Thief River Watershed Public Participation Strategy

February 2013

Prepared by RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc. for Red Lake Watershed District

Introduction

MN Pollution Control Agency's Watershed Approach

In 2007, the MPCA and its partners began implementing the watershed approach. This approach is a 10-year rotation for assessing waters of the state at the level of Minnesota's major watersheds. There are four major steps. The first three steps will be completed within the first four years of initiation of each watershed study. Targeted implementation of water quality activities, based on the results of the four-year study, will begin in year five.

- 1. Monitor and gather data and information
- 2. Assess the data
- 3. Establish implementation strategies to meet standards
- 4. Implement water quality activities, specific to final plans

Civic Engagement

Civic Engagement is inviting the public to participate in the co-learning and decision-making process. For watershed restoration and protection (WRAP) projects it means creating opportunities for the public to become aware the assessment is taking place. It also is allowing the public to review the water quality data alongside technical staff and giving them opportunities to provide feedback and insight. At the highest level of civic engagement, the public is empowered to make the final decisions about their water quality.



Thief River Watershed Civic Engagement Goals

- 1. Increase volunteer participation in natural resource monitoring
- 2. Increase the number of watershed residents participating in water quality discussions
- 3. Find effective ways to engage citizens in a meaningful way
- 4. Increase the resources utilized to communicate water quality activities within the watershed
- 5. Create a document with contact information for local resources, specific to certain water quality concerns or funding sources



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Engaging Target Audiences

Defining Target Audiences

To assist with defining target audiences within the Thief River Watershed, the planning team utilized a socioeconomic report, completed by the MPCA. A summary of this information was presented to the Marshall County Water Resource Advisory Committee. Input from other local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and County Water Plan staff was also gathered.

The population in the Thief River Watershed is mostly rural with several smaller municipalities spread out across the watershed. They are Thief River Falls, Holt, Goodridge, Grygla, and Fourtown. In addition, the water quality impairments on the rivers are spread out through the watershed and not concentrated in one area.

Identification of Target Audiences Who are they?

The planning team defined the target audiences as:

• Interested landowners in the following townships:

- Thief Lake
- Whiteford
- Cedar
- East Valley
- Mud Lake
- Eckvoll
- Valley
- Holt

- Benville
- Lee
- Espelie
- Molyan
- Grand Plain
- Adger
- Excel



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Increasing Level of Public Impact

Spectrum of Public Participation

Not all public participation programs are the same. It is important to consider the overall goal of the program. Fo example, while some programs may simply be looking to educate the public about a program or event, other projects may want the citizens to make the final decisions. The International Association for Public Participation's important to consider the overall goal of the program. For projects may want the citizens to make the final decisions.

The International Association for Public Participation's Spectrum of Public Participation concept presents a clear and concise way of thinking about the level of involvement we are planning for.

For the Thief River WRAP project we have opportunities to involve the public through all levels of participation. However, the level of empowerment would seem to fit best in the last six years of the MPCA's Watershed Approach, which addresses management of these water resources. The management plan will be a collaborative product of the local community and technical resources with the individualized needs and concerns being addressed. This will hopefully lead to a higher rate of participation in the actions that will improve or sustain water quality.

IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation



Opportunities for Public Participation in the Thief River Watershed

INFORM Participation Goal: To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.						
Mailings to individual landowners						
Red Lake Watershed District's (RLWD) website	www.redlakewatershed.org					
Informational brochure and display	Available at the RLWD's office					
Press releases and advertisements with local media contacts	See page 5 for contact information					

	INFORM (Continued)					
SWCD newsletters	Contact the local SWCD offices to get information about including					
	announcements in their newsletters					
Organize events along the river to	4-H Clubs and/or River Watch teams may be interested in helping					
bring attention to the resource	out					
Presentations for local civic groups	See Appendix B for contact information					
CONSULT						
	ublic feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.					
Public meetings	Some facility options include the RLWD conference room, the Imperial Room at the Ralph in Thief River Falls, and the community center in Grygla.					
Thief River blog	www.thiefriver.posterous.com					
Comment period on final reports	Before the final reports are finalized, the public will have the opportunity to comment on them					
Open houses	Invite the public to stop by during a set period of time to discuss concerns and ideas with the technical team					
	INVOLVE					
Participation Goal: To work dire	ectly with the public throughout the process to ensure that					
	rations are consistently understood and considered.					
World Cafe discussions	Small group facilitated discussions that allow interested citizens to					
	share their individual perspectives and insight					
Map party	Open house format displaying the different maps used by technical resources managing the Thief River Watershed					
	COLLABORATE					
	r with the public in each aspect of the decision including atives and the identification of the preferred solution.					
Citizen Advisory Committee	A committee made up of interested local citizens that would participate in discussions with the technical team as the computer modeling progresses and final reports are being written					
EMPOWER						
Participation Goal: To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.						
Policy considerations at the local level	Local policy actions reflect the concerns and priorities laid out in the final WRAP plan					
Implementation of best	If the solutions in the WRAP plan are developed with input from the					
management practices	local land managers, the likeihood of implementation may increase. In addition, implementation activities will be streamlined due to the collaboration between landowners, local agencies that can distribute funding, and funding sources.					

