



April 13, 2017

Representatives
Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed
Management Commission
Hennepin County, Minnesota

*The meeting packet for this meeting
may be found on the Commission's website:
<http://pioneersarahcreek.org/pages/Meetings/>*

Dear Representatives:

A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission will be held Thursday, April 20, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., at the Discovery Center, 5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain, MN.

A light supper will be served. **RSVPs are requested** so that the appropriate amount of food is available. At the time of your response, please let us know if you will be eating supper with us.

In order to ensure a quorum for this meeting, please telephone 763.553.1144 or email Kerstin at kerstin@jass.biz to indicate if you or your Alternate will be attending. It is your responsibility to ascertain that your community will be represented at this meeting.

Regards,

Judie A. Anderson
Administrator
JAA:tim

cc: Alternates

Jim Kujawa, HCES

Joel Jamnik, Attorney

Rich Brasch, TRPD

City Clerks

Met Council

official newspapers

Diane Spector, Wenck Associates

MPCA

BWSR

DNR

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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE: 3235 Fernbrook Lane N • Plymouth, MN 55447
763.553.1144 • Fax: 763.553.9326 • judie@jass.biz • www.pioneersarahcreek.org

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
April 20, 2017 • 6:00 pm
Maple Plain City Hall @ The Discovery Center
5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain

*The meeting packet can be found on the Commission's website:
<http://pioneersarahcreek.org/pages/Meetings/>*

1. Call to Order.
2. Approve Agenda.*
3. Consent Agenda.
 - a. March regular meeting minutes.*
 - b. Monthly Claims/Treasurers Report.*
4. Action Items.
 - a. Revised Draft 2017 Annual Work Plan.*
 - b. 2016 Audit Report.*
 - c. 2016 Annual Activity Report.*
 - d. Approve Loretto Local Surface Water Management Plan – see Staff Report.
 - e. Consider request for taping of meetings.*
5. Open Forum.
6. Old Business.
 - a. Updated CIP - Baker.
 - b. Additional stream bacteria monitoring – Brasch.
 - c. Cost-share for Lake Sarah CLP treatment – Baker.
7. New Business.
8. Staff Report.*
9. Watershed-wide TMDL.
10. Education.
 - a. Social media and website metrics* - Juntunen.
11. Communications.
 - a. Brasch retirement.*
 - b. MEP – vote No - SF 723 and HF 888.*
12. Commissioner Reports.
13. Other Business.
14. Adjournment. *(Next meeting-May 18, 2017)*

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**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 16, 2017**

1. CALL TO ORDER. A regular meeting of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 6:03 p.m., Thursday, March 16, 2017, by Chair Joe Baker at Maple Plain City Hall, 5050 Independence Street, Maple Plain, MN.

Present: Tom Cook, Greenfield; Joe Baker, Independence; Brenda Daniels, Loretto; John Fay, Maple Plain; Pat Wulff, Medina; Shannon Bruce, Minnetrista; James Kujawa, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); Rich Brasch and Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD); and Judie Anderson and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

Also present: Scott Johnson, Medina; Steve Christopher, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), and Carol and Heather Besecker, citizens.

2. AGENDA. The agenda was revised to remove item 4.f.i. Draft 2016 Audit, and add item 4.g. Potential Increase in Cost Share for Lake Sarah CLP Treatment. Motion by Wulff, second by Cook to approve the agenda* as revised. *Motion carried unanimously.*

3. CONSENT AGENDA. Motion by Cook, second by Daniels to approve the consent agenda. *Motion carried unanimously.*

a. February 16, 2017 Meeting Minutes.*

b. Monthly Claims/Treasurer's Report.* Monthly claims totaling \$5,141.71.

4. ACTION ITEMS.

a. Draft 2017 Annual Work Plan.* Commissioners were requested to review the Work Plan and send any additions or corrections to Anderson by March 24. The Annual Work Plan is a required part of the 2016 Annual Activity Report and must be approved at the April Commission meeting. The 2016 Annual Activity Report is required to be submitted to BWSR by April 30.

b. Windsong Farm Golf Club, Independence – Request for Variance.* Commission rules requires installation of buffers adjacent to all wetlands on the property during development. The Golf Club would like to develop a practice facility on approximately one-third of the property. There are 12 wetlands on the property in total, but development would only occur in the area of five wetlands. The rest of the property is not being developed and will remain in crop rotation with no immediate plans for development. The applicant is requesting a variance to the Commission's rules requiring buffers only in the areas that will continue to be farmed and not developed. Once the rest of the property is developed, proper buffers would be installed around all wetlands. The Commission and Staff are in favor. Staff will offer guidance and bring this issue for action when the project review has been submitted.

c. WaterShed Partners.* WaterShed Partners is a coalition of over 70 public, private, and non-profit organizations in the metro area. Partners promote actions to protect water in the watersheds. Their new campaign started in 2016 and includes social media/newsletter articles and a photo library available to partners. Each article links to informational resources. Staff suggested the PSCWMC become a partner in 2017 to take advantage of the content library and educational resources. Motion by Fay, second by Daniels to approve \$500 for partnership in the WaterShed Partners program for 2017. *Motion carried unanimously.* This program will be reviewed in early 2018 to judge effectiveness.

d. **Select one lake for CAMP program.** Hafften Lake was monitored in 2016. Cook volunteered to monitor Hafften in 2017, providing two consecutive years of monitoring data for the lake. Ardmore lake will be monitored in 2017 as part of the TRPD carp study.

e. **Updates to CIP.*** The TAC met on March 10 to review the current CIP and add new projects submitted by the cities to the CIP. Some projects were removed due to completion, infeasibility, or lack of landowner participation. Some of the smaller BMP projects were removed from the annual list and Staff recommends their addition as a line item for Ongoing Opportunity BMP installations on the CIP with a separate annual budget because those projects are not truly capital projects. Baker noted that the GR-3, Dance Hall Creek BMPs that had been struck should be marked as completed for the Steinke project. Baker will create a BMP performance measure to present to Kevin Bigalke at BWSR so that efforts, even if they did not result in a project due to lack of participation or infeasibility, are included in the measurement of CIP accomplishment. Fay requested project MP-6, South Ravine Cleanup, be struck as the City is not prepared to move forward with the project within the CIP timeframe.

Baker requested the CIP form be updated to include total phosphorus removal in addition to the cost per lb of removal. A second report detailing the completed projects and infeasibility of identified projects should also be created as a performance measurement.

A column will be added to notate projects moved to future years. The CIP will be reviewed again in April after updates are made. Baker requested a meeting with Kujawa and Brasch to review the CIP outside the regular meeting.

f. **Draft 2016 Annual Activity Report.*** Commissioners were requested to review the Activity Report and send any additions or corrections to Anderson by March 24. The Annual Activity Report must be approved at the April Commission meeting. The 2016 Annual Activity Report is required to be submitted to BWSR by April 30.

g. **Potential increase in the cost share for the Lake Sarah CLP treatment.** Baker proposed an exception to the 10% after grant cost-share for this project. This is the final year of the five-year whole-lake treatments. The treatments have been effective and demonstrated an effective course of control for the CLP. It was in many cases replaced by natives. The treatments have resulted in an 80% reduction of the turion seed bank in the lake, allowing for future spot treatments rather than whole-lake treatments. In 2016, no grant was awarded to help fund this project and the Commission increased the cost-share to 25%. In 2017 the project did receive the maximum grant of \$4,999. Total cost is projected at \$45,000. TRPD also contributes to the project for its percentage of shoreline. Baker requested an increase to the cost-share of this project to 25% after grant. Baker will have a not-to-exceed amount for this project at the April meeting. Motion by Cook, second by Fay to increase the cost-share for this project to 25% after grant. *Motion carried unanimously.* Control of the CLP creates conditions for an effective alum treatment to the lake to control internal loading.

5. OPEN FORUM.

No one wished to speak to items not on the agenda.

6. OLD BUSINESS.

7. NEW BUSINESS.

a. **2017 PRAP.*** BWSR performs a routine, interactive review intended to cover all LGUs at least once every 10 years, the Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP). BWSR originally scheduled Pioneer-Sarah Creek's PRAP for 2017, but has recently notified the Commission that it will be delayed until 2018. The PRAP usually requires 30-40 hours of staff time to review the Plan and provide details to BWSR, as well as time during regular Commission meetings to complete the self-assessment, review Staff's report, and review comments. The PRAP results in an approximately 50 page document.

b. Baker met with Kevin Bigalke at BWSR to discuss the PSCWMC **Third Generation Plan**, which was only approved for six years instead of the usual ten years. Based on the performance of the Commission in working

towards its stated goals and projects, BWSR may be amenable to extending the plan for the full ten-year period with a Major Plan Amendment that would update the CIP through 2024 and adjust goals and rules as needed. Member cities must identify good projects to make the Commission performance successful.

8. STAFF REPORT.*

a. Brasch gave a presentation to the Minnetrista City Council on the **proposed South Whaletail alum treatment**. The Council was receptive to the project. The project is scheduled for 2020 and has been submitted to the CIP. Planning and sediment cores to calculate dosage will begin in 2018. Whaletail is targeted to achieve standards by 2020-21.

b. Additional **stream bacteria monitoring** was suggested by Wenck Associates to determine whether lakes are contributors to streams impaired for bacteria identified as part of the Bacteria TMDL, or if the bacteria only comes from the stream drainage area. This would set boundary conditions for lakes and lakes would not have to be sampled for bacteria. Synoptic sampling at multiple sites simultaneously is the monitoring method. The additional monitoring would cost \$500-\$1000. Staff will bring this item back for discussion in April.

c. Kujawa noted that local Water Management Plans must be adopted by member cities between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2018.

d. Juntunen will include **social media and website metrics** in the April meeting packet.

9. WATERSHED-WIDE TMD.

10. EDUCATION.

11. COMMUNICATIONS.

12. COMMISSIONER REPORTS. A **manure pile** on a property adjacent to Lake Sarah in Greenfield was brought to Baker's attention by Lake Sarah residents. Kirsten Barta, HCEE Rural Conservationist, will contact the land owner and discuss better practices to reduce phosphorous loading to the lake.

13. OTHER BUSINESS. The **next meeting** is scheduled for April 20, 2017.

14. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, motion by Cook, second by Baker to adjourn. *Motion carried unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy A. Juntunen
Recording Secretary
JAA:tim

Z:\Pioneer-SarahCreek\Meetings\Meetings 2017\03 Minutes.docx

Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed
Income Statement
Compared with Budget
For the Three Months Ending March 31, 2017

Item 3b

	Current Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance
Revenues				
Member Dues	\$ 0.00	\$ 105,700.00	\$ 105,700.00	0.00
Project Review Fees	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	(5,000.00)
CIP Income	0.00	28,000.00	28,000.00	0.00
WCA Adm Fees	0.00	0.00	500.00	(500.00)
Interest and Dividend Income	115.92	290.42	10.26	280.16
Total Revenues	115.92	133,990.42	139,210.26	(5,219.84)
Operating Expenses				
Administrative Expense	4,606.32	8,210.78	9,000.00	789.22
Adm-Project Reviews	1.61	8.11	1,000.00	991.89
WCA - Admin/Legal Expenses	11.48	40.65	500.00	459.35
Adm - Tech Support	0.00	2.42	750.00	747.58
Legal Expense	33.96	33.96	500.00	466.04
Insurance	0.00	257.00	3,370.00	3,113.00
Total Operating Expenses	4,653.37	8,552.92	15,120.00	6,567.08
Program Deliverables and Education				
Adm - General Programs	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
TAC Meetings	0.00	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Education	20.40	77.04	6,120.00	6,042.96
Education-Events	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
Grant Writing	0.00	0.00	1,100.00	1,100.00
Website	231.85	277.50	2,240.00	1,962.50
Total Deliverables and Education	252.25	354.54	14,460.00	14,105.46
Fund Revenue/Expenses				
WRAPP Income	0.00	3,769.20	0.00	3,769.20
WRAPP Expense	236.09	474.05	0.00	(474.05)
Total WRAPP Income (Expense)	(236.09)	3,295.15	0.00	3,295.15
Capital Improvement Project	0.00	0.00	33,000.00	33,000.00
Total Fund Income (Expense)	(236.09)	3,295.15	33,000.00	29,704.85
Total Expenses	5,141.71	5,612.31	62,580.00	56,967.69
Net Income	(\$ 5,025.79)	\$ 128,378.11	\$ 76,630.26	\$ 51,747.85

Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed
Balance Sheet
March 31, 2017

Item 3b

ASSETS

Current Assets		
Cash-4M Fund	\$ 316,930.89	
Accounts Receivable	<u>47,357.18</u>	
Total Current Assets		364,288.07
Property and Equipment	<u></u>	
Total Property and Equipment		0.00
Other Assets	<u></u>	
Total Other Assets		<u>0.00</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 364,288.07</u>	

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Current Liabilities	<u></u>	
Total Current Liabilities		0.00
Long-Term Liabilities	<u></u>	
Total Long-Term Liabilities		<u>0.00</u>
Total Liabilities		0.00
Capital		
WCA Replacement Guarantee	\$ 6,850.00	
WCA Monitoring Guarantee	6,816.44	
WCA Administrative Guarantee	696.78	
Third Generation Plan Res	25,000.00	
WRAPP Encumbered	8,503.56	
Retained Surplus	132,812.01	
CIP Fund	55,231.17	
Net Income	<u>128,378.11</u>	
Total Capital		<u>364,288.07</u>
Total Liabilities & Capital	<u>\$ 364,288.07</u>	

**Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed
Cash Disbursements Journal
For the Period From Apr 1, 2017 to Apr 30, 2017**

Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Date. Report is printed in Detail Format.

Date	Check #	Account ID	Line Description	Debit Amount	Credit Amount
4/13/17	1460	52000	Technical Advisory Committee	696.29	
		10100	Wenck Associates, Inc.		696.29
4/13/17	1461	57000	Education - 2017 Membership	500.00	
		10100	WaterShed Partners		500.00
4/13/17	1462	51100	Administration	739.41	
		51100	Meetings	1,595.93	
		51100	Bookkeeping	107.57	
		51100	Annual Budget	28.91	
		51100	Annual Report	928.17	
		51400	Website	133.10	
		57000	Education	17.70	
		51120	Project Reviews	9.50	
		51130	WCA/Wetland Projects	4.99	
		51125	CIPs, BBR	1,406.10	
		10100	Judie Anderson's Secretarial Service		4,971.38
Total				6,167.67	6,167.67

Invoice

April 7, 2017

Invoice No: 11702145

Judie Anderson
 Pioneer-Sarah Watershed Management Comm.
 3235 Fernbrook Lane
 Plymouth, MN 55447



Responsive partner.
 Exceptional outcomes.

Project Manager Edward Matthiesen

Project B1508-0006 Technical Advisory Committee Assistance

Professional Services Through March 31, 2017**Professional Personnel**

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Matthiesen, Edward	3.30	194.00	640.20	
Totals	3.30		640.20	
Total Labor				640.20

Unit Billing

Mileage MP 2006 Corolla RGC 668				
				24.08

Additional Fees

Technology Fee	5.00 % of 640.20		32.01	
Total Additional Fees			32.01	32.01

Total Invoice Amount	\$696.29
-----------------------------	-----------------

	Current	Prior	Total
Billing Summary	696.29	0.00	696.29



MINNESOTA WATER
LET'S KEEP IT CLEAN

Membership INVOICE

FROM

Staff Contact: Amy Juntunen
 City Name: Pioneer - Sarah Creek Watershed Mgt. Commission
 Address: 3235 Fernbrock Lane N
 City and Zip: Plymouth, MN 55447
 Telephone: 763.553.1144
 E-mail: amy @ jass.biz

TO

Metro Watershed Partners and its Clean Water MN Media Campaign

MEMBERSHIP AMOUNT

\$ 500.00

Note: (see attached table with requested levels of funding)

FISCAL AGENT

Hamline University
 1536 Hewitt Ave. MS-A1760
 St. Paul, MN 55104
 Tel: 651-523-2812 Email: jlanson25@hamline.edu

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

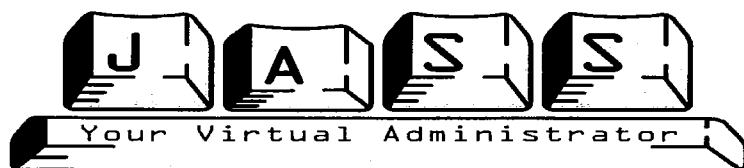
2017 membership support for the Metro WaterShed Partners and its Clean Water MN Media Campaign, a stormwater pollution prevention education campaign. Services include:

- Create timely, consistent messages that will encourage behaviors that improve water quality.
- Technology trainings for partners to use these tools effectively.
- Development and implementation of clean water exhibits at the Minnesota State Fair in the DNR and Eco-experience buildings.
- Monthly meetings with information on partner activities, presentations by informative speakers, and updates on WSP activities.
- Maintenance of the Watershed Partners listserv.
- Administration of media outreach and partner events and activities.
- Evaluate, maintain and improve the Clean Water MN materials and website.
- Begin to develop the framework for a metro wide adopt-a-drain program, which incorporates community clean-up events.

DURATION OF SERVICE

January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

\$120,000 is needed to fully implement year 2 activities. We will initiate phased implementation of the campaign upon receiving a minimum of \$70,000 in contributions. Funds unspent in 2017 will carry over to 2018 to continue project implementation.



Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission
3235 Fernbrook Lane Plymouth, MN 55447

3235 Fernbrook Lane
Plymouth MN 55447

April 13, 2017

Total Project Area

General Administration

Administrative	0.42	55.00	23.100		
Administrative	6.45	60.00	387.000		
Office Support	3.00	60.00	180.000		
Public storage	1.00	114.52	114.520		
Data Processing/File Mgmt	0.59	55.00	32.450		
Reimbursable Expense	2.34	1.00	2.340	739.410	Administration

Meeting packets, attendance, Minutes and Meeting follow-up

Administrative	1.49	55.00	81.950		
Administrative	16.63	60.00	997.800		
Admin - Offsite	4.75	65.00	308.750		
Reimbursable Expense	207.43	1.00	207.430	1,595.930	Meeting related activities

Bookkeeping

Bookkeeping, budget, audit requests	1.16	60.00	69.600		
Treasurer's Reports	0.42	60.00	25.200		
Audit Prep		60.00	0.000		Bookkeeping/TRs
Reimbursable Expense	12.77	1.00	12.770	107.570	Audit Prep

Annual Budget

Administrative	0.48	60.00	28.800		
Reimbursable Expense	0.11	1.00	0.110	28.910	Annual Budget/ Work Plans

Annual Report/Work Plans

Secretarial		55.00	0.000		
Administrative	14.85	60.00	891.000		
Reimbursable Expense	37.17	1.00	37.170	928.17	Annual Report

Website

Pages, links, uploads	2.42	55.00	133.100		
Administrative		60.00	0.000	133.100	Website

Education, Strategic Planning

Administrative		55.00	0.000		
Administrative	0.17	60.00	10.200		
Reimbursable Expense	7.50	1.00	7.500	17.700	Education

Project Reviews

Administrative		60.00	0.000		
Reimbursable Expense	9.50	1.00	9.500	9.500	Project Reviews

WCA/Wetland Projects

Administrative		60.00	0.000		
Reimbursable Expense	4.99	1.00	4.990	4.990	WCA/Wetland

CIPs, BBR - General Administration

Administrative	2.00	55.00	110.000		
Administrative	14.11	60.00	846.60		
Administrative Offsite	3.42	65.00	222.30		
Reimbursable Expense	227.20	1.00	227.200	1,406.100	CIPs, BBR

4,971.380 4,971.380



April 13, 2017

To: Pioneer-Sarah Creek Commissioners

Fr: Judie Anderson

Re: Draft 2017 Work Plan **Revised**

Minnesota Rule 8410.0150 requires the Commission to submit to the Board of Water and Soil Resources a financial report, activity report and audit report for the preceding fiscal year. 8410.0150 Subp. 3 outlines the required content of the annual activity report. It includes an assessment of the previous year's annual work plan and development of a projected work plan for the following year. The 2016 Work Plan accomplishments were accepted at the February 16, 2017 meeting.

Following is a projected work plan for 2017. Please review and be prepared to make modifications at the April meeting.

2017 Work Plan

A. ONGOING TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAMS

1. Continue to review local development/redevelopment plans for conformance with the standards outlined in the Commission's Third Generation Watershed Management Plan.
 - a. Maintain the current flood profile of the creeks and their tributaries.
 - b. Maintain the post-development 2-year, 10-year, and 100-year peak rate of runoff at pre-development level for the critical duration precipitation event.
 - c. Maintain the post-development annual runoff volume at pre-development volume.
 - d. Prevent the loss of floodplain storage below the established 100-year elevation.
2. Continue to serve as the local government unit (LGU) for administering the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) for the cities of Greenfield, Loretto and Maple Plain. Preserve the existing functions and values of wetlands within the watershed. Promote enhancement or restoration of wetlands in the watershed.
3. Adopt a 2018 operating budget.
 - a. Search for grant and other funds to supplement the regular budget.
 - b. Operate a capital improvement program and share in the cost of projects.
4. Publish a 2016 Annual Activity Report summarizing the Commission's yearly activities and financial reporting.
5. Draft a 2017 Work Plan.
6. **The Commission will proactively engage with the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) staff to build relationship that foster mutual trust, respect and support. In this effort the Commission will improve on its ability to measure and report on the collective performance and efforts more visibly with BWSR.**

B. WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY

1. Support the Commission's management goals for water quality. Continue to make progress to improve the lakes and streams in the watershed as well as protect those that are not impaired.

- a. Improve water clarity in the impaired waters by 10% over the average of the previous ten years by 2023.
 - b. Maintain or improve water quality in the lakes and streams with no identified impairments.
- 2. Facilitate the approval of the **Watershed-wide** Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Study and the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) report.
- 3. Foster implementation of BMPs in the watershed through technical and financial assistance.
- 4. Operate a monitoring program sufficient to characterize water quantity and quality and biotic integrity in the watershed and evaluate progress toward TMDL goals. Partner with Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) to conduct water quality monitoring in the watershed. Bring stream and lake monitoring efforts into line with monitoring program outlined in the Third Generation Watershed Plan.
 - a. Partner with Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) to conduct bi-weekly water quality monitoring of “sentinel lakes” – Independence, Sarah, and Little Long, along with both basins of Whaletail.
 - b. Partner with Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) to conduct flow and water quality monitoring on Pioneer Creek at Copeland Road and Sarah Creek at County Road 92, along with possible water quality and flow monitoring at up to two additional sites, depending on budget.
 - c. Participate in Metropolitan Council’s Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP). In 2017 the Commission will fund the monitoring of one lake.

C. EDUCATION

- 1. Annually evaluate the proposed Education and Outreach program and establish education and outreach activities for the coming year, including goals and strategies identified in the WRAPS study.
- 2. Educate Commissioners, member City Councils and Planning Commissions about watershed and water resources management. Sponsor watershed and water resources training opportunities such as NEMO (Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials).
- 3. Convene Citizen Advisory Committees as necessary to make recommendations on education and outreach actions and assist the Commission with implementation.
- 4. Participate with collaborative groups to pool resources to undertake activities in a cost-effective manner, promote interagency cooperation and collaboration, and promote consistency of messages. Use the Commission’s, member cities’, and educational partners’ websites and newsletters, social media, co-ops, local newspapers and cable TV to disseminate education materials to all stakeholders about actions they can take to protect and improve water quality.
 - a. Continue to maintain the Commission’s website to provide news to residents of the watershed.
 - b. **Introduce a Commission Facebook page in 2017.**
- 5. Provide opportunities for the public to learn about and participate in water quality activities. Enhance education opportunities for youth. Provide opportunities for bridge-building between stakeholders.
 - a. Promote river and creek stewardship through the River Watch program. Encourage participation by local school students and their teachers. Funding for monitoring two sites is included in the 2017 budget.
 - b. Work in partnership with Hennepin County’s Agriculture Specialist to help build relationships with the agricultural community in the watershed in order to encourage TMDL implementation.
 - c. Work in partnership with the Hennepin County Rural Conservationist to assist in implementing the MN Buffer Law throughout the watershed.

c. Work in partnership with the Hennepin County Rural Conservationist to assist in implementing the MN Buffer Law throughout the watershed.

D. STUDIES, PROJECTS AND CIPS.

1. Seek public comment on the **Watershed-wide** Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) report and Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) study. The TMDL establishes the amount of each pollutant that a water body can receive without exceeding water quality standards. The WRAPS identifies future strategies for restoring and protecting water quality in the watershed. Following the public comment period these documents, with comments and responses attached, will be forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for final review, comment, and approval.

a. Continue to identify TMDL implementation projects. Seek grant funding to assist with the costs associated with those projects.

2. Prioritize BMPs identified in the Dance Hall Creek Subwatershed Retrofit Assessment for implementation or further study.

3. Cost-share with the Lake Sarah Improvement Association (LSIA) to complete a round of curlyleaf pondweed treatment in 2017.

4. Convene the Technical Advisory Committee for the purpose of receiving CIP applications from the member communities, reviewing them for validity, and recommendation to the Commission for incorporation on the Third Generation Plan CIP.

a. Seek grant funding to assist with the costs associated with projects identified on the Commission's CIP.

5. Continue to support member cities as they identify studies and projects which benefit both the cities and the watershed.

E. PLANNING

1. When requested, assist member cities to develop their local water plans.

2. Begin to budget for the expense of writing the Fourth Generation Plan, due in 2020. Development should begin in late 2018.

PIONEER-SARAH CREEK WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Financial Statements and
Supplemental Information
Year Ended
December 31, 2016

DRAFT

Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Directors
Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission
Plymouth, Minnesota

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and major fund of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission (the Commission), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Commission's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Commission's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and major fund of the Commission as of December 31, 2016, the respective changes in the financial position thereof, and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters**Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. The Commission has not presented the MD&A that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America have determined necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the basic financial statements.

Prior Year Comparative Information

We have previously audited the Commission's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2015 and, in our report dated April 14, 2016, we expressed an unqualified opinion on the financial statements of the governmental activities and major fund. The financial statements include prior year partial comparative information, which does not include all of the information required in a presentation in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with the Commission's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2015, from which such information was derived.

Other Reporting

We have also issued our report dated April __, 2017, on our consideration of the Commission's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance.

