

FINAL REPORT

AUG - 4 2004

2001 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2004

TITLE: Accelerated Implementation of Local Water Plans

PROJECT MANAGER: Marybeth Block

ORGANIZATION: MN Board of Water and Soil Resources

ADDRESS: One West Water Street, St. Paul, MN 55107

WEB SITE ADDRESS: www.bwsr.state.mn.us

FUND: Future Resources Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2001, 1st Special Session, Ch. 2, Sec. 14, Subd. 6(a)

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$1,365,000

Local match amount: \$1,639,431

Overall Project Outcome and Results

Grants were awarded to 23 projects identified as high-priority actions in water management plans of local government units, enabling them to carry out water protection measures beyond what their general budgets would have afforded. All grant monies were matched with cash at a minimum of one-to-one. Some examples of projects carried out by implementation category are cited below.

Eleven projects installed land or water treatment measures. Nobles County installed best management practices saving an estimated 32,000 tons of soil annually. Polk County repaired bank erosion in Crookston that had exposed sewer pipes posing a severe threat to the Red Lake River. Cover crops planted on canning crop acres saved an estimated 10,000 tons/yr of soil in Mower County.

Five projects focused on resource plans or environmental controls. Lake of the Woods developed a comprehensive wetland management plan and wetland ordinance. Olmsted and Dodge counties developed a stormwater management and capital improvement plan for the 297 square miles South Zumbro Watershed. This plan aims to protect natural stream corridors, drainages and other hydrologic features of this unique area.

Four projects carried out monitoring and assessment activities. North Cannon WMO monitored water quantity and quality, and macroinvertebrates in the Pine Creek and Trout Brook subwatersheds. Itasca County modeled the impacts of varying levels and types of lake development, and from that data developed specific recommendations to the county relating to present and future land use.

Three projects focused on inventory and mapping. Carnelian Marine WD inventoried the unique communities associated with the springs along the St. Croix River and prescribed long-term protection and management strategies. This plan is being used by WDs and WMOs in with their water management plan updates.

Each project disseminated the results in the manner most appropriate. Many used websites, newspaper articles and fact sheets.

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2004

LCMR Final Work Program Report - 2001

Title: Accelerated Implementation of Local Water Plans

Total Biennial Project Budget 1,365,000

Funding Priority: Local Water Planning

Project Manager: Marybeth Block

Affiliation: MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)

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Total Biennial Project Budget:

\$ LCMR:	\$1,365,000	\$ Match required	\$1,340,000
-\$ LCMR Amount		-\$ Match Amount	
Committed:	\$1,365,000	Committed:	\$1,340,000
[spent]	\$1,328,207	[spent]	\$1,639,431

= \$LCMR Balance: \$ 36,793*

= \$ Match Balance: (-\$299,431)

* see attachment A for a list of individual projects, and grant and match balances.

A. Legal Citation: Laws of 2001, First Special Session, Chapter 2, Section 14, Subd. 6(a) Accelerated Implementation of Local Water Plans. \$1,365,000 is appropriated from the future resources fund to the board of water and soil resources to accelerate the local water planning challenge grant program under Minnesota Statutes, sections 103B.3361 to 103B.3369, through the implementation of high-priority activities in comprehensive water management plans on a one-to-one match basis of cash or interest in land and for a program reporting system. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2004, at which time the project must be completed and final products delivered, unless an earlier date is specified in the work program.

B. Status of Match Requirement: A one-to-one cash match was required. Match exceeded grant dollars by \$299,431.

II. and III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY:

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IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1-14: Eligible units of government were notified of the availability of grants to implement actions in their water plans through direct mailings, emails and the State Register. A total of 101 applications were received requesting \$3,630,000 offering \$6,118,000 in matching funds. Representatives from 12 agencies and local government associations reviewed the applications and drafted a recommendation. The Board approved the recommendation funding 42 projects for a total of \$652,357 with BWSR grant funds (agency accepted in-kind match) and 23 projects using the LCMR appropriation of \$1,340,000 funds (LCMR required cash match.)

