

Snake River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan	Partnership makeup Meeting Agenda Meeting #8 <u>Location:</u> Kanabec Co. Courthouse Basement room 317 Maple Ave E Mora MN 55051	Date: Monday, July 22, 2024
		Time: 10:15 am – 12:15 pm
		In-Person Or Remote via. Google Meet

Partnership Members: Dan Gravley, Travis Leiviska, Kevin Belkholm, Michael Cummins, Terry Lovgren, Tom Roeschlein, Bob Hoefert

Alternates: Jon Sanford, Kim Johnson, Bob Janzen, Joshua Mohr, Rick Mattson, Bret Sample, Kelly Henry

Invitees:

Staff: Ryan Carda, Deanna Pomije, Paul Swanson, Mara Jade, Jeremy Williamson, Susan Shaw, Keenan Hayes, Janet Smude, Mitch Gindele, Erin Hoxsie, Jody Grund

Agencies: Barb Peichel, Zach Guttormson

Public: Don Duetsch, Kathy Nielsen, Jill Jakusz

Meeting Material & Homework:

- Meeting Outcomes 4/22/24
- Consent Agenda updates
- Low-Income Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS) project proposal

In-Person Meeting in the basement room of the Kanabec Co. Courthouse 317 Maple Ave E Mora MN 55051 OR

Remote Google Meet via. Computer or phone:

(If you haven't previously tested your computer/phone system using Google Meet, please log-in/call-in 10 min. early.)

Google Meet joining info:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/udv-tdsq-kmj>

Or dial: (US) +1 929-276-0037 PIN: 715 245 730#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/udv-tdsq-kmj?pin=4448650446507>

Agenda Items

*Agenda Items for Approval / Roll Call Vote

Chair: vacant, Mille Lacs SWCD

Vice Chair: Kevin Belholm, Kanabec SWCD

Snake Watershed Mission: The mission of the Snake River Watershed Plan Partnership (SRWPP) is to implement the Snake River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. The Partnership seeks to facilitate collaboration across its member entities and connect landowners with the resources needed to manage their natural resources. The SRWPP strives to work with and empower landowners and partners in the restoration and protection of the watershed's natural resources.

Start 10:15 am (120 min)		(Meeting Recorded)	
Partnership Meeting	Purpose	Lead	Start Times
Welcome – Introductions, as needed 1-minute of silence in memory of the late Kurt Beckstrom and his work in the Snake Watershed <u>Meeting Purpose</u> – Activity Updates & SSTS project proposal	INTRO	Vice Chair	10:15 am
*Chair Nominations - Elections	VOTE	Staff	10:20
*Approve Agenda – suggest other agenda items	APPROVE	Chair	10:30
*Consent Agenda: approve or remove items for board discussion	REVIEW/ DISCUSS	Staff	10:35
*Approve meeting outcomes: 4/22/24	APPROVE	Chair	10:55
BREAK (5 min.)			11:00

Public Input (10 min.)	HEAR COMMENTS	Chair	11:05
*Project Proposal – Septic System, low-income, Kanabec SWCD, \$22,375 (approving also the SOW)	REVIEW / APPROVE	Kanabec SWCD	11:15
*Final Shoreland Buffer Policy, reworded	APPROVE	Staff	11:25
MCIT presentation, as available <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk, best management as a new Entity • Open Meeting Law - refresher 	PRESENT / QUESTIONS	MCIT staff	11:40
<u>2024 Meeting Schedule</u> 9:30 am unless otherwise noted Basement room of the Kanabec Courthouse July 22, 2024 Sept. 23, 2024 Nov. 25, 2024 (meeting scheduled as needed) <u>Future Agenda Items:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry practices policy Anyone want to sign-up to bring treats for our next meeting?	REVIEW	Chair / Staff	End 12:15 pm

Snake River Watershed Plan Partnership – Board Meetings

Consent Agenda

Mon. July 22, 2024 – 10:15 am

***About:** The consent agenda is a tool to make meetings more efficient and useful, allowing staff and Board Members to focus on important decisions affecting the Partnership policy and grant spending. When the consent agenda is on the table, any Board Member may ask to remove an item from the consent agenda for board discussion. The entire / remaining consent agenda is then approved as written or as amended.*

1. Consent Agenda

1.1. Financial Report – 6/27/24

- Grant Budget
- Encumbered Spent
- Unencumbered Not Spent
- Activity per grant categories

1.2. Steering Committee Updates

Summary of Meeting Outcomes

1.3. Activity Updates

- a) Watershed grant funding use (WBIF)
 Watershed Based Implementation Funding
- b) Other watershed plan work
 Using other funding sources (SWCD)

Snake River Watershed Plan Partnership – Board Meetings

FY24WBIF Grant - Snake River Watershed Partnership

6/27/2024

GRANT BUDGET			
Activity	FY24SRWPP WBIF	Match	TOTAL
Admin	\$145,000.00		\$145,000.00
Ag. Practices	\$80,131.40		\$80,131.40
Forestry Practices	\$38,286.60		\$38,286.60
Groundwater	\$1,740.30		\$1,740.30
Livestock Waste Mgmt.	\$30,701.50		\$30,701.50
Non-structural Mgmt. Practices	\$20,883.60		\$20,883.60
Outreach	\$98,666.00		\$98,666.00
Planning and Assessments (SWA)	\$104,418.00		\$104,418.00
Project Devel	\$194,466.00		\$194,466.00
SSTS	\$70,158.30		\$70,158.30
Stream/Shore Protection	\$167,395.40		\$167,395.40
Tech/Eng	\$50,000.00		\$50,000.00
Urban Stormwater Practices	\$5,220.90		\$5,220.90
Wetland Restoration/Creation	\$17,403.00		\$17,403.00
TOTAL	\$1,024,471.00	\$0.00	\$1,024,471.00

