

# 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. Most of the partner activities are reported under their individual partner contributions, but some additional project progress and outcomes are described in the following. The RCPP's first sign-up ended on February 27, 2026, and will be reported on for the 2026 report. In addition to the partner contributions reported elsewhere in this annual report, project partners spent an additional \$193,814 on project related activities. These are activities they did not pledge to do in their commitment letters. Examples of activities include project partner RDO Farms invested \$80k+ in new efficient irrigation technology equipment across R.D. Offutt Farms footprint, including Aqua Trac Soil Moisture Probes, Autonomous Pivots, SpotOn Technologies and Ultrasonic Flow Meters. R.D. Offutt Farms also updated and purchased new sprinkler packages, Valley sensors and high-speed pivots. Project partner also developed the RDO Potato Research Farm to explore new ideas, advance sustainable farming practices, and share results that will help growers across the region. Permitting occurred in 2025, ground preparation will be completed in 2026, with the first research trials beginning in 2027. The research from this farm will help with the outcomes assessments for this RCPP program. Hubbard SWCD provided funding for closing an Ag Waste Pit in a Priority Ag/Priority Groundwater Area and two well sealing contracts were completed, sealing a total of three wells. Project partners also initiated or continued very active outreach and education programs. Over 10,500 individuals were reached as part of these education and outreach efforts. Examples include project partners Central Lakes College and RDO Farms hosted the annual MN Ag Water Quality Program Advisory Program field day in Staples. Project partner RDO Farms hosted AgriGrowth legislative field tour at RDO Hastings Farm where legislators, agency leaders, local governments and area stakeholders learned about BMPs, including efficient irrigation techniques, with 75 attendees. East Otter Tail and Wadena SWCDs hosted an Annual Winter Producer Meeting in March of 2025. 70 producers and ag industry representatives were in attendance. East Otter Tail and Wadena SWCD also partnered to host a soil health field day in August of 2025 focusing on strip-till and cover crops. 20 producers attended the event. EOT SWCD mailed 708 postcards to residents promoting well sealing cost-share opportunities in focus areas of our local watershed management plans. Cass SWCD hosted 3 events in 2025 focusing on soil health, attracting 60 attendees. Todd SWCD staff organized and led a Local Work Group Bus tour on June 18, 2025, in which 60 people of the public attended. Two stops were irrigated properties. One was a Tier 1 farmer who was interested in a sensor, and the other was already doing some advanced technologies and had already been using irrigation scheduling in the past. The number above does not include an estimated 8,000 visitors to the partner-sponsored potato and soil moisture sensor plot at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum throughout the summer of 2025. Project partners also provided RCPP-relevant irrigation and conservation practice information to both irrigators and the broader communities they serve. Project partner CLC's The Northern Minnesota FBM Annual Report includes a unique page focusing on data for five Irrigated Crops. This report is shared with over 1,000 producers and stakeholders each year. Project partner Todd SWCD developed a 40-page conservation report and informational resource guide, which was sent to 2,000 individuals. Soil health and covers crops were promoted as a soil moisture retention activity. Kandiyohi SWCD promoted nitrate and irrigator clinics through mailings, newsletters reaching 3,000 people, and other outreach supporting groundwater and soil health efforts. Sherburne SWCD has ongoing education and outreach also included quarterly Operator Opportunities mailings, quarterly Nature Talks newsletters, a summer Ag BMP podcast series, and weekly countywide ET reports. Swift SWCD developed a countywide newsletter containing groundwater-related information and mailed it to approximately 5,500 households. Project partner University of Minnesota published four blog posts related to irrigation water management through Extension's Crop News blog, each with a readership of about 3,000. Project partner University of Minnesota organized and led irrigation education through the Minnesota Irrigator Program (MIP), held November 18–19, 2025, in Becker, MN. This two-day training focused on improving water use efficiency through irrigation scheduling, soil-water relationships, and economic decision-making, aligning closely with the project's goals of optimizing water management and reducing environmental impacts. The University also gave 9 presentations related to irrigation and nitrogen management and groundwater protection at regional meetings and conferences. Central Lakes College provided technical assistance to the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe to evaluate, plan and design two irrigation systems to increase food sovereignty. The Irrigators Association of Minnesota (IAM) Annual Meeting held on February 20, 2025 in Waite Park, MN included a presentation about the Irrigation RCPP program, as well as, presentations covering irrigation technology and water conservation. Approximately 300 irrigators attended the meeting. The University of Minnesota held a field day at the Sand Plains Research Farm near Becker held on July 10, 2025, MN attracting 60 attendees who learned about the most recent irrigation water and nutrient management practices. CLC organized an irrigation field day on August 29, 2025 attracting 175 attendees. MDA gave an update about the irrigation RCPP program over lunch. Water conservation through precision irrigation to protect groundwater and irrigation water management were also discussed at the field day.

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

A challenge 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 have our first sign-up for financial assistance in February, 2026. We are organizing a technical training field day for local NRCS and SWCD staff to be hosted at Central Lakes College in July of 2026. Instructors from the College, University of Minnesota and local irrigation technology dealers will be providing theoretical and hands-on training of new irrigation technologies. Project partners are planning several fields days or other outreach events across the project area featuring demonstrations and discussions of irrigation water management and water conservation, nitrogen management under irrigation, cover crops, and source water protection.

