BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

DATE: January 14, 2020

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

FROM: John Jaschke, Executive Director

SUBJECT: BWSR Board Meeting Notice – January 22, 2020

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will meet on Wednesday, January 22, 2020, **beginning at 8:30 a.m.** The meeting will be held in the lower level Board Room, at 520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul. Parking is available in the lot directly in front of the building (see hooded parking area).

The following information pertains to agenda items:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Grants Program and Policy Committee

1. **FY20-21 Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Awards –** The purpose of the Cooperative Weed Management Area Program is to establish strong and sustainable CWMAs across Minnesota for the collaborative and efficient control of invasive species and protection of conservation lands and natural area. In August 2019 the Board gave approval to complete and open the FY20-21 Cooperative Weed Management Area Grants RFP to grant a total of $200,000. The application period was open from September 2, 2019, to October 7, 2019. Twenty (20) applications were received requesting a total of $330,000. Ranking was done by the CWMA Interagency Advisory Team on November 7, 2019. The attached funding recommendations are the result of that meeting and include the recommended distribution of an additional $28,000 of unused CWMA Program funding. Approval of the FY20-21 Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant awards is requested of the Board. ***DECISION ITEM***

2. **FY20 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods Grant Awards –** This new grant program is funded through the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) and is aimed at increasing the populations of rusty patched bumble bees and other at-risk pollinators through the establishment of residential pollinator habitat within neighborhoods in important pollinator corridors/pathways. In October 2019 the Board authorized staff to complete and open the FY20 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods RFP to grant a total of $450,000. The application period was open from December 3rd, 2019 to January 10th, 2020. Ranking was done by an Interagency Team on January 16th, 2019. The attached funding recommendations are the result of that meeting. Approval of the FY20 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods Grant awards is requested of the Board. ***DECISION ITEM***

3. **FY2020 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Award** – The purpose of this agenda item is to allocate FY20 Clean Water Competitive Grants. On June 26, 2019, the Board authorized staff to distribute and promote a request for proposals (RFP) for eligible local governments to apply for Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants in three program categories: Projects and Practices, Projects and Practices Drinking Water Subgrant Program and Multipurpose Drainage Management (Board order #19-32).

Applications for the FY2020 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants were accepted from July 1 through September 9, 2019. Local governments submitted 104 applications requesting $30,145,939 in Clean Water Funds. BWSR Clean Water staff conducted multiple processes to review and score applications and involved staff of other agencies to develop the proposed recommendations for grant awards. The BWSR Senior Management Team reviewed the recommendations on December 4th and made recommendations to the Grants Program and Policy Committee. The Grants Program and Policy Committee reviewed recommendations on December 18, 2019 and made a recommendation to the full Board. A draft Order is attached based on the recommendation of the Grants Program and Policy Committee. ***DECISION ITEM***

RIM Reserve Committee

1. **City of Luverne RIM Easement Alteration (67-01-95-01)** – BWSR acquired the 53.1-acre perpetual RIM conservation easement in Rock County on November 17, 1997. The land including the RIM easement was purchased by the City of Luverne on 12/31/2018.

   The City of Luverne is currently undergoing a $14,281,000 Waste Water Treatment Plant expansion project to allow for long term growth over the next 50 years. In 2013, TKDA performed a Wastewater Treatment Plant Capital Improvement Plan which recommended both near-term and long-term improvements to the public infrastructure. The proposed near-term improvements can be constructed on city owned property but will encroach on the west boundary of the easement and requires 2.5 acres of the easement area to be released to provide for odor control and security buffer. To avoid placing new wastewater treatment processes closer to the Rock River, the long-term improvements require additional land within the easement area (1.8 acres). A total of 4.3 acres of land within the easement is needed to account for both near-term and long-term improvements (see attached map). The City believes that the public interest is best served by allowing the infrastructure to expand in its current location and allow for future growth.

   The City is also requesting an additional 1.0 acre be released from the RIM easement to accommodate the final phase of the Luverne Loop Project. Three of the four phases have been constructed and funded between 2015-2020. The last segment of trail to be completed lies within the existing RIM easement area. This final phase of the trail project will provide a critical connection to the Blue Mounds Trail, creating a continuous 13-mile+ experience for trail users and tourists. The Luverne Loop and Blue Mounds Trail combined have received designation as a trail of 'Regional Significance' by the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission. There are no alternative routes that are feasible in this area because of land constraints, drainage issues, a railroad crossing, the Rock River, and property ownership. The final phase of the loop will require a 30-foot wide trail corridor to be released from the easement along the west side of the property.

   In addition to the required $500 processing fee, the City has agreed to pay $18,000 per acre for the release of 5.3 acres of the easement required for the proposed infrastructure projects, for a total of $95,400. This meets the Easement Alteration Policy requirement of payment at 2 times the current RIM rate per acre and includes funds to replace state funds spent to restore vegetative cover on the areas to be released.

   Recommendation
   BWSR staff recommends approval of this easement alteration request and believes the City has demonstrated how the public interest will be better served. The City has received support of the alteration from the Rock County SWCD Board as well as the DNR Area Wildlife Manager, has provided all requested materials and has agreed to pay all associated fees required by the Easement Alteration Policy for public infrastructure projects. ***DECISION ITEM***

Audit and Oversight Committee

1. **2019 Performance Review and Assistance Program Legislative Report –** BWSR staff have prepared the 2019 Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP) Legislative Report which presents a summary of PRAP reviews and activities conducted in 2019. The report also contains a list of planned program objectives including three new items for 2020: Utilize new Performance Standards Checklists for counties, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts and watershed management organizations, evaluate and develop metrics for tracking LGU implementation of the Buffer Program, work with BWSR Water Planning Team to develop protocol for tracking, assessment, evaluation and reporting for One Watershed, One Plans. ***DECISION ITEM***

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Vice Chair Election -** According to bylaws, the Vice-Chair will be elected to a two-year term by the members of the Board. They will be elected by majority vote at the first regularly scheduled meeting of every even calendar year. ***DECISION ITEM***

If you have any questions regarding the agenda, please feel free to call me at (651) 297-4290. The Board meeting will adjourn around 12:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing you on January 22nd.

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD NORTH
ST. PAUL, MN 55155
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2020

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

8:30 AM CALL MEETING TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 18, 2019 BOARD MEETING

PUBLIC ACCESS FORUM (10-minute agenda time, two-minute limit/person)

INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

- Tara Kline, Conservation Technician

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

A conflict of interest, whether actual, potential, or perceived, occurs when someone in a position of trust has competing professional or personal interests, and these competing interests make it difficult to fulfill professional duties impartially. At this time, members are requested to declare conflicts of interest they may have regarding today's business. Any member who declares an actual conflict of interest must not vote on that agenda item. All actual, potential, and perceived conflicts of interest will be announced to the board by staff before any vote.

REPORTS

- Chair & Administrative Advisory Committee - Gerald Van Amburg
- Audit & Oversight Committee - Gerald Van Amburg
- Executive Director - John Jaschke
- Dispute Resolution and Compliance Report – Travis Germundson/Gerald Van Amburg
- Grants Program & Policy Committee - Steve Sunderland
- RIM Reserve Committee – Tom Loveall
- Water Management & Strategic Planning Committee - Jack Ditmore
- Wetland Conservation Committee - Tom Schulz
- Buffers, Soils & Drainage Committee - Kathryn Kelly
- Drainage Work Group - Tom Loveall/Tom Gile

AGENCY REPORTS

- Minnesota Department of Agriculture – Thom Petersen
- Minnesota Department of Health – Chris Elvrum
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Sarah Strommen
- Minnesota Extension – Joel Larson
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency – Katrina Kessler

ADVISORY COMMENTS

- Association of Minnesota Counties – Brian Martinson
- Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees – Chessa Frahm
- Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts – LeAnn Buck
- Minnesota Association of Townships – Nathan Redalen
- Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts – Emily Javens
- Natural Resources Conservation Service – Troy Daniell

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Grants Program and Policy Committee

1. FY20-21 Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Awards – Dan Shaw – **DECISION ITEM**

2. FY20 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods Grant Awards – Dan Shaw – **DECISION ITEM**

3. FY2020 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Award – Marcey Westrick – ***DECISION ITEM***

RIM Reserve Committee

1. City of Luverne RIM Easement Alteration (67-01-95-01) – Karli Tyma – ***DECISION ITEM***

Audit and Oversight Committee

1. 2019 Performance Review and Assistance Program Legislative Report – Dale Krystosek – ***DECISION ITEM***

NEW BUSINESS

1. Vice Chair Election – John Jaschke ***– DECISION ITEM***

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- BWSR Board Meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. in the Lower Level Conference Rooms at 520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul.

ADJOURN

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD NORTH
LOWER LEVEL BOARD ROOM
ST. PAUL, MN 55155
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2019

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Jill Crafton, Jack Ditmore, Rich Sve, Tom Loveall, Nathan Redalen, Tom Schulz, Steve Sunderland, Gerald Van Amburg, Joe Collins, Harvey Kruger, Paige Winebarger, Joel Larson, University of Minnesota Extension; Chris Elvrum, MDH; Neil Peterson, Katrina Kessler, MPCA, Andrea Date, Todd Holman, Steve Colvin, DNR

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
Kathryn Kelly

STAFF PRESENT:
John Jaschke, Angie Becker Kudelka, Rachel Mueller, Kevin Bigalke, Tom Gile, Travis Germundson, Annie Felix-Gerth, David Copeland, Steve Christopher

OTHERS PRESENT:
Jeff Berg, MDA
Miranda Nichols, MPCA
Adam King, Dodge SWCD
LeAnn Buck, MASWCD
Emily Javens, MAWD
Brian Martinson, AMC

Chair Gerald VanAmburg called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

** 19-66 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA -** Moved by Joe Collins, seconded by Todd Holman, to adopt the agenda as presented. ***Motion passed on a voice vote***.

** 19-67 **MINUTES OF October 23, 2019 BOARD MEETING** – Moved by Joe Collins, seconded by Neil Peterson, to approve the minutes of October 23, 2019, as circulated. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

PUBLIC ACCESS FORUM
No members of the public provided comments to the board.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

- Lewis Brockette, Wetlands Policy Coordinator
- Jon Sellnow, Technical Training and Certification Coordinator
- Christine Pham, Financial Analyst

Chair Van Amburg and the board welcomed the new staff to BWSR!

REPORTS
Chair & Administrative Advisory Committee – Chair Gerald Van Amburg reported the committee met this morning. Received an update on the Cover Crops demonstration program. Received a staffing update, there are some vacancies that will be filled. Received a Legislative update that there are two main bonding items for this year: 1) funding for wetlands roads replacement program and 2) final installment for the CREP Program.

Attended EQB meeting on November 20th where a report was approved to slow the spread of Emerald Ash Borer. EQB also approved the 2019 State Agency Pollinator Report, this is the third pollinator report and now includes a score card.

Chair Van Amburg also attend the Minnesota Environmental Congress held at Minnesota State University Mankato. Opportunity for board members and participants to interact with each other and the public to discuss climate change impacts to Minnesotans and what citizens think should be done in order to build a healthy future. Governor Walz spoke on the importance of Minnesota's role in mitigating and adapting to climate change.

Attended MAWD conference and will let Emily Javens tell more about it in her report.

Audit and Oversight Committee – Chair Gerald Van Amburg reported that the committee has not met. John Jaschke stated they will be meeting in January, the Performance Review and Assistance Program Report for the legislature will be ready for committee consideration and then the Board's consideration/approval, date not yet set for committee meeting.

Executive Director's Report - John Jaschke reported that the Cover Crop Demonstration program received 18 proposals requesting $3.8 million, only able to fund 5 of the 18. A staffing update was provided. John also spoke of the conferences that he attended, Rich Sve is new president of Association of Minnesota Counties. John also stated it's a bonding year and that the Governor has not yet released

his proposals on policy, budget, or bonding. The Lawns to Legumes program is going through the RFP process. Lawns to Legumes was also mentioned in Oprah Magazine as one of the 20 best things in 2019.

John reviewed documents in the folder, the Minnesota Campaign Finance Board letter, an updated BWSR staff listing, updated organizational chart, and updated documents prepared for the board. There are no Snapshot articles for this month.

Dispute Resolution and Compliance Report – Travis Germundson reported that there are six appeals pending. There have been three new appeals filed since the last Board Meeting.

Appeal of a WCA exemption decision in Kandiyohi County. The appeal regards a denial of an exemption determination for agriculture activities. No decision has been made on the appeal.

Appeal of a WCA restoration order in Pine County. The appeal regards the placement of fill within a shore impact zone of Passenger Lake a DNR Public Water. Applications for exemption and no-loss determinations were submitted to the LGU concurrently with the appeal. No decision has been made on the appeal.

Appeal of a WCA restoration order in Mille Lacs County. The appeal regards the placement of fill in a wetland along a purported township road within the shoreland overlay district of the North Fork Bradbury Brook a DNR Public Water. No decision has been made on the appeal.

Buffer Compliance Status. BWSR has received Notifications of Noncompliance (NONs) on 46 parcels from the 12 counties BWSR is responsible for enforcement. Our staff continue to actively reach out to landowners to resolve any noncompliance on a voluntary basis prior to initiating enforcement action through the issuance of a Correction Action Notices (CANs). So far 25 CANs have been issued by BWSR.

Disclaimer: These numbers are generated on a monthly basis from BWSR's Access database. The information is obtained through notifications from LGUs on actions taken to bring about compliance and may not reflect the current status of compliance numbers.

Grants Program & Policy Committee - Steve Sunderland reported that there is nothing to report. The Committee will be meeting immediately follow boarding meeting today.

RIM Reserve Committee – Tom Loveall reported that the committee has not met but will be meeting tomorrow with a conference call option. Decision point is a RIM contract alteration that the City of Luverne is looking for related to a wastewater treatment plant.

John Jaschke added that the USDA opened up the CRP program again for sign up. Will potentially open up CREP applications soon.

Water Management & Strategic Planning Committee - Jack Ditmore reported they met November 22nd and there are two items on the agenda for action today. Meeting in January to review progress on Strategic Plan refresh. Will possibly meet Tuesday before next board meeting.

Wetland Conservation Committee - Tom Schulz reported that the committee has not met.

Buffers, Soils & Drainage Committee – Tom Gile reported they met October 29th and had a light agenda. Some discussion around the soil loss law giving direction to staff working with Ag groups. Looked at buffer compliance and enforcement numbers. Talked about the procedures that have been adopted by the board to help implement the buffer law and provide direction to local governments staff.

Drainage Work Group (DWG) - Tom Loveall and Tom Gile reported that the Drainage Work Group met via Skype call on November 14th and in person on December 12th.

At the November meeting MPCA staff gave a presentation on the following related to impaired public ditches: 1) Existing rules, in particular as they relate to aquatic life protections in Minnesota waters (specifically ditches); 2) The use review process, assessment process, and the implementation of water quality management efforts (e.g., permits, WRAPS, etc.); 3) TALU – specifically as it relates to the assessment of ditches; 4) Impacts of water quality standards on drainage system administration and management.

At the December 12th meeting DWG membership were provided an overview of a "Drainage for Decision Makers," which is a distillation of Minnesota Drainage Law to the essential process pieces and considerations for Drainage Authority Decision makers. Additionally, DWG members in attendance discussed issues and priorities for 2020 DWG meetings. The purpose was to refine potential topics so staff and DWG members are able to spend time going into the 2020 gathering background and preparing information for DWG consideration and discussion.

AGENCY REPORTS

Minnesota Department of Agriculture – Jeff Berg reported Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program is at around 560,000 acres enrolled with over 520 producers. At the MASWCD conference Commissioner Peterson announced endorsements to those programs. There are three endorsements for soil health, wildlife, and pest management. Working with certified farmers evaluating these three things with agency partners like DNR, Pheasants Forever, and others. If certified farmers are doing extra, they can get these endorsements, new to the program.

Jill stated she heard at the SWCD conference that farmers would like to see an extension longer than three years for Cover Crops and asked if there are programs to try to extend that? Jeff stated it's something this board through the pilot program is trying to address and other may be programs too.

Minnesota Department of Health – No report was provided.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Steve Colvin reported the Department is working on a refresh on their conservation agenda, which is their strategic plan. Also reported that a news release just went out, DNR received data submittal on Twin Metals Minnesota project proposal that will formally begin the environmental review process.

Joe Collins wanted to commend Commissioner Strommen on stopping water from being exported out of the state.

Minnesota Extension – Joel Larson reported the Conservation Tillage conference was held yesterday and today in St. Cloud.

Climate adaptation conference will be held at the St. Paul campus on January 22nd which is also the date of our board meeting next month. Beth Givens, Executive Director from the American Society of Adaptation Professionals will be giving a talking about the collaborative work they have been supporting over the last couple years.

Two new positions are open, one is with urban stormwater management and the other will focus on watersheds and lakes health.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency – Katrina Kessler reported that at the end of November the MPCA along with the Department of Ag, Minnesota State Mankato, and the city of Mankato hosted a stakeholder discussion on Ag Urban Partnerships related to water quality in the Minnesota River.

Katrina Kessler, MPCA Commissioner Bishop, and DNR Commissioner Strommen have been in consultation with tribes related to wild rice management and wild rice health in advance of the legislative session.

A lot of activity related to climate at PCA. One of the proposals put forward for the bonding money in 2020 is a new pilot program to provide grants to communities looking at climate resilience, particularly aimed at stormwater and drainage in an urban setting.

Working with Ag feedlot producers to comply with a recent court decision that directs the agency to do green house gas emission evaluations as part of feedlot environmental review.

ADVISORY COMMENTS

Association of Minnesota Counties – No report was provided.

Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees – No report was provided.

Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts – LeAnn Buck thanked those that played a role in their annual meeting. The annual meeting summarized trends, conversations, and policy discussions. The big picture for them is ecosystem services, soil health, and water storage.

Minnesota Association of Townships – Nathan Redalen thanked Dave Weirens for doing a roundtable at the conference, received very high evaluations. Kathryn Kelly and Commissioner Strommen also attended, next year will be in St. Cloud.

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts –Emily Javens reported they are in transition between the annual convention and setting the legislative agenda. Thanked Annie Felix-Gerth for her work at the pre-conference workshop and stated how much people enjoyed it.

Natural Resources Conservation Service – No report was provided.

Gerald Van Amburg recessed the meeting at 9:52 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 10:05 a.m.

Paige Winebarger stated the topic of ecosystem services has been coming up in multiple conversations in recent months and supports that it's an important topic. It would be helpful to understand at a state

agency level on whose doing what to value ecosystem services. John Jaschke stated staff would scope the task and see what they come up with and determine how it should be brought to the board.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Water Management and Strategic Planning Committee

Delegation of Routine Administrative Water Management Decisions Policy – Annie Felix-Gerth presented Delegation of Routine Administrative Water Management Decisions Policy. This new proposed policy allows specific administrative decisions regarding watershed districts, water management organizations, and SWCDs to be delegated to the Executive Director, an action requested by the Board's Administrative Advisory Committee. The proposed policy is limited to noncontroversial boundary changes of watershed districts, ordering hearings for specific watershed district items (not the decisions on these items, just the ordering of the hearing), and changing names and locations of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The draft policy and procedure provided were developed by the Board's Internal Water Planning Team and recommended to the Committee by the Senior Management Team.

** 19-68 Moved by Jack Ditmore, seconded by Paige Winebarger, to approve the Delegation of Routine Administrative Water Management Decisions Policy. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

Local Water Plan Extension and Amendment Policy Revision– Annie Felix-Gerth presented Local Water Plan Extension and Amendment Policy Revision. The proposed amended policy provides a streamlined option to batch multiple water plan extensions together into the existing Local Water Plan Extension and Amendment Policy. The draft policy and procedure provided were developed by the Board's Internal Water Planning Team and recommended to the Committee by the Senior Management Team.

** 19-69 Moved by Jack Ditmore, seconded by Joe Collins, to approve the Revised Local Water Plan Extension and Amendment Policy. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

Central Region Committee

Carver County Watershed Management Organization Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan – Steve Christopher presented Carver County Watershed Management Organization Comprehensive Watershed Management (CCWMO) Plan. The CCWMO was established in 1996 and covers approximately 320 square miles on the southwestern edge of the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. The watershed covers most of Carver County with six major sub watersheds within the CCWMO. This plan focuses on six major priorities ranging from water quality and quantity to awareness & behavior.

** 19-70 Moved by Joe Collins, seconded by Jill Winebarger, to approve the Carver County Watershed Management Organization Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. ***Motion passed on a voice vote.***

Southern Region Committee

Cedar-Wapsipinicon Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan – David Copeland presented Cedar-Wapsipinicon Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. The Cedar-Wapsipinicon River Watershed was selected by BWSR as one of the seven planning areas for the One Watershed, One Plan program in 2016. The watershed partnership Policy Committee, Advisory Committee, and Planning Work Group

members have attended regularly scheduled meetings and submitted the Cedar-Wapsipinicon River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan to BWSR on September 30, 2019 for review and approval. The Southern Regional Committee (Committee) met on November 13, 2019 to review the content of the Plan, State agency comments on the Plan, and to make a recommendation for approval. The Committee recommends approval by the full Board.

John Jaschke thanked Adam King, Dave Copeland and their partners for all their work.

** 19-71 Moved by Nathan Redalen, seconded by Harvey Kruger, to approve the Cedar-Wapsipinicon Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. ***Motion passed on a voice vote****.*

NEW BUSINESS

2020 BWSR Board Meeting Schedule – John Jaschke presented the 2020 BWSR Board Meeting Schedule. Meeting dates are being proposed for board meetings in 2020. Most meetings are the fourth Wednesday of the month, unless otherwise noted. The proposed calendar has meetings held in the same months as the 2019 calendar.

** 19-72 Moved by Joe Collins, seconded by Tom Loveall, to approve the 2020 BWSR Board Meeting Schedule. ***Motion passed on a voice vote****.*

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Impaired Waters List – Katrina Kessler and Miranda Nichols presented the MPCA Impaired Waters list.

Minnesota's impaired waters list is updated every two years and was updated last month. The MPCA added 581 new water bodies with 728 new impairments to the list. The list totals 5,774 impairments in 3,416 different bodies of water. MPCA gave an overview of the 2020 Impaired Waters List.

Chris Elvrum asked for clarification on how they portray the percentage of waterbodies they've assessed. Miranda stated it depends on how you count it, streams vs. lakes etc. Chris asked if their next round of monitoring will look at new bodies of water or ones they've already assessed? Miranda stated it will mostly be locations that have already been established.

Tom Loveall asked if algae blooms are part of the impairment process. Miranda stated it is part of the process when relevant.

Jill asked if they have PFOS standards? Katrina stated they do.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Next BWSR Meeting is scheduled for 9:00 AM, January 22, 2020 in St. Paul.

Chair VanAmburg adjourned the meeting at 11:06 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald Van Amburg
Chair

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Dispute Resolution Compliance Report**

Meeting Date: January 22, 2020

Agenda Category: ☐ Committee Recommendation ☐ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☐ Decision ☐ Discussion ☒ Information

Section/Region: Central Office

Contact: Travis Germundson

Prepared by: Travis Germundson

Reviewed by: _____ Committee(s)

Presented by: Travis Germundson/Chair Gerald VanAmburg

Time requested: 5 minutes

☐ **Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

Attachments: ☐ Resolution ☐ Order ☐ Map ☒ Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

☒ None	☐ General Fund Budget
☐ Amended Policy Requested	☐ Capital Budget
☐ New Policy Requested	☐ Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
☐ Other: _____	☐ Clean Water Fund Budget

ACTION REQUESTED

None

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See attached report.

SUMMARY (*Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation*)

The report provides a monthly update on the number of appeals filed with BWSR and buffer compliance.

Dispute Resolution and Compliance Report

January 6, 2020

By: Travis Germundson

There are presently **seven** appeals pending. All the appeals involve the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). There have been **two** new appeals filed since the last Board Meeting (December 18, 2019).

Format note: New appeals that have been filed since last report to the Board.
~~Appeals that have been decided since last report to the Board.~~

File 19-8 (12-20-19) This is an appeal of a WCA restoration order in Olmsted County. The appeal regards the placement of fill in a floodplain wetland associated with the operation of a sand and gravel mine. *No decision has been made on the appeal.*

File 19-7 (12-20-19) This is an appeal of a WCA replacement plan decision in Hennepin County. The appeal regards the denial of a replacement plan application associated with wetland impacts described in a restoration order. The restoration order was appealed and placed in abeyance until there is a final decision on the wetland application (BWSR Appeal File 18-3). *No decision has been made on the appeal.*

File 19-6 (12-16-19) This is an appeal of a WCA exemption decision in Kandiyohi County. The appeal regards the denial of an exemption determination for agricultural activities. *No decision has been made on the appeal.*

File 19-5 (11/15/19) This is an appeal of a WCA restoration order in Pine County.
The appeal regards the placement of fill within a shore impact zone of Passenger Lake a DNR Public Water. Applications for exemption and no-loss determinations were submitted to the LGU concurrently with the appeal. *The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration order stayed for the DNR to make a jurisdictional determination for Passenger Lake through the establishment of an OHWL and for the LGU to make a final decision on the application for exemption and no-loss.*

~~File 19-4 (11/15/19) This is an appeal of a WCA restoration order in Mille Lacs County. The appeal regards the placement of fill in a wetland along a purported township road within the shoreland overlay district of the North Fork Bradbury Brook a DNR Public Water.~~ *The appeal has been affirmed and the restoration order affirmed in part and modified to remove Kathio Township as a responsible party.*

File 19-3 (9/20/19) This is an appeal of duplicate WCA restoration orders in Wright County. The appeal regards the alleged draining and filling of approximately 4.79 acres of wetland associated with construction of a drainage ditch. Applications for exemption and no-loss have been submitted to the LGU. *The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration order stayed for the LGU to make a final decision on the applications or finalization of a restoration plan.*

File 19-2 (6/6/19) This is an appeal of a WCA restoration order in Morrison County. The appeal regards the alleged drainage of approximately 11.5 acres of wetland associated with the placement of agricultural drain tile. Applications for exemption and no-loss determinations were submitted to the LGU concurrently with the appeal. *The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration order stayed for the Technical Evaluation Panel to develop written findings of fact and for the LGU to make a final decision on the applications. That decision has been amended to extend the time period on the stay of the restoration order.*

File 18-3 (10-31-18) This is an appeal of a WCA restoration order in Hennepin County. The appeal regards the alleged filling and draining of over 11 acres of wetland. Applications for exemption and no-loss determinations were submitted to the LGU concurrently with the appeal. *The appeal has been placed in abeyance and the restoration stayed for the LGU to make a final decision on the applications. That decision has been amended several times to extend the time period on the stay of the restoration order.*

Summary Table

Type of Decision	Total for Calendar Year 2018	Total for Calendar Year 2019
Order in favor of appellant		
Order not in favor of appellant	2	
Order Modified		1
Order Remanded		
Order Place Appeal in Abeyance	1	3
Negotiated Settlement		
Withdrawn/Dismissed		1

Buffer Compliance Status: BWSR has received Notifications of Noncompliance (NONs) on 54 parcels from the 12 counties BWSR is responsible for enforcement. Our staff continue to actively reach out to landowners to resolve any noncompliance on a voluntary basis prior initiating enforcement action through the issuance of Correction Action Notices (CANs). So far 26 CANs have been issued by BWSR.

*Statewide 20 counties are fully compliant, and 44 counties have enforcement cases in progress. Those counties have issued a total of 642 CANs and 28 Administrative Penalty Orders. Of the actions being tracked over 537 of those have been resolved.

**Disclaimer: These numbers are generated on a monthly basis from BWSR's Access database. The information is obtained through notifications from LGUs on actions taken to bring about compliance and may not reflect the current status of compliance numbers.*

Last updated October 19, 2018

BWSR Board Member Conflict of Interest in Grant Review – Disclosure Form

Meeting: BWSR Board Meeting **Date:** January 22, 2020

I certify that I have read and understand the descriptions of conflict of interest provided, reviewed my participation for conflict of interest, and disclosed any perceived, potential, or actual conflicts. As a BWSR Board member, appointed according to Minnesota Statute Section 103B.101, I am responsible for evaluating my participation or abstention from the review process as indicated below. If I have indicated an actual conflict, I will abstain from the discussion and decision for that agenda item.

Please complete the form below for all agenda items. If you indicate that you do not have a conflict for an agenda item, you do not need to fill out additional information regarding that agenda item.

Agenda Item	**No conflict** (mark here and stop for this row)	**Grant applicant(s) associated with conflict** (required if conflict identified)	**Conflict Type** (required if conflict identified)	**Will you participate?** (required if conflict identified)	**Description of conflict** (optional)
FY20-21 Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Awards			Perceived Potential Actual	Yes / No	
FY2020 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Award			Perceived Potential Actual	Yes / No	
FY20 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods Grant Awards			Perceived Potential Actual	Yes / No	
			Perceived Potential Actual	Yes / No	

Printed name: _____

Signature: _____ Date:_____

All disclosed conflicts will be noted in the meeting minutes. Conflict of interest disclosure forms are considered public data under Minn. Stat. §13.599.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Grants Program and Policy Committee

1. FY20-21 Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Awards – Dan Shaw – **DECISION ITEM**
2. FY20 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods Grant Awards – Dan Shaw – **DECISION ITEM**
3. FY2020 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Award – Marcey Westrick – ***DECISION ITEM***

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **FY20-21 Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Awards**

Meeting Date: January 22, 2020

Agenda Category: ☒ Committee Recommendation ☐ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☒ Decision ☐ Discussion ☐ Information

Section/Region: Statewide

Contact: Dan Shaw

Prepared by: Nicole Clapp

Reviewed by: Grants Program & Policy Committee Committee(s)

Presented by: Dan Shaw

Time requested: 15 minutes

☐ **Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

Attachments: ☐ Resolution ☒ Order ☐ Map ☐ Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

☐ None
☐ Amended Policy Requested
☐ New Policy Requested
☐ Other:

☒ General Fund Budget
☐ Capital Budget
☐ Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
☐ Clean Water Fund Budget

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval of the FY20-21 Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Awards

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Program Website
Program Fact Sheet
Program FAQ

SUMMARY (*Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation*)

The purpose of the Cooperative Weed Management Area Program is to establish strong and sustainable CWMAs across Minnesota for the collaborative and efficient control of invasive species and protection of conservation lands and natural area. In August 2019 the Board gave approval to complete and open the FY20-21 Cooperative Weed Management Area Grants RFP to grant a total of $200,000. The application period was open from September 2, 2019, to October 7, 2019. Twenty (20) applications were received requesting a total of $330,000. Ranking was done by the CWMA Interagency Advisory Team on November 7, 2019. The attached funding recommendations are the result of that meeting and include the recommended distribution of an additional $28,000 of unused CWMA Program funding. Approval of the FY20-21 Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant awards is requested of the Board.

BOARD DECISION #_____

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BOARD ORDER

Fiscal Year 2020 and 2021 Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Awards

PURPOSE

Authorize the grant awards for fiscal year 2020 and 2021 General Fund Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) grants to selected Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs).

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

1. The Laws of Minnesota 2019, 1st Special Session, Chapter 4, Article 1, Section 4(d-3), appropriated $100,000 each year for fiscal year 2020 and 2021 for county cooperative weed management cost-share programs and appropriation allows, through the Laws of Minnesota 2019, 1st Special Session, Chapter 4, Article 1, Section 4(m), that if "an appropriation in either year is insufficient, the appropriation in the other year is available for it."
2. The Laws of Minnesota 2015, 1st Special Session, Chapter 4, Article 3, Section 4(d-3), appropriated funds for the fiscal year 2016 and 2017 for county cooperative weed management cost-share programs, of which $28,000 is available through returned grants and carryforward funds.
3. The CWMA program provides financial assistance to SWCDs to develop and sustain Cooperative Weed Management Areas that control emerging weed threats and manage natural areas and conservation lands through an integrated pest management and ecosystem approach.
4. On August 29, 2019, by Board Order #19-45, the Board authorized a CWMA Grant Program for FY2020 and FY2021 to provide funds to existing, and newly establishing CWMA's through a competitive process.
5. Applicants were accepted from new and existing CWMA's and evaluated based on the following criteria:

Table 1: Cooperative Weed Management Area Program Ranking Criteria

Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points
Newly Establishing Organizations: The funding will be used to assist the development of a newly establishing Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) or Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA).	10
Anticipated Outcomes: The outcomes expected upon completion of the project initiatives are identified, consistent with project goals, and it is clear how these outcomes will be obtained.	30
Relationship to CWMA and Conservation Plans: The proposal and species of focus are based on priority actions listed in or derived from CWMA/CISMA plans, and other local, state and federal conservation and invasive species plans.	10
Weed Prioritization: Weed threats are prioritized and are consistent with Minnesota's Noxious Weed Law, as well as local needs.	15

Strength of Partnerships: Partnerships are clearly defined.	15
Management Approach: An approach is defined to plan and manage invasive species through partnership coordination and using integrated pest management, and a focus on restoring native plant communities where practicable.	10
Information Management: An approach is defined for the management of information about weed locations (using tools such as EDDMapS), as well as management approaches used.	10
Total Points Available	**100**

6. The inter-agency CWMA Advisory Team reviewed and ranked the applications on November 7, 2019 and recommended 13 of 20 applications be funded.
7. The Board's Senior Management Team reviewed the CWMA Advisory team proposal on December 4, 2019 and concurred with the Advisory Team's recommendation with the addition of partially funding the 14th project in consideration of the returned grant funds from past program appropriations.
8. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their December 18, 2019 meeting, reviewed the proposed grant awards and recommended approval to the Board.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

1. Approves the allocation of funds to each eligible applicant in the amounts listed in the attached table *FY2020 & FY2021 Cooperative Weed Management Area Program Funding Recommendation*, totaling $228,000.
2. Authorizes staff to enter into individual grant agreements for these funds.
3. Establishes that the grants awarded pursuant to this order will conform to the BWSR Erosion Control and Water Management Program Policy.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this January 22, 2020.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____ Date: _____

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Attachments: *FY2020 & FY2021 Cooperative Weed Management Area Program Funding Recommendation*

Table 1: FY2020 & FY2021 Cooperative Weed Management Area Program Funding Recommendation

Rank	**Applicant/SWCD**	**Funding Request**	**Recommended Funding Amount**	**Score**
1	Koochiching	$20,000	$20,000	89.82
2	Anoka	$15,000	$15,000	85.18
3	Cook	$15,000	$15,000	82.73
4	Crow Wing	$20,000	$20,000	82.73
5	Wabasha	$15,000	$15,000	82.00
6	Ramsey	$15,000	$15,000	79.55
7	Red Lake	$15,000	$15,000	79.18
8	Becker	$15,000	$15,000	78.27
9	Winona	$15,000	$15,000	77.91
10	West Polk	$20,000	$20,000	77.73
11	Wright	$15,000	$15,000	76.45
12	Stearns	$15,000	$15,000	75.91
13	Chisago	$20,000	$20,000	75.45
14	Pennington	$20,000	$13,000	74.27
		Total:	**$228,000**	

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **FY20 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods Grant Awards**

Meeting Date: January 22, 2020

Agenda Category: ☒ Committee Recommendation ☐ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☒ Decision ☐ Discussion ☐ Information

Section/Region: Statewide

Contact: Dan Shaw

Prepared by: Dan Shaw

Reviewed by: Grants Program & Policy Committee(s)

Presented by: Dan Shaw

Time requested: 15 minutes

☐ **Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

Attachments: ☐ Resolution ☒ Order ☐ Map ☐ Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

☐ None
☐ Amended Policy Requested
☐ New Policy Requested
☒ Other: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

☐ General Fund Budget
☐ Capital Budget
☐ Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
☐ Clean Water Fund Budget

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval of the Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods Grant Awards

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Program Website
RFP and FAQ Website

SUMMARY (*Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation*)

This new grant program is funded through the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) and is aimed at increasing the populations of rusty patched bumble bees and other at-risk pollinators through the establishment of residential pollinator habitat within neighborhoods in important pollinator corridors/pathways. In October 2019 the Board authorized staff to complete and open the FY20 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods RFP to grant a total of $450,000. The application period was open from December 3rd, 2019 to January 10th, 2020. Ranking was done by an Interagency Team on January 16th, 2019. The attached funding recommendations are the result of that meeting. Approval of the FY20 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods Grant awards is requested of the Board.

