

<h2 style="margin: 0;">GP&amp;P Committee Meeting Agenda</h2>	Monday, November 29, 2021	
	2:00 to 3:15 PM	
	MPCA/BWSR Building Room 101 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul WebEx: <a href="https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/onstage/g.php?MTID=e155de70bac2156129a27d773bd6090f0">https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/onstage/g.php?MTID=e155de70bac2156129a27d773bd6090f0</a> password: webex	
Attendees:	Committee Members: Todd Holman, Kathryn Kelly, Jill Crafton, Andrea Date, Neil Peterson, Rich Sve, Glenn Skuta, Jeff Berg, Ted Winter, Mark Zabel, Kelly Kirkpatrick, LeRoy Ose Staff: Marcey Westrick, Kevin Bigalke, Dan Shaw, Shaina Keseley, Mark Hiles, Sharon Doucette	
<b>Agenda Items</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Time allotted</b>
Review of agenda	Information	2 min
Approval of past minutes	Decision	2 min
Public Comment Period (if requested)	Information / Discussion	2 min
Conflict of Interest	Information	2 min
Well-head Protection Partner Grants	Decision	15 min
Restoration Enhancement Pilot Program	Decision	20 min
Cooperative Weed Management Area Program	Decision	5 min
FY2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants	Decision	25 min
<b>Other Information: WebEx:</b> <a href="https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/onstage/g.php?MTID=e155de70bac2156129a27d773bd6090f0">https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/onstage/g.php?MTID=e155de70bac2156129a27d773bd6090f0</a> password: webex		

## Memorandum

Date: 11/22/21

To: BWSR Grants Program and Policy Committee

From: Marcey Westrick, Central Region Manager

### RE: November 29th Committee Meeting

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#### **Agenda Item: Wellhead Protection Partners Program Pilot**

The Wellhead Protection Partner program provides grant funding to local governments for establishing perpetual or long-term protection of wellhead protection areas where state-held easements are not viable. Only High or Very High vulnerable Wellhead Protection Areas as mapped in an approved Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Wellhead Protection Plan are eligible. This grant program is offered in conjunction with ongoing BWSR protection programs such as CREP and RIM where sensitive wellheads remain a high priority for enrollment.

In 2019, the Board adopted Board Order #19-34 which approved \$1,000,000 in Clean Water Funds to be used for the Wellhead Protection Partner Grants pilot program. These funds have been expended and staff is recommending adding funds to the pilot program.

***Requested Action:** Recommend approval of the order to authorize adding funds to the Wellhead Protection Partner Program Pilot.*

#### **Agenda Item: Restoration Enhancement Pilot Program**

Declines of bees, butterflies, dragonflies and other at-risk species that support ecosystems and food systems have raised significant alarm among scientists and conservation professionals both locally and globally. This cost-share grant program is made possible through an appropriation from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF). The program is focused on restoring and enhancing strategically located, diverse native habitat across Minnesota to benefit populations of pollinators and beneficial insects as well as overall plant and animal diversity.

***Requested Action:** Recommend approval of the order to adopt the Restoration Enhancement Pilot Program Policy and authorize staff to develop and distribute the RFP.*

#### **Agenda Item: Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA)**

Cooperative Weed Management Areas are partnerships of federal, state and local government agencies along with tribes, individual landowners and various other interested groups that manage noxious weeds or invasive plants in a defined area. The BWSR Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) Program was developed in 2008 to establish strong and sustainable CWMAs across Minnesota for the collaborative and efficient control of invasive species and protection of conservation lands and natural areas. \$200,000 is proposed for FY2022 and FY2023 for newly developing and existing CWMAs/terrestrial weed management partnerships in Minnesota through this Request for Proposal.

**Requested Action:** Recommend approval of the order to authorize staff to develop and distribute the FY22/23 CWMA RFP.

**Agenda Item: FY22 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants**

On June 23, 2021 the Board adopted Board Order #21-16 which authorized staff to conduct a request for proposals from eligible local governments for Clean Water Fund projects in three program categories: Multipurpose Drainage Management, Projects and Practices, and Projects and Practices Drinking Water Subprogram.

Applications for the FY2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants were accepted from June 30 through August 17, 2021. Local governments submitted applications requesting \$22,066,714 in Clean Water Funds. BWSR Clean Water staff conducted multiple processes to review and score applications and involved staff of other agencies (DNR, MDH, MDA, and MPCA) to develop the proposed recommendations for grant awards.

<b>FY2022 Competitive CWF Grant Categories</b>	<b>Available Funds</b>	<b>Requested Funds</b>
Multipurpose Drainage Management	Up to \$750,000	\$1,035,361.60
Projects and Practices <i>Drinking Water Subprogram</i>	Up to \$12,000,000 <i>Up to 20% of projects and practices funding amount (\$2,400,000)</i>	\$20,230,851.06 \$800,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,750,000</b>	<b>\$22,066,713.66</b>

**Multipurpose Drainage Management (MDM):**

The purpose of this program is to facilitate multipurpose drainage management practices to reduce erosion and sedimentation, reduce peak flows and flooding, and improve water quality, while protecting drainage system efficiency and reducing drainage system maintenance for priority Chapter 103E drainage systems. Practices include eligible on-field, on-farm, and on-drainage system practices within the benefited area or the watershed of a priority Chapter 103E drainage system.

A total of 6 applications for Multipurpose Drainage Management Grants were received and scored by an interagency review team consisting of members of BWSR, DNR, MPCA and MDA. The criteria used in the BWSR assessments and interagency scoring is shown in the table below:

<b>Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant Ranking Criteria</b>	
<b>Ranking Criteria</b>	<b>Maximum Points Possible</b>
<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 state approved or an approved total maximum daily load study (TMDL), Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS), surface water intake plan, or well head 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 quantified and directly addresses the 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
<b>Total Points Available</b>	<b>100</b>

**Projects and Practices Drinking Water Subprogram:**

These funds are used to make an investment in land treatment projects and practices that will protect or improve drinking water sources. Surface water (streams, rivers, and lakes) and groundwater (aquifers) can both serve as sources of drinking water.

A total of 5 applications for the Projects and Practices Drinking Water subprogram were received. All 5 applications were scored by an interagency review team consisting of members of BWSR, DNR, MPCA, MDH and MDA . The criteria used in the BWSR assessments and interagency scoring is shown in the table below:

<b>Projects and Practices Drinking Water Subprogram Ranking Criteria</b>	
<b>Ranking Criteria</b>	<b>Maximum Points Possible</b>
<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>Relationship to the Plan:</u> The proposal is based on priority actions listed in an approved local water management plan or a state approved Minnesota Department of Health approved source water (drinking water) protection plan such as a wellhead protection plan, wellhead protection action plan or surface water intake plan.	20
<u>Targeting:</u> The proposed project addresses contaminant 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 such as Level 1 or Level 2 areas identified by the Groundwater Protection Rule and/or townships showing high nitrate level through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture township testing. Project fits with complementary work and multiple strategies aimed at drinking water protection.	35
<u>Project Impact:</u> The proposed project reduces an identified contaminant source posing the greatest risk to drinking water sources. Project will have measurable outputs, justifiable costs, and may have secondary benefits.	30
<u>Project Readiness:</u> The application has a set of specific activities that can be implemented soon after grant award. Community and/or citizen engagement will occur to share project information with the local community.	10
<b>Total Points Available</b>	<b>100</b>

## Projects and Practices

These funds are used to make investments in on-the-ground projects and practices that will protect or restore water quality in lakes, rivers or streams, or will protect groundwater or drinking water. Examples include stormwater practices, agricultural conservation, livestock waste management, lakeshore and stream bank stabilization, stream restoration, and SSTS upgrades.

A total of 55 applications for Projects and Practices were received. One application was found to be ineligible based on CWF policy and RFP language. 54 applications were scored by an interagency review team consisting of members of BWSR, DNR, MPCA, MDH and MDA. The criteria used in the BWSR assessments and interagency scoring is shown in the table below:

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>Relationship to the Plan:</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:</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>Project Readiness:</u> The application has a set of specific activities that can be implemented soon after grant award.	10
<u>Cost Effectiveness and Feasibility:</u> The application identifies a cost-effective solution to address the non-point pollution concern(s).	15
<b>Total Points Available</b>	<b>100</b>

**Requested Action:** Recommend approval of the order to grant awards to applications indicated in attached spreadsheets for the three program categories: Multipurpose Drainage Management, Projects and Practices Drinking Water Subprogram and Projects and Practices.

# Meeting Minutes: Grants Policy & Program Committee

Date: October 8, 2021  
 Minutes prepared by: Cecelia Rost, Central Region OAS  
 Location: BWSR Conference Room 200/201 and WebEx  
 520 Lafayette Rd  
 St. Paul, MN  
 12:30 PM

## Attendance

Committee Members Present: Todd Holman, Kathryn Kelly, Jill Crafton, Andrea Date, Jeff Berg (MDA), Ted Winter, Melissa Lewis (MPCA) in place of Glenn Skuta, and Kelly Kirkpatrick.

Committee Members Absent: Rich Sve, Mark Zabel, Neil Peterson, Glenn Skuta (MPCA), and LeRoy Ose.

BWSR Staff: Kevin Bigalke – Assistant Director of Regional Operations, Marcey Westrick – Central Region Manager, and Cecelia Rost – Central Region OAS, Dan Shaw – Senior Ecologist/Vegetation Specialist, Barb Peichel – Clean Water Specialist, Jeff Hrubes – Clean Water Specialist, Annie Felix-Gerth – Water Programs Coordinator, Steve Christopher – Board Conservationist

Other Attendees: Tim Kelly, Emily Javens, Gerald Van Amburg, Jessica Schaum, Joe Collins (present onsite), Valerie (no last name), Joni Giese, and the BDS Watershed District.

## Call to Order

Todd Holman called the meeting to order at 12:37 PM.

Motion to approve the Agenda by Kathryn Kelly and seconded by Jill Crafton with the amendment of discussion in closing to select a day and time for a standing meeting for this committee going forward. The motion passed.

Committee Member	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Todd Holman	X			
Kathryn Kelly	X			
Jill Crafton	X			
Andrea Date	X			
Neil Peterson				X
Rich Sve				X
Glenn Skuta (MPCA) Melissa Lewis	X			
Jeff Berg (MDA)	X			
Ted Winter	X			
Mark Zabel				X
Kelly Kirkpatrick	X			
LeRoy Ose				X

Motion to approve the September 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes by Jill Crafton and seconded by Ted Winter. The motion passed.

Committee Member	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Todd Holman	X			
Kathryn Kelly	X			
Jill Crafton	X			
Andrea Date	X			
Neil Peterson				X
Rich Sve				X
<del>Glenn Skuta</del> (MPCA) Melissa Lewis			X	
Jeff Berg (MDA)	X			
Ted Winter	X			
Mark Zabel				X
Kelly Kirkpatrick	X			
LeRoy Ose				X

Motion to approve the September 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes by Kathryn Kelly and seconded by Jeff Berg. The motion passed.

Committee Member	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Todd Holman	X			
Kathryn Kelly	X			
Jill Crafton	X			
Andrea Date	X			
Neil Peterson				X
Rich Sve				X
<del>Glenn Skuta</del> (MPCA) Melissa Lewis			X	
Jeff Berg (MDA)	X			
Ted Winter	X			
Mark Zabel				X
Kelly Kirkpatrick	X			
LeRoy Ose				X

Public comments: Tim Kelly (previously worked with the DNR, the Dakota SWCD, and currently the manager of the Coon Creek WD for the past 30 years) commented that the last item on the agenda that the committee will be voting on has long and short-term implications on two aspects of water quality management in Minnesota. One is whether we favor a management by objective approach or management by opportunity approach. The second issue is whether this committee serve staff, does the BWSR board serve staff, or does staff serve the committee. This stems from some of the comments from some of the Watershed District letters that the committee has received.

## AGENDA ITEMS

### 1. Agenda Item: Lawns to Legumes

Dan Shaw gave a brief history of the program and presented the materials. The Lawns to Legumes Phase 2 program was recently awarded a little over \$2 million dollars by the Environment and Natural Resource Trust Fund. A few items that are recommended to be new in Phase 2:

- Demonstration Neighborhood grants can also focus on educational and community spaces.
- Definition of "at-risk" pollinators are also included in the "Eligibility Criteria" section.



- The ranking criteria and point system has changed. In the ranking, we are looking for more geographic distribution by focusing on a wider range of at-risk species (rather than only focusing on currently known Rusty Patch Bumble Bee locations).
- We have two funding appropriations with different end dates. As a result, we are asking applicants if they could use three years instead of two and collectively as an advisory team we will determine which projects receive the extra time.
- A limit has been established for cost of equipment.
- A limit on project costs has been established for residential or community space and educational landscapes.

Jill Crafton commented on number 5 from the board order regarding going through a local government unit as the fiscal agent and clarifying who oversees lining up the projects where there is a real need for it. Dan stated there are prioritization areas (partially based around the Rusty Patched Bumblebee habitat and other at-risk pollinators) and ranking criteria looking at habitat corridors that guide where projects should happen to benefit species that need protection. It is up to the organization to have the expertise or work with an organization with the expertise such as the Xerces Society. The locations and sizes of the plantings along with other information that is given will be mapped and submitted in eLINK and monitoring through partnerships. Jill Crafton and Melissa Lewis wanted clarification on the title of the updated policy in the board order and within the history section.

*Requested Action: Recommend the Lawns to Legumes Phase 2 Policy and authorization of the Request for Proposal to the Board.*

Motion to approve by Jill Crafton and seconded by Melissa Lewis. The motion to recommend approval of the Lawns to Legumes Phase 2 Policy and RFP passed by roll call vote with conflict of interest stated.

Committee Member	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Todd Holman	X			
Kathryn Kelly	X			
Jill Crafton	X			
Andrea Date	X			
Neil Peterson				X
Rich Sve				X
Glenn Skuta (MPCA) Melissa Lewis	X			
Jeff Berg (MDA)	X			
Ted Winter	X			
Mark Zabel				X
Kelly Kirkpatrick	X/Conflict			
LeRoy Ose				X

## 2. Agenda Item: FY22-23 Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program

### *Allocation area of Twin Cities Metropolitan Area*

Staff have taken into consideration all feedback received from stakeholders. In an effort to establish a durable allocation framework that is based on watershed planning areas, staff's recommendation on the allocation area for the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area is as follows:

1. Allocate to the metro portion of the One Watershed, One Plan planning areas that have been approved or are anticipated to be approved in the FY22-23 Biennium. This is like how BWSR allocated to these areas in FY20-21. Like FY20-21, Metro partners in these areas will be able to decide to use all or a portion of their funding on activities in the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans or eligible Metro water plans (see draft Policy) to provide the most flexibility to local decision-makers. It is anticipated that future partnerships involved with One Watershed, One Plan planning areas that include the Metro may be allocated funding in a similar manner.

- a) Lower St. Croix
- b) Cannon
- c) Rum

2. Allocate to the remaining 23 watershed planning areas (WPAs) based on the watershed management organization boundaries.

This approach is recommended taking into careful consideration all the comments and feedback BWSR has received throughout the process. This approach continues to support those entities that have chosen to partner in the development and implementation of a Comprehensive Management Plan developed under One Watershed, One Plan Program while maintaining the autonomy of the metro partners to decide how to best utilize these funds. It also provides a more manageable, localized scale for the partners in each of the respective watershed planning areas to collaborate.

#### *Plan eligibility for metro project selection*

The mandatory statutes, rules and plans governing water management in the metropolitan area are separate from the voluntary set forth in the One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) statutes and Board policies. Minnesota statutes §103B.231 Watershed District/Watershed Management Organization plans are a mandatory organizational plan and thus may not be comprehensive in the sense that they are not required to be inclusive of other local governments. Most metro watershed plans have been purposely and efficiently written to be complements to other local government plans, rather than fully inclusive.

Staff's recommendation is to allow 103C plans to be eligible for project selection within the metro area through the Enhanced SWCD Comprehensive Plan Option Guidance as presented to the committee at the September 14 meeting. This option allows a SWCD to develop an Enhanced SWCD Plan if they determine that an eligible 103B plan does not sufficiently include their projects and activities. This recommendation does not exclude an SWCD from working through the amendment process of a 103B plan if they so choose.

#### *Policy*

The basis for the policy is the FY20-21 Watershed-based Implementation Funding program, the FY22 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants policy with input from the recent feedback period. The following policy changes are recommended:

- A. Modification to the policy statement
- B. Inclusion of Metro SWCD Enhanced Plans
- C. Ineligible Items
  - Outlet landlocked basins
  - Educational activities that don't support/lead to implementing water quality practices
  - Activities already required - Drainage Law, Wetland Conservation Act, Groundwater Protection Rule
- D. Clarifications – drainage systems, educational activities, SSTS/Feedlot
- E. Minor Additions – feasibility study items, failure to maintain practices

#### *Allocation Formula*

At the September 14th committee meeting, staff updated the committee on an analysis being conducted to evaluate the most recent statewide data sets for federal and state-owned lands to create an updated private lands data layer. Staff had also reported that tribal land that does not overlap with state and federal lands was also being included for the use in the WBIF funding formula. Staff were utilizing the Protected Areas Database of the United States (PAD-US) data sets for this analysis.

