

Clean Water Council FY14-15 CWF budget recommendations

Approved 10/15/2012

#	Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity	Clean Water Council Proposals FY14-15	% Funding Range recommendations for categories
		Monitoring and assessment		
1	MPCA	Continue monitoring & assessment efforts to meet the 10-year cycle: Statewide monitoring and assessment work is on track to meet the 10-year schedule, at a rate of about 10 percent of the watersheds each year. Intensive watershed monitoring includes biological, chemical, and habitat monitoring in watersheds to assess the water conditions. Assessments determine if waters are impaired and serve as a basis for further analysis of watershed problems, protection options, and overall watershed planning efforts.	\$ 15,000,000	
2	MPCA	Red River Watch Program	\$ -	
3	MPCA	St. Croix Watershed Monitoring	\$ -	
4	MPCA	Wastewater Treatment Monitoring – EDCs	\$ -	
5	MPCA	Wild Rice study	\$ -	
6	MDA	Monitoring for Pesticides in Surface Water and Groundwater: Ongoing monitoring using clean water funded state-of-the-art laboratory instruments which provides increased capability and greater capacity.	\$ 700,000	
7	MDA	Root River Demonstration Project: Field evaluation of agricultural best management practices at multiple scales using a nested watershed approach.	\$ -	
8	DNR	Water quality assessment	\$ -	
9	DNR	Stream Flow Monitoring Conduct stream flow monitoring and sediment transport analysis to support watershed assessments.	\$ 4,000,000	
10	DNR	Lake IBI Assessment Develop an Index of Biotic Integrity for a more holistic assessment of lake health.	\$ 2,600,000	
11	DNR	Fish Contamination Assessment Assess mercury contamination of fish, including monitoring to track the status of waters impaired by mercury and mercury reduction efforts over time.	\$ 270,000	
12	MDH	Lake Superior Beach Monitoring: The 80 swimming beaches on Lake Superior will be characterized as to extent of recreational use, past monitoring results, potential pollution risks and other factors. Based on this evaluation, 40 beaches will be selected and monitored. Monitoring results will be used to inform the public, find the sources of bacterial contamination and address polluted runoff from improper waste disposal.	\$ -	
		TOTAL: Monitoring and assessment	\$ 22,570,000	\$20.35M-\$27.75M (11-15%)

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		Watershed restoration and protection strategies		
13	MPCA	Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (TMDL development): In 2008, the MPCA launched a watershed approach to systematically and comprehensively conduct the state's water-quality monitoring, and restoration and protection planning needs on a 10-year cycle. Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPs), previously known as TMDLs, are developed with local partners to set strategies for impaired waters and unimpaired waters by setting reduction and protection goals, milestones and measures to guide state and local government implementation efforts.	\$ 18,800,000	
14	DNR	Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies Work with state and local partners to provide expertise, data, analysis, and support for major watershed studies and the development of watershed restoration and protection strategies.	\$ 3,700,000	
		TOTAL: Watershed restoration and protection strategies	\$ 22,500,000	\$20.35M-\$25.9M (11-14%)
		Groundwater and drinking water		
15	MPCA	Groundwater assessment: Monitor and enhance ambient groundwater well network to collect critical water quality data needed for drinking water protection and surface water impact analysis, including modeling to support TMDL stressor identification and contaminants of emerging concern (CECs) in a subset of monitoring wells.	\$ 2,250,000	
16	MPCA	Groundwater protection: (\$4M reapprop. to DNR)	\$ -	
17	MPCA	EQB I94 study (transfer)	\$ -	
18	MPCA	Enhanced County inspections/SSTS corrective actions: Support technical assistance and County implementation of SSTS program requirements (M.S. 115.55) including issuing permits, conducting inspections, identifying and resolving non-compliant SSTS, and revising and maintaining SSTS ordinances.	\$ 5,200,000	
19	MDA	Nitrates in Groundwater: Actions to protect and restore groundwater from nitrates. Promote and evaluate regional and crop-specific nutrient Best Management Practices. Work directly with local communities dealing with identified nitrate problems. Facilitate planning by community public water suppliers, local farmers and fertilizer dealers. Design and implement low cost private well monitoring networks to evaluate nitrate trends in high risk areas and regionally	\$ 3,000,000	
20	MDA	Irrigation Water Quality Protection: Nitrogen contributions to groundwater under Irrigated agriculture can be significant in some parts of Minnesota. Funding will provide a regional irrigation water quality specialist via a contract with U of M extension. This position will develop irrigation water quality BMPs and provide supporting education and guidance.	\$ 220,000	
21	DNR	Drinking water planning and protection activities.	\$ -	

