

Meeting Minutes



Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting

Project Name: Mississippi River St. Cloud One Watershed One Plan
ISG Project Number: 28039
Date: Tuesday,, December 19, 2023
Time: 1pm - 4pm
Location: Sherburne History Center & Teams Meeting

Invitees/Attendees:

Benton County	Roxanne Achman
Benton SWCD	Gerry Maciej, Emily Forbord
Meeker County	Greg Schultz
Meeker SWCD	Joe Norman
Mille Lacs SWCD	Susan Shaw, Willow Dean*
Sherburne County	Lynn Waytashek, Marc Schneider*
Sherburne SWCD	Dan Cibulka, Francine Larson, Miranda Wagner*
Stearns County	Becky Schlorf*, Kyle Blazek, Tarryl Clark*
Stearns SWCD	Dennis Fuchs, Stephanie Hatzenbihler, Kyle Weimann
Wright County	Barry Rhineberger
Wright SWCD	Luke Johnson, Alicia O'Hare
ISG	Sarah Boser, Paul Marsten, Jacob Rischmiller, Julie Blackburn
BWSR	Zach Guttormson, Brad Wozney, Darren Mayers
MPCA	Phil Votruba*
DNR	Reid Northwick
MDA	Casey Field*, Margaret Wagner
MDH	Chad Anderson*, Carrie Raber
NRCS	Chris Hogge*
USFWS	Steve Karel, Cody Carlstrom
TNC	Kayli Overland, Todd Holman
City of St. Cloud	Lisa Vollbrecht*, Noah Czech*, Rocio Durkot*, Shanna Czech*
Morrison County	Amy Kowalzek
Morrison SWCD	Shannon Wettstein
Mille Lacs County	Keenan Hayes, Pam Kuhn, Mitch Gindele
Clearwater River Watershed District	Rebecca Carlson

*online attendance via Teams

Cibulka called the meeting to order at 1:10PM.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Introduction & Project Status (10 minutes)

- Project Status / Timeline Update - ISG [MRSC Committee Tracking](#)
 - Paul presented the issue framework with the items we're working on highlighted
 - Paul presented the Project Workplan Update
 - Final Draft Implementation Table should be completed during February SC and TAC meetings and will then be taken to March PC meeting.
 - PC will review draft implementation Table during January PC meeting and have an opportunity to provide comments

- Anticipate CAC meeting following January TAC meeting (ideally between January 16 and January 31)
- Implementation Agreement - Dan
 - Dan shared that the attorneys are accepting comments and questions from staff on the draft implementation agreement
- LSP - Dan
 - Dan shared that the draft LSP is out for review right now, LSP team members are reviewing and submitting comments. Next and final LSP meeting is scheduled for early February
- WRAPS/TMDL - Phil
 - Draft TMDL is being reviewed internally by MPCA, anticipating the reviewed documents going to the EPA in January for about a month of review.
 - WRAPS draft update is almost ready to be sent to the team to review, anticipated at the end of December.
 - Lake Protection Report(s) is being created for several lakes within the watershed in Wright and Sherburne Counties. Phil will provide more information as it becomes available.
- Watershed Boundary - Dan
 - Dan provided a brief overview on the boundary discrepancy and shared that it is on the Sauk Implementation Team meeting agenda for 12/20/2023.

City of Saint Cloud Data Incorporation Update (15 minutes)

- Sarah provided an overview of the suggested edits on the Pollutant Runoff DFC and measurable goals.
 - Reid - we strongly support the addition of the sediment reduction goal
 - Alicia - for drinking water, there are other communities downstream that would also benefit if this language didn't include "St. Cloud"
- Sarah provided an overview of suggested edits on the Altered Hydrology DFC and measurable goals.
- Sarah provided an overview of the altered hydrology protection items into the implementation table
- Next Steps
 - Subcommittee to meet and come to consensus on recommended edit for January 16 TAC meeting; therefore, must be sent to ISG for memo inclusion by January 9

Multi-Benefit Analysis Update and Decision (40 minutes)

- Paul presented a case study of Mississippi River - Brainerd CWMP due its use of a MBA analysis
- Discussion items
 - final approval of layers used in MB analysis
 - Add St. Cloud Surface Water DWSMA (which would add another layer/point to surface water issue)
 - Figure 12 will be replaced by Figure 13 (township testing)
 - Consensus on the MBA layers
 - weighting - already built in due to the amount of layers under each issue statement
 - Surface Water (9 layers/points)
 - Pollutant Runoff/Internal Load (7)
 - Altered Hydrology (2)
 - Groundwater (4 layers/points)
 - Groundwater Quantity (1)
 - Groundwater Quality (3)
 - Habitat (2 layers/points)
 - Landscape Resiliency (1 layers/points)
 - approval of spatial scale
 - Alicia recommends spatial scale at HUC 14/HSPF subwatershed, and identify cutoffs based on management zones so that each management zone has a high, medium, and low priority HSPF subwatershed
 - Dennis and Stephanie support Alicia's recommendation

