

## **2005 Project Abstract**

For the Period Ending June 30, 2008

**PROJECT TITLE:** Local Water Management (LWM) Matching Challenge Grants

**PROJECT MANAGER:** David Weirens

**AFFILIATION:** MN Board of Water and Soil Resources

**MAILING ADDRESS:** 520 Lafayette Road

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**FUNDING SOURCE:** Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

**LEGAL CITATION:** ML 2005, First Special Session Chapter 1, Section 11, Subd. 7(a)

**APPROPRIATION AMOUNT:** \$1,000,000

### **Overall Project Outcome and Results**

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) oversees the Local Water Management Program. The purpose of this program is to protect water resources through the adoption and implementation of water management plans by counties and soil and water conservation districts. BWSR has supported implementation of these plans with other state funds since 1990, and funds provided by the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund ("Trust Fund") since 2000.

In February 2005 BWSR solicited local units of government to apply for project funding via Trust Fund funds. A total of 78 project proposals were received; the ranking of these project proposals was conducted by a team consisting of staff from BWSR, Department of Agriculture, Minnesota Department of Health, Department of Natural Resources, and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The review team recommended 35 projects be approved for funding. The BWSR Board approved these recommendations on May 25, 2005.

The funded projects undertook the following activities:

- 10 projects focused on drainage system planning and inventories
- 7 projects focused on the assessment and implementation of water quality plans and practices
- 4 projects focused on lake management planning
- 4 projects focused on designing and implementing stormwater management plans and practices
- The remaining 10 projects focused on water quality education, land conservation, development of a geologic atlas, on-site wastewater treatment, developing a drained wetland inventory, groundwater monitoring, and flood damage reduction.

The level of interest and financial need to implement these types of local management plans remains high, as evidenced by the number of applications received for this period of funding. Local governments continue to value their water resources, and State funding helps maintain a state-local partnership in protecting these important resources. Funding these projects makes local resource management a priority by encouraging and enabling the implementation of these plans.

**Project Results Use and Dissemination**

Detailed project work plans, budgets, and reports will be maintained by BWSR for successful grant applicants. These materials are available for inspection upon request. Final project results are available in an electronic format through the required use of BWSR's local government reporting system (eLINK).

Individual project proposers will be using the results of their projects to continue their water resource management programs, which include education of local citizens and public officials, and in addressing priorities as identified in their BWSR approved plans.

## LCMR 2005 Program Summary Report- FINAL

**Date of Report:** November 12, 2008

**Date of Next Status Report:** August 15, 2008

**Date of Work Program Approval:** June 14, 2005

**Project Completion Date:** June 30, 2008 (an additional year to allow projects to apply for a one-year extension if unforeseen circumstances impede project progress)

### I. PROJECT TITLE: Local Water Management (LWM) Matching Challenge Grants

**Project Manager:** David Weirens, Land and Water Manager

**Affiliation:** MN Board of Water and Soil Resources

**Mailing Address:** 520 Lafayette Road

**City/State/Zip:** St. Paul, MN 55155

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**FAX Number:** 651-297-5615

**Web Page address:** [www.bwsr.state.mn.us](http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us)

**Location:** statewide application

<b>Total Biennial LCMR Project Budget:</b>	<b>LCMR Appropriation:</b> \$1,000,000
	<b>Minus Amount Spent:</b> \$ 986,339
	<b>Equal Balance:</b> \$ 13,661

**Legal Citation:** ML 2005, First Special Session Chapter 1, Section 11, Subd. 7(a).

**Appropriation Language:** \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year are from the trust fund to the board of water and soil resources to accelerate the local water management grant program under Minnesota Statutes 103B.3361 to 103B.3369, through matching grants to implement high-priority activities in state approved comprehensive water management plans. For the purposes of this paragraph, the match must be a nonstate contribution but may be either cash or qualifying in-kind. The grants may be provided on an advance basis as specified in the work program. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2008 at which time the project must be completed and final products delivered, unless an earlier date is specified in the work program.