Media Contacts

Utilizing the local media outlets

Informing the Public

Local media outlets are an efficient way of getting information to all citizens who live and/or work within the Thief River Watershed. Press releases can be submitted through email. The information in this releases can be utilized by the media contact for an immediate annoucement or used to support an article after an event has occurred. Most media outlets have a printed or online community calendar that specific events can be added to.

Based on conversations with individuals who live or work in this watershed, the best way to notify all landowners is to send letters in the mail or call them on the phone. KTRF Radio is a popular station in the area.

MEDIA OUTLETS					
Media Contact	Contact Information	Comments/Suggestions			
Thief River Falls Times & Northern Watch	trftimes@mncable.net nwatch@nwatch.com (218)681-4450	Very willing to publish news related to this project Quote for 4" x "3 advertisement in the Watch was \$54 (Summer 2012)			
Grygla Eagle	grygla.eagle@gmail.com (218)294-6220	Quote for 4" x 3" advertisement in the Eagle was \$21 (Summer 2012)			
Middle River Honker	honkernews@wiktel.com	Area newspaper published on Saturdays			
TRFRadio (KKDQ FM 99.3, KTRF AM 1230, KKAQ AM 1460)	www.trfradio.com (218)681-4900 (general) (612)208-2756 (to advertise)	Publishes the radiogram flyer daily that is available in local restaurants			
Northland College Pioneer 90.1 Radio	www.radionorthland.org (218) 683-8588 ext 3	Local community and technical college radio station			
Sjoberg Cable Channel 13	TRF - call the Chamber of Commerce at 218-681-3720	Public annoucements are aired on channel 13			
MinnPost Newspaper	www.minnpost.com	MinnPost is a local nonprofit news organization			
Marshall County SWCD Newsletter	www.nwmnswcd.org (218)745-5010	Contact the office to discuss including an article			
Pennington County SWCD Newsletter	www.nwmnswcd.org (218)683-7075	Contact the office to discuss including an article			

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Social Network

Existing Social Structure

The Thief River Watershed social network map (page 7) displays the social structure made up of organizations and/or individuals. The connecting lines show where a relationship or partnership already exists.

By engaging and energizing this existing structure of communication the civic engagement effort will be more effective than a contact list and a hierarchial system where the "expert" presents the information and some how the information trickles down to everybody in the Thief River Watershed.

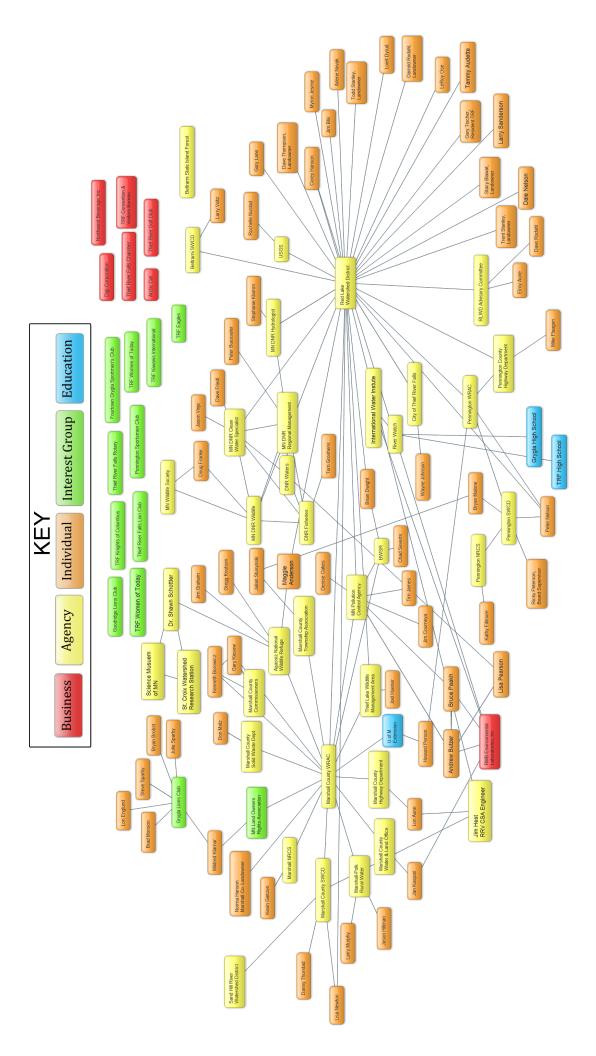
Utilizing the social network of this watershed will help the planning team discover and provide support for relationships through conversations that matter, which leads to a better understanding of the collective intelligence of the whole watershed, related to water quality in the Thief River.

