



Red River Basin Commission

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2021 - 2023

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12 May 2021

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

RE: Support for Redpath Project Stream Corridor Habitat Rehabilitation Project

Board of Directors Bois de Sioux Watershed District:

The Board of Directors of the Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) would once again like to voice our support for funding applications for restoration of the Mustinka River. While we have previously submitted a letter of support, the Board knows how complex projects like this can be. While progress has taken a long time due to securing permits and land rights, which is to be expected in such an ambitious concept, the board still views the project as extremely strong. It is still a good step toward achieving some of our 13 goals as stated in the RRBC's Natural Resources Framework Plan, including:

Goal #6 – Reduce risk of flood damages for people, property and the environment in the main stem floodplain and in tributary waters.

Goal # 9 – Maintain, protect and restore surface and ground water quality in the Red River Basin.

Goal #12 – Conserve, manage and restore diversity and viability of native fish and wildlife populations and their habitats.

The combination of these three goals is a model for looking at how to integrate as many benefits as possible into projects within the basin. The project will have many positive impacts, and in our judgement, no downside.

RRBC supports the Bois de Sioux Watershed District in their efforts to secure a funding extension.

Sincerely,



Ted M Preister
Executive Director