



BOARD ORDER

FY26-27 Clean Water Fund Watershed Based Implementation Funding Program

PURPOSE

Authorize the fiscal years 2026-2027 Clean Water Fund Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) Program.

FINDINGS OF FACT / RECITALS

- A. The Laws of Minnesota 2025, Chapter 36, Article 2, Section 6 appropriated \$39,962,000 for fiscal year 2026 and \$48,138,000 for fiscal year 2027 to implement activities in watershed plans.
- B. The Laws of Minnesota, 2015, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 7(a) previously appropriated funds with a provision that returned grant funds are available until expended and shall be re-granted consistent with the purposes of Clean Water Fund appropriations to the Board of Water and Soil Resources.
- C. The Board has authorities under Minnesota Statutes §103B.101 to award grants, contracts, and payments to accomplish water and related land resources management.
- D. The Board has authority to approve comprehensive watershed management plans, county groundwater plans, soil and water conservation district plans, and watershed management plans.
- E. WBIF is based on a comprehensive and holistic approach to watershed management and includes funding local implementation actions to restore and protect both groundwater and surface water.
- F. The Board previously adopted the following formula for allocating WBIF: a) a \$250,000 base per One Watershed, One Plan area outside of the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area, b) a \$100,000 base per watershed allocation area inside of the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area, and c) a distribution of funds based on a weighting of 90% private land and 10% on public waters to all eligible areas.
- G. Staff have prepared the fiscal year 2026-2027 WBIF Program Requirements, and the Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their July 21, 2025 and August 18, 2025 meetings, reviewed the fiscal year 2026-2027 WBIF Program Requirements.
- H. The Grants Program and Policy Committee, at their August 18, 2025 meeting, reviewed the board order and recommended approval to the Board.

ORDER

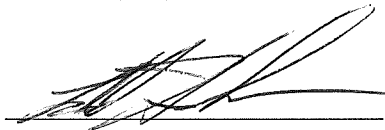
The Board hereby:

1. Establishes the following eligibility criteria:
 - a. For areas outside of the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area: Local governments with a current state-approved and locally adopted comprehensive watershed management plan authorized under Minnesota Statutes §103B.801; and that have an implementation agreement with other members of the planning partnership.
 - b. In the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area: Watershed districts and watershed management organizations with a current state-approved and locally adopted watershed management plan as required under Minnesota Statutes §103B.231; counties with a county

groundwater plan authorized under Minnesota Statutes §103B.25; soil and water conservation districts with a soil and water conservation district comprehensive plan under Minnesota Statutes §103C.331, Subd. 11 as revised in 2024 and municipalities with a local water management plan that has been approved by a watershed district or a watershed management organization as provided under Minnesota Statutes §103B.235. Participants - including one representative from each watershed district, watershed management organization, soil and water conservation district, county with a county groundwater plan, and up to two municipalities - must coordinate within the designated watershed allocation area before submitting a watershed-based implementation funding budget request.

- c. Statewide: Federally Recognized Minnesota Tribal Nations are eligible if they are implementing projects or programs for the purpose of this funding that are identified in a plan listed in 1a. or 1b.
2. Adopts the map in Figure 1: Watershed Based Implementation Funding Watershed Allocation Areas for the Seven-County Twin Cities Metropolitan Area.
3. Adopts the following allocations consistent with the amounts appropriated and the previously adopted funding formula:
 - a. Table 1. Fiscal Years 2026-2027 Watershed Based Implementation Funding Grant Allocations (excludes the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area)
 - b. Table 2. Fiscal Years 2026-2027 Watershed Based Implementation Funding Grant Allocations for the Seven-County Twin Cities Metropolitan Area
4. Authorizes staff to enter into agreements for amounts up to the allocations set forth in Table 1 and Table 2.
5. Authorizes staff to finalize and publish program requirements for the WBIF program.
6. Authorizes staff to establish a schedule for and adjust the availability of funding identified in Tables 1 and 2 based on timing of plan approval, sufficiency of partner coordination, readiness to proceed, commitment of nonstate match, or expenditure of previously awarded WBIF.
7. Authorizes staff to distribute remaining or otherwise undesignated grant funds from Fiscal Years 2026-2027 and previous appropriations, consistent with the purpose of the WBIF program.

MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES



Todd Holman, Chair
Board of Water and Soil Resources

Date: August 28, 2025

Attachments:

- Table 1. Fiscal Years 2026-2027 Watershed Based Implementation Funding Grant Allocations (excludes the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area)
- Figure 1. Watershed Based Implementation Funding Watershed Allocation Areas for the Seven-County Twin Cities Metropolitan Area.
- Table 2. Fiscal Years 2026-2027 Watershed Based Implementation Funding Grant Allocations for the Seven-County Twin Cities Metropolitan Area

Table 1. Fiscal Years 2026-2027 Watershed Based Implementation Funding Grant Allocations (excludes the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area)

1W1P Planning Area #	1W1P Name	FY 26-27 Allocation Amount
49	Big Fork River	\$ 798,518
24	Blue Earth River	\$ 1,481,521
35	Bois de Sioux - Mustinka	\$ 1,605,439
37	Buffalo-Red River	\$ 1,919,949
54	Cannon River (non-metro portion)	\$ 1,547,023
33	Cedar - Wapsipinicon	\$ 980,478
20	Chippewa River	\$ 2,178,984
43	Clearwater River	\$ 1,496,166
23	Cottonwood - Middle Minnesota	\$ 1,971,082
7	Crow Wing River	\$ 1,688,695
34	Des Moines River	\$ 1,748,113
30	Greater Zumbro River	\$ 1,910,367
53	Hawk Creek - Middle Minnesota	\$ 1,514,322
27	Kettle and Upper St. Croix	\$ 1,420,116
18	Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank	\$ 1,235,081
51	Lake of the Woods	\$ 549,194
1	Lake Superior North	\$ 1,044,211
26	Le Sueur River	\$ 1,364,269
4	Leech Lake River	\$ 601,240
60	Little Fork River	\$ 1,226,366
9	Long Prairie River	\$ 1,038,744
56	Lower Minnesota River East (non-metro portion)	\$ 540,543
55	Lower Minnesota River West	\$ 1,010,592
29	Lower St. Croix River (non-metro portion)	\$ 782,706
44	Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers	\$ 1,632,654
22	Minnesota River - Mankato	\$ 794,369
65	Mississippi River - Sartell	\$ 1,252,807
61	Mississippi River Brainerd	\$ 1,502,156
3	Mississippi River Headwaters	\$ 1,018,651
11	Mississippi River St. Cloud	\$ 1,279,055
31	Mississippi River Winona/La Crescent	\$ 900,852
52	Missouri River Basin	\$ 2,109,064
64	Nemadji River	\$ 470,118
12	North Fork Crow River	\$ 1,529,005
36	Otter Tail	\$ 1,518,104
6	Pine River	\$ 637,092
17	Pomme de Terre River	\$ 1,012,366
50	Rainy - Rapid River	\$ 521,896

1W1P Planning Area #	1W1P Name	FY 26-27 Allocation Amount
47	Rainy Headwaters - Vermilion	\$ 1,005,232
67	Rainy River - Rainy Lake	\$ 560,014
41	Red Lake River	\$ 1,712,623
8	Redeye River	\$ 1,119,702
21	Redwood River	\$ 1,121,292
32	Root River	\$ 2,316,030
46	Roseau River	\$ 869,374
15	Rum River (non-metro portion)	\$ 1,339,969
39	Sand Hill River	\$ 709,070
10	Sauk River	\$ 1,220,674
63	Shell Rock and Winnebago River	\$ 549,870
28	Snake River	\$ 1,030,147
13	South Fork of the Crow River (non-metro portion)	\$ 1,295,212
2	St. Louis River	\$ 2,239,092
42	Thief River	\$ 706,388
45	Two Rivers Plus	\$ 1,674,664
40	Upper and Lower Red Lake	\$ 785,375
16	Upper Minnesota River	\$ 678,837
5	Upper Mississippi - Grand Rapids	\$ 1,331,275
25	Watonwan River	\$ 1,142,972
38	Wild Rice - Marsh	\$ 2,006,908
19	Yellow Medicine River	\$ 1,330,732

Figure 1. Watershed Based Implementation Funding Watershed Allocation Areas for the Seven-County Twin Cities Metropolitan Area