Additional "nodes" and "connections" can surely be added. This image is a starting point, and could be improved upon through additional network weaving activities.



Effective Networks:

- improve information flow,
- increase communication and awareness of relationships,
- open new resources,
- expand and support leadership,
- encourage collaboration, innovation, and learning for breakthroughs,
- increase inclusion and bridge divides,
- · result in better outcomes, and
- facilitate scale and impact.



Thief River Watershed Social Network Map

A detailed image of this map is available by contacting the Red Lake Watershed District (www.redlakewatershed.org/contacts.html) or on the project blog (www.thiefriver.wordpress.com)

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Final Thoughts

Public Participation

Engaging Citize

This public participation plan is intended to be a short and concise guide for creating opportunities for the public to become engaged in the Thief River WRAP process. The involvement of agencies and other entities involved with water management is also crucial to the success of this assessment.

Agencies and organizations are included in the social network and their contact information is included in Appendix B. The majority of announcements about activities and special events will be sent to agencies and organizations through email communication.

Appendices

Contact List

Appendix A: Stakeholder contacts as of May 2013

Appendix B: Additional contacts

Appendix A

Name	Association/Title	Address	Phone	E-mail	
Adrian, Ron	Houston Engineering				
·	Retired Refuge Manager, Agassiz 1823 Robin hood Dr		218-449-4115 x202	Margaret_Anderson@fws.gov	
Anderson, Maggie	National Wildlife Refuge	Thief River Falls, MN 56701	218-688-0046	petrel@mncable.net	
		30077 440th St NE Gatzk	e,		
Aune, Elroy	RLWD Advisory Committee	MN 56724	218-459-3378	djaune@gvtel.com	
		447 S. Main St.	()		
Aune, Lon	Marshall County Highway Dept. Clearwater Rice/Pennington	Warren, MN 56762 103 Marley Ave. S.	(218) 745-4381	Lon.Aune@co.marshall.mn.us	
Barron, Donald	Co./Retired Soil Scientist	Thief River Falls 56701	(218) 681-3684	gbarron@mncable.net	
barron, boriala	co., netired son scientist	38039 240th Ave	(210) 001 3004	goarron@micabic.net	
Berg, Brad	Landowner	Middle River, MN 56737	218-222-3439		
		25710 390th St			
Berg, Jerome	Landowner	Middle River, MN 56737	218-222-3593		
		17750 274th St NE Thie			
Blawat, Stacy	Landowner	River Falls, MN 56701	218-449-3635	roydc@wiktel.com	
Blix, Jim	RLWD	2115 Birchmont Beach Rd			
Buesseler, Peter	MN DNR	Bemidji, MN	218-308-2626	peter.buesseler@state.mn.us	
Duesselery r eter	, and some	19358 160th St. N.E.	210 300 2020	peter is dessered a state in in its	
Christensen, Curtis		Thief River Falls, MN 56701	218-681-1643		
		Grygla Civic Building			
		219 West Beltrami St			
au 60 l		P.O. Box 76			
City of Grygla	+	Grygla, MN 56727	218-294-6292	cityofgrygla@gvtel.com	
Clack, Justin			218-243-2597	clackfam5@hotmail.com	
	Red Lake Watershed District Board	3948 Nehish Road NF	(home),		
Coe, Lee	of Managers - Beltrami County	Tenstrike, MN 56683	218-556-8061	leecoe@paulbunyan.net	
333, 233		714 Lake Ave Ste 220		The state of the s	
Courneya, Jim	MPCA Watershed Unit Supervisor	Detroit Lakes 56501	218-846-8105	Jim.Courneya@pca.state.mn.us	
		1215 Edgewood Dr			
Cullen, Elvera		Thief River Falls, MN 56701	218-681-3136	ecullen@mncable.net	
Decree of Add a	Landa	22919 300th Ave NE	240 270 4640		
Drangstveit, Mike	Landowner	Goodridge, MN	218-378-4618		
Drees, Nick	Middle Snake Tamarac Rivers WD		218-745-4741	mrsrwd@wiktel.com	
Dices, mak	madic shake ramarac inversive		210 7 10 17 12	inis rag wittenessi	
	Board Conservationist, Minnesota	701 Minnesota Avenue, Suite 234			
Dwight, Brian	Board of Water and Soil Resources	Bemidji, MN 56601	(218) 333-8027	brian.dwight@bwsr.state.mn.us	
		23205 160th Ave NE			
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Dyrud, Loiell	Citizen	23484 150th Ave NE Thief River Falls, MN 56701	218-681-6964	lod@wiktel.com	
Engelstad, Richard	ARLWD Advisory Committee	Gatzke	210-001-0904	lod@wikter.com	
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		250 125th Ave NE Thief			
Flaagan, Mike	Pennington County Hwy	River Falls, Mn 56701	218-683-7017		
		MN Department of Natural Resources			
		246 125th Ave NE		1	
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	Clean Water Legacy Specialist,	1500 1st Ava N			
Eriad David	Minnesota Department of Natural	1509 1st Ave N	210 720 7576 7264	david friedl@dar state may us	
Friedl, David	Resources	Fergus Falls, MN 56537	218.739.7576 x264	david.friedl@dnr.state.mn.us	
Froschheiser, Ken & Joyce			218-681-8416		
		821 E. Interstate Ave.			
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Gietzen Kevin	NRCS	PO Box 74 Warrer		kgiotzon@mp pres gov	
Gietzen, Kevin	Interim Refuge Manager, Agassiz	MN 56762 Agassiz NWR	218-745-4351	kgietzen@mn.nrcs.gov	
Graham, Jim	National Wildlife Refuge	22996 290th St. NE	218-449-4115 x202	James Graham@fws.gov	
			1		
	DNR Fisheries - Bemidji Red	6603 Bemidji Ave. N.			
Groshens, Tom	River Fisheries Specialist	Bemidji, MN 56601	(218) 308-2365	tom.groshens@dnr.state.mn.us	
				grygla.eagle@gmail.com;	
Grygla Eagle Newspaper					

Appendix A

Name Association/Title		Address	Phone	E-mail	
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,	Red Lake Watershed District,	1000 Pennington Ave S.	(218) 681-5800; cell		
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rianson, corcy	Water Quanty Coordinator	21625 330th Ave NE	210 000 3031	coreyne wiktencom	
Hanson Norma	Citizon		218-378-4380		
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			242 524 4452		
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		102 Westwood Ct.			
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Huener, Joel	DNR - Thief Lake WMA	Middle River, MN 56737	218-222-3747	joel.huener@state.mn.us	
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Jacobson, Cassie	reminigion swcb	714 Lake Ave Ste 220		cassandra.jacobson@mm.nacdnet.net	
			242 245 2422	L	
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Johnson, Stephanie	Houston Engineering		763-493-4522	sjohnson@houstoneng.com	
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		2038 Hwy 1 NE			
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	Marshall County Water	•			
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	Minnesota Land Owners Rights	32308 340th St. NE			
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		,			
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	n		240 600 5555	l <u>.</u>	
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			CE4 20C 0C2E	rep.dave.olin@house.mn	
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Appendix A

