

Bois de Sioux Watershed District Findings of Fact and Record of Decision

Environmental Assessment Worksheet for: Big Lake Flood Risk Reduction Project June 17, 2021

Responsible Government Unit: Bois de Sioux Watershed District

Contact Person: Jamie Beyer, Administrator

Bois de Sioux Watershed District

704 Hwy 75 South

Wheaton, MN 56296

Phone: 302-563-4185

Email: bdswd@runestone.net

Proposer: Bois de Sioux Watershed District

Contact Person: Jamie Beyer, Administrator

Bois de Sioux Watershed District

704 Hwy 75 South

Wheaton, MN 56296

Phone: 302-563-4185

Email: bdswd@runestone.net

1. Background

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District (BdSWD) proposes to install a water control structure on the west end of Big Lake to manage water levels and provide flood risk reduction for the City of Herman and downstream lands and communities.

2. Environmental Review

A mandatory environmental assessment worksheet (EAW) was required under Minnesota Rules 4410.4300, subpart 27(A), public waters, public waters wetlands, and wetlands. The BdSWD is the Responsible Government Unit (RGU) and prepared an EAW according to Environmental Quality Board (EQB) rules with assistance from Moore Engineering, Inc.

3. EAW Notification and Distribution

Notice of availability of the EAW was published in the EQB Monitor on February 2, 2021. A press release was published on the BdSWD website, as well as in the Grant County Herald on February 3, 2021. The 30-day comment period ended at 4:30 pm on March 4, 2021. The agency and organization distribution list is included as Attachment 1.

4. Comments Received and Responses to Comments

During the public comment period, three comment letters were received. The comment letters are provided as Attachment 1. Table 1 provides a list of the entities that commented on the EAW, a summary of their comments, and responses to each comment.

Table 1: Summary of Comments and Responses

Entity	Date	Letter/ Number	Summarized Comment	RGU Response
Minnesota Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA)	2/10/2021	A 1	Recommends that a qualified archaeologist conduct a survey of the site for potential unrecorded archeological or cemetery sites.	A Section 404 permit will be required for construction, and the requirements of Section 106 will be followed.
Minnesota Pollution control Agency (MPCA)	3/2/2021	B 1	The project will require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System / State Disposal System (NPDES/SDS) General Construction Stormwater Permit (CSW). Additional redundant sediment controls will be required as part of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).	An NPDES / SDS permit will be required to be obtained by the selected contractor for project construction. The associated language regarding redundant erosion controls will be incorporated into the design plan. The BdSWD will ensure that the selected contractor will implement the SWPPP during construction.
		B 2	If disturbed soil is left alone for 14 or more days, stabilization of said soil is required.	See response to comment B1.
		B 3	A section 401 Water Quality Certification is required for the project. Certification must follow the procedures adopted by the MPCA, effective September 2020.	The 401 Water Quality Certification process will be followed and a 30-day comment period will be observed. Certification will be requested at the time of application for the Public Waters Work permit.
		B4	MPCA should be included as a regulator of all surface waters as defined in Minnesota Statute 115.01 in relation to section 401 Water Quality Certification.	BdSWD recognizes the MPCA as the regulator of surface water under Section 401 and will follow the necessary regulations for the project.
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR)	3/4/2021	C 1	MN DNR believes that there would be no benefit, and likely a detriment, to wildlife use of Big Lake from the proposed project.	Based on comments received during the EAW public comment period, the project operation was modify to reduce the potential for adverse impacts.
		C 2	MN DNR requests clarification of proposed operations outlined on the table located on page 7 of the EAW. DNR recommends displaying normal operations in a separate table from the flood operations for increased clarity.	Based on comments received during the EAW public comment period, the project operation was modified to reduce the potential for adverse impacts. The O&M Plan was revised to reflect the modified project. See Attachment 2 for additional clarification on operation.

Entity	Date	Letter/ Number	Summarized Comment	RGU Response
		C 3	Please provide the estimated length of time to reach target water level elevations for the fall and winter drawdown from initiation of gate operations.	It is anticipated that the drawdown will commence on approximately August 1 and could potentially reach the target elevation within approximately 60 days depending on existing flow, precipitation, and potential groundwater recharge. See Attachment 2 for additional clarification on operation.
		C4	Explain how closing gates in the fall would coincide with desired flood capacity to allow for spring run-off.	If the lake levels on August 1 are at or above the normal runout elevation of 1075.7, the gate would be opened and flashboards removed to set a target drawdown elevation to 1074.2. This scenario allows for additional flood capacity for spring runoff. See Attachment 2 for additional clarification on operation.
		C5	Given existing weather patterns, at what frequency is a winter drawdown expected? MN DNR is concerned this winter drawdown could occur frequently and have ecological impacts to the Lake.	Based on comments received during the EAW public comment period, the project operation was modify to reduce the potential for adverse impacts. The project no longer includes operation of a winter drawdown. The O&M Plan was revised to reflect the modified project.
		C6	Discuss wildlife impacts in the littoral zone that would happen during a winter drawdown specifically to adjacent wetlands that could be hydrologically connected.	The project was modified to no longer include a winter drawdown as part of the O&M Plan.
		C7	MN DNR notes lowering water levels on Big Lake will likely have negative effects on the lake's riparian zone and associated wetland plant communities and wildlife habitat and may increase the spread of invasive species.	As described in the EAW on pg. 24, measures will be taken to control the spread of invasive plant species. Project operation has also been modified to only include the late summer/early fall time period, which will limit the riparian zone exposure and further help minimize the potential for spreading and establishing invasive species. See also response to C6 above.
		C8	MN DNR believes the project has the potential to harm sensitive aquatic plants found in Big Lake such as the Spiral Ditchgrass (<i>Ruppia cirrhosa</i>), which is listed as a species of special concern.	A Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS) review was submitted to the MN DNR on 6/4/2020 and a response received on 9/14/2020. Spiral Ditchgrass (<i>Ruppia cirrhosa</i>) was not identified as a species within the project area. The District will consult with the Regional Plant Ecologist to obtain known information related to the presence of this species

Entity	Date	Letter/ Number	Summarized Comment	RGU Response
				within the project area and consider recommendations for minimizing impact to known populations.
		C9	MNDNR recommends acquiring/showing a bathymetric (lake depth) map to show impacted acreage of adjacent wetlands and associated littoral habitat.	A topographical map was created utilizing bathymetric survey data completed by Ducks Unlimited in January 2005. See Attachment 6. Additionally, the project operation has been modified from what was originally proposed so that the drawdown is limited to 1.5 feet below the natural runout elevation of the lake in late summer/early fall. This minimizes the littoral zone exposure and will also not increase littoral zone exposure in the winter.
		C10	Provide additional information about the expected frequency of winter drawdowns.	Please see response to Comment C5.
		C11	Describe whether the downstream watercourse is expected to have continuous flow. If it does, the project could affect channel stability, making it more prone to erosion and sedimentation. DNR recommends that the project design include consideration of a two-stage ditch design.	The downstream channel is a private drainage system, controlled by a 24" culvert with minimal flow, which outlets into Grant County Ditch 8 as the downstream receiving water. The operating plan for the project requires the gate to be closed during the summer months, simulating the existing natural condition and flow during the summer (i.e no change from current conditions). Based on the anticipated flows, the project does not create conditions to warrant a change from the existing channel design. The propose side channel will only have water flow during the active drawdown period, which is anticipated to occur starting in late July for up to approximately 60 days, ending in early October at the latest. The drawdown flows will be managed and are not anticipated to cause erosion and sedimentation issues.
		C12	MNDNR recommends the consideration of rock weirs as opposed to hard-armoring of the channel slopes.	The project does not propose hard-armoring of the downstream channel slopes. A portion of the channel will be regraded to tie into the existing elevation of the 24" culvert through Hwy 27. This will cause the channel bottom to be slightly deeper to allow for a flattened channel grade which will ultimately reduce flow velocities and potential erosion. The