Since the September 14th meeting, staff have recently discovered that MNIT staff have partnered with Minnesota DNR to create a new updated Public Lands of Minnesota Dataset. Based on parcel data from the 87 counties, this resulting dataset will be the most complete and consistently categorized statewide data for public land ownership. Because this dataset is still being finalized and due to time limitations to thoroughly analysis this new data set, staff recommend using the same dataset<sup>1</sup> used in FY18-21. However, staff recommend continuing to work with this new public lands data set to

thoroughly analyze potential impacts to the private lands factor, as well as potential groundwater data layers so that in FY24-25, the funding formula is utilizing the most current data available.

Staff recommends maintaining the funding formula established in FY20-21: a) a \$250,000 minimum per watershed planning area outside of the Metro, b) a distribution of funds based on a weighting of 90% private land and 10% on public waters2 to all eligible areas. In addition, staff recommends adding a \$75,000 minimum allocation amount per watershed planning area inside of the Metro.

*Biennial Appropriation*

The Board received a \$43.564M FY22-23 appropriation for the WBIF Program. Figure 1 reflects the proposed distribution of this appropriation. This proposal incorporates \$2.1M for BWSR Administration, \$6.5M for the Metro, and approximately \$33M for watersheds with approved comprehensive watershed management plans developed through the 2020 One Watershed, One Plan program. Figure 2 shows the anticipated trajectory developed in the previous biennium.

Discussion: Todd Holman wanted to recognize that this was a difficult task with many ways this affects different areas. Jill Crafton noted that the huge population of the metro (landowners and industry alike) is an important element to supporting the comprehensive plans. Todd asked for some clarification and highlights of the changes from this biennium from the last one. Previously it was based on a scale on what we would see outside of the metro ending up with 10 major allocation areas. This time around it is a more localized scale with less entities being involved. Kevin also clarified that the \$75,000 minimum goes to areas that were under that amount as in cases where it would have been more costly to administer the grant. Jill stated her appreciation for the amendment process in the plan eligibility section. Melissa Lewis noted wording in the board order number 7 encouraging local governments to convene vs the language in the policy where it states required. No additional comments.

Motion to approve by Kathryn Kelly and seconded by Melissa Lewis. The motion to recommend approval of the order to authorize the fiscal year 2022-23 Clean Water Fund Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program and adopt the 2022-23 Clean Water Fund Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program Policy passed by roll call vote with conflict of interest stated.

Committee Member	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Todd Holman	X			
Kathryn Kelly	X			
Jill Crafton	X			
Andrea Date	X			
Neil Peterson				X
Rich Sve				X
Glenn Skuta (MPCA) Melissa Lewis	X			
Jeff Berg (MDA)	X			
Ted Winter	X			
Mark Zabel				X
Kelly Kirkpatrick	X			
LeRoy Ose				X

Amendment to discuss a standing meeting date: Kathryn Kelly suggested that we look at Mondays. Todd Holman agreed. Kevin Bigalke asked if staff can look at potential dates and send out a doodle pole to the committee members. Kelly Kirkpatrick stated Mondays are not the best unless it is the second or fourth Monday in the mornings and Jill Crafton agreed that would work. Ted Winter would prefer morning meetings.

**Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will tentatively late November or early December.

With no further business Todd Holman adjourned the meeting at 2:21 PM.

**BOARD ORDER****Amendment to Board Order #19-34: Wellhead Protection Partner Grants (Pilot)****PURPOSE**

Authorize additional funds for the Wellhead Protection Partner Grants Program.

**RECITALS /FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The Board adopted Order #19-34 on June 26, 2019 in which the Wellhead Protection Partner Grants pilot program was established.
2. Board Order #19-34 approved \$1,000,000 in Clean Water Funds to be used for the pilot program.
3. The funds authorized in Board Order #19-34 have been fully obligated or expended.
4. The RIM Reserve Committee, at their November 17, 2021 meeting and the Grants Program and Policy Committee at their November 29, 2021 meeting are recommending adding funds to the pilot program to fund additional high priority applications.

**ORDER**

The Board hereby amends Order #19-34 to add additional Clean Water Funds from Laws of Minnesota 2015, 2017, 2019 and/or 2021 to the Wellhead Protection Partner Grants (Pilot), not to exceed \$3,000,000.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this December 16, 2021.

**MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**

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Gerald Van Amburg, Chair  
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## BOARD ORDER

### Wellhead Protection Partner Grants (Pilot)

#### PURPOSE

Authorize Wellhead Protection Partner Grants (Pilot) and delegate approval of payment to the Executive Director.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

1. The Clean Water Fund was established to implement part of Article XI, Section 15, of the Minnesota Constitution, 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.
2. The Laws of Minnesota 2015, 1st Special Session, Ch. 2, Art. 2, Sec 7(g), and Laws of Minnesota 2017, Ch. 91, Art. 2, Sec. 7(g) appropriated Clean Water funds to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (Board) for permanent conservation easements on wellhead protection areas or grants to local units of government for long-term wellhead protection.
3. The Board receives requests for wellhead protection assistance that do not meet the program requirements for Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) or Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve easements.
4. The Board has authorities under Minnesota Statutes §103B.3369 and 103B.101 to award grants and contracts to accomplish water and related land resources management.
5. The RIM Reserve Committee, at their March 27, 2019 meeting, reviewed the Wellhead Protection Partner Grants (Pilot) Policy and found it to be consistent with CREP and RIM programs.
6. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their June 5, 2019 meeting, also reviewed the Wellhead Protection Partner Grants (Pilot) Policy and recommended the Board approve this order.

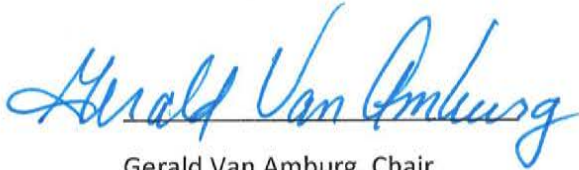
#### ORDER

The Board hereby:

1. Adopts the Wellhead Partner Protection Grants (Pilot) Policy and establishes that grants awarded pursuant to this order will conform to the Policy.
2. Authorizes staff to finalize and issue a Request for Proposals for Wellhead Protection Partner Grants (Pilot).
3. Approves the allocation of Wellhead Protection Partner Grants (Pilot) up to \$1,000,000 to eligible local government partners.
4. Delegates the authority to the Executive Director to approve Wellhead Protection Partner Grants (Pilot) and requires that program awards are reported to the Board after each grant award.
5. Authorizes staff to enter into grant agreements for these purposes.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this June 26, 2019.

**MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**



Gerald Van Amburg, Chair  
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: 6-26-19

Attachment: Wellhead Protection Partner Grants (Pilot) Policy

## Wellhead Protection Partner Grants (Pilot) Policy

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

Version: 1.00  
Effective Date: 06/26/2019  
Approval: Board Order #19-34

### Policy Statement

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The purpose of this policy is to provide expectations for Wellhead Protection Partner Grants to facilitate permanent or long-term protection of wellhead protection areas as authorized by Minnesota Session Laws 2015 and 2017 Clean Water Fund Appropriations (ML 2015, 1<sup>st</sup> Special, Ch. 2, Art. 2, Sec. 7(g) and ML 2017, Ch. 91, Art. 2, Sec. 7(g)) and future similar appropriations.

### Reason for this Policy

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The Clean Water Fund was established to implement part of Article XI, Section 15, of the Minnesota Constitution, 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.

Minnesota Session Laws 2015 and 2017 appropriated Clean Water funds to BWSR for the following purposes:

*...permanent conservation easements on wellhead protection areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 103F.515, subdivision 2, paragraph (d), or for grants to local units of government for fee title acquisition to permanently protect groundwater supply sources on wellhead protection areas or for otherwise assuring long-term protection of groundwater supply sources as described under alternative management tools in the Department of Agriculture's Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan, including low nitrogen cropping systems or implementing nitrogen fertilizer best management practices. Priority must be placed on land that is located where the vulnerability of the drinking water supply is designated as high or very high by the commissioner of health, where drinking water protection plans have identified specific activities that will achieve long-term protection, and on lands with expiring Conservation Reserve Program contracts.*

This policy establishes the mechanisms for use of those funds as Wellhead Protection Partner Grants, consistent with legislative appropriations.

### Wellhead Protection

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Three mechanisms have been identified for wellhead protection as funded in ML 2015 and 2017. Two of the three mechanisms, MN Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve are established BWSR easement programs that can be implemented for wellhead protection and have previously been authorized through separate BWSR Board action. MN CREP will be utilized first and to the fullest extent possible in the 54 county CREP area for Wellhead Protection Areas (WHPA) where the drinking

water supply is designated as very high or high vulnerability through wellhead protection planning documents. For projects that do not meet CREP requirements, the second option for protection will be to utilize RIM-only easements. The third mechanism, Wellhead Protection Partner Grants, is described by this policy.

## **Wellhead Protection Partner Grants**

The grants will establish perpetual or long-term protection of wellhead protection areas with very high or high vulnerability drinking water supplies where the first two protection methods (state-held easements) are not viable or desirable. The grants will achieve wellhead protection through a grant to a local government partner to protect the wellhead area by easement, fee acquisition, or other long-term (20 year minimum) protection mechanism. This protection mechanism may allow for alternative land uses to protect groundwater while allowing the partner more flexibility than a state-held easement through the CREP or RIM easement programs.

### **1. Applicant Eligibility**

Local governments including cities, townships, counties, rural water districts, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts, joint powers authorities or other governmental units with authority sufficient to meet the program's protection requirements and approved by BWSR will be eligible to apply for Wellhead Protection Partner Grants. Priority will be given to entities that have experience with long-term land protection efforts.

### **2. Match Requirements**

A minimum 10% match is required from non-state funds. State funded loans repaid with non-state funds may be used for the match. The anticipated source(s) for the match shall be identified in the grant proposal.

### **3. Funding Priorities**

Priority for funding will be given to projects that meet the following criteria:

- Be within a delineated WHPA mapped in a Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) approved Wellhead Protection Plan.
- Vulnerability of the drinking water supply has been designated as very high or high by the MN Department of Health.
- Well(s) monitoring has shown a nitrate concentration of >5.4 mg/l.
- Lands with expiring Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts.
- A drinking water protection plan has been completed and contains implementation activities that will achieve long-term protection.
- Permanent protection mechanisms are proposed.

### **4. Eligible Activities**

The protection mechanism must be identified in the proposal and address the wellhead concern, achieve protection under local authority and be perpetual or long-term. Potential protection mechanisms include, but are not limited to, alternative uses and land use contracts that protect groundwater; fee acquisition or easements held by the local partner; or other perpetual or long-term groundwater protection mechanism proposed by the local government and approved by BWSR. The protection mechanism proposed by the local government must be identified in the grant proposal.



Eligible activities under the grant are payments for land protection including easement payment, pre-title acquisition payments, property acquisition costs, survey, title, recording fees, and vegetation establishment.

The local government (grantee) must provide assurances that the landowner or land occupier will keep the protection in place for the term of protection including a notice of restrictions recorded on the land title by the grantee to protect the State's interest in the property. Additional assurances may include management plans, enforceable contracts, performance bonds, letters of credit, and termination or performance penalties. See also the Projects Assurances section of the Grants Administration Manual.

## 5. Ineligible Expenses

Ineligible expenses include staff time spent to acquire protection mechanism and improvement costs associated with alternative use proposals that are not directly necessary to meet drinking water protection goals. Staff time can be used to meet the 10% match requirement.

## 6. Grantee Administration of Clean Water Fund Grants

Grant reporting, fiscal management, and administration requirements are the responsibility of the grantee. All grantees must follow the Grants Administration Manual policy and guidance. All grantees are required to report on the outcomes, activities, and accomplishments of Clean Water Fund grants.

## 7. BWSR Grant Administration Requirements

BWSR staff is authorized to develop grant agreements, requirements, and processes for work plans, project outcomes reporting, closeouts, and fiscal reconciliations.

In the event there is a violation of the terms of the grant agreement, BWSR will enforce the grant agreement and evaluate appropriate actions, including repayment of grant funds at a rate up to 100% of the grant agreement. Additional programmatic requirements apply, including the BWSR Board Policy on Easement Alterations, if an easement is acquired.

## History

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Version	Description	Date
0.00	Wellhead Protection Partner Grants (Pilot) Policy- new	June 26, 2019

## Restoration Enhancement Pilot Program Policy

Supporting Pollinators and Other At-risk Wildlife Enhancement Pilot Program

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



**Version:** 1.00  
**Effective Date:** December 16, 2021  
**Approval:** Board Order #21-XX



### Policy Statement

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The purpose of this policy is to provide clear expectations for the implementation of grants delivered through this program. More specific requirements or criteria may apply when specified by statute, rule, funding source, or appropriation language.

### Reason for the policy

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This cost-share grant program is made possible through an appropriation (Laws of Minnesota 2021, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Session, Chapter 6, Article 5, Section 2, Subd. 8b) from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) and is focused on restoring and enhancing strategically located, diverse native habitat across Minnesota on conservation lands and natural areas to benefit populations of pollinators and beneficial insects. \$674,500 is available through this Request for Proposal. Applicants can apply for grants of \$20,000 to \$40,000 which can include projects on multiple properties.

Grantees are responsible for the administration and decisions concerning the use of these funds in accordance with applicable Minnesota Statutes, state agency policies, and other applicable laws. BWSR will use grant agreements as contracts for assurance of deliverables and compliance with applicable laws and program policies.

The BWSR Grants Administration Manual provides the primary framework for management of these funds.

## Beneficial Insect Grant Program Requirements

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### 1. Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants include any of the following entities from across the State of Minnesota:

- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Watershed Districts
- Watershed Management Organizations

### 2. Match Requirements

A minimum non-state match equal to at least 25% is required.

### 3. Eligible Activities

The primary purpose of activities funded through this program is to increase the populations of at-risk beneficial insects through planting and landscape management activities. Eligible activities include the following categories:

- 3.1 **Technical Assistance.** Eligible activities include but are not limited to: development of project plans and specifications.
- 3.2 **Grant Management and Reporting.** Grant funds may be used for local grant management and reporting that are directly related to and necessary for implementing the program.
- 3.3 **Conservation Practice Cost Share and Incentives.** Eligible expenses include:
  - Project and plan development
  - Site preparation, planting and management costs (tilling, burning, weed barriers, seeds, erosion fabric, hydromulch, weed free straw, containerized plants, seeding, containerized plant installation, inter-seeding, weed removal, mowing, conservation grazing, conservation haying, etc.). Note that non-herbicide methods of site preparation and management are preferred, see the Xerces Society guide to "[Organic Site Preparation Methods.](#)"
  - Invasive species management as part of efforts to enhance or re-establish native vegetation. Note, the removal of woody invasive species and invasive grasses can be part of projects but should not be a major component of the budget.
  - Tool purchases (weed wrenches, backpack sprayers, hand shovels, hand rakes or similar equipment) must not exceed \$600.00. All tools purchased shall be used as a shared landowner resource and remain with grantee.
  - Native flowering trees and shrubs that are beneficial to pollinators and beneficial insects are eligible for funding, as they often provide early season floral resources and nesting resources

- It is encouraged to use this program in combination with other non-state funding sources and practices.

3.4 **Maintenance through grant period.** It is important that plantings that are funded through this program are maintained through the grant period. All landowners receiving funding will be asked to sign a cost-share agreement summarizing their maintenance responsibilities and they will receive a copy of the conservation plan templated completed for the project.

#### 4. Ineligible Expenses

4.1 See the unallowable costs as defined in the Grant Administration Manual – [Allowable and Unallowable Cost](#) section. The following activities are ineligible for these funds.

4.2 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) funding cannot be used to pay for space and other associated overhead costs. Billing rates charged to these grants may include the employee's base hourly rate plus benefits. Required match can be provided through other facilities and administration costs such as space, vehicle, computers, and other associated overhead costs. Grants through this program can only be used for the grant program and not for other Federal or State programs.

#### 5. Technical Quality Assurance

Technical advisors working with landowners on project design and implementation must have experience working on residential habitat, native vegetation projects, and be able to successfully guide project design and maintenance. See also the Technical Quality Assurances section of the Grants Administration Manual.

Conservation plan templates for project implementation and management will be developed to be used on all projects. These templates will include detail on project site preparation, installation and management as well as the need to document the restoration process. Projects must include plans for long-term funding, maintenance, inspection, monitoring and site access for the duration of a project as part of the project file. In addition to being filed with the local SWCD office(s) and BWSR, the conservation plans must be provided to landowners to guide long-term management.

#### 6. BWSR Grant Work Plan, Reporting and Reconciliation Requirements

To ensure the success of the program, development of grant work plans, regular reporting of expenditures, and technical assistance and accomplishments are required.

6.1 **Grant Execution.** Grant agreement must be executed (signed by grantee and BWSR) before work can begin. The grant period begins once the grant is executed and all work must occur within the grant period.

6.2 **Grant Work Plan.** Work plans shall be developed in eLINK and must be approved before work can begin on this grant. Work plans shall reflect each eligible activity, a description of the anticipated activity accomplishments, and grant and match funding amounts to accomplish each of the activities.

6.3 **Grant Reporting.** Descriptions of actual results and financial expenditures for each work plan activity must be reported in eLINK by February 1 of each year.

6.4 **Grant Closeout.** Within thirty (30) calendar days of the expiration of each grant agreement or expenditure of all grant funds, whichever occurs first, grantees are required to:

- a. Provide a summary of all work plan accomplishments with grant funding in eLINK; and
- b. Submit a signed eLINK Financial Report to BWSR.

