



DATE: June 16, 2021

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

FROM: John Jaschke, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: BWSR Board Meeting Notice – June 23, 2021

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will meet on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held in the lower level Board Room, at 520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul and by WebEx. Due to COVID-19, access to the MPCA/BWSR office is limited. Individuals interested in attending the meeting should do so by either 1) logging into WebEx by going to the following website: <https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/onstage/g.php?MTID=e3b9105e2aff20083f052d02bd341fe5b>, and entering the password: webex, or 2) join by audio only conference call by calling telephone number: 415-655-0003 and entering the access code: 187 140 6464.

The following information pertains to agenda items:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Northern Region Committee

1. **Two Rivers Plus Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan** – The Two Rivers Plus watershed was selected by BWSR for a One Watershed, One Plan program planning grant in August of 2018. The watershed partnership Policy Committee, Advisory Committee, and Steering Team members have attended regularly scheduled meetings and submitted the Two Rivers Plus Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan to BWSR on May 14, 2021, for review and approval. The Northern Regional Committee met on June 2, 2021, to review the content of the Plan, State agency comments on the Plan, and to make a recommendation for approval. The Committee recommends approval of the submitted Plan by the full Board. **DECISION ITEM**

Grants Program and Policy Committee

1. **FY 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Policy and the FY2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program authorization** – The Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Policy is reviewed and approved annually. For FY2022, the policy will apply to Projects and Practices and Multi-purpose Drainage Management funding.

The changes in this policy from the previous year include:

- Modification of eligible applicants to clarify municipalities that have adopted a comprehensive watershed management plan developed under the 1W1P program are eligible
- Clarification on project support
- Change to clarify maximum cost for feedlot roof structures and relocations
- Addition made to ineligible activities (out-letting land locked basins; development & delivery of education/curriculum that does not lead to implementation of WQ practices; activities required under the Groundwater Protection Rule)
- Adding clause related to failure to maintain practices

In addition to approving the policy, the board order also authorizes the fiscal year 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program and authorizes staff to finalize and issue a Request for Proposals. The Grants Program and Policy Committee reviewed these recommendations on June 15, 2021 and recommends the attached policy and order to the board. **DECISION ITEM**

2. **Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Natural Resources Block Grants Authorization** – The purpose of this agenda item is to allocate Natural Resources Block Grants. The recommended grants are consistent with the previous year. The Grants Program & Policy Committee (GP&P) reviewed the recommendations at their June 15 meeting and recommended approval of the order to the board. **DECISION ITEM**
3. **Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Soil and Water Conservation District Grants Authorization** – The purpose of this agenda item is to allocate FY 2022 and 2023 SWCD Programs and Operations Grants. The recommended grants are consistent with the previous year. The Grants Program & Policy Committee reviewed the recommendations at their June 15, 2021 meeting and recommended approval of the order to the board. **DECISION ITEM**
4. **Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Technical Service Area Grants Authorization** – The purpose of this agenda item is to allocate Technical Service Area (TSA) Grants. The recommended grants are consistent with allocations to each TSA except for the equipment funds which are rotated on an established schedule. The Grants Program & Policy Committee reviewed the recommendations at their June 15, 2021 meeting and recommended approval of the order to the board. **DECISION ITEM**

If you have any questions regarding the agenda, please feel free to call me at 651-297-4290. We look forward to seeing you on June 23.

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD NORTH
ST. PAUL, MN 55155
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2021**

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

9:00 AM CALL MEETING TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2021 BOARD MEETING

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

WELCOME/INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

- Teresa Pickar, Financial Analyst

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 – Joe Collins
- Executive Director – John Jaschke
- Dispute Resolution and Compliance Report – Travis Germundson/Rich Sve
- Grants Program & Policy Committee – Tom Schulz
- RIM Reserve Committee – Jayne Hager Dee
- Water Management & Strategic Planning Committee – Andrea Date
- Wetland Conservation Committee – Jill Crafton
- Buffers, Soils & Drainage Committee – Kathryn Kelly
- Drainage Work Group – Neil Peterson/Tom Gile

AGENCY REPORTS

- Minnesota Department of Agriculture – Thom Petersen
- Minnesota Department of Health – Steve Robertson
- 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 – Nicole Bernd
- Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts – LeAnn Buck
- Minnesota Association of Townships – Karl-Christian Johannessen
- Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts – Emily Javens
- Natural Resources Conservation Service – Troy Daniell

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Northern Region Committee

1. Two Rivers Plus Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan – Neil Peterson – ***DECISION ITEM***

Grants Program and Policy Region Committee

1. FY 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Policy and the FY2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program authorization – Shaina Keseley – ***DECISION ITEM***
2. Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Natural Resources Block Grants Authorization – Kevin Bigalke and Marcey Westrick – ***DECISION ITEM***
3. Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Soil and Water Conservation District Grants Authorization – Kevin Bigalke and Marcey Westrick – ***DECISION ITEM***
4. Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Technical Service Area Grants Authorization – Kevin Bigalke and Marcey Westrick – ***DECISION ITEM***

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- BWSR Board Tour and Meeting, August 25-26, 2021

ADJOURN

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD NORTH
LOWER LEVEL BOARD ROOM
ST. PAUL, MN 55155
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2021**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joe Collins, Jill Crafton, Andrea Date, Jayne Hager Dee, Kathryn Kelly, Neil Peterson, Nathan Redalen, Tom Schulz, Rich Sve, Gerald Van Amburg, Ted Winter, Katrina Kessler, MPCA; Joel Larson, University of Minnesota Extension; Whitney Place, MDA; Steve Robertson, MDH; Sarah Strommen, DNR

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

John Jaschke, Angie Becker Kudelka, Rachel Mueller, Kevin Bigalke, Tom Gile, Travis Germundson, Dave Weirens, Marcey Westrick, Rita Weaver, Patrick Schulz, Ryan Hughes, Suzanne Rhees, Melissa King, Amanda Deans, Steve Christopher, Julie Westerlund

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jeff Berg, MDA; Brian Martinson, AMC; Emily Javens, MAWD; Linda Vavra, Rebecca Carlson, Kristine Jenson, Karl-Christian Johannessen, Dale Homuth

Chair Gerald VanAmburg called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**
21-06 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** - Moved by Neil Peterson, seconded by Jill Crafton, to adopt the agenda as presented. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*

Roll Call Vote: Adoption of the agenda

Name of Board member	Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained	Absent
Joe Collins	X			
Jill Crafton	X			
Andrea Date	X			
Jayne Hager Dee	X			
Steve Robertson (MDH)	X			
Katrina Kessler (MPCA)	X			
Kathryn Kelly	X			
Sarah Strommen (DNR)	X			
Joel Larson	X			
Neil Peterson	X			
Nathan Redalen	X			
Tom Schulz	X			
Whitney Place (MDA)				X
Rich Sve	X			
Ted Winter	X			
Gerald Van Amburg, Chair	X			
TOTALS	15			1

**
21-07 **MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2021 BOARD MEETING** – Moved by Nathan Redalen, seconded by Kathryn Kelly, to approve the minutes of January 27, 2021, as circulated. *Motion passed on a voice vote.*

Roll Call Vote: Approval of the Minutes of January 27, 2021 Board Meeting

Name of Board member	Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained	Absent
Joe Collins	X			
Jill Crafton	X			
Andrea Date	X			
Jayne Hager Dee	X			
Steven Robertson (MDH)	X			
Katrina Kessler (MPCA)	X			
Kathryn Kelly	X			
Sarah Strommen (DNR)	X			
Joel Larson	X			
Neil Peterson	X			
Nathan Redalen	X			
Tom Schulz	X			

Whitney Place (MDA)				X
Rich Sve	X			
Ted Winter				X
Gerald Van Amburg, Chair	X			
TOTALS	14			2

PUBLIC ACCESS FORUM

No members of the public provided comments to the board.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

- Marcey Westrick, Central Region Manager – Kevin Bigalke introduced Marcey.
- Amanda Deans, Regional Training Engineer – Rita Weaver introduced Amanda
- Pat Schultz, Regional Training Engineer – Rita Weaver introduced Pat

REPORTS

Chair & Administrative Advisory Committee – Chair Gerald Van Amburg reported the committee has not met.

The performance review for BWSR Executive Director has been completed. Chair Van Amburg and Vice Chair Schulz met with Executive Director Jaschke and discussed the report.

Chair Van Amburg thanked BWSR staff Dan Steward and Tabor Hoek for their service over the years and congratulated them on their retirements.

At the February 17 Environmental Quality Board, they were given the opportunity to hear from the author Jill Harrison on her book titled From the Inside Out: The Fight for Environmental Justice within Government Agencies. At the March 17 meeting they held an Environmental Review Climate Change Listening Session. There was also an overview given by staff on the Draft Recommendations for Integrating Climate Change Information into the Environmental Review Process. This spring EQB will be piloting a virtual community climate change conversation. They will meet with communities to get diverse perspectives on how climate change is affecting communities.

Theresa Haugen will be the new MCPA representative for the Northern Region Committee.

Tom Schulz asked if the email announcing the retirements of Tabor Hoek and Dan Steward be sent to board members. John Jaschke stated Rachel Mueller will forward the email.

Audit and Oversight Committee – Joe Collins reported the committee has not met.

Executive Director’s Report - John Jaschke reviewed the day-of packet that included supplemental documents, Snapshots, org chart, phone list, and an expense form.

Legislative session is halfway through and the Senate and House are putting together their budget proposals this week. In the Governor’s supplemental budget there was an additional recommendation for bonding funds for CREP. It also included a recommendation for SWCD capacity funding and giving SWCD levy authority. The Governor’s recommendations also included expending the unallocated amount of the Clean Water Fund.

Will have virtual listening sessions with local government partners in the upcoming months.

Tabor Hoek and Dan Steward have retired and will forward the email that was sent. Will be pursuing a hiring exemption for their positions. Received permission to hire two Easement Processors and will also be hiring replacements for a Fiscal Analyst and Contract Specialist position. Managing a few staff in a work-out-of-class status due to the hiring freeze.

Appreciated the effort put in by Board Members and Senior Managers for the Executive Director's Performance Review.

Dispute Resolution and Compliance Report – Travis Germundson reported there are presently four appeals pending. All the appeals involve the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). There have been no new appeals filed with the board. Since the last board meeting three of the appeals have been decided upon, two have been denied and one was resolved through an approval of an after the fact exemption determination.

Buffer Compliance Status Update: BWSR has received Notifications of Noncompliance on 93 parcels from the 12 counties BWSR is responsible for enforcement. Currently there are two Corrective Action Notices (CANs) and 25 Administrative Penalty Orders (APOs) issued by BWSR that are still active. Of the actions being tracked 65 of those have been resolved.

Statewide 28 counties are fully compliant, and 50 counties have enforcement cases in progress. Of those counties (with enforcement cases in progress) there are currently 945 CANs and 67 APOs actively in place. Of the actions being tracked over 1,404 of those have been resolved. 173 parcels have been resolved since the last board meeting.

Tom Schulz asked what the color gray represents in the Statewide Buffer Enforcement Map for four of the counties. Travis stated the counties in the gray areas have not received a notification of non-compliance from the SWCD to move forward with enforcement.

Grants Program & Policy Committee – Tom Schulz reported the committee met on March 9 and discussed two items that will be brought before the board later in the agenda.

RIM Reserve Committee – Jayne Hager Dee reported the committee has not met.

Water Management & Strategic Planning Committee – Andrea Date reported the committee met on March 9 discussed changes to the 1W1P Operating Procedures that will be discussed later in the agenda.

Wetland Conservation Committee – Jill Crafton reported the committee has not met.

Buffers, Soils & Drainage Committee - Kathryn Kelly reported the committee has not met.

Drainage Work Group (DWG) – Neil Peterson and Tom Gile reported the committee has not met. There are a couple bills that have been introduced that have drainage policy related impact that they are monitoring.

AGENCY REPORTS

Minnesota Department of Agriculture – Whitney Place reported they are making progress with the vaccination roll out in getting food processor workers vaccinated.

A lot of different carbon markets are coming online for farmers to join. They are partnering with Ecosystem Services Market Consortium (ESMC) on a pilot project in Stearns County.

Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program certified their 1,000th farm.

The ground water protection rule effort is starting to ramp up again. Will be setting up local advisory teams in townships where work on water quality is needed.

Minnesota Department of Health – Steve Robertson reported COVID is still affecting the Department of Health with staff being reassigned.

Trying to initiate a grant program to help develop local capacity for groundwater activities. Offering grants to accelerate implementation of groundwater projects across the state. More information can be found on the MDH website.

The Contaminants of Emerging Concern nominations are open and due on April 9th. Information is available on the MDH website.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Sarah Strommen reported they are working with the Legislature on their budget proposal.

The Minnesota Outdoor Recreation Task Force has their final meeting today to finalize recommendations on how to strengthen and enhance Minnesota's outdoor recreation opportunity.

DNR normally has a deer open house, instead they will be opening phone lines on March 31 from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for wildlife managers to connect with people.

Mille Lacs Lake management plan is on public review and a virtual town hall meeting was held on March 23.

Will be getting public input on potential changes on waterfowl regulations. Will include virtual opportunities to engage in.

Minnesota Extension – Joel Larson reported the University is also involved in the legislative session.

In their climate work there are a couple initiatives related to downscaled climate data.

The Gathering Partners Conference is being held virtually May 13-15 for anyone who is interested in natural resources around the state.

New online course developed in partnership with state agencies. Groundwater and groundwater management for local government and natural resources managers.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency – No report was provided.

ADVISORY COMMENTS

Association of Minnesota Counties – Brian Martinson reported it has been a challenging year working in legislative activities.

AMC has been watching or has been involved in some conservation related issues. The Minnesota PFAS blueprint was released earlier this year. AMC supports extension language for 404 assumption work that was delayed due to COVID. They want to see it continued and a report put together for next year. AMC has been working with DNR on ordinary high water level determinations. Would like to see a process to petition the Commissioner to review determinations. They are supporting DNR proposals around water transfers. AMC is collaborating with partners looking at water storage proposals. There was a proposal brought forward regarding a new fee on deed and mortgage transactions as a way to fund SWCDs.

Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees – No report was provided. Executive Director Jaschke stated Nicole Bernd is the new president of the association.

Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts – No report was provided.

Minnesota Association of Townships – Nathan Redalen introduced Karl-Christian Johannessen, Attorney at Minnesota Association of Townships.

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts –Emily Javens stated during previous board meetings we heard from local governments about their story after completing a comprehensive watershed management plan and asked if we could continue hearing from them.

Emily requested that the associations be included to provide some feedback in the future when reviewing the effectiveness of BWSR. Hearing some frustrations and have three listening sessions scheduled next week with BWSR. Emily stated they are putting together online training about watershed districts.

Van Amburg stated there have been some discussions with Watershed Districts, the Executive Director is aware and will meet to discuss.

Neil Peterson and Rich Sve provided some Greater MN County perspectives on state agency operations.

Natural Resources Conservation Service – No report was provided.

Chair Van Amburg recessed the meeting at 10:40 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 10:51 a.m.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Water Management and Strategic Planning Committee

Update to One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures – Julie Westerlund presented Update to One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures

The proposed updates to the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures focus on involvement of Minnesota Tribal Nations in One Watershed, One Plan. Previous versions of the policy were silent about tribes as formal participants in planning efforts; the updated version clarifies that tribal involvement is encouraged but optional (tribes must be invited to participate and can decide whether to participate

and terms of participation). The update also makes some minor edits to be more inclusive of tribal governments and to clarify the intent of policy elements.