GRANT PAYMENTS		
Activity	FY24 SRWPP WBIF	Status
First 50% grant pymt	\$512,235.50	1/3/2024
Second 40% grant pymt	\$409,788.40	Not received
Final 10% grant pymt	\$102,447.10	Not received
TOTAL	\$1,024,471.00	

ENCUMBERED		
Classification	Encumbered	
Row Labels	Sum of Debit - FY24 SRWPP WBIF	Sum of Debit - FY24 SRWPP WBIF Match
Admin	\$145,000.00	\$0.00
Ag. Practices	\$0.00	\$0.00
Forestry Practices	\$0.00	\$0.00
Groundwater	\$0.00	\$0.00
Livestock Waste Mgmt.	\$0.00	\$0.00
Non-structural Mgmt. Practices	\$0.00	\$0.00
Outreach	\$90,566.00	\$0.00
Planning and Assessments (SWA)	\$51,300.00	\$0.00
Project Devel	\$179,466.00	\$0.00
SSTS	\$0.00	\$0.00
Stream/Shore Protection	\$5,000.00	\$1,250.00
Tech/Eng	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
Urban Stormwater Practices	\$1,620.00	\$405.00
Wetland Restoration/Creation	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grand Total	\$487,952.00	\$1,655.00

SPENT		
Classification	Spent	
Row Labels	Sum of Debit - FY24 SRWPP WBIF	Sum of Debit - FY24 SRWPP WBIF Match
Admin	\$13,542.20	\$0.00
Ag. Practices	\$0.00	\$0.00
Forestry Practices	\$0.00	\$0.00
Groundwater	\$0.00	\$0.00
Livestock Waste Mgmt.	\$0.00	\$0.00
Non-structural Mgmt. Practices	\$0.00	\$0.00
Outreach	\$2,566.98	\$0.00
Planning and Assessments (SWA)	\$7,977.00	\$0.00
Project Devel	\$5,802.77	\$0.00
SSTS	\$0.00	\$0.00
Stream/Shore Protection	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tech/Eng	\$0.00	\$0.00
Urban Stormwater Practices	\$22.50	\$77.50
Wetland Restoration/Creation	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grand Total	\$29,911.45	\$77.50

UNENCUMBERED	
Activity	FY23 SRWP WBIF
Admin	\$0.00
Ag. Practices	\$80,131.40
Forestry Practices	\$38,286.60
Groundwater	\$1,740.30
Livestock Waste Mgmt.	\$30,701.50
Non-structural Mgmt. Practices	\$20,883.60
Outreach	\$8,100.00
Planning and Assessments (SWA)	\$53,118.00
Project Devel	\$15,000.00
SSTS	\$70,158.30
Stream/Shore Protection	\$162,395.40
Tech/Eng	\$35,000.00
Urban Stormwater Practices	\$3,600.90
Wetland Restoration/Creation	\$17,403.00
Grand Total	\$536,519.00

NOT SPENT	
Activity	FY23 SRWP WBIF
Admin	\$131,457.80
Ag. Practices	\$80,131.40
Forestry Practices	\$38,286.60
Groundwater	\$1,740.30
Livestock Waste Mgmt.	\$30,701.50
Non-structural Mgmt. Practices	\$20,883.60
Outreach	\$96,099.02
Planning and Assessments (SWA)	\$96,441.00
Project Devel	\$188,663.23
SSTS	\$70,158.30
Stream/Shore Protection	\$167,395.40
Tech/Eng	\$50,000.00
Urban Stormwater Practices	\$5,198.40
Wetland Restoration/Creation	\$17,403.00
Grand Total	\$994,559.55

Activity	Beginning Grant Funds	Beginning Match	Encumbered Grant Funds	Encumbered Match	Spent Grant Funds	Spent Match Funds	Unencumbered Grant Funds	% Grant Encumbered	% Grant Spent
Admin	\$143,000.00	\$0.00	\$143,000.00	\$0.00	\$13,342.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	100%	9%
Ag. Practices	\$80,131.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$80,131.40	0%	0%
Forestry Practices	\$38,286.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$38,286.60	0%	0%
Groundwater	\$1,740.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,740.30	0%	0%
Livestock Waste Mgmt.	\$30,701.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,701.30	0%	0%
Non-structural Mgmt. Practices	\$20,883.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,883.60	0%	0%
Outreach	\$98,666.00	\$0.00	\$90,366.00	\$0.00	\$2,366.98	\$0.00	\$8,100.00	92%	3%
Planning and Assessments (SWA)	\$104,418.00	\$0.00	\$51,300.00	\$0.00	\$7,977.00	\$0.00	\$53,118.00	49%	8%
Project Devel	\$194,466.00	\$0.00	\$179,466.00	\$0.00	\$5,802.77	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	92%	3%
SSTS	\$70,138.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70,138.30	0%	0%
Stream/Shore Protection	\$167,393.40	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$162,393.40	3%	0%
Tech/Eng	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35,000.00	30%	0%
Urban Stormwater Practices	\$5,220.90	\$0.00	\$1,620.00	\$403.00	\$22.30	\$77.30	\$3,600.90	31%	0%
Wetland Restoration/Creation	\$17,403.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$17,403.00	0%	0%
TOTAL	\$1,024,471.00	\$0.00	\$487,952.00	\$1,633.00	\$29,911.43	\$77.30	\$536,519.00		

Expires 12/31/2026

Snake River Watershed Plan Partnership – Board Meetings

1.2. Steering Committee Meeting Outcomes

5/13 – A wetland restoration project was proposed (Kanabec SWCD), not currently eligible, looking into possible direct water quality benefits. Reviewed grant assurance measures.

The committee reviewed 11 draft logos for consideration (thanks to Erin H.), below is the committee’s chosen watershed logo:



6/30 – Multiple staff completed the required on-line grant reporting, including estimated costs through 6/30.

7/8 – To accommodate all the Steering Committee is now meeting 1st Monday of the month at 1:30-3:30 pm
Drafting meeting agreements and process for project presentation and approval by the committee.
Forestry project proposal in development for buckthorn control, Pine SWCD. Started a discussion on eligible forestry practices, meeting direct water quality benefits – more to come on this.

