

Annual Report

General Section

Overview: Partner Responsibility

1. Provide a brief narrative describing project progress over the past year. What project milestones were achieved?

This report summarizes activities and partner contributions between January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2025. We had two sign-ups for financial assistance (FA), both held in 2022 with the total requested dollar amount far exceeding the FA available. In consultation with the state NRCS office and due to the overwhelming interest in the program from irrigators, the Irrigation RCPP steering committee decided to allocate all remaining available Federal FA (minus NRCS' reserve) to fund applications from the second sign-up. As a result, no sign-up for financial assistance was held in 2025. This RCPP was renewed in 2025. The renewed project had additional state and Federal financial assistance added, the project geography was increased, new partners including six new Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) were added, and project partners pledged new project match. While the objectives of the current and the new RCPPs (project numbers 2365 and 4320, respectively) are similar, the two projects are managed and outcomes reported separately for each project. Since the partner contributions that were pledged in the proposal has been met, all partner contributions from project partners for 2025 (except a portion of the MN Department of Agriculture's (MDA) partner contribution) is used towards the new RCPP (4320). We have made substantial progress on project milestones and are ahead of schedule. The focus of the work is on documenting the outcomes from the project: To meet the program objective of building technical capacity among SWCD and NRCS technical staff, we organized and held a 2-day Technical Irrigation Workshop on the campus of Central Lakes College in Staples, MN on June 24-25, 2025. The program featured in-classroom technical sessions and in-field technical demonstrations. The purpose of the workshop is to train participants in advanced irrigation technology, crop water use and irrigation, irrigation water management, certification of Irrigation Water Management (449), Sprinkler System (442), and Pumping Plant (533) and the job approval authority process. Presenters represented the NRCS, U of M, CLC, MDA, SWCDs, irrigation industry, and the Irrigators Association. The workshop was at capacity with 40 attendees. Project partner BWSR wrote a news release about the workshop, "Irrigation workshop immerses NRCS, SWCD staff in new tech," Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources [chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgclclefindmkaj/https://bwsr.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/2025-08/snapshots_story_1_september_2025_irrigation_mda_nrcs_rcpp.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com](https://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgclclefindmkaj/https://bwsr.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/2025-08/snapshots_story_1_september_2025_irrigation_mda_nrcs_rcpp.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com) MDA promoted irrigation water and nutrient management supported by advanced computer modeling in the drinking water supply management areas within the project area. This computer modeling, along with ongoing research activities by project partners Pope SWCD, University of Minnesota, and Central Lakes College will inform the outcomes assessment.

2. What project implementation challenges, if any, were encountered over the past year?

A challenge to the project was that technical assistance provided by Central Lakes College to the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe has been delayed. The contractor who was hired to do install the conservation practices did not initiate the work within the agreed timeline, and a new contractor is being identified. This work is funded by cash from state partner contributions. An additional challenge, as in previous years, we found is to determine if participating irrigators are classified as historically underserved (HU) due to privacy issues. As a result, we expect we are under-reporting HU participants in the program.

3. Briefly describe the project outlook for the coming year, including anticipated major milestones

We will continue to quantify the environmental, economic and social impacts of the implementing conservation irrigation technologies, utilizing recent research and demonstration information, social and economic indicators from the Farm Business Management program, and new environmental benefit tools under development by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the University of Minnesota.

Historically Underserved Community Outreach (Cumulative): Partner Responsibility

4. Number of Beginning Farmer/Rancher Participants at partner-led outreach events

1

5. Number of Veteran Farmer/Rancher Participants at partner-led outreach events

5

6. Number of Limited Resource Farmer/Rancher Participants at partner-led outreach events

0

7. Number of Socially Disadvantaged Farmer/Rancher Participants at partner-led outreach events

0

8. Number of New Clients that Have Never Worked with NRCS at partner-led outreach events

0

Producer Contracts (Cumulative): NRCS Responsibility

9. Number of Land Management/Rental Contract Applications
0
10. Number of Land Management/Rental Contracts Implemented
0
11. Number of US-Held Easement Applications
0
12. Number of US-Held Easements Implemented
0
13. Number of Entity-Held Easement Applications
0
14. Number of Entity-Held Easements Implemented
0
15. Number of Watershed Project Applications
0
16. Number of Watershed Projects Implemented
0
17. Number of Beginning Farmer/Ranchers Participants enrolled in producer contracts/easements
0
18. Number of Veteran Farmer/Ranger Participants enrolled in producer contracts/easements
0
19. Number of Limited Resource Farmer/Rancher Participants enrolled in producer contracts/easements
0
20. Number of Socially Disadvantaged Farmer/Rancher Participants enrolled in producer contracts/easements
0

