

# Agenda

## Bois de Sioux – Mustinka

### Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans

#### REMOTE Policy Committee Meeting

#### MEETING INFORMATION

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<b>Date:</b>	April 2, 2020	<b>Location:</b>	Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. <a href="https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/123358485">https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/123358485</a>
<b>Time:</b>	1:00 – 3:30 PM		<b>You can also dial in using your phone.</b> United States: +1 (669) 224-3412
<b>Invitees / Attendees:</b>	Policy Committee		<b>Access Code: 123-358-485</b>

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#### PREPARATION FOR MEETING

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<b>Read:</b>	Draft Actions Table for watershed-wide actions Draft Plan Section 5 Draft Plan Section 3 (to be distributed separately)
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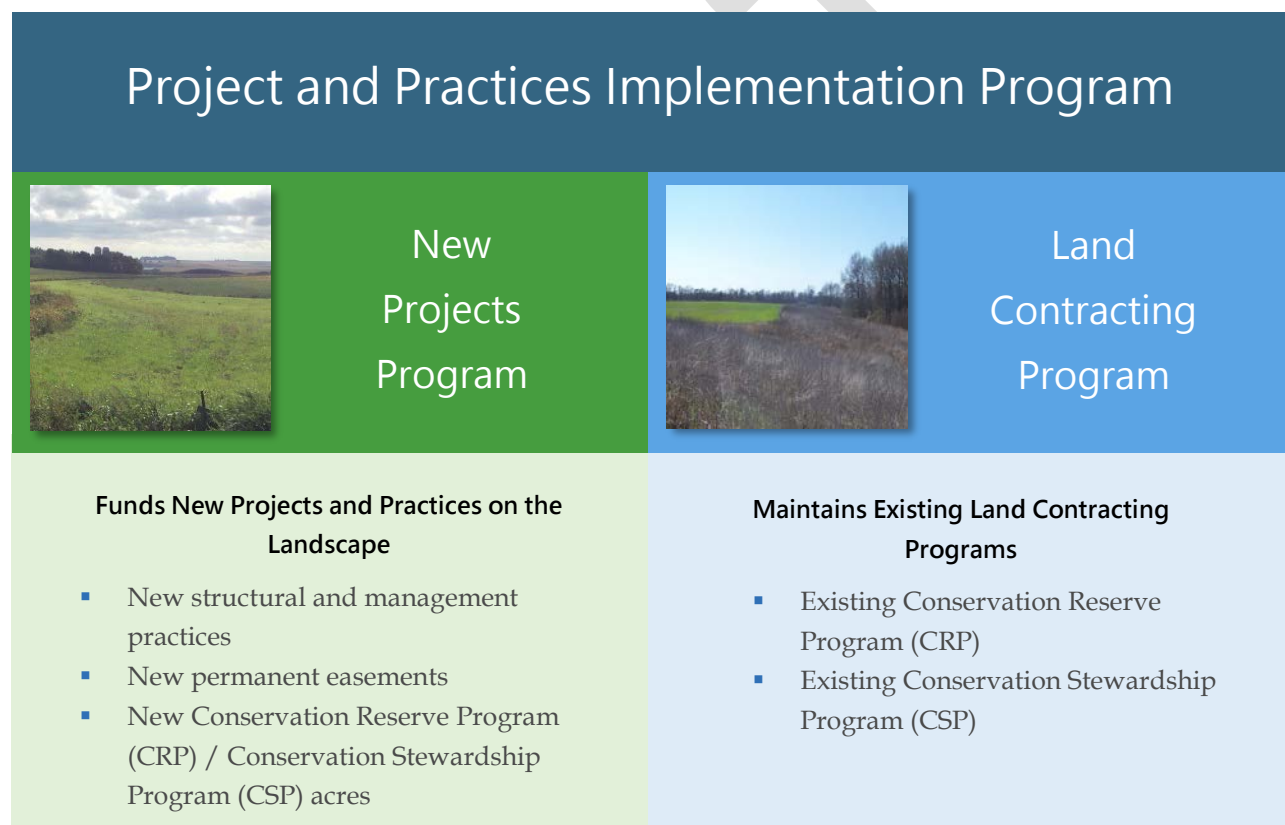
AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION	TIME ALLOTTED
1. Welcome and Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Approve minutes from last meeting</li><li>Approve invoice(s)</li><li>Introduce agenda</li><li>Review most recent financial report</li></ul>	--	15 min.
2. Draft Plan Section 3: Measurable Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Meeting Goal:</b> Discuss content and approve direction</li></ul>	Discuss / Approve	30 min.
3. Actions Table <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Meeting Goal:</b> Discuss watershed-wide actions and approve direction</li></ul>	Discuss / Approve	30 min.
4. Draft Plan Section 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Meeting Goal:</b> Discuss revised content and approve direction</li></ul>	Discuss / Approve	30 min.
5. Plan Administration Structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Meeting Goal:</b> Discussion on implementation structure options</li></ul>	Discuss	30 min.
6. Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Internal Review process</li><li>Local Board rescheduled meeting</li><li>Expected items for next Policy Committee meeting</li></ul>	Decide	15 min.

