2022 Work Plan 2020-2029 Revised Management Plan Goals Summary

Water Quality

Lakes: Adaptively manage District lakes to protect, enhance and restore lake water quality and recreational utility as appropriate to each lake.

- Reduce excess nutrient and sediment loading to lakes through BMPs, capital improvement projects and regulatory controls.
- Reduce rate and volume of stormwater runoff entering lakes to help meet water quality loading goals.
- Reduce internal phosphorus loading (from bottom sediments) to lakes.
- Monitor and reduce chloride loading to lakes.
- Inform and educate regarding loading of pharmaceuticals and personal care products to wastewater.
- Protect the public from mercury exposure due to mercury-impaired lakes.
- Acquire data necessary to better understand water quality trends and threats in order to most effectively implement water quality improvement practices.

Wetlands: Protect, enhance and restore wetland water quality and function.

- Restore hydrology of altered wetlands and surrounding areas that are contributing excess nutrients to downstream waters.
- Inventory wetland water quality and function.
- Protect high quality wetlands as identified in wetland inventory to be performed.
- Help implement requirements for wetland management

Rivers, streams and other waterways: *Protect, enhance and restore rivers, tributary streams and other waterways, such as ditches.*

- Inventory water quality and function of public drainage systems in the District in accordance with Minnesota State Statute 103E.
- Restore stream water quality and stream ecosystem health.
- Protect high quality stream reaches.

Groundwater: Protect aguifers and maintain or improve groundwater quality, so that drinking water is safe.

- Protect groundwater quality and ensure safe drinking water.
- Increase public awareness of groundwater protection issues and of the City of Detroit Lakes Wellhead Protection Plan.

Water Quantity

Water Levels: Promote shoreline resilience to fluctuations in water levels of lakes, streams and drainage systems.

- Monitor lake, stream and drainage system water levels.
- Promote shoreline that is resilient under fluctuating water levels through shoreline rehabilitation (e.g., with deep-rooted plants, soft-armor plantings, etc.

Localized Flooding: Mitigate localized flooding issues and prevent flooding-related damages to property, public safety and water resources.

- Gather baseline floodplain data.
- Mitigate current flooding and prevent future flooding.
- Prepare for emergency flood scenarios.

Groundwater Ensure groundwater supply is sustainable.

- Reduce groundwater withdrawal.
- Increase groundwater recharge.

Ecological Integrity

AIS: Prevent establishment of new invasive species and manage invasive species that already exist in the watershed.

- Manage priority invasive species using the best available methods and technology.
- Monitor for new invasive species.
- Stay current with new management strategies and aquatic invasive species research

Wildlife Habitat: Protect, enhance and restore wildlife habitat.

• Search for opportunities to partner on multi-benefit projects that will enhance water quality and create new wildlife habitat.

Fish Communities: Maintain healthy fish communities.

- Prioritize areas for aquatic habitat protection
- Protect, enhance, and restore fish habitat, especially when projects have multiple benefits that meet District objectives.

District Operations/Administration Program				
	On-going and 2022 Targeted Activities	Staff/Time	Financial Resources	
District Operations	 Develop 2022 Annual Budgets, Levies, Assessments, Fees (Aug/Sept) Develop 2022 Work Plan, Monitoring Plan, Education Plan (Jan-Feb) Complete 2021 Annual Report; Financial Reporting (BWSR, MN DNR, MN State Auditor-Due June 30); Assess and evaluate progress against objectives. Review and update HR functions- personnel policies; job descriptions Complete Contract Renewals - Renew Office Lease Fall 2022 (current contract 2020-2023), GIS software, QB's, Microsoft Provide project oversight- grants, reports, budgets, payroll Maintain and upgrade office equipment; investigate software for Outreach documents. Maintain Website information/Enhance Projects sections Renew insurance through LMCIT (Property, Workers Comp, Board/Staff bonding) Continue COVID-19 Operation Plan as needed. Sara Noah - Salary Survey Update 	Program-wide Guetter - 12% Kemper - 5% Moses -35%	 \$15,000 LMCIT and MAWD Dues 2022, RRWMB Lobby (up to \$8,000) - (GEN) \$2,500 Eqpt/software; - (GEN) \$3,500 website (GEN) \$2,200 Sara Noah (GEN) 	
Fiscal Management	 Perform payroll and bookkeeping activities – payroll, liabilities, reports; monthly bills and financial statement; Annual Financial audit New audit contract for FY 2022-2024 Update QB program (every 3 yrs) 		 \$ 6,200 Audit 2021 (GEN) \$800 QB Enhanced Payroll (GEN) 	
Internal Governance Policies	Review and Update Governance Policies – Ongoing			
Collaboration with other units of government and partners Advisory Committees	NUMBER RAGINAR Water Management Roard, North County MAWID Region 11			
1W1P Otter Tail	 Develop Otter Tail 1W1P with partners (Becker County, Otter Tail County, Becker SWCD, East Otter Tail SWCD, West Otter Tail SWCD, Cormorant WD). 	Guetter - 20%		