Nine of the LCMR-funded projects requested and were granted extensions to complete their project by June 31, 2004. All final reports have been received.

Nine LGUs did not spend all the money allocated for their project, resulting in a \$36,793 unspent LCMR grant dollars – roughly 27 percent of the appropriation. \$32,054 has been returned to the state and Red Lake Watershed District is in the process of returning \$4,494 dollars. Fillmore County returned the highest amount, \$15,176 of the \$35,000 awarded; like many other projects where money was returned, staff turnover was cited as the reason for not completing all of the actions associated with the project.

Result 15: LCMR earmarked \$25,000 of the of the appropriation for the development of a reporting tool to monitor and measure the outcomes of the individual projects, and allow local units of government to apply for grant dollars online. The 1.2 million dollar software program had its official debut in June of 2003 when BWSR accepted applications for 2004 Local Water Management Challenge Grants via eLINK. Since January of 2004 all BWSR grants and LGU required reporting has been conducted via the eLINK program.

V. Total Project Budget:

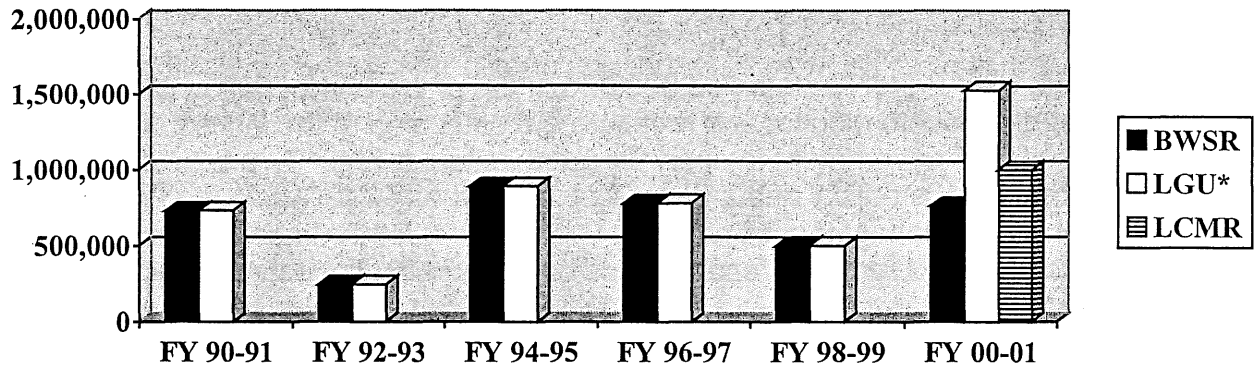
All Results: Personnel: \$0
All Results: Equipment: \$ 0
All Results: Development: \$25,000
All Results: Acquisition: \$0
All Results: Other: \$1,302,952

TOTAL BUDGET: \$1,327,952
Funds returned to the State: \$32,054
Funds to be returned to the State: \$4,494

VI. PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE SPENDING:

A. Past Spending:

Local Water Planning Challenge Grant Funding History



B. Current and Future Spending:

Challenge grants for local projects:

- \$750,000 BWSR Challenge Grant Fund
- \$ 25,000 BWSR Administration
- \$ 10,000 Project Partners participating on the review team

C. Project Partners:

Local Projects:

- Associations representing local governments
- MN Department of Agriculture
- MN Department of Health
- Metropolitan Council
- MN Department of Natural Resources
- MN Pollution Control Agency
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- MN Planning
- U of MN Extension

GIS Conservation Measuring Tool

- Dept. of Interior Environmental Protection Agency
- USDA NRCS
- MPCA
- pilot counties and soil and water conservation districts

D. Time: The project timeframe is July 1, 2001 to June 31, 2003. Many projects will be carried out during the summer construction seasons. Projects will be able to apply for a one-year extension if unforeseen circumstances, such as weather, impede progress of the project.