## Section 5.0 Implementation Programs and Plan Administration

Implementation programs are the funding mechanism to implement the Action Table. This plan establishes common implementation programs within the plan area<sup>1</sup> and describes them conceptually in this section.

### 5.1. Projects and Practices Implementation Program

Dollars used to implement projects and practices on the landscape are funded by the Projects and Practices Implementation Program. This implementation is broken into two subprograms, as shown below.



#### New Projects Program

The New Projects Program funds actions pertaining to the planning, design, and implementation of new projects and practices to make progress towards plan goals. Projects can be structural (i.e. grassed waterways, controlled drainage) or nonstructural (i.e. nutrient management, conservation tillage, permanent protection, new lands enrolled in CRP/ CSP). The program assists landowners in implementing voluntary actions through

<sup>1</sup> Plan participants will continue to use financial incentives through their own programs to meet their own individualized needs within their jurisdiction.

financial incentive, technical assistance, tax exemption, conservation easement, or land acquisition. This program is funded by local, state, and federal dollars.

Grant applications to fund the New Projects Program will be prepared jointly through the Bois de Sioux-Mustinka Watersheds CWMP Partnership to promote consistency in services across the plan area. During implementation, the Partnership will create a decision-making process for prioritizing what practices get funded, and how much funding practices will receive. Funding will be preferentially given to projects and practices identified within the Action Table, consistent with the priority issues and goals established in this plan.

### Land Contracting Program

The Land Contracting Program serves to maintain existing acres of the watershed enrolled in land conservation programs. While this plan recognizes that there are state funded and other perpetual easements of value in the plan area, this program focuses on federal programs such as the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).

CRP is a land conservation program administered by Farm Service Agency (FSA). In exchange for a yearly rental payment, farmers enrolled in the program agree to remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production and plant species that will improve environmental health and quality. Contracts for land enrolled in CRP are 10-15 years in length (USDA, 2020).

In contrast to CRP, CSP is a financial assistance program for working lands. NCRS provides yearly payment to implement conservation activities such as grazing management, filter strips, cover crops, and range grasses. Contracts for working land enrolled in CSP are 5 years in length (NRCS, 2020).

There are currently [Placeholder XXXX acres] enrolled in CRP or CSP within the watersheds. This program dedicates funds for maintaining existing acreage enrolled in these contracting programs. Land enrolled in these programs produce numerous environmental benefits. For example, converting row-cropped lands with conventional tilling methods to perennial grasslands using programs such as CRP typically reduce about 50% of storm runoff (RRB, 2004). Implementing conservation tillage practices in programs such as CSP typically reduce 5% to 8% of runoff reduction (RRB, 2004).

	Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
<b>Funding</b>	✓ Federal	✓ Federal
<b>Enrolled Land Type</b>	✓ Grasses, trees	✓ Working land
<b>Contract Length</b>	✓ 10-15 years	✓ 5 years
<b>Watersheds Coverage</b>	✓ XXX acres	✓ XXX acres



## 5.2. Data Collection and Monitoring Implementation Program

The Data Collection and Monitoring Implementation Program funds actions which close data gaps to allow for tailored, science-based implementation strategies. The program also funds ongoing efforts aimed at the development and assembly of data and information (e.g. monitoring).

Ongoing surface water monitoring programs are led by local and state entities. The MPCA administers three intensive watershed monitoring water chemistry stations in the Bois de Sioux Watershed and six in the Mustinka River Watershed. MPCA's Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network (WPLMN) provides continuous monitoring of water quality conditions, with six WPLMN sites (Rabbit River, Bois de Sioux River, Mustinka River, Twelvemile Creek) in the Bois de Sioux - Mustinka Watersheds. There are also 12 US COE stream gauge sites located within the plan area. Other existing surface water monitoring sites in the plan area are operated by the DNR and the USGS. Results from these networks and other ongoing tracking and monitoring programs can be used to document measurable water quality and quantity changes resulting from implementation (Table 5-1).

Ongoing monitoring efforts also track groundwater supply quantity and quality trends. Current programs include Public Water Supplier Monitoring, MDA's township testing, MPCA's Ambient Groundwater Monitoring Program, DNR high capacity permitting program, and the DNR Observation Well Network. These programs have provided valuable information but are not yet extensive enough to fully assess the state of groundwater in the region.

During implementation, the Data Collection and Monitoring Implementation Program will build on the data and information processes already established by plan participants. The Data Collection and Monitoring Implementation Program will be collaborative (especially where efforts cross administrative boundaries), with Partnership entities sharing services wherever possible.

Table 5-1: Example means for tracking and documenting implementation progress

Level	Description	Example Application
Tracking	Counting number of practices, acres, miles of ditches or rivers, number of workshops, etc.	Outputs in Action Table (Section 4). Projects will be tracked and reported in eLINK and local database during implementation.
Estimating	Using lower resolution calculators and tools to give a sense of the individual or collective impacts of projects.	Engineer estimates, existing PTMApp results
Modeling	Incorporating landscape factors and project information to predict future conditions.	Prioritize, Target, Measure Application (PTMApp), HSPF in WRAPS Cycle 2
Measuring	Using field-collected information to assess the condition of the water.	Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network, WRAPS Cycle 2



<p><b>Proving</b></p>	<p>Having enough measurements to compare with standards and decide if it's improved.</p>	<p>Analysis of loading at watersheds pour point (Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network), WRAPS Cycle 2</p>
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### 5.3. Education and Outreach Implementation Program

The Education and Outreach Implementation Program funds actions to increase engagement and understanding to make progress toward plan goals. The program is operated through sharing of services. Expectations are that a common set of template education and outreach materials will be developed for use across the watersheds but delivered by the staff within each county and/or planning region.