Entity	Date	Letter/ Number	Summarized Comment	RGU Response
				proposed riprap is a MnDOT typical design for culvert stabilization.
		C13	In order to obtain a public water work permit to excavate the lakebed, a detailed alternative analysis will be required.	Alternatives analysis was completed for the Preliminary Engineering Report and will be included in the PWW permit application.
		C14	The applicant will be required to provide signatures from 75% of riparian landowners with the permit application in accordance with Minn. Stat. 103G.408.	Signatures will be included with the PWW permit application.
		C15	The applicant will be required to establish a water level monitoring gage and collect water level readings one to two weeks before initiating a drawdown and weekly during the drawdown.	The District will establish a staff gage location, schedule and monitoring protocol for operating the control structure following the operating and maintenance procedures as a condition of the permit.

5. Findings of Fact

- a. The proposed Big Lake Flood Risk Reduction Project will include the installation of a gated water control structure which will be operated according to an approved operation and maintenance (O&M) plan with the purpose of providing flood storage capacity.
- b. Comments were received during the EAW public comment period that caused re-evaluation by the BdSWD (project proposer) of the proposed project, primarily project operation, which is described in item c (below). The PER and O&M Plan were revised as necessary to reflect the project operation changes that were made in order to reduce potential adverse impacts.
- c. The revised O&M plan calls for an annual fall drawdown beginning August 1. This will be accomplished by opening the gate and removing 1.5 ft of flashboards in the control structure. It is estimated that the target drawdown elevation of 1074.2 will be reached within 60 days, subject to precipitation, groundwater and other influences, where it will remain until the following year when the drawdown would commence again if conditions are favorable (i.e., not too dry).
- d. The maximum that the outlet control structure will be operated to reduce the lake water level is 1.5 ft. This 1.5 ft will allow for 405 acre-feet of flood water storage.
- e. A water control structure will be installed on the south side of Highway 27 at the adjacent Art Hawkins Wildlife Refuge managed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). This control structure will be operated by the USFWS to meet their management needs and ensure that any drawdown activity occurring on Big Lake does not negatively impact the Refuge.
- f. The BdSWD will be responsible for the continued operation, maintenance, and monitoring of the project.
- g. The EAW, responses to comments, and revisions made to the PER and O&M Plan have adequately addressed issues contained in the EAW regarding the project.
- h. The project is compatible with the BdSWD Overall Plan to reduce flood damages and FDR Strategy Plan to implement distributed flood storage projects in the late timing zone of the Red River Valley.
- i. The project will comply with the Grant County Shoreland Management Zone by obtaining a conditional use permit (CUP) or grade/fill permit if needed and comply with the conditions of that permit, including reestablishment of vegetation after construction.
- j. There have been no comments received to suggest that further environmental review is warranted.
- k. The BdSWD finds that the project as proposed does not have the potential for significant environmental impacts.

6. Comparison of Potential Impacts With Evaluation of Criteria Under MN Rules

In deciding whether a project has the potential for significant environmental effects and whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is needed, the RGU (in this case, the Bois de Sioux Watershed District) must compare the impacts that may be reasonably expected to occur from the project with the four criteria by which potential impacts must be evaluated (MN Rules, Part 4410.1700, Subp. 7.A through 7.D)

A. Type, extent, and reversibility of environmental impacts:

Based upon information provided in the EAW and the Responses to Comments, including the comments and responses received by the OSA, MPCA, and DNR, and modification made to project operation as a result of public comments received, the BDSWD concludes that the potential environmental effects of the project, will be limited and can be addressed through the permitting process.

B. Cumulative potential effects. The RGU shall consider the following factors: whether the cumulative potential effect is significant; whether the contribution from the project is significant when viewed in connection with other contributions to the cumulative potential effect; the degree to which the project complies with approved mitigation measures specifically designed to address the cumulative potential effect; and the efforts of the proposer to minimize the contributions from the project:

The Big Lake Flood Risk Reduction project would not contribute to any negative cumulative potential effects when viewed in connection with other projects slated for implementation, or previously implemented in or near the project site. The project proposer has evaluated alternatives and minimized the design and operation to reduce potential project effects. Additionally, the purpose of the project is to provide flood volume capacity to reduce the potential adverse impacts from flooding.

C. The extent to which environmental effects are subject to mitigation by ongoing public regulatory authority. The RGU may rely only on mitigation measures that are specific and that can be reasonably expected to effectively mitigate the identified environmental impacts of the project:

Mitigation of any adverse environmental impacts from the project will be achieved through design and inclusion of best management practices (BMPs) and through regulations currently in place, including permit approvals, enforcement of regulations or other programs as listed here:

Table 2: Required Permits and Approvals

Unit of government	Type of application	Status
US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	Section 404 Permit	Application to be submitted
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)	Public Waters Work Permit	Application to be submitted
	Water Appropriation General Permit	Application to be submitted, if needed
Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)	Utility Accommodation on Trunk Highway Right of Way (Form 2525)	Application to be submitted

Unit of government	Type of application	Status
	Application for Drainage (Form 30795-02)	Application to be submitted
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)	NPDES General Construction Stormwater Permit	Application to be submitted by contractor
MPCA	Section 401 Certification	TBD
Grant Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)	Wetland Conservation Act	Application to be submitted
Bois de Sioux Watershed District (BdSWD)	Design Plan Review	Pending
Grant County	Conditional Use Permit or Grade/Fill Permit	Application to be submitted, if needed

D. The extent to which environmental effects can be anticipated and controlled as a result of other available environmental studies undertaken by public agencies or the project proposer including other EIS's:

No other environmental studies/review, such as EA's, EIS's, or other public agency documents are needed to identify environmental effects. The project will use best management practices (when appropriate) during construction and stay in compliance with permitting and other approval requirements to avoid and minimize potential environmental effects.

7. Decision on the Need for an Environmental Impact Statement

Minnesota Rules 4410.0300 Subp. 3. Purpose states (in part):

Environmental documents shall not be used to justify a decision, nor shall indications of adverse environmental effects necessarily require that a project be disapproved. Environmental documents shall be used as guides in issuing, amending, and denying permits and carrying out other responsibilities of governmental units to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects and to restore and enhance environmental quality.

