

FINAL REPORT SUMMARY

PRAP

Performance Review and Assistance Program

2009 Level II Review: West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission (Hennepin County)

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 conducted Level II performance reviews of nine different local water management entities.

BWSR has conducted a routine Level II performance review of the **West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission** because they are near the midpoint in implementing their 10-year watershed management plan.

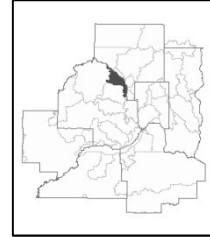
This document includes findings and a few recommendations to enhance the overall operation and effectiveness of the watershed management commission. The commissioners are responsible for taking any actions they deem necessary in response to this report.

West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission

Summary of Performance Review Results

What BWSR Found

The West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission has taken good advantage of their partnership with the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission to start or complete a significant percentage of their watershed management plan action items.



However, some of the action items dealing with key aspects of watershed management, particularly monitoring of stream flow and quality, groundwater, and wetland quality, have not been pursued aggressively. By working from the same plan as the Shingle Creek Commission, the West Mississippi Commission has adopted goals for urban water management that may not apply as well to their watershed. Nevertheless, this PRAP review holds the commission accountable for progress on those goals and objectives. The commission should be further along in accomplishing their objectives at this point in the process.

The commission has met all but two of BWSR's basic performance standards for metro WMOs. They need to address the timeliness and content of their annual activity reports, and adopt a data practices policy.

The Commission is commended for meeting these high performance standards:

- ★ Board member training
- ★ Operational guidelines exist and current
- ★ Plan goals and objectives guide annual budgeting
- ★ Website content
- ★ Obtained stakeholder input
- ★ Partnerships/cooperative projects/tasks with others
- ★ Coordination with county/city/township

BWSR recommends that the commission consider: ensure that their annual activity reports are submitted on time, adopt a data practices policy and procedures, re-evaluate their mission and vision, and begin tracking public education outcomes.