Regular Meeting Agenda

Date:	Wednesday, July 16, 2025
Time:	08:30 AM
Location:	Wells Fargo Building, Second Floor Meeting Room 211 Holmes St. West, Detroit Lakes MN

08:30 AM – Verification of Quorum & Call Meeting to Order

1. **Approve Agenda**
2. **Approve Consent Agenda**
   2.1. June 18, 2025 Regular & July 2, 2025 Special Board Meeting Minutes
   2.2. Administrator's Report (including the Ditch Inspector's Report)
3. **Public Comment** – May address the Board for up to 3 minutes per speaker.
4. **Rules/Permitting Report**
5. **Treasurer Report**
   5.1. July 2025 Bills and Fund Transfer
   5.2. January-June 2025 Revenue & Expense Report; Grants Received/Expended
6. **Grant Program Funding Requests**
   6.1. Best Management Practices (BMP) Applications
   6.2. Education Mini-Grants
7. **Project Updates**
   7.1 Rice Lake Project
   7.2 Willow Street Pond Feasibility Study
   7.3 Buck's Mill Dam Modification Project
      7.3.1 Setting Public Hearing Date for Buck's Mill Project Establishment-August 20, 2025
   7.4 Campbell Creek Streambank Restoration Project
      7.4.1 Public Information Meeting- 60% Design Plan Date
8. **New Business**
   8.1. Intern Presentation
   8.2. Policy Updates – Personnel Manual (Paid Leave), Data Practices, Public Meeting via Interactive Technology, Culvert Maintenance Policy.
   8.3. MN Watersheds Delegates
9. **Reports**
   9.1. Attorney – Lukas Croaker
   9.2. Engineer – Moore Engineering
10. **Upcoming Meetings and Events**
    10.1 Regular Managers' Meeting – August 20, 2025 at 8:30 AM
11. **11:30 PM Adjournment**

A Zoom link request may be made by contacting the office by 3:30 PM on 7/15/2025 at 218-846-0436 or by emailing prwdinfo@arvig.net

Pelican River Watershed District Board Members may participate through interactive technology.

Regular Meeting Minutes

Date:	Wednesday, June 18, 2025
Location:	Wells Fargo Building, Second Floor Meeting Room 211 Holmes St. West, Detroit Lakes MN
Managers Present:	Rick Michaelson, Charles Jasken, Laurie Olson, Orrin Okeson, Chris Jasken, Scott Busker
Managers Absent:	Dennis Kral
Staff:	Administrator Tera Guetter, Water Resource Coordinator Josh Beranek, Office Coordinator Shanna Bach
Consultants	Lukas Croaker (Ohnstad Twichell), Garrett Monson (Moore Engineering), Chad Engles (Moore Engineering)
Others:	Birch Burdick (Melissa-Sallie Lake Improvement Association), Phil Hansen (Becker County Commissioner), Peter Waller (Board of Water and Soil Resources), Kyle Vareberg, Becker County Planning and Zoning)

Oath of Office: Manager Kral completed his Oath of Office on May 21, 2025. Manager Busker completed his Oath of Office on June 18, 2025.

Call to Order – The Regular Managers' meeting was called to order by President Michaelson at 08:32 AM.

1. Consider Agenda Additions & Approve Agenda.
   Motion to approve the June 18, 2025 Meeting Agenda (Olson, Charles Jasken), carried unanimously.

2. Approve Consent Agenda
   Motion to approve the Consent Agenda including the May 21, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes and June 2025 Administrator's Report (Okeson, Olson), carried unanimously.

3. Public Comment Period - No comments were made.

4. Rules/Permitting Report. Engineer Monson reviewed the Rules report with the Managers and Solmon violation status. **Motion to approve the June 2025 Rules Report, (Chris Jasken, Olson), carried unanimously.**

5. Treasurer Report
   Approve June 2025 Bills and June 2025 Funds Transfer, January-May 2025 R& E Report. The bills, transfer amount, and R&E report were reviewed.

   5.1. **Motion to approve June 2025 Claims (Checks 15403, 15412-15423, EFTs 202506241, 202506271, 2025062001-2025062009, 25062301) in the amount of $152,039.52 (attached hereto) and the June 2025 Fund Transfer from Savings to Checking in the amount of $150,000. (Charles Jasken, Busker), Carried unanimously**
   5.2. **Motion to approve the January-May 2025 Revenue & Expense Report (Charles Jasken, Olson), carried unanimously.**

6. Grant Program Funding Requests
   6.1. District BMP Cost Share Program – no applications received.
   6.2. District Education Mini-Grant – no applications received.

7. Unfinished Business
   7.1. Rice Lake Wetland Restoration – Braun Intertec is completing the soils analysis for the second structure area.
   7.2. Willow Street Pond Feasibility Study – The City of Detroit Lakes will decide which option to pursue in July. Engineer Monson will reach out to the City to discuss opportunities for project collaboration.
   7.3. Buck's Mill Dam Modification Project.
      7.3.1. **Schedule Public Information Meeting**. Potential meeting dates and locations were discussed. **Motion to hold a special meeting of the Board of Managers for a public information meeting to review 60% design plans on Wednesday, July 2, 2025 @ 10:00 AM, (Charlie Jasken, Chris Jasken), carried unanimously.**
      7.3.2. Engineer Monson noted the Project Engineer's Report is in internal review and will need future approval from the Managers. A tentative special meeting date was discussed for Wednesday, July 30th.
   7.4. Campbell Creek Streambank Restoration and Water Storage Project.
      7.4.1. A public information meeting to review 60% design plans will be scheduled this summer.
      7.4.2. Okeson assisted with access for collection of the additional elevation and lake level information on Campbell Lake and the downstream segment.
8. New Business
   8.1. District Communication - Moore Engineering Task Order No. 7 – 2025 PRWD Marketing Campaign
   Engineer Monson presented Task Order No. 7 – 2025 PRWD Marketing Campaign to the managers. After reviewing the proposal, it was agreed to start with publishing a press release that the District intends to continue its water quality leadership on stormwater management capital improvement projects and to clarify the governmental agencies (City, County, District) permitting role changes with shoreline alterations. Moore Engineering staff will draft the press release for review by Michaelson, Olson and Guetter. President Michaelson will also send out a communication letter to lake associations outlining the District Board's intent to work together to focus on "big picture" water quality projects and will to continue to collaborate with the County and City as well as provide technical assistance.
      8.1.1. **Motion for President Michaelson to send a communication letter to lake associations, (Olson, Busker), carried unanimously.**
      8.1.2. **Motion for MEI to produce a press release to address the Rules Changes and Capital Improvement Projects, (Chris Jasken, Olson) carried unanimously.**
   8.2. Information Technology Updates – Administrator Guetter updated the board on some possible upcoming technology updates. The goal of the district is to update software packages to allow for large file sharing and update the district email addresses with the prwd.org domain name.
   8.3. Capital Improvement Project Planning Discussion – Engineer Monson will contact Kelsey Klemm at the City to discuss how we can collaborate with Capital Improvement Projects within the City. A comprehensive review of existing facilities, monitoring data, previous studies/plans will assist with

identifying potential future projects. Other discussion topics included: St. Clair TMDL, Washington Mall Parking Lot, Pelican River *E. coli* Impairment, Mountain Road flooding, and Little Floyd Lake excessive vegetation.

8.4. BWSR Legislative Summary – Pete Waller – Mr. Waller gave the Managers and update on the recent legislative session and the funding that was approved for Board of Water and Soil Resources.

8.5. 2024 Annual Report – Guetter reviewed the 2024 Annual Report with the Managers. After approval this report combined with the 2024 Financial Audit and the 2025 Work Plan will be filed with BWSR.

8.5.1. **Motion to approve the 2024 Pelican River Watershed District Annual Report. (Olson, Busker), carried unanimously.**

9. 8.5 Wendell Smith Letter-Lukas Croaker, Attorney – Attorney Croaker provided an overview of the stormwater management permit review and issuance timeline for the Smith Living Trust property. The Managers discussed the concerns outlined in Mr. Smith's attorney's letter with the permit issuance process. Kyle Vareberg, Becker County Planning and Zoning Administrator, requested that the District continue to assist the County with stormwater management permitting. The Managers emphasized that the recodification of District rules will hopefully provide clarity with a more well-defined permitting process. The District and County will work together to update the MOU to clarify permitting roles regarding stormwater management in the watershed. **Motion to authorize Attorney Croaker to provide a response to Mr. Smith's attorney, (Chris Jasken, Michaelson) carried unanimously**.

