

Internal Memo

Date: August 25, 2022

To: BWSR Board

From: Julie Westerlund, One Watershed, One Plan Program Coordinator

RE: One Watershed, One Plan Program Update

This memo gives an update on One Watershed, One Plan Planning efforts, including developments since the last program update for the BWSR board in March 2022.

The table below provides a summary of progress to date on the goals in BWSR’s *One Watershed, One Plan Transition Plan*.

Year	Planning Grants Awarded (cumulative)		1W1P Completed (cumulative)
	Transition Target	Grants Awarded	
2014-15	5	5	0
2016	6 (11)	7 (12)	2
2017	6 (17)	6 (18)	2 (4)
2018	7 (24)	9 (27)	1 (5)
2019	7 (31)	3 (30)	5 (10)
2020	7 (38)	8 (38)	9 (19)
2021	7 (45)	11 (49)	5 (24)
2022	7 (52)	5 (54) *	4 (28)

*includes planning grants and plans recommended for Board approval at the August 25, 2022 board meeting.

I have also attached a map of participating planning boundaries and a list of the local governments that are participating in each planning effort for your information.

Please see planning websites (linked in the interactive map on the BWSR *One Watershed, One Plan – Participating Watersheds* web page) for more information about individual planning efforts.

In this memo, “plan” = comprehensive watershed management plan. “Collaborative” refers to an implementation structure in which the policy committee is advisory to the boards, who make final decisions. “Entity” refers to a new joint powers board that has been delegated authority to make decisions by the member entities. All dates are 2022 unless otherwise specified.

Approved Plans

The following planning partnerships have completed their plans and are now implementing them: Root River; Yellow Medicine River; Lake Superior North; Red Lake River; North Fork Crow River; Leech Lake River; Lake of the Woods; Pine River; Missouri River; Cedar Wapsipinicon; Thief River; Cannon River; Pomme de Terre River; Leaf, Wing, Redeye; Buffalo-Red River; Lower St. Croix; Nemadji; Wild Rice – Marsh River; Watonwan River; Bois de Sioux and Mustinka; Two Rivers Plus; Sauk River; Mississippi Headwaters; Greater Zumbro; Hawk Creek-Middle Minnesota; Shell Rock – Winnebago; Rum River; Middle Snake-Tamarac Rivers.

2019 Starts

Lower Minnesota River West: The group submitted a draft plan for 60-day review (July 27 – September 28). They anticipate presenting the plan for board consideration in December 2022 or January 2023.

Snake River: The plan is currently under formal 60-day review (July 5 - September 5). Each of the eight partners will need to approve the final plan for submission to BWSR for 90-day review.

St. Louis River: The group conducted an extensive internal review of the draft plan, which was written by partner staff (without the help of a consultant). They have addressed all of the (over 300) comments and will present the final plan to the policy committee on August 25th. They anticipate opening the formal 60-day review period on August 25, holding a public hearing in late October, and submitting the plan for BWSR consideration in late fall.

2020 Starts

Clearwater River: The group completed a draft plan in May and the formal 60-day review period closed on July 25. BWSR's Northern Region Committee is scheduled to review the plan on September 7; staff anticipate the BWSR board to consider the plan at the September 28 meeting.

Des Moines River: The group completed a draft plan, conducted an internal review, and revised the draft based on feedback from all committees. The formal 60-day review period will close on September 21 and the group plans to hold public hearings in mid/late October and anticipate consideration by the BWSR board in December 2022 or January 2023. The policy committee had a robust discussion about organizational structure and decided on a joint powers entity. The thirteen partners are currently reviewing a draft joint powers agreement and bylaws and will decide on roles for supporting the JPE. The policy committee members have been very engaged and have shown tremendous leadership in developing the plan.

Lac qui Parle- Yellow Bank: The group has completed drafting all sections of the plan and is conducting an internal review. They anticipate opening the formal 60-day review period in September and presenting the plan for BWSR consideration in Spring 2023.