BOARD DECISION #_____

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BOARD ORDER

Fiscal Year 2020 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods Grant Awards

PURPOSE

Authorize the grant awards for fiscal year 2020 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods Grant Awards.

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

1. The Laws of Minnesota 2019, 1st Special Session, Chapter 4, Article 2, Section 2 Subd. (f) appropriated $900,000 from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund to the Board for demonstration projects that provide grants or payments to plant residential lawns with native vegetation and pollinator-friendly forbs and legumes to protect a diversity of pollinators.
2. The workplan approved by the Legislative-Citizens Commission on Minnesota Resources for this appropriation includes separate Individual Support and Demonstration Neighborhood Grant Components. The workplan includes $450,000 for Demonstration Neighborhood Grants.
3. In October 2019, by Board Order #19-63, the Board authorized staff to complete and open the FY20 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods RFP to provide grants through a competitive process.
4. The Demonstration Neighborhood RFP opened on December 3, 2019 and applications were accepted through January 10, 2020.
5. A total of 34 applications requesting $1,123,084 were received.
6. Board staff reviewed applications for eligibility for this Program. Based on this review 34 applications were determined to be ineligible.
7. Applications were evaluated based on the following criteria:

Table 1: Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood Program Ranking Criteria

Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points
Located in an area with high potential for the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee	20
Connection to habitat corridors/pathways or areas mapped as important for pollinator plantings	15
Value to other at-risk pollinators	10
Partnerships established or strengthened as part of the demonstration neighborhoods	10
Sufficient technical capacity of applicant and partners	10
Long-term planning/maintenance/sustainability of projects, including protection from pesticide exposure	10
Potential to incorporate several project types (i.e. flowering trees and shrubs, pollinator lawns, etc.) into the demonstration neighborhood	5
Anticipated Outcomes: The outcomes expected upon completion of the project initiatives are identified, consistent with project goals, and it is clear how these outcomes will be obtained.	20
Total Points Available	**100**

8. An inter-agency review team ranked the eligible applications on January 16, 2020 and recommended applications for funding.
9. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their January 21,2020 meeting, reviewed the proposed grant awards and recommended approval to the Board.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

1. Approves the allocation of funds to each eligible applicant in the amounts listed in the attached table *FY2020 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods Grant Program Funding Recommendation*.
2. Authorizes staff to enter into individual grant agreements for these funds.
3. Authorizes staff to award a grant to the next highest scoring applicant should a funded application not proceed for any reason.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this January 22, 2020.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____ Date: _____

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

FY2020 Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhoods Grant Program Funding Recommendation

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **FY 2020 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Award**

Meeting Date: January 22, 2020

Agenda Category: ☒ Committee Recommendation ☐ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☒ Decision ☐ Discussion ☐ Information

Section/Region: Central Region

Contact: Marcey Westrick

Prepared by: Marcey Westrick

Reviewed by: Grants Program & Policy Committee(s)

Presented by: Marcey Westrick

Time requested: 20 minutes

☐ **Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

Attachments: ☐ Resolution ☒ Order ☐ Map ☐ Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

☐ None
☐ Amended Policy Requested
☐ New Policy Requested
☐ Other:

☐ General Fund Budget
☐ Capital Budget
☐ Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
☒ Clean Water Fund Budget

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval of the FY 2020 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Program Awards.

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SUMMARY (*Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation*)

The purpose of this agenda item is to allocate FY20 Clean Water Competitive Grants. On June 26, 2019, the Board authorized staff to distribute and promote a request for proposals (RFP) for eligible local governments to apply for Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants in three program categories: Projects and Practices, Projects and Practices Drinking Water Subgrant Program and Multipurpose Drainage Management (Board order #19-32).

Applications for the FY2020 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants were accepted from July 1 through September 9, 2019. Local governments submitted 104 applications requesting $30,145,939 in Clean Water Funds. BWSR Clean Water staff conducted multiple processes to review and score applications and involved

staff of other agencies to develop the proposed recommendations for grant awards. The BWSR Senior Management Team reviewed the recommendations on December 4th and made recommendations to the Grants Program and Policy Committee. The Grants Program and Policy Committee reviewed recommendations on December 18, 2019, and made a recommendation to the full Board. A draft Order is attached based on the recommendation of the Grants Program and Policy Committee.

BOARD DECISION #_____

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BOARD ORDER

Fiscal Year 2020 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants

PURPOSE

Authorize the fiscal year 2020 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants to successful Projects and Practices, Project and Practices Drinking Water Subgrants, and Multipurpose Drainage Management applicants.

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

1. The Laws of Minnesota 2019, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Sec. 7(b) and (j) appropriated funds to the Board for the fiscal year 2020 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program of which of which $13,007,000 is available for Projects and Practices grants and Projects and Practices Drinking Water Subgrants and $811,000 is available for Multipurpose Drainage Management grant.
2. The Laws of Minnesota 2017, Regular Session, Chapter 91, Article 2, Sec. 7(b) appropriated funds to the Board for past Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Programs of which $35,000 is available through carryforward funds.
3. The Laws of Minnesota 2015, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Sec. 7(k) appropriated funds to the Board for past Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Programs of which $62,000 is available for Multipurpose Drainage Management through carryforward funds.
4. The Laws of Minnesota 2013, Regular Session, Chapter 137, Article 2, Sec. 7(b) and (e) appropriated funds to the Board for past Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Programs of which $208,000 is available for Projects and Practices and $5,000 is available for Multipurpose Drainage Management through returned grant funds.
5. The proposed allocations in this order were developed consistent with these appropriations.
6. On June 26, 2019, the Board authorized staff to distribute and promote a request for proposals (RFP) for Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants, Projects and Practices and Multipurpose Drainage Management (Board order #19-32).
7. A formal request for proposal was noticed on July 1, 2019 with a submittal deadline of September 9, 2019.
8. Projects were scored and ranked by an interagency committee on November 20, 2019.
9. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their December 18, 2019 Meeting, reviewed the proposed allocations and recommended approval to the Board.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

1. Approves the allocation of funds to each eligible applicant in the amounts listed in the attached allocation tables, totaling $11,046,742 for Projects and Practices, $2,157,586 for Drinking Water Subgrants, and $734,441 for Multipurpose Drainage Management.
2. Authorizes staff to approve work plans and enter into grant agreements for these funds.
3. Authorizes staff to reallocate funds returned from previous years' Clean Water Competitive grant programs or funds included in (1) that become available if funded projects are withdrawn, do not

receive work plan approval by April 15, 2020 unless extended for cause, or are modified to reduce the state funding needed to accomplish the project to fully or partially fund additional applications in rank order until May 15, 2020 unless superseded by a future Board action.

4. Establishes that the grants awarded pursuant to this order will conform to FY20 Clean Water Fund Implementation Program Policy.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this January 22, 2020.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____ Date: _____

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Attachments:

- FY2020 Clean Water Fund Project and Practices Allocation Table
- FY2020 Clean Water Fund Project and Practices Drinking Water Subgrants Allocation Table
- FY2020 Clean Water Fund Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant Allocation Table

FY2020 Clean Water Fund Project and Practices Allocation Table

Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Grantee	Total ($)
C20-6375	Goose Lake Alum Treatment 2020	Vadnais Lake Area WMO	$ 190,000
C20-6316	Lake Irving TMDL Stormwater Retrofit and Iron Enhanced Sand Filter	Beltrami SWCD	$ 156,000
C20-5613	Sunrise River Chain of Lakes Carp Management	Anoka CD	$ 148,000
C20-6193	Buffalo River Grade Stabilization Project	Clay SWCD	$ 165,600
C20-7180	Lake Wassermann Internal Load Management	Minnehaha Creek WD	$ 284,720
C20-3913	2020 Lower Clearwater River Subwatershed Water Quality Agricultural Practices (Phase II)	Red Lake SWCD	$ 274,275
C20-5654	Coon Creek Park Stream Restoration	Coon Creek WD	$ 395,000
C20-4233	Trout Lake Stormwater Enhancement Project	Itasca SWCD	$ 351,000
C20-7113	South Branch Wild RIce Sediment Reduction Project - Phase II	Becker SWCD	$ 470,428
C20-6056	Spectacle Lake Focused Activity	Isanti SWCD	$ 93,532
C20-7291	River Park Stormwater Improvements	Brooklyn Park, City of	$ 250,000
C20-7191	Washington Judicial Ditch 6 Headwaters Iron-Enhanced Sand Filter	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	$ 747,400
C20-7122	Phase 1 of Five Mile Creek and Marsh Lake Improvement Strategy	Big Stone SWCD	$ 274,000
C20-6395	2020 City of Glenwood Targeted Urban Stormwater Implementation Project Phase 1	Pope SWCD	$ 292,500
C20-6440	Partridge River E. Coli Reduction Match	Todd SWCD	$ 81,909
C20-6055	Lily Lake Phosphorus Reductions for Delisting	Middle St. Croix River WMO	$ 513,500
C20-4093	Lake Washington Nutrient Reduction Project	Le Sueur County SWCD	$ 310,250
C20-7176	Lake Traverse Water Quality Project Phase 1	Bois de Sioux WD	$ 336,775
C20-6034	2020 - Sediment Reduction in the Flute Reed River Watershed	Cook SWCD	$ 91,245
C20-7189	Sunrise River Drained Wetland Restoration	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	$ 492,000
C20-6093	Sartell Riverside Avenue/County Road 1 Stormwater Improvement Project	Stearns SWCD	$ 294,950
C20-4094	Lake Ida HUC 12 AIG Projects	Douglas SWCD	$ 338,231
C20-4213	Thompson Oaks Targeted Stormwater Management and Wetland Restoration Project	Dakota County	$ 576,447

C20-7237	Coordinated Mill Overlay, Sewer Expansion, and 5 Crosslake Runoff Retrofits	Crow Wing SWCD	$	315,000
C20-5793	City of Cromwell Stormwater Improvement Project	Carlton SWCD	$	152,750
C20-6435	Mississippi River Community Park Riverbank Stabilization	Anoka, City of	$	653,326
C20-6415	Upper Prior Lake Alum Treatment	Prior Lake-Spring Lake WD	$	449,500
C20-3954	2020 - Big Elk & Mayhew Lakes Phosphorus Reduction Program	Benton SWCD	$	350,000
C20-6356	Bryn Mawr Meadows Water Quality Improvement Project	Bassett Creek WMC	$	400,000
C20-7157	2020 NE St. Cloud Sediment Reduction Project	Benton SWCD	$	204,960
C20-7213	Marine on St. Croix Green Infrastructure Stormwater Retrofits	Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix WD	$	97,600
C20-7289	2020 Crow River Gully Stabilization to Reduce Turbidity Phase Four	Wright SWCD	$	175,000
C20-5633	Sand Creek Watershed TMDL/Targeted BMP Installations	Scott SWCD	$	229,000
C20-5713	Prior Lake Spring Lake TMDL/Targeted BMP Installations	Scott SWCD	$	283,900
C20-6293	Otter Tail High Priority Lakes Protection	Otter Tail, East SWCD	$	167,600
C20-5733	FY20 CWF Middle Creek at Highview Avenue Streambank and Grade Stabilization Project	Vermillion River Watershed JPO	$	380,000
C20-6123	Protection of High-Quality Cisco Lakes in Aitkin County	Aitkin SWCD	$	60,344

FY2020 Clean Water Fund Project and Practices Drinking Water Subgrants Allocation Table

C20-5894	2020 - Dakota County Drinking Water Protection Project	Dakota SWCD	$	75,000
C20-7177	Whitewater Drinking Water Protection grant	Whitewater River Watershed Project	$	191,550
C20-5813	St. Cloud Spent Lime Filtration Project	Stearns SWCD	$	613,100
C20-6334	Thief River Grade Stabilization and Cover Crop Implementation	Pennington SWCD	$	256,666
C20-6317	Groundwater Quality Nitrate Reduction Pipestone	Pipestone SWCD	$	299,520
C20-6313	Protecting groundwater quality in Anoka County through targeted well sealing	Anoka CD	$	240,000
C20-3956	2020 Drinking Water Protection Initiative	Benton SWCD	$	39,300
C20-7275	Stearns County Highly Vulnerable DWSMAs: Nitrogen Management Practices for Safe Drinking Water	Stearns SWCD	$	202,450

C20-6442	Well Sealing and Aquifer Characterization Below the Jordan in the Rochester Metropolitan Area	Olmsted County	$ 165,000
C20-6433	Protecting Drinking Water Sources in Southern Washington County	Washington Conservation District	$ 75,000

FY2020 Clean Water Fund Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant Allocation Table

Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Grantee	Total ($)
C20-6174	SD 51 & CD 16 Water Quality Improvement project	Roseau River WD	$ 87,300
C20-5533	CD64 (Brush Creek) Sediment Reduction Strategy	Faribault County SWCD	$ 61,600
C20-7182	Judicial Ditch 11 Restoration and Drainage Management	Bois de Sioux WD	$ 327,000
C20-6058	South Heron Lake TMDL Implementation: Phase 3	Heron Lake WD	$ 43,000
C20-4073	Le Sueur County CD61 Storage & Treatment Wetland	Le Sueur County SWCD	$ 215,541

Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Organization	County	Request ($)	Recommended ($)	Abstract	Score
C20-6174	SD 51 & CD 16 Water Quality Improvement project	Roseau River WD	Roseau	$ 87,300	$ 87,300	Roseau River Watershed District (RRWD) is initiating a water quality improvement project to reduce sediment contribution from the County Ditch 16 (CD 16) subwatershed. The RRWD in cooperation with landowners, road authorities, and the Roseau SWCD will implement conservation practices on 27 priority sites identified through the Prioritize Target Measure Application (PTMApp) due to the large volume of sediment they contribute to State Ditch 51 (SD 51). This project will result in a sediment reduction of 84 tons of sediment annually.	90.6
C20-5533	CD64 (Brush Creek) Sediment Reduction Strategy	Faribault County SWCD	Faribault	$ 61,600	$ 61,600	Faribault Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and Drainage Department have partnered to identify the most critical locations to cost effectively implement best management practices in a targeted drainage system within the Brush Creek subwatershed, County Ditch 64 (CD64). This project, in combination with an awarded federal grant, will provide cost share to implement 20 near system and upland BMPs in CD64 including but not limited to: 14 grade stabilization structures, 5 grassed waterways, and 1 water and sediment control basin. The 20 high priority critical resource points will reduce pollution loading to CD64 by 176 tons of sediment per year and 203 pounds of phosphorus per year.	83.8
C20-7182	Judicial Ditch 11 Restoration and Drainage Management	Bois de Sioux WD	Traverse;Wilkin	$ 327,000	$ 327,000	The Bois De Sioux Watershed District (BdSWD) is partnering with the Traverse County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Wilkin County SWCD, and landowners to reduce sediment load by 420 tons per year and phosphorus load by 117 pounds per year to the Bois de Sioux River. This is an 8.5% annual sediment reduction and 2.4% annual TP reduction for the JD 11 drainage area. 60 side inlet structures and 9 miles of continuous berms will be constructed as a permanent part of the main stem of Judicial Ditch (JD) 11 adjacent to Minnesota State Highway (MN Hwy) 55 (Wilkin County) and MN Hwy 75 (Wilkin/Traverse Counties).	79.2
C20-6058	South Heron Lake TMDL Implementation: Phase 3	Heron Lake WD	Jackson	$ 43,000	$ 43,000	The purpose of this project is to reduce phosphorus entering South Heron Lake (SHL), which does not meet state water quality standards. To address this, the Heron Lake Watershed District (HLWD) and Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) are partnering with landowners to implement projects to reduce phosphorus in the SHL watershed. Efforts are focused on County Ditch 3 (CD3) and Judicial Ditches (JD)14 and JD3. Projects include 15 alternative side inlets (ASI) and a 4.2 acre wetland on JD3, providing an annual phosphorus load reduction of 2,258 pounds, which equates to a 6.1 percent total need pollution reduction for the SHL watershed.	75.4
C20-4073	Le Sueur County CD61 Storage & Treatment Wetland	Le Sueur County SWCD	Le Sueur	$ 215,541	$ 215,541	Le Sueur County Ditch (CD) 61 is a priority system that drains to Scoth Lake, which does not meet state water quality standards. The purpose of this project is to provide needed water storage in the watershed by restoring a 15.4 wetland. The project will provide an overall sediment reduction of 77 tons per year and reduce phosphorus by 170 pound per year while also providing 17 acre/feet of water storage .	74.8
C20-6413	Multipurpose Drainage - Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance	Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance	Multiple	$ 300,000	$ -	With these funds the Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance (GBERBA) will install targeted drainage BMP practices on 103E drainage systems. Targeted projects with preliminary plans ready to move forward with funding include nine Side Inlet/Grade Stab practices, five Storage Treatment Wetland Restorations, and a CAP Plan with Water Control Structures and will prevent 45 Tons of sediment, 60 pounds of Phosphorus and 1,385 pounds of Nitrogen from annually entering surface waters, and provide an estimated 20 acre feet of water storage.	65
C20-6120	Le Sueur County ASI Project	Le Sueur County SWCD	Le Sueur	$ 79,825	$ -	Le Sueur County (LSC) has identified 3 priority ditch systems CD 23, 44 and 61 and 47 sites where side inlets are needed. The goal of the plan is to address 10 of the 47 sites to provide an overall reduction in sediment by 630 tons per year and in phosphorus by 724 pounds per year.	62.8

#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Organization	County	Request ($)	Recommended ($)	Abstract	Score
1	C20-5894	2020 - Dakota County Drinking Water Protection Project	Dakota SWCD	Dakota	$ 75,000	$ 75,000	The Dakota County Drinking Water Protection Project's goal is to reduce pollutants (primarily nitrates) that are becoming increasingly common in groundwater sourced drinking water throughout Dakota County. This will be accomplished by implementing groundwater protection practices in areas that are vulnerable to contamination. This project includes both private wells and public water supplies and will focus on townships that have testing data indicating elevated nitrates in drinking water. Cover crops will be the primary practice along with restoring perennial vegetation in critical locations. An estimated 700 acres of cover crops will be established through this project and an estimated 15,720 pounds of nitrogen will be prevented from reaching groundwater that is used for drinking water.	85.4
2	C20-7177	Whitewater Drinking Water Protection grant	Whitewater River Watershed Project	Olmsted;Wabasha;Winona	$ 191,550	$ 191,550	This project will implement a two-pronged approach to address nitrate pollution to water table aquifers in high priority areas of the Whitewater Watershed area. This project will use cost share funds to incentivize cover crops into crop rotations. An estimated 40 producers in vulnerable townships will plant 1,200 acres of cover crops preventing 8,350 pounds of nitrate from leaching into groundwater, which is the region's primary source of drinking water. Project funds will also be used to provide cost share to ten low-income homeowners with non-compliant septic systems in these vulnerable areas. These septic system upgrades will prevent 370 pounds of nitrate from contaminating groundwater.	84.2
3	C20-5813	St. Cloud Spent Lime Filtration Project	Stearns SWCD	Stearns	$ 613,100	$ 613,100	The City of St. Cloud draws raw water out of the Mississippi River for their drinking water supply. The quality of raw water they take in seasonally fluctuates. Spring runoff and large rainfall events are the biggest contributors to poor raw water quality. Sediments, organics, and other contaminants get washed off the landscape and into our drainage systems, especially in urban areas. The City is looking to minimize these fluctuations by installing a series of up to nine BMPs to treat 935 acres of untreated urban stormwater. The proposed spent lime filter and pretreatment structures will capture organics and annually remove 145 pounds of phosphorus and 54 tons of sediment for the project area. The proposed BMPs will include pretreatment structures with energy dissipation to capture sediment and organic materials. The treatment train will conclude with a spent lime filter system.	83.0
4	C20-6334	Thief River Grade Stabilization and Cover Crop Implementation	Pennington SWCD	Pennington	$ 256,666	$ 256,666	The primary goal of the project is to reduce sediment entering the Lower Thief River by targeting grade stabilization and cover crop practices. The Thief River is impaired downstream of Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge for Total Suspended Solids which directly impacts the drinking water supply for the City of Thief River Falls. The installation of 62 grade stabilization structures and 5,000 acres of cover crop in priority locations identified by a completed ditch inventory and the PTMApp will reduce an estimated 1,866 tons of sediment and 1,016 pounds of phosphorus.	80.8
5	C20-6317	Groundwater Quality Nitrate Reduction Pipestone	Pipestone SWCD	Pipestone	$ 299,520	$ 299,520	The goal of this project is to reduce nitrate-nitrogen loading to groundwater of Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water's Holland and North Holland Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (DWSMA), City of Pipestone DWSMA, and the City of Edgerton DWSMA from non-point source agricultural land. Consideration for implementation is given to the high and very high vulnerable areas within the DWSMAs with the highest priority for initial outreach for BMP implementation would be crop producers within 1 mile to the public water supply wells. Our goal is 10% of land utilizing perennial crops or cover crops within the proposed area totaling 2,080 acres.	80.5
6	C20-6313	Protecting groundwater quality in Anoka County through targeted well sealing	Anoka CD	Anoka	$ 240,000	$ 240,000	In Anoka County, 94% of the population depend on groundwater for drinking water, using about 12 billion gallons annually. This use is at risk from tens-of-thousands of old wells that are unused and unsealed. As such, protection of Metro Area groundwater supplies requires protection of Anoka County recharge areas. Due to the large-scope of the problem, we're proposing to prioritize and target well sealing cost-share to unused wells within Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (DWSMAs), those that are deep and intersect multiple aquifers, and those that have the earliest original installation date. Our goal is to seal up to 125 high priority unused wells, which we expect to abate about 5% of the problem within DWSMAs.	80.1
7	C20-3956	2020 Drinking Water Protection Initiative	Benton SWCD	Benton	$ 39,300	$ 39,300	According to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's (MDAs) Final Township Testing Nitrate Report for Benton County, significant portions of Langola, Watab, Minden, and Maywood townships have high aquifer vulnerability ratings due to the geologic setting in Benton County. The purpose of this project is to reduce the risk of groundwater contamination in critical drinking water areas in Benton County through the process of sealing unused wells. Numerous wells have already been located within the priority areas including critical areas such as active feedlots and farm fields. A field inventory completed by Benton SWCD staff resulted in the identification of 150 possible well sealing opportunities. Through this project, the SWCD estimates sealing 30 wells.	79.2
8	C20-7275	Stearns County Highly Vulnerable DWSMAs: Nitrogen Management Practices for Safe Drinking Water	Stearns SWCD	Stearns	$ 202,450	$ 202,450	Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) works closely with the Public Water Suppliers (PWS) located within the county. Currently, Stearns County has 23 public water supplies with approved Wellhead Protections Plans. This project will reduce the nitrates entering into high to very high vulnerable Drinking Water Supply Management Areas within Stearns County through the installation of nitrogen best management practices which include, but are not limited to, cover crops, nutrient management and irrigation water management. A total of 1,200 acres of cover crops will be planted throughout the duration of the project. Ten nutrient management plans will be developed and implemented, and irrigation water management will be implemented on 200 acres with 6 pivots tested for uniformity.	77.0
9	C20-6442	Well Sealing and Aquifer Characterization Below the Jordan in the Rochester Metropolitan Area	Olmsted County	Olmsted	$ 200,000	$ 165,000	Protecting groundwater aquifers in Olmsted County is critical as the community continues to experience high growth. Well 220827, located in Rochester, is an inactive municipal well. The well interconnects the Tunnel City Group, Wonewoc Sandstone, and Mt. Simon Sandstone aquifers that lie below the Jordan aquifer in the Rochester area. Olmsted County & Rochester Public Utilities (RPU) are committed to protecting, and sustainably utilizing, the aquifers in the greater Rochester area. Thus, RPU plans to seal well as part of this commitment. Currently, there are no municipal supply wells solely in the aquifers beneath the Jordan in Olmsted County. As a result, it is not known if municipal water supply from the deeper aquifers is feasible. RPU can leverage the sealing of well to install a multi-well nest to obtain data on the deep aquifers to assess flow, quantities, and vulnerabilities to contamination.	76.3
10	C20-6433	Protecting Drinking Water Sources in Southern Washington County	Washington Conservation District	Washington	$ 75,000	$ 75,000	The goal of this project is to protect drinking water quality in areas of rural southern Washington County that are vulnerable to groundwater contamination from nitrogen fertilizer. As part of this project, the Washington Conservation District will provide technical and financial assistance to agricultural landowners in these vulnerable groundwater areas to increase the implementation of nitrogen fertilizer best management practices and alternative management tools. Activities may include nonstructural and structural practices, such as increased continuous cover, retired cropland, and others identified to reduce nitrate leaching. The Washington Conservation District will work toward implementing up to 10 nitrogen fertilizer best management practice/alternative management tool projects on over 200 acres of agricultural land within the project area, and reach over 200 community members through education and engagement in groundwater pollution prevention and drinking water protection activities.	74.3
11	C20-6380	GBERBA Drinking Water Protection	Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance	Multiple	$ 285,000	$ -	The Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance (GBERBA) along with staff from the 10 member SWCDs and Counties will strive to protect and improve the drinking water supply in the Greater Blue Earth River Basin. This will be accomplished by working with landowners and city staff to install best management practices and embarking on a public information effort. The focus of the project will be the Drinking Water(DW) Supply Management Areas (DWSMAs) contained completely or partially within the Greater Blue Earth River (GBE) Basin. Best Management Practices include sealing 10 to 15 wells within the project DWSMA; 41 acres of non-native lawn transformed to improved native cover; 10 drinking water workshops; 20 drinking water promotional sign; and 100 drinking water protection public service radio spots.	73.2

#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Organization	County	Request ($)	Recommended ($)	Abstract	Score
12	C20-4025	Preventing Poultry Manure Nitrate Leaching in the Sand Outwash Plains of Central Minnesota	Morrison SWCD	Benton;Morrison	$ 550,000	$ -	While manure is a much needed resource in the agricultural community, drinking water contamination can occur when piles of manure are left to sit on well drained soils or in high water table areas. To solve this issue, cost share dollars are needed to establish roofed stacking slabs in the area for farmers who utilize this manure. Over the last 15 years the sand outwash plains of Central Minnesota have seen an intensification of poultry barns. Farmers who purchase poultry manure to be land applied but do not have animals themselves do not qualify for NRCS funding . Clean Water Funds would enable commercial crop farmers access to cost share dollars to construct stacking slabs and fill a gap that currently NRCS funding is unable to provide. Funds would provide for the establishment of six roofed stacking slabs for manure storage and remove the potential contaminate source of 5,400 tons of poultry manure from leaching nitrogen. This equates to 120,000 pounds of nitrogen.	69.1
13	C20-7174	St. Peter Wellhead/Watershed Project	Nicollet SWCD	Nicollet	$ 1,041,730	$ -	Lying in the area west of Saint Peter, MN is the 4,500 Acre Drinking Water Supply Management Area serving the city of 12,000 residents. This supply area is the only source of drinking water in the community with 25% being drawn from the Jordan Aquifer. Currently, water is blended between multiple depth wells to reduce Nitrate levels below Federal Drinking Water Standards. Without blending, nitrate levels are almost 3 times higher than drinking water standards. The goal of this project is to reduce nitrate levels by 40%, or 6-14 parts per million on average at the source well. A second goal is to promote public awareness about wellhead and drinking water protection. To achieve this goal, project partners will work together to plan and implement Cover Crop Incentives on 1000 acres, Nutrient Management Plans on 1000 acres, promotion of spring applied nitrogen practices, 19 Water & Sediment Control Basins, 3 Drop Pipe Structures, 10 Alternative Intakes and 4 Drainage Water Management Structures within the wellhead protection area. Reduction estimates for nitrate is 40% as measured at the source wells.	68.7
14	C20-6376	Rural Otter Tail Groundwater Protection	Otter Tail, East SWCD	Otter Tail	$ 233,500	$ -	Areas in Otter Tail County that have a medium to high nitrogen infiltration risk will be targeted for irrigation and nutrient management practices to reduce nitrate in drinking water for public and private wells. A combination of cost share and incentives will be used to help establish precision management for irrigation, including water-sensor-aided irrigation scheduling, variable-rate application technology, and soil health practices. During the Groundwater and Agriculture report meetings, producers shared that these are the practices they are most interested in adding to their farms. Integrating these practices and technologies into current systems should reduce the application of nitrate and the amount of nitrate leaching into the groundwater by an estimated 92 pounds per year of Nitrogen..	68.2
				Total Funding Recommendation		**$ 2,157,586**		

#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Organization	County	Request ($)	Recommended ($)	Abstract	Score
1	C20-6375	Goose Lake Alum Treatment 2020	Vadnais Lake Area WMO	Ramsey	$ 190,000	$ 190,000	East Goose Lake in White Bear Lake, MN, is not meeting state water quality standards for nutrients. Water quality studies conducted on East Goose Lake show that 88% of East Goose Lake's phosphorus loading is internal from lake sediments. The purpose of this proposal is to perform a 2-phase alum treatment on East Goose Lake. East Goose Lake was the discharge point for the White Bear Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant from the 1930s to the 1960s. Addressing problems in East Goose lake are important because it is part of the headwaters of Lambert Creek, tributary to East Vadnais Lake, which is the drinking water reservoir for more than 430,000 St. Paul residents. This area is also identified by the Minnesota Department of Health Source Water Protection Area Map as High Priority.	88.4
2	C20-6316	Lake Irving TMDL Stormwater Retrofit and Iron Enhanced Sand Filter	Beltrami SWCD	Beltrami	$ 156,000	$ 156,000	Lake Irving, located in the City of Bemidji, is the first lake on the Mississippi River. Lake Irving does not meet state water quality standards for nutrients. This project will remove 82% or 221 pounds of phosphorus year flowing to Lake Irving directly from the City of Bemidji. A Stormwater Water Quality Best Management Practice Retrofit Analysis was completed for Bemidji and it was determined that the creation of an iron enhanced sand filter along with additional channel storage, culvert replacement, and re-vegetation would yieldthe greatest return on investment.	88.0
3	C20-5613	Sunrise River Chain of Lakes Carp Management	Anoka CD	Anoka; Isanti	$ 148,000	$ 148,000	Common carp reduction within the West Branch of the Sunrise River chain of lakes will address multiple nutrient impairments. This project will remove ~11,000 carp by box netting to achieve a carp biomass of 89 lbs/acre which is the identified threshold above which carp impact lake health. Removals will occur in Martin & Typo Lakes (~85% of effort) & Linwood Lake (~15% effort). Estimated pollutant reductions are 1,230 pounds of phosphorus per year. Carp reduction goals in Martin & Typo Lakes are 50% complete & yielding statistically significant water quality improvement. Beginning in 2017, Legacy funds enabled removal of 11,000+ carp, reducing biomass by 35%. Additionally, eight watershed BMPs have been or will soon be installed.	87.5
4	C20-6193	Buffalo River Grade Stabilization Project	Clay SWCD	Clay	$ 165,600	$ 165,600	The Clay Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will partner with the Buffalo Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and landowners to install 30 grade stabilization structures (side inlets) or similar conservation practices to stabilize high priority gullies that are contributing sediment to the Buffalo River. When these 30 gullies are stabilized, sediment loading to the Buffalo River will be reduced by 621 tons per year and total phosphorus is estimated to be reduced by 330 pounds per year.	84.6
5	C20-7180	Lake Wassermann Internal Load Management	Minnehaha Creek WD	Carver	$ 284,720	$ 284,720	The Wassermann Internal Load Management Project is the next phase in a multi-year strategy to restore Wassermann Lake. The Wassermann Lake Total Maximum Daily Load attributes 505 pounds per year of phosphorus to internal loading, requiring an 88% reduction. By implementing a buffered alum treatment, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (District) will be able to achieve an estimated 90% reduction of internal sediment [phosphorus release, effectively addressing the largest contributing factor to Wassermann Lake's Impairment.	84.6
6	C20-3913	2020 Lower Clearwater River Subwatershed Water Quality Agricultural Practices (Phase II)	Red Lake SWCD	Red Lake	$ 274,275	$ 274,275	The Lower Clearwater River subwatershed has been identified as having the highest sediment pollution in the Clearwater River Watershed. The Red Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) conducted an Erosion Site Inventory in 2019, which identified specific sites needing structural agricultural practices including but are not limited to: grade stabilization structures, grassed waterways, and water & sediment basins. The implementation of these practices is estimated to reduce sediment loading to the Clearwater River by 790 tons per year or 32% of the sediment reduction goal.	84.6
7	C20-5654	Coon Creek Park Stream Restoration	Coon Creek WD	Anoka	$ 395,000	$ 395,000	This project will reduce sediment and nutrient loading by an estimated 237 tons of sediment and 201 pounds of phosphorus while improving in-stream and riparian habitat by restoring a 1.1-mile corridor of Coon Creek in Andover, MN. Actively eroding stream banks will be stabilized via bioengineering practices such as toe wood, root wads, brush mattresses, bank re-shaping, and planting with native pollinator-friendly riparian vegetation. Hard-armoring practices will be restricted to areas adjacent to bridge abutments and to protect existing trail infrastructure. Cross vanes and other in-channel structures will also be installed to reduce channel incision and increase habitat heterogeneity.	83.5
8	C20-4233	Trout Lake Stormwater Enhancement Project	Itasca SWCD	Itasca	$ 351,000	$ 351,000	The Trout Lake Stormwater Enhancement Project has been developed to reduce phosphorous and sediment loading to Trout Lake. Reducing phosphorous loads to the lake is a priority of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Itasca County Local Water Management Plan, and has the support of local citizens, the lake association, the Greenway Recreational Board, and City of Coleraine Council and came out of recommendations in a 2018 study. Polluted runoff will be re-routed to surface stormwater practices for treatment and infiltration in the rain gardens, swales, and planter boxes enhanced with native vegetation preventing 15 tons of sediment and 43 pounds of phosphorus from reaching Trout Lake annually.	83.5
9	C20-7113	South Branch Wild RIce Sediment Reduction Project - Phase II	Becker SWCD	Becker	$ 470,428	$ 470,428	Phase II of the South Branch Wild Rice Sediment Reduction Project will continue the targeted placement of structural and ecological best management practices addressing excessive erosion and subsequent sediment and nutrient loading to the South Branch of the Wild Rice River in Becker County. With 75 targeted site-appropriate combinations of structural and ecological practices including Grade Stabilizations, Water and Sediment Control Basins, Grassed Waterways, Filter Strips, Wetland Restorations and Critical Area Plantings, this project is expected to accomplish a 32% reduction in total suspended solids addressing the downstream reduction goals established within the Lower Wild Rice River Total Maximum Daily Load.	82.5
10	C20-6056	Spectacle Lake Focused Activity	Isanti SWCD	Isanti	$ 93,532	$ 93,532	Spectacle Lake is locally referred to as the "gem of Isanti County" and it has been identified as the second most likely lake in the Rum River watershed to see substantial declines in water clarity with increasing nutrient loads. In the interest of protecting the health of this regionally popular lake, this proposal will install a treatment train of three bioretention basins and up to 15,000 square feet of additional near-shore stormwater reduction practices. This proposal will work in concert with work being done by Isanti County Zoning to develop more restrictive shoreland ordinances and includes continued engagement of residents and local government staff and officials. A 21- pound phosphorus reduction goal has been set in efforts to protect the lake . The proposed projects reduce phosphorus by 13 pounds or 62% of the goal.	81.8
11	C20-7291	River Park Stormwater Improvements	Brooklyn Park, City of	Hennepin	$ 250,000	$ 250,000	The River Park Stormwater Improvements Project will enhance water quality, improve natural habitats, and expand recreational and interpretive elements to protect the Mississippi River from contaminants from the 300-acre River Park subwatershed in the City of Brooklyn Park. About 2 acres of the park will be converted into stormwater best management practices including an integrated stormwater pond and an enhanced natural space with rain gardens. The integrated stormwater pond and rain gardens will provide water quality for the entire subwatershed, including nearly 250 acres that are currently untreated. The City of Brooklyn Park, in association with the West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission (WMWMC), will: Remove over 50 pounds of phosphorus and 15 tons of sediment from water discharging to the Mississippi River.	81.6
12	C20-7191	Washington Judicial Ditch 6 Headwaters Iron-Enhanced Sand Filter	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	Washington	$ 747,400	$ 747,400	Forest Lake is one of the top recreational lakes in the metro area and the largest lake in Washington County. The water quality of Forest Lake also impacts downstream waters. While not currently on the impaired waters list, the water quality of Forest Lake is very near the water quality standard. Protection of Forest Lake water quality is a high priority for the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District (CLFLWD), the City of Forest Lake, and the region. Washington Judicial Ditch 6 (WJD6) has been identified as the second largest contributor of flows and phosphorus loads to Forest Lake. This project proposes to treat 50% of the subwatershed runoff with an offline, multi-cell iron-enhanced sand filtration (IESF) treatment system. The headwaters of WJD6 is dominated by wetlands and contributes nearly half of the total phosphorus load in the WJD6 system, most of which is dissolved and difficult to remove with traditional best management practices (BMPs). This IESF will reduce watershed phosphorus loads to Forest Lake by 85 pounds per year.	81.5
13	C20-7122	Phase 1 of Five Mile Creek and Marsh Lake Improvement Strategy	Big Stone SWCD	Big Stone	$ 274,000	$ 274,000	The Big Stone Soil and Water Conservation District plans to install 30-40 water and sediment control basins (WASCoBs)and other alternative practices like cover crops, no till/strip till within the Five Mile Creek watershed. Currently, 19-shovel ready WASCoBs have been designed with plans of reaching out to other landowners to implement similar practices. Using PTMapp,areas with medium to high sediment loss will be identifyied and the SWCD will target those landowners to implement projects. Five Mile Creek has a a total sediment reduction goal of 25 percent (3,439 tons) and 12 percent (939 pounds) phosphorous reduction goal. Marsh Lake has a sediment reduction goal of 25 percent sediment (16,551 tons) and 15 percent (8,485 pounds) phosphorous reduction goal. Phase 1 of this project will install 19 WASCobs reduce sediment by 532 tons per year and phosphorus by 89 pounds per year.	81.4