10. Reports

10.1. District Attorney – Lukas Croaker.

10.1.1. Dunton Locks Building purchase agreement and bill of sale have been sent to the County for review and approval. He also reviewed the Laker Island Storage Unit 104 purchase agreement.

10.1.2. Bentley Culvert Change order documents. **Motion to direct Attorney Croaker to approve a Change Order for up to $1,800.00 to remove the culvert on the Bently Property pending the landowner signing of the waiver of acknowledgement for the District. (Chris Jasken, Olson) carried (6 AYES, 1 NAY).**

10.1.3. Drainage Policy Update. Attorney Croaker reported he is drafting a Culvert Cleanout Policy for the District's public drainage systems (Becker County Ditches 11, 12, 13, and 14).

10.2. District Engineer – Garrett Monson. Updated the Managers on the work being done on Permit Guidance, the GIS Viewer, Data Management Practices, and the *E. coli* monitoring project.

11. Upcoming meetings and events

11.1. July 2, 2025 – Special Managers Meeting, 10:00 AM – Buck's Mill Public Information Meeting

11.2. MN Watersheds Summer Tour – Roseau – June 24-26, 2025

11.3. July 16, 2025, Regular Managers Meeting, 8:30 AM

12. Meeting Adjournment at 12:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Jasken, Secretary Meeting Approved

Pelican River Watershed District

Claims Paid - June 2025

Date	Num			Amount
06/20/2025	2025062001	*Rix-Bach, Shanna	$	37.70
06/20/2025	2025062002	*Braun, Gannon	$	19.99
06/20/2025	2025062003	*Guetter,Tera	$	75.00
		Employee Expenses Total:	**$**	**132.69**
06/27/2025	202506241	Bremer Bank	$	23.50
06/24/2025	202506271	Loffler Companies, Inc.	$	176.91
		Vendor Expenses - Autopay Total:	**$**	**200.41**
06/23/2025	2025062301	Moore Engineering, Inc	$	49,019.29
06/20/2025	2025062004	Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.	$	10,413.00
06/20/2025	2025062005	RMB Environmental Labs, Inc.	$	3,019.00
06/20/2025	2025062006	Moore Engineering, Inc	$	6,833.27
06/20/2025	2025062007	Stantec Consulting Services Inc.	$	12,940.65
06/20/2025	2025062008	Wells Fargo-Office Lease	$	1,338.57
06/20/2025	2025062009	Lakes Computer, Inc.	$	210.00
		Vendor Expenses - EFT Total:	**$**	**83,773.78**
06/18/2025	15403	Arvig	$	69.95
06/18/2025	15412	Detroit Lakes Public Schools	$	682.50
06/18/2025	15413	Leighton Engage	$	2,000.00
06/18/2025	15414	Premium Waters, Inc.	$	18.69
06/18/2025	15415	PLM Lake and Land Management	$	36,280.80
06/18/2025	15416	Verizon	$	52.16
06/18/2025	15417	County 6 Amoco & Bait	$	55.00
06/18/2025	15418	Feldt Plumbing LLP	$	750.00
06/18/2025	15419	Loffler	$	199.56
06/18/2025	15420	Office of MNIT Services	$	81.64
06/18/2025	15421	L & M Supply	$	51.46
06/23/2025	15422	The Title Team	$	109,765.68
06/23/2025	15423	Bank of America	$	2,032.08
		Vendor Expenses - Check Total:	**$**	**152,039.52**
		Bills Total:	**$**	**236,146.40**
5/31/2025		Payroll, Taxes, & Benefits Total	**$**	**30,619.52**

Special Meeting Minutes

Date:	Wednesday, July 2, 2025
Location:	Detroit Lakes Police Department 807 Summit Ave, Detroit Lakes, MN
Managers Present:	Charles Jasken
Staff:	Administrator Guetter, Beranek, Bach, Torgerson
Consultants	Garrett Monson (Moore Engineering)
Others (those that signed in):	Lee Hovland, Howard Olson, Lori Lewis, Birch Burdick, Barb TeVogt, Tracy Hahn, Ken Olson, Bruce Meyer, Bill Ristvedt

1. **Buck's Mill Dam Modification Information Presentation –Garrett Monson, Moore Engineering (presentation attached hereto).**

   Engineer Monson gave an update on the Buck's Mill Dam modification project which included:

   Project Background
   Work performed to date.
   A review of the Engineer's Report and Environmental Assessment Worksheet.
   The next steps for the project and an estimated timeline.
   Project Funding.

   No business was conducted.

Chris Jasken, Secretary — Meeting Approved



Buck's Mill Dam Project

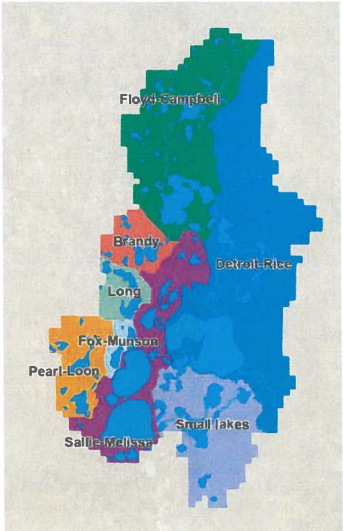
Pelican River watershed district

Public Information Meeting – July 2, 2025

moore engineering, inc.

Pelican River Watershed District

- PRWD
- Special Unit of government under MS 103D ("Watershed Law")
- Covers approximately 120 sq. mi. in Becker and Otter Tail Counties.
- Drains to Pelican River and ultimately the Otter Tail and Red Rivers
- Board of Managers (7)
- Staff (3)



Buck's Mill Dam Project



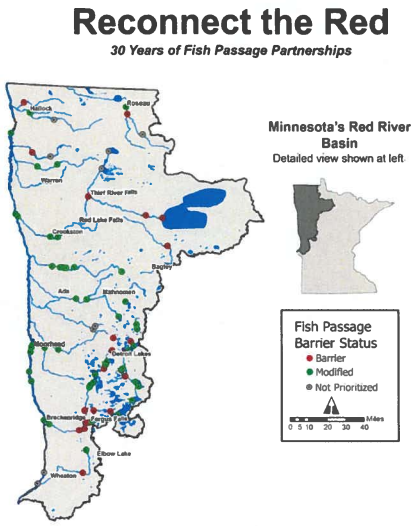
Project Goals: improved ecology, fish passage, safety, and aesthetics

Project Location



Project Inception

- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR) has developed a plan to "Reconnect the Red" to restore fish passage throughout the Red River Basin
- Several projects have already been completed in the region
- Buck's Mill Dam is a critical next step in connecting lake sturgeon to spawning grounds
- MnDNR developed concept design and completed initial public engagement



Project Development

Field Work → Engineer's Report → Environmental Review → Public Hearing

Field Work

Geotechnical Investigation
Topometric (ground) Survey
Bathymetric (water) Survey
Aerial (drone) Survey

Field Work



Field Work

- Survey
  - Buck's Mill Dam with stoplogs and catwalk
  - Road Crossings
  - Pelican River Channel





Engineer's Report

Hydraulic Study

Preliminary Design

Dam Modifications

Township Culvert and Road Modifications

Partner Review Meetings

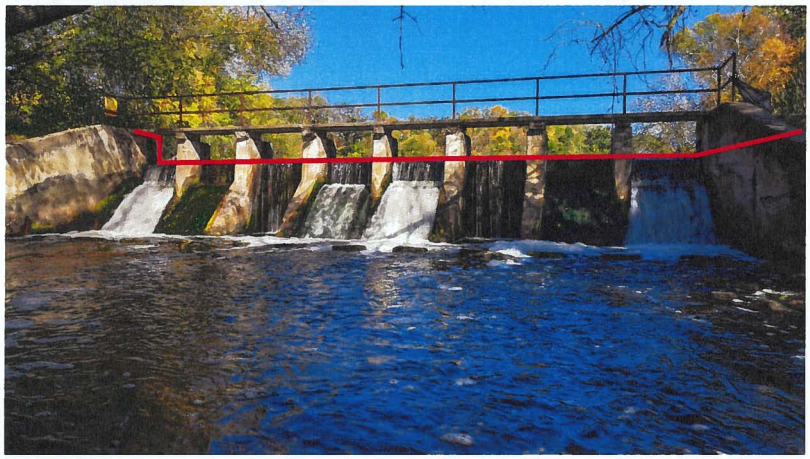
ROW Considerations

Cost Estimate

Funding Summary

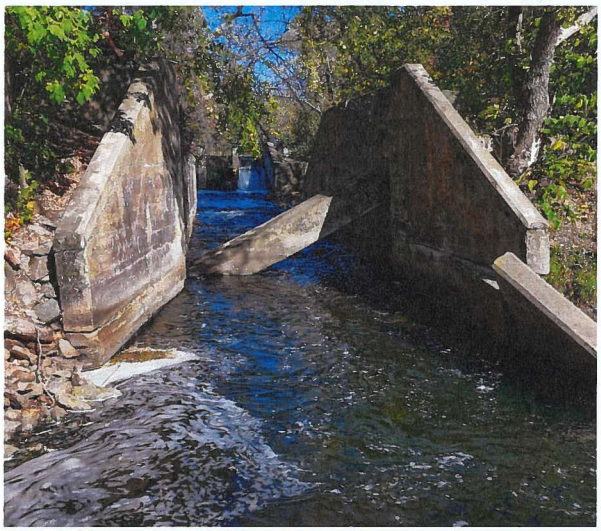
Engineer's Report

- Dam Modifications
  - The existing dam will remain but have the top removed above the red line



