

# RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT

December 31, 2018

Agenda

9:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m.	Call to Order	Action
	Review and approve agenda	Action
	Requests to appear	Information
	December 13, 2018 Minutes	Action
	Financial Report dated December 28, 2018	Action
	Investment Summary	Action
	2018 General Fund Budget	Action
	Capital Project Fund Transfers	Action
	2018 Property/Casualty Dividend-League of MN Cities	Information
	2019 Federal Allowable Mileage Rates	Information
	Red Lake Watershed District Ditch #16, RLWD Proj. 177	Information
	Black River Impoundment, RLWD Proj. No. 176 RRWMB Funding Spreadsheet	Information
	Thief River Falls West Side FDR Project, RLWD Proj. No. 178 BWSR Grant Application-Update	Information
	Challenger Ditch, RLWD Proj. No. 122-Schedule Hearing Date	Action
	Polk County Ditch 63-Grade Stabilization, RLWD Proj. 134/164- Final Pay Estimate – R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc.	Action
	Red Lake River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149-Amendment Hearing	Information
	Conservation Partner Legacy Grant, Project 180A Yearly Report Submittal, New Application	Information
	RLWD Buffer Rule	Information
	RRWMB Request for Input Strategic Planning Taxes Paid to RRWMB	Information

MAWD Resolutions	Information
Permit No. 18125, Pat Wichterman, Emardville Township, Red Lake Co.	Action
Permits: No. 18156	Action
Administrators Update	Information
Legal Counsel Update	Information
Managers' updates	Information
Adjourn	Action

UPCOMING MEETINGS

January 10, 2019	RLWD Board Meeting, 9:00 a.m.
January 15-17, 2019	Red River Basin Land & Water International Summit Conference, Grand Forks
January 24, 2019	RLWD Board Meeting, 9:00 a.m.
February 14, 2019	RLWD Board Meeting, 9:00 a.m.
February 14, 2019	Drainage and Water Conference-Rinke Noonan
March 20-21, 2019	Joint Annual RRWMB & FDRWG Conference, Moorhead

# DRAFT

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
December 13, 2018

President Dale M. Nelson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District Office, Thief River Falls, MN.

Present were: Managers Terry Sorenson, Gene Tiedemann, Brian Dwight, Dale M. Nelson, Allan Page, LeRoy Ose and Les Torgerson. Staff Present: Myron Jesme and Tammy Audette and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby. Others in attendance: Darwin Sumner, Michael VanHorn, Richard Dreker, Craig Mowry, Tony Nordby, Nate Dalager and Mike Flaagan.

The Board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Dwight, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the November 27, 2018 minutes. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the November 27, 2018 Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Darwin Sumner, former Red Lake Tribal Secretary, and Michael VanHorn, Red Lake Tribal Council Food Initiative Coordinator, requested to appear before the Board.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated December 12, 2018. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Dwight, to approve the Financial Report dated December 12, 2018 as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Investment Summary as of December 12, 2018. Staff member Arlene Novak reviewed the quotes that were received for the Certificate of Deposit that expired on December 12, 2018. Novak stated that a \$200,000 Certificate of Deposit was purchased from Edward Jones at a rate of 2.75% for one-year.

Administrator Jesme stated that a draft viewers report is complete for the proposed RLWD Ditch 16, RLWD Project No. 177. Jesme stated that no DNR Protected Waters Permit is required, but there will have to be a delineation completed of the project area to satisfy Wetland Conservation Act rules. We have also been informed that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is requiring an archeological survey to be completed at the area of the Grand Marias continuing two miles upstream of State Highway 220. An archeological survey would be completed at the outlet of Ditch 16 and several sites two miles upstream of the outlet, at a cost of \$3,500 for Phase 1. Motion by Torgerson, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the Phase 1 cost estimate not to exceed \$3,500, from McFarlane Consulting LLC, to complete an archeological survey on the proposed RLWD Ditch 16, RLWD Project No. 177. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a letter to Wayne and Debra Vettleson for expenses incurred for the inclusion of land into the benefitted area of RLWD Ditch No. 7, RLWD Project No. 20. Motion

by Torgerson, seconded by Sorenson, to approve the letter to Wayne and Debra Vettleson, for inclusion of land into RLWD Ditch No. 7, RLWD Project No. 20. Motion carried.

Craig Mowry, Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) appeared before the Board to update the Board on the current Conservation Partners Legacy Grant from the Lessard Sam Heritage Council that the District had applied for on behalf of Agassiz NWR in the amount of \$242,000, with matching funds in the amount of \$46,400 from Agassiz NWR. Mowry stated that the grant allowed for spraying of 2,000 acres of cattails within the refuge, for a total of 8,448 acres of cattails sprayed since 2010. The grant also included repairs to a water control structure which was recently completed by Triple D Contractors. Agassiz NWR hired an amphibious excavator, which cleaned out ditches within the refuge that were full of silt. The balance of the current grant will be spent in the fall of 2019, with the replacing of two rusted out corrugated pipes with a large box culvert. Mowry requested assistance to administer an additional grant from the Lessard Sam Heritage Council for a Conservation Partners Legacy grant for \$50,000 to restore wetland function with the refuge. Agassiz NWR would be required to have a 10% match for the grant. The District would be appropriating funds in to administer the grant. Mowry discussed the efforts of the refuge to reduce sediment and nutrient loading within the Thief River Watershed. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve the partnership and administration of a \$50,000 grant for Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge from the Lessard Sam Heritage Council Conservation Partners Legacy Grant. Motion carried.

Darwin Sumner, former Red Lake Tribal Council Secretary and Michael VanHorn, Red Lake Tribal Council Food Initiative Coordinator, appeared before the Board to discuss water levels on the Lower Red Lake. Mr. Sumner discussed his concern with the drastically low water levels and loss of traditional trapping and hunting grounds. Discussion was held on the lack of rain and snow events as well as effects from evaporation which have contributed to the low water levels on both the Upper and Lower Red Lake. President Nelson asked Mr. Sumner about the Good Lake Impoundment, requesting assistance to work on securing a Special Land Permit for access and operation of the Good Lake Impoundment. It was the consensus of the Board and Mr. Sumner that it would be beneficial to form a committee for discussion on the Good Lake Impoundment and other areas of concern. Mr. Sumner requested that all emails should be sent to Mr. VanHorn.

Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., stated that TEP (Technical Evaluation Panel) has scheduled a meeting on to discuss Wetland Conservation Act compliance for the proposed Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176. Nordby stated that the MnDNR will only require a General Permit, with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers looking at the various wetland complex. Administrator Jesme discussed a recent phone call with Pat Lynch, MnDNR, regarding funding from the State. The MnDNR will not request a bonding bill this year, but the RRWMB will lobby for one. Mr. Lynch inquired about the possibility of constructing the project in phases; the first phase being the impoundment, followed by the ditches to the impoundment.

Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, Inc., and Engineer Mike Flaagan, Pennington County Highway Department, appeared before to discuss the realignment of the Challenger Ditch, RLWD Project No. 122 for re-construction of CSAH 8 and installation of a bridge that

would cross the Red Lake River. Reconstruction of CSAH 8 would include the installation of a roundabout at the Pennington Avenue/CSAH 8 intersection and realignment of the Challenger Ditch to the south side of CSAH 8. The existing riser and 48” pipe upstream of the outlet of the Challenger Ditch would be moved upstream to an existing culvert, with an additional 248’ of the 48” reinforced concrete pipe. The roadway project would absorb the costs of the installation of the culverts, with the ditch system responsible for future maintenance. Administrator Jesme discussed the benefits of changing the pipe and maintenance concerns. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that a hearing would be required to make modifications to the alignment of the ditch system. The Challenger Ditch system is also used as an outlet for the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 171A, which is designed for a 100-year event. It was the consensus of the Board that Manager Nelson, Jesme and Sparby, will review the Thief River Falls Flood Damage Reduction Project plans regarding future maintenance. Sparby stated that all right-of-way specifications will need to be presented during the hearing process. It was the consensus of the Board that a hearing date will be set at the December 27, 2018 meeting.

Pennington County is transferring jurisdiction of Pennington County Ditch 70 to the City of Thief River Falls for installation of a storm water utility project within the city limits, contingent upon the proposed Thief River Falls West Side Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178 being established. MnDOT awarded the District a grant in the amount of \$400,000 to replace the culvert on Highway 32, near the outlet of the project. The District applied for a Clean Water Fund Grant for the outlet downstream of the Highway 32 culvert. Engineer Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering, Inc., asked Mr. Flaagan if the project has access to funds from Pennington County for the structures on CSAH 7 and other structures. Flaagan stated that CSAH 7 is state aid funding but that they do have some county road funds budgeted every year. Flaagan requested an estimate for each site. Dalager will coordinate with Flaagan.

Administrator Jesme stated that the hearing for the Amendment to the Red Lake River 1W1P, will be held December 19, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. at the District office to allow for the implementation of a Water Management District for the Black River Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 176 and the Thief River Falls West Side Flood Damage Reduction Project, RLWD Project No. 178. Once the plan is approved by the Red Lake River 1W1P Policy Committee, the plan will be submitted to BWSR, with review at the Northern Region BWSR meeting scheduled for January 2, 2019, followed by final approval from BWSR.

The Board reviewed correspondence from BWSR regarding the Determination of Adequacy for the District’s Buffer Rule. Administrator Jesme stated that staff is working on formatting the document for public review.

The Board reviewed a letter of support to the Gully Tri-Coop Association for the submittal of a grant application: Evaluating the Effectiveness of Variable Rate Input Application in Cultivated Wild Rice. It was the consensus of the Board, to submit the letter as presented.

Staff member Loren Sanderson discussed a letter from Red Lake County Interim-Engineer, regarding the cutting of a county road as it relates to RLWD Permit No. 18126, that was

approved by the District. Sanderson stated that Red Lake County does not have a policy in place for after-the-fact permits or consequences for cutting of county road.

The Board reviewed the permits for approval. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approved RLWD Permit NO. 18157, JTO, Inc., Excel Township, Marshall County with conditions stated on the permit. Motion carried with Manager Ose abstaining.

#### Administrators Report:

- Jesme and Manager Ose will attend the RRWMB meeting in Ada on December 18, 2018.
- The Thief River 1W1P Advisory and Policy Committee meeting was held on December 12, 2018 at the District office. Section 5 of the plan was approved and will proceed with the development of Section 4.
- A Red Lake River PTMApp meeting was held December 12, 2018 in the District office to discuss a targeted implementation plan as well as reviewing comments from staff for completion of the final document.
- Jesme and Managers Sorenson, Page, Ose, Tiedemann and Dwight attended the MAWD Annual meeting November 28-December 1<sup>st</sup> in Alexandria.
- Staff member Corey Hanson will attend the BWSR Regional Conservation Partnership Program meeting December 20, 2018 in Grand Rapids. This training session will address the partnership program through NRCS and how it can be implemented with state funding for approved 1W1P.
- Included in the packet was the June 2018 Water Quality Packet.
- Included in the packet was information on the USGS Cost Share Payments for the Streamflow Monitoring Program.

It was the consensus of the Board to close the District office on Monday, December 24, 2018 due to the Christmas Holiday on December 25, 2018.

Legal Counsel Sparby stated that he prepared and presented a Stipulation for Dismissal to the Attorneys for the landowners on JD 5, RLWD Project No. 102. Sparby was informed that the landowners decided not to dismiss the case, therefore Sparby will set up a Motion to Dismiss.

Manager Ose reminded the Board that a retirement party for Dan Wilkens will be held on December 14, 2018 in Fertile.

Manager Sorenson stated that he met with the Polk County Commissioners regarding his appointment to the District Board. Sorenson was appointed to serve an additional 3-year term.

Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

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LeRoy Ose, Secretary

**RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT**  
**Financial Report for December 28, 2018**

<b>Ck#</b>	<b>Check Issued to:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
online	EFTPS	Withholding for FICA, Medicare, and Federal taxes	\$ 3,515.20
online	MN Department of Revenue	Withholding taxes	648.35
online	Public Employees Retirement Assn.	PERA	2,336.85
online	MN Department of Revenue	Withholding taxes	50.00
online	EFTPS	Withholding for FICA and Medicare	137.72
online	EFTPS	Withholding for FICA and Medicare	258.46
37220	Cenex Credit Card	Gas for vehicles	98.50
37221	Crookston Times Printing	Red Lake River1W1P hearing ad	112.95
37222	Deltal Dental	Dental insurance premium	409.75
37223	Don's Sewing and Vacuum	Belt replacement on vacuum	19.99
37224	East Polk SWCD	Reimburse for 45 wq lake samples (RMB Lab)	1,980.00
37225	Further	FSA Account fees	8.85
37226	Houston Engineering, Inc.	TR1W1P PTMApp grant	3,753.00
37227	Hugo's	Meeting and building maintenance supplies	184.88
37228	Harvey Klipping	Remove gophers from RLWD Ditch Nos. 10 and 3	551.00
37229	Motor Vehicle Division	Registration fee for Arctic TBX 700	66.00
37230	Dale M. Nelson	Mileage	28.34
37231	Northwest Beverage, Inc.	H2O for office	22.75
37232	Northwestern Mutual Financial	Deferred Compensation	484.83
37233	Pribula Engineering, PLLC	*Engineering fees	24,180.00
37234	Rinke Noonan	Legal fees for Thief River Westside Flood Damage Reduction	227.50
37235	Triple D Construction and Leasing	Culvert removal and installation for Agassiz NWR grant	23,000.00
37236	Universal Screenprint	Vehicle decals for Chev. Traverse	30.00
37237	East Polk SWCD	Cost share of water control basins-Erosion Control funds	5,230.86
37238	Steve Holte	Mileage for TR1W1P meeting (2 meetings)	46.33
37239	Ihle Sparby & Haase PA	**See below for explanation	3,060.00
37240	Red River Watershed Mgmt. Board	Additional 2nd half of taxes collected	60,139.90
37241	Marco	Monthly Microsoft Office 365	187.50
37242	Pennington SWCD	Red Lake River 1W1P expenses	918.00
37243	Darrold Rodahl	Thief River 1W1P mileage	16.35
37244	Sun Life Financial	Life insurance premium	128.56
37245	Clearwater SWCD	Erosion Control funds for SWIs-per Board mtg. of 7/12/18	3,437.65
37246	RJ Zavoral and Sons, Inc.	Final payment for Proj. 134/164 grant-Outlet to PCD 63	2,082.98
37247	Sjoberg's Cable TV	Internet expense	96.95
online	Cardmember Services	*** See below for explanation	3,623.38
online	Cardmember Services	****See below for explanation	2,244.66
online	Allan Page	Mileage	241.98
	<b>Payroll</b>		
	Check #11559 -11575		<u>23,700.45</u>
	<b>Total Checks</b>		<b>\$ 167,260.47</b>

**\*Pribula Engineering, PLLC**

Proj. 177 RLWD Ditch No. 16	18,240.00
Proj. 179 Improv. To Polk Co. Dt.39	<u>5,940.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24,180.00</b>

**\*Ihle Sparby & Haase PA**

Proj. 01 Administrative	2,124.00
Proj. 26 Pine Lake	126.00
Proj. 46 Water Quality	54.00
Proj. 102 JD #5	432.00

Proj. 171A TR FDR	18.00
Proj. 178 TRF Westside FDR	<u>306.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,060.00</b>

**\*\*\*Cardmember Services**

HP-Sales tax refund on computer	-93.09
AT&T-Cellular phone expense-Oct.	276.19
Grain Bin, Grygla-Proj. 149A mtg.exp.	53.48
BeMobile-Car phone charger cord	26.80
MAWD-Registrations for meeting	1,650.00
Arrowwood Resort-lodging-MAWD	<u>1,710.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,623.38</b>

**\*\*\*\*Cardmember Services**

Arrowwood Resort-correct error-MAW	-50.00
Amazon-Panasonic projector bulb	146.12
DLT Solutions-	1,022.35
Uof MN-WS Specialist Training-Christina	850.00
AT&T-Cell phone expense-Nov.	<u>276.19</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,244.66</b>

