



State of Wisconsin

Land and Water Conservation Board

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

Land and Water Conservation Board Agenda

August 5, 2025

The Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) will meet on **August 5, 2025**. The board will hold its official business meeting at 9:00 am via Microsoft Teams and at 2811 Agriculture Drive, Boardroom 106, Madison, WI 53718. To attend the meeting remotely, join by telephone at +1 608-571-2209 with Conference ID 609 254 022# or click the following Teams [hyperlink](#). The agenda for the meeting is shown below.

AGENDA ITEMS AND TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

- 1 Call the Meeting to Order – **Mark Cupp, LWCB Chair**
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Pledge of allegiance
 - c. Open meeting notice
 - d. Introductions, Acknowledgements
 - e. Approval of agenda
 - f. Approval of June 3, 2025 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 LWRM 5-Year Review for Iron County
Heather Palmquist, County Conservationist; Roy Haeger, LCC Chair
- 4 Recommendation for approval of LWRM 5-Year Review for Door County
Greg Coulthurst, County Conservationist; Roy Englebert, LCC member; Jacob Brey, LCC member
- 5 Climate Change Research
Dr. Evan Larson

*Mark Cupp, Chair; Monte Osterman, Vice Chair
Brian McGraw, Secretary*

*Members: Andrew Buttlis; Ron Grasshoff; Rebecca Clarke; Mike Hofberger; D.J. Nichols
Andrew Potts; Tim Anderson; Jason Knutson*

- 6 Recommendation for approval of LWRM Plan Revision for Oconto County
Ken Dolata, County Conservationist; Tim Cole, Land and Water Conservation Committee Chair
- 7 Update on the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy
Joe Bonnell, DNR
- 8 Presentation of 2025 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan
Susan Mockert, DATCP; Joanna Griffin, DNR
- 9 DNR Presentation of the Scores and Rankings of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Projects for CY 2025
Joanna Griffin, DNR
- 10 DNR Presentation of the Scores and Rankings of Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management Projects for CY 2025
Joanna Griffin, DNR
- 11 Agency reports
 - a. FSA
 - b. NRCS
 - c. UW-CALS
 - d. UW Madison - Extension
 - e. WI Land + Water
 - f. DOA
 - g. DATCP
 - h. DNR
 - i. Member Updates
- 12 Planning for October 2025 LWCB Meeting -
Mark Cupp, LWCB
- 13 Adjourn

MINUTES
LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING

June 3, 2025
2811 Agriculture Drive, Board Room &
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Item #1 Call to Order—pledge of allegiance, open meeting notice, approval of agenda, approval of April 1, 2025, LWCB meeting minutes.

Call to Order

The Land and Water Conservation Board (Board) met in person at 2811 Agriculture Drive, Madison WI 53718 and over Microsoft Teams on **June 3, 2025**. The meeting was preceded by public notice as required by Wis. Stat. § 19.84. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Cupp at **9:00 am** and the pledge of allegiance was conducted.

Members and Advisors Present

Members: Mark Cupp, Monte Osterman, Brian McGraw, Andy Buttles, Tim Anderson, Andrew Potts, D.J. Nichols and Laura Bub for Jason Knutson. A quorum was present.

Advisors: Nathan Fikkert (NRCS), Ian Krauss (FSA) and Matt Krueger (WI Land + Water)

Approval of Agenda

Motion

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

Approval of Minutes

Cupp requested a change of the meeting minutes in Item #8 to reflect that in follow-ups with Kirsten Biefeld and Dr. Evan Larson, the Board could not convene an executive committee and issue a letter of support prior to the assigned deadline.

Motion

McGraw motioned to approve the April 1, 2025, meeting minutes as amended, seconded by Anderson, and the motion carried unanimously. The approved minutes shall be posted as the official meeting record for publication on the LWCB website.

Item #2 Public Appearances

No public appearance cards were submitted.

Item #3 Recommendation for approval of LWRM 5-Year Review for Winnebago County

Chad Casper, Conservation Department Director; Chuck Farrey; Committee Chair, formally requested a recommendation of approval from the Board regarding the County's 5-year LWRM plan review.

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

Motion

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

Item #4 Recommendation for approval of LWRM Plan revision for Marinette County

Sheri Denowski, County Conservationist; Tim Oestreich, Land Information Department Director; Tom Mandli, Development Committee Chair, formally requested a recommendation of approval from the Board regarding the County's 5-year LWRM plan review.

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

Motion

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

Item #5 Wake Surfing and the environment

Jeff Meesmann presented an introduction on wake surfing and the environment on behalf of the Last Wilderness Alliance.

Item #6 Recommendation for approval of LWRM Plan revision for Rusk County

Nick Stadnyk, Land Conservation & Development Department Director; Kathy Halbur, Land Conservation Committee, formally requested a recommendation of approval from the Board regarding the County's LWRM Plan Revision.

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

Motion

After a discussion between the Board and County representatives, McGraw motioned to recommend approval of Rusk County's LWRM plan review, seconded by Anderson, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #7 LWCB Advisory Committee on Research-Committee Updates

Biefeld delivered an update on the May meeting of the Committee. The committee will reconvene on September 2nd. Biefeld noted the committee discussed Jeff Hadachek's presentation to further expansion of PLWPG. Biefeld has reached out to Dani Heisler, DATCP's Producer-Led Watershed

Protection Grants Program Manager, to present to the LWCB in December. Dr. Adam Larson is anticipated to present in August.

Item #8 Agency Reports

- a. FSA- Krauss submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the June 3, 2025 [meeting packet](#). In addition, Krauss reported that FSA appointed Sandy Chalmers as State Executive Director. CRP Opened until June 6, 2025. Cap from 2017 farm bill still applies for sign-ups. ELRP funding is open.
- b. NRCS- Fikkert submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the June 3, 2025 [meeting packet](#). Fikkert reported EQUIP, CSP, and IRA funds will not be available for 2025. They have started making payments for existing agreements.
- c. UW-Extension- No report provided.
- d. WI Land + Water- Krueger reported they will be hosting a series of wetlands and waterways workshops. Michael Hook is facilitating workshops in “Teaching Mastery for Conservation Staff”. They will work with the Savannah Institute on June 12th for Silvopasture trainings.
- e. DOA- Potts reported the Joint Finance Committee met twice thus far. DATCP environmental papers have not yet been published by Legislative Fiscal Bureau.
- f. DATCP- Anderson submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the June 3, 2025 [meeting packet](#).
- g. DNR- Bub submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the June 3, 2025 [meeting packet](#). Laura Bub reported
- h. Member Updates- Osterman reported summer meeting of the NACD in Milwaukee kicks off Saturday July 26th.

Item #9 Planning for the August 2025 LWCB Meeting

The Board should expect the following at the next LWCB meeting, which will be a hybrid meeting:

- Plan Revision for Oconto County
- Plan Reviews for Door and Iron Counties
- Presentation of 2026 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan
- DNR Presentation of the Scores and Rankings of Targeted Runoff Management Projects for CY 2026
- DNR Presentation of the Scores and Rankings of Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management Projects for CY 2026
- Annual Soil and Water Conservation Report
- LWCB Advisory Committee on Research Updates
- Educational Opportunity- Climate Change
- Update on Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy

Item #10 Adjourn

Motion

Osterman motioned to adjourn, seconded by Potts, and the motion carried unanimously. The business meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

DRAFT

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM _____ State of Wisconsin

DATE: August 5th, 2025

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

FROM: Jenn Chakravorty, DATCP
Resource Management Section,
Bureau of Land and Water Resources

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

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

Summary: The Iron County land and water resource management plan has been approved through December 31, 2030, contingent on a five-year review conducted prior to December 31, 2025. In advance of the five-year review, Iron County has completed a DATCP approved form designed to implement the LWCB's reference document dated October 27, 2021, and the criteria for conducting a five-year review. The county has provided written answers to four questions regarding past and future implementation, has provided the required work planning documents, and has appropriately involved the Land Conservation Committee.

Materials Provided:

- Completed Five Year Review Form
- 2024 Annual Workplan with Accomplishments
- 2025 Annual Workplan

Presenter(s): Heather Palmquist, County Conservationist, Iron County
Roy Haeger, Land Conservation Committee Chair



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

County: Iron 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.

The LWRM Plan helps keep the department on track to address the resource concerns of the county. Each year, the annual work plan is made by reviewing the larger LWRM plan and setting the year's priorities. This also helps to leverage grant money for additional work which is critical for Iron County as it is an under resourced rural county. The plan also helps elected officials understand what the department does. The following report shows some of the highlights of how Iron County's goals and objectives have been met over the last 5 years.

Goal 1: Increase public's level of environmental knowledge and stewardship.

A. Educate the public about the importance of riparian buffers and maintenance of shoreland habitat. - Public Outreach at large events - 980 people reached.

B. Work with local students and citizens to provide educational opportunities that build awareness of conservation and foster responsible actions.

1. Present 2+ education programs annually to lake/river groups. - 48 presentations; 780 attendees

5. Conduct programs for local schools on Envirothon, the Conservation and Speaking Contest, water-related programs, etc. - Poster & Speaking Contest - 217 students

6. Coordinate WLWCA Youth Conservation Camp annually. - No Camp 2020 & 2021(COVID) - (3 yrs camp) - 50 Campers.

Goal 2: Protect and enhance surface water and groundwater quality.

B. Promote monitoring and data collection.

1. Encourage ICLRA, lake groups, and students to collect WQ data for Self-Help and Citizen-Based Monitoring. - 30-37 Lakes Monitored/yr. (172 volunteers managed).

4. Coordinate Woods and Waters Project to collect data on water quality, loon reproduction and riparian plants. - 136 students participated.

5. Conduct Shoreland Habitat Assessment Surveys. - 7 Lakes full assessment.

C. Protect water quality by reducing soil erosion and stormwater runoff, including reduction of impervious surfaces.

1. Provide technical assistance and cost-share to landowners for erosion concerns or stormwater runoff issues. 6 Site plans implemented - \$124,966 total cost; \$65,790 cost-share dollars; \$21,125 additional grant funds obtained to assist landowners. 5 site plans designed not implemented - \$120,051 estimated cost.

D. Identify priority fish passage barriers and failing culverts with natural resource impacts.

1. Coordinate with partners to identify failing culverts/fish barriers. - Work with TU, Towns, HWY Dept, Forestry, other partners to inventory/identify problems.

2. Provide technical and financial assistance to restore fish barriers at critical road crossings. - 22 stream crossings implemented - \$766,098 total cost; \$190,812 cost-share dollars; \$516,681 additional funding obtained to assist towns.

4. Promote stream health through stream restorations. - Kaari Creek Watershed Project- designed and built 800+ linear feet of stream channel complete with brook trout habitat structures, restoring the stream to its historic stream channel.

Goal 3: Promote sustainable land use practices.

A. Implement practices that restore & protect degraded habitat by working with private landowners & local partners.

1. Promote maintenance and establishment of riparian habitat and erosion control practices. - Part of Committee that created the "Shoreland Stabilization For Homeowners" Book, facilitated/managed grant to publish and disseminate books across the state. Presented techniques through an online workshop for technicians across the state and helped facilitate a tour for 30+ technicians.

B. Promote monitoring & data collection.

1. Job check restorations/mitigations annually to monitor maintenance and recovery of buffer vegetation. - Designed/reviewed 12 mitigations; Conducted 32 job checks.

C. Reduce nutrient inputs and promote compliance with NR 151 standards.

1. Distribute NR 151 agricultural performance standards information to interested landowners. - 2024 Full-time Agriculture Technician position dedicated to promoting agriculture standards- mailings, site visits, outreach provided.

2. Coordinate nutrient management education workshop and certified farmer training course; and hold annual workday to update plans. - Held a farmer dinner/conservation workshop; 7 attendees.

D. Preserve agricultural lands, promote rotational grazing, and protect croplands from wildlife damage.

3. Contract with WDNR to coordinate landowner abatement practices and wildlife damage compensation. - 177 bear trapped, 49 bear harvested, 3,986 acres appraised, 2,325 bushels of corn lost.

E. Encourage sustainable forest management practices at the private and county level.

1. Coordinate Woods Project teaching sustainable forestry practices while studying the American marten. - 190 field days; 277 students participated.

Goal 4: Mitigate invasive species impacts.

A. Promote monitoring and data collection.

1. Conduct early detection AIS surveys.- Turtle Flambeau Flowage surveyed annually; 20 Early Detection surveys completed; 17 new incident reports filed.

C. Coordinate implementation of aquatic & terrestrial invasive species prevention & control.

2. Provide technical/financial assistance on workdays to control/remove invasive species. - Conducted 456 field days, work events, and technical assistance to control/remove invasive species.

Goal 5: Maintain a well-trained professional staff.

A. Promote staff participation in regional and state conservation groups/organizations.

1. Support, serve, and assist state and regional boards and planning committees. - Staff sits on Youth Education Committee, Great Lakes Committee, Legislation & Administration Committee.

2. Support Iron County staff as coordinator for the Northwest Area Land Conservation Association. - Served as NW Area Coordinator since 2019.

B. Support professional development.

1. Encourage staff attendance at conferences, trainings, and workshops to further their education. - Staff participates/attends conferences/trainings annually to keep up on education.

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.

When we developed our LWRM plan, the committee knew there was a need for an additional FTE for the department. The work plan developed was for a staff of 3 FTE, with the hope of finding additional funding for another staff. The LCC knew that if we could not obtain funding there would be several objectives that would be unable to be achieved. The following include those areas of the plan not met:

Goal 1: Increase public's level of environmental knowledge and stewardship.

C. Educate the public about how land use affects groundwater quality and quantity.

1. Provide groundwater education on land use and climate change to the public.

2. Identify groundwater recharge areas and educate the public about safe land management practices.

3. Offer groundwater education program to local schools.

D. Promote education to the public on well water testing.

1. Assist health department with home drinking water and nitrate screening tests of private wells for chemicals.

2. Host workshop about UWSP well water testing results.

Goal 2: Protect and enhance surface water and groundwater quality.

E. Monitor groundwater quality throughout the county.

1. Coordinate with UWSP Groundwater Center to monitor groundwater concerns in the county.

G. Promote the importance of wetlands for water quality and flood control

1. Provide wetland delineations.
2. Promote wetland restorations.

Another area of the plan where we fell short was our agricultural objectives. Due to limited staffing, this workload fell short. Wildlife Damage was administered through an agreement with Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, and Iron County, attempting to help the agricultural community. In 2021, the counties received some supplemental funding to expand the duties to also serve as an Agriculture Tech, which would address NR 151 and encourage farmers to participate in cost-share practices to promote soil and water quality. Due to the amount of work the Wildlife Damage Program consumed, the Ag Tech goals were not reached. In 2024, Wildlife Damage was contracted out to USDA-APHIS, and the Ag Tech position was a full-time position for the 4-county area when the group was awarded additional grant funding through NADC. The workload for the Ag Tech position was distributed by each county's agricultural land, so of the full-time position, Iron County received 5% coverage by the position.

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.

Given the lack of agricultural land in Iron County, this is not a high priority. Iron County has partnered with Ashland, Bayfield, and Douglas Counties on an NADC grant to fund an Agriculture Technician to address the farmers' needs and encourage implementing performance standards since 2023.

Iron County has different natural resource concerns from many of the other parts of the state. There is a large amount of public land with Iron County Forest being the 4 largest county forest in the state. We have a permanent resident population of less than 6,200 people. However, the 494 lakes and 222 streams result in a population explosion with seasonal tourists. Iron County is an under-resourced, rural county. Several townships have no road crews or may have a road crew with one staff and limited equipment. A major resource concern that we have is undersized culverts resulting in roads blowing out, dumping tons of road gravel into our streams and wetlands during the larger storm events we have experienced in the last 15+ years. Stream crossings have become a major focus for our technical assistance/cost-share program. Shoreland stabilization is another large focus for our technical assistance, as we have seen an increase in shoreland erosion from increased shoreland development as well as larger watercraft use.

Another priority for the county is invasive species education, outreach, and management. Management and prevention are high priorities, as many invasive plant populations here are still manageable. Each year, we hire 2-4 LTE staff to work with our Conservation Specialist on both terrestrial invasives as well as aquatic invasive species. They provide education and outreach at boat landings, monitor for new plant populations, and assist with management practices. We work closely with lake groups on both invasive species work as well as shoreland practices.

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.

Funding from the state has become inadequate to accomplish projects. The BOND money that we get annually has been stagnant and even decreasing over the years, yet project costs have increased drastically. Grant writing, partnerships, and creative funding solutions have and will continue to be critical if we want to maintain the level of assistance that we provide our Iron County residents. You can see this trend in the technical assistance reporting, detailing the total project cost, the cost-shared amount, and the additional funding sources we have secured to implement these projects. This will not change and will likely continue to be more of a need/focus if we don't get more support/funding through the state budget to implement these conservation practices.

Funding for staffing is critical for us as well. Over the past few years, Iron County has gone through major budget cuts. The LWCD levy support has gone from 25% down to 15% with additional budget cuts possible in the coming fiscal year. Additional grant funding for staff will likely be required to maintain the staff we have. This creates additional administrative work to find and manage more grant sources for a small department.

Grant funding will dictate the amount of work we are able to accomplish as well as potentially steer the direction of our work, depending on what funding we can obtain. In 2025, we adjusted our LTE staff from 4 to 2 to accommodate the rising cost of employees and the reduced funding level. This will likely continue to be an obstacle in the future.

