



## Land and Water Conservation Board Agenda

**August 1, 2023**

The Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) will meet on **August 1, 2023**. The board will hold its official business meeting at 9:00 am via Microsoft Teams with the option to attend in person. To attend the meeting remotely, join by telephone at +1 608-571-2209 with Conference ID 682453116# or click the following Teams [hyperlink](#). The agenda for the meeting is shown below.

### AGENDA ITEMS AND TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

- 1** Call the Meeting to Order – **Mark Cupp, LWCB Chair**
  - a. Roll Call
  - b. Pledge of allegiance
  - c. Open meeting notice
  - d. Introductions, Acknowledgements
  - e. Approval of agenda
  - f. Approval of June 6, 2023 meeting minutes
  
- 2** Public appearances\*

*\*Each speaker is limited to 5 minutes or less. Each speaker must complete a Public Appearance Request Card and submit it to a DATCP representative before the start of the meeting*
  
- 3** Recommendation for approval of 5 year LWRM Plan review for Juneau County -  
**Dustin Ladd, County Conservationist, Chris Zindorf, Land and Water Resource Committee Chair**
  
- 4** Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grants  
**Dana Christel, DATCP, Dustin Ladd, Juneau County Conservatioist and Ken Kayhart, Farmers of Lemonweir Valley Member**
  
- 5** Recommendation for approval of 5 year LWRM Plan review for Polk County -  
**Eric Wojchik, County Conservationist, Bob Kazmierski, Environmental Services Division Director, Kim O'Connell, Environmental Services Committee Chair**
  
- 6** Presentation of 2024 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan  
**DATCP, DNR**

*Mark Cupp, Chair; Bobbie Webster, Vice-Chair;  
Monte Osterman, Secretary*

*Members: Andrew Buttles; Ron Grasshoff; Rebecca Clarke; Tom Mandli; Brian McGraw  
Andrew Potts; Tim Anderson; Jill Schoen*

- 7 DNR Presentation of the Scores and Rankings of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Projects for CY 2024

**Joanna Griffin, DNR**

- 8 DNR Presentation of the Scores and Rankings of Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management Projects for CY 2024

**Joanna Griffin, DNR**

- 9 LWCB Advisory Committee on Research-Committee Updates  
**Ron Grasshoff, Committee Chair and Katy Smith, DATCP**

- 10 Recommendation to Distribute Report on Soil and Water Conservation Research and Educational Program Needs to UW-System, Stakeholders  
**LWCB**

- 11 Agency reports
- a. FSA
  - b. NRCS
  - c. UW-CALS
  - d. UW Madison - Extension
  - e. WI Land + Water
  - f. DOA
  - g. DATCP
  - h. DNR
  - i. Member Updates

- 12 Planning for October 2023 LWCB Meeting -  
**Mark Cupp, LWCB**

- 13 Adjourn

**MINUTES  
LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING**

**June 6, 2023**  
571 Cty Rd A, Green Lake, WI

**Item #1      Call to Order—pledge of allegiance, open meeting notice, approval of agenda, approval of April 4, 2023 LWCB meeting minutes.**

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**Call to Order**

The Land and Water Conservation Board (Board) met in person at 571 Cty Rd A, Green Lake, WI 54941 on **June 6, 2023**. The meeting was preceded by public notice as required by Wis. Stat. § 19.84. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Cupp at **9:30 am** and the pledge of allegiance was conducted.

**Members and Advisors Present**

**Members:** Mark Cupp, Bobbie Webster, Monte Osterman, Brian McGraw, Ron Grasshoff, Rebecca Clarke, Thomas Mandli, Andrew Buttles, Tim Anderson, Andrew Potts, and Jill Schoen. A quorum was present.

**Advisors:** Matt Krueger (WI Land + Water).

**Approval of Agenda**

**Motion**

McGraw motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Osterman, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion**

Osterman motioned to approve the April 4, 2023 meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Potts, and the motion carried unanimously. The approved minutes shall be posted as the official meeting record for publication on the LWCB website.

**Item #2      Public Appearances**

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No public appearance cards were submitted.

**Item #3      Presentation of the 2023 Soil & Water Conservation Research & Educational Needs Survey Report and Recommendation for Approval**

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Ron Grasshoff and Zach Zopp, DATCP presented the 2023 Soil & Water Conservation Research and Educational Needs Survey Report, available within the [June 6, 2023 meeting packet](#). The LWCB Advisory Committee on Research determined to take a broad approach in crafting recommendations to

both the UW-System, as required under s. 92.04(2)(g), Wis. Stats., and stakeholders based on how the survey data was collected.

McGraw recommended that recommendation number 1 of the draft report be revised to update the word “effective” be replaced with “effect of” or similar verbiage.

### **Motion**

McGraw motioned to adopt the 2023 LWCB Survey Report as the final report pertaining to the 2023 survey of soil and water conservation research and educational needs with noted correction, seconded by Buttles. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Item #4      Presentation of Recommendations to Conclude the 2023 LWCB Survey for the Board's Consideration & Approval**

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Ron Grasshoff and Zach Zopp, DATCP presented LWCB Advisory Committee on Research (Committee) recommendations to assist the LWCB with its duty to annually advise the University of Wisconsin-System on needed research and educational programs relating to soil and water conservation.

The Board discussed: adopting the Committee recommendation to distribute the 2023 Soil & Water Conservation Research and Educational Needs Survey Report to the University of Wisconsin System, Governor, DATCP Secretary, DNR Secretary, Chairs and members of Senate/Assembly committees on Natural Resources and on Agriculture, and stakeholders contacted through the 2023 LWCB Survey; that Mark Cupp, Board Chair should prepare a cover letter to accompany distribution of the 2023 Soil & Water Conservation Research and Educational Needs Survey Report; Anderson recommended delaying any attempts to craft a press release to broadly distribute the 2023 Soil & Water Conservation Research and Educational Needs Survey Report until there is a UW-Extension advisor on the board; appointing members Grasshoff, Osterman and Webster to a working group to plan a special hybrid meeting of the LWCB for the purpose of discussing the 2023 LWCB Survey Report with stakeholders.

McGraw motioned to (1) adopt the Committee recommendation to distribute the 2023 Soil & Water Conservation Research and Educational Needs Survey Report to the University of Wisconsin System, Governor, DATCP Secretary, DNR Secretary, Chairs and members of Senate/Assembly committees on Natural Resources and on Agriculture, and stakeholders contacted through the 2023 LWCB Survey (2) that Mark Cupp, Board Chair should prepare a cover letter to accompany distribution of the 2023 Soil & Water Conservation Research and Educational Needs Survey Report and (3) appoint members Grasshoff, Osterman and Webster to a working group to plan a special hybrid meeting of the LWCB for the purpose of discussing the 2023 LWCB Survey Report with stakeholders. Second by Schoen. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Item #5      Recommendation for approval of 5-year Land and Water Resource Management Plan review for Kewaunee County**

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Davina Bonness, County Conservationist, formally requested a recommendation of approval from the Board regarding the County’s 5-year LWRM plan review.

The County provided written answers to the Board’s standardized questions, recent work plans and accomplishments, and other materials (available on LWCB’s website: [lwcb.wi.gov](http://lwcb.wi.gov)).

### **Motion**

After a discussion between the Board and County representatives, Mandli motioned to recommend approval of Kewaunee County's 5-year LWRM plan review, seconded by Potts, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Item #6 Recommendation for approval of 5-year Land and Water Resource Management Plan review for Green Lake County**

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Todd Morris, County Conservationist, and Robert Schweder, Land Conservation Committee Chair, formally requested a recommendation of approval from the Board regarding the County's 5-year LWRM plan review.

The County provided written answers to the Board's standardized questions, recent work plans and accomplishments, and other materials (available on LWCB's website: [lwcb.wi.gov](http://lwcb.wi.gov)).

**Motion**

After a discussion between the Board and County representatives, Buttles motioned to recommend approval of Green Lake County's 5-year LWRM plan review, seconded by Webster, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Item #7 Agency Reports**

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Written agency reports are available within the [June 6, 2023 meeting packet](#).

**Item #8 Planning for the August 2023 LWCB meeting**

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The Board should expect the following at the next LWCB meeting:

- 5-year Review Juneau, Polk Counties
- The Annual Soil and Water Conservation Report
- Presentation of 2024 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan
- LWCB Advisory Committee on Research Updates
- Board Education Item- State Interagency Training Committee - Opportunities and Challenges  
Michael Hook, WI Land + Water

**Item #9 Adjourn**

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**Motion**

Osterman motioned to adjourn, seconded by McGraw, and the motion carried unanimously. The business meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m. At 12:00pm the LWCB departed the Green Lake County courthouse to visit a creek restoration, grade stabilization structure, and a NOPP site. The tour concluded at 3:15 pm.

**CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM** \_\_\_\_\_ **State of Wisconsin**

**DATE:** July 20, 2023

**TO:** Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

**FROM:** Lisa K. Trumble, DATCP *Lisa K. Trumble*  
Resource Management Section,  
Bureau of Land and Water Resources

**SUBJECT:** Five Year Review of the *Juneau County Land and Water Resource Management Plan*

**Recommended Action:** This is an action item. The LWCB should determine whether the county has met the LWCB's criteria for a five-year review of a LWRM plan approved for ten years. If the LWCB makes a formal determination that the county has failed to meet these criteria, DATCP will automatically modify its order to terminate approval of the county's plan effective December of this year.

**Summary:** The Juneau County land and water resource management plan has been approved through December 31, 2028, contingent on a five-year review conducted prior to December 31, 2023. In advance of the five-year review, Juneau County has completed a DATCP approved form designed to implement the LWCB's reference document dated October 27, 2021, and the criteria for conducting a five-year review. The county has provided written answers to four questions regarding past and future implementation, has provided the required work planning documents, and has appropriately involved the Land and Water Resources Committee.

**Materials Provided:**

- Completed Five Year Review Form
- 2022 Annual Workplan with Accomplishments
- 2023 Annual Workplan

**Presenter:** Dustin Ladd, County Conservationist, Juneau County LWRD  
Chris Zindorf, Land and Water Resources Committee Chair



## Land and Water Conservation Board County Land and Water Resource Management Plan Five Year Review of LWRM Plans

**County:** Juneau

### **Implementation Covering Past Five Years and Future Directions**

Answer these four questions in writing (not to exceed 4 pages)

1. Provide a representative number of accomplishments that can be directly traced to activities identified in multiple work plans. For each accomplishment, explain how the planning process helped the county achieve its outcome, including planning adjustments that helped better target county activities.

Looking at implementation, since 2020 the LWRD has assisted farmers with installing 6,967 acres of cover crops, 3,064 acres of no-till, 90 acres of contour strips, and 1,588 new acres of Nutrient Management Planning. These conservation practice accomplishments can be traced to a better working relationship with landowners that has been a result of the Producer Led Watershed program. We have been able to plan and implement more acres of these practices working directly with the producers and directing them to the program or technical assistance needed to accomplish these goals. These work plan goals are also less dependent on contractor availability as they can be accomplished without the need of contractors (minus the waterways). The implementation of these practices also fits the goals of both of our 9-key element plans (Redstone and Lemonweir) to meet phosphorus reduction. The LWRD began tracking phosphorus reductions in 2019 through MDV projects entered into the BITS system, so far 648 lbs/yr of phosphorus has been reduced utilizing the MDV program.

2. Identify any areas where the county was unable to make desired progress in implementing activities identified in multiple work plans. For each area identified, explain the work plan adjustments that were made to refocus planned activities. If no areas are identified, explain how the county was able to make progress in all the areas planned.

In both 2021 and 2022 progress on some of our larger construction projects has been held up due to contractor availability. An extension of SWRM and MDV funds was requested in 2022 as a result of contractor availability and permitting issues. Staff have been actively working to get new contractors to fill the void, but this problem still persists in Juneau County. In the meantime, more staff hours were allocated to running the Producer Led program as well as our education and outreach programs. Since 2018 we have partnered with multiple counties and watershed groups to bring in guest speakers to improve our educational programming. Going into 2023 construction projects are still a priority that so far has been slow, we currently have multiple projects with accepted bids (several with material on site) and are waiting for the contractors to start work on these projects. Moving forward we plan

on changing the make-up of our contractor meetings to a better setting to try and increase contractor interest in LWRD projects.

3. Describe how the county's work plans implement its priority farm strategy and the effectiveness of county actions implementing agricultural performance standards and conservation practices on farms. In particular, the county should describe outreach, farm inventories, and additional funds that were pursued to implement its strategy.

Since the 2018 LWRM Plan Juneau County has utilized priority watershed planning by focusing efforts with both of our producer led watershed groups, the Producers of the Lake Redstone Watershed and Farmers of the Lemonweir Valley. Since the formation of these two groups the ability for Juneau County staff to work with producers in both the Lemonweir River Watershed and the Baraboo River watershed (2nd and 3rd largest in WI River TMDL) has increased and drastically improved. These groups have also been instrumental in implementation efforts for two 9-key element plans in both respective watersheds (Redstone was approved by the EPA in 2022). While working on these plans, Juneau County staff have inventoried all of the barnyards in the Lemonweir River Watershed as well as the Redstone watershed and have inventoried all of the waste storage structures in the county. A model for the Lemonweir watershed has been developed to target fields and barnyards with the greatest impact on water quality. Currently LWRD is working on implementation in the Redstone watershed with their partners in Sauk County as well as NRCS staff. We are planning on utilizing NRCS, County SWRM, and MDV funding for the implementation of our phosphorus reduction strategy in the Lake Redstone Watershed. A WI DNR TRM grant was considered for the Lake Redstone 9-key, but ultimately wasn't the right path for this smaller sub watershed. We plan to continue working with our core group of farmers in these watersheds and put more efforts into education and outreach to target additional farms to meet our phosphorus reduction goals.

Working with these two watershed groups has resulted in additional acres of cover crops, no-till, buffers, and kick started our education and outreach program within the county. Additional acres of Nutrient Management planning are also in the works as a result of working with these groups (1500 new acres planned in 2023).

In 2022 LWRD started working with the Juneau County Aging and Disability Resource Center on a program called the Men's Shed. As a result, we have monthly meetings interacting with residents over 60 from all over the county that may have never worked with us before. We have assisted with educational programing focusing on everything from invasive species to watershed management. This educational program has drawn landowners to our department looking for assistance, both technical and financial, and allowed us to utilize more nontraditional funding from the ADRC to help promote conservation in Juneau County.

4. Provide representative examples that show changes in direction for work planning in the upcoming five years, with specific examples provided showing adjustments in planned activities in the county's most recent work plan.

Juneau County will continue to adapt our work plans to meet our planning goals moving forward to 2027. Engineering and contractor challenges have and will continue to be an issue with project implementation. Adjustments in planning made from 2018-2023 have included more of a focus on groundwater monitoring and private well water programs. Juneau County allocated \$100,000 of ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) dollars to the LWRD to create a



private well water treatment program and continue our groundwater testing programs through 2026 or until our funding runs out. To date \$25,000 has been spent on installing 12 Reverse Osmosis systems through the ARPA program, with more systems planned for 2023. Juneau County has also tested 700 private wells for nitrates with an additional 700 wells tested as part of a growers' coalition study in the far northeastern portion of the county.

### **Annual Work Plans**

Attach both of the following:

- a. The most current annual work prepared by the county.
- b. The work plan for the previous year that includes a column that identifies the progress in implementing the planned activities for that year.

### **Board Review Process**

The goal of the review is not to fail counties. The board recognizes the dynamic nature of the planning process. Board members are interested in how counties tackle priorities over time and how they respond to changing conditions in pursuing their priorities. The board will evaluate a county's planning and implementation based on how well the county balances and prioritizes the following: agricultural performance standards, other state priorities (impaired waters, FPP checks), and local priorities. When needed, the Board will provide constructive support to counties to improve the quality of their planning. Counties have the option to prepare a brief presentation to illustrate their successes and future priorities.

### **Land Conservation Committee Notification**

The LCC was provided a completed copy of these questions (including attachments) on: 7-13-23

**Signature of Authorized Representative:**  **Date:** 7-13-23  
(e.g. County Conservationist, LCC chair)

Send completed questionnaire and attachments to:  
[Lisa.Trumble@wi.gov](mailto:Lisa.Trumble@wi.gov)

**Juneau County 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

CATEGORY (goal and objective from LWRM plan can be added in each category)	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS If applicable identify focus areas, e.g. HUC 12 watershed code (examples of types of “planned activities” in italics)	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (examples in italics)	Progress in Implementing Planned Activities (LWRM 5yr Plan Review)
<b>• Cropland</b>			
Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management	<i>Practice installation</i> Cover Crops (acres) No-till (acres) NM Planning and Training (acres) Grassed waterways (acres) Grade stabilization (number) Windbreak (feet)	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> 807 Acres 125 Acres 1660 Acres .75 acres 3 grade stabilization structures 2640 feet	<i>Type and units of practices installed</i> 2800 Acres 1900 Acres 253 Acres 1 acre 2 grade stabilization structures 2640 feet
<b>• Livestock</b>			
<b>Livestock</b>	<i>Practice installation</i> Prescribed Grazing (acre) Grazing plan (number) Manure storage closure (number) Livestock fencing (feet) Stream crossing (feet)	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> 544 Acres 5 grazing plans 1 Manure storage Closure 39,600 feet 100 feet	<i>Type and units of practices installed</i> 117 Acres 4 grazing plans 0 Manure storage Closure 16,477 feet 30 feet
<b>• Water quality</b>			
<b>Water quality/quantity</b> (other than activities already listed in other categories)	<i>Practice installation</i> Buffers (acres) CREP Groundwater testing Citizen monitoring  Streambank/shoreline protection (feet) Well decommissioning (number) Critical area stabilization (number) Edge of Field Monitoring Stream Gauging Planning (e.g. lake, source water)	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> 113 Acres 6.15 Acres of CREP 300 wells Water testing in Lake Decorah and Lake Redstone 325 feet 1 Well Closure 1 acre 2 Edge-of-Field Sites 3 Stream Gauging Sites Lemonweir 9-Key Plan, Redstone 9-Key Plan, 1 Flood Study	<i>Type and units of practices installed</i> 20 Acres 6.15 Acres of CREP 150 wells Water testing in Lake Decorah and Lake Redstone 0 feet 0 Well Closure 3 Critical area stabilization 2 Edge-of-Field Sites 3 Stream Gauging Sites Lemonweir 9-Key Plan, Redstone 9-Key Plan, 1 Flood Study
<b>• Forestry</b>			
<b>Forestry</b>	<i>Practice installation</i> Forest management plans (number) Timber Stand Improvement Trails and Walkways (feet)	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> 3 forest management plans 6.1 Acres 118 Feet	<i>Type and units of practices installed</i> 13 forest management plans 15 Acres 120 Feet

**Juneau County 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

- Invasive*

<b>Invasive species</b>	Youth Field Day Aquatic Invasive Species prevention & monitoring	2 Field Days Number of control efforts implemented & sites treated/monitored	2 Field Days Number of control efforts implemented & sites treated/monitored
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- Wildlife*

<b>Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat</b> (other than forestry or invasive species)	Wetland restoration (acres) Wildlife damage program	2 acres Assist APHIS with program	2 acres Assisted APHIS with program
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- Urban*

<b>Urban issues</b>	Pollinator Plots		
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- Watershed*

<b>Watershed strategies</b>	Lake Redstone Producer Led Watershed Farmers of the Lemonweir Valley Guardians of Lake Decorah (GOLD) Lake Redstone Protection District PACRS Organization	\$33,600 grant for watershed activities \$33,600 grant for watershed activities  Assist PACRS, GOLD, LRPD with watershed issues	\$33,600 grant for watershed activities \$33,600 grant for watershed activities  Assist PACRS, GOLD, LRPD with watershed issues
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- Other*

<b>Other</b>			
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Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits anticipated to be issued	
Feedlot permits			
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	1	1	1
Manure storage closure			
Livestock facility siting			
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining			
Stormwater and construction site erosion control			
Shoreland zoning			
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)			
Other			

**Juneau County 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 3: Planned inspections

<b>Inspections</b>	<b>Number of inspections planned</b>	
Total Farm Inspections	45	15
For FPP	5	0
For NR 151	15	10
Animal waste ordinance	10	5
Livestock facility siting	N/A	N/A
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	15	0
Nonmetallic mining	N/A	N/A

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Number</b>	
Tours	2	2
Field days	4	4
Trainings/workshops	5	
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	2	2
Newsletters	2	2
Social media posts	60	80
News release/story	2	1

Table 5: Staff Hours and Expected Costs (staff can be combined or listed individually)

<b>Staff/Support</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Costs</b>
<i>County Conservationist</i>	2080	\$90,764.00
<i>Technician</i>	2080	\$84,041.00
<i>Technician Assistant</i>	2080	\$64,086.00
Support Costs		\$5,000
<b>Cost Sharing</b> (can be combined)		
<i>Ex. Bonding</i>	N/A	\$38,000
<i>Ex. SEG</i>	N/A	\$20,000
<i>Ex. MDV</i>	N/A	\$36,252

**Juneau County 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

CATEGORY (goal and objective from LWRM plan can be added in each category)	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS If applicable identify focus areas, e.g. HUC 12 watershed code (examples of types of “planned activities” in italics)	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (examples in italics)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Cropland</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management</b>	<i>Practice installation</i> Cover Crops (acres) No-till (acres) NM Planning and Training (acres) Grassed waterways (acres) Grade stabilization (number) Windbreak (feet)	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> 2,400 Acres 2,400 Acres 2,500 Acres 1.2 Acres 2 grade stabilization structures 6,555 feet
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Livestock</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Livestock</b>	<i>Practice installation</i> Prescribed Grazing (acre) Grazing plan (number) Livestock fencing (feet) Stream crossing (feet)	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> 85 Acres 2 grazing plans 13,428 feet 250 feet
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Water quality</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Water quality/quantity</b> (other than activities already listed in other categories)	<i>Practice installation</i> Buffers (acres) Groundwater testing (number) Citizen monitoring Streambank/shoreline protection (feet) Well decommissioning (number) Critical area stabilization (number) Edge of Field Monitoring (number) Stream Gauging (number) Planning (e.g. lake, source water)	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> 5 Acres 50 wells Water testing in Lake Decorah and Lake Redstone 600 feet 3 Well Closure 5 Critical area stabilizations 2 Edge-of-Field Sites 3 Stream Gauging Sites Lemonweir 9-Key Plan, 1 Flood Study
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Forestry</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Forestry</b>	<i>Practice installation</i> Forest management plans (number)	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> 4 forest management plans
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Invasive</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Invasive species</b>	Youth Field Day Aquatic Invasive Species prevention & monitoring	2 Field Days Number of control efforts implemented & sites treated/monitored
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Wildlife</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat</b> (other than forestry or invasive species)	Wildlife damage program	Assist APHIS with program

**Juneau County 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

- *Urban*

<b>Urban issues</b>	Pollinator Plots (acres)	2.5 Acres
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- *Watershed*

<b>Watershed strategies</b>	Lake Redstone Producer Led Watershed Farmers of the Lemonweir Valley Guardians of Lake Decorah (GOLD) Lake Redstone Protection District PACRS Organization	\$24,400.00 grant for watershed activities \$30,800.00 grant for watershed activities  Assist PACRS, GOLD, LRPD with watershed issues
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- *Other*

<b>Other</b>		
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Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

<b>Permits and Ordinances</b>	<b>Plans/application reviews anticipated</b>	<b>Permits anticipated to be issued</b>
Feedlot permits	0	0
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	1	1
Manure storage closure	2	2
Livestock facility siting	0	0
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	0	0
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	0	0
Shoreland zoning	1	1
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	4	4
Other	0	0

**Juneau County 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	25
For FPP	0
For NR 151	10
Animal waste ordinance	15
Livestock facility siting	N/A
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	0
Nonmetallic mining	N/A

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	2
Field days	4
Trainings/workshops	4
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	2
Newsletters	2
Social media posts	50
News release/story	2

Table 5: Staff Hours and Expected Costs (staff can be combined or listed individually)

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
<i>County Conservationist</i>	2080	\$92,464.00
<i>Technician</i>	2080	\$87,145.00
<i>Technician Assistant</i>	2080	\$65,503.00
<i>Support Costs</i>		
<b>Cost Sharing</b> (can be combined)		
<i>Bonding</i>	N/A	\$59,797
<i>SEG</i>	N/A	\$20,000
<i>MDV</i>	N/A	\$58,353

**CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM** \_\_\_\_\_ **State of Wisconsin**

**DATE:** July 20, 2023

**TO:** Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

**FROM:** Lisa K. Trumble, DATCP *Lisa K. Trumble*  
Resource Management Section,  
Bureau of Land and Water Resources

**SUBJECT:** Five Year Review of the *Polk County Land and Water Resource Management Plan*

**Recommended Action:** This is an action item. The LWCB should determine whether the county has met the LWCB's criteria for a five-year review of a LWRM plan approved for ten years. If the LWCB makes a formal determination that the county has failed to meet these criteria, DATCP will automatically modify its order to terminate approval of the county's plan effective December of this year.