1.3. Activity Update

Snake Watershed Progress Update (Jan – mid July 2024)

7/12/24

Watershed Funds:

Work Completed:

- 1) Fish Lake, Arthur sec 34, shoreland restoration project – this project work has begun and will be completed by the end of June, \$2,406, (3.6 P reduction, 4.2 Tons TSS & soil saved) – Kanabec SWCD.

Approved / Contracted:

➤ Assessments, others:

1. The Pokegama sub-watershed assessment has begun, \$51,300 – Pine SWCD
2. Main stem of the Snake River – project assessment, \$15,000 – Pine SWCD
3. Priority maps for the watershed have been developed for easier reference for staff, seeking out a minor adjustment on the maps, total \$2,000 – Kanabec SWCD, coordinator
4. Rain barrels for water retention & outreach, 2 have been sold -Kanabec SWCD

➤ Projects:

1. Shoreland buffer project on Cross Lake, \$4,473 – Pine SWCD
2. Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) will be completed as planning for a future feedlot runoff control system, \$12,216, Brunswick sec 20 – Kanabec SWCD
3. Livestock Watering set-up as part of a cropland to pasture conversion, \$2,310. Brunswick sec 14 – Kanabec SWCD

Steering Committee, meets monthly:

- The committee has reviewed two projects, three projects are slotted for review in July, not including sub-watershed assessments.
- A new watershed logo has been created, for review at the next Partnership meeting (thanks to Erin H. – Pine Co)
- Reviewed a potential wetland restoration project with another partner – still seeking out a water quality gain

Outreach / Education:

- 25 contact hours have been completed
 - Amish outreach – nutrient supplements 2/23, (17 contact hrs.)
 - Regenerative Ag. Conference in Braham 4/10
 - Cross Lake Assn. Meeting,
 - Fish Lake Improvement Assn. annual meeting 6/29, 50 people (8 contact hrs.)
- 8 outreach materials have been developed
 - ✓ Kanabec SWCD newsletter (2 articles)
 - ✓ Rain barrel fact sheet & rebate form
 - ✓ Low-income septic application
 - ✓ Shoreland restoration flyer (used at priority lake meetings)
 - ✓ Targeted mailing (letter & fact sheet on incentive payments) on Cover Crops for Soil Health



Watershed staffing updates:

- The Kanabec SWCD has the District Manager position open until 6/30 and a Soil Health Conservationist position open
- The Pine SWCD is refilling the watershed shared forester.
- Our fiscal agent staff with Pine Co. has acquired a new position with the Pine SWCD. She may continue to assist the watershed in the county staff refilling transition.

Next Steps:

- New elections are planned for the Partnership Chair position
- The Steering Committee is planning to discuss which forestry practices may be eligible for watershed funding.
- The Steering Committee is planning to review/discuss their operational procedures.
- Planning for MCIT to come present on the open meeting law and risks as a new entity at our July Partnership meeting.
- Planning a shoreland workshop on Fish Lake this summer
- Mailing for targeted Soil Health project promotion / development
- Planning to have the Ann Lake treatment assessment report updated this year, with an option for Nanobubbles added.

Other projects in development

- ✓ Shoreland restoration / buffer projects
- ✓ Prescribed grazing – livestock watering system
- ✓ Stream restoration
- ✓ Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan
 - Possible livestock feedlot runoff system
 - Potential manure pit closure, just outside the watershed
- ✓ Low-income septic – Kanabec Co. developed/process application
- ✓ Manure Pit Closure (2 potential)
- ✓ Well Sealing

Note: Projects in development may take one year plus to work with the landowner to plan, contract, survey, design, bid and construct/plant the project.

Other Watershed Plan Work:

Under the BWSR funded ‘Reinvest in MN’ Conservation Easement funds for the Snake / Kettle River Watersheds – 4 new voluntary conservation easements have been enrolled totaling 162 acres, Kanabec County.

May 10th Moleaer Company presentation on Nanobubbles:

There were 5 lakes in the watershed present for this meeting. In summary, Nanobubbles are tiny bubbles of oxygen pumped into a lake to create an oxygen rich environment / increased dissolved oxygen levels where greater natural biological and chemical reactions are possible in the lake to aid in reducing algae and preventing the release of Phosphorus from the lake’s bottom (internal load). Possible option for an Ann Lake treatment, or even a mobile unit option moved around within the watershed. As this is a new water quality treatment option for MN, more research in MN may be needed prior to grant funds becoming available for this option. Pokegama Lake may be pursuing this as an option for their lake. Planning to have the Ann Lake treatment assessment report updated this year. Will plan to have a Nanobubbles option added to the treatment options.

Nitrate Well Testing Open House Results, Kanabec SWCD - week of April 22-26

There was an amazing turnout of 80 private wells tested! Normally we test ~30 wells. A big thank you to Jerah Mattson for greeting the landowners and providing the testing and the newspaper ads getting the word out.

Results:	1-4.9 ppm	72 wells
	5-9.9	6 (3 were near 9)

10 + 2

A large grazing operation in the Ann River Watershed has been certified into the MN Ag. Water Quality Certification Program, meeting the required conservation threshold.

One abandoned hand-dug well has been sealed & a 1,270 sq. ft. pollinator garden has been installed.

160 acres of cover crop are being contracted for planting in July.

Three lakes in Kanabec have been sprayed to control curly leaf pondweed, an aquatic invasive species.

The Kanabec SWCD newsletter goes out this week.

All 4 SWCDs conducted their spring tree/shrub sales. These sales generally provide for the sale of smaller, cheaper bare root trees in smaller quantities which the private sector does not provide.

The no-till drill in Kanabec has been used 7 times on a total of 215 acres this spring.