Annual Work Plans

Attach both of the following:

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

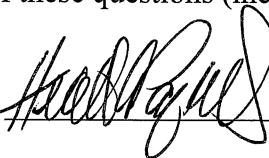
Board Review Process

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

Land Conservation Committee Notification

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

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



Date: 7/21/25

IRON COUNTY 2024 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> 		
Goal 3: Objective C: Reduce nutrient inputs & promote compliance with NR151 Standards.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Distribute NR151 agricultural performance standards information to interested landowners.</i> <i>Coordinate NM education workshop & certified farmer training course; and hold annual workday to update plans.</i> <i>Utilize cost-share funds to encourage compliance with NR151 for producers.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Send out newsletter/letter to farmers encouraging NM Planning & NR 151 compliance. Mailing sent.</i> <i>Meet one one-on-one with farmers. Target 3 farmers. Met with 2 farmers.</i> <i>Promote no-till drill in Iron County & administer rental in Iron County. Promoted at farmer dinner.</i> <i>Coordinate & host 1 workshop in Iron County. Target 3 farmers. Farmer Dinner & workshop held – 7 attendees</i> <i>Promote soil sampling, visiting farms & promoting programs. Promoted programs at farmer dinner.</i> <i>Encourage participation in CS program at Agriculture workshop. County Con promoted at Farmer Dinner.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Livestock</i> 		
Goal 3: Objective C: Reduce nutrient inputs & promote compliance with NR151 Standards.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Utilize cost-share funds to encourage compliance with NR151 for producers.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Encourage participation in CS program at Agriculture workshop. County Con promoted at Farmer Dinner, Ag Tech promoted at farm visits.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Water quality</i> 		
Goal 1: Objective A: Education the public about the importance of riparian buffers & maintenance of shoreland habitat.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Promote shoreland restoration through LWCD Plant Sale.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Distribute 200+ native plant sale brochures. 350 mailings.</i> <i>Target 2,000+ native plants sold. 1,216 plants sold.</i>
Goal 1: Objective C: Educate the public about how land use affects groundwater quality & quantity.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Offer groundwater education program to local schools.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Conduct one groundwater program at both schools; target – 25 students. Not completed; Conservation Specialist position was vacant Aug 2024-Feb 2025.</i>
Goal 2: Objective B: Promote monitoring & data collection.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Encourage lake groups and students to collect WQ data for Self-Help & Citizen Based Monitoring.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Assist school & lake groups with data collection/reporting. Coordinated Volunteers.</i> <i>Monitor 5+ lakes. 37 lakes monitored and data reported</i>

IRON COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

<p>Goal 2: Objective B: Promote monitoring & data collection.</p>	<p>4. <i>Coordinate Woods & Waters Project to collect data on water quality, loon reproduction, and riparian plants.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Coordinate 6 educational days. 28 students participated in Loon project/4 field days.</i>
<p>Goal 2: Objective C: Protect water quality by reducing soil erosion & stormwater runoff, including reduction of impervious surfaces.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Provide technical assistance and cost-share to landowner for erosion concerns or stormwater runoff issues.</i> 2. <i>Provide assistance and promote BMPS for water quality to municipalities, HWY Dept, forestry, private landowners, etc.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Implement 5 conservation practices. Implemented 4 practices.</i> • <i>Provide information at workshops. Provided at culvert workshop and at wetland workshop.</i>
<p>Goal 2: Objective D: Identify priority fish passage barriers and failing culverts with natural resource impacts.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Coordinate with partners to identify failing culverts/fish passage barriers.</i> 2. <i>Provide technical & financial assistance to restore fish barriers at critical road crossings.</i> 3. <i>Encourage participation at workshops for towns, HWY, & forestry on proper culvert sizing/placement.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Provide outreach to towns on culvert replacement. Provided through culvert workshop and tour.</i> • <i>Identify one fish barrier to replace annually. – replaced 3</i>
<p>Goal 3: Objective A: Implement practices that restore & protect degraded habitat by working w/private landowners & local partners.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Promote maintenance & establishment of riparian habitat & erosion control practices.</i> • <i>Assist Zoning with development of shoreland mitigation plans to comply with NR115.</i> • <i>Develop & promote a pollinator program.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Assist road manager with road crossings/fish barriers: Town of Sherman, Town of Kimball, & Town of Anderson. All crossings were completed.</i> • <i>Host culvert workshop – target 20 attendees. 45 attendees</i> • <i>Host culvert tour- target 15 attendees. 35 attendees</i>
<p>Goal 3: Objective B: Promote monitoring & data collection.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Job check restoration/mitigations annually to monitor maintenance & recovery of buffer vegetation.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Design and fund 2 practices: IC Forestry on Lake of the Falls & Long Lake. Designed both projects, implemented Forestry Lake of the Falls Project; Long Lake homeowner pulled out of project at this time.</i> • <i>Develop mitigation plans as requested. None requested in 2024</i> • <i>Incorporate pollinator gardens in shoreland restorations. All restorations have pollinator species in design.</i> • <i>Promote pollinator gardens through native plant sale. Pollinator plants available and promoted.</i> • <i>Conduct 5+ project checks, follow up when necessary. 6 job checks completed.</i>

IRON COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN

LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

- *Forestry*

<p>Goal 3: Objective E: Encourage sustainable forest management practices at the private & county level.</p>	<p><i>Coordinate Woods Project teaching sustainable forestry practices while studying the American marten.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Host field outings – target 12 annually. Not completed in 2024 due to Conservation Specialist vacancy.</i>
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- *Invasive*

<p>Goal 1: Objective E: Provide education & outreach to build awareness of aquatic & terrestrial invasive species.</p> <p>Goal 4: Objective A: Promote monitoring & data collection.</p> <p>Goal 4: Objective B: Monitor & document invasive species throughout the county.</p> <p>Goal 4: Objective C: Coordinate implementation of aquatic & terrestrial invasive species prevention & control.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Train citizens and volunteer groups to identify aquatic and terrestrial invasive species. 2. Coordinate CBCW & Citizen Lake Monitoring workshops. 3. Support workshop to train town/county road crews about BMP's for invasive species. 5.Update & maintain information on the LWCD website. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct early detection AIS surveys. 2. Conduct long-term spiny waterflea study. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop, install,& maintain AIS signage at designated boat landings. 3. Utilize GIS to map aquatic & terrestrial infestations within the county. 5.Encourage volunteers to monitor for terrestrial plants & animals. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Provide technical/financial assistance on workdays to control/remove invasive species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 6 trainings; target 24 attendees. <i>13 programs; 155 participants.</i> • Host 2 trainings; target 20 attendees. <i>8 trainings; 52 participants</i> • Train County HWY Dept staff on invasives; target 12 staff. <i>Trained all Co HWY Staff (15 attendees)</i> • Update website regularly, & Facebook page; target – 6 posts. <i>Website maintained & social media posts 12+</i> • Survey lakes annually using early detection methods; target 2 lakes. <i>9 lakes surveyed.</i> • Monthly SWF tows; target – 4 tows. <i>1 tow done (staff vacancy)</i> • Inventory/post landing signs as necessary; target 15 landings. <i>14 landings inventoried.</i> • Further develop & maintain GIS database. <i>maintained</i> • Hold annual treatment/control day; target 30 volunteers. <i>45 volunteers</i> • Provide assistance through workdays; target 5 workdays. <i>11 workdays; 132 participants</i>
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IRON COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Goal 4: Objective D: Collaborate with external partners to share information, project costs & natural resource planning strategies.	1. <i>Attend regular meetings with NCWMA, USFS, DNR, UW Madison Extension, GLIFWC & other partners to plan, projects & field days to control invasive species.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain relationships with partners to protect Iron County's resources from invasive species. Attend – 6 meetings. <i>Attended 4 (staff vacancy)</i>
Goal 3: Objective D: Preserve agricultural lands, promote, rotational grazing & protect croplands from wildlife damage.	3. <i>Contract with WDNR to coordinate landowner abatement practices and wildlife damage compensation.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administer wildlife damage program. <i>Contracted with APHIS.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildlife 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban 		
Goal 2: Objective D: Identify priority fish passage barriers & failing culverts with natural resource impacts.	3. <i>Promote stream health through stream restorations.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist Town of Kimball on the final stream crossing in the Kaari Creek Watershed Project. Funded through Trout Stamp Grant. <i>Completed, \$86,666 total cost, \$69,701 Trout Stamp Funding, secured additional grant funding through TU - \$7,123; CS \$8,482</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed 		
Goal 1: Objective B: Work with local students & citizens to provide educational opportunities that build awareness of conservation & foster responsible actions. Goal 5: Objective A: Promote staff participation in regional & state conservation groups/organizations.	5. <i>Conduct programs for local schools on Envirothon, Poster & Speaking Contest, & water-related programs, etc.</i> 6. <i>Coordinate WLWCA Youth Conservation Camp annually.</i> 1. <i>Support, serve & assist regional boards & planning committees.</i> 2. <i>Support Iron County Staff as coordinator for the Northwest Area Land Conservation Assoc.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present 2 programs for poster & speaking contest with 20+ entries. <i>Not completed do to staff vacancy.</i> Coordinate Conservation Camp for 25 high school students from around the state. <i>Hosted 16 campers.</i> Serve on regional/state boards as able. <i>Serve on Youth Education Committee, Leg/Admin & Great Lakes Committee</i> Serve as the NW Area Coordinator. <i>Completed.</i>

IRON COUNTY 2024 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	NA	NA
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	NA	NA
Manure storage closure	NA	NA
Livestock facility siting	NA	NA
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	NA	NA
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	NA	NA
Shoreland zoning	2	2/ 1
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	4	4/ 3
Other	NA	NA

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	2/ 2
For FPP	NA
For NR 151	NA
Animal waste ordinance	NA
Livestock facility siting	NA
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	NA
Nonmetallic mining	NA

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	1/ 0
Field days	10/ 11
Trainings/workshops	10/ 8
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	24/ 21
Newsletters	NA
Social media posts	12 / 15
News release/story	3 / 2

IRON COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

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

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
<i>County Conservationist</i>	2080	\$84,232.00 / \$84,927
<i>Conservation Specialist</i>	2080	\$87,035.00/ \$71,423 (Staff vacancy)
<i>Wildlife Damage</i>	520	\$33,143.69/ \$34,344
<i>3 LTE Staff</i>	1560	\$25,190.00/ \$20,880
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
<i>BOND</i>	400	\$67,825.75 / \$52,210 (+\$15,15.86 carried over to 2025)
<i>SEG</i>	120	\$2,000.00 / \$375
<i>Trout Stamp Funding</i>	80	\$69,701.00 / \$69,701
<i>Trout Unlimited Grant</i>	80	\$7,123.25

IRON COUNTY 2025 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> 		
Goal 3: Objective C: Reduce nutrient inputs & promote compliance with NR151 Standards.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Distribute NR151 agricultural performance standards information to interested landowners.</i> <i>Coordinate NM education workshop & certified farmer training course; and hold annual workday to update plans.</i> <p><i>Utilize cost-share funds to encourage compliance with NR151 for producers.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Send out newsletter/letter to farmers encouraging NM Planning & NR 151 compliance.</i> <i>Meet one one-on-one with farmers. Target 3 farmers.</i> <i>Promote no-till drill in Iron County & administer rental in Iron County.</i> <i>Coordinate & host 1 workshop in Iron County. Target 3 farmers.</i> <i>Promote soil sampling, visiting farms & promoting programs.</i> <i>Encourage participation in CS program at Agriculture workshop.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Livestock</i> 		
Goal 3: Objective C: Reduce nutrient inputs & promote compliance with NR151 Standards.	<i>Utilize cost-share funds to encourage compliance with NR151 for producers.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Encourage participation in CS program at Agriculture workshop.</i> <i>Facilitate a Grazing Plan for 1 farmer through NRCS.</i> <i>Provide CS funding for a stream crossing/access road.</i> <i>Provide CS funding for fencing in accordance with grazing plan.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Water quality</i> 		
Goal 1: Objective A: Education the public about the importance of riparian buffers & maintenance of shoreland habitat.	<i>5. Promote shoreland restoration through LWCD Plant Sale.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Distribute 200+ native plant sale brochures.</i> <i>Target 2,000+ native plants sold.</i>
Goal 2: Objective B: Promote monitoring & data collection.	<i>1. Encourage lake groups and students to collect WQ data for Self-Help & Citizen Based Monitoring.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Assist school & lake groups with data collection/reporting.</i> <i>Monitor 5+ lakes.</i>

IRON COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

<p>Goal 2: Objective C: Protect water quality by reducing soil erosion & stormwater runoff, including reduction of impervious surfaces.</p> <p>Goal 2: Objective D: Identify priority fish passage barriers and failing culverts with natural resource impacts.</p> <p>Goal 3: Objective A: Implement practices that restore & protect degraded habitat by working w/private landowners & local partners.</p> <p>Goal 3: Objective B: Promote monitoring & data collection.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Provide technical assistance and cost-share to landowner for erosion concerns or stormwater runoff issues.</i> 1. <i>Coordinate with partners to identify failing culverts/fish passage barriers.</i> 2. <i>Provide technical & financial assistance to restore fish barriers at critical road crossings.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Promote maintenance & establishment of riparian habitat & erosion control practices.</i> • <i>Assist Zoning with development of shoreland mitigation plans to comply with NR115.</i> • <i>Develop & promote a pollinator program.</i> <p><i>Job check restoration/mitigations annually to monitor maintenance & recovery of buffer vegetation.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Conduct site surveys on 5 properties, encourage restoration/stabilization when needed.</i> • <i>Provide outreach to towns on culvert replacement.</i> • <i>Identify one fish barrier to replace annually.</i> • <i>Assist road manager with road crossings/fish barriers: Town of Sherman, Town of Pence.</i> • <i>Design and fund 2 practices: IC Forestry on Lake of the Falls & Long Lake.</i> • <i>Develop mitigation plans as requested.</i> • <i>Incorporate pollinator gardens in shoreland restorations.</i> • <i>Promote pollinator gardens through native plant sale.</i> • <i>Conduct 5+ project checks, follow up when necessary.</i>
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- *Forestry*

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IRON COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

- *Invasive*

Goal 1: Objective E: Provide education & outreach to build awareness of aquatic & terrestrial invasive species.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Train citizens and volunteer groups to identify aquatic and terrestrial invasive species.</i> 2. <i>Coordinate CBCW & Citizen Lake Monitoring workshops.</i> 5. <i>Update & maintain information on the LWCD website.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Conduct early detection AIS surveys.</i> 2. <i>Conduct long-term spiny waterflea study.</i> 1. <i>Develop, install, & maintain AIS signage at designated boat landings.</i> 3. <i>Utilize GIS to map aquatic & terrestrial infestations within the county.</i> 5. <i>Encourage volunteers to monitor for terrestrial plants & animals.</i> 2. <i>Provide technical/financial assistance on workdays to control/remove invasive species.</i> <p><i>Attend regular meetings with NCWMA, USFS, DNR, UW Madison Extension, GLIFWC & other partners to plan, projects & field days to control invasive species.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Provide 2 trainings; target 30 attendees.</i> • <i>Host 2 trainings; target 20 attendees.</i> • <i>Update website regularly, & Facebook page; target – 6 posts.</i> • <i>Survey lakes annually using early detection methods; target 2 lakes.</i> • <i>Monthly SWF tows; target – 4 tows.</i> • <i>Inventory/post landing signs as necessary; target 15 landings.</i> • <i>Further develop & maintain GIS database.</i> • <i>Hold annual treatment/control day; target 30 volunteers.</i> • <i>Provide assistance through workdays; target 5 workdays.</i> • <i>Maintain relationships with partners to protect Iron County's resources from invasive species. Attend – 6 meetings.</i>
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- *Wildlife*

Goal 3: Objective D: Preserve agricultural lands, promote, rotational grazing & protect croplands from wildlife damage.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. <i>Contract with WDNR to coordinate landowner abatement practices and wildlife damage compensation.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Administer wildlife damage program.</i>
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IRON COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

- *Urban*

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- *Watershed*

Goal 2: Objective D: Identify priority fish passage barriers & failing culverts with natural resource impacts.	3. <i>Promote stream health through stream restorations.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Assist Town of Pence and Town of Sherman with stream crossing projects to promote fish passage & reduce sediment loads.</i>
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- *Other*

Goal 1: Objective B: Work with local students & citizens to provide educational opportunities that build awareness of conservation & foster responsible actions. Goal 5: Objective A: Promote staff participation in regional & state conservation groups/organizations.	5. <i>Conduct programs for local schools on Envirothon, Poster & Speaking Contest, & water-related programs, etc.</i> 6. <i>Coordinate WLWCA Youth Conservation Camp annually.</i> 1. <i>Support, serve & assist regional boards & planning committees.</i> 2. <i>Support Iron County Staff as coordinator for the Northwest Area Land Conservation Assoc.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Present 2 programs for poster & speaking contest with 20+ entries.</i> • <i>Coordinate Conservation Camp for 25 high school students from around the state.</i> • <i>Serve on regional/state boards as able.</i> • <i>Serve as the NW Area Coordinator.</i>
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IRON COUNTY 2025 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	NA	NA
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	NA	NA
Manure storage closure	NA	NA
Livestock facility siting	NA	NA
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	NA	NA
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	NA	NA
Shoreland zoning	2	2
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	2	2
Other	NA	NA

Table 3: Planned inspections

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

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	1
Field days	5
Trainings/workshops	4
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	8
Newsletters	2
Social media posts	12
News release/story	2

**IRON COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

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

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
<i>County Conservationist</i>	<i>2080</i>	<i>\$86,561.00</i>
<i>Conservation Specialist</i>	<i>2080</i>	<i>\$90,201.00</i>
<i>Wildlife Damage Program</i>	<i>Contract</i>	<i>\$35,058.37</i>
<i>2 LTE Staff</i>	<i>1120</i>	<i>\$19,592.00</i>
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
<i>Bonding</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>\$56,315.86</i>
<i>SEG</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>\$2,000.00</i>

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM _____ State of Wisconsin

DATE: August 5th, 2025

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

FROM: Jenn Chakravorty, DATCP
Resource Management Section,
Bureau of Land and Water Resources

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

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

Summary: The Door County land and water resource management plan has been approved through December 31, 2030, contingent on a five-year review conducted prior to December 31, 2025. In advance of the five-year review, Door County has completed a DATCP approved form designed to implement the LWCB's reference document dated October 27, 2021, and the criteria for conducting a five-year review. The county has provided written answers to four questions regarding past and future implementation, has provided the required work planning documents, and has appropriately involved the Land Conservation Committee.

Materials Provided:

- Completed Five Year Review Form
- 2024 Annual Workplan with Accomplishments
- 2025 Annual Workplan

Presenter(s): Greg Coulthurst, County Conservationist, Door County
Roy Englebert, Land Conservation Committee Member
Jacob Brey, Land Conservation Committee Member



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

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 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.

