



Land and Water Conservation Board Agenda

February 1, 2022

The Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) will meet on **February 1, 2022**. The board will hold its official business meeting at 9:00 am via Microsoft Teams. To attend the meeting, join by telephone at 608-571-2209 with Conference ID 277 839 627 # 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
 - e. Approval of agenda
 - f. Approval of December 7, 2021 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 Recognition of Eric Birschbach's Service to the LWCB -
Mark Cupp, LWCB
- 4 Election of 2022 Officers -
Mark Cupp, LWCB
- 5 Recommendation for approval of 5 year LWRM Plan review for Washburn County -
Brent Edlin, Conservation Coordinator, Washburn County LCD; Tim Kessler, LCC Chair
- 6 The Savanna Institute: *working to perennialize agriculture in WI and beyond*
Keefe Keeley, Director, the Savanna Institute
- 7 5-minute Break

*Mark Cupp, Chair; Eric Birschbach, Vice-Chair;
Bobbie Webster, Secretary*

*Members: Monte Osterman; Andrew Buttles; Ron Grasshoff; Mike Hofberger
Bob Mott; Andrew Potts; Sara Walling; Brian Weigel*

- 8 Recommendation for approval of LWRM Plan revision for Florence County -
Kelly Sleeter, Land Conservation Administrator, and Scott Goodwin, Land Conservation Technician, Florence County LCD; Adam Christensen, Environmental Planner, Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission; Rich Wolosyn, LCC Chair
- 9 CREP Program Update -
Brian Loeffelholz, DATCP
- 10 Gathering input from stakeholders and public on nonpoint funding -
Mark Cupp, LWCB
- 11 Recommendation for approval of SWRM waiver requests
Jennifer Heaton-Amrhein, DATCP
- 12 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
- 13 Planning for April 2022 LWCB Meeting -
Mark Cupp, LWCB
- 14 Adjourn

MINUTES
LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING

December 7, 2021
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Item #1 Call to Order—pledge of allegiance, open meeting notice, approval of agenda, approval of October 5, 2021 LWCB meeting minutes.

Call to Order

The Land and Water Conservation Board (Board) met via videoconference on **December 7, 2021**. 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, Eric Birschbach, Bobbie Webster, Ron Grasshoff, Andrew Buttles, Mike Hofberger, Monte Osterman, Brian Weigel, Andrew Potts, Bob Mott and Sara Walling. A quorum was present.

Advisors: John Exo (Division of Extension – UW Madison), Angela Biggs (NRCS), Ian Krauss (FSA) and Matt Krueger (WI Land + Water)

Approval of Agenda

Motion

Mott motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Potts, and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion

Webster motioned to amend the draft October 5, 2021 meeting minutes by revising the recorded second for the motion under item #11 to “Grasshoff” and correcting a typo within the WI Land + Water Agency Report, seconded by Hofberger, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion

Webster motioned to approve the October 5, 2021 meeting minutes as amended, seconded by Hofberger, 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 Land and Water Resource Management Plan Revision for Waushara County

Ed Hernandez, County Conservationist and Josh Saykally, Specialist, Waushara County LCD and Mark Piechowski, Land, Water and Education Committee Chair, made a formal presentation in support of a 10-year approval of the County's LWRM plan. A copy of their presentation is available on the LWCB's website lwcb.wi.gov.

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

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, Hofberger motioned to recommend approval of Waushara County's LWRM plan revision for a period of 10 years, seconded by Grasshoff, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #4 Video Series: Examples of Urban Nonpoint Management

The Managing Stormwater with Green Infrastructure in Greendale, WI and Kinnickinnic River: Pulaski Park Transformation videos, both of which were published by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, were presented to the Board. These videos are available online at LWCB's website lwcb.wi.gov under 2021 Meetings for December 7, 2021.

Item #5 Recommendation for Approval of Land and Water Resource Management Plan Revision for Milwaukee County

Tim Detzer, Principal Environmental Engineer, Milwaukee County Environmental Services; Felesia A. Martin, Milwaukee County Board Supervisor (7th District) and Brian Russart, Milwaukee County Parks Natural Areas Supervisor, made a formal presentation in support of a 10-year approval of the County's LWRM plan. A copy of their presentation is available on the LWCB's website lwcb.wi.gov.

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

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).

During the discussion between the Board and County representatives, Biggs speaking on behalf of the NRCS, announced the new NRCS Office of Urban Agriculture would be willing to assist Milwaukee County in matters related to urban agriculture. Milwaukee County representatives accepted the invitation.

Motion

After a discussion between the Board and County representatives, Osterman motioned to recommend approval of Milwaukee County's LWRM plan revision for a period of 10 years pending the following conditions 1) the County correct an LCD staff funding error within the 2021 Annual Work Plan and 2) respond to the Board's question on the absence of public outreach within the 2021 Annual Work Plan, seconded by Mott, and the motion carried unanimously.

Post Meeting Note: on December 16, 2021 Milwaukee County completed the pending Board requests denoted in the above motion.

Item #6 5-Minute Break

Item #7 Update on FSA Representation on County LCCs; Review of Board Powers and Duties under s. 92.04, Wis. Stats.

At the August 3rd Board meeting, the Board requested Department staff consult agency legal counsel regarding Farm Service Agency (FSA) representation on county Land Conservation Committees (LCCs). Responding to the Board's request, Lacey Cochart, DATCP presented a memo that outlined the Board authorities under Wis. Ch. 92 and the Department's response. Cochart informed the Board their August 3rd request falls outside of the statutory scope of the Board's duties under Wis. Ch. 92, therefore the Department may not intervene or provide guidance to the Board on this matter. The memo is available online at the LWCB website within the December 7, 2021 [meeting packet](#).

In addition to the memo, Cochart noted DATCP has commenced a program evaluation for the Land and Water Planning program and will continue to update land and water planning documents. Staff may reach out to LWCB members to gather feedback before the process concludes in April 2022.

During a discussion with agency representatives, Potts agreed to fulfill the Board request to have DOA attorneys review the situation with FSA representation on LCCs. Krueger, stated WI Land + Water could remove FSA designations from the WI Land + Water Members Directory. Krauss, stated he would inform FSA about the matters discussed here and report back to the LWCB at a later date.

Item #8 Recommendation for Approval of Land and Water Resource Management Plan Revision for Waukesha County

Alan Barrows, Land Resources Division Manager, Waukesha County Department of Parks and Land Use and Bill Mitchell, Land Use Parks & Environment Committee Chair, made a formal presentation in support of a 10-year approval of the County's LWRM plan. A copy of their presentation is available on the LWCB's website lwcw.wi.gov.

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

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

Motion

After a discussion between the Board and County representatives, Osterman motioned to recommend approval of Waukesha County's LWRM plan revision for a period of 10 years, seconded by Hofberger, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #9 Approval of Revisions to the LWRM Plan 5-Year Review Form & Plan Revision Guidance Document

Lisa Trumble, DATCP, presented to the Board revised copies of the LWRM Plan 5 Year Review Form and the Plan Revision Reference Document (previously known as the Plan Revision Guidance Document) for approval and implementation beginning in 2022. A memo summarizing the situation and copies of the revised documents are available online at the LWCB website within the December 7, 2021 [meeting packet](#).

Motion

After discussion with agency representatives, Potts motioned to approve the revised LWRM Plan 5-Year Review Form & Plan Revision Reference Document, seconded by Webster, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #10 Approval of Proposed 2022 LWCB Annual Agenda

Mark Cupp, LWCB and Zach Zopp, DATCP, presented to the Board the proposed 2022 LWCB Annual Agenda for approval. The 2022 annual agenda is comprised of six meetings, which occur on the first Tuesday of February, April, June, August, October, and December. A copy of the proposed agenda and cover memo are available online at the LWCB website within the December 7, 2021 [meeting packet](#).

Motion

After a discussion between the Board and agency representatives, Mott motioned to approve the 2022 LWCB Annual Agenda as presented, seconded by Birschbach, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #11 Agency Reports

FSA- Ian Krauss submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the December 7, 2021 [meeting packet](#).

NRCS – Angela Biggs submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the December 7, 2021 [meeting packet](#).

UW CALs & UW Ext - John Exo reported: the creation of the new Agricultural Water Quality Program that will focus on outreach; the [Wisconsin Agribusiness Classic](#) will be held from January 11 -13; general UW-CALs and UW-Extension staffing updates. In addition to the verbal report, Exo offered to continually collect input on soil and water research needs in order to facilitate a future internal discussion on the Board.

WI Land + Water- Matt Krueger reported: the annual WI Land + Water Conference will be held March 2-4 in-person; the County Conservation virtual meeting will be held December 16 & 17; summarized the status of conservation training programming, training volume and the ratio of in-person and virtual training; general WI Land + Water staffing updates.

DOA – Andrew Potts reported: DOA is reviewing the Federal infrastructure bill; working to implement items that were removed from the Governor’s Budget with Federal funding.

DATCP – Sara Walling submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the December 7, 2021 [meeting packet](#). In addition to the written report, Walling reported: the scope statement of ATCP 50 was approved by the DATCP Board and DATCP is currently collecting feedback on the scope statement; general DATCP staffing updates.

DNR – Brian Weigel submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the December 7, 2021 [meeting packet](#). In addition to the written report, Weigel reported: DNR program highlights are available on the [DNR Story Map](#) website; the DNR has concluded work on the Targeted Performance Nitrate Standard and will no longer seek to create a new rule.

Member Reports – Cupp reported that he would work with DATCP to draft a letter reminding Adams County of the need to report to the LWCB for a LWRM plan checkup.

