

# **BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

### **CALENDAR YEAR 2009**



**North Ottawa Impoundment Emergency Spillway.**

**BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT  
ANNUAL REPORT  
CALENDAR YEAR 2009**

**BOARD OF MANAGERS**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>COUNTY</u></b>	<b><u>PHONE</u></b>	<b><u>TERM EXPIRES</u></b>	
<i>Dennis Zimbrick</i>	Traverse	320-265-6252	2011	
<i>Dan Ellison</i>	Grant	320-677-2614	2010	
<i>Jerome Deal</i>	Traverse	320-563-8377	2010	President
<i>Don Davenport</i>	Otter Tail	218-739-9281	2011	V.President
<i>John "Jack" Lampert</i>	Stevens	320-677-2579	2010	Treasurer
<i>Jon Pansch</i>	Big Stone	320-748-7516	2012	
<i>John Kappahn</i>	Grant	218-685-4604	2011	
<i>Tom Deal</i>	Wilkin	218-630-5731	2012	
<i>Robert Marts</i>	Traverse	320-563-4409	2012	Secretary

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## **Project Team Members**

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District is a subwatershed of the Red River of the North basin. In December of 1998, many agencies and organizations signed the Red River Basin Mediation Agreement which outlined how projects will be developed in the Red River Valley in Minnesota. That agreement states that the districts within the basin will attempt to balance each project design with Flood Damage Reduction (FDR) benefits and Natural Resource Enhancements (NRE). Part of that process requires that each district establish a Project Team for each project containing members from local, regional, state and federal agencies along with environmental organizations and local landowners.

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District has appointed these members to four (4) Project Teams. Team membership is used to meet the advisory committee requirement outlined in MS 103D. Current team membership is listed in the appendices.

Project Team meetings were generally held the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Tuesday of each month with one team meeting in the morning and the other meeting in the afternoon. Teams only met as necessary to discuss items and issues relating to each specific project. Notes of those meetings are on file in the district office with copies distributed to each member.

## **2009 Regular Board Meetings**

*January 15, 2009*

*February 19, 2009*

*March 26, 2009*

*April 16, 2009*

*May 21, 2009*

*June 18, 2009*

*July 16, 2009*

*August 20, 2009*

*September 10 & 17, 2009*

*October 15, 2009*

*November 19, 2009*

*December 17, 2009*

### ***Special Meeting held October 26, 2009***

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District Board of Managers meets regularly on the third Thursday of each month, generally for a half of a day starting at 8:00 a.m. April through October and at 9:00 a.m. November through March.

### **Background**

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District was established on May 11, 1988 by order of the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). The district represents an area of about 1,420 square miles and includes Traverse County (38%), Grant County (27%), Wilkin County (14%), Stevens County (10%), Big Stone County (7%) and Otter Tail County (4%).

The district includes the drainage basins of Lake Traverse and the Bois de Sioux River within the State of Minnesota. The major tributaries are the Mustinka River and numerous creeks in the south and east and the Rabbit River to the north.

### **Board Activity**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners reappointed Jon Pansch of Graceville, MN as the Big Stone County board manager to another three year term, set to expire in 2012.

The Traverse County Board of Commissioners reappointed Robert Marts of Wheaton, MN as the Traverse County board manager to another three year term, set to expire in 2012.

The Wilkin County Board of Commissioners appointed Tom Deal of Doran, MN as the Wilkin County board manager to a three year term, set to expire in 2012, Mr. Deal replaced Robert Roach of Campbell.

Robert Roach, representing Wilkin County, resigned his board position in August 2008 as he moved to his retirement home with his wife Donna in Moorhead, MN. He was not replaced until February 2009.

The board held twelve (12) regular monthly meetings and one (1) special meeting in

2009. Numerous Staff meetings were also conducted for purposes of reviewing issues identified at the board meetings and to meet with landowner groups in an informal setting to discuss legal ditch repairs, permit activity, and other surface water related problems.

The board continued with their membership to the Red River Watershed Management Board. Jerome Deal was selected as the Bois de Sioux Watershed District representative with Jon Roeschlein serving as the alternate. Jerome also was co-chair of the Flood Damage Reduction Work Group for the implementation of the Red River Basin Mediation Agreement.

Robert Roach continued to serve as a member representing Region I for the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts Board of Directors until he resigned in August 2008. He was replaced by Jerome Deal.

Jon Roeschlein served as an alternate member to Warren Seykora of Ada on the Red River Basin Commission Board, an organization working for unified water management in the entire Red River Basin spanning Minnesota, North and South Dakota, and Manitoba, Canada. Meetings for this organization are scheduled monthly throughout the year with an annual conference in January. By participating in this organization it is felt that the BdSWD efforts will be compatible with the RRBC goals as well.

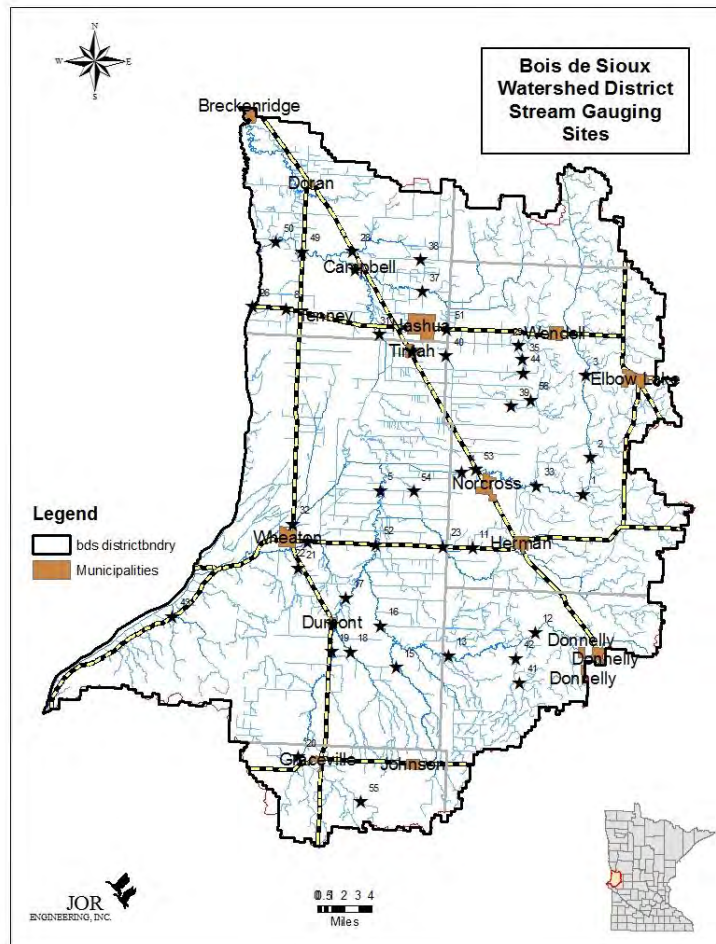
Jerome Deal was appointed to the State Drainage Work Group to represent MAWD.

