Watershed

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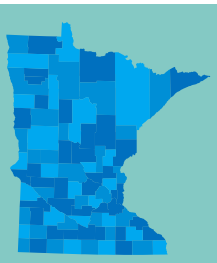
December 2025

Watershed Achievements Report Federal Fiscal Year 2025

A description of the projects funded by federal Clean Water Act Section 319 grants and Clean Water Partnership Loans.

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY



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Meandering creek next to farm, Pipestone, MN

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Document number: wq-cwp8-30

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Executive summary

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) provides financial and technical assistance to local government and other water resource managers to address nonpoint-source (NPS) water pollution. The two funding sources administered by MPCA for local governments for implementation of best management practices (BMPs) to restore and protect Minnesota's waters. They are the federal Clean Water Act Section 319 (Section 319) funds and the Clean Water Partnership (CWP) funds. The governing statute for the CWP is Minn. Stat. 103F.700 and the rules governing the disbursement are in Minn. R. 7076. Further prioritization and Minnesota's goals are described in the Nonpoint Source Management Program Plan (NSPMP).

The projects reported here were awarded between federal fiscal year (FFY) 2020 and 2025 and were organized by award year (Groups A through D). Each of the projects contribute to the reduction of pollution loading to improve Minnesota's water quality.

The estimated reductions associated with Section 319 and CWP loan projects summarized in Table 1 were entered by grantees and borrowers into the eLINK system. Note that no newly awarded projects were included in this estimate. Some projects did not directly yield reductions but may include civic engagement or demonstration elements that help further the nonpoint source (NPS) pollution work in Minnesota.

Table 1. Summary of estimated reductions achieved with Section 319 grant and CWP loan projects completed in FY 2025. (eLINK)

Basin	Total
Phosphorus (P) pounds/year (lbs/yr)	5,282
Total Suspended Solids (TSS) tons/year (t/yr)	9,808
Nitrogen (N) pounds/year (lbs/yr)	5,393
Soil loss (t/yr)	15,805
BOD (lbs/yr)	8,188
E. coli (cfu/yr)	9.48E+14

Introduction

Minnesota's water resources are treasured by its citizens for recreation, drinking water, aquatic life, industrial and agricultural uses. With more than 10,000 lakes, 100,000 river and stream miles, and extensive groundwater systems, water is a central part of Minnesota's culture, economy, and natural ecosystems.

This report describes the recently awarded, active, and final nonpoint source projects for statewide and watershed-based projects. Two programs administered by MPCA provide local governments with resources to restore and protect surface water, with a special focus on NPS pollution. The Section 319 program provides grant funding and the CWP loan program provides low-interest loans for local government units (LGUs) to implement BMPs that reduce NPS water pollution. The annual Watershed Achievements Report summarizes the efforts supported by this funding and Minnesota's progress towards reducing NPS pollution.

Clean Water Partnership and Section 319 programs

The MPCA provides financial and technical assistance to local government and other water resource managers to address nonpoint-source water pollution through the state CWP and Section 319 programs.

The Section 319 grant program is a federally funded program to address NPS pollution. Until 2020, the projects were awarded on a project-by-project, competitive basis. The grant award gave local governments the ability to work over four-years to complete the project. Each grantee is required to provide a match of at least 40% of the total project cost using state or local funds. In addition to providing pass through grant dollars, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provides Minnesota with an equal amount of program dollars which fund program activities. These funds pay for staff to monitor, research, and develop products such as total maximum daily loads (TMDL) and watershed restoration and protection strategies (WRAPS).

The Section 319 grant program transitioned to the Section 319 Small Watershed Program in 2017. The EPA requirements changed in 2014 to include a more focused and detailed approach. Minnesota approaches watershed planning on a hydrological unit code (HUC) 8 scale to facilitate local governments developing implementation plans specific to their locality. The EPA requires formalized and detailed Nine Key Element (NKE) plans, which are described fully in the *Handbook for Developing Watershed Plans to Restore and Protect our Waters*. The Small Watershed funding was prioritized starting in FFY 2020.

The Clean Water Partnership program originally included loans and grants. In 2015, the Minnesota legislature stopped funding the grant program, but the loan program continued. The CWP funds were loaned to local units of government (LGU) at 1.5% interest during FY 2025. The LGUs may apply for funding at any point throughout the year to implement projects, create a loan or grant program for residents, purchase equipment or easements, or educate and engage the citizens in taking action to protect and improve water quality. The loan funds are available for a three-year implementation period, with an optional extension to a fourth year. Loans are then paid back over a 7-year period, at 1.5% interest. Matching funds are optional for borrowers. Although many entities do provide match activities for the loans, such as administration of their programs and outreach, not all organizations choose to report matching funds. It is important to note that whether or not reported, some match and investment occurs with all program participants.

Section 319 Grant Program Small Watersheds Focus

MPCA developed the Section 319 Small Watersheds Focus Program in partnership with local governments to support comprehensive nonpoint source implementation on small-scale watersheds. The watershed-based NKE plans built upon existing local water plans and state reports. The plans focused on local scales to facilitate the level of detail needed to meet EPA standards.

Small Watersheds program: The Section 319 program focuses on small watersheds to increase the benefits of implementation and affect measurable differences in water quality.

Focus Watersheds: Watersheds were selected to participate in the program and receive priority funding from the Section 319 grant program. These watersheds meet state and local priorities.

The MPCA passes through approximately $2.8 million in Section 319 grants annually to local governments and organizations to implement BMPs and adopt strategies to mitigate NPS pollution. Funding for the selected focus watersheds will continue in subsequent years for implementation projects.

Clean Water Partnership loan program

The CWP loan program facilitates restoration of water quality in lakes and streams across Minnesota. Administered by the MPCA, the low interest loans go to local partners and Tribal nations for projects that reduce NPS pollution from diffuse sources such as failing septic systems and cropland runoff.

Figure 1. Clean Water Partnership loans reduce water pollution one project at a time.

Some examples:

- Yellow Medicine County SSTS project to update non-conforming septic systems
- Lake Allie ESSD Wastewater Collection System Loan Project replaced the aging centralized sewage treatment system to ensure continued surface and ground water quality protection.
- City of Walfdorf Inflow and Infiltration (I & I) Project is helping residents to address I & I for the city and reduce the chances of unintended wastewater discharge.

Flexible loan options

First tier loans are provided for local governments to build projects. Second tier loans allow local entities to make loans to landowners and other stakeholders.

The funds can be used for any non-point BMPs, including wellhead protection, inflow and infiltration (residential laterals), green infrastructure, SSTS upgrade/replacements, wetland or stream restorations, and other similar projects.

Watershed program accomplishments –2025

Clean Water Accountability reporting

Minnesota's Clean Water Legacy Act requires that MPCA report actions taken in Minnesota's watersheds to meet water-quality goals and milestones (Minn. Stat. 114D.26, subd. 2). This accountability reporting is required every two years, though updates to these reports will occur annually by July of each year. These reports can be found here: Healthier watersheds: Tracking the actions taken

The reports contain information regarding:

- Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) approval status
- Approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) projects
- Wastewater treatment plant pollution reduction progress
- Nonpoint BMPs in all subwatersheds
- Funding (federal, state, local, point/nonpoint) by watershed

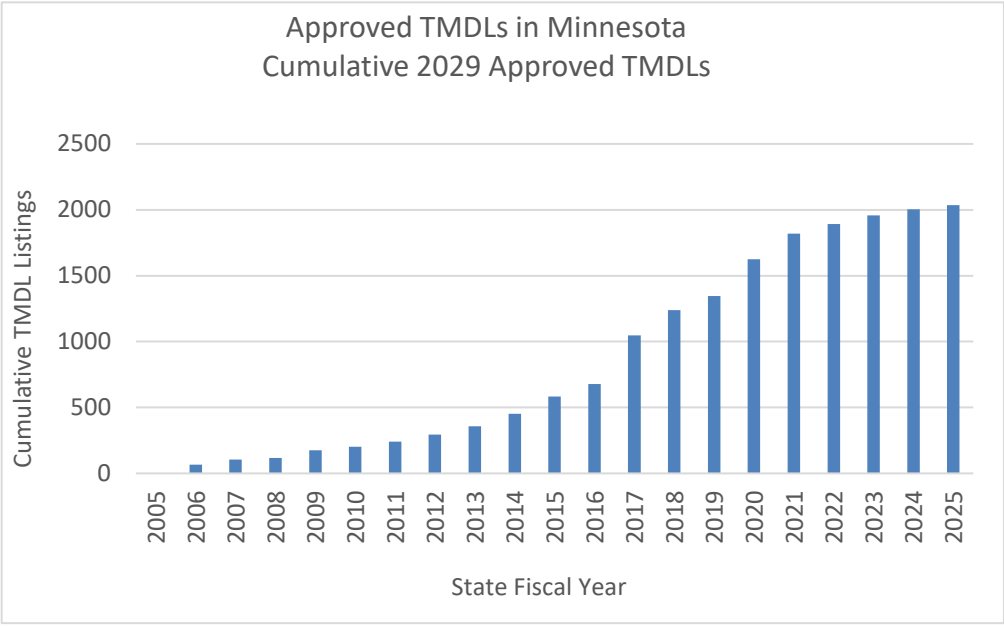
Minnesota's Watershed approach

The MPCA and its partners systematically evaluate waters in each major watershed in Minnesota every 10 years. More information is on this web page MPCA watershed approach.

Approved TMDLs

Minnesota continues to make progress in completing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies for impaired waters as part of our watershed approach.

Figure 2. Cumulative Approved TMDL listings in Minnesota for the years 2004-2025, not including Minnesota's statewide mercury TMDL



2024 Clean Water Fund Performance Report

Minnesota agencies released their sixth collaborative report in February 2024 to collate connections between Clean Water funds invested, actions taken, and outcomes achieved. Measures in the report provide a snapshot of how Clean Water Fund dollars are being spent and what progress has been made. The measures are organized into four categories: investment, surface water quality, drinking water and groundwater protection, and social measures and external drivers. Each measure has detailed status ranking and trend information.

Protecting and restoring Minnesota's waters for generations to come

- Minnesota voters demonstrated the value of clean waters when they passed the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment in 2008. The state constitution was amended to provide 25 years of dedicated funding to strengthen and enhance Minnesota's response to water resource challenges and to protect high-quality waters. The Clean Water Fund creates opportunities for Minnesota to take innovative and collaborative approaches to improve water quality statewide.
- Between 2010 and 2024 (last report published in 2024), Minnesota's Clean Water Fund:
- Awarded more than 4,271 grants to protect and restore Minnesota's water resources.
- Delisted 81 lakes and streams from Minnesota's impaired waters list due to restoration activities.
- Led to many more lakes having improving water quality trends than declining trends and maintained the quality of unimpaired waters.
- Issued more than 2,253 loans to landowners to prevent nonpoint source water pollution or solve existing water quality problems.
- Secured more than 941 easements that will permanently protect approximately 31,164 acres along riparian corridors and within wellhead protection areas, of which 23,830 acres were supported by Clean Water Funds.
- Repaired 881 subsurface sewage treatment systems that posed an imminent threat to human health.
- Upgraded 52 municipal wastewater treatment facilities, which reduced phosphorus discharges by over 316,000 pounds per year.
- Developed plans for nearly 800 out of the approximately 970 community water systems in Minnesota to protect their drinking water sources and awarded approximately 1,300 grants supporting local source water protection actions.
- Engaged 84,000 visitors in the We Are Water MN exhibit at 30 sites statewide since 2016. Of those surveyed in 2022, 88% indicated an increased awareness of threats to our water resources.
- Incentivized the replacement and assessment of water-using devices with nearly 15,000 water-efficient alternatives through city and township programs, when implemented save an estimated 204 million gallons of water each year.
- Offered free nitrate testing to over 90,000 well owners in areas vulnerable to nitrate contamination and 32,000 of those well owners ultimately participated in the program.
- Certified nearly 1,000,000 acres of Minnesota farmland across more than 1,400 farms through the state's Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program.
- Added pesticide water quality monitoring for approximately 140 additional pesticide compounds in vulnerable groundwater and surface water resources statewide.

- Cooperated with tribal governments on monitoring and assessment programs, strategy development for meeting water quality standards, detection of unregulated contaminants, and comprehensive planning.
- Supported statewide testing for PFAS in drinking water, which covered over 99% of Minnesotans that drink water from a community water system.

NPS pollutant reductions and best management practices

Healthier watersheds

The Healthier Watersheds webpage was developed to track the spending of Clean Water Funds in Minnesota. The WRAPS, TMDL status, and BMPs implemented by watershed are related to NPS work. Data for the BMPs is reported by those receiving NPS funds. This information is provided by various government agencies, including:

- United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS): Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Agricultural Conservation Easement Program – Wetlands Reserve Easement (ACEP-WRE), Emergency Watershed Protection Program – Floodplain, Easement (EWPP-FPE), Emergency Wetlands Reserve Program (EWRP), Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP), Grassland Reserve Program (GRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP).
- Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR): Easement Programs: Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM), Wetland Reserve Program (WRP), Army Compatible Use Buffer, Program (ACUB), and Riparian Buffer Conservation Easements. Grant Programs: Disaster Recovery Assistance Program, Clean Water Fund Grants, State Conservation Cost-Share, Native Buffer Grant Program, Natural Resources Block Grant (NRBG) and others programs as reported in the eLINK tracking system.
- Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA): Agriculture Best Management Practices Loan Program (AgBMP) and Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA): Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 Program (Section 319) and Clean Water Partnership Program (CWP).

Figure 3. Approval status of WRAPS by watershed in Minnesota as of 9/26/2025, found at [WRAPS Status Public | Tableau Public](#).