Capital Improvement Projects & Programs							
On-going and 2022 Targeted Activities Staff/Time Financial							
Rice Lake Nutrient Reduction Project	 Design and complete Phase 2 of the Rice Lake Wetland restoration project to reduce Rice Lake Wetland's release of phosphorus to the Pelican River and create new wildlife habitat; complete BWSR workplan, project bidding, project construction, close-out grant, final payment to Detroit Township. Complete Phase 1 project – final stabilization, signage, etc. Spring 2022 Project Funding for Phase 2 (BWSR Grant Extension; Potential for Otter Tail 1W1P funding, apply for additional Targeted project funding (competitive). Project costs to be determined. 	Program-wide Guetter – 8% Moses – 5%	• \$400,000 - Rice Lake construction (UTY- Grant Match) - 25% grant match (BWSR grant)				
St. Clair Lake TMDL	Implement activities identified in TMDL- Ensure included in Otter 1W1P Priority /Implementation Plan						
Campbell Creek Watershed Restoration	 MPCA 319 small watershed grant (\$250 K, \$100 K match for 2022-2025) – develop 9 key element plan Identify and target critical agricultural erosion and sediment transport areas in North and Little Floyd sub-watersheds; develop and implement a streambank stabilization plan for Campbell Creek. Identify and target critical erosion areas and to promote the use the erosion control measures, such as perennial cover, conservation tillage, residue management, buffers, and structural practices. 	Guetter – 8% Kemper – 4%	• \$100,000- Match (UTY- Grant Match 40%); 319 Federal Grant (\$250K)				
Otter Tail WRAPS Actions	Develop TMDL Campbell Creek and Pelican River through WRAPS; additional monitoring.						
Regional Urban Stormwater Management & Treatment	• TBD						
Ditch 14 Complex Nutrient Reduction	• TBD						
Lake Alum Treatments including St. Clair & Floyd	• TBD						

Regulatory Program/Rules					
	On-going and 2022 Targeted Activities	Financial Resources			
Rule Permit Program and Enforcement	 Annually review and approve permit application and review fees; update forms as necessary. Keep Rules/Permitting section of the Website current. Inspect permitted projects Enforce the Minnesota Buffer Law as needed. Assess permitting application procedures and identify and implement actions to better streamline permitting application procedures and to better coordinate with other local governments. MOU with County and City for District permitted projects. 	Program-wide Guetter - 15% Kemper - 35% Moses - 15%	\$ 1,000 - Permit materials/print and website - see Education/Outreach		
Coordination with Other Agencies	 Provide continuous and consistent enforcement of District and other agencies Rules/regulations. Ensure infiltration best management practices and other BMPs in accordance with the City of Detroit Lakes Wellhead Protection Plan and MPCA regulations. Through the Becker County technical advisory committee, review Conditional Use Permits, Environmental Assessment Worksheets and Environmental Impact Statement applications for large-scale projects. Assist in enforcing the new Minnesota Buffer Law as appropriate. 				
Rules	 Revision-[2023 - Water Resource new hire; coordinate with City/County/Cormorant WD] Ensure that rules support the Becker County Shoreland Ordinance, the City of Detroit Lakes Shoreland Ordinance, the MS4 Ordinance, and the City of Detroit Lakes Wellhead Protection Plan. Ensure that rules reflect Minnesota Buffer Law enforcement responsibilities. Refine rules to restrict new developments from increasing the volume or rate of runoff from leaving the site. Refine rules to prevent building or filling in the 100-year floodplain. Implement design standards for bridges, culverts or other water-related infrastructure to ensure integrity of road system and infrastructure while maintaining connectivity where needed. Help implement wetland requirements such as buffers, setbacks and pretreatment of stormwater prior to discharge into wetlands. Review withdrawal/aquifer alterations, such as gravel extraction in the Pearl-Loon and Long Lake LWQMA. Consider developing rules to require wetland buffers and/or structure setbacks from wetland edge. Consider developing rules to protect groundwater. Consider adopting and enforcing a standard for minimum low floor elevation of buildings. Consider a filtration requirement for wellhead protection areas. Encourage wildlife and pollinator-friendly seed mixes and plantings in buffers or linear projects Encourage incorporation of fish spawning habitat into projects. Utilize technical and citizen advisory committees including developers, landscapers, engineers and other directly affected service providers. 				