Deliverables

FA Deliverables

Item #	Calendar Year	State	Activity Type	Contract Type	Typical Activity	Budget	Obligated Year 1	Obligated Year 2	Obligated Year 3	Obligated Year 4	Obligated Year 5	Total	Summary of Successes and Challenges
3	2024	MN	Land Management	Producer Contracts	Implement tier 1 irrigation practices which includes introductory irrigation water conservation technologies; tier 2 irrigation practices which includes irrigation system upgrade with innovative irrigation water conservation technologies and associated BMPs; and tier 3 irrigation practices which includes tier 1 and tier 2 system level upgrades, adding complete remote access for irrigation water conservation and management technologies.	\$447,650.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$251,602.46	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$251,602.46	
2	2023	MN	Land Management	Producer Contracts	Implement tier 1 irrigation practices which includes introductory irrigation water conservation technologies; tier 2 irrigation practices which includes irrigation system upgrade with innovative irrigation water conservation technologies and associated BMPs; and tier 3 irrigation practices which includes tier 1 and tier 2 system level upgrades, adding complete remote access for irrigation water conservation and management technologies.	\$1,224,850.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,138,307.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,138,307.50	
1	2022	MN	Land Management	Producer Contracts	Implement tier 1 irrigation practices which includes introductory irrigation water conservation technologies; tier 2 irrigation practices which includes irrigation system upgrade with innovative irrigation water conservation technologies and associated BMPs; and tier 3 irrigation practices which includes tier 1 and tier 2 system level upgrades, adding complete remote access for irrigation water conservation and management technologies.	\$784,850.00	\$0.00	\$687,158.00	\$97,692.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$784,850.00	

TA Deliverables

Item #	Calendar Year	State	Activity Type	Contract Type	Typical Activity	Budget	Completed Year 1	Completed Year 2	Completed Year 3	Completed Year 4	Completed Year 5	Total	Summary of Successes and Challenges
15	2026	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Communication and Coordination	\$5,529.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
20	2026	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Outreach and Education	\$19,363.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
22	2026	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Outcome Assessment	\$23,880.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
27	2026	MN	NRCS Implementation TA	NRCS use	TA-I to support NRCS Project Management and Inherently Governmental Functions	\$465,527.69	\$0.00	\$4,824.00	\$0.00	\$454,027.00	\$0.00	\$458,851.00	
19	2025	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Outreach and Education	\$19,145.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
14	2025	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Outcome Assessment	\$23,640.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
12	2025	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Communication and Coordination	\$5,421.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,274.28	\$0.00	\$2,274.28	
26	2025	MN	NRCS Implementation TA	NRCS use	TA-I to support NRCS Project Management and Inherently Governmental Functions	\$5,766.00	\$0.00	\$5,766.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,766.00	
17	2024	MN	NRCS Implementation TA	NRCS use	TA-I to support NRCS Project Management and Inherently Governmental Functions	\$46,909.00		\$46,909.00		\$0.00	\$0.00		
16	2024	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Outreach and Education	\$18,905.00		\$0.00	\$16,959.23	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$12,043.86 FOR OUTREACH AND EDUCATION. \$4915.37 FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT.
23	2024	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Outcome Assessment	\$23,403.00		\$0.00	\$9,016.92	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$3976.38 for outcomes and \$5040.54 for innovations
11	2024	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Communication and Coordination	\$5,315.00		\$0.00	\$5,315.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
9	2023	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Communication and Coordination	\$5,211.00	\$0.00	\$5,211.00		\$0.00	\$0.00		
13	2023	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Outcome Assessment	\$23,170.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
10	2023	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Outreach and Education	\$18,670.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
25	2023	MN	NRCS Implementation TA	NRCS use	TA-I to support NRCS Project Management and Inherently Governmental Functions	\$157,482.00	\$0.00	\$157,482.00		\$0.00	\$0.00		
24	2022	MN	NRCS Implementation TA	NRCS use	TA-I to support NRCS Project Management and Inherently Governmental Functions	\$100,909.00	\$10,533.00	\$90,376.00		\$0.00	\$0.00		
18	2022	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Outreach and Education	\$26,032.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
21	2022	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Outcome Assessment	\$22,943.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
			Enhancement	Supplemental	Communication and								

