



Land and Water Conservation Board Agenda

October 6, 2020

The Land and Water Conservation Board will meet on **October 6, 2020**. The board will hold its official business meeting at **9:00 am** via Skype for Business. To attend the meeting, join by telephone at 608-316-9000 with Conference ID 81748927 or click the following [Skype 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. Pledge of allegiance
 - b. Open meeting notice
 - c. Introductions
 - d. Approval of agenda
 - e. Approval of August 4, 2020 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 Sheboygan County - **Chris Ertman, Conservation Specialist, Sheboygan County LWCD; Keith Abler, Planning, Resources, Agriculture, and Extension Supervisors Chair**

- 4 Recommendation for approval of Land and Water Resource Management Plan revision for Door County - **Erin Hanson, County Conservationist, Door County SWCD; Ken Fisher, Land Conservation Committee Chair**

- 5 Recommendation for approval of 5 year LWRM plan review for Adams County - **Kason Morley, County Conservationist, Adams County LWCD; Paul Pisellini, Land Conservation Committee**

- 6 Increasing Public Awareness of LWRM Plan Renewal Approvals -
Mike Hofberger, LWCB
- 7 Update on Climate Change Resiliency and LWRM Plans Discussion
Mark Cupp
- 8 Presentation of 2021 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan -
Jenni Heaton- Amrhein, DATCP and Joanna Griffin, DNR
- 9 Annual Report on 2019 Program Accomplishments by Counties -
Coreen Fallat, DATCP
- 10 Agency reports
 - a. FSA
 - b. NRCS
 - c. UW-CALS
 - d. UW-Extension
 - e. WI Land + Water
 - f. DOA
 - g. DATCP
 - h. DNR
 - i. Member Updates
- 11 Planning for December 2020 LWCB Meeting -
Mark Cupp, LWCB
- 12 Adjourn

MINUTES
LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING

August 4, 2020
Skype Meeting

Item #1 Call to Order—pledge of allegiance, open meeting notice, approval of agenda, approval of June 2, 2020 LWCB meeting minutes.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Cupp at 9:00 a.m. Members Eric Birschbach, Ron Grasshoff, Bobbie Webster, Mike Hofberger, Andrew Buttles, Monte Osterman, Brian Weigel, Lacey Cochart (for Walling), Bob Mott, and Andrew Potts were in attendance. A quorum was present. Advisors Angela Biggs, NRCS, Matt Krueger, WI Land + Water and Dr. Francisco Arriaga, UW-CALS were also present. Others present included Lisa Trumble, Katy Smith, Susan Mockert, Alex Elias, Kim Carlson and Zach Zopp, DATCP, Joanna Griffin, Corrine Johnson and Eric Hettler, DNR, Anita Martin and Dean Farr.

Zopp confirmed that the meeting was publicly noticed.

The pledge of allegiance was conducted.

Hofberger moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Mott, and the motion carried.

Potts made a motion to approve the June 2, 2020 meeting minutes as written, seconded by Grasshoff, and the motion carried.

Item #2 Public Appearances

No public appearance cards were submitted.

Item #3 Recommendation for approval of Land and Water Resource Management Plan revision for Winnebago County

Chad Casper, Interim Director, Winnebago County Land and Water Conservation Department, and Chuck Farrey, Land Conservation Committee Chair, made a formal presentation in support of a 10-year approval of the county's LWRM plan.

DATCP's review of the plan using the LWRM Plan Review Checklist found that the plan complies with all requirements of section 92.10, Wisconsin Statutes, and Chapter ATCP 50, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

Winnebago County Land and Water Conservation Department provided written answers to the Board's standardized questions, recent work plans and accomplishments, and other materials (available on LWCB's website: https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/About_Us/LandWaterConservationBoard.aspx).

Board members and county representatives discussed the following: wetland restoration and the water quality & stormwater benefits achieved from wetlands and shoreline buffers, as well as program to encourage shoreline buffers. Chad stated the county's approach to restoration is to try to get as big of a buffer around the restoration area as possible, then initial cost share practices followed by enrollment in a Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). This approach yields many benefits including: water quality and stormwater benefits, wetland education at the town level, and flood mitigation. The board discussed the county's lake management plan, specifically who administer it and funding sources. In general, management is a partnership between the participating counties and the

Fox Wolf Watershed alliance; funds are raised from the participating counties to serve as seed money, which is then used by the Fox Wolf Watershed alliance to apply for additional grant funding. The board discussed the county's Soil Health Program, which is a monetary payment program to incentivize landowners to implement soil conservation practices such as no-till tillage over a six year period. Funding for the Soil Health Program was also discussed, as the program pays participating landowners up \$150/acre if they stay enrolled within the program through the 5th and 6th year. The board also had questions on the county's position on Farmland Preservation Program, nutrient management and implementation of the 590 standard, rain gardens and effort the county was pursuing to promote what the county was doing within soil and water conservation.

Osterman moved to recommend approval of Winnebago County's plan revision for a period of 10 years, seconded by Webster, and the motion carried.

Item #4 Recommendation for approval of Land and Water Resource Management Plan revision for Washington County

Paul Sebo, County Conservationist, Washington County Land and Water Conservation Department, and Carroll Merry, Land Use and Planning Committee Chair, made a formal presentation in support of a 10-year approval of the county's LWRM plan.

DATCP's review of the plan using the LWRM Plan Review Checklist found that the plan complies with all requirements of section 92.10, Wisconsin Statutes, and Chapter ATCP 50, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

Washington County Land and Water Conservation Department provided written answers to the Board's standardized questions, recent work plans and accomplishments, and other materials (available on LWCB's website: https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/About_Us/LandWaterConservationBoard.aspx).

Board members and county representatives discussed the following: The depth to bedrock GIS map the county produced, the Soil Health movement and the benefits of the Nutrient Management Farmer Education Program in the county. The board discussed the new Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) with the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District. The RCPP has received \$4 million from the USDA to be matched (totaling \$8 million) to acquire easements and sponsor best management practices between Washington and Ozaukee County. Participating farms are required to have conservation plans. The board also discussed the shared aquatic invasive species (AIS) position between Washington and Waukesha County's, the logistics behind the decision to share the AIS position and how this practice could be a model for cross-county collaboration to promote the stability of the AIS position and government efficiency. Lastly, the board discussed the status of Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) in the county. Paul stated there are five CAFOs in the county and that the county is expected to have an additional three CAFOs in the next couple years. Paul stated that the county has a good working relationship with these operations and is able to provide advice, the WI DNR handles the CAFO regulations.

Grasshoff moved to recommend approval of Washington County's plan revision for a period of 10 years, seconded by Birschbach and the motion carried.

Item #5 Climate Change Resiliency and LWRM Plans Discussion

Cupp, Grasshoff, and Krueger updated the board on their recent meeting to discuss climate change resiliency and LWRM plans. Krueger mentioned that WI Land + Water has convened an ad hoc group of county land and water conservation departments (LWCD) from across the state to discuss this issue.

The ad hoc group has the charge to discuss how climate change can be integrated in LWRM planning on the county level. WI Land + Land is planning to convene a meeting in the upcoming weeks with LWCDs, at which Cupp will attend to convey the interest of the board. Cupp stated that he will also meet with the WI Land + Water policy committee and present follow up content at the December LWCB meeting. The board discussed narratives LWCDs can consider to recognize the impacts of climate change within LWRM plans such as examples of weather changes, suggestions on tools, funding & limitations, emphasis on flexibility when addressing climate change. The board discussed its own role and that the board should not impose mandates on LWCDs, rather the goal is to have LWCDs develop their own responses to climate change within the LWRM plan that the board can comment and present questions on.

Item #6 Non-point funding sources

Mockert, DATCP, reported on the State of Iowa Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund. This program provides funding to four subcategories a non-point source projects: local water protection, livestock water quality, domestic septic repair & replacement, stormwater management practices. Approved projects work with one of 400 approved lenders to facilitate a sponsored loan. The sponsored loans pair a publically owned treatment work project with a non-traditional project so that the non-traditional project receives funding. Cupp noted the boards continuing desire to look at other state programs and requested that members contact him with requests for research into other state programs to learn about other innovative funding sources.

Item #7 DNR Presentation of the Scores and Rankings of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Projects for CY 2021

Griffin, Runoff Management Grants coordinator for DNR, stated that the deadline for Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) project applications had been extended from May 15th to June 15th to provide applicants an extra month to account for the Covid-19 pandemic. Griffin stated they observed a general increase in TRM applications this year. TRM projects are separated into four categories: small scale with and without total maximum daily load (TMDL) capped at \$225,000 and then large scale with and without TMDLs capped at \$600,000. The respective projects are scored and ranked within their category and the top ranking small scale project receives a regional boost factor. A single applicant cannot receive more than 20% of the allocation by category. The board discussed the total allocation amount for TRM grants and how delayed release of the DATCP/DNR preliminary joint allocation plan until October, 2020 will push back notification of TRM grant finalist until December, 2020.

Item #8 DNR Presentation of the Scores and Rankings of Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management Projects for CY 2021

Griffin, Runoff Management Grants coordinator for DNR, stated the DNR has received 31 applications, totaling approximately 3.5 million dollars, for Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management Projects. All 31 applicants are eligible for funding and there is a similar 20% cap to the TRM grants (i.e. an applicant with multiple applications cannot receive more than 20% of the available allocation). The board discussed the logistics around the preliminary joint allocation plan scheduled for October, 2020 and the final joint allocation plan presented in December.

Item #9 Update on the Best Management Practice Implementation Tracking System (BITS)

Eric Hettler, Water Resources Management Specialist for the DNR, presented on the Best Management Practice Implementation Tracking System (BITS). Eric stated BITS is a system that will consolidate information from different DNR programs in a single interface for the public and that this system has been under development for about 4 years. The board discussed the development of the BITS interface. Eric stated that the interface was developed by both DNR staff and an independent consultant. The independent contractor is devoted to developing the system, while the DNR is responsible for data management. The board discussed the allocation of DATCP Reserve funding for updates to the SWRM database. The board also discussed the new EPA grant the DNR received support a limited term full-time project position for three years. This position work as a BITS business/project manager and coordinate with the independent IT contractor, this position will also be responsible for BITS training and education.

Item #10 Agency Reports

FSA- no written report filed

NRCS – Biggs reported that Matt Lore, NRCS Chief, is leaving the agency to go back to farming in Virginia. In response to the COVID pandemic, the NRCS is working towards allowing visitors in offices. However, many NRCS offices are still in phase I (social distancing, wearing masks, no visitors) and only a handful of offices have moved to phase II to allow visitors. Biggs stated that the NRCS is working on addressing storm damage in northern regions of WI, primarily Langlade County. Biggs reported that the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) are very active. The NRCS is also nearing the end of their fiscal year and is working to fill vacant staff positions while preparing for next fiscal year. The board discussed movement on the NRCS mentorship program, which is still looking for volunteers to partner with newer employees. Furthermore, the board discussed the NRCS Clear 30 program, which provides a 30 year Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contract on recently expired or expiring CRP contracts that were enrolled under water quality conservation practices. Question regarding NRCS Clear 30 should be directed to FSA.

UW Cals & Ext- Arriaga reported that the University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW-Madison) has been functioning during COVID and that UW-Madison has entered phase II of planning as it prepares for the start of the Fall 2020 semester and the return of students. Within phase II staff generally work remotely especially office staff, however lab work and other functions that require an in-person presence is resuming. UW-Extension has initiated limited in-person meetings for small groups and may approval some limited travel.

WI Land + Water - Krueger reported that WI Land + Water staff are continuing to work remotely full-time amid the COVID pandemic. WI Land + Water staff are continuing to translate in-person events, trainings, and seminars over to virtual settings when possible and cancelling some in-person activities that can't be translated. Krueger reported on the recent virtual County Conservationist Meeting, which had more than 100 people attend, including a keynote speech from WI Lieutenant Governor Mandela Barnes whom reported on the Governor's Task Force on Climate Change. WI Land + Water is in the process of planning the virtual December County Conservationist meeting and is evaluating how to proceed with the March Conference. Kruger informed the board that WI Land + Water has many new County Supervisors on Land Conservation Committees and following the recent April county elections WI Land + Water board of directors has changed. Furthermore, Kruger stated

that Monte Osterman is the new WI Land + Water board chair, Bob Micheel is the new WI Land + Water President, and Bob Mott is a new board member whom has also joined the executive committee.

DOA - Potts reported that DOA is in the initial phases of evaluating the 2021-2023 budget, which includes funding evaluations for SWRM and TRM grants. Funding requests are not due until Sept 15 from agencies and DOA is not expected to issue a decision until October or thereafter.

DATCP - Cochart provided an update on the Aerial Electromagnetic (AEM) survey project contract and progress. The AEM project is currently working to secure land needed to conduct calibration tests on the AEM equipment and DATCP expects to know more about contracts in mid fall, possibly ahead of the October LWCB meeting. Cochart stated that the new DATCP Depth to Bedrock standard (DATCP 01: Verification of Depth to Bedrock) should be published in September, 2020 and thanked Kate Brunner, WI Land + Water and Rachel Rushmann from DATCP for their efforts to publish the standard.

DNR - Weigel reported that DNR staff are transitioning into phase II of the COVID response plan. Currently, the majority of DNR staff are working remotely, while a few individuals will be reentering the office. The DNR will be initiating increased farm inspections with specific guidelines to be as safe as possible. Weigel informed the committee that targeted performance standards for ground water quality is moving forward. DNR stormwater staff have completed 114 facility and more than 400 construction permits have been issued in the last two months. Weigel announced that CAFO program engineers have reviewed 44 construction plans, re-issued 8 permits, conducted 24 inspections.

Member Updates- None entered.

Item #11 Planning for October 2020 LWCB meeting

Trumble shared revised schedules for 2020 and 2021 for LWRM planning. The board should expect 2 5-year reviews, and 2 full plans to be presented at the October meeting.

Item #12 Adjourn

Mott moved to adjourn, seconded by Buttles, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbie Webster, Secretary

Date

Recorder: ZZ, DATCP

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM _____ **State of Wisconsin**

DATE: September 23, 2020

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 *Sheboygan 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 guidance and 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 the LWCB guidance, DATCP will automatically modify its order to terminate approval of the county's plan effective December of this year.

Summary: The Sheboygan County land and water resource management plan has been approved through December 31, 2025 contingent on a five year review conducted prior to December 31, 2020. In advance of the five year review, Sheboygan County has completed a DATCP approved form designed to implement the LWCB's June 2017 guidance and criteria for conducting a five year review. The county has provided written answers to four questions regarding past and future plan implementation, has provided the required work planning documents, and has appropriately involved the Land Conservation Committee.

The county has prepared either a PowerPoint presentation or a hand out to accompany its 5-8 minute snapshot regarding county resources and management issues.

Materials Provided:

- Completed Five Year Review Form
- 2019 Annual Workplan with Accomplishments
- 2020 Annual Workplan

Presenter: Christopher Ertman, Conservation Specialist, Sheboygan County LWCD
Keith Abler, Planning, Resources, Agriculture and Extension Supervisors Chair



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

County: SHEBOYGAN

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.

2017-2019 PLANNED VS. ACCOMPLISHED SNAPSHOT

PRACTICES	TOTAL PLANNED 2017-2019	TOTAL COMPLETED 2017-2019
NM plan development (acres)	1290	8057
Grassed waterways (acres)	10	9
Cover crops (acres)	100	32
Critical area stabilization(acres)	12	18
Roof runoff systems (number)	1	1
Manure storage and waste transfer (number)	4	4
Manure storage closure (number)	1	1
Trails and walkways(linear feet)	600	1950
Livestock watering facilities (number)	1	1
Stream Crossing (feet)	20	80
Livestock fencing (feet)	500	1250
Well decommissioning (number)	9	11
Riparian buffers (acres)	13	19
		Means met or exceeded planned amount
PERMITS		
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	3	4
Manure storage closure	1	1
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	45	29
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	37	37
Shoreland zoning	350	390
INSPECTIONS		
Farmland preservation spot checks	250	279
Complaint investigations	0	17
NR 151 compliance determinations	44	10*
* 109 determinations were reported in the 2017 Annual Report which was an error caused by counting the FPP spot checks twice		

In regards to Accomplishments, when comparing the **Planned vs. Accomplished Snapshot** (shown above), the majority of workplan goals were met (shown in green highlight). For most conservation practice implementation, in order to estimate how many will be implemented/installed during the next year, we look at several factors: 1) For practices already in the planning stage we estimate how many practices will be moving from the planning stage to the implementation stage during the next year. 2) For practices such as well abandonment which are typically referred to our department, we use a 5-year average of wells abandoned. 3) We dialogue with our county NRCS-DC to find out if there any potential practices that may not have

Q.1 Answer continued

been selected for cost-sharing through EQIP that we could cost-share on. This system has served us well and is reliant on good communication between our staff members.

In regards to Permits, to workplan for the next year, we typically use a blend of looking at projects in the planning phase that most likely will be installed during the next year and multiple year averages for items such as Shoreland Zoning permits.

For Inspections, we basically inspect one-fourth of our FPP participants each year. We included Complaints in this section of the **Snapshot** for information. We use complaint follow-up as part of our Priority Farm Strategy but the number of complaints we receive in any one year can vary greatly, so projecting their number in an upcoming year would be a guess at best.

In targeting our efforts for conservation planning we had: 1) a transition in conservation planning emphasis in 2016 from the Sheboygan River Ag Project (SRAP) in the Otter Creek (303d waterbody) watershed to the Lower Mullet river (303d waterbody) watershed. The SRAP implementation was nearing completion and as an outgrowth of our working relationship with the Nature Conservancy on that project, we were invited to dialogue with the City of Plymouth WWTP staff regarding MDV, Adaptive Management, and Pollutant Trading for phosphorus reductions. In the years 2016 and 2017, a number of conservation practices were planned and installed on two farms in the Lower Mullet watershed as an outgrowth of these discussions. 2) In 2018, we had hoped to transition to the Milwaukee River TMDL implementation but the TMDL wasn't approved until March of 2018 and implementation plans are still being completed and approved for the portion of the watershed south of our county line. For 2018-2020 our efforts focused on assisting several landowners that had been cited by the DNR for being out of compliance with the NR 151 performance standards

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 the **Snapshot** provided in the Review Question 1 answer, the "Practices" *cover crops* and *grassed waterways* stick out as not achieving the planned goals. In regards to *cover crops* there were a combination of reasons why the goal was not met: 1) In Sheboygan County we had several years in a row with wet planting seasons and wet falls. Most of our cover crop opportunities come after the winter wheat harvest with an August cover crop planting time being the best-case scenario. Several farmers we were planning on doing cover crops with had their winter wheat die over winter or could not even get their winter wheat planted due to the late fall harvest. Even fall planted cover crops such as winter rye saw a reduction in acres over the last several years as farmers struggled to get their corn and soybeans off. 2) We have been partnering with the Sheboygan River Basin Progressive Farmers producer group and we try to steer farmers interested in cover crops their way. We want to see this group succeed and to that end this is one way we can help make that happen. In spite of the two reasons list above we are optimistic that the cover crop numbers will increase with our work in the Milwaukee River RCPP, the Between the Lakes demonstration farm network, and better weather conditions in the upcoming years.

