

Mid-Point Evaluation

On January 27, 2021, partners for Bois de Sioux and Mustinka River Watersheds published the Bois de Sioux – Mustinka Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (2021 – 2030), with Appendices A - P. Following approval of the plan by the Board of Water and Soil Resources, all thirteen LGU partners adopted the plan by resolution, and Bois de Sioux Watershed District offered to serve as the watershed based implementation grant fund fiscal host. A portion of implementation has been facilitated by three Legacy Amendment BWSR Clean Water Fund Watershed Based Implementation Fund Grants (WBIF #1 2020 – 2023, WBIF #2 2022 – 2026, WBIF #3 2024 - 2027). The Board of Water and Soil Resource is a sponsoring agency.



In 2026, staff initiated the Five-year Evaluation as described in the Bois de Sioux River – Mustinka River Joint Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Section 5.12):

Five-year Evaluation This plan has a ten-year life cycle beginning in 2021. To meet statutory requirements, this plan will be updated and/or revised every 10 years. Over the course of the plan life cycle, progress towards reaching goals and completing the implementation schedule may vary. In addition, new issues may emerge and/or new monitoring data, models, or research may become available. As such, in 2025- 26 and at every 5-year midpoint of a plan life cycle, an evaluation will be done to determine if the current course of actions is sufficient to reach the goals of the plan, or if a change in the course of actions is necessary.

Per the Board of Water and Soil Resources Guidance for Assessing Implementation of CWMPs, October 2021:

The purpose of the Mid-Point Evaluation is to determine: a) how much progress has been made toward goals in the plan; b) whether new information has become available since the plan was approved warrants any changes to the plan; c) whether the plan should be amended based on progress and data.

On August 6, 2026, the following progress report was presented to the Policy Committee. Steering Committee members did not recommend plan amendments to modify goals at this time. Progress has slowed on Issues #4 Public Flooding, #5 Private Flooding, and #9 Unstable Channels due to existing and changed Public Waters Permitting regulations and lack of funding for flood mitigation projects; both of these circumstances are beyond the control and influence of the Bois de Sioux & Mustinka River Joint Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan partners, and it is possible that future legislative bodies streamline Public Waters Permitting regulations and/or provide expanded funding opportunities. This report was accepted and approved by the Policy Committee.

		JCWMP PLAN MEASUREABLE GOALS					
		Bois de Sioux Watershed		Mustinka Watershed			
		LAKE TRAVERSE & BOIS DE SIOUX RIVER	RABBIT RIVER	LOWER MUSTINKA & TWELVEMILE CREEK	UPPER MUSTINKA RIVER	TWELVEMILE CREEK & FIVEMILE CREEK	
1. Sediment Reduction <i>in tons/year</i>	Long-Term	26,800	6,000	4,400	28,400	4,300	69,900
	Short-Term	1,125	225	345	1,175	900	3,770
2. Soil Health <i>in acres</i>	Long-Term	30,800	45,800	21,800	39,800	5,500	143,700
	Short-Term	343	698	665	238	377	2,321
3. Altered Hydrology (ac-ft) <i>in acre-feet</i>	Long-Term	1,915	15,422	917	24,367	36,282	78,903
	Short-Term	1,237	2,545	917	24,367	5,442	34,508
4. Public Flooding <i>by event</i>	Long-Term	100-Year 24-Hour Event Flood Protection for Communities & 10-Year 24-Hour Event Flood Protection for Rural Public Infrastructure					
	Short-Term	Define Flood Risk for Herman, Dumont, Campbell					
5. Private Flooding <i>by event</i>	Long-Term	100-Year 24-Hour Event Flood Protection for all Rural Homesteads and 10-Year 24-Hour Event for Other Private Infrastructure					
	Short-Term	At risk farmsteads and private infrastructure identified and prioritized					
6. Public Ditch System Instability <i>in miles</i>	Long-Term	All public ditch system miles are stable.					
	Short-Term	75 miles of public ditch system are stabilized.					
7. Public Drainage System Inadequacy <i>in miles</i>	Long-Term	All public ditch system miles are adequate to convey the 10-Year, 24-Hour storm event.					
	Short-Term	75 miles of public ditch system are repaired/improved to convey the 10-Year, 24-Hour Storm event.					
8. Nutrient Loading Reduction <i>in pounds per year</i>	Long-Term	91,900	19,700	10,800	39,100	38,400	199,900
	Short-Term	320	190	110	375	260	1,255
9. Unstable Channels <i>in miles</i>	Long-Term	465					
	Short-Term	10					
10. Bacteria Loading	Long-Term	Delist 2 Impairments		Delist 5 Impairrr			Delist 2 Impairments
	Short-Term	Install 3.4 miles Fencing		Install 1400' of Fencing			
11. Stormwater Management	Long-Term	All municipalities have a stormwater management plan					
	Short-Term	Priority municipalities (Wendell, Elbow Lake, Graceville) have a stormwater management plan					
12. Vulnerable Groundwater Protection	Long-Term	Safe drinking water supplies are maintained					
	Short-Term	24 Wells are Sealed per Year X 10 Years					

*1998/2022 Mediation Agreement in Effect but no clear path is provided at this time how the Mediation Agreement cuts through new 2024 Regulatory rules

= Short Term Goal Met for Planning Region

GOAL STATUS	2021 - 2025 Developments	Is progress reasonable, leveraged, pace appropriate, and in-line with current effort and capacity?	Does new data warrant a policy discussion about reprioritizing or modifying goals?
DONE	Prevailing wage requirement for grant funds increases project expenses	Yes	No
DONE			
IN PROGRESS	Pace directly affected by FHM Lack of Funding	All outside funding sources of funding have been exhausted; nothing left to do but advocate and wait	No
DUMONT & GRACEVILLE IN PROGRESS*	Pace affected by new Public Waters Regulations & FHM Lack of Funding; MPCA recommending more extreme planning for climate resilience	No - Behind ST Goal Progress	Yes
IN PROGRESS*	Pace affected by new Public Waters Regulations & Ring Dike Funding Issues; MPCA recommending more extreme planning for climate resilience	No - Behind ST Goal Progress	Yes
75%	Big Stone, Grant, and Stevens Ditches have more PW interactions; new WCA rules slow development	Yes	No
73%	Big Stone, Grant, and Stevens Ditches have more PW interactions; new WCA rules slow development	Yes	No
DONE	New studies indicate that increasing overwintering vegetation results in increased phosphorus releases	Yes	No - but note should be added that monitored increases in phosphorus should be expected as a result of increased riparian areas, converted ag land to grassed easements, increases to CRP, and overwinter cover crops; increases in phosphorus should not be blamed on existing land use
36%	Pace affected by new Public Waters Permitting, & Funding Calendars; MPCA recommending more extreme planning for climate resilience	No - Behind ST Goal Progress	Yes - we will be lucky to complete Doran Creek Phase I - had anticipated comleting the whole project in a ten year time span
IN PROGRESS			
NO INFORMATION			
IN PROGRESS		Yes	No