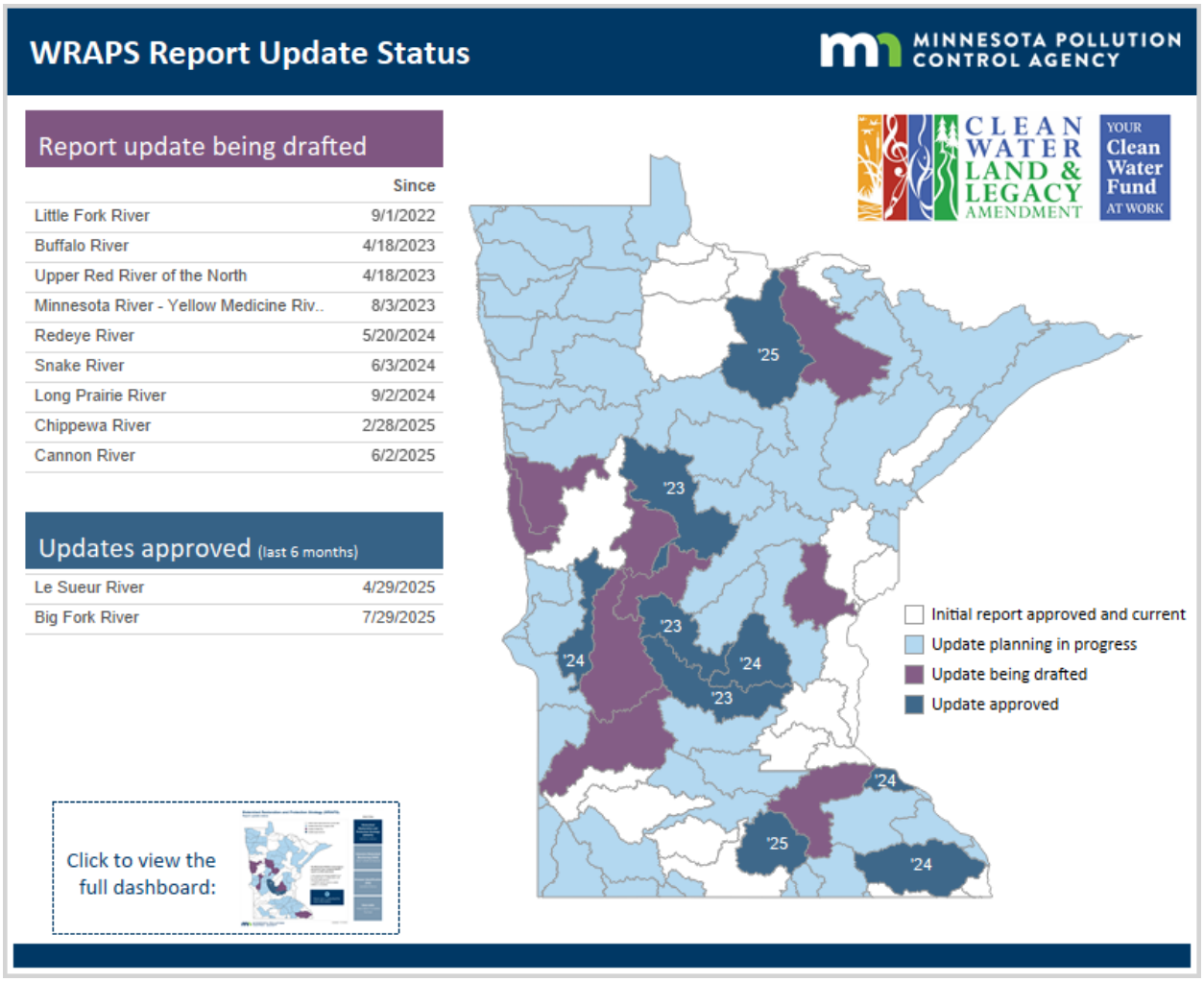
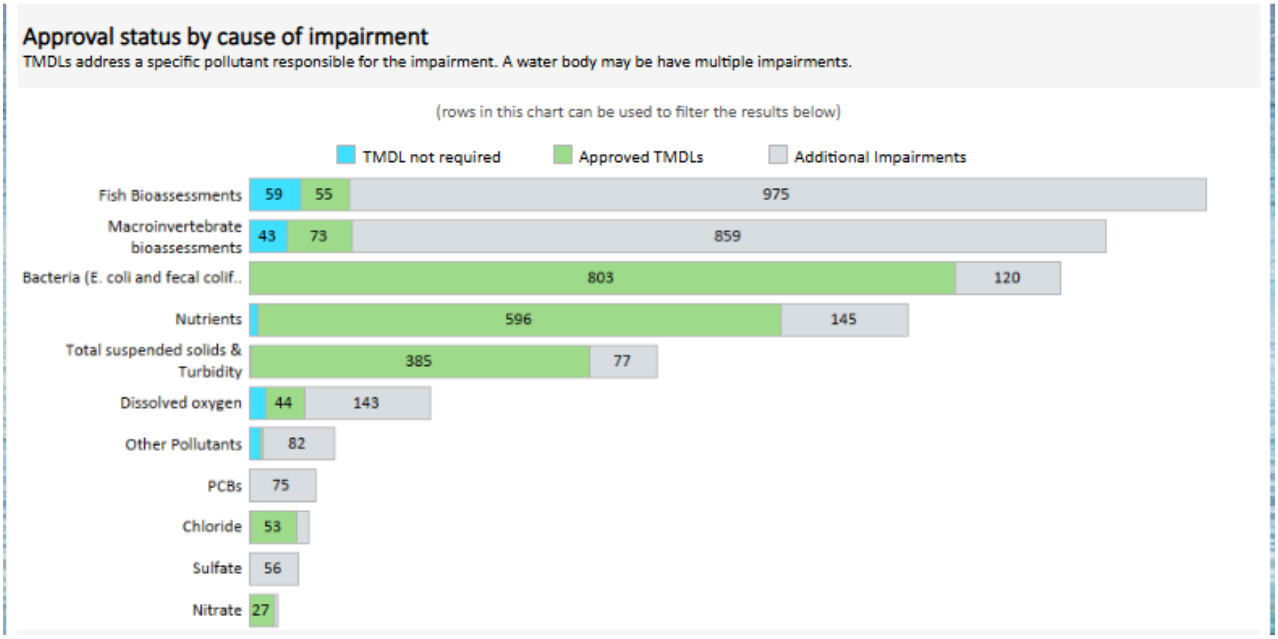


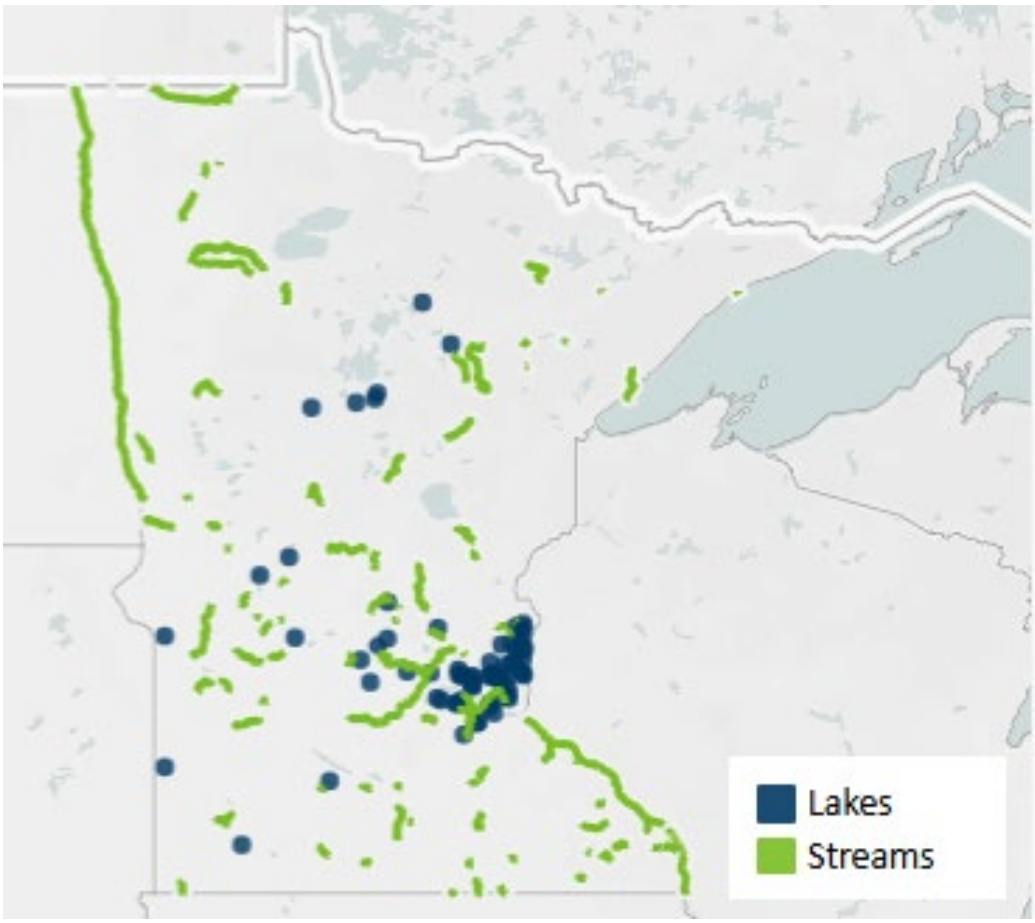
Figure 4. TMDL status to date, found at [TMDL Status | Tableau Public](#).



Minnesota’s delisted waters

The MPCA began listing impaired waters in 1992. Beginning in 2002 the MPCA has delisted 211 previously impaired lakes and rivers segments because they are now meeting water quality standards. Of the 211 delisting’s identified 100 are due to restoration activities in the area. Minnesota's Delisted Waters

Figure 5. Minnesota delisted waters as of the 2024 impaired waters list.



Best management practices implemented by watershed (Figure 5) can be found at Best management practices by watershed.

Figure 6. BMPs by watershed, Blue Earth River (Dutch Creek) 2023 example, found at Best management practices by watershed.

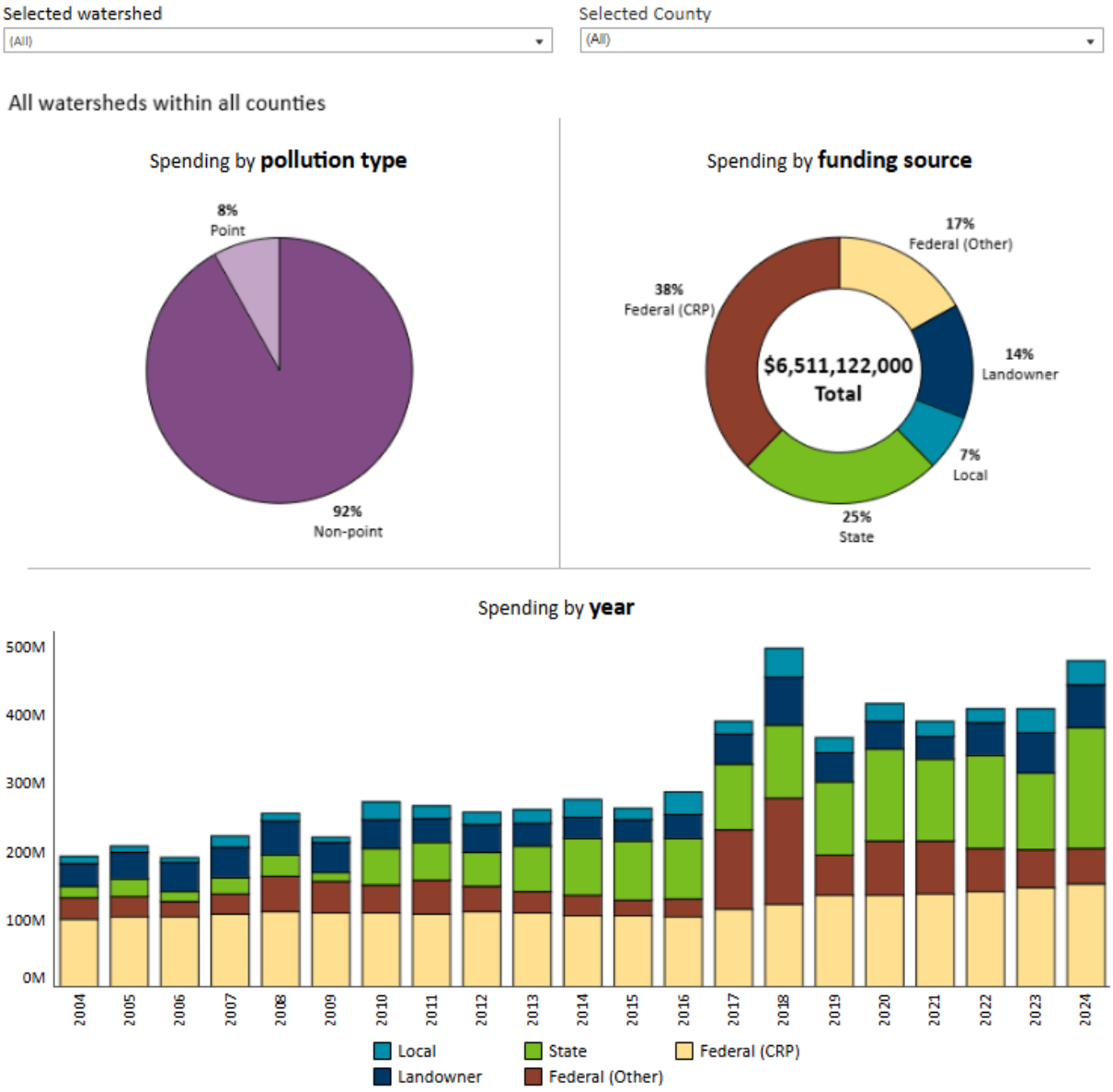
Blue Earth River watershed

Dutch Creek

Strategy	Practice Description	Total BMPs	Number of BMPs (by unit)	Installed Amount (by unit)	Units
Tillage/residue management	Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till	4	4	1,225	acres
	Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till	4	4	1,225	acres
Nutrient management (cropland)	Nutrient Management	3	1	95	acres
			2	2	count
Converting land to perennials	Conservation Cover	7	7	33	acres
Designed erosion control	Grassed Waterway	4	4	3	acres
	Water & Sediment Control Basins	2	2	3	count
Habitat & stream connectivity	Tree/Shrub Establishment	1	1	2	acres
Other	Integrated Pest Management (IPM)	1	1	95	acres
	TA Design	4	4	4	count
	Well Decommissioning	4	4	4	count
	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	1	1	1,650	feet

Spending for watershed implementation projects are described at Spending for implementation projects. While state and federally funded programs are listed, the site does not include all government spending or private **spending for stormwater and other clean water projects.**

Figure 7. Spending in all watersheds within all counties in Minnesota, last updated in 2024.



NPS pollution implementation funding at MPCA

Much of the implementation funding to address NPS pollution in Minnesota is administered by the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water (BWSR). A description of these grant programs can be found at http://bwsr.state.mn.us/grants. Funds are awarded, based on program requirements, as competitive and noncompetitive grants, as well as watershed-based funding. Pollutant reductions and BMPs funded by the Section 319 Grant and CWP Loan programs are entered by participants into BWSR's eLINK system.

Section 319 Program

Section 319 Small Watershed Focus Program

MPCA developed the Section 319 Small Watersheds Focus Program, in partnership with small watersheds, to develop a long-term roadmap supporting comprehensive NPS implementation on small-scale watersheds. To date, 35 small watersheds were selected for prioritized funding, shown in Figure 8. Along with prioritized watershed also implementing Effectiveness Monitoring (EM), above their implementing workplans, funds associated with Group D. These effectiveness monitoring programs will help determine the effectiveness of BMPs being installed in these watersheds.

The selections are part of the transition in the federal Clean Water Act Section 319 Program from one-time grants to more reliable funding focused on small watersheds. The goal of the program is to help local governments make measurable changes toward water quality improvements. Based on input from many local governments, the program is designed to provide a reliable and longer-term funding source to address all pollutants in small watersheds.