VII. DISSEMINATION: Detailed project work plans; budgets and reports are be maintained by BWSR for successful grant applicants. These materials are available for inspection upon request. Project summaries will be prepared after awarding of grants and will be broadly distributed through cooperating agencies, the LCMR, BWSR newsletters, and BWSR's Web-site (BWSR's homepage is currently under development). Final project results were to be available in an electronic format through the required use of BWSR's local government annual reporting system (LARS). But due to difficulties with this program, and the development of a new reporting program, this requirement was not realized. Final reports were submitted hard copy to the BWSR.

VIII. LOCATION: Statewide

IX. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Periodic work program progress reports were submitted on January 15, 2002; July 31 2002; January 15, 2003 and June 1, 2003. A final work program report and associated products was due by June 30, 2003, or by the completion date as set in the appropriation.

Attachment A: LCMR Funded LWP Challenge Grants

Applicant	Description	Grant Amount	Grant spent	Funds returned	Match Spent
Brown's Creek WD	Identify, design and implement a demonstration site to educate communities, developers and citizens on environmental controls and stormwater mgt standards required by Brown's Creek WSD Rules.	\$25,000	\$16,735	\$8,265	\$16,735
Carnelian – Marine WD	Inventory and prescribe stewardship strategies to provide long-term protection and management of the unique and rare natural communities, flora and fauna of the spring creeks along the St. Croix River.	\$49,500	0	-	50,664
Chippewa County	Improve water quality in the Spring Creek Sub-basin using whole farm planning and implementing best management and environmental practices.	\$25,000	\$22,489	\$2,511	\$24,489
Clay County	Assess a sub watershed prone to severe erosion and flood damage using the Clay Wetland Model and engineering technology.	\$25,000	\$25,000	-	\$25,000
Fillmore County	Demonstrate the soil quality building benefits of manure by providing incentives to producers to set aside acres on which to apply manure on an annual rotating basis.	\$35,000	\$19,824	\$15,176	\$19,824
Heron Lake WSD	Remove and replace open tile intakes with subsurface intakes to improve surface water quality in the Heron Lake WSD.	\$36,000	\$35,655	\$345	\$36,430
Itasca County	Protect water quality by implementing critical elements of the new Itasca County Comprehensive Land Use Plan adopted May 2000.	\$40,000	\$40,000	-	\$40,071
Lake of the Woods County	Develop a comprehensive wetland protection and management plan and ordinance for LOW county.	\$40,000	\$40,000	-	\$40,000
Nobles County	Improve surface water quality and reduce runoff in Nobles county and several watershed districts by implementing an agricultural BMP cost-share program	\$125,000	\$123,779	\$1,221	\$125,000
North Cannon River WMO	Evaluate the overall health of the Pine Creek and Trout Brook Sub-watershed of the Cannon River through water quality and quality monitoring, macroinvertebrate monitoring, landcover mapping and citizen involvement	\$32,000	\$32,000	-	\$32,000
North Fork Crow River WD	Digitize county and judicial drainage ditch systems so that better land use mgt can be implemented in protecting water quality and water quantity.	\$13,500	\$13,500	-	\$13,825
Olmsted & Dodge Counties	Develop a South Zumbro Stormwater and Capital Improvement Plan that utilizes riparian buffers, rural section rain gardens, wetland restorations, stream bank erosion controls and stormwater management for water quality and wildlife habitat improvement.	\$54,000	\$54,000	-	\$54,000
Polk County	Restore and stabilize the banks of Red Lake River to protect city sewer pipes and decrease contamination of the river by pathogens and sedimentation.	\$125,000	\$0	-	\$125,000
Prior Lake-Spring Lake WD	Improve water clarity in Spring and Upper Prior Lakes to eliminate toxic algae blooms, improve aesthetics, reduce nuisance Curlyleaf Pondweed conditions and enhance coverage of native aquatic plants.	\$50,000	\$46,682	3,318	\$46,682
Red Lake WD	Establish watershed assessment protocol procedures for developing water quality reports, field and lab standards operating procedures, quality assurance project plans and statistical analysis techniques.	\$50,000	\$45,506	4,494*	\$11,866
Sauk River WD	Reduce sediment and phosphorus loading to Lake Osakis from Judicial Ditch 2 (JD2) by constructing a sedimentation basin provides water quality benefits	\$125,000	\$125,000	-	\$239,180