In 2023 Door County had three manure spill incidents, two of which involved aging manure storages. The SWCD decided to prioritize the development of Emergency Spill Response plans for farms with aging liquid manure systems where containment failure could have serious environmental consequences. In 2024 and 2025 you will see that we added this planned activity in our workplan. In 2024 we developed three emergency response plans. This activity has brought awareness to aging facilities and the need to revisit and replace aging equipment and facilities if the farms plan to continue operations.

Nutrient management plan review and in field audits continue to be a growing priority. In 2013 the SWCD planned in depth or full reviews of about half of the submitted plans. In the 2024 and 2025 Workplans the goal was/is to conduct in-depth review of 100% of the submitted plans. We were not able to review all plans in 2024 due to limited staffing and the need to geo locate an inventory of approximately 1,150 well logs as part of a match commitment in a grant that the WI Geological and Natural History Survey received from the WI Coastal Management Program. The goal of this project is the mapping of ground water flow patterns in Southern Door and Northern Kewaunee Counties.

Groundwater testing of private wells has been an ongoing effort supported by County Levy funding for several years now. The primary goals are to educate the public, address any wells with unsafe levels of contaminants and look for trends that could be positive or negative related to land use and or conservation efforts. This program has expanded to annual Spring and Fall sampling events in partnership with UW Oshkosh. The program has more recently expanded to a four-year study on Emerging Contaminants (we are now entering year 3 of private well sampling), and we are also planning an additional effort focusing on potential Private Onsite Waste Treatment Systems (POWTS) impacts to ground water. Some of the emerging contaminants include the "forever chemicals" abbreviated as PFAS and PFOS, micro plastics, artificial sweeteners and pharmaceuticals. The sanitary study will also look at artificial sweeteners, pharmaceuticals and other indicators of in-home related soluble materials. Some trends or results that we have seen are: slightly higher nitrate levels in areas with denser single-family housing and very little agriculture; some elevated Arsenic levels along the Lake Michigan shoreline; microplastics in 100% of the wells tested to date; one area with

elevated PFAS in several neighboring wells, numerous areas with very minimal detects of PFAS and a relatively low % of wells exceeding the 10ppm nitrates.

The invasive program is another program area that continues to be successful largely through grants and local donations, but also through a commitment from the County to fill the gap on salary for a full-time invasive species conservationist. Providing State monies to every county for staffing invasive species work would have direct benefits to every county and the natural areas throughout the State. Door County is lucky to have hundreds of residents that will support this work through donations or volunteer hours.

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.

As mentioned earlier we were not able to do an in-depth review of all of the submitted nutrient management plans. We did review approximately half of those plans and then followed up with a letter at the end of the year to the farmers and consultants where common deficiencies were noted. All plan writers were provided with all of the deficiencies found to correct in future years. As of June 3rd we have conducted an in-depth review of 151 plans, which is approximately 83% of the submitted plans. One item that we are adjusting in our annual workplan is the number of plans being submitted. We have decreased the number of plans submitted as smaller farms discontinue operations. The most typical progression is to sell the dairy cows, raise a few beef animals and rent out the land. Total cropland acres do not appear to be decreasing and we currently have approximately 97% of the cropland covered in Nutrient Management Plans. Once the County starts seeing overwhelming compliance with plan submittals, we will start reviewing a lower percentage of the plans. In-field audits will continue and may increase dependent on compliance levels and staffing availability.

Cropland practices such as no till or cover crops are largely voluntary in Door County and we have a healthy competition with a local farmer led group that also has cost sharing for these very same field practices. Door County has had some luck with installing grassed water ways through our ordinance but other voluntary practices like two stage ditches, buffers or prairie strips have been challenging to install. We have purchased a No till drill which has generated some use but mainly for pollinator type projects versus soil conservation practices.

The Surface Water Inventory was first mentioned in the 2024 workplan and was stalled due to a vacancy early in the year. We have since hired a full-time conservationist that will focus on this effort and other ground water monitoring activities. Surface water monitoring was conducted by staff in 2024 on several creeks and is in progress again in 2025 for the purpose of obtaining water chemistry data. Last year was a shot gun approach over three months for phosphorus impaired waters and waters not listed but in adjacent watersheds. This year we are sampling the impaired waters and surrounding waters with a 6-month WDNR protocol to evaluate impairment status and for recommendation data supporting removal or additions, primarily for Phosphorus impairments.

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.

As previously mentioned, Door County has very few farm sites out of compliance so as predicted the focus was to review nutrient management plans in-depth and conduct in field audits for crop types, manure application rates and appropriate setbacks. The goal was to have good plans that are properly implemented, and the only way to do that is to not let these plans sit on a shelf. Once the plan writers and farmers acknowledge that there will be reviews and potential citations for habitual noncompliance, we will be able to scale back the reviews where we see consistent compliance. Nearly all of our farm sites are in compliance because we were very aggressive in applying for Priority Watershed, Targeted Runoff Management, Notice of Discharge and other grants for the purpose of offering the required cost sharing and setting timelines for compliance. We have also maintained a County Cost Share fund and policy to provide additional assistance or required funding amounts. Occasionally and as needed we will also utilize the transfer of bond monies from other counties.

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.

The work plans for 2024 and 2025 reflect a 100% in depth review of Nutrient Management Plans. Prior work plans showed lower in-depth reviews. We will continue doing these in-depth reviews and field audits until substantial compliance is maintained

The 2024 and 2025 workplans also list the development of emergency spill response planning. Every year we conduct operation and maintenance reviews on our active farms and we are seeing numerous structures that are 20 to 30 years old that are showing a need for repairs or have had some failures or spills. We plan to provide cost sharing to one of these aging sites this year. This site has had three spills in three years due to some unknow equipment failures in the pumping system. This site will be installing a new pumping system in the barn that is engineered to avoid the previous pump failures, and we will be working with the operator to add additional spill storage areas and a pumping station on the barnyard where the manure has overflowed in the past. The SWCD is predicting that as these systems age and are continued to be used, that we will have additional equipment failures and spills at other sites. So, moving forward we are going to start addressing these aging systems with whatever voluntary cost sharing we can find.

The Surface Water Inventory again is a recent addition to the 2024 and 2025 workplans. The last inventory was completed in the year 2000 and a rewrite is not only over-due, but reevaluating all our surface waters will give us a perspective of trends and needs for future conservation work.

Annual Work Plans

Attach both of the following:

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


Board Review Process

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

Land Conservation Committee Notification

The LCC was provided a completed copy of these questions (including attachments) on: July 10, 2025

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



Date:

7-14-25

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

DOOR COUNTY 2024 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 (Accomplishments)
• <i>Cropland</i>		
Nutrient management (NM)	NM office review of submitted plans (225) NM in-depth plan & field review (225) GIS map of NM plan fields (78,000 acres) NM compliance inspections / audits (30) NM farmer-written plan assistance (5 farmers) NM new plan development (2 plans)	207 plans reviewed 96 plans in depth and field reviewed 76,700 acres 36 inspections 12 farmers 0 new plans
Cropland Practices	Grassed waterways installed (1.0 acres) Other cropland practices installed (as need arises) Cover crops (140 acres) Prairie Strips (10 acres) 2-Stage Ditch (2,100 lin. Ft)	4.2 acres 0 53 acres 0 acres 0 lin. Ft.
• <i>Livestock</i>		
Livestock Operations	Compliance inspections (5 inspections) Operation & maintenance reviews (61 practices) Structural practices installed (5 practices) Emergency Spill Response Plans (5 plans)	36 inspections 55 practices 12 practices 3 practices
• <i>Water quality</i>		
Beaches	Operation & maintenance review of BMPs (11) Technical assistance to municipalities (2) Site study for future BMPS (1)	1 review 1 municipality 1 beach multiple partners
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	Landowners contacted to promote program (10) New enrollments (2)	0 landowners 0 enrollments
Well Abandonment	Abandonments completed as requested (5)	2 abandonments
Groundwater / Well Testing	Community-wide sample events (2) Private wells tested for bacteria & nitrates (450) Educational forum & website updates (2) “Emerging contaminant” study design (2 nd year)	4 events 406wells 2 forums, 2 website updates/1 pod cast, 1 County Board presentation 2 nd year sampling, 89 wells sampled in 1 st year, 121 sampled in 2 nd year.
Technical Assistance	Technical Assistance to landowners, operators, and members of the public to answer questions and provide assistance to resolve concerns related to soil, water and natural resources (~150)	This was not tracked, but is an estimate of annual assistance to the public.

DOOR COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

- *Forestry*

Forestry	N/A	
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- *Invasive*

Invasive Species - Inventory	Inventory priority species: State/county road right-of-way (2,000 acres) Stream corridors/shoreline (50 miles) County parks and quarries (1700 acres) Technical assistance to private landowners (25)	2,250 acres 66 miles 1,000 acres 36 landowners
Invasive Species – Control	Manual/chemical control of priority species: Wild parsnip 10 acres Phragmites 80 acres Japanese Knotweed 3 acres Teasel 2 acres Other NR40 species 1 acre	73 acres Wild Parsnip 132 acres Phragmites 7 acres Japanese Knotweed 4 acres Teasel 2 acres other NR 40 species (Black Swallowwort)
Invasive Species – Education & Outreach	Educate landowners and municipal leaders about non-native invasive species impacts, inventory and control methods. 200 hours CBCW, 5 educational, 4 newsletters, and 300 direct mailings.	200 hours of Clean Boats Clean Waters at priority boat launches 15 educational presentations/training sessions (virtual/small group) 4 newsletters 1219 direct mailings to landowners

- *Wildlife*

Pollinator Habitat	Native plantings with no-till drill (40 acres)	156 acres
Wildlife Damage	Technical & abatement assistance (10 landowners) Deer donation program (40)	6 enrollees 38 deer donated

- *Urban*

Storm Water	Technical assistance to landowners & consultants, as referred to SWCD by Ephraim and Sturgeon Bay (5)	0 site visits and/or plan reviews in Urban areas of the County.
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- *Watershed*

Dunes Lake/Geisel Creek	Long-term management plan development (1) Post-dredge monitoring 1 site visit Bathymetry survey 1 Water quality samples (3) Photo & Dissolved Oxygen monitor events (3)	1 plan initiated 1 Scheduled for 2025 now 3 samples events above and below Dunes Lake Schedule for 2025 now
Forestville Millpond/Ahnapee River	Post-drawdown monitoring: Bathymetry inventory (1) Complete Study write-up	1 inventory completed 1 final report drafted
Surface Water Inventory	Start process of updating Door County Surface Water Inventory	Multi-year project, last updated December 2000 Logistics and planning starting with new employee

- *Other*

Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation	Compliance inspections (52) Financial assurance review (52)	52 inspections 52 reviews
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DOOR COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits issued/ # Technical assistance reviews
Feedlot permits		
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	2	4
Manure storage closure		
Livestock facility siting		
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining		
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	10	9 SWCD tech assistance reviews
Shoreland zoning	6	7 SWCD tech assistance reviews
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)		
Other – Land Disturbance Review	30	24 SWCD tech assistance reviews

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections Planned	Number of inspections completed
Total Farm Inspections - 18	36
For FPP - 5	8
For NR 151 -0	0
Animal waste ordinance - 10	2
Livestock facility siting - NA	NA
Stormwater and construction site erosion control - 46	44
Nonmetallic mining - 52	52

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activities Planned	Activities Completed
Tours - 0	0
Field days - 2	2 (agricultural)
Trainings/workshops - 6	6 (Invasive Species)
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom) - 1	0
Newsletters - 4	4
Social media posts - 20	58
News release/story - 6	2 (radio interview and pod cast)

**DOOR COUNTY 2024 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>\$185,981</i>
<i>County funding</i>		<i>\$684,483</i>
<i>Other (state and federal grants, fees, donations)</i>		<i>\$183,449</i>
SWCD staff included above are: County Conservationist (1), Conservationists (6), Administrative Assistant (1), and Invasive Species LTEs (3)	8 FTE = 16,604 3 LTE = 1,797	
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
<i>DATCP Bonding</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$83,550</i>
<i>DATCP SEG</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>
<i>DNR NOD</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$286,272</i>
<i>County</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>
<i>Invasive Species - Municipal Cost Share Program</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$6,000</i>

DOOR COUNTY 2025 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)
• <i>Cropland</i>		
Nutrient management (NM)	NM office review of submitted plans (number) NM in-depth plan & field review (number) GIS map of NM plan fields (acres) NM compliance inspections / audits (number) NM farmer-written plan assistance (number) NM new plan development (number)	210 plans 210 plans 77,000 acres 30 inspections 5 farms 2 plans
Cropland Practices	Grassed waterways installed (acres) Other cropland practices installed (number) Cover crops (acres) Prairie Strips (acres) 2-Stage Ditch (lin. Ft)	1 acre as needs arise 140 acres 2 acres 2,100 lin. Ft.
• <i>Livestock</i>		
Livestock Operations	Compliance inspections (number) Operation & maintenance reviews (number) Structural practices installed (number practices) Emergency Spill Response Plans (number)	5 inspections 55 practices 4 practices 2 practices
• <i>Water quality</i>		
Beaches	Operation & maintenance review of BMPs (number) Technical assistance to municipalities (number) Site study for future BMPS	11 reviews 2 municipalities 1 beach multiple partners
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	Landowners contacted to promote program (number) New enrollments (number)	5 landowners 1 enrollments
Well Abandonment	Abandonments completed as requested (number)	5 abandonments
Groundwater / Well Testing	Community-wide sample events (number) Private wells tested for bacteria & nitrates (number) Educational forum & website updates (number) “Emerging contaminant” study design (number)	2 events 450 wells 2 forums/website updates 3 rd year sampling, 89 wells sampled in 1 st year 121 wells sampled in 2 nd year
Technical Assistance	Technical Assistance to landowners, operators, and members of the public to answer questions and provide assistance to resolve concerns related to soil, water and natural resources (number)	150 landowners/operators

DOOR COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

- *Forestry*

Forestry	N/A	
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- *Invasive*

Invasive Species - Inventory	Inventory priority species: State/county road right-of-way (acres) Stream corridors/shoreline (miles) County parks and quarries (acres) Technical assistance to private landowners (number)	2,200 acres 60 miles 1,000 acres 35 landowners
Invasive Species – Control	Manual/chemical control of priority species (acres)	50 acres Wild Parsnip 100 acres Phragmites 5 acres Japanese Knotweed 2 acres Teasel 1 acres other NR 40 species
Invasive Species – Education & Outreach	Educate landowners and municipal leaders about non-native invasive species impacts, inventory and control methods.	200 hours of Clean Boats Clean Waters at priority boat launches 5 educational presentations/training sessions (virtual/small group) 4 newsletters 1,000 direct mailings to landowners

- *Wildlife*

Pollinator Habitat	Native plantings with no-till drill (acres)	50 acres
Wildlife Damage	Technical & abatement assistance (number) Deer donation program (number)	10 enrollees 40 deer donated

- *Urban*

Storm Water	Technical assistance to landowners & consultants, as referred to SWCD by Ephraim and Sturgeon Bay (number)	5 site visits and/or plan reviews
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- *Watershed*

Dunes Lake/Geisel Creek	Long-term management plan development (number) Bathymetry survey Water quality samples (number) Photo & Dissolved Oxygen monitor events (number)	1 plan initiated 1 3 samples 3 sample events
Forestville Millpond/Ahnapee River	Post-drawdown monitoring: Complete Study write-up	water sampling 1
Surface Water Inventory	Start process of updating Door County Surface Water Inventory	Multi-year project, last updated December 2000

- *Other*

Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation	Compliance inspections (number) Financial assurance review (number)	51 inspections 51 reviews
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DOOR COUNTY 2025 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	2	2
Manure storage closure		
Livestock facility siting		
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining		
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	10	N/A SWCD provides tech assistance
Shoreland zoning	6	N/A SWCD provides tech assistance
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)		
Other – Land Disturbance Review	30	N/A SWCD provides tech assistance

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	18
For FPP	5
For NR 151	
Animal waste ordinance	2
Livestock facility siting	
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	46
Nonmetallic mining	51

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	0
Field days Ag	2
Trainings/workshops non Ag	15
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	1
Newsletters	4
Social media posts	60
News release/story	5

**DOOR COUNTY 2025 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>\$183,630</i>
<i>County funding</i>		<i>\$589,236</i>
<i>Other (state and federal grants, fees, donations)</i>		<i>\$116,071</i>
SWCD staff included above are: County Conservationist (1), Conservationists (6), Administrative Assistant (1), and Invasive Species LTEs (2)	8 FTE = 16,640 2 LTE = 1,198	
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
<i>DATCP Bonding</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>
<i>DATCP SEG</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>
<i>DNR NOD</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$286,272</i>
<i>County</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>
<i>Invasive Species - Municipal Cost Share Program</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$2,000</i>

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM _____ State of Wisconsin

DATE: August 5th, 2025

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

FROM: Jenn Chakravorty , DATCP
Resource Management Section,
Bureau of Land and Water Resources

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

Action Requested: This is an action item. The department has determined that the *Oconto 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, 2035, and would be subject to a five-year review prior to December 31, 2030.

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, Oconto County must submit an annual work plan meeting DATCP requirements during each year of its 10-year plan approval.

Oconto County held a public hearing on July 8th, 2025, as part of its public input and review process. The Oconto 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
- 2024 workplan with accomplishments and current 2025 workplan

Presenters: Ken Dolata, Oconto County Conservationist
Tim Cole, Land and Water Conservation Committee Chair



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

County: Oconto

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.

County Wide Lake Study - with the writing of our last plan the issue of the county not having any real baseline data on our lakes prompted us to pursue a county wide lake study creating comprehensive management plans for all lakes with public access. To date we have completed 52 lakes and are in the 2 year process with the remaining 12 lakes. This project has greatly increased our relationship with riparian owners and associations leading to a more effective program.

Shoreline Protection - we have put a concerted effort into shoreline restoration and protection work. Through education and demonstration projects this has been growing each year. The planning process helped in showing us that we were lacking in this area. We now select lakes and streams to focus on each year using one on one contacts and education to promote this.

Animal Waste Ordinance - through planning, citizen work groups and our committee we have continued to update our ordinance to include the standards and prohibitions. With committees ever changing, having this plan allows my department to explain to new members what our goals are.