6.5 **Grant Agreement.** Read through agreement for further directions and reimbursement request deadlines.

## 7. BWSR Grant Administration Requirements

BWSR staff is authorized to review grant applicant's financial records to establish capacity to successfully manage state grant funds, develop grant agreements, including requirements and processes for work plans, project outcomes reporting, closeouts, and fiscal reconciliations. All grantees must follow the grant agreement and applicable sections of the Grants Administration Manual.

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.

## History

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Version	Description	Date
1.00	Pilot Strategic Habitat Enhancement Program Policy	December 16, 2021

## Contact

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Dan Shaw, Senior Ecologist/Vegetation Specialist

# Restoration Enhancement Pilot Program



## Request for Proposals

November 2021

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## 1. General Information

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Declines of bees, butterflies, dragonflies and other at-risk species that support ecosystems and food systems have raised significant alarm among scientists and conservation professionals both locally and globally. This cost-share grant program is made possible through an appropriation from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF). The program is focused on restoring and enhancing strategically located, diverse native habitat across Minnesota to benefit populations of pollinators and beneficial insects as well as overall plant and animal diversity.

Funding available: \$674,500. Applicants can apply for grants of \$20,000 to \$40,000. Project can be located on multiple parcels.

## 2. Who May Apply?

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Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Watershed Districts, Watershed Management Organizations

## 3. Project Eligibility Criteria

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Eligible projects can be located on lands with a long-term commitment to conservation management through conservation easements, long-term conservation contracts and public ownership. Eligible lands include those with existing RIM easements, CRP (with a long-term commitment), lands with other types of conservation easements, non-profit conservation preserves, newly enrolled CRP, city parks, county parks, and protected natural areas. Projects can be located on multiple parcels.

To the extent possible landscapes need to be specifically identified at the time of the application as information about proposed projects and their potential for benefitting beneficial insects will be part of ranking.

The goal of this program is to restore approximately 1,000 acres by installing 90 projects. Projects can focus on:

- 1) Establishing new floral-rich plots or riparian plantings 0.25 to 5 acres in size; and/or
- 2) Enhancing prairie, savanna, wetland, and shoreline communities that are not currently dominated with invasive species and can be enhanced to provide high value habitat that is planned to benefit a variety of beneficial insects and at-risk species.

- A plant or animal is considered “at-risk” when:
  - It is proposed for listing as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act
  - It is a candidate species for listing; or
  - It has been petitioned by a third party for listing; or
  - Its populations are rare, declining, or may be vulnerable to decline.
  - Find a list of [At-Risk Pollinator Species](#) on the Lawns to Legumes Partners webpage.

## 4. Match

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A minimum non-state match equal to at least 25% of the amount requested and/or received is required.

## 5. To Apply

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Applications must be submitted via eLINK. Eligible applicants without a current eLINK user account must submit a request at <https://apps.bwsr.state.mn.us/elink/Account/Register> to establish an eLINK account **no later than 7 days prior to the application deadline** in order to ensure sufficient time to create an account. As part of the

application, eLINK will require applicants to map the location of the proposed project area(s). The following application questions will be filled out in eLINK:

- Describe if and how your project’s location/s will benefit at-risk and/or beneficial insects
- Discuss your project/s connection to statewide and local habitat corridors/pathways or areas mapped as important for pollinators and beneficial insects.
- How will partnerships be established or strengthened and how is equity considered for the project?
- Discuss the technical expertise of the applicants and partners that will be involved with assisting landowners.
- Describe the long-term management commitment for project/s and management activities that are planned, including protection from pesticide exposure?
- Describe how cost-effectiveness will be considered for projects.
- Explain the anticipated outcomes upon completion of the project and how these outcomes will be obtained.

Applicants will be required to complete a project budget summarizing proposed activities and expenditures including technical and administrative costs.

Proposals must include one image file of the project area in relation to the priority zones (.jpg, .tiff, .png) as an Application Image in eLINK. General attachments will not show up as part of the application report in eLINK.

## 6. Evaluation and Selection

Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points
Value to at-risk and/or beneficial insects	20
<u>Connection to habitat corridors/pathways or areas mapped as important for pollinator and beneficial insect plantings</u>	10
<u>Partnerships established or strengthened and equity considerations</u>	10
<u>Sufficient technical capacity of applicant and partners</u>	15
<u>Long-term protection and maintenance/sustainability of projects, including protection from pesticide exposure</u>	10
<u>Cost effectiveness of projects</u>	10
<u>Anticipated Outcomes and Project Value</u> outcomes will be obtained.	25
<b>Total Points Available</b>	<b>100</b>

## 7. Eligible Activities

- Project and plan development
- Site preparation, planting and management costs (tilling, burning, weed barriers, seeds, erosion fabric, hydromulch, weed free straw, containerized plants, seeding, containerized plant installation, inter-seeding, weed removal, mowing, conservation grazing, conservation haying, etc.). Note that non-herbicide methods of site preparation and management are preferred, see the Xerces Society guide to "[Organic Site Preparation Methods.](#)"



- Invasive species management as part of efforts to enhance or re-establish native vegetation. Note, the removal of woody invasive species and invasive grasses can be part of project costs but should not be a major component of the budget.
- Native flowering trees and shrubs that are beneficial to pollinators and beneficial insects are eligible for funding, as they often provide early season floral resources and nesting resources
- It is encouraged to use this program in combination with other non-state funding sources and practices.

## 8. Additional Information

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All grantees must follow the Grants Administration Manual policy and guidance. Projects must be sustained for a minimum of 10 years and have a focus on long-term care of ecological functions and aesthetics.

Conservation plan templates for project implementation and management will be developed to be used on all projects. These templates will include detail on project site preparation, installation and management as well as the need to document the restoration process. Projects must include plans for long-term funding, maintenance, inspection, monitoring and site access for the duration of a project as part of the project file. In addition to being filed with the local SWCD office(s) and BWSR, the conservation plans must be provided to landowners to guide long-term management.

Seed and plant source, diversity levels and other topics related to vegetation are summarized in BWSR's [Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines](#). There will be an emphasis on protecting the genetic integrity of any remnant plant communities associated with projects.

Project assessments/evaluations will be completed by local staff working with landowners after completion and every three years (or on existing inspection cycles for easement lands or CRP) as a follow-up to ensure that project goals are being met and to document project success. These evaluations will also play a key role in determining if any specific maintenance activities are needed for projects.

Projects are strongly encouraged to be located in areas protected from pesticides (at least 200 feet away from pesticide application). See the BWSR/Xerces Society fact sheet on [Protecting Conservation Lands from Pesticides](#) for additional protection strategies.

When practical, pollinator focused projects must have at least three blooming species during, spring, summer and fall, with high diversity is strongly encouraged. Use of milkweeds is encouraged to provide monarch habitat.

- Additional details about species for pollinator plantings are included in BWSR's Pollinator Toolbox. The Minnesota DNR has a [list of native plant vendors](#) (it is important to check with any vendor to ensure that their plants are neonicotinoid free).

Consideration should be given to contracting with the Conservation Corps of Minnesota for projects. For additional public outreach tools see BWSR's brochure on "[Protecting Minnesota's Pollinators](#)," Fact Sheet on "[How You Can Help Pollinators](#)," and [Featured Plant Articles](#) that include over seventy species for benefitting pollinators and the USFWS information on [plants for Rusty Patch Bumblebee](#).

## 9. Timeline

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January 3, 2022	Application period begins
February 23, 2022	Application deadline at 4:30 PM
April 27, 2022	BWSR Board authorizes grant awards
May 9, 2022	BWSR grant agreements sent to recipients (proposed)
June 6th	Work plan submittal deadline
June 15, 2022	Grant Execution deadline

## 10. Incomplete Applications

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Applications that do not comply with all requirements, including incomplete or missing application components, will not be considered for funding.

## 11. BWSR Grant Administration

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BWSR reserves the right to partially fund any and all proposals based on the amount of funding available. Proposals that are deemed complete may be considered for future available funds.

## 12. Grant Execution

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Successful applicants will be required to develop and submit a work plan in eLINK prior to execution of the grant agreement.

## 13. Payment Schedule

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Grant payments will be made on a quarterly reimbursement schedule after submission of documentation of eligible expenditures and approval by the program manager, provided the grant applicant is in compliance with all BWSR reporting requirements for previously awarded BWSR grants. Upon award, see contract for dates of quarterly submittal.

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) funding cannot be used to pay for space and other associated overhead costs. Billing rates charged to these grants may include the employee's base hourly rate plus benefits. Required match can be provided through other facilities and administration costs such as space, vehicle, computers, and other associated overhead costs. Beneficial insect program grants can only be used for the grant program and not for other Federal or State programs.

## 14. Project Period

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The project period starts when the grant agreement is fully executed, meaning all required signatures have been obtained. Work that occurs before this date is not eligible for reimbursement with grant funds. All grants must be completed by December 31, 2024.

## 15. Project Reporting Requirements

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- All grantees are required to report on the outcomes, activities, and accomplishments of grants. All BWSR funded projects are required to develop a work plan, including detail of each eligible activity, a description of the anticipated activity accomplishments, and grant and match funding amounts to accomplish each of the activities. All activities will be reported via the eLINK reporting system. For more information about eLINK, go to: <http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/elink>.
- BWSR funds will be administered via a standard grant agreement. BWSR will use grant agreements as contracts 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 on the grant recipient.
- Grant recipients must display program goals and major program activities on a fact sheet (or a separate webpage) that is linked to their website.
- Reporting deadlines will be 30 days after quarter end to submit reimbursement receipts.

## 16. Grants and Public Information

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Under Minnesota Statute 13.599, responses to a Request for Proposals are nonpublic until the application deadline is reached. At that time, the name and address of the applicant, and the amount requested becomes public. All other data is nonpublic until the negotiation of the grant agreement with the selected grantee is completed. After the application evaluation process is completed, all data (except trade secret data) becomes public. Data created during the evaluation process is nonpublic until the negotiation of the grant agreement with the selected grantee(s) is completed.

## 17. Conflict of Interest

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State Grant Policy 08-01 (see [http://www.admin.state.mn.us/ogm\\_policies\\_and\\_statute.html](http://www.admin.state.mn.us/ogm_policies_and_statute.html)) Conflict of Interest for State Grant-Making, also applies to BWSR grantees. Grantees' conflicts of interest are generally considered organizational conflicts of interest. Organizational conflicts of interest occur when:

1. A grantee is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice due to competing duties or loyalties,
2. A grantee's objectivity in carrying out the grant is or might be otherwise impaired due to competing duties or loyalties, or
3. A grantee or potential grantee has an unfair competitive advantage through being furnished unauthorized proprietary information or source selection information that is not available to all competitors.

## 18. Prevailing Wage

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It is the responsibility of the grant recipient or contractor to pay prevailing wages on construction projects to which state prevailing wage laws apply (Minn. Stat. 177.42 – 177.44). All laborers and mechanics employed by grant recipients and subcontractors funded in whole or in part with state funds included in this RFP shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on projects of a character similar in the locality. Additional information on prevailing wage requirements is available on the Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI) website <https://www.dli.mn.gov/business/employment-practices/prevailing-wage-information>. Questions about the application of prevailing wage rates should be directed to DOLI at 651-284-5091.

## 19. Questions

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For more information concerning the request for proposal, contact BWSR's Beneficial Insect program

coordinators:

For technical program questions contact Dan Shaw at [dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us) or at 612-236-6291

**BOARD ORDER****Restoration Enhancement Pilot Program****PURPOSE**

Authorize a Restoration Enhancement Pilot Program and adopt the Restoration Enhancement Pilot Program Policy.

**FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS**

1. The Laws of Minnesota 2021, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Session, Chapter 6, Article 5, Section 2, Subd. 8(b) appropriated \$750,000 from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund to the Board for building a new initiative to strategically restore and enhance approximately 1,000 acres of diverse native habitat to benefit multiple insects through grants, cost-share, and outreach.
2. This policy and the associated request for proposal were created to provide expectations for application to the Restoration Enhancement Pilot Program and subsequent activities conducted with these funds.
3. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their November 29, 2021 Meeting, reviewed the proposed Restoration Enhancement Pilot Program Policy and recommended approval to the Board.

**ORDER**

The Board hereby:

1. Adopts the attached Restoration Enhancement Pilot Program Grant Program Policy.
2. Authorizes staff to finalize and issue a Request for Proposals for Restoration Enhancement Pilot Program grants.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this December 16, 2021.

**MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerald Van Amburg, Chair  
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Attached: Restoration Enhancement Pilot Program Policy

# Cooperative Weed Management Area Program

## Request for Proposals

November 2021

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## 1. General Information

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Cooperative Weed Management Areas are partnerships of federal, state and local government agencies along with tribes, individual landowners and various other interested groups that manage noxious weeds or invasive plants in a defined area. The [BWSR Cooperative Weed Management Area \(CWMA\) Program](#) was developed in 2008 to promote the collaborative and efficient control of invasive species and protection of conservation lands and natural areas across geographic boundaries. \$200,000 is available for FY2022 and FY2023 (combined) for newly developing and existing CWMAs/CISMA partnerships in Minnesota through this Request for Proposal.

This cost-share grant program funding is made possible through an appropriation (Laws of Minnesota 2021, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Session, Chapter 6, Article 1, Section 4d(1)) and is focused on establishing strong and sustainable Cooperative Weed Management Areas and Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas across Minnesota for the collaborative and efficient control of invasive species and protection of conservation lands and natural areas.

This program follows the state [Erosion Control and Water Management Program Policy](#).

## 2. Who May Apply?

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As the CWMA Program is a State Cost-share Program, SWCDs are the only eligible applicants. Other organizations may consider applying in partnership with SWCDs to help develop and run the Cooperative Weed Management Area project.

## 3. Eligibility Criteria

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Newly developing and existing CWMAs and CISMAs (Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas) are eligible for this RFP.

- Newly developing CWMAs/CISMAs or groups where more than one county are combined as part of existing CWMAs/CISMAs may request up to \$20,000
- Grants for existing groups will be \$15,000

SWCDs are eligible to receive grant funds if they are working under a current water management plan that has been **state approved and locally adopted** when the BWSR Board authorizes the grant awards.

Proposals from applicants that were previously awarded CWMA Funds will be considered during the review process for applications submitted in response to this RFP. However, applicants that have expended less than 50% of previous award(s) at the time of this application will need to demonstrate organizational capacity to finalize current projects and complete new projects concurrently.

A minimum non-state match equal to at least 25% of the amount requested and/or received is required. The match must be cash or in-kind cash value of goods, materials, and services directly attributed to project accomplishments.

Applicants are required to fill out a project budget summarizing proposed activities and expenditures including proposed actual technical and administrative costs. Applicants may propose using more than

20% of the grant funds for technical and administrative costs as provided in Section 2.2. of the [Erosion Control and Water Management Program Policy](#).

Proposals must include one image file (.jpg, .tiff, .png) as an Application Image in eLINK. General attachments will not show up as a part of the application report in eLINK.

## 4. Evaluation and Selection

- Proposals should demonstrate significant, measurable project outputs and outcomes<sup>1</sup>. As appropriate, outputs should include scientifically credible estimates of both short-term and long-term benefits as well as other measures such as: acres of invasive species treated, increases in diversity levels, etc.
- Proposals must have plans for long-term maintenance and inspection monitoring for the duration of the project's effective life.
- Proposals should demonstrate that a sufficient partnership exists to implement the project.

### Application Questions:

- Describe if the funding will be used to assist the development of a newly establishing Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) or Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) or if the funding will be used for an existing group
- Describe the anticipated outcomes of the project including how they related to goals and how they will be attained.
- Describe how the proposal and target species of focus are based on priority actions listed in or derived from CWMA/CISMA plans, and other local, state and federal conservation and invasive species plans and the [MN Tactical Invasive Species Management Plan](#).
- List target species of focus and why they have been identified as priorities
- Describe partners involved in the project and how the partnership will lead to effective management and operation.
- Describe plans to plan and manage invasive species through partnership coordination and using integrated pest management, and a focus on restoring native vegetation and/or native plant communities where practicable.
- Describe plans for the management of information about weed locations (using [EDDMapS](#)), as well as other management approaches used.

Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points
<u>Newly Establishing Organizations</u> : The funding will be used to assist the development of a newly establishing Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) or Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA).	10
<u>Anticipated Outcomes</u> : The outcomes expected upon completion of the project initiatives are identified, consistent with project goals, and it is clear how these outcomes will be obtained.	25



<u>Relationship to CWMA and Conservation Plans:</u> The proposal and species of focus are based on priority actions listed in or derived from CWMA/CISMA plans, and other local, state and federal conservation and invasive species plans.	10
<u>Weed Prioritization:</u> Weed threats are prioritized and are consistent with Minnesota's Noxious Weed Law, as well as local needs.	15
<u>Strength of Partnerships:</u> Partnerships are clearly defined and will lead to effective management and operation.	15
<u>Management Approach:</u> An approach is defined to plan and manage invasive species through partnership coordination and using integrated pest management, and a focus on restoring native vegetation and/or native plant communities where practicable.	15
<u>Information Management:</u> An approach is defined for the management of information about weed locations (using <a href="#">EDDMapS</a> ), as well as other management approaches used.	10
<b>Total Points Available</b>	<b>100</b>

<sup>1</sup> The term "outcome" means the result, effect or consequence that will occur from carrying out the environmental program or activity associated with the application. Outcomes may be environmental, behavioral, health related or programmatic in nature but must be quantitative. They may not necessarily be achievable within the grant agreement timeline.

