

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2011-2012 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

LCCMR ID: 053-B

Project Title: Sauk River Watershed Strategic Modeling and Analysis

Category: B. Water Resources

Total Project Budget: \$ \$440,000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: 2 yrs, July 2011 - June 2013

Other Non-State Funds: \$ 0

Summary:

Different landuse practices, development pressures, and water quality issues are indicative of the need for a hydraulic model and report of the existing conditions within the watershed for future management.

Name: Holly Kovarik

Sponsoring Organization: Sauk River Watershed District

Address: 524 4th Street S
Sauk Centre MN 56378

Telephone Number: 320-352-2231

Email: holly@srwdmn.org

Web Address: www.srwdmn.org

Location

Region: Central

Ecological Section: Minnesota and NE Iowa Morainal (222M), North Central Glaciated Plains (251B)

County Name: Douglas, Meeker, Pope, Stearns, Todd

City / Township:

<input type="checkbox"/> Funding Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Benefits	<input type="checkbox"/> Outcomes	<input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge Base
<input type="checkbox"/> Extent of Impact	<input type="checkbox"/> Innovation	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific/Tech Basis	<input type="checkbox"/> Urgency
<input type="checkbox"/> Capacity Readiness	<input type="checkbox"/> Leverage	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> TOTAL <input type="checkbox"/> %

2011-2012 MAIN PROPOSAL

PROJECT TITLE: Sauk River Watershed Strategic Modeling and Analysis

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

The Sauk River Watershed is one of 81 major watersheds in the state of Minnesota. Each watershed has different natural resources concerns and land use practices which vary greatly. In order to effectively address the issues and to protect and restore water quality, it is necessary to understand the peak water flows and to improve the water and land use practices utilized in the Sauk River Watershed.

The Sauk River Watershed is located in portions of Stearns, Douglas, Todd, Meeker and Pope Counties. The watershed of the Sauk River encompasses 667,214 acres of which 97% is privately owned. According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (Source: NRCS Sauk River Watershed Rapid Watershed Assessment MN HUC:07010202 report), the main resource concerns in the basin are excessive soil erosion, woodland management, surface water quality, groundwater quality and quantity, surface water management, and wetland management. This report on the Sauk River Watershed indicates that reductions of priority pollutants and sediments to surface waters are a priority issue through the watershed.

The Sauk River Watershed District has extensive monitoring data since 1986 on the Sauk River Watershed that indicates that reductions of priority pollutants are needed. The dynamic of many different land use practices, development pressures, and water quality issues are a strong case for the need of a hydrologic condition and hydraulic model of the watershed. This analysis would be a component within a larger watershed wide strategic set of goals. This analysis will aid in guiding the direction and the efforts conducted by the watershed into the future. This would be an innovative approach to managing efforts on a watershed wide basis and a concept that has not been typically applied on this large of a scale. This is the first building block in the process to reduce peak water flows by using an existing conditions model. The model would be used for reducing peak flows by understanding the existing flows. This information will provide guidance in future projects implemented to retain and reduce flows and improve water quality.

The analysis of the hydrologic conditions, hydraulic model, and the strategic watershed wide planning are the primary focus for this proposal and would provide the means for long-term impacts watershed wide.

Goal 1: Preparation of Existing Conditions Hydrologic and Hydraulic Model of the entire District

Goal 2: Update Current Strategic Plans to include Existing Conditions Model information and other necessary revisions.

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Activity 1: Preparation of Existing Conditions Hydrologic and Hydraulic Model of the entire District

Budget: \$ 300,000

To prepare an exiting conditions model of the entire watershed

Outcome	Completion Date
1. To complete the hydrologic and hydraulic model	2012

Activity 2: Strategic Plan Revisions**Budget: \$ 140,000**

Use existing conditions study information to update and provide long term guidance for watershed management.

Outcome	Completion Date
<i>1.To conduct a citizen survey</i>	<i>2011</i>
<i>2.Review of strategic plan by partner agencies and citizens</i>	<i>2011</i>
<i>3.Implementation of strategic management and existing conditions model</i>	<i>2012</i>

III. PROJECT STRATEGY**A. Project Team/Partners**

The project planning partners will include:

Douglas, Todd, Stearns, Meeker, and Pope County SWCD's

Douglas, Todd, Stearns, Meeker, and Pope Counties

Douglas, Todd, Stearns, Meeker, and Pope Land & Resource Offices

Various Lake Associations & wildlife groups

BWSR

DNR, MPCA, NRCS

*These partners will provide support to the planning efforts of the Overall Plan Revision and will not receive any funds from the Natural Resources Trust Fund.