Figure 8. Map of 319 Project Areas

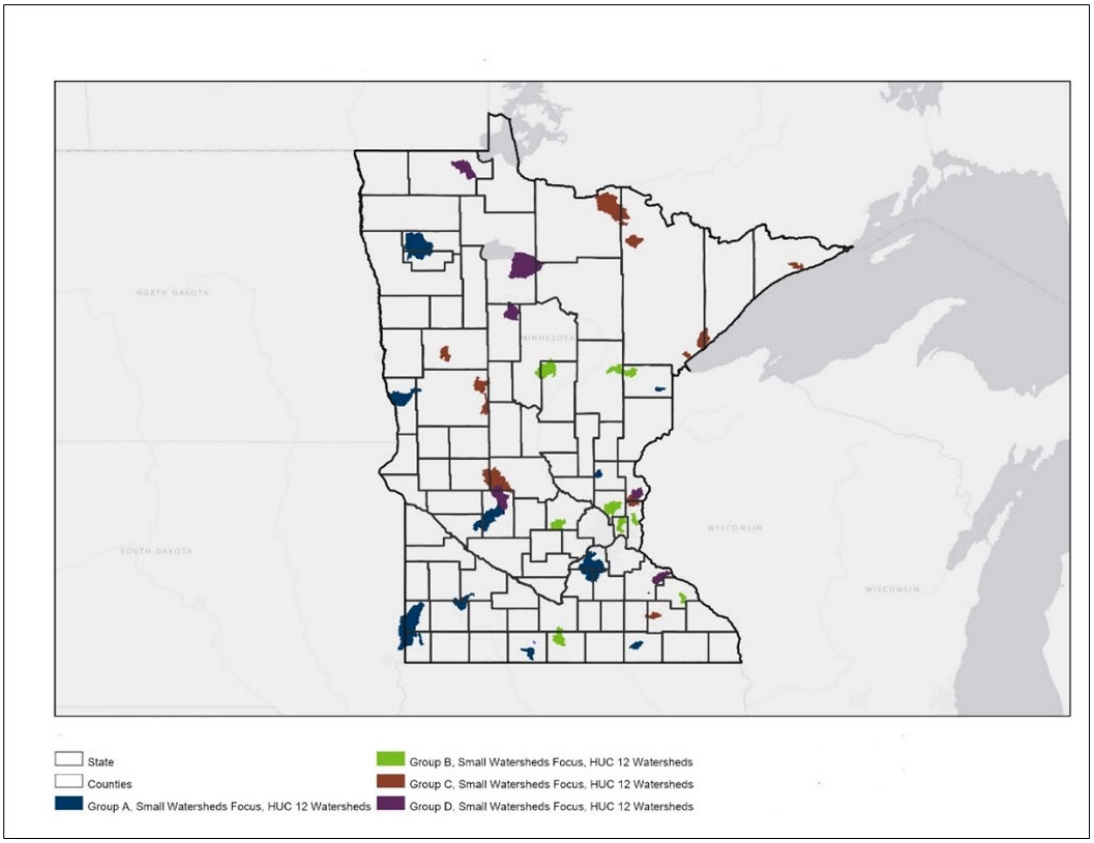


Table 2. Focus Watersheds and the years they are prioritized for funding.

Prioritization group	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
FFY Funding years	2020, 24, 28, 32	2021, 25, 29, 33	2022, 26, 30, 34	2023, 27, 31, 35
Prioritized watersheds	Fairmont Chain of Lakes and Dutch Creek (Blue Earth River)	Big Sandy Chain of Lakes	Rat Root River (Rainy River)	Green Lake/Chisago Chain of Lakes (Lower St. Croix)
	Dobbins Creek (Cedar River)	Brown's Creek (St. Croix River)	Cascade Creek (Zumbro River)	Necktie River (Upper Mississippi)
	Plum Creek (Redwood River)	Como Lake (Mississippi River-Twin Cities)	Comfort Lake/Forest Lake Chain (St. Croix River)	Wells Creek (Lake Pepin - Lower Mississippi)
	Upper Hawk Creek and Wilmar Chain of Lakes (Minnesota-Yellow Medicine)	Coon Creek (Mississippi River-Twin Cities)	Amity Creek (St. Louis River)	Blackduck River (Red Lake)
	Sand Creek (Lower Minnesota)	Rice Creek (Le Sueur River)	Pelican Lake (Lake Superior)	Hay Creek Watershed (Roseau River)
	Black River and Red Lake River-Thief River Falls to Crookston	Twelvemile Creek (North Fork Crow River)	Cook SWCD (Devil Track River)	Green Lake (North Fork Crow River)
	Skunk Creek (Nemadji River)	Tamarack, Birch, and Wilkinson Lakes (Vadnais Lake)	Campbell Creek (Otter Tail River)	Effectiveness Monitoring (EM) Skunk Creek Dobbins Creek Fairmont Chain Others TBD
	Whiskey Creek (Red River of the North)	West Indian Creek (Zumbro River)	Tributary to the Redeye River	
	Green Lake (Rum River)	Whitefish Chain of Lakes (Pine River)	Rice Lake (North Fork Crow River)	
	Pipestone, Split Rock and Mound Creeks (Big Sioux and Rock Rivers)		Skunk Creek (Lake Superior)	

Environmental Performance Partnership Grant

The MPCA requested $ 2,791,722 in technical (program) funds from the EPA for FFY 2025 as part of a larger grant agreement that funds multiple programs at the MPCA. Section 319 is the funding source for a portion of that agreement.

The MPCA has a multi-year Environmental Performance Partnership Agreement (EnPPA) with the EPA Region 5 that specifies how the agencies jointly protect Minnesota's environment. The EnPPA uses the Performance Partnership Grant (PPG) workplan template to detail tasks and commitments. In 2021, the MPCA and EPA Region 5 entered a four-year agreement (FFY2022-2026) that includes air quality permits, mining permits, the Minnesota Watershed Approach, and the Section 319 grants program. For the purposes of this report, only the Section 319 funding will be discussed.

The Performance Partnership Agreement (PPA) is an extension of the MPCA's Strategic Plan and the EPA's Regional Plan. In a ten-year period, all 80 HUC-8 watersheds within Minnesota are intensively monitored or sampled, assessed for impaired waters and waters in need of protection, modeled with U.S. Geological Service HSPF (Hydrological Simulation Program-FORTRAN) model, and investigated for biological stressors. Using this data, TMDLs are developed or updated. The WRAPS report uses the TMDLs, water quality monitoring data, and a wide array of information specific to each watershed to develop strategies (generally BMPs) needed to achieve water quality standards in that major watershed. Input from local governmental units and citizens is integral to creating beneficial WRAPS reports. Ownership in the process by local stakeholders facilitates the adoption of conservation practices in the areas where they are most effective.

Section 319 program funding currently funds 19.85 full-time equivalents (FTE) to support the NPS program work. These positions support the development, management, and administration of the program.

CWP loans

The CWP program offers 1.5%-interest loans to local units of government for implementing nonpoint source BMPs and other activities that target the restoration and protection of a water resource such as a lake, stream, or groundwater aquifer.

Loans can be used for these activities:

- Urban green infrastructure
- Buffers
- Septic system upgrade or replacement
- Technical assistance, outreach, and education
- Equipment (e.g., salt application, street sweeping)
- Any nonpoint source BMP
- Feedlot upgrade or replacement

There was $4.875 million of CWP Loans awarded in FY 2025. Individual loans are described in the following river basin sections.

Group A Small Watershed 319 Projects

The Group A 319 projects, shown in Figure 9, located in the following watersheds: Red Lake, Buffalo-Red River, Cedar River, Blue Earth, Rum River, Minnesota River-Yellow Medicine, Lower Big Sioux River, Cottonwood River Watershed, Lower Minnesota River Major and Nemadji River. Group A Phase 1 projects invested $2,842,750, along with $2,731,247 in local match, are summarized in Table 3. Group A phase 2, summarized in Table 4, will be investing $2,896,450, along with $1,937,873 in local match.

Figure 9. Group A 319 Projects Map

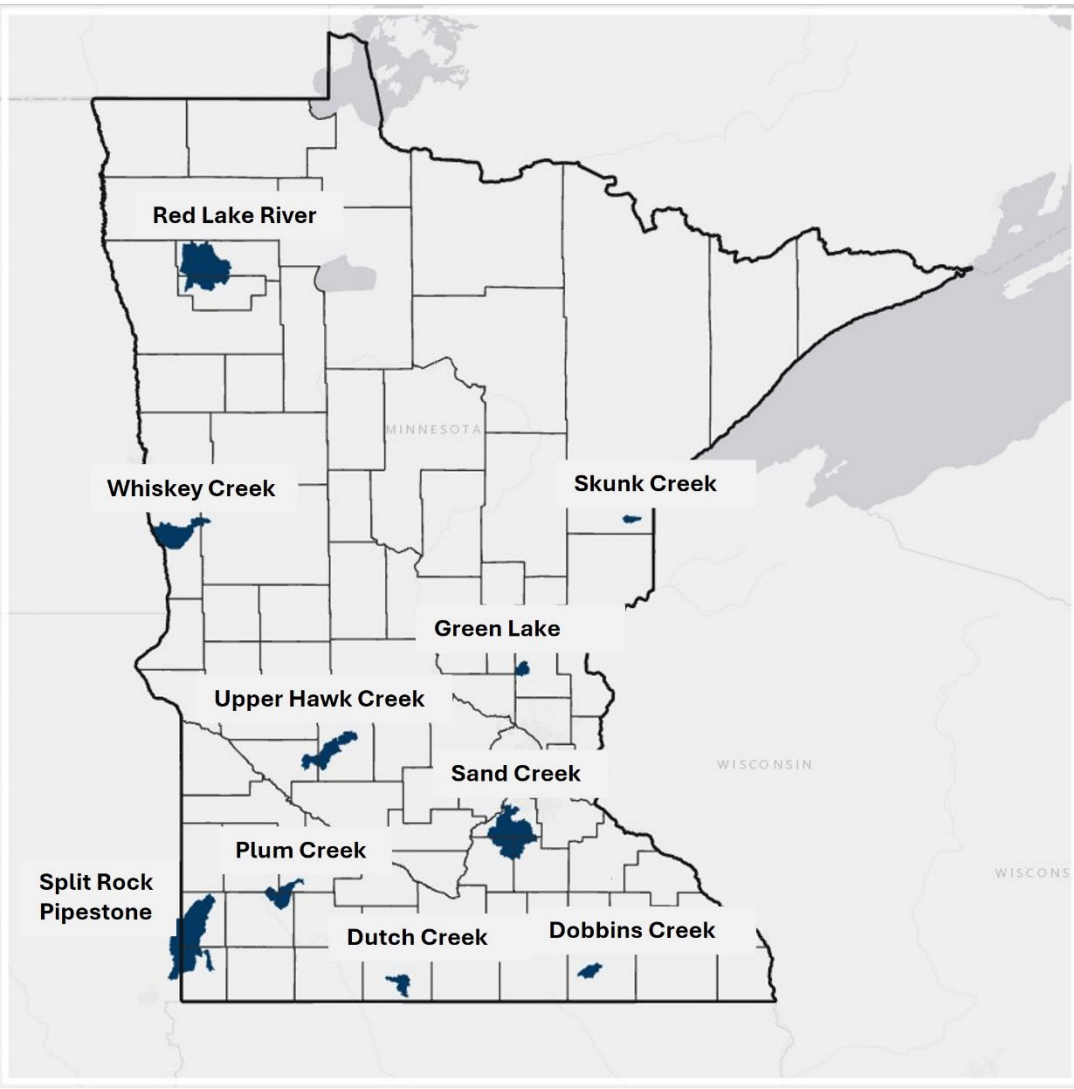


Table 3. Completed projects in Group A Phase 1.