**II. PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS:** This project will provide grant monies to counties, watershed management organizations, watershed districts and SWCD's (where they have been delegated LWMP authority) to implement high priority actions identified in state approved and locally adopted water management plans. Upon approval of this work plan, BWSR is requesting \$500,000 be directly appropriated to the agency. BWSR will request the second payment of \$500,000 by July 1, 2006. BWSR will forward fund the grant monies to local fiscal agents of projects selected for funding by the BWSR Board following the process set forth in Minnesota Statutes 103B.3369. As per subdivision 6, item (a) of M.S. 103B.3369, *grants provided to implement programs under this section must be reviewed by the state*

*agency having statutory program authority to assure compliance with minimum state standards. At the request of the state agency commissioner, the board shall revoke the portion of a grant used to support a program not in compliance.*

Successful applicants were required to develop detailed work plans and budgets, including measurable results for each proposed action item. In the event that a selected project does not receive a work plan approval within 90 days of being notified they were selected for funding, the project will be canceled and the next highest ranked project will be funded. After BWSR approves the project work plan and budget of each funded project, a grant agreement will be issued and executed upon receipt of authorized signatures by both parties. All successful applicants will be required to submit progress reports and a final project report using BWSR's eLINK program. The report submission schedule, as stated in the grant agreement is:

Report	Due
Progress report 1	November 30, 2005
Progress report 2	April 1, 2006
Progress report 3	October 15, 2006
Progress report 4	April 15, 2007
Final Project report	July 31, 2007

Applicants may request up to a one-year extension to complete the project. All extension requests must be submitted in writing and approved by BWSR. Final project reports, for those with an approved extension is required no later than 30 days after project completion.

### **III. SUMMARY OF PROGRESS:**

**December 31, 2005:** In February 2005 BWSR solicited eligible local units of government to submit projects to be funded via Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund dollars. A total of 78 project proposals were received; the ranking of these project proposals was conducted by a team consisting of staff from BWSR, Departments of Agriculture, Minnesota Department of Health, Department of Natural Resources, and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The review team recommended 35 projects be approved for funding (see attached project list). The BWSR Board approved these recommendations on May 25, 2005.

The funded projects propose to undertake the following activities:

- 10 projects focus on drainage system planning and inventories
- 7 projects focus on the assessment and implementation of water quality plans and practices
- 4 projects focus on lake management planning
- 4 projects focus on designing and implementing stormwater management plans and practices
- The remaining 10 projects focus on water quality education, land conservation, development of a geologic atlas, on-site wastewater treatment, developing a drained wetland inventory, groundwater monitoring and flood damage reduction.

BWSR is currently in the process of working with grantees in developing project workplans and grant agreements. As of the grantee reporting deadline of November 1, 2005, 10 project grant agreements have been signed.

**May 1, 2006:** BWSR staff are working with grant recipients to execute grant agreements so the funded projects can begin. As of the date of this report, 23 of 35 projects have executed grant agreements and received their first payment. Furthermore, 19 of the projects reported an expenditure by the May 1 reporting deadline.

**November 15, 2006:** Grant agreements have been executed for 34 projects. One project was cancelled. The next deadline for project reports is April 15, 2007.

**May 15, 2007:** As of the reporting deadline, 29 of the 35 projects have reported an expenditure or funds. Also, eleven projects have requested and been granted an extension.

**March 1, 2008:** Grant recipients are required to report when their projects are complete, or for those granted extensions, by June 30, 2008. Currently, 16 projects are complete, including reporting. These completed projects include two that were extended. An additional 11 projects requested and received extensions. Two projects were cancelled and funds returned. BWSR staff are contacting the managers for an additional four projects to determine their status.

**August 15, 2008:** The 11 grant recipients given an extension have completed required reporting

#### **IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:**

##### **Result 1: Solicit applications and select projects**

**Description:** Eligible local governments will be invited to submit applications via the state register, e-mail, eLINK and the BWSR website. Partner agencies will be invited to review and rank applications received. The following match requirements and grant maximums will be required for each project category. The target budget for each category that will help guide funding decisions is also shown below. BWSR and the partner agencies that participating in the project selection process covered the costs associated with result 1, thereby allowing all of the LCCMR allocation to be available for projects. The list of applications is included as an attachment to this work program.

Land and Water Treatment require a 50 percent local cash or land contribution match. The maximum grant is \$25,000/LGU or \$75,000/project.