April 10, 2017

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission

Statement of Net Position and
Governmental Fund Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2016

(with Partial Comparative Actual Amounts as of December 31, 2015)

	Governmental Activities	
	2016	2015
Assets		
Investments	\$ 242,637	\$ 195,323
Accounts receivable	5,520	-
Total assets	<u>\$ 248,157</u>	<u>\$ 195,323</u>
Liabilities and Fund Balances/Net Position		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 12,248	\$ 20,203
Fund balances/net position		
Restricted fund balances/net position		
Restricted for guarantee fees	14,363	14,363
Assigned fund balances/net position		
Assigned for capital improvement projects	55,231	41,640
Assigned for watershed restoration and protection plan	8,504	11,267
Total assigned funds	<u>63,735</u>	<u>52,907</u>
Unrestricted/unassigned fund balances/net position	157,811	107,850
Total assigned or unrestricted fund balances/net position	<u>221,546</u>	<u>160,757</u>
Total fund balances/net position	<u>235,909</u>	<u>175,120</u>
Total liabilities and fund balances/net position	<u>\$ 248,157</u>	<u>\$ 195,323</u>

Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission

Statement of Activities and
Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures, and
Changes in Fund Balances/Net Position
Budget and Actual

Year Ended December 31, 2016

(with Partial Comparative Actual Amounts for the Year Ended December 31, 2015)

	Governmental Activities			
	2016			2015
	Original and Final Budget	(Audited)	Over (Under)	(Audited)
Revenue				
Member assessments	\$ 131,090	\$ 131,090	\$ -	\$ 126,760
Charges for services - project and wetland review fees	1,500	7,780	6,280	12,050
Reimbursements	-	36,249	36,249	38,202
Interest income	20	390	370	35
Total revenue	132,610	175,509	42,899	177,047
Expenditures				
Current				
Administration	49,050	32,364	(16,686)	34,067
Education	8,120	674	(7,446)	6,451
Insurance	3,370	1,283	(2,087)	2,147
Professional fees	4,540	4,363	(177)	4,392
Technical support	23,000	12,244	(10,756)	18,450
Water monitoring	14,450	10,370	(4,080)	9,600
Watershed programs	1,020	39,013	37,993	34,027
Watershed plan	-	-	-	2,511
Capital outlay				
Improvement projects	28,000	14,409	(13,591)	10,106
Total expenditures	131,550	114,720	(16,830)	121,751
Net change in fund balances/net position	\$ 1,060	60,789	\$ 59,729	55,296
Net fund balances/net position				
Beginning of year		160,757		105,461
End of year		\$ 221,546		\$ 160,757

Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission

Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2016

NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**Organization**

The Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission is formed under a Joint Powers Agreement, as amended according to Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.201 through 103B.255 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410 relating to Metropolitan Area Local Water Management and its reporting requirements. Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission was established in October, 1984 to protect and manage the natural resources of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed.

The Commission is considered a governmental unit, but is not a component unit of any of its members. As a governmental unit, the Commission is exempt from federal and state income taxes.

Reporting Entity

A joint venture is a legal entity resulting from a contractual agreement that is owned, operated, or governed by two or more participants as a separate and specific activity subject to joint control, in which the participants retain either an ongoing financial interest or an ongoing financial responsibility. The Commission is considered a joint venture.

As required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, these financial statements include the Commission (the primary government) and its component units. Component units are legally separate entities for which the primary government is financially accountable, or for which the exclusion of the component unit would render the financial statements of the primary government misleading. The criteria used to determine if the primary government is financially accountable for a component unit include whether or not the primary government appoints the voting majority of the potential component's unit board, is able to impose its will on the potential component unit, is in a relationship of financial benefit or burden with the potential component unit, or is fiscally depended upon by the potential component unit. Based on these criteria, there are no component units required to be included in the Commission's financial statements.

Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements (the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) report information about the reporting government as a whole. These statements include all the financial activities of the Commission. The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment, and grants or contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Other internally directed revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)
December 31, 2016**NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)****Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation
(Continued)**

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the Commission considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting.

Fund Financial Statement Presentation

The accounts of the Commission are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenue, expenditures, additions, and deductions. Resources are allocated to, and accounted for in individual funds based on the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The resources of the Commission are accounted for in one fund:

- **General Fund (Governmental Fund Type)** - This fund is used to receive dues and miscellaneous items which may be disbursed for any and all purposes authorized by the bylaws of the Commission.

Typically, separate fund financial statements are provided for Governmental Funds. However, due to the simplicity of the Commission's operation, the Governmental Fund financial statements have been combined with the Government-Wide statements.

Budgets

The amounts shown in the financial statements as "budget" represent the budget amounts based on the modified accrual basis of accounting. A budget for the General Fund is adopted annually by the Commission. Appropriations lapse at year-end. Budgetary control is at the fund level.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Members' Contributions

Members' contributions are calculated based on the member's share of the taxable market value of all real property within the watershed to the total market value of all real property in the watershed.

Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)
December 31, 2016**NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)****Capital Assets**

The Commission follows the policy of expensing any supplies or small equipment at the time of purchase. The Commission currently has no capitalized assets.

Risk Management

The Commission is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts: theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; error and omissions; and natural disasters. The Commission participates in the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT), a public entity risk pool for its general property, casualty, and other miscellaneous insurance coverage's. LMCIT operates as a common risk management and insurance program for a large number of cities in Minnesota. The Commission pays an annual premium to LMCIT for insurance coverage. The LMCIT agreement provides that the trust will be self-sustaining through member premiums and will reinsure through commercial companies for claims in excess of certain limits. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three years. There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage during the year ended December 31, 2016.

Receivables

The Commission utilizes an allowance for uncollectible accounts to value its receivables; however, it considers all of its receivables to be collectible as of December 31, 2016 and 2015.

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and liabilities in the government-wide financial statements.

Prior Period Comparative Financial Information/Reclassification

The basic financial statements include certain prior year partial comparative information in total but not at the level of detail required for a presentation in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with the Commission's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2015, from which the summarized information was derived. Also, certain amounts presented in the prior year data may have been reclassified in order to be consistent with the current year's presentation.

Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)
December 31, 2016**NOTE 2 - ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION****A. Deposits**

In accordance with applicable Minnesota Statutes, the Commission maintains a checking account authorized by the Commission.

The following is considered the most significant risk associated with deposits:

Custodial Credit Risk - In the case of deposits, this is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Commission's deposits may be lost.

Minnesota Statutes require that all deposits be protected by federal deposit insurance, corporate surety bond, or collateral. The market value of collateral pledged must equal 110 percent of the deposits not covered by federal deposit insurance or corporate surety bonds. Authorized collateral includes treasury bills, notes, and bonds; issues of U.S. government agencies; general obligations rated "A" or better; revenue obligations rated "AA" or better; irrevocable standard letters of credit issued by the Federal Home Loan Bank; and certificates of deposit. Minnesota Statutes require that securities pledged as collateral be held in safekeeping in a restricted account at the Federal Reserve Bank or in an account at a trust department of a commercial bank or other financial institution that is not owned or controlled by the financial institution furnishing the collateral. The Commission has no additional deposit policies addressing custodial credit risk.

At year-end, the Commission had no funds held in its bank account. All funds were transferred to their 4M Fund investment account. (see below)

B. Investments

At December 31, 2016 and 2015 the Commission held \$242,638 and \$195,323 (approximate cost and fair value), respectively, in investments with PMA Financial Network in Minnesota 4M Funds Holdings.

The 4M fund is an external investment pool not registered with the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) that follows the same regulatory rules of the SEC under rule 2a7. The 4M Fund is a customized cash management and investment program for Minnesota public funds that is allowable under Minnesota Statutes. The fair value of the position in the pool is the same as the value of the pool shares.

Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)
December 31, 2016**NOTE 2 - ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION (CONTINUED)**

Investments are subject to various risks, the following of which are considered the most significant:

Custodial Credit Risk - For investments, this is the risk that in the event of a failure of the counterparty to an investment transaction (typically a broker-dealer) the Commission would not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Commission does not have a formal investment policy addressing this risk, but typically limits its exposure by purchasing insured or registered investments, or by the control of who holds the securities.

Credit Risk - This is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. Minnesota Statutes limit the Commission's investments to direct obligations or obligations guaranteed by the United States or its agencies; shares of investment companies registered under the Federal Investment Company Act of 1940 that receive the highest credit rating, are rated in one of the two highest rating categories by a statistical rating agency, and all of the investments have a final maturity of 13 months or less; general obligations rated "A" or better; revenue obligations rated "AA" or better; general obligations of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency rated "A" or better; bankers' acceptances of United States banks eligible for purchase by the Federal Reserve System; commercial paper issued by United States corporations or their Canadian subsidiaries, rated of the highest quality category by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies, and maturing in 270 days or less; Guaranteed Investment Contracts guaranteed by a United States commercial bank, domestic branch of a foreign bank, or a United States insurance company, and with a credit quality in one of the top two highest categories; repurchase or reverse purchase agreements and securities lending agreements with financial institutions qualified as a "depository" by the government entity, with banks that are members of the Federal Reserve System with capitalization exceeding \$10,000,000; that are a primary reporting dealer in U.S. government securities to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York; or certain Minnesota securities broker-dealers. The Commission's investment policies do not further address credit risk.

Concentration Risk - This is the risk associated with investing a significant portion of the Commission's investment (considered 5 percent or more) in the securities of a single issuer, excluding U.S. guaranteed investments (such as treasuries), investment pools, and mutual funds. The Commission does not have an investment policy limiting the concentration of investments.

Interest Rate Risk - This is the risk of potential variability in the fair value of fixed rate investments resulting from changes in interest rates (the longer the period for which an interest rate is fixed, the greater the risk). The Commission does not have an investment policy limiting the duration of investments.

Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)
December 31, 2016**NOTE 3 - FUND BALANCE CLASSIFICATIONS**

The following fund balance classifications describe the relative strength of the spending constraints placed on the purposes for which resources can be used:

-) **Nonspendable** - amounts that are not in spendable form (such as inventory) or are required to be maintained intact;
-) **Restricted** - amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers (such as grantors, bondholders, and higher levels of government, through constitutional provisions, or by enabling legislation;
-) **Committed** - amounts constrained to specific purposes by a government itself, using its highest level of decision-making authority; to be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government takes the same highest level action to remove or change the constraint;
-) **Assigned** - amounts a government intends to use for a specific purpose; intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority;
-) **Unassigned** - amounts that are available for any purpose; these amounts are reported only in the general fund.

The Commission establishes (and modifies or rescinds) fund balance commitments by passage of an ordinance or resolution. This is typically done through adoption and amendment of the budget. A fund balance commitment is further indicated in the budget document as a designation or commitment of the fund. Assigned fund balance is established by the Commission through adoption or amendment of the budget as intended for specific purpose.

NOTE 4 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTRACTS**Restricted fund balance - guarantee fees**

Restricted fund balance for guarantee fees is comprised of the following:

The WCA Monitoring Guarantee Restricted Funds are for wetland mitigation projects. The initial monitoring fee is set by the commission per project and is to be reduced over a five year period provided the project meets the requirement of the mitigation.

The WCA Replacement Guarantee Restricted Funds are received as guarantee that the mitigation will perform as required. Upon completion, and if the project meets the qualified plan requirements, these financial guarantees are refunded.

The Administrative Guarantee Restricted Funds are received as guarantee that the project administration fees are paid. The restricted amount is reduced as project-related administrative expenses arise. Any residual funds not used are refunded upon completion of the project.

Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)
December 31, 2016**NOTE 4 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTRACTS (CONTINUED)****Three Rivers Park District (the District) - Lake Independence project**

During 2013, the Commission and the District had entered into a Cooperative Water Resources Management Project Joint Powers Agreement to assess the water quality and prevent further degradation at Lake Independence. The Commission and the District will share responsibilities, as outlined in the contract. The District will provide up to \$50,000 in cost-sharing funding for this project. The Commission incurred \$327 of project-related expenses during the year ended December 31, 2015. This project was finalized in 2015.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) - Watershed-wide TMDL/WRAPP Project

During 2013, the MPCA contracted the Commission to conduct a water monitoring program of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek watershed for a cost not to exceed \$103,415. The Commission has contracted Three Rivers Park District and the University of Minnesota to perform the services in conjunction with this project. The Commission earned revenue of \$28,614 and incurred expenditures of \$23,141 from this grant during the year ended December 31, 2015.

During 2015, the MPCA started phase two of the project. The Commission will continue to contract with Three Rivers Park District to perform the services in conjunction with this project. The cost for the project will not exceed \$58,720. The Commission earned revenue of \$36,249 and \$3,810 from this grant during the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. The Commission incurred expenditures of \$39,013 and \$10,704 in associated costs for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

NOTE 5 - MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS

Dues received from members were as follows:

	Year Ended December 31			
	2016		2015	
	Amount	Percentage	Amount	Percentage
Greenfield	\$ 37,487	28.60 %	\$ 35,551	28.05 %
Independence	50,445	38.48	48,671	38.40
Loretto	5,127	3.91	4,953	3.91
Maple Plain	9,791	7.47	9,856	7.78
Medina	14,809	11.30	15,145	11.94
Minnetrista	13,431	10.24	12,584	9.92
	<u>\$ 131,090</u>	<u>100.00 %</u>	<u>\$ 126,760</u>	<u>100.00 %</u>

OTHER REQUIRED REPORTS

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS**

Board of Directors
Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission
Plymouth, MN 55447

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission 2016 (the Commission) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2017.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Commission's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified. We did identify the following deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be significant deficiencies:

Because of the limited size of your office staff, your organization has limited segregation of duties. A good system of internal accounting control contemplates an adequate segregation of duties so that no one individual handles a transaction from inception to completion. While we recognize that your organization is not large enough to permit an adequate segregation of duties in all respects, it is important that you be aware of the condition.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Commission's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

DRAFT

April 10, 2017

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT
ON MINNESOTA LEGAL COMPLIANCE**

Board of Directors
Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission
Plymouth, Minnesota

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial statements of the governmental activities and major fund of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission (the Commission) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 10, 2017.

The *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Other Political Subdivisions*, promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to Minn. Stat. 6.65, contains six categories of compliance to be tested: contracting and bidding, deposits and investments, conflicts of interest, claims and disbursements, miscellaneous provisions, and tax increment financing. Our audit considered all of the applicable listed categories, except that we did not test for compliance in tax increment financing, because the Commission does not utilize tax increment financing.

In connection with our audit, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that the Commission failed to comply with the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Other Political Subdivisions*. However, our audit was not directed primarily toward obtaining knowledge of such noncompliance. Accordingly, had we performed additional procedures, other matters may have come to our attention regarding the Commission's noncompliance with the above referenced provisions.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of those charged with governance and management of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission and the State Auditor and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

April 10, 2017

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Picture

Here

2016 Activity Report



Greenfield • Independence • Loretto • Maple Plain • Medina • Minnetrista

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This report was prepared
for the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission
by JASS, Inc.

Questions regarding this report should be directed
to JASS, 763.553.1144 or judie@jass.biz.

We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of:
Rich Brasch, Three Rivers Park District
Brian Johnson, Metropolitan Council
Mary Karius, Hennepin County Dept. of Environment and Energy
James Kujawa, Hennepin County Dept. of Environment and Energy
Brian Vlach, Three Rivers Park District

Cover Photograph:

ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

This annual activity report has been prepared by the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission in accordance with the annual reporting requirements of Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410.0150, Subps. 2 and 3. It summarizes the activities undertaken by the Commission during calendar year 2016.

PIONEER-SARAH CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

The Commission was established to protect and manage the natural resources of the Pioneer and Sarah Creek watersheds. It is a joint powers watershed organization formed as required under MN Statutes 103B.201-103B.255 and MN Rules Chapter 8410. A Board of Commissioners comprised of representatives appointed by the member communities was established as the governing body of the Commission. Its membership is comprised of the cities of Greenfield, Independence, Loretto, Maple Plain, Medina, and Minnetrista. The table in [Appendix 1](#) shows the names of the Commissioners appointed to serve in 2016.

MEETINGS

The Commission meets on the third Thursday of the month. The meetings are open to the public and visitors are welcome. Meeting notices, agendas, and approved minutes are posted on the Commission's website, www.pioneersarahcreek.org.

STAFF AND CONSULTANTS

The Commission has no employees. Independent consultants perform technical, legal, administrative, and wetland services for the Commission and are selected biannually. The current staff and consultants are also listed in [Appendix 1](#).

THE WATERSHED

Located entirely within western Hennepin County, the Pioneer-Sarah Creek watershed covers approximately 70.5 square miles and includes the watersheds of Pioneer Creek and Sarah Creek. The Crow River demarcates most of the northern boundary. Portions or all of the six member cities are within the legal boundaries of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek watershed and are listed in Table 1. A map of the watershed can be viewed on the Commission's website.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Commission's Third Generation Watershed Management Plan was approved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for a period of six years on January 28, 2015. The Commission adopted the Plan on May 21, 2015.

Table 1
Area of Members within the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed

Local Government Unit	Area Within Watershed (Square Miles)	Percent of Watershed
Greenfield	21.5	30.5%
Independence	29.7	42.1%
Loretto	0.3	0.4%
Maple Plain	0.8	1.1%
Medina	7.5	10.7%
Minnetrista	10.7	15.2%
TOTAL:	70.5	100.0%

During development of the Plan, the Commission identified the following priorities to guide water resources planning and management functions:

1. Educate the Commissioners and member City Councils and Planning Commissions regarding watershed and water resources management.
2. Undertake a monitoring program to monitor water quality trends and to track progress toward meeting TMDLs.
3. Partner with member cities and other parties to conduct subwatershed assessments and other studies to identify feasible and cost-effective Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect and improve water quality.

LOCAL PLANS

Revisions to Minnesota Rules 8410, the rules that guide metropolitan local water management, were adopted in 2015. The revisions include significant changes in the timing of local water plan revisions. Per 8410.0105 subparagraph 9 and 8410.0160 subparagraph 6:

- Local water plans must be prepared by metropolitan cities and towns (municipalities) and a local water plan must become part of the local comprehensive plan for a municipality.
- Under the amended rule, local water plans must be revised essentially once every ten years in alignment with the local comprehensive plan schedule.
- A municipality has two years before their local comprehensive plan is due to adopt their local water plan.
- Prior to adoption, a municipality must prepare their local water plan, distribute it for comment, and have it approved by the organization with jurisdiction in the municipality.
- The next local comprehensive plans are due December 31, 2018. All cities and towns in the seven-county metropolitan area must complete and adopt their local water plans between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2018. Thereafter, add ten years to each of the previous dates.
- Local water plans may be updated more frequently by a municipality at its discretion.

2016 OBJECTIVES

Following is a summary of the work undertaken by the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission in 2016 to meet the goals, objectives, and projected work plan outlined in its *2015 Annual Report*. The 2016 Work Plan was approved by the Commission at its February 18, 2016 meeting.

(💧 = completed, 💧 = ongoing, ⚡ = not completed, ⚡ = not undertaken)

A. ONGOING TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAMS

💧 1. Continue to review local development/redevelopment plans for conformance with the standards outlined in the Commission's Third Generation Watershed Management Plan.

- 💧 a. Maintain the current flood profile of the creeks and their tributaries.
- 💧 b. Maintain the post-development 2-year, 10-year, and 100-year peak rate of runoff at pre-development level for the critical duration precipitation event.
- 💧 c. Maintain the post-development annual runoff volume at pre-development volume.
- 💧 d. Prevent the loss of floodplain storage below the established 100-year elevation.

The Commission reviewed eight plans for conformance with its standards in 2016. The Commission does not have a permit program. A list of the projects reviewed in 2016, along with a map showing their locations, is found in Appendix 2.

💧 2. Continue to serve as the local government unit (LGU) for administering the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) for the cities of Greenfield, Loretto and Maple Plain. Preserve the existing functions and values of wetlands within the watershed. Promote enhancement or restoration of wetlands in the watershed. *In 2016 Technical staff assisted approximately 30 landowners/agency/developer contacts with wetland-related questions. On behalf of the Commission they reviewed the following types of wetland applications: four wetland boundary/type; one no-loss; one exemption; two sequencing; and one wetland replacement plan. Wetland impacts totaled 563 SF; wetland replacement totaled 1,126 SF. Three WCA violations were investigated and resolved; three others were determined to not be WCA/Commission violations. The Commission was involved in 11 Technical Evaluation Panels (TEPs) throughout the watershed. The Pioneer-Sarah Creek Commission does not have a wetland banking program.*

💧 3. Adopt a 2017 operating budget. *The Commission adopted an operating budget totaling \$139,241 on May 19, 2016. Assessments to the members totaled \$133,700. (Appendix 3)*

- 💧 a. Search for grant and other funds to supplement the regular budget.
- 💧 b. Operate a capital improvement program and share in the cost of projects.
- 💧 c. Review and update the Commission's Cost Share Policy. *A Process to Bring Forward CIPs was adopted at the Commission's July 21, 2016 meeting. (Appendix 4)*

💧 4. Publish a 2015 Annual Activity Report summarizing the Commission's yearly activities and financial reporting. *The 2015 Annual Activity Report was accepted by the Commission at its April 21, 2016 meeting.*

- 💧 5. Draft a 2016 Work Plan. *The Commissioners approved the 2016 Work Plan at their February 18, 2016 meeting.*

B. WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY

- 1. Support the Commission's management goals for water quality. Continue to make progress to improve the lakes and streams in the watershed as well as protect those that are not impaired.

- 💧 a. Improve water clarity in the impaired waters by 10% over the average of the previous ten years by 2023.

- 💧 b. Maintain or improve water quality in the lakes and streams with no identified impairments.

- 💧 2. Foster implementation of BMPs in the watershed through technical and financial assistance. *This is an ongoing activity. Emphasis will be on identifying BMPs that will facilitate load reductions identified in the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) report.*

- 💧 3. Develop and publish a model manure management ordinance within six months of the Plan's adoption or adopt standards and practices that will accomplish the objective of reducing phosphorus load from new livestock operations. *The Commission adopted a Livestock Management Policy at their October 20, 2016 meeting. The policy references the City of Medina's 80.10 Manure Management Policy and Manure Management-Related Ordinances and the City of Greenfield's Ordinance 2016-02 Amending City Code Section 152.071(G) as it pertains to livestock and domestic farm animals. (Appendix 5)*

- 💧 4. Operate a monitoring program sufficient to characterize water quantity and quality and biotic integrity in the watershed and evaluate progress toward TMDL goals. Partner with Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) to conduct water quality monitoring in the watershed. Bring stream and lake monitoring efforts into line with monitoring program outlined in approved Third Generation Plan. *This monitoring program is ongoing.*

- 💧 a. Partner with TRPD to conduct bi-weekly water quality monitoring of "sentinel lakes" – Independence, Sarah, and Little Long, and both basins of Whaletail. *Lakes Independence, Sarah and both basins of Whaletail were monitored in 2016. (Appendix 6)*

- 💧 b. Partner with TRPD to conduct flow and water quality monitoring on Pioneer Creek at Copeland Road and Sarah Creek at County Road 92, along with possible water quality and flow monitoring at up to two additional sites, depending on budget. *On behalf of the Commission, TRPD conducted flow monitoring on Pioneer Creek at Copeland Road and Pagenkopf Road and on Sarah Creek at County Road 92. (Appendix 7)*

- 💧 c. Participate in Metropolitan Council's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP). In 2016 the Commission will fund the monitoring of one lake. *The Commission monitored Hafften Lake in 2016. (Appendix 6)*

C. EDUCATION

- 💧 1. Annually evaluate the proposed Education and Outreach program and establish education and outreach activities for the coming year, including goals and strategies identified in the WRAPS study. *A*

third Community Conversation was held on November 2 as part of the Watershed-wide Total Maximum Daily Load/Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (TMDL/WRAPS) study.

2. Educate Commissioners, member City Councils and Planning Commissions about watershed and water resources management. Sponsor watershed and water resources training opportunities such as NEMO (Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials). *A number of City Council and Planning Commission members attended the November 2 Community Conversation to learn more about the projects being considered during the implementation phase of the TMDL. (Appendix 8)*

3. Convene Citizen Advisory Committees as necessary to make recommendations on education and outreach actions and assist the Commission with implementation. *Since the goal is "as necessary," the Commissioners did not feel a separate meeting was in order, but relied upon themselves to carry messages from the Commission back to their respective cities.*

4. Participate with collaborative groups to pool resources to undertake activities in a cost-effective manner, promote interagency cooperation and collaboration, and promote consistency of messages.

a. Use the Commission's, member cities', and educational partners' websites and newsletters, social media, co-ops, local newspapers and cable TV to disseminate education materials to all stakeholders about actions they can take to protect and improve water quality. *The Commission partnered with local media to promote Commission activities. Information was disseminated to the member cities for inclusion on their websites. Such activities as road salt workshops, the WRAPS Community Conversations, and NEMO programs were highlighted. (Appendix 8)*

b. Continue to maintain the Commission's website to provide news to residents of the watershed. *The Commission moved its website to a new platform for easier updating and maintenance.*

5. Provide opportunities for the public to learn about and participate in water quality activities. Enhance education opportunities for youth. Provide opportunities for bridge-building between stakeholders. *The third Community Conversation in conjunction with the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed-wide TMDL study and WRAPS report occurred on November 2, 2016. Thirty-three stakeholders were present. The first two conversations, held June 30 and November 16, 2015, focused on raising awareness, developing relationships, and identifying things that can be done across different land uses to reduce phosphorus and bacteria to our lakes and streams. The third conversation focused on identifying water quality restoration priorities as well as defining actions, roles and responsibilities for implementing solution strategies.*

a. Promote river stewardship through the River Watch program. Encourage participation by local school students and their teachers. *The monitoring of two sites was included in the 2016 budget. The Crow River was monitored at Lake Rebecca Park and at the St. Michael Water Treatment Plant through the CROW River watershed organization. No sites were monitored through the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Commission in 2016.*

b. Work in partnership with Hennepin County's Agriculture Specialist to help build relationships with the agricultural community in the watershed in order to encourage TMDL implementation. *In 2016 Hennepin County hired a Rural Conservationist. The Commission has obtained*

MN Buffer Law updates from her work and will encourage and assist, if necessary, with the law's implementation throughout the watershed. Additional contacts and assistance by the Extension Specialist with rural landowners were also undertaken in 2016.

D. STUDIES, PROJECTS AND CIPS.

1. Continue to undertake Phase 2 of the WRAPS project.
 - a. Hold the third Community Conversation. *Phase 2 extends to June 30, 2017 and is the final phase of the project. The third Conversation occurred on November 2.*
 - b. Continue to identify TMDL implementation projects. Seek grant funding to assist with the costs associated with those projects.
2. Prioritize BMPs identified in the Dance Hall Creek Subwatershed Retrofit Assessment for implementation or further study. *The City of Greenfield contacted the adjacent property owners to solicit their participation in the projects identified in the SWA. There was very limited interest for projects on private lands; however, a number of projects have been identified on public lands.*
 - a. *The Lake Ardmore Subwatershed Assessment identified additional BMPs within the Lake Ardmore and Independence Beach areas of Medina.*
 - b. *The Commission is also pursuing BMPs identified in the Lake Independence Subwatershed Assessment.*
3. Cost-share with the Lake Sarah Improvement Association (LSIA) to complete a round of curlyleaf pondweed treatment in 2016. *The fourth of five rounds of curlyleaf pondweed treatment was completed by volunteers on May 6, 2016.*
4. Seek grant funding to assist with the costs associated with projects identified on the Commission's CIP. *Member cities seek grant opportunities as they determine which projects to undertake. The Commission also provided in their 2016 budget a line item for grant writing assistance.*
5. Continue to support member cities as they identify studies and projects which benefit both the cities and the watershed. *Prepared a detailed study of Phase I of the Baker Park Gully Restoration Project (CIPs IN-4, MP-4), focusing on BMPs that will help reduce, slow, or redirect stormwater flow from the subwatershed that feeds into the Baker Park Campground Ravine. The Baker Park Reserve Campground Ravine and Subwatershed Assessment was completed in December 2016. The Commission will pursue implementation of the identified BMPs as opportunities arise.*
6. Request from the member cities their local wellhead protection plans for use in determining vulnerable areas that should be exempted from infiltration. Develop and maintain a map showing the wellhead protection zones within the watershed boundaries. *Cities continue to provide Staff with their local protection plans as they are developed. When plans are received from all of the member cities, the map will be developed.*

E. PLANNING

1. When requested, assist member cities to develop their local water plans. *Loretto submitted its Local Plan for Commission review in January 2017.*
2. Begin to budget for the expense of writing the Fourth Generation Plan, due in 2020. Development of the Plan should begin in late 2018. *The Commission will allocate surplus funds from the Operating Budget to a Designated Account for this purpose.*

FINANCIAL REPORTING

Appendix 3 includes the Commission's approved budget for 2016. The Commission's Joint Powers Agreement provides that each member community contributes toward the annual operating budget based on its share of the total market value of all property within the watershed. The 2016 cost allocations to the members are shown as part of the Operating Budget.

