

FINAL REPORT SUMMARY

PRAP

**Performance Review and Assistance Program
2009 Level II Review:
Bois de Sioux Watershed District** (*Wilkin, Traverse, Grant, Stevens, Big Stone, Ottertail Counties*)

Why BWSR did this review

BWSR conducts Level II performance reviews to help local government water management entities to be the best they can be in plan implementation and overall operational effectiveness. In 2009 BWSR is conducting Level II performance reviews of nine different local water management entities.

BWSR has conducted a routine Level II performance review of the **Bois de Sioux Watershed District** because they are near the midpoint in implementing their 10-year watershed management plan.

This document includes findings and recommendations to enhance the overall operation and effectiveness of the district. The board of managers is responsible for taking any actions they deem necessary in response to this report.

Bois de Sioux Watershed District Summary of Performance Review Results What BWSR Found

The BdSWD has established in its 2003 overall plan an ambitious and comprehensive program for watershed management. Their experience with and confidence in the collaborative project team process is demonstrated by their consistent use of this approach in project development and implementation. The North Ottawa Impoundment project is an example of the managers' commitment to achieving all the goals of their overall plan, which are integrated in this one project.



Based on information provided by the managers, the board reviews the management plan objectives in the context of deciding whether to pursue potential projects. While some project development is inevitably opportunity driven, the overall management of the district may be enhanced by the managers annually reviewing their management plan goals and objectives and setting short-term objectives accordingly.

The district needs to take action to continue the development of their website by including a copy of their most recent annual report.

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District is commended for meeting these high performance standards:

- ★ Administrator on staff
- ★ Current operational guidelines exist
- ★ Plan goals and objectives guide annual budgeting
- ★ Water quality trends tracked for priority water bodies
- ★ Watershed yield trends monitored and reported
- ★ Obtained stakeholder input in the past 5 years
- ★ Coordination with county, city and township officials
- ★ Cooperative projects/tasks done with other agencies.

In addition to the website content action item, BWSR recommends that the district add a plan review to its short-term (annual) planning, and consider how to maintain good communication with six counties and soil and water conservation districts. The watershed district sent a detailed response to the draft report.