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.

Oconto County "usually" meets our work plan goals, but we have learned over the years that factors change the direction we look year to year. Changes in public interest or significant weather years to the economy have taught us to remain flexible. Several years ago, with the record rainfall we were receiving we spent the majority of our time with emergency shoreline protection projects assisting landowners in saving their shoreline while also working with farmers that were getting flooded out or having severe erosion. The most recent example was Covid, the challenges we faced made basically negated our goals in our work plan forcing us to turn to items that we could still accomplish but may not have been a high priority.

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?

Oconto County uses multiple methods for our priority farm strategy. Our main method is using GIS and aerial photos mapping out farms and prioritizing inventory of farms in water quality management areas and impaired watersheds. We also put a high priority on complaints, when a complaint is received, we conduct a full inventory of the farm. When working with a farm we educate them on the standards and prohibitions and discuss the multiple funding sources available to include SWRM, TRM, EQIP, NOD/NOI and county funding while explaining how the funding can be applied. To improve implementation and education we attempt to hold public meetings every 3-5 years and discuss the standards and prohibitions, county animal waste ordinance and emergency spill response plans. We have a mailing list of most active farmers that receive a direct invite to this meeting and also our Demonstration Farm Network meetings while advertising to the public. This has been popular judging by the attendance at meetings and field days.

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.

In our new plan we are putting more emphasis on soil erosion and soil health. While the objective of reducing soil erosion has not changed the priority activities have changed to put a priority on improving soil health. To facilitate the success of this direction we have prioritized funding for soil health practices using our county cost share program. While our county cost share program only allows \$2,500 per project this will still allow operators an incentive to try new practices. As mentioned earlier we also host multiple field days with our demonstration farm program promoting and educating the operators. Another new direction we are prioritizing is lake and stream health with multiple issues of concern to such as terrestrial and aquatic invasive species, shoreline erosion and development and overall water quality. Oconto County has 375 lakes, over 1,000 miles of streams and 26 miles of shoreline on the Bay of Green Bay making recreation a very important part of Oconto County's economy. As part of addressing these concerns the county is currently in the process of creating a new position that will work directly with county municipalities, lake associations and districts and other organizations, along with one-on-one landowner assistance to educate, assist in promoting projects and grant writing. This new position will have a good chance of influencing our annual work plans and our LWRM plan but will take a few years to adapt and adjust to the needs of the county.

Please consider answering the following optional question (not to exceed 1 page)

1. The LWCB is interested in learning how county conservation staff are addressing changing weather patterns. To this end, the LWCB reached out to WI Land+Water for guidance, see the WI Land+Water memo dated for October 28, 2020. Your response to the following question will be appreciated.

Is climate change resiliency contained in your LWRM plan (Yes ☒ or No ☐). If yes, indicate with page number(s) or statement(s) where within the LWRM plan it is located and please consider the factors below, as examples, in your answer.

- a. *Plants and natural communities (forests, wetlands, prairies, invasive species)*
- b. *Soil and agriculture*
- c. *Weather (growing season, seasonal temperatures, precipitation)*
- d. *Infrastructure*
- e. *Land owners (residents)*
- f. *Water resources (groundwater and surface water quality and quantity)*
- g. *Fisheries*
- h. *Wildlife*
- i. *Human health and recreation*

Answer Below

Page 13 - Climate Change and Conservation. Seeing the increase in storm intensity over the last several years we are seeing an increase in soil erosion and streambank erosion. While there are no "rules" stating that we need to change our practices we do encourage landowners to let us design for a higher than required average storm rate, attempt to include practices to reduce runoff intensity and educate on the cost benefits of doing so. We feel this will be an ever-changing challenge and intend to adapt as best we can.

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: July 8th, 2025

Signature of Authorized Representative: Ken DeLoe Date: 9 June 2025
(e.g. County Conservationist, LCC chair)

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

Oconto County 2024 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	Inventory and Correct areas of Gully Erosion Review Nutrient Management plans Promote BMPs Soil Erosion Soil Health Public Education Add new 590 Plans	Corrected 1,200 lin. ft. of gully erosion Reviewed 47 NM plans 19 Contracts 4 Events 1 Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Livestock</i> 		
Livestock	Enforce Animal Waste Ordinance Plan, design, inspect BMPs Address Priority Farms	13 Determinations 9 Projects 3 Farms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Water quality</i> 		
Water quality/quantity (other than activities already listed in other categories)	Shoreline Protection Well Closures Complete Lake Plans Lake Level Monitoring	1,675 lin. ft., 1 acre riparian buffers, 4 critical area stabilizations 0 6 Lakes 5 Lakes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Forestry</i> 		
Forestry	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Invasive</i> 		
Invasive species	County Healthy Waters Program Timberland Invasive Partnership Inventory FLOW Training and Assistance European Frogbit Control	8 Lake Groups Funded 1 contract with Oconto County 5 Events Inventory and Control on Lake Michigan shoreline. 2 LTE’s
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Wildlife</i> 		
Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat (other than forestry or invasive species)	Wildlife damage program Fish Passage Wetland Restoration	9 Complaints 6 impediments corrected 0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Urban</i> 		
Urban issues	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Watershed</i> 		
Watershed strategies	9 Key Element plan	Working on plan approval

Oconto County 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

- *Other*

Other	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
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Table 2: Actual activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews	Permits issued
Feedlot permits	8	8
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	5	5
Manure storage closure	2	2
Livestock facility siting	0	0
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	0	0
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	2	2
Shoreland zoning	0	0
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	2	2
Floodplain	1	1

Table 3: Actual inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	8
For FPP	1
For NR 151	2
Animal waste ordinance	9
Livestock facility siting	
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	
Nonmetallic mining	

Oconto County 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 4: Actual outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	4
Field days	3
Trainings/workshops	2
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	5
Newsletters	0
Social media posts	5
News release/story	1

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

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
All Full Time Staff	9360	\$424,485
Summer LTE's	960	\$15,360
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
Bond		\$55,000
County Cost Share		\$20,000
NRDA		\$93,410
Oconto County Healthy Waters Program		\$35,000
Funds For Lake Michigan		\$52,552

OCONTO COUNTY 2025 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	Inventory and Correct areas of Gully Erosion Review Nutrient Management plans Promote BMPs Soil Erosion Soil Health Public Education Add new 590 Plans	Correct 200 lin. ft. of gully erosion Review a minimum of 47 NM plans 5 Contracts 3 Events 3 Plans
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Livestock</i> 		
Livestock	Enforce Animal Waste Ordinance Plan, design, inspect BMPs Address Priority Farms	As needed As needed 3 farms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Water quality</i> 		
Water quality/quantity (other than activities already listed in other categories)	Shoreline Protection Well Closures Complete Lake Plans Lake Level Monitoring	408 lin.ft. As available 6 Lakes 5 Lakes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Forestry</i> 		
Forestry	N/A	N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Invasive</i> 		
Invasive species	County Healthy Waters Program Timberland Invasive Partnership Inventory Timberland Invasive Partnership Technical Assistance FLOW Training and Assistance Invasive Species Early Detection Monitoring	5 Lakes 1 contract with Oconto County 45 hours 2 Events Minimum of 6 sites
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Wildlife</i> 		
Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat (other than forestry or invasive species)	Wildlife damage program Fish Passage Wetland Restoration	As needed 4 Impediments corrected 1 acre
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Urban</i> 		
Urban issues	N/A	N/A

OCONTO COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

- *Watershed*

Watershed strategies	9 Key Element plan	Waiting on plan approval
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- *Other*

Other	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</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	5	5
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	5	5
Manure storage closure	2	2
Livestock facility siting	0	0
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	0	0
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	3	1
Shoreland zoning	1	1
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	5	5
Floodplain	0	0

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	8
For FPP	1
For NR 151	5
Animal waste ordinance	6
Livestock facility siting	
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	
Nonmetallic mining	

**OCONTO COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	1
Field days	3
Trainings/workshops	1
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	5
Newsletters	0
Social media posts	12
News release/story	1

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

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
All Full Time Staff	9360	\$439,862
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
Bond		\$54,500
County Cost Share		\$20,000
NRDA		\$100,000
Oconto County Healthy Waters Program		\$35,000
NMFE Oconto/Marinette		\$15,325



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: Oconto

Date Plan Submitted for Review: 6/9/2025

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"/>	4, 48-49

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	1/22/25; 2/6/25
2. Provide the date the county held a public hearing on the LWRM plan ¹	7/8/25
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	Not yet scheduled - will be after LWCB approval

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"/>	13, 15-16, 19, 21, 51
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"/>	25, 27

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.

- | | | | | |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| ii. | identification of the causes and sources of the water quality impairments and pollutant sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 28-34, 35 |
| 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"/> | 25-26, 28-38, 41 |

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"/> | 28-37 |
| b. | pollutant load reduction targets for the watersheds, if available | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | NA_ |

Other comments: P 25: "The extent of watershed evaluation within Oconto County is minimal but does exist. " P 52: "the LWCD has begun to identify the focus areas within the county in which erosion reduction may be needed with intentions to build upon the DNR's Erosion Vulnerability Assessment for Agricultural Lands (EVAAL) inventory as time and resources allow."

IV. DNR CONSULTATION

Yes	No	Page
-----	----	------

- | | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| 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"/> | _____ |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|

Other comments: Worked with Eric Everson, WDNR to obtain data on water testing, water quality assessments, and potential/future projects; Erin Hansen, WDNR on the TAC

V. PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Yes	No	Page
-----	----	------

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 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"/> | 51-52 |
| b. | State and local regulations used to implement the plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10, 51-53 |
| c. | Compliance procedures that apply for failure to implement the conservation practices in ATP 50, ch. NR 151 and related local regulations | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 53-55 |
| 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"/> | 8-9, 50, 52 |

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.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----|
| 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"/> | 64 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----|

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 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"/> | 67-70 |
| b. the staff time needed to provide technical assistance and education and outreach to implement the plan. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 67-70 |
| 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"/> | 5, 50-53, 63-66 |

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"/> | 56-62 |
| 2. Does the LWRM plan describe coordination activities with local, state and federal agencies? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 71-72 |

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 |
| 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"/> | 63-70 |

Other comments: _____

VIII. EPA SECTION 319 CONSIDERATIONS

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.

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: Separate 9 key element Plan submitted for the North Branch of the Little River
-

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: Jennifer Chakravorty Digitally signed by Jennifer Chakravorty
Date: 2025.06.11 08:56:37 -05'00'

Date: _____



State of Wisconsin
Governor Tony Evers

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
Secretary Randy Romanski

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM_____ **State of Wisconsin**

DATE: July 25, 2025

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

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

SUBJECT: *2026 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan for the Soil and Water Resource Management Program and the Nonpoint Source Program*

Recommend Action:

This is an informational item. However, if the LWCB wishes to do so, it may vote to “receive” the *2026 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan*. A vote to “receive” the preliminary allocation plan does not bind the LWCB to any position.

Summary:

The *2026 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan* provides details on how both the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) proposes to allocate \$26,906,690 of available nonpoint grant funds to county land conservation committees and other project cooperators.

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

Breakdown of the 2026 Joint Allocation

Charts 1 and 2 on Page 7 of the Joint Allocation Plan provide an overview of the grant funds DNR and DATCP propose to allocate. Specifically, Chart 1 identifies the proposed DNR and DATCP awards by program category and the dollar amounts and Chart 2 documents the grants awarded by the state appropriation or other funding source.

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

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Table A (page 19) summarizes county and cooperator awards by program category; Table A-1 (pages 20-21) shows the step-by-step process for calculating county staff and support grants; Tables A-2 (page 24) and A-3 (page 25) show county scores and rankings in the competition for structural and SEG cost-share grants.

DATCP expenditures for the 2026 allocation vary from the 2025 allocation as follows:

- An increase of \$3,375,100 in staffing and support grants.
- An increase of \$133,825 in SEG cost-share funds.
- An increase of \$36,993 in structural cost-share funds.
- A decrease of \$69,848 in Innovation Grant awards.
- A decrease of \$52,916 in project cooperator grants.
- A decrease of \$11,061 in NMFE grants awards.

DNR provides grants in the following funding categories: Targeted Runoff Management (TRM), Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management (UNPS) Construction, and NR 243 Notice of Discharge (NOD) programs. Table B (page 22) provides a breakdown of DNR's allocation to counties.

Table C (page 23) combines the DNR and DATCP allocations to provide a complete picture of the 2025 allocations.

The body of the Joint Allocation Plan provides a detailed discussion regarding DATCP and DNR allocations including future directions for DATCP funding. Any updates to the allocation process would be undertaken with caution and after input from the counties. Highlights of DATCP's discussion regarding future directions include:

- Review of staffing formula to reflect the increase funding to assure equitable allocations.
- Refining the SEG funding formula for awarding nutrient management cost-sharing.

Comment on Preliminary Allocation Plan

The 2026 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan and DATCP's Environmental Assessment were provided to all county land conservation departments and other interested parties prior to the LWCB's August 5, 2025 meeting.

Counties, project cooperators, and other interested persons may comment on the 2026 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan either by:

- Requesting to appear and present comments before the LWCB at its August 5, 2025 meeting. A Public Appearance Request Card must be submitted before the meeting.
- Emailing written comments no later than September 5, 2025 to datcpswrm@wisconsin.gov.

Materials Provided:

- 2026 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan
- Environmental Assessment

Presenter: Susan Mockert (DATCP)

2026 JOINT ALLOCATION PLAN

Preliminary

AUGUST 2025

Soil and Water Resource
Management Grant
Program and Nonpoint
Source Program



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page 24

TABLE A-3: COUNTY SEG COST SHARE AWARDS

page 25



SUMMARY OF CHANGES FOR FINAL ALLOCATION

2026 JOINT ALLOCATION PLAN

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

Counties, project cooperators, and other interested persons may comment on the 2026 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan either by:

- Requesting to appear and present comments before the LWCB at a regularly scheduled meeting (a Public Appearance Request Card must be completed before the start of the meeting); or
- Emailing written comments no later than September 3, 2025 to datcpswrm@wisconsin.gov.

APPROVAL SIGNATURES

DATCP has determined that the action described in this allocation plan for the 2026 soil and water resource management grant program shown in Table A conforms to the applicable DATCP provisions of s. 92.14, Wis. Stats., and ch. ATCP 50, Wis. Admin. Code. DATCP reserves the right to reallocate grant funds unexpended by recipients.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2025

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE, AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Randy Romanski, Secretary

DNR has determined that the action described in this allocation plan for the 2026 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 _____, 2025

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Dr. Karen Hyun, Secretary

INTRODUCTION

The allocations identified in this plan provide counties and others with grant funding for conservation staff and support costs, landowner cost-sharing, and runoff management projects. The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are providing these allocations in support of 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 2026 through the Soil and water Resource Management (SWRM) Program (Table A).

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

For 2026, a total of \$26,906,690 is allocated based on the state budget for the 2026-2028 Biennium. [Table C](#) Summarizes all allocations by grantee. Organized by funding category, [Chart 1 on page 7](#) summarizes grant fund requests, unmet funding requests, and allocation amounts. If required, these allocations may be adjusted based on reductions or lapses in appropriations or authorizations. .



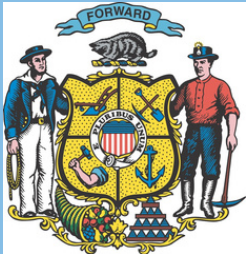
DATCP

\$22.1 MI



DNR

\$4.8 M



Total

\$26.9

FUNDING SOURCES AND ALLOCATION REQUESTS

CHART 1: GRANT REQUESTS AND ALLOCATIONS

Funding Category	Total Requests	Unmet Requests	Allocation Amounts
DATCP			
County Staff/Support	\$21,491,841	\$6,902,341	\$14,589,500
LWRM Cost-Share	\$6,518,200	\$2,981,207	\$3,536,993
Bond Reserve (B)	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000
LWRM Cost-Share (SEG)	\$2,822,000	\$522,050	\$2,299,950
Cooperator Contracts (SEG)	\$1,078,729	\$108,884	\$969,845
Innovation Grants (SEG)	\$136,750	\$136,750	\$0
NMFE Grants (SEG)	\$405,205	\$0	\$405,205
SUBTOTAL	\$32,752,725	\$10,651,232	\$22,101,493
DNR			
UNPS Planning	\$35,075	\$0	\$35,075
UNPS Construction	NA	NA	NA
TRM	\$3,770,122	\$0	\$3,770,122
NOD Reserve (B)	NA	NA	\$1,000,000
SUBTOTAL	\$3,805,197	\$0	\$4,805,197
TOTAL			\$26,906,690

CHART 2: FUNDING SOURCES

Staff and Support Grants	
\$9,068,000	DATCP SEG from s. 20.115(7)(qe)
\$5,521,500	DATCP GPR from s. 20.115(7)(c)
\$14,589,500	DATCP Subtotal
\$387,404	DNR SEG from s. 20.370(6)(aq)
\$90,950	DNR GPR from s. 20.370(6)(ag)
\$35,075	DNR SEG from s. 20.370(6)(dq)
\$198,495	DNR Sec. 319 Account (Federal)
\$711,924	DNR Subtotal
\$15,301,424	TOTAL Staff & Support Grants
Cost-Share Grants	
\$3,536,993	DATCP GPR from s. 20.115(7)(c)
\$300,000	DATCP Bond (Reserve) from s. 20.866(2)(we)
\$2,299,950	DATCP SEG from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
\$6,136,943	DATCP Subtotal
\$1,117,111	DNR Bond Revenue from s. 20.866(2)(tf)
\$2,178,308	DNR GPR from s. 20.370(6)(ag)
\$209,050	DNR GPR from s. 20.370(6)(aq)
\$588,804	DNR Sec. 319 Account (Federal)
\$4,093,273	DNR Subtotal
\$10,230,216	TOTAL Cost-Share Grants
Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE) & Other Project	
Cooperator (OPC) Grants	
\$405,205	DATCP SEG (NMFE) from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
\$969,845	DATCP SEG (OPC) from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
\$0	DATCP SEG (Innovation) from s.20.115(7)(qf)
\$1,375,050	TOTAL NMFE & Other Grants
\$26,906,690	Grand Total



DATCP ALLOCATIONS

STAFF AND SUPPORT



The allocation made under this category provides county staff and support funding. Grant awards are consistent with the terms of the 2026 grant application and instructions located at https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/SWRMSect6.aspx. Allocations are made in support of local land conservation personnel under the soil and water resource management program. There has been no underspending in previous years to increase the allocation for the 2026-2028 Biennium.

