673)	296-6068

Southern Regional Offices

Mankato

Fax #	(507) 389-6093
Hughes, Chris (cell 507-381-5040)	(507) 389-6784

Marshall

Fax #	(507) 537-6368
Cell Phone	(507) 829-3520
Hoek, Tabor	(507) 537-7260
Santjer, Scott (cell 612-723-0298)	(507) 537-6097
Serreyn, Roxie	(507) 537-6060
Sill, David	(507) 537-6374

New Ulm

Fax # (cell 507-276-5386)	(507) 359-6018
Drewitz, Matt (cell 507-766-5020)	(507) 359-6076
Fischer, Tom	(507) 359-6091
Hedtke, Jeff (cell 651-485-8470)	(507) 359-6092
Hiles, Mark	(507) 359-6077
Nielsen, Jeff	(507) 359-6075
Swanson-Cullen, Carla	(507) 359-6074

Rochester

Fax #	(507) 285-7144
Cell Phone	(507) 696-3617
Erickson, Dorothy	(507) 281-7797
Kells, Mary	(507) 280-2873
Maul, Jeremy (cell 507-380-4047)	(507) 280-5076
Peterson, Dave	(507) 280-2874

Northern Regional Offices

Bemidji

Fax #	(218) 755-4201
Best, Bill (cell 218-556-4686)	(218) 333-8026
Dwight, Brian (cell 218-820-2335)	(218) 333-8027
Grundmeier, Brigitte	(218) 755-4235
Krystosek, Dale (cell 218-820-9381)	(218) 333-8029
Severts, Chad (cell 218-368-0736)	(218) 333-8028

Brainerd

Fax #	(218) 828-6036
Conference Room	(218) 833-8607
Flemming, Mary Jo	(218) 828-2383
Grow, Keith (cell 218-820-3655)	(218) 828-6035
Hrubes, Jeff (cell 218-368-7683)	(218) 833-8608
Overland, John (cell 218-232-4852)	(218) 825-6807
Shelito, Ron (cell 218-820-3794)	(218) 828-2604
Steward, Dan (cell 218-820-1679)	(218) 828-2598
Weinerman, Jason (cell 218-820-1688)	(218) 828-6045

Duluth

Fax #	(218) 723-4794
Flemming, Mary Jo	(218) 723-4752
Lemmerman, Jim (cell 218-341-0703)	(218) 723-4996
McDonnell, Julie	(218) 723-4607
Nelson, Mark (cell 218-349-1834)	(218) 723-4923

Fergus Falls

Fax #	(218) 736-7215
Cell Phone	(218) 770-3802
Pete Waller	(218) 736-5445 ext 104

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

DATE: August 13, 2007

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

FROM: John Jaschke, Executive Director

SUBJECT: August 22-23, 2007, Board Tour/Meeting Notice

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will tour Koochiching and Lake of the Woods Counties on Wednesday, August 22, 2007. See the attached tour itinerary.

Registration, coffee/rolls, welcome, introductions, and an overview of the day will be held at the Holiday Inn in International Falls (1500 Hwy. 71, phone: 218-283-8000) at 7:30 a.m. A coach bus will promptly depart from the Holiday Inn at 8:30 a.m.

We will tour conservation practices in Koochiching County – have a buffet lunch at the Birchdale Community Center and then tour conservation practices in Lake of the Woods County.

We will arrive at the Sportsman's Lodge in Baudette (3244 Bur Oak Road NW; phone: 1-800-862-8602) about 4:00 p.m. for an issues forum. The issues forum will be held in the lower level meeting room of the Sportsman's Lodge.

Dinner reservations are at 5:30 p.m. at the Sportsman's Lodge. Dinner will be served upstairs in the main dining room. We will depart from the Sportsman's Lodge about 6:30 p.m. and arrive back at the Holiday Inn in International Falls about 8:00 p.m.

If you have special food needs, or require a vegetarian meal, please contact Mary Jo Anderson at 651-297-4290 or maryjo.Anderson@bwsr.state.mn.us as soon as possible.

Sleeping rooms have been reserved at the Holiday Inn for Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, August 21 and 22. See the attached room reservation list. The rooms have been direct billed (you do not pay for the room), unless noted on the rooming list. Please let Mary Jo Anderson know asap if you will not need a sleeping room.

The Board of Water and Soil Resources will meet on Thursday, August 23, at 8:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn. See information in the board packet.

The following information pertains to agenda items:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Northern Water Planning Committee

1. **Aitkin County Request For Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension** – See attachment. ***DECISION ITEM***

2. **Cass County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension** – See attachment. ***DECISION ITEM***

3. **Crow Wing County Priority Concerns Scoping Document** - Crow Wing County submitted the Priority Concerns Scoping Document for state review and comment, as part of updating their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. The Northern Water Planning Committee met August 8th after the state agencies comment period ended. The Committee's recommendations or requirements for the content of the final plan are drafted for the full board to review and take action on. The state's expectations of the final plan must be sent to Crow Wing County. See attachment. ***DECISION ITEM***

4. **Kanabec County Local Water Management Plan** - At the August 8th Northern Water Planning Committee, the Kanabec County Water planner presented the local water management plan for approval. The priority concerns for the Kanabec LWMP are: 1) the protection of shore lands and tributaries from erosion, sedimentation and nutrient loading, 2) drainage ditch maintenance, 3) ground water concerns, and 4) ground and surface water. The plan will run for ten years from 2007 through 2017 with a work plan update to take place in 2012. The Northern Water Planning Committee recommended approval without additional comment. See attachment. ***DECISION ITEM***

5. **Kittson County Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) Extension -** The effective end date of the Kittson County CLWP is December 31, 2007. On March 21, 2007, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources received, in accordance with current guidelines, a request to extend the effective date of the county's CLWP two years until December 31, 2009. The Kittson Soil and Water Conservation District has been delegated responsibility for administering and updating the CLWP plan. The coordinator, Holly Anderson, is also the zoning administrator who is currently in the process of updating the Kittson County Zoning Ordinance. As required by MPCA, Ms. Anderson must also begin an update of the septic ordinance in 2007 and possibly create a feedlot ordinance. The extension request is due to staff limitations at the SWCD. The requested two-year extension will provide the SWCD staff with the time to complete the plan update and also position themselves better to take advantage of the Clean Water Legacy Program. The Board Conservationist has recommended approval of the extension and will continue working with the coordinator to insure the plan is completed in a timely fashion. See attachment. ***DECISION ITEM***

6. **Koochiching County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan -** Koochiching County has submitted their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Update for state review and comment. The Northern Water Planning Committee met on August 8th in Grand Rapids to review the content of the plan, state agency comments to the plan, and to make recommendations for the final water plan approval. The Committee's recommendations or requirements for content of the final water plan are drafted for the full Board to review and act upon. The state's expectations of the final plan must be sent to Koochiching County. See attachment. ***DECISION ITEM***

Southern Water Planning Committee

1. **Jackson County Priority Concerns Scoping Document -** Jackson County, as part of updating their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan, submitted the Priority Concerns Scoping Document for state review and comment. The Southern Water Planning Committee of the Board, chaired by Brian Kletscher, met July 19, 2007, after the state agency review period ended. The committee's recommendation for the content of the final plan is drafted for the full Board review and action. The state's expectations for the final plan must be sent to Jackson County. See attachment. ***Decision Item***

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Lake of the Woods Water Sustainability Foundation** – Todd Sellers, Executive Director, Kenora, Ontario, Canada – ***INFORMATION ITEM***

2. **Forestry Conservation Practice -** The 2007 Legislature directed the BWSR to develop a forestry practices docket for cost-share money. The Grants Program and Policy Committee is recommending development of a draft forestry practice to be adopted for FY 2009. See attachment. ***INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM***

3. **BWSR Strategic Plan** – Brian Napstad and Cliff Tweedale – ***INFORMATION ITEM***

4. **Supplemental 2008 Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant (FWQMG) Allocations** - The Grants Program and Policy Committee is recommending additional funding for high priority projects ineligible under the CWL appropriation. See attachment. ***DECISION ITEM***

5. **Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board, FY08 Annual Work Plan –** This plan is for BWSR oversight of administrative funding related to the efforts of the Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board (MRB). Administrative funding for MRB, via state general funds, has been restored to $100,000 each of the next two years. The overall budget objectives are included in the plan. Staff

recommends approval of this plan and execution of the administrative grant agreement for FY 2008. See attachment. ***DECISION ITEM***

If you have any questions regarding the agenda, please feel free to give me a call at 651-296-0878. The meeting will adjourn about 12:30 p.m. I look forward to seeing you next week!

** **Please Note:** The Public Relations, Outreach and Strategic Planning Committee will meet prior to the Board meeting, at 7:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn.

Bemidji
217 Bemidji Avenue N.
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
217 S. 7th Street
Suite 202
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6056

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Drive
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
2300 Silver Creek
Road N.E.
Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 280-2874
fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N.
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

Web: www.bwsr.state.mn.us TTY: (800) 627-3529 An equal opportunity employer Printed on recycled paper

Tuesday, August 21, 2007

We have a casual evening planned for Tuesday night. We have dinner reservations at 6:30 p.m. at the Thunderbird Lodge (phone: 218-286-3151 -- 2170 County Road 139 – located ten miles east from the Holiday Inn on Hwy. 11 East) on Rainy Lake. If you're interested, you can take a sunset pontoon ride or take the mini-coach bus back to the Holiday Inn for rest and relaxation.

If you would like to ride the mini-coach bus to the Thunderbird Lodge, meet in the lobby of the Holiday Inn at 6:00 p.m.

Please let me know asap if you plan to join us for dinner and a pontoon ride.
I need to have a count on the number of attendees.

Board Members, Advisors, and Staff:

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will tour Koochiching and Lake of the Woods Counties on Wednesday, August 22, 2007.

Please let me know your plans and respond to my e-mail as soon as possible. Contact me at 651-297-4290 or maryjo.anderson@bwsr.state.mn.us

Tuesday, August 21, 2007

A 25-passenger mini-coach bus will depart from the BWSR office in St. Paul on Tuesday, August 21, 2007, about 9:30 a.m. If you are interested in riding along on the mini-coach bus, and have not yet responded to my previous e-mail, please contact me soon as possible and I will reserve a seat on the bus for you.

We will stop en route to International Falls for lunch, and arrive at the Holiday Inn (1500 Hwy. 71, phone: 218-283-8000) in International Falls about 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday. If you would like to meet the mini-coach bus en route to International Falls, and be picked up at a location outside of St. Paul, please let me know asap, so accommodations can be made.

We have a casual evening planned for Tuesday night. We have dinner reservations at 6:30 p.m. at the Thunderbird Lodge (phone: 218-286-3151 -- 2170 County Road 139 – located ten miles east from the Holiday Inn on Hwy. 11 East) on Rainy Lake. If you're interested, you can take a sunset pontoon ride or take the mini-coach bus back to the Holiday Inn for rest and relaxation. Please let me know asap if you plan to join us for dinner and a pontoon ride. I need to have a count on the number of attendees.

Sleeping rooms have been reserved at the Holiday Inn for Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, August 21 and 22. See the attached room reservation list. The rooms have been direct billed (you do not pay for the room), unless noted on the rooming list. Please let me know asap if you will not need a sleeping room.

Wednesday, August 22, 2007

You will be on your own for breakfast on Wednesday morning. There are various restaurants in the immediate area.

Registration, coffee/rolls, welcome, introductions, and an overview of the day will be held at the Holiday Inn at 7:30 a.m. A coach bus will promptly depart from the Holiday Inn in International Falls at 8:30 a.m. See the attached tour itinerary. We will tour conservation practices in Koochiching County – have a buffet lunch at the Birchdale Community Center and then tour conservation practices in Lake of the Woods County.

We will arrive at the Sportsman's Lodge in Baudette (3244 Bur Oak Road NW; phone: 1-800-862-8602) about 4:00 p.m. for an issues forum. The issues forum will be held in the lower level meeting room of the Sportsman's Lodge.

Dinner reservations are at 5:30 p.m. at the Sportsman's Lodge. Dinner will be served upstairs in the main dining room. We will depart from the Sportsman's Lodge about 6:30 p.m. and arrive back at the Holiday Inn in International Falls about 8:00 p.m.

If you have special food needs, or require a vegetarian meal, please contact me as soon as possible.

If you will not be present for the Tuesday night dinner/pontoon ride; Wednesday coach bus tour, dinner in the evening, or if you do not need a room reservation on Tuesday or Wednesday evening at the Holiday Inn, please contact me immediately, as we need to know the number of people attending.

Thursday, August 23, 2007

The Public Relations Committee will meet on Thursday morning, August 23, from 7:00 – 8:30 a.m., at the Holiday Inn (meeting room to be determined).

The Board of Water and Soil Resources will meet on Thursday, August 23, at 8:30 a.m., at the Holiday Inn (meeting room to be determined).

The Board meeting packet and information will be sent under separate cover.

I appreciate your prompt response to my requests.

From: MaryJo Anderson
To: Allen, Dana; Anderson, Jim; Brutlag, Paul; Burandt, Robert; Cook, Kay; Edgerton, Wayne; Fairbanks, Quentin; Holsten, Mark; Kletscher, Brian; Kramer, Randy; Kramka, Larry; Langseth, Paul; Martin, Joe; Moore, Brad; Napstad, Brian; Smallidge, Louise; Thorvig, Lisa; Tiedemann, Gene; Tolliver, LuAnn; Wilson, Dan
Date: 5/17/2007 12:33:15 PM
Subject: BWSR Tour and Meeting - August 21-23, 2007

Board Members,

The August Board tour and meeting will be held in Koochiching and Lake of the Woods Counties. Staff will have a van/mini-bus departing from St. Paul on Tuesday morning, August 21. We could stop in St. Cloud or various locations on the way to International Falls to board those who are interested in riding along. We may also have a few short tour stops along the way. If you are interested in riding on the van/mini-bus, please contact me at 651-297-4290 or at maryjo.anderson@bwsr.state.mn.us and I will make accomodations for you. We will arrive at the Holiday Inn in International Falls Tuesday evening, sleeping rooms have been reserved for the nights of August 21 and 22.

The Board tour will start about 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 22, departing from the Holiday Inn in International Falls. We will have lunch, a panel discussion, and dinner along the way, and return to the Holiday Inn about 8:30 p.m. The Board meeting will be held on Thursday, August 23, at the Holiday Inn, beginning at 8:00 a.m., and adjourning about noon. Those who ride on the van/mini-bus to International Falls will have a return ride back to your departure destination on Wednesday.

Please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in a ride to/from International Falls. Also, please let us know if you are unable to attend the tour/meeting.

Mary Jo Anderson
Board of Water & Soil Resources
maryjo.anderson@bwsr.state.mn.us
651-297-4290

CC: bill.eisele; doug.thomas; john.jaschke; maryjo.anderson; steve.woods

BOARD OF WATER & SOIL RESOURCES TOUR

August 22, 2007
Holiday Inn
International Falls, Minnesota

Hosted by the
Koochiching Soil & Water Conservation District
and the
Lake of the Woods Soil & Water Conservation District

7:30 a.m.	**Registration and Check-in** Coffee and rolls in the I. Falls Holiday Inn meeting room (provided by Koochiching and LOW SWCD
8:00	**Welcome and Tour Preview** City of International Falls Mayor, Shawn Mason (5 minutes) County Board Chair, Charles Lepper (5 minutes) Tour preview (10 minutes)
8:20	**Load Bus**
8:30	**Depart from Holiday Inn**
8:30-8:50	**Drive time**
8:50-8:55	**Unload bus**
8:55-9:30	**Site 1 – Wetland Identification** • **City of Littlefork Proposed Building Site** • **Lyle Larson Incidental Wetland Site**
9:30-9:35	**Load bus**
9:35-9:55	**Drive time**
9:55-10:05	**Site 2 – Beneficial Reuse of Wood Ash (stay on bus, stop for 5-10 min)**
10:05-10:25	**Drive time**
10:25-10:30	**Unload bus**
10:30-10:55	**Site 3 – Forest Stewardship/Tree Farm**
10:55-11:00	**Load bus**
11:00-11:25	**Drive time to Birchdale**
11:25-11:30	**Unload**
11:30-12:15	**Lunch** Birchdale Community Center Play 18 minute locally produced video of Koochiching natural resources
12:15-12:20	**Load Bus**
12:20-12:25	**Drive time to Nelson Park**
12:25-12:30	**Unload**
12:30-12:55	**Site 4 – Nelson Park Erosion Project**
12:55-1:00	**Load**
1:00-1:40	**Drive to FWQMG site**
1:40-1:45	**Unload**
1:45-2:10	**Site 5- Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant** (Reinhardt Feedlot Relocation using cost share funds)
2:10-2:15	**Load**
2:15-2:25	**Drive time to Willy Walleye**

2:25-2:30 **Unload**
2:30-2:50 **Site 6 – Willy Walleye and Water Quality Monitoring Program**
2:50-2:55 **Load**
2:55-3:20 **Drive time to Bostic Creek**
2:50-3:10 **Site 7 – Bostic Creek and Judicial Ditch Erosion and Sedimentation Issues (stay on bus)**

3:10-3:15 **Drive time to Graceton Beach**
3:15-3:20 **Unload**
3:20-3:45 **Site 8 – Lake of the Woods and the Graceton Beach. Big Lake issues, 2002 Flood, State Cost Share funding** (may try to extend time at the Lake)

Break

3:45-3:50 **Load**
3:50-4:00 **Drive to Sportsman's Lodge on the Rainy River (there will be a short break prior to the forum to allow people a chance to settle in, use the bathroom, and purchase beverages if they would like).**

5:30

4:15-5:15 **Forum of Local Issues**
5:15-5:45 **Chance to enjoy the view and wander around the docks**
5:45 **Dinner is served**
6:50 **Load the bus for I. Falls**
7:00 **Depart for I.Falls (arrive at I.Falls at 8:30)**

- bottled water
= pop
coolers

- name tags

BOARD OF WATER & SOIL RESOURCES TOUR
August 22, 2007
Holiday Inn
International Falls, Minnesota

Hosted by the
Koochiching Soil & Water Conservation District
and the
Lake of the Woods Soil & Water Conservation District

1:30 Coffee/Rolls — rounds — room set-up? — Coffee/rolls?

~~8:00~~	**Welcome** – City of International Falls Mayor, Shawn Mason (10 minutes) ~~Koochiching/LOW SWCDs (10 minutes)~~ ~~Chuck Lee~~ Charlie Lepper
8:20	**Load Bus**
8:30	**Depart from Holiday Inn**
8:55	**Site 1 – Wetland Identification** (off bus) • **City of Littlefork proposed building site** • **Landowner project**
9:45	~~**Site 3 – Beneficial Reuse of Wood Ash**~~ drive by
10:30	**Site 2 – Forest Stewardship/Tree Farm**
11:30	**Lunch** – cost? ~~– cost?~~ (#15/Kooch) Birchdale Community Center Soup and Sandwiches (Lois Lewis – wife of SWCD Board member) – or – if we want to do a barbeque or grill items, we will need to line up volunteers, food, etc as there are no restaurants to cater in the vicinity. Maybe we can check into something like a pig roast as well???
12:30	**Site 3 – Nelson Park Erosion Project** (this is adjacent to the Birchdale Community Center)
1:00	**Load Bus for Lake of the Woods portion of the tour…**
1:30-1:50	**Site 2 – Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant** (Schmitz Feedlot Relocation using cost share funds)
2:00-2:30	**Site 1 – Willy Walleye and Water Quality Monitoring Program** (bathroom break and photo opportunity, too) cost?
2:50-3:10	**Site 3 – Bostic Creek and Judicial Ditch Erosion and Sedimentation Issues**
3:30-3:40	**Site 4 – Lake of the Woods and the Graceton Beach. Big Lake issues, 2002 Flood, State Cost Share funding**(may try to extend time at the Lake)
3:55	**Arrive at Sportsman's Lodge on the Rainy River** – cost?
4:00	~~**R&R on the R.R.**~~ — ?
4:45	**Forum (1 hour, 2 topics)** TOPIC = How to manage 4M acres w/4 staff
5:30	**Dinner** – cost?
~~**7:00**~~ 6:30	**Depart for I.Falls (arrive at I.Falls at 8:30)**

- card table
- cookies

Low recap

- Ron Shelito
- Jeff Haubes to moderate

- Morning Break?

From: "Trask, Corryn - Baudette, Mn" <corryn.trask@mn.nacdnet.net>
To: <maryjo.anderson@bwsr.state.mn.us>
Date: 8/20/2007 2:52:43 PM
Subject: Evening dinner

Mary Jo,

Helen Cozzetto (DNR) will be arriving in I.Falls on Tuesday evening. She is wondering if it would be possible to attend the evening dinner.

I emailed her the information for the dinner, and said that I would try to have you just contact her directly to let her know if this would be alright.

Her information is:

Helen.cozzetto@dnr.state.mn.us
Ph: 218-755-3954 Cell: 866-766-3420

Thanks,
Corryn

CC: "Tomevi, Pam - International Falls, MN" <Pam.Tomevi@mn.nacdnet.net>

Name	Agency	Dinner 8/21 6:30 pm Thunderbird	Coffee and Rolls	Tour 8/22 Bus	Tour 8/22 Lunch	Tour 8/22 Dinner
Shawn Mason	Mayor of Intl Falls **(S)**		1	0	0	0
Chuck Lepper	Koochiching County Commissioner **(S)**		1	1	1	1
Kevin Adee	Koochiching County Commissioner	1	1	1	1	1
[redacted]ade Pavleck	Koochiching County Commissioner	1	1	1	1	1
Mike Hanson	Koochiching County Commissioner	1	1	1	1	1
Tom Morris	Koochiching Lands & Forests **(S)**		1	0	1	0
Ralph Lewis	Koochiching SWCD Supervisor	1	1	0	1	1
Troy Promersberger	Koochiching SWCD Supervisor		1	0	1	0
Bernie Uran	Koochiching SWCD Supervisor		1	1	1	1
Al Linder	Koochiching SWCD Supervisor	1	1	1	1	1
Pam Tomevi	Koochiching SWCD Staff	1	1	1	1	1
Ryan Heinen	Koochiching SWCD Staff		1	1	1	1
Mike Larson	DNR Fisheries **(F)**			0	0	1
Tom Kratzke	Lake of the Woods Tourism Board **(F)**			0	0	1
Name ?	Forestry/Agricultural Speaker **(F)**			0	0	1
Kim Bredeson	Lake of the Woods County Commissioner			1	0	1
Todd Beckel	Lake of the Woods County Commissioner			1	0	1
Ken Moorman	Lake of the Woods County Commissioner			0	0	1
Ed Arnesen	Lake of the Woods County Commissioner			0	0	1
Roger Krause	Lake of the Woods SWCD Supervisor			1	0	1
Marshall Nelson	Lake of the Woods SWCD Supervisor			0	0	0
Tom Ballard	Lake of the Woods SWCD Supervisor			0	0	1
Josh Stromlund	Lake of the Woods LWP/SWCD Director **(F)**		1	1	1	1
Corryn Trask	Lake of the Woods SWCD Staff		1	1	1	1
Mike Hirst	Lake of the Woods SWCD Staff		1	1	1	1
Bruce Hasbargen	Lake of the Woods County Hwy Enginner			1	1	1
Jim Courneya	MPCA Staff			1	0	1
[redacted]Ann Buck	MASWCD		1	1	1	1
[redacted]m Saxhaug	Senator		1	1	1	1
Tom Anzelc	Representative		1	1	1	1
Jon Hodgson	NCMNJPB			1	1	1
Dana Allen	BWSR Board Member	1	1	1	1	1
Jim Anderson – not attending			0	0	0	0
Paul Brutlag	BWSR Board Member	1	1	1	1	1
Bob Burandt	BWSR Board Member	1	1	1	1	1
Wayne Edgerton	DNR	1	1	1	1	1
Paul Eger	BWSR Board Member	1	1	1	1	1
Quentin Fairbanks	BWSR Board Member		1	1	1	1
~~Brian Kletscher~~	BWSR Board Member	0	0	0	0	0
Randy Kramer	BWSR Board Member - Chair	1	1	1	1	1
Larry Kramka	BWSR Board Member	0	1	1	1	1
Paul Langseth	BWSR Board Member	1	1	1	1	1
Joe Martin	BWSR Board Member	1	1	1	1	1
Brian Napstad	BWSR Board Member	1	1	1	1	1
Ken Robinson	BWSR Board Member	1	1	1	1	1
Louise Smallidge	BWSR Board Member	1	1	1	1	1
Gene Tiedemann	BWSR Board Member	1	1	1	1	1
LuAnn Tolliver	BWSR Board Member	1	1	1	1	1
Mary Jo Anderson	BWSR Staff	1	1	1	1	1
Jon Fure	BWSR Staff	1	1	1	1	1
Jeff Hrubes	BWSR Staff **(F)**	1	1	1	1	1
John Jaschke	BWSR Staff - Executive Director **(M)**	1	1	1	1	1
[redacted]ri Keating	BWSR Staff	1	1	1	1	1
[redacted]s Lemm	BWSR Staff	0	1	1	1	1
Jim Lemmerman	BWSR Staff	1	1	1	1	1
Chad Severts	BWSR Staff **(F)**	1	1	1	1	1
Ron Shelito	BWSR Staff **(FF)**	1	1	1	1	1
Steve Woods	BWSR Staff	0	1	1	1	1
Wayne Zellmer	BWSR Staff	1	1	1	1	1
Bruce Reinke	Bus Driver		1	1	1	1
	S= Speaker					
	F = Forum Panel					
	FF = Forum Facilitator					
	M = Moderator					
	Unconfirmed					
	Confirmed					
Totals		6	47	49	48	56
		38	45	49	46	55

BWSR ATTENDEES

1. Dana Allen, board member
2. ~~Jim Anderson,~~ board member (representing UofM/Dept. of Soil, Water & Climate)
3. Mary Jo Anderson, staff
4. Paul Brutlag, board member
5. Bob Burandt, board member
6. Wayne Edgerton (representing DNR)
7. Paul Eger, board member (representing MPCA)
8. Quentin Fairbanks, board member
9. Jon Fure, staff
10. Jeff Hrubes, staff
11. John Jaschke, executive director
12. Kari Keating, staff
13. ~~Brian Kletscher,~~ board member
14. Randy Kramer, chair
15. Larry Kramka, board member (representing DNR)
16. Paul Langseth, board member
17. Les Lemm, staff
18. Jim Lemmerman, staff
19. Joe Martin, board member (representing MDA)
20. Brian Napstad, board member
21. Ken Robinson, board member
22. Chad Severts, staff
23. Ron Shelito, staff
24. Louise Smallidge, board member
25. Gene Tiedemann, board member
26. LuAnn Tolliver, board member
27. Steve Woods, staff
28. Wayne Zellmer, staff
29. Bus Driver

Name	Agency	Dinner 8/21 6:30 pm Thunderbird	Tour 8/22 Bus	Tour 8/22 Lunch	Tour 8/22 Dinner
Shawn Mason	Mayor of Intl Falls **(Speaker)**		0	0	0
[redacted]uck Lepper	Koochiching County Commissioner **(Speaker)**		1	1	1
[redacted]evin Adee	Koochiching County Commissioner	1	1	1	1
Wade Pavleck	Koochiching County Commissioner	1	1	1	1
Kallie Briggs	Koochiching County Commissioner		1	1	1
Mike Hanson	Koochiching County Commissioner		1	1	1
Tom Morris	Koochiching Lands & Forests **(Speaker)**		0	1	0
Ralph Lewis	Koochiching SWCD Supervisor	1	0	1	1
Troy Promersberger	Koochiching SWCD Supervisor		1	1	1
Bernie Uran	Koochiching SWCD Supervisor		1	1	1
Al Linder	Koochiching SWCD Supervisor	1	1	1	1
Pam Tomevi	Koochiching SWCD Staff	1	1	1	1
Ryan Heinen	Koochiching SWCD Staff		1	1	1
Kim Bredeson	Lake of the Woods County Commissioner		0	0	1
Todd Beckel	Lake of the Woods County Commissioner		1	1	1
Marshall Nelson	Lake of the Woods SWCD Supervisor		0	0	0
Tom Ballard	Lake of the Woods SWCD Supervisor		0	0	1
Josh Stromlund	Lake of the Woods LWP/SWCD Director		1	1	1
Corryn Trask	Lake of the Woods SWCD Staff		1	1	1
Mike Hirst	Lake of the Woods SWCD Staff		1	1	1
Bruce Hasbargen	Lake of the Woods County Hwy Enginner		1	1	1
Jim Courneya	MPCA Staff		1	0	1
LeAnn Buck	MASWCD		1	1	1
Tom Saxhaug	Senator		1	1	1
Tom Anzelc	Representative		1	1	1
Jon Hodgson	NCMNJPB		1	1	1
[redacted]	BWSR Board Member		1	1	1
	BWSR Board Member		1	1	1
	BWSR Board Member		1	1	1
	BWSR Board Member		1	1	1
	BWSR Board Member		1	1	1
	BWSR Board Member		1	1	1
	BWSR Board Member		1	1	1
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	BWSR Board Member		1	1	1
	BWSR Board Member		1	1	1
	BWSR Board Member		1	1	1
	BWSR Board Member		1	1	1
	BWSR Board Member		1	1	1
John Jaske	BWSR Staff		1	1	1
Mary Jo Anderson	BWSR Staff		1	1	1
Ron Shelito	BWSR Staff		1	1	1
Jeff Hrubes	BWSR Staff		1	1	1
Chad Severts	BWSR Staff		1	1	1
	BWSR Staff		1	1	1
	BWSR Staff		1	1	1
	BWSR Staff		1	1	1
[redacted]	BWSR Staff		1	1	1
	BWSR Staff		1	1	1
	BWSR Staff		1	1	1

	BWSR Staff		1	1	1
	BWSR Staff		1	1	1
	BWSR Staff		1	1	1
Totals		**5**	**51**	**52**	**54**

Holiday Inn
International Falls, MN
218-283-8000
Sleeping Rooms Reserved for:

Tuesday, August 21

1. Dana Allen
2. ~~**Jim Anderson** ***~~
3. Mary Jo Anderson
4. Paul Brutlag
5. Bob Burandt
6. **Wayne Edgerton** ***
7. **Paul Eger** ***
8. Quentin Fairbanks
9. Jon Fure
10. Jeff Hrubes
11. John Jaschke
12. Kari Keating
13. Brian Kletscher
14. Randy Kramer
15. **Larry Kramka** ***
16. Paul Langseth
17. Les Lemm
18. Jim Lemmerman
19. **Joe Martin** ***
20. Brian Napstad
21. Ken Robinson
22. Chad Severts
23. Ron Shelito
24. Louise Smallidge
25. Gene Tiedemann
26. LuAnn Tolliver
27. Steve Woods
28. Bus Driver +++

Wednesday, August 22

1. Dana Allen
2. ~~**Jim Anderson** ***~~
3. Mary Jo Anderson
4. Paul Brutlag
5. Bob Burandt
6. **Wayne Edgerton** ***
7. **Paul Eger** ***
8. Quentin Fairbanks
9. Jon Fure
10. Jeff Hrubes
11. John Jaschke
12. Kari Keating
13. Brian Kletscher
14. Randy Kramer
15. **Larry Kramka** ***
16. Paul Langseth
17. Les Lemm
18. Jim Lemmerman
19. **Joe Martin** ***
20. Brian Napstad
21. Ken Robinson
22. Chad Severts
23. Ron Shelito
24. Louise Smallidge
25. Gene Tiedemann
26. LuAnn Tolliver
27. Steve Woods
28. Bus Driver +++

- **Rooms will be direct billed.**
- **Those names with *** will pay for their rooms.**
- **Rooms are non-smoking.**

add Wayne Zellmer — smoking room

Riders on the Mini-Coach Bus to/from International Falls

1) Dana Allen
2) Mary Jo Anderson
3) Wayne Edgerton
4) Paul Eger
5) Jon Fure
6) Kari Keating
7) Louise Smallidge
8) LuAnn Tolliver
9) Wayne Zellmer

10) John Jaschke *** return only

Kim 507-261-0018

Riders on the Mini-Coach Bus to/from International Falls

1) Mary Jo Anderson
2) Wayne Edgerton
3) Paul Eger
4) Jon Fure
5) ~~John Jaschke~~
6) Kari Keating
7) ~~Les Lemm~~
8) Louise Smallidge
9) LuAnn Tolliver
10) ~~Steve Woods~~
11) Dana Allen

~~Randy Kramer - meet in St. Cloud???~~

John Jaschke return ride only

- Wayne Zellmer

Bus to IF

- Louise Smallidge
- Randy (meet in St Cloud)
- LuAnn Tolliver
- Wayne Edgerton wife
- Paul Eger

Jon Fure

Will meet in IF
- Larry Kramka
- Paul Blutlag
- Joe Martyn
- Quentin Fairbanks

~~Doug~~ ~~Steve~~ ~~Les~~ Kari Wayne 2

Not Attending
- Dan Wilson

Riders on the Mini-Coach Bus to/from International Falls

1) Mary Jo Anderson
2) Wayne Edgerton
3) Paul Eger
4) Jon Fure
5) ~~John Jaschke~~
6) Kari Keating
7) ~~Les Lomm~~
8) Louise Smallidge
9) LuAnn Tolliver
10) ~~Steve Woods~~
11) Dana Allen

~~Randy Kramer – meet in St. Cloud???~~

John Jaschke return ride only

- Wayne Zeemer

Mary Jo –

I would appreciate riding in a van/bus to the August tour, if it is available. Maybe we could take a poll of interested people.

Louise

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
INTERNAL REQUEST FOR GOODS OR SERVICES

VENDOR	**NAME** Laidlaw Transit, Inc. - ATTENTION: Kelli Morgen	SHIPTO	**NAME** MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
	ADDRESS 714 Bench Street		**ADDRESS** 520 Lafayette Road North
	CITY, STATE, ZIP Red Wing, MN 55066		**CITY, STATE, ZIP** St. Paul, MN 55155
REMI TTO	**NAME**	BI LLTO	**NAME** MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
	ADDRESS		**ADDRESS** 520 Lafayette Road North
	CITY, STATE, ZIP		**CITY, STATE, ZIP** St. Paul, MN 55155

CONTRACT NO.

LINE NO.	COMMODITY CODE	UNIT(S) ORDERED	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	UNIT PRICE $	DISCOUNT $	TOTAL PRICE
1		1	25-passenger mini-coach bus	EA	1,582.82		$ 1,582.82
			to transport board members and staff to the Holiday Inn				$ -
			in International Falls, departing from St. Paul on August 21,				$ -
			shuttle the group to dinner on Tuesday evening, no service				$ -
			needed on August 22; return to St. Paul after the Board				$ -
			meeting on Thursday, August 23, 2007.				$ -
							$ -
2		1	Fuel Surcharge	EA	94.97		$ 94.97
							$ -
			CONFIRMING ORDER				$ -
							$ -
							$ -
			SUBTOTAL				$ 1,677.79
			SALES TAX (only for catering or lodging)				$ -
			GRATUITY				$ -

ORDERED BY: Mary Jo Anderson	**DATE:** 8/2/2007	**SUPERVISOR APPROVAL:**	**DATE:**	**TOTAL:** $ 1,677.79
PHONE NUMBER: 651-297-4290				

Laidlaw Transit, Inc.
714 Bench Street
Red Wing MN 55066
Phone: 800-962-3361
FAX: 651-224-0938

Confirmation

Customer NO: 7004-1134
Workorder: 29530
Order Date: July 30, 2007
PO Number:
Group: MN Board Of Water & Soil Reso



Deposit Required: $0.00
Deposit Due on: 7/30/2007
Deposit Paid: $0.00
Balance Due on: 7/30/2007

MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
Saint Paul MN 55155

FROM			TO					
DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	AMOUNT	MISC.	TOTAL
8/21/2007	09:00	Saint Paul MN 55155 MN BWSR 520 Lafayette Rd N	8/23/2007	19:00	International Falls MN 56649 Holiday Inn 1500 Highway 71 ***Ret 8/23***	$1582.82		$1582.82

Equipment Type: 25 Pax

8/21 -- p/u passengers in st. paul ----> continue to international falls (stop for lunch along the way ----> drop-off at holiday inn ----> shuttle group to dinner and back
8/22 -- services not need this day
/23 -- meetings get done around 1300 ----> return to st. paul
group is responsible for driver's lodging

Fuel Surcharge			$94.97	$94.97
Totals:	**1582.82**		**94.97**	**$1677.79**
		Tax:		**$0.00**
		Discounts:		**$0.00**
		Misc. Charges:		**$94.97**
		Deposit Paid:		**$0.00**
		Balance Due:		**$1677.79**

Customer Signature: Mary Jo Anderson Date: 8/2/07

Visit our Web Sight At: www.laidlaw-mn.com

PLEASE SIGN THIS AGREEMENT AND RETURN TO CONFIRM YOUR TRIP. TERMS AND CONDITIONS: 1) PRICE IS BASED ON TIME OR MILES GIVEN WHEN ORDERED AND FINAL COST MAY BE ADJUSTED ACCORDINGLY. We accept Visa & Mastercard We reserve the right to lease equipment from other charter companies in order to fullfill this agreement. CANCELLATION POLICY: No charge for cancellations that occur 3 days prior to trip date. Cancellations between 48 and 24 hours will be charged $150.00 and a 4 hour minimum will be charged for trips cancelled within 24 hours of the trip date. No Smoking Please!

Laidlaw Transit, Inc.
714 Bench Street
Red Wing MN 55066
Phone: 800-962-3361
FAX: 651-224-0938

Quotation

Customer NO: 7004-220
Workorder: 29525
Order Date: July 30, 2007
PO Number:
Group: Minnesota BWSR



Deposit Required: $0.00
Deposit Due on: 7/30/2007
Deposit Paid: $0.00
Balance Due on: 7/30/2007

A-1 Quote

FROM			TO					
DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	AMOUNT	MISC.	TOTAL
8/21/2007	09:00	Saint Paul MN 55155 MN BWSR 520 Lafayette Road North	8/23/2007	19:00	International Falls MN 56649 Holiday Inn 1500 HWY 71	$1582.82		$1582.82

Equipment Type: 25 Pax

8/21 -- p/u passengers in st. paul ----> continue to international falls (stop for lunch along the way ----> drop-off at holiday inn ----> shuttle group to dinner and back
8/22 -- services not need this day
8/23 -- meetings get done around 1300 ----> return to st. paul
group is responsible for driver's lodging

Fuel Surcharge			$94.97	$94.97
	Totals:	**1582.82**	**94.97**	**$1677.79**
			Tax:	**$0.00**
			Discounts:	**$0.00**
			Misc. Charges:	**$94.97**
			Deposit Paid:	**$0.00**
			Balance Due:	**$1677.79**

Kelli Morgen
651-224.2844
Kelli_Morgen@
lpsg.com
- per mile? no
- bathroom? no
- name of driver/2 nights

Custom Date:_____

Visit our Web Sight At: www.laidlaw-mn.com

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Laidlaw Transit, Inc.
714 Bench Street
Red Wing MN 55066
Phone: 800-962-3361
FAX: 651-224-0938

Quotation

Customer NO: 7004-220
Workorder: 29525
Order Date: July 30, 2007
PO Number:
Group: Minnesota BWSR



Deposit Required:	$0.00
Deposit Due on:	7/30/2007
Deposit Paid:	$0.00
Balance Due on:	7/30/2007

A-1 Quote

FROM			TO					
DATE	TIME	LOCATION	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	AMOUNT	MISC.	TOTAL
8/21/2007	09:00	Saint Paul MN 55155	8/23/2007	19:00	International Falls MN 56649	$1582.82		$1582.82
		MN BWSR			Holiday Inn			
		520 Lafayette Road North			1500 HWY 71			

Equipment Type: 25 Pax

8/21 -- p/u passengers in st. paul ----> continue to international falls (stop for lunch along the way ----> drop-off at holiday inn ----> shuttle group to dinner and back
8/22 -- services not need this day
8/23 -- meetings get done around 1300 ----> return to st. paul
group is responsible for driver's lodging

Fuel Surcharge			$94.97	$94.97
	Totals:	**1582.82**	**94.97**	**$1677.79**
			Tax:	**$0.00**
			Discounts:	**$0.00**
			Misc. Charges:	**$94.97**
			Deposit Paid:	**$0.00**
			Balance Due:	**$1677.79**

Customer Signature: _____ Date:_____

Visit our Web Sight At: www.laidlaw-mn.com

PLEASE SIGN THIS AGREEMENT AND RETURN TO CONFIRM YOUR TRIP. TERMS AND CONDITIONS: 1) PRICE IS BASED ON TIME OR MILES GIVEN WHEN ORDERED AND FINAL COST MAY BE ADJUSTED ACCORDINGLY. We accept Visa & Mastercard We reserve the right to lease equipment from other charter companies in order to fullfill this agreement. CANCELLATION POLICY: No charge for cancellations that occur 3 days prior to trip date. Cancellations between 48 and 24 hours will be charged $150.00 and a 4 hour minimum will be charged for trips cancelled within 24 hours of the trip date. No Smoking Please!

#3

Phone: 612-339-0612
320-253-0510

Fax: 320-252-1883

Website: www.voigtbus.com

Voigt's Bus Companies

Fax

To: Mary Jo Anderson **From:** Rachael Bonn

Fax: 651-297-5615 **Date:** June 5, 2007

Phone: **Pages:** 2 includes cover sheet

Re: Contract **CC:**

☐ Urgent ☑ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Return ☐ Please Recycle

•Comments:

Mary Jo,

Please review the quote I have worked up for you for August 21-23rd.

Please contact me with any questions you may have.

Thank you for making your reservation with Voigt's Bus Companies.

Sincerely,

Rachael Bonn

Rachael Bonn

VOIGT'S BUS COMPANIES

P O BOX 1
ST CLOUD MN 56302-0001
Sales: 800-GO VOIGT, (468-6448)
(320) 253-0510 (612) 339-0612
(Fax: 320-252-1883)

Unknown Group
Mary Jo Anderson

Quote # Q151
Date Printed: Tuesday, June 05, 2007
PO #:
Group Name: State of MN Water Soil Resources
Phone: Fax:
Salesperson: Rachael

		Time	Date	# Coaches	Description	Total Capacity
Pickup	St Paul TBA St Paul, MN	09:00 am	08/21/07	1	47 Pax Coach	47
Dropoff	International Falls Unknown to be announced International Falls, MN		08/21/07			47
Pickup	International Falls Unknown to be announced International Falls, MN	01:00 pm	08/23/07			47
Dropoff	St Paul TBA St Paul, MN	07:00 pm	08/23/07			47

Total Cost: $ 2,576.04

Special Instruction:

Osb 47 pax coach bus VCR

25 passenger mini bus: $2,105.67

No shuttle miles included in price--the cost is based on the bus/driver staying in International Falls the entire time

This is your QUOTE. Please call our office to confirm your quote.

ALCOHOL POLICY

A $200.00 alcohol deposit is required along with the payment if alcohol is planned during any part of the charter. Full reimbursement will be sent after the charter has run if it is determined by the driver and the person in charge that all is well, and that there is no extra cleaning nor repairs needed. If extra cleaning or repair to the coach is necessary the deposit will be adjusted appropriately and the balance/or bill mailed to the customer. AT NO TIME WILL ALCOHOL BE ALLOWED ON ANY SCHOOL BUS.

MISCELLANEOUS

1=Smoking is prohibited at all times on our coaches/buses 2=We reserve the right to lease equipment and drivers from other companies in order to fulfill this agreement. 3=VOIGTS is not responsible for items left on the coach/bus or loss of time due to mechanical failures, traffic, or inclement weather. 24 HOUR EMERGENCY PHONE 1-800-227-1240.

An Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer

per Anne 7/25/07

Minnesota Coaches, Inc.

Minnesota Coaches, Inc.
425 East 31st Street
HASTINGS, MN 55033
651-437-9648
(Fax: 651-437-1302)

Minnesota Board Water/Soil Resources
520 Layfayette Road N
St Paul, MN 55155

Attn: Mary Jo Anderson

Charter # 74669
Date Booked: 7/19/2007
PO #: Q986
Group Name: International Falls-Drop/Return
Phone: 651-297-4290 Fax: 651-297-5615

		Departure Time	Date	# Coaches	Description	Cap.
Pickup	MN Board Water/Soil Resources 520 Layfayette Road N St Paul, MN	09:00 am **Note:** M/C arrives @ 8:45am to load	08/21/07	1	31 Pax Coach	31
Dropoff	Holiday Inn-International Falls 1500 Hwy 71 International Falls, MN	03:30 pm	08/21/07			31
Pickup	Holiday Inn-International Falls 1500 Hwy 71 International Falls, MN	01:45 pm	08/23/07			31
Dropoff	MN Board Water/Soil Resources 520 Layfayette Road N St Paul, MN	08:00 pm	08/23/07			31

Total Cost of Service: $ 2,022.00
Fuel Surcharge: $ 101.10
Total Cost: $ 2,123.10
Deposit of $ 424.62 **is due:** July 22, 2007
Balance of $ 1,698.48 **is due:** August 11, 2007

Itinerary: ** Group will book and pay for drivers lodging **

After dropping off at Holiday Inn (3:30pm) load group to go to dinner (5:00pm) at Thunderbird Lodge (2170 Cty Road 139-International Falls (218-286-3151). Service is to be completed no later than 9:00pm on 8/21/07.

$417.40 difference

The cost specified above is based on the information supplied by you when placing your order, and is subject to change based on actual service performed. Group Leader/Charter Party will be held responsible for any malicious damage to the vehicle.

In addition, due to the current volatility in fuel costs, a small fuel surcharge may be added to your bill based on the cost of fuel at the time of your trip. We thank you for your understanding and your business.

CANCELLATION CHARGE: $50.00 per coach for cancellations within 48 hours of scheduled pick up time. Cancellations on arrival will result in the minimum charge (3 or 4 hr) for each coach ordered, or $75 for each school bus.

Please confirm your order by signing and returning one copy of this agreement to: MINNESOTA COACHES, INC.. Place Charter number on all checks and correspondence.

Signature _____ Date _____

Charter Representative _____

Minnesota Coaches, Inc.

Minnesota Coaches, Inc.
425 East 31st Street
HASTINGS, MN 55033
651-437-9648
(Fax: 651-437-1302)

Quote

Minnesota Board Water/Soil Resources
Mary Jo Anderson
520 Layfayette Road N
St Paul, MN 55155

Quote # Q987
Date Printed: Tuesday, June 05, 2007
PO #:
Group Name: International Falls-Lake/Woods
Phone: 651-297-4290 Fax: 651-297-5615
Salesperson: 3010-01

		Time	Date	# Coaches	Description	Total Capacity
Pickup	TBA	09:00 am	08/21/07	1	56 Pax Coach	56
			Note:	M/C arrives @ 8:45am to load		
Dropoff	International Falls, MN Area International Falls, MN	03:30 pm	08/21/07			56
Pickup	International Falls, MN Area International Falls, MN	01:30 pm	08/23/07			56
Dropoff	TBA	08:00 pm	08/23/07			56

Total Cost: $ 2,712.00
Fuel Surcharge: $ 108.48
Deposit of $ 564.10 **is due:** **July 22, 2007**
Balance of $ 2,256.38 **is due:** **August 11, 2007**

Itinerary: ****Group is responsible to book/pay for drivers lodging.

THIS IS A CHARTER QUOTE. CALL OUR OFFICES TO CONFIRM YOUR QUOTE OR SEND A DEPOSIT IN THE AMOUNT DESCRIBED ABOVE ALONG WITH A COPY OF THIS QUOTE.

****** SMOKING IS PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES ON THE VEHICLES ******

YOUR COST IS BASED ON THE SERVICES DETAILED ABOVE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR ACTUAL ITINERARY. THIS COMPANY RESERVES ITS RIGHT TO LEASE EQUIPMENT FROM OTHER COMPANIES IN ORDER TO FULFILL THIS AGREEMENT. THIS COMPANY SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ITEMS LEFT ON THE VEHICLE OR LOSS OF TIME DUE TO MECHANICAL FAILURE OR INCLEMENT WEATHER. WE CANNOT GUARANTEE THE ASSIGNMENT OF REQUESTED DRIVERS OR VEHICLES. A SIGNED CONTRACT AND DEPOSIT WILL CONFIRM YOUR RESERVATION AND ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF THIS AGREEMENT.

In addition, due to the current volatility in fuel costs, a small fuel surcharge may be added to your bill based on the cost of fuel at the time of your trip. We thank you for your understanding and your business.

Signature _____ Date _____

Lorenz Bus Service, Inc.
8600 Xylite Street N.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55449
Telephone: 763/784-7196
Fax: 763/784-1077
e mail: Charters@lorenzbus.com

#2

10:20 AM

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL

TRANSMITTED TO: Ms. Mary Jo Anderson

COMPANY: Board of Water & Soil Resources

FAX NUMBER: 651-297-5615

TRANSMITTED FROM: Dianne Thomas

DATE: June 6, 2007

TOTAL PAGES (INCLUDING THIS SHEET): 3

COMMENTS:

To follow please find the quotes that you requested.

Any questions please contact me.

The information contained in this facsimile message is privileged and confidential information intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone. Thank you.

Lorenz Bus Service, Inc.
8600 Xylite Street NE
Minneapolis, MN 55449
(763) 784-7196 * Fax (763) 784-1077
Charters@LorenzBus.com / www.lorenzbus.com

Ms. Mary Jo Anderson
Board of Water & Soil Resources
St. Paul MN

Date of Quote Tue - June 5, 2007
Date of Trip Tue - August 21, 2007
Trip Number 10008465
Phone Number 651-297-4290
Fax Number 651-297-5615

Thank you for your inquiry. Please contact us with any questions, or if you wish to book this charter.

PO Number
Total Buses 1
Arrive Time 9:00 AM
Depart Time
Bus Type 29 Mini Coach
Bus Size 29
Passenger Count 20-55
Group Contact Ms. Mary Jo Anderson

Itinerary
The price reflects the Board of Water & Soil Resources booking and paying for the drivers lodging

Pickup Point
Pickup Address
Pickup City St. Paul **State** MN
Loading Point
2nd Pickup Time
2nd Pickup Point
2nd Pickup Address

Destination
Dest. Address
Dest. City International Falls
Dest. State MN
Dest. Drop Point
Return Time 1:30 PM
Return Date Thu, Aug 23, 2007

Billing Method Pre-pay

Price per bus	**$1,839.00**
Fuel surcharge*	**$124.80**
Subtotal	**$1,963.80**

* Fuel surcharge is subject to change based on cost of fuel.

Price does not include driver gratuity.

Total Trip Price	**$1,963.80**
Total for 1 bus(es)	**$1,963.80**

Price Quotation

QUOTES ARE VALID FOR 30 DAYS FROM DATE OF QUOTE.

The information listed above is a quotation based upon the information given to us at this time. The actual price will be determined by the actual time and/or mileage used for this charter trip. **This trip is not presently booked into the active system.** When the order is made, you will be sent a charter confirmation.

Lorenz Bus Service, Inc.
8600 Xylite Street NE
Minneapolis, MN 55449
(763) 784-7196 * Fax (763) 784-1077
Charters@LorenzBus.com / www.lorenzbus.com

Ms. Mary Jo Anderson
Board of Water & Soil Resources
St. Paul MN

Date of Quote Wed - June 6, 2007
Date of Trip Tue - August 21, 2007
Trip Number 10008538
Phone Number 651-297-4290
Fax Number 651-297-5615

Thank you for your inquiry. Please contact us with any questions, or if you wish to book this charter.

PO Number
Total Buses 1
Arrive Time 9:00 AM
Depart Time
Bus Type Coach
Bus Size 55
Passenger Count 20-55
Group Contact Ms. Mary Jo Anderson

Itinerary
The price reflects the Board of Water & Soil Resources booking and paying for the drivers lodging. This quote includes up to 200 miles of shuttling

Pickup Point
Pickup Address
Pickup City St. Paul **State** MN
Loading Point
2nd Pickup Time
2nd Pickup Point
2nd Pickup Address

Destination
Dest. Address
Dest. City International Falls
Dest. State MN
Dest. Drop Point
Return Time 1:30 PM
Return Date Thu, Aug 23, 2007

Billing Method Pre-pay

Price per bus	**$2,904.00**
Fuel surcharge*	**$134.19**
Subtotal	**$3,038.19**
Discount	**-$390.00**
Total Trip Price	**$2,648.19**
Total for 1 bus(es)	**$2,648.19**

Price does not include driver gratuity.

* **Fuel surcharge is subject to change based on cost of fuel.**

Price Quotation

QUOTES ARE VALID FOR 30 DAYS FROM DATE OF QUOTE.

The information listed above is a quotation based upon the information given to us at this time. The actual price will be determined by the actual time and/or mileage used for this charter trip. **This trip is not presently booked into the active system.** When the order is made, you will be sent a charter confirmation.

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
INTERNAL REQUEST FOR GOODS OR SERVICES

VENDOR	**NAME** Holiday Inn ATTENTION: Frieda 218-283-8000	SHIPTO	**NAME** MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
	ADDRESS 1500 Hwy. 71		**ADDRESS** 520 Lafayette Road North
	CITY, STATE, ZIP International Falls, MN 56649		**CITY, STATE, ZIP** St. Paul, MN 55155
REMI TTO	**NAME**	BI LLTO	**NAME** MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
	ADDRESS		**ADDRESS** 520 Lafayette Road North
	CITY, STATE, ZIP		**CITY, STATE, ZIP** St. Paul, MN 55155

CONTRACT NO.

LINE NO.	COMMODITY CODE	UNIT(S) ORDERED	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	UNIT PRICE $	DISCOUNT $	TOTAL PRICE
1		23	Sleeping Rooms for August 21, 2007 - includes 9.5% tax	EA	82.13		$ 1,888.99
2		23	Sleeping Rooms for August 22, 2007 - includes 9.5% tax	EA	82.13		$ 1,888.99
3		30	Buffet Breakfast, August 23, 2007 for Board Members/Staff	EA	7.99		$ 239.70
4		1	Coffee for Board Meeting	URN	35.00		$ 35.00
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
			SUBTOTAL				$ 4,052.68
			SALES TAX (only for catering or lodging) 6.5%				$ 17.85
			GRATUITY 15%				$ 41.21

ORDERED BY: Mary Jo Anderson	**DATE:** 8/2/2007	**SUPERVISOR APPROVAL:**	**DATE:**	**TOTAL:** $ ~~4,052.68~~ 4,111.74
PHONE NUMBER: 651-297-4290				

Holiday Inn
International Falls, MN
218-283-8000
Sleeping Rooms Reserved for:

Tuesday, August 21

1. Dana Allen
2. ~~**Jim Anderson** ***~~
3. Mary Jo Anderson
4. Paul Brutlag
5. Bob Burandt
6. **Wayne Edgerton** ***
7. **Paul Eger** ***
8. Quentin Fairbanks
9. Jon Fure
10. Jeff Hrubes
11. John Jaschke
12. Kari Keating
13. ~~Brian Kletscher~~
14. Randy Kramer
15. **Larry Kramka** ***
16. Paul Langseth
17. Les Lemm
18. Jim Lemmerman
19. **Joe Martin** ***
20. Brian Napstad
21. Ken Robinson
22. Chad Severts
23. Ron Shelito
24. Louise Smallidge
25. Gene Tiedemann
26. LuAnn Tolliver
27. Steve Woods
28. Bus Driver +++ Kim Stogdill
29. Wayne Zellmer

27

Wednesday, August 22

1. Dana Allen
2. ~~**Jim Anderson** ***~~ cancelled 8/15/07 #
3. Mary Jo Anderson
4. Paul Brutlag
5. Bob Burandt
6. **Wayne Edgerton** ***
7. **Paul Eger** ***
8. Quentin Fairbanks
9. Jon Fure
10. Jeff Hrubes
11. John Jaschke
12. Kari Keating
13. ~~Brian Kletscher~~ cancelled 8/20/07 #52291140
14. Randy Kramer
15. **Larry Kramka** ***
16. Paul Langseth
17. Les Lemm
18. Jim Lemmerman
19. **Joe Martin** ***
20. Brian Napstad
21. Ken Robinson
22. Chad Severts
23. Ron Shelito
24. Louise Smallidge
25. Gene Tiedemann
26. LuAnn Tolliver
27. Steve Woods
28. Bus Driver +++ Kim Stogdill
29. Wayne Zellmer * smoking room

27

- **Rooms will be direct billed.**
- **Those names with *** will pay for their rooms.**
- **Rooms are non-smoking.**
- **+++ Bus Driver – Holiday Inn will take care of his room**

MINNESOTA Department of Revenue

Sales & Use Tax Division

Mail Station 6330 St. Paul, MN 55146-6330
Phone (651) 296-6184 Fax (651) 296-1938

July 5, 2000

To the Federal Employee or
Federal Contract Recipient

DEAR FEDERAL EMPLOYEE :

Thank you for visiting Minnesota. (Or, thank you for visiting the Falls area.)

You usually must pay the 6.5% Minnesota sales tax, and the 3% City of International Falls city lodging tax, on your lodging bill here at The Holiday Inn. Based on what we've been told by the GAO, only some of the "Travel Cards" and the "Integrated Cards" will exempt your bill from the Minnesota (MN) and city taxes.

Café and restaurant meals and catered meals you pay for with your own personal credit card, or a personal check, or cash, are also taxable, even if you are later reimbursed for your meal by your Federal office. (I've been told for decades that you won't get repaid for the MN sales tax you must pay. This amount could get large – but, it would take a change to our state's sales tax law to make all Federal meals/drinks/lodging tax-exempt.)

If you can pay with a Federal check, the transaction is tax-exempt.

You can confirm this by calling our telephone office weekdays @ 1 800 657 3777 – push for sales tax. Or, please visit our 'web' site, www.taxes.state.mn.us & on the first screen, left hand side, open up 'businesses'. On the next screen, open up Forms. Then, open up sales and use tax, and then look for Fact Sheet 141 or Newsletter #27, front page.

Your cooperation with the staff of The Holiday Inn is appreciated.

Yours truly,

L. Stephen Borer

L. Stephen Borer, Sales Tax Specialist
Sales & Use Tax Division

Holiday Inn
International Falls, Minnesota

BEO

Client/Organization: Board of Water and Soil ~~Conservation~~ Resources
Event Date: 8/23/2007 (Thu)
Address: 520 Lafayettte Road North, St Paul, MN 55155
Telephone: (651) 297-4290
Fax: (651) 297-5615
Booking Contact: Mary JO Anderson
Site Contact:
Event #: E01147
Guests: 30 (Act)

Description	Start	End	Serving	Banquet Room	Setup Style
Meeting N/C	8:00 am	2:00 pm			Conference and Th

Setup Notes
Need to set conference style for 20 ppl
~~Set theatre style~~ for 40ppl
Need US flag

$35.00 / urn

Food/Service Item(s)	Price	Qty	Total
coffee / water on tables			

Description	Start	End	Serving	Banquet Room	Setup Style
Meeting	7:00 am	8:30 am			Conference

Setup Notes
Set up conference for 15ppl
Need Seperate room for this ✓

Food/Service Item(s)	Price	Qty	Total
water			

Description	Start	End	Serving	Banquet Room	Setup Style
Breakfast	6:30 am	8:30 am			

Food/Service Item(s)	Price	Qty	Total
The Sunrise French Toast Sausage Scrambled eggs with cheese Coffee and water on tables This buffet will be in the dining room ✓	7.99	30	239.70

30 for Breakfast

Holiday Inn International Falls
1500 Hwy 71, International Falls MN 56649 - t: (218) 283-8000 f: (218) 283-3774
www.hiifalls.com · Email: hiifalls@northwinds.net

E01147 - Board of Water and Soil Conservation

Subtotal	239.70	Paid	0.00	Pay Method	Direct Bill
Tax	15.58	Balance	291.24	Card Type	
Service Charge	35.96			Card Holder	
Total Value	291.24			Signature	

Card Number

Approval

Expires

Total = $333.77

Holiday Inn
International Falls
218-283-8000

Pam Tomasi Koochiching SWCD

Freida, Sales & Catering
Meeting room Wed., 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. = "Welcome"
Coffee/rolls on Wednesday morning ~~???~~ 7:30
Breakfast Thurs. 6:30 – 8:00 a.m.
Meeting room Thurs., 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Lunch on Thursday ???

where?

Erin, Reservations
30 rooms reserved for Tuesday, August 21
30 rooms reserved for Wednesday, August 22
$75 + 9.5% tax = $82.13

mtg. room = Thurs. 7:00 - 8:30 PR Comm.

Bus driver charge? no

U.S. flag in mtg. rooms for Pledge of Alleg.

Bus driver *** Holiday Inn will take care of room

Holiday Inn
International Falls
218-283-8000

Pam Tomasi Koochiching SWCS

Freida, Sales & Catering
Meeting room Wed., 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. = "Welcome"
Coffee/rolls on Wednesday morning ~~???~~ 7:30
Breakfast Thurs. 6:30 – 8:00 a.m.
Meeting room Thurs., 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Lunch on Thursday ???

where?

Erin, Reservations
30 rooms reserved for Tuesday, August 21
30 rooms reserved for Wednesday, August 22
$75 + 9.5% tax = $82.13

mtg. room = Thurs.
7:00 - 8:30
PR comm.

*** Bus driver to Holiday Inn will take care of room

BEO

Holiday Inn
International Falls, Minnesota

Client/Organization	Event Date	Telephone	Fax	Event #
Board of Water and Soil Conservation	8/22/2007 (Wed)	(651) 297-4290	(651) 297-5615	E01146
Address		**Booking Contact**	**Site Contact**	**Guests**
520 Lafayette Road North, St Paul, MN 55155		Mary Jo Anderson		55 (Act)

Description	Start	End	Serving	Banquet Room	Setup Style
Meeting	7:30 am	8:30 am			Banquet

Setup Notes

Set up 7 rounds with linens

Water on tables

Short greeting meeting then gone for the day

Coach Bus will pick them up

Food/Service Item(s)	Price	Qty	Total
Room Charge - 50.00			

Description	Start	End	Serving	Banquet Room	Setup Style
Breakfast	7:30 am	8:30 am			

Setup Notes

Set up one long for breakfast rolls

Food/Service Item(s)	Price	Qty	Total
Coffee Pot on tables	6.00	7	42.00
Assorted Fresh Baked Muffins	0.95	18	17.10
Assorted Pastries	1.25	19	23.75
Assorted Breakfast Breads	1.25	18	22.50

Note Send bill to Pam T

Subtotal	155.35	Paid	0.00	Pay Method	Direct Bill	Card Number	
Tax	6.85	Balance	178.00	Card Type		Approval	
Service Charge	15.80			Card Holder		Expires	
Total Value	178.00			Signature			

Holiday Inn International Falls
1500 Hwy 71, International Falls MN 56649 - t: (218) 283-8000 f: (218) 283-3774
www.hiifalls.com Email: hiifalls@northwinds.net

BEO

Holiday Inn
International Falls, Minnesota

Client/Organization	Event Date	Telephone	Fax	Event #
Board of Water and Soil Conservation	8/22/2007 (Wed)	(651) 297-4290	(651) 297-5615	E01146
Address		Booking Contact	Site Contact	Guests
520 Lafayettte Road North, St Paul, MN 55155		Mary Jo Anderson		50 (Act)

Description	Start	End	Serving	Banquet Room	Setup Style
Meeting	7:30 am	8:30 am			Banquet

Setup Notes

Set up 7 rounds with linens

Water on tables

Short greeting meeting then gone for the day

Coach Bus will pick them up

Food/Service Item(s)	Price	Qty	Total
coffee/rolls			
· Room Charge - 50.00			

Subtotal	50.00	Paid	0.00	Pay Method	Card Number
Tax	0.00	Balance	50.00	Card Type	Approval
Service Charge	0.00			Card Holder	Expires
Total Value	50.00			Signature	

expense to be paid by Koochiching SWCD as per Pam Jomeau

Holiday Inn International Falls
1500 Hwy 71, International Falls MN 56649 - t: (218) 283-8000 f: (218) 283-3774
www.hiifalls.com · Email: hiifalls@northwinds.net

BEO

Holiday Inn
International Falls, Minnesota

Client/Organization	Event Date	Telephone	Fax	Event #
Board of Water and Soil Conservation	8/23/2007 (Thu)	(651) 297-4290	(651) 297-5615	E01147
Address		**Booking Contact**	**Site Contact**	**Guests**
520 Lafayette Road North, St Paul, MN 55155		Mary JO Anderson		50 (Act)

Description	Start	End	Serving	Banquet Room	Setup Style
Breakfast	6:30 → 8:00 am	~~9:00 am~~			See Special Notes

Setup Notes

Need to set conference style for 20 ppl

Set theatre style for 30 ppl

Will need set up for food more info coming

Food/Service Item(s)	Price	Qty	Total

Description	Start	End	Serving	Banquet Room	Setup Style
Meeting	8:15 am	2:00 pm			

Food/Service Item(s)	Price	Qty	Total

Subtotal	0.00	Paid	0.00	Pay Method	Direct Bill
Tax	0.00	Balance	0.00	Card Type	
Service Charge	0.00			Card Holder	
Total Value	0.00			Signature	

Card Number

Approval

Expires

Holiday Inn International Falls
1500 Hwy 71, International Falls MN 56649 - t: (218) 283-8000 f: (218) 283-3774
www.hiifalls.com · Email: hiifalls@northwinds.net

Holiday Inn

Fax

218-283-8000

Freida

To: Mary Jo Carlson **From:** Freida K

Fax: **Date:**

Phone: **Pages:**

Re: **CC:**

☐ Urgent ☐ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply ☐ Please Recycle

•Comments:

Let me know what else
I can do to help you

BREAKFAST SUGGESTIONS

Early Bird *$5.99*
Chilled juice, scrambled eggs, bacon or sausage and breakfast breads

Eye Opener *$6.99*
Scrambled eggs, breakfast potato, toast and coffee.
Choose One:
Bacon
Sausage
Ham

Quiche & Fresh Fruit Garnish *$6.99*
Homemade quiche served with a fresh baked muffin

BREAKFAST BUFFET FOR GROUPS OF 25 OR MORE

IF YOUR GROUP IS LESS THAN 25 PEOPLE ... YOU WILL STILL BE CHARGED FOR 25 PEOPLE

THE CONTINENTAL

Fresh Pastries, bagels & cream cheese, fresh fruit, juice & coffee *$6.50*

THE PASTRY BUFFET

Assorted pastries, breakfast breads, juice & coffee *$5.25*

THE NORTHERN LIGHTS BUFFET

Scrambled eggs, breakfast potato, assorted pastries & coffee *$6.99*
Choose One:
Bacon
Sausage
Ham

THE SUNRISE BREAKFAST BUFFET

Scrambled eggs, breakfast potato , french toast & coffee *$7.99*
Choose One:
Bacon
Sausage
Ham

WANT TO ADD FRESH FRUIT TO YOUR BUFFET?

THE CHARGE WOULD BE ..... *$2.50 EXTRA PER PERSON*

WANT TO ADD CHILLED JUICE TO YOUR BUFFET?

THE CHARGE WOULD BE ..... *$1.75 EXTRA PER PERSON*

Prices are subject to change 60 days prior to your function. *A 72 Hour guarantee is required on all banquets.

LUNCHEON BUFFET FOR GROUPS of 25 or MORE

IF YOUR GROUP IS LESS THAN 25 PEOPLE ... YOU WILL STILL BE CHARGED FOR 25 PEOPLE

SOUP & SANDWICH BUFFET

Soup & Sandwich Buffet *$8.50*

Assorted meats & cheese tray , breads & rolls, relish tray , condiments, chips and soup of the day

Pasta Buffet

Includes Caesar Salad, Garlic Toast & Bread Sticks *$8.99*

CHOOSE- 2 -HOT ENTRÉES

Fettuccini with Alfredo Sauce
Meat Lasagna
Spaghetti with Marinara Sauce
Cheese Manicotti with Marinara & Alfredo Sauce

PICNIC BUFFET

Includes

Oven Baked Chicken, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Tossed Salad, Rolls & Butter *$9.99*

TAILGATERS BUFFET

Includes

Build Your Own *$9.50*

Beef Burgers 3#
Chicken Breasts
Pasta Salad or Potato Salad
Chips
Sliced Cheddar Cheese, Bacon, Lettuce, Tomato, Spreads & Pickles ...Plus Kaiser Rolls

WANT TO ADD AN EXTRA SALAD TO YOUR BUFFET CHOICE?

THE CHARGE WOULD BE ..... *$1.25 EXTRA PER PERSON*

Prices are subject to change 60 days prior to your function. *A 72 Hour guarantee is required on all banquets.

LUNCHEON SUGGESTIONS.....PLATE SERVICE

If you would like to pick more than one entrée, a $1.00 charge will be added to each plate. No more than 2 entrées can be chosen.

SELECT ONE Hot Entrée

Meat Lasagna served with garlic toast - *Served with tossed salad and chefs choice vegetable* . $7.50

Beef Stroganoff on a bed of Fettuccini Noodles - *Served with tossed salad and chefs choice vegetable* . $7.50

Oven Baked Chicken with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy - *Served with tossed salad and chefs choice vegetable* $7.25

Hot Beef Sandwich - *Served with mashed potatoes and homemade beef gravy with chefs choice of vegetable.* $6.99

Hot Turkey Sandwich - *Oven roasted turkey sandwich served with turkey gravy and mashed potatoes and chefs choice of vegetable.* . $6.99

Hot Pork Sandwich with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy - *Served with tossed salad and chefs choice vegetable* ... $6.99

Ham & Cheese Croissant Almondine - *Topped with hollandaise sauce and toasted almonds and served with soup of the day.* . $5.99

Cheese Manicotti with garlic toast - *Served with chefs choice vegetable and tossed salad.* $10.99

6oz Pork Cutlet with mashed potatoes and beef gravy - *Served with chefs choice vegetable and tossed salad.* . $10.99

SELECT ONE SANDWICH ENTRÉE

Cashew Chicken Salad Croissant - *Chicken salad on a flaky croissant topped with cashews. Served with cottage cheese and fresh fruit garnish.* . $7.25

Turkey Club Croissant - *Served with cottage cheese and fresh fruit garnish* $6.99

Club Sub - *Served with chips and a pickle* $6.99

Club on a Croissant - *Served with chips and a pickle* $7.50

SELECT ONE SALAD ENTRÉE

Festive Chicken Romaine Salad .... (Fruit Seasonal) - *Tender romaine lettuce and our own poppy seed dressing, sweet onion, praline nuts and topped with sliced chicken breast. Served with a breadstick.* $7.99

Chicken Caesar Salad - *Tender lettuce and our homemade garlic croutons tossed with peppercorn dressing then topped with sliced chicken breast and grated Parmesan cheese. Served with a bread stick* ..... $ 7.99

Chef Salad - *Julienne ham, turkey and cheese atop fresh greens with hard-boiled eggs and tomato. Choice of dressing. Served with a breadstick.* $6.99

Oriental Chicken Caesar Salad - *Crispy oriental greens topped with chunks of crunchy chicken fingers, toasted almonds and crispy rice noodles. Tossed in our own house oriental vinaigrette. Served with a breadstick.* $7.99

ALL SALADS SERVED WITH A BREAD STICK

Prices are subject to change 60 days prior to your function. *A 72 Hour guarantee is required on all banquets.

BREAK ITEMS

Big Homemade Cookies	*$1.00*
Homemade Brownies	*$1.25*
Assorted Baked Muffins	*$.95*
Fresh Baked Cinnamon Rolls	*$1.25*
Fresh Baked Caramel Rolls	*$1.50*
Individual Yogurt .....(Flavor of the day)	*$2.25*
Granola Bars	*$1.50*
Assorted Bars	*$1.25*
Bagels & Cream Cheese	*$1.75*

OTHER SNACKS

Fresh Made Butter Popcorn	*$10.00 ... 2 #*
Tortilla Chips with Salsa	*$15.00*
Potato Chips with Homemade Dip	*$15.00*
Mixed Nuts	*$15.00 #*
Butter Mints	*$15.00 #*
Pretzels	*$15.00 #*

Prices are subject to change 60 days prior to your function. *A 72 Hour guarantee is required on all banquets.

Hotel Bids in International Falls, MN

Budget Host Inn **International Falls** - No meeting space, just lobby area

- www.budgethostinn.net
  10 Riverview Blvd.
  International Falls - (218) 283-2577

Days Inn - **International Falls** - No meeting rooms

- www.daysinn.com
  2331 Highway 53 South
  International Falls - (218) 283-9441

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

FAX

Minnesota Board of Wa
520 Lafayett
St. Pau
Phone:
Fax

fax to Erin 218-283-3774

Date: 8/9/07

To: Erin - Reservations
Holiday Inn
International Falls

From: nderson
Phone: -4290

Fax: 218-283-3774

Pages: Including Cover Sheet: 2

☐ Urgent ☒ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply

Re: Block of sleeping rooms Aug. 21+22, 2007

Comments:

* add Wayne Zellmer - smoking room

☐ Original will follow by U.S. Mail ☐ Original will NOT follow

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

FAX

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155
Phone: (651) 296-3767
Fax: (651) 297-5615

Date: 8/9/07

To: Erin - Reservations
Holiday Inn
International Falls

From: Mary Jo Anderson
Phone: 651-297-4290

Fax: 218-283-3774

Pages: Including Cover Sheet: 2

☐ Urgent ☒ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply

Re: Block of sleeping rooms Aug. 21+22, 2007

Comments:

* added Wayne Zellmer - smoking room

☐ Original will follow by U.S. Mail ☐ Original will NOT follow

* * * Communication Result Report (Aug. 9. 2007 1:26PM) * * *

1)
2)

Date/Time: Aug. 9. 2007 1:19PM

File No.	Mode	Destination	Pg(s)	Result	Page Not Sent
0019	Memory TX	813774461	P. 2	E-3) 3)	P. 1-2

Reason for error
E. 1) Hang up or line fail
E. 2) Busy
E. 3) No answer
E. 4) No facsimile connection
E. 5) Exceeded max. E-mail size

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

FAX

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155
Phone: (651) 296-3767
Fax: (651) 297-5615

Date: 8/9/07

To: Jean
Voyagers Charter

From: Mary Jo Anderson
Phone: 651-297-4290

Fax: 218-377-4461

Pages: Including Cover Sheet: 2

☐ Urgent ☒ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply

Re:

Comments: Tour route for August 22nd.
Departing from the Holiday Inn
in International Falls.

☐ Original will follow by U.S. Mail ☐ Original will NOT follow

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

FAX

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155
Phone: (651) 296-3767
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☐ Urgent ☒ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply

Re:

Comments:
Tour route for August 22nd.
Departing from the Holiday Inn
in International Falls.

☐ Original will follow by U.S. Mail ☐ Original will NOT follow

Site Visits along the 2007 BWSR Tour Route

Koochiching County

Site #1—Wetland Identification Site. Side-by-side examples of wetland determinations at Larson Lumber and Building Center and the City of Littlefork proposed Industrial Park.

Site #2—Beneficial Reuse of Wood Ash. Reusing wood ash benefits the mills, the landowners, and the environment.

Site #3—Forest Stewardship Planning Site. Visit Rowland Hamley's property for discussion on the growing trends in forest management, and the increasing need for forest stewardship planning.

Site #4—Nelson Park Shoreline Stabilization Project. A visit to a cooperative shoreline stabilization project between the County Lands and Forests Department and the SWCD using state cost share dollars.

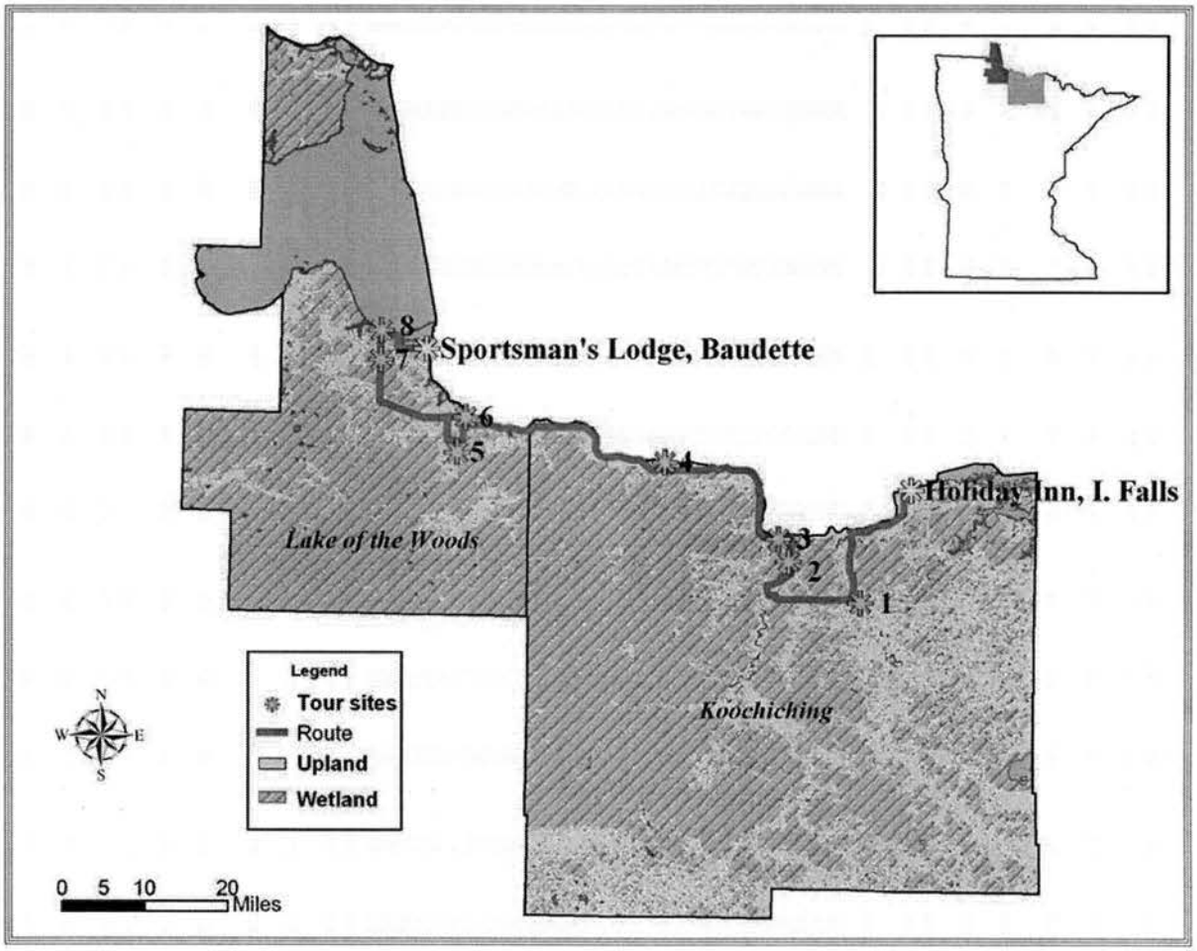
Lake of the Woods County

Site #5—Reinhart Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant. Visit to a feedlot relocation project designed by the NC MN JPB engineers and installed using FWQMG funding.

Site #6—Rainy River Basin River Watch Program. This new program is a cooperative effort between the high school and the SWCD. The stop will provide an opportunity to watch local students sampling and hear about SWCD monitoring efforts.

Site #7—Bostic Creek Watershed. The County and the SWCD are working together to solve severe erosion issues in this watershed.

Site #8—Lake of the Woods. This stop provides an opportunity to view Lake of the Woods and hear about some of the challenges of such a large lake which is also an international waterbody.



BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
INTERNAL REQUEST FOR GOODS OR SERVICES

VENDOR	**NAME** Voyagers Charter Coach - ATTENTION: Jean	SHIPTO	**NAME** MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
	ADDRESS 3510 County Road 97		**ADDRESS** 520 Lafayette Road North
	CITY, STATE, ZIP International Falls, MN 56649		**CITY, STATE, ZIP** St. Paul, MN 55155
REMIT TO	**NAME**	BILL TO	**NAME** MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
	ADDRESS		**ADDRESS** 520 Lafayette Road North
	CITY, STATE, ZIP		**CITY, STATE, ZIP** St. Paul, MN 55155

CONTRACT NO.

LINE NO.	COMMODITY CODE	UNIT(S) ORDERED	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	UNIT PRICE $	DISCOUNT $	TOTAL PRICE
1		225	57-passenger Coach Bus for Board Tour on	Miles	2.45		$ 551.25
			Wednesday, August 22, 2007. Pick-up at 8:00 a.m. at the				$ -
			Holiday Inn in International Falls - travel to Baudette, and				$ -
			various sites, return to the Holiday Inn about 8:30 p.m.				$ -
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
			CONFIRMING ORDER				$ -
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
			SUBTOTAL				$ 551.25
			SALES TAX (only for catering or lodging)				$ -
			GRATUITY				$ -

ORDERED BY: Mary Jo Anderson
DATE: 8/2/2007
PHONE NUMBER: 651-297-4290

SUPERVISOR APPROVAL:
DATE:

TOTAL: $ 551.25

Voyagers - Jean
Charter Coach
3510 Co. Rd. 97 56649
International Falls
218-377-4343

Aug. 22 (Wed.)

$2.45/mile

218-377-4461 fax

Confirmed w/ Jean 5/17/07

57 passenger

(tentatively booked w/ Jean 5/9/07 - she will call me back)

From: "Trask, Corryn - Baudette, Mn" <corryn.trask@mn.nacdnet.net>
To: <maryjo.anderson@bwsr.state.mn.us>
Date: 7/31/2007 2:45:36 PM
Subject: mileage

Mary Jo,

The approximate mileage is as follows:

Holiday Inn to Sportsman's, with detours - 140 miles
Sportsman's to Holiday Inn - 85 miles

Corryn

CC: "Tomevi, Pam - International Falls, MN" <Pam.Tomevi@mn.nacdnet.net>, "Heinen, Ryan - International Falls, MN, MN" <Ryan.Heinen@mn.nacdnet.net>

Voyagers Charter Coach
Attention: Jean
3510 County Road 97
International Falls 56649
218-377-4343
fax: 218-377-4461

57-passenger coach bus
Wednesday, August 22
Depart Holiday Inn at 8:20 a.m.
Return to Holiday Inn about 8:30 p.m.
Quote = $2.45/mile
Confirmed with Jean on 5/17/07

BOARD OF WATER & SOIL RESOURCES TOUR
August 22, 2007
Holiday Inn
International Falls, Minnesota

Hosted by the
Koochiching Soil & Water Conservation District
and the
Lake of the Woods Soil & Water Conservation District

7:30 a.m.	**Registration and Check-in** Coffee and rolls in the I. Falls Holiday Inn meeting room (Refreshments-Koochiching)
8:00	**Welcome and Tour Preview** City of International Falls Mayor, Shawn Mason (5-7 minutes) County Board Chair, Charles Lepper (5-7 minutes) Tour preview (6-10 minutes)
8:20	**Load Bus**
8:30	**Depart from Holiday Inn**
8:30-8:50	**Drive time**
8:50-8:55	**Unload bus**
8:55-9:30	**Site 1 – Wetland Identification** • **City of Littlefork Proposed Building Site** • **Lyle Larson Incidental Wetland Site**
9:30-9:35	**Load bus**
9:35-9:55	**Drive time**
9:55-10:05	**Site 2 – Beneficial Reuse of Wood Ash (stay on bus, stop for 5-10 min)**
10:05-10:25	**Drive time**
10:25-10:30	**Unload bus**
10:30-10:55	**Site 3 – Forest Stewardship/Tree Farm** **(Refreshment Break** – Mary Jo/BWSR**)**
10:55-11:00	**Load bus**
11:00-11:25	**Drive time to Birchdale**
11:25-11:30	**Unload**
11:30-12:15	**Lunch** Birchdale Community Center (Play 18 minute video of Koochiching natural resources if time permits)

12:15-12:20	**Load Bus**
12:20-12:25	**Drive time to Nelson Park**
12:25-12:30	**Unload**
12:30-12:50	**Site 4 – Nelson Park Erosion Project**
12:50-12:55	**Load Bus**
12:55-1:35	**Drive to FWQMG site**
1:35-1:40	**Unload**
1:40-2:00	**Site 5- Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant** (Reinhardt Feedlot Relocation using cost share funds)
2:00-2:05	**Load**
2:05-2:15	**Drive time to Willy Walleye**
2:15-2:20	**Unload**
~~**2:20-2:40**~~	**Site 6 – Willy Walleye and Water Quality Monitoring Program** ~~(Refreshment Break-LOW)~~
2:40-2:45	**Load**
2:45-3:00	**Drive time to Bostic Creek**
3:00-3:15	**Site 7 – Bostic Creek and Judicial Ditch Erosion and Sedimentation Issues (stay on bus)**
3:15-3:20	**Drive time to Graceton Beach**
3:20-3:25	**Unload**
3:25-3:45	**Site 8 – Lake of the Woods and the Graceton Beach. Big Lake issues, 2002 Flood, State Cost Share funding**
3:45-3:50	**Load**
3:50-4:00	**Drive to Sportsman's Lodge on the Rainy River**
4:00-4:15	**Short break prior to the forum**
4:15-5:15	**Forum of Local Issues**
5:15-5:30	**Break**
~~**5:30**~~	~~**Dinner is served**~~
6:30	**Load the bus and depart for I. Falls**

Board of Water and Soil Resources Tour
August 22, 2007



Hosted by
Koochiching SWCD and
Lake of the Woods SWCD

The bus will depart from the Holiday Inn of International Falls at 8:30 a.m.

7:30 am	**Check-in** (coffee and rolls)
8:00	**Welcome and Tour Preview** City Welcome from Shawn Mason, International Falls Mayor County Welcome from Charles Lepper, Koochiching County Board Chairman Tour Preview by Koochiching and Lake of the Woods SWCDs
8:30-11:30	**Koochiching County Site Visits** Site 1 – Wetland Identification • City of Littlefork proposed building site • Larson Lumber and Building Center, incidental wetlands Site 2 – Beneficial Reuse of Wood Ash (remain on bus) Site 3 – Forest Stewardship/Tree Farm
11:30-12:15	**Lunch at the Birchdale Community Center**
12:30-12:55	Site 4 – Nelson Park Erosion Project
1:00-4:00	**Lake of the Woods County Site Visits** Site 5 – Jean Reinhardt's Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant Project Site 6 – Willy Walleye and Rainy River Basin River Watch Program and SWCD Water Monitoring Projects (photo opportunity and refreshment break) Site 7 – Bostic Creek and Judicial Ditch Erosion and Sedimentation Issues (remain on bus) Site 8 – Lake of the Woods and the Graceton Beach
4:00	**Arrive at Sportsman's Lodge on the Rainy River**
4:15-5:15	**Forum of Local Issues**
5:15-5:30	**Break**
5:30	**Dinner**
6:45 pm	**Depart for International Falls**

Break

Site Visits along the 2007 BWSR Tour Route

Koochiching County

Site #1—Wetland Identification Site. Side-by-side examples of wetland determinations at Larson Lumber and Building Center and the City of Littlefork proposed Industrial Park.

Site #2—Beneficial Reuse of Wood Ash. Reusing wood ash benefits the mills, the landowners, and the environment.

Site #3—Forest Stewardship Planning Site. Visit Rowland Hamley's property for discussion on the growing trends in forest management, and the increasing need for forest stewardship planning.

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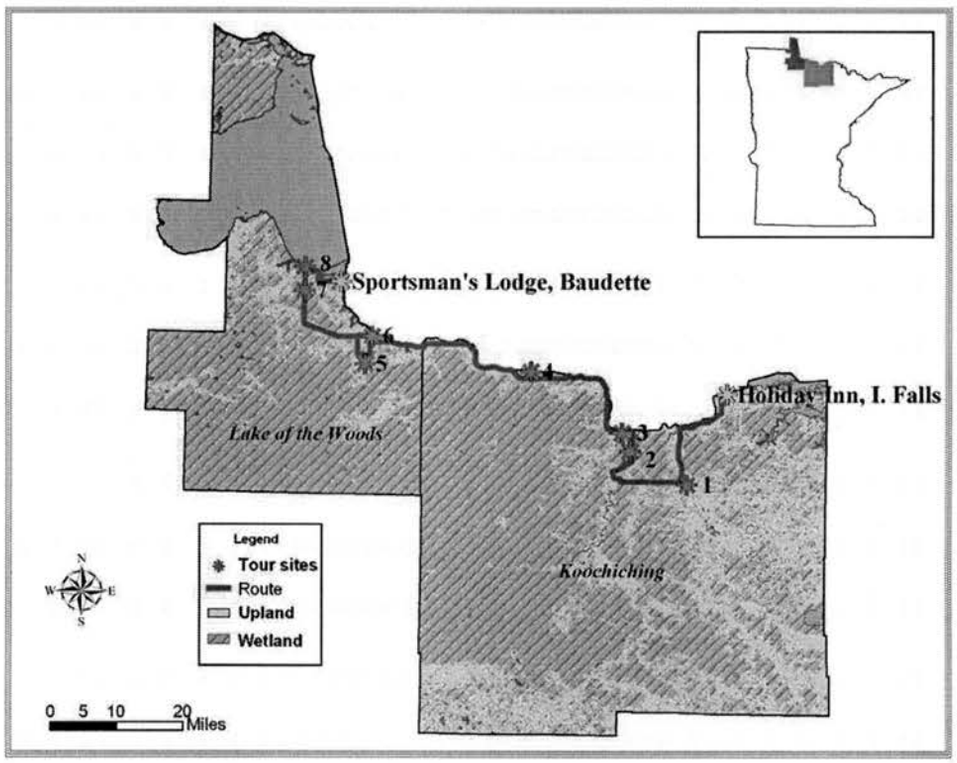
Lake of the Woods County

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Site #8—Lake of the Woods. This stop provides an opportunity to view Lake of the Woods and hear about some of the challenges of such a large lake which is also an international waterbody.



Koochiching Soil & Water Conservation District

Courthouse, 715 4th Street, International Falls, MN 56649
Phone: (218) 283-1174 Fax: (218) 283-1176 Email: pam.tomevi@mn.nacdnet.net

Ralph Lewis	Troy Promersberger	Eldon Voigt	Bernie Uran	Al Linder
Birchdale	Littlefork	Int'l Falls	Northome	Ray
Election District 1	Election District 2	Election District 3	Election District 4	Election District 5

Lake of the Woods Soil & Water Conservation District

Box 217, Baudette, MN 56623
Phone: (218) 634-2757 Fax: (218) 634-1726 Email: corryn.trask@mn.nacdnet.net

Tom Ballard	Russell Hansen	Marshall Nelson	Roger Krause	Scott Pieper
Baudette	Carp	Baudette	Pitt	Williams
Election District 1	Election District 2	Election District 3	Election District 4	Election District 5

August 2, 2007

You are cordially invited to attend the **2007 Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) tour,** an annual one-day event hosted by one of the ninety-one Minnesota Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCD). This tour, hosted by Lake of the Woods and Koochiching SWCD s, is designed to provide an up-close look at local resource management efforts.

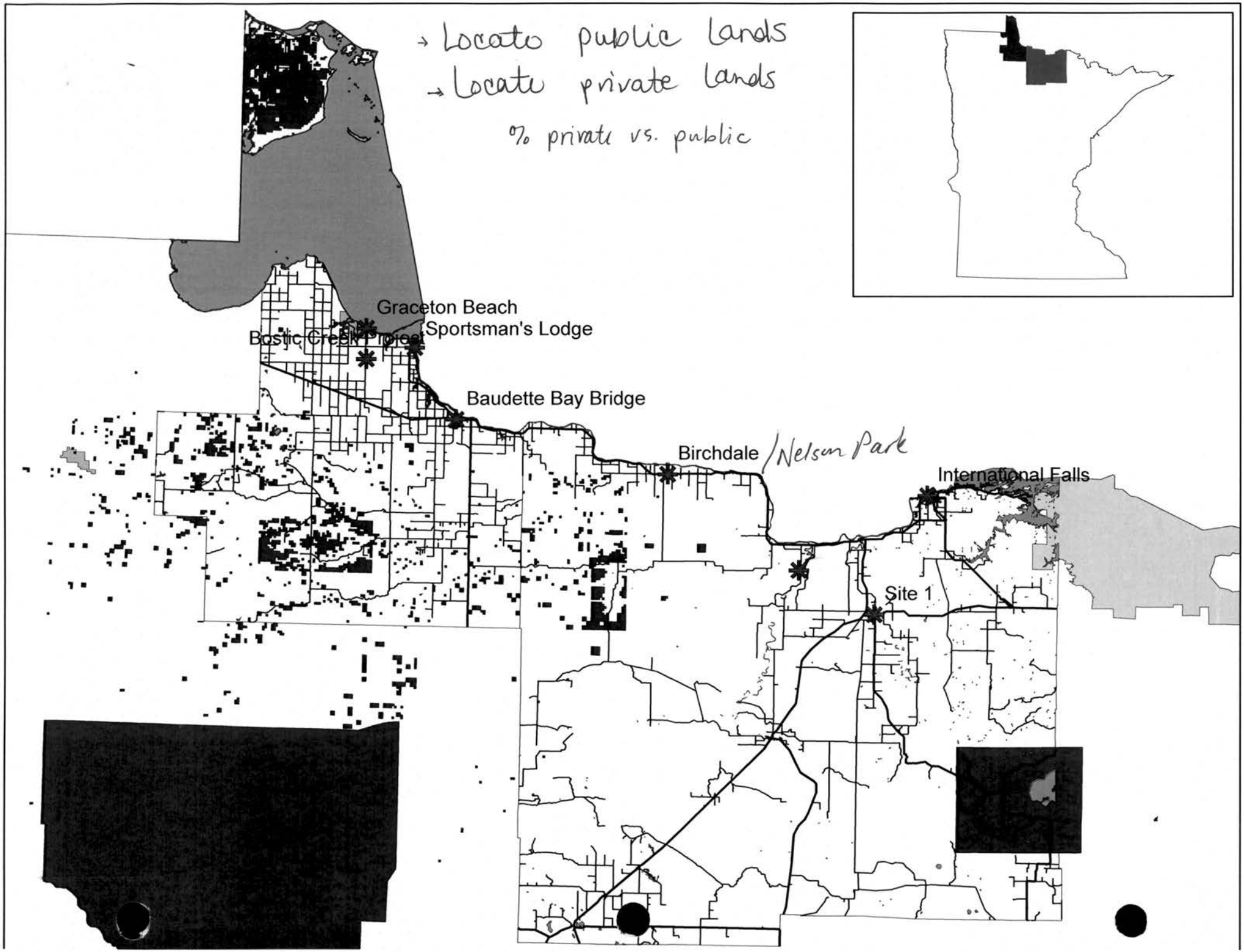
Born out of the dustbowl era of the 1930s, Minnesota's 91 SWCDs are your local units of government that work closely with local land users to implement natural resource conservation practices. SWCDs work to coordinate technical, financial, and educational resources to assist landowners in becoming better stewards of their land. These efforts help support the overall goal of natural resource utilization with conservation.

On **August 22nd** of this year, the Koochiching and Lake of the Woods Soil & Water Conservation Districts would like to invite you to attend this one day tour beginning at the Holiday Inn in International Falls. From there we will board a charter bus that will take us on a site visiting tour from Littlefork to Baudette and back again to International Falls. Enclosed you will find a preliminary agenda and map of anticipated site visits that include wetlands, forestry, wood ash application, erosion control structures, water quality monitoring, feedlot management, and big lake issues.

Please RSVP by **8/10/2007** to Pam Tomevi at the Koochiching SWCD office (218-283-1174) or to Corryn Trask at the Lake of the Woods SWCD office (218-634-2757, ext. 3).

Sincerely,

The Supervisors & Staff of the Koochiching and Lake of the Woods Soil & Water Conservation Districts


→ Locate public lands
→ Locate private lands
% private vs. public
Graceton Beach
Sportsman's Lodge
Bostic Creek Project
Baudette Bay Bridge
Birchdale / Nelson Park
International Falls
Site 1

Board of Water and Soil Resources Tour
August 22nd



Hosted by
Koochiching SWCD and
Lake of the Woods SWCD

The bus will depart from the Holiday Inn of International Falls at 8:30 a.m.

7:30 am	**Registration and Check-in**
8:00	**Welcome and Tour Preview** Welcome from Shawn Mason, Mayor of International Falls and Charles Lepper, Chairman of the Koochiching County Board. Tour Preview by Koochiching and Lake of the Woods SWCDs
8:30-11:30	**Koochiching County Site Visits** Site 1 – Wetland Identification City of Littlefork proposed building site Larson Lumber and Building Center, incidental wetlands Site 2 – Beneficial Reuse of Wood Ash (remain on bus) Site 3 – Forest Stewardship/Tree Farm
11:30-12:15	**Lunch at the Birchdale Community Center**
12:30-12:55	Site 4 – Nelson Park Erosion Project
1:00-4:00	**Lake of the Woods County Site Visits** Site 5 – Jean Reinhardt's Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant Project Site 6 – Willy Walleye and Rainy River Basin River Watch Program and SWCD Water Monitoring Projects Site 7 – Bostic Creek and Judicial Ditch Erosion and Sedimentation Issues (remain on bus) Site 8 – Lake of the Woods and the Graceton Beach
4:00	**Arrive at Sportsman's Lodge on the Rainy River**
4:15-5:15	**Forum of Local Issues**
5:15-5:30	**Break**
5:30	**Dinner**
6:45 pm	**Depart for International Falls**

BOARD OF WATER & SOIL RESOURCES TOUR

August 22, 2007
Holiday Inn
International Falls, Minnesota

Hosted by the
Koochiching Soil & Water Conservation District
and the
Lake of the Woods Soil & Water Conservation District

8:00	**Welcome** – county City of International Falls Mayor, Shawn Mason (10 minutes) Koochiching/LOW SWCDs (10 minutes)
8:20	**Load Bus**
8:30	**Depart from Holiday Inn**
8:55	**Site 1 – Wetland Identification** • **City of Littlefork proposed building site** → NWI MAP w/ city boundary • **Landowner project**
9:45	**Site 2 – Beneficial Reuse of Wood Ash** → hand out travel
10:30	**Site 3 – Forest Stewardship/Tree Farm**
11:30	**Lunch** → Brian Birchdale Community Center Soup and Sandwiches (Lois Lewis – wife of SWCD Board member) – or – if we want to do a barbeque or grill items, we will need to line up volunteers, food, etc as there are no restaurants to cater in the vicinity. Maybe we can check into something like a pig roast as well???
12:30	**Site 4 – Nelson Park Erosion Project** (this is adjacent to the Birchdale Community Center)
1:00	**Load Bus for Lake of the Woods portion of the tour…**
1:30-1:50	**Site 1 - Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant** (Schmitz Feedlot Relocation using cost share funds)
2:00-2:30	**Site 2 – Willy Walleye and Water Quality Monitoring Program** (bathroom break and photo opportunity, too)
2:50-3:10	**Site 3 – Bostic Creek and Judicial Ditch Erosion and Sedimentation Issues**
3:30-3:40	**Site 4 – Lake of the Woods and the Graceton Beach. Big Lake issues, 2002 Flood, State Cost Share funding**(may try to extend time at the Lake)
3:55	**Arrive at Sportsman's Lodge on the Rainy River**
4:00	**R&R on the R.R.**
4:45	**Forum (1 hour, 2 topics)**
5:45	**Dinner**
7:00	**Depart for I.Falls (arrive at I.Falls at 8:30)**

BOARD OF WATER & SOIL RESOURCES TOUR
August 22, 2007
Holiday Inn
International Falls, Minnesota

Hosted by the
Koochiching Soil & Water Conservation District
and the
Lake of the Woods Soil & Water Conservation District

8:00	**Welcome** City of International Falls Mayor, Shawn Mason (10 minutes) Koochiching/LOW SWCDs (10 minutes)
8:20	**Load Bus**
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10:30	**Site 3 – Forest Stewardship/Tree Farm**
11:30	**Lunch** Birchdale Community Center Soup and Sandwiches (Lois Lewis – wife of SWCD Board member) – or – if we want to do a barbeque or grill items, we will need to line up volunteers, food, etc as there are no restaurants to cater in the vicinity. Maybe we can check into something like a pig roast as well???
12:30	**Site 4 – Nelson Park Erosion Project** (this is adjacent to the Birchdale Community Center)
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3:55	**Arrive at Sportsman's Lodge on the Rainy River**
4:00	**R&R on the R.R.**
4:45	**Forum (1 hour, 2 topics)**
5:45	**Dinner**
7:00	**Depart for I.Falls (arrive at I.Falls at 8:30)**

From: Ron Shelito
To: Pam Tomevi
Date: 6/20/2007 11:02:51 AM
Subject: RE: Re: Canadian speaker

We can talk about this stuff when we meet in July

>>> "Tomevi, Pam - International Falls, MN" <Pam.Tomevi@mn.nacdnet.net> 6/20/2007 10:05:32 AM >>>
We could do it during lunch if the speaker can join us on our tour(but that would be a long day) or perhaps the board wants to make room on their business meeting agenda. The other option would be to have that person join us for the panel discussion...maybe a person from the Canadian side across at Lake of the Woods (I forget the Canadian town name)...What do you think John would prefer?

-----Original Message-----
From: Ron Shelito [mailto:Ron.Shelito@bwsr.state.mn.us]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2007 3:04 PM
To: Tomevi, Pam - International Falls, MN
Subject: Fwd: Re: Canadian speaker

Pam, JOhn would like us to build in a Canadian speaker somewhere if we can. Apparently he tlaked with someone form Canada at a Red River Basin meeting last week. Any thoughts?

>>> John Jaschke 6/15/2007 4:30:22 PM >>>
Thanks, April. It was fun to meet you and take the tour in the van even if we were left to interpret some of the sights for ourselves. I'm sure we got it all right anyway. Ron Shelito, BWSR Northern Regional Manager in Brainerd, MN will connect with you if he needs some ideas for the BWSR Board tour. He is coordinating the event with the local SWCDs.

/s/
John Jaschke
Executive Director
MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
Saint Paul, MN 55155
ph: 651-296-0878
email: john.jaschke@bwsr.state.mn.us

>>> April Kiers North <april.redriverbasincommission@shawcable.com> 6/14/2007 11:15:05 AM >>>
Hi John,

Hope you're doing well! Further to our conversation last week at the RRBC
Tour, I'm looking into some potential candidates who could speak at your August 22/23 meeting. However, I've forgotten some of the details.. Is it a

staff meeting or Board meeting? Who exactly is the audience? Was it in International Falls?

I've put in some phone calls to a colleague at the provincial department that deals with watershed planning, and could also contact some federal departmental reps but I think the local aspect may be more appropriate.

Cheers,

April

April Kiers North

Basin Coordinator (Water Quality)

Red River Basin Commission

204-982-7254 (office)

204-771-8071 (cell)

April.redriverbasincommission@shawcable.com

www.redriverbasincommission.org
<http://www.redriverbasincommission.org/>

CC: Corryn Trask; MaryJo Anderson

From: "Tomevi, Pam - International Falls, MN" <Pam.Tomevi@mn.nacdnet.net>
To: <maryjo.anderson@bwsr.state.mn.us>
Date: 6/11/2007 2:55:04 PM
Subject: BWSR Tour info

Hi Mary Jo...

The contact for Voyageurs National Park boat tours is Tawnya Showey at 218-286-5258. Another boat option may be pontoons through Woody's Fairly Reliable Guide Service at 1-866-410-5001 or http://www.fairlyreliable.com/ ...he was very accomodating during our Area III tour in 2004...Ron Shelito was with us for that.

If a boat ride through the park does not pan out, perhaps we could do a short walking tour...let me know your thoughts and what additional information I can get.

Pam

From: "Tomevi, Pam - International Falls, MN" <Pam.Tomevi@mn.nacdnet.net>
To: <maryjo.anderson@bwsr.state.mn.us>
Date: 6/11/2007 2:59:30 PM
Subject: Emailing: voyaguersnationalpark

<<voyaguersnationalpark.url>>
The message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

Shortcut to: http://www.rainylake.org/voyaguersnationalpark.html

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
INTERNAL REQUEST FOR GOODS OR SERVICES

VENDOR	**NAME** Lois Lewis	SHIPTO	**NAME** MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
	ADDRESS 10990 Hwy. 11		**ADDRESS** 520 Lafayette Road North
	CITY, STATE, ZIP Birchdale, MN 56629		**CITY, STATE, ZIP** St. Paul, MN 55155
REMI TTO	**NAME**	BILLTO	**NAME** MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
	ADDRESS		**ADDRESS** 520 Lafayette Road North
	CITY, STATE, ZIP		**CITY, STATE, ZIP** St. Paul, MN 55155

CONTRACT NO.

LINE NO.	COMMODITY CODE	UNIT(S) ORDERED	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	UNIT PRICE $	DISCOUNT $	TOTAL PRICE
1		~~55~~ 50	Lunch for the Board Tour on August 22, 2007	EA	7.50		$ ~~412.50~~ 375.00
			delivered to the Birchdale Community Center at 11:30 a.m.				$ -
							$ -
			Price includes delivery, tax and gratuity.				$ -
			Menu: BBQ Beef sandwiches, potato/pasta salad, beans,				$ -
			watermelon, chips, brownie, lemonade, water, coffee				$ -
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
			CONFIRMING ORDER				$ -
							$ -
							$ -
			SUBTOTAL				$ 412.50
			SALES TAX (only for catering or lodging)				$ -
			GRATUITY				$ -

ORDERED BY: **DATE:** **SUPERVISOR APPROVAL:** **DATE:**

PHONE NUMBER:

TOTAL: $ 412.50

The contact information for the tour lunch is Lois Lewis, a former Extension Educator and wife of supervisor Ralph Lewis. Contact at home:
218-634-2048 after 7/24.

Preliminary menu included BBQ beef sandwiches, • lemonade beans, ~~veggie tray~~, watermelon, cookie, ~~pop~~, water, coffee. Feel free to adjust the menu as you see fit...I will leave that up to you and
Lois.

salad
chips
$7.50 / total
(inc. tax + gratuity)

Birchdale Community Center
- address?

10990 Hwy. 11
Birchdale
56629

confirmed
w/ Lois Lewis
on 8/15/07
"47"

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
INTERNAL REQUEST FOR GOODS OR SERVICES

VENDOR	**NAME** Sportsman's Lodge ATTENTION: Diana 218-634-1342, ext. 439	SHIPTO	**NAME** MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
	ADDRESS 3244 Bur Oak Road NW		**ADDRESS** 520 Lafayette Road North
	CITY, STATE, ZIP Baudette, MN 56623		**CITY, STATE, ZIP** St. Paul, MN 55155
REMI TTO	**NAME**	BILLTO	**NAME** MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
	ADDRESS		**ADDRESS** 520 Lafayette Road North
	CITY, STATE, ZIP		**CITY, STATE, ZIP** St. Paul, MN 55155

CONTRACT NO.

LINE NO.	COMMODITY CODE	UNIT(S) ORDERED	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	UNIT PRICE $	DISCOUNT $	TOTAL PRICE
1		1	Meeting Room charge for Issues Forum, August 22, 2007	RM	50.00		$ 50.00
2		~~55~~ 48	Dinner on August 22nd for Board Tour	EA	17.20		$ 946.00
			Walleye $17.95				$ -
			Beef/Chicken Kabobs $15.95				$ -
			Pork Ribs $18.95				$ -
			Chicken $15.95				$ -
3		55	Beverage: Coffee/Soda/Milk	EA	1.95		$ 107.25
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
			SUBTOTAL				$ 1,103.25
			SALES TAX (only for catering or lodging) 6.5%				$ 68.46
			GRATUITY 15%				$ 157.99
						TOTAL:	$ ~~1,103.25~~ 1329.70

ORDERED BY:
Mary Jo Anderson

DATE:
8/2/2007

PHONE NUMBER:
651-297-4290

SUPERVISOR APPROVAL:

DATE:

Sportsman's Lodge

Issues Forum = lower level "smaller room"
Room set-up for 55: Front of room will be facing white board w/head table
Classroom ~~or rounds~~
$50 room charge (includes AV equipment)

- LCD projector
- mic

Dinner = upstairs main dining room near windows
5:30 p.m. dinner served
Everyone will have four items to choose from: walleye, ~~prime rib,~~ ribs, chicken
(server will take order, go to salad bar)

pork → 15.95
17.95
kabobs 15.95
~~22.95~~
18.95
inc. soup/salad bar

15% gratuity
6.5% tax
1.95 beverage coffee/milk/soda

2007 BWSR Tour
August 22nd, 2007

Forum Topics and Panelists

"Tourism and Local Economics"
Tom Kratzke - Lake of the Woods Tourism Board and local resort owner

In small communities with low tax bases, tourism is seen as good economics. But with more people comes more pressure on the natural resources. Tom will discuss the balancing act between tourism for economic growth and healthy resource management. He'll also discuss how the protection of water quality, in particular, plays a vital role in the economic security of these two northern counties.

"Regulatory Roles of Local Governments"
Josh Stromlund – L/W County Land and Water Planning Office/SWCD Director.

Josh will discuss programs administered by the County and the SWCD and how the two struggle to fill many roles with limited staff. These various roles include regulatory, technical, administrative, educational, and multi-agency partnership roles. Also, he'll discuss resource management challenges facing these two northern counties where many of the landowners are seasonal, much of the county is wetland, and the tax base is limited.

"Forestry and Land Use Changes"
Craig Halla - Forest Capital Region Manager.

As the demand for private forest land ownership continues to grow, so too have questions over how to maintain good resource management while balancing the changes in land use from large forest acres to smaller, multiple use parcels. Craig will provide a brief background on Forest Capital and describe various projects and/or resource management efforts including large acre easements, Sustainable Forestry, and Environmental Stewardship.

"Water Quality and Quantity"
Les Lemm - former Lake of the Woods SWCD employee, Charter Boat Captain, and current BWSR Board Conservationist.

Large lake issues, international waters and limited staff are just a few of the challenges facing Lake of the Woods and Koochiching Counties. Discussion will include erosion, sedimentation, and water level regulation as they relate back to Lake of the Woods and its tributaries. Also, how do these counties tackle more complex issues such as Pine and Curry Island, issues of multi-jurisdiction, and managing impacts caused by land use changes?

From: "Diana" <diana@sportsmanslodges.com>
To: <maryjo.anderson@bwsr.state.mn.us>
Date: 6/15/2007 3:39:03 PM
Subject: Sportsman's Lodge

Mary Jo

I have penciled you in for August 22nd (tentatively)

Meeting Space is $50 for the room & setup

Menu's are attached for you to choose 3- 4 options for your group.

We also do Prime rib, fish fry & chicken & Rib Specials many nights of the week.

Please let me know if I can be of any assistance.

Diana Hennum

Sportsman's Lodge

3244 Bur Oak Rd NW

Baudette, MN 56623

1-800-862-8602 ext 439

HYPERLINK "http://www.diana@sportsmanslodges.com"www.diana@sportsmanslodges.com

HYPERLINK "http://www.sportsmanslodges.com"www.sportsmanslodges.com

No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.472 / Virus Database: 269.8.14/845 - Release Date: 6/12/2007 6:39 AM

Sportsman's Lodge

From the grill

Filet Mignon ..... J2#.95
An eight ounce, USDA choice filet of beef tenderloin. The ultimate steak wrapped in bacon and smothered with fresh sautéed mushrooms. BIN 414

Ribeye 125.95
The most juicy, flavorful steak you'll find! A generous twelve ounce fresh cut. BIN 410

T-Bone 125.95
A full twenty ounces of pure pleasure! Our most popular steak! BIN 403

Blue Mesa Angus Sirloin **120.95**
A premium steak that is dry aged for tendernes and flavor. We feature an eight ounce cut of this quality beef for your pleasure! BIN411

Lighter Fare

Skinny Walleye *$14.95*
One filet of walleye deep fried or broiled with lemon pepper or garlic herb seasoning. BIN 204

Salad Bar ***$8.95***
A meal in itself, our famous salad bar includes romaine and garden lettuce blend topped with all of your favorite condiments and fresh veggies, but don't stop there we have an array of house made salads to choose from and our fresh made house soup to finish it off. Add a baked potato to top of your hunger.

Kabobs *$15.95*
Layers of meat and vegetables marinated and grilled to perfection. Your choice of beef or chicken. Served on a bed of wild rice. BIN 400

Alfredo *$14.95*
Linguine and creamy Alf redo sauce tossed together with a choice of chicken or shrimp. Ask for Cajun for a little kick of flavor. BIN 204

Sportsman's Specialties

Barbecued Ribs *$18.95*
One of our best! Fall off the bone tender baby back pork ribs smothered with our special zesty sauce. For a lighter fare try a half rack of ribs. $12.95 BIN 301

Crispy Fried Chicken 115.95
Better than Grandma's! A generous portion of crunchy breaded white and dark chicken pieces. BIN 206

Pork Medallions *$14.95*
Medallions of pork marinated in our special sauce and grilled on the char broiler. Served on a bed of sautéed peppers and onions. BIN 204

Chicken Tetrazini ***$15.95***
An old world classic with a Minnesota twist. Breast of chicken sautéed and served over wild rice, then topped with a rich sauce of melted parmesan and mozzarella cheese.

Cheesy Garlic Walleye *$18.95*
Sweet walleye topped with garlic, a blend of cheeses and a crunchy topping. BIN 205

Make a Splash

Walleye *$17.95*

Minnesota's pride! Have it your way, blackened, lemon pepper, garlic herb or deep fried. Served with our homemade tartar sauce. BIN 203

Shrimp *$17.95*

Six large shrimp, lightly breaded and fried to a golden brown. BIN 204

Broiled Shrimp *$19.95*

Six jumbo shrimp broiled in butter and served on a bed of mid rice. BIN 503

Lobster *$32.95*

An eight ounce tail of sweet tasty lobster, broiled and served with drawn garlic butter. BIN 504

Steak and Lobster *$41.95*

Sweet lobster complimented by our eight ounce blue messa Angus premium sirloin, smothered in sautéed mushrooms. BIN 415

Walleye Scampi *$16.95*

A great way to enjoy walleye - scampi style with garlic and butter. If you prefer traditional scampi with shrimp there is an additional 12 *charge.*

All entrees include: Fresh baked bread, soup, salad bar and choice of potato. Potato choices are:

Baked, Au gratin, Wild Rice, Hash Browns, French Fries or Steamed Vegetables

A 15% gratuity will be added to tables 8 or more, this will be reflected on your check
Thank You!

Delightful Desserts

Caramel Apple Granny
Better tlian Mom's! Tart Granny Smith apple slices in a shortbread crust, topped with a rich caramel sauce. 4.95 Ala mode 5.50

Ice Cream Sundae
Vanilla ice cream topped with your choice of hot judge, chocolate, strawberry or raspberry. 3.95

Cookies and Cream Friazzo
Layers ofcrunchy cookies with layers of creamy ice cream and Judge. It just doesn't get any better! 4.95

Kentucky Bourbon Pecan Pic
A slwrtbread crust jilled with whole pecans and smothered with a caramel custard filling. 4.95 Ala mode 5.50

Cheesecake
Velvety smooth vanilla cheesecake. Enjoy it plain or jazz it up with chocolate, strawberry or raspberry topping. 4.25

Key Lime Pie
Authentic Key lime pie whipped into a graham cracker crust. Very tasty for those hot summer days. 5.25

Beverages

Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Squirt, Mt. Dew, Sierra Mist, Lemonade, Ice Tea.....2.25
Milk, Chocolate Milk, Coffee, Decaf, Hot Tea.....1.95 Hot Chocolate...2.50

From the Brew Cellar

On Tap
Coors Lite.....2.75 *Michelob Amber Bock, Leines Honeyweiss. .3.00 Blue Moon*.....3.75

Premium Domestics/ Imports
Michelob Ultra Light, Killian's Red, Labatt Blue, Sam Adams, Heineken, Corona, 4.00

Domestic Beer
Budweiser, Bud Select, Bud Light, Busch Light, Coors Light, Miller Lite, Miller High Life, MGD, MGD Lite, Pabst, Mkhelob Golden Draft Light, Old Milwaukee, Grainbelt Premium, Schmidt, O Doules, Amber O Doules 3.25

Malt Beverages
Bartles and James wine coolers Original & Berry, Mikes Hard Lemonade, Mikes Cranberry, Bacardi Razz 3.75

After Dinner Delights

Blended Cocktails. The best you'll find anywhere.
Grasshopper - Brandy Alexander - Golden Cadillac - Pink Squirrel - Pina Colada - Strawberry Daiquiri or Margarita 7.00

From: "Trask, Corryn - Baudette, Mn" <corryn.trask@mn.nacdnet.net>
To: <maryjo.anderson@bwsr.state.mn.us>
Date: 5/22/2007 2:03:06 PM
Subject: BWSR Tour

Mary Jo,

I've attached some website links for resorts in Lake of the Woods that might work for the tour forum/dinner on Wednesday night. The tentative plan is to arrive at the place, have refreshments, followed by a one-hour forum, and finished off with dinner. I thought it might be best for you to contact each one directly to make sure that they have a room that would sufficiently accommodate the group. I had talked to Morris Point, and she thought the back room would be sufficient, but you are probably a better judge of that.

I have ordered them according to our preference (as far as location). If you feel one location would be better than the other, that's fine, just let us know so we can arrange our tour accordingly.

✓ http://www.morrispointlodge.com Baudette 218-634-2570
No space (40) Michelle

✓ www.borderviewlodge.com Baudette 1-800-776-3474
10 space available (30)

(*) http://sportsmanslodgelow.com/ Baudette 218-634-1342, ext. 439
Shelley / Diana

Thanks,
Corryn

Corryn Trask
Resource Technician
Lake of the Woods
Soil and Water Conservation District
(218)634-1842 ext 3
(218)634-1726 fax
corryn.trask@mn.nacdnet.net

Forum = Jeff Hrabes "wide variety of roles + resource info"

1. Water Quality Challenges: North vs. South and International Waters

Quick description of LOTW, Rainy River, inputs, outputs, LWCB,

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

LOTW is under consideration for being listed. This could mean large amounts of money coming into this area. In what ways would these dollars be utilized, and what will it take to have successful local projects undertaken? What will it mean for surrounding land? How will the fact that this is an international water, and a controlled basin?

How will it effect things if the lake is not listed?

We also have fewer stakeholders (special interest groups, big business, fewer landowners) to help out financially.
Interagency cooperation – necessary for the financial backing, but very time consuming and complicated.

International Waters: What challenges face us, the difficulties in coordination, how the interests are different/same across the border.

Include #2 and #3 as sub-topics.

-tourism

5. Renewable Energy – small groups big aspirations

Kooch has recently received funding for a plasma gasification feasibility study.

L/W Northern Excellence Seed Coop also received a national award to purchase a biomass gasification unit to power its plant.

Introduction:

*Discuss local achievements from both counties for renewable resources

*Who are the partners

*What was the greatest challenge for getting the project off the ground?

*How can a small community afford something like this?

*What are the futures of the projects

*What will be the biggest challenge for having a successful project?

Alternative Topics

2. <u>The future of northern Minnesota: Tourism vs. industry</u>
Where do we forsee things going? How are the communities planning (I think Kooch is doing a bit better at looking into eco-tourism)

3. <u>Land use changes and how they affect northern counties</u>
(here in Lake of the Woods, our shift is ag land to hunting land. This puts pressure on our conservation programs because they are no longer serving farmers. This money is now going into permanent stands of tree plantings. Some land is also being retired, and left idle – what are the problems with retiring land without a restoration plan.

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
INTERNAL REQUEST FOR GOODS OR SERVICES

VENDOR	**NAME** Thunderbird Lodge ATTENTION: Mary Jane 218-286-3151	SHIPTO	**NAME** MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
	ADDRESS 2170 County Road 139		**ADDRESS** 520 Lafayette Road North
	CITY, STATE, ZIP International Falls, MN 56649-8839		**CITY, STATE, ZIP** St. Paul, MN 55155
REMI TTO	**NAME**	BI LLTO	**NAME** MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
	ADDRESS		**ADDRESS** 520 Lafayette Road North
	CITY, STATE, ZIP		**CITY, STATE, ZIP** St. Paul, MN 55155

CONTRACT NO.

