

Please complete and submit to your project manager.

Reporting Period: January 1 through June 30 (Due August 1)
 July 1 through December 31 (Due February 1)

All information is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Do not leave blanks (unless otherwise noted). This report form can be typed using your computer. Use the "tab" key to move through the fields of this form. Enter responses using text and check boxes as indicated. Keep a copy for your records.

I. General report information

1. Project title: Mississippi River St. Cloud Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) Cycle 2, Phase I
2. Project sponsor (Grantee): Sherburne Soil & Water Conservation District
3. Contact name: Francine Larson
4. Email address: flarson@sherburneswcd.org
5. Funding: 319 CWP Loan Clean Water Fund Other: _____
6. Contract number: 155009
7. MPCA Project Manager: Phil Votruba
8. Effective date (mm/dd/yyyy): 4/15/2019 Expiration date (mm/dd/yyyy): 12/31/2020

II. Semi-annual report information

1. Project activities completed during last six (6) months according to the program objectives or tasks (please be specific):

The project partners met in late August and held conference calls in mid-November and mid-January to touch base on the project. These discussions included administration items (sub-contract approval, budgetary items and discussion of Phase II of the project, the WRAPS I strategy table review process, ideas for outreach, and a summary of the monitoring projects. The group defined a process for reviewing the strategy tables which would produce a visual outcome, as opposed to a large table which was seen to be difficult to process and utilize. A Google document was created for each partner to input information from their region. Regarding outreach, it was determined that the partnership would try to hold a booth at a large local event. Two events were selected - the Stearns County Shoreland Workshop (January 2020) and the Central MN Farm Show (February 2020). Additional outreach would be conducted with lake associations, such as the Sherburne County Coalition of Lake Associations annual event in May 2020. Booth materials and a survey were being created at the time of this report compilation which would inform the public as well as allow for input on resource needs and challenges in the watershed.

2. List all products (documents, pamphlets, videos, maps, etc.) produced in this reporting period:

The products produced in this period include an informative booth that includes information about WRAPS, the watershed, local examples of conservation work, and contact information for each agency. A survey was developed for booth visitors to complete which will provide the partnership with information from contractors, the agricultural community and the lake / river community on resource challenges, needs, and other topics.

3. Challenges faced (optional):

Since the WRAPS I project, occurring 10 years ago, we have since moved from evaluating our MRSC watershed by 11-digit HUC subwatersheds to 12-digit HUC subwatersheds. This posed a challenge for the group in evaluating the strategy tables. Additionally, some of the GIS layers from the first project was not able to be located so we are starting over again with some of this spatial data.

4. Summary of monitoring data collected (if applicable):

Two monitoring projects were completed as part of this effort - Plum Creek bacteria monitoring in Stearns County (Stearns SWCD) and Briggs Lake Bayou flow and water quality monitoring (Sherburne SWCD). In 2019, volunteers with the Briggs Chain Lake Association collected hundreds of water level readings while MPCA collected periodic flow data, these data were used by Sherburne SWCD to develop a flow rating curve. WRAPS funding was used for laboratory analysis for total

phosphorus, dissolved phosphorus and total suspended solids. The purpose of this monitoring is to gain an understanding of the flow conditions on this intermittent "stream" which is actually a wetland complex that flows when the nearby Elk River overtops its banks. The water quality in this area was shown to be poor (high in phosphorus) and the flow rate high (exceeding 600 cfs on one occasion) following rain events. This has major implications for the health of the Briggs Lake and flood conditions. The Plum Creek funding helped to pay for laboratory samples of E.coli bacteria that were collected this summer. A partnership of Lynden Township representatives, Stearns SWCD, MPCA, University of Minnesota and St. John's University as well as local landowners have been examining the quality of Plum Creek and developing bacteria reduction projects in the watershed for some number of years. Their efforts have paid off; in late 2019 it was announced that the E.coli levels in the stream have reached a safe threshold and that stream is to be recommended for impairment delisting.

- 4a. **Have all monitoring stations been established in EQuls?** Yes No N/A
 4b. **Are the data being routinely submitted for storage into EQuls?** Yes No NA

If yes, last submittal date (mm/dd/yyyy): 1/23/2020

5. **Are the Best Management Practices data being annually entered into eLINK?** Yes No N/A

If yes, date last entered (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

6. **Describe specific (quantifiable, if possible) results achieved during this period:**

n/a

Phosphorus Load Reduction: _____ lbs./year

Nitrogen Load Reduction: _____ lbs./year

Sediment Load Reduction: _____ lbs./year

7. **Did the MPCA execute a change order or amendment for this project during this reporting period?** No Yes

If yes, summarize those changes:

- 8 **List anticipated program objectives or tasks to be completed during the next six (6) months please be specific):**

It is anticipated that in the next six months the partnership will carry-out the planned outreach events (Stearns County Shoreland Workshop on January 30, Central MN Farm Show on February 25, Sherburne County COLA Annual Event in late May and perhaps other lake association outreach). The group has a tentative deadline set for mid-February of completing the Strategy Table review for their respective areas, following completion of this step the data will be integrated into a visual map showing achievements and areas for improvement in the watershed. The group will spend time preparing for Cycle 2, Phase 2.

III. Expenditure information for this period

Provide a copy of your workplan budget showing cumulative expenditures and budget balances by workplan objective and task. Also, fill out the summary below.

Expenditure report attached

Complete the table below:	Amount
Total grant amount	\$20,000
Total match amount (if applicable)	n/a
Total project amount	\$20,000
Grant expenditures this period	\$9,099.53
Match expenditures this period (if applicable)	n/a
Cumulative grant expenditures to date	\$9,099.53
Cumulative match expenditures to date (if applicable)	n/a
Total cumulative expenditures to date	\$9,099.53

Date form completed (mm/dd/yyyy): 1/27/2020