Engaging landowners is critical for understanding issues impacting residents and solutions that are viable. Activities designed for engaging landowners include farm tours, soil demonstration plots, field days, and community education meetings (e.g. Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification meetings and weed management workshops). These activities will continue and be built upon as part of the Education and Outreach Program.

This program is also dedicated to engaging area youth in natural resource management, building upon current efforts. The River Watch program currently provides high school students with watershed education and water quality monitoring experience. Partner SWCDs currently host youth education programs such as Water Fest, Conservation Day, Family Fun Night at the Lake, and annual Envirothons. These example activities center around educating youth on the importance of natural landscape and the environmental issues that impact it.

This program will also continue to support general public education and outreach. Actions may include development of educational materials, newsletters, coordination of volunteer activities, and public meetings to raise awareness and gain a better understanding of the consequences of individual decisions on water management. Also included are general media campaigns, citizen and LGU surveys, and municipal training.

Not all education opportunities need to be in-person. Many local government staff use social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube) to educate and inform the general public on local resource issues and upcoming events. E-mail, website updates, newsletters, news articles, and other releases are also a priority for communicating water quality, quantity, and conservation issues with local citizens. These platforms serve to easily and effectively communicate important watershed information in a timely manner.

### 5.4. Regulatory Administration

Many plan issues can be addressed in part through the administration of statutory responsibilities and local ordinances. In many cases, local ordinances have been adopted to conform to (or exceed) the standards and requirements of the state statutes. The responsibility for implementing these programs will remain with the respective counties or appointed LGUs. The BdSWD has rule making authority per MS 103D.341 and permitting authority per 103D.345. Current rules were adopted in 2009 and could periodically change per life of this plan. The 2009 BdSWD Rules are available by reference in **Appendix X**. To review current rules, please see the BdSWD website ([www.bdswd.com](http://www.bdswd.com)).



Counties and the watershed district will meet once a year to discuss ordinances and counties will notify each other of any proposed ordinance amendments. A full comparison of how local ordinances are used to administer statutory responsibilities is provided in **Appendix X**.

### **Shoreland Management**

The Minnesota Legislature has delegated responsibility to LGUs to regulate the subdivision, use, and development of shorelands along public waters to preserve and enhance the quality of surface waters, conserve the economic and natural environmental values of shorelands, and provide for the wise use of waters and related land resources. This statute is administered and enforced as a local zoning ordinance for all participating counties, and as a rule for the BdSWD.

### **Floodplain Management**

Floodplain zoning regulations are intended to guide development in the floodplain consistent with the magnitude of the flood threat to minimize loss of life and property, disruption of commerce and governmental services, extraordinary public expenditure for public protection and relief, and interruption of transportation and communication. The DNR and FEMA are in the process of updating floodplain maps on a county basis. Current flood maps can be found on the DNR website at [https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt\\_section/floodplain/access-flood-maps.html](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt_section/floodplain/access-flood-maps.html). Floodplain zoning regulations are enforced through local zoning ordinances by Big Stone, Grant, Stevens, Traverse, and Wilkin County.

### **Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS)**

The Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) Program is administered by the MPCA in order to protect the public health and environment. SSTS Ordinances are adopted and enforced at the county level to meet state requirements. Big Stone, Stevens, Traverse, Otter Tail, and Wilkin County administer Minnesota Rules Chapter 7080 through 7083 for SSTSs through local ordinances.

### **Solid Waste Management**

Minnesota's Waste Management Act has been in place since 1980 and establishes criteria for the management of all types of solid waste including mixed municipal solid waste, construction and demolition waste, and industrial waste. In order to receive annual grant funding to assist in implementing waste management programs, each county must have a MPCA approved Solid Waste Management Plan. All counties in the plan area have approved plans. Counties can also adopt Solid Waste Ordinances to use as a supplement in enforcing MPCA Rules. Big Stone, Grant, Stevens, and Traverse Counties have a solid waste ordinance that is administered by the County.

### **Hazard Management**

Hazard mitigation may be defined as any action taken to eliminate or reduce the future risk to human life and property from natural- and human-caused hazards. Extreme weather events and infrastructure resilience also play a part in hazard management. These requirements direct the state to administer cost-sharing. Hazard



INTRO

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PRIORITIZATIONMEASURABLE  
GOALSTARGETED  
IMPLEMENTATIONIMPLEMENTATION  
PROGRAMS

mitigation local emergency management departments are deployed in each of the contributing counties within the plan boundary.

### **Feedlots**

Feedlot rules, regulations, and programs were established under MN Rules 7020 to govern the collection, transportation, storage, processing, and land application of animal manure and other livestock operation wastes. The program is administered through the MPCA, but local counties may accept delegation of this authority. Big Stone, Stevens, and Traverse Counties have accepted this delegation, whereas Grant, Otter Tail, and Wilkin have not.