Sarah Strommen suggested the following tribal language updates in the operating procedures:

- On Page 6 the policy requires outreach to tribes “with reserved lands” within the planning boundaries. Planning boundaries may also include ceded territory where tribes have reserved rights.
- Consider involvement of tribal organizations like 1854 Treaty Authority and Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission.
- On page 9 tribal governments are listed as stakeholders. In fact, they are sovereign governments and do not view themselves as stakeholders. Suggested splitting this section into Government Entities (tribal, local, etc.) and Stakeholders.

Board members thanked Commissioner Strommen for her suggestions and discussed other proposed changes related to city involvement in 1W1P. Via multiple members suggestions, it was asked that staff assess and put together a draft of the proposed city inclusion language if needed at an upcoming meeting noting that it would not affect the RFP. Item will go back to the Committee if there are any changes to be considered it will be brought back to the board if needed at a later date.

**
21-08 Moved by Nathan Redalen, seconded by Joe Collins, to approve the Update to One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures including the tribal involvement changes as noted by staff, based on the suggestions from DNR, and a definition for ‘reserved rights’. **Motion passed on a voice vote.**

Roll Call Vote: Update to One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures

Name of Board member	Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained	Absent
Joe Collins	X			
Jill Crafton	X			
Andrea Date				X
Jayne Hager Dee	X			
Steve Robertson (MDH)	X			
Katrina Kessler (MPCA)	X			
Kathryn Kelly	X			
Sarah Strommen (DNR)	X			
Joel Larson	X			
Neil Peterson	X			
Nathan Redalen	X			
Tom Schulz	X			
Whitney Place (MDA)	X			
Rich Sve	X			
Ted Winter	X			
Gerald Van Amburg, Chair	X			
TOTALS	15			1

Grants Program and Policy Committee

2021 Request for Proposals for One Watershed, One Plan Planning Grants – Julie Westerlund presented 2021 Request for Proposals for One Watershed, One Plan Planning Grants

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Board to approve the 2021 Request for Proposals for One Watershed, One Plan Planning Grants. This is the fifth year BWSR is offering planning grants. The RFP has evolved over time to encourage more discussion among prospective planning groups during proposal development and to refine BWSR selection criteria.

Tom Schulz noted the draft board order shows the year 2020 and should be updated to 2021.

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21-09

Moved by Tom Schulz, seconded by Ted Winter, to approve the 2021 Request for Proposals for One Watershed, One Plan Planning Grants. **Motion passed on a voice vote.**

Roll Call Vote: 2021 Request for Proposals for One Watershed, One Plan Planning Grants

Name of Board member	Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained	Absent
Joe Collins	X			
Jill Crafton	X			
Andrea Date				X
Jayne Hager Dee				X
Steve Robertson (MDH)	X			
Katrina Kessler (MPCA)	X			
Kathryn Kelly	X			
Sarah Strommen (DNR)	X			
Joel Larson	X			
Neil Peterson	X			
Nathan Redalen	X			
Tom Schulz	X			
Whitney Place (MDA)	X			
Rich Sve	X			
Ted Winter	X			
Gerald Van Amburg, Chair	X			
TOTALS	14			2

Reallocation of Previous Years’ Clean Water Funds – Marcey Westrick presented Reallocation of Previous Years’ Clean Water Funds.

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Board to approve the reallocation of returned grants funds and Clean Water Funds that were carried forward from previous years. The Board Order will authorize the use of carry forward and returned Clean Water Funds for current or future Clean Water fund programs for purposes consistent with the statutory appropriation conditions.

**
21-10

Moved by Jill Crafton, seconded by Nathan Redalen, to approve the Reallocation of Previous Years’ Clean Water Funds. **Motion passed on a voice vote.**

Roll Call Vote: Reallocation of Previous Years’ Clean Water Funds

Name of Board member	Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained	Absent
Joe Collins	X			
Jill Crafton	X			
Andrea Date	X			
Jayne Hager Dee	X			
Steve Robertson (MDH)	X			
Katrina Kessler (MPCA)	X			
Kathryn Kelly				X
Sarah Strommen (DNR)	X			
Joel Larson	X			
Neil Peterson	X			
Nathan Redalen	X			
Tom Schulz	X			
Whitney Place (MDA)	X			
Rich Sve	X			
Ted Winter	X			
Gerald Van Amburg, Chair	X			
TOTALS	15			1

Central Region Committee

Clearwater River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan – Steve Christopher, BWSR, and Rebecca Carlson, CRWD, presented Clearwater River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan.

Background:

The Clearwater River Watershed District (CRWD) was established on April 9, 1975 by Order of the Minnesota Water Resources Board. The 158.8 square mile watershed district fully encompasses the drainage area of the Clearwater River as it begins southwest of Watkins, Minnesota and extends to its discharge point of the Mississippi River at the City of Clearwater. The CRWD includes parts of Meeker, Stearns and Wright Counties and encompasses the Clearwater Chain of Lakes. The upper portions of the watershed are dominated by agricultural land use while the lower portions trend toward suburban developments. The mission of the District is to promote, preserve and protect water resources within the boundaries of the District in order to maintain property values and quality of life. The current Plan was approved by the Board in June 2011.

Plan Process and Highlights:

The Plan was developed in collaboration with the District’s partners and stakeholders to ensure that the District continues to focus on the highest priorities. The process that the CRWD used included three key elements: Science, Stakeholder Input and Board Direction. The Plan carries forward many of the issues and goals included in the District’s current Watershed Management Plan.

The Plan identifies six priority issues and includes specific strategies to address them.

Priority Issue 1: Threatened and Impaired Surface Water Quality and Natural Resources

- Our long history of studies, data collection, projects and programs have historically focused on achieving nutrient load reduction to recreational lakes, reducing in stream and upland erosion, and rough fish management. As science and our understanding of the issues and their drivers evolve, our planning and implementation expands and evolves.

Priority Issue 2: Climate Change

- Projects and programs to achieve District goals are designed based on an understanding of the drivers of both healthy ecosystems and impairments to those ecosystems. As precipitation and temperature change, design standards and best practices will also change. While new stressors may emerge, new opportunities are also possible.

Priority Issue 3: Localized Flooding and Navigation Obstructions

- Localized flooding that threatens property is sometimes an issue in the District. The District has addressed this in partnership with area residents and in collaboration with DNR and other regulatory stakeholders. The District operates and maintains two lake outlets which were petitioned by residents for flood control. Localized flooding in urban or rural areas can also present issues. Several District lakes also have large bogs which sometimes break lose and can impair navigation and cause flooding.

Priority Issue 4: Aquatic Invasive and Nuisance Species Management

- Aquatic invasive and nuisance species management continues to be an issue of primary concern for residents and stakeholders in the District. In 1993 the District initiated its first AIS management program to manage and treat Eurasian Water Milfoil in Clearwater Lake. As the needs and science around AIS and nuisance species management continue to evolve, the District has shifted from species specific projects to more general AIS and nuisance species projects. Several of the original petitioned AIS species specific projects have been changed to more general plans for AIS and nuisance species early detection, mapping, and management plans.

Priority Issue 5: Sustainable Administration and Funding

- Financing for sustainable operation, administration, and maintenance of District Core Functions, and capital projects and programs is critical to achieving District goals and performing core functions.

Priority Issue 6: Operation and Maintenance

- The District has constructed many capital projects. Operation and maintenance are both priority issues and a core function for the District. The age of projects, shifting climate, and emerging issues necessitate ongoing evaluation of operation and maintenance for all District projects. Legacy projects, new projects, and the four community wastewater systems the District is tasked with operating and maintaining all require funding, experienced contractors, and staff.

The Plan also includes a one-page summary for implementation of each of its five 12-digit HUCs that includes a prioritized list of resources, impairments, proposed projects, and a schedule. A substantial amount of success of the Clearwater River Watershed District’s implementation should be credited to their commitment to their landowners and partnerships.

Tom Schulz congratulated the Watershed District plan they prepared. Wanted to note in the Executive Summary in the second paragraph it states the district was the first founded with a mission to protect and improve water quality. Tom stated he believes that there was a Watershed District formed in Crow Wing, since discontinued, which was created earlier for water quality purposes.

**
21-11 Moved by Joe Collins, seconded by Jill Crafton, to approve the Clearwater River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan. **Motion passed on a voice vote.**

Roll Call Vote: Clearwater River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan

Name of Board member	Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained	Absent
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Joe Collins	X			
Jill Crafton	X			
Andrea Date	X			
Jayne Hager Dee	X			
Steven Robertson (MDH)	X			
Katrina Kessler (MPCA)	X			
Kathryn Kelly	X			
Sarah Strommen (DNR)	X			
Joel Larson	X			
Neil Peterson	X			
Nathan Redalen	X			
Tom Schulz	X			
Whitney Place (MDA)				X
Rich Sve	X			
Ted Winter	X			
Gerald Van Amburg, Chair	X			
TOTALS	15			1

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Next BWSR Meeting is scheduled for 9:00 AM, April 28, 2021 in St. Paul and by WebEx.

Executive Director Jaschke stated early planning for the BWSR Board Tour in August has begun.

Chair VanAmburg adjourned the meeting at 12:19 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald Van Amburg
Chair

Dispute Resolution and Compliance Report

June 8, 2021

By: Travis Germundson

There are presently **three** appeals pending. All the appeals involve the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). There have been **no** new appeals filed since the last Board Meeting (March 24, 2021).

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 20-10 (11-12-2020) This is an appeal of duplicated WCA restoration orders in St. Louis County. The appeal regards the placement of approximately 5,000 sq. ft. of fill in a wetland associated an ATV Club trail crossing project that allegedly was approved by the LGU. *The appeal was placed in abeyance and the restoration order stayed for submittal of an after-the-fact wetland application and/or to give additional time to coordinate with the LGU in attempt to resolve the matter. The timeframe on the abeyance was extended by mutual agreement.*

~~File 20-09 (9-23-2020) This is an appeal of a WCA exemption decision in Polk County. The appeal regards the denial of an agricultural exemption request to tile several wetlands. At issue is the qualification of planting history associated with the exemption being claimed. *The appeal was initially placed in abeyance for submittal of additional supporting information and then later remanded back to the LGU to develop an adequate record and issue a new decision. The time frame on the remand proceedings were extended by mutual agreement. A new decision was made under remand approving the exemption request for a portion of the project. In addition, an application for replacement was also approved resolving the dispute.*~~

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 (File 18-3). The appeal has been placed in abeyance until there is no longer mutual agreement on the viability of proposed actions for restoration. *The LGU has since notified BWSR that there is no longer mutual agreement on continuing to hold the appeal in abeyance. As a result, a decision was made to grant and hear the appeal. The hearing proceedings have been extended by mutual agreement.*

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 frame on the stay of the restoration order. The LGU decision was appealed (File19-7).*

Summary Table for Appeals

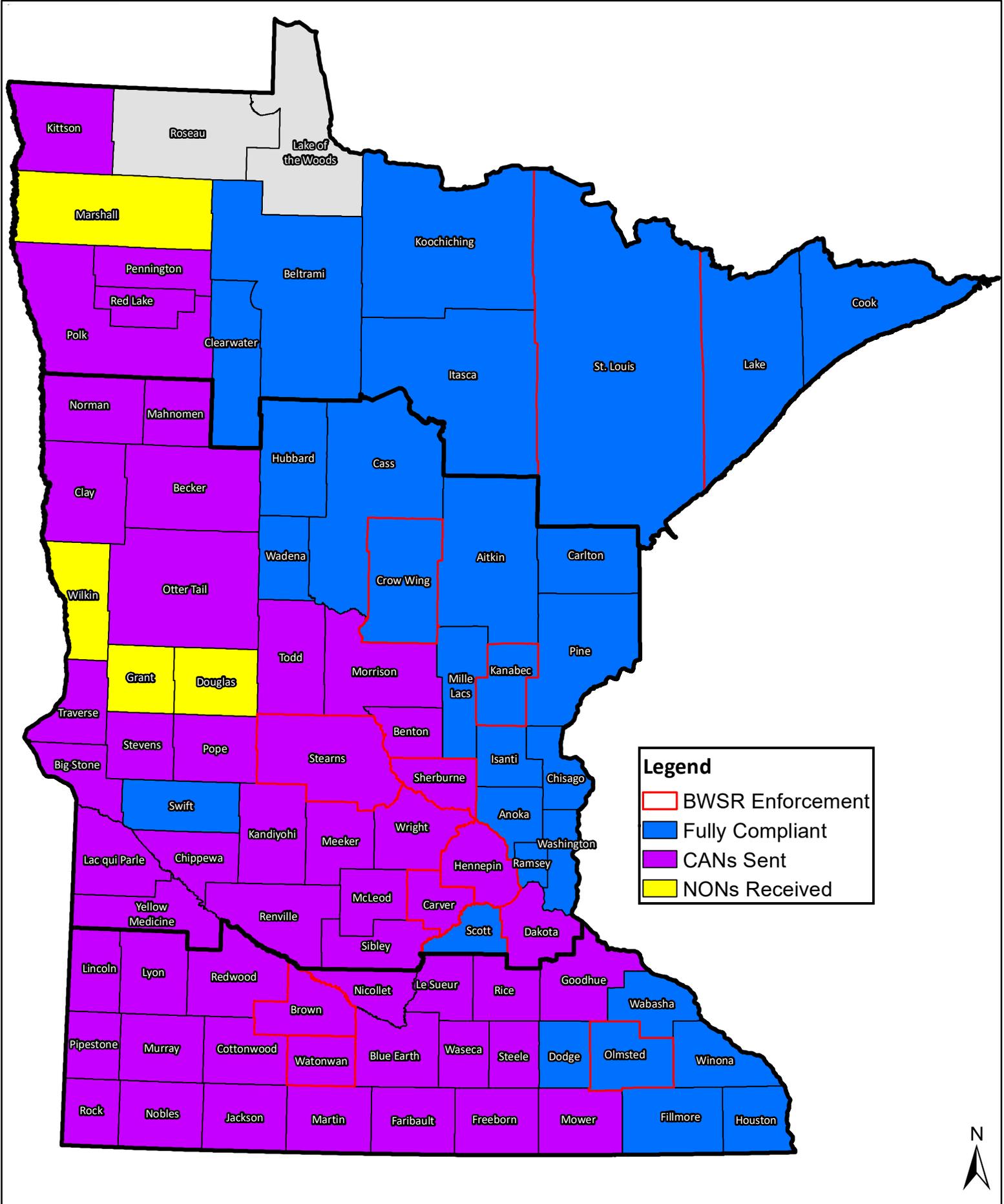
Type of Decision	Total for Calendar Year 2019	Total for Calendar Year 2020
Order in favor of appellant		
Order not in favor of appellant	1	7
Order Modified	2	
Order Remanded		3
Order Place Appeal in Abeyance	3	4
Negotiated Settlement		
Withdrawn/Dismissed	4	4

Buffer Compliance Status Update: BWSR has received Notifications of Noncompliance (NONs) on 93 parcels from the 12 counties BWSR is responsible for enforcement. Currently there are two Corrective Action Notices (CANs) and 25 Administrative Penalty Orders (APOs) issued by BWSR that are still active. Of the actions being tracked over 65 of those have been resolved.