Project name	Red Lake River Targeted Watershed Grant – P1	Whiskey Creek Watershed Restoration P1	Dobbins Creek Watershed Project P1	Fairmont Lakes Plan Implementation P1	Green Lake NKE Implementation P1	Upper Hawk Creek Watershed Restoration P1	Pipestone, Split Rock, and Mound Creeks P1	Plum Creek Watershed P1	Sand Creek P1	Skunk Creek Watershed Restoration and Protection Project P1
Project sponsor	Red Lake WD	Buffalo-Red River WD	Cedar River WD	Martin SWCD	Isanti SWCD	Hawk Creek Watershed Project	Pipestone SWCD	Redwood SWCD	Scott WMO	Carlton SWCD
FFY awarded	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020
Project timeframe	December 2020 to August 2024	December 2020 to August 2024	December 2020 to August 2024	November 2020 to August 2024	October 2020 to August 2024	December 2020 to August 2024	December 2020 to August 2024	October 2020 to August 2024	December 2020 to August 2024	November 2020 to August 2024
Funding type	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319
Funding amount	$284,275	$284,275	$284,275	$284,275	$284,275	$284,275	$284,275	$284,275	$284,275	$284,275
Match amount	$189,289	$192,139	$490,615	$211,666	$350,823	$190,000	$195,390	$317,435	$269,301	$324,589
HUC12 Codes	90203030402, -502, -507, -303, -304, -401, -404, -301, -302	090201040201, -202, -203, -204	70802010205	070200090701, -702	070102070503	070200040701, -702, -705	101702031301, -302, -303, -304, -305, -601, -602, -603, -604, -605, -109	070200080301, -302, -303	0702000120801, -202, -207, -803, -804, -805, -806,	40103010203
Watershed	Red Lake	Buffalo-Red River	Cedar River	Blue Earth	Rum River	Minnesota River-Yellow Medicine	Lower Big Sioux River	Cottonwood River Watershed	Lower Minnesota River Major	Nemadji River
Project goal	Restore impaired waters within priority management areas through focused reduction of sediment and E. coli loading from critical loading areas.	To improve habitat within the Whiskey Creek watershed by completing 16 miles of stream restoration via the construction of a two-stage ditch. In addition, to reduce sediment and phosphorus loading to Whiskey Creek	The goal is to implement BMPs in the upper watershed, capital improvement projects, accelerate bacteria treatment through SSTS improvements, implement 184 acres of Soil Health Practices, track performance and inventory landuse management and soil health BMPs.	Reduce TSS, E. coli, and nutrient loading to the Fairmont Chain of Lakes.	Implement prioritized and targeted Best Management Practices (BMPs) and strategic outreach in critical areas to reduce nonpoint sources of phosphorus to Green Lake.	The goal is to address existing watershed impairments and to decrease pollutant loading to downstream waterbodies.	Restore water quality to standards, which provide for ultimate public recreational opportunities, while increasing agricultural production, profitability, and sustainability.	Implementation of BMPs that are effective at abating non-point source sediment runoff and E.coli to impaired waterbodies within the Plum Creek Watershed.	Implementation practices will address the MA needs as well as having additional benefits in downstream MAs.	Improve aquatic habitat by removing the aquatic organism barrier on Elim Creek, reduce TSS loading from road erosion on Skunk and Elim Creeks, and work towards future watershed restoration projects.
BMPs installed	1550 LF - Streambank and Shoreline Protection, 3 - side water inlets	53 - Grade Stabilization Structure, 12,672 LF - Streambank and Shoreline Protection	2 – Grassed waterway, 2 -Grade stabilization, 2 -Structure for water control, 1 - Water and sediment control basin	65 acres - Conservation cover, 274 acres - Residue & Tillage Management, 2 areas - Filter Strip, 3 - Grade Stabilization Structure, 4 acres - Grassed Waterway and Swales, 2 - Saturated Buffer, 3 - Water and Sediment Control Basin	703 Acres - Cover Crop, 4,570sq ft - Critical Area Planting, 987 sq ft - Streambank and Shoreline Protection, 616 sq ft - Bioretention Basin, 7 Weland restorations	1,201 sq ft - Streambank and Shoreline Protection, 1 - Critical Area Planting, 301 Acres - Conservation Cover, 202.70 Acres - Cover Crop, 15 - Water and Sediment Control Basin	68 acres - Rotational Grazing, 2 - structure for water control	5.5 Acres - Water and Sediment Control Basin, 3.6 Acres - Grade Stabilization Structure, 4.9 Acres - Grassed Waterway and Swales	612 Acres - Residue & Tillage Management, 3 - Water and Sediment Control Basin, 276 LF - Streambank and Shoreline Protection, 2,601 LF - Grassed Waterway and Swales, 3 - Grade Stabilization Structure, 938 Acres - Cover Crop, 21 Acres - Conservation Cover, 55 acres - Nutrient management, 8 acres - Tree/shrub establishment	0.60 Acres - Water and Sediment Control Basin, 2 - grade stabilization structures
Estimated reductions (eLINK)	Phosphorus: 152 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 1,314 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 48 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 239 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 398 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 57 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 100 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 1,003 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 1,195 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 70 lbs/yr
	Sediment: 836.49 t/yr	Sediment: 2,172 t/yr	Sediment: 28 t/yr	Sediment: 275 t/yr	Sediment: 111 t/yr	Sediment: 19 t/yr	Sediment: 3 t/yr	Sediment: 790 t/yr	Sediment: 1,043 t/yr	Sediment: 41 t/yr
	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: 790 t/y	Soil Loss:327 t/y	Soil Loss: 8.4 t/y	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: 1,315 t/y	Soil Loss: 2,891 t/y	Soil Loss: 35 t/y
	Nitrogen: NA	Nitrogen: NA	Nitrogen: 8,759 lbs/yr	Nitrogen: 4,272 lbs/y	Nitrogen: NA	Nitrogen: 651 lbs/y	Nitrogen: 314.4 lbs/y	Nitrogen: NA	Nitrogen: NA	Nitrogen: NA
	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA
	E. coli: NA	E. coli: NA	E. coli: NA	E. coli: NA	E. coli: NA	E. coli: NA	E. coli: 3.31E+13 CFU	E. coli: NA	E. coli: NA	E. coli: NA
Project highlights	This 319 Grant was an important piece of the funding puzzle for 3 large erosion control projects: 2020-21 Water Quality Features of the Black River Impoundment Project (side water inlets (SWIs) and channel stabilization), 2022-23 Voyageur's View Streambank Stabilization Project, and 2023 Polk County Ditch 99 Outlet Stabilization.	Starting in 2015, the BRRWD began marketing to landowners in the Whiskey Creek watershed to determine willingness to complete the stream restoration project and install upland sediment BMPs. To date, 9 miles of channel restoration and installation of 54 sediment BMPs has been completed.	In 2024, a major grade stabilization project was completed in South Dobbins and a WASCOB completed in North Dobbins. In the winter of 2024, nearly ¾ mile of streambank on North Dobbins was restored through MN DNR CPL funds with in-kind services by CRWD.	The goal of this project is to reduce sediment, E. coli, and nutrient loading to the Fairmont Chain of Lakes. To achieve this goal, Martin SWCD funded agricultural BMP's. This project also helped inform the Blue Earth River WRAPS which was completed during the grant timeframe.	Wetland restorations have been the most cost-effective and rather popular BMP to address the impairment to date. Wetland restorations were identified in a multi-purpose drainage management plan completed in conjunction with County Ditch inspections done by the County Ditch Authority and are a consistent part of the conversation with landowners.	This project implemented 13 BMPs with 9 landowners, as well as several education and outreach activities to address lakeshore BMPs (lakeshore management) and urban BMPs (rain barrels) and resulted in an estimated annual reduction of 251.17 pounds of phosphorus and 179.02 tons of sediment.	BMPs implemented with phase I grant funds and matching funds included: Four SRAM agreements totaling 67.25 acres, one feedlot comprehensive nutrient management plan, three feedlot waste storage facilities, 9 soil health contracts totaling 1,240 acres.	Notable projects included a series of 11 grade stabilization and sediment control structures on property owned by two different landowners. The landowners worked together to address severe gully erosion on their adjacent properties.	There was a great turnout by landowners who voluntarily implemented BMPs. Staff and landowners worked to identify areas on their properties where conservation practices were needed. All the goals of the grant were exceeded, which is another highlight of the grant as well.	Project highlights included three conservation practices being successfully installed at County State Aid Highway 6 and Elim Creek, significantly reducing erosion and reducing habitat fragmentation in the watershed.
Partnerships	Pennington SWCD, Red Lake SWCD, West Polk SWCD, RLWD, Houston Engineering and HDR Engineering, Polk County Highway Department, Landowners	Wilkin SWCD, Wilkin County NRCS, Landowners	The Hormel Foundation, Mower County, Mower SWCD, MPCA	City of Fairmont, Martin County, Fairmont Lakes Foundation, Martin County Producers	Green Lake Improvement District, Rum River Watershed Partnership, Isanti County Sportsmen's Club, The Nature Conservancy, Isanti County Drainage Authority	Chippewa, Kandiyohi, and Renville Counties & SWCDs, Citizen Monitor Volunteers, City of Willmar, Discovery Farms, Eagle, Long, Foot, and Willmar Lakes Associations, HCWP Citizen Advisory Committee, Kandiyohi Co YMCA, Landowners	Rock SWCD, Southwest Prairie JPO, engineers and technicians, Lincoln Pipestone Rural -Water, Pipestone SWCD, Pipestone National Monument, NRCS, MDH, City of Pipestone	Redwood County SWCD partnered with Area II, Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area (RCRCA), Murray County SWCD, MNDNR, local contractors, and landowners.	Scott SWCD, EPA, MPCA, NRCS and Cedar Lake Improvement District	Carlton County Land Department, Elim Lutheran Church, Blackhoof, MN DNR, BWSR, landowners, MPCA, Carlton Transportation Department, LHB, Stantec, Northland Constructors of Duluth Inc.

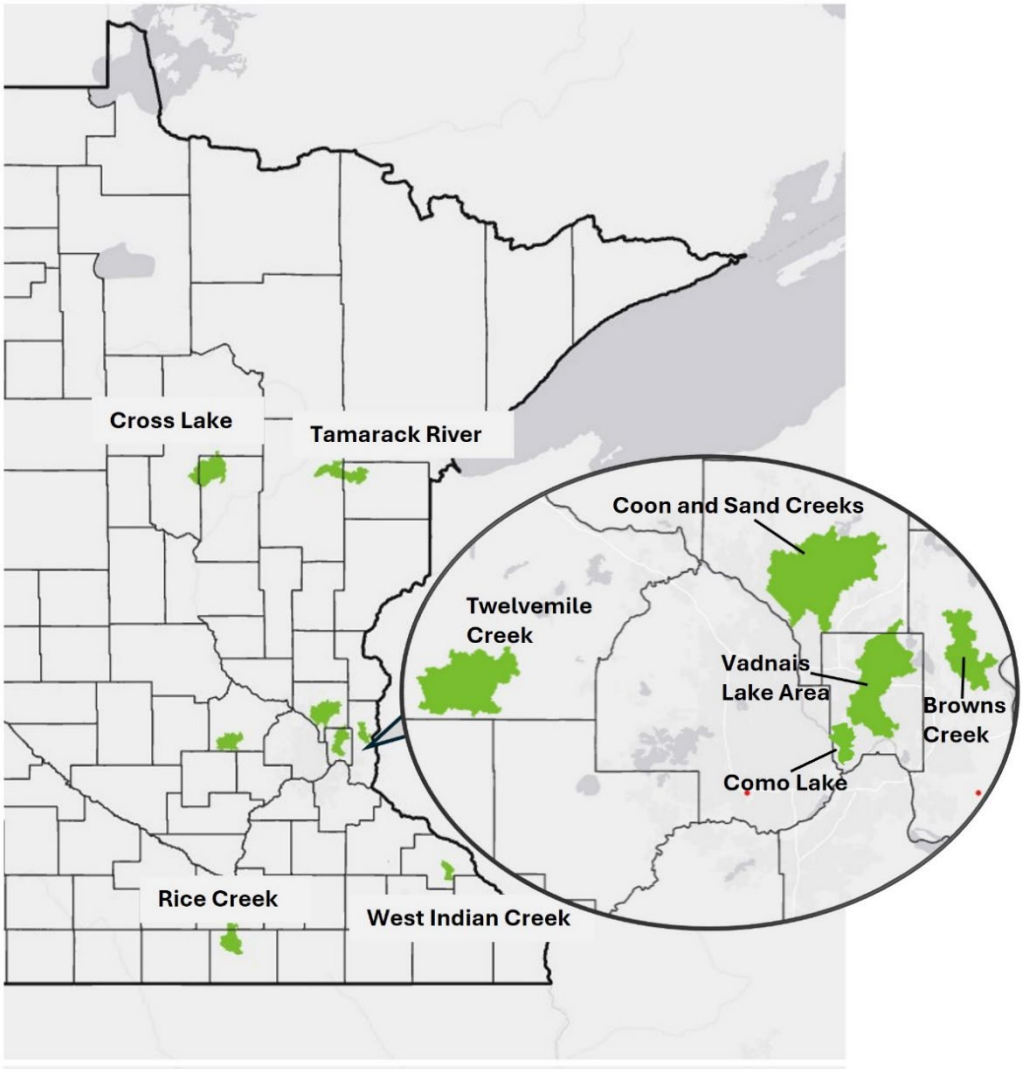
Table 4. Active projects in Group A Phase 2.

Project name	Red Lake River Targeted Watershed Grant – P2	Whiskey Creek Watershed Restoration P2	Dobbins Creek Watershed Project P2	Fairmont Lakes Plan Implementation P2	Green Lake NKE Implementation P2	Upper Hawk Creek Watershed Restoration P2	Pipestone, Split Rock, and Mound Creeks P2	Plum Creek Watershed P2	Sand Creek P2	Skunk Creek Watershed Restoration and Protection Project P2
Project sponsor	Red Lake WD	Buffalo-Red River WD	Cedar River WD	Martin SWCD	Isanti SWCD	Hawk Creek Watershed Project	Pipestone SWCD	Redwood SWCD	Scott WMO	Carlton SWCD
FFY awarded	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024
Project timeframe	March 2025 to August 2028	June 2025 to August 2028	July 2025 to August 2028	May 2025 to August 2028	February 2025 to August 2028	May 2025 to August 2028	April 2025 to August 2028	April 2025 to August 2028	July 2025 to August 2028	July 2025 to August 2028
Funding type	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319
Funding amount	$289,645	$289,645	$289,645	$289,645	$289,645	$289,645	$289,645	$289,645	$289,645	$289,645
Match amount	$193,097	$193,097	$200,000	$193,097	$193,097	$193,097	$193,097	$193,097	$193,097	$193,097
HUC12 Codes	90203030402, -502, -507, -303, -304, -401, -404, -301, -302	090201040201, -202, -203, -204	70802010205	070200090701, -702	070102070503	070200040701, -702, -705	101702031301, -302, -303, -304, -305, -601, -602, -603, -604, -605, -109	070200080301, -302, -303	0702000120801, -202, -207, -803, -804, -805, -806,	40103010203
Watershed	Red Lake	Buffalo-Red River	Cedar River	Blue Earth	Rum River	Minnesota River-Yellow Medicine	Lower Big Sioux River	Cottonwood River Watershed	Lower Minnesota River Major	Nemadji River
Project goal	The projects and activities will occur in priority management areas of County Ditch 96 (CD 96), Black River, and the middle reach of the Red Lake River between Thief River Falls and Crookston	The next phase of Section 319 funding will work towards completing sediment reduction goals in the upland areas of the watershed, as outlined in the Whiskey Creek Watershed Nine Key Element plan.	Phase II of the Dobbins Creek Watershed Project is a continuation of the implementation and effectiveness monitoring of Phase I. Dobbins Creek is one of the most heavily studied and focused watershed efforts to improve water quality within a predominant agricultural row crop sub watershed.	The Fairmont Chain of Lakes Nine Key Element Plan Implementation (NKE) project will install agricultural and stormwater runoff control best management practices (BMPs).	The actions of this project build on momentum and are a direct result of work accomplished during phase I of implementation. Phase I focused most closely on developing a sustainable outreach program, creating a financial assistance program, and developing a list of landowners willing to install projects.	The Phase II project is a continuation of the Phase 1 project of implementation of the Upper Hawk Creek and Willmar Chain of Lakes Section 319 Nine Key Element Plan (NKE Plan) to restore and protect the water quality of the lakes and streams in the watershed. Project activities will focus on the critical areas.	The Pipestone and Rock SWCD has been successfully working with landowners within the three watersheds in phase I to implement agricultural BMPs. These efforts will continue to be implemented in phase II.	This phase II 319 grant and project work plan is a continuation of the implementation of best management practices (BMP's) within the Plum Creek Watershed as part of a multiyear focused watershed effort to improve water quality of impairments from excess total suspended solids (TSS) and fecal coliform bacteria (E. coli) in the streams of Plum Creek.	This project work plan is a continuation of the implementation of a ravine stabilization best management practice (BMP) within the Management Area 1 (MA1) Focus Area 1 (FA1) Picha Creek identified in the Sand Creek Section 319 Small Watershed Focus Program Nine Element (NKE) Plan.	This project works towards improving these impairments by obtaining engineered designs to replace identified barriers for fish passage at Elim Creek and the Soo Line Trail with a bankfull-sized structure, reducing sedimentation (TSS) in Elim Creek caused by failing infrastructure.
BMPs installed to date	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress
Estimated reductions achieved to date (eLINK)	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD
	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD
	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD
	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD
	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD
	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD

Group B Small Watershed 319 Projects

The Group B 319 projects, shown in Figure 10, located in the following watersheds: Upper Mississippi River, Mississippi River - Grand Rapids , Mississippi River-Twin Cities Watershed, North Fork Crow River, Zumbro Watershed, Rice Creek Watershed and Lower St. Croix. Group B phase 1 invested $2,961,859, along with $3,252,590 in local match, summarized in Table 5. Group B phase 2, summarized in Table 6, will be investing $2,791,723, along with $2,032,570 in local match.

Figure 10. Group B 319 Projects Map



Group B, Small Watershed Focus with Metro-area inset

Table 5. Group B phase 1 projects.