### 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

10

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

3

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

2

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

3

## **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	Total	Summary of Successes and Challenges
1	2028	MN	Land Management	Producer Contracts	Implement Tier 1 irrigation practices which includes introductory irrigation water conservation Technologies; Approximately \$300,000 for year 2026, \$300,000 for year 2027 and \$237,000 for year 2028 allocated, but project is willing to spend ahead if there are violable applications. Implement 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 2 system level upgrades, adding complete remote access for irrigation water conservation and management technologies Approximately \$3M for year 2026, \$3M year 2027 and \$1,533,000 year 2028 allocated, but project is willing to spend ahead if there are violable applications.	\$8,370,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	The PPA and SA were executed at the end of 2025. The first producer signup is occurring in FY26

**TA Deliverables**

Item #	Calendar Year	State	Activity Type	Contract Type	Typical Activity	Budget	Completed Year 1	Total	Summary of Successes and Challenges
2	2029	MN	Partner Implementation TA	Supplemental Agreements	TA-I to support Land Management Activities	\$670,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	The partner did not use any TA-I for FY2025, as there was not a producer signup in 2025.
1	2029	MN	Enhancement TA	Supplemental Agreements	Project Management	\$1,116,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	The partner did not use any TA-E for FY2025, as there was not a producer signup in 2025
3	2026	MN	NRCS Implementation TA	NRCS use	TA-I to support NRCS Project Management and Inherently Governmental Functions	\$1,004,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	MN-NRCS did not use any NRCS-TA-I for FY2025, as there was not a producer signup in 2025.

**Partner Contributions**

Item #	Calendar Year	State	Activity Type	Funding Source	Lead	Typical Activity	Budget	Completed Year 1	Total	Summary of Successes and Challenges
91	2029	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Lead the RCPP project, including chair and lead the project organizing committee and participate in other project committees, provide leadership for project activities including project reporting, ensuring practice, budget and reporting compliance to NRCS requirements, lead outcomes assessment, lead or participate in other project activities per the PPA.	\$105,000.00	\$11,929.00	\$11,929.00	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.
90	2029	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Outreach and promotion of irrigation BMPs and irrigation practices related to RCPP, including project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, clinics, open houses, and other activities per the PPA.	\$675,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
89	2029	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Implementing the groundwater protection rule within the RCPP project area. As part of this implementation, MDA staff works with irrigators to increase the adoption of best management practices to reduce nitrate leaching losses to the groundwater, including the BMP being supported through the RCPP.	\$255,000.00	\$70,509.00	\$70,509.00	Staff time for implementation of the Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan to protect groundwater from nitrate leaching from agricultural crop production within the project area. There are 12 active projects where activities include development of nitrogen fertilizer best management practice lists, working with local advisory teams (LATs) of farmers and outreach.
88	2029	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Outreach and education provided by the Irrigation Specialist Position at the U of M, that is funded by MDA. The U of M Irrigation specialist position will promote the project throughout the project area through U of M extension resources, such as Minnesota crop news, pod casts, field days, and other irrigation events. The irrigation specialist will also assist identifying producers to participate in the project and provide training to develop and maintain a highly trained, technically skilled workforce of natural resource professionals capable of meeting the conservation delivery needs of MN.	\$480,000.00	\$147,402.00	\$147,402.00	This category includes funding from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) to the University of Minnesota for an Extension Irrigation Water Management Specialist. During 2025, this position organized or participated in 32 outreach events or field days, 2 workshops, 6 blog posts, submitted 6 journal articles, and had over 1,000 contacts with farmers, crop consultants, and others.
74	2028	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Todd Soil and Water Conservation District	Technical assistance for pre-application, planning, designing, installation and/or check-out on FA applications or contracts.	\$7,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
73	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District	Collect information for Conservation Outcomes about groundwater levels and coordinate cooperative rainfall monitoring within the project area to document impacts of irrigation water withdrawals. This information is used to help document impacts of the RCPP-implemented irrigation practices on groundwater levels, and irrigation water management.	\$15,000.00	\$39,223.00	\$39,223.00	Monthly monitoring of 18 groundwater wells to document groundwater levels. Rain gauge monitoring and submitted data to the Minnesota State Climatology Office.
72	2028	MN	FA: "Other" FA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District	State or local financial assistance for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP and/or other local and state conservation programs that are implementing eligible conservation practices that address the resource concerns identified in the Irrigation RCPP application and are within the project area.	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	Locally funded projects for the year included eight well sealings and one irrigation project.