A \$131,550 operating budget was approved by the Commission for 2016. Revenue totaling \$132,610 was budgeted. \$1,500 was projected as proceeds from application fees, \$20 from interest income, and \$131,090 as assessments to members, with \$1,060 projected for reserves.

The Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission maintains a checking account at US Bank for current expenses and rolls uncommitted monies to its account in the 4M Fund, the Minnesota Municipal Money Market Fund. Amounts paid by the Commission per the 2016 Audit, prepared by Johnson & Company, Ltd., Certified Public Accountants, *(Appendix 3)* are as follows:

General engineering	12,244	General administration	38,010
Education	674.	Programs	49,383
Projects	14,409	Planning	0
		Total	\$114,720

General engineering work includes review of local plans, review of development/redevelopment projects, attendance at meetings and other technical services. General administration includes support to technical staff, attendance at meetings, insurance premiums, annual audit, legal counsel, tracking grant opportunities, management plan amendments, and other non-engineering services.

2017 WORK PLAN

Following is the projected work plan for 2017 as approved by the Commission at its **April 20, 2017** meeting.

A. ONGOING TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAMS

1. Continue to review local development/redevelopment plans for conformance with the standards outlined in the Commission's Third Generation Watershed Management Plan.
 - a. Maintain the current flood profile of the creeks and their tributaries.
 - b. Maintain the post-development 2-year, 10-year, and 100-year peak rate of runoff at pre-development level for the critical duration precipitation event.
 - c. Maintain the post-development annual runoff volume at pre-development volume.

- d. Prevent the loss of floodplain storage below the established 100-year elevation.
- 2. Continue to serve as the local government unit (LGU) for administering the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) for the cities of Greenfield, Loretto and Maple Plain. Preserve the existing functions and values of wetlands within the watershed. Promote enhancement or restoration of wetlands in the watershed.
- 3 Adopt a 2018 operating budget.
 - a. Search for grant and other funds to supplement the regular budget.
 - b. Operate a capital improvement program and share in the cost of projects.
- 4. Publish a 2016 Annual Activity Report summarizing the Commission's yearly activities and financial reporting.
- 5. Draft a 2017 Work Plan.
- 6. The Commission will proactively engage with the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) staff to build relationship that foster mutual trust, respect and support. In this effort the Commission will improve on its ability to measure and report on the collective performance and efforts more visibly with BWSR.

B. WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY

- 1. Support the Commission's management goals for water quality. Continue to make progress to improve the lakes and streams in the watershed as well as protect those that are not impaired.
 - a. Improve water clarity in the impaired waters by 10% over the average of the previous ten years by 2023.
 - b. Maintain or improve water quality in the lakes and streams with no identified impairments.
- 2. Foster implementation of BMPs in the watershed through technical and financial assistance.
- 3. Develop and publish a model manure management ordinance or adopt standards and practices that will accomplish the objective of reducing phosphorus load from new livestock operations.
- 4. Operate a monitoring program sufficient to characterize water quantity and quality and biotic integrity in the watershed and evaluate progress toward TMDL goals. Partner with Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) to conduct water quality monitoring in the watershed. Bring stream and lake monitoring efforts into line with the monitoring program outlined in the Third Generation Plan.
 - a. Partner with TRPD to conduct bi-weekly water quality monitoring of "sentinel lakes" – *Independence, Sarah, and both basins of Whaletail.*
 - b. Partner with TRPD to monitor stream flow at three sites - *Pioneer Creek at Pagenkopf Road (below Lake Independence), Pioneer Creek at Copeland Road, and Sarah Creek at County Road 92 (below Lake Sarah).* Consider adding bi-weekly or monthly monitoring of Peter Lake to clarify impaired status.
 - c. Participate in Metropolitan Council's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP). *The Commission has budgeted for the monitoring of one lake through CAMP in 2017.*

C. EDUCATION

1. Annually evaluate the proposed Education and Outreach program and establish education and outreach activities for the coming year, including goals and strategies identified in the WRAPS study.

2. Educate Commissioners, member City Councils and Planning Commissions about watershed and water resources management. Sponsor watershed and water resources training opportunities such as NEMO (Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials).

3. Convene Citizen Advisory Committees as necessary to make recommendations on education and outreach actions and assist the Commission with implementation.

4. Participate with collaborative groups to pool resources to undertake activities in a cost-effective manner, promote interagency cooperation and collaboration, and promote consistency of messages. Use the Commission's, member cities', and educational partners' websites and newsletters, social media, co-ops, local newspapers and cable TV to disseminate education materials to all stakeholders about actions they can take to protect and improve water quality. *\$1,000 from the Education and Outreach budget will be used to create and maintain a Commission Facebook page in 2017.*

a. Continue to maintain the Commission's website to provide news to residents of the watershed.

5. Provide opportunities for the public to learn about and participate in water quality activities. Enhance education opportunities for youth. Provide opportunities for bridge-building between stakeholders.

a. Promote river stewardship through the River Watch program. Encourage participation by local school students and their teachers. *The monitoring of two sites is included in the 2017 budget.*

b. Work in partnership with Hennepin County's Agriculture Specialist to help build relationships with the agricultural community in the watershed in order to encourage TMDL implementation. *(Appendix 8)*

c. Work in partnership with the Hennepin County Rural Conservationist to assist in implementing the Minnesota Buffer Law throughout the watershed.

d. *Consider seeking an opportunity to speak to the Northwest League to discuss water quality with mayors of cities in northwestern Hennepin County.*

D. STUDIES, PROJECTS AND CIPS.

1. Seek public comment on the Watershed-wide Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) report and Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) study. The TMDL establishes the amount of each pollutant that a water body can receive without exceeding water quality standards. The WRAPS identifies future strategies for restoring and protecting water quality in the watershed. Following the public comment period these documents, with comments and responses attached, will be forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for final review, comment, and approval.

a. Continue to identify TMDL implementation projects. Seek grant funding to assist with the costs associated with those projects.

2. Prioritize BMPs identified in the Dance Hall Creek Subwatershed Retrofit Assessment for implementation or further study.

3. Cost-share with the Lake Sarah Improvement Association (LSIA) to complete a round of curlyleaf pondweed treatment in 2016.

4. Convene the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for the purpose of receiving CIP applications from the member communities, reviewing them for validity, and recommendation to the Commission for incorporation on the Third Generation Plan CIP.

a. Seek grant funding to assist with the costs associated with projects identified on the Commission's CIP.

5. Continue to support member cities as they identify studies and projects which benefit both the cities and the watershed.

E. PLANNING

1. When requested, assist member cities to develop their local water plans.

2. Continue to budget for the expense of writing the Fourth Generation Plan, due in 2020. Development of the Plan should begin in late 2018.

WHAT OUR CITIES HAVE BEEN DOING TO SUPPORT IMPROVED WATER QUALITY

Greenfield

The City drafted letters to all landowners in the Dance Hall Creek subwatershed with potential projects on their properties. The letters contained a detailed description of the potential projects and their impacts.

The City adopted a manure management ordinance. The key factor in the ordinance is that any property housing large animals is required to have a manure storage facility on site.

AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) signs provided by the County were installed by the City at the Lake Sarah public access. The signs remind users to clean/drain/dry.

The City and Three Rivers Park District drafted an agreement for Lake Sarah outlet maintenance. It was sent on the City of Independence. The JPA was approved on July 7, 2016.

The Metropolitan Council Environmental Committee approved grant funds for the Greenfield Central Park pond project.

New concrete pillars have been installed at the Lake Sarah public landing. The old pillars will be installed further out from the landing to prevent power loading washout.

Independence

The city worked with a number of property owners to expand BMPs in exchange for expanded use of a CUP; allow a permit for electricity in exchange for restoration of a wetland; and complete other “horse-trading” activities for the betterment of water quality.

Commissioner Baker continues to work with a land owner who has a 1,000-acres subwatershed flowing through his 80-acre property. Among the BMPs being considered for the site is an iron-enhanced filter bench.

Completed the fourth successful year of “whole lake” curlyleaf pondweed treatments in Lake Sarah. The Lake Sarah Improvement Association performed the application process safely and effectively with volunteers.

Loretto

The City agreed to pay for a pipe behind the curbing on Chippewa Road in order to keep stormwater from pooling in the street.

Maple Plain

Bids were received for the Budd Avenue road construction project. The project was bid so that construction would be completed by mid-August or begun after that date so as not to interfere with the city festival. The latter alternative was chosen.

Medina

The Lake Independence Citizens Association (LICA) applied (received?) a permit from the DNR to dredge three access channels in order for residents to reach Lake Independence.

Minnetrista

The city is looking at options to partner with Minnehaha Creek watershed District on water treatment.



APPENDICES

2016 Commissioners and Consultants

Member	Represented by	Responsibility	Phone/E-mail
Greenfield	Tom Cook 7738 Commerce Circle Greenfield, MN 55373	Treasurer Excomm	763.477.4263 tomdebcook@msn.com
Independence	Joe Baker 5580 Lake Sarah Heights Drive Independence, MN 55357	Vice Chair Excomm	612.868.8702 jobaker149@gmail.com
Loretto	Brenda Daniels 150 Meadow Drive Loretto, MN 55357	Secretary Excomm	brenda199962@yahoo.com
Maple Plain	Mike DeLuca 5825 Maple Ridge Drive Maple Plain, MN 55359	Chair Excomm	763.200-6363 michaeljohndeluca@gmail.com
Medina	Mike McLaughlin 2887 Lakeshore Avenue Maple Plain, MN 55359		763.479.1604 mclaughlin110@yahoo.com
Minnetrista	Lisa Whalen 605 County Road 110N Minnetrista, MN 55364		612.770.4104 tjw_lew@yahoo.com

2016 Commissioners and Consultants

Service Provider	Address	Services	Phone/E-mail
James Kujawa	Hennepin County Dept. of Env. and Energy 417 North Fifth Street Minneapolis, MN 55401	Technical Advisor TAC	612.348.7338 James.Kujawa@hennpin.us
Judie Anderson	JASS 3235 Fernbrook Lane Plymouth, MN 55447	Administrator Deputy Treasurer Excomm, TAC	763.553.1144 judie@jass.biz amy@jass.biz
Amy LeMieux			
Joel Jamnik	Campbell Knutson PA Grand Oak Office Center I 860 Blue Gentian Road Suite 290 Eagan, MN 55121	Legal Counsel	651.234.6219 jjamnik@ck-law.com
Rich Brasch	Three Rivers Park District 12615 County Road 9 Plymouth, MN 55441	Water Quality TAC	763.694.2061 rbrasch@threeriversparkdistrict.org
Johnson & Co., Ltd.	3255 Fernbrook Lane Plymouth, MN 55447	Auditor	952.525.9500
SRF Consulting Group, Inc.	One Carlson Pkwy N Suite 150 Minneapolis, MN 55447	Wetland monitoring consultant	763.475.0010
Diane Spector	Wenck Associates 7500 Highway 55 Suite 300 Golden Valley, MN 55427	Third Generation Plan	763.252-6880 dspector@wenck.com

Excomm = Executive Committee

TAC = Technical Advisory Committee

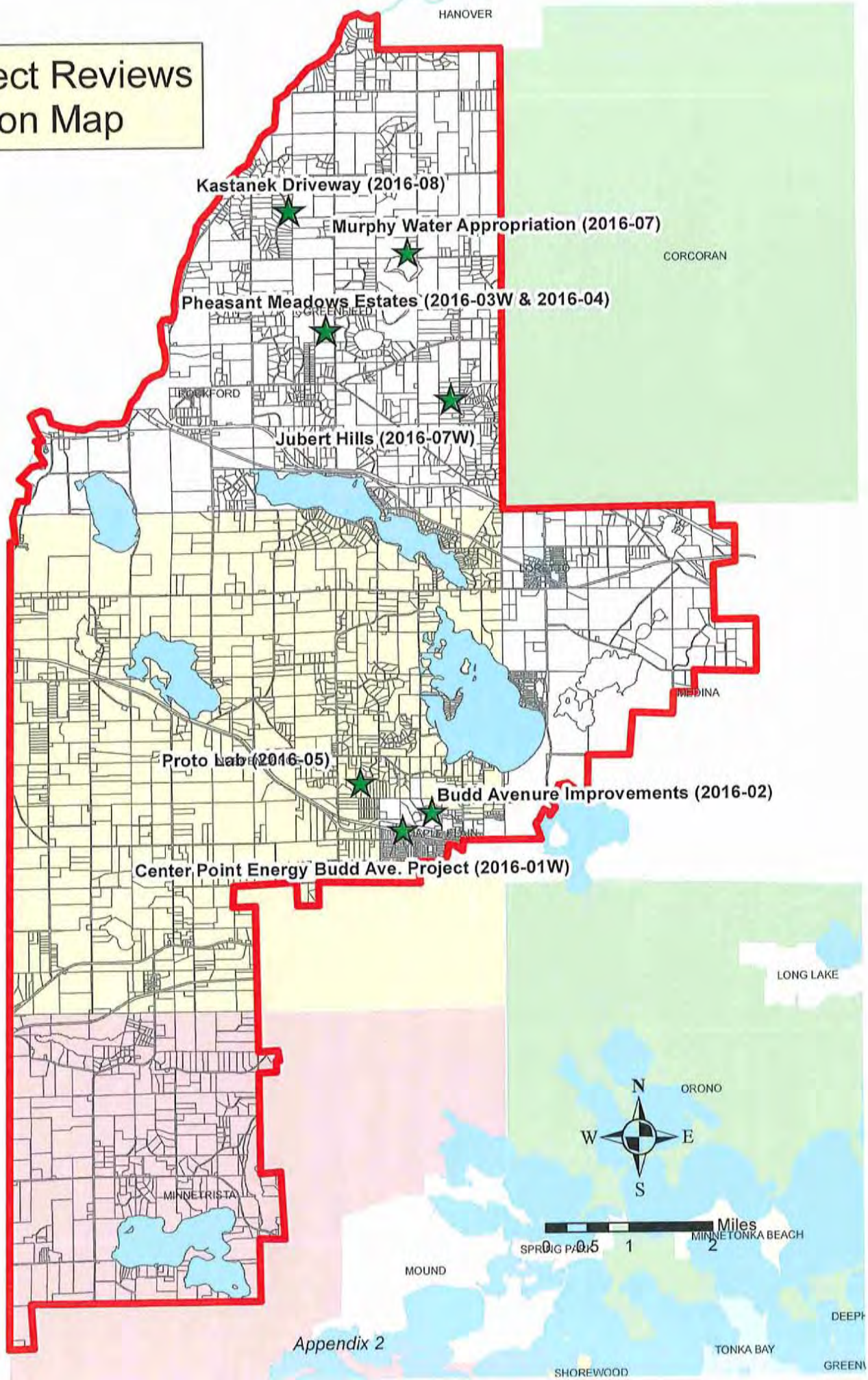
2016 Commissioners and Consultants

Service Provider	Address	Services	Phone/E-mail
James Kujawa	Hennepin County Dept. of Env. And Energy 417 North Fifth Street Minneapolis, MN 55401	Professional TAC	612.348.7338 James.Kujawa@hennpin.us
Karl Hakanson	Hennepin County Dept. of Env. And Energy 417 North Fifth Street Minneapolis, MN 55401	Professional TAC	612.596.1175 khakanso@umn.edu
Rich Brasch	Three Rivers Park Dist. 12615 County Road 9 Plymouth, MN 55441	Professional TAC	763.694.2061 rbrasch@threeriversparkdistrict.org
Rebecca Kluckhohn	Wenck Associates 1800 Pioneer Creek Center Maple Plain, MN 55359	Professional TAC	763.479.4224 rkluckhohn@wenck.com
Becky Wozney	Hakanson Anderson 3601 Thurson Avenue Anoka, MN 55303	Professional TAC	763.427.5860 becky@HAA-inc.com
Judie Anderson Amy LeMieux	JASS 3235 Fernbrook Lane Plymouth, MN 55447	Professional TAC Admin Support	763.553.1144 judie@jass.biz amy@jass.biz

2016 Project Reviews

Project No.	Project Name	City	Reviewed for						
			Erosion Control	Stormwater	Floodplain	Buffers	Wet Ponds	Water Appropriation	WCA
2016-01W	CenterPoint Energy Budd Ave Project	Maple Plain							
2016-02W	Budd Avenue (Project and Wetland)	Maple Plain							
2016-03W	Pheasant Meadows	Greenfield							
2016-04	Pheasant Meadows Estates	Greenfield							
2016-05	Proto Labs	Maple Plain							
2016-06	Murphy Water Appropriation	Greenfield							
2016-07W	Jubert Hills (Wetland Delineation)	Greenfield							
2016-08W	Kastanek Driveway	Greenfield							

2016 Project Reviews Location Map



Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission - 2016-2017 Budgets

	2016 Budget	2017 Budget
Revenues		
Member Dues	103,090	105,700
Project Review Fees	1,000	5,000
WCA Adm Fees	500	500
Interest and Dividend Income	20	41
Total Revenues	104,610	111,241
Operating Expenses		
Engineering/Consulting	23,000	23,000
Administrative Expense	41,000	36,000
Adm-Project Reviews	1,000	1,000
WCA - Admin/Legal Expenses	500	500
Adm - Tech Support	750	750
Legal Expense	500	500
Audit	4,040	4,080
Insurance	3,370	3,370
Total Operating Expenses	74,160	69,200
Program Deliverables and Education		
Adm - General Programs	500	500
TAC Meetings	3,060	4,000
Lake Monitoring - TRPD	4,430	3,703
Lake Monitoring - CAMP	1,120	576
Stream Monitoring - routine	7,400	10,802
Stream Monitoring - other	1,500	
Invertebrate Monitoring	1,500	1,500
Non-CIP Subwatershed Assmt		5,000
Management Plan Amendment		1,000
Education	6,120	6,120
Education-Events	500	500
Grant Writing	1,020	1,100
Website	2,240	2,240
Contingency*		
Total Deliverables and Education	29,390	37,041
Fund Activity		
Revenues		
CIP Revenue	28,000	28,000
WRAPP Revenue		
Lake Sarah TMDL		
Lake Indep Nutrient - TRPD		
Total Fund Revenues	28,000	28,000
Expenses		
WRAPP Expense	0	0
CIP/Subwatershed Ass. Expense	28,000	33,000
Next Generation Plan		
Lake Sarah TMDL		
Lake Indep Nutrient - TRPD		
Total Fund Expenses	28,000	33,000
Total Revenues	132,610	139,241
Total Expenses	131,550	139,241
Net Income	1,060	0

*2015 Contingency funds spent on Lake Indep Outlet (weir)

**Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed
Fund Balances 2016-2017**

Fund Balances	12/31/16 Balance	2017 Activity	12/31/17 Balance
Restricted - WCA Escrows	14,363.00	0.00	14,363.00
Assigned - WRAPP Fund	11,266.76	Unknown	11,266.76
Assigned - CIP Fund*	54,480.87	6,900.00	61,380.87
Assigned - Next Generation Plan Fund**	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00
Unassigned/Unrestricted Funds***	83,910.09	0.00	83,910.09

* CIP committed \$10,000 to Lake Sarah CLPW and \$5,159.50 to Baker Park Ravine (approximate amts)

2017 Activity based on CIP is \$26,100 expenses to income of \$33,000

** Assign \$25,000 from Unrestricted to Next Gen Plan

*** Balance less \$25,000 plus \$1,060 per budget

Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission 2016 - 2017 Member Assessments

2016 Approved	2015 Market Value PSC Basin	Increase in MV over Prev Year	2016 Op Budget		Increase over Prev Year	
			%age	Amount	%age	Amount
Greenfield	375,321,814	7.00%	28.60%	37,487.31	5.45%	1,936.45
Independence	505,056,579	5.17%	38.48%	50,445.28	3.64%	1,773.91
Loretto	51,330,890	5.04%	3.91%	5,126.95	3.51%	174.01
Maple Plain	98,027,603	0.81%	7.47%	9,791.04	-0.66%	(64.58)
Medina	148,264,028	-0.78%	11.30%	14,808.68	-2.22%	(336.61)
Minnetrista	134,468,208	8.30%	10.25%	13,430.74	6.73%	846.84
TOTALS	1,312,469,122	4.94%	100.00%	131,090.00	3.45%	4,370.00

2017 Approved	2016 Market Value PSC Basin	Increase in MV over Prev Year	2017 Op Budget		Increase over Prev Year	
			%age	Amount	%age	Amount
Greenfield	394,071,759	5.00%	29.12%	38,929.51	3.85%	1,442.20
Independence	510,583,968	1.09%	37.73%	50,439.50	-0.01%	(5.77)
Loretto	54,109,610	5.41%	4.00%	5,345.37	4.26%	218.42
Maple Plain	105,529,093	7.65%	7.80%	10,424.99	6.47%	633.95
Medina	152,170,132	2.63%	11.24%	15,032.56	1.51%	223.89
Minnetrista	136,940,498	1.84%	10.12%	13,528.06	0.72%	97.32
TOTALS	1,353,405,060	3.12%	100.00%	133,700.00	1.99%	2,610.00

PIONEER-SARAH CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

PROCESS TO BRING FORWARD CIPS

I. PROJECTS ON THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT LIST

A. City advises the Commission's Administrator no later than 30 days prior to a regularly scheduled meeting that a project is ready to be presented to the Commission for funding consideration. Written applications must be meeting packet-ready. Applications must include:

1. Request for consideration from the city.
2. Detailed description of project, including:
 - a. Benefits to watershed, benefitting parties.
 - b. Expected cost of the project, including potential grant funding and cost-sharing revenue.
 - c. Request for cost-share from Commission with detailed explanation of the percentage requested. (The Commission's Cost Share Policy, adopted July 2011, specifies that the Commission will pay up to 25 percent of the cost of qualifying projects.)
 - d. Timeline for project completion.
3. Feasibility report or study.
4. Supporting design documents.

B. The Administrator will advise the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) that the application has been received and provide the TAC members with copies of the documentation.

C. The TAC will convene before the scheduled regular meeting to review the application and gather any additional information needed in order to make a recommendation to the Commission.

D. Final packet is prepared for distribution with the meeting packet a week prior to the Commission meeting.

E. At the meeting Commission staff will present a summary of the TAC's review of the project, a summary of the dollars available in the CIP budget, the TAC's recommendation of approval/denial of the project, and the TAC's recommended cost sharing percentage.

1. The Commission will review the application, consider the recommendation and act on the project request. The Commission may:
 - a. Approve the request as presented.
 - b. Approve the request at a different cost-sharing percentage.
 - c. Table the application and request additional information from the City.
 - d. Table the application and request further review by the TAC.
 - e. Deny the application.
2. If the request is approved, a cooperative agreement between the Commission and the [lead] City in which the project is located must be approved.

PIONEER-SARAH CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

PROCESS TO BRING FORWARD CIPS

II. PROJECTS ON THE CIP TO BE FUNDED USING THE AD VALOREM TAXING PROCESS. *(Assumes no significant change in project description or cost. This will be determined by BWSR.)*

A. In **January** the Administrator requests from the member cities projects that are ready to be presented to the Commission. Written applications must be meeting packet-ready. Applications should include:

1. Request for consideration from the city.
2. Detailed description of project, including:
 - a. Benefits to watershed, benefitting parties.
 - b. Expected cost of the project, including potential grant funding and cost-sharing revenue.
 - c. Request for cost-share from Commission with detailed explanation of the percentage requested. (The Commission's Cost Share Policy, adopted July 2011, specifies that the Commission will pay up to 25 percent of the cost of qualifying projects.)
 - d. Timeline for project completion.
3. Feasibility report or study.
4. Supporting design documents.

B. The Administrator will advise the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) that the applications have been received and provide the TAC members with copies of the documentation.

C. Prior to the regular scheduled meeting in **March**, the TAC will convene to review the applications and gather any additional information needed in order to make a recommendation to the Commission.

D. Final packet is prepared for distribution with the meeting packet a week prior to the Commission meeting.

E. At the meeting Commission staff will present a summary of the TAC's review of the project, a summary of the dollars available in the CIP budget, the TAC's recommendation of approval/denial of the project, and the TAC's recommended cost-sharing percentage.

1. The Commission will review the applications, consider the recommendations, and act on the project requests. The Commission may:
 - a. Approve the requests as presented.
 - b. Approve the requests at a different levy/cost-share amount.
 - c. Table the application(s), and request additional information from the City.
 - d. Table the application(s) and request further review by the TAC.
 - e. Deny the applications.
2. Commission directs Staff to proceed with ad valorem tax levy process.

PIONEER-SARAH CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**PROCESS TO BRING FORWARD CIPS****II. PROJECTS ON THE CIP TO BE FUNDED USING THE AD VALOREM TAXING PROCESS. *(continued)***

3. A letter is sent to the county notifying them of the Commission's intent to levy.
(April)

F. Notice of the public hearing to receive public comment on the projects brought forward is published twice in two consecutive weeks at least ten days prior to the public hearing in legal newspaper of the Commission and is mailed to the clerks of the member cities. Reviewing agencies will be notified of the public hearing and receive project documentation by the transmittal medium of their choice. **(July)**

1. Public hearing is scheduled at beginning of the regular **August** meeting of the Commission to receive comment.

2. If approved for county levy by a two-thirds majority vote of all eligible members, a resolution ordering the project is adopted and a cooperative agreement between the Commission and the City in which the project is located is approved.

G. Notice certifying the costs must be mailed to the County by **September 1**.

PIONEER-SARAH CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

PROCESS TO BRING FORWARD CIPS

III. PROJECTS NOT ON THE CIP LIST

A. In **January** the Administrator requests from the member cities projects that they wish to have included on the CIP. Written applications must be meeting packet-ready. Applications must include

1. Request for consideration from the city.
2. Detailed description of project, including:
 - a. Benefits to watershed, benefitting parties.
 - b. Expected cost of the project, including potential grant funding and cost-sharing revenue.
 - c. Request for cost-share from Commission with detailed explanation of the percentage requested. (The Commission's Cost Share Policy, adopted July 2011, specifies that the Commission will pay up to 25 percent of the cost of qualifying projects.)
 - d. Timeline for project completion.
3. Feasibility report or study.
4. Preliminary design documents.

B. The Administrator will advise the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) that the applications have been received and provide the TAC members with copies of the documentation.

C. Prior to the regular scheduled meeting in **March**, the TAC will convene to review the applications and gather any additional information needed in order to make a recommendation to the Commission.

D. Final packet is prepared for distribution with the meeting packet a week prior to the Commission meeting.

E. At the meeting Commission staff will present a summary of the TAC's review of the project, a summary of the dollars available in the CIP budget, the TAC's recommendation of approval/denial of the project, and the TAC's recommended cost sharing percentage.

1. The Commission will review the applications, consider the recommendations and act on the project requests. The Commission may:
 - a. Approve the requests as presented.
 - b. Approve the requests at a different levy/cost-share amount.
 - c. Table the application, and request additional information from the City.
 - d. Table the application and request further review by the TAC.
 - e. Deny the application.