Snake Watershed Partnership Meeting Outcomes – April 22, 2024, 9:30am-11:30 am

Location: Kanabec Co. Courthouse or Remote Google Meeting

Board: Bob Hoefert (Mille Lacs SWCD), Kevin Belkholm (Kanabec SWCD); Tom Roeschlein, Rick Mattson (non-voting) (Kanabec Co); Terry Lovgren (Pine Co); Michael Cummins (Pine SWCD), Dan Gravely (Atkin SWCD)
*remote attendees

Staff:

Kanabec SWCD: Deanna Pomije; Pine SWCD: Mara Jade; Pine Co: Erin Hoxie; BWSR: *Barb Peichel, Zach Guttormson

Cross Lake: Don Duetsch; Pokegama Lake: Kathy Nielsen, Jill Jakusz

Purpose for the meeting

Buffer policy proposal & Snake River assessment proposal

9:35 Roll Call – Belkholm chairing

Belkholm led the group in a round robin with everyone introducing themselves by answering an ice breaker question of if you could have a super-power, what would it be?

*Approval of Agenda

Motion by Lovgren, second by Gravely to approve the agenda as presented.

Affirmative: Belkholm, Cummins, Lovgren, Gravely, Hoefert, Roeschlein

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Passed.

*Approval of the 4/5/24 Outcomes

Motion by Lovgren, second by Gravely to approve the 4/5/24 outcomes as presented.

Affirmative: Belkholm, Cummins, Lovgren, Gravely, Hoefert, Roeschlein

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Passed.

Pine SWCD Proposal: Snake River assessment for projects

Jade presented her proposal of hiring an engineering assistant consultant, along with Pine SWCD staff to complete an assessment along the main stem of the Snake River to identify potential projects and provide a geological history of the landscape and help staff understand how this impacts the watershed’s resources. Project cost: \$15,000. She also mentioned a large shoreland erosion project on the Snake River that’s in development. This is a large bluff actively eroding ~1 ft. per year on a ~60 ft. tall bank, estimated to cost over \$200,000.

It was mentioned that a previous assessment of the Snake River was done in the early 1990s. Pomije will look around for this older data to compare to today’s assessment.

Motion by Lovgren, second by Cummins for the completion of an assessment using a consultant on the main stem of the Snake River as presented, contracted for \$15,000 with the Pine SWCD.

Affirmative: Belkholm, Cummins, Lovgren, Gravely, Hoefert, Roeschlein

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Passed.

Public Input: In discussion on lake depths, Rick Mattson mentioned that the sheriff's dept. tracks depths at Grasston, Hwy 19 and Cross Lake. Hwy 61 and Cross Lake also have a USGS water elevation monitor, on a website.

Project Funding Flow Chart - reviewed

Jade and Pomije reviewed with the board a funding work flow for projects; where projects are ranked for eligibility and reviewed by the Steering Committee and then depending on the cost of the project either approved by the Snake Partnership Board or the Steering Committee. This helped to clarify the process for everyone.

Motion by Hoefert, second by Cummins to approve the project funding flow chart as presented.

Affirmative: Belkholm, Cummins, Lovgren, Gravely, Hoefert, Roeschlein

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Passed.

Proposed Shoreland Buffer Policy:

Jade presented a proposed new buffer policy that contains a sliding scale on the percent of cost-share funds available based on the width of the buffer. Where the wider the native buffer being installed – the higher the percent of cost-share funding available for the project.

- For shoreline buffer plantings with an average width equal to or less than 10 ft, a cost share rate of 50% will be used.
- For shoreline buffer plantings and average width of 11 ft to 25 ft, a cost share rate of 75% will be used.
- For shoreline buffer plantings greater than an average width greater than 25 ft, a cost share rate of up to 90% may be used.

Through discussion additional language was asked to be included in the policy such as spelling out it as a native planted buffer, including ag. and explaining that this buffer policy is above and beyond what is required by law under the MN state's buffer law.

It was agreed to table approval on this policy until the next Partnership meeting when the new language requested has been added.

Lake Treatment Discussion:

It was announced that on 5/10 the Moleaer Company will be here to present the lake treatment option of using Nannobubbles to address lakes' internal load and high algae concerns. Meeting details will be sent out. No lake treatment decisions have been made; we are just proposing this meeting to hear about this option.

Organically a discussion ensued on the potential for lake treatments in the watershed. With input from others, Pomije summarized on some of the past work in reviewing internal load treatment options for Ann Lake. She also presented a graph showing the various lakes in the watershed comparing each lakes' watershed vs. internal load contributions.

2024 Meeting Schedule

9:30 am unless otherwise noted

Basement room of the Kanabec Courthouse

April 22, 2024

June 24, 2024 - cancelled

July 22, 2024

Sept. 23, 2024

Nov. 25, 2024

Next Meeting:

June 24, 2024 – cancelled, not sufficient agenda items to warrant a meeting

July 22, 2024, 9:30 am start

Future Agenda Items:

Review / approve buffer policies

MCIT presentation: open meeting law and risks/recommendations as a new Joint Powers Entity

Motion by Cummins, second by Gravley to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 am.

