BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

Clean Water Fund Appropriations

2020-2021 Biennial Report to the Legislature

March 1, 2022

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
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This document was developed in consultation with the Minnesota departments of Agriculture, Health, Natural Resources, and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. As requested by Minnesota Statute 3.197: This report cost approximately $3,750 to prepare, including staff time, printing, and mailing expenses.

This report is available at www.bwsr.state.mn.us/cleanwaterfund. Upon request, this material will be made available in an alternative format such as large print, Braille, or audio recording. Printed on recycled paper.

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Introduction

Clean water matters to Minnesotans. Pursuing clean water outcomes is critical to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) mission to improve and protect Minnesota's water and soil resources by working in partnership with local organizations and private landowners. BWSR's unique mission and structure provide for effective and efficient use of Legacy amendment dollars with proven results. Working through our local government partners enables us to be strategic in grantmaking that addresses locally identified water quality priorities within the larger scope of Minnesota's clean water goals. Our reporting and tracking requirements document measurable and specific results.

The purpose of BWSR's Clean Water Fund (CWF) programming is to help meet statewide water quality goals through the prevention and reduction of non-point source pollution. BWSR's competitive grants programs work through the local conservation delivery system to fund projects that are prioritized and targeted to the most critical areas that can make the biggest impact to protect or restore water quality. Clean Water Fund conservation easements provide permanent protection of private land in riparian and groundwater protection locations, resulting in improved surface and groundwater quality and healthy and secure community water supplies. Capacity funding to soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs) enables local conservation professionals to work with landowners to maintain and improve the quality, quantity, and sustainability of natural resources in the state including surface water, groundwater, soil, and ecological resources. The Technical Training and Certification Program (TTCP) provides training to our local government partners so they can deliver high-level conservation technical assistance to landowners and ensure clean water outcomes are met through proper conservation practice selection, design, and installation.

This report has been prepared for the Minnesota State Legislature by BWSR in fulfillment of the requirements of Laws of Minnesota 2019, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 7. This requires BWSR to submit "to the legislature by March 1 each even-numbered year a biennial report prepared by the board, in consultation with the commissioners of natural resources, health, agriculture, and the pollution control agency, detailing the recipients and projects funded" with Clean Water Funds. This report outlines BWSR's comprehensive strategy to implement the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 - 2021 appropriations from the Clean Water Fund – one of four funds established through the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Constitutional Amendment approved by voters in 2008.

Clean Water Fund Appropriation Summary

The Legislature appropriated $138.424 million in Clean Water Funds to BWSR in the FY20-21 biennium for planning and implementation of nonpoint source pollution reduction programs:

- $41.718 million in appropriations for competitive grants for on-the-ground water quality implementation projects including surface and drinking water protection/restoration, resource protection and enhancement. These grants support local efforts to ensure compliance with buffer requirements, supports conservation drainage management and assistance, and provides oversight, results measurement, and evaluation of projects. These requirements are found in

Minnesota Statutes 114D.50, Subdivision 4 and 3.303, Subdivision 10. Table 1 summarizes the programs and funding allocated under the appropriations.

- $33.75 million in appropriations for easement programs for conservation easements aimed at improving surface water quality, protecting groundwater and drinking water sources, and protecting waters threatened by degradation. Of this total, $17.25 million is part of the state commitment to the Minnesota Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (MN CREP).
- $38.966 million in appropriations for Coordinated Watershed Approach including support for accelerated implementation of watershed-based local water plans, and non-competitive, performance-based grants for local governments to implement projects that are identified and prioritized in plans developed under the One Watershed, One Plan program, or under the Metropolitan Surface and Ground Water Management frameworks.
- $24 million in appropriations to supplement each SWCD's ability to support local capacity and delivery of soil and water conservation programs and projects. The formula for distributing these funds includes each SWCD receiving $100,000 per year and the remaining funds are distributed based on county allocations and the amount of private lands and public waters in the county.
- BWSR oversees $1 million of contracted services with the Conservation Corp of Minnesota and Iowa for installing and maintaining conservation practices.

Table 1: Summary of FY20-21 Clean Water Fund Appropriations to BWSR ($138,434,000)

Program	Amount	Description
Accelerated Implementation	$8.0M	Accelerates resource protection through enhancement grants, development of statewide analytical targeting tools, program enhancement for technical assistance, citizen and community outreach, and training and certification.
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	$17.25M	Purchases and restores permanent conservation easements to improve surface water quality in areas targeted for nutrient reductions and protects sensitive groundwater and drinking water resources.

Table 1: Summary of FY20-21 Clean Water Fund Appropriations to BWSR ($138,434,000)		
Program	**Amount**	**Description**
Critical Shoreland Protection- Permanent Conservation Easements	$3.0M	Purchases conservation easements to protect lands adjacent to public waters with good water quality but threatened with degradation.
Local Capacity	$24.0M	Provides grants to SWCDs to supplement, in equal amounts, each district's general service grant to provide increased technical and financial assistance to private landowners statewide.
Multipurpose Drainage Management*	$1.7M	Funds implementation of a conservation drainage/multipurpose drainage water management program to improve surface water management under the provisions of 103E.015.
One Watershed, One Plan	$4.0M	Accelerates implementation of the state's watershed approach through the statewide development of watershed-based implementation plans utilizing information from Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) and Groundwater Restoration and Protection Strategies (GRAPS).
Oversight, support, accountability reporting	$2.0M	Provides state oversight and fund accountability, collects results and measures the value of conservation program implementation by local government units and preparation an annual report detailing recipients, projects funded, and environmental outcomes.
Projects and Practices*	$32.0M	Protects and restores surface water and drinking water through grants to local government units to keep water on the land; to protect, enhance and restore water quality in lakes, rivers and streams; and to protect groundwater and drinking water, including feedlot water quality and subsurface sewage treatment system projects and stream bank, stream channel, shoreline restoration, and ravine stabilization projects.

Table 1: Summary of FY20-21 Clean Water Fund Appropriations to BWSR ($138,434,000)		
Program	**Amount**	**Description**
Restoration Evaluations	$168K	Provides a technical evaluation panel to conduct up to ten restoration evaluations required under Minnesota Statutes, Section 114D.50, Subdivision 6.
Riparian Buffer Implementation and Assistance	$5.0M	Provides ongoing oversight, assistance, and grants for supporting local governments in implementing buffer law requirements.
Riparian Buffer Conservation Easements	$9.5M	Purchases and restores permanent conservation easements on riparian lands adjacent to public waters. Establish buffers of native vegetation that must be at least 50 feet where possible. Part of state commitment for MN CREP, leveraging federal funds.
Tillage and Erosion Transects	$0.85M	Systematically collects data and produces statistically valid estimates of the rate of soil erosion and tracks the adoption of high residue cropping systems in the 67 counties with greater than 30% of land in agricultural row crop production.
Watershed-based Implementation Funding	$26.966M	Funds grants to implement projects that protect and restore surface water and drinking water as identified in a comprehensive watershed plan developed under the One Watershed, One Plan or Metropolitan Surface Water and Groundwater Management frameworks.
Wellhead Protection Conservation Easements	$4.0M	Purchases permanent conservation easements or provides grants to LGUs on wellhead protection areas. Lands protected must be in drinking water supply management areas designated as high or very high by the Commissioner of Health. This represents part of state commitment to the MN CREP, leveraging federal funds.

**Competitive grant process*

Statewide Watershed Management Transition

BWSR, together with state and local partners, is advancing watershed management in Minnesota through a systematic, statewide watershed framework for planning and implementation that directs Clean Water Funds to the highest priority water restoration and protection needs.

Historically, local water planning and implementation occurred along government (typically county) boundaries which can be challenging since the flow of water ignores political lines. The statewide watershed management transition is an evolution toward managing water along watershed boundaries. This occurs when local government entities come together to develop and implement a shared comprehensive watershed management plan.

Watershed planning partnerships select implementation priorities based on data and local values. The partnerships then focus their implementation efforts on selected issues in priority areas, with the knowledge that concentrating implementation on prioritized issues and targeted locations yields more tangible results than diffuse efforts.

Two BWSR programs are helping to drive this shift: **One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P)** and **Watershed-Based Implementation Funding (WBIF)**. These programs are designed to improve water and natural resource outcomes, enhance accountability, and increase and efficiency over time via partnerships and leveraged funds.

Transition plan progress

In 2015, the Legislature modified the state's water management statutes, specifically creating Minnesota Statutes §103B.801. This statute defines the purposes and further outlines the structure for the 1W1P Program. It also directs BWSR to develop a transition plan with a goal of a statewide transition to comprehensive watershed management by 2025.

As of January 2022, 49 partnerships (80% of planning boundaries) are participating in the transition (see Figure 1), which is consistent with the pace of progress outlined in the transition plan. BWSR expects nearly full or possibly full participation in the next biennium.

With Clean Water Fund appropriations, BWSR provides:

- Planning grants, policies, guidance, and staff support to local planning efforts through the **1W1P Program**.
- Stable, reliable funding to partnerships for implementing watershed plans through the **WBIF Program;** this funding is an important incentive driving voluntary participation in the watershed management transition.