#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Organization	County	Request ($)	Recommended ($)	Abstract	Score
14	C20-6395	Targeted Urban Stormwater Implementation Project	Pope SWCD	Pope	$ 292,500	$ 292,500	Lake Minnewaska is a priority for being threatened by nutrients from stormwater runoff from the City of Glenwood. A phosphurs reduction goal of 16.5% or 287 pounds per year from Glenwood is needed to meet the goal for protecting Minnewaska. This proposal will reduce phosphorus by approximately 5 pounds per year (2% of the phosphrus reduction goal) and treat 106 acres by implementing detention ponds, a pond and ravine gully repair, biofiltration and other stormwater BMPs, such as sealing identified abandoned city wells.	81.3
15	C20-6440	Partridge River E. Coli Reduction Match	Todd SWCD	Todd	$ 81,909	$ 81,909	This project will reduce bacteria loading caused by outdated, unlined manure storage basins, unrestricted access of livestock to streams, and a lack of properly functioning vegetative buffers on the Partridge River in northern Todd County. A highly recreated river for fishing and water enthusiasts, the river is impaired for bacteria. This project will result in an estimated recution in bacteria of 3 to 10% .	81.2
16	C20-6055	Lily Lake Phosphorus Reductions for Delisting	Middle St. Croix River WMO	Washington	$ 513,500	$ 513,500	This project proposes to install a stormwater management practice that will reduce an estimated 30 pounds of total phosphorus discharging directly to Lily Lake from 15 acres of urban residential and institutional land uses. Following installation of the practice ,two alum treatments to Lily Lake will reduce annual internal loading by 120 pounds per year. Upon completion of these project, studies conclude in-lake total phosphorus of Lily Lake will meet state water quality standards and chlorophyll- a and secchi depths will show positive responses and the lake can be considered for delisting from the impaired waters list.	81.1
17	C20-4093	Lake Washington Nutrient Reduction Project	Le Sueur County SWCD	Le Sueur	$ 310,250	$ 310,250	The goal of the Lake Washington Targeted Watershed P Reduction Project is to strategically place Best Management Practices (BMPs) in order to improve the quality of the water in the Washington watershed by reducing phosphorus by 21%; the lake requires a reduction of 4,217 pounds per year. Within theidentified high priority areas, 19 Water and Sediment Control Basins (WASCOBs) would be installed, 1 storm water catch basins and 1 1 drained wetland would be restored to full capacity, and 225 acres of cover crops will be installed on targeted, high priority fields.	81.0
18	C20-7176	Lake Traverse Water Quality Project Phase 1	Bois de Sioux WD	Traverse	$ 336,775	$ 336,775	The Bois de Sioux Watershed District (BdSWD), in partnership with the Traverse County SWCD, is proposing to reduce an estimated average of 750 tons per year of sediment loading to Lake Traverse that discharges from Traverse County Ditch 52 (TCD 52) downstream of Minnesota State Highway 27. The BdSWD and local partners have a goal to completely stabilize TCD 52 in a series of phases in a comprehensive effort to address water quality impairments. The first phase (this project) is an eroded gully that is a locally well-known significant source of sediment and nutrients to Lake Traverse.	81.0
19	C20-6034	2020 - Sediment Reduction in the Flute Reed River Watershed	Cook SWCD	Cook	$ 91,245	$ 91,245	The Flute Reed River is not meeting state water quality standards for sediment. This proposal aims to reduce sediment into the river by applying multiple strategies. Anticipated benefits include reduction of sediment loading into the system, cooler water temperatures, and community understanding of the watershed. The project will re-stablized and restor as slump midway up in the watershed. Moving down into the main river, the removal of a fish barrier and stablization of eroding bank with take place. In addition, there is approximately 3,000 linear feet identified in need of additional attention to reduce sediment into the river. All proposed projects are estimated to reduce sediment loading by 263 tons per year or 30% of the sediment reduction goal.	80.5
20	C20-7189	Sunrise River Drained Wetland Restoration	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	Chisago	$ 492,000	$ 492,000	The purpose of this project is to address water quality improvements generated from a ditch that discharges directly intothe Sunrise River. The Sunrise River has been identified as one of the highest nutrient loading tributaries in the Lower St. Croix Basin. The proposed project will modify an existing ditched wetland complex located on 41.7 acres of District-owned tax forfeited property to increase water quality treatment potential and storage capacity and will result in annual phosphorus reductions of 54 pounds per year.	80.3
21	C20-6093	Sartell Riverside Avenue/County Road 1 Stormwater Improvement Project	Stearns SWCD	Stearns	$ 294,950	$ 294,950	Riverside Avenue runs along the banks of the Mississippi River in Sartell, MN. Stearns County and the City of Sartell are partnering to reconstruct the road and replace outdated utilities and infrastructure. This proposal is to construct up to ten stormwater best management practices and to stabilize 400 linear feet of the Mississippi River streambank. This project is a critical step and limited opportunity to treat stormwater from a developed, untreated priority area within the City of Sartell and will result in a reduction of 158 pouns of phospours and 158 tons of sediment from the City's currently untreated developed areas.	79.3
22	C20-4094	Lake Ida HUC 12 AIG Projects	Douglas SWCD	Douglas	$ 338,231	$ 338,231	This proposal is a follow up to the Lake Ida FY18-19 AIG that was used to complete a subwatershed assessment to identify areas of concentrated flow and potential erosion. Implementation practices proposed will reduce sediment runoff to Lake Ida by an estimated 577 tons per year, phosphorus by 435 pounds per year, and nitrogen by 239 pounds per year and will acheive the phosphorus reduction goal of 300 pounds. Implementation actives will include: 2 gully fixes, 3 water and sediment control basins projects, 1 terrace project, 2 shoreline stabilizations/restorations, 2 rain gardens, 4 manure storage BMPs, and 20 acres of cover crops.	79.2
23	C20-4213	Thompson Oaks Targeted Stormwater Management and Wetland Restoration Project	Dakota County	Dakota	$ 576,447	$ 576,447	Dakota County is partnering with the City of West St. Paul and the Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization to implement a targeted comprehensive water quality improvement project within a diverse and underserved community within the south metro. The Thompson Oaks Municipal Golf Course (now closed) receives the largest volume of untreated stormwater flow and pollutant load within the City of West St. Paul. To be completed in conjunction with construction of the Dakota County River to River Regional Greenway trail, the proposed project converts 10 acres of the former municipal golf course to a regional stormwater treatment system and restores a former wetland and creek complex which was destroyed via filling of construction waste and other debris in the 1980s. The project infiltrates an estimated 4.5 acre feet/year of treated stormwater and reduces sediment and phosphorus loading to the lower Mississippi River by 94 tons and 228 pounds per year, respectively.	79.1
24	C20-7237	Coordinated Mill Overlay, Sewer Expansion, and 5 Crosslake Runoff Retrofits	Crow Wing SWCD	Crow Wing	$ 315,000	$ 315,000	The Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) proposes to complete five stormwater best management practices (BMPs) that will remove 12 pounds of phosphorus and 1 ton of sediment per year from entering Cross Lake. The One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) Pine River and Crow Wing County (CWC) Water Plan identified a high ratio of impervious surface surrounding the lake and high value lake. To mitigate the runoff, the SWCD will partner with the CWC HWY Department, City of Crosslake, Crosslakers, Whitefish Area Property Owners Association (WAPOA) and with five landowners to complete five bioretention areas that will store 15-acre feet of water per year.	78.9
25	C20-7195	Judicial Ditch 11 Restoration	Bois de Sioux WD	Traverse; Wilkin	$ 327,000	**MDM**	The Bois De Sioux Watershed District (BdSWD) is partnering with the Traverse County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Wilkin County SWCD, and landowners to reduce sediment load by 420 tons per year and phosphorus load by 117 pounds per year to the Bois de Sioux River. This is an 8.5% annual sediment reduction and 2.4% annual TP reduction for the JD 11 drainage area. 60 side inlet structures and 9 miles of continuous berms will be constructed as a permanent part of the main stem of Judicial Ditch (JD) 11 adjacent to Minnesota State Highway (MN Hwy) 55 (Wilkin County) and MN Hwy 75 (Wilkin/Traverse Counties).	78.3
26	C20-5793	City of Cromwell Stormwater Improvement Project	Carlton SWCD	Carlton	$ 152,750	$ 152,750	The Big Sandy Area Lakes Watershed Management Project (BSALWMP) group has worked on a variety of watershed improvement projects over the years. In addition, they were involved in identifying stormwater in Cromwell as an important area for water quality improvement in Tamarack River subwatershed. During this time, a group of local organizations (including BSALWMP) started meeting to formulate a plan for the City of Cromwell Park. The park serves as the focal point of the community, equaling about 0.52 acres of impervious surface. The Tamarack River (a designated wild rice water) flows through the property and is the receiving water from the park runoff. The group identified stormwater as a concern, and together they funded preliminary stormwater designs. Our proposed project will address the second phase of the project by funding construction of 4 rain garden and 2 swale ditch treatment areas in the park that will reduce 21 pounds of phosphorous and 20 tons of sediment.	78.3
27	C20-6435	Mississippi River Community Park Riverbank Stabilization	Anoka, City of	Anoka	$ 653,326	$ 653,326	Eroding river banks contribute to the Mississippi River'sturbidity impairment through direct loading of sediment and nutrients that degrade overall water quality as well as aquatic and nearshore habitat. Inventories assessing bank conditions were completed along 13.3 miles of the Mississippi River from the Coon Rapids Dam to Anoka County's western edge. This project will stabilize a site prioritized with the third most sediment loss into the river - 1,469 linear feet within the City of Anoka's Mississippi River Community Park. The project will combine bioengineering, aquatic habitat, an armored toe and recreational access. The project will reduce pollutants by 529 tons of sediment and 847 pounds of phosphorus annually. This project will make over ¼ mile of unsafe riverbank more accessible, stable and fishable for users.	78.2

#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Organization	County	Request ($)	Recommended ($)	Abstract	Score
28	C20-6415	Upper Prior Lake Alum Treatment	Prior Lake-Spring Lake WD	Scott	$ 449,500	$ 449,500	Upper Prior Lake is a regionally significant recreational lake that is currently not meeting state water quality standards. The 2012 Spring Lake and Upper Prior Lake Total Maximum Daily Load indicated that there are three critical sources of phosphorus to Upper Prior Lake: 50% from internal loading; 40% from upstream lakes; and 5% from direct watershed. Despite completing multiple projects to reduce internal loading from common carp and curly leaf pondweed and external loading from upstream agricultural and rural sources, Upper Prior Lake still fails to meet two of the three statewide standards: Total Phosphorus and Chlorophyll-A. In order to get Upper Prior Lake over this hurtle, persistent internal loading needs to be reduced with an alum treatment. The purpose of this project is to apply the first of two alum treatments to Upper Prior Lake to reduce phosphurs by 571 pounds per year.	78.2
29	C20-3954	2020 - Big Elk & Mayhew Lakes Phosphorus Reduction Program	Benton SWCD	Benton	$ 350,000	$ 350,000	A completed Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study has identified phosphorus loading as a significant stressor to lakes & streams within the Elk River Watershed (ERW) (Benton, Sherburne, & Mille Lacs Counties). As a result, numerous first & second priority source zones known as Tier 1 & Tier 2 areas were recognized. This study has pinpointed the locations within the watershed where the phosphorus originates from, as well as strategies that may be undertaken to reduce nutrient loading. Types of BMPs include but are not limited to SSTS, nutrient management, feedlot runoff control, manure storage, riparian pasture management, &	78.0
30	C20-6356	Bryn Mawr Meadows Water Quality Improvement Project	Bassett Creek WMC	Hennepin	$ 400,000	$ 400,000	This project will capture and treat runoff from 45 acres of residential area in Minneapolis, just west of downtown. Currently runoff from this area flows untreated into nearby Bassett Creek. A feasibility study for this project was completed in January 2019 and estimates the project will reduce total phosphorus and total suspended solids by 30 and 10,469 pounds per year, respectively. The project includes the creation of new storm water management ponds as water features within Bryn Mawr Meadows Park and will be implemented to capitalize on a park reconstruction project planned by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board with design scheduled for 2021 and construction in 2022.	78.0
31	C20-7157	2020 NE St. Cloud Sediment Reduction Project	Benton SWCD	Benton	$ 204,960	$ 204,960	The NE drainage area is a significant source of sediment discharge to the Mississippi River and discharges to the pool of water utilized by the city as their sole drinking water source. Two types of best management practices (BMPs) will be implemented to target nutrient/sediment reduction to the Mississippi. The first component will be the retrofitting of existing storm sewer to install sedimentation structures with energy dissipaters which will capture sediment and pollutants prior to directly discharging to the Mississippi River. The second will include the addition of a rainwater garden as a partnership with the redevelopment of private property, the Culligan Redevelopment Project. These activities will result in the removal of approximately 1 ton of sediment per year. This project will result in a total 37.2% progress towards the reduction goal.	77.9
32	C20-7213	Marine on St. Croix Green Infrastructure Stormwater Retrofits	Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix WD	Washington	$ 97,600	$ 97,600	This project proposes is to install nine (9) green infrastructure retrofits intercepting stormwater flows from 20 acres of high density urban land use to reduce 27 pounds of phosphorus discharging to the Federally protected Scenic and Wild St. Croix River in the historic City of Maine on St. Croix.	77.7
33	C20-6157	Roseau River Water Quality Improvement project	Roseau River WD	Roseau	$ 87,300	**MDM**	Roseau River Watershed District (RRWD) is initiating a water quality improvement project to reduce sediment contribution from the County Ditch 16 (CD 16) subwatershed. The RRWD in cooperation with landowners, road authorities, and the Roseau SWCD will implement conservation practices on 27 priority sites identified through the Prioritize Target Measure Application (PTMApp) due to the large volume of sediment they contribute to State Ditch 51 (SD 51). This project will result in a sediment reduction of 84 tons of sediment annually.	77.7
34	C20-7289	2020 Crow River Gully Stabilization to Reduce Turbidity Phase Four	Wright SWCD	Wright	$ 175,000	$ 175,000	The Wright Soil and Water Conservation District has partnered with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) on phase four of this comprehensive sediment reduction project to focus on stabilizing seven of the most active gully erosion sites on the North Fork Crow River. This project will reduce the amount of sediment by 210 tons and phosphorus by 280 pounds each year by constructing grade stabilization structures and water and sediment control basins at the headward eroding extent of these gullies.	77.4
35	C20-5633	Sand Creek Watershed TMDL/Targeted BMP Installations	Scott SWCD	Scott	$ 229,000	$ 229,000	This project continues a long-term commitment by Scott Soil and Water Conservation District in partnership with the Scott Watershed Mangement Organization (WMO) to address impairments in Sand Creek Watershed. It builds on the success of the WMOs FY15 CWF Targeted Watershed Grant and 4 other CWF grants since 2010. Specifically, this project will enable 20 additional targeted practices to be installed yielding significant watershed load reductions including 229 Tons of sediment and 254 pounds of phosphorus per year. Practices to be installed-including cover crops, native perennial cover, wetland restoration, waterways, and water and sediment control basins-will also reduce runoff volumes (260 ac-ft) which numerous studies show is key to reducing near-channel erosion, a major source of TSS.	77.3
36	C20-5713	Prior Lake Spring Lake TMDL/Targeted BMP Installations	Scott SWCD	Scott	$ 283,900	$ 283,900	This application will continue a CWF-supported initiative by Scott Soil and Water Conservation District in partnership with Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District to restore water quality in Spring, Upper Prior, and Fish Lakes, and to protect water quality in Lower Prior Lake. With help from a FY15 CWF grant, we've reduced phosphorus by over 400 pounds per year; this application will reduce it by an additional 290 pounds, resulting in meeting nearly 25% of the watershed phosphorus reduction goal! Funds awarded will be used to provide partial financial assistance to install at least 31 projects with landowners, including but not limited to cover crops and nutrient management, native prairie and wetland restoration, grassed waterway, water and sediment control basin, alternative tile intake, shoreline, and streambank projects and 1 livestock waste management system.	76.9
37	C20-6293	Otter Tail High Priority Lakes Protection	Otter Tail, East SWCD	Otter Tail	$ 167,600	$ 167,600	East and West Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) are targeting phosphorus reduction on the lakes of greatest concern. These lakes are considered the greatest concern because they have high levels of disturbance in their watersheds, high phosphorus sensitivity, and frequent nuisance algae blooms. These lakes were targeted from the over 1,000 lakes in the county, to the 60 assessed lakes, to the 5 lakes of greatest concern. SWCD staff plan to implement 25 shoreline restorations and rain garden best management practices where they can provide the greatest benefit. We will also target 10 agricultural parcels for cover crops, perennial cover, nutrient management plans, and, irrigation water management based on PTMApp results. These activities are expected to reduce phosphorus contributions to Big Pine, Little Pine, Walker, Wall, and South Lida Lakes by at least 45 pounds per year.	76.5
38	C20-5733	FY20 CWF Middle Creek at Highview Avenue Streambank and Grade Stabilization Project	Vermillion River Watershed JPO	Dakota	$ 380,000	$ 380,000	Middle Creek, a tributary to the Vermillion River in the City of Lakeville, MN, has been negatively impacted by previous agricultural practices. As a result, Middle Creek has significant bank erosion and stream channel incision that is resulting in increased sediment in the creek water and an impact on biological communities. The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO), in partnership with the City of Lakeville, plans to stabilize approximately 5,000 feet of eroding streambanks using approximately 1,100 feet of bank toe stabilization, 500 feet of bank armoring, and 3,400 feet of bank grading/stabilization and installing 23 grade control features within the stream channel to address existing erosion problems.	76.1
39	C20-6438	Lake Ida & CD 23 AIG Phosphorus Reduction	Douglas SWCD	Douglas	$ 683,867	**Partial funding insufficient**	The Lake Ida subwatershed is the highest priority for restoration and protection. A recent study identified a wetland as primary source of phosphorus to the lake. The proposed project will construct a 1,899' channel along the wetland edge, repair 741' of ditch, install 1 stilling basin, and repair an existing sediment pond. Implementation will prevent 240 pounds of phosphorus per year from reaching Lake Ida.	76.0
40	C20-6123	Protection of High Quality Cisco Lakes in Aitkin County	Aitkin SWCD	Aitkin	$ 60,344	$ 60,344	The Aitkin County Soil and Water Conservation District is striving to protect three priority lakes that provide deep, cold water habitat for cisco. This project will complete 19 projects that restore native vegetation to critical shorelines while managing stormwater runoff. Practices will include a variety of projects including stabilization with willow wattles / fascines, coir logs, and native vegetation as well as rain gardens to capture runoff. These practices will protect the water quality of these lakes, which preserves the cool, well-oxygenated water needed to sustain the cisco fishery.	75.7
41	C20-7274	Elk River Watershed Urban / Residential BMP Implementation	Sherburne SWCD	Sherburne	$ 159,440	$ -	The Lower Elk River has multipe water quality impairments. This project will complement existing agricultural and hobby farm programs by providing an incentive for urban and residential landowners to implement best management practices. Approximately 20 practices such as stormwater retrofits, shoreland restorations, rain gardens, and critical area vegetative plantings are planned and are estimated to result in a phosphurs reduction of 10 - 150 pounds per year and a sediment reduction of 1 to 75 tons per year.	75.5
42	C20-4053	Phase 1: Targeted Rum River Bank Stabilization	Anoka CD	Anoka	$ 439,000	$ -	The Rum River Watershed Restoration and Protection Stragtegies report identifies streambank stabilization as one of the main strategies in Anoka countyfor reducing total phosphorus. Anoka Conservation District (ACD) identified 80 moderately to very severely eroding streambanks on the Rum River. Of the 80 eroding stretches, 17 sites spanning 1.67 miles will be stablizes. This will result in over 4,000 tons of sediment and 400 pounds of total phosphorus from entering the river each year.	75.5

#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Organization	County	Request ($)	Recommended ($)	Abstract	Score
43	C20-7290	PTMApp Identified Practices to Reduce External Load to Sugar Lake	Wright SWCD	Wright	$ 128,000	$ -	The goal of this application is to improve the quality of water entering Sugar Lake by reducing total suspended solids and total phosphorous through construction of best management practices identified in the Sugar Lake watershed using PTMApp. Sugar Lake is a protection waterbody in Wright County. A subwatershed assessment used PTMApp to analyze the drainage area of Sugar Lake. The model determined the possible locations for BMPs and estimated reductions for phosphorus, nitrogen and sediment. This was combined with SWCD staff field review to determine the feasibility of the practices PTMApp generated. Based on PTMApp output data, estimated cost and field work by Wright SWCD staff, 11 structural practices were chosen to further investigate and prioritize for possible installation. The 11 practices are: 3 filter strips, 3 grassed waterways, and 5 storage practices.	75.5
44	C20-7280	Shingle Creek Connections II	Shingle Creek WMC	Hennepin	$ 328,000	$ -	The purpose of the Shingle Creek Connections II stream restoration project is to improve water quality and biotic integrity in Shingle Creek. Shingle Creek is an Impaired Water for low dissolved oxygen, excess bacteria, and an impaired macroinvertebrate community. Approximately 1,750 linear feet will be improved by thinning trees, establishing native vegetation in the buffer and on the banks, enhancing habitat, and introducing low-flow sinuosity and reaeration opportunities with rock vanes and root wads. This is a “missing link” segment that will result a continuous 2.5 mile corridor of urban stream restoration in the Shingle Creek watershed.	75.1
45	C20-7116	West Branch & Upper Rum River Livestock Waste Management	Mille Lacs SWCD	Mille Lacs	$ 185,230	$ -	This project will install livestock waste management practices that provide clean water to the Rum River which has State Scenic, Recreational, and Outstanding Resource Value designations. The project will begin to restore surface water impairments linked to livestock activities by targeting drainage areas in the southern third of Mille Lacs County. The TMDL sets E. coli reduction goals for tributaries in the target area of 78%, 73% and 6% for Bogus Brook, Estes Brook and the West Branch respectively. To address both E. coli and nutrient reduction priorities identified in the 2017 Rum River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) report we will install livestock waste BMPs of three general types: manure management, managed grazing to limit access to streams, and nutrient runoff/erosion control prioritized in areas of heavy livestock use. We anticipate installing approximately six (6 BMPs) in total with anticipated pollutant reductions of approximately 73 pounds phosphorus, 166 pounds nitrogen and 2 tons of sediment per acre per year and associated bacteria reductions for the overall project.	75.1
46	C20-6353	Marshall SWCD Judicial Ditch 23/Thief River Sediment Control Projects	Marshall SWCD	Marshall	$ 200,000	$ -	The Thief River is the main drinking water source for the city. The Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) staff are currently working with Marshall County, Excel Township, the Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD) and the members of the Thief River One Watershed One Plan to install sediment reducing and water quality improving conservation practices including 10 Side Water Inlets targeted within the JD23 watershed, 2000 feet of ditch stabilization in and along JD 23, and ditch outlet stabilization as JD23 enters the Thief River. These proposed projects were shown to be needed through an inventory of the JD23 watershed to see what conservation practices are needed to reduce sediment loading in this priority area.	75.1
47	C20-5513	Elk River/CSAH 3 Restoration & Protection Project	Benton SWCD	Benton	$ 56,240	$ -	The Benton Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD), West Central Technical Service Area (WCTSA), Benton County Highway Department (BCHD), Benton County, & the MN Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) are partnering on a streambank erosion control project where the County Road 3 bridge crosses over the Elk River. The installation of this project will continue efforts that were enabled by grants received in 2013, 2016, & 2017. So far, phosphporus has been reduced phosphorus by 12% . With the funding of this grant we expect to reduce phosphorus by an additional 2%.	74.8
48	C20-4133	Achieving Pollution Reduction in the St. Croix Through BMP Installations in Rock Creek Watershed	Pine SWCD	Pine	$ 70,000	$ -	Together with the NRCS, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and two committed landowners, the Pine SWCD will achieve 37% of the total phosphorus reduction goal for Rock Lake needed for Lake St. Croix to meet the TMDL and 66% of the watershed runoff reduction requirement for Rock Lake to meet the Goose Creek Watershed TMDL. This project addresses gully erosion by diverting flow through stable channels to a wetland. The wetland will be restored in partnership with the FWS to provide additional water storage capacity, sediment and nutrient filtering, and wildlife habitat. Stabilization of the gully will reduce an estimated 442 pounds of phosphorus and 442 tons of sediment per year. Treatment of the watershed runoff in the restored wetland will reduce an additional 715 pounds of phosphorus and 715 tons of sediment pollution.	74.7
49	C20-7278	Bacteria Reduction in Mississippi River-Sartell	Stearns SWCD	Morrison; Stearns	$ 462,100	$ -	This project will reduce bacteria loading into priority streams within the Mississippi-Sartell watershed by improving five livestock manure management areas with associated feedlot runoff controls, five animal exclusions and pasture improvements, 10 edge of field buffers, and 1,600 acres of nutrient management implementation. This project will address approximately 5% of the needed bacteria redcution to meet the Total Maximum Daily Load goal.	74.5
50	C20-6122	Seasons Park Stormwater Filter	South Washington WD	Washington	$ 280,000	$ -	The South Washington Watershed District (SWWD) will continue restoration efforts on South Wilmes Lake in Woodbury, MN. SWWD and the City of Woodbury will construct a stormwater filter at Seasons Park. The filter will remove up to 20 pounds per year of phosphorus and will achieve nearly 20% of the necessary load reduction to restore Wilmes Lake.	73.6
51	C20-7120	Kittson County Multi-Practice Erosion Protection Project	Kittson SWCD	Kittson	$ 200,000	$ -	The water quality data from the 2019 approved Lower Red River of the North Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy Reports (WRAPS) indicates that 3 stream reaches withn Kittson County are threatened for impairment of turbidity. The goal of this Erosion Protection Project is to reduce sediment loading into these streams by implementing 10 Side Water Inlets, 1,000 acres of conservation tillage, 1,000 acres cover crops, and 5 miles of field windbreaks reducing sediment loading by 515 tons per year.	73.5
52	C20-7118	Trout Brook Ravine Stabilization	South Washington WD	Washington	$ 214,400	$ -	The South Washington Watershed District and its partners will reduce stormwater pollution to Trout Brook and Lake St. Croix by stabilizing targeted ravines within the Trout Brook Watershed. Through this project we will work to restore two important resources. Trout Brook is a cold water trout stream within the Twin Cities metro area and tributary to Lake St. Croix, a National Wild and Scenic River and MN Outstanding Resource Value Water. Implementation of this work will complement ongoing watershed restoration work in Trout Brook and progress implementation priorities identified in the Lake St. Croix TMDL.	72.9
53	C20-7233	Marine on St. Croix Ravine Stabilization	Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix WD	Washington	$ 62,600	$ -	This project proposes is to stabilize an actively eroding bluff ravine that drops 82 feet over 370 feet in length and restore native bluff woodland and a natural seep flowing to the St. Croix River and Lake St. Croix. Modeling predicts an annual load reduction of 17 pounds of phosphorus and 13 tons of sediment.	72.7
54	C20-7119	Freeport Stormwater Improvement Project	Stearns SWCD	Stearns	$ 243,601	$ -	The City of Freeport has a 25-acre heavily developed section of town scrunched between Interstate 94 and the Lake Wobegon Trail. When it rains, sediment laden stormwater from the degrading streets and gravel parking lots is being discharged by both overland flow and through a deteriorating underground storm pipe system. The stormwater then winds its way along MNDOTs ROW towards Getchell Creek, which is a tributary to the Sauk River, and impaired for turbidity, E. Coli, and aquatic macroinvertebrate bioassessments. The City is proposing to add pretreatment BMP’s in series with an enhanced filtration basin to remove total phosphorous and suspended solids coming from the urban land uses. This project would be completed in conjunction with the 2021 Freeport Street Reconstruction Project. This application specifically targets the removal of 66% (18 pounds) of phosphours, and 85% (4 tons) of sediment from the 25-acre project area, each year.	72.5
55	C20-5873	Island Lake Phosphorus Reduction and Lake Enhancement Project	Pine SWCD	Pine	$ 118,500	$ -	The goal of this project is to prevent Island Lake from impairment through the targeted use of shoreland stabilizations, shoreland buffers, raingardens, and other site-appropriate structural and vegetative bmps, as outlined in the Island Lake Report created in 2019. By improving Island Lake, we are also improving Sand lake, into which Island flows. In recent years, the failing of the outlet of Island Lake has unnaturally held water levels causing erosion and bank instability that was not seen prior. As a result, the SWCD has not undertaken any projects Island Lake due to a lack of assurance that projects would succeed given the ever-changing conditions. Restoration on the outlet structure is expected to be completed in 2019 with projects beginning spring 2020. It is expected that projects will be installed on 15 parcels and approximately 1600 feet of shoreline will be addressed decreaseing the annual phosphorus loading by an estimated 75 pounds per year.	72.5
56	C20-7285	Big Carnelian Lake Green Infrastructure Water Quality Retrofit	Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix WD	Washington	$ 130,000	$ -	This project proposes to install pretreatment and bioretention stormwater management practices that will reduce 6 pounds of total phosphorus and 60 tons of sediment from annually discharging directly to Big Carnelian Lake from 32 acres of residential land use.	72.2