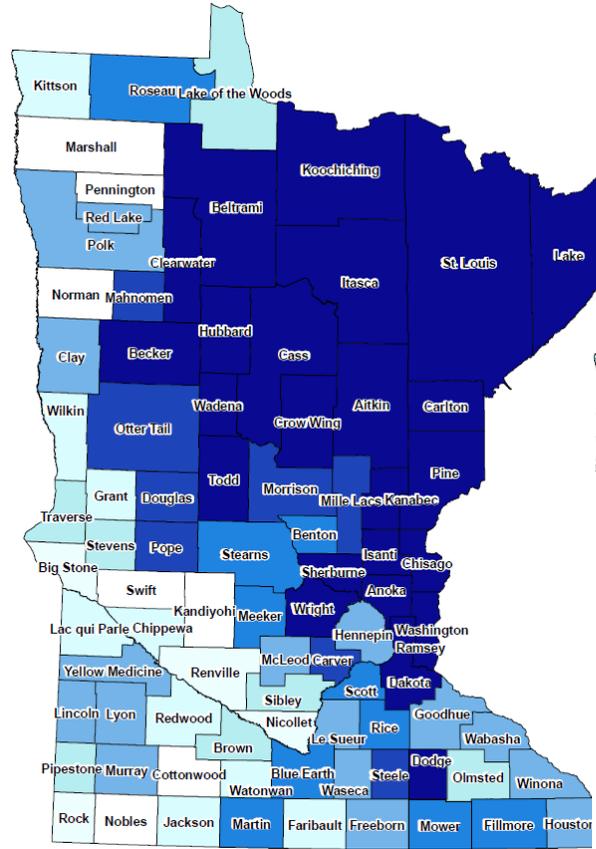
*Statewide 29 counties are fully compliant, and 52 counties have enforcement cases in progress. Of those counties (with enforcement cases in progress) there are currently 1088 CANs and 100 APOs actively in place. Of the actions being tracked over 1418 of those have been resolved.

**Disclaimer: These numbers are generated monthly 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.*

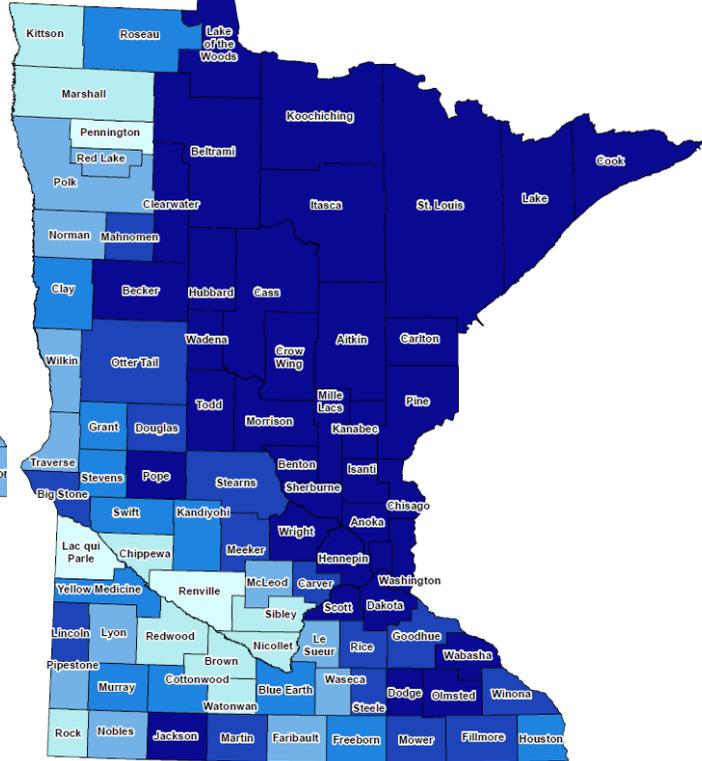
STATEWIDE BUFFER ENFORCEMENT



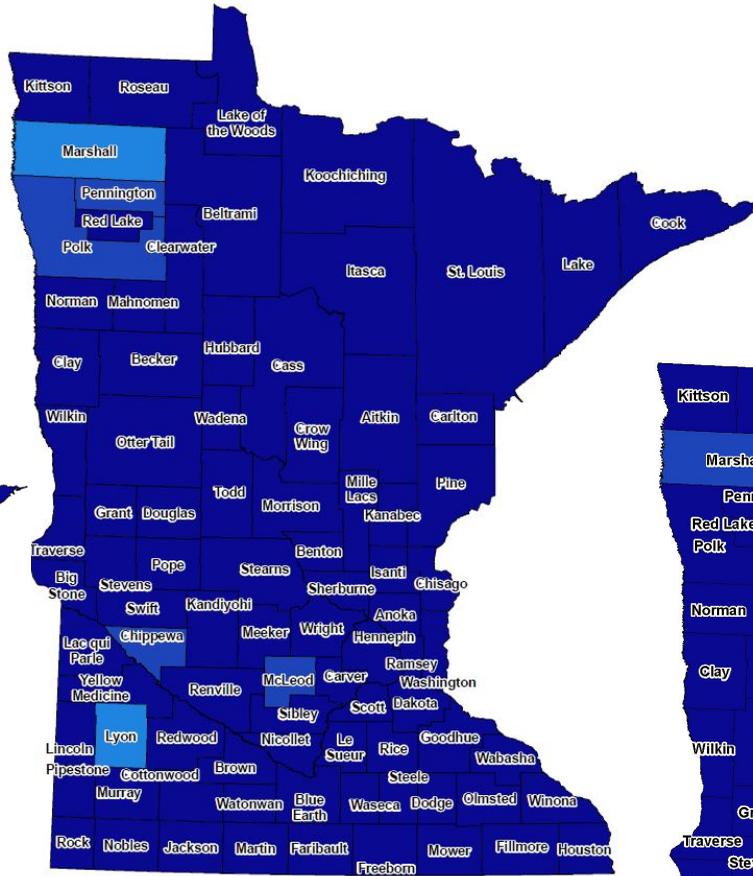
BUFFER COMPLIANCE ALL WATERCOURSES



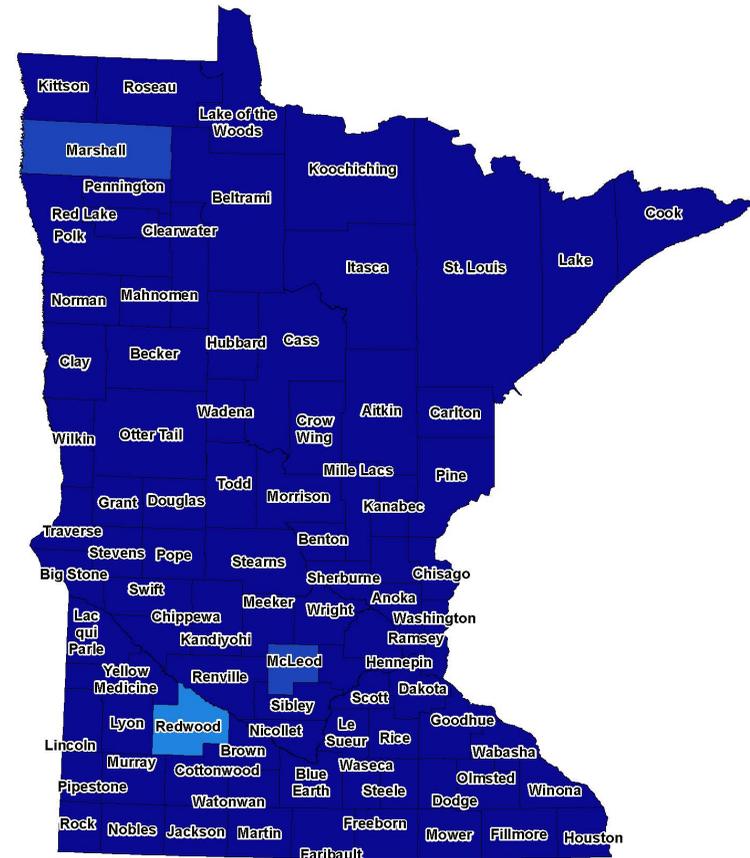
JANUARY 2017



JANUARY 2018



JANUARY 2020



MARCH 2021

Compliance



COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Northern Region Committee

1. Two Rivers Plus Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan – Neil Peterson – ***DECISION ITEM***

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Two Rivers Plus Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

Meeting Date: June 23, 2021

Agenda Category: Committee Recommendation New Business Old Business

Item Type: Decision Discussion Information

Keywords for Electronic Searchability: Two Rivers Plus Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

Section/Region: Regional Operations/Northern

Contact: Ryan Hughes

Prepared by: Matt Fischer

Reviewed by: Northern Regional Committee(s)

Presented by: Neil Peterson

Time requested: 5 minutes

Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: Resolution Order Map Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amended Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Water Fund Budget |

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval of the Two Rivers Plus Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan as recommended by the Northern Regional Committee.

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Plan is on the Two Rivers Plus 1W1P website: [Building the Plan | Trplus1w1p \(tworiversplus1w1p.org\)](http://Building the Plan | Trplus1w1p (tworiversplus1w1p.org))

Direct link: [bb5956_fe24a22caf524450b25c4213a59af3d9.pdf \(filesusr.com\)](http://bb5956_fe24a22caf524450b25c4213a59af3d9.pdf (filesusr.com))

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

The Two Rivers Plus Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Plan) planning area is in the extreme northwest corner of Minnesota, encompassing portions of Roseau, Kittson, and Marshall counties, and the Two Rivers and Joe River watershed districts. The Plan was developed as part of the One Watershed, One Plan program. Jeremy Benson (Kittson SWCD), Dan Money (Two Rivers WD), Janine Lovold (Roseau SWCD), and Lane Nordin (Kittson County) are the local lead staff responsible for development of the Plan.

On May 14, 2021, BWSR received the Plan, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan for final State review. The planning partnership has responded to all comments received during the 60-day review period and incorporated appropriate revisions to the final Plan.

BWSR staff completed its review and subsequently found the Plan meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes and BWSR Policy.

On June 2, 2021, the Northern Regional Committee met to review and discuss the Plan. The Committee's decision was to recommend approval of the Two Rivers Plus Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan as submitted to the full Board per the attached draft Order.

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

In the Matter of the review of the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for the Two Rivers Plus Watershed, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 and 103B.801.

**ORDER
APPROVING
COMPREHENSIVE
WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Whereas, the Policy Committee of the Two Rivers Plus Watershed submitted a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Plan) to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) on May 14, 2021 pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 and 103B.801 and Board Decision #18-14, and;

Whereas, the Board has completed its review of the Plan.

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. **Partnership Establishment.** The Partnership was established in June of 2018 through adoption of a Memorandum of Agreement for the purposes of developing a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. The membership of the Partnership includes Kittson County, Kittson Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Roseau County, Roseau SWCD, and Two Rivers Watershed District.
2. **Authority to Plan.** Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subdivision 14 allows the Board to adopt resolutions, policies or orders that allow a comprehensive plan, local water management plan, or watershed management plan, developed or amended, approved and adopted, according to Chapter 103B, 103C, or 103D to serve as substitutes for one another or be replaced with a comprehensive watershed management plan. Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.801 established the Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program; also known as One Watershed, One Plan. And, on March 28, 2018 Board Decision #18-14 adopted Version 2.0 of the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures and Plan Content Requirements policies.
3. **Nature of the Watershed.** The Two Rivers Plus planning area is in the extreme northwest corner of Minnesota, encompassing portions of Roseau, Kittson, and Marshall counties, and the Two Rivers and Joe River watershed districts. The economy of the approximately 1,575 square miles planning area, including all cities and villages, is generally driven by agriculture and is very flat. The land in the western part of the planning area is flat, open land devoted almost entirely to raising crops. The eastern part of the planning area has more diverse land use because of steeper slopes, sandier soils, and other factors.

4. **Plan Development.** The Plan was developed as a single, concise, and coordinated approach to watershed management. The Plan consolidates policies, programs, and implementation strategies from existing data, studies, and plans, and incorporates input from multiple planning partners to provide a single plan for management of the watershed. The Plan focuses on prioritized, targeted, and measurable implementation efforts and lays out specific actions to manage water quantity, protect and restore water quality, natural habitat, recreational uses, and drinking water sources in the watershed.

5. **Plan Review.** On May 14, 2021, the Board received the Plan, a record of the public hearing, and copies of all written comments pertaining to the Plan for final State review pursuant to Board Decision #18-14. State agency representatives attended and provided input at advisory committee meetings during development of the Plan. The following state review comments were received during the comment period.
 - A. Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA): MDA confirmed receipt of the Plan and did not provide any comments.
 - B. Minnesota Department of Health (MDH): MDH confirmed receipt of the Plan and had no further comments. MDH supports the continued approval process.
 - C. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR): DNR confirmed receipt of the Plan and had no further comments. DNR supports the plan moving forward in the approval process.
 - D. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA): MPCA confirmed receipt of the Plan and provided comments that they appreciated the addition of the table of impairments (Table 5.1 on page 84), as recommended, but noted that the final Plan does not incorporate all of MPCA's recommended changes from the 60-day review period. MPCA supports approval of the Plan.
 - E. Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB): EQB confirmed receipt of the Plan and did not provide any comments.
 - F. Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Regional Staff: BWSR staff provided comments during the 60-day review commending the Partnership for inclusion of initial priority issues submitted by BWSR and other state agency staff, and for addressing the comments received during the informal review period. All comments submitted throughout the planning process were adequately addressed in the final Plan and BWSR staff recommended approval of the Plan.

6. **Plan Summary and Highlights.** The highlights of the plan include:
 - The Plan combined three areas from BWSR's Suggested Boundary Map, the Two Rivers watershed, the Joe River watershed, and a stand-alone drainage area consisting of numerous ditches and coulees which drain to the Red River of the North. The planning process identified 11 different planning zones which align with the Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 10 watershed boundaries.
 - The Plan development process generated 24 issues, organized under six resource concerns, using a combination of existing reports, data, and stakeholder input. Each of the issues received a ranking of high, medium, or low for each of the planning zones, with the highs and mediums emerging as priorities that will be the focus of implementation efforts within the Two Rivers Plus planning area.
 - The Plan prioritizes planning zones based on a composite of the individual issue rankings within each planning zone. Higher priority was given to the planning zones with more high and medium priority issues with the goal that implementation will achieve multiple benefits.
 - The Plan includes 13 measurable goal categories, which collectively address all locally prioritized issues. Many goals are planning zone specific, while others are watershed wide.

- Separate targeted implementation tables were created for each planning zone that include structural and management practices. Watershed-wide implementation tables were created for capital improvements; education and outreach; data collection, monitoring and analysis; and regulation and enforcement.
 - The planning group used the Prioritize, Target, and Measure Application (PTMApp) to establish sediment and nutrient load reduction goals and develop and evaluate implementation scenarios.
 - The Plan prioritizes actions for implementation based on Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 funding scenarios. The Level 1 funding scenario assumes current funding levels, Level 2 estimates the addition of non-competitive watershed-based implementation funding, and Level 3 estimates an additional \$250,000/year through competitive grants or other sources.
7. **Planning Boundary Adjustment.** The Board adopted the One Watershed, One Plan Suggested Boundary Map on April 23, 2014. The map established suggested planning boundaries for plans developed through the One Watershed, One Plan program. The Partnership requested a boundary adjustment to portions of Red River of the North – Tamarac River watershed, which includes the planning boundary 57 (Joe River Watershed District) and planning boundary 58 (part of Two Rivers Watershed District) as indicated on the Board adopted Suggested Boundary Map. The Partnership provided documentation for local concurrence, rationale, and justification of the adjusted boundary. The adjusted boundary was approved by Board staff per the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures. The adjusted boundary is included as Figure 1.1 on page 7 in the Executive Summary of the Plan.
 8. **Northern Regional Committee.** On June 2, 2021, the Northern Regional Committee met to review and discuss the Plan. Those in attendance from the Board’s Committee were Committee Chair Rich Sve, Neil Peterson, Gerald Van Amburg, Tom Schulz, Jeff Berg, Theresa Ebbenga, and Theresa Haugen. Board staff in attendance were Northern Regional Manager Ryan Hughes, and Board Conservationist Matt Fischer. The representatives from the Partnership were Jeremy Benson and Jamie Osowski from Kittson SWCD, Dan Money from Two Rivers Watershed District, and Janine Lovold from Roseau SWCD. Board regional staff provided its recommendation of Plan approval to the Committee. After discussion, the Committee’s decision was to present a recommendation of approval of the Plan to the full Board.
 9. This Plan will be in effect for a ten-year period until June 23, 2031.