Applicant	Description	Grant Amount	Grant Spent	Funds returned	Match spent
Stearns County	Compile information through a lakeshed assessment approach and organize it into a GIS database.	\$25,000	\$25,000	-	\$25,000
Stearns County	Solve lakeshed area problems by implementing conservation practices in areas identified by the Stearns County Lakeshed study.	\$50,000	\$50,000	-	\$60,000
Thirty Lakes WD	Determine current and future Stormwater loading to the fifty-five lakes based on current land use, current zoning and loading generated from projected zoning	\$20,500	\$20,478	\$22	\$20,478
Wadena & Becker Co's	Identify, prioritize and assist in the closing abandoned animal waste pits to eliminate contamination of surface and ground water.	\$100,000	\$100,000	-	\$100,000
Washington Co and several WSDs	Integrate groundwater elements into watershed district management strategies and policies protecting lakes, wetlands, streams and water supplies dependent on groundwater.	\$125,000	\$125,000	-	\$125,000
Watowan County	Improve surface water quality by working with local townships and landowners to repairing eroding riverbanks and improving in-stream aquatic habitat.	\$44,000	\$44,000	-	\$44,000
Wilkin County	Install best management practices to reduce flooding and enhance natural resources.	\$125,000	\$123,803	\$1,197	333,861
Total		\$1,339,500	\$1,302,952	\$36,548	\$1,639,431

*Not returned to BWSR

Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2005 Projects - Summary and a Budget page for each partner (if applicable)

Proposal Title: Accelerated Implementation of Local Water Plans

Project Manager Name: Marybeth Block

LCMR Requested Dollars: \$ 1,365,000

- 1) See list of non-eligible expenses, do not include any of these items in your budget sheet
- 2) Remove any budget item lines not applicable

2005 LCMR Proposal Budget	Result 1 Budget:	Amount Spent (date)	Balance (date)	Result 15 Budget:	Amount Spent (date)
	<i>Grants of LGUs</i>			<i>eLINK software deveopment</i>	
BUDGET ITEM					
PERSONNEL: Staff Expenses, wages, salaries <i>– Be specific on who is paid \$, to do what? Make each person paid a separate line item</i>					
PERSONNEL: Staff benefits – <i>Be specific; list benefits for each person on a separate line item</i>					
Contracts					
Professional/technical <i>(with whom?, for what?)</i>					
Other contracts <i>(with Linnet Corp. - software developer)</i>				25,000	\$25,000.00
Other direct operating costs <i>(for what? – be specific)</i>					
Equipment / Tools <i>(what equipment? Give a general description and cost)</i>					
Office equipment & computers - NOT ALLOWED unless unique to the project					
Other Capital equipment <i>(list specific items)</i>					
Land acquisition <i>(how many acres)</i>					
Land rights acquisition <i>(less than fee)</i>					
Printing					
Other Supplies <i>(list specific categories)</i>					
Travel expenses in Minnesota					
Travel outside Minnesota <i>(where?)</i>					
Construction <i>(for what?)</i>					
Other land improvement <i>(for what?)</i>					
Other <i>(Describe the activity and cost) be specific</i>	1,340,000	1,302,952	37,048		
COLUMN TOTAL	\$1,340,000.00	\$1,302,952	\$37,048.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00