The term "output" or "intermediate outcome" means an environmental activity, effort and/or associated work product related to an environmental goal and objective that will be produced or provided over a period of time or by a specified date. Outputs may be quantitative or qualitative but must be measurable during the grant agreement timeline.

## 5. Eligible & Key Activities

Grant funding can be used for a wide variety of activities related to setting up and sustaining existing CWMAs, including:

- Technical Assistance
- Conducting outreach and education
- Weed mapping
- Managing invasive species and monitoring
- Reporting project areas in EDDMapS
- Equipment purchases (spray equipment, weed wrenches, tablet etc.) must not exceed \$1,000. All equipment purchased shall be used as a shared landowner resource and remain with grantee.

The following are a list of key activities of CWMAs/CISMAs can include:

<p><u>Building Strong Partnerships</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Public landowners, and agencies</li> <li>-Private landowners</li> <li>-Local units of government</li> <li>-Tribal nations</li> <li>-Non-governmental organizations</li> <li>-Universities</li> <li>-For-profit partners</li> </ul>	<p><u>Sharing Resources between Partners</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Staff/labor</li> <li>-Equipment</li> <li>-Leveraged funds</li> <li>-Access to lands, roads, gravel pits and/or key decision makers</li> </ul>	<p><u>Effective Outreach/Communication</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Communication back and forth between agencies, landowners, local units of government, and private organizations</li> <li>-Educate – ID, prevention, management – also grant writing and plan writing</li> <li>-Technical transfer – news, tips</li> </ul>
<p><u>Identifying and prioritizing emerging weed threats</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-New and/or recently introduced species</li> <li>-Those changing status</li> <li>-High priority landscapes</li> </ul>	<p><u>Facilitating management/control of priority species</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Promote sound weed management that promotes multiple landscape benefits (pollinators, re-establishing native vegetation) etc.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Effective data management/sharing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Weed Mapping</li> <li>-Project Mapping</li> <li>-Project Outcomes</li> </ul>

## 6. Other Information

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### Native Vegetation

The planting of native vegetation following removal efforts is recommended whenever feasible for a project to provide competition for invasive species and provide other landscape benefits. Vegetative practices must follow the Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines at:

<https://bwsr.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/2019-07/Updated%20guidelines%20Final%2007-01-19.pdf>

### Match Requirements

A non-state local share equal to at least 25% of the amount of CWMA funds received is required. Local share 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.”

### Eligible Expenses

See the unallowable costs as defined in the Grant Administration Manual – [Allowable and Unallowable Cost](#) section.

Equipment purchases (spray equipment, weed wrenches, tablet etc. ) must not exceed \$1,000. All equipment purchased shall be used as a shared landowner resource and remain with grantee.

## Timeline

January 3, 2022	Application period begins
February 23, 2022	Application deadline at 4:30 PM
April 27, 2022	BWSR Board authorizes grant awards
May 9, 2022	BWSR grant agreements sent to recipients (proposed)
June 6th	Work plan submittal deadline
June 15, 2022	Grant Execution deadline

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## 7. Payment Schedule

Applications Grant payments will be made as one advance payment after the work plan approval and execution of the grant agreement, provided the grant applicant is in compliance with all BWSR website and eLINK reporting requirements for previously awarded BWSR grants.

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## 8. Submittal

Applications will be submitted via eLINK. Eligible applicants without a current eLINK user account must submit a request to establish an eLINK account no later than 7 days prior to the application deadline. As part of the application, eLINK will require applicants to map the location of the proposed project.

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## 9. BWSR Grant Administration

BWSR reserves the right to partially fund any and all proposals based on the amount of funding available. Proposals that are deemed complete may be considered for future available funds.

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## 10. Grant Execution

Successful respondents will be required to develop and submit a work plan in eLINK prior to execution of the grant agreement.

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## 11. Incomplete Proposals

Proposals that do not comply with all requirements, including incomplete or missing proposal components, will not be considered for funding.

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## 12. Project Period

The project period starts when the grant agreement is executed, meaning all required signatures (from BWSR and Grantee) have been obtained. Work that occurs before this date is not eligible for reimbursement with grant funds. All grants must be completed by the expiration date of December 31, 2025 as referenced in the grant agreement.

## 13. Project Reporting Requirements

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- All grantees are required to report on the outcomes, activities, and accomplishments of Cooperative Weed Management Area grants. All BWSR funded projects will be required to develop a work plan, including detail of each eligible activity, a description of the anticipated activity accomplishments, and grant and match funding amounts to accomplish each of the activities. All activities will be reported via the eLINK reporting system. For more information about eLINK, go to: <http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/elink>.
- BWSR Cooperative Weed Management Area funds will be administered via a standard grant agreement. BWSR will use grant agreements as contracts 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 on the grant recipient.
- Grant recipients must display their program goals and major program activities on a fact sheet (or a separate webpage) that is linked to their website.

## 14. Grants and Public Information

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Under Minnesota Statute 13.599, responses to a Request for Proposals are nonpublic until the application deadline is reached. At that time, the name and address of the applicant, and the amount requested becomes public. All other data is nonpublic until the negotiation of the grant agreement with the selected grantee is completed. After the application evaluation process is completed, all data (except trade secret data) becomes public. Data created during the evaluation process is nonpublic until the negotiation of the grant agreement with the selected grantee(s) is completed.

## 15. Conflict of Interest

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State Grant Policy 08-01 (see [http://www.admin.state.mn.us/ogm\\_policies\\_and\\_statute.html](http://www.admin.state.mn.us/ogm_policies_and_statute.html)) Conflict of Interest for State Grant-Making, also applies to BWSR grantees. Grantees' conflicts of interest are generally considered organizational conflicts of interest. Organizational conflicts of interest occur when:

1. A grantee is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice due to competing duties or loyalties,
2. A grantee's objectivity in carrying out the grant is or might be otherwise impaired due to competing duties or loyalties, or
3. A grantee or potential grantee has an unfair competitive advantage through being furnished unauthorized proprietary information or source selection information that is not available to all competitors.

## 16. Questions

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For more information concerning the request for proposal, contact BWSR's Cooperative Weed Management Area Program Coordinators: Tara Perriello, [tara.perriello@state.mn.us](mailto:tara.perriello@state.mn.us) or Dan Shaw, [dan.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.shaw@state.mn.us).



## BOARD ORDER

### Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Cooperative Weed Management Area Program Authorization

#### PURPOSE

Authorize the Request for Proposal (RFP) for fiscal year 2022 and 2023 General Fund Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) grants to selected Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs).

#### FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

1. The Laws of Minnesota 2021, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Session, Chapter 6, Article 1, Section 4d(1), appropriated fiscal year 2022 and 2023 funds for county cooperative weed management cost-share programs.
2. The CWMA program provides financial assistance to SWCDs to develop and sustain Cooperative Weed Management Areas that control emerging weed threats and manage natural areas and conservation lands through an integrated pest management and ecosystem approach.
3. The Board has previously endorsed an inter-agency granting strategy that includes an interagency Project Advisory Team to assist in the development and evaluation of this grant program.
4. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their November 29, 2021 meeting, reviewed the RFP and recommended approval to the Board.

#### ORDER

The Board hereby:

1. Authorizes staff to proceed with the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the FY 2022 and 2023 CWMA Grants Program consistent with the provisions of the appropriation and this Board Order.
2. Establishes that the CWMA program will conform to the BWSR FY2020 Erosion Control and Water Management Program Policy.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this November 29, 2021.

**MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair  
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Attachments: *FY 2022 & 2023 Cooperative Weed Management Area Program Request for Proposal (RFP)*

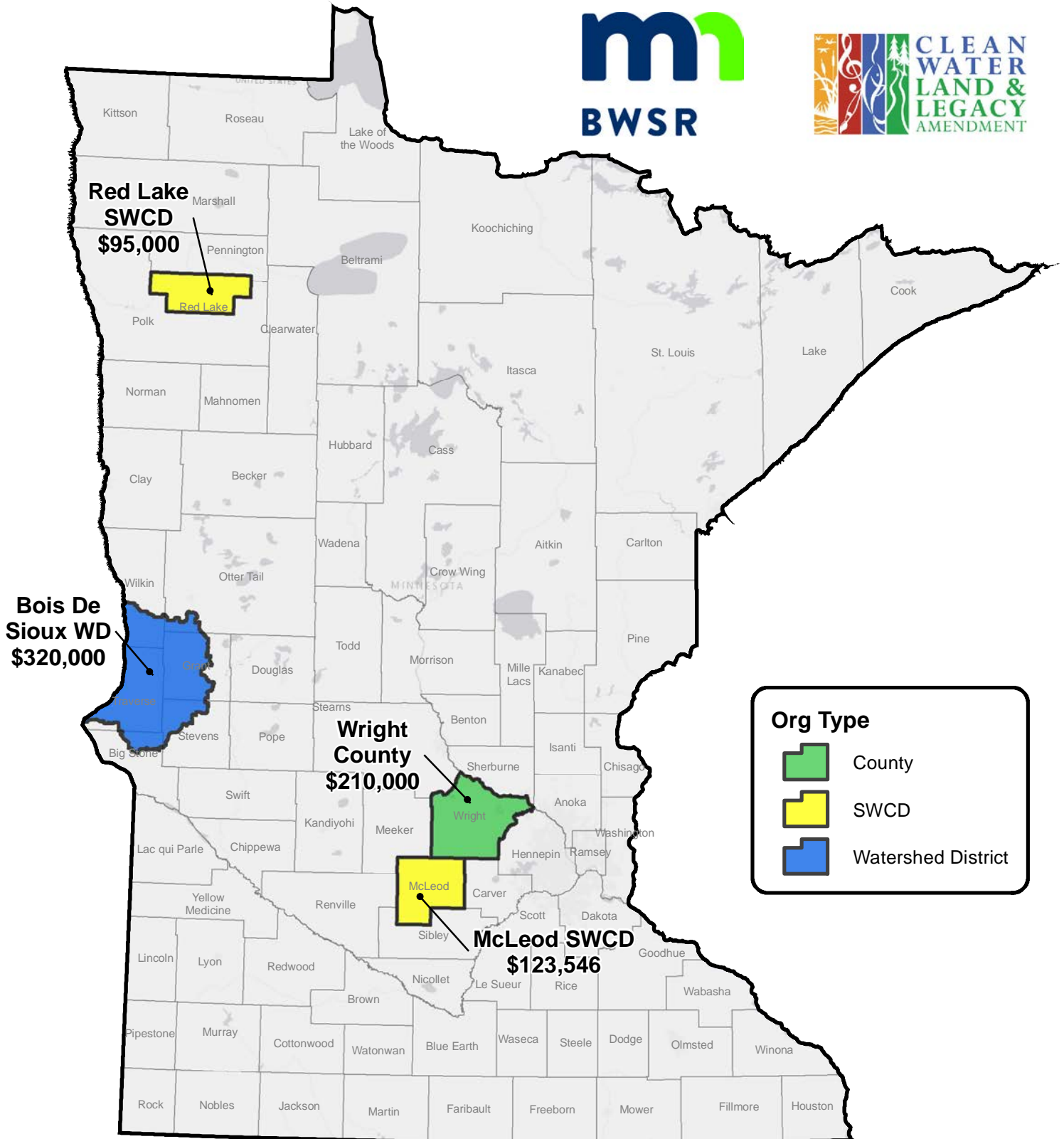


#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Organization	County	Request (\$)	Recommended (\$)	Abstract	Score
1	C22-9808	SD 51 & WD 4 Water Quality Improvement Project	Roseau River WD	Roseau	\$ 101,733.60	\$ -	Roseau River Watershed District (RRWD) is initiating a water quality improvement project to reduce sediment contribution from the Watershed Ditch 4 (WD 4) subwatershed. The RRWD in cooperation with landowners, road authorities, and the Roseau SWCD will implement conservation practices on 29 priority sites targeted due to the large volume of sediment they contribute to State Ditch 51 (SD 51). The sites are located along WD 4 which drains directly into SD 51 and were identified through the Prioritize Target Measure Application (PTMApp) as priority concerns needing protection from chronic erosion. The 29 sites identified contribute 62.46 tons of sediment annually into SD 51 in accordance with the PTMApp toolbar. Each of the identified sites constructed would consist of 410 grade stabilization structures preventing head cutting and sediment deposition into the river. Project costs consist of engineering, construction, and administrative costs associated with all 29 sites.	83.2
2	C22-6082	Redpath Phase 1 - TCD 35 Water Quality Improvements	Bois de Sioux WD	Traverse	\$ 320,000.00	\$ 320,000.00	The Bois De Sioux Watershed District (BdSWD) is partnering with the Traverse County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and petitioning landowners to complete a 103E drainage system improvement proceeding as part of the multiphase Redpath Project. This project proposes installation of 41 grade stabilization structures (i.e., side inlet structures) and 5 miles of continuous berms to be constructed as a permanent part of Traverse County Ditch (TCD) 35. This project will reduce sediment loading to both the Mustinka River and Twelvemile Creek by 230 tons per year and phosphorus by 65 lbs per year. This project will meet 20% of the annual sediment reduction and 17% of the short-term goals set in the Comprehensive Water Management Plan (CWMP). The improvement proceeding will acquire and establish all legally required grass buffers throughout the drainage system.	83.2
3	C22-0827	McLeod County Drainage Ditch 11 Conservation Implementation Phase 2	McLeod SWCD	McLeod	\$ 123,546.00	\$ 123,546.00	Through this project, McLeod County Drainage Authority and McLeod SWCD plan to continue to work jointly to implement the second phase of work within the County Ditch 11 (CD #11) watershed. Efforts will implement 15 grade stabilization structures, 2 water and sediment control basins, and 1 constructed wetland throughout the watershed. By completing the proposed project; a Total Suspended Solids (TSS) reduction of 120 tons per year, soil savings of 127 tons per year, total phosphorus reduction of 131 pounds per year, and nitrate reduction of 91 pounds per year will occur annually, further improving CD #11 and the receiving Winsted Lake which is listed on the federal 303d impaired waters list.	82.8
4	C22-2270	2022 Red Lake County Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant	Red Lake SWCD	Red Lake	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 95,000.00	Red Lake County SWCD will continue to work cooperatively with the Red Lake County Ditch Authority, and the landowners involved to reduce erosion and sedimentation, reduce peak flows and flooding, improve water quality, and protect drainage system efficiency for priority Chapter 103E drainage systems by installing an estimated twenty-three multipurpose drainage management practices. The priority Chapter 103E drainage system is County Ditch 57, including the contributing ditch branches. These proposed Ag Practices are the strategies that will assist in achieving the sediment reduction goals. The estimated twenty-three priority County Ditch 57 locations were targeted from the information gathered from the 2014 & 2015 Drainage Ditch Inventory and Inspection grant. The estimated annual reduction in sediment being delivered to Clearwater River is 397 tons per year for the entire project.	81.4
5	C22-1803	2022 Wright County WASCObS on Joint Ditch #15	Wright County	Wright	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 210,000.00	The Wright County Drainage Authority in partnership with the Wright Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is looking to utilize funding to prevent significant erosion and provide peak flow reductions in the area surrounding Judicial Ditch #15 (JD15). JD15 drains into numerous impaired waters such as Sucker Creek, Cokato Lake, and eventually the North Fork Crow River which is our top priority for water quality improvement practices. This proposed project would include the installation of 24 water and sediment control basins and one grade stabilization structure.	80.0
6	C22-2826	High Priority Drainage Ditch BMP's	Redwood SWCD	Redwood	\$ 185,082.00	\$ -	Redwood County's 103E Public Drainage System contains over 520 miles of open ditch and over 2,000 miles of drain tile. This publicly maintained drainage network is the backbone of this highly productive agricultural landscape in southwest Minnesota. In the summer of 2018 and the spring of 2019, Redwood County experienced 2 FEMA declared disasters. In 2018 it was 11" of rain across the whole County, and in 2019 it was excessive spring runoff from an already soaked landscape. Damages from these 2 events total over \$10,000,000, which the County is receiving FEMA funding to repair. This proposal aims to help reduce sedimentation into our drainage ditches, the Redwood River, and ultimately the Minnesota River. Each of the practices in this proposal are immediately adjacent to a 103E Public Drainage Ditch that is on Redwood County's "Priority 103E Drainage System" list. This list is comprised of Ditches that have been identified by the County as priority systems for conservation projects. This proposal aims to install 12 Water and Sediment Control Basins and 2 Grade Stabilization projects. This will prevent 490 tons of sediment per year from entering the included waterways.	58.4
<b>Total Recommendation</b>					<b>\$</b>	<b>748,546.00</b>		