**Financial Institutions:**

**Northern State Bank**

Balance as of December 12, 2018	\$ 303,067.64
Total Checks Written	(167,260.47)
Receipt #414461 First National Bank-Remaining interest on matured CD	523.56
Receipt #414462 Edward Jones-Additional interest from matured CD	3.89
Receipt #414463 Edward Jones-Withdrawal to purchase 12 month CD @ 2.75%	(200,000.00)
Receipt #414464 Transfer in from American Federal Bank Fosston	50,000.00
Receipt #414465 Voided receipt	-
Receipt #414470 Transfer in from American Federal Bank Fosston	100,000.00
Receipt #414471 State of Minnesota-PERA increase aid (\$902.50) and Market Valu and Disparity	<u>119,644.73</u>
Balance as of December 28, 2018	<u><u>\$ 205,979.35</u></u>

**Border State Bank**

Balance as of October 31, 2018	\$ 18,186.59
Receipt #414442 Border State Bank-Monthly interest	<u>7.16</u>
Balance as of November 30, 2018	<u><u>\$ 18,193.75</u></u>

**American Federal Bank-Fosston**

Balance as of December 12, 2018	\$ 1,825,277.49
Receipt #414464 American Federal Fosston-Transfer into Northern State Bank account	(50,000.00)
Receipt #414466 First National Bank Bemidji-Matured CD	200,000.00
Receipt #414467 League of MN Cities-2018 Dividend	242.00
Receipt #414468 Wayne and Debra Vettleson-Reimburse cost share for inclusion in Proj. 20 benefitte	783.28
Receipt #414469 Polk County-PILT from different agencies	1,252.85
Receipt #414470 Transfer into Northern State Bank	(100,000.00)
Receipt #414472 Red River Watershed Management Board-Project Work Team reimbursement	15,000.00
Receipt #414473 Pennington SWCD-Reimburse for SWI grant	3,438.28
Receipt #414474 Red Lake County-HUD PILT	284.75
Receipt #414475 American Federal Bank-Receipt only to record interest on 12 month CD (\$344.51)	-
Balance as of December 28, 2018	<u><u>\$ 1,896,278.65</u></u>



# Red Lake Watershed District

as of December 28, 2018

<u>Name of Institution</u>	<u>Purchase/ Current Value</u>	<u>Int. Rate</u>	<u>Mat. Date</u>	<u>*Maturity Amount</u>
10010 Northern State Bank (checking)	\$ 205,979.35	0.80%		\$ 205,979.35
10020 Border State Bank (Investor savings) Thief River Falls	\$ 18,193.75	0.48%		\$ 18,193.75
10030 American Federal Bank Fosston	\$ 1,896,278.65	1.50%		\$ 1,896,278.65
10660 CDARS-Amarillo National Bank, TX 12 mos. CD, int. paid monthly	\$ 146,500.00	1.50%	1/17/2019	\$ 146,500.00
10660 CDARS-Conway, AR 12 mos. CD, int. paid monthly	\$ 53,500.00	1.50%	1/17/2019	\$ 53,500.00
10860 American Federal-Fosston 6 month monthly interest compounded	\$ 200,000.00	1.95%	1/24/2019	\$ 203,900.00
10470 CDARS-Bank of America, Charlotte, NC monthly interest payment via ACH	\$ 200,000.00	1.95%	2/28/2019	\$ 200,000.00
10740 CDARS-Signature Bank, New York monthly interest payment via ACH	\$ 200,000.00	2.05%	7/18/2019	\$ 200,000.00
10740 CDARS-Valley National Bank monthly interest payment via ACH	\$ 159,000.00	2.05%	7/18/2019	\$ 159,000.00
10740 CDARS-Signature Bank, New York monthly interest payment via ACH	\$ 41,000.00	2.05%	7/18/2019	\$ 41,000.00
10870 American Federal-Fosston-12 month monthly interest compounded	\$ 201,762.20	2.10%	7/26/2019	\$ 204,200.00
10260 CDARS-SmartBank, Pigeon Forge, TN (int.pd quarterly via ACH)	\$ 200,000.00	2.05%	9/5/2019	\$ 204,100.00
10710 CDARS-BOKD, National Assn., Tulsa (int.pd monthly via ACH)	\$ 200,000.00	2.33%	10/3/2019	\$ 200,000.00
10880 Ultima Bank-Fosston (int. compounded sem-annually)	\$ 600,000.00	2.52%	10/22/2019	\$ 615,120.00
10890 RiverWood Bank-Bemidji (Bagley) Interest paid at maturity	\$ 200,000.00	2.35%	11/8/2019	\$ 204,700.00
Edward Jones	<u>\$ 200,000.00</u>	2.75%	12/27/2019	<u>\$ 200,000.00</u>
	<u>\$ 4,722,213.95</u>			<u>\$ 4,752,471.75</u>

**2018 GENERAL FUND BUDGET**

as of December 28, 2018

(unaudited)

	<b>2018 BUDGET</b>	<b>2018 Exp.</b>	<b>(over) under</b>
		<b>TO 12-28-18</b>	
Manager's fees, salaries	20,000.00	17,477.30	2,522.70
Board of Manager's expense	22,000.00	21,063.93	936.07
Staff salaries	461,000.00	463,744.77	(2,744.77)
Payroll taxes	35,266.50	32,091.46	3,175.04
Employee benefits	108,368.50	70,305.41	38,063.09
Travel and meetings(inc. mileage & exp.	5,000.00	4,209.74	790.26
Audit	9,000.00	9,000.00	0.00
Legal	15,000.00	13,429.50	1,570.50
Office supplies	15,000.00	20,046.34	(5,046.34) *
Office equipment	18,000.00	6,416.75	11,583.25
Appraiser/Viewer Expense	2,000.00	910.47	1,089.53
Professional services (inc. Eng. Fees)	20,000.00	27,051.17	(7,051.17) ****
Dues and subscriptions	10,000.00	10,727.08	(727.08) ***
Insurance and bonds	25,000.00	22,286.00	2,714.00
Repairs and maintenance-Building	15,000.00	12,681.59	2,318.41
Utilities	10,000.00	9,604.38	395.62
Advertising and publications	4,000.00	3,340.61	659.39
Telephone	11,000.00	9,723.00	1,277.00
Vehicle expense and maintenance	14,000.00	11,161.47	2,838.53
Engineering supplies	3,000.00	12,369.77	(9,369.77) **
Engineering equipment	40,000.00	2,455.00	37,545.00
Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>862,635.00</b>	<b>780,095.74</b>	<b>82,539.26</b>
Less: Overhead	691,500.00	679,177.85	(12,322.15)
Less: Miscellaneous revenue	7,000.00	9,743.17	2,743.17
<b>General Fund Budget</b>	<b>164,135.00</b>	<b>91,174.72</b>	<b>72,960.28</b>

		<b>TO 12-28-18</b>
January 1, 2018 Beg. Balance	327,947.46	327,947.46
County levies revenue	0.00	0.00
Misc. revenue		0.00
Gross balance with revenue		327,947.46
Less net expenses		(91,174.72)
Subtotal- General Fund		236,772.74
Plus interest earned		47,109.65
<b>General Fund Balance 12-28-18</b>		<b>283,882.39</b>

\* Colored copies used exceeded budgeted amount for 3 months totalling \$2600.73

(Jan. \$664.10, Apr. \$1654.56, July \$582.07)

\*\* for ROW stakes purchased (\$3,475)-will be allocated at year end to projects where stakes are installed

\*\* for Culvert markers purchased (\$7,475)-will be allocated at year end to projects where markers are installed

\*\*\* For subscriptions for GIS software

\*\*\*\* Gallagher study (\$8400)

**Red Lake Watershed District  
Balances as of December 28, 2018**

Proj. #	Project Name	YTD Expenses	Fund Balance	Recommended Transfer	Contract End
001E	Website	2,911.85	(2,911.85)	1,455.92	
13	Moose River	15,494.09	(15,494.09)	15,494.09	
17	Lost River	95.63	(95.63)	95.63	
21	Stream Gaging	20,629.69	(20,629.69)	20,629.69	
24	Culvert Sizing	8,531.36	(8,531.36)	8,531.36	
25	Schirrick Dam	1,050.63	(1,050.63)	1,050.63	
26	Pine Lake PWT	189,004.07	(347,067.56)	0.00	
26A	Little Pine Lake	157,274.92	(157,274.92)	157,274.92	
31	Hydrologic Analysis	8,665.74	(8,665.74)	8,665.74	
37	Emergency Fund	0.00	110,811.41	0.00	
40	RRWMB	1,279.36	(686.58)	686.58	
43A	Burnham Creek BR6	7,095.37	(7,095.37)	7,095.37	
43D	Burnham Creek Fish Habitat	105.63	(105.63)	105.63	
46	Water Quality	140,228.48	(140,228.48)	140,228.48	
50	Maintenance on dams	836.58	(836.58)	836.58	
50A	Odney Flaot Dam	3,000.64	(3,000.64)	3,000.64	
50B	Latundresse Dam	572.38	(572.38)	572.38	
50C	Miller Dam	203.13	(203.13)	203.13	
50D	Seeger Dam	284.38	(284.38)	284.38	
50E	Blackduck Lake Dam	3,901.27	(3,901.27)	3,901.27	
52	Elm Lake	627.51	(627.51)	627.51	
60C	Euclid East Impoundment	15,266.74	(9,681.79)	9,681.79	
60D	Brandt Impound.	3,090.77	(2,988.77)	2,988.77	
60E	Brandt Channel	3,266.88	(3,266.68)	3,266.88	
60F	Grand Marais Restoration	6,021.56	(6,021.56)	6,021.56	
60FF	Grand Marais Cut Channel	82.50	(82.50)	82.50	
67	Good Lake	5,145.12	(5,145.12)	5,145.12	
81	Parnell Impoundment	17,803.15	(10,985.37)	10,985.37	
82F	Clearwater Nonpoint-Public Education	24,149.56	(24,149.56)	24,149.56	
90	Permit	92,921.70	(92,921.70)	92,921.70	
92	Project Development	39,713.85	(39,713.85)	39,713.85	
92A	RRB Long Term Flood Control Studie	673,956.51	(1,787,576.51)	0.00	
102A	4 Legged Lake PWT	90,329.52	(163,720.28)	0.00	
121	Louisville Parnell	4,633.18	(4,633.18)	4,633.18	
129	Ring dikes	211.29	(211.29)	211.29	
133C	BWSR Site 1	535.02	(535.02)	535.02	
145	GIS	36,794.86	(36,794.86)	36,794.86	
147	Wetland Banking	3,385.36	(3,385.36)	3,385.36	
149	Red Lake 1W1P	14,742.06	324,033.94	13,824.06	
149A	Thief River 1W1P	171,480.73	(19,315.26)	0.00	
149AA	Thief River PTMapp grant	29,242.90	(28,640.47)	0.00	
152	Glacial Ridge	330.00	(330.00)	330.00	
154	Parnell Storage Site	82.50	(82.50)	82.50	
157	TMDL	2,742.65	(2,742.65)	2,742.65	
157B	TR TMDL	2,690.19	3,714.81	(3,714.81)	8/1/2018
157C	RL Rvr WS Assessment	6,577.23	(6,044.73)	0.00	3/31/2019
157D	Grand Marais WRAP	3,950.29	(754.17)	0.00	1/14/2019
157E	Clearwater WRAP	25,989.72	(7,632.22)	0.00	3/31/2019
159	Red River Corridor	69.53	(69.53)	69.53	
164	Erosion Control Projects	132,963.79	(114,453.55)	114,453.55	
167	WS Ditch Inv. & Map.	82.50	(82.50)	82.50	
167A	Drainage Inv. & Insp.	15,528.41	(9,617.27)	0.00	12/31/2018
172	DFIRM Grant	528.15	(528.15)	528.15	
176	Black River Impoundment	377,430.92	(678,523.65)	0.00	

**Red Lake Watershed District  
Balances as of December 28, 2018**

<b>Proj. #</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>YTD Expenses</b>	<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>Recommended Transfer</b>	<b>Contract End</b>
178	TRF Westside FDR	365,330.81	(368,379.92)	0.00	
180	State/Local/Federal grants	1,004.19	(1,004.19)	1,004.19	
180A	Agassiz NWR Wetland Grant	126,428.69	(25,627.19)	0.00	
	<b>TOTALS</b>	2,856,295.54	(3,736,344.61)	<b>740,659.06</b>	***

**\*\*\* To include year-end salaries, anticipated revenue, etc. and interest when calculated**

Balance in Capital Projects Funds (Admin. Construction fund) as of 12-28-18	8,074,588.63
Net balance (Sum of Column 4 less Capital funds balance) as of 12-28-18	4,338,244.02



CONNECTING & INNOVATING  
SINCE 1913

December 12, 2018

Dear Member,

We are pleased to enclose a check for your share of the \$2.7 million dividend the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (the Trust) is returning to members of the property/casualty program for 2018. Also included is a summary of the data used to calculate your specific city's dividend and your dividend history. Your insurance agent will receive a copy of this information, and we encourage you to share it with your city council or other governing body.

This year's dividend was primarily determined based on all Trust members' recent claim experience. During 2017 and 2018, property claims were higher than anticipated, largely because of a few large fire losses and several weather-related events. The Trust sets premium levels to prepare for years in which claims exceed projections, as happened in 2018, and then returns unneeded funds to our members. This year, we evaluated loss patterns and determined a \$2.7 million dividend could be returned to members while maintaining appropriate rate stability going forward.

The formula for calculating dividends is designed to return proportionally larger amounts to members that have been with LMCIT longer and that have been most successful in avoiding and controlling losses. Your share was determined based on your gross earned premiums and total adjusted losses for the past 20 years, as shown on the enclosed graphs and charts. As you review it, keep these definitions in mind:

- *Gross Earned Premium:* This is your total of all earned premiums for the past 20 years as of May 31.
- *Adjusted Loss:* This is your claim costs for the past 20 years, minus applicable deductibles, and after capping each individual large claim. Individual claims are capped at the lesser of \$200,000 or 200 percent of your annual premium for the year of the loss to mitigate the impact of a catastrophic claim.

The goal of the Trust is to manage *risk* – in other words, uncertainty. Because it is impossible to know precisely what claims will occur or how much they will cost, it's impossible to guarantee a dividend in any given year, and the amounts will vary in years when they are paid. That's why the efforts you've made to avoid losses are so important to you and all the members of the Trust.

We remain committed to working with you to minimize claims, keep premium rates stable, and return unneeded funds to members when possible. Since 1987, we have returned nearly \$330 million to members in dividends.