LINE NO.	COMMODITY CODE	UNIT(S) ORDERED	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	UNIT PRICE $	DISCOUNT $	TOTAL PRICE
1		32	Dinner on Tuesday, August 21, 2007	EA	12.99		$ 415.68
			Walleye Almondine $12.99				$ -
			Chicken Kiev $13.99				$ -
			Pork Chop $11.99				$ -
2		32	Beverage: Coffee/Soda/Milk	EA	1.50		$ 48.00
3		1	Pontoon Rental on Tuesday, August 21, 2007	EA	100.00		$ 100.00
4		1	Gasoline for Pontoon	EA	25.00		$ 25.00
							$ -
			for Board Members & Staff attending the BWSR Tour/Mtg.				$ -
							$ -
							$ -
							$ -
			SUBTOTAL				$ 588.68
			SALES TAX (only for catering or lodging) 6.5%				$ 30.14
			GRATUITY 15%				$ 69.55

ORDERED BY: **DATE:** **SUPERVISOR APPROVAL:** **DATE:** **TOTAL:** 688.37

PHONE NUMBER:

THUNDERBIRD LODGE
FAX

Fax Transmittal Form

To: Mary Jo Anderson
CC:
Fax: 651-297-5615

Fro
Dat
Page

Call Mary Jane + gas 25.00
w/ 3 meal choices 1.50
- beverage?
- gratuity? 15% 6.5%

Here is our dinner menu

Feel free to choose a choice of 3 from either or both menus.

May I suggest

- Walleye Almondine 12.99
- chicken ~~Oscar~~ Kiev 13.99
- ~~Prime Rib~~ pork chop 16.99

These are 3 delicious options.
Call me w/ 2's or choices - MJ

2170 Cty. Rd. 139, Int'l. Falls, MN 56649-8832 Phone: (218) 286-3151 Fax: (218) 286-3004
email: thbird@frontiernet.net www.thunderbirdlodge.info

THUNDERBIRD LODGE FAX

Fax Transmittal Form

To: Mary Jo Anderson
CC:
Fax: 651-297-5615

From: Mary Jane Hansen
Date: 7/31/07
Pages: 5

Here is our dinner menu -

Feel free to choose a choice of 3 from either or both menus.

May I suggest

- Walleye Almondine 12.99
- chicken ~~Oscar~~ Kiev 13.99
- ~~Prime Rib~~ pork chop 16.99

These are 3 delicious options.
Call me w/ Q's or choices - MJ

2170 Cty. Rd. 139, Int'l. Falls, MN 56649-8832 Phone: (218) 286-3151 Fax: (218) 286-3004
email: thbird@frontiernet.net www.thunderbirdlodge.info

entrees

Roast Prime Rib
10 oz. 18.99 / 14 oz. 22.99
AU JUS...ALWAYS DELICIOUS AND A COUNT ON FAVORITE

Filet Mignon 24.99
A 7 OZ. TENDERLOIN WRAPPED IN BACON AND SMOTHERED IN FRESH SAUTÉED MUSHROOMS

Ribeye 20.99
A 12 OZ. CUT, LIGHTLY SEASONED AND BROILED

Steak Oscar 22.99
A 12 OZ. RIBEYE TOPPED WITH CRAB FLAKES, ASPARAGUS SPEARS AND HOLLANDAISE SAUCE, LOVED BY BOTH LOCALS AND OUR LOYAL VACATIONERS

Top Sirloin 15.99
A 8 OZ. CENTER CUT SIRLOIN TOPPED WITH SAUTÉED MUSHROOMS

Thunderbird Sirloin 16.99
A 10 OZ. CUT, MARINATED IN BUTTER AND GARLIC... MELTS IN YOUR MOUTH.

All entrees served with a tossed or caesar salad and choice of baked potato, french fries, hash browns, pasta, fresh vegetables or wild rice.

seafood & fish

Indicates a chef's choice

Shrimp 16.99
SIX SUCCULENT JUMBO SHRIMP EITHER BROILED, DEEP-FRIED OR SCAMPI

Lite Shrimp 11.99
THREE JUMBO SHRIMP PREPARED AS STATED ABOVE FOR A SMALLER APPETITE

Scallops 18.99
10 OZ. OF DEEP SEA SCALLOPS BROILED IN GARLIC BUTTER OR BROILED WITH TWO CORN FRITTERS

Walleye One Fillet 11.99 / Two Fillets 16.99
A THUNDERBIRD CLASSIC. PREPARED DEEP FRIED OR BROILED WITH TWO CORN FRITTERS

Thunderbird Walleye Almondine
One Fillet 12.99 / Two Fillets 17.99
OUR HOUSE SPECIALTY. BROILED WALLEYE TOPPED WITH TOASTED ALMONDS, SERVED ON A BED OF RICE AND FRESH VEGETABLES.

Lobster 27.99
TWO 4 OZ. COLD WATER TAILS, SERVED WITH DRAWN BUTTER

ADDED TO TABLES OF 8 OR MORE.

chops & ribs

Marinated Iowa Pork Chops
One chop 11.99 / Two chops 16.99
ABSOLUTELY DELICIOUS.

BBQ Ribs
Full Rack 16.99 / Half Rack 11.99
MEATY, TENDER PORK BACK RIBS SLOW COOKED AND SERVED IN A TANGY SAUCE.

All chops & ribs served with a tossed or caesar salad and choice of baked potato, french fries, hash browns, pasta, fresh vegetables or wild rice.

chicken & pasta

Chicken Oscar 15.99
SAUTÉED BREAST OF CHICKEN WITH CRAB, ASPARAGUS SPEARS AND HOLLANDAISE SAUCE, SERVED ON A BED OF WILD RICE.

Chicken Kiev 13.99
BREAST OF CHICKEN STUFFED WITH GARLIC BUTTER AND CHIVES, SERVED ON A BED OF WILD RICE.

Chicken Picatta 12.99
BREAST OF CHICKEN SAUTÉED IN LEMON BUTTER AND SERVED ON A BED OF WILD RICE. A FAVORITE OUR GUESTS COME BACK AGAIN AND AGAIN FOR.

Chicken Rainy 15.99
SAUTÉED BREAST OF CHICKEN ATOP LINGUINI TOSSED IN A CREAMY SUN-DRIED TOMATO SAUCE, SERVED WITH FRESH STEAMED VEGETABLES.

Chicken Alfredo 14.99
SAUTÉED BREAST OF CHICKEN ATOP LINGUINI TOSSED IN A CREAMY ALFREDO SAUCE, SERVED WITH FRESH STEAMED VEGETABLES.

Gold Shores Pasta 15.99
CHICKEN AND HOT ITALIAN SAUSAGE IN A CREAMY SUN-DRIED TOMATO SAUCE SERVED OVER CAVATTAPPI NOODLES, SERVED WITH FRESH STEAMED VEGETABLES. SOMEWHAT SPICY.

15% GRATUITY WILL BE ADDED TO TABLES OF 8 OR MORE.

appetizers

Brie & Chutney with Assorted Crackers 7.99

Black Bean Salsa with Tortilla Chips 4.50

Shrimp Cocktail 9.50

Crab Cakes 11.99

Stuffed Jalapeno Poppers 5.50

Beer Battered Onion Rings 5.50

Mozzarella Sticks 5.50

Chicken Drummies 6.50

Beer Battered M[illegible] 5.50

French Onion or Wild Rice Soup 3.95

small appetite

Shrimp Basket 6.95
SERVED WITH FRENCH FRIES

Thunderburger 6.50
1/3 LB. PATTY WITH LETTUCE, TOMATO AND ONION SERVED WITH FRENCH FRIES

Grilled Chicken Sandwich 6.95
OZ. FILLET WITH LETTUCE, TOMATO AND MAYO SERVED WITH FRENCH FRIES

Chicken Fingers 6.95
SERVED WITH FRENCH FRIES

Chicken Caesar Salad 9.95
4 OZ. GRILLED CHICKEN FILLET ATOP ROMAINE LETTUCE WITH ALL THE FIXIN'S

Walleye Sandwich 9.95
SERVED WITH FRENCH FRIES

SUBSTITUTE FRIES FOR ONION RINGS ON ANY ABOVE ITEM FOR 1.00 MORE.

kids menu

12 AND UNDER, ALL ITEMS 4.29
MEALS INCLUDE SODA, MILK OR JUICE AND OREOS FOR DESSERT!

- Mini Corn Dogs with Kraft Mac and Cheese
- Hamburger and French Fries (ADD BACON .50)
- Cheeseburger and French Fries (ADD BACON .5[illegible])
- 2 Chicken Strips WITH FRENCH FRIES
- 4 Chicken Drummies WITH FRENCH FRIES

Sales - Pontoon ~ $100
Aug. 21 - Dinner ~ 25

Banquet Room Hors d'Ouevres Menu

Hot Hors d'Ouevres

Stuffed Mushrooms	100 pieces	$50.00	200 pieces	$90.00
Pot Stickers	100 pieces	$75.00	200 pieces	$150.00
Jalapeno Peppers	50 pieces	$40.00	100 pieces	$70.00
Chicken Drummies	100 pieces	$80.00	200 pieces	$160.00
Marinated Wings	100 pieces	$55.00	200 pieces	$95.00
Meat Balls	150 pieces	$55.00	300 pieces	$100.00
Quiche Assortment	100 pieces	$100.00		
Chicken Sate	100 pieces	$125.00		
Rumaki	100 pieces	$70.00		

Chilled Hors d'Ouevres

Spinach Dip	Small	$45.00	Large	$60.00
Taco Spread	Small	$40.00	Large	$55.00
Cheese Ball	Small	$30.00	Large	$45.00
Crab Pate	Small	$45.00	Large	$70.00
Veggies & Dip	100 pieces	$45.00	200 pieces	$75.00
Fruit & Dip (seasonal)	100 pieces	$55.00	200 pieces	$90.00
Cheese & Fruit	100 pieces	$60.00	200 pieces	$95.00
Cheese & Sausage	100 pieces	$55.00	200 pieces	$90.00
Stuffed Mushrooms	100 pieces	$50.00	200 pieces	$90.00
Deviled Eggs	100 pieces	$35.00	200 pieces	$55.00
Smoked Salmon	Market Price			
Cold Shrimp & CocktailSauce	Market Price			

- Breakfast $10/ea. total inc. tt / Aug. 23 (Thurs.)
- ~~Banquet Room~~ → $100
- ~~Sleeping Rooms~~ n/A

Sit Down Dinner for groups of 25 or more
Select one menu choice for the entire group.

Breast of Chicken… Stuffed with sage dressing, served on a bed of rice pilaf with yellow wax beans, fresh bread or rolls and butter, and either tossed or Caesar salad.
$13.95 plus $.90 tax and $1.94 gratuity

Total per person ***$17.07***

Chicken Oscar… Sautéed breast of chicken served over a bed of wild rice, smothered with crab flakes, asparagus, and hollandaise sauce, served with fresh bread or rolls and butter, and either tossed or Caesar salad.
$15.95 plus $1.03 tax and $2.54 gratuity

Total per person ***$19.52***

Sliced Roast Turkey… Served with sage dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberries, green beans and baby carrots, fresh fruit salad, fresh bread or rolls and butter, and either tossed or Caesar salad.
13.95 plus $.90 tax and $2.22 gratuity

Total per person ***$17.07***

Seasoned Roast Beef… With choice of mashed potatoes and gravy or gourmet potatoes, glazed carrots, fresh bread or rolls with butter, and either tossed or Caesar salad.
$14.95 plus $.97 tax and $2.38 gratuity

Total per person ***$18.30***

Roast Loin of Pork… With sage dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans and bell peppers, fresh bread or rolls and butter, and either tossed or Caesar salad.
$13.95 plus $.90 tax and $1.94 gratuity

Total per person ***$17.07***

Thick Cut Pork Chop… Stuffed with sage dressing and served with gourmet potatoes, green beans almondine, fresh bread or rolls and butter, and either tossed or Caesar salad.
$13.95 plus $.90 tax and $1.94 gratuity

Total per person ***$17.07***

Thunderbird Lodge
2170 County Road 139
International Falls, MN 56649
Phone 1-218-286-3151 or Toll Free at 1-800-351-5133
www.thunderbirdrainylake.com
Thbird@frontiernet.net

Thunderbird Lodge
Dinner Reservations at 6:30 p.m. in Dining Room
Sunset Pontoon Ride Narrated w/Driver

Tuesday, August 21

1. Dana Allen
2. Mary Jo Anderson
3. Paul Brutlag
4. Bob Burandt
5. Wayne Edgerton
6. Paul Eger
7. Jon Fure
8. Jeff Hrubes
9. John Jaschke
10. Kari Keating
11. ~~Brian Kletscher~~
12. Randy Kramer
13. ~~Larry Kramka~~
14. Paul Langseth
15. ~~Les Lemm~~
16. Jim Lemmerman
17. Joe Martin
18. Brian Napstad
19. Ken Robinson
20. Chad Severts
21. Ron Shelito
22. Louise Smallidge
23. Gene Tiedemann
24. LuAnn Tolliver
25. ~~Steve Woods~~
26. Wayne Zellmer

27. Kevin Adee, Koochiching Co. Commissioner
28. Wade Pavleck, Koochiching Co. Commissioner
29. Mike Hanson, Koochiching Co. Commissioner
30. Ralph Lewis, Koochiching SWCD Supervisor
31. Al Linder, Koochiching SWCD Supervisor
32. Pam Tomevi, Koochiching SWCD staff

30 29

Three dinner choices:

- Walleye Almondine
- Chicken Kiev
- Pork Chops

Tuesday, August 21, 2007

We have a casual evening planned for Tuesday night. We have dinner reservations at 6:30 p.m. at the Thunderbird Lodge (phone: 218-286-3151 -- 2170 County Road 139 – located ten miles east from the Holiday Inn on Hwy. 11 East) on Rainy Lake. If you're interested, you can take a sunset pontoon ride or take the mini-coach bus back to the Holiday Inn for rest and relaxation.

If you would like to ride the mini-coach bus to the Thunderbird Lodge, meet in the lobby of the Holiday Inn at 6:00 p.m.

Please let me know asap if you plan to join us for dinner and a pontoon ride.
I need to have a count on the number of attendees.

BWSR

Public Relations, Outreach and Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Thunderbird Lodge

Dinner in the Dining Room

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Thunderbird Lodge

Dinner in the Dining Room

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Thunderbird Lodge

Dinner in the Dining Room

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

ISSUES FORUM

(downstairs)

Pam-
Kooch

- Leg. comm.
- co. comm.
- congress
- Oberstar
- chairs of comm.

John will invite

Attendees

- Invitation to:

- Local Legislators
- Co. commissioners
- Congressman Oberstar

(*) Kooch + Low to invite

TOUR

8:00

8:30

Voyageur Charter

Holiday

Dinner & Lunch

12:00

1:00

4:00

Morris Point - HAPPY HOUR - Univ

Panel Discussion 4:45

↓ 5:45

Dinner 6:00

BUS back to Falls 7:00

Return 8:30

July 23 Kooch

Pam-
Koch

8/21 4-8 VNP DINNER/TOUR
Bus

- Leg. comm.
- co. comm.
- congress
- chairs of comm.

(Observer)

John will invite

8/22 Welcome 8:00

Bus 8:30

— TOUR —

Voyageur Charter

Holiday Dinner & Lunch

Lunch (BIRCHDALE) 12:00

BUS/TOUR 1:00
- DUTCHMAN
- Friesen
- TOP VIEW 306

Resort 4:00
Morns Point - HAPPY HOUR - Univ

Panel Discussion 4:45

5:45

Dinner 6:00

BUS back to Falls 7:00

Return 8:30

July 23 Koch

From: "Tomevi, Pam - International Falls, MN" <Pam.Tomevi@mn.nacdnet.net>
To: <maryjo.anderson@bwsr.state.mn.us>
Date: 6/11/2007 2:55:04 PM
Subject: BWSR Tour info

Hi Mary Jo...

The contact for Voyageurs National Park boat tours is Tawnya Showey at 218-286-5258. Another boat option may be pontoons through Woody's Fairly Reliable Guide Service at 1-866-410-5001 or http://www.fairlyreliable.com/ ...he was very accomodating during our Area III tour in 2004...Ron Shelito was with us for that.

If a boat ride through the park does not pan out, perhaps we could do a short walking tour...let me know your thoughts and what additional information I can get.

Pam

DRAFT BOARD TOUR ITINERARY

Tuesday, August 21st

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Evening tour at Voyageurs

Wednesday, August 22nd

8:00 a.m.	Koochiching Welcome
8:30 a.m.	Load bus for Koochiching site visits
Noon	Birchdale Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Tour Resumes in Lake of the Woods
4:00 - 4:45 p.m.	Social at Resort (refreshments)
5:15 - 6:15 p.m.	Forum
6:15 -7:14 p.m.	Dinner
7:30 p.m.	Load bus and travel back to Koochiching (1 and half hours)

Thursday, August 23rd

8:00 a.m.	Board Meeting at the Holiday Inn

From: MaryJo Anderson
To: bill.eisele; dianne.hubbell
Date: 5/9/2007 12:49:03 PM
Subject: Request for 15-passenger van

Dianne,
I am in need of a 15-passenger van for the Board tour/meeting in August. The tour will be held in Koochiching and Lake of the Woods Counties. Please reserve a large passenger van - if there is something larger than a 15-passenger van, great...let me know what size is available. There will be staff and board members riding together from St. Paul to International Falls. Please reserve the van from 8:00 a.m. Tuesday morning, August 21, returning about 7:00 p.m. on Thursday night, August 23, 2007.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks for your help!

Mary Jo Anderson
Board of Water & Soil Resources
maryjo.anderson@bwsr.state.mn.us
651-297-4290

Lake of the Woods
Soil and Water
Conservation District
P.O. Box 217
Baudette, Minnesota 56623
Telephone: (218) 634-2757

February 7, 2007

Board of Water and Soil Resources
Mr. John Jaschke, Executive Director
520 Lafayette Rd N
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Mr. Jaschke,

Lake of the Woods and Koochiching County Soil and Water Conservation Districts would like to request the privilege of co-hosting the BWSR mid-summer board meeting. Our Districts would appreciate this opportunity and are willing to assist with BWSR staff to coordinate the event.

Please consider our request when determining a location for this summer's event.

Sincerely,

Josh Stromlund
Lake of the Woods SWCD Director
Representing Lake of the Woods and Koochiching Soil and Water Conservation Districts

CC: Pam Tomevi, Koochiching SWCD Administrator

RECEIVED
FEB 9 2007
Bd. of Water & Soil Resources
St. Paul

FOREST STEWARDSHIP

Multiple use forest management on private forest land improves timber production, wildlife habitat, and aesthetic value while maintaining water quality and providing economic sustainability.

The Koochiching SWCD offers assistance to private landowners on the following forestry related programs:

- **Minnesota Forest Resource Council**
- **Forest Stewardship Plans**
  - Description of forest stands
  - Identification of resource concerns (erosion, water quality, insects, etc.)
  - Recommendations to properly manage private forest resources
  - Sustainable Forest Incentive Act (SFIA)
- **Cost Share**
  - Financial assistance for the implementation of various forestry and wildlife recommendations
- **Voluntary Site Level Forest Management Guidelines Program**
  - Support, education, and information
- **Tree Sales Program**
  - Annual sale of conservation trees (sold in bundles of 25 trees)



The Koochiching SWCD consists of five locally elected supervisors and two full-time staff members.

Our main focus is to educate and assist local landowners in becoming better stewards of their land and its natural resources.

SUPERVISORS

Ralph Lewis	District I
Troy Promersberger	District II
Eldon Voigt	District III
Bernie Uran	District IV
Al Linder	District V

STAFF

Pam Tomevi	District Coordinator
Ryan Heinen	District Technician

If you would like more information on the programs and services we provide, contact: the Koochiching SWCD office:

Pam Tomevi 218-283-1174
Ryan Heinen 218-283-1175

Koochiching County SWCD

Courthouse
715 4th Street
International Falls MN 56649

Phone: 218-283-1174
Fax: 218-283-1176
Email: pam.tomevi@mn.nacdnet.net
ryan.heinen@mn.nacdnet.net

Koochiching County



Soil & Water Conservation District

Established 1954

Who Are We?

What Do We Do?

The Koochiching Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) is a local agency that provides access to natural resource management and conservation services. In cooperation with local, state, and federal agencies, the SWCD provides technical financial, and educational assistance to address natural resource concerns. Assistance is available to all taxpayers and land users within the borders of Koochiching County.

EROSION CONTROL



Before After

Protecting surface and ground water quality is one of several high priorities identified by the Koochiching Soil & Water Conservation District as well as the Koochiching County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan.

Controlling soil erosion significantly reduces the amount of sedimentation, nutrients, and pesticides entering our surface waters.

Erosion control assistance is available for:

- Information & Education
- Project Planning & Design
- Rock Rip Rap
- Bioengineering
- Critical Area Seeding
- Permitting Assistance
- Tree & Shrub Planting

Check with the Koochiching SWCD to see if cost-sharing assistance may be available for your project.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The Koochiching SWCD operates under the concept of combining natural resource utilization with conservation.

As our reliance on natural resources continues to increase, so must our efforts to ensure their sustainability for future generations.

It is our task in our time and in our generation to hand down undiminished to those who come after us, as was handed down to us by those who went before, the natural wealth and beauty which is ours.

-President John F. Kennedy (1917—1963)

The Koochiching SWCD is currently involved with the following:

- County Land Use Plan
- County Water Plan
- Rain Gauge Monitoring
- Poster, Essay, & Video Contest
- EnviroScape Model Presentation
- MN Logger Education Program
- Local / County Fairs
- Outdoor Education Days Program
- River Boards
- Quarterly Newsletters
- Multi-Media Presentations
- North Central MN Joint Powers Board
- Beneficial Re-Use of Wood Ash
- AgBMP Low Interest Loan Program
- Woodland Advisor Program
- Laurentian Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Program

WETLAND CONSERVATION

Best known for wildlife habitat, wild rice, cranberries, or a place to hunt and fish, wetlands offer numerous environmental benefits as well:

- Wetlands reduce flooding by slowing excess runoff during heavy rain falls.
- Wetlands improve surface and ground water quality by filtering out sediments and nutrients that can pollute water resources.

As a member of the Koochiching County Wetland Committee, the SWCD can assist landowners and Local Governmental Units (LGUs) with the following:

- Information & Education
- Wetland Determinations
- Wetland Delineations
- Wetland Credit Banking
- Replacement & Restoration Orders
- Technical Evaluation Panel
- Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act of 1991
- Koochiching County Wetland Flexibility Plan & Ordinance



Koochiching County

Site 4

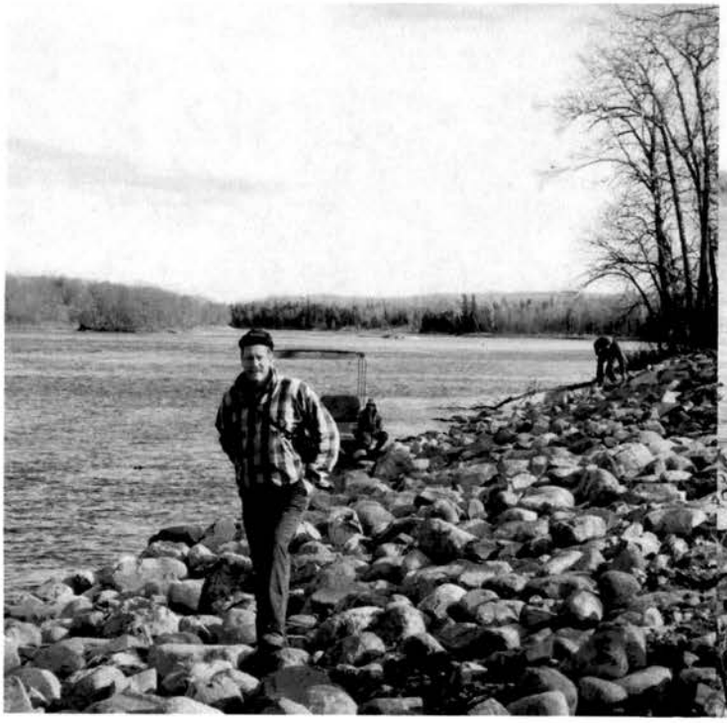
Nelson Park Erosion Control Cost-Share Project



BEFORE



AFTER



AFTER



BEFORE

Koochiching County



Land Area: 2,010,990 Acres

Population : 13,658 (4.6 people per square mile)

Towns:

- International Falls (County Seat)
- Littlefork
- Big Falls
- Northome
- Mizpah
- Ranier

Industry:

- Forestry
- Paper
- Tourism

Water :

- 17 Lakes, 14 Rivers, and 4 Designated Trout Streams
- Water flows north to Hudson Bay
- Koochiching County wetlands account for 2% of total wetland acres in the United States

Stand 20: Aspen
Acres = 3



Stand Description:
This is a small stand of 33 year old aspen on an excellent site. Very high growth rates are being experienced in this stand and would have potential to be managed for cabin logs or pulp. Mature aspen, Balm-of-Gilead, lowland brush and similar aged aspen surround the stand. A trail borders the stand on the west side. The thick hazel brush provides good wildlife habitat for deer, grouse, furbearers, and song birds.

Aspen Summary	Estimated Volume/acre
Average Age: 33 years	Aspen……..……28 Cords
Growth Potential: SI 74 (Excellent)	
Tree Density: 100 BA	
Average Diameter: 7 inch	
Quality: Very Good	**Timber volumes not accurate for sale**

(BA- Basal Area is a cross sectional area in square feet of the trunk at breast height (4.5 ft above the ground) These tables show BA per acre, or the sum of Basal Areas of individual trees on the acre.)

Stand Objective:
Improve and maintain wildlife habitat, while providing future timber harvesting opportunities.

Recommended Management Activities:
No action is needed at this time. Allow the stand to grow and mature, watching for disease or decline. Look to harvest the stand in 12-15 years for pulp, or 20-25 years for cabin or saw logs.

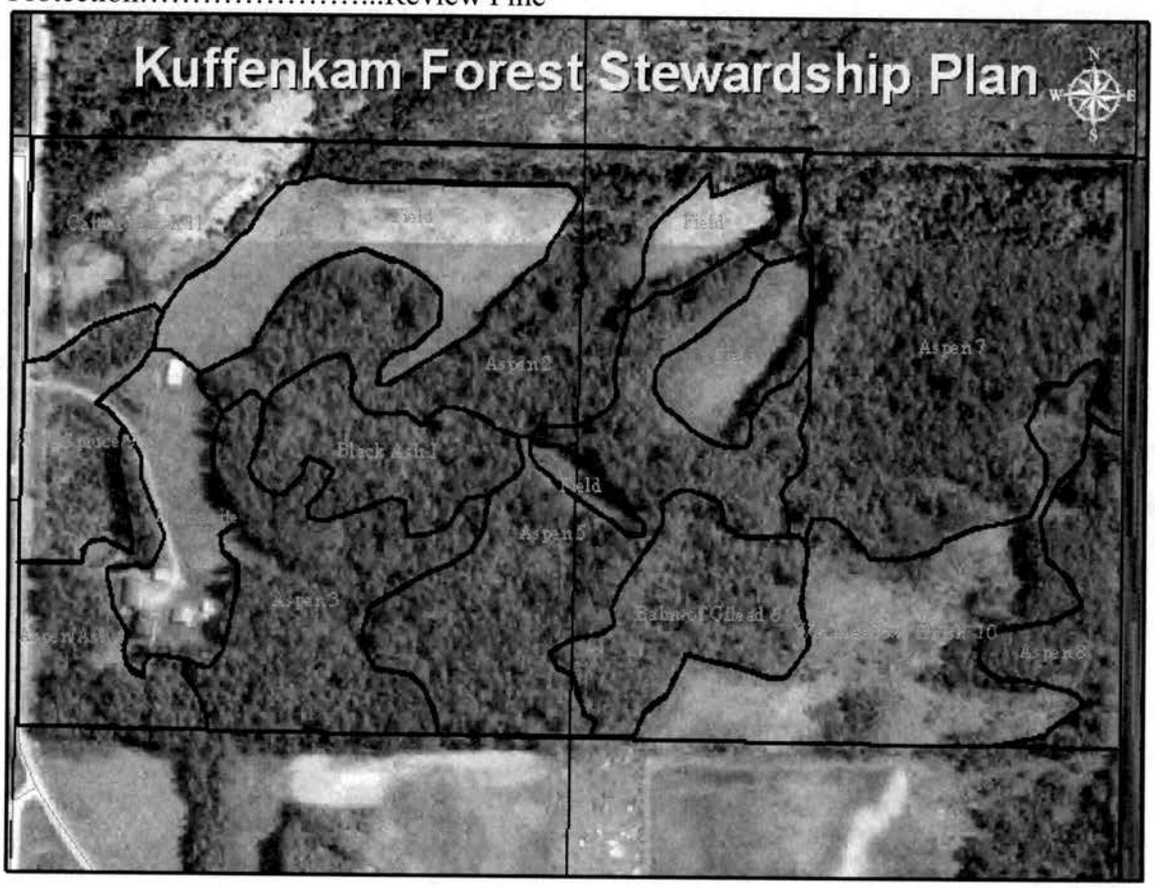
Alternative Management Activities:
Interplant this stand with white pine. The stand has suitable soil that white pine would probably grow well on. Planting in thin or open areas throughout the stand will provide a valuable habitat and timber resource to the property. Protection from white-tailed deer will be needed initially, especially with white pine. Bud capping in the fall for the first 5-6 years, or until the terminal bud is out of the deer's reach should protect most of the white pine.

Stewardship Binder References: (for additional information)

Tab	Reference Name
Wildlife.....	Landscaping Woodlands for Wildlife, Habitat Components for Wildlife, Managing Your Woodland for deer and grouse pamphlets

Tree Species.....Aspen, White Pine, White Pine Planting and Care Guide

Protection.....Review Pine



LAKE OF THE WOODS



Population: 4,500
County Seat: Baudette
Towns: Baudette, Williams, Roosevelt, NW Angle
Main Industry: Tourism
Number of accessible lakes = 1

A LITTLE ABOUT US:

About the SWCD

Formed in 1952

Staff:

Mike Hirst, Resource Technician
Corryn Trask, Resource Technician
Josh Stromlund, County LWPO/SWCD Manager

Supervisors:

Tom Ballard, Chairperson
Roger Krause, Vice-Chair
Russell Hansen, Treasurer
Marshall Nelson, Secretary
Scott Pieper, Communications

SWCD & County Cooperation:

In 2004, the SWCD and the County entered into an agreement to have the County Land and Water Planning Director oversee the activities of the SWCD staff.
The SWCD office continues to be housed with the NRCS office.

Some Key Issues for Lake of the Woods County

Wetlands

Over half of all private lands in Lake of the Woods County are categorized as being wetland.

Shoreland

The U.S portion of Lake of the Woods is roughly half the size of Rhode Island, and it is part of an international waterbody.
Over 145 miles of rivers and streams crisscross L/W County.

Ditches

650 miles of Judicial and County ditches.

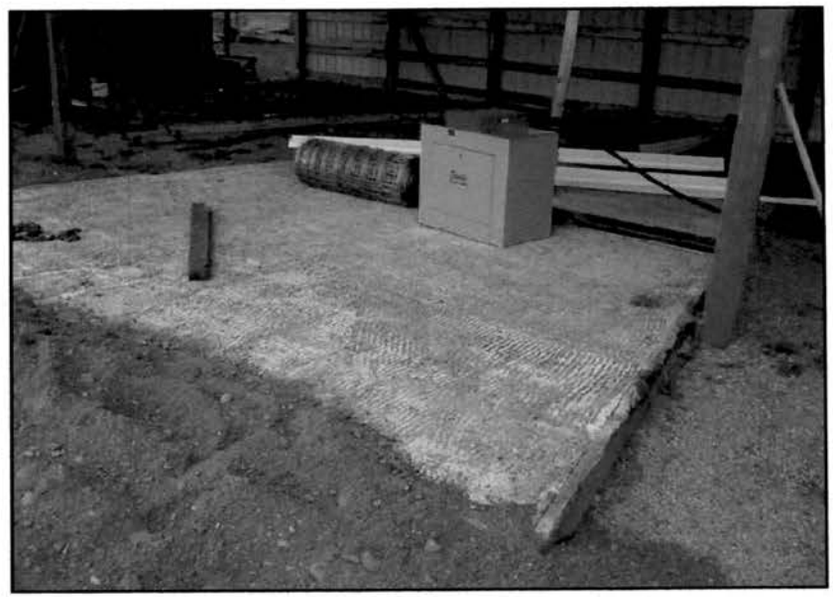
TMDLs

The SWCD is currently assisting PCA in de-listing the 2 waterbodies listed for low dissolved oxygen. There are no TMDL implementation plans for Lake of the Woods County

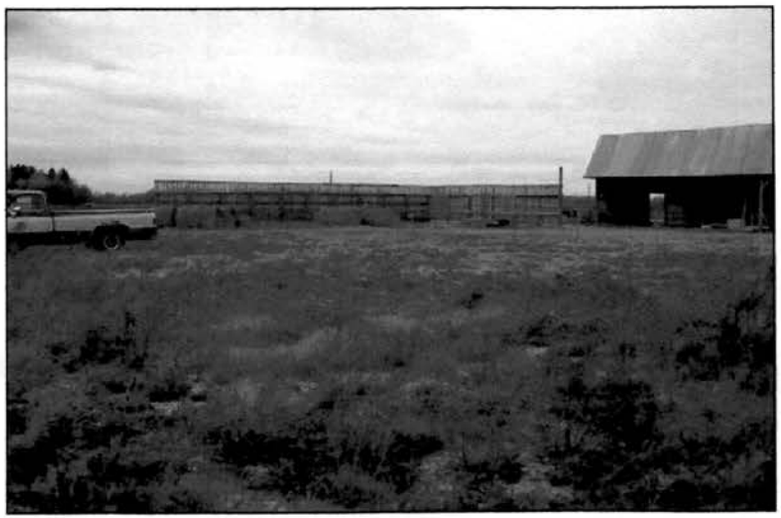
SITE #5—JEAN REINHART'S FEEDLOT WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT GRANT
FY04 & FY06 Feedlot Relocation Project



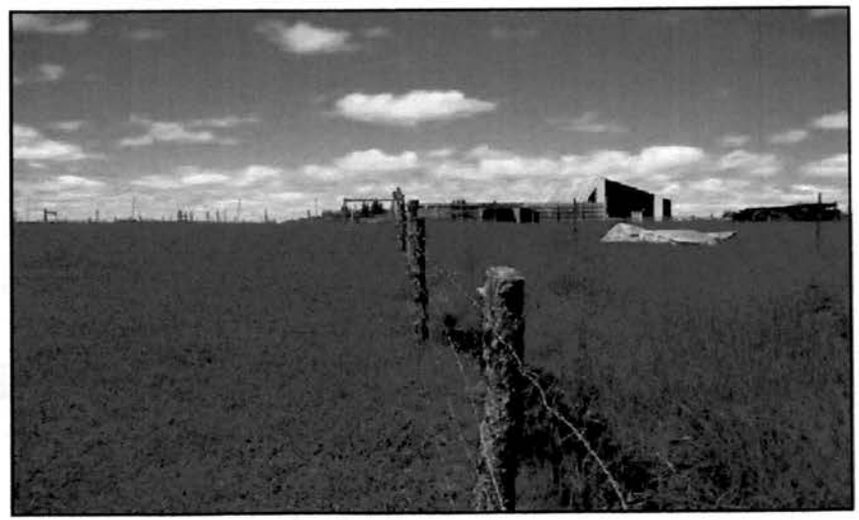
New waterline construction



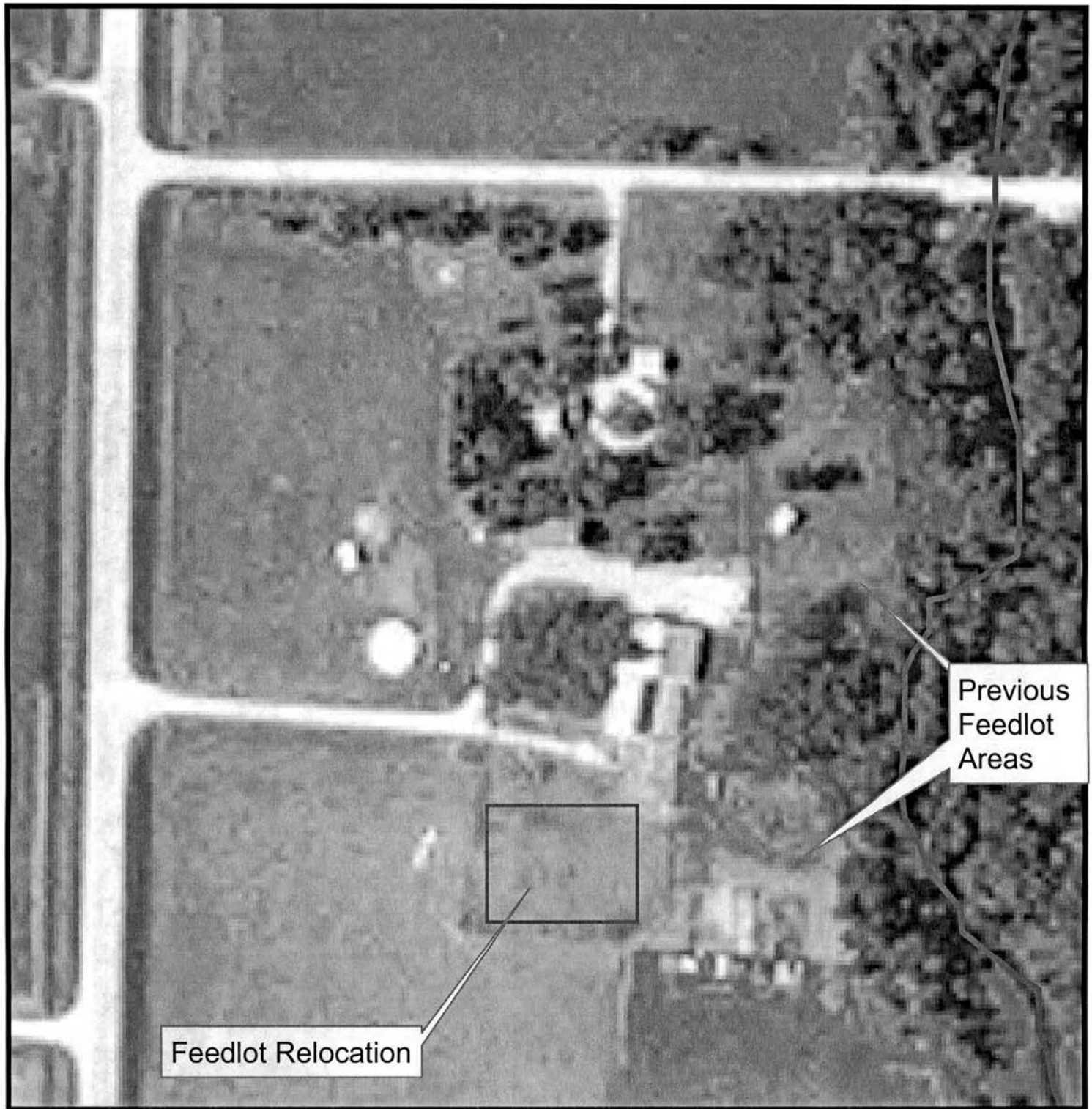
Ritchie Waterer and Heavy Use Area Protection

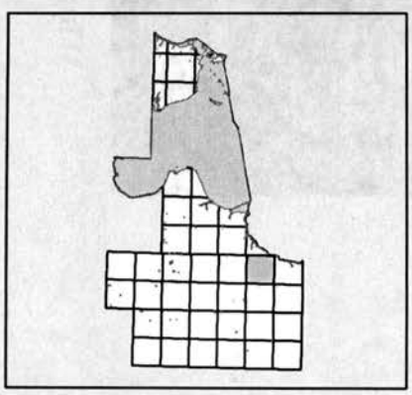


Windbreak and interior of new lot



Buffer area





Feet
0 25 50 100 150 200

N
W E
S

Lake of the Woods County

Township: Spooner T160 R031 S27

Section: 27 NW 1/4 of NW 1/4

Landowner: Jean & Dawn Reinhart

Project Description: Feedlot Relocation

Funding Source: Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant

Lake of the Woods Soil & Water Conservation District

Created on Aug 10, 2007

SITE #6—RAINY RIVER BASIN RIVER WATCH PROGRAM

Jenny Moorman, Enrichment Program Coordinator for L/W High School

Startup funding provided by the Northwest Minnesota Foundation

The Foundation is a public, charitable foundation dedicated to creating a brighter future for NW Minnesota.

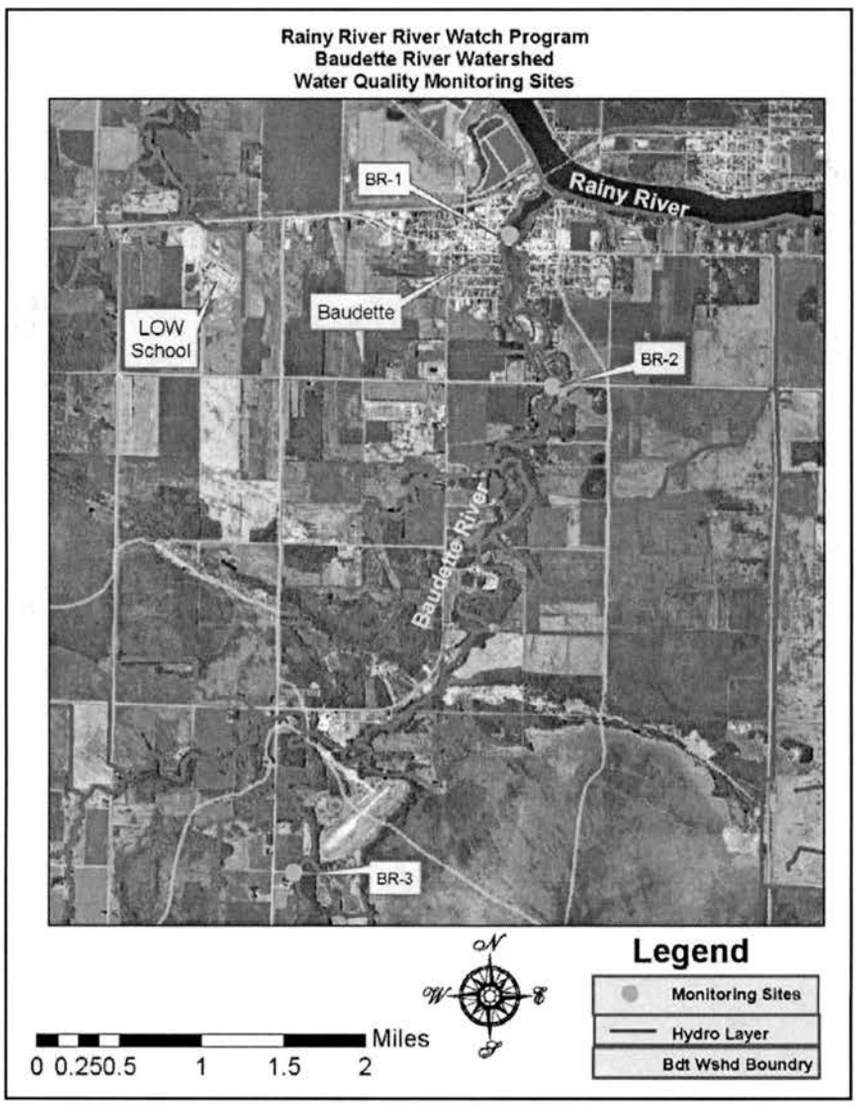
Funding for the RRBWP came from the Foundation's Natural Resource Grant Program. These grants are available to public agencies and non-profits for projects within the 12 county service area.

Other partners include:

L/W SWCD,
L/W County,
L/W High School Sciences,
L/W Enrichment Program,
North Star Electric Coop Roundup Program

Northwest Minnesota Foundation
Developing Community Assets

http://www.nwmf.org/home.php
Jim Steenerson, Grants Specialist
jims@nwmf.org

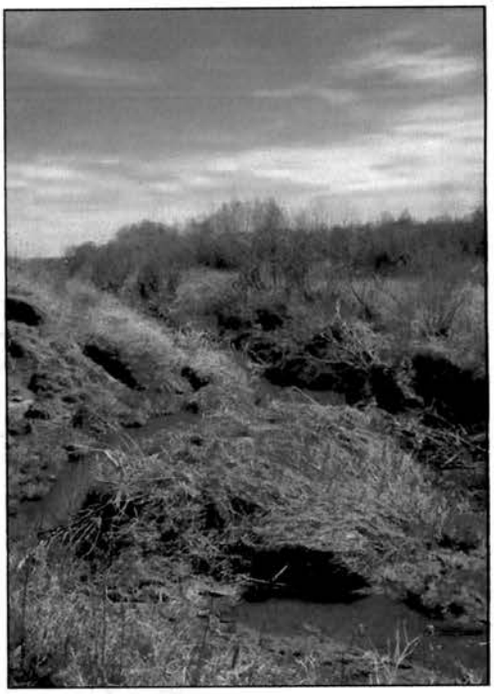


SITE #7—BOSTIC CREEK AND JUDICIAL DITCHES 28 & 16 EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION ISSUES

Bruce Hasbargen, L/W County Highway Engineer &
Jon Hodgson, NC MN JPB Engineer

The banks of the Bostic Creek, including portions of Judicial Ditches 28 and 16, are severely eroding. This is creating water quality issues in the Bostic Creek, and downstream navigability issues within the Bostic Bay.







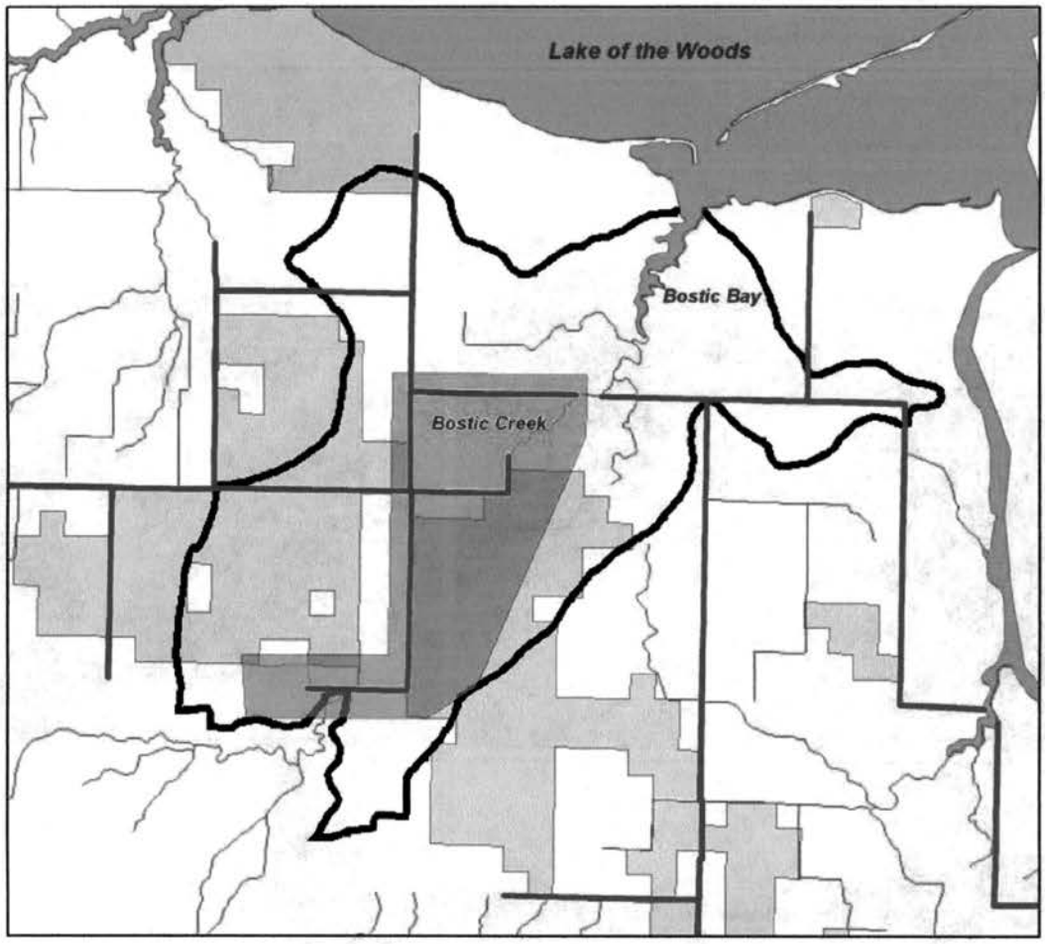
Clockwise from top left:

Photo 1: Over a 100 foot long stretch of a service road that once ran along the top of the bank has now fallen into the ditch.

Photo 2: A new channel has been formed around the slumped portion of the ditch.

Photo 3: This slump was over 50 feet long, 10 feet tall, and 25 feet deep.

Project Map
for the
Bostic Creek Watershed Protection Project Investigation





0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Legend

- Project Area
- Judicial Ditch 16
- Judicial Ditch 28
- Graceton WMA
- Zippel Bay State Park
- **Bostic Creek Watershed**

Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District

SITE #8—LAKE OF THE WOODS AT GRACETON BEACH

SWCD Staff will lead the discussion about state cost share projects, shoreline erosion and water quality issues on this international waterbody



High waters and the fetch of the lake have created severe erosion issues on the southern shore of Lake of the Woods.

This photo was taken in 2001, and is typical of what is found on the southern shore of Lake of the Woods.

Typical cost for a shoreline protection projects run approximately $80 to $100 per linear foot. Projects usually include re-sloping, rip-rap, and the establishment of a vegetative buffer.



Shoreline Protection Projects and State Cost Share

Before:

Lake shore projects that are not engineered and designed properly will typically fail. SWCD cost share projects are engineered by the North Central MN Joint Powers Board Engineer to ensure the integrity of the overall project.



During:

Construction typically takes place during the winter months when the lake is frozen and there are less impacts. All SWCD rip-rap designed projects utilize geotextile fabric under the rock to prevent future bank failures.



After:

This project of 300 feet of shoreline was completed in 2006. New SWCD cost share policy will require this landowner to establish a 15 foot vegetated buffer.



BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD N.
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2007

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Dana Allen, Faye Sleeper, MES; Paul Brutlag, Bob Burandt, Paul Eger, MPCA; Quentin Fairbanks, Larry Kramka, DNR; Randy Kramer, Paul Langseth, Joe Martin, MDA; Brian Napstad, Ken Robinson, Louise Smallidge, Gene Tiedemann, LuAnn Tolliver, Dan Wilson, MDH

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
Brian Kletscher

STAFF PRESENT:
Mary Jo Anderson, Matt Drewitz, Tim Fredbo, Jeff Hrubes, John Jaschke, Al Kean, Mary Kells, Greg Larson, Les Lemm, Jeremy Maul, Jeff Nielsen, Dan Shaw, Dan Steward, Tom Wenzel, Jason Weinermann, Dave Weirens, Steve Woods, Brad Wozney

OTHERS PRESENT:
Sandy Hooker, MAT
Wayne Edgerton, DNR
Matt Moore, SWWD
Ken Pedersen, MASWCD
Susan McGuire and Merle Anderson, Stearns County
Anthony Cortilet, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Scott Kahan, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Paul Walvatne, Department of Transportation
Dave Zumeta and Calder Hibbard, Minnesota Forest Resources Council

Chair Kramer called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

** 07-76 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Moved by LuAnn Tolliver, seconded by Ken Robinson, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-77 **MINUTES OF AUGUST 23, 2007** – Moved by Quentin Fairbanks, seconded by Louise Smallidge, to approve the minutes of August 23, 2007, as circulated. Motion passed on a voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

- Jeff Nielsen introduced Jeremy Maul, senior wetland specialist. Jeremy provided background information about himself. Jeremy is presently located in the Rochester office, and will be relocating to Mankato in the near future.

- Greg Larson introduced Dan Shaw, vegetation specialist. Dan provided background information about himself. Dan is located in the central office.

REPORTS

Chair's Report – Randy Kramer stated that he received a thank you note from Pam Tomevi, Koochiching SWCD, and the "Daily Journal" newspaper from International Falls, featuring an article about BWSR's visit to Koochiching and Lake of the Woods Counties. Randy was unable to attend the EQB meeting last week. Jim Haertel attended the Tech Rep meeting the week prior and provided Chair Kramer with an update. Chair Kramer reported that he and John Jaschke are in constant contact via phone and e-mail; he appreciates being informed.

Executive Director's Report – John Jaschke briefly commented on the southeast MN flood disaster. He stated that Representative Drazkowski called to request that BWSR work with local governments to coordinate a "watershed management options" meeting for the Garvin Brook watershed. It would entail bringing in the federal agencies (USDA, COE) as well as local and state agency representatives to evaluate ideas and options to restore/prevent flood damages and related water concerns. The goal would be to have this meeting occur before the expected November 6th House legislative hearing/tour but after the initial MN Recovers assistance deadline on October 5th. BWSR is looking at potential staffing adjustments to manage the administrative, fiscal and technical assistance work coming out of this flood event over the next year or more.

John reported that he attended a meeting last week with Representative Sertich and Representative Rukavina regarding the Wetland Conservation Act local funding. John stated that BWSR is in the very early stages of WCA rulemaking. Dave Weirens and DNR will provide a status report on wetland enforcement at Representative Wagenius' October 3rd hearing. The DNR Enforcement Division has had an inordinate number of staff departures in the past four to five months that have a role in wetlands enforcement.

John reported that the RIM CE kick-off meeting was held on September 11; Kevin Lines and Greg Larson attended. Board members will be sent a meeting summary.

John reported that LCCMR is focusing on easements management. BWSR submitted an invited proposal for a Conservation Easement Stewardship, Oversight and Maintenance Program; the result may tie into the upcoming bonding bill deliberations.

John reported that Kevin Lines is participating in House and Senate Bonding tours.

John reported that the SWCD / WD demographic data survey is being sent out this month.

John reported that Steve Woods attended the MAWD meeting, ADA meeting, the Metro Association of Watershed Districts meeting, and the MASWCD Board of Directors meeting.

John reported that he will attend the MASWCD Area 3 meeting in Two Harbors on September 27; and the MASWCD Area 8 meeting in Baxter on September 28.

John reported that he attended the Minnesota SWCD Forestry Association meeting in Willow River on September 20.

John reported that there will be an "All Staff Meeting" in Duluth on October 3-4. If you call the central office, you will receive a voice mail message that staff will be back in the office on October 5.

Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC) – Chair Kramer stated that the DRC report is in the board members' packet for information. John Jaschke reported that Jim Haertel is on vacation in Greece. John gave a brief DRC update. John reported that staff are working with Chair Kramer and others to schedule a workshop for the Dispute Resolution Committee.

Wetlands Committee – LuAnn Tolliver reported that the Wetlands Committee met on September 25. LuAnn reported that staff are working on development of a stakeholder group for the WCA rulemaking process, they hope to conduct meetings in October and November. LuAnn stated that the Wetlands Committee has other items to be considered later today on the agenda. The next Wetlands Committee meeting via conference call will be held before the October Board meeting.

Grants Program and Policy Committee – Louise Smallidge reported that the Grants Program and Policy Committee did not meet this month.

Public Relations, Outreach & Strategic Planning Committee – Brian Napstad reported that the Committee did not meet this month. Brian reported that staff and facilitator Cliff Tweedale need to incorporate LGU comments from the survey, digest responses and integrate the information which will be presented to the Board at the October meeting.

Administrative Advisory Committee – Chair Kramer reported that the Administrative Advisory Committee met this morning at 7:30 a.m. The items will be considered later today on the agenda. Chair Kramer reported that the Administrative Advisory Committee will review the Oversight development effort and is reviewing the board member per diem and expenses policy. These items will be presented to the Board at a later date.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Metro Water Planning Committee

Wright County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Update – Bob Burandt reported that the Metro Water Planning Committee met on September 5, 2007, to review the Wright County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Update and recommends approval. Moved by Bob Burandt, seconded by Louise Smallidge, to approve the Wright County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Update. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-78

City of Eagan, Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan – Bob Burandt reported that the Metro Water Planning Committee met on September 5, 2007, to review the City of Eagan's Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan and recommends approval. Moved by Bob Burandt, seconded by LuAnn Tolliver, to approve the City of Eagan's Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-79

Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization, Watershed Management Plan – Bob Burandt reported that the Metro Water Planning Committee met on September 5, 2007, to review the Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization, Watershed Management Plan and recommends approval. Moved by Bob Burandt, seconded by Brian Napstad, to approve the Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization, Watershed Management Plan. Discussion followed. LuAnn Tolliver stated that there were lots of comments from agencies. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-80

South Washington Watershed District, Watershed Management Plan – Bob Burandt reported that the Metro Water Planning Committee met on September 5, 2007, to review the South Washington Watershed District, Watershed Management Plan, and recommends approval. Moved by Bob Burandt, seconded by Louise Smallidge, to approve the South Washington Watershed District, Watershed Management Plan. Discussion followed. Louise stated that concerns were addressed by the agency comments received. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-81

Northern Water Planning Committee

Crow Wing County Water Management Plan Extension – Dan Steward reported that the Crow Wing County Board requested a two-year extension. Dan stated that the reasons for the extension request is that this is the first water plan the SWCD has written and the BWSR encouraged the County to build water quality protection strategies into their update in coordination with the Clean Water Legacy. Moved by Quentin Fairbanks, seconded by Ken Robinson, to approve the Crow Wing County Water Management Plan two-year extension. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-82

OLD BUSINESS

Minimum Requirements for Prescribed Grazing on Rock Outcrop Easements in Redwood and Renville Counties – Tim Fredbo presented background information. He reported that staff and the RIM Committee recommended approval (although there was no quorum present) of the minimum requirements for prescribed grazing as amended. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Paul Brutlag, to approve the minimum requirements for prescribed grazing on rock outcrop easements in Redwood and Renville Counties. Discussion followed.

**

** Moved by Joe Martin, seconded by Paul Langseth, to amend the resolution, #9 would state, "Grazing plans are transferable at point of land sale or lease of the easement lands; however, all subsequent grazing plans that are developed will

need to be signed by the landowner or lessee and approved by the SWCD, BWSR and the DNR Wildlife Specialist". Discussion followed.

07-83 Amendment passed on a voice vote.

** A friendly amendment was offered by Joe Martin without objection from members.

** Motion to accept the proposal as amended passed on a voice vote.
07-84

NEW BUSINESS

Southeast Minnesota Flood Relief – John Jaschke briefly commented on the southeast Minnesota flood. John introduced Mary Kells, board conservationist. Mary Kells explained that a Presidential Disaster was declared following severe storms on August 18-20, 2007, in seven counties in southeast Minnesota. Mary presented an overview of the flood damage in southeast Minnesota. Dave Weirens reviewed the resolution as recommended by the Administrative Advisory Committee this morning. Tim Fredbo explained that a special legislative session was held on September 11-12, 2007, that resulted in appropriations and legal authority to assist in disaster recovery efforts. The 2007 special legislative session appropriated $1.0M of RIM Conservation Easements; in addition it is proposed to include a supplemented $1.1M of RIM Conservation Easements from a previous appropriation. Tim stated that staff will continue to meet with SWCDs, staff recommends approval of the resolution as presented to authorize staff to enter into grant agreements, contracts, or easements, for projects meeting the presented general and specific provisions.

** Moved by Paul Brutlag, seconded by Quentin Fairbanks, to approve the resolution as presented, and to authorize staff to enter into grant agreements, contracts, or easements, for projects meeting the presented general and specific provisions. Discussion followed. John Jaschke explained that the MN Flood Recovery Task Force's first application deadline is October 5; with subsequent application periods being coordinated for the recovery effort. Brian Napstad stated that under General I.C. – "Staff are authorized to develop additional program guidelines regarding eligibility, payment rates, prject specifications, agreement processing and record keeping based on input from local governments and others to achieve consistency and accountability." Brian asked that staff communicate guidelines to board members as rapidly as possible. Paul Brutlag stated that we need to be descriptive as to why the RIM dollars are allocated. Joe Martin stated that the RIM allocation proposals need to come back to BWSR to understand how they establish their priorities. John stated that legislation provides BWSR flexibility on the allocations; record keeping of this

funding will be different from previous allocations, and board members will be kept informed, as the guidelines are developed and
07-85 implemented. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Chair Kramer called for a break in the meeting at 11:10 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 11:25 a.m.

FY08 Clean Water Legacy Grant Program Authorization – Matt Drewitz and Jeff Hrubes were introduced. Jeff Hrubes gave a brief overview of the FY08 Clean Water Legacy Grant Program. Matt stated that implementation plans will be reviewed. The Grant Policy and Program Committee recommends approval of the proposed budget and grant application process to implement the FY08 CWLA Program with the grant application period beginning October 1, 2007, and
** ending November 15, 2007. Moved by Dana Allen, seconded by Louise
07-86 Smallidge, to accept the Grant Policy and Program Committee recommendation to the approve the Clean Water Legacy Grant Program project funding allocations as presented. Discussion followed. Motion passed on a voiced vote.

Approve Specific RIM Reserve Payment Rates for the Grass Lake Restoration Project – Tom Wenzel presented the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project and summarized background information of the project.
** Moved by Louise Smallidge, seconded by Ken Robinson, to approve the resolution and adopt that values determine from a site specific market appraisal of the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project properties be used to determine and establish RIM Reserve easement payment rates for the remaining properties within the project area. Discussion followed.

** Moved by Joe Martin, seconded by Dana Allen, to Lay the Motion on the Table until more information is provided. Discussion followed. Chair Kramer called for a roll call vote: Affirmative: Dana Allen, Faye Sleeper, Quentin Fairbanks, Larry Kramka, Joe Martin, Paul Eger, LuAnn Tolliver, Dan Wilson, Ken Robinson. Opposed: Paul Brutlag, Bob Burandt, Paul Langseth, Brian Napstad, Louise
07-87 Smallidge, Gene Tiedemann, Randy Kramer. Motion passed – to Table until further information is provided.

Wetland Banking Fee Policy: Update Average Agricultural Land/Wetland Credit Values – Dave Weirens reported that the Wetlands Committee reviewed the wetland banking fee policy and recommends updating the credit values.
** Moved by LuAnn Tolliver, seconded by Ken Robinson, to approve the Wetland
07-88 Banking Fee Policy: Update Average Agricultural Land/Wetland Credit Values. These updated wetland credit values will become effective for wetland banking

transactions that occur after December 31, 2007. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Sale of Wetland Credits to Public Transportation Authorities – Dave Weirens reported that the Wetlands Committee has reviewed the sale of wetland credits to public transportation authorities and recommends statutory amendments to clarify this authority. Moved by LuAnn Tolliver, seconded by Brian Napstad, to approve the resolution to adopt the recommendation of the Wetlands Committee. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-89

Stearns County Environmental Services Presentation on the Stearns County Water Planning Process – Jason Weinermann explained that Stearns County is in the process of rewriting their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Jason introduced Susan McGuire and Merle Anderson. Susan McGuire explained the Stearns County Environmental Services Department and how they operate in conjunction with the SWCD and Watershed District. She gave an overview of the multi-agency cooperation in generating input and providing support for countywide water planning and implementation. Merle Anderson briefly commented on the Stearns County planning process. Brian Napstad stated that the Stearns County Environmental Services Department could serve as a model for other counties and organizations as their broad based support highlights the strengths that can be brought to water management. Chair Kramer thanked Susan and Merle for coming before the Board today.

Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) Program – Dan Shaw gave a brief overview of BWSR's CWMA program. Dan introduced Anthony Cortilet, Research Scientist, Weed Integrated Pest Management Program, Minnesota Department of Agriculture; Scott Kahan, Project Leader, Detroit Lakes WMD, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); and Paul Walvatne, Forestry Unit Supervisor, Minnesota Department of Transportation. Anthony Cortilet explained that Clay County initiated the program at the county level. He stated that MDA has contributed via access to it's mobile PGS and web based GIS tools. MDA provides consultation and site evaluation for weed management scenarios; and provides online GIS data management. Paul Walvatne presented a brief overview of MNDOT's participation; supply survey data, generation of maps, survey of 179 miles of federal and state highways, and observe areas of improper weed management. Scott Kahan explained USFWS perspective's on BWSR's funding. CWMA can help all partners understand/implement this long-term vision and approach to weed management. John that BWSR will be providing funding to accelerate CWMA development. This presentation is a good

opportunity for the Board to learn about the program and understand the upcoming grant allocations. Chair Kramer thanked Dan, Anthony, Paul and Scott for their presentation.

Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) Work Plan – John Jaschke explained that the 2007 Legislature appropriated $300,000 to BWSR to pass through to MFRC. John introduced Dave Zumeta, Executive Director, and Calder Hibbard, Policy Analyst/Information Specialist, Minnesota Forest Resources Council. Dave Zumeta presented the purpose and mission of their agency and described the expected outcomes with this funding. Brian Napstad asked how the MFRC certification process related to other forest management certification programs. Joe Martin suggests that MFRC work closely with the Department of Commerce as they have resources that can assist MFRC. Chair Kramer thanked Dave and Calder for their presentation.

Paul Brutlag reported that he was not available to attend the first meeting of the RIM Clean Energy (CE). John Jaschke and Dana Allen attended the first meeting of the RIM CE technical committee facilitated by the Minnesota Environmental Initiative (MEI) on September 11. Dana gave a brief overview of the meeting. John stated that a summary of that meeting will be provided to board members when it becomes available.

Paul Brutlag reported that the next RIM Committee will be held after the October Board meeting.

AGENCY REPORTS

Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) – Joe Martin reported that MDA is working on the drought and flood disaster response. Cash payments will be available to eligible producers.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) – Larry Kramka reported that the special legislative session allocated dollars to DNR's Stream Maintenance Program, for removal of substantially damaged flood structures, and for debris removal. Funding will be dispersed to counties. Larry reported that the Administrative Law Judge ruled on the ConCon report. DNR is now developing an implementation plan and guidance; more information will be provided when available.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) – Paul Eger reported that the draft 2008 Impaired Waters List was announced on September 13. The first

public meeting will be held September 27, eight additional meetings will be held statewide through October to get public input.

Minnesota Extension Service (MES) – Faye Sleeper reported that the Water Resources Center has updated their mailing list and recently distributed their annual report. Faye reported that the Minnesota Water Resources Conference will be held October 23-24, at the Earle Brown Center, in Brooklyn Center. Faye reported that the conference flyer has been distributed; she encouraged board members and staff to attend.

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) – Dan Wilson reported on MDH's flood response, there is lots of work regarding health issues. Well testing kits have been distributed, MDH will have a better assessment in the next few months, as many flooded wells have not yet been tested. Flood projects include chemical testing, private wells, dollars have been identified for drillers to clean out wells and disinfect.

ADVISORY COMMENTS

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) – Ken Pedersen reported that the MASWCD Board of Directors' met yesterday. Ken stated that the MASWCD leadership program just started for 2007-2008; another leadership session will be conducted next year. Ken reported that MASWCD is working with SWCDs on their websites. Ken reported that MASWCD is meeting with Representative Rick Hansen October 1 regarding the upcoming legislative session.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- All Staff Meeting, October 3 – 4, 2007, in Duluth
- Next Board Meeting, October 24, 2007, in St. Paul
- The December Board meeting will be held on December 19, 2007, in St. Paul. The Board will not meet in November.

Information will be provided to board members at the October Board meeting regarding the upcoming annual meetings of AMC, MASWCD and MAWD.

** 07-90 Moved by Dana Allen, seconded by Paul Langseth, to adjourn the meeting at 1:30 p.m. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Kramer
Chair

Dispute Resolution Report
September 13, 2007
by: Jim Haertel

There are presently 21 appeals pending. All of the appeals involve WCA except File 05-24. There has been one new appeal filed since the last report dated August 10, 2007.

File 07-26. This is a new appeal of a restoration order in Clearwater County. The appeal regards the filling of wetland in association with construction of a road. No decision has been made on the appeal.

File 07-25. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in Benton County. The appeal involves the approval of a replacement plan application for 7.8 acres of wetland fill. A previous decision on the project had been appealed and was remanded for a public hearing at the local level. The appeal has been accepted and a pre-hearing conference has been scheduled for September 18.

File 07-23. This is an appeal of two restoration orders in Pine County. The appeal involves the filling of wetland in association with construction of roads. One of the restoration orders has been rescinded. A forestry exemption has been applied for in response to the other restoration order. The appeal has been placed in abeyance pending a decision on the exemption request.

File 07-22. This is an appeal of a restoration order in St. Louis County. The appeal regards the filling of wetland in association with construction of a house and garage in a shoreland area. The filling of wetland is greater than the amount approved in a replacement plan. No decision has been made on the appeal.

File 07-19. This is an appeal of an exemption determination in Roseau County. The appeal involves the approval of an exemption application for War-Road Estates. The appeal has been remanded for further work at the local level.

File 07-15. This is an appeal of an exemption determination in Carver County. The appeal regards the denial of a wetland exemption application on agricultural land. The appeal has been remanded for a public hearing at the local level.

File 07-14. This is an appeal of an exemption determination in Carver County. The appeal regards the denial of a wetland exemption application on agricultural land. The appeal has been remanded for a public hearing at the local level.

File 06-43. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Morrison County. The appeal involves the placement of fill in wetland near a lake. The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration order has been stayed pending field review by the Technical Evaluation Panel.

File 06-23. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in Kanabec County. The LGU denied the wetland replacement plan application. A previous denial of the same replacement plan application had been appealed, the appeal was remanded for a hearing, and now the current denial has been appealed. The appeal has been placed in abeyance pending the outcome of a lawsuit between the landowner and the county. The lawsuit concerns the county's possible noncompliance with the 60-day rule. The county prevailed in district court, however the decision has been appealed to the Court of Appeals.

File 06-17. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in the City of Montgomery in LeSueur County. The LGU denied an after-the-fact wetland replacement plan application based on a lack of sufficient reasons why the restoration could not be completed. The appeal has been remanded for further processing at the local level.

File 06-12. This is an appeal of a no-loss decision in Stearns County. It involves the same project and issues as File 06-6. After a restoration order was issued, a no-loss application was submitted by the developer and denied by the LGU. The appeal has been remanded for further technical evaluation.

File 06-6. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Stearns County. At issue are numerous wetlands impacted by filling, sedimentation, reduction of hydrology and lack of Best Management Practices associated with a residential development. The appeal has been denied in part. The Restoration Order has been affirmed in part and has been stayed in part.

File 06-5. This is an appeal of a wetland boundary and type decision in the City of Hermantown in St. Louis County. The appeal concerns the denial of a wetland delineation. There are issues regarding the soils and vegetation in a disturbed area. The area has been disturbed by wetland filling and a cease and desist order has been issued to the developer. The appeal has been remanded for further processing by the LGU.

File 06-4. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Carlton County. At issue is the unauthorized placement of fill in wetland for a roadway. The appeal is in abeyance pending completion of a wetland delineation during the growing season.

File 05-24. This is an appeal, actually three appeals, of the Bois de Sioux Watershed District compensation to landowners related to a project. The appeal has been held in abeyance pending settlement discussions and is now starting to move forward for a hearing.

File 05-20. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in Cokato, Wright County. The decision approved the filling of a 0.2 acre Type 2 wetland on a residential lot for construction of a residence. There is a question about the alternatives proposed for sequencing. Also, no TEP was held. The appeal has been remanded for a TEP to be held and sequencing to be addressed.

File 05-17. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in the City of Holdingford in Stearns County. At issue is the denial of a replacement plan application relating to a residential development. Wetland impacts of 0.7 acres were proposed for construction of a road and multi-use trail. The TEP recommended approval of the application. The LGU denied the application on finding the development could proceed without wetland impacts. The Corps issued a permit for the project. The appeal has been accepted and is in abeyance pending settlement discussions.

File 05-1. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision by the Rice Creek Watershed District. The District previously made a decision that was appealed which resulted in a remand for an expanded TEP. Now there is an appeal of the decision made under remand since the decision differed from the TEP report. At issue is a wetland delineation and the Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan that BWSR approved. After a hearing before the DRC, the board remanded the matter for a new wetland delineation and for submission on an updated, complete replacement plan application.

File 04-26. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Spring Lake Township, Scott County. At issue is the placement of 4,300 feet of fill in a wetland for a driveway. The approved plat showed access to the lot without wetland impacts. The appeal is in abeyance pending a decision on a replacement plan application.

File 04-23. This is an appeal of a forestry exemption decision in Kittson County. Unpermitted fill was placed in a Type 7 wetland for a road. A Cease and Desist Order was issued. Additional filling has recently occurred in violation of the CDO. Corps and DNR violations also exist. The appeal has been accepted and is in abeyance pending completion of a wetland delineation and submittal of a replacement plan application.

File 04-15. This is an appeal of a wetland boundary and type decision in Anoka County. At issue is the decision by the Rice Creek Watershed District to classify a site as effectively drained. Previously a wetland delineation report identified most of the site as wetland. The appeal has been remanded for a technical evaluation panel to meet onsite. The appeal remains in abeyance under the remand.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Metro Water Planning Committee

1. Wright County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Update – ***DECISION ITEM***

2. City of Eagan, Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan – ***DECISION ITEM***

3. Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization, Watershed Management Plan – ***DECISION ITEM***

4. South Washington Watershed District, Watershed Management Plan — ***DECISION ITEM***

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 27, 2007

TO: Metro Water Planning Committee

FROM: Brad Wozney, Board Conservationist

SUBJECT: **Review of Wright County Third Generation Plan Update - Final Draft**

The Wright SWCD is currently responsible for the administration of the Local Water Management Plan (Plan) for Wright County. The Plan originally expired on December 31, 2005. The delayed submittal is due primarily to staff turnover and to a fairly thorough plan development process.

BWSR has been an active participant throughout the Plan update process. The Priority Concerns Scoping Document was approved on January 26, 2005. Several Wright County Water Plan Task Force and Interagency Technical Advisory meetings were held thereafter allowing opportunities for state/local agencies' and citizen input in the plan development. The Wright County Board held public hearings for the final draft on November 17, 2006, and April 10, 2007, with an additional Committee of the Whole meeting on May 22, 2007 (which I attended) to further discuss the proposed water plan budget and various action items. No substantive changes were made as a result of the May 22nd Committee meeting. I was impressed at the interest the County Commissioners expressed in water quality/quantity issues and the associated water plan implementation program.

The final draft was submitted to the state agencies on July 19, 2007, for the required 30-day review. Written comments were received from Department of Ag, EQB, and MPCA. Those agencies approved the entire plan as submitted.

MPCA recommended utilizing the Environmental Data Access section of the MPCA website for future water quality data queries. EQB stressed the importance of addressing increased groundwater use in the county citing a recently released report and suggested that the proposed county geologic atlas address water quantity/pumping rates. BWSR's final comments centered around the amendment process required for incorporating future TMDL and other implementation plans, and requested that a few action items be revised to reflect more measurable outcomes and more accurate cost estimates – all of which they have incorporated into the draft you see today. Verbal comments were received from the Department of Health and were incorporated into the Plan recommending county participation in ongoing Upper Mississippi River Source Water Protection planning efforts.

The Wright County Local Water Management Plan meets all requirements set forth in 103B and in the "Updating Water Management Plan guidance" including:

- focuses on the priority concerns identified in the Priority Concerns Scoping Document;
- assesses the priority concerns and sets forth appropriate goals and objectives;
- lays out a detailed implementation program with measurable actions, timeline, and budget; and
- includes all required sections.

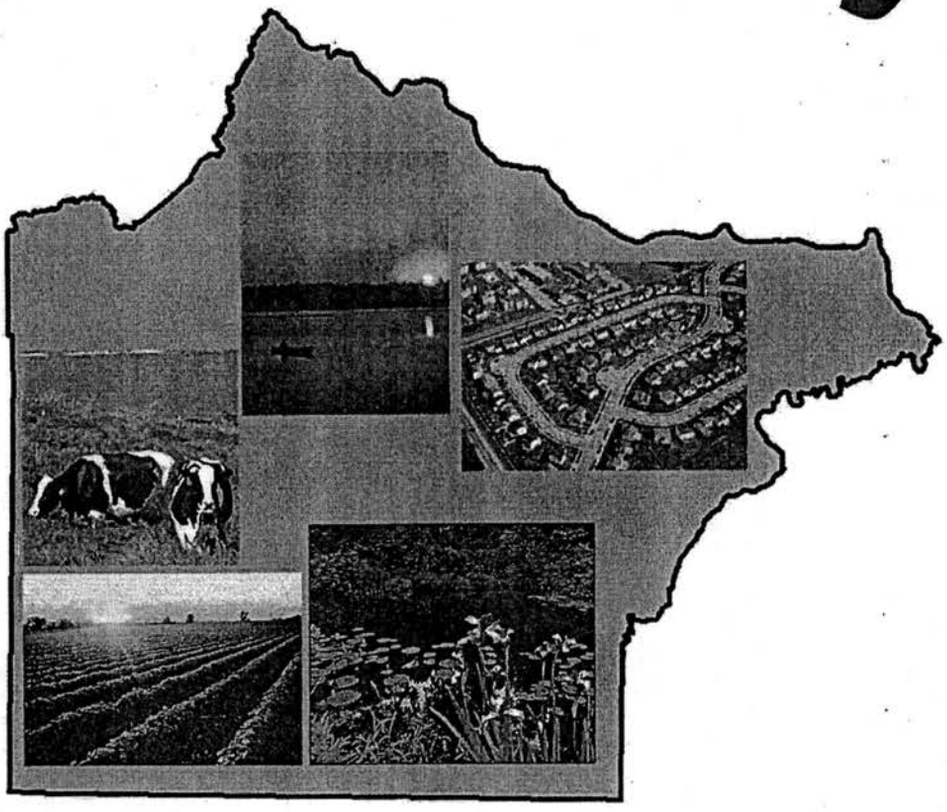
Highlights of the Plan include:

1) A close working relationship with the County Commissioners.
2) Proposed adoption of countywide erosion control and stormwater management ordinances with the intent to be one of the first counties in the state to invoke authorities in 103B.325 and 103B.331.
3) Aggressive lake and stream water quality monitoring program.
4) Assuming lead role on TMDL studies and other diagnostic water quality studies.
5) Incorporation of water plan language into the County Comp Land Use Plan.
6) Efforts targeting septic system compliance.

Included in this packet for the Subcommittee is the official state letter regarding the Priority Concerns Scoping Document, agencies' final draft comments, and relevant sections of the Plan, i.e. Executive Summary and Implementation Plan - which includes a budget and on-going activities, and lastly a self-assessment narrative.

The county has proposed comprehensive and unique strategies to address the priority concerns. I recommend approval of the entire Plan.

Wright County



Local Water Management Plan
2006-2015

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

Wright County has experienced a continual progression of development being located on the northwestern fringe of the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. This progression has changed the county's land use from hardwood forests dotted by countless wetlands and numerous lakes all dissected by miles of streams and rivers to mostly cleared agricultural land. As the dichotomy of agriculture has changed in the last half of the century, so has the land use of Wright County. The previous strong dairy and livestock component has steadily transitioned to intensive row-cropping operations. Combining the major transportation corridors (Hwy 12 through the south, Hwy 55 through the center and I-94 through the north) along with Wright County's close proximity to the metropolitan area, agriculture is succumbing to large lot residential and denser suburban/urban land uses ***(Figure One and Table One)***. This progression of land use is not unique to Wright County nor is the potential inherent impacts to water quality. What truly is unique to Wright County is its combination of lakes, rivers and streams and its blend of topographical formations and its current mix of land uses.

Figure 1

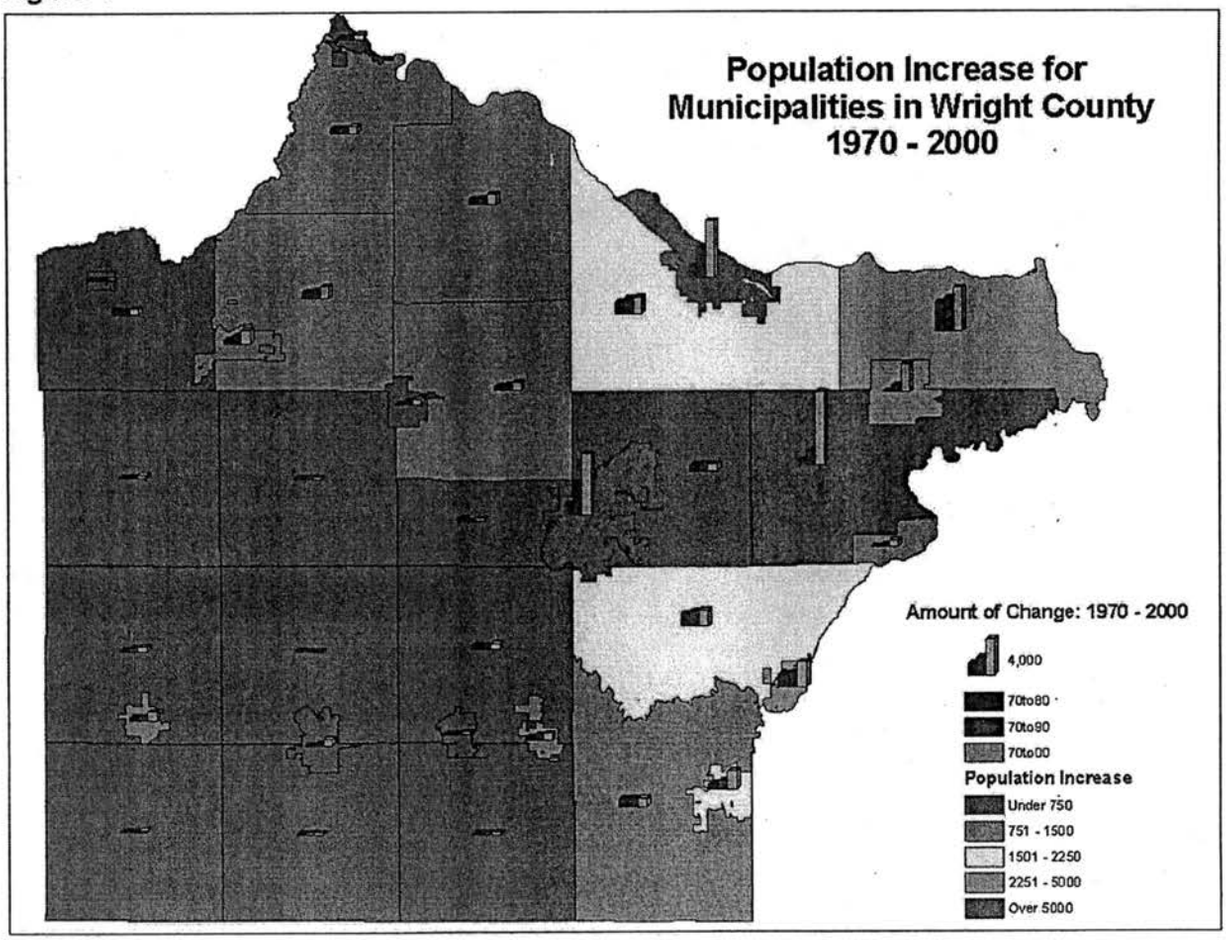
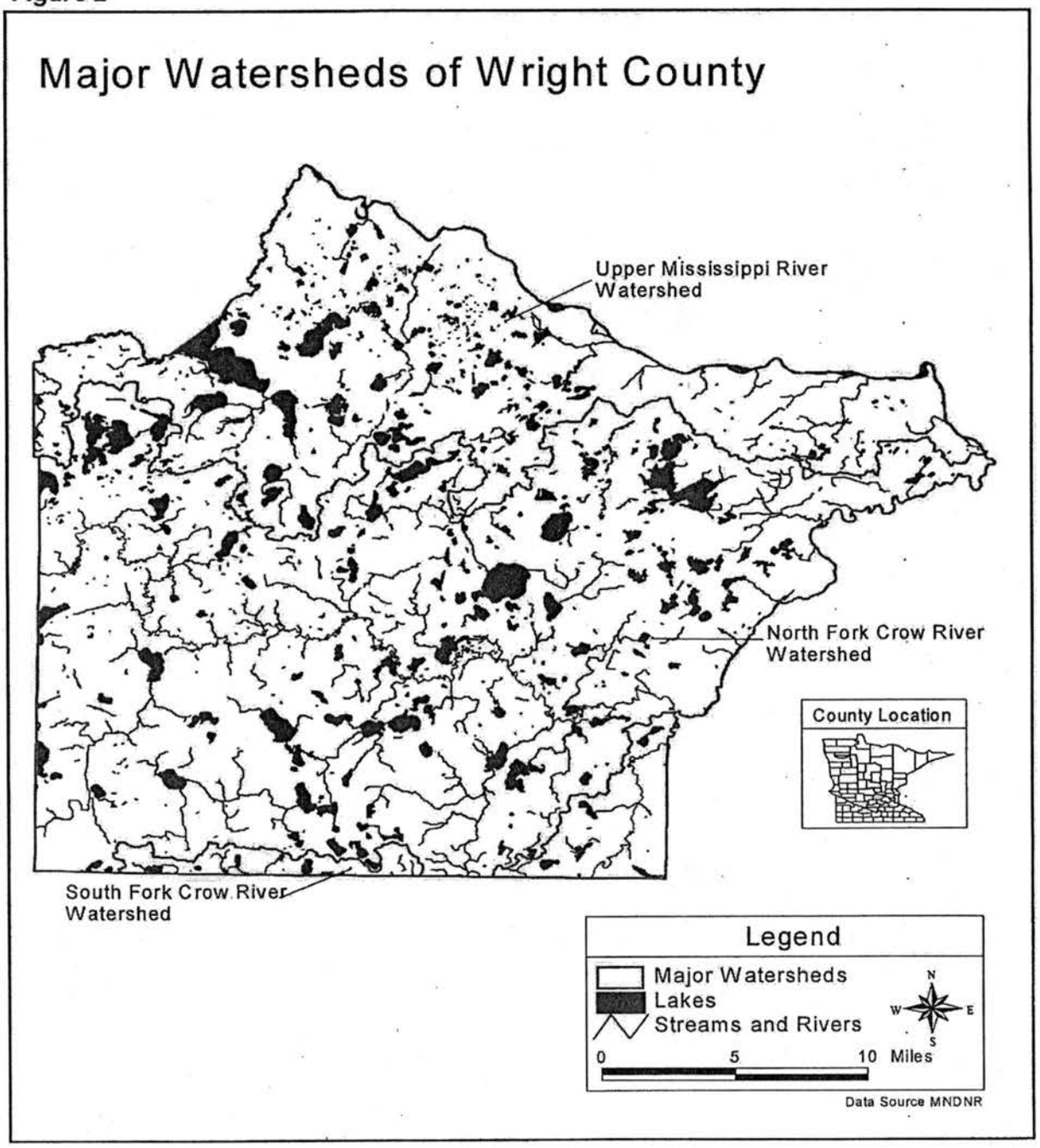


Table 1

2004 Extrapolated Population Projections (based on State Demographic Center data)								
MCD	2002	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	% change 2005 vs. 2030
Wright County	98410	100260	109710	118530	126410	133240	139010	38.65%
Albertville city	4517	4875	5951	6978	7911	8698	8753	79.55%
Albion township	1189	1168	1182	1197	1206	1216	1227	5.05%
Annandale city	2713	2732	2919	3100	3257	3406	3548	29.87%
Buffalo city	11422	11807	13305	14394	15290	16311	17270	46.27%
Buffalo township	1919	1850	1804	1761	1714	1673	1638	-11.46%
Chatham township	1191	1210	1318	1421	1512	1598	1679	38.76%
Clearwater city (part)	883	901	990	1075	1152	1238	1308	45.17%
Clearwater township	1396	1396	1468	1538	1598	1655	1711	22.56%
Cokato city	2745	2756	2925	3089	3230	3365	3494	26.78%
Cokato township	1300	1299	1363	1426	1480	1531	1581	21.71%
Corinna township	2461	2467	2611	2749	2869	2982	3092	25.33%
Dayton city (part)	21	18	15	14	13	12	12	-33.33%
Delano city	3978	4056	4451	4831	5168	5484	5783	42.58%
Franklin township	2714	2642	2618	2596	2567	2544	2528	-4.31%
French Lake township	1153	1154	1217	1279	1331	1381	1430	23.92%
Hanover city (part)	1407	1503	1803	2089	2348	2589	2815	87.29%
Howard Lake city	1876	1893	2031	2164	2280	2390	2495	31.80%
Maple Lake city	1650	1646	1721	1795	1857	1917	1976	20.05%
Maple Lake township	2145	2137	2229	2320	2396	2469	2540	18.86%
Marysville township	2121	2109	2193	2274	2342	2408	2472	17.21%
Middleville township	938	916	912	910	905	901	900	-1.75%
Monticello city	8839	9177	10431	11632	12711	13153	13552	47.67%
Monticello township	4143	4075	4134	4194	4235	4278	4326	6.16%
Montrose city	1413	1436	1564	1687	1795	1898	1995	38.93%
Otsego city	8210	8396	9240	10119	11051	11798	12504	48.93%
Rockford city (part)	3529	3620	3980	4342	4663	4963	5246	44.92%
Rockford township	3397	3316	3303	3294	3275	3261	3255	-1.84%
St. Michael city	11197	11799	13795	15705	17429	19035	20539	74.07%
Silver Creek township	2380	2400	2571	2735	2879	3016	3146	31.08%
South Haven city	191	186	184	182	180	178	177	-4.84%
Southside township	1576	1585	1689	1790	1877	1960	2039	28.64%
Stockholm township	832	819	833	847	857	867	878	7.20%
Victor township	1075	1046	1036	1028	1016	1007	1000	-4.40%
Waverly city	747	747	785	823	855	885	915	22.49%
Woodland township	1142	1123	1137	1152	1162	1173	1185	5.52%

Two major basins drain Wright County - the Upper Mississippi Basin and the Crow River Basin *(Figure Two)*. Into these basins flow the Clearwater River, the Mississippi River and the North and South Fork of the Crow River as well as 40,081 acres of lakes and 34,399 acres of wetlands. The total surface water of Wright County comprises 16% of the total 457,084 acres of the county.

Figure 2



Wright County's Local Water Management Plan (LWMP) has been in effect since it was formally adopted in 1990. The Plan was revised in 1992 and 1997. This Plan will mark the third revision of the LWMP and when adopted will be in effective through December 31, 2015 with a five year amendment to the stated goals, objectives, and actions. As the field of water management evolves, this plan too, will evolve as it addresses the changing world we live in.

Purpose

The purpose of this Local Water Management Plan is to identify existing and potential problems and opportunities for protection, management and development of water resources and related land resources in Wright County. This plan is formulated in accordance with the requirements of Minn. Stat. 103B.311subd.4, which states that:

1. The plan must cover the entire county.
2. The plan must address problems in the context of watershed units and ground water systems.
3. The plan must be based upon principals of sound hydrologic management of water, effective environmental protection and efficient management.
4. The plan must be consistent with local water management plans prepared by counties and watershed management organizations wholly or partially within a single watershed unit or ground water system.
5. The plan must cover a ten year period (2006-2015).

Description of Priority Concerns

With public participation and comment taken from both surveys and a public meeting, the citizens of Wright County as well as various governmental agencies, addressed their concerns on the water resources within the county. From this process, the following priority concerns were identified:

1. Groundwater quality
2. Surface water quality
3. Development pressure
4. Agricultural issues

The focus of these four priority concerns will form the goals, objectives and action items which will be implemented within the timeframe of this plan.

Summary of Goals and Actions

The process of choosing the above priority concerns highlighted specific activities within our society which are negatively impacting Wright County's water resources. These challenges bring opportunities to reverse both the perceived and observed degradation of the county's water quality..

Goal A: Groundwater Quality: Provide high quality groundwater supplies to the citizens of Wright County. Actions focus on the implementation of the following objectives:

- Increase available background information of Wright County's groundwater through monitoring, analysis, outside data sources and better information distribution
- Work to prevent failure of individual septic treatment systems (ISTS) and related sewage pollution in Wright County

Goal B: Surface Water Quality: Position Wright County to maximize local control and funding for TMDLs. Actions focus on the implementation of the following objectives:

- Expedite the TMDL process for all of the 303d listed waters in Wright County
- Identify and prioritize all the impaired river systems and "General Development and Recreation Lakes" of Wright County

Goal C: Development Pressures: Develop regulations, educate and offer incentives to ensure orderly development with minimal impacts to Wright County's water quality. Actions focus on the implementation of the following objectives:

- Guide new development with comprehensive planning, accessible information and consideration for natural resources
- Influence existing developments and landowners use practices which reduce and/or mitigate negative human impact on natural resources

Goal D: Agricultural Land Use: Achieve countywide use of environmentally conscious practices by agricultural producers to protect and enhance Wright County's natural resources. Actions focus on the implementation of the following objectives.

- Continue Wright County's partnership with the MPCA to ensure all county feedlots are in compliance with 7020 rules.
- Influence agricultural operators to use practices which either reduce and/or mitigate negative human impact on natural resources

Consistency of plan with other pertinent local, state, and regional plans

The lake and river management plans overlaying Wright County have been considered in the completion of this document. Plans from neighboring counties were also reviewed to ensure consistency in the protection of regional water resources. There are no known conflicts between the Wright CWMP and other local plans regarding water resources.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Reviewing the Local Water Management Plan Update for **Wright County** (Minnesota Statutes , Section 103B.311, Subdivision 4 and Section 103B.315, Subdivision 5.)

ORDER APPROVING LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Whereas, the **Wright** County Board of Commissioners submitted a Local Water Management Plan Update (Plan Update) to the Board on **July 19, 2007**, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the Plan Update;

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1) On **November 30, 2004,** the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources received a Priority Concerns Scoping Document from **Wright** County, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.312.

2) On **January 26, 2005,** the Board of Water and Soil Resources approved official comments on the **Wright** County Priority Concerns Scoping Document, which were mailed to the county on **January 27, 2005**.

3) The priority concerns the local water management plan addresses include:

   A) **Ground water issues – Drinking water quality (e.g. nitrates, arsenic) and quantity particularly in the areas of high groundwater susceptibility as identified by MDH, including support of wellhead protection efforts.**
   B) **TMDLs – The county will play a strong coordination role regarding TMDL development as impaired waters are identified.**
   C) **Development pressure - Adopt minimum development standards primarily through stormwater and erosion/sediment control ordinances.**
   D) **Feedlots/Ag Soil Erosion and Runoff/Land Application of Manure (e.g. Provide proper enforcement of land application setbacks and non-compliant feedlots.)**
   E) **Septic systems compliance - Continued implementation of Point-of-sale On-site Septic System Ordinance along with the incentive-based low interest loan program to qualifying individuals wishing to upgrade their septic system.**

4) On **July 19, 2007,** the BWSR received the **Wright** County Plan Update, a record of the public hearings, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the plan update to the Board for final State review pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5.

5) On **September 5, 2007** the regional Water Planning Committee of the board reviewed the recommendations of the state review agencies regarding final approval of the **Wright** County Plan Update . Recommendations of the state review agencies were:
   A) Minnesota Department of Agriculture: recommends approval.
   B) Minnesota Department of Health: recommends approval.
   C) Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: recommends approval.
   D) Minnesota Pollution Control Agency: recommends approval.
   E) Minnesota Environmental Quality Board: recommends approval.
   F) Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources regional staff: recommends approval.
   G) Board Water Plan Review Committee: recommends approval.

6) This update will be in effect for an eight-year period until **December 31, 2015, with the Goals, Objectives, and Action Items amended by December 31, 2010.**

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Water Plan Update of **Wright** County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes , 103B.315, Subd. 5.

2. The **Wright** County Plan Update attached to this Order states water and water-related problems within the county; possible solutions; general goals, objectives, and actions of the county; and an implementation program. The attached Plan Update is in conformance with the requirements of M.S. Section 103B.301.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached update of the **Wright County** Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan – **September 26, 2007 to December 31, 2015, with the Goals, Objectives, and Action Items to be amended prior to December 31, 2010.**

Dated at **St. Paul**, Minnesota, this **twenty-sixth day of September 2007**.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

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BY: Randy Kramer, Chairman

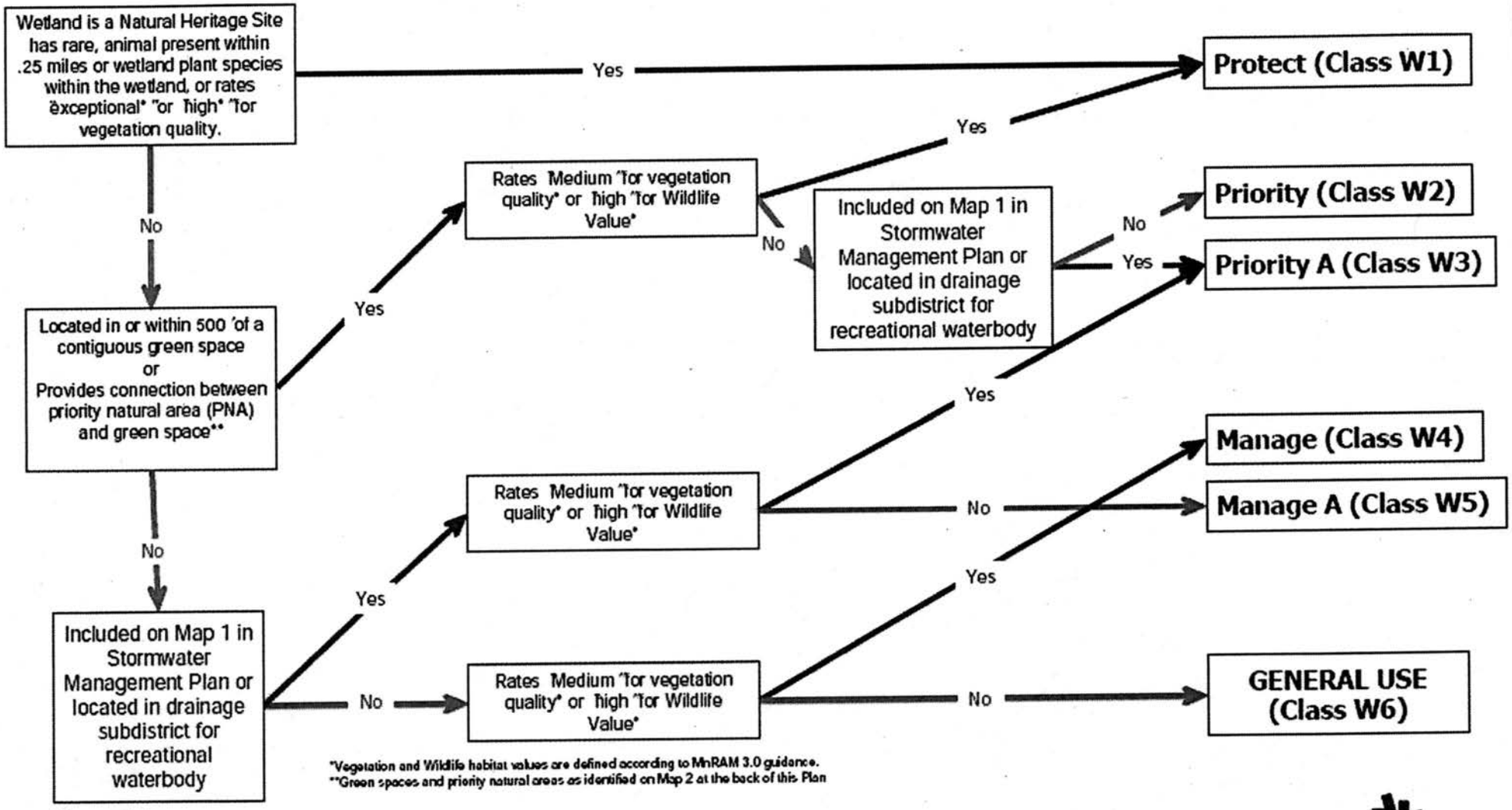


Figure 5.1

Wetland Management Classification Flowchart

Bonestroo

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Table 5.1 – Wetland Management Standards

Management Class	Management Standard: Wetland Avoidance Standards	Buffer** Min. Width	Buffer** Protection Standards	Buffer** Buffer Standards	Principal Structure Setback: Residential	Principal Structure Setback: Commercial/ Industrial	Replacement: Ratio***	Replacement: Location	Replacement: Supplemental Standards
Class W1	No Impact without demonstration of significant public benefit*	50'	25' no-grade zone around wetland; Restore any graded area to native vegetation**, subject to judgment of city staff. No excavation in buffer.	Native, non-invasive vegetation	25' from upslope edge of buffer	10' from upslope edge of buffer	3:1 Replacement	1. On site 2. Within city	Replace lost floral diversity and wildlife habitat functions and values Replace lost green space linkage and function
Class W2	No Impact without demonstration of significant public benefit*	40'	25' no-grade zone around wetland; Restore any graded area to native vegetation**, subject to judgment of city staff. No excavation in buffer.	Native, non-invasive vegetation	25' from upslope edge of buffer	10' from upslope edge of buffer	Meet State Rules	1. On Site 2. Within City	Replace lost green space linkage and function
Class W3	WCA sequencing standards apply Excavation permitted under the wildlife exemption, not to exceed 6' in depth.	40' or to upslope edge of 100 year high water level, whichever is greater	Stormwater treatment practices allowed within buffer; maintain 15' minimum buffer between the practice and the wetland.	Native, non-invasive vegetation	25' from upslope edge of buffer	10' from upslope edge of buffer	Meet State Rules		Replace lost functions for nutrient removal and stormwater storage Replace any lost green space connectivity or linkage
Class W4	WCA sequencing standards apply	30'	25' no-grade zone around wetland; Restore graded area to native vegetation**, subject to judgment of city staff. No excavation in buffer.	City's discretion; non-invasive vegetation	25' from upslope edge of buffer	10' from upslope edge of buffer	Meet State Rules		Replace lost floral diversity and wildlife functions and values
Class W5	WCA sequencing standards apply Excavation permitted under the wildlife exemption, not to exceed 6' in depth.	20' or to upslope edge of 100 year high water level, whichever is greater	Stormwater treatment practices allowed within buffer; maintain 15' minimum buffer between the practice and the wetland.	City's discretion; non-invasive vegetation	25' from upslope edge of buffer	10' from upslope edge of buffer	Meet State Rules		Replace lost functions for nutrient removal and stormwater storage
Class W6	WCA sequencing standards apply	none	Not Applicable	City's discretion; non-invasive vegetation	25' from wetland edge	10' from upslope edge of buffer	Meet State Rules		Meet State Standards

*Significant Public Benefit is defined as projects which serve people from throughout the region, such as improvements to a main local or regional transportation corridor, or similar.

**Add 20% to buffer width requirements in areas where slopes are 6% or greater

***Native vegetation for buffer plantings are required to have a seed origin in accordance with MnDOT requirements for native seed, per the 2003 (or most recent) MnDOT seeding manual, at a minimum.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of the review of the Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan for the **City of Eagan,** pursuant to Minnesota Statues Section 103G.2242, Subdivision 1 (c)

ORDER APPROVING COMPREHENSIVE WETLAND PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, the City of Eagan submitted a Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan (Plan) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) pursuant to M.S. Section 103G.2242, Subd. 1 (c), 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. **Authority to Plan**

Minnesota Statutes Section 103G.2242, Subd. 1 (c) and Minnesota Rules Chapter 8420.650 allow the Board to approve a Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan (Plan) developed by a local government unit, provided it is implemented through the local government's official controls.

As the City of Eagan has grown and developed, stormwater management and wetland stewardship have become increasingly important to the community. Recently, citizens have expressed concerns about "wetland export," wherein wetlands lost to development are replaced outside of the city limits, leading to a net loss of Eagan wetland resources. The City also is interested in streamlining the development review process and having wetland management standards that are tailored to local needs and interests. The stated purpose of the Plan is to inventory and analyze the value of its wetlands resources and implement a vision for protection and enhancement of the City of Eagan's wetlands for generations to come.

2. **Nature of the Plan Area**

The City of Eagan lies in the northwestern portion of Dakota County, with its northwest boundary formed by the Minnesota River. Eagan's natural character is defined in large part by water, from the Minnesota River to the pristine wetlands and small lakes of Lebanon Hills Regional Park in the southern portion of this community. As Minnesota's

eighth largest city, Eagan is nearly fully developed. The City covers 34.5 square miles and has an estimated 2006 population of approximately 67,448 residents. Eagan has over 350 natural waterbodies larger than one acre, and virtually all are connected to the stormwater drainage system. In a survey of residents conducted in 2005, 99% indicated that good water quality was very or somewhat important to them.

3. **Plan Development and Review**

The Plan was developed, reviewed, and revised in consultation with the state agencies, technical evaluation panel, landowners, and local governments. In 2005, the Eagan City Council established a 13-member Water Quality Task Force to guide the development of the upgraded Water Quality and Wetland Management Plan. The Task Force represented a range of technical and policy experts, agency staff familiar with the community, and local citizens, including two City Council members. Between October 2005 and August 2006, the Task Force met seven times to provide input on important aspects of the plan, particularly regarding goals and policies, lake and wetland classification and management standards, establishment of management priorities, and the overall program for system improvements.

The Water Quality Task Force included a Wetland Subcommittee, which met several additional times to work out the specific technical details of the Wetland portion of the plan. The plan development process included numerous drafts and opportunities for comment. In addition, public involvement in development of the Plan included presentations to Eagan City Council, Advisory Parks Commission, and Advisory Planning Commission; a 60-day open comment period; an "open house" forum; and a public hearing on the wetland management strategies. The Plan has an attached Ordinance that has been officially adopted by the City to implement the Plan.

4. **Dakota Soil and Water Conservation District Review**

The Dakota SWCD participated throughout the planning process as a member of the Technical Evaluation Panel, Water Quality Task Force, and Wetland Subcommittee. The SWCD's participation was instrumental to the development and content of the Plan.

5. **Department of Agriculture Review**

The MDA did not provide comments on the Plan.

6. **Department of Health Review**

The MDH did not provide comments on the Plan.

7. **Department of Natural Resources Review**

The DNR participated in the planning process as a member of the Water Quality Task Force and provided input during Plan development.

9. **Pollution Control Agency Review**

The PCA participated in the planning process as a member of the Water Quality Task Force and provided input during Plan development.

10. **Metropolitan Council**

The Council participated in the planning process as a member of the Water Quality Task Force and provided input during Plan development.

11. **US Army Corps of Engineers Review**

The Corps was notified of the City's intent to develop a Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan, but did not participate in the planning process.

12. **Board Review**

Board staff participated throughout the planning process as a member of the Technical Evaluation Panel, Water Quality Task Force, and Wetland Subcommittee. Board staff participation was instrumental to the development and content of the Plan.

13. **Plan Summary and Highlights**

The Eagan Local Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan was developed as a chapter in the City's Local Water Quality and Wetland Management Plan. The main purpose of the LCWPMP is to provide the framework for local wetland conservation regulations. The goal is to prioritize and manage Eagan's wetlands based on the functions they perform and their values to the community. Standards for protection and enhancement of wetland resources included in the Plan are prioritized on this basis. Because the functions and values provided by different wetlands vary, the Plan presents an assessment and classification system that will assist the City in establishing priorities and focusing available resources for wetland protection, enhancement and restoration.

The City identifies the following as benefits of the Plan:

- Includes wetland inventory, assessment, and management guidelines
- Streamlines City administration of the Wetland Conservation Act by providing sequencing and varied replacement standards based on the functional values of the wetland and resulting management classifications
- Allows appropriate use of wetlands to preserve water quality and prevent downstream flooding
- Enhances wildlife values of wetlands
- Identifies potential wetland banking areas
- Protects/restores wetlands and adjacent resources that are important for interconnected green space
- Manage wetlands by their sensitivity to stormwater

Highlights of the Plan include:

- Wetlands were inventoried and assessed using MNRAM 3.0. The inventory focused on a subset of the wetlands in selected areas, focusing on areas that are currently undeveloped but likely to be developed in the near future and areas likely to be redeveloped within a few years. Wetlands not inventoried as part of this Plan will be assessed either in a subsequent assessment of city wetlands, or at the time a development is proposed that may impact the wetland. Delineations of wetlands within the City must be performed by a Certified Wetland Delineator.

- The results of the functional assessment were combined with local priorities or "values" to develop a management classification system for the City's wetlands. The Plan classifies wetlands in six categories corresponding to the functions they provide and the local values.

- Impacts to wetlands classified as Protect or Priority are only allowed with demonstration of a significant public benefit, which is defined as "projects which serve people from throughout the region, such as improvements to a main local or regional transportation corridor, or similar."

- The replacement ratio for impacts to Protect wetlands is increased to 3:1.

- The Plan does not allow mitigation credit for stormwater treatment areas, but can allow public value credit for installing buffers around existing high-valued wetlands.

- With the exception of the General Use classification, vegetated buffers are required around all wetlands. Required wetland buffer widths range from 20 to 50 feet depending on the management class. A 25 foot no-grade zone is also required around wetlands that have a functional ranking of exceptional, high, or medium for vegetation quality or high for wildlife habitat. Building setbacks are also required at 25 feet from the upslope edge of the buffer for residential, and 10 feet from the upslope edge of the buffer for commercial/industrial.

- Replacement is required within the City for Protect and Priority class wetlands. For all wetland management classes other than General Use, the Plan specifies the lost functions that must be replaced if impacts are allowed to those wetlands.

14. **Metro Water Planning Committee Meeting.**

On September 5, 2007, the Board's Metro Water Planning Committee and staff met with City staff in St. Paul to review and discuss the Plan. Those in attendance from the Board's Committee were Robert Burandt, Louise Smallidge, LuAnn Toliver, and Paul Egger. Board staff in attendance were Metro Region Supervisor Steve Woods, Board Conservationist Les Lemm, and Board Conservationist Brad Wozney. Representing the City of Eagan was Eric MacBeth. Board staff recommended approval of the Plan. After

discussion, the subcommittee unanimously voted to recommend approval of the City of Eagan Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan to the full Board.

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 an Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan for the City of Eagan pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Sections 103G.2242, Subd. 1 (c).

3. The City of Eagan Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan attached to this Order provides a functional assessment framework for all wetlands within the City, management strategies based on this assessment, and an implementation program.

4. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103G.221 to 103G.2373 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 8420.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan, dated July 2007, for the City of Eagan, Dakota County, Minnesota.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 26th day of September 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization has prepared this Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan in accordance with Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410, "Metropolitan Area Local Water Management", as administered by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. This plan has been prepared as the "third –generation" Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Plan.

The Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization was formed on June 1, 1985 through a joint powers agreement under the authority conferred to the member parties in 1982 through Minnesota Statutes Chapters 471.59, 473.875 to 473.883 (The Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act). The Organization's purpose is to preserve, protect, enhance, and restore water resource systems within the Gun Club Lake Watershed to meet the purposes set forth in the Surface Water Management Act. The joint powers agreements which established the Gun Club Lake WMO is included in **Appendix A** of this plan.

The Gun Club Lake Watershed is located in the east-central portion of the Minneapolis-St. Paul seven county metropolitan area. The watershed covers 33.2 square miles and is located entirely within Dakota County (**Figure 1**). Portions of three local governmental units are within the watershed and are listed below:

LOCAL UNITS OF GOVERNMENT				
Local Government Unit		Area Within Watershed (Square Miles)		Percent of Watershed
Eagan		29.56		89.03
Inver Grove Heights		1.47		4.43
Mendota Heights		2.17		6.54
		33.20		100.0

A Board of Managers has been established as the governing body of the Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization. The Board consists of five members and three alternate members. The City of Eagan is represented by three members; Inver Grove Heights, one member; Mendota Heights, one member. The Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization Board Members and the government organizations that they represent are as follows:

BOARD MEMBERS

1. Gerald Engelke
   Chair
   Representing City of Eagan
   4420 Wilderness Ridge Court
   Eagan, MN 55123

2. Jeff Sluiter
   Vice Chair
   Representing City of Eagan
   1862 Southpointe Terrace
   Eagan, MN 55122

3. Wayne Sames
   Secretary
   Representing the City of Eagan
   1363 St. Andrews Road
   Eagan, MN 55123

4. Michael Pliml
   Treasurer
   Representing the City of Inver Grove Heights
   6830 Athena Way
   Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

5. Mary Jeanne Schneeman
   Representing the City of Mendota Heights
   792 Upper Colonial
   Mendota Heights, MN 55118

Alternate Board Members

Allan Cederberg
Representing Inver Grove Heights
1162 82nd Street East
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

Jason Akey
Representing the City Of Eagan
4098 Baffin Bay South
Eagan, MN 55123

WMO Administrator

Eric Macbeth
City of Eagan
3501 Coachman Point
Eagan, Minnesota 55122-1211
Phone: (651) 675-5300
Fax: (651) 675-5360

The duties of the organization, as enacted by the Board, are as follows:

- Prepare and adopt a watershed management plan meeting the requirements of Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410.
- Review and approve local water management plans as defined in Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410.
- Exercise the authority of a Watershed Management Organization under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103B to regulate the use and development of land when:
    1. A local water management plan has not been approved and adopted, or
    2. A local permit requires an amendment to or variance from the local water management plan, or
    3. The Board has been authorized by the local government to require permits for land use.

As identified in the Joint Powers Agreement, the Board has the authority to hire employees, conduct studies, fund improvements and operate and maintain improvements constructed by the Board. Procedures have been established to finance capital improvement projects in such a manner that costs can be equitably distributed to benefited members for projects of benefit to more than one member. Where only one member is benefited, that member will be responsible for the entire cost.

The Board may elect to fund all or part of a capital improvement project by utilizing the bonding ability of Dakota County provided the county supports such actions. The Board and Dakota County may also establish a maintenance fund for improvements constructed in whole or part with funds provided by the County.

Under the Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410, requirements are outlined for preparing watershed management plans within the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. Pursuant to the requirements of the law, the plan must focus on preserving and using natural water storage and retention systems to:

- Reduce, to the greatest practical extent, the public capital expenditures necessary to control excessive volumes and rate of run-off.
- Improve water quality.
- Prevent flooding and erosion from surface flows.
- Promote ground water recharge.
- Protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and water recreational facilities.
- Secure the other benefits associated with the proper management of surface water.

To insure that these goals are realized, the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act further specified the basic contents of the watershed management plan.

According to the law, this plan shall:

- Describe the existing and physical environment, land use and development in the watershed as well as the environment, land use and development proposed in existing local and metropolitan comprehensive plans.
- Present information on the hydrologic system and its components, including any drainage system previously constructed under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 106 (the Public Ditch Laws), and existing and potential problems related thereto.
- State goals and policies, including management principles, alternatives and modifications, water quality, and protection of natural characteristics.
- Set forth a management plan, including the hydrologic and water quality conditions that will be sought and the significant opportunities for improvement.
- Describe the effect of the plan on existing drainage systems.
- Describe conflicts between the watershed plan and existing plans of local government units.
- Set forth an implementation program consistent with the management plan, which includes a capital improvement program and standards and schedules for amending the comprehensive plans and official controls of local government units in the watershed to bring about conformance with this watershed plan.

The mission of the Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization (GCLWMO), as identified in Minnesota State Statute and the GCLWMO joint powers agreement, is to:

- Protect, preserve, and use natural surface water and groundwater storage and retention systems.
- Minimize public capital expenditures needed to correct flooding and water quality problems.
- Identify and plan for means to effectively protect and improve surface water and groundwater quality.
- Establish more uniform local policies and official controls for surface water and groundwater management.
- Prevent erosion of soil into surface water systems.
- Promote groundwater recharge.
- Protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and water recreational facilities.
- Secure the other benefits associated with the proper management of surface water and groundwater.

This watershed management plan is divided into the following major sections:

I. Executive Summary
II. Land and Water Resources Inventory
III. Establishment of Goals and Policies
IV. Problems and Corrective Actions
V. Implementation Program/Priorities
VI. Impact on Local Unit of Government
VII. Amendment Procedures

The Executive Summary (**Section I**) states the authority and composition of the Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization, the purpose of the Surface Water Management Act and the components of this watershed management plan.

The Land and Water Resources Inventory (**Section II**) includes a profile of the watershed's existing environmental conditions. This profile contains descriptions of the area's physiography, topography, soils, land use, and metropolitan systems. This section also contains the information necessary to model the hydrologic system. Information includes watershed and subwatershed boundaries, wetlands, water bodies, conveyance systems and flood plains. Surface and ground water quality, ground water recharge areas, water use and water quality guidelines are also included.

The Goals and Policies Section (**Section III**) describes the goals and policies of the Watershed Management Organization. The goals reflect the purposes set forth in the Surface Water Management Act. Policies developed by the Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization define the goals and provide a framework in which to address the water management issues.

Problems and Corrective Actions (**Section IV**) discusses water resource management issues and identifies the strategies developed for each issue and defines the course of action the Organization will follow to address each issue. Implementation procedures explain how the strategies will be put into effect. Potential impacts associated with each identified alternative are evaluated.

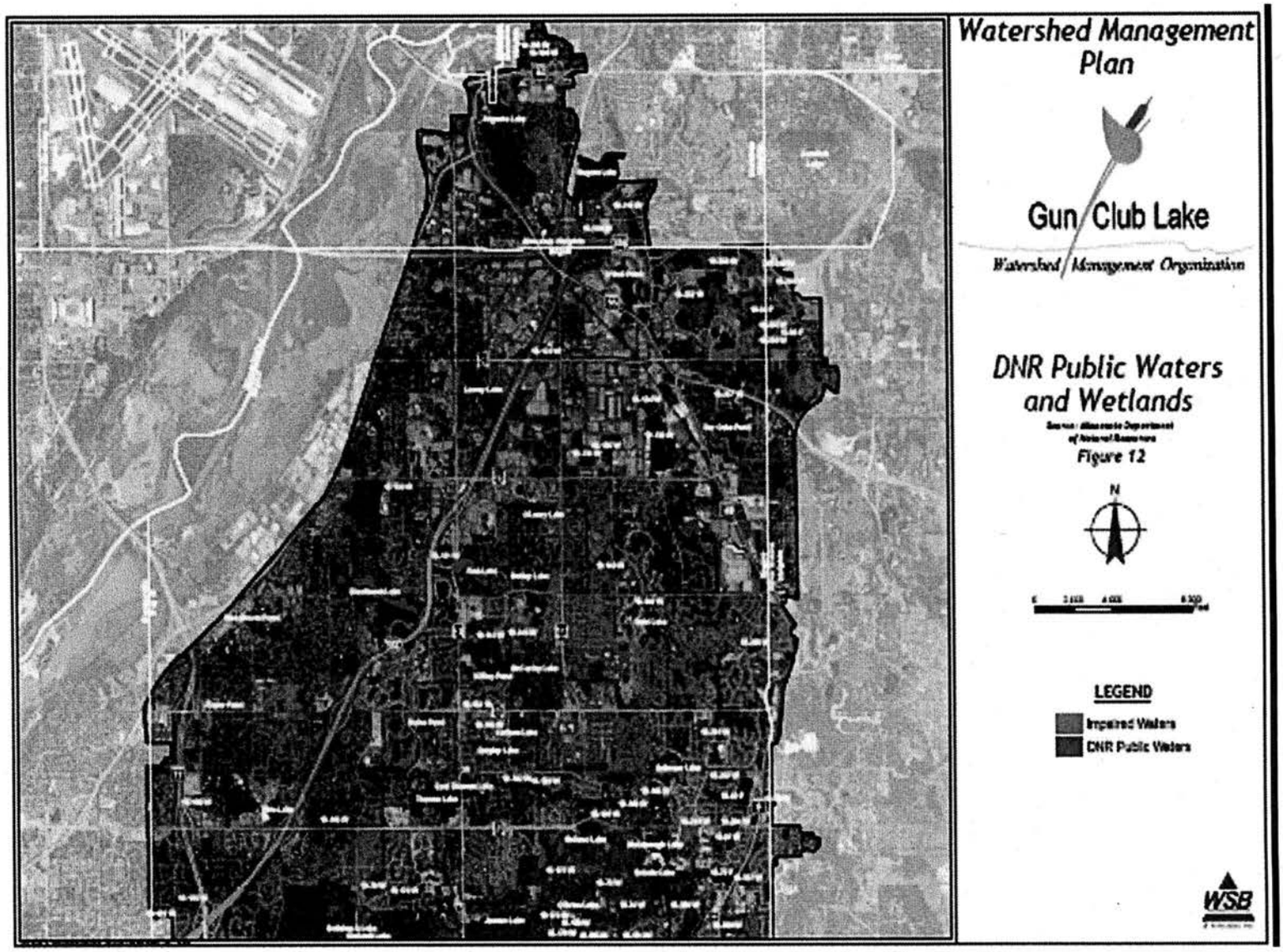
The Implementation Program/Priorities (**Section V**) consists of non-structural, structural, and programmatic solutions to the problems, issues, and goals identified in **Section III** and **Section IV**.

The Impact on Local Government (**Section VI**) discusses the conformance of local governmental water resource management plans to this watershed management plan.