# FY 2022 Clean Water Fund

## *Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant*

### *Total Recommended Funding: \$748,546*



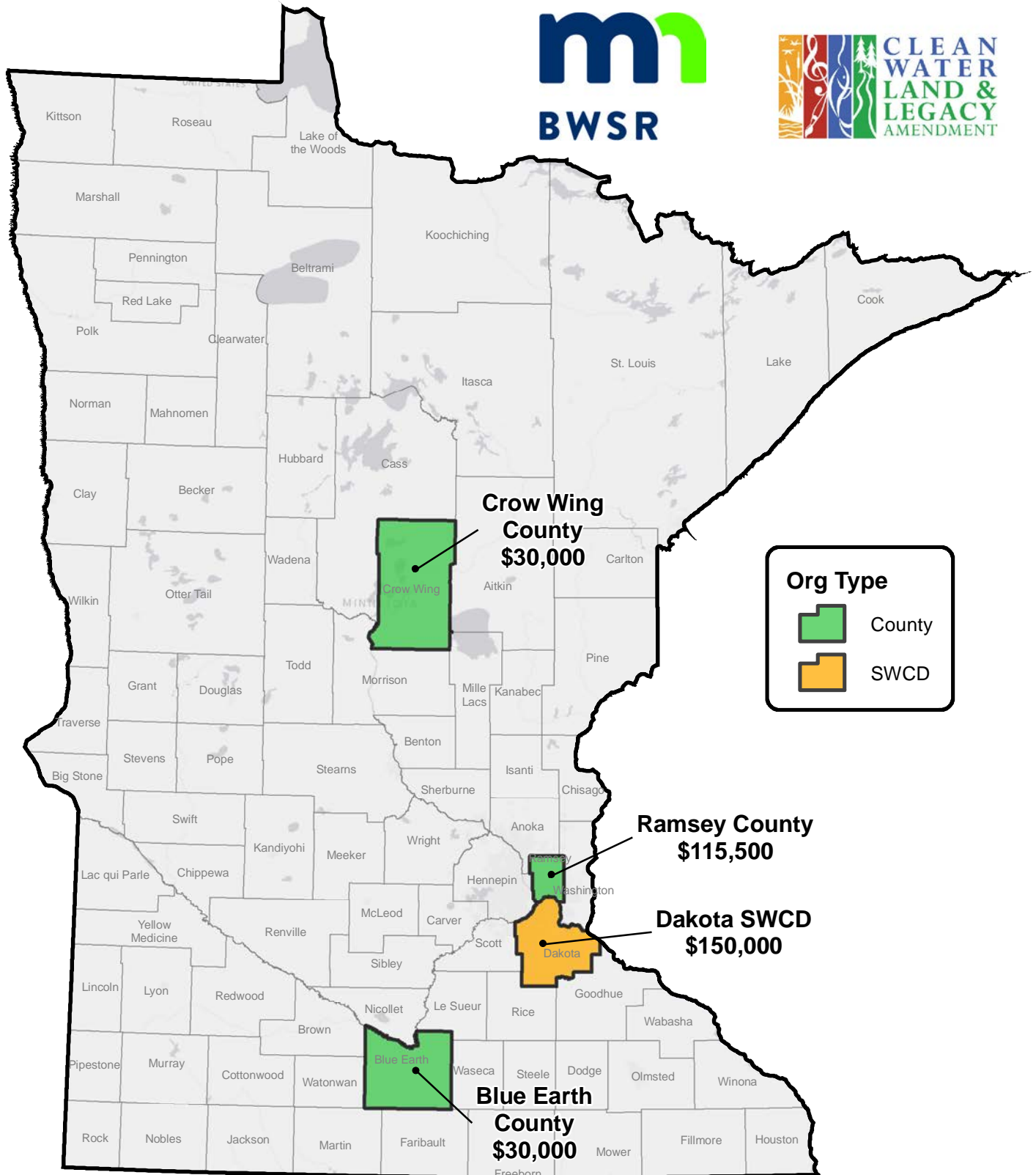


#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Organization	County	Request (\$)	Recommended (\$)	Abstract	Score
1	C22-7163	2022 - Dakota County Drinking Water Protection Project Phase 2	Dakota SWCD	Dakota	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	The Dakota County Drinking Water Protection Project's goal is to reduce nitrates that are becoming increasingly common in groundwater sourced drinking water throughout Dakota County. This will be accomplished by implementing groundwater protection practices in areas that are vulnerable to contamination. This project includes both private wells and public water supplies and will focus on townships that have testing data indicating elevated nitrates in drinking water. Cover crops will be the primary practice along with harvestable covers and restoring perennial vegetation in critical locations. An estimated 1,000 acres of cover crops, 200 acres of harvestable covers, and 10 acres of restored perennial vegetation will be established through this project and an estimated 7,500 pounds of nitrogen will be prevented from reaching groundwater that is used for drinking water.	87.6
2	C22-5079	Targeted Blue Earth County Well Sealing	Blue Earth County	Blue Earth	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	Blue Earth County has identified unused wells as a significant threat to our groundwater quality in our comprehensive local water plan. We maintain an inventory of known unused wells and building sites which have the potential to have unused wells. Unused wells on this inventory, especially those located in the Mankato Surface Water Drinking Water Supply Management Area, will be targeted for proper sealing. Blue Earth County will send out regulatory letters outlining State regulations which require all wells not in use to be properly sealed by a licensed well contractor. Approximately 60 wells would be sealed with this funding request.	83.9
3	C22-3579	Fairmont Chain of Lakes-Nitrate Reduction	Martin County	Martin	\$ 475,000	\$ -	The project goal is to reduce nitrate loading to Amber Lake which is designated as a Class 1, Domestic Consumption use as it is within the Drinking Water Source Management Area – Surface Water (DWSMA-SW) for the City of Fairmont. The project includes design and construction of an 11-acre nutrient treatment wetland upstream of Amber Lake. The project will reduce nitrate loading to Amber Lake by 10,454 pounds per year, corresponding to a 11% reduction. This nitrate reduction supports goals detailed in the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) 2019 Source Water Assessment (SWA) for the City of Fairmont Public Water System. The SWA noted the need for better nitrogen and drainage management to reduce overall loading within the DWSMA-SW to protect water quality in Budd Lake. This nitrate reduction also directly aligns with the Martin County Water Plan's goal of improving surface water quality and specifically nitrate in Fairmont's drinking water supply.	83.3
4	C22-4292	Crow Wing County and Pine River watershed well sealing 2022	Crow Wing County	Cass;Crow Wing	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	A large portion of Crow Wing County and the Pine River Watershed include areas of surficial sand aquifers. Because of rapid infiltration of water through sandy soils in the aquifer, it is more sensitive to contamination than deeper, buried aquifers. Unused and abandoned wells can provide a direct path for surface water runoff, contaminated water, or other improperly disposed of waste to reach an uncontaminated groundwater source. Crow Wing County, in cooperation with the municipalities within the County and the Pine River watershed, plans to continue its successful well sealing program that will use a ranking criteria to seal 80-100 unused/abandoned wells. Cost-share well sealing will be ranked by the following criteria: 90% for wells in the Pine River watershed (Cass and Crow Wing County) in surficial sand aquifer; 75% for those not in the Pine River watershed, but within a surficial sand aquifer in Crow Wing County; 50% for any other wells sealed in Crow Wing County.	81.3
5	C22-8905	2022 Ramsey County Well Sealing Program	Ramsey County	Ramsey	\$ 115,500	\$ 115,500	In an effort to protect source drinking water and groundwater, the Ramsey County Soil & Water Conservation Division is proposing to continue the implementation of its successful well sealing cost-share program. The goal is to permanently seal between 120-140 unused/abandoned wells in Ramsey County. When contaminants drain into abandoned and unused well shafts, it threatens the health of residents who depend on groundwater as a potable water source. Due to the reliance of many cities on groundwater for drinking water, numerous Ramsey County cities and water management organizations have prioritized well sealing activities in their plans. To further reduce the risk of drinking water supply contamination, this project will target wells located in the highest vulnerability areas of the Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (DWSMA) and prioritize applicants throughout the DWSMA.	78.6
<b>Total Funding Recommendation</b>					<b>\$</b>	<b>325,500</b>		

# FY 2022 Clean Water Fund

## Projects and Practices - Drinking Water

### Total Recommended Funding: \$325,500



#	Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Organization	County	Request (\$)	Recommended (\$)	Abstract	Score
1	C22-6316	WJD-6 Wetland Restoration	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	Washington	\$ 386,000.00	\$ 386,000.00	Forest Lake is one of the top recreational lakes in the metro area and the largest lake in Washington County, and has a diverse and healthy fishery and three public accesses. Water quality of Forest Lake impacts downstream waters, particularly Comfort Lake, Sunrise River, and ultimately Lake St. Croix. While not currently on the impaired waters list, Forest Lake is very near the water quality standard and protecting it is a high priority for the region. The proposed project will restore approximately 1.5-acres of wetland and will include sediment excavation and vegetation rehabilitation. The excavation and scraping will provide for deeper pools along with large shallow wetland benches to promote nutrient uptake and vegetation growth. This project is estimated to reduce total phosphorus loading by approximately 38 pounds per year.	88.9
2	C22-0175	Blue Lake Priority Action Plan Phase II	Isanti SWCD	Isanti	\$ 384,630.00	\$ 384,630.00	This project's goal is to continue our mission to improve the quality of Blue Lake and ensure the lake does not get listed as impaired. Recent data indicates the lakes' 10-year average total phosphorus (TP) and chlorophyll-a concentration hover just above state standards. The lakes protection goal, as set in the Rum River Watershed Restoration and Protection Study (WRAPS), requires a 360-pound reduction of TP. Internal loading was identified as the root cause of degraded water quality. The project we are proposing will result in a 590 pound per year reduction of TP by applying a buffered alum treatment, as recommended in the Alum Feasibility Study. The treatment will be split into two ½ doses; the first applied in 2022 and the second in 2024. The Isanti Soil and Water Conservation District is also currently working to reduce 102 pounds per year from upland sources and has already reduced upland TP loading by over 40%. The SWCD and its partners have identified a path to improved recreation in Blue Lake, and an alum treatment is the next logical and cost-effective step.	87.9
3	C22-8116	Mustinka River Rehabilitation Project	Bois de Sioux WD	Grant;Traverse	\$ 800,000.00	\$ 800,000.00	The Mustinka River Rehabilitation Project will focus on constructing Phase 2 of the Redpath Project, a significant capital improvement project identified in the Bois de Sioux-Mustinka Comprehensive Water Management Plan (CWMP) which will result in meeting the plan goals to address altered hydrology effects. The proposed project will construct a 300-foot wide, 260 acre floodplain corridor with an 8-mile meandering channel focused on natural channel design. In addition to the stream rehabilitation, the project will provide approximately 34 acres of constructed wetland habitat and 226 acres of native upland buffer areas within the stream channel and associated floodplain areas, permanently protected by the District. Approximately 30 water quality side inlets will be installed at targeted areas along the corridor to provide additional water quality benefits to the rehabilitated reach. This project is estimated to reduce sediment loading to the impaired reach of the Mustinka River by 253 tons/yr and total phosphorus by 72 lbs/year.	87.7
4	C22-9764	South Branch Buffalo River Watershed Restoration	Buffalo-Red River WD	Otter Tail;Wilkin	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 350,000.00	The Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD) will partner to install 50 sediment best management practices including water and sediment control basins, grade stabilization structures, and grassed waterways to address sediment loading to the South Branch Buffalo River (SBBR). The focus will be on upland areas, away from the SBBR channel corridor, to improve water quality within the SBBR watershed. Analysis was done that identified the locations of sediment best management practices that should be implemented to repair gullies and ensure a reduction of future erosion. Each gully was also ranked from most sediment contributing to the least and grouped into High and Medium categories. This project will be targeting the gullies identified as the highest priority within the SBBR watershed. When these 50 gullies are stabilized, sediment loading within the watershed will be reduced by 2,800 tons per year and total phosphorus will be reduced by 310 pounds per year.	87.1
5	C22-2120	Epiphany Creek BIESF	Coon Creek WD	Anoka	\$ 345,000.00	\$ 345,000.00	In partnership with the City of Coon Rapids, Coon Creek's aquatic life and recreation impairments will be addressed by reducing nutrient and bacteria loading attributable to urban stormwater runoff. A 10,000 sq ft biochar- and iron-enhanced sand filter will be constructed to treat runoff from Epiphany Creek, a 655-acre urban subwatershed. This regional filtration practice will reduce total phosphorus loading to Coon Creek by 23 pounds per year and bacteria loading by 404 billion organisms per year.	86.9
6	C22-2534	Medley Park Stormwater Treatment Project	Bassett Creek WMC	Hennepin	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	The Medley Park Stormwater Treatment Project will transform an underutilized, soggy turf area in a neighborhood park into a stormwater treatment area with water quality benefits, restored wetland and prairie habitat, and educational opportunities. The Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC) completed a feasibility study for this project in June 2021 that estimates the project will reduce the amount of total phosphorus entering Medicine Lake by 17 pounds per year. Medicine Lake is impaired for nutrients and has an approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study. This project is one of the few opportunities to reduce pollutants to the lake from the city of Golden Valley. All together the project increases the water quality treatment volume in the park by 4.3 acre-feet, adds 0.6 acres of native prairie and pollinator habitat, and adds 0.6 acres of wetland habitat surrounding the new ponds. The project also provides significant flood reduction and climate resiliency benefits, creating 8.3 acre-feet of flood storage to remove three homes from the 100-year flooding event and six homes from the 25-year storm event.	86.8
7	C22-7102	Big Marine Lake Stormwater Quality Improvements Phase I	Carnelian-Marine St. Croix WD	Washington	\$ 272,400.00	\$ 272,400.00	This project proposes to treat 7.3 acres of stormwater flowing directly into Big Marine Lake with water quality best management practices that increase small storm retention by 6,111 cubic feet and reduce annual total phosphorus discharges by 9.9 pounds per year and sediment by 1,531 pounds per year. Big Marine Lake is a high quality recreational lake with three public accesses and is nearly impaired for aquatic life. This proposal is the first phase of projects identified in the Big Marine Subwatershed Analysis and treats the largest source of urban stormwater discharging to the lake.	86.4

8	C22-1651	2022 Hill River Subwatershed Water Quality Agricultural Practices	Red Lake SWCD	Red Lake	\$ 231,200.00	\$ 231,200.00	Red Lake County SWCD has targeted seven sites for implementation of structural agricultural practices based on data analysis obtained from multiple sources, including the Clearwater River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) reports, and the Water Quality Decision Support System tool. The data identified the Hill River subwatershed as a high contributor to the impairments on the Clearwater River, highlighted fields in the subwatershed with the highest sediment loading, and showed specific locations in the field which were most vulnerable to erosion. Red Lake County SWCD conducted an Erosion Site Inventory in 2021, which verified the information and found landowners in these priority areas that were eager to fix the erosion problems on their fields. The structural agricultural practices will include, but are not limited to, grade stabilization structures, grassed waterways, and water and sediment control basins. The implementation of these practices is estimated to reduce sediment loading to the Clearwater River by 1,781 tons per year, or 25% of the TMDL annual load reduction. This will improve water quality, recreation, fish habitat, and aesthetics. Further downstream, the City of East Grand Forks pulls its drinking water from the Red Lake River, making these projects a regional concern as well.	85.9
9	C22-2325	Big Carnelian Lake Stormwater Quality Improvements Phase I	Carnelian-Marine St. Croix WD	Washington	\$ 203,850.00	\$ 203,850.00	This project proposes to collect and treat 32 acres of stormwater flowing directly into Big Carnelian Lake with no water quality treatment. A 15,000 ft <sup>3</sup> bioinfiltration basin will treat 87% of the annual discharge and reduce 7 pounds of total phosphorus and 3 tons of sediment discharging into Big Carnelian Lake each year. Big Carnelian Lake is a high quality recreational lake with a public access and declining water quality trends. This is the largest source of untreated urban stormwater discharging into the lake identified in the Big Carnelian Lake Subwatershed Analysis.	84.5
10	C22-3434	FY22 CWF North Creek Foxborough Park TSS Reduction Project	Vermillion River Watershed JPO	Dakota	\$ 346,500.00	\$ 346,500.00	The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO), in partnership with the City of Lakeville and Dakota County, will construct a dry pond with a wet sedimentation forebay in Foxborough Park adjacent to the North Creek tributary to the Vermillion River. This pond will capture and reduce sediment and total phosphorus (TP) from an existing stormwater outfall that discharges directly to North Creek. The basin would be constructed within an existing park greenspace and would intercept stormwater from the existing outfall for treatment. The 220-acre subwatershed draining to this stormwater outfall was developed several decades ago with very minimal stormwater treatment, and new opportunities for stormwater treatment are limited. North Creek is anticipated to be placed on the impaired waters list in 2022 for sediment and fish bioassessment. The project will reduce an estimated 18 tons per year of sediment and 32 pounds per year of TP.	83.9
11	C22-0499	Lake Traverse Water Quality Improvement Project Phase 3	Bois de Sioux WD	Traverse	\$ 800,000.00	\$ 800,000.00	Traverse County Ditch 52 (TCD 52) is a well-known, significant source of sediment and nutrients to Lake Traverse and the outlet of the watershed. The Bois de Sioux Watershed District (BdSWD), Traverse County SWCD and other local partners have a goal to completely stabilize TCD 52 in a series of three phases in a comprehensive effort to address water quality impairments. The Lake Traverse Water Quality Improvement Project Phase 3 will stabilize approximately one mile of TCD 52 resulting in a reduction of approximately 2,250 tons per year of sediment transport to Lake Traverse. Construction of Phase 1 has been completed and construction of Phase 2 will begin in the fall of 2021. This proposed Phase 3 is the final phase and will completely address this major pollutant source to Lake Traverse. The existing condition of the site is severely degraded, with actively eroding banks in excess of 30 feet in some areas, severely incised channel and reduced connectivity to a functional floodplain. The Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) process and the recently approved Bois de Sioux-Mustinka Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Plan) have identified the TCD 52 system as a priority to be addressed. Completion of Phase 3 will exceed the Plan short-term goal for sediment reduction in the Lake Traverse Planning region, and achieve 8% of the long-term goal.	83.3
12	C22-4881	Lake Ida HUC 12 AIG Projects Phase II	Douglas SWCD	Douglas	\$ 287,850.00	\$ 287,850.00	This project continues the success of our Phase I grant which generated more interest in project implementation than grant funding available. Phase I was used to complete a subwatershed assessment for the Lake Ida subwatershed to identify and target areas of concentrated flow, potential erosion and areas of nonpoint pollution. We have received more erosion project requests than dollars available. All projects have received a site inspection and evaluation by SWCD staff. These projects have been reviewed and prioritized according to potential reductions, feasibility and project & landowner readiness. This grant will reduce sediment to Lake Ida by 361 tons per year and total phosphorus by 343 pounds per year. This grant will make progress towards the Long Prairie goals for Lake Ida set in the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy report to reduce TP by 300 lbs and sediment by 10%. BMPs will include seven shoreline restorations, two gully fixes, three water and sediment control basins, one terrace, one manure storage practice and 10 alternative tile intakes.	83.0
13	C22-0878	2022 Big Elk & Mayhew Lakes Phosphorus Reduction Program	Benton SWCD	Benton	\$ 491,000.00	\$ 491,000.00	The Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) report for the Elk River Watershed identified numerous first & second priority source zones. These zones are located within the Elk River sub-watersheds of Mayhew Lake & Big Elk Lake. The TMDL report identified spring phosphorus loading as the main concern for Mayhew Lake, whereas summer loads dominate the Big Elk Lake nutrient impairment and Elk River turbidity impairment. This report has pinpointed the locations within the watershed where the phosphorus originates from, as well as strategies that may be undertaken to reduce nutrient loading. Best Management Practices for this application were strategically chosen from those locations in the report in order to achieve maximum pollution reduction benefits. Some example BMPs include: feedlot runoff control, manure storage, riparian pasture management, and cropland erosion control projects. Projects are scored with TMDL criteria and funding decisions are subsequently made by the SWCD board. The funding of this grant would reduce phosphorus by 953 pounds per year and sediment by 399 tons per year.	82.0