Thank you for your continued participation in the Trust. Feel free to contact Laura Honeck, Trust Operations Manager, at lhoneck@lmc.org or 651-281-1280 if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Your Board of Trustees

Jake Benson, Councilmember, Proctor

Dave Callister, Manager, Plymouth

Clint Gridley, Administrator, Woodbury

D. Love, Councilmember, Centerville

Dave Unmacht, Executive Director, League of Minnesota Cities

Alison Zelms, Deputy City Manager, Mankato

**LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITIES INSURANCE TRUST  
PROPERTY/CASUALTY  
2018 DIVIDEND CALCULATION  
AT MAY 31, 2018**

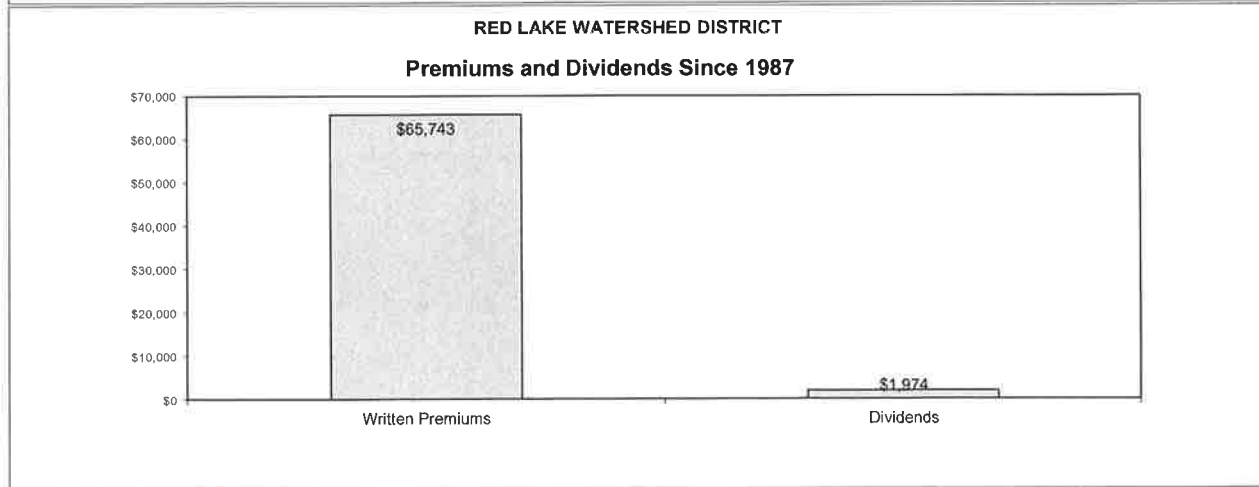
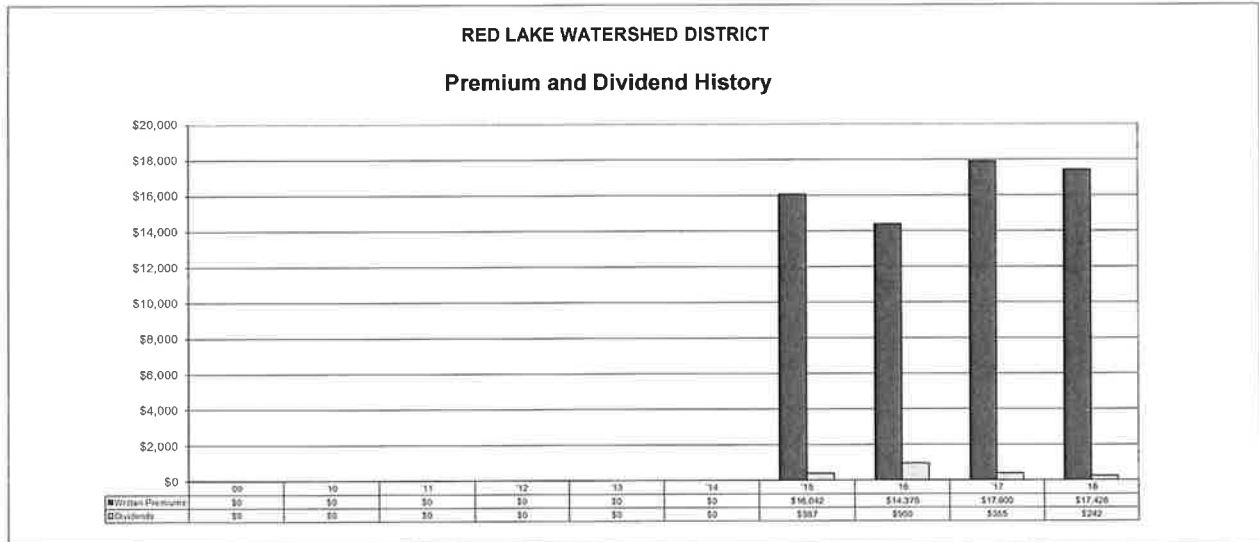
**Northern State Agency**

Po Box 639

Thief River Falls MN 56701-0639

**Red Lake Watershed District**  
1000 Pennington Ave S  
Thief River Falls, MN 56701-4013

<b>GROSS EARNED PREMIUM</b>	<b>\$63,971</b>
<b>ADJUSTED LOSSES</b>	<b>\$5,052</b>
<b>MEMBERS DIVIDEND PERCENTAGE</b>	<b>0.00008971054</b>
<b>DIVIDEND AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$242</b>



The "gross earned premium" figure is the member's total earned premiums as of May 31, 2018 for the past 20 years. This is the premium figure that's used in the dividend calculation.  
The "2018 written premium" figure is the member's total premium for the member's most recent renewal prior to May 31, 2018 (for most members, only a portion of that 2018 written premium would be earned as of May 31, 2018).



# IRS issues standard mileage rates for 2019

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IR-2018-251, December 14, 2018

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today issued the 2019 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning on Jan. 1, 2019, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- 58 cents per mile driven for business use, up 3.5 cents from the rate for 2018,
- 20 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes, up 2 cents from the rate for 2018, and
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations.

The business mileage rate increased 3.5 cents for business travel driven and 2 cents for medical and certain moving expense from the rates for 2018. The charitable rate is set by statute and remains unchanged.

It is important to note that under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, taxpayers cannot claim a miscellaneous itemized deduction for unreimbursed employee travel expenses. Taxpayers also cannot claim a deduction for moving expenses, except members of the Armed Forces on active duty moving under orders to a permanent change of station. For more details see [Notice-2019-02](#).

The standard mileage rate for business use is based on an annual study of the fixed and variable costs of operating an automobile. The rate for medical and moving purposes is based on the variable costs.

Taxpayers always have the option of calculating the actual costs of using their vehicle rather than using the standard mileage rates.

A taxpayer may not use the business standard mileage rate for a vehicle after using any depreciation method under the Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS) or after claiming a Section 179 deduction for that vehicle. In addition, the business standard mileage rate cannot be used for more than four vehicles used simultaneously. These and other limitations are described in section 4.05 of [Rev. Proc. 2010-51](#).

[Notice 2019-02](#), posted today on [IRS.gov](#), contains the standard mileage rates, the amount a taxpayer must use in calculating reductions to basis for depreciation taken under the business standard mileage rate, and the maximum standard automobile cost that a taxpayer may use in computing the allowance under a fixed and variable rate plan.

*Page Last Reviewed or Updated: 14-Dec-2018*





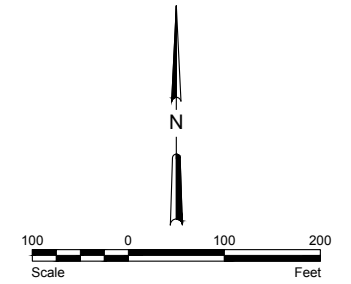
## RRWMB Funding Commitment Summary December 2018

	Project Name	RRWMB Commitment	Total Funds Expended	Available Balance	Loan Advance	Step Level Completed	Comments
RRWD	Roseau River Wildlife Mgmt Area (75/25)	\$500,000.00	\$490,107.21	\$9,892.79		3	Will be closed in Feb. 19
	Roseau River Lake Bottom Project (75/25)	\$3,000,000.00	\$135,000.00	\$2,865,000.00	\$135,000.00	2	
	Whitney Lake	\$550,000.00	\$0.00	\$550,000.00		1	
MSTRWD	Newfolden	\$1,360,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,360,000.00		1	
RLWD	TRF Westside FDR Project	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000,000.00		NA	
	Black River Impoundment	\$2,366,667.00	\$0.00	\$2,366,667.00		2	
TRWD	Klondike Clean Water Retention Proj. No. 11	\$7,250,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	\$2,250,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	2	
BdSWD	Redpath Project (75/25)	\$5,667,000.00	\$5,667,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,667,000.00	2	
WRWD	Goose Prairie	\$250,000.00	\$0.00	\$250,000.00		1	
	Hendrum	\$625,000.00	\$0.00	\$625,000.00		NA	
	Halstad	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		NA	Not Approved Yet
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$23,568,667.00</b>	<b>\$11,292,107.21</b>	<b>\$11,276,559.79</b>	<b>\$10,802,000.00</b>		
<b>PROGRAMS</b>	USGS Stream Gaging	\$114,061.00	\$0.00	\$114,061.00			
(Annual)	IWI - River Watch	\$125,000.00	\$0.00	\$125,000.00			
	Red River Basin Commission	\$90,000.00	\$0.00	\$90,000.00			Not Approved Yet
	Ring Dikes (\$400,000 Appropriation)	\$200,000.00	\$137,410.49	\$62,589.51			50% RRWMB Cost-share
	RRBC Long Term Flood Solution	\$12,500.00	\$0.00	\$12,500.00			
	RRRA	\$45,000.00	\$0.00	\$45,000.00			Not Approved Yet
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM COSTS</b>				<b>\$449,150.51</b>			

*Funds on Hand 11/31/18	\$15,454,265.09
Bal. Remaining of Funds Committe	\$11,725,710.30
<b>Uncommitted Fund Balance 11/31/18</b>	<b>\$3,728,554.79</b>

\*Only Money Market funds are considered in this balance

# DRAFT



FOUND IRON MONUMENT ●  
1/2" I.D. IRON PIPE SET ○

MEASURED BEARING N88°06'54"E  
MEASURED DISTANCE 151.04'  
MEASURED BEARINGS SHOWN ARE BASED ON THE PENNINGTON COUNTY COORDINATE SYSTEM.

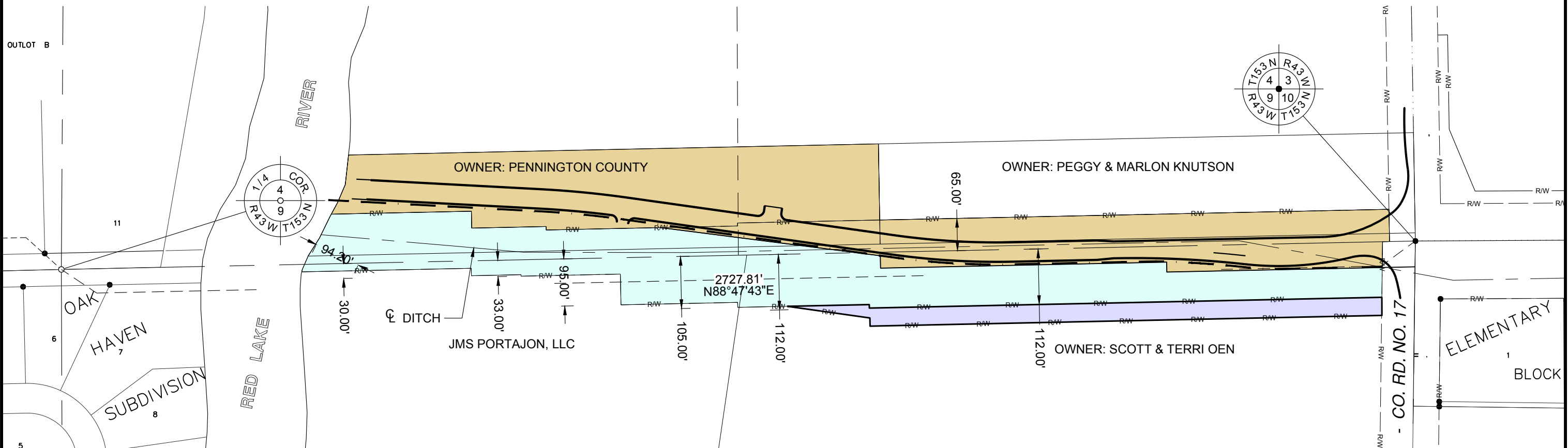
MEASURED DISTANCES SHOWN ARE GROUND DISTANCES IN TERMS OF U.S. SURVEY FEET.

COORDINATES SHOWN ARE BASED ON THE PENNINGTON COUNTY COORDINATE SYSTEM.

EXISTING DITCH R/W = 4.72 ACRES

PROPOSED PERMANENT DITCH R/W = 0.92 ACRES

PROPOSED PENNINGTON COUNTY R/W = 6.50 ACRES



H:\Thief River Falls\JBN\3816 Pennington County Hwy\3816-013 PennCty New Bridge and Corridor\CAD\Easements\RLWD RW.dwg-1-12/26/2018 1:13 PM:(nordby)

No.	Revision	Date	By

I hereby certify that this survey, plan, or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision, and that I am a duly Licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

James A. Schlieman                      Date  
MN. Lic. No. 44867



Fargo	Drawn by PAJ	Date 12/27/18
P: 701.237.5065 F: 701.237.5101	Checked by JAS	Scale AS SHOWN

PENN. CO. DITCH NO. 1 - RLWD DITCH NO. 1  
RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
THIEF RIVER FALLS, MINNESOTA

CERTIFICATE OF SURVEY  
PROJECT NO. 3816-0013

SHEET  
1 of 1

**RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT**  
**Application for Payment**  
**Estimate of Work Completed**

**ESTIMATE NUMBER:** Final  
**PROJECT NAME:** Outlet to PCD 63 Grade Stabilization Project, Project 134  
**OWNER:** Red Lake Watershed District  
**CONTRACT AMOUNT:** \$67,435.00  
**CONTRACTOR:** R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc.

**DATE:** December 31, 2018  
**PROJECT NUMBER:** 164  
**CONTRACT DATE:** October 26, 2017  
**WORK COMPLETED:** November 8, 2017

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	CONTRACT QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	QUANTITY COMPLETED			TOTAL AMOUNT
					PREVIOUS	CURRENT	TOTAL	
2	Clearing & Grubbing	lump sum	0	\$0.00	0	0	-	\$0.00
7	Excavation	cu.yd.	3,400	\$3.70	0	3400	3,400.00	\$12,580.00
8	Earthfill	cu.yd.	500	\$4.15	0	500	500.00	\$2,075.00
9	Seed, Fertilize and Mulch	acre	3	\$1,300.00	0	3	3.00	\$3,900.00
10	Rock Riprap Class III	cu.yd.	225	\$63.00	0	225	225.00	\$14,175.00
11	Rock Riprap Class IV	cu.yd.	430	\$63.00	0	430	430.00	\$27,090.00
12	Non-Woven Geotextile	sq.yd	1,200	\$2.15	0	1200	1,200.00	\$2,580.00
13	18" CMP	lin.ft.	60	\$31.25	0	60	60.00	\$1,875.00
14	18" Heavy Duty Flapgate	each	2	\$635.00	0	2	2.00	\$1,270.00
15	18" Metal Apron	each	2	\$165.00	0	2	2.00	\$330.00
16	24" CMP	lin.ft.	30	\$38.00	0	30	30.00	\$1,140.00
17	24" Metal Apron	each	2	\$210.00	0	2	2.00	\$420.00
							Subtotal	\$67,435.00
<b>Additional Material</b>								
	18" CMP	lin.ft	30	\$31.25	0	30	30.00	\$937.50
	18" Heavy Duty Flapgate	each	1	\$635.00	0	1	1.00	\$635.00
	18" Metal Apron	each	1	\$165.00	0	1	1.00	\$165.00
	Seed, Fertilize and Mulch	acre	0.2	\$1,300.00	0	0.2	0.20	\$260.00
							Subtotal	\$1,997.50
<b>Field Order</b>								
	1					0	0	\$0.00
	2					0	0	\$0.00
							Subtotal	\$0.00
							Total	\$69,432.50

**SUMMARY:**

Total of Work to Date	\$69,432.50
Less 0% Retainage	\$0.00
Amount Paid on Previous Payments	\$67,349.53
Amount Due this Estimate	\$2,082.97
Percentage of work completed	103%
Original Contract Amount Due	\$67,435.00
Total of Field Orders	\$1,997.50
Total Contract Costs	\$69,432.50

**RECAP OF PAYMENTS:**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYMENT AMOUNT</u>
12/14/2017	\$67,349.53
12/31/2018	\$2,082.97
TOTAL	\$69,432.50

Approved by Contractor: R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc.