CONCLUSIONS

1. All relevant substantive and procedural requirements of law have been fulfilled.
2. The Board has proper jurisdiction in the matter of approving a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for the Two Rivers Plus Watershed pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103B.101, Subd. 14 and 103B.801 and Board Decision #18-14.
3. The Two Rivers Plus Watershed Plan attached to this Order states water and water-related problems within the planning area; priority resource issues and possible solutions thereto; goals, objectives, and actions of the Partnership; and an implementation program.
4. The attached Plan is in conformance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.101, Subd. 14 and 103B.801 and Board Decision #18-14.

5. The One Watershed, One Plan Suggested Boundary Map is adjusted to include portions of Red River of the North – Tamarac River watershed, which includes the planning boundary 57 (Joe River Watershed District) and planning boundary 58 (part of Two Rivers Watershed District) as indicated on the Board adopted Suggested Boundary Map approved by the Board March 24, 2021.
6. The attached plan when adopted through local resolution by the members of the Partnership will serve as a replacement for the comprehensive plan, local water management plan, or watershed management plan, developed or amended, approved and adopted, according to Chapter 103B, 103C, or 103D, but only to the geographic area of the Plan.

ORDER

The Board hereby approves the attached Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan of the Two Rivers Plus Watershed, dated April 2021.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this twenty-third of June, 2021.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

BY: Gerald Van Amburg, Chair

June 23, 2021

Two Rivers Plus Policy Committee
c/o Jeremy Benson, Kittson SWCD District Technician
410 5th Street S. Suite 106
Hallock, MN 56728

RE: Approval of the Two Rivers Plus Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

Dear Two Rivers Plus Policy Committee:

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is pleased to inform you the Two Rivers Plus Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Plan) was approved at its regular meeting held on June 23, 2021. Attached is the signed Board Order that documents approval of the Plan and indicates the Plan meets all relevant requirements of law, rule, and policy.

This Plan is effective for a ten-year period until June 23, 2031. Please be advised, the partners must adopt and begin implementing the plan within 120 days of the date of the Order in accordance with Minnesota Statutes §103B.101, Subd. 14 and 103B.801, and the One Watershed, One Plan Operating Procedures.

The members of the partnership and participants in the plan development process are to be commended for writing a plan that clearly presents water management goals, actions, and priorities of the Partnership, and for participating in the One Watershed, One Plan program. The BWSR looks forward to working with you as you implement this Plan and document its outcomes.

Please contact Board Conservationist Matt Fischer of our staff at 218-766-6496 or matt.fischer@state.mn.us for further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Enclosure: BWSR Board Order

CC: Listed on next page.

CC: Margaret Wagner, MDA (via email)
Carrie Raber, MDH (via email)
Dan Disrud, MDH (via email)
Annette Drewes, DNR (via email)
Nathan Kestner, DNR (via email)
Barbara Weisman, DNR (via email)
Danielle Kvasager, MPCA (via email)
Juline Holleran, MPCA (via email)
Jeff Risberg, MPCA (via email)
Erik Dahl, EQB (via email)
Ryan Hughes, BWSR (via email)
Matt Fischer, BWSR (via email)
Donna Caughey, BWSR (via email)
Rachel Mueller, BWSR (file copy)

Equal Opportunity Employer

Two Rivers Plus



1W1P

Two Rivers Plus Comprehensive Water Management Plan

April 2021



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Section 4: Measurable Goals..... Page 63

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Glossary of Abbreviations

1W1P	One Watershed, One Plan
AIS	Aquatic Invasive Species
BMP	Best Management Practice
BWSR	Board of Water and Soil Resources
CAC	Citizen's Advisory Committee
CD	County Ditch
CFMP	Comprehensive Farm Management Plan
CFS	Cubic Feet per Second
CIG	Conservation Innovation Grants
CIP	Capital Improvement Project
COLA	Coalition of Lake Associations
CRP	Conservation Reserve Program
CSP	Conservation Stewardship Program
CWF	Clean Water Fund
CWMP	Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan
DWSMA	Drinking Water Supply Management Area
EA	Environmental Assessment
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EQB	Environmental Quality Board
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FSA	Farm Service Agency
GIS	Geographic Information System
HSPF	Hydrological Simulation Program-FORTRAN
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
IJC	International Joint Commission
IWI	International Water Institute
JD	Judicial Ditch
JRWD	Joe River Watershed District
LCCMR	Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources
LGU	Local Government Unit
LMIC	Land Management Information Center
LWRI	Land and Water Resources Inventory
MAWQCP	Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program
MCEA	Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy
MDA	Minnesota Department of Agriculture
MDH	Minnesota Department of Health
MGS	Minnesota Geologic Survey
DNR	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MPCA	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
PC	Policy Committee
PTMApp	Prioritize, Target, and Measure Application

RRBC	Red River Basin Commission
ROW	Right of Way
SD	State Ditch
SNA	Scientific and Natural Area
ST	Steering Team
SSTS	Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems
SWCD	Soil and Water Conservation District
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
TN	Total Nitrogen
TP	Total Phosphorus
TRP1W1P	Two Rivers Plus One Watershed, One Plan
TRWD	Two Rivers Watershed District
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
USACE	United States Army Corp of Engineers
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WCA	Wetland Conservation Act
WEQ	Wind Erosion Equation
WEPS	Wind Erosion Prediction System
WHPA	Well Head Protection Area
WMA	Wildlife Management Area
WPA	Waterfowl Protection Area
WRAPS	Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy
WRP	Wetland Reserve Program

Definitions

The following definitions were developed to establish a common language for communicating information:

Emerging Issue

An issue that lacks detailed information within the watershed, is sometimes prominent in the media, and has the potential to affect the resources within the watershed at some time in the future.

Measurable Goal

A statement of intended accomplishment for each priority issue. Goals are meant to be simply stated and achievable, can be quantitative or qualitative, long or short-term, and are meant to be measurable through the implementation of actions to attain a desired outcome.

Metric

A feature, attribute, characteristic, amount, or quantity which forms the unit by which progress is measured towards attaining a measurable goal in a given time frame.

Planning Area

The area encompassed by the entire Two Rivers Plus One Watershed One Plan, consisting of the political boundaries of the Two Rivers Watershed District and the Joe River Watershed District.

Priority Issue

Issues categorized, through the prioritization process (**Section 3**), as High and Medium Priority Issues. Priority issues will be the focus of this comprehensive plan.

Planning Zone

Region of the planning watershed loosely based on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 10-digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) and adjusted based on PTMApp catchment delineation. The Two Rivers Plus 1W1P plan has eleven planning zones: Direct to Red River, Joe River, Little Joe River, North Branch, Middle Branch, South Branch, Unnamed Coulee, JD 10, SD 72, SD 91, SD 95. Planning zones are used in the plan to describe implementation planning profiles.

Resource Category

A resource category, or “resource” is defined as a natural, economic, educational, biotic, aesthetic, land, or similar asset. Resources are generally considered something that can be managed, and are generally broad, such as surface water, groundwater, or education and outreach.

Resource Concern

A resource concern, or “concern” is defined as a physical, biological, chemical or geological subset or component of a resource. The resource concerns that are addressed in this plan were grouped into the categories of 1) Surface Water Quality, 2) Hydrology / Flood Damage, 3) Ground Water Quality, 4) Ground Water Quantity, 5) Natural Resources, and 6) Agricultural Productivity.

Resource Issue

A resource issue, or “issue” affecting a concern is defined as a factor, stressor, or difficulty resulting in an adverse consequence for a concern. A concern can have one or many issues.

Short-Term Goal

Interim conditions to accomplish or make progress towards during the 10-year lifespan of this plan.

Long-Term Goal

The desired future condition to accomplish, regardless of time frame.

Section 1: Executive Summary

Two Rivers Plus One Watershed One Plan is a cooperative watershed planning effort between Roseau County, Kittson County, Roseau Soil & Water Conservation District, Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District, and the Two Rivers Watershed District. It is an undertaking accomplished through Minnesota Statute 103B.801 and the planning area is located in the furthest north and west reaches of the State of Minnesota in parts of Kittson, Roseau & Marshall Counties.

This is a more collaborative approach of doing local water management and natural resources planning than past planning efforts. Prior planning efforts in the past were individually done by each entity, resulting in up to 4 or more separate plans for the same area now being considered under this plan. From 2021 through 2030, this new One Watershed One Plan will take the place of 3 previous, individual plans and the planning group will work together with a shared vision for water planning on the local level.

1.1 Issue Prioritization Process

The group utilized the 1W1P processes in statute to consider individual efforts of each local governmental unit and ultimately use those efforts to plan a series of prioritized, targeted and measurable goals to address a set of broad based mutually identified issues. In order to accomplish this large undertaking, the entities entered into a planning agreement and will be able to utilize local and state funding, as well as other sources of funding, to work toward accomplishing the mutual goals.

Besides the participating local government staff and their governing boards, the group convened both a Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) and a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to provide input and guidance to the process. The CAC was made up of local landowners, township and county officials, and interested groups and individuals. The TAC was made up of local, state, and federal agency staffers with technical knowledge of conservation, engineering, biology, hydrology and ecology.

Input from public input meetings and the advisory committees was used by the planning group to break the planning area down into 11 separate sub watershed areas called planning zones (**Figure 1.1**). Resource issues were identified for each planning zone and goals were written to address the issues. The planning group utilized local knowledge, pertinent models, data and information to determine these issues and goals. The resource concerns that are addressed in this plan were grouped into the categories of 1) Surface Water Quality, 2) Hydrology / Flood Damage, 3) Ground Water Quality, 4) Ground Water Quantity, 5) Natural Resources, and 6) Agricultural Productivity.

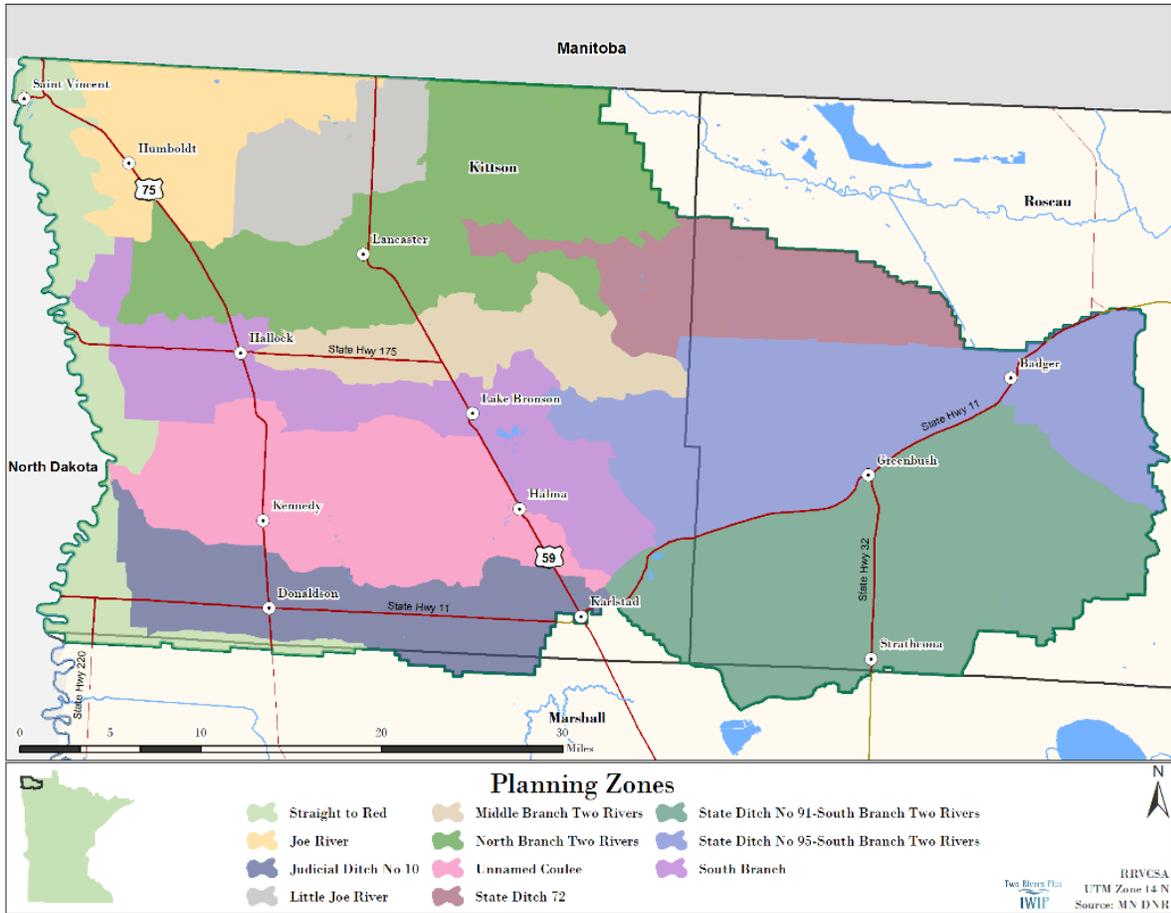


Figure 1.1: Two Rivers Plus Planning Zones.

The issues identified for each category were considered within each planning zone. Once the concerns were identified and the goals written, the planning group applied them to each of the eleven sub-watershed planning zones. The issues were ranked in each zone as high, medium, or low and the decision was made to focus efforts on the high and medium issues. **Table 1.1** below shows the composite prioritization and rankings across all planning zones. Specific’s on the prioritization process and ranking can be found in **Section 3: Issue Prioritization**.

Resource Concern	Issue	Two Rivers Plus Planning Zones										
		Straight to Red	Joe River	Judicial Ditch No 10	Little Joe River	Middle Branch Two Rivers	North Branch Two Rivers	Unnamed Coulee	State Ditch 72	State Ditch 91 South Branch Two Rivers	State Ditch 95 South Branch Two Rivers	South Branch Two Rivers
Surface Water Quality	Excessive sediment loading to surface waters	High	Medium	High	Low	Medium	Medium	High	Medium	High	High	High
	Excessive nutrient loading to surface waters	High	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low	High	High	Medium
	Excessive bacteria loading to surface waters	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium
	Low dissolved oxygen in surface waters	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium
	Instability of all types of watercourses	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	High
Hydrology/Flood Damage	Inadequate conveyance capacity of all types of watercourses	High	Medium	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	High	High	High	High	Medium
	Flood damage to communities, public infrastructure and rural homesteads	High	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	High	High	Medium
	Flood damage to farmland	High	High	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	High	High	High	Medium
	Extreme flow fluctuations (highs too high and lows too low)	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
Groundwater Quality	Nitrate, arsenic, and other types of groundwater contamination	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium
	Unused, Unsealed wells act as a contamination conduit to drinking water supply	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium
Groundwater Quantity	Groundwater quantity levels	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium
Natural Resources	Degraded wetland habitat	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low
	Degraded aquatic habitat in watercourses	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
	Loss of longitudinal connectivity	Low	Medium	Low	Low	Medium	High	Low	Low	Low	Low	High
	Degraded riparian habitats	Low	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium
	Degraded terrestrial habitats	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
	Algae blooms in Lake Bronson	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High
Agricultural Productivity	Reduced soil organic matter/infiltration rates/water holding capacity	High	High	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	Low	Medium	Medium	High
	Excessive salinity in soils	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Low	Low
	Inadequate feed/water supply/waste management	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
	Inadequate field drainage system outlets and/or improper management of drainage systems including tile line management	Medium	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	High	High	High	Medium
	Excessive wind erosion	High	High	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	Low	Medium	Medium	High
	Excessive water erosion	High	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	Medium	High	High	High

Table 1.1: Planning Zone Priority Issues

1.2 Measurable Goals

To address issues around the six resource concerns, measurable goals were created dealing with sediment, nutrients, *E. Coli*, channel instability, conveyance capacity, flow extremes, groundwater quality and quantity, wetland habitat, longitudinal connectivity, terrestrial habitat, soil health, soil salinity, and livestock water and feed. Short term and long-term goals were created for each of these items. **Table 1.2** below shows these short- and long-term goals. **Section 4: Measurable Goals** provides details of each issue and highlights the planning zone goal associated with the issue.

