

Advisory Meeting 2024
Erick Huseeth- Red Lake Watershed Ditch Inspector

2023 Ditch Maintenance










District ditch info

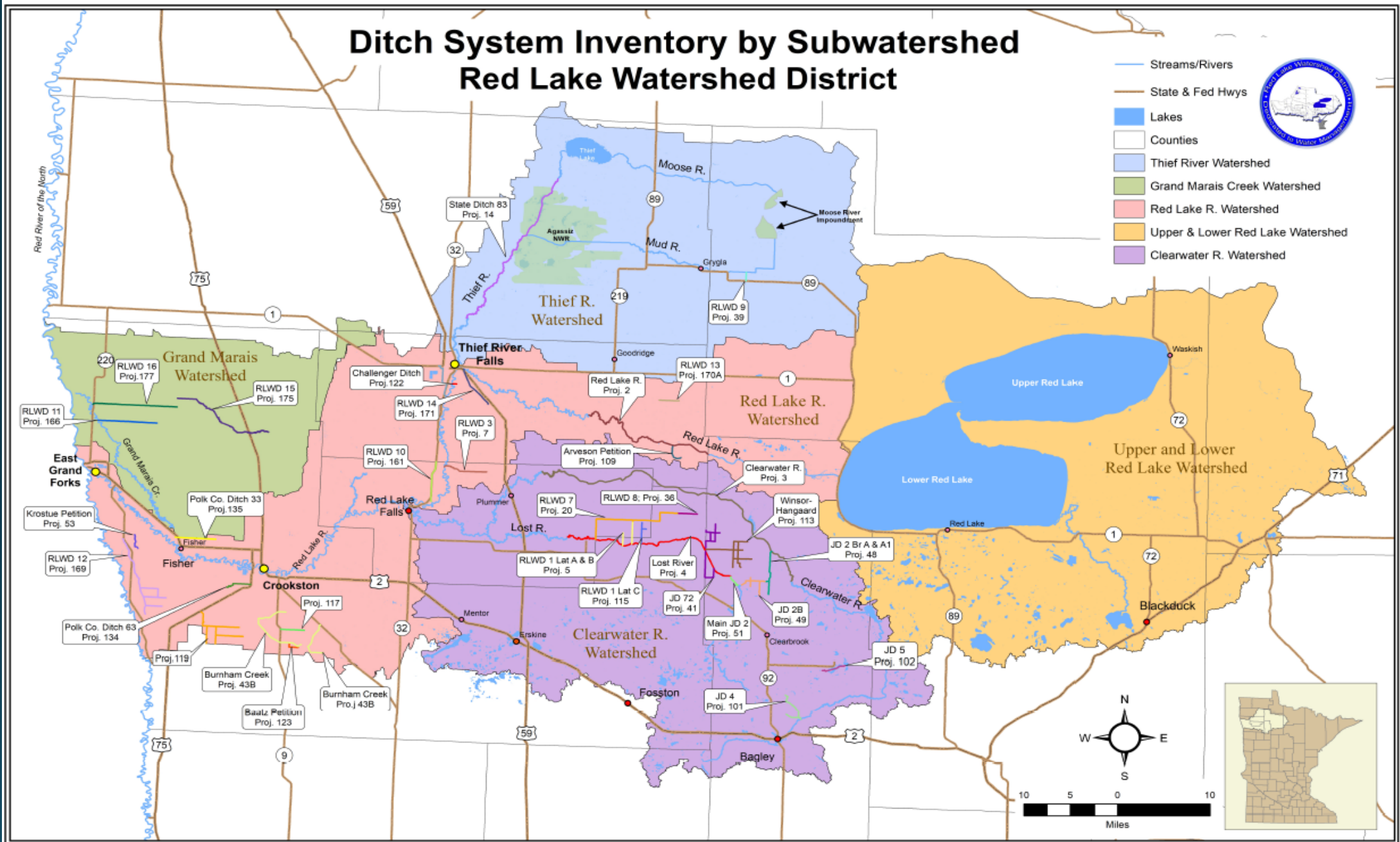
The district has jurisdiction over 35 ditch systems.