Engineer's Report

- Public Safety
  - Deteriorating King's Lock will be removed
    - Dangers with high velocities, exposed rebar, and failing concrete
  - Catwalk will be removed
  - Public Access will be formalized



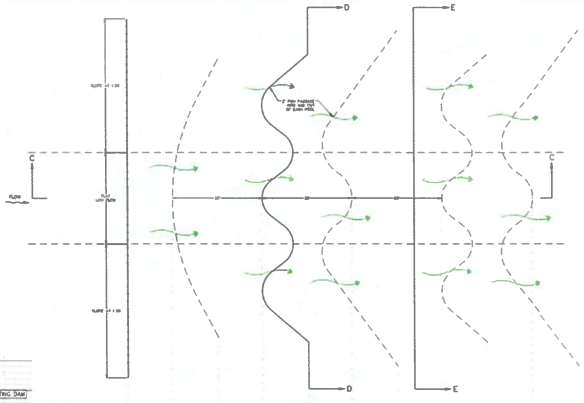
Engineer's Report

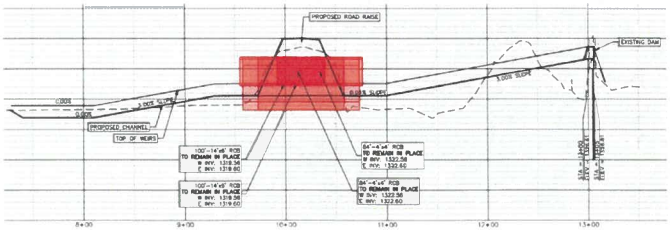
- Water Levels
  - The dam will have the same runout elevation as it has now
  - The dam will be wider in total and be narrower at the runout elevation
  - Modeling shows no impacts to Mill Pond during at 100-yr event
  - These modifications will not raise or lower upstream lake elevations

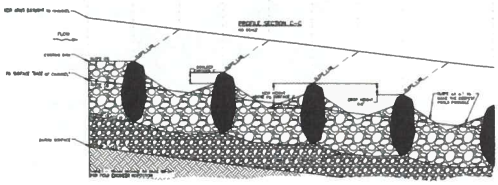


Engineer's Report

- Fish Passage
  - 2-3-2 Design
  - 2' gaps in boulders
  - Pooling between weirs
  - Fish passage for Sturgeon, Walleye, Northern Pike, Muskie, among others
  - 3% grade

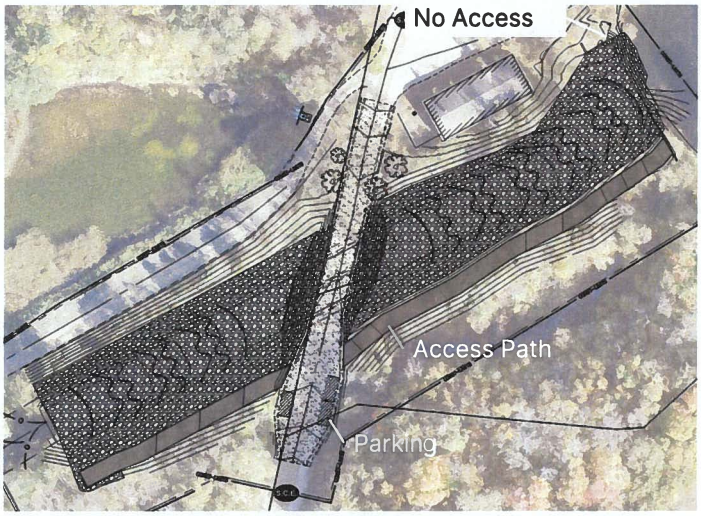






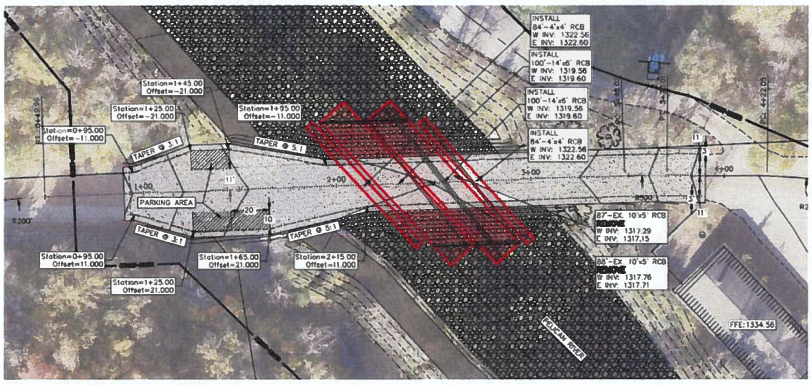
Engineer's Report

- Access
  - A path runs the length of the dam for access
  - Fishing boulders will be installed



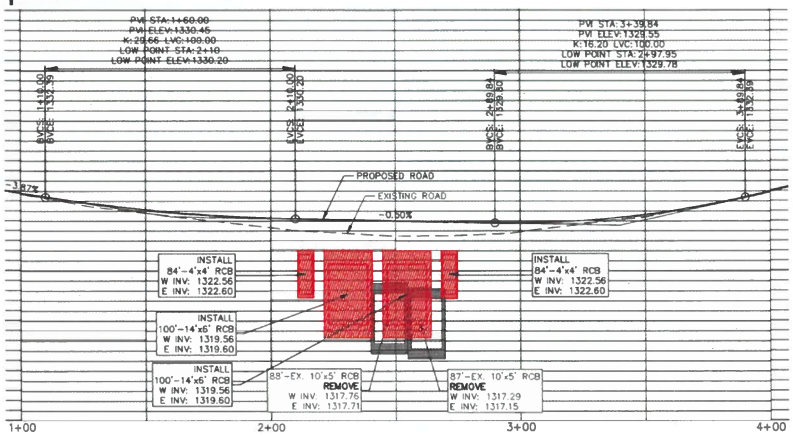
Engineer's Report

- Bucksmill Drive
  - Parking will be added to the south bank
  - A railing will be installed on top of the culverts for pedestrian safety
  - Fishing access at the culverts



Engineer's Report

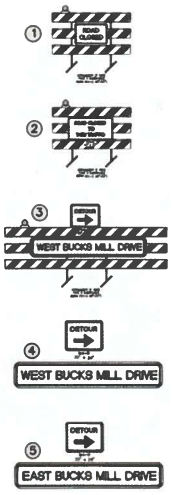
- Bucksmill Drive
  - The new dam will have a higher base than the existing river which requires new culverts to be installed



Engineer's Report

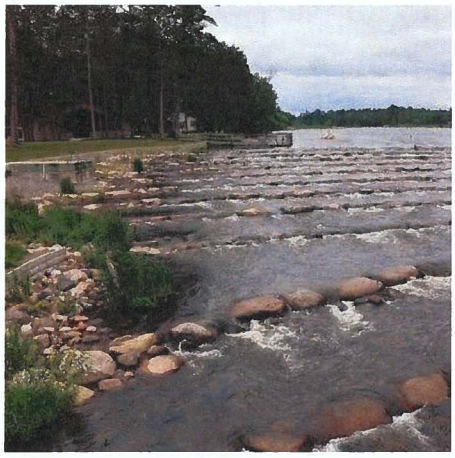
- Detour
  - Expected duration for 12 weeks





Engineer's Report

- Maintenance
  - The design of a rock riffle structure is intended to have less maintenance than a traditional dam like the one in place today.
  - Silting in of the rocks and vegetation are intended to grow and provide new habitats for aquatic species.
  - Minor rock adjustments will be required but the shape of the weirs provides support so high events should not cause major damage.
  - The road crossing will have less maintenance than what it is today as the shoulder will be crushed granite.