Target Budget: \$400,000

Planning and Environmental Controls projects require at least a 50 percent local cash or in-kind match. The maximum grant is \$25,000/LGU or \$75,000/project.

Target Budget: \$250,000

Inventory and Mapping requires at least 50 percent cash or in-kind match. The maximum grant is \$25,000/LGU or \$75,000/project.

Target Budget: \$250,000

Monitoring and Modeling requires at least 50 percent cash match. The maximum grant is \$25,000/LGU or \$75,000/project.

Target Budget: \$75,000

Education and Information require a 50 percent cash match. The maximum grant is \$5,000.

Target Budget: \$25,000

<b>Summary Budget Information for Result 1:</b>	<b>LCMR Budget</b>	\$ 0
	<b>Balance</b>	\$ 0

**Completion Date:** June 1, 2005

**Result Status as of December 31, 2005:** Completed. The BWSR Board approved 35 projects for funding on May 25, 2005.

**Result Status as of May 1, 2006:** Result 1 was completed on May 25, 2005 when the BWSR Board approved 35 projects for funding.

**Result Status as of November 15, 2006:** Result 1 was completed on May 25, 2005 when the BWSR Board approved 35 projects for funding.

**Result Status as of May 15, 2007:** Result 1 was completed on May 25, 2005 when the BWSR Board approved 35 projects for funding.

**Result Status as of November 15, 2007:** Result 1 was completed on May 25, 2005 when the BWSR Board approved 35 projects for funding.

**Final Report Summary:**

**Result 2:** Grants to Implement Local Water Management Activities

**Description:** Upon approval of a detailed work plan a grant agreement will be mailed to the project manager and returned to BWSR within 30 days of receipt. Project managers must submit semi-annual progress reports and a final report using the electronic reporting system.

<b>Summary Budget Information for Result 1:</b>	<b>LCMR Budget</b>	\$ 1,000,000
	<b>Minus Amount Spent:</b>	\$ 986,339
	<b>Balance</b>	\$ 13,661

**Completion Date:** Projects funded through this appropriation must be completed by June 30, 2007, unless an extension is requested. Projects may be extended to no later than June 30, 2008.

**Result Status as of December 31, 2005:** In progress. Ten of the 35 approved projects have executed grant agreements.

**Result Status as of May 1, 2006:** In progress. Thirty-two of the 35 projects have executed grant agreements.

**Result Status as of November 15, 2006:** In progress. All 35 projects have begun and made progress as reported in eLINK.

**Result Status as of May 15, 2007:** All 35 projects have begun with 77% nearing completion.

**Final Program Report: August 15, 2008:** Of the 35 projects funded, all were complete with the exception of two. Five project outcomes changes from the approved workplan. Please see projects 3, 11, 24, and 32 in the document "FY2006 Local water Management Challenge Grant Final Report for August 15, 2008".

## **V. TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET:**

**All Results: Personnel:** \$ 0

**All Results: Equipment:** \$ 0

**All Results: Development:** \$ 0

**All Results: Acquisition:** \$0

**All Results: Other:** \$ 1,000,000 (grants to local governments)

**TOTAL LCMR PROJECT BUDGET:** \$ 1,000,000

## **VI. OTHER FUNDS & PARTNERS:**

### **A. Project Partners:**

#### **1. Partners Receiving LCMR Funds**

Minnesota Counties

Minnesota Watershed Districts

Minnesota Watershed Management Organizations

Minnesota Soil and Water Conservation Districts

#### **2. Project Cooperators**

MN Department of Agriculture

MN Department of Health

MN Department of Natural Resources

MN Environmental Quality Board

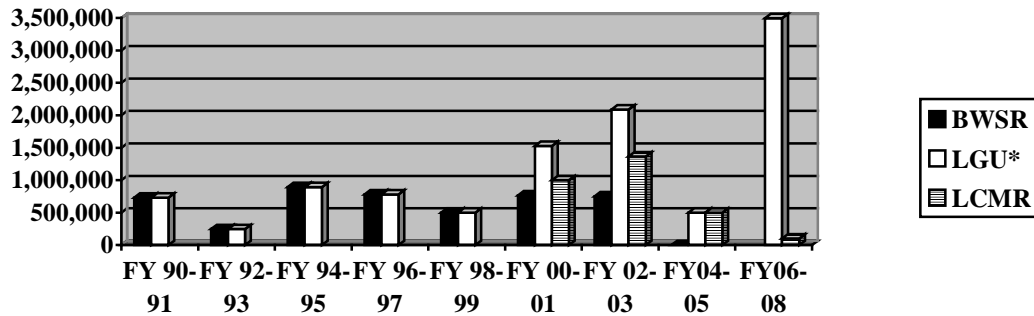
MN Pollution Control Agency

**B. Other Funds being Spent during the Project Period:** BWSR will be spending additional state funds to manage the grant process and the grants themselves once the funding allocation has been approved by the Board.