**Summary:** The Polk County land and water resource management plan has been approved through December 31, 2029, contingent on a five-year review conducted prior to December 31, 2024. In an effort to better manage scheduling in 2024 and at the request of DATCP, Polk County has agreed to present in 2023. In advance of the five-year review, Polk County has completed a DATCP approved form designed to implement the LWCB's reference document dated October 27, 2021, and the criteria for conducting a five-year review. The county has provided written answers to four questions regarding past and future implementation, has provided the required work planning documents, and has appropriately involved the Environmental Services Committee.

**Materials Provided:**

- Completed Five Year Review Form
- 2022 Annual Workplan with Accomplishments
- 2023 Annual Workplan

**Presenter:** Eric Wojchik, County Conservationist, Polk County LWRD  
Kim O'Connell, Environmental Services Committee Chair  
Bob Kazmierski, Environmental Services Division Director





Land and Water Conservation Board  
County Land and Water Resource Management Plan  
Five Year Review of LWRM Plans

County: Polk

**Implementation Covering Past Five Years and Future Directions**

Answer these four questions in writing (not to exceed 4 pages)

1. Provide a representative number of accomplishments that can be directly traced to activities identified in multiple work plans. For each accomplishment, explain how the planning process helped the county achieve its outcome, including planning adjustments that helped better target county activities.

The Land and Water Management Plan provided a guidance document for Land and Water Resource staff to identify goals and objectives for 10 years of work (2020-2029). Within this plan specific objectives were identified and plans to meet these objectives were developed. As of July 18th, 2023, the following accomplishments have been made pertaining to the following goals/objectives.

Goal 2. Protect and improve groundwater quality and quantity.  
Objective 2C. Administer programs that protect groundwater.

Accomplishments:

1. Administered 3 watershed wide well water sampling efforts.
2. Collected 243 new well tests from volunteer homeowners.
3. Mailed 1,742 program informational letters.
4. Connected with 7 agricultural producers to plant 712 acres of cover crops in the project areas. (335 lbs of phosphorus (P) reduced)
5. Two (2) educational webinars for program participants, further expanding information on groundwater systems, sampling, and quality.

Goal 3. Sustain and enhance land resources.  
Objective 3B. Prevent, control, and eradicate terrestrial invasive species.  
Objective 3C. Protect and restore native aquatic and terrestrial habitat.

1. Co-sponsor a Cooperative Weed Management Area
2. Multiple aquatic plant surveys and terrestrial invasive control efforts on public and private land.
3. Sale of 60,638 trees from 2020-2023 to enhance terrestrial habitat.

Goal 4. Support and develop community stewardship and partnerships to improve our natural resources.  
Objective 4B. Encourage natural resource management through civic engagement.

Accomplishments:

1. Continued support for 1 farmer-led watershed council (Horse Creek)
2. Maintain 5 active producers involvement in this initiative.
3. Administer Horse Creek Conservation Incentive program (2020-2023 - Cover crop, 2,246 ac.(1,190 lbs P reduced), Nutrient Management, 7,543 ac.(1,282 lbs P reduced)).

2. Identify any areas where the county was unable to make desired progress in implementing activities identified in multiple work plans. For each area identified, explain the work plan adjustments that were made to refocus planned activities. If no areas are identified, explain how the county was able to make progress in all the areas planned.

Polk County was unable to meet performance measures in four areas in the 2022 workplan. These areas included:

1. Four farm reviews in HUC 12 – 070300050801 (Balsam Lake Watershed). This activity was postponed due to the award of a Large Scale TRM grant focusing on conservation practice and NR 151 compliance. Farm reviews have been incorporated into the TRM grant workplan and is scheduled for 2023-2025.
2. One nutrient management plan and constructed manure storage facility at Creekside Dairy in HUC12 070300050501 (Upper Trade River) also did not occur in 2022. This project design is complete and ready at the Land and Water Resources Department (LWRD) level. However, the project was required to be postponed due to the landowner having difficulty getting approved for financing. With the delay in approval in financing LWRD staff focused on completing as much on the project as possible so that when financing was approved the project is shovel ready.
3. Two well decommissions - No abandoned wells were identified to be decommissioned in 2022. All other SWRM funding was allocated to other conservation projects or earmarked for specific projects to be installed in 2023.
4. Municipality stormwater and erosion control ordinance items were also overestimated in 2022. Polk County LWRD had estimated we would provide technical assistance for 3 municipal locations related to stormwater and erosion control practices. Staff were not called upon to provide assistance nor did staff identify any concerning sites within local municipalities. All other stormwater and erosion control performance measures were achieved.

Overall, the Polk County LWRD did a fine job of meeting most of its performance measures listed in the 2022 workplan.

3. Describe how the county's work plans implement its priority farm strategy and the effectiveness of county actions implementing agricultural performance standards and conservation practices on farms. In particular, the county should describe outreach, farm inventories, and additional funds that were pursued to implement its strategy.

Polk County has a priority watershed strategy rather than a specific priority farm strategy identified in their Land and Water Plan. Polk County LWRD chose to develop a ranking process to identify priority watersheds within the county and focus NR 151/agriculture

performance standard implementation in priority watersheds. This ranking process identified the Balsam Lake watershed (HUC 12 – 070300050801) as our number one priority watershed. To assist with NR 151 progress Polk County applied for a watershed wide Large Scale TRM grant to address resource and compliance concerns within this watershed. Within the Large Scale TRM grant project we have identified a process to provide outreach on the project’s intent, solicit for projects with willing landowners/producers, conduct site evaluations to evaluate need, implement projects and certify compliance on practices installed. This project began in January of 2023 and currently we are in the design and implementation phase for projects identified in the spring of 2023.

4. Provide representative examples that show changes in direction for work planning in the upcoming five years, with specific examples provided showing adjustments in planned activities in the county’s most recent work plan.

With the award of our Large Scale TRM grant 2023-2025 our future workplans will be focused on including deliverables listed in this grant. This project is a priority for LWRD and staff resources will be allocated towards accomplishing the goals and deliverables listed in the grant. In our current 2023 workplan, we have more projects listed addressing livestock facilities. We aim to certify NR 151 compliance on 1 -2 sites and address barnyard runoff on one large operation within this watershed annually. Not specifically listed in our workplan, we have also made many conservation practice outreach efforts in the Balsam Lake watershed (HUC - 070300050801) where our Large Scale TRM grant is focused. With the uncertainty of the response to our outreach efforts in early 2023, it was difficult to accurately develop a workplan that fully captured the potential for conservation practices within the workplan related to the Large Scale TRM grant. Having a list of possible practices as a result of our outreach campaign we expect that the 2024 workplan development will include more TRM grant projects.

### **Annual Work Plans**

Attach both of the following:

- a. The most current annual work prepared by the county.
- b. The work plan for the previous year that includes a column that identifies the progress in implementing the planned activities for that year.

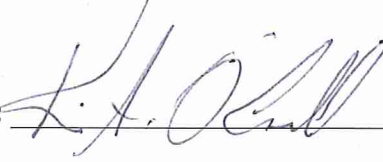
### **Board Review Process**

The goal of the review is not to fail counties. The board recognizes the dynamic nature of the planning process. Board members are interested in how counties tackle priorities over time and how they respond to changing conditions in pursuing their priorities. The board will evaluate a county’s planning and implementation based on how well the county balances and prioritizes the following: agricultural performance standards, other state priorities (impaired waters, FPP checks), and local priorities. When needed, the Board will provide constructive support to counties to improve the quality of their planning. Counties have the option to prepare a brief presentation to illustrate their successes and future priorities.

### **Land Conservation Committee Notification**

The LCC was provided a completed copy of these questions (including attachments) on:  
7/19/2023

**Signature of Authorized Representative:**  
(e.g. County Conservationist, LCC chair)



**Date:** 7-19-23

Send completed questionnaire and attachments to:  
[Lisa.Trumble@wi.gov](mailto:Lisa.Trumble@wi.gov)

**POLK COUNTY 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

CATEGORY (goal and objective from LWRM plan can be added in each category)	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS If applicable identify focus areas, e.g. HUC 12 watershed code (examples of types of "planned activities" in italics)	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (examples in italics)	2022 Workplan Accomplishments (per staff reports)
• <i>Cropland</i>			
<b>Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management</b>	<i>HUC 12 – 070300050801 - farm reviews</i> <i>No-till – HUC 12's 070300050804, 06, 08</i>  <i>Cover crops – HUC12's 070300050804, 06, 08</i>  <i>NM plans – HUC12's 070300050501</i> <i>NM plans –Countywide</i>  <i>Cover crop survey (HUC12's 070300050804, 06)</i> <i>Cover crop survey (HUC12 070300050801)</i> <i>County-wide transect survey</i> <i>Agriculture erosion site visits/possible projects</i> <i>Waterway/Grade Stabilization/WASCOB</i>	<i>-4 reviews</i> <i>- 0 new acres, 4,000 ac. Maintain, 7,500 P red.</i>  <i>-0 new acres, 1,750 ac. Maintain, 823 lbs P red.</i>  <i>-95 new acres, 57lbs P red., Creekside Dairy</i> <i>- +/- 10 plans – 7,500ac. Maintained, 4,463 lbs P red.</i>  <i>-Inventory watersheds (24,000 ac.)</i> <i>-Inventory watershed (38,950 ac.)</i> <i>-County wide survey about 800 points</i> <i>-8 sites</i> <i>-4 new sites (5 acres)</i>	<i>None in 2022</i> <i>3,370 ac. (5,998</i> <i>lbs P reduced)</i> <i>2,425 ac. (1,285</i> <i>lbs P reduced)</i> <i>Postponed</i> <i>8,154.9 ac. (4,852</i> <i>lbs P reduced)</i> <i>Completed</i> <i>Completed</i> <i>Completed</i> <i>6 visits</i> <i>2 visits no</i> <i>projects</i>
• <i>Livestock</i>			
<b>Livestock</b>	<i>Manure pit design &amp; construction (TRM Grant)</i>  <i>Cattle Exclusion Fencing and Watering Facility</i> <i>Manure storage closure</i> <i>Manure spreading complaints</i> <i>NR 151 compliance issue</i>	<i>-1 pit, approx.. 1 million gallon capacity, Creekside Dairy</i>  <i>-1 installed . (+/- \$13,000 spent)</i> <i>-1 planned and closed (\$19,000 spent)</i> <i>-6 investigated complaints</i> <i>-1 livestock feedlot</i>	<i>Postponed due to</i> <i>financing</i> <i>Completed</i> <i>Completed</i> <i>4 investigations</i> <i>None found</i>
• <i>Water quality</i>			
<b>Water quality/quantity</b> (other than activities already listed in other categories)	<i>Public beach samples</i> <i>Lake management plans developed and written</i> <i>Lake management plans assisted</i> <i>Water quality testing</i> <i>Water quality/quantity monitoring</i> <i>Lake level monitoring</i> <i>Technical assistance for healthy lakes program</i> <i>Point intercept aquatic plant surveys</i> <i>Shoreline inventories</i> <i>Watershed assessment</i> <i>Well decommissioning</i> <i>Streambank/Shoreline protection</i>	<i>-5 beaches each week all summer</i> <i>-2 lakes-Largon, Little Butternut</i> <i>-2 lakes-Big Round &amp; Staples</i> <i>-5 lakes-largon, Little Butternut, Halfmoon, Antler, Rice Lake</i> <i>-9 stream sites</i> <i>-5 lakes-Largon, Vincent, Bone, Blake/Fox Creek, Horseshoe</i> <i>-5 sites</i> <i>-1 lake-Loveless Lake</i> <i>-1 lake-Balsam Lake</i> <i>-1 lake and HUC12 070300050801 and 804</i> <i>- +/- 2 wells</i> <i>-5 sites</i>	<i>7 beaches actual</i> <i>1 written</i> <i>2 assisted</i> <i>8 completed</i> <i>7 stream sites</i> <i>3 of 5 completed</i> <i>13 site visits</i> <i>4 lakes actual</i> <i>3 lakes actual</i> <i>1 lake completed</i> <i>0 wells in 2022</i> <i>1 actual</i>

**POLK COUNTY 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

• *Forestry*

<b>Forestry</b>	<i>Practice installation NONE</i>	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed NONE</i>	
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• *Invasive*

<b>Invasive species</b>	<i>State AIS campaigns  Purple loosestrife beetles CWMA program State AIS citizen training/monitoring program AIS signs inventory Zebra Mussel Veliger Tows</i>	<i>-5 campaigns (CBCW, LB, drain, Dock Service Providers and waterfowl campaign) -4 sites -1 enclosed trailer with tools -3 programs-CLMN, Project Red, Snapshot -Maintained for 86 boat landings using tracking software -5 lakes-Balsam, Wapogasset, Mud, Deer, Bone Lake</i>	<i>5 of 5 administered  Completed Completed 3 of 3 administered 86 completed 5 of 5 completed</i>
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• *Wildlife*

<b>Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat</b> (other than forestry or invasive species)	<i>Wildlife damage program Tree and plant sales</i>	<i>-Estimated 50 participants -17,200 trees sold</i>	<i>17 enrollees 16,570 sold</i>
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• *Urban*

<b>Urban issues</b>	<i>Stormwater and construction site erosion control Stormwater and construction site erosion control Stormwater and construction site erosion control Stormwater and construction site erosion control General runoff technical assistance for municipalities</i>	<i>-8 site visits -6 plan reviews -3-5 permits - +/- 2 compliance issues -3 site visits</i>	<i>7 site visits 3 permit reviews 4 permits issued 2 compliance None for municipalities</i>
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• *Watershed*

<b>Watershed strategies</b>	<i>Cont. farmer led council – (HUC12 070300050804, 06)  Producer led watershed council – same HUC12's  County-wide tracking system  Land and Water Resource Management Plan – Largon Lake Watershed  Watershed Livestock Inventory (HUC12's 070300050804, 06)</i>	<i>-Provide tech assistance to 1 farmer led watershed council 6-10 meetings attend/presentation/track P reductions using STEPL -12 partner contacts  -BMP and NR 151 compliance GIS tracking system development -Watershed assessment (livestock inventory, no-till/cover crop inventory, EVAAL, STEPL, NDTI/NDVI), prioritization of BMP's, BMP design and installation -LWRM Plan HUC12 priority watershed Inventory watersheds (24,000 ac.)</i>	<i>Completed as described    In progress – MapFeeder  Not completed</i>
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**POLK COUNTY 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

	<i>Groundwater testing/BMP outreach program HUC12's 070300050501 &amp; 070300050707</i>	<i>-200 well tests, sample mapping, outreach and educational programming and materials – Funding; SEG Innovation Grant 2022</i>	<i>156 well tests, project completed as described</i>
• <i>Other</i>	<i>Nonmetallic mine reclamation Nonmetallic mine reclamation Nonmetallic mine reclamation Lake Access improvement – Dwight Lake Boat landing Shoreline handbook</i>	<i>-4 plan reviews per year -75 site inspections per year -65 mines tracked using GIS tracking software -Survey, design, and construction oversight  -Revision to current publication</i>	<i>1 plan review 71 Completed 66 Completed Survey, design, construction 2023 Completed</i>

Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits anticipated to be issued	Actual
Feedlot permits	0	0	0
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	1	1	3
Manure storage closure	1	1	1
Livestock facility siting	0	0	0
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	4	65	66
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	3	3	4
Shoreland zoning	0	0	0
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	0	0	0
Other			

**POLK COUNTY 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned	Actual
Total Farm Inspections	7	4
For FPP	6	4
For NR 151	1	0
Animal waste ordinance	6-8	4
Livestock facility siting	0	0
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	3	9
Nonmetallic mining	75	71

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	0
Field days	1
Trainings/workshops	4
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	2
Newsletters	0
Social media posts	40
News release/story	2

Table 5: Staff Hours and Expected Costs (staff can be combined or listed individually)

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
<i>County Con./Planner/Tech/(2)Water Quality staff, Administrative support (5.48 staff)</i>	<i>11,398</i>	<i>\$443,554</i>
<b>Cost Sharing (can be combined)</b>		
<i>Bonding</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>
<i>SEG Innovation</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$9,000</i>



**POLK COUNTY 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

CATEGORY (goal and objective from LWRM plan can be added in each category)	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS If applicable identify focus areas, e.g. HUC 12 watershed code (examples of types of “planned activities” in italics)	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (examples in italics)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Cropland</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management</b>	<i>Cover crop survey (HUC12's 070300050804, 06, 08)</i> <i>Cover crop survey (HUC12 070300050801)</i> <i>No-till – HUC 12's 070300050804, 06, 08</i> <i>County-wide transect survey</i> <i>Cover crops installed and incentivized</i> <i>NM plans – HUC12's 070300050501</i>  <i>NM plans –Countywide</i> <i>Agriculture erosion site visits/possible projects</i> <i>Agricultural Stream Crossing</i>	<i>-Inventory watersheds (24,000 ac.)</i> <i>-Inventory watershed (38,950 ac.)</i> <i>-0 new acres,</i> <i>-County wide survey about 800 points</i> <i>-1,500 acres +/- \$30,000 from various funding sources</i> <i>-95 new acres, 57lbs P red., Creekside Dairy (not installed in 2022)</i> <i>- +/- 10 plans – 8,100 ac., 4,820 lbs P reduced</i> <i>-5 sites</i>  <i>-50 lin. ft - +/- \$15,000</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Livestock</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Livestock</b>	<i>Manure pit design &amp; construction (TRM Grant)</i>  <i>Manure storage permitting and project consultation</i> <i>Rotational Grazing System &amp; Livestock Watering Facility</i> <i>Animal Lot Runoff Improvement</i> <i>Manure spreading complaints</i> <i>NR 151 compliance – HUC 12 -070300050801</i>	<i>-1 pit, approx.. 1 million gallon capacity, Creekside Dairy (Performance standard compliance)</i> <i>-3 sites (1 closure, 2 new const.)</i> <i>-1 planned for installation +/- \$19,500</i>  <i>-1 site to visit for practice applicability</i> <i>- 3 to 6 complaints annually</i> <i>- 1 to 2 sites</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Water quality</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Water quality/quantity</b> (other than activities already listed in other categories)	<i>Public beach samples</i>  <i>Lake management plans developed and written</i> <i>County lakes Project Plan</i> <i>Water quality testing</i> <i>Water quality/quantity monitoring</i> <i>Lake level monitoring</i> <i>Technical assistance for healthy lakes program</i> <i>Point intercept aquatic plant surveys</i> <i>Shoreline inventories/woody habitat survey</i> <i>Well decommissioning</i> <i>Streambank/Shoreline protection</i>	<i>-7 beaches, each week, all summer (Half Moon, Big Butternut, Balsam, Lotus, Church Pine and North and South Twin Lake)</i> <i>-1 lake-Largon</i> <i>-7 lakes, 5 tributaries in watershed HUC12 070300050801</i> <i>-5 lakes-Sandhill, King, Alabama, Little Blake, Little Bass Lake</i> <i>-5 stream sites- Balsam Branch, Bass, Harder, Otter, Rice Crk.</i> <i>-3 lakes-Vincent, Bone, Horseshoe</i> <i>-6 sites</i> <i>-2 lakes-Little Blake, Alabama</i> <i>-4 lake-Sandhill, King, Alabama, Little Blake</i> <i>- +/- 2 wells</i> <i>-2 sites</i>