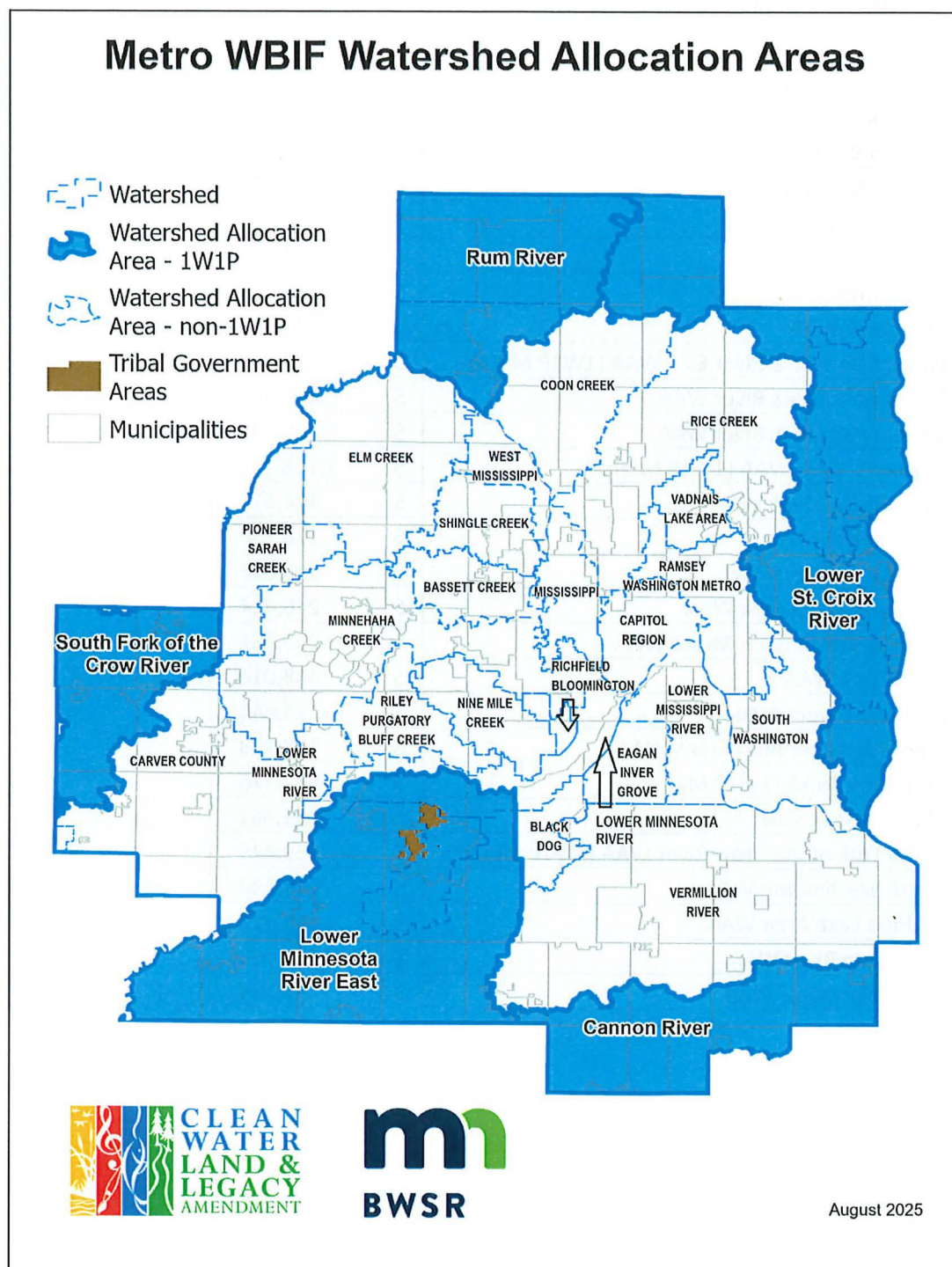


Table 2. Fiscal Years 2026-2027 Watershed Based Implementation Funding Grant Allocations for the Seven-County Twin Cities Metropolitan Area

1W1P Planning Area #	Watershed Allocation Area (WAA) Name	FY 26-27 Allocation Amount
	Bassett Creek WAA	\$ 183,255
	Black Dog WAA	\$ 151,542
54	Cannon River WAA (1W1P Metro)	\$ 395,359
	Capitol Region WAA	\$ 176,240
	Carver County WAA	\$ 461,933
	Coon Creek WAA	\$ 294,099
	Eagan-Inver Grove WAA	\$ 162,369
	Elm Creek WAA	\$ 373,588
56	Lower Minnesota River East WAA (1W1P Metro)	\$ 898,092
	Lower Minnesota River WAA	\$ 135,377
	Lower Mississippi River WAA	\$ 208,409
29	Lower St. Croix WAA (1W1P Metro)	\$ 1,266,376
	Minnehaha Creek WAA	\$ 424,533
	Mississippi WAA	\$ 176,950
	Nine Mile Creek WAA	\$ 195,026
	Pioneer-Sarah Creek WAA	\$ 240,414
	Ramsey-Washington Metro WAA	\$ 230,181
	Rice Creek WAA	\$ 448,014
	Richfield-Bloomington WAA	\$ 114,644
	Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek WAA	\$ 197,193
15	Rum River WAA (1W1P Metro)	\$ 569,376
	Shingle Creek WAA	\$ 191,661
13	South Fork of the Crow River WAA (1W1P Metro)	\$ 259,425
	South Washington WAA	\$ 228,538
	Vadnais Lake Area WAA	\$ 147,921
	Vermillion River WAA	\$ 717,186
	West Mississippi WAA	\$ 152,299