Le Sueur: The group held a mid-point meeting on April 4, 2022 to update the citizens of the watershed on plan development and to offer an additional opportunity to provide feedback. Approximately 75 people attended; the partnership also offered an online survey for those unable to attend (78 respondents). The group has recently been focused on developing the targeted implementation schedule and they continue to discuss organizational structures for implementation. Anticipated BWSR board consideration: Summer 2023.

Long Prairie: The group received letters from state agencies and local citizens during the formal 60-day review period which ended on July 19. The technical advisory committee met in August to review the comments and recommend a final draft plan to the policy committee. The policy committee held a public hearing on August 18 submitted the final plan to BWSR for review. The BWSR Northern Region Committee is scheduled to review the plan on October 5; staff anticipate consideration by the full BWSR board at the October 26 meeting. Local staff have been preparing for implementation during the 60-day comment period and anticipate a smooth transition from planning to plan implementation in early 2023.

Middle-Snake Tamarac: The 60-day review period ended on June 27. The policy committee held a public hearing on July 13th and submitted the plan to BWSR on July 19. The BWSR Northern Region Committee reviewed the plan on August 3 and recommended the plan for BWSR approval at their August 25 meeting.

Otter Tail: Based on technical advisory committee recommendations, the policy committee reviewed and preliminarily approved the following draft plan sections: Land & Water Resource Narrative, Focus Issues, Focus Resources, and Measurable Goals. The technical advisory committee has reviewed the remaining draft plan sections and recommended introducing them to the policy committee on August 25. The group anticipates an informal review in September with the 60-day review period in October and November; staff anticipate BWSR consideration in January. The policy committee is also discussing a joint powers collaboration for implementation and is circulating a draft memorandum of agreement among the individual boards, with intentions of being ready to request WBIF grant funds in Spring 2023.

Winona-La Crescent: The advisory committee is currently conducting an internal review of a draft plan. The policy committee is finishing discussions on an organizational structure for implementation. They anticipate releasing the plan for 60-day review after the policy committee's September meeting.

2021 Starts

Chippewa River: The group continues to meet monthly, and most recently worked through a process to develop priority issue statements and rank areas where the priorities are a concern. The discussions are an iterative process; the group revises the concepts behind the issue statements as they see how they exist within the watershed. The group hosted a bus tour of the watershed, attended by over 30 participants, where they visited conservation practices and identified areas of concern.

Kettle and Upper St. Croix: The group held two kick-off meetings and solicited information through a survey which yielded great information to start the process. Over the next four months, the partnership will be having joint monthly advisory and stakeholder meetings regarding specific resources topic, (lakes, forest etc.) identifying and prioritizing issues, then discussing actions and measurability.

Lower MN River East: The group finalized their planning agreement and policy committee bylaws and hired the consulting firm ISG to help with technical writing and facilitation. They held kickoff meetings (both in-person and virtual) in July, with a strong presence and engagement from policy committee members. The group will hold the first advisory committee meeting in late summer/early fall to start discussing priority issues.

Mississippi River Brainerd: The initial comment period ended on June 3, 2022, with the group receiving comment letters from state agencies and The Nature Conservancy. The group held a kickoff meeting on June 6, 2022, at Camp Ripley near Little Falls. About 50 citizens attended, providing great feedback and asking great

questions. The kickoff meeting included presentations about the Camp Ripley environmental program and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies report. The technical advisory committee, with input and feedback from the citizens advisory committee, has drafted issue statements. The group estimates having a completed plan by the end of 2023.

Mississippi River St. Cloud: This group is working through the process of determining the level of formal involvement (signing the planning agreement) by all required participants. One required participant has indicated they will likely not join the effort, which, per the 1W1P Operating Procedures, requires the partnership to request a determination from BWSR that the planning effort can proceed.

Rainy River Headwaters-Vermillion: The group is making an above-and-beyond effort to gather early input, including a 30-day stakeholder comment period in addition to the required 60-day comment period for plan review agencies. This summer they are also hosting three public kick-off meetings and an on-line survey to get input about priority issues.

Rainy-Rapid River: The group held an open house on April 5 in Baudette, attended by about 30 people. They drafted a Land and Water Resources Narrative and hosted a series of four meetings, each focused on a single priority issue for the plan. They are now in the process of working on measurable goals based on the issue meetings. The group has set a goal of drafting the plan by November of 2022.