Item #12 Planning for the February 2022 LWCB meeting

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

- One LWRM plan revision (Florence County)
- One LWRM 5-year plan review (Washburn County)
- CREP Program Update
- An update from the Chair on input from stakeholders and public on nonpoint funding
- Election of LWCB 2022 Officers

Item #13 Adjourn

Motion

Birschbach motioned to adjourn, seconded by Walling, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbie Webster, Secretary

Date

Recorder: ZZ, DATCP

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM _____ **State of Wisconsin**

DATE: January 20, 2022

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

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

SUBJECT: Five Year Review of the *Washburn 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 Washburn County land and water resource management plan has been approved through December 31, 2027 contingent on a five-year review conducted prior to December 31, 2022. In advance of the five-year review, Washburn 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
- 2021 Annual Workplan with Accomplishments
- 2022 Annual Workplan

Presenter: Brent Edlin, Conservation Specialist, Washburn County LCD
Tim Kessler, Land Conservation Committee Chair



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

County: Washburn

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.

Accomplishment - Establishment of the Shell Lake Watershed Council.

During the revision of our 2017 Land and Water Resource Management we used SNAP plus and STEPL as a planning tool to inventory and evaluate sources of non-point source pollution. Intuitively, when looking at man-made causes of NPS, (non-point source) pollution conservation practices targeting agricultural lands is where we feel we can get the most reductions.

Our focus is primarily on phosphorous reductions within our non-point source pollution abatement program. The 9-Key Element Planning process used numbers derived from these programs to quantify and strategically allocate our resources for preventing phosphorous runoff. Based upon what we learned during this planning process our efforts are now primarily focused on cover crops and rotational grazing. The decision to concentrate on these practices is based upon their limited adoption by the farming community that is occurring. Our goal is to build on this momentum. For this we use funds from the Farmer Led Council for an incentive program and for sponsoring educational events supporting their use. Going through the Farmer Led Council, where the farmers are advocates accelerates the adoption of these practices. While reductions vary on a field by field basis and on a pasture to pasture basis, on average both practices reduce phosphorous runoff by approximately a half a pound per acre. For rotational grazing this is based upon comparing conventional continuous grazing system to a rotational grazing system.

Reductions from cover crops were tracked and quantified, and in 2021 this amounted to 621 acres of cover crops with an estimated 310.5 lbs. of P reduction at a cost of \$33 per pound. Staff time assessed for running this program was less than a hundred hours. While the phosphorous reduction numbers do vary dependent on modelling programs used, they have been consistent with the results of other Producer Led Watershed Councils. What we are not measuring but is an important component of this, is the adoption of cover crops on fields not receiving incentive payments due to practice acceptance by the farming community and the increase in farmers practicing rotational grazing through the promotion of these practices.

Accomplishment - Increased the targeting of our Soil and Water Resource Management funds towards practices that support managed rotational grazing.

Within Washburn County there is just under 40,000 acres of pasture with most of it in a conventional continuous grazing system. The initial cost for fencing and watering systems is generally recognized as the main barrier for farmers adopting this system of pasture management. We typically spend 40-60% of our SWRM funds targeting practices that support rotational grazing.

Reductions in non-point is based on a farmer going from conventional to rotational grazing (0.5 Lbs./Ac. P Reduction) and, when turning a cropped field into a managed rotationally grazed pasture. When a farmer turns a crop field into a rotational grazed pasture the reductions in non-point pollution is significantly higher ranging from 2 pounds to 12 pounds of P reduction. Assessment for reductions uses SNAP Plus and is compared against average cropping practices within the county. An important note to this, is these reductions are maintained for many years but are not tracked that way. Future plans will look at a system for assessing and tracking these reductions to better validate the use of funds here.

Accomplishment – WCLRA Blue Ribbon Shoreline Committee was formed.

Washburn County has over 943 lakes. The planning processes we have undergone shows our investment in time and money has limited returns when it comes to decreasing non-point source pollution with lake projects. Unlike ag practices where a project with one landowner can affect hundreds of acres, with lakeshore owners, an owner typically controls a fraction of an acre. However, these lakes do have an enormous impact on the economy of the area. To increase our impact, we formally teamed up with the Washburn County Lakes and Rivers Association and formed the WCLRA Blue Ribbon Shoreline Committee. In 2021, we applied for a Surface Water Grant and completed 9 shoreline projects together. Another surface water grant has been applied for, for 2022.

Accomplishment- Establishment of an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Management program.

With Washburn County being the third largest County with the most lakes, it is essential both recreationally and economically to keep our lakes and rivers free of invasive species. The WI DNR Education, Planning and Prevention Grants have allowed us to build a strong network with lake associations and numerous partners such as WCLRA, County Land Conservation Departments, UW-Extension, Wild River Conservancy, Fish and Wildlife (FWS) and WI DNR. Many volunteers are engaged in monitoring and/or controlling invasive species. We also have established a strong countywide Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) inspection program, educating over 200,000 boaters. Zebra mussels were discovered in Big McKenzie in 2016 by a landowner, the first lake in the 12 Northwest counties. A management team formed to initiate a prevention response, which engages lake associations and professional partners in monitoring efforts. In 2018, Washburn and Burnett Counties created the first “Decontamination Ordinance” in the state. There are currently 16 decontamination stations set up at boat landings throughout the county, maintained by lake association volunteers. Since then, Bayfield, Barron and Polk Counties have established the same ordinance.

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.

The area we continue to have difficulties in, is in making progress on having farmers completing nutrient management plans. The reason why, we believe is the requirement to maintain the nutrient management plan into perpetuity which makes them apprehensive to sign up for these funds. Additionally, what we hear from the cash croppers is they feel they are already following a nutrient management plan. With the plan being done with their coop or consultants and don't feel an additional plan has any value to them.

We have had two training sessions here recently, one in 2020 and another in 2018. We have run into the problem of poor attendance and the one-day training sessions not being enough time to complete their NMP plan.

The plan is to work with the Shell Lake-Yellow River Producer Led Council and add more nutrient management into the educational events. The Producer Led does offer a five dollar per acre incentive for taking soil tests. Success on this has been very limited. In the future we'll do a direct mailing to the remaining dairy farmers. Without FPP getting them to sign up may remain a challenge.

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.

Our priority farm strategy is to work with the remaining dairy farms, farmers receiving notice of intent from the DNR, farms assessed as high level of Phosphorous loss and unused manure storage pits.

Farms assessed for high levels of Phosphorous runoff:

Several transect surveys were completed to determine erosion rates and conservation practices with our last one being done in 2016. In 2016, as part of our 2017 Land and Water Plan revision, the fields, pastures, and barnyards were inventoried on two separate HUC 12 watersheds. These two watersheds were chosen based on their relatively high level of farming being conducted within them. The 9 key element planning process was used. The knowledge gained here was then transferred to the rest of the county. The inventory showed the best approach wasn't to target a farm per say, but to choose practices for greater non-point source pollution reductions. For fields we use cover crops, for pasture and barnyards we use practices that support rotational grazing. For barnyards, as the amount of dairy farms went from 181 in 1982 to 21 in 2017, with a more recent assessment having it down to 10, many of these farmers moved away from dairy and went into beef production. What we saw occurring, is that they often continued to feed and water their livestock next to the barn. With the high amount of impervious surfaces in these areas, phosphorous laden runoff is relatively high. To counter this, we've put in six different watering systems within the last five years to move the cattle away from the barnyard and into rotational grazed pastures.

Our outreach to farmers, targeting conservation practices such as well abandonment and manure storage abandonment initially used newspaper articles. The response by the farming community was minor. An assessment for a plan B needed to be done. Previously the majority of the work we had been doing in the county was on lakeshore conservation practices. While initially we tried to go the same route of doing newspaper articles, we knew from this experience that most of our contacts were from developing relationships. Where other counties were able to use the Farmland Preservation Program, Washburn County opted to not update their Farmland Preservation Plan to qualify for FPP in 2016. Additionally, prior to the Soil and Water Resource Management Program this office consisted of one-part time employee working out of the NRCS office. In 1999 using funds from SWRM program the office expanded to four and then went down to what is now, 2.2 employees. This office being relatively new to the farming community and without Farmland Preservation, relationship has to be a priority. In 2019 we looked at forming a Producer Led Watershed Protection Group for this and did so, in 2019.

Farmers receiving notice of intent from the DNR:

In the last twenty-two years we have worked with the DNR on five different NR 151 agricultural performance standards enforcements. None of them reached notice of intent level, with all five being brought into compliance with the standards prior to taking this step.

Unused manure storage pits:

We've completed four manure storage abandonments within the last five years. An inventory using aerial photos and direct mailing to owners, outlining our cost share program will be used in the future. Generally speaking, we've been running out of funds to pursue this so far.

Grants used in addition to SWRM Grant:

- AIS Grant 5X
- DNR Surface Water Grant 4X
- Producer Led Grant 3X

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

We feel the goals emphasizing rotational grazing and cover crops will continue. Improvements on this will predominantly come through the relationship building coming from our involvement with the Producer Led Group. This can also be said about our relationship we have with Washburn County Lakes and Rivers Association.

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.