The Amendment Procedures (**Section VII**) discusses a procedure to be followed should it be necessary to amend this plan. This procedure would be invoked only for major changes that would directly affect water resource management within the member communities.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
September 2007 Board Meeting

Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization
Watershed Management Plan 2007 – 2012



Fiscal Context and Implementation

The table below provides context for GCLWMO annual expenditures in comparison with other WMOs for the most recent available data. GCLWMO ranks in the lower bracket of WMOs with regards to expenditures. From 2007 through 2011, GCLWMO's annual expenditures are projected to vary between $31,325 and $79,583. A map of the metro WMOs can be found at http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/watermgmt/metro_imap-2005.htm

Water Management Organizations	Counties	Area (sq mi)	Expenditures				2004 Exp./Mile^2
			2001	2002	2003	2004	
Bassett Creek	Hennepin	40	433,208	390,653	318,823	1,176,382	29,410
Black Dog	Dakota	26	124,711	181,628	159,941	114,637	4,409
Carver County	Carver	280	76,722	69,447	104,573	138,255	494
Elm Creek	Hennepin	127	160,360	156,370	121,562	140,500	1,106
Grass Lake	Ramsey	9			18,594	5,969	663
Gun Club Lake	**Dakota**	**33**	**42,900**	**28,125**	**18,451**	**32,237**	**977**
Lower Mississippi River	Dakota, Ramsey	56	43,324	50,727	57,383	85,842	1,533
Lower Rum River	Anoka	56	31,007			50,353	899
Lower St. Croix	Washington	46					
Marine on St. Croix	Washington	37			43,059	32,177	870
Mississippi River	Hennepin	30		239,658	487,438	722,226	24,074
Middle St. Croix	Washington	19	14,044	11,257	32,918	42,659	2,245
North Cannon River	Dakota	150	20,500	33,915	11,628	2,500	17
Pioneer-Sarah Creek	Hennepin	72	91,150	103,625	75,501	60,472	840
Richfield-Bloomington	Hennepin	8	0	0	0	0	0
Scott County	Scott	323			194,985	440,661	1,364
Shingle Creek	Hennepin	44	238,813	353,581	374,809	349,990	7,954
Six Cities	Anoka	21	9,954	9,810	6,317		
Sunrise River	Anoka	71	28,913	14,893	19,327	9,960	140
Upper Rum River	Anoka	127	2,212	2,233	2,273	2,417	19
Vadnais Lake Area	Ramsey, Anoka	24	63,192	66,409	78,431	625,126	26,047
Vermillion River	Dakota, Scott	335			154,447	303,967	907
West Mississippi	Hennepin	24	83,385	125,104	149,051	115,215	4,801

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of the review of the Watershed Management Plan for the **Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization** pursuant to Minnesota Statues Section 103B.231, Subdivision 9

ORDER APPROVING WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, the Board of Managers of the Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization (GCLWMO) submitted a Watershed Management Plan (Plan) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.231, Subd. 9, 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. **GCLWMO Establishment**

The Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization (GCLWMO) was formed on June 1, 1985 through a joint powers agreement under the authority conferred to the member communities in 1982 through the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act. The organization's first Watershed Management Plan was approved in 1987, and an updated Plan was approved in 1997. This Plan is the third Watershed Management Plan prepared by GCLWMO. The Board of Managers established as the governing body of the GCLWMO consists of five members and three alternate members. The City of Eagan is represented by three members, Inver Grove Heights by one member, and Mendota Heights by one member.

2. **Requirement to Plan**

The Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act requires the preparation of a watershed management plan for the subject watershed area which meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251. The GCLWMO has selected December 2012 as the current Plan expiration date.

3. Watershed Description

The legal boundary of the GCLWMO is roughly 33.2 square miles. It is located entirely in Dakota County and contains portions of three cities: Eagan, Inver Grove Heights, and Mendota Heights. The City of Eagan encompasses 89% of the watershed. The GCLWMO is bound by the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District and Black Dog WMO to the north and west, by the Lower Mississippi WMO to the east, and the Vermillion River Watershed JPO to the south.

This watershed consists of relatively steep hills, rolling topography and occasional deep, self-contained depressions filled with either small, shallow lakes or peat. There are no major creeks or rivers within the watershed and the majority of storm water runoff is conveyed by storm sewer systems in a northwesterly direction through a series of ponds and wetlands to the Minnesota River. The GCLWMO is nearly fully developed with residential land use being the predominate use. Significant industrial development has occurred in the northern portion of Eagan and in Mendota Heights. Interspersed throughout are medium to large-sized commercial areas which provide goods and services to residential and commercial customers. The entire watershed is suburban in nature as there are commercial and industrial areas that tend to be adjacent to major transportation routes. The GCLWMO is located entirely within the 2030 MUSA limits.

4. Plan Development and Review

A preliminary draft of the GCLWMO Plan was first submitted to review agencies in October of 2005 to solicit up-front comments. The draft Plan was then submitted to BWSR, other state agencies, and local governments for the required 60-day review on April 10, 2006. On April 30, 2007 the revised draft plan was sent to the review agencies for the 45-day review period. Subsequent to the 45-day review, the GCLWMO met with Board staff to discuss remaining review agency concerns with the Plan. The meeting resulted in additional changes to the Plan prior to final submittal. The final draft Plan was submitted to BWSR on August 17, 2007.

5. Local Review

The GCLWMO circulated a copy of the draft Plan to local units of government for their review pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 7.

Dakota Soil and Water Conservation District: The SWCD commented that the Plan does not go far enough to identify the minimum requirements needed to protect the water resources within WMO boundaries. Protective standards and criteria should be promulgated by the WMO and built into existing permitting systems within the LGUs. The Plan's goals and policies fail to set actual standards by which to determine whether or not a member community is working towards the WMO mission and implementing their local plans in conformance with the WMO plan. The draft plan simply defers many of its responsibilities to the local communities and does not provide effective oversight GCLWMO responded that they did not want to have duplicative programs and policies, and is looking to "add value" to partner with the member communities and use limited

financial resources wisely. The WMO did, however, revise sections of the Plan to more clearly define the programs and policies anticipated to be completed by the WMO and noted the newly created procedure in the Plan for annual review of city programs.

The SWCD commented that, while GCLWMO supports the use of NURO standards, Low Impact Development standards and designs are more updated and include more environmentally friendly ways of dealing with stormwater. The SWCD recommended these standards be at least mentioned in the Plan as they are better aligned with the mission of the WMO. GCLWMO responded that they are working with the SWCD on a series of landowner workshops that would educate residents on the benefits of LID type practices, but will continue to require NURP treatment as part of development activities. The SWCD requested that the term "redevelopment" be defined and provided a suggested definition. Given the developed nature of the watershed and the importance of redevelopment standards, the SWCD opposed allowing member communities to define what constitutes redevelopment. GCLWMO responded that member communities would continue to determine what constitutes "redevelopment," and felt the on-half inch infiltration requirement would reduce volume and improve water quality.

The SWCD recommended infiltration and discharge volume control requirements be included in a strong policy and be the preferred practice, not the exception. GCLWMO responded that the member communities' local plans address the issue of volume control. The SWCD also disagreed with the policy of allowing landlocked basins an outlet, except where property damage is likely if the basin remains locked. GCLWMO responded that the policy would remain in the Plan. The SWCD recommended the WMO require cities to review Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP) for land disturbing projects one acre in size or greater, and sediment and erosion control plans for projects that do not require an NPDES permit. GCLWMO revised the Plan to require member communities to review SWPPPs and to conduct erosion control monitoring of construction sites.

The SWCD requested that the WMO commit to delineating and studying the location of surficial groundwater recharge areas. GCLWMO replied that they are monitoring groundwater near the Nicols Meadow area.

The SWCD requested the Plan contain information on how the WMO plans to protect wetlands, including standards, water quality, buffers, etc., and recommended the WMO require wetland inventories, functional assessments, and management plans from each member city. GCLWMO replied that the local governments should manage their wetlands, and that the Cities of Eagan and Mendota Heights either have or are planning to inventory their wetlands as part of their local plans.

The SWCD commented that the amount of funds budgeted for matching grant funds is extremely low, particularly given the reliance of the Plan on grants. GCLWMO responded that the 2008 budget was recently approved, but that they would consider the request in the development and review of the 2009 budget.

6. **Metropolitan Council Review**

Met Council commented in both comment periods that there should be more specific direction and a timeframe for the development of infiltration standards. GCLWMO responded with a requirement of infiltrating the first one-half inch of runoff, with several exceptions. The Council also recommended more frequent street sweeping, e.g. monthly, and explore the use of additional BMPs in subwatersheds with impaired waters. In response GCLWMO incorporated a more frequent street sweeping requirement in all priority subwatersheds including those with impaired waters. Met Council believes that the Plan does not sufficiently establish goals or a timeline for establishing goals for all lakes in the watershed. GCLWMO added new policies and goals to partially address this concern. The Council also expects the WMO to use additional guaranteed funding sources to accomplish the priority studies and action items.

7. **Department of Agriculture Review**

MDA did not provide comments on the GCLWMO Plan.

8. **Department of Health Review**

MDH did not provide comments on the GCLWMO Plan.

9. **Department of Natural Resources Review**

DNR advised GCLWMO to work with Vermillion River Watershed JPO to change the watershed boundaries to reflect more of a watershed break as opposed to the existing political boundary in order to better solve existing drainage issues in the south. GCLWMO stressed that the revised Plan reflects the consideration of a boundary change and the intent to solve the existing stormwater management and drainage issues. The DNR recommended in both comment periods that the GCLWMO add policies/goals/actions specifically related to the identified threatened and endangered species as well as the biologically significant resources listed in the County Biological Survey. In response the WMO incorporated a policy that all member communities consider these resources in the update of the local water plans. The WMO also noted that the municipal wetland management plans and wetland functional assessments have significantly considered these areas into the classification schemes and greenway corridors.

The DNR recommended in both comment periods that GCLWMO take on more of a leadership approach with guidance to member communities in the areas of water quality, runoff volume control, and wildlife habitat protection strategies. Additionally, a number of goals and policies tend to be of passive encouragement rather than result in measureable outcomes. DNR believes that the WMO should also take more aggressive actions and funding mechanisms related to establishment of shoreline buffers and other structural projects. GCLWMO revised the goals and policies section of the Plan to more clearly outline their mission and role regarding watershed management, but continues to defer most water resources responsibilities to the local governments and partnerships with agencies such as the Dakota SWCD. The WMO will establish a member

community oversight requiring annual reports and approval by the WMO, integrating the MS4 reporting requirements. DNR recommended that GCLWMO review the Mendota Heights wetland ordinance to ensure that it is consistent with minimum statewide shoreland standards, which the WMO added as an action item.

10. **Pollution Control Agency Review**

The PCA noted that the WMO merely intended to "encourage" local governments to act, which may not ensure the tasks will be completed. GCLWMO revised the Plan to be more clear as to their intent.

PCA expressed concern over the Plan's landlocked basin policy, to which GCLWMO responded that outlets will be allowed provided they are included in a local water resource management plan and do not cause downstream problems. PCA also expressed concern that wetlands and lakes may be being used as stormwater treatment and storage basins and requested clarification. GCLWMO responded that, as part of new development and redevelopment, wetlands are not being used for primary stormwater quality treatment but that lakes are incorporated into local stormwater models for storage. PCA also provided language regarding wetland protection and requested it be included in the Plan. GCLWMO responded that it is the local governments responsibility to implement the Wetland Conservation Act.

PCA noted that the Plan deferred to the local communities the responsibility of addressing stormwater runoff management needs and problems, and requested the Plan describe how the WMO will ensure the appropriate measures are taken in compliance with the Plan. GCLWMO responded by establishing a member community oversight and annual reporting requirement to the WMO by integrating the GCLWMO into the NPDES MS4 review and approval process. PCA staff also requested a more complete analysis of existing city requirements and an identification of any gaps in the regulatory structure, particularly for issues such as volume control, infiltration, wetland protection, etc. GCLWMO added a comparison of local volume control/infiltration requirements to an existing table in the Plan.

PCA requested the implementation of enhanced infiltration practices, which the WMO responded should be evaluated on a site-by-site basis. PCA recommended strengthening street sweeping requirements and increasing the frequency. GCLWMO replied that they would require street sweeping pursuant to NPDES requirements. PCA also requested clarification of "pretreatment" prior to discharge to wetlands. GCLWMO identified NURP criteria as the minimum water quality standard.

PCA cited a statement in the Plan which pointed out "increased rates and volumes of stormwater runoff as a result of an increase in impervious surface area due to development," and requested the Plan describe mechanisms to address this. GCLWMO replied that requiring stormwater treatment and maintaining discharge rates as part of development will address the issue. In general, the WMO feels the requirement for the infiltration of the first one-half inch of stormwater runoff from any rainfall event will result in overall less volume and therefore improved water quality.

PCA noted the Plan acknowledgement the diagnostic studies need to be conducted, that water quality has been impacted by development, and that more studies are needed to find causes outside of development. PCA also noted that the Plan does not provide a timeframe or mechanism for completion of these activities and funding is indicated as from other governmental grants. GCLWMO responded that the diagnostic studies have been incorporated into member community local plans and clarified the implementation section of the Plan.

PCA noted that there are very few dollars proposed for management programs and that most are expected to be funded through grants, and requested that the Plan state how and who would be designated to apply for such grant funds. GCLWMO did not include the requested specifics in the Plan, but stated that they will continue to pursue grant opportunities.

11. **Department of Transportation Review**

DOT requested a three-foot permanent pool average depth be allowed in some situations, to which the GCLWMO revised the Plan to allow this where feasible. DOT also requested the Plan be revised to allow methods other than skimmers to control pond outlets, such as standpipes and submerged pipes. GCLWMO made the requested modifications to the Plan.

12. **Board Review**

Board staff noted a very large tabulation of policies, many of which were vague and contained passive verbs such as "encourage, support, promote, or recommend," and requested revisions to the policy statements in order to be more outcome based and clear enough to be able to measure the District's success in reaching them. Board staff stated the plan needed to be clear and concise as to what the WMO is actually going to do, clearly showing what the expenditure of tax dollars is accomplishing. This resulted in significant changes to Plan by GCLWMO, adding specificity and clarity in several areas.

Concerning the several needed studies and implementation items identified in the Plan, Board staff noted that the vast majority of them are dependent on outside grants. Board staff commented that the WMO has the ability and authority to fund implementation items and require actions necessary to protect and improve the watershed's resources, and the WMO is expected to do a few of these meaningful priority actions, leaving the lower priority actions for funding through grants. GCLWMO revised the implementation section to better identify which items the WMO is committing to do verses those they would like to do, however, the majority of the plan action items is still dependent on outside grants.

Board staff noted that the Plan defers the development of policies and standards to the Cities, stating that it is acceptable for the WMO to defer permitting and implementation to the cities, but that the WMO must set the minimum standards. GCLWMO responded by establishing some minimum standards and stating that they will assess member community requirements annually. Board staff recognized the obstacle of limited funding that the GCLWMO faces, but noted that the WMO Board has the ability and

authority to set its annual budget and it is expected to use that authority to the extent necessary to implement its Plan and meet Statutory and Rule requirements. GCLWMO responded that the WMO would investigate additional funding alternatives.

Board staff questioned the WMO's approach to impaired waters, to which they replied that GCLWMO would consider assisting in addressing TMDL issues within the watershed if requested by a member community.

13. **Plan Summary and Highlights**

In developing this Plan, the GCLWMO focused on implementing "added value" watershed management activities, particularly given the significance of the City of Eagan to the watershed, in area, funding, and program implementation. The Plan identifies small projects that utilize available resources or grants, activities by managers, partnerships with other agencies, promulgation of standards, and oversight of cities' activities as activities the WMO can be successful at.

Highlights of the Plan include:

- New development activities require infiltration of the first one-half inch of stormwater runoff from any rainfall event, with exceptions where technically unfeasible.

- The GCLWMO will establish a member community oversight and annual reporting requirement to the WMO through integrating the WMO into the NPDES MS4 review and approval process.

- The GCLWMO requires member communities to adopt an erosion and sediment control ordinance similar to the PCA's model ordinance.

- GCLWMO will participate with the Dakota SWCD to implement landscaping and "blue thumb" type workshops to provide water resource educational opportunities for residents within the WMO.

- The GCLWMO will review local plans to identify possible updates to ordinances and policies to address issues related to redevelopment.

- The GCLWMO will fund the Community Cost Share Program through the Dakota SWCD at $5,000 per year.

- The GCLWMO will explore opportunities to work with member communities to establish buffer strips along wetlands and waterbodies in City and public areas.

14. **Metro Water Planning Committee Meeting**

On September 5, 2007, the Board's Metro Water Planning Committee and staff met with representatives from the GCLWMO in St. Paul to review and discuss the Plan. Those in attendance from the Board's Committee were Robert Burandt, Louise Smallidge, LuAnn Toliver, and Paul Egger. Board staff in attendance were Metro Region Supervisor Steve Woods, Board Conservationist Les Lemm, and Board Conservationist Brad Wozney. Representing the GCLWMO were Phil Belfiori and Todd Hubmer from WSB. Board staff recommended approval of the Plan. After discussion, the subcommittee unanimously voted to recommend approval of the Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization 2007 - 2017 Watershed Management Plan to the full Board.

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 Watershed Management Plan for the Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.231, Subd. 9.

3. The Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization Watershed Management Plan attached to this Order defines water and water-related problems within the GCLWMO boundaries, possible solutions thereto, and an implementation program.

4. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached Plan dated August 2007 as the Watershed Management Plan for the Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 26th day of September 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

Executive Summary

Plan Context

In 1993, the Cottage Grove Ravine Watershed District was formed as the 42nd watershed district in Minnesota. The watershed district changed its name to the South Washington Watershed District (SWWD) in 1995. Completion and approval of the first SWWD Watershed Management Plan (WMP) occurred in September, 1997. The WMP was later amended in 2002.

The first WMP was heavily oriented towards inventorying and assessing the District resources. Currently the SWWD is well-positioned to take extensive watershed actions based upon the assessments and studies performed since 1997 under the first WMP. Because the SWWD places great emphasis on implementation, this WMP is prepared with the implementation portion of the plan near the front. The overall organization of this WMP is intended to be modular. The reader need not read a previous section in order to gain context for a subsequent section.

This WMP is structured to afford the District the highest degree of long-term flexibility. Flexibility is achieved by relying upon both existing and future supporting Guidance Documents (e.g., Wetland Management Plan) to help provide direction to the District and its constituents during resource management and implementation of projects and programs.

Plan Implementation

Underpinnings

Ten management areas have been defined through which the SWWD will work to execute the WMP. A single goal is associated with each management area (see Table ES.1). The District recognizes that often one issue can affect several management areas (e.g., stormwater infiltration practices). Numerous policies and specific action items support the identified goal for a management area.

The goals, policies, and actions establish a clearly linked framework to address the specific issues and problems outlined in the WMP. The issues and problems are characterized on a District-wide (regional) basis as well as on a subwatershed (local) basis. The issues reflect specific project-related elements as well as broader program and regulatory elements. Together the issues and policies / actions create a work plan for the District to implement.

*The terms SWWD and District are used interchangeably.

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Table ES.1 –SWWD management areas and related goals.(from Section 5.2)

Management Area	Goal
Floodplain Management	Opportunistically manage floodplains for multiple non-development uses.
Stormwater Runoff Rate and Volume	Minimize existing and future potential damages to property, public safety, and water resources due to flood events
Water Quality	Maintain, or where practical improve, the water quality of wetlands and water bodies within the District.
Wetlands	Manage the quantity and quality of wetlands within the watershed for their best function in a rapidly urbanizing environment.
Natural Resources and Recreation	Participate in conservation or creation of key natural areas with respect to habitat, wildlife, or recreation.
Groundwater	Pursue a sustainable balance between surface water management, land use activities, and groundwater integrity.
Erosion and Sediment Control	Facilitate erosion control and reduce impacts to wetlands and water bodies from sedimentation.
Education	Heighten the awareness of key constituencies within the District, sufficiently to modify behavior to improve the recognition and implementation of District policies, programs and activities.
Long Range Work Planning and Financing	Utilize District funds to initiate or support long range work plan projects which reduce flooding or otherwise benefit key District resources.
Data Management	Collect and manage data in a manner which maximizes the availability to and use by constituents of the District.

The SWWD will utilize a long range work plan to identify, prioritize, and prepare for District implementation activities. The long range work plan will generally guide District activities for the foreseeable future. The District will annually develop a condensed list from the long range work plan which will constitute targeted efforts for the coming year. The condensed list represents the annual work plan for the SWWD.

The annual work plan is intended to be a fluid document which may change from year-to-year according to the District's achievements, new opportunities or emerging issues. An annual progress evaluation tool provides feedback necessary to revise and adjust the work plan each year. The tool is an essential component of this WMP to provide an evaluation mechanism regarding the success of plan implementation.

Administration

The SWWD's implementation activities focus on three overarching resource issues: water quantity, water quality, and natural resources. Further, implementation activities can be categorized into three general types:

1) Studies / Evaluations / Assessments – Monitoring or modeling programs intended to develop a sound scientific basis for decision-making.

2) Technical framework development – Establishing consistency with respect to managing District resources by creating a uniform set of design standards, performance specifications and technical methods.

3) On-the-ground watershed improvements – Projects to complete recommended actions or designated initiatives, including structural / infrastructure elements as well as non-structural elements.

Projects and programs for implementation form a Long Range Work Plan for the District. The implementation activities are organized under the management areas shown in Table ES.1 and represent the priorities established by the Board of Managers.

Plan Standards and Guidance

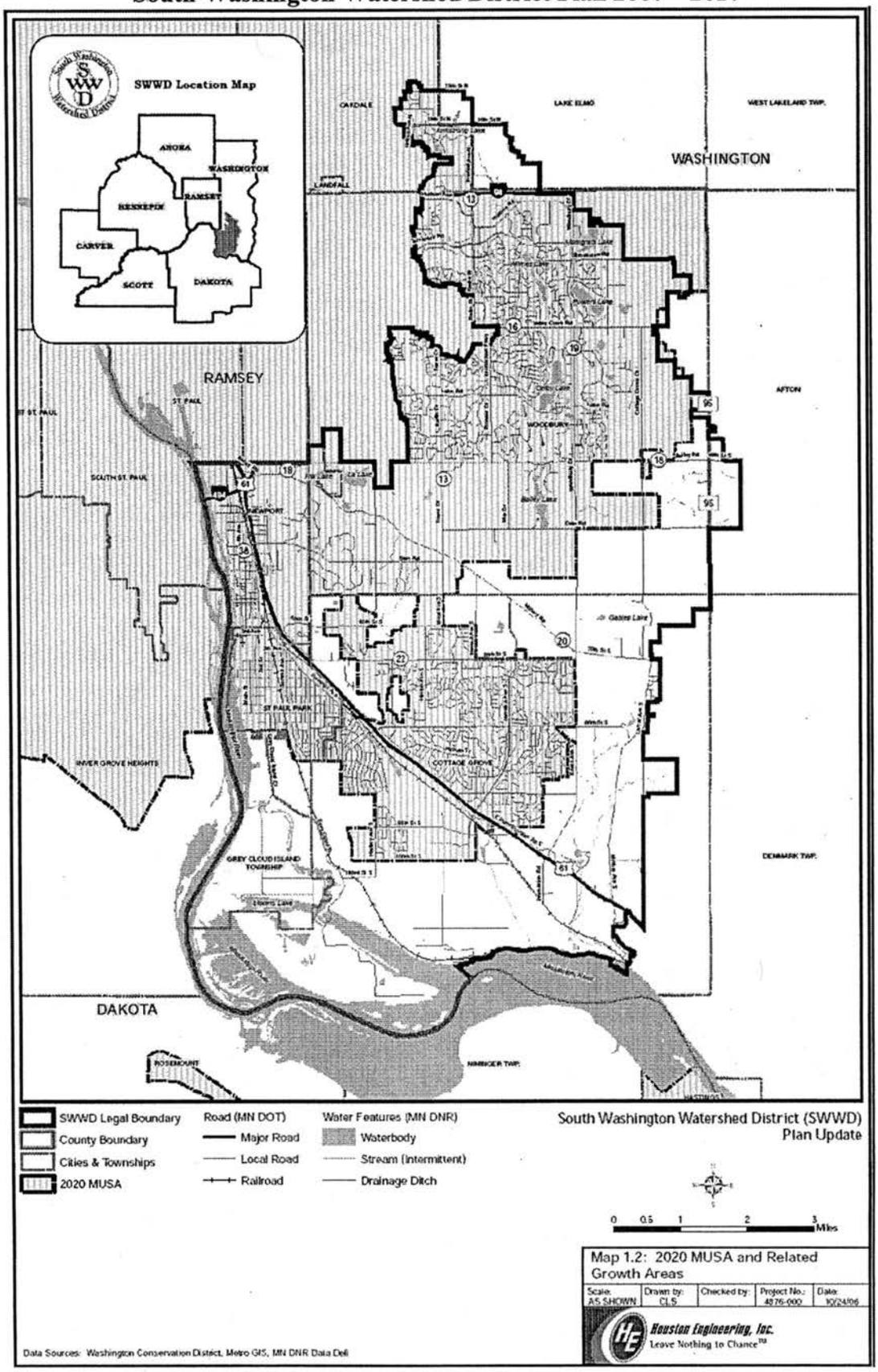
District standards in the WMP incorporate the key findings and outcomes of critical studies and plans. Analysis of resource data collected within the District serves as a foundation for standards where there is no existing Guidance Document (e.g, lake management plan). The standards and guidance structured in this WMP are intended to address site-specific issues as well as broader watershed-wide issues.

Eight general areas have been established for which standards are identified, including:

- Wetland Classification and Management;
- Receiving Water Classification and Management;
- Requirements for Land Disturbance and Land Development;
- Critical Storage Areas;
- Regional Assessment Locations;
- Utilization of Infiltration;
- Open Channel Stability; and
- Bluff Buffers.

The resource monitoring and data collection underway since the mid-1990's provides a management context for the condition of a resource. The data analysis included in this WMP also offers valuable insight to member cities who are characterizing local resource conditions through modeling. Cities can choose to either use the information herein directly as model inputs or as reference checks to model outputs. In this manner, guidance for meeting regulatory programs is supplied in the WMP.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
September 2007 Board Meeting
South Washington Watershed District Plan 2007 – 2017



Fiscal Context and Implementation

The table below provides fiscal context over the last several years of available data. SWWD expenditures have been similar to or greater than other comparable metropolitan Watershed Districts over that time period. The Long Range Work Plan included in the SWWD Plan provides a list of expected actions and their associated costs, but the Plan does not include annual budget estimations. This is due to the structure of the Plan, which allows the Board of Managers flexibility in revising and adjusting the annual work plan which allows the District to establish an operating budget range for the short term, while maintaining connection to the overall long term actions targeted by the District.

The SWWD intends to fund the majority of the District projects, programs, and operations through a combination of watershed-wide ad valorem taxes, sub-watershed ad valorem taxing districts, agreements with member communities, and collection of a stormwater utility fee. The funding mechanism (or combination of mechanisms) used by SWWD will vary depending on the type and nature of the project or activity.

Watershed District	Taxes Payable 2004 (TMV)	Area (sq mi)	Expenditures				
			2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Browns Creek	1,118,882,500	28	1,035,814	536,531	403,906	320,385	503,935
Capitol Region	12,180,656,400	37	397,354	386,503	577,504	1,327,715	924,848
Carnelian-Marine	517,571,600	43	404,561	447,838	491,103	420,888	
Comfort Lake Forest Lake	1,289,010,500	49	77,716	301,143	206,157	287,058	243,511
Coon Creek	6,763,641,200	96	467,285	601,544	660,523	640,591	498,240
Lower Minnesota River	5,748,966,600	64	427,058	292,621	204,346	318,216	456,166
Minnehaha Creek	28,338,875,675	184	6,086,030	5,270,636	3,343,963	2,436,635	3,212,548
Nine Mile Creek	13,293,860,700	50	1,021,981	950,905	1,015,845	1,484,029	2,413,557
Prior Lake-Spring Lake	1,882,034,700	42	410,171	610,534	732,799	655,410	756,044
Ramsey-Washington Metro	9,197,769,100	53	3,048,986	3,329,310	3,370,862	2,350,399	1,945,645
Rice Creek	13,893,021,700	201	1,319,055	1,692,567	2,589,521	3,041,834	2,810,074
Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek	9,434,538,700	47	480,471	772,593	2,366,737	2,245,286	1,819,722
South Washington	6,070,592,700	53	2,356,478	2,323,327	5,771,911	1,921,135	1,252,877
Valley Branch	2,681,731,600	64	443,537	526,532	730,992	772,065	211,104

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of the review of the Watershed Management Plan for the **South Washington Watershed District** pursuant to Minnesota Statues Section 103B.231, Subdivision 9

ORDER APPROVING WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, the Board of Managers of the South Washington Watershed District (SWWD) submitted a Watershed Management Plan (Plan) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.231, Subd. 9, 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. SWWD Establishment

Pursuant to Minnesota's 1982 Surface Water Management Act, the Cottage Grove Ravine Watershed Management Organization (WMO) was formed in 1984 to manage the resources of the watershed. The WMO was based on a joint powers agreement among the five cities in the watershed. A draft watershed management plan for the WMO was completed in April 1988. However, this plan was never approved or adopted by the WMO. The WMO was later disbanded, and, in 1993, the Cottage Grove Ravine Watershed District was formed as the 42nd watershed district in Minnesota. The watershed district changed its name to the South Washington Watershed District (SWWD) in 1995 to prevent confusion with the City of Cottage Grove. Completion and approval of the first SWWD Watershed Management Plan was completed in September, 1997 and later amended in 2002.

In April 2003, the SWWD petitioned the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) to enlarge the boundary and include the East Mississippi WMO. The East Mississippi WMO included all or portions of Grey Cloud Island Township, Cottage Grove, Woodbury, St. Paul Park and Newport. The enlargement was completed as part of recommendations from the Washington County Water Governance Study of 1999. The enlargement petition was approved by the Board on May 28, 2003.

2. Requirement to Plan

The Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act requires the preparation of a watershed management plan for the subject watershed area which meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251.

3. Watershed Description

The SWWD is located entirely in Washington County and contains portions of eight cities and townships: Afton, Cottage Grove, Grey Cloud Island Township, Lake Elmo, Newport, Oakdale, St. Paul Park and Woodbury. The SWWD is bound by the Mississippi River to the south and west, the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District to the northwest, the Valley Branch Watershed District to the northeast, and the Lower St. Croix WMO to the east.

The drainage pattern is generally from north to south. Strong changes in elevation are evident across the watershed, ranging from a high of roughly 1,100 feet above mean sea level in Oakdale to 687 feet, which is the normal pool elevation of the Mississippi River. Three major surface drainageways exist in the watershed. A central drainageway begins in Oakdale and Lake Elmo near the headwaters of the district and continues south approximately 7 miles to Bailey Lake at Dale Road. The easterly drainageway is a intermittent stream ravine which runs north to south with some minor landlocked basins and two DNR protected waters within the ravine. The westerly drainageway runs northwest to southeast, starting in the southwestern corner of Woodbury and outlets into the Mississippi River just east of the terminus of 110th Street South in Cottage Grove.

The legal boundary of the SWWD is roughly 44,880 acres. The current delineated hydrologic boundary of the SWWD covers 34,000 acres, or roughly 53 square miles (not including the East Mississippi subwatershed area where hydrologic boundaries are not yet formally compiled). The boundary (both hydrologic and legal) of the SWWD overlaps two watersheds defined by the United States Geological Survey (the Mississippi River - Twin Cities and St. Croix River). This is notable because it illustrates the degree to which the natural drainage system has been altered in the SWWD.

The existing land use within the SWWD includes a substantial amount of agricultural land in production. However, the rapid rate of development and growth within the cities of Woodbury and Cottage Grove makes any "existing" land use outdated almost immediately. Future development is anticipated throughout the watershed.

4. Plan Development and Review

In assembling its second generation Watershed Management Plan (Plan), the SWWD solicited early input and involvement from review agencies, citizens, and other stakeholders. The SWWD met with Board and Met Council staff prior the start of the planning process to review the District's approach and to hear the agencies' up front expectations. Both a Technical Advisory Committee and a Citizens Advisory Committee were formed and met several times to guide the development and content of the Plan.

The draft Plan was submitted to BWSR, other state agencies, and local governments for the required 60-day review on July 10, 2006. A public hearing was held on October 12, 2006. On February 21, 2007 the revised draft plan was sent to the review agencies for the 45-day review period. Subsequent to the 45-day review, the SWWD met with Board and Pollution Control Agency (PCA) staff to discuss PCA concerns with the Plan and to provide additional clarification. The meeting resulted in additional changes to the Plan prior to final submittal. The final draft Plan was submitted to BWSR on July 3, 2007.

All information regarding the Plan update process, TAC and CAC schedules, comments received, responses to comments, revisions, and relevant correspondence were placed on the SWWD website to aid in communication and accessibility for citizens, reviewers, and other stakeholders.

5. **Local Review and Summary of Significant Comments**

The SWWD circulated a copy of the draft Plan to local units of government for their review pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 7.

Washington Conservation District: The WCD commended SWWD for conducting a comprehensive advisory committee process as part of the watershed plan update. WCD commented that SWWD's approach to achieving pollutant load reductions will result in effective management of runoff volumes. WCD encouraged the use of cost-share and other BMP incentive programs to help achieve Plan policies.

WCD recommended emphasizing volume control and on-site retention, including techniques such as biofiltration and vegetative systems, in addition to infiltration, and development of a guidance document that shows rainfall-event-based volume control requirements to aid local units of government. SWWD agreed and indicated that a Standards Manual is currently being developed to provide guidance and illustrate the application of BMPs, including those recommended by WCD.

WCD recommended SWWD consider developing a compliance motivation and enforcement program to incent greater compliance with NPDES regulations. The SWWD responded that the state (as administrator of the NPDES Permit) or the cities (as local units implementing controls on development) are best suited for developing a compliance motivation and enforcement program, but that the SWWD would consider further action in the future if warranted. WCD also indicated that the modeling and standards included in the Plan will be invaluable for the completion of TMDLs within the SWWD.

Washington County: The County submitted several comments regarding groundwater protection, requesting SWWD consider groundwater protection during a rule development process, revising parts of the text to emphasize the importance of groundwater protection and the active role that SWWD plays, and including additional language to encourage local government units to include groundwater protection efforts in the local water management plans and to develop land use regulations to protect groundwater resources. The SWWD responded that they would consider groundwater

protection during rule development, made requested revisions to the text, and pointed out the Plan's specific requirement for local government water management plans to include a groundwater protection component consistent with Washington County's Groundwater Management Plan.

City of Cottage Grove: Regarding the lift station from Clear Channel Pond to Hamlet Park Pond, the City requested the section be revised to include the need to utilize the existing overland flow route during major events, and for SWWD to take the lead in working with the affected parties. SWWD made the requested revision and acknowledged a leadership role for the issue.

The City expressed concerns over the increase from a 6.0 to a 6.3 inch design storm event and questioned the reasoning and need for the change. SWWD replied that the 6.3-inch design storm event was developed by rigorous statistical analysis and is necessary for modeling to be based on up to-date information and scientifically accurate assumptions. SWWD also clarified that this change would not require the redesign and retrofit of existing infrastructure that was designed to accommodate a 6.0 inch 100-year event.

The City is requested that the SWWD wetland protection standards incorporate some flexibility in inflow phosphorus load, the inflow discharge rate, and inundation period requirements for wetlands located within critical stormwater conveyance corridors, particularly those that the City plan to connect to an existing industrial park drainage pattern. SWWD modified the plan to indicate that wetlands which can be shown in pre-existing planning documents as integral to successful conveyance and stormwater management can receive a variance from watershed standards, but also made it clear that member cities are still accountable for proper permits and approvals at higher levels (e.g. State). SWWD also noted that, while the City's proposed connection of a significant number of acres of drainage to the indicated wetlands may be consistent with the natural drainage pattern, the planned land use is inconsistent with natural regimes and has the potential for impacting downstream resources, and the required nondegradation analysis will also provide insight as to runoff volume control requirements in such circumstances.

The City expressed opposition to the requirement to maintain pre-development phosphorous loads for Protect category wetlands, the wetland buffer widths required by the Plan, and the increase in minimum freeboard requirements from two feet to three. SWWD acknowledged the City's concerns, clarified the requirements and intent, and agreed to review certain requirements and consider allowing some flexibility if justified. The City also requested clarification regarding several other Plan stormwater requirements, to which the SWWD provided additional information.

City of Woodbury: The City commented that the plan was too "numbers" oriented and too complicated to reasonably expect it to be properly implemented, and suggested a more simplified and uniform approach to doing calculations and establishing regulations. SWWD responded that the calculations are consistent with normal engineering and scientific practice, and that implementation of the standards and the calculation methods and procedures will be aided by a developer's packet, a component of a Standards Manual SWWD is currently developing to complement the Plan. SWWD also simplified

the nutrient lake load allocations to represent an overall watershed unit total phosphorus load which must be met in order to achieve the desired lake quality.

The City did not feel the SWWD draft Plan adequately described conflicts with existing plans of local government units and suggested a matrix be developed which would clearly identify discrepancies between the watershed district plan and the cities' current plans. SWWD responded that they would include a matrix in the plan to the extent that the Cities provide copies of their respective plans as previously requested.

SWWD is adopting wetland standards which are different and more restrictive than the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). The City questioned under what authority SWWD is able to adopt different standards given the fact the District does not want to act as the LGU for administration of WCA. SWWD responded that the authority is provided to the Watershed District under Minnesota Statute 103B, 103D and Rule 8410 to establish standards for wetland management and protection.

The City believes the SWWD should establish its own permit program in order to provide improved consistency watershed wide. The SWWD acknowledged the City's desire for a District operated permit program, but advised that complying with the content of the Plan or the rules of the SWWD is required regardless of whether the District implements a permit program and that consistency can be achieved by complying with Plan requirements. The issue of the need for a permit program is currently under consideration by the SWWD Board of Managers.

The City requested that the Long Range Work Plan include a breakdown between Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) and studies in order to allow the cities to easily identify projects that need to be budgeted for. SWWD added information regarding which projects would require City expenditures and noted that since project costs are typically identified through the feasibility phases of the project, budget requests for both the SWWD and any participating municipality would be on the same time line. SWWD also explained their intent to use the Work Plan to develop an annual CIP review with each city to further determine potential coordination efforts and project enhancement possibilities.

The City requested SWWD consider an additional Plan item which would allow the SWWD to assist the City in a study of karst bedrock in eastern Woodbury. SWWD agreed to incorporate a policy / action item to provide the ability to assist in studying and understanding karst features in the watershed.

The City was concerned about the approach of the Plan to vary requirements for stormwater quality runoff based on the classification of the receiving water since neighboring developments that sit on opposite sides of a sub watershed divide could end up with different treatment standards. The City felt this would be cumbersome to administer and politically difficult to justify, and stated their preference for a single set of standards, strict enough to protect water quality in the high quality receiving waters, which would apply district-wide. SWWD responded the approach advocated and used by SWWD during development of the Plan recognizes that the quality of the resources (e.g., lakes, rivers, wetlands, natural areas) within the District varies geographically. Some

resources are already degraded, while others remain worthy of more intensive management. The Plan identifies "high quality resources" (e.g., Powers Lake and La Lake) with perceived greater societal value, as well as resources of "lesser quality" (e.g., Markgrafs Lake) whose best use may be for a purpose (e.g., enjoying wildlife viewing) which allows for a lesser level of protection. SWWD believes the approach used within the Plan is in fact based on sound science and is also fiscally responsible as it embodies the same approach that numerous communities have embraced for protecting wetlands of differing qualities (functions and values), and is similar to other environmental regulations such as shoreland regulations.

The City had numerous other comments and questions regarding storwater requirements, wetlands, Plan data and maps, and administration that were addressed by SWWD.

Valley Branch Watershed District: The District provided several comments and recommendations regarding the SWWD legal and hydrologic boundaries. SWWD added language and an additional map to the Plan.

6. **Metropolitan Council Review**

The Council commented that, relating to stormwater volume control, redevelopment areas should have the same level of control as new development areas, and that the option should be further explored on a case-by-case basis as opportunities occur. SWWD responded that they have intentionally developed a volume control requirement for new development which provides a "level of control" believed achievable based on the location within the District, but the District does not presently feel this same volume control standard should be applied to redevelopment until the ability to implement such a standard is clear. SWWD also believes some volume control will result from application of the allowable nutrient load standard to redevelopment.

7. **Department of Agriculture Review**

MDA did not provide comments on the SWWD Plan.

8. **Department of Health Review**

MDH did not provide comments on the SWWD Plan.

9. **Department of Natural Resources Review**

The DNR recommended that the SWWD include barriers to fish movement as part of projects that connect lakes and wetlands to flood storage and runoff systems, and suggested the District consider retrofitting existing systems, specifically between Markgrafs and Wilmes Lakes and on the Wilmes Lake outlet. Generally, the SWWD believes its role to be predominantly for study / analysis while the member cities provide for local implementation, but agreed to evaluate the topic of fish barriers during preparation of a lake management plan by the District.

The DNR recommended the Plan address karst topography in greater detail due to the development of sinkholes in the Woodbury, particularly regarding the location of proposed stormwater ponds due to the potential of rapid infiltration and the migration of pollutants into deeper aquifers. The DNR specifically recommended evaluating more stringent requirements in areas where there is less than 50 feet of soil material to bedrock. SWWD agreed to incorporate a policy / action item to provide the ability to assist in studying and understanding karst features in the watershed.

The DNR recommended working with local governments to provide boat accesses, fishing piers, and lake recreation opportunities on lakes within the District. SWWD responded that land use control around lakes, and thus lake access and recreation, is the responsibility of the municipalities and not a specific role of the District.

The DNR expressed its support for SWWD's efforts to manage runoff volume as well as runoff rate, and provided additional supporting information for SWWD's use and incorporation into the Plan.

10. **Pollution Control Agency Review**

The PCA expressed concern over the wetland management requirements of the Plan, stating that the values of the District should not be less protective/restrictive than the protections afforded by State and Federal protections and requesting that the Plan clearly convey this and add additional language. SWWD did not feel it necessary to repeat all applicable requirements currently in MN Rules and advised that District does have authority to establish local resource protection goals, including those specific to water quality. The PCA also requested clarification regarding the preservation of wetlands that provide important peak flow reductions, the process for determining wetland management classifications, and that the wetland management standards would meet state and federal requirements for protection. The PCA also expressed concern over a statement in the Plan describing "hydraulic flushing" and outletting of landlocked basins. SWWD responded that the statement was intended to illustrate that basins with no outlet can generally be more susceptible / vulnerable to small / low pollutant loadings than other receiving waters, thus it is especially important to address watershed solutions for such basins. SWWD also clarified that these basins are typically dry basins, not wetlands.

For the 45-day review, PCA expressed opposition to the proposed process for utilizing Guidance Documents and rules as proposed by SWWD. PCA also reiterated comments regarding landlocked basins, stormwater infiltration in the northern subwatershed, and wetland management standards. Subsequent to the 45-day review period, SWWD staff met with BWSR and PCA staff to further respond to and address the concerns of PCA. The meeting resulted in additional language being added to the Plan and additional clarifications.

11. **Department of Transportation Review**

DOT requested notification of when SWWD will be developing guidance documents, lake management plans, or rules that may result in changes to the stormwater treatment requirements and nutrient loading allocations affecting DOT. SWWD agreed.

DOT noted that the level of stormwater quality runoff and nutrient loads for new development and redevelopment are based on the classification of the receiving water and allowable phosphorus loads, and requested clarification as to where this information is located, if it is the same as the PCA's TMDL's, and how is it decided who contributes what load and what their allowable load is? SWWD explained that allowable phosphorus loads are stated in a table in the Plan as total pounds per year, and expressed as a unit load over the watershed area. The loads set by the District are not equivalent to a PCA approved load allocation established through a TMDL, however, the general techniques used to establish the allowable loads are technically based, and established through modeling to achieve a desired trophic state. SWWD also responded that the nutrient lake load allocations have been simplified to reduce confusion.

Regarding the intermittent stream (ravine) which flows through Cottage Grove Ravine Park, DOT commented that the ravine has exposed soils and lacks vegetative cover. DOT is the downstream recipient of this sediment and nutrient loaded water and feel the problem is not minor and should be addressed in the Plan. SWWD responded that the District's plan to implement an overflow for the Northern subwatershed through this ravine will begin the effort to define protection measures for the ravine.

DOT requested the addition of an action item to address maintenance of private (non-public) stormwater systems. SWWD replied that the District requires operation and maintenance plans as part of the site-specific review and comments for development projects which address this issue.

DOT cited the applicability of buffer standards when a delineated wetland is 100 feet or less from the proposed project limits, commenting that DOT cannot place buffer strips on right-of-way that it doesn't own. DOT requested the terms "project" and "project limits" be defined, as DOT has small projects like sign replacements and guardrail replacements which shouldn't require buffers for wetlands. SWWD agreed and amended the Plan to more clearly articulate the scope of terms like "project" and "project-limits."

DOT questioned why the 60% post-development phosphorous load reduction requirement for Manage 2 wetlands is the same as Manage 1 wetlands. SWWD responded that Manage 2 wetlands are to receive the same amount of stormwater treatment as Manage 1 wetlands in order to benefit and protect the water quality of resources downstream of a given wetland, and that it other regulations (such as the NPDES Phase II General Construction Permit) would likely require approximately that same level of treatment even if the District standard were less stringent. DOT also questioned the justification and basis for the wetland protection standards, indicating that, due to limited right-of-way, DOT may not always be able to meet the buffer width requirements listed. SWWD responded that the justification and basis of the standards is articulated in the District's draft Comprehensive Wetland Management Plan, and that the

buffer requirement will be updated for clarity regarding public improvement projects and linear projects.

DOT commented that the requirement for new developments are to maintain the annual average predevelopment infiltration capacity of the site, apparently 100% volume control, could be difficult to meet with limited right-of-way. SWWD responded that the requirement is to ensure that the post-project annual volume of runoff doesn't exceed the pre-project annual volume of runoff. SWWD also clarified that the intent is to control that portion of additional runoff volume that was caused by the project, not 100% volume control which is often construed to mean that there is zero volume discharged from a project area, regardless of how much volume previously discharged.

DOT requested a definition of the term "nondegradation," which is used in several areas in the Plan. SWWD resonded that, in all instances, the use of the term "nondegradation" refers to the MPCA's NPDES Phase II MS4 Permit and associated requirements for select MS4 entities.

12. **Board Review**

Board staff expressed support for SWWD's intent to use the annual review and guidance document development process to guide the District's activities which should make Plan update and review more streamlined, but indicated that it does not substitute for the plan period and public review requirements of MN Statute 103B and Rule 8410. SWWD responded by including a specific Plan expiration date and year as requested. Since the annual review and guidance document development process will directly guide the District's activities and likely provide much of the basis for the next plan update, Board staff also recommend involving the CAC in the process and allowing review agencies an opportunity for input. Additionally, Board staff advised that, if a guidance document results in a significant change of direction from the Plan, a major plan amendment will be required. SWWD acknowledged that guidance documents resulting in significant departures from the course of the Plan will require a major plan amendment, and cited the Stakeholder Involvement Plan developed by the District which intends for the CAC to continue to periodically meet beyond the completion of the Plan and for involvement of review agencies where appropriate. SWWD anticipates using its website as a vehicle to inform and disseminate information.

Concerning the Comprehensive Wetland Management Plan (CWMP) which is not yet State approved but cited as the basis for SWWD's wetland standards, Board staff commented that State approval can occur through the process outlined in WCA, or as part of the Plan. Board staff recommend including all pertinent wetland requirements in the Plan, including detail currently lacking, and including the CWMP as an appendix. SWWD agreed to include the necessary wetland requirements in the plan, which will then translate into a rule for wetland standards.

Board staff commented that the Plan needed to contain an assessment of the impacts of its requirements on local governments and specifically recommended a table describing the status of local controls with respect to that required by the Plan, clearly indicating which communities are required to update applicable local ordinances and when, and an explanation of what would happen if a member community failed to comply with Plan requirements.

SWWD concurred and incorporated such a matrix in the Plan to the extent copies of local plans were provided. The narrative of the Regulatory Controls and Enforcement section of the Plan was also revised to ensure that outcomes resulting from member cities refusing to implement Plan requirements were clearly articulated in more certain terms.

BWSR staff also recommended the Plan contain a tabulation of program costs by year that clearly indicates any costs to be incurred by member communities, suggesting a table summarizing the annual budget estimations in the Long Range Work Plan. SWWD replied that the Long Range Work Plan sets forth a menu of programs and projects that will be used as a strategic tool to implement the components of the Plan, and the funding allocated to these programs and projects can change each year based on SWWD priorities and available funds. Accordingly, each year the District will update its annual budget for programs and projects. However, a method to characterize the potential cost impacts to member communities to will be developed by SWWD to aid in this regard.

Board staff recommend that the Plan include additional specificity about the implementation actions for Wilmes Lake. Specifically, the Plan should create a link between the concerns identified in the Assessment of Issues (Chapter 3) and the Long Range Work Plan in Chapter 2. The SWWD responded by adding an action item to the Long Range Work Plan to more specifically address the Wilmes Lake issue.

13. **Plan Summary and Highlights**

The SWWD Mission Statement is: "To manage water and related resources of the South Washington Watershed District in cooperation with our citizens and communities."

The Plan identifies Goals, Policies, and specific Actions to address the following issues and problems identified through the planning process: floodplain management, stormwater runoff rate and volume, water quality, wetlands, natural resources and recreation, groundwater, erosion and sediment control, education, long range work planning and financing, and data management.

Eight general areas have been established for which standards are identified, including:

- Wetland Classification and Management;
- Receiving Water Classification and Management;
- Requirements for Land Disturbance and Land Development;
- Critical Storage Areas;
- Regional Assessment Locations;
- Utilization of Infiltration;
- Open Channel Stability; and
- Bluff Buffers.

<u>Highlights of the Plan include</u>:

- The SWWD has developed an evaluation tool, which provides a framework and criteria for the managers to evaluate their level of success in attaining the goals for

each management category. The SWWD will measure success on an annual basis in order to provide feedback as to what adjustments the District may need to consider for improvement.

- The Plan includes variable requirements for stormwater quality runoff based on the classification of the receiving water. Allowable nutrient loads and the necessary load reductions are tailored for classified lakes in the SWWD. The allowable loads correspond to maintaining or achieving a specific desired trophic state for the lake. The purpose of the requirement is to reduce post-project phosphorous levels to meet the allowable load requirement set by the District for each receiving water.

- The SWWD will develop a Standards Manual and Developer's Packet to provide project proposers up-front information and to aid member communities in the implementation of Plan requirements.

- The SWWD intends to maintain a flexible approach to long range work planning. The District's Long Range Work Plan will be periodically reviewed and adjusted as new information, circumstances or resources arise.

- The SWWD intends to develop and utilize Guidance Documents based on the products and outcomes of the work efforts outlined in the Plan. The Guidance Documents are anticipated to provide long-term assistance towards addressing an issue. Guidance Documents must be formally accepted by the SWWD Board and will be made available on the District's website.

- If a Guidance Document or addition to the Long Range Work Plan results in a significant departure from the direction or intent of the Plan, the SWWD has clearly outlined the circumstances for when a Minor Plan Amendment can be used versus a Major Amendment.

14. **Metro Water Planning Committee Meeting**

On September 5, 2007, the Board's Metro Water Planning Committee and staff met with representatives from the SWWD in St. Paul to review and discuss the Plan. Those in attendance from the Board's Committee were Robert Burandt, Louise Smallidge, LuAnn Toliver, and Paul Egger. Board staff in attendance were Metro Region Supervisor Steve Woods, Board Conservationist Les Lemm, and Board Conservationist Brad Wozney. Representatives from the SWWD were Administrator Matt Moore, District Consultant Wesley Saunders-Pearce, and Manager Jack Lavold. Board staff recommended approval of the Plan. After discussion, the committee unanimously voted to recommend approval of the South Washington Watershed District 2007 - 2017 Watershed Management Plan to the full Board.

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 Watershed Management Plan for the South Washington Watershed District pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.231, Subd. 9.

3. The South Washington Watershed District Watershed Management Plan attached to this Order defines water and water-related problems within the SWWD boundaries, possible solutions thereto, and an implementation program.

4. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached Plan dated June 2007 as the Watershed Management Plan for the South Washington Watershed District.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 26th day of September 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Northern Water Planning Committee

1. Crow Wing County Water Management Plan Extension – ***DECISION ITEM***

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan
For Crow Wing County (1995 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 184,
Section 24, authorizing BWSR to grant extensions).

Whereas Crow Wing County has a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan that is effective until October 23, 2007, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 1990, Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, the Crow Wing County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution requesting an extension for the Comprehensive Local Water Plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on August 28, 2007, pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, and

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

Now therefore, the Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On September 17, 2007 the Board of Water and Soil Resources received a resolution from Crow Wing County requesting a two-year extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan to October 23, 2009.

2. On September 17, 2007, Board of Water and Soil Resources staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Crow Wing County.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board of Water and Soil Resources has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan of Crow Wing County pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby approves the two-year extension of the Crow Wing County Comprehensive Water Plan until October 23, 2009. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 26th day of September, 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair
September 26, 2007

RESOLUTION

Commissioner Thiede offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Crow Wing County has a Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) which was originally approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and locally adopted in October 1989. The second generation plan was adopted in 1997 and the third generation plan was adopted in 2002. The effective end date of the third generation plan is October 23, 2007, and

WHEREAS, the 1995 amendments to the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, M.S. 103B.301 gives the BWSR authority to grant extensions to counties for the purpose of extending the effective date of their water plans. These extensions must be submitted in writing and cannot exceed two years, and

WHEREAS, Crow Wing County is actively involved in the CLWP update at this time and has submitted the Priority Concerns Scoping Document to the BWSR for approval, and

WHEREAS, Clean Water Legacy, large lake assessments, and other watershed planning will continue for the next several months, and

WHEREAS, to continue as an active participant in these efforts and to benefit from the planning information Crow Wing County will not be able to complete its fourth generation CLWP by October 23, 2007.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Crow Wing County Board of Commissioners request from BWSR a two-year extension (until October 31, 2009) of the Crow Wing County CLWP.

Which resolution being seconded by Commissioner Nystrom was duly adopted, all members voted "AYE".

DEWAYNE TAUTGES, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CROW WING COUNTY, MINNESOTA

ATTEST:

DAVID HAMILTON, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
CROW WING COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Dated at Brainerd, Minnesota, this 28th day of August 2007.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Minimum Requirements for Prescribed Grazing on Rock Outcrop Easements in Redwood and Renville Counties – ***DECISION ITEM***

September 14, 2007

TO: Board Members

FR: Tim Fredbo and Kevin Lines

RE: Old Business Action Item – Minimum Requirements for Prescribed Grazing on Rock Outcrop Easements in Redwood and Renville Counties

BACKGROUND

This issue was originally brought to the Board as an informational item at the June 27, 2007 Board meeting. Tom Kalahar with the Renville SWCD was present and discussed this item with the Board. Renville and Redwood SWCDs, with Mr. Kalahar as project manager, have received a $563,000 LCCMR grant to place RIM Reserve conservation easements on lands containing rock outcrops in along the Minnesota River corridor.

Some of these rock outcrop areas have landowners who are using these lands for grazing and would like to retain that ability after these lands are placed under easement. To that end, Renville and Redwood SWCDs, along with local DNR wildlife staff and input from BWSR staff, developed the 'Minimum Requirements for Prescribed Grazing' policy to be used when developing grazing plans with these rock outcrop landowners.

On 9-12-07 the RIM Committee of the Board met to consider this policy. As a result of that meeting the committee made a few slight changes to the policy and recommends it's approval as changed. I have shared these changes with Mr. Kalahar and he agrees with them. The attached policy shows the changes that were agreed on by the RIM committee. The removed language contains strike through and new language is in bold italics. Slight changes were made to items 6 and 8, and a new item 10 was added.

The RIM committee also requested that I include a copy of the RIM Conservation Easement for reference so you can see how this policy relates to the actual easement that would be signed and recorded. Item 6 in the easement deals with the grazing issue. I have also included a copy of the LCCMR Work Plan for this project for background.

RECOMMENDATION

The RIM Committee, along with BWSR staff, recommends approval of this Minimum Requirements for Prescribed Grazing as amended.

Minimum Requirements for Prescribed Grazing

To maintain the integrity of prairie/open land habitats enrolled in the rock outcrop easement program the following guidelines will be required of all sites where landowners retain the right to graze:

1) Grazing plans will be developed in accordance with the Prescribed Grazing (528) practice standard as contained in the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Field Office Technical Guide.

2) Paddock systems will be developed such that one paddock or pasture is left un-grazed each year. Cattle should begin grazing in a different paddock or pasture each year and turn out time should vary.

3) Vegetation height will be retained with a minimum average stubble height of 4-8 inches at all times on grazed areas.

4) Grazing will only be allowed between April 1 to September 1.

5) Only spot spraying will be allowed for weed control.

6) ~~Portions of the easement that are woodland (excluding invasive trees such as cedar that will be removed)~~ ***Sensitive natural resource areas*** will not be allowed as pasture. Open oak savanna habitats will be eligible for grazing.

7) No hay will be fed in the easement area and cattle will not have access to hay while they are in the paddock. This provision will reduce instances of new exotic weeds entering the site.

8) Mineral stations, loading areas, and other high impact sites must be located ***or managed to preserve and protect*** ~~off~~ the easement area ~~on adjacent land~~.

9) All prescribed grazing plans that are developed will need to be signed by the landowner and approved by the SWCD, BWSR and the DNR Wildlife Specialist.

10) In situations where drought disasters have been declared the above requirements may be waved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

Trust Fund 2007 Work Program

Date of Report: 3-21-2007
Date of Next Status Report: Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than December 31, 2007, June 30, 2008, December 31, 2008 and June 30, 2009. It may be necessary to submit progress reports December 31, 2009, June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2010 if easement processing and practice implementation must be completed after the official end of the grant period.
Date of Work program Approval:
Project Completion Date: June 30, 2009

I. PROJECT TITLE: Protection of Rare and Unique Rock Outcrop Wetlands

Project Manager: Thomas J. Kalahar
Affiliation: Renville SWCD
Mailing Address: 1008 W. Lincoln
City / State / Zip : Olivia MN 56277
Telephone Number: 320-523-1559
E-mail Address: kalahar@yahoo.com
FAX Number: 320-523-2389
Web Page address: n/a

Location: Redwood and Renville Counties, Minnesota

Total Trust Fund Project Budget:	**Trust Fund Appropriation:**	**$563,000**
	Minus Amount Spent:	**$ 0**
	Equal Balance:	**$563,000**

Legal Citation: ML 2007, [Chap.____], Sec.[____], Subd._____.

Appropriation Language: $563,000 is from the trust fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources in cooperation with Renville and Redwood Soil and Water Conservation Districts for perpetual easements of unique wetland and riparian habitats associated with rock outcrops in the Minnesota River Valley.

II. PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS: The Minnesota River Valley contains ancient bedrock outcrops with associated wetlands that provide unique habitats for specialized plant and animal communities rarely found elsewhere in Minnesota. These resources are threatened by mining and other development interests, as removal of the rock results in the severe degradation or permanent loss of the wetlands located among the rock complexes. Although the wetlands vary greatly in size and duration, some of the smallest and most temporary basins harbor the rarest and most specialized plants. Many of these wetlands may not be protected due to regulations under the Wetland Conservation Act. Rock outcrops are also a

component of the Minnesota River's riparian zone and destruction of this unique habitat will continue to degrade the water quality and aquatic habitat of the Minnesota River and its tributaries. Unlike other mining operations, there is no reclamation plan possible for replacing this very unique landscape feature once it is removed. The outcome of this project proposal will be to preserve and protect rock outcrops and their associated wetlands, plus improve water quality and aquatic habitat within the Minnesota River Valley. This will be done by enrolling 200 acres in Reinvest In Minnesota Easements.

III. PROGRESS SUMMARY AS OF *(date)*: 250 word limit.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1: Habitat Protection via Perpetual Easements:

Description: This project will protect 200 acres of rock outcrop complexes within riparian corridors and/or with associated wetlands. Compensation for easements to willing landowners will be secured using local cropland rates of the Reinvest In Minnesota easement program administered through the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR) and the Renville and Redwood Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs). Easement applications will be prioritized by a local work group comprised of technical experts from local, state and federal agencies. A total of twenty easements will be recorded. The goal of the local SWCD offices is to have applications taken for the entire 200 acres within the first year of the grant. Due to the sometimes lengthy easement process, this would ensure signed agreements with landowners before the end of the grant period.

Summary Budget Information for Result 1:	**Trust Fund Budget:**	**$530,000**
	Amount Spent:	**$ 0**
	Balance:	**$ 530,000**

Deliverable	**Completion Date**	**Budget**	**Status**
1. 20 easements Totaling 200 acres	**6-30-2008**	**$530,000**	

Completion Date: All funds encumbered with signed landowner conservation easement agreements by June 30, 2009.

Result Status as of 12-31-2007:

Result Status as of 6-30-2008:

Result Status as of 12-31/2008:

Result Status as of 6-30-2008:

Result Status as of 12-31-2008

Result Status as of 6-30-2009

Result Status as of 12-31-2009

Final Report Summary: 6-30-2010

**a final report summary may not be possible until after the grant period due to the lengthy process of recording easements. Even after a signed agreement is in place, there can be unforeseen legal issues that cause delays.

Result 2: Habitat Restoration:

Description: To provide appropriate habitat management practices including but not limited to invasive species management and livestock management facilities (e.g. fencing and watering sites) on the acres protected by easements. We will continue to seek additional funding from federal and private agencies to augment this budget item.

Summary Budget Information for Result 2: **Trust Fund Budget: $33,000**
Amount Spent: $ 0
Balance: $33,000

Deliverable	Completion Date	Budget	Status
1. Practice implementation	6-30-2009	$33,000	

Completion Date: Practice completion within six months after recorded conservation easement. This could be delayed due to weather and season of the year.

Result Status as of 12-31-2007

Result Status as of 6-30-2008

Result Status as of 12-31-2008

Result Status as of 6-30-2008

Result Status as of 12-31-2008

Result Status as of 6-30-2009

Result Status as of 12-31-2009

Result Status as of 6-30-2010

Final Report Summary: 12-31-2010

****Final Report Summary could be delayed if easement process is delayed and we experience additional delays for practice implementation due to season of year, weather conditions or contractor availability.**

V. TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET:

Staff or Contract Services: $40,0000 (includes $7,000 for BWSR Staff to process easements & $33,000 for Renville & Redwood SWCD Staff to promote project, process applications and easements, design conservation practices and supervise construction of practices).
Equipment: $0
Development: $ 0
Restoration: $ 23,000 for 200 acres of practice implementation and $10,000 for staff time to the Renville & Redwood SWCD offices for staff time for technical assistance, conservation plan development, supervision of practice implementation.
Acquisition, including easements: $500,000 for 200 acres of RIM conservation easements with private landowners ($470,000 for 20 easements totalling 200 acres at an average of $2,350/acre and $30,000 for title insurance and attorney fees at $1,500/easement X 20 easements)

TOTAL TRUST FUND PROJECT BUDGET: $563,000

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than $3,500: n/a

VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:

A. Project Partners: BWSR Easement Team Staff

B. Other Funds Proposed to be Spent during the Project Period:

Renville & Redwood Soil & Water Conservation District Offices will provide in-kind in the form of office space, phones, vehicles and any staff costs in excess of the grant. Estimated costs over and above the Staff Services budgeted in this grant are $200/easement X 20 easements for the above costs for a total of $4,000.

C. Past Spending: none

D. Time:

VII. DISSEMINATION: One-on-one personal contacts and mail contacts with landowners who have been identified through GIS coverages and public records as owning rock outcrops in the Minnesota River Valley in Redwood and Renville Counties.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:
Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than December 31, 2007, June 30, 2008, December 31, 2008, June 30, 2009, December 31, 2009, June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2010. A final work program report and associated products will be submitted between June 30 and August 1, 2009 as requested by the LCCMR.

IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS: *N/A*

RIM Easement (6/07)

EASEMENT # _____

PERPETUAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT
STATE OF MINNESOTA, BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

This conservation easement, hereinafter referred to as "Easement", is made this _____ day of _____ 20____, between _____ hereinafter collectively referred to as "Grantors", and the State of Minnesota, by and through the Board of Water and Soil Resources, hereinafter referred to as the "State".

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the REINVEST IN MINNESOTA RESOURCES LAW (RIM) and the PERMANENT WETLAND PRESERVES LAW (PWP) Minn. Stat. Sec. 103F.501 et. seq., 84.95, 84C and the WETLAND CONSERVATION ACT of 1991, authorize the State to acquire conservation easements on eligible lands; AND

WHEREAS the State is authorized to establish conservation practices to protect soil and water quality and to enhance fish and wildlife habitat on conservation easements; AND

WHEREAS, the Grantors are the owners of eligible marginal lands, and/or drained or existing wetlands and/or cropland adjacent to these lands, and desire to convey such lands as a perpetual _____ conservation easement to the State of Minnesota.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Grantors, for themselves, their heirs, successors and assigns, in consideration of the sum of _____ _____ DOLLARS ($_____), do hereby grant, convey and warrant to the State, its successors and assigns, forever, a perpetual easement in accordance with the terms and conditions as hereafter set forth in Minn. Stat. Sec. 103F.501 et. seq. and all rules adopted thereto, over and upon the following described land situated in the County of _____ State of Minnesota, to-wit:

THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION IS ATTACHED HERETO AND INCORPORATED HEREIN.

The Easement covers only that portion of the parcel delineated as the "EASEMENT AREA" identified on Exhibit "A", which is attached hereto and incorporated herein. The easement area consists of a total of _____ acres, of which _____ acres are not monetarily compensated by the State but are subject to the terms of the Easement. The easement area is subject to all prior easements, roadways, and mineral rights of record.

No rights are granted to the general public for access to or entry upon the lands described herein.

FURTHER, the Grantors represent and warrant that there are no hazardous substances pollutants or contaminants in or on the easement area, and that the Grantors, their heirs, successors or assigns shall not place any toxic or hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants in or on the easement area.

FURTHER, the Grantors, their heirs, successors and assigns warrant the perpetual right to access and an ingress and egress route to the easement area from a public road to allow authorized agents of the State to enter upon the easement area for the purpose of inspection and enforcement of this Easement. Access route can utilize existing driveways, field roads, etc.

FURTHER, the Grantors, for themselves, their heirs, successors and assigns warrant that they:

1. Shall establish and maintain vegetative cover and structural practices in accordance with the Conservation Plan on file at the local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) or at the State. Conservation Plan maintenance includes any necessary replanting of vegetative cover and repair of structures. Any amendment to the Conservation Plan shall be mutually agreed to by the landowner, the SWCD and the State.

2. Shall perpetually allow for the legal manipulation of existing drainage systems and other land alterations on the easement area that are associated with establishing and managing wetland practices identified in the Conservation Plan. Water levels will be managed and controlled only by the State or its authorized agents.

3. Shall not appropriate water from any existing or restored wetlands within the easement area unless obtaining the prior written consent of the State and all necessary governmental permits.

4. Shall not produce agricultural crops on the easement area, except as provided in the Conservation Plan approved by the State for wildlife management purposes. Interim land uses established prior to the recording of this Conservation Easement and in accordance with the Conservation Easement Agreement, may be continued until the end of the current growing season of the year this Easement is recorded, without violating this Easement.

5. Shall not remove or harvest any trees on the easement area, except as provided in the state approved Conservation Plan for forest management and wildlife habitat improvement purposes.

6. Shall not graze livestock on the easement area unless specifically approved by the State as part of a prescribed grazing plan. Interim grazing land use established in accordance with the Agreement for Conservation Easement and terminated within 60 days of the recording date of this Easement will not be a violation of this Easement.

7. Shall not place any materials, substances or objects, nor erect or construct any type of structure, temporary or permanent, on the easement area, except as provided in the Conservation Plan.

8. Shall be responsible for weed control by complying with noxious weed control laws and emergency control of pests necessary to protect the public health on the easement area.

9. Shall not alter wildlife habitat, natural features, the vegetative cover, or other conservation practices on the easement area as described in the Conservation Plan, without the prior written approval of the State.

10. Shall be responsible for the restoration of the easement area to the condition described in the Conservation Plan after any lawful installation, repair, improvement or inspection necessary to maintain a public or legal private drainage system or public utility system.

11. Shall not use any wetlands restored under the RIM Reserve or PWP programs to mitigate other wetland losses.

12. Shall notify the State in writing of the names and addresses of the new owners within 30 days after the conveyance of all or part of the title or interest in the land described herein.

13. Shall pay when due all taxes and assessments, if any, that may be levied against the easement area.

14. Shall undertake the protection and management of the easement area in accordance with the conditions set forth in this Easement.

15. Other provisions: None.

FURTHER, this Easement shall be enforceable by the State as provided in Minn. Stat. Sec. 103F.515, Subd. 9, and/or by such other relief as may be authorized by law. Any ambiguities in this Easement shall be construed in a manner which best effectuates the purposes of protecting soil, improving water quality, and enhancing fish and wildlife habitat.

FURTHER, THE GRANTORS OF THIS CONSERVATION EASEMENT, FOR THEMSELVES, COVENANT that they shall not convert to agricultural crop production or pasture any other land, owned or leased as part of the same farm operation at the time of application, if said land supports native vegetation or has not been used in agricultural crop production.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Grantors have caused this Easement to be duly executed.

GRANTOR(S) SIGNATURE(S) AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

_____ _____

STATE OF _____)
)
COUNTY OF _____)

by _____
(Notary Stamp or Seal)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this

_____ day of _____, 20_____

Notary Signature _____

Commission expires on _____

Board Resolution # 07-83

LCCMR Rock Outcrop Easements – Prescribed Grazing

WHEREAS, the Renville and Redwood SWCDs have received a LCCMR grant for $563,000 to acquire perpetual RIM Reserve conservation easements on bedrock outcrop wetland habitats along the Minnesota River valley corridor; and

WHEREAS, these outcrops and associated wetlands are threatened by mining and development interests and are not adequately protected by existing wetland and land use regulations; and

WHEREAS, Renville and Redwood SWCDs are seeking to protect these areas by offering RIM Reserve easements to landowners whose land contains rock outcrops; and

WHEREAS, Some landowners are currently using these lands to graze their livestock and may wish to keep that option once land is placed under a RIM easement; and

WHEREAS, RIM Reserve easements allow grazing if a grazing plan is developed and approved by the BWSR as part of the Conservation Plan for the easement area.

NOW THEREFORE, The Board adopts the following minimum requirements for prescribed grazing specific to these rock outcrop easements that will be required on all sites where landowners are allowed to continue grazing:

1) Grazing plans will be developed in accordance with the Prescribed Grazing (528) practice standard as contained in the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Field Office Technical Guide.

2) Paddock systems will be developed such that at least one paddock or pasture is left un-grazed each year. Cattle should begin grazing in a different paddock or pasture each year and turn out time should vary.

3) Vegetation height will be retained with a minimum average stubble height of 4-8 inches at all times on grazed areas.

4) Grazing will only be allowed between April 1 to September 1.

5) Spot spraying will be allowed for weed control.

6) Sensitive natural resource areas will not be allowed as pasture. Open oak savanna habitats will be eligible for grazing.

7) No hay will be fed in the easement area and cattle will not have access to hay while they are in the paddock. This provision will reduce instances of new exotic weeds entering the site.

8) Mineral stations, loading areas, and other high impact sites must be located or managed to preserve and protect the easement area.

9) Grazing plans are transferable at point of land sale or lease of the easement lands, however all subsequent grazing plans that are developed will need to be signed by the landowner or lessee and approved by the SWCD, BWSR and the DNR Wildlife Specialist.

AND furthermore, the Board authorizes staff to approve grazing plans for projects meeting the above minimum requirements.

Randy Kramer, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 9/26/07

NEW BUSINESS

1. Southeast Minnesota Flood Relief – ***DECISION ITEM***

2. FY08 Clean Water Legacy Grant Program Authorization – ***DECISION ITEM***

3. Approve Specific RIM Reserve Payment Rates for the Grass Lake Restoration Project – ***DECISION ITEM***

4. Wetland Banking Fee Policy: Update Average Agricultural Land/Wetland Credit Values – ***DECISION ITEM***

5. Sale of Wetland Credits to Public Transportation Authorities – ***DECISION ITEM***

SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA FLOOD RELIEF

Background
On August 18 – 20, 2007, heavy rains and flash flooding events struck parts of the Upper Mississippi River Valley in historic proportions. Rainfall in excess of 10 – 12 inches fell in some areas, with the main swath of heaviest rain centered along a line from Claremont and Rochester, Minnesota to La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Due to damage resulting from severe storms and flooding, on August 23, 2007, a Presidential Disaster was declared in Fillmore, Houston, Olmsted, Steele, Winona, Wabasha, and Dodge Counties.

Currently
On September 12, 2007, in Special Session, the MN Legislature approved a $157M bill for flood relief. This bill includes:

1. $3M to BWSR for erosion, sediment, and water quality control cost-share
2. $1M for RIM Conservation Easements.
3. A provision for a BWSR waiver of State Cost Share Program Rules, and Minn. Stat. 103F.515 for RIM for both new and past appropriations payment maximums for land improvements under RIM conservation easements.
4. $750,000 of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's (MDA) existing Agricultural Best Management Practices Loan funds for loans for feedlot and subsurface sewage treatment system repairs has been designated to be used to potentially complement or coordinate with the BWSR cost share grants.

These funds and waivers are available only in these disaster-declared counties.

LGUs may apply for these funds on behalf of themselves and their citizens via application submitted to the MN Recovers Task Force, of which BWSR is a member.

NOTE: The MN Recovers Task Force, currently made up of 17 state and federal agencies, was created in response to the Flood of 1993 and has coordinated disaster response several times since then.

Recommendation
The Administrative Advisory Committee is requesting the Board to consider the provisions as noted in the attached resolution.

Board Resolution # 07-85

SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA FLOOD RELIEF

WHEREAS, a Presidential Disaster was declared on August 23, 2007 in Fillmore, Houston, Olmsted, Steele, Winona, Wabasha, and Dodge Counties, due to damage resulting from severe storms on August 18 – 20, 2007; and,

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Legislature in their September 12, 2007 Special Session in H.F. No. 1, Article 1, Sec. 6, appropriated cost share and easement funding, and in Sec. 16 provided for the waiver of State Cost Share and Conservation Easement Program Rules and M.S. 103F.515 for Re-Invest in Minnesota (RIM) for both new and past appropriations; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture proposes to provide $750,000 in existing funding for low interest loans through the Agricultural Best Management Practices Loan program to link with or coordinate with BWSR cost-share contracts for feedlot and subsurface sewage treatment system rehabilitation or repairs; and

WHEREAS, Local Government Units (LGUs) may, collectively or individually, apply for cost share and easement funding through the MN Recovers Task Force, and Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) may use their existing State allocations for flood related damages.

NOW THEREFORE, The Board authorizes Southeast Minnesota flood relief in these seven disaster declared counties with the following provisions:

I. General

A. These funds shall be used to match federal funds where feasible, or used when federal funds are not available.

B. State disaster assistance funds provided are intended to serve only as an advance of funds to enable the recipient to begin flood recovery efforts. Local governments and landowners are expected to apply for all available non-State assistance and reimburse the state funds when federal or other funds become available.

C. Staff are authorized to develop additional program guidelines regarding eligibility, payment rates, project specifications, agreement processing and record keeping based on input from local governments and others to achieve consistency and accountability.

D. Up to 20% of project costs may be used for implementation by local government units and BWSR.

II. Specific

A. Relating to the $3M to BWSR for Erosion, Sediment, and Water Quality Control Cost-Share and Waiver of State Cost Share Program Rules.

1. SWCDs or LGUs may cost share with landowners up to 100% of the cost of rehabilitation or repair of conservation practices.
2. SWCDs or LGUs may extend the completion dates of conservation practices for existing cost-share or easement contracts to December 31, 2010 and waive the two-year construction completion date for FY2008 contracts as provided for in the Cost Share Program Rule to three years to allow conservation practice implementation when technical assistance and construction contractors are available and field conditions are suitable.
3. BWSR will extend existing grant agreements with SWCDs to December 31, 2010, to allow conservation practice implementation when technical assistance and construction contractors are available, and field conditions are suitable.

4. SWCDs or LGUs may modify the type of conservation practices on the State Cost-Share Program approved practice list to address critical erosion and sedimentation problems resulting from the flooding, subject to BWSR staff approval.
5. State and federal contributions on conservation practices shall not exceed 100% of project costs.
6. SWCDs or LGUs are authorized to reimburse landowners for costs incurred to rehabilitate and repair existing projects and conservation practices that were damaged due to this flood event on or after August 18, 2007 and prior to this resolution being adopted.
7. Up to 20% of project costs may be used for technical and administrative costs to be determined by BWSR staff.
8. $150,000 will be allocated to the following SWCD's: Fillmore, Root River, and Winona.
9. $50,000 will be allocated to the following SWCD's: Dodge, Olmsted, Steele, and Wabasha.
10. The remaining funds will be allocated in coordination with the Minnesota Recovers Task Force.

B. $750,000 of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's (MDA) existing Agricultural Best Management Practices Loan funds for loans for feedlot and subsurface sewage treatment system repairs, to be used to complement or coordinate with the BWSR cost share grants.

C. Relating to Clean Water Legacy Funding for the Minnesota Conservation Corps
Priority will be given to flood relief projects proposing to use available funds appropriated to BWSR to contract for services with the Minnesota Conservation Corps.

D. $1.0M RIM Conservation Easements (2007 special session appropriation)
$1.1M RIM Conservation Easements (previous appropriation)

1. MN Rule Chapter 8400 and M.S. 103F.515 are hereby waived for both new and past appropriations for projects related to flood recovery within the 7 county area of Southeast Minnesota (Fillmore, Winona, Houston, Steele, Olmsted, Dodge and Wabasha); and furthermore,
2. Agency staff are authorized to:
   a. Allow eligibility for all land types and land uses provided they contribute to a reduction in future flood damages.
   b. Waive payment rates to allow up to 100% of average township or county assessed market value.
   c. Approve conservation practices and payments for necessary erosion control and water quality rehabilitation, repair or stabilization projects up to 100% of project costs, not to exceed 90% of land value on a per acre basis.
   d. In coordination with SWCDs, establish a sign-up period, prioritize applications and allocate funds to the respective SWCDs.

AND furthermore, the Board authorizes staff to enter into grant agreements, contracts, or easements, for projects meeting the above general and specific provisions.

Date: 9/26/07

Randy Kramer, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

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Board Resolution # 07-86

FY 08 CLEAN WATER LEGACY PROGRAM
PROJECT FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

WHEREAS, Governor Pawlenty signed the Clean Water Legacy Act (CWLA) into law on June 2nd, 2006; and,

WHEREAS, the BWSR endorsed an inter-agency strategy with the goal of coordinating non-point restoration and protection strategies and programs funded by the CWLA between the MN Department of Agriculture, the Department of Natural Resources, the Pollution Control Agency and the Board of Water and Soil Resources; and,

WHEREAS, An inter-agency implementation initiative was conducted to coordinate funding of restoration and protection activities; and,

WHEREAS, the 2007 legislature appropriated funds for Clean Water Legacy implementation activities in fiscal years 2008 and 2009; and

WHEREAS, the interagency work team has developed a budget, grant application process and supporting materials to support Clean Water Legacy implementation activities using the following eligibility and policy guidelines:

- Projects are eligible for funding from the restoration category if they have an approved TMDL and an MPCA approved TMDL implementation plan by the end of the current application period--November 15, 2007.
- Restoration application requests must closely follow the TMDL implementation plan that has been developed and, to the extent possible, address implementation activities that will result in the greatest pollutant load reductions.
- Projects are eligible for funding from the protection category if they address priorities identified in a state approved local water management plan, regardless of the status of the water as impaired, unimpaired or un-assessed where there is not an approved TMDL or MPCA approved TMDL implementation plan.
- Restoration applications and Protection applications will be ranked separately for funding.
- Projects conducting work using the Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Inventory and Upgrade funds will develop a work plan for those initiatives to be approved by MPCA staff then passed to BWSR staff for funding authorization.
- The FY 2008 CWL grant application scoring criteria will be:
  - Description and documentation of the relationship of the proposed implementation activities to specific TMDL implementation plans or state approved local water management plans.
  - The measurable results and estimated effect of the implementation activities on the pollutant identified.

- The level of funding that can be accessed from other sources to augment CWL funding.
- Tracking installation and evaluating the effectiveness of the project initiatives
- The amount of conservation practices or initiatives that will be accomplished during the first construction season after CWL funds are received.
- The level of project partners' coordination, project management community support and general project description.

NOW THEREFORE, the Grant Policy and Program Committee recommends BWSR approval of the proposed budget and grant application process to implement the FY 08 CWLA Program with the grant application period beginning October 1, 2007 and ending November 15, 2007.

Date: 9/26/07

Randy Kramer, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Comprehensive BWSR Clean Water Legacy FY 08-09Budget

BWSR Board, September 26, 2007

1. Non-Point Source Restoration Cost-Share

(1a) Non-Point Source Restoration Cost-Share Grants—Legislative appropriation for installation of cost-shared conservation practices and incentives associated with restoration projects. (Those waters with EPA approved TMDL pollutant allocations and MPCA-approved implementation plans.
(1b) BWSR agency appropriation —Appropriated funds available for BWSR staff, logistical support, and agency operations.

2. Restoration and Protection TA& Engineering Grants

(2a) Restoration and Protection TA& Engineering Grants —Legislative appropriation for Technical assistance, compliance and engineering assistance funds to address restoration and protection projects and assist with the installation of conservation practices initiated as a result of CWL funding or other conservation programs.
2b) Tillage Transect Survey—Continuation of comprehensive tillage transect survey begun in 2007. This information gathered by local SWCD staff and collated by Minnesota State University-Mankato will provide baseline information on land management, progress of TMDL implementation plans and can serve as one element of an effectiveness monitoring program for TMDL projects.
(2c) TSP/TA training---Continuation of training program for Technical Service Providers and LGU staff resulting in increased numbers and capabilities of trained staff to assist landowners with implementation activities and conservation programs.
(2d) Farm Bill Assistance-Continuation of support for staff located in SWCD offices to provide marketing and technical assistance to landowners for CCRP, CREP EQIP and other Federal Conservation programs as well as CWL funds. These funds were identified in the June '07 board information packet.
(2e) BWSR agency appropriation—Legislative appropriation for BWSR staff, logistical support, and agency operations.
(2f) Continuation Funds---TA funds reserved for projects that received TA funding during the FY '07, grant program. Those funds had a firm end date of June 30, '09. This amount will provide approximately 1 additional year of TA funding to carry those experienced staff through the '09 construction season and provide an additional opportunity to pursue long-term funding solutions at the legislature.

3. Evaluating and Reporting Practices/eLINK---Legislative appropriation to BWSR for reporting and evaluating applied soil and water conservation practices.

4. Grants to Implement County SSTS Programs

(4a) Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) base grant funds -- For administration of county SSTS programs. These funds will be distributed as part of the NRBG grant in both FY08 and FY09.
(4b) SSTS county grants to inventory systems that are an imminent threat to public health or safety -- The program will be administered jointly with the MPCA. Funds will be available for counties to undertake SSTS inventories of systems that are imminent threats to public health or

(4c) SSTS grants to counties to address imminent threat and failing individual sewage treatment systems. Funding appropriated to BWSR. Local government (must be under an approved local water plan) options; may propose any one or combination of the three options.

- Option 1: Grants to cover significant portion of costs to low income households for system upgrade. Persons eligible for funds must attend SSTS ownership basics class to receive payment;
- Option 2: Incentive payment (not to exceed $500 per SSTS; maximum of $50,000/year/applicant) to all who upgrade, persons eligible for funds must attend SSTS ownership basics class to receive payment.
- Option 3: Capitalization of a revolving loan program; may be coordinated through the AgBMP program or other programs. There is a maximum award of $250,000 per county from this funding category.

5. Protection Lake and River Management Funds

(5a) Protection Lake and River Management Grants—Legislative appropriation for CWL grant funds to address non-point source protection activities only for FY '08. Protection activities can be initiated on unimpaired or un-assessed waters as well as those waters for which a TMDL allocation has not yet been prepared.

(5b) Protection Strategy Pilot Projects—Pilot projects led by local partners to identify protection strategies focused on those waters that are unimpaired and that can be implemented at the local level on a basin or watershed/multi-county scale. Protection strategy process can be used to provide context for the legislature and others about rational prioritization methods and implementation activity choices.

6. Feedlot Water Quality Funds for SWCDs

(6a) Feedlot Water Quality Grants—Legislative appropriation for feedlot-specific implementation practices. These funds were removed from the BWSR base cost-share budget and included in the CWL appropriation. The BWSR board authorized the distribution of funds for FY '08 at the June meeting.

(6b) NPEA challenge grants—Continuation of support of NPEA areas by reserving 10% of the Feedlot Water Quality Grants as challenge grant opportunities.

7. Legislative Direct Appropriations

(7a) NE Wetland Mitigation Strategy—Direct legislative appropriation for furthering the NE MN wetland mitigation strategy. WCA staff are leading this effort.

(7b) Wetland Mine Reclamation Inventory—Direct legislative appropriation for NE MN wetland mitigation strategy though inventory and analysis of resources. WCA staff are leading this effort.

(7c) Ag hydro restoration C-S—Direct legislative appropriation. Project location, scope and program specifics are being developed.

(7d) MN Conservation Corp C-S—Direct legislative appropriation and requirement for contracting with MCC for services. A contract is in place with MCC to allow SWCDs, Counties and WDs to work with MCC staff and crews to install implementation projects on impaired waters.

Table 1: Comprehensive BWSR Clean Water Legacy Budget

Funding Category	Category Funding Total	Sub Category	FY08	FY09	Biennium Total	Funding Mechanism
1) Non point Source Restoration C-S	$1,316,000	1a) Restoration C-S for TMDLs	$558,000	$558,000	$1,116,000	CWL Competitive Grant
		1b) BWSR agency appropriation	$100,000	$100,000	$200,000	Staff & logistic support
2) Restoration and Protection TA and Engineering	$2,625,000	2a) Restoration and Protection TA	$815,000	$450,000	$1,265,000	CWL Competitive Grant
		2b) Tillage Transect Survey	$85,000	$85,000	$170,000	Contract
		2c) TSP/TA Training	$0	$40,000	$40,000	Contract
		2d) Farm Bill Assistance	$100,000	$0	$100,000	One time for staffing
		2e) BWSR agency appropriation	$300,000	$300,000	$600,000	Staff and logistic support
		2f) Continuation Funds	$0	$450,000	$450,000	Grant for 2007 CWL project staff
3) Evaluating and reporting practices/eLINK	$400,000	BWSR agency appropriation	$200,000	$200,000	$400,000	Staff and logistic support
4) Grants to Implement County SSTS Programs	$3,450,000	4a) Base Grant	$730,000	$730,000	$1,460,000	NRBG
		4b) Grants up to $130K for county inventories	$990,000	$0	$990,000	CWL Competitive Grant
		4c) ISTS Grants for Imminent Health Threats	$1,000,000	$0	$1,000,000	CWL Competitive Grant
5) Protection Lake and River Management Funds	$1,000,000	5a) Protection Lake and River Management Grants	$850,000	$0	$850,000	CWL Competitive Grant
		5b) Protection Strategy Pilot Projects	$150,000	$0	$150,000	Contract
6) Feedlot Water Quality Funds to SWCDS	$3,000,000	6a) Grants to SWCDs	$1,000,000	$1,700,000	$2,700,000	Grants to SWCDs
		6b) NPEA Challenge Grant	$0	$300,000	$300,000	Grants to NPEAs
7) Legislative Direct Appropriations	$2,375,000	7a) NE Wetland Mitigation Strategy	$150,000	$0	$150,000	Contract
		7b) Wetland Mine Reclamation Inventory	$225,000	$0	$225,000	Contract
		7c) Ag hydro restoration C-S	$1,500,000	$0	$1,500,000	Outside of competitive process
		7d) MN Conservation Corp C-S	$500,000	$0	$500,000	Contract
Totals	**$14,166,000**		**$9,252,000**	**$4,914,000**	**$14,166,000**	

FY08-09 Competitive Interagency Clean Water Legacy Funding Recommendation

Background

The 2007 legislature appropriated Clean Water Legacy (CWL) funds for best management practice (BMP) implementation to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA). The MPCA is also supplying CWL implementation funds through its Federal Section 319 program. These agencies, along with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), have worked cooperatively to develop an interagency budget to address non-point source implementation through a competitive application process for grant and loan funds.

Clean Water Legacy funding is available for **restoration** practices to improve impaired waters that have EPA approved TMDLs and MPCA approved TMDL implementation plans. Funding for **protection** implementation projects is available for local governmental units and watershed organizations. Waters need not be listed as impaired on the 303(d) list, to be eligible for protection funding. A state approved water management plan or watershed plan is required to be eligible for protection funding.

Below is a description of each specific component of this budget, along with the overall budget break down, which is included in Table 2:

Table 2: Interagency CWL Budget

Agency Fund	FY08	FY09	Biennium Total
MDA AgBMP Loan	$1,000,000	$0	$1,000,000
MPCA Section 319 Grant	$1,000,000	$1,000,000*	$2,000,000
BWSR Restoration Cost-Share Grant	$558,000	$558,000	$1,116,000
BWSR Restoration and Protection Engineering and Technical Assistance Grant	$815,000	$450,000	$1,265,000
BWSR Protection Lake and River Management Grant	$850,000	$0	$850,000
MPCA/BWSR ISTS Inventory Grant	$988,000	$0	$988,000
MPCA /BWSR ISTS Imminent Health Treat Grant	$1,000,000	$0	$1,000,000
Totals	**$6,211,000**	**$2,008,000**	**$8,219,000**

*Proposed estimate for FY09

MDA AgBMP Loan: The MDA, through the AgBMP Loan Program, is proposing to allocate $2,000,000 exclusively for implementation of PCA approved TMDL Implementation plans (no Protection activities). It will include $1,000,000 of its CWL allocation in the FY08 competitive application process. In addition, the MDA is proposing to allocate the remaining $1,000,000 CWL funds outside of the joint competitive process under its existing allocation procedures (SS 17.117 Subd 6. (b)). This procedure would fund pending eligible TMDL Restoration projects that are ready to proceed immediately (within the next three months) and would take advantage of the current construction season.

MPCA Section 319 Grant: The MPCA is proposing to contribute $1,000,000 of Minnesota's Federal 319 grant allocation to the FY08 CWL competitive application process to fund Restoration activities. Tentatively, an additional $1,000,000 maybe added to the FY09 competitive process, but the level of funding for CWL will be predicated upon the level of future Federal Section 319 funding.

BWSR Restoration Cost-Share Grant: The BWSR is proposing to allocate $558,000 in both FY08 and FY09 for cost share and incentives for restoration activities. These funds will be implemented using the cost share protocols developed in the BWSR State Cost Share Program manual.

BWSR Restoration and Protection Engineering and Technical Assistance Grant: The BWSR is proposing to allocate $815,000 in FY08 and $450,000 in FY09 for competitive grants to local units of government (LGUs) to provide technical assistance and engineering services for restoration and protection activities. In FY08, additional funding for this category has been made available to correspond to the additional protection grant funds that must be allocated in FY08.

BWSR Protection Lake and River Management Grant: The BWSR is proposing to allocate $850,000 of competitive grants for protection activities in FY08. The legislative appropriation for CWL specifically noted that the protection grants must be allocated in FY08, which explains why no protection grants are proposed for FY09.

MPCA/BWSR Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Inventory Grant: The BWSR worked with the MPCA to develop a strategy to implement $2,450,000 in funds for SSTS activities, including inventories. A total of $1,462,000 of this funding will be allocated directly to LGUs administering SSTS programs via the Natural Resources Block Grant (NRBG) in FY08 and FY09. A competitive grant for SSTS inventory development will be available with $988,000 for competitive grant to LGUs. Applicants for the competitive inventory grants must have participated in the MPCA's 2006 Unsewered Survey. The County also must be in compliance with Minnesota Statute 115.55 Subdivision (2) regarding adoption of a local SSTS ordinance. Applications do not have to cover the entire county, but must identify the area where the inventory will be conducted and include information on population in the area and other pertinent known information on the status of wastewater treatment in the area, as well as a listing of water resources potentially affected. Each property in the identified area will be assessed to determine whether the SSTS is an imminent threat; those that are must be fixed within the required 10 months. Funding will be proportional based on the number of parcels in the area; there is a maximum SSTS inventory award of $130,000 per county. MPCA will be the lead agency in overseeing these grant funds and BWSR will be responsible for the fiscal actives and reporting.

MPCABWSR Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Imminent Health Threat Upgrade Grant:
The BWSR is working with the MPCA to develop a strategy to implement $1,000,000 in ISTS grants for the installation of conforming ISTS to replace existing non-conforming systems that pose an imminent threat to public health.

Eligible Approved TMDLs Projects for Restoration
All restoration projects must have an EPA approved TMDL and an MPCA approved Implementation Plan. Implementation Plans must be approved no later than November 15, 2007. The TMDL projects that currently have an MPCA approved Implementation Plan and meet the criteria for restoration funding are:

- Carver-Bevins-Silver Creek Fecal Coliform TMDL
- Chippewa River Fecal Coliform TMDL
- Lake Independence Excess Nutrients TMDL
- Long Prairie River Watershed Dissolved Oxygen TMDL
- Lower Minnesota River Watershed Dissolved Oxygen TMDL
- Lower Mississippi River Basin Regional Fecal Coliform TMDL
- Lower Ottertail River Turbidity TMDL
- Shingle Creek Chloride TMDL
- North Branch Sunrise River Fecal Coliform TMDL
- South Branch Yellow Medicine Fecal Coliform TMDL
- Blue Earth River ***proposed approval***
- Pipestone Creek TMDL: Fecal Coliform Bacteria and Turbidity*** proposed approval***
- Twin and Ryan Lakes TMDL: Excess Nutrients*** proposed approval***

TMDL projects that appear on the list under the "proposed approval" heading have pending TMDL documents before the EPA. Should the TMDL be approved by the USEPA and the associated implementation plan approved by MPCA prior to the November 15th CWL application deadline, those project applications will be eligible for restoration funding.

To see maps on the specific impaired waters, go to the MPCA TMDL website http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/tmdl-maps.html .

Board Resolution # 07-87

Approve Specific RIM Reserve Payment Rates for the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project

WHEREAS the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) has been involved since the early 1990's with the restoration of the 1,200-acre Grass Lake Prairie Wetland located in Kandiyohi County;

WHEREAS the Board is in partnership with the city of Willmar, Kandiyohi County, and the Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District as efforts continue to restore this critical water resource;

WHEREAS to date the Board has secured, through the Reinvest in Minnesota Reserve (RIM Reserve) program just over 1,100 acres of land in this project area under perpetual conservation easements;

WHEREAS the Board received $2.2 million from state's 2006 capital budget appropriation specific to this project to continue with the acquisition of RIM Reserve easements on the remaining 400 to 500 acres of land (6 properties) needed to restore this drained wetland and to help with other project implementation costs;

WHEREAS per MN Statutes §8400.3530, Subpart 1, "Standard" RIM rates are calculated using an average of previous years assessed market values for agricultural lands within a township";

WHEREAS to date, the owners of those 6 properties have not accepted the payment rates offered to them for the easements using the standard RIM rates available to the Board;

WHEREAS per MN Statues §103F.515, subdivision 6, subpart 5, "an alternative payment system for (RIM Reserve) easements based on cash rent or a similar system as may be determined by the (BWSR) board".

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources approves and adopts that values determine from a site specific market appraisal of the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project properties be used to determine and establish RIM Reserve easement payment rates for the remaining properties within the project area.

Layed On Table

Randy Kramer, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date

BWSR Meeting Date _____

Motion:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Moved by: Table - Grass Lake

Seconded by: _____

	Affirmative	Opposed
Dana Allen	✓	
Jim Anderson Faye Sleeper	✓	
Paul Brutlag		✓
Bob Burandt		✓
Kay Cook		
Quentin Fairbanks	✓	
Mark Holsten Larry Kvalvika	✓	
Brian Kletscher		
Paul Langseth		✓
Joe Martin	✓	
Brad Moore Paul Eger	✓	
Brian Napstad		✓
Louise Smallidge		✓
Gene Tiedemann		✓
LuAnn Tolliver	✓	✓
Dan Wilson	✓	
Randy Kramer		✓
Ken Robinson →	✓	
	9	7

H: roll-call vote

Wetland Banking Fee Policy:
Update Average Agricultural Land/Wetland Credit Values

BWSR Board
September 25, 2007

Background

Minnesota Statutes 103G.2242 Subds. 14 and 15 require the BWSR to collect fees for administering the state wetland banking program.

The Statute reads:

Minn. Stat. 103G.2242. Subd. 14. Fees Established. Fees must be assessed for managing wetland bank accounts and transactions as follows:
(A) account maintenance annual fee: one percent of the value of credits not to exceed $500;
(B.) account establishment, deposit, or transfer: 6.5 percent of the value of credits not to exceed $1,000 per establishment, deposit, or transfer; and
(C.) withdrawal fee: 6.5 percent of the value of credits withdrawn.

Description of each Fee (from existing guidance available on the BWSR Website):

A. Account Establishment and Deposit Fees. Account establishment and deposit fees will be assessed at 6.5% of the value of the credits deposited, not to exceed $1,000. The value of the credits will be determined according to Part III.E.1. The account establishment fee will be collected at the time of initial deposit of wetland credits into the bank for the subject account. The establishment and deposit fees are limited to $1,000 for each account, i.e., credits deposited into an account after the initial establishment (for instance, if the Technical Evaluation Panel did not certify all of the credits at one time) will be assessed a 6.5% deposit fee until the $1,000 limit is reached. Subsequent deposits into the same account will not be assessed deposit fees unless the restrictive easement for the bank site has to be revised to reflect the additional credits. In that case, deposit fees will be assessed at 6.5% of the value of the credits deposited, not to exceed $1,000. (To avoid these additional fees, banking applicants are encouraged to draft the original restrictive easement to cover all anticipated deposits.)

When the Application to Deposit Wetland Bank Credits form has been approved by the appropriate Local Government Unit (LGU), the applicant should submit the form, along with a check (payable to BWSR) for the amount due to the BWSR Wetland Bank Administrator. Applicants may contact the BWSR Wetland Bank Administrator to verify the amount due. Wetland credits deposited into a wetland bank account cannot be used for replacement purposes until the establishment/deposit fees have been paid.

Accounts for which the Wetland Banking Plan Application has received approval by the Local Government Unit after Aug. 1, 2000, and prior to Jan. 1, 2004, are exempt from account establishment fees. However, subsequent deposits after Jan. 1, 2004, will be assessed deposit fees as described above.

B. Account Maintenance Fee. Account maintenance fees will be assessed annually at 1% of the value of the credits in each account, not to exceed $500. The value of the credits will be determined according to Part III.E.1. Account maintenance fees will be assessed at the time of the first transaction (withdrawal, transfer, or deposit) of each year and will be based on the credits in the account at that time. If there are no transactions in an account for the year, then no maintenance fees will be assessed for that year. No transactions will be processed until the current year's maintenance fees have been paid.

C. Account Transfer Fee. Account transfer fees will be assessed at 6.5% of the value of the credits transferred, not to exceed $1,000. The value of the credits will be determined according to Part III.E.1 or Part III.E.2. Transfer fees are assessed when credits are transferred by any means (e.g., sale, gift, donation, exchange) from one account holder to a new owner, but not used for replacement purposes[b]. To transfer credits, an Application to Transfer form, along with a check (payable to BWSR) for the applicable transfer fee should be submitted to the BWSR Wetland Bank Administrator. The Wetland Bank Administrator may be contacted to verify the amount of the transfer fee. BWSR will not transfer the credits until the fee is paid.

D. Withdrawal Fee. Withdrawal fees are incurred when credits are withdrawn for the purposes of wetland replacement and will be assessed at 6.5% of the value of the credits withdrawn. The value of the credits will be determined according to Part III.E.1 or Part III.E.2. The applicable withdrawal fee should be submitted to the BWSR Wetland Bank Administrator along with the "Application for Withdrawal of Wetland Credits" form that has been approved by the appropriate regulatory authority(ies). Credits will not be withdrawn from the bank until the applicable withdrawal fees have been paid. After receiving payment, BWSR will deduct the appropriate credits from the subject account and notify the account holder, the user of the credits and the approving regulatory authority(ies).

Action – Update Wetland Credit Value used to Calculate Banking Fees.

The Wetland Banking Fees are paid on the basis of calculated wetland values, or sales values or other documentation.

The value of wetland credits for the purpose of assessing fees will be determined as follows:
Wetland Value/Acre = Tillable Land Value/Acre x the Wetland Credit Value Coefficient

(Note: The wetland credit value coefficient is 7.0 under the 2003 adopted Board policy and is proposed to be changed from 7.0 to 6.0 due to a decrease in the differential between land values and wetland credit values)

1. Credit Value ($/acre) = land value ($/acre) in the county where the bank is located multiplied by the Wetland Credit Value Coefficient. The Wetland Credit Value Coefficient reflects the value added to the land by the wetland credits. It is determined by BWSR, based on the average ratio of reported credit sale price for the previous two calendar years to county land value. The proposal to change the coefficient from 7.0 to 6.0 is based on sales from private accounts for the two years prior to the current year. For the purposes of the formula above, the most recent agricultural land values available from the Minnesota Department of Revenue are used.

2. For determining withdrawal or transfer fees, account holders may present other evidence to BWSR demonstrating the value of credits, such as actual sales values. When using actual sales data to determine credit values, account holders are required to submit to BWSR actual bills of sale as documentation.

Wetland Committee Recommendation: The Wetland Committee recommends updating the wetland credit values by taking the 2006 tillable land value multiplied by the wetland credit value coefficient of 6.0. A maximum increase of 75% from the 2003 values is recommended to moderate the increased values in eight counties that include: Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Hennepin, Itasca, Lake, Ramsey and St. Louis.

The proposed values are shown in the table below.

unty	2004 Wetland Value	2006 Tillable Values	2006 Calculated Wetland Value (x6)	Increase limited to 75%
kin	$3,798	$3,571	$21,426.96	$6,647.00
oka	$20,420	$3,830	$22,980.00	
cker	$4,862	$1,056	$6,336.00	
trami	$2,394	$700	$4,200.00	
nton	$10,146	$1,944	$11,664.00	
Stone	$6,331	$1,670	$10,020.00	
e Earth	$15,741	$3,271	$19,626.00	
own	$14,436	$2,792	$16,752.00	
rlton	$3,878	$3,248	$19,487.46	$6,787.00
rver	$15,908	$4,111	$24,666.00	
ss	$5,341	$1,421	$8,526.00	
ippewa	$9,950	$2,417	$14,502.00	
isago	$11,105	$2,221	$13,326.00	
ay	$5,972	$1,255	$7,530.00	
earwater	$2,821	$576	$3,456.00	
ok	$8,083	$6,621	$39,728.64	$14,145.00
ttonwood	$11,710	$2,466	$14,796.00	
ow Wing	$7,366	$1,750	$10,500.00	
akota	$14,495	$3,284	$19,704.00	
dge	$14,415	$2,857	$17,142.00	
uglas	$7,118	$1,789	$10,734.00	
ribault	$13,666	$2,778	$16,668.00	
lmore	$11,619	$2,567	$15,402.00	
eeborn	$12,847	$2,811	$16,866.00	
odhue	$13,885	$3,673	$22,038.00	
rant	$7,237	$1,523	$9,138.00	
ennepin	$28,015	$51,689	$310,134.00	$49,026.00
uston	$10,388	$2,051	$12,306.00	
ubbard	$7,193	$1,361	$8,166.00	
anti	$9,235	$2,244	$13,464.00	
asca	$2,563	$3,931	$23,583.00	$4,485.00
ackson	$12,644	$2,556	$15,336.00	
anabec	$6,703	$1,375	$8,250.00	
andiyohi	$9,957	$2,557	$15,342.00	
ittson	$3,128	$788	$4,728.00	
oochiching	$3,331	$727	$4,362.00	
ac Qui Parle	$7,402	$1,836	$11,016.00	
ake	$5,145	$4,046	$24,273.00	$9,004.00
ake of the Woods	$1,824	$446	$2,676.00	
e Sueur	$16,045	$3,083	$18,498.00	
incoln	$6,253	$1,594	$9,564.00	
yon	$10,178	$2,295	$13,770.00	
Mahnomen	$3,699	$826	$4,956.00	
Marshall	$3,154	$560	$3,360.00	
Martin	$15,227	$2,830	$16,980.00	

County	2004 Wetland Value	2006 Tillable Values	2006 Calculated Wetland Value (x6)	Increase limited to 75%
McLeod	$13,023	$2,555	$15,330.00	
Meeker	$10,061	$2,452	$14,712.00	
Mille Lac	$6,670	$1,499	$8,994.00	
Morrison	$7,547	$1,501	$9,006.00	
Mower	$13,966	$2,824	$16,944.00	
Murray	$10,590	$2,334	$14,004.00	
Nicollet	$17,572	$3,215	$19,290.00	
Nobles	$12,097	$2,484	$14,904.00	
Norman	$4,644	$820	$4,920.00	
Olmsted	$12,747	$3,060	$18,360.00	
Otter Tail	$5,221	$1,119	$6,714.00	
Pennington	$2,146	$492	$2,952.00	
Pine	$7,529	$1,467	$8,802.00	
Pipestone	$9,765	$2,025	$12,150.00	
Polk	$4,880	$869	$5,214.00	
Pope	$6,904	$1,898	$11,388.00	
Ramsey	$28,015	$86,765	$520,590.00	$49,026.00
Red Lake	$2,417	$562	$3,372.00	
Redwood	$12,030	$2,487	$14,922.00	
Renville	$12,797	$2,778	$16,668.00	
Rice	$18,211	$5,095	$30,570.00	
Rock	$13,135	$2,753	$16,518.00	
Roseau	$2,061	$407	$2,442.00	
Scott	$24,967	$4,365	$26,190.00	
Sherburne	$8,296	$2,210	$13,260.00	
Sibley	$13,841	$3,010	$18,060.00	
St. Louis	$2,734	$3,077	$18,463.56	$4,785.00
Stearns	$8,805	$1,539	$9,234.00	
Steele	$13,949	$2,939	$17,634.00	
Stevens	$7,826	$1,948	$11,688.00	
Swift	$8,111	$2,043	$12,258.00	
Todd	$5,146	$1,095	$6,570.00	
Traverse	$8,059	$1,887	$11,322.00	
Wabasha	$11,476	$2,480	$14,880.00	
Wadena	$4,911	$1,102	$6,612.00	
Waseca	$15,420	$2,805	$16,830.00	
Washington	$28,015	$5,087	$30,522.00	
Watonwan	$12,585	$2,825	$16,950.00	
Wilkin	$7,253	$1,557	$9,342.00	
Winona	$12,262	$2,276	$13,656.00	
Wright	$12,380	$2,826	$16,956.00	
Yellow Medicine	$8,938	$2,094	$12,564.00	

Resolution # _____

Wetland Banking Fee Policy:
Update Average Agricultural Land/Wetland Credit Values

WHEREAS, BWSR is directed pursuant to Minn. Stat. 103G.2242, Subd. 14 and 15 to collect fees for administering the state wetland banking program;

WHEREAS, BWSR Board action 03-93 established the Wetland Banking Fee Policy, which included use of the average agricultural land values (as provided by the Minn. Dept. of Revenue) as the basis for determining credit value for purposes of assessing the fees;

WHEREAS, the current policy includes 2003 average agricultural land values; and

WHEREAS, Wetland Committee reviewed the current Board adopted average agricultural land values and is recommending the Board update these values for purposes of calculating the wetland banking fees.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the BWSR update the wetland credit values by taking the 2006 tillable land value multiplied by the wetland credit value coefficient of 6.0, with a maximum increase of 75% for the following counties: Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Hennepin, Itasca, Lake, Ramsey and St. Louis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these updated wetland credit values will become effective for wetland banking transactions that occur after December 31, 2007.

_____ _____

Randy Kramer, Chair Date

Resolution # 07-88

Wetland Banking Fee Policy:
Update Average Agricultural Land/Wetland Credit Values

WHEREAS, BWSR is directed pursuant to Minn. Stat. 103G.2242, Subd. 14 and 15 to collect fees for administering the state wetland banking program;

WHEREAS, BWSR Board action 03-93 established the Wetland Banking Fee Policy, which included use of the average agricultural land values (as provided by the Minn. Dept. of Revenue) as the basis for determining credit value for purposes of assessing the fees;

WHEREAS, the current policy includes 2003 average agricultural land values; and

WHEREAS, Wetland Committee reviewed the current Board adopted average agricultural land values and is recommending the Board update these values for purposes of calculating the wetland banking fees.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the BWSR update the wetland credit values by taking the 2006 tillable land value multiplied by the wetland credit value coefficient of 6.0, with a maximum increase of 75% for the following counties: Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Hennepin, Itasca, Lake, Ramsey and St. Louis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these updated wetland credit values will become effective for wetland banking transactions that occur after December 31, 2007.

R J Kramer

Randy Kramer, Chair

9/26/07

Date

Issue Paper

Sale of Wetland Mitigation Credits to Public Transportation Authorities

Minnesota Statutes 103G.222 Subdivision 1 (k) states:
"*For projects involving draining or filling of wetlands associated with a new public transportation project, and for projects expanded solely for additional traffic capacity, public transportation authorities may purchase credits from the board at the cost to the board to establish credits.*"

Board Resolution, adopted May 23, 2007:

1. Establish an interim policy on the sale of wetland credits to public transportation authorities that would limit the sale of wetland credits only to public road authorities, which has been the past practice; and
2. Ask the Legislature to clarify the intent of the law in 2008 with regards to which public transportation authorities are eligible to purchase wetland credits from the BWSR.

Purpose: This issue paper discusses the options the Wetland Committee considered in developing a proposal to clarify the intent of Minn. Stat. 103G.222, Subd. 1(k).

For the purposes of this issue paper, the following definitions apply:

Public Transportation Authority includes the following: State of Minnesota, Metropolitan Council, counties, cities, townships, regional rail authorities, airport authorities, and joint powers organizations.

Public Road Authority includes the following: State of Minnesota, counties, cities, and townships.

Background: Statute can be interpreted to provide BWSR with the authority to sell wetland mitigation credits to any public transportation authority. However, the discussion at the Legislature in 2002 centered on public road authorities. These distinctions create opportunities for diverging opinions on how BWSR should implement this authority. It was these issues, among others, that led the Wetland Committee to recommend and the Board to adopt the resolution on May 23, 2007 that is referenced above.

Options: The following options were discussed by the Wetland Committee on July 25, 2007.

1. *Propose no statutory change, but establish Board policy to sell wetland credits to any public transportation authority.* Alternatively, the Board may establish this policy but propose a statutory change to eliminate the potential for alternative interpretations. One way to amend the statute along these lines is shown below:

"For projects involving draining or filling of wetlands associated with a new public transportation project, and for projects expanded solely for additional traffic capacity, public transportation authorities may purchase credits from the board at the cost to the board to

establish credits. For purposes of this paragraph, public transportation authorities includes: the state of Minnesota, Metropolitan Council, counties, cities, townships, regional rail authorities, airport authorities, and joint powers organizations."

2. *Propose no statutory change, but establish Board policy to sell wetland credits only to any public road authority.* Alternatively, the Board may establish this policy but propose a statutory change to eliminate the potential for alternative interpretations. One way to amend the statute along these lines is shown below:

"For projects involving draining or filling of wetlands associated with a new public transportation project, and for projects expanded solely for additional traffic capacity, public ~~transportation~~ road authorities may purchase credits from the board at the cost to the board to establish credits. For purposes of this paragraph, public road authorities includes: the state of Minnesota, counties, cities, and townships."

3. *Choose either option under 1 or 2, but place additional conditions on the sale of wetland credits, these may include:*
    - Have the public transportation or public road authority consider/require buying private bank credits before approaching BWSR.
    - Only sell BWSR credits if private bank credits are not available, or the price differential is above X%.
    - BWSR will only sell wetland credits when our balance of credits is above the estimated annual need.
    - Established a tiered approach, public road authorities may purchase 100% of their project wetland mitigation need, non-road public transportation authorities may purchase no more than 50% of their project wetland mitigation need.
    - A combination of the above conditions.

Wetland Committee Recommendation

Wetland Committee recommends amending statute to clarify the Board's authority to sell wetland credits to public transportation authorities:

Minnesota Statutes 103G.222, Subd. 1(k):
"For projects involving draining or filling of wetlands associated with a new public ~~transportation~~ road project, and for public road projects expanded solely for additional traffic capacity, public ~~transportation~~ road authorities may purchase credits from the board at the cost to the board to establish credits. For purposes of this paragraph, public road authorities includes: the state of Minnesota, counties, cities, and townships."

Resolution # _____

Sale of Wetland Credits to Public Transportation Authorities
September 26, 2007

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minn. Stat. 103G.222, Subd 1(k), BWSR is authorized to sell wetland credits to public transportation authorities at BWSR's cost to establish wetland credits;

WHEREAS, BWSR adopted a policy on the cost of credits that has been in effect since July 1, 2005;

WHEREAS, since BWSR has been authorized to sell wetland credits to public transportation authorities, only public road authorities have purchased wetland credits;

WHEREAS, the Board adopted the following policies on May 23, 2007 regarding the sale of wetland credits to public transportation authorities:

1. Establish an interim policy on the sale of wetland credits to public transportation authorities that would limit the sale of wetland credits only to public road authorities, which has been the past practice; and
2. Ask the Legislature to clarify the intent of the law in 2008 with regards to which public transportation authorities are eligible to purchase wetland credits from the BWSR.

WHEREAS, the Wetland Committee further discussed this issue on July 25, 2007 and is recommending that the BWSR Board adopt the recommendation of the Wetland Committee to propose amending statute to clarify the Board's authority to sell wetland credits to public transportation authorities:

Minnesota Statutes 103G.222, Subd. 1(k):
"For projects involving draining or filling of wetlands associated with a new public ~~transportation~~ road project, and for public road projects expanded solely for additional traffic capacity, public ~~transportation~~ road authorities may purchase credits from the board at the cost to the board to establish credits. For purposes of this paragraph, public road authorities includes: the state of Minnesota, counties, cities, and townships."

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the BWSR adopt the recommendation of the Wetland Committee.

_____ _____
Randy Kramer, Chair Date

Resolution # 07-89

Sale of Wetland Credits to Public Transportation Authorities
September 26, 2007

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minn. Stat. 103G.222, Subd 1(k), BWSR is authorized to sell wetland credits to public transportation authorities at BWSR's cost to establish wetland credits;

WHEREAS, BWSR adopted a policy on the cost of credits that has been in effect since July 1, 2005;

WHEREAS, since BWSR has been authorized to sell wetland credits to public transportation authorities, only public road authorities have purchased wetland credits;

WHEREAS, the Board adopted the following policies on May 23, 2007 regarding the sale of wetland credits to public transportation authorities:

1. Establish an interim policy on the sale of wetland credits to public transportation authorities that would limit the sale of wetland credits only to public road authorities, which has been the past practice; and
2. Ask the Legislature to clarify the intent of the law in 2008 with regards to which public transportation authorities are eligible to purchase wetland credits from the BWSR.

WHEREAS, the Wetland Committee further discussed this issue on July 25, 2007 and is recommending that the BWSR Board adopt the recommendation of the Wetland Committee to propose amending statute to clarify the Board's authority to sell wetland credits to public transportation authorities:

Minnesota Statutes 103G.222, Subd. 1(k):
"For projects involving draining or filling of wetlands associated with a new public ~~transportation~~ road project, and for public road projects expanded solely for additional traffic capacity, public ~~transportation~~ road authorities may purchase credits from the board at the cost to the board to establish credits. For purposes of this paragraph, public road authorities includes: the state of Minnesota, counties, cities, and townships."

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the BWSR adopt the recommendation of the Wetland Committee.

Randy Kramer, Chair

9/26/07
Date

BWSR Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Program



Presenters

- **Introduction**
  - Dan Shaw - Vegetation Specialist /Landscape Ecologist, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
- **The Clay County Example**
  - **Anthony Cortilet** - Research Scientist, Weed Integrated Pest Management Program, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
  - **Scott Kahan** - Project Leader, Detroit Lakes WMD, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
  - **Paul Walvatne** - Forestry Unit Supervisor, Minnesota Department of Transportation

Invasive Species Concerns

- "Invasive species are second only to habitat loss in causing extinctions."

  E. O. Wilson

- "In the U.S. invasion impacts some 52 percent of all imperiled species."

  Wilcove et. al in *Bioscience*, 1998

- "Weeds cause around $137 billion in annual crop damage each year."

Charge and Scope

- $600,000 available for a new grant program to begin county Cooperative Weed Management Areas
- For natural lands and private lands enrolled in state and federal conservation programs
- To restore native plants providing local native seeds and plants to landowners for implementation.

What is a Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)?

- CWMAs are a partnership of federal, state and local agencies; tribes; individuals; and other groups managing noxious weeds or invasive plants in a defined area.
- The focus of CWMAs is ***cooperation*** -- the majority of landowners and natural resource managers in the area are involved.
- CMAs operate under a comprehensive plan that addresses the management of one or more noxious or invasive weeds.

BWSR Program Highlights

- Establish 10-14 new CWMAs
- Disperse funding to SWCDs – Up to $70,000 per recipient
- Plan to build a framework for long-term funding and CWMAs across the state



Draft Timeline:

Sep. 5th, 2007	Agency Advisory Meeting
September – November 2007	Development of Grant Program
December 2008	BWSR Grant Comm. & Board Approval
January – Feb. 15th 2008	Grant Application Period
March to April 2008	Distribution of Funds

Clay County Example

- **Anthony Cortilet** - Research Scientist, Weed Integrated Pest Management Program, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
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BWSR Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Program



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Minnesota Forest Resources Council



2006 Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature

on the Implementation of the Sustainable Forest Resources Act

Thank You

Thank you to all the organizations that continue to help, organize, support, and participate in the programs of the Sustainable Forest Resources Act (SFRA) and the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC):

Associated Contract Loggers
Audubon Minnesota
Blandin Foundation
Cloquet Forestry Center
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy –
  Community Forestry Resource Center
Minnesota Association of County Land Commissioners
Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy
Minnesota Deer Hunters Association
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Minnesota Forest Industries
Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership
Minnesota Forestry Association
Minnesota Indian Affairs Council
Minnesota Logger Education Program
Minnesota Resort and Campground Association
Minnesota Ruffed Grouse Society
Minnesota Timber Producers Association
The Nature Conservancy
The Trust for Public Land
USDA Forest Service
  Chippewa National Forest
  Superior National Forest
  Northern Research Station
  State and Private Forestry
University of Minnesota-Duluth
  Natural Resources Research Institute
University of Minnesota-College of Food, Agricultural, and Natural Resource Sciences
  Sustainable Forests Education Cooperative
University of Minnesota-Extension Service

Citizens of Minnesota who participate in SFRA and MFRC programs

Minnesota Forest Resources Council

2003 Upper Buford Circle
St. Paul, MN 55108
651-603-0109
www.frc.state.mn.us

MFRC Staff

Dave Zumeta
Executive Director
651-603-0108
dzumeta@tc.umn.edu

Mike Phillips
Guideline Development/Monitoring Coordinator
651-259-5281
mike.phillips@dnr.state.mn.us

Lindberg Ekola
Landscape Program Manager
320-256-8300
ekola.mfrc@charter.net

Calder Hibbard
Policy Analyst
651-603-0109
hibb0006@umn.edu

Clarence Turner
Forest Ecologist/Planner
651-259-5291
clarence.turner@dnr.state.mn.us

Leslie McInenly
Information Assistant
651-603-6761
mcine017@umn.edu

Cover photo by Mike Phillips, MFRC

Minnesota Forest Resources Council

2006 Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature

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Respectfully submitted
by the Minnesota Forest Resources Council

Alfred Sullivan, *Chair*
Wayne Brandt
Bruce Cox
David Epperly
Janet Green
Shaun Hamilton
Robert Lintelman
Robert Oswold
David Parent
Shawn Perich
Kathleen Preece
James Sanders
John Stauber
Robert Stine
Dick Walsh
Paige Winebarger

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From the Chair

An Overview of MFRC Accomplishments in 2006

The Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) had a successful year in 2006. Our work in the first year of the Council's second decade included several notable accomplishments.

1. The Governor chose not to petition the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to undertake a state-specific rule-making process for management allocations of inventoried roadless areas in Minnesota national forests, acting on advice provided by the MFRC in December 2005. MFRC members strongly believe that this request for advice from the Governor is a prime example of how the MFRC can best serve Minnesota and its citizens.