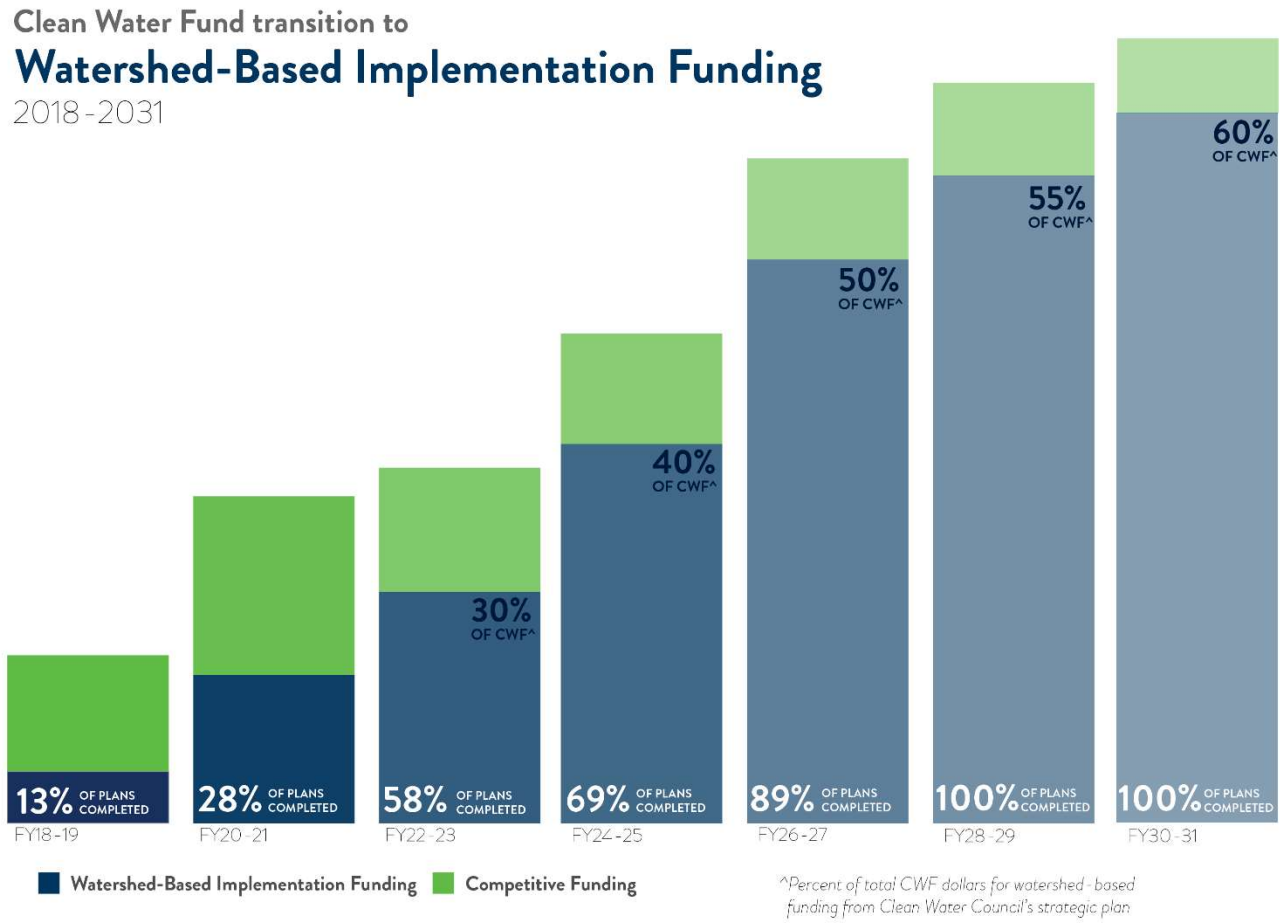


Figure 1: Watershed-Based Implementation and Competitive Funding Trajectory

One Watershed, One Plan Program

The goal of the 1W1P program is to bring local and tribal governments together for water planning on major watershed boundaries, creating resource management plans with agreed-upon priorities and developing an action plan that directs targeted and measurable implementation.

This program builds on current local water plans, state and local knowledge, and a science-informed approach to watershed management. A wealth of information summarized in technical reports (Watershed Restoration and

Protection Strategies, Groundwater Restoration and Protection Strategies, and more) supports local water planning and project development. Planning partnerships examine available data and gather input from watershed stakeholders to select priority issues and locations.

The partnership then sets measurable goals associated with the priorities, creates an implementation schedule for targeted actions, and quantifies how much progress can be made toward the goals in the ten-year plan timeframe. This collaborative approach enables important cross-jurisdictional discussions about upstream-downstream issues. Plans are comprehensive in nature, addressing issues like flooding, habitat, water quality, drinking water, and recreation.

In 1W1P, officials from local boards (county, SWCDs, watershed districts, and joint powers entities) make decisions about what will be included in the plan. Each participating local government's board ultimately adopts the plan, making a collaborative commitment to local action. Tribal and municipal governments may also participate in the decision-making process, or they can provide input via a locally defined advisory committee which also involves state and federal agencies as well as a range of community stakeholders. Once plans are completed, funds available through the WBIF program (see section below) allows collaborating local and tribal governments to pursue timely solutions based on a watershed's highest priority needs.

As of January 2022, BWSR's board has approved 24 comprehensive watershed management plans: Root River; Yellow Medicine River; Lake Superior North; Red Lake River; North Fork Crow River; Leech Lake River; Pine River; Lake of the Woods; Missouri River Watershed; Cedar-Wapsipinicon; Thief River; Cannon River; Pomme de Terre River; Leaf, Wing, Redeye; Buffalo-Red River; Lower St. Croix; Nemadji; Wild Rice – Marsh River; Watonwan River; Bois de Sioux and Mustinka Watershed; Two Rivers Plus; Sauk River; Mississippi Headwaters Watershed; Greater Zumbro; and Hawk Creek – Middle Minnesota.

FY20-21 appropriations for developing comprehensive watershed management plans through the One Watershed, One Plan Program totaled $4 million.

Watershed-Based Implementation Funding Program

The WBIF Program provides non-competitive grants for water quality-related activities identified in plans developed through 1W1P or the metropolitan surface water or groundwater management frameworks. As part of Minnesota's watershed management transition, funds available for these non-competitive grants will increase over time as more watershed-based plans are completed. Simultaneously, funding available for traditional project-by-project CWF competitive grants will proportionally decrease. The Minnesota Clean Water Council has set a goal of allocating 60% of Clean Water Fund dollars to the WBIF program by FY28-29 and sustaining that level through the life of the Clean Water Fund (Figure 1).

In FY20-21, BWSR included in the WBIF program policy a set of key indicators – known as assurance measures – to summarize and systematically evaluate how funds are being used to achieve clean water goals in watershed plans. Initial indicators show that the grants awarded in FY18-19 have paid for work that is:

- contributing to measurable clean water goals,
- implemented in priority areas as defined in plans,
- completed on schedule and within budget, and
- leveraging funds beyond the state grant.

Clean Water Fund Conservation Easement Programs

BWSR's Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve easement programs are part of a comprehensive, statewide clean water strategy to prevent sediments and nutrients from entering Minnesota's lakes, rivers, and streams; enhance fish and wildlife habitat; and protect wetlands, groundwater, and drinking water supplies. These programs focus on permanent protection of private land to address water quality concerns in targeted locations. These conservation easement programs result in improved surface water quality and enhanced wildlife habitat and protecting community water supplies.

Minnesota CREP

Launched in 2017, the Minnesota Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (MN CREP) is a voluntary land conservation program with bipartisan support that protects environmentally sensitive land in 54 southern and western Minnesota counties. MN CREP targets the highest priority areas for reducing nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment loading in surface waters; protecting vulnerable drinking water and enhancing grassland and wetland habitats. BWSR acquires conservation easements on behalf of the state to permanently restore and enhance land while private ownership continues.

MN CREP leverages a partnership between the state Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve easement program and the federal USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). MN CREP provides

landowners options to conserve their land and improve water quality while retaining ownership rights. This program is on pace to enroll more than 40,000 acres that are prioritized and targeted for water quality and habitat. The agreement between the state of Minnesota and the United States Department of Agriculture will use $175 million in state funding to leverage up to $350 million in federal funding, used as direct payments to landowners and farmers who enroll in the program.

MN CREP:

- Targets riparian areas and marginal agricultural land
- Restores hydrology, increases infiltration, and provides flood mitigation
- Provides habitat for wildlife and pollinators
- Reduces nitrate in drinking water supplies
- Leverages state and federal funding

MN CREP Funding

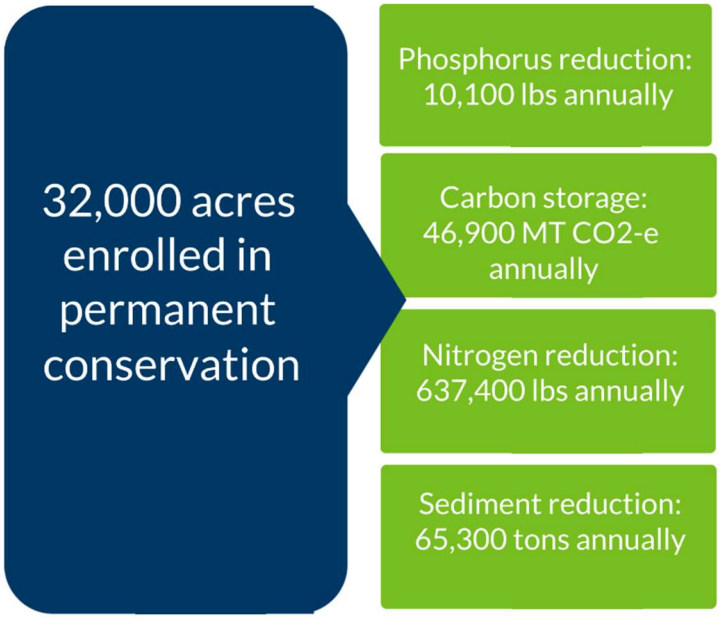
Over the biennium, MN CREP Clean Water funding includes $17.25 million in specific MN CREP appropriations; $9.5 million for RIM-Reserve riparian buffer easements and $4.0 million for wellhead protection easements. MN CREP easements were the priority for both the buffer and wellhead funding.

MN CREP Outcomes

Sign-ups for MN CREP began in May 2017 and as of April 2021, over 590 applications, including 32,000 acres funded/enrolled into permanent conservation easements.

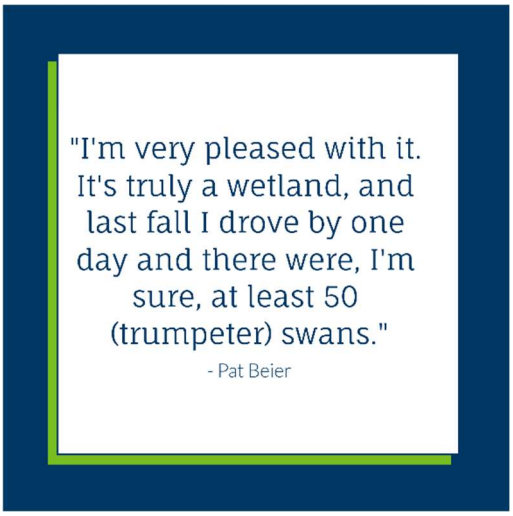
Converting 32,000 acres of cropland to perennial vegetation provides significant greenhouse gas, nutrient, and sediment load reductions, including up to:

- 46,900 metric tons of CO_2 equivalent per year
- 10,100 pounds of total phosphorus per year
- 637,400 pounds of total nitrogen per year
- 65,300 tons of sediment per year



In addition to habitat and water quality benefits, MN CREP offers incentives and conservation options to landowners with marginal cropland. For example, Carver SWCD staff worked with Pat Beier and her two daughters to enroll 152 acres into the MN CREP program. Before MN CREP enrollment and restoration, the Beier's land produced corn and soybeans. Aerial photos from 1937 show row crops growing there; farmers worked the land in dry years. Drainage installed in the 1970s — an open ditch, miles of subsurface drainage tile, and two lift stations — made annual crop production possible. "When we bought it, it wasn't farmed because it was peat ground and often quite wet, so my husband did some ditching and then some tiling and then was able to farm it. He was an avid farmer, but after he died it was hard for me to rent the land out because it was often wet," said Pat Beier in a Clean Water Fund article published in March 2021.

Beier's MN CREP easements lie within a 1.5-mile radius of approximately 1,000 acres of permanently protected habitat, including public land. Connecting or augmenting existing habitat is among the ranking considerations that determine which MN CREP projects are funded.