Project name	Whitefish Lake HUC 10 NKE P1	Coon and Sand Creeks Watershed NKE P1	Twelve Mile Creek Watershed NKE P1	Wilkinson, Birch, and Tamarack Lakes NKE P1	Coon and Sand Creeks Special Project Pet Waste, NKE1-B	Brown's Creek & Long Lake NKE P1	Horseshoe, Island and Minnewawa Lakes and Tamarak River NKE P1	West Indian Creek Watershed Restoration and Protection Project Phase 1	Rice Creek Watershed NKE P1	Implementation of the Como Lake Management Plan and NKE Phase 1
Project sponsor	Crow Wing SWCD	Coon Creek WD	Wright SWCD	Vadnais Lakes Area WMO	Coon Creek WD	Brown's Creek WD	Aikin SWCD	Wabasha SWCD	Faribault County SWCD	Capitol Region WD
FFY awarded	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021
Project timeframe	August 2022 to August 2025	January 2022 to September 2025	December 2021 to August 2025	February 2022 to August 2025	January 2022 to September 2025	January 2023 to August 2025	October 2021 to December 2025	January 2022 to August 2026	March 2022 to August 2026	October 2021 to August 2026
Funding type	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319
Funding amount	$301,123	$320,706	$319,007	$282,837	$41,759	$309,742	$320,706	$320,706	$320,706	$354,456
Match amount	$318,695	$617,680	$282,078	$190,813	$43,621	$206,495	$220,247	$1,430,887	$213,804	$290,240
HUC12 Codes	070101050401, -402, -403, -404, -405	070102060201, -202, -203,	070102040605	070102060801	070102060201, -202, -203,	70300050907	0701010305, -306	070400040510	070200110401, -402, -403	70102060802
Watershed	Upper Mississippi River	Mississippi River-Twin Cities Watershed	North Fork Crow River	Mississippi River-Twin Cities Watershed	Mississippi River-Twin Cities Watershed	Lower St. Croix	Mississippi River - Grand Rapids	Zumbro	Rice Creek Watershed	Mississippi River-Twin Cities Watershed
Project goal	Protect and enhance forest cover, priority protection lakes, and surficial sand aquifers by promoting 75 percent land protection in the Whitefish Lake minor watershed, which has been determined to be a minor priority watershed in the 1W1P.	Address the primary stressors contributing to aquatic life impairments in Sand and Coon Creeks by improving stream habitat connectivity and reducing sediment and phosphorus loading attributable to streambank erosion.	The goal is to address existing watershed impairments and to decrease pollutant loading to waterbodies within the Twelve Mile Creek watershed.	Restore water quality as part of Phase I of the Wilkinson Lake Stormwater Spine, as identified in the Wilkinson, Birch, and Tamarack Lakes Nine Key Element document.	Reduce E. coli and TP loading to Sand and Coon Creeks attributable to improper disposal of pet waste	To address existing watershed impairments and stressors, and to decrease pollutant loading to waterbodies within the Browns Creek and Long Lake Watersheds (including an unnamed creek between Brown's Creek and Long Lake), as identified in the NKE plan.	Reduce E. coli and phosphorous in the watershed by implementing farm, lakeshore, stormwater and forestry BMPs.	The goal is to address existing watershed impairments and to decrease pollutant loading to West Indian Creek as described in the WIC 319 NKE Plan.	The primary goals of this plan are to restore and to protect the water quality of the impaired waterbodies in the watershed (Rice Creek and Lura Lake).	Implement the recommended actions in the CLMP and NKE plan to meet goals for phosphorus reduction, water quality improvement, ecosystem health, shoreline function, recreational opportunities, and community engagement.
BMPs installed to date	Four shoreline restorations, two bioretention rain garden projects, and one stormwater redirected	650 LF Streambank and Shoreline Protection	294 acres Cover Crop, 16 Water and Sediment Control Basins, 1 acre Grassed Waterway and Swales, 1 Grade Stabilization Structure	8 acres Wetland Creation	18 acres Nutrient Management Stations	2,500 LF Stream Channel Stabilization	2,640 sq ft Streambank and Shoreline Protection, 1 Bioretention Basin, 2 Critical Area Planting, 240 LF Vegetated Swales	651 acres Cover Crops, 1 - Critical Area Planting, 6 - Grade Stabilization Structures, 15,550 LF - Grassed Waterway, 2 – Terraces, 20 - WASCOBs	1,470 acres of Cover Crops, 881 acres Residue & Tillage Management	Stormwater BMPs
Estimated reductions achieved to date (eLINK)	Phosphorus: 14.85 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 34 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 1,186.56 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 32.5 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 454 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 15 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 6 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 1,286.30 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 743 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 7 lbs/yr
	Sediment: 9.1 t/yr	Sediment: 41 t/yr	Sediment: 1,321.07 t/yr	Sediment: 6.387 t/yr	Sediment: NA	Sediment:15 t/yr	Sediment: 4 t/yr	Sediment: 1,029.38 t/yr	Sediment: 310 t/yr	Sediment: TBD
	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: 1 t/yr	Soil Loss: 1,830.34 t/y	Soil Loss: 1,228 t/y	Soil Loss: TBD
	Nitrogen: NA	Nitrogen: NA	Nitrogen: 1,161.04 lbs/yr	Nitrogen: NA	Nitrogen: NA	Nitrogen: NA	Nitrogen: NA	Nitrogen: 4,654.63 lbs/y	Nitrogen: 8,428 lbs/y	Nitrogen: TBD
	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: NA	BOD5: TBD
	E. coli: NA	E. coli: NA	E. coli: NA	E. coli: NA	E. coli: 4.73E+14 CFU	E. coli: NA	E. coli: NA	E. coli: NA	E. coli: NA	E. coli: TBD
Project highlights	The Crow Wing SWCD complete the following items: shoreline restoration projects, stormwater projects, hosted smart salting and septic maintenance workshops, completed the chloride calculator for the subwatershed, completed lake profiling on five lakes and bottom phosphorus sampling on five lakes and worked with landowners to enroll in conservation easements and the Sustainable Forest Incentive Act (SFIA) and completed landowner outreach for forestry programs.	A major barrier to Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) was alleviated by replacement of undersized culverts with a span bridge, restoring connectivity to 0.84 miles of stream. A second AOP enhancement project design was developed to address the top-ranking barrier in Sand Creek. Active stream bank erosion and channel scour was stabilized.	We worked with a variety of partners throughout this grant cycle including farmers, NRCS, North Fork Crow River Planning Partnership, lake associations, and cities. Implementation projects occurred in the fall of 2023 and 2024. Monitoring efforts occurred during the summers of 2023, 2024 and 2025. Project development, education and administration occurred throughout the grant period.	An 8-acre deep-water wetland was constructed at a strategic regional location prior to water flowing into Wilkinson Lake.	This project focused on pollutant source reduction via the installation and operation of 18 dog waste disposal stations located along trails adjacent to an impaired receiving water	Brown's Creek WD worked closely with MNDNR (Waters, Fisheries, and Trails), the city of Stillwater, and two private landowners to improve 2,500 feet of Brown's Creek and reconnect several cutoff oxbow channels.	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Partnerships	Whitefish Area Property Owner Association, City of Crosslake, Bolton and Menk, Cass and SWCDs, landowners, and forest management plan writers	Anoka County Parks, Stantec, Anoka County Highway Department	Farmers, NRCS, North Fork Crow River Planning Partnership, lake associations, and cities	North Oaks Company/North Oaks Farms, Minnesota Land Trust, Ramsey SWCD, St. Paul Regional Water Services, Houston Eng, BARR Eng, & SEH Eng	Landowners, City of Blaine, City of Coon Rapids, and the Lakes of Radisson Master Homeowners Association	MNDNR (Waters, Fisheries, and Trails), the city of Stillwater, and two private landowners.	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

Table 6. New Group B phase 2 projects.

Project name	Whitefish Lake HUC 10 NKE P2	Horseshoe, Island and Minnewawa Lakes and Tamarak River NKE P2	Coon and Sand Creeks Watershed NKE P2	Twelve Mile Creek Watershed NKE P2	Wilkinson, Birch, and Tamarack Lakes NKE P2	West Indian Creek Watershed Restoration and Protection Project Phase 2	Rice Creek Watershed NKE P2	Implementation of the Como Lake Management Plan and Nine Key Elements Plan Phase 2	Brown's Creek & Long Lake NKE P2
Project sponsor	Crow Wing SWCD	Aikin SWCD	Coon Creek WD	Wright SWCD	Vadnais Lakes Area WMO	Wabasha SWCD	Faribault County SWCD	Capitol Region WD	Brown's Creek WD
FFY awarded	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025
Project timeframe	TBD 2025 to August 2029	TBD 2025 to August 2029	TBD 2025 to August 2029	TBD 2025 to August 2029	TBD 2025 to August 2029	TBD 2025 to August 2029	TBD 2025 to August 2029	TBD 2025 to August 2029	TBD 2025 to August 2029
Funding type	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319
Funding amount	$310,191	$310,191	$310,191	$310,191	$310,191	$310,191	$310,191	$310,191	$310,191
Match amount	$206,795	$206,795	$206,795	$210,000	$206,795	$375,000	$206,795	$206,800	$206,795
HUC12 Codes	070101050401, -402, -403, -404, -405	0701010305, -306	070102060201, -202, -203,	070102040605	070102060801	070400040510	070200110401, -402, -403	70102060802	70300050907
Watershed	Upper Mississippi River	Mississippi River - Grand Rapids	Mississippi River-Twin Cities Watershed	North Fork Crow River	Mississippi River-Twin Cities Watershed	Zumbro	Rice Creek Watershed	Mississippi River-Twin Cities Watershed	Lower St. Croix
Project goal	Protect and enhance forest cover, priority protection lakes, and surficial sand aquifers by promoting 75 percent land protection in the Whitefish Lake minor watershed, which has been determined to be a minor priority watershed in the 1W1P.	This project is the second implementation project from The Tamarack River, Horseshoe, Island, & Minnewawa Lakes Subwatershed Nine Element Plan and includes the Tamarack River, Horseshoe, Island, & Minnewawa Lakes subwatersheds and their 5 impaired lakes (nutrients) and 1 impaired stream (bacteria).	Implement Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) and streambank stabilization best management practices (BMPs)	The project is Phase 2 in the implementation of the Twelve Mile Creek Watershed NKE Plan (Plan) to restore and protect the water quality of the lakes and streams in the watershed. Project activities will focus on the critical areas.	The project that is the focus of this grant phase is a component in a connected network of BMPs that is adding onto the phase 1, completed project. The collection of projects is referred to as the Wilkinson Lake Stormwater Spine. Phase II of the spine includes ponding /treatment BMP(s) to treat regional drainage before discharge into Wilkinson Lake.	The project will be phase two implementation of goals and activities in the WIC Nine Key Element (NKE) Plan (the Plan) through social and technical activities. Project activities will focus on the critical areas described in the Plan.	This project utilizes information from previous and current work to identify sources and pollutant loads and develop management measures and implementation activities to achieve pollution reductions. Efforts will be focused on various levels throughout the watershed in critical areas.	Implement the recommended actions in the CLMP and NKE plan to meet goals for phosphorus reduction, water quality improvement, ecosystem health, shoreline function, recreational opportunities, and community engagement.	The projects to be completed under Phase II will improve Brown's Creek by restoring both riparian and streambank, reduce sedimentation and thermal loading, and improve trout stream habitat. All reductions in TSS and TP in Brown's Creek will also benefit the St. Croix River.
BMPs installed to date	In progress	In Progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress
Estimated reductions achieved to date (eLINK)	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD
	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD
	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD
	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD
	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD
	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD

Group C Small Watershed 319 Projects

The Group C 319 projects, shown in Figure 11, located in the following watersheds: Lower St. Croix, Red Eye River, Lake Superior, Rainy Lake, Lower Mississippi, Lake Superior North, North Fork Crow River, Otter Tail River, Lake Superior and Vermilion River. Group C phase 1 projects are summarized in Table 7, will be investing $2,919,650, along with $2,143,964 in local match.

Figure 11. Group C 319 Projects Map

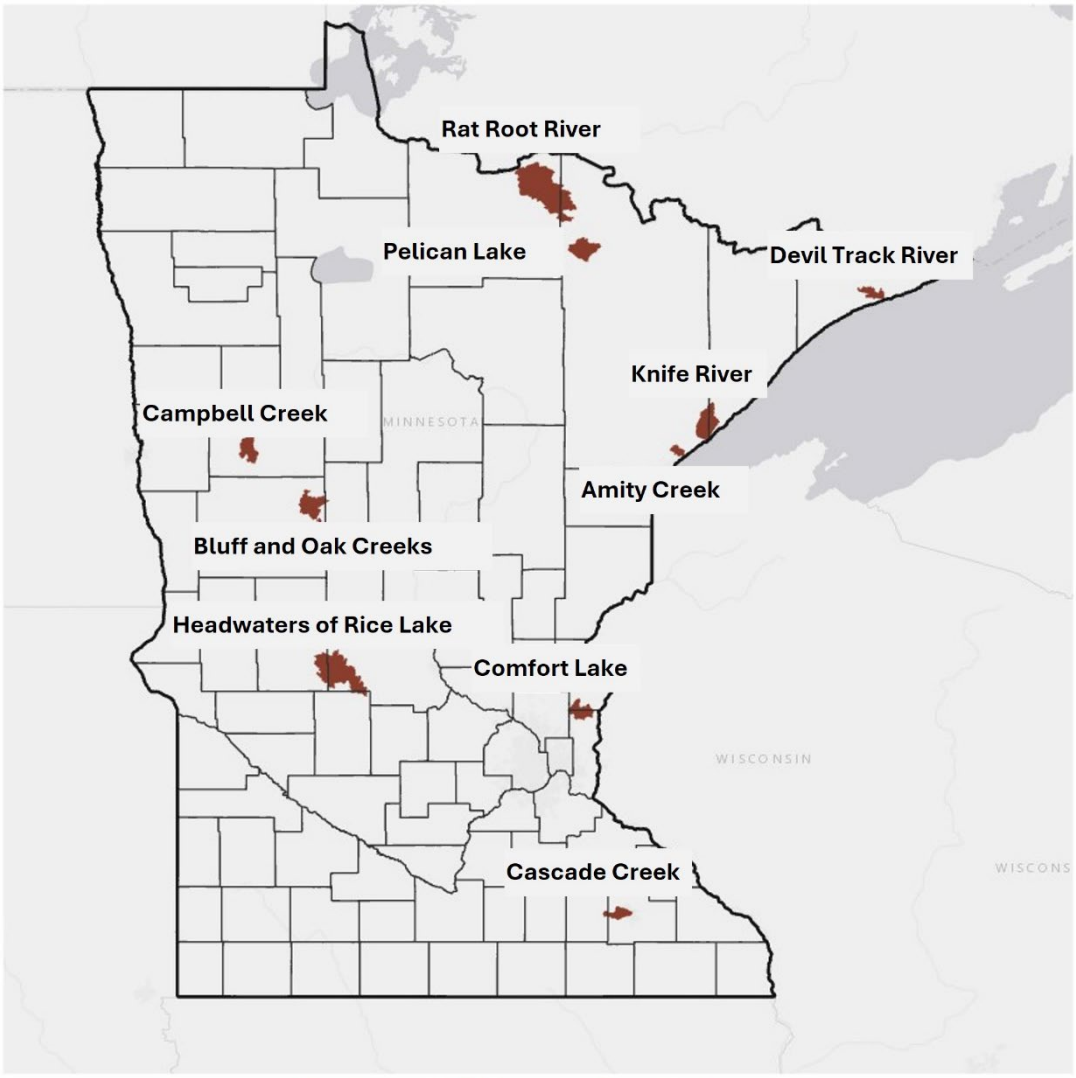


Table 7. Group C projects.