2. The MFRC worked with partner organizations to obtain legislative support for $7.5 million in state funding to purchase large-scale forestland conservation easements. These funds are being used to leverage private and federal funds to purchase conservation easements on more than 60,000 acres of forestland, which will help mitigate the effects of a substantial loss of industrial forestland.

The MFRC commissioned a pilot study to quantify the parcelization[1] and development of forestland and



Alfred D. Sullivan, Chair
Minnesota Forest Resources Council
Photo by Patrick O'Leary/ University of Minnesota

identify conditions that lead to these types of activities. In 2007, the MFRC is seeking legislative support to extend this pilot study across Minnesota's forestland, assess policy tools available to promote forestland conservation, and make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature.

3. MFRC members and staff provided leadership in the reconvened Governor's Task Force on the Competitiveness of Minnesota's Primary Forest Products Industry. The goal of this task force is to facilitate the identification of issues facing the primary forest products industry and to develop recommendations to the Governor.

With the Governor continuing the task force into 2007, several MFRC members and staff will be actively engaged in implementing near-term task force recommendations and working with the task force to develop long-term recommendations.

4. We are finalizing development of draft guidelines for the sustainable harvest of woody biomass[2] from forestland and brushland, which represent the first guidelines of this type in the United States. The Minnesota Legislature mandated[3] that the MFRC develop guidelines for sustainable removal of woody biomass from logging residue on timber harvest sites. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), which had a parallel mandate to develop guidelines for sustainable removal of woody biomass from brushland and open land, asked the MFRC to lead that guideline development as well, and we have done so.

[1]Parcelization refers to the subdivision of large ownerships into smaller parcels.

[2]Biomass is defined in Minnesota Statutes 216C.051 as "herbaceous crops, trees, agricultural waste, and aquatic plant matter, excluding municipal solid waste, used to generate electricity."

[3]Minnesota Statutes 216B.2424

5. We continued to serve as an active partner with the Blandin Foundation in its Vital Forests/Vital Communities Initiative. Since 2003, the Blandin Foundation has invested more than $8 million in grants and programs—and leveraged more than $10 million in investments by other entities—to maintain the forestland base, promote sustainable forest management, and promote forest-based economic development. Several MFRC members and staff serve on the advisory board of this initiative.

6. Regional landscape planning and coordination committees in all six of the state's major forested landscapes met to promote implementation of landscape plans and coordination of forest management activities. The committees, made up of forestry professionals, private landowners, industry, and public land managers, met quarterly to develop and implement committee projects, coordinate and support projects by partnering organizations, and monitor plan implementation.

7. The Riparian Science Technical Committee, convened by the MFRC, completed its work to synthesize and report on the most recent advances in scientific understanding of forest management impacts on riparian areas. In 2007, the MFRC will consider the scientists' findings and judgments related to various types of waterbodies. The MFRC will also complete an economic analysis that will help inform discussions about revising riparian aspects of the guidelines.

[4]Baseline sites were those that were harvested or contracted for harvest prior to publication of the MFRC guidelines in 1999.



Global competitiveness of Minnesota's forest products industry has been the subject of a task force reconvened by the Governor in 2006. MFRC members and staff provided leadership on this task force. *Photo by Kurt Rusterholz*

8. The DNR completed the sixth year of monitoring the application of MFRC timber harvesting and forest management guidelines on public and private forestland. The DNR is in the process of analyzing baseline monitoring results[4] from 2000-2002 and statistically comparing them to the post-baseline results from 2004-2006. This analysis will provide the MFRC with important information for guideline revision, as well as for future training and technical assistance efforts.

Council members look forward to the challenges and opportunities we face in the coming years, and we look forward to our continuing role of advising the Governor, Minnesota Legislature, and public agencies on how to ensure forest sustainability in Minnesota.

Alfred D. Sullivan
Chair

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The Minnesota Forest Resources Council

What is the Minnesota Forest Resources Council?

The Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) is a 17-member organization working to promote long-term sustainable management of Minnesota's forests in two ways:

- By coordinating implementation of the Sustainable Forest Resources Act (SFRA).[5]
- By advising the Governor and federal, state, county, and local governments on sustainable forest resource policies and practices.

What is its purpose?

Created in 1995, the MFRC operates within the policy framework for sustainable forestry set forth in the SFRA, which is to:

- **Pursue the sustainable management, use, and protection** of the state's forest resources to achieve the state's economic, environmental, and social goals.
- **Encourage cooperation and collaboration** between public and private sectors in the management of the state's forest resources.
- **Recognize and consider forest resource issues,** concerns, and impacts at the site and landscape levels.
- **Recognize the broad array of perspectives** regarding the management, use, and protection of the state's forest resources, and establish processes and mechanisms that seek these perspectives and incorporate them into planning and management.

[5]Minnesota Statutes 89A



Inherent in sustainable forest management is the need to protect adjacent water resources. The MFRC convened the Riparian Science Technical Committee to synthesize and report on the most recent advances in scientific understanding of forest management impacts on riparian areas. *Photo by Mike Phillips, MFRC*

Who is on the MFRC?

The Governor appoints a chair and 15 other members to the MFRC. Recognizing the sovereignty of Indian nations under federal law, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council appoints one additional member. MFRC membership includes a chair plus individuals representing the following categories:

- Commercial logging contractors
- Conservation organizations
- County land departments
- Environmental organizations *(two representatives)*
- Forest products industry
- Game species management organizations
- Labor organizations
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- Minnesota Indian Affairs Council
- Nonindustrial private forest landowners *(two representatives)*
- Research and higher education
- Resort and tourism industry
- Secondary wood products manufacturers
- USDA Forest Service

MFRC Forest Policy Initiatives and Collaboration

What were the 2006 policy priorities for the MFRC?

In early 2006, the MFRC identified five issues that received primary focus in 2006 and will continue to receive primary focus in 2007. These issues are being addressed by gathering information, supporting research, and monitoring the issues. They also provide the main focus of the MFRC's policy initiatives. The MFRC will continue to monitor other important forest resource issues as well.

Policy Priority #1

Understand the economic, ecological, and social impacts of forestland ownership changes, parcelization, and development on public and private lands.

The loss of working forests through parcelization and subsequent development has been linked to adverse impacts on timber availability, wildlife, water quality, land cover, hunting, and other recreational activities.

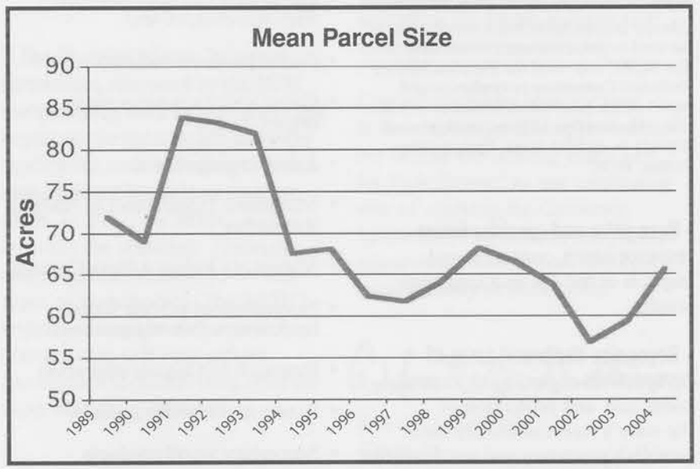


Figure 1. Mean parcel size for undeveloped forest tracts greater than 20 acres in size has declined from 1989 to 2004. *Source: Mike Kilgore, University of Minnesota Department of Forest Resources, September 2005*

The MFRC has a key role to play in helping to develop a better understanding of the issue, as well as in assisting efforts to conserve working forestland.

• In 2006, the MFRC worked with partner organizations to obtain legislative support for $7.5 million in state funding to purchase large-scale forestland conservation easements.

These funds are being used to leverage private and federal funds to purchase conservation easements on more than 60,000 acres of forestland. These easements will help mitigate the effects of the loss of substantial amounts of industrial forestland.

• A pilot study was commissioned to quantify the parcelization and development of forestland, as well as to identify the pertinent drivers or conditions that tend to lead to these types of activities.



Woody biomass is bundled onsite for use in generating energy. *Photo by Mike Phillips, MFRC*

• The MFRC has resolved to seek support in further examining the issue of ownership change, parcelization, and development. The full study will seek to:

– Enhance understanding of the extent of forestland ownership change, parcelization, and development.

– Assess a full range of policy tools available to address forestland conservation (such as easements, land exchange, tax policy, and planning and zoning, among others).

– Develop a set of policy recommendations for policymakers.

With development of the biomass harvesting guidelines well under way, the MFRC will continue to monitor related topics, such as competition for woody biomass for different purposes, as well as the total availability and source of current and future demand.

Policy Priority #2

Understand the economic and ecological impacts of biomass harvesting for energy, and develop voluntary site-level guidelines for biomass harvesting.

With development of the biomass harvesting guidelines well under way, the MFRC will continue to monitor related topics, such as competition for woody biomass for different purposes, as well as the total availability and source of current and future demand.

Policy Priority #3

Promote deeper understanding of the relationship between water quality retention and improvements due to forest cover.

The MFRC is addressing this issue from a number of standpoints, including:

• Support for a study of the impact of varying land uses on water quality in five counties within the MFRC's North Central Landscape.

• Completion of the Riparian Science Technical Committee's work to take advantage of recent advances in scientific understanding of riparian areas related to forest management. The results of this work will help to better address the conditions and management questions in riparian areas.

• Collaboration in directing Clean Water Legacy funding to forward reforestation efforts and the maintenance of working forestlands.

Policy Priority #4

Raise awareness of forest health, with special attention to invasive terrestrial plants, and position it as a landscape issue.

The MFRC has furthered this policy issue by monitoring various agency responses and convening public and private entities to discuss the problem, detection, management, and policy considerations regarding invasive plants and insects. The MFRC has:

• Convened a panel of experts to discuss federal and state agency perspectives regarding emerald ash borer, a potential major threat to Minnesota's ash resources, and other invasive species.

• Monitored efforts and strategies by various agencies and organizations to detect invasive terrestrial plants in forests.



Damage to this Canadian firewood is the result of an infestation of emerald ash borer. *Photo by Troy Kimoto, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, www.insectimages.org*

The MFRC convened a panel of experts to discuss federal and state agency perspectives regarding emerald ash borer, a potential major threat to Minnesota's ash resources, and other invasive species.

Policy Priority #5

Globalization has a broad, direct influence on Minnesota's forests in multiple ways: global trade's effect on spreading insects, diseases, and invasive plants; the impact of the global energy market on increasing demand for renewable energy from woody biomass; and the impact of globalization of the forest products industry on forest land ownership.

As a true overarching issue, the MFRC has addressed the global context in which we operate regarding Minnesota's forest resources in a number of arenas:

• Early in 2006, the MFRC continued to assist with implementation of the recommendations of the 2003 Governor's Advisory Task Force Report on the Competitiveness of Minnesota's Primary Forest Products Industry.

• MFRC members and staff provided leadership in the reconvened Governor's Task Force, facilitating both the identification of issues facing the primary forest products industry and the development of recommendations to the Governor.

• The MFRC sought to enhance its understanding of the global context of the aforementioned issues, including ownership change, invasive species, and the economics of the primary forest products industry.

How did the MFRC advise the Governor, Legislature, executive agencies, and other governmental units?

The MFRC passed a number of resolutions in 2006 advising the Governor, Legislature, executive agencies, and other governmental units on a number of key issues regarding forest resources. In addition, the Governor acted on advice provided by the MFRC in 2005 regarding inventoried roadless areas in national forests.

• The Governor chose not to petition the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to undertake a state-specific rule-making process for management allocations of inventoried roadless areas in Minnesota national forests, acting on advice provided by the MFRC in December 2005.

MFRC members strongly believe that this request for advice from the Governor is a prime example of how the MFRC can best serve Minnesota and its citizens.

• The MFRC recommended that the Minnesota DNR defer guideline implementation monitoring of timber harvesting sales on public and private lands from 2007 to 2008, and to apply the cost savings to monitoring activities in 2008.

• The MFRC passed a resolution endorsing support for a legislative mandate to assess forest policy options regarding forestland conservation. This mandate would include the following:

– An assessment of trends in forest parcelization and development in forested regions

– An evaluation of policy options to address these trends

– Recommendations to the Legislature on the most cost-effective approaches to addressing these trends

• The MFRC endorsed the Blandin Foundation goal of increasing the number of acres of family forestland under forest stewardship plans by one million additional acres by the year 2015.

• The MFRC formally endorsed the Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership's upcoming conference being held March 27-28, 2007. The conference, titled *Improving Timber Productivity in Minnesota: A Working Meeting,* is designed to identify, develop, and implement measurable strategies to improve timber productivity and forest health in Minnesota.

Since 2003, this initiative has invested more than $8 million in grants and programs—and leveraged more than $10 million in investments by other entities—to maintain the forestland base, promote sustainable forest management, and promote forest-based economic development.

How did the MFRC continue to partner with the Blandin Foundation's Vital Forests/Vital Communities Initiative?

The MFRC continued to partner with the Blandin Foundation in its Vital Forests/Vital Communities Initiative, which strives to strengthen and diversify Minnesota's forest-based economy and promote the long-term ecological health of the forest resource that supports it.

Since 2003, this initiative has invested more than $8 million in grants and programs—and leveraged more than $10 million in investments by other entities—to maintain the forestland base, promote sustainable forest management, and promote forest-based economic development. Several MFRC members and staff serve on the advisory board of this initiative.

Landscape-Level Forest Resource Planning and Coordination

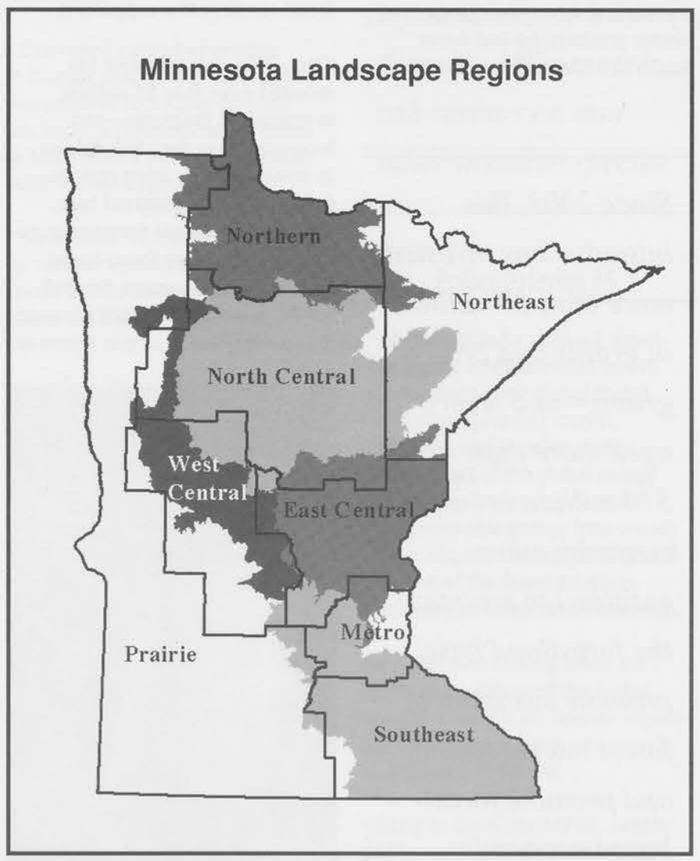


Figure 2. Landscape regions. Solid lines represent administrative boundaries; shaded areas represent ecological boundaries. Although the regional borders generally follow county boundaries to facilitate coordination among units of government, they also correspond closely with the borders of ecological regions.

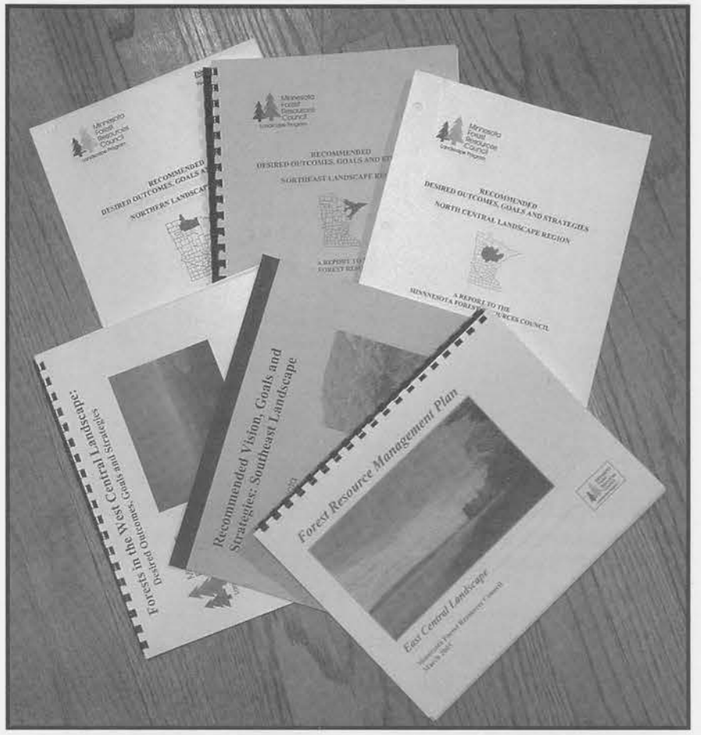
How does the MFRC's landscape program address geographically unique resource issues?

The MFRC landscape program provides a forum that allows landowners and stakeholders to work together over broad regions to address resource issues that generate geographically unique responses to sustainability challenges.

In six major forested regions (see Figure 2: all except the Metro and Prairie regions), residents and stakeholder representatives have worked cooperatively to:

- **Develop sustainable forest resource plans** stating desired future forest conditions, supported by goals and strategies to achieve them in the long term.

- **Establish coordination groups of landowners and managers** in each landscape region to implement and coordinate landscape goals in each plan.



Six landscape plans have been developed to assist landowners, forestry professionals, industry, and local officials in the sustainable management of each landscape region's forest resources. *Photo by Lindberg Ekola, MFRC*

What is the status of the forest resource plans? What is in these plans?

Each of the committees representing the six forested landscape regions has prepared a forest resource plan or "landscape plan." Each plan begins with statements that describe desired future conditions for the region's forests over a long-term horizon (up to 100 years).

The plans also include shorter-term goals and strategies to guide efforts by landowners, forestry professionals, industry, and local officials in the sustainable management of the region's forest resources.

How is implementation of regional landscape plans occurring?

When the planning process in all six of the major forested landscapes was completed in 2005, the MFRC's landscape program shifted its emphasis to plan implementation and coordination. Regional committees, made up of the forest products industry, forestry professionals, private landowners, and public land managers, meet on a quarterly basis to guide the implementation and coordination of their respective landscape plans.

The six committees are actively working to:

- **Develop and implement committee projects** that proactively address the goals and strategies outlined in the regional forest resource plans.

- **Coordinate and support projects by partnering organizations** that promote sustainable forest management practices in the landscape region.

- **Encourage consideration of the landscape-level context** by all agencies, organizations, industry, and private landowners when developing their resource management plans and implementation projects.

- **Monitor activities and outcomes** of projects implemented by the committees, as well as those by partnering organizations and landowners across the landscape region.

The MFRC works closely with the Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership[6] (MFRP). Together with the MFRP, the MFRC provides staff assistance and support to the three landscape regions located in the northern portion of Minnesota.

[6]The MFRP, formed in 1995, is a voluntary partnership of 26 organizations, including forest landowners, forest resource managers, and loggers. The MFRP's primary objectives are productive, sustainable forest resources and economically viable forest management organizations and forest products industries.

Highlights of plan implementation and coordination work in 2006 for each of the six landscape regions follow:

Northeast Regional Landscape

• **Supported the formation of four coordination work groups** for specific "opportunity areas" within the landscape region to further develop and apply the goals and strategies as outlined in the Northeast Landscape Plan. Efforts to organize other work groups were under way in 2006.

• **Began developing the framework** for monitoring the implementation of the landscape plan. The committee developed a survey tool designed for use by committee members to report activities and accomplishments toward the goals in the plan.



Regional landscape committees meet to guide the implementation and coordination of their respective landscape plans. *Photo by Lindberg Ekola, MFRC*

Northern Regional Landscape

• **Contracted with University of Minnesota-Duluth, Natural Resources Research Institute,** to develop an Ecological Classification System classification and assessment study.

• **Initiated efforts with the Minnesota DNR to develop a public access and wildlife habitat information management project.** The project will construct a shared database for resource managers to use in identifying and tracking forest management projects that can improve wildlife habitat and increase public recreation opportunities.

North Central Regional Landscape

• **Convened an outreach workshop** to unveil the North Central Landscape Plan. Attendees included 68 landowners and resource managers.

• **Began the process of identifying and mapping opportunity areas** to help define other implementation projects within the landscape region, and developed a plan implementation framework.

• **Is commissioning a study** with the USDA Forest Service, which will aid in promoting successful pine reestablishment, among other efforts. This effort reflects a deep concern regarding the successful reestablishment of pine and impacts of deer browse in the region.

East Central Regional Landscape

• **Convened an outreach workshop** to unveil the East Central Landscape Plan. A total of 34 landowners and resource managers attended the workshop.

• **Supported development of the Guide to Rural Living,** an informational resource on land and resource management for rural residents, especially those who own small parcels of land.

• **Initiated the Four Corners Pilot Project to maximize connections with local officials.** The project area includes townships in Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, and Pine counties. Several activities were completed in 2006, including meetings with township and county officials, GIS (geographic information system) mapping, inventory of forest stewardship plans, and a survey of landowner interest in forest management technical assistance.

Southeast Regional Landscape

• **Organized and coordinated efforts for the 2007 Southeast Minnesota Forest Stewardship Workshop** for private landowners, local officials, loggers, forest products industry representatives, foresters, and other resource managers.

• **Hired an intern to help organize the workshop event** and work on other implementation projects.

• **Submitted a proposal to the Forest Legacy Program** to fund the acquisition of conservation easements on 2,875 acres of biologically important forestland across 16 ownerships through the Forest Legacy Program.

West Central Regional Landscape

• **Worked to help develop a pilot project to promote sustainable forest management practices on private lands,** in partnership with the Wadena County Soil and Water Conservation District, local officials, and landowners.

• **Began working with the WesMin Resource Conservation and Development District,** recipient of a $701,000 federal innovation grant, and its partners on the Productive Conservation on Working Lands (PCWL) project. This demonstration project provides incentives to reduce economic, environmental, and social risks to farmers growing alternative conservation crops for energy and emerging industries.

• **Added five new committee members** representing a variety of public and private organizations.

• **Contracted with the DNR Division of Forestry to develop geographic information system (GIS) mapping for the region.**

How will the impact of landscape plans be monitored over time?

Documenting the implementation of the landscape plans will be guided by three general questions:

1. How are selected ecological, social, and economic characteristics of the landscape changing over time?

Initial landscape assessments for each landscape identified information useful in sustainable forestry decision-making. Subsequent monitoring will periodically update that information.

Landscape partners need more information to help coordinate their activities, recognize opportunities for better collaboration and forest management, and create conditions favorable for forest management.

For example, all completed landscape plans set goals for forest species and age composition, using information on current forest composition from the USDA Forest Service's Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) as a baseline.

2. How will progress in implementing the strategies be measured?

It is essential to document the activities of partners as they implement MFRC landscape plans. Measurable effects of many of the strategies identified in the plans may take years to accumulate. In the interim, documenting the effort expended to implement the plans will help provide insight into the energy and resources needed to sustain the effort.

3. What information is needed by landscape partners?

Landscape partners need more information to help coordinate their activities, recognize opportunities for better collaboration and forest management, and create conditions favorable for forest management.

They will best be able to direct their management activities and financial resources toward achieving plan goals if they are well informed about partner activities, the needs of small private forest landowners, and the availability of funding and expertise.

This approach will help forest managers take advantage of unanticipated opportunities and apply creative solutions as problems arise.

Guideline Review and Revision

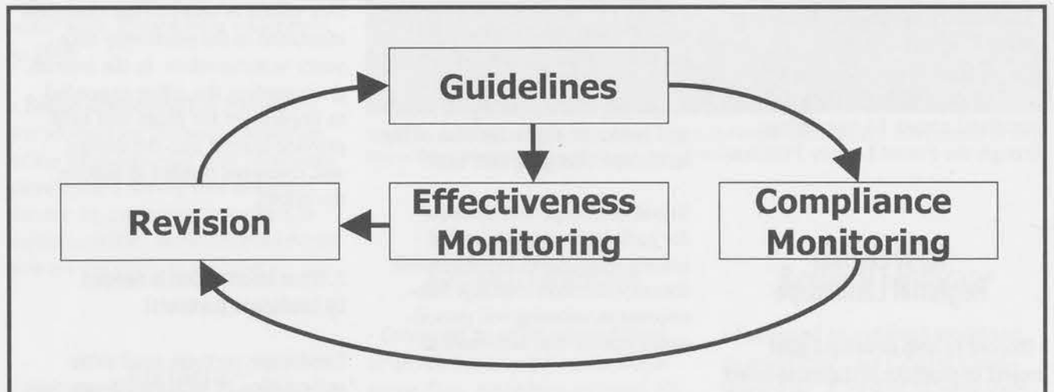
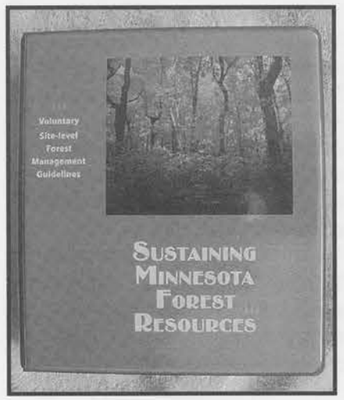


Figure 3. The MFRC's process of monitoring voluntary guidelines, along with feedback obtained from training programs, provides input in making guideline revisions.



The revised forest management guidebook provides guidelines to assist in the sustainable management of forestland. *Photo by Mike Phillips, MFRC*

Have the revised guidelines been distributed?

Yes. In 2005, the MFRC published a revised timber harvesting and forest management guidebook titled *Sustaining Minnesota Forest Resources: Voluntary Site-level Forest Management Guidelines.*

Approximately 2,000 copies have been distributed to loggers, resource managers, landowners, educators, and other interested parties to assist in the sustainable management of forestland.

How are the guidelines utilized in forestland certification?

Sustainable forest management is being promoted in Minnesota through forestland certification. Two of the principal certification programs adopted in Minnesota are the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

In addition, the MFRC is actively supporting the implementation of a Master Logger Program that is being developed and promoted through the Minnesota Logger Education Program (MLEP). Use of the MFRC's timber harvesting and forest management guidelines is central to successful compliance with certification requirements for these programs.

All DNR state forestland is certified, as well as forestland in a number of counties and a substantial amount of private forestland. A number of forest landowners are currently in various stages of obtaining certification or working for dual certification from more than one certification program.



Riparian management zones are evaluated for compliance with guideline recommendations. *Photo by Rick Dahlman, Minnesota DNR Forestry*

What work is under way to revise riparian guidelines?

The Council charged its Riparian Science Technical Committee (RSTC) to "bring forth the best applicable scientific knowledge in order to assist the MFRC in resolving outstanding riparian guideline questions/topics/issues." The RSTC completed its work in 2006, and MFRC staff are completing a report on committee recommendations. Results will inform MFRC discussions on proposed guideline revisions for incorporation into the second revision of the guidebook.

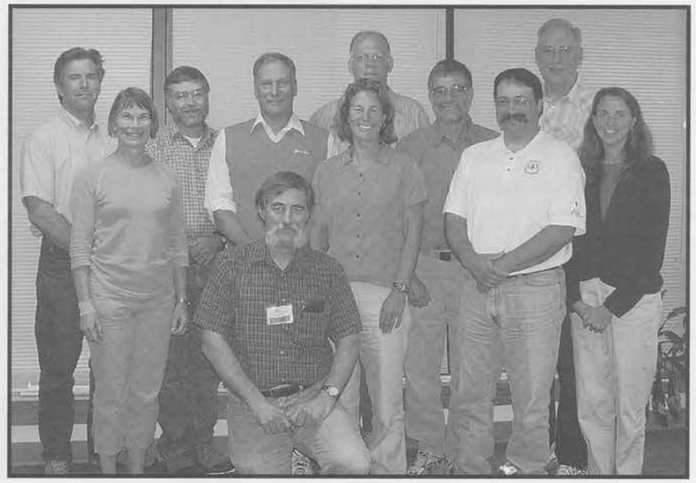
In addition, the MFRC will convene a panel of economists to evaluate the work of the RSTC. This latter effort is in response to the Sustainable Forest Resources Act of 1995 (SFRA), which states: "Before the implementation of timber harvesting and forest management guidelines, new site-level practices, and landscape-level programs, the council shall analyze the costs and benefits of new site-level practices and landscape-level programs."[7]

[7] Minnesota Statutes 89A.05, Subd. 2

What are future planned directions for guideline revisions?

A core component of guideline development is the need to periodically review and revise the recommendations based on new information or mandates. The MFRC, through the site-level program, is moving forward in evaluating the science of riparian forest management and developing guidelines for the sustainable harvest of biomass from forestland and brushland.

(photo below) The MFRC expresses its gratitude to the Riparian Science Technical Committee (RSTC) for its efforts in evaluating the science of riparian forest management. The work of the RSTC is assisting the MFRC in better understanding recent advances in scientific understanding of riparian areas related to forest management in preparation for considering changes to current riparian guidelines to better address the unique conditions and management questions in riparian habitat. RSTC members (left to right) are Brian Palik, Lucinda Johnson, Mark Hanson, George Ice, Mike Phillips (chair, kneeling), JoAnn Hanowski, Dan Gilmore, Dave Grigal, Randy Kolka, Sandy Verry and Diane Desotelle (facilitator). *Photo provided by Mike Phillips, MFRC*



What work is under way to develop guidelines for the sustainable harvest of woody biomass from forestland and brushland?

In 2005, the Minnesota Legislature expanded the definition of "farm-grown closed-loop biomass" to include "sustainably managed woody biomass." The statutory charge states the following:

> "(h) Guidelines or best management practices for sustainably managed woody biomass must be adopted by: (1) the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for managing and maintaining brushland and open land habitat on public and private lands,…and (2) the Minnesota Forest Resources Council for logging slash, using the most recent available scientific information regarding the removal of woody biomass from forest lands, to sustain the management of forest resources… with particular attention to soil productivity, biological diversity, …and wildlife habitat."[8]

These guidelines must be completed and approved by the MFRC by July 1, 2007, and the process of developing them must incorporate public notification and comment. The DNR and the MFRC agreed to consolidate the guideline development effort into one process, under the direction of the MFRC.



A 12-member interdisciplinary technical committee is developing two sets of guidelines: one for brushland and one for forestland. These guidelines will complement the current MFRC site-level forest management guidelines, but they may be published as separate documents.

(photo above) The MFRC expresses its gratitude to the Biomass Guideline Committee (BGC) for its efforts in developing guidelines for the harvest of woody biomass from forestland and brushland. BGC members (left to right) include Dan McCourtney, Dick Rossman (chair), Erv Berglund, Bill Berguson, Pat Orent, Steve Merchant, Diane Desotelle (facilitator), Dave Grigal, Barb Leuelling, Kurt Rusterholz, Steve Olson, Bill Berg and John Thompson. Not pictured: Tom McCabe *Photo by Mike Phillips, MFRC*

(photo below) Biomass Guideline Committee members Dave Grigal, Dick Rossman and Bill Berguson (left to right) discuss site impacts related to the harvest of woody biomass. *Photo by Mike Phillips, MFRC*



[8]Minnesota Statutes 216B.2424

Monitoring

What do we monitor?

Monitoring is an essential component of the MFRC's efforts to ensure implementation of the SFRA.[9] The DNR, with oversight and direction from the MFRC, continues to move forward with three key monitoring programs identified in the SFRA:

- **Compliance monitoring** is the evaluation of the use of the timber harvesting and forest management guidelines contained in the guidebook *Sustaining Minnesota Forest Resources: Voluntary Site-level Forest Management Guidelines*.
- **Forest resource monitoring** evaluates broad trends and conditions in the state's forest resources at statewide, landscape, and site levels.
- **Effectiveness monitoring** provides a research focus for the Council as it evaluates the effectiveness of the guideline practices in protecting specified resource functions and values.

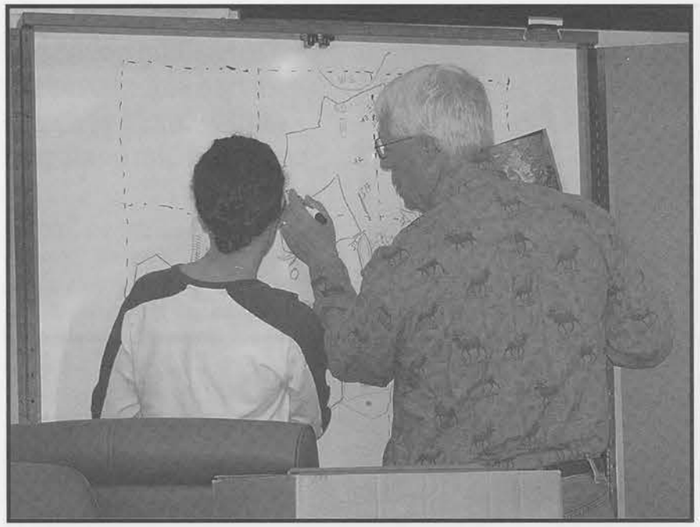


A monitoring team uses string levels to evaluate depth of rutting in a black spruce stand. *Photo by Mike Phillips, MFRC*

In addition, the MFRC has the responsibility of maintaining a program to monitor and respond to citizen concerns regarding potentially negligent timber harvesting and forest management practices. This program is referred to as the Public Concerns Registration Process.

Monitoring is an essential component of the MFRC's efforts to ensure implementation of the SFRA.

[9]Minnesota Statutes 89A.07



Monitoring team members review and discuss compliance with guideline recommendations for a state timber sale. *Photo by Mike Phillips, MFRC*

What is the status of compliance monitoring for 2006?

The DNR completed its sixth year of monitoring the application of timber harvesting and forest management guidelines on public and private forestland.

The DNR is in the process of analyzing the three years of baseline monitoring results[10] (2000-2002) and statistically comparing these results to the three years of post-baseline results (2004-2006).

This analysis will provide the MFRC with information that includes:

- Identification of successes and deficiencies in the application of specific guidelines by landowner categories.

- Assistance to the MFRC, MLEP, MFRP, and Sustainable Forests Education Cooperative in targeting future education efforts and technical assistance to landowners, loggers, and resource managers.

- Identification of trends in guideline use to determine whether the stated goal of continuous improvement is being achieved.

In 2006, 91 sites were randomly selected and monitored (see box below). Of that total, only 29 were nonindustrial private forest (NIPF) landowners, even after an effort in 2006 to select a larger number of NIPF landowners by photographing additional sites during the site selection process.

Identifying, locating, contacting, and obtaining permission to visit harvest activities continues to be one of the primary difficulties that limits the number of participating NIPF sites.

Landowner category	Number of sites
NIPF	29
State	26
County	22
US Forest Service	4
Private Industrial	10
Total	**91**

How effective were monitoring and research efforts in 2006?

The MFRC continues to support the collaborative Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR) research project that is evaluating the effectiveness of the MFRC timber harvesting and forest management guidelines to protect specific riparian functions.

The MFRC is also supporting a study evaluating the economic costs of applying the guidelines. Both of these studies are important for ensuring that the guidelines provide for sustainable forest management.

[10]Baseline sites were those that were harvested or contracted for harvest prior to publication of the MFRC guidelines in 1999.

Evaluating the effectiveness of the MFRC riparian guidelines

Work is continuing on the LCMR-funded riparian research project titled *Evaluating Riparian Timber Harvesting Guidelines: Phase II.*

- Phase I of the study identified site conditions prior to timber harvest and evaluated immediate impacts to terrestrial, aquatic, and bird habitat immediately following harvest.

- Phase II is intended to characterize lasting impacts from harvesting, as well as whether those changes affect forest productivity and future site conditions.

- Phase III will identify and recommend changes to guidelines that could improve the ability of those practices to enhance riparian forest protection.

The specific focus of the study will be to assess marginal cost differences in forestry operations with and without the guidelines. Activity motion recorders and global positioning system (GPS) data loggers will be used to assess time-in-motion for the harvesting and skidding equipment.

Aerial photography and field assessments will be used to evaluate the extent to which guidelines were applied during normal forestry operations. These techniques will provide an empirical measure of the difference in operational harvesting time with and without the guidelines.

The following organizations are supporting this research: University of Minnesota, Department of Forest Resources; Minnesota DNR; USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station; MFRC; Minnesota Timber Producers Association; Minnesota Forest Industries; St. Louis County Land Department; and Minnesota Logger Education Program.

Assessing the costs associated with applying timber harvesting guidelines

A study titled *An Empirical Cost Assessment of the Timber Harvesting and Forest Management Guidelines in Minnesota* has begun, with the main goal of assessing the extent to which the application of MFRC timber harvesting and forest management guidelines results in additional financial costs to timber harvesters in the form of decreased production efficiency. This study will also evaluate the impact of site and stand factors on harvesting productivity.

How do we monitor forestland uses?

In 2005, the MFRC monitored land use change using satellite-based change detection methods. These methods look for locations in which forestland is developed for housing, roads and other utilities, or agriculture. The very low rates of change reported last year failed to confirm widely held perceptions of much higher rates of forestland change in many areas of the state.

As a result, the MFRC is exploring alternative methods for quantifying forestland uses. Additional sources of information, including county tax parcel records, will be examined for potential use in documenting land use change. Current change detection methods, however, are very effective for identifying forest harvest and will continue to be used for that purpose.



Part of the monitoring process includes measuring basal area in riparian management zones. *Photo by Mike Phillips, MFRC*

How do citizen concerns regarding timber harvesting or forest management practices serve as ongoing monitoring?

The Public Concerns Registration Process (PCRP) provides a way for citizens to inform landowners, foresters, and loggers of specific concerns about timber harvesting and forest management practices that they see in Minnesota.

Although it is not a regulatory or punitive program to stop timber harvests or resolve disputes over contractual issues or forest management activities, the PCRP does encourage sustainable management of Minnesota's forests by emphasizing education of those involved.

- **Citizens benefit** because the PCRP allows citizens to be a catalyst for mitigation of any problems on a site, and to learn more about forest management and sustainable forestry.

- **Landowners, loggers, and foresters benefit** by becoming more aware of public concerns regarding forest management, and by learning more about guidelines for sustainable forest management.

- **The MFRC benefits** from receiving summaries of concerns registered through the PCRP. These summaries help the MFRC understand citizens' expectations for how Minnesota's forests should be managed.

The MFRC can use these insights to decide which, if any, additional guidelines are needed and to identify continuing education programs needed for forest managers, forest owners, loggers, and citizens.



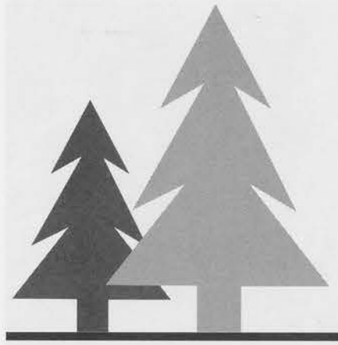
Leave trees can provide food and habitat to a variety of bird species. *Photo by Mike Phillips, MFRC*

Landowners, loggers, and foresters benefit by becoming more aware of public concerns regarding forest management, and by learning more about guidelines for sustainable forest management.

What citizen concerns did the MFRC investigate in 2006?

In 2006, two citizen concerns were filed and investigated in Itasca and St. Louis counties. Since the program's inception in 1998, the PCRP has addressed a total of 23 concerns.

To learn more about activities of the PCRP, as well as a more detailed explanation of the PCRP process, visit the MFRC website at http://www.frc.state.mn.us/



Education

What is the Minnesota Logger Education Program?

The Minnesota Logger Education Program (MLEP) is a logger-initiated program established in 1995 to promote high operational standards, enhance logger professionalism, and respond to the SFRA.

MLEP provides training for logging business owners, employees, and other resource managers in the areas of sustainable forest resource management, workplace safety, business management, and transportation. (For more information, visit www.mlep.org)

In 2006, MLEP's membership includes 420 logging business owners. Membership is voluntary and reflects the commitment of logging business owners to safe, productive, and environmentally responsible timber harvesting. Independent research has determined that MLEP's membership currently represents more than 90% of Minnesota's annual timber harvesting activities.

The Minnesota Logger Education Program (MLEP) is a logger-initiated program established in 1995 to promote high operational standards, enhance logger professionalism, and respond to the SFRA.

What continuing education did loggers receive in 2006?

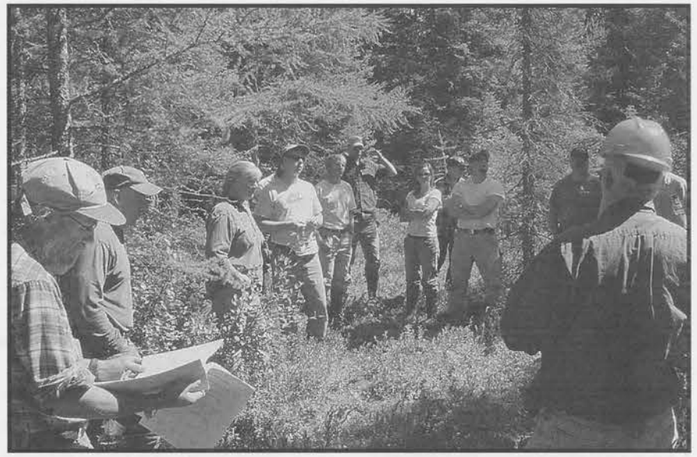
In an ongoing effort to improve the implementation of sustainable forest management practices, MLEP offered a variety of training opportunities for logging and natural resource professionals.

Training was offered throughout the state, including in Bemidji, Biwabik, Cloquet, Grand Marais, Grand Rapids, International Falls, Ironton, Rochester, Two Harbors, Virginia, and Walker.

MLEP coordinated a total of 27 workshops and two logger conferences. Specific topics included training on Minnesota's forest management guidelines, guideline implementation issues, road building layout and maintenance, operator select thinning, financial strategies for logging businesses, opportunities in biomass harvesting, utilizing GPS, equipment maintenance and training, skilled log truck driving, and truck weight compliance training.

In addition, MLEP maintains a database that tracks training completed by logging business owners and employees. To maintain membership status, MLEP members are required to attend 16 hours of continuing education on an annual basis.

MLEP also documents certain legal and business requirements, such as federal and state tax identification numbers, unemployment and workers' compensation insurance, workplace accident and injury reduction programs, and company policies on substance abuse.



DNR and county staff discuss minimizing impacts to peatlands harvested for decorative trees. *Photo by Mike Phillips, MFRC*

What is logger certification?

MLEP's Master Logger Certification Program provides added confidence to customers and the public that the person performing a harvest has the education and experience to do the job correctly. It is an independent, third-party audit of a logging business's harvest, safety, and business practices.

Logger certification provides formal recognition of those logging businesses that have met the high standard required for certification.

Demand for certified forest resources is increasing. Timber harvested from family forestland (NIPF land) by Minnesota Certified Master Loggers can be marketed to mills and other customers as certified wood. In 2006, 10 logging businesses achieved the status of "Minnesota Certified Master Logger."

What is the Sustainable Forests Education Cooperative?

The Sustainable Forests Education Cooperative (SFEC), located in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Natural Resource Sciences, University of Minnesota, was established in response to the Minnesota Sustainable Forest Resources Act of 1995.

Its purpose is to provide innovative education programs for natural resource professionals by providing training on current research findings, new technologies, and state-of-the-art practices.

The cooperative continues to promote excellence in natural resource management by offering a range of technical and professional education programs for practicing natural resource managers in all sectors of forestland management professions, including wildlife management. (For more information, visit http://sfec.cfans.umn.edu/)

The Cooperative has also been a co-leader in the planning and implementation of MFRC forest management guideline education programs since 1999. In September 2006, two forest management guidelines workshops (Introductory and Site Quality) were held near Winona in southeastern Minnesota.

In addition, a new workshop was added to the forest management guidelines education programs to address topics specifically related to forest roads. The Forest Roads and Skid Trails Construction and Maintenance workshop was offered twice this fall, once in north central Minnesota and once in northeastern Minnesota.

What continuing education did natural resource professionals receive in 2006?

As in previous years, educational programming for natural resource professionals in 2006 addressed a variety of topics, including woody biomass management and utilization, field data collection and management, ecological classification systems, forest genetics, ecological forestry, and forest landscape goals.

A highlight of 2006 was graduating the first training group in the certificate course in Ecosystem Silviculture. This six-module, intensive short course, funded by the Blandin Foundation's Vital Forests/Vital Communities Initiative, is the first in-depth, multi-agency training to utilize the ecological forest site classification system in field skill practice and in management applications.

By June 2007 all three training groups, a total of 60 trainees, will have completed the course. These 60 trainees include 26 county land department foresters, nine DNR wildlife biologists, five Bureau of Indian Affairs foresters, four tribal foresters, four DNR foresters, three community college instructors, two industry foresters, two Soil and Water Conservation District foresters, two USDA Forest Service, Superior National Forest silviculturalists, one Minnesota DNR Office of Management and Budget forest ecologist, one forester from The Nature Conservancy, and one private consulting forester. (See http://sfec.cfans.umn.edu/featured.html#cces)

A highlight of 2006 was graduating the first training group in the certificate course in Ecosystem Silviculture. Funded by the Blandin Foundation, this course is the first in-depth, multi-agency training to utilize the ecological forest site classification system in field skill practice and management applications.

In January 2006, the Cooperative held the fifth Forest and Wildlife Research Review Symposium. This program included research presentations on web-based silviculture guides, changes in Great Lakes forest cover, carbon accounting, trends in the wildland real estate market, forest waterfowl and wetland issues, and the evolution of transportation in the Upper Midwest and its potential impacts on forest product movement.

This symposium attracted approximately 140 participants. The MFRC continues to be a financial sponsor of this symposium.

The Cooperative coordinated 13 workshops and conferences (35 workshop days) during 2006, including assisting the Minnesota Tree Improvement Cooperative with its third Northern Forest Genetics Association Conference.

In addition to workshops and conferences, the Cooperative continues to manage a database that tracks continuing education credits for the Minnesota Forest Stewardship Program.

Forest Information-Sharing and Outreach

How is information shared among forest resource agencies?

The Interagency Information Cooperative (IIC), mandated by the SFRA, was established to increase information-sharing among forest resource agencies, landowners, managers, and the general public. The IIC website, established in 1998, continues to provide information about Minnesota's forest resources (http://iic.gis.umn.edu/).

The IIC was created in the late 1990s to enhance the access and use of forest resources data in Minnesota. In 2004, the Legislature moved responsibility for the IIC to the University of Minnesota.

The University of Minnesota has conducted a user needs assessment and implemented a new web design for the site to make it more user friendly. It also added new information to the site, including:

• Strategies for Improving Forest Productivity in Minnesota

• IIC User Needs Assessment

• *Minnesota's Forest Resources,* a 2005 DNR report

How is information about the MFRC and its activities made available to the public?

• The MFRC website continues to serve as an integral source for information. The MFRC regularly posts new reports and information at www.frc.state.mn.us

• Information about the MFRC periodically appears in the press.

How is the public encouraged to participate in forest resources programs?

MFRC and SFRA programs all require participation of individuals interested in forest resources in Minnesota. There are many ways for interested individuals to become involved:

• **Attend MFRC meetings.** Scheduled meetings are posted on MFRC's website at www.frc.state.mn.us/Info/calendar.html, or call 651-603-0109 for meeting dates.

• **Participate in landscape regional committees.** For more information, contact Lindberg Ekola at 320-256-8300 or ekola.mfrc@charter.net

• **Use the timber harvesting/forest management guidelines.** They are available on MFRC's website at http://www.frc.state.mn.us/FMgdline/Guidebook.html, or contact the MFRC at 651-603-0109 for a paper copy.

• **Notify the MFRC of specific timber harvesting or forest management activities that concern you.** Call toll-free 1-888-234-3702, or register your concern online at www.frc.state.mn.us

• **Attend forest resources educational programs.** For additional information, contact:

– Sustainable Forests Education Cooperative: Call 218-726-6404 or go to http://sfec.cfans.umn.edu/

– Minnesota Logger Education Program: Call 218-722-5442 or go to www.mlep.org/

• **Access information regarding Minnesota's forest resources** from the Interagency Information Cooperative at http://iic.gis.umn.edu/

MFRC Documents Produced in 2006

All MFRC documents are available on the MFRC's website: www.frc.state.mn.us/Info/MFRCdocs.html

MFRC Annual Report

2005 Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature on the Implementation of the Sustainable Forest Resources Act (January 2006)

Landscape Program

An Ecological Classification and Assessment of Minnesota's Northern Landscape. George Host, Terry Brown, and Paul Meysembourg, Natural Resources Research Institute, University of Minnesota-Duluth, November 2006

Minnesota Forests and the Range of Natural Variation: A 10-Year Update for the Northern Superior Upland and Drift and Lake Plains Ecological Sections of Northern Minnesota. George Host and Terry Brown, Natural Resources Research Institute, University of Minnesota-Duluth, May 2006

Guideline Program

Costs and Benefits of Riparian Forest Management: A Literature Review. Robert Paterson and Dr. Kevin Boyle, Industrial Economics, December 2005

Monitoring Program

Minnesota Forest Resources Council – Public Concerns Registration Process 2006 Annual Report (August 2006)

Acronyms

BGC	Biomass Guidelines Committee
DNR	Department of Natural Resources
FIA	Forest Inventory and Analysis
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
GIS	Geographic information system
GPS	Global positioning system
IIC	Interagency Information Cooperative
LCMR	Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources
MLEP	Minnesota Logger Education Program
MFRC	Minnesota Forest Resources Council
MFRP	Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership
NIPF	Nonindustrial private forest
PCRP	Public Concerns Registration Process
PCWL	Productive Conservation on Working Lands
RSTC	Riparian Science Technical Committee
SFEC	Sustainable Forests Education Cooperative
SFI	Sustainable Forestry Initiative
SFRA	Sustainable Forest Resources Act
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture

Minnesota Forest Resources Council 2006 Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature on the Implementation of the Sustainable Forest Resources Act

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BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD N.
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2007

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Dana Allen, Paul Brutlag, Paul Eger, MPCA; Quentin Fairbanks, Larry Kramka, DNR; Randy Kramer, Paul Langseth, Joe Martin, MDA; Brian Napstad, Ken Robinson, Louise Smallidge, Gene Tiedemann, LuAnn Tolliver, Dan Wilson, MDH

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
Jim Anderson, MES
Bob Burandt
Brian Kletscher

STAFF PRESENT:
Mary Jo Anderson, Don Buckhout, Tim Fredbo, Dan Girolamo, Jim Haertel, John Jaschke, Kevin Lines, Sarma Stramanis, Dave Weirens, Tom Wenzel, Steve Woods

OTHERS PRESENT:
Wayne Edgerton, DNR
Gary Bruggeman, Steele County
Tim Koehler, NRCS

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

** 07-91 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Moved by Louise Smallidge, seconded by Paul Langseth, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-92 **MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2007** – Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Ken Robinson, to approve the minutes of September 26, 2007, as circulated. Motion passed on a voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

- Steve Woods introduced Don Buckhout, oversight coordinator. Today is Don's first day with BWSR, yesterday was his last day with DNR. Don provided background information about himself. Don stated that he looks forward to the opportunity and challenges of this new position. Chair Kramer welcomed Don to BWSR.

- John Jaschke stated that Leon Zeug had been listed on the agenda today to be introduced; however, Leon is attending the Water Resources Conference today and will be introduced at the December meeting.

REPORTS

Chair's Report – Chair Kramer reported that the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) did not meet this month. Chair Kramer reported that he received a letter from Mary Mueller, President of Wetlands for Minnesota, regarding a Northeastern Cooperative Wetland Bank with involvement by Barr Engineering. John Jaschke will prepare a formal response to Mary Mueller.

Executive Director's Report – John Jaschke summarized BWSR's "To Do List" and presented an update of activities in the following categories as they relate to the 2008-09 budget/policy legislation: Administrative, Clean Water Legacy, Drainage Assistance Team, Local Government, Oversight, Reinvest In Minnesota, Wetland Conservation Act, Drought Response, Southeast Minnesota Flooding, LCCMR, and 2008 Bonding.

John noted that interested board members are welcome to attend the Watersheds, Wetlands and Buffer Subcommittee tour and meeting on November 6. The tour will be in southeastern Minnesota and the hearings are to-be-determined locations. Board members interested in attending should contact John.

Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC) – Jim Haertel reported that two new appeals have been filed, both are restoration orders; one in Mille Lacs County, and the other in Benton County. Jim reported that the DRC Workshop is scheduled for November 5, at the MNDOT Conference Center in St. Cloud.

Wetlands Committee – LuAnn Tolliver reported that the Wetlands Committee met via conference call on October 12. Staff is developing a schedule for the stakeholders group. LuAnn stated that the Wetlands Committee has other items to be considered later today on the agenda.

Grants Program and Policy Committee – Louise Smallidge reported that the Grants Program and Policy Committee did not meet this month, their next meeting will be via conference call with a report and agenda items at the December meeting.

Public Relations, Outreach & Strategic Planning Committee – Brian Napstad reported that the draft Strategic Plan will be presented later today on the agenda for board members' information.

Administrative Advisory Committee (AAC) – Chair Kramer reported that the AAC met this morning at 7:30. Items will be considered later today on the agenda. Chair Kramer stated that the draft updated per diem and expenses policy will be distributed to board members in December for consideration.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Southern Water Planning Committee

** 07-93 **Blue Earth County Priority Concerns Scoping Document** – Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Dan Wilson, to approve the Blue Earth County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Chair Kramer reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee met to review the Blue Earth County Priority Concerns Scoping Document and recommends approval. Discussion followed. Quentin Fairbanks suggested a standardized response from agencies. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-94 **Brown County Priority Concerns Scoping Document –** Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Dan Wilson, to approve the Brown County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Chair Kramer reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee met to review the Brown County Priority Concerns Scoping Document and recommends approval. Motion passed on a voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Easement Acquisition Scenario for the Grass Lake Restoration Project –
** Moved by Joe Martin, seconded by Ken Robinson, to take from the table the Easement Acquisition Scenario for the Grass Lake Restoration Project. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Kevin Lines reported that the RIM Reserve Planning Committee met on October 17th and recommends using a site specific market appraisal of the Grass Lake Prairie wetland restoration project lands (per MN Stat. 103F.515., subd. 6, subp. 5, alternative payment systems for RIM Reserve) to make easement offers to the owners of the remaining parcels. Tom Wenzel presented background information on the Grass Lake Restoration Project. Discussion followed.

The motion authorizes staff to use values determined from a site specific market appraisal of the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project properties to establish RIM Reserve easement payment rates for the remaining properties
07-95 within the project area. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** **Grass Lake Project Grant Funds to Kandiyohi County** – Moved by Larry
07-96 Kramka, seconded by Brian Napstad, to authorize staff to use funding appropriated for the Grass Lake Project in an amount not to exceed ten percent of the total appropriation and to grant those funds, as necessary, to Kandiyohi County for use on approved project implementation activities, including but not limited to, contracts for project services. Discussion followed. Tom Wenzel presented background information. Motion passed on a voice vote.

John Jaschke stated that the RIM Reserve Planning Committee will be reviewing the process for establishing competitive RIM Reserve payment rates, including the use of appraisal information, as a means to accomplish targeted easement acquisitions. The targeted completion date for this effort is July 1, 2008. Paul Brutlag stated that the RIM Reserve Planning Committee's role is to review and assess the process.

Chair Kramer called for a break in the meeting at 10:40 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 10:55 a.m.

Strategic Plan – Brian Napstad, Chair of the Public Relations, Outreach and Strategic Planning Committee, introduced Cliff Tweedale and Steve Woods. The draft Strategic Plan was distributed. Brian commented on the changes since last year: new Board, new committee chair, new executive director; we have a ten-year old strategic plan that needs to be revised. Cliff acknowledged the great

work of the Public Relations & Strategic Planning Committee. Steve asked board members to review and comment on the draft strategic plan with comments to Steve by November 14. Cliff challenged the Committee to review and assess the strategic plan in one year. Discussion followed. Joe Martin suggested that measurable outcomes and accomplishments be included in the strategic plan. Chair Kramer asked that board members submit comments to Steve. The Committee will meet prior to the December meeting to address comments and will be expected to present the Strategic Plan to the full Board at the December or January meeting. Larry Kramka suggested that the Strategic Plan be used as a guide on work planning for staff and board members. Chair Kramer stated that this is a draft document that will be disseminated to BWSR partners. Board members should solicit input individually. Ultimately, the Board will adopt the Strategic Plan. Chair Kramer thanked Brian, Steve, and Cliff for their efforts.

NEW BUSINESS

Release of 1.4 Acres of Conservation Eaesment 74-04-94-01, Steele County Bridge Replacement Project – Tim Fredbo presented background information. The BWSR easement alteration policy allows staff to give tentative approval for
** easement alterations involving public infrastructure projects. Moved by Louise
07-97 Smallidge, seconded by Quentin Fairbanks, to authorize staff to proceed with preparing the legal documents to amend this easement once staff receives the $8,394.40 payment from Steele County. Tim stated that all documents are in place to release this easement. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Local Government Road Wetland Replacement Project Approval – Dan Girolamo explained that the Wetlands Committee has reviewed, discussed, and approved the staff recommendation to fund nine wetland restoration projects. The request would authorize staff to pursue three alternate projects for the 2007 Road Program should any of the nine recommended for funding drop out. Board approval is needed to encumber bonding funds and to inform all applicants and
** the general public of the results. Moved by LuAnn Tolliver, seconded by Ken
07-98 Robinson, to approve the nine A list wetland banking projects for funding and authorize staff to pursue the projects on the B list, in order, should any A list project drop out contingent on available funding. Discussion followed. Larry Kramka asked if wetland exceptional natural resource value credits should be included? Dan stated that staff are partnering with DNR and others to work on this project. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Wetland Conservation Act Funding for the Eleven-County Metro Area – Dave Weirens presented background information. BWSR was appropriated $250,000 in each year of the current biennium to make grants to local units of

government within the eleven-county metropolitan area to improve response to major wetland violations. Dave stated that the Wetland Committee discussed this new appropriation and recommends that the Board adopt the allocation proposal that is based on a formula of an equal base allocation to all SWCDs plus a need allocation.

** 07-99 Moved by LuAnn Tolliver, seconded by Gene Tiedemann, to accept the Wetland Committee's recommendation to allocate the Wetland Conservation Act funding for the eleven-county metropolitan area. Discussion followed. Motion passed on a voice vote.

AGENCY REPORTS

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) - Dan Wilson reported that the Special Legislative Session authorized funding to MDH for two special projects: 1) funding for flooded wells, providing grants for cleaning wells, that process is moving forward. The second project funded is for testing wells in flooded areas, that is also moving forward.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) - Larry Kramka stated that he will report on the Con-con rules at the next Board meeting. Larry stated that the drought situation has changed in the State, lots of rains in the past few months, although the steady rains don't produce a lot of runoff, so there is still concern for soil moisture and water levels. Larry stated that he will provide a handout on wetland flights at the next Board meeting.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) - Paul Eger reported that the draft Impaired Waters List is on public notice. One additional public meeting has been scheduled for October 29, 1-3 p.m. at the St. Louis Park City Hall. Paul reported that MPCA just released the water quality improvement projects under the Clean Water Partnership Program; it's now available on the MPCA website.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) - Joe Martin reported that drought and disaster applications are being accepted. There is $750,000 available for agriculture best management practices; fencing is now eligible. Joe reported that he will tour the Discovery Farms in Wisconsin on October 29. Joe explained that Discovery Farms are private operational farms that work closely with the Extension Service to do research. MDA is exploring how the Discovery Farms Program might work best in Minnesota. Joe stated that internally MDA is addressing the issue of transporting firewood infested with emerald ash borer.

ADVISORY COMMENTS

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) - Tim Koehler reported that NRCS received an EQIP allocation of over $20M, the challenge is that the money needs to be obligated before the new Farm Bill is passed. Sign-up starts November 1. Tim reported that NRCS is working on SE flood assistance and has $500,000 of EQIP cost-share money for this effort. Tim reported that NRCS has a special initiative for the northern drought and is supporting that with $.5M of funding primarily for grazing. Tim reported that the Wetland Reserves Program received an additional increase. There is $75M nationwide, allowing additional offers to producers. NRCS anticipates additional resources for Minnesota producers when the Farm Bill is finalized. Tim distributed "NRCS 2007 Accomplishment Report" for board members' information.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- MAWD Annual Meeting, November 29 – December 1, Alexandria
- MASWCD Annual Meeting, December 2 – 4, Rochester
- AMC Annual Meeting, December 3 – 5, Minneapolis

Chair Kramer encouraged board members' attendance at the upcoming annual meetings. He asked board members to contact Mary Jo Anderson by November 5th if they plan to attend. Board members should make their own room reservations.

- Next Board Meeting, December 19th in St. Paul

Paul Brutlag stated that the RIM Reserve Planning Committee will meet immediately following the Board meeting today.

** 07-100 Moved by Louise Smallidge, seconded by Dana Allen, to adjourn the meeting at 12:35 p.m. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Kramer
Chair

BWSR "To Do" List: 2008-09 Budget/Policy legislation…& more *(Oct 23rd, 2007 Update)*

- **Administrative**
  - **Staffing plan** developed, vacancies sequenced and DOER approval for phase 1 complete; recruitment and interviews underway
  - **Space needs** accommodated in field and Central Office w/minor reconfig.
  - **e-LINK** (conservation results reporting) remodeling project staged and underway: servers, query builder for LGUs, web-based software
  - Regular **financial audit** for FY04-07 to be finalized by OLA with BWSR response in Oct. or Nov. Non-eLINK tool for grants compliance to be built.
  - **Strategic Plan**: stakeholders/staff/board initial input, presentation of working draft at Oct. Board meeting
- **Clean Water Legacy**
  - Agreement with MCC for contracting for services complete
  - Metro specialist position initial of round interviews complete
  - Grants RFP out - responses to be reviewed by interagency team
  - Clean Water Legacy Council: S. Woods = representative
  - **NE wetland mitigation strategy**: RFP for contract under review - report to the legislature by June 30, 2009
  - Report being drafted to legislature on **feedlot cost/needs** by January 2008 (w/MDA, PCA)
  - **Ag watershed hydro restoration** ($1.5M): 1 mtg. - need to scope/develop RFP
- **Drainage Assistance team**
  - Develop preservation and modernization guidelines (June 2008) – agreement with Minn. State – Mankato for needs/best practices underway
  - Update MN Drainage Manual (no formal action - to be completed June 2009)
  - Facilitation of Drainage Workgroup – looking at metro systems, and clarifications of drainage law to help RIM and other programs to implement multi-purpose projects.
- **Local Government - Programs/Policies/Assessment**
  - **SWCD web site** grants ($40K) out with request for summary data for booklet
  - NEW programs:
    - **Native Vegetation buffers** Cost-Share: staff committee met Oct 22nd; 3 options: SE Flood Counties with RIM, seed producers, local govt RFP
    - **County Weed Management Cooperative**: partners assembled, grant criteria developed
    - **Forestry docket** for Cost-Share program – proposal under external review
  - SWCD/WD Public Officials filing with Campaign Finance and Disclosure Board; Watonwan SWCD succession plan/process underway
  - Demographic Survey of SWCD and WD officials to be completed by mid-Nov.
  - SWCD Non-point Engineering program assessment underway – Nov. 1 mtg.
- **Oversight** *($100,000/year one-time for agency implementation)*
  - Local Govt./BWSR development team has met twice. Admin. Advisory Committee to shape.
  - **Coordinator position** (temp. unclass.) approved by DOER – Don Buckhout hired
  - Develop performance standards and evaluation criteria (June 2008).
  - Develop BWSR ability to post/maintain oversight information on agency web-site
  - **Report required each year**, beginning February 2008, to the legislature on the performance of local water management entities.
  - Begin evaluation on a limited basis in FY2009
  - Supplemental FY09 budget request to be proposed at ~$350K/yr.
- **Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM)**
  - ***RIM - Clean Energy*** technical committee assembled on Sept 11th to develop program proposal for legislative consideration by Feb. 2008; to include payment rates and geographic locations. Subcommittees working with MEI and U of M –

Applied Economics = contractors ($200K). Connections to Next-Gen and DNR native seed harvesting and working lands initiative.

- Awarded research grants per legislative directive, monitor and report at end of 2 years: a.) $300K to Forest Resources Council via U of M, b.) $200K to U of M Department of SWC for research on means --such as temporary cover crops-- to mitigate harm from removing corn residue for bioenergy production.
- **RIM program plan** underway to assure another 20 years of success. To assess targeting tools such as appraisals and tiered payments.
- Supplemental FY09 budget request to be proposed for long-term easement care and monitoring.

▪ Wetland Conservation Act

- Emergency **rulemaking** complete, permanent rule process underway
- Grant allocation process for 11 metro counties: finalize at Oct. Board meeting - $250,000/year
- Transfer of $250,000/year to DNR for enforcement done – flights expected
- **Administrative Penalty Order** authority – have discussed with Finance and implementation options exploration begun in consultation with PCA, DNR, AG. Supplemental FY09 budget request to be considered. Dispute Resolution Committee workshop set for Nov. 5th in St. Cloud.
- Appeals fee increases to be considered by Dispute Resolution Committee
- Banking fees – tracking as revenue

Drought Response

In response to the drought disaster declaration BWSR instituted the provisions of MS 103F.515, Subd. 4 (3) to allow haying and grazing on RIM Reserve and PWP conservation easements in the 24 declared drought disaster counties. SWCD staff worked with landowners to prepare requests from only a handful of landowners.

SE MN Flooding

- $150,000 Cost Share allocated to SWCD's: Fillmore, Root River, and Winona.
- $50,000 allocated to SWCD's: Dodge, Olmsted, Steele, and Wabasha.
- The remaining new funds ($2.35M) will be allocated in coordination with the Minnesota Recovers Task Force.
- RIM Easements $1M new + $1.1M redirected
- Garvin Brook Watershed planning meeting to be held in Minnesota City on October 30.
- House Hearing/Tour – Nov 6th.
- MN Inter-County Assn. Presentation on Nov 14th in Rochester.

LCCMR: 3 proposals submitted

- Conservation Easements stewardship: database, 5 county enhanced inspections, funding source assessment with DNR
- Local Water Management Challenge Grants
- Soil Survey continuance/completion package

2008 Bonding: assisting legislative staff and providing presentations for House and Senate regional tours through November

- RIM (to complement WRP and pick up high-priority expiring CRP)
- RIM-CE
- Wetland Roads Mitigation
- Clean Water Legacy (streambanks, lakeshore, roadsides)
- Grass Lake, Kandiyohi Co.

BWSR Organization Chart

October 1, 2007

BOARD

John Jaschke *Executive Director*

Mary Jo Anderson
Executive Assistant

Programs and Policy Development -- (Vacant) *Assistant Director*

Administrative and Technology Services -- Bill Eisele, Director

Regional Operations -- Steve Woods *Assistant Director*

(PROPOSED) *Conservation Policy Specialist -- Measures / Outcomes*

(NEW) *Oversight Coordinator*

Easements / Private Lands Conservation
Kevin Lines - Manager

Land and Water Management
Dave Weirens - Manager

Technical Services and Training
Al Kean - Co-Manager **Greg Larson - Co-Manager**

(NEW) *Metro Region Mgr*

Jeff Nielsen *Southern Region*

Ron Shelito *Northern Region*

Easements / Private Lands Conservation

Tim Fredbo *Conservation Easement Spec.*
Polly Remick *Realty Specialist*
Kristie Mack *Easement Proc.*

WCA Regulatory

(VACANT) *WCA Coordinator*
Natasha DeVoe *Wetland Planner*
Char Sokatch *Banking Spec.*
Sarma Straumanis *DOT Banking Spec.*

Grants

Wayne Zellmer *Grants Coordinator*
Michelle Lewis *Grants Spec.*

Water Management

Jim Haertel *Water Mgmt. Specialist*
(NEW) *Appeals / Local Water Management*

Engineering

Tom Wenzel *Sr. Water Res. Engineer*
Leon Zeug *Project Engineer*
Karen Bonde *Cons. Engineering Tech.*
Jeff Hedtke *Cons. Engineering Tech.*
Jim Luniewski *Cons. Engineering Tech.*
Scott Santjer *Cons. Engineering Tech.*
Tom Schmidt *Cons. Engineering Tech.*
(NEW) *Drainage Engineer*

Training

(NEW) *Training Coordinator*

Soils / Hydrology / Vegetation

Eric Mohring *Hydrologist*
(PROPOSED) *BWSR / U of M Soil Scientist*
Dan Shaw *Vegetation Spec.*

Wetland Banking

Dan Girolamo *Banking Admin.*
Carol Strojny *Lead Field Tech.*
Karli Swenson *Field Tech.*
Interns

Finance & Accounting

Dianne Hubbell *Acctng Officer*
(NEW) Grants / Accounting Tech.

Communications

Jon Fure *Communications Dir.*

IT / eLINK

Tim Ogg *IT Director*
Conor Donnelly *IT Specialist*
Aaron Spence *GIS Specialist*
(PROPOSED) *eLINK - Program*
(PROPOSED) *eLINK - GIS*

Central Office OAS

Kari Keating *Admin. Support*
Deb Salinas *Admin. Support*

Les Lemm *Board Conservationist*
Lynda Peterson *Wetland Specialist*
Brad Wozney *Board Conservationist*
(NEW) *Clean Water Specialist*
(NEW) *Sr. Wetland Specialist*

Matt Drewitz *Clean Water Specialist*
Dorothy Erickson *Admin. Support*
Tom Fischer *Board Conservationist*
Mark Hiles *Feedlot Board Conser.*
Tabor Hoek *Board Conservationist*
Chris Hughes *Board Conservationist*
Mary Kells *Board Conservationist*
Jeremy Maul *Sr. Wetland Specialist*
Dave Peterson *Board Conservationist*
Roxie Serreyn *Admin. Support*
David Sill *Board Conservationist*
Carla Swanson-Cullen *Admin. Support*
(NEW) *BWSR / DNR Working Lands*
(NEW) *Drainage Specialist*

Bill Best *Wetland Specialist*
Brian Dwight *Board Conservationist*
Mary Jo Flemming *Admin. Support*
Keith Grow *Wetland Specialist*
Brigette Grundmeier *Admin. Support*
Jeff Hrubes *Clean Water Specialist*
Dale Krystosek *Sr. Wetland Spec.*
Jim Lemmerman *Forestry Board Conser.*
Mark Nelson *Board Conservationist*
John Overland *Wetland Specialist*
Chad Severts *Board Conservationist*
Dan Steward *Board Conservationist*
Pete Waller *Board Conservationist*
Jason Weinerman *Board Conservationist*
(NEW) *Admin. Support - 50%*
(NEW) *WCA Specialist*
(NEW) *WCA Specialist*
(NEW) *Drainage / Watershed Specialist*

Dispute Resolution Report
October 15, 2007
by: Jim Haertel

There are presently 19 appeals pending. All of the appeals involve WCA except File 05-24. There have been no new appeals filed since the last report dated September 13, 2007. However, appeal file 07-24 involving Gaetz Brothers Realty in St. Cloud, which was previously denied, has been appealed to the Minnesota Court of Appeals.

File 07-25. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in Benton County. The appeal involves the approval of a replacement plan application for 7.8 acres of wetland fill. A previous decision on the project had been appealed and was remanded for a public hearing at the local level. The appeal has been accepted, a pre-hearing conference was held on September 18 and is scheduled to be continued on October 17.

File 07-23. This is an appeal of two restoration orders in Pine County. The appeal involves the filling of wetland in association with construction of roads. One of the restoration orders has been rescinded. A forestry exemption has been applied for in response to the other restoration order. The appeal has been placed in abeyance pending a decision on the exemption request.

File 07-19. This is an appeal of an exemption determination in Roseau County. The appeal involves the approval of an exemption application for War-Road Estates. Further work at the local level has been completed under remand. The appeal may be withdrawn.

File 07-15. This is an appeal of an exemption determination in Carver County. The appeal regards the denial of a wetland exemption application on agricultural land. The appeal has been remanded for a public hearing at the local level.

File 07-14. This is an appeal of an exemption determination in Carver County. The appeal regards the denial of a wetland exemption application on agricultural land. The appeal has been remanded for a public hearing at the local level.

File 06-43. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Morrison County. The appeal involves the placement of fill in wetland near a lake. The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration order has been stayed pending field review by the Technical Evaluation Panel.

File 06-23. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in Kanabec County. The LGU denied the wetland replacement plan application. A previous denial of the same replacement plan application had been appealed, the appeal was remanded for a hearing, and now the current denial has been appealed. The appeal has been placed in abeyance pending the outcome of a lawsuit between the landowner and the county. The lawsuit

concerns the county's possible noncompliance with the 60-day rule. The county prevailed in district court, however the decision has been appealed to the Court of Appeals.

File 06-17. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in the City of Montgomery in LeSueur County. The LGU denied an after-the-fact wetland replacement plan application based on a lack of sufficient reasons why the restoration could not be completed. The appeal has been remanded for further processing at the local level.

File 06-12. This is an appeal of a no-loss decision in Stearns County. It involves the same project and issues as File 06-6. After a restoration order was issued, a no-loss application was submitted by the developer and denied by the LGU. The appeal has been remanded for further technical evaluation.

File 06-6. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Stearns County. At issue are numerous wetlands impacted by filling, sedimentation, reduction of hydrology and lack of Best Management Practices associated with a residential development. The appeal has been denied in part. The Restoration Order has been affirmed in part and has been stayed in part.

File 06-5. This is an appeal of a wetland boundary and type decision in the City of Hermantown in St. Louis County. The appeal concerns the denial of a wetland delineation. There are issues regarding the soils and vegetation in a disturbed area. The area has been disturbed by wetland filling and a cease and desist order has been issued to the developer. The appeal has been remanded for further processing by the LGU.

File 06-4. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Carlton County. At issue is the unauthorized placement of fill in wetland for a roadway. The appeal is in abeyance pending completion of a wetland delineation during the growing season.

File 05-24. This is an appeal, actually three appeals, of the Bois de Sioux Watershed District compensation to landowners related to a project. The appeal has been held in abeyance pending settlement discussions. It appears at least two of the appeals have been settled.

File 05-20. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in Cokato, Wright County. The decision approved the filling of a 0.2 acre Type 2 wetland on a residential lot for construction of a residence. There is a question about the alternatives proposed for sequencing. Also, no TEP was held. The appeal has been remanded for a TEP to be held and sequencing to be addressed.

File 05-17. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in the City of Holdingford in Stearns County. At issue is the denial of a replacement plan application relating to a residential development. Wetland impacts of 0.7 acres were proposed for construction of a road and multi-use trail. The TEP recommended approval of the application. The LGU denied the application on finding the development could proceed without wetland

impacts. The Corps issued a permit for the project. The appeal has been accepted and is in abeyance pending settlement discussions.

File 05-1. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision by the Rice Creek Watershed District. The District previously made a decision that was appealed which resulted in a remand for an expanded TEP. Now there is an appeal of the decision made under remand since the decision differed from the TEP report. At issue is a wetland delineation and the Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan that BWSR approved. After a hearing before the DRC, the board remanded the matter for a new wetland delineation and for submission on an updated, complete replacement plan application.

File 04-26. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Spring Lake Township, Scott County. At issue is the placement of 4,300 feet of fill in a wetland for a driveway. The approved plat showed access to the lot without wetland impacts. The appeal is in abeyance pending a decision on a replacement plan application.

File 04-23. This is an appeal of a forestry exemption decision in Kittson County. Unpermitted fill was placed in a Type 7 wetland for a road. A Cease and Desist Order was issued. Additional filling has recently occurred in violation of the CDO. Corps and DNR violations also exist. The appeal has been accepted and is in abeyance pending completion of a wetland delineation and submittal of a replacement plan application.

File 04-15. This is an appeal of a wetland boundary and type decision in Anoka County. At issue is the decision by the Rice Creek Watershed District to classify a site as effectively drained. Previously a wetland delineation report identified most of the site as wetland. The appeal has been remanded for a technical evaluation panel to meet onsite. The appeal remains in abeyance under the remand.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Southern Water Planning Committee

1. Blue Earth County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – ***DECISION ITEM***

2. Brown County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – ***DECISION ITEM***

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

September 19, 2007

Mr. Jeff Nielsen
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
261 Highway 15 South
New Ulm, MN 56073

Dear Jeff:

Blue Earth County has submitted their Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) for the 2007 Local Water Management Plan Update to BWSR and other state agencies. BWSR received this document on June 19, 2007. State agency comments were received from DNR, MDA, MDH, and MPCA. DNR concurred with the priority concerns identified. DNR felt the priority concern identification process was adequate and commendable. DNR also commented that the Department looks forward to looking with the County. MDA commented that the process to identify priority concerns was commendable and concurred with the priority concerns identified. The MPCA concurred with the priority concerns and asked the County to consider a revision concerning groundwater quality related to the shallow well near the Blue Earth River used for Mankato drinking water. MPCA asked the County to consider adding additional context to the surface water quality priority concern and noted the good text related to agricultural land use and surface water quality. MPCA provided comments to consider related to wetland benefits, state drainage code. Finally, MPCA asked the County to consider adding a priority concern related to the County use of its planning and zoning and land use authority related to the production of ethanol. The Minnesota Department of Health feels the process to identify the priority concerns was commendable and concurs with the priority concerns. No other state agency comments were received during this review period. In addition to PCSD comments, the MPCA, BWSR, DNR, MDA, MDH and numerous other local stakeholders provided comments early on in the process.

On behalf of the BWSR I have completed my review of the Blue Earth County PCSD and recommend the BWSR concur with the priority concerns identified.

I look forward to working with County elected officials, staff, and residents as the plan update moves forward. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at 507-389-6784.

Sincerely,

Chris Hughes
Board Conservationist

Bemidji
3217 Bemidji Avenue N.
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
217 S. 7th Street
Suite 202
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
415 W. Stanton Avenue
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
40 16th Street S.E.
Suite A
Rochester, MN 55904
phone (507) 285-7458
fax (507) 280-2875

Saint Paul
One West Water Street
Suite 250
Saint Paul, MN 55107
phone (651) 282-9969
fax (651) 284-0000

Web: www.bwsr.state.mn.us TTY: (800) 627-3529 An equal opportunity employer Printed on recycled paper

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

October 24, 2007

Blue Earth County Commissioners
c/o Julie Conrad
Blue Earth County Water Plan Coordinator
P.O. Box 3566
410 South Fifth Street
Mankato, MN 56001

Dear Blue Earth County Commissioners:

RE: Official Comments Pertaining to the State Review of the Blue Earth County Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.313, subdivision 5, this letter communicates the State's official comments pertaining to the priority concerns Blue Earth County has chosen to address in the update of their Comprehensive Local Water Management (LWM) Plan. The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), along with the state review agencies, received the Blue Earth County Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) on June 19, 2007.

Blue Earth County has reviewed the identified concerns raised during the public input process and selected the following priority concerns for inclusion in the update of the LWM Plan.

- Groundwater
- Surface Water Quality
- Drainage
- Wetlands
- Wildlife and Natural Resources

The BWSR received comments from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) on the Blue Earth County PCSD during the official review period. All agencies concurred with priority concerns identified. DNR felt the priority concern identification process was adequate and commendable. DNR also commented that the Department looks forward to working with the County. MDA commented that the process to identify priority concerns was commendable. The MPCA asked the County to consider a revision concerning groundwater quality related to the shallow well near the Blue Earth River used for Mankato drinking water. MPCA asked the County to consider adding additional context to the surface water quality priority concern and noted the good text related to agricultural land use and surface water quality. MPCA provided comments to consider related to wetland benefits, state drainage code. Finally MPCA asked the County to consider adding a priority concern related to the County use of its planning and zoning and land use authority related to the production of ethynol. The Minnesota Department of Health feels the process to identify the priority concerns was commendable.

Bemidji
3217 Bemidji Avenue N
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
217 S. 7th Street
Suite 202
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
413 W. Stanton Avenue
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
40 16th Street S.E.
Suite A
Rochester, MN 55904
phone (507) 285-7458
fax (507) 280-2875

Saint Paul
One West Water Street
Suite 250
Saint Paul, MN 55107
phone (651) 282-9969
fax (651) 284-0000

On September 27, 2007, the BWSR southern region water planning review committee (hereinafter referred to as Committee) met to discuss the content of the PCSD, state review agency comments on the PCSD, and recommendations for the content of the final LWM Plan.

The Committee commends Blue Earth County for the process they used to select the concerns – including soliciting input from local government, citizens, and state agencies – and incorporating that information into the five priority concern areas. The priority concerns to be addressed in the LWM Plan are deemed to be appropriate; the Committee does not recommend or require any changes to the PCSD as drafted.

Sincerely,

Randy Kramer, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

c: Becky Balk, MDA
Joe Martin, MDA
John Wells, EQB
Art Persons, MDH
Mark Matuska, DNR
David L. Johnson, MPCA
Dan Wilson, MDH
Dana Allen, BWSR Board
Brian Kletscher, BWSR Board
Randy Kramer, BWSR Board
Jeff Nielsen, BWSR Southern Region Supervisor
Chris Hughes, Board Conservationist
Julie Conrad, County Water Planner
Blue Earth SWCD

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

September 19, 2007

Mr. Jeff Nielsen
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
261 Highway 15 South
New Ulm, MN 56073

Dear Jeff:

Brown County has submitted their Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) for the 2007 Local Water Management Plan Update to BWSR and other state agencies. BWSR received this document on August 9, 2007. State agency comments were received from DNR, MDA and MPCA. DNR concurred with the priority concerns identified. DNR felt the priority concern identification process was adequate. DNR also commented that the Department would work in partnership with the County to address groundwater and wetland/water retention priorities, river and stream channel restoration and fish passage to provide healthy aquatic habitats, adequate recreational opportunities in the County and increasing economic benefits. MDA commented that the process to identify priority concerns was commendable and concurs with the priority concerns identified. The MPCA concurred with the priority concerns and applauded the County's efforts to track application rates and manage manure spreading acres by animal agriculture. The MPCA encourages the County to build on their current efforts due to the multiple water quality benefits associated with sound manure management. The MPCA asked the County to consider broadening priority concern number five to include multiple sources of pathogen loading to surface water, including livestock manure in feedlot or land application settings. The MPCA encouraged the County to participate in the development and implementation of TMDLs for impaired waters and to plan for how additional water quality monitoring may be conducted for a more comprehensive water quality assessment. MPCA provided a link to water quality data that may be useful for the County, mentioned that the agency looks forward to reviewing the forthcoming plan and is available to assist in the development and implementation of the plan. No other state agency comments were received during this review period. In addition to PCSD comments, the MPCA, BWSR, DNR, MDA, MDH and numerous other local stakeholders provided comments early on in the process.

On behalf of the BWSR I have completed my review of the Brown County PCSD and recommend the BWSR concur with the priority concerns identified.

I look forward to working with County elected officials, staff, and residents as the plan update moves forward. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at 507-389-6784.

Sincerely,

Chris Hughes
Board Conservationist

Bemidji
3217 Bemidji Avenue N.
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
217 S. 7th Street
Suite 202
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
413 W. Stanton Avenue
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
40 16th Street S.E.
Suite A
Rochester, MN 55904
phone (507) 285-7458
fax (507) 280-2875

Saint Paul
One West Water Street
Suite 250
Saint Paul, MN 55107
phone (651) 282-9969
fax (651) 284-0000

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Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

October 24, 2007

Brown County Commissioners
c/o Paul Davis
Brown County Water Plan Coordinator
P.O. Box 248
New Ulm, MN 56073

Dear Brown County Commissioners:

RE: Official Comments Pertaining to the State Review of the Brown County Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.313, subdivision 5, this letter communicates the State's official comments pertaining to the priority concerns Brown County has chosen to address in the update of their Comprehensive Local Water Management (LWM) Plan. The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), along with the state review agencies, received the Brown County Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) on August 9, 2007.

Brown County has reviewed the identified concerns raised during the public input process and selected the following priority concerns for inclusion in the update of the LWM Plan.

- Groundwater
- Soil Erosion Concerns
- Drainage
- Wetlands/Water Retention
- Human Wastewater

The BWSR received comments from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) on the Brown County PCSD during the official review period. DNR concurred with the priority concerns identified. DNR felt the priority concern identification process was adequate. DNR also commented that the Department would work in partnership with the County to address groundwater and wetland/water retention priorities, river and stream channel restoration and fish passage to provide healthy aquatic habitats, adequate recreational opportunities in the county and increasing economic benefits. MDA commented that the process to identify priority concerns was commendable and concurs with the priority concerns identified.

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The MPCA concurred with the priority concerns and applauded the County's efforts to track application rates and manage manure spreading acres by animal agriculture. The MPCA encourages the county to build on their current efforts due to the multiple water quality benefits associated with sound manure management. The MPCA asked the county to consider broadening priority concern 5 to include multiple sources of pathogen loading to surface water, including livestock manure in feedlot or land application settings. The MPCA encouraged the County to participate in the development and implementation of TMDLs for impaired waters and to plan for how additional water quality monitoring may be conducted for a more comprehensive water quality assessment. MPCA provided a link to water quality data that may be useful for the County, mentioned that the agency looks forward to reviewing the forthcoming plan and is available to assist in the development and implementation of the plan.

The BWSR southern region water planning review committee (hereinafter referred to as Committee) met on September 27, 2007 to discuss the content of the PCSD, state review agency comments on the PCSD, and recommendations for the content of the final LWM Plan.

The Committee commends Brown County for the process they used to select the concerns – including soliciting input from local government, citizens, and state agencies – and incorporating that information into the five priority concern areas. The priority concerns to be addressed in the LWM Plan are deemed to be appropriate; the Committee does not recommend or require any changes to the PCSD as drafted.

Sincerely,

Randy Kramer, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

c: Becky Balk, MDA
Joe Martin, MDA
John Wells, EQB
Art Persons, MDH
Mark Matuska, DNR
David L. Johnson, MPCA
Dan Wilson, MDH
Dana Allen, BWSR Board
Brian Kletscher, BWSR Board
Randy Kramer, BWSR Board
Jeff Nielsen, BWSR Southern Region Supervisor
Chris Hughes, Board Conservationist
Paul Davis, County Water Planner

OLD BUSINESS

1. Easement Acquisition Scenario for the Grass Lake Restoration Project – Kevin Lines and Tom Wenzel – ***DECISION ITEM***

The RIM Reserve Planning Committee met on October 17, 2007 and developed the following recommendations *(10-23-07)*.

A. **Approve Easement Acquisition Scenario for the Grass Lake Restoration Project**

Background

The BWSR has been working in partnership with the City of Willmar, Kandiyohi County and the Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District as efforts continue to restore this critical water resource. To date, the BWSR has secured, through the Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve program, over 1,100 acres of land in this project area. The BWSR received $2.2 million from the state's 2006 capital investment appropriation for this project to continue with the acquisition of RIM Reserve easements on the remaining 400-500 acres of land (six properties) needed to restore this drained wetland and to help with other implementation costs.

The remaining six properties have not accepted the payment rates offered to them for the easements using the standard RIM rates. The RIM Reserve Planning Committee unanimously recommends the following:

> A site specific market appraisal of the Grass Lake Prairie wetland restoration project lands (per MN Stat. 103F.515., subd. 6, subp. 5, alternative payment systems for RIM Reserve) "easements based on cash rents on a similar system as may be determined by the BWSR board."

DECISION ITEM

B. Grant Funds to Kandiyohi County – Kandiyohi County has agreed to assist the state and other project partners with implementation of the Grass Lake Restoration Project. Board approval is being sought to allow staff to develop grant agreements with Kandiyohi County in an amount not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the total appropriation. Grant funds would be limited for use on approved project implementation activities including, but not limited to, contracts for project services such as design, monitoring and modeling.
DECISION ITEM

C. The RIM Reserve Planning Committee will be reviewing the process for establishing competitive RIM Reserve payments rates, including the use of appraisal information, as a means to accomplish targeted easement acquisitions. The targeted completion date for this effort is July 1, 2008.
INFORMATION ITEM

Board Resolution #_____

Approve Specific RIM Reserve Payment Rates for the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project

WHEREAS the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) has been involved since the early 1990's with the restoration of the 1,200-acre Grass Lake Prairie Wetland located in Kandiyohi County;

WHEREAS the Board is in partnership with the city of Willmar, Kandiyohi County, and the Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District as efforts continue to restore this critical water resource;

WHEREAS to date the Board has secured, through the Reinvest in Minnesota Reserve (RIM) program just over 1,100 acres of land in this project area under perpetual conservation easements;

WHEREAS the Board received $2.2 million from the state's 2006 capital budget appropriation specific to this project to continue with the acquisition of RIM Reserve easements on the remaining 400 to 500 acres of land (6 properties) needed to restore this drained wetland and to help with other project implementation costs;

WHEREAS per MN Statutes §8400.3530, Subpart 1, "Standard" RIM rates are calculated using an average of previous years assessed market values for agricultural lands within a township";

WHEREAS to date, the owners of those 6 properties have not accepted the payment rates offered to them for the easements using the standard RIM rates adopted by the Board; and

WHEREAS per MN Statues §103F.515, subdivision 6, subpart 5, "an alternative payment system for (RIM Reserve) easements based on cash rent or a similar system as may be determined by the (BWSR) board".

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources authorizes staff to use values determined from a site specific market appraisal of the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project properties to establish RIM Reserve easement payment rates for the remaining properties within the project area.

_____ _____

Randy Kramer, Chair Date
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

C:\JJ\RIM\Grass Lake\2007 BWSR Board Resolution for Acquisition.doc

Board Resolution #_____

Authorize the use of Grants to Assist with the Implementation of the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project

WHEREAS the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) is involved with the restoration of the 1,200-acre Grass Lake Prairie Wetland located in Kandiyohi County;

WHEREAS the Board received $2.2 million from state's 2006 capital budget appropriation specific to this project to acquire conservation easements and conduct the necessary implementation activities to restore this drained wetland;

WHEREAS the Board is in partnership with the city of Willmar, Kandiyohi County, the Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District, and other project partners as efforts continue to restore this critical water resource;

WHEREAS Kandiyohi County has agreed to manage and oversee some of the required project implementation activities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources authorizes staff to use funding appropriated for the Grass Lake Project in an amount not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the total appropriation and to grant those funds, as necessary, to Kandiyohi County for use on approved project implementation activities, including but not limited to, contracts for project services.

_____ _____

Randy Kramer, Chair Date
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

C:\JJ\RIM\Grass Lake\2007 BWSR Board Resolution for Grant Funds.doc

Board Resolution # 07-95

Approve Specific RIM Reserve Payment Rates for the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project

WHEREAS the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) has been involved since the early 1990's with the restoration of the 1,200-acre Grass Lake Prairie Wetland located in Kandiyohi County;

WHEREAS the Board is in partnership with the city of Willmar, Kandiyohi County, and the Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District as efforts continue to restore this critical water resource;

WHEREAS to date the Board has secured, through the Reinvest in Minnesota Reserve (RIM) program just over 1,100 acres of land in this project area under perpetual conservation easements;

WHEREAS the Board received $2.2 million from the state's 2006 capital budget appropriation specific to this project to continue with the acquisition of RIM Reserve easements on the remaining 400 to 500 acres of land (6 properties) needed to restore this drained wetland and to help with other project implementation costs;

WHEREAS per MN Statutes §8400.3530, Subpart 1, "Standard" RIM rates are calculated using an average of previous years assessed market values for agricultural lands within a township";

WHEREAS to date, the owners of those 6 properties have not accepted the payment rates offered to them for the easements using the standard RIM rates adopted by the Board; and

WHEREAS per MN Statues §103F.515, subdivision 6, subpart 5, "an alternative payment system for (RIM Reserve) easements based on cash rent or a similar system as may be determined by the (BWSR) board".

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources authorizes staff to use values determined from a site specific market appraisal of the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project properties to establish RIM Reserve easement payment rates for the remaining properties within the project area.

Randy Kramer, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

10/24/07
Date

C:\JJ\RIM\Grass Lake\2007 BWSR Board Resolution for Acquisition.doc

Board Resolution # 07-96

Authorize the use of Grants to Assist with the Implementation of the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project

WHEREAS the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) is involved with the restoration of the 1,200-acre Grass Lake Prairie Wetland located in Kandiyohi County;

WHEREAS the Board received $2.2 million from state's 2006 capital budget appropriation specific to this project to acquire conservation easements and conduct the necessary implementation activities to restore this drained wetland;

WHEREAS the Board is in partnership with the city of Willmar, Kandiyohi County, the Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District, and other project partners as efforts continue to restore this critical water resource;

WHEREAS Kandiyohi County has agreed to manage and oversee some of the required project implementation activities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources authorizes staff to use funding appropriated for the Grass Lake Project in an amount not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the total appropriation and to grant those funds, as necessary, to Kandiyohi County for use on approved project implementation activities, including but not limited to, contracts for project services.

Randy Kramer, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

10/24/07
Date

C:\JJ\RIM\Grass Lake\2007 BWSR Board Resolution for Grant Funds.doc

October 9, 2007

TO: Board Members

THRU: Kevin Lines, Easement Section Administrator

FR: Tim Fredbo, Conservation Easement Specialist

RE: Release of 1.4 Acres From Conservation Easement 74-04-94-01, Steele Co. Bridge Replacement Project on SW 81st Street

BACKGROUND:

Mr. Gary Bruggeman, County Engineer for Steele County, has requested the BWSR to approve removing 1.4 acres of land currently in a perpetual RIM Reserve conservation easement to facilitate a bridge replacement and road re-alignment project in the SE ¼ of Section 20, T106N, R20W, Steele County. The land proposed for release was originally enrolled in the RIM program in 1994 by John Connacker. The perpetual riparian easement contains 27.9 acres adjacent to Judicial Ditch (JD) 2, also known as the Straight River. The 1.4 acres proposed for release are adjacent to SW 81st Street and contain about .4 acres of Type 2 wetland. The release acres are required to re-align the bridge for safety reasons and the new bridge is required as the existing one causes flooding during high water periods on the Straight River, stranding 7 families who live on SW 81st Street. SW 81st ST is a dead end road so the residents have no other way to get to and from their homes.

All the wetland impacts associated with this project have been approved or permitted by the DNR, US Army Corp, and Steele County Environmental Services, who is the WCA LGU in this case. The project will have .28 acres of on-site replacement wetlands and .66 acres are to be replaced through the BWSR Road Replacement Program. The BWSR has received copies of all approvals and permits from all three regulatory bodies prior to entertaining this request to release our RIM easement acres.

MN Statute Section 84C.02, and RIM Reserve rule section 8400.3610 allows the Board to alter, release or terminate an easement after consultation with the commissioners of agriculture and natural resources. An easement may only be altered, released or terminated if the Board determines that the public interests and general welfare are better served by the proposed action. To assist the Board in making it's decision the rule also states that the following items must be submitted before the Board will consider a request to alter, release or terminate an easement:

A) A letter from the landowner or project sponsor to the SWCD Board requesting the change.
B) A letter or minutes from the SWCD recommending either approval or disapproval of the proposed change.
C) A letter from the DNR area wildlife manager recommending either approval or disapproval of the proposed change.

The above listed items have been received and are attached for your review.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION PROVIDED TO SUPPORT REQUEST:

Mr. Bruggeman has submitted two letters requesting a release of the RIM easement to enable this bridge reconstruction project. The initial letter was dated May 8, 2007 and is included as *attachment 1*. The second letter, dated September 10, 2007, is included as *attachment 2*. The second letter came after the RIM release process and wetland impacts were explained to Mr. Bruggeman. I did not want the Board to consider this request until after I knew that the wetland impacts were permitted and/or approved by all entities with wetland regulatory jurisdiction.

Mr. Bruggemans letters refer to wanting 1.89 acres released from the easement. That number is incorrect, as it represents the entire area needed for the project and all these acres are not under the RIM easement. Just 1.4 acres of the 1.89 total are in the easement.

Attachments 3, 4 and 5 were submitted by Mr. Bruggeman and are location maps, survey maps and photos of the project area in question.

Attachment 6 is a map of our easement area showing the 1.4 acres proposed for release.

The Steele SWCD Board has approved of this release request. This is confirmed in the attached letter from Dan Arndt, Steele SWCD Manager, *attachment 7*.

Jeanine Vorland, DNR Area Wildlife Manager has also reviewed this proposal. Ms. Vorland approves the easement alteration request in her 8/10/07 letter to Mr. Bruggeman, *Attachment 8*.

FINDINGS:

This alteration request, as proposed, would release 1.4 acres from the 27.9 acre easement, leaving 26.5 acres in the perpetual easement. The Boards easement alteration policy for release requests such as this requires Steele County to pay for the acres released at 2 times the current average township assessed market value (ATAMV). In this case the county would need to pay $8,394.40 for the release of the 1.4 acres (1.4 acres x $2,998/ac x 2 = $8,394.40). The county has already paid the $500 processing fee for this request.

All wetland impacts associated with this bridge project have been approved by the agencies with wetland regulatory jurisdiction (Army Corp, DNR, WCA) and I have received copies of all their approvals.

In both Mr. Bruggemans letters he is concerned with the cost to release the 1.4 acres. SW 81st Street is a township road and Somerset Twp. is paying for this project.

Both the Steele SWCD and the DNR have recommended approval of the easement release.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve of the release for the easement. The BWSR easement alteration policy allows staff to give tentative approval for easement alterations involving public infrastructure projects. I have indicated to the County that this proposed release would receive Board approval. The BWSR Easement alteration policy can be found at the following website if you need to review it: http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/easements/easement%20alteration%20policy.pdf

STEELE COUNTY
OWATONNA, MN 55060

(507) 444-7670
Fax: (507) 444-7684

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
County Admin. Annex
635 Florence Ave.
Owatonna, MN 55060

May 8, 2007

Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
Attn: Holly Remick
2nd floor
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Rim Easement number 74049401

Dear Ms. Remick:

Per our phone conversation today, Steele County is requesting that approximately 1.89 acres of land that is in a RIM easement with John Connaker, be allowed to be taken out of the RIM program and used to construct a replacement bridge and approaches for Somerset Township in Steele County, MN.

The project is needed as there are 7 families that live on the dead end township road, who are stranded, without emergency services, during high water. The existing bridge waterway opening is too small for Straight River high water events. The bridge backs up water which then overflows over the west bridge approach and strands these folks for several weeks, then the road needs to be repaired to make it passable in many cases. In 2002, there were 2 high water events that really created problems for these families.

The dead end road situation was created by the construction of I 35.

The construction plan is to construct the replacement bridge 50 feet south of the existing bridge, with approaches. Then the existing bridge and existing approaches will be removed. This approach is needed to avoid stranding the families, without basic emergency services during the construction of the new bridge. The length of the project will be over 2 months. Some wetlands restoration will occur when the existing approaches are removed.

The County became aware of the RIM easement during the initial phase of acquiring the needed Right of Way from Mr. Connaker and is now acting on that information in an attempt to keep the project construction start in this year.

The County is acting as the agent for Somerset Township on this project. The County has tried to reduce the impact on not only the RIM easement but also on some identified wetlands in the project boundaries.

Lastly, the County is requesting that any penalties for the land being removed from the RIM easement be minimized as much as possible, to lower the overall cost/burden of the project on the Township.

Gary Bruggeman

Gary Bruggeman, P.E.
Steele County Engineer

ATTACHMENT 1

"AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"
50% Recycled-10% Post Consumer Waste

STEELE COUNTY
OWATONNA, MN 55060

(507) 444-7670
Fax: (507) 444-7684

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
County Admin. Annex
635 Florence Ave.
Owatonna, MN 55060

10 September 2007

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
Attn: Holly Remick
2nd Floor
St. Paul, MN 55155

SEP 12 2007

RE: RIM Easement Number 74049401

Dear Ms. Remick:

Steele County sent a letter, dated 8 May 2007, requesting approximately 1.89 acres of land in a RIM easement with John Connaker, be allowed to be taken out of the RIM program and used to construct a replacement bridge and approaches for Somerset Township in Steele County, MN.

Steele County has received letters of concurrence from the Steele County Soil and Water Service and the MN Department of Natural Resources in (attachment A).

The justification for the request is as stated in the initial letter in attachment B. The location of the new bridge was moved 50 feet to the south of the existing bridge for several reasons including better sight distance at the intersection of the new township approach on CSAH 3, impacting less wetlands, and drainage issues north of the existing bridge.

An aerial photograph and right of way plat showing the project boundaries is in attachment C. A county map showing the project site is also in attachment C.

Steele County is acting as the agent for Somerset Township on this project. The County has taken the initiative in reducing the impact, not only the RIM easement, but also on identified wetlands within the project boundaries. The wetland impacts are found in attachment D.

Additional information on the existing bridge is in attachment E.

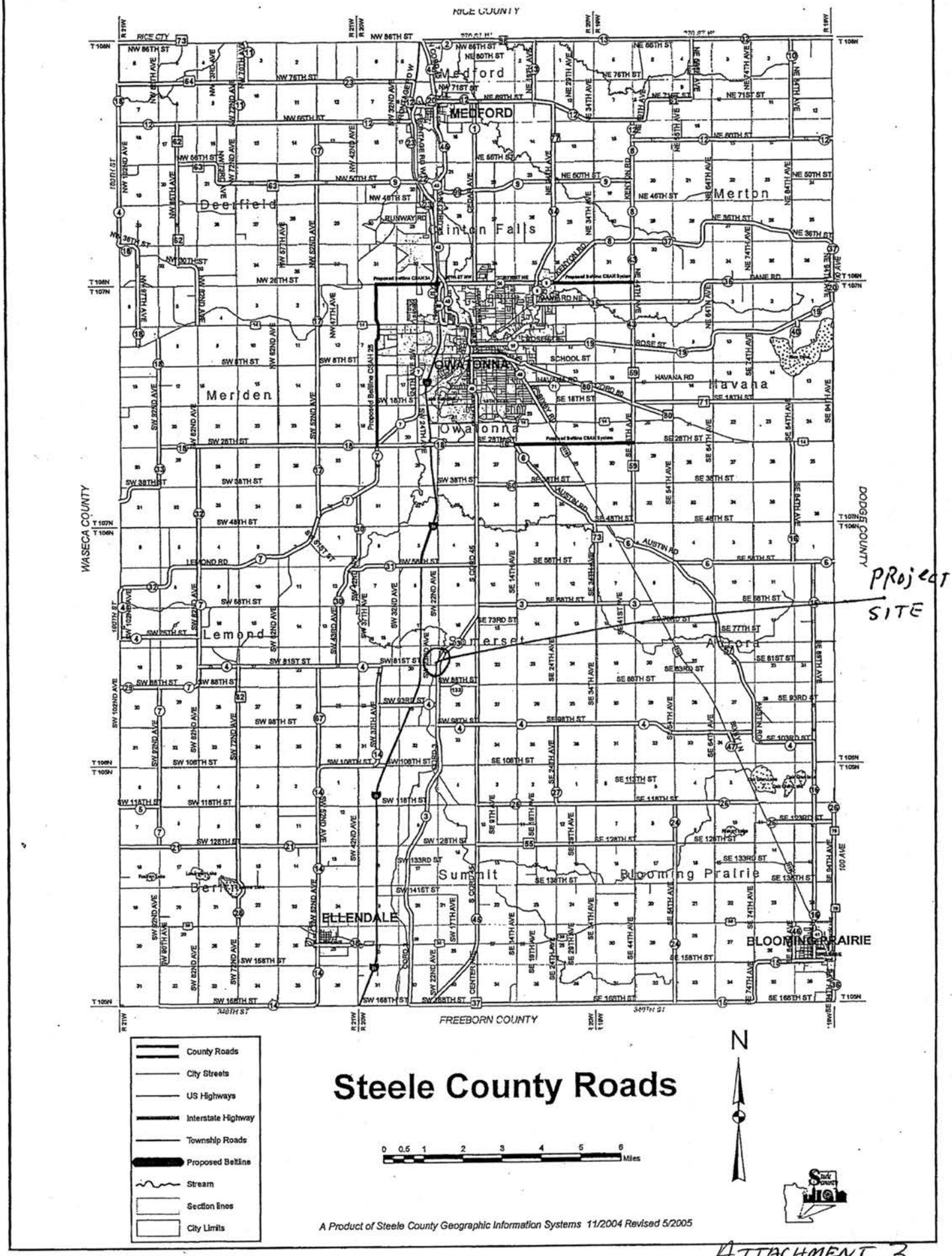
Steele County is requesting that any penalties for the land being removed from the RIM easement be minimized as much as possible to lower the overall cost/burden of the project on Somerset Township.

Sincerely,

Gary Bruggeman

Gary Bruggeman, P.E.
Steele County Engineer

ATTACHMENT 2

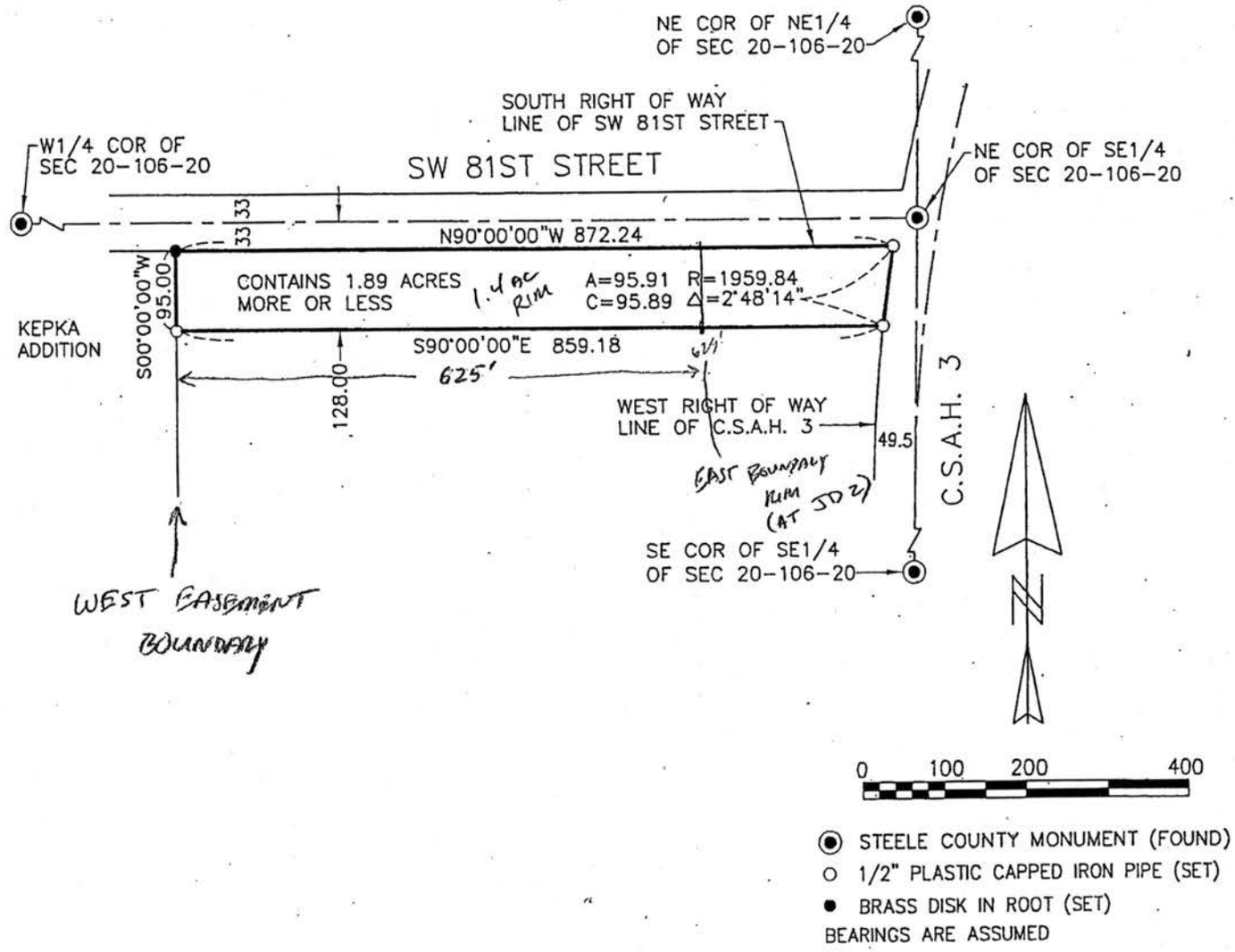


ATTACHMENT 3

REFENCE 7 RIM EASEMENT 7404940

CERTIFICATE OF SURVEY

34 ACRES



LEGAL DESCRIPTION

The south 95.00 feet of the north 128.00 feet of the NE1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 20, T 106 N, R 20 W, Steele County, Minnesota, lying east of Kepka Addition and lying west of the west right of way line of County State Aid Highway 3.

Containing 1.89 acres, more or less

Subject to easements and restrictions of record, if any.

I hereby certify that this survey, plan or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

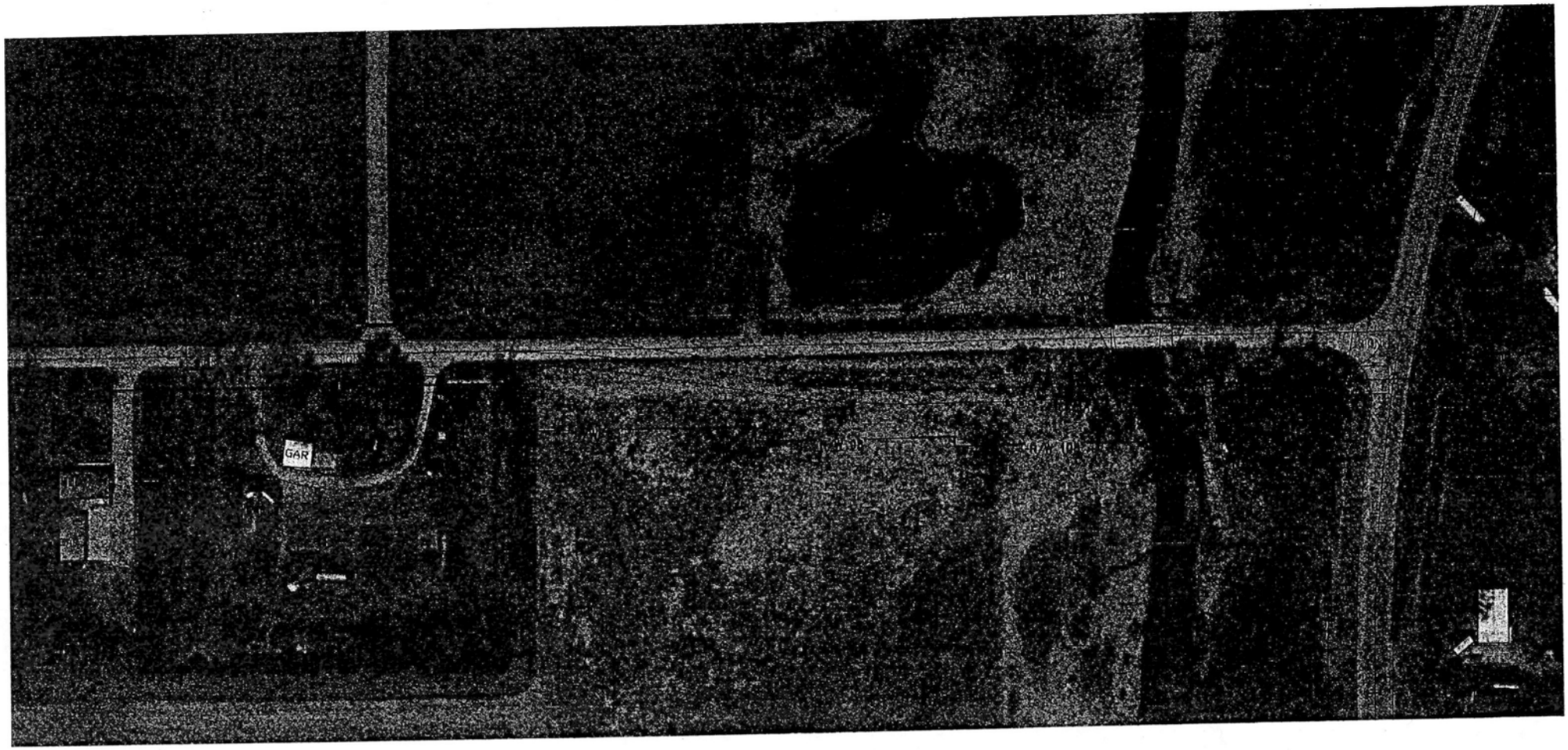
John C. Hosfield

Date 3/21/07 Lic. No. 15231

HOSFIELD & ASSOCIATES
PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS
415 WEST NORTH STREET
OWATONNA, MINNESOTA 55060
PHONE (507) 451-4598
FAX (507) 451-1396

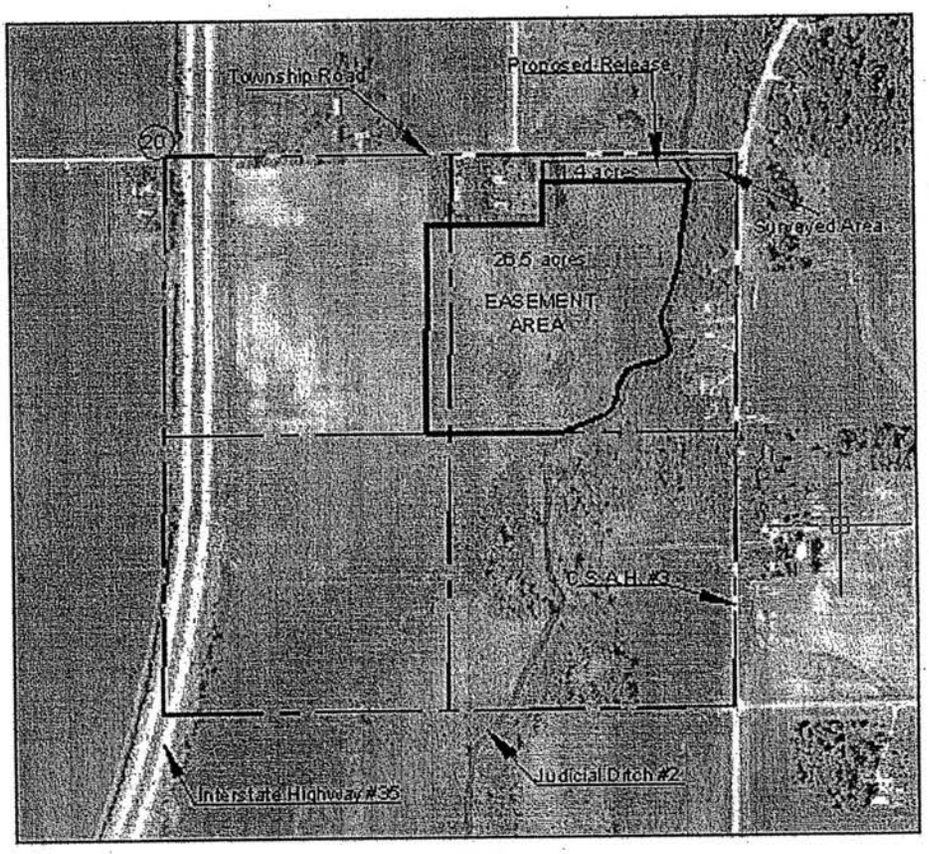
SCALE	1"=200'
DRAWN BY	BLK
DATE	3-20-07
REVISED	
JOB NO.	1050

ATTACHMENT 4



ATTACHMENT 5

Section 20 T. 106 N., R. 20 W., Steele County



ATTACHMENT 6

STEELE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

235 Cedardale Drive SE
Owatonna, Minnesota 55060-4417
Telephone (507) 451-6730 Ext. 3
Fax (507) 444-2421



MINNESOTA
SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

6-14-2007

Gary Bruggeman
Steele County Engineer
635 Florence Avenue
Owatonna, MN 55060

Re: Connaker RIM Easemnt No. 74—04-94-01

Dear Gary:

I am writing to inform you that the Steele County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors has reviewed your request to remove 1.89 acres of land from the Connaker RIM Easement No. 74-04-94-01.

The Board moved to support your request based on the need for the project. In addition this approval is on the condition that the Board of Soil and Water Resources policies for removing land from easements are met.

Sincerely,

Dan Arndt, Manager

ATTACHMENT 7

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Area Wildlife Office
8485 Rose Street
Owatonna, Minnesota 55060
(507) 455-5841
jeanine.vorland@dnr.state.mn.us

10 August 2007

Gary Bruggeman, P.E.
Steele County Highway Department
County Admin. Annex
635 Florence Avenue
Owatonna, Minnesota 55060

Re: RIM Easement in Somerset Township, #74049401

Dear Mr. Bruggeman:

I have reviewed the project site for the proposed bridge on SW 81st Street as it impacts a RIM Easement 74049401 with John Connaker. I understand the plan is to replace the bridge and approaches with a new structure immediately south of the existing roadway. This would impact about 1.89 acres. It is my understanding that you prefer to move the roadway to the south, in part, due to safety concerns with the intersection of SW 81st Street and County State Aid Highway 3. The old bridge and approaches will be removed when the new project is completed.

The road relocation will impact woodland, brushland and meadow riparian to the Straight River. The habitats within the RIM easement is of good quality and possibly better quality than unprotected riparian habitats on the north side of the existing road. Nevertheless, in light of safety issues, I have no objection to the proposal to alter the affected RIM easement for this public infrastructure project. I urge you to consider restoring the existing road and bridge area to natural habitats similar to those that will be disturbed in the existing easement area and placing this area under easement protection as mitigation for the easement area impacted.

Thank you for offering me the opportunity to review this request. If you have questions or need more information, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jeanine Vorland

Jeanine Vorland
Area Wildlife Manager

c: Dan Arndt, Steele SWCD
Ken Varland
Corey Hanson
Todd Kolander

RECEIVED
AUG 17 2007
STEELE COUNTY
HWY. DEPT.

Conservation Easement Alteration Requests and Board Policy

RIM Reserve Rule Affecting Alteration Requests
8400.3610 Alteration, Release or Termination of Conservation Easements

The state board may alter, release, or terminate a conservation easement after consultation with the commissioners of agriculture and natural resources. The board may alter, release, or terminate an easement only if the state board determines that the public interests and general welfare are better served by the alteration, release, or termination.

The state board must be provided the following information at least 30 days prior to a state board meeting, before the state board will consider a request to alter, release, or terminate a conservation easement:

A. a copy of the letter from the landowner to the district board justifying the change and identifying how the public interest and general welfare will be better served;
B. a letter from the district board recommending either approval or disapproval of the proposed change;
C. a letter from the Department of Natural Resources area wildlife manager recommending either approval or disapproval of the proposed change; and
D. other supporting documents, including:
    1) an aerial photo identifying the requested change;
    2) a soil survey map of the area;
    3) cropping history information; and
    4) other pertinent documentation that will support the request.

The state board reserves the right to require special provisions to ensure at least equal resource value as a condition of approving the request. The state board must be compensated by the landowner for all damages and loss of benefits to the conservation easement and the state board may also require reimbursement for administrative expenses and costs incurred in the alteration, release, or termination of a conservation easement.

Policy Developed by Easement Alteration Subcommittee and adopted by the BWSR on 5-24-06

This policy applies to all state RIM, PWP and CREP easements currently in place and all future state conservation easement acquisitions.

All easement alteration requests that come to BWSR will be accompanied by a $500 processing fee. Checks should be made payable to the BWSR. For alterations where actual costs to amend the easement exceed $500 the state reserves the right to charge the applicant the actual cost.

Public initiated projects (public road and utility projects, etc.)
Easement staff has the authority to tentatively approve of releases for public infrastructure projects. However, releases are not considered final until after the release request is presented to and approved by the Board and all fees have been paid.

In addition to the fee as outlined above, public entities must pay:

1) Two times the current average township assessed market value (ATAMV) for acres released, and
2) An amount equal to all state funds dispersed as reimbursement for costs incurred to establish cover on the land being released.

Private landowner requests
All alteration requests that come to the BWSR must contain all the information items requested in Section 8400.3610 of RIM Reserve Rule (items A – D as listed above), plus the $500 processing fee in the form of a check made payable to the BWSR.