PIONEER-SARAH CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

PROCESS TO BRING FORWARD CIPS

III. PROJECTS NOT ON THE CIP LIST *(continued)*

2. Commission directs Staff to proceed with:
 - a. Minor Plan Amendment process to add projects to CIP.
 - b. *And ad valorem tax levy process, if appropriate.*

F. The Commission must send a copy of the proposed Minor Plan Amendment to the member cities, Hennepin County, Metropolitan Council, and the state review agencies for review and comment, and must hold a public meeting to explain the amendment. This meeting must be public-noticed twice, at least seven and 14 days prior to the meeting. **(April)**

1. Hennepin County will be undertaking a parallel process of review and public hearing. The timeline for having the County Board set a public hearing date for the amendment, approve the amendment and, if the ad valorem levy is used, set maximum levies and final levies, is as follows:

April	Board Action Request (BAR) for public hearing submitted to County
May or June	BAR in committee
May or June	Board action to schedule public hearing
June	Public hearing held in committee
June	BAR for amendment approval and maximum levy submitted to County
July	BAR in committee (Commission representative must be present)
July	Board action on amendment
September	BAR for setting final levy submitted to County
October	BAR in committee
November	Board action on amendment

2. The Commission will conduct a public meeting at its regular **May** meeting. At the meeting Commission Staff will present a summary of the TAC's review of the projects, the TAC's recommendation of approval/denial of the projects, and the TAC's recommended cost sharing percentage.

3. The approved Minor Amendment pages are inserted into the Third Generation Plan and distributed to the appropriate entities.

F. If the ad valorem taxing process is used:

1. A letter is sent to the county notifying them of the Commission's intent to levy. **(April)**

2. Notice of the public hearing to receive public comment on the projects brought forward is published twice in two consecutive weeks at least ten days prior to the public hearing in legal newspaper of the Commission and is mailed to the clerks of the member cities. Reviewing agencies will be notified of the public hearing and receive project documentation by the transmittal medium of their choice. **(July)**

PIONEER-SARAH CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**PROCESS TO BRING FORWARD CIPS****III. PROJECTS NOT ON THE CIP LIST** *(continued)*

3. Public hearing to receive comment is scheduled at beginning of the regular **August** meeting of the Commission.

4. If approved for county levy by a two-thirds majority vote of all eligible members, a resolution ordering the project is adopted and a cooperative agreement between the Commission and the City in which the project is located is approved.

G. Notice certifying the costs must be mailed to the County by **September 1**.

**Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission
Livestock Management Policy**

1. The primary goal of this policy is to reduce phosphorus runoff from livestock-associated facilities.
2. This policy applies to new facilities or the expansion of existing facilities based on the City's Conditional Use Permit (CUP) provisions for livestock.
3. Feedlots and manure storage areas are prohibited within the shoreland of any lake, perennial stream, intermittent stream, or protected wetland without a CUP.
 - a. In the case of feedlots and manure storage areas for which a CUP is required, the CUP shall only be issued if a Nutrient and Management Plan (NMP) specific to that operation, and which has been prepared and implemented within the timeframe specified by the City, is in place.
 - b. The NMP must meet the standards of the University of Minnesota Extension Service or the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources and Conservation Services (NRCS).
4. **Definitions.**
 - a. **Animal Density.** Allowable animal density shall be based on the net area of the parcel that can be grazed in its entirety. This area excludes wetlands, woodland, farmsteads, feedlots, parking lots, and other areas where grazing cannot or should not occur.
 - b. **Animal Feedlot.** A lot or building or combination of lots and buildings intended for the confined feeding, breeding, raising or holding of animals and specifically designed as a confinement area in which manure may accumulate, or where the concentration of animals is such that a vegetative cover cannot be maintained within the enclosure. Open lots used for the feeding and rearing of poultry (poultry ranges) shall be considered to be animal feedlots. Manure storage areas off the site of the feedlot are considered as feedlots.
 - c. **Animal Unit.** The definition of "animal unit" shall be determined by the City. The City may also refer to Minnesota Rules part 7020.0300.
 - d. **Conditional use.** Land use or development as defined by ordinance that would not be appropriate generally but may be allowed with appropriate restrictions as provided by official controls upon a finding that certain conditions as detailed in the zoning ordinance exist, the use or development conforms to the comprehensive land use plan of the community, and the use is compatible with the existing neighborhood.
 - e. **Manure storage facility.** Any site or area specifically designed and/or constructed for the purpose of storage or holding of animal waste and manure. This includes any storage facility previously designed and installed meeting the NRCS Technical Guidelines current at the time of installation, any commercial-prefabricated storage facility, concrete slabs, earthen dugouts, dikes or any other area intended for the storage of animal manure, no matter how small that accumulation may be or how long the manure may be stored.

f. **Pasture** - Areas where grass or other growing plants are used for grazing and where the concentration of animals is such that a vegetative cover is maintained during the growing season except in the immediate vicinity of temporary supplemental feeding or watering devices. Those areas of supplemental feeding or watering devices within a pasture do not constitute a feedlot.

g. **Shoreland.** Land located within 1,000 feet from the ordinary high water level of a lake, pond, or flowage; 300 feet from a river or stream; or the landward extent of a floodplain designated by ordinance on a river or stream, whichever is greater.

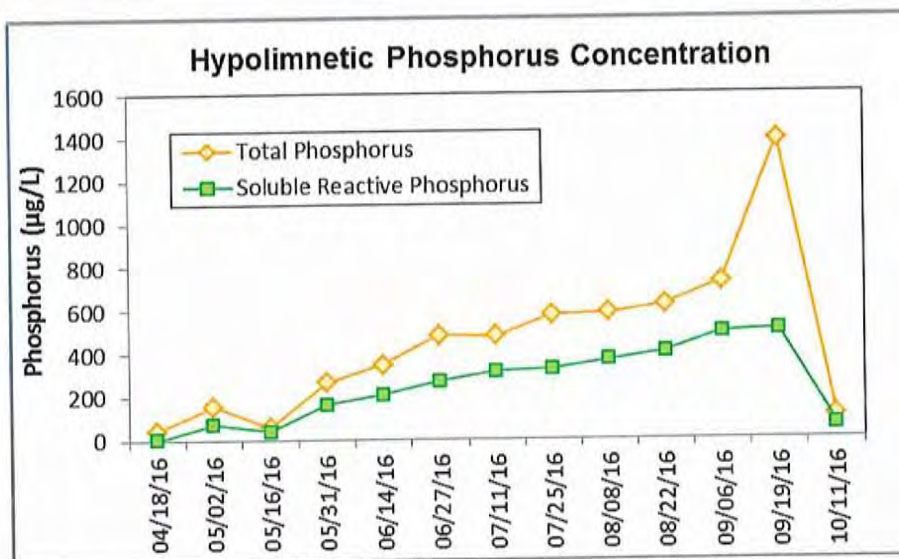
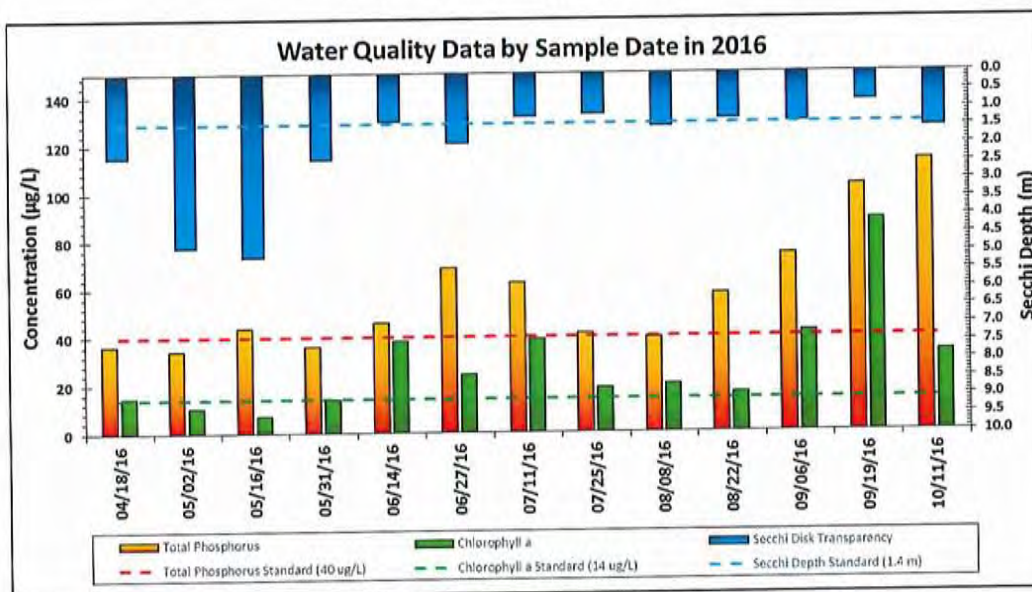
5. Exhibits.

The following documents are attached and may be reviewed for content.

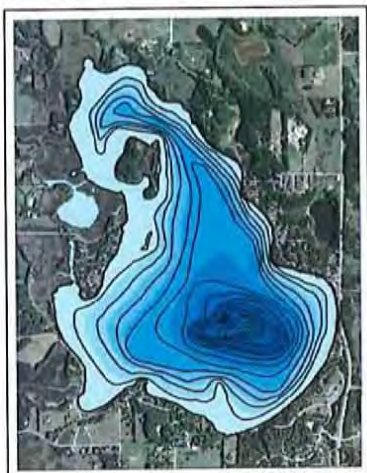
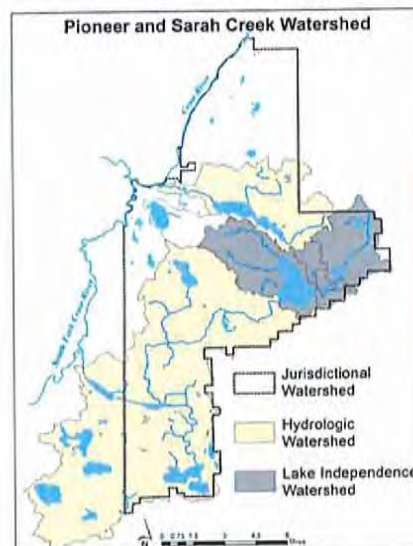
- a. **Exhibit A.** 80.10 Manure Management Policy, City of Medina
- b. **Exhibit B.** Manure Management-Related Ordinances, City of Medina.
- c. **Exhibit C.** Ordinance 2016-02 Amending City Code Section 152.071(G) as it pertains to livestock and domestic farm animals, City of Greenfield.

Lake Independence Water Quality Report Card				
Year	TP	Chl-a	Secchi	Avg Grade
1995	D	C	B	C
1996	C	B	C	C+
1997	C	B	C	C+
1998	C	C	C	C
1999	C	C	C	C
2000	C	B	C	C+
2001	C	B	B	B+
2002	C	C	B	C+
2003	C	C	B	C+
2004	D	C	C	C-
2005	C	C	B	C+
2006	C	B	B	B+
2007	C	C	C	C
2008	C	C	C	C
2009	C	B	C	C+
2010	C	B	B	B+
2011	C	C	B	C+
2012	C	C	C	C
2013	C	C	B	C+
2014	C	C	C	C
2015	C	C	C	C
2016	C	C	C	C
MPCA Standard	C	B	C	C+

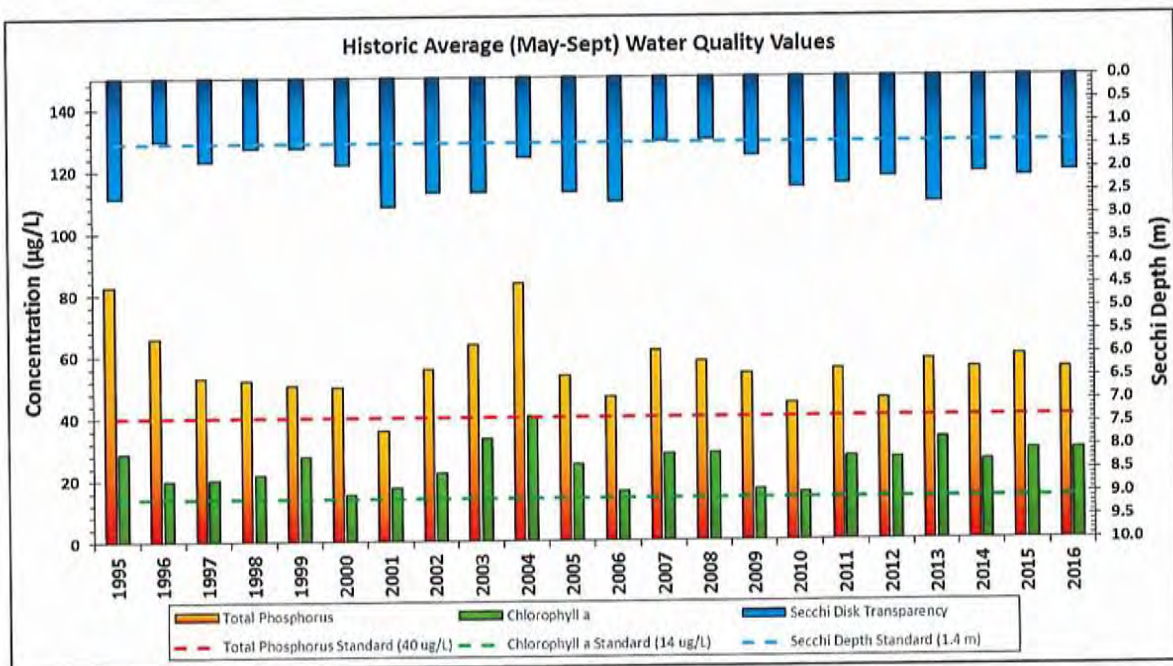
Metropolitan Council Grading System (Osgood 1989)



Lake Independence

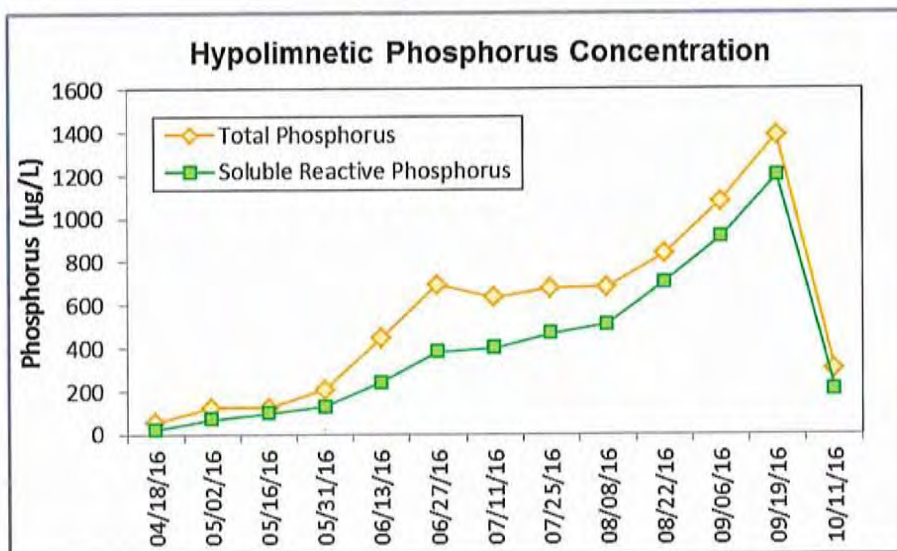
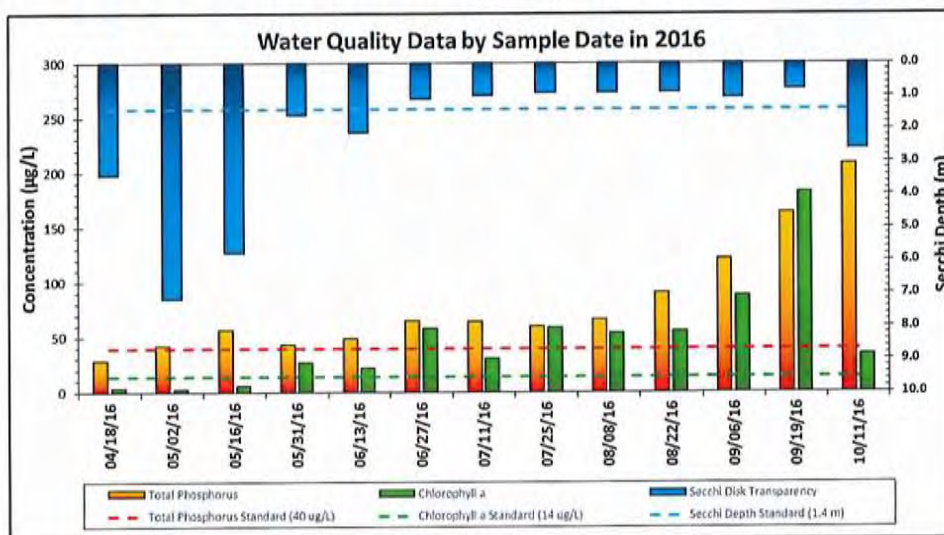


Lake and Watershed Characteristics	
DNR #	27017600
Watershed Area	7632 Acres
Lake Area	832 Acres
% Littoral Area	51%
Average Depth	15.9 ft
Maximum Depth	58.0 ft
Watershed/Lake Area Ratio	9.2 : 1
Impairment	Excessive Nutrients 2002
Classification	Deep Lake

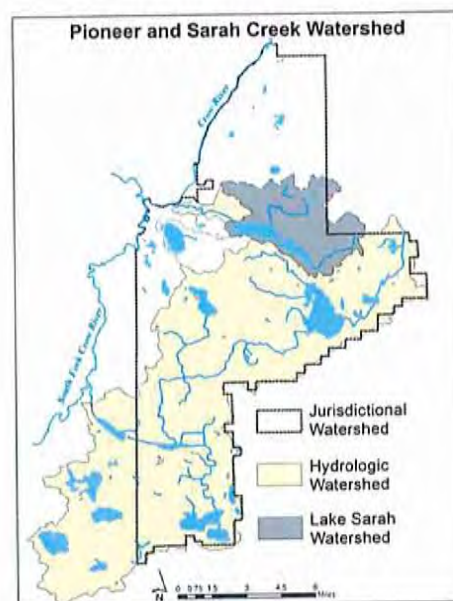


Lake Sarah Water Quality Report Card				
Year	TP	Chl-a	Secchi	Avg Grade
1995				
1996	D	C	D	D+
1997	D	C	C	C-
1998	D	C	C	C-
1999				
2000	D	C	C	C-
2001				
2002	D	C	C	C-
2003				
2004	D	D	C	D+
2005	D	D	C	D+
2006	D	D	C	D+
2007	D	D	D	D
2008	D	C	D	D+
2009	D	C	C	C-
2010	D	C	C	C-
2011	D	C	C	C-
2012	D	D	C	D+
2013	D	D	C	D+
2014	D	D	C	D+
2015	C	C	C	C
2016	D	D	C	D+
MPCA Standard	C	B	C	C+

Metropolitan Council Grading System (Osgood 1989)

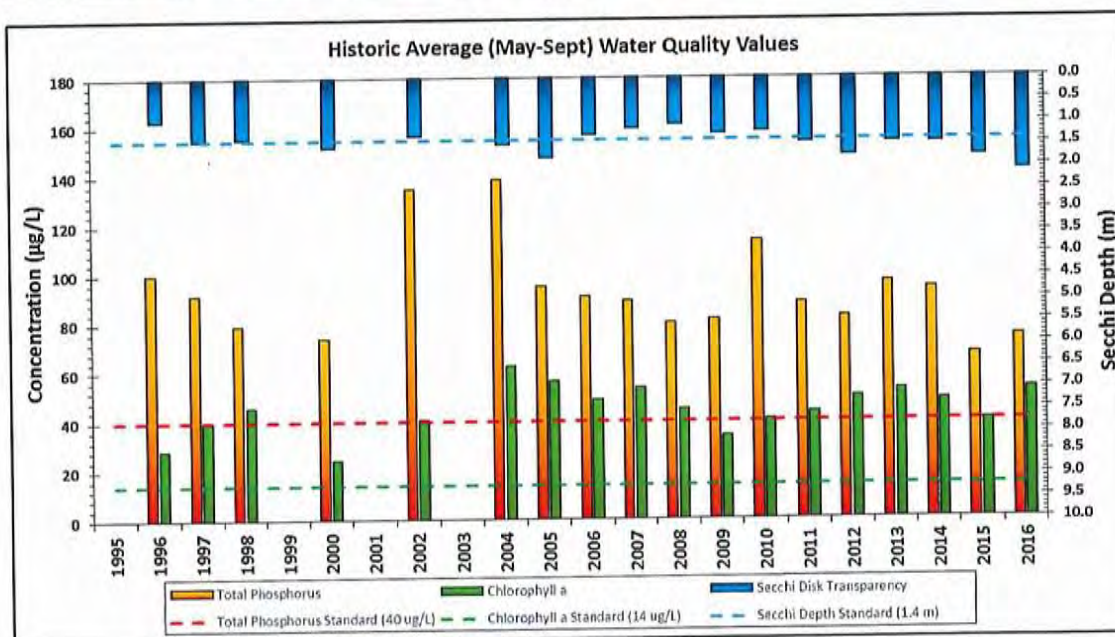


Lake Sarah



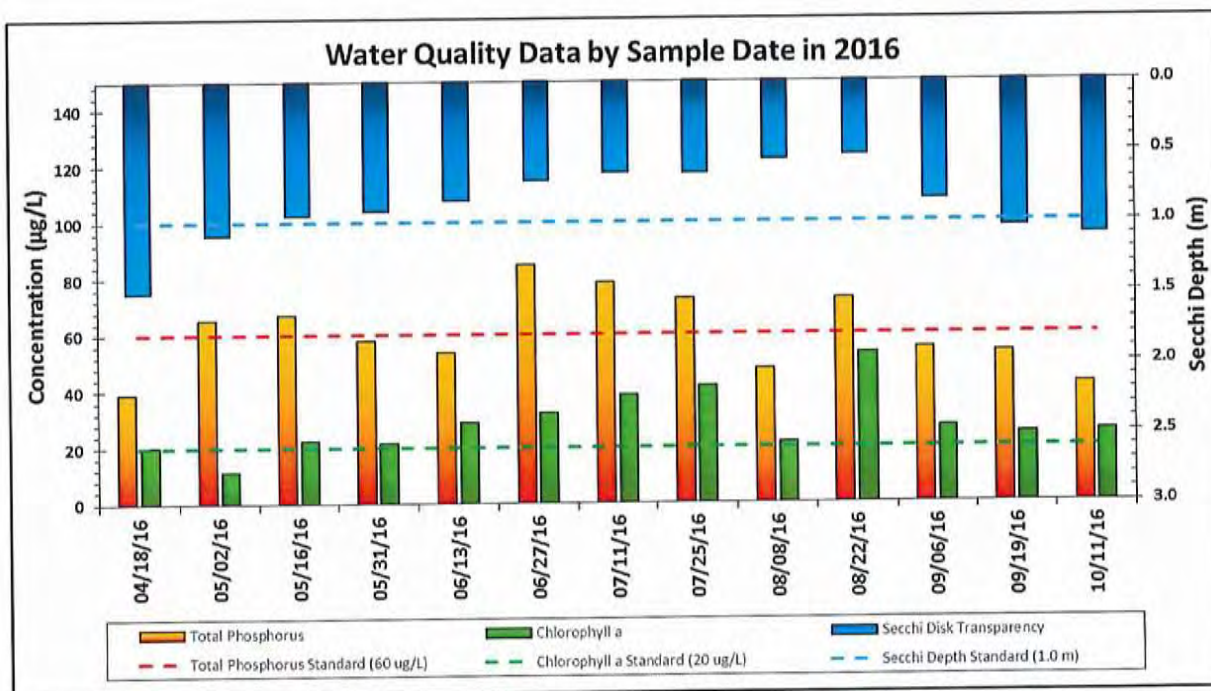
Lake and Watershed Characteristics

DNR #	27019100
Watershed Area	4518.6 Acres
Lake Area	536.1 Acres
% Littoral Area	61%
Average Depth	13.7 ft
Maximum Depth	49.9 ft
Watershed/Lake Area Ratio	8.4 : 1
Impairment	Excessive Nutrients 2006
Classification	Deep Lake

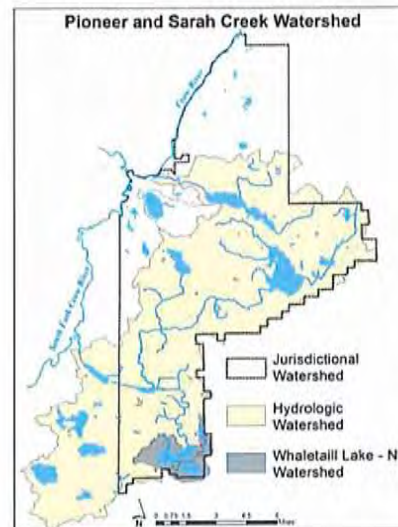
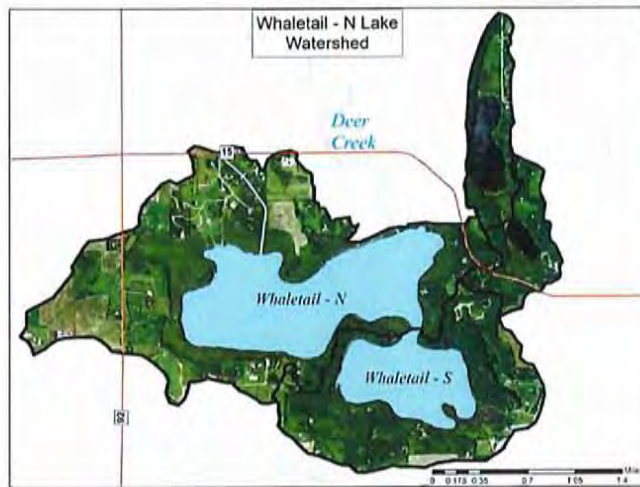


Whaletail North Water Quality Report Card				
Year	TP	Chl-a	Secchi	Avg Grade
2000	D	B	F	D+
2001				
2002				
2003				
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007				
2008	D	C	D	D+
2009	D	C	F	D
2010	D	C	D	D+
2011	C	B	D	C
2012	D	C	F	D
2013	C	C	D	C-
2014	C	C	D	C-
2015	C	C	D	C-
2016	C	C	D	C-
MPCA Standard	C	C	D	C

Metropolitan Council Grading System (Osgood 1989)