Minnesota Rules 4410.0300 Subp. 4. Objectives further sets forth:

- The process created by parts 4410.0200 to 4410.6500 is designed to:*
- A. provide usable information to the project proposer, governmental decision makers and the public concerning the primary environmental effects of a proposed project;*
 - B. provide the public with systematic access to decision makers, which will help to maintain public awareness of environmental concerns and encourage accountability in public and private decision making;*

- C. delegate authority and responsibility for environmental review to the governmental unit most closely involved in the project;*
- D. reduce delay and uncertainty in the environmental review process; and*
- E. eliminate duplication.*

Based on the EAW, documentation compiled and reviewed for the EAW, comments received during the comment period, responses to the comments and issues identified, and modification made to the proposed project as a result of public comments, the BdSWD as the responsible government unit (RGU) for this environmental review concludes the following:

The EAW, this Findings of Fact and Record of Decision document, and related documentation and materials for the project were prepared in compliance with the procedures of the Minnesota Environmental Policy Act and Minnesota Rules Chapter 4410.

The EAW, this Findings of Fact and Record of Decision and related documentation for the project have satisfactorily addressed all of the issues for which existing information could have been reasonably obtained.

Based upon the above findings and evaluation per Minnesota Rules 4410.1700, the BdSWD finds that the proposed project does not have the potential for significant environmental impacts. Additionally, the project can easily be modified through an amendment to the operating procedures (i.e., O&M plan amendment) to further minimize potential environmental impacts if necessary. Operation of the project is subject to applicable permitting authorities. Consequently, the BdSWD issues a Negative Declaration on the EAW and does not require preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project.

Recommended Motion: Motion to adopt the Record of Decision regarding the Environmental Assessment Worksheet for the Big Lake Flood Risk Reduction Project, making a finding of no potential for significant environmental effects; a Negative Declaration and that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Attachments

Attachment 1: Public Involvement

Attachment 2: Revised Operation and Maintenance Plan – June 2021

Attachment 3: Littoral Zone Map for Big Lake



**Bois de Sioux
Watershed District**

704 Highway 75 South | Wheaton, MN 56296

Phone | 320.563.4185
Fax | 320.563.4987

www.bdswd.com
bdswd@runestone.net

I, Jamie Beyer, serving as Administrator for the Bois de Sioux Watershed, DO HEREBY certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the record for the meeting of the Managers of the Bois de Sioux Watershed Board duly held and convened on June 17, 2021, at which meeting a duly constituted quorum of the Board of Managers was present and acting throughout, and that the action below has not been modified, rescinded or revoked, and is at present in full force and effect:

Environmental Group Leader Amy Denz presented the Findings of Fact and Record of Decision for the Big Lake Flood Risk Reduction Project Environmental Assessment Worksheet. Kappahn motioned, seconded by Deal, to adopt the Record of Decision regarding the Environmental Assessment Worksheet for the Big Lake Flood Risk Reduction Project, making a finding of no potential for significant environmental effects, a negative declaration and that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. Roll call vote: Wold – no, Deal – aye, Beyer – aye; Schmidt – aye; Kappahn – aye; Vavra – aye. Motion carried.

ATTEST:



Jamie Beyer, Administrator

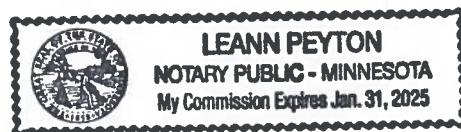
JUNE 25, 2021

Date

State of Minnesota
County of Traverse

This instrument was acknowledged before me on June 24, 2021 by Jamie Beyer as Administrator of the Bois de Sioux Watershed.


Signature of Notarial Officer



My commission expires: Jan 31, 2025

ATTACHMENT 1
Public Involvement

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

CONTACT:

Jamie Beyer, District Administrator
Bois de Sioux Watershed District
Phone: 320-563-4185
Email: bdswd@runestone.net

Environmental Assessment Worksheet Available for Big Lake Flood Risk Reduction

An Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) has been released for the Big Lake Flood Risk Reduction Project. The Bois de Sioux Watershed District and its consultant prepared the EAW. The EAW describes the purpose and need for the project and anticipated environmental impacts.

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District (BdSWD) proposes to install a water control structure on the west end of Big Lake to manage water levels and provide flood risk reduction for the City of Herman, while potentially enhancing natural resources within Big Lake. The purpose of the project is to provide additional flood storage, resulting in downstream flow reduction and flood risk reduction for the City of Herman, agricultural lands, farmsteads, and roads. A draft operation and maintenance plan has been developed that outlines how the project will be operated to accomplish project goals.

The EAW is available for public inspection at BdSWD Office located at 704 Hwy 75 South in Wheaton, MN, Monday - Friday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. The EAW is also available for viewing and download on the BdSWD's website at www.bdswd.com. Interested parties may file written comments or questions through Thursday, March 4, 2021. Comments should be submitted to bdswd@runestone.net or mailed to Jamie Beyer, BdSWD, 704 Hwy 75 South, Wheaton, MN 56296.

Minnesota Income Tax filing season opens February 12

The Minnesota Department of Revenue will open the state Individual Income Tax filing season on Friday, February 12, 2021. This date matches the opening day for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

The filing deadline to submit 2020 Minnesota income tax returns is Thursday, April 15, 2021. This date matches the filing deadline for 2020 federal income tax returns. Tax software providers and tax professionals may be accepting and preparing tax returns before February 12 and will submit those returns when the IRS and state systems open in February.

"Filing electronically and choosing direct deposit for your refund is still the most convenient, secure, and accurate way to file your return and get any refund you may be entitled to," said Revenue Commissioner Robert Doty. "We encourage qualifying taxpayers to take advantage of free tax

preparation services that will be available around the state beginning in early February, with some offering in-person options and others offering virtual services for Minnesotans."

Electronic Filing and Free Tax Help

When you file your taxes this year, choose electronic filing. Last year, over 90 percent of Minnesota taxpayers filed their taxes electronically. Using electronic software is easy, convenient, and secure. Electronic filing also ensures that you have the most up-to-date forms and instructions when you file.

Free electronic filing is available for Minnesotans who meet certain requirements. You may be eligible to file electronically for free if your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) is \$72,000 or less. To see if you are eligible for free electronic filing, see the Electronic Filing Software for Individuals <<https://go.usa.gov/xpSuy>> page on the department's website.



Keeping it clean

The past year has brought many changes to all businesses. One change is the increased cleaning required due to the pandemic. Mitch Mehlhaf at the Barrett Inn 2 1/2 spends a good part of her day (like all area bars and restaurant owners) sanitizing the area when the business is closed. The State of Minnesota has stringent cleaning requirements, and our area businesses recognize the importance of these requirements to enable them to remain open for patrons.

Regional land value report

Owning land has always been a priority for farmers and ranchers, but interest in this real asset by investors has grown the past year.

"Prices for top quality cropland sold through our auctions and listings have increased significantly since harvest," according to Brian Mohr, area sales manager for Farmers National Company. "Demand for good farmland has definitely increased."

Despite the challenges faced by agriculture and producers in 2020, the farmland market remained stable throughout the year and strengthened in the last quarter. Producers across the Northern Plains endured economic challenges with interruptions to livestock deliveries, weather issues, lower ethanol demand and a late season drought in some areas.