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

Approved by Engineer: James Hest, P.E. Joint Powers Engineer

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

Approved by Inspector: Duane Steinbreck, West Polk SWCD

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

Approved by Administrator: Myron Jesme, Red Lake Watershed District

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

# Red Lake Watershed District

## Buffer Rule

October 11, 2018

### 1. It is the policy of the Board of Managers to:

- a. Provide public drainage system drainageways with vegetated buffers and implement water quality practices to achieve the following purposes:
  1. Protect state water resources from erosion and runoff pollution;
  2. Stabilize public drainage system drainageways' soils, and banks.
- b. Coordinate closely with the Watershed District's landowners, soil and water conservation districts and counties, and utilize local knowledge and data, to achieve the stated purposes in a collaborative, effective and cost- efficient manner.
- c. Integrate Watershed District authorities under Minnesota Statutes §§103D.341, 103E.021, and 103F.48 to provide for clear procedures to achieve the purposes of the rule.
- d. The Watershed District will implement and enforce buffers through the use of Drainage Law (Minnesota Statutes §§103E.021 and 103E.351) and when that cannot be accomplished, through the use of Administrative Penalty Order (APO) powers granted through Minnesota Statute §103F.48.

### 2. Definitions

BWSR:	Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources.
Buffer:	An area consisting of perennial vegetation, excluding invasive plants and noxious weeds.
Buffer law:	Minnesota Statutes §103F.48, as amended.
Commissioner:	Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources.
Cultivation farming:	Practices that disturb vegetation roots and soil structure, or involve vegetation cutting or harvesting that impairs the viability of perennial vegetation.
Drainage authority:	The public body having jurisdiction over a drainage system under Minnesota Statutes chapter 103E.
NRCS:	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service.
Operator:	A party other than a landowner that directly or indirectly controls the condition of riparian land subject to a buffer under the rule.
Person:	Individual or entity.
Public water:	As defined at Minnesota Statutes §103G.005, subdivision 15, and included within the public waters inventory as provided in Minnesota Statutes §103G.201.
Riparian protection:	A water quality outcome for the adjacent waterbody equivalent to that which would be provided by the otherwise mandated buffer, from a facility or practice owned or operated by a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permittee or subject to a maintenance commitment in favor of that permittee at least as stringent as that required by the MS4 general permit in effect.

- Shoreland standards: Local shoreland standards as approved by the Commissioner or, absent such standards, the shoreland model standards and criteria adopted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §103F.211.
- Structure: An above-ground building or other improvement that has substantial features other than a surface.
- SWCD: Soil and Water Conservation District.

### **3. Data sharing/management**

- 3.1. The District may enter into arrangements with an SWCD, a county, the BWSR and other parties with respect to the creation and maintenance of, and access to, data concerning buffers and alternative practices under this rule.
- 3.2. The District will manage all such data in accordance with the Minnesota Data Practices Act and any other applicable laws.

### **4. Vegetated Buffer Requirement**

- 4.1. Except as subsection 4.3 may apply, a landowner must maintain a buffer on land that is adjacent to a public drainage system ditch identified and mapped on the buffer protection map established and maintained by the Commissioner pursuant to the buffer law.
  - 4.1.1. For a public drainage system ditch, the buffer must be of a 16.5-foot minimum width on either bank. This rule does not apply to the portion of public drainage systems consisting of tile.
  - 4.1.2. The buffer is measured from the top or crown of the bank. Where there is no defined bank, measurement will be from the normal water level. The District will determine normal water level in accordance with BWSR guidance. For a public drainage system, the District will determine top or crown of bank in the same manner as for measuring the perennially vegetated strip under Minnesota Statutes §103E.021.
  - 4.1.3. A buffer may not be used for cultivation farming, but may be grazed, mowed, hayed or otherwise harvested, provided permanent growth of perennial vegetation is maintained.

#### 4.2. The requirement of subsection 4.1

Applies to all public drainage ditches within the Watershed District's boundary for which it is the drainage authority.

#### 4.3. The requirement of subsection 4.1 does not apply to land that is:

- 4.3.1. Enrolled in the federal Conservation Reserve Program;
- 4.3.2. Used as a public or private water access or recreational use area including stairways, landings, picnic areas, access paths, beach and watercraft access areas, provided the area in such use is limited to what is permitted under shoreland standards or, if no specific standard is prescribed, what is reasonably necessary;
- 4.3.3. Used as the site of a water-oriented structure in conformance with shoreland standards or, if no specific standard is prescribed, what is reasonably necessary;

- 4.3.4. Covered by a road, trail, building or other structure;
- 4.3.5. Regulated by a national pollutant discharge elimination system/state disposal system (NPDES/SDS) municipal separate storm sewer system, construction or industrial permit under Minnesota Rules, chapter 7090, and the adjacent waterbody is provided riparian protection;
- 4.3.6. Part of a water-inundation cropping system; or
- 4.3.7. In a temporary non-vegetated condition due to drainage tile installation and maintenance, alfalfa or other perennial crop or plant seeding, or a construction or conservation project authorized by a federal, state or local government unit.

## **5. Drainage System Acquisition and Compensation for Buffer**

- 5.1. In accordance with Minnesota Statutes §103F.48, subdivision 10(b), a landowner owning land within the benefited area of and adjacent to a public drainage ditch may request that the Watershed District, as the drainage authority, acquire and provide compensation for the buffer strip required under this rule.
  - 5.1.1. The request may be made to use Minnesota Statutes §103E.021, subdivision 6, or by petition pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §103E.715, subdivision 1.
  - 5.1.2. The decision on the request is within the judgment and discretion of the District, unless the request concerns a buffer strip mandated by Minnesota Statutes §103E.021.
  - 5.1.3. If the request is granted or the petition proceeds, the requirements of the buffer strip and the compensation to be paid for its incorporation into the drainage system will be determined in accordance with the statutes referenced in paragraph 5.1.1 and associated procedures. When the order establishing or incorporating the buffer strip is final, the buffer strip will become a part of the drainage system and thereafter will be managed by the Watershed District in accordance with the applicable statutory drainage code.
  - 5.1.4. On a public drainage ditch that also is a public water subject to a 50-foot average buffer, the drainage system will be required to acquire only the first 16.5 feet of the buffer.
- 5.2. The Watershed District, on its own initiative pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §§103F.48 and 103E.021, may acquire and provide compensation for buffer strips required under this rule on individual or multiple properties along a public drainage system.
- 5.3. The Watershed District's decision to grant or deny a request under subsection 5.1 is not subject to appeal. However, a determination as to compensation or another term of the order may be appealed as provided for under the drainage code.
- 5.4. This section 5.0 supplements, and does not displace, the terms of Minnesota Statutes chapter 103E requiring or providing for drainage system establishment and acquisition of vegetated buffer strips along public drainageways.

## **6. Action for Noncompliance**

- 6.1. When the Watershed District observes potential noncompliance, actual non-compliance or receives a third-party complaint from a private individual or entity, or from another public agency (such as the SWCD), it will determine the appropriate course of action to confirm

compliance status. This may include communication with the landowner or his/her agents or operators, communication with the shoreland management authority, inspection or other appropriate steps necessary to verify the compliance status of the parcel. On the basis of this coordination, the SWCD may issue a notification of noncompliance to the District. If the SWCD does not transmit such a notification, the District will not pursue a compliance or enforcement action under Minnesota Statutes §103F.48 but may pursue such an action under the authority of Minnesota Statutes §§103E.021 and 103D.341 and paragraph 6.

- 6.2. On receipt of an SWCD notification of noncompliance, or if acting solely under authority of Minnesota Statutes §§103E.021 or 103D.341, the Watershed District will determine first whether sufficient public drainage system easement exists to establish the required vegetative buffer. If sufficient easement does not exist, the District will attempt to acquire the necessary easements through incremental buffer establishment provided in §103E.021, subd. 6 or through a redetermination of benefits provided in Minnesota Statutes §103E.351 and will establish the required buffers. The establishment of the required buffers will occur within 12 months of the determination that inadequate easement exists, and no more than 18 months from the receipt of a SWCD notification of noncompliance or the Watershed District decision to establish the required buffers. If sufficient easement does not exist and the District is unable to acquire the necessary easements through incremental buffer establishment provided in §103E.021, subd. 6 or through a redetermination of benefits, or if sufficient easement does exist and an established buffer has been adversely altered, the District will issue a corrective action list and practical schedule for compliance to the landowner. The District may inspect the property and will consult with the SWCD, review available information and exercise its technical judgment to determine appropriate and sufficient corrective action and a practical schedule for such action. The Watershed District will maintain a record establishing the basis for the corrective action that it requires.
  - 6.2.1. The Watershed District will issue the corrective action list and schedule to the landowner of record. The landowner may be the subject of enforcement liabilities under subsections 7.1 and 7.2. The District may deliver or transmit the list and schedule by any means reasonably determined to reach the responsible party or parties and will document the delivery method. However, a failure to document receipt will not preclude the District from demonstrating delivery, receipt or knowledge in an enforcement proceeding under section
  - 6.2.2. The corrective action list and schedule will identify the tract of record to which it pertains and the portion of that tract that is alleged to be noncompliant. It will describe corrective actions to be taken, a schedule of intermediate or final dates for correction, a compliance standard against which it will judge the corrective action, and a statement that failure to respond to this list and schedule will result in an enforcement action. The Watershed District will provide a copy of the list and schedule to the BWSR.
  - 6.2.3. In addition, at any time a responsible party may supply information in support of a request to modify a corrective action or the schedule for its performance. On the basis of any such submittal or at its own discretion, the Watershed District may modify the corrective action list or schedule and deliver or transmit the modified list and schedule in accordance with paragraph 6.2.1, or may advise the landowner in writing that it is not pursuing further compliance action.
  - 6.2.4. The corrective action list and schedule for compliance may be modified in accordance with subsection 6.2, to extend the compliance timeline for a modification that imposes a substantial new action or significantly accelerates the completion date for an action.



- 6.2.5. At any time after the Watershed District has issued the list and schedule, a landowner, or authorized agent or operator of a landowner, may request that the SWCD issue a validation of compliance with respect to property for which the list and schedule has been issued. On Watershed District receipt of the validation: (a) the list and schedule will be deemed withdrawn for the purpose of subsection 7.2, and the subject property will not be subject to enforcement under that subsection; and (b) the subject property will not be subject to enforcement under subsection 7.1.
- 6.2.6. A corrective action list and schedule is not considered a final decision subject to appeal. An objection to a finding of noncompliance, or to any specified corrective action or its schedule, is reserved to the responsible party and may be addressed in an enforcement proceeding under section 7.0.

## **7. Enforcement**

- 7.1. Under authority of Minnesota Statutes §§103E.021, 103D.545, and 103D.551, the Watershed District may seek remedies for noncompliance with section 4.0 against any responsible party including but not limited to: (a) reimbursement of Watershed District compliance costs under Minnesota Statutes §§103D.345 and 103E.021 and/or an escrow for same; (b) administrative compliance order; (c) district court remedy including injunction, restoration or abatement order, authorization for Watershed District entry and/or order for cost recovery; and (d) referral to county attorney for criminal misdemeanor prosecution.
- 7.2. In instances where existing vegetation on the ditch buffer easement has been adversely altered and has not been restored, the District may collect compliance expenses in accordance with Minnesota Statutes §§103E.021 from a landowner for noncompliance with the corrective action list and schedule, as provided under paragraphs 6.2.1 and 6.2.2. The watershed District will restore any adversely altered buffer and charge the landowner for the cost of the restoration if the landowner does not complete or does not meet the requirements of the corrective action list and schedule.
- 7.3. In instances where a drainageway buffer easement area cannot be established in a timely manner, the Watershed District may issue an administrative order imposing a monetary penalty against a landowner for noncompliance with the corrective action list and schedule, as provided under paragraphs 7.3.1 and 7.3.2. The penalty will continue to accrue until the noncompliance is corrected as provided in the corrective action list and schedule.
  - 7.3.1. The penalty for a landowner on a single parcel that previously has not received a previous administrative penalty order issued by the Watershed District shall be:
    - a) \$0 for 11 months after issuance of the corrective action list and schedule;
    - b) \$200 per parcel per month for the first six (6) months (180 days) following the time period in (a); and \$500 per parcel per month after six (6) months (180 days) following the time period in (b).
  - 7.3.2. The penalty for a landowner on a single parcel that previously has received an administrative penalty order issued by the Watershed District shall be:
    - a) \$50 per parcel per day for 180 days after issuance of the corrective action list and schedule; and
    - b) \$200 per parcel per day for after 180 days following the time period in (a).

- 7.4. The administrative order will state:
- i. The facts constituting a violation of the buffer requirements;
  - ii. The statute and/or rule that has been violated;
  - iii. Prior efforts to work with the landowner to resolve the violation;
  - iv. For an administrative penalty order, the amount of the penalty to be imposed, the date the penalty will begin to accrue, and the date when payment of the penalty is due; and
  - v. The right of the responsible party to appeal the order.

A copy of the APO must be sent to the SWCD and BWSR.

- 7.5. An administrative order under subsection 7.1 or 7.3 will be issued after a compliance hearing before the Watershed District Board of Managers. The landowner and any other responsible parties will receive written notice at least two weeks in advance of the hearing with a statement of the facts alleged to constitute noncompliance and a copy or link to the written record on which District staff intends to rely, which may be supplemented at the hearing. A responsible party may be represented by counsel, may present and question witnesses, and may present evidence and testimony to the Watershed District Board of Managers. The Watershed District will make a verbatim record of the hearing.
- 7.6. After a hearing is noticed and held for consideration of an administrative penalty or other administrative order, the Watershed District Board of Managers may issue findings and an order imposing any authorized remedy or remedies.
- 7.6.1. The amount of an administrative penalty will be based on considerations including the extent, gravity and willfulness of the noncompliance; its economic benefit to the landowner; the extent of the landowner's diligence in addressing it; any noncompliance history; the public costs incurred to address the noncompliance; and other factors as justice may require.
- 7.6.2. The Watershed District Board of Managers findings and order will be delivered or transmitted to the landowner and other responsible parties, as the Watershed District sees fit. An administrative penalty order may be appealed to the BWSR in accordance with Minnesota Statutes §103F.48, subdivision 9, and will become final as provided therein. The Watershed District may enforce the order in accordance with Minnesota Statutes §116.072, subdivision 9. Other remedies imposed by administrative order may be appealed in accordance with Minnesota Statutes §103D.537.
- 7.6.3. The Watershed District Board of Managers, may forgive an administrative penalty, or any part thereof, on the basis of diligent correction of noncompliance following issuance of the findings and order and such other factors as the Watershed District Board of Managers finds relevant.
- 7.7. Absent a timely appeal pursuant to paragraph 7.6.2, an administrative penalty is due and payable to the District as specified in the administrative penalty order.
- 7.8. A landowner agent or operator may not remove or willfully degrade, wholly or partially, a riparian buffer, unless the agent or operator has obtained a signed statement from the landowner stating that written permission for the work has been granted by the Watershed District or that the buffer is not required as indicated in a validation of compliance issued by the SWCD.

7.9. Nothing within this rule diminishes or otherwise alters the Watershed District's authority under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 103E with respect to any public drainage system for which it is the drainage authority, or any buffer strip that is an element of that system.

## 8. Effect of Rule

8.1. If any section, provision or portion of this rule is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the rule is not affected thereby.

8.2. Any provision of this rule, and any amendment to it, that concerns Watershed District authority under Minnesota Statutes §103F.48 is not effective until an adequacy determination has been issued by the BWSR. Authority exercised under Minnesota Statutes chapter 103D and 103E does not require a BWSR adequacy determination.

**We hereby affirm, this document was approved by the Red Lake Watershed District Board of Managers, dated October 11, 2018.**

*Daum Nelson*

*Ze Roy Ose*



## RED RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BOARD

### October 31, 2018 Strategic Plan Input Watershed District Questionnaire

On October 24, 2018, the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) held a special meeting to discuss funding of alternative flood damage reduction projects, cost-share levels of such projects, and development of a strategic plan. As part of this meeting, the RRWMB Managers reviewed the current Star Valuation Process, Project Evaluation Worksheet, and overall funding process for water retention projects.