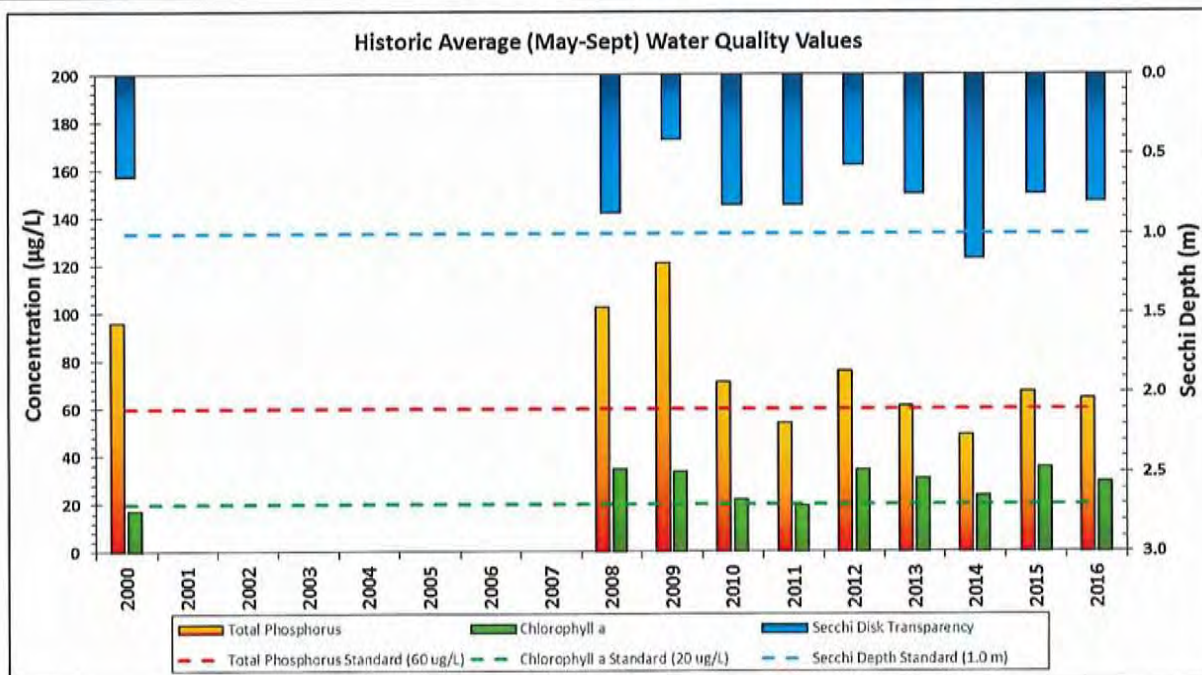


Whaletail North



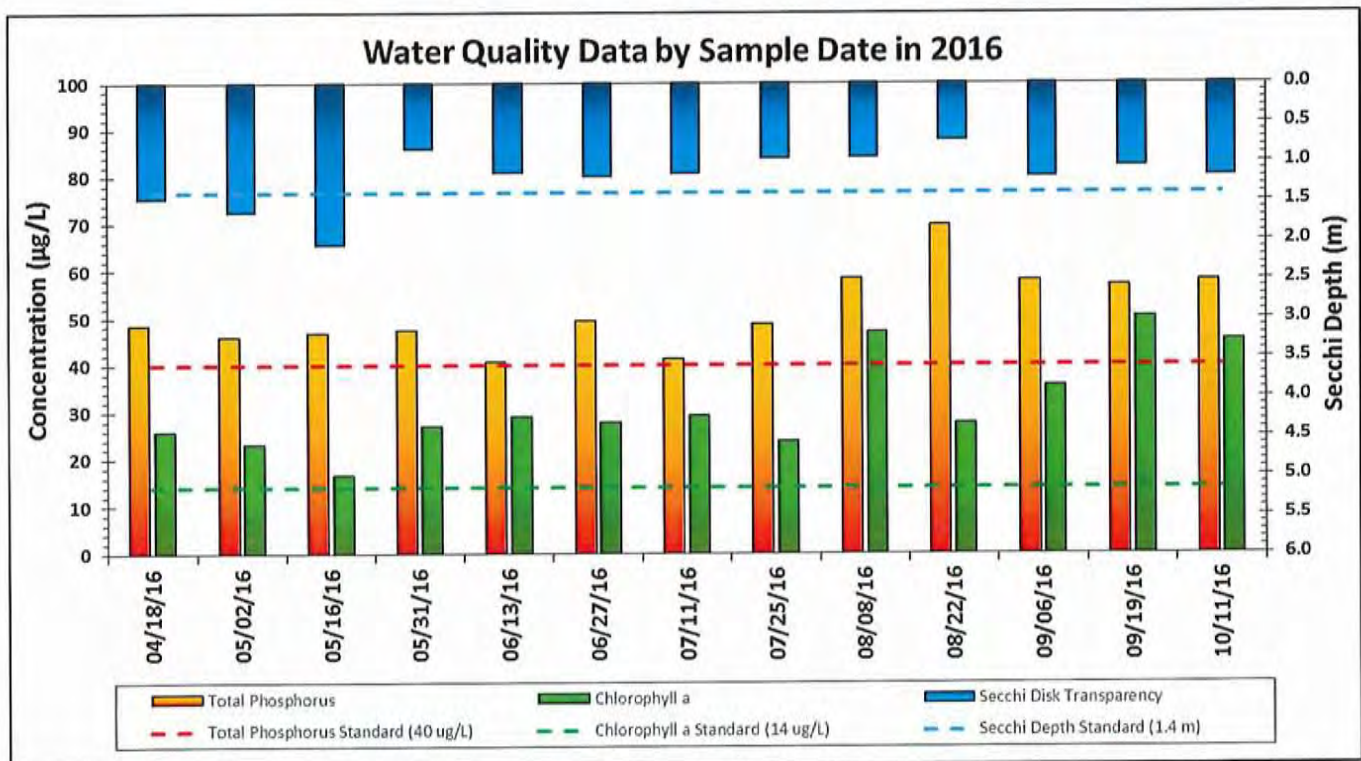
Lake and Watershed Characteristics

DNR #	27018401
Watershed Area	1584.5 Acres
Lake Area	369.9 Acres
% Littoral Area	100%
Average Depth	5.2 ft
Maximum Depth	10.3 ft
Watershed/Lake Area Ratio	4.3 to 1
Impairment	Proposed Listing 2016
Classification	Provisional Shallow Lake

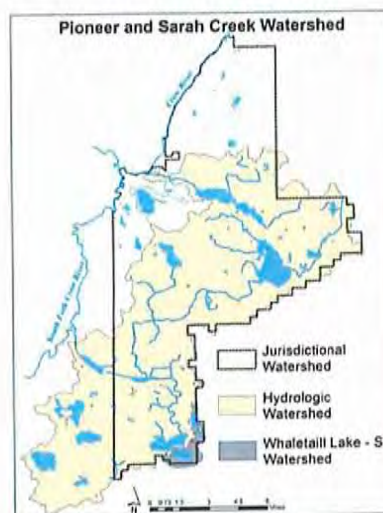
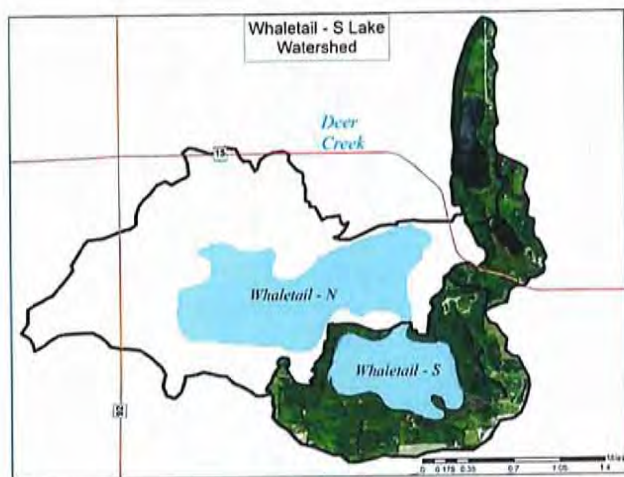


Whaletail South Water Quality Report Card				
Year	TP	Chl-a	Secchi	Avg Grade
2000	C	B	C	C+
2001				
2002				
2003	C	C	C	C
2004				
2005	C	C	D	C-
2006				
2007	C	C	C	C
2008	C	C	D	C-
2009	D	C	D	D+
2010	C	B	C	C+
2011	C	B	C	C+
2012	C	C	D	C-
2013	C	C	C	C
2014	C	C	C	C
2015	C	C	C	C
2016	C	C	D	C-
MPCA Standard	C	B	C	C+

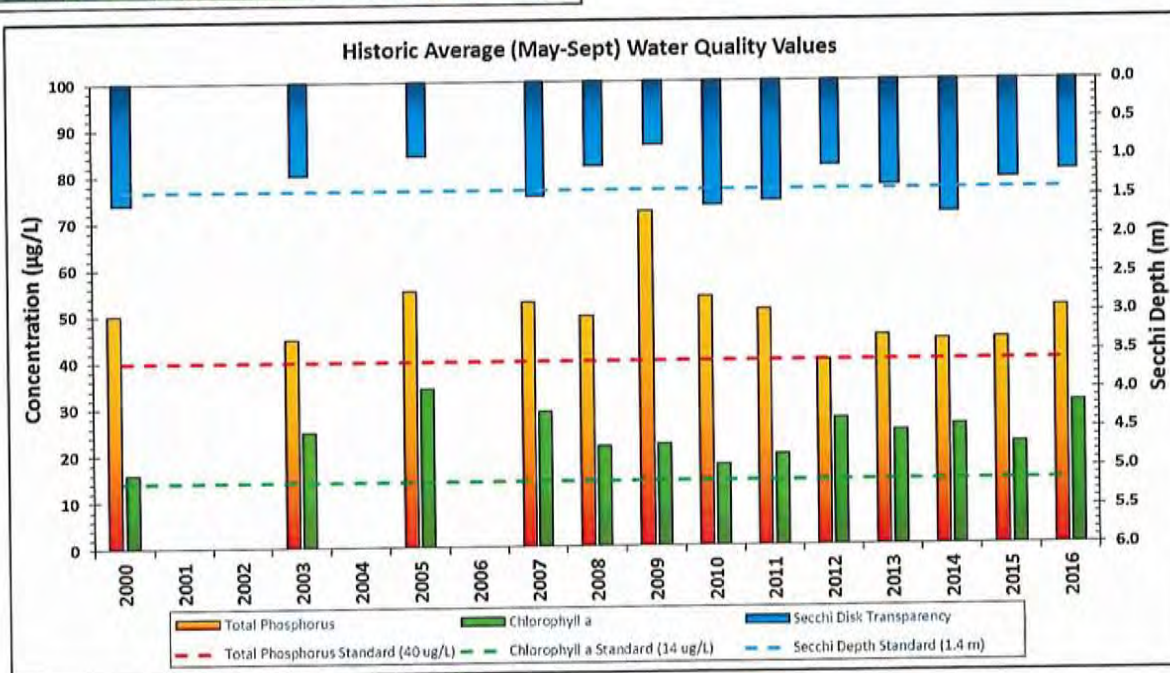
Metropolitan Council Grading System (Osgood 1989)



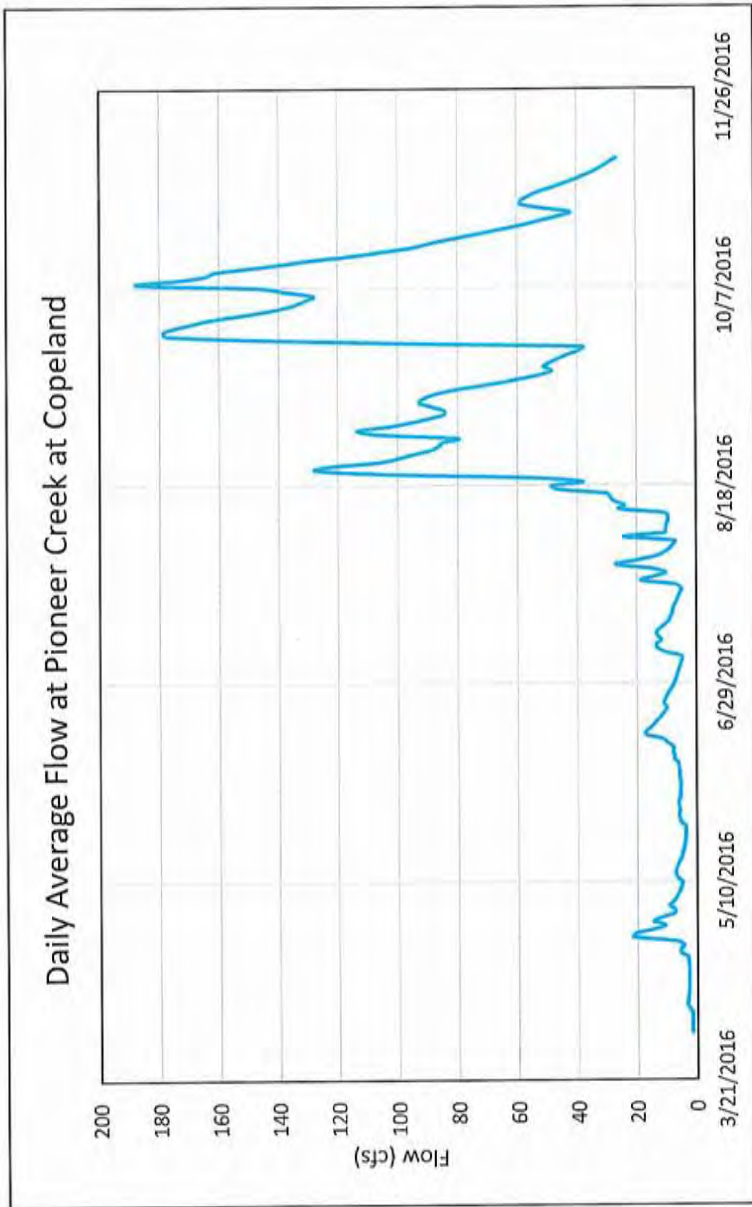
Whaletail South



Lake and Watershed Characteristics	
DNR #	27018402
Watershed Area	661 Acres
Lake Area	156.1 Acres
% Littoral Area	66%
Average Depth	12.1 ft
Maximum Depth	23.3 ft
Watershed/Lake Area Ratio	4.2 to 1
Impairment	Proposed Listing 2016
Classification	Provisional Deep Lake



Site Name	PSC 05-02-	PSC 05-02-
Isco Quantity	16	16
Label	Level	Flow Rate
Units	Level_adj ft	Flow_adj cfs
Resolution	0.1	0.1
Significant		
Digits	0	0
	4/2/2016	1.659
	4/3/2016	1.659
	4/4/2016	1.659
	4/5/2016	1.659
	4/6/2016	1.659
	4/7/2016	1.659
	4/8/2016	2.505
	4/9/2016	3.31
	4/10/2016	3.106
	4/11/2016	3.007
	4/12/2016	2.89
	4/13/2016	2.748
	4/14/2016	2.733
	4/15/2016	2.762
	4/16/2016	2.764
	4/17/2016	2.707
	4/18/2016	2.726
	4/19/2016	2.725
	4/20/2016	2.942
	4/21/2016	3.061
	4/22/2016	5.313
	4/23/2016	5.373
	4/24/2016	4.482
	4/25/2016	6.935
	4/26/2016	21.296
	4/27/2016	20.467
	4/28/2016	14.491

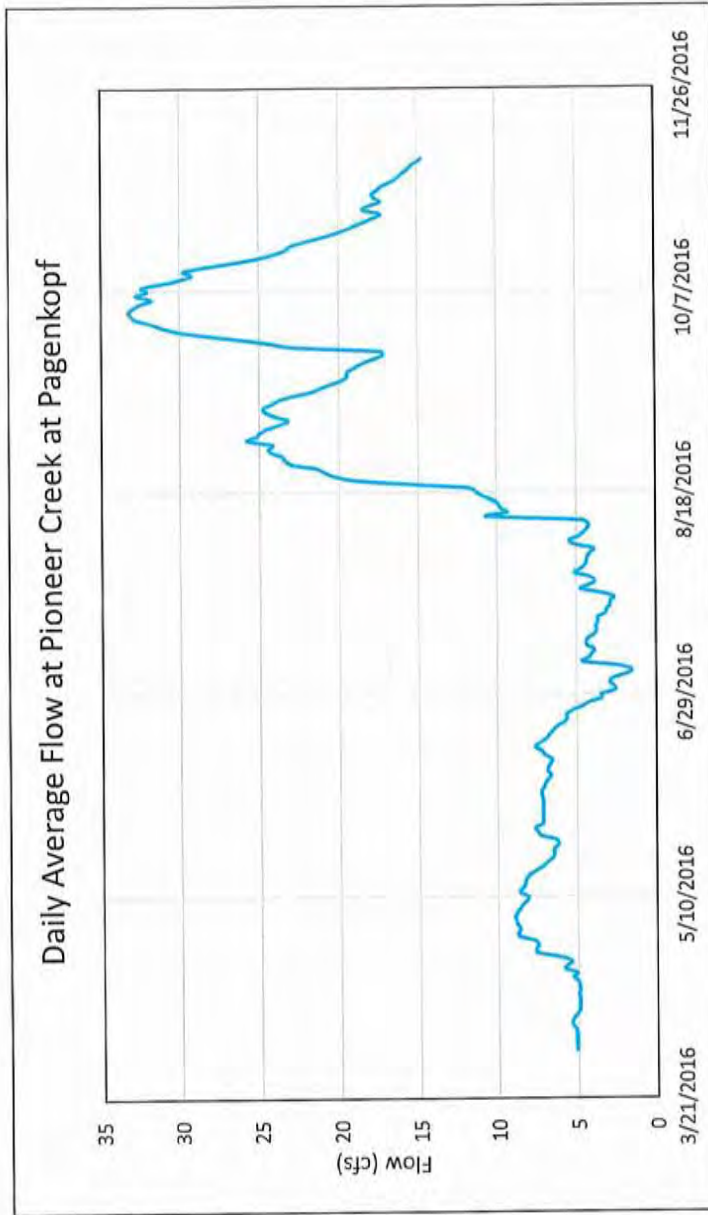


4/29/2016	3.976	10.612	5/13/2016	3.69	7.025
4/30/2016	4.221	14.488	5/14/2016	3.631	6.434
5/1/2016	4.046	11.588	5/15/2016	3.577	5.944
5/2/2016	3.739	7.575	5/16/2016	3.493	5.222
5/3/2016	3.705	7.474	5/17/2016	3.443	4.835
5/4/2016	3.877	9.175	5/18/2016	3.391	4.453
5/5/2016	3.774	7.931	5/19/2016	3.345	4.138
5/6/2016	3.682	6.939	5/20/2016	3.316	3.946
5/7/2016	3.608	6.223	5/21/2016	3.283	3.739
5/8/2016	3.53	5.527	5/22/2016	3.282	3.735
5/9/2016	3.48	5.12	5/23/2016	3.28	3.727
5/10/2016	3.452	4.9	5/24/2016	3.276	3.697
5/11/2016	3.626	6.416	5/25/2016	3.481	5.138
5/12/2016	3.684	6.959	5/26/2016	3.523	5.482

5/27/2016	3.567	5.851	7/2/2016	3.597	6.115	8/7/2016	3.95	10.133
5/28/2016	3.533	5.553	7/3/2016	3.548	5.684	8/8/2016	3.933	9.902
5/29/2016	3.557	5.759	7/4/2016	3.492	5.217	8/9/2016	3.897	9.417
5/30/2016	3.585	6.013	7/5/2016	3.439	4.805	8/10/2016	3.882	9.228
5/31/2016	3.542	5.631	7/6/2016	3.452	4.974	8/11/2016	3.95	10.346
6/1/2016	3.51	5.365	7/7/2016	3.98	10.588	8/12/2016	4.694	25.778
6/2/2016	3.5	5.281	7/8/2016	4.134	12.966	8/13/2016	4.634	23.988
6/3/2016	3.494	5.232	7/9/2016	4.147	13.162	8/14/2016	4.751	27.388
6/4/2016	3.492	5.213	7/10/2016	4.057	11.699	8/15/2016	4.798	28.866
6/5/2016	3.533	5.556	7/11/2016	4.125	12.846	8/16/2016	4.827	29.827
6/6/2016	3.549	5.694	7/12/2016	4.156	13.32	8/17/2016	5.198	46.283
6/7/2016	3.547	5.672	7/13/2016	4.075	11.989	8/18/2016	5.281	48.476
6/8/2016	3.565	5.834	7/14/2016	3.97	10.412	8/19/2016	5.049	38.052
6/9/2016	3.578	5.952	7/15/2016	3.868	9.056	8/20/2016	5.394	55.664
6/10/2016	3.721	7.378	7/16/2016	3.83	8.577	8/21/2016	6.07	102.998
6/11/2016	3.727	7.404	7/17/2016	3.775	7.939	8/22/2016	6.32	127.302
6/12/2016	3.76	7.771	7/18/2016	3.758	7.743	8/23/2016	6.271	122.119
6/13/2016	3.755	7.718	7/19/2016	3.706	7.184	8/24/2016	6.111	106.308
6/14/2016	3.903	9.523	7/20/2016	3.636	6.483	8/25/2016	6.04	99.725
6/15/2016	4.002	10.958	7/21/2016	3.583	5.993	8/26/2016	5.982	94.736
6/16/2016	4.33	16.624	7/22/2016	3.508	5.346	8/27/2016	5.914	89.035
6/17/2016	4.341	16.835	7/23/2016	3.447	4.867	8/28/2016	5.878	86.194
6/18/2016	4.26	15.216	7/24/2016	3.631	7.096	8/29/2016	5.862	84.926
6/19/2016	4.188	13.889	7/25/2016	4.414	18.429	8/30/2016	5.796	79.883
6/20/2016	4.121	12.733	7/26/2016	4.188	13.935	8/31/2016	6.113	106.673
6/21/2016	4.048	11.57	7/27/2016	3.952	10.169	9/1/2016	6.185	113.385
6/22/2016	3.978	10.53	7/28/2016	4.181	15.19	9/2/2016	6.075	102.965
6/23/2016	3.927	9.824	7/29/2016	4.739	27.03	9/3/2016	5.995	95.803
6/24/2016	3.998	10.815	7/30/2016	4.508	20.756	9/4/2016	5.92	89.524
6/25/2016	3.973	10.456	7/31/2016	4.197	14.08	9/5/2016	5.857	84.501
6/26/2016	3.932	9.888	8/1/2016	3.995	10.787	9/6/2016	5.854	84.319
6/27/2016	3.871	9.086	8/2/2016	3.857	8.916	9/7/2016	5.908	88.618
6/28/2016	3.802	8.243	8/3/2016	3.762	7.796	9/8/2016	5.958	92.642
6/29/2016	3.74	7.543	8/4/2016	3.699	7.115	9/9/2016	5.942	91.359
6/30/2016	3.684	6.956	8/5/2016	4.498	24.388	9/10/2016	5.903	88.2
7/1/2016	3.639	6.513	8/6/2016	3.972	10.446	9/11/2016	5.829	82.351

Appendix 7

9/12/2016	5.714	74.044	10/18/2016	5.926	90.011
9/13/2016	5.589	65.724	10/19/2016	5.846	83.719
9/14/2016	5.472	58.643	10/20/2016	5.752	76.683
9/15/2016	5.359	52.402	10/21/2016	5.649	69.587
9/16/2016	5.283	48.496	10/22/2016	5.545	62.968
9/17/2016	5.335	51.101	10/23/2016	5.443	56.973
9/18/2016	5.296	49.158	10/24/2016	5.341	51.443
9/19/2016	5.239	46.378	10/25/2016	5.234	46.161
9/20/2016	5.173	43.322	10/26/2016	5.147	42.151
9/21/2016	5.087	39.574	10/27/2016	5.339	51.46
9/22/2016	5.045	37.936	10/28/2016	5.475	58.751
9/23/2016	5.988	97.54	10/29/2016	5.47	58.499
9/24/2016	6.509	149.545	10/30/2016	5.429	56.166
9/25/2016	6.722	177.459	10/31/2016	5.377	53.336
9/26/2016	6.729	178.504	11/1/2016	5.293	49.006
9/27/2016	6.702	174.663	11/2/2016	5.212	45.092
9/28/2016	6.662	169.072	11/3/2016	5.131	41.428
9/29/2016	6.616	162.909	11/4/2016	5.051	38.086
9/30/2016	6.548	154.088	11/5/2016	4.97	34.902
10/1/2016	6.474	144.996	11/6/2016	4.897	32.248
10/2/2016	6.415	137.929	11/7/2016	4.833	30.037
10/3/2016	6.375	133.443	11/8/2016	4.77	27.985
10/4/2016	6.35	130.576	11/8/2016	4.718	26.386
10/5/2016	6.328	128.213			
10/6/2016	6.41	137.405			
10/7/2016	6.488	146.868			
10/8/2016	6.786	186.883			
10/9/2016	6.698	174.145			
10/10/2016	6.629	164.727			
10/11/2016	6.604	161.354			
10/12/2016	6.513	149.728			
10/13/2016	6.417	138.298			
10/14/2016	6.327	128.139			
10/15/2016	6.204	115.256			
10/16/2016	6.103	105.547			
10/17/2016	5.996	95.885			



Site Name	PSP 05-02-16	PSP 05-02-16	Flow Rate	
	Isco Quantity	Level	Flow_adj	Flow_adj
Label	Level_adj	ft	cfs	
Units				
Resolution	0.1	0.1		
Significant				
Digits	0	0		
	4/2/2016	3	5.117	
	4/3/2016	3	5.117	
	4/4/2016	3	5.117	
	4/5/2016	3	5.117	
	4/6/2016	3	5.117	
	4/7/2016	3.004	5.151	
	4/8/2016	3.025	5.338	
	4/9/2016	3.033	5.403	
	4/10/2016	3.018	5.274	
	4/11/2016	2.995	5.078	
	4/12/2016	2.977	4.924	
	4/13/2016	2.98	4.944	
	4/14/2016	2.975	4.902	
	4/15/2016	2.979	4.935	
	4/16/2016	2.984	4.985	
	4/17/2016	2.976	4.914	
	4/18/2016	2.981	4.955	
	4/19/2016	2.992	5.044	
	4/20/2016	3.022	5.31	
	4/21/2016	2.999	5.107	
	4/22/2016	3.077	5.817	
	4/23/2016	3.061	5.658	
	4/24/2016	3.035	5.423	
	4/25/2016	3.113	6.189	
	4/26/2016	3.241	7.547	
	4/27/2016	3.249	7.635	
	4/28/2016	3.238	7.512	