Example of rock arch rapids at Pine River.

Engineer's Report

- Cost Estimate

Road	Construction Subtotal	$1,290,000
	Soft Costs and Contingencies	$390,000
Dam	Construction Subtotal	$1,480,000
	Soft Costs and Contingencies	$440,000
	Total Project	$3,600,000

Environmental Review

Environmental Assessment Worksheet

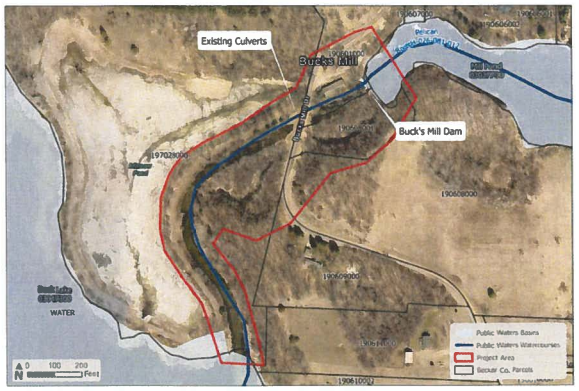
Wetland Review
Cultural Review (by MnDNR)
Threatened & Endangered Species Review
Other Considerations

Permitting Plan

WCA
USACE 404
MnDNR DSP*
PMCA Section 401 WQC
MPCA NPDES
Local

EAW

- On April 8, the EAW was Published on the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) with comments due May 8. No significant comments were received.
- On May 21, PRWD made a "Negative Declaration" that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required for the subject project.
- On May 23, the EAW Finding of Facts and Record of Decision was distributed to the EQB agency reviewers.



EAW Cumulative Potential Effects

- Wetlands: Approximately 0.22 acres of permanent wetland impacts are expected due to construction.
- Water Quality: Potential short-term introduction of sediment-laden runoff into the Pelican River, downstream of the project site prior to completion of the project.
- Rare Species/Features: Identified three state species of concern within the project vicinity and five federal threatened and endangered species within one Mile of the project area.
- Traffic: 4.38-mile-long eastbound detour and 2.05-mile-long westbound detour.



Detour Route
Bucks Mill Dam Modification
Figure 16
Pelican River Watershed District
moore engineering, inc.

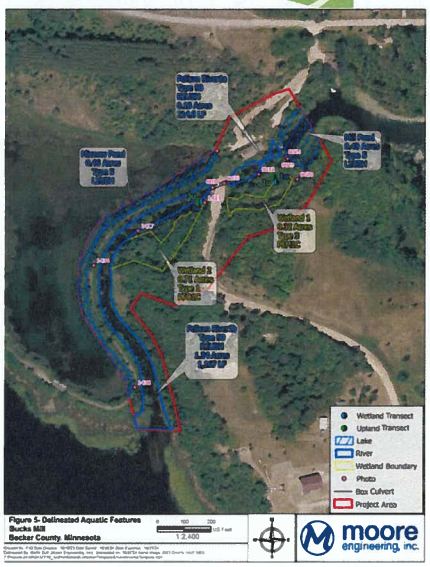


Figure 5- Delineated Aquatic Features
Bucks Mill
Becker County, Minnesota
1:2,400
moore engineering, inc.

Public Hearing

Publicly noticed hearing
Planned for July 30th, 2025
Consistent with MS 103D.605
Public Comment
Board to Establish Project and Direct Execution

Project Execution



Final Design → Permitting → Contracting → Construction

Anticipated Project Timeline

Fall 2024
- Field Work
- Engineers Report
- Environmental Review

Winter 2024/2025
- Engineer's Report
- Environmental Review

Spring/Summer 2025
- Engineer's Report
- Environmental Review
- Public Hearing
- Final Design
- Permitting
- Contracting

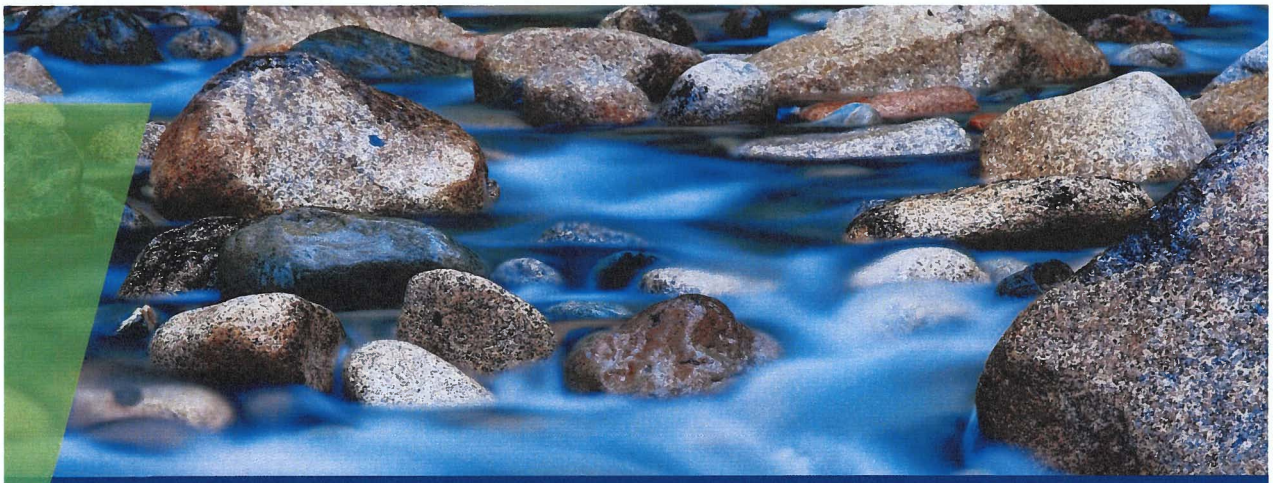
Winter 2025/ Spring 2026
- Start construction

Project Funding

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

- Estimated Cost $2-3M
- DNR has secured $2M+ State Funds
  - $1M from Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC)
  - $1M from Get Out More (GOM)
- DNR pursued additional $375k for Road Crossing
  - State and Federal funds
- Additional funding opportunities identified for use as needed
  - DNR is leading the pursuit of all funding



Public Outreach & Engagement

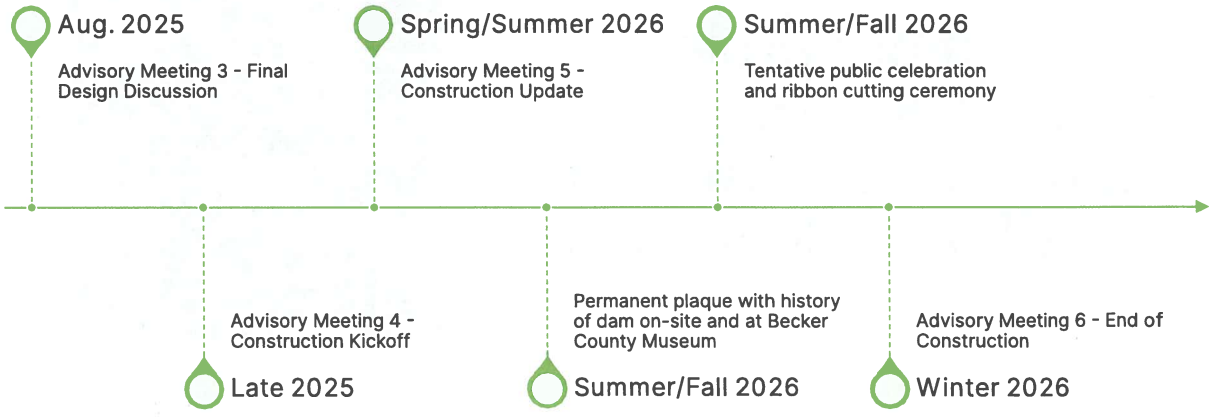
moore engineering, inc.

Public Outreach & Engagement

- Media and communication
- Advisory committee
- Public events and feedback sessions
- On-site Plaque & Museum Exhibit

Opportunities for Feedback

Engagement Calendar



Partners & Funders

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

PELICAN RIVER watershed district

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

moore engineering, inc.