Affirmative: Belkholm, Cummins, Lovgren, Gravely, Hoefert, Roeschlein

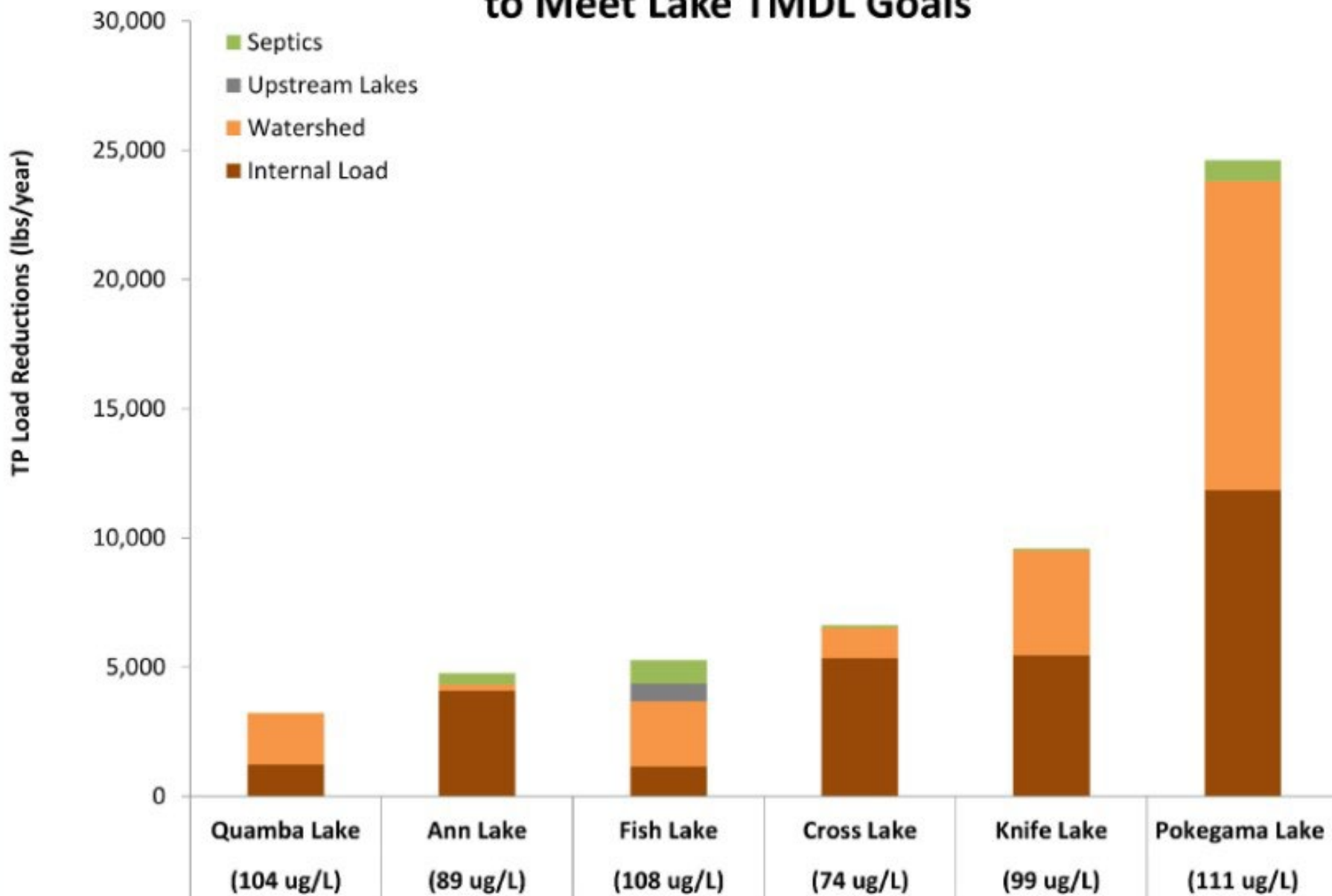
Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Passed.

*Adjourn Meeting at 11:35 am

Snake River Phosphorus Reductions to Meet Lake TMDL Goals



SRWPP Project Ranking Summary Sheet

To: Steering Committee

Date: 7/8/24

From: Kanabec SWCD

Subject: FY24_KanabecSWCD_Kanabec.9.04, low-income non-compliant septic

Description of Project –

Within the S. Fork of the Groundhouse River priority area for the groundwater resource with a goal to reduce nitrates – seeking funds for a low-income non-compliant septic (failing to protect groundwater) for a family of six on their new property in Kanabec twp. sec. 9, where they plan to move onto the site a mobile home.

Benefitted Waterbody Information (add rows for additional waterbodies if necessary)

Target waterbody(ies)	Groundwater
Description of near-by land uses	Wooded, residential
Impairment status	NA
Protection or restoration	protection

Project Details

Project Name (FY__LGU_twp.sec.local ID)	FY24_KanabecSWCD_Kanabec.9.04
Project Sponsor	Kanabec SWCD
Project Ranking Score (percentage)	63%
Additional Project Partner(s) (other than sponsor)	NA
Project Location (lat./long, address, Twp./sec./1/4 sec. or description)	T39, R25, Kanabec twp. sec. 9, NE1/4 of SE1/4
Sub-watershed (USGS HUC-10)	Groundhouse River
Estimated Construction Timeline	July- Aug. 2024
Est. Phosphorus Load Reduction	4 # P/yr.
Est. TSS Load Reduction	49 #/yr. or 0.02 tons/yr
Calculation Tool Used	Septic system improvement estimator
Project Lifespan	10 yrs
Applicable WBIF Work Plan Activity	SSTS – WBIF 2024, septic upgrades
Funding Specifically Allocated to this Project in Work Plan (if applicable)	NA
Total Estimated Project Cost	\$22,375
Match provided, match source (cannot be state funds)	\$0
Requested Funding of SRWPP	\$22,375
Lifetime Cost-Benefit (\$ / lb. phosphorus removed)	NA, \$559/ lb.