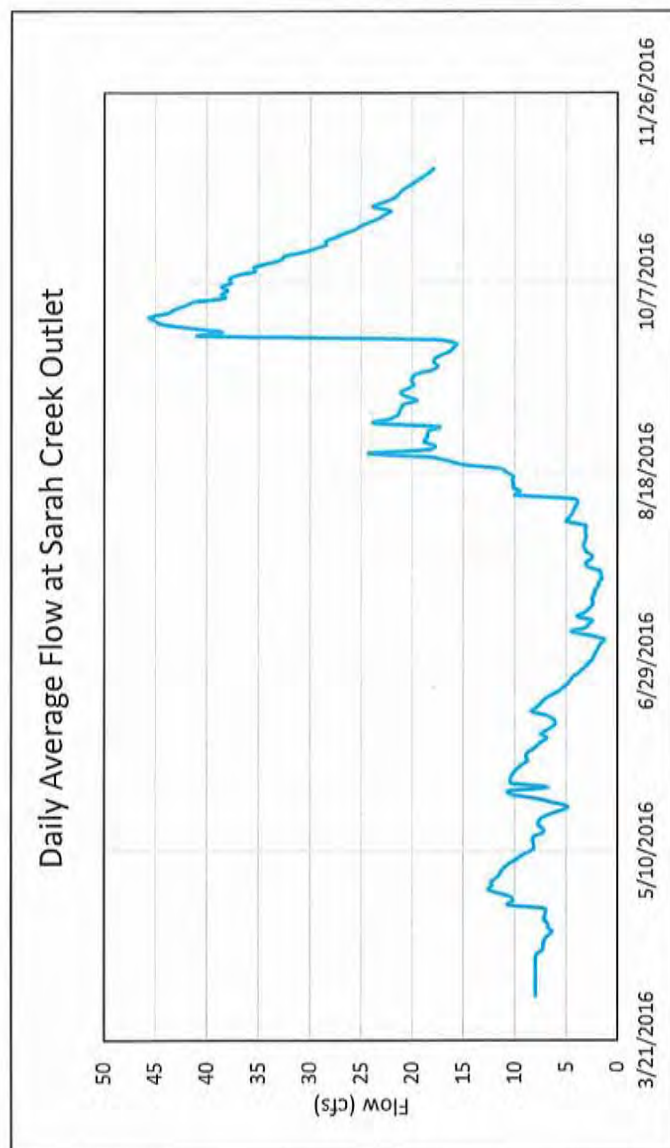
4/29/2016	3.255	7.714	5/15/2016	3.29	8.136
4/30/2016	3.334	8.699	5/16/2016	3.262	7.8
5/1/2016	3.338	8.75	5/17/2016	3.225	7.364
5/2/2016	3.328	8.626	5/18/2016	3.195	7.02
5/3/2016	3.343	8.821	5/19/2016	3.169	6.742
5/4/2016	3.348	8.891	5/20/2016	3.146	6.503
5/5/2016	3.353	8.95	5/21/2016	3.145	6.489
5/6/2016	3.344	8.835	5/22/2016	3.141	6.454
5/7/2016	3.331	8.655	5/23/2016	3.116	6.191
5/8/2016	3.316	8.468	5/24/2016	3.129	6.325
5/9/2016	3.297	8.222	5/25/2016	3.218	7.28
5/10/2016	3.29	8.14	5/26/2016	3.236	7.492
5/11/2016	3.33	8.651	5/27/2016	3.251	7.662
5/12/2016	3.316	8.471	5/28/2016	3.211	7.198
5/13/2016	3.306	8.337	5/29/2016	3.208	7.168
5/14/2016	3.3	8.263	5/30/2016	3.208	7.168

5/31/2016	3.208	7.168	7/6/2016	2.544	2.388	8/11/2016	2.931	4.66
6/1/2016	3.208	7.168	7/7/2016	2.941	4.636	8/12/2016	3.466	10.594
6/2/2016	3.208	7.168	7/8/2016	2.892	4.259	8/13/2016	3.383	9.365
6/3/2016	3.208	7.168	7/9/2016	2.867	4.072	8/14/2016	3.41	9.743
6/4/2016	3.212	7.216	7/10/2016	2.839	3.875	8/15/2016	3.419	9.875
6/5/2016	3.216	7.258	7/11/2016	2.901	4.327	8/16/2016	3.442	10.213
6/6/2016	3.202	7.105	7/12/2016	2.913	4.409	8/17/2016	3.483	10.836
6/7/2016	3.195	7.026	7/13/2016	2.887	4.216	8/18/2016	3.511	11.279
6/8/2016	3.178	6.84	7/14/2016	2.835	3.851	8/19/2016	3.536	11.691
6/9/2016	3.161	6.652	7/15/2016	2.821	3.756	8/20/2016	3.723	15.222
6/10/2016	3.179	6.845	7/16/2016	2.827	3.798	8/21/2016	3.888	18.855
6/11/2016	3.175	6.804	7/17/2016	2.804	3.642	8/22/2016	3.941	20.178
6/12/2016	3.163	6.676	7/18/2016	2.808	3.671	8/23/2016	3.967	20.844
6/13/2016	3.155	6.587	7/19/2016	2.732	3.202	8/24/2016	3.987	21.389
6/14/2016	3.196	7.034	7/20/2016	2.72	3.126	8/25/2016	4.041	22.882
6/15/2016	3.211	7.21	7/21/2016	2.68	2.904	8/26/2016	4.057	23.357
6/16/2016	3.25	7.651	7/22/2016	2.676	2.881	8/27/2016	4.063	23.529
6/17/2016	3.225	7.357	7/23/2016	2.636	2.673	8/28/2016	4.085	24.175
6/18/2016	3.191	6.98	7/24/2016	2.757	3.449	8/29/2016	4.093	24.405
6/19/2016	3.17	6.749	7/25/2016	2.955	4.743	8/30/2016	4.086	24.182
6/20/2016	3.149	6.526	7/26/2016	2.884	4.198	8/31/2016	4.138	25.77
6/21/2016	3.124	6.276	7/27/2016	2.835	3.851	9/1/2016	4.119	25.197
6/22/2016	3.081	5.853	7/28/2016	2.878	4.192	9/2/2016	4.111	24.947
6/23/2016	3.059	5.643	7/29/2016	2.998	5.103	9/3/2016	4.095	24.47
6/24/2016	3.061	5.658	7/30/2016	2.951	4.714	9/4/2016	4.069	23.697
6/25/2016	3.022	5.308	7/31/2016	2.92	4.465	9/5/2016	4.053	23.217
6/26/2016	2.944	4.663	8/1/2016	2.907	4.366	9/6/2016	4.079	24.001
6/27/2016	2.89	4.246	8/2/2016	2.899	4.305	9/7/2016	4.098	24.566
6/28/2016	2.777	3.474	8/3/2016	2.874	4.125	9/8/2016	4.105	24.752
6/29/2016	2.773	3.444	8/4/2016	2.845	3.92	9/9/2016	4.088	24.246
6/30/2016	2.623	2.621	8/5/2016	2.989	5.086	9/10/2016	4.071	23.762
7/1/2016	2.632	2.66	8/6/2016	3.036	5.433	9/11/2016	4.041	22.887
7/2/2016	2.688	2.947	8/7/2016	2.97	4.866	9/12/2016	3.998	21.69
7/3/2016	2.641	2.696	8/8/2016	2.933	4.566	9/13/2016	3.976	21.087
7/4/2016	2.455	1.891	8/9/2016	2.898	4.304	9/14/2016	3.95	20.409
7/5/2016	2.36	1.531	8/10/2016	2.886	4.213	9/15/2016	3.923	19.724

Appendix 7

9/16/2016	3.913	19.47	10/5/2016	4.314	31.806	10/24/2016	3.867	18.351
9/17/2016	3.911	19.422	10/6/2016	4.34	32.774	10/25/2016	3.842	17.754
9/18/2016	3.894	18.989	10/7/2016	4.321	32.069	10/26/2016	3.824	17.338
9/19/2016	3.874	18.517	10/8/2016	4.33	32.397	10/27/2016	3.87	18.42
9/20/2016	3.847	17.861	10/9/2016	4.295	31.081	10/28/2016	3.853	18.001
9/21/2016	3.819	17.233	10/10/2016	4.262	29.915	10/29/2016	3.824	17.331
9/22/2016	3.822	17.309	10/11/2016	4.242	29.236	10/30/2016	3.839	17.69
9/23/2016	4.038	22.798	10/12/2016	4.257	29.74	10/31/2016	3.845	17.815
9/24/2016	4.09	24.325	10/13/2016	4.219	28.442	11/1/2016	3.83	17.466
9/25/2016	4.149	26.143	10/14/2016	4.166	26.666	11/2/2016	3.817	17.172
9/26/2016	4.215	28.285	10/15/2016	4.118	25.173	11/3/2016	3.789	16.558
9/27/2016	4.267	30.075	10/16/2016	4.083	24.12	11/4/2016	3.773	16.214
9/28/2016	4.296	31.114	10/17/2016	4.057	23.337	11/5/2016	3.759	15.912
9/29/2016	4.315	31.815	10/18/2016	4.046	23.038	11/6/2016	3.744	15.581
9/30/2016	4.34	32.776	10/19/2016	4.016	22.18	11/7/2016	3.731	15.323
10/1/2016	4.348	33.068	10/20/2016	3.981	21.219	11/8/2016	3.712	14.935
10/2/2016	4.353	33.249	10/21/2016	3.946	20.298	11/8/2016	3.701	14.713
10/3/2016	4.345	32.947	10/22/2016	3.917	19.574			
10/4/2016	4.332	32.478	10/23/2016	3.892	18.948			

Site Name	SCO 05-03-16	SCO 05-03-16	Flow Rate
Isco Quantity	Level	Flow Rate	
Label	Level_adj	Flow_adj	
Units	ft	cfs	
Resolution	0.1	0.1	
Significant Digits	0	0	
4/2/2016	0.919	7.988	
4/3/2016	0.919	7.988	
4/4/2016	0.919	7.988	
4/5/2016	0.919	7.988	
4/6/2016	0.919	7.988	
4/7/2016	0.919	7.988	
4/8/2016	0.919	7.988	
4/9/2016	0.919	7.988	
4/10/2016	0.919	7.988	
4/11/2016	0.919	7.988	
4/12/2016	0.919	7.988	
4/13/2016	0.924	7.842	
4/14/2016	0.917	7.354	
4/15/2016	0.91	7.236	
4/16/2016	0.908	7.191	
4/17/2016	0.898	7.087	
4/18/2016	0.884	6.709	
4/19/2016	0.875	6.378	
4/20/2016	0.888	6.764	
4/21/2016	0.889	6.776	
4/22/2016	0.919	7.124	
4/23/2016	0.91	7.111	
4/24/2016	0.905	6.995	
4/25/2016	0.917	7.06	
4/26/2016	1.083	10.636	
4/27/2016	1.054	10.182	
4/28/2016	1.057	10.326	



4/29/2016	1.121	11.473	5/14/2016	0.955	8.147
4/30/2016	1.179	12.548	5/15/2016	0.921	7.283
5/1/2016	1.154	12.194	5/16/2016	0.933	7.247
5/2/2016	1.153	12.26	5/17/2016	0.947	7.667
5/3/2016	1.164	11.88	5/18/2016	0.95	7.652
5/4/2016	1.15	11.474	5/19/2016	0.937	7.334
5/5/2016	1.131	11.293	5/20/2016	0.893	6.514
5/6/2016	1.119	10.941	5/21/2016	0.835	5.419
5/7/2016	1.101	10.491	5/22/2016	0.804	4.871
5/8/2016	1.069	9.828	5/23/2016	0.874	6.324
5/9/2016	1.043	9.343	5/24/2016	0.954	7.775
5/10/2016	0.998	8.608	5/25/2016	1.058	10.129
5/11/2016	0.968	8.13	5/26/2016	1.083	10.585
5/12/2016	0.956	8.161	5/27/2016	0.88	6.796
5/13/2016	0.962	8.226	5/28/2016	1.053	10.289
5/13/2016	0.962	8.226	5/29/2016	1.061	10.41

5/30/2016	1.058	10.298	7/5/2016	0.78	1.296	8/10/2016	0.969	3.882
5/31/2016	1.051	10.073	7/6/2016	0.884	2.748	8/11/2016	1.006	4.136
6/1/2016	1.035	9.734	7/7/2016	1.075	4.474	8/12/2016	1.417	9.888
6/2/2016	1.005	9.302	7/8/2016	0.966	3.124	8/13/2016	1.384	9.507
6/3/2016	0.985	8.755	7/9/2016	0.943	2.775	8/14/2016	1.449	10.104
6/4/2016	0.993	8.874	7/10/2016	0.919	2.509	8/15/2016	1.474	10.063
6/5/2016	0.989	8.795	7/11/2016	1.062	3.889	8/16/2016	1.49	10.2
6/6/2016	0.975	8.297	7/12/2016	1.02	3.176	8/17/2016	1.518	10.094
6/7/2016	0.96	7.808	7/13/2016	0.968	2.789	8/18/2016	1.566	10.777
6/8/2016	0.949	7.426	7/14/2016	0.934	2.429	8/19/2016	1.594	11.304
6/9/2016	0.942	6.857	7/15/2016	0.922	2.387	8/20/2016	1.845	14.91
6/10/2016	0.994	7.416	7/16/2016	0.947	2.468	8/21/2016	1.915	16.395
6/11/2016	0.987	6.903	7/17/2016	0.929	2.195	8/22/2016	1.918	18.222
6/12/2016	0.971	6.303	7/18/2016	0.945	2.199	8/23/2016	1.92	24.267
6/13/2016	0.978	6.053	7/19/2016	0.929	1.827	8/24/2016	1.899	18.257
6/14/2016	1.02	6.251	7/20/2016	0.939	1.795	8/25/2016	1.851	17.712
6/15/2016	1.109	6.956	7/21/2016	0.937	1.474	8/26/2016	1.828	18.791
6/16/2016	1.243	8.387	7/22/2016	0.936	1.622	8/27/2016	1.808	18.57
6/17/2016	1.27	7.866	7/23/2016	0.919	1.689	8/28/2016	1.821	18.443
6/18/2016	1.253	7.544	7/24/2016	1.031	2.79	8/29/2016	1.819	18.297
6/19/2016	1.246	7.165	7/25/2016	0.992	3.07	8/30/2016	1.815	17.355
6/20/2016	1.233	6.685	7/26/2016	0.933	2.627	8/31/2016	2.193	23.687
6/21/2016	1.187	5.926	7/27/2016	0.908	2.47	9/1/2016	2.03	22.28
6/22/2016	1.157	5.433	7/28/2016	0.946	2.965	9/2/2016	1.976	21.471
6/23/2016	1.15	4.97	7/29/2016	0.973	3.215	9/3/2016	1.938	21.229
6/24/2016	1.143	4.651	7/30/2016	0.968	3.261	9/4/2016	1.856	21.018
6/25/2016	1.14	4.387	7/31/2016	0.959	3.15	9/5/2016	1.83	20.74
6/26/2016	1.13	3.864	8/1/2016	0.962	3.02	9/6/2016	1.856	19.531
6/27/2016	1.094	3.439	8/2/2016	0.97	3.071	9/7/2016	1.92	20.471
6/28/2016	1.046	3.027	8/3/2016	0.952	3.105	9/8/2016	1.886	21.088
6/29/2016	1.014	2.674	8/4/2016	0.943	3.088	9/9/2016	1.86	20.512
6/30/2016	0.98	2.398	8/5/2016	1.049	4.931	9/10/2016	1.843	19.802
7/1/2016	0.966	2.229	8/6/2016	1.019	4.762	9/11/2016	1.803	19.983
7/2/2016	0.933	2.025	8/7/2016	1.006	4.451	9/12/2016	1.767	19.94
7/3/2016	0.889	1.8	8/8/2016	0.997	4.267	9/13/2016	1.737	19.506
7/4/2016	0.838	1.577	8/9/2016	0.977	4.084	9/14/2016	1.703	18.036

Appendix 7

9/15/2016	1.668	17.455	10/3/2016	2.644	38.288	10/21/2016	2.018	25.61
9/16/2016	1.665	17.813	10/4/2016	2.594	38.566	10/22/2016	1.976	25.032
9/17/2016	1.661	17.766	10/5/2016	2.557	38.035	10/23/2016	1.927	24.115
9/18/2016	1.635	17.06	10/6/2016	2.576	38.556	10/24/2016	1.88	23.288
9/19/2016	1.616	16.265	10/7/2016	2.543	37.68	10/25/2016	1.842	22.695
9/20/2016	1.598	15.917	10/8/2016	2.569	37.841	10/26/2016	1.813	22.083
9/21/2016	1.576	15.69	10/9/2016	2.522	37.069	10/27/2016	1.899	23.83
9/22/2016	1.732	17.567	10/10/2016	2.482	35.325	10/28/2016	1.855	23.016
9/23/2016	2.719	40.746	10/11/2016	2.469	35.484	10/29/2016	1.822	22.002
9/24/2016	2.616	38.508	10/12/2016	2.416	34.288	10/30/2016	1.795	21.421
9/25/2016	2.74	41.486	10/13/2016	2.364	32.794	10/31/2016	1.774	21.12
9/26/2016	2.786	44.254	10/14/2016	2.326	32.403	11/1/2016	1.751	20.605
9/27/2016	2.795	44.958	10/15/2016	2.281	30.64	11/2/2016	1.718	19.98
9/28/2016	2.782	45.509	10/16/2016	2.237	29.503	11/3/2016	1.691	19.471
9/29/2016	2.755	43.773	10/17/2016	2.191	28.429	11/4/2016	1.661	18.86
9/30/2016	2.732	43.111	10/18/2016	2.166	28.406	11/5/2016	1.627	18.358
10/1/2016	2.706	42.115	10/19/2016	2.122	27.478	11/6/2016	1.595	17.892
10/2/2016	2.688	41.175	10/20/2016	2.069	26.581			

Kurt & Susan Steinke Dairy Barnyard Improvement Project

By Karl Hakanson, UM Extension-Hennepin County

*The Steinkes own and operate a dairy farm at 5670 Hwy 55, just north of Lake Sarah, in the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed. Their farm has been in the family since 1940 and now sits at the outer edge of suburban encroachment. They farm 300 acres and have a herd of 40 dairy cows plus youngstock. Susan writes a popular column for the **Dairy Star** newspaper and they have three young children. In her writings she chronicles the hard work and challenges of running a small dairy on the urban fringe and the satisfaction and rewards of life on a family farm.*



Manure patty on hard, scrapable surface.

underground to an outlet on the large volume of stormwater from manure away downstream to the hard, packed surface making it manure is cleaned up prior to rain should run downstream. It is dry and clean. There will be more crop nutrients as well.

This past summer the Steinkes installed barnyard improvements that will reduce the polluted runoff to the watershed. Taking advantage of a nearby road project, Kurt got free fill and excavation work in exchange for the contractor having a convenient place to get rid of excess fill. This gravel material was laid over the existing barnyard area, from one to six feet thick on the approximately one acre lot. This had been a difficult, muddy, manure laden lot with a waterway right through the barnyard.

A diversion and inlet structure now gathers the water from upslope, runs it far side of the yard. This prevents a washing through the yard and carrying watershed. The gravel fill creates a easier to scrape up the manure. If the events, essentially very little manure better for the cattle too as they stay manure available to use as valuable



Looking downslope from the inlet. Water enters here and does not run across the yard.

Gutters have been also added to a shed that now diverts the rainwater away from the yard, reducing the amount of runoff even further. Jim Kujawa, from Hennepin County Environment and Energy Department and I assisted the Steinkes with initial design ideas, and I also assisted with soil testing and discussions about nutrient management planning and options for manure storage. A little design work, some free fill and the Steinke's initiative created a much better feedlot with a lot less runoff. Good work!



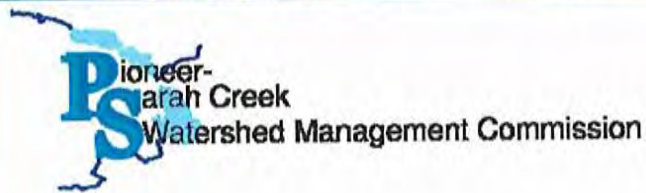
Close-up of outlet with rock to protect the outlet and to prevent erosion.



View downslope to outlet just beyond fence, above wetland area. Note cow pies; more easily collected prior to rain fall.



Gutters on shed roof direct clean storm water away from barnyard.



Join us for a Community Conversation on Implementing Water Quality Initiatives



Greenfield ▪ Independence ▪ Loretto ▪ Maple Plain ▪ Medina ▪ Minnetrista

Ardmore ▪ Half Moon ▪ Little Long ▪ Rattail ▪ Rebecca ▪ Spurzem ▪ Whaletail (North & South)
Pioneer Creek ▪ Sarah Creek ▪ Deer Creek ▪ Unnamed Creek

Over the past three years, eight lakes and four streams in the watershed have been studied to gain a better understanding of water quality, sources of pollution, and the pollution reductions needed to improve water quality. Many of the lakes have been listed as “impaired” for phosphorus and all of the streams have been listed for E. coli.

These impairments can lead to health risks for humans and animals, habitat loss for fish and other wildlife, and declining property values due to loss of aesthetic appeal.

Join us to learn more about planned projects to protect unimpaired waters, restore impaired waters, and learn about pollution prevention and the new buffer laws.

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Independence City Hall
1920 County Road 90
Independence

Registration is requested by Wednesday, October 26
To register contact: Kerstin Harelson at
763-553-1144 or kerstin@jass.biz

Pie and coffee will be served

- ◆ Learn about proposed priority projects
- ◆ Review implementation goals for protection and restoration
- ◆ Discuss the roles citizens, cities, and the Commission play in restoring and protecting waters
- ◆ Discuss new buffer laws and funding and technical help for landowners
- ◆ Network with engaged citizens, elected officials, and watershed Commissioners

Brought to you by:

Pioneer-Sarah Creek Commission and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
with grant funding from the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment

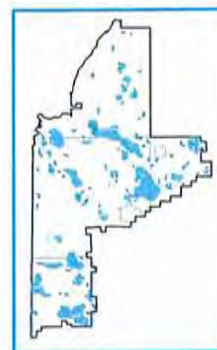
For more information visit: <http://www.pioneersarahcreek.org/pages/WRAPS/>

Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS)

Discussion Guide

Purpose

Since 2013, the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission (PSCWMC) and Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) have been studying eight lakes and four streams in the Pioneer-Sarah Creek watershed to gain a better understanding of water quality, sources of pollution, and the pollution reductions needed to improve water quality in order to meet state standards and protect lakes with good water quality. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) funded this Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) project through the Clean Water Land and Legacy Act. Hennepin County Environmental Services, TRPD, MPCA, and PSC WMC have previously studied Lake Independence and Lake Sarah, and the results of those studies are briefly summarized in this guide.



The purpose of this guide is to describe the criteria used to determine the action/implementation projects needed to improve water quality in priority areas within the Pioneer-Sarah Creek watershed for the next few years. For each priority waterbody, a list of proposed projects that are needed to help achieve water quality goals is provided along with associated costs.

This guide also provides a brief overview of water quality conditions, sources of pollution, and strategies for improving or maintaining water quality for all lakes and streams included in the Pioneer-Sarah Creek WRAPS project. Implementation of these strategies in the coming years is necessary for the lakes and streams to meet state water quality standards.

Water Quality Conditions

Lakes in the Pioneer-Sarah Creek watershed receive nutrients like phosphorus and nitrogen, from a variety of sources. Phosphorus is a plant nutrient that often stimulates the growth of algae. A lake rich in phosphorus has the potential for abundant algal growth, which can reduce water clarity, present health risks to humans and animals, and negatively affect sport fisheries.



Monitoring and modeling help determine where phosphorus comes from. One of the main sources of phosphorus is from the landscape, or watershed. Residential and rural area stormwater and snowmelt runoff carries phosphorus from manure, grass clippings, fertilizers, and leaves into lakes, and streams. Excess nutrients, like phosphorus, can stimulate the growth of nuisance algal blooms in the summer, which restrict recreational activities.

Another source of phosphorus can be within the lake itself (internal loading) and is a consequence of historic inputs of phosphorus that become concentrated in the sediments. Under certain conditions,

part of this phosphorus can be recycled from the lake sediments into the overlying waters, where it contributes to the growth of summertime nuisance algal blooms. Excess phosphorus can also lead to low dissolved oxygen levels in streams, which can limit the survival of aquatic insects and fish. Three of the streams in the Pioneer-Sarah Creek watershed contain insufficient dissolved oxygen.

Monitoring data from four of the streams in the watershed indicate they are not meeting the state's water quality standard for bacteria (*E. coli*). *E. coli* is used to indicate the potential presence of waterborne pathogens that can be harmful to human health. *E. coli* comes from human, livestock, pet, and wildlife waste. Bacteria can be transferred to water bodies from stormwater systems, drain tiles, areas with field-applied manure fertilizer or storage, non-compliant septic systems, connected water bodies, or feedlots.