**POLK COUNTY 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Forestry</i></li> </ul>		
Forestry	NONE	NONE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Invasive</i></li> </ul>		
Invasive species	<i>State AIS campaigns</i>  <i>Purple loosestrife beetles</i> <i>CWMA program</i> <i>State AIS citizen training/monitoring program</i> <i>AIS signs inventory</i> <i>Zebra Mussel Veliger Tows</i> <i>Zebra Mussel Informational Forum (1 day virtual event)</i> <i>Red Hailstone monitoring and control</i> <i>Invasive Phragmites monitoring and control</i> <i>Invasive species website improvement</i>	<i>-5 campaigns (CBCW, Landing Blitz, Drain Campaign, Dock Service Providers and waterfowl campaign)</i> <i>-2 sites for release and 1 mass rearing site</i> <i>-1 enclosed trailer with tools</i> <i>-3 programs-CLMN, Project Red, Snapshot Day</i> <i>-Maintained for 86 boat landings using tracking software</i> <i>-5 lakes-Balsam, Wapogasset, Mud, Deer, Bone Lake</i> <i>-Approx 119 participants</i>  <i>-1 pioneer site</i> <i>-3 sites</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Wildlife</i></li> </ul>		
Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat (other than forestry or invasive species)	<i>Wildlife damage program</i> <i>Tree and plant sales</i>	<i>-Estimated 50 participants</i> <i>-19,100 trees ordered and sold</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Urban</i></li> </ul>		
Urban issues	<i>Stormwater and construction site erosion control</i> <i>Stormwater and construction site erosion control</i> <i>Stormwater and construction site erosion control</i> <i>Stormwater and construction site erosion control</i> <i>General runoff technical assistance for municipalities</i> <i>Technical design assistance for municipalities</i>	<i>-5 site visits</i> <i>-3-5 plan reviews</i> <i>-3-5 permits</i> <i>- +/- 2 compliance issues</i> <i>-3 site visits</i>  <i>- +/- 1 site</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Watershed</i></li> </ul>		
Watershed strategies	<i>Cont. farmer led council – (HUC12 070300050804, 06, 08)</i>	<i>-Provide tech assistance to 1 farmer led watershed council</i> <i>4-8 meetings attend/presentation/track P reductions using STEPL/PLET</i>

**POLK COUNTY 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

	<p><i>Producer led watershed council – same HUC12’s</i></p> <p><i>County-wide tracking system</i></p> <p><i>Groundwater testing/BMP outreach program HUC12’s 070300050702 (Straight Rvr)&amp; 070300050806 (Cedar Lk/Horse Crk.)</i></p> <p><i>Implementation of Large Scale TRM grant for BMPs – HUC 070300050801 Balsam Lake</i></p>	<p><i>-12 partner contacts</i></p> <p><i>-BMP and NR 151 compliance GIS tracking system development</i></p> <p><i>-200 well tests, sample mapping, outreach and educational programming and materials – Funding: SWRM Innovation Grant 2023 \$9,000 and Levy \$10,000</i></p> <p><i>-Cropping and agricultural practice implementation watershed wide, anticipated BMP spending +/- \$120,000 annually</i></p>
<p>• <i>Other</i></p>		
<p><b>Other</b></p>	<p><i>Nonmetallic mine reclamation</i></p> <p><i>Nonmetallic mine reclamation</i></p> <p><i>Nonmetallic mine reclamation</i></p> <p><i>Nonmetallic mine reclamation</i></p> <p><i>Lake Access improvement – Dwight Lake Boat landing</i></p> <p><i>Agriculture Conservation Planning Framework (ACPF) modeling</i></p>	<p><i>-2 plan reviews per year</i></p> <p><i>- +/- 1 new permit</i></p> <p><i>-75 site inspections per year</i></p> <p><i>-66 mines tracked using GIS tracking software</i></p> <p><i>-Permit application and construction oversight</i></p> <p><i>- +/- 2 watersheds countywide</i></p>

**POLK COUNTY 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits anticipated to be issued
Feedlot permits	0	0
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	1	1
Manure storage closure	1	1
Livestock facility siting	0	0
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	2	66
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	4	4
Shoreland zoning	0	0
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	0	0
Other		

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	5
For FPP	3
For NR 151	2
Animal waste ordinance	4
Livestock facility siting	0
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	2
Nonmetallic mining	66

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	0
Field days	3
Trainings/workshops	5
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	2
Newsletters	0
Social media posts	50+
News release/story/	3
Radio interviews	12

**POLK COUNTY 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 5: Staff Hours and Expected Costs (staff can be combined or listed individually)

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
<i>County Con./Planner/Tech/(2)Water Quality staff, Conservation Specialist, Administrative support (5.48 FTE staff, 1 LTE staff)</i>	13,478.4	\$449,704
<b>Cost Sharing (can be combined)</b>		
<i>Bonding</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>
<i>SWRM Innovation</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$9,000</i>



State of Wisconsin  
Governor Tony Evers

**Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection**  
Secretary Randy Romanski

**CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM** \_\_\_\_\_ **State of Wisconsin**

**DATE:** July 20, 2023

**TO:** Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

**FROM:** Susan Mockert, DATCP  
Bureau of Land and Water Resources Management

**SUBJECT:** *2024 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan for the Soil and Water Resource Management Program and the Nonpoint Source Program*

**Recommend Action:**

This is an informational item. However, if the LWCB wishes to do so, it may vote to “receive” the *2024 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan*. A vote to “receive” the preliminary allocation plan does not bind the LWCB to any position.

**Summary:**

The *2024 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan* provides details on how both the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) proposes to allocate \$21,724,708 of available nonpoint grant funds to county land conservation committees and other project cooperators.

As part of the allocation process, DATCP prepared an environmental assessment (EA). The EA finds that DATCP’s proposed allocation is not a major action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and concludes that an environmental impact statement is not required.

**Breakdown of the 2024 Joint Allocation**

Charts 1 and 2 on Page 6 of the Joint Allocation Plan provide an overview of the grant funds DNR and DATCP propose to allocate. Specifically, Chart 1 identifies the proposed DNR and DATCP awards by program category and the dollar amounts and Chart 2 documents the grants awarded by the state appropriation or other funding source.

DATCP’s allocation awards grants in these program categories: staff and support, landowner cost-sharing, including a reserve to cost-share farm discharges and specific environmental concerns, and project grants including NMFE training and Innovation Grants. The following tables provide details regarding DATCP grants:

*Wisconsin - America’s Dairyland*

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An equal opportunity employer

Table A (page 20) summarizes county and cooperator awards by program category; Table A-1 (pages 21-22) shows the step-by-step process for calculating county staff and support grants; Tables A-2 (page 25) and A-3 (page 26) show county scores and rankings in the competition for structural and SEG cost-share grants.

DATCP expenditures for the 2024 allocation vary from the 2023 allocation as follows:

- A decrease of \$317,700 in staffing and support grants, reflecting the decrease in the funds appropriated as part of the 2023-2025 state budget.
- A decrease of \$45,741 in structural cost-share allocation.
- An overall increase of \$1,000,000 in SEG allocation, primarily for nutrient management cost-sharing with landowners. The breakdown of changes is below:
  - A decrease of \$12,716 in cost-share awards.
  - A decrease of \$141,409 in Innovation Grant awards.
  - An increase of \$52,054 in grants to project cooperator grants for education and technical assistance, reflecting an increase in working jointly with other entities to provide support for DATCP programming.
  - An increase of \$202,071 in NMFE grants awards. The requests for these grants were completely met, therefore the increase in the award amounts is due to an increase in grant applications.

DNR provides grants in the following funding categories: Targeted Runoff Management (TRM), Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management (UNPS) Planning, and NR 243 Notice of Discharge (NOD) programs. Table B (page 23) provides a breakdown of DNR's allocation to counties.

Table C (page 24) combines the DNR and DATCP allocations to provide a complete picture of the 2024 allocations.

The body of the Joint Allocation Plan provides a detailed discussion regarding DATCP and DNR allocations including future directions for DATCP funding. These are highlights of DATCP's discussion regarding future directions:

- Possible changes in SEG-funded grants targeted to improve soil health and watershed management, specifically cover crops and reduced/no-till practices.
- Refining the SEG funding formula for awarding nutrient management cost-sharing.

### **Comment on Preliminary Allocation Plan**

The 2024 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan and DATCP's Environmental Assessment were provided to all county land conservation departments and other interested parties prior to the LWCB's August 1, 2023 meeting.

Counties, project cooperators, and other interested persons may comment on the 2024 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan either by:

- Requesting to appear and present comments before the LWCB at its August 1, 2023 meeting. A Public Appearance Request Card must be submitted before the meeting.
- Emailing written comments no later than September 5, 2023 to Kim Carlson at [datcpswrm@wisconsin.gov](mailto:datcpswrm@wisconsin.gov).

Materials Provided:

- 2024 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan
- Environmental Assessment

Presenter: Susan Mockert (DATCP)



# 2024 Joint Allocation Plan

Preliminary

AUGUST 2023

Soil and Water Resource Management Grant Program and Nonpoint Source Program



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# Summary of Changes to the 2024 Joint Allocation Plan

This section will be completed to account for any changes in the proposed allocation plan based on comments received, LWCB input, and other factors identified by DATCP or DNR.

Counties, project cooperators, and other interested persons may comment on the 2024 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan either by:

- Requesting to appear and present comments before the LWCB at a regularly scheduled meeting (a Public Appearance Request Card must be completed before the start of the meeting); or
- Emailing written comments by no later than September 5, 2023 to:  
Kim Carlson at [datcpswrm@wisconsin.gov](mailto:datcpswrm@wisconsin.gov).

## Approval Signatures

DATCP has determined that the action described in this allocation plan for the 2024 soil and water resource management grant program shown in [Table A](#) conforms to the applicable DATCP provisions of s. 92.14, Wis. Stats, and ATCP 50, Wis. Administrative Code. DATCP reserves the right to reallocate grant funds unexpended by recipients.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

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Randy Romanski, Secretary

DNR has determined that the actions described in this allocation plan for the 2024 allocations of DNR funds shown in [Table B](#) conforms with the provisions of ss. 281.65 and 281.66, Wis. Stats.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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Adam Payne, Secretary

## Introduction

The allocations identified in this plan provide counties and others with grant funding for conservation staff and support costs, landowner cost-sharing, and runoff management projects. The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are making these allocations to protect Wisconsin's soil and water resources, consistent with the objectives in chs. 92 and 281, Wis. Stats.

DATCP is allocating grants to county land conservation committees (counties) and other project cooperators in 2024 through the Soil and Water Resource Management Program ([Table A](#)).

DNR is allocating grants to counties through the Targeted Runoff Management (TRM), the NR 243 Notice of Discharge (NOD), and Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management Construction Projects (UNPS Construction) Grant programs ([Table B](#)).

For 2024, a total of \$21,724,708 is allocated based on the state budget for the 2023-25 biennium. [Table C](#) summarizes all allocations, by grantee. Organized by funding category, Chart 1 on page 6, summarizes grant fund requests, unmet funding requests, and allocation amounts. Chart 2 on page 6, shows the allocation categories by funding sources. *If required, these allocations may be adjusted based on reductions or lapses in appropriations or authorizations.*

The 2023-2025 biennium budget changed the funding source for the SWRM cost-share traditionally referred to as "bond" projects. For this biennium, these funds will be general purpose revenue funds leading to a change in terminology within the SWRM program. Here-in bond or GPR funded cost-share projects are referred to as "structural" practices.

# Funding Sources and Allocation Requests

CHART 1: GRANT REQUESTS AND ALLOCATIONS			
Funding Category	Total Requests	Unmet Requests	Allocation Amounts
<b>DATCP</b>			
County Staff/Support	\$19,408,611	\$8,446,311	\$10,962,300
LWRM Cost-Share	\$6,955,000	\$3,455,000	\$3,500,000
Bond Reserve (B)	\$0	\$300,000	\$300,000
LWRM Cost-Share (SEG)	\$2,837,600	\$725,216	\$2,112,384
Cooperator Contracts (SEG)	\$1,072,126	\$69,213	\$1,002,913
Innovation Grants (SEG)	\$429,943	\$247,293	\$182,650
NMFE Grants (SEG)	\$377,053	\$0	\$377,053
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$31,080,333</b>	<b>\$13,243,033</b>	<b>\$18,437,300</b>
<b>DNR</b>			
UNPS Planning	\$29,015	\$0	\$29,015
UNPS Construction	NA	NA	NA
TRM	\$2,258,393	\$0	\$2,258,393
NOD Reserve (B)			\$1,000,000
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,287,408</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,287,408</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$21,724,708</b>

CHART 2: FUNDING SOURCES	
<b>Staff and Support Grants</b>	
\$7,269,000	DATCP SEG from s. 20.115(7)(qe)
\$3,693,300	DATCP GPR from s. 20.115(7)(c)
<b>\$10,962,300</b>	<b>DATCP Subtotal</b>
\$0	DNR SEG from s.20.370(6)(aq)
\$29,015	DNR SEG from s. 20.370(6)(dq)
\$201,428	DNR Sec. 319 Account (Federal)
<b>\$230,443</b>	<b>DNR Subtotal</b>
<b>\$11,192,743</b>	<b>TOTAL Staff &amp; Support Grants</b>
<b>Cost-Share Grants</b>	
\$3,500,000	DATCP GPR from s. 20.115(7)(c)
\$300,000	DATCP Bond (Reserve) from s. 20.866(2)(we)
\$2,112,384	DATCP SEG from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
<b>\$5,912,384</b>	<b>DATCP Subtotal</b>
\$2,522,204	DNR GPR from s. 20.370(6)(ag)
\$0	DNR SEG from s. 20.370(6)(aq)
\$534,761	DNR Sec. 319 Account (Federal)
<b>\$3,056,965</b>	<b>DNR Subtotal</b>
<b>\$8,969,349</b>	<b>TOTAL Cost-Share Grants</b>
<b>Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE) &amp; Other Project Cooperator (OPC) Grants</b>	
\$377,053	DATCP SEG (NMFE) from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
\$1,002,913	DATCP SEG (OPC) from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
\$182,650	DATCP SEG (Innovation) from s.20.115(7)(qf)
<b>\$1,562,616</b>	<b>TOTAL NMFE &amp; Other Grants</b>
<b>\$21,724,708</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>

# DATCP Allocations

## Staff and Support

The allocation under this category provides county staff and support funding. Grant awards are consistent with the terms of the 2024 grant application and instructions located at [https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs\\_Services/SWRMSect6.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/SWRMSect6.aspx).

### Funds Available

The allocation amount listed in [Table A-1](#) consists of annual appropriations of \$3,693,300 in GPR funds and \$7,269,000 in SEG funds “for support of local land conservation personnel under the soil and water resource management program.” DATCP has no underspending from prior years to increase this allocation.

### Grant Awards

Grants are awarded using the following formula:

#### Tier 1

DATCP is exercising its discretion under ch. ATCP 50.32(5) to award each county a \$75,000 base grant.

#### Tier 2

DATCP will allocate the remaining \$5,562,300 using a modified version of the formula designed to meet the goal in s. 92.14(6)(b), Wis. Stats., of funding 100, 70 and 50 percent of the costs of three staff positions in each county. As modified, the formula allows counties to claim department heads, technicians and engineers as their first positions (entitled to 100 percent funding) only if they work over 95% on eligible conservation activities.

DATCP makes Tier 2 awards in three rounds in an attempt to meet the statutory goal. For round one, DATCP will fully fund county requests for their first position at the 100% rate. Due to a decrease in the 2024 allocation, DATCP will fund 85% of the county requests for their second position at the 70% rate. DATCP has no funding to make awards in round three to fund a county’s third position at the 50% rate. [Table A-1](#) provides round-by-round details of the Tier 2 allocation for each county.

### Unmet Need for Staff and Support Funds

DATCP requires an additional \$2.4 million appropriated to reach the goal of providing 50% of the third position; \$777,192 additional is required to fully fund 70% of the second position. With decreases in funding, counties are anticipated to contribute a significant part of the staffing costs. For example, in 2022, counties provided funding to pay 206 of the 394 conservation staff

employed statewide. For 2024, DATCP requires \$14,000,991 to reach the statutory funding goals.

## Future Funding Directions

DATCP awards grants for a county's first position only if the staff is actively engaged in qualified conservation activities. DATCP also requires annual work planning and reporting in order to qualify for DATCP funding. These requirements build county conservation capacity and better account for the performance of conservation activities using state funds. If sufficient additional staffing funding is made available in the future to fully fund the statutory goal in s. 92.14(6)(b), DATCP may consider further adjustments to the grant formula to advance the goals of capacity building and accountability without compromising the basic funding for county staff. If additional funding is provided moving forward, DATCP could consider the amount of DATCP programming a county supports, such as nutrient management farmer education, farmland preservation, CREP, or livestock siting, in determining how funds are allocated.

In the future, DATCP could ensure that counties maintain adequate conservation delivery capacity by requiring that a county's second or third position be engaged in providing high-level conservation support as a technician with conservation engineering practitioner certification or as a planner qualified to write nutrient management plans. DATCP reserves the right to adjust awards to buffer impacts due to changing State budgets. In addition, DATCP could preclude a county from claiming a department head as its second or third position if the county has listed a department head in its first position. To reward county performance, the staffing grant formula could be modified to provide additional payments for counties that are making reasonable progress in implementing their annual work plans. If adjustments to the staffing formula are made in the future, DATCP will proceed with caution and only after input from counties, mindful of the challenges.

## Cost-Sharing, Structural Practices

With the 2023-2025 state budget plan, the source of funding for cost-sharing "hard" or "structural" practices to resolve discharges on farms, address priority non-point runoff projects, and provide counties grants for landowner cost-sharing was changed from bond to general purpose revenue (GPR). Historically, these cost-share funds and practices have been referred to as bond or bondable. For the 2024 Joint Allocation Plan, these practices will be referred to structural practices. Unless otherwise noted below, grant awards are consistent with the terms of the 2024 grant application and instructions (see page 7 for the link to these documents).

### Structural Practice Funds Available

The allocation amount listed on page one consists of \$3.5 million (half of DATCP's \$7.0 million authorization in the 2023-25 budget) GPR funds. NOTE: Extended bond funds remain available for approved extended projects.



## Grant Awards

### *Engineering Reserve Projects*

DATCP will allocate \$300,000 to an engineering reserve primarily for funding projects to address discharges on farms including regulatory animal waste response (NR 151) projects in cooperation with DNR. Some funds may be used for priority projects related to extreme weather events or other non-runoff related projects. These projects are usually higher cost and funds are awarded based on a competitive application process that includes completing a form for engineering reserve projects and projects over \$50,000 as well as obtaining a recommendation from DATCP engineering staff.

DATCP will allocate \$3,500,000 for structural practices to counties for landowner cost-sharing. DATCP makes county awards by first providing base funding, and then awarding funds based on criteria related to county performance and need.

After providing each county \$10,000 in base funding, DATCP awards the remaining \$2,780,000 using two performance-based criteria (a 3-year record of cumulative spending of cost-share funds, and a 3-year average of underspending of cost-share funds) and one needs-based criteria (farmland acres based on 2017 Census of Agriculture data). Minor manual adjustments are then made to the allocation, if needed.

[Table A-2](#) shows each county's total award amount and the factors that contributed to the county's award.

### *Unmet Need for Structural Cost-Share Funds*

DATCP's allocation provided 50% of the structural funds requested, leaving \$3,455,000 in unfunded county requests. A shortfall in structural funds has practical implications to implement state and local priorities including farm runoff standards. Of particular concern, cost-share dollars are not keeping pace with increased costs for conservation practices and expanded priorities reflected in the new ch. NR 151.075 targeted performance standard.

### *Future Funding Directions*

Funding to install structural conservation practices has stayed the same since 2009, but costs have increased, resulting in 81% of counties having no underspending. Therefore, that criterion is less meaningful when awarding funds than in previous years. Acres of farmland per county and positive spending over three year are taking precedent in how funds are awarded.

DATCP may update the review of applications and awards process using a rubric to score applications and supporting information. The criteria would stay the same – underspending, acres of farmland and positive spending – but the interpretation of the data may be updated.

Finally, with the move to general purpose revenue funds, up to \$150,000 in unspent bond funds may be used to assist with setting up an external-facing database to ease the

counties submission of documents and increase the counties' ability to access reporting and data from the SWRM program as a whole. Any funds not used for this purpose will be added to the 2025 engineering reserve fund.

## SEG Fund Allocation

The allocations under this category provide funding for (1) landowner cost-sharing for soft practices including nutrient management (NM), (2) farmer and related training involving NM, (3) NM implementation support and other projects of statewide importance and 4) innovation projects. Unless otherwise noted below, grant awards are consistent with the terms of the 2024 grant application and instructions (see page 7 for the link to these documents).

### Funds Available

The total allocated for SEG programming is \$6,475,000 "for cost-sharing grants and contracts under the soil and water resource management program under s. 92.14" with the following adjustments:

- A decrease of \$1,000,000 because of a redirection of funds for producer-led watershed protection grants.
- A decrease of \$1,000,000 for a redirection to the Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program.
- A decrease of \$800,000 for a redirection to the Crop Insurance Rebates for Cover Crops program.

Of the \$3,675,000 available for allocation, \$2,112,384 will be provided to counties for landowner cost-sharing, \$377,053 will be awarded for farmer NM training, \$182,650 will be given to counties for innovation grants and \$1,002,913 will be awarded to project cooperators for training and support services. The majority of funding awarded in this category directly benefits farmers and other landowners by providing NM cost-sharing and farmer training.

### Landowner Cost-Sharing

DATCP provides grants to counties primarily for cost-sharing NM plans to meet the 2015 Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) 590 Standard. Some of these funds may be used to cost-share (a) cover crops and other cropping practices to implement a NM plan, and (b) for structural practices with DATCP approval if the county's grant contract authorizes such use.

Sixty counties applied for \$2,837,600 in grants, and DATCP will award \$2,112,384 to applicants based on ranking determined by the following scoring criteria:

- Up to 20 points based on acres covered by Farmland Preservation Zoning and Agriculture Enterprise Areas.
- Up to 20 points based on the extent of impaired waters located in each county.