B. Timeline Requirements**Activity 1: Citizen Based Priority Areas of Concern Survey**

Activity	Activity Break Down	Time
<i>Activity 1: Preparation of Existing Conditions Hydrologic and Hydraulic Model of the entire District</i>	<i>1. To complete the hydrologic and hydraulic model</i>	<i>12 months</i>
	<i>2. Evaluation of survey responses and reporting to project partners and affiliates.</i>	<i>3 months</i>
<i>Activity 2: Strategic Plan Revisions</i>	<i>1. To conduct a citizen survey</i>	<i>3 months</i>
	<i>2. Review of strategic plan by partner agencies and citizens</i>	<i>3 months</i>
	<i>3. Implementation of strategic management and existing conditions model</i>	<i>3 months</i>

C. Long-Term Strategy and Future Funding Needs

This project will not require any additional future funding.

2011-2012 Detailed Project Budget

IV. TOTAL TRUST FUND REQUEST BUDGET 2 years

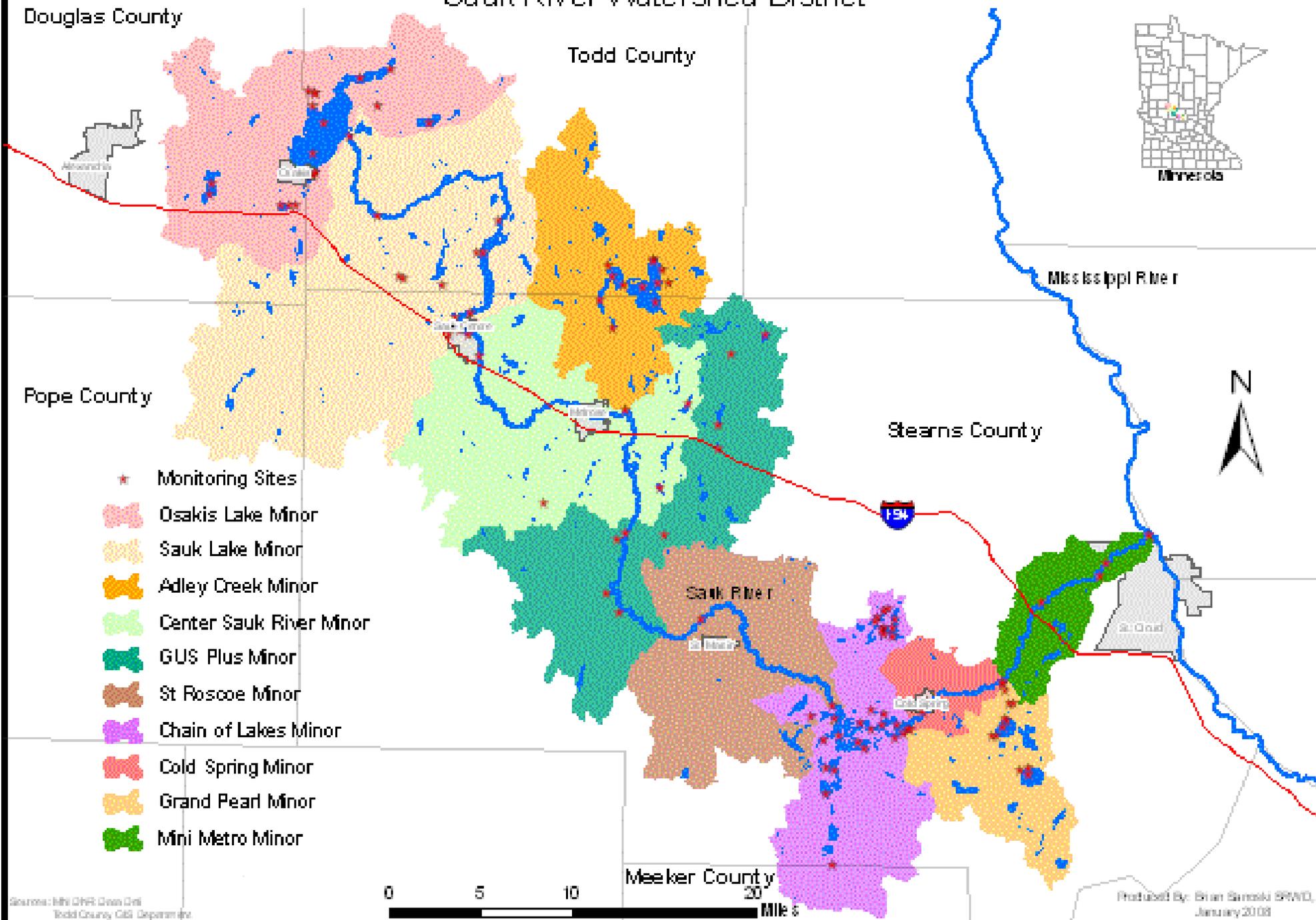
<u>BUDGET ITEM</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Personnel: Administration requirements (16% of an FTE position) 63% salary, 27% benefit Board of Managers-(9 people in appointment positions) 7% salary, 3% benefit	\$ 20,000
Contracts: Advise (Rinke Noonan) \$25,000 Legal Engineering/Technical Support-updates to mapping, revisions to develop a targeted watershed analysis report. (Consultant not yet determined.) \$ 85,000 Preparation of Existing Conditions Hydrologic and Hydraulic Model of Entire Watershed (Consultant not yet determined) \$300,000	\$ 410,000
Equipment/Tools/Supplies: Publishing/Printing costs of Strategic Watershed Analysis report for public distribution. \$7,000	\$ 7,000
Travel: Travel reimbursement for participants	\$ 3,000
TOTAL ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST	\$ 440,000