Project name	Comfort Lake and Forest Lakes NKE P1	Amity Creek Watershed NKE Plan Project, Phase 1	Rat Root River NKE 319 Project Phase 1	Cascade Creek NKE Plan Phase 1	Devil Track NKE Plan Phase 1	Headwaters of Rice Lake NKE Plan Phase 1	Headwaters Pelican River Watershed NKE Plan-Campbell Creek Phase 1	Knife River Watershed NKE Plan Project, Phase 1	Pelican Lake NKE 319 Project Phase 1	Bluff and Oak Creeks NKE P1
Project sponsor	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	East Otter Tail SWCD	St. Louis SWCD	Koochiching SWCD	Olmsted SWCD	Cook SWCD	North Fork Crow River WD	Pelican River WD	Lake County SWCD	North St. Louis SWCD
FFY awarded	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022
Project timeframe	October 2022 to September 2024	February 2023 to August 2026	February 2024 to December 2026	December 2024 to December 2026	February 2024 to December 2026	July 2023 to December 2026	July 2024 to December 2026	April 2024 to December 2026	April 2024 to December 2026	December 2024 to December 2026
Funding type	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319
Funding amount	$291,965	$291,965	$291,965	$291,965	$291,965	$291,965	$291,965	$291,965	$291,965	$291,965
Match amount	$195,000	$194,644	$194,644	$195,000	$387,600	$198,587	$194,644	$194,644	$194,644	$194,557
HUC12 Codes	070300050401, -402, -403,	0701010702, -703	040101020403	090300031101, -102, -103, -106	070400040109	040101010501, -502, -503,	070102040102, -104, -106, -107,	90201030701	040101020301, -302, -303	90300020303
Watershed	Lower St. Croix	Red Eye River	Lake Superior	Rainy Lake	Lower Mississippi	Lake Superior North	North Fork Crow River	Otter Tail River	Lake Superior	Vermilion River
Project goal	Reduce phosphorus loading to the following priority waterbodies: Forest Lake (97 lb./yr.), Sunrise River (84 lb./yr.), and Comfort Lake (61 lb./yr).	The Section 319 Small Watershed Program funds will implement best management practices (BMPs) to address the E. coli impairments identified in Bluff and Oak Creeks.	Improve water quality in Amity Creek by reducing sediment loading by 2,060 tons/year. Perform community outreach to garner support for future restoration and protection efforts within the watershed.	Overall goal is to implement projects and partnerships to reduce TSS and TP in the Rat Root River by 5% (225 t/yr TSS and 582 lbs/yr TP). The goal for this phase of the NKE plan is a 57 t/yr reduction in TSS, a 120 lbs/yr reduction in TP, and to build partnerships to support ongoing and future work within the NKE.	The goal is to address existing watershed impairments and to decrease pollutant loading to Cascade Creek as described in the NKE Plan.	Prevent an increase in nutrient and sediment loading into surface waters in watershed.	The goal of this plan is to address the water quality impairments in this area, as well as begin to address water quality issues downstream to Rice Lake. This plan will be developed to reach water quality standards for impaired waters within these HUC 12s and decrease the nutrient loading to Rice Lake.	Design, engineer, and implement a streambank stabilization plan for Campbell Creek to reduce TSS and Total Phosphorus (TP) loading from Campbell Creek to the Floyd Lakes.	Implement projects and partnerships to reduce sediment loading in the Knife River and its tributaries in order to comply with the Total Maximum Daily Load for total suspended solids.	Overall goal is to implement projects and partnerships to reduce phosphorus loading to Pelican Lake by 5% (168 lb./yr). The goal for this phase of the NKE plan is a 59.8 lb./yr. reduction in TP and to build partnerships to support ongoing and future work within the NKE.
BMPs installed to date	Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Wetland Enhancement	1 - Closure of Waste Impoundments, 53 Acres - Cover Crop, 66 - Prescribed Grazing	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress
Estimated reductions achieved to date (eLINK)	Phosphorus: 154 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 10 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD
	Sediment: 41 t/yr	Sediment: 4 t/yr	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD
	Soil Loss: t/y	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD
	Nitrogen: lbs/y	Nitrogen: 142 lbs/y	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD
	BOD5: lbs/yr	BOD5: NA	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD
	E. coli: NA	E. coli: NA	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD
Project highlights	The County Road 50 Iron Enhanced Sand Filter is constructed along the Washington Judicial Ditch 6, which, through diagnostic monitoring, the district identified as one of the highest sources of nutrient loading to Forest Lake. The CR50 IESF is particularly designed to treat dissolved phosphorus, which monitoring has shown to be a problem in this tributary. The Sunrise River/Highway 61 Wetland Enhancement is located directly adjacent to the Sunrise River and is situated on land entirely owned by the CLFLWD. This project reconnects ditched flow to its natural floodplain within this wetland.	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Partnerships	Landowners, City of Forest Lake, City of Wyoming, Forest Lake Association, Comfort Lakes Association, Forest Lake Times, Washington County, Chisago County, BWSR, and all other partners of the Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership.	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

Group D Small Watershed 319 Projects

The Group D 319 projects, shown in Figure 12, located in the following watersheds: Red Lake, St. Croix River, North Fork Crow River, Roseau River, Leech Lake River and Lower Mississippi River - Lake Pepin. The Group D phase 1 are summarized in Table 8, effectiveness monitoring projects summarized in Table 9, these projects will be investing $2,919,650, along with a minimum $1,945,567 in local match.

Figure 12. Group D 319 Projects Map

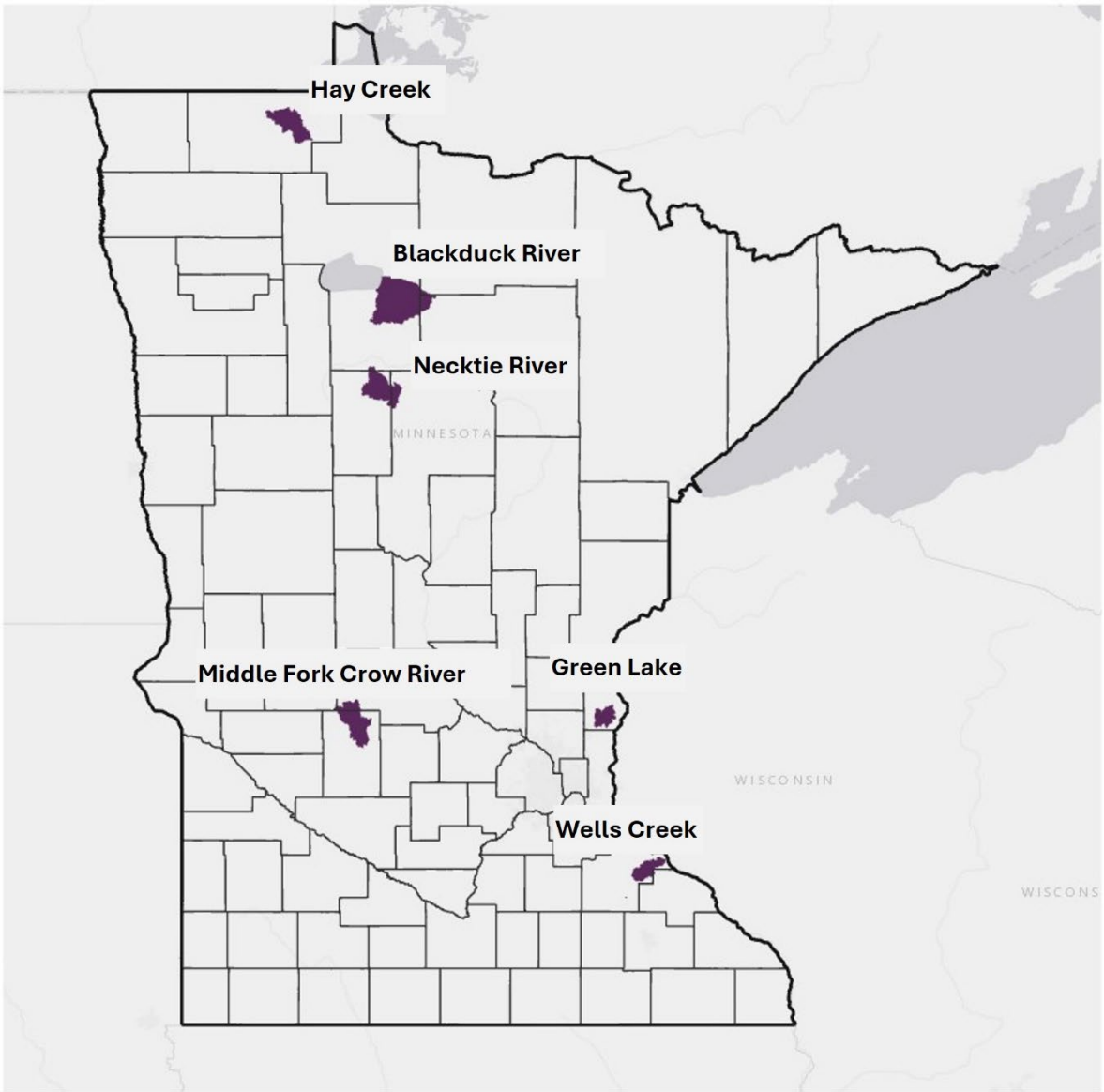


Table 8. Group D projects.

Project name	Blackduck River NKE	Chisago Chain of Lakes NKE	Green Lake (MFRC) NKE	Hay Creek NKE P1	Steamboat River NKE	Wells Creek NKE
Project sponsor	Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians	Chisago SWCD	Middle Fork Crow River WD	Roseau River WD	Hubbard SWCD	Goodhue SWCD
FFY awarded	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023
Project timeframe	June 2025 to August 2028	August 2025 to August 2028	September 2025 to August 2028	December 2024 to December 2027	May 2025 to December 2027	June 2025 to December 2027
Funding type	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319
Funding amount	$289,645	$291,835	$291,835	$291,835	$291,835	$291,835
Match amount	$192,097	$240,000	$193,097	$206,697	$195,000	$534,000
HUC12 Codes	090203020601, -602, -603, -604, -605, -606, -607, -608, -609, -610	70300050406	070102040201, -202, -203, -204, -205, -206	90203140301	070101020101, -102, -103, -104, -105	070400010601, -602
Watershed	Red Lake	St. Croix River	North Fork Crow River	Roseau River	Leech Lake River	Lower Mississippi River - Lake Pepin
Project goal	The Blackduck River Watershed Nine Key Element (NKE) Plan describes both water quality issues and actions to restore impaired waters in the Blackduck River Watershed. The projects and activities will occur in priority management areas of the Blackduck River Watershed.	Integrate the TMDLs, implementation plan, and subwatershed assessments in addressing pollutants, sources and solutions in the watershed.	Primary goals for this workplan consist of Best Management Practices (BMPs) and water quality restoration and improvement projects that will help to meet the goals of the NKE plan by reducing Phosphorus and total suspended solids through structural projects and education and outreach measures.	Design, permit, and implement restoration practices and conduct education and outreach activities in the Hay Creek Subwatershed.	The Section 319 Small Watershed Program funding will be used to facilitate implementation of best management practices (BMPs) to address ailments and impairments along the Necktie River, Bungoshine Creek, Pokety Creek, Hart Lake and Steamboat Lake.	Reducing nitrogen and phosphorus consistent with Minnesota's Nutrient Reduction Strategy by 18,868 pounds N and more than 5,100 pounds P), and reducing sediment loads by over 3,000 tons per year with an ultimate goal of de-listing Wells Creek for total suspended solids
BMPs installed to date	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress
Estimated reductions achieved to date (eLINK)	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD
	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD
	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD
	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD
	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD
	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD

Table 9. Effectiveness Monitoring Projects

Project name	Skunk Creek Effectiveness Monitoring	Dobbins Creek Effectiveness Monitoring	Dutch Creek Effectiveness Monitoring
Project sponsor	Carlton SWCD	Cedar River WD	Martin SWCD
FFY awarded	2023	2023	2023
Project timeframe	June 2024 to April 2028	August 2025 to August 2028	July 2025 to August 2028
Funding type	Section 319	Section 319	Section 319
Funding amount	$134,300	$205,355	$183,294
Match amount	$88,847	$161,203	$138,127
HUC12 Codes	40103010203	70802010205	070200090701, -702
Watershed	Nemadji River	Cedar River	Blue Earth
Project goal	Monitor and measure progress on several stream restoration projects that have been completed in the Skunk Creek watershed over the past decade and future projects that will be completed to address water quality, stream stability, erosion, and fish habitat issues.	A monitoring component is foundational to understanding the effectiveness of the implementation efforts over time. It is important to understand whether implementation efforts are achieving project goals.	The overall goals of this monitoring effort fall into two categories: 1) evaluating the success of BMP implementation and 2) learning from each project to improve future efforts.

Clean Water Partnership loans

The CWP program offers 1.5%-interest loans to local units of government for implementing nonpoint source BMPs and other activities that target the restoration and protection of a water resource such as a lake, stream, or groundwater aquifer.

Newly awarded CWP loan projects.

There were nine new CWP Loan projects in 2025, summarized in Table 10.

Table 10. New CWP Loan Projects

Project name	Wright County Low Interest Septic Loan	Edgerton Phase 1: Sewer Service Line Replacement	Replacement of Non-Compliant Septic Systems	Heron Lake Phosphorus Reduction Project	Chippewa County Septic System Upgrades III Project	Yellow Medicine County Non-Conforming SSTS Abatement Project Phase 2	Washington County SSTS Loans	Kandiyohi County SSTS Upgrades	Pipestone Sanitary Service Improvement Project – Part 2
Project sponsor	Wright County	City of Edgerton	Pine County	Heron Lake Watershed District	Chippewa County	Yellow Medicine County	Washington County	Kandiyohi County	City of Pipestone
Fiscal year awarded	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2026
Project timeframe	August 2024 to August 2027	July 2024 to July 2027	August 2024 to August 2027	December 2024 to December 2027	May 2025 to May 2028	April 2025 to April 2028	May 2025 to May 2028	July 2025 to July 2028	TBD
Funding type	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan
Funding amount	$500,000	$300,000	$750,000	$375,000	$700,000	$750,000	$750,000	$750,000	$747,500
Match amount	$0	$0	$7,500	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
HUC8 Codes	07010204, 07010203, 07010205	101702040105, 101702040106	07030005, 07030001, 07030003,07030004, 04010301	07100001, 0710002	07020005, 07020004, 07020002	07020004, 07020003, 07020006	07030005, 07010206	07010204, 07010205, 07020005, 07020004	101702031305, **304, **602
Watershed	North Fork Crow River and Mississippi River-St. Cloud	Chamarambie Creek, City of Edgerton – Rock River	Lower St. Croix, Upper St. Croix, Kettle River, Snake River, Nemadji	Heron Lake Watershed	Chippewa River, Hawk Creek & Upper MN River Watersheds	Yellow Medicine River, Lac qui Parle River, Redwood River	Lower St Croix, East Mississippi	North Fork Crow River, South Fork Crow River, Chippewa River, Minnesota River (Yellow Medicine River	Big Sioux – Pipestone
Project goal	Replace/upgrade failing or noncompliant SSTS in Wright County	Replace or Rehabilitate 70 sanitary sewer service lines.	Replace 35 non-compliant septic systems through the loan program.	SSTS Installation – Septic system replacement 25 systems	Upgrade 40 failing SSTS throughout Chippewa County.	Our goal is to offer loans to approximately 15 landowners annually to replace their non-conforming septic systems.	Support SSTS loans replacement.	SSTS systems to be upgraded/replaced to reduce nutrient and bacteria loading and to protect human health.	Replace or Rehabilitate 130 sanitary sewer service lines.
BMPs installed to date	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress
Estimated reductions achieved to date (eLINK)	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: TBD
	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: TBD
	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: TBD
	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: TBD
	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: TBD
	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: TBD

Completed CWP Loan projects

There were 4 CWP loan projects completed shown in Table 11. The final amount of CWP Loan funds invested was $3,413,173 with local match of $286,062.

