



Agenda

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board Meeting

August 26, 2021, 1 p.m., in-person and teleconference via Zoom

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Audience Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
(*please limit audience comments to five minutes*)
4. Consent Agenda Action
 - a. Approval of Agenda Page 1
 - b. Approval of Minutes from the July 22, 2021, Meeting Page 3
 - c. Acceptance of Treasurer's Report Page 7
5. Approval of Expenses Action Page 8
6. Business Items
 - a. Public Hearing to Receive Comments on and Adoption of the Draft Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization 2022 Budget and Watershed Management Tax District Levy Action Page 9
 - b. Mid-term Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan Review Information Page 20
 - c. Watershed Tour Planning Information Page 31
7. Staff Reports
8. Adjourn Action

Please note, the August 26, 2021 Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board meeting will take place **in-person** in Conference Room A at the Extension and Conservation Center, 4100 220th Street West, Farmington Minnesota **and via teleconference** on the web-based application, Zoom. The Extension and Conservation Center building remains locked. In-person participants must notify staff of their plan to be present beforehand or ring the doorbell at arrival for the meeting. Due to the increase in cases of COVID 19 in our area, masks are required to be worn inside of all Dakota County facilities.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://dakotacountymn.zoom.us/j/99624392599?pwd=YlpMWjBlb0l3WGFEYTJmRXdjZjRjUT09>

Meeting ID: 996 2439 2599

Passcode: 459031

One tap mobile

+16513728299,,99624392599#,,, *459031# US (Minnesota)



Dial by your location

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Meeting ID: 996 2439 2599

Passcode: 459031

Find your local number: <https://dakotacountymn.zoom.us/j/99624392599>

Other Information

Next Meeting Date: **September 23, 2021**, at 1 p.m.

You will be notified if the meeting is cancelled due to an anticipated lack of quorum.



Meeting Minutes

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board Meeting

July 22, 2021, 1 p.m., In-person and Teleconference using Zoom

Board Members in Attendance

Dakota County Commissioner Mike Slavik, Chair

Scott County Commissioner, Tom Wolf, Vice-Chair via Zoom

Dakota County Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland, Secretary/ Treasurer

Others in Attendance

Mark Zabel, Dakota County, Watershed Administrator

Greg Wagner, Scott County, Senior Planner

Megan Tasca, Scott County, Water Resources Engineer

Travis Thiel, Dakota County, Senior Watershed Specialist

Mark Ryan, Dakota County, VRWJPO Watershed Engineer

Brita Moore-Kutz, Dakota County, VRWJPO Communications and Outreach Specialist

Paula Liepold, Dakota County, Public Outreach and Communications

Helen Brosnahan, Dakota County, Assistant County Attorney

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 1:11 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Slavik, Hamann-Roland, and Wolf were in attendance.

3. Audience Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

There were no comments from the audience.

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Agenda
- b. Approval of Minutes from the April 22, 2021, meeting
- c. Acceptance of Treasurer's Report
- d. Approval of the City of Elko New Market Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan
- e. Schedule a Public Hearing to Receive Comments on the Draft VRWJPO Budget and Watershed Management Tax District Levy
- f. Authorization to Execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Rosemount for an Irrigation Audit Program in 2021

Res. No. VRW 21-15: Motion by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, Second by Commissioner Wolf and passed on a 3-0 vote to approve the consent agenda.

5. Approval of Expenses

Mark Zabel presented the current expenses for approval as shown on item 5.

Res. No. VRW 21-13: Motion by Commissioner Wolf, Second by Commissioner Hamann-Roland and passed on a 3-0 vote to approve the expenses as presented.