**C. Required Match (if applicable):** Recipients of grant monies (counties, watershed districts, watershed management organizations, and soil and water conservation districts) will be required to match the grant one-to-one with non-state in-kind or cash contributions.

**D. Past Spending:**

**Local Water Planning Challenge Grant Funding History**



Total Past Spending: \$8,505,413 Total LGU\* Match: \$10,766,050

**E. Time:** The appropriation provides authority to spend through June 30, 2008. Projects that receive grant funds will be expected to complete the project within two years with the ability for a one year extension, if necessary.

**VII. DISSEMINATION:** Detailed project work plans; budgets and reports will be maintained by BWSR for successful grant applicants. These materials are available for inspection upon request. Project summaries will be prepared after awarding of grants and will be broadly distributed through cooperating agencies, the LCMR, BWSR newsletters, and BWSR's web site. Final project results will be available in an electronic format through the required use of BWSR's local government reporting system (eLINK).

**VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:** Periodic work program progress reports will be submitted not later than December 31, 2005, May 1, 2006, November 15, 2006 and May 15, 2007. A final work program report and associated products will be submitted by June 30, 2007.

**IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS:** Not applicable.



**Attachment A: Budget Detail for 2005 Projects - Summary and a Budget page for each partner (if applicable)**

**Proposal Title:** Local Water Management (LWM) Matching Challenge Grants

**Project Manager Name:** David Weirens, BWSR.

**LCMR Requested Dollars:** \$ 1,000,000

- 1) See list of non-eligible expenses, do not include any of these items in your budget sheet
- 2) Remove any budget item lines not applicable

<b>2005 LCMR Proposal Budget</b>	<b>Result 1 Budget:</b>	<b>Amount Spent</b> (June 30, 2008)	<b>Balance (June</b> 30, 2008)	<b>Result 2 Budget:</b>	<b>Amount Spent</b> (June 30, 2008)	<b>Balance (June</b> 30, 2008)	
	Solicit Applications and Select Projects			Grants to Implement Local Water Management Activities			
<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>							<b>TOTAL FOR BUDGET ITEM</b>
<b>PERSONNEL: Staff Expenses, wages, salaries</b> <i>– Be specific on who is paid \$, to do what? Make each person paid a separate line item</i>							
<b>PERSONNEL: Staff benefits</b> – <i>Be specific; list benefits for each person on a separate line item</i>							
<b>Contracts</b>							
<b>Professional/technical</b> <i>(with whom?, for what?)</i>							
<b>Other contracts</b> <i>(with whom?, for what?) list out: personnel, equipment, etc.</i>							
<b>Other direct operating costs</b> <i>(for what? – be specific)</i>							
<b>Equipment / Tools</b> <i>(what equipment? Give a general description and cost)</i>							
<b>Office equipment &amp; computers - NOT ALLOWED</b> <i>unless unique to the project</i>							
<b>Other Capital equipment</b> <i>(list specific items)</i>							
<b>Land acquisition</b> <i>(how many acres)</i>							
<b>Land rights acquisition</b> <i>(less than fee)</i>							
<b>Printing</b>							
<b>Other Supplies</b> <i>(list specific categories)</i>							
<b>Travel expenses in Minnesota</b>							
<b>Travel outside Minnesota</b> <i>(where?)</i>							
<b>Construction</b> <i>(for what?)</i>							
<b>Other land improvement</b> <i>(for what?)</i>							
<b>Other</b> <i>(Describe the activity and cost)</i>	0		0	1,000,000	986,339	13,661	1,000,000
Grants to Eligible Local Units of Government							
<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>986,339</b>	<b>13,661</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>