In regards to *grassed waterways* the cost of installing them is the main reason we have not met the planned goals. The cost of installing designed waterways in our county has gone up significantly in the past five years. The cost has gone up from \$4-\$5 per foot to \$7-\$8 dollars per foot. The local economy has been doing well and excavators have had plenty of work so when

Q.2 Answer continued

an excavator does put together an estimate in for a waterway, it is on the high end. Also, the majority of the waterway needs in Sheboygan County fall in the eastern half or “red clay” area. These waterways need drainage tile installed along their perimeter to help the waterway soil dry out between rains. If a tile is not installed the waterway bottom can stay saturated and the soil is more vulnerable to erosion when the next rain comes. These rising costs combined with a brutal farm economy the past five years have combined to make it harder for a farmer to afford even their share of a waterway construction. To tackle these rising costs, we have looked for opportunities to leverage cost-sharing with the NRCS office to make the waterways more affordable.

We are optimistic that with this strategy we will not have to reduce our planned number of grassed-waterways over the next five years.

In the Snapshot under “Permits” only the Non-Metallic mining permits did not meet the planned goals. This was partly due to our Department needing to make sure that site visits for existing mines took place, and in several instances, we failed to do this. We now have a staff person that is very organized and a good communicator in charge of the Non-Metallic mining ordinance enforcement so we feel that shortcoming is rectified.

Additionally, we thought that more new pits would be permitted and that has not been the case. We have two new pits that are planned to be permitted for this year so things may pick up with more new pits permitted over the next five years.

In regards to “Inspections” in the Snapshot, the NR151 compliance determinations were the only area that fell short of goal. Our Department tracks these separate from the FPP spot checks/status reviews. These determinations are driven by complaint follow-up. While not a number that we include in our yearly work plan or our annual report, complaint numbers can vary widely from year to year. As shown in the Snapshot, we had 17 total complaints from 2017-2019. We had anticipated a higher number based on 2016 when we had 13 in that year alone. We will be adjusting the yearly workplan number for this category downward to a more realistic estimate. Of note, if a person looks at our 2017 Annual Report we show 109 NR 151 compliance determinations. This was a reporting error on our part as the FPP spot checks were included in this number

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.

In our 2015 LWRM plan under Chapter 6- Priority Farm Strategy and State Performance Standards and Prohibitions, the Advisory Committee chose for a:

First Priority: Farms where a valid complaint has been received, and a NR 151 violation has been investigated and confirmed, for one or more of the state nonpoint performance standards or prohibitions.

Over the past several years, as a result of complaint investigations, there have been several landowners cited by the DNR as out of compliance with the NR 151 State Performance Standards and Prohibitions. We have offered technical assistance and when available, cost-sharing to these landowners. We have utilized both SEG and Bond money to cost-share these practices as well as acquiring a TRM grant for a more expensive site.

Q.3 Answer continued

***Second Priority:** Farms located in priority areas such as the Sheboygan River Agricultural Project boundary, the Milwaukee River TMDL boundary, watersheds of 303(d) listed waters, and watersheds of Outstanding or Exceptional Resource waters.*

We have been showing in the yearly workplan, in the Watershed Strategy section, that our outreach/planning efforts have shifted away from the Sheboygan River Ag Project (SRAP) in 2017 to greater focus on the Milwaukee River TMDL (Milwaukee River RCPP) and producer led groups such as the Sheboygan River Progressive Farmers, and the Between the Lake NRCS Demonstration Farm Network. All of the above efforts target areas that fall within 303(d) listed impaired waters.

In regards to Outreach, in the SRAP area we contacted all landowners by mail and made in-person visits with all of the farmers. We performed farm inventories of pre-existing conditions on each farm. We explained conservation practices that could address a resource concern or for those farmers already meeting the State NR 151 standards help them further reduce their phosphorus and sediment runoff. We partnered with the Nature Conservancy to provide cost-share funds to implement practices with willing landowners

As the SRAP was finishing up, we used this same strategy as we moved to the Mullet River watershed (303d listed) partnering not only with the Nature Conservancy but also the City of Plymouth WWTP staff. As discussed in the answer to Question 1 our Department worked for several years with two landowners in this watershed implementing conservation practices.

Beginning in the fall of 2020 work will begin in the Milwaukee River Watershed RCPP which is a conservation partnership effort between our Department, the NRCS, and Ozaukee, Washington and Fond du Lac counties. Within the borders of Sheboygan County, Mink Creek(303d), North Branch Milwaukee River(303d), Batavia Creek(303d), Chambers Creek (ERW) and Nichols Creek (ORW) lie within the Milwaukee River TMDL area. By working with farmers in the RCPP area we have the opportunity to enhance and protect these waters by phosphorus and sediment reductions realized through conservation practice implementation on cropland.

We are currently partnering in the four-county Between the Lakes NRCS Demonstration Farm Network in the Manitowoc and Sheboygan River (303d listed) watersheds. Working together with these partners we hope to demonstrate the effectiveness and adaptability of conservation practices to reduce erosion and sedimentation, control phosphorus runoff, and address other nonpoint source pollution issues.

The Sheboygan River Basin Progressive Farmers (SRBPF) farmer-led group was formed in 2017. Our Department has worked to promote SRBPF group's cost-sharing, field days, and tours. We are impressed with their commitment to explore more economical and environmentally sustainable farming practices.

***Third Priority:** Farms currently enrolled in the Farmland Preservation Program but have not been evaluated for compliance with the state performance standards and prohibitions. Also included, would be new farms enrolling for the first time into the Farmland Preservation Program and current participants enrolling new land.*

Our Department focused on existing and new applicants for the Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) evaluating their farms for compliance with the NR 151 state performance standards. For

Q.3 Answer continued

existing participants out of compliance with one or more performance standards we offered technical assistance and cost-sharing dollars when available. We have Township zoning and currently we have 11 out of the 15 townships participating in the FPP with 349 active Certificates of Compliance.

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.

This answer expands on the activities listed in the 2020 Work Plan under "Watershed Strategies"

With the addition of the Silurian Bedrock manure restrictions in July of 2018 to the NR 151 Runoff Management Performance Standards, we have been focusing efforts in those areas of our county that have Silurian Bedrock within 20 feet of the surface. Most of the Silurian Bedrock area in Sheboygan County lies within the Sheboygan River watershed in two townships. Mailings outlining the performance standards and manure guidelines have already been made to cropland owners within those areas. Our Department will provide technical assistance and guidance to landowners/farmers in making bedrock depth determinations in order to make sure they are in-compliance with this standard. Additionally, we will be involving agronomists/crop consultants in this process to ensure all parties involved in managing these high bedrock crop fields are on the same page.

In addition, for 2020 thru 2022 we have partnered with the NRCS and Calumet, Manitowoc, and Fond du Lac counties to form the "Between the Lakes" demonstration farm network. While this network will primarily be informative in nature there may be opportunities for cost-sharing with interested farmers that decide they want to try some soil health practices as a result of what they have learned at the demonstration farms.

The Sheboygan River Basin Progressive Farmers (SRBPF) farmer-led group will continue to be a priority for our Department. We have worked to promote SRBPF group's cost-sharing, field days, and tours.

For 2021-2025 we are partnering with NRCS, MMSD, and Ozaukee and Washington counties on the Milwaukee River RCPP. The RCPP will focus on cropland practices to reduce phosphorus and sediment runoff. We anticipate an increase in the number of cropland practices such as cover crops and filter strips being implemented by farmers/landowners in the RCPP area.

A 9 Key Element Plan for the Sheboygan River watershed is in the beginning phase of planning. The Lakeshore Natural Resources Partnership (LNRP) and the Sheboygan River Basin Partners (SRBP) are taking the lead role in getting this plan written. The Sheboygan River Watershed is located entirely within the Northeast Lakeshore Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study area. Development of this TMDL is already underway, and 9KE Watershed Plans will soon be necessary to further refine management objectives and meet TMDL loading requirements. Our Department will provide technical support and be in communication with the LNRP and the SRBP throughout the planning process

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. 2019

Presentation Regarding County Resource Concerns

Prepare and present a 5-8 minute snapshot to the board regarding county resources and management issues. The county must prepare one of following as part of this brief presentation:

- a. A PowerPoint (showing what your county looks like, can include maps) [ATTACHED]

Guidance on Board Review Process

The LWCB encourages and supports honest presentations from the county. 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.

Land Conservation Committee Notification

The LCC was provided a completed copy of this form (including attachments) on: 9/22/2020

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

 Date: 9.22.20
Keith Abler

Send completed form and attachments to:

Lisa.Trumble@wi.gov

**SHEBOYGAN COUNTY 2019 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"> <i>Cropland</i> 		
Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management	GRASSED WATERWAYS (4.00 ACRES) COVER CROPS (40 ACRES) CRITICAL AREA STABILIZATION (2.0 ACRES) NM PLAN DEVELOPMENT (500 ACRES)	<i>2 ac</i> <i>0 acres</i> <i>2 acres</i> <i>848 acres</i> <i>50 tons of sediment reduced; 644 lbs. of P reduced</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Livestock</i> 		
Livestock	MANURE STORAGE STRUCTURE (1) MILKHOUSE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM REPAIR (1)	<i>0</i> <i>1</i> <i>300 ft of Trails & walkways</i> <i>60 feet of stream crossing</i> <i>1 ton of sediment reduced; 8 lbs of P reduced</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Water quality</i> 		
Water quality/quantity (other than activities already listed in other categories)	RIPARIAN GRASSED BUFFERS (5.0 ACRES) WELL DECOMMISSIONING (3)	<i>11</i> <i>4</i> <i>20 tons of sediment reduced; 7lbs. of P reduced</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Forestry</i> 		
Forestry	TIMBER HARVEST – AMSTERDAM DUNES TREE PLANTING – AMSTERDAM DUNES (7 ACRES)	<i>30 acres of selective ash harvest</i> <i>4,000 trees reforestation planting on 7 acres</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Invasive</i> 		
Invasive species	WATER BOAT INSPECTIONS (1400)	<i>No totals for '19 but for example on one weekend there was a Boat Landing Blitz. Day-229 contacts made</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Wildlife CLEAN</i> 		
Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat (other than forestry or invasive species)	WETLAND RESTORATION/CREATION (1 AC) WILDLIFE DAMAGE PROGRSM (4 CLAIMS) DEER DONATION PROGRAM (10) TREE SALES 800 ORDERS / 84,000 TREES	<i>Carried over to 2020</i> <i>7 Claims</i> <i>14 Deer donated</i> <i>806 orders-74,000 trees sold</i>

**SHEBOYGAN COUNTY 2019 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

- *Urban*

Urban issues	EROSION CONTROL AND STORMWATER ORDINANCE REVIEWS AND PERMITS (12) FLOODPLAIN PROTECTION PERMITS (125)	<i>15</i> <i>138</i>
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- *Watershed*

Watershed strategies	<p>WORK WITH SHEBOYGAN COUNTY PRODUCER GROUP- DEMONSTRATION FARM TMDL COORDINATION FOR THE MILWAUKEE RIVER (NORT BRANCH) WATERSHED, EXPLOR THE POSSIBILITIES OF NINE KEY ELEMENT PLANS FOR THE MILWAUKEE, MULLET, AND SHEBOYGAN RIVER WATERSHEDS INCLUDING ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT, TRADING, AND MDV OPTIONS</p>	<p><i>Worked with the Sheboygan River Basin Progressive Farmers- Farmer led group (attended field days, referred farmers to the group for cos-sharing assistance, attended their Annual Meeting)</i></p> <p><i>Began dialogue with Mike Patin (NRCS-DC) and Karen Nenahalo of MMSD for our Department to partner in implementing of the next Milwaukee River RCPP now that the Milw.R. TMDL had moved into the Implementation Phase.</i></p> <p><i>Attended Field Days and Soil Health workshops sponsored by the Milwaukee River Clean Farm Families-farmer led group</i></p> <p><i>Begin working with the NE region DNR to gathering farm management data for modeling of the Northeast Lakeshore TMDL. Completed the Ag Survey for the NEL TMDL and submitted it to the DNR.</i></p> <p><i>Explored possible funding assistance to have a 9 Key Element Plan written in one of our impaired HUC 12 watersheds of the Milwaukee River TMDL.</i></p>
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- *Other*

Other	NONMETALLIC MINING ORDINANCE (15INSPECTIONS)	<i>15</i>
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**SHEBOYGAN COUNTY 2019 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 (0)	1 (0)
Manure storage closure	0	0
Livestock facility siting	NA	NA
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	15 SITE VISITS; (15)	15 Existing Permit Reviews (15)
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	12 (20)	12 (20)
Shoreland zoning	125 (132)	125 (132)
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	0	0
Other		

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	100 (88)
For FPP	80 (85)
For NR 151	20 (3)
Animal waste ordinance	5 (6)
Livestock facility siting	NA
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	12 (12)
Nonmetallic mining	15 (15)

**SHEBOYGAN COUNTY 2019 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	1 (2)
Field days	1 (1)
Trainings/workshops	1 (0)
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	1 (1)
Newsletters	4 (4)
Social media posts	4 (6)
News release/story	10 (15)

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

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
<i>COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST, TECHNICIANS (3), ADM. ASSISTANT</i>	10,080	\$260,000
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
<i>BONDING</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>62,500</i>
<i>SEG</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>
<i>COUNTY</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$40,000</i>

**SHEBOYGAN COUNTY 2020 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"> <i>Cropland</i> 		
Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management	COVER CROPS (40 ACRES) CRITICAL AREA STABILIZATION (2.0 ACRES) NM PLAN DEVELOPMENT (475 ACRES) STREAM CROSSING (1)	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> <i>Amount of cost-share dollars spent</i> <i># lbs of sediment reduced (using any approved method)</i> <i># lbs of P reduced (using any approved method)</i> <i># acres of cropland in compliance with a performance standard</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Livestock</i> 		
Livestock	WASTE TRANSFER SYSTEM (1) LIVESTOCK LANE REPAIR (1) CLEAN WATER DIVERSION (1)	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> <i>Amount of cost-share dollars spent</i> <i># lbs of sediment reduced (using any approved method)</i> <i># lbs of P reduced (using any approved method)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Water quality</i> 		
Water quality/quantity (other than activities already listed in other categories)	RIPARIAN GRASSED BUFFERS (1 ACRE) WELL DECOMMISSIONING (4)	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> <i>Amount of cost-share dollars spent</i> <i># lbs of sediment reduced (using any approved method)</i> <i># lbs of P reduced (using any approved method)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Forestry</i> 		
Forestry	TREE PLANTING – AMSTERDAM DUNES- PARTNERING WITH US FOREST SERVICE TO PLANT 3,000 TREES; GERBER LAKE AND SHEBOOYGAN MARSH-REMOVE ASH BORER AFFECTED TREES AND PLANT NEW SPECIES.	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> <i>Amount of cost-share dollars spent</i> <i># lbs of sediment reduced (using any approved method)</i> <i># lbs of P reduced (using any approved method)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Invasive</i> 		
Invasive species	<i>CLEAN WATER BOAT INSPECTIONS (1400)</i>	<i>Number of surveys completed</i> <i>Number of control efforts implemented/sites treated</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Wildlife</i> 		
Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat (other than forestry or invasive species)	WETLAND RESTORATION/CREATION (1 AC) WILDLIFE DAMAGE PROGRSM (4 CLAIMS) DEER DONATION PROGRAM (10) TREE SALES 800 ORDERS / 84,000 TREES	<i>Acres of wetland restored</i> <i>Number of trees sold</i>

**SHEBOYGAN COUNTY 2020 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

- *Urban*

Urban issues	<p>EROSION CONTROL AND STORMWATER ORDINANCE REVIEWS AND PERMITS (10) FLOODPLAIN PROTECTION PERMITS (110)</p>	<p><i>Number of site visits</i> <i>Number of plans reviews</i> <i>Number of permits issued</i> <i>Number of compliance issues resolved</i></p>
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- *Watershed*

Watershed strategies	<p>PROVIDE INFORMATION AND SUPPORT TO FARMERS IMPLEMENTING THE NR 151 SILURIAN BEDROCK STANDARD</p> <p>PARTICIPATE WITH THE NRCS, CALUMET, MANITOWOC, AND FOND DU LAC COUNTIES IN IMPLEMENTING THE <i>BETWEEN THE LAKES NRCS DEMONSTRATION FARM NETWORK</i> LOCATED IN THE SHEBOYGAN AND MANITOWOC RIVER BASINS</p> <p>PARTNER WITH THE <i>SHEBOYGAN RIVER BASIN PROGRESSIVE FARMERS FARMER LED GROUP</i></p> <p>PARTICIPATE IN THE MILWAUKEE RIVER RCPP TO ASSIST WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MILWAUKEE RIVER BASIN TMDL</p> <p>EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES OF NINE KEY ELEMENT PLANS FOR THE MILWAUKEE, MULLET, AND SHEBOYGAN RIVER WATERSHEDS INCLUDING ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT, TRADING, AND MDV OPTIONS</p>	<p><i>Number of meetings attended/presentations given</i> <i>Modeling completed</i> <i>Number of partner contacts made</i> <i>Information system/tracking developed</i> <i>Number of partnership development activities accomplished</i></p>
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- *Other*

Other	<p><i>NONMETALLIC MINING ORDINANCE (2) NEW RECLAMTION PLAN REVIEWS (15) NSPECTIONS</i></p>	<p><i>Number of plans reviewed</i> <i>Number of inspections</i></p>
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**SHEBOYGAN COUNTY 2020 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	0	0
Livestock facility siting	NA	NA
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	15 SITE VISITS	15 EXISTING PERMIT REVIEWS; 2 NEW RECLAMATION PLAN REVIEWS
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	10	10
Shoreland zoning	110	110
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	0	0
Other		

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	90
For FPP	85
For NR 151	5
Animal waste ordinance	5
Livestock facility siting	NA
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	10
Nonmetallic mining	15

**SHEBOYGAN COUNTY 2020 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	1
Field days	1
Trainings/workshops	1
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	1
Newsletters	4
Social media posts	4
News release/story	10

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

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
<i>COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST, TECHNICIANS (3), ADM. ASSISTANT</i>	10,080	\$265,000
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
<i>BONDING</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$52,870</i>
<i>SEG</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>
<i>COUNTY</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$40,000</i>

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM _____ **State of Wisconsin**

DATE: September 15, 2020

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: Recommendation for Approval of the *Door County Land and Water Resource Management Plan*

Action Requested: This is an action item. The department has determined that the *Door County Land and Water Resource Management Plan* meets applicable statutory and rule requirements and requests that the LWCB make a recommendation regarding approval of the plan consistent with the Board's guidance.

Summary: The plan is written as a 10 year plan, and if approved, the plan would remain in effect through December 31, 2030, and would be subject to a five year review prior to December 31, 2025.