Project Name: FY24_KanabecSWCD_Kanabec.9.04, low-income non-compliant septic

Project Sponsor: Kanabec SWCD

Project Description/location: HUC 12: low-income non-compliant septic, S. Fork of the Groundhouse River

Scoring Criteria				
				Points
1.	Priority Area	The project addresses a resource concern in a priority area identified in the Plan's implementation table	<p><u>First 5 years of plan:</u> Tier 1 = 15 Tier 2 = 5 Other Priority Area = 15 Not identified in plan = 1</p> <p><u>After year 5:</u> Tier 1 = 15 Tier 2 = 15 Other Priority Area = 15 Not identified in plan = 5</p> <hr/> <p><u>Protection:</u> + In an identified protection item in the plan = 10 + Not in an identified protection item in the plan = 1</p>	15
2.	Identified in Biennial work plan? and the Implementation section 3.0 of the Snake River (CWMP)?	Identify which work plan category the project pertains to AND which action ID from section 3.0 of the Snake River (CWMP)?	Yes = 10 No = 0	10 pts. SSTS – WBIF 2024 and GW-9 – septic upgrades, to reduce nitrates in groundwater (answer both questions)
3.	Eligible WBIF project? Confirmed by BWSR staff?		Yes or No Yes or No or not yet	Yes and Not yet (answer both questions)

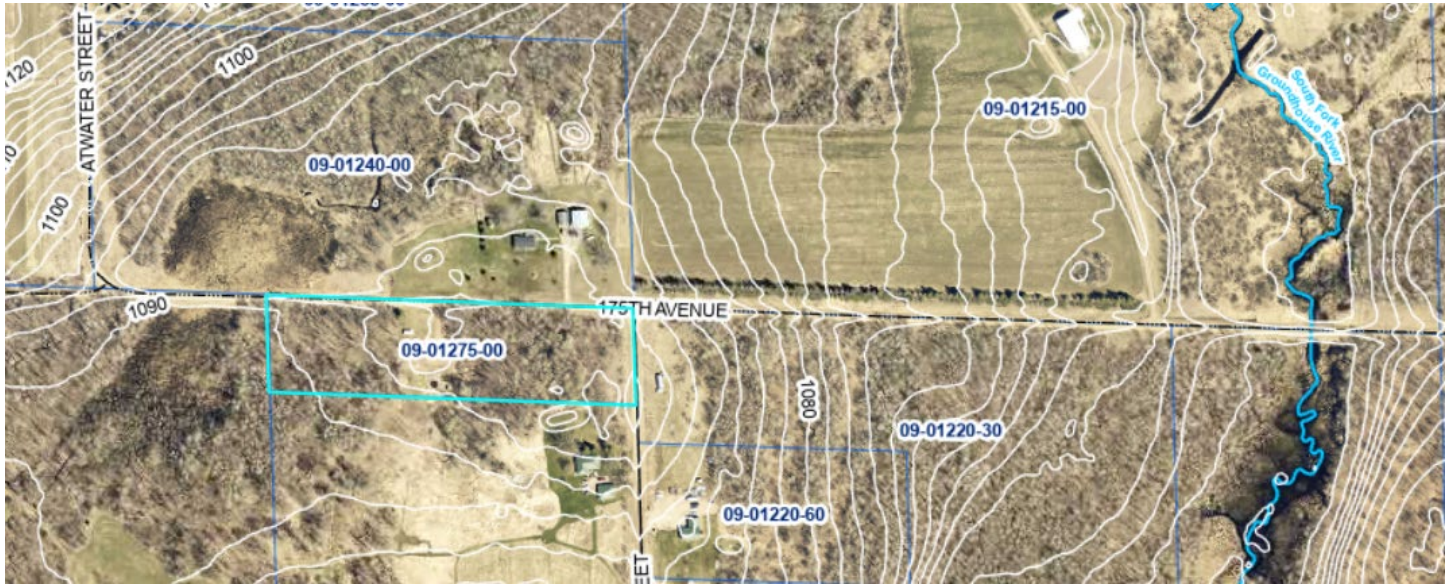
4.	Lake Restoration & Protection	<u>Restoration:</u> The project addresses impairment on a priority lake <u>Protection:</u> The project is on a protection priority lake	Within ¼ mile = 10 Or directly connected hydrologically Within ½ mile = 5 1 mile + = 1	NA
5. or	Stream Restoration	The project addresses an impaired water	Yes = 10 No = 5	NA
5.	Stream Protection	Project is located on a non-impaired stream, addresses a resource concern, and will contribute to the prevention of future impairments	Yes = 10 No = 0	NA
6.	Readiness	Concept plans and/or cost estimates are complete	Design completed = 10 Concept plan / cost estimate: Yes = 5 No = 0	10
7.	Urgency & Opportunity	Is the project contingent on securing funding now? (Example, BMP is part of a larger project that will move forward with or without the BMP; opportunity would be lost if not funded and implemented now)	Yes = 5 No = 0	4
8.	Cost effectiveness	Level of cost benefit when calculating dollar cost per pound of phosphorous reduced yearly	<\$1,000/lb P reduced/yr = 15 \$1,000-\$1,999/lb P reduced/yr = 12 \$2,000-\$2,999/lb P reduced/yr = 10 \$3,000 - \$3,999/lb P reduced/yr = 5 \$4,000+/lb P reduced/yr = 1 <u>Protection</u> >\$5,000/ac. = 5 <\$4,999/ac. = 10	5

9.	P Reduction	Pounds of phosphorous reduced yearly by proposed BMP	10+ lbs = 10 5 - 10 lbs = 8 3 - 5 lbs = 5 1 - 3 lbs = 3 < 1 lb = 1 <hr/> Protection = 10	10 pts. 4#P/yr. 89 BOD /yr. 3.05E+13 bacteria/yr. (CFU)
10.	Sediment / Soil Reduction	Pounds of sediment reduced yearly by proposed BMP	10+ lbs = 5 5 - 10 lbs = 3 < 5 lbs = 1 <hr/> Protection = 5	5 pts. 0.02 T TSS /yr
11.	Other Completion parameter	i.e.: acres or lin. ft. benefitted, # wells sealed, plans completed, outreach contact hrs.	_____ # (ac., lin. ft., plans, contact hrs.) No points	1 septic upgrade
12.	Partners & Funding	Partnership and collaboration with agencies, organizations, or other groups is being leveraged or utilized by this project (Are there multiple partners providing funding, in-kind support, or other assistance or involvement?)	Yes = 5 No = 0	0
13.	Resource Concern Level	Risk of resource concern degrading further OR Protection – risk of development or resource degradation	High = 10 Medium = 5 Low = 1	10
14.	Multiple Benefit	Project provides added benefit of <u>habitat</u> improvements (aquatic, riparian, upland, wetland). <u>Note</u> : water quality improvements are not considered habitat improvements for this criterion.	Yes = 5 No = 0	0
15.	Multiple Benefit	Project provides added benefit of <u>education</u> (examples: demonstration project)	Yes = 5 No = 0	0