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Nobilisoli, wade	Perinington County SWCD	18646 270th St. NE	344CD	wade.robinson@min.nacdnet.net	
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Schemona, April	Minnesota Board of Water and	403 4th St NW	218-333-8028	артне итипез.сот	
Severts, Chad	Soil Resources	Bemidji, MN 56601	218-755-2671	Chad.Severts@state.mn.us	
Severes, chaa	John Resources	Box 16	210 733 2071	Chadiseveris@state.him.as	
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Starriey, roda	Edited Wiler, farmer	30598 270th St NE Goodridge,	210 254 0505	tstarriey@tvtch.com	
Stanley, Trent	Landowner	MN 56725	218-689-3192	mtstanley@gvtel.com	
Steinhauer, Cliff & Marj	201100111101		218-449-3791		
stemmader, emit a marj	Beltrami SWCD Stewardship	3217 Bemidji Ave N #3	210 1.5 0751		
Stensing, Jerry	Forester	Bemidji, MN 56601-4328	218-755-4339	jerry.stensing@mn.nacdnet.net	
steriorig, serry	. o. estei	75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.	210 700 1000	Jen y iscensing a minute and the control	
	Minnesota State Senate, District	Capitol Building, Room 208			
Stumpf, Leroy	01	St. Paul, MN 55155-1608	651-296-8660		
Thief River Falls Times					
Newspaper				trftimes@trftimes.com	
		36683 150th Ave NE	218-469-0949		
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		PO Box 74			
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Tischer, Gary	TRF city resident	River Falls, MN 56701	218-681-5256	gbtwild74@q.com	
Torgerson, Les			218-689-5533	lescarol@gvtel.com	
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Vavricka, Mike	MPCA	Detroit Lakes 56501		michael.vavricka@state.mn.us	
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Voltz, Larry	Beltrami NRCS	Bemidji, MN 56601	218-751-1942, ext. 3	larry.voltz@mn.usda.gov	
		714 Lake Ave Ste 220			
Ziegler, Jim	MPCA	Detroit Lakes 56501	218-846-8102	james.ziegler@state.mn.us	
		2603 Wheat Dr Red			
Zutz, JoAnn	Cong. Collin Peterson	Lakes Falls, MN	218-253-4356	joann.zutz@mail.housegov	
		204 Main Street East			
Talmage, Phil	Area Fisheries Supervisor DNR	Baudette, MN 56623	218-634-2522	phil.talmage@state.mn.us	

