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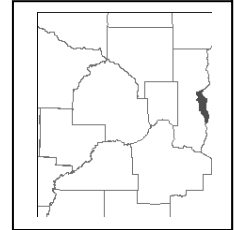
Performance Review and Assistance Program 2011 Level II Review: Middle St. Croix WMO (Washington County)

Why BWSR did this review
BWSR conducts Level II performance reviews to help local government water management entities to be the best they can be in plan implementation and overall operational effectiveness. In 2011 BWSR is conducting Level II performance reviews of seven different local water management entities.

BWSR has conducted a routine Level II performance review of the **Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization** because they are near the midpoint in implementing their 10-year watershed management plan.

This document includes findings and recommendations to enhance the overall operation and effectiveness of the organization. The board members are responsible for taking any actions they deem necessary in response to those findings and recommendations.

Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization Summary of Performance Review Results



What BWSR Found

The MSCWMO has demonstrated good progress in implementing the action items from their watershed management plan. They have gone beyond items in their plan to tackle and benefit from additional programs, such as an expanded education program and regional resource assessments under the metro-wide Landscape Restoration Project. The WMO meets many of BWSR's high performance standards, further indication of the organization's potential. In fact, this over-and-above functioning indicates that their current plan may no longer be ambitious enough to challenge the full capabilities of the organization.

The WMO has clearly benefitted from local partnerships with neighboring resource management entities, such as the Washington Conservation District. With strong staff support for the ten very active and knowledgeable board members, they are an effective local water management entity in this area.

Action Items (need immediate attention)

- Functioning advisory committee: recommendations on projects, reports; 2-way communication with Board
- Consultant RFP: within 2 yrs for professional services

Commendations (show exemplary performance)

- ★ Operating guidelines exist and current
- ★ Plan goals and objectives guide annual budgeting
- ★ Water quality trends tracked for priority water bodies
- ★ Website contains meeting notices, agendas, minutes and is updated
- ★ Track progress for I&E objectives in Plan
- ★ Partnerships and cooperative projects with neighboring districts and organizations, counties, cities, non-governmental organizations, and
- ★ Coordination with county/city/township by board members or staff.

BWSR recommends that the board accelerate their plan revision schedule and address their two action items.