Systems are in Beltrami, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Polk, & Clearwater counties.

Total of 320.44 miles of ditch in 5,990 square miles in district

Ditch System Inventory by Subwatershed Red Lake Watershed District

-  Streams/Rivers
-  State & Fed Hwys
-  Lakes
-  Counties
-  Thief River Watershed
-  Grand Marais Creek Watershed
-  Red Lake R. Watershed
-  Upper & Lower Red Lake Watershed
-  Clearwater R. Watershed



Inspector's tasks

Semi-annual or annual inspections

- Determine types of repairs or maintenance work to keep ditches functioning in good working order
- Sedimentation, slope sloughing, head-cutting, culvert damage

Mowing and cattail management

Management of Beaver dams

Violations of right-of-way/buffer strips

Ditch mowing contractors

- Shane Vanosek
- David Shane- Clean Cut Maintenance
- Olson construction
- Todd Stanley
- Lunke Construction
- Les Cota
- Quality Spray foam/Anderson Excavating





Helicopter cattail spraying

- Larson helicopters of Perham, Minnesota
- \$370.00 per mile
- Maps sent to contractor via google earth .kmz file
- Total of 29.8 miles sprayed in 2023

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Red Lake Watershed 2023						
2							
3	Product	Rate	EPA REG #	Applicator			
4	Imazapry 2 SL	1 qt/acre	81927-24	MICHAEL A LARSON			
5	Aquachem 90	1.6 oz		Applicator ID#			
6				20039242			
7	DITCH #	APP. DATE	TIME	TEMP	WIND	MILES	LOG FILE #
8	Project 60E	9/7/2023	11:20	68	5-10 @ 170	0.00	
9	Project 53	9/7/2023	11:00	68	5-10 @ 170	0.94	347.80
10	Project 169	9/7/2023	10:45	68	5-10 @ 170	3.70	1369
11	Project 119	9/7/2023	10:30	67	5-10 @ 170	1.93	714.10
12	Project 123	9/7/2023	10:15	67	5-10 @ 170	0.81	299.70
13	Project 122	9/7/2023	12:00	68	5-10 @ 170	0.29	107.30
14	Project 171A	9/7/2023	12:00	68	5-10 @ 170	0.66	244.20
15	Project 20	9/7/2023	12:30	68	5-10 @ 170	10.85	4,014.50
16	Project 115	9/7/2023	1:10	68	5-10 @ 170	1.62	599.40
17	Project 5 lat A	9/7/2023	12:40	68	5-10 @ 170	1.29	477.30
18	Project 5 lat B	9/7/2023	12:55	68	5-10 @ 170	1.11	410.70
19	Project 178A	9/7/2023	11:45	68	5-10 @ 170	1.51	558.70
20	Project 113	9/7/2023	1:20	68	5-10 @ 170	2.55	943.50
21	Project 7	9/7/2023	9:45	64	3-6 @ 160	2.54	939.80
22							
23							
24	Total					29.80	11,026
25							



Beaver Trapping policy (updated 2015)



No compensation without prior approval from district staff

Compensation of \$100.00 per beaver

- for beavers trapped on legal drainage system or impoundment
- Trapper submits beaver tail to district office

District does not pay for mileage

Trapper is to obtain landowner permission and adhere to all MN DNR rules and regulations and possess the required permit during trapping

2023 beaver dams/trapping

- A dam was noticed on SD83 by mowing contractor
- Beavers were trapped by Cole Olson of Thief River Falls, MN
- Dam was removed by Lunke Construction of Holt, MN



Buffer strip's



Approximately 162.3/320.44 miles have a permanent grass buffer strip on one or both sides that requires maintenance.

By state statute 103e.21, 'the authority shall order that permanent grass, other than a noxious weed, be planted on the ditch side slopes and that a permanent strip of perennial vegetation approved by the drainage authority be established on each side of the ditch. The permanent strips of perennial vegetation shall be 16-1/2 feet in width.'