#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Organization	County	Request ($)	Recommended ($)	Abstract	Score
57	C20-7284	The Mississippi River, Tributary Whiskey Creek: Stormwater Project	Crow Wing SWCD	Crow Wing	$ 986,500	$ -	A total of 20.6 acres will be converted into a stormwater best management practice (BMP) and a green space enhanced with newly planted pollinator species and recreational trail connections. The project will treat polluted runoff from 400-acre highly impervious, Trunk Highway 371 watershed in Baxter, Minnesota adjacent to the Mississippi River. The proposed stormwater BMP will remove 146 pounds yearly of phosphates, 42 tons yearly of sediment from the surface water runoff of the watershed area for Whiskey Creek. In a study conducted by Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB), this project was ranked 2nd highest for removal of phosphorus out of 59 projects. The green space will create corridor connections to the Paul Bunyan State Regional Trail and provide protection and connection to the Northland Arboretum. Restoring the stream banks of Whiskey Creek will mitigate erosion and flood risks. Native vegetation will be planted to increase habitat for fish, bird, and local wildlife.	72.2
58	C20-7185	Benton Lake Reclamation - Electronic Guidance Systems for	Carver County WMO	Carver	$ 149,000	$ -	The Carver County Water Management Organization (CCWMO) has identified Benton Lake as a priority water body for a lake reclamation project. In 2013, CCWMO began the first phase of the Benton Reclamation project by installing a permanent fish barrier at the lake outlet to prevent additional rough fish from entering the system. Phase 2, initiated in 2017, has consisted of on-going removal and management of common carp.The CCWMO is requesting funding to implement a portable electric barrier system to expand and accelerate our existing carp management project.	71.8
59	C20-7133	Farming for the Future in Becker County	Becker SWCD	Becker	$ 682,764	$ -	This project takes feasible steps to build resilient agricultural systems and achieve non-point source pollution reductions required by local and regional water quality issues. Spanning 3 major watersheds of the Red River, this effort incentivizes producer commitments to shift towards sustainable practices. With a five year commitment, producers will be provided access to MN Central Lakes College's Farm Business Management Certification program and provided tiered incentives for the incorporation of Residue and Tillage management, Cover Crop implementation, Conservation Crop Rotation, Prescribed Grazing, Nutrient Management and required gridded soil sampling. Targeting 8,000 acres, this effort takes a cost effective approach to achieving reduction needs in 3 distinct yet connected watersheds of the Red River Basin. Targeted practices indicate this project will reduce sediment loading by 16,514 Tons, phosphorus by 2,675 pounds, and nitrogen contributions by 25,709 pounds annually.	71.1
60	C20-7186	Shovel-Ready Feedlot and Pasture Management Projects	Otter Tail, East SWCD	Otter Tail	$ 242,153	$ -	2 feedlot and 8 pasture management plans are shovel-ready and include waste pit improvements, fencing, piping, and providing a water source for livestock in Otter Tail County. These projects have had significant water quality benefits and are estimated to reduce bacteriain runoff by an estimated minimum 35%.	70.8
61	C20-5493	2020 St. Croix River Direct Drainage Best Management Practice Implementation	Chisago SWCD	Chisago	$ 110,000	$ -	The Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) continues to work in high priority areas of the county to reduce the amounts of phosphorus and sediment reaching the St. Croix River and Lake St. Croix. A combination of three subwatersheds that are identified in the Lake St. Croix Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) as Dry Creek, Lawrence Creek, and "small streams" are the next highest priority area. The area, hereafter referred to as "direct drainage", covers a little over 49,000 acres directly adjacent to the St. Croix River and contributes 21% of the phosphorus reduction goal 4,544 pounds per year. A dedicated employee through the Watershed Conservation Initative is working in the direct drainage area in Chisago Count to increase conservation planning in the watershed and prepare landowners to implement their plans. The Chisago SWCD will implement a minimum of 8 rural BMPs with this grant which will achieve a load reduction of at least 75 pounds of phosphorus and 75 tons of sediment per year.	70.8
62	C20-6235	2020 Lake Minnewaska Targeted Subwatershed Implementation Project Phase IV	Pope SWCD	Pope	$ 242,500	$ -	Pope SWCD will install 15 Water and Sediment Control Basins (WASCOBs) and 1 shoreline restoration in two priority sub watersheds utilizing the Water Quality Decision Support App (WQDSA) completed to identify areas where water and sediment control basins and erosion control projects should be implemented. Based on averages calculated from recently constructed WASCOBs in the West Central Area II these projects have the potential to reduce sediment by 373 tons per year and phosphorus by 308 pounds per year in the Minnewaska watershed. This project will provide a secondary benefit to improve water quality downstream to Lake Emily.	70.7
63	C20-7296	Warroad River Streambank Restoration	Warroad WD	Roseau	$ 136,500	$ -	This grant will assist the Warroad River Watershed District (WRWD) and Lake of the Woods Watershed (LOWW) Planning Group in executing actions that will make progress towards several goals within the LOW One Watershed, One Plan. Progress will be made towards the following plan goals: sediment restoration, phosphorus restoration,in-channel projects and riparian shoreline restoration. Three bank stabilization projects have been identified and verified that will reduce sediment and nutrient loading to the Warroad River/Warroad Harbor and to Lake of the Woods. These projects will result in 20 tons per year reduction of sediment for both branches of the Warroad River accounting for 1% of the short-term sediment goal and 8.5% of the progress towards the stream restoration goal. These projects will also result in a 90 pound per year reduction of phosphorus accounting for 5% of the short-term TP goal.	70.7
64	C20-6355	Otter Tail Long Lake Restoration	Otter Tail, East SWCD	Otter Tail	$ 100,000	$ -	Long Lake near Otter Tail Lake is on the state's preliminary impaired water list for the Otter Tail River Watershed. The East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation DIstrict (SWCD) is targeting areas for phosphorus reduction. PTMApp will be used by SWCD staff to identify high priority lakeshed parcels. SWCD staff wish to implement at least 15 shoreline restorations or rain gardens and 5 storage practices. 11 shoreline owners have already written letters of support for shoreline protection. Mailings and local workshops will be used to encourage landowner participation and garner interest. These activities are expected to reduce phosphorus contributions to Long Lake by 36 pounds per year.	70.6
65	C20-6073	Plum Creek Turbidity Reduction Project	Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area	Redwood	$ 150,000	$ -	Plum Creek, 34.1 miles in length, drains 57,682 acres of highly productive agricultural land in Murray and Redwood Counties in southwest Minnesota. Glacial geology and steep topography make the loamy soils very prone to wind and water erosion. Plum Creek has a sediment reduction goal of 3,500 tons per year. This project, in partnership with an awarded EPA Focus 319 grant to the Redwood SWCD, will install conservation practices to capture sediment from excessive overland flows. Anticipated goals will annually reduce 1,470 tons of sediment through implementation of 11 water and sediment control basins and 5 grade stabilization projects. The majority of these projects have been initially approved by the cooperators with survey and preliminary designs completed.	70.4
66	C20-5353	Richmond Redevelopment Project	Stearns SWCD	Stearns	$ 239,001	$ -	In 2020, the City of Richmond will begin redeveloping their downtown area. While the area is being redeveloped, the City has an opportunity to improve downstream water quality by installing up to 30 permanent stormwater treatment practices and provide nutrient removal for up to 40 acres of untreated urban drainage. The proposed practices will reduce the total phosphorous load by 40 pounds and sediment by 6 tons annually. The City of Richmond is located on and discharges their stormwater into the Sauk River which is just upstream of the Sauk River Chain of Lakes (SRCL) in which many of the lakes currently do not meet water quality standards.	69.9
67	C20-4173	2020 West Indian Creek HUC12 Watershed Project	Wabasha SWCD	Wabasha	$ 215,500	$ -	2020 Clean Water Funds will be used to implement targeted conservation practices in West Indian Creek, one of 18 designated trout streams in the County. West Indian Creek is a tributary of the Zumbro River which feeds directly to the Mississippi River. Focus of the grant funds will be installation of BMPs including but not limited to 5 grade stabilization structures, 1 terrace, 4 grassed waterways, and cover crops in targeted priority areas. Estimated results of this project include reducting phosphorus by 1,611 pounds per year, sediment by 1,410 tons per year and nitrogen by 3,300 pounds per year.	69.5
68	C20-7286	Dobbins Creek Headwaters Restoration Implementation	Cedar River WD	Mower	$ 975,000	$ -	This project will implement 3 Capital Improvement projects that systematically mitigate the altered hydrology of Dobbins Creek Watershed and address the primary water resource priority of the Cedar River Watershed District. The project will result in a 30% peak flow reduction. This project will reduce flows extensively on all storm events from the 1 year event through the 100 year event. All storm events will achieve a minimum of 50% stormwater reduction, while many reduce peak flows by 70-90%. The results of these projects will directly reduce transport of existing sediment while also mitigating much of the sedimentation in the channel by reducing these flows.	68.2

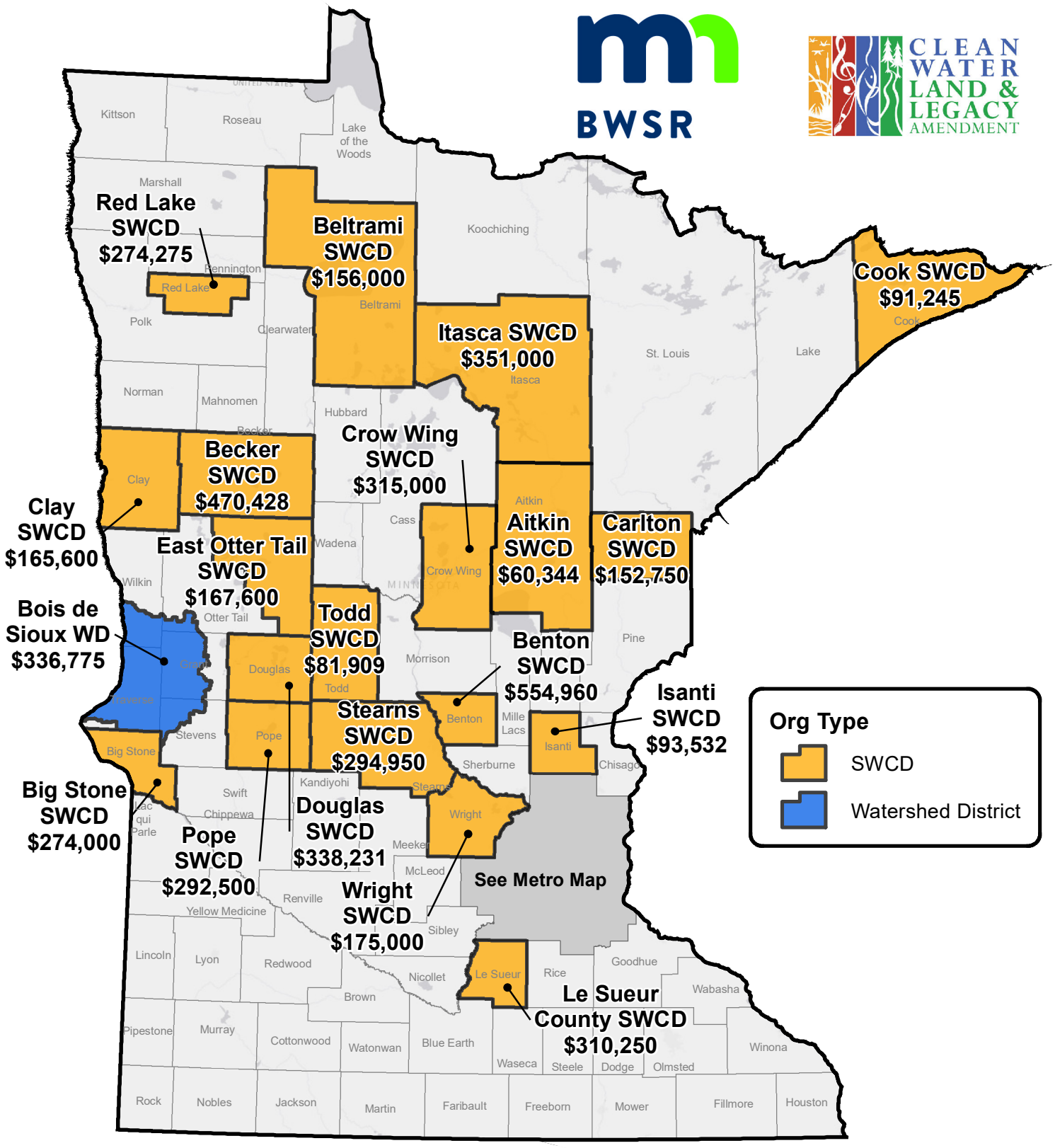
#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Organization	County	Request ($)	Recommended ($)	Abstract	Score
69	C20-7194	Meadow Lake Management Plan Phase 1	Shingle Creek WMC	Hennepin	$ 152,000	$ -	The purpose of the Meadow Lake Management Plan is to improve water quality and biotic integrity in Meadow Lake in the City of New Hope, an Impaired Water for excess nutrients that also suffers from nuisance curly-leaf pondweed and fathead minnow infestations. This application is for phase one of this project, which includes one or more whole-lake drawdowns to control the invasive fish and vegetation, consolidate sediments, and regenerate the native seed bank; installation of fish barriers; and development and implementation of education and outreach and maintenance practices to help protect future water quality.	67.7
70	C20-6234	2020 Sunrise River TMDL Implementation	Chisago SWCD	Chisago	$ 250,000	$ -	The Sunrise River has been identified as the third largest contributor of phosphorus to Lake St. Croix. In order to meet the Lake St. Croix TMDL, a 33% phosphorus reduction must be achieved in the Sunrise River watershed. The completed Soil and Water Assessment Tool model for the Sunrise River watershed will be used to prioritize the subwatersheds within the lower Sunrise River watershed for staff to prioritize the top location for BMPs. A few of the most commonly identified practices include water and sediment control basins, grass waterways, perineal buffers, wetland restorations, critical area plantings and rain gardens.	67.0
71	C20-7253	St. Hubert Campus Retrofit	Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD	Carver	$ 320,000	$ -	Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District (RPBCWD), together with St Hubert Catholic School, and Carver County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD) has identified a campus retrofit that will improve water quality, reduce runoff volumes, improve ecological diversity and provide many educational opportunities near Rice Marsh Lake in Chanhassen. Rice Marsh Lake is impaired for nutrients. The proposal includes a parking lot median retrofit to a tree trench that would collect water from the adjacent parking lot, underground storage of stormwater runoff from the school roof and impervious playground surface, addition of a rain garden, removal of impervious surface, flooding and gully repair, and native vegetation on the south side of the parking lot, and restoration of a turf grass parcel into a native prairie with impervious disconnection from the parking lot to catch/treat stormwater.	66.8
72	C20-6213	Cottonwood River Watershed Surface Water Improvement	Cottonwood SWCD	Cottonwood	$ 120,000	$ -	The Cottonwood Soil and Water Conservation District is proposing to reduce sediment and nutrient runoff in the Cottonwood River Watershed from within Cottonwood County to improve surface water quality. We expect to complete 8-13 projects with the anticipated outcome of preventing 222 tons of sediment per year and 189 pounds of phosphorus from entering the Cottonwood River. The goals of this project will be achieved by working directly with landowners to implement practices that include but are not limited to: Grassed Waterways, Water and Sediment Control Basins (WASCOBs), and terraces.	66.6
73	C20-6443	Getchell Stream Restoration	Sauk River WD	Stearns	$ 650,000	$ -	Getchell Creek is in the Sauk River Watershed and is not meeting state water quality standards for sediment, biology, and bacteria. Getchell Creek also contains altered reaches (County Ditch 26) which are under the drainage authority of the Sauk River Watershed District. These altered portions of the creek have experienced substantial erosion and system failure following recent large storm events which contribute disproportionally to the documented water quality impairments. The project is designed to implement a combination of stream restoration, stream stabilization, system repairs and upland treatment to improve the water quality as well as maintain adequate drainage within County Ditch 26. The project team plans to implement 5 miles of stream restoration and treat 4,000 acres of the upland drainage area resulting in a sediment reduction of at least 1,800 tons per year while retaining 200 acre-feet of water.	66.2
74	C20-7175	Whitewater North Fork Sediment Reduction Project	Whitewater River Watershed Project	Olmsted; Wabasha	$ 150,800	$ -	This project will reduce in-field sources of sedimentation to the Whitewater North Fork by 97 tons of sediment annually through implementation of strategically placed erosion control structures (one basin, eight grassed waterways) in agricultural fields in the headwaters. Incised stream banks and in-field erosion from heavily row-cropped agriculture contribute to turbidity-stressed conditions in downstream portions of the North Fork. For this reason, the Whitewater Joint Powers Board in partnership with Olmsted and Wabasha County Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) are focused on the headwaters of the watershed. This project will use an Agricultural Conservation Planning Framework and knowledge of landowner interest to identify most suitable locations of erosion reduction practices to implement in agricultural settings.	65.7
75	C20-6405	Carver County Untreated Urban Targeted BMPs	Carver County WMO	Carver	$ 162,470	$ -	There are multiple areas within the urban areas of Carver County that are currently discharging untreated stormwater to water resources. Three specific areas are targeted in this grant that will result in the construction of 5 specific BMPs in Watertown and Waconia that will treat an area of 5.2 acres of impervious surfaces. This results in a reduction of 892 pounds per year of sediment, 2 pounds of phosphorous per year and a volume reduction of 1 acre feet per year. In Watertown, a sump with SAFL Baffle will be installed to treat a 10 acre watershed that currently drains directly into the Crow River with no treatment. Waconia will install two biofiltration basins, convert gravel to pave drain and install a sump with SAFL Baffle to treat an area of 9 acres.	64.6
76	C20-5573	Stoney & Unnamed 8&9 Stabilization	Sauk River WD	Stearns	$ 2,310,000	$ -	This grant will achieve two of the prioritized stream stabilization/restoration goals outlined in the Sauk River Watershed District's (SRWD) Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. The two streams that will be restored through this effort are Stoney Creek and Unnamed Creek 8&9. The stabilization effort is targeted in that it proposes: 1) the creation of greenbelt areas via an amendment to the SRWD rules, that will address alternative watering, livestock exclusion, fencing requirements and cattle crossing restrictions, 2) creation of an incentive program to encourage cooperation in these efforts prior to rule implementation and enforcement, and 3) physical restoration of the streambanks themselves. The project will result in four total miles of stream stabilization resulting in estimated sediment reductions of at least 304 tons per year and phosphours reuctions of 489 pounds per year.	63.7
77	C20-7277	CWF '20 Clearwater River Watershed WASCOBs	Polk, East SWCD	Polk	$ 250,000	$ -	The East Polk Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and the Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD) will work together to expand the recent success of the SWCD's Sand Hill River Watershed Accelerated Erosion Area BMPs Clean Water Project. This project will install 30 water and sediment control basins (WASCOBs) within prioritized areas within the Clearwater River Watershed to help improve water quality through the reduction of sediment and nutrient runoff to lakes and streams. It is estimated that 534 pounds of phosphrus will be reduced.	63.5
78	C20-7193	2020 - Wetland Restorations for Water Quality	Benton SWCD	Benton	$ 115,000	$ -	Benton Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will partner with the United States Fish & Wildlife Service Agency (FWS) to implement wetland restoration/enhancement practices in Benton County. Our goal is to reduce sedimentation and phosphorus runoff from identified sites to improve water quality, focusing in watersheds that currently have a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study completed. This project will leverage implementation funding and staff resources from the FWS in the form of project development, engineering and technical assistance. If provided with the needed resources, our residents are prepared to install at least 20 wetland projects at 9 locations in Benton County, with additional wetland projects still being identified.	62.1
79	C20-7299	Upper Three Mile Creek Sediment Reduction Project	Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area	Lyon	$ 180,000	$ -	Three Mile Creek drops just over 510 feet in its 13.5-mile course. Sediment transport is the primary nonpoint pollution concern due to the unique topography of this subwatershed and glacially-deposited loam soils. A recent Total Maximum Daily Load study estimates a 27% TSS reduction is needed (900 tons per yr) for Three Mile Creek. This project will install conservation practices to capture sediment from excessive overland flows and provide up to 75% cost-share. Anticipated goals will annually reduce 64% or 580 tons of sediment per year through implementation of 17 surveyed and preliminary designed water and sediment control basins and 2 grassed waterways.	59.2
				Total Funding Recommendation		**$ 11,046,742**		

FY 2020 Clean Water Fund

Projects and Practices Recommended Funding

Total Outstate Recommended Funding: $4,951,349

Total Metro Recommended Funding: $6,090,393



December 2019

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

RIM Reserve Committee

1. City of Luverne RIM Easement Alteration (67-01-95-01) – Karli Tyma – ***DECISION ITEM***

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **City of Luverne RIM Easement Alteration (67-01-95-01)**

Meeting Date:

Agenda Category: ☒ Committee Recommendation ☒ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☒ Decision ☐ Discussion ☐ Information

Section/Region: Conservation Easement Section

Contact: Sharon Doucette, Section Mgr.

Prepared by: Karli Tyma, Easement Specialist

Reviewed by: RIM Committee(s)

Presented by: Kari Tyma

Time requested: 15 minutes

☐ **Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

Attachments: ☒ Resolution ☐ Order ☐ Map ☒ Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

☒ None	☐ General Fund Budget
☐ Amended Policy Requested	☐ Capital Budget
☐ New Policy Requested	☐ Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
☐ Other:	☐ Clean Water Fund Budget

ACTION REQUESTED

Board approval to amend RIM easement 67-01-95-01 in Rock County to release 5.3 acres from the 53.1-acre easement to accommodate 2 public infrastructure projects in the City of Luverne. 4.3 acres are needed for a wastewater treatment plant expansion project, and 1 acre is needed to complete the final phase of the "Luverne Loop," a non-motorized public trail. The city has agreed to pay all required fees and has obtained all necessary approvals under BWSR's Easement Alteration Policy for public infrastructure projects.

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Easement alteration policy http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/easements/easement_alteration_policy.pdf
City of Luverne Supporting Documents (pdf), attached

SUMMARY (*Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation*)

BWSR acquired the 53.1-acre perpetual RIM conservation easement in Rock County on November 17, 1997. The land including the RIM easement was purchased by the City of Luverne on 12/31/2018.

The City of Luverne is currently undergoing a $14,281,000 Waste Water Treatment Plant expansion project to allow for long term growth over the next 50 years. In 2013, TKDA performed a Wastewater Treatment Plant

Capital Improvement Plan which recommended both near-term and long-term improvements to the public infrastructure. The proposed near-term improvements can be constructed on city owned property but will encroach on the west boundary of the easement and requires 2.5 acres of the easement area to be released to provide for odor control and security buffer. To avoid placing new wastewater treatment processes closer to the Rock River, the long-term improvements require additional land within the easement area (1.8 acres). A total of 4.3 acres of land within the easement is needed to account for both near-term and long-term improvements (see attached map). The City believes that the public interest is best served by allowing the infrastructure to expand in its current location and allow for future growth.

The City is also requesting an additional 1.0 acre be released from the RIM easement to accommodate the final phase of the Luverne Loop Project. Three of the four phases have been constructed and funded between 2015-2020. The last segment of trail to be completed lies within the existing RIM easement area. This final phase of the trail project will provide a critical connection to the Blue Mounds Trail, creating a continuous 13-mile+ experience for trail users and tourists. The Luverne Loop and Blue Mounds Trail combined have received designation as a trail of 'Regional Significance' by the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission. There are no alternative routes that are feasible in this area because of land constraints, drainage issues, a railroad crossing, the Rock River, and property ownership. The final phase of the loop will require a 30-foot wide trail corridor to be released from the easement along the west side of the property.

In addition to the required $500 processing fee, the City has agreed to pay $18,000 per acre for the release of 5.3 acres of the easement required for the proposed infrastructure projects, for a total of $95,400. This meets the Easement Alteration Policy requirement of payment at 2 times the current RIM rate per acre and includes funds to replace state funds spent to restore vegetative cover on the areas to be released.

Recommendation

BWSR staff recommends approval of this easement alteration request and believes the City has demonstrated how the public interest will be better served. The City has received support of the alteration from the Rock County SWCD Board as well as the DNR Area Wildlife Manager, has provided all requested materials and has agreed to pay all associated fees required by the Easement Alteration Policy for public infrastructure projects.

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Board Resolution # 20- _____

RIM Reserve Easement 67-01-95-01 Alteration for Public Infrastructure - City of Luverne

WHEREAS BWSR acquired a 53.1-acre Perpetual RIM easement, 67-01-95-01 in Rock County on November 17, 1997; and

WHEREAS, the City of Luverne purchased the land including the easement area on 12/31/2018; and

WHEREAS, the City of Luverne is planning a $14,281,000 Waste Water Treatment Plant expansion project and to provide space for the new facilities, to allow for long-term growth and as a result of site constraints, 4.3 acres of land within the easement area are needed for the project; and

WHEREAS, an additional 1.0 acre of land is needed to complete the final phase of the Luverne Loop, a non-motorized public trail that encircles the city and provides for a safe, natural place for recreation and transportation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Luverne is requesting to alter the RIM easement by releasing a total of 5.3 acres to accommodate these public infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, Section 8400.3610 of RIM Rule and the BWSR Easement Alteration Policy related to public infrastructure projects allows government entities to request BWSR release acres needed for said projects by paying for release at two times the current RIM easement payment rate, the cost of cover establishment and the $500 processing fee; and

WHEREAS, the City of Luverne has agreed to pay $18,000 per acre for the release which covers two times the current RIM rates and costs of prior cover establishment in addition to the $500 processing fee; and

WHEREAS, the Rock County SWCD Board unanimously approved action in support of the easement alteration at their September 16, 2019 Board meeting and submitted a letter of support to BWSR; and

WHEREAS, the DNR Area Wildlife Manager submitted a letter of support for the easement alteration on September 20, 2019;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Water and Soil Resources approves the alteration of RIM easement 67-01-95-01 as proposed and authorizes staff to work with the City of Luverne and Rock County SWCD to officially amend the RIM easement pending the receipt of funds for the released acres in addition to the $500 processing fee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the City of Luverne is responsible for removing or correcting any objectionable title defects, liens, or encumbrances, as specified by BWSR, prior to amending this easement; and agrees to pay any title and recording fees.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota this 22nd day of January 2020.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____ Date: _____

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

305 East Luverne Street, PO Box 659 • Luverne, MN 56156 • P 507.449.2388 • F 507.449.5034 • www.CityOfLuverne.org

September 4, 2019

Arlyn Gehrke
Rock County Soil & Water Conservation District
Land Management Office
311 West Gabrielson Road
Luverne, MN 56156

RE: Easement Alteration Request

Dear Mr. Gehrke,

This letter summarizes the need to alter an existing RIM Easement in Luverne referred to as Easement ID No. 67-01-95-01. The City of Luverne is currently undergoing a $14,281,000 Waste Water Treatment Plant expansion project. In order to provide space for the new facilities and to allow for long-term growth over the next 50 years, an additional 4.318 acres of land is needed for future development. In this same area, the Luverne Loop is a non-motorized trail that encircles the city and provides residents and visitors of all ages with a safe, natural place for healthy recreation and transportation that connects areas of interest in Luverne and Rock County. An additional 1.04 acres of land is needed to complete the final phase of this trail project. The City of Luverne respectfully requests to alter the RIM easement by removing 5.358 total acres out of the RIM easement and agrees to pay $18,000 per acre plus all other required costs.

BACKGROUND:
The public interests and general welfare are better served by the alteration by allowing for the development and growth of necessary public infrastructure at its current location and existing Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). In 2013, TKDA performed a Wastewater Treatment Plant Capital Improvement Plan for the 2013-2033 Planning Period. Additionally, TKDA projected flows for the 50-year planning period and recommended additional long-term improvements to be implemented between 2033-2068. A copy of this report is included with this alteration request for your review.

Exhibit 5 in the TKDA report shows property parcels for the WWTP, surrounding City owned property, and neighboring properties. The proposed near-term improvements (Phase 2 and 3 Improvements) can be constructed on City owned property but will encroach on the west boundary of the property and will require a recommended 2.5 acres of additional land in order

to provide an odor control and security buffer. To avoid placing new wastewater treatment processes closer to the Rock River, the long-term improvements will require additional land to the west. In order to provide an odor control and security buffer, a total of 4.318 acres of additional land is needed to account for both near-term and long-term improvements (See Exhibit 6).

The Luverne Loop will provide seven miles of trails in Luverne once complete. Three of the planned four phases have been constructed and funded between 2015-2020, and the last segment of trail to be completed lies within the existing RIM easement. This segment of trail is highlighted in yellow in the trail map attachment. The trail has become an important part of our social and economic infrastructure for residents and tourists alike. In order to complete the trail project, this segmented must be completed to close the Loop and connect the existing trail. There are no alternative routes that are feasible in this area because of land constraints, drainage issues, a railroad crossing, the Rock River, and property ownership challenges. The City owns the remainder of the property that is needed to finish the trail. Due to the connection to city-owned property, other adjacent landowners, physical barrier constraints, and the location of existing public infrastructure, the final phase of the Loop will require a 30-foot wide corridor along the west side of the RIM property to construct a 10-foot wide trail. A total of 0.498 acres of additional land is needed to account for the trail corridor in order to complete the final and most critical part of the trail project.

This final phase of the trail will complete the construction of the Luverne Loop and will provide a critical connection to the existing Blue Mounds Trail, thereby creating a continuous 13-mile+ experience for trail users and tourists. This nature area is extremely attractive and offers a very high-quality outdoor recreation experience that is unique to our area.

The Luverne Loop and Blue Mounds Trail combined have received designation as a trail of 'Regional Significance' by the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission. Trails of Regional Significance in Greater Minnesota must meet the following criteria:

- Regionally desirable setting: The trail is located in a regionally desirable setting
- High-quality opportunity and use: The trail serves as a destination, providing high-quality recreational opportunities, attracts a regional clientele (multiple communities), potentially may draw tourists, and generates an economic impact from outside the local area

Trails of regional significance in Greater Minnesota also meet the foundational goals of the Legacy Plan passed by the Legislature. The four strategic directions defined under that plan are central to guiding the use of Legacy funds over time. The four strategic directions as cited are:

- Connect People and the Outdoors – better develop Minnesota's stewards of tomorrow through efforts to increase life-long participation in parks and trails
- Acquire Land, Create Opportunities – create new and expanded park and trail opportunities to satisfy current customers as well as to reach out to new ones
- Take Care of What We Have – provide safe, high-quality park and trail experiences by regular re-investment in park and trail infrastructure, and natural resource management

- **Coordinate Among Partners – enhance coordination across the large and complex network of public, private, and non-profit partners that support Minnesota's parks and trails to ensure seamless, enjoyable park and trail experiences for Minnesotans.**

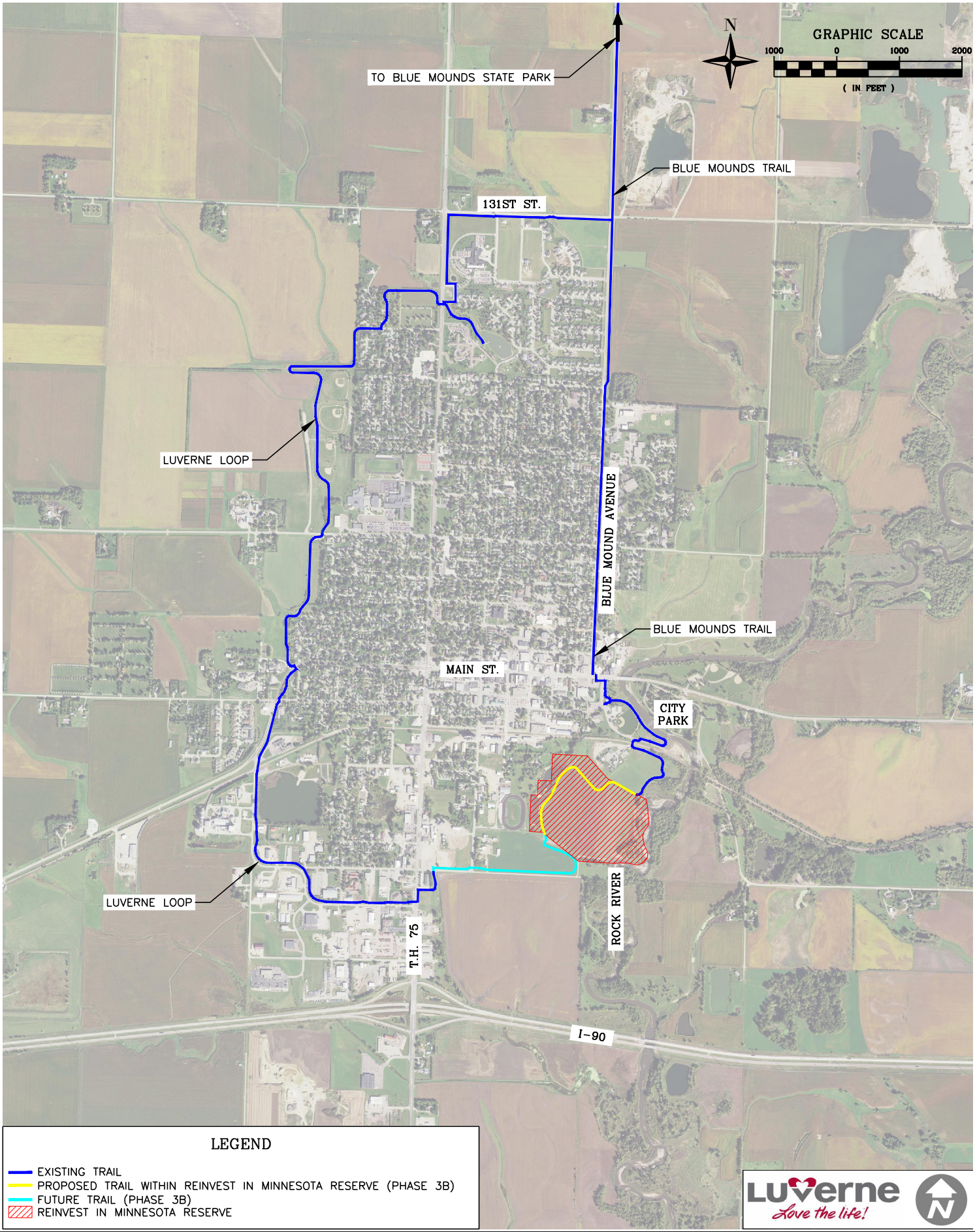
Allowing trail users to pass through this land will further enhance their experience to connect to the outdoors. Conservation benefits will not be diminished; in fact, it is expected that awareness, appreciation, and education of nature-based recreation will increase by exposing users to conservation land where they can enjoy native plant grasses, wildlife, and conservation methods. Since the existing easement is within city limits, hunting is not allowed anyway. The resource protection, conservation and habitat benefits for which the easement was originally acquired will remain the same or be enhanced by the proposed alteration. Furthermore, the completion of the trail in this area will meet all of the goals of the Legacy Plan.

For the reasons listed above, the City of Luverne fully supports the belief that the public interests and general welfare will be maintained an improved through this proposed easement alteration. The Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Luverne Loop will serve the community for generations to come. Thank you for your consideration on this easement alteration request. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 507-449-2525.

John M. Call
City Administrator, City of Luverne

Supporting documentation:

1. **Conservation Easement Legal Description**
2. **TKDA Letter**
3. **Aerial Photo**
4. **Trail Map**
5. **Trail Master Plan**
6. **Soils Map**



Plot Date: ----

P:\03\068\056\368056\DWG\368056 TRAIL IN RIM.DWG

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION

DGR ENGINEERING

Project Manager:	GTK
Designer:	MDK
Project Number:	368056
Phone:	(712) 472-2531

LUVERNE LOOP PHASE III
LUVERNE, MN

REINVEST IN MINNESOTA RESERVE

SHEET 1

ROCK COUNTY
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
LAND MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Rock County Land Management Office
311 West Gaberialson Road Suite 4
Luverne, MN 56156
Phone: 507-283-8862 Ext. 4
Website: www.rockswcd.org

September 16, 2019

Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155

To whom it may concern,

It letter is to inform the Board of Water and Soil Resources that the Rock Soil and Water Conservation District board has acted in favor of the alteration and partial release of the conservation easement numbered 67-01-95-01 owned by the City of Luverne.