DATCP staff reviewed the plan using the checklist and finds that the plan complies with all the requirements of section 92.10, Wisconsin Statutes, and Chapter ATCP 50, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

To qualify for 10 year approval of its plan, Door County must submit an annual work plan meeting DATCP requirements during each year of its 10 year plan approval.

Door County held a public hearing on August 13, 2020, as part of its public input and review process. The Door County Land Conservation Committee will present the LWRM plan for County Board approval after receiving a recommendation for approval from the LWCB.

Materials Provided:

- LWRM Plan Review Checklist
- Completed LWRM Plan Review form
- 2019 workplan with accomplishments and current 2020 workplan

Presenters: Erin Hanson, Door County Conservationist
Ken Fisher, Land Conservation Committee Chair



Wisconsin Dept. of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
 Agricultural Resource Management Division
 2811 Agriculture Drive, PO Box 8911
 Madison WI 53708-8911
 Phone: (608) 224-4608

Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM)

LWRM Plan Review Checklist

Wis. Stats. § 92.10 & Wis. Adm. Code § ATCP 50.12.

County: DOOR

Date Plan Submitted for Review: 6/18/2020

I. ADVISORY COMMITTEE		Yes	No	Page
1.	Did the county convene a local advisory committee that included a broad spectrum of public interests and perspectives (such as affected landowners, partner organizations, government officials, educational institutions)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	164
II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND COUNTY BOARD APPROVAL				Date(s)
1.	Provide the dates that the local advisory committee met to discuss the development of the LWRM plan and the county plan of work			2/25 & 5/10
2.	Provide the date the county held a public hearing on the LWRM plan ¹			8/13/20
3.	Provide the date of county board approval of the plan, or the date the county board is expected to approve the plan after the LWCB makes its recommendation. ²			Nov. 2020
III. RESOURCE ASSESSMENT AND WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES		Yes	No	Page
1.	Does the plan include the following information as part of a county-wide resource assessment:			
a.	Soil erosion conditions in the county ³ , including:			
i.	identification of areas within county that have high erosion rates or other soil erosion problems that merit action within the next 10 years	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	98,105 App A
b.	Water quality conditions of watersheds in the county ³ , including:			
i.	location of watershed areas, showing their geographic boundaries	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	44
ii.	identification of the causes and sources of the water quality impairments and pollutant sources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	45-59,61

¹ Appropriate notice must be provided for the required public hearing. The public hearing notice serves to notify landowners and land users of the results of any determinations concerning soil erosion rates and nonpoint source water pollution, and provides an opportunity for landowners and land users input on the county's plan. Individual notice to landowners is required if the landowners are referenced directly in the LWRM plan. DATCP may request verification that appropriate notice was provided.

² The county board may approve the county LWRM plan after the department approves the plan. The plan approved by the county board must be the same plan approved by the department. If the department requires changes to a plan previously approved by the county board, the department's approval does not take effect until the county board approves the modified plan.

³ Counties should support their analysis of soil and water conditions by referencing relevant land use and natural resource information, including the distribution of major soil types and surface topographic features, and land use categories and their distribution. Sec. ATCP 50.12(3)(b) requires that a county assemble relevant data, including relevant land use, natural resource, water quality and soil data.

iii.	identification of areas within the county that have water quality problems that merit action within the next 10 years.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	61, App A
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2. Does the LWRM plan address objectives by including the following:

a.	specific water quality objectives identified for each watershed based upon the resource assessment, if available	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	45-59
b.	pollutant load reduction targets for the watersheds, if available	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	50

Other comments: Surface Water Inventory is referenced, links are included to more reference materials

IV. DNR CONSULTATION	Yes	No	Page
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1.	Did the county consult with DNR ⁴ to obtain water quality assessments, if available; to identify key water quality problem areas; to determine water quality objectives; and to identify pollutant load reduction targets, if any; and to review NR 151 implementation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
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Other comments: DNR was involved throughout the planning process. Also of note is the Northeast Lakeshore of Lake Michigan TMDL

V. PLAN IMPLEMENTATION	Yes	No	Page
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1.	Does the LWRM plan include the following implementation components: :			
a.	A voluntary implementation strategy to encourage adoption of farm conservation practices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	95
b.	State and local regulations used to implement the plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part 3
c.	Compliance procedures that apply for failure to implement the conservation practices in ATCP 50, ch. NR 151 and related local regulations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	91-93
d.	Relevant conservation practices to achieve compliance with performance standards and prohibitions and to address identified water quality and erosion problems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	App D
e.	A system for meeting county responsibilities to monitor the compliance of participants in the farmland preservation program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	95-96

⁴ While requirements for DNR consultation may be satisfied by including relevant DNR representatives on the advisory committee, counties may also need to interact with DNR staff in central or regional offices to meet all of the consultation requirements. DNR may point counties to other resources to obtain information including consultants who can calculate pollutant load reduction targets.

- | | | | | |
|-------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| 2. | Does the LWRM plan (or accompanying work plan) estimate: | | | |
| a. | expected costs of implementing the plan including cost-sharing for conservation practices needed to achieve plan objectives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | W.P.
133-35 |
| b. | the staff time needed to provide technical assistance and education and outreach to implement the plan. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | W.P.
133-35 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| 3. | Does the LWRM plan describe a priority farm strategy designed to make reasonable progress in implementing state performance standards and conservation practices on farms appropriately classified as a priority | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Part 3 |

Other comments: _____

VI. OUTREACH AND PARTNERING

Yes No Page

- | | | | | |
|-------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | Does the LWRM plan describe a strategy to provide information and education on soil and water resource management, conservation practices and available cost-share funding | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Part
3.5 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| 2. | Does the LWRM plan describe coordination activities with local, state and federal agencies? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Part 3 |

Other comments: _____

VII. WORK PLANNING AND PROGRESS MONITORING

Yes No Page

- | | | | | |
|-------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | Does the county's most recent annual work plan ⁵ do both of the following: | | | |
| a. | Provide measurable performance benchmarks | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | NA |
| b. | Identify priorities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | NA |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| 2. | Does the LWRM plan describe a strategy and framework for monitoring county progress implementing its plan including methodology to track and measure progress in meeting performance benchmarks and plan objectives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Part
4.3, pg
132 |

Other comments: _____

VIII. EPA SECTION 319 CONSIDERATIONS

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1. | IS THE COUNTY WORKING WITH DNR TO SEEK EPA APPROVAL OF THIS PLAN AS MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF A 9 KEY ELEMENT PLAN UNDER SECTION 319 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT: Door county has an approved 9KE plan for the Ahanapee watershed |
|----|--|

⁵ Counties must submit annual work plan by no later than April 15th of every year to meet the requirement in s. ATCP 50.12(2)(i) for counties to have multi-year work plans.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff has reviewed the above-referenced county LWRM plan based on the criteria required in s. ATCP 50.12, Wis. Admin. Code, and s. 92.10, Stats., and has determined that the plan meets the criteria for DATCP approval of this plan. This checklist review is prepared to enable the LWCB to make recommendations regarding plan approval, and for DATCP to make its final decision regarding plan approval.

Staff Signature: *Lisa K. Trumble*

Date: September 15, 2020



Land and Water Conservation Board County Land and Water Resource Management Plan Review of LWRM Plan Revisions

County: Door

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 within the last five years 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.

Examples of Soil and Water Conservation Department (SWCD) accomplishments within the last five years linked to multiple work plans include: protection of groundwater and surface waters through implementation of the agricultural performance standards and prohibitions, partnerships to restore waterbodies, and invasive species programs.

Since 2004 SWCD has focused on protecting groundwater and surface waters through implementation of the agricultural performance standards and prohibitions in ch. NR 151, Wisc. Adm. Code. A local ordinance is updated each time new standards are promulgated, most recently in 2018 for the Silurian bedrock targeted standards. Each annual workplan identifies prioritized compliance reviews, installation of conservation practices, and operation and maintenance reviews to ensure practices continue to protect surface and groundwater. Over 90% of the county's cropland is included in a nutrient management plan each year. SWCD follows a formal process to notify about 60 landowners and operators of their compliance status each year, with approximately 45% of those letters identifying full compliance at the site. Noncompliance is primarily addressed through installation of conservation practices and/or changes in management at the site. When necessary formal offers of cost share and elevated enforcement are also used to obtain compliance and protect groundwater and surface water.

SWCD also identifies projects with partners to restore waterbodies in each annual workplan. For over a decade natural resource partners have focused on restoration of Dunes Lake by identifying causes of eutrophication, installing agricultural practices in the watershed, and conducting a pilot dredge to remove sediments containing legacy phosphorus. The partnership has assembled \$1.1 million to complete the remaining dredging project in 2020-2021. Other restoration efforts involve the Upper Ahnapee Watershed through research of current conditions, watershed planning (9 Element Plan approved in 2020), and agricultural practice installation; as well as targeted monitoring and outreach in watersheds that drain to the Bay of Green Bay.

SWCD maintains a leadership role in the Door County Invasive Species Team (DCIST) and manages a variety of invasive species outreach, education and control projects each year. The 2011-2020 LWRM plan recognized the threat of invasive species and set a

goal of conducting programs within the SWCD. Since that time SWCD has diversified funding sources and developed a strategic plan to guide invasive species program efforts (available at doorinvasives.org). SWCD serves as the fiscal manager for DCIST and secures a variety of grants to support seasonal staff and implement projects to protect Door County's unique natural habitats from invasive species.

Planning adjustments that have helped target SWCD activities through the years include sequential activities that build on prior year accomplishments, a focus on specific watersheds, and identification of department priorities for conservation programs and funding.

2. Identify any areas where the county was unable to make desired progress in implementing activities identified in recent 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.

Each year SWCD identifies achievable performance measures in the annual work plan submitted to DATCP. These are typically based on available cost share and SWCD staff capacity to complete the tasks listed for each category. In any given year factors such as weather, unanticipated projects that emerge as priorities, and staff turnover can impact the actual number of planned activities that are accomplished. SWCD strives to adjust as necessary to meet commitments established in the annual work plan.

It is important to note that the annual work plans SWCD submits to DATCP do not identify the full scope of activities necessary to achieve the goals established in the LWRM plan. To do so would require significant additional state investment in cost share and conservation staff, as well as broader consideration of how to make the nonpoint program effective at protecting groundwater and surface waters. For example, the requirement to offer cost share for practices that should be expected of every agricultural operation (e.g. nutrient management), and the limitations imposed by different grant sources on how cost share funds can be used, complicates funding basic conservation practices. Many of these constraints are outside of SWCD's immediate control and cannot be addressed through minor adjustments to annual work plans.

SWCD success at meeting work plan priorities is demonstrated by the number of conservation practices installed throughout the county and compliance with performance standards and prohibitions. Yet results of recent water quality monitoring initiated by SWCD are less than "desired" and there is clearly a need for sustained conservation efforts. In response SWCD continues to focus available resources on high priority activities to protect groundwater and surface water. We actively seek funding from a variety of sources to install as many conservation practices as possible and maintain strong conservation programs.

3. Describe the county's approach to implementation of its priority farm strategy including outreach, farm inventories and making use of multiple funding sources. How has the county evaluated the effectiveness of its priority farm strategy and used this information to improve implementation of the agricultural performance standards and conservation practices on farms?

SWCD's agricultural programs focus on implementation of the agricultural performance standards and prohibitions through a local ordinance. Priority farms are a combination of: voluntary, required, previously installed practices, Farmland Preservation Program, targeted watersheds and geographically prioritized landowners. The geographic prioritization identifies those parcels with the greatest potential to impact water quality based on site factors such as depth to bedrock, depth to water table, soils, etc and removes subjectivity from identifying priority farms. Outreach is conducted primarily through one-one conversations with landowners and farm operators. Farm inventories are documented, tracked and compliance notifications sent to landowners/operators. When required, cost share is formally offered to landowners using state and local funds. SWCD prefers to work cooperatively with landowners/operators to resolve noncompliance but cases with uncooperative landowners are elevated through an enforcement process with Door County's Corporation Counsel when necessary.

Since 2002 SWCD has been awarded 52 small-scale and two large-scale TRM grants from WDNR. SWCD also makes use of NOD, SWRM and local funds to make cost share offers for best management practices. New funding programs that SWCD has entered into in recent years are CREP and the multi-discharger variance (MDV), though these have seen limited participation as of this time. Effectiveness of the farm strategy is primarily evaluated through tracking installation of best management practices and compliance status by parcel. Adjustments are made annually to ensure that the limited funding available is targeted to locations of greatest need.

4. Provide representative examples that show changes in direction in the county's LWRM plan and annual work plans, with specific examples provided showing adjustments in goals, objectives or planned activities.

Representative changes in direction in the last five years of Door County's annual workplans are Nutrient Management - New Plan Development and Technical Assistance for shoreline erosion control projects. Each change is the result of a review of actual and/or perceived environmental benefit relative to staff time invested so as to maximize use of available resources. However, overall goals have remained constant with the change being a shift in program activities.

For "Nutrient Management - New Plan Development" in 2016 SWCD planned for 700 acres of cost share to noncompliant landowners. In subsequent years effort was maintained at 700 acres/year but targeted to specific HUC-12 watersheds. SEG funds provided landowners cost share, and if necessary SWCD compelled compliance with the standard. Given the extensive nutrient management coverage in the county there was diminishing return for effort to cost share 700 new acres each year. Few were willing to accept cost share and those that did were small parcels with less intensive agricultural use. Going forward in 2020 and on, SWCD will extend SEG cost share only to those who seek nutrient management assistance and direct SEG funds to other practices, to the extent allowed through the program. SWCD now invests staff resources into ensuring nutrient management plans are properly prepared and implemented on the ground, using the plans as a tool to meet broader water quality goals.

For Technical Assistance for shoreline erosion control projects the annual work plans from 2016 - 2020 list relatively consistent performance measures. However the number of shoreline erosion control/land disturbance projects in Door County continues to grow each year of the very high Lake Michigan water levels. Riparian projects have grown from 2 in 2017 to over 22 in 2020 to date. To adjust, SWCD and Zoning staff identified

how to provide assistance to landowners, contractors and landscapers so that they can pre-plan and submit acceptable plans that meet erosion control standards with the first submittal. The same goal is achieved with better communication and coordination between the public, SWCD and Zoning staff.

Annual Work Plans

Attach both of the following:

- a. The most current annual work plan, prepared in the current format from DATCP, and addresses all required items such as needed funding and staff hours.
- b. The work plan for the previous year that includes a column that identifies the progress in implementing the planned activities for that year.

Presentation Regarding County Resource Concerns

Prepare and present an 8-10 minute snapshot to the board regarding county resources and management issues. The county must prepare one of following as part of this brief presentation:

- a. A PowerPoint (showing what your county looks like, can include maps), or
- b. A hand out (2 page max)

Guidance on Board Review Process

The LWCB's review supplements, but does not replace compliance with the DATCP checklist for LWRM plan approval. This encourages and supports honest presentations from the county. The county is strongly encouraged to have the LCC chair or committee member be a part of the presentation to the Board to contribute policy and other insights to the discussion. 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.

Land Conservation Committee Notification

The LCC was provided a completed copy of this form (including attachments) on: August 13, 2020

Signature of Authorized Representative: *Rin Hanson* **Date:** August 13, 2020
(e.g. County Conservationist, LCC chair)

Send completed form and attachments to:
Lisa.Trumble@wi.gov

**DOOR COUNTY 2019 ANNUAL WORK PLAN WITH ACCOMPLISHMENTS
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	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (Estimated in Work Plan)	ACHIEVED IN 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cropland</i> 			
Nutrient management – Review	<i>Office review of all plans submitted in 2019. Outreach to landowners to ensure continued compliance on cropland acres that were formerly covered by a plan but do not have a current plan.</i>	<i>Approximately 215 plans submitted 1,866 missing cropland acres identified and resolved</i>	298 plans covering 79,660 acres / 92% cropland acres submitted, all fields mapped using GIS, office review and follow-up to correct identified deficiencies
Nutrient management – Compliance	<p><i>Follow up on prior nutrient management plan compliance audits to ensure accurate and quality plans are submitted and followed.</i></p> <p><i>Nutrient management compliance inspections with emphasis on compliant manure applications, soil loss, and field restrictions. Priority areas include Kayes Creek – Frontal Green Bay (040301020403), Larson Creek – Frontal Green Bay (040301020402), and Ahnapee (HUC12 040301020204) Watersheds.</i></p>	<p><i>At least one meeting with each operator, crop consultant invited to attend.</i></p> <p><i>Formal notification to five landowners with offer of cost share (if required) establishing a compliance deadline for fields with continual soil erosion that have not yet been resolved.</i></p> <p><i>Twenty nutrient management compliance inspections completed.</i></p>	<p>Met at least once with each operator of farm with prior plan compliance audits.</p> <p>Formal notification through Chapter 23 to five landowners establishing compliance deadline and offering cost share (when required) for fields with continual soil erosion.</p> <p>32 manure hauling compliance inspections (“hauling audits”), of which 50% had noncompliance identified and communicated to owners/operators, 10 citations issued for improper manure applications</p>
Nutrient management – New plan development	<i>Offer cost sharing to landowners with existing cropland not yet in compliance with the cropland performance standards. New plan development will be targeted in the Kayes Creek – Frontal Green Bay (040301020403) and Larson Creek – Frontal Green Bay (040301020402) HUC12 Watersheds.</i>	<i>Approximately 700 acres offered cost sharing</i>	<p>1041 new acres included in nutrient management plans for the first time in 2019</p> <p>806 acres offered cost share 600 acres accepted cost share</p>
Cropland Practice Installation	<i>Offer technical assistance and cost share to eligible landowners to reduce soil and nutrient loss and maintain compliance with performance standards.</i>	<i>As needed, technical assistance and cost-share will be offered to install practices to meet conservation needs identified through the other nutrient management activities listed above.</i>	1 grassed waterway installed

**DOOR COUNTY 2019 ANNUAL WORK PLAN WITH ACCOMPLISHMENTS
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

• *Livestock*

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	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (Estimated in Work Plan)	ACHIEVED IN 2019
Livestock Operations – Prioritized Compliance Reviews	<i>Conduct standard & prohibition inventories, including notification & determination of cost share availability. Sites selected will be those in the Kayes Creek – Frontal Green Bay (040301020403) and Larson Creek – Frontal Green Bay (040301020402) HUC12 Watersheds and those on existing prioritization list.</i>	<i>Twenty sites inspected and issued notification letters</i>	66 compliance notification letters sent (includes both cropland and livestock site notifications). 22 livestock operations inventoried, 12 notified of noncompliance, 0 offered cost share. 2 livestock operations referred to corporation counsel for enforcement.
Livestock BMPs – Installation of new practices	<i>Offer technical assistance and cost share to eligible landowners to assist with installation of practices to bring sites into compliance with performance standards and prohibitions.</i>	<i>One feed storage area runoff control project (extended from 2018) and approximately five manure storages with associated roofs, clean water diversions, and/or barnyard runoff controls planned, dependent on availability of local share.</i>	2 feed storage area runoff control, 5 manure storage and waste transfer, and 1 barnyard runoff control projects installed.
Livestock BMPs – Operation and Maintenance Reviews	<i>Visually inspect previously installed BMPs within O&M period for effectiveness and integrity. Educate landowner/operator about required follow up actions and ensure they are completed.</i>	<i>65 projects inspected Noncompliance issues identified and discussed with landowner & operator and a timeline established for return to compliance</i>	57 projects inspected. 10 issues identified; 6 resolved in 2019 and 4 in progress in 2020.