"Government payments, crop insurance, low interest rates and rising grain prices sustained farmers' interest in buying land, especially in the fall time frame. Farmers are currently buying 90 percent of the top quality farmland that comes up for sale and are fueling the strong demand-driven land market. Demand and prices for lower quality cropland are flat," Mohr noted.

USDA seeks applications

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is inviting applications for grants to help rural communities expand their capacity to access financial resources and build prosperity.

USDA plans to make the grants available under the Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grant Program, subject to the availability of funding. Through this program, rural communities with limited staff and resources can build the capacity needed to access USDA funding to support essential community facilities.

Funds may be used to help rural communities identify financial resources, improve the management of community facilities, and prepare reports, surveys and applications. Eligible recipients are public entities, private nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized tribes.

USDA encourages applications that will support recommendations made in the Report to the President of the United States from the Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity (PDF, 5.4 MB) to help improve life in rural America.

Applicants are encouraged to consider projects

that provide measurable results in helping rural communities build robust and sustainable economies through strategic investments. Key strategies include:

- Achieving e-Connectivity for Rural America
- Developing the Rural Economy
- Harnessing Technological Innovation
- Supporting a Rural Workforce
- Improving Quality of Life

Paper applications must be postmarked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight by 4:00 p.m. local time on March 29, 2021. Electronic applications must be submitted via <grants.gov> by midnight Eastern time on March 22, 2021.

For additional information, see page 1920 of the Jan. 11, 2021, Federal Register or contact a local Area Specialist.

If you'd like to subscribe to USDA Rural Development updates, visit our GovDelivery subscriber page.

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Public Notice

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Sesquicentennial Farm applications due March 1

Minnesota Farm Bureau's Sesquicentennial Farm program will honor Minnesota families who have owned their farms for at least 150 years. Since the Sesquicentennial Farm program began in 2008, over 400 farms have been recognized. Applications are due March 1. The Sesquicentennial Farm program recognizes family farms according to the following qualifications:

1) The farm must be at least 150 years old this year (2021) according to the abstract of title, land patent, original deed, county land records, court file in registration proceedings or other authentic land records. Please do not send originals or copies of records.

2) Your family must have owned the farm for 150 years or more. "Family" is defined as parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, first cousins and direct in-laws (father, mother, brother, sister, daughter, son-in-law).

3) Continuous residence on the farm is not required, but ownership must be continuous.

4) The farm should consist of 50 or more acres and currently be involved in agricultural production.

A commemorative certificate signed by Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation President Kevin Paap, Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen and Governor Tim Walz will be awarded to qualifying families, along with an outdoor sign signifying Sesquicentennial Farm recognition.

Applications are available by writing Sesquicentennial Farms, Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation, P.O. Box 64370, St. Paul, MN 55164; emailing info@fbmn.org; or calling 651-768-2100. Applications are also available on our website, <www.fbmn.org>. Deadline for application is March 1. Previously recognized families should not reapply.

Century Farms are not automatically recognized as Sesquicentennial Farms. Families must apply to receive Sesquicentennial Farm recognition. County Farm Bureaus are encouraged to work with county agriculture societies and county fair boards on local recognition of recipients. Recipients will be announced at the beginning of April.

To see a list of previously recognized Sesquicentennial Farms in Minnesota, visit <fbmn.org/pages/farm-recognition>.

This week's front page photo is courtesy of

LONNIE OLSON



Thank you for your submission!

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Traverse County approved the BUSINESS RELIEF GRANT PROGRAM for businesses located in Traverse County

Funding Information:

- Traverse County will be given \$256,250 to administer to businesses in Traverse County. Awards will be made based on need.
- Priority will be given to businesses that are directed to be closed and defined within the [MN Executive Order 20-99](#) such as:
- Hospitality and Lodging Businesses
- Other performing arts, museums, and businesses not previously granted relief funds
- Applications will be considered by the Traverse County Business Relief Committee and Acted on by the County Board.

Businesses must certify they have experienced a financial hardship due to being directed to close their business or modify their business operations directly related to or a subsequent order.

A business may apply for a grant even if they have received funds from the Department of Revenue or DEED.

General Requirements:

- Business/applicant must have a physical location in Traverse County.
- Business/applicant must be in good standing with MN Secretary of State Department as of the time of application (no tax liens on record have been filed).
- Business/applicant must have been impacted, directly or indirectly, by an executive order related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Business must show a revenue loss 4th Quarter 2020 compared to 2019.

Businesses who have been indirectly impacted by executive orders issued in response to the COVID-19 pandemic are eligible. These businesses must certify that they have incurred costs related to the pandemic and have suffered a loss in revenue 4th quarter 2020 compared to 2019. Businesses indirectly impacted by executive orders is defined as a business that derives income from sales of goods or services to businesses that were fully or partially closed by an executive order.

Non-profit organizations, such as but not limited to theatres, museums, and fitness centers, that earn revenue similar to businesses, including but not limited to ticket sales and memberships fees.

Applications will be evaluated primarily on Revenue Decline from 4th Quarter 2019 to 2020. However, data will be collected on several other factors that may influence the award amount such as COVID Relief funding to-date, business sector and employee count.

APPLICATION & RESOURCES

Business owners can download the application off the website at www.co.traverse.mn.us or call Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator at 320.422.7778 or email lisa.zahl@co.traverse.mn.us

The application period will close on February 15, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

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Gregg Sonstegard, DVM

Agency and Organization Distribution List For: Bois de Sioux Watershed District

Environmental review documents must be sent to the agencies listed on pages 12-13 in accordance with the requirements for each environmental review process. CDs or electronic copies may be submitted in lieu of paper copies, unless a paper copy is specifically noted. Confirmation of receipt is advised when submitting electronic copies to an email address provided on the following pages.

STATE AGENCIES			
Agency/ Organization	Distribution Instructions	Mailing Address	Electronic Submission (if applicable)
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Department of Agriculture	1 copy	Becky Balk Department of Agriculture 625 North Robert Street St. Paul, MN 55155	becky.balk@state.mn.us
Department of Commerce	1 copy	Ray Kirsch Department of Commerce 85 Seventh Place East, Suite 280 St. Paul, MN 55101	raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us
Department of Health	1 copy	Department of Health Environmental Health Division 625 North Robert Street St. Paul, MN 55155	health.review@state.mn.us
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Pollution Control Agency	1 copy	Dan Card Pollution Control Agency Environmental Review Unit 520 Lafayette Road N St. Paul, MN 55155	dan.card@state.mn.us
Board of Water and Soil Resources	1 copy	Annie Felix-Gerth Board of Water and Soil Resources 520 Lafayette Road N St. Paul, MN 55155	annie.felix-gerth@state.mn.us
Department of Transportation	1 copy	Debra Moynihan Department of Transportation Mn/DOT Office of Environmental Stewardship 395 John Ireland Boulevard, MS 620 St. Paul, MN 55155	debra.moynihan@state.mn.us
State Archaeologist	1 copy	Amanda Gronhovd Office of the State Archaeologist Kellogg Center 328 W. Kellogg Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55102	mn.osa@state.mn.us