### **Buffers**

The Riparian Protection and Water Quality Practices statute (Minnesota Statue Section 103F.48, commonly referred to as the Buffer Law) requires a 50-foot average continuous buffer of perennial vegetation with a 30-foot minimum width along all public waters and a 16.5-foot minimum width continuous buffer of perennial vegetation along all public drainage systems.

Ottertail SWCD implements and assesses compliance with the Buffer Law through their Shoreland Management Ordinance. Big Stone, Traverse, Stevens, and Wilkin County administer under specific local ordinances. Grant County administers protected waters under its shoreland management ordinance. County ditches within Grant County are administered by the County Highway Department through buffer ordinances, and public drainage systems within the BdSWD are administered by the BdSWD through their Buffer Rule (Section 9). The Grant SWCD is responsible for landowner assistance and compliance of the buffer rule.

In most situations, landowners have the option of working with their SWCD to determine if other alternative practices aimed at protecting water quality can be used in lieu of (or in combination with) a buffer. In Grant County, alternative practices are not allowed in lieu of a buffer on public waters but are on public drainage systems.

### **Aggregate Management**

Individual counties manage the development of and extraction of aggregate resources through local zoning and ordinances. County government will remain responsible for this process.

### **Wetland Conservation**

The Minnesota Legislature passed the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) of 1991 (Minnesota Rules Chapter 8420) to achieve no net loss of, increase the quantity, quality, and biological diversity of, and avoid direct or indirect impacts to Minnesota's wetlands. LGUs are responsible for administering, regulating, and educating landowners on WCA. The County serves as the WCA LGU for Big Stone, Grant, Otter Tail, and Traverse County. In Stevens and Wilkin County, the SWCD serves as the WCA LGU.

### **Aquatic Invasive Species**

Aquatic invasive species can cause ecological and economic damage to water resources. The DNR has regulatory authority over aquatic plants and animals. Permits are required by the general public for transporting lake water, invasive species, and for treating invasive species. In Big Stone, Otter Tail, and Traverse,



the County oversees aquatic invasive species programs, whereas in Wilkin and Steven counties, the SWCDs fill that role.

### **Construction Erosion Control**

Temporary construction erosion control is the practice of preventing and/or reducing the movement of sediment from a site during construction. Projects disturbing one acre or more of land will require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit from the MPCA. Big Stone, Grant, Otter Tail, and Wilkin counties have regulations within their local zoning ordinances that address construction erosion control, with all but Wilkin enforcing through their shoreland ordinance. Traverse County Hometown Planning regulates construction erosion control through MN Rules Chapter 7090.

### **Bluffland Protection**

MN State Statute (Section 103F.201) requires that local municipalities and counties with shoreland within their jurisdictional boundaries manage development of shoreland areas using ordinances to reduce the negative impacts of development. Many counties specifically target bluffland areas due to their disproportionate impact on sediment erosion when the bluff becomes unstable. Big Stone, Grant, Otter Tail, Traverse, and Wilkin counties address bluffland protections as part of either or both of their shoreland or zoning ordinances.

### **Wellhead Protection**

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) administers the state wellhead protection rule, Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4720.5100 – 4720.5590, that sets standards for wellhead protection planning. Municipalities within the watersheds have completed or will be completing wellhead protection plans. The most recent listing of completed wellhead protection plans can be obtained from MDH.

### **Public Drainage Systems**

Drainage authority is granted to counties and watershed districts through MN Statute Chapter 103E to establish, construct, and in perpetuity maintain public drainage systems. County boards serve as the drainage authorities for public drainage systems for four of the six counties in the plan area (Big Stone, Grant, Otter Tail, and Stevens). The Bois de Sioux Watershed District serves as the drainage authority for Traverse and Wilkins Counties, and is the drainage authority for Judicial Ditch #12, located in Grant and Traverse Counties.

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District has a system of rules and regulations for the management of water within the district, and a list of actions which require a permit to proceed with work in any public drainage system in the Bois de Sioux or Mustinka Watershed Districts.

### **Comprehensive or Land Use Plans**

Counties and municipalities within the Bois de Sioux – Mustinka Watersheds are responsible for land use planning, which is administered through local zoning ordinances. Comprehensive or land use plans have been adopted by the local governmental units within the watershed. From a regulatory perspective, management of lands and resources may overlap with the local government entities listed below. Therefore, meeting goals and strategies of local planning may also involve other governmental or non-governmental entities. Local





government units within the Bois de Sioux – Mustinka Watersheds that have comprehensive and/or land use plans are provided in **Table 5-2**. Please note this is not intended to be all-inclusive.

*Table 5-2: Comprehensive and Land Use Management Plans adopted within the Bois de Sioux - Mustinka Watersheds*

Local Governmental Unit (LGU)	Comprehensive or Land Use Management Plan (Year adopted / Revised)
Big Stone County	[Need info]
Wilkin County	[Need info]
Otter Tail County	N/A
Traverse County	[Need info]
Steven County	January 2017
Grant County	1998

### 5.5. Capital Improvements

A capital improvement is defined as a major non-recurring expenditure for the construction, repair, retrofit, or increased utility or function of physical facilities, infrastructure, or environmental features. Capital improvements are beyond the “normal” financial means of the Partnership and therefore require external funding. To be considered a capital improvement for purposes of this plan, a project must have an anticipated cost of at least \$250,000.