Before moving forward with the development of a strategic plan, the RRWMB Managers are asking for input from both member and non-watershed districts based on discussion at this special meeting. The RRWMB Managers have asked staff to prepare and distribute this questionnaire to obtain insightful comments and input, which will guide the RRWMB into the future. The RRWMB asks that your full board discuss these questions and that responses represent the views of your entire board of managers.

Also attached is a document illustrating progress that has been made by the RRWMB in the first nine months of the RRWMBs reorganization and restructuring. Since this document was developed, the RRWMB has continued to make decisions and to implement change. It is important that your responses be clear and specific. Please respond to these questions by December 31, 2018 and submit them via email to RRWMB Executive Director Robert Sip at: [rob.sip@rrwmb.org](mailto:rob.sip@rrwmb.org)

**Note** – There are eight (8) questions that the RRWMB is seeking input on. Please review this document and respond to all eight questions. Each watershed district should submit one collective response.

Watershed District: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1. Should the RRWMB’s mission below remain the same for the next 10 years and beyond? If not, what changes are needed? Please be specific.**

“The mission of the Red River Watershed Management Board is to institute, coordinate, and finance projects and programs to alleviate flooding and assure the beneficial use of water in the watershed of the Red River of the North and its tributaries.”

**Watershed District Response – RRWMB Mission:**

**2. Should the RRWMB’s principal objective below remain the same for the next 10 years and beyond? If not, what changes are needed? Please be specific.**

“The principal objective of the Red River Watershed Management Board is to assist member Watershed Districts with the implementation of water related projects and programs. The purpose of these projects and programs is the reduction of local and mainstem flood damages, and also to enhance environmental and water resource management. Projects and programs must be of benefit to the Red River Basin and its member watershed districts in order to qualify for RRWMB funding.

The principal objective of the RRWMB, as stated above, is derived from legislation passed in 1976 and 1991. This objective is also in direct support of the RRWMB's Mission Statement. In addition to the RRWMB's principle objective, the Board has adopted several supporting objectives. Taken as a whole, the principal and supporting objectives form an overall policy for the Red River Watershed Management Board.”

**Watershed District Response – RRWMB Principal Objective:**

**3. Should the RRWMBs supporting objectives below remain the same for the next 10 years and beyond? If not, what changes are needed? Please be precise. The supporting objectives can also be found at this website:**

[http://www.rrwmb.org/Governing\\_Documents/SECTION1-Policy%20Manual,%20Rev.%204%20FINAL.pdf](http://www.rrwmb.org/Governing_Documents/SECTION1-Policy%20Manual,%20Rev.%204%20FINAL.pdf)

- Coordination - It is a supporting objective of the RRWMB to provide leadership for the coordination of projects and programs related to water management. The RRWMB accepts this leadership role as a matter of policy.
- Financial Support - It is a supporting objective of the RRWMB to participate in funding initiatives which include projects and related programs that encourage consideration of mainstem benefits and enhance environmental and water resources. It is current policy of the RRWMB to participate in funding of member watershed district initiated projects meeting RRWMB established criteria for financial support and other initiatives beneficial to the basin.
- Basin Planning - The RRWMB assists private, local, state, interstate, federal, or international water management and natural resource activities within the Red River Basin, through coordination and assistance with implementation. The RRWMB assists planning efforts at all levels within the Red River Basin and is committed to supporting basin planning efforts as a matter of Board policy.

- Water Quantity - The RRWMB supports projects and programs for the alleviation of damage by floodwater, with an additional emphasis on maintaining low flow conditions for the aquatic environment and providing water supply for public use. It is Board policy to support flood control and water conservation projects.
- Water Quality - It is a supporting objective of the RRWMB to provide assistance for studies, programs, initiatives and projects to improve water quality. It is a policy of the RRWMB to support ongoing studies, initiatives, and programs for the improvement of water quality.
- Erosion and Sedimentation - It is a supporting objective of the RRWMB to provide assistance for studies, programs, and initiatives, including cooperative efforts with other agencies, to reduce soil erosion and sedimentation. It is a policy of the RRWMB to support studies, programs, and initiatives conducted by federal, state, and local agencies for the reduction of soil erosion.
- Education - It is a supporting objective of the RRWMB to support development of informational and educational programs related to water and natural resource management concerns. It is a policy of the RRWMB to utilize education as a tool to inform the public on issues related to the conservation of water, soil, and the preservation and enhancement of natural resources in the basin.
- Research - It is a supporting objective of the RRWMB to provide assistance for basic and applied research related to natural resources management within the Red River Basin. It is a policy of the RRWMB to commit to an administrative and financial role in supporting and sponsoring relevant research related to water and natural resource management within the Red River Basin.
- Public Information - It is a supporting objective of the RRWMB to inform the public of water management activities and concerns. It is a policy of the RRWMB to promote a strong public information program to educate the public regarding its operations and initiatives.
- Conflict Resolution - The RRWMB shall work toward the resolution of conflicts regarding water management. The RRWMB is committed to the resolution of conflicts and methods to reduce conflict include, but are not limited to negotiation, mediation, arbitration, or legal action. It is a policy of the RRWMB to commit itself to the speedy and efficient resolution of any conflicts related to managing the basin's water resources.
- Policies, Rules, and Regulations of Other Entities - The RRWMB will comply with the policies and regulations of other governmental entities. Where inconsistencies in policies and regulations exist, the RRWMB will cooperate with the appropriate governmental entities in resolving the inconsistencies. It is a policy of the RRWMB to adopt policies and regulations which are consistent with policies and regulations of other governmental entities, and to comply with the regulatory programs of these agencies.

**Watershed District Response – RRWMB Supporting Objectives:**

- 4. **Considering the future, what are the most important water and resource management problems that the RRWMB should work on?**

**Watershed District Response – RRWMB Water and Resource Management Problems:**

- 5. **What kinds of alternative flood damage reduction projects should the RRWMB support in the future? If non-structural is part of your answer, please elaborate what this means.**

**Watershed District Response – RRWMB Project Alternatives:**

**6. How should the RRWMB prioritize funding in the Red River Basin over the next 5-10 years?**

**Watershed District Response – RRWMB Funding Prioritization:**

**7. Are there any immediate issues that the RRWMB should address in 2019?**

**Watershed District Response – RRWMB Immediate Issues:**



**8. Do you have other suggestions, comments, or questions for the RRWMB?**

**Watershed District Response – Other Suggestions, Comments, or Questions:**

The RRWMB Managers will review and consider your responses as it shapes its future. Thank you for your time and effort to consider and respond to these questions. The RRWMB greatly appreciates your timely review and response! Call RRWMB Executive Director Robert Sip at 218-474-1084 for any questions that you may have.

The RRWMB is also asking that your administrator and board chair sign this document before submitting your final responses to the RRWMB.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Watershed District

\_\_\_\_\_ Watershed District

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

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

# **RED RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BOARD**



## **STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS RESULTS TO DATE**

**NOVEMBER 29, 2017 TO  
SEPTEMBER 5, 2018**

The Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) is continuing its work on a phased strategic plan. Phase I of this plan was to hire an executive director along with an executive assistant, and to establish a permanent office in a public location. This phase was completed earlier this spring. The RRWMB staff will be co-located with the Wild Rice Watershed District in Ada and it is anticipated that co-location will take place later in 2018 or in early 2019. During the last nine months, the RRWMB Mangers also began implementing several new processes, procedures, and policies with staff, legal counsel, the RRWMB Technical Advisory Committee, Red River Basin Coordinator, and the Legislative Liaison.

Phase II commenced this spring with the RRWMB affirming that they were committed to continuing the development of a strategic plan. This document provides a brief listing of the work that has been commenced or completed during this reorganizational and restructuring timeframe. Phase II of the plan involves obtaining input from member watershed districts, counties, cities, partner and stakeholder organizations, and the general public. Additional input will be gathered from local, state and federal agencies, legislators, and congressional members.

#### **1. Communication and Outreach:**

- a. Monthly RRWMB board meeting packets developed and distributed to:
  - i. RRWMB Mangers via US postal service and Constant Contact.
  - ii. Individuals on the RRWMB email distribution list via Constant Contact.
  - iii. Packet placed on RRWMB website for distribution and download by the general public and other interested organizations and individuals.
- b. Monthly RRWMB meeting highlights shared via Constant Contact to all individuals on the RRWMB email distribution list.
- c. Developed seven factsheets for the following topics:
  - i. Current RRWMB goals and objectives.
  - ii. Services provided to member watershed districts.
  - iii. Strategic plan update for June 2018.
  - iv. Public information update for May 2018.
  - v. Joint factsheet with the Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Workgroups Technical and Scientific Advisory Committee and its technical papers.
  - vi. Investments made by the RRWMB since 1976.
  - vii. 2019 operating budget.
- d. Developed one general overview brochure of the RRWMB.
- e. Developed a standard powerpoint presentation when addressing local boards and officials.
- f. Developed a communication and outreach strategy with guidance and input from the RRWMB Public Information Committee.
- g. Participated in two radio interviews.
- h. Participated in one TV interview.
- i. Staff have visited seven of the member watershed districts and one non-member watershed district. Two of the member watershed districts have been visited more than one time.
- j. Visited four county boards of commissioners.

- k. Participated in three Association of Minnesota Counties district meetings in Ada, Bemidji, and Fergus Falls.
- l. Enhanced use of social media (Facebook) for posting conference and tour photos.
- m. Reinstating annual reports – 2017 report under development and expected to be completed and approved in October 2017.
- n. Continual use of a rotating meeting schedule with meetings being held in Fertile, Moorhead, Wheaton, Hallock, Thief River Falls, and Ada.
- o. Correspondence developed and sent to SWCDs, county commissioners, and other county officials to introduce new staff and to discuss current RWMB activities.
- p. August 2018 RRWMB tour of proposed flood damage reduction projects in Northwest Minnesota.

## **2. Financial Matters:**

- a. Inquiry with over 80 financial institutions for investment and banking services to ensure that the RRWMB is receiving the best interest rates and services. Upon review of approximately 20 proposals, the RRWMB determined to stay with its current financial institution.
- b. Internal controls document adopted and former RRWMB Treasurers Manual assimilated into new document.
- c. Developed and approved a credit card policy and obtained credit cards for use by RRWMB staff.
- d. Approved a policy for the Executive Director to enter into certain types of contracts.
- e. Reaffirmed levy reduction criteria for member watershed districts wanting to reduce their portion of the RRWMB levy. The original criteria was developed and approved in August 2017.
- f. Further reinitiated the use of contracts, funding agreements, and resolutions for funding requests, regardless of request.
- g. Independent review of existing RRWMB accounting software conducted.
- h. Reduction in the use of IT, communication, and other independent consultants.
- i. Implemented changes at the RRWMBs current financial institution, with over \$70,000 in interest being earned in calendar year 2018 thus far.
- j. Various RRWMB insurances reviewed and approximately \$6,000 saved annually. Insurances are now with the League of Minnesota Cities.
- k. Developed a transparent budget and levy process that was fully vetted with the RRWMB Budget and Finance Committee and shared via Constant Contact with individuals on the RRWMB email distribution list.
- l. 2019 approved operating budget down nine percent from the 2018 approved operating budget.
- m. Funding commitment spreadsheet and information being updated. Completion date anticipated to be October 2018.
- n. Updated signers at the RRWMB financial institution.

### **3. Legislative Items:**

- a. Creation of the RRWMB legislative committee.
- b. Development of a strategy to develop a legislative platform for 2019.
- c. 2018 bonding booklet developed for use by member watershed districts during the 2018 Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts legislative conference.
- d. RRWMB lobby efforts resulted in \$20 million for statewide flood hazard mitigation.
- e. Advanced RRWMB interests on the Drainage Work Group.
- f. Defeated legislation that would have stripped watershed districts of current authority.

### **4. Office Space:**

- a. Developed a public notification process and held a public hearing to obtain input on a permanent office location.
- b. Located, secured, and moved into interim office space in Ada.
- c. Signed a 10-year lease with the Wild Rice Watershed District for permanent office space. The following are additional components of this lease:
  - i. All utilities are included for the duration of the lease.
  - ii. The RRWMB is not liable for building maintenance costs during the lease timeframe.
  - iii. No insurance will be required for the building structure.
  - iv. The monthly cost is the same each month for 10 years.

### **5. Internal RRWMB Management Issues:**

- a. Email updates to RRWMB Managers by staff have been implemented and completed as needed (generally each week to every two weeks).
- b. Frequent phone calls and in person interactions occur between RRWMB managers and RRWMB staff.
- c. Reinvigorated the use of internal RRWMB committees, processes, and structure.
- d. Entered into an agreement for services with legal counsel.
- e. Initiated a more rigorous employee performance review process.
- f. Overview document developed by staff for the Treasurer to discuss monthly financial reports at regular board meetings.
- g. Project review checklist developed by staff to review projects to ensure that criteria in the RRWMB Governing Documents are met.
- h. Board packet checklist developed by staff to ensure that re-occurring items are brought to the RRWMB managers each month.
  - i. Monthly meeting calendar redeveloped and distributed each month.
  - j. Continual update and review of internal RRWMB committees.
  - k. Frequent interaction with RRWMB auditing firm and financial institution.
  - l. Commenced work on further developing a records retention schedule that had been developed but not adopted by the RRWMB Managers. Anticipated to be completed before 2019.
- m. Public transparency and outreach on RRWMB internal committee meeting agendas, minutes, and activities.

- n. Overall project spreadsheet and information being updated. Completion date anticipated to be October 2018.
- o. Monthly reports from RRWMB Managers that participate on external committees.

**6. Annual Conference:**

- a. Successful 20<sup>th</sup> joint annual conference held with the Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Work Group. The conference was also held jointly with the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board. An evening banquet was held the first night of the conference and the conference had record attendance. Northwest Minnesota SWCDs and the Red River Retention Authority held meetings as part of this conference.
- b. Over \$6,000 in sponsorships were secured for the joint annual conference.

**7. Project Funding:**

- a. Provided educational funding for the Middle Snake Tamarac River Watershed District to construct informational kiosks at flood damage reduction project sites.
- b. Approved moving the following projects through the RRWMB funding process:
  - i. City of Thief River Falls Westside Diversion flood damage reduction project in combination with the Red Lake Watershed Districts Black River Impoundment Project.
  - ii. City of Hendrum Flood Control Levee Improvement Project.
  - iii. Wild Rice Watershed District Goose Prairie WMA Enhancement Project.
  - iv. Middle-Snake-Tamarac Watershed Districts Newfolden Middle River Subwatershed Flood Damage Reduction Project.

**RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
TOTAL TAXES COLLECTED & SUBMITTED TO RRWMB IN 2018  
as of December 26, 2018**

County	*1st Qtr delinq.	1st Qtr. current	2nd Qtr. delinq.	2nd Qtr. current	Addt'l 2nd Qtr.	TOTAL
Beltrami	\$ 11,751.45	\$ 71,018.74	\$ 638.19	\$ 40,322.00	\$ -	\$ 123,730.38
Clearwater	2,689.22	166,937.85	880.04	91,027.02	-	261,534.13
Itasca	7.25	-	21.75	1,070.28	-	1,099.28
Koochiching	626.39	-	974.39	416.51	-	2,017.29
Mahnomen	78.27	1,014.04	25.66	1,355.25	-	2,473.22
Marshall	2,365.42	38,934.86	365.24	31,416.16	-	73,081.68
Pennington	8,912.73	-	2,720.03	364,107.61	-	375,740.37
Polk	17,371.46	520,940.38	2,918.76	376,641.19	626.42	918,498.21
Red Lake	1,491.25	120,636.75	577.73	57,808.35	142.37	180,656.45
Roseau	-	118.46	-	71.07		189.53
State of Minnesota	-		-	23,100.62	59,371.11	82,471.73
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 45,293.44</b>	<b>\$ 919,601.08</b>	<b>\$ 9,121.79</b>	<b>\$ 987,336.06</b>	<b>\$ 60,139.90</b>	<b>\$ 2,021,492.27</b>

2018 RRWMB levy = 2,037,098.82

\* Taxes are considered delinquent when received in current year for previous year(s) assessment-  
i.e. taxes received January 1, 2018 or later for 2017 levy were considered delinquent

## 2018 MAWD BUSINESS MEETING

NOVEMBER 30, 2018

### RESOLUTION 1.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** THAT MAWD SUPPORTS LEGISLATION TO LIFT AND/OR INCREASE THE MAXIMUM \$75 A DAY MANAGER COMPENSATION RATE SET IN MN STATUTE 103D.315 SUBD.8. IF THE COMPENSATION RATE IS RAISED TO A NEW DOLLAR AMOUNT, MAWD SUPPORTS THE INCLUSION OF AN ANNUAL COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT WITH THE LOCAL BOARD HAVING AUTHORITY TO SET THEIR OWN RATES FOR A LESSER AMOUNT IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE.