16.	Multiple Benefit	Project improves water quality while also addressing <u>flooding concern</u> (examples: pond, wetland restoration, or floodplain expansion)	Yes = 5 No = 0 Or Increases Storage = 10	0
17.	Multiple Benefit	Project improves <u>groundwater</u> quality/quantity (examples: soil health, nutrient management, pesticide reduction, recharge, infiltration, reuse)	Yes = 10 No = 0	10
			<u>Total Points Possible:</u> Restoration = 135 pts. Protection = 125 pts. <u>63</u> %	79/125
*	Additional BMPs in Place or multiple practices planned ("Bonus" Points)	2 point per BMP, maximum of 10 points possible	0 - 10	0

Education & Feasibility Studies: The Steering Committee Recommends no ranking criteria here are needed, however if more/many come to the Board we will then develop criteria. Plan to discuss the merits of each as a committee to come forward with a recommendation.





Please submit maps & photos, etc. (aerial image, contour map) to aid the Steering Cmte. in understanding your project. (attached word doc. works well)

STATEMENT OF WORK 2024
Kanabec Soil & Water Conservation District

**TO THE MASTER PROJECT AGREEMENT BETWEEN SNAKE
RIVER WATERSHED PLAN PARTNERSHIP
AND KANABEC SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

This Statement of Work is issued and agreed to pursuant to the Master Project Agreement entered into between Snake River Watershed Plan Partnership ("**SRWPP**") and the Kanabec Soil & Water Conservation District ("**Partner**") and is subject to the terms and conditions of the Master Project Agreement. All grant activities associated with Project specified and detailed herein shall be performed in accordance with the Master Project Agreement, SRWPP Partnership Policy, the funding source's grant agreement, BWSR Grant Administration Manual (if BWSR is the funding source), and applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances.

I. SCOPE OF PROJECT

Partner will carry out certain activities to accomplish the Project as follows:

A. **Project Name and ID:** Watershed Wide & within the Plan's priority areas, Kanabec SWCD, Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) CY2024-26

B. **SRWPP Grant Funding Source:** SRWPP WBIF FY24 C24- 0093

C. **RRWP Plan Goals:** Describe how the Project advances the goals in the SRWPP Snake River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (SRCWMP) and grant funding source work plan:

This funding request to fund low-income non-compliant Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) in priority area as identified in the plan. This work is identified in both the SRCWMP and FY24 WBIF grant work plan. We will serve the watershed by fulfilling tasks identified in section 3 under action items SWQual-7(septic upgrades within certain priority lakes), SQWQual-26 (septic upgrades in priority streams) and GW-9 (septic upgrades in priority groundwater areas) of the SRCWMP 2023-2033 (attached hereto as Exhibit B and as may be updated from time to time by the SRWPP provided such changes in scope of work are agreeable to the Pine County SWCD). Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) are described in the SRCWMP (starting on page 5-17 in the SRCWMP) for increased water quality and groundwater protection within the watershed.

D. **Project Timeline:** Project must be completed between the date of execution of this agreement and December 31, 2026. Expenses incurred outside of these dates are not eligible for reimbursement.

E. **Grant Funding Source Work Plan Activity:** Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS)

Activities must be completed in a manner consistent with the Grant Work Plan (exhibit A) and align with the Snake River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan's Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (sec. 5.5.11 on p. 5-17), attached hereto as exhibit B.

1. Activity Deliverables:

- WBIF grant activity type: Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS)
- Conservation practice: Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS)
- Priority benefitting waterbody: Multiple
- Project deliverables and description: provided payments on completed SSTS systems (based on the lowest bid of at least two bids) to landowners on tasks in section 5.5.11 Subsurface Sewage Treatment System of the SRCWMP Plan 2023, page 5-17, exhibit B below.
- Timeline: Complete tasks by Dec. 31, 2026
- Landowner name (if applicable): Multiple
- Pollutant reductions (if applicable): NA
- Project effective life for which the Partner will be responsible for operations & maintenance of the Project: agreed upon landowner requirements to meet: Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) maintenance
- Activity location map, if applicable: Fig. 3-4 Surface Water Quality priority streams (from p.3-7 of the SRCWMP); Fig. 3-11 Drinking Water & Groundwater priority watersheds (from p.3-24 of the SRCWMP); and the priority lakes: Ann, Fish, Knife & Ouamba Lakes to be served by this project.
- Activity photos, if applicable: NA

2. Staff Involvement and Roles:

Snake River Watershed Coordinator (or successor), Kanabec SWCD, has primary responsibility for oversight and administration of the above grant activities.

other Kanabec SWCD staff (or successor) will provide project development and outreach/education to implement the Project.

II. ALLOCATION OF GRANT FUNDS

Partner will be reimbursed in an amount not to exceed **\$22,375** of costs incurred in delivering the Project.

Follow policies and procedures in the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources Grants Administration Manual, including but not limited to:

- a) Invoicing the Snake Partnership's Fiscal Agent at hourly rates allowable in the "Determining a Billing Rate" section if applicable.
- b) Documenting expenses according to the "Time and Effort Documentation" section. Invoicing only for expenses allowed by the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources One Watershed One Plan document titled "Allowable Costs for Planning Grants," or future modifications of that document.

III. COMMITMENT OF GRANT MATCHING FUNDS

Partner will contribute at least **\$0** of non-state match to the Activity's grant funding source.

IV. SIGNATURES

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Statement of Work the day and year signed below.

**SNAKE RIVER WATERSHED PLAN
PARTNERSHIP**

Kanabec Soil & Water Conservation District

By: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

Dated: _____

Dated: _____

**Exhibit A: Snake River Watershed Plan Partnership Grant Work Plan
2024-25 (ver. 12/8/23) attached...**

Exhibit B:

5.5.11 Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (page 5-17 of the SRCWMP)

SSTs are commonly known as septic systems. Substandard or poorly functioning SSTs can lead to inadequate dispersal and treatment of domestic sewage that pollutes surface and groundwater and causes public health problems.