## Stream Gauging

In 2009 we had fifty-four (54) gauging sites in our Stream Gage Monitor Program. Thirty-eight (38) of those sites were considered active. Two of our gage sites are in South Dakota, on the outlet of Jim Creek, into Lake Traverse. Volunteers that live within the vicinity of each gage do the actual day-to-day monitoring of the stream gage. The program is coordinated through the administrative office. Volunteer readers are compensated at a rate of Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00) per gage, per year, to help offset costs for accessing the gage.

Stream Gage data for 2009 has been entered into the computer data base. Data is transferred to the BdSWD Engineer for his review purposes.

Each year, gage readers are asked about the condition of their gauging site. If the gage needs work or there is a request to modify the gage, it is reviewed by the administration and assigned to an engineering technician to investigate, repair, or modify as the case may require.



## **Rules and Regulations**

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District has adopted rules to control watershed activities as required by M.S. 103D.341. These rules lay out a permit process which land owners must follow. Permits are required for any type of work related to new ditching, improved ditching, drainage from one sub-watershed to the other, construction, alteration or removal of any dike, reservoir work, land forming, wetland drainage, work within natural drainage ways, lakes, wetlands and other abutting land and drainage structures. Land owners should contact the Bois de Sioux Watershed District Office for assistance and direction in filing permits.

**FOR A FREE COPY OF THE RULES & REGULATIONS OF THE BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT INCLUDING THE GENERAL PERMITS THAT ARE ISSUED, PLEASE CONTACT THE BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT OFFICE OR GO TO:**

<http://www.bdswd.com>

**PERMIT APPLICATIONS CAN ALSO BE FOUND ONLINE AT THIS ADDRESS.**

Any land owner that proceeds to do work without a permit, when the project requires one, is subject to a minimum of \$250 After-The Fact Permit Fee plus any Engineering/Attorney Fees incurred in the processing of said permit.

**There were a total of 166 permits processed in 2009.**

A revision of the BdSWD Rules was completed in 2009 and adopted in August. A copy of the revised rules can be viewed and downloaded from the web site listed above.

## **Projects and Programs**

### **Impoundment Inventory.**

The Bois de Sioux Watershed is continuing its efforts in developing an Impoundment Inventory for the district. This project originally started out being partially funded by the Minnesota Flood Damage Reduction Program. It is intended that this particular project will continue indefinitely as new impoundment locations are identified.



## **North Ottawa Impoundment Project.**

Again, the North Ottawa Project has consumed a large amount of the staff and board time spent over the last year.

The petition to establish a wildlife refuge on the North Ottawa Project Lands was submitted along with the property descriptions. In December, 2008, the MnDNR held a public hearing as part of the process to establish this refuge. The favorable decision regarding this petition was made in 2009.



Signs were posted in the late fall of 2009 and scheduled to be finished in the spring of 2010. The refuge status would then be in place for the fall 2010 hunting season.

Phase IIIa and IIIb and IV were completed in 2009. There are a few minor things that still needed to be finished up but could not be done until Phase IV was far enough along to drain down portions of the diversion channel. Phase V is on hold until the USACE completes their study of the request for CAP 206 funding which may cover the construction of this phase.

Permanent seeding was again done on all the finished construction while erosion control measures were implemented on those areas not yet completed.

The contract for Phase IV was awarded to Midwest Contracting of Marshall Minnesota. Their bid was the lowest bid and came in approximately \$455K below the engineer's estimate. Work was started in early fall but wet conditions slowed progress to a point where completion by November 1st was not possible. Phase IV work was completed in 2009. The project is fully operational for Flood Control purposes.

In May of 2009, the BdSWD Board of Managers in cooperation with the Red River Watershed Management Board, held a Media Day at the project. Due to wet conditions, the base was set up in Tintah with the "KFGO Cruiser" and Joel Heitkamp broadcasting his daily radio talk show from the site. Senator Keith Langseth was a guest speaker on the show as were Charlie Anderson, PE, Jerome Deal, and Jon Roeschlein. Tours of the project were conducted for the media and the general public.

Staff began development of the Operating Plan for the project in 2009. Work continued into 2010.

### **Moonshine Lakebed Restoration Project**

The BdSWD continues to work to acquire necessary lands for this project area from willing sellers. Until such time that the necessary land rights are obtained for this project, no construction will take place. The Wetland Banking program was discussed in regard to this lakebed restoration project but decided to not utilize this system because of the way the project is being pursued. Ducks Unlimited has indicated that they intend to apply for LS-OHC funding to put this project together in cooperation with the BdSWD.

### **Moonshine 24**

This land owned by the BdSWD was leased for farming again in 2009. No progress has been made to date with establishing an impoundment in this area. It is the board's intention to continue to work to establish a small impoundment on this land and land adjacent once land rights issues are worked out with the neighboring landowners. Neighboring landowners have been contacted and talks continue.

### **Elbow Lake Project**

This project is driven mainly by local landowners to try to stabilize the water level on Elbow Lake and Samantha Slough. There is consensus that an outlet can be constructed, however some of the details are to be worked out yet like size of tile, where to stop with tile, open ditch alternative, outlet elevation, automatic, manual gate, pump, etc. Discussions continue in an effort to sort out the best alternative.

### **River Watch Program**

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District again sponsored the River Watch program in 2009. There are four (4) schools in the BdSWD that participate in the water monitoring program. They are Campbell-Tintah, Wheaton, Herman-Norcross, and Clinton-Graceville-Beardsley. Breckenridge schools have shown some interest and the Wilkin SWCD is taking the lead on recruiting them.

On a monthly basis during ice free periods, these schools provide a team of students that go out in the field to monitor 8 to 10 stream sites. They proceed to measure the water temperature, depth, dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity, and transparency. These results are recorded and tabulated throughout the year. After freeze-up, the groups will assemble their data and prepare a display and a report on their observations. This report is presented to the BdSWD Board of Managers and at the River Watch Forum held each winter.

Training is provided to insure quality control of the data collected. The district has provided one YSI 650 data sonde for each of the schools to use in measuring the field

parameters along with a turbidimeter and a transparency tube. Each school has also been provided with a laptop computer to use for data recording and formatting. The data is assembled in a universal format so that graphing and comparisons can be made with other schools.

The district covers the expenses of the schools to do this including transportation, substitute teachers, and meals as necessary. Schools that are participating are very involved and enjoy the experience very much. The RRWMB hired an additional person to work with the River Watch schools in the southern Red River Basin. Evelyn Ashiama-Finch was hired in Spring 2009 and provided assistance to the three schools participating in the program. She also assisted with collecting water samples and field data on East Toqua Lake and Lannon Lake in Graceville.

