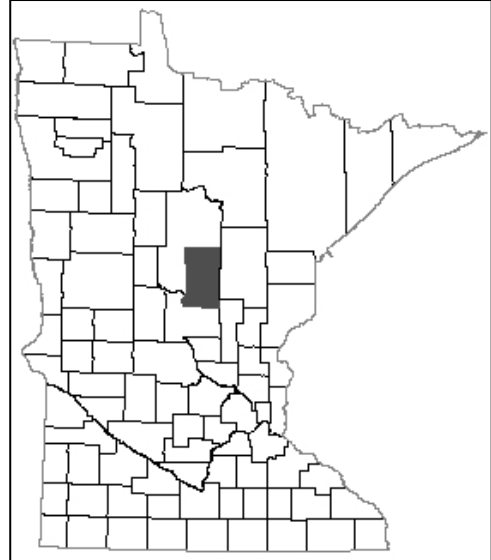


2008 Performance Review

Level II (Pilot): Summary of Full Report

LGU: Crow Wing SWCD



Summary of Conclusions:

The Crow Wing SWCD is actively and effectively implementing a very ambitious range of conservation and regulatory programs. They implement both their own comprehensive plan goals and many of the county local water management plan goals and objectives. The organization's pursuit of new programs to accomplish its conservation goals is especially commendable.

The SWCD complies with almost all of the basic PRAP performance standards and many of the target performance standards. In recent years, the district has improved its productivity, as measured by the percentage of the state cost share grant put into on-the-ground conservation projects.

Items that need some attention are the application of the state cost share grant to projects that are viable and in high priority areas, and periodic priority setting to make sure that their programs and activities are addressing the most critical conservation needs.

Recommendations:

1. Target planning to address resource priorities
2. Update technical approval authorities
3. Monitor cost share grant expenditures
4. Cross-reference comprehensive and local water plan in annual plans and reports

Summary of LGU Response:

[Crow Wing SWCD supervisors did not submit a formal response to the draft report. The following comments were provided by the district manager.]

The biggest issue is to realize that each SWCD is different and has different priorities. The review should recognize the opportunities that each may seize when they are available to us. These items would probably not be included in our Comp Plan. In Crow Wing County, we have taken advantage of partnering with the MPCA on their Phase 2 NPDES Permit Program. We currently have 363 active NPDES sites and it is a big part of our activities.

There needs to be more of an understanding that SWCDs in different parts of the state work on different issues and that a standard evaluation cannot be completed without flexibility. The process made the Board and staff look at what we have and wish to accomplish in a more critical and thorough manner than we have in the past. In the end, I believe this to be a very valuable experience. As long as you are working to the best of your capabilities, I would not fear this review.