71	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Washington Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach within the project area related to RCPP activities such as project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, mailings, and other activities per the PPA.	\$25,000.00	\$8,407.00	\$8,407.00	Washington Conservation District reported staff time spent on project development as well as outreach and education. Activities included one-on-one producer education on groundwater protection, project promotion through mailings and emails, and coordinating MDA Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan Local Advisory Team meetings for southern Washington County.
70	2028	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Washington Soil and Water Conservation District	Collect information for Conservation Outcomes about groundwater levels within the project area to document impacts of irrigation water withdrawals. This information is used to help document impacts of the RCPP-implemented irrigation practices on groundwater levels.	\$25,000.00	\$8,407.00	\$8,407.00	Staff conducted quarterly groundwater and well monitoring for the Minnesota DNR and the South Washington Watershed District.
69	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Isanti Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach within the project area related to RCPP activities such as project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, mailings, and other activities per the PPA.	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
68	2028	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Isanti Soil and Water Conservation District	Technical assistance for pre-application, planning, designing, installation and/or check-out on FA applications or contracts.	\$7,500.00	\$713.00	\$713.00	Staff time for conversations with landowners interested in RCPP Irrigation, coordinating with NRCS on potential participants, and discussing the program within the SWCD's Farmer-Led advisory group.
67	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Clay Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach within the project area related to RCPP activities such as project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, and other activities per the PPA.	\$5,000.00	\$1,210.00	\$1,210.00	Staff time spent on meetings and landowner one-on-one conversations. Staff time discussing the program at the fair, creating our newsletter, and landowner conversations. Time was spent towards meeting attendance and discussions with staff/supervisors.
66	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Anoka Soil and Water Conservation District	Collect landscape scale trend data on surficial groundwater levels at approximately 19 wells in the project area. Trend analysis of the data may be used to demonstrate impacts of RCPP irrigation conservation practices and other factors on surficial groundwater levels	\$25,000.00	\$14,516.00	\$14,516.00	Anoka CD maintains a groundwater well monitoring network to aid in analysis and document changes in groundwater supplies prior to and after conservation adoption. The monitoring includes monthly observations from 19 shallow deep wells.
65	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Anoka Soil and Water Conservation District	Collect landscape scale trend data on aquifer levels at approximately 24 wells in the project area. Trend analysis of the data may be used to demonstrate impacts of RCPP irrigation conservation practices and other factors on aquifers.	\$12,500.00	\$7,258.00	\$7,258.00	Anoka CD maintains a groundwater well monitoring network to aid in analysis and document changes in groundwater supplies prior to and after conservation adoption. The monitoring includes monthly observations from 24 deep wells.
64	2028	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District	State or local financial assistance for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP and/or other local and state conservation programs that are implementing eligible conservation practices that address the resource concerns identified in the Irrigation RCPP application and are within the project area.	\$110,000.00	\$130,805.00	\$130,805.00	EOT SWCD provided cost-share assistance to 5 producers to conduct irrigation water management, 3 ag waste pit closures, 20 cover crop contracts, 2 strip-till/no-till contracts, and 1 well sealing through our local and state funding sources.
										"EOT SWCD Staff time for assisting with project development, attending steering

63	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach within the project area related to RCPP activities such as project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, and other activities per the PPA.	\$157,500.00	\$37,288.00	\$37,288.00	committee meetings, developing forms, assisting with news releases, etc. Staff providing technical assistance to producers through our Irrigation scheduling program. Staff visited 46 fields weekly through the growing season checking on crop stage, soil moisture levels, recording rainfall and irrigation events. Staff provided producers with weekly charts showing soil moisture levels to provide producers with solid science-based information to help them determine if and when to irrigate and how much water was needed. Staff also provided technical assistance on 31 local and state funded cost share projects. EOT staff assisted with local efforts for MDA's Groundwater Protection Rule and Nutrient Management Initiative producer test plots. We assisted with local advisory team producer meetings in 3 different focus areas: Perham Wellhead Area, Verndale Wellhead Area, Wing River Township."
62	2028	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District	Technical assistance for pre-application, planning, designing, installation and/or check-out on FA applications or contracts.	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
61	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Grant Soil and Water Conservation District	EDUCATION AND OUTREACH - PROMOTION OF THE PROJECT AND PRACTICES, INCLUDING MAILINGS, ATTENDANCE AT PRODUCER MEETINGS, HOSTING NITRATE TESTING CLINICS.	\$12,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
60	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Mille Lacs Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach within the project area related to RCPP activities such as project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, and other activities per the PPA.	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
59	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District	EDUCATION AND OUTREACH / PROMOTION OF PROJECT AND PRACTICES, OFFERING NITRATE TESTING, MAILINGS, ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS, HOSTING MEETINGS AND EDUCATION DAYS, ETC..	\$25,000.00	\$25,749.00	\$25,749.00	Morrison SWCD promoted the project through newsletters, mailings, meetings, producer events, and nitrate testing clinics. A Women in Agriculture Brunch was held on February 15 at the Bowlus Community Center with 30 attendees and speakers covering mental health, farm transition planning, and beginning farmer experiences. A Winter Agronomy event on February 27 drew 60 farmers and focused on regenerative soil health systems. Planning also began for the next Winter Agronomy meeting and for hosting a We Are Water exhibit in Little Falls in fall 2026. Two nitrate testing clinics were held: one in May that tested 64 wells and another in October that tested 28 wells.

58	2028	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District	Local FA payments for eligible conservation practices addressing project specific resource concerns and supported by the Irrigation RCPP within the project area for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP.	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
57	2028	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District	State or local financial assistance for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP and/or other local and state conservation programs that are implementing eligible conservation practices that address the resource concerns identified in the Irrigation RCPP application and are within the project area.	\$20,000.00	\$12,414.00	\$12,414.00	Local funds used to cost-share the closure of 1 ag waste pit for groundwater protection.
56	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach within the project area related to RCPP activities such as project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, and other activities per the PPA.	\$10,000.00	\$3,903.00	\$3,903.00	Staff time on education and outreach efforts promoting irrigation and groundwater practices. SWCD newsletter distributed to 3100 Douglas County Landowners.
55	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District	Coordinate cooperative rainfall monitoring activities within the project area to document rainfall timing and amount. This information is used to help document impacts of the RCPP-implemented irrigation practices on irrigation water management and conservation outcomes.	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
54	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District	Collect information for Conservation Outcomes; about groundwater levels within the project area to document impacts of irrigation water withdrawals. This information is used to help document impacts of the RCPP-implemented irrigation practices on groundwater levels.	\$10,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Staff conducted 10 groundwater observation well readings.
53	2028	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Cass Soil and Water Conservation District	Technical assistance for pre-application, planning, designing, installation and/or check-out on FA applications or contracts.	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
52	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Cass Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach within the project area related to RCPP activities such as project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, and other activities per the PPA.	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
51	2028	MN	FA: "Other" FA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Cass Soil and Water Conservation District	State or local financial assistance for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP and/or other local and state conservation programs that are implementing eligible conservation practices that address the resource concerns identified in the Irrigation RCPP application and are within the project area.	\$20,000.00	\$14,707.00	\$14,707.00	Cass SWCD cost-shared 2 cover crop projects, 1 pasture/hay planting, 3 annual forages projects, and 3 well sealings through our local and state funding sources.
50	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	RD Offutt Farms	Education and outreach related to RCPP activities including project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, clinics, open houses, annual meetings and other activities per the PPA.	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	Staff time for Minnesota Irrigator program, potato plot at the U of MN landscape arboratum, hosting ag water quality certification event at the farm in Wadena. Published multiple social media videos and posts about water conservation and precise irrigation technology.
										"1. Sponsored University of Minnesota Master Irrigator Program; RDO Regional Manager presented precision irrigation technology, multiple R.D. Offutt Farm team members attended and earned certifications. 2. Sponsored Potato Plot at

