



## LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

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December 2020 Administrator report  
From: Linda Loomis, Administrator  
To: LMRWD Board of Managers

In addition to items on the meeting agenda, work continues on the following District projects and issues:

### **Other Work**

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#### **River Resource Forum**

The US Army Corps of Engineers held River Resource Forum #118 on December 1st. The Corps provided updates on all the projects that they have been working on. The Corps reported that most of the work completed in 2020 was channel maintenance deferred because of high-water in 2019. The [ribbon cutting for the Bass Ponds](#) habitat restoration project can be viewed on-line.

#### **Dakota County Manager Solicitation**

At the November Board meeting, the Board agrees they wanted to send a mailing to all residential addresses in Dakota County. A mailing has been prepared and is scheduled to be mailed this week. Managers were included in the mailing so you should see it in your mail box in the next week.

#### **Watershed Based Funding**

The Minnesota River North group is next scheduled to meet Monday, December 21, 2020. Before that meeting the group needs to come to an agreement on the ranking criteria and then rank the projects by the close of business Thursday, December 17th. There has been some mention that perhaps allocations should consider geographical distribution as one of the criteria.

The Minnesota River South group held its 6th meeting November 20, 2020. The group finalized the projects that would receive funding. The project that the LMRWD submitted for funding (Downtown Shakopee BMPs) was not selected to receive any funds. It was decided that they wanted to settle the list of projects at that meeting (even though grant agreements do not have to be finalized with BWSR until March 2021). I was disappointed in the list of projects that received funding. Apple Valley, which was chosen to represent cities on the group, received funding for two projects within the city. Lower MN River South has been allocated \$829,075 for FY 2020/2021.

Meeting notes are available (for both groups) if Managers wish to see them.

#### **One Watershed One Plan - Planning Area 56**

The last meeting of this group was September 15, 2020. The meeting of this group scheduled for Tuesday, November 24th was cancelled. I spoke with Holly Kalbus Environmental Resources Specialist from LeSuer County to inform her that the Board wanted to be involved with the planning regardless of the final planning area boundaries. The next meeting has been scheduled for 1:00 pm, January 8, 2021.

#### **Data Management**

Della Young and I met with the data management consultant on December 8th to discuss options for cloud storage of the District's data. It was decided to use SharePoint since the District already has it included in the with Office 365 subscription it has. The next step is to set up a file structure in SharePoint and then begin migration of the files to the cloud.

### **Carver County State Aid Highway 61**

The District was informed by the DNR that Carver County is beginning its work to improve County State Aid Highway 61 from Bluff Creek to Engler Boulevard. This project will impact Seminary Fen, Assumption Creek and the Minnesota River floodplain.

### **Ike's Creek Chloride Monitoring**

The District has been informed that the Metropolitan Council is working on an agreement to begin monitoring Chloride in Ike's Creek. The District is working on an agreement between the District and the Friends of the Refuge.

### **Seminary Fen monitoring**

The District was informed that the data loggers in the monitoring wells in Seminary Fen have lost battery life. The DNR asked the District about replacing the loggers. Rather than just authorize replacement of the loggers, the District wanted to talk to the Seminary Fen work group to discuss the best option for replacement. A meeting of the work group has been scheduled for December 22, 2020.

## **Watershed Plan Projects**

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**Gully Inventory and condition assessment:** No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/mn-river-corridor-management-project>

**Eden Prairie Area #3 Stabilization:** This item is on the November 2020 agenda.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/mn-river-corridor-management-project>

**Riley Creek Cooperative project/Lower Riley Creek restoration:** No new information since last update.

Project website: <http://www.rpbcd.org/whats-happening/projects/lower-riley-creek-ecological-restoration>

**Seminary Fen ravine stabilization project:** There is no new information to report since the last update.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/bwsr-clean-water-fund-grant-administration>

**East Chaska Creek: (Carver County Watershed Based Funding):** The District received notice November 18, 2020 that the city approved this project. The City is waiting for the ground to freeze before giving the go ahead for construction.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/east-chaska-creek-bank-stabilization>

**Schroeder Acres Park (Scott County Watershed Based Funding):** This item was to be on the December agenda for approval of the scope of work. It will be on the January agenda.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/schroeder-acres-parkeagle-creek-sub-watershed-stormwater-study>

**Shakopee Downtown BMP Retrofit (Scott County Watershed Based Funding):** No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/targeted-bmps-downtown-shakopee>

**PLOC (Prior Lake Outlet Channel) Restoration (Scott County Watershed Based Funding):** No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/prior-lake-outlet-channel-realignmentwetland-restoration>

**Dakota County Fen Gap Analysis and Conceptual Model (Dakota County Watershed Based Funding):**

No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/dakota-county-fen-study-management-plan>

**Hennepin County Chloride Project (Hennepin County Watershed Based Funding):** There are two Chloride projects the LMRWD is partner to in Hennepin County under the Watershed Based Funding pilot program (WBF). The Countywide project was reported on in the November Administrator's Report.