Proposed capital improvements within the plan area are shown in Section 4 and are provided again in **Table 5-3** as reference. Additional discussions are needed among plan participants to develop the specific process for implementing capital improvements with base funding. Specifically, members of the Policy Committee or the Steering Committee’s individual and representative Boards are expected to discuss the means and methods for funding new capital improvements with potential funding partners before an implementation timeline can be established.

Capital improvement projects completed through this plan will be operated and maintained by the owner of the project for the lifespan of the project as specified in **Table 5-3**.

As highlighted throughout this plan, public drainage systems are prevalent throughout much of the plan area. As such, the Partnership will engage drainage authorities about plan efforts and goals. Drainage authorities will be highly encouraged to coordinate and be involved during implementation of the Action Table to make progress towards measurable goals, including sediment delivery, private and public flood risk reduction, and ditch stability. Based on this two-way engagement, drainage authorities could access implementation funds to adopt drainage actions in the Action Table (**Section 4**) during 103E processes and procedures when the opportunity arises within the planning area.

*Table 5-3: Potential capital improvement projects in the Bois de Sioux and Mustinka River Watersheds*

Capital Improvement Project/Program	Description	Lead Entity	Information Source	Years Start /End	Status	Estimated Cost*
Judicial Ditch #11	Repair/Retrofit	BdSWD	BdSWD Board Minutes	2019 – 2021	Hearings to be held 2019	\$2,100,000
Judicial Ditch #6	Repair/Retrofit	BdSWD	BdSWD Board Minutes	2020 - 2022	Hearings to be held 2020	\$1,200,000
Lake Traverse Water Quality Imp. Project #1	Channel Stabilization & Outlet Repairs. Three Possible Phases.	BdSWD	BdSWD Board Minutes	2020 – 2025	Hearings to be held 2019/2020	\$3,500,000
Redpath Project	Controlled Flood Impoundment	BdSWD	BdSWD Board Minutes	2007 – 2025	Nearly all land acquired	\$24,000,000
Mustinka Corridor	Road Raises and Culvert Sizing	MNDOT & Grant County	BdSWD Board Minutes	2019 – 2022	In Progress	\$400,000
Judicial Ditch #12	Main Erosion Control	BdSWD	BdSWD Board Minutes	2022-2024	Some Interest	\$750,000
Judicial Ditch #12	Lat 1 New Ditch or Improvement	BdSWD	BdSWD Board Minutes	2022-2024	Some Interest	\$700,000
WCD Sub #1	Repair/Retrofit	BdSWD	BdSWD Board Minutes	2021-2023	Some Interest	\$2,000,000
Doran Creek Rehabilitation	Rehabilitation	BdSWD	BdSWD Board Minutes	2020-2025	Modeling Completed	\$7,500,000
Big Lake	Controlled Flood Storage	BdSWD	BdSWD Board Minutes	1999 – 2022	Interest Increasing	\$1,000,000
E. Branch Twelvemile Creek/Eldorado 7	Controlled Flood Impoundment	BdSWD	BdSWD Board Minutes	2005 – 2028	Interest Increasing	\$7,000,000



Capital Improvement Project/Program	Description	Lead Entity	Information Source	Years Start /End	Status	Estimated Cost*
Elbow Lake Project	Outlet Repairs & Drawdown	BdSWD	BdSWD Board Minutes	2006 – 2021	Interest Increasing	\$500,000
Moonshine Lakebed & 24/13	Controlled Flood Impoundment	BdSWD	BdSWD Board Minutes	1999 – 2025	Some land acquired	\$1,500,000
TCD #8	Improvement	BdSWD	BdSWD Board Minutes	2019-2022	Interest Increasing	\$2,000,000
TCD #37 Main	Repair/Retrofit	BdSWD	Landowner/Manager Conversations	2020 – 2023	Interest Increasing	\$1,500,000
Western 32	Controlled Flood Impoundment	BdSWD	BdSWD Board Minutes	2022 – 2030	Land acquired	\$5,000,000
Miscellaneous 103E Ditches	Repair/Retrofits	BdSWD	Landowner/Manager Conversations	2023 – 2030	Awareness	\$10,000,000

\*Estimated cost based on best available information at the present time

## 5.6. Operations and Maintenance Implementation Program

Entities within the plan area are engaged in the inspection, operation, and maintenance of capital projects, stormwater infrastructure, public works, facilities, natural and artificial watercourses, and legal drainage systems. Operation and maintenance of natural watercourses, legal ditches, impoundments, and small dams will continue under regular operations and maintenance plans of the entities with jurisdiction over these systems.

## 5.7. Funding

This section describes how the plan will be funded. The current funding level (Level 1) is based on the estimated annual revenue and expenditures for plan participants combined and allocated to the plan area based on the percentage of each county's land area in the Bois de Sioux River Watershed and Mustinka River Watershed. Level 1 funding includes local, state, and federal funding, as explained in the following sections and summarized in **Table 5-4**.