Guidance on 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 this form (including attachments) on: 1-7-2022

Signature of Authorized Representative: Brent G. EdL **Date:** 1/20/2022
(e.g. County Conservationist, LCC chair)

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

WASHBURN COUNTY 2021 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"> • Cropland 		
Cropland	Planting Cover Crops 070300010401 Beaver Brook 070300010405 Rice Lake-Yellow River 070300010404 Rocky Ridge Creek 070300010403 Shell Lake 070300010402 Spooner Lake-Yellow River 070300010802 Bashaw Brook 070300010805 South Fork of the - North Fork of the Clam River	609 acres of cover crops 304 lbs. P reduced
Soil health	Promotions and educational event – County Wide	2 educational field days covering soil health including low disturbance manure injection & cover crops as forage
Nutrient management	Nutrient management plans	0 acres additional
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock 		
Livestock Converting row crop acres into Managed Rotationally Grazed Pastures	Assist in providing infrastructure supporting Rotational Grazing for taking row crop fields out of production, turning continuously grazed pastures into rotationally grazed pastures and to move livestock away from barnyards. 070300010401 Beaver Brook 070300010405 Rice Lake-Yellow River 070300010404 Rocky Ridge Creek 070300010403 Shell Lake 070300010402 Spooner Lake-Yellow River 070300010802 Bashaw Brook 070300010805 South Fork of the - North Fork of the Clam River	2 watering system 6,639 feet of fencing 26 Acres into RGP 13 lbs. P reductions per year
Livestock	Promoting Rotational Grazing – county wide	1 pasture walk
	Clean water diversion (feet)	850 feet
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality 		
Shoreline Buffer	Obtain Healthy Lakes Grant from DNR	7 native restoration plantings 5,800 ft2 total area

WASHBURN COUNTY 2021 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Erosion Control	Reducing erosion along lake shorelines and streambanks – county wide	346 feet of shoreline or protection 0.5 acres critical area treatment
Stormwater Infiltration	Installing infiltration devices – county wide	1 – storm water infiltration devices
Groundwater protection	Prevent contamination of the groundwater by closing off conduits to it.	1 – well abandonment

• **Invasive**

Invasive species	<p><i>Aquatic Invasive Species</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clean Boats Clean Waters Inspection Program 2. Zebra Mussel Monitoring Using: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zebra Mussel Sampler Plates - Zebra Mussel Veliger Tows - Environmental DNA testing 3. DNR Early Detection Monitoring Protocol 4. Encourage Decontamination Stations 5. Citizen Lake Monitoring Program 6. Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Program 7. Yellow Flag Iris Control 8. Educational outreach, workshops, conferences 9. Youth Conservation Poster and Speaking Contest 10. Implement County-wide AIS Strategic Plan <p>Terrestrial Invasive Species</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hands-on Workshops with CWMA support 2. General Educational Outreach 	<p><i>Aquatic Invasive Species</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2 CBCW workshops, 188 hours of County-wide inspections 2. 22 lakes with ZM monitoring plates 7 lakes sampled for ZM veligers 0 lakes environmental DNA testing 3. 0 lakes monitored for AIS Early Detection 4. 4 new stations installed/maintained by lake associations 5. 1 AIS identification workshop conducted on a river 6. Project didn't occur 7. 1 Yellow Flag Iris & Purple loosestrife workshop 8. 1 Northwest Lakes Conference presentation, 2 at WI Water Week, 1 at WI Land and Water Conference. 1 pressure washer educational video made. Educational articles submitted to newspaper, lake associations. Many email inquiries about control of AIS. 9. 50 youth posters, 8 youth speakers (virtual) participated. <p><i>Terrestrial:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1 Japanese Knotweed Workshop 2. Many site visits made upon request for control advice
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• **Wildlife**

Wildlife	<p>Wildlife damage program</p> <p>Tree, shrub and native plant sales</p>	<p>Fiscal management</p> <p>Sold 8100 Conifers, 1300 deciduous trees/shrubs Sold 3400 native plant plugs</p>
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• **Watershed**

Watershed strategies	TMDL coordination	1 – Lake Management plan assist (Completed Watershed analysis, for Mathews Lake watershed - phosphorous, nitrogen and sediment sources and quantities)
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**WASHBURN COUNTY 2021 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

	Producer-led watershed based area	Grant application Incentive program Fiscal Management Annual report Promotion (news releases, web page, mailing list, email lists, signs etc.) 2 Field days & 1 conference
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Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits anticipated to be issued
Feedlot permits		
Manure storage construction and transfer systems		
Manure storage closure		
Livestock facility siting		
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	1	24
Stormwater and construction site erosion control		
Shoreland zoning		
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	5	5
AIS No Transport/ Decontamination Ordinance	Maintain two decontamination stations. Work with Sheriff Department with enforcement	0 not permitted

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	
For NR 151	
Animal waste ordinance	0
Nonmetallic mining	15

**WASHBURN COUNTY 2021 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities not already applied to other areas.

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

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

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
Staff	4400	148,229
Support Costs		\$62,663
Cost Sharing – SWRM Bond		44,900
Cost Sharing – SWRM SEG		6,000
Cost Sharing – DNR Healthy Lakes		5172
Cost Sharing – Producer Led		12750
DNR AIS Grant		19,700

Washburn County 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

CATEGORY (goal and objective from LWRM plan can be added in each category)	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS If applicable identify focus areas, e.g. HUC 12 watershed code (examples of types of “planned activities” in italics)	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (examples in italics)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cropland</i> 		
Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management	<p>Planting Cover Crops</p> <p>070300010803 Sand Creek</p> <p>070300010401 Beaver Brook</p> <p>070300010405 Rice Lake-Yellow River</p> <p>070300010404 Rocky Ridge Creek</p> <p>070300010403 Shell Lake</p> <p>070300010402 Spooner Lake-Yellow River</p> <p>070300010802 Bashaw Brook</p> <p>070300010805 South Fork of the - North Fork of the Clam River</p> <p>Educational events covering soil health – County wide</p> <p>Educational event covering nutrient management planning</p> <p>Attend Cover Crop Conferences and or training event</p>	<p>900 - Acres of cover crops, 450 lbs. of P reduction @ \$18,000 FLC Grant</p> <p>2 – sponsored educational events covering soils health @ \$800 FLC Grant</p> <p>1 - sponsored educational event covering nutrient management planning @ \$400 FLC Grant</p> <p>1 - attend cover crop conference with Farmer Led Council members and farmers w/in watershed @ \$600 FLC Grant</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Livestock</i> 		
Livestock	<p><i>Assist in providing infrastructure supporting rotational Grazing for taking row crop fields out of production, turning continuously grazed pastures into rotationally grazed pastures and to move livestock away from barnyards.</i></p> <p>070300010401 Beaver Brook</p> <p>070300010405 Rice Lake-Yellow River</p> <p>070300010404 Rocky Ridge Creek</p> <p>070300010403 Shell Lake</p> <p>070300010402 Spooner Lake-Yellow River</p> <p>070300010802 Bashaw Brook</p> <p>070300010805 South Fork of the - North Fork of the Clam River</p>	<p>1 - Cattle Lane, \$4,000 SWRM Grant</p> <p>1 – Cattle stream crossing, \$5,000 SWRM Grant</p> <p>1 - 8000 feet of fencing, \$11,000 SWRM Grant</p> <p>30 – lbs./year ∞ years. of P reduction</p> <p>1 – Watering System, \$4,000 SWRM</p>
Livestock	<p><i>Educate and promote rotational grazing County Wide</i></p>	<p>2 field days @ \$800 FLC Grant</p>

Washburn County 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

• *Water quality*

<p>Water quality/quantity</p> <p>Lake and River Shoreline Protection</p>	<p>Shoreline Buffers</p> <p>Shoreline Protection</p> <p>Critical Area Treatment</p> <p>Infiltration basin</p> <p>Manure Storage abandonment</p> <p>Well Abandonment</p>	<p>10 - shoreline native plant restorations, \$6,000 WDNR Healthy Lakes Grant</p> <p>4 – Shoreline stabilization e.g. riprap, 350ft (P reduction = 0.037 lbs./ft./yr.) 13 lbs. of P Reduction ∞ years @ \$10,000 SWRM</p> <p>1 - 0.1 acres, 9 lbs./yr. for ∞ years @ \$4,5000 SWRM</p> <p>1- 3 acres of treatment, 0.8 lbs. P /year ∞ years @ \$1,000</p> <p>1 @ \$7000</p> <p>2 @ \$1,500</p>
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• *Forestry*

<p>Forestry</p>	<p>Tree, shrub, native plant sales</p>	<p>Sell 8100 Conifers, 1300 deciduous trees/shrubs</p> <p>Sell 3000 native plant plugs</p>
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• *Invasive*

<p>Invasive species</p>	<p><i>Aquatic Invasive Species</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct Clean Boats Clean Waters Inspections 2. Zebra Mussel Monitoring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zebra Mussel Sampler Plates - Zebra Mussel Veliger Tows 3. DNR Early Detection Monitoring Protocol 4. Encourage Decontamination Stations 5. Citizen Lake Monitoring Program 6. Purple Loosestrife Control 7. Yellow Flag Iris Control 8. Educational outreach, workshops, conferences 9. Youth Conservation Poster and Speaking Contest <p><i>Terrestrial Invasive Species</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hands-on Workshops with CWMA support 2. General Educational Outreach 3. Japanese Knotweed Inventory 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2 workshops, 150+ hours of County-wide inspections 2. 22 lakes with ZM monitoring plates 4 new lakes to conduct ZM veliger testing 3. 2 lakes monitored for AIS Early Detection 4. 2 new stations installed/maintained by lake association 5. 1 classroom workshop, 1 in field workshop. 4 lakes monitored by citizen volunteers. 6. Engage youth groups and shore owners to manually remove and cut stems. 7. Engage shoreline landowners to manually remove and cut the flower heads along their shoreline. Conduct 1 educational workshop. 8. 100 people from lake associations/districts, schools, general public via webinars, and in person if feasible for all programs listed above and upon request by landowners. AIS Story Map on department website with maps showing locations and control areas. 9. 6 youth speakers, 30 Posters from two schools. <p><i>Terrestrial:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2 educational workshops/year with landowners -Buckthorn/Honeysuckle/Japanese Knotweed
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Washburn County 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. 2 newsletters articles and include into social media posts and include on County Website 3. Map new stands of Japanese Knotweed and send letters to landowners encouraging to control it.
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• *Wildlife*