49	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	RD Offutt Farms	Education and outreach related to RCPP activities including project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, clinics, open houses, annual meetings and other activities per the PPA.	\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, included display on soil moisture sensors. More than 8,000 visitors attended display throughout summer 2025. 3. Hosted Ag Water Quality Certification event at RDO Wadena farm upon earning certification with agency leaders, local government leaders, area farmers. Shared information about irrigation conservation and BMPs usage. More than 50 people attended."
48	2028	MN	FA: "Other" FA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Swift County Soil and Water Conservation District	State or local financial assistance for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP and/or other local and state conservation programs that are implementing eligible conservation practices that address the resource concerns identified in the Irrigation RCPP application and are within the project area.	\$5,000.00	\$16,405.00	\$16,405.00	Two cover crop contracts were funded through the Benson/Appleton CWF grant covered 197 acres and other conservation practice activities..
47	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Swift County Soil and Water Conservation District	EDUCATION/OUTREACH: PROMOTION OF THE PROJECT AND PRACTICES, INCLUDING MAILS, ATTENDANCE AT PROUDUCER MEETINGS, HOSTING PRODUCER MEETINGS AND FIELD DAYS.	\$42,500.00	\$45,188.00	\$45,188.00	Swift SWCD Staff worked on implementing a Clean Water Fund soil health grant aimed at protecting groundwater in the Benson and Appleton areas. Efforts included planning and developing BMP projects within county watersheds, as well as working directly with producers on cover crop contracts. Staff also assisted a producer applying for an AgBMP Loan for well sealing. Swift SWCD also hosted an Irrigator Clinic on 3/25/25 with neighboring SWCDs, with 37 producers attending. A total of 32 MNDNR observation wells were monitored four times throughout the season. The "Healthy Roots and Clean Boots" soil health event was held in Swift County on 7/30/2025, drawing approximately 250 attendees, including irrigators
46	2028	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Swift County Soil and Water Conservation District	Technical assistance for pre-application, planning, designing, installation and/or check-out on FA applications or contracts.	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
45	2028	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	University of Minnesota	U OF M FACULTY AND EXTENSION STAFF SALARY TO WORK IRRIGATION RESEARCH AND EXTENSION WORK IN MN NOT ALREADY CLAIMED BY OTHER PROJECT PARTNERS INCLUDING STAFF TIME FOR THE MINNESOTA IRRIGATROS PROGRAM	\$22,744.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	Research projects: Tillage, Cover crops and Irrigation Water Management Impacts on Water Quality and Nitrogen Use Efficiency; and Satellite-based analysis of evapotranspiration, water stress, and crop productivity across irrigated and rainfed landscapes in central Minnesota
44	2028	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	University of Minnesota	Train farmers and their advisors in sustainable water management, the irrigation management tools, and sensing systems for water conservation within the RCPP project area.	\$20,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	"Minnesota Irrigator Program held on November 18th and 19th, 2025 Sand Plain Research Farm Field Day 2025 held on July 10th, 2025"
						Funding for a graduate student or other project staff at the University of Minnesota to document environmental				Graduate students working on research projects including Tillage, Cover crops and Irrigation Water Management

43	2028	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	University of Minnesota	outcomes from implementing the conservation practices under the RCPP. The research applies to the practices that the Irrigation RCPP is providing cost share for, including irrigation water management, nutrient management, soils research or similar.	\$155,859.00	\$49,988.00	\$49,988.00	Impacts on Water Quality and Nitrogen Use Efficiency; and Satellite-based analysis of evapotranspiration, water stress, and crop productivity across irrigated and rainfed landscapes in central Minnesota
42	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Irrigators Association of Minnesota (IAM)	Education and outreach related to RCPP activities including project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, clinics, open houses, annual meetings and other activities per the PPA.	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
41	2028	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Stevens Soil and Water Conservation District	District staff providing technical assistance to irrigators with irrigation water management planning and management to address RCPP resource concerns. Technical assistance for pre-application, planning, designing, installation and/or check-out on FA applications or contracts.	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
40	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Stevens Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach within the project area related to RCPP activities such as project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, and other activities per the PPA.	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
39	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Stevens Soil and Water Conservation District	Collect information about groundwater levels within the project area to document impacts of irrigation after withdrawals. This information is used to help document impacts of the RCPP-implemented irrigation practices on groundwater levels.	\$2,280.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
38	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Meeker Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach within the project area related to RCPP activities such as project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, and other activities per the PPA.	\$1,500.00	\$1,043.00	\$1,043.00	Meeker SWCD reported that about ten producers inquired about financial assistance for irrigation system upgrades, most commonly for moisture sensors, nozzle upgrades, and injection systems. Outreach efforts included participating in the Meeker County Fair, where Irrigation Water Management materials were featured. With irrigation increasing in the county, the fair display generated significant interest.
37	2028	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District	Technical assistance for pre-application, planning, designing, installation and/or check-out on FA applications or contracts.	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
36	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach within the project area related to RCPP activities such as project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, and other activities per the PPA.	\$25,000.00	\$32,005.00	\$32,005.00	Dakota SWCD hosted multiple field days focused on Camelina, Kernza, soil health, and the Hastings DWSMA, along with irrigation clinics on water testing and nitrogen crediting. They coordinated the Ag Advisory Group meeting to review the ACRE program, shallow monitoring well data, and outreach strategies, including updates on the Ag Weather Station's new location to encourage use by irrigators. Outreach efforts also included presentations on irrigation