V. OTHER FUNDS

<u>SOURCE OF FUNDS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>Status</u>
Other Non-State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period: No other funds secured at this time.	\$ -	NA
Other State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period: No other funds secured at this time.	\$ -	NA
In-kind Services During Project Period: NA	\$ -	NA
Remaining \$ from Current ENRTF Appropriation (if applicable): NA	\$ -	NA
Funding History: Process just beginning for plan revision. No funds expended for project as of 3/26/10. However process will begin prior to 2011.	\$ -	NA

Water Management Districts

Sauk River Watershed District



Sources: MHI DNR Data Set
Todd County GIS Department

Produced By: Brian Ganski SRWD,
January 2008

LCCMR Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description

Project Manager Qualifications & Responsibilities

<u>Name:</u>	Holly Kovarik
<u>Title:</u>	Administrator of the Sauk River Watershed District since December 2008
<u>Qualifications:</u>	<p>I have knowledge in the areas of public management and administration; budgeting and fiscal oversight; effective public communication; project programming; implementation and oversight; and water quality and environmental issues and programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous work history includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sauk River Watershed District Administrator 12/2008-Present • Pope Soil & Water Conservation District Office Manager 3/2003-11/2008 • Natural Resources Conservation Service WAE 2007-2008 • Land O' Lakes Farmland Feed Staffing Coordinator 10/2000-2/2003 • Douglas County Extension Service Summers 1999/2000
<u>Responsibilities for LCCMR proposal:</u>	My role for the LCCMR grant if awarded would be in the oversight and management of the funds. I have worked with other grant funds in the past in tracking the accounting and implementation of the projects or programs. I have developed the protocol and prepared the reports as necessary. I will work to coordinate the efforts of the project with partners, agencies, and consultants through this process. I will also serve as the liaison on the project between the board and staff. This process is also a responsibility outlined in the Administrator job description. I am required to complete this task.

Organization Description

The Sauk River Watershed District was organized on July 22, 1986. It is the policy of the Sauk River Watershed District Board of Managers to protect the quality and manage the quantity of all surface waters, ground water within the District and to encourage land use practices that balance the necessary development with the protection of ground and surface water resources. It is also the policy of the SRWD Board of Managers that in order to successfully implement the goals, objectives, and actions for the Surface Water, Groundwater, and Land Resource Initiatives. The District must invest and support its citizens, Advisory Committee, and staff.

Our Mission

The mission of the Sauk River Watershed District is to apply our unique abilities and authorities in ways that protect and enhance our watershed's resources for today and tomorrow."

Our Vision

The vision of the SRWD is to protect and enhance our natural resources by increasing public awareness and involvement.

The District board and staff will expand programs and projects through technical and financial assistance and provide opportunities to support our partnerships and residents in achieving the desired water management goals and objectives.