Wildlife	County Wildlife Damage Program	Fiscal Manager and LCC Committee sets crop prices
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• *Urban*

Urban issues		
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• *Watershed*

Watershed strategies	Producer-led	<p>2 to 3 - meetings with Producer Led (Annual Plan development, Annual Plan Review & Application Review)</p> <p>1 ~ Using SNAP Plus input of cover crops to determine P, N and sediment reductions and to track fields</p>
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• *Other*

Other	<i>Non-metallic mining</i>	<p>2 - Plan reviews</p> <p>4 - Inspections</p>
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Washburn County 2022 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
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	1	1
Manure storage closure	1	1
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	4	24
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	4	4
Other		

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	
For NR 151	4
Animal waste ordinance	1
Nonmetallic mining	6

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

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

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

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
Staff	4180	131,069.61
Support Costs		\$64,663
Cost Sharing – SWRM Bond		47,000
Cost Sharing – SWRM SEG		6,000
Cost Sharing – DNR Healthy Lakes		6,000
Cost Sharing – Producer Led		21,000

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM _____ **State of Wisconsin**

DATE: January 20, 2022

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

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

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

Action Requested: This is an action item. The department has determined that the *Florence 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, 2031, and would be subject to a five year review prior to December 31, 2026.

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

Florence County held a public hearing on December 6, 2021, as part of its public input and review process. The Florence 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
- 2021 workplan with accomplishments and current 2022 workplan

Presenters: Kelly Sleeter, County Conservationist, Florence County LCD
Scott Goodwin, Land Conservation Technician
Rich Wolosyn, Land Conservation Committee Chair
Adam Christensen, Environmental Planner, Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission



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: Florence County

Date Plan Submitted for Review: 12/10/2021

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"/>	iii, 44, 61
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	10/20/2021		
2. Provide the date the county held a public hearing on the LWRM plan ¹	12/6/2021		
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	Feb 2022		
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"/>	35-36
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"/>	13, 17
ii. identification of the causes and sources of the water quality impairments and pollutant sources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12, 16

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

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

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

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----|
| iii. identification of areas within the county that have water quality problems that merit action within the next 10 years. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 36 |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----|

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 type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | N.A. |
| b. pollutant load reduction targets for the watersheds, if available | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | N.A. |

Other comments: Available watershed information is found on pages 14-22

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"/> | 16 |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----|

Other comments: _____

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"/> | 41,55-57 |
| b. State and local regulations used to implement the plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 39, 48 |
| c. Compliance procedures that apply for failure to implement the conservation practices in ATCP 50, ch. NR 151 and related local regulations | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 39, 40 |
| d. Relevant conservation practices to achieve compliance with performance standards and prohibitions and to address identified water quality and erosion problems | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | App D |
| e. A system for meeting county responsibilities to monitor the compliance of participants in the farmland preservation program | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 41 |
| 2. Does the LWRM plan (or accompanying work plan) estimate: | | | |
| a. expected costs of implementing the plan including cost-sharing for conservation practices needed to achieve plan objectives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | W.P. |
| b. the staff time needed to provide technical assistance and education and outreach to implement the plan. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | W.P. |

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.

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"/>	36,37
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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"/>	50 - 57
2. Does the LWRM plan describe coordination activities with local, state and federal agencies?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	49

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"/>	59

Other comments:

VIII. EPA SECTION 319 CONSIDERATIONS

1. IS THE COUNTY WORKING WITH DNR TO SEEK EPA APPROVAL OF THIS PLAN AS MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF A 9 KEY ELEMENT PLAN UNDER SECTION 319 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT: No

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

Staff Signature: *Lisa K. Trumble*

Date: January 11, 2022

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.



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

County: Florence 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 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.**

Stormwater & Floodplain

The 2017-2021 Workplans listed stormwater control, construction site erosion control, and floodplain protection as goals. Under this the Florence County LCD, working with multiple partners has:

- Replaced or repaired eight Road-Stream Crossings (Steam Crossing (578), Access Road (560)) in partnership with county or municipal government departments.
- An additional 578 & 560 contract was signed in 2021 for installation in 2022.
- Beginning in 2019 an assessment of existing Road-Stream Crossings (RSX) was started, as some RSX sites have not been assessed for over a decade.
- This survey started, and continues, informally, however after consultation with our DNR Transport Liaison, funding will be sought in 2023 to formalize a new RSX survey for the Pine-Popple, Brule, and Pemebonwon watersheds.

These projects have improved resiliency to sudden run-off events, reduced erosion and sediment loads in the streams, and improved passage for aquatic organisms. Many of these projects have been in partnership with the We Energies Mitigation & Enhancement Fund and Trout Unlimited.

Erosion Control, Wildlife Habitat, & Water Quality

All 2017-2021 Workplans set reducing erosion, improving wildlife habitat and maintaining water quality as goals. Our work with private landowners during this period has resulted in the installation of:

- Two Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580) projects totaling approximately 250 feet of shore protected from erosion.
- Three Critical Area Plantings (342) using vegetated geotextile bags totaling 1,150 square feet
- 175 feet of Grassed Waterway (412) and Shoreland Habitat (643A)
- One Grade Stabilization Structure (410) of 750 cubic feet protecting approximately 2,060 square feet of lake shore.

Invasive Species Programs

In our Workplan's on-going efforts to reduce the spread of Aquatic invasive Species (AIS). Under our Clean Boats, Clean Waters program Florence County LCD staff, including summer LTEs, covered:

- 17 separate boat landings in the county.
- Inspected 17,372 boats.
- Contacted 40,007 people.

Since 2016 we have also conducted monitoring of 184 lakes, rivers, and flowages. This work included in-field chemistry and water quality testing, AIS surveys, documentation of, and working with lake associations to respond to, new AIS infestations.

Started efforts to recruit new volunteers and expand the small Citizens Lake Monitoring Network in the county with some success, although the COVID-19 pandemic has slowed this work. Funding for this was through DNR AEPP and now LMPN grants.

In partnership with our local Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA), the Wild River Invasives Species Coalition (WRISC) approximately 60 acres of Florence County have been treated for a variety of invasive plants such as garlic mustard, wild parsnip, buckthorn, and others.

Technology

The Florence County LCD has expanded our use of new technologies to improve our capabilities. In 2017 Florence County purchased a *Matrice 600 Pro* Small Unmanned Aerial System (sUAS), a.k.a. drone for use by any county department. This purchase was made through a grant to the Land Information Department. The sUAS went into service in 2018. Under CFR 14 §107 one Florence County Land Conservation Department staff is certified by the Federal Aviation Administration as a Remote Pilot. The LCD has used the sUAS to:

- Map invasive species infestations.
- Create 2D orthomosaic maps and 3D models of conservation practice sites for improved design and construction.
- Started testing the use of a multi-spectral camera and different Vegetative Indexes for:
 - Tracking the emergence of invasive plants in an effort to find the leading edge of infestations.
 - Monitoring of tree health on County Forest lands.
 - Observe the health of agricultural crops.

In 2018 the LCD purchased a *Deep Trekker DTG2 Worker* Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) through the use of retained fees, direct donations from county residents, and some departmental levy funds. The DTG2 is equipped with a 4K resolution camera, additional lighting, and a gripper claw to grab objects and collect samples. We have used this ROV for monitoring of surface waters for invasive species and solid waste pollution. Additionally, LCD staff have assisted the Florence County Sheriff's Department with the location of a submerged pick-up truck and evidence from burglaries including two firearms.

In 2018 the Florence County Land Conservation Department established a Surface Water Testing Laboratory to conduct in-house chemistry testing of water samples from lakes of special concern. Funding of this project was through levy funds, the Buildings & Grounds Department, and a grant from the Lumberjack RC&D Council. Since that time fourteen lakes have been sampled following the WisCALM standards of testing multiple times per season for two years. We also have worked in partnership with the Florence County Health Department to allow their staff to conduct nitrate testing of ground water samples sharing the LCD's laboratory equipment. While

the Surface Water Laboratory is not currently a state certified laboratory for the LCD's testing, the laboratory is certified for ground water nitrate testing by the County's Health Department.

Education & Outreach

All 2017-2021 Annual Workplans have called for educational programming. To that end, we have held

- School and public education programs on shoreline restoration and pollinator plantings.
- An agriculture-focused soils workshop with WUEX and NRCS staff participation and demonstrations.
- Five training sessions for Clean Boats, Clean Waters and AIS identification.
- Promoted and financially supported local students to attend the L+W Envirothon as well as the annual Poster & Speaking contests.
- Provided financial assistance and education sessions for the Food, Fun, and Fitness summer programs.
- Met with multiple Lake Associations annually to report our findings of their lakes and to hear their concerns and problems.
- Hosted the North Central Land & Water Conservation Area Association Winter meeting with the Area Poster & Speaking Contest.
- We were scheduled to host the 2021 Summer Tour for the North Central Land & Water Conservation Area Association; however, this was pushed back to 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additional Work

Land Conservation Staff have consulted with approximately 30 landowners on issues including shoreline erosion, Shoreland Zoning violations and remediation, terrestrial invasive species treatment, pollinator plantings, discussions on developing Nutrient Management Plans, nutrient spreading, agricultural soil testing, and wildlife habitat improvement.

