



# Prioritizing Conservation Implementation in the Mississippi Headwaters



## Clean Water Funds: 2012

Clean Water Grant	\$100,000
Leveraged Funds*	\$35,000
Total Project Budget	\$135,000

\* Leveraged Funds include required 25% local match

**Project Sponsor:**  
Mississippi Headwaters Board

**Grant Period:**  
January 2012 — December 2014

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C12-91 - Accelerated Implementation

## Project Narrative

The 400-mile stretch of the Mississippi River from its headwaters at Lake Itasca to Morrison County near Little Falls is the focus of this project. Working in cooperation with the eight member counties, this project will develop implementation plans and strategies geared specifically for the Mississippi River and incorporate them into the individual County Comprehensive Local Water Plans. These

recommendations will be for specific strategies, often crossing county boundaries for implementation. The Headwaters project will gather existing water quality data to determine river water quality over time. Electronically available

land use information will be gathered and coordinated among all eight counties along the river. Together, this information will help identify two main types of areas along the river where water quality is showing degradation, and areas that are critical to long-term water quality protection.



With this type of priority information in hand, the MHB and the member counties can coordinate funding strategies for targeted, effective implementation of conservation practices that take advantage of future Clean Water Land and Legacy funding opportunities as well as providing greater coordination among the counties on planning and applying existing land use authority.

## Proposed Outcomes:

- Water quality trend analysis along the river, critical area identification and implementation strategy identification
- Coordinated dataset of Geographic Information Systems analysis of land use along the project corridor.
- Integration of implementation strategies into County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plans
- Increased future coordination and effective cooperation between the MHB and member counties

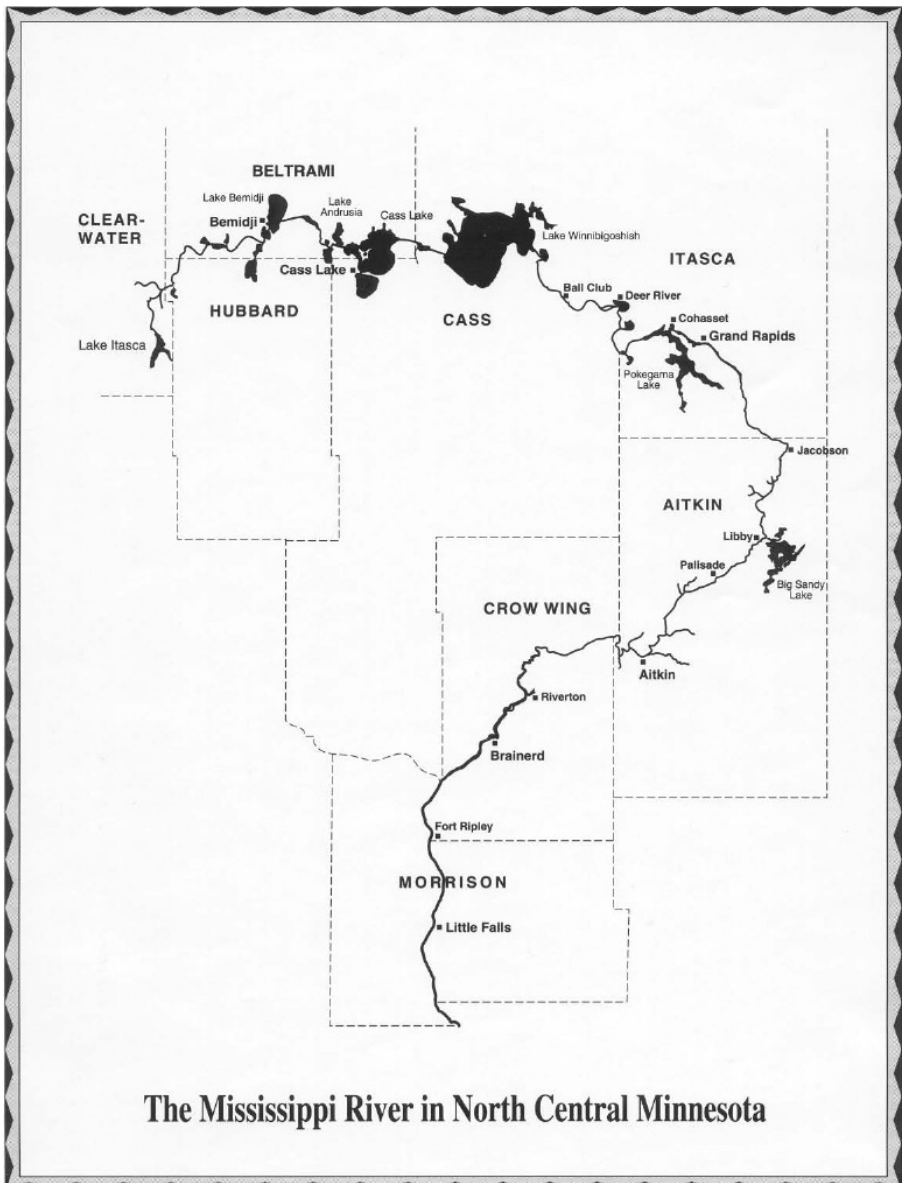
## Actual Outcomes:

Project in Progress



Aerial Corridor Imagery

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The Mississippi River in North Central Minnesota