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22	DNR	Aquifer Monitoring for Drinking Water Protection Monitor Minnesota's observation well network to collect critical aquifer level data and flow dynamics that are needed for drinking water and water supply protection. Includes analysis, modeling and work with stakeholders to address sustainability management and planning.	\$ 2,750,000	
23	DNR	Metropolitan groundwater monitoring and protection.	\$ -	
24	DNR	Water appropriation electronic permitting development: An electronic permitting system will increase efficiency of tracking water appropriations and substantially reduce workload for staff that currently process individual "paper" permits. The system will screen permit applications, automatically issue permits as appropriate, and send permits that require additional review to hydrologists for processing.	\$ -	
25	BWSR	Permanent conservation easements: wellhead protection: Permanent Conservation Easements on wellhead protection areas under MS 103F.515 Subd. 2, paragraph (d). Must be in drinking water supply management areas designated as high or very high by the Commissioner of Health.	\$ 2,400,000	
26	MC	Metropolitan Area Water Supply Sustainability Support: Implement projects that address emerging drinking water supply threats, provide cost-effective regional solutions, leverage inter-jurisdictional coordination, support local implementation of wellhead protection plans, and prevent degradation of groundwater resources.	\$ 600,000	
27	MC	Regional groundwater recharge areas – identification and classification: The project will identify and rank regional recharge areas to protect and enhance the drinking water supply in the metropolitan area. This project will demonstrate how water supply planning can be aligned with regional development planning. Project results will be used to help: 1. Guide land use decisions, resource monitoring strategies, and to prioritize management activities that support the sustainable development and operation of our region's water supply systems. 2. Inform community plan development by providing local recharge area information, potential locations for artificial recharge and protection priorities to support local water supply management.	\$ 166,000	
28	MDH	Drinking Water Contaminants of Emerging Concern Program: Continue to protect human health by developing guidance. Develop public health laboratory capacity for research and analysis of emerging contaminants. Give grants to local organizations for community-based outreach and education activities.	\$ 1,887,000	
29	MDH	Source water protection: Based on continuing CWF support, MDH has a goal to have approved wellhead protection plans for all 935 community water suppliers that use groundwater by 2020. The Source Water Protection Grant Program assists public water suppliers with implementation of their plans to protect sources of public drinking water and with management of known or potential contamination threats.	\$ 3,230,000	

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30	MDH	County Well Index (CWI) Enhancement: CWI is the principal source of well construction information and geologic interpretations and is used by many public and private sector groups to understand and manage Minnesota's groundwater resources. Funding is needed to: 1) update the CWI database operating system, 2) link well data from other state agencies; 3) eliminate 70,000 backlogged well records; 4) update/edit 430,000 records to eliminate errors and reflect subsurface hydrogeological conditions; and 5) define additional capabilities needed by the public and private users.	\$ 779,000	
31	MDH	Well Sealing Cost Share: There is a continuing need to fund well sealing into the foreseeable future. There are between 250,000 and 500,000 unused, unsealed wells. Approximately 6000 wells are sealed per year. Funding from the Clean Water Fund supplements other efforts to properly seal these wells which protects both public health and groundwater. A portion of the funds are passed to local units of government who provide grants to private well owners. Funds are also distributed to public water supply owners to seal unused public water supply wells that are often expensive to seal due to their size and depth.	\$ 500,000	
32	MDH	Private Well Water Supply Protection: In contrast to highly monitored water supplies that serve water to the public, water quality from a residential well depends on the owner's initiative and vigilance. The proposed study will utilize the existing private well monitoring networks maintained by MDA and existing data from a variety of sources supplemented by targeted well sampling to characterize the occurrence and magnitude of contaminants in private wells. Guidance will be developed for well contractors to ensure new well placement and construction minimizes potential risks to well owners. Innovative civic engagement and education efforts will be developed to increase the capacity of owners to identify and address potential well issues and ensure safe drinking water for their families.	\$ -	
	TOTAL: Groundwater and drinking water		\$ 22,982,000	\$12.95M-\$16.65M (7-9%)
	Nonpoint source implementation activities			
33	MPCA	Great Lakes restoration project: Great Lakes restoration projects in the St. Louis River area of concern with local and federal partners. Requires at least a 65:35 non-state local match for every CWF dollar.	\$ 1,500,000	
34	MPCA	Wastewater Beneficial Reuse Grant	\$ -	
35	MPCA	Clean Water Partnership: Provides grants to study and implement solutions that protect basins and watersheds of Minnesota before water quality standards are exceeded.	\$ 1,000,000	

