

# **Mille Lacs SWCD MONITORING PLAN FOR BUFFER COMPLIANCE TRACKING**

## **§103F.48 RIPARIAN PROTECTION AND WATER QUALITY PRACTICES**

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### **1. COMPLIANCE TRACKING OF ALL PARCELS SUBJECT TO THE BUFFER LAW**

All parcels in the county are to be reviewed within a 3 year timeframe.

- a. Mille Lacs County is split in 3 different areas (Attachment A). SWCD staff will review 1 of the 3 areas each year on an alternating basis.
  - i. Area 1: Kathio, East Isle, Isle Harbor, South Harbor, South Kathio, Bradbury, Onamia, and Lewis townships.
  - ii. Area 2: Dailey, Mudgett, Page, and Hayland townships.
  - iii. Area 3: Milaca, Borgholm, Milo, Bogus Brook, Greenbush, and Princeton townships.

### **2. RANDOM SPOT CHECKS**

Random spot checks will be done in addition to the tracking of all parcels within a 3 year span. These checks may be conducted via aerial photo review or on-site review depending on availability of updated aerial photos and the practice that is being checked/access to farms. A combination of both aerial and on-site review may also be used.

- a. The SWCD will conduct 25-50 parcels on a random spot check each year outside of the scheduled area.
- b. Additionally, the SWCD will review parcels of emphasis more frequently.
  - Previously non-compliant
  - Alternative Practice Plans
  - Cost-share funded projects (year 1,3,9 of contracts)
  - Parcels of further emphasis (potential violators)

### **3. PROCESS TO HANDLE COMPLAINTS**

When a complaint is received, the SWCD will review the parcel for compliance using aerial imagery or on-site inspection. If the parcel is deemed non-compliant, SWCD staff will inform the landowner and assist them to bring the parcel into compliance. If the landowner refuses to work with SWCD staff, the SWCD will notify the proper enforcement agency as required by MN Statue 103F.48.

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Attachment A