On September 16, 2019 at the regularly scheduled board meeting of the Rock Soil and Water Conservation District action was taken to unanimously approve the proposed change of easement number 67-01-95-01 proposed by the City of Luverne. This partial release from the RIM easement will allow the City of Luverne the ability to expand their waste water treatment facilities and also the opportunity for the public to enjoy a RIM easement along a regionally significant bicycle trail.

Sincerely,

Roger Hoff

Roger Hoff
Rock SWCD
Board Chair

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Slayton Area Wildlife Office
2611 Broadway Ave
Slayton, MN 56172
507-836-6919

September 20, 2019

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155

To whom it may concern,

This letter is being written in support of the alteration and partial release of RIM conservation easement number 67-01-95-01 owned by the City of Luverne.

The partial release of the RIM easement mentioned above will allow the City of Luverne to expand their waste water treatment facilities and also put in place a regionally significant bike trail for the public to enjoy. Having outdoor enthusiasts in close proximity to this easement will expose trail users to a restored prairie, pollinators, and the wildlife that use it. It is also an excellent example of a soil and water conservation project.

Sincerely,

Bill Schuna
Area Wildlife Manager

TKDA
444 Cedar Street, Suite 1500
Saint Paul, MN 55101
651.292.4400
tkda.com

August 15, 2018

Mr. Alan Lais, Water/Wastewater Supervisor
City of Luverne
305 E Luverne St., PO Box 659
Luverne, MN 56156

Re: Luverne WWTP 50 Year Projected Land Use

Dear Lais:

This letter summarizes the projected land use and requirements for the Luverne Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) for the next 50 years, for the planning period of 2018 through 2068. To provide space for new facilities, 4.3 acres of additional land is recommended.

Background
TKDA prepared and submitted to the City of Luverne (the City) a *Wastewater Treatment Plant Capital Improvement Plan for 2013-2033 Planning Period* (2013 Capital Improvement Plan) in October 2013. This plan documented projected flows and loads to the WWTP, and summarized anticipated improvement needs for the planning period through 2033. The 2013 Capital Improvement Plan findings will serve as the basis for "current" flows at the WWTP. In addition, in April of 2018 TKDA completed updated flow and loading calculations for the Luverne WWTP using the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) *Design Flow and Loading Determination Guidelines for Wastewater Treatment Plants* for the planning period of 2018 through 2038.

This letter expands on findings of the 2013 Capital Improvement Plan *a*nd the April 2018 Design Flow and Loading Determination calculations to provide insight into potential land use requirements at the WWTP through 2068.

Projected Growth and Increased Wastewater Flows
Per the 2013 Capital Improvement Plan, as of 2013 the WWTP treated approximately 1.1 million gallons per day (MGD). Based on analysis of flow data from the last 36 months (August 2015 through July 2018), the WWTP currently treats approximately 1.2 MGD, slightly higher than just five years ago.

According to United States Census Data, the population of Luverne has been increasing over the past couple decades from 4,382 in 1990 to 4,617 in 2000 to 4,745 in 2010. This trend is expected to continue because the City is a regional center serving southwestern Minnesota and northwestern Iowa. Luverne is also conveniently located near Sioux Falls, South Dakota, which allows people to live in Luverne and work in the Sioux Falls area. Based on a linear extrapolation of population data to 2068, the projected population in 2068 is 5,815 (See Exhibit 1).

The *Recommended Standards for Wastewater Facilities (Ten States Standards)* published by the Great Lakes—Upper Mississippi River Board offers guidance for wastewater treatment system evaluation and design. According to *Ten States Standards*, the average daily residential flow shall be 100 gallons per capita per day. The population is expected to increase by approximately 1,070 people by 2033

compared to 2010 census data; therefore, the expected residential average flow rate increase is 0.11 MGD. This equates to a 10% increase in total flow based solely on increased residential flows.

The WWTP also receives wastewater from significant industrial users (SIU's). Per the 2013 Capital Improvement Plan, SIU's in 2013 included Gevo Development and Gold'n Plump, with a total average combined flow of 0.12 MGD. Currently, the City is anticipating a new Tru-Shrimp aquaculture facility, a potential Premium Iowa Pork processing facility at the idled Pilgrim's Pride (formerly Gold'n Plump) plant, and an expansion of the Agri-Energy (formerly Gevo Development) alcohol plant. The anticipated increase in industrial wastewater flows from these facilities as compared to 2013 flows is approximately 0.29 MGD. This equates to a 26% increase in total flow based solely on currently known anticipated increased industrial flows.

For the 50 year planning period, it is reasonable to anticipate potential for one or two additional SIU's in the City. Assuming another large industrial customer, or two smaller sized industrial customers, the estimated future flow is estimated to be approximately 0.1 MGD. This equates to a 10% increase in total flow. Existing and estimated future flows are summarized in Exhibit 2.

In addition to the annual average flow, two other important flows to consider when evaluating the hydraulic capacity of a wastewater treatment facility are the maximum month flow and the peak hourly flow. The maximum month flow is the highest average flow recorded over a 30 day period. The peak hourly flow is the largest volume of flow during a one hour period.

A peaking factor is the ratio of a peak flow to the average flow. Using the same peaking factors as the existing flows, the projected flows at the end of the 50 year planning period are compared to existing flows in Exhibit 3.

Facility Expansion Needs

In addition to increased flows, SIU's typically add higher wastewater loads (e.g., biological oxygen demand, total suspended solids, etc.) than typical domestic wastewater. Accordingly, when determining future treatment requirements, increased SIU flows result in a larger relative impact in sizing of wastewater treatment processes.

In order to handle increasing daily flows as well as the increased loading of a new Tru-Shrimp aquaculture facility, a potential Premium Iowa Pork processing facility at the idled Pilgrim's Pride (formerly Gold'n Plump) plant, and an expansion of the Agi-Energy alcohol plant, the City is planning to start design this year for proposed construction of a WWTP Improvements Project in 2019 and 2020. This project includes Phase 2 and Phase 3 Improvements as described in the 2013 Capital Improvement Plan, and includes the following major components (See Exhibit 4):

- Replacement of existing tricking filter treatment train (primary clarifier, trickling filter and final clarifier) with new primary clarifier, an additional biological treatment process (likely to be oxidation ditch) and a new secondary clarifier.
- New anaerobic digester (in location of existing Trickling Filter).
- Expanded effluent disinfection contact chamber.
- Associated laboratory equipment and control system improvements.

The Phase 2 and 3 Improvements were developed based on a 20 year planning period. Extending the planning period to 50 years, as summarized above, is anticipated to result in the need for the following additional long-term improvements to be implemented sometime after 2033 but prior to 2068:

- A third biological treatment train with new primary clarifier, an additional biological treatment process (likely to be oxidation ditch) and a new secondary clarifier.
- Additional Sludge Storage Tank

Exhibit 5 shows property parcels for the WWTP, surrounding City owned property, and neighboring properties.The proposed near-term improvements (Phase 2 and 3 Improvements) can be constructed on City owned property but will encroach on the west boundary of the property and will require a recommended 2.5 acres of additional land in order to provide an odor control and security buffer. To avoid placing new wastewater treatment processes closer to the Rock River, the long-term improvements will require additional land to the west. In order to provide an odor control and security buffer, a total of 4.3 acres of additional land is needed to account for both near-term and long-term improvements (See Exhibit 6).

Sincerely,

John K. Berrigan Jr. PE
Manager, Water/Wastewater
john.berrigan@tkda.com
651.292.4486

cc: Richard Parr, TKDA

Exhibit 1 - City of Luverne Population Projection

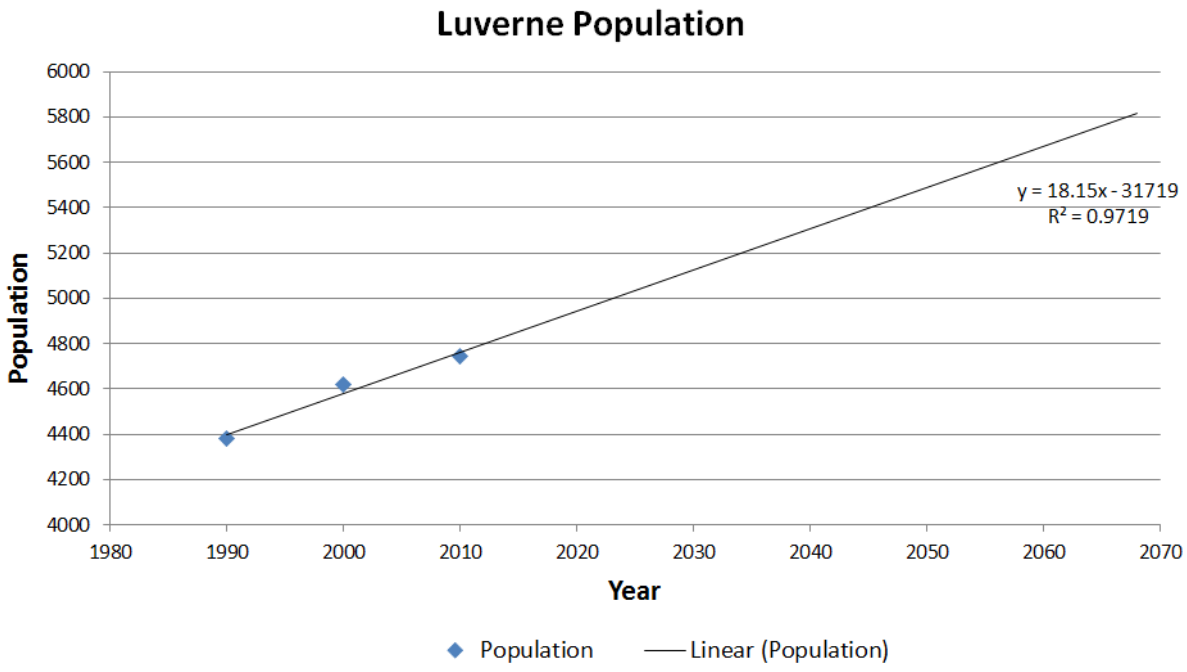


Exhibit 2 - Current and Estimated Anticipated Future Flows to Luverne WWTP for 50 Year Planning Period

Description	Flow (MGD)	Notes
Current Average Day	1.10	From 2013 Capital Improvement Plan
Increased Residential Flows	0.11	Based on population increase from 4,745 in 2010 to 5,815 in 2068
Anticipated Known Increased Industrial Flows	0.29	Based on projected flows from Tru-Shrimp, Premium Iowa Pork, Gevo Development
Anticipated Future Increased Industrial Flows	0.10	Estimated future industrial users
Estimated 2068 Average Day	1.65	

Exhibit 3 – Summary of Current and Estimated Future Flows to Luverne WWTP

Description	Current Flows (MGD)	Estimated 2068 Flows (MGD)
Average Day	1.1	1.65
Maximum Month	1.5	2.25
Peak Hourly	2.6	6.15

Exhibit 4 – Proposed Near-Term Luverne WWTP Improvements

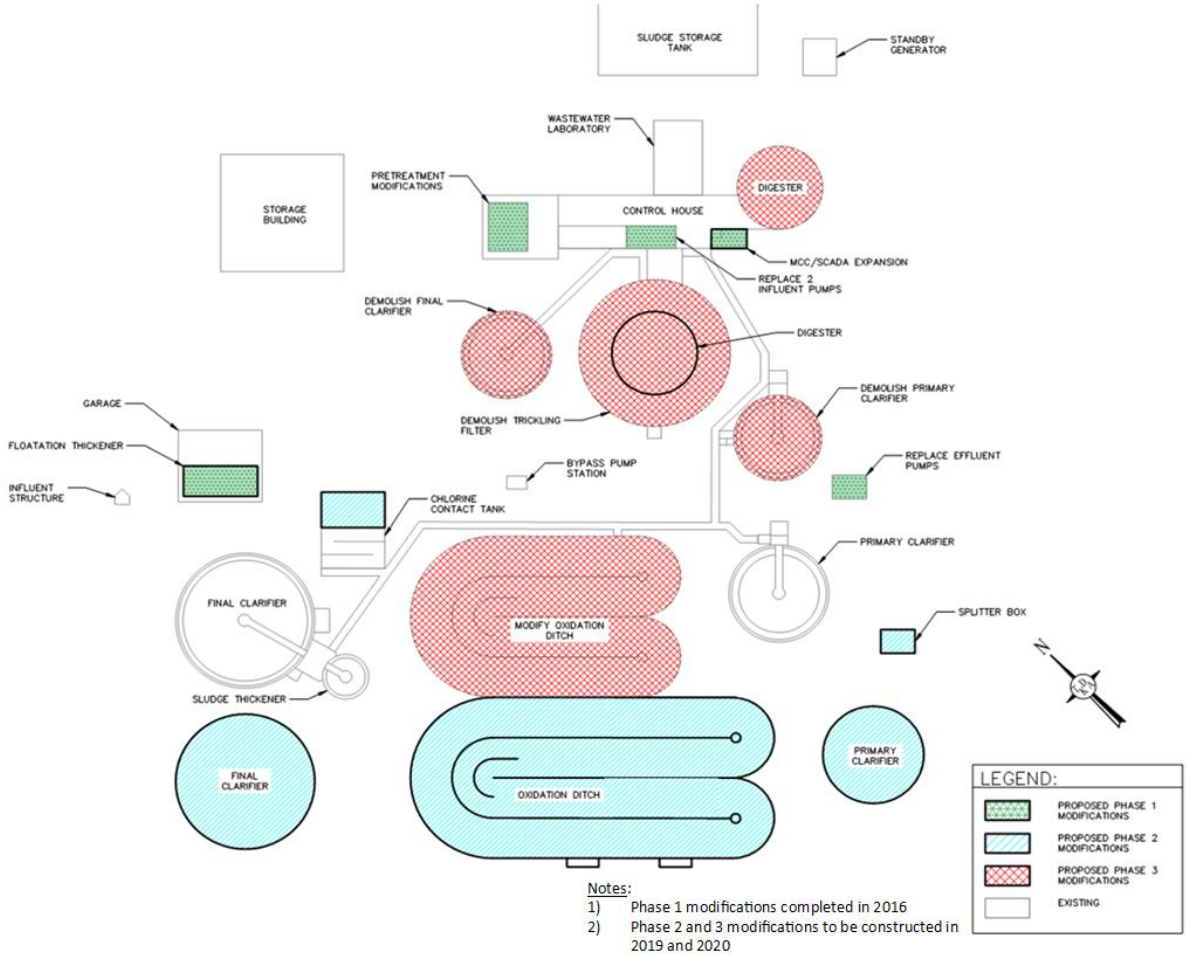
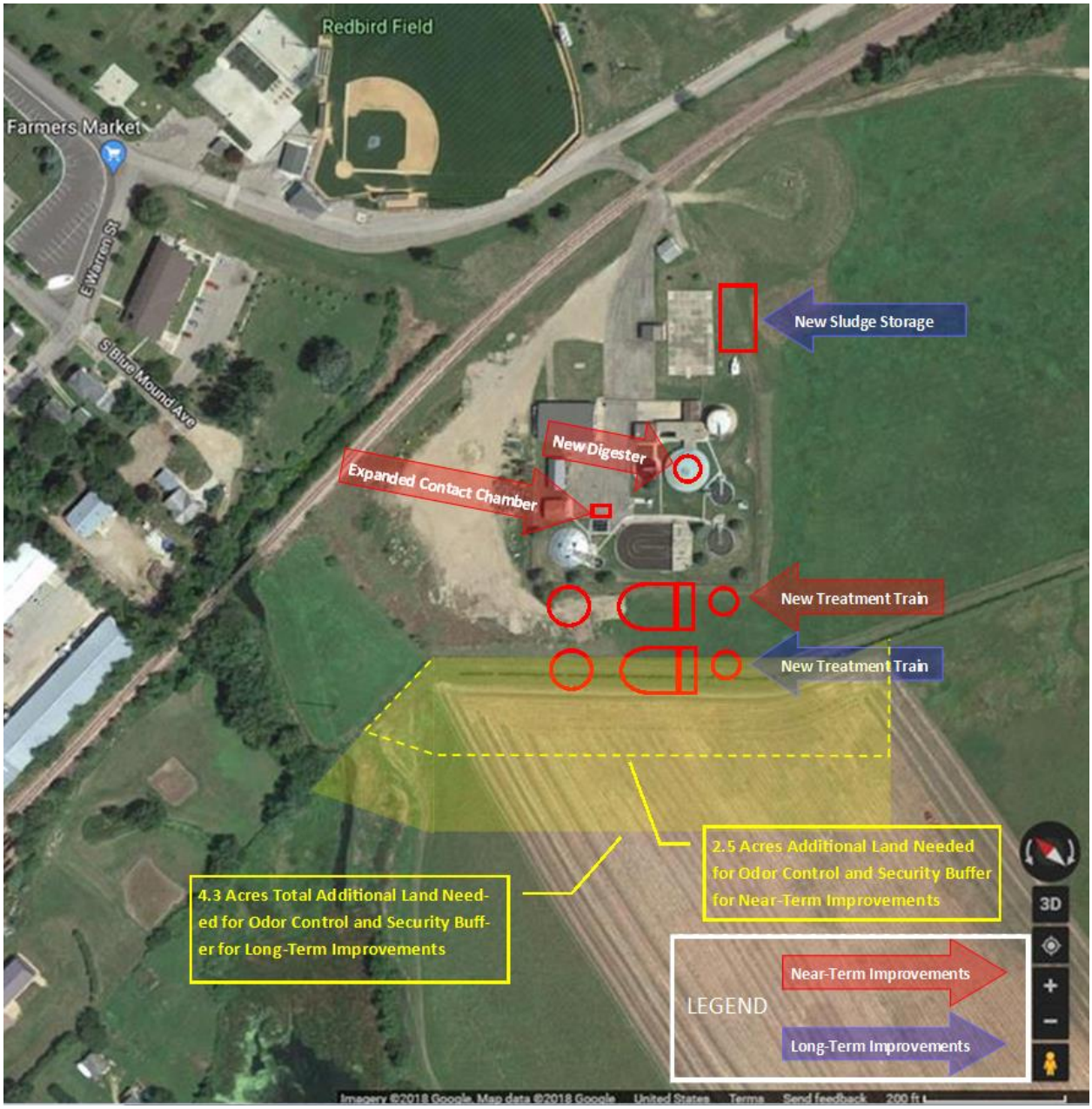
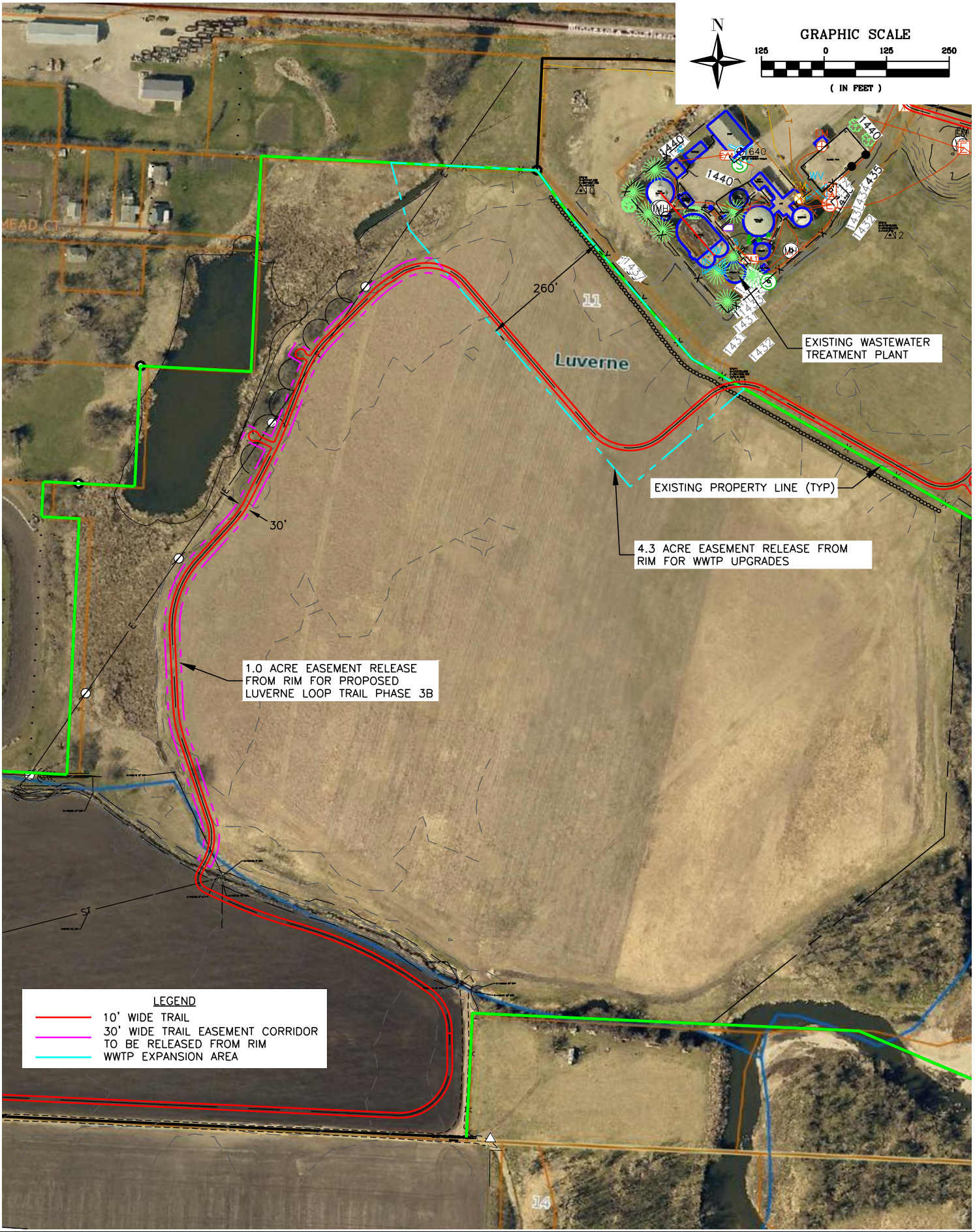


Exhibit 5 – Property Parcel Map

Map source: Rock County GIS Viewer, http://rock.houstoneng.com/

Exhibit 6 – Proposed Improvements and Land Use Map





Plot Date: ----

P:\03\068\056\368056\DWG\368056 RIM MAP.DWG

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION

DGR ENGINEERING

Project Manager:	GTK
Designer:	MDK
Project Number:	368056
Phone:	(712) 472-2531

LUVERNE LOOP PHASE 3B
LUVERNE, MN

RIM REMOVAL

SHEET 1

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Audit and Oversight Committee

1. 2019 Performance Review and Assistance Program Legislative Report – Dale Krystosek – ***DECISION ITEM***

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **2019 Performance Review and Assistance Program Legislative Report**

Meeting Date: January 22, 2020

Agenda Category: ☒ Committee Recommendation ☐ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☒ Decision ☐ Discussion ☐ Information

Section/Region: Organizational Effectiveness

Contact: Dale Krystosek

Prepared by: Dale Krystosek

Reviewed by: Audit and Oversight Committee Committee(s)

Presented by: Dale Krystosek

Time requested: 15 Minutes

☐ **Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

Attachments: ☐ Resolution ☒ Order ☐ Map ☐ Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

☒ None
☐ Amended Policy Requested
☐ New Policy Requested
☐ Other:

☐ General Fund Budget
☐ Capital Budget
☐ Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
☐ Clean Water Fund Budget

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SUMMARY (*Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation*)

BWSR staff have prepared the 2019 Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP) Legislative Report which presents a summary of PRAP reviews and activities conducted in 2019. The report also contains a list of planned program objectives including three new items for 2020: Utilize new Performance Standards Checklists for counties, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts and watershed management organizations, evaluate and develop metrics for tracking LGU implementation of the Buffer Program, work with BWSR Water Planning Team to develop protocol for tracking, assessment, evaluation and reporting for One Watershed, One Plans.

BOARD DECISION #_____

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BOARD ORDER

Performance Review and Assistance Program 2019 Report to the Minnesota Legislature

PURPOSE
Adopt 2019 PRAP Legislative Report

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

1. The 2007 Legislature directed the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) to develop and implement a program to evaluate and report on the performance of each local water management entity.
2. In 2007 the Board developed a set of guiding principles and directed staff to implement a program for reviewing performance, offering assistance, and reporting results, now called the Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP), in consultation with stakeholders and consistent with the guiding principles.
3. According to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103B.102, Subdivision 3, beginning February 1, 2008, and annually thereafter, the Board shall provide a report of local water management entity performance to the chairs of the House and Senate committees having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources policy.
4. The fourteenth annual PRAP Report to the Minnesota Legislature contains the summaries of the 24 local water management entity performance reviews conducted by BWSR staff in 2019 and a summary of findings describing the performance of 238 local water management entities regarding compliance with plan revision and basic reporting requirements.
5. The 2019 PRAP Report to the Minnesota Legislature was reviewed by the Board's Audit and Oversight committee on January 21, 2020, was revised based on committee comments, and was recommended for Board adoption by the committee.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

Adopts the 2019 Performance Review and Assistance Program Report and directs staff to submit the to the Minnesota Legislature and put it on the Board's website, with allowance for any minor editing modifications necessary for finalization.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this January 22, 2020.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

_____ Date: _____

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

2019 Performance Review and Assistance Program

Report to the Minnesota Legislature

January 22, 2020

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-296-3767
www.bwsr.state.mn.us

This report has been prepared for the Minnesota State Legislature by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) in partial fulfillment of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103B.102, subdivision 3.

Prepared by Dale Krystosek, PRAP Coordinator (dale.krystosek@state.mn.us 218-820-9381)

The estimated cost of preparing this report (as required by Minn. Stat. 3.197) was:

Total staff time: $3,500
Production/duplication: $300
Total: $3,800

BWSR is reducing printing and mailing costs by using the Internet to distribute reports and information to wider audiences. This report is available at www.bwsr.state.mn.us/PRAP.index and available in alternative formats upon request.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP)

Executive Summary

Since 2008, BWSR's Performance Review and Assistance Program has assessed the performance of the local units of government constituting Minnesota's local delivery system for conservation of water and related land resources. These local units of government include 88 soil and water conservation districts, 87 counties, 45 watershed districts and 18 watershed management organizations. The program goal is to assist these local government partners to be the best they can be in their management of Minnesota's land and water resources.

PRAP focuses on three aspects of Local Governmental Unit (LGU) performance:

1) Plan Implementation—how well an LGU's accomplishments meet planned objectives.
2) Compliance with performance standards—meeting administrative mandates and following best practices.
3) Collaboration and communication—the quality of partner and stakeholder relationships.

BWSR's PRAP uses four levels of review to assess performance ranging from statewide oversight in Level I, to a focus on individual LGU performance in Levels II and III, and to remediation in Level IV.

2019 Program Summary

- Completed 24 Level II performance reviews, meeting the target set for 2019.
- Surveyed 24 LGUs reviewed in 2017 to assess implementation of BWSR's recommendations for organizational improvements and action items. Of the 24 LGU's contacted, 23 of the LGUs completed the survey. The LGUs reported fully completing 53% of their recommendations, and partially completing another 41% of their recommendations in their 2017 Level II performance review reports. This means that these LGUs took some action on 94% of their recommendations. In 2017, LGUs were given a total of 16 action items. All 16 of the 2017 action items were resolved within 18 months.
- Updated Performance Standards and guidance for soil and water conservation districts, counties, watershed districts and watershed management organizations. BWSR staff will begin using these performance standards for 2020 Level II PRAP Reviews.
- Tracked 238 LGUs' Level I performance.
- Provided PRAP Assistance Grants for 4 local government units in 2019 to implement recommendations from past Level II or Level III performance reviews.
- Continued review of Wetland Conservation Act program implementation as part of Level II and Level III assessments to measure local government unit compliance with this program.
- Continued evaluation of potential key performance measures for PRAP Level II reviews within the framework of the watershed-based One Watershed-One Plan approach to LGU water plan implementation.
- Stressed the importance of measuring outcomes in all 24 Level II performance reviews conducted in 2019. Discussed ways of demonstrating resource outcomes resulting from plan implementation, and specific expectations for reporting resource outcomes by LGUs. (*New for 2019).*

2019 Results of Annual Tracking of 238 LGUs' Plans and Reports (PRAP Level I)

Overall compliance with LGU plan revision and reporting requirements improved to 96% in 2019. All drainage buffer reports were submitted on time, and WMO compliance improved to 94% from 89% in 2018, 89% in 2017 and 78% in 2016. Staff efforts will continue in 2020 to improve compliance.

- **Long-range Plan Status:** the number of overdue plans is two in 2019 *(up from 1 in 2018. There were 3 overdue plans in 2017).*
    - Counties: No local water management plans are overdue.
    - Watershed Districts: Two watershed management plans are overdue. (up from no overdue plans in 2018)
    - Watershed Management Organizations: No watershed management plans are overdue.
- **LGUs in Full Compliance with Level I Performance Standards: 96%.**
    - Soil & Water Conservation Districts: 96% compliance (85/88).
    - County Water Management: 100% compliance (85/87).
    - Watershed Districts: 87% compliance (39/45).
    - Watershed Management Organizations: 94% compliance (17/18).

Selected PRAP Program Objectives for 2020

- Track 238 LGUs' Level I performance.
- Continue efforts to improve Level I performance review reporting of all LGUs through LGU cooperation and persistent follow-up by BWSR staff, with a goal of reaching 100% compliance.
- Maintain the target of 24 Level II performance reviews per year.
- Complete up to two Level III performance reviews, if needed, in 2020.
- Provide leadership in enunciating the importance of measuring outcomes in Level II performance reviews, ways of demonstrating resource outcomes resulting from plan implementation, and set specific expectations for reporting resource outcomes by LGUs.
- Survey LGUs from 2018 Level II PRAP reviews to track LGU implementation of PRAP recommendations.
- Continue monitoring and reviewing compliance with Action Items identified during a Level II review. This will allow us to determine if we are meeting the goal of 100% compliance within 18 months for required Action Items.
- Continue the promotion and use of PRAP Assistance Grants to enhance LGU organizational effectiveness.
- Continue updating protocols for PRAP Level I and Level II reviews for performance-based funding for implementation of watershed-based One Watershed-One Plans.
- Utilize new Performance Standards Checklists for counties, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts and watershed management organizations. *(New for 2020).*
- Evaluate and develop metrics for tracking LGU implementation of the Buffer Program (*New for 2020).*
- Work with BWSR Water Planning Team to develop protocol for tracking, assessment, evaluation and reporting for One Watershed, One Plans *(New for 2020).*

Table of Contents

What is the Performance Review & Assistance Program?

Supporting Local Delivery of Conservation Services

PRAP is primarily a performance assessment activity conducted by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). The subjects of the assessments are the local governmental units (LGUs) that deliver BWSR's water and land conservation programs and the process is designed to evaluate how well LGUs are implementing their long-range plans. The LGUs reviewed include soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs), watershed districts (WDs), watershed management organizations (WMOs), and the water management function of counties—a total of 238 distinct organizations *(Anoka Conservation District was dissolved in 2018)*. PRAP, authorized in 2007 (see Appendix A), is coordinated by one BWSR central office staff member, with assistance from BWSR's 18 Board Conservationists and 3 regional managers, who routinely work with these LGUs.

Guiding Principles

PRAP is based on and uses the following principles adopted by the BWSR Board.

- Pre-emptive
- Systematic
- Constructive
- Includes consequences
- Provides recognition for high performance
- Transparent
- Retains local ownership and autonomy
- Maintains proportionate expectations
- Preserves the state/local partnership
- Results in effective on-the-ground conservation

The principles set parameters for the program's purpose of helping LGUs to be the best they can be in their operational effectiveness. Of note is the principle of proportionate expectations. This means that LGUs are rated on the accomplishment of their own plan's objectives. Moreover, BWSR rates operational performance using both basic and high-performance standards specific to each type of LGU. (For more detail see www.bwsr.state.mn.us/ PRAP/index.html.)

Multi-level Process

PRAP has three operational components:

- performance review
- assistance
- reporting

The **performance review** component is applied at four levels (see pages 10-16).

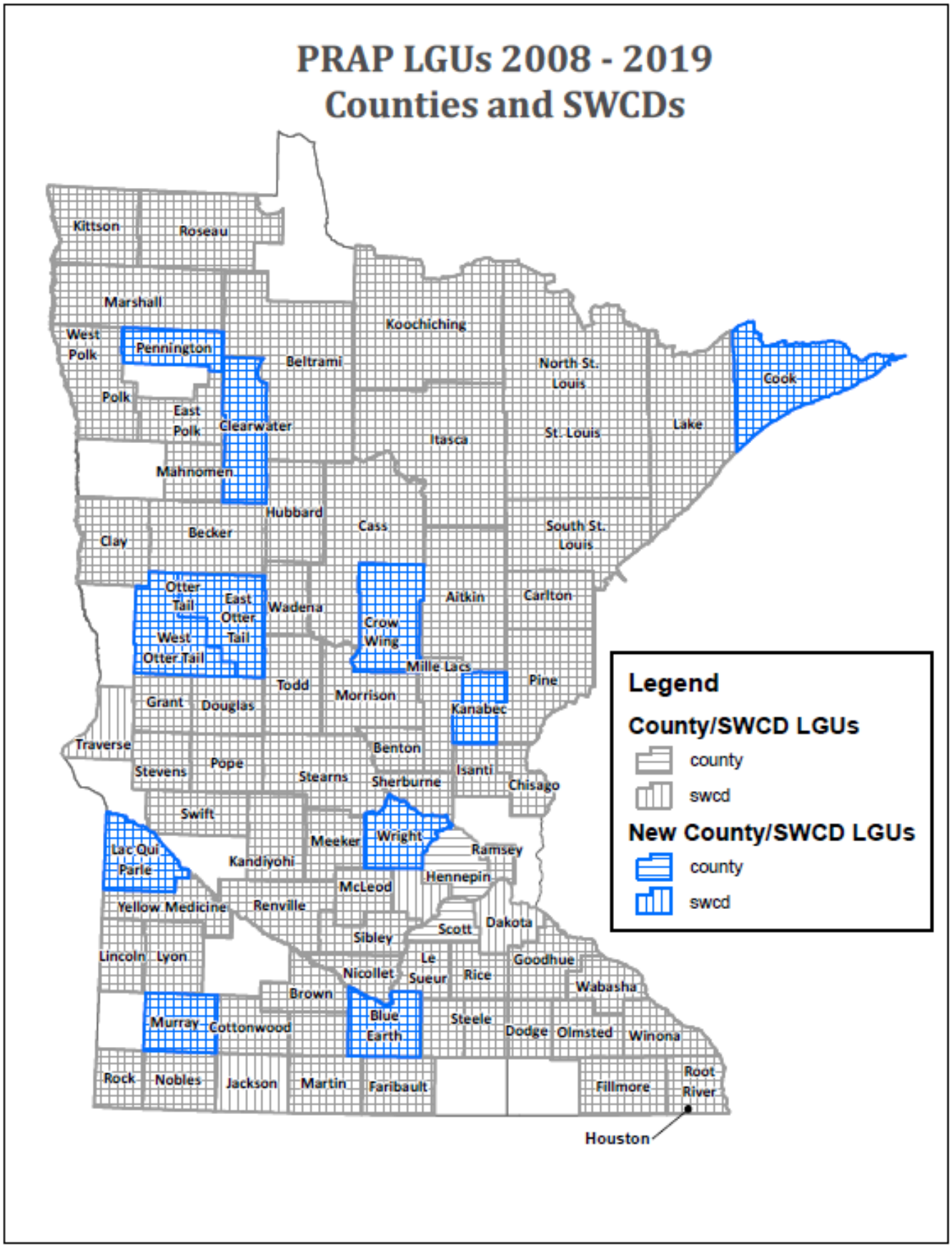
Level I review is an annual tabulation of required plans and reports for all 238 LGUs. Level I review is conducted entirely by BWSR staff and does not require additional input from LGUs.