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

Visit our project website to get the latest information on the Buck's Mill Dam!

prwd.org/project/bucks-mill-dam-modification/


moore
engineering, inc.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT
JULY 9, 2025

1) **Surface Waters Protection and Enhancement**
   a) Capital Improvement Projects/Structural and Non-Structural Practices
      i) **Rice Lake Capital Improvement Project (CIP**). Phase 2- Lower Structure. BWSR grant interim reports were submitted June 27, 2025. Braun Intertec completed soils investigation based upon a recently updated HEI design based upon field work findings (embankment zoning and erosion protection) and construction (float over organics with geogrid or excavate) - specifically regarding the gatewell and drawdown piping. The additional work required for the analysis will be closer to $3,300 ($2,559 was the original estimate).
      ii) **Campbell Creek Project (MPCA 319 Funding/Otter Tail 1W1P).**
         (1) Wetlands and Cultural Analysis. No further updates.
         (2) Upper Reach Survey Work – Based upon the longitudinal survey profile of Campbell lake level and the downstream drainage segment of the proposed rock arch rapids, the channel/lake outlet elevation is very low compared to our rock arch rapids and therefore any rock arch rapids would be considered a new lake outlet control structure which would impact the lake elevation and we do not foresee moving forward at this time given the landowners surrounding the lake and the MN DNR permitting/compliance hurdle. A meeting held with Stantec and MPCA concluded we are going to abandon the upper reach rock arch rapids design and focus on the lower reach. The goal of the upper reach project was to provide additional flood storage in the wetland downstream of Campbell Lake to help meter flow into Campbell Creek downstream more slowly. We continue to coordinate with Becker SWCD for a grade stabilization project in the upper reach area (Chad Okeson).
         (3) Landowner/public information meeting – we are looking at dates for week of July 14th through the end of the month.
         (4) The fieldwork should be completed now, and the designs can be updated with information gathered. We are still planning on scheduling the update meeting for later June/early July timeframe.
      iii) **Little Floyd Lake Rock Arch Rapids (MN DNR funding)**. We are currently in a holding pattern until the final project inspection and closeout occurs. Ted Rud, HEI is on conversations with the Bentleys regarding the culvert removal. An update will be given at the managers' meeting.
      iv) **Bucks Mill Dam Modification (MN DNR, Get out More, Federal).**
         (1) The Stakeholder Information meeting was held on July 2nd at the City Police Department.
         (2) Public Hearing for the establishment of the Buck's Mill Project will coincide with the August 20th Regular Managers' meeting.
         (3) Moore Engineering staff are preparing a non-technical blog for the Buck's Mill Project and is currently being reviewed by MN DNR and PRWD Staff.

2) **Becker County Drainage Systems 11, 12, 13 and 14**

Attorney Croaker is updating language to address maintenance of public and private culverts on the drainage systems.

Drainage Work Group Meeting. Manager's were emailed notes from the June 18th Meeting. The group is reviewing the Drainage Manual and receiving updates pertaining to the Public Waters Inventory process, Wetland Conservation Act (WCA), Adequate Drainage Outlet – recommendations on how to apply the statute to practices, public notice requirements (statewide registry requirement is currently being discussed), clarifying process for transferring drainage authority to WD's.

a) **Ditch 11 –** d11-25-01 – Whiskey Creek Drive – Open Workorder to trap beaver.
b) **Ditch 12** – 1 Beaver trapped and dam removal at the "outlet area" of Campbell Lake.
c) **DITCH 13 (Little Floyd Lake to Big Detroit)** – No activity to report.
d) **DITCH 14 and BRANCH 1 (HWY 10 to St. Clair Lake to Pelican River) –** No activity to report.

3) **WATER MANAGEMENT RULES** – see enclosed monthly report.

4) **HABITAT PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT**
   a) **River/Stream Connectivity – Barriers to Fish Movement.**
5) Buck's Mill and Little Floyd Lake –see reports under Capital Projects.
   Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention and Management.
   a) **CLP Research (Mankato State)** – Pearl Jenson from Minnesota State University-Mankato will continue to collect turion samples for her CLP research project throughout the summer.
   b) **Flowering Rush Delineation** –Curfman, Detroit, Sallie and Melissa were treated for Flowering Rush on June 24th with the second treatment scheduled for the week of August 4th or the week of the 11th, 2025.
6) **EDUCATION AND OUTREACH (Website, Social Media, and Workshops)**
   a) **District Communication –** Moore Engineering staff submitted a public news release on July 10, 2025 (enclosed).
   b) **Local Media/Mailings.** On June 19th Bach was a guest on Hodge Podge and discussed the upcoming Flowering Rush Treatments and our fight against this invasive plant in general.
   c) **Lake Association Meetings** – Managers Michaelson and Olson presented to the Melissa-Sallie Lake Improvement Association and the Lake Detroiters respectively on the District's 2024 achievements and 2025 initiatives. Staff provided slides for their presentations.
   d) **Becker COLA** – Guetter gave an update on the District's Updated Rules and clarified the County and City will be handling shoreline permit, will continue to help with stormwater management actions, and focus on "big picture" projects and programs to protect and enhance water quality.
   e) Social Media Posts
      i) (Facebook & Instagram) – Facebook Followers – 254 (last month 246), Instagram Followers – 24 (last month 23)

Date	Description		Engagement
6/12/2025	Share – Loans & Drones – Ortenstone Garden Drone Flyover		0 likes, 0 comments, 0 shares
6/16/2025 – 6/23/2025	Share – City of Detroit Lakes – Series of posts on lake stewardship (5 posts)		0 likes, 0 comments, 0 shares
6/16/2025	Share – University of Minnesota Extension Hubbard County – Pollinators in Woodlands Field Day at Itasca		0 likes, 0 comments, 0 shares
6/16/2025	Pollinator Week – Bluethumb.org Lawns to Legumes grant opportunities.		0 likes, 0 comments, 0 shares
6/17/2025	Flowering Rush Treatment Update – scheduled treatments for 6/24/2025		0 likes, 0 comments, 2 shares
6/18/2025	Thank you from Laker Prep to PRWD for sponsoring transportation ot Dunton Locks.		1 like, 0 comments, 0 shares

6/19/2025	We have so much for you online!	1 like, 0 comments, 0 shares
		
6/19/2025	Annual Report Approval and link.	0 likes, 0 comments, 0 shares
6/23/2025 – 7/7/2025	Selected Pages from the Annual Report (9 total posts)	11 likes, 0 comments, 0 shares
6/26/2025	Meet our Staff – Gannon 	6 likes, 1 comment, 4 shares
6/30/2025	Share – City of Detroit Lakes – Tree Survey	0 likes, 0 comments, 0 shares
7/1/2025	Boys and Girls Club Planting volunteer call. 	2 likes, 0 comments, 0 shares
7/2/2025	TV3 interview with Peyton Malecka on his Boys and Girls Club Project.	0 likes, 0 comments, 0 shares
7/4/2025	4th of July Message	0 likes, 0 comments, 0 shares
7/8/2025	Natural Shorelines Help Pollinators video.	2 likes, 0 comments, 1 share
7/9/2025	Keep Loons on Your Lake with Natural Shorelines video.	0 likes, 0 comments, 0 shares

ii) **Ottertail 1W1P Education and Outreach Group** – See 1W1P Section.

iii) **MN Lakes and Rivers** – Video series is posted and available on the PRWD Facebook page and our website at: https://prwd.org/resources/shoreline-stewardship-video-campaign/

7) **DISTRICT OPERATIONS/ADMINISTRATION.**

a) **End of Q2** - June 30th is the end of Quarter 2 for 2025. Staff had multiple grant reporting requirements, federal and state tax filings, and managers per diem and expenses to complete.

b) **Grant Oversight** -

i) *Campbell Creek Watershed Restoration (MPCA Section 319 Small Watersheds Focus Group C Grant Funding). The workplan task schedule was revised and approved by the MPCA.* The next report date is August 1, 2025. The next reimbursement will be submitted at the end of Quarter 2 after the July bills are complete.

ii) *BWSR Clean Water Rice Lake Project – Phase 1 & Phase 2. MN DNR*. – Guetter reported Rice Lake Restoration through the E-link system on June 27, 2025. Next report date is 12/31/2025.