### 5.7.1. Local Funding

The amount of local funding needed to implement actions in Level 1 is an estimated \$[TBD-Placeholder] annually and \$[TBD-Placeholder] for the ten-year plan. Local revenue is defined as money derived from either the local property tax base or in-kind services of any personnel funded from the local tax base. Examples include local levy, county allocations, and local match dollars.

These funds will be used for locally focused programs where opportunities for state and federal funding are lacking because of misalignment of a program's purpose with state or federal objectives. These funds will also be used for matching grants.

[Note: Water Management District language to be included here, based on info from the BdSWD]

### 5.7.2. State Funding

The amount of state funding needed to implement actions in Level 1 is an estimated \$[TBD-Placeholder] annually and \$[TBD-Placeholder] for the ten-year plan. State funding includes all funds derived from the State tax base. Examples of state funding includes conservation delivery, state cost share, Natural Resources Block Grants, Clean Water Funds, and SWCD Local Capacity Building Grants.

The Bois de Sioux - Mustinka Watersheds CWMP Partnership will apply as an entity for collaborative grants, which may be competitive or non-competitive. The assumption is that future base support for implementation will be provided to the Bois de Sioux - Mustinka Watersheds CWMP as one or more non-competitive watershed-based implementation funding grants (Level 2). Where the purpose of an implementation program aligns with the objectives of various state, local, non-profit, or private programs, these dollars will be used to help fund the implementation programs described by this plan.

### 5.7.3. Federal Funding

The amount of federal funding needed to implement actions in Level 1 is an estimated \$[TBD-Placeholder] annually and \$[TBD-Placeholder] for the ten-year plan. Federal funding includes all funds derived from the



Federal tax base. For example, this includes programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).

Partnerships with federal agencies are an important resource for ensuring implementation success. An opportunity may exist to leverage state dollars through some form of federal cost-share program. Where the purpose of an implementation program aligns with the objectives of various federal agencies, federal dollars will be used to help fund the implementation programs described by this plan.

*Table 5-4. Summarized budget for the Bois de Sioux - Mustinka Watersheds Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans [TABLE PROVIDED AS A PLACEHOLDER]*

Implementation Programs	Local		State		Federal		All Sources	
	Annual	Total	Annual	Total	Annual	Total	Annual	Total
Projects and Practices Cost-Share Program								
Education & Outreach								
Data Collection and Monitoring								
Regulatory Administration								
Operation and Maintenance								
Capital Improvement								
<i>Plan Administration</i>								
<b>TOTAL</b>								

### 5.7.4. Additional Funding Sources

Current programs and funding (Level 1) will not be enough to implement the full Action Table. As such, the success of implementing the plan will depend on collaboratively sought competitive state, federal, and private grant dollars and increased capacity.

Plan participants may pursue grant opportunities collaboratively or individually to fund implementation of the Action Table. Here, actions are assigned implementation programs. **Table 5-5** shows the most used state and federal grants for executing the actions described by this plan cross-referenced to plan implementation programs, thereby showing potential sources of revenue for implementation.

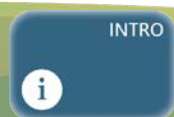
Several non-governmental funding sources may also provide technical assistance and fiscal resources to implement the Action Table. This plan should be provided to all non-governmental organizations as a means of exploring opportunities to fund specific aspects of the Action Table.



Private sector companies, including those specifically engaged in agribusiness, are often overlooked as a potential source of funding for implementation. Some agribusiness companies are providing technical or financial implementation support because they are interested in agricultural sustainability. This plan could be used to explore whether the resource benefits arising from implementation have monetary value and therefore, provide access to funding from the private sector.

**Table 5-5:** *Implementation programs and related funding sources for the Bois de Sioux - Mustinka Watersheds.*  
 Note: List is not all-inclusive.

Program / Grant		Primary Assistance Type	Projects and Practices	Data Collection / Monitoring	Education and Outreach
<b>Federal Programs / Grants</b>					
NRCS	Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG)	Financial	x		
	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)	Financial	x		
	Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	Financial	x		
	Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)	Easement	x		
FSA	Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)	Easement	x		
	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	Easement	x		
	Farmable Wetlands Program (FWP)	Easement	x		
	Grasslands Reserve Program (GRP)	Easement	x		
FSA/ USDA/ NRWA	Source Water Protection Program (SWPP)	Technical			x
USFWS	Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program	Financial/ Technical	x		
FEMA	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)	Financial	x		
	Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)	Financial	x		
	Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)	Financial	x		
	Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning	Technical	x		
EPA	Water Pollution Control Program Grants (Section 106)	Financial			x
	State Revolving Fund (SRF)	Loan	x		
	Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)	Loan	x		
	Section 319 Grant Program	Financial	x	x	
<b>State Programs / Grants</b>					



Program / Grant		Primary Assistance Type	Projects and Practices	Data Collection / Monitoring	Education and Outreach
DNR	Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant Program	Financial/ Technical	x		
	Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program	Financial	x		
	Pheasant Habitat Improvement Program (PHIP)	Financial	x		
	Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant Assistance	Financial	x		x
	Forest Stewardship Program	Technical	x		
	Aquatic Management Area Program	Easement	x		
	Wetland Tax Exemption Program	Financial	x		
BWSR	Clean Water Fund Grants	Financial	x	x	
	Erosion Control and Management Program	Financial	x		
	SWCD Capacity Funding	Financial	x	x	x
	Natural Resources Block Grant (NRBG)	Financial	x		
	Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM)	Financial	x		
MPCA	Surface Water Assessment Grants (SWAG)	Financial		x	x
	Clean Water Partnership	Loan	x		
MDH	Source Water Protection Grant Program	Financial	x	x	x
	Public and Private Well Sealing Grant Program	Financial	x	x	
MDA	Agriculture Best Management Practices (BMP) Loan Program	Financial	x		
	Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program	Financial	x		x