**Buffer Strip and Wetland Restoration Program**

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District Overall Plan identifies wetland restoration and buffer strip/ permanent grass installation as an action item identified to reduce runoff, increase infiltration, and improve habitat. The district provided financial assistance in the amount of \$10,000 each to Wilkin, Ottertail, Grant, Traverse, Big Stone, and Stevens SWCDs to help fund a position to market the CRP and WRP programs in their portion of the district. This restoration work was identified by the East Branch 12 Mile Creek Project Team as an item needed to reduce flows in the area and provide for Natural Resource Enhancements. For each acre of permanent easement that is enrolled and approved, the district would compensate \$10 to the SWCD. In 2009 there were 1,090.5 acres enrolled in permanent easements in the Bois de Sioux Watershed District. The breakdown is as follows:

<b>SWCD</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Payment</b>
<b>Traverse</b>	<b>1,034.6</b>	<b>\$10,346.00</b>
<b>Grant</b>	<b>1,496.0</b>	<b>\$14,960.00</b>
<b>Ottertail</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Stevens</b>	<b>318.7</b>	<b>\$3,187.00</b>
<b>Big Stone</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Wilkin</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,849.3</b>	<b>\$28,493.00</b>

Because of the assistance from the local SWCD offices, we were able to work together to accomplish goals for both entities. A special thanks goes out to the staff and boards of these six organizations for their assistance.

It is anticipated that this program will continue in 2010.

## **Land Acquisition**

No new land acquisitions were made in 2009.

## **Ring Dikes**

In September of 2009, the USDA announced funding through their EQIP program for farmstead ring dikes. The Watershed Districts in the Red River Valley will be the lead agencies to design, construct, certify, and administer the program. NRCS will provide the funding through their process.

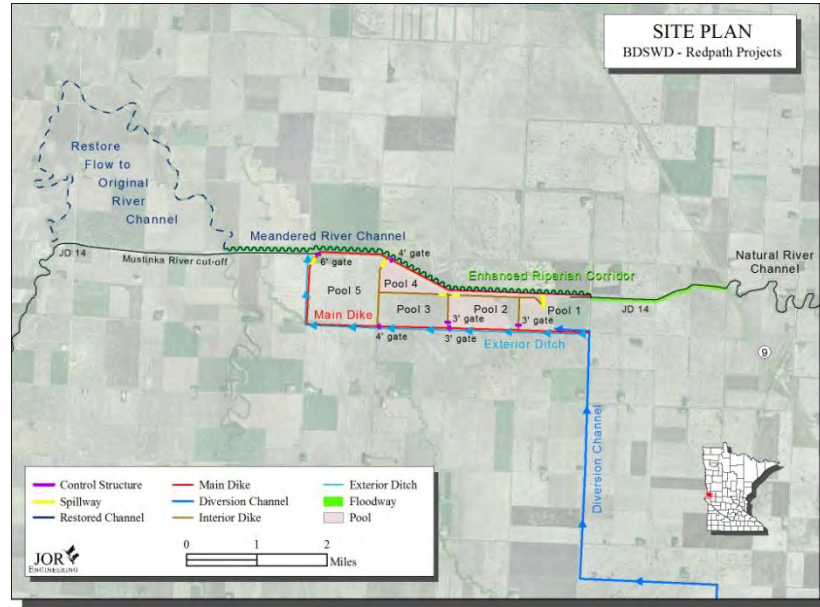
Seven (7) applications were received for ring dike construction in the BdSWD. Investigations and survey was started in fall 2009 on each of the projects. Design was completed after the new LiDAR data was available as this was more cost efficient than manual survey and design. Construction is planned for 2010.

## **Mustinka TMDL**

The BdSWD took a lead role in the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load study for the Mustinka Watershed. The district will use consultants to develop the plan and will submit that proposal to MPCA for approval. After approval, there will be funds available to cover the costs associated with the plan. Work began in the winter of 2009-10.

## Redpath Project

In 2008, the Board of Managers established the Redpath Project Team and charged them with the task of identifying the problems in the area and reviewing alternative solutions. The team did their work in the first 8 months of the year and recommended a project solution to the Board in August 2008, shown above. The Board prepared a STEP I submittal for the RRWMB and were granted approval of that STEP I in December 2008.



Additional surveying work and soil borings were completed in 2009 in an effort to further refine the design and operations of the project. After the survey information was reviewed, the engineer had a few recommended changes to the original alternative and presented those to the Project Team in 2009. A STEP II submittal was prepared and approved by the RRWMB in November of 2009.

Support for this project appears to be very widespread, from local landowners to the federal agency level. Staff continue to work on alternatives to put this project together with funding opportunities as they arise. The BdSWD also continues to secure additional funding to acquire the necessary land rights for this project.

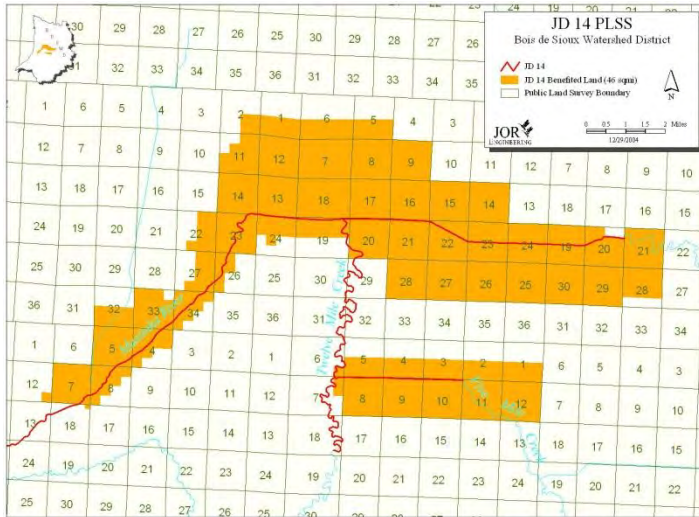
Funding for the Natural Resource Enhancement portion of the project was sought from the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. The request was unsuccessful.

Staff began negotiations with land owners to acquire land rights for the project. Appraisals were done on a number of the parcels needed for the project in an effort to use them for making offers to buy the land.

In September of 2009, the BdSWD Board of Managers made the Redpath Project an official project of the Bois de Sioux Watershed District by passing resolutions to establish it.