Business Items

6a. Mid-term Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan Review

Chair Slavik introduced the item and asked Mark Zabel to give an overview. Zabel presented a spreadsheet identifying goals, objectives, and actions identified in Section 6 of the VRWJPO Watershed Management Plan. The spreadsheet was presented to the WPC to prioritize the various action items identified in the spreadsheet. The results will be compiled, interests determined, and amendments considered based on WPC feedback. The results will be addressed in future work plans and budgets addressing prioritized items going forward with Plan implementation. Commissioners will also have the opportunity to review the spreadsheet and prioritize the action items. Commissioner Hamann-Roland inquired about invasive Jumping Worms and whether addressing these invasive species is in the Plan. Zabel responded that terrestrial species are not typically addressed except when connected to a water quality issue. A Plan amendment could be considered to address specific invasive terrestrial species and their impacts if it is needed to address water quality issues.

Staff Reports

Greg Wagner presented on a proposed development in the New Market Township area of the watershed. The area being proposed for development was re-guided in the 2019 County Comprehensive Plan process, and in conversation with the City of Elko New Market and New Market Township, into a category called Rural Business Reserve. Based on that designation, the project can be subdivided and uses that would have outdoor equipment storage and or a shed or workshop would be eligible under this category.

A public hearing was held by Scott County on this request on June 14, 2021. There was a lot of public comment with forty to fifty people, mainly from the neighborhood to the north, who expressed concerns about traffic, visual aesthetics, water management, and water quality. Individuals from that neighborhood contacted VRWJPO staff expressing concerns about groundwater, on-site septic systems, and stormwater management.

Scott County staff and VRWJPO staff discussed the proposed development. VRWJPO Administrator suggested that this be brought to the attention of the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board to inform the Board members about the issue because they may receive calls about this development. Commissioner Wolf commented that Messenbrink Construction has addressed some issues and has worked out some details with nearby residents and this should be a good project in that area. Mark Ryan commented that he has not reviewed the development plan details, but that Scott County has, and the Plan currently shows wetlands being avoided, including some of the smaller wetlands which often get impacted in development. Commissioner Slavik noted that they are following the VRWJPO Standards. Commissioner Slavik asked about fire suppression for buildings that might be constructed

here, given they are on private wells. Greg Wagner responded it is too early in the process to have that information as building plans and sizes are unknown.

Brita Moore-Kutz reported that the VRWJPO will have a presence at the Dakota County Fair in the Natural Resources Building along with other conservation organizations and partners. The theme of the County Building is "Transportation" and there will be environmental messaging in the sustainability section of the displays. Brita provided a summary of social media activity including promoting the Salt Symposium scheduled for August 3rd and 4th. The VRWJPO Tour and date was also discussed. Commissioner Slavik described the tour as an opportunity to highlight completed cost share projects supported by the VRWJPO.

Commissioner Slavik suggested that a focus on water conservation at the County Fair might be an appropriate message in a drought year. Brita noted that there is an effort to try to coordinate a consistent messaging among partners at the Natural Resources Building.

Travis Thiel provided an update on the deadfall inventory. There was only one deadfall blocking the river to the point where water was backed up (approximately 6 inches of fall over the deadfall). A few partial blockages were noted. None of the deadfalls can be attributed to any flooding. A discussion ensued about whether to remove deadfalls in the river. It was decided that sometime in the future a deadfall removal plan needs to be developed. Once the review of the Watershed Plan is finalized, a decision will be made on developing a removal plan. A discussion was also had about contacting the Minnesota DNR to inquire as to the potential to designate that portion of the river as a Water Trail.

Mark Zabel presented the Draft 2022 VRWJPO Budget highlighting those areas changed in comparison to the 2021. There were questions and discussion around the change in the budget to the Wetland Health Evaluation Program line item which is zeroed in the Draft 2022 VRWJPO Budget. The overall budget expenses are reduced from \$2,297,500 in 2021 to \$1,778,860 in 2022. Budgeted revenues are reduced from \$2,497,900 in 2021 to \$1,942,600 in 2022. Difference between revenues and expenses in 2022 leaves \$163,740 in cash reserve which is 8.4% of the budget total. Commissioner Slavik requested that in future years the Draft Budget be provided as an information item at the July meeting. The Draft Budget will be presented as an information item at the July meeting next year. Commissioner Slavik expressed his appreciation of staff identifying projects throughout the watershed. Zabel noted that the Watershed Plan has a prioritization included which sets priorities on a subwatershed basis, which also informs how projects are selected.