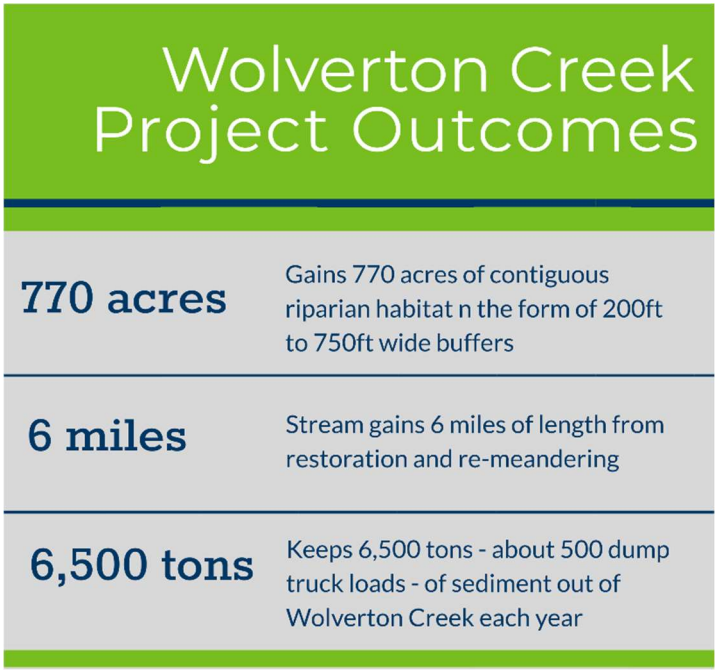


Other Easement Outcomes

BWSR's RIM Reserve programs create multiple benefits by targeting lands with a cropping history and new or existing USDA Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts. Minnesota is experiencing a significant loss of grasslands and the RIM Reserve program aims to slow down the loss by targeting the most critical CRP land including areas at risk for soil erosion, areas most affecting water quality, and those lands that have high wildlife habitat quality. Participating landowners receive a payment to retire land from agricultural production and to establish permanent buffers of native vegetation.

Riparian Buffer Easements

The FY20-21 CWF appropriation of $9.5 million for riparian buffer easements permanently protected and restored 1,391 acres. Two of the easements are part of the collaborative Wolverton Creek restoration project in Wilkin County. The project led by the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD) is restoring more than 15 miles of Wolverton creek and created many public benefits, including: reducing Fargo-Moorhead's drinking water treatment costs, curbing soil erosion and sedimentation into the creek, reducing flood damage to agricultural fields, and enhancing wildlife habitat. BRRWD leveraged multiple funding sources including a competitive Targeted Watershed Program grant from BWSR, a $1.9 million appropriation from the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council, and a $100,000 Enbridge Ecofootprint grant in addition to securing RIM easements to make the project successful. See the CWF Story for more details.



Wellhead Protection Easements

BWSR received $3.5 million in FY20-21 to acquire two conservation easements for wellhead protection on 80 acres. For example, in spring of 2021, the city of Edgerton bought 37.2 acres of land surrounding the city's drinking water supply management area to ensure perennial vegetation remain intact and continues to filter nitrates. "Our goal is to get it (the nitrate level) back below 7 parts per million, but the main reason that we're really after this is because it's been in wellhead protection for so long that we didn't want to lose it and find out what would happen if the wrong person did end up with the property," said Edgerton Water Supervisor Doug

Brands. The land lies upslope from the city well, which supplies 550 residential and business customers. It's been part of Edgerton's wellhead protection efforts since 1991.

Critical Shoreland Protection Easements

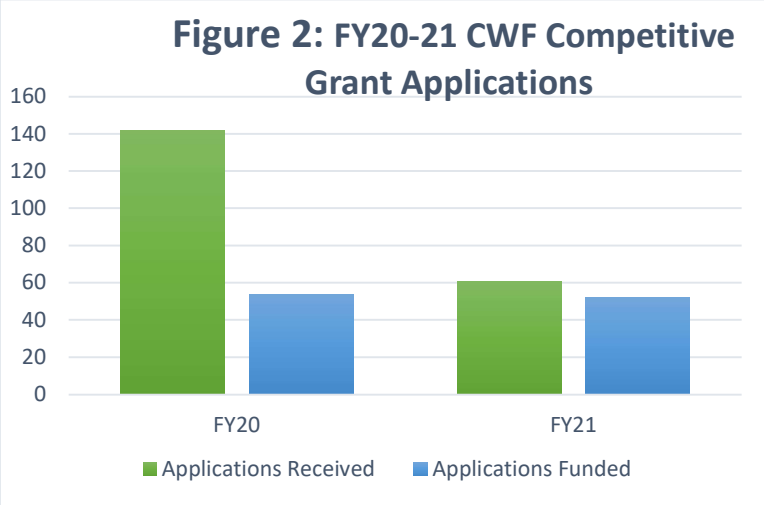
BWSR's Critical Shoreland Easement program obtains on behalf of the state permanent conservation easements that protect land adjacent to public waters with good water quality that's threatened by degradation. The focus of the program has been on preserving riparian lands in the Upper Mississippi Watershed to protect the Mississippi River as a drinking water source. The FY20-21 CWF appropriations included $4.0 million for this program. With FY20-21 funds, BWSR focused on the Rum River watershed and funded 20 easements protecting 1,738 acres. BWSR's Clean Water Fund story: Rum River gains RIM Reserve easement option for water quality, wildlife protections highlights how this easement program is used to protect clean water and wildlife habitat by targeting environmentally sensitive tracts within the Mississippi River headwaters region — a source of Twin Cities and St. Cloud drinking water, and a critical migration corridor.

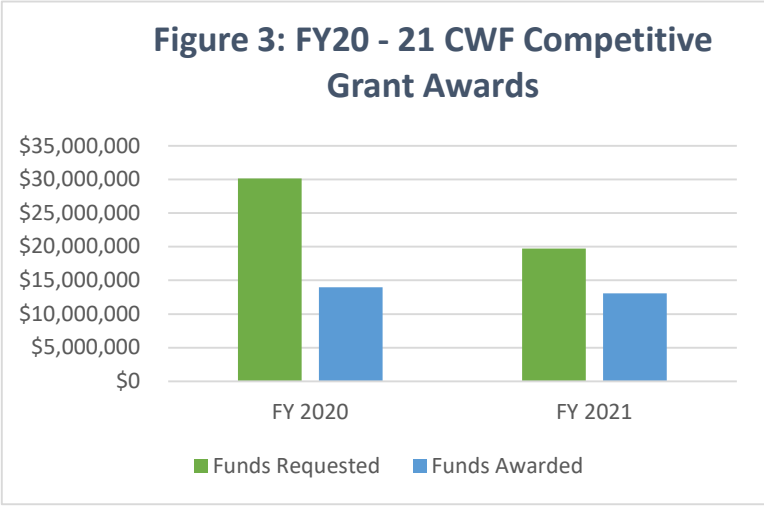
Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Programs

Each year, interest in BWSR's Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program exceeds available funding, as demonstrated in Figures 2 and 3. Our local government partners are engaged and invested in protecting and restoring Minnesota's lakes, streams, rivers, and groundwater. Their ability to do so is significantly limited by state dollars available to fund local priority projects.

Given the demand, BWSR works to fund the best projects that make the biggest difference in water quality. BWSR allocates CWF resources through a decision-making process based on sound science, prioritized local planning, and a commitment to identifying projects that are the most cost effective. Projects that lack source assessments, clear connections to water plans, or an adequate description of overall impact to the water resource of concern do not compete well under this program.

In FY20-21, our agency's Competitive Grants Program included Projects and Practices, and the Multipurpose Drainage Management





Figures 2 and 3: FY20-21 CWF Competitive Grant Applications and awards

Program, see Table 2. Funding for these programs was provided under Laws of Minnesota 2019, 1st Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 7.

The Competitive Grants Program also incorporated requirements of M.S. 114D.20, which directs the implementation of Clean Water Funds to be coordinated with existing authorities and program infrastructure. Those requirements are referenced in the Clean Water Fund Grants Policy adopted by BWSR's Board on June 25, 2019, and June 21, 2020.

Competitive Grant Process

BWSR allocates Clean Water Funds through an interagency decision-making process that includes the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) with the goal of effectively coordinating water quality projects and practices. See Appendix A for the criteria used in this process.

BWSR's Senior Management Team reviews the recommendations provided by the interagency and BWSR staff teams and then forwards their recommendations on to the BWSR Board. The BWSR Board Grants Program and Policy Committee reviews the recommendations and forwards them on for the Board's consideration.

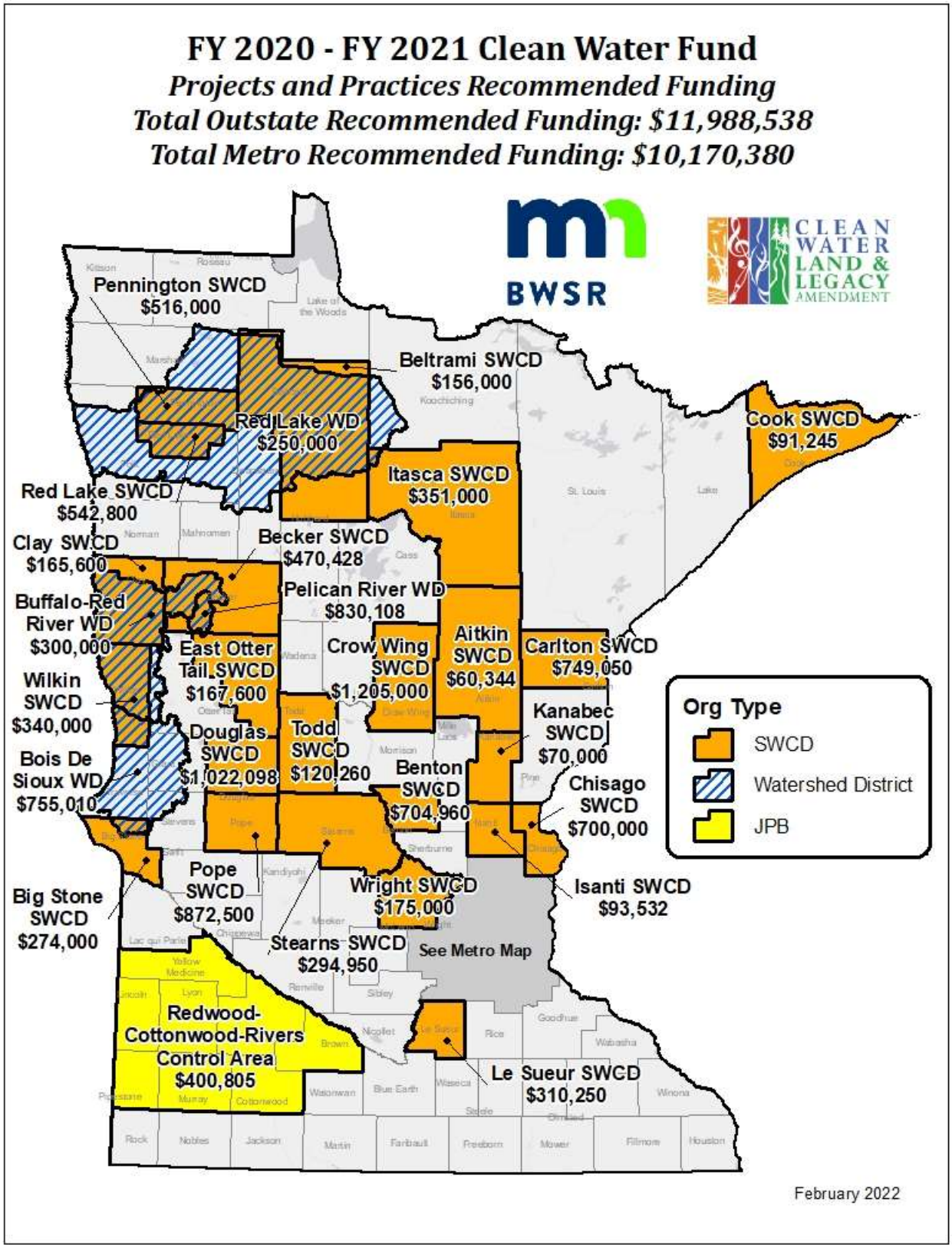
Table 2: Clean Water Fund Applications Funded per Grant Program