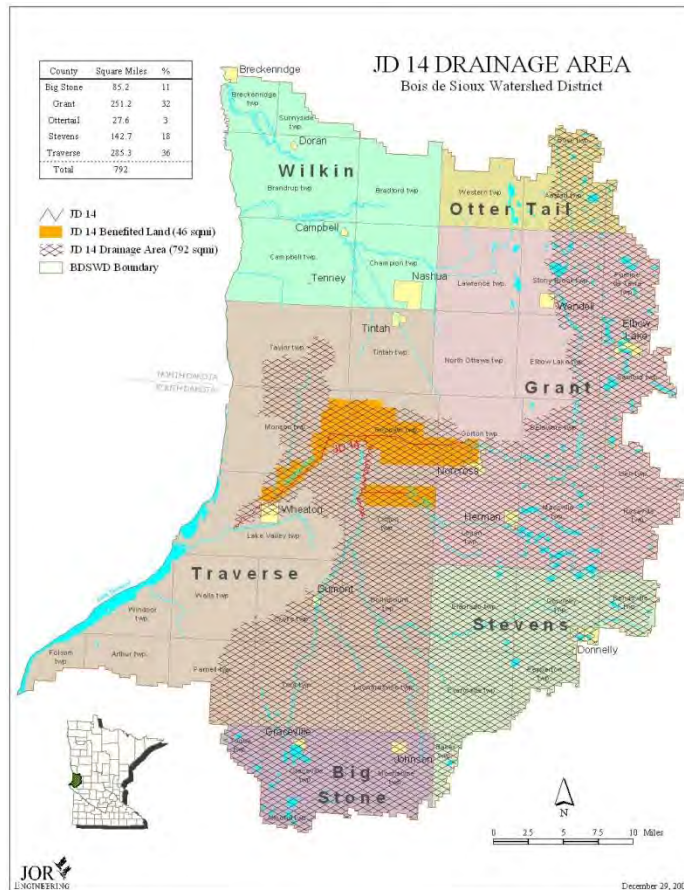
## Judicial Ditch #14 Redetermination of Benefits

The BdSWD Board of Managers received a petition to do a redetermination of benefits on Judicial Ditch #14 (JCD #14) in 2005. This ditch system was developed as a USACE project which included the re-construction of the Mustinka River Channel, a diversion channel commencing from near Norcross to approximately five miles NE of Wheaton, a diversion channel between the Five Mile Creek and the Twelve Mile Creek two miles north of Minnesota Highway #27, and the clearing and snagging of the Twelve Mile Creek from Minnesota Highway #27 north to it's confluence with the Mustinka River Diversion channel. See map.



Upon completion of the project the USACE turned the maintenance over to the local counties. To do said maintenance, the counties formed a Joint Ditch Authority and established the JCD #14 system with an assessment base to fund said maintenance. Many appeals were filed and lands were removed from the assessment list. See map shown in orange.

The current benefited area is not large enough to support the costs of the required maintenance so the landowners petitioned for the redetermination. In December of 2005, the board did accept the petition, appointed the viewers as required under



Minnesota Statute 103E, and ordered the redetermination to begin. This is considered the largest redetermination of benefits process in the State of Minnesota. It is estimated that the process will take two years or more to finish. The drainage area of this system covers almost 800 square miles as outlined in the cross hatched area of the map shown.

The viewers completed their field work in 2009 and began to assemble all the data to prepare for a hearing anticipated for spring 2010.

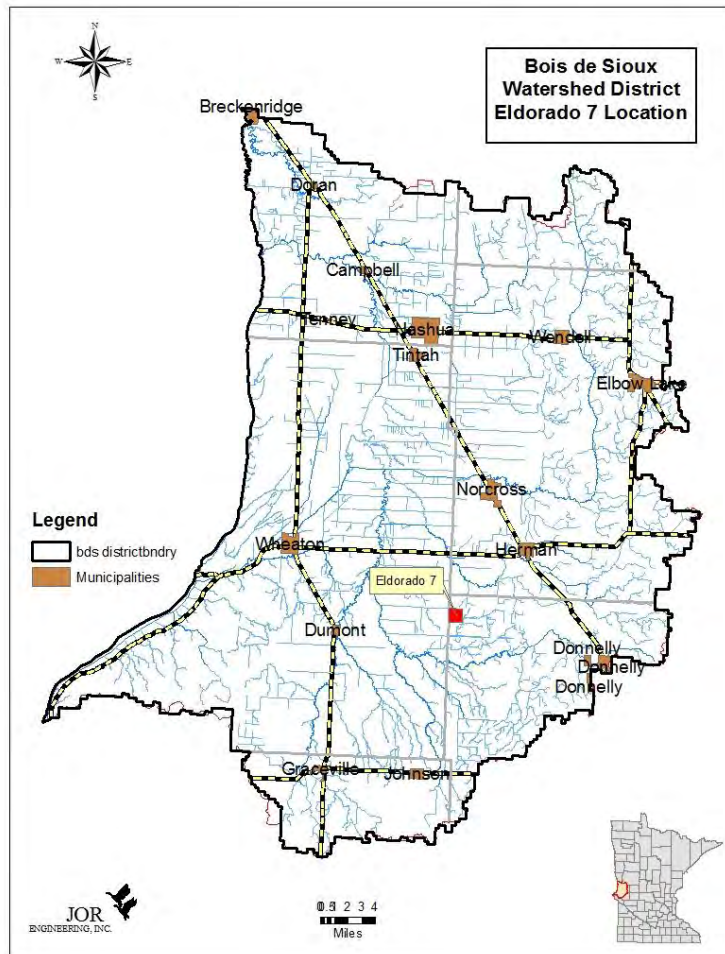
### East Branch Twelve Mile Creek Project/Eldorado 7

The East Branch Twelve Mile Creek Project Team did not meet in 2009. In December 2005, the team made a recommendation to the BdSWD Board that there needed to be about 3,300 acre feet of storage implemented in this sub-watershed. There were a few suggested locations for impoundments to provide a part of that storage.

From these discussions, work focused on a site located in Eldorado Township, Section 7 (project known as Eldorado 7). In January, 2008 the board adopted a resolution establishing this project under MS 103D.601. The required hearing was held in February 2008 and the establishment was ordered.