Zabel brought up recent media reporting about goldfish. Zabel mentioned that staff from the City of Burnsville had posted a picture of a football sized goldfish on social media and that posting then went viral. Brita Moore-Kutz mentioned the several media outlets that had since covered the story including, Good Morning America, Inside Edition, and the Washington Post. Brita commented that this showed how something eye catching like this can really impact our communication efforts. Brita also mentioned that it may be possible to wrap this into the Dakota County Fair displays. Possibly printing a picture of the giant goldfish with a message of not releasing them into the wild.

Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, Second by Commissioner Wolf and passed 3-0 vote to adjourn the meeting at 2:46 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, August 26, 2021, at 1 p.m. in Conference Room A at the Dakota County Extension and Conservation Center, 4100 220th Street West, Farmington, MN.

Mark Zabel

Administrator for the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization

Attest

Commissioner Hamann-Roland

Secretary/ Treasurer

Date



2021 Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization Treasurer's Report

July 2021 - Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board Meeting

	<u>Budget Amounts</u>	<u>Expenses to Date</u>	<u>Expenses Pending</u>	<u>Account Balance</u>	<u>Budget Funding Sources</u>		
I. Administration & Operations (217002-0000)	\$ 240,500.00	\$ 87,089.03	\$ 15,098.97	\$ 138,312.00	Scott County Levy	\$	33,350.00
II. Research & Planning (217002-0130)	\$ 65,600.00	\$ 26,628.92	\$ 2,039.12	\$ 36,931.96	Dakota County Levy	\$	966,650.00
III. Monitoring & Assessment (217002-0230)	\$ 157,400.00	\$ 19,160.78	\$ 5,860.60	\$ 132,378.62	Expected 2019 Carryover (Fund Balance)	\$	336,000.00
IV. Public Communications & Outreach (217002-0330)	\$ 192,450.00	\$ 48,580.85	\$ 11,591.18	\$ 132,277.97	Special Use Permit	\$	2,500.00
V. Regulation (217002-0530)	\$ 65,900.00	\$ 20,186.18	\$ 2,698.73	\$ 43,015.09	CWF Grant (BWSR)	\$	370,000.00
VI. Coordination & Collaboration (217002-0531)	\$ 45,600.00	\$ 12,385.44	\$ 942.96	\$ 32,271.60	2019-2021 CWF Grant 1W1P (BWSR)	\$	218,100.00
VIII. Feasibility/Preliminary Studies (217002-0631)	\$ 240,000.00	\$ 69,462.13	\$ 8,443.37	\$ 162,094.50	2020-2023 CWF Grant WBIF (BWSR)	\$	243,600.00
X. Capital Improvement Projects (217092-0130)	\$ 296,300.00	\$ 36,509.53	\$ 1,614.25	\$ 258,176.22	Met Council Grant	\$	-
XI. Met Council Grant (217002-0832)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	CIP Reserve	\$	205,900.00
XII. CWF Grant - Alimagnet (217002-0836)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	CIP Reserve Grant Match	\$	101,800.00
XIII. CWF Grant - County Road 50 (217002-0837)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	Investment Earnings	\$	20,000.00
XIV. CWF Grant - South Branch (217002-0838)	\$ -	\$ 39.85	\$ -	\$ (39.85)	Total	\$	2,497,900.00
XV. CWF Grant - Lakeville (217002-0839)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
XVI. CWF Grant - South Creek (217002-0840)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
XVII. CWF Grant - Erickson Park St (217002-0841)	\$ 164,300.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 164,300.00			
XVIII. CWF Grant - Farmington Street (217002-0842)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
XIX. CWF Grant - Aronson Park Storm (217002-0843)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00			
XX. CWF Grant - Webster Wetland (217002-0844)	\$ 67,000.00	\$ 64,585.98	\$ -	\$ 2,414.02			
XXI. CWF Grant - Technical Assistance (217002-0845)	\$ 19,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,500.00			
XXII. CWF Grant - Imminent Health T (217002-0846)	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000.00			
XXIII. CPL Grant - South Creek at Hamburg (217002-0847)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
XXIX. FY2019 - Watershed Funding Grant (217002-0848)	\$ 23,700.00	\$ 3,446.81	\$ 271.85	\$ 19,981.34			
XXX. CWF Grant - Records Trail/Grade (217002-0849)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
XXXI. CWF Grant - 21st Street Ravine Outlet (217002-0850)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
XXXII. CWF Grant - Vermillion Falls Bio (217002-0851)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
XXXIII. CWF Grant - Middle Creek Restoration (217002-0852)	\$ 420,000.00	\$ 2,581.80	\$ -	\$ 417,418.20			
Irrigation and Audit	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00			
XXXIV. WBIF Grant (BWSR) 2020-2023 North Creek Stabilization (217002-0853)	\$ 187,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 187,500.00			
XXXV. WBIF Grant 2020-2023 Farmington Direct Drainage (217002-0854)	\$ 16,630.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,630.00			
XXXVI. WBIF Grant (BWSR) 2020-2023 Hastings Direct Drainage (217002-0855)	\$ 16,630.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,630.00			
XXXVII. WBIF Grant (BWSR) 2020-2023 Ravenna Basins Restoration (217002-0856)	\$ 35,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,500.00			
XXXVIII. WBIF Grant (BWSR) 2020-2023 Rosemount Anti-Icing (217002-0857)	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00			
VRW JPO Revised Budget Expense TOTAL	\$ 2,297,510.00	\$ 390,657.30	\$ 48,561.03	\$ 1,858,291.67			



Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization

4100 220th St. W., Suite 103, Farmington, MN 55024

Date: August 26, 2021
To: Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board
From: Staff
Subject: Joint Powers Organization Expenses

Agenda Item 5
August 2021

Expenses from the invoices submitted between June 12, 2021 and July 12, 2021 totaled \$53,290.23

The invoices submitted between July 13, 2021 and August 12, 2021 are listed below:

<u>Invoice</u>	<u>Vendor</u>		<u>Amount</u>
July 2021	DC Staff Time	\$	42,309.76
April 14 2021	April 14, 2021 VRWPC Per Diems	\$	70.00
June 9, 2021	June 9 2021 VRWPC Per Diems	\$	70.00
July 14 2021	July 14, 2021 VRWPC Per Diems	\$	70.00
June 2021	DC Legal	\$	411.21
2010773593	U of M Regents	\$	5,435.06
21-10800-14C	144Design	\$	95.00
7/29/2021	PCard: Mzabel Brita Moore-Kutz Salt Symposium	\$	100.00
Total expense as approved on August 26, 2021			\$ 48,561.03

Action Requested: Approve all above expenses as presented on August 26, 2021

6a. Public Hearing to Receive Comments on and Adoption of the Draft Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization 2022 Budget and Watershed Management Tax District Levy

Meeting Date: 8/26/2021
Item Type: Regular-Action
Contact: Mark Zabel
Telephone: 952-891-7011
Prepared by: Mark Zabel
Reviewed by: N/A

N/A

**PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED**

- Public hearing to receive comments on and adoption of the Draft Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) 2022 Budget and Watershed Management Tax District Levy

SUMMARY

The proposed Draft VRWJPO 2022 Budget (included as Attachment A) is \$1,942,600 including cash reserves, Clean Water Fund Watershed Based Implementation Funding grant, and the Watershed Management Tax District Levy. The Draft VRWJPO 2022 Budget recommends a Watershed Management Tax District Levy of \$1,000,000, \$32,350 in the Scott County portion of the watershed and \$967,650 in the Dakota County portion of the watershed. This amount represents no change from the overall Watershed Management Tax District levy compared to 2021. The draft budget reflects recommendations from VRWJPO staff and partners and items from the implementation section of the Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan.