Grant Program	Applications Funded		Total Funds Awarded	
BWSR Board Approval, January 2020, December 2020	FY 20	FY 21	FY 20	FY 21
Projects and Practices	37	31	$11,046,742	$11,112,176
Drinking Water Subprogram	10	3	$2,157,586	$646,825
Multipurpose Drainage Management	5	3	$734,441	$551,159
Total	**53**	**36**	**$13,938,769**	**$12,310,160**

FY20 - 21 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Awards

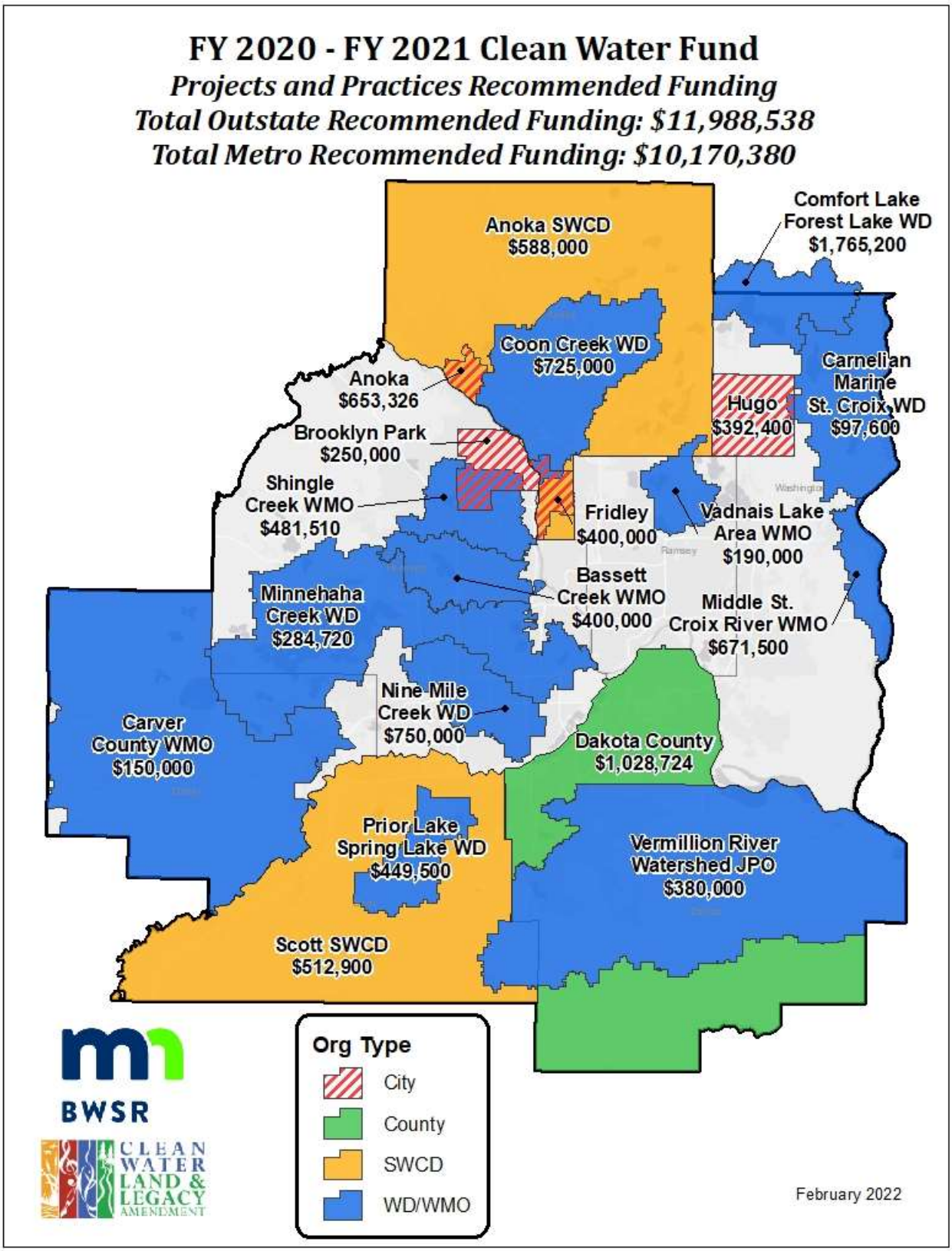
Projects and Practices Grants: Greater MN

Funds are used to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams, and to protect groundwater and drinking water. Activities include structural and vegetative practices to reduce runoff and retain water on the land, stream bank, stream channel and shoreline protection projects.


FY 2020 - FY 2021 Clean Water Fund
Projects and Practices Recommended Funding
Total Outstate Recommended Funding: $11,988,538
Total Metro Recommended Funding: $10,170,380
BWSR
CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT
Pennington SWCD $516,000
Beltrami SWCD $156,000
Red Lake WD $250,000
Cook SWCD $91,245
Itasca SWCD $351,000
Red Lake SWCD $542,800
Clay SWCD $165,600
Becker SWCD $470,428
Pelican River WD $830,108
Buffalo-Red River WD $300,000
East Otter Tail SWCD $167,600
Crow Wing SWCD $1,205,000
Aitkin SWCD $60,344
Carlton SWCD $749,050
Wilkin SWCD $340,000
Douglas SWCD $1,022,098
Todd SWCD $120,260
Kanabec SWCD $70,000
Bois De Sioux WD $755,010
Benton SWCD $704,960
Chisago SWCD $700,000
Pope SWCD $872,500
Wright SWCD $175,000
Isanti SWCD $93,532
Big Stone SWCD $274,000
Stearns SWCD $294,950
See Metro Map
Redwood-Cottonwood-Rivers Control Area $400,805
Le Sueur SWCD $310,250
Org Type
SWCD
Watershed District
JPB
February 2022

Projects and Practices Grants: Metro

Funds are used to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams, and to protect groundwater and drinking water. Activities include structural and vegetative practices to reduce runoff and retain water on the land, stream bank, stream channel and shoreline protection projects.