Maintenance of these buffer strips consists of mowing the right-of-way once a year. July 1st is the target start date. Also spraying for noxious weeds.

BUFFER STRIP VIOLATION- Course of action



- Parcel is documented in database
- Landowner letter is sent via mail with date of compliance
- If landowner doesn't comply, the district will re-seed and assess the bill on individual's tax's
- Typically the district and landowner in violation work together well and get the issue resolved in a timely manner

Project 171A- RLWD 14



RLWD hired Anderson Excavating to fix a small washout created by over land flooding off a hay field.

Project 175- RLWD 15

Brault Construction from Crookston, Minnesota was hired to complete the FEMA repairs needed after the flood in 2022. Due to having trouble finding contractors these sites had to wait til 2023 to be fully repaired. Washouts were filled and reshaped to as-built condition.

(Sites and pictures on next slide)



Site 1



Site 2



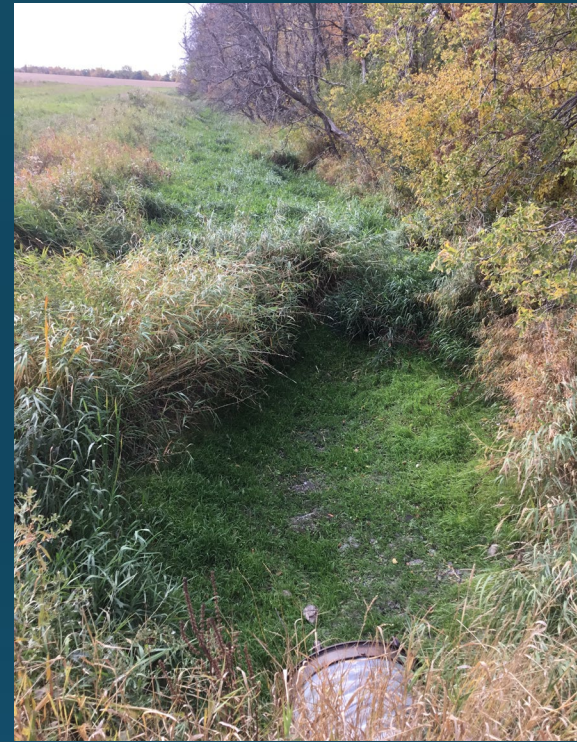
Project 134- Polk Co. Ditch 63

During spring inspection, a large gully was found in the SW4NW4NW4 section 10 of Andover Township near STA 184+00. The gully is about twenty feet long, eleven feet wide and six feet deep. Due to the topography of the area, the best fix is to shape the gully and place rip rap to stabilize the slopes. This work will be done in 2023.



Project 134 cont.

Due to flooding in the Spring of 2022 a small portion of this system filled in with sediment from the adjacent field. RLWD staff hired Brault Construction to remove the sediment and add rip rap to a side water inlet.



State Ditch 83

- RLWD hired Lunke Construction from Holt, MN to do all the mowing along the ditch and place rip rap at various side water inlet sites. The district also hired Anderson Excavating to repair a larger side water inlet that also required some reshaping of the ditch bank.



RLWD 8- Project 36

- Staff was notified by adjacent landowners that a quarter mile of the ditch system in Johnson township was overgrown with trees. The trees were causing poor drainage in this area in the spring due to long lasting, compacted snow drifts. Triple D construction from Plummer, MN was hired to remove the trees from the ditch and ROW.



Windsor-Hangaard- Project 113

- Landowner Jim Sundquist made RLWD staff aware of trees growing through the ditch adjacent to his land in Section 10 of Windsor Township. RLWD hired Dyrdaahl Construction from Leonard, MN to remove and pile the trees onto Jim's land.



RLWD 16- Project 177

- The flood in Spring 2022 caused many areas of disrepair to this system so RLWD hired Paul Zavoral of East Grand Forks, MN to do the repairs necessary. RLWD received funding from FEMA to make these repairs.