All requests must also meet the following conditions for BWSR approval:

1) Replacement acres will increase by a minimum factor of 2:1 (replacement acres to released acres). Replacement acres proposed on easements must meet crop history requirements, cropped 2 of last 5 years, if land proposed for release was cropland at the time the easement was granted.
2) The resource protection and habitat benefits of the original easement will remain the same or be enhanced by the proposed alteration. For example;
   - restored wetland acres will not be drained or filled by the proposal
   - riparian buffers will be preserved or enhanced
   - easement configuration will preserve or enhance wildlife benefits (larger blocks of habitat, not fractured puzzle-like boundaries).
3) The SWCD Board and/or the DNR Area Wildlife Manager approve of the proposed alteration.
4) Landowners will be required to pay all costs associated with establishment of conservation cover practices on replacement acres according to an approved conservation plan.
5) Any alteration proposed would not allow or enable any land development projects to occur on lands currently under easement. Land development projects include, but are not limited to, such things as new homes, cabins, storage buildings, livestock facilities, cell phone towers, wind generators, sewage treatment systems, private roads and drives, and mining operations.

Meeting the criteria outlined above for private requests does not guarantee that the Board will approve of the request for release and alteration of a conservation easement.

Board Resolution #_____

Easement Release for John Connaker Easement 74-04-94-01

WHEREAS, the BWSR has the authority to alter, release or terminate a conservation easement as outlined in RIM Reserve Rule Section 8400.3610; and

WHEREAS, the BWSR has a Conservation Easement Alteration Policy which was adopted on 5-24-06; and

WHEREAS, the State currently holds a 27.9 acre perpetual easement in the SE ¼ of Section 20, T.106 N., R.20 W., Steele County which lies adjacent to the Straight River (JD 2) and SW 81st Street, a Somerset Township road; and

WHEREAS, Steele County Highway Dept. has acquired the right-of-way to rebuild a bridge on SW 81st St. and realign the road for safety reasons due to flooding problems that cuts off access to seven residences located along SW 81st St, which is a dead end road; and

WHEREAS, Steele County Highway Dept. has requested the release of 1.4 acres from the RIM easement to facilitate this project; and

WHEREAS, Both the Steele SWCD and the DNR Area Wildlife Manager have reviewed and approved of this request as required by Section 8400.3610 of RIM Rules; and

WHEREAS, All wetland impacts associated with this road and bridge project have received approvals from the US Army Corp of Engineers, DNR, and Steele County Environmental Services (WCA LGU); and

WHEREAS, Steele County will be required to pay the BWSR $8,394.40 for the release of these acres from the States RIM easement as prescribed by the Easement Alteration Policy; and

WHEREAS, Staff has the authority to provide tentative approval of releases from easements on public initiated projects as prescribed by the Easement Alteration Policy.

NOW THEREFORE, The Board approves of the release of 1.4 acres from perpetual easement 74-04-94-01 to allow construction of this bridge and road re-alignment project on SW 81st Street;

AND furthermore, the Board authorizes staff to proceed with preparing the legal documents to amend this easement once staff receives the $8,394.40 payment from Steele County.

_____ Date: _____

Randy Kramer, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Board Resolution # 07-97

Easement Release for John Connaker Easement 74-04-94-01

WHEREAS, the BWSR has the authority to alter, release or terminate a conservation easement as outlined in RIM Reserve Rule Section 8400.3610; and

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Randy Kramer, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 10/24/07

Wetland Committee Funding Recommendation
2007 Wetland Banking Request For Proposal

Summary: The 2007 application process resulted in 50 applications requesting $50,090,053. (Some bid both ways) The applications represent all bank service areas and both program options. Application distribution shows:

- 29 applications from the non-metro priority 1 area,
- 12 applications from the seven county a priority 1 area
- 9 applications from the priority 2 area.

The two options available under this application include easement agreements and easement and development agreements. Application distribution by program options selected is as follows:
Option #1 *- Easement Agreement* - Under this program option, the fee title owner submits a bid, on a per acre basis, for an easement on the proposed wetland project area. The fee title owner is compensated for the easement at the agreed easement bid price. **(22 applications – weighted average = $13,019/acre)**
Option #2 *– Easement and Development Agreement* – Under this program option, the fee title owner submits a bid, on a per credit basis, to account for the easement cost and development costs associated with the proposed wetland project. **(28 applications –weighted average = $16,730/credit)**

Program Priorities – The 2007 RFP used location and wetland type as primary criteria. Data within each criterion were weighted to generate a score for each application. The following criteria was used:

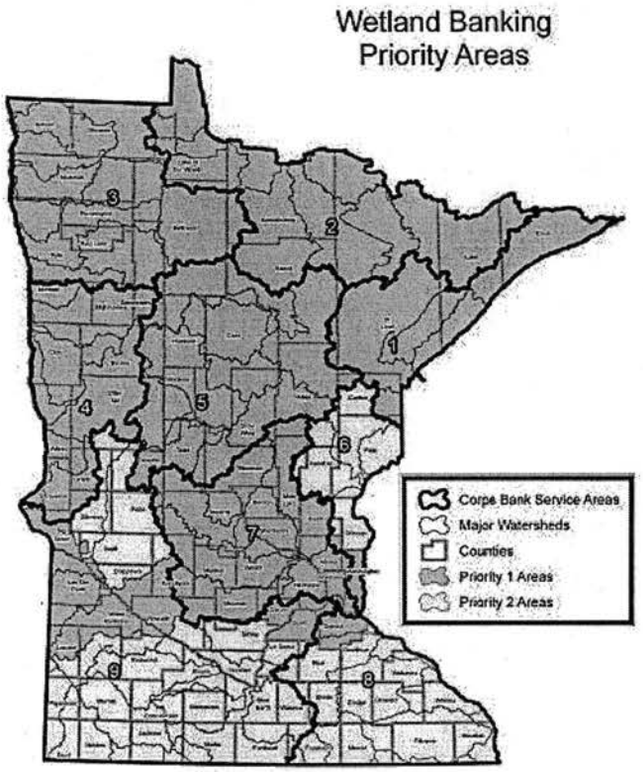
- Projects proposing to restore or create wetland types 1, 2, 6, 7, and 8 received priority. (See the attached weighting sheet)
- Projects located in targeted areas of the state, as identified below and in Figure 1 received priority (See attached weighting sheet).
  - Projects located in watershed unit codes 22, 24, and 25.
  - Projects located in COE Bank Service Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7.
  - Projects located in the seven county metropolitan area.

Review and Approval Process
All banking applications submitted to BWSR Wetland Specialist were reviewed for completeness, accuracy and technical feasibility. The primary data, wetland type and location, was used to generate a total score (column S on the spreadsheet) for each project.

Technical staff also reviewed each application for technical feasibility. This technical score (column T on the spreadsheet) summarized comments from the Wetland Specialist, Vegetation Specialist and Engineering and serves as secondary criteria when prioritizing the applications.

At the September 4th special banking team meeting staff reviewed all applications and associated scores to generate the attached recommendation for funding. This funding recommendation is to be reviewed by SMT on September 18th. The outcome from the SMT meeting will be presented to the BWSR Wetland Committee on September 25th. The final recommendation will be presented to the full BWSR Board on October 24th for funding approval.

Figure 1



Wetland Price Evaluator--All Bids

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W
1	Appl. Type	ID	Identifier	County	WS	COE Svc Area	Credits offered	Credit Type	Wet Type	$/credit	Total Price	Cumulative Credits	Cumulative Total Cost	metro overide	Value/metro	Value/WS	Value/type	SA value	Total Score	Tech Score (max 12)			
3	D	1036	UM Regents	St. Louis	3	1	120	NWC	2	$15,000	$1,800,000	120	$1,800,000	0	0	0	3	5	8	7			
4	D	1010	Forest Capital Par	St. Louis	76	2	17.9	NWC	7	$11,520	$206,208	138	$2,006,208	0	0	0	3	5	8	12			
5	D	1010	Forest Capital Par	St. Louis	76	2	4.5	PVC	7	$5,760	$25,920	142	$2,032,128	0	0	0	3	5	8	12			
6	D	1012	Craig Lindahl	Roseau	70	3	30	NWC	6	$6,000	$180,000	172	$2,212,128	0	0	0	3	2	5	8.5			
7	D	1012	Craig Lindahl	Roseau	70	3	7	PVC	Up	$1,000	$7,000	179	$2,219,128	0	0	0	0	2	2	8.5			
8	D	1044	Willow Springs I	Aitkin	10	5	79	NWC	2	$9,980	$788,420	258	$3,007,548	0	0	0	3	5	8	11			
9	D	1044	Willow Springs I	Aitkin	10	5	33	PVC	Up	$6,950	$229,350	291	$3,236,898	0	0	0	0	5	5	11			
10	D	1006	Vinkemeier/Burns	Carver	19	7	10.5	NWC	2	$34,990	$367,395	302	$3,604,293	-2	5	0	3	2	8	7.5			
11	D	1006	Vinkemeier/Burns	Carver	19	7	10.5	PVC	Up	$34,990	$367,395	312	$3,971,688	-2	5	0	0	2	5	7.5			
12	D	1007	McDonald's farm	Carver	19	7	6.3	NWC	2	$30,000	$189,000	319	$4,160,688	-2	5	0	3	2	8	10.5			
13	D	1007	McDonald's farm	Carver	19	7	1.4	PVC	Up	$30,000	$42,000	320	$4,202,688	-2	5	0	0	2	5	10.5			
14											*Subtotal*		*$4,202,688*										
15										*Weighted Cost/Credit*			*$13,129*										
16	Appl. Type	ID	Identifier	County	WS	COE Svc Area	Acres offered	Credit Type	Wet Type	$/acre	Total Price	Cumulative Acres	Cumulative Total Cost	metro overide	Value/metro	Value/WS	Value/type	SA value	Total Score	Tech Score (max 12)	BWSR Project Cost	SWCD Tech Service Agreement	Total Cost including all project costs
17	E	1017	Joe Roessler/Burr	Beltrami	62	3	50	NWC	2	$6,600	$330,000	50	$330,000	0	0	0	3	2	5	8.5	$75,000	$10,000	
18	E	1002	Steve Strohlberg	Wright	18	7	17	NWC	2	$4,320	$73,440	67	$403,440	0	0	0	3	2	5	8.5	$25,500	$10,000	
19	E	1002	Steve Strohlberg	Wright	18	7	17	PVC	Up	$4,320	$73,440	84	$476,880	0	0	0	0	2	2	8.5	$25,500		
20	E	1035	Elfering	Renville	19	7	76.5	NWC	2	$5,000	$382,500	161	$859,380	0	0	0	3	2	5	8.5	$114,750	$10,000	
21	E	1035	Elfering	Renville	19	7	76.5	PVC	Up	$5,000	$382,500	237	$1,241,880	0	0	0	0	2	2	8.5	$114,750		
22											*Subtotal*		*$1,241,880*										
23										*Weighted Cost/Credit*			*$6,867*										
24											***Totals***	***D+E***	***$5,444,568***								***$355,500***	***$30,000***	***$5,830,068***
25																							
26																			***Overall Weighed Ave.= $11,156/cr.***				
27			**ALTERNATIVE PROJECTS**																				
28	E	1038	Imdieke & Stamer	Stearns	18	7	100	NWC	2	$10,880	$1,088,000	184	$1,564,880	0	0	0	3	2	5	8	$150,000	$10,000	
29	E	1038	Imdieke & Stamer	Stearns	18	7	52	PVC	Up	$10,880	$565,760	236	$2,130,640	0	0	0	0	2	2	8	$78,000		
30	E	1008	John Krohn	Nicollet	33	9	20	NWC	2	$4,100	$82,000	256	$2,212,640	0	0	0	3	0	3	8.5	$30,000	$10,000	
31	E	1008	John Krohn	Nicollet	33	9	35	PVC	Up	$4,100	$143,500	291	$2,356,140	0	0	0	0	0	0	8.5	$52,500		
32	E	1016	Mike Roysland	Polk	61	3	50	NWC	2	$4,500	$225,000	341	$2,581,140	0	0	0	3	2	5	7.5	$75,000	$10,000	
33	E	1016	Mike Roysland	Polk	61	3	6	PVC	2	$3,500	$21,000	347	$2,602,140	0	0	0	3	2	5	7.5	$9,000		
34											*Subtotal*		***$2,602,140***								***$394,500***	***$30,000***	***$3,026,640***
35																							
36																							

10/15/2007

Resolution #_____

Local Government Road Wetland Replacement Project Approval

WHEREAS, BWSR is directed pursuant Minn. Stat. 103G.222, Subd. 1(1) to replace wetlands drained or filled as a result of the repair, maintenance, or rehabilitation of existing public roads; and

WHEREAS, BWSR is authorized pursuant to 2005 Minn. Laws Chap. 20, Art. 1, Sec. 9 and 2006 Minn. Laws Chap. 258, Sec. 9 to enter into agreements with political subdivisions and fee owners to acquire land and restore wetlands to be used to replace wetlands lost as a result of the repair, maintenance, or rehabilitation of existing public roads; and

WHEREAS, BWSR issued a solicitation in June requesting interested landowners to apply to BWSR for wetland restorations for the purpose of the purposes of the Local Government Road Wetland Replacement Program; and

WHEREAS, the interagency Wetland Banking Committee reviewed the screening process to be used to prioritize applications received by the July 31st deadline. This prioritization was further refined by BWSR banking staff; and

WHEREAS, this process lead to recommending funding approval for the 9 projects on the A list and recommend identifying 3 alternative projects, on the B list, that will be pursued in order should any A list projects drop out. The 9 projects on the A list are estimated to produce 557 credits at an estimated cost of $5,830,068.00; and

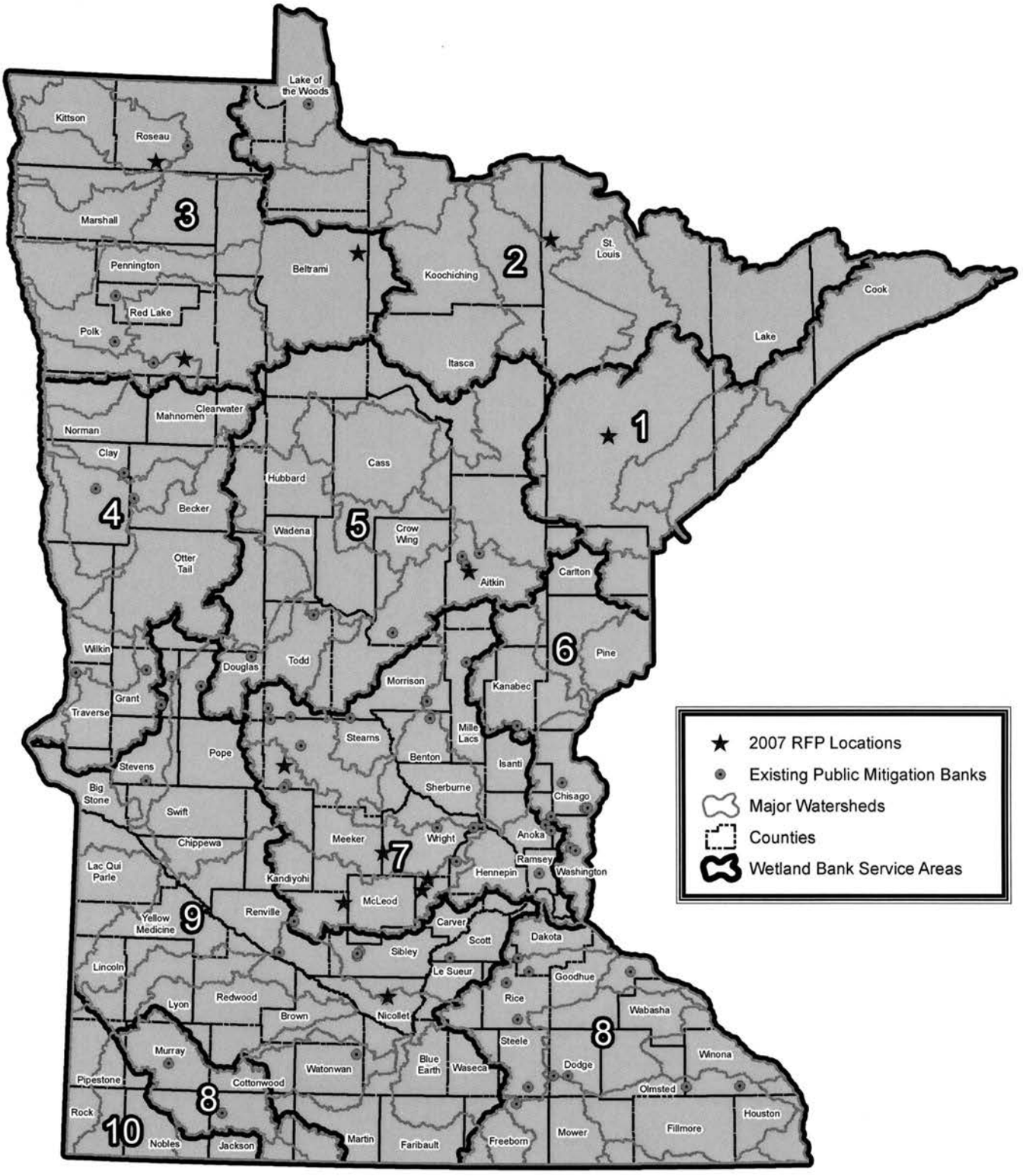
WHEREAS, the Wetland Committee reviewed the proposed projects on September 25th, 2007 and is recommending Board approval.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the BWSR authorize the 9 A list projects for funding and authorize staff to pursue the projects on the B list, in order, should any A list project drop out contingent on available funding.

_____ _____

Randy Kramer, Chair Date

2007 RFP Locations



Resolution # 07-98

Local Government Road Wetland Replacement Project Approval

WHEREAS, BWSR is directed pursuant Minn. Stat. 103G.222, Subd. 1(1) to replace wetlands drained or filled as a result of the repair, maintenance, or rehabilitation of existing public roads; and

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WHEREAS, BWSR issued a solicitation in June requesting interested landowners to apply to BWSR for wetland restorations for the purpose of the purposes of the Local Government Road Wetland Replacement Program; and

WHEREAS, the interagency Wetland Banking Committee reviewed the screening process to be used to prioritize applications received by the July 31st deadline. This prioritization was further refined by BWSR banking staff; and

WHEREAS, this process lead to recommending funding approval for the 9 projects on the A list and recommend identifying 3 alternative projects, on the B list, that will be pursued in order should any A list projects drop out. The 9 projects on the A list are estimated to produce 557 credits at an estimated cost of $5,830,068.00; and

WHEREAS, the Wetland Committee reviewed the proposed projects on September 25th, 2007 and is recommending Board approval.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the BWSR authorize the 9 A list projects for funding and authorize staff to pursue the projects on the B list, in order, should any A list project drop out contingent on available funding.

R J Kramer

Randy Kramer, Chair

10/24/07

Date

Board of Water and Soil Resources
October 24, 2007

Wetland Conservation Act Funding for the 11-County Metropolitan Area

Recommendation for Adoption

Background:
The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) received an appropriation as follows:

$250,000 each year (FY 2008 and 2009) is to make grants to local units of governments within the 11-county metropolitan area to improve response to major wetland violations

Chapter 57 defines the 11-county metropolitan areas as the Counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright.

In developing the allocation proposal, the following considerations were used:

- SWCD's provide the principal support and follow-up to wetland violations.
- Given the number of LGU's in the area, the money quickly becomes insignificant as the number of potential recipients increases.
- A key goal is to support local government capacity to respond to violations (i.e. be adequate increase staff support for WCA and WCA violations).
- This appropriation is not in the BWSR base budget (i.e. it is a one-timer).

Cease and desist order and restoration order data from DNR-Enforcement for the years 2005 and 2006 are as presented below.

	Cease and Desist Orders						Restoration Orders					
	2005		2006		2-yr Total		2005		2006		2-yr Total	
County	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Anoka	2	2.9%	11	11.5%	13	7.8%	1	3.2%	5	17.2%	6	10.0%
Carver	3	4.3%	2	2.1%	5	3.0%	1	3.2%	0		1	1.7%
Chisago	9	12.9%	10	10.4%	19	11.4%	7	22.6%	10	34.5%	17	28.3%
Dakota	2	2.9%	1	1.0%	3	1.8%	0		0		0	
Hennepin	6	8.6%	1	1.0%	7	4.2%	2	6.5%	0		2	3.3%
Isanti	5	7.1%	2	2.1%	7	4.2%	1	3.2%	0		1	1.7%
Ramsey	2	2.9%	3	3.1%	5	3.0%	1	3.2%	1	3.4%	2	3.3%
Scott	10	14.3%	3	3.1%	13	7.8%	7	22.6%	2	6.9%	9	15.0%
Sherburne	9	12.9%	26	27.1%	34	20.5%	3	9.7%	6	20.7%	9	15.0%
Washington	7	10.0%	5	5.2%	12	7.2%	5	16.1%	2	6.9%	7	11.7%
Wright	15	21.4%	32	33.3%	47	28.3%	3	9.7%	3	10.3%	6	10.0%
Totals	70	100%	96	100%	166	100%	31	100%	29	100%	60	100%

Staff Proposal

Based on this data and the considerations outlined above, BWSR staff have developed a proposed allocation of these funds to the following SWCD's in the 11-county metropolitan area:

1. Wright	$60,000
2. Sherburne	$50,000
3. Chisago	$50,000
4. Scott	$35,000
5. Anoka	$35,000
6. Washington	$20,000
TOTAL.....	$250,000

None of the available funds will be provided to local governments in the remaining five counties.

Wetland Committee Recommendation

The Wetland Committee met via conference call on Friday, October 12. The Committee discussed the staff proposal, and recommends the following allocation of these funds:

SWCD	Base Allocation	Need Allocation	Total
Anoka	$10,000	$19,600	$29,600
Carver	$10,000	--	$10,000
Chisago	$10,000	$28,000	$38,000
Dakota	$10,000	--	$10,000
Hennepin	$10,000	--	$10,000
Isanti	$10,000	--	$10,000
Ramsey	$10,000	--	$10,000
Scott	$10,000	$19,600	$29,600
Sherburne	$10,000	$28,000	$38,000
Washington	$10,000	$11,200	$21,200
Wright	$10,000	$33,600	$43,600
Totals	$110,000	$140,000	$250,000

The Committee discussion that resulted in this recommended allocation was centered on potential future aerial enforcement activities by the DNR, the ability to use the funds to encourage all 11 of the SWCD's to be effectively engaged in WCA enforcement efforts, and the need to provide a fair allocation of these funds.

The Wetland Committee is recommending the Board adopt the proposed allocation that is based on a formula of an equal allocation to all SWCD'S plus a need allocation.

Resolution # _____

Wetland Conservation Act Funding
for the
11-County Metropolitan Areas

WHEREAS, Laws of Minnesota, Chapter 57, Section 5, appropriated $250,000 to BWSR in State Fiscal Year's 2007 and 2008 "to make grants to local units of governments within the 11-county metropolitan area to improve response to major wetland violations"; and

WHEREAS, the 11-County Metropolitan Areas consists of the following Counties: Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright; and

WHEREAS, staff consulted with local governments and local government associations in developing a proposal to allocate these funds. This proposal was based on enforcement process, data from the Department of Natural Resources – Division of Enforcement; and the desire to provide sufficient funds to make a difference on the ground; and

WHEREAS, the Wetland Committee reviewed the staff proposal via conference call on October 12 and is recommending the Board approve an allocation that is based on a formula of equal funding for all 11 soil and water conservation districts plus an amount based on need.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the BWSR accepts the Wetland Committees recommendation to allocate the Wetland Conservation Act Funding for the 11-County Metropolitan Area.

_____ _____

Randy Kramer, Chair Date

Resolution # 07-99

Wetland Conservation Act Funding for the 11-County Metropolitan Areas

WHEREAS, Laws of Minnesota, Chapter 57, Section 5, appropriated $250,000 to BWSR in State Fiscal Year's 2007 and 2008 "to make grants to local units of governments within the 11-county metropolitan area to improve response to major wetland violations"; and

WHEREAS, the 11-County Metropolitan Areas consists of the following Counties: Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright; and

WHEREAS, staff consulted with local governments and local government associations in developing a proposal to allocate these funds. This proposal was based on enforcement process, data from the Department of Natural Resources – Division of Enforcement; and the desire to provide sufficient funds to make a difference on the ground; and

WHEREAS, the Wetland Committee reviewed the staff proposal via conference call on October 12 and is recommending the Board approve an allocation that is based on a formula of equal funding for all 11 soil and water conservation districts plus an amount based on need.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the BWSR accepts the Wetland Committees recommendation to allocate the Wetland Conservation Act Funding for the 11-County Metropolitan Area.

R. J. Kramer

Randy Kramer, Chair

10/24/07

Date

Improving water resources and soil conservation by working in partnership with local organizations.



2007 Strategic Plan

Please forward comments to Steve Woods by November 14.

Executive Summary
BWSR 2007 Strategic Planning

Overview

BWSR's strategic planning effort resulted in a modified statement of mission & beliefs, an identification of the key issues & strategies to address each, and a set of approaches to spur effective implementation. Each of these is summarized here.

BWSR Mission

Improve water resources and soil conservation on private lands by working in partnership with local organizations.

Beliefs

- *Real-World Effectiveness*
- *Resource Leadership*
- *Wise Use*
- *Cooperative Approach*
- *Partnerships to Deliver Programs*
- *Local Planning and Implementation*
- *Innovation*

Strategic Issues; Strategies

1. *What do we do to create the effective local delivery system and partnerships to accomplish our mission?*
    - Defining Reality:
        - Require an assessment of each LGU at least once every three years.
        - Create a formal recognition for LGU success stories.
        - Market the LGU "scorecard" broadly.
    - Incentives for Change:
        - Funding allocations reward LGU positive changes/competency.
        - Define expectations clearly and implement consequences for non-improvement.
        - Successful LGU Organizational Challenge Program awards grants to selected candidates that propose to create changes that moves the LGU forward.
    - Support for Change:
        - Develop a web site that provides documentation of organizational best practices.
        - Establish peer mentor program.

2. *How do we redevelop and deliver our conservation programs so we maximize their impact on the land and water resource?*
    - Review of Administrative Processes:
        - Undertake an initiative to streamline external reporting/administrative procedures.
    - Program Integration:
        - Review all programs to focus resources on top priority issues as identified in the water plan or the impaired waters list.
    - Monitoring/Assessment/Feedback Protocol:
        - Create a monitoring and assessment protocol that measures the extent to which resources:
            1. Are targeted to top priorities;
            2. Achieve real outcomes; and
            3. Leverage outside resources
3. *How do we make our accomplishments and the state's resource conservation needs well known among those having significant influence over our mission?*
    - Documentation of Resource Outcomes and Resource Needs:
        - Require appropriate LGU documentation of outcomes as part of the monitoring of each program activity.
        - Create knowledge about LGU activities and effectiveness by sharing activity and effectiveness assessments.
        - Develop a website to highlight premier projects and their outcomes, and develop monthly "resource leadership quick-takes" that can be e-mailed out to a broad list of customers and partners.
        - Develop a state "Natural Resource Report Card" that offers compelling documentation of need.
    - LGU/County Relationship Building:
        - Attend at least one AMC District meeting yearly.
        - Develop a system whereby LGUs meet at least twice a year with Counties to provide an overview of activities.
        - Enhance eLINK operations so LGUs can easily access and customize data.
        - Meet regularly with AMCs Natural Resource and Environment Committee.
    - Other Partnership Building:
        - Hold semi-annual "sounding board" meetings with key stakeholders (similar in makeup to group invited for focus group).
        - Develop monthly "resource leadership quick-takes" that can be e-mailed out to a broad list of customers and partners.
        - Develop both Executive and Legislative strategies to inform and influence the states natural resource conservation agenda.

Next Steps

- Determine the outcomes that are desired and the appropriate measures for the success of each.
- Assign a staff person responsible for implementation.
- Charge the staff with developing action steps, timelines, and securing resources.
- Charge some person or group with measuring progress and results.

This summary report includes a revised mission statement and listing of core beliefs, an identification of the three key strategic issues and strategies for each issue, and commentary on the next steps leading to implementation

Background.

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) completed its first strategic planning effort in 1997. This effort resulted in the development of the Board's mission statement and an agreement of the organization's core values, or beliefs. In addition, BWSR also identified three strategic issues, and strategies to address those issues.

In 2006 the Board again undertook a strategic planning process. In November Dan Buckout of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) led an afternoon session with the BWSR Board. The Board completed a SWOT analysis and identified several issues key to the future success of BWSR.

Beginning in June 2007, Headwaters Regional Development Commission (Headwaters RDC) staff began providing staff assistance to complete this planning effort. During the subsequent five months a committee of the full Board revised BWSR's mission statement, refined its statement of core beliefs, and reframed its core strategic issues. In addition, the committee developed specific strategies to address each issue and provided ideas on next steps.

The planning process included a focus group of key customers and partners, as well as an online survey of the same. Information from these engagement efforts greatly contributed to each part of this planning effort.

This strategic planning summary report includes the results of the effort, including a revised mission statement and listing of core beliefs, an identification of the three key strategic issues and strategies for each issue, and commentary on the next steps leading to implementation. In addition, the appendix provides supporting material, including focus group and survey results, and previous strategic planning process summaries.

The revised mission statement reads as follows:

Improve water resources and soil conservation on private lands by working in partnership with local organizations.

The beliefs statement was revised to acknowledge the importance of effectiveness, leadership and innovation to the success of BWSR and the accomplishment of its mission.

Mission, Beliefs.

BWSR's strategic planning committee revisited its mission statement and core beliefs and made some modifications. The previous mission statement read as follows: "*The mission of the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources is to assist local governments to manage and conserve their irreplaceable water and soil resources.*" After much discussion the committee recommended the changes shown below to place the emphasis on water and soil conservation. Working in partnership with local organizations is still critical, but is seen as an important means to accomplish the goal, not the goal in and of itself.

The beliefs statement was revised to acknowledge the importance of effectiveness, leadership and innovation to the success of BWSR and the accomplishment of its mission. These values are not an add-on to the culture of the organization – they rather articulate the existing culture and behavior of BWSR.

BWSR Mission

Improve water resources and soil conservation on private lands by working in partnership with local organizations.

What We Believe In:

- **Real-World Effectiveness.** Our mission is focused on water resources and soil conservation. The success of BWSR should be measured by our effectiveness at enhancing both.

- **Resource Leadership.** Effective resource protection requires a strong vision of the resource future we desire and the willingness to challenge organizations to participate. BWSR can be the leader that does that.

- **Wise Use.** Resource protection can effectively take place within a framework that

BWSR reaffirms its commitment to deliver its programs through partnerships at the local level

acknowledges the desire for resource use by landowners.

- **Cooperative Approach.** Regulatory measures are sometimes necessary, but working voluntarily with landowners is our preferred method.

- **Partnerships to Deliver Programs.** Minnesota is a diverse state. Resource protection cannot be accomplished by any one organization or group. Partnerships are not just preferred; they are the only way to be effective.

- **Local Planning and Implementation.** Working at the local level is the approach that has the best chance of producing success.

- **Innovation.** Water and soil resource challenges can only be addressed if we find new ways of doing business.

BWSR can only accomplish its mission if it has an effective delivery system, which makes LGU quality a key issue.

Can BWSR's programs be made even more effective? That is the focus of the second strategic issue.

Strategic Issues.

The SWOT analysis conducted in November 2006 identified a number of key issues. The BWSR Strategic Planning Task Force reframed these into three. Following are those issues, followed by a description.

Issue #1: *What do we do to create the effective local delivery system and partnerships to accomplish our mission?*

Discussion: BWSR's principal delivery system is a statewide set of local government units (LGUs) that are focused on protecting and enhancing the state's water and soil resources. These LGUs include Counties, Watershed Districts and SWCDs. BWSR can only accomplish its mission if it has an effective delivery system.

Issue #2: *How do we redevelop and deliver our conservation programs so we maximize their impact on the land and water resource?*

Discussion: As indicated previously, BWSR's principal delivery system is a statewide set of LGUs that are focused on protecting and enhancing the state's water and soil resources. At present BWSR spends about 75% of its budget on external program support activities (LGU support, Cost-share, etc., excluding Clean Water Legacy funding) with the remaining 25% devoted to BWSR administrative-related activities.

Some of this funding is distributed on a need basis using formulas that account for population, land area and quantity of activity. However, BWSR has a great deal of flexibility in how it distributes a large and growing portion of the funding.

Being effective is necessary, but not sufficient; our partners need to know about that effectiveness. Hence, the third strategic issue.

Issue #3: *How do we make our accomplishments and the state's resource conservation needs well known among those having significant influence over our mission?*

Discussion: Competition for state and other resources is increasing, while available funding is not keeping pace with demand. BWSR and the partner LGUs are not just in competition for other resource dollars, but also for general fund resources that are used for a broad range of state needs.

At the same time, it is a challenge to effectively communicate the "BWSR story" to those that have influence over the organization.

The quality of the local delivery system is key to BWSR's ability to accomplish its mission. At present, the quality of that system is uneven…

Issue Assessment; Strategies.

For each of the three strategic issues there is a brief assessment of that issue (based on discussions, the online survey results, and the focus group comments), an identification of what we call "leverage points" (particular strategies and areas that can be used to bring about change), a discussion of the preferred strategic approach, and a listing of specific strategies.

Issue #1: *What do we do to create the effective local delivery system and partnerships to accomplish our mission?*

Assessment. The quality of the local delivery system is key to BWSR's ability to accomplish its mission. At present the quality of that system is uneven; a number of LGUs are excellent while some do not have good capacity.

There appear to be a number of factors at work in those LGUs that have limited capacity;

- *There is sometimes a lack of local political commitment to BWSR's mission (i.e., resource protection).* In some parts of the state, resource conservation is perceived, fairly or not, to be in conflict with economic strategy to bring about prosperity. This view can be particularly prevalent in areas where natural resource utilization accounts for a significant share of the area's economic activity.
- *The partnership between the County and other LGUs is occasionally not strong.* One of the principal challenges for SWCDs is that Counties perceive this organization as outside their control, and therefore outside their responsibility. Here is what one person said about the County/BWSR relationship: "We will be successful when we finally talk about each other in terms of "we" instead of "they."
- *The lead staff in the LGU is not necessarily an outstanding leader.* Lead staff are critical, but a combination of forces results

The approach to improving LGU'S should support and preserve those LGUs that are now doing a good job, while challenging other LGUs to enhance their operations.

in the lead staff not being of a quality that is ed. The chronic under-funding of SWCDs does not help.

- *Resources for the LGU are sometimes in short supply.* While resources are not sufficient to create a quality organization, they are necessary. Few SWCDs have been able to develop a business model that provides an adequate revenue stream.

Possible Leverage Points

- *Lead LGU staff.* We know that the lead staff is critical to the success of an organization, and BWSR can potentially influence that selection. There are in excess of 800 board members directing the actions of our primary partners. It is beyond our ability to reach all so our emphasis is in interfacing with the lead staff that is critical to the success of an organization.
- *Partnership between LGUs, and between LGUs and Counties.* Building that LGU/County relationship can pay enormous dividends, both in terms of influence as well as money.
- *Accountability/performance mechanisms at BWSR's disposal.* Measurement brings accountability to organizations. BWSR has a responsibility, and an opportunity, to use this tool to improve performance.

Strategy Development. The approach to improving LGUs should support and preserve those LGUs that are now doing a good job, while challenging other LGUs to enhance their operations. This approach will encourage local development of strategies best suited to each unique circumstance. BWSR will act as a catalyst for these efforts by instituting accountability mechanisms and by providing support by creating a menu of programs and services that can help LGUs. By improving the operations of a number of LGUs, it is anticipated that system quality will reach a threshold that provides momentum for change for the remaining LGUs.

Strategies are divided into three categories: Defining Reality, Incentives for Change, and Support for Change.

Strategies are divided into three categories: Defining Reality, Incentives for Change, and Support for Change.

Defining Reality

- ***Require a performance assessment of each LGU at least once every five years.*** Measurement is critical as a starting point for change.
- ***Create a formal celebration for LGU success stories.*** There are several tools to encourage change. Letting people know who is doing what, and celebrating the successes, is one such tool
- ***Market the LGU "scorecard" broadly.*** Measurement becomes powerful only after the results are known broadly.

Incentives for Change

- ***Funding allocations reward LGU positive changes/competency.*** This strategy is about aligning strategy and resources. If rewards are not targeted to the measured success, then the measurements are meaningless.
- ***Define expectations clearly and implement consequences for non-improvement.*** This is the stick part of a carrot and stick approach. LGUs must learn from peers and from the state. BWSR will work with LGU and professional associations to make peer-to-peer mentoring more robust.
- ***Create a Successful LGU Organizational Challenge Program which awards grants to selected candidates that propose to create changes that moves the LGU forward.*** This program is focused on those LGUs that are committed to change, but need an increase in resources to accomplish it. It should be designed with recognition that different strategies are needed in different places.

LGUs are more likely to listen to peers than a state agency.

Support for Change

- ***Development of a web site that provides documentation of organizational best practices.*** Some LGUs will need ideas to create change. This is a low-cost way to provide those ideas.
- ***Establish peer mentor program.*** LGUs are more likely to listen to peers than a state agency.

It appears some of these [older] programs could be given a tune-up, and some could benefit from additional performance monitoring.

Adding more paperwork does not save the environment.
~Survey Respondent

Issue #2: *How do we redevelop and deliver our conservation programs so we maximize their impact on the land and water resource?*

Assessment. Some BWSR programs are relatively new (Clean Water Legacy), while others are in their second or third generation (Comprehensive Local Water Management, Cost-share). It appears some of these programs could be given a tune-up, and some could benefit from additional performance monitoring. In addition, integration of programs could be improved. Following are some of the factors that affect the performance of BWSR programs

- *The amount of administrative time required by different programs can be a burden.* Although there is disagreement on how much of this burden can be eliminated, it is generally agreed that, at a minimum, technology can be used to streamline the administrative/reporting burden. As one survey respondent put it, "Adding more paperwork does not save the environment."
- *Strategy alignment across programs is not perfect.* As an example, cost-share funding can be made available for projects that are not in the local water plan.
- *WCA takes a disproportionate amount of staff time.* It is generally agreed that WCA takes an inordinate amount of BWSR staff time. The old saying, "the urgent takes precedence over the important" seems to apply here. Unfortunately, there are significant opportunity costs to this focus.
- *The funding strategies of all programs are not focused solely on resource impact.* Some of BWSR funding is targeted to capacity building, some is allocated based on resource criteria, and some is allocated based on a measure of equity.

The following strategies use a three prong approach to maximize the impact and effectiveness of BWSR programs: minimizing and streamlining administrative work, closely aligning program strategy, and measuring and rewarding performance.

Possible Leverage Points

- *The method by which BWSR delivers programs (need-based vs. competitive).* BWSR has the power to allocate resources to projects that make the most impact.
- *The method by which BWSR monitors performance.* BWSR has not done as much as it could to measure success.
- *The guidelines that determine eligible and priority activities for each program.* Focusing resources on priority issues is one method to effect change.
- *Where BWSR staff spend their time.* More time directed to effective resource strategies will result in increased resource protection.

Strategy Development. The following strategies use a three-prong approach to maximize the impact and effectiveness of BWSR programs: minimizing and streamlining administrative work, closely aligning program strategy, and measuring and rewarding performance. Although LGU capacity and quality, and program effectiveness are closely linked, the following strategies focus on program effectiveness.

Review of Administrative Processes

- **Undertake initiative to examine whether current measures are optimal and streamline external reporting/administrative mechanisms.** The less time spent on administrative matters, the more time available for resource protection and enhancement efforts. eLINK has good partner data, but partners are vocal in their disdain for the collection mechanism itself.

Make districts earn what they get, don't just split it up. Competition makes us all better.
~Survey Respondent

Measurement has a major role in driving change. Measured success builds the story and supports the right strategy. Measured failure even has value as it demands change and improved approaches.

Program Integration

- **Review all programs to better focus resources on top priority issues as identified in the water plan or the impaired waters list.** Strategy alignment maximizes use of available resources.
- **Target available funding to top priority issues *and* LGUs that have a proven track record at delivering results.** Impact on the resource comes not only from the targeting of priority problems; it comes from working with organizations that get things done. BWSR has done this already with CREP/WREP, the Department of Defense, and the Working Lands Initiative among others. The case for performance-based funding was best made by one survey respondent, "Make districts earn what they get, don't just split it up. Competition makes us all better."

Monitoring/Assessment/Feedback Protocol

- **Create a monitoring and assessment protocol that measures the extent to which resources:**
  - **Are targeted to top priorities;**
  - **Achieve real outcomes; and**
  - **Leverage outside resources.**

Measurement has a major role in driving change. Measured success builds the story and supports the right strategy. Measured failure even has value as it demands change and improved approaches.

Assessment overview:

- ***The Legislative and Executive Branches are key to the accomplishment of BWSR's mission;***
- ***Effective and documented stewardship of water and soil resources must be shown; and***
- ***Communication is best accomplished locally and personally***

Nothing makes a bigger impact than actually seeing things on the ground.
~Survey Respondent

Issue #3: *How do we make our accomplishments and the state's resource conservation needs well known among those having significant influence over our mission?*

Assessment. This issue has three separate pieces: identifying those that have significant influence over BWSR's mission, determining what the story is that can motivate them, and figuring our how best to tell the story.
Following is our assessment:

- *Those that have significant influence over the mission.* The Legislature sets policy and provides funding; BWSR's priorities are set by them.

  Counties, and key stakeholder groups – both resource users and those interested in resource conservation -- also have significant influence in the process. Each brings an agenda to the Legislature, and each influences public policy.
- *The story that motivates them.* Major trends at the state level in every program area suggest a move away from an entitlement approach to a more performance-based approach. Real outcomes, close local partnerships, and a reputation of BWSR as an "uncommon" state agency would go a long way to gaining support. The story cannot be separated from the reality, which is closely linked to the performance of LGUs, the effectiveness of BWSR programs and the documentation of that effectiveness. One survey respondent put it this way, "Nothing makes a bigger impact than actually seeing things on the ground."
- *How the story is told.* The most effective method is one that is local and personal and includes examples of real successes. This would include a targeted message with examples, shared through individual or small group meetings.

Possible Leverage Points

- *Performance and its measurement.* Telling a story about effectiveness

There are three pieces to a successful strategy to tell BWSR's story: defining those who have influence over the mission, understanding the story that will motivate them, and determining the most effective method to tell the story.

requires the actual measurement and document of such.

- *Strong and deep partnerships with LGUs, Counties.* It is one thing to tell your own story; it is quite another, and even more powerful, to have others tell it. Others will only tell the story if they feel like they are a part of it.
- *Strong relationships with those that have a resource conservation mission that complements the BWSR mission.* External groups have influence in the process and are potential allies.

Strategy Development. The two-step approach includes the effective documentation and then delivery of the message. Message delivery can best be accomplished through enhanced partnerships and face to face conversations with individuals and small groups.

Documentation of Resource Outcomes and Resource Needs

- ***Require appropriate LGU documentation of outcomes as part of the monitoring of each program activity.*** Again, telling a successful story requires documentation.
- ***Create knowledge about LGU activities and effectiveness by sharing activity and effectiveness assessments.*** The Legislature is more likely to reward success than reward need.
- ***Develop a web site to highlight premier projects and their outcomes, and develop monthly "resource leadership quick-takes" that can be e-mailed out to a broad list of customers and partners.*** Technology is a powerful and cost-effective tool to help deliver the message.
- ***Develop a state "Natural Resource Report Card" that offers compelling documentation of need.*** While trumpeting success is important, the Legislature also needs to know that there is still much to be done.

Relationship-building is key to gaining understanding and support for BWSR's mission. Here is what one person said about the County/BWSR relationship:

"We will be successful when we finally talk about each other in terms of "we" instead of "they.""

LGU/County Relationship Building

- ***Attend at least one AMC District meeting yearly.*** Smaller group presentations are more effective than large conferences.
- ***Promote a system whereby SWCDs and Watershed Districts meet semi-annually with Counties to provide an overview of activities.*** Counties are key partners, but are not well-informed of BWSR activities.
- ***Enhance eLINK operations so LGUs can easily access and customize data.*** eLINK is a tool that has great promise, but one that has not yet lived up to that promise.
- ***Meet regularly with AMC's Environment and Natural Resources Policy Committee.*** This committee sets AMC's legislative priorities.

Other Partnership Building

- ***Hold semi-annual "sounding board" meetings with key stakeholders (similar in makeup to group invited for focus group).*** There are a number of organizations in the state that share BWSR's mission and that have influence with the Legislature.
- ***Develop monthly "resource leadership quick-takes" that can be e-mailed out to broad list of customers and partners.*** Technology can be used to cost-effectively build both understanding and support.
- ***Develop both Executive and Legislative strategies to concisely inform and influence the state's natural resource conservation agenda.*** Both branches have a critical role in helping BWSR advance its mission. Our stakeholders think we do an acceptable job of this, but few think we excel at it.

Who is responsible for its completion? What specific actions will be taken? What is the best way of measuring a successful outcome? Who will be responsible for the measurement of progress? To the extent that BWSR has answers for each of these, the probability of success increases.

Next Steps.

This strategic planning effort will only be meaningful if BWSR finds a way to "walk the talk," and thereby deliver meaningful results. To do this an effective bridge must be created between the bright ideas contained here and action.

To bring this level of accountability to the implementation process requires another level of detail. The old management adage, *"What gets measured gets done"* applies here. For each strategy the following questions need to be answered: Who is responsible for its completion? What specific actions will be taken? What resources are needed? When will this strategy be completed? What is the best way of measuring a successful outcome? Who will be responsible for the measurement of progress? To the extent that BWSR has answers for each of these, the probability of success increases.

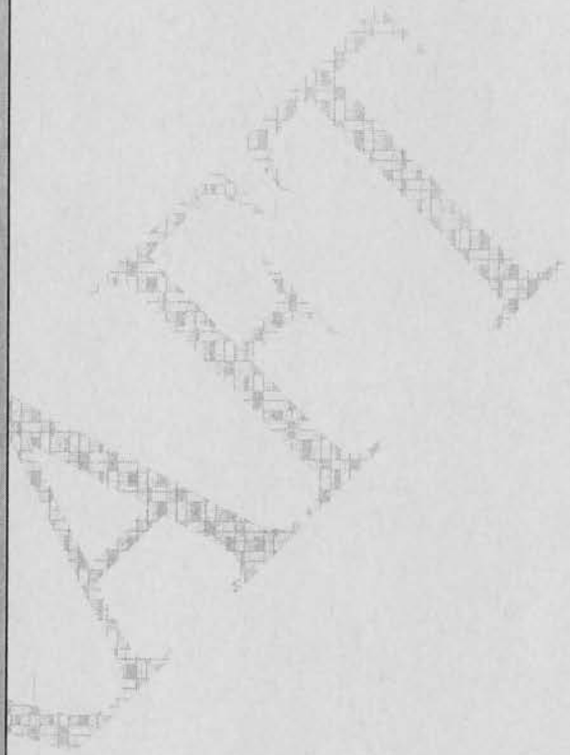
Following are more formalized recommendations for the next steps:

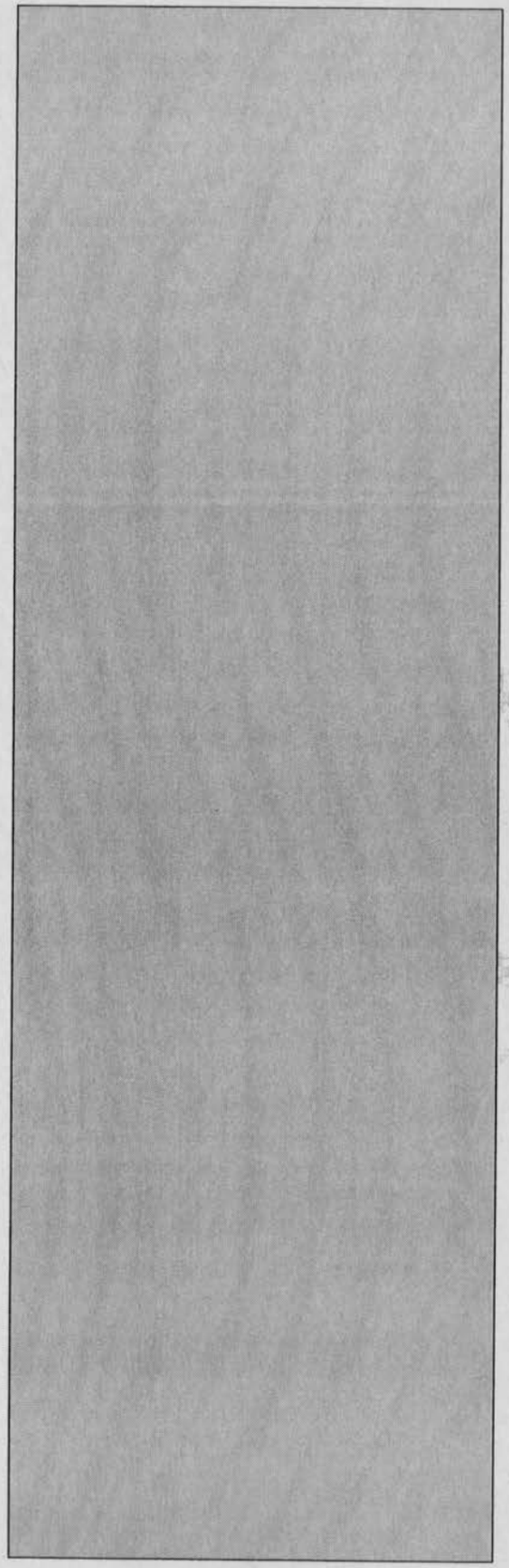
- *Determine the outcomes that are desired and the appropriate measures for the success of each.* Desired outcomes have to do with quality of LGUs, the change in water quality and soil conservation, and the awareness and support for BWSR. Each can be measured (although some are harder than others). The measures act as a rudder for the entire process. If positive change is evidenced, then the strategies are appropriate. If it isn't, BWSR should know about it and that acknowledgement should drive a change in strategy
- *Assign a staff person responsible for implementation.* If this is everyone's responsibility, it is no one's responsibility. Accountability and responsibility need to have a face attached to it.
- *Charge the staff with developing action steps, timelines, and securing resources.* Each strategy needs more detail. Specific actions need to be identified, resource needs need to be considered, and timelines need

Accountability for implementing this plan involves three separate, but related, approaches: measuring action, assigning responsibility and adding detail to the strategy

development. Measurement requires measurability – this detail will provide that.

- *Charge some person or group with measuring progress and results.* Who is going to oversee the evaluation?





Appendix

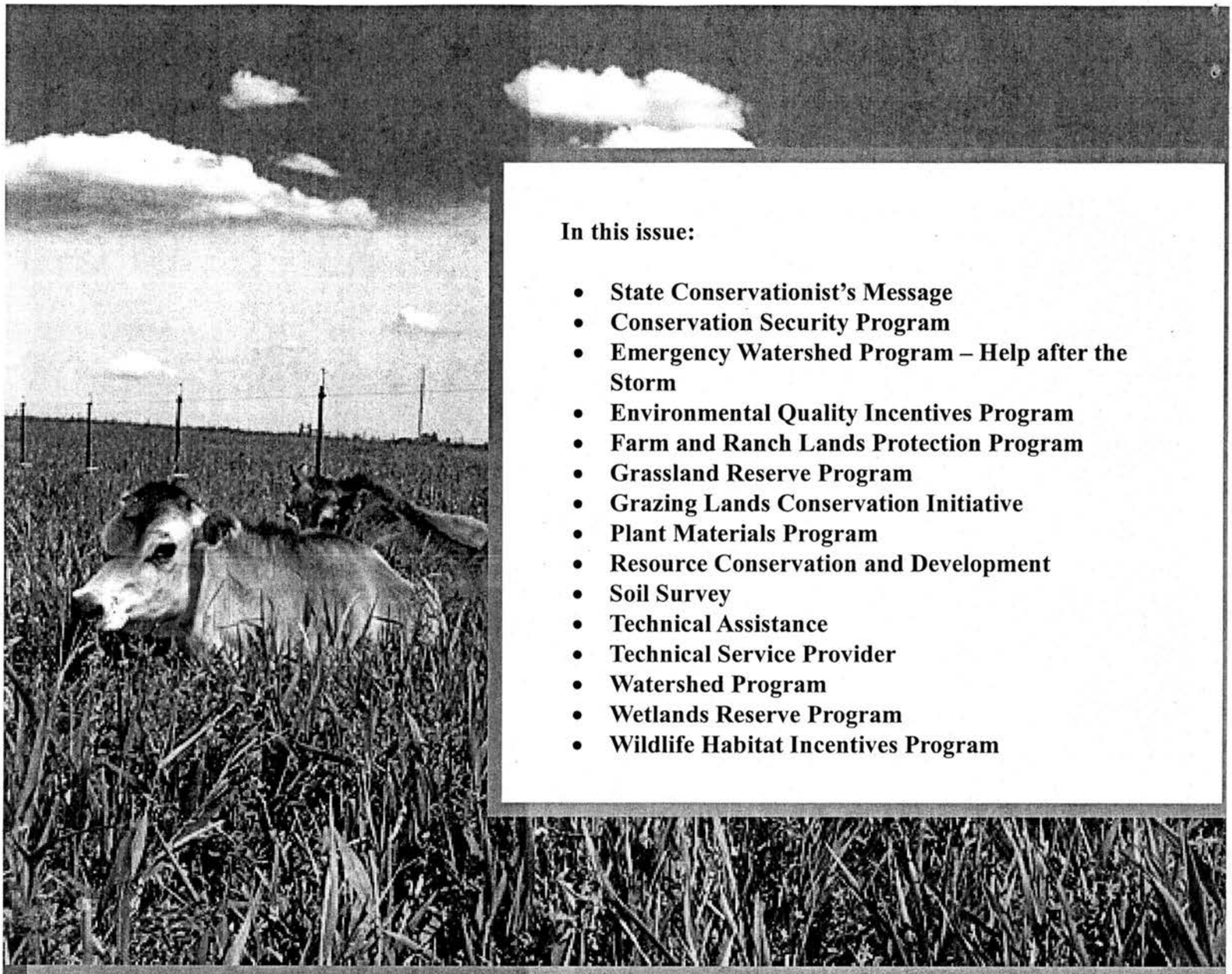
1997 Strategic Plan
November 2006 SWOT
May, 2007 Focus Group Summary
Online Survey Results

NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

2007 Accomplishments Report



A report by the Minnesota USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



In this issue:

- State Conservationist's Message
- Conservation Security Program
- Emergency Watershed Program – Help after the Storm
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program
- Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program
- Grassland Reserve Program
- Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative
- Plant Materials Program
- Resource Conservation and Development
- Soil Survey
- Technical Assistance
- Technical Service Provider
- Watershed Program
- Wetlands Reserve Program
- Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

On the cover:

Morning breaks over a field in northwest Minnesota as this striking sharptail grouse displays his vibrant colors of the mating dance.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Mission: Helping People Help the Land
Vision: Productive Land, Healthy Environment

State Conservationist's Messages



On behalf of the entire Minnesota Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff and partners, I proudly present the 2007 Accomplishment's Report. This report covers one fiscal year, from October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007. This year was another productive year for the planning and applying of conservation to our Minnesota landscape.

Our Minnesota NRCS programs continue to help agricultural operators to address their resource concerns. To this end we see more customers coming in the door at our USDA Service Centers.

Much of the success MN NRCS was able to achieve were due in part to the strong grass roots support that exists throughout Minnesota for soil and water conservation. Our conservation results was possible because of the sheer dedication of our employees.

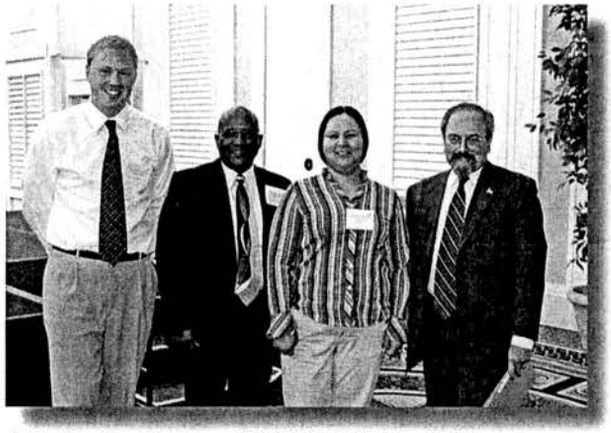
As I look to the new year of 2008, I have renewed enthusiasm for accomplishing even more on the conservation front. I know that we can and will continue to make a difference in Minnesota's natural resources because of people such as yourself that have a passion for the land.

The mission of the NRCS is:
"Helping People Help the Land."

WILLIAM HUNT
State Conservationist



William Hunt gave opening remarks at the 2007 Earth day celebration held at Whitewater State Park. An annoucement was made for the 2007 USDA EQIP program for the Driftless Area of the Upper Mississippi River Basin. The Basin includes, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin.



L-R Dustin Jasken, MN NRCS Tribal Liaison, William Hunt, MN NRCS State Conservationist, Dawn Kier, Agriculture/Wetlands Manager, White Earth and Mark Rey, USDA Under Secretary for Natural Resources. The White Earth tribe became Minnesota's first tribal conservation district on May 8, 2007 in White Earth, Minnesota.



William Hunt MN State Conservationist stakes out the corners of an agricultural waste facility using the Robotic Total Station under direction of Michael Hemmann (CET, Waite Park) as landowner Dan Atkinson of Atkinson Acres looks on.

Conservation Security Program

At the end of Fiscal Year (FY) 2006, CSP participants with FY2004 and FY2005 contracts were allowed to request contract improvement modifications. This included contract holders in the Blue Earth, Root, Sauk, Redwood, Redeye, and Red Lake Watersheds. Participants were allowed to transition between Tiers, bringing in the remainder of their agricultural operation if they were transitioning from Tier I to Tier II or Tier III. The option to add newly acquired land and new enhancements was limited to participants who were already at Tier III and those who were transitioning to Tier III.

In FY2007, the contract improvement modifications were approved for funding. Due to the contract improvement modifications, the number of Tier II FY2005 contracts increased from 91 in 2005 to 144 during the modification period. Tier III FY2005 contracts increased from 17 in 2005 to 134 during the modification period, an increase of 117 contracts. Based on the number of producers who transitioned to Tier II and Tier III during the modification period, additional conservation was applied by CSP participants in Minnesota.

In FY2007 USDA did not conduct a new CSP sign-up or allow additional contract improvement modifications. It is anticipated that a new CSP sign-up will be conducted in the Thief Watershed during the early part of calendar year 2008.

In FY2007, CSP participants received approximately $8,800,000 in payments as part of their CSP contracts. The following table summarizes the Conservation Security Program Active Contracts by Tier and by Fiscal Year. The table also includes the total obligations between FY2004 and FY2007.

	Tier I	Tier II	Tier III	Total	Obligations (FY2004-FY2007)
2004	89	36	9	134	$4,689,599
2005	284	144	134	562	$16,485,082
2006	0	15	0	15	$332,157
Total	373	195	143	711	$21,506,835

Emergency Watershed Program-Help after the Storm

EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROGRAM

Southeast Minnesota residents may have lived through some of the worst flash flooding in state history during the August storms of 2007. The director of emergency management in Houston County reported nearly 20 inches of rain fell over a two day period. In some areas of Houston and Winona County over 17 inches of rain fell in one 24 hour period. The previous record was about 10.5 inches in 24 hours.

NRCS is providing assistance in flood recovery through the Emergency Watershed Program (EWP). Funding was allocated for sites in Minnesota City and Hokah that were believed to be in immediate danger if not treated. Additional funding is anticipated for sites with less urgent needs.



The banks of Garvin Brook in Minnesota City are being stabilized through EWP Program assistance after damaging floodwaters moved the Brook up to 80 feet toward these home sites.



Several homes and businesses in the Hokah, MN area suffered damage from landslides combined with gully erosion. EWP assistance was provided to prevent further soil movement and loss of these properties.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary conservation program that supports agriculture and environmental quality as compatible goals. Through EQIP, landowners may receive financial and technical help with structural and management conservation practices on agricultural land. Local Work Groups (LWGs) are used to prioritize local resource concerns for funding.

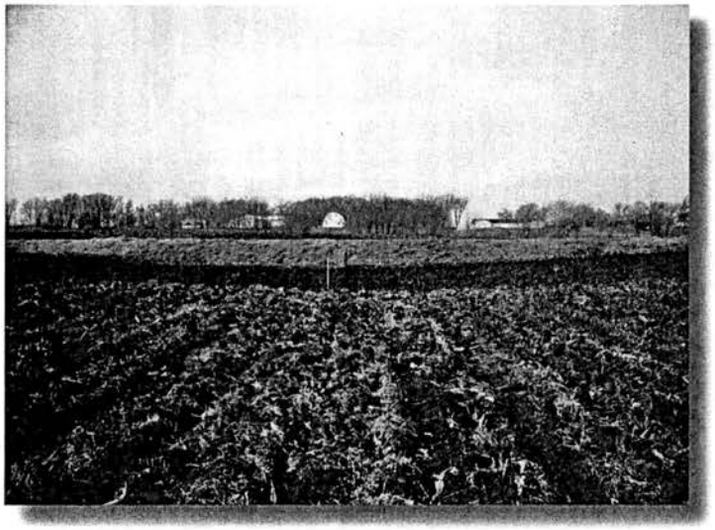
In FY2007 Minnesota allocated $26,289,610 in general EQIP financial assistance. These funds provided financial assistance to 1,528 landowners. In addition, NRCS provided technical assistance, either directly or through the use of a Technical Service Provider, to plan or implement these contracts. Funds were distributed state-wide except for Anoka and Ramsey Counties where we did not have any eligible applicants. A portion of the FY2007 EQIP funding was designated to assisting Limited Resource Producers and American Indians. Forty-four Limited Resource Producers were allocated a total of $1.35 million and $11,498 was distributed through two American Indian EQIP contracts.

When extreme drought conditions occurred in Northern Minnesota NRCS partnered with the State of Minnesota – Board of Water and Soil Resources and private landowners to install grazing systems including alternative water systems for livestock. The State put in $500,000, NRCS contributed $1.5 million and landowners themselves contributed over $2 million.

In Minnesota NRCS took the lead on a multi-state effort focused on conservation practices in the Driftless Area of MN, WI, IA and IL. NRCS earmarked nearly $9.2 million of EQIP funds to this area. Once again MN took the lead, with nearly one half of the total.

In 2007 allocations were made to assist producers implement conservation practices that are identified in Public Law 566 (PL-566) Watershed Plans. This was necessary appropriations from Washington were not received for the PL-566 program. However, two watersheds received funding, the Kanarazie Little Rock (KLR) Watershed in Nobles County received $183,808 and the Whitewater River Watershed in Winona, Wabasha and Olmsted Counties received $257,193.

Through the Ground and Surface Water Conservation portion of EQIP, an additional $360,993 was allocated to 30 landowners. This funding was specifically directed toward conservation of ground and surface water resources in agricultural operations. Funding assistance went to agricultural producers to convert existing center pivot irrigation systems from high pressure to low pressure systems to save water and energy resources and reduce groundwater contamination potential.



Through EQIP, this water control sediment basin was cost-shared in Scott county, MN

In FY2007 $9.81 million was paid to

Continued

landowners to apply conservation practices. The majority of these funds came from previously contracted practices that were planned to be applied in 2007. This expenditure from previous contract years represents the bulk of the conservation accomplishments in FY2007. Most of the practices that were planned using 2007 funds will actually be applied in subsequent years.

Highlights of the practices applied and obligated listed by primary natural resource concern:

Livestock Related Practices *applied* - $5,319,331

Livestock Related Practices *obligated* - $12,552,314

Examples of livestock related practices:

- Fencing
- Pipeline
- Pasture and hay planting
- Animal mortality facility
- Wastewater and feedlot runoff control systems

Erosion Control Practices *applied* - $2,903,439

Erosion Control Practices *obligated* - $10,377,323

Examples of erosion control practices:

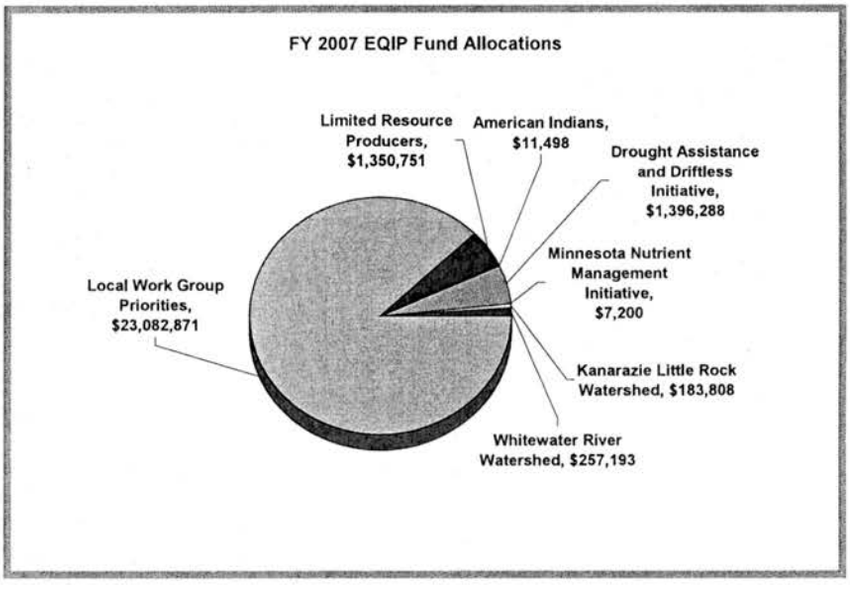
- Residue management
- Grassed waterway
- Diversion
- Terrace

Water Quality Practices *applied* - $406,804

Water Quality Practices *obligated* - $1,958,382

Examples of water quality practices:

- Nutrient management
- Stream crossing
- Riparian forest buffer



Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program

2007 was another successful year for the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP) in Minnesota. In Dakota County, the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District and NRCS continue to partner on this effort working with private landowners to protect farmland.

In 2007, $669,391 of USDA – NRCS FRPP funding was received. A competitive Request for Proposal process was utilized and Dakota County was selected to receive funding. The FRPP funds will continue to support their existing farmland protection efforts through the Dakota County Farmland and Natural Area Program (FNAP). Through this joint effort, FRPP funds will contribute up to one half of the cost of farmland protection easements and the county will pay for the other half as well as other associated costs to secure the easement and administer the program.

This is the fifth year that Dakota County was awarded FRPP funds. This includes over $540,000 in 2006, $1.55 million in 2005, $1.1 million in 2004, and nearly $1.3 million in 2003. This brings the grand total of FRPP funding to over $5.1 million to Dakota County over the past five years.

One landowner had a Dakota County FRPP easement perfected in 2007. This included a total of 149 acres all of which is prime farmland. The easement utilizes FRPP funding and lists USDA as having a legal interest in the easement, and protects these lands from being converted to non-agricultural land uses.

Additional easements are currently being processed and another Dakota County signup has occurred. Interest remains strong and a number of easements will close in fiscal year 2008.



The National Organization of Professional Hispanic NRCS Employee's 14th Annual Training Conference was held in Bloomington, MN. One of the conservation tour sites that the conference participants visited was for a FRPP easement site in Dakota county.

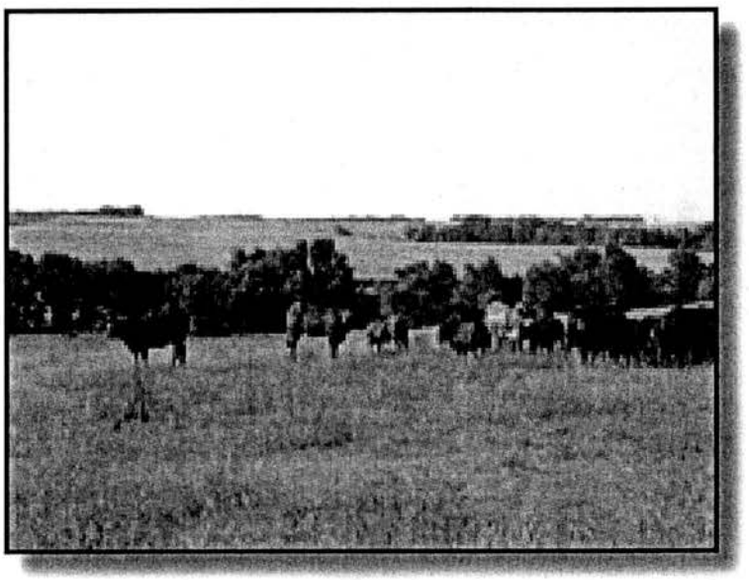


Brian Watson, Dakota Soil and Water Conservation Distric Manager shared information regarding the Dakota Count Farmland and Natural Area Program with the tour participant who attended the National Organization of Professional His panic NRCS Employees conference.

Grassland Reserve Program

The Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) continues to be a successful program in Minnesota. Once again, the number of applications far exceeded the state's allocation of $300,000. A new scoring criterion was enacted this year earning bonus points for limited resource farmers, beginning farmers or tribal lands or producers. Only one applicant was approved under this criterion which was a beginning farmer. The scoring worksheet still emphasizes plant biodiversity, conversion potential and supporting of existing grazing operations. This was the first time since 2004 that new applications were accepted.

Out of a total of 35 applications from 15 counties; 14 contracts from 8 counties were approved for a total of $276,331 on 1200 acres. Since 2003, 24 counties have a total of 112 contracts placing 15,978 grassland acres under restoration or protection.



Three counties had their first GRP contract approvals: Wabasha, Jackson and Big Stone. Murray County leads the state with the most contracts adding 3 new ones, the most approvals in any county this year; it has a total of 23 active contracts on 1,737 acres. Wilkin County has the most acres enrolled in GRP with 2,550 acres in 18 contracts.

The purpose of GRP is to protect and restore privately owned grassland to 1) preserve high quality grasslands; 2) conserve and protect eligible lands that are subject to risk of conversion to another landuse; 3) support grazing operations and 4) maintain and improve plant and animal biodiversity. This voluntary program provides financial and technical assistance resulting in improved grasslands containing a diversity of forbs and shrubs, increasing water quality and wildlife habitats while reducing soil erosion, sedimentation and flooding.



Lance Smith, NRCS grazing specialist provided numerous grazing training at grazing workshops during FY2007. Lance was observing the clipping of the grass.

Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative

In 2007, the Grazing Specialist staff decreased to a total of three individuals upon the retirement of the State Specialist. His workload was divided among the three remaining specialists.

Group and individual training sessions for both new and experienced staff were conducted that served a total of 287 individuals. Additionally, day long sessions were held for 384 grazing land owners and managers and a majority of these sessions were held during the winter season. An additional 87 cooperating agency and employees of other agricultural sector employees attended the sessions.

NRCS staff, Minnesota Department of Agriculture and SWCD staff conducted 26 demonstration projects with 24 producers.

A total of thirty-four grazing lands presentations, that included workshops, seminars, tours and field days were attended by 709 individuals. The Grazing Specialists and the MDA employee under contract produced 144 Grazing Plans, 98 Grazing plan reviews, and 178 follow-up visits.

Although grazing staff numbers decreased, output of educational and planning products continued at a high level as a result of cooperative efforts by NRCS Grazing Specialists, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, and SWCD Staff. NRCS regional grazing specialists took on additional planning, training and administrative repsonsibilities to ensure a high level of service to both our external and internal customers.



Mark Hayek, Grazing Specialist shares his expertise at a Grazing Workshop sponsored by Pembina Trail RC&D



Grazing Workshops held in FY 2007 were very successful and brought more people together to learn about the arts and science of grazing in Minnesota!

Plant Materials Program

The plant materials program has provided many benefits to Minnesota residents through the years and was made possible because of the strong support from both our field office employees and partners.

In Minnesota, we have three Off Center Evaluation Planting (OCEP) sites in Morris, Becker and Grand Rapids. These sites are currently evaluating (1) Silverscape hybrid olive, a cross between Russian olive and silver berry. (2) European Cranberry, does well at all OCEPs. (3) American black Currant – fruit is desirable and has nice fall color.

Additional plantings were completed at each of these sites in the spring of 2007 with assistance from NRCS state and field office staff. All of the new and existing plantings were evaluated in August. Measurements and notes were taken on crown spread and plant height, disease and insect damage, drought and cold tolerance, fruit production, survival, vigor and animal damage. A field planting review for black chokeberry was also conducted and this specie is scheduled for a formal release in 2008.

During FY2007, nine employees attended three full days of training at the Plant Materials Center in Bismark, North Dakota. A total of 34 field plantings across the state were evaluated by field office staff in the Fall of 2007. Some of the findings were that Amur Chokecherry did not generally do well in Mn, low survival; Black Chokeberry is a good fruit producer and has good survival. Manifest Intermediate Wheatgrass is doing well and was scheduled for release in 2007.

During FY2007, the following plant materials were requested for field plantings: Sweet Grass, White Sage, American Black Current, Fireberry Hawthorn.

The Fond du Lac Tribal College continues to perform a variety of projects with plant materials. They are collecting ash seeds, conducting prescribed burns on blueberries, and performing site evaluations at Cloquet.

Two new brochures were produced to promote plant materials:
Native Pollinator Plants for Conservation Practices in Minnesota
Living Landscapes in Minnesota: A guide to Native Plantscaping

The Terrestrial Plant Invasive Species Conference was held in March to provide information on the identification and control of some of these problem plants. During FY2007, an incentive was offered in EQIP for terrestrial invasive plant species control, an interim practice standard was written and numerous job sheets on controlling specific plants were produced.

David Wise received the National Plant Materials Special Service Award for 2006, and was presented to Dave in 2007.



L-R Dave Wise , Tribal Liaison for Fond du Lac Tribal College receives the National Plant Materials Special Service Award from William Hunt, MN NRCS State Conservationist

Resource Conservation and Development

NRCS has eight approved RC&D Areas, covering 64 counties in Minnesota. We also have two applicant areas, Coteau des Prairies RC&D and Mid Minnesota Mississippi River. Both are seeking USDA authorization as designated RC&D Areas. RC&D Councils in Minnesota adopted 34 new projects and completed 81 during the past year. There are 106 projects currently being implemented. Federal contributions to these completed projects total $1.9 million. Contributions from other government and non-government sources toward these projects exceeded $9.4 million. Fifty-three businesses were established and 26 businesses were expanded or retained. Over 75 workshops, tours, training events or seminars were held. A total of over 49,000 citizens received service, with almost 2,600 of those individuals being economically or socially disadvantaged people. RC&D's in Minnesota took on two significant statewide projects during the past year. First, the dry hydrant program provided water sources for rural fire departments. And second, offered the Productive Conservation on Working Lands program to farmers wanting to establish income producing conservation crops rather than entering an easement program.



Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty served as the Keynote speaker at the Summer Meeting of the Minnesota Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils. Pawlenty enthusiastically supported Laurentian Resource Conservation and Development's (LRC&D) Renewable Energy Clean Air Project (RECAP) as an outstanding example of what local community leaders need to do the reinvigorate and energize their communities.



Colleen Oestreich, RC&D Coordinator for Giziibii RC&D was named recipient of the Outstanding Staff Member Award by the Minnesota Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils, Inc. (MARC&D). Jim Hall, MARC&D President presented Colleen with a plaque and a token of appreciation.



L-R William Hunt, State Conservationist and Delores Adkins, Pembina Trail RC&D Board member. Mr. Hunt reminded the attendees of the Summer RC&D meeting that RC&D in Minnesota makes things happen! The RC&D Summer event made the front page of the International Falls paper!

Soil Survey

Soil surveys provide a field-based scientific inventory of soil resources, including soil maps, data about physical and chemical properties of soils and information on the potentials and limitations of each soil.

The NRCS is the lead Federal agency responsible for soil mapping private lands. Many other state and local agency partners also contribute both staff and money to the mapping effort.

Soil surveys have many uses, but are intended for people so use of the land fits the soil. Soils data can be used to determine highly erodible areas, potential wetlands, sites where livestock manure could be distributed with little environmental impact, prime farmland, or other soil interpretations critical to natural resource management. Soils data is also useful to urban planners and other government agencies.

The first soil surveys were conducted a century ago, and as time progressed, soil mapping technology followed suit. The digitizing of soil maps and the development of the soil survey geographic database are an integral part of the soil survey process today. They are completed concurrently with other activities in both initial and maintenance soil survey projects. A soil survey geographic database is one of the products of a completed soil survey. The soil survey geographic database is maintained in the field office and archived at the National Cartography and Geospatial Center.

During FY2007, Minnesota soil scientists mapped 1,355,858 acres or 102.3% of their goal.

The Soil Survey Geographic Database (SSURGO) is the most detailed geographic database. It contains digital data developed from detailed soil survey maps that are generally at scales of 1:12,000 or 1:24,000.

Currently, there are 77 counties in Minnesota that meet SSURGO standards, and work is underway on many others. During FY2007, 9 more counties were digitized to SSURGO standards.

All Minnesota county soil surveys that are digitized to SSURGO standards are now available on the web. For more information about soil surveys in Minnesota, click on the Minnesota NRCS website at: www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov.



L-R Al Gienke, Earth Team volunteer, Tom Jackson, MLRA Soil Survey Coordinator and Douglas Miller, Area Soil Scientist view a soil sample in south-central Minnesota.



Russell Plumb, Soil Scientist from the Baxter Soil Survey Office makes it a point to check out those soil mapping details.

Technical Assistance

Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) encompasses the majority of the work that NRCS does. Work items such as the agency's infrastructure, training, accountability, technical references, state-specific Field Office Technical Guides and engineering are all part of CTA. Additionally, conservation compliance activities such as highly erodible land determinations, wetland delineations and determinations are considered ongoing CTA work.

The demand for CTA continues to grow in Minnesota. CTA is the foundation for all NRCS's conservation activities and is carried out in cooperation with our 91 Soil and Water Conservation Districts throughout the State. This effort created a seamless delivery of local, State and Federal conservation programs.



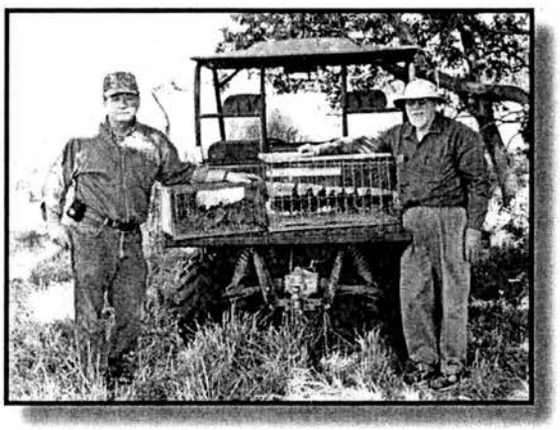
L-R Some new NRCS employees, Justin Lindner, Sangeetha Gummadi, Manila Khounchaleun, and Lakelle Pritchett, learn about soil properties and suitabilities during a field trip to some soil pits.



Employees learned about surveying duringthe Conservation Application workshop. These foundational skills are important for NRCS employees.



Joni Franklin, Soil Conservationist, Waite Park answers student questions at the 2007 Area IV Senior Envirothon.



Noel Frank NRCS District Conservationist in Steele County and Irvin Barth former Conservation Technician with the Root River SWCD in Caledonia released Bob White quail on Noel's farm in Fillmore County in an effort to restore quail population in that area.

Technical Service Provider

The 2002 Farm Bill authorized USDA to use Technical Service Providers (TSPs). TSPs are conservation professionals from the private sector, non-profit organizations, or public agencies that can provide direct technical assistance and deliver conservation services to landowners and others on behalf of USDA. By working with TSPs, Minnesota NRCS is able to increase the technical assistance and services available to landowners. Approximately 175 individuals are currently certified as TSPs in Minnesota – by far the most of any state in the nation.

In FY2007 over $1.7 million was allocated to agreements and contracts with TSPs; $619,000 went to the private sector and $1,088,000 went to the public sector. A small portion ($3,900) of the private sector funds went to WRP engineering services, the remaining money went to support the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Producers contract with TSPs to primarily:

- install structures that control waste water and feedlot runoff
- manage nutrients and pests

Additionally, fiscal year 2007 and earlier EQIP contracts, have scheduled the development and implementation of over 2,600 nutrient management, and over 1,400 pest management plans through the next 3 years. Private sector TSPs will provide or have to provide technical assistance on many of those contracts in addition to nutrient and pest management scheduled by fiscal year 2008 EQIP contracts.

Public sector funds were allocated to a number of public agencies and non-profit organizations including; Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Minnesota Waterfowl Association and The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). Funds were used in support of the EQIP, Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP), Conservation Technical Assistance, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP).
Activities included:

- designing and installing conservation practices
- developing forestry plans
- developing habitat improvement plans
- developing grazing plans
- topographical surveying
- designing wetland restorations
- monitoring existing wetland restorations
- developing CRP plans

The $1,088,000 in funds that were allocated to the public sector were also matched by using the Contribution Agreement process. With Contribution Agreements, each dollar provided by NRCS is matched by the partner agency or organization, effectively doubling the amount of services that are provided. The actual value of the technical assistance provided in 2007 through TSPs in Minnesota is close to $2.8 million.

NRCS TSP training efforts were expanded through the State of Minnesota Clean Water Legacy Program funds. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) and Minnesota Extension Service are spearheading this new training initiative. See the following web site for upcoming TSP training sponsored by this initiative: http://tsp.umn.edu (Continue on page 16)

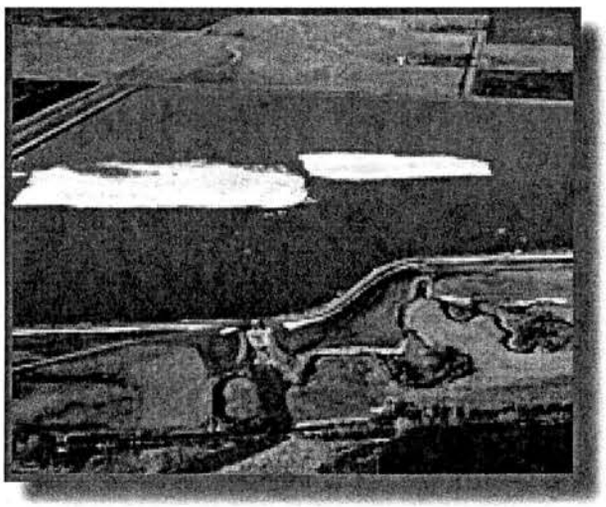
Technical Service Provider (continued)

During the past year TSP training sponsored by this new initiative included; Nutrient Management and Comprehensive Nutrient Management Planning. NRCS state and regional water quality specialists and Thief River Falls Area Office personnel provided additional nutrient and pest management training to TSPs.

Watershed Program

WATERSHED PLANNING AND OPERATIONS

The Pelican River Watershed Plan is complete. The purpose of this plan is to reduce phosphorous levels entering Big Detroit Lake. The Watershed District is now working to implement the plan. Spring Brook Watershed Planning process continues on schedule. This plan is to provide ecological restoration of streams in the area, and flood protection of adjacent cropland. The Spring Brook Plan will be completed early in 2008. The Whitewater and Kanaranzi-Little Rock Land Treatment watersheds continue to provide watershed protection assistance through long-term contracting with local farmers. No new watershed funds were available for these projects over the past year, but a priority was given to these areas for EQIP funding. Sixteen long term contracts were completed during the past year. The Snake River Watershed is providing anticipated flood protection benefits to the City of Warren. Planning and work on environmental mitigation will continue into 2008.



Aerial view of the Snake River Project area.



The design and successful implementation of a flood-control structure at Snake River has made a tremendous impact on reducing the flooding in northern Minnesota.

Wetlands Reserve Program

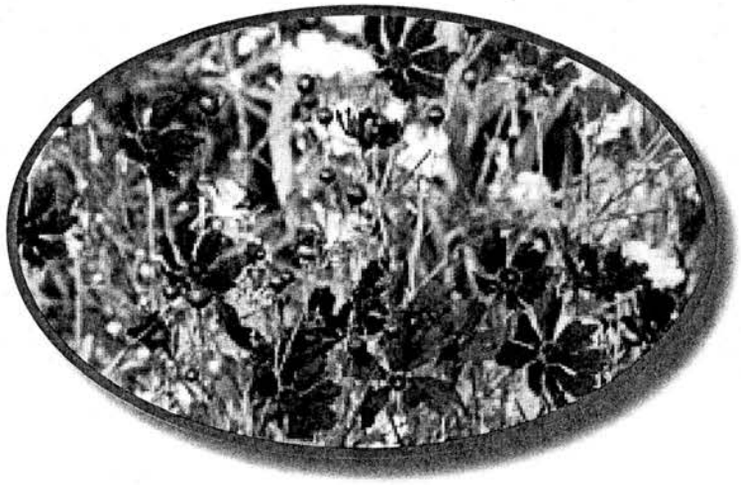
Minnesota received over $17 million in Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) funding in Fiscal Year 2007. Seventy-four applicants were chosen for funding and NRCS completed appraisals on their land. Due to low appraised values, booming agricultural land values and high rental rates, nearly all landowners rejected the WRP offer. Only four offers were accepted for a total obligation of $1.2 million on nearly 1,100 acres. This included a 972 acre easement with The Nature Conservancy. The easement is an addition to the extensive Glacial Ridge Project in Polk County. Since the majority of the offers were declined, nearly $13 million of the original allocation was pulled back to Washington to be used by other states.

Minnesota NRCS received a $3.75 million allocation for a special Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Special WRP Project. In this partnership effort, a WRP easement is taken for 30 years and then the land remains protected in perpetuity with a RIM easement. This funding was not going to be used due to a lack of RIM funding from the State of Minnesota. When RIM funds became available, during a short 2 week period in mid-September, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), local Soil and Water Conservation Districts and NRCS staff put together offers and presented them to the applicants who rejected the WRP only offers. Sixteen applicants accepted the new offers on nearly 1,600 acres for a total RIM allocation of $1.6 million and a WRP total of over $2 million. In addition, after the restoration plans are completed NRCS will allocate, in a future fiscal year, another $1 million for restoration costs for these projects.

In FY2007 Minnesota recorded 23 easements on nearly 4,800 acres in 8 counties. The easements were funded with prior year WRP allocations.

Field offices assisted landowners to complete 6,578 acres of upland restoration and 4,087 acres of wetland restoration. The total spent on these restorations was $3,749,058.

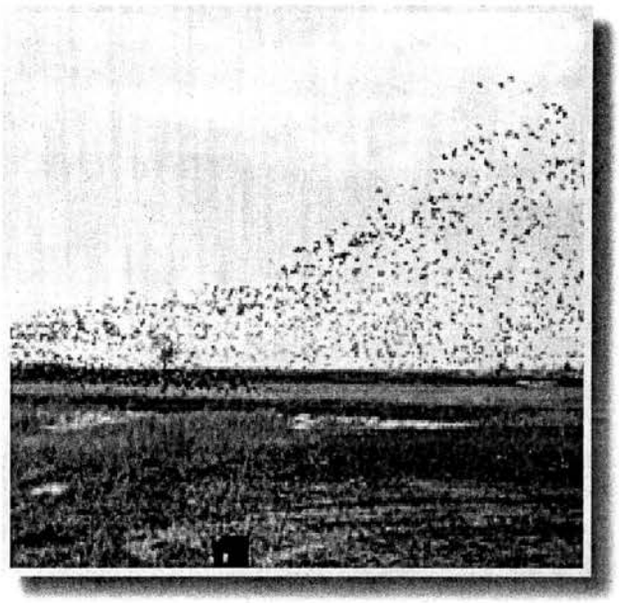
NRCS continued to be a partner in the Habitat Conservation Partnership (HCP), a multi-year project funded by the Minnesota State Legislature as recommended by the Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR). Through a cooperative effort between NRCS and Ducks Unlimited (DU), 7 WRP contract technicians provided assistance to landowners who are located in HCP priority corridors. The HCP funding along with DU assistance has focused WRP funding into identified high priority areas within the state.



Native flowers oasis established on WRP

Wetlands Reserve Program

In late September the HCP celebrated our 100,000th acre of land protected for wildlife habitat in just a short five year period. These acres represent a significant increase in wildlife habitat throughout the state and through the WRP, NRCS is a major contributor to this partnership effort.



Beginning in FY2006 and continuing through the field season of FY2007, Minnesota launched a monitoring program to evaluate established WRP easements. In a cooperative effort between NRCS, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), DU, Freeborn and Steele Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and the Pembina RC&D, nearly 500 established easements were field visited and evaluated. Each site was photographed and detailed notes were recorded on the success of planting and hydrology, presence of invasive or noxious weeds, wildlife habitat, and potential violations of the terms of the easement. In a follow-up program, local NRCS District Conservationists are working with WRP easement landowners to correct and repair identified problems.



The Wetlands Reserve Program made a difference in Minnesota's landscape.

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program





The WHIP program has yielded some outstanding habitat results in Goodhue county at the Trelstad farm.

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program for people who want to develop or improve wildlife habitat on tribal and private lands. It provides both technical assistance and cost sharing to help establish and improve fish and wildlife habitat.

Minnesota's WHIP plan focuses on the establishment and management of native habitats, including at risk species. WHIP contracts are coordinated with other local, state, tribal and federal initiative, which allows the program to reach many more customers.

2007 Accomplishments

Minnesota received a total of 142 eligible applications in FY2007, and the dollar value of applications received exceeded $500,000. Minnesota was able to fund 77 contracts establishing and enhancing over 2100 acres at a cost share of over $365,000.

Practices include:

- establishment of **777 acres** of native shrubs, grasses and forbs,
- **360 acres** of brush land management,
- **1110 acres** of prescribed burning,
- **116 acres** of timber stand improvement,
- **16 acres** of wetlands were restored,
- **8 acres** of tree planting,
- **4770 feet** of stream habitat enhancement and bank protection,
- **73 acres** of declining species habitat enhanced, and
- **260 acres** of invasive species management.

Program Benefits

NRCS worked closely with several tribal conservation departments to utilize WHIP in meeting comprehensive wildlife management plans. WHIP provided NRCS the opportunity to reach non-traditional clients and introduce them to USDA programs and services.

WHIP was used to demonstrate the value of non-traditional habitat projects. Examples include; declining species habitat restoration, pollinator enhancement and wildlife friendly green spaces.



Wildflowers flourish in Isanti county, MN following a prescribed burn.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service is an agency of The United States Department of Agriculture.

For more information, please contact:
William Hunt
State Conservationist
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
375 Jackson Street
St. Paul, MN 55101
(651) 602-7900



www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

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SE MN Flood Relief Field Summary – BWSR Programs

October 15, 2007 – Prepared by Mary Kells, BWSR Rochester.

- BWSR/LGU Implementation Meeting Held in Rochester – Sept. 21, 2007

- BWSR SE MN Flood Relief Resolution passed at the September 25, 2007 board meeting.
  - Erosion, Sediment, and Water Quality Control Cost-share $3,000,000
  - MDA-Ag. BMP Loan Program 750,000
  - Clean Water Legacy Fund for MCC–Priority flood relief projects
  - RIM Conservation Easements 2,100,000

- BWSR C-S Grants Agreements sent out Sept. 26 to seven SWCDs in the amount of $650,000 and the remaining funds allocated in coordination with the MN Recover Task Force.

- SWCDs worked with county, cities and NRCS to coordinate flood damage assessment and needs prior to October 5, 2007.

- MN Recovers Task Force received Community Applications including over $12M request in sedimentation/soil erosion category by October 5, 2007.

- SWCD Boards have been developing policy and priorities for the direct allocation of $650,000 cost-share funds and have begun to allocate these funds to individuals. **Approximately $122,500 has been allocated for T&A, $236,000 has been encumbered on projects, $220,000 set aside for pending projects, and $71,500 is unencumbered. Work has been started on the City of Houston 300 well sealing and 4 to 5 projects in Houston County.**

Status of SWCD Implementation and Policy:

  - Steele - $50,000 – Grant Agreement signed and sent back. Policy adopted at board meeting 10/10/07 to take 20% T&A and C-S 100%. Technical needs completed on a stream bank erosion site. Landowner application will be presented to the board on November 14, 2007. Anticipated cost of stabilizing 500-600 ft. of stream bank will take all of the direct allocation. 50% of crops are off and there it is anticipated that no additional flood relief funds will be necessary.

  - Dodge - $50,000 – Grant Agreement signed and sent back. Board meeting on 10/18/07. No calls have come in for flood damage repair needs. 30-40% of crops are off. Four stream bank erosion sites have been visited as result of August flood event, however, 7 ½" of rain fell Oct. lest. It is anticipated that more assessment will need to be done after harvest prior to Board decisions on policy and priorities.

  - Wabasha - $50,000 – Board meeting 10/16/07. Grant agreement and flood relief policy is on the agenda. Requests for assistance have been solicited but few calls have been received. Possible two sites, stream bank stabilization and a structure repair at this time. Post harvest assessment may produce more need.

- Olmsted – $50,000 - Dist. Board met on 10/11/07. Grant agreement signed and sent in. Policy adopted at board meeting of 100% C-S/20% T&A. Eight landowner contracts were approved for funding totaling $36,000.00 for flood damage repair work. Depending on weather (too wet) and contractors, repairs are ready to begin. Practices include 3 terraces, 1 terrace/structure, 3 waterways, and 1 grade stab. Post harvest assessment is expected to generate more need.

- Fillmore - $150,000 – Grant agreement signed and sent in. Dist. Board met on 10/11/07. Work has begun on sealing appr. 300 contaminated wells in the City of Rushford. Dist. will C-S 100% up to $800/well. Anticipated cost is $100,000. General cons. practice repair work up to 85% and pond clean outs up to 75%. 15% will be used for T&A.

- Root River - $150,000 – Grant agreement signed and sent in. Dist. Board meets every two weeks to address flood recovery needs. Dist. Bd approved a 92.5% C-S rate. 20% T&A taken. 28 projects have been approved for c-s with appr. $20,000 remaining of the original $150,000. All of the them are pond repairs, eight gullies in or near the control section, or further down steam which are being treated as critical area stabilization, and/or pond clean-outs, with the exception of 3 diversions and one waterway. Several have started construction (4 or 5) however the weather has not cooperated. More funds could be used at this time not including anticipated post harvest assessments.

  Two MCC crews were assisting the field staff for two weeks in September. MCC funds have been set aside for an additional four weeks of help in debris removal and assessment work.

- Winona - $150,000 – Grant agreement signed and sent in. Dist. Board met on 10/10/07 to discuss policy and assessment. Decision was made to C-S up to 100% on rehabilitation and repair of conservation practices (mainly spillway damage at this time) and 20% T&A. Board felt that other funds available could address debris removal, etc. Work continues on assessment of site-specific damage to conservation practices and post harvest damage needs. No funds have been encumbered to date. Board meets again on 11/14/07.

SE RIM Program Guidelines: SWCDs have been forwarding input/comments into BWSR regarding the RIM Program waivers covering eligibility, payment rates and easement lengths. BWSR staff should be in the position to entertain these comments and draft some guidelines that SWCD staff can respond to. Additional 15 CREP applications are on my desk with the majority of them in the flood damage counties. There is interest in the upcoming signup of a RIM like program in the counties.

Others Issues Being Worked On: 1. Discussions with SWCD of shared technical/engineering assistance for flood repair projects; 2. BWSR staffing needs for BWSR programs and SE Flood Relief – Jeff N; 3. Garvin Brook Watershed Options Meeting being coordinated. 4. Regional Flood Impact Forum (March 2008) planning has begun and is being coordinated by the SE Water Resources Board.

Board Resolution # 07-95

Approve Specific RIM Reserve Payment Rates for the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project

WHEREAS the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) has been involved since the early 1990's with the restoration of the 1,200-acre Grass Lake Prairie Wetland located in Kandiyohi County;

WHEREAS the Board is in partnership with the city of Willmar, Kandiyohi County, and the Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District as efforts continue to restore this critical water resource;

WHEREAS to date the Board has secured, through the Reinvest in Minnesota Reserve (RIM) program just over 1,100 acres of land in this project area under perpetual conservation easements;

WHEREAS the Board received $2.2 million from the state's 2006 capital budget appropriation specific to this project to continue with the acquisition of RIM Reserve easements on the remaining 400 to 500 acres of land (6 properties) needed to restore this drained wetland and to help with other project implementation costs;

WHEREAS per MN Statutes §8400.3530, Subpart 1, "Standard" RIM rates are calculated using an average of previous years assessed market values for agricultural lands within a township";

WHEREAS to date, the owners of those 6 properties have not accepted the payment rates offered to them for the easements using the standard RIM rates adopted by the Board; and

WHEREAS per MN Statues §103F.515, subdivision 6, subpart 5, "an alternative payment system for (RIM Reserve) easements based on cash rent or a similar system as may be determined by the (BWSR) board".

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources authorizes staff to use values determined from a site specific market appraisal of the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project properties to establish RIM Reserve easement payment rates for the remaining properties within the project area.

Randy Kramer, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

10/24/07
Date

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Board Resolution # 07-96

Authorize the use of Grants to Assist with the Implementation of the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project

WHEREAS the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) is involved with the restoration of the 1,200-acre Grass Lake Prairie Wetland located in Kandiyohi County;

WHEREAS the Board received $2.2 million from state's 2006 capital budget appropriation specific to this project to acquire conservation easements and conduct the necessary implementation activities to restore this drained wetland;

WHEREAS the Board is in partnership with the city of Willmar, Kandiyohi County, the Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District, and other project partners as efforts continue to restore this critical water resource;

WHEREAS Kandiyohi County has agreed to manage and oversee some of the required project implementation activities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources authorizes staff to use funding appropriated for the Grass Lake Project in an amount not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the total appropriation and to grant those funds, as necessary, to Kandiyohi County for use on approved project implementation activities, including but not limited to, contracts for project services.

Randy Kramer, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

10/24/07
Date

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Board Resolution # 07-97

Easement Release for John Connaker Easement 74-04-94-01

WHEREAS, the BWSR has the authority to alter, release or terminate a conservation easement as outlined in RIM Reserve Rule Section 8400.3610; and

WHEREAS, the BWSR has a Conservation Easement Alteration Policy which was adopted on 5-24-06; and

WHEREAS, the State currently holds a 27.9 acre perpetual easement in the SE ¼ of Section 20, T.106 N., R.20 W., Steele County which lies adjacent to the Straight River (JD 2) and SW 81st Street, a Somerset Township road; and

WHEREAS, Steele County Highway Dept. has acquired the right-of-way to rebuild a bridge on SW 81st St. and realign the road for safety reasons due to flooding problems that cuts off access to seven residences located along SW 81st St, which is a dead end road; and

WHEREAS, Steele County Highway Dept. has requested the release of 1.4 acres from the RIM easement to facilitate this project; and

WHEREAS, Both the Steele SWCD and the DNR Area Wildlife Manager have reviewed and approved of this request as required by Section 8400.3610 of RIM Rules; and

WHEREAS, All wetland impacts associated with this road and bridge project have received approvals from the US Army Corp of Engineers, DNR, and Steele County Environmental Services (WCA LGU); and

WHEREAS, Steele County will be required to pay the BWSR $8,394.40 for the release of these acres from the States RIM easement as prescribed by the Easement Alteration Policy; and

WHEREAS, Staff has the authority to provide tentative approval of releases from easements on public initiated projects as prescribed by the Easement Alteration Policy.

NOW THEREFORE, The Board approves of the release of 1.4 acres from perpetual easement 74-04-94-01 to allow construction of this bridge and road re-alignment project on SW 81st Street;

AND furthermore, the Board authorizes staff to proceed with preparing the legal documents to amend this easement once staff receives the $8,394.40 payment from Steele County.

Randy Kramer, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 10/24/07

Resolution # 07-98

Local Government Road Wetland Replacement Project Approval

WHEREAS, BWSR is directed pursuant Minn. Stat. 103G.222, Subd. 1(1) to replace wetlands drained or filled as a result of the repair, maintenance, or rehabilitation of existing public roads; and

WHEREAS, BWSR is authorized pursuant to 2005 Minn. Laws Chap. 20, Art. 1, Sec. 9 and 2006 Minn. Laws Chap. 258, Sec. 9 to enter into agreements with political subdivisions and fee owners to acquire land and restore wetlands to be used to replace wetlands lost as a result of the repair, maintenance, or rehabilitation of existing public roads; and

WHEREAS, BWSR issued a solicitation in June requesting interested landowners to apply to BWSR for wetland restorations for the purpose of the purposes of the Local Government Road Wetland Replacement Program; and

WHEREAS, the interagency Wetland Banking Committee reviewed the screening process to be used to prioritize applications received by the July 31st deadline. This prioritization was further refined by BWSR banking staff; and

WHEREAS, this process lead to recommending funding approval for the 9 projects on the A list and recommend identifying 3 alternative projects, on the B list, that will be pursued in order should any A list projects drop out. The 9 projects on the A list are estimated to produce 557 credits at an estimated cost of $5,830,068.00; and

WHEREAS, the Wetland Committee reviewed the proposed projects on September 25th, 2007 and is recommending Board approval.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the BWSR authorize the 9 A list projects for funding and authorize staff to pursue the projects on the B list, in order, should any A list project drop out contingent on available funding.

R J Kramer

Randy Kramer, Chair

10/24/07

Date

Resolution # 07-99

Wetland Conservation Act Funding for the 11-County Metropolitan Areas

WHEREAS, Laws of Minnesota, Chapter 57, Section 5, appropriated $250,000 to BWSR in State Fiscal Year's 2007 and 2008 "to make grants to local units of governments within the 11-county metropolitan area to improve response to major wetland violations"; and

WHEREAS, the 11-County Metropolitan Areas consists of the following Counties: Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright; and

WHEREAS, staff consulted with local governments and local government associations in developing a proposal to allocate these funds. This proposal was based on enforcement process, data from the Department of Natural Resources – Division of Enforcement; and the desire to provide sufficient funds to make a difference on the ground; and

WHEREAS, the Wetland Committee reviewed the staff proposal via conference call on October 12 and is recommending the Board approve an allocation that is based on a formula of equal funding for all 11 soil and water conservation districts plus an amount based on need.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the BWSR accepts the Wetland Committees recommendation to allocate the Wetland Conservation Act Funding for the 11-County Metropolitan Area.

Randy Kramer, Chair

10/24/07
Date

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD N.
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2007

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Jim Anderson, MES; Bob Burandt, Paul Brutlag, Paul Eger, MPCA; Quentin Fairbanks, Brian Kletscher, Randy Kramer, Larry Kramka, DNR; Paul Langseth, Joe Martin, MDA: Brian Napstad, Ken Robinson, Louise Smallidge, Gene Tiedemann, LuAnn Tolliver, Dan Wilson, MDH.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
Dana Allen

STAFF PRESENT:
Mary Jo Anderson, Bill Best, Jon Fure, Jim Haertel, John Jaschke, Al Kean, Mary Kells, Kevin Lines, Jeff Nielsen, Lynda Peterson, Ken Powell, Dan Shaw, Ron Shelito, Carol Strojny, Karli Swenson, Dave Weirens, Steve Woods, Brad Wozney, Wayne Zellmer, Leon Zeug

OTHERS:
LeAnn Buck and Ken Pederson, MASWCD
Wayne Edgerton, DNR
Doug Thomas and John Waller, Rice Creek WD
Sandy Hooker, Minnesota Association of Townships
Wayne Anderson, MPCA
Lance Yohe, Red River Basin Commission
Tim Koehler, NRCS
Stephanie McNamara and Kristine Lampert, VLAWMO
Mark Graham, City of Vadnais Heights

Chair Kramer called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

** 07-101 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Moved by Louise Smallidge, seconded by Paul Langseth, to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-102 **MINUTES OF OCTOBER 24, 2007** – Moved by Quentin Fairbanks, seconded by Paul Langseth, to approve the minutes of October 24, 2007, as circulated. Motion passed on a voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

- Al Kean introduced Leon Zeug, Project Engineer. Leon provided background information about himself. Chair Kramer welcomed Leon to BWSR.

- Steve Woods introduced Ken Powell, Senior Wetland Specialist Metro Region. Ken provided background information about himself. Chair Kramer welcomed Ken to BWSR.

John Jaschke reported that Les Lemm received a promotion and is now the WCA Coordinator. Kari Keating has been promoted to Grants/Accounting Technician; and Deb Salinas is now the primary Office Administrative Support person in the front office.

REPORTS

Chair's Report – Randy Kramer reported that he attended the MAWD annual meeting in Alexandria and the AMC annual meeting in Minneapolis. Chair Kramer stated that they were excellent meetings, and provided a great opportunity for networking. Chair Kramer stated that the November and December EQB meetings were cancelled due to conflicts. Chair Kramer congratulated Louise Smallidge on her award as recipient of the MASWCD "Outstanding SWCD Supervisor of the Year". Chair Kramer reported that the new IRS mileage rate goes up to 50.5 per mile on January 1, 2008.

Executive Director's Report – John Jaschke asked board members for their consent to release their security identification photograph to BWSR to be placed on the Board's website. Board members need to complete and sign the consent form. John reviewed information in the board meeting packet, which included a Communications Summary for 2008 that board members are asked to complete and submit to Mary Jo Anderson so we have accurate communications information.

John reported that he attended the MAWD annual meeting and MASWCD annual meeting. Brian Napstad stated that he attended the AMC annual meeting and reported

that federal legislation, the "Clean Water Restoration Act" introduced by Representative Oberstar has the potential to affect BWSR programs, WCA in particular. The legislation is seeking to change the definition of inland waterways, to essentially include all waters.

John reported that Mark Nelson has been battling cancer this past year, a card is in the front office for board members to sign. John asked that we keep Mark in our thoughts.

John gave an overview of the BWSR "To Do" List and presented an update of activities in the following categories as they relate to the 2008-09 budget/policy legislation: Administrative, Clean Water Legacy, Drainage Assistance Team, Local Government, Performance Review and Assistance Program, Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Clean Energy, Wetland Conservation Act, Southeast Minnesota Flooding, LCCMR, and 2008 Bonding.

Dispute Resolution Committee – Jim Haertel reported that additional appeals have been received and that a significant one in Benton County was settled.

Wetlands Committee – LuAnn Tolliver reported that the Wetlands Committee did not meet this month. A workshop will be held in January after the Board Meeting to discuss the National Wetland Inventory, the Northeast Wetland Strategy, and an update on the WCA rulemaking.

Grants Program & Policy Committee – Louise Smallidge reported that the Grants Program & Policy Committee did not meet formally but communicated review of items via e-mail; they will also meet today at 2:00 p.m., after the Board meeting.

Public Relations, Outreach & Strategic Planning Committee – Brian Napstad reported that the Public Relations, Outreach & Strategic Planning Committee has not met; comments were received after the October meeting regarding the Strategic Plan. The Committee is expected to meet via teleconference in January to finalize the Strategic Plan.

Administrative Advisory Committee – Randy Kramer reported that the Administrative Advisory Committee met this morning to discuss the PRAP overview, APO policy development process overview, 2008 legislative items, appeals delegation, and the process for the executive director's evaluation. Other items previously reviewed by the Committee will be considered later today on the agenda.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Metro Water Planning Committee

Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) Comprehensive Wetland Protection Management Plan – Bob Burandt reported that the Metro Water Planning Committee met on November 28 to review the Rice Creek Watershed District Comprehensive Wetland Protection Management Plan and recommends approval. Moved by Bob Burandt, seconded by Louise Smallidge, to approve the Rice Creek Watershed District Comprehensive Wetland Protection Management Plan. Doug Thomas and John Waller were in attendance representing the RCWD. Doug thanked BWSR staff Lynda Peterson and Les Lemm for their efforts and work on the development of this Plan. Doug stated that the RCWD looks forward to moving ahead to implementation. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-103

Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization, Watershed Management Plan – Bob Burandt reported that the Metro Water Planning Committee met to review the Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization, Watershed Management Plan and recommends approval. Moved by LuAnn Tolliver, seconded by Paul Eger, to approve the Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization, Watershed Management Plan. Discussion followed. Bob Burandt stated that he has concerns regarding natural buffers. Brad Wozney introduced Mark Graham, City of Vadnais Heights, and Stephanie McNamara, VLAWMO Administrator, who spoke to the concerns. A letter from the VLAWMO was distributed to board members for their information.

** 07-104

Brian Napstad explained that the VLAWMO was following the law and statute. LuAnn Tolliver stated that the VLAWMO plan uses an approach for protecting buffers that is common in the metro area and that the LGU has flexibility and has gone through the stakeholder process.

Moved by Bob Burandt, to amend the existing order – eliminate "clear cutting" in Item D. The amendment died for lack of a second.

Further discussion followed. Larry Kramka stated that the Board is being asked to approve a plan consistent with statute and rule; BWSR does not approve the regulation, the local government has that authority. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Northern Water Planning Committee

Mahnomen County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Quentin Fairbanks reported that the Northern Water Planning Committee met to review the Mahnomen County Priority Concerns Scoping Document and recommends approval. Moved by Quentin Fairbanks,

**

07-105 seconded by Brian Napstad, to approve the Mahnomen County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Lake of the Woods County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Quentin Fairbanks reported that the Northern Water Planning Committee met to review the Lake of the Woods County Priority Concerns Scoping Document and recommends approval.
** Moved by Quentin Fairbanks, seconded by Brian Napstad, to approve the Lake of the
07-106 Woods County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Lake of the Woods County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) Extension – Quentin Fairbanks reported that the Northern Water Planning Committee reviewed and recommends approval of the Lake of the Woods County Request for the
** Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) Extension. Moved by Quentin Fairbanks,
07-107 seconded by Brian Napstad, to approve the Lake of the Woods County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) Extension until December 31, 2009. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Southern Water Planning Committee

Blue Earth County Request for Extension of the Blue Earth County Comprehensive Water Management Plan – Brian Kletscher reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee met, reviewed and recommends approval of the Blue Earth County Request for Extension of the Blue Earth County Comprehensive
** Water Management Plan. Moved by Brian Kletscher, seconded by Paul Langseth to
07-108 approve the Blue Earth County Request for Extension of the Blue Earth County Comprehensive Water Management Plan until July 1, 2008. This is a one-year extension, although a six-month extension is requested. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Houston County Local Water Management Plan Update – Brian Kletscher reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee met, reviewed, and recommends approval
** of the Houston County Local Water Management Plan Update. Moved by Brian
07-109 Kletscher, seconded by Dan Wilson, to approve Houston County Local Water Management Plan Update. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Jackson County Request for Extension of the Jackson County Comprehensive Water Management Plan – Brian Kletscher reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee met, reviewed, and recommends approval of the Jackson County Request
** for Extension of the Jackson County Comprehensive Water Management Plan. Moved
07-110 by Brian Kletscher, seconded by Dan Wilson, to approve the one-year extension of the Jackson County Comprehensive Water Management Plan until December 31, 2008. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Lyon County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Brian Kletscher reported that Southern Water Planning Committee reviewed and recommends approval of the Lyon
** County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Moved by Brian Kletscher, seconded by
07-111 Dan Wilson, to approve the Lyon County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Nobles County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Brian Kletscher reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee met and recommends approval of the Nobles
** County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Moved by Brian Kletscher, seconded by
07-112 Paul Langseth, to approve the Nobles County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Wabasha County Local Water Management Plan Update – Brian reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee reviewed and recommends approval of the Wabasha County Local Water Management Plan Update. This is a five-year Plan,
** effective until December 31, 2012. Moved by Brian Kletscher, seconded by Dan Wilson,
07-113 to approve the Wabasha County Local Water Management Plan Update. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Waseca County Request for Extension of the Waseca County Comprehensive Water Management Plan – Brian reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee reviewed and recommends approval of the Waseca County Request for Extension of the Waseca County Comprehensive Water Management Plan until
** December 31, 2008. Moved by Brian Kletscher, seconded by Dan Wilson to approve
07-114 the Waseca County Request for Extension of the Waseca County Comprehensive Water Management Plan. Motion passed on voice vote.

Waseca County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – Brian Kletscher reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee reviewed and recommends approval of the Waseca
** County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Moved by Brian Kletscher, seconded by Dan
07-115 Wilson, to approve the Waseca County Priority Scoping Document. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Watonwan County Request for Extension of the Watonwan County Comprehensive Water Management Plan – Brian reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee reviewed and recommends approval of the one-year extension of the Watonwan County Request for Extension of the Watonwan County Comprehensive Water Management Plan until December 21, 2008. The Committee established benchmarks; the Priority Concerns Scoping Document is to be completed by January
** 2008; the Water Plan by July 2008. Discussion followed. Moved by Brian Kletscher,

07-116 seconded by Dan Wilson, to approve Watonwan County Request for Extension of the Watonwan County Comprehensive Water Management Plan. Motion passed on a voice vote. Larry Kramka opposed.

Kandiyohi County Local Water Management Plan Amendment – Brian Kletscher reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee reviewed and recommends
** approval of the Kandiyohi County Local Water Management Plan Amendment. Moved
07-117 by Brian Kletscher, seconded by Dan Wilson, to approve the 2008 Addendum of the Kandiyohi County Water Management Plan for January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2012. Motion passed on a voice vote.

McLeod County Local Water Management Plan Amendment – Brian Kletscher reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee reviewed and recommends
** approval of the McLeod County Local Water Management Plan Amendment. Moved by
07-118 Brian Kletscher, seconded by Dan Wilson to approve 2008 Addendum of the McLeod County Water Management Plan for January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2012. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Meeker County Local Water Management Plan Amendment – Brian Kletscher reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee reviewed and recommends
** approval of the Meeker County Local Water Management Plan Amendment. Moved by
07-119 Brian Kletscher, seconded by Dan Wilson, to approve the 2008 Addendum of the Meeker County Water Management Plan for January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2012. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Renville County Local Water Management Plan Amendment – Brian Kletscher reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee reviewed and recommends
** approval of the Renville County Local Water Management Plan Amendment. Moved by
07-120 Brian Kletscher, seconded by Dan Wilson, to approve the 2008 Addendum of the Renville County Water Management Plan for January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2012. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Chair Kramer called for a break in the meeting at 10:50 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 11:05 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS

SE Flood: State Cost-Share/RIM Grants Status Report – Wayne Zellmer gave an update on the Southeast Minnesota Flood Relief. The State Cost-Share Program, special session appropriation was $3,000,000; allocations completed totaled $812,200; pending allocations equal $1,211,213; available funding is $976,787. Wayne stated that a supplement request of $1,450,000 has been submitted.

Wayne reported that the RIM Reserve Program special session appropriated $1,000,000; BWSR made available $1.1M from its bonding appropriation for a total of $2.1M for a special SE MN RIM Reserve Program. The intent of the special sign-up is to take perpetual RIM Reserve easements with willing landowners on lands damaged by the flood events in August 2007, and on lands that will help to reduce the impacts of future floods events. The sign-up deadline for landowners to apply is January 15, 2008. SWCDs will utilize local screening committees to rank applications prior to submitting them to BWSR by January 31, 2008.

Wayne explained the other BWSR funding appropriated to BWSR through its Clean Water Legacy Program. The Minnesota Conservation Corps allocations address impaired waters improvements and flood recovery efforts total $51,700. The State Cost-Share Native Buffer Program is funded to establish buffers in riparian locations that promote native vegetation; total allocation is $157,000.

Mary Kells gave a Powerpoint presentation showing the affected flooded areas in the southeast. Mary explained the cooperating working relationship with BWSR, SWCDs, and NRCS, and the technical assistance and workload needs. Mary reported that a regional flood forum is being planned by state and local agency staff for April 2008. The forum will provide an exchange of information and ideas to strategically address the August 2007 flood event. The focus will be informing land and stream management decision-making to minimize flood impacts in the future. This forum will help address mid-range issues about understanding stream channels/riparian changes and will provide additional information in assessing the extent of streambank stabilization needs and costs of future recovery and prevention needs in this area. Discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS

Adoption of 2008 BWSR Board Meeting Schedule – John Jaschke presented the proposed meeting dates for 2008. The Board meets the fourth Wednesday of the month. The February meeting is tentative, depending upon the necessity to meet; there is no meeting in July; tour/meeting in August; no meeting in November; the December
** meeting will be moved one week ahead to the third Wednesday. Moved by Louise
07-121 Smallidge, seconded by Bob Burandt, to approve the 2008 Board Meeting Schedule. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Board Member Per Diem and Expenses Policy – John Jaschke presented the proposed/revised board member per diem and expenses policy . The Administrative Advisory Committee recommends approval of this policy. Paul Eger asked if a form is available to have a board member sign if you choose to decline per diem or expense reimbursement. John stated that a form will be developed and made available
** for board members choosing to decline expense reimbursement. Moved by Ken

07-122 Robinson, seconded by Paul Langseth, to approve the revised Board Member Per Diem and Expenses Policy, effective January 1, 2008. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Feedlot Financial Needs Report Overview – John Jaschke explained that the 2007 Legislature directed BWSR to report feedlot financial needs for cost-share to the Senate and House Environmental Divisions by January 1, 2008. Al Kean provided an overview on the financial needs to bring all feedlots in the State with less than 300 animal units into compliance with the Feedlot Rules by October 1, 2010, and comply with requirements of M.S. Section 116.07, Subd. 7, Para.(p), which limits how much MPCA can require a producer to spend to comply with the Feedlot Rules unless 75% cost-share is available. Staff has been working with MDA, MPCA and NRCS to update the Feedlot Financial Needs Assessment Report previously published by MDA in 2001 and 2002, as a basis for the current report. Discussion followed.

Dan Wilson and Brian Kletscher left the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

Chair Kramer called for a lunch break at 12:35 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:10 p.m.

'08 Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) Administrative Grant – Wayne Zellmer introduced Lance Yohe, Executive Director of the Red River Basin Commission. Wayne explained that the legislature appropriated $100,000 to BWSR for RRBC projects and administration. Wayne reported that the Grants Program and Policy Committee has reviewed the RRBC's 2008 Work Plan and budget and recommends approval of the $100,000 allocation. Lance Yohe presented background information regarding the RRBC, their budget and work plan. Discussion followed. Paul Eger asked about the status of the base appropriation from BWSR, what happens if this allocation is not received from BWSR.

** 07-123 Moved by Paul Brutlag, seconded by Brian Napstad, to approve the $100,000 appropriation to the RRBC. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Program – Dan Shaw reported that in 2007, the Legislature appropriated $600,000 to BWSR to establish the Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Program. Dan provided a summary of the Program. The Grants Program and Policy Committee recommends approval and requests Board authorization of the Program. Discussion followed. Louise Smallidge questioned the third WHEREAS, second paragraph, stating that "natural lands" needs to be clarified. Moved by Joe Martin, seconded by Paul Langseth, to approve the Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Program. Discussion followed. Motion to amend passed on a voice vote.

** 07-124 Moved by Joe Martin, seconded by Paul Langseth, to amend the motion, the third WHEREAS, second paragraph, remove the second sentence. The resolution will read, "SWCDs are the eligible grant applicants for this program. Other organizations may

consider applying in partnership with SWCDs to help develop and run Cooperative Weed Management Areas." Discussion followed. The amended motion passed on a voice vote. Staff will work with the Grants Program and Policy Committee to provide guidance to applicants.

AGENCY REPORTS

Minnesota Extension Service (MES) – Jim Anderson reported that a TMDL research symposium will be sponsored by the University of Minnesota on February 11-12, 2008.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) – Larry Kramka distributed a progress report on the MN DNR 2006 Wetland Enforcement Flight Plan for information. Larry reported that the Administrative Law Judge Report has recommended approval of the Con-Con lands rules. A new position to coordinate implementation of the rules has been posted.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) – Paul Eger reported that the MPCA Citizens Board unanimously adopted the Statewide Water Quality Standards, Chapter 7050 Rules, to be in compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) – Joe Martin reported that MDA is looking closely at the budget, and awaiting the February forecast. Joe reported that MDA is working with the Department of Health regarding the health issue at the Austin meat packing plant. Joe stated that the disease affects the nervous system. Joe stated that a Clean Water Legacy group meets tomorrow to discuss research projects.

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) - John Jaschke presented the MDH report on behalf of Dan Wilson. John reported on MDH's flood response. Grants have been issued to counties to reimburse owners of flooded wells for costs they have incurred to have their flooded wells professionally clean out and disinfected. $25,000 grant was distributed to the Fillmore/Houston Health Board (joint board) and $60,000 to Winona for claims in Winona, Dodge, Steele, Olmsted, and Wabasha Counties. These are full 100% grants, up to a maximum of $1,000 per well with a required signed claim form and receipts. MDH has analyzed 2,300 well water samples for bacteria. MDH and MDA have tested about 60 flooded wells for chemicals; results still pending.