Incentive Programs					
	On-going and 2022 Targeted Activities	Staff/Time	Financial Resources		
District Cost-Share Program	Maintain a cost-share programs:		\$14,000 Education Grants (UTY) \$5,000-Cost share for shoreland, rain gardens, other special projects within District – (UTY)		
Collaborative Grant/Cost-share projects	 Apply for CWL grant with MN DNR for Buck's Mill Dam modification Project; Little Floyd Lake fish passage improvements. Continue to assist with City shoreline projects – HWY 10 Overlook, South Shore Park, North Shore public access Encourage wildlife and pollinator-friendly seed mixes and plantings in buffers or linear projects. Incorporate fish spawning habitat into projects. Provide technical and cost share assistance for applicable Projects Act as an information source to identify potential financial assistance such as grants, loans, and cost-share programs for well and septic system work, including sealing unused wells, repairing failing septic systems, and filling abandoned septic systems Assist City of Detroit Lakes and Partners with BWSR "BEE Friendly" neighborhood demonstration grant application. 		\$ 2,000- South Shore Park – Pollinator habitat (UTY)		

Aquatic Invasive Species Management					
	On-going and 2022 Targeted Activities	Staff/Time	Financial Resources		
Detroit, Curfman, Muskrat, Sallie, Melissa. • Review options for the aquatic plant roadside pickup program (Projects 1B & 1C – Sallie, Melissa,		Program-wide Guetter - 10% Kemper - 10% Moses - 8%	 \$35,000 for AIS plant management (1B) \$50,000 for AIS plant management (1C) \$30,000 Rapid Response (LMP-01) \$4,000 - POI and Delineations for Detroit, Curfman, Sallie, Melissa, Muskrat (LMP-01) 		
Research, Special Studies	 Annually review and update Readiness Response Plan for priority invasive species (Eurasian Water Milfoil, Starry Stonewort, Hydrilla). Conduct research to identify alternative treatment practices for flowering rush (if opportunity arises) Continue communications and develop a research partnership with University of Minnesota's Aquatic Invasive Species Center and other institutions (Assist Becker COLA with Regional Meeting MAISRC Research update; Continue to partner with zooplankton study on Detroit Lake). Apply for cost-share grant funding for research if needed 		 \$2,000 Education (LMP-01) \$10,000 Research (LMP-01) \$1,000 Zooplankton monitoring (LMP-01) 		

Data Collection						
	On-going and 2022 Targeted Activities	Staff/Time	Financial Resources			
Lake Monitoring & Data Collection	for AIS. Pecruit additional monitoring volunteers and coordinate data collection with lake association and agencies (focus on	oride levels for Big and Little Detroit; conduct monthly access inspections wide d coordinate data collection with lake association and agencies (focus on Kompor 35% Study (DCM 01)				
Aquatic Vegetation Monitoring	Survey submerged aquatic vegetation – Fox, Meadow, Mill Pond, Muskrat					
Land Use Change Data Collection	Conduct shoreline surveys on lakes with potential for increased development (sand blanket, rip rap, retaining walls, natural shoreline, number of boats, docks, lifts) – Sallie, Melissa, Lind, Reeves Lakes					
Stream Monitoring	 Update the annual stream monitoring plan for Campbell Creek and Public Drainage Systems 11 & 12; the Pelican River and Public Drainage System 13; Public Drainage System 14; and smaller waterways (ongoing; Assess chemical water quality parameters and flow; bank erosion and runoff when possible). Maintain water level gages at lake outlets and key stream locations; record water levels on a weekly basis during ice off season; replace gages as needed. Include Special Project monitoring/assessment- Rice Lake Wetland; E.coli sampling PR/Detroit lake Identify unstable reaches that degrade water quality using Campbell Creek, Pelican River and Sucker Creek data. Evaluate and update the stream monitoring plan for special projects. 		\$1,000 – Industrial Park sampling (UTY			
Special Projects	 Monitor existing agricultural BMPs in the Floyd and Pearl-Loon LWQMAs to evaluate phosphorus removal efficiency. Use PTM tool to identify areas for potential phosphorous reduction (address soil erosion, wetland enhancement/protection) in Campbell Creek, Ditch 13 area and Pearl lake Sub-watershed – Review Red River Basin Data, Becker SWCD, and WRAPS. Zooplankton assessment- Big/Little Detroit, Melissa, Sallie, Long, Floyds (Big, Little, North) Conduct groundwater study if needed – Long and St. Clair Lakes 		\$3,000 pre and post Rice Lake monitoring (UTY)			
Lake Management Plans	Develop and implement a phosphorus load tracking and credit system for Lake St. Clair with MPCA					
Localized Flooding	LA EHMA Grant for hadraulic modoling ctudy to identity tided brone areas, hetential damages, and critical intractructure L	Stantec Guetter-5%	\$50,000 (UTY) match			
Resources/ Equipment	 Upgrade Monitoring Equipment (replace zodiac with 2 kayaks; backpacks; life vests, holding anchors); Investigate monitoring using GIS technology Employ 2-3 summer interns to assist with Data Collection/Monitoring; 		\$ 5,000 Capital Outlay (LMP-01) \$ 5,000 equipment purchases & repairs (DCM-01) \$250 ESRI GIS software grant (LMP-01, UTY)			