Indian Affairs Council	1 copy	Melissa Cerda Indian Affairs Council 161 St. Anthony Avenue, Suite 919 St. Paul, MN 55103	melissa.cerda@state.mn.us
State Historic Preservation Office	1 copy	Sarah Beimers Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office 50 Sherburne Ave, Suite 203 St. Paul, MN 55155	ENVReviewSHPO@state.mn.us
LIBRARIES			
Environmental Conservation Library	1 electronic or 2 paper copies	Helen Burke Environmental Conservation Library Hennepin County Library – Minneapolis Central Government Documents – 2nd Floor 300 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, MN 54401-1992	govdoc@hclib.org
FEDERAL AGENCIES			
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	1 copy	Project Leader U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Minnesota-Wisconsin Field Office E.S. 4101 American Boulevard E Bloomington, MN 55425-1665	peter_fasbender@fws.gov
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	1 copy	Chad Konickson U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Branch 180 Fifth Street East, Suite #700 St. Paul, MN 55101-1678	mvp-reg-inquiry@usace.army.mil
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	1 copy	Kenneth Westlake U.S. Environmental Protection Agency US EPA, Region 5 Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance 77 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, Illinois 60604	westlake.kenneth@epa.gov

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REGIONAL AGENCIES			
Agency/Organization	Distribution Instructions	Mailing Address	Electronic Submission (if applicable)
West Central Initiative	1 copy	West Central Initiative P.O. Box 318 Fergus Falls, MN 56538-0318	wayne@wcif.org

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Region	Distribution Instructions	Mailing Address	Electronic Submission (if applicable)
Region 4	1 copy	Fergus Falls Public Library 205 East Hampden Avenue Fergus Falls, MN 56537	library@ffpubliclibrary.org

February 10, 2021

Jamie Beyer
District Administrator
Bois de Sioux Watershed District
704 Hwy 75 South
Wheaton, MN 56296
bdswd@runestone.net

RE: Big Lake Flood Risk Reduction Project EAW

Dear Jamie Beyer:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above listed Environmental Assessment Worksheet. Although no recorded archaeological site exists within the footprint of the proposed Big Lake Flood Risk Reduction project area, the project area has a high potential for containing unrecorded archaeological sites or cemeteries. Thus, I concur with the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office's recommendation of August 3, 2020, highlighted in Section 14 of the EAW that a qualified archaeologist conduct a survey to determine if the project could impact unrecorded archaeological or cemetery sites. The Minnesota Historical Society maintains a list of qualified archaeologists at:

A1

<http://www.mnhs.org/preservation/directory>.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Tworzyanski
Assistant to the State Archaeologist
Kellogg Center
328 West Kellogg Blvd
St Paul, MN 55102
651.201.2265
Jennifer.tworzyanski@state.mn.us



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March 2, 2021

Jamie Beyer
 Bois de Sioux Watershed District
 704 Highway 75 South
 Wheaton, MN 56296

Re: Big Lake Flood Risk Reduction Project Environmental Assessment Worksheet

Dear Jamie Beyer:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the Big Lake Flood Risk Reduction project (Project) in the city of Herman, Grant County, Minnesota. The Project consists of installation of a water control structure on Big Lake. Regarding matters for which the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has regulatory responsibility or other interests, the MPCA staff has the following comments for your consideration.

Water Resources (Item 11)

Stormwater

- B1** · The Project requires a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Public Waters permit as well as the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/State Disposal System General Construction Stormwater Permit (CSW Permit) from the MPCA. The Project is in proximity to several surface waters, including Big Lake and numerous wetlands. The EAW does not adequately specify erosion and sediment control best management practices (BMPs) to protect these surface waters during construction. The floating curtain mentioned in the EAW may be appropriate for in water work covered under the DNR permit, but the CSW Permit only covers work above the surface waters. Down gradient redundant (double) sediment controls will be required by the CSW Permit to protect the surface waters during construction activity for soil disturbances within 50 feet of the surface waters. The CSW Permit does not recognize floating curtain as a downgradient sediment control BMP for work above the surface water. Redundant sediment controls must be placed upgradient to the surface waters even if floating curtain is used for activity below the water level.
- B2** · Please note that soils at the site will require temporary or permanent stabilization installed on any portion of the Project where soil disturbance will temporarily or permanently cease for 14 days or more. Please direct questions regarding CSW Permit requirements to Roberta Getman at 507-206-2629 or Roberta.Getman@state.mn.us.

Surface Water

- B3** · A section 401 Water Quality Certification is required for any project with a federally-issued license or permit that authorizes an activity that results in a discharge to a Water of the United States. The 401 certification becomes an enforceable component of the associated federal license or permit – either issued under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. The scope of a Clean Water Act section 401 certification is limited to assuring that a discharge from a federally licensed or permitted activity will comply with water quality requirements. Revisions to the 401 rule became effective in September 2020 and now require applicants to request a pre-filing meeting from the certifying agency at least 30 days prior to submitting a 401 water quality certification request. MPCA is the certifying authority in the State of Minnesota.

- B4** · Also, please keep in mind that in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, the Big Lake Flood Reduction project should include the MPCA as a regulator of all surface waters as defined by Minn. Stat. 115.01 subd. 22. *Waters of the state. "Waters of the state" means all streams, lakes, ponds, marshes, watercourses, waterways, wells, springs, reservoirs, aquifers, irrigation systems, drainage systems and all other bodies or accumulations of water, surface or underground, natural or artificial, public or private, which are contained within, flow through, or border upon the state or any portion thereof.* Even though there maybe surface waters that are determined to be U.S. Army Corps of Engineers non-jurisdictional, or exempt from Wetland Conservation Act, all surface waters are regulated by the MPCA and any surface water impact needs to be described in the application, may require mitigation. For further information about the 401 Water Quality Certification process, please contact Bill Wilde at 651-757-2825 or William.wilde@state.mn.us.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this Project. Please provide your specific responses to our comments and notice of decision on the need for an Environmental Impact Statement. Please be aware that this letter does not constitute approval by the MPCA of any or all elements of the Project for the purpose of pending or future permit action(s) by the MPCA. Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the Project proposer to secure any required permits and to comply with any requisite permit conditions. If you have any questions concerning our review of this EAW, please contact me by email at Karen.kromar@state.mn.us or by telephone at 651-757-2508.

Sincerely,

Karen Kromar

Karen Kromar
Project Manager
Environmental Review Unit
Resource Management and Assistance Division

KK:bt

cc: Dan Card, MPCA, St. Paul
Roberta Getman, MPCA, Rochester
Bill Wilde, MPCA, St. Paul
Jim Ziegler, MPCA, Detroit Lakes



Ecological and Water Resources
2115 Birchmont Beach Rd NE
Bemidji, MN 56601

March 4, 2021

Jamie Beyer
Administrator
Bois de Sioux Watershed District
704 Hwy 75 South
Wheaton, MN 56296

EAW, Big Lake Flood Risk Reduction Project, Grant County

Administrator Beyer,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Big Lake Flood Risk Reduction Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW). The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) has reviewed the document and offer the following comments.