An approved Draft VRWJPO 2022 Budget will remain “draft” until such time as the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Power Board adopts a Final VRWJPO 2022 Budget and Dakota County and Scott County Boards certify the final Watershed Management Tax District Levy in December of 2021.

Supporting Documents:

Attachment A: Draft VRWJPO 2022 Budget

Attachment B: Vermillion River Watershed Tax District Estimated 2022 Taxes DC

Attachment C: 2022 Vermillion WMO Impact SC

Previous Board Action(s):**RESOLUTION****5a. Adopt the Draft Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization 2022 Budget and Watershed Management Tax District Levy**

WHEREAS, the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization requires a budget and the subsequent levy to implement the programs and projects described in its Watershed Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission has reviewed and recommended the adoption of the proposed Draft VRWJPO 2022 Budget and Watershed Management Tax District Levy, and

WHEREAS, the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board has reviewed and discussed the Draft VRWJPO 2022 Budget and Vermillion River Watershed Management Tax District Levy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board hereby adopts the Draft VRWJPO 2022 Budget totaling \$1,942,600 and recommends a Vermillion River Watershed Management Tax District Levy of \$1,000,000 (\$32,350 in the Scott County portion of the watershed and \$967,650 in the Dakota County portion of the watershed).

VRWJPO Draft 2022 Budget

<u>Category</u>	<u>Budget Items</u>	<u>2022 Draft Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>	<u>2021 Revised Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>
EXPENSES					
Administration and Operations -2170020000	1 Dakota County VRW Staff	\$180,500	9.3%	\$180,500	7.2%
	2 Scott County VRW Staff	\$15,000	0.8%	\$15,000	0.6%
	3 Other Dakota County Staff Time	\$12,000	0.6%	\$12,000	0.5%
	4 Legal Support	\$25,000	1.3%	\$25,000	1.0%
	5 Miscellaneous Expenses (per diems, mileage, postage, etc.)	\$6,000	0.3%	\$6,000	0.2%
	6 Training, Conferences, and Certifications	\$2,000	0.1%	\$2,000	0.1%
Subtotal Administrative		\$240,500	12.4%	\$240,500	9.6%
Research and Planning -2170020130	1 Dakota SWCD Incentive Program Policy Assistance	\$1,600	0.1%	\$1,600	0.1%
	2 Scott County Staff	\$2,000	0.1%	\$2,000	0.1%
	3 VRW Staff	\$12,000	0.6%	\$12,000	0.5%
	4 Conservation Attitudes and Behaviors Survey	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	
Subtotal Research and Planning		\$15,600	0.8%	\$65,600	2.6%
Monitoring and Assessment -2170020230	1 Vermillion River Monitoring Network in Dakota Co.				
	1a Staff Time for Sample Collection, Equipment Installation, Maintenance, Downloading	\$39,000	2.0%	\$39,000	1.6%
	1b Data analysis, database management, data reporting, FLUX modeling, reporting	\$17,000	0.9%	\$17,000	0.7%
	1c Water Quality Sample Analysis and QA/QC samples	\$19,000	1.0%	\$19,000	0.8%
	1d Equipment and Supplies	\$8,000	0.4%	\$8,000	0.3%
	2 Vermillion River Monitoring Network in Scott Co	\$9,800	0.5%	\$9,800	0.4%
	3 USGS Cost Share for Blaine Ave. Station	\$8,900	0.5%	\$8,900	0.4%
	4 DNR Flow Gaging Assistance	\$9,700	0.5%	\$9,700	0.4%
	5a Biological and Habitat Assessments	\$7,000	0.4%	\$7,000	0.3%
	5b Electrofishing	\$16,000	0.8%	\$16,000	0.6%