iii) *MN DNR – Conservation Partners Legacy Grant (Little Floyd Outlet)* – No updates since last report. Next Report date is at project close or 12/31/2025, whichever is earlier.

iv) *Otter Tail 1W1P Implementation Grant* –Nothing further to report.

v) *Buck's Mill Dam Modification MN DNR* – The 6/30/2025 report was sent as well as a reimbursement request for $50,400.26. Next report date is 9/30/2025.

c) Otter Tail River 1W1P Partnership – WEBSITE: https://www.eotswcd.org/ot1w1p/

i) 1W1P Grant – Feasibility Study West Area ("Willow Pond") Stormwater Treatment. Nothing further to report. A potential nutrient reduction option for the Willow Street Pond will be selected based off the preliminary findings of their MS4 assessment (July timeframe).

i) OTW Technical Meeting – nothing further to report.

ii) OTW Education/Outreach Committee –Staff is waiting for the final draft of the Shoreland booklet from BSWCD staff.

d) **2024 Financial Audit** – We received confirmation the audit report was filed with the State Auditor's office.

e) **2024 Annual Report**– The 2024 Annual Report, 2024 Financial Audit, and 2025 Work Plan was submitted to BWSR and MN DNR.

f) **Laker Island Storage Unit** – Guetter and Michaelson closed on the Laker Island storage unit on June 24th. The county signed the purchase agreement, and we will begin moving equipment over to the new storage unit.

g) **MN Watersheds Summer Tour –** Guetter attended the MN Watersheds Administrators' meeting and the MN Watersheds Summer Tour hosted by the Roseau River Watershed District from June 24-26, 2025.

h) **MN Association of Watershed Administrators (MAWA).** Guetter attended the MN Watersheds Administrators' meeting in Roseau (in conjunction with the summer tour). Legislative changes were discussed including the MN Paid Leave Law (effective January 1, 2026), budget for 2026 (first quarterly premium due April 2026 – 0.88% 2026 premium rate with a future cap of 1.1 % taxable wages – The District may be eligible for a reduced premium at 75% of rate – employer/employee contribution 50/50), wage reporting requirements to DEED, the need to revise personnel policy before January 1st. League of MN Cities information has been sent to Attorney Croaker to assist with updating our policy. We will also update the Open Meeting Law via Interactive Technology – the law no longer requires the remote location to be open and accessible to the public; removes the requirement that remote participation from a closed location be related to an illness or military service; the meeting notice must only state that members may be participating by interactive technology. All other requirements remain (roll call vote, one member must be at physical location, etc.). The next Administrators' meeting will be held on September 23, 10 am – 2 pm at the Sauk River Watershed District office in Sauk Centre, MN.

i) **MN Watersheds Annual Meeting on Resolutions and Petitions.** The 2025 Annual Meeting (held virtually) on Resolutions and Petitions will be **held via ZOOM**, from 10:00 a.m. on Monday, August 25th to consider and act upon proposed legislative platform updates and to consider and act upon proposed resolutions. District delegates appointed for the previous special meeting may continue to serve as delegates for this meeting and at the annual business meeting in December.

MN Watersheds Upcoming Events, Meetings, and Deadlines Date	**Item**
July 1, 2025	Distribute meeting notice and packet for Annual Meeting on Resolutions and Petitions
July 21, 2025	Request for abstracts distributed
August 25, 2025	Annual Meeting on Resolutions and Petitions (by Zoom)
August 30, 2025	Abstract submission deadline
October 29, 2025	Dues statements distributed
October 31, 2025	Annual conference meeting notice and packet distributed
December 2, 2025	MAWA meeting at Grand View Lodge
December 3-5, 2025	MW Annual Conference at Grand View Lodge

j) **GIS Improvements (Moore Task Order No 5) –** We are working with Moore Engineering on the final identified tasks for District GIS maps. We are anticipating that the maps will be ready to publish on our website in September.

8) **DATA COLLECTION AND MONITORING PROGRAM**

a) **The 2024 monitoring Report** – Nearing completion. Individual Lake Reports are complete and posted to the District Website. Executive summary is currently under draft.

b) **Streams** – Since the start of monitoring on 4/28/2025, staff has completed 6 storm (greater than 0.5 inches of rain in 24 hours) and 3 routine sampling events on stream locations.

Campbell Creek Area (CC2 & CC1) – Water quality has been generally very good through June with Phosphorus readings in the ranges of 30 mg/L and sediment (TSS) readings at 4 mg/L. The only spike noted was on 5/20/2025 after a 1.5-inch rainfall event. During this rainfall event the Phosphorus reading at CC2 (230th Street) was at 325 mg/L and sediment at 95 mg/L and 287 mg/L Phosphorus and 152 mg/L TSS at CC1 (downstream at Co Rd 149). This shows the streambank is eroding between these two segments.

Pelican River (Rice Lake Wetland to Detroit Lake) – Phosphorus levels remain in lower ranges.

E. coli Data reported to date:

Date	Inches Rain	PR3	SEF	PR3A	IP	PR4A	PR5	PAV-W
4/28/2025	N							
5/13/2025	N	5.20	4.10		17.10	7.50		
5/16/2025	N	18.70	7.30	56.50	44.10	166.40	1203.3	
5/20/2025	0.62	93.30	185.00	82.00	248.10	191.80	387.30	37.4
5/28/2025	0.5	11.00	16.00		21.80	14.40		
6/9/2025	N	38.80	48.80		52.90	65.70		
6/17/2025	0.48	41.00	37.30	54.60	88.80	90.80	115.30	
6/25/2025		31.30	12.10		75.90	275.50		
7/8/2025	0.48							

Ditch 14 (St. Clair Lake to Pelican River) – Phosphorus levels are elevated ranging from 40 mg/L to 68 mg/L. Phosphorus levels from Detroit Lake to Sallie are lower, less than 24 mg/L, which serves as a dilution factor into downstream Lake Sallie.

c) **Lakes** – Summer interns have completed four rounds of sampling on the Large Lakes (Detroit, Curfman, Sallie, Melissa, and Floyds) and three rounds on the Small Lakes (Oak, Glawe, Loon, Meadow, and Spear). To date we have only received sample results from the week of June 4th, which show good water quality.

d) **Vegetation Survey –** Beranek and interns are preparing for the Vegetation Survey of Big, North, and Little Floyd scheduled for the week of July 14.

e) **GIS Mapping of Lakes -** Beranek and interns have created GIS maps for AIS treatments and MASIRC recommended Wake Surfing areas (20 feet depth and 300 feet from shore). Intern Torgerson has excelled in these tasks.

f) **Equipment –** Flow meter has been sent in for repairs.

g)

h) **June Weather**

a. Detroit Lakes, MN – National Weather Service Data

June in Detroit Lakes started warm at with a high of 83 degrees F on June 1st. The second week of June saw a cooldown with a high temperature under 60 degrees for two days. This cooldown came with a half inch of rain over three of the days. From there it warmed steadily remaining above 70 degrees for the high temperature for the reminder of the months and a 91-degree day on June 22nd. Two additional rain events (June 20th and June 26) brought the total rainfall for the month to 2.92 inches in total. The June 20th storm system brought high winds, tornado watches and a significant amount of rain to the area. Trees were down on West Lake Drive by the City of Detroit Lakes Public Beach.