29	2022	MN	TA	Agreements	Coordination	\$5,108.00	\$5,108.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,108.00	
28	2022	MN	Partner Implementation TA	Supplemental Agreements	TA-I to support Land Management Activities	\$30,821.31		\$30,821.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		SA-A-0472 is completed

Partner Contributions

Item #	Calendar Year	State	Activity Type	Funding Source	Lead	Typical Activity	Budget	Completed Year 1	Completed Year 2	Completed Year 3	Completed Year 4	Completed Year 5	Total	Summary of Successes and Challenges
27	2026	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Central Lakes College	Project partners are contributing education, outreach, and project promotion toward the project, including but not limited to: Education and outreach related to irrigation water and nutrient management through mailings, newsletters, attend meetings, host producer meetings and education events, and similar events; project promotion through mailings, newsletters, at meetings, and similar events; organize clinics for well water nitrate analysis; organize annual field days to demonstrate irrigation water management technologies, irrigation scheduling, and to promote the project; use of AgCentric technology trailer for demonstrating irrigation water technology, irrigation system design, sprinkler selection, sensing systems,	\$172,528.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	

						and related technologies; outreach to project stakeholders for sharing information about irrigation water management and the conservation practices being adopted by irrigators.							
18	2026	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	East Otter Tail Soil & Water Conservation District	Project partners are providing technical assistance to the project, including but not limited to: Technical assistance for irrigation water and nutrient management and irrigation scheduling; irrigation system management and irrigation uniformity testing; irrigation management tools, management and systems for water and energy conservation; advanced technology implementation, including irrigation system design, sprinkler selection, sensing systems and related technologies; and groundwater vulnerability assessment, water quantity and quality conservation	\$142,540.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

						and wellhead protection planning.								
35	2026	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Project partners are contributing cost share for irrigation water and nutrient management practice implementation including but not limited to: The development and implementation of watershed management plans, and associated financial assistance for irrigation-related activities as part of the plan implementation; and cost share for irrigation management practices. Counties include: Becker Cass Dakota Douglas East Otter Tail Pope Stearns Swift Wadena	\$69,251.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
			TA: "Enhancement"	Non-Lead Partner	Central	Project partners are contributing conservation innovation and monitoring activities, and outcomes assessments, including but not limited to: Research and demonstration projects related to nutrient and irrigation water management; groundwater monitoring; rainfall monitoring;								

30	2026	MN	Expenditures per APF	(Non-Federal Funds)	Lakes College	expansion of irrigation scheduling software to statewide coverage and mobile application; assessments of project outcomes through the Farm Business Management program, computer modeling, and review of research findings.	\$276,528.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
4	2026	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Salary and fringe for implementation of best management practices, project management and tracking.	\$70,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
6	2026	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Subcontracts for irrigation water management outreach and promotion	\$170,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
9	2026	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Unrecovered indirect costs (per NICRA)	\$16,590.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
						Project partners are contributing education, outreach, and project promotion toward the project, including but not limited to: Education and outreach related to irrigation water and nutrient management through mailings, newsletters,								

26	2025	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Central Lakes College	attend meetings, host producer meetings and education events, and similar events; project promotion through mailings, newsletters, at meetings, and similar events; organize clinics for well water nitrate analysis; organize annual field days to demonstrate irrigation water management technologies, irrigation scheduling, and to promote the project; use of AgCentric technology trailer for demonstrating irrigation water technology, irrigation system design, sprinkler selection, sensing systems, and related technologies; outreach to project stakeholders for sharing information about irrigation water management and the conservation practices being adopted by irrigators.	\$172,528.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	No report	
						Project partners are contributing cost share for irrigation water and nutrient management practice										