FY 2020 - FY 2021 Clean Water Fund
Projects and Practices Recommended Funding
Total Outstate Recommended Funding: $11,988,538
Total Metro Recommended Funding: $10,170,380
Anoka SWCD
$588,000
Comfort Lake
Forest Lake WD
$1,765,200
Coon Creek WD
$725,000
Carnelian
Marine
St. Croix WD
$97,600
Anoka
$653,326
Hugo
$392,400
Brooklyn Park
$250,000
Shingle
Creek WMO
$481,510
Fridley
$400,000
Vadnais Lake
Area WMO
$190,000
Bassett
Creek WMO
$400,000
Minnehaha
Creek WD
$284,720
Middle St.
Croix River WMO
$671,500
Nine Mile
Creek WD
$750,000
Carver
County WMO
$150,000
Dakota County
$1,028,724
Prior Lake
Spring Lake WD
$449,500
Vermillion River
Watershed JPO
$380,000
Scott SWCD
$512,900
Org Type
City
County
SWCD
WD/WMO
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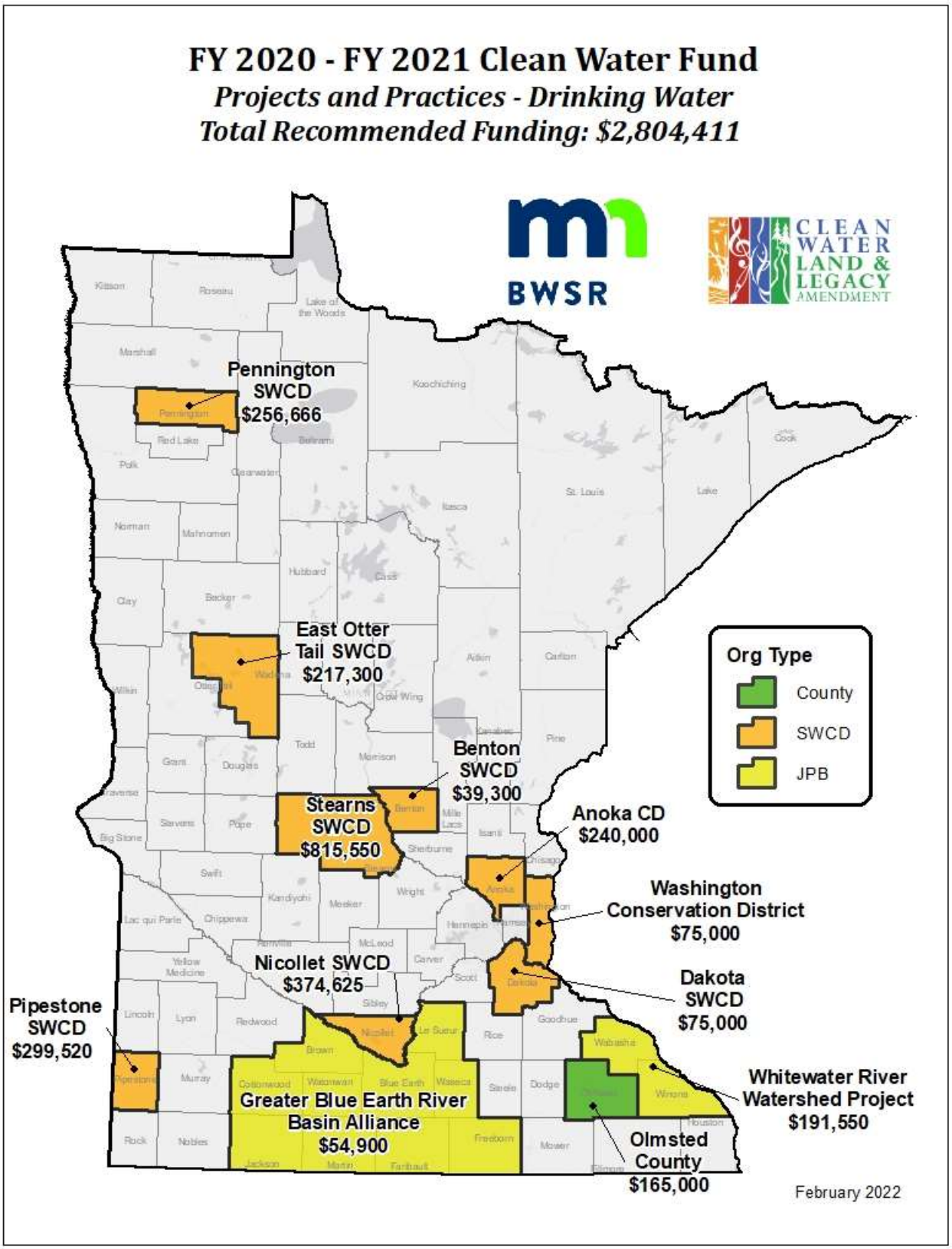
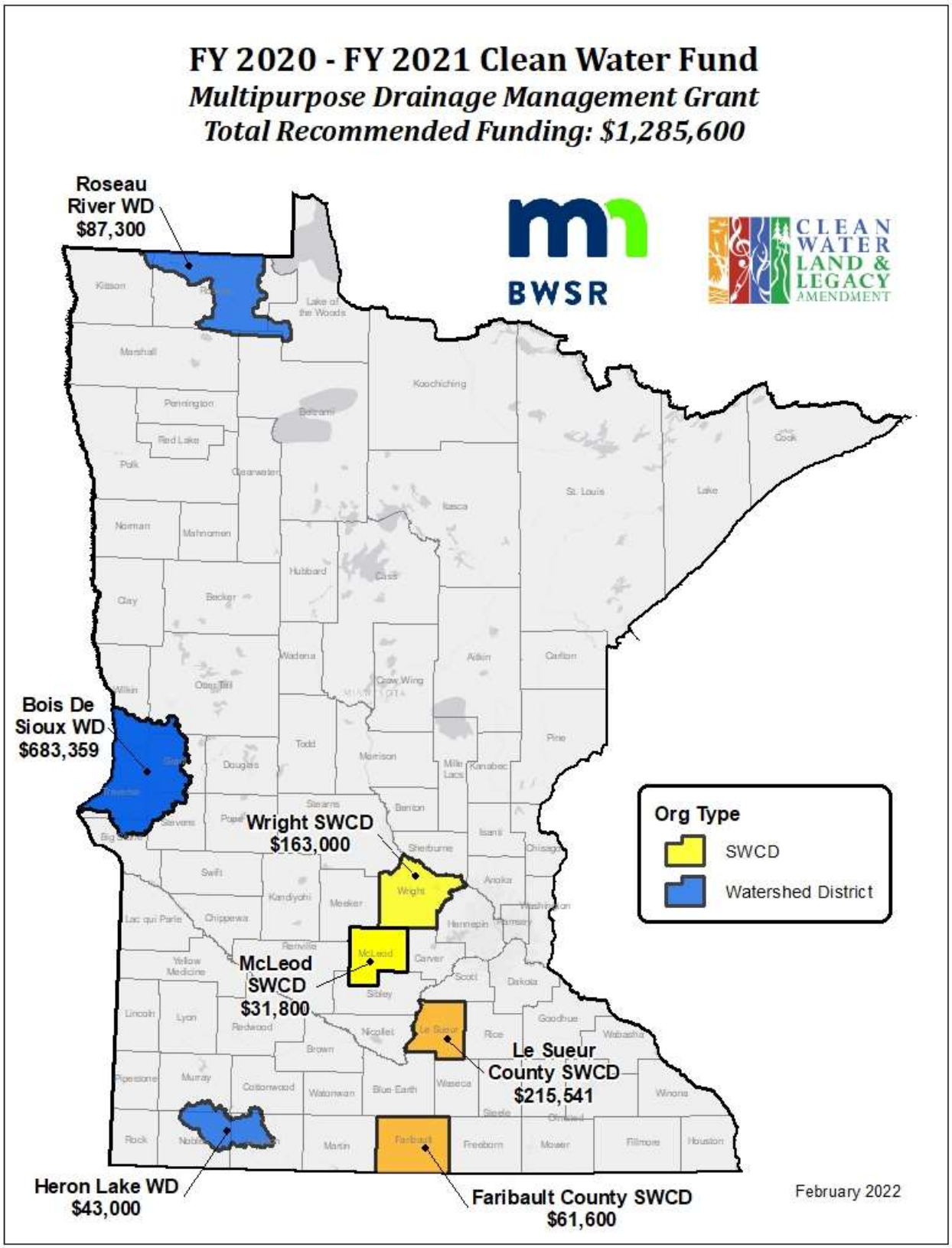
Projects and Practices Drinking Water Protection

These grants 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.


FY 2020 - FY 2021 Clean Water Fund
Projects and Practices - Drinking Water
Total Recommended Funding: $2,804,411
BWSR
CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT
Pennington SWCD $256,666
East Otter Tail SWCD $217,300
Benton SWCD $39,300
Stearns SWCD $815,550
Anoka CD $240,000
Washington Conservation District $75,000
Dakota SWCD $75,000
Nicollet SWCD $374,625
Pipestone SWCD $299,520
Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance $54,900
Olmsted County $165,000
Whitewater River Watershed Project $191,550
Org Type
County
SWCD
JPB
February 2022

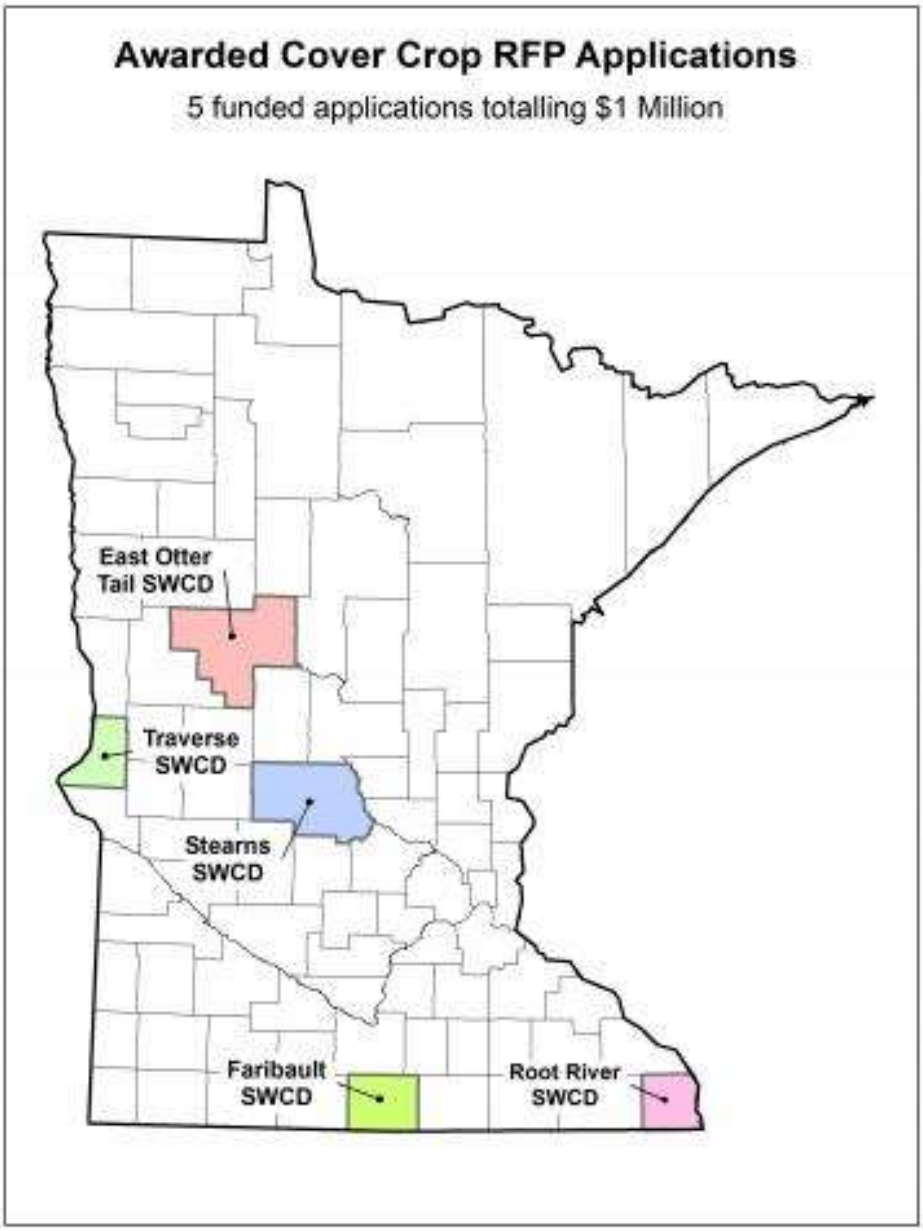
Multipurpose Drainage Management Grants: Statewide

The purpose of these funds is to implement a conservation drainage/multipurpose drainage water management program in consultation with the Drainage Work Group to improve surface water management under the provisions of 103E.01.


FY 2020 - FY 2021 Clean Water Fund
Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant
Total Recommended Funding: $1,285,600
Roseau River WD $87,300
BWSR
CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT
Bois De Sioux WD $683,359
Wright SWCD $163,000
McLeod SWCD $31,800
Le Sueur County SWCD $215,541
Heron Lake WD $43,000
Faribault County SWCD $61,600
Org Type
SWCD
Watershed District
February 2022

Cover Crop Demonstration Pilot Grants

New grant funding aims to increase establishment of cover crops and related tillage practices in targeted areas to engage producers new to these practices, establish best practices, and benefit water quality. BWSR received 18 proposals requesting a total of $3.8 million. Using $1 million in Clean Water Funds, BWSR awarded five grants to the following SWCDs: East Otter Tail SWCD, Traverse SWCD, Stearns SWCD, Faribault SWCD, and Root River SWCD. Applicants receiving state funding are awarded between $125,000 and $250,000.



Outcomes and Effectiveness

BWSR funded 87 grant applications via Projects and Practices grants, including Drinking Water Protection subgrants) over the FY20-21 biennium: 62 are for waterbodies listed as impaired that have a completed Total Maximum Daily Load study (TMDL); 25 are for either drinking water or water quality protection for water bodies that are currently meeting state water quality standards.