Project Purpose

C1 { MDNR supports reducing flood damages to the City of Herman and providing flood storage for the Red River Valley. However, we do not believe the project would provide enhancements to wildlife habitat as stated in the project purpose. Below, our comments explain why we believe there would be no benefit, and likely a detriment, to wildlife use of Big Lake from the proposed project.

Lake Level Operation and Maintenance

C2 { MDNR requests clarification of proposed operations outlined on Table on page 7 of the EAW. We
C3 { recommend displaying normal operations in a separate table from the flood operations for increased clarity. In addition, please provide the estimated length of time to reach target water level elevations for the fall and winter drawdown from initiation of gate operations.

C4 { As proposed, the closed gate starting October 8 would enable the lake to rise over the winter before spring flooding, thereby reducing flood retention capacity. Please explain how closing gates in the fall would coincide with desired flood capacity to allow for spring run-off.

C5 { Allowing a winter drawdown when a 3 inch snow-water equivalency is reached would result in a water level decrease of 3 feet from the natural run-out elevation of Big Lake. Given existing weather patterns, at what frequency is a winter drawdown expected? MDNR is concerned this winter drawdown could

C5 { occur frequently and have substantial consequences the ecology of Big Lake. The impacts of these winter drawdowns are further discussed below.

Wetlands and Wildlife

C6 { Big Lake is a shallow lake with a maximum depth less than 10 feet. Shallow lakes such as this are dominated by this shallow water habitat frequently used by wildlife (or littoral zone). Impacts to the littoral zone during winter drawdowns was not discussed in the wildlife impacts section of the EAW. If the adjacent, hydrologically connected wetlands are drained during the winter, hibernating turtles, amphibians, and invertebrates in these water bodies could be exposed and freeze or fish could be separated from the main body of the lake, confined to an area with little to no oxygen.

C7 { MDNR notes lowering water levels on Big Lake will likely have negative effects on the lake's riparian zone and associated wetland plant communities and wildlife habitat. A fall drawdown after August 1 is unlikely to increase emergent vegetative growth of species beneficial to aquatic wildlife such as bulrush. Most emergent vegetation does not germinate after August 1. Instead, lowering water levels at this time leaves banks exposed to erosive forces of ice, change in wet/drying cycles that can lead to bank erosion, and negative consequences within the littoral zone and water clarity (Carmignani & Roy, 2017). Fluctuating water levels also promote increased growth of pioneering aggressive transition

C8 { species such as hybrid cattail and reed canary grass. MDNR believes the project has the potential to harm sensitive aquatic plants found in Big Lake such as the Spiral Ditchgrass (*Ruppia cirrhosa*), which is listed as a species of special concern.

C9 { To fully assess environmental impacts, we recommend obtaining a bathymetric map (lake bottom contour map) to determine the extent of impacts to the littoral zone, riparian zone and adjacent

C10 { wetlands. We also recommend providing information about the expected frequency of winter drawdowns. Without this information the impacted acreage of adjacent wetlands and associated habitat for fish, reptiles, and amphibians cannot be fully evaluated.

Downstream Channel Design

C11 { Describe whether the downstream watercourse is expected to have continuous flow. If it does, the project could affect channel stability, making it more prone to erosion and sedimentation. We recommend that the project design include consideration of a two-stage ditch design. Low-flow channels mimic natural stream design while providing access to a floodplain to accommodate higher flow events. A stable channel will require less maintenance long term.

C12 { The EAW notes the downstream channel would be rip-rapped to stabilize banks in areas of high velocity. MDNR notes hard-armoring may result in accelerated flow and result in an unstable channel over time. Rock weirs or riffles may be an inexpensive alternative to provide grade control in the channel. These inexpensive structures will help prevent bank failure and down cutting from excessive velocities.

Public Water Permitting

C13 { A public water work permit will need to be applied for and issued before construction of the water level structure starts. The proposed in-lake excavation of the bed of Big Lake to the intake structure will likely require continual maintenance due to littoral drift of bottom sediments and growth of emergent vegetation such as cattails. Minnesota Rule 6115.0200 prohibits excavation where it would not provide an effective solution due to recurrent sedimentation and there is a feasible and practical alternative. The permit application will require a detailed alternative analysis and why each alternative may or may not be feasible.

C14 { The applicant will be required to provide signatures from 75% of riparian landowners with the permit application in accordance with Minn. Stat. 103G.408. The applicant will also be required to establish a water level monitoring gage and collect water level readings one to two weeks before initiating a drawdown and weekly during the drawdown. For additional early coordination on public water permitting, please contact MDNR Area Hydrologist Emily Siira at emily.siira@state.mn.us.

C15 {

Thank you for consideration of these comments. Please contact Environmental Assessment Ecologist, Jaime Thibodeaux at 218-308-2672 or jaimethibodeaux@state.mn.us if you have any questions or require further assistance.

Sincerely,



Christine Herwig

CC: Jaime Thibodeaux, NW Env Assessment Ecologist
Todd Call, Shallow Lakes Specialist
Kevin Kotts, Area Wildlife Manager
Emily Siira, Area Hydrologist
Andrew Graham, Red River Basin Coordinator
Nick Kludt, Red River Fisheries Specialist
Amy Westmark, Non-Game Specialist

References:

Carmignani, J.R., Roy, A.H. Ecological impacts of winter water level drawdowns on lake littoral zones: a review. *Aquat Sci* 79, 803–824 (2017). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00027-017-0549-9>

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ATTACHMENT 2

Revised Operation and Maintenance Plan – June 2021

Draft
Operation & Maintenance Plan
Big Lake Outlet
June 2021

Bois de Sioux Watershed District



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Draft Operation & Maintenance Plan
Big Lake Outlet Project
June 2021

I. Intent and Purpose

The Big Lake Outlet Project, hereinafter referred to as the “Project”, was developed for the purpose of reducing peak flows from the outlet of Big Lake. The project consists of a control structure and buried pipe that allow Big Lake water levels to be temporarily lowered providing additional floodwater storage. A Project Map displaying the project features and relevant elevations is included as Attachment 1. All elevations are reported in NAVD 88 survey datum. The control structure, located at the west end of Big Lake and north of MN Trunk Highway 27, provides the ability to control discharges from Big Lake below the natural runout. The Project will be operated to reduce existing adverse downstream flood impacts resulting from excessive discharges from the Lake. This operation plan is necessary to provide the Bois de Sioux Watershed District, hereinafter referred to as the “District”, with guidelines for operating and maintaining the Project. This document, hereafter referred to as the “Plan”, will serve as a plan for operation of the control structure, and conducting regular maintenance and repair activities during the life of the Project.

II. Responsible Parties

The Project is owned by the District, and the District shall be solely responsible for all operation and maintenance activities identified by this Plan and others that may arise during the life of the Project. The District Board of Managers will designate a Manager, staff member or agent of the District that will be responsible for monitoring, operating and maintaining the Project. The designated agent and other key stakeholders are listed in the contact list in Section XII.