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36	MDA	AgBMP Loan Program: Provides low interest loans throughout the state to farmers and rural landowners to help finance practices, structures and other improvements that reduce or eliminate water pollution. This loan program is administered by local governments, has very low transaction cost, and as loans are repaid, the repayments are used to fund additional projects.	\$ 3,000,000	
37	MDA	Technical Assistance: Provide technical assistance on impaired waters issues in agricultural landscapes. Ensure that current and accurate technical information on agricultural practices is provided to farmers and other end users and to promote the adoption of BMPs. BMP implementation and effectiveness will be examined, tools will be developed to target conservation practices to critical areas of the landscape and more precise information on non-point contributions to impaired waters will be obtained. Pilot projects and demonstration sites will be implemented that empirically validate and demonstrate cropping BMPs and recommended drainage practices.	\$ 3,000,000	
38	MDA	MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program: A new program under development by the MDA, MPCA, DNR and BWSR, and endorsed by the US EPA and USDA, to increase the adoption of on-farm conservation practices to protect water quality through a voluntary approach. Funding will be used to develop and pilot the concept including: developing a measurement tool for evaluating farms and ranches for the program; conducting training to certify evaluators who will certify farms for the program; supporting pilot projects to field test the concept; and, managing and reporting program data.	\$ 1,000,000	
39	DNR	Nonpoint source restoration and protection activities Support local implementation efforts, including: assisting with targeting conservation practices, helping local partners plan for, design, and implement clean water projects, building local community capacity to manage for healthy watersheds; working in forested watersheds on water quality protection.	\$ 2,000,000	
40	DNR	Mississippi River Critical Area	\$ -	
41	BWSR	Surface and drinking water protection / restoration grants: Grant and incentive funding for clean surface and source water best management practices and projects provided through grants and contract with local units of government (of this amount, \$3M is for county SSTs implementation).	\$ 40,000,000	
42	BWSR	Targeted local resource protection and enhancement grants: Enhance local government efforts to develop and implement water resource protection and management measures that go beyond state minimum standards for wetlands, shorelands, stormwater, sewage treatment, etc. and undertake related projects to restore impaired waters and protect high quality resources.	\$ 8,000,000	
43	BWSR	Measures, results and accountability: Conservation quality assurance by providing oversight, assessment, assistance and reporting of local government performance and results.	\$ 1,800,000	

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44	BWSR	Conservation drainage management and assistance: For conservation drainage program in consultation with the Drainage Work Group to improve surface water management by providing grants for pilot projects to retrofit existing drainage management systems with water quality improvement and retention practices.	\$ 3,400,000	
45	BWSR	Permanent conservation easements: riparian buffers: Purchase permanent conservation easements on riparian lands adjacent to public waters, except wetlands. Restoration of land with buffers of native vegetation are used to exceed shoreland program requirements. Buffers are typically 50 - 100 feet in width and can be wider when paired with Outdoor Heritage or other funds.	\$ 13,000,000	
46	BWSR	Technical evaluation: Statutory mandate to annually evaluate a sample of up to 10 habitat restoration projects, beginning July 1, 2011. BWSR and DNR have been collaborating on implementing state statute (Laws of MN 2011, First Special Session, Ch. 6) that requires restoration evaluations to be conducted on habitat restoration projects completed with funds from the Clean Water Fund, Outdoor Heritage Fund and Parks and Trails Fund.	\$ 168,000	
47	BWSR	Community Partners Clean Water Program: Increasing citizen participation in implementing water quality projects and programs to increase long term sustainability of water resources. The efforts and resources of active and engaged community groups, such as lake associations, non-profits, and conservation groups, will be supported. This effort will be delivered through local collaboration using a new 'small grants partners' program.	\$ 3,000,000	
48	MDA	Manure Applicator Education: Funding to develop training manuals, for resource materials and for a contract specialist educator for training two levels of manure applicators (senior applicators and field hands). Manure application can be a significant source of nutrient losses and current efforts are not adequate.	\$ 200,000	
	TOTAL: Nonpoint source implementation		\$ 81,068,000	
	Point source implementation activities			
49	MPCA	NPDES wastewater/stormwater TMDL implementation: Staffing costs for implementation efforts.	\$ 2,000,000	
50	PFA	TMDL grants (WWTP and stormwater): Provides 50% grants up to \$3 million to help municipalities implement wastewater and stormwater projects to comply with wasteload reductions required by TMDL implementation plans.	\$ 18,000,000	
51	PFA	Phosphorus reduction grants	\$ -	