Table 11. Completed CWP Loan projects

Project name	Yellow Medicine County Non-Conforming SSTS Abatement Project	Lake Allie ESSD Wastewater Collection System Project	CLFLWD Adaptive Management Projects, Phase C1	CLFLWD Adaptive Management Projects, Phase D
Project sponsor	Yellow Medicine County	Renville County	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD	Comfort Lake-Forest Lake WD
Fiscal year awarded	2021	2021	2024	2025
Project timeframe	March 2021 to March 2025	November 2020 to November 2024	Sept 2023 to Sept 2026	Nov 2024 to July 2025
Funding type	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan
Funding amount	$514,355	$1,648,818	$750,000	$500,000
Match amount	$0	$0	$236,062	$50,000
HUC8 Codes	07020004, 07020003, 07020006	7010205	070300050402, 070300050401, 070300050403	070300050402, 070300050401, 070300050403
Watershed	Yellow Medicine River, Lac qui Parle River, Redwood River	South Fork Crow River	Bone Lake, Forest Lake-Sunrise River, Comfort Lake-Sunrise River	Bone Lake, Forest Lake-Sunrise River, Comfort Lake-Sunrise River
Project goal	Offer loans to approximately 45 landowners to replace non-conforming septic systems.	The goal of the Lake Allie ESSD Wastewater Collection System Loan Project is to ensure continued surface and ground water quality protection by replacing an aging centralized sewage treatment system.	CLFLWD proposes to make progress toward several resource-specific measurable goals in its 2022-2031 Watershed Management Plan (lakes, streams).	CLFLWD proposes to make progress toward each of its resource-specific measurable goals in its 2022-2031 Watershed Management Plan (floodplain, lakes, streams, wetlands, upland habitat, groundwater).
BMPs installed to date	31 Septic upgrades	Treatment system upgrade	Iron enhanced sand filter, wetland enhancement	Wetland Enhancement and Moody Capstone Projects
Estimated reductions achieved to date (eLINK)	Phosphorus: 171 lbs/yr Sediment: 1,938 t/yr Soil Loss: NA Nitrogen: 528 lbs/y BOD5: 3,396 lbs/yr E. coli: 4.42E+14 CFU	Phosphorus: NA Sediment: 4,139.1 lbs/yr Soil Loss: NA Nitrogen: 120 lbs/yr BOD5: 4,792.45 lbs/yr E. coli: 1.8 MPN/100 mg/L	Phosphorus: 186 lbs/yr Sediment: 28 t/yr Soil Loss: NA Nitrogen: NA BOD5: NA E. coli: NA	Phosphorus: 78 lbs/yr Sediment: NA Soil Loss: 27 t/yr Nitrogen: NA BOD5: NA E. coli: NA
Project highlights	In total, Yellow Medicine County issued thirty-one loans totaling $514,355.28.	The implementation of this upgraded system resulted in an estimated reduction of 4,792.45 lbs/yr of BOD; 4,139.1 lbs/yr of TSS; and 13,140 mg/L/yr of Chloride; 120.45 mg/L/yr of Nitrate Nitrogen; 1,204.5 lbs/yr of Kjeldahl Nitrogen; 755.55 lbs/yr of Ammonia Nitrogen; and the Fecal Coliform went from being over 1.8 MPN/100 mg/L to now being below 1.8 MPN/100 mg/L.	Lakes: Completed construction and began vegetation restoration for the County Road 50 Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Project and Sunrise River/Highway 61 Wetland Enhancement Project. Completed phase 1 of the Forest Lake Alum Treatment project. Completed common carp assessment on Forest Lake. Performed site visits to develop residential shoreline restoration projects. Continued project design and project development for Moody Lake Capstone Project and Washington Judicial Ditch 6 Wetland Enhancement projects, which were ultimately completed in 2024.	Lakes: Worked with landowner north of Moody Lake to design and begin contracting for agricultural best management practices. Evaluated effectiveness data for Forest Lake Alum Treatment Project, phase 1, and designed dosing for phase 2 of the alum treatment to be completed in fall 2025. Worked on project development, landowner engagement, and began project design for Heath Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Project. Coordinated with landowner and designed feedlot BMPs and conservation cover on a farm north of School Lake. Completed 2024 water monitoring report and data analysis to guide decision making and water quality implementation in 2025. Worked with local SWCDs and local landowners to perform cost-share program site inspections and implement shoreline buffers and native plantings
Partnerships	Landowners and County Staff	Renville County, Lake Allie ESSD Advisory Council, County Offices and Septic Contractors.	CLFLWD, MPCA	Landowners, local library

Active CWP Loan projects

There are 12 active CWP loan projects shown in Table 12, investing $8,003,592 of CWP Loan funds with a local match of $35,200.

Table 12. Active CWP Loan projects

Project name	Wright County Septic System Low Interest Loan Project	Kandiyohi County SSTS Upgrades	Chippewa County Septic System Upgrades II Project	Swift County SSTS Upgrades II	Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank SSTS Loans Phase III	Lowry Private Sanitary Sewer Service Replacement	Stearns County SSTS Upgrade Loan Fund	City of Walfdorf Inflow and Infiltration Project	Otter Tail County SSTS Loan Program Phase 2	Todd County Septic System Replacement Initiative Part 2	Renville County SSTS Loan Program 2024	Cottonwood County SSTS Loan Project 2.0
Project sponsor	Wright County	Kandiyohi County	Chippewa County	Swift County	Lac qui Parle - Yellow Bank Watershed District	City of Lowry	Stearns County	City of Waldorf	Otter Tail County	Todd County	Renville County	Cottonwood County
Fiscal year awarded	2021	2022	2022	2022	2023	2023	2023	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024
Project timeframe	August 2020 to August 2024	June 2022 to June 2025	June 2021 to July 2025	June 2022 to June 2025	September 2022 to September 2025	October 2022 to October 2025	March 2023 to March 2026	August 2023 to August 2026	April 2024 to April 2027	March 2024 to March 2027	May 2024 to May 2027	April 2024 to April 2027
Funding type	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan	CWP Loan
Funding amount	$500,000	$1,000,000	$250,000	$350,000	$750,000	$750,000	$750,000	$123,592	$750,000	$450,000	$750,000	$750,000
Match amount	$0	$0	$0	$0	$5,000	$0	$0	$0	$0	$3,000	$0	$0
HUC8 Codes	07010204, 07010203	07010204, 07010205, 07020005, 07020004	07020005, 07020004, 07020002	07020005, 07020002	07020003, 07020001, 07020004	70200050301	7010204, 7010202, 7010201, 7010203	7020011	09020103, 07010107	07010107, 07010106, 07010108, 07010202, 07010104, 07010201	07020012, 07020007, 07020004, 07010205	07100001, 07020010, 07020008, 07020007, 07020009
Watershed	North Fork Crow River and Mississippi River-St. Cloud	North Fork Crow River, South Fork Crow River, Chippewa River, Minnesota River (Yellow Medicine River)	Chippewa River, Hawk Creek & Upper MN River Watersheds	Chippewa River & PdT Watersheds	Lac qui Parle, MN River Headwaters, Yellow Medicine	Chippewa River	North Fork Crow River, Sauk River, Mississippi River – Sartell & St. Cloud	Le Sueur River Watershed	Otter Tail, Redeye	Red Eye, Long Prairie, Crow Wing, Mississippi Brainerd, Mississippi Sartell, Sauk River	Lower Minnesota, Minnesota-Mankato, Minnesota - Yellow Medicine, South Fork Crow	W. Fork Des Moines, Watonwan, Cottonwood, & Little Cottonwood (Middle Minnesota), and Blue Earth
Project goal	Replace/upgrade failing or noncompliant SSTS in Wright County	Upgrading substandard sewage treatment systems with loan dollars enables citizens within the community to have an active role in water quality improvement in their neighborhood. Every major watershed in Kandiyohi County has lakes and stretches of river that are impaired for fecal coliform bacteria or nutrients.	SSTS systems to be upgraded/replaced to reduce nutrient and bacteria loading and to protect human health.	This project will allow Swift County to offer Clean Water Partnership low interest loan funds for Sub-surface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) upgrades where systems are currently failing or are an imminent threat to public health & safety (ITPHS).	Replace and promote SSTS. Within Lac qui Parle County, where loan dollars are to be used, 11 current impairments for fecal coliform exist and have a multi-parameter TMDL completed in 2013.	Reduce excessive wastewater flows from clean water I/I of the private sanitary sewer lines in the City of Lowry to prevent future collection system bypasses and wastewater treatment facility permit violations.	Stearns County is engaged in a systematic effort to improve water quality by achieving the upgrade of outdated, failing, and noncompliant individual sewage treatment systems.	To create a loan program for the residents to address I&I for the city and reduce the chances of unintended wastewater discharge.	Money will be used for loans for property owners to replace non-compliant SSTS in all of Otter Tail County, except for the Otter Tail Water Management District.	We intend to replace a minimum of 30 systems with the use of CWP Loan funding.	To achieve water quality protection and restoration by providing financial assistance for property owners to upgrade noncompliant sewage treatment systems.	Utilize CWP loan funds as second-tier loans for Cottonwood County homeowners to replace approximately 42 non-complying septic systems throughout Cottonwood County.
BMPs installed to date	In progress	55 SSTS upgrades	36 SSTS upgrades	34 SSTS upgrades	11 SSTS upgrades	In Progress	24 SSTS upgrades	9 I&I project completed	32 SSTS upgrades	13 SSTS upgrades	18 SSTS upgrades	14 SSTS upgrades
Estimated reductions achieved to date (eLINK)	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: 77 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 285 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 10 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 91 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: TBD	Phosphorus: 11 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: NA	Phosphorus: 418 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 76 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 96 lbs/yr	Phosphorus: 110 lbs/yr
	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: 1,436 t/yr	Sediment: 1.45 t/yr	Sediment: 110 t/yr	Sediment: 60 t/yr	Sediment: TBD	Sediment: 123 t/yr	Sediment: NA	Sediment: 4 t/yr	Sediment: 785 lbs/yr	Sediment: NA	Sediment: 1 t/yr
	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: TBD	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA	Soil Loss: NA
	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: 183 lbs/yr	Nitrogen: 696 lbs/y	Nitrogen: 45 lbs/yr	Nitrogen: 623 lbs/y	Nitrogen: TBD	Nitrogen: 19 lbs/y	Nitrogen: NA	Nitrogen: 1,161 lbs/yr	Nitrogen: 278 lbs/yr	Nitrogen: 394 lbs/yr	Nitrogen: 389 lbs/yr
	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: 2,599 lbs/yr	BOD5: 6,794 lbs/yr	BOD5: 199 lbs/yr	BOD5: 1,984 lbs/yr	BOD5: TBD	BOD5: 223 lbs/yr	BOD5: NA	BOD5: 13,819 lbs/yr	BOD5: 1,803 lbs/yr	BOD5: 1,938 lbs/yr	BOD5: 3,986 lbs/yr
	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: 5.29E+14 CFU	E. coli: 1.88E+15 CFU	E. coli: 6.78 CFU	E. coli: 6.78E+14 CFU	E. coli: TBD	E. coli: 7.61E+13 CFU	E. coli: NA	E. coli: 2.72E+15 CFU	E. coli: 55 CFU	E. coli: 6.61E+14 CFU	E. coli: 7.37E+14 CFU

Appendix A. Goals, milestones and strategies

Minnesota has long tradition of addressing water quality issues within the state. Throughout this time many plans, initiatives and strategies were developed to address concerns throughout the state. In 2006 the Minnesota Legislature determined that: “there is a close link between protecting, enhancing, and restoring the quality of Minnesota's groundwater and surface waters and the ability to develop the state's economy, enhance its quality of life, and protect its human and natural resources; and achieving the state's water quality goals will require long-term commitment and cooperation by all state and local agencies, and other public and private organizations and individuals, with responsibility and authority for water management, planning, and protection.”

Based on this information the Minnesota Legislature passed the Clean Water Legacy Act (Minn. Stat. 114D) legislatively mandating a common effort to address water quality concerns in Minnesota. From this directive several high level efforts, such as the Minnesota Water Quality Framework and the Clean Water Roadmap were completed to guide water quality improvement efforts in Minnesota. These documents along with other statewide planning and strategy documents (such as the state Nutrient Reduction Strategy and the state water plan led by the Environmental Quality Board) provide the overall goals, strategies and milestones for this plan and are outlined below.

Guiding principle

The guiding principles of this plan follow the Minnesota Water Quality Framework principles (found at https://bwsr.state.mn.us/one-watershed-one-plan-resources):

- Protect, maintain, and restore the biological, chemical, and physical health of the state’s water resources.
- Provide resiliency to our ecosystems, our communities, and our economies.
- Increase our understanding of our state water balance and the processes and stressors affecting it to provide for improved decision making.
- Improve our capacity for water management that can adapt to new knowledge, changing biogeochemical systems, and long-term challenges.
- Encourage sustainable, conservation-minded land use practices.
- Recognize and honor our many uses of water, including recreational, cultural, and spiritual values.
- Preserve our water-rich heritage and ensure our future legacy as national and international water stewards.
- Provide for a lasting foundation to achieve and maintain sustainable water management.

Short term, long term, and overall goals

The Minnesota Clean Water Council has worked with stakeholders to develop overall goals for water quality in Minnesota. The overall goals listed below are applicable to this plan:

Drinking water is safe for everyone, everywhere in Minnesota.

- Protect public water supplies.
- Ensure private well users have safe water.

Groundwater is clean and available.

- Improve and protect groundwater quality.
- Ensure sustainable long-term trends in aquifer levels.
- Avoid adverse impacts to surface water features due to groundwater use.

Surface waters are swimmable and fishable.

- Prevent and reduce pollution of surface waters.
- Maintain and improve the health of aquatic ecosystems.
- Protect and restore hydrologic systems.

Minnesotans value water and take actions to sustain and protect it.

- Build capacity of local communities to protect and sustain water resources.
- Encourage systems and approaches that support, protect, and improve water.
- Provide education and outreach to inform Minnesotans' water choices.
- Encourage citizen and community engagement on water issues.

Minnesota's Clean Water Roadmap (2014) establishes several long-term goals that are applicable for this plan:

Increase the percentage of Minnesota lakes with good water quality, as measured by acceptable Trophic State Index, from 62% to 70%.

Increase the percentage of Minnesota's rivers and streams with healthy fish communities, as measured by the Index of Biotic Integrity, from 60% to 67%.

Reduce nitrate levels in groundwater by 20%, which will decrease the percentage of wells exceeding the drinking water standard by 50% (in two vulnerable areas of the state).

The 2014 Minnesota Nutrient Reduction Strategy set short and long-term goals to assist in tracking Minnesota's statewide nutrient reduction progress and are applicable to this plan. Each major basin has numeric reduction goal for phosphorus and nitrogen.

Five-year progress report | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (state.mn.us)

The 2025 Minnesota Nutrient Reduction Strategy is expected to be published as a final strategy in early 2026. The updated strategy presents many decades of progress that has helped reduce phosphorus in our water, shows mixed results on nitrogen, and identifies where work should be intensified.

Major basin	Short term goal 2014 to 2025	Long term goal 2025 to 2040
1. **Mississippi River** (Also includes Cedar, Des Moines, and Missouri Rivers)	**12%** reduction in phosphorus (33% reduced prior to 2014) **20%** reduction in nitrogen	Achieve **45%** total reduction from 1980-96 baseline and meet in-state lake and river water quality standards Achieve **45%** total reduction from 1980-96 baseline
2. **Red River** (Lake Winnipeg Basin)	**10%** reduction in phosphorus **13%** reduction in nitrogen	Achieve final reductions identified through joint efforts with Manitoba (about 50% from 1998 to 2001) [a]
3. Lake Superior	Maintain protection goals, no net increase from 1970s	
Groundwater/Source Water	Meet the goals of the 1989 Groundwater Protection Act	

Overall priorities

Three high-level state priorities that are identified for the use of nonpoint implementation money include:

Restore those impaired waters that are closest to meeting state water quality standards.

- Impaired waters that are within 10% of meeting water quality standards should be considered a priority for implementation.

Protect those high-quality unimpaired waters at greatest risk of becoming impaired.

- High-quality unimpaired waters that are within 10% of becoming impaired and have a declining water quality trend should be considered a priority for implementation.

Restore and protect water resources for public use and public health, including drinking water.

These priorities of barely impaired, nearly impaired, and those that are a significant public use and public health, especially drinking water sources, are prioritized for funding, as described in the Section 319 Small Watersheds Focus Programs Funding Priorities and Selection Criteria.