ADVISORY COMMENTS

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) – LeAnn congratulated Louise Smallidge on her award as the 2007 "Outstanding SWCD Supervisor of the Year". LeAnn Buck reported on the MASWCD annual meeting. A resolution passed regarding potential changes to the Non-Point Engineering Program

LeAnn reported that John Jaschke met with the MASWCD Legislative Committee. LeAnn commended BWSR on their success in 2007 on so many programs.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – Tim Koehler reported that EQIP received $25M with an extension to 2012. NRCS is working to encumber funds, applications are being accepted in December and January,. Tim stated that NRCS continues to focus on the northeast drought area. Tim reported that he is working with Wayne Zellmer on the southeast flood area applications for $600,000 of dedicated funds. The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) expire December 31, 2007. Tim stated that it will be interesting to see where the Farm Bill goes, the House and Senate versions then go to conference committee for some type of agreement, then the Bill must be signed by President Bush for enactment. NRCS and BWSR part of a memorandum of understanding to work on buffer issues with various entities including Pheasants Forever. Tim reported NRCS has been supporting SWCD computers thus far, starting 10/1/08 – the individual SWCDs or State must start paying for that; huge topic right now, a real challenge. Washington will continue to pay for 350 NRCS employees' computers, currently paying for 850 computers. NRCS will work with MASWCD, SWCDs, and BWSR on this issue. Tim will provide electronic reports to board members for their information. John stated that NRCS must submit a plan for computers to Washington by December 31, 2007. Chair Kramer thanked Tim for his report.

UPCOMING MEETINGS
RIM-CE Meeting, January 10, 2008. The RIM Reserve Planning Committee will meet on January 14, 2008.

** 07-125 Moved by LuAnn Tolliver, seconded by Louise Smallidge, to adjourn the meeting at 2:15 p.m. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Kramer
Chair

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
Attendance Roster

	Name	Affiliation	Phone #
1.	Lanae Yohe	RRBC	218-791-8422
2.	Jeff Nielsen	BWSR staff.	
3.	Stephanie McNamara	VLAWMO	651-204-6073
4.	Kristine Lampert	VLAWMO	651 204 6074
5.	Ron Shelito	BWSR	
6.	Chris Buck	MASWCD	
7.	Jon Weller	RCWD	
8.	Bill Bost	BWSR	
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BWSR "To Do" List: 2008-09 Budget/Policy legislation…& more *(Dec 17th, 2007 Update)*

- **Administrative**
  - **Staffing plan:** WCA Coordinator, Metro Clean Water Legacy Specialist, Metro Sr. Wetland Specialist, Grants/Acct. Tech. positions filled. Assistant Director, Metro Reg. Mgr., Working Lands Specialist, Fergus Falls and Duluth Wetland Specialists pending. Drainage engineer/specialists and others in development phase.
  - **Space needs** accommodated in field and Central Office plan developed with e-filing of easement records part of space savings.
  - **e-LINK** (conservation results reporting) remodeling project staged and underway: faster servers, query builder for LGUs, web-based software
  - Regular **financial audit** for FY04-07 released on Nov 28th. Grants compliance tool/process to be built and administrative procedures guidance via Admin. Manual/Intranet.
  - **Strategic Plan**: finalization expected in January 2008.
- **Clean Water Legacy**
  - Agreement with MCC for contracting for services complete
  - Metro specialist position (Marcey Westrick) began Dec 12th.
  - Grants RFP responses received - reviewed by interagency team, to Board in Jan. 2008
  - Clean Water Legacy Council: L. Smith chair, M. Berhardson Vice-chair; strategic plan
  - **NE wetland mitigation strategy**: Contractor selection complete. Kick-off meeting set for Jan 25th. Report to the legislature by June 30, 2009.
  - Report being drafted to legislature on **feedlot cost/needs** by January 2008.
  - **Ag watershed hydro restoration** ($1.5M): RFP developed for Grants Comm., to Board in Jan. 2008
- **Drainage Assistance team**
  - Develop preservation and modernization guidelines (June 2008) – agreement with Minn. State – Mankato for needs/best practices underway
  - Update MN Drainage Manual (to be completed June 2009)
  - Facilitation of Drainage Workgroup – looking at metro systems, and clarifications of drainage law to help RIM and other programs to implement multi-purpose projects. No 2008 legislative proposals forthcoming, looking to 2009.
- **Local Government - Programs/Policies/Assessment**
  - **SWCD web site** grants ($40K) out with MASWCD training. Summary data for booklet nearly complete.
  - New programs:
    - **Native Vegetation buffers** Cost-Share: Grants committee to review Dec. 19: coordinate with SE Flood, seed producers; "base plus" allocation to/through SWCDs.
    - **County Weed Management Cooperative**: grant/RFP in Dec 2007.
    - **Forestry docket** for Cost-Share program – proposal under external review
  - SWCD/NRCS computer support/services reduction/options to be assessed.
  - Watonwan SWCD succession plan/process underway pending District Court appointments or special election.
  - Demographic Survey of SWCD and WD officials nearly completed.
  - SWCD Non-point Engineering program assessment underway via contractor; CTAC to develop options by June using MASWCD resolutions as start.
- **Performance Review and Assistance Program** (*no longer Oversight)*
  ($100,000/year one-time for agency implementation)
  - Local Govt./BWSR development team initial effort done. BWSR Admin. Advisory Committee to shape.
  - Don Buckhout/Steve Woods presentations to MAWD, MASWCD, Counties in Dec. 07.
  - Develop performance standards and evaluation criteria (June 2008).
  - Develop BWSR ability to post/maintain oversight information on agency web-site
  - **Report required each year**, beginning February 2008, to the legislature on the performance of local water management entities.
  - Begin evaluation on a limited basis in FY2009
  - Supplemental FY09 budget request to be proposed (~$350K/yr).

- **Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM)**
  - ***RIM - Clean Energy*** technical committee assembled to develop program proposal for legislative consideration by Feb. 2008; to include payment rates and geographic locations. Subcommittees working with MEI and U of M – Applied Economics = contractors ($200K). Connections to Next-Gen and DNR native seed harvesting and working lands initiative.
  - Awarded research grants per legislative directive, monitor and report at end of 2 years: a.) $300K to Forest Resources Council via U of M, b.) $200K to U of M Department of SWC for research on means --such as temporary cover crops-- to mitigate harm from removing corn residue for bioenergy production.
  - **RIM program plan** underway to assure another 20 years of success. To assess targeting tools such as appraisals and tiered payments. **Payment rate approaches to be evaluated**.
  - Supplemental FY09 budget request to be proposed for long-term easement care and monitoring.
- **Wetland Conservation Act**
  - Permanent rule process underway. Stakeholder meetings scheduled.
  - Grant allocation process for 11 metro counties finalized – grants to be issued ($250,000/year, one-time)
  - Transfer of $250,000/year to DNR for enforcement done – future flights to be planned.
  - **Administrative Penalty Order** authority – have discussed implementation options in consultation with Finance, PCA, DNR, AG. Draft implementation plan completed – to be finalized by April 2008. Supplemental FY09 budget request submitted. Administrative Advisory Committee to review.
  - Appeals fee increases to be considered by Dispute Resolution Committee
  - Banking: Road Replacement sites chosen via RFP, inspections to continue.

SE MN Flooding

- Continuing Cost-Share project allocations to SWCD's: Fillmore, Root River, and Winona, Dodge, Olmsted, Steele, and Wabasha. Coordination with NRCS, FSA and the Minnesota Recovers Task Force.
- RIM Easements $1M new + $1.1M redirected: sign-up through January with payment rate up to 100% of lagging County average values
- Garvin Brook Watershed planning moving ahead with NRCS planning funds
- $1.45M = additional need for C-S project funds and Technical Assistance

LCCMR: 3 proposals submitted

- Conservation Easements stewardship: database, 5 county enhanced inspections, funding source assessment – *partial funding* for database development + coord. with DNR
- Local Water Management Challenge Grants – *not funded*
- Soil Survey continuance/completion package – *fully funded*

2008 Bonding: legislative tours wrapping up, proposals presented to Finance and Governor's Office staff:

- RIM (to complement WRP and pick up high-priority expiring CRP): **$70M**
- RIM-CE: **$46M** *(less expected based on report)*
- Wetland Roads Mitigation: **$6.1-8.5M**
- Clean Water Legacy (streambanks, lakeshore, roadsides): **$2.5M**
- Grass Lake, Kandiyohi Co: **$1.7M**

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BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD N.
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2007

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Dana Allen, Paul Brutlag, Paul Eger, MPCA; Quentin Fairbanks, Larry Kramka, DNR; Randy Kramer, Paul Langseth, Joe Martin, MDA; Brian Napstad, Ken Robinson, Louise Smallidge, Gene Tiedemann, LuAnn Tolliver, Dan Wilson, MDH

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
Jim Anderson, MES
Bob Burandt
Brian Kletscher

STAFF PRESENT:
Mary Jo Anderson, Don Buckhout, Tim Fredbo, Dan Girolamo, Jim Haertel, John Jaschke, Kevin Lines, Sarma Stramanis, Dave Weirens, Tom Wenzel, Steve Woods

OTHERS PRESENT:
Wayne Edgerton, DNR
Gary Bruggeman, Steele County
Tim Koehler, NRCS

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

** 07-91 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Moved by Louise Smallidge, seconded by Paul Langseth, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-92 **MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2007** – Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Ken Robinson, to approve the minutes of September 26, 2007, as circulated. Motion passed on a voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

- Steve Woods introduced Don Buckhout, oversight coordinator. Today is Don's first day with BWSR, yesterday was his last day with DNR. Don provided background information about himself. Don stated that he looks forward to the opportunity and challenges of this new position. Chair Kramer welcomed Don to BWSR.

- John Jaschke stated that Leon Zeug had been listed on the agenda today to be introduced; however, Leon is attending the Water Resources Conference today and will be introduced at the December meeting.

REPORTS

Chair's Report – Chair Kramer reported that the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) did not meet this month. Chair Kramer reported that he received a letter from Mary Mueller, President of Wetlands for Minnesota, regarding a Northeastern Cooperative Wetland Bank with involvement by Barr Engineering. John Jaschke will prepare a formal response to Mary Mueller.

Executive Director's Report – John Jaschke summarized BWSR's "To Do List" and presented an update of activities in the following categories as they relate to the 2008-09 budget/policy legislation: Administrative, Clean Water Legacy, Drainage Assistance Team, Local Government, Oversight, Reinvest In Minnesota, Wetland Conservation Act, Drought Response, Southeast Minnesota Flooding, LCCMR, and 2008 Bonding.

John noted that interested board members are welcome to attend the Watersheds, Wetlands and Buffer Subcommittee tour and meeting on November 6. The tour will be in southeastern Minnesota and the hearings are to-be-determined locations. Board members interested in attending should contact John.

Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC) – Jim Haertel reported that two new appeals have been filed, both are restoration orders; one in Mille Lacs County, and the other in Benton County. Jim reported that the DRC Workshop is scheduled for November 5, at the MNDOT Conference Center in St. Cloud.

Wetlands Committee – LuAnn Tolliver reported that the Wetlands Committee met via conference call on October 12. Staff is developing a schedule for the stakeholders group. LuAnn stated that the Wetlands Committee has other items to be considered later today on the agenda.

Grants Program and Policy Committee – Louise Smallidge reported that the Grants Program and Policy Committee did not meet this month, their next meeting will be via conference call with a report and agenda items at the December meeting.

Public Relations, Outreach & Strategic Planning Committee – Brian Napstad reported that the draft Strategic Plan will be presented later today on the agenda for board members' information.

Administrative Advisory Committee (AAC) – Chair Kramer reported that the AAC met this morning at 7:30. Items will be considered later today on the agenda. Chair Kramer stated that the draft updated per diem and expenses policy will be distributed to board members in December for consideration.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Southern Water Planning Committee

** 07-93 **Blue Earth County Priority Concerns Scoping Document** – Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Dan Wilson, to approve the Blue Earth County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Chair Kramer reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee met to review the Blue Earth County Priority Concerns Scoping Document and recommends approval. Discussion followed. Quentin Fairbanks suggested a standardized response from agencies. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-94 **Brown County Priority Concerns Scoping Document** – Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Dan Wilson, to approve the Brown County Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Chair Kramer reported that the Southern Water Planning Committee met to review the Brown County Priority Concerns Scoping Document and recommends approval. Motion passed on a voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Easement Acquisition Scenario for the Grass Lake Restoration Project –
** Moved by Joe Martin, seconded by Ken Robinson, to take from the table the Easement Acquisition Scenario for the Grass Lake Restoration Project. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Kevin Lines reported that the RIM Reserve Planning Committee met on October 17th and recommends using a site specific market appraisal of the Grass Lake Prairie wetland restoration project lands (per MN Stat. 103F.515., subd. 6, subp. 5, alternative payment systems for RIM Reserve) to make easement offers to the owners of the remaining parcels. Tom Wenzel presented background information on the Grass Lake Restoration Project. Discussion followed.

The motion authorizes staff to use values determined from a site specific market appraisal of the Grass Lake Prairie Wetland Restoration Project properties to establish RIM Reserve easement payment rates for the remaining properties
07-95 within the project area. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** **Grass Lake Project Grant Funds to Kandiyohi County** – Moved by Larry
07-96 Kramka, seconded by Brian Napstad, to authorize staff to use funding appropriated for the Grass Lake Project in an amount not to exceed ten percent of the total appropriation and to grant those funds, as necessary, to Kandiyohi County for use on approved project implementation activities, including but not limited to, contracts for project services. Discussion followed. Tom Wenzel presented background information. Motion passed on a voice vote.

John Jaschke stated that the RIM Reserve Planning Committee will be reviewing the process for establishing competitive RIM Reserve payment rates, including the use of appraisal information, as a means to accomplish targeted easement acquisitions. The targeted completion date for this effort is July 1, 2008. Paul Brutlag stated that the RIM Reserve Planning Committee's role is to review and assess the process.

Chair Kramer called for a break in the meeting at 10:40 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 10:55 a.m.

Strategic Plan – Brian Napstad, Chair of the Public Relations, Outreach and Strategic Planning Committee, introduced Cliff Tweedale and Steve Woods. The draft Strategic Plan was distributed. Brian commented on the changes since last year: new Board, new committee chair, new executive director; we have a ten-year old strategic plan that needs to be revised. Cliff acknowledged the great

work of the Public Relations & Strategic Planning Committee. Steve asked board members to review and comment on the draft strategic plan with comments to Steve by November 14. Cliff challenged the Committee to review and assess the strategic plan in one year. Discussion followed. Joe Martin suggested that measurable outcomes and accomplishments be included in the strategic plan. Chair Kramer asked that board members submit comments to Steve. The Committee will meet prior to the December meeting to address comments and will be expected to present the Strategic Plan to the full Board at the December or January meeting. Larry Kramka suggested that the Strategic Plan be used as a guide on work planning for staff and board members. Chair Kramer stated that this is a draft document that will be disseminated to BWSR partners. Board members should solicit input individually. Ultimately, the Board will adopt the Strategic Plan. Chair Kramer thanked Brian, Steve, and Cliff for their efforts.

NEW BUSINESS

Release of 1.4 Acres of Conservation Eaesment 74-04-94-01, Steele County Bridge Replacement Project – Tim Fredbo presented background information. The BWSR easement alteration policy allows staff to give tentative approval for easement alterations involving public infrastructure projects. Moved by Louise Smallidge, seconded by Quentin Fairbanks, to authorize staff to proceed with preparing the legal documents to amend this easement once staff receives the $8,394.40 payment from Steele County. Tim stated that all documents are in place to release this easement. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-97

Local Government Road Wetland Replacement Project Approval – Dan Girolamo explained that the Wetlands Committee has reviewed, discussed, and approved the staff recommendation to fund nine wetland restoration projects. The request would authorize staff to pursue three alternate projects for the 2007 Road Program should any of the nine recommended for funding drop out. Board approval is needed to encumber bonding funds and to inform all applicants and the general public of the results. Moved by LuAnn Tolliver, seconded by Ken Robinson, to approve the nine A list wetland banking projects for funding and authorize staff to pursue the projects on the B list, in order, should any A list project drop out contingent on available funding. Discussion followed. Larry Kramka asked if wetland exceptional natural resource value credits should be included? Dan stated that staff are partnering with DNR and others to work on this project. Motion passed on a voice vote.

** 07-98

Wetland Conservation Act Funding for the Eleven-County Metro Area – Dave Weirens presented background information. BWSR was appropriated $250,000 in each year of the current biennium to make grants to local units of

government within the eleven-county metropolitan area to improve response to major wetland violations. Dave stated that the Wetland Committee discussed this new appropriation and recommends that the Board adopt the allocation proposal that is based on a formula of an equal base allocation to all SWCDs plus a need allocation.

** 07-99 Moved by LuAnn Tolliver, seconded by Gene Tiedemann, to accept the Wetland Committee's recommendation to allocate the Wetland Conservation Act funding for the eleven-county metropolitan area. Discussion followed. Motion passed on a voice vote.

AGENCY REPORTS

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) - Dan Wilson reported that the Special Legislative Session authorized funding to MDH for two special projects: 1) funding for flooded wells, providing grants for cleaning wells, that process is moving forward. The second project funded is for testing wells in flooded areas, that is also moving forward.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) - Larry Kramka stated that he will report on the Con-con rules at the next Board meeting. Larry stated that the drought situation has changed in the State, lots of rains in the past few months, although the steady rains don't produce a lot of runoff, so there is still concern for soil moisture and water levels. Larry stated that he will provide a handout on wetland flights at the next Board meeting.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) - Paul Eger reported that the draft Impaired Waters List is on public notice. One additional public meeting has been scheduled for October 29, 1-3 p.m. at the St. Louis Park City Hall. Paul reported that MPCA just released the water quality improvement projects under the Clean Water Partnership Program; it's now available on the MPCA website.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) - Joe Martin reported that drought and disaster applications are being accepted. There is $750,000 available for agriculture best management practices; fencing is now eligible. Joe reported that he will tour the Discovery Farms in Wisconsin on October 29. Joe explained that Discovery Farms are private operational farms that work closely with the Extension Service to do research. MDA is exploring how the Discovery Farms Program might work best in Minnesota. Joe stated that internally MDA is addressing the issue of transporting firewood infested with emerald ash borer.

ADVISORY COMMENTS

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) - Tim Koehler reported that NRCS received an EQIP allocation of over $20M, the challenge is that the money needs to be obligated before the new Farm Bill is passed. Sign-up starts November 1. Tim reported that NRCS is working on SE flood assistance and has $500,000 of EQIP cost-share money for this effort. Tim reported that NRCS has a special initiative for the northern drought and is supporting that with $.5M of funding primarily for grazing. Tim reported that the Wetland Reserves Program received an additional increase. There is $75M nationwide, allowing additional offers to producers. NRCS anticipates additional resources for Minnesota producers when the Farm Bill is finalized. Tim distributed "NRCS 2007 Accomplishment Report" for board members' information.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- MAWD Annual Meeting, November 29 – December 1, Alexandria
- MASWCD Annual Meeting, December 2 – 4, Rochester
- AMC Annual Meeting, December 3 – 5, Minneapolis

Chair Kramer encouraged board members' attendance at the upcoming annual meetings. He asked board members to contact Mary Jo Anderson by November 5th if they plan to attend. Board members should make their own room reservations.

- Next Board Meeting, December 19th in St. Paul

Paul Brutlag stated that the RIM Reserve Planning Committee will meet immediately following the Board meeting today.

** 07-100 Moved by Louise Smallidge, seconded by Dana Allen, to adjourn the meeting at 12:35 p.m. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Kramer
Chair

REINVEST IN MINNESOTA (RIM) CLEAN ENERGY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE PROGRESS REPORT

BWSR Board Meeting -- December 19, 2007

Past Meeting Schedule

September 11, 2007	Technical Review Committee (TRC) Meeting – Summary on BWSR's website
November 14, 2007	TRC Meeting – Summary on BWSR's website
December 13, 2007	TRC Meeting – Summary will be posted soon on BWSR's website

Future Meeting Schedule

January 10, 2008	TRC Meeting – We are encouraging the RIM Reserve Planning Committee to attend this meeting. Any other board members interested are welcome.
January 14, 2008	RIM Reserve Planning Committee (RRPC) meeting, PCA 6th Floor Conference Room 4
January 23, 2008	BWSR Board Meeting – RRPC will be making their committee recommendation to the board for their approval.

TRC Outcomes To-Date

Project Area Work Group

- Draft application
- Project area selection process draft

Land Management Workgroup

- Best Management Practices (BMP's) for bioenergy production and harvest
- Developing BMP's for tiered payment system
- Environmental benefits for different cropping systems
- Payment tier matrix

Payment Structure Workgroup

- Recommended that we use Estimated Market Value (EMV) – published on property tax statements for each parcel. (Note that EMV for a given taxable year is calculated based on data from the previous two years.)

Payment Structure Elements

1) Payment structure based on three tiers
   a) Tier 1 – least benefit, lowest payment
   b) Tier 2 – medium benefit, middle payment
   c) Tier 3 – greatest benefit, highest payment

2) Three crop mixtures
   a) Monoculture grass/woody vegetation
   b) Mixed natives grass/woody vegetation
   c) Mixed native grass/forb prairie

3) EMV used as base rate for payment

4) Proposed payment rate calculations
   a) Tier 1 = 80% EMV
   b) Tier 2 = 90% EMV
   c) Tier 3 = 100% EMV

Reinvest in Minnesota Clean Energy (RIM-CE): Program Overview

Legislative Charge
Chapter 57, 2007 Session Law, Article 1, Section 119
(http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/as/85/as057.html)
Section 119 establishes a Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Clean Energy Program in the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) to acquire easements of at least 20 years on lands for growing bioenergy crops. BWSR shall establish a process to identify **project areas** to prioritize easements to coordinate with cellulosic biofuel and bioenergy facilities, target impaired waters, or support state or local natural resource plans, goals, or objectives.

BWSR will develop a **tiered payment program** for the easements that is partially based on the benefits of bioenergy crop production for water quality, soil health, reduction in chemical inputs, soil carbon storage, biodiversity, and wildlife habitat. The highest per-acre payment must be for diverse native prairie and perennials.

BWSR will establish a *technical review committee* to develop program guidelines and standards to ensure that the RIM Clean Energy Program provides public benefits that are commensurate with the public investment.

RIM-CE Process
BWSR has endorsed a two-phased approach to developing the RIM Clean Energy Program. The technical and policy aspects of the proposed program will be separated into two phases. Phase 1 will be a technical effort done under contract with the University of Minnesota to quantify the various environmental benefits of the program, and develop proposed program standards and criteria, including a tiered easement approach based on increasing environmental benefit, proposed project areas, and a proposed pricing system. Phase 2 will be a policy discussion and review and critique of Phase 1 products, which will be done by the Technical Review Committee and managed by the Minnesota Environmental Initiative.

The final product of the two phases will be a report and recommended program submitted to the BWSR Board and then to the legislature.

BWSR - SE MINNESOTA FLOOD RELIEF

SUMMARY - *December 19, 2007*

I. State Cost Share Program: Special Session appropriation - $3,000,000

- Allocations completed

SWCD	Amount
Dodge	$50,000
Fillmore	$200,000
Olmsted	$50,000
Root River	$262,200
Steele	$50,000
Wabasha	$50,000
Winona	$150,000
Total	**$812,200**

- Allocations Pending - $1,211,213

Root River SWCD - $445,000
This includes $200,000 as local match for EWP projects in the City of Hokah, $75,000 as local match for ECP projects, and $170,000 as local match for EQIP projects.

Fillmore SWCD - $163,750
This includes $78,000 as local match for ECP projects, $53,000 for sealing abandoned private wells, and $32,750 for SWCD technical and administrative costs.

Winona SWCD - $527,463
This includes $157,636 as local match for the EWP project in Minnesota City, $12,500 as local match for the EWP Pickwick Dam project, $163,750 as local match for EQIP projects, $107,000 as local match for ECP projects, and $86,577 for SWCD technical and administrative costs.

Wabasha SWCD $37,500, as local match for ECP project.

Olmsted SWCD - $37,500, as local match for ECP project.

NOTE: EWP – UDSA, NRC Emergency Watershed Program
EQIP – USDA, NRCS Environmental Quality Incentive Program
ECP – USDA, FSA Emergency Conservation Program

Appropriation	$3,000,000
Allocated	$812,000
Pending	$1,211,213
Available	$976,787

As additional surveys and damage assessments are completed during winter and spring of 2008, it is anticipated that the available amount of $1,079,250 will be insufficient to provide funding for needed cost share, technical assistance, and federal match.

- Supplement Request = $1,450,000

II. RIM Reserve Program: Special Session Appropriation - $1,000,000

On October 31, 2007 the BWSR announced a special SE MN RIM Reserve Program. In addition to the specia session appropriation of $1M, the BWSR made available $1.1M from its bonding appropriation for a total of $2.1M. Meetings were held with the SWCDs to discuss program criteria and get their input on program criteria to meet their local needs. Specific criteria were developed for this special sign-up. The intent of the sign-up is to take perpetual RIM Reserve easements with willing landowners on lands damaged by the flood events this last August, and on lands that will help to reduce the impacts of future flood events. The following lands are eligible for this program; 1) both crop and non-crop lands that were damaged, 2) riparian cropland within the 100-year floodplain, 3) riparian cropland outside the 100-year floodplain if it has history of flooding, and 4) wetland restorations.

The sign-up deadline for landowners to apply is January 15, 2008. SWCDs will utilize local screening committees to rank applications prior to submitting them to BWSR by January 31, 2008.

III. Other BWSR Funding

Minnesota Conservation Corps - These funds were appropriated to BWSR through its Clean Water Legacy Program. These allocations address impaired waters improvements and flood recovery efforts.

Allocations	
Root River SWCD	$17,500
Crooked Creek WD	$4,200
Winona SWCD	$30,000
Total	**$51,700**

State Cost Share Native Buffer Program – The Native Buffer Program is funded to establish buffers in riparian locations that promote native vegetation.

Allocations
Whitewater JPB - $137,000
Olmsted County - $12,000
$157,000

IV. Coordination of Effort

A regional flood forum is being planned by state and local agency staff for April 2008. It will provide for an exchange of information and ideas to strategically address the August 2007 flood event. The focus will be informing land and stream management decision-making so as to minimize flood impacts in the future. This forum will help address mid-range issues about understanding stream channels/riparian changes and will provide additional information in assessing the extent of streambank stabilization needs and costs of future recovery and prevention needs in this area.

Dispute Resolution Report
December 6, 2007
by: Jim Haertel

There are presently 26 appeals pending. All of the appeals involve WCA except File 05-24. There have been 11 new appeals filed since the last report dated October 15, 2007.

Note: Appeal file 07-24 involving Gaetz Brothers Realty in St. Cloud, which was previously denied by BWSR, had been appealed to the Minnesota Court of Appeals. Gaetz Brothers Realty has withdrawn their appeal and the Court of Appeals has dismissed the case.

File 07-36. This is a new appeal of a restoration order in the City of Hugo, Washington County. The appeal involves the filling of approximately 5,447 square feet of Type 7 wetland for a driveway . No decision has been made on the appeal.

File 07-35. This is a new appeal of a restoration order in Koochiching County. The appeal involves the filling of 1.99 acres of Type 7 wetland for a building site and parking lot, and wetland impacts associated with 3 acres of land clearing and top soil removal of a forested Type 7 wetland. No decision has been made on the appeal.

File 07-34. This is a new appeal from 131 residents of Stearns County of a replacement plan decision. The appeal regards the approval of a replacement plan that would allow replacement of an existing culvert under a township road named Hidden Cove Road, near Big Fish Lake, with a longer culvert, construction of a water retention basin and a standpipe. The appeal has been remanded for a public hearing before the Stearns County Wetland Appeal Panel.

File 07-33. This is a new appeal of an exemption decision in Koochiching County. The appeal involves the approval of an exemption request that resulted from issuance of a cease and desist order for unauthorized wetland impacts. The appeal has been accepted and copies of the record have been requested.

File 07-32. This is a new appeal of an exemption decision in Koochiching County. The appeal involves the approval of an exemption request that resulted from issuance of a cease and desist order for unauthorized wetland impacts. The appeal has been accepted and copies of the record have been requested.

File 07-31. This is a new appeal of an exemption decision in Koochiching County. The appeal involves the approval of an exemption request that resulted from issuance of a restoration order for unauthorized filling of wetland for a building. The appeal has been accepted and copies of the record have been requested.

File 07-30. This is a new appeal of a restoration order in Koochiching County. The appeal regards the filling of wetland for a building and wetland impacts associated with a 1.3 acre timber harvest. The appeal has been denied because it was filed after the 30-day deadline to file an appeal had passed.

File 07-29. This is a new appeal of a restoration order in Crow Wing County. The appeal involves the filling of wetland along a driveway. No decision has been made on the appeal.

File 07-28. This is a new appeal of a restoration order in Mille Lacs County. The appeal regards the filling of wetland.

File 07-27. This is a new appeal of a restoration and replacement order in Benton County. The appeal involves the excavation of an island that was in wetland and the filling of wetland along the wetland edge. No decision has been made on the appeal.

File 07-26. This is a new appeal of a restoration order in Clearwater County. The appeal regards the filling of wetland in association with the construction of an access road to a landlocked parcel. The appeal has been dismissed due to nonpayment of the required filing fee.

File 07-25. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in Benton County. The appeal involves the approval of a replacement plan application for 7.8 acres of wetland fill. A previous decision on the project had been appealed and was remanded for a public hearing at the local level. The appeal has been accepted, a pre-hearing conference was held on September 18 and continued on October 17. Settlement discussions are continuing and a pre-hearing conference continuance has been scheduled for December 17.

File 06-43. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Morrison County. The appeal involves the placement of fill in wetland near a lake. The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration order has been stayed pending field review by the Technical Evaluation Panel.

File 06-23. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in Kanabec County. The LGU denied the wetland replacement plan application. A previous denial of the same replacement plan application had been appealed, the appeal was remanded for a hearing, and now the current denial has been appealed. The appeal has been placed in abeyance pending the outcome of a lawsuit between the landowner and the county. The lawsuit concerns the county's possible noncompliance with the 60-day rule. The county prevailed in district court, however the decision has been appealed to the Court of Appeals.

File 06-17. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in the City of Montgomery in LeSueur County. The LGU denied an after-the-fact wetland replacement plan application based on a lack of sufficient reasons why the restoration could not be completed. The appeal has been remanded for further processing at the local level.

File 06-12. This is an appeal of a no-loss decision in Stearns County. It involves the same project and issues as File 06-6. After a restoration order was issued, a no-loss application was submitted by the developer and denied by the LGU. The appeal has been remanded for further technical evaluation.

File 06-6. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Stearns County. At issue are numerous wetlands impacted by filling, sedimentation, reduction of hydrology and lack of Best Management Practices associated with a residential development. The appeal has been denied in part. The Restoration Order has been affirmed in part and has been stayed in part.

File 06-5. This is an appeal of a wetland boundary and type decision in the City of Hermantown in St. Louis County. The appeal concerns the denial of a wetland delineation. There are issues regarding the soils and vegetation in a disturbed area. The area has been disturbed by wetland filling and a cease and desist order has been issued to the developer. The appeal has been remanded for further processing by the LGU.

File 06-4. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Carlton County. At issue is the unauthorized placement of fill in wetland for a roadway. The appeal is in abeyance pending completion of a wetland delineation during the growing season.

File 05-24. This is an appeal, actually three appeals, of the Bois de Sioux Watershed District compensation to landowners related to a project. The appeal has been held in abeyance pending settlement discussions. It appears at least two of the appeals have been settled.

File 05-20. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in Cokato, Wright County. The decision approved the filling of a 0.2 acre Type 2 wetland on a residential lot for construction of a residence. There is a question about the alternatives proposed for sequencing. Also, no TEP was held. The appeal has been remanded for a TEP to be held and sequencing to be addressed.

File 05-17. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision in the City of Holdingford in Stearns County. At issue is the denial of a replacement plan application relating to a residential development. Wetland impacts of 0.7 acres were proposed for construction of a road and multi-use trail. The TEP recommended approval of the application. The LGU denied the application on finding the development could proceed without wetland impacts. The Corps issued a permit for the project. The appeal has been accepted and is in abeyance pending settlement discussions.

File 05-1. This is an appeal of a replacement plan decision by the Rice Creek Watershed District. The District previously made a decision that was appealed which resulted in a remand for an expanded TEP. Now there is an appeal of the decision made under remand since the decision differed from the TEP report. At issue is a wetland delineation and the Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan that BWSR approved. After a

hearing before the DRC, the board remanded the matter for a new wetland delineation and for submission on an updated, complete replacement plan application.

File 04-26. This is an appeal of a restoration order in Spring Lake Township, Scott County. At issue is the placement of 4,300 feet of fill in a wetland for a driveway. The approved plat showed access to the lot without wetland impacts. The appeal is in abeyance pending a decision on a replacement plan application.

File 04-23. This is an appeal of a forestry exemption decision in Kittson County. Unpermitted fill was placed in a Type 7 wetland for a road. A Cease and Desist Order was issued. Additional filling has recently occurred in violation of the CDO. Corps and DNR violations also exist. The appeal has been accepted and is in abeyance pending completion of a wetland delineation and submittal of a replacement plan application.

File 04-15. This is an appeal of a wetland boundary and type decision in Anoka County. At issue is the decision by the Rice Creek Watershed District to classify a site as effectively drained. Previously a wetland delineation report identified most of the site as wetland. The appeal has been remanded for a technical evaluation panel to meet onsite. The appeal remains in abeyance under the remand.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Metro Water Planning Committee

1. Rice Creek Watershed District Comprehensive Wetland Protection Management Plan – *DECISION ITEM*

2. Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization, Watershed Management Plan – *DECISION ITEM*

Rice Creek Watershed District Resource Management Plan for the Judicial Ditch 4 and County Ditch 15 Drainage Areas in Washington and Anoka Counties

Project Abstract

This document serves as the repair report for two public ditches, JD4 and ACD15, and the JD4 Resource Management Plan (RMP). Rule-based implementation of wetland permitting requirements is coupled to watershed runoff standards and preservation of wetland corridors. These two components are critical to preserving landscape processes affecting wetland hydrologic and habitat functioning that would otherwise not be addressed in individual project permits. A key feature of preserving these processes is that they have been analyzed in the context of anticipated future urban land use conditions, thereby moving towards avoidance of cumulative impacts. Identifying and preserving these landscape processes is also the underlying basis for maintaining high quality open space, one of the highest quality of life issues for suburban homeowners.

To maximize the flexibility of local communities and landowners to plan and still preserve wetlands, the RCWD will facilitate not only a planning area wetland credit accounting program to replace all unavoidable impacts in the JD4 watershed, but also a stormwater volume bank to address runoff and potential downstream effects on wetland hydrologic functioning. The RMP also provides the service to communities and landowners of early TEP guidance and availability of the significant body of data used to prepare the RMP. Both of these services increase a permit applicant's ability to move through the permit process without undo time and effort on data collection and redesign to meet the rule requirements.

The RMP was developed in accordance with WCA requirements for a local Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan, including local public meetings and wetland values surveys, mapping and classifying wetlands according to plant community, assessment of functions, and prioritizing wetlands for management. These data led to establishing high priority wetlands to be preserved in wetland preservation zones, mitigation replacement standards with credit-based incentive to replace in locations that enhance overall landscape functioning of both existing and replacement wetlands, and establishment of buffers on all high priority wetlands. Supplemental to the RMP and rule was an economic analysis to compare existing wetland and RMP rules that demonstrated no adverse economic effect on land development as a result of the RMP rule.

The RMP found that emergent marshes in depressional drainageways are the most common wetland type. Numerous locations exist for restoring wetland to drained hydric mineral soil. Coupling watershed volume and wetland management will provide the flexibility of using two separate tracking systems to meeting goals of restoring wetland hydrology and naturally vegetated buffers. A project can use the volume crediting system alone, or both wetland and volume credits, if wetland replacement credit is required. In either case, diversifying wetland type by restoring wet meadows and prairies will be encouraged.

The JD4 RMP was prepared to meet obligations under the Minnesota Wetlands Conservation Act and also to address identified shortcomings in the policy to mitigate for cumulative wetland impacts. Specifically the RMP is able to better meet these shortcomings by the following mechanisms:

- Provide watershed-based mitigation opportunity areas for project proposers
- Identify potential future impacts to wetland quality and establish measures to avoid this cumulative impact
- Vary wetland replacement ratios to create disincentives for impacting high quality and hard-to-replace wetland types
- Create disincentives for impacting the identified wetland preservation zone corridors
- Provide flexibility in site design alternatives proposing impacts to low quality, low functioning wetlands
- Vary wetland replacement credits giving priority to activities adjacent to wetland preservation zones
- Prioritize replacement activities and give credit incentives for re-establishment and restoration over creation

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of the review of the Comprehensive Wetland Management Plan for the **Rice Creek Watershed District, Anoka County Ditch 15 and Anoka-Washington Judicial Ditch 4 watershed,** pursuant to Minnesota Statues Section 103G.2242, Subdivision 1 (c)

ORDER APPROVING COMPREHENSIVE WETLAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, the Rice Creek Watershed District submitted a Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan (Plan) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) pursuant to M.S. Section 103G.2242, Subd. 1 (c), 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. **Authority to Plan.** Minnesota Statutes Section 103G.2242, Subd. 1 (c) and Minnesota Rules Chapter 8420.650 allow the Board to approve a Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan developed by a local government unit, provided it is implemented through the local government's official controls.

   The purpose of the RMP is to satisfy the RCWD's own petition to repair Anoka County Ditch 15 and Anoka-Washington County Judicial Ditch 4 (JD4), and to provide a resource and conservation-based framework for aquatic resource management as development occurs within the JD4 watershed basin. Water quality, quantity, and flow rates must be addressed in light of forecasted development and associated impervious area. The development of protection and management strategies for wetlands within the JD4 stems from the landscape scale functional assessment completed as part of the Plan. The formation of this plan was instigated by the RCWD obligation to repair and maintain JD4 as the drainage authority for all public ditches within their jurisdiction. The RCWD filed a petition to repair the ditch system under provisions of Chapter 103E (Minnesota Drainage Law), and evaluated three ditch repair alternatives as part of the planning process.

2. **Nature of the Plan Area.** The Anoka County Ditch (ACD) 15 drainage area is a small area east of I-35 that is primarily wetland. ACD 15 is considered a tributary to JD4. The main drainage area, Judicial Ditch (JD) 4 is located along a line in northwestern Washington County within the City of Forest Lake, and in eastern Anoka County within to cities of Columbus and Lino Lakes. The watershed consists of several open channel

ditch branches (all in Anoka county) and tile lines (mainly in Washington County). The geomorphic region is in transition from the Anoka Sand Plain to the west and into a glacial drift to the east.

Approximately 1,463 acres, or about 32% of the total JD4 Area consist of a variety of wetland types. The predominant wetland type in the RMP area is shallow marsh. Wet meadow wetland types are numerous but include some of the highest quality wetlands in the watershed.

RCWD is proposing to balance natural area preservation and land development. This plan eliminates the piecemeal approach to ditch maintenance, natural area preservation, and land development by defining areas that are developable and to be protected.

ACD 15 is a public drainage system, which was constructed in the late 1800's. ACD 15 was repaired to its original profile in 1907; in 1914 the majority of ACD 15 was incorporated into Judicial Ditch 4. JD4 was constructed at a lower profile than ACD 15. The Main Branch was constructed primarily as an open ditch whereas the branches and laterals were constructed as drain tile. With conversion from agricultural to urban uses, the drainage system has become increasingly relied upon for storm water conveyance and less important for agricultural drainage.

Two official alterations to JD 4 since its inception have occurred. In the late 1960's, the Main Branch and Branch 4 were re-graded and realigned for Interstates 35E and 35W. Many "unofficial" changes have been made to JD 4 since it was originally constructed. Limited maintenance has been preformed.

3. **Local Review.** The Plan amendment was developed, reviewed, and revised in consultation with the state agencies, technical evaluation panel, landowners, and local governments. The plan development process included numerous drafts and opportunities for comment. The Plan has an attached Rule that will be officially adopted by the District to implement the Plan.

4. **Anoka Conservation District and Washington Conservation District Review.** The ACD and WCD participated throughout the planning process as a member of the Technical Evaluation Panel. Their participation resulted in several changes during development of the Plan. ACD and WCD did not provide comments during the formal review and approval period.

5. **Department of Agriculture Review.** The MDA did not provide comments on the Plan.

6. **Department of Health Review.** The MDH did not provide comments on the Plan.

7. **Department of Natural Resources Review.** The DNR was participated in the planning process and provided comments during the plan development process. The DNR did not provide comments during the formal review and approval period.

8. **Pollution Control Agency Review.** The MPCA has been an active participant throughout the development. Their comments were provided during development of the RMP and addressed at that time.

9. **Metropolitan Council.** The Council participated and provided comments during the plan development process. During the formal review period, the Council found the Plan to be generally consistent with the Council's Water Resources Management Policy Plan.

10. **US Army Corps of Engineers Review.** The Corps has been an active participant in plan development and review. The Corps provided comments to RCWD via letters dated September 25, 2007. The September 25, letter consisted of 3 pages of comments on the second preliminary review period.

    In September 25 comment letter, the Corps indicated they support RCWD's efforts to manage wetlands on a watershed basis, and found the final draft of the RMP much more compatible with CWA Section 404 guidelines than previous versions. Significant comments included a request by the Corps for several changes to make the RMP more compatible with Clean Water Act Section 404 requirements. Many of these were clarifications, additions, and wording changes. The Corps also recommended utilizing the Environmental Protection Agency's Advanced Identification of wetlands (ADID) process. The ADID process can be used to inform landowners of aquatic resources which may be unsuitable for filling, and is akin to the process used by RCWD to identify high priority wetlands for preservation in the WPZ.

    For the most part, the wetland mitigation ratios listed in Table 5 are consistent with the wetland mitigation guidelines of the COE-BWSR Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for wetland mitigation that was signed in May, 2007. This MOU allows for a 1:1 wetland mitigation ratio when a proposed project is in a >80% county, and provides mitigation that is in-kind, in-place, and in-advance, as defined in the MOU. In situations where an applicant proposes a project in Anoka County that meets the RMP for a 1:1 wetland mitigation, the Corps would ask, in addition to the RMP requirements for in-kind and in-place mitigation, that the mitigation be constructed in advance.

    The Corps has reviewed RCWD's responses to their September 25 comments and have determined they have been sufficiently addressed.

11. **Board Review.** Board staff have been involved throughout plan development, and provided comments during the preliminary reviews. Board comments have been sufficiently addressed

12. **Highlights of the Amended Plan.** There are several methodologies used within this plan that make it unique. The Board of Water and Soil Resources see this methods as ways to tie land use and urbanization with the environment. Below are several of the methods used in this plan:

    - The plan is inclusive with governments and local landowners needs.

- This approach evaluates landscape functioning under future conditions and assesses the outcome of various watershed practices in shaping the future functioning of the wetlands.
- This plan has assessed the conventional ditch repair criteria and has determined that this approach will not be a benefit to landowners due to the existence of wetlands that would need to be replaced under the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act. The RMP will serve as ditch repair report that will provide cost efficiencies by eliminating the redundancy of separately managing wetland, water quality, and flood-related features. Resulting in a benefit to the landowner.
- Upland preservation and efforts to connect habitat within this plan improve the functions and values of the land.
- BWSR staff is confident that this plan will meet BWSR standards.

13. **Metro Water Planning Committee Meeting.** The Board's Metro Water Planning Committee met on November 28, 2007 with representatives of the District to review and discuss the Plan. Board staff recommended approval of the Plan upon satisfactorily addressing the issues identified by the Corps. After discussion, the Committee unanimously decided to recommend approval of the Rice Creek Watershed District JD4 Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan to the full Board.

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 an Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan for the Rice Creek Watershed District pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Sections 103G.2242, Subd. 1 (c).

3. The Rice Creek Watershed District Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan attached to this Order provides a functional assessment framework for all wetlands within the Anoka County Ditch 15, Anoka County, Minnesota and Anoka-Washington Judicial Ditch 4, watershed, management strategies based on this assessment, and an implementation program.

4. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103G.221 to 103G.2373 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 8420.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached Comprehensive Wetland Protection and Management Plan, dated December 2007, for the Rice Creek Watershed District Anoka County Ditch 15, Anoka County, Minnesota and Anoka-Washington Judicial Ditch 4, Anoka & Washington Counties, Minnesota.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 19th day of December 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization
800 East County Road E, Vadnais Heights MN 55127
Tel. 651-204-6070; Fax 651-204-6173
Website: www.vlawmo.org; email: office@vlawmo.org

Memo

Date: **December 11, 2007**

To: Brad Wozney, BWSR Board Conservationist

Cc: VLAWMO Board of Directors, VLAWMO Technical Commission

From: Stephanie McNamara, Administration-Wetland Specialist

RE: VLAWMO Water Plan – wetland buffer language concerns

Brad,

Thank you for sharing the concerns of Bob Burandt, Chair of the Metro Committee for Water Planning and Comprehensive Wetland Plan Review (Metro Committee). The Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO) appreciates his help and your own as the watershed attempts to craft the best Water Management Plan for this area.

My understanding of the wetland buffer question from the Metro Committee meeting and our subsequent discussion centers around the maintenance and activity that would be allowed in wetland buffers. This would apply to newly designated wetland areas and would not apply existing development. I believe the example posed asked if tree trimming in a wetland buffer was allowable under the standards set forth in the Water Plan. I believe I answered that limited maintenance including tree trimming was allowed under the Plan. There was a follow-up concern that a later staff interpretation might disallow this form of maintenance. Additional discussion asked whether too many restrictions on wetland buffers might be considered a 'taking' of the land. This final question appears to have state wide implications. VLAWMO will certainly be interested in the discussion.

It should be kept in mind that the VLAWMO Board of Directors has approved this Water Plan and the Metro Committee has recommended it for approval to the Board of Water Resources. As such, perhaps only minor edits for the sake of clarity or removal of errors are possible. VLAWMO remains committed to following the Water Plan approval process outlined by State Statute and Rules.

The language on wetland buffers (page 106 - 111) has been reviewed. It is the intent of the VLAWMO Board to keep wetland buffers as natural as possible. While it is hard to anticipate every unique circumstance, the language in the Water Plan attempts to both set standards that must be met, as well as give guidance to be used when some flexibility is needed. Section D under Wetland "Buffer Standards" addresses "Alterations" (page 107). The following edits to this section are suggested that clarify the intent (italics indicates new wording and strike out are words removed.).

D. Alterations, including but not limited to, building; paving; mowing, ~~*except as part of an approved maintenance plan; clear*~~ cutting; filling, dumping, yard waste disposal or fertilizer application, are prohibited within wetland buffers. However, non-native invasive vegetation, such as ~~common~~ buckthorn, purple loosestrife, and reed canary grass, may be removed as long as the wetland buffer is maintained to the standards required by VLAWMO. ~~Alterations do not include~~ *The following activities are allowed and not considered alterations: 1)* plantings that enhance the native vegetation or *2)* selective *and limited* clearing or pruning of trees or vegetation that are dead, diseased, or ~~pose similar hazards~~ *in need of maintenance.*

Towaste →

developed by VLAWMO

While this language still allows for some judgment to be used, the Buffer Vegetation Standards on page 110 direct a 60 percent closure of the canopy if the buffer is primarily trees and shrubs. The canopy standard would allow for limb pruning or other clearing. A continuous layer of perennial grasses and forbs is also possible as well as a mixture of these vegetative strata.

I believe these minor edits are in keeping with and clarify the intent of the VLAWMO Water Plan. They are offered for your consideration.

The VLAWMO Water Plan attempts to give the user guidance as to what is meant by establishing and maintaining a "natural" wetland buffer. While we believe that aim has been accomplished, the true test, of course, will come with implementing the new VLAWMO standards. We look forward to this next phase. Thank you for your time, consideration and help.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Vadnais Lakes Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO) Watershed Management Plan describes how the VLAWMO will address water management over the next 10 years. VLAWMO was organized by a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) (Appendix F) in 1983 in response to the Minnesota Metropolitan Surface Water Act of 1982 (Minnesota Statutes {M.S.} Section 473.875 to 473.883). The first VLAWMO Watershed Management Plan was prepared, approved, and adopted in 1987.

The Metropolitan Surface Water Management Program (M.S. 103B) and Watershed Act requires the VLAWMO to review and update its Water Management Plan (the Plan) every ten years. The second generation plan was prepared and adopted in 1995. That plan expired in 2006. This current Plan represents a third generation plan and will be effective from 2007 to 2016. In addition to complying with the aforementioned laws, this Plan meets the requirement of Minnesota Rules 8410, 8420, and 8750. The Plan includes management standards and procedures for addressing surface water, wetland, and groundwater issues.

Plan Organization

This Plan document is about the Vadnais Lakes Area Watershed and its management, and therefore, much of the information presented is technical. Background information regarding scientific terms and processes is provided where practical. An acronym list is also provided. Readers are encouraged to consult area professionals or professional references for more information.

The Plan is divided into the following sections:

Executive Summary: Provides an overview of the plan.

Section 1.0 – Introduction: Summarizes State statutes, plan requirements, and the organization and history of VLAWMO.

Section 2.0 – Land and Water Resource Inventory: Presents current and historic background and inventory information regarding the physical, hydrological, biological, and human environment of the watershed.

Section 3.0 – Issues Identification/Assessment of Problems: Provides an overview of the issues identified during the planning process, identifies priorities, and assesses the adequacy of existing controls and identifies potential management gaps.

Section 4.0 – Goals, Policies, and Management Strategies: Presents the management framework (goals, policies, and management strategies and standards) adopted by the VLAWMO Board (Board) to address the priority issues and management gaps.

Section 5.0 – Administration: Presents the administrative functions of the VLAWMO and Local Water Planning authorities with respect to regulation, financing, and administering implementation of the program described in Section 6.0.

Section 6.0 – Implementation Program: Describes the implementation elements of the Plan and its impact on residents and local governments. This section provides an implementation program table and preliminary annual budgets and provides a table of measurable outcomes for each program year.

Watershed Issues

Watershed issues are problems or concerns that have been identified by both the Board and citizens from member communities and need attention and implementation of corrective measures. Partnership meetings were held in North Oaks, White Bear Lake, and Vadnais Heights. In addition, White Bear Township, Gem Lake, and Lino Lakes were contacted to solicit input. Eleven issues were identified in Section 3.0.

- Potable Water Supply from Groundwater
- Groundwater Quality: Threatened and Impaired
- Potable Water Supply from Surface Water
- Development Occurred Before Implementations
- Additional Development is Expected
- Data Needs/Limitations
- Public Awareness
- Sensitive Resources
- Lake Water Quality: Threatened or Impaired
- Exotic Species Infestations
- Localized Flooding

These issues are also prioritized in Section 3.0. It is interesting to note that both the Board's and the public's priorities of the identified issues were similar. Issues dealing with water quality and habitat were of the greatest concern and flooding, while an important issue, was ranked as one of their least concerns.

Watershed Management Framework

Section 4.0 presents the management framework for the Plan in terms of goals, policies, and management strategies and standards. Development of this framework took into consideration the issues and problems identified, their priority, and the adequacy of existing controls and management efforts. Fundamental principles in developing the framework include:

- VLAWMO is not the only organization with responsibilities for water management in the watershed. This is a shared responsibility between State, local governments and the public.
- Available VLAWMO resources should focus on priorities. Several efforts done well are better than numerous efforts done poorly or incompletely.
- That VLAWMO efforts should build on, improve, or enable existing controls/efforts before starting duplicate efforts.
- Management efforts will possibly vary by subwatershed.

To address management at a subwatershed scale, VLAWMO has divided the watershed into seven separate subwatersheds and identified goals for each issue/problem by subwatershed. The subwatersheds are as follows:

- Subwatershed 1 - Lambert Creek
- Subwatershed 2 - Birch Lake
- Subwatershed 3 - Tamarack/Wilkinson
- Subwatershed 4 - Pleasant/Charley/Deep
- Subwatershed 5 – East Vadnais/Sucker (reservoir)
- Subwatershed 6 - Gem Lake
- Subwatershed 7 – West Vadnais Lake

The following goals have been established by VLAWMO (the order does not reflect rank within the watershed):

1. Prevent flooding
2. Protect and improve surface water quality

3. Protect groundwater quality and quantity
4. Protect wetland resources
5. Protect and improve waters for wildlife habitats and recreation
6. Enhance public participation and stewardship
7. Optimize public resources
8. Analyze and use alternative funding sources
9. Make and enable informed decisions
10. Improve communications

Plan Implementation

Four different implementation elements and associated sub-elements are identified in Section 6.0. These include:

Administrative/Managerial Efforts: This includes staffing, day-to-day operations, and funding for audits, reporting, training, and contingency.

Local Water Plan Development and Implementation: This includes working with local communities to complete Local Water Plans (LWP). This will be a significant effort the first two years of the Plan implementation. Other then the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA), LWPs are viewed as the primary mechanism for implementing policies and strategies that incorporate standards and regulations. These standards/regulations include:

- Floodplain and shoreland ordinances
- Rate control standards
- Landlocked basin standards
- Storm water standards
- Standards to control soil loss on small construction sites in shoreland areas
- Wetland protection standards

Some of these standards, such as the floodplain and shoreland ordinance requirements, are already met by member communities. Others are met, to some degree, by local community requirements. Wherever possible, VLAWMO tried to build-on existing standards from State or Federal requirements to minimize duplication.

In addition to standards, other specific expectations for inclusions in LWPs by various communities are described in Section 6.0.

Studies and Programs: Implementation elements include seven different sub-elements as follows:

- Lower Lambert Creek Flood Reduction Study
- County Road E and Highway 61 Storm Water Study
- Development of Sustainable Lake Management Plans (SLMP)
- Financial incentives and cost-sharing
- Public information and education
- Data analysis and monitoring
- WCA and appropriations permitting

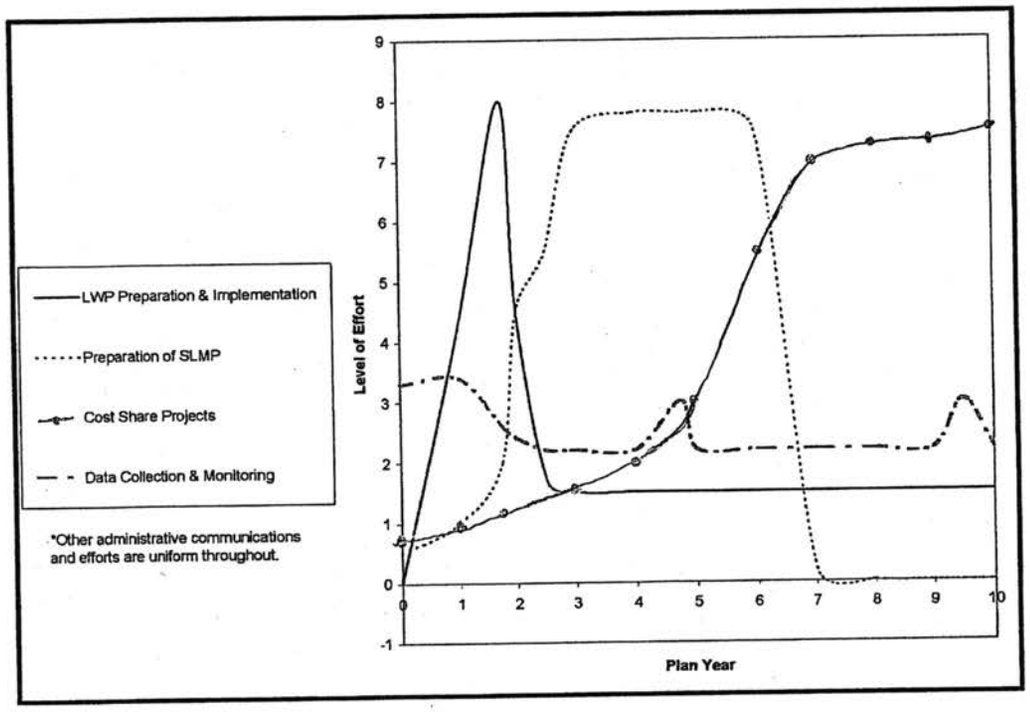
Capital Improvements Projects: The Plan includes projects listed below. Additional projects can be added with biannual reviews and minor amendments.

- Lambert Creek Stream Restoration and Stabilization
- Lambert Creek Flume Replacement
- Goose Lake Sediment Treatment and Rough Fish Removal.
- Aluminum/Ferric Chemical Feed to Grass Weir
- Lambert Creek Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Project
- Tamarack Lake Restoration
- Branch 4 – North Storm Water Quality Pond
- Branch 4 – Northeast Quadrant of Vadnais Heights City Center Storm Water Quality Pond

Many implementation efforts, such as administration and WCA permitting, are on-going. Other elements are scheduled more specifically over the course of the 10-year program. The intent is to try to balance efforts over those 10 years.

As shown in Graph ES 1, the primary implementation elements shift from a focus on completion of LWPs, to the completion of SLMPs, during middle years, to habitat and other water quality improvements through financial incentives and cost-sharing in later years.

GRAPH ES 1
VLAWMO IMPLEMENTATION EFFORTS



Measurable Outcomes

The primary outcome measurements for judging effectiveness of this Plan are the numerical water quality standards established for some lakes and the non-degradation standard established for all lakes through modeling effort. Other products/outcomes are identified and tabled by year in Section 6.0, such as the completion of LWPs or a number of SLMPs. These outcomes will be tracked on an annual basis, used to develop annual workplans, and listed in annual reports as a means of tracking implementation of the Plan.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO) was organized by a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) in 1983 in response to the Minnesota Metropolitan Surface Water Act of 1982 (Minnesota Statutes {M.S.}, Section 473.875 to 473.883). This act required that watershed management organizations be established throughout the seven county metropolitan area to, among other goals, reduce flooding, improve water quality, prevent erosion, promote ground water recharge, and to provide for wildlife habitat. VLAWMO's JPA provides VLAWMO with the authority and the duty to prepare and implement a watershed management plan for the Vadnais Lakes Area Watershed (watershed). The first VLAWMO Watershed Management Plan was prepared, approved, and adopted in 1987.

The Metropolitan Surface Water Management Program (M.S. 103B) requires the VLAWMO to review and update its Water Management Plan (the Plan) every ten years. The second generation VLAWMO plan was prepared and adopted in 1995. That plan expired in 2006. The current Plan will be effective starting in 2007 and shall be updated by the year 2017. In addition to complying with the above laws, this Plan meets the requirements of Minnesota Rules 8410, 8420, and 8750. The Plan includes management standards and procedures for surface water, wetland, and groundwater issues.

The Plan also includes an inventory of existing physical and hydrological conditions and anticipated land use through the year 2030. This inventory, together with the general purposes of the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act and input from the public, State and local agencies, were used to determine water resources goals, water resources policies, management strategies, and development of the implementation programs and priorities.

The current State rules require the Plan to include the following:

1. Protect, preserve, and use natural surface and groundwater storage and retention system;
2. Minimize public capital expenditures needed to correct flooding and water quality problems;
3. Identify and plan for means to effectively protect and improve surface water and groundwater quality;
4. Establish more uniform local policies and official controls for surface and groundwater management;
5. Prevent erosion of soil into surface water systems;

6. Promote groundwater recharge;
7. Protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and water recreational facilities; and
8. Secure the other benefits associated with the proper management of surface water and groundwater.

As regulations change, VLAWMO will amend the existing sections or add new sections to the Plan. These changes will be made following the amendment procedures outlined in this Plan.

There are 11 separate governmental units within VLAWMO: five cities, one township, one water commission, two counties and two special purpose districts. The City of Shoreview also occupies a small portion of the watershed. These governmental units are listed in Table 1-1 and Figure 1-2. VLAWMO comprises approximately 23.5 square miles of area and generally follows the natural watershed boundaries. It extends over portions of Ramsey and Anoka counties, with greater surface area located in Ramsey County. The watershed is bounded on the north, west, and east by the Rice Creek Watershed District, on the southwest by the Grass Lake Watershed Management Organization and on the southeast by Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District (Figure 1-1).

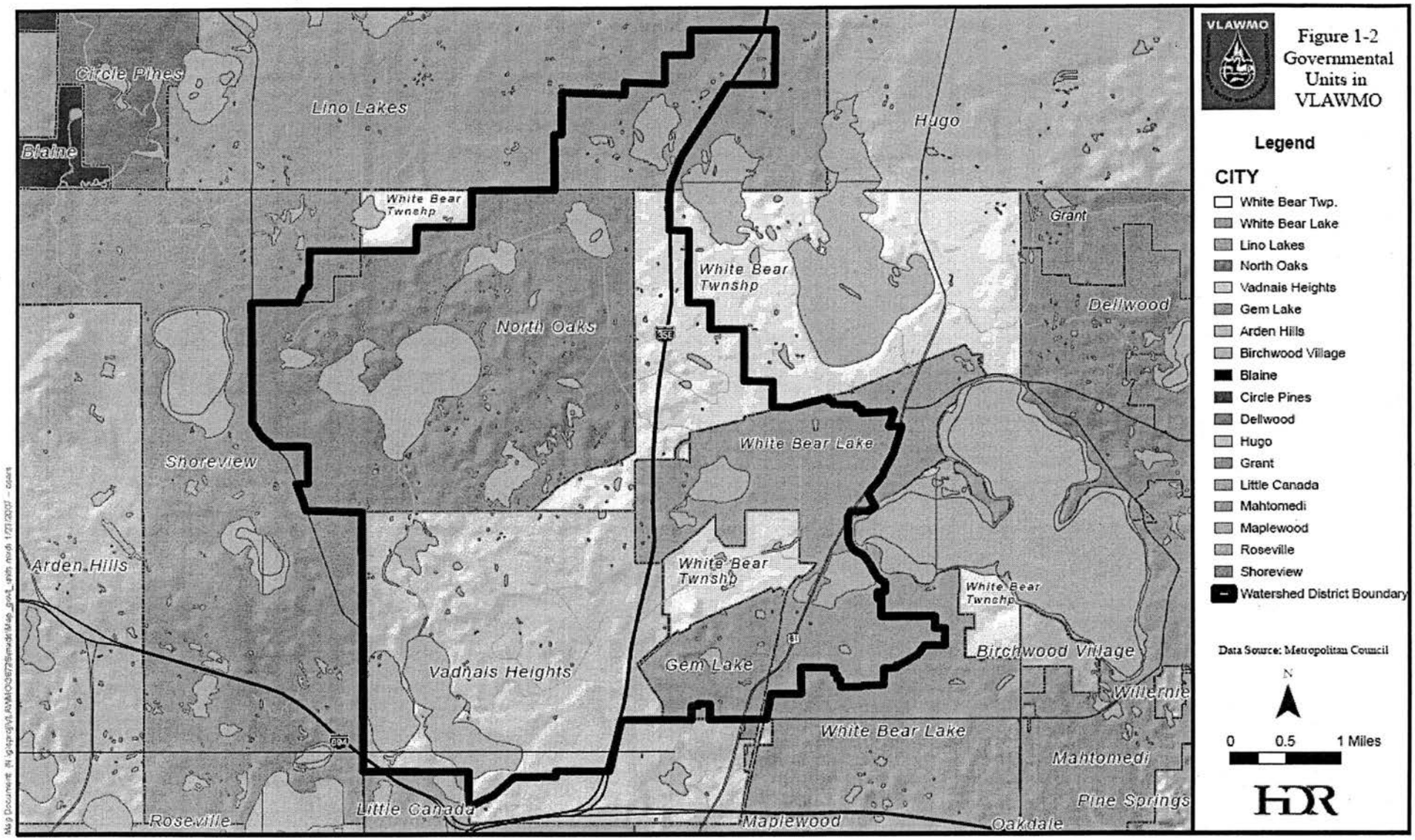
TABLE 1-1
GOVERNMENTAL UNITS IN VLAWMO

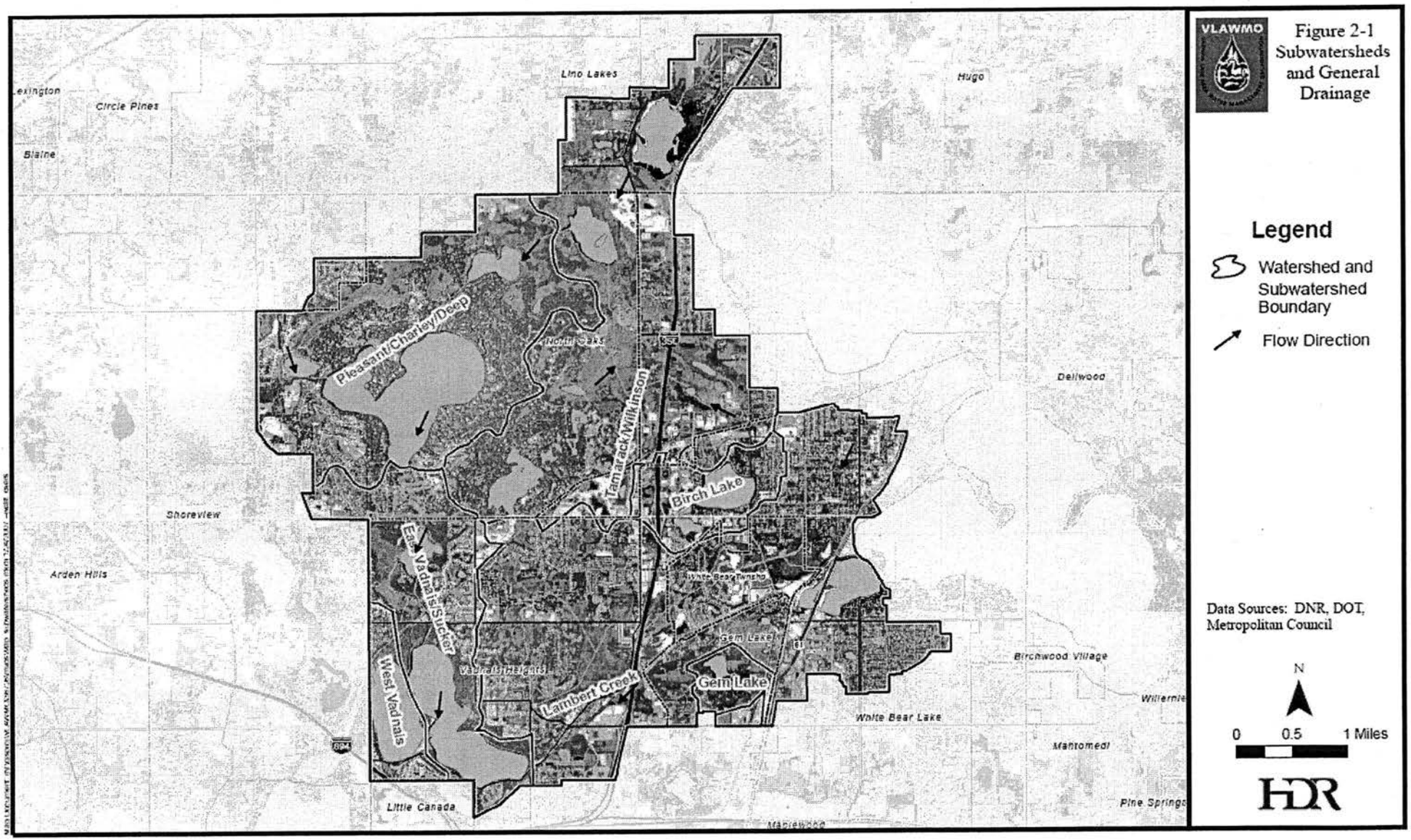
Counties	Cities/Townships
Anoka County	Lino Lakes
	*Anoka County Soil and Water Conservation District
Ramsey County	Gem Lake
	North Oaks
	Vadnais Heights
	White Bear Lake
	Board of Water Commissioners of the City of St. Paul
	White Bear Township
	*Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation District
*Special Purpose Districts	

Parties to the JPA include the cities of Lino Lakes, Gem Lake, North Oaks, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake, and White Bear Township.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
November 2007 Metro Water Planning Committee Meeting

MAPS AND FISCAL INFORMATION
Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization (VLAWMO)
Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan Update 2007-2016 (Plan)




VLAWMO
Figure 2-1
Subwatersheds and General Drainage
Legend
Watershed and Subwatershed Boundary
Flow Direction
Data Sources: DNR, DOT, Metropolitan Council
N
0 0.5 1 Miles
HDR
Lino Lakes
Hugo
Circle Pines
Blaine
Dellwood
Shoreview
Arden Hills
Birchwood Village
White Bear Lake
Mahtomedi
Little Canada
Pine Springs
Pleasant/Charley/Deep
Lamarack/Wilkinson
Birch Lake
East Vadnais Sucker
West Vadnais
Lambert Creek
Gem Lake

Nature of the Watershed. The VLAWMO spans approximately 23.5 square miles in central and northern Ramsey County, including a few square miles stretching into Anoka County. Approximately 11 percent of the WMO remains undeveloped.

Local government units within VLAWMO include Gem Lake, North Oaks, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake, and White Bear Township in Ramsey County. In Anoka County, the governmental unit includes a portion of Lino Lakes. Diversion pipes bring water from the Mississippi River to three connected lakes within VLAWMO prior to being conveyed to the St. Paul water filtration plant – Charley Lake, Pleasant Lake, Sucker Lake, and the final impoundment East Vadnais Lake. BWCSP services drinking water needs for over 400,000 people in St. Paul and 13 surrounding communities by withdrawing water from East Vadnais Lake. The diversions average 70% of the BWCSP water supply. The BWCSP manages water levels and flow from Charley, Deep, and Wilkinson Lakes, which are feeder lakes to the three impoundments. They also handle a system of water quality monitoring stations within VLAWMO. Under normal hydrologic conditions, no water discharges from this watershed. However, recently an outlet has been installed on West Vadnais Lake, a previously self-contained basin with a very small subwatershed area. Two Ramsey Regional Parks exist within VLAWMO, the Grass-Vadnais Regional Park and Tamarack Nature Preserve. There are 13 lakes and several miles of interconnecting streams/ditches in the watershed. For management purposes, VLAWMO has divided the watershed into 6 subwatershed units.

VLAWMO is bound by the Rice Creek WD to the north, west, and east, on the southwest by Grass Lake WMO, and on the southeast by Ramsey Washington Metro WD.

Fiscal context and implementation. The table below reveals an increasing trend with regards to annual expenditures of VLAWMO. Recent fiscal data reveals VLAWMO ranks in the middle to upper bracket of WMOs in the metro region for annual expenditures, however, the bulk of the capital expenditures originated from grant funds. VLAWMO's proposed annual CIP budget for the Plan is modest, ranging $62, 531 - $166,305 primarily utilizing grants and to a lesser degree 103B.251 and stormwater utility fees as the secondary funding mechanisms. It is realistic to expect that the CIP budget will increase substantially as the Sustainable Lake Management Plans and other modeling efforts are completed. VLAWMO will review and update biennially the overall CIP.

The table below reveals financial information for all metro WMOs and WDs. A map of the metro WMOs can be found at http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/watermgmt/metro_imap-2005.htm

TYPE	AREA (sq mi)	NAME	2003	2004	2005	2006
WD	28	Brown's Creek	403,906	$320,385	$503,935	$653,307
WD	41	Capitol Region	577,504	$1,327,715	$924,848	$2,032,091
WD	43	Carnelian-Marine	491,103	$420,888		
WD	55	Comfort Lake Forest Lake	206,157	$287,058	$243,511	$199,512
WD	96	Coon Creek	529,215	$640,591	$498,240	
WD	64	Lower Minnesota River	204,346	$318,216	$456,166	$689,843
WD	184	Minnehaha Creek	3,343,963	$2,436,635	$3,212,548	$4,699,764
WD	50	Nine Mile Creek	1,015,845	$1,484,029	$2,413,557	$2,494,951
WD	42	Prior Lake-Spring Lake	732,799	$655,410	$756,044	
WD	53	Ramsey-Washington Metro	3,370,862	$2,350,399	$5,667,027	$3,828,209
WD	201	Rice Creek	2,589,521	$3,041,834	$2,810,074	$3,180,317
WD	47	Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek	2,366,737	$2,245,286	$1,819,722	$1,535,258
WD	54	South Washington	$5,771,911	$1,921,135	$1,252,877	$1,352,974
WD	64	Valley Branch	730,992	$772,065	$651,154	$643,980
WMO	40	Bassett Creek	318,823	$1,176,382	$317,647	$857,001
WMO	26	Black Dog	159,941	$114,637	$82,685	$100,147
WMO	280	Carver County	104,573	$138,255		
WMO	127	Elm Creek	121,562	$140,500	$277,425	$268,626
WMO	9	Grass Lake	18,594	$5,969	$9,619	
WMO	33	Gun Club Lake	18,451	$32,237	$22,958	$43,564
WMO	56	Lower Mississippi River	57,383	$85,842	$56,709	$48,657
WMO	56	Lower Rum River		$50,353	$48,222	$17,762
WMO	46	Lower St. Croix			$52,472	$98,682
WMO	37	Marine on St. Croix	$43,059	$32,177	$32,460	
WMO	30	Mississippi River	487,438	$722,226	$1,284,437	
WMO	19	Middle St. Croix River	32,918	$42,659	$61,124	
WMO	150	North Cannon River	11,628	$2,500	$23,307	$12,650
WMO	72	Pioneer-Sarah Creek	75,501	$60,472	$58,104	$100,100
WMO	8	Richfield-Bloomington	0	$0	$0	$15,510
WMO	323	Scott County	$194,985	$440,661	$475,208	
WMO	44	Shingle Creek	$374,809	$349,990	$305,402	$389,249
WMO	21	Six Cities	$6,317		$13,764	
WMO	71	Sunrise River	$19,327	$9,960	$10,863	$22,039
WMO	127	Upper Rum River	$4,020	$4,270	$20,482	
WMO	**24**	**Vadnais Lake Area**	**78,431**	**$625,126**	**$302,081**	**$195,930**
WMO	335	Vermillion River	154,447	$301,838		
WMO	24	West Mississippi	149,051	$115,215	$103,729	$110,011

Goals Evaluation and Report Card – 2007

The Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO) produced a preliminary report card in 2004 which looked at set goals and how well they were met. This exercise was redone in 2007. Those having input into the process included the VLAWMO Technical Commission, Board of Directors, staff, personnel from other agencies, and the member municipalities, city councils and town board, the St. Paul Regional Water Service, as well as residents from the watershed area.

Many goal elements have improved to date. These include:

- Monitoring and modeling within the watershed.
- Source Water Protection
- Local partners & stewardship:
    - Sustainable Lake Management Plans (SLMP)
    - Cost-share program
- Groundwater protection
- Flood protection
- Wetland protection
    - WCA administration
    - Wetland management plan elements incorporated
- Lower Lambert restoration
- Regional ditch management
- Website updates
- Newspaper public information
- Public education
- Restructuring the governance and funding process for the watershed

All of the above areas will to have time and energy put into their development. However, most of the restructuring work is complete and the efforts are being redirected tote following items:

- Working with municipalities on local water plans that will address all statutory requirements. New focus elements:
    - Stormwater standards update
    - Erosion control
    - TMDL requirements
    - SLMP goals
    - Education partnership opportunities
- Citizen's Advisory Committee will meet to determine its objectives and implementation plan.
- Pilot school program is planned through partnership and outside assistance.

It is anticipated that elements of the report card will be incorporated in future Annual Reports. See the attached report card for additional information.

2007 Report Card- October 2007; Yellow – improvement; Blue – needs improvement

	2	3		5	6	7	
Water Quality / Quantity		**Grade**	**V – VLAWMO staff / vol. X - Delegation P - Partners/ Notes C- Consulting assistance**	**Water Plan page reference**	**Cost est. OR % of budget**	**2007 Budget ($234,000)- $ based on % from 6**	**Hurdles and Opportunities**
	Erosion control	C	V X mixed -Comments to cities; permit if needed	4.2;	2	$	New standards will be enforced in LWP. VLAWMO will: work w/cities on LWP updates & will develop a permit program if this standards are not met
	Stormwater reviews	C	V X mixed -Comments to cities; permit if needed	4.2, 4.3, 4.4	5	$	New standards will be enforced in LWP. VLAWMO will: work w/cities on LWP updates & will develop a permit program if this standards are not met
	Data depository Citizen's Lake Monitoring; Watershed model	B-	Gathering SPRWS data, CLMP data; lake level data, SLMP data; Needs: V, staff, volunteers	4.2 Quality; 4.6 public participation; 4.9 inform dec	7	$8500 1500 % $30k	VLAWMO will share the just completed watershed model with its communities & use it to guide future monitoring, SLMPs, and TMDL studies. Also: enter data in STORET; metrics are being fine tuned, web available
	Source Water Protection	C+	V & X Have done public education program; input into SPRWS planning & implementation; will review in LWP;X to SPRWS / cities	3.2.2 & 3.2.3	1	$	VLAWMO will comment on wellhead protection plans & enforce stricter standards
	Sustainable Lake Management Plans & cost share program	B-	V, P C Birch Lake SLMP – 1st with Birch Lake Improvement District; policies for new cost share program	4.2, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6		$7,500 – SLMP $5K cost-share $15,000 SLMP implementation;	VLAWMO has committed to producing SLMPs for all major water basins in the watershed. SLMP implementation funding has been incorporated. SLMPs will be

						$50K pre-TMDL on Goose Lake	coordinated with possible TMDL studies.
	Groundwater	C	V Infiltration standards included	4.3	0.5	$	WPA assistance for inter-municipal issues
	Flood prevention	B-	V, X & C Watershed model X FEMA @ members	4-1	1	% of $30k	New standards will be enforced. Work with LWP to encourage ditch inspection/ maintenance; will work with locals on major repairs. Lower Lambert Creek flood reduction study; Hwy 61 study
Wetlands							
	Administer WCA	B+	V, P 25% staff time	4.4	40	$	Watershed is increasingly developed; high priority areas have been identified and have stricter standards. New state standards will be enforced
	Priority elements of the Wetland Management Plan adopted in Water Plan	B-	V – buffer & hydro period standards incorporated – Plan to be adopted in 2007	4.4	2	$1716	Bounce and buffer standards have been incorporated. SPRWS protected waters increases the standard level
Projects							
	Lambert Lake restoration	A-	Almost complete V, P & C	4.1; 4.2, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7; 4.9, 4.10	15	$12,869	Essentially complete. Possible future action: spring planting/weed control along new ditch and wingdam sheet pile on SW corner of pond to reduce short circuiting to overflow channel
	Lower Lambert	B+	V, P & C – implement in 2007	Ditto			The streambank stabilization of high priority areas of Lower Lambert may spark neighbor interest. The Board may want to

							increase cost-share funding in the future
	Ditch management (Co 14 &13 & branches)	B	V, P 3 stabilization projects; 3 flume replacements; Whitaker design	Ditto	0	0	Maintenance budget established; Whittaker pond maintenance scheduled in 2008
Citizen's Advisory Committee	**This area needs work**		**The storm sewer utility and cost share program may net an activated citizenry**				Hurdle: need time & funding to set up & coordinate program; The new VLAWMO Storm water utility billing has introduced the watershed to its residents. Recruitment is on-going
	Mission	D	Individuals have helped	4.6	1		Early meetings will focus mission /action
	Meetings	D	VLAWMO has met with citizen groups; they have come to Board / Comm. mtgs.	4.6	0	0	Meeting planned for January 2008
Public Education							
	Website – info & update	B-	H has been updated but still needs structural overhaul	4.6	0.5	$3000	New website format planned for 2008
	Annual newsletter or article	C	Several articles in local papers on restructuring & specific programs brochure update	4.6	0.5		Annual article for municipal newsletters; Town Life article; topic specific press releases
	Public education forum	B+	V, P, & C Started Water Matters – cable program;2 – 3 per year	4.6	3		Produced first annual "Partnership" education conference
	Coordination with schools / groups	D+	V with C assistance	4.6	0	0	Hurdle: need time & funding to set up & coordinate program; Increased budget in 2008; Preliminary contact w/Ag Charter school on project

Planning & agency coordination				Page ref	%		
	Update Water Plan & JPA	B / A	V, C, P WMP / JPA complete (V, X on JPA)	6.0	15	$75000	Hope to complete Water Plan approval in 2007
	Local plan review	B-	V & C Comment time allocated in 2008	6.2	0.5		Hurdle: need time & funding to set up & coordinate program; Time allocated and consulting assistance in 2008
	Watershed boundary clarification	C	V, P, C; Orphan and contested areas along boundary	2.0; 4.7.2; 5.4; & JPA Appendix			Hurdle: the areas were not specified by parcel or hydrology V has identified all areas through the utility model. Next step: consensus with neighbor watersheds & BWSR change process
Reporting							
	Goals review & annual report	B+	V Report card and annual report	4.9, 6.1;	1		Will be reviewed by Tech Commission in Jan and at first Board meeting. Report to: communities, website, BWSR & State Auditor
	Year end financial report / audit	A	V & C done	4.6	3	$3900	Done annually

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of the review of the Watershed Management Plan for the **Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization** pursuant to Minnesota Statues Section 103B.231, Subdivision 9

ORDER APPROVING WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, the Board of Directors of the Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization (VLAWMO) submitted a Watershed Management Plan (Plan) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.231, Subd. 9, 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. **VLAWMO Establishment.** In 1983, the Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization (VLAWMO) was established via Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). Authority for management of County Ditch 14 was delegated to VLAWMO in 1986 by Ramsey County. BWSR approved their first generation plan in 1987 and its second generation plan in 1995 under the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act.

2. **Requirement to Plan.** The Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act requires the preparation of a watershed management plan for the subject watershed area which meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251. This Plan dictates an update by December 31, 2016.

3. **Nature of the Watershed.** The VLAWMO spans approximately 23.5 square miles in central and northern Ramsey County, including a few square miles stretching into Anoka County. Approximately 11 percent of the WMO remains undeveloped.

   Local government units within VLAWMO include Gem Lake, North Oaks, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake, and White Bear Township in Ramsey County. In Anoka County, the governmental unit includes a portion of Lino Lakes. Diversion pipes bring water from the Mississippi River to a series of connected lakes within VLAWMO prior to being conveyed to the St. Paul water filtration plant – Charley Lake, Pleasant Lake,

Sucker Lake, and the final impoundment East Vadnais Lake. BWCSP services drinking water needs for over 400,000 people in St. Paul and 13 surrounding communities by withdrawing water from East Vadnais Lake. The diversions average 70% of the BWCSP water supply. The BWCSP manages water levels and flow from Charley, Deep, and Wilkinson Lakes, which are feeder lakes to the three impoundments. They also handle a system of water quality monitoring stations within VLAWMO. Under normal hydrologic conditions, no water discharges from this watershed. However, recently an outlet has been installed on West Vadnais Lake, a previously self-contained basin with a very small subwatershed area. Two Ramsey Regional Parks exist within VLAWMO, the Grass-Vadnais Regional Park and Tamarack Nature Preserve. There are 13 lakes and several miles of interconnecting streams/ditches in the watershed. For management purposes, VLAWMO has divided the watershed into 6 subwatershed units.

VLAWMO is bound by the Rice Creek WD to the north, west, and east, on the southwest by Grass Lake WMO, and on the southeast by Ramsey Washington Metro WD.

4. **Plan Development and Review.** Several BWSR and other state agency staff were involved early on in the plan update process. As the previous JPA approached its expiration in December 2004, VLAWMO commenced an intense debate on future governance options. The member communities agreed to two one-year deadline extensions to the JPA as discussions ensued. In March 2005 the VLAWMO Board sent letters to the member communities recommending termination of the JPA and to consider watershed district options. The member communities rejected the recommendation in October 2005, alternatively opting to pursue a JPA revision. Member communities ratified the revised JPA by the deadline of December 31, 2006. However upon review, Board staff, with concurrence from the State Office of Attorney General, informed VLAWMO that the voting structure in the JPA was not compliant with state statute. The JPA was amended and adopted in September 2007. The Board of Water Commissioners of the City of St. Paul (BWCSP -- also known as the St. Paul Regional Water Service), a stakeholder in the watershed and a signatory on the previous JPA, has elected not to be party to the revised JPA.

The previous plan expired on December 31, 2005. Reasons for the delayed Plan submittal are: the governance debate, JPA amendment process to comply with statute, pursuit of stormwater utility fees as primary funding source resulting in a JPA amendment, and numerous state and local agencies' comments resulting in significant changes to the draft Plan. The draft 3rd generation Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Plan) was submitted to BWSR, other state agencies, and local governments for the required 60-day review on June 26, 2006. VLAWMO received a considerable number of 60-day review comments from BWSR, DNR, Met Council, MNDOT, MPCA, Ramsey County, Ramsey Conservation District, the City of Vadnais Heights, and the Board of Water Commissioners of St. Paul. VLAWMO held the required public hearing on October 20, 2006, and no comments were received. In response to the comprehensive nature and number of comments, a meeting was held on November 2, 2006, between BWSR, MPCA, and VLAWMO staff to provide additional guidance and review. On January 9, 2007, all review agencies had received the revised draft Plan for the required 45-day review period. The Commissioners received comment

letters from the BWSR, DNR, Met Council, MDH, MPCA, and Ramsey Conservation District. On May 9, 2007, in an attempt to derive consensus from the 45-day comments, BWSR facilitated a meeting between MPCA and VLAWMO staff to clarify components of the wetland management strategies and several other aspects of the Plan. The final draft Plan was submitted to BWSR on November 9, 2007.

5. **Local Review.** The VLAWMO circulated a copy of the draft Plan to local units of government for their review pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, Subd. 7.

Ramsey County provided the following comments and suggestions: a recommended 0.5-inch infiltration standard as opposed to a 1.0-inch standard, completion of headwater lakes modeling efforts in 2007 rather than years later, inclusion of various missing water quality/stormwater/land use inventories, inadequate description of the scope of problems with Lower Lambert Creek Flood Reduction Study, inclusion of additional partners and in-kind funding for a couple of joint capital and maintenance projects, and an accelerated schedule for completion of lake aquatic plant surveys with repeat surveys every 3 years. Additionally the county recommends reconsideration of the basic CIP funding formula. VLAWMO chose to complete lake aquatic plant surveys at the time the Sustainable Lake Management Plans are completed. VLAWMO elected to keep the proposed CIP funding formula after consideration. The remainder of the recommendations were either incorporated in the Plan or were made as a requirement in the local water plans.

Ramsey Conservation District (RCD), in the 60-day comment period, recommended that since VLAWMO has existed for 23 years, that they provide substantially more funding for the following items in order for the Plan to be successful: 1) an accelerated schedule for Sustainable Lake Management Plan development, 2) a more robust capital improvement project list, 3) ditch maintenance, 4) abandoned well sealing program to proactively prevent further groundwater contamination. VLAWMO responded by noting that the operations budget has increased 265% since 2005, the creation of a Facilities Operation fund provides maintenance dollars, alternative funding mechanisms are being pursued, and that all recommended BWCSP projects are incorporated into the Plan. RCD believes that VLAWMO must look beyond the requirements of MR 8410 to develop an implementation and enforcement program to protect the important potable water source (East Vadnais Lake) for St. Paul area residents. VLAWMO insisted that this issue is a high priority citing numerous standards/goals/policies in support, including a strategy for enforcement of local water plans. The enforcement of local water plans includes the development of Memorandums of Understanding with member communities to outline expectations/roles/responsibilities, project and permit spot checks, and the hiring of additional staff. RCD recommended that as WCA LGU, VLAWMO should adopt a wetland rule eliminating all exemptions in order to meet no-net loss and require mitigation within the watershed only. VLAWMO will consider this request in the future. RCD suggested a 0.5-inch infiltration standard along with sponsoring an inventory and funding of retrofit stormwater BMPs. VLAWMO has instituted the infiltration standard. RCD suggested requiring municipal wellhead protection plans be completed within five years. VLAWMO believes that the existing program adequately addresses the concern. The RCD recommended a Plan amendment by year 2011 to specify action items and

budget for each waterbody. VLAWMO stated that amendments would be made when appropriate.

RCD's 45-day comments reiterated the need for better oversight and regulatory capabilities by VLAWMO for construction site erosion control, for abandoned well sealing funds, and for more guaranteed funding and identification of BMPs aside from relying on grants. VLAWMO acknowledged the oversight and well sealing comments, but felt existing programs were adequately addressing the concerns. VLAWMO revised the Table 6-1 to identify the funding responsibility of the member communities should other funding sources fail. RCD mentioned that the results of a feasibility study identified over $89,000 in needed capital projects that are not proposed in the Plan. VLAWMO noted that all high priority elements of the study have been addressed by grant funds in the 2007 CIP. Other identified projects in the study will require funding partnerships as shown in Table 6-1. RCD believes VLAWMO should consider a new governance structure particularly if the current structure is not successful.

Anoka County recommended surficial groundwater and confined aquifer information and maps be added to the Plan, which VLAWMO incorporated.

Board of Water Commissioners of St. Paul provided a list of recommended structural and maintenance projects that they wished to partner with VLAWMO, all of which were incorporated in the Plan.

City of Vadnais Heights expressed concern for the perceived lack of concern by VLAWMO for landowners who experienced flooding. VLAWMO stated that they did not downplay flooding concerns, but it ranked as a lower priority than other watershed issues. The city requested clarification on other flooding concerns that were built in to the Plan. The City believes that the Plan lacks detail on compliance with the non-degradation water quality standard and is concerned whether the city is equipped to accomplish such tasks. VLAWMO stated that these standards and other details will be developed as part of the watershed modeling efforts. The member communities will be required to address non-degradation in the local water plans. The city questioned the use of the Wisconsin Routine Assessment Method (WRAM) for assessing wetland functions. VLAWMO clarified that functional assessments utilizing WRAM were conducted in the late 1990s. As new or re-development projects are proposed, the current MNRAM will be required. Vadnais Heights asked for clarification on whether stormwater ponds would require buffers - VLAWMO responded that documented stormwater ponds have modified requirements. VLAWMO also stated that trails proposed in buffers will be considered on a case by case basis. VLAWMO adequately addressed the city's question related to the proposed stormwater credit system.

6. **Metropolitan Council Review.** Met Council offered a substantial number of comments for the 60-day comment period. Since VLAWMO sees local water plans as the primary mechanisms for implementing watershed policies and strategies, Council expects VLAWMO and the member communities to have a very close partnership. Additionally the watershed needs to commit to adequate funding to achieve successful Plan implementation, whether or not the legislature grants the WMO special levy authority.

VLAWMO believes that the funding concern has been addressed in the amended JPA. Met Council listed a number of items that should be listed in this Plan, which are Council local water plan requirements, including storm sewer drainage system inventories, mechanisms to control construction site erosion and sedimentation control, peak flow rates, areas where water quality and quantity improvements can be made, land use map clarifications, and other detailed subwatershed hydrologic information. VLAWMO incorporated many of the items noting that every effort will be made to review local water plans in accordance with both VLAWMO and state requirements. Met Council recommended that MNRAM functional assessments be completed for all wetlands in developing and sensitive areas. VLAWMO will require the current version of MNRAM be applied to all new developments and redevelopments with the TEP's and US Army Corps of Engineers' approval of the wetland management matrix. VLAWMO will complete their wetland inventory when adequate resources become available. Met Council expressed concern about how VLAWMO will assess compliance with the Plan's stormwater standards and the consequences if member communities fail to implement them. VLAWMO incorporated an oversight mechanism in Section 5 and will require MOUs with each member community to outline roles and responsibilities. Additionally VLAWMO will take on permitting if the member community does not make timely corrections. Regarding VLAWMO's proposed infiltration standard, Met Council recommended analyzing the condition of its water resources to determine that standard, but advised consistency with neighboring watershed districts. VLAWMO decided on a 0.5-inch infiltration standard for A and B soils. Met Council recommended prompt completion of the Sustainable Lake Management Plans to establish refined numerical standards for priority lakes and to determine specific measures and projects needed to achieve water quality improvements. In response, VLAWMO will begin these lake management plans in 2007 with the completion of two per year. VLAWMO in response to a Met Council comment has begun sending water samples to a certified lab. VLAWMO will be considered their TMDL role for aquatic consumption impairments on three lakes in the future.

For the 45-day review, the Council still expressed concern in regards to VLAWMO's general philosophy of the local water plans being the primary mechanism for plan implementation. VLAWMO believes that the incorporated language in Section 6 will address the non-implementing situations. Met Council reiterated their 60-day review concern regarding the need to address the fact that much of the development occurred prior to the required use of BMPs. VLAWMO has included project requirements for low impact development practices to be installed. Met Council also remained concerned that VLAWMO had not committed to an adequate funding source in the event that the legislature does award them levy authority. VLAWMO added a separate table indicating the member communities' financial obligations should alternative funding mechanisms not be approved.

7. **Department of Agriculture Review.** MDA did not provide comments on the VLAWMO Plan.

8. **Department of Health Review.** MDH provided only 45-day comments on the VLAWMO draft Plan encouraging complete support of the Board of Water Commissioners of St. Paul's efforts with source water protection. MDH recommended

identifying commonalities and partner with the public water suppliers in wellhead protection plans. VLAWMO stated that these are basic policies of the proposed watershed Plan.

9. **Department of Natural Resources Review.** The DNR provided numerous comments for the 60-day review period. Within the Resource Inventory section of the Plan, DNR requested several missing strategies such as addressing the shortage of recreational opportunities, expanding the watershed's lake level monitoring program, and protecting/restoring shoreline habitat of shallow lakes, and a discussion on whether the listed numerical lake standards can be achieved. VLAWMO responded that these items will be addressed during development of the Sustainable Lake Management Plans. DNR recommended that the wetland inventory be completed, which according to VLAWMO will be updated as development and re-development occurs on a site by site basis. DNR recommended the Plan reference, clarify, or provide information on the updated flood study, curly leaf pondweed, fishing access to public waters, potential 303d listings, those municipalities that are required to have a DNR-approved floodplain and shoreland ordinances, the scope of DNR's responsibilities in shoreland and floodplain management, and creating more measurable outcomes particularly in Table 6-3. VLAWMO incorporated these recommendations, although Table 6-3 is merely added as an implementation plan summary. DNR recommended that a greater value be placed on retrofitting stormwater BMPs despite their cost because of their potential for water quality and flood reduction improvements. DNR suggested it is appropriate to discuss the option and effects of merging with another watershed district. VLAWMO replied that it was no longer an option since the new JPA was effective through 2011. DNR requested development of a more effective public awareness program for water resources and exotic species infesting lakes compared to historic efforts. DNR suggested eliminating black bullheads in Goose Lake as a water quality improvement project, which VLAWMO included as a CIP. DNR recommends an enforcement mechanism be developed to ensure integrity of required wetland buffers – VLAWMO duly noted that comment. DNR mentioned the importance of sufficient and consistent support if volunteers will be utilized for accomplishing Plan goals.

For the 45-day comments, DNR would have preferred better responses to some of the 60-day comments other than stating, "Duly noted", especially regarding increasing recreational access. VLAWMO reviewed and evaluated all comments but was not able to incorporate all recommendations. VLAWMO will encourage municipalities to cooperate with DNR on fishing piers and other public access activities. DNR reiterated the importance of applying a land cover classification to the watershed, which VLAWMO will incorporate as a local water plan requirement.

10. **Pollution Control Agency Review.** MPCA offered numerous 60-day comments primarily related to VLAWMO's wetland management plan and MR 7050, the vast majority of which were minor clarifications, additions, or wording/grammatical corrections. Examples of more substantial comments reference: sequencing and mitigation requirements, VLAWMO's functional assessments using Wisconsin Routine Assessment Method, proposed wetland management classification system, runoff discharge volume into wetlands, and wetland susceptibility to stormwater inputs. VLAWMO will require the latest version of MNRAM be applied to all wetlands under

new development projects and to wetlands that were missed under the previous wetland inventory. VLAWMO concurs with the comment that the Storm Water Advisory Group susceptibility classification identifies hydrology standards based on wetland type, while the Plan applies the hydrology standards based on wetland quality. However, VLAWMO believes that the application of these hydrology standards based on wetland management classification still results in an appropriate level of protection that is fairly consistent with the Storm Water Advisory Group guidelines. The VLAWMO believes that the lower protection category for highly degraded sites is necessary in order to provide overall water quality improvements in the watershed. MPCA informed the watershed that water quality lab data from a non-certified lab can be submitted to STORET. MPCA recommended that stormwater maintenance activities and responsibilities be outlined, to which VLAWMO describes in the Implementation Section of the Plan.

MPCA's 45-day comments requested clarification on the application of MNRAM, reiterated the stormwater discharge to wetlands concern from the 60-day comments, required VLAWMO to pre-treat the lowest classification of wetlands according to Rule, and requested explanation of the comparison between the NWI map and the VLAWMO wetland inventory. MPCA reiterated their 60-day comment that VLAWMO's classification matrix is not compliant with state water quality standards. MPCA's wetland concerns were largely addressed at the May 9th, 2007 special meeting between state agencies and VLAWMO staff. VLAWMO provided clarification in the Plan that stormwater runoff discharge must be pre-treated even for the lowest ranked wetlands. MPCA expressed concern that the Plan places too much responsibility for regulation at the local level without including provisions for ensuring local water plan compliance. VLAWMO addressed this concern by defining roles in the Implementation Section and stating that VLAWMO will take on permitting if the member community does not make timely corrections. MPCA informed the watershed that 7050 regulates excavation of wetlands below their historic bottom for increasing stormwater capacity – VLAWMO incorporated this information into the Plan. Delineation of a special drinking water protection district for East Vadnais Lake was strongly recommended by MPCA. As an alternative to creation of such district, VLAWMO's strategy includes a high priority wetland ranking for wetlands in the East Vadnais Lake subwatersheds and within wellhead protection areas as they are delineated.

11. **Department of Transportation Review.** DOT requested numerous clarifications and additions on VLAWMO's definition of non-degradation, wetland buffer requirements, wetland management strategies and WCA policies, conservation easement requirements for road projects, TMDL intentions, stormwater volume control, and wetland function and value assessments and wetland management. VLAWMO defines "non-degradation" as "no significant increase in stormwater runoff or pollutant loads from 2005 levels". MNDOT stated that it will be difficult to implement BMPs on road maintenance projects due to limited scope and funding. It was clarified that MNDOT is WCA LGU on their own projects. VLAWMO will not require MNDOT to install conservation easements and wetland buffers and the associated signage in the roadway clear zones, however, they will be required to consider them as part of the overall project. VLAWMO will consider exempting stormwater BMP requirements for road projects on a case by case basis. MNDOT pointed out that it may be difficult to protect groundwater supplies and achieve

the runoff volume requirements in the Gem Lake subwatershed. VLAWMO is aware of the potential challenges in these areas. MNDOT cautioned the watershed in its 0.5-inch infiltration requirement regarding potential groundwater contamination. VLAWMO is sensitive to the threats, but will be proceeding with the volume control requirement. The District will address most of these comments during rule writing, of which MNDOT will be invited as a member of the Rule Technical Advisory Committee. MNDOT requested they be included in the review of future Plan amendments.

12. **Board Review.** For the 60-day review, Board staff provided a substantial amount of comments. Board comments recommended completion and inclusion of a self assessment and a description of citizen involvement in the Plan development process. VLAWMO eventually added a report card to the Plan after the 45-day review and added a narrative describing citizen involvement. The Board noted that we would not approve their Plan until the revised Joint Powers Agreement is compliant and shows proper funding mechanisms are evident to carry out the Plan. Board staff noted during both review periods that the Plan must explicitly state that the WMO will assume responsibilities of implementing the Plan should a member community fail to adopt a local water plan within the specified timeframe or fail to implement the Plan's requirements. The Plan was changed accordingly. The Board emphasized the need to offer stormwater quality/quantity standards, maintenance requirements, landlocked basin policies, redevelopment standards, and other standards for municipalities to clearly update their local water plans. VLAWMO incorporated these additional standards into the Plan, noting in the 45-day review response that local water plans will be required to include an inspection and maintenance plan for all municipal stormwater infrastructure. The Board suggested bolstering the erosion control compliance in the watershed if a problem by considering partnership with the SWCD and by requiring a cash surety. VLAWMO considered those options but chose instead to add an action item under the water quality protection policy addressing construction site erosion control. Board comments related to the wetland management plan included: using the Wisconsin RAM functional assessment results for planning purposes only – not for wetland management decisions, height of wetland bounce in response to storm events, and buffer vegetation standards. VLAWMO changed the Plan as noted. The Board requested that VLAWMO outline their role in the development of TMDLs. VLAWMO plans to do the following for TMDLs: provide in-kind staff resources, complete data analysis by a certified lab, submit data to STORET and commit to participating in the public process. The Board asked for clarification on the origin of the match money for completing the Sustainable Lake Management Plans, to which VLAWMO stated member communities and lake associations will be expected to provide it. The Board strongly advised VLAWMO to list the definitive funding sources, as opposed to potential sources, to be utilized for management programs and CIP expenditures. VLAWMO explained that the operations budget will be funded by member contributions while the CIP budget will be funded by 103B.251, unless the watershed is granted special levy authority or the member communities agree on stormwater utility fees – which would then become the primary funding source(s). In order to show the financial impact of the implementation plan for member communities, the Board, in both comment periods, advised that a supplemental table be provided identifying each member's annual contribution. VLAWMO incorporated this information into the Plan. Since the draft Plan only identified one CIP, the Board recommended a more robust assessment of the need for CIPs and offered

several specific projects to consider incorporating. A few of the suggested projects were added with a meager increase in the CIP budget, including a 3% increase to account for inflation and added maintenance responsibilities. VLAWMO was also requested to specify the application timelines for WCA, 103E petitions, and cost-share applications for the member communities.

The Board's 45-day review called for more specificity for the redevelopment standard, which VLAWMO detailed. The Board was still concerned about local water plan accountability and the importance of strict oversight of local water plan compliance. VLAWMO incorporated the Board's suggestions of: explicitly stating that the WMO will take on permitting and other implementation activities if there is a failure to implement, setting a deadline for submittal of local water plans, spot checking municipal-sponsored projects, e.g. road upgrades, to ensure standards are being met. The Board again called for a more thorough assessment of the adequacy of the proposed capital improvement program to correct water management problems that cannot be corrected by non-structural strategies. The Board questioned the validity and realistic nature of the $15,000 annual CIP budget amount. VLAWMO revised the Plan to include another modest increase in the budget to reflect additional CIPs. BWSR suggested that the member communities be forewarned that the CIP budget should substantially increase as a result of the various studies, modeling, and lake management planning efforts.

13. **Plan Summary and Highlights.** The District included a self-assessment/report card as Appendix A in the Plan. VLAWMO intends to incorporate elements of the report card in future annual reports.

Highlights of the Plan include:

- A wetland management plan dictating duration of inundation and wetland bounce for storm events, and buffer requirements for new development and redevelopment projects.
- Development of Sustainable Lake Management Plans that identify water quality data gaps, nutrient inputs, shoreline conditions, aquatic/exotic plant coverage and identification, and individual implementation plans collaborating with local residents and municipalities.
- Requirement for local water plans to include a program to manage small (less than 1 acre) construction site erosion in shoreland areas.
- Runoff volume standard requiring 0.5-inch of runoff from new impervious areas on A and B soils. For C and D soils, low impact development and other volume reducing BMPs are required. Stormwater credits have been established to help achieve the volume reduction requirement via practices such as rooftop disconnection, buffers, grass channels, soil amendment, permeable paver/pavement, and natural area conservation.
- Instituted the use of stormwater utility fees as one of their primary funding mechanisms for their operations and capital expenditures.

14. **Metro Water Planning Committee Meeting.** On November 28, 2007, the Board's Metro Water Planning Committee and staff met with representatives from the VLAWMO in St. Paul to review and discuss the Plan update. Those in attendance from

the Board's Committee were Jim Anderson, Robert Burandt, Paul Eger, Louise Smallidge, and LuAnn Tolliver. Board staff in attendance were Assistant Director Steve Woods and Board Conservationists Brad Wozney and Lynda Peterson. The representatives from VLAWMO were Administrator Stephanie McNamara, Consultant Della Young, and Technical Commission members Neil Franey, Paul Peterson, and John Youngstrom. Board staff recommended approval of the Plan. One item raised by the Committee was the easement restriction language in the Plan for wetland buffers. After discussion, the committee voted to recommend approval of the Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization's Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan 2007-2016 to the full Board.

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 Watershed Management Plan for the Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.231, Subd. 9.

3. The Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization Watershed Management Plan attached to this Order defines water and water-related problems within the VLAWMO boundaries, possible solutions thereto, and an implementation program.

4. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached Plan dated November 2007 as the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for the Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 19th day of December 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Northern Water Planning Committee

1. Lake of the Woods County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – *DECISION ITEM*

2. Lake of the Woods County Request for Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) Extension – *DECISION ITEM*

3. Mahnomen County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – *DECISION ITEM*

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

December 19, 2007

Mahnomen County Commissioners
c/o Aaron Nuebert, Mahnomen SWCD
123 Monroe Ave.
P.O. Box 381
Mahnomen, MN 56557

SUBJECT: **Official Comments pertaining to the State Review of the Mahnomen County Priority Concerns Scoping Document.**

Dear Mahnomen County Commissioners:

Pursuant to M.S. section 103B.313, subdivision 5, this letter communicates the State's official comments pertaining to the priority concerns Mahnomen County has chosen to address in the update of their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. The Board of Water and Soil Resources, (BWSR) along with the state review agencies, received the Mahnomen County Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PSCD) for review on March 27, 2007.

Priority concerns identified in the PCSD (no priority order):

- Groundwater Quality
- Surface Water Quality & Impaired Water/TMDLs
- Erosion & Sediment Control

Final review of the priority concerns generated the following comments from the state review agencies:

DNR: **Strongly recommends a revision but does not require the revision.** The DNR asks the County NOT to ignore the flooding and natural resource concerns for the Wild Rice River such as fish passage, stream connectivity and that ag BMP's be coordinated with Becker, Clay, and Norman Counties and the Wild Rice River Watershed District.

MPCA: **Concurs with PCSD** and offers comment that the county fully participates in the TMDL process.

MDA: **Concurs with the PCSD** and offers comment that it is imperative that the county work to protect its water resources from human impacts.

BWSR: **Concurs with PCSD** and offers comment that the county refers to the water quality plan for the Wild Rice/Marsh Rivers in the Wild Rice Watershed Plan.

Bemidji
701 Minnesota Avenue
Suite 234
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Trail
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
2300 Silver Creek
Road N.E.
Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 281-7797
fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N.
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

The Northern Water Planning Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) met on November 14, 2007 to discuss with representatives of Mahnomen County, the content of the PCSD, state review agency comments, and recommendations for the content of the final plan.

The Committee commends the County for the process they used to select the concerns, and supports the priority concerns Mahnomen County has identified: groundwater quality, surface water quality and impaired waters/TMDLs, and erosion and sediment control. The priority concerns to be addressed in the plan are deemed to be appropriate, the Committee does not recommend or require any changes to the PCSD as drafted.

The Committee does request that in the Local Water Management Plan the County be as specific as possible to the nature, extent, and severity of the identified concerns and develop an implementation plan that is specific to the goals and actions the County plans to take to address the priority concerns.

Sincerely,

Randy Kramer
Chair, Board of Water and Soil Resources

cc: Ron Shelito, BWSR
Brian Dwight, BWSR
Becky Balk, MDA
John Wells, EQB
Art Persons, MDH
Mike Carroll, DNR
David L. Johnson, MPCA

Bemidji
1 Minnesota Avenue
Suite 234
emidji, MN 56601
one (218) 755-4235
ax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Trail
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
2300 Silver Creek
Road N.E.
Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 281-7797
fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

DATE: November 5, 2007

TO: BWSR Northern Subcommittee

FROM: Chad Severts, Board Conservationist

SUBJECT: Review of Lake of the Woods Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD)

The original local water management plan was adopted in 1992. The first and second revisions took place in 1997 and 2002 respectively. This will be the fourth generation of the Lake of the Woods Local Water Management Plan (LWMP).

The Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is responsible for the administration of the LWMP for Lake of the Woods County.

The update process began on November 28, 2006, when Lake of the Woods County passed a resolution to update the county's LWMP. The current plan update effective date is set to expire December 31, 2007.

The process followed by Lake of the Woods County in the development of their PCSD provided ample opportunity for local, state, and federal agencies and governments to submit priority concern input regarding water related management issues and concerns. Lake of the Woods County sent out for preliminary review the priority concern statements and supporting documentation developed by the county Water Plan Task Force Committee (WPTFC) on May 24, 2007.

Lake of the Woods County's priority concern statements were:

1. Erosion, sedimentation, flood damage reduction
2. Land use management
3. Individual sewage treatment systems (ISTS)
4. Water quality
5. Education

The following was used to develop the PCSD:

- March 18, 2007 a written notice was distributed through the SWCD newsletter. A news article informing the public of the water plan revision and of the survey was published in the local papers the same week. Surveys were also available at the SWCD and County Land and Water Planning Office. The top six concerns were as follows: 1) Erosion; 2) Development pressure/impacts; 3) Failing Septic

Systems; 4) Declining water quality; 5) Invasive species; 6) Stormwater/Drainage management.

- The following priority concerns were submitted by the state agencies mentioned in statute:
  - DNR: Deferred input to local DNR Staff Mike Larson, who sits on the WPTFC.
  - MDH: 1) Source Water Protection for resorts on Lake of the Woods; 2) Protect groundwater-based drinking water sources within Lake of the Woods County; 3) Sealing of unused, unsealed wells.
  - MPCA: 1) Impaired Waters/Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL); 2) Shoreline and island erosion on Lake of the Woods; 3) Nutrient over-enrichment of Lake of the Woods; 4) Destabilization and geomorphologic alterations to tributaries of Lake of the Woods; 5) Inclusion of a prioritized project list in the plan.
- The WPTFC met once in 2006 (December 16) and four times in 2007 (January 10 & 24, February 14 and April 26) discussing the update process and the selection of priority concerns.
- The Lake of the Woods SWCD discussed the LWMP update at three regularly scheduled publicly noticed board meetings: December 14, 2006, February 8, 2007 and March 6, 2007.
- The WPTFC referenced the 2003 Lake of the Woods Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan and the 2004 Rainy River Basin Plan in the selection of priority concerns.

On May 1, 2007 the PCSD was sent to the required state agencies for review and asked comments to be sent to Ron Shelito by May 30, 2007.

The responses as of May 30, 2007 were:

- May 23, 2007, MPCA concurs with the priority concerns identified, but would like to see more detail into goals, objectives, and strategies with brief project descriptions in the final plan, while maintaining the flexibility necessary for a ten year plan.
- May 24, 2007, DNR concurs with the priority concerns and will continue to work with the board to prioritize an action plan and help identify sources of funding opportunities.

Based on my review of the Lake of the Woods County PCSD, I've concluded that the document does meet the requirements of the guidance material provided by the BWSR and that of 103B.312 and 103B.313 subp.1-4.

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

December 19, 2007

Lake of the Woods County Commissioners
C/O Mike Hirst, Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District
PO Box 217
Baudette, MN 56623

RE: Official Comments Pertaining to the State Review of the Lake of the Woods County Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Dear Lake of the Woods County Commissioners:

Pursuant to M.S. section 103B.313, subdivision 5, this letter communicates the State's official comments pertaining to the priority concerns Lake of the Woods County has chosen to address in the update of their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. The Board of Water and Soil Resources, along with the state review agencies, were sent the Lake of the Woods County Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) on May 1, 2007, and asked comments be sent by May 30, 2007, to Ron Shelito, BWSR Regional Supervisor.

A number of water resource concerns were submitted to the Lake of the Woods Water Plan Task Force Committee (WPTFC). The WPTFC chose the following priority concerns that will be addressed in the Water Plan Revision.

1. Erosion, sedimentation, flood damage reduction
2. Land use management
3. Individual sewage treatment systems (ISTS)
4. Water quality
5. Education

The following state review agencies provided comments pertaining to the priority concerns selection:

- MPCA concurs with the priority concerns identified, but would like to see more detail into goals, objectives, and strategies with brief project descriptions in the final plan, while maintaining the flexibility necessary for a ten year plan.

Bemidji
217 Bemidji Avenue N.
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
217 S. 7th Street
Suite 202
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6056

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Drive
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
2500 Silver Creek
Road N.E.
Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 280-2874
fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N.
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

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- DNR concurs with the priority concerns and will continue to work with the board to prioritize an action plan and help identify sources of funding opportunities.

On November 14, 2007, the Northern Regional Local Water Resources Subcommittee (hereinafter referred to as the committee) met with the Lake of the Woods SWCD representative to discuss local water management activities within Lake of the Woods County, the process used to gather public input, the content of the PCSD, the state review agency comments and recommendations for the content of the final plan.

Based on the subcommittee's recommendations, the Board of Water and Soil Resources commends Lake of the Woods County for the process used to select the concerns. The priority concerns to be addressed in the plan were deemed to be appropriate, and do not require any changes to the PCSD as submitted.

Sincerely,

Randy Kramer,
Chair, Board of Water and Soil Resources

cc: Chad Severts, BWSR
Ron Shelito, BWSR
Mike Carroll, DNR
David Johnson, MPCA
John Wells, EQB
Becky Balk, MDA
Art Persons, MDH

Bemidji
Bemidji Avenue N.
midji, MN 56601
e (218) 755-4235
(218) 755-4201

Brainerd
217 S. 7th Street
Suite 202
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2583
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Drive
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
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fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
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Rochester, MN 55906
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fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N.
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

Web: www.bwsr.state.mn.us TTY: (800) 627-3529 An equal opportunity employer Printed on recycled paper

DATE: November 5, 2007

TO: BWSR Northern Subcommittee

FROM: Chad Severts, Board Conservationist

SUBJECT: Extension Request for Lake of the Woods County CLWP

Lake of the Woods County has a Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) that was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) at a 2002 board meeting. The CLWP update was approved with an effective end date of December 31, 2007. On September 14, 2007, the BWSR received a request from the Lake of the Woods County Board of Commissioners requesting an extension of the end date to December 31, 2009. The County Board passed a resolution requesting the extension on September 9, 2007.

The amendments to the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, MS 103B.301, gave the authority to BWSR to grant extensions to counties for the purpose of extending the effective date of their water plans. These extensions must be requested in writing and cannot be for more than two years.

In December of 1999, the BWSR approved expectations for local water planning updates. Included in this document was a provision for coordinating local water planning with other planning efforts being conducted by other water management agencies and governments.

The extension will allow Lake of the Woods County to spend adequate time on each phase of the plan update. The extension will also allow the plan to be developed to take better advantage of the Clean Water Legacy funding opportunities in the future.

BWSR guidelines will be used and staff assistance will continue to be made available to the CLWP staff as they proceed with the completion of the plan update. Board Conservationist Chad Severts recommends approval of the Lake of the Woods County Local Water Plan extension request to December 31, 2009.

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Moorman and moved for adoption:

RESOLUTION No 2007-09-01
REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF THE LAKE OF THE WOODS COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, 1995 amendments to the Comprehensive Local Water Planning Act, M.S. 103B.301 gave the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) authority to extend the ending date of local water plans for a period of not to exceed 2 years, and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, authorizes Minnesota Counties to develop and implement a local water management plan, and

WHEREAS, the Act requires that a county update and revise their local water management plan on a periodic basis, and

WHEREAS, the Act encourages that a county coordinate its planning with contiguous counties, and solicit input from local governmental units and state review agencies, and

WHEREAS, the Act requires that plans an official control of other local governmental units be consistent with the local water management plan, and

WHEREAS, Lake of the Woods County currently has an approved Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (the Plan) which is due to expire on December 31, 2007, and

WHEREAS, the Lake of the Woods County Board of Commissioners would like to request an extension of time to update the Plan, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Lake of the Woods Board of Commissioners request an extension, in accordance with the BWSR Local Water Management Plan Update Guidance for a period of two years. This extension would allow adequate time to be spent on each of the phases of the update process.

Seconded by Commissioner Patty Beckel and the same being put to a vote was unanimously carried.

I certify that this is a true and complete copy of the original thereof, which is on file and of record in the Office of the County Auditor, Lake of the Woods County, Minnesota.

DATED at Baudette, Minnesota this 11th day of September 2007.

John W. Hoscheid

John W. Hoscheid, County Auditor

(SEAL)

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Extending the Local Water Management Plan Update for Lake of the Woods County (Minnesota Statutes , Section 103B.311, Subdivision 4, authorizing BWSR to grant extensions.)	ORDER EXTENDING LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, Lake of the Woods County has a state approved Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) that is effective until December 31, 2007, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.301, and

Whereas, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Session Law 1995, Chapter 184, Section 24.

Now therefore, the Board of Water and Soil Resources hereby makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On September 11, 2007, Lake of the Woods County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution requesting an extension of their Comprehensive Local Water Plan to December 30, 2009.

2. On November 14, 2007, Board of Water and Soil Resources Northern Water Planning Committee reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Lake of the Woods County.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law and rule have been fulfilled. The Board of Water and Soil Resources has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Plan of Lake of the Woods County pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.311, Subd. 4.

ORDER

The Board of Water and Soil resources hereby approves the extension of the Lake of the Woods County Comprehensive Local Water Plan until December 31, 2009. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 19th day of December 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Randy Kramer, Chairperson
December 19, 2007

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Southern Water Planning Committee

1. Blue Earth County Request for Extension of the Blue Earth County Comprehensive Water Management Plan – *DECISION ITEM*

2. Houston County Local Water Management Plan Update – *DECISION ITEM*

3. Jackson County Request for Extension of the Jackson County Comprehensive Water Management Plan – *DECISION ITEM*

4. Lyon County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – *DECISION ITEM*

5. Nobles County Priority Concerns Scoping Document - *DECISION ITEM*

6. Wabasha County Local Water Management Plan Update – *DECISION ITEM*

7. Waseca County Request for Extension of the Waseca County Comprehensive Water Management Plan – *DECISION ITEM*

8. Waseca County Priority Concerns Scoping Document – *DECISION ITEM*

9. Watonwan County Request for Extension of the Watonwan County Comprehensive Water Management Plan – *DECISION ITEM*

10. Kandiyohi County Local Water Management Plan Amendment – *DECISION ITEM*

11. McLeod County Local Water Management Plan Amendment – *DECISION ITEM*

12. Meeker County Local Water Management Plan Amendment – *DECISION ITEM*

13. Renville County Local Water Management Plan Amendment – *DECISION ITEM*

RESOLUTION TO REQUEST AN EXTENSION OF THE BLUE EARTH COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, the ten-year Blue Earth County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is effective until December 31, 2007; and

WHEREAS, Blue Earth County is currently updating the Water Management Plan in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act; and

WHEREAS, Blue Earth County submitted a Priority Concerns Scoping Document to the Board of Water and Soil Resources on June 19, 2007, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.313 of the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act; and

WHEREAS, Blue Earth County representatives met with the Board of Water and Soil Resources' Southern Region Water Planning Committee on September 27, 2007, to discuss the Priority Concerns Scoping Document; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Water and Soil Resources approved and deemed appropriate the Priority Concerns Scoping Document on October 24, 2007; and

WHEREAS, Blue Earth County and the Blue Earth County Soil and Water Conservation District are working cooperatively to complete the Water Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Earth County Soil and Water Conservation District hired all new staff in 2007, necessitating additional time working with new staff and learning about the Soil and Water Conservation District requirements for the Water Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, Blue Earth County combined the Water Management Plan and the local Greenprint natural resources plan's public participation process which required more time; and

WHEREAS, Blue Earth County will need additional time to allow for an official public hearing, and review and approval of the Water Management Plan by the Board of Water and Soil Resources, and official plan adoption by the County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Earth County Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on the Water Management Plan on January 8, 2008, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.315 of the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has 90 days following receipt of the plan to review and notify the County if the plan is approved or disapproved in accordance with the Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.315, of the Comprehensive Local Water Management Act; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Water and Soil Resources has authority under Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, to extend the ending date of local water plans for a period not to exceed two years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Blue Earth County Board of Commissioners requests from the Board of Water and Soil Resources extension of the effective dates of the existing County Water Management Plan until July 1, 2008, in order to complete the Water Management Plan update process in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act.

Passed this 27th day of November.

Kip Bunker
Chair, Blue Earth County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: Dennis McCoy
Dennis McCoy, County Administrator

BLUE EARTH COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER PLAN EXTENSION REQUEST

Blue Earth County has requested a six-month extension of their existing Comprehensive Local Water Management (CLWM) Plan in order that the update process is completed. We have received a resolution from Blue Earth County requesting the extension and explaining the reason for the extension request. The county is working with new staff at Blue Earth SWCD and incorporating comprehensive SWCD plan requirements in the CLWM Plan. Blue Earth County has incorporated the update of the CLWM Plan into the Greenprint natural resources plan's public participation process requiring additional public input time.

The Blue Earth County CLWM Plan Priority Concerns Scoping Document was approved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources on October 24, 2007, and the complete draft plan is expected in for review by December 31, 2007.