VRWJPO Draft 2022 Budget

<u>Category</u>	<u>Budget Items</u>	<u>2022 Draft Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>	<u>2021 Revised Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>
	6 Monitoring Programs Review and Evaluation	\$15,000	0.8%	\$15,000	0.6%
	7 General GIS support (Dakota SWCD)	\$5,000	0.3%	\$5,000	0.2%
	8 Nitrate Treatment Practice Sampling	\$1,000	0.1%	\$1,000	0.0%
	9 Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Performance Sampling	\$2,000	0.1%	\$2,000	0.1%
	Subtotal Monitoring and Data Analysis	\$157,400	8.1%	\$157,400	6.3%
Public Communications and Outreach	1 Communication and Outreach Staff	\$100,000	5.1%	\$110,000	4.4%
	2 Vermillion River Watch Program	\$6,000	0.3%	\$6,000	0.2%
	-2170020330 3 Vermillion River Stewards	\$15,000	0.8%	\$20,000	0.8%
	4 Scott County Outreach Efforts	\$2,250	0.1%	\$2,050	0.1%
	5 Vermillion River Watershed Projects Signage and Map Updates	\$5,000	0.3%	\$5,000	0.2%
	6 Newsletter, Mailings, Website, General Communication Materials	\$10,000	0.5%	\$10,000	0.4%
	7 Landscaping for Clean Water Workshop Program (Dakota SWCD)	\$30,400	1.6%	\$30,400	1.2%
	8 K-12 Classroom Presentations (Dakota SWCD)	\$4,000	0.2%	\$4,000	0.2%
	9 Watershed Tours	\$0	0.0%	\$1,500	0.1%
	10 Local Standards/ Ordinance and Turf/ Salt Workshops	\$3,500	0.2%	\$3,500	0.1%
	Subtotal Public Outreach and Communication	\$176,150	9.1%	\$192,450	7.7%
Regulation	1 Scott SWCD Assistance with Plan Review	\$900	0.0%	\$900	0.0%
	-2170020530 2 Engineering Assistance and Review	\$35,000	1.8%	\$45,000	1.8%
	3 VRW Staff Local Program Assistance	\$20,000	1.0%	\$20,000	0.8%
	Subtotal Regulation	\$55,900	2.9%	\$65,900	2.6%
Coordination and Collaboration	1 Coordination VRW Staff	\$32,000	1.6%	\$32,000	1.3%
	2 Wetland Health Evaluation Program Cost Share	\$0	0.0%	\$3,000	0.1%
	-2170020531 3 Children's Water Festival Support	\$600	0.0%	\$600	0.0%

VRWJPO Draft 2022 Budget

<u>Category</u>	<u>Budget Items</u>	<u>2022 Draft Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>	<u>2021 Revised Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>
	4 Watershed Partners	\$5,000	0.3%	\$5,000	0.2%
	5 Master Water Stewards	\$5,000	0.3%	\$5,000	0.2%
Subtotal Coordination and Collaboration		\$42,600	2.2%	\$45,600	1.8%
Land and Water Treatment					
	1 Cost Share Programs in Dakota County (SWCD)	\$80,000	4.1%	\$80,000	3.2%
Capital Improvement Projects	2 Cost Share Programs in Scott County (SWCD)	\$31,300	1.6%	\$41,300	1.7%
-2170920130	3 Cost-share	\$250,000	12.9%	\$125,000	5.0%
	4 WBIF match	\$0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
Subtotal Capital Improvement Projects		\$361,300	18.6%	\$246,300	9.9%
Maintenance	1 Past projects maintenance/ repair	\$40,000	2.1%	\$25,000	1.0%
-2170920130	2 CIP construction oversight, maintenance/ repair staff costs	\$25,000	1.3%	\$25,000	
Subtotal Maintenance		\$65,000	3.3%	\$50,000	2.0%
Feasibility/Preliminary Studies	1 Preliminary Design, Technical Assistance and Marketing for Capital Improvements (Dakota SWCD)	\$40,000	2.1%	\$40,000	1.6%
-2170020631	2 Preliminary Design, Technical Assistance and Marketing for Capital Improvements	\$150,000	7.7%	\$200,000	8.0%
Subtotal Feasibility/Preliminary Studies		\$190,000	9.8%	\$240,000	9.6%
Irrigation Audit and Cost Share Program	1 Irrigation Audits	\$5,000	0.3%	\$5,000	0.2%
2170020431	2 Irrigation Cost-Share	\$5,000	0.3%	\$5,000	0.2%
Subtotal Irrigation Audit and Cost Share		\$10,000	0.5%	\$10,000	0.4%
CWF Grant (BWSR) Middle Creek Highview	1 Middle Creek Restoration	\$0	0.0%	\$370,000	14.8%
-2170020852	2 VRWJPO cash match	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	2.0%