1

2

### RESOLUTION 2.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** THAT MAWD SUPPORTS LEGISLATION TO INCREASE OR REMOVE THE \$250,000 GENERAL FUND AD VALOREM TAX LEVY LIMIT SET IN MN STATUTE 103D.905 SUBD. 3. IF THE LIMIT IS RAISED TO A NEW DOLLAR AMOUNT, MAWD SUPPORTS AN INFLATIONARY ADJUSTMENT BE ADDED TO STATUTE.

3

### RESOLUTION 3.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** THAT MAWD SUPPORTS LEGISLATION THAT REQUIRES THE GOVERNOR TO MAKE BWSR BOARD APPOINTMENTS WITHIN **90 DAYS** OF A VACANCY OR BOARD MEMBER TERM EXPIRATION.

4

### RESOLUTION 4.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** THAT MAWD SUPPORTS AN AMENDMENT TO THE MINN. STAT.§ 103D.315, SUBD. 5, TO INCLUDE THE MN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AS A STATE AGENCY REQUIRED TO GET PERMITS FROM WATERSHED DISTRICTS WHEN APPLICABLE."

5

### RESOLUTION 5.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** THAT MAWD SUPPORTS AMENDING THE WATERSHED LAW (CHAPTER 103D) AND/OR THE DRAINAGE CODE (CHAPTER 103E) TO IMPROVE THE CAPACITY OF WATERSHED DISTRICTS TO FINANCE DRAINAGE PROJECTS, BY:

- INCREASING WATERSHED DISTRICTS' LIMIT ON BORROWING;
- ALLOWING COUNTIES TO ISSUE DRAINAGE PROJECT BONDS EARLIER IN THE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS; AND
- ENHANCING WATERSHED DISTRICT ABILITY TO OBTAIN COMPETITIVE BORROWING RATES FROM BOTH COUNTIES AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

6



RESOLUTION 6.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** THAT MAWD SUPPORTS THAT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLANS AND/OR MANAGEMENT PLANS ARE EITHER DRAFTED OR BROUGHT CURRENT IN A TIMELY FASHION, WITH INPUT FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES, TO ENSURE THEIR CONSIDERATION IN FUTURE ONE WATERSHED ONE PLAN EFFORTS.

7

RESOLUTION 7A.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** THAT MAWD SUPPORTS ACTIONS TO REQUIRE THE DNR TO ALLOW COMMON CARP REMOVAL AS PART OF AN ELECTROFISHING PROGRAM.

8

RESOLUTION 7B.

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** THAT MAWD SUPPORTS LEGISLATION OR A DNR RULE CHANGE TO REQUIRE THE DNR TO LICENSE AND ASSIGN MULTIPLE COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN TO COMMERCIAL FISHING AREAS TO ENSURE THAT WATERSHED DISTRICTS WILL HAVE THE ABILITY TO REMOVE THE CARP AS PART OF THEIR MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS.

9

RESOLUTION 8.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** THAT MAWD SUPPORTS LEGISLATION MODELED AFTER HOUSE FILE 2687 AND SENATE FILE 2419 OF THE NINETIETH LEGISLATURE (2017-2018) REINFORCING THAT THE DNR CANNOT RESTRICT EXISTING RIGHTS TO MAINTAIN AND REPAIR 103E PUBLIC DRAINAGE SYSTEMS.

10

RESOLUTION 9A.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** THAT MAWD MAY ASK THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CLEAN WATER COUNCIL TO RESIGN WHEN THEY LOSE THEIR DIRECT ASSOCIATION TO A WATERSHED DISTRICT; AND

11

RESOLUTION 9B.

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** THAT MAWD WILL RECOMMEND TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE THAT MANAGERS AND/OR ADMINISTRATORS IN GOOD STANDING WITH MAWD BE APPOINTED TO THE CLEAN WATER COUNCIL.

12



Permit # 18-125

Status Report: **Approved**

**Applicant Information**

Name	Organization	Address	Email	Phone Number(s)
Pat Wichterman		18497 170th Street SE Plummer, MN 56748		tel: mobile: 701-400-4496 fax:

**General Information**

(1) The proposed project is a:

**Tiling**

(2) Legal Description

(3) County: **Red Lake** Township: **Emardville** Range: **42** Section: **7 1/4: SW1/4**

(4) Describe in detail the work to be performed. **Proposed work will tie into an existing tile and lift station in the NW1/4 of Section 7.**

(5) Why is this work necessary? Explain water related issue/problem being solved. **Drainage.**

**Status**

Status	Notes	Date
<b>Approved</b>		<b>Dec. 27, 2018</b>
Received	None	Sept. 21, 2018

**Conditions**

**P.A. #18125 – Wichterman tile – needs Ben. Area hearing – Red Lk. Co. A hearing was held at the Red lake County Courthouse, and approval was granted to allow land in Emardville Twp. – sec. 7, to be drained, to outlet, and to be included into the benefitted area of County Ditch #62. (Land to be tiled, will also remain in County Ditch #60 benefitted area) The Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD) approves the pattern tile project that will “tie into” an existing tile project and lift station. If any work is within a public road and/or public ditch Right-of-Way, applicant shall contact the appropriate road/ditch authority for their approval, and must meet their specs/conditions. Directly downstream of the tile and/or pump station(s) outlets, applicant shall ensure that adequate grade and drainage is provided. ■ Note: Please be aware of, and review the ‘bullet points’ on the bottom half of the application. For proposed work on lands not owned by applicant, he/she must obtain, in writing, permission from the affected landowners to perform proposed work. Applicant is responsible for utility locates by calling Gopher 1. (1-800-252-1166)**

NOTE: This permit does not relieve the applicant of any requirements for other permits which may be necessary from Township, County, State, or Federal Government Agencies.



Permit # 18-156

Status Report: **Tabled**

### Applicant Information

Name	Organization	Address	Email	Phone Number(s)
Brent Strand		3542 6th Street East West Fargo, ND 58078		tel: mobile: 218-686-7886 fax:

### General Information

(1) The proposed project is a:

**Culvert Installation / Removal / Modification**

(2) Legal Description

(3) County: **Red Lake** Township: **Poplar River** Range: **42** Section: **26 1/4: NW1/4**

(4) Describe in detail the work to be performed. **Replace existing 36"x20' culvert with a 36"x30' culvert in field approach.**

(5) Why is this work necessary? Explain water related issue/problem being solved. **Existing culvert has deteriorated.**

### Status

Status	Notes	Date
<b>Tabled</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Dec. 27, 2018</b>
Received	None	Nov. 19, 2018

### Conditions

P.A. #18156 – ‘Tabled’ at 12-27-2018 Brd. Mtg. I recommend this permit be “tabled” until after the 2019 Spring melt. This will allow for adequate time to observe runoff conditions, water elevations, existing culvert sizes and flow patterns. Staff member, Loren Sanderson met with the applicant on Dec. 19, 2018, to discuss the permit, topography, culvert sizes, etc. The out of area landowner/applicant was unaware that there are 2 lines of 36 in. diameter pipes in the existing field entrance permit site.

NOTE: This permit does not relieve the applicant of any requirements for other permits which may be necessary from Township, County, State, or Federal Government Agencies.

## **Red Lake Watershed District - Administrators Report**

**December 27, 2018**

**Red River Watershed Management Board** – LeRoy and I attended the RRWMB meeting held at the Ada Area Event Center in Ada at 9:30 am, December 18, 2018.

**Thief River 1W1P** – Advisory and Policy Committee meeting will be held at 9:30 am, Wednesday January 9, 2019 at the Red Lake Watershed District Board Room. We plan on having a teleconference with the Planning Workgroup tentatively scheduled for the afternoon of January 2nd. Section 4 of the plan will be the main topic for approval.

**Minnesota Association of Watershed District Legislative Committee** – Gene, representing MAWD, and I, representing Minnesota Association of Watershed Administrators took part in a teleconference at 10:00 am December 21<sup>st</sup>. The teleconference was intended to review all the resolutions from the past, as well as those recently approved by MAWD, to categorize and develop a strategy as we move through this year's legislative session.

**Board of Water and Soil Resource/Regional Conservation Partnership Program** – Corey attended the Regional Conservation Partnership Program training session in Grand Rapids, December 20, 2018. This training session was intended to address the partnership program through NRCS and how it can be implemented with state funding for approved One Watershed One Plans.

**Water Quality Report** – I have included in your packet the July 2018 Water Quality Report submitted by Corey.

**New Years** – Office will be closed Tuesday January 1<sup>st</sup> for New Year's Day.

By Corey Hanson, Red Lake Watershed District Water Quality Coordinator. 12/21/2018.

- ✓ Thief River Blue-Green Algae Bloom
- ✓ Blue-Green Algae in Maple Lake
- ✓ District monitoring results
- ✓ Clearwater River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy Project
- ✓ Thief River Watershed Zonation Map

### **Thief River Blue-Green Algae Bloom**

On Friday, Jul 13, 2018, a significant blue-green algae bloom was found in the Thief River near the golf course. District staff were notified of the bloom by Pennington County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) staff. They had been alerted to the problem by a landowner. The river looked normal at the northern 140<sup>th</sup> Ave crossing of the river (“Hillyer Bridge”). However, while traveling south and nearing the “Golf Course Bridge” crossing of the river, there was a very noticeable, strange smell in the air. The river was a very abnormal green color.



Pennington SWCD staff helped photograph and find the extent of the bloom. They found floating, slimy mats of blue-green algae along the streambank within the golf course. They reported that the bloom extended upstream past the golf course clubhouse. The bloom had not yet traveled downstream to Long’s Bridge. Samples were collected. Latex gloves were used for protection during sampling. The slime from the blue-green algae coated sampling equipment, so it had to be thoroughly washed afterward. While driving back to the office, RLWD staff spotted Mayor Brian Holmer walking from the city hall building to his business and informed him of the problem. He shut down the beach (<http://trfradio.com/2018/07/13/holmer-orders-tindolph-beach-closed-due-to-blue-green-algae/>).

Thief River Blue-Green Algae Bloom July 13, 2018 – Golf Course Bridge



Thief River Blue-Green Algae Bloom July 13, 2018



District staff printed and laminated water advisory signs. The signs were placed along the Thief River and the Red Lake River (downstream of the confluence) where people or pets might access the water. Photos and information about the bloom were shared on social media, law enforcement, the mayor, and city staff. District staff were interviewed for a Thief River Falls Times newspaper article.



## **WATER ADVISORY**

**This water may contain blue-green algae that can be harmful to humans and pets.**

To reduce the risk of illness:

- **DO NOT** swim, waterski, or tube if the water looks like spilled green paint or pea soup
- Avoid swallowing water and watch small children and pets who may ingest water
- Rinse off with clean water after swimming
- Stay away from areas of scum when boating

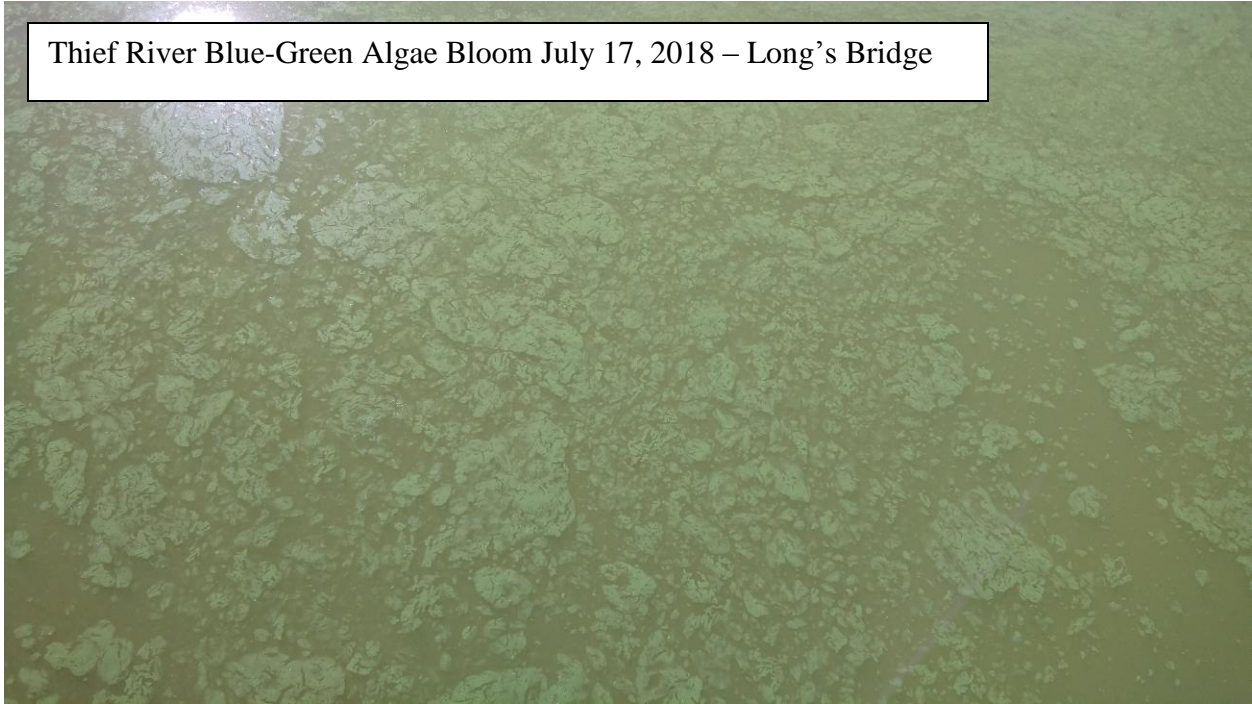


Contact your healthcare provider or veterinarian if you or your pet becomes sick after swimming.  
For more information call: 218-681-5800

Pennington SWCD and RLWD staff discussed the problem and agreed that a no-wake ordinance would help prevent future problems by minimizing the disturbance of sediment and reducing erosion along the river. Nutrient enrichment leads to algae blooms. Internal loading is the resuspension of nutrients into the water column. In shallow lakes, internal loading is caused by wave action and boat traffic. While investigating the blue-green algae bloom, several boats were observed traveling upstream and downstream. Active resuspension of sediment from the bottom of the river and erosion of river banks was observed after the fast-moving boats passed. Slower-moving watercraft had a lesser impact. Regardless of the presence of an algae bloom, it might be a good idea to have a no wake zone in the shallower and narrower parts of the Thief River to reduce erosion and damage to shoreline. A no-wake zone would also be good for the general safety for people that are using the river. Where the river is narrower, it could be dangerous for two boats to meet while rounding a corner if they are moving too fast. The no-wake idea was passed along to the mayor, along with other information about the blue-green algae bloom. The mayor, sheriff, and county attorney also thought that a no-wake ordinance was a good idea and quickly began working on a temporary no-wake ordinance. District staff provided additional information to city and county staff to help support the ordinance.

This was a problem that hasn't been documented on this river before. It was likely that a number of factors combined to cause the problem like stagnant water, heat (warm water), and nutrients. Some things, like a lack of vegetative streambank protection, have existed there for some time without causing an algae bloom. There seemed to be a significant, more noticeable, amount of boat traffic up the Thief River (to the golf course and further upstream). Slow and careful travel might be okay and might not stir up too much sediment, but one of the observed boats was a pontoon pulling a water skier. They were traveling relatively fast and left a wake of stirred-up sediment behind them. Disturbing nutrient-rich sediment from the river bottom and adding nutrients to the water column can possibly (probably) make the algae problem worse.