The allocations listed in [Table A-1](#) consists of the 2026 annual appropriations of \$5,521,500 in GPR Funds and \$9,068,000 in segregated (SEG) funds, a 30% increase to the 2025 allocated amounts.

County staff and support grants are awarded according to a:

- Tier 1 base award of \$5,400,000
 - composed of \$75,000 to each county
- Tier 2 award of the remaining \$9,189,500
 - Allotted in three rounds to reach statutory percentage funding at 100, 70, and 50 percent of the prorated costs of three staff positions in each county

For 2026, SEG and GPR allocations allowed for funding the Tier 1 award, 100% of the first position, 70% of the second position, and seventy one percent of the 50% third position funding goal.

Unmet need

\$6.9 million



6%

Increase in staffing and support eligible cost requests from 2025



FUND ALLOCATIONS



GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE (GPR) AND BOND



The 2026-2028 Biennial Budget allocates \$7 million funds for cost share, similar to the previous biennium.



The allocation amount listed on page 7 consists of \$3.5 million, half of SWRM's \$7 million authorization in the 2026-2028 biennium budget of GPR funds. Previously allocated, but unspent GPR funds increased this allocation by \$36,993. Extended bond funds remain available for approved extended projects.

Cost Sharing Structural Practices



After providing each county \$10,000 in base funding, DATCP awarded the remaining \$2,816,993 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 2022 Census of Agriculture data). Minor manual adjustments are then made to the allocation if needed to exhaust funds.

Table A-2 shows each county's total award amount and the factors that contributed to the county's award.



ENGINEERING RESERVE PROJECTS

DATCP will allocate \$300,000 to primarily fund projects addressing discharges on farms in cooperation with the DNR. Funds may also be used for priority projects related to extreme weather events or other priority projects not otherwise addressed.

STRUCTURAL PRACTICES

GPR Funds

Requested:

\$6,518,200

Awarded:

\$3.54 M





\$3M

below needs

SEGREGATED “SEG” FUND



The allocations under this category provide funding for:

-  Landowner cost sharing for “soft” practices and practices in support of a nutrient management plan
-  Nutrient Management Education to Producers
-  Nutrient Management Implementation support and other projects of statewide importance
-  Innovative projects focused on creative implementation of Nutrient Management projects

\$ 3,675,000 was allocated to SEG programming for cost-sharing grants and contracts under the soil and water resource management program under s. 92.14 with the following adjustments:

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

Unless otherwise noted, awards are consistent with the terms of the 2026 grant application and instructions located at

https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/SWRMSect6.aspx.

Innovation Grants receive funding only if resources remain after priority projects have been awarded. There were no funds available to make awards for 2026.

ALLOCATIONS

Landowner Cost Share	\$2,299,950
NMFE Training	\$405,205
Other Project Cooperators	\$969,845
Innovation Grants	no funds available
Total	\$3,675,000

LANDOWNER COST SHARING

Requested:	Awarded:
\$2,822,000	82%

DATCP provides grants to counties primarily for cost-sharing NM plans to meet the 2015 NRCS 590 Standard. Sixty-one counties applied for \$2,234,000 and awards were made in the amount of \$2,299,950 based on scores in:

- Farmland Preservation Zoning and Agricultural Enterprise Areas
- Impaired water miles
- Nutrient management planning and implementation

Table A-3 enumerates each county’s score, grouping, and grant award. NA identifies the 11 counties who did not apply for funding. Applications are ranked according to scores and are organized into five groups. Counties receive the highest maximum award for their grouping unless a county requests, and subsequently receives, an amount lower than their eligibility.





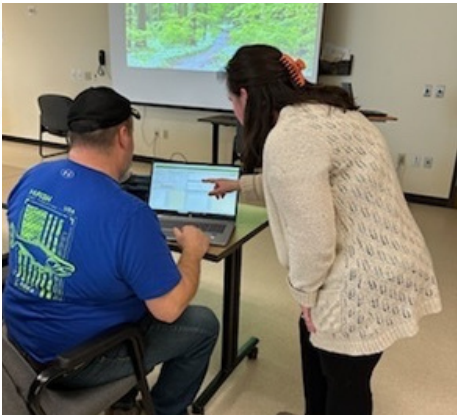
NMFE TRAINING GRANTS

NMFE grant recipients are contracted with DATCP to teach farmers to develop their own nutrient management plans. For 2026, DATCP funded 25 NMFE requests in the amounts listed in Chart 3.

All grant recipients' contract with DATCP to incorporate the requirements of s. ATP 50.35 to develop NM Plans that meet the 2015 NRCS 590 Standard. Laptops remain eligible costs to setup stations for producers to utilize for working on or updating their NM plan with local assistance.

Tier 1 funding supports NM training to producers and plan writers to develop a 590 compliant plan, complete soil tests, training, and administrative costs. Tier 2 awards offer the same training, but 590 compliance is not required.

Chart 3: 2026 NMFE Awards				
	Tier 1	Tier 2	Laptop	Total Award
Adams	\$17,400.00			\$17,400.00
Buffalo	\$17,500.00			\$17,500.00
Columbia	\$14,950.00	\$3,000.00		\$17,950.00
CVTC	\$24,800.00			\$24,800.00
Dane	\$15,400.00			\$15,400.00
Eau Claire	\$25,000.00			\$25,000.00
Glacierland	\$25,000.00	\$3,000.00		\$28,000.00
Green Lake	\$10,350.00			\$10,350.00
Juneau	\$22,900.00		\$2,000.00	\$24,900.00
Kewaunee	\$35,000.00			\$35,000.00
Lafayette	\$8,050.00			\$8,050.00
Marathon et all	\$46,859.00			\$46,859.00
Mariani	\$3,000.00			\$3,000.00
Marinette & Oconto	\$5,850.00			\$5,850.00
Marquette	\$20,000.00		\$2,000.00	\$22,000.00
Ozaukee	\$2,000.00			\$2,000.00
Rock	\$3,000.00			\$3,000.00
Sauk	\$15,110.00			\$15,110.00
Shawano	\$12,136.00			\$12,136.00
SWTC	\$25,000.00			\$25,000.00
Trempealeau	\$20,000.00			\$20,000.00
Vernon	\$20,900.00		\$2,000.00	\$22,900.00
Washington	\$3,000.00			\$3,000.00
Totals	\$393,205.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$405,205.00



Requested:

\$405,205

Awarded:

100%

STATEWIDE PROJECT COOPERATOR GRANTS



DATCP uses a portion of 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 efforts

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



\$301,826

SnapPlus (UW-Madison)
Version 3 Software
development and support



Department of Soil Science
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

\$12,318

UW-SFAL
NM Soil Lab Testing
Certification Program



\$277,625

UW-Extension
NM Planning support, training,
materials and outreach



\$272,076

Wisconsin Land +Water
Supports statewide coordinated
professional conservation training
and delivery of state and local
plan priorities



\$60,000

UW-NOPP
Staffing and outreach of
DATCP NOPP program



\$46,000

Standards Oversight Council

FUTURE FUNDING DIRECTIONS



Staff and Support Grants

DATCP awards grants for a county's first position only if the staff is actively engaged in qualified conservation activities. DATCP also requires annual work planning and reporting in order to qualify for DATCP funding. These requirements build county conservation capacity and better account for the performance of conservation activities using state funds. With the additional staffing funding available, 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. Some options to consider in future allocations could include:

- Considering the amount of DATCP programming a county supports such as nutrient management farmer education, farmland preservation, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), or livestock siting.
- Requiring that a county's second or third position be engaged in providing high-level conservation support as a technician with conservation engineering practitioner certification or as a planner qualified to write nutrient management plans.



- DATCP 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.
- The staffing grant formula could be modified to provide additional funds for counties making reasonable progress in implementing their annual work plans.

DATCP reserves the right to adjust awards to buffer impacts due to changing state budgets. 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.

FUTURE FUNDING DIRECTIONS



Structural Grants

Funding to install structural conservation practices has stayed the same since 2009, but costs have increased, resulting in 68% of counties having no underspending. Therefore, that criterion is less meaningful when awarding funds than in previous years. Acres of farmland per county and positive spending over a three-year period are taking precedence in how funds are awarded.

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



Nutrient Management / SEG Funding

DATCP continues to consider how it can best apply its SEG funding to improve conservation and implement conservation practices. There is a growing interest to target SEG funds towards cropping practices to improve soil health and watershed management, specifically encouraging cover crops and reduced/no-till practices.

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

- Create a soil health program that includes targeted funding specifically for soil health practices.
- Provide funds to regional support groups to provide agronomic and conservation compliance assistance for FPP and other state priorities.

FUTURE FUNDING DIRECTIONS



Nutrient Management / SEG Funding Continued

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

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



DNR ALLOCATIONS



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

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

Table B shows the preliminary allocation to each county grantee for TRM and UNPS-Planning grants. Additionally, NOD grant reserves are established as specific county allocations are unknown at this time.



FUNDING SOURCES

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

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

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

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

For all grant programs, funds will be considered "committed" when a grantee has returned to the DNR a signed copy of the grant agreement.

For the TRM program, grant agreements not signed by the deadline may be rescinded by DNR, and the associated grant funds may be used to fund other eligible projects in rank order based on project scores. If, for any reason, funds committed through this allocation plan become available after March 31, 2026, these funds may be held to fund projects selected in the next grant cycle.

DNR ALLOCATIONS

(CONTINUED)



* TRM PRELIMINARY ALLOCATION

DNR allocates up to \$3,770,122 to counties for cost sharing of TRM projects during calendar year 2026. This amount is adequate to fully fund the estimated state share for all six eligible county Small-Scale TRM applications. Additionally, this amount is adequate to fully fund the estimated state share for all six eligible county Large-Scale TRM applications. As shown in Chart 1, there are not any unmet needs for county TRM projects.

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

TRM allocations made through this plan will be reimbursed to grantees during calendar years 2026 through 2027 for Small-Scale projects and through 2028 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.

* UNPS PRELIMINARY ALLOCATION

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

UNPS grant awards will be reimbursed to grantees during calendar years 2026 and 2027. Project applications have been screened, scored, and ranked in accordance with s. 281.66, Wis. Stats.

CONSTRUCTION. UNPS-Construction grant applications were not solicited in 2025 for the 2026 award cycle. The UNPS-Construction grant application will be available in early 2026 for 2027 awards.

PLANNING. UNPS-Planning grant applications were solicited in 2025 for the 2026 award cycle. One eligible application was received from a county. The DNR allocates up to \$35,075 to fully fund the grant application.



* NOTICE OF DISCHARGE PROGRAM

A. Background

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

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

B. NOD Preliminary Allocation

This Preliminary Allocation Plan establishes a reserve of \$1,000,000 for NOD projects during calendar year 2026. The reserve includes funds for structural practices in eligible locations. DNR may use its discretion to increase this reserve if needed. To receive a grant award, a governmental unit must submit an application to DNR that describes a specific project and includes documentation that an NOD or NOI has either already been issued or will be issued by DNR concurrent with the grant award. Once DNR issues a grant to the governmental unit to address an NOD or NOI, DNR will designate a portion of the reserve specifically for that project.

DNR will require that county grantees commit funds to a cost-share agreement with the landowner within a timeframe that is consistent with the compliance schedule in the NOD. The county grantee shall use the grant award to reimburse the landowner for costs incurred during the grant period, which may extend beyond calendar year 2027. 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 2026 may either be carried over for the calendar year 2027 NOD reserve account or may be allocated for calendar year 2027 TRM projects.

TABLES

Table A: DATCP Allocations
STAFFING AND COST-SHARE ALLOCATIONS

County	DATCP Staffing & Support Allocation	LWRM Plan Implementation Allocation		Total DATCP Allocation		County	DATCP Staffing & Support Allocation	LWRM Plan Implementation Allocation		Total DATCP Allocation
		Structural Cost-Sharing	SEG Cost-Sharing					Structural Cost-Sharing	SEG Cost-Sharing	
Adams	191,415	47,000	45,000	283,415		Marinette	209,926	44,000	55,000	308,926
Ashland	188,884	50,000	30,000	268,884		Marquette	189,802	40,000	75,000	304,802
Barron	227,379	52,000	10,000	289,379		Menominee	132,257	20,000	0	152,257
Bayfield	228,655	57,000	30,000	315,655		Milwaukee	99,453	10,000	5,000	114,453
Brown	237,609	52,000	60,000	349,609		Monroe	198,642	52,000	50,000	300,642
Buffalo	215,587	45,000	20,000	280,587		Oconto	210,064	52,000	0	262,064
Burnett	166,682	25,000	8,000	199,682		Oneida	169,415	32,000	0	201,415
Calumet	276,128	50,000	40,000	366,128		Outagamie	281,008	72,500	60,000	413,508
Chippewa	235,469	72,000	75,000	382,469		Ozaukee	227,402	46,000	25,000	298,402
Clark	191,715	75,000	75,000	341,715		Pepin	161,889	33,000	30,000	224,889
Columbia	202,500	46,000	75,000	323,500		Pierce	219,139	62,000	20,000	301,139
Crawford	179,990	52,000	8,000	239,990		Polk	217,593	50,000	0	267,593
Dane	351,822	77,000	95,000	523,822		Portage	234,893	62,000	8,000	304,893
Dodge	219,024	60,000	20,000	299,024		Price	142,245	47,000	0	189,245
Door	251,767	27,000	10,000	288,767		Racine	232,686	67,500	70,000	370,186
Douglas	160,370	30,000	5,000	195,370		Richland	114,134	35,000	20,000	169,134
Dunn	275,805	77,000	20,000	372,805		Rock	183,580	72,000	95,000	350,580
Eau Claire	220,527	42,000	55,000	317,527		Rusk	148,158	57,000	25,000	230,158
Florence	99,901	31,000	0	130,901		Saint Croix	216,573	55,000	45,000	316,573
Fond du Lac	213,504	48,000	15,000	276,504		Sauk	260,473	62,000	60,000	382,473
Forest	123,439	14,000	0	137,439		Sawyer	143,161	16,993	8,000	168,154
Grant	172,305	77,000	0	249,305		Shawano	208,786	42,000	45,000	295,786
Green	217,739	72,000	20,000	309,739		Sheboygan	188,995	62,000	15,000	265,995
Green Lake	237,353	47,000	30,000	314,353		Taylor	200,953	52,000	55,000	307,953
Iowa	206,114	45,000	65,000	316,114		Trempealeau	167,587	62,000	60,000	289,587
Iron	158,937	41,000	2,000	201,937		Vernon	195,332	67,000	72,950	335,282
Jackson	179,998	62,000	0	241,998		Vilas	193,245	31,000	0	224,245
Jefferson	251,710	32,000	12,000	295,710		Walworth	275,313	62,000	20,000	357,313
Juneau	212,298	50,000	20,000	282,298		Washburn	151,646	47,000	6,000	204,646
Kenosha	171,183	30,000	10,000	211,183		Washington	215,733	37,000	30,000	282,733
Kewaunee	209,530	46,000	15,000	270,530		Waukesha	271,947	37,000	10,000	318,947
LaCrosse	246,066	62,000	20,000	328,066		Waupaca	226,844	62,000	75,000	363,844
Lafayette	153,501	50,000	0	203,501		Waushara	194,005	50,000	40,000	284,005
Langlade	154,568	35,000	55,000	244,568		Winnebago	252,049	52,000	50,000	354,049
Lincoln	167,523	37,000	1,000	205,523		Wood	202,851	52,000	54,000	308,851
Manitowoc	214,382	52,000	75,000	341,382		Reserve		300,000		300,000
Marathon	240,339	67,000	95,000	402,339		Sub-Totals	\$14,589,500	\$3,536,993	\$2,299,950	\$20,726,443
PROJECT COOPERATOR ALLOCATIONS										
UW Madison CALS SnapPlus				301,826	UW NOPP Support				60,000	
UW Extension NPM				277,625	WLWCA				272,076	
UW-SFAL				12,318	Nutrient Management Farmer Education				405,205	
WLWCA SOC				46,000	Innovation Grants				-	
					Sub-Total Cooperator Allocation				\$1,375,050	
ALLOCATION TOTALS						TOTAL			\$2,299,950	\$22,101,493