VRWJPO Draft 2022 Budget

<u>Category</u>		<u>Budget Items</u>	<u>2022 Draft Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>	<u>2021 Revised Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>
Subtotal CPL Grant Middle Creek/ Pinnacle Reserve			\$0	\$0	\$420,000	16.8%
CWF Grant (BWSR) Erickson						
Park Stormwater Improvement	1	Erickson Park Stormwater Improvement	\$0	0.0%	\$114,300	4.6%
	-2170020841 2	VRWJPO cash match	\$0	0.0%	\$50,000	2.0%
Subtotal CWF Grant Erickson Park Stormwater Improvement			\$0	\$0	\$164,300	6.6%
CWF Grant (BWSR) Aronson						
Park Stormwater Reuse	1	Aronson Park Stormwater Reuse Project	\$0	0.0%	\$10,000	0.4%
	-2170020843 2	VRWJPO cash match	\$0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
Subtotal CWF Grant Aronson Park Stormwater Reuse			\$0	\$0	\$10,000	0.4%
CWF Grant (BWSR) Webster						
Wetland Restoration	1	Webster Wetland Restoration	\$0	0.0%	\$67,000	2.7%
	-2170020844 2	VRWJPO cash match	\$0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
Subtotal CWF Grant Webster Wetland Restoration			\$0	0.0%	\$67,000	2.7%
CWF Grant (BWSR) Technical						
Assistance and Cost Share	1	Technical Assistance and Cost Share (TACS)	\$17,700	0.9%	\$17,700	0.7%
	-2170020845 2	VRWJPO cash match	\$1,800	0.1%	\$1,800	0.1%
Subtotal CWF Grant Technical Assistance and Cost Share Program			\$19,500	1.0%	\$19,500	0.8%
CWF Grant (BWSR) Imminent						
Health Threat Septic Upgrades	1	Imminent Health Threat Septic Upgrades	\$8,000	0.4%	\$8,000	0.3%
	-2170020846 2	VRWJPO cash match	\$0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
Subtotal CWF Grant Imminent Health Threat Septic Upgrades			\$8,000	0.4%	\$8,000	0.3%
2020-2023 WBIF Grant (BWSR)						
North Creek Stabilization	1	North Creek Stabilization	\$288,700	14.9%	\$168,750	
	-2170020853 2	VRWJPO cash match	\$18,750	1.0%	\$18,750	