The Florence County Conservation Technician was a member of the Shoreland Stabilization and Outreach Project (SSOP) Workgroup that developed the newly published *Shoreline Stabilization A Guide for Homeowners and Conservationists on inland Lakes and Flowages* handbook that has been distributed to all 72 Wisconsin counties, and is available online.

- 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.**

The Florence County LCD was not able to make much headway on agricultural related programs such as producer adoption of Nutrient Management Plans, and none of our conservation practices in the past five years had an agricultural focus. This is an area we would like to improve on however, please see the response to [Question 3](#).

While agriculture does remain in the new LWRM plan's Goals and Objectives as the amount of farming in Florence County has decreased, so too has the LCD's focus on this aspect. Florence County has environmental quality issues that the LCD, the LCC, the CAC, and the TAC all see as being more problematic. We will work to improve our record on working with agricultural producers as best fits the county's requirements.

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?

Florence County does not have a large amount of traditional agriculture, and the amount of farming that does occur in the county has decreased in the last ten years. The 2017 USDA Census of Agriculture listed 101 farms totaling 18,609 acres in the county, with most (93.07%) farms being less than 499 acres. There are no Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations in the county. The 2017 census found a total of 1,464 cattle and calves in the county. Harvested cropland has decreased from approximately 34,000 acres (1959) to 6,638 in 2017.

The data for the 2022 Census of Agriculture is not available at the time of this writing, however, it is expected that totals will go down further from the 2017 data. The last dairy operation in the county ceased production in 2018. Currently cattle operations in the county are all small-scale beef production with a probably a few bovines on small hobby farms.

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.

Previous goal 1 and objectives:

Goal #1: Promote healthy shorelands that protect and enhance Florence County surface water resources.

1. Provide public education to reduce the nutrient and sediment loading of local waters, and minimize impacts caused by nonpoint source pollution.
2. Offer technical assistance and available cost-share to support installation of approved shoreland and farmland conservation practices.
3. Provide public demonstration of program effectiveness.

New goal 1 and objectives:

Goal #1: Promote, protect, and enhance shorelands, wetlands, and surface water resources.

Objectives:

1. Administer cost-share program.
2. Protect and restore shoreland buffers.
3. Identify, inventory, and prioritize surface water resources for potential restoration and protection areas.
4. Promote reduction of wave energy on the shorelines.
5. Encourage conservation and restoration of wetland function.
6. Continue a watershed approach to protect and restore water quality.
7. Reduce erosion at road-stream crossings (e.g., culverts).
8. Reduce agricultural non-point source pollution.
9. Promote nutrient management planning.
10. Properly manage animal waste as it relates to animal farm operations in the county.

Goals and objectives in the new LWRMP were shortened to make them more concise, specific, and actionable. This change was made due to previous goals and objectives overlapping with other goals and objectives too often.

New goal and objective covering education and developing stewardship in the county.

Goal #3: Increase public environmental education and participation

Objectives:

1. Build capacity.
2. Promote basic and advanced conservation workshops.
3. Promote youth education.
4. Promote citizen science.
5. Establish a greater online presence through outreach, promotion, and communication.
6. Coordinate with other organizations on educational outreach.
7. Monitor and evaluate educational outreach for effectiveness.

In the Citizen Advisory Committee meeting citizens expressed the need for a renewal of stewardship in Florence County to high levels in the past. This goal and attached objectives will lead to higher volunteerism and environmental literacy which in turn will help the Florence County Land Conservation Department complete projects and plans that benefit the natural resources in the county.

Previous Goal 6

Minimize destruction, degradation, and fragmentation of wildlife habitat, providing food, water, cover and space for native species to survive.

Objective:

1. Maintain and enhance native wildlife habitat.
2. Increase public awareness regarding the benefits of maintaining native plants and animals bio-diversity.

New

Goal 6 from the previous plan was deleted and its objectives were redistributed. Objective one was incorporated into Goal #4: Promote healthy forests to improve soil and water quality, and objective two in accomplished in Goal #3, as shown above.

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

Invasive species:

Pg. 16 Lakes, aquatic invasive species

Pg. 36 Soil and Water Issues, terrestrial and aquatic invasives species management

Pg. 45 Goal #2 Protect land water ecosystems from invasive species.

Objectives:

1. Continue providing education and outreach.
2. Continue prevention and containment strategies for new and existing invasive species.
3. Continue early detection of, and response to, new invasive species and infestations.
4. Continue to build capacity through cooperation with other groups.
5. Promote restoration of native species and habitat after invasives are removed.
6. Promote and use of established and consistent messaging for education and outreach.
7. Control and manage invasive species following Best Management Practices.

Infrastructure:

Florence County Land Conservation Department has been replacing culverts in the county to decrease fish barriers and increase climate resiliency during large rain-fall and flooding events.

Pg. 42 Work Plan Accomplishments, culvert replacement

“Coordinated projects such as culvert replacements, shoreline restoration, and critical area plantings which improved erosion, improved resiliency, restored habitat, improved water quality, and removed barriers for fish.”

Pg. 43, Pictures of culvert replacements and shoreline restoration

Sustainability:

Pg. 40 Forest Management Standards, promotion of sustainable forestry practices

“Florence County is dominated by forested lands. Many of the private and public lands are certified under Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) standards to ensure proper sustainable forest management is taking place. The Florence County Forest lands and Wisconsin DNR forest land management follow the WDNR Best Management Practices for water quality and invasive species control.”

Pg. 46, Goal #4 Promote healthy forests to improve soil and water quality.

Objectives:

1. Increase private landowner knowledge and awareness of Forest Management Plans and resources for the creation of and implementation of these plans.
2. Promote and follow Best Management Practices (BMPs) to improve forest productivity and provide high-quality wildlife habitat.
3. Work with the county Forestry & Parks Department to ensure BMPs are used on county lands.
4. Provide rental of departmental tree planter to public as needed.
5. Support local tree sales.

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)

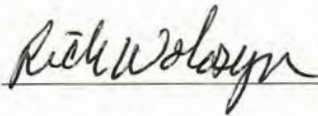
Guidance on Board Review Process

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: 1/3/2022

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



Date: 1-10-2022

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

**FLORENCE COUNTY 2021 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 Page 32, Goal #5	Continue to provide educational programming regarding soil health and nutrient management and support the Wildlife Abatement Program. Work with one producer on soil tests and new NMP. Work with one producer on conservation easement and pollinator planting.	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> Coordinate and assist with UWEX, FSA and NRCS with educational workshop and APHIS providing temporary fencing and other methods available to prevent crop damage.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Livestock</i> 		
Livestock Page 32, Goal #5	Contact landowners located in watersheds with clearly excessive rates of cropland and/or livestock erosion draining to surface water	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> Continue to conduct field surveys and provide guidance to landowners on programs available through NRCS, FSA and DNR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Water quality</i> 		
Water quality/quantity (other than activities already listed in other categories) Page 31 & 32, Goal #2,#3, & #7	Continue to provide oversight of the Clean Boats Clean Water through the watercraft inspection programs and the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) program. Promote healthy shorelands.	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> Monitor seven landings throughout the county, provide oversight of a minimum of 1500 hours of education and watercraft inspection at the landings to slow the spread of (AIS). Contact approximately 2,000 people throughout this process. Coordinate a grassed waterway with critical area planting project to eliminate erosion along a road surface from entering into a navigable body of water. Coordinate a culvert replacement for reduced erosion, improved resiliency, habitat, water quality, and fish passage.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Forestry</i> 		
Forestry Page 31, Goal #4	Promote sustainable forestry practices, with replanting of trees	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> Support the 16 th . Annual Sustainable Forestry Conference held in Florence County. Support the replanting of approximately 1, 000 trees on private land and 100,000 trees on the County Forest. Promote public education of the approved forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Invasive</i> 		
Invasive species Page 31, Goal #2	Slow the spread of invasive species by promoting awareness of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) and Terrestrial Invasive Species (TIS)	Monitor 30 lakes and rivers (minimum), 10 sites with known (AIS), work cooperative with Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition (WRISC) with the treatment of the Phragmites, wild

**FLORENCE COUNTY 2021 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

		parsnip, and others. Map with the unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) of known (TIS) and survey the county forest for early detection of disease in timber stands. Survey and monitor new Emerald Ash Borer site within Florence County. Monitor Lake and Rivers invasive with an underwater ROV for AIS
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• *Wildlife*

Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat (other than forestry or invasive species) Page 32, Goal #6	<i>Wetland restoration</i> <i>Wildlife damage program</i> <i>Tree and plant sales</i>	Number of trees sold (See Forestry above). Continue to support the Wildlife Abatement Program. Continue to support the wetland buffer setback with regards to the Florence County Shoreland and Wetland Zoning Ordinance. Continue to develop the Crossroads Trail project, a wetland restoration project, creating a wetland interpreted multi-recreational trail system.
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• *Urban*

Urban issues		
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• *Watershed*

Watershed strategies Page 31, Goal #1	Promote healthy watersheds	Continue to monitor and inspect all construction sites on shoreline/wetland projects to the erosion control standards. Coordinate with NRCS, DNR, NCLWCA UWEX providing educational programming through workshops. Provide two classroom lectures to school age children regarding the need for vegetative buffer zones and prepare students for envirothon competition.
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• *Other*

Other	Non-metallic and frac sand mining	Number of plans reviewed-----See Table #2 Number of inspections-----See Table #3
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**FLORENCE COUNTY 2021 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits anticipated to be issued
Feedlot permits	0	
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	0	
Manure storage closure	0	
Livestock facility siting	0	
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	13	1
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	55 (average base on previous years)	60-Combination of Land Use & Uniform Dwelling Code Permits, requiring water and wetland setback, and erosion control requirements.
Shoreland zoning	50 (average base on previous years)	55
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	2- Shoreland restorations being designed, 1- road stream crossing, 1- Grassed Waterway/Critical Area Planting	No County Permitting Required.
Other		