16	C22-3526	Roseau River Water Quality project	Roseau River WD	Roseau	\$ 160,010.40	\$ 160,010.00	Roseau River Watershed District (RRWD) is initiating a water quality improvement project to reduce sediment contribution from the Watershed Ditch 4 (WD 4) subwatershed. WD 4 outlets into the Roseau River which is the resource of concern that will be protected with this project. River habitat protection is a priority for the RRWD and projects like this are an excellent step in that direction. The RRWD, in cooperation with landowners, road authorities, and the Roseau SWCD, will implement conservation practices on 30 priority sites targeted due to the large volume of sediment they contribute to the river. Twenty-nine surface water inlets (SWI) and one rock grade control structure were identified through the Prioritize Target Measure Application tool (PTMApp) as priority concerns in need of protection from chronic erosion. The PTMApp toolbar estimates the 29 SWI sites identified contribute 62 tons of sediment annually into the Roseau River. The rock grade control structure is located at the confluence of WD 4 and the Roseau River.	81.6
15	C22-5311	Chaska Creek Remeander Phase 2	Carver County WMO	Carver	\$ 283,000.00	\$ 283,000.00	The project will re-meander approximately 1,100 linear feet of a ditched segment of West Chaska Creek. This is Phase 2 of the project that will connect the existing ditch to the constructed meanders from Phase 1 that was completed in 2019. Lengthening the channel will reduce water speeds, lower shear stress on the banks, reconnect the stream to its floodplain, and reduce the amount of sediment transported downstream. This re-meander project will reduce total suspended solids by an estimated 4,400 pounds per year. Secondary benefits include reduction of discharge rates, flood retention, volume reduction, increased habitat for invertebrates, fish, and animals, and a wildlife corridor through a highly industrialized area.	80.9
16	C22-9698	Moody Lake Capstone Projects	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	Chisago	\$ 239,500.00	\$ 239,500.00	Moody Lake is a major lake within the headwaters of the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District (CLFLWD) northern flow network. A multi-year diagnostic and implementation feasibility study was conducted in the Moody Lake watershed to prioritize nutrient sources, target cost-effective BMPs, and estimate the measurable phosphorus reductions that will be achieved through implementation of projects. Past efforts in this watershed have achieved a phosphorus reduction of 779 pounds per year, or 90% of the total phosphorus load reduction goal. The CLFLWD proposes to target projects to the remaining phosphorus loading hotspots in Moody Lake's direct drainage area. Potential projects include: wetland phosphorus-laden sediment excavation, raingarden and/or shoreline restoration, implementation of wetland treatment cells, and agricultural best management practices. Cumulative phosphorus reduction under the proposed projects is estimated at 45 pounds per year.	80.7
17	C22-7038	Fairmont Chain of Lakes Nutrient Treatment Train	Martin County	Martin	\$ 882,000.00	\$ 882,000.00	The project goal is to reduce pollutant loading to Amber Lake, which is designated as a Class 1, Domestic Consumption use within the Drinking Water Source Management Area – Surface Water for the City of Fairmont. In recent years, there have been concerns with high nitrate concentrations entering this drinking water source. The project includes design and construction of a sediment and nutrient treatment train, which includes an 11-acre nutrient treatment wetland and an 8,000 linear feet two-stage ditch upstream of Amber Lake. The project will reduce 12,827 pounds per year of nitrate, 463 pounds per year of total phosphorus, and 29 tons per year of sediment to Amber Lake. These reductions support goals detailed in the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) 2019 Source Water Assessment (SWA) for the City of Fairmont Public Water System. The project also aligns with the Martin County Local Water Plan (Water Plan) priority concern of surface water and objective of protecting surface water quality/quantity. This project will support those goals by reducing nitrate, phosphorus, and sediment loading to Amber, Hall, and Budd Lakes, which are listed by the state as impaired for excess nutrients.	79.9
18	C22-7229	Clear Lake - 2022 Soluable Phosphorus Management	Clearwater River WD	Meeker	\$ 361,000.00	\$ 361,000.00	The purpose of this project is to achieve the in-lake water quality goals set in the 2009 Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study for Clear Lake, located in Meeker County. Other projects installed to date have improved the average summer surface total phosphorus (TP) concentration from 214 ug/L, the 10-year average at the time of TMDL completion, down to a 10 year average of 110 ug/L in 2020. The installation of an Iron-Enhanced Sand Filter (IESF) at the northern wetland complex will target a known high phosphorus pollutant source to Clear Lake and is proposed with this grant application. Through additional monitoring and modeling updates the District has developed a reasonable assurance that the load reduction goal can be achieved through implementation of the IESF, estimated to reduce TP loading by 1,800 lbs/year to Clear Lake. This is the majority of to the 1,978 lb load reduction indicated by the updated lake response model.	79.9
19	C22-0089	Island Lake Water Quality Protection	Pine SWCD	Pine	\$ 128,000.00	\$ 128,000.00	Island Lake of the Kettle River Watershed provides landowners and countless visitors the opportunity to experience high quality recreation within a day's trip from the Twin Cities. Island Lake has the third highest phosphorous sensitivity significance in the Kettle River Watershed. The goal of this project is to protect Island Lake from impairment through the targeted use of shoreland stabilizations, shoreland buffers, rain barrel installation, and other site-appropriate structural vegetative Best Management Practices (BMPs). Island Lake, while not currently listed as impaired, does exceed the threshold for total phosphorous and chlorophyll. It is expected that BMPs will be installed on 15 parcels and approximately 1,600 feet of shoreline will be addressed. These proposed amounts will decrease the annual phosphorus loading by 18 pounds per year and decrease sediment entering the lake by 53 tons per year.	79.4
20	C22-0255	Palmer Creek Stream Stabilization	Shingle Creek WMC	Hennepin	\$ 384,000.00	\$ 384,000.00	The purpose of the Palmer Creek Stream Restoration Project is to improve water quality in Bass Lake which is impaired for excess nutrients. This project is comprised of two parts: a stream restoration on Palmer Creek, a tributary to Bass Lake; and two sediment control devices on storm sewers upstream of the channel to treat residential development that is currently untreated. Palmer Creek conveys flow from Schmidt Lake and from the local drainage area that is currently experiencing significant erosion and mass wasting. This soil loss results in an estimated 52 tons of sediment conveyed directly to the lake. About 1,250 linear feet will be stabilized and improved by regrading banks, installing boulder toe and vegetated riprap, enhancing buffer with native vegetation, and replacing old failing retaining walls. These proposed improvements will reduce annual soil loss by an estimated 45 tons, and result in a total phosphorus load reduction of 18 pounds per year. In addition, two sediment capture devices will be placed upstream in storm sewer, providing water quality treatment for about 30 acres of currently untreated residential area. The outcome will be stabilized streambanks protecting public and private structures, improved water quality, and enhanced habitat for aquatic and upland wildlife.	79.1

23	C22-7057	Pell Creek Turbidity Reduction Project	Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area	Cottonwood; Murray; Redwood	\$ 648,075.00	\$ 648,075.00	Pell Creek drains 33,171 acres of highly productive agricultural land in Redwood, Murray and Cottonwood Counties in southwestern Minnesota. Extensive subsurface drainage and open ditches are found throughout these counties in order to improve crop productivity. The Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area authored a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and implementation plan to address turbidity in 2008. A TMDL is also drafted (2021) using water quality data from 2010-2018 and that estimates a 44% TSS reduction needed (or 172 tons per year) for the Pell Creek subwatershed. This proposal will annually reduce 300 tons of sediment through implementation of three water and sediment control basins, two grade stabilization projects, and six grassed waterways. This proposal's sediment reduction goal would make 100% progress toward the Pell Creek reduction goal and 0.43% toward the interim 25% reduction goal set in the Sediment Reduction Strategy for the Minnesota River Basin.	78.5
24	C22-2187	Perro Creek Stormwater Retrofits	Washington Conservation District	Washington	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	This project proposes up to four structural stormwater best management practices (BMPs) to reduce at least eight pounds of phosphorous and 4,000 pounds of sediment from annual stormwater runoff within the Perro Creek subwatershed. This runoff discharges from 13 acres of urban land directly into Perro Creek before outletting into Lake St. Croix with little to no water quality treatment. This project will achieve the above results through practices identified in prioritized catchments of the Perro Creek Stormwater Retrofit Analysis. The installation of these practices will reduce the nutrient loading that are the root cause of the nutrient impairment in Lake St. Croix.	78.3
25	C22-4214	Pike Creek Stabilization	Plymouth, City of	Hennepin	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	The Pike Creek Stabilization Project addresses the significant erosion and channelization along two stretches of Pike Creek totaling approximately 1,000 linear feet along the public waterway. Improvements along the streambank will include regrading and stabilization of the banks utilizing hard armoring and bioengineering, and using rock cross vanes and plunge pools. Habitat improvements, such as buckthorn removal and native vegetation restoration, will coincide with the improvements within the creek to provide additional benefits to the area. Pike Creek discharges directly into Pike Lake and Pike Lake outlets into Eagle Lake; both are impaired for nutrients. A Total Maximum Daily Load study was completed in 2010 which set a nutrient waste load allocation (WLA) for both lakes. The improvements along Pike Creek are anticipated to remove 20 pounds of total phosphorus and 47,200 pounds of sediment a year from the current nutrient load to Pike and Eagle Lakes, helping to address the required WLA reductions identified in the TMDL.	77.8
27	C22-1275	Priority E.coli Reduction in Mississippi River-Sartell	Stearns SWCD	Morrison; Stearns	\$ 477,350.00	\$ 477,350.00	This project will reduce bacteria loading into priority streams within the Mississippi-Sartell watershed, immediately upstream of the City of St. Cloud surface water intake, that are impaired for bacteria. Grant funds will be used to implement source controls to limit bacteria entering waterways, including manure storage facilities (5), livestock exclusion from waterways (5), feedlot runoff controls (5), edge-of-field buffers (10), and implementation of nutrient management plans for land application of manure (5 plans; 800 acres) and prescribed grazing (5 plans, 400 acres). These practices were included as high priority in the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) implementation plan. The grant will leverage federal funds to ensure that qualified projects have sufficient funding to reduce barriers to voluntary implementation of conservation practices. The project area is a priority portion of Stearns and Morrison Counties that was selected due to its direct connection to the local water plan, level of impairments, contiguous land area, and lack of other available financial resources. Additionally, runoff from the area directly affects the drinking water supply for St. Cloud and contributes to the supply for Minneapolis and St. Paul. It is anticipated that activities will reduce total phosphorus by 210 pounds per year.	77.5
26	C22-7034	Rum River Woodbury House Riverbank Stabilization Project	Anoka, City of	Anoka	\$ 1,008,820.00	\$ 1,008,820.00	This project will stabilize 300 linear feet of eroding bank along the Rum River adjacent to the historic Woodbury House site, less than 1/2 mile upstream of the confluence with the Mississippi River. Eroding riverbanks contribute to the Mississippi River's TSS impairment, Rum River's near-listing for nutrients, and degrades aquatic habitat. This project was identified in a 2012 riverbank inventory along 16.2 miles of the Mississippi River. Riverbank stabilization will combine an armored toe and vegetated reinforced soil slope. As a secondary benefit, this project helps protect a highly visible historic site. Woodbury House, on the National Register of Historic Places, was built in 1857 and overlooks the rivers' confluence. The project will reduce pollutants by 128 tons of sediment and 128 pounds of phosphorus annually.	77.5
28	C22-2087	FY22 CWF Ravenna Trail Ravine Stabilization	Vermillion River Watershed JPO	Dakota	\$ 495,000.00	\$ 495,000.00	Portions of the lower Vermillion River are abutted by steep, erodible hillsides that deposit sediment directly in the river during rain events and contribute to this reach of the Vermillion River being impaired for turbidity. The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization, in partnership with Dakota County and the Dakota Soil and Water Conservation District, seeks to complete stabilization along 3,600 linear feet of two heavily eroded ravines that have repeatedly deposited sediment in the Vermillion River adjacent to Ravenna Trail (County Road 54) through the installation of armoring/rock-lined channel, ravine bank and channel stabilization, low-flow drop structures, riprap check dams and plunge pools, and other practices. Addressing this erosion will have an estimated pollutant reduction of 130 tons per year of total suspended solids and 78 pounds per year total phosphorus.	77.0
29	C22-9063	Project 17 Outlet Stabilization	Sand Hill River WD	Polk	\$ 214,400.00	\$ 214,400.00	The Sand Hill River Watershed District will partner with landowners to stabilize the outlet of SHRWD Project 17 which has become one of the most critically eroding channels contributing sediment to the Sand Hill River. When the outlet is stabilized, sediment loading to the Sand Hill River will be reduced by 2,462 tons per year and total phosphorus reduced by 2,176 pounds per year. The total sediment reduction associated with this project is 3% of the 74,709 tons per year goal set by the Sand Hill River Total Maximum Daily Load study for the entire Sand Hill River Watershed. The Sand Hill River downstream of the outlet is listed as an impaired water for exceeding the turbidity standard for aquatic life. This project will install six grade stabilization structures (rock riffles) and two side inlets to stabilize the Project 17 outlet and significantly reduce sediment to the Sand Hill River.	77.0