Thief River Blue-Green Algae Bloom July 17, 2018 – Long's Bridge



Thief River at the Golf Course Bridge on July 25, 2018 – looking like it was back to normal



When the weather cooled-off somewhat at the end of July, the blue-green algae bloom in the Thief River seemed to disappear. There no longer were visual signs of a bloom at the Golf Course Bridge or Long's Bridge. Dissolved oxygen was abnormally low at the Golf Course Bridge on July 25th, which was a sign that the bloom had died-off and was decomposing. District staff conducted several tests on the water in the Thief River at Long's Bridge during the



last week of July and all the tests indicated that blue-green algae and algal toxins are at very low, safe levels. A sample was collected (near-shore, surface water at Long's Bridge) on July 26<sup>th</sup> and sent to RMB Environmental Laboratories. That sample was analyzed for the presence of any blue-green algae (toxic or not).

In a sample collected on July 13<sup>th</sup> (the day that we discovered the bloom), the lab found that the phytoplankton population in the sample was dominated by potentially toxic species of cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) and validated the initial concern about the bloom. In a sample collected on July 26<sup>th</sup> (collected after the bloom seemed to have cleared-up), the lab found that the blue-green algae in the sample were "not at concentrations that may cause harm." The RLWD used Abraxis test strip kit to test for algal toxins on July 27<sup>th</sup> and the test did not show that a measurable amount of toxins was present (0 parts per billion). Samples were also sent to RMB Environmental Laboratories for an analysis called a "cyano scan."

The Red Lake Watershed District removed the water advisory signs that were placed along the river once there no longer were indications of a threat from blue-green algae. However, we now know that a bloom is something that can happen in our area. So, we still recommend keeping an eye-out for potential blooms, especially during hot summer days, because blue-green algae can grow quickly and become dominant if conditions are "right."

Here is a link to an interesting article about how problematic blue-green algae blooms have been spreading across the state: [https://www.wisconsin Gazette.com/news/environment/mystery-in-minnesota-dogs-dying-from-toxic-algae-blooms/article\\_9a3f4a83-0d15-5866-bcf8-071783130321.html](https://www.wisconsin Gazette.com/news/environment/mystery-in-minnesota-dogs-dying-from-toxic-algae-blooms/article_9a3f4a83-0d15-5866-bcf8-071783130321.html).

The issue caught the interest of the public in Thief River Falls. Approximately 70 people began following the RLWD Facebook page to stay updated on the issue. The RLWD's Facebook post about the problem was shared 423 times. There were some questions from residents about the safety of the Red Lake River downstream of the Thief River confluence. Flow from the Red Lake River was much greater than flow from the Thief River (the flow in the Thief River was <1 cubic foot per second at the time), so any blue-green algae coming from the Thief River would have been diluted by the relatively clean water in the Red Lake River. A sample was collected from the Red Lake River (Hartz Park, 8/9/2018) and analyzed by RMB Environmental Laboratories to see if potentially toxic blue-green algae were present at levels that would be cause for concern and hopefully confirm that the water is safe. The lab found only a few colonies of a potentially toxic species of blue-green algae (*Aphanocapsa* sp.). The lab reported that the blue-green algae was present at such a low concentration that it was not very likely to cause any harm or other concerns.

Please feel free to contact the Red Lake Watershed District, the Pennington County Soil and Water Conservation District, or city staff/leadership if you ever see anything that might be a public health threat in the river.

### Maple Lake Area Algae Problems



In response to complaints of nuisance algae in Maple Lake, the Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD) collected samples and utilized RMB Environmental Laboratories' (RMB Labs) new algae identification service. A sample of lake water and floating algae clumps was collected from a dock in the Maple Bay area. Analysis by RMB Labs found that the dominant forms of phytoplankton were diatoms and green algae (Spirogyra). Spirogyra is common in freshwater habitats and may develop slimy, filamentous green masses. It can be a nuisance but is not harmful. In addition to identifying the dominant form of algae, however, the lab also noted that potentially toxic species of blue-green algae were also present in the sample. In response to that information, RLWD staff collected a sample that included multiple floating clumps of algae and tested it with an algal toxin test strip on July 6, 2018. The test indicated that there were approximately 5 µg/L of



microcystin algal toxins in the sample. An algae sample was then collected for analysis by RMB Environmental Laboratories. The algal toxin test results were shared with the Maple Lake Improvement District and the Maple Lake, Mentor MN" Facebook group. The test revealed that algal toxins were present in the sample at a concentration of approximately 5 ug/L. Information on the EPA website categorizes that concentration as a "low risk." Additional research has been done in order to better define "low risk" and will continue. The concentration of 4 ug/L was noted on the NOAA website as a level that could be an irritant to people with allergies. A microcystin (algal toxin) concentration of 4 ug/L is also noted as a draft EPA advisory concentration for recreational exposures (EPA recommends a swimming advisory for concentrations higher than that level).

The RLWD collected another sample from the public swimming beach on the north end of the lake on July 9, 2018 and sent it to RMB Labs for analysis. A more thorough analysis was conducted on that sample to accurately quantify the different types of phytoplankton. Cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) comprised 7.4% of the total units (cells/colonies/filaments) per liter of phytoplankton found in the sample.

Based on the discovery of the 4 ug/L draft EPA swimming advisory recommendations, the RLWD will collect and analyze additional samples for algal toxins and share the results with Maple Lake Improvement District board members, the Maple Lake, Mentor MN Facebook group, and with any other recommended outlets/individuals.

The lake was sampled again for algal toxins on July 27, 2018. Samples were collected from the swimming beach on the north end of the lake (wading depth) and from the boat access on the southwest end of the lake. Both samples had a microcystin algal toxin concentration of approximately 5 µg/L.

Agricultural runoff is one source of sediment and nutrient runoff to the lake that can be controlled with best management practices. The East Polk Soil and Water Conservation District and the RLWD will work together to submit a Clean Water Fund grant application to fund the installation of water and sediment control basins (WASCOBs) in the Clearwater River Watershed.

Sediment deposited within a ditch near Maple Lake after a runoff event



### **City of Clearbrook Pond Excavation and Illegal Channel Excavation along Clear Brook**

While sampling, District staff learning that an excavation project was underway along Clear Brook. A contractor was working on draining water from the pond along Clear Brook, in the town Clearbrook, to facilitate additional excavation of sediment from the pond. The dark-colored, sediment-laden water was being pumped into the downstream channel. The downstream channel, between Main Street and CSAH 5, had been completely excavated. Vegetation and sediment had been scraped from the banks of the stream as if the contractor had been performing a ditch cleanout project. Clear Brook, however, is not a ditch. It is a protected public water. An

employee of the contractor (Dyrdahl Construction) said that the channel was excavated to “make it easier to mow.”

Unpermitted excavation along Clear Brook, looking upstream (east) from CSAH 5 in Clearbrook



Excavation along Clear Brook in the city park – looking upstream (east)  
The culvert on the south (right) bank in this photo is the outlet of the stormwater pond



Excavation along Clear Brook in the city park – looking downstream (west)



Slurry of muddy water being pumped from the pond in Clearbrook



District staff contacted that area's DNR hydrologist to ask about the project and let them know what was happening. The DNR staff had only permitted the excavation to deepen the pond upstream of the weir on the east (upstream) side of Main Street. The DNR had specifically instructed the city not to do any work on the channel downstream. The DNR had also not permitted the disposal of sediment in the downstream channel through the pumping of muddy water from the bottom of the pond.



Excavation within the pond along Clear Brook in the town of Clearbrook (the work that was permitted by the DNR)



Fill from the excavation, 20-25 yards north of the Clear Brook channel, along CSAH 5



**Red Lake Watershed District Long-Term Monitoring Program**

The third 2018 round of samples was collected for the District's long-term monitoring program in July.

In July 2018 samples, **high total suspended solids** concentrations were found in:

- Darrigan's Creek
- Mud River at Hwy 89 (28.8 mg/L)
- Moose River at CSAH 54 (>15 mg/L)
- Thief River at 380<sup>th</sup> St NE

**Low total suspended solids** concentrations (notably meeting total suspended solids the standard on impaired rivers) were found in:

- Red Lake River at CSAH 11 near Gently
- Red Lake River in Crookston
- Red Lake River at Fisher

In July 2018 samples, **high total phosphorus** concentrations were found in:

- Black River at CSAH 18
- Blackduck River
- Chief's Coulee at Dewey Ave in Thief River Falls
- Clearwater River at CSAH 2
- Clearwater River at CR 127
- Clearwater River north of Plummer
- Clearwater River at CSAH 12, near Terrebonne
- Coburn Creek
- Cyr Creek
- Darrigan's Creek
- Hill River at 335<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, upstream of Hill River Lake
- Hill River at CSAH 35, downstream of Hill River Lake
- Lost River upstream of Pine Lake
- Lost River at CSAH 28, north of Trail
- Lost River in Oklee
- Moose River at CSAH 54 (>0.05 mg/L)
- Mud River at Hwy 89 (0.072 mg/L)
- Nassett Creek
- North Cormorant River
- O' Briens Creek
- Pennington County Ditch 21 at 135<sup>th</sup> Ave NE
- Poplar River at CSAH 30 near Fosston
- Poplar River at 310<sup>th</sup> St SE
- Poplar River at CR 118
- Ruffy Brook at CSAH 11

## RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT MONTHLY WATER QUALITY REPORT

July 2018

- Silver Creek at CR 111
- South Cormorant River
- Thief River at 380<sup>th</sup> St NE

In July 2018 samples, **high *E. coli* bacteria** concentrations were found in:

- Beau Gerlot Creek at CR 114
- Coburn Creek
- Darrigan's Creek
- Gentilly Creek at CSAH 11 in Gentilly
- Hill River at CSAH 35, downstream of Hill River Lake
- Hill River at CR 119 near Brooks (>2,419.6 MPN/100ml)
- Judicial Ditch 30, north of Thief River Falls
- Kripple Creek near Gentilly
- Lost River at CSAH 8, near Gonvick – the concentration was low at the outlet of Pine Lake, so there was a significant increase in the concentration between Pine lake and CSAH 8.
- Lost River at CSAH 28, north of Trail
- Lower Badger Creek at 150<sup>th</sup> Ave SE
- Lower Badger Creek at CR 114
- O' Briens Creek
- Poplar River at CSAH 30 near Fosston
- Poplar River at CR 118
- Ruffy Brook at CSAH 11
- Silver Creek at 159<sup>th</sup> Ave
- South Cormorant River

**Low dissolved oxygen** concentrations were found in:

- Chief's Coulee at Dewey Ave in Thief River Falls
- Coburn Creek
- Little Black River at CR 102
- Lost River upstream of Pine Lake
- Moose River at CSAH 54
- Thief River at 380<sup>th</sup> St NE
- Thief River at the "Golf Course Bridge" north of Thief River Falls during die-off of the blue-green algae bloom
- Walker Brook at CSAH 19 near Bagley

### **River Watch**

RLWD Natural Resource Specialist Ashley Hitt assisted the International Water Institute with planning and running a River Watch Summer Retreat at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. Activities during this July 17-18 event included team building, macroinvertebrate sampling, leadership development, kayaking the Clearwater River in Red Lake Falls, and more.



**Clearwater River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) Project**

- Objective 9 – Civic Engagement
  - District staff attended a Maple Lake Improvement District (MLID) meeting on July 14, 2018 at the Mentor Community Center. Staff spoke to the standing-room-only crowd about water quality in the lake and blue-green algae issues. Notes:
    - Representatives from the East Polk SWCD, RLWD, Polk County Sherriff’s Department, Polk County Assessor, MN DNR, townships, and county government also spoke at the meeting.
    - The no-wake rule for most lakes, like Maple Lake, only applies to personal water craft.
    - There was an infestation of “stringy” weeds in Maple Lake in 2017.
    - There have been complaints about wake board boats coming too close to shore and creating wakes.
    - There was some discussion about how to warn the public if high levels are found (newspaper, signage, word of mouth, and /or radio).
    - The East Polk SWCD is working on a lakescaping project at the Lake Sarah campground.
    - A lake resident voiced concern about the amount of impervious surface around the lake and the effect that it might be having on water quality.
    - Lake residents expressed interest in educational opportunities.
    - Maple Lake opened up (ice off) early this year, in April 2018.
    - Lake Bronson has also been having blue-green algae problems.
    - There was some discussion about whether the MLID could provide some cost share for lakescaping. Copies of the annual budget were available at the meetings. Only \$2,004.90 was spent on aeration and “lake management/quality” out of the \$51,150 budget. Most of the association’s expenditures (nearly 86%) went toward administration, mosquito spraying, and street lighting. To spend more on projects that improve conditions in the lake, the group may need to make tough decisions about how to scale-back or more efficiently accomplish those big three items.
    - Dissolved oxygen levels were okay when they were tested last winter
- Objective 10 – Report Writing
  - Progress was made on writing sections of the Clearwater River Total Maximum Daily Load report
  - A semi-annual progress report was completed and sent to the MPCA