Strategies

High-level strategies are identified in the Minnesota Non-Point Funding Plan (NPFP, found at https://bwsr.state.mn.us/reports) for the successful use of available funds in achieving the state's clean water goals. These same strategies are adopted in this plan, as the Minnesota NPFP was developed to provide state agencies with a coordinated, transparent and adaptive method to ensure that Clean Water Funds and other implementation funds are targeted to cost-effective actions with measurable results. The Minnesota NPFP does not include a single scoring system with weighted criteria. Instead, it allows state agencies the flexibility to apply the NPFP priorities and criteria in ways that meet their strategic, legislative and funding source goals. Included with these strategies are this plan's milestone activities on how these strategies will be implemented for this plan.

Accelerate Watershed-scale Implementation

Watershed Scale Implementation will be most effective when allocation of monies for the highest-priority actions follows local government adoption of watershed-based local water plans.

- Milestone 1a – each year, up to ten small watersheds will be selected to participate in the Section 319 Small Watershed Focus Program. Up to 40 watersheds will be selected to participate in the program.
- Measure – # of watersheds selected to participate in the Small Watershed Focus Program.

  Group A: 10

  Group B: 9

  Group C: 10

  Group D: 6
- Milestone 1b – provide assistance to each of the selected Small Watershed Focus Program recipients in the development of an EPA NKE watershed-based plan.
- Measure – all selected watersheds have an EPA approved NKE watershed-based plan.

  Group A: 10

  Group B: 9

  Group C: 10

  Group D: 6
- Milestone 1c – provide administrative oversight of the Minnesota Section 319 Small Watershed Focus Program.
- Measure – satisfactory review of administrative oversight.

  Yes
- Milestone 1d – develop or update a Watershed Management Plan (in the seven county metro area) or a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans also known as One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P).
- Measure – # of completed and approved plans, or subsequently developed updated plans.

  Metro:

  Approved Plans: 33 out of 33

  https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/twin-cities-metropolitan-area-tcma-watersheds

  Metro Watershed Management Plan | MN Board of Water, Soil Resources (state.mn.us)

  Greater MN

  Approved Plans: 54 out of 80

  One Watershed, One Plan Participating Watersheds | MN Board of Water, Soil Resources (state.mn.us)

Prioritize and target at the Watershed scale

Models and tools are useful for watershed prioritization and for identifying potential impacts to surface and groundwater. They are often capable of targeting which actions, locations, and management practices are most effective at addressing water quality goals and project objectives. Models and tools are used to project outcomes of specific actions, locations, and management practices to forecast measurable results. Using these models and tools together with the best available science can efficiently inform Minnesota's Water Quality Framework.

- Milestone 2a – Develop and maintain Hydrological Simulation Program – Fortran (HSPF) models or other more appropriate water quality simulation models for each of the 80 watersheds in Minnesota.
- Measure – # of HUC-8 watersheds that have a completed and QA/QCed water quality simulation model.

  Watersheds completed: 0 new models, 11 models were refined.
- Milestone 2b – extend time series and data of each watershed model once every five years ensuring latest water quality data is available.
- Measure – # of completed water quality simulation model updated once every five years.

  Watersheds completed: 7

Measure results at the Watershed scale

Similar to prioritizing and targeting, measuring results is best achieved at the watershed scale. Watershed-based local water plans capable of producing measurable results are essential to adaptive management and accountability to the public.

- Milestone 3a – support ongoing nutrient load monitoring through the Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network (WPLMN) which occurs on every major river throughout the state.
- Measure – # of WPLMN sites maintained.

  Basin Sites: 23

  Major Watershed Sites: 52

  Subwatershed Sites: 125

  Total: 200

Watershed pollutant load monitoring | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (state.mn.us)

- Milestone 3b – support Minnesota's Watershed Approach Intensive Watershed Monitoring (IWM) program which evaluates streams and lake water quality on a 10 year cycle of biological and chemical monitoring conducted in each of the 80 HUC-8 watersheds in Minnesota.
- Measure - # of HUC-8 watersheds completing IWM each year.

  Cycle 1: 80 out of 80 watersheds completed.

Watershed approach to water quality | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

- Milestone 3c – support the Minnesota Citizen Monitoring Program (CMP) to allow dedicated citizen scientist and the MPCA to track the long-term health of Minnesota lakes and streams, in a collaborative approach, via regular summer water clarity monitoring.
- Measure - # of volunteers participating in the CMP.

  A total of 1,067 CMP volunteers collected data during the most recent monitoring season.

  Citizen water monitoring | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (state.mn.us)

- Milestone 3d – provide input and assist in the development of the biennial Clean Water Fund Performance Report. This report provide a snapshot of how Clean Water Fund and other leveraged dollars are being spend and what progress has been made in achieving water quality goals.
- Measure – Clean Water Fund Performance Report published in even numbered years.

  2024 Clean Water Fund Performance Report

  Clean Water Fund Performance Reports | Minnesota's Legacy (mn.gov)
- Milestone 3e – maintain and update the Healthier Watershed webpage which provides interactive and updated information on WRAPS and TMDL status, wastewater treatment plant progress, BMP implementation by watershed, and information on state, local and federal spending for clean water projects.
- Measure – webpage Healthier watersheds: Tracking the actions taken | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (state.mn.us) updated annually by July 1st.

Utilize science-based information

A key to developing prioritized implementation schedules for projects with targeted actions, and measuring results of these actions, is to incorporate the wealth of science-based information, summarized in WRAPS, TMDLs and other technical reports, and practice effectiveness research into local water planning and project development processes.

- Milestone 4a – Utilize Watershed Assessment Teams (WAT) and Professional Judgement Groups (PJG) in the water quality Assessment Process to determine if state waters are attaining water quality standards.
- Measure - # of Assessment Processes completed each year.

  46 assessment processes since FY 2021 to date
- Milestone 4b – perform Stressor Identification (SID) in each of the 80 HUC-8 watersheds to identify stressors causing biological impairments of aquatic ecosystems through a weight of evidence approach and provide a structure for organizing the scientific evidence supporting the conclusion. A Stressor Identification report will be developed for each of the 80 HUC-8 watersheds.
- Measure - # of SID reports/updates completed each year.

  15 SID reports completed since FY 2021 to date
- Milestone 4c – perform Problem Investigation Monitoring to investigate specific problems or protection concerns to allow for the development of a management approach to protect or improve the resource.
- Measure - # of sites monitored each year.

  138 sites since FY 2021 to date
- Milestone 4d – develop Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) reports which include major findings of the Monitoring and Assessment Report, Biological SID Report, HSPF modeling results, TMDL study information, and protection and implementation strategies for each HUC-8 watershed.
- Measure - # of WRAPS reports, or subsequently WRAPS Update reports, developed yearly.

  Cycle 1: 80 of 80 WRAPS approved.

  Cycle 2: 9 of 80 WRAPS updates approved. As of 9/26/2025

- Milestone 4e – develop TMDL studies in accordance with Minnesota's TMDL Priority Framework document.
- Measure - # of TMDLs approved by EPA each year.

  TMDL FY 2025: 31

  FY 2016-2024: 1420

  Approved TMDLs and WRAPS (state.mn.us)
- Milestone 4f – develop Minnesota Department of Health Groundwater Restoration and Protection Strategies (GRAPS) reports for each watershed, which contain maps and data describing groundwater conditions in the watershed. The reports identify local groundwater concerns and outline strategies and programs to address them.
- Measure - # of GRAPS developed each year.

  24 GRAPS reports completed to date, with 4 additional in progress.

  Groundwater Restoration and Protection Strategies (GRAPS) (state.mn.us)
- Milestone 4g – develop Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Watershed Hydrology, Connectivity, and Geomorphology Assessment Reports for each watershed which analyzes the current and historical hydrology trends of the watershed, assesses the fluvial geomorphology and stability of rivers and streams within the system and investigates connectivity (i.e. longitudinal, lateral, and riparian).
- Measure - # of Hydrology, Connectivity, and Geomorphology Assessment reports developed each year.
- Milestone 4h – update and revise Minnesota Nutrient Reduction Strategy (NRS). Report on progress on implementation activities and strategies, BMP adoption assessment, water quality outcomes and any recommended adjustments to the NRS implementation efforts.
- Measure – NRS update completed in 2024.

  Nutrient reduction strategy | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (state.mn.us)

Build local capacity

The work of nonpoint implementation rests on the shoulders of local governments. As WRAPS proliferate and local water planning begins shifting to a watershed-based framework, success is dependent on highly capable local government staff to develop, prioritize, target, and implement projects at the local level.

- Milestone 5a – maintain, support and provide training for HSPF-Scenario Application Manager (HSPF-SAM) to aid local partners in the decision on the prioritization and placement of best management practices (BMPs) needed to achieve water quality goals.
- Measure - # of Processing Application Tool for HSPF (PATH) interfaces maintained.

  PATH tools are updated with Version 2 SAM projects
- Measure - # of trainings HSPF-SAM held.

  No SAM trainings were held in 2025. 4 trainings on BEET tableau-based tools (uses HSPS SAM extracted data)
- Milestone 5b – provide water quality technical knowledge assistance and information to local planning partners in the development or updates 1W1P. This assistance will include: providing water quality data, identification of stressors and pollutant sources, information on prioritizing

and targeting critical areas for protection and restoration, and high-level strategies to achieve water quality goals.

- Measure – # of completed and approved 1W1P or subsequently developed updated 1W1P.

  Approved Plans: 54 out of 80

  One Watershed, One Plan Participating Watersheds | MN Board of Water, Soil Resources (state.mn.us)
- Milestone 5c – provide Smart Salting training to increase awareness of chloride pollution and prevention.
- Measure – cumulative # of people certified in Smart Salting.

  Trained

  Total 6,117 Level 1, 31 Level 2

  Smart Salting training | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (state.mn.us)
- Milestone 5d – Implement the Minnesota Clean Water Partnership loan program offering zero-interest loans to local units of government for implementing nonpoint-source best management practices and other activities that target the restoration and protection of water resources.
- Measure – amount of money loaned to local units of government per year.

  FY 2025: $5,375,000

  Clean Water Partnership loans | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Milestone 5e – Continue to direct funding resources for accelerated program management and local implementation of non-point pollution reduction activities.
- Measure – amount of grant money awarded.

  Section 319 FFY2025 $2,791,723

  Section 319 Small Watersheds Focus | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (state.mn.us)

  Clean Water Fund | Minnesota's Legacy (mn.gov)
- Milestone 5f – maintain and update the Minnesota Stormwater Manual WIKI
- Measure – continued update of manual.

  Updates can be tracked at Recent changes - Minnesota Stormwater Manual (state.mn.us).

  Last updated: 12/8/2025

Maximize existing laws and regulations

Customary approaches to nonpoint pollution implementation include regulation as well as financial incentives and education. A key to developing effective Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies is maximizing the effectiveness of existing laws and regulations.

- Milestone 6a – support and implement the 2015 Buffer Law (amended in 2016). The law establishes perennial vegetation buffers along rivers, streams, and public drainage ditches.
- Measure - Percentage compliance statewide of Buffer Law.

  Approximately 99% of parcels adjacent to Minnesota waters are compliant with the Buffer Law.

  Minnesota Buffer Law | MN Board of Water, Soil Resources (state.mn.us)

  Where Can I Find Buffer Maps? | MN Board of Water, Soil Resources (state.mn.us)
- Milestone 6b – support and implement the MDA Minnesota Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan and the Groundwater Protection Rule.

- Measure – annual posting of Fall Nitrogen Restriction map.

  Fall Nitrogen Fertilizer Application Restrictions (2021) (arcgis.com)

- Measure – annual posting of Drinking Water Supply Management Area Mitigation Level map.

  Mitigation Level Determination | Minnesota Department of Agriculture (state.mn.us)

- Milestone 6c – support and implement MPCA Feedlot rules on non-CAFO facilities
- Measure - Number of high-risk feedlot inspections conducted annually.

  MPCA Feedlot Program overview Updated January 2021

- Milestone 6d – support and implement the MPCA Subsurface Sewage Treatment System rules
- Measure - Percentage of estimated SSTS compliant systems.

  SSTS Annual Report

  Total number of SSTS reported and construction permits issued in 2024

  Total number of SSTS: 648,641

  Construction permits: 10,551

Support innovative nonregulatory approaches

One of several keys to leveraging various implementation monies is to support the development of market-driven and reward-driven approaches**.**

- Milestone 7a – implement the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP). The MAWQCP is a voluntary program that supports the implementation of conservation practices on a field-by field, whole-farm basis through its process of identifying and mitigating agricultural risks to water quality. Overall goal is the enrollment of one million acres.
- Measure – cumulative # of acres enrolled.

  As of December 2025:

  1,718 producers certified

  1,230,749 acres enrolled

  59,195 tons of sediment kept out of Minnesota waters annually

  166,325 tons of soil retained in fields each year

  74,740 pounds of phosphorus prevented from entering waterways annually

  5,373 conservation improvements implemented with MAWQCP staff guidance

  740 acres average size of a certified farm

  Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program | Minnesota Department of Agriculture (state.mn.us)

- Milestone 7b. – support point/non-point water quality trading in a market-based approach for the protection and restoration of water resources that work in conjunction with existing voluntary, regulatory and financial assistance programs.
- Measure – cumulative # of water quality trades completed.

  10 Trades to date

  Water quality trades in Minnesota | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (state.mn.us)

- Milestone 7c. – support the MDA and University of Minnesota Forever Green Initiative which develops and promotes methods on incorporating perennial and winter annual crops into existing agricultural practices.
- Measure - # of projects funded each biennium.

  Projects funded to date: 13

  2020-2021 Forever Green Projects | Minnesota Department of Agriculture (state.mn.us)

  https://www.forevergreen.umn.edu/

Additional strategies to achieve successful non-point pollution reductions

Build partnerships to enhance a collaborative watershed approach to nonpoint water pollution.

  - Milestone 8a – Support collaborative water quality policy development through the Clean Water Council with members from: farm organizations, business organizations, environmental organizations, Soil Water Conservation Districts, Watershed Districts, nonprofit organizations focused on water quality improvements, state agencies, county governments, city governments, township officers, tribal governments, statewide hunting organizations and statewide fishing organizations.
  - Measure – continued monthly meetings of the CWC and its Policy Committee.

    Regular monthly meetings were held in FY 2025.
- Milestone 8b – strengthen and expand state agency collaboration through the Interagency Coordination Team with members from BWSR, DNR, Met Council, MDA, MDH, MPCA, PFA and EQB.
- Measure – continued regular meetings of the ICT and its subteams.

  Regular meetings were held in FY 2025.

In addition to the above referenced strategies and milestones, Minnesota's NPS Program will also deploy a variety of Administrative measures to evaluate Minnesota's NPS Program administration and management including:

- Timeliness and quality of report submittals to US EPA.
- Timeliness of federal fund obligation with state program partners and sub-grantees.
- Participation at all required meetings, conferences and other events outlined in the Programmatic Conditions section of Minnesota's grant agreement with US EPA.
- Provide administrative oversight of the Minnesota Section 319 Small Watershed Focus Program.
- Submittal of an annual Watershed Achievements Report highlighting the achievements of active and recently completed nonpoint source water quality projects.
- Provide Section 319 grant program process into EPA's Grants Reporting and Tracking System (GRTS) on a semiannual basis.
- Develop individual nonpoint source water quality Success Stories.
- Review and update the Minnesota Nonpoint Source Management Program plan at least once every five years.