30	C22-1028	Dobbins Creek Headwaters Capital Improvement Projects Implementation	Cedar River WD	Mower	\$ 610,000.00	\$ 610,000.00	Hydrology has been the primary culprit for our degraded water quality conditions in Dobbins Creek, which is a 25,000 acre watershed where more than 90% of the land has been tilled. The Cedar River Watershed District (WD) is charged with addressing the hydrology and associated water quality challenges and demonstrating progress. The WD is partnering with local landowners to implement strategically designed structures that will simulate approximately 30% of the infiltration, flow control and stream dynamics that existed when the land was in historical prairie. This application intends to bring upland treatment through the construction of two embankment structures and the upland waterway stabilization that will treat nearly 600 acres of surface runoff. The proposed practices will stabilize sheet, rill and gully erosion at the site as well as downstream. These projects will compliment previous work and constructive relationships. Measurable outcomes of 63 pounds per year of phosphorus and 63 tons per year of sediment are expected.	76.7
31	C22-7855	The Future of Farming in Becker County	Becker SWCD	Becker	\$ 480,014.00	\$ 354,915.00	This project builds resilient agricultural systems and achieves non-point source pollution reductions identified by local and regional water quality monitoring and models. Producers in 3 distinct yet connected watersheds of the Red River Basin, within Becker County, have the opportunity to shift towards sustainable practices that reduce overall inputs in their ag production operation. Participants will: A) Eliminate fall tillage and minimize soil disturbance; B) Increase cover and residue to armor soil; C) Establish living roots through 90% of growing season; D) Add crop diversity, and E) Incorporate livestock where feasible. With a five year commitment, producers can select from tiered incentives to incorporate multiple best management practices. Our goal is to implement 4,000 acres (25 producers) through these cost effective conservation practices. It is estimated that these practices will reduce sediment loading by 8,257 tons per year, total phosphorus by 1,338 pounds per year, and nitrogen contributions by 12,855 pounds per year.	76.6
32	C22-3480	Granite Lake External Load Reduction as Modelled by PTMApp 3.0	Wright SWCD	Wright	\$ 175,000.00	\$ -	The purpose of this grant application is to implement effective practices identified in the Granite Lake watershed that were identified using Prioritize Target Measure Application tool (PTMApp). The goal of this application is to improve the quality of water entering Granite Lake by reducing total suspended solids (TSS) and total phosphorous (TP) through construction of best management practices. Based on PTMApp output data and staff assessments, 10 water and sediment control basins were chosen to further investigate and prioritize for possible installation. Additionally, staff set a goal of 100 acres of source reduction practices in the watershed (cover crops, no till, prescribed grazing, etc.). This grant will be used to continue working with landowners to implement practices generated by PTMApp. It is estimated that if the 10 water and sediment control basins are built and 100 acres of source reduction are implemented it would reduce the amount of TSS entering Granite lake by 300 tons per year and the amount of TP entering the lake by 51 pounds per year.	76.5
33	C22-8679	Dawn Way Neighborhood Stormwater Volume Reduction Project	Inver Grove Heights, City of	Dakota	\$ 484,000.00	\$ -	The City of Inver Grove Heights will construct underground infiltration chambers and curbside rainwater gardens within City right of way in conjunction with a street pavement rehabilitation project. The project will reduce stormwater volume flowing to an undersized storm sewer system that discharges to the Mississippi River. Project benefits will include reductions in localized flooding, decreased surcharging in the storm sewer system, and a reduction of 4,850 pounds per year of suspended solids sediment flowing to the Mississippi River. These activities will address goals established in the South Metro Mississippi River Turbidity Total Maximum Daily Load study.	76.4
34	C22-0624	FY2022 Failing SSTS Abatement Program	St. Louis County	St. Louis	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -	The St. Louis County (SLC) Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) Program protects surface water, groundwater, and decreases human exposure to harmful pathogens. This project will identify and address failing SSTS using a two-tiered approach. Tier 1 targets upgrading failing systems located within the septic priority areas identified due to water impairments such as excess bacteria levels in the water. Tier 2 targets upgrading failing systems located in shoreland areas. SSTS systems will be inventoried with the following objectives: 1. Protect surface and ground water by replacing failing septic systems. 2. Provide the financial assistance to low-income year-round homeowners with failing SSTS who need to achieve compliance by replacing or upgrading their septic systems. Funds will be used to replace 10 failing systems within the septic priority areas of Midway, Thomson, Cloquet River, and Simian Creek (Tier 1). As a secondary objective, to replace failing systems within shoreland areas, to prevent harmful pathogens and excess nutrients from entering lakes and rivers and preventing additions to the impaired waters list (Tier 2). SLC will aggressively notify property owners of the program and eligibility criteria already identified to have failing systems within the septic priority areas. The activities in this application would reduce 2,200 pounds of sediment per year and 100 pounds of total phosphorus.	75.4
35	C22-2852	FY22 West Indian Creek Partnership Project	Wabasha SWCD	Wabasha	\$ 350,000.00	\$ -	The Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) has targeted West Indian Creek for implementation of structural and non-structural agricultural practices based on data analyses, Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies and Total Maximum Daily Load reports, and GIS analysis to assess critical forested areas. Preliminary design and cost estimates for seven grade stabilization structures and two grassed waterways are complete. The anticipated conservation practices will include, but are not limited to, grade stabilization structures, grassed waterways, water and sediment control basins, cover crops, contour farming, conservation cover, forest buffer edge, prescribed grazing, and tree and shrub planting. An outreach and plan coordinator will manage multiple partner commitments to plan implementation. Projects will reduce nitrogen by 38,034 pounds per year, phosphorus by 12,433 pounds per year, and sediment by 4,570 tons per year. These anticipated reductions will address the rising trend in nitrates, improve and protect trout stream conditions and protect public and private drinking water.	75.3
36	C22-7238	Net Lake Septic System Upgrades	Pine County	Pine	\$ 92,850.00	\$ -	This project seeks to financially assist low-income homeowners on Net Lake with septic system upgrades, identified as Imminent Threats to Public Health and Safety (ITPHS) or Failing to Protect Groundwater. This funding request is part of a broader project to conduct a septic system assessment around Net Lake. The assessment work of identifying polluting septic systems has been funded under Nemadji Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan Implementation Funds, however, to complete the work in a politically acceptable manner, local partners must secure funding for low income households. This grant request will fund up to five septic system upgrades of noncompliant low-income households identified in Pine and Carlton Counties and will reduce pollutant loading by approximately 30 pounds of phosphorus per year, 138 pounds of nitrogen per year and 330 pounds of TSS per year.	74.5

37	C22-4298	North Fork Whitewater Sediment Reduction Project	Whitewater River Watershed Project	Olmsted;Wabasha	\$ 118,000.00	\$ -	This project will reduce in-field sources of sediment to the Whitewater River's North Fork subwatershed by 65 tons of sediment annually through implementation of erosion control structures (one basin and six grassed waterways) in the headwaters. Stream conditions in this part of the Whitewater River watershed are significantly more turbid than other subwatersheds. This project will use an Agricultural Conservation Planning Framework and knowledge of landowner interest to identify the most suitable locations of erosion reduction practices. This project will complement a streambank restoration project on the Upper North Fork subwatershed spearheaded by Olmsted SWCD and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources with Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council funding. These conservation measures will have a direct improvement to downstream reaches that are popular trout fishing areas.	74.4
38	C22-3740	Fish Lake Public Shoreland Protection Project	Kanabec SWCD	Kanabec	\$ 120,000.00	\$ -	The goal of this project is to reduce shoreland erosion along 250 feet of actively eroding Fish Lake shoreline. This erosion is contributing to increased sediment and nutrient levels entering Fish Lake, the Ann River, and downstream into the Snake River. This location is unique in that it is a public fishing area that is heavily used and very visible to traffic on MN State Highway (HWY) 65. Reduction in sediments and nutrients entering the lake will be achieved through the installation of a shoreland erosion control project along 250 feet of shoreline. This project will involve the use of tree trunks/root wads and shrub material strategically placed within the shoreland area below the water level. Using this soft armor is favored by the DNR due to the added benefit of providing wildlife and fish habitat. This completed project will provide resilient bank armor that resists the erosive forces of the Fish Lake wave action at the toe of the slope. To further limit erosion from foot traffic, pavers would be placed along shoreland to create walking paths for citizens and fisherfolk to use. This project is anticipated to have an annual reduction of 39 tons of sediment and 33 pounds of phosphorus.	74.2
39	C22-4634	Clean Water Benefits Through Reforestation on Impaired Riparian Corridors	Lake SWCD	Lake;St. Louis	\$ 207,500.00	\$ -	Eastern Spruce Budworm (ESB) damage has had a significant detrimental impact on forest health in the Lake Superior Basin. Our focus areas for this project are private forestland along riparian corridors on ESB impacted properties within the Stewart and Silver Creek subwatersheds of the Knife River Watershed which is impaired for turbidity. The Clean Water Benefits from this reforestation project is reduced erosion and sedimentation through planting trees along riparian corridors which will stabilize riverbanks, absorb water, and provide canopies for shrubs and ground cover. We are partnering with the Forest Assisted Migration Project to purchase climate adaptive tree seedlings to result in a more climate resilient NE MN forested ecosystem. Through this project, more than 12,000 climate resilient trees will be planted on more than 60 acres within riparian corridors. These activities are estimate dot have a sediment reduction of 11 tons per year.	74.1
40	C22-5415	Targeted Implementation of an AIG Study on a Channelized River	Middle Fork Crow River WD	Meeker	\$ 785,840.00	\$ -	The Middle Fork Crow River in Meeker County is also classified as County Ditch 47, it was channelized in 1919 and has largely remained untouched since, with sections currently eroding beyond natural meandering. This application seeks funding to implement the practices that were confirmed as priority in a 2020 assessment to help with reducing sediment in this impaired section of stream. In partnership with the Meeker County SWCD, and securing easement access with the Meeker County Drainage Authority, the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District will help implement eight prioritized project locations including one toe protection, twenty-six stream barbs, three vegetated riprap projects, canopy thinning, four tree removals, three resploping of stream banks with vegetative riprap, and one animal exclusion. It's projected that the implementation of these projects will reduce 797 tons of sediment and 160 pounds of phosphorous annually, and would also reduce the current bacteria levels for which there is an impairment.	73.6
41	C22-0497	2022-Lake Beauty- Pilot E.A.R.T.H.	Todd SWCD	Todd	\$ 136,021.00	\$ -	The goal of this protection application is to pilot a plan to maintain Lake Beauty's quality status as an unimpaired lake. Todd SWCD will assist landowners in assessing the environmental health of their properties and installing 12 best management practices such as, but not limited to, native buffers, ecologic shoreline stabilizations, tree plantings, forest improvement practices, riparian erosion controls, rain gardens, and other stormwater controls to achieve improved water quality. All best management practices are to be installed within the 1,000 foot riparian boundary of the lake. A secondary goal of this application comes as the pilot for the Todd SWCD's Environmental Assessment for Riparian Terrestrial Health program (E.A.R.T.H.); a stewardship program for riparian and residential landowners. While not listed as impaired, Lake Beauty's phosphorous metrics have crept above target levels. The proposal is estimated to reduce phosphorous loading 7 pounds per year.	72.6
42	C22-7755	Carlton SWCD- Kettle River Watershed: Producers for BMP's	Carlton SWCD	Carlton	\$ 268,198.66	\$ -	The Carlton Soil and Water Conservation District and partners will target the Kettle River watershed to improve feedlot practices on local farms that contribute to bacteria runoff and aquatic life impairment in the watershed, which eventually outlets into the St. Croix River. This work will focus on Carlton County with 4 components: implementation of a Waste Storage Facility; education and outreach to a previously targeted list of 100 farms that are likely contributors to runoff in the watershed; an on-the-farm workshop; and technical support throughout the duration of the project. The waste storage facility has already been designed along with cost estimates for each practice. Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans will be completed on the 10 farms that have high interest in moving forward with implementing best management practices. The waste storage facility will reduce total phosphorus by 17 pounds per year and bacteria by 8.2 E+14 colony forming units per year.	72.0

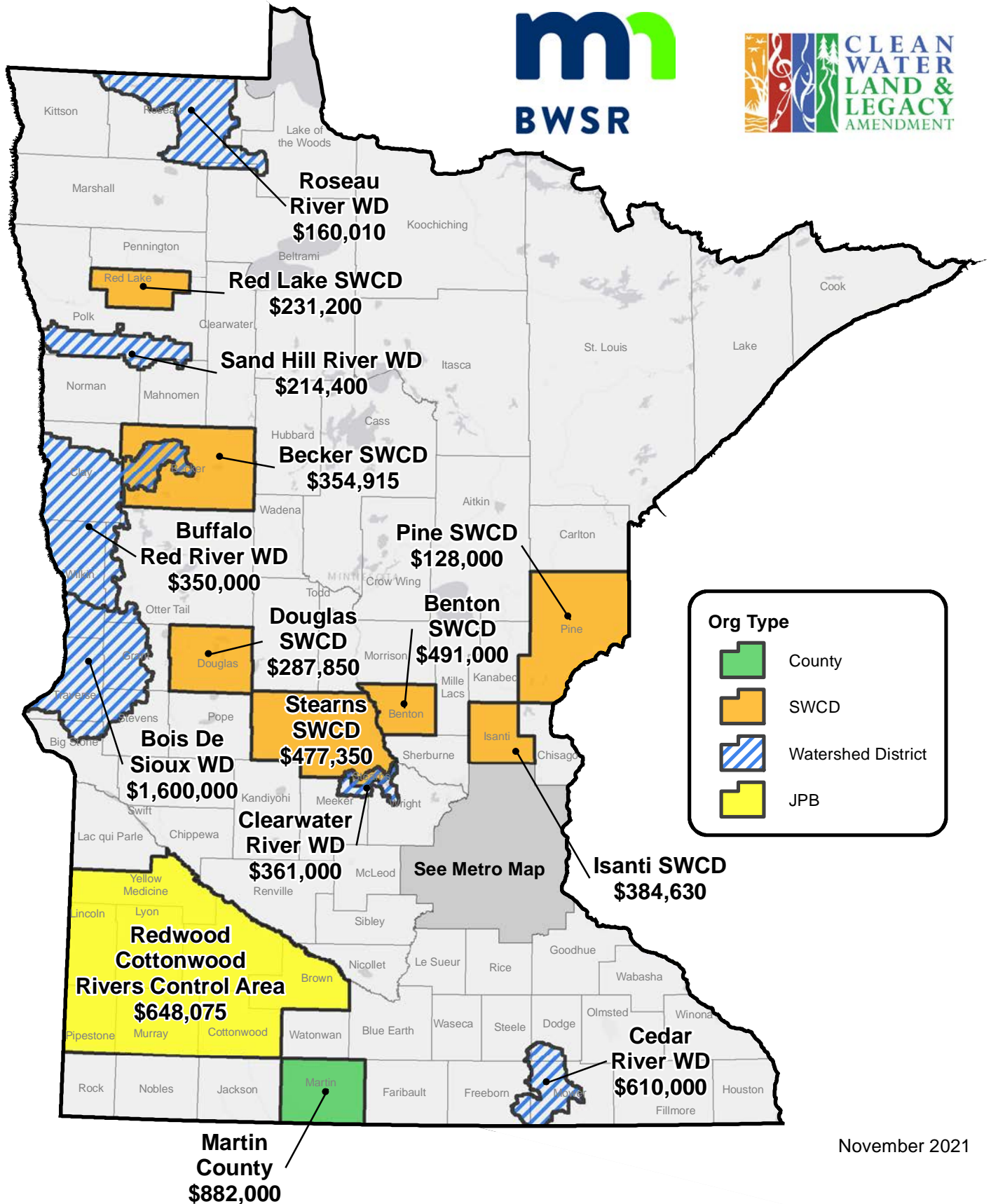


43	C22-0571	Chippewa Lake HUC 12 Targeted Projects	Douglas SWCD	Douglas	\$ 408,313.00	\$ -	This grant will reduce sediment, phosphorus and bacteria loading to Little Chippewa Lake. Through landowner requested site visits, aerial review, and ground proofing, Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) staff have compiled a list of potential projects within the subwatershed. The activities of this grant will reduce runoff to Little Chippewa Lake by 314 tons of sediment, phosphorus by 339 pounds of phosphorus, and 135 pounds of nitrogen, annually. This will make progress towards the Chippewa River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) report reduction goals (sediment loading 42%, Phosphorus 13%, bacteria 44%), the management goals to improve habitat, protect the Chippewa and Little Chippewa lakes from exceeding total phosphorus standards, and decrease peak flows. Implementation projects include: three shoreline restorations, five water and sediment control basins, one terrace, two manure storage practices and 10 alternative tile intakes. This grant will help strengthen partnerships between the SWCD, Douglas County, and Douglas County Lakes Association.	71.1
44	C22-3967	Bush-Desoto Stormwater Pond Retrofit	St. Paul, City of	Ramsey	\$ 860,000.00	\$ -	The purpose of the project is to convert an existing dry basin into a bioinfiltration basin that provides water quality treatment and volume control. The proposed bioinfiltration basin would increase the size of the existing dry basin from 0.31 acres to approximately 0.70 acres at the bottom of the basin, and from 0.76 acres to 1.30 acres at the top of the basin. The basin would be expanded through soil excavation and converted to infiltration by raising the outlet and amending the soils. The City plans to install a hydrodynamic separator upstream of the bioinfiltration basin to provide pretreatment and remove total suspended solids from stormwater runoff which will extend the life of the bioinfiltration basin. The City also plans to plant the basin and surrounding area with pollinator-friendly vegetation to create habitat along the industrial railroad corridor. The proposed bioinfiltration basin will annually remove 1,842 acre-feet of runoff (87% removal), 19,748 pounds of total suspended solids (97% removal), and 60 pounds of total phosphorus (90% removal).	69.7
45	C22-0483	Mississippi River Shoreline Stabilization	Brooklyn Park, City of	Hennepin	\$ 663,000.00	\$ -	This Mississippi River Shoreline Stabilization Project will enhance water quality, restore natural habitats, and sustain and protect property along the west banks of the Mississippi River, within the City of Brooklyn Park. A 5.8-mile shoreline assessment completed in the summer of 2020 comprehensively surveyed erosion issues along the City's river shoreline and identified numerous critical riverfronts contributing significant sediment and nutrient loads. This grant request is to support Phase I of a multi-year project to restore approximately 715 linear feet of river shoreline, targeting stabilization of both the toe of the slope as well as mid-bank destabilization via groundwater seepages. Design strategies may include hard armoring such as riprap at or below the toe of the slope and/or drain tile to manage groundwater seepages but will emphasize bioengineering practices that enhance aquatic and terrestrial habitats while maintaining long-term environmental sustainability of the practices. This project has an estimated sediment reduction of 548 tons per year, and total phosphorus reduction of 506 pounds per year.	66.9
46	C22-3724	Mid MN Renville Co Restoration Project	Hawk Creek Watershed Project	Renville	\$ 198,000.00	\$ -	The purpose of this project is to implement prioritized Best Management Practices (BMPs) in critical areas that reduce nonpoint sources of phosphorus and sediment and lead to restoration of the Birch Coulee Creek, Purgatory Creek, Threemile Creek, Fort Ridgely Creek, and Little Rock Creek subwatersheds of the Middle Minnesota River Watershed. A project goal is an estimated reduction of 900 pounds of phosphorus and 650 tons of sediment annually through BMPs in critical areas identified through inventories and source targeting. BMPs will be effective in abating pollution on targeted waterbodies because they will be prioritized based on their ability to reduce phosphorus and sediment. Two grade stabilizations, five water and sediment control basins, two grass waterways, and 100 acres of cover crops/reduced tillage are proposed to achieve these pollutant reductions. An additional outcome of this project (but no funds are being requested) is increased stakeholder involvement and building better relationships with landowners/occupiers.	66.8
47	C22-5377	CWF '22 Clearwater River Watershed Erosion BMP's	Polk, East SWCD	Polk	\$ 500,000.00	\$ -	The East Polk Soil and Water Conservation District and the Red Lake Watershed District will work together to improve water quality through decreasing the total suspended solids, chlorophyll-a, and sediment/nutrient yields to six impaired or nearly impaired lakes of the Clearwater River Watershed. This project will install 30 water and sediment control basins and restore 6,000 feet of shoreline within prioritized areas in the Clearwater River Watershed. These projects are estimated to make reductions of 548 pounds per year of total phosphorus and 494 tons per year of sediment.	66.7
48	C22-0541	Continued Stormwater Implementation Importance for Progressive "City on the Pond"	Middle Fork Crow River WD	Kandiyohi	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -	This application seeks to build one infiltration area in a priority area identified in the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District's (MFCRWD) study completed to target, assess, and prioritize best management practices (BMPs) within the subwatersheds of New London and neighboring Spicer, MN. The assessment and targeting were based on pollutant yield, installation potential, and pollutant reduction benefit while the prioritization was based on cost-benefit analysis and project feasibility. The City of New London has an established basic water management account allowing the use of a local tax levy to create an account balance for in-kind dollars towards project implementation. This strong partnership has already allowed for stormwater implementation using grant funds in the past. Completing projects in sync with the city at the design level rather than retrofitting projects is truly a game changer when it comes to efficiency, feasibility, and acceptability of BMP establishment.	65.3