Criteria for Determining Priority Projects

Prioritizing projects that provide the most cost effective and beneficial (biggest bang for the buck) progress towards meeting water quality goals is important since financial resources are limited. The criteria which were used to determine priority projects in the watershed include:

- ✓ Potential to reduce the target pollutant based on watershed assessments and studies
- ✓ Project type and associated cost-benefit analysis: focus on high benefit/low cost projects
- ✓ Available funding
- ✓ Landowner willingness
- ✓ Location of project in the watershed
 - Can improvements to an upstream lake/stream improve a downstream priority resource (i.e., Lake Independence, North Whaletail)?
 - Does the lake/stream have high recreational value or natural resource benefits?
- ✓ Short-versus long-term impacts on property values and public infrastructure

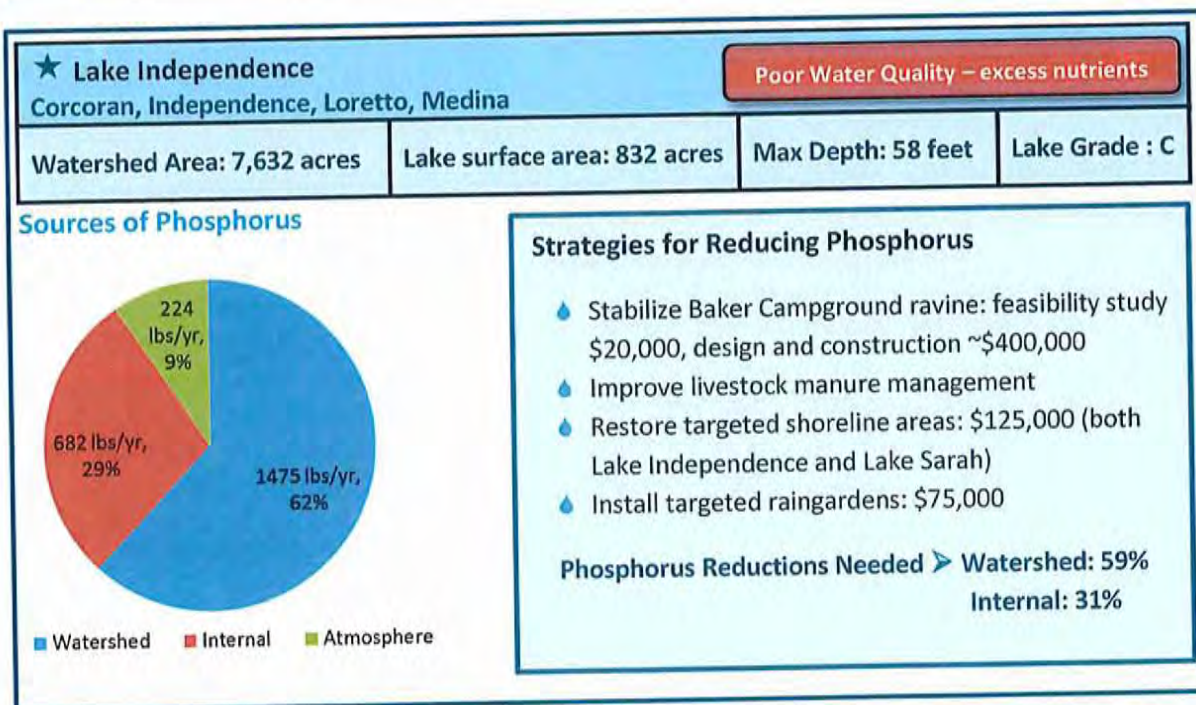
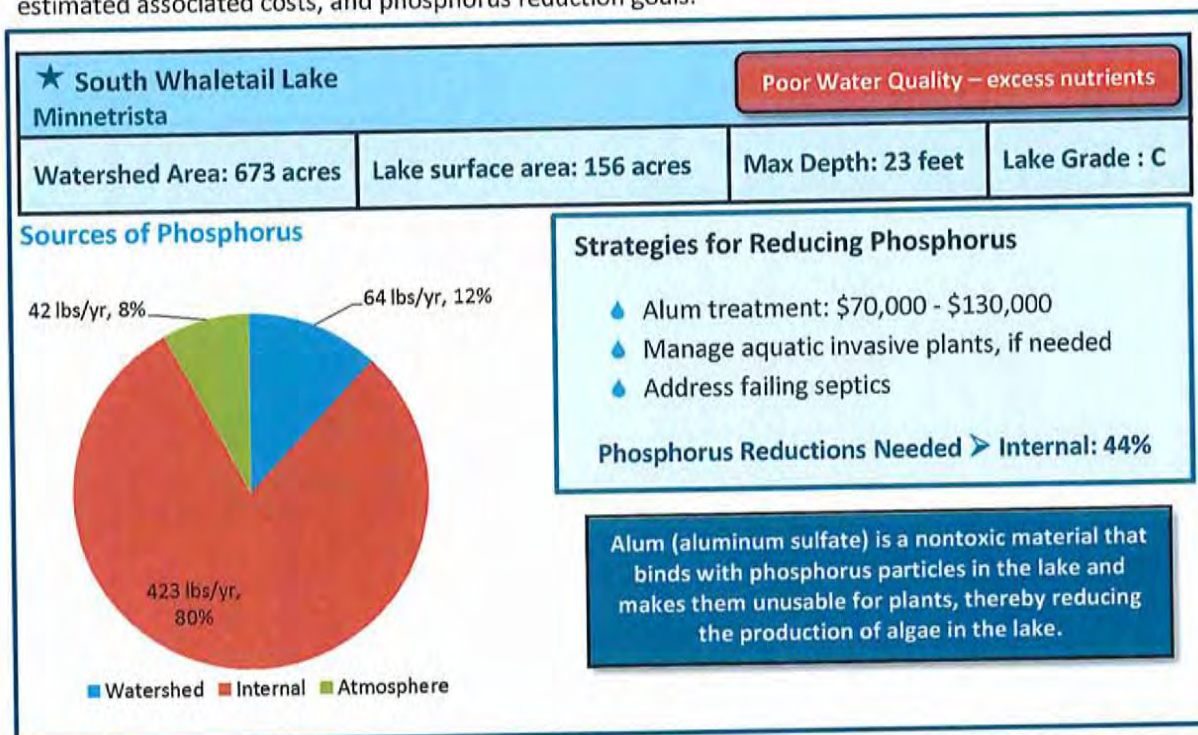
Priority Watershed-Wide Activities

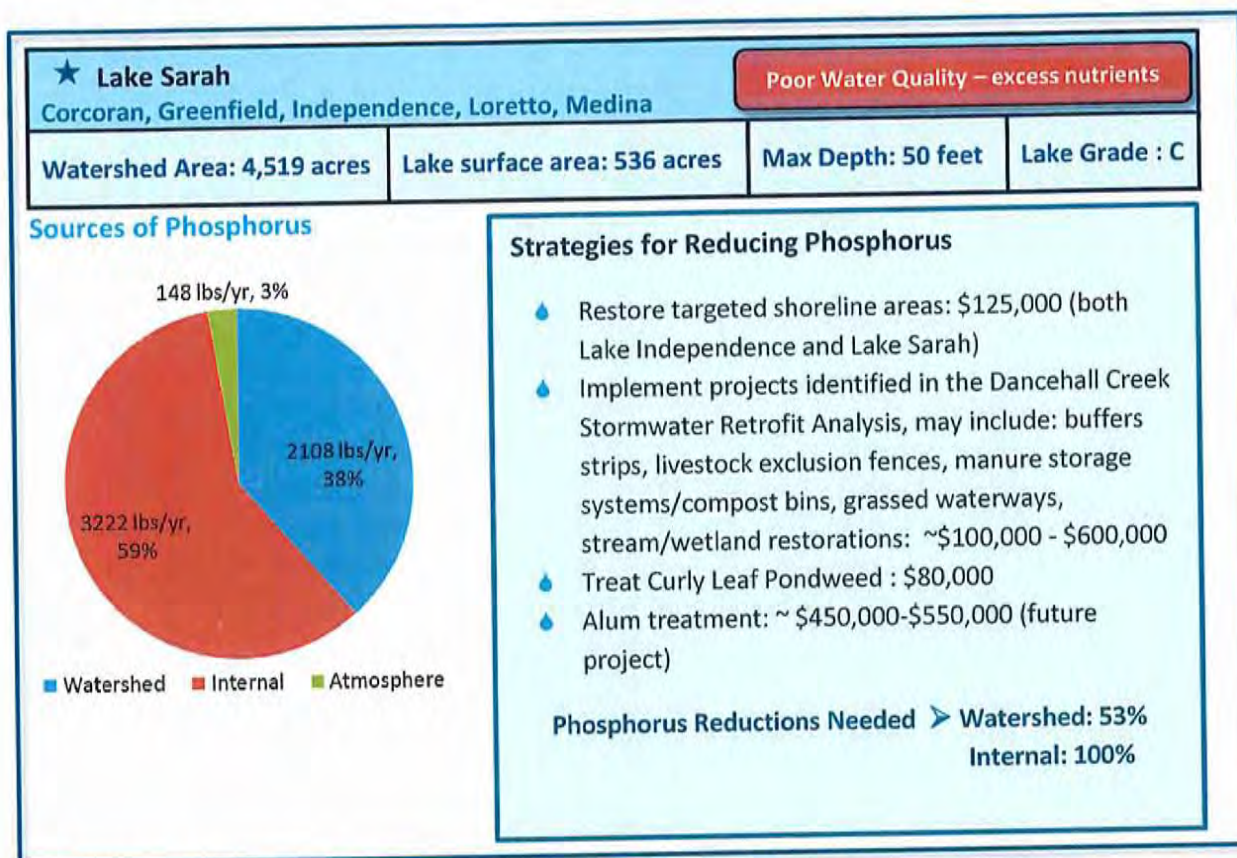
Some practices need to be implemented throughout the watershed, anywhere they can be. These practices have broad-scale benefits that will reduce pollution to all lakes and streams in the watershed. These watershed-wide activities include:

- 💧 Adoption and enforcement of livestock/manure management ordinance establishing standards for siting new or expanded non-food animal operations as per the Commission Watershed Management Plan
- 💧 Implement updated Commission standards for runoff volume and rate control for new development and redevelopment projects

Priority Lakes, Projects and Estimated Costs

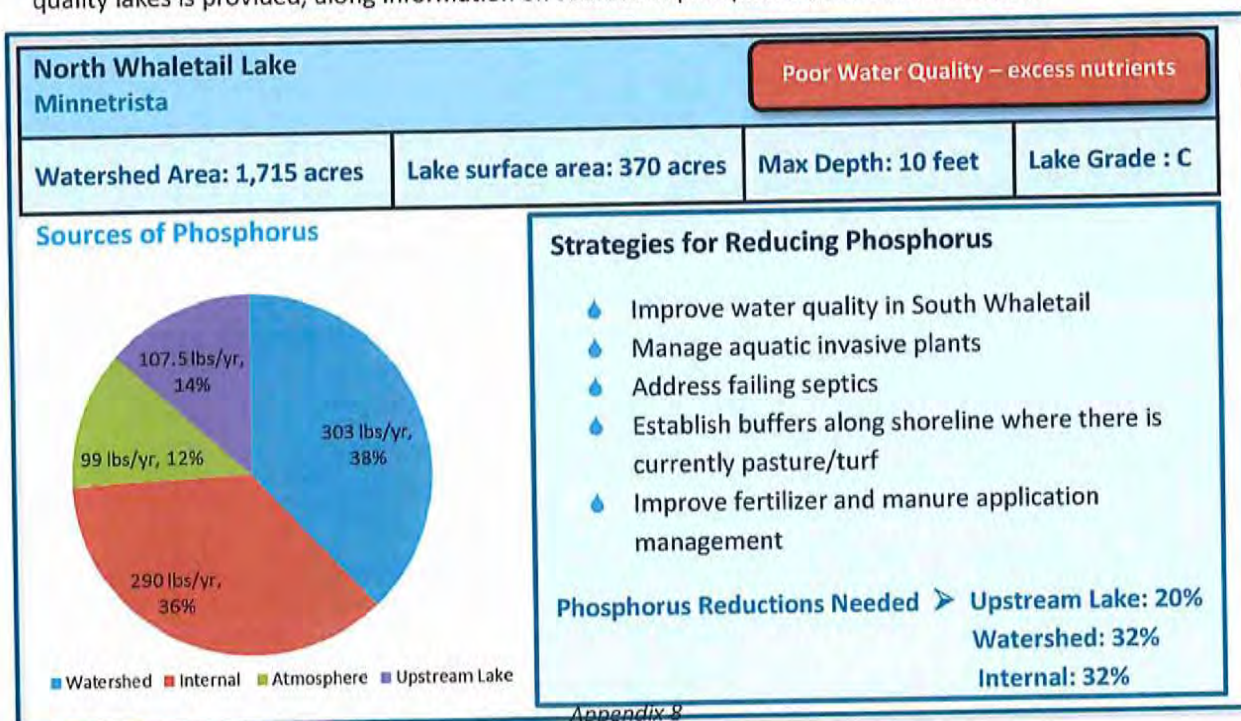
South Whaletail Lake, Lake Independence, and Lake Sarah have been identified as priority lakes where water quality improvement efforts will be focused over the next few years. For each priority lake, a list of proposed projects that are needed to help achieve water quality goals is provided, along with estimated associated costs, and phosphorus reduction goals.

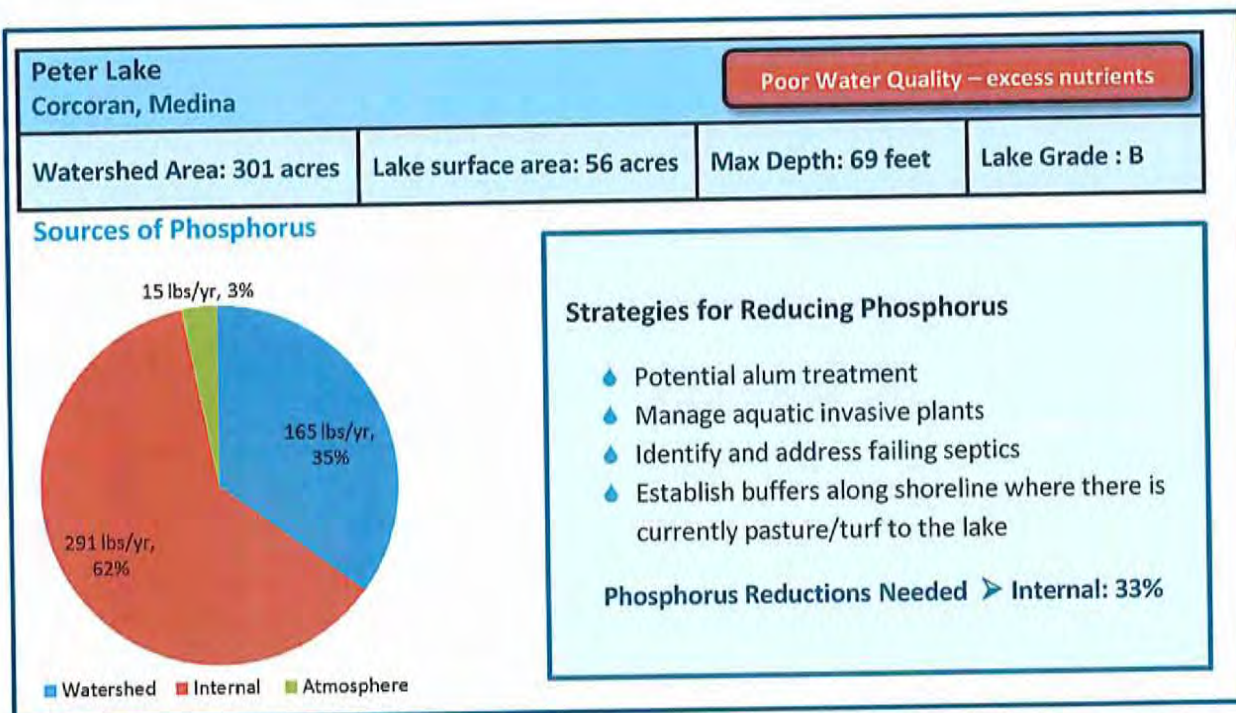
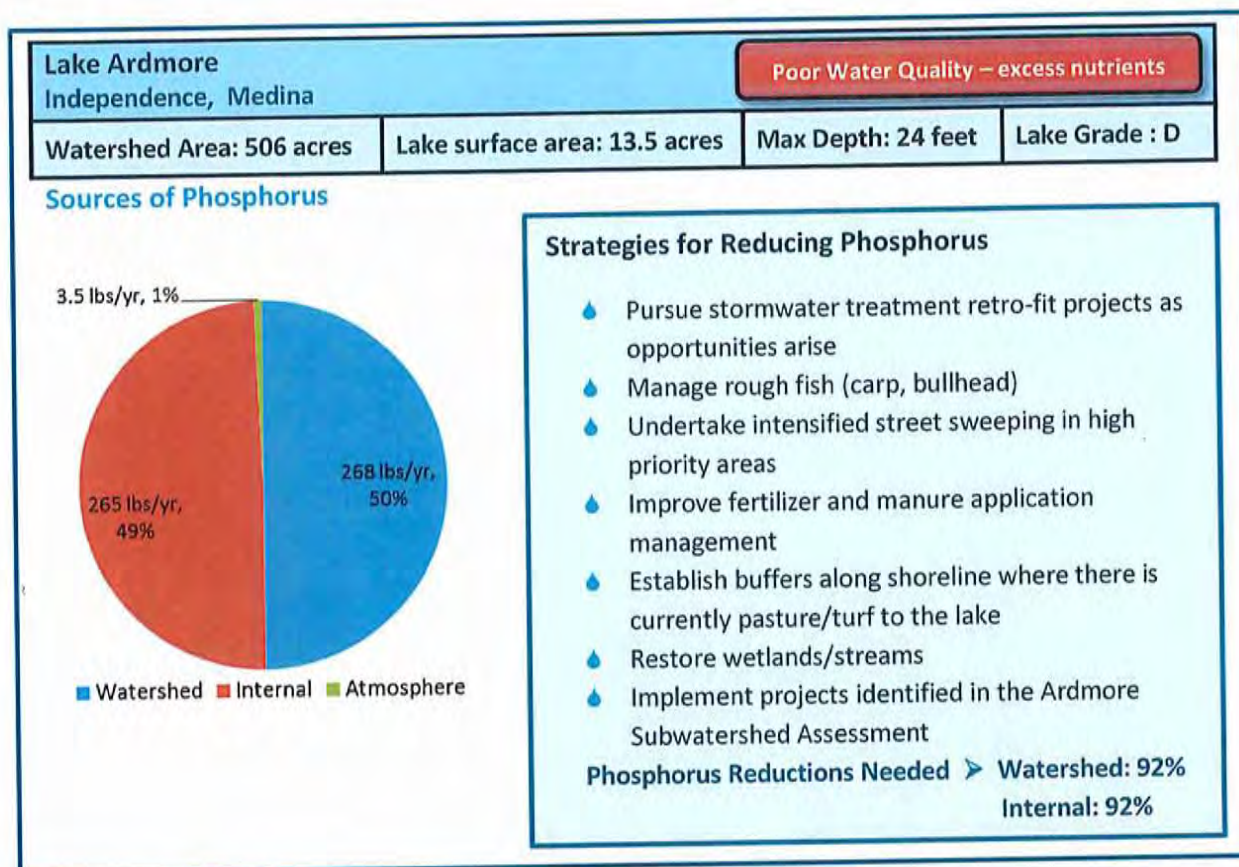


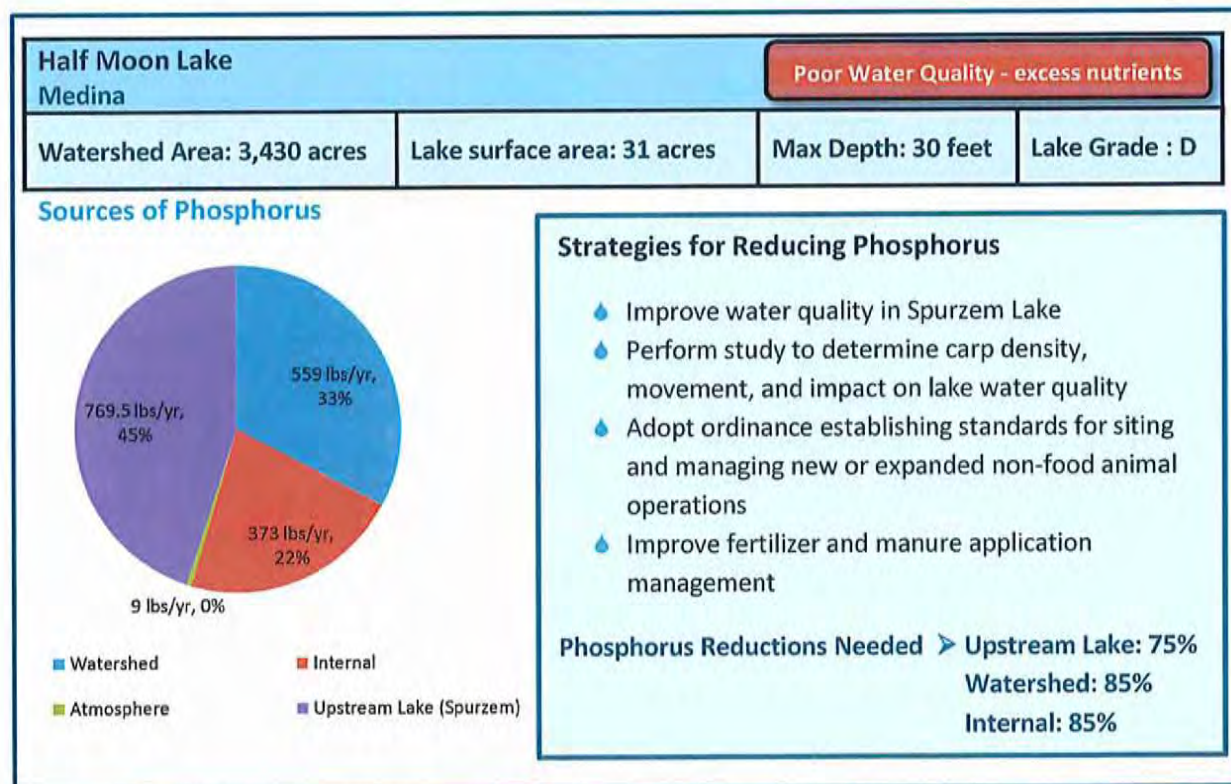
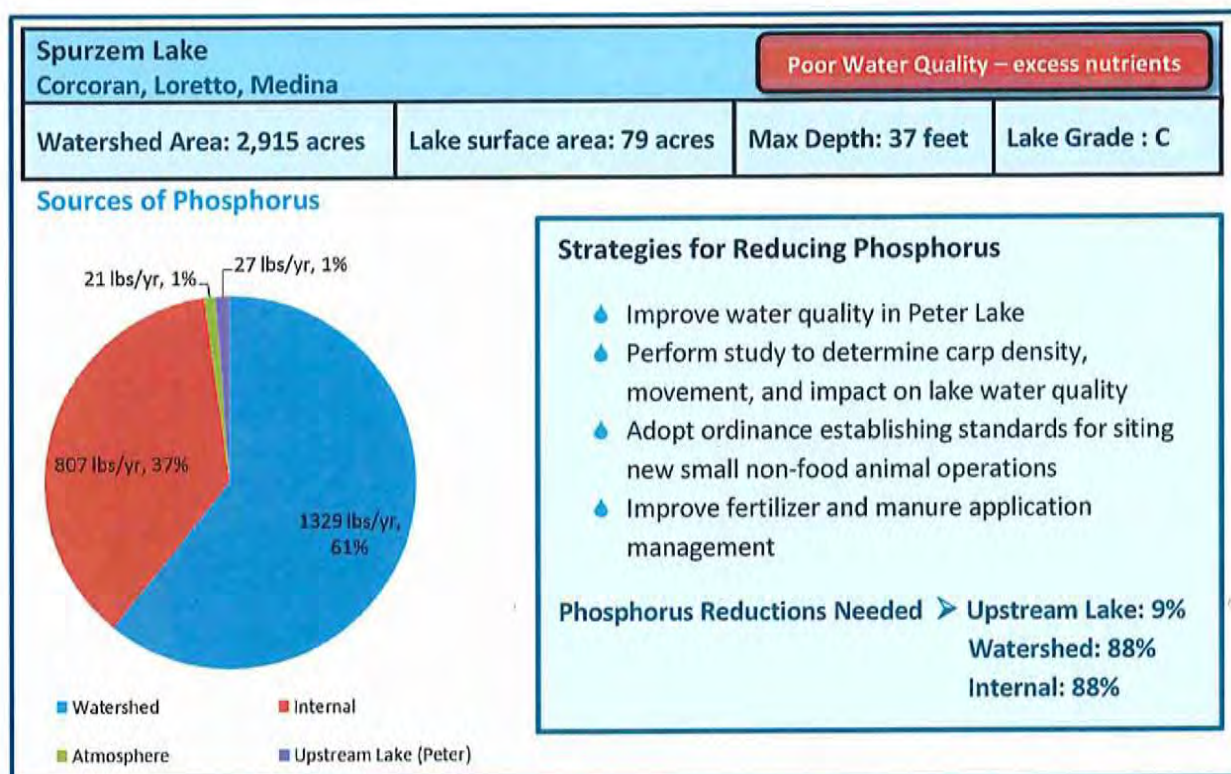


Additional Lakes and Proposed Strategies in the WRAPS

The following lakes and streams were also studied as part of the WRAPS project. For each lake and stream, a list of proposed projects that are needed to help achieve water quality goals or maintain good quality lakes is provided, along information on sources of phosphorus, and reduction goals.








Little Long Lake Minnetrista				Good Water Quality
Watershed Area: 92 acres	Lake surface area: 53.5 acres	Max Depth: 80.5 feet	Lake Grade : A	

Lake Rebecca Greenfield, Independence				Good Water Quality
Watershed Area: 1,277 acres	Lake surface area: 261 acres	Max Depth: 31 feet	Lake Grade : B	

Little Long Lake
Source: Three Rivers Park District




Protection Strategies

- Manage aquatic invasive plants
- Assess fish populations
- Continue monitoring

Streams and Proposed Strategies in the WRAPS

Streams			Poor Water Quality - bacteria, low dissolved oxygen
Pioneer Creek Independence, Maple Plain	Watershed area: 18,183 acres	Upstream Lake: Independence Downstream Lake: Ox Yoke	
Deer Creek Independence, Minnetrista	Watershed area: 4,937 acres	Upstream Lake: Whaletail Downstream Lake: Ox Yoke	
Unnamed Creek Minnetrista, Watertown	Watershed area: 9,669 acres	Upstream Lake: Mud Downstream Lake: Rice	
			Poor Water Quality - bacteria
Sarah Creek Greenfield	Watershed area: 5,831 acres	Upstream Lake: Sarah Downstream River: Crow	



Pioneer Creek
Source: Wenck Associates, Inc.

Strategies for Reducing Bacteria

- Install adequate buffers on streams and channels adjacent to animal operations/row crops to deter waterfowl congregation
- Improve manure management and storage
- Identify and address failing septic
- Exclude livestock on pastured stream miles
- Manage pet waste

Strategies for Reducing Phosphorus to Improve Dissolved Oxygen

- Address nutrient impairments in upstream lakes
- Continue monitoring

What can you do to help protect our lakes and streams?

- Manage animal feedlots, pasture, and manure according to guidance documents from the University of Minnesota Extension, US Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the MPCA
- Get involved in lake associations
- Maintain your septic system
- Install a raingarden or rain barrel to capture runoff from your roof and/or driveway
- Sweep up grass clippings, fertilizer, leaves, and extra sand and salt
- Clean up after your pets
- Learn about aquatic invasive species and how you can help to stop their spread
- Participate in CAMP (Metropolitan Council's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program), or MPCA's Lake or Stream Monitoring Program which relies on citizen volunteers to collect data

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

The Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment is funding a large part of the MPCA's watershed approach. www.pca.state.mn.us



City of Greenfield

**7738 Commerce Circle
Greenfield, Minnesota 55373
763-477-6464/Fax: 763-477-4172**

Email: cityhall@greenfield.govoffice.com
Web : greenfield.govoffice.com

March 27, 2017

Pioneer-Sarah Creek WMO
Attn: Judie A. Anderson, Deputy Treasurer
3235 Fernbrook Ln
Plymouth, MN 55447

To Whom it May Concern:

The City of Greenfield City Council is formally requesting to have all regular and special meetings of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek WMO audio taped, at minimum, and made available to the public.

Sincerely,



Margaret Webb
Deputy City Clerk
763-477-6464

MEMORANDUM

TO: Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission
FROM: James Kujawa, Hennepin County Dept. of Environment and Energy
DATE: April 12, 2017
SUBJECT: Staff Report

2013-04 Franklin Hills Second Addition, Independence. This is a 41-acre site located at the westerly terminus of Franklin Hills Road approximately one mile south of CR 11 on the west side of CR 90. There is currently one home site on this parcel. It is proposed to be subdivided into six residential lots. Grading is proposed for the extension of Franklin Hills Road into two cul-de-sacs, or approximately 1100 feet of public street access to the new lots. An existing pond will also be expanded during the grading process. Each home site will be graded individually when building permits are issued. At their September 2013 meeting, the Commission approved site plans with three conditions. These conditions have been met with the exception of the Commission's receipt of the final O&M plan recorded document. The developer and City are still working on finalizing the plat and recording of all documents, including the O&M plan. The City stated they will be recording the document and will provide a copy to the Commission. No new information has been received.

2016-05 Proto Labs Parking Lot Expansion, Maple Plain. Proto Labs is expanding their parking area into two vacant lots just east of their existing facility in the Maple Plain Industrial Park. The site is located just north of Highway 12. 2.79 acres of new impervious areas will be created with this expansion. Based on the Commission's stormwater management plan, this site must be reviewed for compliance to the Commission's stormwater management, grading and erosion control standards. No wetlands or floodplains are located in the expansion lots. The Commission approved this project contingent upon three conditions. One condition remains open: Receipt of an Operation and maintenance agreement on the biofiltration basin per Staff findings dated September 6, 2016. No new information has been received.

PIONEER-SARAH CREEK WATERSHED-WIDE TMDL AND WRAPS

Both the WRAPS Plan and TMDL study were available for a 30-day stakeholder review until March 8, 2017. Both reports are available on the Commission's website at <http://www.pioneersarahcreek.org/wraps.html> and on the MPCA website at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/pioneer-sarah-creek-watershed-restoration-and-protection-strategy-tmdl-project>. As of March 8, only one comment letter, from the City of Corcoran, had been received.

LOCAL WATER PLANS.

Per the amended MN Rule 8410.0105, subp. 9, and 8410.0160, subp. 6, Local Water Plans must be prepared by metropolitan cities and towns and must become part of their local comprehensive plans. They must be revised essentially once every ten years in alignment with the local comprehensive plan schedule. A municipality has two years prior to its local comprehensive plan being due to adopt its local water plan. The next local comprehensive plans are due December 31, 2018; thus all cities and towns in the seven-county metropolitan area must complete and adopt their local plans between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2018. Thereafter, add ten years to each of the previous dates. Local water plans may be updated more frequently by a municipality at its discretion. The Commission's Third Generation WMC was approved by BWSR on January 28, 2015.