- Up to 30 points based on a county’s participation in NM planning and implementation as demonstrated by specific employee positions, inclusion of NM planning in 2023 work plans, providing educational opportunities related to NM planning, soil testing, or plan renewal.
- Up to 30 points based on a county’s total three-year positive spending on NM cost-sharing.

DATCP relies on data in its possession to score county applications based on the four funding criteria. Counties are ranked according to their cumulative score (up to 100 points) and are organized into five groups for allocation purposes. Counties receive the highest maximum preliminary award for their grouping, unless a county requests a lower amount. The five award groups are listed in Chart 3.

<b>Group</b>	<b>Maximum Award</b>	<b>Maximum Awards in Groups</b>
1	\$95,000	2 of 2
2	\$75,000	5 of 7
3	\$65,000	7 of 33
4	\$35,000	2 of 13
5	\$15,000	0 of 5

Funds were then manually adjusted in a few cases to provide additional SEG funding to counties who requested larger allocations and have demonstrated an ability to spend it, or to limit funds going to counties who have a proclivity of transferring all SEG funds. In no case did the award exceed a county’s request or the maximum of \$95,000. [Table A-3](#) enumerates each county’s score, grouping, and grant award. The term “N/A” identifies the twelve counties that did not apply for funds. [Table A](#) also reflects amounts allocated to each county under the “SEG Cost-Sharing” column. Without prior approval from DATCP, counties may spend up to 50% of SEG cost-share allocation on cropping practices. With prior approval from DATCP, counties may spend up to 50% of their cost-share SEG allocation on structural practices in support of nutrient management plan implementation. Counties may request additional flexibility to use the funds with DATCP approval.

## NMFE Training Grants

For 2024, DATCP fully funded all Nutrient Management Farmer Education requests, in the amounts listed in Chart 4.

All grant recipients must sign a contract with DATCP that incorporates the requirements of Ch. ATCP 50.35 and commits the project to developing NM plans that meet the 2015 NRCS 590 standards. Six of the awards also include funds to purchase laptops for training.



Tier 1 funding provides for nutrient management training to producers and plan writers to develop 590-compliant nutrient management plans. These funds can be used for participant payments to complete soil tests or attend training, as well as for administrative costs. Tier 2 awards offer the same training, but developing a 590-compliant plan is not required.

Chart 4: NMFE Grant Awards	
Organization	Total Award
AshlandBayfieldDouglasIron*	\$26,940
Columbia County	\$14,950
CVTC	\$30,000
Dane County	\$14,600
Eau Claire County	\$19,250
Glacierland RC&D	\$23,000
Green Lake County*	\$12,628
Kewaunee Co.*	\$23,700
Lafayette Co.	\$9,750
Manitowoc Co.*	\$14,100
Marathon Co	\$1,350
Marathon (Tylr, Clrk, Lcln, Wd)	\$42,890
Marquette Co*	\$22,000
NWTC	\$14,297
Ozaukee Co.	\$3,000
Sauk Co (MATC Reedsburg)	\$21,500
Sawyer Co*	\$18,936
SWTC	\$20,000
Trempealeau Co.	\$20,262
Vernon Co. / WTC	\$20,900
Washington Co.	\$3,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$377,053</b>
Tier 1 and Tier 2 Awards	
*Laptop Award	

## Statewide Projects: Project Cooperator Grants

In addition to supporting NMFE training, DATCP uses its SEG appropriation for projects that contribute to statewide conservation goals, meeting the following grant priorities in Ch. ATCP 50.30(3):

- fund cost-effective activities that address and resolve high priority problems;
- build a systematic and comprehensive approach to soil erosion and water quality problems;
- contribute to a coordinated soil and water resource management program and avoid duplication of effort.

DATCP has targeted the following areas for funding: nutrient management implementation activities including SnapPlus, support for statewide training of conservation professionals, development and support of technical standards, and coordinated activities in AEAs and impaired waters.

In the cooperator subcategory of Nutrient Management Implementation Support, DATCP received an application from the UW-Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. The request totals \$666,713. DATCP will fund the UW-CALS request as follows: (1) \$300,000 for maintaining and improving education and training (2) \$296,000 for SnapPlus maintenance and development.

Funding the UW CALS Nutrient and Pest Management Program supports the maintenance and expansion of a digital, self-paced, interactive NM curriculum, including the development of new applications and resources. Funding also supports statewide delivery of the NM curriculum through virtual and in-person trainings. The UW CALS project will also support development of new training materials related to the launch of SnapPlus version 3, which is anticipated in 2024.

In the training and technical standard support category of project cooperators, DATCP will provide the following funding:

- Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association (WI Land+Water) is awarded \$255,732. The funds are intended to build statewide capacity to deliver and coordinate conservation training including implementation of recommendations of the statewide interagency training committee (SITCOM). Funding also supports activities to promote accountability and achievements among county conservation programs. Finally, a focus on enhancing state conservation delivery will be facilitated through statewide conservation initiatives and by fostering state and local priorities.

The Standards Oversight Council (SOC) is awarded the full \$42,000 requested. This award contributes support to ensure statewide capacity to develop and maintain technical standards for conservation programs.

- Up to \$5,000 is awarded to the host county for costs related to Conservation Observance Day.

DATCP received two other applications for cooperator funds:

- UW-SFAL – Support of Soil Lab services. This project will support the NM soil lab certification program. Request: \$18,005. Award: \$18,005.
- UW-NOP – Support of the Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program that is a partnership between DATCP and UW. This will fund a position in UW-Extension focused on program outreach. Request: \$86,176. Award: \$86,176.

## **Innovation Grants**

With the 2024 SWRM grant application, counties were invited to submit Innovation Grant requests for new ways to approach land and water conservation. Nine applications were received from counties with \$429,943 SEG funds requested. A total of \$182,250 is awarded shown in Chart 5.

<b>Chart 5: Innovation Awards</b>			
<b>Innovation Grant</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Staffing Award from EPA Hypoxia Grant</b>	<b>Total Award</b>
Dane County	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000
Fond du Lac County	\$50,000		\$50,000
Langlade County	\$0	\$25,943	\$25,943
Manitowoc County	\$20,150		\$20,150
Polk County	\$11,500		\$11,500
Racine County	\$25,000		\$25,000
Wood County	\$26,000		\$26,000
<b>TOTAL AWARDED</b>	<b>\$182,650</b>	<b>\$75,943</b>	<b>\$258,593</b>

Projects were scored by four individuals on a 20-point scale that considered alignment with the program goals, a logical plan, the proposed budget and previous funding. Six Innovation Grant proposals are fully funded based on the level of innovation: Fond du Lac County, Langlade County, Manitowoc County, Polk County, Racine County and Wood County. These projects are not only innovative in the proposed county, but also could provide models for other counties and programs moving forward. One project was partially funded: Dane County. Due to scoring lower in the rankings and/or being outside of the scope of the Innovation Grants, Ozaukee County and Rusk County were not funded.

The 2024 cooperator awards are documented in the lower section of [Table A](#). All award recipients are required to sign grant contracts that incorporate the requirements of s. ATCP 50.35, and include significant accountability measures.

### **Unmet Need for Cost-Share Funding**

DATCP will provide about 74% of the SEG funding requested by counties for cost-sharing, which is \$725,216 less than the requested amount. While the cost-share funding aligns with county spending, the average total spent by counties annually over the past several years is significantly less than what was allocated. The department hopes that the continued additional flexibility provided will increase the amount of cost-sharing utilized by counties.

### **Future Funding Directions**

DATCP continues to consider how it can best apply its SEG funding to improve conservation and implement conservation practices.

There is a growing interest in cropping practices where SEG funds could be targeted to improve soil health and watershed management, specifically cover crops and reduced/no-till practices. Looking forward, practices such as harvestable buffers, small grains projects, rotational grazing, cropping practices that improve climate resiliency, precision agriculture, and carbon credit processing will be emphasized.

DATCP will continue to focus SEG funding to support NM planning and implementation, and will use feedback from counties and other stakeholders to determine which, if any, of the following strategies are possible and could be used:

- Allow cost-sharing for cropping practices for farms without a NM plan, but with a farm assessment.
- Create a soil health program that includes targeted funding specifically for soil health practices.
- Create soil health outreach module, to be taught alongside or in addition to the Nutrient Management Planning modules.
- Create a mentorship program to facilitate learning and better understanding of NM between producers and their plan writers.
- Provide funds to regional support groups to provide agronomic and conservation compliance assistance for FPP and other state priorities.
- Set aside funds to support SWRM program technology. With an aging database paired with ever-changing program needs, DATCP is seeking technological support and solutions more frequently. Funding a modern database system would also allow DATCP to track and target its funding more effectively, and potentially allow for tracking of the conservation impacts of the program across the state.

Regarding the allocation of SEG funds specifically for nutrient management cost-sharing, DATCP remains interested in refining the formula for awarding county cost-sharing and the policies surrounding its use.

Before making major changes to what is funded and how it is distributed, DATCP will engage stakeholders to develop a workable approach. The counties can share insights on approaches to effectively target cost-sharing and increase farmer participation.

## DNR Allocations

DNR's portion of this final allocation provides funding to counties through three programs:

- 1) Targeted Runoff Management (TRM)
- 2) Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management (UNPS), and
- 3) Notice of Discharge (NOD).

[Table B](#) shows the final allocation to each county grantee for TRM and UNPS-Construction. Additionally, NOD reserves are established as specific county allocations are unknown at this time.

## Funding Sources

Allocations for TRM projects and NOD projects are from GPR funds appropriated under s. 20.370(6)(ag), Wis. Stats., bond revenue appropriated under s. 20.866(2)(tf), Wis. Stats., Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 funds, and segregated funds appropriated under s. 20.370(6)(aq), Wis. Stats.

Allocations to counties for UNPS-Construction projects, when requested, are from GPR funds appropriated under s. 20.370(6)(dg), Wis. Stats.

Allocations to counties for UNPS-Planning projects are from segregated funds appropriated under s. 20.370(6)(dq), Wis. Stats.

*Note: DNR will also provide TRM grants and UNPS-Planning grants to non-county grantees. Wisconsin Statutes do not require that non-county grantees be listed in this allocation plan.*

- For all grant programs, funds will be considered “committed” when a grantee has returned to the DNR a signed copy of the grant agreement.
- For the TRM program, grant agreements not signed by the deadline may be rescinded by DNR, and the associated grant funds may be used to fund other eligible projects in rank order based on project scores. If, for any reason, funds committed through this allocation plan become available after March 31, 2024, these funds may be held to fund projects selected in the next grant cycle.

## **1. TRM Preliminary Allocation**

DNR allocates up to \$2,258,393 to counties for cost sharing of TRM projects during calendar year 2024. This amount is adequate to fully fund the estimated state share for all 6 eligible county Small-Scale TRM applications. Additionally, this amount is adequate to fully fund the estimated state share for all three eligible county Large-Scale TRM applications. As shown in Chart 1, there are not any unmet needs for county TRM projects.

The maximum cost-share amount that can be awarded for a single Small-Scale TRM project is \$225,000. The maximum cost-share amount that can be awarded for a single Large-Scale TRM project is \$600,000.

TRM allocations made through this plan will be reimbursed to grantees during calendar years 2024 through 2025 for Small-Scale projects and through 2026 for Large-Scale projects. Project applications are screened, scored, and ranked in accordance with s. 281.65(4c), Wis. Stats. Adjustments to grant amounts may occur to account for eligibility of project components, cost-share rates, or ch. NR 151 enforcement action at the time that DNR negotiates the actual grant agreement with an applicant.

## **2. UNPS Preliminary Allocation**

DNR has implemented an alternating schedule for both UNPS-Planning and UNPS-Construction grants. The UNPS-Planning grants are solicited in odd years, and the UNPS-Construction grants are solicited in even years. The maximum cost-share amount that can be awarded for a UNPS-Construction grant is \$150,000, with an additional \$50,000 for land acquisition. The maximum cost-share amount that can be awarded for a UNPS-Planning grant is \$85,000.



UNPS grant awards will be reimbursed to grantees during calendar years 2024 and 2025. Project applications have been screened, scored, and ranked in accordance with s. 281.66, Wis. Stats.

CONSTRUCTION. UNPS-Construction grant applications were not solicited in 2023 for the 2024 award cycle. The UNPS-Construction grant application will be available in early 2024 for 2025 awards.

PLANNING. UNPS-Planning grant applications were solicited in 2023 for the 2024 award cycle. Two eligible applications were received from counties. The DNR allocates up to \$29,015 to fully fund both grant applications.

### **3. Notice of Discharge Program**

#### ***A. Background***

DNR issues notices of discharge (NOD) and notices of intent (NOI) under ch. NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code; this code regulates animal feeding operations. DNR has authority under s. 281.65(4e), Wis. Stats., to provide grant assistance for NOD and NOI projects outside of the competitive TRM process. DNR is authorized to award grants to governmental units, which in turn enter into cost-share agreements with landowners that have received an NOD or NOI.

Cost-share assistance is provided to landowners to meet the regulatory requirements of an NOD issued under ch. NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code. In some cases, cost-share assistance must be offered before enforcement action can be taken. In other cases, DNR is not required to provide cost sharing but may do so at its discretion. DNR has several permitting and enforcement options available under ch. NR 243 if landowners should fail to meet the conditions of the NOD.

#### ***B. NOD Preliminary Allocation***

This Preliminary Allocation Plan establishes a reserve of \$1,000,000 for NOD projects during calendar year 2024. The reserve includes funds for structural practices in eligible locations. DNR may use its discretion to increase this reserve if needed. To receive a grant award, a governmental unit must submit an application to DNR that describes a specific project and includes documentation that an NOD or NOI has either already been issued or will be issued by DNR concurrent with the grant award. Once DNR issues a grant to the governmental unit to address an NOD or NOI, DNR will designate a portion of the reserve specifically for that project.

DNR will require that county grantees commit funds to a cost-share agreement with the landowner within a timeframe that is consistent with the compliance schedule in the NOD. The county grantee shall use the grant award to reimburse the landowner for costs incurred during the grant period, which may extend beyond calendar year 2024. If the landowner fails to install practices listed in the cost-share agreement within the timeframe identified,

DNR will terminate its grant with the county, leaving the landowner to correct the problems identified in the NOD without the benefit of state cost sharing.

Fund balances from terminated NOD grants and projects completed under budget may be returned to the reserve account and made available to other NOD applicants. Reserve funds remaining at the end of calendar year 2024 may either be carried over for the calendar year 2025 NOD reserve account or may be allocated for calendar year 2025 TRM projects.

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# Attachments

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TABLES

Table A: DATCP Allocations										
STAFFING AND COST-SHARE ALLOCATIONS										
County	DATCP Staffing & Support Allocation	LWRM Plan Implementation Allocation		Total DATCP Allocation	County	DATCP Staffing & Support Allocation	LWRM Plan Implementation Allocation		Total DATCP Allocation	
		Structural Cost-Sharing	SEG Cost-Sharing				Structural Cost-Sharing	SEG Cost-Sharing		
Adams	141,395	43,500	35,000	219,895	Marathon	209,031	71,200	95,000	375,231	
Ashland	144,414	50,000	30,000	224,414	Marinette	150,820	49,000	50,000	249,820	
Barron	158,931	48,000	10,000	216,931	Marquette	144,736	40,300	70,000	255,036	
Bayfield	147,332	50,200	8,000	205,532	Menominee	98,883	20,000	0	118,883	
Brown	176,980	55,000	20,000	251,980	Milwaukee	92,963	10,000	3,000	102,963	
Buffalo	144,014	43,300	20,000	207,314	Monroe	156,717	61,200	50,000	217,917	
Burnett	115,674	35,000	10,000	160,674	Oconto	163,978	55,000	0	218,978	
Calumet	198,312	41,100	40,000	279,412	Oneida	130,878	38,500	0	169,378	
Chippewa	177,073	71,200	70,000	318,273	Outagamie	209,940	55,000	65,000	329,940	
Clark	162,886	58,500	65,000	286,386	Ozaukee	163,317	56,200	25,000	244,517	
Columbia	146,745	62,150	80,000	288,895	Pepin	113,619	40,300	40,000	193,919	
Crawford	127,940	55,000	8,000	190,940	Pierce	157,892	61,000	15,000	233,892	
Dane	239,089	65,200	95,000	399,289	Polk	153,776	50,000	0	203,776	
Dodge	151,739	51,300	20,000	223,039	Portage	169,119	67,200	0	236,319	
Door	185,981	56,200	10,000	252,181	Price	107,243	43,500	0	150,743	
Douglas	129,947	33,950	5,000	168,897	Racine	182,864	56,200	90,000	329,064	
Dunn	202,027	61,200	20,000	283,227	Richland	118,873	37,100	20,000	175,973	
Eau Claire	164,221	41,000	65,000	270,221	Rock	160,227	65,200	80,000	305,427	
Florence	89,955	38,500	0	128,455	Rusk	120,147	43,500	25,000	188,647	
Fond du Lac	175,763	40,000	5,600	221,363	Saint Croix	158,226	54,500	45,000	257,726	
Forest	98,568	20,000	10,000	128,568	Sauk	176,278	61,200	60,000	297,478	
Grant	127,784	71,200	0	198,984	Sawyer	109,126	38,500	8,000	155,626	
Green	168,878	68,900	20,000	257,778	Shawano	154,819	45,100	20,000	219,919	
Green Lake	173,645	43,500	30,000	247,145	Sheboygan	167,016	55,000	15,000	237,016	
Iowa	159,845	45,000	45,000	249,845	Taylor	150,892	55,000	65,000	270,892	
Iron	126,647	38,500	2,000	167,147	Trempealeau	129,818	67,200	30,000	227,018	
Jackson	143,952	61,000	0	204,952	Vernon	137,920	61,200	80,000	279,120	
Jefferson	183,527	35,000	12,000	230,527	Vilas	137,321	31,200	0	168,521	
Juneau	149,029	48,300	20,000	217,329	Walworth	187,746	55,000	20,000	262,746	
Kenosha	145,109	32,300	5,000	182,409	Washburn	124,161	43,500	6,000	173,661	
Kewaunee	182,762	45,100	25,000	252,862	Washington	161,172	31,200	10,000	202,372	
LaCrosse	176,363	43,500	20,000	239,863	Waukesha	205,571	36,200	0	241,771	
Lafayette	111,657	67,200	0	178,857	Waupaca	157,179	62,700	79,784	299,663	
Langlade	107,988	29,000	35,000	171,988	Waushara	153,274	43,500	25,000	221,774	
Lincoln	98,939	36,200	1,000	136,139	Winnebago	178,843	48,300	50,000	277,143	
Manitowoc	165,432	55,000	75,000	295,432	Wood	167,372	50,300	54,000	271,672	
					Reserve		300,000		300,000	
					Sub-Totals	\$10,962,300	\$3,800,000	\$2,112,384	\$16,874,684	
PROJECT COOPERATOR ALLOCATIONS										
UW Madison CALS				596,000	Nutrient Management Farmer Education				377,053	
UW-SFAL				18,005	Innovation Grants				182,650	
UW NOP Support				86,176	Sub-Total Cooperator Allocation				\$1,562,616	
Wisconsin Land and Water				255,732						
WLWCA SOC				42,000						
Conservation Observation Day				5,000						
PROGRAM ALLOCATION TOTALS					TOTAL	\$10,962,300	\$3,800,000	\$2,112,384	\$18,437,300	