										BMPs and preparation for the RCPP kickoff.
35	2028	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District	Local FA payments for eligible conservation practices that are addressing the RCPP project's specific resource concerns and within the project area for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP.	\$25,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	Locally funded work in 2025 included 37 CIP contracts supporting soil health practices such as cover crops, irrigation water management, and nitrogen BMPs.
34	2028	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District	State or local financial assistance for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP and/or other local and state conservation programs that are implementing eligible conservation practices that address the resource concerns identified in the Irrigation RCPP application and are within the project area.	\$25,000.00	\$110,477.00	\$110,477.00	Locally funded work in 2025 included 37 CIP contracts supporting soil health practices such as cover crops, irrigation water management, and nitrogen BMPs.
33	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Area II Potato Research and Promotion Council	Funding for research projects at North Dakota State University to document environmental outcomes from implementing the eligible conservation practices under the RCPP. The research applies to the practices that the Irrigation RCPP is providing cost share for, including irrigation water management, potato, water and/or soil research.	\$128,500.00	\$128,500.00	\$128,500.00	Funding for research projects at the North Dakota State University to document environmental outcomes from implementing the eligible conservation practices under the RCPP, including irrigation water management, potato, water and/or soil research.
32	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Area II Potato Research and Promotion Council	Funding for research projects at the University of Minnesota to document environmental outcomes from implementing the eligible conservation practices under the RCPP. The research applies to the practices that the Irrigation RCPP is providing cost share for, including irrigation water management, potato, water and/or soil research.	\$167,600.00	\$167,600.00	\$167,600.00	Funding for research projects at the University of Minnesota to document environmental outcomes from implementing the eligible conservation practices under the RCPP, including irrigation water management, potato, water and/or soil research.
31	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Department of Health	Modeling work for highly vulnerable drinking water supply management areas DWSMAs in the project area and work with the Public Water System (PWS) and/or SWCD partners related to nitrate data or other water quality monitoring for RCPP outcomes assessment, and outreach to PWSs and growers in the DWSMAs about the importance of the RCPP and conservation work for local drinking water protection.	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
30	2028	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Benton Soil and Water Conservation District	Technical assistance for pre-application, planning, designing, installation and/or check-out on FA applications or contracts.	\$7,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
29	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Benton Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach related to RCPP activities including project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, and other activities per the PPA.	\$7,500.00	\$4,937.00	\$4,937.00	Staff time was spent for outreach and technical assistance to landowners looking to seal unused wells in the county. We worked with 6 landowners, the outcome was 5 unused dug wells sealed in 2025. The sixth landowner is working on bids for a unused irrigation well.
28	2028	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Hubbard County Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach related to RCPP activities including project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, and other activities per the PPA.	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
27	2028	MN	TA: "Other" TA	Non-Lead Partner	Hubbard County Soil	Observation well monitoring - Collect information about groundwater levels within the project area to document	\$17,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported

			per APF	(Non-Federal Funds)	and Water Conservation District	impacts of irrigation water withdrawals. This information is used to help document impacts of the RCPP-implemented irrigation practices on groundwater levels.				
26	2028	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Hubbard County Soil and Water Conservation District	Local well nitrate testing - private well screening event or water sample testing for nitrate clinics.	\$7,800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
25	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach related to RCPP activities including project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, nitrate testing clinics, open houses, and other activities per the PPA.	\$10,000.00	\$6,703.00	\$6,703.00	Staff provided education and outreach for conservation practices related to irrigation and nutrient management.
24	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District	TA for irrigation water management and other eligible irrigation conservation practices or meeting the conservation goals of the irrigation RCPP within the project area.	\$30,000.00	\$5,082.00	\$5,082.00	Staff provided technical assistance and engineering support for conservation practices related to irrigation and nutrient management.
23	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District	Private well screening events and outreach in support of the RCPP conservation goals	\$50,000.00	\$8,076.00	\$8,076.00	The SWCD hosted a private well nitrate screening clinic in Sauk Centre, mailing 1,969 postcards and screening 151 samples.
22	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District	collect information about groundwater levels within the project area to document impacts of irrigation after withdrawals. This information is used to help document impacts of the RCPP-implemented irrigation practices on groundwater levels.	\$20,000.00	\$3,787.00	\$3,787.00	The SWCD partnered with the Minnesota DNR to conduct monthly groundwater level monitoring.
21	2028	MN	FA: "Other" FA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District	Financial assistance for well decommissioning to address the RCPP Project's specific resource concerns and are located within the project area.	\$20,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	Local funds were used to permanently decommission two unused wells to protect groundwater.
20	2028	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Arable Labs	Technical Assistance, travel expenses and supplies for technical assistance to SWCD, NRCS, and irrigators for the use of new irrigation water management technologies eligible for financial assistance and use under the RCPP. Technical assistance for pre-application, planning, designing, installation and/or check-out on FA applications or contracts.	\$12,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None to report
19	2028	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Arable Labs	Technical guidance, education and outreach activities at field days and outreach events. Staff participation on in Steering Committee meetings.	\$12,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None to report
18	2028	MN	FA: "Other" FA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Becker Soil and Water Conservation District	State or local financial assistance for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP and/or other local and state conservation programs that are implementing eligible conservation practices that address the resource concerns identified in the Irrigation RCPP application and are within the project area.	\$75,000.00	\$259,718.00	\$259,718.00	"Staff met with landowners to prepare applications and also met with irrigation service providers to expand outreach. Incentives were provided to 5 landowners to implement soil health practices through a competitive clean water fund grant. 6 Tree plantings were installed on existing cropland. 5 Ag waste pit closures in the Redeye and Otter Tail watersheds. One native planting was installed on cropland, and one prescribed grazing plan was implemented. "