Loretto's draft local surface water management plan was received January 6, 2017. Staff provided comments to Loretto on February 10, 2017. **Revisions to Loretto's plan were received on March 29 and again on April 6. All the Commission's concerns from the original submittal in January have been addressed. Staff recommends the Commission approve Loretto's Local Surface Water Management Plan dated April 6, 2017.**

Draft plans have not been received from the other members.

BUFFERS IN THE WATERSHED

Kirsten Barta, Rural Conservationist at HCEE, conducted an initial buffer analysis of the Pioneer-Sarah Creek watershed. She identified the following:

- 54 total parcels in watershed
- 14 compliant so far
- 10 conditionally compliant (they need to make changes and are being trusted to do so)

2 requiring NRCS confirmation of CRP enrollment
7 pending site visits (as of April 10, 2017)
21 with no response at this time

Non-responders merely will not have their status changed on the map sent to the state, a follow up letter will be sent to them just prior to Nov 1 to remind them. Otherwise Barta will check back with them during annual review. Any complaints raised against landowners may be investigated by BWSR after Nov 1.

Steinke dairy farm nutrient calculations – updated numbers and calculations will be provided at meeting once farm practices confirmed with producer. Looking at closer to 100lbs of P and maybe 20% of that would directly have entered the lake.

Other:

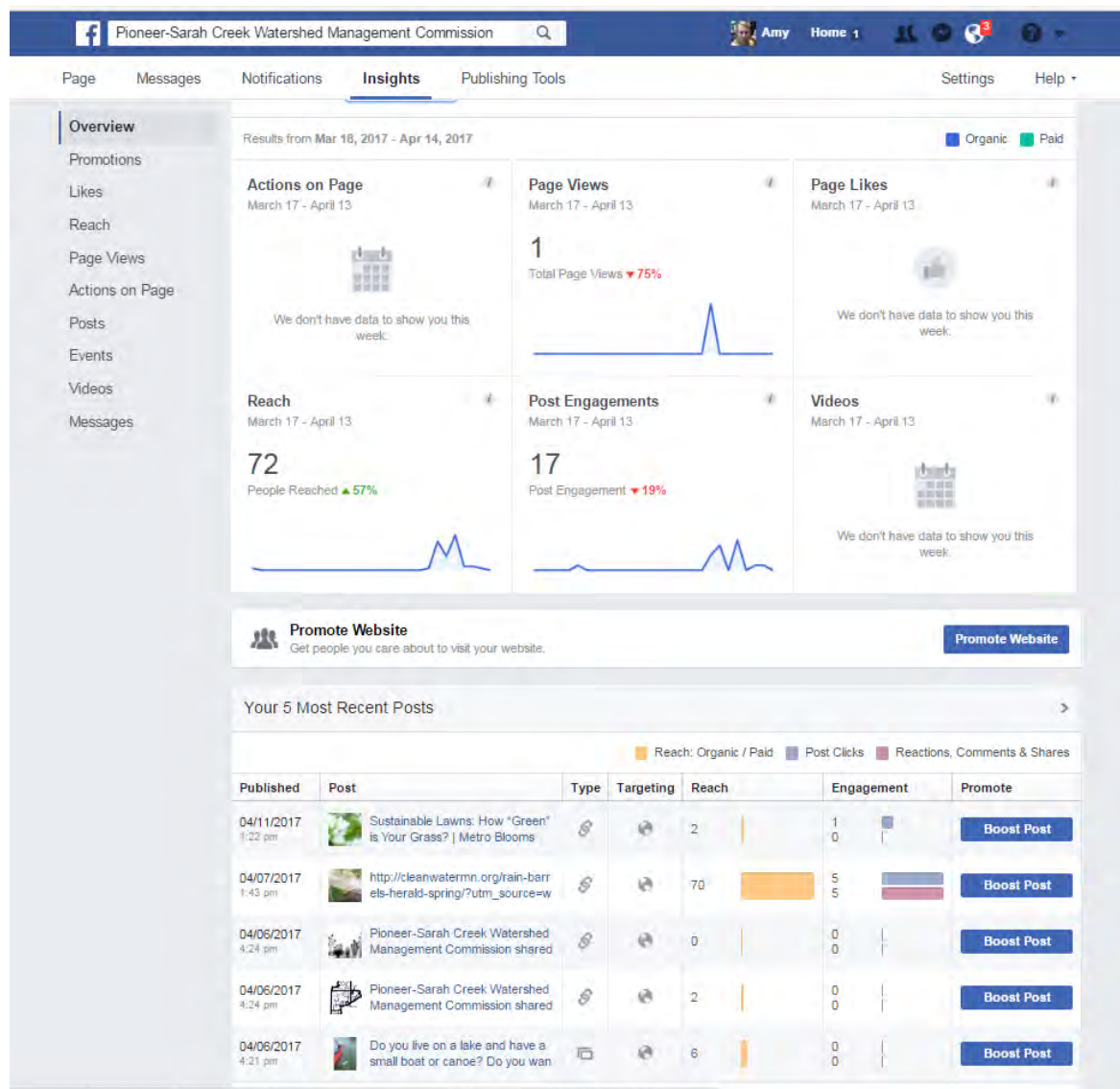
- Responding to different landowner concerns such as ditch status, invasive species, ponding, drainage, crop management, wetlands, etc.
- County Landowner Guide to receive update May/June
- Conservationist to design, research, and produce a horse owner guide book of best practices for nutrient management. Targeted completion: fall 2017
- Potential location of cost share project within watershed, more details to follow if it pans out
- County will be applying for the MDH well sealing grant this year. 50/50 cost share

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FaceBook and Website staticstics – March 18-April 14

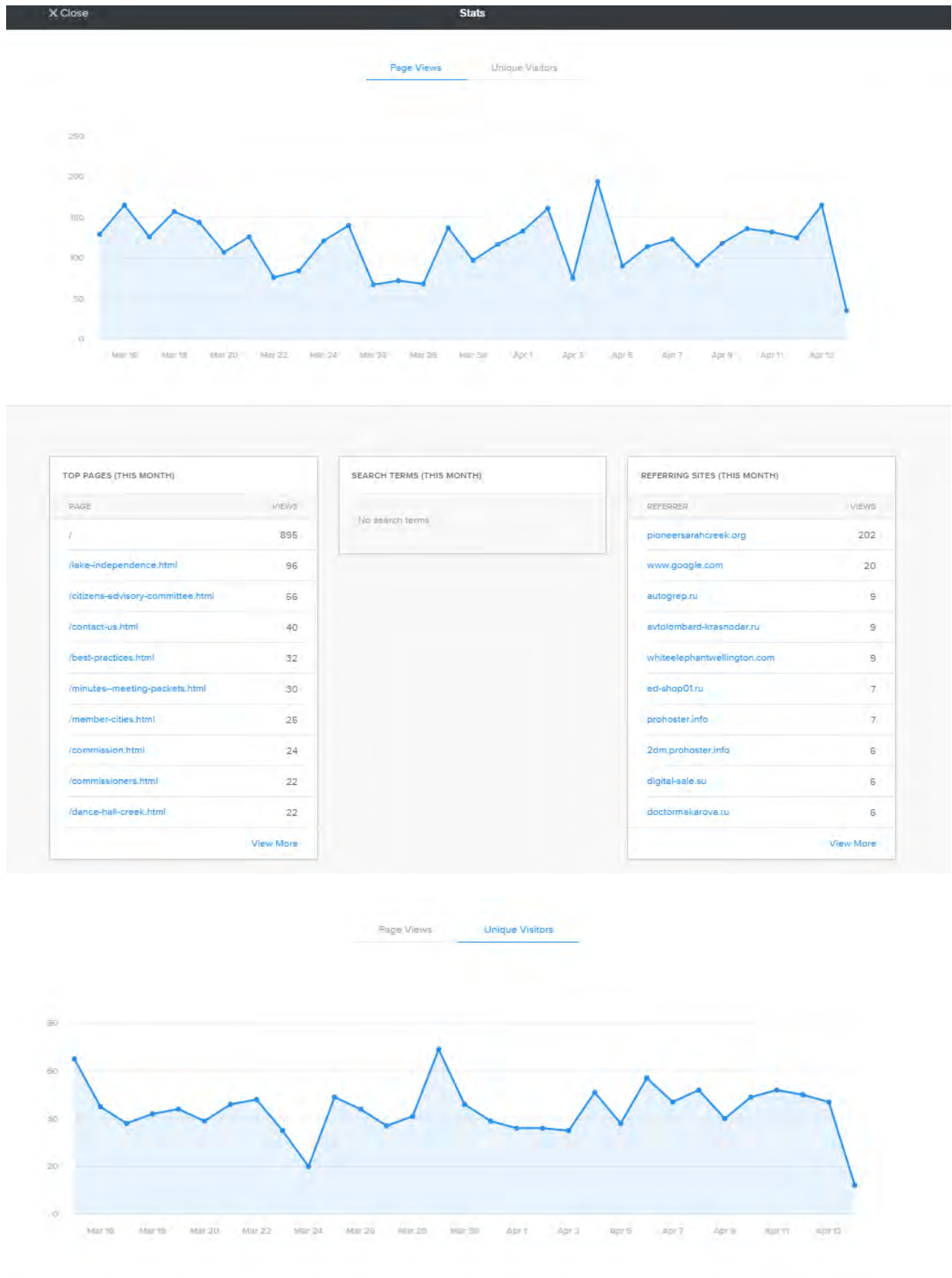
Facebook: as of April 14, 2017 – 12 total Likes

Maximum post reach is 72 (appeared on the newsfeed of 72 users). Maximum post engagement is 17 (people clicked through to blog, liked, commented, or shared the post).



Website statistics – March 15-April 14

896 total page views. 337 Unique visitors



TO: Judie Anderson, Administrator
Pioneer Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission

FROM: Rich Brasch, Sr. Manager of Water Resources
Three Rivers Parks District

RE: Retirement

DATE: March 20, 2017

I wanted to let you and the Commission know that I am planning to retire from the Park District, with my anticipated last day in the office on Friday, June 30. I want to assure you and the Commission that the Park District remains committed to its long-term partnership with the Commission. The District is especially committed to doing everything it can to assure successful completion of the joint projects in which the District is involved with the Commission and its member communities. Natural Resources Director Angie Smith intends to try to fill the Senior Manager position so there is some overlap between me and my replacement to assure as smooth a transition as possible.

I've very much enjoyed my time working with you and the Commission and feel that the work that has been done over the last several years has laid the groundwork for some good opportunities to substantially improve the quality of key water resources in the Commission's jurisdiction. That is a fun and gratifying prospect, and I wish you and the Commission the best in helping make it happen. Believe me when I say part of me wishes I was going to be around to help lead those efforts, but I think things are headed in the right direction and the time and conditions are right for me to switch gears and pursue some new adventures. I wish you all the best.



March 29, 2017

Dear Members of the Minnesota Senate:

We, the undersigned organizations and the citizens we represent, ask you vote NO on the Senate Omnibus Environment and Natural Resources Budget Bill, S.F. 723. We do not make this request lightly. This bill will roll back environmental protections and erode the basic foundation of Minnesota's legacy of protecting our Great Outdoors. The bill contains many provisions that undo existing protections and make it more costly and time consuming to adopt new protections for our state's air, land, lakes, rivers and streams.

In addition, at a time when the state's coffers are full, this bill makes historic cuts, effectively raiding \$40 million in general public support from the core work of protecting our Great Outdoors. The impacts of this nearly 13% cut in support will be compounded if the significant cuts in grant funds to the state, proposed by the Trump Administration, are adopted. These combined cuts threaten the long term viability of major areas of work for the citizens of our state.

This bill is out of sync with Minnesota voters. Just last month, our extensive statewide issue poll found that 20% of voters think our environmental laws are at the right levels and fully 62%, from all corners of the state, would like to see environmental laws be made tougher or enforced better. Yet this bill goes in the opposite direction.

Senate File 723 includes a large number of policy provisions that obstruct or prohibit the state agencies, charged with protecting our water and controlling pollution, from carrying out their functions and duties. Some of these duties are delegated to Minnesota under the Federal Clean Water Act, and legislative action interfering with the state's ability to carry out delegated duties puts Minnesota at odds with the Clean Water Act.

Though what follows is not a comprehensive list, we are deeply concerned that this bill:

Unravels Buffer Protections for Habitat and Water Quality (Art. 2, Sec. 74, Lines 23, 28-29 (p. 67), Lines 20-21 (p. 68); Sec. 75, Lines 3-5 (p. 69) and 9-12 (p. 70).)

- Limits the 50-foot buffer requirement to only those waterways that have a shoreland classification, leaving all other waterways subject to only the 16.5 foot buffer requirement. This exempts 200,000 acres and 24,000 miles of watercourses from 50-foot buffer requirements, rolling back water protections that were in place before passage of the 2015 buffer law.

- Eliminates the buffer requirement altogether unless the state or federal government pays for the entire cost of establishing the buffer as well as annual payments or an easement for the land.
- Delays implementation of the Buffer Law for 2 years, despite Board of Water and Soil (BWSR) and local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) reports that most counties already have 60 – 100% compliance with the law.

Hobbles the MPCA and DNR from carrying out their duties. (Art. 3, Sec. 4 & 14):

- Bars the MPCA from enforcing against any permittee or polluter any guidance, policy, or interpretation that meets the definition of a rule under Minn. Stat. 14.02, without first conducting full Chapter 14 rulemaking, and creates a presumption against the agency in any challenges alleging that MPCA is enforcing an unadopted rule. The guidance, policy, and other interpretations provided by the MPCA is intended to answer common questions, typically from regulated parties, about how the MPCA's rules and state law would be applied, without resorting to court action.
- Establishes presumption that DNR and PCA guidance documents are invalid, unpromulgated "rules." This makes environmental regulation much more complex, time consuming and expensive – it's the opposite of streamlining. It also invites litigation. Guidance documents that are truly being used inappropriately can already be challenged in court under existing law.

Takes the science out of agency decisions. (Art 3, Sec. 9, Line 107.25-11.6):

- Eliminates deference to PCA's science when a water quality decision is challenged, and creates a special process for municipalities to end run existing expertise and challenge agency decisions. This is a favor for a few municipalities that want to re-fight a losing battle over the state's river eutrophication standards. Their science and arguments haven't held up in front of agencies or courts, and this section creates a new opportunity to rehash the same arguments at taxpayer expense.

Delays actions to clean-up polluted drinking water. (Art. 2, Sec. 114, Line 100.27-101.6):

- Exempts cities that build new facilities from future technology updates to meet standards for clean water for 16 years. This provision broadly delays actions to clean-up pollution and creates more uncertainty for operators because it puts state-issued water pollution permits at odds with federal Clean Water Act requirements.

Suspends water quality standards and rules. (Art. 3., Sec. 18, line 122.10-122.20):

- Suspends water quality standards adopted between mid-2014 and mid-2019 if a facility would have to make updates to protect water quality. This section aims to block standards that protect rivers from algae-causing pollution and new standards proposed for pollutants such as sulfate or nitrate. This could lead MPCA to rely more on less-certain narrative standards, and put MPCA at odds with the Clean Water Act, which requires compliance with EPA-approved standards such as the river eutrophication standard.

Doubles the size a large feedlot can be before mandatory environmental review is required from 1,000 animal units to 2,000 in virtually all cases. (Art. 3, Sec. 15, lines 119.23-119.27):

- Removes the requirements for a mandatory environmental assessment worksheet for an animal feedlot facility with a capacity of less than 2,000 animal units, unless the feedlot will be in an environmentally sensitive area. The current standard is very generous impacting only the largest 7% of feedlots in our state and is so large that only 9 factory farms were required to do an environmental review in 2016.

Eliminates public participation in mining permits (DNR). (Art. 3, Sec. 6):

- Eliminates the right of affected citizens and local governments to have a “contested case” on mining permits. A contested case is an opportunity to present evidence, question industry and agency experts, and build a solid record to support smart decisions, including how lands can be reclaimed and what type and amount of financial assurance should be required from mining companies. Since 1969 this has been a right of citizens, guaranteeing public participation in important decisions that affect the whole state.

Allows corporations to write their own environmental impact statements. (Art. 3, Sec. 17):

- Puts the fox in charge of the hen house, allowing corporations to author their own environmental impact statements and restricting the government’s role to “review, modification and determination of completeness and adequacy” of an EIS. This is antithetical to the whole point of environmental review, which is to allow the regulator (and public) to gather information about environmentally destructive projects and alternatives. It also prevents the public from accessing all of the underlying data and analyses that support the EIS because private companies are not subject to data practices laws.

Requires DNR and PCA to issue draft permits within 150 days. (Art. 3, Sec. 1 & 11):

- DNR and PCA are already issuing more than 90% of permits in line with statutory streamlining goals. This mandate is a one-size-fits-all requirement that does not recognize that some projects are located in sensitive areas or are simply too big or too complex to be permitted within such a short period.

Removes requirement to adopt air quality rules for silica sand. (Art. 2, Sec. 107):

- Removes the requirement that the MPCA must develop ambient air quality standards for frac sand mines. Long-term low level exposure to silica dust can cause silicosis, which is fatal.

Prohibits rules regarding use of lead shot. (Art.2, S. 59):

- Restricts the DNR from using existing authorities to reduce non-target mortality of birds (including Bald Eagles) and wildlife exposed to lead shot. Steel shot is readily available, performs similarly as lead, costs the same or less, and is non-toxic to birds and wildlife that ingest it. Modern ballistics have developed many superior ammunition loads and restricting the use of toxic lead shot makes environmental sense and does not impact Second Amendment rights.

Interferes with science-based forest planning process at Sand Dunes State Forest. (Art. 2, Sec. 113):

- This provision does an end run around the existing well-established, science-based forest planning process that includes the involvement of local representatives. It also suspends the authority to restore any part of the forest to native oak savannah, of which less than 1% of Minnesota's original oak savannah forest remains.

Prohibits local government from banning or placing fees on plastic bags. (Art. 2, Sec. 105):

- Banning or charging a fee on plastic bags is a proven effective method of reducing air and water pollution, protects wildlife and human health by keeping plastic out of our food stream and can provide significant economic savings to communities. Local communities have already democratically voted to implement a bag ban, and this pre-emption bill erodes local control and overrides the political will of the residents.

Lastly we would like to object to the insertion of the large amount of unrelated policy language into this biennial appropriations bill. This action ignores the strong objection Governor Dayton expressed in his letter to Senator Gazelka on March 13, 2017. As many of the policy provisions that have been added to this bill are highly unpopular with the voting public, this combining of budget and policy provisions allows these issues to avoid the public process and scrutiny they would receive otherwise. These unpopular issues should be required to stand on their own as separate policy bills.

This bill is not right for the shared legacy of Minnesota's Great Outdoors and it is not acceptable to Minnesota voters. Please vote no on SF 723.



Steve Morse

Minnesota Environmental Partnership

Alliance for Sustainability
Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis
Center for Biological Diversity
CURE (Clean Up the River Environment)
Friends of Minnesota Scientific & Natural Areas
Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness
Friends of the Cloquet Valley State Forest
Friends of the Mississippi River
Institute for Local Self Reliance
Izaak Walton League – Minnesota Division
Land Stewardship Project
League of Women Voters Minnesota

Lower Phalen Creek Project
Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy
Minnesota Conservation Federation
Minnesota Native Plant Society
Minnesota Ornithologists Union
Minnesota River Valley Audubon Chapter
MN 350
Pesticide Action Network
Pollinate Minnesota
Renewing the Countryside
Save Our Sky Blue Waters
Sierra Club – North Star Chapter
Transit for Livable Communities



March 30, 2017

Dear Members of the Minnesota House:

We, the undersigned organizations and the citizens we represent, ask you to vote NO on the Omnibus Environment and Natural Resources Budget Bill, H.F. 888. We do not make this request lightly. This bill will roll back environmental protections and erode the basic foundation of Minnesota's legacy of protecting our Great Outdoors. The bill contains many provisions that undo existing protections and make it more costly and time consuming to adopt new protections for our state's air, land, lakes, rivers and streams.

In addition, at a time when the state's coffers are full, this bill makes historic cuts, effectively raiding \$21 million in general public support from the core work of protecting our Great Outdoors. The impacts of this nearly 7% cut in support will be compounded if the significant cuts in grant funds to the state, proposed by the Trump Administration, are adopted. These combined cuts threaten the long term viability of major areas of work for the citizens of our state.

This bill is out of sync with Minnesota voters. Just last month, our extensive statewide issue poll found that 20% of voters think our environmental laws are at the right levels and fully 62%, from all corners of the state, would like to see environmental laws be made tougher or enforced better. Yet this bill goes in the opposite direction.

House File 888 includes a large number of policy provisions that obstruct or prohibit the state agencies, charged with protecting our water and controlling pollution, from carrying out their functions and duties. Some of these duties are delegated to Minnesota under the Federal Clean Water Act, and legislative action interfering with the state's ability to carry out delegated duties puts Minnesota at odds with the Clean Water Act.

Though what follows is not a comprehensive list, we are deeply concerned that this bill:

Unravels Buffer Protections for Habitat and Water Quality (Art. 2, Sec. 80, 81.)

- Limits the 50-foot buffer requirement to only those waterways that have a shoreland classification, leaving all other waterways subject to only the 16.5 foot buffer requirement. This exempts 200,000 acres and 24,000 miles of watercourses from 50-foot buffer requirements, rolling back water protections that were in place before passage of the 2015 buffer law.
- Eliminates the buffer requirement altogether unless the state or federal government pays for the entire cost of establishing the buffer.

- Delays implementation of 50-foot buffers for one year, despite Board of Water and Soil (BWSR) and local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) reports that most counties already have 60 – 100% compliance with the law.

Hobbles the MPCA and DNR from carrying out their duties. (Art. 2, Sec. 6, 110, 111):

- Bars the MPCA and DNR from enforcing against any permittee or polluter any guidance, policy, or interpretation that meets the definition of a rule under Minn. Stat. 14.02, without first conducting full Chapter 14 rulemaking, and creates a presumption against the agency in any challenges alleging that MPCA is enforcing an unadopted rule. The guidance, policy, and other interpretations provided by the MPCA is intended to answer common questions, typically from regulated parties, about how the MPCA's rules and state law would be applied, without resorting to court action.
- Establishes presumption that DNR and PCA guidance documents are invalid, unpromulgated "rules." This makes environmental regulation much more complex, time consuming and expensive – it's the opposite of streamlining. It also invites litigation. Guidance documents that are truly being used inappropriately can already be challenged in court under existing law.

Takes the science out of agency decisions. (Art 2, Sec. 98):

- Eliminates deference to PCA's science when a water quality decision is challenged, and creates a special process for municipalities to end run existing expertise and challenge agency decisions. This is a favor for a few municipalities that want to re-fight a losing battle over the state's river eutrophication standards. Their science and arguments haven't held up in front of agencies or courts, and this section creates a new opportunity to rehash the same arguments at taxpayer expense.

Delays actions to clean-up polluted drinking water. (Art. 2, Sec. 132):

Exempts cities that build new facilities from future technology updates to meet standards for clean water for 16 years. This provision broadly delays actions to clean-up pollution and creates more uncertainty for operators because it puts state-issued water pollution permits at odds with federal Clean Water Act requirements.

Eliminates public participation in mining permits (DNR). (Art. 2, Sec. 51, 52):

- Limits the right of affected citizens and local governments to have a "contested case" hearing on mining permits, allowing it only for adjacent property owners and affected governments. A contested case is an opportunity to present evidence, question industry and agency experts, and build a solid record to support smart decisions, including how lands can be reclaimed and what type and amount of financial assurance should be required from mining companies. Since 1969 this has been a right of citizens, guaranteeing public participation in important decisions that affect the whole state.

Allows corporations to write their own environmental impact statements. (Art. 2, Sec. 117, Lines 106.2 – 106.27):

- Puts the fox in charge of the hen house, allowing corporations to author their own environmental impact statements and restricting the government's role to "review, modification and determination of completeness and adequacy" of an EIS. This is antithetical to the whole point of environmental review, which is to allow the regulator (and public) to gather information about environmentally destructive projects and alternatives. It also prevents the public from accessing all of the underlying data and analyses that support the EIS because private companies are not subject to data practices laws.

Undermines effective environmental review by requiring agencies to begin action on permits before environmental review is complete. (Art. 2, Sec. 115, 105.8 – 105.11)

- This undermines the core purpose of environmental review which is to do an assessment of potential environmental harm to see if it can be mitigated through conditions on the permit. To be effective, action on the permit must wait until environmental review is complete.

Requires DNR and PCA to issue draft permits within 150 days. (Art. 2, Sec. 3, 106):

- DNR and PCA are already issuing more than 90% of permits in line with statutory streamlining goals. This mandate is a one-size-fits-all requirement that does not recognize that some projects are located in sensitive areas or are simply too big or too complex to be permitted within such a short period.

Eliminates requirement to adopt air quality rules and environmental review standards for frac sand facilities. (Art. 2, Sec. 121, Lines 108.1-108.17):

- Removes the requirement that the MPCA must develop ambient air quality standards for frac sand mines. Long-term low level exposure to silica dust can cause silicosis, which is fatal.

Prohibits rules regarding use of lead shot. (Art.2, S. 71):

- Restricts the DNR from using existing authorities to reduce non-target mortality of birds (including Bald Eagles) and wildlife exposed to lead shot. Steel shot is readily available, performs similarly as lead, costs the same or less, and is non-toxic to birds and wildlife that ingest it. Modern ballistics have developed many superior ammunition loads and restricting the use of toxic lead shot makes environmental sense and does not impact Second Amendment rights.

Interferes with science-based forest planning process at Sand Dunes State Forest.

(Art. 2, Sec. 126, Lines 110.17 – 111.13):

- This provision does an end run around the existing well-established, science-based forest planning process that includes the involvement of local representatives. It also suspends the authority to restore any part of the forest to native oak savannah, of which less than 1% of Minnesota's original oak savannah forest remains. Finally, it improperly delegates approval of the state forest plan to an unspecified county board.

Lastly we would like to object to the insertion of the large amount of unrelated policy language into this biennial appropriations bill. This action ignores the strong objection Governor Dayton expressed in his letter to Speaker Daudt on March 13, 2017. As many of the policy provisions that have been added to this bill are highly unpopular with the voting public, this combining of budget and policy provisions allows these issues to avoid the public process and scrutiny they would receive otherwise. These unpopular issues should be required to stand on their own as separate policy bills.

This bill is not right for the shared legacy of Minnesota's Great Outdoors and it is not acceptable to Minnesota voters. Please vote no on HF888.



Steve Morse

Minnesota Environmental Partnership

Alliance for Sustainability
 Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis
 Center for Biological Diversity
 Clean Water Action
 CURE (Clean Up the River Environment)
 Friends of Minnesota Scientific & Natural Areas
 Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness
 Friends of the Cloquet Valley State Forest
 Friends of the Mississippi River
 Institute for Local Self Reliance
 Izaak Walton League – Minnesota Division
 Land Stewardship Project
 League of Women Voters Minnesota
 Lower Phalen Creek Project

Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy
 Minnesota Conservation Federation
 Minnesota Native Plant Society
 Minnesota Ornithologists Union
 Minnesota River Valley Audubon Chapter
 Minnesota Trout Unlimited
 MN 350
 Pesticide Action Network
 Pollinate Minnesota
 Renewing the Countryside
 Save Our Sky Blue Waters
 Sierra Club – North Star Chapter
 Transit for Livable Communities
 Water Legacy