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52	PFA	Small Community Wastewater Treatment Program: Provides loans and grants to assist small communities to replace non-complying septic systems with new individual and cluster subsurface sewage treatment systems (SSTS) that will be publicly owned and operated. Technical assistance grants up to \$40,000 to contract with consultants and licensed SSTS professionals for feasibility studies and technical assistance. Construction financing up to \$500,000 per year through 1% loans, with 50% grants if below average MHI.	\$ 4,000,000	
	TOTAL: Point source implementation activities		\$ 24,000,000	
	TOTAL IMPLEMENTATION: nonpoint + point source activities		\$ 105,068,000	\$105.45M - \$111M (57-60%)
	Education and civic engagement			
53	MPCA	Incorporate civic engagement into new and current Clean Water Fund watershed projects.		
	TOTAL: Education and civic engagement (For FY14-15, funding for this activity will be allocated to existing clean water projects, rather than through a separate line item in the proposed Council budget.)		\$ -	
	Applied research and tool development			
54	MPCA	Coal tar stormwater research BMP	\$ -	
55	MPCA	Watershed research and database development: Incrementally connect data management systems to develop a Watershed Portal (Watershed Data Integration Project or WDIP) that will interface existing systems and provide staff and the public a central location for reporting, analysis, and data management of the watershed data.	\$ 2,300,000	
56	MPCA	Interagency water portal development & proof of concept: An interagency team has begun planning for a statewide water data portal. The portal would allow users to access data from multiple agencies from one webpage, rather than searching multiple agencies' websites. The project scope represents the ~30 highest priority data sources, a very large undertaking.	\$ 2,000,000	
57	MPCA	FY11 Legislative Priority: Nitrate-Nitrogen rule	\$ -	
58	MPCA	Application of Water Standards: Identify and pilot options for implementing standards, not to develop new standards. The MPCA to work with regulated parties to identify new or more efficient ways of meeting standards at wastewater treatment facilities (municipal and industrial).	\$ -	
59	MPCA	Stormwater research and guidance: Performance of existing stormwater infiltration sites, as identified in the Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS) project. Monitor the range of existing infiltration devices in Minnesota and compare to design criteria, maintenance records, and quantify year-round infiltration rates. Develop and refine pretreatment options and standards for municipal stormwater treatment trains.	\$ 550,000	

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60	MPCA	Stormwater BMP Performance Evaluation and Technology Transfer: Enhanced data and information management of stormwater BMPs; evaluate BMP performance and effectiveness to support meeting TMDLs; develop standards and incorporate into state of the art guidance using MIDS as the model; implement a knowledge and technology transfer system across local government, industry and regulatory sectors.	\$ 1,400,000	
61	MDA	Academic Research/Evaluation: Projects focus on supporting the development of agricultural BMPs and quantifying agricultural contributions to impaired waters with a focus on gaining a better understanding of the processes that underlie these contributions. BMPs will be developed and evaluated to protect and restore water resources while maintaining productivity.	\$ 2,100,000	
62	MDA	Research Inventory Database: Funding to develop, populate and promote a database that contains existing water-related research. This user-friendly, searchable database will provide researchers, water planners, and the public with fast access to a centralized inventory of all types of research related to water in, or relevant to, Minnesota. Currently, many research findings are scattered across websites, reports, journals and other media and are not readily accessible to most people.	\$ 250,000	
63	DNR	Applied research and tools Provide hydrologic expertise to improve understanding of the cumulative impacts of drainage on watershed health, and identify strategic combinations of BMPs to improve water quality; maintain/update spatial data for watershed boundaries, streams, and waterbodies and integrate LiDAR data; assess relationships among disturbance patterns BMP application, and water quality in forested watersheds; stream biomonitoring database.	\$ 1,350,000	
64	DNR	High resolution elevation data	\$ -	
65	DNR	County geologic atlases: Work with the Minnesota Geological Survey to accelerate completion or updates to accelerate completion or updates to County Geologic Atlases that provide critical groundwater and geology information to local governments.	\$ 1,100,000	
66	MC	Twin Cities metro water supply plan implementation: Provide technical information and tools to improve the local capacity of 186 metropolitan communities to better protect and manage their water supplies in order to identify the most sustainable water supply options available.	\$ 600,000	
		TOTAL: Applied research and tool development	\$ 11,650,000	\$11.1M-\$14.8M (6-8%)
67	MPCA	Clean Water Council budget: includes Council meeting costs, per diem and other expenses, and staffing costs for administering the Council.	\$ 230,000	
		Clean Water Council budget		
		TOTALS	\$ 185,000,000	FY14-15 Target: \$185,000,000