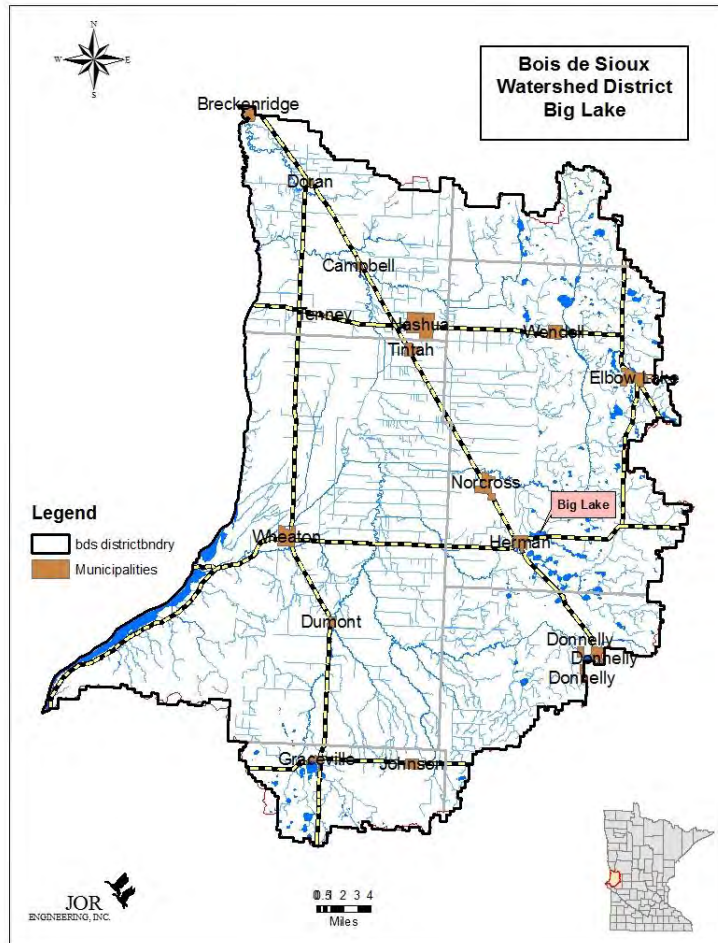
Landowners were contacted to discuss land rights and there was an indication that this land may be acquired by the BdSWD in exchange for equivalent land elsewhere. Staff spent time looking for suitable land to trade the owner in Eldorado 7. As land was located for sale, staff presented information to the landowner but no acceptable offer has been reached to date. Work on the land rights in this area continued through 2009.

Soil borings were authorized and completed as necessary to continue the development of the project.



## Big Lake

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District received a copy of a letter from the MnDNR regarding their ability to secure necessary land rights to implement water level management on Big Lake located just east of Herman, MN. Outflow from Big Lake flows through the City of Herman. This project would complete the third of three phases identified for flood damage reduction within the City of Herman. The first two phases included a re-design of the city stormwater conveyance system and the outlet channel to Pullman Slough west of the city. Water level control on Big Lake would provide additional protection to the city where flows could be metered through the system in an attempt to prevent exceeding the conveyance system's design capacity.



The City of Herman Council petitioned the BdSWD in early 2008 to establish the Big Lake Project along with two individual landowners. After careful consideration, the BdSWD suggested that they recall the petition and pass a resolution asking the BdSWD to establish the project. This was done to allow the project to fit the statutory requirements and put the City of Herman in a better position to proceed. The BdSWD did establish the Big Lake Project and has initiated contact with the landowners of the land where the outlet work would be done.

## PRAP

The BdSWD was also selected to participate in the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP). In December of 2009, BWSR released its findings which stated that the District has performed very well.



## **Bois de Sioux Watershed District Summary of Performance Review Results What BWSR Found**

The BdSWD has established in its 2003 overall plan an ambitious and Comprehensive program for watershed management. Their experience with and confidence in the collaborative project team process is demonstrated by their consistent use of this approach in project development and implementation. The North Ottawa Impoundment project is an example of the managers' commitment to achieving all the goals of their overall plan, which are integrated in this one project. Based on information provided by the managers, the board reviews the management plan objectives in the context of deciding whether to pursue potential projects. While some project development is inevitably opportunity driven, the overall management of the district may be enhanced by the managers annually reviewing their management plan goals and objectives and setting short-term objectives accordingly. The district needs to take action to continue the development of their website by including a copy of their most recent annual report. The Bois de Sioux Watershed District is commended for meeting these high performance standards:

- Administrator on staff
- Current operational guidelines exist
- Plan goals and objectives guide annual budgeting
- Water quality trends tracked for priority water bodies
- Watershed yield trends monitored and reported
- Obtained stakeholder input in the past 5 years
- Coordination with county, city and township officials
- Cooperative projects/tasks done with other agencies.

In addition to the website content action item, BWSR recommends that the district add a plan review to its short-term (annual) planning, and consider how to maintain good communication with six counties and soil and water conservation districts. The watershed district sent a detailed response to the draft report.

A copy of the full report is on file in the BdSWD Office.

### **Upper Mustinka River Valley Project**

The BdSWD Board of Managers agreed to support the Upper Mustinka River Valley Project and serve as a partner in the TIGER Grant application with Grant County as the lead agency.

The Mustinka River experiences severe flooding nearly every spring, due to snow melt. For example, in the spring of 2009, the Mustinka overtopped its banks across most of these 30 roads in Grant County. Damage during just this year amounted to many

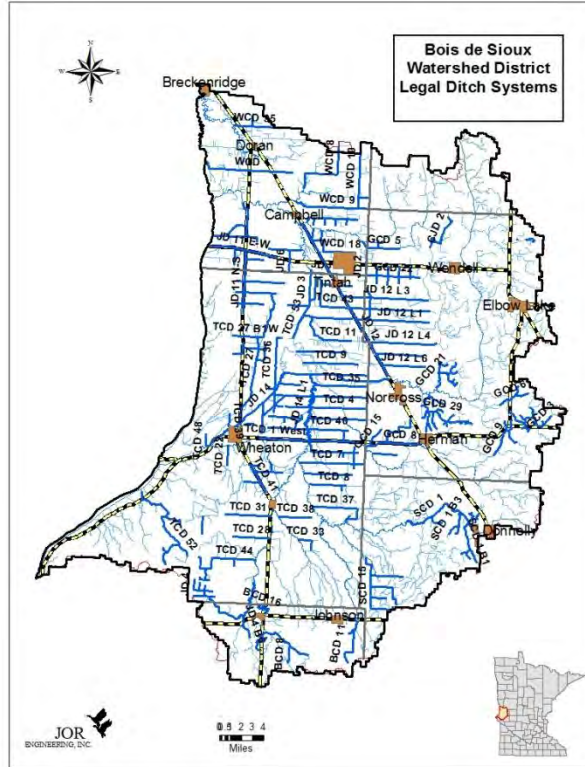
hundreds of thousands of dollars. Agricultural losses, economic disruptions and downstream damages result in multimillion dollar costs each and every year. Additional damage occurs during heavy rain events such as those that occurred in 1989, 1993, 1996, 1997, 2001 and 2009. These floods followed heavy downpours and caused significant damage.

The project's strength is that it is far more than repair of roads and culverts. Rather, it is an important partnership between transportation and water resource management across an area encompassing hundreds of square miles. This effort will mitigate economic and population disruption for numerous rural communities and farming areas. Travel through this area was almost impossible as the detours were very long. Emergency personnel had a very difficult time responding to calls, postal and school bus routes were severely limited, farm to market commerce was interrupted, and commuting from home to work was very difficult.

**Ditches**

Since 1992 sixty (60) ditch systems have been under the jurisdiction of the Bois de Sioux Watershed District, with JD#3 added in 1995. This includes approximately four hundred (400) lineal miles of ditch. Ditch funds are managed by the district office. Annual ditch inspections are completed each year and a copy of reports are kept on file.