Thus, because the county is close to completing the update process, I fully support the six-month extension request of Blue Earth County to complete the update of the County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Hughes
Board Conservationist
December 6, 2007

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan for Blue Earth County	ORDER EXTENDING WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, the Blue Earth County Board of Commissioners has a state-approved Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (Plan) that is effective until December 31, 2007, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.301; and

Whereas, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.311, Subdivision 4 (a) (5).

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

On June 19, 2007, Blue Earth County's Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) was distributed for state agencies review pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.305, Subdivision 8a.

On September 27, 2007, the Board's southern region water planning review committee (Committee) met with representatives of Blue Earth County to discuss the county's PCSD and review comments that were received. The priority concerns to be addressed in the new Plan were deemed appropriate by the Committee. The Committee's decision was to present to the Board a recommendation of approval of the Blue Earth County PCSD.

On December 5, 2007, the Board received a resolution from Blue Earth County requesting a six-month extension of their Plan. The County and the Blue Earth Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) are working cooperatively to complete the Water Management Plan. The primary reasons for requesting to extend the plan to July 1, 2008 is due to the Blue Earth SWCD hiring all new staff in 2007, necessitating additional time working with new staff and learning about the SWCD requirements for the Water Management Plan and the County combining the Water Management Plan and the local Greenprint natural resources plan's public participation process, which required more time.

On December 6, 2007, Board staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Blue Earth County.

On October 24, 2007, the Committee presented its recommendation of approval of the Blue Earth County PCSD to the Board. The Board adopted the Committee's recommendation.

CONCLUSIONS

All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan of Blue Earth County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.311, Subdivision 4 (a) (5).

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the extension of the Blue Earth County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan until July 1, 2008. Blue Earth County shall strive to complete the updating of their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan in a timely manner. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this nineteenth day of December 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

DATE: November 20, 2007

TO: Jeff Nielsen, BWSR Southern Regional Supervisor

FROM: Mary Kells, Board Conservationist

SUBJECT: Houston County Local Water Management Plan Final Review

I have completed my final review of the Houston County Local Water Management Plan covering the period of 2008 through 2017 and recommend approval of this update.

The Houston County Local Water Management Plan meets all requirements including:

- focuses on the priority concerns identified in the Priority Concerns Scoping Document;
- adequately assesses the priority concerns and sets forth appropriate goals and objectives;
- lays out a detailed implementation program with measurable actions, timeline and budget; and
- includes all required actions.

State agency comments were received from the MN Department of Agriculture (MDA) and MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). These agencies recommend the approval of the Plan.

This Plan was submitted to BWSR for final review prior to the storm/flood event of August 18-20, 2007. I have been in contact with local officials regarding any revisions they may want to submit as a result of the flood. The County Water Plan Advisory Committee recently met to discuss these changes. They concluded that the goals and objectives for their priority concerns have not changed; however, the implementation schedule will be affected by the flood workload. They are submitting an addendum letter to me reflecting the need for program priority changes during the next three years. I will forward this letter to be included in the Board packet materials as soon as I receive it. At this time, I recommend approval of the Plan, including the addendum letter. I will work with county officials to incorporate these changes into their implementation plan during their five-year implementation plan amendment and annual planning process for their 2009 Natural Resources Block Grant application.

The local officials and staff should be commended for their leadership and dedication during their emergency response and on-going flood recovery activities in addition to their coordination of this planning process. I look forward to assisting Houston County and the Root River Soil and Water Conservation District in the implementation of their plan.

Bemidji
3217 Bemidji Avenue N.
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
217 S. 7th Street
Suite 202
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
413 W. Stanton Avenue
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
40 16th Street S.E.
Suite A
Rochester, MN 55904
phone (507) 285-7458
fax (507) 280-2875

Saint Paul
One West Water Street
Suite 250
Saint Paul, MN 55107
phone (651) 282-6969
fax (651) 284-0060

Houston County

Comprehensive Water Plan

2007 – 2017

Executive Summary

The purpose of this plan is to identify the primary water resource concerns of local citizens and outline strategies to address those concerns through sound public policy, coordinating implementation with cooperating agencies and partners. These local citizen concerns are referred to as "Priority Concerns."

The Priority Concerns identified for Houston County are:

Goal 1: Protect ground water in order to maintain an adequate supply of safe drinking water for current and future generations.

Goal 2: Improve surface water quality in rivers and streams in Houston County.

Goal 3: Manage storm water runoff to minimize risk to human life, property and the environment.

Goal 4: Optimize recreational uses of water resources.

Goal 5: Review of local and regional plans and ordinances for compliance/compatibility.

An in-depth discussion of these concerns are outlined on the attached Priority Concerns Scoping Document. Houston County Water Plan was originally adopted in March 1990 and updated in 1996 and 2000. The current plan expires on December 30, 2007.

We have provided an analysis of the watershed units as well as groundwater systems. Because of the complex interconnectivity of surface and groundwater in our Karst topography along with similarities in land use and physical characteristics, Houston County has addressed resource concerns across watershed boundaries.

Five major goals identified in the priority scoping document will be addressed through focus on efforts to reduce negative impacts of changes in agriculture and land use and implement cost effective measures to prevent potential degradation of resources through new and/or innovative applications of technology. A combined approach of information and education, technical and financial assistance, together with regulations will be utilized. An estimated $357,500 cash along with in-kind services will be expended from 2007-2012.

Every effort has been made to maintain consistency with other local water management plans and to coordinate efforts with local, state, and federal plans and contacts. The plan covers the policies, goals, and effectiveness which the county intends to follow over the coming ten years (2007 – 2017).

Goals and Objectives

GOAL #1 – Protect ground water in order to maintain an adequate supply of safe drinking water for current and future generations.

A. Provide technical and financial assistance to land users to properly manage and utilize agricultural waste.

B. Address non-conforming Individual Sewage Treatment Systems (ISTS).

C. Well tests.

GOAL #2 – Improve surface water quality in rivers and streams in Houston County.

A. Explore methods to slow decline in hayland production throughout Houston County.

B. Provide incentives to adopt conservation practices which will offset the effects of current cropping trends on run off and erosion in Houston County.

C. Provide technical and financial assistance to establish practices that reduce sediment delivery to streams in Houston County.

D. Provide technical and financial assistance to land users to establish practices which will reduce discharge of pollutants from animal feedlots.

GOAL #3 – Manage storm water runoff to minimize risk to human life, property and the environment.

A. Provide technical and financial assistance to establish practices that reduce sediment delivery.

B. Explore opportunities to reduce peak flow form rural and urban residential development.

C. Explore opportunities for solutions to flooding concerns on the Root with upstream jurisdiction and other partners.

D. New technology.

GOAL #4 – Optimize recreational uses of water resources.

A. Recreation access to water resources.

GOAL #5 – Review of city and township ordinances for compliance.

A. Administer all provisions of Houston County Water Plan.

Implementation Schedule

GOAL #1 - Protect ground water in order to maintain an adequate supply of safe drinking water for current and future generations

Issues/Objectives	Actions/Brief Description	Lead Agency(ies)	Est. Cost In-kind	Est. Cost Cash	Timeline
A. Provide technical and financial assistance to land user to properly manage and utilize agriculture waste	*1. Provide technical assistance on ag waste management on 20 per year.*	*SWCD/SRF*		*10,000/yr*	*2007-2012*
	2. Establish demonstration plot exploring manure application rate and nitrogen rates.	*Extension*		*1,000*	*2008*
	3. Manure Application Field Day	*SWCD - Extension*		*500*	*2009*
B. Address non-conforming Individual Sewage Treatment Systems (ISTS)	*1. Update 50 non-conforming ISTS.*	*Zoning*	*10,000/yr*		*Ongoing*
	2. Inspect all new & upgraded ISTS.	*Zoning*	*10,000/yr*		*Ongoing*
	3. Administer Ag BMP loan program.	*Zoning*	*3,000/yr*		*Ongoing*
	4. Enter all new & upgraded ISTS inspected since 1985 on parcel base.	*Zoning*		*20,000*	*2009*
C. Well Tests	*1. Offer free infant well tests to 15 families/year.*	*Public Health*	*500/yr*	*500/yr*	*Ongoing*
	2. Offer well water testing at low cost to landowners.	*SWCD*	*500/yr*		*Ongoing*
	3. Participate in SE MN volunteer well monitoring network.	*SWCD*		*15,000*	*2008*

Implementation Schedule

GOAL #2 - Improve surface water quality in rivers and streams in Houston County

Issues/Objectives	Actions/Brief Description	Lead Agency(ies)	Est. Cost In-kind/Cash		Timeline
A. Explore methods to slow decline in perennial vegetation.	1. Promote existing programs which offer incentives to establish/maintain perennial vegetation.	SWCD/MES	500/yr		2008-2012
	2. Develop local/regional incentives to establish 1000/acres of perennial vegetation annually.	SWCD/MES		20,000/yr	2008
	3. Information/education campaign or importance of hay land for erosion control and runoff reduction.	MES/HC	500/yr		Ongoing
	4. Assist with quality tested hay auctions.	MES/SWCD	1,000/yr		Ongoing
	5. Assist with implementation/administration of programs that support/promote animal agriculture.	SWCD/MES	1,000/yr		Ongoing
B. Provide incentives to adopt conservation practices which will offset the effects of current cropping trends on runoff and erosion in Houston County	1. Establish incentive program to plant fall cover crops.	SWCD	1,000/yr	1000/yr	2007-2010
C. Provide technical and financial assistance on feedlots	1. Provide financial assistance on low-cost feedlot fixes on 15 lots per year.	Zoning/SWCD	10,000/yr	30,000/yr	2007-2010
	2. Provide technical assistance on 20 feedlots per year.	SWCD	10,000/yr	10,000/yr	2007-2010
	3. Promote residue management on highly errodable land.				
	4. Explore possibilities for wetland restoration.				
	5. Explore methods to reduce intensity of grazing in sensitive areas.				

Implementation Schedule

GOAL #3 - Manage storm water runoff to minimize risk to human life, property and the environment

Issues/Objectives	Actions/Brief Description	Lead Agency(ies)	Est. Cost In-kind	Est. Cost Cash	Timeline
A. Provide technical and financial assistance to establish practices that reduce sediment delivery	1. Provide financial incentives to establish 20 push-up ponds annually.	SWCD	2,000/yr	10,000/yr	2007-2012
	2. Develop program providing storm water retention through road culvert size reduction on township and county roads.	SWCD/HC DOT	2,000		2007
	3. Explore effectiveness of road retention structures and the barriers/obstacles to implementing on 2 pilot sites.	SWCD/HC DOT		10,000	2008
B. Explore opportunities to reduce peak flow from rural and urban residential development	1. Provide home site evaluations on all rural building sites.	Zoning/SWCD	5,000/yr		Ongoing
C. Explore opportunities for solutions to flooding concerns on the Root with upstream jurisdictions and other partners	1. Participate with US Fish and Wildlife and other partners on Root River committee.	SWCD	500/yr		2008
D. New Technology	1. Explore funding for innovative pilot programs to demonstrate new technology for water resource protection.	All		40,000	2008-2010

GOAL #4 - Optimize recreational uses of water resources

Issues/Objectives	Actions/Brief Description	Lead Agency(ies)	Est. Cost In-kind	Est. Cost Cash	Timeline
A. Recreation access to water resources	1. Operate Wildcat Park.	Houston County Auditor	2,000/yr		Ongoing
	2. Develop Botcher Park.	Houston County	2,000/yr	5,000	Ongoing
	3. Provide access info on Houston County Hwy maps.	Houston County DOT	1,000/yr		2007

Implementation Schedule

GOAL #5 - Review of local and regional plans and ordinances for compliance/compatibility

Issues/Objectives	Actions/Brief Description	Lead Agency(ies)	Est. Cost In-kind/Cash	Timeline
A. Administer all provisions of Houston County Water Plan.	1. Staff part-time Water Plan Coordinator.	SWCD	15000/yr	Ongoing
	2. Continue participation on SEWRB.	SWCD	5,000/yr	Ongoing
	3. Review local/regional plans to insure compliance with Water Plan.	SWCD	500/yr	As Needed

Ongoing Practices

Houston County will continue to work with federal, state, and local partners to address issues related to our priority concerns. Specific ongoing programs include:

- Conservation provision of Federal Farm Bill
- State Cost-Share Program
- MPCA's Impaired Waters Program
- Minnesota's Wetland Conservation Act
- DNR Shorelands Program
- DNR Protected Waters Program
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife – Private Lands Program
- Root River SWCD's Technical Assistance Program
- Minnesota State Revolving Loan Fund
- EPA 319 Funds
- USDA – NRCS Technical Assistance Program
- Hiawatha Valley RC & D
- Houston County EDA
- MN Ag BMP Loan Program
- Houston County Public and Private Schools

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Reviewing the Local Water Management Plan Update for Houston County (Minnesota Statutes , Section 103B.311, Subdivision 4 and Section 103B.315, Subdivision 5.)

ORDER APPROVING LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Whereas, the Houston County Board of Commissioners submitted a Local Water Management Plan Update (Plan Update) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on August 13, 2007, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the Plan Update;

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On March 16, 2005, the Board received a Priority Concerns Scoping Document from Houston County, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.312.

2. On June 22, 2005, the Board approved official comments on the Houston County Priority Concerns Scoping Document, which were mailed to the County on June 22, 2005.

3. The priority concerns the local water management plan addresses include:

    a. Protect ground water in order to maintain an adequate supply of safe drinking water for current and future generations
    b. Improve surface water quality in rivers and streams in Houston County
    c. Manage storm water runoff to minimize risk to human life, property, and the environment
    d. Optimize recreational uses of water resources
    e. Review of local and regional plans and ordinances for compliance/compatibility

4. On August 13, 2007, the Board received the Houston County Plan Update, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the plan update to the Board for final State review pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5.

5. On December 6, 2007, the Southern Water Planning Review Committee of the Board reviewed the recommendation of the state review agencies regarding final approval of the Houston County Plan Update. Recommendations of the state review agencies were:
    a. Minnesota Department of Agriculture recommends approval;
    b. Minnesota Department of Health had no comment;
    c. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources had no comment;
    d. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency recommends approval;
    e. Minnesota Environmental Quality Board had no comment;
    f. Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources regional staff recommends approval;
    g. Board regional Water Planning Review Committee recommends approval.

6. This update will be in effect until December 31, 2017.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Water Plan Update of Houston County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, 103B.315, Subd. 5.

2. The Houston County Plan Update attached to this Order states water and water-related problems within the county; possible solutions; general goals, objectives, and actions of the county; and an implementation program. The attached Plan Update is in conformance with the requirements of M.S. Section 103B.301.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached update of the Houston Local Water Management Plan with a required update to the implementation section (Goals, Objectives and Actions) By December 31, 2012.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this nineteenth day of December 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

Resolution No 07-

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF THE
JACKSON COUNTY
COMPREHENSIVE WATER MANAGEMTN PLAN

The following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Rugtob and moved for adoption at a Regular Meeting held on November 27, 2007, at the Jackson County Courthouse, Jackson, MN:

WHEREAS, 1995 amendments to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, gave the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources authority to extend the ending date of local water plans for a period not to exceed two years, and

WHEREAS, the effort to include all entities involved in the Water Management Program in Jackson County has slowed the current revision process, and

WHEREAS, Jackson County assures continued effort towards completion of the Comprehensive Local Water Plan revisions, and

WHEREAS, Jackson County will not order or commence any project using the authorities under 103B.331 subd 3 and 4 until completion of the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan revision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Jackson County Board of Commissioners request from the Board of Water and Soil Resources a one year extension of their existing local water plan to December 31, 2008, in order to complete the revision process.

Seconded by Commissioner Hohnstein and the same being put to a vote was duly carried. This Resolution shall become effective immediately and without publication.

Adopted by the following vote: Ayes 5 Nays 0
Dated this 27th day of November, 2007

Craig Rubis
Chairman, Jackson County
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: Janice Fransen
Janice Fransen
Jackson County Coordinator

CERTIFICATION

State of Minnesota)
County of Jackson)

I, Janice Fransen, duly appointed, qualified and acting County Coordinator for the County of Jackson, State of Minnesota, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of a Resolution with the original minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Commissioners, Jackson County, Minnesota, at their session held on the 27th day of November 2007, now on file in my office, and have found the same to be true and correct copy thereof.

Witness my hand and official seal at Jackson County, Minnesota, this 27th day of November, 2007.

Janice Fransen
County Coordinator

From: Tabor Hoek
To: Nielsen, Jeff
Date: 11/29/2007 10:17:35 AM
Subject: Jackson Co. Plan Extension

Jeff, I have recieved the Jackson LWM Plan extension request and support the extension. The request was for a new deadline of December 2008 although they will not need this much time. The updated plan is currently completed and being submitted to BWSR. Please contact me with any further questions. Thanks.

CC: Swanson, Carla

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan for Jackson County	ORDER EXTENDING WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, the Jackson County Board of Commissioners has a state-approved Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (Plan) that is effective until December 31, 2007, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.301; and

Whereas, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.311, Subdivision 4 (a) (5).

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

On April 10, 2007, Jackson County's Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) was distributed for state agencies review pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.305, Subdivision 8a.

On July 19, 2007, the Board's southern region water planning review committee (Committee) met with representatives of Jackson County to discuss the county's PCSD and review comments that were received. The priority concerns to be addressed in the new Plan were deemed appropriate by the Committee. The Committee's decision was to present to the Board a recommendation of approval of the Jackson County PCSD.

On November 28, 2007, the Board received a resolution from Jackson County requesting a one-year extension of their Plan. The primary reason for the extension request is that the effort to include all entities involved in the Water Management Program in Jackson County has slowed the current revision process.

On November 29, 2007, Board staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Jackson County.

On August 23, 2007, the Committee presented its recommendation of approval of the Jackson County PCSD to the Board. The Board adopted the Committee's recommendation.

CONCLUSIONS

All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan of Jackson County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.311, Subdivision 4 (a) (5).

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the extension of the Jackson County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan until December 31, 2008. Jackson County shall strive to complete the updating of their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan in a timely manner. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this nineteenth day of December 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

DATE: November 20, 2007

TO: Jeff Nielsen, BWSR Southern Region Supervisor

FROM: Tabor Hoek, BWSR Board Conservationist

SUBJECT: Review of Lyon County Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Lyon County has submitted their Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) for the 2007 Local Water Management Plan Update to BWSR and other state agencies. BWSR received this document on September 28, 2007.

State agency comments have been received from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). All agencies concurred with the priority concerns. MPCA offered additional comments regarding Environmental Data Access to be considered when drafting the LWM Plan. No comments on the completed PCSD were received from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), or Environmental Quality Board (EQB).

Priority Concerns were developed from public meeting input, state agency comment and the Lyon County Task Force.

Representing BWSR staff, I have completed my review of the Priority Concerns Scoping Document for Lyon County and recommend that BWSR concur with the priority concerns identified:

1. Impaired Waters
2. Hydrologic System Management
3. Nutrient Loading Reduction
4. Public Drinking Water Supply Protection

I look forward to working with the County officials, residents, and technical staff as the Plan Update moves forward. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at 507-537-7260 or tabor.hoek@bwsr.state.mn.us.

Bemidji
217 Bemidji Avenue N.
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
217 S. 7th Street
Suite 202
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Drive
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
2500 Silver Creek
Road N.E.
Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 280-2874
fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N.
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

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Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

December 19, 2007

Lyon County Commissioners
c/o Roger Schroeder
Lyon County Environmental Office
504 Fairgrounds Road
Marshall, MN 56258

RE: Official Comments Pertaining to the State Review of the Lyon County Priority Concerns Scoping Document for the Local Water Management Plan Update

Dear Lyon County Commissioners:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.313, subdivision 5, this letter communicates the official comments of the State of Minnesota pertaining to the priority concerns Lyon County has chosen to address in the update of the Lyon County Comprehensive Local Water Management (CLWM) Plan. The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), along with the state review agencies, received the Lyon County Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) on September 28, 2007.

The Lyon County Water Planning Advisory Committee reviewed the concerns raised during the input process and selected the following general priority concerns for inclusion in the CLWM Plan update.

1. Impaired Waters
2. Hydrologic System Management
3. Nutrient Loading Reduction
4. Public Drinking Water Supply Protection

The BWSR southern water planning review committee (hereinafter referred to as Committee) met on December 6, 2007, to discuss comments received from state review agencies and others, discuss the content of the Lyon County PCSD, and make recommendations for the content of the final plan.

The BWSR received comments from BWSR staff, the Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Department of Health (MDH). The Department of Agriculture (MDA) and the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) did not provide comments on the PCSD.

MPCA concurred with the priority concerns identified and highlighted a MPCA data source regarding surface water monitoring information for the County's use. The DNR concurred with the priority concerns identified and felt the process to identify the concerns was adequate. The MDH concurred with the priority concerns identified and noted they felt the process to identify the concerns was commendable. The BWSR agreed with the priority concerns.

The Committee commends Lyon County for the process they used to select the concerns – including soliciting input from local government, citizens, and state agencies – and incorporating that information into the four priority concern areas. The priority concerns to be addressed in the CLWM Plan are deemed to be appropriate.

In summary, the Board encourages the County to continue to engage in a process that includes a broad range of citizens and interest groups, in addition to local government officials, and state and federal resource managers during the development of goals, objectives, and an implementation plan. We look forward to the completion of your plan and its implementation!

Sincerely,

Randy Kramer, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

c: Becky Balk, MDA
John Wells, EQB
Art Persons, MDH
Mark Matuska, DNR
David L. Johnson, MPCA
Joe Martin, MDA
Dan Wilson, MDH
Dana Allen, BWSR Board
Brian Kletscher, BWSR Board
Paul Langseth, BWSR Board
Jeff Nielsen, BWSR Southern Region Supervisor
Tabor Hoek, Board Conservationist

Bemidji
Minnesota Avenue
Suite 234
emidji, MN 56601
one (218) 755-4235
x (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Trail
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
2300 Silver Creek
Road N.E.
Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 281-7797
fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

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Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

DATE: November 20, 2007

TO: Jeff Nielsen, BWSR Southern Region Supervisor

FROM: Tabor Hoek, BWSR Board Conservationist

SUBJECT: Review of Nobles County Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Nobles County has submitted their Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) for the 2007 Local Water Management Plan Update to BWSR and other state agencies. BWSR received this document on August 29, 2007.

State agency comments have been received from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). All agencies concurred with the priority concerns identified and noted that they felt the process to identify the concerns was commendable. No comments on the completed PCSD were received from the Environmental Quality Board (EQB).

Priority concerns were developed from public meeting input, state agency comment, and the Nobles County Task Force.

Representing BWSR staff, I have completed my review of the Priority Concerns Scoping Document for Nobles County and recommend that BWSR concur with the priority concerns identified:

1. Surface Water Quality
2. Drainage Management
3. Public Water Supply

I look forward to working with the County officials, residents, and technical staff as the Plan Update moves forward. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at 507-537-7260 or tabor.hoek@bwsr.state.mn.us.

Bemidji
217 Bemidji Avenue N.
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
217 S. 7th Street
Suite 202
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6056

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Drive
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
2300 Silver Creek
Road N.E.
Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 280-2874
fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N.
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

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Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

December 19, 2007

Nobles County Commissioners
c/o Jane Steffl, Water Plan Coordinator
Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District
1567 McMillan Street, Suite 3
Worthington, MN 56187

RE: Official Comments Pertaining to the State Review of the Nobles County Priority Concerns Scoping Document for the Local Water Management Plan Update

Dear Nobles County Commissioners:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.313, subdivision 5, this letter communicates the official comments of the State of Minnesota pertaining to the priority concerns Nobles County has chosen to address in the update of the Nobles County Comprehensive Local Water Management (CLWM) Plan. The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), along with the state review agencies, received the Nobles County Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) on August 29, 2007.

The Nobles County Water Planning Advisory Committee reviewed the concerns raised during the input process and selected the following general priority concerns for inclusion in the CLWM Plan update.

1. Surface Water Quality
2. Drainage Management
3. Public Water Supply

The BWSR southern water planning committee (hereinafter referred to as Committee) met on December 6, 2007, to discuss comments received from state review agencies and others, discuss the content of the Nobles County PCSD, and make recommendations for the content of the final plan.

The BWSR received comments from BWSR staff, the Department of Agriculture (MDA), the Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Department of Health (MDH). The Environmental Quality Board (EQB) did not provide comments on the PCSD.

The MDA, MDH, and DNR concurred with the priority concerns identified and noted they felt the process to identify the concerns was commendable. MPCA concurred with the priority concerns identified and highlighted a MPCA data source regarding surface water monitoring information for the County's use. The BWSR agreed with the priority concerns.

The Committee commends Nobles County for the process they used to select the concerns – including soliciting input from local government, citizens, and state agencies – and incorporating that information into the three priority concern areas. The priority concerns to be addressed in the CLWM Plan are deemed to be appropriate.

In summary, the Board encourages the County to continue to engage in a process that includes a broad range of citizens and interest groups, in addition to local government officials, and state and federal resource managers during the development of goals, objectives, and an implementation plan. We look forward to the completion of your plan and its implementation!

Sincerely,

Randy Kramer, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

cc: Becky Balk, MDA
John Wells, EQB
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Mark Matuska, DNR
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Bemidji
Minnesota Avenue
Suite 234
emidji, MN 56601
one (218) 755-4235
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1601 Minnesota Drive
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phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Trail
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
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261 Highway 15 S.
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phone (507) 359-6074
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Rochester
2300 Silver Creek
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Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 281-7797
fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N.
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

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Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

DATE: November 20, 2007

TO: Jeff Nielsen, BWSR Southern Regional Supervisor

FROM: Mary Kells, Board Conservationist

SUBJECT: Wabasha County Local Water Management Plan Final Review

I have completed my final review of the Wabasha County Local Water Management Plan covering the period of 2008 through 2013 and recommend approval of this update:

The Wabasha County Local Water Management Plan meets all requirements including:

- focuses on the priority concerns identified in the Priority Concerns Scoping Document;
- adequately assesses the priority concerns and sets forth appropriate goals and objectives;
- lays out a detailed implementation program with measurable actions, timeline and budget; and
- includes all required actions.

State agency comments were received from the MN Department of Agriculture (MDA), MN Department of Health (MDH), and MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). These agencies recommend the approval of the Plan.

I look forward to assisting Wabasha County and the Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District in the implementation of their plan. Water Plan Coordinator Byron Evers should be commended for his leadership and coordination during the development of this plan.

Bemidji
3217 Bemidji Avenue N.
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
217 S. 7th Street
Suite 202
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
413 W. Stanton Avenue
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
40 16th Street S.E.
Suite A
Rochester, MN 55904
phone (507) 285-7458
fax (507) 280-2875

Saint Paul
One West Water Street
Suite 250
Saint Paul, MN 55107
phone (651) 282-9969
fax (651) 284-0000

SEP 10 2007

Wabasha County

Local Water Management Plan 2008-2013

Prepared by the Local Water Management Plan Task Force, Wabasha County Water Planner and the Wabasha County Soil and Water Conservation District

Wabasha
COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
2008-2013

Executive Summary

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Executive Summary

Overview:

The Wabasha County Water Plan Task force Committee consists of citizen members and agency personnel that provide insight in the development and implementation for the Local Water Management plan update. The water plan update and revision process was started by Darrin Thompson, Wabasha County Public Health (until May 2006) and taken over by Byron Evers, Wabasha County Water Plan Coordinator in May of 2006.

The Task Force Committee along with the Water Plan Coordinator have gone through the process to revise the current plan and created a new five year plan covering the years starting January, 1 2008 and expiring on December, 31 2013. The following individuals participate on the Task Force Committee:

- Mary Kells, BWSR
- Justin Watkins, MPCA
- Peter Boyce, Wabasha County Administrator
- Ralph Lentz, Area Farmer, Lake City
- Al Schmidt, DNR Fisheries*
- Jeff Weiss, DNR Fisheries
- Rich Biske, The Nature Conservancy
- Linda Dahl, Executive Director, Whitewater Watershed Project
- Darvey Sloan, Area Farmer, Plainview
- Bill McMillin, Area Farmer, Kellogg
- Kerwin Siewert, Area Farmer, Zumbro Falls
- Jim Straskowski, District Manager, Wabasha County SWCD
- Mark Kulig, District Conservationist, NRCS
- Mike McMillin, Wabasha County Feedlot Officer*
- Troy Dakemeyer, Wabasha County Feedlot Officer
- Molly Patterson-Lundgren, Wabasha City Planner
- David Windhorst, County Commissioner
- Paul Moechning, Area Farmer, Lake City
- Bea Hoffman, Executive Director, Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board
- James Nordstrom, Wabasha County Attorney
- Floyd Riester, Wabasha County Zoning Administrator

*No longer a member, but were active during most of the update process

The County Commissioners in office during the Local water Management Plan update are as follows.

- Eugene McNallan (District 1)
- David Windhorst (District 2)
- Donald Springer (District 3)
- Peter Riester (District 4)
- Tom Dwelle (District 5)

Other cooperating agencies include the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Minnesota Geological Survey (MGS), University of Minnesota, and the Environmental Quality Board.

Wabasha County is part of the Ten County Southeastern Minnesota Water Resources Board (SEMNWRB). The Board's mission statement is "to help sustain the quality of life in the ten counties of Southeastern Minnesota by improving and protecting the water resources through coordination of local water planning efforts." Regional projects address water quality issues that are common to the karst region and to watersheds throughout the region that are identified as priorities in each county through the local water management plan.

Wabasha County is also part of a three County Whitewater Watershed Project. The Projects mission states: "That mission being to continue to nurture a land stewardship ethic amongst those that live, work and recreate in the watershed. The project will focus on improving water quality, reducing sedimentation and flooding and improving habitat for all plants and animals. The project will accomplish this mission by developing a partnership among watershed citizens, governmental agencies, environmental groups and businesses."

Wabasha County is a partner of the Zumbro Watershed Partnership (ZWP) along with five other counties. The ZWP mission is "To Promote the Protection and Improvement of the Zumbro River Watershed". The ZWP is currently working on a management and implementation plan that will be consistent with the Wabasha County Local Water Management Plan.

Wabasha County actively participates in the Basin Alliance for the Lower Mississippi in Minnesota (BALMM). BALMM consist of local land and water resource agencies that coordinate efforts to protect and improve water quality in the basin. Projects initiated in the last five years

through BALMM are aimed at reducing fecal coliform bacteria in surface water and increasing permanent vegetative cover on the landscape to reduce soil erosion and runoff.

Trout Unlimited's Driftless Area Restoration Effort (TUDARE) is a four state effort, including Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Illinois, to restore and protect the coldwater streams and watersheds of the Driftless Area. Wabasha County along with Trout Unlimited, the four state Department of Natural Resources, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service have partnered together. Currently the partners are working together to coordinate a regional approach to link upland conservation with stream restoration to improve upland conditions, water quality, and fish habitat and populations.

Purpose of the Water Management Plan:

Wabasha County heavily relies on its water resources for drinking, recreation, and production. It is important that the County takes a proactive approach to protect these resources by addressing priority concerns identified by citizens, agencies and the task force committee. The local water management plan is designed to protect, restore or improve the natural resources of Wabasha County. Goals and objectives for various resource concerns are designed to improve the quality of surface and ground water throughout the county. The water management plan will provide a framework and guideline for implementing action to address the identified priority concerns, goals and objectives. The Wabasha County Task Force will continue to meet regularly to ensure that the implementation of programs and projects continues to meet the goals of the plan.

Priority Concerns Addressed in Plan:

Wabasha County started the Local Water Management Plan Update process in 2005 with the priority concerns identification and documentation process. A Task Force Committee was assembled and priority concern input was collected. Citizens of Wabasha County were able to give their input through questionnaires and a town meeting. Notification of the plan update was sent to state review agencies and were also given an opportunity to express their priority concerns.

Wabasha County then developed a Priority Concern Scoping Document, in accordance with statues 103B.304-103B.355, which identified and listed the priority water resource concerns that will be identified in the Wabasha County Comprehensive Local Water Plan document. The Scoping document was submitted to BWSR for approval of the five priority concern areas.

The five selected priority concerns cover most of the concerns throughout the county. While it is impossible to address all concerns submitted by citizens and other agencies, over a five year

period the five selected concerns are broad enough to cover most of them. At the same time the concerns are focused enough to achieve goals and action items with the staff and funding that is available.

A copy of the Priority Concerns Scoping Document can be found in the Appendix of this document. The lists of identified priority concerns, in order, are as follows:

1. **Soil Erosion**- prevention of soil erosion and sedimentation from runoff from; agriculture land, construction sites and stream banks
2. **Nutrient and Manure Management**- protection of surfaces waters by reducing contaminates entering the water. Use correct methods to prevent nutrient loading from manure, and artificial fertilizers both from agriculture and urban areas.
3. **ISTS/Ground Water Protection**- protect ground water from contamination to ensure drinking water aquifers maintain good quality.
4. **Forest and Pasture Land**- improve forest and pasture land management to reduce soil erosion and increase water quality
5. **Impaired Waters**- address impaired watersheds throughout the county to improve water quality.

These priority concerns are further described in the assessment of the priority concerns starting on page #8 of the plan.

Summary of Local Water Management Goals Implementation Actions and projected cost:

The Task Force committee has set a number of goals that adequately address each of the priority concerns. Each goal has specific objectives and action items that target specific water quality issues within each priority concern. Wabasha County's current budget cannot fully address all the priority concerns, increased funding will be needed to successfully complete the goals and objectives listed. The implementation schedule located on page #28 further addresses the funding needed to accomplish each objective item set by the Task Force Committee. The following table is a summary of the total anticipated funds needed to implement the Local Water Management Plan:

Priority Concern	Annual Need
1. Soil Erosion	$291,000
2. Nutrient and Manure Management	$86,000
3. SSTS/Ground Water Protection	$205,000

4. Forest and Pastureland	$110,000
5. Impaired Waters	$30,000
TOTAL ANNUAL NEED	**$722,000**

The Water Plan Task Force believes that all issues mentioned in the Implementation Plan section are of great importance and thus would state that all issues are a priority. The Time Frame portion in the Implementation Plan will show that some action items need to be a prerequisite before others are started (See Implementation Plan Timeline).

Consistency with Other Plans:

The Wabasha Local Water Management plan is consistent with other local, regional and state plans. The priority concerns were developed to reflect the goals objectives and actions found in related plans and documents.

Goals and Objectives

Soil Erosion

Goal 1.) Reduce soil Erosion from Agriculture Fields

OBJECTIVE A. Use BMP's to reduce erosion

1.) Annually spot check 20% of the county for the next five years for farm plan compliance
2.) Send letters to each new farm plan highlighting practices that would further reduce soil erosion past the minimum
3.) Promote BMP's that reduce soil erosion to tolerance levels through farm plan spot checks and new farm plan letters
4.) Pursue additional funding for producers to install soil erosion BMP's
5.) Partner with watershed groups to hold demonstration days to promote various conservation tillage technology
6.) Provide educational handouts to producers when they certify their crops on how BMPS can be cost effective

OBJECTIVE B. Change marginal row cropped acreage to perennial cover

1.) Encourage the reenrollment of CRP acres
2.) Promote long term conservation programs such as CRP, CCRP etc.
3.) Send letters and hold field days to promote livestock farming to increase perennial cover such as Alfalfa/Hay in crop rotations
4.) Pursue funding for incentives to encourage livestock farming to increase perennial crops (such as hay and pasture) in crop rotations

OBJECTIVE C. Focus on areas of high need

1.) Target sensitive areas, including highly erodible and riparian areas.
2.) Increase funding to protect critical areas
3.) Promote conservation buffer strips and stream bank stabilization

Goal 2.) Reduce soil Erosion from Construction sites

OBJECTIVE A. Work with other agencies to educate about construction runoff

1.) Provide annual professional workshops for contractors to address soil loss from building sites

2.) Hold demonstration days for county residents to promote proper use of erosion control BMP's

3.) Partner with the highway department to demonstrate the correct installation of erosion control BMP's

4.) Provide informational pamphlets to new construction applicants on the impacts of development, particularly in sensitive areas.

5.) Meet annually with city councils to set education opportunities in each city

OBJECTIVE B. Implement and Review Wabasha County Ordinances

1.) Provide landowners with shoreland buffer ordinance information through Planning and Zoning

2.) Review and promote shoreland and bluffland ordinances with planning and zoning, the planning commission and the county commissioners every other year

Goal 3. Protect and Restore Bank and Shoreline Erosion

OBJECTIVE A. Educate and promote landowners on current protection efforts

1.) Use GIS to identify areas of high need

2.) Use existing ordinances with state and federal programs to increase stream buffers by 50 % over the next five years

3.) Pursue additional funding for riparian buffer strip implementation

4.) Partner with conservation groups such as Trout Unlimited to restore the banks of trout streams

Nutrient and Manure Management

Goal 1.) Reduce Nutrient Loading of Surface Waters from Agriculture

OBJECTIVE A. Ensure proper manure management procedures are practiced throughout Wabasha County.

1.) Calibrate manure spreaders and educate farmers on the economic benefits of proper manure management

2.) Encourage producers under 300 animal units to obtain appropriate Nutrient Management Plans, either a Mini Manure Management Plan or Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan.

3.) Spot Check 5% of nutrient management plans to make sure they are being followed.

4.) Provide each livestock producer with a copy of the publication "Applying Manure in Sensitive Areas" from MPCA when feedlots are re-registered

OBJECTIVE B. Provide education on ways to improve water quality

1.) Provide informational handouts on methods to reduce field runoff of applied manure and the economic benefits to farmers during manure spot checks

2.) Include feedlot runoff reduction worksheet with permitting information

3.) Educate new feedlot owners about feedlot rules and method, of reducing runoff from their lot

4.) Work with producer groups to hold annual manure/nutrient management workshops

5.) Participate in ag waste workshops with U of M extension

6.) Hold field days to demonstrate small feedlot fixes, and make farmers aware of current cost share opportunities.

OBJECTIVE C. Reduce runoff of Commercial fertilizers from agriculture fields

1.) Target non livestock producers to obtain a nutrient management plan through FSA newsletter

2.) Host annual meetings with fertilizer sales representatives in the area on application rates

3.) Hold producer meetings and send mailings encouraging commercial fertilizer setbacks from sensitive areas

4.) Work with producer groups and Extension to conduct nutrient management workshops on the economic benefits of soil testing

Goal 2.) Reduce Nutrient Loading of Surface Waters from Urban Residents

OBJECTIVE A. Educate homeowners about backyard conservation

1.) Educate on the importance of keeping sewer drains free of trash and lawn litter through mailings

2.) Work with municipalities to promote alternative management practices of roof water

3.) Hold backyard conservation demo days to promote conservation practices

OBJECTIVE B. Provide homeowners with information and opportunities to iimplement backyard conservation.

1.) Encourage home owners to direct runoff to pervious areas.

2.) Promote the use of rain barrels and rain gardens through demonstration sites and fact sheets.

3.) Work with lawn care businesses and residents to reduce amount of herbicides used on lawns by home owners.

4.) Partner with lawn care business to make soil testing before fertilizer application, standard procedure.

OBJECTIVE C. Assist with implementing urban BMP's

1.) Pursue funding to provide homeowners cost share dollars and incentive payments for backyard conservation.

2.) Provide technical assistance to homeowners to install conservation practices.

3.) Partner with city planers to leverage time to increase BMP installations.

SSTS/Ground Water Protection

Goal 1.) Protect ground water drinking water sources

OBJECTIVE A. Manage wellhead protection areas

1.) Support development of wellhead protection plans.

2.) Target landowners in the wellhead protection areas to use BMP are to prevent groundwater contamination.

3.) Reduce the use of commercial fertilizers and chemicals in the wellhead protection areas.

4.) Use GIS to develop maps of wellhead protection area and its sensitive features.

5.) Consider wellhead protection areas in land use decisions.

OBJECTIVE B. Educate and assist private well owners with well protection

1.) Educate well owners on setbacks from contamination sources through newsletters

2.) Educate landowners on well drilling code requirements for all well construction when permit is issued

3.) Inform private well owners of the importance of regular well testing

OBJECTIVE C. Promote the proper sealing of abandoned wells

1.) Identify and locate abandoned wells with GPS as they are found on site visits and provide the landowner information on well sealing
2.) Seek funding for cost share programs for sealing costs
3.) Educate homeowners on the importance of sealing abandoned wells

Goal 2 Encourage proper management of new and existing onsite treatment systems

OBJECTIVE A. Promote SSTS updates and management

1.) Perform inspection of all new SSTS installation
2.) Keep a system inventory of all SSTS installations
3.) Inspect a percentage of existing systems for compliance
4.) Work with pumping companies to notify homeowners of pumping requirements every 3 years
5.) Provide training programs for designers and installers
6.) Give homeowners SSTS maintenance information at time of installation
7.) Pursue the possibility of a county low interest loan program for new SSTS installations

Goal 3 Assist with community treatment systems

OBJECTIVE A. Encourage the installation of treatment facilities

1.) Partner with regional Coordinators to provide wastewater education to usewered communities
2.) Assist unsewered communities with installing waste treatment facilities
3.) Provide technical assistance to communities to get 2 communities adequate waste treatment facilities
4.) Work with community leaders to pursue funding for the facilities

Pasture and Forest Land Management

Goal 1.) Improve quality and quantity of current pasture conditions

OBJECTIVE A. Promote and assist landowners to change to grazing management

1.) Increase sustainable rotational grazing systems by 25%, with priority on those near riparian areas.

2.) Educate Producers on the economic and environmental benefits of rotational grazing.

3.) Conduct a survey on pasture use and management and use the information to contact landowners and encourage a change from continuous to controlled grazing to improve conditions.

4.) Collaborate with the Grazing Land Conservation Initiative (GLCI) and hold grazing work shops to educate interested producers and the general public the benefits of grazing and to create a positive image of livestock producers throughout the county.

5.) Work with other south eastren Soil and Water Conservation Districts to hire an area grazing specialist.

Goal 2.) Improve quality of forest land and increase forest management awareness

OBJECTIVE A. Educate and promote proper forest management

1.) Educate landowners on the economic and environmental benefits of proper forest land management

2.) Partner with DNR forestry to educate citizens on invasive species and how to properly manage

3.) Provide information to homeowners on windbreaks and shelterbelts through FSA newsletters

Impaired Waters

Goal 1.) Address impaired surface waters in Wabasha County

OBJECTIVE A. Identify impaired surface waters

1.) Assist with developing and implementing TMDL plans

2.) Provide technical assistance for TMDL studies

3.) Participate in TMDL efforts within the County

4.) Address the surface water according to its impairment

5.) Use long-term water quality and fisheries data collected on West Indian Creek to model baseline watershed conditions and potential improvements that can be attained through changes in land use within the watershed.

OBJECTIVE B. Target surface waters to remove from the impaired waters list

1.) Market available programs to landowners
2.) Partner with municipalities and other agencies
3.) Target sub watersheds of the impaired surface water
4.) Develop an inventory and target area of the watershed by using GIS
5.) Make public aware of impaired waters and educate them of ways to improve the conditions of the water

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE FOR PRIORITY CONCERNS

Priority Concerns and Goals	Timeline for Implementation					Lead Agency/(ies)	Estimated Funding Needed
	08	09	10	11	12		
Soil Erosion							
Goal 1.) Reduce soil Erosion from Agriculture Fields							
OBJECTIVE A. Use BMP's to reduce erosion							
1.) Annually Spot Check 20% of the county for the next five years for farm plan compliance	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, NRCS, FSA, WP	$20,000.00
2.) Send Letters to each new farm plan highlighting practices that would reduce soil erosion past the minimum	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, NRCS, FSA	$1,000.00
3.) Promote BMP's that reduce soil erosion to tolerance levels through farm plan spot checks and new farm plan letters	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, NRCS, FSA	$5,000.00
4.) Pursue additional funding for producers to install soil erosion BMP's	x	x	x	x	x	WP	$100,000.00
5.) Partner with watershed groups to hold demonstration days to promote various conservation tillage technology	x	x	x	x	x	WP, SWCD, NRCS, FSA, MPCA, MDA	$5,000.00
6.) Provide educational handouts to producers when they certify their crops on how BMP's can be cost effective	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, NRCS, FSA	$5,000.00
OBJECTIVE B. Change marginal row cropped acreage to perennial cover							
1.) Encourage the enrollment of new CRP acres		x	x	x	x	FSA, NRCS, SWCD	$5,000.00
2.) Promote long term conservation programs such as CRP, CCRP etc.	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, NRCS, FSA	$5,000.00
3.) Send letters and hold field days to promote livestock farming to increase perennial crops such as Alfalfa/Hay in crop rotations	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, NRCS, FSA, WP, CFO, MDA, MPCA	
4.) Pursue funding for incentives to encourage livestock farming to increase perennial crops (such as hay and pasture) in crop rotations	x	x	x	x	x	WP	$50,000.00
OBJECTIVE C. Focus on areas of high need							
1.)Target sensitive areas, including highly erodeable and riparian areas to implement BMP's	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, NRCS, FSA	$5,000.00
2.)Increase funding to protect critical areas	x	x	x	x	x	WP	$25,000.00
3.)Promote conservation buffer strips and stream bank stabilization	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, WP, DNR	$5,000.00

Goal 2.) Reduce soil Erosion from Construction sites							
OBJECTIVE A. Work with other agencies to educate about construction runoff							
1.) Provide annual professional workshops for contractors to address soil loss from building sites	x	x	x	x	x	HD, P&Z, MPCA	$10,000.00
2.) Hold demonstration days for county residences to promote proper use of erosion control BMP's	x	x	x	x	x	Cites, WP	$5,000.00
3.) Partner with highway department to demonstrate the correct installation of erosion control BMP's	x	x	x	x	x	HD, P&Z, MPCA	$2,000.00
4.) Provide informational pamphlets to new construction applicants on the impacts of development, particularly in sensitive areas	x	x	x	x	x	P&Z, WP	$5,000.00
5.) Meet annually with city councils to set education opportunities in each city	x	x	x	x	x	Cites, WP	$500.00
OBJECTIVE B. Implement and review ordinances							
1.) Provide landowners with shore land buffer ordinance information though Planning and Zoning	x	x	x	x	x	P&Z, WP	$1,000.00
2.) Review shore land and bluff land ordinances with planning and zoning the planning commisions and the county commissioners every other year		x		x		P&Z, WP, CB	$500.00
Goal 3. Protect and Restore Bank and Shoreline Erosion							
OBJECTIVE A. Educate and promote landowners on current protection efforts							
1.) Use GIS to identify areas of high need	x	x				WP, SWCD, NRCS	$5,000.00
2.) Use existing ordinances with state and federal programs to increase stream buffers by 50% over the next five years	x	x	x	x	x	WP, SWCD, NRCS, P&Z, CB	$5,000.00
3.) Pursue additional funding for buffer strip implementation	x	x	x	x	x	WP	$25,000.00
4.) Partner with conservation groups such as Trout Unlimited to restore the banks of trout streams	x	x	x	x	x	WP, SWCD, NRCS, CB, DNR	$1,000.00
SOIL EROSION TOTAL FUNDING NEEDED							**$291,000.00**
Nutrient and Manure Management							
Goal 1.) Reduce Nutrient Loading of Surface Waters from Agriculture							
OBJECTIVE A. Ensure proper manure management procedures are practiced throughout Wabasha County							

1.) Calibrate manure spreaders and educate farmers the economic benefits of proper manure management	x	x	x	x	x	WP, SWCD, CFO	$1,000.00
2.) Encourage producers under 300 animal units obtain appropriate Nutrient Management Plans, either a Mini Manure Management Plan or a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, CFO	$5,000.00
3.) Spot Check 5% of nutrient management plans to make sure they are being followed			x	x	x	SWCD, CFO	$1,500.00
4.)Provide each producer and applicator with a copy of "Applying Manure in Sensitive Areas" from MPCA when feedlots are re-registered	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, CFO, MPCA	$500.00
OBJECTIVE B. Provide education on ways to improve water quality							
1.) Provide informational handouts on methods to reduce field runoff of applied manure and the economic benefits to farmers during manure spot checks	x	x	x	x	x	MPCA, SWCD, CFO	$1,000.00
2.) Include feedlot runoff reduction worksheet with permitting information	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, CFO, P&Z	$500.00
3.) Educate new feedlot owners about feedlot rules and methods of reducing runoff from their lot	x	x	x	x	x	CFO	$500.00
4.) Work with producer groups to hold annual manure/nutrient management workshops	x	x	x	x	x	WP, SWCD, NRCS, CFO	$5,000.00
5.) Participate in ag waste workshops with the U of M Extension	x	x	x	x	x	UofM, CFO, SWCD, WP	$1,000.00
6.) Hold annual field days to demonstrate small feedlot fixes, and make farmers aware of current cost share opportunities	x	x	x	x	x	CFO, SWCD, WP	$5,000.00
OBJECTIVE C. Reduce runoff of commercial fertilizers from agriculutre fields							
1.) Target none livestock producers to obtain nutrient management plan through FSA newsletter	x	x	x	x	x	FSA, NRCS, SWCD, WP	$5,000.00
2.) Have annual meetings with fertilizer sales representative in the area on application rates	x	x	x	x	x	WP	$1,500.00
3.)Hold producer meetings and send mailings to encourage artificial fertilizer setbacks form sensitive areas	x	x	x	x	x	FSA, NRCS, SWCD, WP	$5,000.00
4.)Work with producer groups and Extension to conduct nutrient management workshops on the economic benefits of soil testing	x	x	x	x	x	UofM, NRCS, SWCD, WP	$5,000.00

Goal 2.) Reduce Nutrient Loading of Surface Waters From Urban Residences							
OBJECTIVE A. Educate homeowners about backyard conservation							
1.)Educate on the importance of keeping sewer drains free of trash and lawn litter through mailings	x	x	x	x	x	Cites, WP, P&Z	$1,000.00
2.) Work with municipalities to promote alternative management practices of roof water	x	x	x	x	x	Cites, WP	$1,500.00
3.) Hold backyard conservation demonstration days to promote conservation practices	x	x	x	x	x	Cites, WP, P&Z	$3,000.00
OBJECTIVE B. Urge homeowners to practice backyard conservation							
1.)Encourage home owners to direct runoff to pervious areas	x	x	x	x	x	Cites, WP, P&Z	$1,000.00
2.) Promote the use of rain barrels and rain gardens through demonstration sites and fact sheets	x	x	x	x	x	Cites, WP, P&Z	$5,000.00
3.) Work with lawn care business and residences to reduce amount of herbicides used on lawns by home owners	x	x	x	x	x	Cities, WP	$1,000.00
4.) Partner with lawn care businesses to make soil testing of lawns before fertilizer application standard procedure	x	x	x	x	x	Cities, WP	$1,000.00
OBJECTIVE C. Assist with implementing urban BMP's							
1.) Pursue funding to provide homeowners cost share dollars and incentive payments for backyard conservation	x	x	x	x	x	WP	$25,000.00
2.) Provide technical assistance to homeowners to install backyard conservation practices	x	x	x	x	x	Cites, WP, SWCD	$5,000.00
3.) Partner with city planers to leverage time to increase BMP installations	x	x	x	x	x	Cities, WP	$5,000.00
NUTRIENT AND MANURE MANAGEMENT TOTAL FUNDING NEEDED							**$86,000.00**
SSTS/Ground Water Protection							
Goal 1.) Protect ground water drinking water sources							
OBJECTIVE A. Manage wellhead protection areas							
1.) Support development of wellhead protection plans	x	x	x	x	x	MDH, SWCD, WP	$2,000.00
2.) Target landowners in the well head protection areas to use BMP's to prevent ground water contamination	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, NRCS, WP, P&Z	$5,000.00

3.)Reduce the use of commercial fertilizers and chemicals in the wellhead protection areas	x	x	x	x	x	WP	$5,000.00
4.) Use GIS to develop maps of wellhead protection areas and their sensitive features	x	x	x	x	x	MDH, SWCD, WP	$1,500.00
5.) Consider well head protection areas in land use decisions	x	x	x	x	x	P&Z, CB, WP, SWCD, NRCS	$1,500.00
OBJECTIVE B. Educate and assist private well owners with well protection							
1.)Educate well owners on setbacks from contamination sources through news letters	x	x	x	x	x	WP, PH, MDH	$5,000.00
2.)Educate landowners on well drilling code requirements for well construction when permit is issued	x	x	x	x	x	P&Z, DH, WP	$2,500.00
3.)Inform private well owners of the importance of regular well testing	x	x	x	x	x	PH, WP	$2,500.00
OBJECTIVE C. Promote the proper sealing of abandoned wells							
1.) Identify and locate abandoned with GPS as they are found on site visits and provide the landowner information on well sealing	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, PH, WP	$5,000.00
2.) Seek funding for cost share programs for sealing costs	x	x	x	x	x	WP	$50,000.00
3.) Educate homeowners on the importance of sealing abandoned wells	x	x	x	x	x	PH, WP	$5,000.00
Goal 2 Encourage proper management of new and existing onsite treatment systems							
OBJECTIVE A. Promote SSTS updates and management							
1.)Perform inspection of all new SSTS installation	x	x	x	x	x	PH	$10,000.00
2.)Keep a system inventory of all SSTS installations	x	x	x	x	x	PH, WP	$5,000.00
3.)Inspect percentage of existing systems periodically	x	x	x	x	x	PH	$15,000.00
4.) Work with pumping companies to notify homeowners of pumping requirements every 3 years	x	x	x	x	x	PH, WP	$5,000.00
5.)Provide training programs for designers and installers	x	x	x	x	x	PH, WP	$5,000.00
6.) Give home owners SSTS maintenance information at time of installation	x	x	x	x	x	PH, WP, P&Z	$5,000.00
7.)Pursue the possibility of a county low interest loan program for new SSTS installations	x	x	x	x	x	CB, PH, WP	
Goal 3 Assist with community treatment systems							
OBJECTIVE A. Encourage the installation of treatment facilities							

1.) Partner with regional coordinators to provide wastewater education to unsewered communities	x	x	x	x	x	SEWRB, WP, PH, MDH	$5,000.00
2.) Assist unsewered communities with installing waste treatment facilities	x	x	x	x	x	SEWRB, WP, PH, MDH	$10,000.00
3.) Provide technical assistance to communities to get 2 communities adequate waste treatment facilities	x	x	x	x	x	SEWRB, WP, PH, MDH	$10,000.00
4.) Work with community leaders to pursue funding for the facilities	x	x	x	x	x	SEWRB, WP, Communities	$50,000.00
SSTS/GROUND WATER PROTECTION FUNDING NEEDED							**$205,000.00**
Pasture and Forest Land Management							
Goal 1.) Improve quality and quantity of current pasture conditions							
OBJECTIVE A. Promote and assist landowner to change to grazing management							
1.)Increase sustainable rotational grazing systems by 25%, with priority on those near riparian areas	x	x	x	x	x	NRCS, SWCD, WP, CFO	$10,000.00
2.)Educate Producers on the economic and environmental benefits of rotational grazing	x	x	x	x	x	UofM, SWCD, NRCS, MDA	$5,000.00
3.) Conduct pasture condition survey county wide and use the information to contact landowners to change from continuous to controlled grazing to improve conditions	x	x				WP, SWCD	$15,000.00
4.) Collaborate with the Grazing Land Conservation Initiative (GLCI) and hold grazing work shops to educate interested producers on the benefits of grazing and to create a positive image of livestock producers throughout the county	x	x	x	x	x	UofM, SWCD, NRCS, MDA, WP	$5,000.00
5.) Work with other south eastren Soil and Water Conservation Districts to hire an area grazing specialist			x	x	x	SWCD, WP	$50,000.00
Goal 2.) Improve quality of forest land and increase forest management awareness							
OBJECTIVE A. Educate and promote proper forest management							
1.)Educate land owners on the economic and environmental benefits of proper forest land management	x	x	x	x	x	DNR, WP, SWCD	$5,000.00
2.) Partner with DNR forestry to educate citizens on invasive species and how to properly remove	x	x	x	x	x	DNR, WP, SWCD	$10,000.00

3.) Provide information to homeowners on wind breaks and shelterbelts through FSA newsletters	x	x	x	x	x	DNR, WP, SWCD, NRCS	$10,000.00
PASTURE AND FOREST LAND MANAGEMENT FUNDING NEEDED							**$110,000.00**
Impaired Waters							
Goal 1.) Address impaired surface waters in Wabasha County							
OBJECTIVE A. Identify impaired surface waters							
1.)Assist with developing and implementing TMDL plans	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, WP, CB	$5,000.00
2.)Provide technical assistance for TMDL studies	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, WP	$1,500.00
3.)Participate in TMDL efforts within the County	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, WP	$2,000.00
4.)Address the surface water according to its impairment	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, WP	$5,000.00
OBJECTIVE B. Target surface waters to remove from the impaired waters list							
1.)Market available programs to landowners	x	x	x	x	x	SWCD, WP, NRCS, FSA	$2,500.00
2.)Partner with municipalities and other agencies	x	x	x	x	x	Cities, WP, SWCD, MPCA, SEWRB, NRCS, DNR	$1,500.00
3.)Target sub watersheds of the impaired surface water	x	x	x	x	x	NRCS, SWCD, FSA	$5,000.00
4.)Develop an inventory and target area of the watershed by using GIS	x	x	x	x	x	WP, SWCD	$2,500.00
5.)Make public aware of impaired waters and educate them of ways to improve the conditions of the water	x	x	x	x	x	MPCA, SWCD, NRCS, FSA, CB	$5,000.00
IMPAIRED WATERS FUNDING NEEDED							**$30,000.00**
TOTAL FUNDING NEEDED							**$722,000.00**

Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Water Planner (WP), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Wabasha County Highway Department (HD), Wabasha County Public Health (PH), Wabasha County Planing and Zoning (P&Z), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Wabasha County Feedlot Officer (CFO), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), South East Minnesot Water Resource Board (SEWRB), Universty of Minnesota Extension (UofM), Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), County Board of Commissioners (CB)

Implementation Schedule for Ongoing Activities

Feedlots

Wabasha County currently runs their feedlot program under the Natural Resource Block Grant (NRBG). The responsibilities of this program include enforcement of Minnesota Rules Chapter 7020 and oversees permitting for new and expanding facilities of up to 1000 AU. Current staffing levels can be maintained as long as state funding is available to the county and regional technical assistance grants are continued to address emerging needs. This should ensure that program goals laid out in the water plan and in annual feedlot program work plans will be met.

Wetland Conservation Act (WCA)

Wabasha County will continue to administer the Wetland Conservation Act for the entire county with the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) responsible for administration of the program. Funding for WCA administration is provided to the SWCD, by the County through the NRBG.

Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS)

Wabasha County enforces Minnesota Rules Chapter 7080 in the entire county. Any changes to 7080 are adopted by reference in the county's ordinance. All new SSTS are permitted through the Zoning Office and inspected by environmental services. Current funding is provided through the NRBG for staffing, however additional money could be used for inventories and low interest loans.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Reviewing the Local Water Management Plan Update for Wabasha County (Minnesota Statutes , Section 103B.311, Subdivision 4 and Section 103B.315, Subdivision 5.)

ORDER APPROVING LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Whereas, the Wabasha County Board of Commissioners submitted a Local Water Management Plan Update (Plan Update) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on September 10, 2007, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5, and

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the Plan Update;

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On March 16, 2005, the Board received a Priority Concerns Scoping Document from Wabasha County, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.312.

2. On June 22, 2005, the Board approved official comments on the Wabasha County Priority Concerns Scoping Document, which were mailed to the County on June 22, 2005.

3. The priority concerns the local water management plan addresses include:

    a. **Soil Erosion** – prevention of soil erosion and sedimentation from runoff from agriculture land, construction sites and stream banks
    b. **Nutrient and Manure Management** – protection of surface waters by reducing contaminates entering the water. Use correct methods of prevent nutrient loading from manure and artificial fertilizers both from agriculture and urban areas.
    c. **ISTS/Ground Water Protection** – protect ground water from contamination to ensure drinking water aquifers maintain good quality.
    d. **Forest and Pasture Land** – improve forest and pasture land management to reduce soil erosion and increase water quality
    e. **Impaired Waters** – address impaired watersheds throughout the county to improve water quality.

4. On September 10, 2007, the Board received the Wabasha County Plan Update, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the plan update to the Board for final State review pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.315, Subd. 5.

5. On December 6, 2007, the Southern Water Planning Review Committee of the Board reviewed the recommendation of the state review agencies regarding final approval of the Wabasha County Plan Update. Recommendations of the state review agencies were:
    a. Minnesota Department of Agriculture recommends approval;
    b. Minnesota Department of Health recommends approval;
    c. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources had no comment;
    d. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency recommends approval;
    e. Minnesota Environmental Quality Board had no comment;
    f. Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources regional staff recommends approval;
    g. Board regional Water Planning Review Committee recommends approval.

6. This update will be in effect until December 31, 2012.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Water Plan Update of Wabasha County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, 103B.315, Subd. 5.

2. The Wabasha County Plan Update attached to this Order states water and water-related problems within the county; possible solutions; general goals, objectives, and actions of the county; and an implementation program. The attached Plan Update is in conformance with the requirements of M.S. Section 103B.301.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached update of the Wabasha Local Water Management Plan.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this nineteenth day of December, 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

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BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

WASECA COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER PLAN EXTENSION REQUEST

Waseca County has requested a one-year extension of their existing Comprehensive Water Plan in order that the update process is completed. We have received a resolution from Waseca County requesting the extension and explaining the reason for the extension request. The county Land Use Plan, Land Use Zoning Map and Zoning Ordinance updates limited staff time to complete the water plan update. In addition special projects involving Highway 14 and Waseca Bio Ethanol have required additional time.

The county has stepped up efforts to updater the Comprehensive Water Plan and has completed the Priority Concerns Scoping Document for the December 6, 2007 review by the BWSR southern water plan review committee. Upon approval of this committee I expect the completed draft and state agency review of the updated plan during January 2008.

Thus, because the county is making great strides to complete the update process, I fully support the one-year extension request of Waseca County to complete the update of the County Comprehensive water Plan.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Hughes
Board Conservationist
December 5, 2007

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF THE
WASECA COUNTY
COMPREHENSIVE WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

The following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Kuhns and moved for adoption at a Regular Meeting held on November 6, 2007 at the Waseca County East Annex, Waseca, MN:

WHEREAS, 1995 amendments to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, gave the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources authority to extend the ending date of local water plans for a period not to exceed two years, and

WHEREAS, efforts and responsibilities associated with a revision of the Waseca County Comprehensive Land Use Plan and Land Use Zoning Map completed during the past five years as well as review and revision of the Waseca County Zoning Ordinance this year with anticipated completion next year, limited staff for the Water Management program and the Planning and Zoning Office (which has included unanticipated projects and major permits such as the new Highway 14 , US Bio ethanol plant, various conditional use permits, appeals, subdivisions and plats, changes in staff, and new feedlot construction) have slowed the current revision process, and

WHEREAS, Waseca County assures continued effort towards completion of the Comprehensive Water Plan revision, and

WHEREAS, Waseca County will not order or commence any project using the authorities under 103B.331 subd 3 and 4 until completion of the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan revision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Waseca County Board of Commissioners requests from the Board of Water and Soil Resources a one-year extension of their existing local water plan to December 31, 2008 in order to complete the revision process.

Seconded by Commissioner Peterson and the same being put to a vote was duly carried. This Resolution shall become effective immediately and without publication.

Adopted by the following vote: Ayes 5 Nays 0
Dated this 6th day of November, 2007.

Chairman, Waseca County

ATTEST:
Joan Manthe
Auditor, Waseca County

CERTIFICATION

State of Minnesota)
County of Waseca)

I, Joan Manthe, duly elected, qualified and acting Auditor for the County of Waseca, State of Minnesota, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of a Resolution with the original minutes of the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, Waseca County, Minnesota, at their session held on the 6th day of November, 2007, now on file in my office, and have found the same to be a true and correct copy thereof.

Witness my hand and official seal at Waseca, Minnesota, this 6th day of November, 2007.

Joan Manthe
County Auditor

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan for Waseca County	ORDER EXTENDING WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Whereas, the Waseca County Board of Commissioners has a state-approved Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (Plan) that is effective until December 31, 2007, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.301; and

Whereas, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.311, Subdivision 4 (a) (5).

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

On September 5, 2007, Waseca County's Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) was distributed for state agencies review pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.305, Subdivision 8a.

On December 6, 2007, the Board's southern region water planning review committee (Committee) met with representatives of Waseca County to discuss the county's PCSD and review comments that were received. The priority concerns to be addressed in the new Plan were deemed appropriate by the Committee. The Committee's decision was to present to the Board a recommendation of approval of the Waseca County PCSD.

On November 16, 2007, the Board received a resolution from Waseca County requesting a one-year extension of their Plan. The primary reason for the extension request is that the efforts and responsibilities associated with a revision of the Waseca County Comprehensive Land Use Plan and Land Use Zoning Map completed during the past five years as well as review and revision of the Waseca County Zoning Ordinance this year with anticipated completion next year, limited staff for the Water Management program and the Planning and Zoning Office (which has included unanticipated projects and major permits such as the new Highway 14, US Bio ethanol plant, various conditional use permits, appeals, subdivisions and plats, changes in staff, and new feedlot construction) have slowed the current revision process.

On December 5, 2007, Board staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Waseca County.

On December 19, 2007, the Committee presented its recommendation of approval of the Waseca County PCSD to the Board. The Board adopted the Committee's recommendation.

CONCLUSIONS

All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan of Waseca County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.311, Subdivision 4 (a) (5).

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the extension of the Waseca County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan until December 31, 2008. Waseca County shall strive to complete the updating of their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan in a timely manner. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this nineteenth day of December 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

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BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

October 11, 2007

Mr. Jeff Nielsen
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
261 Highway 15 South
New Ulm, MN 56073

Dear Jeff:

Waseca County has submitted their Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) for the 2007 Local Water Management Plan Update to BWSR and other state agencies. BWSR received this document on September 5, 2007.

State agency comments were received from DNR, MDA, MDH, and MPCA. DNR concurred with the priority concerns identified and felt the priority concern identification process was adequate. DNR asked the county to consider amending the zoning ordinance to require inspection/upgrade of any ISTS at the time of sale, to consider promoting the use of rain gardens, and providing opportunities for nurseries and landscapers to gain expertise regarding rain gardens and the use of native species. The DNR commented that more education and incentives for urban residents regarding storm water runoff from their property and adjacent streets would result in improved storm water treatment. The DNR asked that the county consider adopting the concepts of conservation development and subdivisions within shore land areas as a requirement for development to occur. This action will improve water quality, reduce storm water quantity, improve the taxable value of these residences over time, and protect the natural beauty of the area. Lastly, the DNR asked the county to consider requiring that improvements to public drainage systems and/or the construction of new systems be designed with sufficient water retention so as not to increase existing peak flows. This action will help keep flooding to a minimum and improve surface water quality entering downstream lakes. The DNR looks forward to continued collaboration with Waseca County in their water planning.

The MPCA concurred with the priority concerns and commended the county's efforts to link local water management and impaired waters/TMDLs as well as the county's focus on public education, and finally for the county's attention to drainage/wetlands management. MPCA mentioned that erosion and runoff and storm water management are excellent concepts and that it may be helpful to clarify their differences. The MPCA asked the county to clarify that public drainage system statistics mentioned in the MPCA priority concern letter came from the county water plan rather than MPCA. The MPCA commented that several priority concerns not addressed in the plan could be aligned with the priority concerns that were selected. MPCA encouraged the county to promote and encourage citizen stream monitoring along the Upper Lesueur River and Boot Creek to help people recognize that land use management in the headwaters has downstream effects. MPCA provided a link to water quality data that may be useful for the county. MPCA looks forward to reviewing the forthcoming plan and is available to assist in the development and implementation of the plan.

Bemidji
3217 Bemidji Avenue N.
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
217 S. 7th Street
Suite 202
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
413 W. Stanton Avenue
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
40 16th Street S.E.
Suite A
Rochester, MN 55904
phone (507) 285-7458
fax (507) 280-2875

Saint Paul
One West Water Street
Suite 250
Saint Paul, MN 55107
phone (651) 282-9969
fax (651) 284-0000

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MDH concurred with the priority concerns identified and felt the process to identify the priority concerns was commendable. MDH recommended that the county water plan include a list of all public water suppliers and continue providing cost share funding for sealing unused wells.

MDA commented that the process to identify priority concerns was commendable and concurred with the priority concerns identified.

No other state agency comments were received during this review period; however, in addition to PCSD comments, the MPCA, BWSR, MDA, and numerous other local stakeholders provided comments early on in the process.

On behalf of the BWSR I have completed my review of the Waseca County PCSD and recommend the BWSR concur with the priority concerns identified.

I look forward to working with Waseca County elected officials, staff, and residents as the plan update moves forward. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at 507-389-6784.

Sincerely,

Chris Hughes
Board Conservationist

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

December 19, 2007

Waseca County Commissioners
c/o Angie Knish
Waseca County Water Plan Coordinator
Waseca County East Annex Building
300 North State Street, Suite 2
Waseca, MN 56093

Dear Waseca County Commissioners:

RE: Official Comments Pertaining to the State Review of the Waseca County Priority Concerns Scoping Document

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.313, subdivision 5, this letter communicates the State's official comments pertaining to the priority concerns Waseca County has chosen to address in the update of their Comprehensive Local Water Management (CLWM) Plan. The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), along with the state review agencies, received the Waseca County Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) on September 5, 2007.

Waseca County has reviewed the identified concerns raised during the public input process and selected the following priority concerns for inclusion in the update of the CLWM Plan.

- Reducing Priority Pollutants
- Drainage/Wetlands Management
- Natural Corridors and Shoreland Management
- Public Education

The BWSR received comments from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Department of Health (MDH) and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) on the Waseca County PCSD during the official review period. DNR concurred with the priority concerns identified and felt the priority concern identification process was adequate. DNR asked the County to consider amending the zoning ordinance to require inspection/upgrade of any ISTS at the time of sale, to consider promoting the use of rain gardens and providing opportunities for nurseries and landscapers to gain expertise regarding rain gardens and the use of native species. The DNR commented that more education and incentives for urban residents regarding stormwater runoff from their property and adjacent streets would result in improved stormwater treatment. The DNR asked that the County

Bemidji
701 Minnesota Avenue
Suite 234
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Trail
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
2300 Silver Creek
Road N.E.
Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 281-7797
fax (507) 285 7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

consider adopting the concepts of conservation development and subdivisions within shoreland areas as a requirement for development to occur. This action will improve water quality, reduce stormwater quantity, improve the taxable value of these residences over time and protect the natural beauty of the area. Lastly, the DNR asked the County to consider requiring that improvements to public drainage systems and/or the construction of new systems be designed with sufficient water retention so as not to increase existing peak flows. This action will help keep flooding to a minimum and improve surface water quality entering downstream lakes. The DNR looks forward to continued collaboration with Waseca County in their water planning.

MDA commented that the process to identify priority concerns was commendable and concurred with the priority concerns identified.

The MPCA concurred with the priority concerns and commended the County's efforts to link local water management and impaired waters/TMDLs as well as the County's focus on public education, and finally for the County's attention to drainage/wetlands management. MPCA mentioned that erosion and runoff and stormwater management are excellent concepts and that it may be helpful to clarify their differences. The MPCA asked the County to clarify that public drainage system statistics mentioned in the MPCA priority concern letter came from the County water plan rather than MPCA. The MPCA commented that several priority concerns not addressed in the plan could be aligned with the priority concerns that were selected. MPCA encouraged the County to promote and encourage citizen stream monitoring along the Upper Lesueur River and Boot Creek to help people recognize that land use management in the headwaters has downstream effects. MPCA provided a link to water quality data that may be useful for the County, mentioned that the agency looks forward to reviewing the forthcoming plan and is available to assist in the development and implementation of the plan.

MDH concurred with the priority concerns identified and felt the process to identify the priority concerns was commendable. MDH recommended that the county water plan include a list of all public water suppliers and continue providing cost share funding for sealing unused wells.

No other state agency comments were received during this review period. In addition to PCSD comments from the DNR, MDA, MPCA, BWSR, and MDH numerous other local stakeholders provided comments early on in the process.

The BWSR southern region water planning review committee (hereinafter referred to as Committee) met on December 6, 2007, to discuss the content of the PCSD, state review agency comments on the PCSD, and recommendations for the content of the final CLWM Plan.

The Committee commends Waseca County for the process they used to select the concerns – including soliciting input from local government, citizens, and state agencies – and incorporating that information into the four priority concern areas. The priority concerns to be addressed in the CLWM Plan are deemed to be appropriate; the Committee does not recommend or require any changes to the PCSD as drafted.

Sincerely,

Randy Kramer, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

cc: Becky Balk, MDA
John Wells, EQB
Art Persons, MDH
Mark Matuska, DNR
David L. Johnson, MPCA
Joe Martin, MDA
Dan Wilson, MDH
Dana Allen, BWSR Board
Brian Kletscher, BWSR Board
Paul Langseth, BWSR Board
Jeff Nielsen, BWSR Southern Region Supervisor
Chris Hughes, Board Conservationist
Waseca Soil and Water Conservation District

Bemidji
701 Minnesota Avenue
Suite 234
Bemidji, MN 56601
phone (218) 755-4235
fax (218) 755-4201

Brainerd
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
phone (218) 828-2383
fax (218) 828-6036

Duluth
394 S. Lake Avenue
Room 403
Duluth, MN 55802
phone (218) 723-4752
fax (218) 723-4794

Fergus Falls
1004 Frontier Trail
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
phone (218) 736-5445
fax (218) 736-7215

Marshall
1400 E. Lyon Street
Box 267
Marshall, MN 56258
phone (507) 537-6060
fax (507) 537-6368

New Ulm
261 Highway 15 S.
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone (507) 359-6074
fax (507) 359-6018

Rochester
2300 Silver Creek
Road N.E.
Rochester, MN 55906
phone (507) 281-7797
fax (507) 285-7144

Saint Paul
520 Lafayette Road N.
Saint Paul, MN 55155
phone (651) 296-3767
fax (651) 297-5615

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WATONWAN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER PLAN EXTENSION REQUEST

Watonwan County has requested a one-year extension of their existing Comprehensive Water Plan in order that the update process is completed. We have received a resolution from Watonwan County requesting the extension and explaining the reason for the extension request. The Watonwan County Water Plan Coordinator underestimated the scope and range of effort and level of experience and expertise required to complete the plan and realized late in the process that it would take more time and organization to complete the effort that has been allotted. The Water Plan Coordinator has taken responsibility for insufficient progress to date.

The county's efforts to update the Comprehensive Water Plan have been increased and the county has completed the draft Priority Concerns Scoping Document (PCSD) and held it's public information meeting on the draft document. I expect the completed PCSD and state agency review of the document will be completed during January 2008.

The county has improved its efforts to complete the update process and I support the one-year extension request of Watonwan County to complete the update of the County Comprehensive Water Plan.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Hughes
Board Conservationist
December 5, 2007

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION
OF THE WATONWAN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

The following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Baerg and moved for adoption at a Regular Meeting held on November 20th, 2007 at the Watonwan County Courthouse, St. James, MN:

WHEREAS, 1995 amendments to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, gave the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources authority to extend the ending date of local water plans for a period not to exceed two years, and

WHEREAS, the Watonwan County Comprehensive Water Management Plan also serves as the Work Plan for the Watonwan Soil and Water Conservation District which is currently functioning with a vacated Board of Supervisors, delaying the ability of a seated Board of Supervisors to provide input and approval of said Plan, and

WHEREAS, our efforts are in the scoping document phase and will not be scheduled for hearing by the Board of Water and Soil Resource Board for approval in time to meet the existing completion target dates, and

WHEREAS, the Watonwan County Water Plan Coordinator has underestimated the scope and range of effort and the level of experience and expertise required to complete the Plan and has realized late in the process that it would take more time and organization to complete the effort than has been allotted, with the Coordinator taking full responsibility for insufficient progress having been made as of this date.

WHEREAS, Watonwan County assures continued effort towards completion of the Comprehensive Local Water Plan revision, and

WHEREAS, Watonwan County will not order or commence any project using the authorities under 103B.331 subd. 3 and 4 until completion of the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan revision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Watonwan County Board of Commissioners requested from the Board of Water and Soil Resources a one year extension of their existing local water plan to December 31, 2008 in order to complete the revision process.

Seconded by Commissioner Sanders and the same being put to a vote was duly carried. This Resolution shall become effective immediately and without publication.

Adopted by the following vote: Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

CERTIFICATION

I, Donald Kuhlman, duly elected and qualified Auditor of Watonwan County, State of Minnesota, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of a Resolution with the original minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Commissioners, Watonwan County, Minnesota, at their session held on the 20th day of November, 2007, now on file in my office, and have found the same to be a true and correct copy thereof.

Witness my hand and official seal at St. James, Minnesota the 20th day of November, 2007.

Donald Kuhlman
Watonwan County Auditor

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Extending the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan for Watonwan County

ORDER
WATER
EXTENDING
MANAGEMENT
PLAN

Whereas, the Watonwan County Board of Commissioners has a state-approved Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (Plan) that is effective until December 31, 2007, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.301; and

Whereas, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) has authorization to grant extensions pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.311, Subdivision 4 (a) (5).

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

On November 30, 2007, the Board received a resolution from Watonwan County requesting a one-year extension of their Plan. The primary reason for the extension request is that the Watonwan County Water Plan Coordinator has underestimated the scope and range of effort and the level of experience and expertise required to complete the Plan and has realized late in the process that it would take more time and organization to complete the effort than has been allotted. The Water Plan Coordinator has taken responsibility for insufficient progress to date.

On December 5, 2007, Board staff reviewed and recommended approval of the extension request by Watonwan County.

CONCLUSIONS

All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of extending the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan of Watonwan County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.311, Subdivision 4 (a) (5).

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the extension of the Watonwan County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan until December 31, 2008. Watonwan County shall strive to complete the updating of their Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan in a timely manner. Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this nineteenth day of December 2007.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

November 15, 2007

TO: Jeff Nielsen, BWSR Southern Regional Supervisor

FROM: Thomas Fischer, BWSR Board Conservationist

SUBJECT: **Kandiyohi County Local Water Management Plan Amendment - Final Review**

On December 4, 2002, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), by board order, approved the Kandiyohi County 2003 – 2012 ten-year Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update, which contained a 2003 – 2007 five-year Focus Plan (implementation plan). The board order stipulated that Kandiyohi County was required to revise/update the Focus Plan by December 31, 2007.

In its December 12, 2002, letter notifying the county of approval of the Plan Update, the BWSR noted the impressive work of Mid-Minnesota Development Commission in assisting Kandiyohi County with the Plan Update. This letter also stated the Kandiyohi County staff and water plan advisory members were to be commended for writing a plan that clearly presented water management goals, actions and priorities.

On December 20, 2006, the Kandiyohi County Board of Commissioners resolved to amend its five-year Focus Plan as stipulated by the BWSR. The county followed the process for amending as described within the Comprehensive Local Water Management's guidance document developed by the BWSR.

On August 17, 2007, the BWSR regional staff received the required documentation and 2008 Addendum to the Kandiyohi County Comprehensive Local Water Plan. The 2008 Addendum contains a brief Executive Summary (overview of the county's water plan, information on the revision of the five-year Focus Plan, recent water plan accomplishments, on-going programs administered within the county) and the new 2008-2012 Focus Plan. The Focus Plan addresses the following five goals:

- Protect and improve the quality of water resources.
- Maintain an adequate supply of surface water for all users.
- Increase wetland preservation and restoration efforts.
- Expand our knowledge and understanding of water resources.
- Provide for effective and efficient plan administration.

I have actively participated with and provided guidance/comments/advice/recommendations to Kandiyohi County, its consultant, and the task force throughout this amendment process. I believe the 2008 – 2012 five-year Focus Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statute 103B and the Comprehensive Local Water Management guidance documents developed by the BWSR. I hereby recommend approval of the Kandiyohi County 2008 – 2012 five-year Focus Plan.

I look forward to assisting the county in the implementation of its 2008 – 2012 five-year Focus Plan. Water Plan Coordinator Jeff Bredberg and Michael Sharp of Mid-Minnesota Development Commission should be commended for their leadership throughout the plan amendment process.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Reviewing the Local Water Management Plan Amendment for **Kandiyohi County** (Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.314, Subdivision 6)

ORDER APPROVING LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT

Whereas, on December 4, 2002, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board), by Board Order, approved the Kandiyohi County 2003 – 2012 Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update (Plan), which contained a 2003 – 2007 five-year Focus Plan; and

Whereas, this Board Order stipulated that Kandiyohi County was required to update the five-year Focus Plan by December 31, 2007; and

Whereas, the Kandiyohi County Board of Commissioners submitted the Kandiyohi County Plan 2008 Addendum to the Board on August 17, 2007; and

Whereas, this 2008 Addendum contains the updated five-year Focus Plan as ordered by the Board; and

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the 2008 Addendum.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On December 22, 2006, the Board received a resolution from Kandiyohi County stating its intent to amend its current Plan by providing for the required update of the five-year Focus Plan, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.314, Subd. 6.

2. On January 3, 2007, Board staff provided information on the amendment process to Kandiyohi County.

3. On March 8, 2007, Kandiyohi County provided proper notice to local units of government and state agencies of the county's intent to amend its five-year Focus Plan and invited all recipients to participate in the amendment process.

4. On March 20, 2007, Kandiyohi County convened its water plan task force to initiate the five-year Focus Plan update. Two additional meetings were conducted.

5. Kandiyohi County received written comments from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture on March 29, 2007, and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on April 19, 2007.

6. Kandiyohi County received written comments from the Buffalo Creek Watershed District on April 13, 2007.

7. No other state agency or local government unit provided written comments to Kandiyohi County.

8. The final document developed by Kandiyohi County, which includes the revised five-year Focus Plan 2008 - 2012, is entitled the 2008 Addendum.

9. On July 17, 2007, after providing for proper public notice, Kandiyohi County conducted a public hearing on the proposed 2008 Addendum. No additional comments were submitted at the hearing.

10. On August 17, 2007, the BWSR received the Kandiyohi County 2008 Addendum, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the 2008 Addendum, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.314, Subd. 6.

11. On December 6, 2007, the Board's regional Water Planning Committee (Committee) reviewed the Kandiyohi County 2008 Addendum, pursuant to 103B.301 and guidelines established by the Board.
12. Board regional staff provided its recommendation of approval to the Committee.
13. The Committee voted to recommend approval to the full Board at its next scheduled meeting.

14. This 2008 Addendum will be in effect until **December 31, 2012.**

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Water Plan Amendment of Kandiyohi County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, 103B.314, Subd. 6.

2. The Kandiyohi County 2008 Addendum attached to this Order states goals, objectives, and actions of the county to address the five-year Focus Plan for 2008 - 2012. The 2008 Addendum, as well as the previously approved Kandiyohi County 2003 – 2012 Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update, is in conformance with the requirements of M.S. Section 103B.301.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached 2008 Addendum of the Kandiyohi County Water Management Plan for January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2012. Kandiyohi County will be required to provide for a complete update of its Water Management Plan prior to December 31, 2012.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this **19th day of December, 2007**.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

November 15, 2007

TO: Jeff Nielsen, BWSR Southern Regional Supervisor

FROM: Thomas Fischer, BWSR Board Conservationist

SUBJECT: **McLeod County Local Water Management Plan Amendment - Final Review**

On December 4, 2002, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), by board order, approved the McLeod County 2003 – 2012 ten-year Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update, which contained a 2003 – 2007 five-year Focus Plan (implementation plan). The board order stipulated that McLeod County was required to revise/update the Focus Plan by December 31, 2007.

In its December 12, 2002, letter notifying the county of approval of the Plan Update, the BWSR noted the impressive work of Mid-Minnesota Development Commission in assisting McLeod County with the Plan Update. This letter also stated the McLeod County staff and water plan advisory members were to be commended for writing a plan that clearly presented water management goals, actions and priorities.

On December 19, 2006, the McLeod County Board of Commissioners resolved to amend its five-year Focus Plan as stipulated by the BWSR. The county followed the process for amending as described within the Comprehensive Local Water Management's guidance document developed by the BWSR.

On October 19, 2007, the BWSR regional staff received the required documentation and 2008 Addendum to the McLeod County Comprehensive Local Water Plan. The 2008 Addendum contains a brief Executive Summary (overview of the county's water plan, information on the revision of the five-year Focus Plan, recent water plan accomplishments, on-going programs administered within the county) and the new 2008-2012 Focus Plan. The Focus Plan addresses the following five goals:

- Protect and improve the quality of water resources.
- Increase wetland preservation and restoration efforts.
- Promote sustainable development and land use.
- Expand our knowledge and understanding of water resources.
- Provide for effective and efficient plan administration.

I have actively participated with and provided guidance/comments/advice/recommendations to McLeod County, its consultant, and the task force throughout this amendment process. I believe the 2008 – 2012 five-year Focus Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statute 103B and the Comprehensive Local Water Management guidance documents developed by the BWSR. I hereby recommend approval of the McLeod County 2008 – 2012 five-year Focus Plan.

I look forward to assisting the county in the implementation of its 2008 – 2012 five-year Focus Plan. Water Plan Coordinator Roger Berggren and Michael Sharp of Mid-Minnesota Development Commission should be commended for their leadership throughout the plan amendment process.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Reviewing the Local Water Management Plan Amendment for **McLeod County** (Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.314, Subdivision 6)

ORDER APPROVING LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT

Whereas, on December 4, 2002, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board), by Board Order, approved the McLeod County 2003 – 2012 Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update (Plan), which contained a 2003 – 2007 five-year Focus Plan; and

Whereas, this Board Order stipulated that McLeod County was required to update the five-year Focus Plan by December 31, 2007; and

Whereas, the McLeod County Board of Commissioners submitted the McLeod County Plan 2008 Addendum to the Board on October 19, 2007; and

Whereas, this 2008 Addendum contains the updated five-year Focus Plan as ordered by the Board; and

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the 2008 Addendum.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On December 22, 2006, the Board received a resolution from McLeod County stating its intent to amend its current Plan by providing for the required update of the five-year Focus Plan, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.314, Subd. 6.

2. On January 3, 2007, Board staff provided information on the amendment process to McLeod County.

3. On March 22, 2007, McLeod County provided proper notice to local units of government and state agencies of the county's intent to amend its five-year Focus Plan and invited all recipients to participate in the amendment process.

4. On April 10, 2007, McLeod County convened its water plan task force to initiate the five-year Focus Plan update. One additional meeting was conducted.

5. McLeod County received written comments from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on April 19, 2007, and the Minnesota Department of Health on May 7, 2007.

6. McLeod County received written comments from the Buffalo Creek Watershed District on April 2, 2007 and the Winsted Lake Watershed Association on April 9, 2007.

7. No other state agency or local government unit provided written comments to McLeod County.

8. The final document developed by McLeod County, which includes the revised five-year Focus Plan 2008 - 2012, is entitled the 2008 Addendum.

9. On October 2, 2007, after providing for proper public notice, McLeod County conducted a public hearing on the proposed 2008 Addendum. No additional comments were submitted at the hearing.

10. On October 19, 2007, the BWSR received the McLeod County 2008 Addendum, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the 2008 Addendum, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.314, Subd. 6.

11. On December 6, 2007, the Board's regional Water Planning Committee (Committee) reviewed the McLeod County 2008 Addendum, pursuant to 103B.301 and guidelines established by the Board.
    a. Board regional staff provided its recommendation of approval to the Committee.
    b. The Committee voted to recommend approval to the full Board at its next scheduled meeting.

12. This 2008 Addendum will be in effect until **December 31, 2012.**

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Water Plan Amendment of McLeod County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, 103B.314, Subd. 6.

2. The McLeod County 2008 Addendum attached to this Order states goals, objectives, and actions of the county to address the five-year Focus Plan for 2008 - 2012. The 2008 Addendum, as well as the previously approved McLeod County 2003 – 2012 Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update, is in conformance with the requirements of M.S. Section 103B.301.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached 2008 Addendum of the McLeod County Water Management Plan for January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2012. McLeod County will be required to provide for a complete, update of its Water Management Plan prior to December 31, 2012.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this **19th day of December, 2007**.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

November 15, 2007

TO: Jeff Nielsen, BWSR Southern Regional Supervisor

FROM: Thomas Fischer, BWSR Board Conservationist

SUBJECT: **Meeker County Local Water Management Plan Amendment - Final Review**

On December 4, 2002, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), by board order, approved the Meeker County 2003 – 2012 ten-year Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update, which contained a 2003 – 2007 five-year Focus Plan (implementation plan). The board order stipulated that Meeker County was required to revise/update the Focus Plan by December 31, 2007.

In its December 12, 2002, letter notifying the county of approval of the Plan Update, the BWSR noted the impressive work of Mid-Minnesota Development Commission in assisting Meeker County with the Plan Update. This letter also stated the Meeker County staff and water plan advisory members were to be commended for writing a plan that clearly presented water management goals, actions and priorities.

On November 21, 2006, the Meeker County Board of Commissioners resolved to amend its five-year Focus Plan as stipulated by the BWSR. The county followed the process for amending as described within the Comprehensive Local Water Management's guidance document developed by the BWSR.

On August 17, 2007, the BWSR regional staff received the required documentation and 2008 Addendum to the Meeker County Comprehensive Local Water Plan. The 2008 Addendum contains a brief Executive Summary (overview of the county's water plan, information on the revision of the five-year Focus Plan, recent water plan accomplishments, on-going programs administered within the county) and the new 2008-2012 Focus Plan. The Focus Plan addresses the following five goals:

- Protect and improve the quality of water resources.
- Maintain an adequate supply of surface water for all users.
- Protect and restore critical areas.
- Expand our knowledge and understanding of water resources.
- Provide for effective and efficient plan administration.

I have actively participated with and provided guidance/comments/advice/recommendations to Meeker County, its consultant, and the task force throughout this amendment process. I believe the 2008 – 2012 five-year Focus Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statute 103B and the Comprehensive Local Water Management guidance documents developed by the BWSR. I hereby recommend approval of the Meeker County 2008 – 2012 five-year Focus Plan.

I look forward to assisting the county in the implementation of its 2008 – 2012 five-year Focus Plan. Water Plan Coordinator Paul Virnig and Michael Sharp of Mid-Minnesota Development Commission should be commended for their leadership throughout the plan amendment process.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Reviewing the Local Water Management Plan Amendment for **Meeker County** (Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.314, Subdivision 6)

ORDER APPROVING LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT

Whereas, on December 4, 2002, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board), by Board Order, approved the Meeker County 2003 – 2012 Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update (Plan), which contained a 2003 – 2007 five-year Focus Plan; and

Whereas, this Board Order stipulated that Meeker County was required to update the five-year Focus Plan by December 31, 2007; and

Whereas, the Meeker County Board of Commissioners submitted the Meeker County Plan 2008 Addendum to the Board on August 17, 2007; and

Whereas, this 2008 Addendum contains the updated five-year Focus Plan as ordered by the Board; and

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the 2008 Addendum.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On November 27, 2006, the Board received a resolution from Meeker County stating its intent to amend its current Plan by providing for the required update of the five-year Focus Plan, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.314, Subd. 6.

2. On January 3, 2007, Board staff provided information on the amendment process to Meeker County.

3. On March 7, 2007, Meeker County provided proper notice to local units of government and state agencies of the county's intent to amend its five-year Focus Plan and invited all recipients to participate in the amendment process.

4. On March 16, 2007, Meeker County convened its water plan task force to initiate the five-year Focus Plan update. One additional meeting was conducted.

5. Meeker County received written comments from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on April 19, 2007.

6. No other state agency or local government unit provided written comments to Meeker County.

7. The final document developed by Meeker County, which includes the revised five-year Focus Plan 2008 - 2012, is entitled the 2008 Addendum.

8. On August 14, 2007, after providing for proper public notice, Meeker County conducted a public hearing on the proposed 2008 Addendum. No additional comments were submitted at the hearing.

9. On August 17, 2007, the BWSR received the Meeker County 2008 Addendum, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the 2008 Addendum, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.314, Subd. 6.

10. On December 6, 2007, the Board's regional Water Planning Committee (Committee) reviewed the Meeker County 2008 Addendum, pursuant to 103B.301 and guidelines established by the Board.
    a. Board regional staff provided its recommendation of approval to the Committee.
    b. The Committee voted to recommend approval to the full Board at its next scheduled meeting.

11. This 2008 Addendum will be in effect until **December 31, 2012.**

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Water Plan Amendment of Meeker County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, 103B.314, Subd. 6.

2. The Meeker County 2008 Addendum attached to this Order states goals, objectives, and actions of the county to address the five-year Focus Plan for 2008 - 2012. The 2008 Addendum, as well as the previously approved Meeker County 2003 – 2012 Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update, is in conformance with the requirements of M.S. Section 103B.301.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached 2008 Addendum of the Meeker County Water Management Plan for January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2012. Meeker County will be required to provide for a complete update of its Water Management Plan prior to December 31, 2012.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this **19th day of December, 2007**.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

November 15, 2007

TO: Jeff Nielsen, BWSR Southern Regional Supervisor

FROM: Thomas Fischer, BWSR Board Conservationist

SUBJECT: **Renville County Local Water Management Plan Amendment - Final Review**

On December 4, 2002, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), by board order, approved the Renville County 2003 – 2012 ten-year Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update, which contained a 2003 – 2007 five-year Focus Plan (implementation plan). The board order stipulated that Renville County was required to revise/update the Focus Plan by December 31, 2007.

In its December 12, 2002, letter notifying the county of approval of the Plan Update, the BWSR noted the impressive work of Mid-Minnesota Development Commission in assisting Renville County with the Plan Update. This letter also stated the Renville County staff and water plan advisory members were to be commended for writing a plan that clearly presented water management goals, actions and priorities.

On December 19, 2006, the Renville County Board of Commissioners resolved to amend its five-year Focus Plan as stipulated by the BWSR. The county followed the process for amending as described within the Comprehensive Local Water Management's guidance document developed by the BWSR.

On November 13, 2007, the BWSR regional staff received the required documentation and 2008 Addendum to the Renville County Comprehensive Local Water Plan. The 2008 Addendum contains a brief Executive Summary (overview of the county's water plan, information on the revision of the five-year Focus Plan, recent water plan accomplishments, on-going programs administered within the county) and the new 2008-2012 Focus Plan. The Focus Plan addresses the following five goals:

- Protect and improve the quality of water resources.
- Maintain an adequate supply of surface and ground water for all users.
- Increase wetland preservation and restoration efforts.
- Expand our knowledge and understanding of water resources.
- Provide for effective and efficient plan administration.

I have actively participated with and provided guidance/comments/advice/recommendations to Renville County, its consultant, and the task force throughout this amendment process. I believe the 2008 – 2012 five-year Focus Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statute 103B and the Comprehensive Local Water Management guidance documents developed by the BWSR. I hereby recommend approval of the Renville County 2008 – 2012 five-year Focus Plan.

I look forward to assisting the county in the implementation of its 2008 – 2012 five-year Focus Plan. Water Plan Coordinator Diane Mitchell and Michael Sharp of Mid-Minnesota Development Commission should be commended for their leadership throughout the plan amendment process.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

In the Matter of Reviewing the Local Water Management Plan Amendment for **Renville County** (Minnesota Statutes, Section 103B.314, Subdivision 6)

ORDER APPROVING LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT

Whereas, on December 4, 2002, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board), by Board Order, approved the Renville County 2003 – 2012 Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update (Plan), which contained a 2003 – 2007 five-year Focus Plan; and

Whereas, this Board Order stipulated that Renville County was required to update the five-year Focus Plan by December 31, 2007; and

Whereas, the Renville County Board of Commissioners submitted the Renville County Plan 2008 Addendum to the Board on November 13, 2007; and

Whereas, this 2008 Addendum contains the updated five-year Focus Plan as ordered by the Board; and

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the 2008 Addendum.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On December 29, 2006, the Board received a resolution from Renville County stating its intent to amend its current Plan by providing for the required update of the five-year Focus Plan, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.314, Subd. 6.

2. On January 3, 2007, Board staff provided information on the amendment process to Renville County.

3. On May 9, 2007, Renville County provided proper notice to local units of government and state agencies of the county's intent to amend its five-year Focus Plan and invited all recipients to participate in the amendment process.

4. On May 17, 2007, Renville County convened its water plan task force to initiate the five-year Focus Plan update. Two additional meetings were conducted.

5. Renville County received written comments from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture on June 14, 2007, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on June 25, 2007 and the Minnesota Department of Health on July 11, 2007.

6. No other state agency or local government unit provided written comments to Renville County.

7. The final document developed by Renville County, which includes the revised five-year Focus Plan 2008 - 2012, is entitled the 2008 Addendum.

8. On August 28, 2007, after providing for proper public notice, Renville County conducted a public hearing on the proposed 2008 Addendum. No additional comments were submitted at the hearing.

9. On November 13, 2007, the BWSR received the Renville County 2008 Addendum, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the 2008 Addendum, pursuant to M.S. Section 103B.314, Subd. 6.

10. On December 6, 2007, the Board's regional Water Planning Committee (Committee) reviewed the Renville County 2008 Addendum, pursuant to 103B.301 and guidelines established by the Board.
    a. Board regional staff provided its recommendation of approval to the Committee.
    b. The Committee voted to recommend approval to the full Board at its next scheduled meeting.

11. This 2008 Addendum will be in effect until **December 31, 2012.**

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Water Plan Amendment of Renville County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, 103B.314, Subd. 6.

2. The Renville County 2008 Addendum attached to this Order states goals, objectives, and actions of the county to address the five-year Focus Plan for 2008 - 2012. The 2008 Addendum, as well as the previously approved Renville County 2003 – 2012 Comprehensive Local Water Plan Update, is in conformance with the requirements of M.S. Section 103B.301.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached 2008 Addendum of the Renville County Water Management Plan for January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2012. Renville County will be required to provide for a complete update of its Water Management Plan prior to December 31, 2012.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this **19th day of December, 2007**.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____

BY: Randy Kramer, Chair

OLD BUSINESS

1. SE Flood: State Cost-Share/RIM Grants Status Report – *INFORMATION ITEM*

BWSR - SE MINNESOTA FLOOD RELIEF

SUMMARY - *December 19, 2007*

I. State Cost Share Program: Special Session appropriation - $3,000,000

- Allocations completed

SWCD	Amount
Dodge	$50,000
Fillmore	$200,000
Olmsted	$50,000
Root River	$262,200
Steele	$50,000
Wabasha	$50,000
Winona	$150,000
Total	**$812,200**

- Allocations Pending - $1,211,213

Root River SWCD - $445,000
This includes $200,000 as local match for EWP projects in the City of Hokah, $75,000 as local match for ECP projects, and $170,000 as local match for EQIP projects.

Fillmore SWCD - $163,750
This includes $78,000 as local match for ECP projects, $53,000 for sealing abandoned private wells, and $32,750 for SWCD technical and administrative costs.

Winona SWCD - $527,463
This includes $157,636 as local match for the EWP project in Minnesota City, $12,500 as local match for the EWP Pickwick Dam project, $163,750 as local match for EQIP projects, $107,000 as local match for ECP projects, and $86,577 for SWCD technical and administrative costs.

Wabasha SWCD $37,500, as local match for ECP project.

Olmsted SWCD - $37,500, as local match for ECP project.

NOTE: EWP – UDSA, NRC Emergency Watershed Program
EQIP – USDA, NRCS Environmental Quality Incentive Program
ECP – USDA, FSA Emergency Conservation Program

Appropriation	$3,000,000
Allocated	$812,000
Pending	$1,211,213
Available	$976,787

As additional surveys and damage assessments are completed during winter and spring of 2008, it is anticipated that the available amount of $1,079,250 will be insufficient to provide funding for needed cost share, technical assistance, and federal match.

- Supplement Request = $1,450,000

II. RIM Reserve Program: Special Session Appropriation - $1,000,000

On October 31, 2007 the BWSR announced a special SE MN RIM Reserve Program. In addition to the specia session appropriation of $1M, the BWSR made available $1.1M from its bonding appropriation for a total of $2.1M. Meetings were held with the SWCDs to discuss program criteria and get their input on program criteria to meet their local needs. Specific criteria were developed for this special sign-up. The intent of the sign-up is to take perpetual RIM Reserve easements with willing landowners on lands damaged by the flood events this last August, and on lands that will help to reduce the impacts of future flood events. The following lands are eligible for this program; 1) both crop and non-crop lands that were damaged, 2) riparian cropland within the 100-year floodplain, 3) riparian cropland outside the 100-year floodplain if it has history of flooding, and 4) wetland restorations.

The sign-up deadline for landowners to apply is January 15, 2008. SWCDs will utilize local screening committees to rank applications prior to submitting them to BWSR by January 31, 2008.

III. Other BWSR Funding

Minnesota Conservation Corps - These funds were appropriated to BWSR through its Clean Water Legacy Program. These allocations address impaired waters improvements and flood recovery efforts.

Allocations	
Root River SWCD	$17,500
Crooked Creek WD	$4,200
Winona SWCD	$30,000
Total	**$51,700**

State Cost Share Native Buffer Program – The Native Buffer Program is funded to establish buffers in riparian locations that promote native vegetation.

Allocations
Whitewater JPB - $137,000
Olmsted County - $12,000
$157,000

IV. Coordination of Effort

A regional flood forum is being planned by state and local agency staff for April 2008. It will provide for an exchange of information and ideas to strategically address the August 2007 flood event. The focus will be informing land and stream management decision-making so as to minimize flood impacts in the future. This forum will help address mid-range issues about understanding stream channels/riparian changes and will provide additional information in assessing the extent of streambank stabilization needs and costs of future recovery and prevention needs in this area.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Adoption of 2008 BWSR Board Meeting Schedule – *DECISION ITEM*

2. Board Member Per Diem and Expenses Policy – *DECISION ITEM*

3. Feedlot Financial Needs Report Overview - *INFORMATION ITEM*

4. '08 Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) Administrative Grant — *DECISION ITEM*

5. Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Program - *DECISION ITEM*

2008 BWSR Proposed Meeting Schedule

January 23, 2008

February 27, 2008 (tentative)

March 26, 2008

April 23, 2008

May 28, 2008

June 25, 2008

July – no meeting

August 27 – 28, 2008 Tour and Meeting

September 24, 2008

October 22, 2008

December 17, 2008

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES (BWSR)
BOARD MEMBER PER DIEM AND EXPENSES POLICY (*December 2007*)

A. PER DIEM ($55/day): Per diem is authorized for Board members for the following:

1. One per diem for regular monthly Board meetings, meetings of committees to which members are assigned, and special meetings called by the Board Chair or the Executive Director. This does not apply to meetings of organizations, groups and local governments that are the primary responsibility of BWSR staff.

2. One per diem for four or more hours spent in preparation time for each Board meeting, each committee meeting or each special meeting of the Board. Preparation time in excess of four hours for a meeting cannot be banked.

3. One per diem is authorized for the day prior *and* the day after for travel by Board members for a regular meeting, special meeting of the Board or committee meeting where Board members travel more than 200 miles each way using vehicular transportation.

4. One per diem is authorized for the day prior *or* the day after for travel by a Board member for a regular meeting, special meeting of the Board, or committee meeting where Board members travel more than 100 miles each way using vehicular transportation.

5. Per diem incurred at other functions such as those sponsored or coordinated by the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD), and the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) under the conditions defined in items 1 through 4 if authorized by the Board, the Chair of the Board, or the Executive Director.

6. Full-time employees of the State or one of its political subdivisions are not eligible to receive a per diem payment per Minn. Stat. § 15.0575, subd. 3.

7. In *no* instances will more than one BWSR per diem payment per day be permitted under this policy.

8. Participation in regular monthly Board meetings, meetings of committees to which members are assigned, and special meetings called by the Board Chair or the Executive Director via conference call, videoconference, internet technology or other similar means is considered the same as participation in-person for per diem or expense purposes.

B. EXPENSES: Expenses are authorized for Board members according to the following criteria:

1. Expenses incurred by Board members for attendance at meetings and events as described in items A1 – A5 will be reimbursed consistent with those authorized under the commissioner's plan adopted under Minn. Stat. § 43A.18, subd. 2.

   Reimbursable expenses may include, but are not limited to, the following: Commercial transportation (air, taxi, rental car, etc.); Meals including tax and a reasonable gratuity; Hotel and motel accommodations; Parking fees and toll charges.

   Board members who use their personal office equipment, supplies and services in part for the purpose of receiving and generating telephone, fax, e-mail or other electronic messages related to Board activities, are eligible for a reimbursement for such equipment, supplies and services up to an amount not to exceed $50 per month.

2. Child care expenses incurred as a result of monthly Board meetings, special or committee meetings of the Board shall be compensated as defined in Minn. Stat. § 15.0575, subd. 3.

3. Vehicle travel will be reimbursed at the standard Federal IRS mileage rate in effect at the time of travel.

4. Board members who are employees of the State or one of its political subdivisions may receive payment for their expenses incurred in performing their board member activities, unless those expenses are reimbursed by another source.

5. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requires business expenses to be submitted for reimbursement within 60 days after the expense is incurred or the trip ends. If not submitted within 60 days, the reimbursement becomes taxable for federal, state, FICA and Medicare; and withholding tax must be taken.

C. MEETING COORDINATION: The Board directs committee members and staff to schedule committee meetings in conjunction with monthly board meetings whenever possible.

_____ _____

Randy Kramer, Chair — Date
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

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Attachment # 1

June 10, 1994

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
BOARD MEMBER EXPENSE POLICY (March 1994)

* **PER DIEM ($55/DAY):** Per diem is authorized for Board members for the following:

1 - One per diem and expenses for regular monthly Board meetings, meetings of committees to which members are assigned, and special meetings called by the Board. This does not apply to meetings of organizations, groups and local governments that are the primary responsibility of BWSR staff.

2 - One per diem for four plus hours spent on preparation for monthly Board meetings, committee meetings or special meetings of the Board. Members may accumulate time for these purposes, however, time in excess of four hours for a specific meeting cannot be banked for another or following meeting.

3 - Per diem for travel by Board members for a regular meeting, special meeting of the Board or committee meeting where Board members travel greater than 200 miles each way using vehicular transportation. A per diem is authorized for the day prior and the day after the meeting.

4 - Child care expenses incurred as a result of monthly Board meetings, special or committee meetings of the Board shall be compensated as defined in MS 15.0575, subd. 3.

5 - Per diem and expenses incurred at other functions such as Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD), and Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) conventions or tours under the conditions defined in items 1. through 4. provided such meetings are authorized by the Board, Chair of the Board or the Executive Director.

6 - Expenses incurred by Board members for attendance at official meetings of the Board will be reimbursed consistent with the authorized, under the commissioner's plan adopted under section 43A.18, subd. 2. The rates are reflected in the attached document "EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT".

7 - Travel by Board member for a regular meeting, special meeting, or committee meeting exceeding 100 miles and up to 200 miles shall be entitled to claim one per diem for travel.

8 - In no instances will more than one per diem per day be permitted under these provisions.

The Board also directed committee members and staff to schedule committee meetings in conjunction with monthly board meetings whenever possible.

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES (BWSR)
BOARD MEMBER PER DIEM AND EXPENSES POLICY (*effective January 1, 2008*)

A. PER DIEM ($55/day): Per diem is authorized for Board members for the following:

1. One per diem for regular monthly Board meetings, meetings of committees to which members are assigned, and special meetings called by the Board Chair or the Executive Director. This does not apply to meetings of organizations, groups and local governments that are the primary responsibility of BWSR staff.

2. One per diem for four or more hours spent in preparation time for each Board meeting, each committee meeting or each special meeting of the Board. Preparation time in excess of four hours for a meeting cannot be banked.

3. One per diem is authorized for the day prior *and* the day after for travel by Board members for a regular meeting, special meeting of the Board or committee meeting where Board members travel more than 200 miles each way using vehicular transportation.

4. One per diem is authorized for the day prior *or* the day after for travel by a Board member for a regular meeting, special meeting of the Board, or committee meeting where Board members travel more than 100 miles each way using vehicular transportation.

5. Per diem incurred at other functions such as those sponsored or coordinated by the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD), and the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) under the conditions defined in items 1 through 4 if authorized by the Board, the Chair of the Board, or the Executive Director.

6. Full-time employees of the State or one of its political subdivisions are not eligible to receive a per diem payment per Minn. Stat. § 15.0575, subd. 3.

7. In *no* instances will more than one BWSR per diem payment per day be permitted under this policy.

8. Participation in regular monthly Board meetings, meetings of committees to which members are assigned, and special meetings called by the Board Chair or the Executive Director via conference call, videoconference, internet technology or other similar means is considered the same as participation in-person for per diem or expense purposes.

B. EXPENSES: Expenses are authorized for Board member s according to the following criteria:

1. Expenses incurred by Board members for attendance at meetings and events as described in items A1 – A5 will be reimbursed consistent with those authorized under the commissioner's plan adopted under Minn. Stat. § 43A.18, subd. 2.

   Reimbursable expenses may include, but are not limited to, the following: Commercial transportation (air, taxi, rental car, etc.); Meals including tax and a reasonable gratuity; Hotel and motel accommodations; Parking fees and toll charges.

   Board members who use their personal office equipment, supplies and services in part for the purpose of receiving and generating telephone, fax, e-mail or other electronic messages related to Board activities, are eligible for a reimbursement for such equipment, supplies and services up to an amount not to exceed $50 per month.

2. Child care expenses incurred as a result of monthly Board meetings, special or committee meetings of the Board shall be compensated as defined in Minn. Stat. § 15.0575, subd. 3.

3. Vehicle travel will be reimbursed at the standard Federal IRS mileage rate in effect at the time of travel.

4. Board members who are employees of the State or one of its political subdivisions may receive payment for their expenses incurred in performing their board member activities, unless those expenses are reimbursed by another source.

5. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requires business expenses to be submitted for reimbursement within 60 days after the expense is incurred or the trip ends. If not submitted within 60 days, the reimbursement becomes taxable for federal, state, FICA and Medicare; and withholding tax must be taken.

C. MEETING COORDINATION: The Board directs committee members and staff to schedule committee meetings in conjunction with monthly board meetings whenever possible.

R/ Kramer

Randy Kramer, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

12/15/07
Date

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HARNESSING THE POWER OF A DREAM

Under the RRBC vision "where residents, organizations and governments work together to achieve basin-wide commitment to comprehensive integrated watershed stewardship and management," the 25th Annual Conference provides a forum in which you can actively participate in this vision by:

- Getting up-to-date information on key land & water management issues;
- Networking & building relationships with basin stakeholders;
- Fostering inter-jurisdictional understanding and cooperation;
- Assisting in identifying basin-wide priorities;
- Taking part in basin-wide dialogue;
- Celebrating past and present basin successes;
- Having your voice heard!

A complete conference schedule will be mailed out in the fall. Check the RRBC web site for updates.

Registration Information:

Full Registration:
Before Dec. 15: $175 US*
After Dec. 15: $190 US*

* Canadian Exchange at Current Rate

Full registration includes materials, attendance to all plenary and special sessions, entry to exhibits, breakfasts, reception, lunches, banquet and refreshment breaks.

Hotel Information
Ramada Plaza Suites
Room rate: $89 - ask for RRBC block
701-277-90000

Contact Information:

Red River Basin Commission
206-309 Hargrave Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2J8
Ph: 204-982-7250
Fax: 204-982-7255
admin.redriverbasincommission@shawcable.com

Red River Basin Commission
119 S. 5th St. • PO Box 66
Moorhead, MN 56561-0066
Ph: 218-291-0422
Fax: 218-291-0438
staff@redriverbasincommission.org

RED RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

www.redriverbasincommission.org



The Power of A Dream

January 22-24, 2008
Ramada Plaza Suites
Fargo, ND

Working together to achieve common goals for water protection and management within the Red River Basin

"The Power of a Dream"
January 22-24, 2008
Ramada Plaza Suites, Fargo, ND

Joining together to celebrate 25 years, the Red River Basin Land & Water International Summit Conference is testament to the cooperation, hard work, compromise, relationships and trust built over time and across boundaries. In 2008, the momentum continues as newly involved stakeholders and charter members shoulder a basin-wide approach to managing natural resources.

This event fosters international cooperation and identifies issues important to Red River Basin citizens. It is a public forum for natural resources education, training and information dissemination useful for elected officials, watershed managers, educators, producers, environmentalists, businesses, leaders, and decision-makers.

HISTORY

During the First Annual Summit Conference, participants focused on the need for Manitoba, Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota to work together on land and water issues. Their vision, an organization that invited participation from all areas of the basin, would be instrumental in building common areas of interest into commitment for basin-wide goals for land and water resources.

Twenty-five years later, Red River Basin citizens continue to realize the fruits of that vision and have since developed the Red River Basin Natural Resources Framework Plan (NRFP). This plan is one vehicle for achieving common goals basin-wide.

Conference at a Glance

Presentations
Presentations will address Water Quality, Water Supply, Conservation, and Flood Damage Reduction. RRBC will review basin-wide progress for each goal area and engage delegates in setting priorities for the future.

Stakeholders Speak Out
Basin residents will have a chance to have their voices heard by decision-makers in this mutually respectful forum. Any conference attendee wishing to participate during this session must preregister with RRBC by December 1, 2007.

Valley Dreamers Banquet
Celebrate basin successes and the valley dreamers who are working to implement the dream on a daily basis.

Oral History Project
Students from U of M Crookston documented the history of the basin to provide conference attendees a review of the hard work and dedication it took to have what is enjoyed today: commitment toward basin-wide goals for land and water resources.

Public Program
The conference will be open to the public for our Tuesday, January 22 evening session. **Simon Jackson** will present "The Power of One." Jackson is the 24-year-old founder and Executive Director of the Spirit Bear Youth Coalition and has spent the past 11 years working to save British Columbia's endangered white Kermode or spirit bear. More information about Simon Jackson is available on his web site, http://www.spiritbearyouth.org/.



Registration Form

25th Annual Summit Conference - Jan. 22-24, 2008

Name _____

Position/Title _____

Organization/Business _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Prov _____ Postal Code _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

Before Dec. 15, 2007	**After Dec. 15, 2007**
☐ $175 US	☐ $190 US
☐ Canadian at current exchange	☐ Canadian at current exchange
☐ Bill Me	☐ Check Enclosed

Mail or Fax to:
Red River Basin Commission
119 S. 5th St. • PO Box 66
Moorhead, MN 56561-0066
Ph: 218-291-0422 • Fax: 218-291-0438

Red River Basin Commission
206-309 Hargrave Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2J8
Ph: 204-982-7250 • Fax: 204-982-7255



RED RIVER BASIN
COMMISSION

RED RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

2006 Annual Report

Red River Basin Commission

119 South 5th Street • Box 66
Moorhead, MN 56561-0066
Phone: 218-291-0422
Fax: 218-291-0438
staff@redriverbasincommission.org

206-309 Hargrave Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2JB
Phone: 204-982-7250
Fax: 204-982-7255
admin.redriverbasincommission@shawcable.com

RED RIVER BASIN
COMMISSION

Staff

Lance Yohe - Executive Director
Milton Arneson - Special Projects Coordinator
Rachel Asleson - Executive Administrator/Conference Planner
Julie Goehring - Communications Coordinator
Ron Hempel - Basin Hydrologist
Ruth Lewis - Communication Consultant
April Kiers North - Basin Coordinator (Water Quality)
Kathy Spanjer - Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Stewart - Outreach Coordinator

THE RED RIVER BASIN COMMISSION IS A GROUP OF PEOPLE FROM THE RED RIVER BASIN WORKING TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE COMMON GOALS FOR WATER PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT.

www.redriverbasincommission.org

Message from the Executive Director - Lance Yohe

Working Together for a Better Tomorrow.

VISION:
The 21st century is well underway. You, the leaders from around the Red River Basin, are actively involved every day in addressing the challenges associated with land and water management and use. At the same time, you are challenged to protect, preserve and sustain these same resources so that your legacy will be one of integrity and your children and grandchildren will look back and realize with gratitude that while you were here in charge you made good, honest and sound decisions.

Acting with integrity as you make these decisions in the Red River Basin requires big-picture thinking. Decisions in one place in the basin invariably affect someone in another place in the basin. It is all connected. Actions have ripple effects on the economy, the environment and the people.

We will all act with greater integrity and make better decisions today if we have a common vision for the future. A common vision will prompt us to work collectively to implement that vision. As we do so, we will need a way to mark our progress, track and celebrate our successes, identify gaps and maximize our efforts and resources to implement our vision of the future.

The RRBC was created several years back to help us all do this. The vision and mission of RRBC speak directly to these points.

Have we been making progress in achieving this vision and mission? I believe the answer is a resounding YES.

RRBC has been busy over the past several years with your help in developing a clear basin-wide vision. It is called the Red River Basin (RRB) Natural Resources Framework Plan (NRFP). It has 13 basin-wide goals, with specific objectives and a growing number of actions that are in progress around the basin by many different entities, that will help achieve the basin goals.

Vision:
A Red River Basin where residents, organizations and governments work together to achieve basin-wide commitment to comprehensive integrated watershed stewardship and management.

Mission:
To create a comprehensive integrated basin-wide vision; and to build consensus and commitment to the vision; and to speak with a unified voice for the Red River Basin.

RRBC has also been busy working on projects, enhancing activities across jurisdictional boundaries, and promoting trans-boundary basin approaches.

Let me briefly highlight some of this effort.

I: The RRB - NRFP
The NRFP is now ready to use:

- to be our guide as we work toward the common vision for the future;
- to help us track who is doing what;
- to help us measure our progress in solving problems;
- to show us how progress in numerous areas helps us to achieve overall goals; and
- to enable us to celebrate our successes.

The NRFP is available in more detail on the RRBC web site, www.redriverbasincomission.org. Let's look briefly again at the NRFP Goals:

GOAL # 1:
- **Management of natural resources in the RRB by watershed boundaries rather than political boundaries.**

GOAL # 2:
- **Integrate natural resource management.**

GOAL # 3:
- **Increase applied research and data management to support decision making.**

GOAL # 4:
- **Improve stakeholder participation and awareness of land and water issues.**

GOAL # 5:
- **Maintain state-of-the-art flood forecasting.**

GOAL # 6:
- **Reduce risk of flood damages for people, property and the environment in the mainstem floodplain and in tributary watersheds.**

GOAL # 7:
- **Ensure that flood (natural disaster) response and recovery programs meet the needs of all RRB residents.**

GOAL # 8:
- **Maintain urban and agricultural drainage systems to enhance productivity while minimizing impacts to others.**

GOAL # 9:
- **Maintain, protect and restore surface and ground water quality in the RRB.**

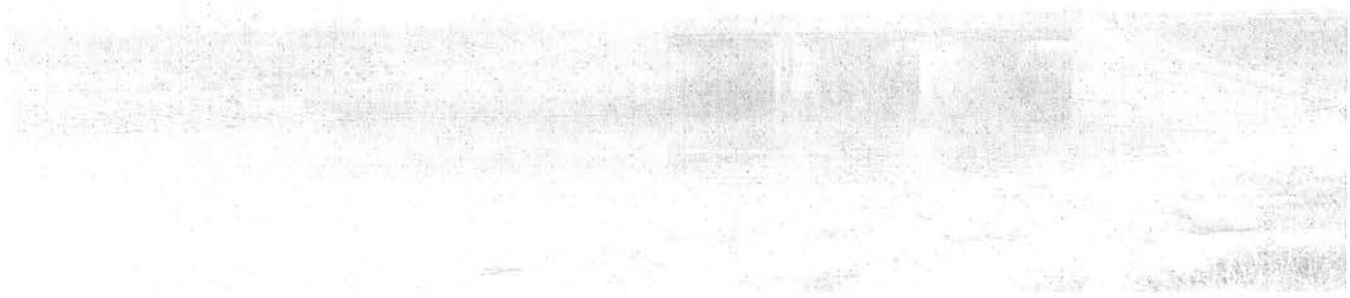
GOAL # 10:
- **Ensure the appropriate use and sustain ability of the Basin's surface and ground water.**

GOAL # 11:
- **Increase soil conservation efforts within the basin.**

GOAL # 12:
- **Conserve, manage and restore diversity and viability of native fish and wildlife populations and their habitats.**

GOAL # 13:
- **Enhance and develop recreational infrastructure and access to the basin's natural resources.**

Building commitment or getting buy-in to the NRFP as a vision for the future that all can participate in is the task for the near future. From this will develop a Red River Basin shared vision and a unified voice that encompasses who is doing what, what remains to be done and who can and will accomplish it. This shared vision will help us focus on the future that we want and that we can create together.



To build commitment to this vision for the basin and a unified voice regarding the desired future, RRBC will engage in an intense basin-wide outreach effort. It will begin with the **Local Government Outreach Project** in early 2007, as RRBC staff and board visit with local leaders throughout the basin. This outreach strategy has five components that are briefly described as follows:

1. Desired Outcome

The desired outcome of this outreach strategy is a Red River Basin where:

- Local leaders and communities understand the history, purpose and value of the RRBC, to promote a coordinated basin-wide approach to land and water protection and management.
- Local leaders add their voice and support to the basin vision and goals expressed in the NRFP.
- Local leaders work with the RRBC through the NRFP Action Agenda to track, coordinate and initiate projects, programs and activities that address basin goals;
- Gaps are identified that define activities, projects and programs that will move us closer to achieving the basin vision and goals expressed in the NRFP.