III. Other Agencies

The Project may have direct and/or indirect impacts that have the potential to involve the following agencies:

- Minnesota Department of Transportation: MN Hwy 27
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- Grant County Soil and Water Conservation District
- US Fish and Wildlife Service: Art Hawkins Waterfowl Production Area
- City of Herman, MN
- Grant County, MN

The Plan has been developed with specific input from many of these agencies. While the District has sole responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the Project, the District will operate the Project with the interests of all parties in mind.

IV. Key Elevations

Big Lake Culverts Crossing Highway 27	
1076.6	West Hwy 27 24" RCP (Art Hawkins wetland outflow)
1076.5	Hwy 27 48" RCP (upstream wetland outflow)
1074.9	East Hwy 27 30" RCP (Art Hawkins wetland outflow)
1074.5	Hwy 27 48" Culvert (Big Lake outlet channel)
1072.7	Middle Hwy 27 60" RCP (Art Hawkins wetland outflow)

Big Lake Control Structure Design Component Elevations	
1082.0	Top of Control Structure (does not control natural runout elevation)
1075.7	Max Flash Board Control of Internal Structure Wall
1072.7	Outlet Pipe with Sluice Gate Invert

Big Lake Key Water Surface Elevations	
1079.5	Pre & Post Project Peak 100-yr Runoff Elevation (Starting El. 1075.7 Natural Runout)
1077.4	Big Lake OHWL
1075.7	Natural Runout Elevation (Pre-Project and Post-Project gate closed)
1074.2	Annual Temporary Drawdown

A sketch of the outlet structure and design water levels is included in Figure 1.

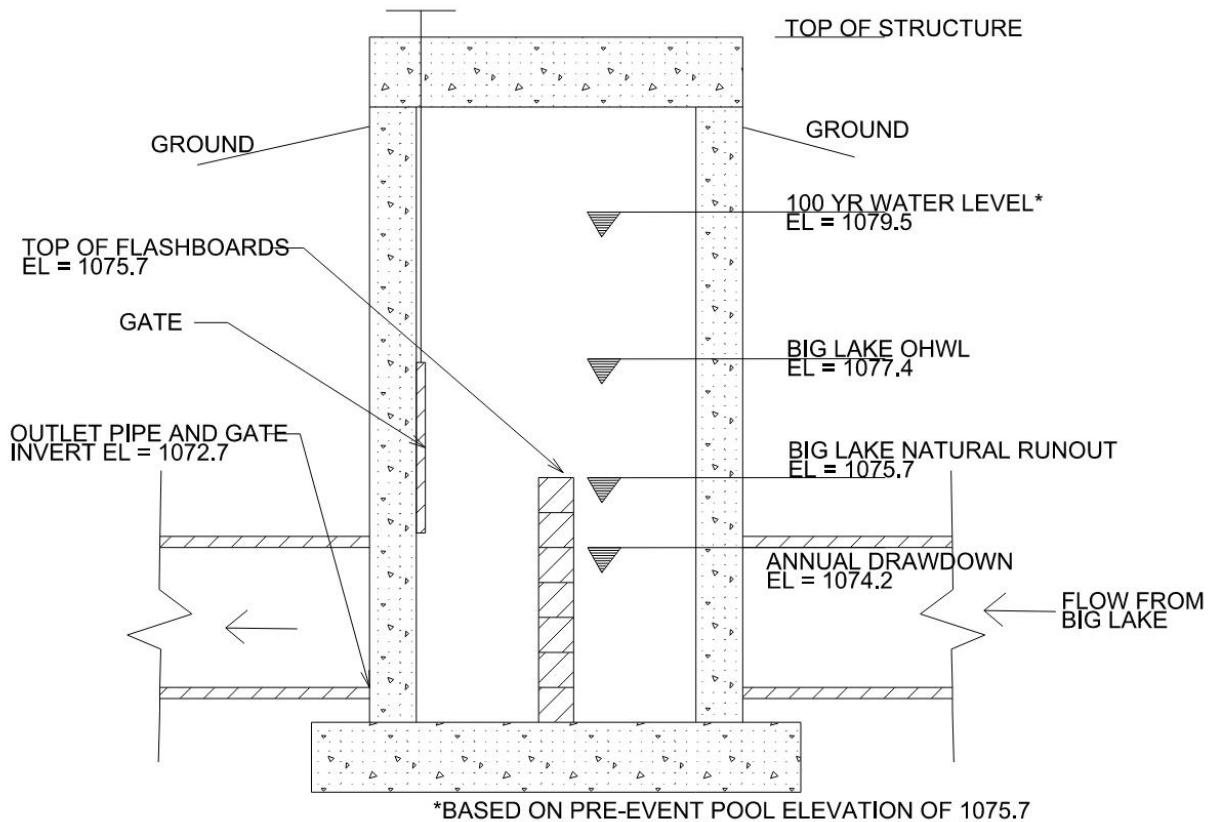


Figure 1 Outlet Structure Schematic

V. Plan of Operation

Water Surface Elevation

Natural runout elevation begin at elevation 1075.7. Under existing conditions the water surface may fluctuate above and below this point depending on precipitation and other weather conditions. This outflow will remain as is as the only outfall outside of the annual drawdown period

Annual Drawdown

The annual drawdown will be achieved by opening the gate and removing flashboards one and a half (1.5) feet below the natural runout elevation to an elevation of 1074.2. The gate and board should remain open through the drawdown period. After the drawdown period the gate should be closed between by October 8. Refer to the annual schedule below for key dates.

Spring/Early Summer Structure Operation

The gate will remain closed through the early summer to allow the lake to function with only its natural outlet until the annual drawdown. Refer to the annual schedule for key dates.

Dry Cycle

If the lake fails to reach the natural runout elevation during a given year, the gate should remain in a closed condition until it does. During a time of extended closure the system should be exercised as shown in the annual schedule to mitigate against seizing.

Exercise System

Exercising the system consists of the following.

Step 1: Check that gate is closed and remove all flash boards.

Step 2: Place all flash boards back in place

Step 3: Open gate fully.

Step 4: Close gate fully.

Art Hawkins control structure

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service will be responsible for the Art Hawkins control structure operation. The District will be responsible for maintenance costs.

VI. Annual coordination meeting

The District will host a project coordination meeting during the time period shown in the annual schedule. Invites will be sent to the key contacts identified in this document for the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Minnesota DNR, Grant County and the City of Herman to discuss any operational concerns.

VII. Monitoring

A staff gage will be installed within the structure to track lake elevations. The District Technician will be responsible for monitoring. Elevations will be recorded at the times shown in the annual schedule.

VIII. Maintenance

The District shall be responsible for completing all routine maintenance activities on the Project. Typical maintenance may include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- Removal of shoreline heaving resulting from ice expansion adjacent to the control structure inlet.
- Removal of debris and other obstructions from the pipe end sections, grates, and inlet structure.
- Removal of debris and other obstructions from the control structure.
- Repair and/or replacement of any structures (inlets, control, manholes, etc.) due to damage or age.
- Remove any woody vegetation above and around the structures.
- Conduct pipe (tile line) cleanouts as necessary to remove any debris or sediment to maintain Project operation.
- Conduct routine maintenance of sluice gates to ensure functionality.
 - The District shall follow manufacturer's recommendations on maintenance activities and address any deficiencies.
- Conduct any additional maintenance within Project limits to ensure the Project is operational.
- Complete any maintenance work outside of the growing season as feasible. Should maintenance work be required during the growing season, the District shall reimburse the landowner in accordance with the easement documents.
- Notify landowners prior to any maintenance work being completed, unless emergencies do not allow for pre-notification.