• *Water quality*

Beaches	<i>Visually inspect previously installed BMPs for effectiveness and integrity. Provide technical assistance to Towns/Owners as necessary to address identified issues or for new projects.</i>	<i>12 Beach practices to be inspected</i>	12 beach practices inspected 8 Towns/Municipalities provided technical assistance
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	<i>Reenrollment of eligible contracts expiring in 2019. New enrollment: targeted outreach via direct mailing and 1:1 site visits with interested landowners in the Ahnapee Watershed (HUC12 040301020204).</i>	<i>2 contracts expiring in 2019 Approximately 130 landowners contacted</i>	0 contracts reenrolled 2 new contracts with 18 new acres of riparian buffers installed 50 targeted landowner contacts
Groundwater – Well Abandonment	<i>Continued promotion and implementation of voluntary well abandonment program.</i>	<i>1 press release to local media Direct mailing to landowners as wells identified Abandonments completed as requested</i>	Two well abandonments cost shared

• *Forestry*

Forestry	N/A		
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**DOOR COUNTY 2019 ANNUAL WORK PLAN WITH ACCOMPLISHMENTS
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

• *Invasive*

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	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (Estimated in Work Plan)	ACHIEVED IN 2019
Invasive species – Inventory	<i>Update electronic inventory of priority invasive species in state and county road right-of-ways, state trails, county parks and quarries, and selected riparian corridors. Provide technical assistance to landowners to promote inventories on private lands.</i>	<i>Approx. 25 miles of right-of-ways, 2 miles of stream corridor, 2 acres of county parks and quarries, and 2.5 miles of shoreline. One on one outreach to 30 individual landowners to impact private lands inventory numbers (varying parcel sizes).</i>	Inventory completed and added to electronic inventory: 94.3 acres of county parks and quarries 308 miles of ROW 121.7 miles of stream corridors 10 miles of shoreline 131 one-on-one landowner outreach
Invasive Species – Control	<i>Complete manual and chemical control of priority invasive species using LTE staff and private contractors.</i>	<i>Projected (manual/chemical) control in acres: Wild Parsnip- 10 Phragmites- 6 Other NR-40 – 2</i>	Acreage Controlled: Wild Parsnip- 20 Phragmites- 75 Other NR-40 – 10.5
Invasive Species – Education and Outreach	<i>Educate landowners and municipal leaders about non-native invasive species impacts, inventory and control methods.</i>	<i>200 hours of Clean Boats Clean Waters at priority boat launches 4 educational presentations/training sessions 30 one-on-one contacts 100 direct mailings to landowners</i>	248 Hours of Clean Boats Clean Waters 5 education presentations/training sessions 131 one-on-one landowner outreach 364 Direct mailings to landowners

• *Wildlife*

Wildlife Damage	<i>Provide technical and abatement assistance to crop owners for damage caused by eligible wildlife species (primarily deer and turkeys).</i>	<i>Approximately 2 dozen enrollees Approximately 60 deer donated</i>	14 enrollees 49 deer donated
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• *Urban*

Storm Water	<i>Provide technical assistance to landowners and consultants for small and large scale projects and land disturbance sites, as referred by the Land Use Services Department.</i>	<i>Approximately 20 site visits and plans reviews</i>	12 storm water project site visits and/or plans reviews 28 land disturbance project site visits and/or plan reviews
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• *Watershed*

Groundwater	<i>Provide technical input/assistance to area groups and affected landowners/operators. Prioritize program efforts based on impact to groundwater.</i>	<i>Coordinate with partners and attend meetings as necessary</i>	Technical assistance to individuals, area groups, etc. as requested. Initiated collaborative groundwater study with UW-Oshkosh & Door County Public Health. 150 private wells sampled. 4 groundwater education forums held.
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**DOOR COUNTY 2019 ANNUAL WORK PLAN WITH ACCOMPLISHMENTS
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

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	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (Estimated in Work Plan)	ACHIEVED IN 2019
Dunes Lake	<i>Coordinate with project partners to seek grant funding to complete lake restoration project. Provide technical assistance once funding is secured.</i>	<i>Coordinate with partners as necessary</i>	Project partners including Ducks Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, Doorland Preserve Owners, WDNR, UW-Oshkosh, Town of Sevastopol, Glidden Drive Neighborhood Association, WI Coastal Management Program, Fund for Lake Michigan, Sustain our Great Lakes, Door County Community Foundation and numerous individuals have assembled ~ \$1.1 M for restoration efforts anticipated to be completed in 2020-2021.
Forestville Millpond/Ahnapee River	<i>Identify recommended management alternative. Provide technical support to the Door County Facilities and Parks Department to plan and carry out project.</i>	<i>Coordinate with partners and attend meetings as necessary</i>	Recommendation for dam management option approved by Door County Board of Supervisors. Extended draw down of water levels in the Forestville Millpond initiated. Technical support provided to the Facilities and Parks Department as needed. Upper Ahnapee Watershed “9 Element” Plan developed and submitted to WDNR/US EPA (approved February 2020).
Local Natural Resource Protection Efforts	<i>Provide technical assistance to partners engaged in watershed protection and restoration efforts including Kangaroo Lake, Clark Lake, Little Lake, Fish Creek and/or other waters as requested.</i>	<i>Coordinate with partners and attend meetings as necessary</i>	Technical assistance offered to partners as requested. Six streams monitored by SWCD monthly during growing season for water quality. Additional continuous temperature and macroinvertebrate monitoring at subset of those streams coordinated with WDNR and funded through grant.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Other</i> 			
Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation	<i>Review and ensure compliance with all approved plans and new permit applications</i>	<i>50 sites inspected for compliance & adequacy of financial assurance</i>	50 sites inspected

**DOOR COUNTY 2019 ANNUAL WORK PLAN WITH ACCOMPLISHMENTS
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits anticipated to be issued	ACHIEVED IN 2019
Feedlot permits			
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	5	5	3
Manure storage closure			
Livestock facility siting			
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	2	2	0
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	5	N/A	16
Shoreland zoning	6	N/A	24
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)			
Other – Land Disturbance Review	9	N/A	(above)

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned	ACHIEVED IN 2019
Total Farm Inspections	38	33
For FPP	18	11
For NR 151	20	22
Animal waste ordinance		(included in above numbers)
Livestock facility siting		N/A
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	20	40
Nonmetallic mining	50	50

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number	ACHIEVED IN 2019
Tours	6	6
Field days		
Trainings/workshops		1
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	3	3
Newsletters		2
Social media posts	3	19
News release/story	2	2

**DOOR COUNTY 2019 ANNUAL WORK PLAN WITH ACCOMPLISHMENTS
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

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

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
<i>DATCP funding</i>		<i>\$139,936</i>
<i>County funding</i>		<i>\$395,407</i>
<i>Other (state and federal grants, fees, donations)</i>		<i>\$291,896</i>
SWCD staff included above are: County Conservationist (1), Conservationists (6), Administrative Assistant (1), and Seasonal LTEs (2)	8 FTE = 16,704 2 LTE = 1,198	
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
<i>DATCP Bonding</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$51,900</i>
<i>DATCP SEG</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$28,000</i>
<i>DNR NOD grant (2018 extended into 2019)</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$78,161</i>
<i>DNR Small Scale TRM (2018-2019)</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$247,246</i>
<i>DNR Large Scale TRM (2019-2021)</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>408,619</i>
<i>County</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>

**DOOR COUNTY 2020 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

NOTE: At this time SWCD staff have been ordered to work from home with only very limited field work identified as essential activities. Performance Measurements listed below may need to be adjusted if staff activities are restricted past the end of May.

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"> • <i>Cropland</i> 		
Nutrient management – Compliance	<i>Nutrient management compliance inspections (manure hauling audits) with emphasis on compliant manure applications, soil loss, and field restrictions. Priority areas include Kayes Creek – Frontal Green Bay (040301020403), Larson Creek – Frontal Green Bay (040301020402), and Ahnapee (HUC12 040301020204) Watersheds.</i> <i>Office review of plans submitted in 2020.</i>	<i>Twenty-five nutrient management compliance inspections completed.</i> <i>Approximately 215 plans</i>
Nutrient management – New plan development	<i>Given extensive nutrient management coverage in county (90+% cropland acres) new offers of cost share will be limited to eligible owners/operators that request assistance from SWCD.</i>	<i>Cost sharing extended to eligible participants as requested.</i>
Nutrient management – Farmer Education	<i>Recruit participants and assist as necessary with NWTC Farmer Education Training and Refresher Classes to ensure quality farmer-written plans.</i>	<i>All farmers who write their own nutrient management plan notified that classes available in Sturgeon Bay in 2020-2021</i>
Cropland Practice Installation	<i>Offer technical assistance and cost share to eligible landowners to reduce soil and nutrient loss and maintain compliance with performance standards.</i>	<i>As needed, technical assistance and cost-share will be offered to install practices to meet conservation needs identified through the other nutrient management activities listed above.</i> <i>Five landowners have been identified as priorities for cropland practices to be installed in 2020.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Livestock</i> 		
Livestock Operations – Prioritized Compliance Reviews	<i>Conduct standard & prohibition inventories, including notification & determination of cost share availability. Sites selected will be those in the Kayes Creek – Frontal Green Bay (040301020403) and Larson Creek – Frontal Green Bay (040301020402) HUC12 Watersheds and those on existing prioritization list.</i>	<i>Ten livestock sites inspected and issued notification letters.</i>

**DOOR COUNTY 2020 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

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)
Livestock BMPs – Installation of new practices	<i>Offer technical assistance and cost share to eligible landowners to assist with installation of practices to bring sites into compliance with performance standards and prohibitions.</i>	<i>At minimum, one roofed manure storage and one roof/heavy use area protection project installed. Technical assistance provided to five additional landowners with funding identified and/or applied for practices to be installed.</i>
Livestock BMPs – Operation and Maintenance Reviews	<i>Visually inspect previously installed BMPs within O&M period for effectiveness and integrity. Educate landowner/operator about required follow up actions and ensure they are completed.</i>	<i>60 projects inspected Noncompliance issues identified and discussed with landowner & operator and a timeline established for return to compliance</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Water quality</i> 		
Beaches	<i>Visually inspect previously installed BMPs for effectiveness and integrity. Provide technical assistance to Towns/Owners as necessary to address identified issues and/or for new projects.</i>	<i>12 Beach practices to be inspected</i>
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	<i>Reenrollment of eligible contracts expiring in 2020, depending on landowner willingness. Target new enrollments in the Kayes Creek – Frontal Green Bay (040301020403), Larson Creek – Frontal Green Bay (040301020402), and Ahnapee (HUC12 040301020204) Watersheds.</i>	<i>1 contract expiring in 2020 New enrollments promoted in target watersheds</i>
Groundwater – Well Abandonment	<i>Continued promotion and implementation of voluntary well abandonment program.</i>	<i>1 press release to local media Direct mailing to landowners as wells identified Abandonments completed as requested</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Forestry</i> • <i>Invasive</i> 		
Invasive species – Inventory	<i>Update electronic inventory of priority invasive species in state and county road right-of-ways, state trails, county parks and quarries, and selected riparian corridors. Provide technical assistance to landowners to promote inventories on private lands.</i>	<i>Approx. 25 miles of right-of-ways, 70 miles of stream corridor, 150 miles of shoreline and 2 acres of county parks and quarries. One on one outreach to 100 individual landowners to impact private lands inventory numbers (varying parcel sizes).</i>
Invasive Species – Control	<i>Complete manual and chemical control of priority invasive species using LTE staff and private contractors.</i>	<i>Projected (manual/chemical) control in acres: Wild Parsnip- 10 Phragmites- 70 Japanese Knotweed - 1 Other NR-40 – 2</i>

**DOOR COUNTY 2020 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

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)
Invasive Species – Education and Outreach	<i>Educate landowners and municipal leaders about non-native invasive species impacts, inventory and control methods.</i>	<i>150 hours of Clean Boats Clean Waters at priority boat launches – subject to modification based on COVID-19 order 5 educational presentations/training sessions (virtual/small group) 6 newsletters 150 direct mailings to landowners 4 boat cleaning stations installed</i>
• <i>Wildlife</i>		
Wildlife Damage	<i>Provide technical and abatement assistance to crop owners for damage caused by eligible wildlife species (primarily deer and turkeys).</i>	<i>Approximately 2 dozen enrollees Approximately 60 deer donated</i>
• <i>Urban</i>		
Storm Water	<i>Provide technical assistance to landowners and consultants for small and large scale projects and land disturbance sites, as referred by the Land Use Services Department.</i>	<i>Approximately 20 site visits and/or plan reviews</i>
• <i>Watershed</i>		
Groundwater	<i>Provide technical input/assistance to area groups and affected landowners/operators. Prioritize program efforts based on impact to groundwater.</i>	<i>Coordinate with partners and attend meetings as necessary</i>
Groundwater	<i>County-wide private well water quality sampling program with UW-Oshkosh and Public Health.</i>	<i>Spring 2020 sampling cancelled due to COVID-19 order. One county-wide sampling event planned for fall 2020.</i>
Dunes Lake	<i>Coordinate with project partners to provide technical assistance for permitting and monitoring of lake restoration project scheduled for 2020.</i>	<i>Water quality monitoring program for Geisel and Shivering Sands Creek implemented Technical assistance provided for permit applications</i>
Forestville Millpond/Ahnapee River	<i>Provide technical support to Door County Parks as drawdown of the Forestville Millpond is underway in 2020.</i>	<i>Water levels in Millpond documented following rain events</i>
Local Natural Resource Protection Efforts	<i>Provide technical assistance to partners engaged in watershed protection and restoration efforts including Kangaroo Lake, Clark Lake, Little Lake, Fish Creek and/or other waters as requested.</i>	<i>Coordinate with partners and attend meetings as necessary</i>
• <i>Other</i>		
Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation	<i>Review and ensure compliance with all approved plans and new permit applications</i>	<i>50 sites inspected for compliance & adequacy of financial assurance 2 new mines permitted</i>

**DOOR COUNTY 2020 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		
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	1	1
Manure storage closure		
Livestock facility siting		
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	2	2
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	5	N/A
Shoreland zoning	6	N/A
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)		
Other – Land Disturbance Review	9	N/A

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	38
For FPP	18
For NR 151	20
Animal waste ordinance	
Livestock facility siting	
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	30
Nonmetallic mining	50

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	0
Field days	0
Trainings/workshops	0
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	0
Newsletters	6
Social media posts	6
News release/story	2

**DOOR COUNTY 2020 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>DATCP funding</i>		<i>\$143,964</i>
<i>County funding</i>		<i>\$411,692</i>
<i>Other (state and federal grants, fees, donations)</i>		<i>\$179,901</i>
SWCD staff included above are: County Conservationist (1), Conservationists (6), Administrative Assistant (1), and Seasonal LTEs (2) and contract for part-time Invasive Species Coordinator	8 FTE = 16,704 2 LTE = 1,198	
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
<i>DATCP Bonding</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$50,990</i>
<i>DATCP SEG</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$28,000</i>
<i>DNR Small Scale TRM (2018-2019, one project extended to 2020)</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$144,872</i>
<i>DNR Large Scale TRM (2019-2021)</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>408,619</i>
<i>County</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM _____ **State of Wisconsin**

DATE: July 20, 2020

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 *Adams 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 guidance and 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 the LWCB guidance, DATCP will automatically modify its order to terminate approval of the county's plan effective December of this year.

Summary: The Adams County land and water resource management plan has been approved through December 31, 2025 contingent on a five year review conducted prior to December 31, 2020. In advance of the five year review, Adams County has completed a DATCP approved form designed to implement the LWCB's June 2017 guidance and criteria for conducting a five year review. The county has provided written answers to four questions regarding past and future plan implementation, has provided the required work planning documents, and has appropriately involved the Land Conservation Committee.

The county has prepared either a PowerPoint presentation or a hand out to accompany its 5-8 minute snapshot regarding county resources and management issues.

Materials Provided:

- Completed Five Year Review Form
- 2019 Annual Workplan with Accomplishments
- 2020 Annual Workplan

Presenter: Kason Morley, County Conservationist, Adams County LWCD
Paul Pisellini, Land Conservation Committee Chair



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

County: Adams County

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.

Installation of windbreaks

Water quality Monitoring and data collection

9 key element Watershed Planning

County Forest program Entry

Cost Sharing Nutrient Management Plans and Manure Storage

The planning process helps lay out our goals each year and allows us to easily prioritize projects and activities. It also makes it easier for our oversight committee to keep us heading in the right direction. As we identify new problems that need solutions, the work plan helps us effectively work towards those solutions instead of forgetting about them.

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.

An area we need to work on is compliance checking farms and past projects. We did not have a good tracking system for cost share projects so it was difficult to look back to see what has been completed where. We now have a tracking system that we are learning to use and will be using moving forward. This will allow us to keep check of projects and contracts that need compliance checks.

Farmland Preservation participation is another area that we are improving on this year. We are increasing education and outreach to land owners and townships. We are working with our Zoning Department on this as well. We missed this on our 2020 work plan but still plan to increase interest and have already done some of that. We have done Certificates of Compliance on over 700 acres so far 2020.

We also have struggled getting farmer participation in programs in general. Attendance at meetings that we have hosted has been low. We are working to improve this by teaming up with UW Extension to organize informational meetings and gain more interest.

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.

We use our priority farm ranking process to determine what projects will be placed into our work plan. Our ranking is still as follows (1) landowners who allow unfiltered storm water runoff into state waters; (2) those farms that have converted forested areas into agricultural crop production; (3) newly developed farms, irrigated fields; (4) farms in high nitrate well contamination areas; and (5) Farmland Preservation Program participants that come out of compliance with pollution controls. Additional focus areas are large irrigated fields that contribute to wind erosion.

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.

We are now focusing a lot on education and outreach. We need to gain interest from the farm community. I have received very few phone calls or office visits from producers interested in knowing about these programs or wanting to participate. We are now planning to reach out to individual producers to discuss program options for their land.

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.

Presentation Regarding County Resource Concerns

Prepare and present a 5-8 minute snapshot to the board regarding county resources and management issues. The county must prepare one of following as part of this brief presentation:

- a. A PowerPoint (showing what your county looks like, can include maps), or
- b. A hand out (2 page max)

Guidance on Board Review Process

The LWCB encourages and supports honest presentations from the county. 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.