Appendix B

Agency	Contact Person	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	E-mail	Website
Minnesota Agricultural Water Resources Coalition	Warren Formo	3080 Eagandale Place	Eagan	MN		651-768-2106		http://www.mawrc.org
American State Bank & Insurance of Grygla		102 S Main Ave	Grygla	MN		218-294-6111		
MN DOT		410 S Marshall Ave	Grygla	MN		218-294-6163		
Thief River Chamber of Commerce		2017 Highway 59 S	Thief River Falls	MN	56701			
Thief River Falls Convention & Visitors Bureau		2042 Hwy 1 W, PO Box 176	Thief River Falls	MN	56701	218-686-9785		
Corridor Enhancement Committee	Freehand.	DO D 404	Th: - 6 D: 5 - 11 -		F 6 7 0 4			ccl.design.umn.edu/publications/rlrc/index.html
Eagles Club (Auxiliary)	Facebook	PO Box 401	Thief River Falls	MN	56701	218-681-2406		
Fraternal Order of Eagles Jaycees	Ryan Petersburg	305 Red Lake Boulevard	Thief River Falls	IVIIN	36/01	500-251-1996		
Kiwanis International Inc	Facebook	PO Box 144	Thief River Falls	MN	56701	300-231-1990		
Knights of Columbus 4619	I acebook	1604 Nottingham CT	Thief River Falls	MN		218-681-2293		
Lions Club of Goodridge	Steve Kriel	1004 Nottingham Ci	Goodridge	MN	56725	218-081-2293	skriel@wiktel.com	
Lions Club of Grygla	Brad Monson (President)	Po Box 226	Grygla	MN		218-294-6349	SKITCI@ WIKECI.COM	
Lions Club of Thief River Falls	Charles Lundgren	PO Box 775	Thief River Falls	MN		218-681-2117 (John Wollenzier	າ)	
MN Women of Today	Charles Editagren	PO Box 112	Thief River Falls	MN	56701	210 001 2117 (SOIII WOIICHEIC		
Noon Lions Club of Thief River Falls		1702 Little John Ct	Thief River Falls	MN	56701			
Rotary International of Thief River Falls	Emery Lee	PO Box 152	Thief River Falls	MN		218-681-4478 (Emery Lee) or 2	18-681-6203 (Francisca Lee)	
Fraternal Order of Eagles 2368	,	405 Red Lake Blvd	Thief River Falls	MN		218-681-2406		
Fourtown Grygla Sportsmans Club	Facebook	15925 120th Av NW	Thief River Falls	MN		218-681-1849		http://www.fourtownsportsmans.com/
Pennington County Sportsmens Club	Brent Waale, James Counter	PO Box 232	Thief River Falls	MN		218-681-1901		http://penn-co-sportsmens-club.freeservers.com/main.html
Key Club International		101 Knight Ave S	Thief River Falls	MN	56701			
Ottertail Power Co.		215 S Cascade St, PO Box 496	Fergus Falls	MN	56537		218-739-8200	
Red Lake Electric		412 Internatl Dr SW, PO Box 430	Red Lake Falls	MN	56750	218-253-2168	redlake@minnkota.com	
Arctic Cat		601 Brooks Ave So	TRF	MN		218-681-8558		
Digi-Key Corporation		701 Brooks Ave So	TRF	MN		218-681-6674		
Good-Vue Ayr Farms	Norma Hanson	Rural Goodridge	Goodridge	MN		218-378-4380		
Northwest Beverage, Inc		1320 Greenwood St W	TRF	MN		218-681-1735		
Sanford Medical Center/Hosp		120 Labree Ave S Ste A	Thief River Falls	MN		218-681-4240		
Two Fools Vineyard		12501 240th Ave SE	Plummer	MN	56748	218-465-4655		