BWSR requires grant applicants to estimate anticipated outcomes for proposed projects during the application process. Applicants used pollution reduction calculators, such as the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation (RUSLE2), and similar tools for estimating effectiveness of keeping water runoff on the land through infiltration, diversion, or collection. Based on projected outcomes, projects funded in FY20-21 will reduce phosphorus and sediment reaching Minnesota Waters annually by 16,439 pounds and 16,285 tons, respectively.

Appendix B lists all estimated outcomes for FY20-21 Clean Water Fund competitive grant projects.

BWSR works diligently to tie Clean Water Fund project pollution reduction estimates to local and state water quality goals. From FY 2010-2021 more than 17,500 conservation practices have been installed to reduce erosion and stormwater runoff, and to keep water on the land. These awards include public and private projects and involve Minnesotans who voluntarily engage in these activities.

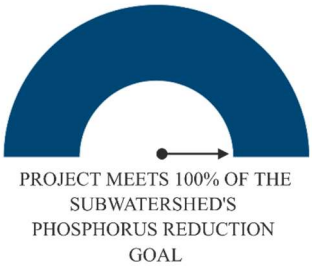
These conservation practices are estimated to reduce **264,700** tons of sediment per year and prevent **271,200** pounds of phosphorus per year from entering Minnesota waters. This work helps move Minnesota closer to its statewide water quality goals. It also works to maintain state waters that are drinkable, fishable, and swimmable — all important measures for Minnesotans.

Linking Outcomes to Goals

When analyzing progress toward goals, scale is critical. It is important to understand that project impacts can vary depending on the pollutant, reduction goals, scale, and scope of the project plan. For example, a 1% progress toward goal in a large river system is going to look very different than 41% progress toward goal in a small lakeshed. If you look at a parcel or field scale, you can often begin to see the impact of this work in a relatively short time frame, whereas on a larger the scale, it may take longer to see outcomes.

Examples of progress towards goals

Crooked Creek Water Storage, *Winona SWCD and Root River 1W1P Planning Partnership*



In 2020, Winona SWCD received a $380,000 Watershed-Based Implementation Funding grant for a capital improvement project in the Crooked Creek watershed that increases water storage on the landscape and reduces sediment and phosphorus loading in Crooked Creek and the Mississippi River. Prior to 2020, uncontrolled runoff in the Crooked Creek watershed led to severe gully erosion that resulted in sediment and phosphorus loading to surface waters, and extensive damage to roads, bridges, and farmland. This water storage project leveraged an additional $25,000 in funding from the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. The completed conservation practices reduce sediment loading by 332 tons/year and total phosphorus loading by 332 tons/year. This large project meets 100% of the Crooked Creek subwatershed's total phosphorus reduction goal.

Photos: Gully erosion following 2016 storm and

flood event (l), and a completed project after installation of outlet structures, risers, and earthen dam (r).

Nemadji Stream Reconnections, *Nemadji 1W1P Planning Partnership*

The Nemadji watershed includes abundant forests, streams, and wetlands that are an important resource for wildlife and public benefits like water quality and water storage. Many of the Nemadji's streams are home to sensitive trout species, making the watershed a destination for anglers. Many streams have biological, sediment, and nutrient impairments caused by poor stream connectivity (dams, perched culverts, and straightened or ditched sections). In FY21, the Nemadji 1W1P Planning Partnership received a $228,727 CWF grant that leveraged nearly $9 million in additional funds to complete improve stream

connectivity in the watershed. This project improved connectivity by replacing three road/stream interfaces and replaced nine undersized culverts. These projects reconnected 29 miles of streams, reduced sediment loading by 358 tons/year and phosphorus loading by 379 lbs./year. The Nemadji Comprehensive Watershed Management plan set a 10-year goal of reconnecting 46 miles of stream, and this project brings the watershed to 63% of this goal.

Photos: example of poor stream connectivity due to a perched culvert (l), and a completed stream reconnect project with improved stream connectivity and streambank habitat (r).

Telling the Story

Clean Water Funds from BWSR help to protect, enhance and restore Minnesota's lakes, rivers, streams and groundwater. Eight examples illustrate collaborations from across the state that have resulted in clearer lakes, safer drinking water, a more resilient landscape, better trout habitat, improved drainage, cleaner rivers, healthier soil and restored wetlands.

Measurable Water-quality Improvement: Chisago Soil & Water Conservation District

North Center and South Center lakes' removal from the state impaired waters list in 2021 reflected the cumulative effect of Clean Water Fund and NRCS-backed targeted urban and rural conservation practices. SWCD staff celebrated those water clarity improvements and nutrient reductions, as they focused on improving water quality trends throughout the 20-lake Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes. "All of the lakes that we're actively working in are seeing improved water quality. That's kind of as good as it gets. It's a little bit better each year," Chisago SWCD Water Resource Specialist Casey Thiel said after learning another lake in the chain, School Lake, was slated for delisting in 2022.

Drinking Water: Rock Soil & Water Conservation District

Three permanent easements within the wellhead protection area that supplies 75% of Rock County with drinking water are expected to result in the biggest drop in nitrate levels in decades. One of those, a 294-acre MN CREP enrollment, encompasses more than 10% of the highly vulnerable wellhead protection area bordering the Rock River. Along with two RIM wellhead easements totaling 80 acres, the land is now planted in perennial cover. Here, replacing row crops with native grasses has proven to be the fastest and most effective way to decrease nitrate levels. The easements draw from Clean Water Fund appropriations.

Climate Change Resilience: Mower Soil & Water Conservation District

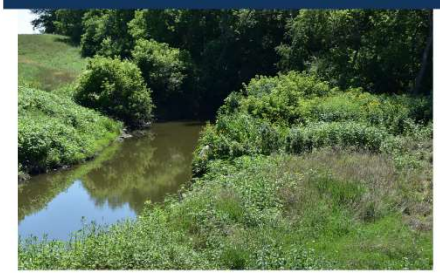
Just upstream from Austin, 11 dams built on farmland within the Dobbins Creek watershed are designed to reduce the flood risk to houses, roads and cropland. Increasingly frequent and heavy rains exacerbate conditions brought on by the fast-rising, fast-flowing creek, which has scoured streambanks and eroded farm fields. Upland water storage is a solution that could play out across Minnesota as the state experiences the effects of a changing climate. The structures improve water quality, too, by temporarily retaining runoff, allowing sediment and the pollutants it carries to settle out, and then slowly releasing the water.

Urban Trout Stream Restoration: Vermillion River Watershed JPO, Dakota County

A designated trout stream that flows through a Lakeville industrial park and a rapidly developing part of town is colder and less turbid today as the result of Clean Water Fund projects and partnerships involving the Vermillion River Watershed JPO and the city of Lakeville. One of four major tributaries to the Vermillion River, 9-mile-long South Creek supports naturally reproducing brown trout. A hydrodynamic separator reduces how much sediment and phosphorus enters the stream. Separating the creek from an existing stormwater pond helped to lower water temperature.

> **All of the lakes that we're actively working in are seeing improved water quality. That's kind of as good as it gets. It's a little bit better each year.**
>
> — Casey Thiel, Chisago Soil & Water Conservation District, on continuing work in the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes

River Restoration: Wilkin Soil & Water Conservation District



A $10 million Whiskey Creek restoration is designed to produce clean water and wildlife habitat, plus fix drainage problems that affect 200-some landowners. Six drainage ditches outlet directly into the sediment-filled creek, where water slows and then backs up into fields. Work on 9 miles of the 30-mile-long Red River tributary will create a deeper channel to keep water moving, and a broader floodplain to handle high water. Leveraging Clean Water Funds, the SWCD has worked with 12 landowners to install 21 side-inlet structures that fix gullies along the creek. Fifty-six acres of wildlife habitat and 37 acres of riparian buffers have been installed to date.

Stormwater Work: Beltrami Soil & Water Conservation District

Lake Bemidji, the Mississippi River and the downstream communities that draw drinking water from the river all benefit from a Clean Water Fund-backed stormwater project designed to improve the water quality of nutrient-impaired Lake Irving. The Mississippi, which flows through both lakes, supplies St. Cloud and parts of the Twin Cities with drinking water. "What we're trying to do here is reduce as much of the negative impact from human use around the lake as possible," Beltrami SWCD Clean Water Specialist Zach Gutknecht said of treating runoff from a drainage area that includes an industrial park.

Soil Health: Becker Soil & Water Conservation District

The soil health and rotational grazing practices Todd and Michelle Andresen are implementing on their Becker County farm will allow them to expand their beef operation without buying more land, putting their three sons in a better position to one day take over the family operation. A Clean Water Fund grant targeting sediment and nutrient-reduction in the Buffalo River watershed is in play. The cattle graze pastureland, and cover crops planted on farm fields. "We want to grow that end of our operation, and I think (how we're going to do it) has got a lot to do with these programs," Todd Andresen said of the leveraged funds, including NRCS assistance, that cut the risk of trying something new.

Water Storage: Lincoln County

A restored wetlands project in Lincoln County with water storage, flood mitigation and wildlife habitat benefits saved farmers on the county ditch system $175,000 in shared assessments for necessary repairs. "We've got some of the most productive agricultural lands in the nation in Minnesota. By taking that (water) out of that tile system and allowing it to be retained and slowed in these wetland restorations, (it's) better all the way around for groundwater recharge, for wildlife, for the floodwater retention benefit," said Area II Executive Director Kerry Netzke. Work involved three landowners, plus township, county, state and federal cooperation. Clean Water Funds supported the RIM easement in play.

Directed BWSR Clean Water Fund Expenditures

Additional BWSR clean water programs, as mandated by Minnesota Legislature, provide other key components of the comprehensive statewide clean water framework.

Local SWCD Capacity

The legislature appropriated $24 million over the biennium to support SWCDs. This state funding recognizes the role these local governments play in providing conservation service delivery to private landowners. The funding focuses on increasing SWCD capacity to address four resource concern areas: soil erosion, riparian zone management, water storage and treatment, and excess nutrients. Eligible activity categories include staffing, cost-share/incentives, and technology/capital equipment. Aimed at achieving additionality, these funds are intended to fill gaps in local capacity, increase delivery of essential conservation services, and accomplish critical soil and water conservation goals consistent with the following principles:

- Expand the overall level of technical assistance SWCDs provide and build a network of local experts that can implement a diverse suite of land and water conservation practices.
- Increase the amount of existing, targeted, and priority services necessary to address outreach to landowners and assist landowners in meeting land and water regulatory requirements.
- Prioritize future projects by conducting both pre-project planning and post-project evaluations.
- Improve or develop staff skills for providing specialized services and to better align with resource priorities identified by the district board.

The results are increased responsiveness of these local governments to their landowners and more conservation implemented on the ground. Whether SWCDs invest in staff or equipment or conservation funding, the capacity dollars allow these local governments — who have the closest connection to landowners — to be more proactive and responsive in meeting their needs.