34	2025	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	implementation including but not limited to: The development and implementation of watershed management plans, and associated financial assistance for irrigation-related activities as part of the plan implementation; and cost share for irrigation management practices. Counties include: Becker Cass Dakota Douglas East Otter Tail Pope Stearns Swift Wadena	\$69,251.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	No report
29	2025	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Central Lakes College	Project partners are contributing conservation innovation and monitoring activities, and outcomes assessments, including but not limited to: Research and demonstration projects related to nutrient and irrigation water management; groundwater monitoring; rainfall monitoring; expansion of irrigation scheduling software to statewide coverage and mobile application; assessments of project	\$336,006.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	No report

						outcomes through the Farm Business Management program, computer modeling, and review of research findings.								
20	2025	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	East Otter Tail Soil & Water Conservation District	Project partners are providing technical assistance to the project, including but not limited to: Technical assistance for irrigation water and nutrient management and irrigation scheduling; irrigation system management and irrigation uniformity testing; irrigation management tools, management and systems for water and energy conservation; advanced technology implementation, including irrigation system design, sprinkler selection, sensing systems and related technologies; and groundwater vulnerability assessment, water quantity and quality conservation and wellhead protection planning.	\$197,051.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	No report
			TA: "Other" TA	Lead Partner	Minnesota Department	Unrecovered								

8	2025	MN	per APF	(Non-Federal Funds)	of Agriculture	indirect costs (per NICRA)	\$16,590.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	No report
15	2025	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Salary and fringe for implementation of best management practices, project management and tracking.	\$70,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	Salary and fringe to MDA staff Irrigation RCPP project management and tracking, organize and lead monthly meetings with the Irrigation RCPP Project Steering Team, oversee implementation of the Irrigation RCPP program and contact to NRCS, and lead the organizing committee for the Technical Irrigation Workshop.	
5	2025	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Subcontracts for irrigation water management outreach and promotion	\$170,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$28,833.00	\$28,833.00	This category includes funding provided to MDA to East Otter Tail, Stearns, Dakota, Sherburne and Washington Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) for implementation of the Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan to protect groundwater from nitrate leaching from agricultural crop production. Activities include development of nitrogen fertilizer best management practice lists, working with local advisory teams (LATs) of farmers and outreach.	
3	2024	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Subcontracts for irrigation water management outreach and promotion	\$180,163.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$180,163.00	\$0.00	\$180,163.00		
13	2024	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Unrecovered indirect costs (per NICRA)	\$15,593.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,593.00	\$0.00	\$15,593.00		
14	2024	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Salary and fringe for implementation of best management practices, project management and tracking.	\$108,715.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$108,715.00	\$0.00	\$108,715.00		
						Project partners are providing technical assistance to the project, including but not limited to: Technical assistance for irrigation water and nutrient management									

19	2024	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	East Otter Tail Soil & Water Conservation District	and irrigation scheduling; irrigation system management and irrigation uniformity testing; irrigation management tools, management and systems for water and energy conservation; advanced technology implementation, including irrigation system design, sprinkler selection, sensing systems and related technologies; and groundwater vulnerability assessment, water quantity and quality conservation and wellhead protection planning.	\$272,423.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$272,424.00	\$0.00	\$272,424.00
						Project partners are contributing education, outreach, and project promotion toward the project, including but not limited to: Education and outreach related to irrigation water and nutrient management through mailings, newsletters, attend meetings, host producer meetings and education events, and							

22	2024	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Central Lakes College	similar events; project promotion through mailings, newsletters, at meetings, and similar events; organize clinics for well water nitrate analysis; organize annual field days to demonstrate irrigation water management technologies, irrigation scheduling, and to promote the project; use of AgCentric technology trailer for demonstrating irrigation water technology, irrigation system design, sprinkler selection, sensing systems, and related technologies; outreach to project stakeholders for sharing information about irrigation water management and the conservation practices being adopted by irrigators.	\$279,717.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$279,716.00	\$0.00	\$279,716.00
						Project partners are contributing conservation innovation and monitoring activities, and outcomes assessments, including but not limited to: Research and demonstration							

23	2024	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Central Lakes College	projects related to nutrient and irrigation water management; groundwater monitoring; rainfall monitoring; expansion of irrigation scheduling software to statewide coverage and mobile application; assessments of project outcomes through the Farm Business Management program, computer modeling, and review of research findings.	\$590,194.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$590,194.00	\$0.00	\$590,194.00
33	2024	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Project partners are contributing cost share for irrigation water and nutrient management practice implementation including but not limited to: The development and implementation of watershed management plans, and associated financial assistance for irrigation-related activities as part of the plan implementation; and cost share for irrigation management practices. Counties include: Becker	\$630,084.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$630,084.00	\$0.00	\$630,084.00

