

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Pelican River Watershed District Announces Upcoming Modifications to Buck's Mill Dam.

Detroit Lakes, MN – The Pelican River Watershed District (PRWD) is excited to announce the upcoming modification of the Buck's Mill Dam, located on the Pelican River between Mill Pond and Buck Lake, near Lake Melissa. Built in 1871, Buck's Mill Dam has served the region for over a century and will soon undergo necessary updates.

PRWD has partnered with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR) and retained Moore Engineering Inc. (MEI) to lead the modification of the dam. The project will include the addition of a natural-looking spillway to allow for improved fish passage as well as replacement of the downstream township culvert. The planned modifications will restore fish migration routes and enhance the overall ecology of the Pelican River.

The project is expected to begin construction at the end of 2025.

The estimated cost for the modification project is between \$2-3 million. Funding is being provided through a combination of state and targeted federal funds.

This modification will offer several long-term benefits, including restoring the local ecosystem, enhancing fish passage to support native species including Lake Sturgeon, and addressing potential safety concerns for public access to the area.

PRWD, MnDNR, and MEI are committed to involving the community throughout the process. Opportunities for public feedback will be available at multiple stages of the project. Project updates and engagement opportunities will be included in the [PRWD website](#).

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About Moore Engineering

Moore Engineering committed to its mission of improving lives by building strong communities since its founding in 1960. Alongside our public and private partners, we've proudly served hundreds of communities across the region. Moore's world-class team of engineers, scientists, and specialists has successfully completed thousands of projects supporting the civil, environmental, transportation, and water infrastructure we all rely on.

For more information on the Buck's Mill Dam project and its progress, please contact Lauren Weller, Engagement Specialist at Moore Engineering Inc. at lauren.weller@mooreengineeringinc.com.