LOCAL PERSPECTIVES

Before SWCD capacity funding availability, Jackson SWCD Assistant Director Chris Bauer said the SWCD's federal partners supplied its conservation cost-share and provided technical and engineering services. The SWCD rarely approved the technical plans for implementation contracts with landowners because they didn't have the staffing capacity to do so. "SWCD Capacity funds provide a full-time technician we wouldn't otherwise have. Without it, we wouldn't have put nearly as many projects on the ground," Bauer said. "Our thought about capacity funds' use from the beginning was that we answer to the taxpayers out here, and that it would serve the (Clean Water) Fund better to put projects on the ground."

Capacity spotlight: Groundwater protection is a high priority for Jackson, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, and Rock counties in southwest Minnesota. Pipestone SWCD-based Laura DeBeer, an area water resource technician hired with SWCD capacity funding, has been instrumental in acquiring competitive state grants and collaborating with nonprofits to secure non-state funding. She works with landowners within highly vulnerable wellhead protection areas to adopt soil health practices. Pipestone SWCD's successful approach in targeting nitrate reduction in shallow drinking water aquifers benefits Lincoln Pipestone Rural Waters 4,700 customers.

Photo: Pipestone SWCD employee Laura DeBeer in a field of newly emerged cover crops.

Technical Service Area Funding

Technical Service Areas (TSAs) are a critical component of Minnesota's delivery system for conservation on private lands, providing associated benefits to water quality, wildlife habitat, agricultural productivity, and sustainability. TSA staff provide technical assistance to member SWCDs in cooperation with the USDA's NRCS, BWSR and other local, state, and federal government units. Through the Accelerated Implementation legislative appropriation, in FY20-21 the TSAs received $1.9 million to deliver essential engineering and associated technical services for critical soil and water conservation and water quality projects and practices on private lands.

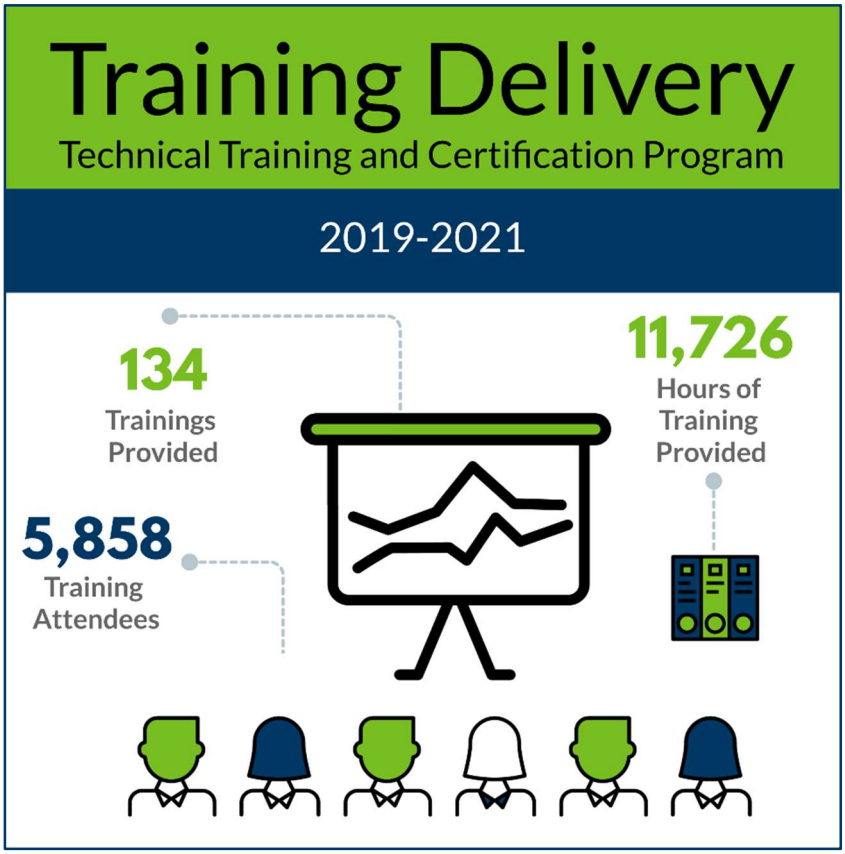
Highlighted Project – Crow Wing Pine River Fish Passage Project

Technical Service Area (TSA) 8 staff engineered and coordinated the Pine River rock dam replacement project, which restores fish passage, and enhances habitat for fish and other aquatic species in the Pine River and connected waters including the Mississippi River. The original dam spanned the entire width of the river and over the 50-year life had contributed to erosion of more than 130 linear feet on the east side of the riverbank. The erosion led to dam breaches that reduced water levels in Big Pine Lake by as much as three to four feet. The new dam's rock riffle structure acts like a series of steps that maintain upstream elevations while allowing fish to pass. This project was completed in 2020 and included collaboration with Crow Wing SWCD, Crow Wing County, Crosslake, Big Pine Lake Associated, the MN DNR, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and The Nature Conservancy. Read more about this project in BWSR's November 2020 Snapshot.

Technical Training and Certification Program (TTCP)

Minnesota's future conservation accomplishments and clean water outcomes will depend on the skills and abilities of local experts to help landowners with projects and practices selection, design, and installation. The Technical Training and Certification Program (TTCP) is aimed at growing and enhancing the services provided by

local SWCD and NRCS employees by investing in the necessary and systematic training and credentialing to make that happen.



Conservation Technical Assistance requires statewide, core technical assistance capabilities, as well as capabilities tailored to the local priority resource concerns and conservation practices found in the diverse landscapes of Minnesota. Training and certification are key quality assurance elements of an effective conservation delivery system. BWSR, the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD), the Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees (MACDE), and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) have renewed their commitment to providing resources for technical training and certification of local staff to maintain and enhance conservation delivery as laid out in the Technical Training and Certification Strategy.

During FY 20-21, the TTCP launched the Core Competency modules, which provide foundational training in soil and water conservation. These training modules continue to be very popular: 2,514 course modules have been completed by 363 individuals. TTCP uses an Individual Development Plan (IDP) tool, launched in 2019, for individuals to identify their technical training needs as well as track their training history and credentials. The information from IDPs is used at the local and state levels to identify training priorities and develop an annual training plan.

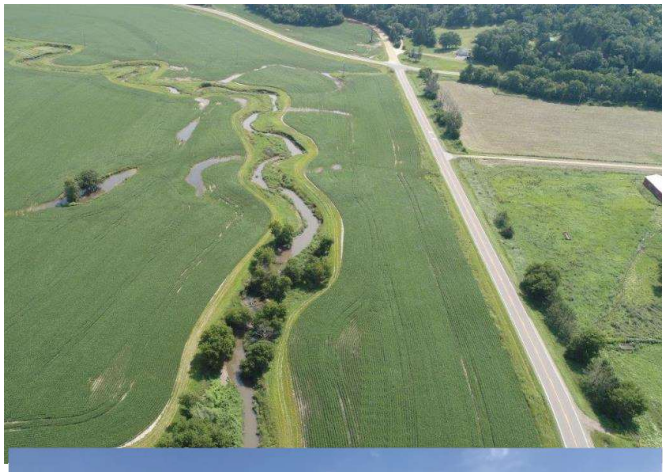
Essential training did not stop during the COVID-19 pandemic. TTCP immediately shifted to a virtual format and began offering weekly training sessions called Tech Talks. As time progressed, classroom portions of training were held virtually, and socially distanced small group trainings were held outside.

Minnesota's Buffer Law Compliance to Date

Buffer implementation remains high statewide thanks to the efforts of landowners, SWCDs and ongoing enforcement work. As of January 2020, approximately 99% of all parcels adjacent to Minnesota waters are

compliant with the Buffer Law. SWCDs are reporting encouraging progress in their work with landowners around the state.

In FY20-21, the legislature appropriated $5 million to BWSR to support local governments in their implementation of the buffer law. Funds were available on a non-competitive, formula basis to SWCDs to support local implementation. Eligible activities include:



- Meeting with county and drainage authorities (county or watershed district) to discuss implementation roles and responsibilities.
- Pass through funding to counties and/or drainage authorities to support local implementation.
- Assistance to collect and provide drainage-system-benefitted area maps, files, and/or GIS files to DNR to support mapping.
- Landowner outreach and information.
- Providing technical and financial assistance to landowners, e.g., seed cost-share, drill loan, etc.
- Purchasing of equipment to support implementation, such as grass drills.
- Providing alternative practice validations, if requested, where the prescribed buffer may not be the best water quality practice for a site.
- Reviewing DNR maps and landowner outreach prior to finalization.
- Adopting buffer recommendations for waters not mapped by DNR for inclusion in local water management plans.
- Inventorying of baseline conditions.

Tillage and Erosion Survey Program

In FY20-21, the legislature appropriated $850,000 for the Tillage and Erosion Survey Program. BWSR is working cooperatively with the University of Minnesota Department of Soil, Water and Climate and the Iowa State University Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering to develop a long-term program to systematically collect tillage (crop residue after planting) data and soil erosion estimates to analyze trends in agricultural soil and water management in the 67-county area with greater than 30% of land dedicated to row crop production. The updated methods developed for this project were published on BWSR's website.

This program uses remote sensing techniques to collect crop residue and cover crop data in the spring and fall of 2017 through 2021. One of the major accomplishments of this project is the development of the Daily Erosion Project (DEP) for the agricultural regions of Minnesota. This web application predicts average rainfall, water

runoff, average soil detachment, and average hillslope soil loss within a sub-watershed. Additional work has started to evaluate how this project can be integrated with other natural resource modeling efforts in Minnesota.

Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa

BWSR is required to contract with the Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa (formerly Minnesota Conservation Corps) or CCMI, for installation and maintenance of conservation practices benefitting water quality. The Board approved reserving $500,000 in FY20 and FY21 Projects and Practices program funds to comply with this requirement. Clean Water Fund allocations provide SWCDs with a trained labor force and equip CCMI crews with skills to build their conservation careers and provide local conservation partners with increased capacity to accomplish clean water outcomes.

BWSR Administration of Clean Water Fund Expenditures

BWSR's goal is to reduce non-point source pollution by providing Clean Water Fund dollars to local government partners for on-the-ground activities and conservation projects. Many of the practices are installed on private lands and will result in improved and protected surface and groundwater. BWSR's Board uses existing authorities, polices, and staff, along with the processes outlined previously, to implement Clean Water Fund program activities.

For FY20-21, BWSR received a $2.0 million direct appropriation for Clean Water Program oversight and administration to provide for implementation and administration of Clean Water Fund dollars. Staffing of 48 FTEs (full-time equivalents) in FY20 and 50 FTEs in FY21, across all CWF appropriations, includes positions charged with getting protection and TMDL-derived restoration strategies adopted into local water plans, directing over $98 million of grant and easement funds to priority areas and activities, working with the 1W1P program, assisting with implementation of the buffer and soil loss law, and aligning administrative procedures to optimize leveraging of non-state funds with low transaction costs.