Most SSTs fall under *Minnesota Statutes 2021, section 115.55* that requires:

- all counties must adopt ordinances complying with this section unless there are cities or towns that have adopted ordinances as strict as the county it resides in;
- the MPCA shall adopt rules containing minimum standards and criteria for design, location, installation, use, maintenance, and closure of SSTs;
- enforcement of this section may be carried out by LGUs; and
- inspections by local government units, complying criteria, and disclosure at property transfer.

SSTs are also governed by administrative rules under the MPCA, and these include:

- *Minnesota Rules 2021, chapter 7080* is for individual SSTs. This specifies detail such as treatment requirements for new and existing systems, evaluation standards for systems that factor in proximity to a groundwater supply or lake, different requirements based on design flow or gallons per day, and other such considerations.
- *Minnesota Rules 2021, chapter 7081* is for midsized SSTs. Similar to above but for larger systems.
- *Minnesota Rules 2021, chapter 7082: Administrative Requirements of Local SST Programs.* The MPCA will provide framework for local SST ordinances and provide minimum administrative procedures or strategies for effective permitting and inspections. The agency will also review local ordinances to ensure adequate compliance.
 - All counties must adopt and implement their own SST ordinances. Cities and townships may develop their own ordinances too as long as they also conform to this administrative rule.
 - All local government units administering SST programs must have at least one certified inspector and one government staff who has received accredited training on administration of local SSTs. For instance, Kanabec County has a County Septic Inspector.
- *Minnesota Rules 2021, chapter 7083* provides standards for SST professionals' adequate training, experience, continuing education, insurance, and bonding. The MPCA and local government units license and enforce based on this administrative rule or local ordinances that meet or exceed this rule's requirements.

Most counties' SST ordinances only differ slightly from each other. Some examples of how local ordinances distinguish themselves from the rest include:

- Mille Lacs County's SST ordinance requires inspection prior to the sale or transfer of property.
- Kanabec County requires point of sale inspections and upgrades for all shoreland properties' septic systems.
- Pine County's ordinance requires a compliance inspection for a transfer or sale of properties if the last certificate of compliance on file with the county is within three years for systems older than five years, or within five years if the system is less than five years old prior to this transfer of property.

Some counties, such as Pine County's Planning and Zoning Department, receive state grants to help administer the SST. Kanabec County enforces violations through its county attorney.

Relevant local regulations: Aitkin County Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Ordinance; Kanabec County Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Ordinance –County Ordinance #6; Ordinance No. 5 for the Management of Shoreland Areas of Kanabec County, Minnesota; Mille Lacs County Subsurface Sewage Treatment Ordinance; and Pine County Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems Ordinance.

SECTION 3 – IMPLEMENTATION ACTION TABLES

Water Quality – Goal 1: Reduce phosphorus loading to priority impaired lakes by a combined total of 4,200 pounds over the 10-year plan

SWQual-7	Increase activities that promote septic upgrades to reduce excess P, and work with lake associations to promote septic upgrades	Ann Lake (Tier 1) Fish Lake (Tier 1) Knife Lake (Tier 2) <u>Quamba Lake (Tier 2)</u>	15-20 <u>septics</u> updated	Counties/ SWCDs, LA	■	■	■	■	■	\$300,000◇
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Water Quality—Goal 4: Reduce E. coli exceedances in priority impaired streams and rivers by 10%

SWQual-26	ID and upgrade non-conforming septic systems within shoreline zones or that present a public health threat	Goal 4 Priority Streams and Rivers (Figure 3-4)	15-20 <u>septics</u> upgraded and compliant	Counties	■	■	■	■	■	\$400,000◇
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Groundwater – Goal 1: Prevent nitrate levels in groundwater from increasing

GW-9	Promote septic upgrades to reduce excess nitrate in groundwater	Drinking Water and Groundwater Goal 1 Priority Watersheds (Figure 3-11), Shallow wells, Vulnerable DWSMAs	15-20 septic systems updated	Counties / SWCDs	■	■	■	■	■	\$300,000◇
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DRAFT:

Shoreline Buffer Policy:

The intent of this shoreline buffer policy is for the promotion of deep-rooted native plant establishment along shoreline properties (both lakes and rivers) for their benefits provided to water quality.

The MN Buffer Law is a separate requirement from this policy. Landowners that take advantage of this shoreline buffer policy must already comply with the MN Buffer Law. This policy is for enhanced buffer work that is above and beyond what is required by law.

Critical Area Planting, NRCS Practice Standard 342, will be followed in the design and implementation of shoreline buffers. Up to 25% of the shoreline may be excluded from the shoreline buffer for the purpose of recreational use and/or water access and still be eligible for cost share.

- For shoreline buffer plantings with an average width equal to or less than 10 ft, a cost share rate of 50% will be used.
- For shoreline buffer plantings and average width of 11 ft to 25 ft, a cost share rate of 75% will be used.
- For shoreline buffer plantings greater than an average width greater than 25 ft, a cost share rate of up to 90% may be used.

Shoreline Buffers in the Plan:

- SWQual-6 – protect, stabilize, or restore 1,000+ feet of shorelands using native buffers and other BMPs
- SWQual-24 – Complete 1,400+ feet of streambank buffers for habitat improvement and channel stabilization
- LC-8 – Install shoreland buffers, un-mowed buffers, buffer demonstrations, and rain gardens or similar urban BMPs (goal being 400-2,400 linear feet of buffers installed)
- SWQuan-8 – Install lake and stream shoreland restoration projects with a focus on retention and infiltration within the floodplain areas
- E-2 - Install or adopt 5–7 restoration/soil saving BMPs (shoreland buffers, forest riparian plantings, etc.)