Monthly Temperature Data

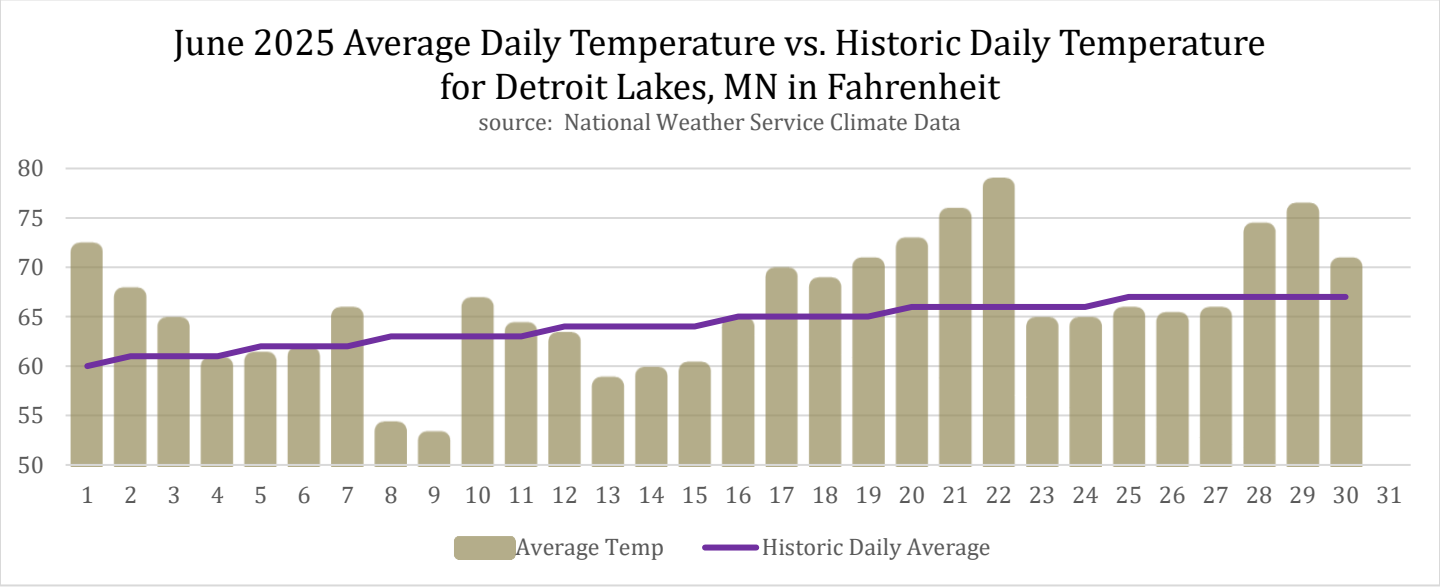
Warmest Day High Temp(s):	*91°F, 6/22/2025*	**Daily Average High Temp:**	*75.1°F*
Coldest Day Low Temp (s):	*48°F, 6/4/2025, 6/8/2025, 6/10/2025 & 6/23/2025*	**Daily Average Low Temp:**	*55.6°F*
Monthly Average Temp:	*65.4°F*		

Monthly Precipitation Data

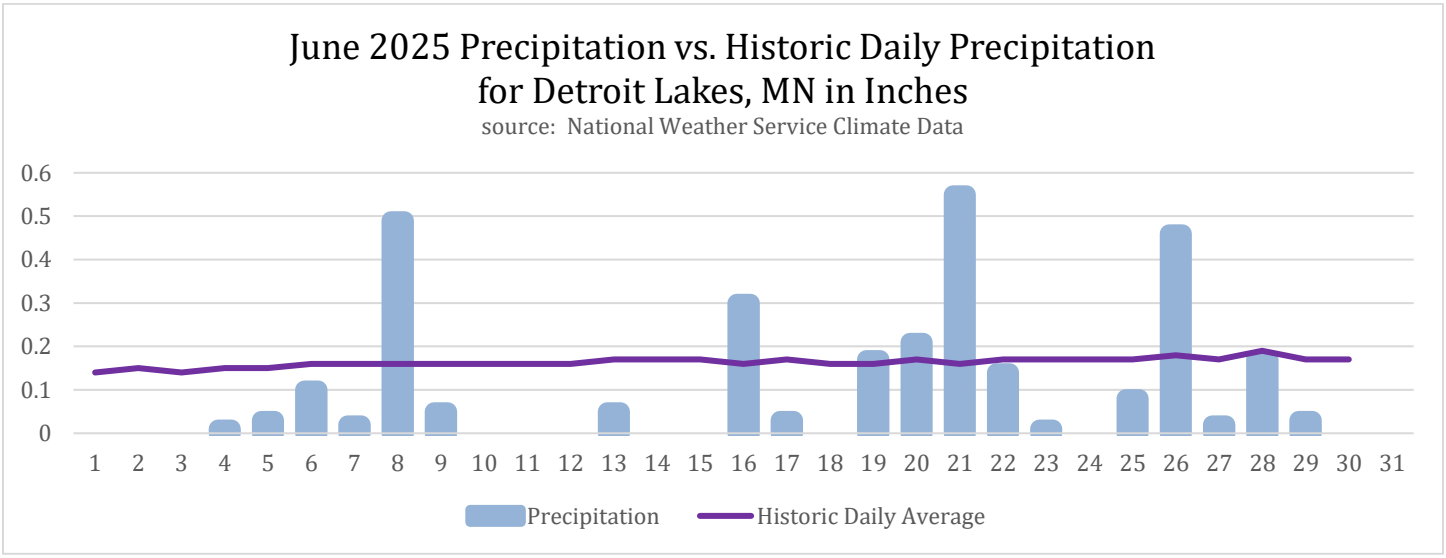
Days with Significant Precipitation >0.5 inches:	*3*	**Total Precipitation for month:**	2.92 inches

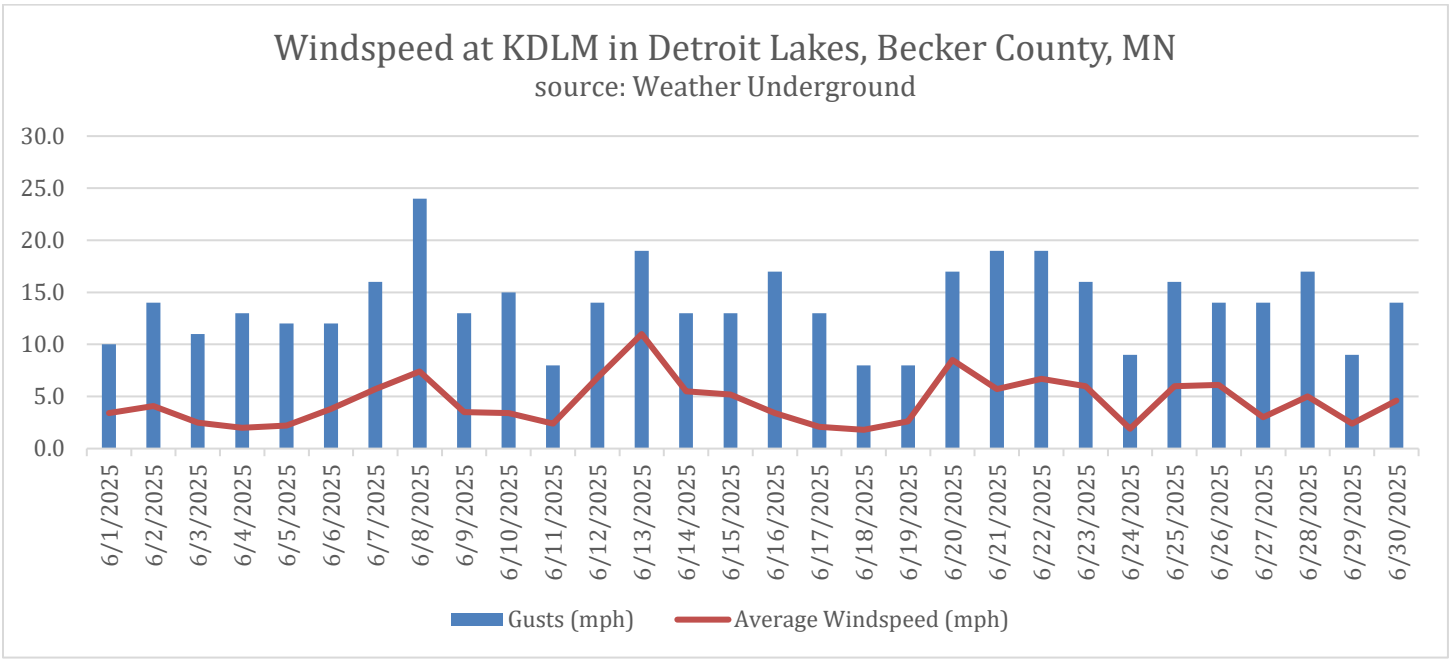
Monthly Wind Data

Days with Sustained winds over 13 mph (Moderate Breeze)	0	**Days with Gusts over 32 mph (Near Gale)**	0



DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT
JULY 9, 2025

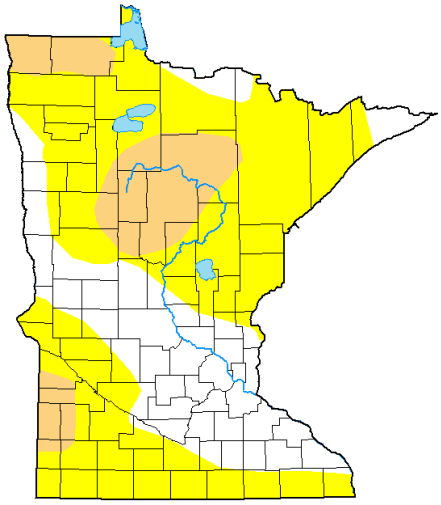




c. Minnesota Drought Report

The overall drought situation across Minnesota improved greatly in June due to rain in the southern part of the state. Becker County remains in the Moderate Drought to Abnormally Dry status. However, this report does not include the precipitation that was seen in our area on June 26th. The month began with 71 percent of the state in at least moderate drought. As of June 24, the moderate drought had decreased to 53 percent. Becker County has almost no change month after month, with the Pelican River Watershed District remaining in the abnormally dry category.

