

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Community Invited to Learn About Buck's Mill Dam and Watershed Projects at Public Open House**

**Detroit Lakes, Minn.** — The Pelican River Watershed District (PRWD) invites community members to a public open house on Monday, September 29, from 4:00–6:00 p.m. at City Hall located at 1025 Roosevelt Ave Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 to learn about the historic Buck's Mill Dam and other watershed projects. Attendees are asked to enter through door B on the west side of the building.

Attendees will have the opportunity to explore project displays, connect directly with PRWD staff and engineers from Moore Engineering, and hear from partner organizations, including the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

### **About the Buck's Mill Dam Project**

Originally constructed in 1871, the Buck's Mill Dam is a historic structure on the Pelican River between Mill Pond and Buck Lake, near Lake Melissa. After serving the area for more than 150 years, the dam will soon undergo essential modifications to ensure long-term safety and environmental health.

The planned project will install a natural-looking spillway that allows for fish passage, replace the downstream township culvert, maintain current outlet function and seasonal water level behavior, as required by state permitting.

This project is part of the DNR's larger "Reconnect the Red" fish passage initiative, which improves river connectivity and habitat while preserving community water levels. PRWD has hired Moore Engineering Inc. to design and manage the project.

"We're excited to celebrate the history and discuss the future of Buck's Mill Dam with the community," said Garrett Monson, Project Manager at Moore Engineering. "This project will restore aquatic ecology, improve fish passage and make the area safer for the public to enjoy."

The event is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

For more information, visit <https://prwd.org/project/bucks-mill-dam-modification-2/>.

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