Table A-1

County	Tier 1	Tier 2								Staffing and Support Allocation
	Base Allocation	First Position at 100% (Round 1)	Round 1 Award	Adjusted Award (Tier 1 + Round 1)	Second Position at 70% (Round 2)	Eligible Round 2 Award	Round 2 Award at 100% of 70%	Third Position at 50% (Round 3)	Round 3 Award 70% of 50% Third position	
Adams	\$75,000	\$106,151.00	\$31,151.00	\$106,151.00	\$56,656.00	\$56,656.00	\$56,656.00	\$40,469.00	\$28,608.48	\$191,415
Ashland	\$75,000	\$108,939.00	\$33,939.00	\$108,939.00	\$59,021.00	\$59,021.00	\$59,021.00	\$29,598.00	\$20,923.52	\$188,884
Barron	\$75,000	\$111,941.00	\$36,941.00	\$111,941.00	\$77,715.00	\$77,715.00	\$77,715.00	\$53,362.00	\$37,722.84	\$227,379
Bayfield	\$75,000	\$124,374.00	\$49,374.00	\$124,374.00	\$73,338.00	\$73,338.00	\$73,338.00	\$43,772.00	\$30,943.45	\$228,655
Brown	\$75,000	\$126,888.00	\$51,888.00	\$126,888.00	\$76,763.00	\$76,763.00	\$76,763.00	\$48,036.00	\$33,957.77	\$237,609
Buffalo	\$75,000	\$124,871.00	\$49,871.00	\$124,871.00	\$64,555.00	\$64,555.00	\$64,555.00	\$37,007.00	\$26,161.11	\$215,587
Burnett	\$75,000	\$88,472.00	\$13,472.00	\$88,472.00	\$59,048.00	\$59,048.00	\$59,048.00	\$27,106.00	\$19,161.86	\$166,682
Calumet	\$75,000	\$144,022.00	\$69,022.00	\$144,022.00	\$87,987.00	\$87,987.00	\$87,987.00	\$62,410.00	\$44,119.09	\$276,128
Chippewa	\$75,000	\$122,805.00	\$47,805.00	\$122,805.00	\$77,188.00	\$77,188.00	\$77,188.00	\$50,183.00	\$35,475.53	\$235,469
Clark	\$75,000	\$111,711.00	\$36,711.00	\$111,711.00	\$53,195.00	\$53,195.00	\$53,195.00	\$37,924.00	\$26,809.36	\$191,715
Columbia	\$75,000	\$101,903.00	\$26,903.00	\$101,903.00	\$67,102.00	\$67,102.00	\$67,102.00	\$47,382.00	\$33,495.44	\$202,500
Crawford	\$75,000	\$99,502.00	\$24,502.00	\$99,502.00	\$64,813.00	\$64,813.00	\$64,813.00	\$22,174.00	\$15,675.32	\$179,990
Dane	\$75,000	\$177,971.00	\$102,971.00	\$177,971.00	\$120,352.00	\$120,352.00	\$120,352.00	\$75,679.00	\$53,499.25	\$351,822
Dodge	\$75,000	\$109,700.00	\$34,700.00	\$109,700.00	\$75,557.00	\$75,557.00	\$75,557.00	\$47,766.00	\$33,766.90	\$219,024
Door	\$75,000	\$138,571.00	\$63,571.00	\$138,571.00	\$76,143.00	\$76,143.00	\$76,143.00	\$52,414.00	\$37,052.68	\$251,767
Douglas	\$75,000	\$79,709.00	\$4,709.00	\$79,709.00	\$55,218.00	\$55,218.00	\$55,218.00	\$35,991.00	\$25,442.88	\$160,370
Dunn	\$75,000	\$144,282.00	\$69,282.00	\$144,282.00	\$87,875.00	\$87,875.00	\$87,875.00	\$61,744.00	\$43,648.27	\$275,805
Eau Claire	\$75,000	\$127,425.00	\$52,425.00	\$127,425.00	\$65,357.00	\$65,357.00	\$65,357.00	\$39,247.00	\$27,744.62	\$220,527
Florence	\$75,000	\$73,065.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$26,836.00	\$24,901.00	\$24,901.00		\$0.00	\$99,901
Fond du Lac	\$75,000	\$109,725.00	\$34,725.00	\$109,725.00	\$73,655.00	\$73,655.00	\$73,655.00	\$42,613.00	\$30,124.12	\$213,504
Forest	\$75,000	\$69,026.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$44,104.00	\$38,130.00	\$38,130.00	\$14,583.00	\$10,309.06	\$123,439
Grant	\$75,000	\$91,299.00	\$16,299.00	\$91,299.00	\$57,268.00	\$57,268.00	\$57,268.00	\$33,580.00	\$23,738.49	\$172,305
Green	\$75,000	\$126,356.00	\$51,356.00	\$126,356.00	\$70,193.00	\$70,193.00	\$70,193.00	\$29,975.00	\$21,190.03	\$217,739
Green Lake	\$75,000	\$124,557.00	\$49,557.00	\$124,557.00	\$77,907.00	\$77,907.00	\$77,907.00	\$49,353.00	\$34,888.79	\$237,353
Iowa	\$75,000	\$128,027.00	\$53,027.00	\$128,027.00	\$52,348.00	\$52,348.00	\$52,348.00	\$36,410.00	\$25,739.08	\$206,114
Iron	\$75,000	\$87,349.00	\$12,349.00	\$87,349.00	\$59,449.00	\$59,449.00	\$59,449.00	\$17,172.00	\$12,139.29	\$158,937
Jackson	\$75,000	\$108,287.00	\$33,287.00	\$108,287.00	\$71,711.00	\$71,711.00	\$71,711.00		\$0.00	\$179,998
Jefferson	\$75,000	\$141,001.00	\$66,001.00	\$141,001.00	\$81,226.00	\$81,226.00	\$81,226.00	\$41,706.00	\$29,482.94	\$251,710
Juneau	\$75,000	\$119,980.00	\$44,980.00	\$119,980.00	\$63,324.00	\$63,324.00	\$63,324.00	\$41,015.00	\$28,994.46	\$212,298
Kenosha	\$75,000	\$123,845.00	\$48,845.00	\$123,845.00	\$37,064.00	\$37,064.00	\$37,064.00	\$14,533.00	\$10,273.72	\$171,183
Kewaunee	\$75,000	\$123,836.00	\$48,836.00	\$123,836.00	\$58,434.00	\$58,434.00	\$58,434.00	\$38,561.00	\$27,259.67	\$209,530
LaCrosse	\$75,000	\$128,815.00	\$53,815.00	\$128,815.00	\$79,190.00	\$79,190.00	\$79,190.00	\$53,841.00	\$38,061.46	\$246,066
Lafayette	\$75,000	\$80,876.00	\$5,876.00	\$80,876.00	\$48,812.00	\$48,812.00	\$48,812.00	\$33,685.00	\$23,812.71	\$153,501
Langlade	\$75,000	\$81,908.00	\$6,908.00	\$81,908.00	\$56,437.00	\$56,437.00	\$56,437.00	\$22,949.00	\$16,223.18	\$154,568
Lincoln	\$75,000	\$102,716.00	\$27,716.00	\$102,716.00	\$57,595.00	\$57,595.00	\$57,595.00	\$10,202.00	\$7,212.03	\$167,523
Manitowoc	\$75,000	\$126,747.00	\$51,747.00	\$126,747.00	\$58,673.00	\$58,673.00	\$58,673.00	\$40,969.00	\$28,961.94	\$214,382

Table A-1

County	Tier 1		Tier 2							
	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 100% of 70%	Third Position at 50% (Round 3)	Round 3 Award 70% of 50% Third position	Staffing and Support Allocation
Marathon	\$75,000	\$119,339.00	\$44,339.00	\$119,339.00	\$80,938.00	\$80,938.00	\$80,938.00	\$56,671.00	\$40,062.05	\$240,339
Marinette	\$75,000	\$115,269.00	\$40,269.00	\$115,269.00	\$67,570.00	\$67,570.00	\$67,570.00	\$38,317.00	\$27,087.18	\$209,926
Marquette	\$75,000	\$122,833.00	\$47,833.00	\$122,833.00	\$46,663.00	\$46,663.00	\$46,663.00	\$28,724.00	\$20,305.67	\$189,802
Menominee	\$75,000	\$89,001.00	\$14,001.00	\$89,001.00	\$43,256.00	\$43,256.00	\$43,256.00		\$0.00	\$132,257
Milwaukee	\$75,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$75,809.00	\$809.00	\$809.00	\$33,447.00	\$23,644.46	\$99,453
Monroe	\$75,000	\$128,935.00	\$53,935.00	\$128,935.00	\$46,701.00	\$46,701.00	\$46,701.00	\$32,544.00	\$23,006.11	\$198,642
Oconto	\$75,000	\$108,348.00	\$33,348.00	\$108,348.00	\$71,537.00	\$71,537.00	\$71,537.00	\$42,690.00	\$30,178.56	\$210,064
Oneida	\$75,000	\$103,461.00	\$28,461.00	\$103,461.00	\$58,745.00	\$58,745.00	\$58,745.00	\$10,198.00	\$7,209.20	\$169,415
Outagamie	\$75,000	\$146,989.00	\$71,989.00	\$146,989.00	\$96,374.00	\$96,374.00	\$96,374.00	\$53,252.00	\$37,645.08	\$281,008
Ozaukee	\$75,000	\$113,651.00	\$38,651.00	\$113,651.00	\$64,412.00	\$64,412.00	\$64,412.00	\$69,794.00	\$49,339.01	\$227,402
Pepin	\$75,000	\$63,283.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$78,867.00	\$67,150.00	\$67,150.00	\$27,923.00	\$19,739.42	\$161,889
Pierce	\$75,000	\$109,608.00	\$34,608.00	\$109,608.00	\$73,994.00	\$73,994.00	\$73,994.00	\$50,270.00	\$35,537.04	\$219,139
Polk	\$75,000	\$123,569.00	\$48,569.00	\$123,569.00	\$63,517.00	\$63,517.00	\$63,517.00	\$43,154.00	\$30,506.57	\$217,593
Portage	\$75,000	\$123,197.00	\$48,197.00	\$123,197.00	\$75,901.00	\$75,901.00	\$75,901.00	\$50,635.00	\$35,795.06	\$234,893
Price	\$75,000	\$83,915.00	\$8,915.00	\$83,915.00	\$55,010.00	\$55,010.00	\$55,010.00	\$4,697.00	\$3,320.42	\$142,245
Racine	\$75,000	\$126,960.00	\$51,960.00	\$126,960.00	\$80,762.00	\$80,762.00	\$80,762.00	\$35,313.00	\$24,963.58	\$232,686
Richland	\$75,000	\$63,253.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$33,971.00	\$22,224.00	\$22,224.00	\$23,921.00	\$16,910.31	\$114,134
Rock	\$75,000	\$90,281.00	\$15,281.00	\$90,281.00	\$62,158.00	\$62,158.00	\$62,158.00	\$44,052.00	\$31,141.39	\$183,580
Rusk	\$75,000	\$75,711.00	\$711.00	\$75,711.00	\$63,440.00	\$63,440.00	\$63,440.00	\$12,741.00	\$9,006.91	\$148,158
Saint Croix	\$75,000	\$112,632.00	\$37,632.00	\$112,632.00	\$71,577.00	\$71,577.00	\$71,577.00	\$45,781.00	\$32,363.66	\$216,573
Sauk	\$75,000	\$135,232.00	\$60,232.00	\$135,232.00	\$84,477.00	\$84,477.00	\$84,477.00	\$57,664.00	\$40,764.03	\$260,473
Sawyer	\$75,000	\$75,599.00	\$599.00	\$75,599.00	\$48,693.00	\$48,693.00	\$48,693.00	\$26,692.00	\$18,869.20	\$143,161
Shawano	\$75,000	\$121,754.00	\$46,754.00	\$121,754.00	\$64,760.00	\$64,760.00	\$64,760.00	\$31,505.00	\$22,271.62	\$208,786
Sheboygan	\$75,000	\$100,432.00	\$25,432.00	\$100,432.00	\$67,261.00	\$67,261.00	\$67,261.00	\$30,134.00	\$21,302.43	\$188,995
Taylor	\$75,000	\$114,311.00	\$39,311.00	\$114,311.00	\$65,454.00	\$65,454.00	\$65,454.00	\$29,972.00	\$21,187.91	\$200,953
Trempealeau	\$75,000	\$97,744.00	\$22,744.00	\$97,744.00	\$48,884.00	\$48,884.00	\$48,884.00	\$29,648.00	\$20,958.86	\$167,587
Vernon	\$75,000	\$112,400.00	\$37,400.00	\$112,400.00	\$60,392.00	\$60,392.00	\$60,392.00	\$31,885.00	\$22,540.25	\$195,332
Vilas	\$75,000	\$95,179.00	\$20,179.00	\$95,179.00	\$68,706.00	\$68,706.00	\$68,706.00	\$41,532.00	\$29,359.94	\$193,245
Walworth	\$75,000	\$130,955.00	\$55,955.00	\$130,955.00	\$100,766.00	\$100,766.00	\$100,766.00	\$61,665.00	\$43,592.43	\$275,313
Washburn	\$75,000	\$98,231.00	\$23,231.00	\$98,231.00	\$52,245.00	\$52,245.00	\$52,245.00	\$1,655.00	\$1,169.96	\$151,646
Washington	\$75,000	\$123,026.00	\$48,026.00	\$123,026.00	\$63,493.00	\$63,493.00	\$63,493.00	\$41,326.00	\$29,214.31	\$215,733
Waukesha	\$75,000	\$153,257.00	\$78,257.00	\$153,257.00	\$82,102.00	\$82,102.00	\$82,102.00	\$51,756.00	\$36,587.52	\$271,947
Waupaca	\$75,000	\$113,653.00	\$38,653.00	\$113,653.00	\$75,244.00	\$75,244.00	\$75,244.00	\$53,679.00	\$37,946.94	\$226,844
Wausara	\$75,000	\$106,239.00	\$31,239.00	\$106,239.00	\$62,497.00	\$62,497.00	\$62,497.00	\$35,745.00	\$25,268.97	\$194,005
Winnebago	\$75,000	\$141,995.00	\$66,995.00	\$141,995.00	\$74,636.00	\$74,636.00	\$74,636.00	\$50,102.00	\$35,418.27	\$252,049
Wood	\$75,000	\$137,966.00	\$62,966.00	\$137,966.00	\$47,454.00	\$47,454.00	\$47,454.00	\$24,658.00	\$17,431.32	\$202,851
Totals	5,400,000	7,974,860	2,681,233	8,081,233	4,750,375	4,644,002	12,725,235	2,637,153	1,864,265	14,589,500

Table B: Total DNR Preliminary 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 Final Allocations
Dane	\$499,138	\$100,862	\$0	\$0	\$600,000
Dunn	\$225,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$225,000
Juneau	\$476,000	\$124,000	\$0	\$0	\$600,000
Kenosha	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$35,075	\$35,075
Manitowoc	\$70,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$70,000
Marinette	\$165,121	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$165,121
Outagamie	\$485,603	\$138,150	\$0	\$0	\$623,753
Polk	\$357,092	\$142,837	\$0	\$0	\$499,929
Shawano	\$174,237	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$174,237
Washington	\$212,082	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$212,082
Waupaca	\$429,000	\$171,000	\$0	\$0	\$600,000
DNR NR243 NOD Reserve					\$1,000,000
Total	\$3,093,273	\$676,849	\$0	\$35,075	\$4,805,197

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	191,415	92,000	283,415	Marinette	209,926	264,121	474,047
Ashland	188,884	80,000	268,884	Marquette	189,802	115,000	304,802
Barron	227,379	62,000	289,379	Menominee	132,257	20,000	152,257
Bayfield	228,655	87,000	315,655	Milwaukee	99,453	15,000	114,453
Brown	237,609	112,000	349,609	Monroe	198,642	102,000	300,642
Buffalo	215,587	65,000	280,587	Oconto	210,064	52,000	262,064
Burnett	166,682	33,000	199,682	Oneida	169,415	32,000	201,415
Calumet	276,128	90,000	366,128	Outagamie	419,158	618,103	1,037,261
Chippewa	235,469	147,000	382,469	Ozaukee	227,402	71,000	298,402
Clark	191,715	150,000	341,715	Pepin	161,889	63,000	224,889
Columbia	202,500	121,000	323,500	Pierce	219,139	82,000	301,139
Crawford	179,990	60,000	239,990	Polk	360,430	407,092	767,522
Dane	452,684	671,138	1,123,822	Portage	234,893	70,000	304,893
Dodge	219,024	80,000	299,024	Price	142,245	47,000	189,245
Door	251,767	37,000	288,767	Racine	232,686	137,500	370,186
Douglas	160,370	35,000	195,370	Richland	114,134	55,000	169,134
Dunn	275,805	322,000	597,805	Rock	183,580	167,000	350,580
Eau Claire	220,527	97,000	317,527	Rusk	148,158	82,000	230,158
Florence	99,901	31,000	130,901	Saint Croix	216,573	100,000	316,573
Fond du Lac	213,504	63,000	276,504	Sauk	260,473	122,000	382,473
Forest	123,439	14,000	137,439	Sawyer	143,161	24,993	168,154
Grant	172,305	77,000	249,305	Shawano	208,786	261,237	470,023
Green	217,739	92,000	309,739	Sheboygan	188,995	77,000	265,995
Green Lake	237,353	77,000	314,353	Taylor	200,953	107,000	307,953
Iowa	206,114	110,000	316,114	Trempealeau	167,587	122,000	289,587
Iron	158,937	43,000	201,937	Vernon	195,332	139,950	335,282
Jackson	179,998	62,000	241,998	Vilas	193,245	31,000	224,245
Jefferson	251,710	44,000	295,710	Walworth	275,313	82,000	357,313
Juneau	336,298	546,000	882,298	Washburn	151,646	53,000	204,646
Kenosha	206,258	40,000	246,258	Washington	215,733	279,082	494,815
Kewaunee	209,530	61,000	270,530	Waukesha	271,947	47,000	318,947
LaCrosse	246,066	82,000	328,066	Waupaca	397,844	566,000	963,844
Lafayette	153,501	50,000	203,501	Waushara	194,005	90,000	284,005
Langlade	154,568	90,000	244,568	Winnebago	252,049	102,000	354,049
Lincoln	167,523	38,000	205,523	Wood	202,851	106,000	308,851
Manitowoc	214,382	197,000	411,382	DATCP NR243 Res.		300,000	300,000
Marathon	240,339	162,000	402,339	DNR NR243 Res.		1,000,000	1,000,000
				Sub-Totals	15,301,424	10,230,216	25,531,640
PROJECT COOPERATOR ALLOCATIONS							
UW Madison CALS SnapPlus			301,826	WLWCA			272,076
UW Extension NPM			277,625	WLWCA SOC			46,000
UW-SFAL			12,318	Nutrient Management Farmer Education			405,205
UW NOPP Support			60,000	Innovation Grants			-
				Sub-Total Cooperator Allocation			1,375,050
PROGRAM ALLOCATION TOTALS				\$ 15,301,424 \$ 10,230,216 \$ 26,906,690			