### 5.8. Decision-Making and Staffing

Two committees will serve this plan during implementation:

- **Technical Advisory Committee:** Comprised of Steering Committee members from the planning process (local SWCD, county, and watershed district staff, along with their respective alternates, BWSR Board Conservationist); and
- **Policy Committee:** Comprised of Policy Committee members from the planning process (one county commissioner and one SWCD board supervisor appointed from each of the participating counties in the watershed, plus a manager from the Bois de Sioux Watershed District).

Table 5-6 outlines the probable roles and functions of these committees during implementation. Expectations are that the roles of each committee will shift and change focus during implementation. Fiscal and

administrative duties will be assigned to a member LGU through a Policy Committee decision as outlined in the formal agreement. Responsibilities for annual work planning and serving as the fiscal agent will be revisited by the Technical Advisory Committee on an annual basis.

*Table 5-6: Anticipated roles for Bois de Sioux - Mustinka Watersheds Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans implementation*

Committee Name	Primary Implementation Roles/Functions
Policy Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the implementation funds from plan participants</li> <li>• Approve the annual work plan</li> <li>• Approve annual fiscal reports</li> <li>• Approve annual reports submitted to BWSR</li> <li>• Annual review and confirmation of Technical Advisory Committee priority issue recommendations</li> <li>• Direction to Technical Advisory Committee on addressing emerging issues</li> <li>• Approve plan amendments</li> <li>• Implement county ordinances and state statutory responsibilities separately from plan implementation</li> <li>• Approve grant applications</li> <li>• Approve annual assessment</li> </ul>
Technical Advisory Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and recommend to the Policy Committee the status of available implementation funds from plan participants</li> <li>• Research opportunities for collaborative grants</li> <li>• Review and recommend annual fiscal reports</li> <li>• Review and recommend annual reports submitted to BWSR</li> <li>• Annual review and confirmation of priority issues</li> <li>• Evaluate and recommend response to emerging issues</li> <li>• Prepare plan amendments as directed by the Policy Committee</li> <li>• Implement the Action Table</li> <li>• Develop annual work plan</li> <li>• Annually (or as needed) convene implementation meeting with plan review authorities</li> </ul>
Local Fiscal/Administrative Agent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convene committee meetings</li> <li>• Prepare and submit grant applications/funding requests</li> <li>• Compile annual results for annual assessment</li> </ul>





## 5.9. Collaboration

### 5.9.1. Collaboration Between Planning Partners

The benefits of successful collaboration between planning partners include consistent implementation of actions watershed-wide, increased likelihood of funding, and resource efficiencies gained. The Partnership will pursue opportunities for collaboration with fellow planning partners to gain administrative and program efficiencies, pursue collaborative grants, and provide technical assistance. The Partnership will also review similarities and differences in local regulatory administration to identify local successes and identify changes needed in the future to make progress towards goals outlined in this plan.

### 5.9.2. Collaboration with Other Units of Government

The Partnership will continue coordination and cooperation with other governmental units. This cooperation and coordination occur both at the local level and at the state/federal level. At the state/federal level, coordination between the Partnership and agencies such as BWSR, US Army Corps of Engineers, DNR, MDH, and the MPCA are mandated through legislative and permit requirements. Local coordination between the Partnership and comparable units of government such as municipalities, city councils, township boards, county boards, and the Bois de Sioux Watershed District board are a practical necessity to facilitate watershed-wide activities.

The Partnership will exercise intergovernmental coordination and cooperation as an absolute necessity for it to perform its required functions. The Partnership will continue to foster an environment that enhances coordination and cooperation to the maximum extent possible throughout the implementation of this plan.

### 5.9.3. Collaboration with Others

Plan partners expect to continue and build on existing collaboration with others, including non-governmental organizations, while implementing this plan. Many of these existing collaborations are aimed to increase habitat and recreational opportunities within the plan area, while providing education and outreach opportunities.

## 5.10. Work Planning

### 5.10.1. Local Work Plan

Annual work planning is envisioned to align the priority issues, availability of funds, and roles and responsibilities for implementation. An annual work plan will be developed by the Technical Advisory Committee based on the Action Table and any adjustments made through self-assessments. The annual work plan will then be presented to the Policy Committee, who will ultimately be responsible for approval. The intent of these annual work plans will be to maintain collaborative progress toward completing the Action Table.

### 5.10.2. State Funding Request

The Technical Advisory Committee will collaboratively develop, review, and submit a watershed-based funding request from this plan to BWSR. This request will be submitted to and ultimately approved by the Policy



Committee, prior to submittal to BWSR. The request will be developed based on the Action Table and any adjustments made through self-assessments.