**Table A-1**

County	Tier 1	Tier 2									2024 DATCP Staffing and Support Allocation
	Base Allocation	First Position at 100% (Round 1)	Round 1 Award	Adjusted Award (Tier 1 + Round 1)	Second Position at 70%(Round 2)	Eligible Round 2 Award	Round 2 Award at 85% of 70%	Adjusted Award (Tier 1 + Round 1&2)	Third Position at 50%(Round 3)	Round 3 Award No Funds Available	
Adams	\$75,000	\$94,833.00	\$19,833.00	\$94,833.00	\$54,760.00	\$54,760.00	\$46,562.00	\$141,395.00	\$35,725.00		\$141,395.00
Ashland	\$75,000	\$95,134.00	\$20,134.00	\$95,134.00	\$57,956.00	\$57,956.00	\$49,280.00	\$144,414.00	\$28,366.00		\$144,414.00
Barron	\$75,000	\$100,242.00	\$25,242.00	\$100,242.00	\$69,021.00	\$69,021.00	\$58,689.00	\$158,931.00	\$46,146.00		\$158,931.00
Bayfield	\$75,000	\$95,987.00	\$20,987.00	\$95,987.00	\$60,385.00	\$60,385.00	\$51,345.00	\$147,332.00	\$37,776.00		\$147,332.00
Brown	\$75,000	\$115,650.00	\$40,650.00	\$115,650.00	\$72,128.00	\$72,128.00	\$61,330.00	\$176,980.00	\$45,083.00		\$176,980.00
Buffalo	\$75,000	\$99,086.00	\$24,086.00	\$99,086.00	\$52,838.00	\$52,838.00	\$44,928.00	\$144,014.00	\$18,135.00		\$144,014.00
Burnett	\$75,000	\$77,480.00	\$2,480.00	\$77,480.00	\$44,918.00	\$44,918.00	\$38,194.00	\$115,674.00	\$32,049.00		\$115,674.00
Calumet	\$75,000	\$130,881.00	\$55,881.00	\$130,881.00	\$79,303.00	\$79,303.00	\$67,431.00	\$198,312.00	\$55,793.00		\$198,312.00
Chippewa	\$75,000	\$116,492.00	\$41,492.00	\$116,492.00	\$71,247.00	\$71,247.00	\$60,581.00	\$177,073.00	\$48,496.00		\$177,073.00
Clark	\$75,000	\$109,782.00	\$34,782.00	\$109,782.00	\$62,453.00	\$62,453.00	\$53,104.00	\$162,886.00	\$28,143.00		\$162,886.00
Columbia	\$75,000	\$93,905.00	\$18,905.00	\$93,905.00	\$62,143.00	\$62,143.00	\$52,840.00	\$146,745.00	\$43,851.00		\$146,745.00
Crawford	\$75,000	\$80,407.00	\$5,407.00	\$80,407.00	\$55,901.00	\$55,901.00	\$47,533.00	\$127,940.00	\$29,418.00		\$127,940.00
Dane	\$75,000	\$151,697.00	\$76,697.00	\$151,697.00	\$102,778.00	\$102,778.00	\$87,392.00	\$239,089.00	\$64,080.00		\$239,089.00
Dodge	\$75,000	\$95,794.00	\$20,794.00	\$95,794.00	\$65,795.00	\$65,795.00	\$55,945.00	\$151,739.00	\$41,804.00		\$151,739.00
Door	\$75,000	\$125,929.00	\$50,929.00	\$125,929.00	\$70,624.00	\$70,624.00	\$60,052.00	\$185,981.00	\$47,461.00		\$185,981.00
Douglas	\$75,000	\$86,072.00	\$11,072.00	\$86,072.00	\$51,600.00	\$51,600.00	\$43,875.00	\$129,947.00	\$30,888.00		\$129,947.00
Dunn	\$75,000	\$132,699.00	\$57,699.00	\$132,699.00	\$81,534.00	\$81,534.00	\$69,328.00	\$202,027.00	\$58,045.00		\$202,027.00
Eau Claire	\$75,000	\$110,843.00	\$35,843.00	\$110,843.00	\$62,775.00	\$62,775.00	\$53,378.00	\$164,221.00	\$39,233.00		\$164,221.00
Florence	\$75,000	\$68,829.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$23,759.00	\$17,588.00	\$14,955.00	\$89,955.00	\$6,734.00		\$89,955.00
Fond du Lac	\$75,000	\$118,307.00	\$43,307.00	\$118,307.00	\$67,572.00	\$67,572.00	\$57,456.00	\$175,763.00	\$39,443.00		\$175,763.00
Forest	\$75,000	\$75,435.00	\$435.00	\$75,435.00	\$27,206.00	\$27,206.00	\$23,133.00	\$98,568.00	\$13,111.00		\$98,568.00
Grant	\$75,000	\$85,350.00	\$10,350.00	\$85,350.00	\$49,905.00	\$49,905.00	\$42,434.00	\$127,784.00	\$31,114.00		\$127,784.00
Green	\$75,000	\$116,941.00	\$41,941.00	\$116,941.00	\$61,081.00	\$61,081.00	\$51,937.00	\$168,878.00	\$27,948.00		\$168,878.00
Green Lake	\$75,000	\$113,368.00	\$38,368.00	\$113,368.00	\$70,889.00	\$70,889.00	\$60,277.00	\$173,645.00	\$45,306.00		\$173,645.00
Iowa	\$75,000	\$109,814.00	\$34,814.00	\$109,814.00	\$58,839.00	\$58,839.00	\$50,031.00	\$159,845.00	\$38,360.00		\$159,845.00
Iron	\$75,000	\$79,797.00	\$4,797.00	\$79,797.00	\$55,098.00	\$55,098.00	\$46,850.00	\$126,647.00	\$8,146.00		\$126,647.00
Jackson	\$75,000	\$90,832.00	\$15,832.00	\$90,832.00	\$62,472.00	\$62,472.00	\$53,120.00	\$143,952.00			\$143,952.00
Jefferson	\$75,000	\$121,510.00	\$46,510.00	\$121,510.00	\$72,935.00	\$72,935.00	\$62,017.00	\$183,527.00	\$37,520.00		\$183,527.00
Juneau	\$75,000	\$95,520.00	\$20,520.00	\$95,520.00	\$62,930.00	\$62,930.00	\$53,509.00	\$149,029.00	\$34,950.00		\$149,029.00
Kenosha	\$75,000	\$115,693.00	\$40,693.00	\$115,693.00	\$34,595.00	\$34,595.00	\$29,416.00	\$145,109.00	\$14,055.00		\$145,109.00
Kewaunee	\$75,000	\$124,960.00	\$49,960.00	\$124,960.00	\$67,978.00	\$67,978.00	\$57,802.00	\$182,762.00	\$39,551.00		\$182,762.00
LaCrosse	\$75,000	\$114,760.00	\$39,760.00	\$114,760.00	\$72,449.00	\$72,449.00	\$61,603.00	\$176,363.00	\$48,324.00		\$176,363.00
Lafayette	\$75,000	\$70,773.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$47,338.00	\$43,111.00	\$36,657.00	\$111,657.00	\$31,999.00		\$111,657.00
Langlade	\$75,000	\$87,090.00	\$12,090.00	\$87,090.00	\$24,577.00	\$24,577.00	\$20,898.00	\$107,988.00	\$12,908.00		\$107,988.00
Lincoln	\$75,000	\$87,453.00	\$12,453.00	\$87,453.00	\$13,508.00	\$13,508.00	\$11,486.00	\$98,939.00	\$7,861.00		\$98,939.00
Manitowoc	\$75,000	\$119,853.00	\$44,853.00	\$119,853.00	\$53,603.00	\$53,603.00	\$45,579.00	\$165,432.00	\$37,230.00		\$165,432.00

**Table A-1**

County	Tier 1	Tier 2									2024 DATCP Staffing and Support Allocation
	Base Allocation	First Position at 100% (Round 1)	Round 1 Award	Adjusted Award (Tier 1 + Round 1)	Second Position at 70%(Round 2)	Eligible Round 2 Award	Round 2 Award at 85% of 70%	Adjusted Award (Tier 1 + Round 1&2)	Third Position at 50%(Round 3)	Round 3 Award No Funds Available	
Marathon	\$75,000	\$144,730.00	\$69,730.00	\$144,730.00	\$75,622.00	\$75,622.00	\$64,301.00	\$209,031.00	\$52,836.00		\$209,031.00
Marinette	\$75,000	\$97,694.00	\$22,694.00	\$97,694.00	\$62,479.00	\$62,479.00	\$53,126.00	\$150,820.00	\$35,887.00		\$150,820.00
Marquette	\$75,000	\$114,401.00	\$39,401.00	\$114,401.00	\$35,676.00	\$35,676.00	\$30,335.00	\$144,736.00	\$14,905.00		\$144,736.00
Menominee	\$75,000	\$43,830.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$59,258.00	\$28,088.00	\$23,883.00	\$98,883.00			\$98,883.00
Milwaukee	\$75,000		\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$96,125.00	\$21,125.00	\$17,963.00	\$92,963.00	\$43,583.00		\$92,963.00
Monroe	\$75,000	\$114,480.00	\$39,480.00	\$114,480.00	\$49,673.00	\$49,673.00	\$42,237.00	\$156,717.00	\$30,907.00		\$156,717.00
Oconto	\$75,000	\$108,292.00	\$33,292.00	\$108,292.00	\$65,490.00	\$65,490.00	\$55,686.00	\$163,978.00	\$38,447.00		\$163,978.00
Oneida	\$75,000	\$89,180.00	\$14,180.00	\$89,180.00	\$49,039.00	\$49,039.00	\$41,698.00	\$130,878.00	\$9,685.00		\$130,878.00
Outagamie	\$75,000	\$135,683.00	\$60,683.00	\$135,683.00	\$87,330.00	\$87,330.00	\$74,257.00	\$209,940.00	\$50,150.00		\$209,940.00
Ozaukee	\$75,000	\$114,949.00	\$39,949.00	\$114,949.00	\$56,883.00	\$56,883.00	\$48,368.00	\$163,317.00	\$22,003.00		\$163,317.00
Pepin	\$75,000	\$52,694.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$67,724.00	\$45,418.00	\$38,619.00	\$113,619.00	\$22,944.00		\$113,619.00
Pierce	\$75,000	\$99,483.00	\$24,483.00	\$99,483.00	\$68,692.00	\$68,692.00	\$58,409.00	\$157,892.00	\$46,337.00		\$157,892.00
Polk	\$75,000	\$106,703.00	\$31,703.00	\$106,703.00	\$55,360.00	\$55,360.00	\$47,073.00	\$153,776.00	\$43,814.00		\$153,776.00
Portage	\$75,000	\$113,032.00	\$38,032.00	\$113,032.00	\$65,962.00	\$65,962.00	\$56,087.00	\$169,119.00	\$44,832.00		\$169,119.00
Price	\$75,000	\$68,541.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$44,379.00	\$37,920.00	\$32,243.00	\$107,243.00	\$10,892.00		\$107,243.00
Racine	\$75,000	\$118,650.00	\$43,650.00	\$118,650.00	\$75,519.00	\$75,519.00	\$64,214.00	\$182,864.00	\$36,948.00		\$182,864.00
Richland	\$75,000	\$78,610.00	\$3,610.00	\$78,610.00	\$47,352.00	\$47,352.00	\$40,263.00	\$118,873.00	\$25,373.00		\$118,873.00
Rock	\$75,000	\$108,908.00	\$33,908.00	\$108,908.00	\$60,354.00	\$60,354.00	\$51,319.00	\$160,227.00	\$41,839.00		\$160,227.00
Rusk	\$75,000	\$69,672.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$58,423.00	\$53,095.00	\$45,147.00	\$120,147.00	\$29,262.00		\$120,147.00
Saint Croix	\$75,000	\$100,169.00	\$25,169.00	\$100,169.00	\$68,278.00	\$68,278.00	\$58,057.00	\$158,226.00	\$37,532.00		\$158,226.00
Sauk	\$75,000	\$115,811.00	\$40,811.00	\$115,811.00	\$71,113.00	\$71,113.00	\$60,467.00	\$176,278.00	\$48,223.00		\$176,278.00
Sawyer	\$75,000	\$70,342.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$44,792.00	\$40,134.00	\$34,126.00	\$109,126.00	\$20,295.00		\$109,126.00
Shawano	\$75,000	\$106,718.00	\$31,718.00	\$106,718.00	\$56,570.00	\$56,570.00	\$48,101.00	\$154,819.00	\$30,279.00		\$154,819.00
Sheboygan	\$75,000	\$105,115.00	\$30,115.00	\$105,115.00	\$72,799.00	\$72,799.00	\$61,901.00	\$167,016.00	\$47,537.00		\$167,016.00
Taylor	\$75,000	\$105,270.00	\$30,270.00	\$105,270.00	\$53,654.00	\$53,654.00	\$45,622.00	\$150,892.00	\$36,135.00		\$150,892.00
Trempealeau	\$75,000	\$81,723.00	\$6,723.00	\$81,723.00	\$56,563.00	\$56,563.00	\$48,095.00	\$129,818.00	\$39,229.00		\$129,818.00
Vernon	\$75,000	\$101,264.00	\$26,264.00	\$101,264.00	\$43,110.00	\$43,110.00	\$36,656.00	\$137,920.00	\$35,193.00		\$137,920.00
Vilas	\$75,000	\$93,276.00	\$18,276.00	\$93,276.00	\$51,799.00	\$51,799.00	\$44,045.00	\$137,321.00	\$28,028.00		\$137,321.00
Walworth	\$75,000	\$121,598.00	\$46,598.00	\$121,598.00	\$77,794.00	\$77,794.00	\$66,148.00	\$187,746.00	\$46,944.00		\$187,746.00
Washburn	\$75,000	\$85,177.00	\$10,177.00	\$85,177.00	\$45,847.00	\$45,847.00	\$38,984.00	\$124,161.00	\$1,443.00		\$124,161.00
Washington	\$75,000	\$108,307.00	\$33,307.00	\$108,307.00	\$62,172.00	\$62,172.00	\$52,865.00	\$161,172.00	\$32,072.00		\$161,172.00
Waukesha	\$75,000	\$141,885.00	\$66,885.00	\$141,885.00	\$74,898.00	\$74,898.00	\$63,686.00	\$205,571.00	\$45,594.00		\$205,571.00
Waupaca	\$75,000	\$99,424.00	\$24,424.00	\$99,424.00	\$67,923.00	\$67,923.00	\$57,755.00	\$157,179.00	\$47,602.00		\$157,179.00
Waushara	\$75,000	\$102,349.00	\$27,349.00	\$102,349.00	\$59,889.00	\$59,889.00	\$50,924.00	\$153,273.00	\$41,375.00		\$153,274.00
Winnebago	\$75,000	\$122,238.00	\$47,238.00	\$122,238.00	\$66,571.00	\$66,571.00	\$56,605.00	\$178,843.00	\$42,646.00		\$178,843.00
Wood	\$75,000	\$125,397.00	\$50,397.00	\$125,397.00	\$49,365.00	\$49,365.00	\$41,975.00	\$167,372.00	\$31,005.00		\$167,372.00
<b>Totals</b>	5,400,000	7,274,793		7,430,112	4,309,370	4,154,051	3,532,187	10,962,299	2,416,828	-	10,962,300

<b>Table B: Total DNR Final Allocations</b>					
<b>County</b>	<b>Targeted Runoff Mgmt. BMP Construction</b>	<b>Local Assistance Funding for Large Scale TRM</b>	<b>Urban NPS &amp; Storm Water Mgmt. BMP Construction</b>	<b>Urban NPS &amp; Storm Water Mgmt. Planning</b>	<b>Total DNR Final Allocations</b>
Calumet				\$16,520	\$16,520
Dodge	\$200,000	\$30,000			\$230,000
Kenosha	\$225,000				\$225,000
Kewaunee	\$53,608				\$53,608
Oconto	\$225,000				\$225,000
Outagamie	\$225,000				\$225,000
Walworth	\$436,950				\$436,950
Washburn	\$37,835				\$37,835
Waupaca	\$225,000				\$225,000
Winnebago				\$12,495	\$12,495
Wood	\$428,572	\$171,428			\$600,000
<b>DNR NR243 NOD Reserve</b>					<b>\$1,000,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,056,965</b>	<b>\$201,428</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$29,015</b>	<b>\$3,287,408</b>

DRAFT

Table C: Summary of DATCP and DNR Allocations							
County	Staffing & Support from DATCP and DNR	Cost-Sharing from DATCP and DNR	Total Allocation of DATCP and DNR Funding	County	Staffing & Support from DATCP and DNR	Cost-Sharing from DATCP and DNR	Total Allocation of DATCP and DNR Funding
Adams	141,395	78,500	219,895	Marinette	150,820	99,000	249,820
Ashland	144,414	80,000	224,414	Marquette	144,736	110,300	255,036
Barron	158,931	58,000	216,931	Menominee	98,883	20,000	118,883
Bayfield	147,332	58,200	205,532	Milwaukee	92,963	13,000	105,963
Brown	176,980	75,000	251,980	Monroe	156,717	111,200	267,917
Buffalo	144,014	63,300	207,314	Oconto	163,978	280,000	443,978
Burnett	115,674	45,000	160,674	Oneida	130,878	38,500	169,378
Calumet	214,832	81,100	295,932	Outagamie	209,940	345,000	554,940
Chippewa	177,073	141,200	318,273	Ozaukee	163,317	81,200	244,517
Clark	162,886	123,500	286,386	Pepin	113,619	80,300	193,919
Columbia	146,745	142,150	288,895	Pierce	157,892	76,000	233,892
Crawford	127,940	63,000	190,940	Polk	153,776	50,000	203,776
Dane	239,089	160,200	399,289	Portage	169,119	67,200	236,319
Dodge	181,739	271,300	453,039	Price	107,243	43,500	150,743
Door	185,981	66,200	252,181	Racine	182,864	146,200	329,064
Douglas	129,947	38,950	168,897	Richland	118,873	57,100	175,973
Dunn	202,027	81,200	283,227	Rock	160,227	145,200	305,427
Eau Claire	164,221	106,000	270,221	Rusk	120,147	68,500	188,647
Florence	89,955	38,500	128,455	Saint Croix	158,226	99,500	257,726
Fond du Lac	175,763	45,600	221,363	Sauk	176,278	121,200	297,478
Forest	98,568	30,000	128,568	Sawyer	109,126	46,500	155,626
Grant	127,784	71,200	198,984	Shawano	154,819	65,100	219,919
Green	168,878	88,900	257,778	Sheboygan	167,016	70,000	237,016
Green Lake	173,645	73,500	247,145	Taylor	150,892	120,000	270,892
Iowa	159,845	90,000	249,845	Trempealeau	129,818	97,200	227,018
Iron	126,647	40,500	167,147	Vernon	137,920	141,200	279,120
Jackson	143,952	61,000	204,952	Vilas	137,321	31,200	168,521
Jefferson	183,527	47,000	230,527	Walworth	187,746	511,950	699,696
Juneau	149,029	68,300	217,329	Washburn	124,161	87,335	211,496
Kenosha	145,109	262,300	407,409	Washington	161,172	41,200	202,372
Kewaunee	182,762	123,708	306,470	Waukesha	205,571	36,200	241,771
LaCrosse	176,363	63,500	239,863	Waupaca	157,179	367,484	524,663
Lafayette	111,657	67,200	178,857	Waushara	153,274	68,500	221,774
Langlade	107,988	64,000	171,988	Winnebago	191,338	98,300	289,638
Lincoln	98,939	37,200	136,139	Wood	338,800	532,872	871,672
Manitowoc	165,432	130,000	295,432	DATCP NR243 Res.		300,000	300,000
Marathon	209,031	166,200	375,231	DNR NR243 Res.		1,000,000	1,000,000
				Sub-Totals	11,192,743	8,969,349	20,162,092
<b>OPERATOR ALLOCATIONS</b>							
UW-CALS			596,000	Nutrient Management Farmer Education			377,053
WI Land + Water (WLWCA)			255,732	Innovation Grants			182,650
Standard Oversight Council (SOC)			42,000	<b>Sub-Total Cooperator Allocation</b>			<b>\$1,562,616</b>
Conservation Observation Day			5,000				
UW NOPP Support			86,176				
UW-SFAL			18,005				
<b>PROGRAM ALLOCATION TOTALS</b>					<b>\$ 11,192,743</b>	<b>\$ 8,969,349</b>	<b>\$ 21,724,708</b>



**Table A-2: County Structural Practices Cost-Share Awards**

County	Structural Practice Awards				County	Structural Practice Awards			
	20-22 Cumulative Average Under-Spending*	2017 Census Acres**	20-22 Cumulative Total Dollars Spent***	Award		20-22 Cumulative Average Under-Spending*	2017 Census Acres**	20-22 Cumulative Total Dollars Spent***	Award
<i>Adams</i>	0.0000%	117,206	\$103,561	\$43,500	Marathon	0.0000%	473,147	\$301,668	\$71,200
Ashland	0.0001%	52,428	\$152,484	\$50,000	Marinette	0.0000%	133,068	\$121,390	\$49,000
Barron	11.3314%	305,604	\$140,171	\$48,000	Marquette	0.5114%	113,183	\$143,945	\$40,300
Bayfield	0.0000%	81,041	\$176,971	\$50,200	Menominee	0.0000%	290	\$50,544	\$20,000
Brown	0.0000%	192,007	\$162,138	\$55,000	<i>Milwaukee</i>	0.0000%	6,990	\$420	\$10,000
Buffalo	17.8234%	293,130	\$149,693	\$43,300	Monroe	0.0000%	300,659	\$158,014	\$61,200
Burnett	0.3790%	89,237	\$241,480	\$35,000	<i>Oconto</i>	0.0000%	189,898	\$184,242	\$55,000
Calumet	7.9340%	153,858	\$106,868	\$41,100	Oneida	0.0000%	34,670	\$117,528	\$38,500
Chippewa	0.0000%	356,176	\$469,804	\$71,200	Outagamie	0.0000%	236,963	\$136,290	\$55,000
Clark	0.0000%	451,035	\$147,759	\$58,500	Ozaukee	0.0000%	59,299	\$204,380	\$56,200
Columbia	0.0000%	304,058	\$149,011	\$62,150	Pepin	1.0753%	106,881	\$113,046	\$40,300
Crawford	0.0000%	210,550	\$178,537	\$55,000	Pierce	0.0000%	233,188	\$208,977	\$61,000
Dane	0.0000%	506,688	\$166,731	\$65,200	Polk	0.0000%	256,114	\$141,635	\$50,000
<i>Dodge</i>	4.7770%	405,992	\$100,524	\$51,300	<i>Portage</i>	0.0004%	280,410	\$242,427	\$67,200
<i>Door</i>	0.0001%	114,508	\$205,863	\$56,200	Price	0.0000%	89,203	\$137,555	\$43,500
Douglas	0.0000%	69,759	\$40,481	\$33,950	Racine	0.0000%	127,496	\$244,576	\$56,200
Dunn	0.0000%	348,301	\$173,468	\$61,200	Richland	27.3975%	220,843	\$109,176	\$37,100
Eau Claire	0.0000%	172,256	\$95,710	\$41,000	Rock	0.0000%	353,505	\$181,906	\$65,200
Florence	0.0000%	18,609	\$117,461	\$38,500	Rusk	0.0000%	136,062	\$123,424	\$43,500
<i>Fond du Lac</i>	1.1673%	317,371	\$66,782	\$40,000	Saint Croix	0.0000%	279,191	\$134,144	\$54,500
<i>Forest</i>	9.4197%	38,084	\$24,689	\$20,000	Sauk	0.0000%	298,906	\$163,486	\$61,200
Grant	0.0000%	600,324	\$217,560	\$71,200	Sawyer	0.0000%	46,009	\$104,111	\$38,500
Green	0.0000%	292,368	\$172,464	\$68,900	Shawano	0.7383%	247,241	\$102,470	\$45,100
Green Lake	0.0000%	126,751	\$137,148	\$43,500	Sheboygan	0.0000%	195,938	\$175,414	\$55,000
Iowa	0.0000%	360,134	\$157,134	\$45,000	Taylor	0.0000%	225,856	\$183,093	\$55,000
Iron	0.0000%	9,200	\$134,505	\$38,500	<i>Trempealeau</i>	0.0003%	329,916	\$263,436	\$67,200
Jackson	0.0000%	248,342	\$230,145	\$61,000	Vernon	0.0000%	337,086	\$151,076	\$61,200
<i>Jefferson</i>	0.2504%	221,355	\$28,294	\$35,000	Vilas	0.0000%	5,652	\$78,855	\$31,200
Juneau	0.0000%	175,417	\$120,445	\$48,300	Walworth	0.0000%	192,422	\$166,855	\$55,000
<i>Kenosha</i>	10.7487%	77,782	\$126,443	\$32,300	Washburn	0.0000%	73,773	\$107,557	\$43,500
Kewaunee	1.7375%	170,405	\$145,024	\$45,100	Washington	0.0000%	126,146	\$18,456	\$31,200
LaCrosse	0.0000%	144,334	\$143,795	\$43,500	Waukesha	0.0000%	97,460	\$57,148	\$36,200
Lafayette	0.0242%	342,518	\$264,832	\$67,200	Waupaca	0.0000%	201,603	\$185,850	\$62,700
<i>Langlade</i>	5.6455%	116,386	\$93,147	\$29,000	Waushara	0.0000%	135,306	\$131,884	\$43,500
Lincoln	0.0000%	78,293	\$61,732	\$36,200	Winnebago	0.0000%	162,052	\$125,040	\$48,300
Manitowoc	0.0000%	231,609	\$183,186	\$55,000	Wood	0.0000%	220,891	\$113,074	\$50,300
					<b>TOTAL</b>				\$3,500,000

Each County was given a base of \$10,000 to help counties receive closer to their requested amount. The following criteria were also applied to finalize a county's Structural Practice award.