49	C22-8840	Lake Winona Improvement Project	Winona County	Winona	\$ 414,684.00	\$ -	Our application seeks to improve the water quality of Lake Winona through a combination of two actions: treating stormwater runoff from urban areas in infiltration bays prior to its discharge to the Northwest basin, and connection of Gilmore Creek ditch with an adjacent wetland area. Presently stormwater in the urban areas to the north of the Northwest Basin drain into stormwater pipes that discharge directly into the lake. Diverting some of the stormwater flow to a set of two infiltration treatment bays would catch phosphorus and reduce the overall load entering the lake. The greatest phosphorus source to the lake is upstream runoff from the Gilmore Creek ditch, which would be partially addressed by connecting an 11 acre wetland complex next to the Gilmore Creek Ditch by installing a large culvert (36-48 inches in diameter). The project is estimated to reduce annual total phosphorus loading by 210 pounds.	65.3
50	C22-4910	Getchell Stream Stabilization	Sauk River WD	Stearns	\$ 1,690,000.00	\$ -	The Sauk River Watershed District (SRWD) has established a Project Team of diverse stakeholders for the Getchell Creek area to help address water quality and water quantity/storage concerns on the system. This grant will assist the SRWD with the implementation of stream stabilization practices developed through the feasibility study, focusing on creating stable conditions within a two mile contiguous stream reach. The stream stabilization work will include, but may not be limited to, grade stabilization, streambank and shoreline protection, and stream channel stabilization measures. This grant will support the second phase of a multi-phase effort. Phase one is already successfully underway where initial stream stabilization practices are being implemented on Getchell Creek. This application proposes to complete stream stabilization work that should provide up to 385 tons per year of sediment reduction, and 15 pounds per year of total phosphorus reduction at the outlet of Getchell Creek. Also, it will increase the functional lift feet of the stream by 105% across a contiguous two mile stream reach.	61.7
51	C22-4543	Loon Lake Phosphorous and Sediment Reduction Project	Jackson SWCD	Jackson	\$ 420,420.00	\$ -	A delta is forming within Loon Lake in at the outlet of Jackson County Judicial Ditch 8. Currently, Loon Lake does not meet state water quality standards for total phosphorus (TP), which proves a detriment to lake recreation. The practices outlined in this proposal will target a reduction in nutrients and sediment making their way to Loon Lake, providing water storage, trapping sediment and phosphorus, and reducing future bank erosion within the open ditch. Practices include the construction of 27 alternative side inlets, 31 riprap check dams, and a 7-acre constructed oxbow, with a 1-acre native pollinator buffer. This project is estimated to reduce sediment loads into Loon Lake by 723 tons per year and TP loads by 426 pounds per year.	61.1
52	C22-9658	FY22 Dodge - Cedar Nitrogen Reduction Implementation	Dodge SWCD	Dodge	\$ 62,425.00	\$ -	We are focusing on Drainage Water Management in areas of <1% slope in the Dodge County portion of the Cedar River Watershed, which will achieve nitrogen and dissolved phosphorus reductions. A total of five Drainage Water Management or nitrogen reducing practices will be implemented and installed in the upper portion of the Cedar River Watershed. Projects will reduce an estimated nitrogen reduction of 2,750 pounds per year.	59.7
53	C22-4395	Upper/Lower Red Lake Winter Human Waste Prevention and Disposal	Beltrami SWCD	Beltrami	\$ 137,000.00	\$ -	The Upper/Lower Red Lake Winter Human Waste Prevention and Disposal Project aims to reduce the amount of human waste pollution on Red Lake. Waste reduction practices include establishing ten human waste collection sites at winter access sites on the shores of Red Lake, as well as distributing 200,000 biodegradable waste bags to winter anglers. This project will have a public education component as well, with development and distribution of a multifaceted outreach campaign to inform anglers about proper waste disposal practices. Anticipated outcomes include a six-ton human waste reduction resulting in preventing 1,106 pounds of nitrogen and 140 pounds of phosphorus entering the lake over the grant period, as well as long-term improvements in angler waste disposal practices on Upper/Lower Red Lake.	59.4
<b>Total Funding Recommendation</b>					<b>\$</b>	<b>11,674,500.00</b>		

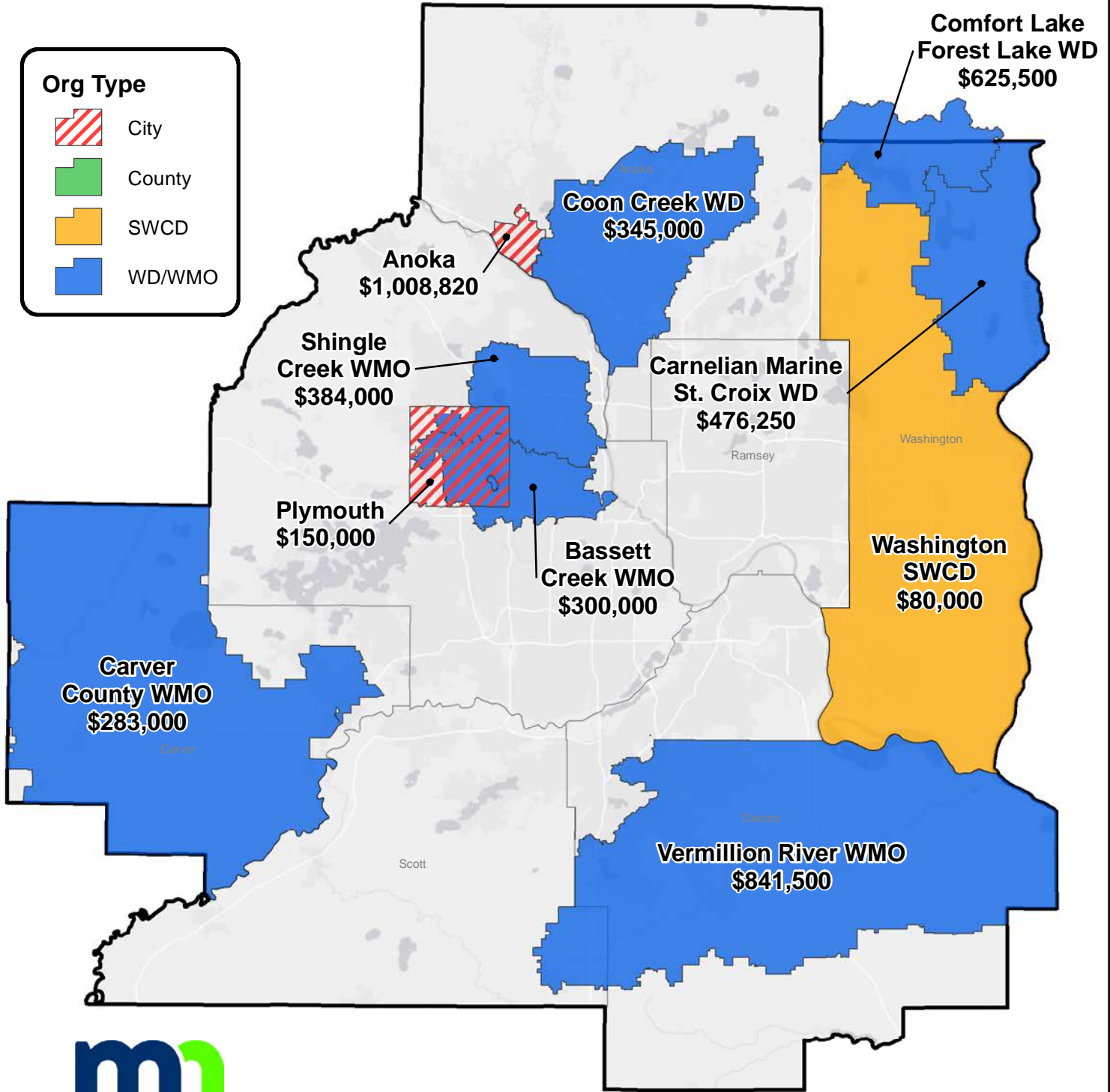
# FY 2022 Clean Water Fund

*Projects and Practices Recommended Funding*  
**Total Outstate Recommended Funding: \$7,180,430**  
**Total Metro Recommended Funding: \$4,494,070**



# FY 2022 Clean Water Fund

*Projects and Practices Recommended Funding*  
**Total Outstate Recommended Funding: \$7,180,430**  
**Total Metro Recommended Funding: \$4,494,070**





## BOARD ORDER

### Fiscal Year 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants

#### PURPOSE

Authorize the Fiscal Year 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant awards for Projects and Practices and Multipurpose Drainage Management grants.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

1. The Laws of Minnesota 2021, 1st Special Session, Chapter 1, Article 2, Sec. 6(b) appropriated \$10,762,000 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 1, Article 2, Sec. 6(j) appropriated \$850,000 for the fiscal year 2022 Clean Water Fund Multipurpose Drainage Management Competitive Grants Program.
2. \$1,238,000 of the 2021 Clean Water Fund Project and Practices Competitive Grant funding that was held back as a budgetary precaution due to the COVID 19 Pandemic is now available for the FY22 Clean Water Fund Projects and Practices Competitive Grant Program.
3. The proposed allocations in this order were developed consistent with these appropriations.
4. On June 23, 2021, the Board authorized staff to distribute and promote a request for proposals (RFP) for Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants (Board order #21-16).
5. The request for proposals was noticed on June 30, 2021 with a submittal deadline of August 17, 2021.
6. Applications were scored and ranked by an interagency committee on October 25, 2021.
7. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their November 29, 2021 meeting, reviewed the proposed allocations and recommended approval to the Board.

#### ORDER

The Board hereby:

1. Approves the allocation of funds to each eligible applicant in the amounts listed in the attached allocation tables.
2. Authorizes staff to approve work plans and enter into grant agreements for these funds.
3. Authorizes staff to fully or partially fund additional applications in rank order until April 8, 2022 unless superseded by a future Board action. For this purpose, staff may separately or in combination: a. reallocate funds returned from previous years' Clean Water Fund Competitive grant programs, b. reallocate funds that become available if funded projects are withdrawn or do not receive work plan approval by March 18, 2022 unless extended for cause, or c. reallocate funds that are modified due to a reduction in the state funding needed to accomplish the project.
4. Establishes that the grants awarded pursuant to this order will conform to FY 2022 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Policy.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this December 16, 2021.

**MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Gerald Van Amburg, Chair  
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Attachments:

- FY2022 Clean Water Fund Projects and Practices Allocation Table
- FY2022 Clean Water Fund Projects and Practices Drinking Water Subprogram Allocation Table
- FY2022 Clean Water Fund Multipurpose Drainage Management Allocation Table
- Maps of recommended award locations

## FY2022 Clean Water Fund Projects and Practices Allocation Table

Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Grantee	Total (\$)
C22-6316	WJD-6 Wetland Restoration	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	\$ 386,000.00
C22-0175	Blue Lake Priority Action Plan Phase II	Isanti SWCD	\$ 384,630.00
C22-8116	Mustinka River Rehabilitation Project	Bois de Sioux WD	\$ 800,000.00
C22-9764	South Branch Buffalo River Watershed Restoration	Buffalo-Red River WD	\$ 350,000.00
C22-2120	Epiphany Creek BIESF	Coon Creek WD	\$ 345,000.00
C22-2534	Medley Park Stormwater Treatment Project	Bassett Creek WMC	\$ 300,000.00
C22-7102	Big Marine Lake Stormwater Quality Improvements Phase I	Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix WD	\$ 272,400.00
C22-1651	2022 Hill River Subwatershed Water Quality Agricultural Practices	Red Lake SWCD	\$ 231,200.00
C22-2325	Big Carnelian Lake Stormwater Quality Improvements Phase I	Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix WD	\$ 203,850.00
C22-3434	FY22 CWF North Creek Foxborough Park TSS Reduction Project	Vermillion River Watershed JPO	\$ 346,500.00
C22-0499	Lake Traverse Water Quality Improvement Project Phase 3	Bois de Sioux WD	\$ 800,000.00
C22-4881	Lake Ida HUC 12 AIG Projects Phase II	Douglas SWCD	\$ 287,850.00
C22-0878	2022 Big Elk & Mayhew Lakes Phosphorus Reduction Program	Benton SWCD	\$ 491,000.00
C22-3526	Roseau River Water Quality project	Roseau River WD	\$ 160,010.00
C22-5311	Chaska Creek Remeander Phase 2	Carver County WMO	\$ 283,000.00
C22-9698	Moody Lake Capstone Projects	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	\$ 239,500.00
C22-7038	Fairmont Chain of Lakes-Nutrient Treatment Train	Martin County	\$ 882,000.00
C22-7229	Clear Lake - 2022 Soluble Phosphorus Management	Clearwater River WD	\$ 361,000.00
C22-0089	Island Lake Water Quality Protection	Pine SWCD	\$ 128,000.00
C22-0255	Palmer Creek Stream Stabilization	Shingle Creek WMC	\$ 384,000.00
C22-7057	Pell Creek Turbidity Reduction Project	Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area	\$ 648,075.00
C22-2187	Perro Creek Stormwater Retrofits	Washington Conservation District	\$ 80,000.00

C22-4214	Pike Creek Stabilization	Plymouth, City of	\$ 150,000.00
C22-1275	Priority E.coli Reduction in Mississippi River-Sartell	Stearns SWCD	\$ 477,350.00
C22-7034	Rum River Woodbury House Riverbank Stabilization Project	Anoka, City of	\$ 1,008,820.00
C22-2087	FY22 CWF Ravenna Trail Ravine Stabilization	Vermillion River Watershed JPO	\$ 495,000.00
C22-9063	Project 17 Outlet Stabilization	Sand Hill River WD	\$ 214,400.00
C22-1028	Dobbins Creek Headwaters Capital Improvement Projects Implementation	Cedar River WD	\$ 610,000.00
C22-7855	The Future of Farming in Becker County	Becker SWCD	\$ 354,915.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 11,674,500.00</b>

### FY2022 Clean Water Fund Project and Practices Drinking Water Subprogram Allocation Table

C22-7163	2022 - Dakota County Drinking Water Protection Project Phase 2	Dakota SWCD	\$ 150,000.00
C22-5079	Targeted Blue Earth County Well Sealing	Blue Earth County	\$ 30,000.00
C22-4292	Crow Wing County and Pine River watershed well sealing 2022	Crow Wing County	\$ 30,000.00
C22-8905	2022 Ramsey County Well Sealing Program	Ramsey County	\$ 115,500.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 325,500.00</b>

### FY2022 Clean Water Fund Multipurpose Drainage Management Allocation Table

Grant ID	Title of Proposal	Grantee	Total (\$)
C22-6082	Redpath Phase 1 - TCD 35 Water Quality Improvements	Bois de Sioux WD	\$ 320,000.00
C22-0827	McLeod County Drainage Ditch 11 Conservation Implementation Phase 2	McLeod SWCD	\$ 123,546.00
C22-2270	2022 Red Lake County Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant	Red Lake SWCD	\$ 95,000.00
C22-1803	2022 Wright County WASCObS on Joint Ditch #15	Wright County	\$ 210,000.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 748,546.00</b>