Appendix A: BWSR Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Ranking Criteria

Table A-1 Projects and Practices Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points Possible
Project Abstract: The project abstract succinctly describes what results the applicant is trying to achieve and how they intend to achieve those results.	5
Relationship to the Plan: 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
Targeting: The proposed project addresses identified critical pollution sources or risks impacting the water resource(s).	25
Measurable Outcomes: 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
Project Readiness: The application has a set of specific activities that can be implemented soon after grant award.	10
Cost Effectiveness and Feasibility: The application identifies a cost-effective solution to address the non-point pollution concern(s).	15
Total Points Available	**100**

Table A-2 Projects and Practices Drinking Water Subprogram Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points Possible
Project Abstract: The project abstract succinctly describes what results the applicant is trying to achieve and how they intend to achieve those results.	5
Relationship to the Plan: 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
Targeting: 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
Project Impact: 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
Project Readiness: 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
Total Points Available	**100**

Table A-3 Multipurpose Drainage Management Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points Possible
Project Description: The project description succinctly describes what results the applicant is trying to achieve and how they intend to achieve those results.	5
Prioritization: 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 that has been state-approved and locally adopted or an approved total maximum daily load study (TMDL), Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS), surface water intake plan, or wellhead protection plan.	30
Targeting: 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
Measurable Outcomes: The proposed project reduction in pollution has been quantified and directly addresses the water quality concern.	20
Project Readiness: The application has a set of specific activities that can be implemented soon after grant award.	5
Cost-Effectiveness: The application identifies a cost-effective solution to address the non-point pollution concern(s).	20
Total Points Available	**100**

Appendix B: Estimated Outcomes for FY20-21 Competitive Grant Awards

Applicant	Grant Title	Total Phosphorus (lb./year)	Sediment (tons/year)	Nitrogen (lb./year)
Aitkin SWCD	Protection of High-Quality Cisco Lakes in Aitkin County	-	-	-
Anoka CD	Phase 1: Targeted Rum River Bank Stabilization 2021	200	200	-
Anoka CD	Protecting groundwater quality in Anoka County through targeted well sealing	protection		
Anoka CD	Sunrise River Chain of Lakes Carp Management	1,230	-	-
Anoka, City of	Mississippi River Community Park Riverbank Stabilization	847	529	-
Bassett Creek WMC	Bryn Mawr Meadows Water Quality Improvement Project	-	-	-
Becker SWCD	South Branch Wild Rice Sediment Reduction Project - Phase II	-	-	-
Beltrami SWCD	Lake Irving TMDL Stormwater Retrofit and Iron Enhanced Sand Filter	221	-	-
Benton SWCD	2021 Big Elk and Mayhew Lakes Phosphorus Reduction Program	673	684	274
Benton SWCD	2020 Drinking Water Protection Initiative	protection		
Benton SWCD	2020 - Big Elk & Mayhew Lakes Phosphorus Reduction Program	-	-	-
Benton SWCD	2020 NE St. Cloud Sediment Reduction Project	protection		
Big Stone SWCD	Phase 1 of Five Mile Creek and Marsh Lake Improvement Strategy	89	532	-
Bois de Sioux WD	Lake Traverse Water Quality Project Phase 2	-	450	-
Bois de Sioux WD	JD 6 Water Quality Retrofit	384	417	-
Bois de Sioux WD	Judicial Ditch 6 Water Quality Ditch Retrofit	384	417	-
Bois de Sioux WD	Lake Traverse Water Quality Project Phase 1	-	750	-
Bois de Sioux WD	Judicial Ditch 11 Restoration	-	420	-
Bois de Sioux WD	Judicial Ditch 11 Restoration and Drainage Management	117	420	-
Brooklyn Park, City of	River Park Stormwater Improvements	50	15	-
Buffalo-Red River WD	South Branch Buffalo River Restoration - Phase 2	692	1,599	-
Carlton SWCD	Net River Watershed Sediment Reduction Project - Stormwater and the Road Stream Interface	protection		
Carlton SWCD	City of Cromwell Stormwater Improvement Project	21	20	-
Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix WD	Marine on St. Croix Green Infrastructure Stormwater Retrofits	27	-	-
Carver County WMO	Bayview Elementary Reuse Expansion	3	-	

Applicant	Grant Title	Total Phosphorus (lb./year)	Sediment (tons/year)	Nitrogen (lb./year)
Chisago SWCD	2021 Priority Implementation Targeting Lawrence Creek, Dry Creek, and Direct Drainage to the St. Croix River	140	140	-
Chisago SWCD	2021 Goose Creek Watershed TMDL Implementation	140	-	-
Chisago SWCD	2021 Sunrise River Phase II Lower St. Croix CWMP Implementation	50	50	-
Clay SWCD	Buffalo River Grade Stabilization Project	330	-	-
Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	Little Comfort Lake Phosphorus Reduction Implementation	206	-	-
Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	Bone Lake Northeast Wetland Restoration	15	-	-
Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	Washington Judicial Ditch 6 Headwaters Iron-Enhanced Sand Filter	protection		
Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	Sunrise River Drained Wetland Restoration	54	-	-
Cook SWCD	2020 - Sediment Reduction in the Flute Reed River Watershed	-	263	-
Coon Creek WD	Pleasure Creek South BIESF	19	-	-
Coon Creek WD	Coon Creek Park Stream Restoration	201	237	-
Crow Wing SWCD	The City of Baxter Stormwater Project reduces 50 Tons TSS to the Mississippi River	211	50	-
Crow Wing SWCD	Coordinated Mill Overlay, Sewer Expansion, and 5 Crosslake Runoff Retrofits	-	-	-
Dakota County	Lower Mississippi River Targeted Ravine Stabilization Project	12	-	-
Dakota County	Thompson Oaks Targeted Stormwater Management and Wetland Restoration Project	228	94	-
Dakota SWCD	2020 - Dakota County Drinking Water Protection Project	protection		
Douglas SWCD	Lake Ida Targeted Phosphorus Reduction Project	240	-	-
Douglas SWCD	Lake Ida HUC 12 AIG Projects	435	577	-
Douglas SWCD	Lake Ida & CD 23 AIG Phosphorus Reduction	240	-	-
East Otter Tail SWCD	Reducing nitrates in drinking water through new irrigation technologies	-	-	17,800
Faribault County SWCD	CD64 (Brush Creek) Sediment Reduction Strategy	203	176	-
Fridley, City of	Moore Lake Enhancement Project	18	0.6	-
Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance	Watonwan Watershed Drinking Water Protection	-	150	1,870
Heron Lake WD	South Heron Lake TMDL Implementation: Phase 3	2,258	-	-

Applicant	Grant Title	Total Phosphorus (lb./year)	Sediment (tons/year)	Nitrogen (lb./year)
Hugo, City of	City of Hugo County Road 8 Stormwater Reuse Project	-	-	-
Isanti SWCD	Spectacle Lake Focused Activity	13	-	-
Itasca SWCD	Trout Lake Stormwater Enhancement Project	43	15	-
Kanabec SWCD	Kanabec - Knife River Clean Up	40	8	-
Le Sueur County SWCD	Lake Washington Nutrient Reduction Project	-	-	-
Le Sueur County SWCD	Le Sueur County CD61 Storage & Treatment Wetland	170	77	-
McLeod SWCD	McLeod County Drainage Ditch 63 Conservation Implementation	51	43	-
Middle St. Croix River WMO	Lake St. Croix Small Communities Urban Phosphorus Reductions Phase II	7	1	-
Middle St. Croix River WMO	Lily Lake Phosphorus Reductions for Delisting	30	-	-
Minnehaha Creek WD	Lake Wassermann Internal Load Management	445	-	-
Nicollet SWCD	St. Peter Wellhead Project 33	200	100	-
Nine Mile Creek WD	Rosland Park Stormwater Filtration BMP Project	22	-	-
Olmsted County	Well Sealing and Aquifer Characterization Below the Jordan in the Rochester Metropolitan Area	protection		
Otter Tail, East SWCD	Otter Tail High Priority Lakes Protection	45	-	-
Pelican River WD	Rice Lake Wetland Restoration Construction	1,200	-	-
Pennington SWCD	County Ditch 96 Outlet Stabilization - Phase 2	-	559	-
Pennington SWCD	Thief River Grade Stabilization and Cover Crop Implementation	-	-	-
Pipestone SWCD	Groundwater Quality Nitrate Reduction Pipestone	protection		
Pope SWCD	2021 Lake Minnewaska Targeted Subwatershed Implementation Project Phase IV	330	412	-
Pope SWCD	2021 East Branch Chippewa River Targeted Subwatershed Implementation Project	1,260	1,462	-
Pope SWCD	2020 City of Glenwood Targeted Urban Stormwater Implementation Project Phase 1	5	-	-
Prior Lake-Spring Lake WD	Upper Prior Lake Alum Treatment	571	-	-
Red Lake SWCD	2021 Lower Clearwater River Subwatershed Water Quality Agricultural Practices (Phase III)	-	793	-
Red Lake SWCD	2020 Lower Clearwater River Subwatershed Water Quality Agricultural Practices (Phase II)	-	790	-
Red Lake WD	Thief River Falls Oxbow Restoration and Stormwater Treatment Project	28	4	-

Applicant	Grant Title	Total Phosphorus (lb./year)	Sediment (tons/year)	Nitrogen (lb./year)
Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area	Plum Creek Subwatershed Turbidity Reduction	-	1,470	-
Roseau River WD	Roseau River Water Quality Improvement project	-	84	-
Roseau River WD	SD 51 & CD 16 Water Quality Improvement project	-	84	-
Scott SWCD	Sand Creek Watershed TMDL/Targeted BMP Installations	254	229	-
Scott SWCD	Prior Lake Spring Lake TMDL/Targeted BMP Installations	290	-	-
Shingle Creek WMC	Meadow Lake Management Plan	110	-	-
Shingle Creek WMC	Shingle Creek Connections II Stream Restoration	4	20	-
Stearns SWCD	St. Cloud Spent Lime Filtration Project	protection		
Stearns SWCD	Stearns County Highly Vulnerable DWSMAs: Nitrogen Management Practices for Safe Drinking Water	protection		
Stearns SWCD	Sartell Riverside Avenue/County Road 1 Stormwater Improvement Project	158	158	-
Todd SWCD	Grow As You Know- Sauk River	33	8	-
Todd SWCD	Partridge River E. Coli Reduction Match	-	-	-
Vadnais Lake Area WMO	Goose Lake Alum Treatment 2020	-	-	-
Vermillion River Watershed JPO	FY20 CWF Middle Creek at Highview Avenue Streambank and Grade Stabilization Project	-	-	-
Washington Conservation District	Protecting Drinking Water Sources in Southern Washington County	-	-	-
Whitewater River Watershed Project	Whitewater Drinking Water Protection grant	protection		
Wilkin SWCD	Whiskey Creek "Enhancement Project"	839	1,524	-
Wright SWCD	CD10 BMP Inventory - Implementation #2	73	43	-
Wright SWCD	2020 Crow River Gully Stabilization to Reduce Turbidity Phase Four	280	210	-