\*Graduated awards based on 3-yr avg underspending, excluding extended underspending: 0% = \$11,200, 0.5-1.99% = \$8,000, 2-9.999%=\$4,000, >10% = \$0.

\*\*Graduated awards based on 2017 Census acres: 350,000 or more=\$25,000; 250,000-349,999=\$21,000; 150,000-249,999=\$14,800, 50,000-149,999=\$10,000, <50,000=\$5,000.

\*\*\*Graduated awards based on 3-yr cumulative spending: \$200K+ = \$25,000, \$150K-199,999=\$19,000, \$100K-\$149,999 = \$12,300, \$50K-\$99,999 = \$5,000, \$20K-\$99,999 = \$2,750, <\$20,000 = \$0

County Name in Italics = County transferred funds awarded in prior grant year

County Name Shaded: County awarded the amount of its request, which was less than the maximum grant award.

**Table A-3: County SEG Cost-Share Awards**

County	Ranking and Award			County	Ranking and Award		
	Score	Grouping	Award		Score	Grouping	Award
<i>Adams</i>	45	4	\$35,000	Marathon	100	1	\$95,000
<i>Ashland</i>	50	3	\$30,000	Marinette	55	3	\$50,000
<i>Barron</i>	60	3	\$10,000	Marquette	70	3	\$70,000
<i>Bayfield</i>	35	4	\$8,000	Menominee			NA
<i>Brown</i>	70	3	\$20,000	Milwaukee	15	5	\$3,000
<i>Buffalo</i>	70	3	\$20,000	Monroe	60	3	\$50,000
<i>Burnett</i>	50	3	\$10,000	Oconto			NA
<i>Calumet</i>	65	3	\$40,000	Oneida			NA
<i>Chippewa</i>	65	3	\$70,000	Outagamie	65	3	\$65,000
<i>Clark</i>	70	3	\$65,000	Ozaukee	60	3	\$25,000
<i>Columbia</i>	75	2	\$80,000	Pepin	60	3	\$40,000
<i>Crawford</i>	15	5	\$8,000	Pierce	45	4	\$15,000
<i>Dane</i>	100	1	\$95,000	Polk			NA
<i>Dodge</i>	65	3	\$20,000	Portage			NA
<i>Door</i>	65	3	\$10,000	Price			NA
<i>Douglas</i>	45	4	\$5,000	Racine	70	3	\$90,000
<i>Dunn</i>	70	3	\$20,000	Richland	40	4	\$20,000
<i>Eau Claire</i>	70	3	\$65,000	Rock	95	2	\$80,000
<i>Florence</i>			NA	Rusk	35	4	\$25,000
<i>Fond du Lac</i>	75	2	\$5,600	Saint Croix	65	3	\$45,000
<i>Forest</i>	15	5	\$10,000	Sauk	65	3	\$60,000
<i>Grant</i>			NA	Sawyer	10	5	\$8,000
<i>Green</i>	50	3	\$20,000	Shawano	35	4	\$20,000
<i>Green Lake</i>	65	3	\$30,000	Sheboygan	65	3	\$15,000
<i>Iowa</i>	75	2	\$45,000	Taylor	50	3	\$65,000
<i>Iron</i>	5	5	\$2,000	Trempealeau	65	3	\$30,000
<i>Jackson</i>			NA	Vernon	80	2	\$80,000
<i>Jefferson</i>	60	3	\$12,000	Vilas			NA
<i>Juneau</i>	35	4	\$20,000	Walworth	55	3	\$20,000
<i>Kenosha</i>	25	4	\$5,000	Washburn	25	4	\$6,000
<i>Kewaunee</i>	55	3	\$25,000	Washington	45	4	\$10,000
<i>La Crosse</i>	60	3	\$20,000	Waukesha			NA
<i>Lafayette</i>			NA	Waupaca			\$79,784
<i>Langlade</i>	45	4	\$35,000	Waushara	55	3	\$25,000
<i>Lincoln</i>	25	4	\$1,000	Winnebago	65	3	\$50,000
<i>Manitowoc</i>	95	2	\$75,000	Wood	60	3	\$54,000
<b>TOTAL</b>							<b>\$2,112,384</b>
County Name in Italics = County transferred funds awarded in prior grant year NA= County did not apply for SEG funds				County Name Shaded = County awarded the amount of its request, which was less than the maximum grant award			

## Allocation Plan Dictionary

Chapter 92: Statute of Wisconsin law establishing soil and water conservation and animal waste management.

ATCP 50: State administrative rule that provides the framework to cost-share conservation practices including nutrient management plans. It describes the parameters for grants for conservation practices; identifies the costs to be included in cost-share grants to landowners; identifies conservation practice standards available for cost-sharing; defines the requirements for a land and water resource management plan; establishes the process and priorities for allocating grants to support county conservation efforts; describes conservation compliance requirements for the farmland preservation program; describes the process to certify conservation engineering practitioners; establishes qualifications for nutrient management planners; allows for certification of soil and manure testing laboratories; ensures access to education and training opportunities.

Agricultural Enterprise Areas: A locally identified area of contiguous agricultural lands that has received designation from the state (DATCP), at the joint request of landowners and local governments through a petition, to qualify it as important to preserve and invest in. As a part of the state's Farmland Preservation Program, AEAs strive to support local farmland protection goals and enable landowners to sign voluntary 15-year farmland preservation agreements.

Bond: Bond authority was appropriated to the department through state's biennial budget process prior to the 2023-2025 cycle. Bonds

can only be used to fund projects with a minimum of a 10-year life span. County LCDs have used bonding for cost-sharing of hard practices. As of the 2024 Allocation Plan, the only bond funds are approved extension funds and the engineering reserve fund.

DATCP: Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Administers many conservation programs that are implemented by counties including the soil and water resource management grant program, producer-led watershed program, farmland preservation program, agricultural enterprise areas, nutrient management farmer education program, conservation reserve enhancement program, land and water resource management planning program, livestock siting program, drainage program, and conservation engineering support.

DNR: Department of Natural Resources. Administers the TRM and UNPS grant programs. Responsible for agricultural and nonagricultural performance standards and manages the WPDES permit program for concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs).

Farmland Preservation Program (FPP): Program through which counties are encouraged to plan for agricultural and agricultural-related uses; local governments may adopt zoning ordinances that restrict lands to agricultural or agricultural-related uses; landowners and local governments may jointly petition for an agricultural enterprise area (AEA) to qualify local areas important to Wisconsin's agricultural and economic future; landowners may enter into a farmland preservation agreement with the state for farms within an AEA to commit to keeping all or a part of their farm in agricultural use and to implement farm conservation

practices for 15 years; participating landowners must implement applicable soil and water conservation standards (see ATCP 50.04)\* to qualify for an income tax credit. **\*Note:** *Landowners of farmland subject to a farmland preservation agreement must meet the soil and water conservation standards in place at the time the agreement was signed. Contact the department for assistance in determining which standards apply to a specific agreement.*

**GPR:** General Purpose Revenue. GPR is funding that comes from the state's income and sales tax revenues. These dollars are very flexible and can be used for most purposes. In relation to the joint allocation plan, DATCP has a small GPR appropriation that helps fund the staffing grants. Additionally, the 2023-2025 biennium budget approves \$7 million in GPR to fund structural practices associated with SWRM, at \$3.5 million a year over the two years. When the Governor calls for budget cuts from agencies, GPR is usually the money that is targeted for reductions since it can legally be used for any purpose. GPR is allocated on an annual basis.

**Structural Practices:** Structural Practices are conservation practices that have a lifespan of at least 10 years, such as streambank stabilization, manure storage, well abandonment, managed grazing systems and others. In past allocations, bond funding was only used to cost-share structural, or hard, practices. SEG funding can also be used to fund hard practices with permission from DATCP. SEG funding is not the preferred funding source for hard practices since that money is the only available funding for soft practices and OPCs.

**LCC:** Land Conservation Committee. Committee of county-board elected officials that oversee the LCD departments.

**LCD:** Land Conservation Department. County government department that receives staffing and cost-share grants from DATCP and DNR to implement soil and water conservation programs at the local level. In some counties, the department may go by a slightly different name such as soil and water conservation department, planning and land conservation department, etc.

**LWRM:** Land and Water Resource Management Plan. Each county must have an approved LWRM plan in order to receive funding from DATCP and DNR as part of the joint allocation plan. An approved LWRM plan ensures a county is eligible for staffing grants and a base amount of structural practice funding. DATCP coordinates the LWRM planning program. LWRM plans are approved by the LWCB for 10 years, with a progress check-in after 5 years.

**NMFE:** Nutrient Management Farmer Education. NMFE is a grant program funded through SWRM's SEG appropriation. The NMFE program provides grants to counties and technical colleges to deliver training for farmers to write their own NM plans. Funding from the NMFE program can go to farmer incentives, soil tests and training materials.

**OPC:** Other Project Cooperators. OPCs include non-county entities such as the University of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Land+Water that receive SEG grants from the SWRM program in order to advance the SWRM programs. OPC grants are often used for training and infrastructure services. The OPC recipients and

the size of the grants have changed over time as needs have changed.

PL or PLWPG: Producer Led Watershed Program. The PL watershed grant program funds farmer-led projects intended to reduce nonpoint source pollution and improve water quality. By statute, the PL watershed grant program is funded via the SWRM SEG account and is capped at \$1,000,000 annually.

SEG: Segregated Funds. Segregated funds are collected from fees and held in designated funds for specific purposes under state law. In relation to the joint allocation plan, the Environmental Fund is the source of the segregated funds. The joint allocation plan has two uses for segregated funds. One appropriation designates some segregated funds to the staffing allocation. The second appropriation of segregated funds is for “aids” that explicitly excludes county conservation staffing and is used for nutrient management and other soft practice cost-sharing, training and other related purposes. Three programs are funded via these funds but outside of the Allocation Plan:

\$1,000,000 is directed to Producer-Led Watershed Grants.

\$1,000,000 is directed to Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program

\$800,000 is directed to crop insurance rebates for cover crops.

SEG funds are allocated on an annual basis and if not used they lapse back to the Environmental Fund and are not available to the program to use.

SnapPlus: Soil Nutrient Application Planner is the computer program Wisconsin landowners and agronomists use to develop a compliant NM plan. The UW SnapPlus team developed,

maintains, and offers technical assistance on SnapPlus.

Soft Practices: Soft practices are those conservation practices that are implemented on an annual or short-term basis. Soft practices include nutrient management planning, cover crops, residue management, contour farming, and strip-cropping, among others. Soft practices can only be cost-shared with SEG funding.

SWRM: Soil and Water Resource Management Program. The SWRM program is DATCP’s signature grant program that provides staffing and cost-share grants to county LCDs. The SWRM funding is distributed through the annual joint allocation plan process.

TRM: Targeted Runoff Management. The TRM program is a DNR competitive grant program for targeted nonpoint source pollution projects. TRM grants use bond funds allocated through the joint allocation plan

UNPS & SW: Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management: The UNPS & SW program is a DNR competitive grant program for urban nonpoint source pollution projects. UNPS grants use bond funds allocated through the joint allocation plan.

# DATCP's Environmental Assessment

## for the 2024 Joint Allocation Plan

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Preliminary

AUGUST 2023

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Soil and Water Resource Management Grant  
Program and Nonpoint Source Program



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## Signature Page and Final Determination

This assessment finds that the *2024 Final Allocation Plan* will have no significant negative environmental impact and is not a major state action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. No environmental impact statement is necessary under s. 1.11(2), Stats.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Mockert  
Land and Water Resources Bureau  
Agricultural Resource Management Division

The decision indicating that this document is in compliance with s. 1.11, Stats., is not final until certified by the Administrator of the Agricultural Resource Management Division.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robby Personette, Administrator  
Agricultural Resource Management Division



## I. The Nature and Purpose of the Proposed Action

Each year the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), together with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), allocates grant funds to counties and others for the purpose of supporting county conservation staff, landowner cost-sharing and other soil and water resource management (SWRM) activities. DATCP funds are allocated in accordance with ch. 92, Stats., and ch. ATCP 50, Wis. Adm. Code. Counties are required to have DATCP-approved land and water resource management (LWRM) plans as an eligibility condition for grants. The details of DATCP's proposed action are set forth in charts and tables in the 2024 Joint Allocation Plan that accompanies this Environmental Assessment.

## II. The Environment Affected by the Proposed Action

As further explained in Section III.A., the DATCP grant program operates in every county, potentially covering all of Wisconsin's 34.8 million acres. While the program can fund a range of activities that protect surface and ground waters throughout the state, grant funds are primarily used to protect rural areas and install conservation practices on farms, which now account for less than 42% of Wisconsin's land base (14.3 million acres). Ultimately, each county's LWRM plan determines the nature and scope of conservation activities in the area and the natural resources impacted by DATCP funds.

## III. Foreseeable Environmental Effects of the Proposed Action

### A. Immediate Effects

The environmental effects of the proposed allocation plan are positive. Through support for conservation staff and landowner cost-sharing, the proposed allocation plan will result in actions on farms and other areas that reduce soil erosion, prevent farm runoff, improve soil health, increase nutrient management planning, and minimize pollution of surface and ground water.

County Staffing: For the 2023-2025 biennium, the annual funding for conservation staff decreases from the past two years, from a total of \$11.03 million for 2022 and \$11.28 for 2023 to \$10.9 million in 2024. Staffing grants enable counties to hire and retain conservation staff who have the experience and technical skills required to implement county resource management plans, including

- Compliance with the state agricultural performance standards
- Facilitate landowner participation in state and federal cost-share programs
- Ensure cross-compliance of farmers in the farmland preservation program (FPP)
- Support for the development of technical standards development, nutrient management training, and coordination between the public and private sector.

As discussed later, funding for county conservation staff has not kept up with a demand fueled by expanding programs such as producer-led watershed councils and phosphorus and nitrate management, and the persistence of intractable ground and surface water issues throughout the state.

Cost-sharing for conservation practices: Each year, counties use cost-share funds to address state and local priorities identified in their local plans. Cumulatively in 2021 and 2022, counties spent about \$6.5 million in DATCP funds to install cost-shared practices. Table A highlights the top conservation practices funded by DATCP cost-share and spent by counties in 2021 and 2022.

<b>Table A: Cost-Share Expenditure Comparison</b>				
<b>Conservation Practice</b>	<b>2021 Cost-Share Dollars Spent (in millions)</b>	<b>2021 Units of Practice Installed</b>	<b>2022 Cost-Share Dollars Spent (in millions)</b>	<b>2022 Units of Practice Installed</b>
Barnyard Runoff Control	0.03	3 systems	0.42	12 systems
Manure Storage System	0.12	4 systems	0.32	3 systems
Manure storage Closure	0.39	49 systems	0.30	38 systems
Cover and Green Manure	0.26	7,343 acres	0.34	13,267 acres
Grade Stabilization	0.27	43 structures	0.31	36 structures
Livestock Fencing	0.12	74,062 feet	0.12	101,125 feet
Livestock Watering Facilities	0.09	23 systems	0.13	31 systems
Nutrient Management Planning	1.5	40,120 acres	1.2	33,559 acres
Prescribed Grazing /Permanent Fencing	0.13	101,394 feet	0.14	105,105 feet
Streambank Crossing	0.15	2,708 feet	0.10	1,844 feet
Streambank and Shoreline Protection	0.63	19,175 feet	0.41	10,482 feet
Waterway Systems	0.55	106 acres	0.36	455 acres

The following developments are worth mentioning with respect to expenditures of cost-share funds in 2022 compared to 2021 expenditures:

- A significant increase in acres of cover and green manure crops
- An increase in livestock fencing and livestock watering facilities as regenerative grazing becomes more of a conservation focus.
- Continued significant grant funds to support nutrient management planning

## B. Long-Term Effects

Over time, DATCP's annual financial support of county staff and other project cooperators, including the University of Wisconsin System and Wisconsin Land and Water, has built and sustained a statewide conservation infrastructure that delivers the following reinforcing benefits:

- Conservation outreach and education
- Development of conservation technologies such as SNAP Plus and the Manure Advisory System, and the training systems to effectively use these technologies;
- Technical and engineering assistance that ensures proper design and installation of conservation practices;
- Resource management planning that addresses local and state priorities, with an emphasis on annual work planning and reporting;
- Permitting and other regulation of livestock farms that requires properly designed manure storage and nutrient management plans;
- Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) administration that protects valuable resources and promotes conservation compliance;
- Producer-Led watershed administration and technical assistance.

With the decrease to the staffing allocation for fiscal biennium 2023-2025, the amount of funding DATCP is able to give to support county conservation decreased by \$317,700 from the 2023 allocation. This level of funding disallows the program to meet statutory goals under s. 92.14(6)(b), Stats for funding conservation staff.

DATCP cost-share grants are critical in helping landowners meet their individual needs and essential to overall efforts to make progress in achieving broader water quality goals. Most farmers are not required to meet state runoff standards without cost-sharing. Long-term state commitment to farmer cost-sharing determines the extent to which conservation practices are installed and ultimately the degree to which water quality is improved. Installing conservation practices in a watershed or other area over time results in water quality improvement.

Fully assessing the long-term benefits, however, is complicated. The DATCP grant program operates within a collection of conservation and natural resource programs, and as such, other program priorities will impact DATCP funds. See Section III.E. for a more detailed discussion.

## C. Direct Effects

DATCP cost-share grants result in the installation of conservation practices and capital improvements on rural and agricultural lands for the purpose of protecting water quality and improving soil health. Grants to counties and others also secure access to technical or other assistance that supports conservation efforts, including conservation education and nutrient management planning.

## D. Indirect Effects

Installed conservation practices not only improve resources in the immediate area, but also benefit surrounding areas, including resources located downstream from the installed practice. For example, nutrient management and cropping practices implemented on fields upstream from a lake reduce sediment and nutrients that would otherwise be deposited in surface waters, and can provide additional protection for groundwater. Installed practices may have secondary benefits at a site, such as shoreline buffers, which not only serve to control runoff and impede erosion, but also may increase wildlife habitat.

DATCP policies and rules mitigate secondary impacts from the installation and maintenance of conservation practices. DATCP policies require counties evaluate impacts to cultural resources prior to any land-disturbing activity. To minimize erosion from excavation and construction projects, such as a manure storage facility or barnyard runoff control system DATCP rules require landowners to implement measures to manage sediment runoff from construction sites involving DATCP cost-shared practices. Adverse environmental impacts may result from improper design and installation of practices. DATCP rules help prevent this outcome by requiring the design and construction of cost-shared projects according to established technical standards. Improper maintenance can undermine the benefits of a long-term conservation practice. Requiring landowners to maintain conservation projects installed with DATCP cost-share dollars ensures DATCP that practices perform in the long-term as intended.

In rare cases, certain negative impacts are unavoidable. For example, unusual storm events can cause manure runoff from the best-designed barnyard. Unavoidable impacts may also arise if a cost-shared practice is not maintained or is improperly abandoned. Manure storage facilities that are not properly abandoned or emptied, may present a water quality threat, unless they are closed in accordance with technical standards.

Overall, the positive benefits of reducing nonpoint runoff through conservation measures significantly outweigh the slight risks associated with the installation and maintenance of conservation practices.

## E. Cumulative Effects

While it is difficult to accurately gauge the cumulative effects of delivery of this allocation plan, it is clear that SWRM grant funds play an integral part in supporting a comprehensive framework of federal, state, and local resource management programs. With the decrease to the staffing allocation for the 2023-2025 biennium, DATCP is able to support for 124 of the 394 conservation employees in the state's 72 counties, enabling DATCP grant funds to secure the foundation necessary to deliver a myriad of conservation programs, which among other accomplishments, achieved the following:

- In 2022, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provided \$56.2 million for conservation programs including \$33.3 million in Environmental Quality Incentives (EQIP) payments to install conservation practices with the top five expenditures related

to cover crops (\$5.7 million), waste storage facility (\$5.3 million), pond sealing or lining (\$3.2 million), heavy use area protection (\$1.7 million) and water transfers (\$1.3 million).

- The conservation reserve enhancement program (CREP) protects important soil and water resources while allowing landowners to make use of valuable adjacent agricultural lands. As of the beginning of 2023, about 74,000 acres were enrolled under CREP agreements and easements: with 6,884 acres under CREP easements and the remainder under CREP 15-year agreements. Of those enrollments, 41,224 acres are currently under active agreements. The conservation benefits of the practices installed on the active agreements (e.g. riparian buffers and filter strips) are as follows: 678 miles of streams buffered with an estimated phosphorus annual removal of 77,887 pounds, nitrogen annual removal of 41,921 pounds and sediment removal of 38,521 tons.
- DNR continued annual funding in 2022 for Targeted Runoff Management Projects (TRM), providing over \$4.9 million to counties for cost-sharing ten small-scale and four large-scale projects. DNR set aside \$1.295 million for farms issued a notice of discharge. DNR continued annual funding in 2022 for Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Planning Projects, providing over \$150,402 to counties for cost sharing two projects.