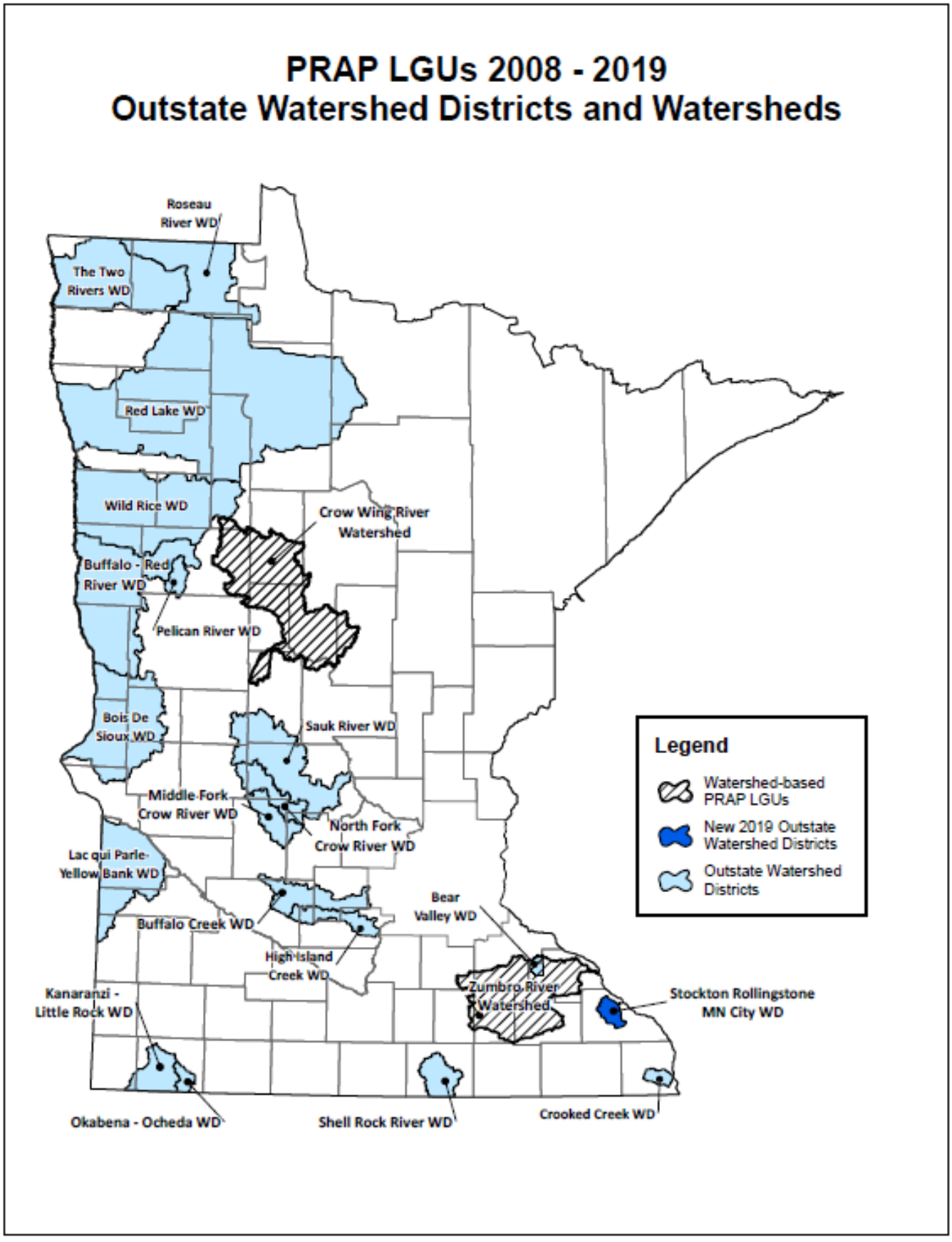
Level II is a routine, interactive review intended to cover all LGUs at least once every 10 years. A Level II review evaluates progress on plan implementation, operational effectiveness, and partner

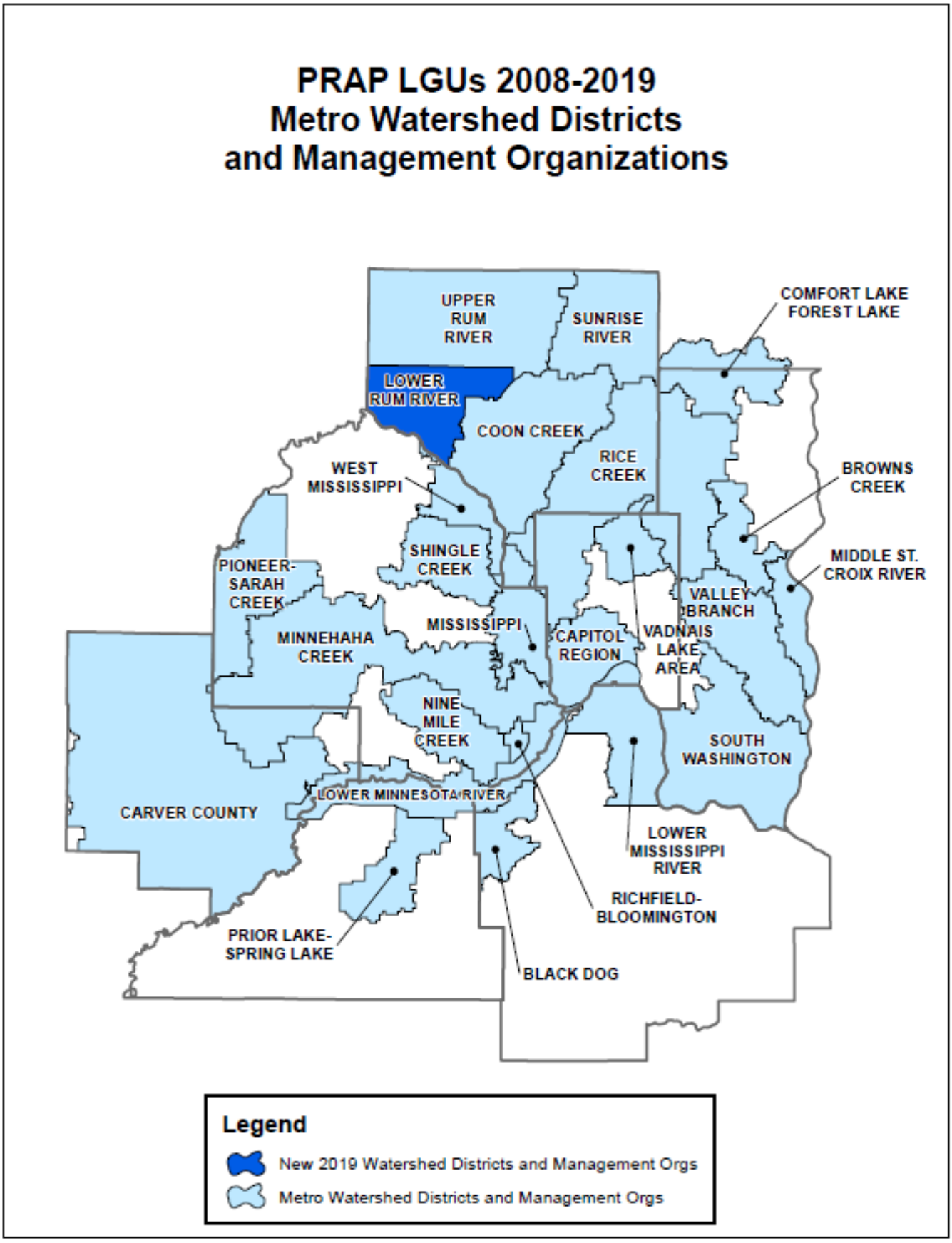
relationships. This review includes assessing compliance with Level II performance standards. The maps on pages 3-5 show which LGUs have gone through a Level II review since the program started in 2008.

Level III is an in-depth assessment of an LGU's performance problems and issues. A Level III review is initiated by BWSR or the LGU and usually involves targeted assistance to address specific performance needs. Since 2008, BWSR has conducted Level III reviews for three LGUs at their request and in 2017 we completed two more. BWSR regularly monitors all LGUs for challenges that would necessitate a Level III review.

Level IV is for LGUs with significant performance deficiencies and includes BWSR Board action to assign penalties as authorized by statute. Levels I-III are designed to avoid the need for Level IV. To date there have not been any Level IV reviews.


PRAP LGUs 2008 - 2019
Counties and SWCDs
Kittson
Roseau
Marshall
West Polk
Pennington
Polk
East Polk
Clearwater
Beltrami
Koochiching
North St. Louis
Cook
Lake
St. Louis
Itasca
Mahnomen
Hubbard
Cass
South St. Louis
Clay
Becker
Otter Tail
East Otter Tail
West Otter Tail
Wadena
Crow Wing
Aitkin
Carlton
Mille Lacs
Pine
Kanabec
Todd
Morrison
Grant
Douglas
Traverse
Benton
Stevens
Pope
Stearns
Sherburne
Isanti
Chisago
Swift
Meeker
Wright
Ramsey
Lac Qui Parle
Kandiyohi
Hennepin
McLeod
Yellow Medicine
Renville
Dakota
Scott
Sibley
Lincoln
Lyon
Goodhue
Nicollet
Le Sueur
Rice
Wabasha
Brown
Blue Earth
Steele
Murray
Cottonwood
Dodge
Olmsted
Winona
Rock
Nobles
Jackson
Martin
Faribault
Fillmore
Root River
Houston
Legend
County/SWCD LGUs
county
swcd
New County/SWCD LGUs
county
swcd


PRAP LGUs 2008 - 2019
Outstate Watershed Districts and Watersheds
Roseau River WD
The Two Rivers WD
Red Lake WD
Wild Rice WD
Crow Wing River Watershed
Buffalo - Red River WD
Pelican River WD
Bois De Sioux WD
Sauk River WD
Middle-Fork Crow River WD
North Fork Crow River WD
Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank WD
Buffalo Creek WD
Bear Valley WD
High Island Creek WD
Zumbro River Watershed
Stockton Rollingstone MN City WD
Kanaranzi - Little Rock WD
Okabena - Ocheda WD
Shell Rock River WD
Crooked Creek WD
Legend
Watershed-based PRAP LGUs
New 2019 Outstate Watershed Districts
Outstate Watershed Districts


PRAP LGUs 2008-2019
Metro Watershed Districts
and Management Organizations
UPPER RUM RIVER
SUNRISE RIVER
COMFORT LAKE FOREST LAKE
LOWER RUM RIVER
COON CREEK
RICE CREEK
WEST MISSISSIPPI
BROWNS CREEK
SHINGLE CREEK
MIDDLE ST. CROIX RIVER
PIONEER-SARAH CREEK
VALLEY BRANCH
MISSISSIPPI
MINNEHAHA CREEK
CAPITOL REGION
VADNAIS LAKE AREA
NINE MILE CREEK
SOUTH WASHINGTON
LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER
CARVER COUNTY
LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER
RICHFIELD-BLOOMINGTON
PRIOR LAKE-SPRING LAKE
BLACK DOG
Legend
New 2019 Watershed Districts and Management Orgs
Metro Watershed Districts and Management Orgs

Assistance (page 17). In 2012, BWSR began awarding PRAP assistance grants to assist LGUs in obtaining practical and financial assistance for organizational improvements or to address performance issues. The grants are typically used for consultant services for activities identified by the LGU or recommended by BWSR in a performance review.

Reporting (pages 19-22) makes information about LGU performance accessible to the LGUs' stakeholders and constituents. Reporting methods specific to PRAP include links to performance review summaries and this annual report to the Legislature, which can be accessed via the PRAP page on BWSR's website http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/PRAP/index.html. In addition, the PRAP Coordinator presents results from Level II performance reviews to LGU boards at the completion of the review, and to additional boards/committees upon request.

Accountability: From Measuring Effort to Tracking Results

The administration of government programs necessitates a high degree of accountability. PRAP was developed, in part, to deliver on that demand by providing systematic local government performance review and then reporting results. In 2017, BWSR added review of local government unit's implementation of the Wetland Conservation Act program. In 2018, BWSR expanded the scope of PRAP to lay the groundwork for future evaluation of SWCD Technical Service Areas (TSA) and in 2018, for the first time, evaluated progress of implementation of one of the first One Watershed, One Plans that has begun implementation, the Lake Superior North plan.

Report on PRAP Performance

BWSR's Accountability

BWSR continues to hold itself accountable for the objectives of the PRAP program. In consideration of that commitment, this section lists 2019 program activities with the corresponding objectives from the 2018 PRAP legislative report.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW OBJECTIVES

What We Proposed	What We Did
Track 238 LGUs' Level I performance.	All LGUs were tracked for basic plan and reporting compliance. Level I Compliance is documented in the PRAP Legislative report. Overall, Level I performance improved in 2019, at 96% overall compliance. Overdue long-range water management plans increased from 1 to 2 in 2019.
Take measures to improve WMO and WD reporting.	Reminders were sent by the PRAP Coordinator to Board Conservationists and LGUs to remind them of deadlines. WD compliance was steady in 2019 at 87% (39 of 45 reporting). Only one of 18 Watershed Management Organizations did not meet reporting or auditing requirements (94% compliance).
Maintain the target of 24 Level II performance reviews per year.	In 2019, 24 Level II performance reviews were completed.
Complete up to 2 Level III performance reviews, if needed, in 2019.	Discussed need for Level III performance reviews with BWSR Regional Managers and Organizational Effectiveness Manager and concluded that no Level III reviews were needed in 2019. Follow up for the 2018 Level III Review of the Pine SWCD and the 2017 Wabasha SWCD were achieved through PRAP Assistance Grants in 2018 and 2019.
Survey LGUs from 2017 Level II PRAP reviews to track LGU implementation of PRAP recommendations.	Surveyed 24 LGUs reviewed in 2017 to assess implementation of BWSR's recommendations for organizational improvements and action items. All 24 LGUs completed the survey and reported fully completing 53% of their recommendations and partially completed another 41% of their recommendations in their Level II performance review reports, meaning that LGUs acted on 94% of the recommendations. A summary of survey results is in the report.

Continue monitoring and reviewing compliance with Action Items identified during a Level II review. This will allow us to determine if we are meeting the goal of 100% compliance within 18 months established for required Action Items.	All Action Items identified during 2019 PRAP Level II reviews were assigned an 18-month timeline for completion. BWSR followed up with the LGUs who participated in 2017 Level II reviews to verify completion of action items within 18 months. The PRAP follow-up survey demonstrated that all the action items included for 2017 LGUs were implemented within 18 months (16 total action items assigned in 2017).
Continue evaluating and updating protocol for PRAP Level I and Level II reviews for performance-based funding for implementation of watershed based One Watershed-One Plans.	Continued evaluation and refinement of key performance measures for PRAP Level II reviews within framework of watershed-based One Watershed-One Plan approach to LGU water plan implementation. Participated in discussions with BWSR Clean Water Team and BWSR Water Planning Team.
Continue development of protocol for evaluating Technical Service Area (TSA) performance and evaluate one TSA if time permits.	Assisted BWSR Water Planning Team with continued development of guidance and expectations for Technical Service Areas. Team decided that it was pre-mature to conduct a TSA review at this time.
Review and update Performance Standards Checklists for counties, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts and watershed management organizations.	Working with a team of Board Conservationists and Regional Managers, updated performance standards and guidance counties, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts and watershed management organizations. The new standards incorporate concepts for watershed planning and increased expectations for use of advisory committees. The standards added high performance standards for LGU coordination with state initiatives, using water quality data to track resource outcomes and for LGUs who conduct a self-assessment to improve performance.

ASSISTANCE OBJECTIVES

What We Proposed	What We Did
Continue the promotion and use of PRAP Assistance Grants to enhance LGU organizational effectiveness.	Board Conservationists were encouraged to work with LGUs who could benefit from PRAP Assistance grants. LGUs undergoing a Level II PRAP review were also notified of PRAP assistance funding when recommendations were made for activities that would be eligible for PRAP funds. In fiscal year 2019, PRAP Assistance Grants were provided for Crow Wing SWCD, Lake SWCD, Stevens SWCD and Traverse SWCD for a total of $19,355.

REPORTING OBJECTIVES

What We Proposed	What We Did
Increase the focus on developing and reporting resource outcomes by LGUs in Level II reviews.	While all 24 Level II performance reviews included a review of the LGUs water plans for targets or objectives for resource outcomes and if outcomes are being reported, only three LGUs covered by Level II reviews in 2019 have targets. Reported progress on resource outcomes is less frequent. Much work remains.

2019 LGU Performance Review Results

Level I Results

The Level I Performance Review monitors and tabulates all 238 LGUs' long-range plan updates and their annual reporting of activities, ditch buffer reports, grants, and finances. BWSR tracks these performance measures each year to provide oversight of legal and policy mandates, but also to screen LGUs for indications of potential problems. Chronic lateness in financial or grant reporting, for example, may be a symptom of operational issues that require BWSR assistance.

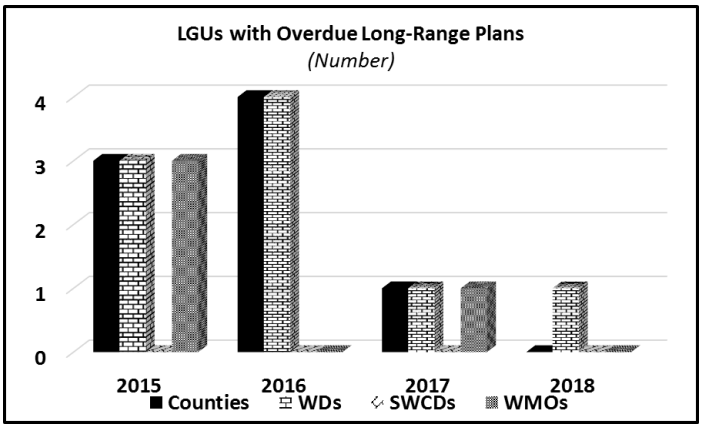
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
238 LGUs	**96%**	**94%**	**90%**	**87%**	**81%**
SWCDs (89)	96%	96%	93%	93%	87%
Counties (87)	100%	98%	94%	91%	91%
WMOs (18)	94%	89%	89%	78%	44%
WDs (45)	87%	87%	80%	73%	65%

Overall, LGU compliance with Level I standards improved to 96% in 2019. BWSR began tightening Level I compliance tracking in 2013, and as can be seen in the table above, improvement in overall compliance has occurred since that time.

Long-range plans. BWSR's legislative mandate for PRAP includes a specific emphasis on evaluating progress in LGU plan implementation. Therefore, helping LGUs keep their plans current is basic to that review. Level I PRAP tracks whether LGUs are meeting their plan revision due dates. For the purposes of Level I reviews, LGUs that have been granted an extension for their plan revision are not considered to have an overdue plan. Many Local Water Management plans were operating under extensions granted by the BWSR as LGUs continue transitioning to development of One Watershed One Plans. The number of overdue plans is 2 in 2019 compared to 1 in 2018. Two Watershed District water management plans are overdue at the end of 2019. All other counties, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts and watershed management organizations are operating under an approved or extended plan. Local government units without an approved water management plan are not eligible for Clean Water grant funds awarded by BWSR.

The Carver County Groundwater management plan was approved by the BWSR Board in January 2016. Ramsey County and Scott County metro area county groundwater plans need updating but are not considered overdue because the plans are optional, and these counties are still eligible for Clean Water Fund grants.

Appendix D (page 30) lists the LGUs whose plans are overdue for a plan revision.



Annual activity and grant reports. LGU annual reports are an important means of providing citizens and BWSR with information about LGU activities and grants expenditures. The Level I review tracks both missing and late reports.

As in 2018, there was complete on-time submittal of drainage system buffer strip reports by both County and WD drainage

authorities in 2019. Of the 96 LGUs that must submit annual buffer reports, 100% met the February 1, 2019 deadline, maintaining the 100% compliance achieved from 2015 through 2018. This continued compliance is attributed to persistent efforts by BWSR staff to contact LGUs with missing reports before the due date.

SWCDs and counties maintained a high level of compliance for on-time submittal of grant status reports via BWSR's on-line eLINK system, with 98% of LGUs meeting the deadline compared with 98% in 2018, 97% in 2017, 96% in 2016, and 95% in 2015.

Watershed district compliance with the annual activity report requirement was slightly lower in 2019 at 87% compliance compared with 89% in 2018, but above the 84% in 2017. Continued improvement in reporting will continue to be an objective of BWSR staff in 2020, with a goal of reaching 100% compliance.

Appendix E (page 31) contains more details about reporting.

Annual financial reports and audits. All SWCDs submit annual financial reports to BWSR, and most are required to prepare annual audits of their financial records. SWCDs whose annual expenditures fall below a certain threshold do not have to prepare audits. In 2019, SWCD Financial Reports are no longer due for all those SWCD's that elect to do an audit in 2019 (for the year ended 2018.) While the underlying determination of which SWCD's are required to do an audit hasn't changed, it now falls under the umbrella of any SWCDs that waived the submission of the SWCD Financial Report and stated that they would undergo an audit. 98% met the audit performance standard for SWCDs.

Watershed Districts and WMOs are also required to prepare annual audits. In 2019, 89% of WDs met the audit performance standard compared to 91% in 2018 and 80% in 2017. In 2019, 94% (17/18) of WMOs met this standard, maintaining the same level as in 2018 and 2017. In 2016 78% of WMOs were following the audit standard.

See Appendix F (page 32) for financial report and audit details.

BWSR does not track county audits because counties are accountable to the Office of the State Auditor.

Level II Performance Review Results

The Level II performance review process is designed to give both BWSR and the individual LGUs an overall assessment of the LGU's effectiveness in both the delivery and the effects of their efforts in conservation. The review looks at the LGU's implementation of their plan's action items and their compliance with BWSR's operational performance standards. Level II reviews also include surveys of board members, staff and partners to assess the LGU's effectiveness and existing relationships with other organizations.

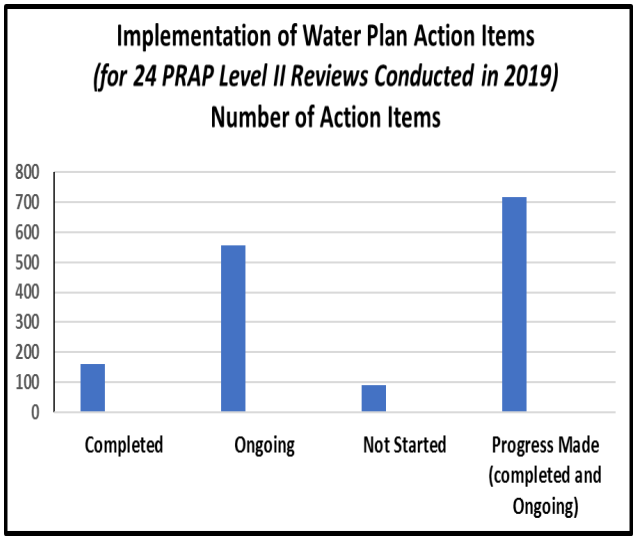
BWSR conducted standard Level II reviews of 24 LGUs in 2019: **Blue Earth County, Blue Earth SWCD, Carver SWCD, Clearwater County, Clearwater SWCD, Cook County, Cook SWCD, Crow Wing County, Crow Wing SWCD, Kanabec County, Kanabec SWCD, Lac qui Parle County, Lac qui Parle SWCD, Lower Rum River WMO, Murray County, Murray SWCD, Otter Tail County, East Otter Tail SWCD, West Otter Tail SWCD, Pennington County, Pennington SWCD, Stockton-Rollingstone-Minnesota City Watershed District, Wright County and Wright SWCD.**

In the instances where the County and the SWCD share the same local water plan *(Blue Earth, Clearwater, Cook, Crow Wing, Kanabec, Lac qui Parle, Murray, Otter Tail Pennington and Wright)* the reviews were conducted jointly. The remaining LGUs received individual reviews. Appendix G (pages 33-47) contains summaries of the performance review reports. Full reports are available from BWSR by request.

Implementation of Water Plan Action Items

Each year BWSR regional and program staff meet to discuss which LGUs should be selected for PRAP reviews. Some of the factors considered include the expiration date of water plans, whether the LGU has had a review in the past and other factors such as recent LGU staff turnover.

For the 24 local government water plans reviewed in 2019, those plans identified a combined 806 action items. Of those 806 action items in the 24 LGU water plans, 161 actions were completed, 556 were started and are ongoing and 89 action items were not started. Eighty-nine percent of those actions were implemented to some extent (either completed or ongoing). That is a high rate of implementation considering that most of the 10-year plans reviewed still had several years remaining to initiate additional projects.



Common Recommendations in 2019

While none of the findings or conclusions from these reviews apply to all LGUs, there were general observations and commonly used recommendations to improve LGU performance worth noting.

1. Resource Outcomes – Most county water plans developed prior to 2015 did not include targets or objectives for resource outcomes. These County Local Water Management Plans were developed prior to the statewide focus on resource outcomes, so most plans did not include targets or objectives for resource outcomes. All the newer One Watershed One Plans and LGU water plans developed in past few years do include targets and objectives for resource outcomes.

2. Citizen Participation – Several local governments were advised to improve participation in their Water Plan Advisory Task Force to ensure that agency and citizen representation is adequate and schedule enough meetings to efficiently develop comprehensive local water management plans through the 1W1P Program.

This recommendation recognizes the importance of keeping the water plan advisory task force engaged in both the watershed planning and implementation phases. The LGUs were encouraged to ensure that all local, state and federal agencies and citizens involved in water management can participate in these advisory groups. Some counties call task force meetings quarterly, however, at a minimum, the recommendation was made to have an annual meeting that would allow staff to communicate accomplishments in implementation of the plan for the past year and help prioritize projects for the coming year.

3. Add Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable (PTM) specifics into water plan. All the non-watershed-based Level II

PRAP reviews resulted in a recommendation that organizations include, or expand on existing use of Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable as criteria in their next water planning efforts. The PTM criteria are the new standard for One Watershed-One Plan efforts currently underway and beyond those projects, the degree to which these criteria are currently being used varies.

4. Use the major or minor watershed scale for plan organization.

BWSR has been recommending for both county water plan updates and new One Watershed-One Plan efforts currently underway that priority concerns be identified by major or minor watershed and action items also be carefully targeted to differing watershed priorities. While some recent water plans had begun to organize plans by watershed, this approach has been a standard recommendation for most PRAP Level II reports.

5. Encourage strong participation and leadership in development and implementation of One Watershed One Plans (1W1P). This recommendation focused on leadership in implementation of 1W1Ps where they have already been developed (Fillmore, Lake and Kittson Counties). For the rest of the SWCDs and counties that were reviewed in 2018, recommendations focused on strong participation and leadership in development of the 1W1P within their counties.

6. Recommendation to conduct a strategic assessment of the SWCD *(or county department)* **to determine whether existing mission, goals and staff capacity are enough to meet the demands for conservation services in the district.**

This commonly used recommendation focused on the increasing expectations and SWCD responsibilities in recent years. To meet new conservation challenges, the SWCDs were encouraged to consider conducting a strategic assessment of the SWCD to determine whether existing mission, goals and staff capacity are enough to meet the conservation needs in the county. This recommendation recognizes that even the most competent organizations will lose effectiveness when workload exceeds staffing resources over an extended period.

7. Evaluate, maintain or improve implementation of the Wetland Conservation Act.

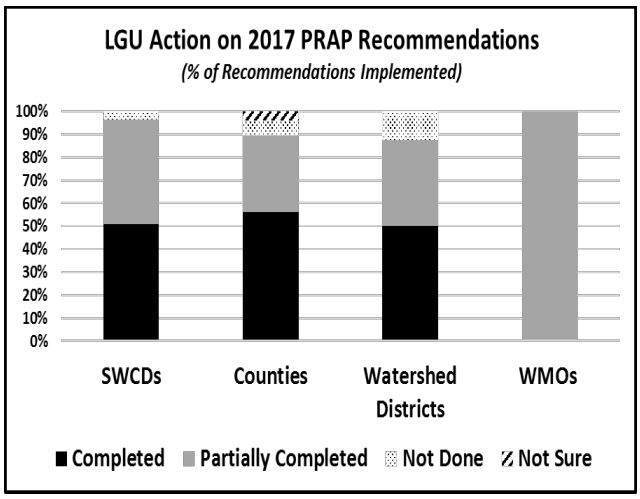
2019 was the third year that Level II reviews included an evaluation of the LGU's performance in implementing the Wetland Conservation Act. In general, most local government units were doing a good job implementing the program. However, the Level II reviews did identify several weaknesses in LGU implementation of the program. Examples of Wetland Conservation Act recommendations provided to LGUs in 2019, included update flawed LGU resolutions adopting the program, to clarify wetland appeal processes and to improve coordination with DNR Enforcement. The addition of the Wetland Conservation Act to PRAP resulted in better coordination among LGU and state agency staff for surface water management.

8. Website reporting of resource trends could be improved.

Many of the LGUs included in 2019 Level II reviews participate in or lead water quality monitoring programs, yet the use of websites to report trends and results is limited. Additional efforts to make these results easily accessible to the public would be beneficial.

Survey of LGU Implementation of PRAP Recommendations

A PRAP program goal for 2019 was to find out to what extent LGUs are following through on the recommendations BWSR offers as part of each performance review.



BWSR surveyed 24 LGUs that had a Level II performance review in 2017. Lead staff were asked to indicate the level of completion for each recommendation included in their PRAP reports. All the 24 LGUs contacted for the survey responded. Survey results showed that LGUs self-reported fully completing 53% of the recommendations and partially completing another 41%, meaning that 94% of BWSR's recommendations for these LGUs were addressed to some degree.

These survey results indicate that LGUs find most of the recommendations contained in the PRAP reports to be useful for their organizations. Additional follow up is needed to determine why some recommendations are completed while others are not fully implemented.

Action Items

During a Level II or Level III review, the LGU's compliance with performance standards is reviewed. Action items are based on the LGU's lack of compliance with BWSR's basic practice performance standards. LGU's are given an Action Item in the PRAP Report to address lack of compliance with one or more basic standards.

All Action Items identified during 2018 PRAP Level II reviews were assigned an 18-month timeline for completion. BWSR followed up with LGUs to verify completion within 18 months. The PRAP follow-up survey demonstrated that all the action items included for 2017 LGUs were implemented within 18 months *(sixteen total action items).*

Level III Implementation Results

In late 2018, program staff discussed the need for Level III performance reviews in 2019 with BWSR Regional Managers and Organizational Effectiveness Manager and concluded that no Level III reviews were needed in 2019. Instead, staff decided to do follow up on LGU recommendations for the 3 most recent Level III reviews that were completed for Wabasha SWCD, Bois de Sioux Watershed District and Pine SWCD. Below is a brief summary of LGU implementation for the Level III assessments.

Wabasha SWCD *(Level III Review completed April 2017)*: The SWCD received a $7,135 BWSR PRAP Assistance Grant in 2018 to conduct a strategic assessment of the SWCD. A workplan was completed that incorporates goals and actions from the Wabasha County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Work completed towards water plan goals is tracked within the plan throughout the year and implementation progress was presented to the Wabasha County Board. Staff provide written reports monthly for each SWCD board meeting which are included in the board packet. Priority concerns and the mission are reviewed annually at the end of the year to be approved as submitted by staff or as amended at the January board meeting.

One of the major findings of the 2017 Wabasha SWCD Level III review was the recommendation to seek additional state and federal funding for water plan

implementation projects. In 2019 the Wabasha SWCD received and is administering a $750,000 Lessard Sam's funded natural channel restoration on the North Fork of the Zumbro River at Mazeppa. A 3-year grant through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for $117,978.64 was also obtained for this project.

Bois de Sioux Watershed District *(Level III Review completed June 2017)*:

Bois de Sioux Watershed District (BdSWD) has had significant staff changes since 2017, including the hiring of an office manager, replacement of an administrator, and a retirement and replacement of a district attorney. Their annual work plan has been driven by larger landowner-initiated projects. They initiated one major project in 2017, one project in 2018, and one project in 2019. Each project takes one year of active construction and one year of close-out. All these major projects are being managed with board oversight on a month-to-month basis, with project progress monitored at monthly meetings, and with input and oversight from the board president between monthly meetings.

The BDSWD reestablished an engaged Advisory Committee *(required by M.S. 103D.331)* which is meeting twice a year. Advisory Committee members are providing input on projects, reports and maintaining communication with the BDSWD Board of Managers. Several members attend monthly BDSWD board meetings and all 6 counties and SWCDs are engaged in Mustinka-Bois de Sioux Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (CWMP) planning committees. The level of communication has improved dramatically. Interagency communication is expected to continue to improve as the Mustika-Bois de Sioux CWMP is completed and implemented.

The BDSWD added a new board member in 2019 and provided an orientation program for the new manager who was also able to attend the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) Summer Tour. BDSWD board managers and staff participated in events as their schedules allowed, attending MAWD events and Red River Watershed Management Board events and drainage conferences. Several board members also serve on other watershed-related boards and committees, and on community boards.

Pine SWCD *(Level III Review completed July 2018):* Follow up for the 2018 Level III Review of the Pine SWCD was achieved through a $8,775 PRAP Assistance Grant. The grant helped fund a strategic assessment initiated in December of 2018 and completed in May of 2019 with the assistance of a private consultant. The SWCD developed a plan that addressed the following:

- Assessed and identified Pine County natural resource threats and management needs for the next 5 years,
- reviewed current programs, delivery of services, assessed and identified organizational structure and financial resources and
- developed an action plan that will inform the Districts Annual plan of work.

One of the outcomes was the board reviews the staff's timesheets and reviews their progress report to ensure work performed aligns with the organizations mission.

The staff and board are now setting up an annual work retreat to discuss and set priorities for the coming year.

In FY19 Pine SWCD staff had applied for funding through the Clean Water Fund program to address 3 different water quality projects in the county.