17	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Becker Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach related to RCPP activities including project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, clinics, open houses, and other activities per the PPA. Technical assistance for pre-application, planning, designing, installation and/or check-out on FA applications or contracts.	\$2,500.00	\$28,898.00	\$28,898.00	"39 people attended the soil Health Bus Tour July 29-31, 2025. Tour visited 2 farms in the RRV on the first day and ended at Black Leg Ranch in McKenzie, ND. The next day was spent at Menoken Farms in Menoken, ND. The third day was a recap of the previous two days and returned home. Soil Health Roundtable was held in Sebeka in cooperation with Hubbard and Wadena SWCDs where 26 were in attendance to share experiences with soil health implementation."
16	2028	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Becker Soil and Water Conservation District	Technical assistance for pre-application, planning, designing, installation and/or check-out on FA applications or contracts.	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
15	2028	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)	State assistance payments for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP and/or other local and state conservation programs that are implementing eligible conservation practices that address the resource concerns identified in the Irrigation RCPP application and are within the project area.	\$500,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None to report
14	2028	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Central Minnesota Irrigators	Education and outreach related to RCPP activities including project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, clinics, open houses, annual meetings and other activities per the PPA.	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None to report
13	2028	MN	FA: "Other" FA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District	State or local financial assistance payments for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP and/or other local and state conservation programs that are implementing eligible conservation practices that address the resource concerns identified in the Irrigation RCPP application and are within the project area.	\$40,000.00	\$29,981.00	\$29,981.00	Wadena SWCD provided cost-share assistance to 1 producer to conduct irrigation water management, 7 cover crop contracts, and 31 well sealings through our local and state funding sources.
12	2028	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach related to RCPP activities including project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, clinics, open houses, and other activities per the PPA. Technical assistance for pre-application, planning, designing, installation and/or check-out on FA applications or contracts.	\$84,000.00	\$10,484.00	\$10,484.00	Staff providing technical assistance to producers through our Irrigation scheduling program. Staff visited 18 fields weekly through the growing season checking on crop stage, soil moisture levels, recording rainfall and irrigation events. Staff provided producers with weekly charts showing soil moisture levels to provide producers with solid science-based information to help them determine if and when to irrigate and how much water was needed.
11	2028	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District	technical assistance for pre-application, planning, designing, installation and/or check-out on FA applications or contracts	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None to report
10	2028	MN	TA: "Implementation" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District	Technical assistance for pre-application, planning, designing, installation and/or check-out on FA applications or contracts	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None to report
										Sherburne SWCD reported project

9	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District	Education and outreach related to RCPP activities including project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, clinics, open houses, and other activities per the PPA.	\$35,000.00	\$13,113.00	\$13,113.00	development hours for steering committee work, including planning meetings, worksheet development, and project coordination. Technical engineering hours were dedicated to monitoring DNR observation wells. Outreach and education efforts included planning and facilitating the 2025 RCPP Irrigation Training, supporting steering committee activities, communicating with participating counties, and assisting with the 2025 University of Minnesota Irrigator Program. In partnership with TNC, Sherburne conducted additional 2025 outreach on soil health under irrigation, including the Women in Ag event, two soil health demonstrations, and one combined soil health/irrigation event.
8	2028	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District	State or local FA payments for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP and/or other local and state conservation programs that are implementing eligible conservation practices that address the resource concerns identified in the Irrigation RCPP application and are within the project area.	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	Locally funded projects supported three operators with sprinkler system (442) upgrades, five operators with Cover Crop (340) implementation, one operator with No Till (329), and one landowner with a Well Decommissioning (351).
7	2028	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District	Local FA payments for eligible conservation practices that are addressing project specific resource concerns and supported by the Irrigation RCPP within the project area for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP.	\$25,000.00	\$20,963.00	\$20,963.00	Locally funded projects supported three operators with sprinkler system (442) upgrades, five operators with Cover Crop (340) implementation, one operator with No Till (329), and one landowner with a Well Decommissioning (351).
6	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Pope Soil and Water Conservation District	Funding for on-farm research projects at the Rosholt Research Farm in Pope County to document environmental outcomes from implementing the conservation practices under the RCPP. The research applies specifically to the practices that the Irrigation RCPP in providing cost share for, including irrigation water management, nitrogen fertilizer management and nitrate leaching, irrigation scheduling, and use of cover crop and tillage practice under irrigation.	\$500,000.00	\$301,774.00	\$301,774.00	Funding for irrigation-focused research at the Rosholt Research Farm to document environmental outcomes from implementing the conservation practices under the RCPP. Activities include sampling over 300 soil lysimeters every week, water analysis using spectrophotometry, field work and coordination, and data reporting. The research include irrigation and nitrogen management, cover crops, irrigation timing, and tillage practices. Pope SWCD hosted a field day on August 21, 2025, at the Rosholt Research Farm with about 80 attendees.
5	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Pope Soil and Water Conservation District	Collect information about groundwater levels within the project area to document impacts of irrigation water withdrawals. This information is used to help document impacts of the RCPP-implemented irrigation practices on groundwater levels.	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None to report
										Funding for the research project at the U of M: "Reduced Tillage, Cover Cropping and Varied Irrigation in Corn-Soybean", including Installation of conservation practices included successful establishment of cereal rye cover crop, implementation of tillage treatments