Roseau River: The group has drafted the priority issues section, are nearly done with the measurable goals section, and have started the targeted implementation schedule. They anticipate having a full draft plan ready for internal review in fall of 2022 and consideration by the BWSR board in spring 2023.

Sand Hill River: The group held the first policy committee meeting on April 26th. They plan to host a series of kickoff meetings to get public input on Monday, August 22nd in three locations at various times. They issued their initial planning notification with the 60-day comment period ending on September 5th. The group hired Houston Engineering Inc. as their planning consultant. They anticipate completing a draft plan in the first half of 2023, and consideration by the BWSR board later in 2023.

South Fork of the Crow River: The group hosted a public kick-off meeting on June 22nd. The steering team identified members for the technical advisory committee, which the policy committee will be asked to approve in late August. Draft issue statements and the Land and Resource Narrative are pending approval by the policy committee. They divided the planning area into three planning regions and have begun developing priorities for each planning region.

Upper Minnesota River: The group hired Houston Engineering Inc. to assist the partnership with developing the plan. All state agencies provided priority concerns letters during the initial comment period and the group hosted a public kick-off event on July 28th where 40 people attended and provided input on priority resource concerns.

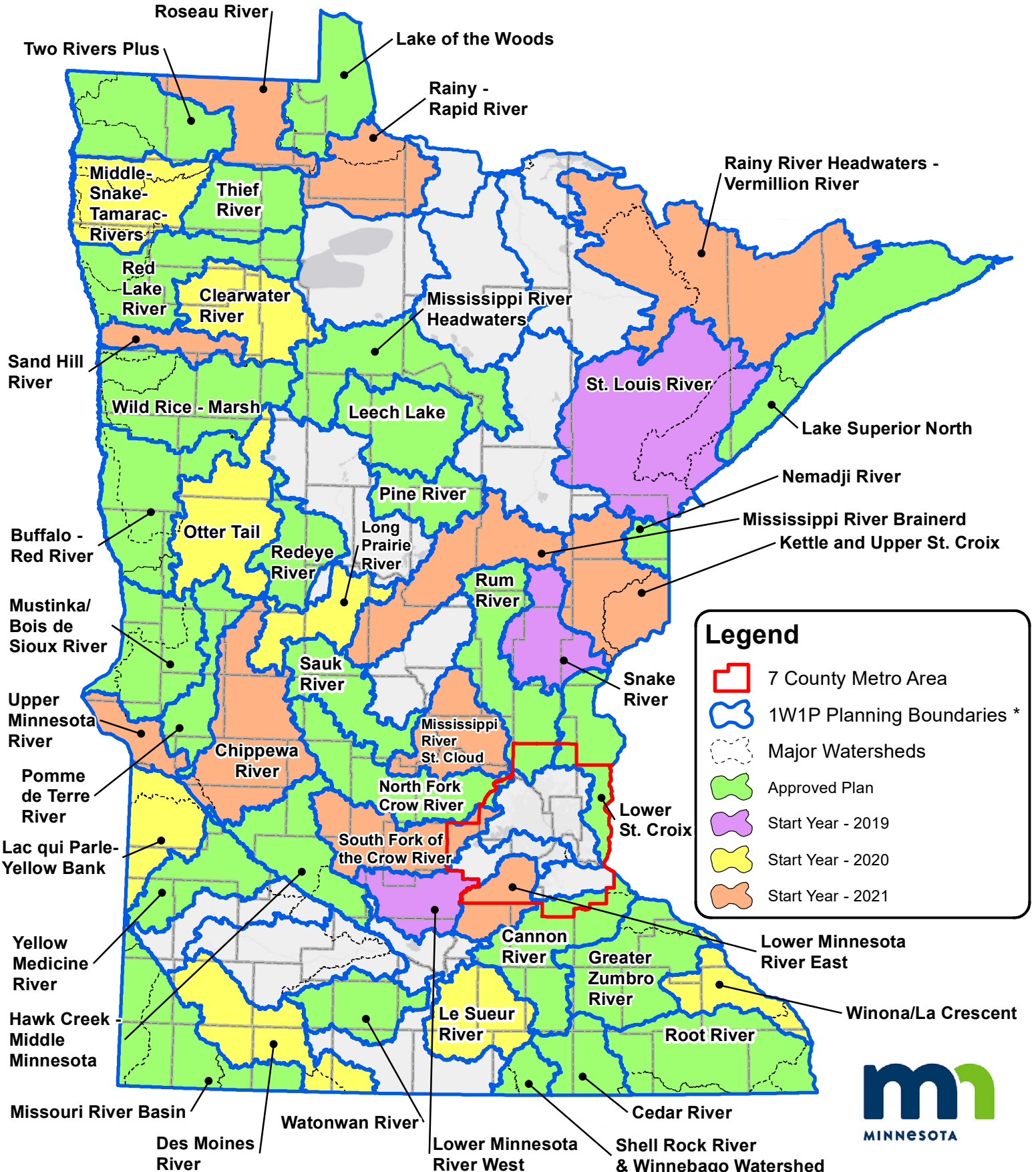
ATTACHMENTS:

Map of participating watersheds

List of participating local governments

One Watershed, One Plan

Participating Watersheds



*Not legal boundaries; intended for planning purposes through One Watershed, One Plan only.





Local and Tribal Governments Participating in the One Watershed, One Plan program.
 (Names have been truncated to conserve space.) **Bold for 2021 = MOA complete.**

2021					
Chippewa (16)	Kettle and Upper St. Croix (5)	Lower MN East (7)	Mississippi River Brained (10)	Mississippi River St. Cloud (11)	Rainy R Hdwtres/Vermilion R (6)
Chippewa County	Carlton County	Le Sueur County	Aitkin County	Benton County	Cook County
Chippewa SWCD	Carlton SWCD	Le Sueur SWCD	Aitkin SWCD	Benton SWCD	Cook SWCD
Douglas County	Kanabec SWCD	Lower MN River Watershed District	City of Baxter	Meeker County	Lake County
Douglas SWCD	Pine County	Rice County	City of Brainerd	Meeker SWCD	Lake SWCD
Grant County	Pine SWCD	Rice SWCD	Crow Wing County	Mille Lacs SWCD	North St. Louis SCWD
Grant SWCD		Scott County WMO	Crow Wing SWCD	Sherburne County	St. Louis County
Kandiyohi County	South Fork of the Crow River (13)	Scott SWCD	Morrison County	Sherburne SWCD	
Kandiyohi SWCD	Buffalo Creek Watershed District		Morrison SWCD	Stearns County	
Otter Tail County	Carver SWCD	Sand Hill River (8)	Todd County	Stearns SWCD	Upper Minnesota River (7)
Pope County	City of Winsted	East Polk SWCD	Todd SWCD	Wright County	Big Stone County
Pope SWCD	Kandiyohi County	Mahnomen County		Wright SWCD	Big Stone SWCD
Stevens County	Kandiyohi SWCD	Mahnomen SWCD	Rainy-Rapid (2)		Swift County
Stevens SWCD	McLeod County	Norman County	Lake of the Woods County		Swift SWCD
Swift County	McLeod SWCD	Norman SWCD	Lake of the Woods SWCD	Roseau River (3)	Traverse County
Swift SWCD	Meeker County	Polk County		Roseau County	Traverse SWCD
West Otter Tail SWCD	Meeker SWCD	Sand Hill River Watershed District		Roseau River Watershed District	Upper MN River Watershed Dist
	Renville County	West Polk SWCD		Roseau SWCD	
	Renville SWCD				
	Wright County				
	Wright SWCD				
2020					
Clearwater (9)	Des Moines (13)	Lac qui Parle- Yellow Bank (8)	Le Sueur (8)	Long Prairie (7)	Winona-La Crescent (10)
Clearwater County	Cottonwood County	Area II Minnesota River Valley Projec	Blue Earth County	Douglas County	City of Winona
Clearwater SWCD	Cottonwood SWCD	Lac qui Parle SWCD	Blue Earth County SWCD	Douglas SWCD	Houston County
East Polk SWCD	Heron Lake Watershed District	Lac qui Parle County	Faribault County	Morrison County	Olmsted County
Pennington County	Jackson County	Lac qui Parle – Yellow Bank WD	Faribault County SWCD	Morrison SWCD	Olmsted SWCD
Pennington SWCD	Jackson SWCD	Lincoln SWCD	Freeborn County	Todd County	Root River SWCD
Polk County	Lyon County	Lincoln County	Freeborn SWCD	Todd SWCD	Stockton-Rollingstone-MN City WD
Red Lake County	Lyon SWCD	Yellow Medicine SWCD	Waseca County	West Ottertail SWCD	Wabasha County
Red Lake SWCD	Martin County	Yellow Medicine County	Waseca SWCD		Wabasha SWCD
Red Lake Watershed District	Martin SWCD			Otter Tail (6)	Winona County
	Murray County			Becker SWCD	Winona SWCD
Middle-Snake Tamarac (5)	Murray SWCD			Becker County	
Marshall County	Nobles County			Cormorant Lakes Watershed District	
Marshall SWCD	Nobles SWCD			East Otter Tail SWCD	
Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers WD				Otter Tail County	
Polk County				Pelican River Watershed District	
West Polk SWCD				West Otter Tail SWCD	