Table 1.2: Priority issues and measurable goals.

Goal Categories	Goals	Issues addressed in Goal
Water Quality	1.) Short Term Goal: Reduce Sediment delivery to Streams, Lakes and Drainage systems by 2.5% in High priority areas 2% in Medium. Long Term Goal: Reduce sediment delivery to streams, lakes and drainage systems to meet the TMDL reduction goal of 78% maximum load	Excessive Sediment Loading to surface waters
	2.) Short Term/ Long Term: Reduce nutrient delivery to streams lake and drainage systems based on sediment reduction goal PTMAApp results. Specific reduction goal for upstream planning zones of Lake Bronson is 2% TP.	Algae Blooms Lake Bronson
		Excessive Nutrient Loading to surface waters
	3.) Short Term Goal: Work towards long term goal. Perform microbial source tracking (MST). Long Term Goal: reduce number of <i>E. Coli</i> impaired waters (5 Reaches) to less than or equal to the state standard of 126 orgs/100ml	Excessive bacteria loading to surface waters
	4.) Short Term Goal: Stabilize all identified ditch bank/stream bank sloughing issues. Long Term Goal: Stabilize all ditch and stream banks in planning area Specific issues are detailed and explained in Sections 4 and 5.	Degraded aquatic habitat (watercourses)
Instability of all types of watercourses		
Hydrology/Flooding	5.) Short Term Goal: Maintain, modify, construct, improve 10% of all legal ditch systems in High priority areas and 5% in Medium priority areas to provide adequate channel capacity for up to a 10 years runoff event, while ensuring an adequate outlet to prevent downstream adverse impacts. Maintain natural capacity of streams and rivers. Long Term Goal: Maintain, modify, construct or improve all legal ditches, road ditches, private ditches to provide adequate channel capacity for up to a 10-year runoff event while ensuring an adequate outlet to prevent downstream adverse impacts. Maintain natural capacity of streams and rivers.	Inadequate conveyance capacity of all types of watercourses

	<p>6.) Short Term Goal: In High Priority planning zones is to reduce 1/4" of runoff. In Medium Priority Planning Zones is to reduce 1/8" of runoff.</p> <p>Long Term Goal: Reduce peak flood flows on the Red River by 20% by constructing up to 40,000-acre feet of impoundment capacity in Two Rivers WD and up to 5,700 ac ft in Joe River WD.</p>	Flood damage to communities, public infrastructure and rural homesteads
	<p>7.) Short Term Goal: Work towards #6 Short Term runoff reduction goal.</p> <p>Long Term Goal: Protect agricultural land from flooding for up to a 10-year runoff event during the growing season.</p>	Flood damage to farmland
	<p>8.) Short Term Goal: Work towards #6 Short Term runoff reduction goal.</p> <p>Long Term Goal: Maintain minimum flow of 20 CFS on the South Branch Two Rivers and 10 CFS on the Middle Branch Two Rivers</p>	Address extreme flow fluctuations. Low dissolved oxygen in surface waters
Groundwater	<p>9.) Short Term Goal: Provide 27 Outreach Opportunities over the 10-year plan.</p> <p>Long Term Goal: Protect groundwater contamination by developing a "Water Quality Inventory" educational and outreach program to establish a base number of potential wells contaminated and their levels</p>	Nitrate, arsenic, and other types of groundwater contamination
	<p>10.) Short Term Goal: Prevent groundwater contamination.</p> <p>Long Term Goal: Protect groundwater quality by developing an "Un-used Well Inventory" educational and outreach program to determine a number of well sealing goal</p>	Unused, unsealed wells act as a contamination conduit to drinking water supply
	<p>11.) Short Term Goal: Work towards long term goal.</p> <p>Long Term Goal: Expand ground water level monitoring program to 3 wells within Planning Area</p>	Groundwater quantity levels
Natural Resources	<p>12.) Short Term Goal: Maintain wetland functions within planning area while improving 500 acres of protected wetlands.</p> <p>Long Term Goal: Improve quality of 1,000 acres of protected wetlands.</p>	Degraded wetland habitat
	<p>13.) Short Term Goal: Remove 25% of barriers including the Northcote Dam.</p> <p>Long Term Goal: Increase connectivity by 100% in natural watercourses identified by the Stressor ID Report.</p>	Loss of longitudinal connectivity

	14.) Short Term Goal: Maintain terrestrial acres and improve quality of 1,000 acres. Long Term Goal: Enhance terrestrial acres and improve quality on 10,000 acres.	Degraded terrestrial habitats
Ag Productivity	15.) Short Term Goal: Implement best management practices to certify 5,000 acres through the MAWQCP on cropland acres. Long Term Goal: Certify all cropland acres in the MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program.	Excessive wind erosion
		Excessive water erosion
		Reduced soil organic matter/infiltration rates/water holding capacity
	16.) Short Term Goal: Work towards long term goal. Long Term Goal: Reduce soil salinity along the Highway 75 corridor	Excessive salinity in soils
	17.) Short Term Goal: Implement 3,200 acres of rotational grazing systems. Long Term Goal: Develop rotational grazing systems for all livestock producers.	Inadequate feed/water supply/waste management

1.3 Implementation Schedule and Programs

The Prioritize, Target, and Measure Application (PTMApp), a computer model, was used to identify on the ground practices that would best address the issues and provide cost estimates that could be used to look at short- and long-term funding needs. Three levels of funding scenarios to implement the plan were discussed. Level one being current funding levels, estimated over the 10-year life of the plan to be \$10.8 million. Level two assumes additional clean water money that would come from the State for this plan and was estimated at \$15.3 million. Level two funding is what this plan utilized for setting its goals. The third level would be to go above and beyond the goals set to accomplish in this plan and is estimated at \$16.9 million. **Table 1.3** below shows the projects and practices program implementation actions across the entire planning area of each funding level and how they address the short terms goals set. Specific planning zone profiles have similar action tables that target the high and medium priority issues highlighted in each planning zone. These targeted action tables can be found in **Section 5: Implementation Schedule**. There are other actions besides the projects and practices program that this plan intends to utilize to achieve the goals:

- Capital Improvements,
- Data Collection and Monitoring,
- Outreach and Education, and
- Regulation and Enforcement

Due to the nature of these programs, their intent is not to be implemented in the same fashion as the projects and practices programs within targeted planning zones, instead these programs are to be administered across the entire Two Rivers Plus Planning Area. Details on different projects and programs associated with each of the watershed wide actions can be found in **Section 6: Watershed Wide Actions**.

Table 1.3 Planning area wide implementation schedule

Two Rivers Plus Planning Area Actions			Responsibility		Timeline					Short-Term Measurable Goals										
Actions by BMP Type	Output (Number of Practices)	Total 10-Year Cost	Lead	Partner	2021-22	2023-24	2025-26	2027-28	2029-30	Sediment	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Bacteria	Streambank/Channel	Conveyance Capacity	Hydrology/Flood	Groundwater	Natural Resource	Ag Productivity	
Storage Practices																				
(i.e. Drainage Water Management/ Controlled Drainage; WASCOBS; Wetland Restorations; and Farm Ponds)	7	\$70,519	SWCD	WD, NRCS, BWSR	X		X		X	X	X			X	X	X		X	X	
Funding Level 2	14	\$147,538																		
Funding Level 3	25	\$268,224																		
Filtration Practices																				
(i.e. Grassed Waterways, Filter Strips)	25	\$54,566	SWCD	WD, NRCS, BWSR		X		X		X	X			X	X	X		X	X	
Funding Level 2	33	\$73,713																		
Funding Level 3	42	\$93,922																		
Non-Structural Land Management Practices	500	\$9,500,000	SWCD	NRCS, BWSR	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
Funding Level 2	709	\$13,471,000																		
Funding Level 3	770	\$14,630,000																		
Protection/Streambank Stabilization	33	\$419,415	County/WD	SWCD, BWSR, DNR		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X		
Funding Level 2	40	\$508,436																		
Funding Level 3	50	\$636,907																		
Field Windbreak/Shelterbelt	5 Miles Field Windbreaks	\$10,000	SWCD	NRCS, BWSR	X		X		X	X	X				X			X	X	
Funding Level 2	10 Miles Field Windbreaks	\$20,000																		
Funding Level 3	15 Miles Field Windbreaks	\$30,000																		
Grassland restoration and wildlife habitat management	1,000 acres	\$500,000	SWCD	NRCS, BWSR, TNC DNR	X	X	X	X	X	X						X	X	X		
Funding Level 2	1,550 acres	\$775,000																		
Funding Level 3	1,875 acres	\$850,000																		
Well Sealings	3 Wells sealed/year	\$30,000	SWCD	MDH, BWSR	X	X	X	X	X								X			
Funding Level 2	5 wells sealed/year	\$50,000																		
Funding Level 3	8 wells sealed/year	\$80,000																		
SSTS Upgrades	10 System Upgrades	\$100,000	SWCD	County, MPCA, BWSR	X	X	X	X	X				X							
Funding Level 2	12 System Upgrades	\$120,000																		
Funding Level 3	15 System Upgrades	\$150,000																		
Livestock Exclusion/ Rotational Grazing Systems	3,200 acres	\$80,000	SWCD	NRCS, County, BWSR, MPCA, MDA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	
Funding Level 2	4,000 acres	\$100,000																		
Funding Level 3	4,600 acres	\$105,000																		
Field Walkover/CFMP	500 MAWQCP acres/year	\$15,000	SWCD	NRCS, BWSR	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X	
Funding Level 2	1,500 MAWQCP acres/year	\$45,000																		
Funding Level 3	1,750 MAWQCP acres/year	\$50,500																		
Total Funding Level 1 10-Year Cost		\$10,779,500	Total Level 1 10-Year Progress Toward Goals							75%	77%	78%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Funding Level 2 10-Year Cost		\$15,310,687	Total Level 2 10-Year Progress Toward Goals							100%	100%	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Total Funding Level 3 10-Year Cost		\$16,894,553	Total Level 3 10-Year Progress Toward Goals							125%	112%	115%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

1.4 Plan Administration

The planning partners have not developed a specific shared purpose, mission, or vision statement. However, listed below are descriptions of each partner organization, their background, and current focus in the water and natural resources management arena. This information reflects the collective past, present and future commitment of this partnership. It is the intent of these partner organizations to enter into either a memorandum of understanding or possibly a joint powers agreement in order to formally engage each other and accept the state funding that is available to perform implementation activities related to this plan.

Kittson & Roseau Counties

Counties are responsible for numerous areas within water management. Most are involved to some degree with floodplain ordinances, zoning ordinances, roads & bridges, emergency services, hazard mitigation, local water management planning, ditch management under ditch law, and various and sundry other items. Prior to this plan each county had its own individual Local Water Management Plan. The purpose of these plans were to 1) actively work on existing local priority concerns and to identify future potential priority concerns to protect, manage, and develop our water resources, 2) update and continue to develop and apply action plans to promote sound water and related land resource management in each county, 3) continue working toward effective environmental protection and management by focusing on priority concerns and recognizing potential priority concerns.

Kittson & Roseau SWCD's

The Kittson and Roseau County SWCD's operate under Minnesota Statute, Chapter 103C. The SWCD's are committed in addressing issues related to surface water, groundwater, soil and ecological resources by coordinating and joining with local partners for the sustainability and improvement of natural resources. The SWCD's provide technical and financial services to landowners, as well as public outreach to increase awareness and knowledge of important issues and programs.

Two Rivers WD

It is the stated mission of the Board of Managers of the Two Rivers Watershed District to carry out all facets of the Minnesota Watershed Act as set forth in Minnesota Statute, Chapter 103D. It is the District's further mission to carry forth all activities and powers given under the Minnesota Drainage Code in Minnesota Statute, Chapter 103E. In carrying out its mission, the District will encourage the wise use of the water natural resources within its boundaries and promote the general health and welfare of the citizens residing there.

The specific powers of watershed districts as set forth under Minnesota Statute 103D.201. General purposes of watershed districts are to conserve the natural resources of the state by land use planning, flood control, and other conservation projects by using sound scientific principles for the protection of the public health and welfare and the provident use of the natural resources.

1.4.1 Existing Water Management Plans & Programs

Numerous plans have been written on the local, state and federal levels to address a number of issues related to our water natural resources. The following is a partial listing of the plans that are most pertinent to northwest Minnesota. This is not a comprehensive list but does show most of the items that were utilized during the 1W1P process and tied into this comprehensive water management plan.

Local:

- ❖ County Comprehensive Local Water Plans: These are plans written and maintained by the Soil & Water Conservation Districts for each County. Therefore, these plans serve as the plan for the counties as well as the Soil & Water Conservation Districts. Water management initiatives addressed include water quality monitoring, well sealing, water supply, and protection of the resource.
- ❖ Operation of County, State, and Judicial Ditch Systems: Minnesota law designates that a ditch authority can be either a county or a watershed district. Ditch authorities are responsible for inspecting, maintaining or otherwise ensuring the ditch is functioning for the purpose it was built. This includes annual inspection and maintenance planning and implementation.
- ❖ Watershed District Overall Plan: The Two Rivers Watershed District is required to update its Overall Plan once every 10 years. This plan considers water quality, flood control, drainage, and management of water natural resources. It identifies issues, goals, and initiatives for management, construction of projects, maintenance of existing projects, monitoring and data collection, and water quality and quantity programs.
- ❖ County Emergency Management Plans: Each county is required to have an updated Hazard Mitigation Plan. These plans relate to flooding and other types of emergencies, and what course of action to take during these emergencies.
- ❖ Lake Bronson Dam Emergency Action Plan: The largest structure on the Two Rivers is the Lake Bronson Dam. The purpose of the plan is to reduce the risk of human life loss and injury and minimize property damage during an unusual or emergency event at the Lake Bronson Dam. It identifies a chain of command, notification process, and what steps would be taken in such a situation.
- ❖ Various Rural Water Systems and City Water Systems: The North Kittson Rural Water System, Kittson-Marshall Rural Water System, and several City Water systems supply drinking water to all of the cities and to most residences in Kittson & Marshall Counties. There are no rural water systems in Roseau County, but the Cities of Greenbush and Badger do have public supply systems. Most rural areas are served by individual water wells. All public suppliers are responsible for wellhead protection plans and other initiatives relative to drinking water and groundwater supplies.
- ❖ Various City Stormwater and Wastewater Systems: Each city has plans for their storm sewers and sanitary sewer systems and lagoons. Lagoons are discharged usually 2 times per year into a receiving water body, which can affect flows and water quality.

State:

The following link includes a list and summary info for state plans and reports applicable to water planning.

https://bwsr.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/2019-11/state_strategies_November_2019.pdf

- ❖ Various programs and initiatives of the DNR, MPCA, BWSR, LMIC, EQB, LCCMR, Dept. of Ag, Dept. of Health, and others. Includes initiatives such as Red River Fish Management Plans, Watershed Restoration & Protection Strategies and the MN Prairie Plan.

Federal:

- ❖ Various programs and initiatives of the USFWS, NRCS, USACE, EPA, FEMA and others

Non-Government:

- ❖ The Audubon Society has identified an ‘Important Bird Area’ within the planning area.
- ❖ The Nature Conservancy owns large tracts of lands and is managing them to preserve, protect, and enhance natural resources like wildlife and ecosystems.
- ❖ Ducks Unlimited provides funding and land management expertise for a variety of waterfowl production initiatives.