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	1
For FPP	1
For NR 151	0
Animal waste ordinance	0
Livestock facility siting	0
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	35
Nonmetallic mining	13

**FLORENCE COUNTY 2021 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	1
Field days	30
Trainings/workshops	2
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	2
Newsletters	4
Social media posts	8
News release/story	2

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

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
<i>Ex. County Conservationist</i>	208	\$8,794.00
<i>Ex. Technician</i>	3188	\$75,667.65
<i>Ex. Support Costs</i>	N/A	\$7,500.00
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
<i>Ex. Bonding</i>	N/A	\$55,193.53
<i>Ex. SEG</i>	N/A	\$0
<i>Ex. MDV</i>	N/A	\$0

**FLORENCE COUNTY 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

CATEGORY (goal and objective from LWRM plan can be added in each category)	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS If applicable identify focus areas, e.g. HUC 12 watershed code (examples of types of “planned activities” in italics)	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (examples in italics)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cropland</i> 		
Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management Page 46, Goal 5	Support County Zoning department in non-metallic mining reclamation.	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> Inventory 13 existing sites. Work with zoning to assist in reclamation process.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Livestock</i> 		
Livestock Page 45, Goal 1	Contact landowners located in watersheds with clearly excessive rates of cropland and/or livestock erosion draining to surface water, as needed.	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> Conduct field surveys and provide guidance to landowners on programs available through NRCS, FSA and DNR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Water quality</i> 		
Water quality/quantity (other than activities already listed in other categories) Page 45 & 46, Goal 1, 2, 3, & 6	Provide oversight of the Clean Boats Clean Water through the watercraft inspection programs and the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) program. Promote healthy shorelands.	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> Hendricks Creek and Faye Lake Projects encompassing: Stream crossing (578), Access Road (560), Lined Waterway (468), Subsurface Drain (606) Underground Outlet (620), Grassed Waterway (412), Critical Area Planting (342), Shoreland Habitat (643A). Monitor seven landings throughout the county, provide oversight of a minimum of 1500 hours of education and watercraft inspection at the landings to slow the spread of (AIS).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Forestry</i> 		
Forestry Page 46, Goal #4	Promote sustainable forestry practices, with replanting of trees	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i> Provide rental of departmental tree planter to public as needed. Promote public education of the approved forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs). Support local tree sales (Dickinson County Conservation Dist).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Invasive</i> 		
Invasive species Page 45, Goal #2	Slow the spread of invasive species by promoting awareness of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) and Terrestrial Invasive Species (TIS)	Monitor 20 lakes and rivers (minimum), 10 sites with known (AIS), work cooperative with Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition (WRISC) with the treatment of the Phragmites, wild parsnip, and others. Map with the unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) of known (TIS) and survey the county forest for early detection of disease in timber stands. Monitor Lake and Rivers invasive with an underwater ROV for AIS

**FLORENCE COUNTY 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

- *Wildlife*

Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat (other than forestry or invasive species) Page 45, Goal 3	Build capacity, promote participation and use of our natural resources	Establish a greater online presence for education and recreation, such as shore land restoration guides, ATV trail maps and locate funding for Crossroads wetland restoration/interpretive trail project.
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- *Urban*

Urban issues		
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- *Watershed*

Watershed strategies Page 46, Goal 6	Promote healthy watersheds	Continue to monitor and inspect all construction sites on shoreline/wetland projects to the erosion control standards. Coordinate with NRCS, DNR, NCLWCA UWEX providing educational programming through workshops
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- *Other*

Other		
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**FLORENCE COUNTY 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits anticipated to be issued
Feedlot permits	0	
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	0	
Manure storage closure	0	
Livestock facility siting	0	
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	13	1
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	85 (average base on previous years)	70-Combination of Land Use & Uniform Dwelling Code Permits, requiring water and wetland setback, and erosion control requirements.
Shoreland zoning	75 (average base on previous years)	60
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	Stream crossing (578), Access Road (560), Lined Waterway (468), Subsurface Drain (606) Underground Outlet (620), Grassed Waterway (412), Critical Area Planting (342), Shoreland Habitat (643A).	2 Hendricks Creek Road Stream Crossing Restoration Faye Lake Boat Landing Erosion Control
Other		

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	1
For FPP	1
For NR 151	0
Animal waste ordinance	0
Livestock facility siting	0
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	40
Nonmetallic mining	13

**FLORENCE COUNTY 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	1
Field days	40
Trainings/workshops	2
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	1
Newsletters	4
Social media posts	8
News release/story	1

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

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
<i>Ex. County Conservationist</i>	208	\$9,850.38
<i>Ex. Technician</i>	3188	\$75,667.65
<i>Ex. Support Costs</i>	N/A	\$7,500.00
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
<i>Ex. Bonding</i>	N/A	\$42,655
<i>Ex. SEG</i>	N/A	\$0
<i>Ex. MDV</i>	N/A	\$0

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

STATE OF WISCONSIN

DATE: January 19, 2022

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

FROM: Brian Loeffelholz, DATCP
Land and Water Resources Bureau

SUBJECT: Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Update - 2022

Recommended Action: No action requested for this item.

Summary: CREP began in Wisconsin in October 2001, when, under a federal-state agreement, USDA authorized enrollment of 100,000 acres and the state authorized \$28 million in bond spending authority to implement the program.

Wisconsin CREP is a strong partnership among local, state and federal conservation offices and private landowners. To date, the state has paid about \$21 million to 6,150 landowners through 6,092 contracts covering 73,100 acres. State CREP payments, together with \$4.1 million in county contributions to implement CREP locally, have leveraged over \$200 million in federal funds paid directly to landowners. In 2021, CREP enrollment included 274 contracts on 2,880 acres and \$784,000 in state payments to landowners.

Currently, DATCP and the counties manage 3,593 active CREP contracts on 41,436 acres. This includes 3,068 15-year agreements on 34,622 acres and 525 perpetual easements on 6,814 acres. The majority of acres enrolled in CREP have filter strips and riparian buffer conservation practices installed for resolving water quality concerns. The state estimates that CREP conservation practices annually keep 82,000 lbs of phosphorus, 44,000 lbs of nitrogen and 40,000 tons of sediment out of Wisconsin waters.

Of the CREP easements, 281 of them with 4100 acres of conservation practices in 33 counties have seen the scheduled expiration of their federal contract, which covered the first 15 years. DATCP and the counties now provide oversight of these easements. Three years ago, DATCP began monitoring visits to these easements, to gauge compliance with the terms of the easements. To accelerate these efforts, last summer DATCP hired an intern through the DOA Wisconsin Student Diversity Internship Program who worked with state and county CREP staff to visit 45 easements in 13 counties. While only a small number of these 281 easements have been visited to date, the results of the monitoring efforts have identified numerous compliance challenges ranging from including easement maintenance concerns to significant violations. Currently, DATCP is working to resolve known compliance issues on 36 easements and is developing a long-term easement monitoring and compliance strategy.

Materials Provided: None

Presenter(s): Brian C. Loeffelholz

DATE: February 1, 2022

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

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

SUBJECT: *Waiver Request (Recommended Action)*

Recommended Action: This is an action item. Staff request that the Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) recommend approval of the *Waiver Requests*

Summary:

Under ATCP 50.02, Wis. Adm. Code, the department may grant a written waiver from any provision in ATCP 50 if the department finds that the waiver is necessary to achieve the objectives of this chapter. The Secretary must sign each waiver.

This year, Chippewa, Columbia, and Washington Counties applied for a one-year waiver of ATCP 50.34 (6)(a)4., Wis. Adm. Code, which limits extending funding for the same contract to one additional year. A short description of the waiver requests is below.

Chippewa County: A transfer from the 2020 engineering reserve funded this very large project, which includes a manure storage closure, manure storage construction, critical area stabilization and nutrient management plan. There were delays in securing engineering services, contractors and construction materials due to the global pandemic. The DATCP conservation engineering staff believe this is an important project needed to protect the water resources in the area and support the waiver request. The nutrient management plan funding is not eligible for a waiver and staff already notified the county of the denial of that part of their request.

Columbia County: This contract is for a barnyard runoff control system. The project was unable to be completed in 2021 due to the unavailability of construction materials and unavailability of a concrete contractor. The landowner has acquired the needed parts and has reached an agreement with a contractor to complete the job in the spring of 2022. We recommend a waiver since the landowner is financially invested in the project and has secured the materials and labor needed to complete it in 2022.

Washington County: Washington requested an extension on two contracts. The first contract is for a barnyard runoff control system. The landowner experienced unexpected financing delays for this project due to instability in the cost of and unavailability of construction materials. By the time the landowner received approval of the financing, there were no contractors available. We recommend approval of this waiver request because the landowner has secured financing, materials and a contractor for spring 2022 construction.

The second contract was originally for a grassed waterway system and diversion. This project ended up funded by EQIP, so the county wants to use the SWRM funding allocated to the project for a different purpose on the same site. However, we do not extend SWRM funding for new purposes, so we do not recommend this waiver request.

The table on the next page summarizes these recommendations. If you concur with them, we prepare an order to forward to the Secretary's Office for approval, and include it with the extension requests in April. Any unused bond funds not approved for a second extension will be reallocated as part the 2023 Joint Allocation Plan.