In 2009 there were 6 requests for maintenance submitted to the BdSWD Board of Managers for work. The following table describes these requests. The process that the board has adopted includes research of the ditch records and surveying of the system as necessary.



Ditch	RFM #	Problem
TCD #52L1	001-09	Sediment removal
TCD #27	002-09	Erosion repair
WCD #8	003-09	Sediment removal
TCD #52	004-09	Erosion repair
JCD #6	005-09	Sediment removal
TCD #20	006-09	Tree Removal

An annual spray program for heavy vegetation and trees in legal ditch systems is also administered by the BdSWD. After the late summer inspections are complete, the areas in need of vegetation control are identified and a contractor is hired to spray for cattails and trees within the ditch banks. See reports on file in the district office.

## **Specific Ditch Work 2009**

Contributed by Gene Berger, JOR Engineering

The fall 2009 ditch maintenance began October 19<sup>th</sup> with TCD48.

The ditch maintenance seeding equipment performed well however we were challenged like the ag producers with excessive rainfall and far less than ideal tillage and seeding conditions. Much of the seeding will be delayed until 2010. All of this year's fall seeding was a dormant seeding as it was completed in November.

Seeding completed late 2008 and early 2009 had varying success. The main key to a successful stand seems to be timely rains on the summer seeded ditches.

With the excess late season precipitation we have experienced the last two years, I would encourage considering revising the spoil licenses to allow for maintenance of ditches that were not able to be completed in the fall to extend into the next summer even if adjacent crops are damaged by the excavation and placement of the spoil. With 1.5 times as much corn being grown in the area over the last decade, the fall maintenance window of opportunity has gotten much smaller. Another area of concern the spoil license may need to address is the temporary placement of spoil on CRP.

### **TCD44L3**

On May 12<sup>th</sup> we started the only spring maintenance excavation for the season. This worked well as the adjacent crop was soybeans that were seeded after the spoil had been spread. The ditch slopes were seeded resulting in a fair stand. A field entrance was replaced per BdSWD cost sharing policy with a new corrugated metal pipe.

### **TCD1E**

In early June, the slopes in front of the farmsteads along TCD1E were completed. Grass was seeded on June 12<sup>th</sup> and soon after we caught a nice rain. The germination in these areas was quite good and I believe the landowners are pleased with the result.

### **TCD48**

The south one mile of TCD48 was excavated and seeded. In addition to the ditch seeding, a culvert check sediment control structure was installed at the outlet near the Mustinka River. The remainder of the main ditch and the branch in Section 14 were not completed due to late standing crop. The tree branches and stumps removed from the north half mile of the ditch need to be pushed into a pile for the landowner to burn. Spoil in the same area will need to be spread next spring. The rock windrow adjacent to the ditch will be picked up by the contractor at his convenience during the summer.

### **TCD40**

November 2<sup>nd</sup> the cleanout began. The leveling of the spoil and slope seeding are delayed until 2010. Per landowner requests, a field entrance was moved from Sta 86+65 to the north quarter line near Sta 80+00 in Section 15 and replaced with a new corrugated metal pipe. Off site fill material for the field entrance needed to be brought in due to the excess moisture content of anything on site. The cost of this replacement was per the BdSWD cost sharing policy.

### **TCD41L2**

A second contractor was used on TCD41. The construction firm also farms land adjacent to this ditch and work began about November 3<sup>rd</sup>. The cleanout was completed and the spoil has been

spread, we will attempt to seed the slopes next season.

#### **WCD25**

November 9<sup>th</sup> cleanout began in earnest on WCD25. An excavator was delivered to the site over a week earlier in the rain. The contractor was able to remove the sediment deltas between the outlet and Sta 235+00 during the week prior to the 9<sup>th</sup> allowing the ditch bottom to drain. We were able to seed the north facing slope from Sta 221 to Sta 235 as it caught enough sun to dry the soil on top allowing the seeding equipment to hang on to the slope. As of December 7<sup>th</sup> spoil has been spread in Sections 6, 8, and 17. The soybeans in Section 5 had not been removed by the time the dozer caught up to the excavator and was pulled from the job, so the spoil will be spread next spring. Three culvert checks were installed adjacent to US75 and the remainder of the seeding will be done next year. Approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile remains to be excavated.

During excavation we discovered the ditch was apparently not constructed as the MnDOT regrade plans indicated. We adjusted the maintenance excavation up approximately 0.2' for a portion of the repair and will note the change on the maintenance plan set of record.

#### **TCD7**

November 11<sup>th</sup> cleanout began on TCD7. Only the east half mile of the ditch in Section 32 that was scheduled to be cleaned was completed due to the landowner of the west half declining to provide a spoil license. Spoil spreading and slope seeding are delayed until 2010.

#### **TCD18**

On November 11<sup>th</sup>, we were able to complete the seeding of the CRP that was damaged from the 2008 ditch maintenance.

#### **TCD52**

The same contractor was used on TCD52 as TCD41L2. Work began on November 16<sup>th</sup> which first consisted of the removal of obvious sediment deltas downstream of the scheduled maintenance area in order to allow the ditch to drain enough for maintenance to be done. The maintenance in Sections 5, 4, and 9 was completed December 4<sup>th</sup>. The spoil still needs to be spread.

#### **TCD26**

On November 30<sup>th</sup> the minimal cleanout was started. The main emphasis of the repair was the replacement of the culverts at Stations 158+55 and 144+27 and was completed on December 4<sup>th</sup>. New corrugated metal pipes were installed. The costs of these two replacements were per BdSWD cost sharing policy. The small amount of spoil may not need to be spread prior to the 2010 crop seeding as the ag tillage equipment should be able to handle it.

At one point during this maintenance season, the ditch authority had four excavators working on four different drainage systems at the same time. On your behalf, we have accomplished a significant amount of ditch maintenance in this challenging season.

#### **TCD #36**

Entrance fees were collected from Bill Raguse to add lands.

#### **TCD #17**

Gene and John Lundquist requested that their land be added to the TCD #17 system as they plan to tile a quarter section and outlet it that way. The board processed their request and

directed staff to proceed with the investigation. This was the result of conditions placed on the permit issued to the Lundquists for their tile project.

## **Projections for 2010**

- The Bois de Sioux Watershed District will actively pursue funding for the final phase (Phase V) of construction of the North Ottawa Impoundment project.
- The Bois de Sioux Watershed District will conduct the necessary procedures to maintain the 400 lineal miles of legal ditch systems under their jurisdiction. This includes inspections, vegetation control, repairs, accounting, reports, etc.
- The Bois de Sioux Watershed District will continue to work towards acquisition of lands for the purpose of developing projects as these lands come available on the market from willing sellers. These lands will be added to the land account as an investment until such time the projects are developed and these lands are used for said project development.
- The Bois de Sioux Watershed District Board and staff will continue to serve on the many boards, committees, and commissions that they are currently a part of. They will also consider serving any new capacities they are asked to participate in.
- The Bois de Sioux Watershed District will continue to meet with the Redpath Project Team as necessary to continue development of this multi-purpose project.
- The Bois de Sioux Watershed District will continue development of the Big Lake Project near Herman, MN.
- The BdSWD will continue the support for the River Watch Program and encourage new schools to participate.
- The BdSWD will continue the Buffer Strip/Restoration incentive program with the local SWCD offices.

**BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED  
DISTRICT**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**CALENDAR YEAR 2009**

**Appendix**



**Bois de Sioux Watershed District  
Stream Gage Network 2009  
Gage Readers**

Kevin	Pattison	23885 - 170th Street	Elbow Lake	MN	56531	1
Donald	Kruize	23438 County Road 8	Elbow Lake	MN	56531-9233	2
Jim	Haugen	26498 - 240th Avenue	Elbow Lake	MN	56531	3
Chadd	Berger	7382 County Road 14	Wheaton	MN	56296	5
Doug	Engelby	29348 - 340th Ave.	Nashua	MN	56565-9220	8
Robert	Richards	12225-320th Ave.	Herman	MN	56248	11
Burton	Strand	56950 - 140th Street	Donnelly	MN	56235	12
Orville	Brunkow	63338 - 150th Street	Chokio	MN	56221	13
Brian	Rinke	7350 County Road 6	Wheaton	MN	56296	16
Don	Montonye	Box 1A	Dumont	MN	56236	17
John	Tritz	7159 - 570th Street	Dumont	MN	56236	18
John	Tritz	7159 - 570th Street	Dumont	MN	56236	19
Scott	Bauer	1024 Lake Avenue	Graceville	MN	56240	20
Lon	Tekrony	6744 - 630th Street	Wheaton	MN	56296	21
John	Doll	6807 State Hwy 27	Wheaton	MN	56296	22
Lyndon	Bruns	Box 142	Herman	MN	56248	23
Dan	Wilke	RR1, Box 326	Fairmount	ND	58030	26
DNR	Automatic	Gage Site				
Ralph	Christenson	Box 195	Campbell	MN	56522	28
Alan	Brutlag	27418 - 280th Street	Wendell	MN	56590	29
Audrey	Johnson	101 - 4th Street West	Tintah	MN	56583	30
Don	Wetenkamp	15160 - 290th Avenue	Tintah	MN	56583-9600	31
Todd	Peterson	302 1st Avenue South	Wheaton	MN	56296	32
Dale	Blume	17668 County Road #11	Norcross	MN	56274-3050	33
Don	Montonye	Box 1A	Dumont	MN	56236	34
Alan	Brutlag	27418 - 280th Avenue	Wendell	MN	56590	35
Frank	Davison	Box 157	Tintah	MN	56583	37
Larry	Schneeberger	25651 290th Avenue	Wendell	MN	56590	39
Paul	Daly	16408 - 580th Avenue	Donnelly	MN	56235	41
Paul	Daly	16408 - 580th Avenue	Donnelly	MN	56235	42
Alan	Brutlag	27418 - 280th Avenue	Wendell	MN	56590	44
U.S.Army Corps	of Engineers	6338 County Road 10	Wheaton	MN	56296-5469	45
Douglas	Christenson	2239 - 450th Street	Campbell	MN	56522	49
Douglas	Christenson	2239 - 450th Street	Campbell	MN	56522	50
Doug	Engelby	29348 - 340th Avenue	Nashua	MN	56565-9220	51
Chadd	Berger	7382 County Road 14	Wheaton	MN	56296	54

## **Bois de Sioux Watershed District**

### **Policies and Procedures for Public Access to Documents**

Public access to the data of public bodies is governed by the Data Practices Act (DPA), Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 13. The DPA states that data of public bodies are to be available to the public unless specifically exempted under the law in cases where individual privacy would be violated or where other valid concerns outweigh the interest in public availability. The Bois de Sioux Watershed District (BdSWD) recognizes the public interest in open access to its data as well as the public interest that requires that certain types of data not be publicly available. It is the intent of the BdSWD to comply fully with the DPA and, where the DPA allows for the exercise of judgment, to exercise that judgment consistent with the public interests underlying the law.

This policy is adopted pursuant to Section 13.03, Subdivision 2 of the DPA, which states that every public body shall establish procedures to implement the DPA.

#### **Procedure for Review of BdSWD Documents**

All requests to inspect or receive copies of BdSWD data, and all other inquiries regarding the DPA, must be in writing and sent by U.S. Mail, addressed to the “Data Practices Compliance Official,” at the following address:

Bois de Sioux Watershed District  
704 Highway 75 South  
Wheaton, MN 56296

The BdSWD Administrator is designated as the Data Practices Compliance Official.

Requests to inspect or obtain copies of BdSWD data are to be in writing. In the event an individual wishes to inspect BdSWD data, the Data Practices Compliance Official will gather the documents of interest, separate any documents to be withheld from inspection, and see to it that someone is available to assist with the inspection. BdSWD files may not be removed from its office.

The BdSWD will follow the DPA Policy of scheduling inspections within a reasonable time of the request. The response time will vary depending on the complexity of the request and the press of other BdSWD business.

If the BdSWD determines that certain data will not be made available for inspection or copying, it will inform the individual of the basis for denial of access. If requested, the BdSWD will certify in writing that the request has been denied and state the specific basis for denial.

#### **Costs**

There is no cost to inspect documents. If document copies are requested, the requesting individual will be charged ten cents (\$0.10) per page for ordinary-sized documents.

With respect to oversize copies, tapes, electronic data, photographs, slides and other unusual formats, the requesting individual will be responsible for the actual cost incurred by the BdSWD to make the copy itself or to use a vendor.

An individual requesting copies or the electronic transmittal of data is responsible to pay the BdSWD the actual cost, including the cost of staff time, to search for and retrieve data and to make, certify, compile and transmit copies. Staff costs will be assessed based upon established hourly rates.

If requested, the BdSWD will advise approximate cost before making said copies. Payment may be made by cash or check. The BdSWD may require payment in advance.

The BdSWD may charge a fee for data that has commercial value and was developed with a significant expenditure by the BdSWD. The BdSWD may also require a license agreement limiting the use of said data.