Land Conservation Committee Notification

The LCC was provided a completed copy of this form (including attachments) on:

Signature of Authorized Representative:  **Date:** 7/19/2020
(e.g. County Conservationist, LCC chair)

Send completed form and attachments to:

Lisa.Trumble@wi.gov

ADAMS 2019 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

CATEGORY <i>(goal and objective from LWRM plan can be added in each category)</i>	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS <i>If applicable identify focus areas, e.g. HUC 12 watershed code (examples of types of “planned activities” in italics)</i>	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS <i>Work completed in red</i>
Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management	<i>Nutrient Management Reviews</i> <i>Farmland Preservation Program Plans</i> <i>Farm Assessments for Soil Health</i> <i>Farmer workshop for Soil Health</i> <i>Farmer-LED Group Initiative</i> <i>Grassed Waterway cost share</i> <i>Windbreaks - Living Snow fence cost share</i> <i>Central Wisconsin Winshed Advisory Committee</i>	<i>1200 acres reviewed (900ac)</i> <i>2 plans reviewed (0)</i> <i>3 farm assessments (2)</i> <i>1 farmer workshop (1)</i> <i>2 group meetings (1)</i> <i>1.2 Ac., 116 ton soil saved. (1.2 ac)</i> <i>3000 lineal feet, 8 ton/Ac/Yr saved. (NA)</i> <i>2 meetings (1)</i>
Livestock	<i>Manure Storage Ordinance Compliance</i>	<i>2 compliance checks (1)</i>
Water quality/quantity <i>(other than activities already listed in other categories)</i>	<i>Fourteen Mile 9KE Plan</i> <i>Tri Lakes Data Collection on Public & Private Wells</i> <i>Citizen Lake Monitoring Network Training</i> <i>Tri LakesBeach Club Lake Protection Grant</i> <i>Water Quality Testing</i> <i>Base Flow Measurements</i> <i>Lake District/Association Meetings</i> <i>SWIMS Data</i> <i>Lake Camelot Dam Property</i> <i>CREP Initiative</i>	<i>1 plan written (1)</i> <i>5 (0)</i> <i>1 (3)</i> <i>1 (1)</i> <i>20 Inland Lakes (18)</i> <i>(completed as weather allowed)</i> <i>5 meetings attended (10)</i> <i>(Entered data as necessary)</i> <i>(0)</i>
Forestry	<i>County Forestry Program</i>	<i>(Became a member)</i>
Invasive Species	<i>Pre- and Post- Treatment aquatic plant surveys</i> <i>Invasive Species Monitoring and Site Identification</i> <i>Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference</i> <i>Grant for Phragmites Removal</i>	<i>5 Surveys Completed (3)</i> <i>(1 site monitored)</i> <i>(0)</i> <i>(0)</i>
Wildlife - Wetlands - Habitat <i>(other than forestry or invasive species)</i>	<i>Fish stick habitat</i> <i>Tree & Shrub Sale</i>	<i>3 bundles installed (0)</i> <i>8000 trees & shrubs sold (8000 trees)</i>
Urban issues	<i>Stormwater Runoff Ordinance plan reviews</i> <i>2018 Stormwater Runoff Ordinance follow-up</i>	<i>2 plan reviews (2 or more)</i> <i>2 follow-ups (2)</i>
Watershed strategies	<i>Fourteen Mile Creek 9KE Meetings</i>	<i>10 Meetings (12)</i>
Other	<i>NR 135 Non-Metallic Mining Reclamation Ordinance</i>	<i>12 inspections (12)</i>

**ADAMS 2020 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"> <i>Cropland</i> 		
Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management	<i>600 Acres of Nutrient Management Plans</i> <i>1 Nutrient Management Training for Farmers</i>	<i># of Acres Installed</i> <i>Events Held</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Livestock</i> 		
Livestock	<i>2 Manure Storage Compliance Checks</i>	<i>Checks Complete/ Letters sent</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Water quality</i> 		
Water quality/quantity (other than activities already listed in other categories)	<i>Implement County Groundwater Monitoring Program (200 samples)</i> <i>Citizen Lake Monitoring Training Event</i> <i>Implement 14 Mile watershed 9 Key Plan</i> <i>Increase interest in CREP and sign up 1</i> <i>Stream Base Flow Measurements</i> <i>Shoreline protection extension from 2019 on Petenwell Lake and another shoreline protection on Mason Lake</i>	<i>Samples completed</i> <i>Event Held</i> <i>Plan Milestones Accomplished</i> <i>Information Packets Available and # signed up</i> <i>Measurements Taken</i> <i>Project Complete and Bond Funding Spent</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Forestry</i> 		
Forestry	<i>Develop County Forest Plan</i> <i>Increase Size of County Forrest by 500 acres</i>	<i>Plans Written</i> <i>Acres Incorporated</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Invasive</i> 		
Invasive species	<i>3 Point Intercept AIS Plant Surveys</i> <i>Treat Phragmites 1 Stand</i>	<i>Number of surveys completed</i> <i>Number of control efforts implemented/sites treated</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Wildlife</i> 		
Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat (other than forestry or invasive species)	<i>Wildlife damage program Contract with USDA APHIS</i> <i>Tree and plant sales</i>	<i>Applicants entered</i> <i>Number of trees sold</i>

**ADAMS 2020 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

- *Urban*

Urban issues	<i>Stormwater Ordinance Compliance Stormwater Plan Review</i>	<i>Number of site visits Number of plans reviews</i>
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- *Watershed*

Watershed strategies	<i>9 Key Element Implementation and Meetings</i>	<i>Number of meetings attended/presentations given</i>
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- *Other*

Other	<i>12 NR135 Non Metallic Mining Ordinance Compliance Inspections</i>	<i>Number of inspections</i>
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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		
Manure storage closure		
Livestock facility siting		
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	12	
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	2	
Shoreland zoning		
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	2	
Other		

**ADAMS 2020 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	
For FPP	<i>1</i>
For NR 151	<i>500 acres</i>
Animal waste ordinance	1
Livestock facility siting	
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	2
Nonmetallic mining	12

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	1
Field days	1
Trainings/workshops	2
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	3
Newsletters	1
Social media posts	200
News release/story	

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

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
<i>County Conservationist</i>	<i>2080</i>	<i>\$75,062</i>
<i>Resource Conservationist</i>	<i>2080</i>	<i>\$83,300</i>
<i>Water Resource Specialist</i>	<i>2080</i>	<i>\$55,221</i>
Conservation Program Coordinator	2080	\$52,295
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
<i>Bonding</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$33,140</i>
<i>SEG</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM _____ **State of Wisconsin**

DATE: September 25, 2020

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

FROM: Jennifer Heaton-Amrhein, DATCP
Bureau of Land and Water Resources Management

SUBJECT: *2021 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan for the Soil and Water Resource Management Program and the Nonpoint Source Program*

Recommended Action: This is an informational item. However, if the LWCB wishes to do so, it may vote to “receive” the *2021 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan*. A vote to “receive” the preliminary allocation plan does not bind the LWCB to any position.

Summary: The *2021 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan* provides details on how both the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) propose to allocate \$23,522,765 in available nonpoint grant funds to county land conservation committees and other project cooperators. This plan does not include DNR award of grants to cities, towns, and villages for projects under ss. 281.65 or 281.66, Wis. Stats. DNR presented its preliminary numbers at the August 2020 LWCB meeting.

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 2021 Joint Allocation

Charts 1 and 2 on the first page 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 the 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 project grants including NMFE training. The following tables provide details regarding DATCP grants: Table A (page 2) summarizes county and cooperator awards by program category; Table A-1 (pages 3 and 4) shows the step-by-step process for calculating county staff and support grants; Tables A-2 and

A-3 (pages 15 and 16) show county scores and rankings in the competition for bond and SEG cost-share grants.

DATCP expenditures proposed for the 2021 allocation vary from the 2020 allocation as follows:

- An increase of \$110,000 in bond cost-sharing. This reflects an increase in unspent funds from extended 2018 projects, resulting in greater availability of funds to allocate. Funds largely went unspent due to numerous outstanding weather events in 2018 and 2019, including flooding, and the resulting contractor shortage post-event.
- An increase of \$112,240 in county grants primarily for nutrient management cost-sharing with landowners. The increase from last year in cost-share funds for nutrient management are believed to reflect the increase in the proportion of these funds available for cropping practices compared to previous years. The change was made to assist counties in helping landowner implement nutrient management plans.
- An increase of \$126,550 in grants for cooperators, continuing to reflect a 2020 shift in priority to statewide outreach and technical assistance.
- A decrease of \$91,000 in grant awards for the 16 NMFE grant recipients. This decrease is due to a lack of programming abilities during the first half of 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions. Many grant recipients are extending 2020 funds with the intent to use them in 2021, decreasing the need for 2021 funds.

DNR provides grants in the following funding categories: Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) and NR 243 Notice of Discharge (NOD) programs. No funding requests for grants related to Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water (UNPS) Construction projects were received from the Counties. Table B provides a breakdown of DNR's allocations to counties (which in the case of the preliminary allocation is held in reserve to be allocated based on county rankings).

Table C combines the DATCP and DNR allocations to provide a complete picture of the 2021 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:

- Changes in the staffing grant to create incentives to hire conservation professionals whose time is fully dedicated to conservation activities such as nutrient management or conservation engineering. This would discourage counties from assigning conservation staff work in zoning and other non-conservation areas.
- Changes in SEG-funded grants to make better use of available funds in the implementation of nutrient management plans. In 2021, counties are eligible to use up to 50% of their SEG grant award towards cropping practices supporting nutrient management.

Comment on Preliminary Allocation Plan

The 2021 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan and DATCP's Environmental Assessment were provided to all county land conservation departments and other interested parties prior to the LWCB's October 6, 2020 meeting.

Counties, project cooperators and other interested persons may comment on the 2021 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan either by:

- Requesting to appear and present comments before the LWCB at its October 6, 2020 meeting. A Public Appearance Request Card must be submitted before the meeting.
- Emailing written comments by no later than November 4, 2020 to Kim Carlson at Email: datcpswrn@wisconsin.gov

Materials Provided:

- ◆ *2021 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan*
- ◆ *Environmental Assessment*

Presenters: Jennifer Heaton-Amrhein (DATCP)

2021 JOINT PRELIMINARY ALLOCATION PLAN

Soil and Water Resource Management Grant Program and Nonpoint Source Program

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 2021 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 Planning Projects (UNPS-Construction) programs (Table B).

For 2021, a total of \$23,522,765 is allocated based on the state budget for the 2019-21 biennium. Table C summarizes all allocations, by grantee. Organized by funding category, Chart 1 below summarizes grant fund requests, unmet funding requests, and allocation amounts. Chart 2 below shows the allocation categories by funding sources.

If required, these allocations may be adjusted based on reductions or lapses in appropriations or authorizations.

Chart 1: Grant Requests and Allocations

Funding Category	Total Requests	Unmet Requests	Allocation Amounts
DATCP ALLOCATIONS			
County Staff/Support	\$17,901,752	\$8,462,652	\$9,439,100
County LWRM Cost-Share (B)	\$7,411,250	\$3,911,250	\$3,500,000
Bond Cost-Share Reserve (B)	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000
LWRM Cost-Share (SEG)	\$2,953,972	\$755,000	\$2,198,972
Project Contracts (SEG)	\$1,325,926	\$311,225	\$1,014,701
NMFE Training Grants (SEG)	\$ 288,418	\$29,560	\$258,858
SUBTOTAL	\$30,181,318	\$13,469,687	\$16,711,631
DNR ALLOCATIONS			
UNPS Planning	NA	NA	NA
UNPS Construction	\$95,000	\$0	\$95,000
TRM Construction	\$9,235,627	\$4,019,493	\$5,216,134
NOD Reserve (B)			\$ 1,500,000
SUBTOTAL	\$ 9,330,627	\$4,019,493	\$6,811,134
TOTAL			\$23,522,765

Abbreviations Used Above:

LWRM = Land & Water Resource Management Plan Implementation
B = Bond Revenue
SEG = Segregated Revenue
NA = Not Applicable or Available
TRM = Targeted Runoff Management
UNPS = Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management

Chart 2: Funding Sources

Staff and Support Grants	
\$6,411,900	DATCP SEG from s. 20.115(7)(qe)
\$3,027,200	DATCP GPR from s. 20.115(7)(c)
\$9,439,100	DATCP Subtotal
\$100,000	DNR SEG from s. 20.370(6)(dq)
\$547,830	DNR Sec. 319 Account (Federal)
\$647,830	DNR Subtotal
\$10,086,930	TOTAL Staff & Support Grants
Cost-Share Grants	
\$3,500,000	DATCP Bond from s. 20.866(2)(we)
\$300,000	DATCP Bond (Reserve) from s. 20.866(2)(we)
\$2,198,972	DATCP SEG from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
\$5,998,972	DATCP Subtotal
\$5,420,474	DNR Bond Revenue from s. 20.866(2)(tf)
\$95,000	DNR Bond Revenue from s. 20.866(2)(th)
\$100,000	DNR SEG from s. 20.370(6)(aq)
\$547,830	DNR Sec. 319 Account (Federal)
\$6,163,304	DNR Subtotal
\$12,162,276	TOTAL Cost-Share Grants
Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE) & Other Project Cooperator (OPC) Grants	
\$258,858	DATCP SEG (NMFE) from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
\$1,014,701	DATCP SEG (OPC) from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
\$1,273,559	TOTAL NMFE & Other Grants
\$23,522,765	GRAND TOTAL

Table A: DATCP 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
		Bond Cost-Sharing	SEG Cost-Sharing				Bond Cost-Sharing	SEG Cost-Sharing	
Adams	118,335	49,900	25,000	193,235	Oconto	144,022	52,900	50,972	247,894
Ashland	109,884	49,500	20,000	179,384	Oneida	101,181	47,900	0	149,081
Barron	133,829	61,900	35,000	230,729	Outagamie	182,729	41,650	65,000	289,379
Bayfield	119,187	53,500	8,000	180,687	Ozaukee	147,624	55,000	25,000	227,624
Brown	152,638	31,500	20,000	204,138	Pepin	107,109	43,400	40,000	190,509
Buffalo	107,652	47,650	20,000	175,302	Pierce	139,885	58,750	20,000	218,635
Burnett	99,223	29,500	20,000	148,723	Polk	133,522	46,250	0	179,772
Calumet	152,070	43,400	40,000	235,470	Portage	148,692	56,000	0	204,692
Chippewa	182,536	49,750	55,000	287,286	Price	92,670	41,400	0	134,070
Clark	126,177	73,500	80,000	279,677	Racine	151,585	54,500	55,000	261,085
Columbia	123,580	73,500	95,000	292,080	Richland	100,475	54,150	20,000	174,625
Crawford	109,090	54,150	8,000	171,240	Rock	164,360	60,000	75,000	299,360
Dane	196,094	55,400	95,000	346,494	Rusk	96,334	43,400	25,000	164,734
Dodge	151,992	43,500	10,000	205,492	Saint Croix	119,892	45,000	35,000	199,892
Door	144,315	50,000	28,000	222,315	Sauk	140,180	65,750	55,000	260,930
Douglas	112,221	17,000	0	129,221	Sawyer	95,549	34,000	8,000	137,549
Dunn	159,463	61,900	28,000	249,363	Shawano	130,970	41,650	40,000	212,620
Eau Claire	144,654	54,500	55,000	254,154	Sheboygan	152,997	54,500	20,000	227,497
Florence	75,000	33,300	0	108,300	Taylor	121,573	74,650	40,000	236,223
Fond du Lac	160,840	40,000	20,000	220,840	Trempealeau	128,603	66,500	30,000	225,103
Forest	101,995	13,900	10,000	125,895	Vernon	129,142	66,500	55,000	250,642
Grant	114,163	55,400	0	169,563	Vilas	124,162	33,400	0	157,562
Green	142,884	61,750	20,000	224,634	Walworth	149,606	48,000	20,000	217,606
Green Lake	156,938	54,500	30,000	241,438	Washburn	110,616	44,900	6,000	161,516
Iowa	125,719	45,000	45,000	215,719	Washington	136,353	44,900	10,000	191,253
Iron	111,729	48,500	0	160,229	Waukesha	178,218	28,000	0	206,218
Jackson	131,489	74,650	20,000	226,139	Waupaca	137,436	59,250	95,000	291,686
Jefferson	151,690	33,750	12,000	197,440	Waushara	140,703	49,900	25,000	215,603
Juneau	117,651	41,500	20,000	179,151	Winnebago	161,726	31,500	55,000	248,226
Kenosha	131,244	42,000	16,000	189,244	Wood	148,041	59,250	54,000	261,291
Kewaunee	157,770	49,900	20,000	227,670	Reserve		300,000		300,000
LaCrosse	153,985	37,400	20,000	211,385	Sub-Totals	\$9,439,100	\$3,800,000	\$2,198,972	\$15,438,072
Lafayette	94,309	60,000	20,000	174,309					
Langlade	93,687	43,400	40,000	177,087	OTHER PROJECT COOPERATOR (OPC) FUNDING				
Lincoln	99,277	42,000	0	141,277	UW-CALS		600,000		
Manitowoc	158,494	57,150	75,000	290,644	WI Land + Water (WLWCA)		225,401		
Marathon	145,072	73,500	95,000	313,572	Standard Oversight Council (SOC)		38,000		
Marinette	128,344	63,900	55,000	247,244	Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE)		258,858		
Marquette	131,429	31,500	65,000	227,929	Innovation Grants		151,300		
Menominee	94,200	20,000	0	114,200					
Milwaukee	75,000	20,000	0	95,000	Sub-Total				\$1,273,559
Monroe	127,296	54,000	50,000	231,296	TOTAL	\$9,439,100	\$3,800,000	\$3,472,531	\$16,711,631