Waiver requests recommended for approval

County	Reasons for Waiver Request Approval	Contract # and practice	Contract Amount
Chippewa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction material shortage • Contractors unavailable • Engineering services delayed • DATCP engineering staff recommend waiver due to resource concerns and already incurred costs for engineering design 	YR128-2020, Manure storage close, manure storage construction, and critical area stabilization	\$216,263
Columbia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contractors unavailable • Materials unavailable 	LW-10-20 Barnyard Runoff Control Systems	\$21,000
Washington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contractors unavailable • Timing of financing delayed • Construction materials unavailable 	LWRM_20_19, Barnyard Runoff Control System	\$13,965

Waiver request not recommended for approval

Chippewa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We do not extend SEG funding a second year under any circumstance. Staff notified the County in early December this request was denied. 	YR128-2020-2 Nutrient Management Planning	\$6,012
Washington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EQIP dollars were used to complete the original project on the contract. We do not issues waivers for new projects. • Extended underspending no longer harms the County in the allocation formula. 	LWRM_20_15, Waterway Systems and Diversion	\$5,935

Presenter: Jennifer Heaton-Amrhein, DATCP

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 1, 2021

TO: LWCB members and advisors

FROM: Ian Krauss

SUBJECT: FSA Program Updates for February LWCB Meeting

- Conservation Reserve Program
 - General Signup 58
 - Runs from January 31 to March 11, 2022.
 - Producers offers are deemed acceptable based on their Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) score.
 - National Office ranks all offers after signup close, producers who meet or exceed the score are determined acceptable.
 - Continuous and CREP Signup 57 is underway; counties can approve contracts comprised entirely of new acres. Acres to re-enroll acreage must wait until April 1, 2022 to submit offers.
 - Soil Rental Rates have been updated. County averages can be found: <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/reports-and-statistics/conservation-reserve-program-statistics/index>
- Signup Deadline Reminders
- Organic and Transitional Education and Certification Program
 - February 4th, 2022
- Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC)
 - February 18th, 2022
- ARC/PLC
 - March 15th, 2022

NRCS Wisconsin Quarterly Update



Environmental Quality Incentives Program

EQIP is the primary program available to farmers for farm and woodland conservation work, offering payments for over 90 basic conservation practices. Applications are accepted on a continuous, year-round basis. Applications for FY22 funding were due November 19, 2021. Contact Melissa Bartz, melissa.bartz@usda.gov, for more information.

Conservation Stewardship Program

CSP provides assistance to landowners who practice good stewardship on their land and are willing to take additional steps over the next five years to further enhance their stewardship efforts. Applications are accepted on a continuous year-round basis. The FY2022 Classic Application deadline has yet to be announced. Contact Melissa Bartz, melissa.bartz@usda.gov, for more information.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program

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

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) focuses on restoring and protecting wetlands, conserving productive agricultural lands and conserving grasslands. Landowners are compensated for enrolling their land in easements. Applications for the ACEP are taken on a continuous basis, and they are ranked and considered for funding one time a year. The deadline for the Agricultural Land Easements (ALE) for fiscal year 2022 was December 1, 2021, and the deadline for Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE) for fiscal year 2022 was October 31, 2021. Applications are currently being evaluated. Contact Greg Kidd, greg.kidd@usda.gov, for more information.

Covid19

USDA Service Centers are encouraging visitors to take proactive protective measures to help prevent the spread of coronavirus. Service Centers in Wisconsin will continue to be open for business by phone appointment and field work will continue with appropriate

NRCS Programs Financial Update			
Program		FY21	FY22
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	Financial Assistance Allocation	\$ 30.5 M ^a	\$30.9 M ^b
	Contracts	1,070 ^a	0 ^c
Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)	Financial Assistance Allocation	\$18.1 M	\$15.8 M
	New Contracts	228	0 ^c
	Renewal Contracts	250	8 ^c (215 preap-
	New Acres	251,702	0 ^c
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program—Agricultural Land Easements (ACEP—ALE) <small>*Includes RCPP ALE in brackets</small>	Financial Assistance Allocation	\$507,000	\$404,088
	Parcels	4	
	Acres	334	
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program—Wetland Reserve Easements (ACEP—WRE)	Financial Assistance Allocation	\$2.8 M	\$3.0 M
	Easements	5	
	Acres	544	
Emergency Watershed Protection Program—Floodplain Easements (EWPP-FPE)	Financial Assistance Reserve	\$3.4 M	
	Proposed Easements	8	
	Proposed Acres	556	
Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)	Financial Assistance Allocation	\$1.3 M	
	Contracts	88	0 ^c
	Acres	2,100	0 ^c

^aIncludes initiatives and special funding.
^bInitiatives and special funding allocations have not been determined yet.
^cFunding decisions not yet complete for the fiscal year.

ate social distancing. Some offices are allowing in-person, scheduled visits. While our program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with our producers by phone and using online tools whenever possible. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, NRCS, or any other Service Center agency are required to call their Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. In the event a Service Center is closed, producers can receive assistance from the closest alternate Service Center by phone. For the most recent office opening information visit www.farmers.gov/coronavirus. Online services are available to customers with an eAuth account, which provides access to the farmers.gov portal where producers can view USDA farm loan information and payments and view and track certain USDA program applications and payments. Online NRCS services are available to customers through the Conservation Client Gateway.

USDA Awards Conservation Innovation Projects to Support Climate-Smart Agriculture and Soil Health

The USDA awarded \$25 million to conservation partners across the country for 18 new projects under the Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials program, including a project in Wisconsin. On-Farm Trials projects support widespread adoption and evaluation of innovative conservation approaches in partnership with agricultural producers. This year's awarded projects increase the adoption of new approaches and technologies to help agricultural producers mitigate the effects of climate change, increase the resilience of their operations and boost soil health. Awarded Project in Wisconsin: Trialing Dietary Interventions to Mitigate Enteric Methane Emissions in Dairy Cattle.

The Nature Conservancy, \$537,440

Lead State: MI

States Involved: MI, WI

The Nature Conservancy will evaluate different dairy feed management strategies, including emerging feed additives. The goal of the project is to better inform greenhouse gas mitigation strategies for cattle, NRCS programs, and the development of protocols for measuring enteric emissions. This three-year project will combine on-farm trials and demonstrations, interviews and surveys of key stakeholders, and targeted communication activities to catalyze broader adoption of NRCS Feed Management Practice Standard 592.

Collaborative Tribal Publication

The NRCS in partnership with the WTCAC announced a new collaborative publication, Wisconsin Tribal Conservation: Stewardship for the Future, is available online, highlighting successful conservation efforts with the 11 federally recognized Tribes of Wisconsin. Six other USDA agencies and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) are also partnering

to highlight the protection and restoration of natural resources on Wisconsin Tribal lands. Visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/wi/newsroom/factsheets/ to download the publication.

Gov Delivery

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

Funding Opportunities through Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is encouraging local sponsors to submit project requests for funding through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service offers several programs to help communities improve land and water resources within watersheds as well as relieve imminent hazards to life and property created by a natural disaster. Programs include the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations Program, Watershed Rehabilitation Program and Emergency Watershed Protection Program. Fact sheets, trainings and other resources are available online at www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/

2021 NRCS Wisconsin Conservation Highlights and Results

In the 2021 Annual Report, you will see snapshots of our approach in getting conservation practices on the ground to use our land productively. You'll learn about conservation results and highlights of the work we do, which is strongly focused on meeting Farm Bill responsibilities. In the 2021 Success Story Highlights, you'll meet farmers and landowners from across the state who partner to implement conservation. These NRCS customers are investing in their operations and local communities to provide food, fiber and energy, creating a more sustainable future for all of us. Read the two products online at www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/wi/newsroom/factsheets/





DATCP REPORT
Bureau of Land and Water Resources
February 2022

Soil and Water Resources Management Grants

- The 2023 Joint Grant Application was posted January 31, 2022. Make note of a new third tab in the application spreadsheet which will ask for additional information for the SEG allocation.
- The 2023 Innovation Grant Application can be found on the 4th tab of the Joint Grant Application spreadsheet. The Request for Proposals document will offer more details as needed (see link in the email sent to all counties).
- Payments are being processed, but due to staffing shortages within DATCP's Finance Bureau, the turnaround is much longer than normal.
- The last day to submit reimbursement requests for 2021 SWRM grants is February 15, 2022.

ATCP 50 Rule Revision

- We will be hosting meetings throughout the year with stakeholders about potential changes to our ATCP 50 rule. Visit our [website](#) for information about upcoming stakeholder meetings and topics and sign up to receive GovDelivery notifications. A link to a kickoff presentation about the rule scope will be available soon, too! Questions and comments can be sent to DATCPlandwater@wisconsin.gov.

Land and Water Conservation Board-LWRM Plans

- The February 1st, 2022 meeting of the Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) will be conducted over Microsoft Teams. Florence County will be presenting their LWRM plan revisions for approval and Washburn will be presenting their LWRM plan for a five-year review. Keefe Keeley, Director of the [Savanna Institute](#), will deliver a presentation entitled, "The Savanna Institute: working to perennialize agriculture in WI and beyond", at 10am followed by a discussion with the LWCB. To join the meeting remotely [click this link](#) or follow the instructions in the February meeting agenda which is available at lwcb.wi.gov.
- For updates on LWCB meetings and meeting links please subscribe to LWCB [govdelivery notices](#). Please contact zach.zopp@wisconsin.gov for questions regarding joining via Microsoft Teams.
- Counties that are working through the LWRM plan revision process during COVID-19 restrictions may have questions and concerns about the requirements that need to be met for plan approval. Contact Lisa.Trumble@wisconsin.gov to discuss possible options to completing your plan revisions.