This new plan will replace three existing plans including the Two Rivers Watershed District’s Overall Plan, the Kittson County Local Water Management Plan, and the Roseau County Local Water Management Plan. The planning group has convened a Steering Team consisting of local staff, a Policy Committee consisting of a board member from each of the partners, a Citizen’s and Technical Advisory Committee, and will utilize a fiscal/administrative agent to implement the plan. It will be up to the Policy Committee to decide on the future course of actions for this plan. See **Table 1.4** below which shows the roles and responsibilities of each committee. **Tables 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8** lists the agencies and personnel associated with each committee. Further details on plan administration can be found in **Section 7: Plan Administration**.

Table 1.4 Plan Administration Roles

Committee Name	Roles and Responsibilities
Policy Committee	Review the implementation funds from plan participants
	Approve the annual work plan
	Approve annual fiscal reports
	Approve annual reports submitted to BWSR
	Annually review and confirm the PWG priority issues
	Direct the ST on addressing emerging issues
	Approve plan amendments
	Approve grant applications
	Approve annual assessment
Advisory Committee	Review and provide input for the annual work plan
	Identify and advise on collaborative funding opportunities
	Recommend program adjustment to the ST
	Assist with execution of the targeted implementation schedule
Steering Team	Review the status of available implementation funds from plan participants
	Review annual fiscal reports
	Review annual reports submitted to BWSR
	Annually review and confirm priority issues
	Evaluate and recommend response to emerging issues
	Prepare plan amendments
	Implement the targeted implementation schedule
Local Fiscal/Administrative Agent	Convene committee meetings
	Prepare the annual work plan
	Prepare and submit grant applications/funding requests
	Compile annual results for annual assessment

Table 1.5 Policy Committee

	Name	Organization	Title
Primary	Rick Sikorski	TRWD	Manager
Alternate	Bruce Anderson	TRWD	Manager
Primary	Joe Wilebski	Kittson SWCD	Supervisor
Alternate	Heather Peterson*	Kittson SWCD	Supervisor
Primary	Leon Olson	Kittson County	Commissioner
Alternate	Theresia Gillie	Kittson County	Commissioner
Primary	Landon Olson	Roseau SWCD	Supervisor
Alternate	John Gaukerud	Roseau SWCD	Supervisor
Primary	Daryl Wicklund	Roseau County	Commissioner
Alternate	Roger Falk	Roseau County	Commissioner

*Heather Peterson's term ended on December 31st, 2020 replaced by Andrew Muir

Table 1.6 Steering Team

Name	Organization	Title
Dan Money	TRWD	District Administrator
Jeremy Benson	Kittson SWCD	District Technician
Jamie Osowski	Kittson SWCD	District Manager
Heather Donoho	Kittson SWCD	District Outreach
Lane Nordin	Kittson County	Zoning Administrator
Janine Lovold	Roseau SWCD	District Technician
Scott Johnson	Roseau SWCD	District Manager
Matt Fischer	BWSR	Board Conservationist

Table 1.7 Technical Advisory Committee

Name	Organization	Title
Glen Kajewski	MDA	MAWQCP Area Specialist
Dan Disrud	MDH	Source Water Protection Regional Planner
Annette Drewes	DNR	Clean Water Specialist
Mathew Skoog	DNR	Fisheries
Ruthe Ann Franke*	DNR	Wildlife
Stephanie Klamm	DNR Waters	Area Hydrologist
Danielle Kvasager	MPCA	NW Watershed

Matt Fischer	BWSR	Board Conservationist
Kelly Bengston*	Kittson County	County Engineer
Brian Ketring*	Roseau County	County Engineer
Jonathan Eerkes	Nature Conservancy	Nature Conservancy
Jim Schwab	NRCS	District Conservationist
Kathy Fillmore	NRCS	District Conservationist
Danni Halvorson	IWI	Monitoring and Education Director
Scot Olson	Kittson Emergency Management	Director
Susan Grafstrom	Roseau Emergency Management	Director
Dan Money	TRWD	District Administrator
Jeremy Benson	Kittson SWCD	District Technician
Jamie Osowski	Kittson SWCD	District Manager
Lane Nordin	Kittson County	Zoning Administrator
Janine Lovold	Roseau SWCD	District Technician
Scott Johnson	Roseau SWCD	District Manager
Rachel Miller	MN DOT	Water Resources Engineer
Henry Van Offelen	BWSR	Clean Water Specialist - RRV
Anita Locken	City of Greenbush	City Well Head Protection Plan

*Ruth Ann Franke retired in 2019; replaced by Jason Wollin, Kelly Bengston retired in 2020; no replacement, Brian Ketring left in 2020; no replacement

Table 1.8 Citizens Advisory Committee

Name	Representing
Chuck Dziengel	Soybean Growers Association
Lance Hapka	Rural Citizen
Justin Dagen	Rural Citizen
Ed Walsh	Rural Citizen
Vern Langaas	Rural Citizen
Harold Moose	Rural Citizen
Murray Jacobson	Rural Citizen
Shayne Isane	Rural Citizen
Jim Rinde	City of Badger
Brenda Sather	City of Greenbush
Roger Green	Friends of Lake Bronson SP
Kris Folland	Rural Citizen
Doug Green	Rural Citizen
Justin Osowski	Rural Citizen
Shane Stewart	Joe River WD
Todd Nordine	N. Kittson Rural Water
Mark Larson	Rural Citizen

1.4.2 Plan Funding

The ability to achieve plan measurable goals is largely dependent on the amount of funding available to implement actions. However, combined funding (local, state, and federal) can vary from year to year. To address this challenge, the plan presents more than one implementation funding level, which are summarized in the targeted implementation schedule where all actions are assigned a funding level. The planning group felt this was a realistic and defensible approach. It allowed them to build out scenarios for a plan cost that communicates to decision makers (in the planning area and at the state) realistic expectations for achieving results.

As mentioned before for purposes of this plan a current base line estimate of funding was developed, Funding Level 1. Goals in this plan were set to be achieved with the expectation that Watershed Based Funding would be replacing the need for competitive funds, Funding Level 2 (Funding Level 1 + ~\$500,000). Any other additional sources of funding through competitive grants would be considered Funding Level 3 (Funding Level 2 + ~\$250,000). The anticipated cost and sources of funding for implementing the baseline funding level (\$3,071,566 annually) is shown in **Table 1.9**.

Table 1.9 Annualized and estimated total plan cost for actions of Funding Level 1.

Implementation Program	Local		State		Federal		NGO's		All Sources	
	Annual	10-Year Total	Annual	10-Year Total	Annual	10-Year Total	Annual	10-Year Total	Annual	10-Year Total
Structural and Non-structural Management Projects and Practices Incentive Program	\$16,900	\$169,000	\$140,873	\$1,408,730	\$900,000	\$9,000,000	\$85,000	\$850,000	\$1,142,773	\$11,427,730
Capital Improvement Projects Program	\$688,120	\$6,881,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$688,120	\$6,881,200
Data Collection & Monitoring Program	\$16,500	\$165,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$16,500	\$165,000
Regulation and Enforcement Program	\$108,082	\$1,080,820	\$396,051	\$3,960,510	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$504,133	\$5,041,330
Education and Outreach Program	\$3,000	\$30,000	\$53,252	\$532,520	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$56,252	\$562,520
Plan Administration Program	\$339,823	\$3,398,230	\$293,965	\$2,939,650	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$300,000	\$663,788	\$6,637,880
Total	\$1,172,425	\$11,724,250	\$884,141	\$8,841,410	\$900,000	\$9,000,000	\$115,000	\$1,150,000	\$3,071,566	\$30,715,660

It should be noted that funding that will become available and that is discussed in detail in this plan will be through the Board of Water and Soil Resources and comes from Minnesota's Clean Water Fund. Clean Water Legacy states funds may only be spent to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams and to protect groundwater from degradation. There are goals within this plan

related to drainage, flood control or other water management initiatives that do not relate directly to water quality. However, there may be water quality aspects or components of projects related to these goals that could be funded. Other sources of funding will be needed to be secured to fund the non-water quality aspects.

The information highlighted in this executive summary is discussed in detail throughout the rest of the Two Rivers Plus Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. This plan is intended to guide each agency in their normal operations and to help plan, prioritize and fund on the ground projects that will produce measurable results.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Grants Program and Policy Committee

1. FY 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Policy and the FY2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program authorization – Shaina Keseley – ***DECISION ITEM***
2. Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Natural Resources Block Grants Authorization – Kevin Bigalke and Marcey Westrick – ***DECISION ITEM***
3. Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Soil and Water Conservation District Grants Authorization – Kevin Bigalke and Marcey Westrick – ***DECISION ITEM***
4. Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Technical Service Area Grants Authorization– Kevin Bigalke and Marcey Westrick – ***DECISION ITEM***

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: FY 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Policy and the FY2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program authorization

Meeting Date: June 23, 2021

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: Shaina Keseley

Time requested: 15 minutes

Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: Resolution Order Map Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund Budget |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amended Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clean Water Fund Budget |

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval of the FY 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Policy and authorize the FY2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program.

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

The Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Policy is reviewed and approved annually. For FY2022, the policy will apply to Projects and Practices and Multi-purpose Drainage Management funding.

The changes in this policy from the previous year include:

- Modification of eligible applicants to clarify municipalities that have adopted a comprehensive watershed management plan developed under the 1W1P program are eligible

- Clarification on project support
- Change to clarify maximum cost for feedlot roof structures and relocations
- Addition made to ineligible activities (out-letting land locked basins; development & delivery of education/curriculum that does not lead to implementation of WQ practices; activities required under the Groundwater Protection Rule)
- Adding clause related to failure to maintain practices

In addition to approving the policy, the board order also authorizes the fiscal year 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program and authorizes staff to finalize and issue a Request for Proposals. The Grants Program and Policy Committee reviewed these recommendations on June 15, 2021 and recommends the attached policy and order to the board.

BOARD ORDER

Fiscal Year 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program

PURPOSE

Authorize the fiscal year 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program and adopt fiscal year 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Policy

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

1. The Laws of Minnesota 2021, 1st Special Session, Chapter X, Article X, Sec. X(X) appropriated \$XX,XXX,000 for the fiscal year 2022 Clean Water Fund Projects and Practices Competitive Grants Program with up to 20 percent available for land-treatment projects and practices that benefit drinking water, and the Laws of Minnesota 2021, 1st Special Session, Chapter X, Article X, Sec. X(X) appropriated \$XXX,000 for the fiscal year 2022 Clean Water Fund Multipurpose Drainage Management Competitive Grants Program.
2. 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.
3. This policy and associated competitive grant program request for proposal criteria were created to provide expectations for application to the fiscal year 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program and subsequent implementation activities conducted with these funds.
4. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their June 15, 2021 meeting, reviewed the proposed fiscal year 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Request for Proposal criteria and Competitive Grant Policy, and recommended approval to the Board.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

1. Adopts the attached fiscal year 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Policy.
2. Authorizes the fiscal year 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program according to the attached ranking criteria for the *FY 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Request for Proposal*.
3. Authorizes staff to finalize and issue a Request for Proposals contingent upon Legislative funding.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this June 23, 2021.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: _____

Attachments: FY 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Request for Proposal Criteria
FY 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Program Policy

DRAFT

FY 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Request for Proposal Criteria

Projects and Practices Ranking Criteria	
Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points Possible
<u>Project Abstract</u> : The project abstract succinctly describes what results the applicant is trying to achieve and how they intend to achieve those results.	5
<u>Prioritization (Relationship to Plans)</u> : The proposal is based on priority protection or restoration actions listed in or derived from an approved local water management plan and is linked to statewide Clean Water Fund priorities and public benefits.	20
<u>Targeting</u> : The proposed project addresses identified critical pollution sources or risks impacting the water resource(s).	25
<u>Measurable Outcomes and Project Impact</u> : The proposed project has a quantifiable reduction in pollution for restoration projects or measurable outputs for protection projects and directly addresses the water quality concern identified in the application.	25
<u>Cost Effectiveness and Feasibility</u> : The application identifies a cost effective and feasible solution to address the non-point pollution concern(s).	15
<u>Project Readiness</u> : The application has a set of specific activities that can be implemented soon after grant award.	10
Total Points Available	100

Drinking Water Protection Ranking Criteria	
Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points Possible
<u>Project Abstract</u> : The project abstract succinctly describes what results the applicant is trying to achieve and how they intend to achieve those results.	5
<u>Prioritization (Relationship to Plans)</u> : The proposal is based on priority actions listed in an approved local water management plan or a state approved plan (Minnesota Department of Health approved drinking water (source water) protection plan such as a wellhead protection plan, wellhead protection action plan and surface water intake plan.	20
<u>Targeting</u> : The proposed project addresses pollution sources or risks directly impacting drinking water sources. The project is either in an area designated as a Drinking Water Supply Management Area, vulnerable to groundwater contamination, high groundwater sensitivity, or in an area with elevated levels of contamination that pose a risk to human health.	35

<u>Project Impact</u> : The proposed project reduces pollution sources posing the greatest risk to drinking water sources.	30
<u>Project Readiness</u> : The application has a set of specific activities that can be implemented soon after grant award.	10
Total Points Available	100

Multipurpose Drainage Management Ranking Criteria	
Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points Possible
<u>Project Description</u> : The project description succinctly describes the project purpose, the results the applicant is trying to achieve and how they intend to achieve those results.	5
<u>Prioritization</u> : The proposal is based on priority protection or restoration actions associated with a “Priority Chapter 103E Drainage System” (as defined in this RFP) and is consistent with a watershed management plan locally adopted and approved by the state or an approved total maximum daily load study (TMDL), Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS), Surface Water Intake Plan, or Wellhead Protection Plan.	30
<u>Targeting</u> : The proposed project targets practices or combinations of practices to the identified critical pollution sources or risks impacting the water resource identified in the application.	20
<u>Measurable Outcomes</u> : The proposed project reduction in pollution has been qualified and directly addresses the identified water quality concern.	20
<u>Project Readiness</u> : The proposed project has a set of specific activities that can be implemented soon after grant award.	5
<u>Cost Effectiveness</u> : The application identifies a cost effective solution to address the non-point pollution concern(s).	20
Total Points Available	100



FY 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Policy

From the Board of Water and Soil Resources, State of Minnesota

Version: FY2022

Effective Date: 06/23/2021

Approval: Board Order # 21-XX

Policy Statement

The Clean Water Fund was established to implement part of Article XI, Section 15, of the Minnesota Constitution, and Minnesota Statutes §114D with the purpose of protecting, enhancing, and restoring water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams and to protect groundwater and drinking water sources from degradation.

Applicable Clean Water Fund Programs and Grants

- Projects and Practices including Drinking Water
- Multi-purpose Drainage Management

Reason for the policy

The purpose of this policy is to provide expectations for implementation activities conducted via the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Clean Water Fund (CWF) competitive grant program, a public conservation program.

BWSR will use grant agreements for assurance of deliverables and compliance with appropriate statutes, rules and established policies. Willful or negligent disregard of relevant statutes, rules and policies may lead to imposition of financial penalties or future sanctions on the grant recipient.

The FY 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Request for Proposal (RFP) may identify more specific requirements or criteria when specified by statute, rule or appropriation language. BWSR's Grants Administration Manual (<http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/grants/manual/>) provides the primary framework for local management of all state grants administered by BWSR.

Program Requirements

1. Local Governmental Unit Eligibility Criteria

Eligible applicants for competitive grants include:

- Local governments (counties, watershed districts, watershed management organizations, and soil and water conservation districts) or local government joint power boards working under a current State approved and locally adopted local water management plan, comprehensive watershed management plan or soil and water conservation district (SWCD) comprehensive plan.
- Municipalities are eligible if they: 1) have a water plan that has been approved by a watershed district or a watershed management organization as provided under Minn. Stat. 103B.235; or 2) adopted an approved comprehensive watershed management plan developed under Minn. Stat. 103B.801.
- Counties in the seven-county metropolitan area are eligible if they have adopted a county groundwater plan under Minn. Stat. 103B.255 or county comprehensive plan that has been approved by the Metropolitan Council under Minn. Stat. Chapter 473.