The Pine SWCD is currently collaborating in three One Watershed One Plan planning efforts (Nemadji, Lower St. Croix and the Snake).

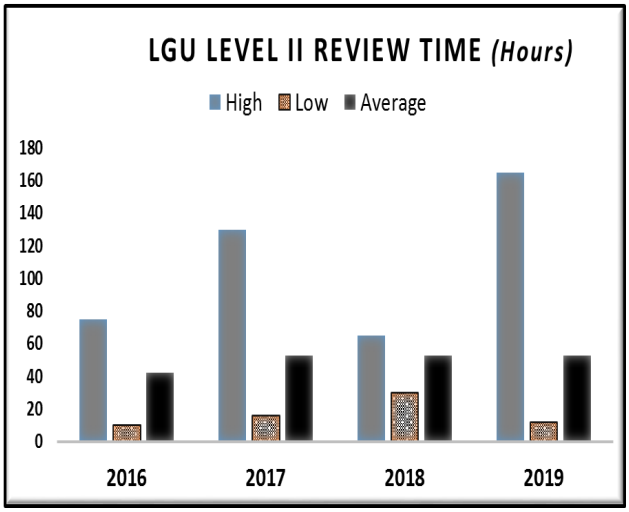
The Pine SWCD District Manager also worked with staff to develop Individual Development Plans to assist them with gaining Job Approval Authority and the District Manager presented to the Pine County Board of Commissioner on progress the district has made.

Level IV Results

No Level IV actions were conducted in 2019.

Performance Review Time

BWSR tracks the time spent by LGUs in a performance review as a substitute for accounting their financial costs. Factors affecting an LGU's time include the number of action items in their long-range plan, the number of staff who help with data collection, and the ready availability of performance data. In 2019 LGU staff spent an average of 41.5 hours on their Level II review, about the same as the previous year.



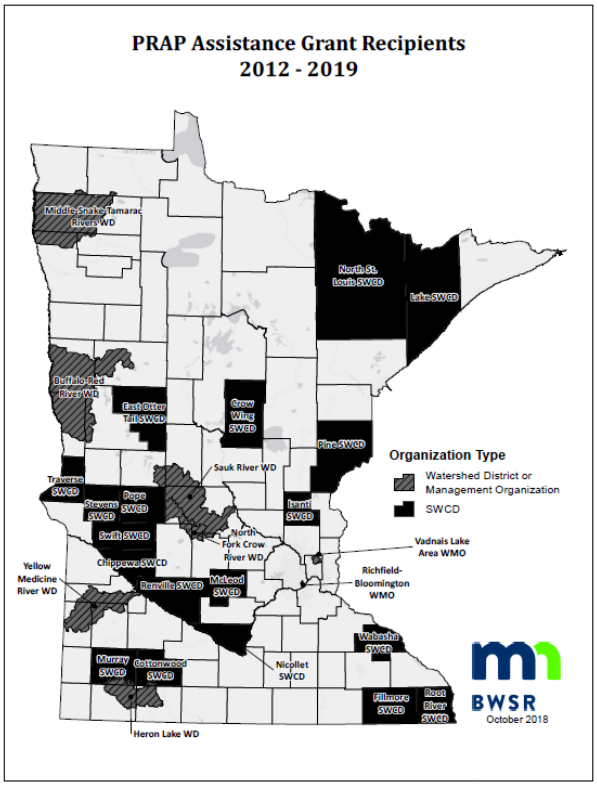
Not including overall performance review administration and process development, BWSR staff spent an average of 83.5 hours for each Level II performance review, about 6 hours higher than in 2018.

While BWSR seeks to maintain a balance between getting good information and minimizing the LGU time required to provide it. Our goal is to gather as much pertinent information as needed to assess the performance of the LGU and offer realistic and useful recommendations for improving performance.

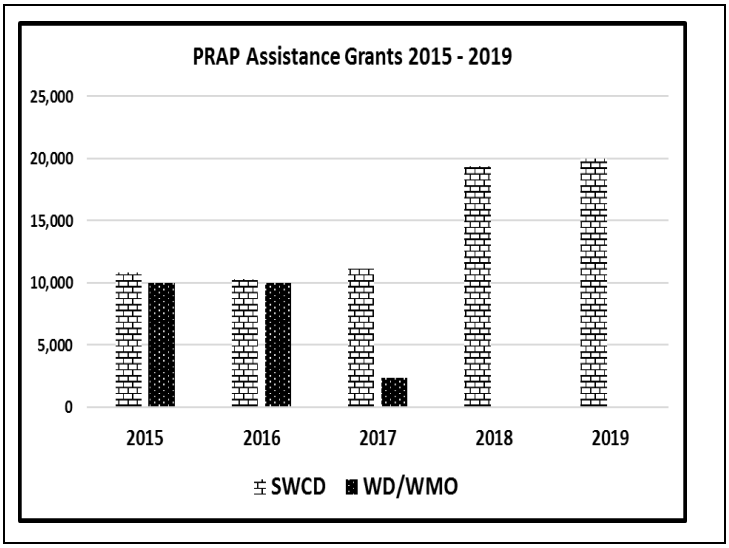
Assistance Services to Local Governments

PRAP Assistance Program

In 2012, BWSR developed the PRAP Assistance program to provide financial assistance to LGUs for improving operating performance and executing planned goals and objectives. Since the program started, more than $140,000 has been awarded to LGUs around Minnesota. Priority is given to applicants submitting projects related to eligible PRAP Level II, III, or IV recommendations, but other organizations are also eligible. The grants are made on a cost-share, reimbursement basis with a cap of $10,000 per LGU. The application process requires basic information about the need, the proposed use of funds, a timeline, and the source of match dollars. BWSR staff assess the LGU need as part of the application review process, and grants are awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis if funds are available.



In 2015, the BWSR Board delegated authority to the Executive Director to award grants or contracts for the purpose of assisting LGUs in making organizational improvements (see resolution in Appendix B). The Executive Director regularly informs Board members of assistance grant status.



In fiscal year 2019, PRAP Assistance Grants were provided for Crow Wing SWCD and Crow Wing County, Lake SWCD, Stevens SWCD and Traverse SWCD for a total of $19,995. Board Conservationists were encouraged to work with LGUs who could benefit from PRAP Assistance grants. LGUs undergoing a Level II PRAP review were also notified of PRAP assistance funding when recommendations were made for activities that would be eligible for PRAP funds.

The awarded funds will be used for the development of operating policies, organizational assessments, strategic planning and goal setting.

In 2015, BWSR changed some of the application requirements for PRAP assistance funds and provided more clarity about what types of activities and expenses are eligible for the grants. The guidance and application

information maintain the streamlined process used previously but asks applicants to describe how their Board will be involved in the project, to outline a scope of work, and to provide more detailed budget information as part of the application. The application information can be found in Appendix C.

Potential applicants can find information on the BWSR website http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/PRAP/index.html.

Reporting

Purpose of Reporting

BWSR reports on LGU performance to:

- meet the legislative mandate to provide the public with information about the performance of their local water management entities, and
- provide information that will encourage LGUs to learn from one another about methods and programs that produce the most effective results.

Report Types

PRAP either relies on or generates different types of reports to achieve the purposes listed above.

LGU-Generated
These include information posted on the LGU websites and the required or voluntary reports submitted to BWSR, other units of government, and the public about fiscal status, plans, programs and activities. These all serve as a means of communicating what each LGU is achieving and allow stakeholders to make their own evaluations of LGU performance. PRAP tracks submittal of required, self-generated LGU reports in the Level I review process.

BWSR Website
The BWSR website contains a webpage devoted to PRAP information. The site provides background information on the program including:

- Guiding principles for the program
- a description of the 4 Levels of PRAP
- Application information for PRAP grants
- Background on the PRAP Legislative Report
- Description of Level I Reporting

For more information see:
https://bwsr.state.mn.us/prap

The BWSR website also includes regularly updated maps of long-range plan status by LGU type. Visitors to the PRAP webpage can find general program information, tables of current performance standards by LGU type, summaries of Level II performance review reports, and copies of annual legislative reports.

Performance Review Reports
BWSR prepares a report containing findings, conclusions, and recommendations for each LGU subject of a Level II or Level III performance review. The LGU lead staff and board or water plan task force members receive a draft of the report to which they are invited to submit comments. BWSR then sends a final report to the LGU. A one-page summary from each review is included in the annual legislative report (see Appendices G and H). In 2014 BWSR added a resource outcome feature to all Level II reports, highlighting those changes in resource conditions related to LGU projects and program. This feature was continued in 2019.

Annual Legislative Report

As required by statute, BWSR prepares an annual report for the legislature containing the results of the previous year's program activities and a general assessment of the performance of the LGUs providing land and water conservation services and programs. These reports are reviewed and approved by the BWSR board and then sent to the chairpersons of the senate and house environmental policy committees, to statewide LGU associations and to the office of the legislative auditor.

Recognition for Exemplary Performance

The PRAP Guiding Principles include a provision for recognizing exemplary LGU performance. Each year this legislative report highlights those LGUs that are recognized by their peers or other organizations for their contribution to Minnesota's resource management and protection, as well as service to their local clientele. (See Appendix I, page 52).

For those LGUs that undergo a Level II performance review, their report lists "commendations" for compliance with each high-performance standard, demonstrating practices over and above basic requirements. All 2019 standard Level II LGUs received such commendations.

eLINK Reports and Reported Best Management Practice Implementation

Soil and Water Conservation Districts are the lead agency in Minnesota charged with working with landowners for the construction and installation of best management practices (BMPs) to control water and wind erosion and improve water quality. In addition, some watershed districts and watershed management organizations provide technical and financial assistance to landowners for installation of BMPs in Minnesota.

Each year local units of government are asked to report progress in installing BMPs to BWSR through eLINK. In 2018, the most recent year of complete reporting data, LGUs reported installation of 647 projects. These totals do not included projects funded by USDA with SWCD assistance.

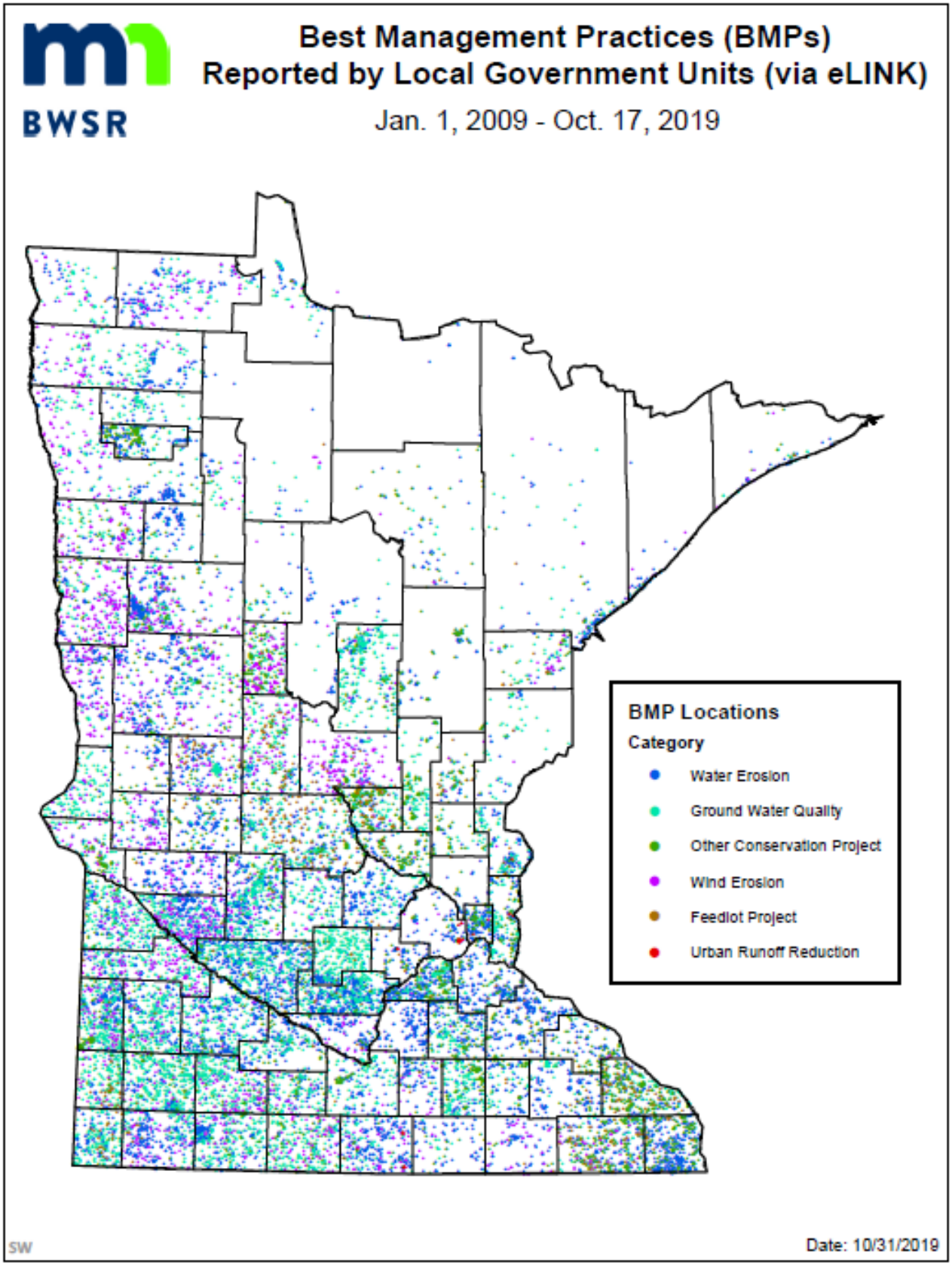
Local government units in Minnesota have been effective in implementing BMPs as part of their water plans by assisting landowners with BMP installation in recent years. (See table below). In 2018 the soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts and water management organizations reported assisting landowners with installation of 74 grade stabilization structures which resulted in an estimated reduction of 2,944 pounds of phosphorus and 3,193 tons of sediment. The LGUs assisted landowners with installation of 41 streambank and shoreline protection projects covering 8,109 lineal feet resulting in an estimated reduction of 674 pounds of phosphorus and 726 tons of sediment. Another significant BMP accomplishment was completion of 153 grassed or lined waterways resulting in an estimated reduction of 356 pounds of phosphorus and 331 tons of sediment.

Local governments reported completion of 336 other conservation practices in 2018 resulting in an estimated reduction of 1,837 pounds of phosphorus and 1,819 tons of sediment and 728 tons of soil loss reduction. Other conservation practices installed included windbreaks, shelterbelts, well sealing, upland wildlife habitat, bio-retention basins, wetland restorations, watering facilities for livestock and other conservation practices.

The map on the following page shows geographic distribution of completed BMPs that were reported by LGUs over the past 10 years.

Best Management Practices Reported by LGUs for 2018

Best Management Practice Type	Conservation Practices (number)	Estimated Phosphorus Reduction (lbs.)	Est. Sediment Reduction (tons)	Est. Soil Loss Reduction (tons)	Total Acres	Length of Practice (feet)
Sediment Control Basins & Structures	74	2,944 lbs.	3,193 tons	3,838 tons	-	-
Streambank/Shoreline Protection	41	674 lbs.	726 tons	590 tons	-	8,109 ft.
Grassed and Lined Waterways	153	356 lbs.	331 tons	349 tons	-	-
Wetland Restorations	28	-	-	-	98	-
Windbreaks & Shelterbelts	15	-	-	-	-	25,287 ft.
Other Conservation Practices	336	1,837 lbs.	1,819 tons	728 tons	2,726 ac.	2,822 ft.
TOTALS	647	5,811 lbs.	6,069 tons	5,505 tons	2,824 ac.	36,218 ft


BWSR
Best Management Practices (BMPs)
Reported by Local Government Units (via eLINK)
Jan. 1, 2009 - Oct. 17, 2019
BMP Locations
Category
Water Erosion
Ground Water Quality
Other Conservation Project
Wind Erosion
Feedlot Project
Urban Runoff Reduction
SW
Date: 10/31/2019

Program Conclusions and Future Direction

Conclusions from 2019 Reviews

- **A 2019 LGU survey showed that 94% of 2017 PRAP Level II recommendations for LGU improvements were judged to be useful or necessary, as shown by the rates at which LGUs have adopted them** *(from a follow-up survey of 24 LGUs who participated in PRAP Level II in 2017).* This compares to 92% from the follow-up survey conducted in 2018 and 90% from the follow-up survey conducted in 2017. This data shows a trend of more LGUs implementing recommendations in recent years. However, BWSR must do more to follow-up with LGUs to find out why some recommendations are not being adopted and promote PRAP Assistance Grants to implement improvements.
- **All Action Items identified during 2019 PRAP Level II reviews were assigned an 18-month timeline for completion.** BWSR followed up with the LGUs who participated in 2017 Level II reviews to verify completion of action items within 18 months. The PRAP follow-up survey demonstrated that all the action items included for 2017 LGUs were implemented within 18 months (16 total action items assigned in 2017).
- **Website reporting of resource trends could be improved.** In completing Level II reviews in 2019 stressed the importance of improving dissemination of this information to the public. Many LGUs participate in or lead water quality monitoring programs, yet the use of websites to report trends and results is limited. Additional efforts to make these results easily accessible to the public would be beneficial. BWSR made this a recommendation to most LGUs in 2019.
- **Evaluate, maintain or improve implementation of the Wetland Conservation Act.**
  2019 was the third year that Level II reviews included an evaluation of the LGU's performance in implementing the Wetland Conservation Act. In general, most local government units were doing a good job implementing the program. However, the Level II reviews did identify several weaknesses in LGU implementation of the program. Examples of Wetland Conservation Act recommendations provided to LGUs in 2019, included
    - To pass a new clarifying resolution for delegation of responsibilities for the Wetland Conservation Act,
    - To conduct a strategic assessment of organizational capacity of County and SWCD to determine the appropriate division of responsibility and funding for programs such as Local Water Planning and Wetland Conservation Act.
    - To develop policies for documenting "informal" exemption determinations that include noticing technical evaluation panel members.
    - To review and ensure that County policies and ordinances are consistent with WCA by updating ordinances and office procedures.
- **The watershed based PRAP level II process is most useful if there is an existing watershed-based plan in place.** BWSR PRAP staff continued working on an internal staff team evaluating key performance measures that may be used in the future to measure LGU progress in implementing One Watershed, One Plans. Implementation of several of these

plans has begun and progress is being made in the Lake Superior North and several other recently approved plans, but several additional years will be needed to evaluate implementation progress for most plans.

- **Reminders and incentives contribute significantly to on-time reporting by LGUs.** Overall reporting performance and plan status improved slightly in 2019. Buffer strip reporting was maintained at full LGU compliance after reaching 100% compliance in 2015 through 2018 which can be attributed to close attention from BWSR staff. In the last year WMO overall compliance improved to 94% compared to 89% in 2018 and 2017 and 78% in 2016. WD overall compliance fell slightly to 87% in 2019, compared to 89% compliance in 2018. However, it is still above the 80% in 2017 and 73% in 2016.
- **A common recommendation for several local government units in 2019 was to conduct a strategic assessment** of the LGU to determine whether existing mission, goals and staff capacity are sufficient to meet the demands and need for conservation services in the district. This recommendation was used where there appeared to be underperformance of the LGU due to shortage of staff or lack of focus on targeted land treatment and resource improvement.

Selected PRAP Program Objectives for 2020

- Track 238 LGUs' Level I performance.
- Continue efforts to improve Level I performance review reporting of all LGUs through LGU cooperation and persistent follow-up by BWSR staff, with a goal of reaching 100% compliance.
- Maintain the target of 24 Level II performance reviews per year.
- Complete up to two Level III performance reviews, if needed, in 2020.
- Provide leadership in enunciating the importance of measuring outcomes in Level II performance reviews, ways of demonstrating resource outcomes resulting from plan implementation, and set specific expectations for reporting resource outcomes by LGUs.
- Survey LGUs from 2018 Level II PRAP reviews to track LGU implementation of PRAP recommendations.
- Continue monitoring and reviewing compliance with Action Items identified during a Level II review. This will allow us to determine if we are meeting the goal of 100% compliance within 18 months for required Action Items.
- Continue the promotion and use of PRAP Assistance Grants to enhance LGU organizational effectiveness.
- Continue updating protocols for PRAP Level I and Level II reviews for performance-based funding for implementation of watershed-based One Watershed-One Plans.
- Utilize new Performance Standards Checklists for counties, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts and watershed management organizations. *(New for 2020).*
- Evaluate and develop metrics for tracking LGU implementation of the Buffer Program (*New for 2020).*
- Work with BWSR Water Planning Team to develop protocol for tracking, assessment, evaluation and reporting for One Watershed, One Plans *(New for 2020).*

Appendix A

PRAP Authorizing Legislation

103B.102, Minnesota Statutes 2013

103B.102 LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT.

Subdivision 1.**Findings; improving accountability and oversight.**

The legislature finds that a process is needed to monitor the performance and activities of local water management entities. The process should be preemptive so that problems can be identified early and systematically. Underperforming entities should be provided assistance and direction for improving performance in a reasonable time frame.

Subd. 2.**Definitions.**

For the purposes of this section, "local water management entities" means watershed districts, soil and water conservation districts, metropolitan water management organizations, and counties operating separately or jointly in their role as local water management authorities under chapter 103B, 103C, 103D, or 103G and chapter 114D.

Subd. 3. **Evaluation and report.**

The Board of Water and Soil Resources shall evaluate performance, financial, and activity information for each local water management entity. The board shall evaluate the entities' progress in accomplishing their adopted plans on a regular basis as determined by the board based on budget and operations of the local water management entity, but not less than once every ten years. The board shall maintain a summary of local water management entity performance on the board's Web site. Beginning February 1, 2008, and annually thereafter, the board shall provide an analysis of local water management entity performance to the chairs of the house of representatives and senate committees having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources policy.

Subd. 4. **Corrective actions.**

(a) In addition to other authorities, the Board of Water and Soil Resources may, based on its evaluation in subdivision 3, reduce, withhold, or redirect grants and other funding if the local water management entity has not corrected deficiencies as prescribed in a notice from the board within one year from the date of the notice.

(b) The board may defer a decision on a termination petition filed under section 103B.221, 103C.225, or 103D.271 for up to one year to conduct or update the evaluation under subdivision 3 or to communicate the results of the evaluation to petitioners or to local and state government agencies.

History:

2007 c 57 art 1 s 104; 2013 c 143 art 4 s 1

Appendix B

Board Authorization of Delegation for PRAP Assistance Grants

BOARD DECISION # 18-71

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BOARD ORDER

Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP) Assistance Service

PURPOSE

Authorize PRAP Assistance services and delegate approval of payment to the Executive Director.

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

1. The Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) regularly monitors and evaluates the performance and activities of local water management entities and provides assistance in improving performance under the authorities and requirements of Minnesota Statutes §103B.102.
2. In June 2018, the Board through Resolution #18-41 which "reconfirmed the delegation of authority to the Executive Director to approve individual PRAP Assistance grants up to $10,000, and requires that program awards are reported to the Board at least once per year."
3. The Board continues to receive requests for PRAP assistance services to address operational or service delivery needs identified through a PRAP assessment or specialized assistance request.
4. The Board has authorities under Minnesota Statutes §103B.3369 and 103B.101 to award grants and contracts to accomplish water and related land resources management.
5. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their November 26, 2018 meeting, reviewed this request and recommended the Board approve this order.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

1. Approves the allocation of designated or available funds, consistent with the appropriation of the designated or available funds, to eligible local government water management entities for fulfilling the provisions of Minnesota Statutes §103B.102.
2. Reconfirms the delegation of authority to the Executive Director to approve PRAP Assistance grants or contracts up to $10,000 per contract with a maximum of $50,000 per year and requires that program awards are reported to the Board at least once per year.
3. Establishes that all PRAP Assistance awards be cost shared by the grantee at a percentage determined by the Executive Director.
4. Authorizes staff to enter into grant agreements or contracts for these purposes.
5. Establishes that this order replaces previous Board resolution #18-41.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this December 19, 2018.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Gerald Van Amburg

Date: 12-19-2018

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Appendix C

PRAP Assistance Grant Application Information

The PRAP Assistance program provides financial assistance to LGUs to improve operating performance and execution of planned goals and objectives. Funding priority is given to activities recommended as part of a Level II, III or IV PRAP review.

Examples of eligible activities: facilitation, mediation or consulting services related to organizational improvement such as reorganizations/mergers, strategic planning, organizational development, assessments for shared services, benchmarking, non-routine audits, and staff and board capacity assessments.

Activities that are not eligible for grant funds, or to be used as LGU match: Technology upgrades (computer equipment, software, smartphones, etc.), infrastructure improvements (vehicles, office remodel, furniture), staff performance incentives (bonuses, rewards program), basic staff training (BWSR Academy fees and expenses; Wetland Delineator Certification, subjects offered at BWSR Academy, training for promotion, basic computer training), water planning, conservation practices design or installation, publication or publicity materials, food & refreshments, (other than costs associated with meetings and conferences where the primary purpose is an approved, eligible grant activity) lodging, staff salaries, and regular board member per diems.

> **Note**: Board member per diems and associated expenses outside of regular meetings, and associated with an approved, eligible activity are eligible for grant funds or can be used as match.

Grant Limit: $10,000. In most cases a 50 percent cash match will be required.

Who May Apply: County water management/environmental services; SWCDs; watershed districts; watershed management organizations. In some cases, LGU joint powers associations or boards, or other types of LGU water management partnerships will be eligible for grants. Priority is given to applicants submitting projects related to eligible PRAP Level II, III, or IV recommendations.

Terms: BWSR pays its share of the LGU's eligible expenditures as reimbursement for expenses incurred by the LGU after the execution date of the grant agreement. Reporting and reimbursement requirements are also described in the agreement. Grant agreements are processed through BWSR's eLINK system.

How to Apply: Submit an email request to Dale Krystosek, PRAP Coordinator (dale.krystosek@state.mn.us) with the following information:

1) Description, purpose and scope of work for the proposed activity (If the activity or services will be contracted, do you have a contracting procedure in by-laws or operating guidelines?)
2) Expected products or deliverables
3) Desired outcome or result
4) Does this activity address any recommendations associated with a recent Level II, III or IV PRAP Assessment? If so, describe how.
5) How has your Board indicated support for this project? How will they be kept involved?
6) Duration of activity: proposed start and end dates
7) Itemized Project Budget including

   a. Amount of request
   b. Source of funds to be used for match (cannot be state money nor in-kind)
   c. Total project budget
8) Have you submitted other funding requests for this activity? If yes, to whom and when?
9) Provide name and contact information for the person who will be managing the grant agreement and providing evidence of expenditures for reimbursement.

Appendix D

Level I: 2019 LGU Long-Range Plan Status
as of December 31, 2019

Soil and Water Conservation Districts

(Districts have a choice of option A or B)

A. Current Resolution Adopting County Local Water Management Plan
All resolutions are current.

B. Current District Comprehensive Plan
All comprehensive plans are current.

Counties

Local Water Management Plan Revision Overdue: Plan Revision in Progress

- All Plans are current

Metro County Groundwater Plan Revision Not Updated *(These Plans are Optional)*

- Ramsey
- Scott

The Carver County Groundwater Plan update was approved by BWSR in 2016. Dakota County is currently in process of development of a plan and should be submitting for BWSR Board approval in 2020. Ramsey County is currently in discussion regarding updating their plan. Anoka and Hennepin Counties have chosen not to participate in this optional program authorized under 103B.255. Scott County has decided to not update their groundwater plan. Development of these groundwater plans is optional and so they are not considered overdue.

Watershed Districts

10-Year Watershed Management Plan Revision Overdue: Plan Revision in Progress

- Pelican River Watershed District is overdue
- High Island Creek Watershed District is overdue

Watershed Management Organizations

- All Plans are current

Appendix E

Level I: Status of Annual Reports for 2018 as of December 31, 2019

Soil and Water Conservation Districts

eLINK Status Reports of Grant Expenditures

Late Reports:

- Clearwater SWCD

Counties

Drainage Authority Buffer Strip Reports

All reports submitted on time.

eLINK Status Reports of Grant Expenditures

One county submitted a late report.

Late Reports:

- None

Watershed Districts

Drainage Authority Buffer Strip Reports

All reports submitted on time.

Annual Activity Reports Not Submitted:

- Ramsey Washington Metro WD
- Joe River WD
- Stockton-Rollingstone-MN City WD
- Cormorant Lakes WD

Metro Joint Powers Watershed Management Organizations

Annual Activity Reports not submitted

- None

Appendix F

Level I: Status of Financial Reports and Audits for 2018 as of December 31, 2019

Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Annual Audits

Annual Audits Not Submitted (or submitted late)

- Cottonwood SWCD
- Steele SWCD

Watershed Districts

Annual Audits Not Completed (or submitted late):

- Cormorant Lakes WD
- Stockton-Rollingstone-MN City WD
- Joe River WD
- Lower Minnesota River WD
- Sand Hill River WD
- Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WD

Metro Joint Powers Watershed Management Organizations

Annual Audits Not Submitted:

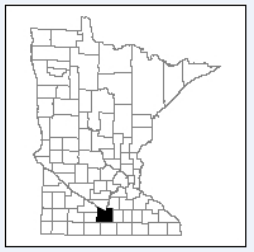
- Richfield Bloomington WMO

Appendix G

Standard Level II Performance Review

Final Report Summaries

Blue Earth County and Blue Earth Soil and Water Conservation District



Key Findings and Conclusions

The Blue Earth County Environmental Services Department (County) and the Blue Earth Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) need to continue to build a strong working relationship to meet the water management and conservation challenges in the county. For the most part, their partners believe both entities are doing good work and are good to work with. Ongoing water management challenges in southern Minnesota have created the necessity to forge new working relationships among partners to improve local water management in Blue Earth County. Strong participation in the development of One Watershed, One Plans provide an opportunity for Blue Earth County and SWCD to reorient its water planning efforts to focus on specific problems and priorities for the county's waterbodies. The partners who responded to the PRAP survey generally provided acceptable to strong marks in their judgement of the performance of the County, and good to strong marks in the performance of the SWCD.

Resource Outcomes

The current Blue Earth Local Water Management Plan does not include targets or objectives for resource outcomes.

Commendations:

The Blue Earth Soil and Water Conservation District is commended for meeting 7 of 14 high performance standards for SWCDs and the Blue Earth County Environmental Service Department is commended for meeting 9 of 13 high performance standards.

Recommendations:

Joint Recommendation 1: The County and SWCD should continue to refine identification of priority watersheds as part of future participation in One Watershed One Plan development.

Joint Recommendation 2: Continue to develop Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable criteria for Goals and Objectives in future One Watershed One Plans.

Joint Recommendation 3: Structure website information to report progress and trends made in achieving resource outcome goals and implementation of County Water Plan.

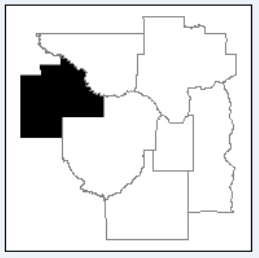
Blue Earth SWCD Recommendation 1: Develop a plan for staff training including orientation and continuing education plan and record for each staff member.

Action Items:

Blue Earth County has no action items.

Blue Earth SWCD has no action items.

Carver Soil and Water Conservation District



Key Findings and Conclusions

The Carver Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) has demonstrated effectiveness in implementation of core programs and its partners believe the SWCD is doing good work and has been good to work with. The SWCD should continue to build strong working relationships with partners to meet the water management and conservation challenges in the district. Ongoing water management challenges in the region have created the necessity to forge new working relationships among partners to improve local water management in Carver County. The opportunity for participation in the development of One Watershed, One Plans may provide collaboration opportunities for Carver SWCD and partners to reorient water planning efforts to focus on specific problems and priorities for the waterbodies within the district. The partners who responded to the PRAP survey provided good to strong marks in their judgement of the performance of the SWCD.

Resource Outcomes

The current Carver SWCD Comprehensive Management Plan does not include targets or objectives for resource outcomes.

Commendations:

The Carver Soil and Water Conservation District is commended for meeting 10 of 14 high performance standards for SWCDs.

Recommendations:

Recommendation 1: Develop Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable criteria for Goals and Objectives in the next SWCD Comprehensive Plan.

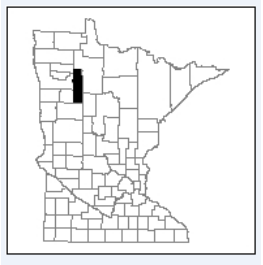
Recommendation 2: Structure website information to report progress and trends made in achieving resource outcome goals and implementation of the SWCD Comprehensive Plan.

Recommendation 3: Conduct a strategic assessment of the SWCD to determine whether existing mission, goals and staff capacity are sufficient to meet the demands for conservation services in the district.

Action Items:

Carver Soil and Water Conservation District has no action items.

Clearwater County and Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District



Key Findings and Conclusions

The Clearwater County (County) and the Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) need to continue to build a strong working relationship to meet the water management and conservation challenges in the county.

For the most part, their partners believe both entities are doing good work and are good to work with. Ongoing water management challenges in northern Minnesota have created the necessity to forge new working relationships among partners to improve local water management in Clearwater County. Strong participation in the development of One Watershed, One Plans provide an opportunity for Clearwater County and the SWCD to reorient the water planning efforts to focus on specific problems and priorities for the county's waterbodies. The partners who responded to the PRAP survey generally provided strong to acceptable ratings in their judgement of the performance of the County, and for the performance of the SWCD.

Resource Outcomes

The current Clearwater Local Water Management Plan does not include targets or objectives for resource outcomes.

Commendations:

The Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District is commended for meeting 8 of 14 high performance standards for SWCDs and the Clearwater County is commended for meeting 4 of 13 high performance standards.

Recommendations:

Joint Recommendation 1: Meet annually and expand role of Water Resource Advisory Committee to review annual accomplishments and set priorities for the next year.

Joint Recommendation 2: The County and SWCD should continue to identify priority watersheds as part of participation in 1W1P development.

Joint Recommendation 3: Continue identification of Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable criteria for Goals and Objectives in One Watershed One Plan development.

Joint Recommendation 4: Structure website information to report progress and trends made in achieving resource outcome goals and implementation of County Water Plan.

Clearwater SWCD Recommendation 1: Conduct a strategic assessment of the SWCD to determine whether existing mission, goals and staff capacity are enough to meet the demands for conservation services in the district.

Action Items:

Clearwater County and Clearwater SWCD have no action items.

Cook County and Cook Soil and Water Conservation District

Key Findings and Conclusions

The Cook County Land Services Department (County) and the Cook Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) need to continue to build a strong working relationship to meet the water management and conservation challenges in the county. For the most part, their partners believe both entities are doing good work and are good to work with. Ongoing water management challenges in northern Minnesota have created the necessity to forge new working relationships among partners to improve local water management in Cook County. Strong participation in the development of One Watershed, One Plans has provided an opportunity for Cook County and SWCD to reorient its water planning efforts to focus on specific problems and priorities for the county's waterbodies. The partners who responded to the PRAP survey provided acceptable to strong marks in their judgement of the performance of the County, and acceptable to strong marks in the performance of the SWCD.