						Cass Dakota Douglas East Otter Tail Pope Stearns Swift Wadena							
24	2023	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Central Lakes College	Project partners are contributing education, outreach, and project promotion toward the project, including but not limited to: Education and outreach related to irrigation water and nutrient management through mailings, newsletters, attend meetings, host producer meetings and education events, and similar events; project promotion through mailings, newsletters, at meetings, and similar events; organize clinics for well water nitrate analysis; organize annual field days to demonstrate irrigation water management technologies, irrigation scheduling, and to promote the project; use of AgCentric technology trailer for demonstrating irrigation water technology, irrigation system design, sprinkler	\$637,534.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$637,533.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$637,533.85

						selection, sensing systems, and related technologies; outreach to project stakeholders for sharing information about irrigation water management and the conservation practices being adopted by irrigators.								
2	2023	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Subcontracts for irrigation water management outreach and promotion	\$211,647.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$211,646.79	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$211,646.79	
10	2023	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Salary and fringe for implementation of best management practices, project management and tracking.	\$20,422.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,422.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,422.40	
32	2023	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Project partners are contributing cost share for irrigation water and nutrient management practice implementation including but not limited to: The development and implementation of watershed management plans, and associated financial assistance for irrigation-related activities as part of the plan implementation; and cost share for irrigation	\$527,366.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$527,365.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$527,365.73	

						management practices. Counties include: Becker Cass Dakota Douglas East Otter Tail Pope Stearns Swift Wadena								
17	2023	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	East Otter Tail Soil & Water Conservation District	Project partners are providing technical assistance to the project, including but not limited to: Technical assistance for irrigation water and nutrient management and irrigation scheduling; irrigation system management and irrigation uniformity testing; irrigation management tools, management and systems for water and energy conservation; advanced technology implementation, including irrigation system design, sprinkler selection, sensing systems and related technologies; and groundwater vulnerability assessment, water quantity and quality conservation and wellhead protection planning.	\$572,785.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$572,785.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$572,785.25	
12	2023	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal)	Minnesota Department of	Unrecovered indirect costs	\$3,219.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,218.84	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,218.84	

				Funds)	Agriculture	(per NICRA)								
25	2023	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Central Lakes College	Project partners are contributing conservation innovation and monitoring activities, and outcomes assessments, including but not limited to: Research and demonstration projects related to nutrient and irrigation water management; groundwater monitoring; rainfall monitoring; expansion of irrigation scheduling software to statewide coverage and mobile application; assessments of project outcomes through the Farm Business Management program, computer modeling, and review of research findings.	\$887,382.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$887,382.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$887,382.00	
11	2022	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Unrecovered indirect costs (per NICRA).	\$3,267.00	\$1,434.87	\$1,832.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,267.25	
						Project partners are contributing conservation innovation and monitoring activities, and outcomes assessments, including but not limited to: Research and demonstration								

28	2022	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Central Lakes College	projects related to nutrient and irrigation water management; groundwater monitoring; rainfall monitoring; expansion of irrigation scheduling software to statewide coverage and mobile application; assessments of project outcomes through the Farm Business Management program, computer modeling, and review of research findings.	\$680,230.00	\$356,310.00	\$323,920.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$680,230.00
7	2022	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Salary and fringe for implementation of best management practices, project management and tracking.	\$37,748.00	\$25,701.00	\$12,047.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$37,748.00
31	2022	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Project partners are contributing cost share for irrigation water and nutrient management practice implementation including but not limited to: The development and implementation of watershed management plans, and associated financial assistance for irrigation-related	\$507,915.00	\$128,687.56	\$379,227.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$507,915.34

						activities as part of the plan implementation; and cost share for irrigation management practices. Counties include: Becker Cass Dakota Douglas East Otter Tail Pope Stearns Swift Wadena								
1	2022	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Subcontracts for irrigation water management outreach and promotion	\$245,693.00	\$117,952.32	\$127,741.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$245,693.42	
16	2022	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	East Otter Tail Soil & Water Conservation District	Project partners are providing technical assistance to the project, including but not limited to: Technical assistance for irrigation water and nutrient management and irrigation scheduling; irrigation system management and irrigation uniformity testing; irrigation management tools, management and systems for water and energy conservation; advanced technology implementation, including irrigation system design, sprinkler selection, sensing systems and related technologies; and groundwater vulnerability	\$263,678.00	\$100,146.88	\$163,530.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$263,677.60	

