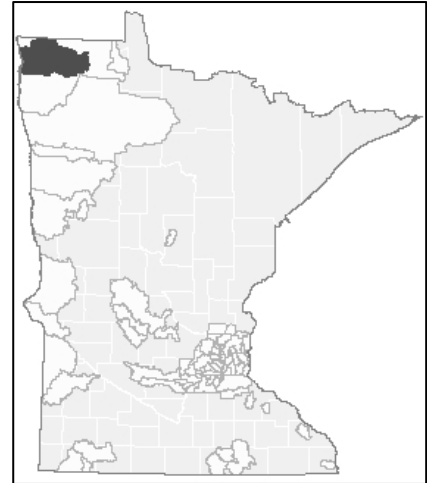


2008 Performance Review

Level II (Pilot): Summary of Full Report

**LGU: Two Rivers Watershed District
*Kittson & Roseau Counties***



Summary of Conclusions:

The Two Rivers WD is making good progress in the implementation of the district's 2004 overall watershed management plan. Both basic services (e.g., regulatory program) and larger projects appear to be consistent with the goals and priority issues identified in the plan. In addition, the TRWD managers and staff do an excellent job of providing the basic services of water management within the district. They have a comprehensive permitting process that is followed and enforced. They communicate their role and responsibilities through newsletters and the sense of having an "open door" to citizens. During board meetings, the managers make their decisions based on good data and open discussion. On major projects, the appropriate board member is actively involved in project development by both participating on the project team and sharing information with citizens and stakeholders.

The TRWD could enhance its operation and implementation of its planning goals by improving coordination with other agencies. The relationship between the Department of Natural Resources and the TRWD needs some repair. The TRWD would benefit from regular participation by the soil and water conservation districts on project work teams. The district could also help their cause by sponsoring tours and other public relations events, in addition to their on-going public education efforts.

Recommendations:

1. Enhance collaboration with other conservation agencies
2. Modify website content
3. Consider expanding public outreach efforts

Summary of LGU Response:

Under the "conclusions" section on page 7, the second paragraph states "...the TRWD should have a stronger working relationship with the soil & water conservation districts within the district. The reasons for this lack of engagement are not entirely clear. However, the SWCD's are an important partner for the district in carrying out its water management responsibilities."

In response to that statement, the TRWD would like clarification from BWSR, as the District feels that contrary to this statement we have a very strong relationship with both the Kittson and Roseau SWCDs. The list of cooperative efforts with the SWCD's goes on and on. The TRWD certainly does not feel that there is a "lack of engagement."

BWSR's (B. Dwight & D. Buckhout) reply when we brought this up during your visit with our Board, was that it was worded the way it is because of the SWCD's lack of participation on the WD Project Work Teams. The report did not address all of the more important cooperative efforts outlined in the above paragraph.

Therefore, the TRWD requests that you re-word your report to clarify that your comments were relative solely to the PWT process, and did not take into account the numerous other examples of cooperation between the Districts.

[BWSR response: The relevant sections of the report were modified as requested.]

In closing, the District would like to thank you for the opportunity to be a part of the first round of PRAP reports. While the report could have been a bit more in depth, I believe it gives a sufficient "snapshot" of where the District is presently at with its operations.