87	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Minnesota Corn Research and Promotion Council	Funding for two research projects funded by the MN Corn Research and Promotion Council to document environmental outcomes from implementing some of the irrigation conservation practices supported under the RCPP. The research applies to the practices that the Irrigation RCPP is providing cost share for, including irrigation water management, water and/or soil research.	\$172,363.00	\$102,819.00	\$102,819.00	(no-till and chisel plow), and preparation of 128 research plots for evaluation under multiple irrigation regimes. Other activities included development and establishment of research plots, planting of corn and soybean crops, implementation of irrigation treatments, installation and maintenance of soil moisture sensors and lysimeters, and ongoing data collection including plant, soil, and water sampling. Harvest activities were completed across all plots, with yield data collected and samples submitted for laboratory analysis to evaluate nitrogen dynamics and treatment effects.
86	2028	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Todd Wadena Electric Cooperative	provide RCPP project-specific outreach including irrigation technology, irrigation efficiency for Economic Outcomes: and project promotion and similar via newsletter, social media posts and other communication formats.	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
85	2028	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Todd Wadena Electric Cooperative	Education and outreach within the project area related to RCPP activities such as supporting practice implementation, project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, field days, workshops, open houses, lunch and learn and similar events. Also provide information about energy consumption with and without the implementation of irrigation conservation practices.	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
84	2028	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Central Lakes College	Education, outreach and training within the project area related to irrigation water and nutrient management, on-farm water, nutrient and crop management and economics using a mobile classroom, at field days, and other outreach events.	\$125,000.00	\$10,716.00	\$10,716.00	Irrigation Training at the Center, Royalton Ag – review of irrigation practices, Technology Trailer at Cold Spring - review of irrigation practices, irrigation model, Benchmark Leaders – economic status of irrigation, Various organizational presentations on irrigation economics, AgCentric posts recognizing irrigation meeting presentations or attendance, Articles provided to in the Staples World or Brainerd Dispatch regarding meeting hosted at CLC, Hosted part of the Upper Mississippi Basin Water Tour
83	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Central Lakes College	Education, outreach and state cost share contribution within the project area related to RCPP activities such as supporting practice implementation, project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, mailings, hosting nitrate testing clinics, and other activities per the PPA.	\$331,500.00	\$69,086.00	\$69,086.00	Ag and Energy Field Day, MN Forest Resource Council – review of irrigation practices, NW Suburban Integration School – review of irrigation practices, Communications Activities with local producers Ag Careers Roundtable, Urban Ag Partnership, BWSR Fall conference, C2A3, Centra Sota Legislative Field Day, East Ottertail Breakfast on the Farm, First Green, KWS Seeds, Lakeville HS Career Event, MN SWCD meeting, Next Gen at Grand Farm, Soil Health events: Renville and Sacred Heart, STEM Resource Fair, Swanville High School visit.
				Non-Lead		Funding for research projects at the Central Lakes College to document environmental outcomes from implementing the				Field demonstration projects with 60"