						assessment, water quantity and quality conservation and wellhead protection planning.							
21	2022	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Central Lakes College	Project partners are contributing education, outreach, and project promotion toward the project, including but not limited to: Education and outreach related to irrigation water and nutrient management through mailings, newsletters, attend meetings, host producer meetings and education events, and similar events; project promotion through mailings, newsletters, at meetings, and similar events; organize clinics for well water nitrate analysis; organize annual field days to demonstrate irrigation water management technologies, irrigation scheduling, and to promote the project; use of AgCentric technology trailer for demonstrating irrigation water technology,	\$238,344.00	\$56,777.00	\$181,566.56	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$238,343.56

Outcomes

Conservation Outcomes

Outcome Title	Resource Concern	Treatment	Measurement Type	Reference/Source	Project Outcomes Year 1	Project Outcomes Year 2	Project Outcomes Year 3	Project Outcomes Year 4	Project Outcomes Year 5	Total	Summary of Work on Project Outcomes
Estimated percent nitrate leaching loss reduction	Field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss				0.00%	10.00%	25.00%	25.00%	25.00%	85%	Research at Central Lakes College and Rosholt Research Farm is underway, continues in 2026. The research is used to quantify the percent estimated nitrate leaching loss from implementing the conservation practices. A spreadsheet tool based on this research and advanced computer modeling to summarize nitrate leaching loss reduction has been completed by the MN Dept. of Agriculture and the University of Minnesota.
Impacts on energy use	Source water depletion				0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	25.00%	50%	We are working with project partner Todd-Wadena Electric Co-op on quantifying the impacts on energy use from implementing conservation practices. This work is ongoing.
Estimate change in water quantity withdrawals	Source water depletion				0.00%	10.00%	25.00%	25.00%	25.00%	85%	Research at Central Lakes College and Rosholt Research Farm is underway, continues in 2026. The research is used to quantify the estimated water consumption following implementation of the conservation practices. A spreadsheet tool based on this research and advanced computer modeling to summarize this has been completed by the MN Dept. of Agriculture and the University of Minnesota. We will be using this tool in 2026.

Economic Outcomes

Outcome Title	Treatment	Measurement Type	Reference/Source	Description	Project Outcomes Year 1	Project Outcomes Year 2	Project Outcomes Year 3	Project Outcomes Year 4	Project Outcomes Year 5	Total	Summary of Work on Project Outcomes
Estimate energy cost impacts of implementing conservation irrigation practices					0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	25.00%	50%	This estimation is based on an analysis of the energy cost impacts of conservation practice implementation for participating irrigators compared to their peers based in anonymized form on the Farm Business Management program.
Estimate economic impacts of implementing conservation irrigation practices					0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	25.00%	50%	This estimation is based on an analysis of the economic impacts of conservation practice implementation for participating irrigators compared to their peers based in anonymized form on the Farm Business Management program.

Social Outcomes

Outcome Title	Treatment	Measurement Type	Reference/Source	Project Outcomes Year 1	Project Outcomes Year 2	Project Outcomes Year 3	Project Outcomes Year 4	Project Outcomes Year 5	Total	Summary of Work on Project Outcomes
Training of SWCD and NRCS local staff				0.00%	10.00%	35.00%	55.00%	0.00%	100%	We organized and held a 2-day Technical Irrigation Workshop on the campus of Central Lakes College in Staples, MN on June 24-25, 2025. The program featured in-classroom technical sessions and in-field technical demonstrations. The purpose of the workshop is to train participants in advanced irrigation technology, crop water use and irrigation, irrigation water management, certification of Irrigation Water Management (449), Sprinkler System (442), and Pumping Plant (533) and the job approval authority process. Presenters represented the NRCS, U of M, CLC, MDA, SWCDs, irrigation industry, and the Irrigators Association. The workshop was at capacity with 40 attendees.
Impact of outreach activities to farmers and other stakeholders				0.00%	5.00%	20.00%	30.00%	30.00%	85%	We are collecting information and are summarizing the impact of our outreach activities.