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

County	Structural Practice Awards				County	Structural Practice Awards			
	22-24 Cumulative Average Under-Spending*	2022 Census Acres**	22-24 Cumulative Total Dollars Spent***	Award		22-24 Cumulative Average Under-Spending*	2022 Census Acres**	22-24 Cumulative Total Dollars Spent***	Award
Adams	0.04%	114,792	\$83,969	\$47,000	Marathon	0.54%	477,577	\$85,187	\$67,000
Ashland	0.00%	68,629	\$146,169	\$50,000	Marinette	0.00%	132,155	\$55,976	\$44,000
Barron	0.00%	282,265	\$26,795	\$52,000	Marquette	13.62%	104,952	\$86,319	\$40,000
Bayfield	0.00%	93,254	\$141,719	\$57,000	Menominee	0.00%	290	\$44,681	\$20,000
Brown	0.00%	181,018	\$106,751	\$52,000	Milwaukee	0.00%	98	\$0	\$10,000
Buffalo	21.61%	309,976	\$30,828	\$45,000	Monroe	0.00%	263,476	\$81,266	\$52,000
Burnett	0.10%	77,858	\$214,634	\$25,000	Oconto	0.00%	194,482	\$84,367	\$52,000
Calumet	0.03%	143,801	\$80,889	\$50,000	Oneida	0.00%	42,083	\$22,522	\$32,000
Chippewa	0.00%	338,969	\$153,595	\$72,000	Outagamie	0.00%	241,653	\$239,235	\$72,500
Clark	0.00%	409,582	\$126,559	\$75,000	Ozaukee	0.01%	49,769	\$70,038	\$46,000
Columbia	2.33%	290,003	\$32,063	\$46,000	Pepin	1.62%	111,859	\$42,540	\$33,000
Crawford	0.00%	194,544	\$67,603	\$52,000	Pierce	0.00%	229,659	\$120,005	\$62,000
Dane	0.24%	449,464	\$145,425	\$77,000	Polk	0.00%	239,493	\$71,616	\$50,000
Dodge	4.23%	374,456	\$67,352	\$60,000	Portage	0.00%	273,256	\$128,248	\$62,000
Door	0.00%	108,658	\$7,450	\$27,000	Price	0.00%	84,387	\$67,468	\$47,000
Douglas	0.00%	67,866	\$38,753	\$30,000	Racine	0.00%	99,108	\$196,225	\$67,500
Dunn	0.00%	372,774	\$119,365	\$77,000	Richland	45.41%	244,767	\$58,309	\$35,000
Eau Claire	0.00%	168,016	\$51,393	\$42,000	Rock	0.41%	296,636	\$132,862	\$72,000
Florence	0.00%	17,926	\$34,000	\$31,000	Rusk	0.00%	118,421	\$136,284	\$57,000
Fond du Lac	1.57%	308,888	\$54,121	\$48,000	Saint Croix	0.00%	254,630	\$129,015	\$55,000
Forest	10.70%	27,368	\$3,887	\$14,000	Sauk	0.04%	298,103	\$97,792	\$62,000
Grant	0.00%	586,453	\$129,569	\$77,000	Sawyer	9.69%	40,786	\$3,167	\$16,993
Green	0.00%	282,888	\$151,218	\$72,000	Shawano	0.00%	253,092	\$51,872	\$42,000
Green Lake	0.00%	122,086	\$86,117	\$47,000	Sheboygan	0.02%	198,776	\$138,877	\$62,000
Iowa	0.00%	374,179	\$220,452	\$45,000	Taylor	0.00%	216,009	\$66,961	\$52,000
Iron	0.00%	8,578	\$88,348	\$41,000	Trempealeau	0.00%	296,684	\$105,138	\$62,000
Jackson	0.00%	228,011	\$157,433	\$62,000	Vernon	0.00%	354,885	\$97,828	\$67,000
Jefferson	0.00%	191,783	\$836	\$32,000	Vilas	0.00%	5,847	\$19,193	\$31,000
Juneau	0.06%	167,871	\$105,995	\$50,000	Walworth	0.00%	179,902	\$141,510	\$62,000
Kenosha	19.81%	67,322	\$33,812	\$30,000	Washburn	0.00%	70,390	\$66,242	\$47,000
Kewaunee	5.35%	168,893	\$76,331	\$46,000	Washington	0.00%	118,210	\$35,773	\$37,000
LaCrosse	0.00%	138,200	\$134,492	\$62,000	Waukesha	0.00%	70,268	\$45,278	\$37,000
Lafayette	1.65%	316,462	\$52,481	\$50,000	Waupaca	0.39%	230,412	\$157,038	\$62,000
Laporte	0.00%	109,487	\$35,009	\$35,000	Waushara	0.00%	149,098	\$96,980	\$50,000
Lincoln	0.00%	79,496	\$34,370	\$37,000	Winnebago	0.00%	145,208	\$74,189	\$52,000
Manitowoc	0.00%	236,367	\$90,358	\$52,000	Wood	0.00%	216,635	\$91,322	\$52,000
					TOTAL				\$3,536,993

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

*Graduated awards based on 3-yr avg underspending, excluding extended underspending: less than 1% = \$7,000, 1-1.99% = \$, 2-9.99% = \$1,000, >10% = \$0.

**Graduated awards based on 2022 Census acres: 350,000 or more=\$30,500; 275,000-349,999=\$25,000; 125,000-274,999=\$15,000; 50-124,999 = \$10,000; <50,000=\$4,000.

***Graduated awards based on 3-yr cumulative spending: \$190K+ = \$40,500; \$115K-189,999=\$30,000; \$60K-\$114,999 = \$20,000; \$19K-\$59,999 = \$10,000; <\$19,000 = \$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
Adams	40	4	\$45,000	<i>Marathon</i>	95	1	\$95,000
Ashland	50	3	\$30,000	Marinette	45	4	\$55,000
Barron	40	4	\$10,000	Marquette	80	2	\$75,000
Bayfield	35	4	\$30,000	Menominee			NA
Brown	70	2	\$60,000	Milwaukee	25	4	\$5,000
Buffalo	55	3	\$20,000	Monroe	55	3	\$50,000
Burnett	55	3	\$8,000	Oconto			NA
Calumet	60	3	\$40,000	Oneida			NA
Chippewa	85	2	\$75,000	Outagamie	60	3	\$60,000
Clark	85	2	\$75,000	Ozaukee	50	3	\$25,000
Columbia	80	2	\$75,000	Pepin	40	4	\$30,000
Crawford	25	4	\$8,000	Pierce	35	4	\$20,000
Dane	100	1	\$95,000	Polk			NA
Dodge	75	2	\$20,000	Portage	45	4	\$8,000
Door	60	3	\$10,000	Price			NA
Douglas	50	3	\$5,000	Racine	60	3	\$70,000
Dunn	75	2	\$20,000	Richland	45	4	\$20,000
Eau Claire	65	3	\$55,000	Rock	95	1	\$95,000
Florence			NA	Rusk	25	4	\$25,000
Fond du Lac	75	2	\$15,000	Saint Croix	60	3	\$45,000
Forest			NA	Sauk	60	3	\$60,000
Grant			NA	Sawyer	10	5	\$8,000
Green	40	4	\$20,000	Shawano	35	4	\$45,000
Green Lake	70	2	\$30,000	Sheboygan	45	4	\$15,000
Iowa	80	2	\$65,000	Taylor	65	3	\$55,000
Iron	25	4	\$2,000	Trempealeau	70	2	\$60,000
Jackson			NA	Vernon	75	2	\$72,950
Jefferson	50	3	\$12,000	Vilas			NA
Juneau	40	4	\$20,000	Walworth	40	4	\$20,000
Kenosha	20	5	\$10,000	Washburn	15	5	\$6,000
Kewaunee	40	4	\$15,000	Washington	50	3	\$30,000
La Crosse	65	3	\$20,000	Waukesha	25	4	\$10,000
Lafayette			NA	Waupaca	85	2	\$75,000
Langlade	50	3	\$55,000	Waushara	45	4	\$40,000
Lincoln	20	5	\$1,000	Winnebago	55	3	\$50,000
Manitowoc	95	1	\$75,000	Wood	65	3	\$54,000
TOTAL				\$2,299,950			
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			
NA= County did not apply for SEG funds							

DICTIONARY

Chapter 92: Wisconsin statute establishing soil and water conservation and animal waste management.

ATCP 50: State administrative rule (updated June 1, 2024) that provides the framework to cost-share conservation practices including nutrient management plans. It describes the parameters for grants for conservation practices; identifies the costs to be included in cost-share grants to landowners; identifies conservation practice standards available for cost-sharing; defines the requirements for a land and water resource management plan; establishes the process and priorities for allocating grants to support county conservation efforts; describes conservation compliance requirements for the farmland preservation program; describes the process to certify conservation engineering practitioners; establishes qualifications for nutrient management planners; allows for certification of soil and manure testing laboratories and ensures access to education and training opportunities.

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

Bond: Bond authority was appropriated to the department through state's biennial budget process prior to the 2023-2025 cycle. Bonds can only be used to fund projects with a minimum of a 10-year life span. County LCDs have used bonding for cost-sharing of hard practices. As of the 2024 Allocation Plan, the only bond funds are approved extension funds and the engineering reserve fund.

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

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

Farmland Preservation Program (FPP): Program through which counties are encouraged to plan for agricultural and agricultural-related uses; local governments may adopt zoning ordinances that restrict lands to agricultural or agricultural-related uses; landowners and local governments may jointly petition for an agricultural enterprise area (AEA) to qualify local areas important to Wisconsin's agricultural and economic future; landowners may enter into a farmland preservation agreement with the state for farms within an AEA to commit to keeping all or a part of their farm in agricultural use and to implement farm conservation practices for 15 years. Participating landowners must implement applicable soil and water conservation standards (see ATCP 50.04)* to qualify for an income tax credit. *Note: Landowners of farmland subject to a farmland preservation agreement must meet the soil and water conservation standards in place at the time the agreement was signed. Contact the department for assistance in determining which standards apply to a specific agreement.

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

Land Conservation Committee (LCC): Committee of county-board elected officials that oversee the LCDs.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Three programs are funded via these funds outside of the Allocation Plan:

- \$1,000,000 is directed to Producer-Led Watershed Grants.
- \$1,000,000 is directed to Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program
- \$800,000 is directed to crop insurance rebates for cover crops.

SEG funds are allocated on an annual basis and if not utilized they return to the Environmental Fund and are no longer available to the allocation.

SnapPlus/Soil Nutrient Application Planner: is the software program Wisconsin landowners and agronomists use to develop a compliant NM plan. The UW SnapPlus team developed, maintains, and offers technical assistance on SnapPlus.

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

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

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

TRM: Targeted Runoff Management. The TRM program is a competitive grant program administered by DNR for targeted nonpoint source pollution control projects. TRM grants use multiple funding sources to allocate funds to counties and non-county governmental units.

UNPS: Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management. The UNPS program administered by DNR for urban nonpoint source and storm water management projects. UNPS grants use multiple funding sources to allocate funds to counties and non-county governmental units for construction and planning projects.

Soil and Water Resource
Management Grant
Program and Nonpoint
Source Program



DATCP's Environmental Assessment

for the 2026 Joint Allocation Plan

Preliminary

August 2025

Soil and Water Resource Management Grant
Program and Nonpoint Source Program



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Signature Page and Final Determination

This assessment finds that the *2025 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 _____
Timothy J. Anderson, Administrator
Agricultural Resource Management Division

I. The Nature and Purpose of the Proposed Action

Each year the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), together with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), allocates grant funds to counties and others for the purpose of supporting county conservation staff, landowner cost-sharing, and other soil and water resource management (SWRM) activities. DATCP funds are allocated in accordance with chs. 92 and 281, Wis Stats. and ATP 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 2026 Joint Allocation Plan that accompanies this Environmental Assessment.

II. The Environment Affected by the Proposed Action

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

III. Foreseeable Environmental Effects of the Proposed Action

A. Immediate Effects

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

County Staffing: For the 2025-2027 biennium, the annual funding for conservation staff increases from \$11.2 million in 2025 to \$14.6 million in 2026. 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

- Supporting compliance with the state agricultural performance standards
- Facilitating landowner participation in state and federal cost-share programs
- Ensuring cross-compliance of producers in the farmland preservation program (FPP)
- Supporting the development of technical standards, nutrient management training, and coordination between the public and private sector.

The significant increase in staff and support grant funding will better enable counties to provide support for programs such as producer-led watershed councils, phosphorus and nitrate management, and creation of programming to address the persistence of intractable ground and surface water issues throughout the state.

Cost-sharing for conservation practices: Each year counties use cost-share funds to address state and local priorities identified in their local plans. In 2023 and 2024, counties spent a cumulative total of ~\$5.2 million in DATCP funds to install cost-shared practices. Table A highlights the top conservation practices funded by DATCP cost-share and spent by counties in 2023 and 2024.

Table A: Cost-Share Expenditure Comparison				
Conservation Practice	2023 Cost-Share Dollars Spent (in millions)	2023 Units of Practice Installed	2024 Cost-Share Dollars Spent (in millions)	2024 Units of Practice Installed
Barnyard Runoff Control	0.3	7 systems	0.15	10 systems
Manure Storage System	0.13	8 systems	0.26	7 systems
Manure storage Closure	0.43	49 systems	0.42	50 systems
Cover and Green Manure	0.46	17,381 acres	0.80	18,496 acres
Grade Stabilization	0.32	33 structures	0.39	45 structures
Livestock Watering Facilities	0.12	22 systems	0.12	25 systems
Nutrient Management Planning	1.0	25,902 acres	1.25	31,9612 acres
Prescribed Grazing /Permanent Fencing	0.09	84,583 feet	0.12	83,707 feet
Streambank Crossing	0.19	5,233 feet	0.18	1,688 feet
Streambank and Shoreline Protection	0.37	10,735 feet	0.35	10,386 feet
Waterway Systems	0.47	167 acres	0.47	2,073 acres

Notably, from 2023 to 2024 there was

- an increase in barnyard runoff control systems installed,
- an increase in cover and green manure practices installed, reflecting the multiple levels of cover crop support in ATCP 50, and
- continued significant grant funds to support nutrient management planning.

Long-Term Effects

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

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

With the increase to the staffing allocation for fiscal biennium 2025-2027, the amount of funding DATCP is able to give to support county conservation increased by \$3,375,100 from the 2025 allocation for a total of \$14.6 million. This level of funding covers the first and second positions fully and 71% of a third position (funded at 50%), the most funding ever available via SWRM staffing grants. Though this is a significant increase, the total staffing allocation required to meet the statutory goals for the program is \$15,362,388 and the total staffing requests in the 2026 applications is \$21,558,833.

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

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

B. Direct Effects

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

C. Indirect Effects

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

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

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

D. Cumulative Effects

While it is difficult to accurately gauge the cumulative effects of delivery of this allocation plan, it is clear that SWRM grant funds play an integral part in supporting a comprehensive framework of federal, state, and local resource management programs. With the increase to the staffing allocation for the 2025-2027 biennium, DATCP can provide support for 117 of the 387 conservation employees in the state's 72 counties. This helps to secure the foundation necessary for delivering myriad conservation programs, which, among other accomplishments, achieved the following:

- In 2024 the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provided \$87.6 million for conservation programs, including \$58.3 million in Environmental Quality Incentives (EQIP) payments to install conservation practices with the top five expenditures related

to cover crops (\$15.9 million), fencing (\$7.5 million), residue and tillage management (\$7.3 million), and livestock pipeline (\$6.9 million).

- The conservation reserve enhancement program (CREP) protects important soil and water resources while allowing landowners to make use of valuable adjacent agricultural lands. As of early 2025, there are 39,868 acres of water quality conservation practices currently under active agreements. During the 2024 federal fiscal year, the state processed and paid incentives for 118 CREP contracts totaling 1,160 acres. New enrollments account for 64 of the contracts on 407 acres with an additional reenrollment of 54 existing contracts on 753 acres that expired in 2024. Approximately 21.95 miles of stream or shoreline were buffered by CREP conservation practices (e.g. riparian buffers and filter strips) enrolled in federal fiscal year 2024. These practices have resulted in an estimated annual reduction of 2,355 pounds of phosphorus, 1,271 pounds of nitrogen, and 1,086 tons of sediment runoff.
- The DNR continued annual funding in 2024 for Targeted Runoff Management Projects (TRM), providing over \$2.3 million to counties to cost-share six small-scale and three large-scale projects. The DNR set aside \$1million for farms issued a notice of discharge. The DNR received two applications from counties for cost-sharing of Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Planning Projects. The Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Construction grants were not solicited for in 2024.

Table B: DNR Funding 2024		
Program	Number of Projects	Sum of Total Amount Awarded
Large-scale TRM	3	\$1,392,950
Small-scale TRM	6	\$1,068,357
Urban NPS & Storm Water Mgmt. Planning	2	\$29,015

- In 2023, through the Producer-Led Watershed Protection grant program, DATCP offered support to forty-three producer-led groups around the State, encompassing 2,016 producers managing 782,674 farmland acres. DATCP has awarded over \$5.2 million since the program's inception in 2016.
- In 2024 there were 67 fields with nitrogen rate trials across the state actively contributing to the data used to create nitrogen recommendations in Wisconsin.

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

A. Those Directly Affected

County Conservation Programs and Cooperators: The proposed allocation plan provides funding to support 72 county conservation programs. The increase to the staffing grant allocation for the 2025-2027 biennium will enable DATCP to completely support two employees per program and 71% of the requests for the third position (funded at 50%). The DATCP awards fall short of funding three staff per county at the prescribed rates in s. 92.14(6)(b), Stats, but funding levels are the highest in the program's history.

Landowners and Producers: Producers and other landowners rely on many services, including technical assistance provided by conservation staff funded with DATCP grants. They also benefit from cost-share dollars to install conservation practices. Long-term use of some conservation practices, such as nutrient management planning and cover crops, may have a positive impact on the finances of landowners and producers by helping plan needed purchases to maximize the yield of a field while minimizing additional fertilizers and pesticides required.

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

Farm-related businesses: Farm supply organizations, private agronomists, 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

Landowners whose soil and water resources are improved or protected as a result of DATCP funded activities benefit from DATCP allocations. Benefits may include protection of drinking water and improved soil health and stability or reduction in upstream nutrient and sediment delivery runoff. Certain measures, such as nutrient management plans and protective cropping practices, can help protect drinking water wells that serve neighboring landowners and communities. The public benefits from conservation practices that protect water resources and promote natural resources.

V. Significant Economic and Social Effects of the Proposed Action

DATCP grants support cost-sharing and technical assistance that enable producers and other landowners to meet their conservation goals and maintain eligibility for state program benefits. The economic impacts of installing conservation practices vary with each farmer and the type of practices involved. To receive cost-sharing, producers 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. By providing financial support to meet state runoff standards for farms, DATCP cost-sharing helps producers with the cost of compliance.