The second project is between the LMRWD, the Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District, the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District and the Richfield Bloomington WMO. These groups pooled the funding that was granted to each of them under the WBF pilot program. This project will provide funding to purchase equipment or other technology to reduce the use of salt on impervious surfaces. This project was launched on December 2, 2020. Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District will administer the project. Notice has been posted to the [LMRWD website](#).

**Vegetation Management Plan:** No new information since last update.

**Sustainable Lake Management Plan: Trout Lakes:** No new information to report since last update.

**Geomorphic Assessment of Trout Streams:** No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/geomorphic-assessment-trout-streams>

**Spring Creek Cost Share:** Staff is preparing to begin the hydrology study of Spring Creek.

**West Chaska Creek Re-meander:** No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/1695a2cf90b44ddba730aad399196405>

**Seminary Fen Ravine Restoration Area C2:** No new information to report since last update.

## Project Reviews

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**Canterbury Crossing:** - City of Shakopee

Project website: <https://www.shakopeemn.gov/business-development/current-development/canterbury-commons/canterbury-crossing>

**Credit River Outfall Repair:** - City of Savage - No new information to report since last update.

**Watermark in Savage:** City of Savage - No new information to report since last update.

**Texas Roadhouse:** City of Shakopee - The permit for this project was approved at the November 2020 Board meeting.

**Shakopee Flats:** City of Shakopee - An amendment to this permit was approved at the November 2020 Board meeting.

Project website: <https://www.shakopeemn.gov/business-development/current-development/river-bluff-development>

**Southbridge Crossing 6th Addition:** - City of Shakopee - No new information to report since last update.

**Veterans Memorial Bridge:** City of Shakopee - NO new information to report since last update.

**Quarry Lake Park Improvements:** City of Shakopee - No new information to report since last update.

**Prairie Heights:** City of Eden Prairie - No new information to report since the last update.

**Carver County CSAH 10:** City of Chaska - No new information to report since the last update..

Project website: <https://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/public-works/projects-studies/highway-10-study-victoria-chaska-area>

**Keyland Development:** City of Shakopee - No new information to report since the last update.

**Hentges Industrial park:** City of Shakopee - No new information to report since the last update.

**9960 Deerbrook, Chanhassen:** No new information to report since last update.

**Summerland Place Residential Development EAW:** Shakopee - No new information since last update.

**Timber Creek Residential Development EAW:** Carver - No new information to report since last update.

**MNDOT TH13 Improvement Study:** A field inspection of the project area to review the wetland delineation was held Thursday, November 19, 2020. Subsequently a virtual meeting was held to discuss what had been observed in the field and make a determination as to the classification of a couple of areas. A summary of the field inspection is available on-line at this [link](#). On Monday, December 14, 2020 MNDOT held a virtual meeting to update everyone on the status of the project. Design work is beginning and there was discussion of stormwater management. The LMRWD greatest concern is the impact this project may have on Savage Fen.

Project website: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/hwy13savageburnsville/index.html>

**Historic Fort Snelling Revitalization:** No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/upperpost/index.html>

**HCRRRA MN River Bluffs Regional Trail:** This project was scheduled for completion in December 2020. The District has not received notice that the project is complete.

Project website: <https://www.hennepin.us/riverbluffstrail>

**MNDOT ADA Trail improvements in Mendota:** No new information since last update.

**MNDOT trail drainage improvements in Lilydale:** No new information since last update.

**MNDOT Trail - 494:** No new information to report since last update.

**City of Chanhassen - Moon Valley Gravel Pit:** No new information to report since last update.

**City of Carver - Levee rehabilitation:** The State's Flood Hazard Mitigation Program received \$17 million in the bonding bill passed in October. Lisa Frenette informed me (Pat Lynch, MN DNR confirmed) that this project was awarded \$150,000. This is less than what had been requested, but the City will be able to begin work on design and easement acquisition. The City will be looking for \$75,000 from the LMRWD which is 50% of the match required by the Flood Hazard Mitigation Program. The District is currently working with the City to assemble the appropriate documentation to transfer the funds.

**City of Carver - Jonathan Parkway upgrades (CSAH 11)** - This item is on the December 2020 Board meeting agenda.

Project website: <https://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/public-works/projects-studies/jonathan-carver-parkway-highway-11-improvements>

**Dakota County - MN River Greenway:** No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/About/TrailPlanning/Pages/minnesota-river.aspx>

**City of Burnsville - Freeway Dump and Landfill:** No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/freeway-landfill-and-dump>

**City of Eden Prairie - Peterson Wetland Bank:** The District received the Notice of Application for the Wetland Delineation was received November 20, 2020. A map of the area that will become wetland bank is attached.

**City of Chanhassen - TH 101 Improvements:** The roadway is open. There is still work to be done on this project in this phase of the project. This project reached from Pioneer Trail to CSAH 61. Only the southern end of the project area has been constructed.

Project website: <https://www.highway101improvements.com/>

**Cities of Richfield/Bloomington - TH 77 & 77th Street underpass:** This project is on the December 2020 agenda.

**City of Bloomington - MN Valley State Trail:** No new information to report since last update.

Project website: [https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state\\_trails/minnesota\\_valley/plans.html](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_trails/minnesota_valley/plans.html)

**MNDOT - I494/TH 5/TH 55 Mill & Overlay project:** MNDOT indicates this project is complete. It will be removed from future reports.