82	2028	MN	TA: "Other" TA per APF	Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Central Lakes College	conservation practices under the RCPP. The research applies to the practices that the Irrigation RCPP is providing cost share for, including irrigation water management, water and/or soil research.	\$900,000.00	\$212,478.00	\$212,478.00	corn row plot, cover crops, cover crop grazing potential, soil moisture sensors, and irrigation water management
81	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Wright Soil and Water Conservation District	Education, outreach and state cost share contribution within the project area related to RCPP activities such as supporting practice implementation, project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, mailings, hosting nitrate testing clinics, and other activities per the PPA.	\$5,000.00	\$4,088.00	\$4,088.00	Wright SWCD conducted groundwater and well monitoring for 22 DNR observation wells. They hosted a "Feeding Alternative Forages" field day on August 19, 2025, focused on using cover crops as livestock forage, with 36 attendees.
80	2028	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Wright Soil and Water Conservation District	State or local financial assistance for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP and/or other local and state conservation programs that are implementing eligible conservation practices that address the resource concerns identified in the Irrigation RCPP application and are within the project area.	\$20,000.00	\$13,048.00	\$13,048.00	Locally funded work included one well decommissioning/sealing project and four cover crop contracts.
79	2028	MN	FA: RCPP Land Management Activity Related FA Expenditures	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Wright Soil and Water Conservation District	Local FA payments for eligible conservation practices addressing project specific resource concerns and supported by the Irrigation RCPP within the project area for producers eligible for funding under the irrigation RCPP	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
78	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Wilkin Soil and Water Conservation District	Education, outreach and state cost share contribution within the project area related to RCPP activities such as supporting practice implementation, project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, mailings, hosting nitrate testing clinics, and other activities per the PPA. District staff providing technical assistance to irrigators with irrigation water management planning, design, installation and/or checkout to address RCPP resource concerns.	\$5,000.00	\$1,512.00	\$1,512.00	Staff time for project development: speaking with producers, developing plans irrigation education and outreach. Staff time associated with creating flyers, radio interview preparation, and speaking on the radio.
77	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe	Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe staff providing technical training to their Tribal members on how to manage the irrigation systems according to NRCS Standards and Specifications.	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	None reported
76	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	West Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District	Education, outreach and state cost share contribution within the project area related to RCPP activities such as supporting practice implementation, project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, mailings, hosting nitrate testing clinics, and other activities per the PPA.	\$10,000.00	\$1,412.00	\$1,412.00	Staff discussed the RCPP program at a beginning farmer meeting hosted by USDA. 5 producers were in attendance. Staff attended the 2-day RCPP irrigation training workshop.
75	2028	MN	TA: "Enhancement" Expenditures per APF	Non-Lead Partner (Non-Federal Funds)	Todd Soil and Water Conservation District	Collect information for Conservation Outcomes; about groundwater levels and coordinate cooperative rainfall monitoring within the project area to document impacts of irrigation water withdrawals. This information is used to help document impacts of the RCPP-implemented irrigation practices on groundwater levels, and irrigation water management. Education, outreach and state cost share contribution within the project area related to RCPP activities such as supporting practice implementation, project promotion, promotion of conservation irrigation practices and technology, outreach via mailings, social media posts,	\$17,500.00	\$5,237.00	\$5,237.00	Observation well readings assist the DNR with monitoring seasonal groundwater and aquifer changes by measuring the depth of water table/groundwater from the surface once per month in the growing season on 11 wells in Todd County. Trained monitoring technicians applied a combination of 69 technical hours to complete this task as a match activity for the RCPP Grant. In the

				brochures or presentations, lead or participate in planning, promoting, executing, presenting and post evaluation of project-related field days, workshops, open houses, assistance with supporting programs such as Ag BMP loans, Ag WQ certification and cost share assistance, and other activities per the PPA.			MAWCP process with 4 farmers, Todd SWCD technical staff educated on site about the benefits of irrigation technologies, and access to the RCPP grant.
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# Outcomes

## Conservation Outcomes

Outcome Title	Resource Concern	Treatment	Measurement Type	Reference/Source	Project Outcomes Year 1	Total	Summary of Work on Project Outcomes
Water Quality Benefits	Field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss	Implementation of irrigation conservation practices	Best Scientific Estimate	Research at the University of Minnesota and North Dakota State University	0.00%	0%	The RCPP project is new, this activity has not started yet
Adoption of relevant online irrigation water management tools	Field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss	Use of advanced, on-line irrigation water management schedulers or other management tools	Monitoring	The primary scheduler will be the Irrigation Management Assistant from the University of Minnesota, available at <a href="https://ima.respec.cloud/app/">https://ima.respec.cloud/app/</a>	5.00%	5%	Promotion of the use of irrigation water management tools are underway during this year's winter meetings.
Estimated Percent Nitrate Leaching Loss Reduction	Field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss	The computer model EPIC and SWAT, calibrated using in-field research monitoring data	Modeling	Use of split datasets. Calibration of models to 50% of field monitoring datasets, testing of the model outputs against the remaining 50% of the datasets	0.00%	0%	The RCPP project is new, this activity has not started yet

**Economic Outcomes**

<b>Outcome Title</b>	<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Measurement Type</b>	<b>Reference/Source</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Project Outcomes Year 1</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Summary of Work on Project Outcomes</b>
Estimate energy consumption impacts of implementing conservation irrigation prac	Comparison of farm-level power consumption outcomes with and without conservation practices	Monitoring	Todd-Wadena Electric Coop power consumption breakdown	The Todd-Wadena electric coop will provide baseline irrigation energy use data and on-going monitoring to document benefits of energy conservation	0.00%	0%	The RCPP project is new, this activity has not started yet
Estimate economic impacts of implementing conservation irrigation practice	Comparison of farm-level economic outcomes with and without conservation practices	Monitoring	Farm Business Management Program	The Farm Business Management Program is a voluntary program where enrolled farmers can have their economic performance analyzed and compared anonymously to peers. We will compare economic performance between irrigators with and without irrigation conservation practice	0.00%	0%	The RCPP project is new, this activity has not started yet

**Social Outcomes**

<b>Outcome Title</b>	<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Measurement Type</b>	<b>Reference/Source</b>	<b>Project Outcomes Year 1</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Summary of Work on Project Outcomes</b>
Field days and other events related to project resource concern	Partnership-led field days, irrigation events and other outreach activities	Other (Describe)	Participant quantity tracking and event evaluations	5.00%	5%	Field days and irrigation clinics during the 2025/2026 winter season
Acres impacted and participants enrolled receiving financial assistance	Summary of conservation practice implementation	Monitoring	on-going data collection	0.00%	0%	The RCPP project is new, this activity has not started yet
SWCD and NRCS technical staff receiving training	Partnership-led workshop on irrigation technology, irrigation systems management, and practice certification	Monitoring	Ongoing, annual trainings	0.00%	0%	The RCPP project is new, this activity has not started yet