**Table B: DNR Funding 2022**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Number of Projects</b>	<b>Sum of Total Amount Awarded</b>
Large-scale TRM	4	\$439,628
Small-scale TRM	10	\$3,040,403
Urban NPS & Storm Water Mgmt Planning	2	\$150,402

- In 2022, through the Producer-Led Watershed Protection grant program, DATCP offered support to thirty-six producer-led groups around the State, encompassing 1,893 farmers managing 643,829 farmland acres. DATCP has awarded over \$4.2 million since the program's inception in 2016.

#### IV. Persons, Groups, and Agencies Affected by the Activity

##### A. Those Directly Affected

County Conservation Programs and Cooperators: The proposed allocation plan provides funding to support 72 county conservation programs. The decrease to the staffing grant allocation for the 2023-2025 biennium will enable DATCP to only completely support one employee per program, as well as 85% of the requests for the second position (funded at 70%). The DATCP awards fall short of funding three staff per county at the prescribed rates in s. 92.14(6)(b), Stats, providing 31% of county conservation staff.

Landowners who are direct beneficiaries: Farmers and other landowners rely on many services, such as technical assistance provided by conservation staff funded with DATCP grants. They also benefit from cost-share dollars to install conservation practices. Long-term use of some conservation practices, such as nutrient management planning and cover crops, may have a

positive impact on the finances of a landowner by helping plan needed purchases to maximize the yield of a field while minimizing additional fertilizers and pesticides required.

Other county residents: County residents benefit from resource management planning, permitting and other services provided by county conservation staff funded through DATCP grants. Through information and education efforts, for example, a county can help non-farm residents better manage lawn fertilizers, encourage diversity in lawns, improve backyard wildlife habitat, control invasive species and minimize construction site erosion.

Farm-related businesses: Farm supply organizations, nutrient management planners, soil testing laboratories, agricultural engineers, and construction contractors benefit from state grants to counties. Landowners who receive cost-sharing purchase goods and services from these entities.

## **B. Those Significantly Affected**

The allocation benefits those landowners whose soil and water resources are improved or protected because of the activities funded by DATCP. The benefits may include protection of drinking water and improved soil health and stability. Landowners with properties located "downstream" of lands with nutrient and sediment delivery runoff problems benefit from conservation practices that reduce these problems. Certain measures, such as nutrient management plans and protective cropping practices, can help protect drinking water wells that serve neighboring landowners and communities. The public benefits from conservation practices that protect water resources and promote natural resources.

## **V. Significant Economic and Social Effects of the Proposed Action**

On balance, DATCP's proposed action will have economic and social benefits. DATCP grants support cost-sharing and technical assistance that enable farmers and other landowners to meet their conservation goals and maintain eligibility for state program benefits. By providing financial support to meet state runoff standards for farms, DATCP cost-sharing helps farmers with the cost of compliance.

The economic impacts of installing conservation practices vary with each farmer and the type of practices involved. To receive cost-sharing, farmers usually pay 30% of the costs (10% in the case of economic hardship) to install a practice. Non-agricultural practices are capped at 50% cost-share.

Producers often must adjust their management routines associated with the adoption of conservation practices. With these changes, farmers face new risks including potential for reduced productivity. However, farmers implementing these practices may also see long-term benefits including savings on labor and fertilizer and improved soil health that may lead to yield gains, and reduced liability for environmental problems.

From the standpoint of local economies, grant funds will generate demand for the purchase of goods and services to design, install and maintain conservation practices. The farm-related businesses listed in IV.A. will directly profit from this increased demand.

Socially, DATCP allocations provide needed support for the farming community and others as they take an active role in the protection and preservation of natural and agricultural resources. Through the increased adoption of conservation measures, farmers and other landowners can ensure continued acceptance by rural communities as responsible and conscientious neighbors. Improved water quality both enhances recreational opportunities and protects the scenic rural landscape, both of which are features essential to tourism.

## VI. Controversial Issues Associated with the Proposed Action

Decrease in staffing  
Switch from bond to GPR  
Length of grant cycle

For the 2023-2025 biennium, the SWRM grant program will monitor impacts of the decrease in staffing funds. Additionally, a switch from bond funding to general purpose revenue funding to support the structural practice cost-share leaves that program with heavy administrative load as well as a more susceptible fund source if the state were to require funding returned.

The level of funding for the structural practices (formerly bond) cost-sharing fails to meet current program needs. While the \$7.0 million authorization for structural cost-sharing has not increased since 2002, landowner costs for practices have increased for a number of reasons:

- A significant jump in costs of material for construction of engineered practices in the last 5-10 years. For example, the cost of cement increased at an annualized rate of 2.0% over last five years. (IBIS World. Price of Cement. 09 February 2022. <https://www.ibisworld.com/us/bed/price-of-cement/190/> )
- Greater conservation responsibilities requiring farmers to install more conservation practices. For example, DNR adopted new performance standards in 2011 and 2018 and DATCP tightened manure spreading restrictions. The Silurian bedrock standard could also impact the need for conservation practices in specific areas of the state.

The unmet needs for cost-sharing structural practices may call for creative solutions including the expanded use of SEG funds to pay for these practices. Increases in conservation spending are much needed and long overdue; however, the main source of funding for these conservation activities is inadequate to support more spending. A better supported and more sustainable source of funding is necessary to tackle our conservation challenges.

## VII. Possible Alternatives to the Proposed Action

### A. No Action

Taking no action on the proposed allocations is inconsistent with legal requirements. DATCP and DNR are statutorily mandated to provide grant assistance for their respective programs through an annual allocation as long as the state appropriates the necessary funds.

**B. Delay Action**

DATCP is under legal obligation to make an annual allocation within a specific timetable. Furthermore, there is no financial justification for a delay since the funding is available. Delaying the grant allocation runs the risk of hampering counties in meeting their legal responsibilities, including their contractual responsibilities to landowners, and undermines the significant environmental, economic, and social benefits of the program.

**C. Decrease the Level of Activity**

Decreasing the allocations would reduce environmental benefits, impede local program delivery, is not warranted based on the available funding for DATCP programs and would be inconsistent with legislative intent to implement the nonpoint pollution control program.

**D. Increase the Level of Activity**

Available appropriations and authorizations determine the overall level of activity. However, subject to the factors discussed in E. below, DATCP may increase the allocation in a given project category to better target spending to achieve desired conservation benefits and further legislative objectives.

**E. Change the Amounts Allocated to Some or All Recipients**

The awards made in the allocation plan are based on specific grant criteria and reflect the input and consensus of the counties on funding issues. The allocation plan implements ch. ATCP 50, Wis. Adm. Code and legislative directives regarding allocation of grant funds. It also reflects the input and consensus of the counties on funding issues.

**VIII. Mitigation of Adverse Environmental Effects**

The allocations are anticipated to have positive environmental effects. Any adverse environmental effects will be of a secondary and minor nature that can be mitigated. DATCP minimizes adverse impacts through construction runoff control requirements, outreach and training, and improvements in the technical standards.



**DATE:** July 6, 2023

**TO:** Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) and Advisors

**FROM:** Joanna Griffin  
Watershed Management Bureau, DNR

**SUBJECT:** DNR Proposed Scoring and Ranking of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Applications for Calendar Year (CY) 2024 Funding

**Recommended Action:** This is an informational item.

**Summary:** The DNR, pursuant to s. 281.65(4c)(b), Wis. Stats., is informing the LWCB of the preliminary ranked list for CY 2024 funding. Scoring results for projects being considered for CY 2024 funding are presented in the attached tables.

Chapter NR 153, Wis. Adm. Code, which governs the TRM Grant Program, became effective on January 1, 2011, and includes four separate TRM project categories as noted below. Projects are scored individually and ranked against other projects in the same category. Once total available funding is determined, funds are allocated among the four project categories. The maximum possible awards are \$225,000 for Small-Scale projects and \$600,000 for Large-Scale projects.

Scoring and Ranking Summary to Date:

A. Small-Scale Non-Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

- Three (3) applications were submitted and are eligible for grant consideration.
- Funding requests for the applications total \$503,608.
- Based on available funding, the Department proposes to allocate \$503,608 to fully fund all 3 projects in this category.

B. Small-Scale TMDL

- Five (5) applications were submitted and are eligible for grant consideration.
- Funding requests for the applications total \$873,835.
- Based on available funding, the Department proposes to allocate \$875,835 to fully fund all 5 projects in this category.

In the two small-scale categories, adjustments to the ranked list may be made once the total available funding is determined. The attached tables show the preliminary rank order of applications. A requirement in s. NR 153.20(2)(d)3.b., Wis. Adm. Code, states that no one applicant may receive multiple grants that exceed 20% of the total available funding in a given project category. Applicants on the ranked list whose total funding requests exceed 20% of the total available funding will be awarded funds for the projects that do not exceed 20% and the balance of the applicant's requests will be moved to the bottom of the ranked list; additional funding is provided only after all other eligible projects have first been funded.

C. Large-Scale TMDL

- Three (3) applications were submitted and are eligible for consideration.
- Funding requests for these applications total \$1,266,950.
- Based on available funding, the Department proposes to allocate \$1,266,950 to fully fund all 3 projects in this category.

D. Large-Scale Non-TMDL

- No applications were submitted in this project category.

The following process was used to score and rank projects and make funding decisions:

1. All projects were scored and then ranked by score for each project category.
2. For Small-Scale TMDL and Small-Scale Non-TMDL applications only, the highest scoring application from each DNR region that is above the median score in each of the two project categories would typically be identified and moved (“region boost”) to the top of the ranked list. However, the region boost was not needed in this cycle because all Non-TMDL grant applications were from the same region, and the four top ranked TMDL grant applications were from each of the DNR regions.

The Department will include final allocations to counties for TRM projects in the *CY 2024 Joint Final Allocation Plan*. Once the *2024 Joint Final Allocation Plan* is signed, DNR will develop grant agreements for successful applications. During the grant agreement development process, funding amounts may be adjusted as necessary to reflect final cost-share rates and eligible project components.

**Materials Provided:**

- CY 2024 Small-Scale Non-TMDL TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank*
- CY 2024 Small-Scale TMDL TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank*
- CY 2024 Large-Scale TMDL TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank*

**All Large-Scale and Small-Scale TRM Applications**

	Preliminary Allocation		
	GPR	319	Seg
Structural BMPs (including force account and engineering)	\$1,683,204	\$0	\$0
Non-Structural Practices (e.g., cropping)	\$0	\$605,706	\$154,055
Local Assistance	\$0	\$201,428	\$0
<b>Total TRM</b>	<b>\$1,683,204</b>	<b>\$807,134</b>	<b>\$154,055</b>

**Large-Scale and Small-Scale TRM Applications from Counties**

	Preliminary Allocation - Counties		
	GPR	319	Seg
Structural BMPs (including force account and engineering)	\$1,522,204	\$0	\$0
Non-Structural Practices (e.g., cropping)	\$0	\$534,761	\$0
Local Assistance	\$0	\$201,428	\$0
<b>Total TRM</b>	<b>\$1,522,204</b>	<b>\$736,189</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank for 2024

**Table 1. Small-Scale Non-TMDL Project Applications**

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Region Boost	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	Oconto County	Buckfoot Farm	NER	139	No	\$225,000	\$225,000
2	Kewaunee County	LeCaptain Manure Storage Project	NER	127	No	\$53,608	\$278,608
3	Outagamie County Land Conservation Department	Olson's Best Dairy	NER	75	No	\$225,000	\$503,608

Black font = proposed to be fully funded

Red font = funding not available

**Table 2. Small-Scale TMDL Project Applications**

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Region Boost	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	Deforest, Village	Yahara River Streambank Stabilization	SCR	140	No	\$161,000	\$161,000
1	Waupaca County Land & Water Conservation Department	Johnson Farms	NER	140	No	\$225,000	\$386,000
3	Big Round Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District	Big Round Lake Water Quality Goal Plan Implementation/Lake St. Croix TMDL Implementation - Alum 2	NOR	134	No	\$225,000	\$611,000
4	Kenosha County	Pike River Phase III River and Habitat Restoration	SER	128	No	\$225,000	\$836,000
5	Washburn County Land and Water Conservation Department	Robotti, Charles	NOR	124	No	\$37,835	\$873,835

Black font = proposed to be fully funded

Red font = funding not available

### TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank for 2024

**Table 3. Large-Scale TMDL Project Applications**

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	Walworth County	Delavan Lake Watershed Project	SER	138	\$436,950	\$436,950
2	Wood County	Mill Creek Watershed 9 Key TMDL Project (Phase II)	WCR	130	\$600,000	\$1,036,950
3	Dodge County	Wildcat Creek Watershed	SCR	105	\$230,000	\$1,266,950

Black font = proposed to be fully funded

Red font = funding not available

## CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** July 28, 2023

**TO:** Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) and Advisor

**FROM:** Joanna Griffin  
Watershed Management Bureau, DNR

**SUBJECT:** DNR Proposed Scoring and Ranking of Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management Applications for Calendar Year (CY) 2024 Funding

**Recommended Action:** This is an informational item.

**Summary:** Through this memo, the DNR is informing the LWCB of the preliminary ranked list for CY 2024 grant funding. Scoring results for projects being considered for calendar year (CY) 2024 funding are presented in the attached tables.

The DNR funds UNPS projects under the authority of s. 281.66, Wis. Stats. The purpose of this program is to control polluted runoff from urban project areas. Funds may be used for two types of projects:

1. Construction projects (may also include land acquisition) and 2. Planning projects. Each project type has its own application process and funding source. Consequently, construction projects and planning projects do not compete against each other for funding.

In January 2016, the DNR began implementing an alternating schedule for UNPS Planning and UNPS Construction grants. UNPS Planning grant applications were solicited in 2023 for the CY 2024 award cycle. The UNPS Construction grant application will be available in 2024 for CY 2025 awards. Due to the alternating schedule for the UNPS grants, only the scoring and ranking summary for UNPS Planning projects is provided here.

**Current Scoring and Ranking Summary for UNPS – Planning Projects:**

The maximum state cost share per successful application is \$85,000.

- Twenty-six (26) applications were submitted; all are eligible for funding.
- Grant requests for the 26 applications total \$1,183,380.
- Based on available funding, the Department proposes to allocate \$944,219 to fully fund 19 of the 26 projects.

The attached table shows the current ranked order of applications. However, a requirement in s. NR 155.20(2)(b), Wis. Adm. Code, states that no one applicant may receive multiple grants that exceed 20% of the total available funding. Applicants on the ranked list whose total funding requests exceed 20% of the total available funding may be awarded funds for the projects that do not exceed 20%; the balance of the applicant's requests are moved to the bottom of the ranked list. Additional funding is provided to those projects moved to the bottom of the ranked list only after all other eligible projects have been funded. Therefore, adjustments to the rank order may be made once total available funding is determined.

Once the *2024 Joint Final Allocation Plan* is signed, the DNR will develop grant agreements for successful applications. During the grant agreement development process, funding amounts may be adjusted as necessary to reflect final cost-share rates and eligible project components.

**Materials Provided:** *UNPS-Planning Scoring and Rank for CY 2024*

## UNPS-Planning Grant Application Scoring by Rank for 2024

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	State Share Requested	Cumulative Requested
1	Neenah, Town	Stormwater Planning - Town of Neenah	NER	128.4	\$35,190	\$35,190
2	Vinland, Town	T. Vinland MS4 Stormwater Planning	NER	124.3	\$41,650	\$76,840
3	Algoma, Town	T. Algoma MS4 Stormwater Planning	NER	123.4	\$43,200	\$120,040
4	Kohler Village	Village of Kohler TMDL Storm Water Quality Management Plan	SER	122.2	\$30,000	\$150,040
5	Port Washington, City	Stormwater Management Plan Update	SER	120.8	\$54,640	\$204,680
6	Whitewater, City	Stormwater Quality Management Plan Update	SER	116.6	\$42,500	\$247,180
7	Calumet County	Calumet County Planning Update	NER	115.6	\$16,520	\$263,700
8	Oshkosh, City	City of Oshkosh Post-Construction Stormwater Ordinance Update	NER	112.2	\$38,742	\$302,442
9	Cottage Grove, Village	Stormwater Quality Management Plan Update	SCR	111.1	\$82,500	\$384,942
10	Two Rivers, City	C. Two Rivers Stormwater Planning	NER	110.8	\$45,022	\$429,964
11	Waukesha, City	Stormwater Quality Management Planning	SER	110.0	\$57,600	\$487,564
11	Winnebago County	Winnebago County Storm Water Quality Model Update 2024	NER	110.0	\$12,495	\$500,059
12	Stoughton, City	Stormwater Quality Management Plan Update	SCR	108.9	\$61,000	\$561,059
12	Wausau, City	Stormwater Quality Management Plan Update	WCR	108.9	\$85,000	\$646,059
13	Monona, City	Reach 64 TMDL and Stormwater Management Plan Updates	SCR	107.8	\$55,100	\$701,159
14	River Falls, City	Stormwater Quality Management Plan Update	WCR	106.9	\$85,000	\$786,159
15	Wilson, Town	Stormwater Quality Management Plan	SER	106.5	\$51,060	\$837,219
16	Brookfield, Town	Stormwater Quality Management Plan Update	SER	103.6	\$82,000	\$919,219
17	Waupun, City	City of Waupun Stormwater Quality Planning	SCR	103.4	\$25,000	\$944,219
18	Waunakee, Village	Stormwater Quality Management Planning	SCR	93.5	\$20,000	\$964,219
19	Hartford, City	City of Hartford Stormwater Ordinance Update, Stormwater Utility Development, and GIS Program Implementation	SER	89.1	\$69,350	\$1,033,569
20	New Richmond, City	City of New Richmond - MS4 Compliance Planning	WCR	84.5	\$84,060	\$1,117,629
21	Oregon, Village	Stormwater Quality Management Plan	SCR	73.2	\$24,751	\$1,142,380
22	Omro, City	Omro Stormwater Quality Planning	NER	72.0	\$17,000	\$1,159,380
23	Freedom, Town	Freedom Stormwater Quality Planning	NER	64.0	\$17,000	\$1,176,380
24	Viroqua, City	Stormwater Information and Education Plan	WCR	62.0	\$7,000	\$1,183,380

Black font = proposed to be fully funded

Red font = funding not available

**DATE:** August 1, 2023

**TO:** Land and Water Conservation Board (“LWCB” or “Board”) Members and Advisors

**SUBJECT:** 2023 Soil & Water Conservation Research and Educational Needs Survey Report (“2023 LWCB Survey Report”) Cover Letter and Distribution

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** This is an action item. At the June 6, 2023 meeting of the LWCB, the Board motioned to have Chairman Cupp prepare a cover letter to accompany distribution of the 2023 survey of soil and water conservation research and educational needs (“2023 LWCB Survey”). Chairman Cupp has requested that the Board review and approve the enclosed cover letter.

- The Board approved the 2023 LWCB Survey Report at its June 6, 2023 meeting. The [2023 LWCB Survey Report](#) and associated [Appendix](#) is based on a survey of 1,110 persons representing soil and water conservation stakeholders from seven sectors including, federal & state governments, Tribal nations, county & local governments, county conservationists, businesses and non-profits related to agriculture & conservation, and the University of Wisconsin. When the survey closed, a total of 143 respondents responded to the survey (13% response rate).
- At its June 6, 2023 meeting, the Board adopted LWCB Advisory Committee on Research recommendations to distribute the 2023 LWCB Survey Report to the University of Wisconsin System, Governor, DATCP Secretary, DNR Secretary, Chairs and members of Senate/Assembly committees on Natural Resources and on Agriculture, and stakeholders contacted through the 2023 LWCB Survey.
- DATCP staff have coordinated with UW-CALS Advisor, Dr. Francisco Arriaga to compile a relevant list of University of Wisconsin System contacts to disseminate the report to in order to fulfill the Board’s duty under [Wis. Stat. § 92.04\(2\)\(g\)](#).

Enclosure:

(1) 2023 LWCB Survey Report Cover Letter



*State of Wisconsin*  
**Land and Water Conservation Board**

PO Box 8911  
Madison, WI 53708-8911  
608-224-4633

ADDRESS BLOCK  
ADDRESS BLOCK

RE: Research and outreach needs associated with agricultural soil & water resources

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

The Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) supports healthy landscapes with stable soils, clean waters, and productive agriculture. LWCB believes in conservation research and promoting sound conservation practices across Wisconsin to achieve and sustain healthy landscapes.

During the course of 2022-23, LWCB sought to promote these values and beliefs by actively engaging with conservation stakeholders throughout Wisconsin. By soliciting the expertise of over 1,110 partners and stakeholders around Wisconsin – through a direct survey – respondents helped us identify and prioritize needed research, educational programming and outreach related to agricultural soil and water conservation in Wisconsin.

The LWCB has fashioned the survey results and conclusions into a brief report, which we are happy to share with you today. While LWCB is duty bound, under Chapter 92, Wis. Stat., to use this information to advise the University of Wisconsin System on needed research and educational programming related to soil and water conservation; the LWCB also finds it imperative to share the findings with its partners and stakeholders in conservation efforts around Wisconsin.

Attached please find the 2023 Soil & Water Conservation Research and Educational Needs Survey Report.

Please access the [2023 Soil & Water Conservation Research and Educational Needs Survey Report | Appendix of Figures](#) links or by using this QR code:

Supporting data for the report will be provided upon request.