Resource Outcomes

The current Cook Local Water Management Plan does not include targets or objectives for resource outcomes, however the Lake Superior North One Watershed One Plan does include targets and objectives for resource outcomes.

Commendations:

The Cook Soil and Water Conservation District is commended for meeting 10 of 14 high performance standards for SWCDs and the Cook County is commended for meeting 6 of 12 high performance standards.

Recommendations:

Joint Recommendation 1: Use the major or minor watershed scale for plan organization.

Joint Recommendation 2: Develop Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable criteria for Goals and Objectives in the next water management plan.

Joint Recommendation 3: Structure website information to report progress and trends made in achieving resource outcome goals and implementation of County Water Plan.

Joint Recommendation 4: Consider passing a new resolution for delegation of responsibilities for the Wetland Conservation Act.

Action Items:

Cook County has no action items.

Cook SWCD has no action items.

Crow Wing County and Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District

Key Findings and Conclusions

The Crow Wing County Land Services Department (County) and the Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) need to continue to build a strong working relationship to meet the water management and conservation challenges in the county. For the most part, their partners believe both entities are doing good work and are good to work with. New water management challenges have created the necessity to forge new working relationships among partners, but there is a strong base to build upon for future local water management in Crow Wing County. With the upcoming opportunities for development of One Watershed, One Plan, there will be an opportunity for Crow Wing County and SWCD to reorient its local water plan to specific problems and priorities for the county's waterbodies. The partners who responded to the PRAP survey provided good to strong marks in their judgement of the performance of the County, and good to strong marks in the performance of the SWCD. The county and SWCD are both making very good progress on implementing their assigned action items in the local water plan.

Resource Outcomes

The Crow Wing Local Water Management Plan does not include targets or objectives for resource outcomes.

Commendations:

The Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District is commended for meeting 10 of 14 high performance standards for SWCDs and the Crow Wing County Land Services Department is commended for meeting 7 of 13 high performance standards for counties.

Recommendations:

Joint Recommendation 1: Focus implementation of water plan projects by using Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable criteria for measuring progress for goals and objectives.

Joint Recommendation 2: Structure website information to report progress and trends made in achieving resource outcome goals and implementation of County Water Plan.

Joint Recommendation 3: Conduct a strategic assessment of organizational capacity of the Land Services Department and SWCD to determine the appropriate division of responsibility and funding for programs such as Local Water Planning and Wetland Conservation Act.

SWCD Recommendation 1: Crow Wing SWCD should resolve the action item to establish adequate operating funds in reserve.

Action Items:

Crow Wing SWCD has one action item which should be addressed in the next 18 months.

- Crow Wing SWCD should establish an adequate operating reserve fund.

Crow Wing County has one action item which should be addressed in the next 18 months.

- Crow Wing County has not posted all BWSR grant reports on their website.

Kanabec County and Kanabec Soil and Water Conservation District

Key Findings and Conclusions

The Kanabec County (County) and the Kanabec Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) need to continue to build a strong working relationship to meet the water management and conservation challenges in the county. Ongoing water management challenges in central Minnesota have created the necessity to forge new working relationships among partners to improve local water management in Kanabec County. Future participation in the development of One Watershed, One Plans provides an opportunity for Kanabec County and SWCD to reorient its water planning efforts to focus on specific problems and priorities for the county's waterbodies. The partners who responded to the PRAP survey provided wide ranging feedback with good to poor marks in their judgement of the performance of the County, and strong to poor marks in the performance of the SWCD.

Resource Outcomes

The current Kanabec Local Water Management Plan does not include targets or objectives for resource outcomes.

Commendations:

The Kanabec Soil and Water Conservation District is commended for meeting 6 of 14 high performance standards for SWCDs and the Kanabec County is commended for meeting 6 of 13 high performance standards.

Recommendations:

Joint Recommendation 1: The County and SWCD should identify priority watersheds as part of future participation in One Watershed One Plan development.

Joint Recommendation 2: Develop Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable criteria for Goals and Objectives in future One Watershed One Plans.

Joint Recommendation 3: Structure website information to report progress and trends made in achieving resource outcome goals and implementation of County Water Plan.

Kanabec SWCD Recommendation 1: Address action item within 18 months.

The Kanabec SWCD should address the action item by developing a data practices policy.

Kanabec SWCD Recommendation 2: Conduct a strategic assessment of the SWCD to determine whether existing mission, goals and staff are enough to meet demands for conservation services in the district.

Kanabec County Recommendation 1: Conduct a strategic assessment of the Planning and Zoning Department to determine whether existing mission, goals and staff capacity are sufficient to address the conservation challenges in Kanabec County.

Wetland Conservation Act Recommendation 1: Consider passing a resolution to delegate WCA decision-making authority to Kanabec County Environmental Services Department and assist cities with implementation of the program.

Wetland Conservation Act Recommendation 2: Consider policies for documenting "informal" exemption determinations that include noticing TEP members.

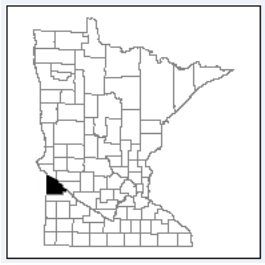
Action Items:

Kanabec County has no action items.

Kanabec SWCD has 1 action item which should be addressed in the next 18 months:

- The SWCD should develop a data practices policy.

Lac qui Parle County and Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District



Key Findings and Conclusions

The Lac qui Parle County (County) and the Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) need to continue to build a strong working relationship to meet the water management and conservation challenges in the county. For the most part, their partners believe both entities are doing good work and are good to work with. Ongoing water management challenges in south western Minnesota have created the necessity to forge new working relationships among partners to improve local water management in Lac qui Parle County. Strong participation in the development of One Watershed, One Plans provides an opportunity for Lac qui Parle County and SWCD to reorient its water planning efforts to focus on specific problems and priorities for the county's waterbodies. The partners who responded to the PRAP survey provided mostly acceptable to strong marks in their judgement of the performance of the County, and mostly acceptable to strong marks in the performance of the SWCD.

Resource Outcomes

The current Lac qui Parle Local Water Management Plan does not include targets or objectives for resource outcomes.

Commendations:

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District is commended for meeting 7 of 14 high performance standards for SWCDs and the Lac qui Parle County is commended for meeting 5 of 14 high performance standards.

Recommendations:

Joint Recommendation 1: Use the major or minor watershed scale for plan organization.

Joint Recommendation 2: Develop Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable criteria for Goals and Objectives in One Watershed One Plan or updates in the next water management plan.

Joint Recommendation 3: Structure website information to report progress and trends made in achieving resource outcome goals and implementation of County Water Plan.

Lac qui Parle SWCD Recommendation 1: SWCD should review and track training progress for existing staff and their Individual development plans.

Lac qui Parle SWCD Recommendation 2: Conduct a strategic assessment of the SWCD to determine whether existing mission, goals and staff capacity are sufficient to meet the demands for conservation services in the district.

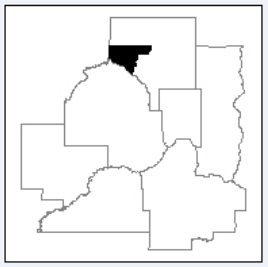
Lac qui Parle County Recommendation 1: Conduct a strategic assessment of the County Environmental Office to determine whether existing mission, goals and staff capacity are sufficient to address the conservation challenges in Lac qui Parle County.

Wetland Conservation Act Recommendation 1- Ensure that County policies and ordinances are consistent with WCA by updating ordinances and office procedures.

Action Items:

Lac qui Parle County and Lac qui Parle SWCD have no action items.

Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization



Key Findings and Conclusions

The Lower Rum River WMO has a good record of accomplishment in implementation of their current water management plan which covers the years 2011-2020.

The WMO's compliance with BWSR performance standards is good in meeting the essential, administrative, planning and communication practices that lead to an effective, efficient organization.

The WMO's partners reinforce these conclusions in their generally good marks for communication, quality of work, relations with customers and follow-through.

Resource Outcomes

The Lower Rum River WMO watershed management plan contains specific, measurable resource outcomes goals for water quality. The WMO annual water quality report contains information about the water quality results achieved in area surface waters. The Lower Rum River WMO has completed 7 action items in the current plan with another 16 activities ongoing.

Commendations

The Lower Rum River WMO is commended for meeting 5 out of 9 High Performance Standards (applicable to WMOs).

Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Develop and implement training plan for each board member.

Recommendation 2: Make water quality data and trends easily accessible to the public.

Recommendation 3: Expand the use of Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable as criteria for Goals and Objectives in the next water management plan.

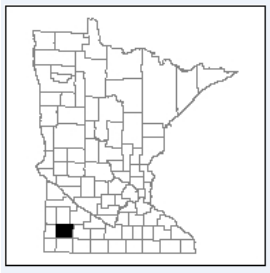
Recommendation 4: Be more pro-active, in the next water management plan, in identifying water resource issues and then addressing those issues with specific implementation activities that the WMO will be responsible for.

Action Items:

Lower Rum River WMO has 2 action items:

- The Lower Rum River WMO should develop a data practices policy and update it every 5 years.
- The WMO should maintain a functioning advisory committee.

Murray County and Murray Soil and Water Conservation District



Key Findings and Conclusions

The Murray County Environmental Services Department (County) and the Murray Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) need to continue to build a strong working relationship to meet the water management and conservation challenges in the county. For the most part, their partners believe both entities are doing good work and are good to work with. New water management challenges have created the necessity to forge new working relationships among partners, but there is a strong base to build upon for future local water management in Murray County. With the upcoming opportunities for development of One Watershed, One Plans, there will be an opportunity for Murray County and SWCD to reorient its local water plan to specific problems and priorities for the county's waterbodies. The partners who responded to the PRAP survey provided generally good marks in their judgement of the performance of the County and SWCD. The county and SWCD are both making good progress on implementing their assigned action items in the local water plan. The county and SWCD have made progress on implementing 46 of their 54 action items (85 percent). The County and SWCD have completed 3 of their action items, 43 items are ongoing, and eight action items have not been started.

Resource Outcomes

The Murray Local Water Management Plan does not include targets or objectives for resource outcomes, however the County and SWCD have been involved in development of several Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS).

Commendations:

The Murray SWCD is commended for meeting 9 of 14 high performance standards for SWCDs and the Murray County Environmental Services Department is commended for meeting 7 of 13 high performance standards for counties.

Recommendations:

Joint Recommendation 1: Be proactive in the development of the Des Moines River, Redwood River and Cottonwood River WRAPS processes, Missouri One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P), and future 1W1Ps involving Murray County.

Joint Recommendation 2: Focus implementation of water plan projects by using Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable criteria for measuring progress for goals and objectives.

Joint Recommendation 3: Structure website information to report progress and trends made in achieving resource outcome goals and implementation of County Water Plan.

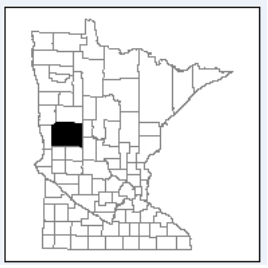
Joint Recommendation 4: Evaluate staffing needs to meet district and county priorities over the next several years.

Action Items:

Murray County does not have any action items.

Murray SWCD has no action items.

Otter Tail County Land and Resource Management Department



Key Findings and Conclusions

The Otter Tail County Land and Resource Management Department, the West Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District and the East Otter Tail SWCD have fostered a good working relationship that serves the three agencies well. For the most part, their partners believe all three local government agencies are doing good work and are good to work with.

We commend Otter Tail County and the West Otter Tail SWCD and East Otter Tail SWCD for their participation in three One Watershed, One Plans (1W1P) and leadership in development of another 1W1P, and the reorientation of its local water plan to specific problems and priorities for the county's waterbodies.

The partners who responded to the PRAP survey provided good marks in their judgement of the performance of the Otter Tail County Land and Resource Department, as well as of the two SWCDs.

Resource Outcomes

The Otter Tail Local Water Management Plan does not currently include targets or objectives for resource outcomes. We anticipate targets and objectives will be developed as part of Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans through the 1W1P program.

Commendations:

- Otter Tail County Land and Resource Department is commended for meeting 8 of 13 high performance standards for counties.

Recommendations:

Joint Recommendation 1: Continue using the major or minor watershed scale for plan organization for development of Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans (CWMP) through the 1W1P Program.

Joint Recommendation 2: Continue using Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable criteria for Goals and Objectives in the new CWMPs.

Joint Recommendation 3: Structure website information to report progress and trends made in achieving resource outcome goals.

Joint Recommendation 4: Revisit membership of the Water Plan Technical Advisory Task Force to ensure that agency and citizen representation is adequate and schedule sufficient meetings to efficiently develop CWMPs through the 1W1P Program.

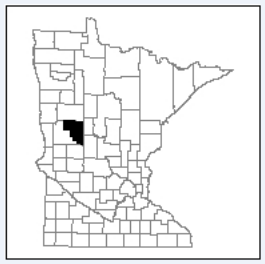
Joint Recommendation 5: Address action items and consider adding high performance standards to improve organizational performance.

Action Items:

Otter Tail County Land and Resource Department has one action items which should be addressed in the next 18 months.

- Otter Tail County Land and Resource Department should post BWSR Grant Reports on its website.

East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District



Key Findings and Conclusions

The Otter Tail County Land and Resource Management Department, the West Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District and the East Otter Tail SWCD have fostered a good working relationship that serves the three agencies well. For the most part, their partners believe all three local government agencies are doing good work and are good to work with.

We commend Otter Tail County and the West Otter Tail SWCD and East Otter Tail SWCD for their participation in three One Watershed, One Plans (1W1P) and leadership in development of another 1W1P, and the reorientation of its local water plan to specific problems and priorities for the county's waterbodies.

The partners who responded to the PRAP survey provided good marks in their judgement of the performance of the Otter Tail County Land and Resource Department, as well as of the two SWCDs.

Resource Outcomes

The Otter Tail Local Water Management Plan does not currently include targets or objectives for resource outcomes. We anticipate targets and objectives will be developed as part of Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans through the 1W1P program.

Commendations:

- The East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District is commended for meeting 6 of 14 high performance standards for SWCDs.

Recommendations:

Joint Recommendation 1: Continue using the major or minor watershed scale for plan organization for development of Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans (CWMP) through the 1W1P Program.

Joint Recommendation 2: Continue using Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable criteria for Goals and Objectives in the new CWMPs.

Joint Recommendation 3: Structure website information to report progress and trends made in achieving resource outcome goals.

Joint Recommendation 4: Revisit membership of the Water Plan Technical Advisory Task Force to ensure that agency and citizen representation is adequate and schedule sufficient meetings to efficiently develop CWMPs through the 1W1P Program.

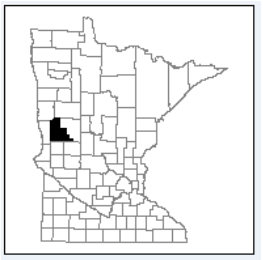
Joint Recommendation 5: Address action items and consider adding high performance standards to improve organizational performance.

Action Items:

East Otter Tail SWCD has one action items which should be addressed in the next 18 months.

- The East Otter Tail SWCD should develop a data practices policy and update it every 5 years.

West Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District



Key Findings and Conclusions

The Otter Tail County Land and Resource Management Department, the West Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District and the East Otter Tail SWCD have fostered a good working relationship that serves the three agencies well. For the most part, their partners believe all three local government agencies are doing good work and are good to work with.

We commend Otter Tail County and the West Otter Tail SWCD and East Otter Tail SWCD for their participation in three One Watershed, One Plans (1W1P) and leadership in development of another 1W1P, and the reorientation of its local water plan to specific problems and priorities for the county's waterbodies.

The partners who responded to the PRAP survey provided good marks in their judgement of the performance of the Otter Tail County Land and Resource Department, as well as of the two SWCDs.

Resource Outcomes

The Otter Tail Local Water Management Plan does not currently include targets or objectives for resource outcomes. We anticipate targets and objectives will be developed as part of Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans through the 1W1P program.

Commendations:

- The West Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District is commended for meeting 6 of 14 high performance standards for SWCDs.

Recommendations:

Joint Recommendation 1: Continue using the major or minor watershed scale for plan organization for development of Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans (CWMP) through the 1W1P Program.

Joint Recommendation 2: Continue using Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable criteria for Goals and Objectives in the new CWMPs.

Joint Recommendation 3: Structure website information to report progress and trends made in achieving resource outcome goals.

Joint Recommendation 4: Revisit membership of the Water Plan Technical Advisory Task Force to ensure that agency and citizen representation is adequate and schedule sufficient meetings to efficiently develop CWMPs through the 1W1P Program.

Joint Recommendation 5: Address action items and consider adding high performance standards to improve organizational performance.

Action Items:

West Otter Tail SWCD has one action items which should be addressed in the next 18 months.

- The West Otter Tail SWCD should develop a data practices policy and update it every 5 years.

Pennington County and Pennington Soil & Water Conservation District

Key Findings and Conclusions

The Pennington County (County) and the Pennington Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) need to continue to build a strong working relationship to meet the water management and conservation challenges in the county. For the most part, their partners believe both entities are doing good work and are good to work with. Ongoing water management challenges in northwestern Minnesota have created the necessity to forge new working relationships among partners to improve local water management in Pennington County. Strong participation in the development of One Watershed, One Plans has provided an opportunity for Pennington County and SWCD to reorient its water planning efforts to focus on specific problems and priorities for the county's waterbodies. The partners who responded to the PRAP survey provided good to strong marks in their judgement of the performance of the County, and good to strong marks in the performance of the SWCD.

Resource Outcomes

The Pennington Local Water Management Plan does not include targets or objectives for resource outcomes. Therefore, resource outcomes are not reported in this review of plan accomplishments. The recently approved Red Lake River One Watershed One Plan does include targets and objectives for resource outcomes for the areas within this watershed. As part of Water Plan implementation, since 2003, Pennington SWCD assisted landowners with installation of 594 best management practice (BMP) projects, resulting in an estimated reduction of 52,839 pounds of phosphorus, 60,555 tons of sediment and an estimated soil loss reduction of 56,602 tons. The locations of these BMP projects were mapped by minor watershed and estimates of phosphorus and sediment loading reductions were tracked by minor watershed. These totals do not include conservation projects funded by USDA with SWCD assistance.

Commendations:

The Pennington Soil and Water Conservation District is commended for meeting 7 of 14 high performance standards for SWCDs and the Pennington County is commended for meeting 5 of 14 high performance standards.

Recommendations:

Joint Recommendation 1: Continue using the major or minor watershed scale for plan organization.

Joint Recommendation 2: Continue using Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable criteria for Goals and Objectives in the next water management plan.

Joint Recommendation 3: Structure website information to report progress and trends made in achieving resource outcome goals.

Pennington SWCD Recommendation 1: Address action item within 18 months.

Action Items:

Pennington County has no action items. Pennington SWCD has 1 action item which should be addressed in the next 18 months:

- The SWCD should develop a data practices policy.

Stockton-Rollingstone-Minnesota City Watershed District

Key Findings and Conclusions

Stockton-Rollingstone-Minnesota City Watershed District has developed a role in administering local water management programs and projects. The organization is getting work done despite a limited budget and no staff, mostly due to staff assistance from Winona County.

With the upcoming opportunity to participate in One Watershed, One Plan development, there is an opportunity for the Stockton-Rollingstone-Minnesota City Watershed District to focus its local water plan to problems and priorities specific to the watershed's streams, and to provide resource specific outcomes.

The Stockton-Rollingstone-Minnesota City Watershed District shows limited compliance with BWSR's basic and high-performance standards.

Resource Outcomes

The Stockton-Rollingstone-Minnesota City Watershed District Plan does not contain resource outcome goals and objectives.

Commendations

The Stockton-Rollingstone-Minnesota City Watershed District is commended for meeting 4 out of 13 High Performance Standards

Action Items – The Stockton-Rollingstone-Minnesota City Watershed District has three action items which should be addressed within the next 18 months:

- The Watershed District should complete a financial audit.
- The Watershed District should develop a data practices policy.
- The Watershed District should develop a functioning advisory committee.

Recommendations:

Recommendation 1: Attend training sessions and connect with Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD).

Recommendation 2: Conduct a strategic assessment of the Watershed District to determine whether existing mission, goals are enough to meet the demands for conservation services in the district.

Recommendation 3: Expand the use of Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable as criteria for Goals and Objectives in the next water management plan update.

Recommendation 4: Participate in the development of the Mississippi River-Winona One Watershed One plan using the major or minor watershed scale for plan organization.

Recommendation 5: Complete the action items within 18 months.

Wright County and Wright Soil and Water Conservation District

Key Findings and Conclusions

The Wright County (County) and the Wright Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) have demonstrated effectiveness in implementation of core programs and its partners believe the SWCD is doing good work and has been good to work with. The SWCD should continue to build a strong working relationship to meet the water management and conservation challenges in the county. Ongoing water management challenges in Minnesota have created the necessity to forge new working relationships among partners to improve local water management in Wright County. Strong participation in the development of One Watershed, One Plans provide an opportunity for Wright County and SWCD to reorient its water planning efforts to focus on specific problems and priorities for the county's waterbodies. The partners who responded to the PRAP survey generally provided good to poor marks in their judgement of the performance of the County, and acceptable to strong marks in the performance of the SWCD.

Resource Outcomes

The current Wright Local Water Management Plan does not include targets or objectives for resource outcomes.

Commendations:

The Wright Soil and Water Conservation District is commended for meeting 8 of 14 high performance standards for SWCDs and the Wright County is commended for meeting 8 of 13 high performance standards.

Recommendations:

Joint Recommendation 1: Use the major or minor watershed scale for plan organization.

Joint Recommendation 2: Develop Prioritized, Targeted and Measurable criteria for Goals and Objectives in the next water management plan.

Joint Recommendation 3: Structure website information to report progress and trends made in achieving resource outcome goals and implementation of County Water Plan.

Wright SWCD Recommendation 1: Conduct a strategic assessment of the SWCD to determine whether existing mission, goals and staff capacity are enough to meet the demands for conservation services in the district.

Wright County Recommendation 1: Conduct a strategic assessment of the Planning and Zoning Department to determine whether existing mission, goals and staff capacity are enough to address the conservation challenges in Wright County.

Action Items:

Wright County and Wright SWCD have no action items.

Appendix H

Performance Standards Checklists used in Level II Reviews

COUNTY LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

LGU Name: _____

Performance Area	Performance Standard ■ Basic practice or statutory requirement ★ High Performance standard (see instructions for explanation of standards)	Level of Review I Annual Compliance II BWSR Staff Review & Assessment (1/10 yrs)	Rating Yes, No, or Value YES	NO
Admin	■ eLINK Grant Report(s): submitted on time	I		
	■ **County has resolution assuming WCA responsibilities and delegation resolutions (if needed).**	II		
	■ **County has knowledgable and trained staff to manage WCA program or secured a qualified delegate.**	II		
	■ Drainage authority buffer strip report submitted on time	I		
	★ Public drainage records: meet modernization guidelines	II		
Planning	■ Local water mgmt plan: current	I		
	★ Metro counties: groundwater plan up-to-date	I		
	■ Biennial Budget Request submitted on-time	I		
	★ Prioritized, Targeted & Measureable criteria are used for Goals & Objectives in local water management plan as appropriate.	II		
	★ Water quality trend data used for short- and long-range plan priorities	II		
Execution	■ **WCA decisions and determinations are made in conformance with WCA requirements.**	II		
	■ **WCA TEP reviews and recommendations are appropriately coordinated.**	II		
	★ **Certified wetland delineator on staff or retainer**	II		
	★ Water quality data collected to track outcomes for each priority concern	II		
	★ Water quality trends tracked for priority water bodies	II		
Communication & Coordination	■ BWSR grant report(s) posted on website	I		
	★ Communication piece sent within last 12 months: indicate target audience below	II		
	Communication Target Audience:			
	★ Obtain stakeholder input: within last 5 yrs	II		
	★ Partnerships: liaison with SWCDs/WDs and cooperative projects/tasks done	II		
	★ Annual report to water plan advisory committee on plan progress	II		
	★ Track progress for I & E objectives in Plan	II		
	★ County local water plan on county website	II		
	★ Water management ordinances on county website	II		

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

LGU Name: _____

Performance Area	Performance Standard ■ Basic practice or Statutory requirement ★ High Performance standard **(see instructions for explanation of standards)**	Level of Review **I** Annual Compliance **II** BWSR Staff Review & Assessment (1/10 yrs)	Rating Yes, No, or Value **YES**	**NO**
Administration	■ Financial statement: annual, on-time and complete	I		
	■ Financial audit: completed as required by statute (see guidance) or as per BWSR correspondence	I		
	■ eLINK Grant Report(s) submitted on-time	I		
	■ Data practices policy: exists and reviewed/updated within last 5 yrs	II		
	■ Personnel policy: exists and reviewed/updated within last 5 yrs	II		
	■ **Technical professional appointed and serving on WCA TEP**	II		
	■ **SWCD has an adopting resolution assuming WCA responsibilities and appropriate decision delegation resolutions as warranted (If WCA LGU)**	II		
	★ Job approval authorities: reviewed and reported annually	II		
	★ Operational guidelines and policies exist and are current	II		
	★ Board training: orientation & cont. ed. plan and record for each board member	II		
	★ Staff training: orientation and cont. ed. plan/record for each staff member	II		
Planning	■ Comprehensive Plan: updated within 5 yrs or current resolution adopting unexpired county LWM plan	I		
	■ Biennial Budget Request submitted on time	I		
	★ Prioritized, Targeted and Measureable criteria are used for Goals and Objectives in the local water management plan as appropriate.	II		
	★ Annual Plan of Work: based on comp plan, strategic priorities	II		
Execution	■ Are state grant funds spent in high priority problem areas	II		
	■ Total expenditures per year (over past 10 yrs)	II	see below	
	■ Months of operating funds in reserve	II		
	■ **Replacement and restoration orders are prepared in conformance with WCA rules and requirements.**	II		
	■ **WCA TEP member is knowledgeable/trained in WCA technical aspects**	II		
	■ **WCA TEP member contributes to TEP reviews, findings & recommendations**	II		
	■ **WCA decisions and determinations are made in conformance with all WCA requirements (If WCA LGU)**	II		
	■ **WCA TEP reviews/recommendations appropriately coordinated(if LGU)**	II		
	★ **Certified wetland delineator: on staff or retainer**	II		
	★ Outcome trends monitored and reported for key resources	II		
Communication & Coordination	■ Website contains all required content elements	I		
	★ Website contains additional content beyond minimum required	II		
	★ Track progress on I & E objectives in Plan	II		
	★ Obtain stakeholder input: within last 5 yrs	II		
	★ Annual report communicates progress on plan goals	II		
	★ Partnerships: cooperative projects/tasks with neighboring districts, counties, watershed districts, non-governmental organizations	II		
	★ Coordination with County Board by supervisors or staff	II		

METRO WATERSHED DISTRICT and WMO PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

LGU Name: _____

Performance Area	Performance Standard	Level of Review	Rating	
	★ High Performance standard ■ Basic practice or statutory requirement (see instructions for explanation of standards)	I Annual Compliance II BWSR Staff Review & Assessment (1/5 yrs)	Yes, No, or Value	
			YES	NO
Administration	■ Activity report: annual, on-time	I		
	■ Financial report & audit completed on time	I		
	■ Drainage authority buffer strip report submitted on time	I		
	■ eLink Grant Report(s): submitted on time	I		
	■ Rules: date of last revision or review	II	mo/yr	
	■ Personnel policy: exists and reviewed/updated within last 5 yrs	II		
	■ Data practices policy: exists & reviewed/updated within last 5 yrs	II		
	■ Manager appointments: current and reported	II		
	■ Consultant RFP: within 2 yrs for professional services	II		
	■ **WD/WMO has resolution assuming WCA responsibilities and appropriate delegation resolutions as warranted**(N/A if not LGU)	II		
	■ **WD/WMO has knowledgable & trained staff that manages WCA program or has secured a qualified delegate.** (N/A if not WCA LGU)	II		
	★ Administrator on staff	II		
	★ Board training: orient.& cont. ed. Plan, record for each board member	II		
	★ Staff training: orient. & cont. ed. plan and record for each staff person	II		
	★ Operational guidelines for fiscal procedures and conflicts of interest exist and current	II		
	★ Public drainage records: meet modernization guidelines	II		
Planning	■ Watershed management plan: up-to-date	I		
	■ City/twp. local water plans not yet approved	II		
	■ Capital Improvement Program: reviewed every 2 yrs	II		
	★ Biennial Budget Request submitted on time	II		
	★ Strategic plan identifies short-term priorities	II		
Execution	■ Engineer Reports: submitted for DNR & BWSR review	II		
	■ **WCA decisions and determinations are made in conformance with all WCA requirements.** (if delegated WCA LGU)	II		
	■ **WCA TEP reviews & recommendations appropriately coordinated.** (if delegated WCA LGU)	II		
	■ Total expenditures per year (past 10 yrs)	II	see below	
	★ Water quality trends tracked for key water bodies	II		
	★ Watershed hydrologic trends monitored / reported	II		
Communication & Coordination	■ Website: contains informationas required by MR 8410.0150 Subp. 3a, i.e. as board meeting, contact information, water plan, etc.	II		
	■ Functioning advisory committee(s): recommendations on projects, reports, 2-way communication with Board	II		
	■ Communication piece: sent within last 12 months	II		
	Communication Target Audience:			
	★ Track progress for I & E objectives in Plan	II		
	★ Coordination with County Board, SWCD Board, City/Twp officials	II		
	★ Partnerships: cooperative projects/tasks with neighboring organizations, such as counties, soil and water districts, watershed districts and non-governmental organizations	II		

GREATER MN WATERSHED DISTRICT PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

LGU Name: _____

Performance Area	Performance Standard	Level of Review	Rating	
	★ High Performance standard ■ Basic practice or Statutory requirement (see instructions for explanation of standards)	I Annual Compliance II BWSR Staff Review & Assessment (1/10 yrs)	Yes, No, or Value	
			YES	NO
Administration	■ Annual report: submitted by mid-year	I		
	■ Financial audit: completed within last 12 months	I		
	■ Drainage authority buffer strip report submitted on time	I		
	■ eLink Grant Report(s): submitted on time	I		
	■ Rules: date of last revision or review	II	mo/yr	
	■ Personnel policy: exists and reviewed/updated within last 5 yrs	II		
	■ Data practices policy: exists and reviewed/updated within last 5 yrs	II		
	■ Manager appointments: current and reported	II		
	■ **WD has resolution assuming WCA responsibilities & appropriate delegation resolutions as warranted.** (N/A if not LGU)	II		
	■ **WD has knowledgable & trained staff that manages WCA program or has secured a qualified delegate.** (N/A if not WCA LGU)	II		
	★ Administrator on staff	II		
	★ Board training: orientation & cont. ed. Plan/record for each board member	II		
	★ Staff training: orientation & cont. ed. Plan/record for each staff	II		
	★ Operational guidelines exist and current	II		
	★ Public drainage records: meet modernization guidelines	II		
Planning	■ Watershed management plan: up-to-date	I		
	★ Biennial Budget Request submitted on time	II		
	★ Strategic plan identifies short-term activities & budgets based on state and local watershed priorities	II		
	★ Member of County Water Plan Advisory Committee(s)	II		
Execution	■ Engineer Reports: submitted for DNR & BWSR review	II		
	■ **WCA decisions and determinations made in conformance with all WCA requirements.** (N/A if not LGU)	II		
	■ **WCA TEP reviews/recommendations coordinated** (N/A if not LGU)	II		
	■ Total expenditures per year for past 10 years	II	attach	
	★ Water quality trends tracked for key water bodies	II		
	★ Watershed hydrologic trends monitored / reported	II		
Communication &Coordination	■ Functioning advisory committee: recommendations on projects, reports, maintains 2-way communication with Board	II		
	■ Communication piece sent within last 12 months	II		
	★ Website: contains annual report, financial statement, board members, contact info, grant report(s), watershed management plan, meeting notices, agendas & minutes, updated after each board	II		
	★ Obtain stakeholder input: within last 5 yrs	II		
	★ Track progress for I & E objectives in Plan	II		
	★ Coordination with County Board, SWCD Board,City/Twp officials	II		
	★ Partnerships: cooperative projects/tasks with neighboring districts, counties, soil and water districts, non-governmental organizations	II		

Appendix I

2019 Local Government Performance Awards and Recognition

(Awarding agency listed in parentheses.)

Outstanding Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Employee
(Board of Water and Soil Resources)
Nicole Bernd, West Polk SWCD Manager

Outstanding SWCD Supervisor Award
(Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts)
James Ballenthin, Cass Soil and Water Conservation District

SWCD of the Year
(Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts)
Wilkin Soil and Water Conservation District

SWCD Appreciation Award
(Department of Natural Resources)
Benton Soil and Water Conservation District

Community Conservationist Award
(Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts/Minnesota Pollution Control Agency)
Kyle Crocker (Nominated by Beltrami Soil and Water Conservation District)

Outstanding Forest Steward Award
(Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts/Department of Natural Resources)
Gary Roerick (Nominated by Hubbard Soil and Water Conservation District)

Outstanding Watershed District Employee
(Board of Water and Soil Resources)
Matt Kocian, Rice Creek Watershed District

Watershed District of the Year
(Department of Natural Resources)
Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District

Program of the Year Award
(Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts)
Coon Creek Watershed District, Reaching out about Contaminants of Emerging Concern

WD Project of the Year
(Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts)
Buffalo-Red River Watershed District, Project No. 49 Oakport Flood Mitigation

NEW BUSINESS

1. Vice Chair Election – John Jaschke – ***DECISION ITEM***

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Vice Chair Election**

Meeting Date: January 22, 2020

Agenda Category: ☐ Committee Recommendation ☒ New Business ☐ Old Business

Item Type: ☒ Decision ☐ Discussion ☐ Information

Section/Region:

Contact: Rachel Mueller

Prepared by: Rachel Mueller

Reviewed by: John Jaschke Committee(s)

Presented by: John Jaschke

Time requested: 5 minutes

☐ **Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation**

Attachments: ☐ Resolution ☐ Order ☐ Map ☐ Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

☒ None
☐ Amended Policy Requested
☐ New Policy Requested
☐ Other:

☐ General Fund Budget
☐ Capital Budget
☐ Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget
☐ Clean Water Fund Budget

ACTION REQUESTED

Elect Vice Chair for the Board of Water and Soil Resources

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

https://bwsr.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/2018-12/BWSR%20Board%20bylaws%20accessible_0.pdf

SUMMARY (*Consider: history, reason for consideration now, alternatives evaluated, basis for recommendation*)

According to bylaws, the Vice-Chair will be elected to a two-year term by the members of the Board. They will be elected by majority vote at the first regularly scheduled meeting of every even calendar year.