Table A-1: Staff and Support Tier 1, Tier 2, Rounds One, Two and Three

County	Tier 1	Tier 2									DATCP Staffing & 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 (67% of 70%)	Adjusted Award (Tier 1 + Round 1 & 2)	Third Position at 50% (Round 3)	Round 3 Award No Funds Available	
Adams	75,000	83,300	8,300	83,300	52,543	52,543	35,035	118,335	26,148	0	118,335
Ashland	75,000	76,817	1,817	76,817	49,592	49,592	33,067	109,884	21,211	0	109,884
Barron	75,000	91,870	16,870	91,870	62,927	62,927	41,959	133,829	42,185	0	133,829
Bayfield	75,000	84,419	9,419	84,419	52,142	52,142	34,768	119,187	35,675	0	119,187
Brown	75,000	108,139	33,139	108,139	66,736	66,736	44,499	152,638	41,811	0	152,638
Buffalo	75,000	80,494	5,494	80,494	40,729	40,729	27,158	107,652	28,746	0	107,652
Burnett	75,000	71,618	0	75,000	39,710	36,328	24,223	99,223	27,253	0	99,223
Calumet	75,000	106,631	31,631	106,631	68,146	68,146	45,439	152,070	48,347	0	152,070
Chippewa	75,000	127,567	52,567	127,567	82,439	82,439	54,969	182,536	48,081	0	182,536
Clark	75,000	90,489	15,489	90,489	53,522	53,522	35,688	126,177	35,466	0	126,177
Columbia	75,000	84,447	9,447	84,447	58,689	58,689	39,133	123,580	41,773	0	123,580
Crawford	75,000	73,877	0	75,000	52,249	51,126	34,090	109,090	26,149	0	109,090
Dane	75,000	138,729	63,729	138,729	86,032	86,032	57,365	196,094	56,199	0	196,094
Dodge	75,000	109,122	34,122	109,122	64,294	64,294	42,870	151,992	40,790	0	151,992
Door	75,000	101,172	26,172	101,172	64,703	64,703	43,143	144,315	44,701	0	144,315
Douglas	75,000	79,222	4,222	79,222	49,490	49,490	32,999	112,221	9,962	0	112,221
Dunn	75,000	110,966	35,966	110,966	72,732	72,732	48,497	159,463	50,277	0	159,463
Eau Claire	75,000	101,989	26,989	101,989	63,986	63,986	42,665	144,654	41,660	0	144,654
Florence	75,000	53,949	0	75,000	8,495	0	0	75,000	4,422	0	75,000
Fond du Lac	75,000	114,114	39,114	114,114	70,076	70,076	46,726	160,840	37,289	0	160,840
Forest	75,000	83,052	8,052	83,052	28,410	28,410	18,943	101,995	13,778	0	101,995
Grant	75,000	81,114	6,114	81,114	49,565	49,565	33,049	114,163	34,765	0	114,163
Green	75,000	108,606	33,606	108,606	51,407	51,407	34,278	142,884	36,333	0	142,884
Green Lake	75,000	110,820	35,820	110,820	69,164	69,164	46,118	156,938	46,730	0	156,938
Iowa	75,000	95,110	20,110	95,110	45,905	45,905	30,609	125,719	32,693	0	125,719
Iron	75,000	76,985	1,985	76,985	52,107	52,107	34,744	111,729	6,765	0	111,729
Jackson	75,000	92,460	17,460	92,460	58,533	58,533	39,029	131,489		0	131,489
Jefferson	75,000	106,081	31,081	106,081	68,401	68,401	45,609	151,690	47,374	0	151,690
Juneau	75,000	80,904	5,904	80,904	55,111	55,111	36,747	117,651	29,326	0	117,651
Kenosha	75,000	110,276	35,276	110,276	31,447	31,447	20,968	131,244	13,547	0	131,244
Kewaunee	75,000	113,399	38,399	113,399	66,546	66,546	44,372	157,771	38,165	0	157,770
LaCrosse	75,000	107,139	32,139	107,139	70,256	70,256	46,846	153,985	50,181	0	153,985
Lafayette	75,000	65,053	0	75,000	38,905	28,958	19,309	94,309	23,564	0	94,309
Langlade	75,000	77,953	2,953	77,953	23,596	23,596	15,734	93,687	7,652	0	93,687
Lincoln	75,000	83,740	8,740	83,740	23,302	23,302	15,537	99,277	7,239	0	99,277
Manitowoc	75,000	110,447	35,447	110,447	72,057	72,057	48,047	158,494	51,373	0	158,494

Table A-1: Staff and Support Tier 1, Tier 2, Rounds One, Two and Three

County	Tier 1	Tier 2									DATCP Staffing & 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 (67% of 70%)	Adjusted Award (Tier 1 + Round 1 & 2)	Third Position at 50% (Round 3)	Round 3 Award No Funds Available	
Marathon	75,000	98,967	23,967	98,967	69,145	69,145	46,105	145,072	47,331	0	145,072
Marinette	75,000	89,744	14,744	89,744	57,889	57,889	38,600	128,344	41,862	0	128,344
Marquette	75,000	101,181	26,181	101,181	45,363	45,363	30,248	131,429	20,452	0	131,429
Menominee	75,000	83,925	8,925	83,925	15,410	15,410	10,275	94,200		0	94,200
Milwaukee	75,000		0	75,000	41,419	0	0	75,000	22,756	0	75,000
Monroe	75,000	97,080	22,080	97,080	45,316	45,316	30,216	127,296	26,497	0	127,296
Oconto	75,000	102,126	27,126	102,126	62,833	62,833	41,896	144,022	35,315	0	144,022
Oneida	75,000	72,216	0	75,000	42,049	39,265	26,181	101,181	7,711	0	101,181
Outagamie	75,000	129,137	54,137	129,137	80,374	80,374	53,592	182,729	47,283	0	182,729
Ozaukee	75,000	97,338	22,338	97,338	75,415	75,415	50,286	147,624	42,862	0	147,624
Pepin	75,000	55,859	0	75,000	67,296	48,155	32,109	107,109	18,695	0	107,109
Pierce	75,000	95,362	20,362	95,362	66,772	66,772	44,523	139,885	43,660	0	139,885
Polk	75,000	101,115	26,115	101,115	48,601	48,601	32,407	133,522	31,996	0	133,522
Portage	75,000	107,308	32,308	107,308	62,065	62,065	41,384	148,692	42,124	0	148,692
Price	75,000	61,785	0	75,000	39,715	26,500	17,670	92,670	9,988	0	92,670
Racine	75,000	106,433	31,433	106,433	67,715	67,715	45,152	151,585	32,486	0	151,585
Richland	75,000	71,371	0	75,000	41,834	38,205	25,475	100,475	21,605	0	100,475
Rock	75,000	117,914	42,914	117,914	69,656	69,656	46,446	164,360	46,011	0	164,360
Rusk	75,000	66,808	0	75,000	40,187	31,995	21,334	96,334	14,085	0	96,334
Saint Croix	75,000	85,725	10,725	85,725	51,241	51,241	34,167	119,892	36,270	0	119,892
Sauk	75,000	97,852	22,852	97,852	63,480	63,480	42,328	140,180	38,502	0	140,180
Sawyer	75,000	66,033	0	75,000	39,785	30,818	20,549	95,549	18,490	0	95,549
Shawano	75,000	94,253	19,253	94,253	55,065	55,065	36,717	130,970	34,173	0	130,970
Sheboygan	75,000	110,071	35,071	110,071	64,377	64,377	42,926	152,997	40,595	0	152,997
Taylor	75,000	90,907	15,907	90,907	45,990	45,990	30,666	121,573	31,192	0	121,573
Trempealeau	75,000	78,450	3,450	78,450	75,216	75,216	50,153	128,603	35,517	0	128,603
Vernon	75,000	92,309	17,309	92,309	55,239	55,239	36,833	129,142	36,111	0	129,142
Vilas	75,000	89,390	14,390	89,390	52,148	52,148	34,772	124,162	33,670	0	124,162
Walworth	75,000	103,367	28,367	103,367	69,346	69,346	46,239	149,606	46,868	0	149,606
Washburn	75,000	82,931	7,931	82,931	41,520	41,520	27,685	110,616	6,725	0	110,616
Washington	75,000	100,018	25,018	100,018	54,492	54,492	36,335	136,353	35,815	0	136,353
Waukesha	75,000	127,259	52,259	127,259	76,425	76,425	50,959	178,218	46,162	0	178,218
Waupaca	75,000	94,410	19,410	94,410	64,527	64,527	43,026	137,436	44,287	0	137,436
Waushara	75,000	99,106	24,106	99,106	62,384	62,384	41,597	140,703	46,966	0	140,703
Winnebago	75,000	119,554	44,554	119,554	63,247	63,247	42,172	161,726	44,629	0	161,726
Wood	75,000	110,767	35,767	110,767	55,901	55,901	37,274	148,041	32,724	0	148,041
Totals	5,400,000	6,690,141	1,456,572	6,856,572	3,993,381	3,873,087	2,582,529	9,439,101	2,309,045	0	9,439,100

Table B: DNR Allocations

County	Targeted Runoff Mgmt. BMP Construction	Local Assistance Funding for "Large Scale" TRM	Urban NPS & Storm Water Mgmt. BMP Construction	Urban NPS & Storm Water Mgmt. Planning	Total DNR Preliminary Allocations
Adams					
Ashland					
Barron					
Bayfield					
Brown					
Buffalo					
Burnett					
Calumet					
Chippewa					
Clark					
Columbia					
Crawford					
Dane					
Dodge					
Door					
Douglas					
Dunn					
Eau Claire					
Florence					
Fond du Lac					
Forest					
Grant					
Green					
Green Lake					
Iowa					
Iron					
Jackson					
Jefferson					
Juneau					
Kenosha					
Kewaunee					
LaCrosse					
Lafayette					
Langlade					
Lincoln					
Manitowoc					

Table B: DNR Allocations

County	Targeted Runoff Mgmt. BMP Construction	Local Assistance Funding for "Large Scale" TRM	Urban NPS & Storm Water Mgmt. BMP Construction	Urban NPS & Storm Water Mgmt. Planning	Total DNR Preliminary Allocations
Marathon					
Marinette					
Marquette					
Menominee					
Milwaukee					
Monroe					
Oconto					
Oneida					
Outagamie					
Ozaukee					
Pepin					
Pierce					
Polk					
Portage					
Price					
Racine					
Richland					
Rock					
Rusk					
Saint Croix					
Sauk					
Sawyer					
Shawano					
Sheboygan					
Taylor					
Trempealeau					
Vernon					
Vilas					
Walworth					
Washburn					
Washington					
Waukesha					
Waupaca					
Waushara					
Winnebago					
Wood					
TRM & UNPS Reserves*	\$4,568,304	\$647,830	\$95,000	\$0	\$5,311,134
DNR NR243 NOD Reserve					\$1,500,000
Total	\$4,568,304	\$647,830	\$95,000	\$0	\$6,811,134

*The reserve amounts for TRM and UNPS Grants are estimated because the grants have not yet been awarded.
 2021 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan (07/2020)

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	118,335	74,900	193,235	Oconto	144,022	103,872	247,894
Ashland	109,884	69,500	179,384	Oneida	101,181	47,900	149,081
Barron	133,829	96,900	230,729	Outagamie	182,729	106,650	289,379
Bayfield	119,187	61,500	180,687	Ozaukee	147,624	80,000	227,624
Brown	152,638	51,500	204,138	Pepin	107,109	83,400	190,509
Buffalo	107,652	67,650	175,302	Pierce	139,885	78,750	218,635
Burnett	99,223	49,500	148,723	Polk	133,522	46,250	179,772
Calumet	152,070	83,400	235,470	Portage	148,692	56,000	204,692
Chippewa	182,536	104,750	287,286	Price	92,670	41,400	134,070
Clark	126,177	153,500	279,677	Racine	151,585	109,500	261,085
Columbia	123,580	168,500	292,080	Richland	100,475	74,150	174,625
Crawford	109,090	62,150	171,240	Rock	164,360	135,000	299,360
Dane	196,094	150,400	346,494	Rusk	96,334	68,400	164,734
Dodge	151,992	53,500	205,492	Saint Croix	119,892	80,000	199,892
Door	144,315	78,000	222,315	Sauk	140,180	120,750	260,930
Douglas	112,221	17,000	129,221	Sawyer	95,549	42,000	137,549
Dunn	159,463	89,900	249,363	Shawano	130,970	81,650	212,620
Eau Claire	144,654	109,500	254,154	Sheboygan	152,997	74,500	227,497
Florence	75,000	33,300	108,300	Taylor	121,573	114,650	236,223
Fond du Lac	160,840	60,000	220,840	Trempealeau	128,603	96,500	225,103
Forest	101,995	23,900	125,895	Vernon	129,142	121,500	250,642
Grant	114,163	55,400	169,563	Vilas	124,162	33,400	157,562
Green	142,884	81,750	224,634	Walworth	149,606	68,000	217,606
Green Lake	156,938	84,500	241,438	Washburn	110,616	50,900	161,516
Iowa	125,719	90,000	215,719	Washington	136,353	54,900	191,253
Iron	111,729	48,500	160,229	Waukesha	178,218	28,000	206,218
Jackson	131,489	94,650	226,139	Waupaca	137,436	154,250	291,686
Jefferson	151,690	45,750	197,440	Waushara	140,703	74,900	215,603
Juneau	117,651	61,500	179,151	Winnebago	161,726	86,500	248,226
Kenosha	131,244	58,000	189,244	Wood	148,041	113,250	261,291
Kewaunee	157,770	69,900	227,670	DATCP NR243 Res.	-	300,000	300,000
LaCrosse	153,985	57,400	211,385	DNR NR243 Res.		1,500,000	1,500,000
Lafayette	94,309	80,000	174,309	UNPS & TRM Res.	647,830	4,663,304	5,311,134
Langlade	93,687	83,400	177,087	Sub-Totals	\$10,086,930	\$12,162,276	\$22,249,206
Lincoln	99,277	42,000	141,277	OTHER PROJECT COOPERATOR (OPC) FUNDING			
Manitowoc	158,494	132,150	290,644	UW-CALS		600,000	
Marathon	145,072	168,500	313,572	WI Land + Water (WLWCA)		225,401	
Marinette	128,344	118,900	247,244	Standard Oversight Council (soc)		38,000	
Marquette	131,429	96,500	227,929	Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE)		258,858	
Menominee	94,200	20,000	114,200	Innovation Grants		151,300	
Milwaukee	75,000	20,000	95,000	Sub-Totals			1,273,559
Monroe	127,296	104,000	231,296	TOTAL	\$10,086,930	\$13,435,835	\$23,522,765

DATCP ALLOCATIONS

1. Staff and Support

The allocation under this category provides county staff and support funding. Grants are awarded consistent with the terms of the 2021 grant application and instructions located at: https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/SWRMSect6.aspx

A. Funds Available

The allocation amount listed on page one consists of annual appropriations of \$3,027,200 in GPR funds and \$6,411,900 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.

B. Grant Awards

Grants are awarded using the following formula:

Tier 1

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

Tier 2

DATCP will allocate the remaining \$4,039,100 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 can fully fund county requests for their first position at the 100% rate. However, for round two, DATCP can only

fund about 67% 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 (pages 3 and 4) provides round-by-round details of the Tier 2 allocation for each county.

Unmet Need for Staff and Support Funds

Despite an increase in appropriations, DATCP would need an additional \$3.6 million in appropriations to reach the goal in s. 92.14(6)(b), Wis. Stats. Even with increases in funding, counties are anticipated to shoulder a significant part of the burden paying staff. For example, in 2019, counties provided funding to pay 212 of the 370 conservation staff employed statewide.

Reallocation and Redirection

DATCP approves Menominee County's request to reallocate up to \$8,000 to the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin on the condition that county provides a report on the use of the reallocated funds.

Future Funding Directions

DATCP awards grants for a county's first position only if the staff is actively engaged in qualified conservation activities. Also, DATCP 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 additional staffing funding is made available in the future, 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.

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 planner qualified to write nutrient management plans. Also, 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 or with track records of spending high levels of cost-sharing. 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, even with increases in the appropriation.

2. Bond Revenue Cost-Sharing

The allocations under this category provide cost-sharing to resolve discharges on farms (awarded to counties from a reserve), and provide counties grants for landowner cost-sharing. Unless otherwise noted below, grants are awarded consistent with the terms of the 2021 grant application and instructions (see page 8 for the link to these documents).

A. Bond Funds Available

The allocation amount listed on page one consists of \$3.5 million (half of DATCP's \$7.0 million authorization in the 2019-21 budget), with the following adjustment:

- Increase the amount by \$300,000 using unspent bond funds previously allocated.

B. Grant Awards

Bond Reserve Projects

DATCP will allocate \$300,000 to an engineering reserve for the purpose of funding projects to address discharges on farms including regulatory animal waste response (NR 243) projects in cooperation with DNR. The size of the reserve reflects the demand for the funds. These funds are awarded using separate process: obtaining a recommendation from DATCP engineering staff concerning a farm discharge, especially

to address increased costs for managing runoff from feedlots and feed storage.

Landowner Cost-Sharing

DATCP will allocate \$3,500,000 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. This approach is designed to better meet the statewide priorities set in s. ATCP 50.30(2), including the need to address farms with water quality issues and support farmer participation in the farmland preservation program (FPP).

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 USDA Ag Census 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 Bond Cost-Share Funds

DATCP's allocation provided 47% of the bond funds requested, leaving \$3,911,250 in unsatisfied county requests. A chronic shortfall in bond funds has practical implications for our capacity 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 new NR 151 targeted performance standards.

Future Funding Directions

DATCP discontinued including grant funds received via a notice of intent or notice of discharge project in the allocation calculations in the 2019 Allocation Plan. Having followed this request, DATCP has noted that the

removal of these funds from positive spending has a detrimental impact on county allocations. Administratively, the time required to track these funds outside of the SWRM database has proven burdensome. Therefore, starting with the 2021 allocation, grant funds received via the notice of discharge, notice of intent and engineering reserve programs will be included in the Allocation formulas.

Additionally, in response to the impact of unusual weather events during 2018 and 2019, the SWRM program managers determined the best way to ensure future allocations are not unfairly effected is to eliminate the inclusion of extended underspending in the bond award calculations for grant cycles for 2021, 2022, 2023. After this three year period, the matter will be reassessed.

3. 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, and (3) NM implementation support and other projects of statewide importance. Unless otherwise noted below, grants are awarded consistent with the terms of the 2021 grant application and instructions (see page 8 for the link to these documents).

A. Funds Available

The allocation amount listed on page one consists of \$4,425,000 appropriation in SEG funds “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 \$750,000 as a result of a redirection of funds for producer-led watershed protection grants.
- A decrease of \$202,469 for a reserve fund that will be used to for a competitive supplemental allocation in the first quarter of 2021. The supplemental allocation will target

innovative proposals related to harvestable buffers, small grains, performance standard implementation, climate resiliency and other projects meant to improve Wisconsin’s land conservation and water quality.

Of the \$3,472,531 available for allocation, \$2,198,972 will be provided to counties for landowner cost-sharing, \$258,858 will be awarded for farmer NM training, \$151,300 will be given to counties for innovation grants and \$863,401 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 at \$10 per acre for four years, the flat rate that covers the costs 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 “hard practices” with DATCP approval if the county’s grant contract authorizes such use.

Fifty-nine counties applied for \$2,953,972 in grants, and DATCP will award \$2,198,972 to applicants based on ranking determined by the following scoring criteria:

- Up to 20 points for having one or more Agricultural Enterprise Areas within the county.
- Up to 20 points based on the extent of impaired waters located in each county.
- Up to 30 points based on percent of acres in a county with NM plans (established by checklist submissions to DATCP in the prior year).
- Up to 30 points based on a county’s total positive spending on NM cost-sharing and NMFE for the previous year.

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 award for their grouping, unless a county requests a lower amount. The five award groups are as follows:

Group 1 (80-100 points)

Maximum Award: \$95,000

Maximum awards in the group: 4 of 6

Group 2 (65-79 points)

Maximum Award: \$75,000

Maximum awards in group: 2 of 6

Group 3 (50-64 points)

Maximum Award: \$55,000

Maximum awards in group: 6 of 21

Group 4 (25-49 points)

Maximum Award: \$45,000

Maximum awards in group: 3 of 16

Group 5 (less than 24 points)

Maximum Award: \$35,000

Maximum awards in group: 1 of 10

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. 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 thirteen counties that did not apply for funds.