Drainage Systems Management	
(Becker County 11,12,13, &14)	

On-going and 2022 Targeted Activities		Staff/Time	Financial Resources
Drainage Systems	 Ensure proper ditch management (in accordance with MN 103E) and PRWD Drainage Management Policy (updated November 2017); Conduct annual Inspections; remove beaver and blockages Submit annual buffer compliance report to BWSR Enforce MN Buffer Compliance Rule Attend drainage system meetings/trainings Review maintenance funds (last assessed in 2017) 	Program-wide Guetter - 5% Kemper - 4%	 \$ 4,800 Ditch Buffer Enforcement (DBE) \$ 4,500 Beaver and blockage Removal (D 11-12,13,14) \$750 Drainage system meetings/trainings (DBE & Ditch 11/12, 13, 14)

Education and Outreach

	On-going and 2022 Targeted Activities	Staff/Time	Financial Resources
District Manager and Staff Education	 Attend training/seminars/conferences/courses, regional meetings related to District Water Management Activities. Continue to attend and present at workshops and conferences. Continuing education for managers and staff – MAWD Annual Conference, MAWD Summer Tour, PRWD Summer Project Tour. 	Program-wide Guetter - 10% Kemper - 5% Moses - 25%	 \$ 500- Project Summer Tour (GEN) \$6,000 Manager MAWD (GEN)
Website, Social Media, Seminars/Workshops	 Continually update the District's website, Facebook page, and other social media outlets Presentations, news articles/monthly Hodge Podge radio – 1 service club; 2 lake associations. Develop data reports and publish on website and in social media Publish annual summaries, lake info sheets – website, presentations Update Website - stormwater and monitoring information, projects section Post educational signs at the Rice Lake Wetland restoration project. 		\$ 2,000 – Community Education (promotional items, adverting, print materials) (GEN)
	On-going and 2022 Targeted Activities	Staff/Time	Financial Resources
Collaboration with other units of government and partners	of • Explore workshop for volunteer monitoring with Becker COLA:		 \$ 1,000 - MAISRC Meeting (LMP-01) \$ 1,000- Pollinator Program (LMP-01) \$ 750 - School Education programs (Sucker Creek; 4th Water Fest) (GEN)

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Becker County/Becker & Otter Tail SWCD's

- Distribute materials on proper salt/chloride application (less is better!).
- Distribute materials on Climate Change locally.
- As projects develop (e.g., gravel mining, subdivisions), continue to provide technical input to protect surface water and groundwater.
- Practice oversight on County and City activities relating to water quality; advocate for City, County and State water quality and ecological enhancement
- Educate Public about proper use and disposal of household hazardous waste, pharmaceutical products, and other personal care products two social media posts or flyers per year.
- Support Becker County Septic Inspection Program; Promote alternative approaches to ISTS such as cluster systems (Sallie/Melissa) where appropriate.

City of Detroit Lakes

- Protect Sucker Creek by continuing to serve on the Sucker Creek Preserve technical advisory committee (quarterly meetings), supporting protection and enhancement of Sucker Creek, and education about the Sucker Creek ecosystem.
- Encourage use of pollinator-friendly vegetation and trees on city property and linear projects.

Detroit Lakes Schools

- Continue to assist with environment education (classroom, field trips, events)
- Promote education cost-share opportunities

MN DNR/Health/MPCA

- Prevent habitat degradation and fragmentation through conversations with MDNR staff about their activities and how the District can help.
- Distribute materials about safe consumption of fish (mercury) via 2 social media posts per year.
- Offer assistance to MDH and Becker/Otter Tail SWCD to promote groundwater testing for arsenic.

- \$ 1,000 Schools- Storm Drain literature and materials (GEN)
- \$500 Print material (GEN)