IX. Annual Schedule

The section identifies a baseline minimum schedule. Inspection, maintenance, water level checks, etc. are also be anticipated on dates not listed herein.

Task	Earliest Date	Latest Date	Notes
Check seals and condition of outlet in the lake. Remove large debris from ice. Annual coordination meeting	January 5 th	January 10 th	
Check seals and condition of outlet in the lake. Check lake water level	April 20 th	May 1 st	
Check lake water level	June 25 th	July 3 rd	
Check lake water level Typical Years: Remove flashboard to 1074.2 Open Gate Dry Cycle: Exercise system	July 25 th	August 1 st	
Check lake water level, inspect system Check condition of Art Hawkins control structure Place stop logs back to 1075.7	October 1 th	October 8 th	Provide USFWS with condition notes on Art Hawkins control structure. Coordinate any repairs with USFWS operations.
Check stop logs and gate are maintaining seal	December 8 th	December 15 th	

X. Maintenance Costs

Operation and maintenance related costs will be the responsibility of the District. The District, at its discretion, may choose to implement a 103D Water Management District for the purposes of generating revenues to pay for the operation and maintenance of the Project.

XI. Reporting

The District will keep operation and maintenance logs on file for a period of five years. Water level logs will be kept on file for a period of ten years.

XII. Contact List

In the event of an emergency, the first point of contact for each entity is noted with an asterisk (*).

Bois de Sioux Watershed District:

*Troy Fridgen (District Technician): (320) 815-2657 Cell

Chad Engels (District Engineer): (701) 388-6614 Cell

Linda Vavra (District Manager): (320) 760-1774 Cell

Jamie Beyer (District Administrator): (701) 866-2725 Cell, (320) 563-4185

Grant County, MN:

*Tracey Von Barga (Grant County Engineer): (218) 770-2840 Cell

Bill LaValley (County Commissioner): (218) 770-0840 Cell

City of Herman, MN:

City Clerk: (320) 677-2297

Minnesota Department of Transportation:

District 4: (800) 657-3984 or (218) 846-3600

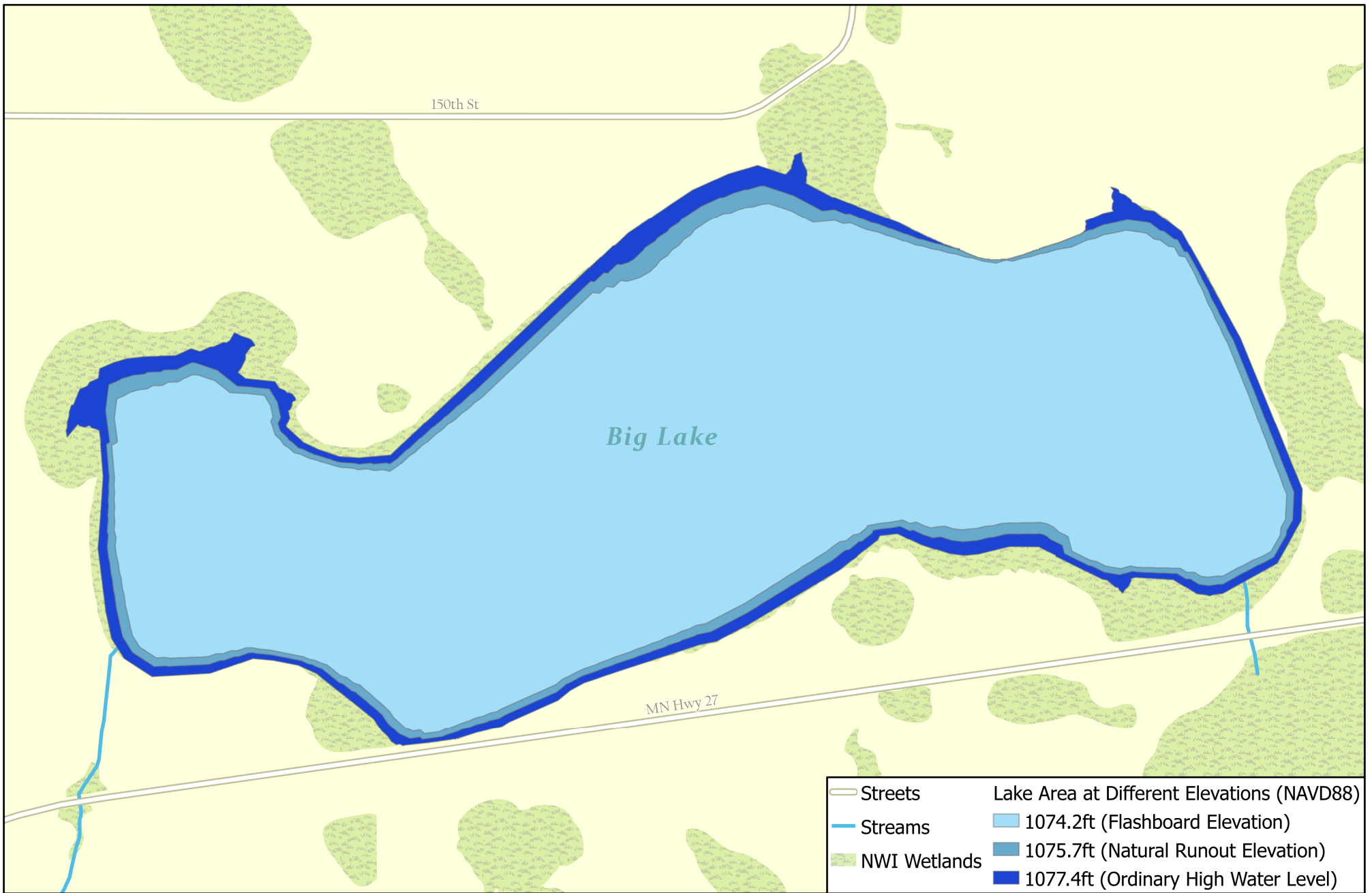
United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Chad Raitz (218) 739-2291

XIII. List of Attachments

1. Project Map

ATTACHMENT 3
Littoral Zone Map for Big Lake



Streets	Lake Area at Different Elevations (NAVD88)
Streams	1074.2ft (Flashboard Elevation)
NWI Wetlands	1075.7ft (Natural Runout Elevation)
	1077.4ft (Ordinary High Water Level)

**BIG LAKE FLOOD RISK REDUCTION PROJECT
DRAWDOWN AND SHORELINE RELATIONSHIP
HERMAN, MINNESOTA**

Created By: LH Date Created: 06/17/21 Date Saved: 6/17/2021 Date Plotted: Date Exported: 6/17/2021
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