	Art Nash Jr,	Extension Regional Ofc, 251 Own						
MN Extension	Community Economics Educator	Hall, 2900 Univ Ave	Crookston	MN		218-281-8689	artlnash@umn.edu	
Dondelinger Foundation		212 Trinity Park Rd	Thief River Falls	MN	56701			
Peder Englestad Pioneer Village		825 Oakland Park Rd,PO Box 127	TRF	MN		218-681-5767	pchstrf@mncable.net	
Goodridge Area Historical Society		21625 330th Ave NE	Goodridge	MN	56725	210 200 1112		
City of Goodridge		305 E Vaughan Main St 219 W Beltrami St, PO Box 76	Goodridge	MN		218-378-4113 218-294-6292	aitu afamunia O autal aana	
City of Grygla TRF - Community Development Director		219 W Beitramii St, PO BOX 76	Grygla	IVIIN	50/2/	218-681-2500	cityofgrygla@gvtel.com	
Grygla Eagle		127 N Main Ave	Grygla	MN	56727	218-294-6220		
The Times		324 Main Ave N	TRF	MN		218-681-4450		www.trftimes.com
TRFRadio		52 · Main / WC 14			30701	210 001 1.30		http://www.trfradio.com/
Fourtown Grygla Sportsmens Club	Gregory Harris		1			218-681-1849		
Fourtown Snowmobile Club	Jack Nelson	15925 120th Ave NW	Thief River Falls	MN	56701			
Goodridge Area Community Center			Goodridge	MN	56725	218-378-4521		
Goodridge Trail Blazers			Goodridge	MN		218-378-4588		
Greenwood Park & Rec Area(trails, environm								
learing lab, xcntry ski)		Greenwood St	TRF	MN	56701	218-681-2519		
Pine to Prairie Birding Trail - info avail at	TRF Chamber of Comm	2017 Hwy 59 SE	TRF	MN	56701			
Thief River Falls Snow Drifters		1023 Atlantic Ave N, PO Box 51	TRF	MN		218-689-0280		
Thief River Golf Club		13697 188th St NE	TRF	MN	56701	218-681-2955		
Grygla Public Schools								http://www.grygla.k12.mn.us/
Northland Technical and Community College		1101 Hwy 1 E	TRF	MN		218-681-0701		
St. Bernard's Catholic School		117 Knight Ave N	TRF	MN		218-681-1539		
St. John's Lutheran School		15671 158th St NE	TRF	MN		218-681-7753		
Thief River Public Schools	Dill Data and a	230 LaBree Ave S	TRF	MN	56701	218-681-8711		hate Hand hallow hallowed and
Beltrami SWCD	Bill Patnaude		 	 		218-333-4158		http://www.beltramiswcd.org/
Marshall County SWCD	Lisa Newton		_	1		218-745-5010 218-683-7075		http://www.nwmnswcd.org
Pennington SWCD Garden Valley Telephone Company	Bryan Malone	201 Ross Ave	Erskine	MN	56525	218-683-7075 800-448-8260	gvtc@gvtel.com	http://www.nwmnswcd.org
DNR Forestry		239 Park Dr E	Grygla	MN		218-294-6115	gvic@gviei.com	
Ducks Umlimited	Terry Yanish	105 1st Ave	Alvarado	MN	56727	210-234-0113		
Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge	rerry railisti	22996 290th St NE	Middle River	MN		218-449-4115	agassiz@fws.gov	
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Beltrami Island State Forest	Division of Forestry	500 Lafayette Road	St. Paul	MN	55155	651-296-6157		
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