https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?MN



U.S. Drought Monitor
Minnesota

June 3, 2025
(Released Thursday, Jun. 5, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

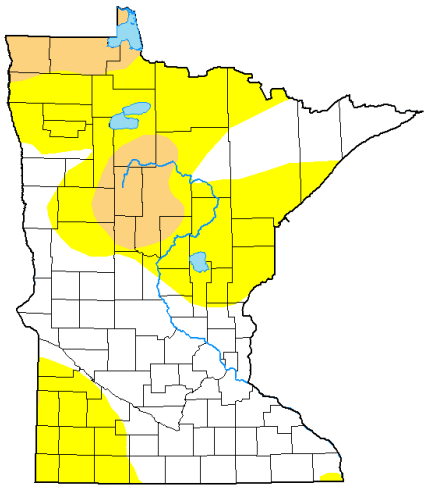
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	28.78	71.22	15.15	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 05-27-2025	27.19	72.81	15.15	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 03-04-2025	5.52	94.48	66.59	7.47	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-07-2025	12.28	87.72	49.40	7.47	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	6.04	93.96	43.28	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 06-04-2024	97.60	2.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:
None
D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Moderate Drought
D2 Severe Drought
D3 Extreme Drought
D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

Author:
Brad Pugh
CPC/NOAA

droughtmonitor.unl.edu



U.S. Drought Monitor
Minnesota

June 24, 2025
(Released Thursday, Jun. 26, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	47.32	52.68	11.26	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 06-17-2025	37.94	62.06	9.97	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 03-25-2025	5.07	94.93	66.43	8.75	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-07-2025	12.28	87.72	49.40	7.47	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	6.04	93.96	43.28	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 06-25-2024	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:
None
D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Moderate Drought
D2 Severe Drought
D3 Extreme Drought
D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

Author:
Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

DL-Online
Giving Information Life

NEWS LOCAL

Thunderstorm sweeps through Becker County

The storm hit the Toad Lake and White Earth Lake areas hard, and "from Elbow Lake to Bad Medicine Lake it was a mess — lots of trees down on the roads," said Sheriff Todd Glander.



A thunderstorm took out this tree just across the City Beach near Zorbaz. It landed in the street, and it was dragged out of traffic onto the beach. Nathan Bowe / Detroit Lakes Tribune



By Nathan Bowe
June 21, 2025 at 11:44 AM

Comments Share News Reporting

DETROIT LAKES(https://www.dl-online.com/latest) — A violent thunderstorm that swept through the area late Friday night and early Saturday morning hit the Toad Lake and White Earth Lake areas hard, according to Becker County Sheriff Todd Glander.

“A lot of trees were down in the White Earth Lake area,” he said. White Earth Lake is located in Maple Grove Township in north-central Becker County.

“Trees were over the roads on several county and township roads,” Glander added. That included a long swath east of Detroit Lakes, starting about in the Little Toad Lake area and continuing over to the Wolf Lake area, he said.



A giant tree split down the trunk rests on the property of a resident off County Highway 56 near Little Toad Lake on Saturday, June 21, 2025. Abby Fostveit / Detroit Lakes Tribune

MORE STORIES FROM NATHAN BOWE



3 Becker County officers honored for helping save lives after two remote, unreported car crashes(https://www.dl-online.com/news/local/3-becker-county-officers-honored-for-helping-save-lives-after-two-remote-unreported-car-crashes)

22h ago

(https://www.dl-online.com/news/local/3-becker-

(https://www.dl-online.com/news/local/attorney-for-gravel-pit-opponents-has-sharp-words-for-becker-county) 5d ago

Also, Glander said he received reports that “from Elbow Lake to Bad Medicine Lake it was a mess — lots of trees down on the roads.”

There were “a lot of township people out clearing roads this morning,” he added. “The County Highway Department also had crews out cleaning up.” A man clearing fallen debris from his yard off County Highway 56 late Saturday morning said he had been at it since 5:30 a.m.



Damage at Nereson Automotive in Detroit Lakes the morning after the storm. Barbie Porter / Detroit Lakes Tribune

Detroit Lakes wasn't hit as hard, although there were trees and branches down around town, including several trees on West Lake Drive along the City Beach, Glander said.

The National Weather Service reported about a half-inch of rain from the early-morning thunderstorm on Saturday, and winds up to 43 mph at the Detroit Lakes Airport. Several people from South Shore Drive reported "hellacious" winds that came with the thunderstorm. Power was out in Detroit Lakes for a time overnight.



A large tree branch was downed by the storm at this house on Lake Avenue in Detroit Lakes. Nathan Bowe / Detroit Lakes Tribune

No injuries were immediately reported in Becker County, Glander said. “Nobody was hurt that I’m aware of,” he said.

But before it crossed into Minnesota, a storm killed(https://www.inforum.com/news/three-killed-as-tornado-strikes-cass-county-overnight) three people — two men and a woman at two separate locations — when a tornado touched down in Enderlin, North Dakota, late Friday, according to Cass County Sheriff Jesse Jahner. Enderlin is about 57 miles southwest of Fargo.



A resident, who said he had been clearing debris from his property since early Saturday morning, moves storm debris into a pile off County Highway 56 on June 21, 2025. Abby Fostveit / Detroit Lakes Tribune



Trees, uprooted by the storm, lie on a property off County Highway 56 on Saturday, June 21, 2025. Abby Fostveit / Detroit Lakes Tribune

MORE DETROIT LAKES NEWS

Admin Report 7/2025

Rules Report – July 2025

PERMITS COMPLETED

None

PERMITS IN PROCESS

Applicant	Application Status	Update	PRWD Contact Date
Menards	Complete	Notified applicant of additional information needed.	5/6/2025 7/10/2025
Southwood Shores Estates	Complete 6/5/2025	In review with Moore Engineering.	
BTD	Complete	Requested as built survey of stormwater pond.	5/22/2025 7/10/2025
Detroit Mountain	Complete 6/10/2025	In review with Moore Engineering.	
Eagle Rock Real Estate	Complete 6/23/2025	In review with Moore Engineering.	
Midwest Bank	Complete 7/2/2025	In review with Moore Engineering.	
Detroit Lakes Airport	Incomplete	Landowner notified of application information missing.	7/2/2025
MN Flyers Gymnastics	Incomplete	Landowner notified of application information missing.	6/4/2025 6/16/2025 7/10/2025
Herzog, Josh	Incomplete	Landowner notified of application information missing.	7/7/2025
Solomon, Marty	Violation - Application Pending	Owen Reding (Becker SWCD) and Engineer Monson - A draft remediation plan includes a combination of a shoreline buffer and a raingarden and has been presented to Mr. Solmon. Mr. Solomon met with Reading at the site on 6/8/2025 to discuss final plans. To date, the District has not received an application, signoff of the plan, or timeline for installation from the landowner.	6/8/2025 7/10/2025

EXPECTED PROJECTS

Applicant	Project
Becker County - Dunton Locks	Stormwater plan for building and parking lot.
Huether	>25% Impervious Surface Riparian Lot.

OTHER

Smith Living Trust May 20, 2025 Letter – Attorney Croaker provided a response per the direction of the Board of Managers at the June 18, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.

GOVERNMENT PARTNER MEETING REVIEW

- **City of Detroit Lakes – City Council**
  - July 8, 2025 – Permit expected for Long Lake Acres, Lynnview Estates, & Midwest Bank if plats are approved. Midwest Bank has applied for a permit.
- **City of Detroit Lakes – Planning Commission**
  - No meetings since last report.
- **City of Detroit Lakes – Development Authority**
  - July 10, 2025 – Meeting Cancelled.
- **Becker County Commissioners**
  - July 1, 2025 – no comments
- **Becker County – Planning and Zoning**
  - June 25, 2025 – no comments
- **Becker County – Board of Adjustment**
  - July 10, 2025 – no comment.