2019

Lower Minnesota River West (7)	Snake (8)	St. Louis (6)
High Island Creek WD	Aitkin County	Carlton County
McLeod County	Aitkin SWCD	Carlton SWCD
McLeod SWCD	Kanabec County	Fond du Lac Band of Lk Superior Chippewa
Nicollet County	Kanabec SWCD	North St. Louis SWCD
Nicollet SWCD	Mille Lacs County	St. Louis County
Sibley County	Mille Lacs SWCD	South St. Louis SWCD
Sibley SWCD	Pine County	
	Pine SWCD	

2018

Hawk Creek Middle MN (6)	Nemadji (4)	Rum (17)	Mississippi Headwaters (10)	Wild Rice and Marsh (14)	Greater Zumbro (12)
Chippewa County	Carlton County	Aitkin County	Beltrami County	Becker County	Dodge County
Chippewa SWCD	Carlton SWCD	Aitkin SWCD	Beltrami SWCD	Becker SWCD	Dodge SWCD
Kandiyohi County	Pine County	Anoka SWCD	Cass County	Clay County	City of Rochester
Kandiyohi SWCD	Pine SWCD	Benton County	Cass SWCD	Clay SWCD	Goodhue County
Renville County		Benton SWCD	Clearwater County	Clearwater County	Goodhue SWCD
Renville SWCD		Crow Wing County	Clearwater SWCD	Clearwater SWCD	Olmsted County
	Redeye (5)	Crow Wing SWCD	Hubbard County	Mahnomen County	Olmsted SWCD
	Becker SWCD	Isanti County	Hubbard SWCD	Mahnomen SWCD	Rice County
Shell Rock - Winnebago (4)	East Otter Tail SWCD	Isanti SWCD	Itasca County	Norman County	Rice SWCD
Freeborn County	Otter Tail County	Kanabec County	Itasca SWCD	Norman SWCD	Wabasha County
Freeborn SWCD	Wadena County	Kanabec SWCD		Polk County	Wabasha SWCD
City of Albert Lea	Wadena SWCD	Mille Lacs County	Two Rivers Plus (4)	East Polk SWCD	Bear Valley WD
Shell Rock River WD		Mille Lacs SWCD	Kittson County	West Polk SWCD	
		Morrison County	Kittson SWCD	Wild Rice WD	
		Morrison SWCD	Roseau County		
		Sherburne County	Roseau SWCD		
		Sherburne SWCD			