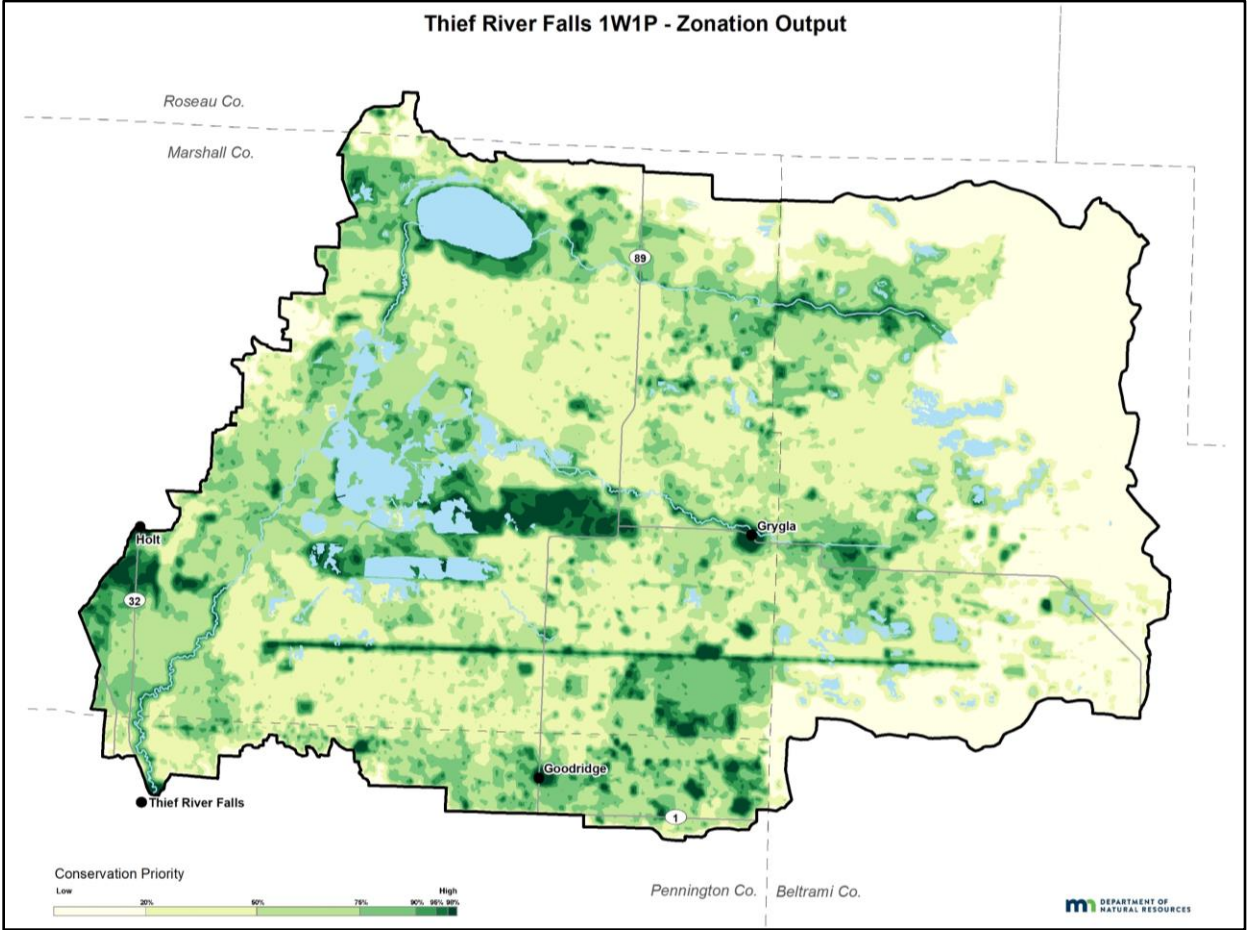
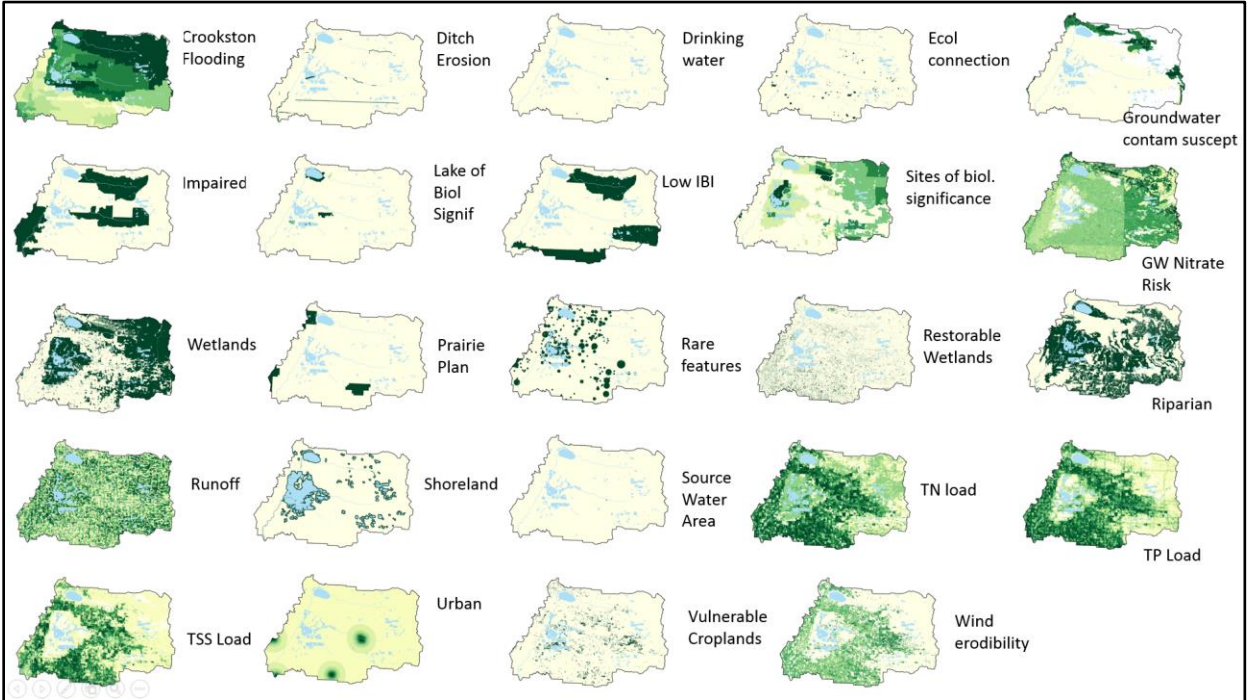
**Thief River One Watershed One Plan (1W1P)**

District staff prepared a presentation about the Thief River TMDL/WRAPS process. A Thief River 1W1P meeting (all committees) was held on July 11, 2018. District staff provided annual budget information to Houston Engineering for a section of the report.

District staff reviewed a draft version of Section 5 of the Thief River 1W1P document. MN DNR staff completed a zonation model for the Thief River watershed. The following images show the layers that influenced the model and the final zonation output map.

# RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT MONTHLY WATER QUALITY REPORT

July 2018



### **Red Lake River Fish Kill**

Algae clumps were sampled near the River Valley Bridge and analyzed for the presence of algal toxins on July 6, 2018. The test indicated that there were no microcystin algal toxin present in the sample.

### **Polk County Fair**

The RLWD set up a booth at the Polk County Fair in Fertile. District staff created a display and handouts for the event. One-page handouts for the Clearwater River WRAPS, Maple Lake water quality, Cameron Lake water quality, and the Grand Marais Creek Outlet Restoration Project were printed for the booth. Staff took turns checking on the booth and restocking the handouts and free pens/candy/notepads.



### **Thief River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS)**

The Thief River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy and the Thief River Total Maximum Daily Load reports were officially released for public comment on June 25, 2018. A semi-annual progress report was completed and sent to the MPCA Project Manager.

### **July 2018 Meetings and Events**

- **July 11-15, 2018** - Polk County Fair
  - The RLWD set up a booth at the 2018 Polk County Fair
- **July 14, 2018** – Maple Lake Improvement District Annual Meeting

- **July 25, 2018** – 319 Small Watershed Focus Grant teleconference to discuss applying for funding to restore a portion of the Red Lake River

### **Other Notes**

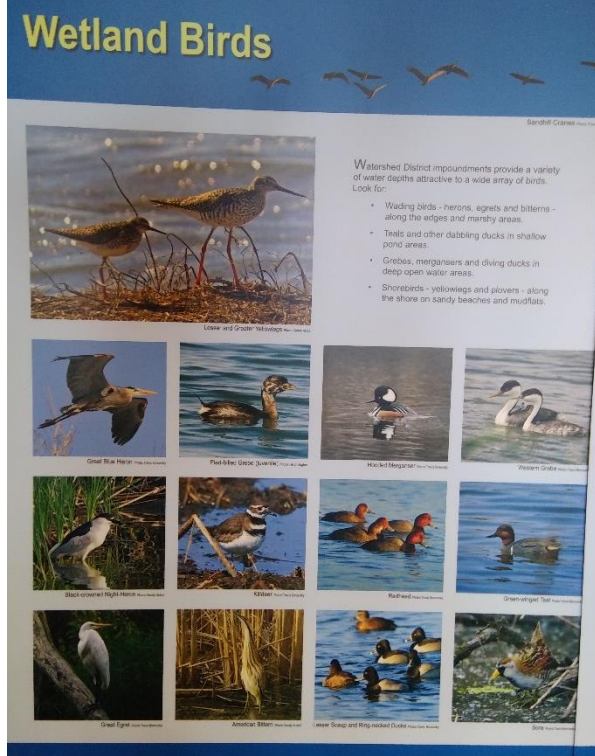
- Water quality related notes from the July 12, 2018 Red Lake Watershed District Board of Managers meeting:
  - Clearwater SWCD staff Chester Powell and Jamin Carlson appeared before the Board to request funding from the for the installation of four side water inlet culverts/grade stabilizations along the Lost River on Branch 2 of Judicial Ditch 72 (Section 20, Winsor Township). The Board approved the Clearwater SWCD's request of a 25% cost share of the estimated cost of \$28,811.
  - Manager Dwight stated that it was determined that Bartlett Lake does not have a water quality issue, rather there are just too many good weeds. Discussion was held on weed harvesting and chemical products to create travel lanes to the lake. Staff member Corey Hanson and Denise Oakes with the MPCA will investigate the options.
- Water quality related notes from the July 26, 2018 Red Lake Watershed District Board of Managers meeting:
  - Zack Gutknecht (Beltrami SWCD) and Jamin Carlson (Clearwater SWCD) appeared before the Board to request funding from the District's Erosion Control Funds for on four shoreline restoration and protection projects located on the Clearwater Lake. Gutknecht stated that they assisted the Clearwater Lake Area Association (CLAA) with an application from Enbridge Energy Ecofootprint Grant in 2017. The CLAA is concerned about declining water quality due to the erosion on the shoreline and bluffs. The application was awarded, and the SWCD received a \$75,000 grant which requires a 2:1 match. Each landowner will be required to pay a 10% match. The Beltrami SWCD requested \$12,500 for two sites in Beltrami County and the Clearwater SWCD requested \$4,798 for two sites in Clearwater County from the District's 2018 Erosion Control Funds. The Board approved both cost share requests.
  - Manager Torgerson discussed a project located in the Clearbrook area by the local dam. Jamin Carlson, Clearwater SWCD, stated that he was unaware of any current projects located in Clearbrook.
- East Polk SWCD staff reported that they had found blue-green algae in Badger Lake, near the access.
- A semi-annual progress report for the Grand Marais Creek watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy – Public Notice project was completed and sent to the MPCA Project Manager.
- A semi-annual progress report for the Red Lake River WRAPS – Public Notice project was completed and sent to the MPCA Project Manager.
- The Pennington County SWCD received a grant from the National Association of Conservation Districts to hire a technician to design side water inlets and the associated planning for EQIP contracts in the Red Lake River 1W1P area.

# RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT MONTHLY WATER QUALITY REPORT

July 2018

- Kiosks and informational displays were constructed and installed at impoundments

## Wetland Birds

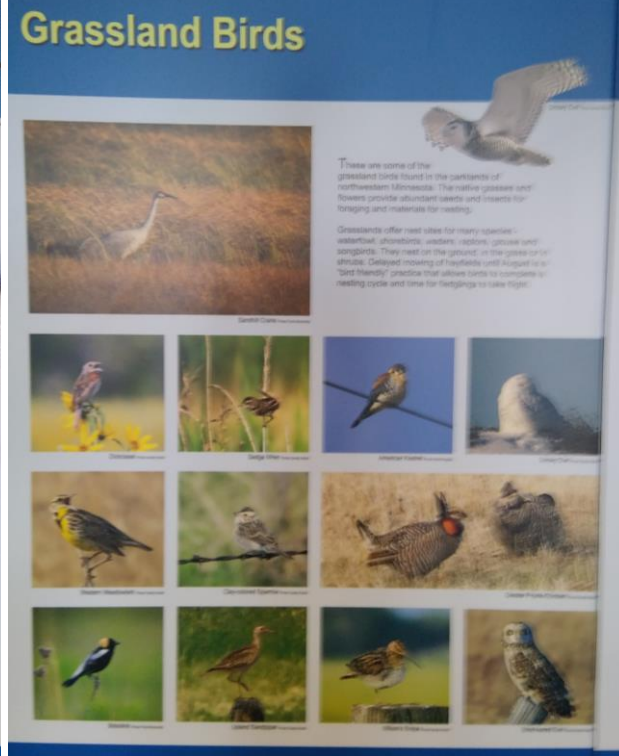


Watershed District impoundments provide a variety of water depths attractive to a wide array of birds. Look for:

- Wading birds - herons, egrets and bitterns - along the edges and marshy areas.
- Teals and other dabbling ducks in shallow pond areas.
- Grebes, mergansers and diving ducks in deep open water areas.
- Shorebirds - yellowlegs and plovers - along the shore on sandy beaches and mudflats.

Species shown include: Sandhill Crane, Great Blue Heron, Fish-eater Duck, Mottled Noddy, Western Grebe, Black-crowned Night Heron, Kingbird, Red-wings, Green-winged Teal, Great Egret, American Egret, Lesser Scaup and Ring-necked Ducks, and Wood Duck.

## Grassland Birds



These are some of the grassland birds found in the parklands of northeastern Minnesota. The native grasses and flowers provide abundant seeds and insects foraging and materials for nesting.

Grasslands offer nest sites for many species - waterfowl, shorebirds, waders, raptors, grouse and songbirds. They nest on the ground, in the protection of shrubs. Delayed mowing of hayfields until August or September provides that allows birds to complete a nesting cycle and time for fledging to take flight.

Species shown include: Sandhill Crane, Red-winged Blackbird, Field Sparrow, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Song Sparrow, and others.

## Tallgrass Aspen Parkland



Where The Prairie Meets The Forest

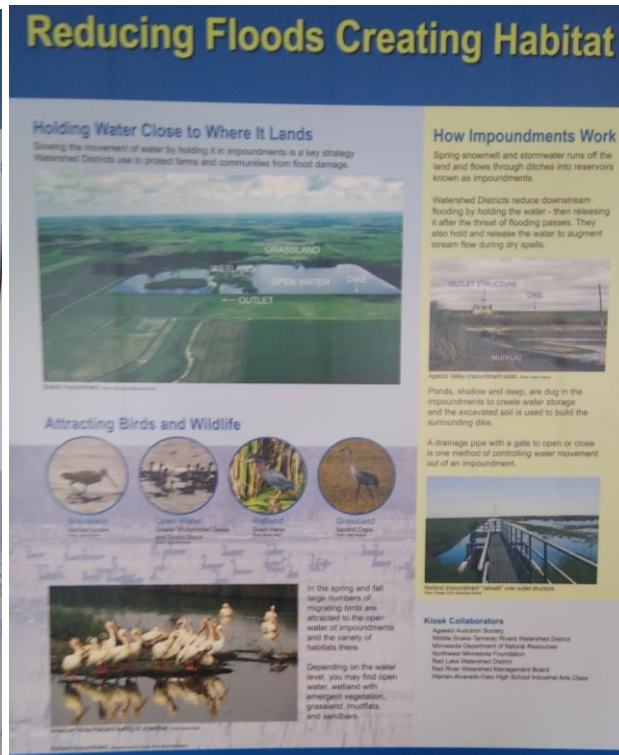
One of Minnesota's four ecological biomes, the Tallgrass Aspen Parkland is a transition zone between prairie and forest. It is a mosaic of sedge meadows and tallgrass prairies, wetlands and ancient sandy gravel beach ridges, aspen groves and shrub thickets. Once dependent on fire, today large areas of the parkland are managed by tree harvesting, brush shearing and controlled burns to maintain the prairie areas.

Minnesota is the only place in the U.S. where you can experience the Tallgrass Aspen Parkland. Though much of this region is in farmland, there are many preserves where birds and wildlife are abundant, including national wildlife refuges, state and county parks, and state wildlife management areas (WMA).

Located along the Mississippi Flyway, the watershed flood management areas (blue dots on the map) offer important stopover sites for the millions of migrating birds.

Species shown include: Sandhill Crane, Canada Goose, Ring-necked Duck, and others.

## Reducing Floods Creating Habitat



**Holding Water Close to Where It Lands**  
Slowing the movement of water by holding it in impoundments is a key strategy Watershed Districts use to protect farms and communities from flood damage.

**How Impoundments Work**  
Spring snowmelt and stormwater runs off the land and flows through ditches into reservoirs known as impoundments.

Watershed Districts reduce downstream flooding by holding the water - then releasing it after the threat of flooding passes. They also hold and release the water to augment stream flow during dry spells.

**Attracting Birds and Wildlife**

Species shown include: Sandhill Crane, Lesser Scaup, Ring-necked Duck, and others.

**Kiosk Collaborators**  
Soothe Aquatic Society, Middle River-Terrace River Watershed District, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Northwest Minnesota Foundation, Red Lake Watershed District, Red Lake Watershed Management Board, Northern Minnesota Open High District, International Arts Class.

Red Lake Watershed District office rain garden



Red Lake Watershed District Monthly Water Quality Reports are available online:  
<http://www.redlakewatershed.org/monthwq.html>.

Learn more about the Red Lake Watershed District at [www.redlakewatershed.org](http://www.redlakewatershed.org).

Learn more about the watershed in which you live (Red Lake River, Thief River, Clearwater River, Grand Marais Creek, or Upper/Lower Red Lakes) at [www.rlwdwatersheds.org](http://www.rlwdwatersheds.org).

“Like” the Red Lake Watershed District on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/redlakewatershed) to stay up-to-date on RLWD reports and activities.