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

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

Socially, DATCP allocations provide needed support for the farming community and others who take an active role in the protection and preservation of natural and agricultural resources. Through the increased adoption of conservation measures, producers and landowners showcase their role as responsible and conscientious neighbors in rural communities. Improved water quality enhances recreational opportunities and protects the scenic rural landscape, two things that are features essential to tourism.

VI. Controversial Issues Associated with the Proposed Action

For the 2025-2027 biennium, the SWRM grant program will monitor impacts of the increase in staffing funds.

The \$7.0 million authorization for structural cost-sharing has not increased since 2002 and fails to meet current program needs. Over the last 20+ years, landowner costs for practices have increased for several reasons:

- Rising labor and material costs means construction costs of engineered practices in the last 5-10 years have increased significantly. ([United States Construction Market Trends | CBRE](#)).
- Expanded conservation responsibilities require producers to install more conservation practices. For example, DNR adopted new performance standards in 2011 and 2018, and DATCP tightened manure-spreading restrictions. These new requirements mean producers will have to adopt additional conservation practices to address conservation concerns. The Silurian bedrock standard will also influence the need for conservation practices in specific areas of the state.

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

VII. Possible Alternatives to the Proposed Action

A. No Action

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

B. Delay Action

DATCP is under legal obligation to make an annual allocation within a specific timetable. Furthermore, there is no financial justification for a delay since the funding is available. Delaying the grant allocation runs the risk of hampering counties in

meeting their legal responsibilities, including their contractual responsibilities to landowners, and undermines the significant environmental, economic, and social benefits of the program.

C. Decrease the Level of Activity

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

D. Increase the Level of Activity

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

E. Change the Amounts Allocated to Some or All Recipients

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

VIII. Mitigation of Adverse Environmental Effects

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

DATE: July 21, 2025

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

FROM: Joanna Griffin
DNR Watershed Management Bureau

SUBJECT: **DNR Proposed Scoring and Ranking of Targeted Runoff Management Applications for Calendar Year 2026 Funding**

Recommended Action: This is an informational item.

Summary: Through this memo, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is informing the Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) of the preliminary ranked list. Scoring results for projects being considered for calendar year (CY) 2026 funding are presented in the attached tables.

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

Scoring And Ranking Summary To Date:

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

- Eight (8) applications were submitted and are eligible for grant consideration.
- Funding requests for the applications total \$1,366,332.
- Based on available funding, the department proposes to allocate \$1,366,332 to fully fund grant requests from all projects.

B. Small-Scale Non-TMDL

- Two (2) applications were submitted and are eligible for grant consideration.
- Funding requests for the applications total \$390,121.
- Based on available funding, the department proposes to allocate \$390,121 to fully fund grant requests from both projects.

C. Large-Scale TMDL

- Six (6) applications were submitted and are eligible for consideration.
- Funding requests for these applications total \$2,897,957.
- Based on available funding, the department proposes to allocate \$2,897,957 to fully fund grant requests from all projects.

D. Large-Scale Non-TMDL

- No applications were submitted in this project category.

TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank for 2026

All projects were scored and then ranked by score for each project category.

The department will include final allocations to counties for TRM projects in the *CY 2026 Joint Final Allocation Plan*. Once the *2026 Joint Final Allocation Plan* is signed, the DNR will develop grant agreements for successful applications. During the grant agreement development process, funding amounts may be adjusted as necessary to reflect final cost-share rates and eligible project components.

While the federal government develops the federal fiscal year (FFY) 2026 budget, there is uncertainty about the availability of future of Section 319 funds and potential associated impacts to TRM grant funding. As more information is shared about the FFY 2026 federal budget, the DNR will be sure to notify applicants on the status of Section 319 funding in the 2026 TRM grant cycle and beyond.

All Large-Scale And Small-Scale TRM Applications

	Preliminary Allocation			
	Bond Revenue	GPR	319	Seg
Structural BMPs (including force account and engineering)	\$1,317,111	\$1,177,816	\$0	\$0
Non-Structural Practices (e.g., cropping)	\$0	\$684,780	\$588,804	\$209,050
Local Assistance	\$0	\$387,704	\$198,495	\$90,950
Total TRM	\$1,317,111	\$2,250,000	\$787,299	\$300,000

Large-Scale And Small-Scale TRM Applications From Counties

	Preliminary Allocation - Counties			
	Bond Revenue	GPR	319	Seg
Structural BMPs (including force account and engineering)	\$1,117,111	\$943,528	\$0	\$0
Non-Structural Practices (e.g., cropping)	\$0	\$234,780	\$588,804	\$209,050
Local Assistance	\$0	\$387,780	\$198,495	\$90,950
Total TRM	\$1,117,111	\$1,565,712	\$787,299	\$300,000

Materials Provided:

CY 2026 Small-Scale TMDL TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank

CY 2026 Small-Scale Non-TMDL TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank

CY 2026 Large-Scale TMDL TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank

TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank for 2026

Table 1. Small-Scale TMDL Project Applications

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	Big Round Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District	Big Round Lake Water Quality Goal Plan Implementation / Lake St. Croix TMDL Implementation-Alum 4	NOR	135.0	\$225,000	\$225,000
2	Washington County Natural Resources Department	Friess Lake Shoreline Restoration - Glacier Hills County Park	SER	133.4	\$212,082	\$437,082
3	Village of DeForest	Yahara River Streambank Stabilization - Phase 3	SCR	126.5	\$214,288	\$651,370
4	Balsam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District	Balsam Lake Water Quality Plan Implementation - Alum application 4 of 4	NOR	118.0	\$225,000	\$876,370
5	Manitowoc County	Mike Herzog Gully	NER	109.0	\$70,000	\$946,370
6	Village of Cascade	North Branch Milwaukee River/Nichols Creek Stream Restoration	SER	108.5	\$220,000	\$1,166,370
7	Shawano County	C&J Dairy Waste Storage	NER	105.0	\$174,237	\$1,340,607
8	Outagamie County Land Conservation Department	Claude Court Streambank Stabilization	NER	80.0	\$25,725	\$1,366,332

TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank for 2026

Table 2. Small-Scale Non-TMDL Project Applications

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	Marinette County Land Information Department - Land and Water Conservation Division	DeClark Farm Manure Management	NER	133.7	\$165,121	\$165,121
2	Dunn County Land & Water Conservation Division	Tom and Cindy Knutson Waste Storage Facility Project	WCR	115.6	\$225,000	\$390,121

TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank for 2026

Table 3. Large-Scale TMDL Project Applications

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	Waupaca and Outagamie County Land and Water Conservation Departments	Bear Creek	NER	194.7	\$600,000	\$600,000
2	Juneau County Land and Water Resources	Lemonweir-Brewer	WCR	189.8	\$600,000	\$1,200,000
3	Polk County Land and Water	Polk LWRM Plan Implementation in the Horse Lake - Horse Creek Watershed	NOR	170.5	\$499,929	\$1,699,929
4	Outagamie County Land Conservation Department	Middle Duck Creek	NER	165	\$298,028	\$1,997,957
5	Dane County Land and Water Resources Department	Spring Creek Watershed - Dane County	SCR	154.1	\$600,000	\$2,597,957
6	Outagamie County Land Conservation Department	Plum and Kankapot Creeks #3	NER	149.6	\$300,000	\$2,897,957

DATE: July 21, 2025

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

FROM: Joanna Griffin
DNR Watershed Management Bureau

SUBJECT: DNR Proposed Scoring and Ranking of Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management Applications for Calendar Year 2026 Funding

Recommended Action: This is an informational item.

Summary: Through this memo, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is informing the Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) of the preliminary ranked list for calendar year (CY) 2026 grant funding. Scoring results for projects being considered in CY 2025 are presented in the attached tables.

The DNR funds Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management (UNPS) projects under the authority of s. 281.66, Wis. Stats. The purpose of this program is to control polluted runoff from urban project areas. Funds may be used for two types of projects:

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

The DNR has been implementing an alternating schedule for UNPS Planning and UNPS Construction grants since 2016. UNPS Planning grant applications were solicited in 2025 for the CY 2026 award cycle. The UNPS Construction grant application will be available in 2026 for CY 2027 awards.

Scoring And Ranking Summary To Date For UNPS Planning Projects

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

- Eleven (11) applications were submitted; all are eligible for funding.
- Grant requests for the 11 eligible applications total \$639,556
- Based on available funding, the Department proposes to allocate \$639,556 to fully fund grant requests from all projects.

The attached table shows the current rank order of applications.

Once the *2026 Joint Final Allocation Plan* is signed, the DNR will develop grant agreements for successful applications. During the grant agreement development process, funding amounts may be adjusted as necessary to reflect final cost-share rates and eligible project components.

Preliminary Allocation SEG		
City	Village	County
\$480,481	\$124,000	\$35,075



UNPS Planning Scoring by Rank for 2026

Rank	Applicant	Region	Project Name	Score	State Share Requested
1	Bristol Village	NER	Stormwater Quality Management Plan Update	113.3	\$65,000
2	Neenah City	NER	City of Neenah 2026 Stormwater Management Plan	106.7	\$75,900
3	Marshfield City	WCR	Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study and BMP Reviews	103.4	\$75,000
4	Lannon Village	SER	Stormwater Quality Management Plan Update	102.3	\$59,000
5	Kenosha City	SER	City of Kenosha MS4/TMDL WinSLAMM Modeling	101.0	\$85,000
6	Waukesha City	SER	Stormwater Quality Management Plan	100.1	\$85,000
7	De Pere City	NER	Storm Sewer System Remodel	99.0	\$31,385
8	Sturgeon Bay City	NER	City of Sturgeon Bay Stormwater Management Planning	97.0	\$79,946
9	Kenosha County	SER	Kenosha County MS4/TMDL WinSLAMM Modeling	89.3	\$35,075
10	Wisconsin Rapids City	WCR	Storm Water Quality Master Plan Updates	89.1	\$10,500
11	Hartford City	SER	City of Hartford Stormwater Quality Master Plan	78.1	\$37,750

NRCS Wisconsin

Programs Update – August 2025



Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

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. Application batching dates are announced on [our website](#). All applications received by announced batching dates are being evaluated and considered for potential funding in FY25. Contact Melissa Bartz, melissa.bartz@usda.gov, for more information.

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

CSP assists landowners who practice good stewardship on their land and are willing to take additional steps over the next five years to further enhance their stewardship efforts. Applications are accepted on a continuous year-round basis. Application batching dates are announced on [our website](#). All applications received by announced batching dates are being evaluated and considered for potential funding in FY25. Contact Melissa Bartz, melissa.bartz@usda.gov, for more information.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

RCPP promotes coordination between NRCS and partners to deliver conservation assistance to producers and landowners. NRCS provides assistance through producer contracts or easement agreements. Projects cover unique geographic areas and have specific practices available to meet the project's goals. Reach out to your local field office staff to find out whether your location and resource concerns are a good fit for current RCPP projects. Contact Melissa Bartz, melissa.bartz@usda.gov, for more information.

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)

ACEP focuses on restoring and protecting wetlands, conserving productive agricultural lands, and conserving grasslands. Landowners are compensated for enrolling their land in easements. Applications for the ACEP are taken on a continuous basis. There were two application deadlines for FY25: October 4, 2024, and December 20, 2024. Over 30 applications were evaluated and ranked under sign up 1. Another 20 were ranked under the second sign up and selections have been made with 11 sites being offered enrollment agreements in FY25. Funding is available under General and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative fund pools. An application deadline for FY26 has not been set as of yet. Contact Dave Gundlach, ASTC-Easements, david.gundlach@usda.gov for more information.

NRCS Programs Quarterly Fiscal Update

Program Obligations		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	Financial Assistance	\$0	\$10.4M ^{ac}	\$26.2M ^{ac}	\$32.6M ^{ac}
	Contracts	0	364 ^{ac}	690 ^{ac}	785
Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)	Financial Assistance	\$15.4M	\$0	\$16.1M	\$38.8M
	New Contracts	0	0 ^c	23	457
	Renewal Contracts	316	316	316	316
Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)	Financial Assistance	0	\$1.9M ^c	\$1.9M	\$2M
	Contracts	0	69 ^c	69	73
	Easement Parcels	0	0	0	6
	Easement Financial	0	\$0	\$0	\$1.6M
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program– Agricultural Land Easements (ACEP–ALE)	Financial Assistance	\$0	\$347,400	\$615,600	\$615,600
	Parcels	0	3	4	4
	Acres	0	193	342	342
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program– Wetland Reserve Easements (ACEP–WRE)	Financial Assistance	\$0	\$0 ^c	\$4.6M ^c	\$5.5M
	Easements	0	0 ^c	9 ^c	11
	Acres	0	0 ^c	694 ^c	940

^aIncludes initiatives and special funding.

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

^cFunding decisions not yet complete for the fiscal year; not all apps have been fully obligated yet



NRCS Wisconsin 2024 Conservation Highlights and Results

Last year brought many opportunities for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Wisconsin to work with farmers, private landowners, and Tribal Nations through the 2018 Farm Bill and additional funding provided by the Inflation Reduction Act. In this Annual Report, you'll learn about our fiscal year 2024 NRCS conservation program successes, along with highlights of the work we do 'Helping People Help the Land' for future generations.

[Click here to read.](#)

High Tunnel Construction Through USDA-NRCS EQIP (in Hmong) Videos

This two-part video series was filmed in 2024 and was created in partnership with Renewing the Countryside and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Wisconsin, with additional support from Rooted, Groundswell Conservancy, FILMTROVERSE Productions, Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc., and Go Farm Connect.

This series follows Jer Thao, who received funding for the high tunnel constructed in the videos through the USDA-NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

[How to Build a High Tunnel \(Part 1\)](#)

[How to Build a High Tunnel \(Part 2\)](#)

Working with USDA-NRCS (in Spanish) Videos

This two-part video series was filmed in 2024 and created in partnership with Renewing the Countryside and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Wisconsin, with additional support from the Farley Center, Los Abuelos Farley Farm and Los Jalapeños CSA, and Bravebird Productions.

This series was filmed at Los Abuelos Farley Farm in southern Wisconsin and shows the process of how farmers can create a conservation plan with NRCS and explores four commonly implemented conservation practices).

[Working with NRCS: Creating a Conservation Plan](#)

[Working with NRCS: Eligible Conservation Practices](#)

Wisconsin Schools of Grazing Announces 2025 Educational Program Series for Livestock Producers

The Wisconsin Schools of Grazing offer unique, hands-on educational experiences designed to empower graziers with the knowledge and skills necessary to manage pasture-based livestock systems. Our programs combine classroom learning with practical fieldwork, ensuring participants leave with actionable insights tailored to their specific farming operations.

Teachers and technical experts will take attendees step-by-step through core skills such as estimating pasture yield, calculating paddock size, setting up fencing, and establishing a daily move with livestock. Three two-day sessions have been scheduled across Wisconsin to provide this in-depth managed grazing training.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Wisconsin Farm Technology Days

[Wisconsin Farm Technology Days](#) is an annual event that showcases the latest advancements in farming technology and practices. The event provides attendees with hands-on experiences, educational opportunities, and access to cutting-edge equipment and solutions in the farming industry.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service will feature a 70-foot soil pit to discuss all things conservation and soils. Come learn about and see firsthand the importance of healthy soils, soil structure, aggregation, no-till and more. Learn about the benefits of conservation on the ground and how we can help you with technical and financial assistance available through our programs. Join us August 5-7, 2025 in Clinton, Wisconsin and take a walk into the pit!

Questions?

For all media, communications, and NRCS visual guidance and branding inquiries, please contact Amanda Zelinski, amanda.zelinski@usda.gov, State Public Affairs Specialist.

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: Aug. 5, 2025

TO: LWCB members and advisors

FROM: Jason Knutson, Wisconsin DNR

SUBJECT: DNR Update, June – July 2025, For August LWCB Meeting

Surface Water Grants Program Update

The public notice period for the DNR Surface Water Grant Applicant Guide and Program Guidance was open from May 29, 2025 to June 23, 2025. The updated program guidance for FY26 was published to the [Surface Water Grant website](#) in July 2025. Notable changes and/or clarifications in FY26 include:

- There is a new application for AIS Surface Water Planning Grants. Funding is available in this category for four types of activities specified in guidance and the application.
- Scoring criteria within the Surface Water Grant ranking sheets for all grant categories except Land Acquisition have been updated. See Appendix A of the Surface Water Grant Applicant Guide for specifics.
- For the Lakes and Rivers Surface Water Planning category, two applications will be accepted per waterbody (lake, river, wetland, or portion thereof) regardless of size.
- A treatment area of 5 acres or less using 2-4,D or endothall is not an eligible expense in AIS Population Management grants, unless using a limno-barrier curtain or treatment is considered large-scale.
- The department developed a list of research priorities and encourages use of the list for the AIS Research & Demonstration category.
- The Grant Project Type summary has been updated for County Lake grants to better align with the Healthy Watersheds, High-Quality Waters (HWHQW) modeling and assessment results.
- Monitoring included within the scope of a management plan implementation project must be related to the practice or activity to be implemented within the same grant application.
- The list of ineligible costs specific to AIS Prevention grants has been updated.

- Information was updated about the request for Determination of Eligibility for Management Plan Implementation and AIS Population Management grants, including a list of specific items to be included in the request.
- Financial guidelines, including those for eligible expenses, grantee match, and reimbursements for Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) grants were updated
- Remote surveillance units were removed from list of Boat Landing Invasive Management System (BLIMS) examples. See Appendix A of the Surface Water Grant Applicant Guide for specifics.

Pre-applications are due on Sept. 15 and final grant applications are due on Nov. 15. More information, program guidance, and application forms are available at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/aid/SurfaceWater.html>.

CAFO WPDES Permit Backlog Update

As of July 1, 2025, the DNR reduced the CAFO WPDES permit backlog to below its goal of 15% (14.8%). As farm consolidation leads to an ever-increasing number of permitted CAFOs, the DNR implemented permit streamlining efforts, such as active tracking of each step in the permitting process and proactive communications to applicants throughout the permit reissuance process, to achieve this goal.