## 5.11. Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting

### 5.11.1. Assessments

Each year the Technical Advisory Committee will provide the Policy Committee with an annual update on the progress of the plan's implementation. During this annual review process, feedback will be solicited from the boards and Policy Committee. This feedback will be presented to the Policy Committee to set the coming year's priorities for achieving the plan's goals and to decide on the direction for grant submittals. In addition, this feedback will be documented and incorporated into annual and five-year evaluations.

### 5.11.2. Five-year Evaluation

This plan has a ten-year life cycle beginning in 2020. To meet statutory requirements, this plan will be updated and/or revised every 10 years. Over the course of the plan life cycle, progress towards reaching goals and completing the implementation schedule may vary. In addition, new issues may emerge and/or new monitoring data, models, or research may become available. As such, in 2025-26 and at every 5-year midpoint of a plan life cycle, an evaluation will be undertaken to determine if the current course of actions is sufficient to reach the goals of the plan, or if a change in the course of actions is necessary.

### 5.11.3. Reporting

LGUs have several annual reporting requirements. A number of these reporting requirements will remain a responsibility of the LGUs. However, reporting related to grants and programs developed collaboratively and administered under this plan will be reported by the Technical Advisory Committee. In addition to annual reports, the Technical Advisory Committee may also develop a State of the Watershed Report. This report will document progress toward reaching goals and completing the Action Table and will describe any new emerging issues or priorities. The information needed to annually update the State of the Watershed Report will be developed through the annual evaluation process.

## 5.12. Plan Amendments

This plan extends through 2030. Revision of the plan may be needed through an amendment prior to the plan update if significant changes emerge in the priorities, goals, policies, administrative procedures, or plan implementation programs. Revisions may also be needed if issues emerge that are not addressed in the plan.

Plan amendments may be proposed by any agency, person, city, county, or Watershed District to the Policy Committee, but only the Policy Committee can initiate the amendment process. All recommended plan amendments must be submitted to the Policy Committee along with a statement of the problem and need, the rationale for the amendment, and an estimate of the cost to complete the amendment. However, the existing authorities of each LGU within the Bois de Sioux - Mustinka Watersheds is still maintained. As such, CIPs need only be approved by a local board to be amended to the plan if implementation of the CIP is funded by the local board, with notification to the Policy Committee. CIPs implemented with funding from the plan must



follow the means and methods for funding new capital improvements as developed by members of the Policy Committee or the Technical Advisory Committee's individual and representative Boards.

Plan participants recognize the large work effort required to manage water-related issues. The plan provides the framework to implement this work by identifying priority issues, measurable goals, and action items. No amendment will be required for the following situations:

- *Any activity implemented through the "normal" statutory authorities of a LGU, unless the activity is deemed contrary to the intent and purpose of this plan;*
- *The estimated cost of a non-capital improvement project action item is different than the cost shown within this plan;*
- *The addition or deletion of action items, programs, initiatives or projects, as long as these are generally consistent with the goals this plan, are not capital improvement projects as defined by this plan (nor is contemplated by an implementation program), and will be proposed, discussed and adopted as part of the annual budgeting process which involves public input.*

If a plan amendment is needed, the plan amendment process, which is the same as the plan review process, is as follows:

- *Submit the amendment to all cities, counties, and conservation districts within the plan boundary, the state review agencies (DNR, MPCA, MDA, and MDH), and BWSR for a 60-day review;*
- *Respond in writing to any concerns raised by the reviewers;*
- *Policy Committee is to hold a public hearing on the proposed amendment;*
- *Submit the revised amendment to the state review agencies and BWSR for a 45-day review; and*
- *The Policy Committee must submit the final revised amendment to BWSR for approval.*

At the discretion of the Policy Committee, drafts of proposed plan amendments may be sent to all plan review authorities for input before beginning the formal review process. Examples of situations where a plan amendment may be required include:

- *Addition of a capital improvement project that is not described by the plan;*
- *Establishment of a water management district(s) to collect revenues and pay for projects initiated through MS 103D. To use this funding method, MS 103D.729 requires that the Technical Advisory Committee (or equivalent) prepare an amendment to its plan;*
- *Addition of new programs or other initiatives that have the potential to create significant financial impacts or controversy, when inconsistent with the issues, goals, and policies.*

Plan amendments will be prepared in a format consistent with 103B.314 subd. 6. Unless the entire plan is re-printed, all adopted amendments must be printed in the form of replacement pages for the plan, each page of which must:

- *Show deleted text as stricken and new text as underlined for draft amendments being considered;*
- *Be renumbered as appropriate; and*
- *Include the effective date of the amendment.*



The Policy Committee will maintain a distribution list for copies of the plan and within 30 days of adopting an amendment distribute copies of the amendment to the distribution list. Generally, electronic copies of the amendment will be provided, or documents made available for public access on all participating entity's websites. Printed copies will be made available upon written request and printed at the cost of the requester.

### 5.13. Formal Agreements

The Bois de Sioux - Mustinka Watersheds CWMP Partnership is a coalition of counties, soil and water conservation districts, and watershed district within west-central Minnesota. The Partnership previously entered into a formal agreement through a Memorandum of Agreement for planning the CWMP for the Bois de Sioux - Mustinka Watersheds (**Appendix XX**). The parties will be entering into a formal agreement for purposes of implementing this plan.