Farmland Preservation Program and Agricultural Enterprise Areas

- The 2022 Agricultural Enterprise Area Petition is OPEN! Communities who are interested in petitioning for a new AEA or increasing the size of an existing AEA can view the petition materials on the [website](#). Petitions will be accepted until July 29, 2022. Interested petitioners who would like additional information about the program or to schedule an informational meeting with FP staff can contact DATCPworkinglands@wisconsin.gov.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- FSA authorized CREP FFY2022 enrollment under CRP sign up #57 and is accepting offers. CREP enrollment will remain open until 9/30/2022 unless otherwise notified by FSA. Offers for re-enroll can be made 6 months prior to the CRP-1 expiration (April, 2022). State and Federal incentive and cost share rates for CREP continue as in previous years.
- Virtual CREP 101 Trainings are offered by DATCP to all CREP counties. The trainings are per LCD request and review program requirements, landowner engagement, agency partnership coordination and county administrative processes. All local agency partners are invited to attend and the training is valuable to both new and seasoned local CREP staff. Please contact Brian Loeffelholz at Brian.Loeffelholz@wisconsin.gov to set up a time for training in your county.

Conservation Engineering

- As previously mentioned, the revised NRCS Conservation Practice Standards (CPS) for streambank protection and restoration have been released. NRCS will be hosting two trainings in February to discuss changes to the standards and how to use them including covering using the tractive/shear stress method for streambank protection design. These will be important trainings to attend for designing stream projects moving forward, and the one on February 23rd below will be an important step in the process of obtaining DATCP Engineering Certification levels for “Max. Tractive Stress,” which is necessary to approve CPS 580 Streambank Protection projects. Trainings will be recorded by WI Land+Water and registration info is below:
 - **Streambank and Shoreline Protection Design (CPS 580)**, Wed., February 23rd (9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.). Register by February 21st at <https://conta.cc/32iJZj1>
 - **Natural Stream Channel Design**, Thur., February 24th (9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.). Register by Tuesday, February 22nd at <https://conta.cc/3KukHzC>

Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE) Grant Program

- The 2023 Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE) Grant application and RFA were posted January 31, 2022 and will remain open until April 15, 2022. If you have any questions please contact Andrea.Topper@wisconsin.gov

County Annual Reporting

- Counties received an email with a link to the annual report questions for 2021. Your responses are due by March 15th 2022. Please consider sharing photos and projects to feature in the report. If you have not received the email or need the link resent, please contact Coreen.Fallat@wisconsin.gov.

Producer-Led Grants

- The latest round of Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grants has been awarded to 36 farmer-led groups to work with other farmers and conservation organizations to address soil and water issues specific to their local watersheds.
- Seven of the groups are first-time recipients. Together, the 36 groups will receive the full \$1 million included in the state budget. Grants range from \$3,250 to \$40,000 for conservation practice incentives, education and outreach, on-farm demonstrations, and water quality testing and monitoring efforts.
- Requests for 2022 totaled nearly \$1.2 million.
- The Producer-Led Grants Annual workshop will be held on February 23rd at the Central Wisconsin Convention and Expo Center in Rothschild, WI taking place the day before the WI Cover Crop Conference. At least one farmer and collaborator from each group are encouraged to attend. The workshop will be recorded for later viewing for individuals unable to attend the in-person event. More information can be found [here](#).
- Questions about the 2022 grant awards or annual workshop can be directed to Rachel Rushmann, rachel.rushmann@wi.gov, (608) 590-7357 or Dana Christel, dana.christel@wi.gov, (608) 640- 7270.
- Funding summary can be found on the next page.

Funding Summary for Producer-Led Grants as of February 2022

Newly Funded Groups	
Bad Axe	\$33,600
Coon Creek	\$20,140
Farmers of the Lemonweir Valley	\$33,600
Farmers of the Roche-A-Cri	\$7,500
Farmers on the Rock	\$33,600
Jefferson County Soil Builders	\$18,522
Rock River Regenerative Graziers	\$39,358
Existing Groups	
Bear Creek - Chippewa River	\$20,140
Biological Farm Friends	\$19,089
Buffalo-Trempealeau Farmer Network (BTFN)	\$33,600
Calumet County Ag Stewardship Alliance	\$22,898
Cedar Creek Farmers	\$3,250
Central Wisconsin Farmers' Collaborative (CWFC)	\$33,600
Dodge County Farmers for Healthy Soil & Healthy Water	\$33,180
Farmers for Lake Country	\$23,604
Farmers for the Upper Sugar River	\$40,000
Farmers for Tomorrow	\$33,600
Farmers of Mill Creek	\$40,000
Farmers of the Sugar River	\$22,000
Hay River Farmer-Led Watershed Council	\$14,700
Horse Creek Farmer-Led Watershed Council	\$16,800
Lafayette Ag Stewardship Alliance (LASA)	\$40,000
Lake Wisconsin Farmer Watershed Council	\$40,000
Ozaukee County Clean Farm Families (CFF)	\$33,600
Peninsula Pride Farms (PPF)	\$40,000
Producers of Lake Redstone	\$33,600
Red Cedar Conservation Farmers	\$33,600
Sauk Soil & Water Improvement Group	\$25,000
Sheboygan River Progressive Farmers	\$29,225
Shell Lake - Yellow River Farmer-Led Watershed Council	\$21,252
South Kinni Farmer-Led Watershed Council	\$10,140
Tainter Creek Farmer-Led Watershed Council*	\$33,600
Uplands Watershed Group	\$10,000
Watershed Protection Committee of Racine County	\$40,000
Western Wisconsin Conservation Council	\$33,600
Yahara Pride Farms	\$33,600

DATE: February 1, 2022

TO: LWCB members and advisors

FROM: Brian Weigel, DNR

SUBJECT: DNR Update, December 2021 - January 2022, for February 2022 LWCB meeting

Storm Water Program Update

The Storm Water Program has public noticed, received comments, and is amending and revising the public noticed Mineral (Nonmetallic Mining) and Processing General Permit. This general permit is applicable to point source discharge of pollutants to a water of the state associated with storm water and wastewater from mineral (nonmetallic) mining operations, mineral processing operations, or other similar activities.

The storm water program and Wisconsin Salt Wise invited the public to learn more about the impacts of road salt on the state's drinking water, pets and freshwater ecosystems during Wisconsin Salt Awareness Week, Jan. 24-28, 2022. In Wisconsin and much of the U.S., chlorides from salt are impacting lakes, streams and groundwater. According to Wisconsin Salt Wise, one teaspoon of salt is all it takes to make five gallons of water toxic for freshwater organisms. The department measures chloride levels in Wisconsin rivers over time, monitoring cumulative chloride loading results at 26 of the state's largest river systems. Recent studies have shown a steep increase in chloride loads. In the early 2000s, the department measured about 600,000 tons of chlorides annually. By 2018, that number increased to nearly 800,000 tons per year. Over 40 lakes and streams in Wisconsin have been designated as impaired by high salt concentrations. Increased chloride levels have significant impacts on our daily lives, including environmental and economic effects. Nationwide, winter salt causes \$5 billion in damage to infrastructure each year, causing corrosion of bridges, roads and other infrastructure.

Communities holding a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) should be working to prepare their annual reports that are due each year on March 31st.

Runoff Grants – TRM & UNPS Construction applications now available & Webinar registration

Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) grant applications for projects beginning in 2023 are now available on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR)'s [grant program webpage](#).

Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water (UNPS & SW) Construction Grant applications for projects beginning in 2023 are now available on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR)'s [grant program webpage](#).

Eligible applicants have until April 15, 2022 to submit applications.

The DNR and UW-Madison Division of Extension will host a Targeted Runoff Management **Application Webinar** from 9 - 10:30 a.m. on Feb. 15, 2022. Register in advance for the webinar [here](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with meeting details.

The DNR and UW-Madison Division of Extension will host an Urban Nonpoint Source **Application Webinar** from 1 – 2:30 p.m. on Feb. 15, 2022. Register in advance for the webinar [here](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with meeting details.

CAFO Program Update

It's almost time for the 2022 CAFO Workshop presented by UW-Extension and DNR. The virtual workshop will take place February 15-16 with morning and afternoon sessions each day. Topics include nutrient management, engineering, regulatory updates, and groundwater quality. These workshops provide useful information for WPDES permitted CAFO owners and managers, nutrient management plan writers, and consulting engineers. Registration information can be found at <https://go.wisc.edu/x88dg2>.

Surface Water Grant Program Update

The Surface Water Grant Program is approaching a final funding decision for the 2022 – 2023 grant cycle. We are very pleased to have received \$7.8M in requests for a little over \$6M in available funding. We received proposals for 239 projects in 71 different counties from a wide variety of eligible organizations, ranging from grass-roots groups to universities and local units of government. In addition, we are happy to fund 170 requests for financial support for participation in the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program that will help prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species. Overall, the Surface Water Grant Program is proud to support such excellent work to protect and restore Wisconsin's lakes, rivers and wetlands. We are currently working through review and ranking the project proposals and anticipate announcing the list of successful applicants in the next couple of weeks.

Mississippi River Update

The Mississippi River has a new funding opportunity for projects under the Navigation & Ecosystem Sustainability Program (NESP). Wisconsin has several projects that could move into feasibility studies if the program continues to receive funding.

- Wacouta Bay (WI)
- Systemic Forest Restoration (Multiple locations, likely including WI)
- Johnson Island (WI)
- Trempealeau NWR (WI)
- Systemic Bankline (multiple including WI)
- Lake Onalaska (WI, however mostly data gathering and conceptual at this stage)

Please contact Sara Strassman Sara.strassman@wi.gov for fact sheets on the specific projects or for more information.