On behalf of the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Board, thank you for your contributions to better soil and water conservation in Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mark E. Cupp, Chair  
Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Board

*Mark Cupp, Chair ♦ Bobbie Webster, Vice-Chair*  
*Monte Osterman, Secretary*  
*Members: Ron Grasshoff ♦ Andrew Buttles ♦ Rebecca Clarke ♦ Tom Mandli*  
*Brian McGraw ♦ Andrew Potts ♦ Jill Schoen ♦ Robby Personette*



## **CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM**

**DATE: August 1, 2023**

**TO: LWCB members and advisors**

**FROM: Ian Krauss**

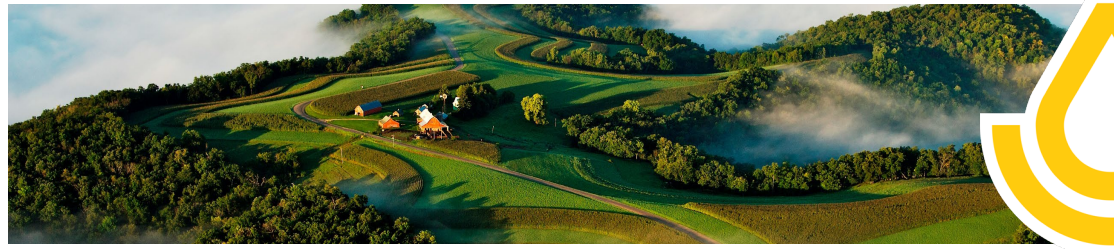
**SUBJECT: FSA Program Updates for August LWCB Meeting**

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- Disaster and Drought Programs
  - Program eligibility for the following programs is directly tied to the U.S. Drought Monitor where programs will trigger when a County has been in D2 status for 8 consecutive weeks, D3, or D4.
  - Livestock Forage Program (LFP)
    - Livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land may be eligible for the 2023 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP). To participate in LFP producers must own, cash lease, or contract grow eligible livestock, provide pasture or grazing land to eligible livestock on the beginning date of the qualifying drought, certify that they suffered a grazing loss due to drought.
  - Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP)
    - ELAP provides eligible producers with compensation for expenses associated with transporting water or feed to livestock, transporting livestock to forage or other grazing acres, or purchasing feed, above normal, to sustain honeybees. For ELAP, producers will need to file a notice of loss within 30 days for livestock and for feed and water transportation costs; and within 15 days for honeybee losses.
  - Emergency Haying and Grazing under CRP
    - Producers are first eligible for haying activities on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, after the Primary Nesting Season ends (May 15-August 1)
    - Producers must request and receive approval from the Farm Service Agency before beginning any activities.
    - Producers are eligible hay anywhere from 50% to 100% of their acreage depending on drought severity, with limits to distance from waterbodies.
    - CRP Acres in SAFE are ineligible for haying and grazing and acres in CREP are eligible under Emergency Conditions.
    - Haying and Grazing rights and can sold or leased.
- Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP)
  - Provides cost share assistance to producers and handlers who are obtaining organic certification for the first time or renewing their previous certification.
  - OCCSP provides reimbursement for 75 percent of a certified operation's allowable certification costs, up to a maximum of \$750 for each of the following categories, or "scopes":
    - Crops, wild crops, livestock, and/or processing/handling.
  - The deadline for this is November 1.

- Conservation Reserve Program
  - Grassland Signup 205
    - Wisconsin had 5 of their 25 offers accepted for Grassland Signup 205. This resembles a typical Grassland signup in Wisconsin where we often do not see much producer interest.
  - FSA and NRCS offices continue to work together to complete offers for new enrollment and re-enrollment in order to timely approve them by the end of our fiscal year (September 29<sup>th</sup>) and the current farm bill. This involves conservation plan and job sheet creation, eligibility paperwork, and review before final approval.

# NRCS Wisconsin Quarterly Update



## Environmental Quality Incentives Program

EQIP is the primary program available to farmers for farm and woodland conservation work, offering payments for over 90 basic conservation practices. Applications are accepted on a continuous, year-round basis. Applications received by November 4, 2022 will be evaluated and considered for potential funding in Fiscal Year 2023. Contact Melissa Bartz, [melissa.bartz@usda.gov](mailto:melissa.bartz@usda.gov), for more information.

## Conservation Stewardship Program

CSP provides assistance to landowners who practice good stewardship on their land and are willing to take additional steps over the next five years to further enhance their stewardship efforts. Applications are accepted on a continuous year-round basis. Applications received by March 17, 2023, will be evaluated and considered for funding in Fiscal Year 2023 for CSP Classic sign-up. Contact Melissa Bartz, [melissa.bartz@usda.gov](mailto:melissa.bartz@usda.gov), for more information.

## Regional Conservation Partnership Program

The Regional Conservation Partnership Program promotes coordination between NRCS and its partners to deliver conservation assistance to producers and landowners. NRCS provides assistance to producers through partnership agreements and through program contracts or easement agreements. Current active projects for water quality improvement are located within the Oconomowoc River, Milwaukee River and Yahara River watersheds, Driftless Area to improve fish and wildlife habitat, stream and riparian habitat, and select counties in Northern Wisconsin to improve Golden-winged and Kirtland's warblers' habitats and select areas of Southern Wisconsin to improve soil health and protect agriculturally productive farmland. Contact Melissa Bartz, [melissa.bartz@usda.gov](mailto:melissa.bartz@usda.gov), for more information.

## Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) focuses on restoring and protecting wetlands, conserving productive agricultural lands and conserving grasslands. Landowners are compensated for enrolling their land in easements. Applications for the ACEP are taken on a continuous basis, and they are ranked and considered for funding one time a year. The application deadline for 2023 ACEP proposals and projects was October 31, 2022 and IRA projects was March 17, 2023. A total of 15 applications are receiving offers in FY2023. The application deadline for Fiscal Year 2024 will be similar to FY2023 but has not been set yet. Contact Dave Gundlach, [david.gundlach@usda.gov](mailto:david.gundlach@usda.gov), for more information.

## NRCS Programs Financial Update

Program		FY22	FY23
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	Financial Assistance Obligated	\$33.3 M	\$27.4 M <sup>a,b,c</sup>
	Contracts	1073	908 <sup>a,b,c</sup>
Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)	Financial Assistance Obligated	\$15.5 M	\$11.4 <sup>c</sup>
	New Contracts	273	86 <sup>c</sup>
	Renewal Contracts	217	291
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program—Agricultural Land Easements (ACEP—ALE) <sup>*</sup> Includes RCPP ALE in brackets	Financial Assistance Obligated	\$404,088	\$304,000
	Parcels	3	1
	Acres	260	288.5
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program—Wetland Reserve Easements (ACEP—WRE)	Financial Assistance Obligated	\$3.3 M	\$7.9 M
	Easements	5	15 <sup>c</sup>
	Acres	478	1,070 <sup>c</sup>
Emergency Watershed Protection Program—Floodplain Easements (EWPP-FPE)	Financial Assistance Reserve	\$1.05 M	0
	Proposed Easements	4	0
	Proposed Acres	272	0
Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)	Financial Assistance Allocation	\$3.0 M	1.1M <sup>b</sup>
	Contracts	110	48 <sup>b</sup>
	Acres	2,712	2,796 <sup>b</sup>
	Easement Parcels	3	1 <sup>c</sup>
	Easement Acres	362.3	73.1 <sup>c</sup>
	Easement Financial Assistance	\$1.3 M	\$148,000 <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Includes initiatives and special funding.

<sup>b</sup>Initiatives and special funding allocations have not been determined yet.

<sup>c</sup>Funding decisions not yet complete for the fiscal year.

## New Videos Continue to Highlight Tribal Wetland Conservation in Wisconsin

The Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council, Wisconsin Wetlands Association and U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service have partnered to release four new Tribal Conservation videos highlighting the wetland and watershed conservation work being done by the Bad River and Red Cliff Bands of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians in Northern Wisconsin.

These new videos continue to showcase the long-term landscape approach Tribes are taking to protect and manage water resources, mitigate flooding, enhance water quality and preserve vital habitats. Caring for these wetlands and watersheds not only serves to protect ecological balance but sustain their cultural heritage and way of life. A healthier, natural environment offers integral opportunities for Tribes to hunt, fish and gather what nature has provided.

[View the full series here.](#)

## Biden-Harris Administration Announces Availability of Inflation Reduction Act Funding for Climate-Smart Agriculture Nationwide

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service is making available \$850 million in fiscal year 2023 for its oversubscribed conservation programs: the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) and Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP).

NRCS accepts producer applications for its conservation programs year-round, but producers interested in EQIP or CSP should apply by their state's ranking dates to be considered for funding in the current cycle. Funding is provided through a competitive process. If you apply after the program ranking date, NRCS will automatically consider your application during future funding cycles and will contact you for any changes that need to be considered.

To apply, contact your [local NRCS Service Center](#) or visit our [website](#)

## USDA Expands Wildlife Conservation with New Investments in Working Lands for Wildlife

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is expanding its work on wildlife conservation, leveraging a suite of voluntary, incentive-based tools. Leveraging resources of the Conservation Reserve Program and the [Inflation Reduction Act](#), the five-year commitment includes significant funding and staff resources, focusing their delivery to working lands in key geographies across the country through a series of new Frameworks for Conservation Action.

[Click here to read more.](#)



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

## Wisconsin Beginning Farmer Resource Guide

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service in Wisconsin has collaborated with representatives from the Farm Services Agency; Risk Management Agency; Rural Development; Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP); and UW-Madison Extension to create the *Wisconsin Beginning Farmer Resource Guide*.

Set up like a road map, this guide walks beginning farmers through the various resources available to support them through their journey of starting an agriculture operation, farm, or food business. The road map includes stops for phases such as Brainstorming, Learning, Planning, Funding, Forming, Operating, and Networking, as well as additional resources.

[Click here to view the Wisconsin Beginning Farmer Resource Guide](#)

## GovDelivery

Get the news first! Individuals can enroll in GovDelivery to receive up-to-date notifications by e-mail when new information becomes available about any state or national NRCS topic you choose. If you sign-up for these automatic updates, you will only receive notifications you specify and you may unsubscribe at any time. Sign up for Wisconsin updates by visiting:

[https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAFARMERS/subscriber/new?gsp=USDAFARMERS\\_WI](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAFARMERS/subscriber/new?gsp=USDAFARMERS_WI)

## Wisconsin Farm Technology Days

Wisconsin Farm Technology Days (FTD) is a three-day outdoor event showcasing the latest developments in production agriculture, including practical applications and recent research and technological developments. This is the only farm show of its size in the United States that is organized and run entirely by volunteers. As the largest outdoor agricultural event in the state, it welcomes more than 45,000 attendees, with more than 500+ commercial and educational vendors. The first WFTD show was named Farm Progress Days and was held in Waupaca County in 1954.

This year, Wisconsin NRCS participated in the Youth Agriculture Adventure Program. In addition to taking a walk through the 70 foot long soil pit, participants were encouraged to stop by the Wisconsin NRCS Soils Booth, to learn what different soil colors indicate by evaluating and using "soil crayons" made from combining recycled crayons and different soil types. While participants use the soil crayons to complete their activity, Wisconsin soil professionals will discuss soil health topics and explain why soils are different colors.

[Learn more about the FTD Youth Ag. Adventure here.](#)

**Wisconsin  
Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service**

[nrcs.usda.gov/wi](https://nrcs.usda.gov/wi)



**DATCP REPORT**  
**Bureau of Land and Water Resources**  
**August 2023**

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**Soil and Water Resources Management Grants**

- The Draft 2024 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan will be presented at the August Land and Water board meeting.
- Please note that many staffing awards will be lower than 2023 numbers.
- Another change in the budget was to change the source of funding SWRM has traditionally used for structural practices – or what have always been referred to as bond practices. These will now be funded with general purpose revenue (GPR) funds and will be referred to as structural practices. The allocated cost-share GPR funds can only be used on structural practices due to wording in the budget. The easiest way to think about this for contracting and reimbursements is bond = structural.
- DROUGHT MONITORING. You can be a part of the National Drought Mitigation Center’s Drought Monitoring Network. [This link](#) will take you to the Drought Impacts Toolkit. Choose *Submit A Report* and complete the survey to include local information in the survey.

**ATCP 50 Rule Revision Update**

- The public comment period for ATCP 50 closed. We anticipate taking the final rule draft to the ATCP Board in September.

**Nutrient Management News**

- Upcoming SnapPlus Trainings:
  - **SnapPlus Training: Utilizing the Grazing Estimator Tool** - August 3 at 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Join us to learn about using the grazing estimator tool. This tool helps users who have grazing animals account for the manure that the animals are depositing on the landscape. We will demo how to build grazing herds and how to apply grazing herd manure to individual fields. Register [Here](#).
- Previous SnapPlus Trainings can be found here: [DATCP Home Nutrient Management Trainings \(wi.gov\)](#)
- Using the New Nutrient Management Survey and Assistant Spreadsheet – Tuesday August 15<sup>th</sup> from 10 – 11 a.m.
  - Join us for an informative and interactive Office Hour session where we will showcase our annual Nutrient Management Survey and Assistant Spreadsheet. Designed specifically for county land and water staff, this session provides a valuable opportunity to learn how to effectively submit and manage nutrient management data in your county. Questions can be submitted to [cody.calkins@wisconsin.gov](mailto:cody.calkins@wisconsin.gov) in advanced or asked during the session.
  - [To join the meeting click this teams link!](#)
- We are bringing back the Nutrient Management Regional Meetings! Registration is free and CEUs will be available. See the flyer here: [2023RegionalMeetingsFlyer.pdf \(wi.gov\)](#)
  - August 28 - [Register](#)  
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Rib Mountain Municipal Use Center  
227800 Snowbird Ave., Wausau, WI 54401
  - August 29 - [Register](#)  
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
James P. Coughlin Center (CPCC)

- 625 E. County Road O, Oshkosh, WI 54901
- August 31 - [Register](#)  
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
CVTC Eau Claire Campus  
620 W. Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54701
- September 6 - [Register](#)  
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Jefferson County Highway Department  
1425 South Wisconsin Drive, Jefferson, WI 53549
- September 7 - [Register](#)  
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Lafayette County Multi-Purpose Facility  
11974 Ames Road, Darlington, WI 53530

### **Soil Health**

- The new Soil Health website has been launched and the landing page can be found [here](#). Content will be added as it is developed so check back often. Contact [randy.zogbaum@wi.gov](mailto:randy.zogbaum@wi.gov) with questions.

### **Land and Water Conservation Board-LWRM Plans**

- The Advisory Committee on Research will next meet virtually on September 5 from 9-10 a.m. Parties that wish to address the Committee at future meetings should contact Katy Smith @ [Katy.Smith@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Katy.Smith@wisconsin.gov) in advance to schedule the appropriate agenda item.
- The Land and Water Conservation Board meeting on August 1, 2023, will be a hybrid meeting. Juneau and Polk counties will present a five-year review of their LWRM Plan.

### **Conservation Engineering**

- The USGS “Flood Frequency Characteristics of WI Streams” spreadsheet was recently removed from the NRCS FOTG website now that the StreamStats website directly calculates recurrence interval peak flows using the latest USGS regression equations. The 2022 regression equations currently being used by StreamStats are slightly more accurate than the 2016 regression equations in the spreadsheet. Please note that the margin of error of this method is still quite large. Depending on the situation, checking the results using another flow determination method(s) may be wise. StreamStats should only be used for open channel flow and floodplain evaluation and can be found at the following web location: <https://streamstats.usgs.gov/ss/>

### **Farmland Preservation Program and Agricultural Enterprise Areas (AEA)**

- AEA Petitions will be reviewed on August 9. If you are interested in learning more about the AEA program, please visit [DATCP Home Agricultural Enterprise Area \(AEA\) Program \(wi.gov\)](#) or contact [wednesday.coye@wisconsin.gov](mailto:wednesday.coye@wisconsin.gov).
- We are prioritizing FP agreement applications that are submitted to the department by *Monday, November 6, 2023*. We will continue to accept and process agreement applications as they are received after that date however those submitted later than November 6 may not be processed before the end of the taxable year. Encourage landowners to apply early to ensure they can receive the 2023 tax credit. The FP agreement application can be found [here](#).
- A new *Conservation Compliance for Farmland Preservation Program Participants* publication is ready and available [here](#). This publication can be a useful tool to help potential or existing participants or new county staff

understand the compliance requirements for FPP. Direct questions regarding conservation compliance to Cody Calkins @ [cody.calkins@wisconsin.gov](mailto:cody.calkins@wisconsin.gov).

- Farmland Preservation Program staff will work with counties to craft outreach initiatives focused on areas of interest for renewable energy projects that are eligible for, or enrolled in, FP. Contact [DATCPWorkingLands@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DATCPWorkingLands@wisconsin.gov) to discuss needs or examples.

### **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)**

- **CREP Easement Emergency Haying Available:** Due to this year's drought and subsequent hardships being felt by Wisconsin farmers statewide, an option to request emergency haying on eligible CREP easements has been made available. County staff are asked to spread the word by reaching out to landowners in your county with CREP easements who may benefit from this option. The DATCP CREP easement temporary emergency haying request form ([DARM-BLWR-015](#)) is on the DATCP "CREP For Counties" website under the "Forms" section as well as announced on the [DATCP "Drought Resources" website](#). Eligibility requirements and instructions are listed on page 2 of the request form. Below is a summary:
  - Emergency Declaration: Any part of county reaches  $\geq D3$  for at min. 7 days or  $D2 > 8$  weeks, within a calendar year, as indicated by the [US Drought Monitor](#).
  - Authorization must be obtained from DATCP and Land Conservation Committee (LCC) prior to haying activity.
  - Applies to CREP easements with expired Federal CRP1's.
  - Eligible Practices include CP1, CP2, CP8a, CP10, CP21 and CP23/23A
  - Limited to one harvest the year of approval outside the primary nesting season and cut no lower than 6".
  - Haying activity may occur up to 90 days from authorization date.
  - Easement monitoring performed within the past 5 years and be in compliance status.
  - County performs follow up site visit to ensure no damage to conservation cover and reports findings to DATCP.
- **CREP Monitoring Intern Assistance** – Thanks to all the counties who have already assisted with or set up a date for CREP easement monitoring in your county this summer. Kori Rogers, CREP intern, has been enjoying getting to know LCD staff around the state while assisting with CREP easement site visits and record keeping. Site visits are essential for benchmarking the status of the conservation practice and identifying and communicating to landowners issues on the site prior to them becoming severe. If your county has easements that need monitoring, please reach out to Kori to schedule a monitoring date via email [Kori.rogers@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Kori.rogers@wisconsin.gov) or phone (608)444-3209.

### **Agricultural Impact Statement (AIS) Program**

- Curious about what the AIS program is and does? Check out the [Intro to the AIS program](#) video at [agimpact.wi.gov](http://agimpact.wi.gov). Do you have questions about the AIS program? Check out our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page that addresses many of your top AIS questions. You can also contact [DATCPAgImpactStatements@wi.gov](mailto:DATCPAgImpactStatements@wi.gov) with questions regarding any active AIS statement or the AIS program.

### **Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant (PLWPG) Program**

- The 2024 application period for Producer-Led Grants is now open. Application materials can be found on the program webpage: [DATCP Home Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grants \(wi.gov\)](#). Applications will be due on September 15, 2023, by 11:59 p.m. Questions, contact [dana.christel@wi.gov](mailto:dana.christel@wi.gov).
- The Nature Conservancy in Wisconsin is partnering with the Producer-Led program to provide grants in the amount of \$5,000-\$10,000 for innovative conservation practice incentive programs that can supplement a DATCP Producer-Led grant request. If interested, contact [dana.christel@wi.gov](mailto:dana.christel@wi.gov) for an application and for TNC contact details.
- There will be a webinar on Applying for Producer-Led Grants on August 10. Register here: [Meeting Registration -](#)

[Zoom \(zoomgov.com\)](https://zoomgov.com)

- The 2024 Annual Workshop will be held in February 2024. Exact date and location details are forthcoming.

### **Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program**

- NOPP projects are underway. Check out [NOP.wi.gov](https://nop.wi.gov) for project spotlights. Subscribe to program updates [here](#).
- To follow along with the NOPP recipients and learn about the work they are doing, you can request to join the Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program Facebook group administered by UW-Extension.
- Planning for the 2024 grant cycle is underway. A few notes: current grantees may apply for a 2024 project as long as the acres and project are different.

### **Crop Insurance Rebates for Planting Cover Crops Program**

- Farms that applied for the crop insurance premium rebate for planting cover crops program for the 2022-2023 application period that (1) have an eligible and active crop insurance policy and (2) submitted correct field and acreage information should see a discount on their upcoming crop insurance bills. Visit [CoverCropRebate.wi.gov](https://CoverCropRebate.wi.gov) for more information. Subscribe to program updates [here](#).

### **Legislation Updates**

- [Senate Bill 59](#) and [Assembly Bill 65](#) - Relating to: eligibility for producer-led watershed, lake, and river protection grants – Enacted into law May 9, 2023
- [Senate Bill 134](#) and [Assembly Bill 133](#) - Relating to: farmland preservation agreements and tax credits.
- [Senate Bill 147](#) and [Assembly Bill 131](#) - Relating to: membership in county land conservation committees.
- [Senate Bill 220](#) and [Assembly Bill 220](#) - Relating to: funding for the Fenwood Creek watershed pilot project.



DATE: July 7, 2023

TO: LWCB members and advisors

FROM: Jill Schoen, DNR

SUBJECT: DNR Update, June 2023 - July 2023, for August LWCB meeting

### **Surface Water Grant Program**

The public notice period for the DNR Surface Water Grant Applicant Guide and Program Guidance ended on July 3, 2023. No content changes were made between the draft posted in June 2023 and the final version. The updated program guidance for FY24 will be published to the [Surface Water Grant website](#) in July 2023. Notable changes include:

- Update to scoring criteria for Education Grants, County Lake Grants, AIS Supplemental Prevention Grants, Management Plan Implementation/Restoration Grants
- Increase of donated volunteer labor rate from \$12.00/hour to \$15.00/hour
- Recommendation to provide a financial plan in applications for multi-phased implementation projects
- Addition of qualified producer-led groups as eligible organizations who can apply for grants

To kick off the upcoming surface water grant cycle, program staff will hold informational webinars on August 9 (for Counties) and August 10 (for all other applicants). Pre-applications are due on September 15 and final grant applications are due on November 15. More information, program guidance, and application forms are available at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/aid/SurfaceWater.html>

[Wisconsin Legislature: 2023 Wisconsin Act 5](#) amends lake and river protection grant statutes to explicitly designate producer-led groups, or a legal entity acting on their behalf, as eligible applicants to receive surface water grants and contracts. A producer-led group is a group of 5 farmers AND a collaborator (e.g., UW-Extension, DNR, County or nonprofit conservation organization) who have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Many of these groups are not incorporated; thus, the collaborator may serve as the applicant/fiscal sponsor of the group. The DNR has included discussion of this provision in the above-mentioned guidance.

The Lakes and Rivers Grant Coordinator position has been filled; Jen Jefferson started on June 19, 2023 and works out of the DNR Southeastern Region Headquarters (Milwaukee).