Table A (page 2) also reflects amounts allocated to each county under the "SEG Cost-Sharing" column. Adams, Brown, Calumet, Door, Fond du Lac, Kewaunee, and Manitowoc Counties have 75 percent or more of cropland covered by nutrient management plans and qualify to spend up to 50% of 2021 SEG funds on bondable practices. See 2019 Update,

<https://datcp.wi.gov/Documents/NMUpdate2019.pdf>

NMFE Training Grants

For 2021, DATCP fully funded all but two requests, in the amounts listed in Table A-4.

Table A-4: NMFE Grant Awards	
Organization	Total Award
Buffalo Co.	\$12,200
Clark Co, Et al	\$35,250
CVTC	\$20,000
Douglas Co.	\$6,370
Eau Claire Co.	\$8,600
Kewaunee Co.	\$21,800
Langlade Co.	\$9,860
Mid-state Tech Col	\$18,750
Mukwonago R Farmer Alliance	\$18,928
NWTC	\$17,530
Rusk Co	\$2,150
SWTC	\$18,370
Trempealeau Co./ WTC	\$20,000
Vernon Co. / WTC	\$27,300
Washington Co.	\$1,750
Western WI Conservation Council.	\$20,000
Total	\$258,858

All grant recipients must sign a contract with DATCP that incorporates the requirements of s. ATCP 50.35 and commits the project to developing NM plans that meet the 2015 NRCS 590 standards.

Statewide Projects: Nutrient Management Implementation Support, Cooperators

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 s. 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 of technical standards, and coordinated activities in AEAs and impaired waters. Seven of the awards also include funds to purchase laptops for training.

In the cooperator subcategory of Nutrient Management Implementation Support, DATCP received one application from the UW-Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (UW-CALS) with different options for funding ranging from a low of \$580,000 to a high of \$730,000. DATCP will fund the UW-CALS request as follows: (1) \$300,000 for maintaining and improving education and training (2) \$280,000 for SNAP Plus maintenance and development, and (3) \$20,000 for development of A2809 calculator. Funding this project supports tools and information needed by government agencies and farmers to implement the nutrient management standard and the Phosphorus Index, and support moving to remote training options as well.

Funding UW CALS / Nutrient and Pest Management Program supports the development of a digital, self-paced, interactive, interview-based NM planning workbook with an updated NM curriculum. The workbook will be obtained online or on a thumb drive, but will also be available as a printed document. The UW CALS project will also include the continued development of training videos to be linked into the interactive workbook and the SnapPlus NM software program. Finally, the award supports hiring a SnapPlus education specialist dedicated to state-wide training on the use of SnapPlus for NM planning.

In the general category of project cooperator, DATCP will provide the following funding. Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association (WI Land+Water) is awarded \$225,401, the same as their 2020 award but \$7,000 less than their request. 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) and the Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grants Annual Workshop. Funding also supports activities to promote accountability among county conservation programs.

The Standards Oversight Council (SOC) is awarded the full \$38,000 requested which fairly recognizes the higher costs for maintaining statewide capacity to develop and maintain technical standards for conservation programs and the specific support for DATCP standards.

Traditionally, up to \$3,500 is awarded to the host county for costs related to Conservation Observance Day. Due to the restrictions related to the Covid-19 outbreak, the 2020 Conservation Observance Day was cancelled. Vernon County, the 2020 host, will host the event in 2021. The allocated funds from 2020 will be extended to 2021 to account for this.

With the 2021 SWRM grant application, counties and producer-led watershed groups were invited to submit Innovation Grant requests for new ways to approach land and water conservation. Eight applications were received, six from counties, one from a collaborator working with several producer-led watershed groups, and one from a researcher. A total of \$301,569 SEG funds were requested. A total of \$151,300 is awarded as follows:

Innovation Grant	Amount
Ashland Co. FPP Incentives	\$25,000
Langlade Co. AEA Incentives	\$22,000
Marathon Co. AEA Incentives	\$30,000
Monroe Co. AEA Incentives	\$41,000
Sauk Co. AEA Incentives	\$33,300

DATCP received proposals for three projects which it decided not to fund. DATCP will not fund the Lafayette County small grains proposal (\$50,000) due to the application being incomplete. However, DATCP is interested in funding a small grains project in the future. DATCP will also not fund the Dairy Strong Sustainability Alliance proposal (\$20,500) for a computer application that

would be used to help conservation planning in Lafayette County. DATCP determined that it needs to further consider whether or not to use SWRM to fund specific producer-led projects outside of the existing grant process given the statutory direction to provide funding to producer-led groups not to exceed \$750,000. If additional funding is provided, it will be through an open, competitive funding process. Finally, DATCP will not fund the Runoff Risk Advisory Forecast (RRAF) proposal (\$79,769). This research project is better suited to other grant funds, such as the Groundwater Coordinating Council's joint solicitation process.

The 2021 cooperator awards are documented in the lower right-hand corner of Table A (page 2). 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 \$755,000 less than the requested amounts. While additional cost-share funding could have been allocated, the average total spent by counties annually over the past several year is closer to \$1.9 million, substantially less than was requested each year, and less than what was allocated.

Future Funding Directions

With additional SEG appropriations available to allocate, DATCP must consider how it can best implement conservation practices. On a fundamental level, DATCP will consider whether SEG dollars should be set aside to cost-share conservation practices historically funded by bond dollars. DATCP has consistently fallen short of meeting the demand for cost-sharing bondable practices, and diversion of SEG dollars may help fill the gap. DATCP does permit this on a minor level to the few counties with over 75% of cropland acres in NM plans; however, the department may want to open this up to all or a larger number of counties.

Also, there may be other emerging areas or practices where SEG funds could be used or targeted to implement conservation practices and improve soil and watershed management, including things like harvestable buffers, cropping practices, small grains projects, practices that improve climate resiliency, precision agriculture, and carbon credit processing.

To the extent that DATCP will spend SEG funding to support nutrient management (NM) planning and implementation, DATCP will use feedback from counties and other stakeholders to determine which, if any, of the following strategies should be used:

- Use additional funds to hire agronomists to provide education in targeted areas;
- Expand the number of agronomists available to support NM planning (especially if DATCP does not target part of staffing grants to accomplish the same goal);
- Develop partnerships to expand NM training with the goal of smaller class sizes and specialized training;
- Build outreach to the private sector to make improvements in plans;
- Increase capacity to monitor and review the quality of NM plans and provide feedback;
- Build a stronger connection to the co-ops, consultants and fertilizer dealers to promote nutrient management;
- Provide additional funding to AEAs to incentivize landowners to sign FPP agreements.
- Better incorporate nutrient management planning to DATCP programs such as producer led watershed protection.

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. For example, DATCP needs to respond to concerns about the criterion related to nutrient management plan coverage in a county. The criteria needs to better capture NM plan coverage in a county to reflect acres under plans, not just the percentage of land in a county under NM plans.

Before making major changes to what is funded and how it is distributed, DATCP will engage key stakeholders to develop a workable approach. The counties and producer led groups can share insights on approaches to effectively target cost-sharing and increase farmer participation. Discussions about future use of SEG funds were planned for March and April 2020 as part of DATCP's

annual conservation partner meetings, but were postponed due to the COVID-19 response. DATCP rescheduled these as virtual sessions for September 2020 and intends to use input from them to implement changes to SEG funding for the 2022 allocation.

Table A-2: County Bond Cost-Share Awards

County	Bond				County	Bond			
	17-19 Cumulative Average Under-Spending*	2017 Census Acres**	17-19 Cumulative Total Dollars Spent***	Award		17-19 Cumulative Average Under-Spending*	2017 Census Acres**	17-19 Cumulative Total Dollars Spent***	Award
Adams	0.1%	117,206	\$117,276	\$49,900	Marathon	0.0%	473,147	\$275,771	\$73,500
Ashland	0.0%	52,428	\$163,553	\$49,500	Marinette	0.5%	133,068	\$451,719	\$63,900
Barron	0.1%	305,604	\$120,225	\$61,900	Marquette	3.9%	113,183	\$92,750	\$31,500
Bayfield	0.0%	81,041	\$170,580	\$53,500	Menominee	1.3%	290	\$44,255	\$20,000
Brown	6.2%	192,007	\$73,856	\$31,500	<i>Milwaukee</i>	0.0%	6,990	\$6,672	\$20,000
Buffalo	1.7%	293,130	\$120,752	\$47,650	Monroe	4.5%	300,659	\$156,435	\$54,000
Burnett	2.0%	89,237	\$71,986	\$29,500	Oconto	0.0%	189,898	\$112,491	\$52,900
Calumet	0.7%	153,858	\$105,248	\$43,400	Oneida	0.0%	34,670	\$107,671	\$47,900
<i>Chippewa</i>	1.5%	356,176	\$113,388	\$49,750	Outagamie	3.2%	236,963	\$125,089	\$41,650
Clark	0.0%	451,035	\$222,201	\$73,500	Ozaukee	0.0%	59,299	\$159,938	\$55,000
Columbia	0.0%	304,058	\$203,245	\$73,500	Pepin	0.5%	106,881	\$117,397	\$43,400
Crawford	0.0%	210,550	\$129,393	\$54,150	Pierce	0.0%	233,188	\$176,916	\$58,750
Dane	0.6%	506,688	\$128,108	\$55,400	Polk	5.6%	256,114	\$154,427	\$46,250
Dodge	6.5%	405,992	\$84,073	\$43,500	Portage	2.1%	280,410	\$162,198	\$56,000
Door	0.0%	114,508	\$76,701	\$50,000	Price	1.8%	89,203	\$116,304	\$41,400
Douglas	44.9%	69,759	\$6,291	\$17,000	Racine	0.0%	127,496	\$184,308	\$54,500
Dunn	0.0%	348,301	\$125,045	\$61,900	Richland	0.2%	220,843	\$137,249	\$54,150
Eau Claire	0.0%	172,256	\$164,421	\$54,500	Rock	1.8%	353,505	\$193,319	\$60,000
Florence	0.5%	18,609	\$84,530	\$33,300	Rusk	1.1%	136,062	\$125,815	\$43,400
Fond du Lac	4.0%	317,371	\$117,724	\$40,000	Saint Croix	0.0%	279,191	\$63,535	\$45,000
Forest	58.3%	38,084	\$11,148	\$13,900	Sauk	0.0%	298,906	\$201,090	\$65,750
Grant	1.1%	600,324	\$148,912	\$55,400	Sawyer	2.7%	46,009	\$87,001	\$34,000
Green	0.0%	292,368	\$181,093	\$61,750	Shawano	4.7%	247,241	\$100,362	\$41,650
Green Lake	0.0%	126,751	\$178,354	\$54,500	Sheboygan	0.0%	195,938	\$161,661	\$54,500
Iowa	1.6%	360,134	\$85,637	\$45,000	Taylor	0.1%	225,856	\$357,264	\$74,650
Iron	0.0%	9,200	\$151,582	\$48,500	Trempealeau	0.4%	329,916	\$187,203	\$66,500
Jackson	0.0%	248,342	\$369,041	\$74,650	Vernon	0.0%	337,086	\$173,297	\$66,500
Jefferson	18.8%	221,355	\$73,256	\$33,750	Vilas	1.3%	5,652	\$110,003	\$33,400
<i>Juneau</i>	2.1%	175,417	\$47,737	\$41,500	Walworth	1.5%	192,422	\$152,814	\$48,000
Kenosha	0.1%	77,782	\$85,641	\$42,000	Washburn	0.0%	73,773	\$134,173	\$44,900
Kewaunee	0.4%	170,405	\$144,434	\$49,900	Washington	0.0%	126,146	\$115,987	\$44,900
LaCrosse	5.9%	144,334	\$137,549	\$37,400	Waukesha	6.9%	97,460	\$88,652	\$28,000
Lafayette	1.2%	342,518	\$152,714	\$60,000	Waupaca	0.7%	201,603	\$263,411	\$59,250
Langlade	1.0%	116,386	\$115,836	\$43,400	Waushara	0.0%	135,306	\$131,562	\$49,900
<i>Lincoln</i>	0.0%	78,293	\$107,149	\$42,000	Winnebago	6.3%	162,052	\$60,592	\$31,500
Manitowoc	0.2%	231,609	\$117,810	\$57,150	Wood	1.4%	220,891	\$215,366	\$59,250
					TOTAL				\$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 BOND award.

* Graduated awards based on 3-yr avg underspending, excluding extended underspending, year 1 of 3: 0% = \$14,500, 0.05%-1.49% = \$8,000, 1.50-2.49% = \$5,000, 2.5-10% = \$2,000, >10% = \$0.

** Graduated awards based on 2017 Census acres: 300,000 or more = \$24,000, 200,000-299,999 = \$16,250, 100,000-199,999 = \$12,000, 20,000-99,999 = \$7,000, <19,999 = \$2,000.

*** Graduated awards based on 3-yr cumulative spending: >\$300K = \$33,900, \$200K-\$299,999 = \$25,000, \$150K-\$199,999 = \$18,000, \$100K-\$149,999 = \$13,400, \$40K-\$99,999 = \$7,500, <\$40,000 = \$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>	35	4	\$25,000	Marathon	90	1	\$95,000
Ashland	45	4	\$20,000	Marinette	50	3	\$55,000
<i>Barron</i>	20	5	\$35,000	Marquette	55	3	\$65,000
<i>Bayfield</i>	45	4	\$8,000	Menominee	0	0	NA
Brown	50	3	\$20,000	Milwaukee	15	5	NA
Buffalo	30	4	\$20,000	Monroe	65	2	\$50,000
Burnett	20	5	\$20,000	Oconto	50	3	\$50,972
Calumet	65	2	\$40,000	Onieda	35	4	NA
Chippewa	60	3	\$55,000	<i>Outagamie</i>	70	2	\$65,000
<i>Clark</i>	80	1	\$80,000	<i>Ozaukee</i>	50	3	\$25,000
Columbia	85	1	\$95,000	Pepin	45	4	\$40,000
Crawford	20	5	\$8,000	Pierce	35	4	\$20,000
Dane	85	1	\$95,000	Polk	25	4	NA
Dodge	75	2	\$10,000	Portage	20	5	NA
Door	50	3	\$28,000	Price	10	5	NA
Douglas	10	5	NA	Racine	35	4	\$55,000
<i>Dunn</i>	40	4	\$28,000	Richland	20	5	\$20,000
Eau Claire	50	3	\$55,000	Rock	75	2	\$75,000
Florence	0	0	NA	<i>Rusk</i>	20	5	\$25,000
<i>Fond du Lac</i>	60	3	\$20,000	Saint Croix	30	4	\$35,000
Forest	5	5	\$10,000	Sauk	55	3	\$55,000
Grant	40	4	NA	Sawyer	10	5	\$8,000
Green	40	4	\$20,000	<i>Shawano</i>	55	3	\$40,000
Green Lake	50	3	\$30,000	Sheboygan	50	3	\$20,000
Iowa	35	4	\$45,000	Taylor	35	4	\$40,000
Iron	35	4	NA	Trempealeau	80	1	\$30,000
<i>Jackson</i>	25	4	\$20,000	Vernon	40	4	\$55,000
<i>Jefferson</i>	55	3	\$12,000	Vilas	0	0	NA
Juneau	35	4	\$20,000	Walworth	45	4	\$20,000
<i>Kenosha</i>	15	5	\$16,000	Washburn	10	5	\$6,000
Kewaunee	50	3	\$20,000	Washington	50	3	\$10,000
La Crosse	60	3	\$20,000	Waukesha	35	4	NA
Lafayette	55	3	\$20,000	Waupaca	80	1	\$95,000
Langlade	60	3	\$40,000	Waushara	20	5	\$25,000
Lincoln	20	5	NA	Winnebago	55	3	\$55,000
Manitowoc	65	2	\$75,000	Wood	55	3	\$54,000
TOTAL							\$2,198,972
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			

DNR ALLOCATIONS

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

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

Table B shows the preliminary 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 bond revenue appropriated under s. 20.866(2)(tf), Wis. Stats., Federal Clean Water Act Section 319, and segregated funds appropriated under s. 20.370(6)(aq), Wis. Stats.

Allocations to counties for UNPS-Construction projects, when requested, are from segregated funds appropriated under s. 20.866(2)(th), Wis. Stats.

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

Note: DNR will also provide TRM grants and UNPS-Construction 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, 2021, these funds may be held to fund projects selected in the next grant cycle.

1. TRM Preliminary Allocation

Table B contains a lump-sum allocation of \$5,216,134 in a reserve for county TRM applications. The amount placed in reserve is the maximum combined amount that all county TRM applicants may be awarded. The DNR's recommendation for 2021 TRM project allocations will be discussed with the LWCB at their December 2020 meeting. The exact amount allocated to successful county TRM applicants will be included in the *2021 Joint Final Allocation Plan*.

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 2021 through 2022 for Small-Scale projects and through 2023 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

PLANNING. UNPS-Planning grant applications were not solicited in 2020 for the 2021 award cycle. DNR has implemented an alternating schedule for both UNPS-Planning and UNPS-Construction grants. The UNPS-Planning grant application will be available in early 2021 for 2022 awards.

CONSTRUCTION. Table B contains a lump-sum allocation of \$95,000 in a reserve for UNPS-Construction grant applications. The

amount placed in reserve is the maximum combined amount that all county UNPS applicants may be awarded. The DNR's recommendation for 2021 UNPS project allocations will be discussed with the LWCB at their December 2020 meeting. The exact amount allocated to successful county UNPS applicants will be included in the *2021 Joint Final Allocation Plan*.

The DNR will not solicit UNPS-Construction grant applications in 2021. These will next be available in 2022 for 2023 grant awards. 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 DNR will also provide UNPS-Construction grants to non-county applicants. Wisconsin Statutes do not require that non-county grantees be listed in this allocation plan.

The UNPS-Construction awards made through this plan will be reimbursed to grantees during calendar years 2021 and 2022. Project applications have been screened, scored, and ranked in accordance with s. 281.66, Wis. Stats.

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 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 \$1,500,000 for NOD projects during calendar year 2021. 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.

Since DATCP also administers funds to correct NODs, DNR and DATCP will consult on each NOD application to ensure that the two agencies are making the most efficient use of the available funds to address these problem sites.

DNR will require that county grantees commit funds to a cost-share agreement with the landowner within a time-frame 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 2021. 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

2021 may either be carried over for the calendar year 2022 NOD reserve account or may be allocated for calendar year 2021 or 2022 TRM projects.

DNR and DATCP issue a joint report annually to the LWCB on progress in administering NOD funds.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO THE 2021 JOINT PRELIMINARY 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 2021 Joint Preliminary 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 meeting).
- Emailing written comments by no later than November 4, 2020 to: Kim Carlson at datcpswrm@wisconsin.gov.

FINAL ACTION

DATCP has determined that the action described in this allocation plan for the 2021 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 _____, 2020

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE
AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Randy Romanski, Secretary-designee

DNR has determined that the actions described in this allocation plan for the 2021 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 _____, 2020

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Preston D. Cole, Secretary

Environmental Assessment
DATCP's Portion of the 2021 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan
October 2020

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 2021 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 40% 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 management of manure and other nutrients, and minimize pollution of surface and ground water.