2017

Buffalo-Red River (9)	Lower St. Croix River (15)	Mustinka/Bois de Sioux Rivers (13)	Pine River (4)	Sauk River (11)	Watonwan River (12)
Becker County	Anoka SWCD	Big Stone County	Cass County	Douglas County	Blue Earth County
Becker SWCD	Brown's Creek WD	Big Stone SWCD	Cass SWCD	Douglas SWCD	Blue Earth SWCD
Buffalo-Red River WD	Carnelian Marine St. Croix WD	Bois de Sioux WD	Crow Wing County	Meeker County	Brown County
Clay County	Chisago County	Grant County	Crow Wing SWCD	Meeker SWCD	Brown SWCD
Clay SWCD	Chisago SWCD	Grant SCWD		Pope County	Cottonwood County
Otter Tail County	Comfort Lake Forest Lake WD	Otter Tail County		Pope SWCD	Cottonwood SWCD
West Otter Tail SWCD	Isanti County	West Otter Tail SWCD		Sauk River Watershed District	Jackson County
Wilkin County	Isanti SWCD	Stevens County		Stearns County	Jackson SWCD
Wilkin SWCD	Middle St. Croix WMO	Stevens SWCD		Stearns SWCD	Martin County
	Pine County	Traverse County		Todd County	Martin SWCD
	Pine SWCD	Traverse SWCD		Todd SWCD	Watonwan County
	South Washington WD	Wilkin County			Watonwan SWCD
	Sunrise River WMO	Wilkin SWCD			
	Washington County				
	Washington SWCD				

2016

Cannon River (14)	Cedar River (11)	Pomme de Terre River (13)	Leech Lake River (4)	Missouri River Basin (14)	Thief River (7)
Belle Creek WD	Cedar River WD	Big Stone County	Cass County	Jackson County	Beltrami County
Dakota County	City of Austin	Big Stone SWCD	Cass SWCD	Jackson SWCD	Beltrami SWCD
Dakota SWCD	Dodge County	Douglas County	Hubbard County	Kanaranzi - Little Rock WD	Marshall County
Goodhue County	Dodge SWCD	Douglas SWCD	Hubbard SWCD	Lincoln County	Marshall SWCD
Goodhue SWCD	Freeborn County	Grant County		Lincoln SWCD	Pennington County
Le Sueur County	Freeborn SWCD	Grant SWCD		Murray County	Pennington SWCD
Le Sueur SWCD	Mower County	Otter Tail County	Lake of the Woods (5)	Murray SWCD	Red Lake WD
North Cannon WMO	Mower SWCD	West Otter Tail SWCD	Lake of the Woods County	Nobles County	
Rice County	Steele County	Stevens County	Lake of the Woods SWCD	Nobles SWCD	
Rice SWCD	Steele SWCD	Stevens SWCD	Roseau County	Okabena-Ocheda WD	
Steele County	Turtle Creek WD	Swift County	Roseau SWCD	Pipestone County	
Steele SWCD		Swift SWCD	Warroad River WD	Pipestone SWCD	
Waseca County		Pomme de Terre River Association		Rock County	
Waseca SWCD				Rock SWCD	

Pilots

Lake Superior North (4)	North Fork Crow River (14)	Red Lake River (7)	Root River (13)	Yellow Medicine River (10)
Cook County	McLeod County	Pennington County	Crooked Creek WD	Area II MN River Basin Projects, Inc.
Cook SWCD	McLeod SWCD	Pennington SWCD	Dodge County	Lac Qui Parle County
Lake County	Kandiyohi County	Polk County	Dodge SWCD	Lac Qui Parle SWCD
Lake SWCD	Kandiyohi SWCD	West Polk SWCD	Filmore County	Lincoln County
	Meeker County	Red Lake County	Filmore SWCD	Lincoln SWCD
	Meeker SWCD	Red Lake SWCD	Houston County	Lyon County
	Pope County	Red Lake WD	Root River SWCD	Lyon SWCD
	Pope SWCD		Mower County	Yellow Medicine County
	Stearns County		Mower SWCD	Yellow Medicine SWCD
	Stearns SWCD		Olmsted County	Yellow Medicine River WD
	Wright County		Olmsted SWCD	
	Wright SWCD		Winona County	
	Middle Fork Crow River WD		Winona SWCD	
	North Fork Crow River WD			