Applicable plans must be current when the Board approves awards to be eligible to receive grant funds as defined under the Board's *Local Water Plan Status and Grant Eligibility Policy*. Applicants must also be in compliance with all applicable federal, State, and local laws, policies, ordinances, rules, and regulations.

2. Match Requirements

A non-State match equal to at least 25% of the amount of Clean Water Funds requested and/or received is required, unless specified otherwise by Board action and/or included in a Request for Proposals. Activities listed as ineligible under Section 4 (Ineligible Activities) may not be counted towards match. Match can be provided by a landowner, land occupier, local government or other non-State source and can be in the form of cash or the cash value of services or materials contributed to the accomplishment of grant objectives.

3. Eligible Activities

The primary purpose of activities funded through this program is to restore, protect, and enhance water quality in lakes, rivers and streams; protect groundwater from degradation; and protect drinking water sources. Eligible activities must be consistent with a comprehensive watershed management plan, county comprehensive local water management plan, soil and water conservation district comprehensive plan, metropolitan local water plan or metropolitan groundwater plan that has been State approved and locally adopted or an approved total maximum daily load study (TMDL), watershed restoration and protection strategy (WRAPS) document, groundwater restoration and protection strategy (GRAPS) document, surface water intake plan, or wellhead protection plan. Local governments may include programs and projects in their grant application that are derived from an eligible plan of another local government. BWSR may request documentation outlining the cooperation between the local government submitting the grant application and the local government that has adopted the plan.

Eligible activities can consist of structural practices and projects; non-structural practices and measures, project support, grant management and reporting. Technical and engineering assistance necessary to implement these activities are considered essential and are to be included in the total project or practice cost.

- 3.1 **Effective Life.** All structural practices must be designed and maintained for a minimum effective life of ten years for best management practices and 25 years for capital improvement practices. The beginning date for a practice's effective life is the same date final payment is approved and the project is considered complete. Where questions arise under this section, the effective lifespan of structural practices and projects shall be defined by current and acceptable design standards or criteria as defined in Section 3.8.
- 3.2 **Project Assurances.** The grantee must provide assurances that the landowner or land occupier will keep the practice in place for its intended use for the expected lifespan of the practice. Such assurances may include easements, deed recordings, enforceable contracts, performance bonds, letters of credit, and termination or performance penalties. BWSR may allow replacement of a practice or project that does not comply with expected lifespan requirements with a practice or project that provides equivalent water quality benefits. See also the Projects Assurances section of the Grants Administration Manual.
- 3.3 **Operation, Maintenance and Inspections.** Identifying operation and maintenance activities specific to the installed practices is critical to ongoing performance of installed practices as well as to planning and scheduling those activities. An operation and maintenance plan must be prepared by designated technical staff for the life of the practice and be included with the design standards. An inspection schedule, procedure, and assured access to the practice site shall be included as a component of maintaining the effectiveness of the practice.
- 3.4 **Technical and Administrative Expenses.** Clean Water Funds may be used for actual technical and administrative expenses to advance project implementation. Eligible expenses include the following activities: grant administration, site investigations and assessments, design and cost estimates, construction supervision, and construction inspections. Technical and administrative expenditures must be appropriately documented according to the Grants Administration Manual.
- 3.5 **Project Support.** Eligible activities include public participation and engagement, equipment, and other activities necessary for the implementation of water quality practices consistent with the purposes of these funds. Refer to guidance within the Grants Administration Manual for Capital Equipment Purchases.
- 3.6 **Grant Management and Reporting.** All grant recipients are required to report on the outcomes, activities, and accomplishments of Clean Water Fund grants. The grant funds may be used for local grant management and reporting that are directly related to and necessary for implementing the project or activity. Applicants who have previously received a grant from BWSR must be in compliance with BWSR requirements for grantee website and eLINK reporting before grant execution and payment.
- 3.7 **Drinking Water.** Both surface water (streams, rivers, and lakes) and ground water (aquifers) can serve as sources of drinking water. Drinking water projects must be consistent with wellhead protection plans,

protection plans for surface water intakes, groundwater restoration and protection strategies (GRAPS), or local water management plans or their equivalents.

- 3.8 Practice Standards.** All practices must be consistent with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG), Minnesota Stormwater Manual, or be a professionally accepted engineering or ecological practice. Design standards for all practices must include specifications for operation and maintenance for the effective life of the given practice, including an inspection schedule and procedure.

Livestock Waste Management Practices. Funding for application of conservation practice components to improve water quality is limited to: livestock management systems that were constructed before October 23, 2000, and livestock operations registered with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Database or its equivalent and that are not classified as a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) and have less than 500 animal units (AUs), in accordance with Minnesota Rule Chapter 7020. BWSR reserves the right to deny, postpone or cancel funding where financial penalties related to livestock waste management violations have been imposed on the operator.

- a. Funded projects must be in compliance with standards in MN Rule Chapter 7020 upon completion.
- b. Eligible practices and project components must meet all applicable local, State, and federal standards and permitting requirements.
- c. Eligible practices are limited to best management practices listed by the MN USDA-NRCS.
- d. Feedlot roof structure is an eligible practice with the following payment limitation: The maximum grant for a feedlot roof structure is not to exceed \$100,000 with state grant funds and not to exceed 100% of construction costs.
- e. Feedlot relocation is an eligible practice, with the following conditions:
 - 1) The existing eligible feedlot must be permanently closed in accordance with local and State requirements,
 - 2) Payment Limitation: The maximum grant for a feedlot relocation is not to exceed \$100,000 with state grant funds and not to exceed 100% of the construction costs.
 - 3) The existing and relocated livestock waste management systems sites are considered one project for grant funding.

Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS)

- a. Local governments should first exhaust primary source of SSTS grant funding from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

- b. Eligible activities are limited to identified imminent threat to public health systems (ITPHS) and systems that fail to protect groundwater. Project landowners must meet low income thresholds. Low income guidelines from U.S Rural Development are strongly encouraged as the basis for the definition of low income.
- c. Proposed community wastewater treatment systems involving multiple landowners are eligible for funding but must be listed on the MPCA's Project Priority List (PPL) and have a Community Assessment Report (CAR) or facilities plan [Minn. Rule 7077.0272] developed prior to the application deadline. For community wastewater system applications that include ITPHS, systems that fail to protect groundwater are also eligible.
- d. In an unsewered area that is connecting into a sewer line to a municipal wastewater treatment plant (WWTP), the costs associated with connecting the home to the sewer line is eligible for funding if the criteria in b. and c. above are met.

3.9 **Incentives.** Incentives to install or adopt best management practices that improve or protect water quality are an eligible use of funds. Incentive payments should be reasonable and justifiable, supported by grant recipient policy, consistent with prevailing local conditions, and must be based on established standards. BWSR reserves the right to review and approve incentive payment rates established by grant recipient policy. Incentives to install or adopt best management practices can have a maximum duration of 3 years with a goal of ongoing landowner adoption unless otherwise approved by the Assistant Director of Regional Operations prior to work plan approval.

3.10 **Non-structural Practices and Measures** Non-structural practices and activities that supplement or exceed current minimum state standards or procedures for protection, enhancement, and restoration of water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams and to protect groundwater and drinking water sources from degradation are eligible. Non-structural vegetative practices must follow the Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines.

http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/native_vegetation/seeding_guidelines.pdf.

- a. **In-lake or in-channel treatment.** Best management practices such as rough fish management, vegetation management, lake draw-down and alum treatments that have been identified as an implementation activity are eligible. A feasibility study that meets minimal requirements as defined by BWSR must be completed prior to applying for funding and the report uploaded to eLINK as part of the grant application. Eligible costs apply only to initial costs for design and implementation. All subsequent applications and treatments under this subsection are considered to be Operations and Maintenance expenses that are a local responsibility.
- b. **Duration.** Projects proposing to install or adopt non-structural land management practices must have a minimum duration of 3 years with a goal of ongoing landowner adoption unless otherwise approved by BWSR. Any projects proposing a duration other than 3-years must be reviewed by BWSR staff and approved by the Assistant Director of Regional Operations prior to work plan approval.

4. Ineligible Activities

The following activities are ineligible for these funds. The Clean Water Fund Competitive RFP may identify program specific ineligible activities.

- 4.1 Activities that do not have a primary benefit of water quality.
- 4.2 . Water quality monitoring such as, but not limited to, routine, baseline, diagnostic, or effectiveness monitoring. This includes both surface and groundwater monitoring activities.
- 4.3 Household water conservation appliances and water fixtures.
- 4.4 Wastewater treatment with the exception of Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS).
- 4.5 Municipal drinking water supply facilities or individual drinking water treatment systems.
- 4.6 Storm water conveyances that collect and move runoff, but do not provide water quality treatment benefit.
- 4.7 Activities that outlet landlocked basins.
- 4.8 Development and delivery of educational activities and curriculum that do not support or lead to the implementation of prioritized and targeted water quality practices.
- 4.9 Replacement, realignment or creation of bridges, trails or roads.
- 4.10 Aquatic plant harvesting
- 4.11 Routine maintenance or repair of best management practices, capital equipment and infrastructure within the effective life of existing practices or projects.
- 4.12 Feedlots
 - a. Feedlot expansions beyond state registered number of animal units.
 - b. Slats placed on top of manure storage structures.
- 4.13 Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS):
 - a. Small community wastewater treatment systems serving over 10,000 gallons per day with a soil treatment system, and
 - b. A small community wastewater treatment system that discharges treated sewage effluent directly to surface waters without land treatment.
- 4.14 Fee title land acquisition or easement costs, unless specifically allowed. If not specifically allowed, land acquisition and easement costs can count toward the required match if directly associated with the project and incurred within the grant period.
- 4.15 Buffers that are required by law (including Drainage Law and Buffer Law).
- 4.16 Activities required under the Groundwater Protection Rule
- 4.17 Components of projects needed to meet the statutory requirements of 103E Drainage Law.

5. Technical Expertise

The grantee has the responsibility to ensure that the designated technical staff have the appropriate technical expertise, skills and training for their assigned role(s). See also the Technical Quality Assurances section of the Grants Administration Manual.

- 5.1 **Technical Assistance Provider.** Grantees must identify the technical assistance provider(s) for the practice or project and their credentials for providing this assistance. The technical assistance provider(s) must have appropriate credentials for practice investigation, design, and construction. Credentials can include conservation partnership Job Approval Authority (JAA), also known as technical approval authority; applicable professional licensure; reputable vendor with applicable expertise and liability coverage; or other applicable credentials, training, and/or experience.
- 5.2 **BWSR Review.** BWSR reserves the right to review the qualifications of all persons providing technical assistance and review the technical project design if a recognized standard is not available.

6. Practice or Project Construction and Sign-off

Grant recipients shall verify that the practice or project was properly installed and completed according to the plans and specifications, including technically approved modifications, prior to authorization for payment.

7. BWSR Grant Work Plan, Reporting and Reconciliation Requirements

BWSR staff is authorized to develop grant agreements, requirements and processes for work plans and project outcomes reporting, closeouts, and fiscal reconciliations. All grantees must follow the Grants Administration Manual policy and guidance. In the event there is a violation of the terms of the grant agreement, BWSR will enforce the grant agreement and evaluate appropriate actions, up to and including repayment of grant funds at a rate up to 100% of the grant agreement.

Funds repaid to a grantee from a landowner or other land occupier who has failed to maintain a practice for its effective life must be reallocated to a local cost share program or project account consistent with MN Statutes Chapter 114D.50, less the administrative cost of the grantee.

The grantee board is the authority and has the responsibility to approve the expenditure of funds within their own organization. The approval or denial of expenditures of funds must be documented in the Grantee Board's meeting minutes.

BWSR recommends all contracts be reviewed by the grant recipient's legal counsel.

Grant reporting, fiscal management, and administration requirements are the responsibility of the grant recipient.

History

This policy was originally created in 2010 and is updated annually for each fiscal year of funding.

Contact

For Clean Water Programs: Marcey Westrick, Central Region and Grants Manager

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Natural Resources Block Grants Authorization

Meeting Date: June 23, 2021

Agenda Category: Committee Recommendation New Business Old Business

Item Type: Decision Discussion Information

Section/Region: Regional Operations

Contact: Marcey Westrick

Prepared by: Marcey Westrick

Reviewed by: Grants Program & Policy Committee(s)

Presented by: Kevin Bigalke/Marcey Westrick

Time requested: 10 minutes

Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: Resolution Order Map Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amended Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Water Fund Budget |

ACTION REQUESTED

Board approval of the Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Natural Resources Block Grants.

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 Natural Resources Block Grants. The recommended grants are consistent with the previous year. The Grants Program & Policy Committee (GP&P) reviewed the recommendations at their June 15 meeting and recommended approval of the order to the board.



BOARD ORDER

Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023 **Provisional** Natural Resources Block Grant Authorization

PURPOSE

Provide fiscal years 2022 and 2023 Natural Resources Block Grant (NRBG) program grants to MN Counties.

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

1. The Natural Resources Block Grant (NRBG) program provides assistance to local governments to implement statutory natural resource programs of Comprehensive Local Water Management (LWM), the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA), the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Shoreland Management, and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS).
2. The Laws of Minnesota 2021, 1st Special Session, XXXXXXXX, appropriated fiscal year 2022 and 2023 LWM, WCA and DNR Shoreland Natural Resources Block Grant funds to BWSR.
3. The MPCA will transfer 2022 SSTS program funds to BWSR to be allocated with the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 NRBG.
4. The **provisional** allocations in this order were developed consistent with this appropriation.
5. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their June 15, 2021 Meeting, reviewed the proposed **provisional** allocations and recommended approval to the Board.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

6. Authorizes staff to enter into individual grant agreements with counties meeting the NRBG Program requirements as determined by the BWSR and DNR, and consistent with the attached table *Provisional FY2022 and 2023 Natural Resources Block Grant allocations contingent upon a budget that is equal to or greater passed by the Legislature.*

Grant	FY 2022	FY 2023
LWM	\$1,139,152	\$1,139,152
WCA	\$1,906,479	\$1,906,479
DNR Shoreland	\$ 398,332	\$ 398,332

1. Resolves that for LWM, WCA and DNR Shoreland programs, grantees have the flexibility to shift the amount of grant and required match between these three BWSR programs consistent with local program needs.
2. Authorizes staff to enter into grant agreements for these purposes.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this June 23, 2021.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Date: _____

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Attachments: *Provisional* FY2022 and 2023 Natural Resources Block Grant allocation