By providing annual funding for conservation staff and other conservation cooperators, DATCP secures statewide capacity to deliver a wide range of conservation and water quality programs. DATCP 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 the state agricultural performance standards; facilitate landowner participation in state and federal cost-share programs; and ensure cross-compliance of farmers in the farmland preservation program (FPP). By funding special projects that support conservation implementation, DATCP is filling critical needs in areas such as technical standards development, nutrient management support, training, and coordination between the public and private sector. As discussed later, funding for county conservation staff has not kept up with the demand which is fueled by new 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.

Each year, counties use cost-share funds to address state and local priorities identified in their local plans. Work plan and reporting requirements discussed later will provide a clearer picture of county efforts and facilitate reporting of county accomplishments.

Cost-share funds translate into tangible conservation practices that produce documentable results in controlling runoff pollution and improving water quality. In 2019, counties spent about \$5.4 million in DATCP funds to install cost-shared practices, compared to 2018 expenditure of about \$5.3 million. Table A highlights the top conservation practices DATCP cost-share spent by counties in 2018 and 2019.

Conservation Practice	2018 Cost-Share Dollars Spent (in millions)	2018 Units of Practice Installed	2019 Cost-Share Dollars Spent (in millions)	2019 Units of Practice Installed
Nutrient Management Plans	1.8	53,414 acres	2.2	57,525 acres
Waterway Systems	0.47	1,735 acres	0.50	412 acres
Manure Storage	0.44	14 systems	0.15	7 systems
Barnyard Runoff Control	0.05	6 systems	0.22	6 systems
Streambank and Shoreline Protection	0.48	23,087 feet	0.45	27,839 feet
Grade Stabilization	0.29	39 structures	0.36	48 structures
Closure of Manure Storage System	0.23	31 closed	0.23	34 closed
Cover and Green Manure	0.02	764 acres	0.03	1,543 acres

The following developments are worth mentioning with respect to expenditures of cost-share funds in 2019 compared 2018 expenditures:

- An increase in acres cost-shared for nutrient management
- An increase in quantity of erosion control practices such as streambank and shoreline protection, and grade stabilization structures, although the cost per linear foot has increased.
- An increase in nutrient management funds to support the introduction of cover crops, while a small amount of the total, is an increasing trend.

B. Long-Term Effects

Over time, DATCP’s annual financial support of county staff and other project cooperators has built and sustained a statewide conservation infrastructure that delivers the following reinforcing benefits:

- Outreach and education that results in positive behavioral changes;
- 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.

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 control 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. When multiple conservation practices are installed in a watershed or other area over time, the combined effect of these practices can result in marked water quality improvements.

Fully assessing the long-term benefits, however, is complicated for a number of reasons including the fact that DATCP's grant program operates within a collection of conservation and natural resource programs. See Section III.E. for more a 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 reducing soil erosion. 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 benefit surrounding areas, including resources located downstream from the installed practice. For example, nutrient management 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, but may increase wildlife habitat.

DATCP policies and rules mitigate secondary impacts from the installation and maintenance of conservation practices. DATCP policies ensure that counties evaluate cultural resource impacts of a project before any land-disturbing activities are initiated. 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 avoid 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. By requiring that

landowners maintain conservation projects installed with DATCP cost-share dollars, DATCP ensures 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 this action, it is clear that SWRM grant funds play an integral part in supporting a comprehensive framework of federal, state, and local resource management programs. By supporting 114 of the 370 conservation employees in the state's 72 counties, DATCP grant funds secure the foundation necessary to deliver a myriad of conservation programs, which among other accomplishments, achieved the following:

In 2019, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provided \$73 million for conservation programs including \$38.2 million in Environmental Quality Incentives (EQIP) payments to install conservation practices with the top four expenditures related to cover crops (\$8.6 million), waste storage facility (\$3.2 million), streambank and shoreline protection (\$3.0 million), pond sealing or lining (\$2.3 million).

The conservation reserve enhancement program (CREP) protects important soil and water resources while allowing landowners to make use of valuable adjacent working lands. As of the beginning of 2020, about 65,566 acres were enrolled under CREP agreements and easements: with 7,155 acres under CREP easements and the remainder under CREP 15-year agreements. Of those enrollments 39,304 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: 878 miles of streams buffered with an estimated phosphorus annual removal of 94,167 pounds, nitrogen annual removal of 50,542 pounds and sediment removal of 46,651 tons.

DNR continued annual funding in 2020 for Targeted Runoff Management Projects, providing nearly \$2.7 million to counties for cost-sharing 7 small scale and 2 large scale projects. DNR set aside \$1.5 million for farms issued a notice of discharge.

Through its Producer-Led Watershed Protection grants, DATCP awarded 14 producer-led groups \$242,550 in 2016; 11 groups \$197,065 in 2017; 19 groups \$558,246 in 2018; 28 groups \$750,000 in 2019; and 27 groups \$750,000 in 2020.

Assessing the full extent of the effects of grant funding is complicated by a number of factors including complex interactions and far-reaching impacts of grant funding. For example, conservation

activities funded by DATCP can dampen the potential negative environmental impacts of actions driven by farm policies and economics. In particular, the risks of cropland soil erosion have increased as a result of conditions that favor increased cash grain/row cropping, and the increased market incentives to grow these crops. In addition, efforts funded through SWRM grants have helped mitigate flooding impacts which have been prevalent in recent years.

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. DATCP awards fall short of funding three staff per county at the prescribed rates in s. 92.14(6)(b), Stats, providing less than one third of the costs to support county conservation staff. DATCP grants are one of several sources for cost-share funds that include county levies, DNR grants and NRCS funding. DATCP grants also fund private and public entities to provide statewide support for implementing conservation programs or provide special services to promote conservation statewide. DATCP funding for training and professional development is critical to maintaining county capacity to deliver high quality technical services, and reflects a state commitment to build the capacity of conservation staff statewide. With the 2021 Allocation DATCP introduced Innovation Grants to encourage counties to reach out in new ways to landowners, building from the success of the Monroe County AEA pilot project in 2020.

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.

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, 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 as a consequence of the activities funded by DATCP. The benefits may include protection of drinking water and improving soil health. Landowners with properties located "downstream" of lands with nutrient and sediment delivery runoff problems also benefit from conservation practices that reduced these problems. Certain measures, such as nutrient management plans, can help protect drinking water wells that serve neighboring landowners and communities. The general 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 positive economic and social effects. DATCP grants support cost-sharing and technical assistance that enable farmers and other landowners to meet their conservation responsibilities and maintain eligibility for state and federal program benefits. By providing financial support to meet state runoff standards for farms, DATCP cost-sharing helps farmers avoid the costs related to government enforcement actions and other liability risks. For example, farmers who develop and follow nutrient management plans gain liability protection in the case of a manure spill or groundwater contamination.

The economic impacts of installing conservation practices vary with each individual 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. DATCP's efforts to expand its cost-share reserve offers limited options to install more costly practices.

In addition to incurring costs, landowners also must adjust their management routines to meet government cost-share requirements. With these changes, farmers face new risks including potential for reduced productivity and reduced profits. Farmers implementing these practices, however, may also see long-term benefits including savings on the cost of fertilizer, sustaining soil at productive levels, 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

For the 2019-2021 biennium, SWRM grants program benefited from funding increases in key areas. DATCP's annual appropriation for staffing grants was raised to its highest level since 2001, when DATCP awarded \$9.4 million in staffing grants, an increase of approximately \$475,000. This increase, however, did not help DATCP close the gap in meeting the statutory goal of funding an average of three county staff at the rate of 100, 70 and 50 percent. In fact, in 2021, DATCP will fall \$3.6 million short of meeting the goal, which is slightly more than the 2020 shortfall. As noted below, increased county staff may be a key element in making important gains in nutrient management implementation. It may be necessary to look at ways to pay for field staff to support farmers with management intensive practices such as nutrient management.

Funding for nutrient management (NM) grants and related expenditures increased to levels not seen since the 2008 allocation, and we have a responsibility to consider how best to spend this funding to promote NM implementation. Counties have had adequate funds to meet their needs for cost-sharing. A narrow focus on NM cost-sharing overlooks other opportunities that may be more effective in promoting NM. There has been increased interest in farmer training. Counties are expressing interest in having access to resources other than cost-sharing to further implementation. Innovation grant applications have been solicited from counties for 2021, most requesting incentive payments for participating in Agricultural Enterprise Areas. Supporting innovating pilot projects in counties will give information of viable and useful potential paths forward.

While understandable from the standpoint of concerns about increased debt service, the decision to retain the same funding for bond cost-sharing fails to meet current program needs. While the \$7.0 million authorization for bond cost-sharing has not increased since 2002, landowner costs for practices have increased for number of reasons:

- A significant jump in costs of material for construction of engineered practices in the last 5-10 years (e.g. a 60 percent increase in both excavation costs to \$3.50 per cubic yard and concrete costs to \$125 per cubic yard).
- 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 which increases the need for storage.

The unmet needs for cost-sharing engineered 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. Take 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. Therefore, this is an undesirable choice.

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 that reflect a weighing and balancing of competing priorities and demands. The allocation plan is intended to implement ch. ATCP 50 and legislative directives regarding allocation of grant funds. It also reflects the input and consensus of the counties on funding issues. Changes in individual awards cannot be made without upsetting the weighing and balancing used to develop the overall allocation plan, and would unfairly deviate from grant criteria announced as part of the grant application.

VIII. Mitigation of Adverse Environmental Effects

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

IX. Final Determination

This assessment finds that the *2021 Preliminary 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 _____ By _____

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 _____

Sara Walling, Administrator
Agricultural Resource Management Division

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 selected for funding have been obligated and practice implementation is underway.

Special Opportunities

Special funding opportunities available through EQIP include:

Soil Health: NRCS works with producers to improve soil health through sound principles and systems. For example, no-till, cover crops, diversifying the crop rotation, and managing nutrients and pesticide applications. Increasing soil health allows for improved soil organic matter, increased water infiltration, as well as better profits and crop yields.

On-Farm Energy: NRCS and producers develop Agricultural Energy Management Plans (AgEMP) or farm energy audits that assess energy consumption on an operation. Audit data is used to develop energy conservation recommendations.

Organic: NRCS helps certified organic growers, and producers working to achieve organic certification, install conservation practices to address resource concerns on organic operations.

Seasonal High Tunnel (Hoop House): NRCS helps producers plan and implement high tunnels - steel-framed, polyethylene-covered structures that extend growing seasons in an environmentally safe manner. High tunnel benefits include better plant and soil quality, fewer nutrients and pesticides in the environment, and better air quality due to fewer vehicles being needed to transport crops. Supporting conservation practices such as grassed waterways, and diversions are available to address resource concerns on operations with Seasonal High Tunnel structures.

Honey Bee: The upper Midwest is the resting ground for over 65 percent of commercially managed honey bees in the country. The NRCS is helping farmers and landowners implement conservation practices that will provide safe and diverse food sources for honey bees. Pasture management, wildlife habitat, and appropriate cover crops are used as tools to improve the health of our honey bees, which support more than \$15 billion worth of agricultural production.

Source Water Protection (SWP): The 2018 Farm Bill provided increased opportunities for NRCS to address source water quality and quantity, for both groundwater and surface source water. NRCS-Wisconsin formed a diverse advisory committee of source water experts and offered funding for beneficial practices in targeted priority SWP watersheds through EQIP, in addition to tracking activity of other conservation programs in source water protection areas.

NRCS Programs Financial Update

Program		FY19	FY20 ^a
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	Financial Assistance Allocation	\$38.2 mil ^b	\$33.7 mil ^c
	Contracts	1,661	1277 ^a
Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)	Financial Assistance Allocation	\$18.2 mil.	\$20.045 mil.
	New Contracts	580	342
	Renewal Contracts	0	193
	Total Active Contracts	3,696	3,348
	New Acres	120,280	234,599
	Total Acres	-	1,206,613
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program—Agricultural Land Easements (ACEP—ALE) <small>*Includes RCPP ALE in brackets</small>	Financial Assistance Allocation	\$1.9 mil.	\$350,808 [\$3.97 mil]
	Agreements	13	2 [1]
	Parcels	13	2 [20]
	Acres	1,051	181 [1,500]
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program—Wetland Reserve Easements (ACEP—WRE)	Financial Assistance Allocation	\$1.1 mil.	\$13.8 mil.
	Easements	6	2
	Acres	451	1,866
Emergency Watershed Protection Program—Floodplain Easements (EWPP—FPE)	Financial Assistance Reserve	-	\$8 mil.
	Proposed Easements	-	19
	Proposed Acres	-	1,315
Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)	Agreements	0	3

^aAllocations are advisory and subject to change.

^bIncludes initiatives and special funding.

^cInitiatives and special funding allocations have not been determined yet.

Landscape Initiatives

NRCS is targeting conservation assistance to critical resources through a number of landscape scale initiatives. Applications for initiatives can be submitted at any time and are evaluated periodically for funding.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative: Through GLRI, NRCS offers financial assistance to agricultural producers for implementing practices that improve water quality in selected watersheds. Financial assistance is available through EQIP and focuses on reducing nutrient and sediment delivery to surface water as well as controlling invasive species and improving wildlife habitat.

National Water Quality Initiative: NWQI is designed to help individual agricultural producers take actions to reduce the runoff of sediment, nutrients, and pathogens into waterways where water quality is a critical concern. Eligible watersheds include Bear Lake - Little Wolf River in Waupaca County; and North Brach Little River in Oconto County.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program: RCPP 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 watershed (recently selected for a project renewal), the Baraboo River watershed, the Milwaukee River watershed, and the Yahara River watershed. A project to improve water quantity and quality is located within the Little Plover River watershed. Projects to improve fish and wildlife habitat include monarch habitat statewide, stream and riparian habitat in the Driftless Area, as well as a project to improve young forest habitat for Golden-winged warblers in 20 northern Wisconsin counties. USDA is currently investing up to \$300 million in partner-driven conservation through RCPP. NRCS in Wisconsin announced it will invest \$7,503,896 and the conservation partner, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, with its long list of contributing partners, will invest \$11,025,000, in an RCPP project benefiting the Great Lakes Region.

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

While the number of new easements for Wisconsin was low for both Agricultural Land Easements (ALE) and Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE), the total acreage number was average or higher than normal. The 2019 ALE numbers were a result of new ALE projects enrolled through the RCPP program and our 2020 RCPP agreements for ALE will come to fruition in 2021. For our regular ALE allocation, through our ALE cooperators, Wisconsin NRCS received 5 parcel applications for just under \$700,000 in requests. Wisconsin was allocated \$350,808, which funded the two highest ranked projects.

For WRE, Wisconsin NRCS received over 50 applications. Wisconsin requested special funding for a large easement in the southeast that obligated the majority of the 2020 WRE allocation of \$3.6 million. We

also funded one additional high ranked project for a total of 2 projects on 1,866 acres.

For the Emergency Watershed Protection Program – Floodplain Easements (EWPP-FPE), Wisconsin received approval for 19 projects mostly in the southern part of the state for a total of just over \$8 million dollars on 1,315 acres. The money will not be obligated to these projects until FY2021 because this is not a Farm Bill allocation and involves a separate process.

Covid19

USDA Service Centers are encouraging visitors to take proactive protective measures to help prevent the spread of coronavirus. Service Centers in Wisconsin will continue to be open for business by phone appointment and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. Some offices are allowing in-person, scheduled visits. While our program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with our producers by phone and using online tools whenever possible. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, or any other Service Center agency are required to call their Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. In the event a Service Center is closed, producers can receive assistance from the closest alternate Service Center by phone. For the most recent office opening information visit www.farmers.gov/coronavirus.

Online services are available to customers with an eAuth account, which provides access to the farmers.gov portal where producers can view USDA farm loan information and payments and view and track certain USDA program applications and payments. Online NRCS services are available to customers through the Conservation Client Gateway.

Local Working Groups

NRCS in Wisconsin hosted one statewide virtual Local Working Group (LWG) meeting with a feedback survey to follow. The virtual meeting was held August 5, 2020. Over 120 participants called into a teleconference line or joined by audio and video using Microsoft Teams. Input gathered is helping set priorities for USDA conservation programs under the 2018 Farm Bill.

Gov Delivery

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.

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAOCS/subscriber/new>



DATE: October 6, 2020
 TO: LWCB members and advisors
 FROM: Brian Weigel, DNR
 SUBJECT: DNR Update, August-September 2020, for October LWCB meeting

Nitrate Targeted Performance Standard

The DNR is developing a targeted agricultural performance standard in NR 151 to reduce nitrate pollution in areas of the state that are susceptible to groundwater contamination. The goal of this standard is to provide for safe drinking water by achieving groundwater standards for nitrate. The DNR has convened a Technical Advisory Committee to get input on proposed changes to NR 151. The TAC has one more meeting on October 14. Meetings are taking place over Zoom and open to the public. More information is available at: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/nonpoint/nr151nitrate.html>

Nine Element Plans

Nine Element Watershed Based Plans Approved since January 2020

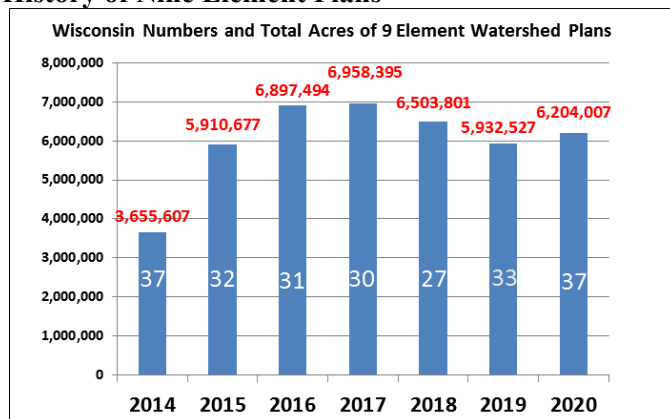
Watershed	Acres	Expire
North Branch Manitowoc River - Calumet, Manitowoc	47,647	2030
Little Lake Wissota - Chippewa	45,000	2030
14 mile Creek - Adams, Portage, Waushara	55,417	2030
Cedar Pigeon Ulao Mole Creek - Washington, Ozaukee	123,416	2030

Future Nine Element Plans: As of September 2020, there are 10 Nine Element Watershed Based Plans under development or review by WDNR across the state.

Map of Current Nine Element Plans:

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Nonpoint/9keyElement/planMap.html>

History of Nine Element Plans



More information is available at: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Nonpoint/9keyElement>

Storm Water Program Update

Stormwater staff conducted 96 construction, industrial, and municipal inspections. Staff issued 372 new construction and industrial permits and closed 180 permits for completed projects or closed industrial operations.

Staffing update

We are pleased to announce that our CAFO Engineer team is at full force for the first time in almost 2 years! First, we welcome Ian Hansen to our program. Ian had been at the department for 4 years as a wastewater engineer reviewing facility plans and working on permitting issues. He remains an engineer officer with WI National Guard and comes with a degree from UW Biological Systems Engineering. We will announce our second engineer at the LWCB meeting. The start date for both engineers is October 12th.

We have posted 2 positions for recruitment recently. The BITS Project Position application period closed on September 29th. The Storm Water Runoff Section Chief position application deadline is October 13th.