- agreed upon usage with the plan
 - Alicia recommended using the MBA map to set project eligibility criteria, Stephanie and Dan agreed.
- Finalize the above items on fist to five
 - Emily - Benton SWCD 5
 - Dennis - Stearns SWCD 5
 - Alicia - Wright SWCD 5
 - Gerry - Benton 3
 - Kyle - Stearns County 5
 - Dan - Sherburne SWCD 5
 - Marc - Sherburne County 3
 - Chris - NRCS 5
 - Chad - MDH 4
 - Reid - DNR 4
 - Phil - MPCA 5
 - Casey - MDA 4
 - Lisa - City of St. Cloud 4
- Decision to finalize and approve map

Implementation Table (80 minutes)

- Paul presented on the modeling for the implementation table
- Reviewed current table with pollutant reductions at the outlet of the management zones
 - Alicia shared that urban practices are NOT captured well/included
 - Dan shared that in-lake practices are NOT captured well/incorporated
 - Sarah shared that there is refinement needed in the amount of actions planned over the next 10 years to be included in the modeling.
- Paul will bring state level watershed goals to the next steering committee as a reference point for discussion on 10-year measurable plan goals per Alicia's recommendation and TAC consensus
- Gerry also mentioned TMDL goals to look at for a reference point.
- Dennis shared - <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/wq-sl-80.pdf>
- Sarah shared that the individual actions will not be listed separately in the final table, rather the actions will be grouped under the category headings ie. soil health, etc.
- Paul shared the next steps for the Implementation Table refinement (see slide below)
- Timeline
 - Partners bring implementation table refinements to January Steering Committee; however, urban implementation items can wait to be brought to January TAC.

BMP Implementation Table - Discussion

- Timeline:
 - December TAC: Review and become familiar with draft modeled reductions
 - January SC: Workshop to edit table efforts (level of effort, timing, typed of practices, etc)
 - January TAC: Review updated tables with costs included
 - February SC: Final edits and review of draft implementation table
 - February TAC: Review final draft, make changes and vote to send to PC.
- Discussion questions to guide next steps:
 - Do reductions seem high or low?
 - Do these vary from resource to resource or area to area?
 - Where can efforts be moved to, to achieve more desirable outcomes?
 - Are there more efforts that can be done to improve outcomes?
 - Are there different typed of efforts, or emphasis on certain efforts, that could improve outcomes?
- **Outcomes:** Familiarity with data and information, along with questions to ask yourself or coworkers that will allow you to adjust existing **level of efforts, location of efforts, and type of efforts, to improve outcomes**



Mississippi River St. Cloud Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

Supporting Programs Discussion (20 minutes)

- Policy & Regulation
 - review to see if applicable in your management zones and/or watershed wide
 - recommend that each county ask a planning and zoning teammate review the implementation table by Jan TAC
 - Marc - Sherburne
 - Barry - Wright
 - Roxanne - Benton
 - Stearns?
 - reach out to municipalities
- Data, Studies, and Monitoring
 - Alicia will convene the subcommittee to do wordsmithing
 - reach out to municipalities
- Stephanie asked, does this include input from our municipalities? If not, can we make assignments to connect with municipalities to review these?
 - Municipalities have different policies, regulations and also have their own comprehensive plans for land use, planning and zoning.

Meeting Recap, Subcommittee Assignments (if needed - 5 minutes)

- City of St. Cloud Subcommittee meeting before January 9
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Adjourn

Cibulka adjourned the meeting at 4:00 PM.

My follow up items

- *prep for Management Team meeting to review and refine MRSC Implementation Table*
 - *state goals that are applicable*
 - *see questions on slide above*
- *Meet with MT on 1/4 then send summary to ISG on 1/5*
- *met with municipalities to ask for input on Implementation Team*
 - *follow-up and support City of St. Cloud*
 - *Kimball and St. Augusta*
- *Outreach and Education subcommittee*
 - *Plan to scheduled meeting Jan TAC and Feb SC meeting*
 - *Add Whitney*
 - *Emily, Brittany, Miranda*
- *Policy & Regulation*
 - *review implementation table to see if anything applicable to our management zones or watershed-wide*