Project website: <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/i494invergroveheights/>

**MNDOT - I35W Bridge Replacement:** No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/i35wbloomington/index.html>

**MNDOT - I494 from TH169 to Minnesota River:** No new information to report since last update.

**MAC/LMRWD/MCWD boundary realignment:** No new information to report since last update.

**USACOE/USFWS - Bass Ponds, Marsh & Wetland:** Ribbon cutting for this project occurred virtually on November 6th. <https://www.facebook.com/usace.saintpaul/videos/786716205442897>

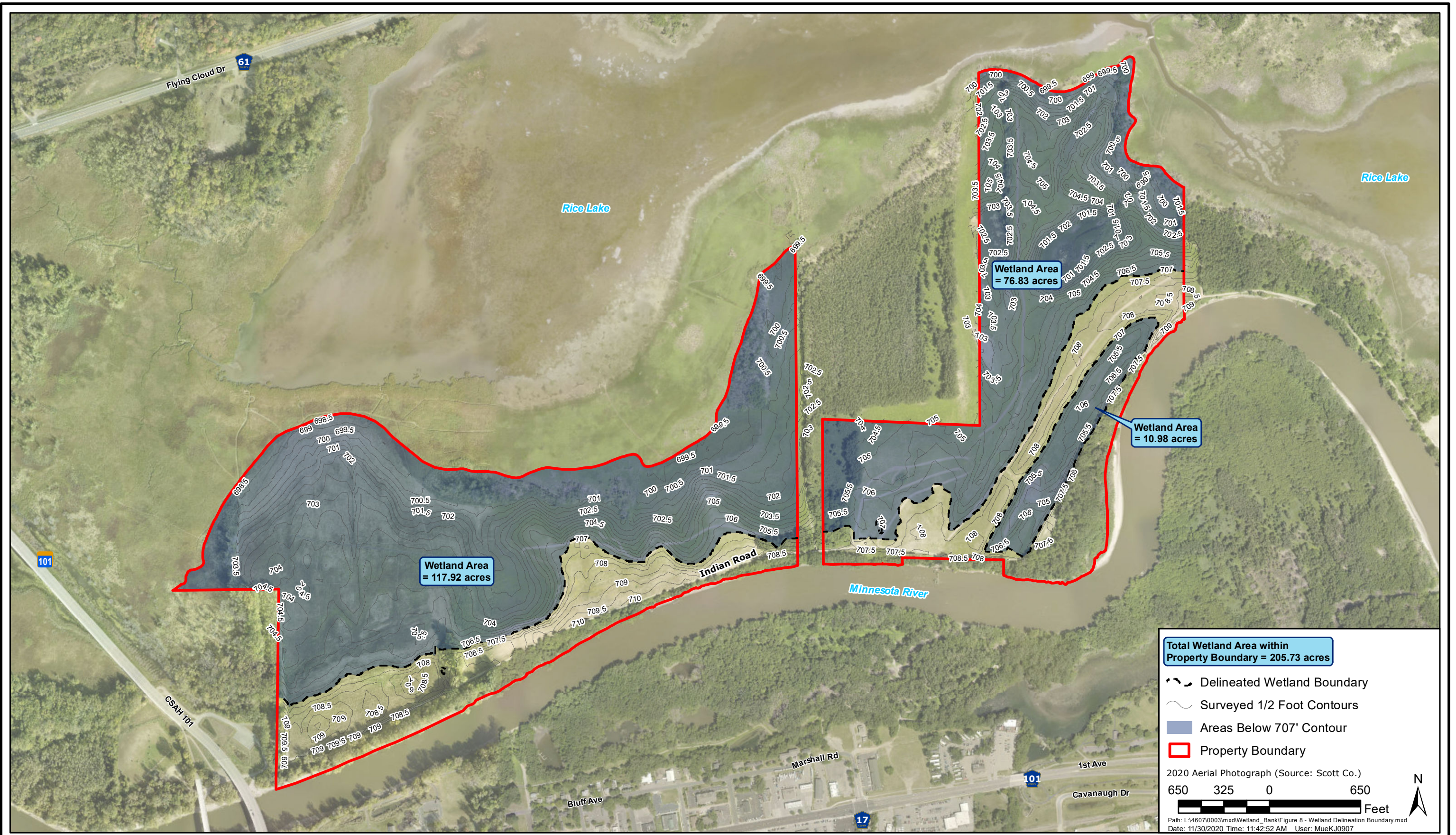
Project website: <https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Home/Projects/Article/1467604/upper-mississippi-river-restoration-program-bass-ponds-marsh-wetland-habitat-re/>

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### Upcoming meetings/events

- UMWA Annual meeting - Thursday, December 17, 2020, 5:30pm, yearend celebration at 6:30pm, contact District Administrator to join
- 2020 USACE River Resource Forums - April, August & December 2021, the April meeting is planned to be virtual
- Metro MAWD - Tuesday, January 19, 2020 7:00pm to 9:00pm





PETERSON WETLAND BANK  
 Wetland Delineation Boundary