**Adopted: 8-17-2006**

### *North Ottawa Project Team*

Charlie	Anderson/JOR Engineering
Cliff	Barth
Red River	Basin Commission
Gene	Berger/JOR Engineering
Kevin	Brennan/USFWS
Paul	Wannarka/MnDNR
Tom	Carlson/MnDOT
Don	Davenport
Jerome	Deal
Matt	Drewitz, Dept. of Ag
Dan	Ellison
Craig	Evans, USACOE
Jack	Frederick/MPCA
Wayne	Goeken/Riverwatch
Ron	Harnack/RRWMB
Norm	Haukos/DNR Fisheries
Jody	Horntvedt/MN Ext.
Grant County	Hwy Engineer
Traverse County	Hwy Engineer
John	Kappahn
Josh	Kavanagh/DU
Dean	Kjesbo
Paul	Kopel
Kevin	Kotts, DNR Wildlife
Brian	Lacey
John "Jack"	Lampert
Tom	Landwehr
Terry	Lejcher/DNR
Robert	Marts
Grant County	NRCS/Drew Mosburg
Jon	Pansch
Dale	Richards
Robert	Roach
Jon	Roeschlein
Jon	Schneider/DU
Wilkin County	SWCD
Grant County	SWCD/Joe Montonye
Henry	Van Offelen, MCEA

Gilbert	Voss
Vernell	Wagner
City of	Wahpeton
Pete	Waller/BWSR
Dennis	Zimbrick

***Moonshine Project Team***

Charlie	Anderson/JOR Engineering
Red River	Basin Commission
Traverse	County SWCD
Doug	Daniels
Don	Davenport
Jerome	Deal
Frank	Durbian/USFWS
Matt	Drewitz, Dept. of Ag
Dan	Ellison
Craig	Evans/USACOE
Jack	Frederick/MPCA
City of	Graceville
Norm	Haukos/DNR Fisheries
Jody	Horntvedt/MN Ext.
Big Stone County	Hwy Engineer
Traverse County	Hwy Engineer
John	Kapphahn
John "Jack"	Lampert
Dick	Lane
Robert	Marts
Allen	Milbrandt, MnDOT
Cheryl	Miller
Jon	Pansch
William	Raguse
Robert	Roach
Jon	Roeschlein
Jon	Schneider/DU
Dave	Soehren
Big Stone County	SWCD/Gary Hoffman
Kevin	Taffe, Big Stone Cty. SWCD
Henry	Van Offelen, MCEA
Diane	Vollmers
Gilbert	Voss
City of	Wahpeton
Pete	Waller/BWSR
Randy	Ward
Skip	Wright/MnDNR Waters
Wally	Wulff/Moonshine Township

Dennis	Zimbrick
Paul	Wannarka

## East Branch 12 Mile Creek Project Team

Name		City	Affiliation
Greg	Frisch	Dumont	Alternate Land Owner
Dean	Frisch	Wheaton	Land Owner
Richard	Johnson	Wheaton	Dollymount Twp.
Mark	Baldry	Dumont	Dollymount Twp.
Steve	Rinke	Wheaton	Alternate Land Owner
Bob	Ringger	Dumont	Alternate Twp.
Herb	Kloos	Donnelly	Alternate Stevens Commissioner
Bob	Stevenson	Morris	Stevens County Commissioner
Gary	Brunkow	Herman	Eldorado Twp.
Orville	Brunkow	Chokio	Land Owner
Pat	Haney	Herman	Land Owner
Duane	Wilts	Chokio	Alternate Eldorado Twp.
Jerry	Bryson	Herman	Alternate Eldorado Twp.
Bob	Usgaard	Fergus Falls	Ducks Unlimited
Kevin	Kotts	Glenwood	MnDNR Wildlife
Tom	Carlson	Fergus Falls	Alternate MnDNR Wildlife
Julie	Aadlund	Fergus Falls	MnDNR Waters
Terry	Lejcher	Fergus Falls	Alternate MnDNR Waters
Norm	Haukos	Ortonville	DNR Fisheries
Chris	Domeier	Ortonville	Alternate MnDNR Fisheries
William J.	Gibson	Beardsley	Traverse County Commissioner
Steve	Delehenty	Morris	USFWS
Pete	Waller	Fergus Falls	BWSR
Brian	Dwight	Bemidji	BWSR
Craig	Evans	St. Paul	USACOE
Jody	Horntvedt	Roseau	U of M Extension



Henry	Van Offelen	Detroit Lakes	MCEA
Wayne	Goeken	Erskine	River Watch
Jon	Roeschlein	Wheaton	BdSWD
Jack	Lampert	Chokio	BdSWD
Charlie	Anderson	Alexandria	JOR Engineering
William	Raguse	Tintah	BdSWD
Douglas	Daniels	Tintah	BdSWD
Jerome	Deal	Wheaton	BdSWD
Don	Davenport	Fergus Falls	BdSWD
Jon	Pansch	Graceville	BdSWD
Robert	Roach	Campbell	BdSWD
Brian	Lacey	Wendell	BdSWD
Neil	Blume	Herman	BdSWD
Sara	Gronfeld	Wheaton	Traverse SWCD
Dave	Jungst	Morris	Stevens SWCD
Gary	Behrens	Wheaton	Alternate Dollymount Twp.
Jeff	Hellerman	Morris	Alternate Stevens NRCS

### *Redpath Project Team*

Robert	Marts	BdSWD
Dennis	Zimbrick	BdSWD
Don	Davenport	BdSWD
Dan	Ellison	BdSWD
Jerome	Deal	BdSWD
Linda	Vavra	BdSWD
John	Kapphahn	BdSWD
Jon	Pansch	BdSWD
Tom	Deal	BdSWD
Jack	Frederick	MPCA
Tom	Carlson	MnDNR-Wildlife
Kevin	Kotts	Alternate
Julie	Aadland	Alternate
Norm	Haukos	MnDNR-Fisheries
Chris	Domeier	Alternate
Pete	Waller	BWSR
Brian	Dwight	Alternate
Traverse County	NRCS	Traverse County NRCS
Jim	Ayres	Alternate
Frank	Durbian	USFWS
Stacy	Salvavold	Alternate
Eric	Norton	USACOE
Julie	Goehring	RRBC
Lance	Yohe	Alternate
Janet	Raguse	Traverse County Commissioners
Larry	Haukos	Traverse County Hwy Dept.
Dave	Pohl	Alternate
Chadd	Berger	Redpath Township
Cory	Morrow	Alternate
Sara	Gronfeld	Traverse County SWCD
Matt	Westerman	Alternate
Jim	Reckner	Citizen-Redpath Twp.
Anita	Antrim	Citizen-Redpath Twp.
Dave	Kellen	Citizen-Redpath Twp.
Jon	Roeschlein	BdSWD
Monica	Wilson	Alternate
Charlie	Anderson	JOR Engineering

Robert	Usgaard	Ducks Unlimited
Josh	Kavanagh	Alternate
Henry	Van Offelen	MCEA
Wayne	Goeken	Riverwatch
Evelyn	Ashiamah-Finch	Riverwatch
Roger	Derby	Gorton Township/Alternate
Terry	Vipond	Gorton Township Board
Kevin	Leininger	Alternate/TCC
Jerry	Deal	Traverse County Commissioner
Paul	Wannarka	MnDNR
Ron	Harnack	RRWMB
Steve Berger	Vicky Radel	Land Owners (mailing only)
Casey & Jon	Miller	Land Owners (mailing only)