DRAFT

Provisional FY2022 and 2023 Natural Resources Block Grants Allocations				
COUNTY	LWM	WCA	SHORELAND	SSTS
AITKIN	\$13,888	\$33,240	\$11,004	TBD
ANOKA SWCD	\$8,094	\$63,191	\$2,615	TBD
BECKER	\$13,071	\$24,237	\$10,956	TBD
BELTRAMI	\$13,688	\$64,600	\$5,616	TBD
BENTON	\$13,271	\$31,598	\$3,352	TBD
BIG STONE	\$15,711	\$8,777	\$2,744	TBD
BLUE EARTH	\$10,023	\$18,178	\$3,309	TBD
BROWN	\$13,633	\$8,778	\$2,729	TBD
CARLTON	\$13,349	\$22,507	\$4,006	TBD
CARVER	\$8,094	\$31,599	\$2,668	TBD
CASS	\$10,502	\$44,766	\$10,915	TBD
CHIPPEWA	\$14,881	\$8,778	\$2,678	TBD
CHISAGO	\$11,243	\$27,700	\$5,043	TBD
CLAY	\$12,673	\$16,447	\$3,004	TBD
CLEARWATER	\$15,256	\$19,909	\$3,227	TBD
COOK	\$14,832	\$12,985	\$4,281	TBD
COTTONWOOD	\$14,844	\$8,778	\$2,828	TBD
CROW WING	\$8,094	\$38,088	\$19,515	TBD
DAKOTA	\$8,094	\$52,804	\$2,668	TBD
DODGE	\$14,484	\$16,444	\$2,729	TBD
DOUGLAS	\$12,077	\$21,641	\$8,717	TBD
FARIBAULT	\$14,550	\$8,778	\$2,790	TBD
FILLMORE	\$14,278	\$8,778	\$2,746	TBD
FREEBORN	\$13,120	\$8,778	\$3,202	TBD
GOODHUE	\$9,433	\$16,447	\$2,828	TBD
GRANT	\$15,503	\$13,850	\$3,118	TBD
HENNEPIN	\$8,094	\$57,133	\$0	TBD
HOUSTON	\$14,699	\$12,985	\$2,780	TBD
HUBBARD	\$13,245	\$25,103	\$8,605	TBD
ISANTI	\$13,251	\$25,103	\$4,085	TBD
ITASCA	\$10,447	\$44,148	\$10,311	TBD
JACKSON	\$14,717	\$8,778	\$3,072	TBD
KANABEC	\$15,071	\$25,103	\$4,173	TBD
KANDIYOHI	\$12,023	\$21,641	\$6,890	TBD
KITSON	\$15,279	\$16,447	\$2,701	TBD
KOOCHICHING	\$15,025	\$28,913	\$2,777	TBD
LAC QUI PARLE	\$15,453	\$8,778	\$2,682	TBD
LAKE	\$14,736	\$16,447	\$4,707	TBD
LAKE OF THE WOODS	\$15,809	\$33,760	\$3,563	TBD
LE SUEUR	\$13,501	\$16,447	\$5,017	TBD
LINCOLN	\$15,488	\$8,778	\$2,824	TBD
LYON	\$13,689	\$8,778	\$2,793	TBD
MAHNOMEN	\$15,838	\$12,985	\$3,428	TBD
MARSHALL	\$14,993	\$20,308	\$2,668	TBD

MARTIN	\$13,697	\$8,778	\$3,085	TBD
MCLEOD	\$12,642	\$16,447	\$3,048	TBD
MEEKER	\$13,990	\$19,044	\$4,831	TBD
MILLE LACS	\$14,361	\$22,507	\$4,905	TBD
MORRISON	\$13,609	\$30,298	\$4,025	TBD
MOWER	\$13,047	\$12,985	\$3,330	TBD
MURRAY	\$15,050	\$8,778	\$3,286	TBD
NICOLLET	\$13,156	\$16,447	\$2,736	TBD
NOBLES	\$14,402	\$8,778	\$2,715	TBD
NORMAN	\$15,541	\$12,985	\$2,677	TBD
OLMSTED	\$8,094	\$25,103	\$3,213	TBD
OTTER TAIL	\$9,824	\$59,729	\$18,106	TBD
PENNINGTON	\$15,341	\$16,447	\$2,890	TBD
PINE	\$13,855	\$34,626	\$6,018	TBD
PIPESTONE	\$15,247	\$8,778	\$2,668	TBD
POLK	\$13,468	\$21,641	\$3,527	TBD
POPE	\$15,095	\$15,581	\$4,336	TBD
RAMSEY CD	\$8,094	\$16,677	\$0	TBD
RED LAKE	\$15,857	\$12,985	\$2,931	TBD
REDWOOD	\$14,472	\$10,387	\$2,668	TBD
RENVILLE	\$14,047	\$8,778	\$2,716	TBD
RICE	\$10,457	\$24,238	\$4,274	TBD
ROCK	\$15,175	\$8,778	\$2,668	TBD
ROSEAU	\$15,131	\$24,238	\$2,752	TBD
SCOTT	\$8,094	\$41,551	\$2,668	TBD
SHERBURNE	\$8,094	\$31,599	\$4,971	TBD
SIBLEY	\$14,615	\$13,452	\$2,755	TBD
ST. LOUIS	\$8,094	\$75,657	\$20,339	TBD
STEARNS	\$8,094	\$45,879	\$9,185	TBD
STEELE	\$12,460	\$12,118	\$2,925	TBD
STEVENS	\$15,305	\$8,778	\$2,783	TBD
SWIFT	\$15,051	\$12,118	\$2,799	TBD
TODD	\$14,676	\$21,641	\$5,033	TBD
TRAVERSE	\$15,585	\$8,778	\$2,861	TBD
WABASHA	\$14,177	\$12,118	\$16,972	TBD
WADENA	\$15,390	\$19,909	\$3,146	TBD
WASECA	\$14,271	\$12,118	\$3,067	TBD
WASHINGTON	\$8,094	\$41,551	\$2,668	TBD
WATONWAN	\$15,108	\$8,778	\$2,788	TBD
WILKIN	\$15,232	\$8,778	\$2,685	TBD
WINONA	\$11,847	\$12,118	\$2,706	TBD
WRIGHT	\$8,094	\$42,416	\$9,528	TBD
YELLOW MEDICINE	\$15,175	\$8,778	\$2,682	TBD
TOTALS	\$1,139,152	\$1,906,479	\$398,332	TBD

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Soil and Water Conservation District Grants Authorization

Meeting Date: June 23, 2021

Agenda Category: Committee Recommendation New Business Old Business

Item Type: Decision Discussion Information

Section/Region: Regional Operations

Contact: Marcey Westrick

Prepared by: Marcey Westrick

Reviewed by: Grants Program & Policy Committee(s)

Presented by: Kevin Bigalke/Marcey Westrick

Time requested: 10 min

Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: Resolution Order Map Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amended Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Water Fund Budget |

ACTION REQUESTED

Board approval of the Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 SWCD Programs and Operations grants which include; Conservation Delivery and State Cost Share grants to SWCDs.

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 FY 2022 and 2023 SWCD Programs and Operations Grants. The recommended grants are consistent with the previous year. The Grants Program & Policy Committee reviewed the recommendations at their June 15, 2021 meeting and recommended approval of the order to the board.



BOARD ORDER

Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023 Soil and Water Conservation District **Provisional** Grants Authorization

PURPOSE

Provide fiscal years 2022 and 2023 Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) grants.

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

1. The SWCD Grants provide Conservation Delivery and State Cost Share grants to SWCDs.
2. The Laws of **Minnesota 2021, 1st Special Session, XXXXXX** appropriated fiscal year 2022 and 2023 SWCD Conservation Delivery and Erosion Control and Water Management allocations.
3. 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.
4. The **provisional** allocations in this order were developed consistent with this appropriation.
5. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their June 15, 2021 meeting, reviewed the **provisional** allocations and recommended approval to the Board.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

1. Authorizes staff to enter into individual grant agreements with SWCDs meeting statute, policy, or grant program requirements for fiscal year 2022 and 2023 consistent with the attached **provisional** allocation table **contingent upon a budget that is equal to or greater passed by the Legislature** and totaling:

Grant	FY 2022	FY 2023
Conservation Delivery	\$1,765,001	\$1,765,001
Erosion Control and Water Management	\$1,999,999	\$1,999,999

2. Authorizes staff to enter into grant agreements for these purposes.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this June 23, 2021.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Date: _____

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Attachments: **Provisional** FY2022 and 2023 SWCD Programs and Operations Grants

Provisional FY 2022 and 2023 SWCD Programs and Operations Grants

SWCD	Conservation Delivery	Erosion Control and Water Management
AITKIN	\$20,212	\$4,141
ANOKA	\$20,765	\$11,107
BECKER	\$19,026	\$26,044
BELTRAMI	\$26,376	\$10,122
BENTON	\$19,224	\$11,169
BIG STONE	\$18,037	\$6,550
BLUE EARTH	\$18,868	\$17,309
BROWN	\$18,947	\$14,757
CARLTON	\$18,670	\$8,001
CARVER	\$19,698	\$16,673
CASS	\$18,275	\$8,347
CHIPPEWA	\$18,947	\$11,213
CHISAGO	\$19,737	\$8,844
CLAY	\$19,263	\$16,468
CLEARWATER	\$18,750	\$7,506
COOK	\$18,196	\$10,142
COTTONWOOD	\$18,947	\$14,091
CROW WING	\$18,354	\$9,607
DAKOTA	\$21,240	\$22,054
DODGE	\$19,343	\$9,908
DOUGLAS	\$20,172	\$16,410
FARIBAULT	\$19,343	\$12,651
FILLMORE	\$20,133	\$24,289
FREEBORN	\$19,145	\$16,482
GOODHUE	\$20,054	\$25,855
GRANT	\$19,026	\$11,332
HENNEPIN COUNTY	\$25,930	\$13,392
HUBBARD	\$18,157	\$7,761
ISANTI	\$20,172	\$6,050
ITASCA	\$18,828	\$6,931
JACKSON	\$18,314	\$11,769
KANABEC	\$18,710	\$9,607
KANDIYOHI	\$19,501	\$14,294
KITTSOON	\$19,184	\$9,607
KOOCHICHING	\$18,472	\$10,142
LAC QUI PARLE	\$18,750	\$20,521
LAKE	\$18,314	\$10,142
LAKE OF THE	\$18,037	\$10,142
LE SUEUR	\$19,619	\$19,479
LINCOLN	\$19,896	\$15,527
LYON	\$19,224	\$14,141
MAHNOMEN	\$18,117	\$10,799
MARSHALL	\$29,596	\$9,491
MARTIN	\$18,908	\$17,945
MC LEOD	\$18,789	\$10,987
MEEKER	\$18,552	\$14,977
MILLE LACS	\$18,868	\$6,944

MORRISON	\$20,252	\$22,808
MOWER	\$20,805	\$10,819
MURRAY	\$18,235	\$10,884
NICOLLET	\$19,224	\$12,862
NOBLES	\$18,512	\$17,383
NORMAN	\$18,986	\$9,605
OLMSTED	\$21,754	\$30,642
OTTER TAIL EAST	\$18,986	\$15,954
OTTER TAIL WEST	\$18,986	\$20,932
PENNINGTON	\$18,710	\$11,038
PINE	\$18,986	\$13,045
PIPESTONE	\$18,670	\$15,873
POLK EAST	\$18,828	\$10,293
POLK WEST	\$18,828	\$13,414
POPE	\$18,592	\$19,927
RAMSEY	\$19,343	\$10,163
RED LAKE	\$18,077	\$5,632
REDWOOD	\$19,343	\$13,576
RENVILLE	\$19,501	\$10,460
RICE	\$22,940	\$14,891
ROCK	\$19,343	\$15,923
ROOT RIVER	\$22,505	\$20,901
ROSEAU	\$18,750	\$10,525
SCOTT	\$19,935	\$18,366
SHERBURNE	\$21,635	\$7,493
SIBLEY	\$18,868	\$9,005
ST. LOUIS NORTH	\$18,789	\$8,550
ST. LOUIS SOUTH	\$18,789	\$7,119
STEARNS	\$22,030	\$36,814
STEELE	\$20,014	\$10,609
STEVENS	\$19,184	\$15,309
SWIFT	\$18,592	\$10,055
TODD	\$20,054	\$16,595
TRAVERSE	\$19,145	\$5,376
WABASHA	\$19,619	\$15,401
WADENA	\$18,710	\$10,142
WASECA	\$18,986	\$10,552
WASHINGTON	\$20,568	\$11,736
WATONWAN	\$18,394	\$9,694
WILKIN	\$19,263	\$13,427
WINONA	\$20,963	\$11,629
WRIGHT	\$21,358	\$15,797
YELLOW MEDICINE	\$19,263	\$17,060
ALLOCATED TOTALS	\$1,765,001	\$1,199,999

BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Technical Service Area Grants Authorization

Meeting Date: June 23, 2021

Agenda Category: Committee Recommendation New Business Old Business

Item Type: Decision Discussion Information

Section/Region: Regional Operations

Contact: Marcey Westrick

Prepared by: Marcey Westrick

Reviewed by: Grants Program & Policy Committee(s)

Presented by: Kevin Bigalke/Marcey Westrick

Time requested: 10 minutes

Audio/Visual Equipment Needed for Agenda Item Presentation

Attachments: Resolution Order Map Other Supporting Information

Fiscal/Policy Impact

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amended Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Policy Requested | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Heritage Fund Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clean Water Fund Budget |

ACTION REQUESTED

Board approval of the 2022 and 2023 Technical Service Area Grants

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 Technical Service Area (TSA) Grants. The recommended grants are consistent with allocations to each TSA except for the equipment funds which are rotated on an established schedule. The Grants Program & Policy Committee reviewed the recommendations at their June 15, 2021 meeting and recommended approval of the order to the board.



BOARD ORDER

Fiscal Year 2022 and Fiscal Year 2023 **Provisional** Technical Service Area Grants Authorization

PURPOSE

Provide fiscal year 2022 and Fiscal Year 2023 Technical Service Area Program Grants to the eight Technical Service Areas in the state.

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

1. The Technical Services Area (TSA) grants program provides Nonpoint Engineering Assistance (NPEA) and TSA Enhanced Technical Assistance grants to the eight Soil and Water Conservation District TSAs.
2. The Laws of Minnesota 2021, XXXXXX appropriated fiscal year 2022 and fiscal year 2023 Nonpoint Engineering Assistance allocations; and Laws of Minnesota 2021, XXXXX appropriated the Enhanced Technical Assistance funds through fiscal year 2022 and fiscal year 2023 Accelerated Implementation Grants appropriation.
3. The **provisional** allocations in this order were developed consistent with these appropriations.
4. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their June 15, 2021 Meeting, reviewed the **provisional** allocations and recommended approval to the Board.

ORDER

The Board hereby:

1. Approves the **provisional** allocation of TSA Program Grants to eligible TSAs in the amounts listed in the attached table **contingent upon a budget that is equal to or greater passed by the Legislature.**
2. Authorizes both fiscal year 2022 and fiscal year 2023 Enhanced Technical Assistance grant allocations, recognizing that funds for the fiscal year 2023 grants will not be available until the start of that fiscal year and will be processed only after July 1, 2022.
3. Establishes that the grants awarded pursuant to this resolution will conform to Technical Service Area Grants Program Policy.
4. Authorizes staff to enter into grant agreements for this purpose.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this June 23, 2021.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Date: _____

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Attachments: **Provisional** FY2022 and 2023 Technical Service Area Program Grant Allocation

Provisional FY2022 and 2023 Technical Service Area Program Grant Allocation Table

TSA	Nonpoint Engineering Assistance Program					Clean Water Fund	FY 2022 Total	FY 2023 Total
	FY22-23 NPEA Grant	FY22 Equipment	FY23 Equipment	FY 2022 Total NPEA Grant	FY 2023 Total NPEA Grant	FY22-23 Enhanced Technical Assistance		
1	\$127,500	\$0	\$0	\$127,500	\$127,500	\$242,500	\$370,000	\$370,000
2	\$127,500	\$0	\$0	\$127,500	\$127,500	\$242,500	\$370,000	\$370,000
3	\$127,500	\$0	\$20,000	\$127,500	\$147,500	\$242,500	\$370,000	\$390,000
4	\$127,500	\$20,000	\$0	\$147,500	\$127,500	\$242,500	\$390,000	\$370,000
5	\$127,500	\$0	\$0	\$127,500	\$127,500	\$242,500	\$370,000	\$370,000
6	\$127,500	\$0	\$0	\$127,500	\$127,500	\$242,500	\$370,000	\$370,000
7	\$127,500	\$20,000	\$0	\$147,500	\$127,500	\$242,500	\$390,000	\$370,000
8	\$127,500	\$0	\$20,000	\$127,500	\$147,500	\$242,500	\$370,000	\$390,000
	\$1,020,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$1,060,000	\$1,060,000	\$1,940,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000