2. Relationship Management

Building and maintaining relationships is a key component to achieving basin-wide commitment to and participation in the shared vision so we can all speak with a unified voice regarding that vision. This outreach strategy is one component of RRBC activities to maintain and nurture a relationship with all basin stakeholders. The audience for this outreach strategy is local decision/policy makers within the Red River Basin. Outreach strategies for other audiences will be developed separately.

3. Knowledge Management

Gathering and exchanging information and knowledge in a two-way dialogue with local leaders will be accomplished in this outreach strategy. New information will be tracked through the NRFP Action Agenda. The **Action Agenda** will become a "living document" that tracks "what, where and who" as it relates to local projects, programs and activities underway which address the basin vision and goals in the NRFP.

4. Outreach Mechanisms and Tools

The outreach strategy will actively engage local governments through direct contact. This will be done to gain their support and buy-in for the basin vision and goals in the NRFP, to help in the development of new objectives that will further the basin goals, to identify their current and/or

The **Action Agenda** will show the following

- Support and buy-in for the NRFP and the basin goals and objectives,
- Assistance in the implementation of the NRFP goals,
- Assistance in the development of new objectives that will further the basin goals,
- A growing list of current and/or proposed projects, activities, and programs that are in line with basin goals,
- A mechanism to track and celebrate the projects, activities and programs that bring us closer to the basin goals and objectives presented within the NRFP;
- A mechanism to highlight where we are moving toward an integrated watershed approach and where we are not,
- A mechanism to illuminating gaps, showing us what activities, projects and programs still need to be done,
- Assisting the RRBC in focusing its efforts,
- Creating access to a network of knowledge and experience that basin decision-makers can tap into, and
- Demonstrating to the stakeholders that we are all working toward the same goals and that we can do it better if we work together.

proposed projects that fit in the action agenda and to identify gaps that remain to be addressed. This will be accomplished by:

- **Local Governance Unit (LGU) meetings:** Attending, presenting and discussing the NRFP at individual LGU meetings.
- **Regional meetings:** Attending, presenting and discussing the NRFP at established regional LGU meetings.
- **Cluster meetings:** Cluster meetings will be organized by RRBC to reach selected portions of our desired audience simultaneously.
- **Resolution to support:** This is a general resolution indicating that the LGU will help bring about the basin vision by working on basin goals in the NRFP where appropriate.
- **Action agenda:** The action agenda is a key tool for tracking progress and building momentum in achieving the basin vision as defined in the NRFP and its 13 basin goals.
- **Outreach material**: To actively engage local leaders, the following information/materials have been or will be developed: NRFP; NRFP Executive Summary; Key Messages; Power Point Presentation and a Brochure.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Improvement

This Outreach Strategy is proactive and adaptive and is designed to evaluate and incorporate lessons learned as the sociopolitical climate changes and the RRBC's outreach objectives evolve. Several monitoring and evaluation mechanisms will be put in place to monitor the effectiveness of outreach efforts and to identify and track support for RRBC vision, the NRFP, and the basin goals and objectives.

II: ACTIVITIES

In addition to the NRFP, RRBC has been busy with activities that themselves address some of the goals and objectives in the NRFP. Let me highlight a few of these activities.

Leadership Activities

- Working to achieve basin wide commitment to comprehensive integrated watershed stewardship and management.
- Promoting and building unity within the basin by getting people to think about water issues from a basin wide perspective.
- Facilitate the development of strong inter-jurisdictional relationships.
- Highlight the gaps in watershed stewardship and management.



Key Examples

- NRFP & Resolution: See Above.
- Action Agenda: See Above.

- Prairie Water Policy Symposium and Report: The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) held a symposium on prairie water policy issues and is issuing a report that will include a RRB jurisdictional analysis of Minnesota, North Dakota and the Canada/US trans-boundary issues compiled by RRBC
- Comprehensive Flood Mitigation Plan – Framework (1st drafts): IJC/IRRB/RRBC project to develop a CFMP-Framework for the basin is in review and a update documenting activities since 1997 is under discussion.

Facilitator and Mediator

- Provide forums for identifying, developing and implementing solutions to cross boundary issues.
- Develop, coordinate and support opportunities for partnership and collaboration.
- Facilitate dialogue and consensus-building from a basin perspective.

Key Examples

- Water Management Forums: RRBC will provide forums on specific issues related to the NRFP goals. In 2006, the forum was on Water Quality; in 2007, it will be Flood Related Issues.
- Roseau River International Watershed Board (RRIW): RRBC facilitates local leader discussion on the Roseau River between MB & MN.
- Pembina River Basin Advisory Board (PRBAB): RRBC facilitates local leader discussion on the Pembina River between MB & ND.
- MB Chapters: Rural Municipalities meet regularly to discuss and learn about resource issues.
- South Valley Initiative (SVI): RRBC facilitates local leader discussion on the Wild Rice River between ND & SD.
- MN Joint Powers Board: RRBC facilitates regular meetings between 15 MN counties to discuss issues of importance.
- Jurisdictional Policy Committees (Water Use and Allocation, Out of Basin Supply Discussions, Basin Drought Planning): Discussions led by RRBC have clarified the water law differences between the jurisdictions, out of basin water supply issues of concern and an approach to exploring basin water needs in extended droughts.


South Valley Initiative

Communicator and Educator

- Communicate the message of comprehensive and cooperative land and water management throughout the Red River Basin.
- Work to educate the residents, organizations and governments on land and water issues.

Key Examples

- Outreach campaign: See Above.
- Annual conference: RRBC annual basin-wide summit conference is held annually. The 25th conference will be in 2008 in Grand Forks.
- Newsletter: RRBC's "Around the Basin" newsletter keeps leaders up-to-date on basin activities related to the NRFP.
- Water Minutes: 30- and 60-second radio spots promote wise use of land and water to the public.
- Ripple Effect: Weekly articles for newspapers around the basin promote the basin vision and provide land and water information.

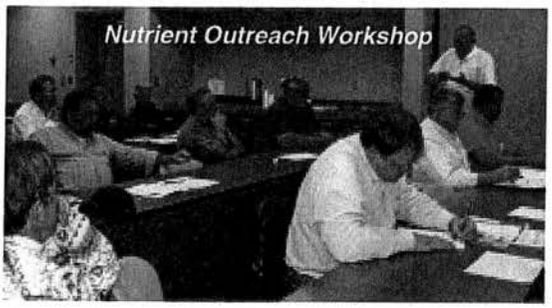
- Lake Winnipeg Report and Forum: Working with other groups, RRBC has helped produce a report on the state of Lake Winnipeg that calls for united action. A forum in 2007 will provide the opportunity for dialogue and the development of a roadmap for action.
- Roseau River Watershed Hydrology Report and Plan (MB): A hydrology report and resource plan for the MB portion of the Roseau has been completed for the Roseau Municipalities and Roseau 1st Nation under RRBC guidance.

Problem Solver and Technical Resource

- Facilitate creative problem solving through the development and sharing of technical resources.
- Identify knowledge gaps in land and water management.
- Have a network of experts and influential people.

Key Examples

- Mainstem Modeling: A mainstem Mike 11 model from Lake Traverse to Lake Winnipeg has been developed by RRBC and its partners. A modeling scenario report that recommends modeling runs to begin using the model is now complete. A modeling project to model these identified scenarios is underway.
- Nutrient Outreach Workshops: Workshops were held around the basin to inform about nutrients (i.e., N, P, TSS, etc.), programs, the RRB NRFP and to gather feedback. This effort culminated in the 2006 spring water quality forum.
- Water Law (Use and Allocation) Jurisdictional Report: RRBC prepared this report on the differences and similarities between the jurisdictions on how they appropriate, use and restrict water, especially in times of low flow and drought. Some policy recommendations for future consideration are also part of the final report.
- Ion and Nutrient Inventory: In this project, RRBC created a Category I (most complete) and a Category II (less complete) inventory of water quality data and information available for the RRB. This is being done as part of the IRRB AEH Committee's goals for the basin. Once complete, the data will be analyzed for trends and recommendations by others.



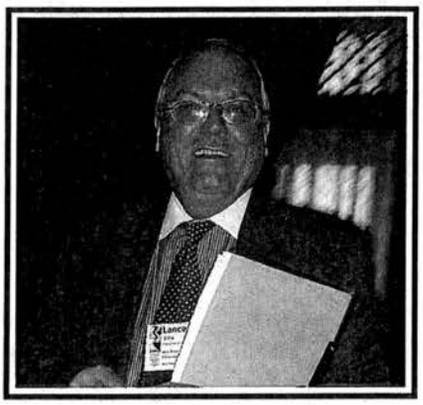
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP): This is a US federal/state cost-share easement program that works with landowners/producers to implement conservation techniques on priority issues. RRBC wrote the proposal for consideration in both MN and ND. The MN proposal moved forward, received funding and is now being implemented by the MN BWSR, local SWCDs, and US FSA. RRBC continues to link to the project and connect it to the Buffer Strip Project.
- Buffer Strip: RRBC is coordinating this project in 5 pilot sub-watersheds in MN to help local landowners better understand and access programs available to them to reduce soil and nutrient loss. This project is a cooperative effort with MN PCA, Pheasants Forever and the local SWCDs.
- F/M Upstream Feasibility: This project was an effort by the US Army Corps of Engineers and state and local sponsors to explore, in a preliminary manner, the feasibility of flood damage reduction activities in the southern portion of the Red River Basin. RRBC provided in-kind contributions related to two committees and in handling the public meetings.
- Pembina Area Projects:
  - Pembina Structural Survey: This project is a completed field survey of culverts and elevations along the 35 miles along the MB-ND border road/dike and some county and township roads as well. This was done by Houston Engineering under contract to RRBC.
  - Lower Pembina Modeling: This modeling project that RRBC coordinates is using Mike 11 to model the choke points in the Emerson and Pembina areas to provide a clearer understanding of what actually occurs in this area. There will be a report to local leaders at the completion of the modeling.

- Lower Pembina LiDAR: This project is currently underway. Data was gathered late in the fall of 2006 and will be ready by spring of 2007.
- Fargo/Moorhead TMDL: Working with MN PCA and NDSU, RRBC assisted this project by being fiscal agent and monitoring the project which is now completed.

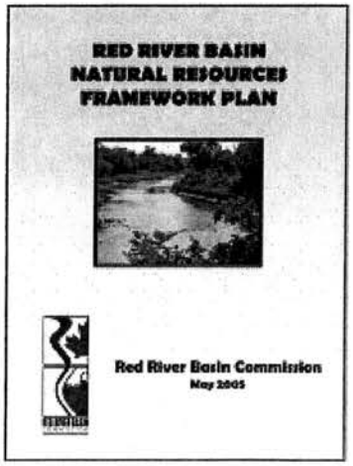


As one looks at where we began back in 2002 and where we are now, it has been an amazing journey. Going back further, to the early 1980s and then the mid-1990s, the journey is even more profound. In the early 1980s, local leaders and people were just beginning to take their involvement seriously, and began to organize, meet and discuss. Then remember, in the mid-1990s and the multi-year effort to inventory the key issues of concern for leaders and people around the basin which has become the cornerstone of the NRFP. All of these early efforts have now found their way into the RRBC structure and activities. And now we have a basin vision with goals, objectives and actions that show where we want to go, what we need to do and who is helping to get us there.

Thanks to all of you, much has occurred. The RRBC has been formed, developed, refined and is now being utilized to assist leaders in addressing Red River Basin water and land concerns. Thanks again for your efforts, your time, your leadership, your expertise, your experience and all that you provide. You have helped shape the vision. Now let's make it a reality.



Lance Yohe,
Executive Director



The Natural Resources Framework Plan (NRFP) is available online at www.redriverbasincommission.org

RRBC Fiscal Information

Red River Basin Commission
2006 Statement of Receipts and Disbursements

United States Accounts (In US Dollars)			
Beginning Accounts Balance 1/1/06	**104,878**		
	Actual	Budgeted	% Rec'd/ Used
Receipts			
State of Minnesota	100,000	100,000	100.00%
State of North Dakota	100,000	100,000	100.00%
State of South Dakota	-	6,000	0.00%
Local - MN	101,722	100,000	101.72%
Local - ND	81,981	100,000	81.98%
Bremer	20,000	-	
Other Partnerships	40	-	
Joint Powers Board	2,407	5,000	48.14%
Conference	27,683	30,000	92.28%
Interest Income	4,418	-	
Rent	1,760	-	
Projects	156,110	270,775	57.65%
Total Receipts	596,121	711,775	83.75%
Disbursements			
Board of Directors	19,116	31,500	60.69%
Administration	24,743	45,755	54.08%
Office	38,837	74,080	52.43%
Funding/Finance	42,986	58,896	72.99%
Leadership	34,995	63,093	55.47%
Communications	69,314	75,440	91.88%
Partnership	22,492	45,818	49.09%
Technical Resource	9,353	13,618	68.68%
Benefits	51,917	63,521	81.73%
Project Expenses	221,539	201,569	109.91%
Less Change in Liabilities	(331)		
Total Disbursements	534,961	673,290	79.45%
Net	61,160		
Ending Accounts Balance 12/31/06	**166,038**		

Canadian Accounts (In Canadian Dollars)			
Beginning Accounts Balance 1/1/06	**123,015**		
	Actual	Budgeted	% Rec'd/ Used
Receipts			
Manitoba	118,000	100,000	118.00%
Local - MB	92,787	100,000	92.79%
Conference	45,165	50,000	90.33%
Workshops/Book Sales	-	-	
Interest Income	159	-	
Refunds/Reimbursements	6,213	-	
Projects	97,500	-	
Total Receipts	359,824	250,000	143.93%
Disbursements			
Board of Directors	7,192	19,500	36.88%
Administration	47,008	13,550	346.92%
Office	49,805	55,292	90.08%
Funding/Finance	8,660	25,432	34.05%
Leadership	31,265	46,702	66.95%
Communications	41,584	68,516	60.69%
Partnership	35,325	22,253	158.74%
Technical Resource	1,739	4,144	41.96%
Benefits	14,222	20,120	70.69%
Project Expenses	70,149	48,880	143.51%
Less Change in Liabilities	(35,784)		
Total Disbursements	342,733	324,389	105.65%
Net	17,091		
Ending Accounts Balance 12/31/06	**140,106**		

2006 RRBC Board of Directors

Manitoba

Municipalities:

Herm Martens, R.M. of Morris
Dave Gera, R.M. of East St. Paul
Bill Paulishyn, R.M. of Springfield
Brian Charles, Pembina Valley Conservation District

Cities:

R.S. "Bud" Oliver, Selkirk
Mike Shkolny, Winnipeg

Water Cooperative:

Sam Schellenberg, Pembina Valley Water Cooperative

Environmental:

Lindy Clubb, North American Stormwater & Erosion Control Assoc.
Don Norquay, Manitoba Water Stewardship
Muriel Smith, Winnipeg
Steven Topping, Manitoba Water Stewardship

At-Large:

Larry Whitney, Winnipeg

Minnesota

Counties:

Jerry Dahl, Mahnomen
Jon Evert, Clay

Cities:

Don Osborne, Crookston
Bill Schwandt, Moorhead

Watersheds:

John Finney, Joe River WD
Daniel Wilkens, Sand Hill River WD

State:

Ron Harnack, Board of Water & Soil Resources
Gene Merriam, Department of Natural Resources

Environmental:

Henry Van Offelen, MN Center for Environmental Advocacy

At-Large:

Warren Seykora, Borup

First Nations/Tribal

Melissa Hotain, Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
Allen Pemberton, Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians

North Dakota

Counties:

Joe Belford, Ramsey
Constance Triplett, Grand Forks

Cities:

Bruce Furness, Fargo
Riley Rogers, Valley City
Fred Stark, Grafton

Watersheds:

Tom Fischer, SE Cass WRD
Ben Varnson, RRJWRB

State:

Dale Frink, State Water Commission
Dave Glatt, Department of Health

Environmental:

Genevieve Thompson, National Audubon Society

At-Large:

Jake Gust, West Fargo

South Dakota

At-Large:

Eddie Madsen, Roberts County

MB ALTERNATES

Rick Bowering
John Holland
Glen Koroluk
Rick Martel
Lawrence Morris
William Regehr
Murray Seymour
Alana Shoenbach
Peter Srupski
Darlene Swiderski
Dwight Williamson

MN ALTERNATES

Brian Dwight
Stepanie Miranowski
Velma Oakland
Ron Osowski
Jon Roeschlein
Paul Swenson
Mark TenEyck
Mark Voxland
Bob Wright
Jim Ziegler

ND ALTERNATES

Scott Bilben
Donald Elston
Dennis Fewless
Dan Jacobson
Lee Klapprodt
Curt Kruen
Allen Ruzicka
Gary Thompson
Hetty Walker

EX OFFICIO

Joan Carlson, ND Rep. Pomeroy
Judy DesHarnais, US Army COE
Brenda Elmer, MN Senator Coleman
Val Gravseth, MN Senator Dayton
Pam Gulleson, ND Senator Dorgan
David Johnson, Minister's Regional Office
Tony Kettler, Ag. & Agri-Food Canada
Maynard Pick, MN Rep.Peterson
Scott Stofferahn, ND Senator Conrad
Sharon Stroschein, SD Senator Johnson
Judy Vrchota, SD Senator Thune
Connie Williams, SD Rep. Herseth

FIRST NATIONS/TRIBAL ALTERNATES

Oliver Nelson

Call the office or check the website for meeting locations and agenda.





www.redriverbasincommission.org

	2008 RRBC WORKPLAN				
NRFP GOAL & ISSUE AREA	RRBC ACTION	FTE's	NRFP ACTION	TIMELINE	STAFF
				MT Management Team: ly, jg, an	
				ly - Lance	js-Jennifer
				jg - Julie	ts-Tanja 3/4
				an - April (nov, dec only)	rl - Ruth
				con- Consultant	ks - Kathy 1/2
				JPB- Arneson	db- Donna 1/2
				MN Outreach - Evert	lt- Leah
				ND Outreach - connected to f/t	all - all staff
				Grant Writer- Olive	
	ADMINISTRATION				
	Board Meetings				
	Board Meetings in 2008-Jan, Mar, Sept	264		Jan, Mar,Sept	MT,js, lt, np (ks,db)
	1 Board Meeting & Tours -- June	120		June	MT,js, lt, np (ks,db)
	1 Board Meetin & Retreat--Nov	136		Nov	MT,js, lt, np (ks,db)
	Executive Committee Meetings				
	12 Executive Committee Meetings --3rd Thursday	96		3rd Th -- Month	ly
	Executive Director Evaluation	12		2/1/2008	ly
	Human Resource Committee Meetings	12		as Needed	ly
	General				
	All Staff Evaluations,	63		Dec 2007-Jan 2008	MT
	Documentation, Records	1910			all
	Work Plans--Annual	20			ly
	Work Plans -- Weekly	119		Due Friday for coming week	all
	Weekly Staff Meetings	186		Monday	all
	Face to Face Staff Meetings (2)--Retreat (2)	222		Friday 2x year 1-- 2 day ret.	all
	Management Team Meetings (12)	28		monthly phone	MT
	Update Governing Documents	20		as needed	ly,db
	FIANANCE				
	Finance Committee Meetings				
	12 Finance Committee Meetings -- 3rd Wednesday	12		3rd Wed -- Month	ly
	General				
	Monthly Finances	1083		ongoing	ts,db,ly,an
	Base Funding --Local, Provincial, State	64			ks,db,ly
	Base Funding -- Federal	72			ly,jg
	Project Funding--as needed	404		2007	ly,jg,grant con
	Prepare 2009 Budget	64		6/1/08 to 12/31/08	ly,jg,an,ts
	2007 Audit	112		1/1/08 to 6/30/08	ly,akn,ts,db
	LEADERSHIP				
	Plan Implementation Committee (4)	184		4 mtg year	js,jg,ly,lt
	WG- Flood Damage Reduction--- snapshot;obj, act ag; conf	84		phone calls, mtgs, matls	ly,jg
	WG- Water Quality--snapshot;obj, act ag; conf	128		phone calls, mtgs, matls	js,lt,an.ly.jg
	WG - Conservation--snapshot;obj, act ag; conf	88		phone calls, mtgs, matls	js,ly,jg
	WG- Water Supply--snapshot; obj, act ag; conf	84		phone calls, mtgs, matls	ly,jg
	WG- Watersheds--snapshot, conf	84		phone calls, mtgs, matls	ly,jg,lt
	WG- Integration--snapshot, conf	84		phone calls, mtgs, matls	jg,js,ly
	WG- Data-Tools for Decision Making--snapshot, conf	80		phone calls, mtgs, matls	ly,jg
	WG- Education-Information--snapshot, conf	88		phone calls, mtgs, matls	ly,jg,lt
	Precipitation Committee	80		1-2 Mtgs	js,ly
	Ag Commodity Committee	88		Mtg a year	js,ly,jg
	Facilitation				
	Basin Drought Recommendation Report	16			ly
	Basin Drought Activities	282		If Needed	ly,lt
	Forum for Basin Issues	104		If Board Decides to do	all
	Forum Water Quality	104		If Board Decides to do	all
	Legislative Committee	88		as needed	ly,jg

	COMMUNICATIONS				
	Communication Committee	**264**		10 mtgs a year	jg,lt,ly,js
	Web Site	**104**		weekly updates	jg,
	Newsletter- 2	**160**		2 x year for outreach	jg, grant con
	Ripple Effect - 24	**212**		twice a month to newspapers	jg,
	Water Minutes- 2x mo	**106**		2-4 a week	jg,
	Monthly Activity Update	**68**		monthly updated	jg, js
	State of Basin--Snapshot Updates	**128**		8 next year	all
	Annual Report	**88**		yearly	ly,jg
	Other Flyers/Information/PR materials --projects and activies	**120**		as needed projects, conf, etc	jg,
	Press Releases	**40**		as appropriate	jg
	Power Point Presentations--conferences, speaking engagements, etc	**112**		conf, speak engag etc.	jg,ly,js,lt
	River Center	**140**		if needed	ly,jg
	Annual Summit Conference	**684**		2009 Winnipeg	all
	Speaker Contacts	**630**		2010 Winnipeg	lt,jg
	Sponsorship, ads, booths	**520**		2011 Winnipeg	lt
	Annual Summit Conference - Flyer, Brochure, Conf Booklet	**424**		2012 Winnipeg	lt,jg
	Other Conference				
	Toronto Flood Defence Conferenc	**32**		Toronto in May	ly
	April FDR Goals Conference	**136**		Around April	all
	Conservation Conference	**96**		Jan and June	js,lt,ly,db,ks,js
	Lake Winnipeg Leadership Conf	**40**		spring	ly
	lake Winnipeg Basin Conf	**96**		If it goes forward in 2008	all
	PARTNERSHIPS				
	Partnerhsip Committee				
	IRRB	**24**		July	ly
	IRRB-AEH	**64**		2 x a year	js,lt
	IRRB-Hydrology	**32**		2 x a year	ly
	Pembina River Basin Advisory Board (PRBAB) Meetings	**80**		4 a year	js,ly
	PRBAB Activities	**128**		as needed	js,ly
	Roseau River International Watershed (RRIW) Meetings	**80**		4 a year	lt,ly
	RRIW Activities	**128**		as needed	lt,ly
	South Valley Initiative (SVI) Meetings	**96**		4 a year	lt,ly,jg
	SVI Activities	**128**		as needed	lt,ly,jg
	MN Joint Powers Board (JPB)	**104**		4 a year	jg
	MB North/South Chapters	**192**		10 x year	js,db,ly,jg
	Outreach SD, MB, First Nation	**60**		ongoing	lt,
	Outreach Provincail, State, Federal	**32**		ongoing	lt,ly
	Reg mtgs---NDJWRB, MNRRWMB, MBCDA,UPP Shey, Dev Lake,	**280**		regualarly scheduled	jg,ly,js,lt
	annual mtgs- MBCDA, MBAMM, NDJWater, MAWD, NDAC,	**144**		annually	jg,ly,js
	TECHNICAL RESOURCE--PROJECTS				
	Technical Resource Committee	**16**		if it is set up	ly
	Mainstem Modeling Calibration III	**96**		as needed	ly
	Basin Outreach Project	**3696**		as needed	all
	Mainstem Modeling Run # 2	**140**		as needed	ly
	Mainstem Modeling Scenario Report - IJC	**32**		as needed	ly
	Mainstem Modeling Run # 1 - IJC	**32**		as needed	ly
	Pembina Modeling - IJC	**92**		as needed	ly
	Dredging Study II	**16**		as needed	lt,js,db
	Dredging Study II--fin and workshop roles	**136**		If it goes forward	ts,ly,js,db
	TOTALS	**16067**			

	2006 - BOARD RETREAT PRIORITIES				
	CODES:				
	Yellow = RRBC Lead Current Project				
	Orange = RRBC Lead Planned Project				
	Lt Green = RRBC Support Current Project				
	Green = RRBC Support Planned Project				
GOAL # 1					
Increase Coor & Comp Wat Plan					
1 - S 24 - L	Provide Forum for identifying, developing & implementing solns to cross bndry issues	0	1.2.18		
8 - L	Educ & Adoption of NRFP by member jurisdictions	0	1.1.1		
6 - L	Continue to refine bsin goals & processes for NRFP implementation	0	1.1.2		
7 - S 5 - L	RRBC briefing / marketing documents -- accomplishments, gen info, ST, LT goals 1x yr	0	1.1.3		
3 - S 1 - L	Roseau River International Watershed planning - MB	0	1.2.2		
4 - S 1 - L	South Valley Initiative (ND &SD Wild Rice effort)	0	1.2.4		
11 - S 1 - L	Pembina River Basin Advisory Board activities - ND & MB	0	1.2.3		
1 - S	Brokenhead River Restoration Project - MB	0	1.2.10		
		0			
		0			
Goal # 2		0			
Integrate Natural Resource Mangt		0			
1 - S 1 - L	Increase planners' awareness of conservation principles	0	2.2.1		
		0			
		0			
		0			
Goal # 3		0			
Increase Appld Res & Data Mngt		0			
5 - L	Run Mike 11 mainstem from L Trav to L Winnipeg run # 2	0	3.3.1		
1 - L	Lower Pembina area modeling - link with MIKE-11 above	0	3.3.3		
5 - S 1 - L	Dev of 3-D gw models for the basin similar to that of the MN Geological Survey/BOR	0	3.3.4		
1 - S	Coor above with the devel of HEC/RAS unsteady flow model from L Traverse to the Can border	0	3.3.2		
3 - S	Support continued devel, fund, & use of (RRBDIN) for data access and sharing	0	3.1.2		
4 - S	Identify and share research needs and gaps.	0	3.1.1		
		0			
Goal # 4		0			
Develop Stake Part & Awareness		0			
4 - S 11 - L	Use RRBC annual Sumit Conf to provide education & outreach	0	4.2.9		
2 - S 5 - L	Provide annual rept card on compr, integrated, wateshed stewad & management	0	4.2.1		
6 - S 2 - L	Define and adopt a stewardship ethic for RRBC members	0	4.1.1		
3 - S 1 - L	Continue to convene MB North and South RRBC Chapters & conduct workshops	0	4.2.6		
2 - S	Use Community Based Social Marketing to increase awareness of conservation programs	0	4.2.4		
5 - S	Continue to convene the MN Joint Powers Board	0	4.2.5		
1 - S	Revision of Lake Winnipeg Shoreline Management Handbook	0	4.2.8		
		0			
Goal # 5		0			
Maintain Flood Forecast Tools		0			
1 - L	MIKE-11 Mainstem hydrology model (line 3.3.1 above)	0	5.1.1		
		0			
Goal # 6		0			
Red Risk of fdr main & trib		0			
10 - L	Est collective benefits fo projects using Mike 11 mainstem model	0	6.2.1		
2 - S 3 - L	Define fdr needs in the upper basin that are not being met	0	6.2.2		
1 - L	North Ottawa Dam (line 2.1.5 above)	0	6.1.6		
2 - S	Maple River Dam (ND)	0	6.1.5		
2 - S	Fargo-Moorhead Upstream Feasibility Study (line 2.1.1 above)	0	6.1.7		
3 - S	Lake Roseau Flood protection	0	6.1.4		
		0			

Goal # 7		0			
Ensure Resp & Rec address needs		0			
6 - S	Document program availability, identify gaps	0	7.1.1		
		0			
		0			
		0			
Goal # 8		0			
Maint Drain Syst Prod & Min Dam		0			
4 - S 3 - L	Promote stream restoration concepts as FDR measures	0			
3 - S 2 - L	Continue projects (MN Buffer Initiative and CREP) that minimize environmental impacts (lines	0			
		0			
		0			
Goal # 9		0			
Maint Prod & Res SW & GW Qty		0			
2 - L	Ensure jursd interp wat qty dat undertaken with basin wide perspective.	0	9.1.3		
2 - S 2 - L	RRB Buffer Initiative (MN) example F-M TMDL study (turbidity & Fecal Colif)	0	9.3.3		
2 - S 1 - L	Basin-wide analysis of nutrient concentrations and loads	0	9.1.2		
3 - S	Basin-wide analysis of nutrient concentrations and loads (line 9.1.2 above)	0	9.5.2		
1 - S 4 - L	Provide forum for each juris to discuss issues rel to implem basin appr ot wat qly mang	0	9.1.1		
1 - S 3 - L	Provide forum for each juris to discuss issues rel to cont & mang of exot species	0	9.6.1		
4 - S 3 - L	Lake Winnipeg Dredging Study II	0	9.4.3		
5 - S 3 - L	Provide a forum juris to discuss issues rel to devel strat to reduce nut load L. Wnpg	0	9.4.1		
2 - S 2 - L	Provide basin-wide perspective to jurisdictional interpretation of exotic species status.	0	9.6.3		
1 - L	Provide basin-wide persp to each jursid's prog (e.g., ND Aq Nuis Spec plan, devel 2005)	0			
7 - S 1 - L	Water Quality Forum (line 9.1.1 above)	0	9.5.1		
3 - S	Provide a forum for jurisd to discuss issues related to developing restoration goals	0	9.2.1		
		0			
Goal # 10		0			
Ensure App Use & Sust of SW & GW		0			
Goal # 11		0			
Increa Soil Conservation		0			
4 - S 3 - L		0			
	Provide a forum for mangrs and soil cons staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0	11.2.1		
1 -S 2 - L	CREP II - Red River Basin (MN)	0	11.2.1		
9 - S	MN Buffer Initiative (line 9.3.3 above)	0	11.1.3		
		0			
Goal # 12		0			
Cons Maint & Res fish, wild & habit		0			
2 - S 3 - L		0	12.2.1		
1 - S 1 - L	Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0	12.1.1		
1 - S 1 - L	Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0	12.4.1		
1 - S	Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0	12.3.1		
	Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0			
		0			
Goal # 13		0			
Enh & Dev Rec Info & Acess		0			
5 - S 2 - L	Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0	13.1.1		
1 - S 1 - L	Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0	13.2.1		
2 - S 1 - L	Inventory public lands	0	13.1.2		
		0			
		0			
0-S 16 - L	Conflict resolution mechanism for the Board to use externally for inter-jurisdictional issues	0			
3 - S 14 - L	Bring together scientific data app Dev Lake and other contentious issues comm coord data & usage	0			
2 - S 12 - L	Basin-wide drought response planning	0			
4 - S 11 - L	Coordinate River Watch expansion basin-wide	0			
9 - S	Study Red River mainstem capacity for industrial development	0			
	Plan of action for succession: Board members, Elected officials, agency officials	0			
		0			

Red River Basin Commission
2008 Final Budget

	2007 Budget-US	2008 Budget US	2007 Budget-Can	2008 Budget Can
Income	$ 267,895.69	$ 223,868.89		
4001 · Manitoba			$ 100,000.00	$ 100,000.00
4002 · Minnesota	$ 100,000.00	$ 100,000.00		
4003 · North Dakota	$ 100,000.00	$ 100,000.00		
4004 · South Dakota	$ 6,000.00	$ 6,000.00		
4005 · LGUs - Manitoba			$ 100,000.00	$ 100,000.00
4006 · LGUs - Minnesota	$ 100,000.00	$ 100,000.00		
4007 · LGUs - North Dakota	$ 100,000.00	$ 100,000.00		
4008 · LGUs - Sorth Dakota				
4009 · Federal - Canada				
4010 · Federal - US				
4011 · Refunds GST/PST				
4012 · Interest Income				
4013 · Joint Powers Bd	$ 5,000.00	$ 5,000.00		
4014 · Endowments				
4015 · Bremer	$ 10,000.00	$ 10,000.00		
4016 · Rent				
4020 · Con/F/W/OR Division				
4021 · Buffer Strip				
4022 · CREP				
4030 · Qly/Qnty Division				
4031· TMDL				
4032· IJC Ion & Nut Data Base				
4033· IJC Nut & NRFP Out & Cons				
4034· Drought Scoping Document				
4035·				
4040 · FDR/Hydrology Division				
4041 · Mainstem Modeling--Phase II				
4042 · IJC Mainstem Modeling Scen Rept		$ 9,890.00		
4043 · IJC Mainstem Scenario Modeling		$ 15,900.00		
4044 · IJC Pembina Modeling		$ 26,000.00		
4045 · IJC Pembina Structure Survey				
4046 · MM Run # 2--Carry Over				
4047 · MM Phase III--Carry Over				
4050 · Partnerships				
4051 · RRWP				
4053 · IISD Jurisd Rept				
4054 · LWIS				
4055 · Sask L Winpg Conf				
4056 · Flood 2008 Intl Conf				
4060 · Comm/Education				
4061 · Red River of Expression				
4062 · Annual Summit Conference	$ 40,000.00	$ 25,000.00	$ 25,000.00	$ 40,000.00
4063 · Soc Based Mark				
4064 · IJC Water Law				
4065 ·River Center- MB				
4066 ·Bush Outreach				
Bush Outreach Carry-Over		$ 60,000.00		
4000 Other				
4000 Total Income without Projects	$ 728,895.69	$ 421,000.00	$ 225,000.00	$ 200,000.00
Canadian Income Adjusted to US dol	$ 191,250.00	$ 200,000.00		
Total Without Projects	$ 920,145.69	$ 621,000.00	$ 191,250.00	$ 200,000.00
4000 Total Income with Projects & Carryover-US	$ -	$ 781,658.89		$ 240,000.00
Canadian Income Adjusted to US dollars		$ 240,000.00		$ 240,000.00
Total With Projects and Carryover	$ 920,145.69	$ 1,021,658.89		

Red River Basin Commission
2008 Final Budget

Expense				2007 Budget-US		2007 Budget-CN	
5000 · BOARD OF DIRECTORS							
Total 5000 · BOARD OF DIRECTORS				$ 28,500.00	$ 31,500.00	$ 17,500.00	$ 14,500.00
5100 · ADMINISTRATION				2007 Budget-US		2007 Budget-CN	
Total 5100 · ADMINISTRATION				$ 58,705.23	$ 35,831.46	$ 20,140.10	$ 42,787.50
5200 · BENEFITS				2007 Budget-US		2007 Budget-CN	
Total 5200 · BENEFITS				$ 52,185.40	$ 67,772.44	$ 15,058.86	$ 21,489.40
5300 Office				2007 Budget-US		2007 Budget-CN	
Total 5300 · OFFICE				$ 77,550.00	$ 78,050.00	$ 56,050.00	$ 57,450.00
5400 · FUNDING/FINANCE				2007 Budget-US		2007 Budget-CN	
Total 5400 · FUNDING/FINANCE				$ 65,282.25	$ 54,772.46	$ 27,274.10	$ 28,392.72
6000 · LEADERSHIP				2007 Budget-US		2007 Budget-CN	
	6000 · Pl Plan Management						
	Total 6000 · Plan Management			$ 9,881.08	$ 9,580.02	$ 10,397.20	$ 11,062.62
	6000 · Legislative						
	Total 6100 · Legislative			$ 15,976.08	$ 16,112.87	$ 14,743.90	$ 12,562.62
	6200 · Water Quality/Supply Division						
	Total 6200 · WQ/S Division			$ 17,250.00	$ 2,250.00	$ 22,921.31	$ 23,480.91
	6300 · Con/FishWildOutRec Division						
	Total 6300 · C/F/W/OR Division			$ 2,500.00	$ 2,500.00	$ 650.00	$ 4,945.01
	6400 · Hydro/FDR/Drainage Division						
	Total 6400 · H/FDR/D Division			$ 13,750.00	$ 3,250.00	$ 30,900.00	$ 5,897.51
	6500 · Inst/Legal/Fac/Med Division						
	Total 6500 · I/L/F/M Division			$ 500.00	$ 1,000.00	$ 100.00	$ 2,897.51
Total 6000-6500 · LEADERSHIP				$ 59,857.16	$ 34,692.88	$ 79,712.41	$ 60,846.17
6600 · COMMUNICATIONS				2007 Budget-US		2007 Budget-CN	
	6600 · Conferencing						
	Total 6600 · Conferencing			$ 72,602.37	$ 64,728.18	$ 23,250.00	$ 46,642.40
	6700 ·Education/Information						
	Total 6600-6700 · Education/Information			$ 116,754.22	$ 77,253.02	$ 16,030.20	$ 26,667.61
Total 6600-6700 · COMMUNICATIONS				$ 189,356.59	$ 141,981.20	$ 39,280.20	$ 73,310.01
6800 · PARTNERSHIP				2007 Budget-US		2007 Budget-CN	
Total 6800 · PARTNERSHIP				$ 30,176.17	$ 43,451.35	$ 19,981.20	$ 20,607.63
6900 · TECHNICAL RESOURCE				2007 Budget-US		2007 Budget-CN	
Total 6900 · TECHNICAL RESOURCE				$ 8,281.08	$ (1,519.98)	$ 5,780.20	$ 3,720.10
				2007 Budget-US		2007 Budget-CN	
			OPERATIONAL SUB-TOTAL	$ 569,893.88	$ 486,531.82	$ 280,777.07	$ 323,103.53
			Canadian Operational in US dollars	$ 238,660.51	$ 323,103.53	$ 238,660.51	$ 323,103.53
			Total US Operational dollars--2007	$ 808,554.39			
			Total US Operational dollars--2008		$ 486,531.82		
			Total Combined wo Projects--2008		$ 809,635.35		

Red River Basin Commission
2008 Final Budget

PROJECTS	2007 Budget-US		2007 Budget-CN
9000 · Buffer Strip			
Total 9000 · Buffer Strip			
9100 · CREP			
Total 9100 · CREP			
9200 ·TMDL			
Total 9200 · TMDL			
9300 · Mainstem Hydrology--Phase II			
Total 9300 · Mainstem Hydorology--Phase II			
9400 · RRWP			
940011 · Basin Planner			
Total 9400 · RRWP			
9500 ·Social Based Marketing Project			
Total 9500 · Social Based Marketing Project			
9600 ·Lake Winnipeg Implementation Strategy - LWIS			
9600-01 · Exec Dir			
9600-07 · Ad Asst/Conf			
9600-21 · Consultants			
Total 9600 · LWIS			
9700 ·IISD Jurisdictional Rept			
Total 9700 · IISD Jurisdictional Rept			
9800 ·IJC Modeling Scenario Rept			
9800-01 · Exec Dir		$ 9,890.00	
9800-21 · Benefits			
9800-23 · Other			
Total 9800 · IJC Modeling Scenario Rept		$ 9,890.00	
9900 ·IJC Mainstem Scenario Modeling-Run # 1			
9900-21 · Consultant			
9900-01 · RRBC Management		$ 15,900.00	
9900-21 · Benefits			
9900-23 · Other			
Total 9900 · IJC Mainstem Scenario Modeling		$ 15,900.00	
10000 ·IJC Pembina Structural Survey			
Total 10000 · IJC Pembina Structural Survey			
10100 ·IJC Pembina Modeling			
10100-21 · WMC Inc.		$ 26,000.00	
10100-01 · Exec Dir			
10100-21 · Benefits			
10100-23 · Other			
Total 10100 · IJC Pembina Modeling		$ 26,000.00	
10200 ·IJC Ion & Nutrient Data Base			
Total 10200 · IJC Ion & Nutrient Data Base			
10300 ·IJC Nutrient & NRFP Out & Cons			
Total 10300 · IJC Nut & NRFP Out & Cons			
10400 ·IJC Water Law			
10400-98 ·IJC Water Law			
10400 ·IJC Water Law			
10401 ·Bush Outreach			
10402-98 ·Bush Outreach Project Expenses		$ 10,000.00	
Outreach Consultant - MN		$ 20,000.00	
Outreach Consultant- ND		$ 20,000.00	
Data Consultant		$ 10,000.00	
Total 10402 ·Bush Outreach		$ 60,000.00	
Total 9200 · Special Project Expenses	$ -	$ 111,790.00	$ - $ -
Total Expense -- Operational and Projects	$ -		$ 280,777.07
Total Canadian Expenses in US do	$ 238,660.51		
Total Expense Budget Expressed i	$ 238,660.51		$ 238,660.51
Income with Projects & Carry-Over	$ 920,145.69	$ 1,021,658.89	
Expenses with Projects	#REF!	$ 921,425.35	
Total After All Income/Expenses	#REF!	$ 100,233.54	

Red River Basin Commission 2008 Funding

Background

The Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) works across the political boundaries of Manitoba, Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota in the United States and Canada to create a shared vision for action with regard to land and water issues.

The Red River Basin Commission was formed in 2002 to initiate a grass roots effort to address land and water issues in a basin-wide context. The RRBC was formed as a result of a merger between The Red River Basin Board, The International Coalition, and the Red River Water Resources Council.

The Red River Basin Commission is made up of a 41-member Board of Directors, comprised of mainly representatives of local government, including the cities, counties, rural municipalities, watershed boards, water resource districts, joint powers boards, as well as First Nations representation, a water supply cooperative, a lake improvement association, environmental groups, and four at-large members. The Governors of North Dakota, Minnesota, and the Premier of the Province of Manitoba have also appointed members to the Board.

The Red River Basin Commission has adopted a vision, a mission statement and a set of Guiding Principles, based on input provided by Basin residents, to guide its future activities. Although general in nature, these documents provided the foundation to develop reasonably specific goals and objectives for water management in the basin. These goals and objectives, along with the mission statement and the Guiding Principles, will provide a framework for the Board to conduct business in the future.

Since its conception the State of Minnesota has been supporting the RRBC with board member and committee participation as well as financial support in the amount of $100,000 annually.

Recommendation

The 07 Legislature has appropriated $100,000 to BWSR for RRBC administration. The Grants Program and Policy Committee has reviewed the Commission's 2008 Workplan and Budget and recommends Board approval of this $100,000 allocation.

12/5/2007

Red River Basin Commission
2008 Final Budget

	2007 Budget-US	2008 Budget US	2007 Budget-Can	2008 Budget Can
Income	$ 267,895.69	$ 223,868.89		
4001 · Manitoba			$ 100,000.00	$ 100,000.00
4002 · Minnesota	$ 100,000.00	$ 100,000.00		
4003 · North Dakota	$ 100,000.00	$ 100,000.00		
4004 · South Dakota	$ 6,000.00	$ 6,000.00		
4005 · LGUs - Manitoba			$ 100,000.00	$ 100,000.00
4006 · LGUs - Minnesota	$ 100,000.00	$ 100,000.00		
4007 · LGUs - North Dakota	$ 100,000.00	$ 100,000.00		
4008 · LGUs - Sorth Dakota				
4009 · Federal - Canada				
4010 · Federal - US				
4011 · Refunds GST/PST				
4012 · Interest Income				
4013 · Joint Powers Bd	$ 5,000.00	$ 5,000.00		
4014 · Endowments				
4015 · Bremer	$ 10,000.00	$ 10,000.00		
4016 · Rent				
4020 · Con/F/W/OR Division				
4021 · Buffer Strip				
4022 · CREP				
4030 · Qly/Qnty Division				
4031· TMDL				
4032· IJC Ion & Nut Data Base				
4033· IJC Nut & NRFP Out & Cons				
4034· Drought Scoping Document				
4035·				
4040 · FDR/Hydrology Division				
4041 · Mainstem Modeling--Phase II		$ 9,890.00		
4042 · IJC Mainstem Modeling Scen Rept		$ 15,900.00		
4043 · IJC Mainstem Scenario Modeling		$ 26,000.00		
4044 · IJC Pembina Modeling				
4045 · IJC Pembina Structure Survey				
4046 · MM Run # 2--Carry Over				
4047 · MM Phase III--Carry Over				
4050 · Partnerships				
4051 · RRWP				
4053 · IISD Jurisd Rept				
4054 · LWIS				
4055 · Sask L Winpg Conf				
4056 · Flood 2008 Intl Conf				
4060 · Comm/Education				
4061 · Red River of Expression				
4062 · Annual Summit Conference	$ 40,000.00	$ 25,000.00	$ 25,000.00	$ 40,000.00
4063 · Soc Based Mark				
4064 · IJC Water Law				
4065 ·River Center- MB				
4066 ·Bush Outreach				
Bush Outreach Carry-Over		$ 60,000.00		
4000 Other				
4000 Total Income without Projects	$ 728,895.69	$ 421,000.00	$ 225,000.00	$ 200,000.00
Canadian Income Adjusted to US dol	$ 191,250.00	$ 200,000.00		
Total Without Projects	$ 920,145.69	$ 621,000.00	$ 191,250.00	$ 200,000.00
4000 Total Income with Projects & Carryover-US	$ -	$ 781,658.89		$ 240,000.00
Canadian Income Adjusted to US dollars		$ 240,000.00		$ 240,000.00
Total With Projects and Carryover	$ 920,145.69	$ 1,021,658.89		

2008 Final Budget

Expense			2007 Budget-US			2007 Budget-CN	
	5000 · BOARD OF DIRECTORS						
		5021 · Board Meetings	$ 7,000.00	$ 8,000.00		$ 4,000.00	$ 4,000.00
		5022 · Board Expenses	$ 14,000.00	$ 14,000.00		$ 6,000.00	$ 6,000.00
		5023 · RRBC Retreat		$ 4,000.00		$ 4,000.00	
		5024 · Internal Commitees	$ 4,000.00	$ 4,000.00		$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00
		5098 · Expenses	$ 3,500.00	$ 1,500.00		$ 1,500.00	$ 2,500.00
		5099 · Board Of Directors - Other					
	Total 5000 · BOARD OF DIRECTORS		$ 28,500.00	$ 31,500.00		$ 17,500.00	$ 14,500.00
	5100 · ADMINISTRATION		2007 Budget-US			2007 Budget-CN	
		5101 · Executive Director 35%	$ 28,665.00	$ 29,524.95			
		5102 · Deputy Director 15%					
		5103 · South Basin Mngr/Com 15%	$ 7,608.25	$ 7,836.50			
		5104 · North Basin Mangr/Qly 15%				$ 7,340.10	$ 7,560.30
		5106 · Ad Asst 3/4-Mrd 50%	$ 6,944.59	$ 9,360.00			
		5107 · Ad Asst 1/2-Wnpg 60%				$ 6,000.00	$ 6,427.20
		5116 · Conf Asst pt	$ 5,000.00				
		5114 · Ad Asst 1/2-Mrd 40%	$ 7,087.39	$ 7,300.01			
		5115 · Staff - Temporary					
		5121 · Staff Training	$ 2,400.00	$ 1,600.00		$ 800.00	$ 800.00
		5122 · Staff Retreat		$ 1,000.00		$ 500.00	$ 500.00
		5123 · River Center EOI				$ 5,000.00	
		5124 · River Center Business Plan					$ 25,000.00
		5196· Project Staff		$ 9,890.00			
		5197· Project Related		$ 15,900.00			
		5198 · Expenses	$ 1,000.00	$ 5,000.00		$ 500.00	$ 2,500.00
		5199 · Administration - Other					
	Total 5100 · ADMINISTRATION		$ 58,705.23	$ 35,831.46		$ 20,140.10	$ 42,787.50
	5200 · BENEFITS		2007 Budget-US			2007 Budget-CN	
		5221 · Flex Plan Fee	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000.00			
		5222 · Health & Dental Insurance	$ 25,017.00	$ 37,851.00		$ 2,741.16	$ 3,621.12
		5223 · Long Term Disability	$ 2,261.00	$ 280.34		$ 1,886.88	$ 1,319.88
		5224 · Short Term Disability	$ 5,000.00	$ 5,000.00		$ 901.92	$ 860.88
		5225 · Group Life/Accidental Death				$ 1,037.88	$ 540.96
		5226 · RRBC Pension	$ 4,395.33	$ 6,288.61		$ 2,668.02	$ 2,712.06
		5227 · Retirement--SS/CPP	$ 10,182.22	$ 12,001.36		$ 5,823.00	$ 5,494.50
		5228 · Medicare--MB Supp	$ 2,381.33	$ 2,806.77			
		5229 · Unemployment--MN-Fed	$ 716.80	$ 1,075.20			$ 3,000.00
		5230 · MN Workers compensation	$ 1,231.72	$ 1,572.15			
		5231 · Manitoba Employment Taxes-EI					$ 3,240.00
		5296· Project Staff Benefits					
		5297· Project Related					
		5299 · Benefits - Other					$ 700.00
	Total 5200 · BENEFITS		$ 52,185.40	$ 67,772.44		$ 15,058.86	$ 21,489.40
	5300 Office		2007 Budget-US			2007 Budget-CN	
		5321 · Computer	$ 3,500.00	$ 3,000.00		$ 1,500.00	$ 1,500.00
		5322 · Corporation Filing Fees	$ 500.00	$ 500.00		$ 900.00	$ 900.00
		5323 · Insurance (Surety Bonds)	$ 2,000.00	$ 1,000.00		$ 600.00	$ 1,000.00
		5224 · Internet	$ 1,500.00	$ 500.00		$ 1,500.00	$ 1,500.00
		5325 · Legal Fees	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00		$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00
		5326 · Office Equipment	$ 3,000.00	$ 4,000.00		$ 1,500.00	$ 1,500.00
		5327 · Petty Cash	$ 500.00	$ 500.00		$ 500.00	$ 500.00
		5328 · PO Box Rent & Bulk Mail Permit	$ 250.00	$ 250.00		$ 250.00	$ 250.00
		5329 · Recycling	$ 100.00	$ 100.00		$ 100.00	$ 100.00
		5330 · Rent	$ 19,000.00	$ 19,000.00		$ 22,000.00	$ 22,000.00

Red River Basin Commission
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5331 · Repairs & Maint.	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00
5332 · Subscriptions/Ads	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000.00
5333 · Supplies	$ 6,000.00	$ 6,000.00	$ 5,000.00	$ 5,000.00
5334 · Telephone	$ 18,000.00	$ 18,000.00	$ 5,000.00	$ 5,000.00
5335 · Copies	$ 6,000.00	$ 8,000.00	$ 3,000.00	$ 3,000.00
5336 · Postage	$ 3,000.00	$ 2,000.00	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000.00
5337 · Bank Fees, Finance Charges	$ 200.00	$ 200.00	$ 200.00	$ 200.00
5396· Project Staff				
5397· Project Related				
5338· Auto	$ 6,000.00	$ 6,000.00	$ 6,000.00	$ 6,000.00
5398 · Expenses	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00
5399 · Office - Other		$ 1,000.00		$ 1,000.00
Total 5300 · OFFICE	$ 77,550.00	$ 78,050.00	$ 56,050.00	$ 57,450.00
5400 · FUNDING/FINANCE	2007 Budget-US		2007 Budget-CN	
5401 · Executive Director 35%	$ 28,665.00	$ 29,524.95		
5403 ·South Basin Mngr/Com 15%	$ 7,608.25	$ 7,836.50		
5404 · North Basin Mngr/Qly 15%			$ 7,340.10	$ 7,560.30
5406 · Ad Asst 3/4-Mrd 5%	$ 694.46	$ 936.00		
5407 · Ad Asst 1/2-Wnpg 20%			$ 2,000.00	$ 2,142.40
5410 · Outreach Coordinator 20%			$ 8,534.00	$ 8,790.02
5413 · Accounting Consultant	$ 6,000.00	$ -		
5414 · Ad Asst 1/2-Mrd 30%	$ 5,314.54	$ 5,475.01		
5415 · Grant Writer Consultant	$ 6,000.00	$ 6,000.00		
5416 · Grant Writer Consultant			$ -	
5421 · Audit	$ 5,000.00	$ 5,000.00	$ 4,000.00	$ 4,500.00
5422 · MB Bank Charges			$ 200.00	$ 200.00
5423 · MB Payroll Accounting			$ 1,200.00	$ 1,200.00
5496 · Project Staff				
5497 · Project Related				
5498 · Expenses	$ 6,000.00	$ 6,000.00	$ 4,000.00	$ 4,000.00
5499 · Funding/Finance - Other				
Total 5400 · FUNDING/FINANCE	$ 65,282.25	$ 54,772.46	$ 27,274.10	$ 28,392.72
6000 · LEADERSHIP	2007 Budget-US		2007 Budget-CN	
6000 · Plan M Plan Management				
6001 · Exec Director 5%	$ 4,095.00	$ 4,217.85		
6003 · South Basin Mngr/Com 5%	$ 2,536.08	$ 2,612.17		
6004 · North Basin Mngr/Qly 5%			$ 2,446.70	$ 2,520.10
6005 · Basin Coordination		$ -		
6010 · Outreach Coordinator 15%			$ 6,400.50	$ 6,592.52
6021 · NRFP Chair Meeting				
6022 · NRFP Buy-In Out Reach				
6023 · NRFP INV Teams				
6024 · NRFP Reports				
6025 · PI Mang Activities	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 250.00	$ 250.00
6026 · State of Basin Reports	$ 250.00	$ 250.00	$ 100.00	$ 200.00
6027 · Div Act: G 1 Watershed	$ 250.00	$ 250.00	$ 100.00	
6028 · Div Act: G 2 Integration	$ 250.00	$ 250.00	$ 100.00	
6029 · Drought Scoping Document				
6096 · Project Staff				
6097 · Project Related				
6098 · Expenses	$ 2,000.00	$ 1,500.00	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,500.00
6099 · Plan Management - Other				
Total 6000 · Plan Management	$ 9,881.08	$ 9,580.02	$ 10,397.20	$ 11,062.62

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6100	Legislative					
	6101 · Executive Director 10%	$ 8,190.00	$ 8,435.70			
	6102 · Deputy Director 10%					
	6103 · South Basin Mngr/Com 5%	$ 2,536.08	$ 2,612.17			
	6104 · North Basin Mngr/Qly 5%			$ 2,446.70	$ 2,520.10	
	6110 · Outreach Coordinator 15%			$ 6,400.50	$ 6,592.52	
	6005 · Basin Coordination			$ 2,446.70		
	6122 · Legislative Outreach	$ 250.00	$ 250.00	$ 100.00	$ 100.00	
	6123 · Legislative Meetings	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 250.00	$ 250.00	
	6125 · Committee Activities	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 100.00	$ 100.00	
	6196 · Project Staff					
	6197 · Project Related					
	6198 · Expenses	$ 4,000.00	$ 4,000.00	$ 3,000.00	$ 3,000.00	
	6199 · Legislative - Other					
Total 6100 · Legislative		$ 15,976.08	$ 16,112.87	$ 14,743.90	$ 12,562.62	
6200	Water Qulity/Supply Division					
	6204 · North Basin Mngr/Qly 45%			$ 22,021.31	$ 22,680.91	
	6209 · Hydrologist Consultant			$ -		
	6225 · Division Activities	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 100.00	$ 100.00	
	6226 · State of Basin Rept	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 100.00	$ 200.00	
	6227 · Div Act: G 9 & 10 Qly	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 100.00		
	6228 · Div Act: G 8 Supply	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 100.00		
	6229 · Drought Scoping Doc - RRBC	$ 15,000.00				
	6296 · Project Staff					
	6297 · Project Related					
	6298 · Expenses	$ 250.00	$ 250.00	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	
	6299 · Other					
Total 7300 · WQ/S Division		$ 17,250.00	$ 2,250.00	$ 22,921.31	$ 23,480.91	
6300 · Con/FishWildOutRec Division						
	6010 · Outreach Coordinator 10%	$ -			$ 4,395.01	
	6325 · Division Activities	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 100.00	$ 100.00	
	6326 · State of Basin Rept	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 100.00	$ 200.00	
	6327 · Div Act: G 11 Conservation	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 100.00		
	6328 · Div Act: G 12 & 13 F, W, & OR	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 100.00		
	6396 · Project Staff	#REF!				
	6397 · Project Related					
	6329 · State of Basin Rept					
	6398 · Expenses	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 250.00	$ 250.00	
	6399 · Other					
Total 6300 · C/F/W/OR Division		$ 2,500.00	$ 2,500.00	$ 650.00	$ 4,945.01	
6400 · Hydro/FDR/Drainage Division						
	6410 · Outreach Coordinator 5%			$ -	$ 2,197.51	
	6421 · Modeling Meetings	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000.00			
	6425 · Division Activites	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 100.00	$ 100.00	
	6426 · State of Basin Rept	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 100.00	$ 100.00	
	6427 · Div Act: G 5, 6, & 7 FDR	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 100.00		
	6428 · Div Act: G 8 FDR	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 100.00		
	6429 · Mainstem Modeling RRBC			$ 30,000.00		
	6430 · Basin Maps RRBC	$ 10,500.00			$ 3,000.00	
	6496 · Project Staff					
	6497 · Project Related					
	6498 · Expenses	$ 250.00	$ 250.00	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	
	6499 · Other					
Total 6400 · H/FDR/D Division		$ 13,750.00	$ 3,250.00	$ 30,900.00	$ 5,897.51	

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		6500 ·	Inst/Legal/Fac/Med Division								
			6510 · Outreach Coordinator 5%					$	2,133.50	$	2,197.51
			6525 · Division Activites							$	100.00
			6526 · State of Basin Rept	$	500.00	$	500.00	$	100.00	$	100.00
			6596 · Project Staff								
			6597 · Project Related								
			6598 · Expenses			$	500.00			$	500.00
			6599 · Other								
		Total 6500 · I/L/F/M Division		$	500.00	$	1,000.00	$	100.00	$	2,897.51
Total 6000-6500 · LEADERSHIP				$	59,857.16	$	34,692.88	$	79,712.41	$	60,846.17
6600 · COMMUNICATIONS				2007 Budget-US				2007 Budget-CN			
		6600 · Conferencing									
			6603 · South Basin Mngr/Com 5%	$	2,536.08	$	2,612.17				
			6606 · Ad Asst 3/4-Mrd 30%	$	4,166.75	$	5,616.00				
			6607 · Ad Asst 1/2-Wnpg 20%					$	2,000.00	$	2,142.40
			6608 · Conf Coor/Out Spec 50%	$	10,084.00	$	18,025.00				
			6614 · Ad Asst 1/2-Mrd 30%	$	5,315.54	$	5,475.01				
			6616 · Conf Assistant pt	$	5,000.00	$	5,000.00				
			6621 · Conference Start-Up								
			6622 · Conference Expenses	$	45,000.00	$	25,000.00	$	21,000.00	$	40,000.00
			6623 · Assist other Conferences	$	500.00	$	3,000.00	$	250.00	$	3,000.00
			6696 · Project Staff								
			6697 · Project Related								
			6698 · Expenses							$	1,500.00
			6699 · Annual Conference - Other								
		Total 6600 · Conferencing		$	72,602.37	$	64,728.18	$	23,250.00	$	46,642.40
		6700 ·Education/Information									
			6701 · Executive Director 5%	$	4,095.00	$	4,217.85				
			6703 · South Basin Mngr/Com 35%	$	17,752.59	$	18,285.17				
			6704 · North Basin Mngr/Qly 5%					$	2,446.70	$	2,520.10
			6005 · Basin Coordination	$	-	$	-				
			6710 · Outreach Coordinator 5%					$	2,133.50	$	2,197.51
			6717 · Communication Consultant	$	20,000.00	$	20,000.00				
			6718 · Education Consultant	$	48,156.63						
			6721 · Newsletter	$	4,000.00			$	2,000.00		
			6722 · Media Promotion	$	4,000.00	$	4,000.00	$	2,000.00	$	2,000.00
			6723 · Meeting Expense								
			6724 · Website	$	500.00	$	500.00				
			6725 · RRBC Tours	$	4,000.00	$	4,000.00	$	2,000.00	$	2,000.00
			6726 · State of Basin	$	500.00	$	500.00	$	100.00	$	100.00
			6727 · Com Act: G 4 Ed Infor	$	500.00	$	500.00	$	100.00	$	100.00
			6731 · Advertising Promotion	$	4,500.00	$	4,500.00	$	1,000.00	$	1,000.00
			6732 · Conferences/Booths/Displays	$	1,000.00	$	1,000.00	$	1,000.00	$	1,500.00
			6733 · Comm Activities	$	750.00	$	750.00	$	250.00	$	250.00
			6734 · Display	$	500.00	$	12,500.00	$	500.00	$	12,500.00
			6796 · Project Staff								
			6797 · Project Related								
			6798 · Expenses	$	5,000.00	$	5,000.00	$	1,500.00	$	1,500.00
			6799 · Education/Information - Other	$	1,500.00	$	1,500.00	$	1,000.00	$	1,000.00
		Total 6600-6700 · Education/Information		$	116,754.22	$	77,253.02	$	16,030.20	$	26,667.61
Total 6600-6700 · COMMUNICATIONS				$	189,356.59	$	141,981.20	$	39,280.20	$	73,310.01

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6800 · PARTNERSHIP		2007 Budget-US			2007 Budget-CN		
	6801 · Executive Director 5%	$ 4,095.00		$ 4,217.85			
	6803 · South Basin Mngr/Com 15%	$ 7,608.25		$ 7,836.50			
	6804 · North Basin Mngr/Qly 5%				$ 2,446.70		$ 2,520.10
	6005 · Basin Coordination 25%			$ -			
	6806 · Ad Asst 3/4-Mrd 10%	$ 1,388.92		$ 1,872.00			
	6808 · Conf Coor/Out Spec 50%	$ 10,084.00		$ 18,025.00			
	6810 · Outreach Coordinator 35%				$ 14,934.50		$ 10,987.53
	6811 · Outreach Consultant-MB						
	6812 · JPB Consultant	$ 2,000.00		$ 2,000.00			
	6819 · Outreach Consultant-MN	$ -		$ 20,000.00			
	6820 · Outreach Consultant -ND			$ 20,000.00			
	6823 · Meeting Expense	$ 500.00		$ 500.00	$ 500.00		$ 500.00
	6825 · Partneeship Activities	$ 500.00		$ 500.00			
	6826 · State of Basin Rept	$ 500.00		$ 500.00	$ 100.00		$ 100.00
	6827 · JPB Expenses	$ 1,000.00		$ 1,000.00			
	6828 · Chapters				$ 500.00		$ 500.00
	6833 · PRBAB	$ 500.00		$ 500.00	$ 500.00		$ 500.00
	6834 · RRIW	$ 500.00		$ 500.00	$ 500.00		$ 500.00
	6835 · Wild Rice-South Basin	$ 1,000.00		$ 1,000.00			
	6896 · Project Staff				$ -		$ -
	6897 · Project Related						
	6898 · Expenses	$ 500.00		$ 5,000.00	$ 500.00		$ 5,000.00
	6899 · Partnership - Other						
Total 6800 · PARTNERSHIP		$ 30,176.17		$ 43,451.35	$ 19,981.20		$ 20,607.63
6900 · TECHNICAL RESOURCE		2007 Budget-US			2007 Budget-CN		
	6901 · Executive Director 5%	$ 4,095.00		$ 4,217.85			
	6903 · South Basin Mngr/Com 5%	$ 2,536.08		$ 2,612.17			
	6904 · North Basin Mngr/Qly 5%				$ 2,446.70		$ 2,520.10
	6910 · Outreach Coordinator 5%				$ 2,133.50		$ -
	6918 · Data Consultant	$ -		$ 10,000.00	$ -		
	6921 · ESRI Maintenance	$ 400.00		$ 400.00	$ 400.00		$ 400.00
	6923 · Research Meetings						
	6925 · Division Activities	$ 250.00		$ 250.00	$ 100.00		$ 100.00
	6926 · State of Basin Rept	$ 250.00		$ 250.00	$ 100.00		$ 100.00
	6927 · Div Act: G 3 Res & Data	$ 250.00		$ 250.00	$ 100.00		$ 100.00
	6996 · Project Staff						
	6997 · Project Related						
	6998 · Expenses	$ 500.00		$ 500.00	$ 500.00		$ 500.00
	6999 · Technical Resource - Other						
Total 6900 · TECHNICAL RESOURCE		$ 8,281.08		$ (1,519.98)	$ 5,780.20		$ 3,720.10
		2007 Budget-US			2007 Budget-CN		
	OPERATIONAL SUB-TOTAL	$ 569,893.88		$ 486,531.82	$ 280,777.07		$ 323,103.53
	Canadian Operational in US dollars	$ 238,660.51		$ 323,103.53	$ 238,660.51		$ 323,103.53
	Total US Operational dollars--2007	$ 808,554.39					
	Total US Operational dollars--2008			$ 486,531.82			
	Total Combined wo Projects--2008			$ 809,635.35			

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PROJECTS	2007 Budget-US	2007 Budget-CN
9000 · Buffer Strip		
Total 9000 · Buffer Strip		
9100 · CREP		
Total 9100 · CREP		
9200 · TMDL		
Total 9200 · TMDL		
9300 · Mainstem Hydrology--Phase II		
Total 9300 · Mainstem Hydorology--Phase II		
9400 · RRWP		
940011 · Basin Planner		
Total 9400 · RRWP		
9500 · Social Based Marketing Project		
Total 9500 · Social Based Marketing Project		
9600 · Lake Winnipeg Implementation Strategy - LWIS		
9600-01 · Exec Dir		
9600-07 · Ad Asst/Conf		
9600-21 · Consultants		
Total 9600 · LWIS		
9700 · IISD Jurisdictional Rept		
Total 9700 · IISD Jurisdictional Rept		
9800 · IJC Modeling Scenario Rept		
9800-01 · Exec Dir		$ 9,890.00
9800-21 · Benefits		
9800-23 · Other		
Total 9800 · IJC Modeling Scenario Rept		$ 9,890.00
9900 · IJC Mainstem Scenario Modeling-Run # 1		
9900-21 · Consultant		
9900-01 · RRBC Management		$ 15,900.00
9900-21 · Benefits		
9900-23 · Other		
Total 9900 · IJC Mainstem Scenario Modeling		$ 15,900.00
10000 · IJC Pembina Structural Survey		
Total 10000 · IJC Pembina Structural Survey		
10100 · IJC Pembina Modeling		
10100-21 · WMC Inc.		$ 26,000.00
10100-01 · Exec Dir		
10100-21 · Benefits		
10100-23 · Other		
Total 10100 · IJC Pembina Modeling		$ 26,000.00

	10200 · IJC Ion & Nutrient Data Base											
	Total 10200 · IJC Ion & Nutrient Data Base											
	10300 · IJC Nutrient & NRFP Out & Cons											
	Total 10300 · IJC Nut & NRFP Out & Cons											
	10400 · IJC Water Law											
		10400-98 · IJC Water Law										
	10400 · IJC Water Law											
	10401 · Bush Outreach											
		10402-98 · Bush Outreach Project Expenses				$	10,000.00					
			Outreach Consultant - MN			$	20,000.00					
			Outreach Consultant- ND			$	20,000.00					
			Data Consultant			$	10,000.00					
	Total 10402 · Bush Outreach					$	60,000.00					
	Total 9200 · Special Project Expenses			$	-	$	111,790.00		$	-	$	-
	Total Revenue Without Projects			$	920,145.69	$	621,000.00					
	Total Expenses Without Projects			$	-	$	809,635.35					
			Difference	$	920,145.69	$	(188,635.35)					
Total Expense -- Operational and Projects				$	-				$	280,777.07		
			Total Canadian Expenses in US dollars	$	238,660.51							
			Total Expense Budget Expressed in US doll	$	238,660.51				$	238,660.51		
			Income with Projects & Carry-Over	$	920,145.69	$	1,021,658.89					
			Expenses with Projects		#REF!	$	921,425.35					
			Total After All Income/Expenses		#REF!	$	100,233.54					
			Extra Items									
			Auto Purchases			$	12,000.00					
			Comm Coor			$	20,000.00					
			Conf Assistant			$	5,000.00					
			3-d Display			$	25,000.00					
			River Center Business Plan			$	25,000.00					
			AKN Mat Leave savings			$	42,001.69					
			$50,402.03			$	6,967.70					
			$8,361.24									
			Extra Items Total			$	123,969.39					

NRFP GOAL & ISSUE AREA	2008 RRBC WORKPLAN RRBC ACTION	FTE's	NRFP ACTION	TIMELINE	STAFF
				MT Management Team: ly, jg, an ly - Lance jg - Julie an - April (nov, dec only) con- Consultant JPB- Arneson MN Outreach - Evert ND Outreach - connected to f/t Grant Writer- Olive	js-Jennifer ts-Tanja 3/4 rl - Ruth ks - Kathy 1/2 db- Donna 1/2 lt- Leah all - all staff
	ADMINISTRATION				
	Board Meetings				
	Board Meetings in 2008-Jan, Mar, Sept	264		Jan, Mar,Sept	MT,js, lt, np (ks,db)
	1 Board Meeting & Tours -- June	120		June	MT,js, lt, np (ks,db)
	1 Board Meetin & Retreat--Nov	136		Nov	MT,js, lt, np (ks,db)
	Executive Committee Meetings				
	12 Executive Committee Meetings --3rd Thursday	96		3rd Th -- Month	ly
	Executive Director Evaluation	12		2/1/2008	ly
	Human Resource Committee Meetings	12		as Needed	ly
	General				
	All Staff Evaluations,	63		Dec 2007-Jan 2008	MT
	Documentation, Records	1910			all
	Work Plans--Annual	20			ly
	Work Plans -- Weekly	119		Due Friday for coming week	all
	Weekly Staff Meetings	186		Monday	all
	Face to Face Staff Meetings (2)--Retreat (2)	222		Friday 2x year 1-- 2 day ret.	all
	Management Team Meetings (12)	28		monthly phone	MT
	Update Governing Documents	20		as needed	ly,db
	FIANANCE				
	Finance Committee Meetings				
	12 Finance Committee Meetings -- 3rd Wednesday	12		3rd Wed -- Month	ly
	General				
	Monthly Finances	1083		ongoing	ts,db,ly,an
	Base Funding --Local, Provincial, State	64			ks,db,ly
	Base Funding -- Federal	72			ly,jg
	Project Funding--as needed	404			2007 ly,jg,grant con
	Prepare 2009 Budget	64		6/1/08 to 12/31/08	ly,jg,an,ts
	2007 Audit	112		1/1/08 to 6/30/08	ly,akn,ts,db
	LEADERSHIP				
	Plan Implementation Committee (4)	184		4 mtg year	js,jg,ly,lt
	WG- Flood Damage Reduction--- snapshot;obj, act ag; conf	84		phone calls, mtgs, matls	ly,jg
	WG- Water Quality--snapshot;obj, act ag; conf	128		phone calls, mtgs, matls	js,lt,an.ly.jg
	WG - Conservation--snapshot;obj, act ag; conf	88		phone calls, mtgs, matls	js,ly,jg
	WG- Water Supply--snapshot; obj, act ag; conf	84		phone calls, mtgs, matls	ly,jg
	WG- Watersheds--snapshot, conf	84		phone calls, mtgs, matls	ly,jg,lt
	WG- Integration--snapshot, conf	84		phone calls, mtgs, matls	jg,js,ly
	WG- Data-Tools for Decision Making--snapshot, conf	80		phone calls, mtgs, matls	ly,jg
	WG- Education-Information--snapshot, conf	88		phone calls, mtgs, matls	ly,jg,lt
	Precipitation Committee	80		1-2 Mtgs	js,ly
	Ag Commodity Committee	88		Mtg a year	js,ly,jg
	Facilitation				
	Basin Drought Recommendation Report	16			ly

Basin Drought Activities	282	If Needed	ly,lt
Forum for Basin Issues	104	If Board Decides to do	all
Forum Water Quality	104	If Board Decides to do	all
Legislative Committee	88	as needed	ly,jg
COMMUNICATIONS			
Communication Committee	264	10 mtgs a year	jg,lt,ly,js
Web Site	104	weekly updates	jg,
Newsletter- 2	160	2 x year for outreach	jg, grant con
Ripple Effect - 24	212	twice a month to newspapers	jg,
Water Minutes- 2x mo	106	2-4 a week	jg,
Monthly Activity Update	68	monthly updated	jg, js
State of Basin--Snapshot Updates	128	8 next year	all
Annual Report	88	yearly	ly,jg
Other Flyers/Information/PR materials --projects and activies	120	as needed projects, conf, etc	jg,
Press Releases	40	as appropriate	jg
Power Point Presentations--conferences, speaking engagements, etc	112	conf, speak engag etc.	jg,ly,js,lt
River Center	140	if needed	ly,jg
Annual Summit Conference	684	2009 Winnipeg	all
Speaker Contacts	630	2010 Winnipeg	lt,jg
Sponsorship, ads, booths	520	2011 Winnipeg	lt
Annual Summit Conference - Flyer, Brochure, Conf Booklet	424	2012 Winnipeg	lt,jg
Other Conference			
Toronto Flood Defence Conferenc	32	Toronto in May	ly
April FDR Goals Conference	136	Around April	all
Conservation Conference	96	Jan and June	js,lt,ly,db,ks,js
Lake Winnipeg Leadership Conf	40	spring	ly
lake Winnipeg Basin Conf	96	If it goes forward in 2008	all
PARTNERSHIPS			
Partnerhsip Committee			
IRRB	24	July	ly
IRRB-AEH	64	2 x a year	js,lt
IRRB-Hydrology	32	2 x a year	ly
Pembina River Basin Advisory Board (PRBAB) Meetings	80	4 a year	js,ly
PRBAB Activities	128	as needed	js,ly
Roseau River International Watershed (RRIW) Meetings	80	4 a year	lt,ly
RRIW Activities	128	as needed	lt,ly
South Valley Initiative (SVI) Meetings	96	4 a year	lt,ly,jg
SVI Activities	128	as needed	lt,ly,jg
MN Joint Powers Board (JPB)	104	4 a year	jg
MB North/South Chapters	192	10 x year	js,db,ly,jg
Outreach SD, MB, First Nation	60	ongoing	lt,
Outreach Provincail, State, Federal	32	ongoing	lt,ly
Reg mtgs---NDJWRB, MNRRWMB, MBCDA,UPP Shey, Dev Lake,	280	regualarly scheduled	jg,ly,js,lt
annual mtgs- MBCDA, MBAMM, NDJWater, MAWD, NDAC,	144	annually	jg,ly,js
TECHNICAL RESOURCE--PROJECTS			
Technical Resource Committee	16	if it is set up	ly
Mainstem Modeling Calibration III	96	as needed	ly
Bush Outreach Project	3050	as needed	all
Mainstem Modeling Run # 2	140	as needed	ly
Mainstem Modeling Scenario Report - IJC	32	as needed	ly
Mainstem Modeling Run # 1 - IJC	32	as needed	ly
Pembina Modeling - IJC	92	as needed	ly
Dredging Study II	16	as needed	lt,js,db

	Dredging Study II--fin and workshop roles	136	If it goes forward	ts,ly,js,db
	TOTALS	16067		

2006 - BOARD RETREAT PRIORITIES

CODES:
Yellow = RRBC Lead Current Project
Orange = RRBC Lead Planned Project
Lt Green = RRBC Support Current Project
Green = RRBC Support Planned Project

GOAL # 1				
Increase Coor & Comp Wat Plan				
1 - S 24 - L	Provide Forum for identifying, developing & implementing solns to cross bndry issues	0	1.2.18	
8 - L	Educ & Adoption of NRFP by member jurisdictions	0	1.1.1	
6 - L	Continue to refine bsin goals & processes for NRFP implementation	0	1.1.2	
7 - S 5 - L	RRBC briefing / marketing documents -- accomplishments, gen info, SI, LT goals 1x yr	0	1.1.3	
3 - S 1 - L	Roseau River International Watershed planning - MB	0	1.2.2	
4 - S 1 - L	South Valley Initiative (ND &SD Wild Rice effort)	0	1.2.4	
11 - S 1 - L	Pembina River Basin Advisory Board activities - ND & MB	0	1.2.3	
1 - S	Brokenhead River Restoration Project - MB	0	1.2.10	
		0		
		0		
Goal # 2		0		
Integrate Natural Resource Mangt		0		
1 - S 1 - L	Increase planners' awareness of conservation principles	0	2.2.1	
		0		
		0		
		0		
Goal # 3		0		
Increase Appld Res & Data Mngt		0		
5 - L	Run Mike 11 mainstem from L Trav to L Winnipeg run # 2	0	3.3.1	
1 - L	Lower Pembina area modeling - link with MIKE-11 above	0	3.3.3	
5 - S 1 - L	Dev of 3-D gw models for the basin similar to that of the MN Geological Survey/BOR	0	3.3.4	
1 - S	Coor above with the devel of HEC/RAS unsteady flow model from L Traverse to the Can border	0	3.3.2	
3 - S	Support continued devel, fund, & use of (RRBDIN) for data access and sharing	0	3.1.2	
4 - S	Identify and share research needs and gaps.	0	3.1.1	
		0		
Goal # 4		0		
Develop Stake Part & Awareness		0		
4 - S 11 - L	Use RRBC annual Sumit Conf to provide education & outreach	0	4.2.9	
2 - S 5 - L	Provide annual rept card on compr, integrated, wateshed stewad & management	0	4.2.1	
6 - S 2 - L	Define and adopt a stewardship ethic for RRBC members	0	4.1.1	
3 - S 1 - L	Continue to convene MB North and South RRBC Chapters & conduct workshops	0	4.2.6	
2 - S	Use Community Based Social Marketing to increase awareness of conservation programs	0	4.2.4	
5 - S	Continue to convene the MN Joint Powers Board	0	4.2.5	
1 - S	Revision of Lake Winnipeg Shoreline Management Handbook	0	4.2.8	
		0		
		0		
Goal # 5		0		
Maintain Flood Forecast Tools				
1 - L	MIKE-11 Mainstem hydrology model (line 3.3.1 above)	0	5.1.1	
		0		
		0		
Goal # 6		0		
Red Risk of fdr main & trib				
10 - L	Est collective benefits fo projects using Mike 11 mainstem model	0	6.2.1	
2 - S 3 - L	Define fdr needs in the upper basin that are not being met	0	6.2.2	
1 - L	North Ottawa Dam (line 2.1.5 above)	0	6.1.6	
2 - S	Maple River Dam (ND)	0	6.1.5	

2 - S	Fargo-Moorhead Upstream Feasibility Study (line 2.1.1 above)	0	6.1.7
3 - S	Lake Roseau Flood protection	0	6.1.4
		0	
Goal # 7		0	
Ensure Resp & Rec address needs		0	
6 - S	Document program availability, identify gaps	0	7.1.1
		0	
		0	
		0	
Gaol # 8		0	
Mang Drain Syst Prod & Min Dam		0	
4 - S 3 - L	Promote stream restoration concepts as FDR measures	0	
3 - S 2 - L	Continue projects (MN Buffer Initiative and CREP) that minimize environmental impacts (lines 9.3.3 &	0	
		0	
		0	
Goal # 9		0	
Main Prot & Res SW & GW Qly		0	
2 - L	Ensure jursd interp wat qly dat undertaken with basin wide perspective.	0	9.1.3
2 - S 2 - L	RRB Buffer Initiative (MN) example F-M TMDL study (turbidity & Fecal Colif)	0	9.3.3
2 - S 1 - L	Basin-wide analysis of nutrient concentrations and loads	0	9.1.2
3 - S	Basin-wide analysis of nutrient concentrations and loads (line 9.1.2 above)	0	9.5.2
1 - S 4 - L	Provide forum for each juris to discuss issues rel to implem basin appr ot wat qly mang	0	9.1.1
1 - S 3 - L	Provide forum for each juris to discuss issues rel to cont & mang of exot species	0	9.6.1
4 - S 3 - L	Lake Winnipeg Dredging Study II	0	9.4.3
5 - S 3 - L	Provide a forum juris to discuss issues rel to devel strat to reduce nut load L. Wnpg	0	9.4.1
2 - S 2 - L	Provide basin-wide perspective to jurisdictional interpretation of exotic species status.	0	9.6.3
1 - L	Provide basin-wide persp to each jursid's prog (e.g., ND Ag Nuis Spec plan, devel 2005)	0	
7 - S 1 - L	Water Quality Forum (line 9.1.1 above)	0	9.5.1
3 - S	Provide a forum for jurisd to discuss issues related to developing restoration goals	0	9.2.1
		0	
Goal # 10		0	
Ensure App Use & Sust of SW & GW		0	
		0	
Goal # 11		0	
Increse Soil Conservation		0	
4 - S 3 - L		0	
	Provide a forum for mangrs and soil cons staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0	11.2.1
1 -S 2 - L	CREP II - Red River Basin (MN)	0	11.2.1
9 - S	MN Buffer Initiative (line 9.3.3 above)	0	11.1.3
		0	
Goal # 12		0	
Cons Mang & Res fish, wild & habit		0	
2 - S 3 - L		0	12.2.1
1 - S 1 - L	Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0	12.1.1
1 - S 1 - L	Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0	12.4.1
1 - S	Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0	12.3.1
	Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0	
		0	
Goal # 13		0	
Enh & Dev Rec Infa & Acess		0	
5 - S 2 - L	Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0	13.1.1
1 - S 1 - L	Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0	13.2.1
2 - S 1 - L	Inventory public lands	0	13.1.2
		0	
		0	
0-S 16 - L	Conflict resolution mechanism for the board to use externally for inter-jurisdictional issues	0	
3 - S 14 - L	Bring together scientific data app Dev Lake and other contentious issues comm coord data & usage	0	
2 - S 12 - L	Basin-wide drought response planning	0	
4 - S 11 - L	Coordinate River Watch expansion basin-wide	0	

9 - S	Study Red River mainstem capacity for industrial development	0
	Plan of action for succession: Board members, Elected officials, agency officials	0
		0

2007 RRBC WORK PLAN

NRFP GOAL & ISSUE AREA	RRBC ACTION	FTE's	NRFP ACTION	TIMELINE		STAFF
				MT Management Team: ly, jg, akn		
	CODES:			ly - Lance		js-Jennifer
	Yellow = RRBC Lead Current Project			jg - Julie		rs - Rachel
	Orange = RRBC Lead Planned Project			akn - April		rl - Ruth
	Lt Green = RRBC Support Current Project					ksp - Kathy
	Green = RRBC Support Planned Project			all - all staff		
				Con- Consultant		
	ADMINISTRATION					
	Board Meetings					
	5 Board Meetings in 2007-Jan, Mar, June, Sept, & Nov- 1st Thursday	520		Ja, Mr,My,Jn,Ag,S,N		all
	1 Board Tours & Discussion in 2007-June & August	48		Jn,Ag		all
	1 Board Retreat-Nov-1st Thursday (and day before)	56		Nov		all
		0				
	Executive Committee Meetings	0				
	12 Executive Committee Meetings in 2007--3rd Thursday	96		3rd Th -- Month		MT
	Executive Director Evaluation	12			3/30/2007	ly
		0				
	Human Resource Committee Meetings	24		as Needed		ly
		0				
	General	0				
	All Staff Evaluations,	45				MT
	Documentation, Records,	1356				all
	Work Plans--Weekly, Annual	157				
	Monthly Staff Meetings	264		2nd Fri -- Month		all
	Management Team Meetings	214		Weekly		MT
	Update Governing Documents	40		1/1/07-3/1/07		ly,ra,ksp
		0				
	FIANANCE	0				
	Finance Committee Meetings	0				
	12 Finance Committee Meetings n 2007 -- 3rd Wednesday	24		3rd Wed -- Month		MT
		0				
	General	0				
	Monthly Finances	464		ongoing		ra,akn,ly
	Base Funding --Local, Provincial, State Requests, Federal Strategies	224		1/1/06 to 6/1/2007		all
	Base Funding -- Federal	120				MT
	Project Funding--as needed	240			2007	all
	Prepare 2008 Budget	128		6/1/07 to 12/31/07		ly,Mt
	2006 Audit	0		1/1/07 to 6/30/07		ly,akn,ra
		0				
	PROJECTS	0				
	Buffer Strip	488			8/1/2007	rl,
	Rosesu River Watershed Plan	40			1/15/2007	akn,
	Mainstem Modeling Run # 2	96			3/15/2007	ly,akn
	Mainstem Modeling Scenario Report - IJC	96			3/15/2007	ly
	Mainstem Modeling Run # 1 - IJC	192			6/1/2007	ly
	Pembina Modeling - IJC	192			3/15/2007	ly
	Lake Winnipeg Forum	48			2/14/2007	ly,akn
		0				
		0				
		0				
	FACILITATION	0				
	Out of Basin Group Discussions - Report on EIS	216			4/1/2007	ly,akn
	Basin Drought Recommendation Report	288			1/1/2007	ly,akn
		0				
		0				
	PARTNERSHIPS	0				
	IRRB	32				ly
	IRRB-AEH	64				akn,ly
	IRRB-Hydrology (CFMP)	32				ly
	Pembina River Basin Advisory Board (PRBAB)	80				js,ly
	Rosesu River International Watershed (RRIW)	300				akn,ly
	South Valley Initiative (SVI)	128				rl,ly
	MN Joint Powers Board (JPB)	56				jg
	MB North/South Chapters	232				akn
		0				
		0				
	COMMUNICATIONS	0				
	Web Site	104				jg
	Newsletter- 47	208				jg
	Ripple Effect - 52?	832				jg
	Water Minutes- weekly?	416				jg
	Annual Summit Conference	1929		1/23-25/07		ra,all
	April Confernce (fdr goals)	172			4/15/07	ra,all
		0				
	COMMITTEES	0				
	Plan Implementation Committee	432		10 times		akn,rl,ly
	Communication Committee	484		10 times		jg,ra
	Annual Summit Conference Committee	0		10 time (with com com)		ra,jg
	Legislative	104		as needed		MT
		0				
		0				

2006 - BOARD RETREAT PRIORITIES

			0	POSSIBLE ACTIONS
			0	
			0	
GOAL # 1			0	
Increase Coor & Comp Wat Plan				
1 - S 24 - L	Provide Forum for identifying, developing & implementing solns to cross bndry issues		0 1.2.18	FORUM - X BNDRY ISSUES
8 - L	Educ & Adoption of NRFP by member jurisdictions		1486 1.1.1	
6 - L	Continue to refine bsin goals & processes for NRFP implementation		0 1.1.2	
7 - S 5 - L	RRBC briefing / marketing documents -- accomplishments, gen info, SI, LT goals 1x yr		0 1.1.3	
3 - S 1 - L	Roseau River International Watershed planning - MB		0 1.2.2	
4 - S 1 - L	South Valley Initiative (ND &SD Wild Rice effort)		0 1.2.4	
11 - S 1 - L	Pembina River Basin Advisory Board activities - ND & MB		0 1.2.3	
1 - S	Brokenhead River Restoration Project - MB		0 1.2.10	
			0	
			0	
Goal # 2			0	
Integrate Natural Resource Mangt				
1 - S 1 - L	Increase planners' awareness of conservation principles		0 2.2.1	FORUM - INTEGRATION
			0	
			0	
			0	
Goal # 3			0	
Increase Appld Res & Data Mngt				
5 - L	Run Mike 11 mainstem from L Trav to L Winnipeg run # 2		0 3.3.1	FORUM - RES NEEDS
1 - L	Lower Pembina area modeling - link with MIKE-11 above		0 3.3.3	
5 - S 1 - L	Dev of 3-D gw models for the basin similar to that of the MN Geological Survey/BOR		0 3.3.4	PROJECT - GW MODEL
1 - S	Coor above with the devel of HEC/RAS unsteady flow model from L Traverse to the Can border		0 3.3.2	
3 - S	Support continued devel, fund, & use of (RRBDIN) for data access and sharing		0 3.1.2	
4 - S	Identify and share research needs and gaps.		0 3.1.1	
			0	
Goal # 4			0	
Develop Stake Part & Awareness				
4 - S 11 - L	Use RRBC annual Sumit Conf to provide education & outreach		0 4.2.9	OUTREACH STRATEGEIS
2 - S 5 - L	Provide annual rept card on compr, integrated, watershed stewad & management		0 4.2.1	
6 - S 2 - L	Define and adopt a stewardship ethic for RRBC members		0 4.1.1	
3 - S 1 - L	Continue to convene MB North and South RRBC Chapters & conduct workshops		0 4.2.6	
2 - S	Use Community Based Social Marketing to increase awareness of conservation programs		0 4.2.4	
5 - S	Continue to convene the MN Joint Powers Board		0 4.2.5	
1 - S	Revision of Lake Winnipeg Shoreline Management Handbook		0 4.2.8	
			0	
			0	
Goal # 5			0	
Maintain Flood Forecast Tools				
1 - L	MIKE-11 Mainstem hydrology model (line 3.3.1 above)		0 5.1.1	SNOW/RAIN NETWORK
			0	
			0	
Goal # 6			0	
Red Risk of fdr main & trib				
10 - L	Est collective benefits fo projects using Mike 11 mainstem model		0 6.2.1	MODELING GOALS - BASIN
2 - S 3 - L	Define fdr needs in the upper basin that are not being met		0 6.2.2	
1 - L	North Ottawa Dam (line 2.1.5 above)		0 6.1.6	
2 - S	Maple River Dam (ND)		0 6.1.5	
2 - S	Fargo-Moorhead Upstream Feasibility Study (line 2.1.1 above)		0 6.1.7	
3 - S	Lake Roseau Flood protection		0 6.1.4	
			0	
			0	
Goal # 7			0	
Ensure Resp & Rec address needs				
6 - S	Document program availability, identify gaps		0 7.1.1	FORUM - EMGEN GAPS NEEDS
			0	
			0	
			0	
Goal # 8			0	
Mang Drain Syst Prod & Min Dam				
4 - S 3 - L	Promote stream restoration concepts as FDR measures		0	FORUM - DRAINAGE ISSUES
3 - S 2 - L	Continue projects (MN Buffer Initiative and CREP) that minimize environmental impacts (lines 9.3.3 &		0	
			0	
			0	
			0	
Goal # 9			0	
Main Prot & Res SW & GW Qty				
2 - L	Ensure jursd interp wat qty dat undertaken with basin wide perspective.		0 9.1.3	FORUMS
2 - S 2 - L	RRB Buffer Initiative (MN) example F-M TMDL study (turbidity & Fecal Coli)		0 9.3.3	*MONITORING
2 - S 1 - L	Basin-wide analysis of nutrient concentrations and loads		0 9.1.2	*WATER OLY NEEDS
3 - S	Basin-wide analysis of nutrient concentrations and loads (line 9.1.2 above)		0 9.5.2	*EXOTIC SPECIES
1 - S 4 - L	Provide forum for each juris to discuss issues rel to implem basin appr ot wat qlty mang		0 9.1.1	*REST GOALS
1 - S 3 - L	Provide forum for each juris to discuss issues rel to cont & mang of exot species		0 9.6.1	*L WNPG STRATEGIES
4 - S 3 - L	Lake Winnipeg Dredging Study II		0 9.4.3	
5 - S 3 - L	Provide a forum juris to discuss issues rel to devel strat to reduce nut load L. Wnpg		0 9.4.1	
2 - S 2 - L	Provide basin-wide perspective to jurisdictional interpretation of exotic species status		0 9.6.3	DREDGING PROJECT
1 - L	Provide basin-wide forum to each jurisd's prog (e.g., ND Aq Nuis Spec plan, devel 2005)		0	
7 - S 1 - L	Water Quality Forum (line 9.1.1 above)		0 9.5.1	
3 - S	Provide a forum for juried to discuss issues related to developing restoration goals		0 9.2.1	
			0	
			0	
Goal # 10			0	
Ensure App Use & Sust of SW & GW				
			0	
			0	
Goal # 11			0	
Increse Soil Conservation				
4 - S 3 - L	Provide a forum for mangrs and soil cons staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.		0 11.2.1	FORUM @ 07 ANNUAL CONF
1 -S 2 - L	CREP II - Red River Basin (MN)		0 11.2.1	
9 - S	MN Buffer Initiative (line 9.3.3 above)		0 11.1.3	

Goal # 12			0		
Cons Mang & Res fish, wild & habit			0		
2 - S	**3 - L**		0	**12.2.1**	**FORUMS**
1 - S	**1 - L**	**Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.**	0	**12.1.1**	
1 - S	**1 - L**	**Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.**	0	**12.4.1**	
1 - S		**Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.**	0	**12.3.1**	
		Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	0		
			0		
Goal # 13			0		
Enh & Dev Rec info & Acess			0		
5 - S	**2 - L**	**Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.**	0	**13.1.1**	**FORUMS**
1 - S	**1 - L**	**Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.**	0	**13.2.1**	
2 - S	**1 - L**	**Inventory public lands**	0	**13.1.2**	
			0		
			0		
0-S	**16 - L**	**Conflict resolution mechanism for the board to use externally for inter-jurisdictional issues**	0		
3 - S	**14 - L**	**Bring together scientific data app Dev Lake and other contentious issues comm coord data & usage**	0		
2 - S	**12 - L**	**Basin-wide drought response planning**	0		
4 - S	**11 - L**	**Coordinate River Watch expansion basin-wide**	0		
9 - S		**Study Red River mainstem capacity for industrial development**	0		
		Plan of action for succession: Board members, Elected officials, agency officials	0		
			0		

2006 - BOARD RETREAT PRIORITIES

X in 2007 X in 2008 NY Next Year O Someone Else X Completed

		Tanja	Julie	Lance	Jennifer	April	Kath	Leah	Donna	JPB Con	MN Con	Grant Con	Data Con	ND Con
GOAL # 1														
Increase Coor & Comp Wat Plan														
Provide Forum for identifying, developing & implementing solns to cross bndry issues		X	X	X	X		X	X	X					
Educ & Adoption of NRFP by member jurisdictions			X		X			X						
Continue to refine bsin goals & processes for NRFP implementation			X	X	X				X		X		X	X
RRBC briefing / marketing documents -- accomplishments, gen info, SI, LT goals 1x yr			X	X	X									
Roseau River International Watershed planning - MB				X										
South Valley Initiative (ND &SD Wild Rice effort)			X	X				X						
Pembina River Basin Advisory Board activities - ND & MB				X	X									
Brokenhead River Restoration Project - MB	O													
Goal # 2														
Integrate Natural Resource Mangt														
Increase planners' awareness of conservation principles				X	X									
Goal # 3														
Increase Appld Res & Data Mngt														
Run Mike 11 mainstem from L Trav to L Winnipeg run # 2				X										
Lower Pembina area modeling - link with MIKE-11 above				X										
Dev of 3-D gw models for the basin similar to that of the MN Geological Survey/BOR														
Coor above with the devel of HEC/RAS unsteady flow model from L Traverse to the Can border				X										
Support continued devel, fund, & use of (RRBDIN) for data access and sharing	X													
Identify and share research needs and gaps.				X										
Goal # 4														
Develop Stake Part & Awareness														
Use RRBC annual Sumit Conf to provide education & outreach			X	X				X						
Provide annual rept card on compr, integrated, watershed stewad & management			X	X										
Define and adopt a stewardship ethic for RRBC members														
Continue to convene MB North and South RRBC Chapters & conduct workshops			X	X	X									
Use Community Based Social Marketing to increase awareness of conservation programs														
Continue to convene the MN Joint Powers Board				X						X				
Revision of Lake Winnipeg Shoreline Management Handbook	O													
Goal # 5														
Maintain Flood Forecast Tools														
MIKE-11 Mainstem hydrology model (line 3.3.1 above)			X											
Goal # 6														
Red Risk of flr main & trib														
Est collective benefits fo projects using Mike 11 mainstem model			X											
Define flr needs in the upper basin that are not being met			X											
North Ottawa Dam (line 2.1.5 above)	X													
Maple River Dam (ND)	X													
Fargo-Moorhead Upstream Feasibility Study (line 2.1.1 above)	X													
Lake Roseau Flood protection	X			X										
Goal # 7														
Ensure Resp & Rec address needs														
Document program availability, identify gaps			X	X	X			X			X		X	X
Goal # 8														
Mang Drain Syst Prod & Min Dam														
Promote stream restoration concepts as BDR measures														
Continue projects (MN Buffer Initiative and CREP) that minimize environmental impacts (lines 9.3.3 & 11.1.2 below)	X													

Goal # 9	Tanja	Julie	Lance	Jennifer	April	Kath	Leah	Donna	JPB Con	MN Con	Grant Con	Data Con	ND Con
Main Prot & Res SW & GW Qty													
Ensure jursd interp wat qty dat undertaken with basin wide perspective.				X	X								
RRB Buffer Initiative (MN) example F-M TMDL study (turbidity & Fecal Colif)	X												
Basin-wide analysis of nutrient concentrations and loads			X	X									
Basin-wide analysis of nutrient concentrations and loads (line 9.1.2 above)			X	X									
Provide forum for each juris to discuss issues rel to implem basin appr ot wat qly mang			X	X									
Provide forum for each juris to discuss issues rel to cont & mang of exot species	NY												
Lake Winnipeg Dredging Study II			X	X									
Provide a forum juris to discuss issues rel to devel strat to reduce nut load t...Winp		X	X	X				X					
Provide basin-wide perspective to jurisdictional interpretation of exotic species status.	NY												
Provide basin-wide persp to each juris's persp (e.g., ND Aq Nuis Spec plan, devel 2005)	NY												
Water Quality Forum (line 9.1.1 above)													
Provide a forum for jurisd to discuss issues related to developing restoration goals	NY		X										

Goal # 10
Ensure App Use & Sust of SW & GW

Goal # 11	
Increse Soil Conservation	
Provide a forum for mangrs and soil cons staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	
CREP II - Red River Basin (MN)	X
MN Buffer Initiative (line 9.3.3 above)	X

Goal # 12	
Cons Mang & Res fish, wild & habit	
Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	NY
Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	NY
Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	NY
Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	NY

Goal # 13	
Enh & Dev Rec Info & Acess	
Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	NY
Provide a forum for agency staff to strategize how to implement this recommendation.	NY
Inventory public lands	NY

Conflict resolution mechanism for the board to use externally for inter-jurisdictional issues
Bring together scientific data app Dev Lake and other contentious issues comm coord data & usage
Basin-wide drought response planning
Coordinate River Watch expansion basin-wide
Study Red River mainstem capacity for industrial development
Plan of action for succession: Board members, Elected officials, agency officials

Resolution # 07-123

Red River Basin Commission 2008 Funding

WHEREAS, The State of Minnesota, for the calendar year of 2008 has appropriated $100,000.00 to financially assist in the operation of the Red River Basin Commission (RRBC). An international organization serving the portions of States of North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota as well as the Province of Manitoba that are in the Red River of the North Basin. And

WHEREAS, The Board of Water and Soil Resources has be the identified as the fiscal agent for this appropriation. And

WHEREAS, The RRBC has submitted it's 2008 work plan and budget to the BWSR for its review and acceptance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BWSR having reviewed and accepted the 2008 work plan and budget of the RRBC and the $100,000.00 shall be transferred to the RRBC.

R/ Kramer

Randy Kramer, Chair

12/19/07

Date

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Program Summary

In 2007 the Legislature provided $600,000 to establish the Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) Grant Program (Chapter 57 Minn. Session Laws 2007). These funds will be used to develop Cooperative Weed Management Areas to aid in the restoration of natural lands through invasive species removal and reseeding. Eligible applicants may receive up to $70,000. No cash match is required, but projects with cash and/or in-kind match will be ranked higher. Existing CWMAs also are eligible for a maximum of $35,000. Primary program goals include:

- Develop strong partnerships based on cooperation among agencies, landowners and other interested partners to control invasive species.
- Create long-term and sustainable Cooperative Weed Management Areas.
- Remove invasive plant species from natural lands through an integrated pest management approach, and restore native plant communities through an ecosystem approach focused on the planting of local ecotype seed.

Applicant Eligibility

SWCD are the eligible grant applicants for this program. Other organizations may consider applying in partnership with SWCDs to help develop and run Cooperative Weed Management Areas. Funding that is used for invasive species removal and re-planting must be focused on natural lands, and private lands enrolled in local, state or federal conservation programs.

Application Requirements

The following information is requested as part of the grant application:

- Project title, location and contact information for all project partners (with attached letters of commitment)
- Project budget projection- Summary of grant funds requested, matching funds and project costs (total costs and by category)
- Proposal summary (Must be 50 words or less)
- List of primary invasive plant species addressed
- List of previously developed invasive species management plans for land units within the CWMA geographic area
- Project narrative (2-page maximum) - Project purpose, tasks, management and coordination, public outreach/public participation, final products and measurable results, general schedule and milestones

Eligible Expenses

This grant can be used for a wide range of activities related to setting up a CWMA and managing invasive species. Equipment purchased with the funding provided will remain the property of the State for its useful life. After the contract period, it may remain in the custody of the Grantee so long as it is used for the purposes of promoting and supporting the project. The State may take possession of the equipment at such time as it becomes necessary to use it for State purposes.

Use of Local Ecotype Native Seed

Seed used for this program must originate from the same ecotype region as the project. It is encouraged to use seed sources that originate from as close to the project site as possible. When purchasing seed, "Yellow Tag" certified seed should be used whenever possible. Project partners are encouraged to discuss how local seed can be obtained during initial planning discussions.

Criteria and Process for Project Selection

Proposals will be reviewed and scored by both BWSR staff members and members of the Project Advisory Team (Mn/DOT, MDA, USFWS, MPCA, MACAI, TNC, AMC, MASWCD) . The Advisory Team is an interagency group

established to assist in the development of this grant program. Proposals will be scored to determine which projects can be funded, based on available dollars. Once projects are selected for funding, the project manager will be notified.

Primary Selection Criteria:

- Completeness of plan for setting up a CWMA
- CWMA long term sustainability
- Strength of partnerships
- Number of partners involved
- Cash and/or In-kind contribution
- Efficient use of funding
- Development of concrete and attainable weed management goals and strategies to control invasive plant species from natural lands through an integrated pest management approach
- Development of strategies for the restoration/reconstruction of native communities through an ecosystem approach focused on the planting of local ecotype seed (within the same eco-type region)
- Development of plan for public outreach and publicizing the project

Request Limits

There is a $70,000 cap on the project grant request. Project grant requests do not require a cash match but projects with cash and/or in-kind match will be ranked higher. Existing CWMAs in Minnesota are eligible for funding but at a reduced amount of $35,000 per applicant.

Distribution of Funds

Two thirds of the funding will be dispersed at the beginning of the grant period, the final one-third of project funding will be dispersed after the first reporting period and successful establishment of a Cooperative Weed Management Area.

Grant Schedule

January 3, 2008	RFP released
March 14, 2008	Applications due
Approx. March 29, 2008	Applicants notified of award or rejection
Approx. April 14, 2008	Funds available for expenditure
January 15, 2009	Mid-grant report due
January 15, 2010	Final billing due
January 15, 2010	End of grant period and final report due

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

Board Resolution # 07-124

Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Program Authorization

WHEREAS, the Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) Grant Program administered by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), provides financial assistance to SWCDs for the development of Cooperative Weed Management Areas to aid in the restoration of natural lands through invasive species removal and reseeding and,

WHEREAS, Minnesota Legislature, by Chapter 57 Minn. Session Laws 2007 has appropriated funding to BWSR and,

WHEREAS, the BWSR has adopted the following grant allocation policies;

Eligible applicants may receive up to $70,000. No cash match is required, but projects with cash and/or in-kind match will be ranked higher. Existing CWMAs also are eligible for a maximum of $35,000. Primary program goals include:

SWCD are the eligible grant applicants for this program. Other organizations may consider applying in partnership with SWCDs to help develop and run Cooperative Weed Management Areas.

This grant can be used for a wide range of activities related to setting up a CWMA and managing invasive species. Equipment purchased with the funding provided will remain the property of the State for its useful life. After the contract period, it may remain in the custody of the Grantee so long as it is used for the purposes of promoting and supporting the project. The State may take possession of the equipment at such time as it becomes necessary to use it for State purposes.

Seed used for this program must originate from the same ecotype region as the project. It is encouraged to use seed sources that originate from as close to the project site as possible. When purchasing seed, "Yellow Tag" certified seed should be used whenever possible. Project partners are encouraged to discuss how local seed can be obtained during initial planning discussions.

Proposals will be reviewed and scored by both BWSR staff members and members of the Project Advisory Team. The Advisory Team is an interagency group established to assist in the development of this grant program. Proposals will be scored to determine which projects can be funded, based on available dollars. Once projects are selected for funding, the project manager will be notified.

Two thirds of the funding will be dispersed at the beginning of the grant period; the final one-third of project funding will be dispersed after the first reporting period and successful establishment of a Cooperative Weed Management Area.

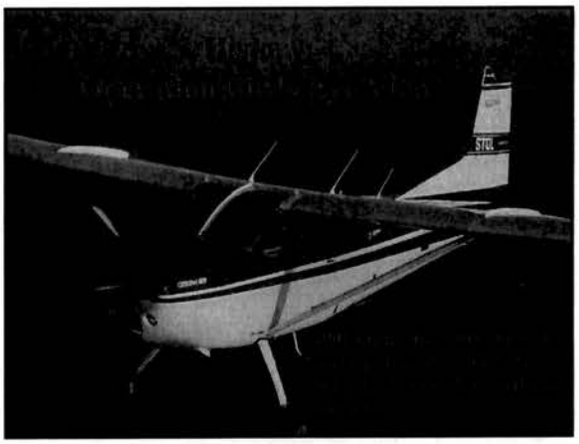
NOW THEREFORE, the BWSR hereby authorizes staff to allocate funding for the Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Program according to these policies.

R/ Kramer

Randy Kramer, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 12/19/07

MN DNR
2006
Wetland Enforcement Flight
Plan



Goals were to:

- ***Increase Detection of Violations through a more efficient method.**
- ***Expand on Educational Efforts.**
- ***Bring Public Attention to the Wetlands Conservation Act through media interest.**
- ***24 counties were flown, some were just partially flown due to higher volume of impacts.**

What we found in 2006 Flights:

542 possible impacts recorded

355 are impacts

171 are violations

7 are still under investigation

2006 Flights and normal workload brought a record year for the Wetlands Conservation Act alone.

Statewide 526

Cease and Desist Orders (CDOs) were issued.

Wetlands Protection Plan
&
Goals 2007

- A $250,000 investment will provide dedicated:
- Education, Communication, Outreach
- Wetland Violation Aerial Detection Flights
- Media interest/coverage
- Compliance through awareness and knowledge

Education, Communication, and Outreach

- Education Efforts:
  - Throughout the year deliver message of wetlands importance various public forums -
    - County Fairs
    - Community Events
    - Major Home Shows
    - Builder/Contractor Associations
    - Realtor Association
  - Use flight data to educate the public, Local Government [illegible] Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), [illegible] Officers

- Communication and Outreach Efforts with LGUs and SWCDs through a variety of forums:
  - MASWCD (Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts) Annual Meeting
  - League of Cities
  - League of Counties
  - Legal Associations
  - Other venues available

The Flight Plan

- Flight Plans focus on:
  - Fly Wetland Impact Control Group Study
  - Twin Cities/Metro Area/Urbanization Impact Area
  - West Central Lakes & Prairie Pothole Region

Flight Plan
High Wetland Impact Control Group

- Flights will be scheduled to re-fly up to 10 counties flown in Operation Birds Eye View 2006 to reassess wetland impacts and compare violation rate. Counties would include: northern Anoka, Beltrami, Benton, Cass, Crow Wing, Douglas, western Hubbard, Kandiyohi, northern Mille Lacs, [illegible] Stearns.

Flight Plan
Twin Cities/Metro Area/Urbanization Impact Areas

- Includes all or parts of 6 counties in the Metro area not previously flown in Operation Birds Eye View 2006. Counties include southern Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, and [illegible]ington. The enforcement helicopter is best [illegible] work in urban areas and will be used [illegible] for these flights.

Flight Plan
West Central Lakes & Prairie Pot Hole Region

- Target areas in and near economic hubs including Alexandria, Detroit Lakes, Fergus Falls, Park Rapids, and Willmar. The flights would include all or parts of 9 counties not previously flown in Operation Birds Eye View 2006. Counties include Becker, Douglas, Grant, eastern Hubbard, [illegible] Ottertail, Pope, Stevens, and Todd.

- Each Flight Plan could allow for grants to SWCDs and LGUs in the flight area, on a per piece basis, according to the number of Restoration/Replacement Orders generated and completed as a result of the flights.

The Flight Process:

- Planning and preparation
- Day of flight
- After the flight

Day of Flight Time

- Pilot: flight prep, travel, and in flight time.
- Wetland Enforcement Officer (WEO): meet with pilot, time under plane during flight, action on in progress violations.
- Flight complete: pilot and WEO meet to transfer all information.

After the Flight Time

- Print and review photo, convert legal.
- Meet with LGU/SWCD to review flight log/photo/their files.
- Every waypoint on log and photo must be reviewed with LGU.
- Determine current land ownership vs. when impact/violation occurred.

- Prepare files for Conservation Officers (COs) to make contact, issue Cease and Desist Order, inspect site. Can involve contractor/responsible party.
- WEOs or CO accompanies LGUs/SWCDs to sites for safety, meeting with landowner, gathering of evidence. Time and miles.
- Assist SWCD on Restoration/Replacement

- Communicate with landowners in person, via telephone, letters, and e-mail throughout the process.
- Communicate with LGUs/SWCDs as we move through the enforcement process.
- Communicate with Elected Officials. Communicate with Media.
- Communicate with County Attorney's Office.

- Track, record, and document every communication with all involved.
- Maintain and update flight log for each active case.
- Copy all required information to our office in Camp Ripley so it can be entered in database.
- Prepare case for court if landowner fails to comply.
- Prepare and record deed restrictions.

LGU Role in Enforcement

- LGU reviews photos with WEO, checks files, assists with verification of landownership.
- Receives/reviews/mails/ application if landowner applies for something.
- Application determines if complete.
- Inspects site (on their own, with SWCD or as a Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP).

- Coordinate TEP meetings, TEP reviews application, applies the law, makes a recommendation.
- LGU decides to approve, approve with conditions, or deny application.
- Communicates with Landowner.
- Communicates case status to SWCD/WEO.
- LGU average time on average enforcement case 8 hours.

SWCD Role in Enforcement

- SWCD attends TEP meetings, reviews applications as TEP member.
- Inspects site, if restoration/replacement must determine impact, wetland boundary, review historic aerial photos and determine how site will be restored or replaced.
- Communicates with Landowner.
- Communicates case status with LGU/WEO.
- Must inspect site for compliance or noncompliance.
- Average time on average enforcement case 10 hours.

Site visit by SWCD required to determine the Findings of Fact and restoration work needed to restore the site: wetland type, type of impact (direct/indirect) size of impact, collect and gather evidence for Restoration and/or Replacement Order. Average time per site is 6 hours. Some sites have taken numerous experts and days to complete.

Once the information is gathered they must compile/condense it into a Restoration/Replacement Order (about 3 to 4 hours and includes attachments).

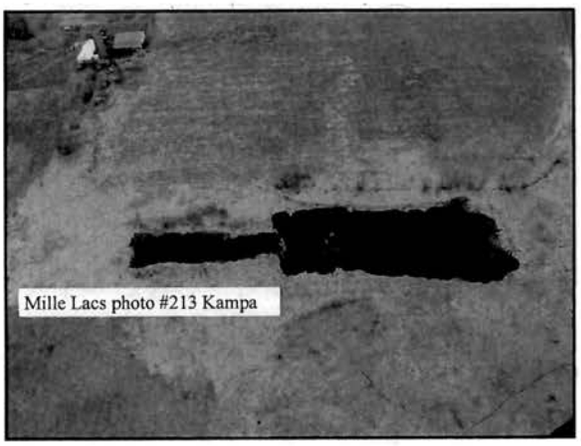
Hertzberg Attachment



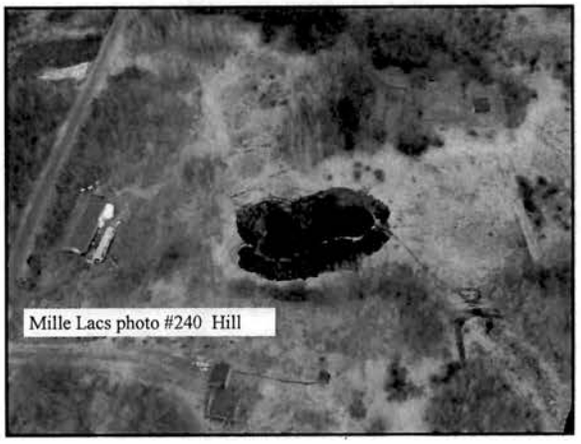
Violation/Restoration Order Flow Chart

Landowner does nothing	Landowner applies for After Fact Replacement plan, exemption, no-loss	Landowner complies with Restoration Order	Landowner appeals Restoration Order to BWSR
Restoration Order completion deadline past violation issued, case files copied and reports completed	Time (60 days) for decision by LGU on application	SWCD must visit site to confirm, if done then certifies and case closed.	30 days to appeal
Used Restoration Tool	If denied then appeal possible by landowner	Sometimes corrective action is needed then landowner must complete before case can be closed	60 days for BWSR to make decision
[illegible]	If approved Replacement plan with on site mitigation it would be 5 years before case closed		If Order if affirmed then an extension is issued by enforcement with new deadline for completion
[illegible]	If approved Replacement plan with, verified credit purchased from closed state [illegible]		Once restoration is complete SWCD must visit site to confirm and certify it as complete/case closed

A few examples of 2006 Enforcement Flight cases…



Mille Lacs photo #213 Kampa

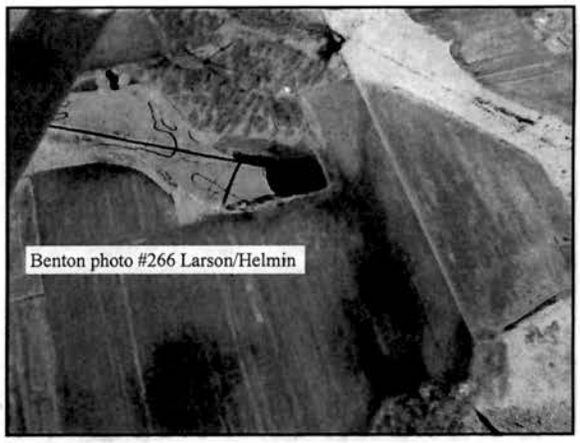


Mille Lacs photo #240 Hill

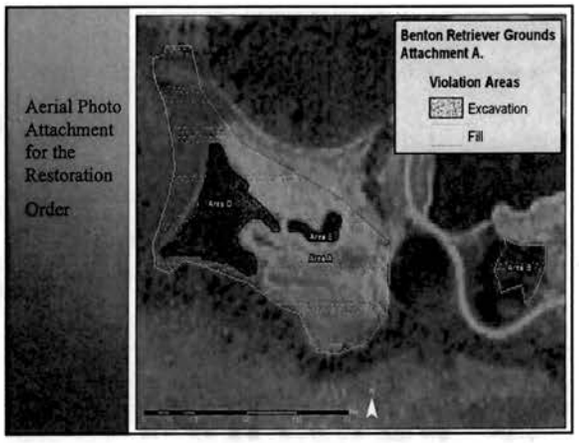


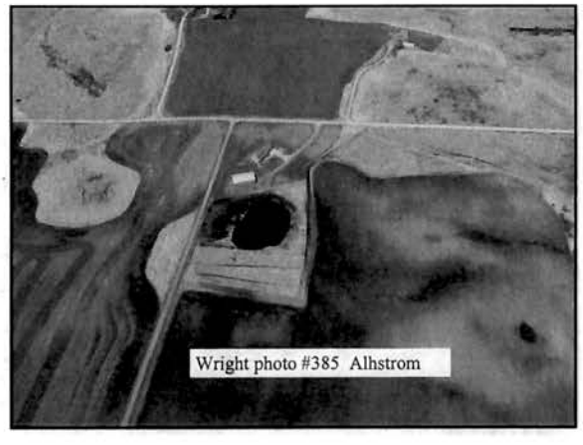



Benton photo #251 Mastey

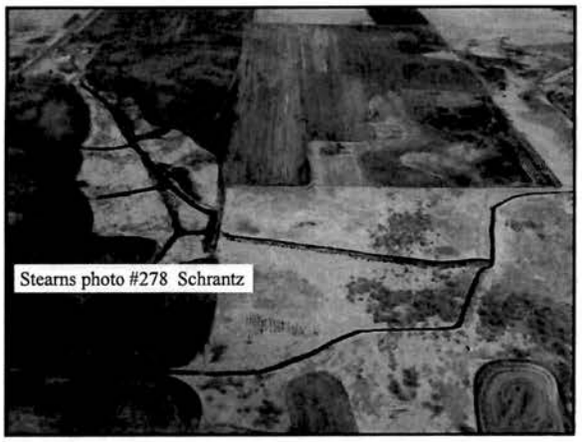

Benton photo #266 Larson/Helmin

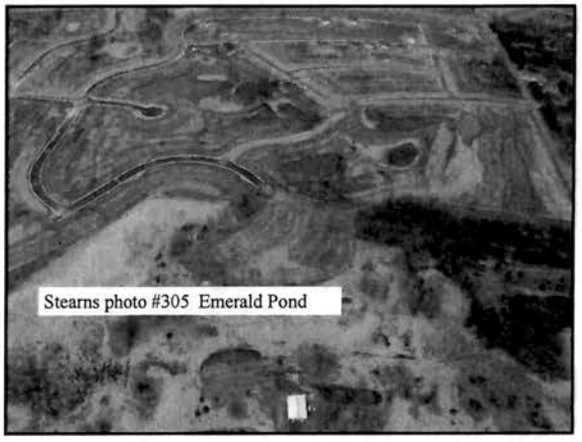

Benton photo #260 Retriever Grounds

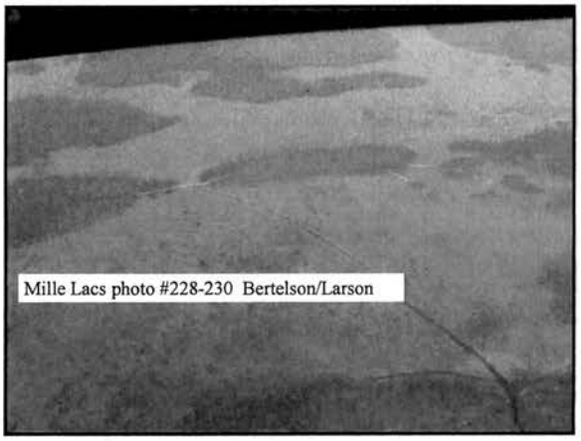

Aerial Photo Attachment for the Restoration Order
Benton Retriever Grounds Attachment A.
Violation Areas
Excavation
Fill


Wright photo #385 Alhstrom









- This is just a snapshot of the impacts we discovered in 2006. Some of the cases were simple while others more complex. The important thing is

DNR Enforcement has taken the lead in protecting our wetlands. We recognize the importance & value of our wetlands



Your Investment will go a long way in assisting us in protecting our precious resource!

Thank you for your valuable time,
MN Wetlands Enforcement Officers

MDH FLOOD RESPONSE

GRANTS HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO COUNTIES TO REIMBURSE OWNERS OF FLOODED WELLS FOR COSTS THEY HAVE INCURRED TO [redacted] HAVE THEIR FLOODED WELLS PROFESSIONALLY CLEANED OUT AND DISINFECTED.

- $25,000 GRANT TO FILLMORE/HOUSTON HEALTH BOARD. (JOINT BOARD)
- $60,000 TO WINONA FOR CLAIMS IN WINONA, DODGE, STEELE, OLMSTED, and WABASHA.
- FULL 100% GRANT, UP TO A MAXIMUM OF $1,000 PER WELL.
- [redacted]
- REQUIRED: SIGNED CLAIM FORM AND RECEIPTS.

MDH HAS ANALYZED 2,300 WELL WATER SAMPLES FOR BACTERIA.

MDH AND M.D. AGRICULTURE HAVE TESTED ABOUT 60 FLOODED WELLS FOR CHEMICALS - RESULTS STILL PENDING.

Dept. of Health - Agency Report

12/19/07

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

December 19, 2007

- Updated Board Member Listing
- Updated Board Staff Listing
- BWSR Committee Schedule
- Communications Summary for 2008
- MAWD Annual Report