

Comprehensive BWSR Clean Water Legacy FY 08-09 Budget
BWSR Board Grants Committee, July 23, 2008

1. Non-Point Source Restoration Cost-Share

(1a) Non-Point Source Restoration Cost-Share Grants—Legislative appropriation for installation of cost-shared conservation practices and incentives associated with restoration projects. (Those waters with EPA approved TMDL pollutant allocations and MPCA-approved implementation plans.
(1b) BWSR agency appropriation —Appropriated funds available for BWSR staff, logistical support, and agency operations.

2. Restoration and Protection TA& Engineering Grants

(2a) Restoration and Protection TA& Engineering Grants —Legislative appropriation for Technical assistance, compliance and engineering assistance funds to address restoration and protection projects and assist with the installation of conservation practices initiated as a result of CWL funding or other conservation programs.

2b) Tillage Transect Survey—Continuation of comprehensive tillage transect survey begun in 2007. This information gathered by local SWCD staff and collated by Minnesota State University-Mankato will provide baseline information on land management, progress of TMDL implementation plans and can serve as one element of an effectiveness monitoring program for TMDL projects.

(2c) TSP/TA training---Continuation of training program for Technical Service Providers and LGU staff resulting in increased numbers and capabilities of trained staff to assist landowners with implementation activities and conservation programs.

(2d) Farm Bill Assistance-Continuation of support for staff located in SWCD offices to provide marketing and technical assistance to landowners for CCRP, CREP EQIP and other Federal Conservation programs as well as CWL funds. These funds were identified in the June '07 board information packet.

(2e) BWSR agency appropriation—Legislative appropriation for BWSR staff, logistical support, and agency operations.

(2f) Continuation Funds---TA funds reserved for projects that received TA funding during the FY '07, grant program. Those funds had a firm end date of June 30, '09. This amount will provide approximately 1 additional year of TA funding to carry those experienced staff through the '09 construction season and provide an additional opportunity to pursue long-term funding solutions at the legislature.

3. Evaluating and Reporting Practices/eLINK---Legislative appropriation to BWSR for reporting and evaluating applied soil and water conservation practices.

4. Grants to Implement County SSTS Programs

(4a) Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) base grant funds -- For administration of county SSTS programs. These funds will be distributed as part of the NRBG grant in both FY08 and FY09.

(4b) SSTS county grants to inventory systems that are an imminent threat to public health or safety -- The program will be administered jointly with the MPCA. Funds will be available for counties to undertake SSTS inventories of systems that are imminent threats to public health or

(4c) SSTS grants to counties to address imminent threat and failing individual sewage treatment systems. Funding appropriated to BWSR. Local government (must be under an approved local water plan) options; may propose any one or combination of the three options.

- Option 1: Grants to cover significant portion of costs to low income households for system upgrade. Persons eligible for funds must attend SSTS ownership basics class to receive payment;
- Option 2: Incentive payment (not to exceed \$500 per SSTS; maximum of \$50,000/year/applicant) to all who upgrade, persons eligible for funds must attend SSTS ownership basics class to receive payment.
- Option 3: Capitalization of a revolving loan program; may be coordinated through the AgBMP program or other programs. There is a maximum award of \$250,000 per county from this funding category.

5. Protection Lake and River Management Funds

(5a) Protection Lake and River Management Grants—Legislative appropriation for CWL grant funds to address non-point source protection activities only for FY '08. Protection activities can be initiated on unimpaired or un-assessed waters as well as those waters for which a TMDL allocation has not yet been prepared.

(5b) Protection Strategy Pilot Projects—Pilot projects led by local partners to identify protection strategies focused on those waters that are unimpaired and that can be implemented at the local level on a basin or watershed/multi-county scale. Protection strategy process can be used to provide context for the legislature and others about rational prioritization methods and implementation activity choices.

6. Feedlot Water Quality Funds for SWCDs

(6a) Feedlot Water Quality Grants—Legislative appropriation for feedlot-specific implementation practices. These funds were removed from the BWSR base cost-share budget and included in the CWL appropriation. The BWSR board authorized the distribution of funds for FY '08 at the June meeting.

(6b) NPEA challenge grants—Continuation of support of NPEA areas by reserving 10% of the Feedlot Water Quality Grants as challenge grant opportunities.

7. Legislative Direct Appropriations

(7a) NE Wetland Mitigation Strategy—Direct legislative appropriation for furthering the NE MN wetland mitigation strategy. WCA staff is leading this effort.

(7b) Wetland Mine Reclamation Inventory—Direct legislative appropriation for NE MN wetland mitigation strategy through inventory and analysis of resources. WCA staff is leading this effort.

(7c) Ag hydro restoration C-S—Direct legislative appropriation. Project location, scope and program specifics are being developed.

(7d) MN Conservation Corp C-S—Direct legislative appropriation and requirement for contracting with MCC for services. A contract is in place with MCC to allow SWCDs, Counties, and WDs to work with MCC staff and crews to install implementation projects on impaired waters.

Table 1: Comprehensive BWSR Clean Water Legacy Budget

Funding Category	Category Funding Total	Sub Category	FY08	FY09	Biennium Total	Funding Mechanism
1) Non point Source Restoration C-S	\$1,316,000	1a) Restoration C-S for TMDLs	\$558,000	\$558,000	\$1,116,000	CWL Competitive Grant
		1b) BWSR agency appropriation	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$200,000	Staff & logistic support
2) Restoration and Protection TA and Engineering	\$2,625,000	2a) Restoration and Protection TA	\$815,000	\$450,000	\$1,265,000	CWL Competitive Grant
		2b) Tillage Transect Survey	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$170,000	Contract
		2c) TSP/TA Training	\$0	\$40,000	\$40,000	Contract
		2d) Farm Bill Assistance	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	One time for staffing
		2e) BWSR agency appropriation	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$600,000	Staff and logistic support
		2f) Continuation Funds	\$0	\$450,000	\$450,000	Grant for 2007 CWL project staff
3) Evaluating and reporting practices/eLINK	\$400,000	BWSR agency appropriation	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000	Staff and logistic support
4) Grants to Implement County SSTS Programs	\$3,450,000	4a) Base Grant	\$730,000	\$730,000	\$1,460,000	NRBG
		4b) Grants up to \$130K for county inventories	\$990,000	\$0	\$990,000	CWL Competitive Grant
		4c) ISTS Grants for Imminent Health Threats	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$1,000,000	CWL Competitive Grant
5) Protection Lake and River Management Funds	\$1,000,000	5a) Protection Lake and River Management Grants	\$850,000	\$0	\$850,000	CWL Competitive Grant
		5b) Protection Strategy Pilot Projects	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	Contract
6) Feedlot Water Quality Funds to SWCDS	\$3,000,000	6a) Grants to SWCDS	\$1,000,000	\$1,504,000	\$2,504,000	Grants to SWCDS
		6b) Competitive CWL grants in FY09	\$0	\$196,000	\$196,000	CWL Competitive Grant
		6c) NPEA Challenge Grant	\$0	\$300,000	\$300,000	Grants to NPEAs
7) Legislative Direct Appropriations	\$2,375,000	7a) NE Wetland Mitigation Strategy	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	Contract
		7b) Wetland Mine Reclamation Inventory	\$225,000	\$0	\$225,000	Contract
		7c) Ag hydro restoration C-S	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$1,500,000	Outside of competitive process
		7d) MN Conservation Corp C-S	\$500,000	\$0	\$500,000	Contract
Totals	\$14,166,000		\$9,252,000	\$4,914,000	\$14,166,000	