VRWJPO Draft 2022 Budget

Category		Budget Items		2022 Draft Budget Amount	Budget % of Total	2021 Revised Budget Amount	Budget % of Total
Subtotal 2020-2023 WBIF Grant North Creek Stabilization				\$307,450	15.8%	\$187,500	7.5%
2020-2023 WBIF Grant (BWSR)							
Farmington Direct Drainage	1	Farmington Direct Drainage Assessment		\$13,400	0.7%	\$13,300	
-2170020854	2	VRWJPO cash match		\$3,330	0.2%	\$3,330	
Subtotal 2020-2023 WBIF Grant Hastings/ Farmington Direct Drainage Assessment				\$16,730	0.9%	\$16,630	0.7%
2020-2023 WBIF Grant (BWSR)							
Hastings Direct Drainage	1	Hastings Direct Drainage Assessment		\$26,700	1.4%	\$13,300	
-2170020855	2	VRWJPO cash match		\$3,330	0.2%	\$3,330	
Subtotal 2020-2023 WBIF Grant Hastings/ Farmington Direct Drainage Assessment				\$30,030	1.5%	\$16,630	0.7%
2020-2023 WBIF Grant (BWSR)							
Ravenna Basins Restoration	1	Ravenna Basins Restoration		\$59,000	3.0%	\$29,500	
-2170020856	2	VRWJPO cash match		\$6,000	0.3%	\$6,000	
Subtotal 2020-2023 WBIF Grant Ravenna Basins Restoration				\$65,000	3.3%	\$35,500	1.4%
2020-2023 WBIF Grant (BWSR)							
Rosemount Anti-Icing	1	Rosemount Anti-Icing		\$0	0.0%	\$15,000	
-2170020857	2	VRWJPO cash match		\$0	0.0%	\$0	
Subtotal 2020-2023 WBIF Grant Ravenna Basins Restoration				\$0	0.0%	\$15,000	0.6%
CWF Grant (BWSR)	1	WBF Grant Admin		\$17,700	0.9%	\$23,700	0.9%
-2170020848							
Subtotal WBF Grant Admin				\$17,700	0.9%	\$23,700	0.9%
Subtotal of Expenditures				\$1,778,860	91.6%	\$2,297,510	92.0%

VRWJPO Draft 2022 Budget

<u>Category</u>	<u>Budget Items</u>	<u>2022 Draft Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>	<u>2021 Revised Budget Amount</u>	<u>Budget % of Total</u>
Cash Reserve		\$163,740	8.4%	\$200,390	8.0%
TOTAL Annual Expenses		\$1,942,600	100.0%	\$2,497,900	100.0%

VRWJPO Draft 2022 Budget

Category	Budget Items	2022 Draft Budget Amount	Budget % of Total	2021 Revised Budget Amount	Budget % of Total
REVENUE					
	CIP Reserve	\$146,000	7.5%	\$205,900	8.2%
	CIP Reserve Grant Match	\$84,000	4.3%	\$101,800	4.1%
	Fund Balance from Underspending in Previous Year	\$456,000	23.5%	\$336,000	13.5%
	CWF Grant (BWSR)	\$0	0.0%	\$370,000	14.8%
	CWF Grant WBIF (BWSR) 2019-2021	\$0	0.0%	\$218,100	8.7%
	CWF Grant WBIF (BWSR) 2020-2023	\$243,600	12.5%	\$243,600	9.8%
	Fees for Permitting Activities	\$1,000	0.1%	\$2,500	0.1%
	Dakota County Levy	\$967,650	49.8%	\$966,650	38.7%
	Scott County Levy	\$32,350	1.7%	\$33,350	1.3%
	Investment Earnings	\$12,000	0.6%	\$20,000	0.8%
	TOTAL Annual Revenue	\$1,942,600	100.0%	\$2,497,900	100.0%

Vermillion River Watershed Management Tax District
Estimated Pay 2022 Taxes * (Dakota County)

Attachment B

Residential Property

Market	Tax	Proposed 2022 Levy								2021 Actual	2020 Actual	2019 Actual	2018 Actual	2017 Actual	2016 Actual	2015 Actual	2014 Actual	2013 Actual	2012 Actual	2011 Actual	2010 Actual	2009 Actual
Value	Capacity	\$300,000	\$400,000	\$500,000	\$750,000	\$967,650	\$1,000,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,500,000	\$966,650	\$966,000	\$912,900	\$887,900	\$861,700	\$821,140	\$817,500	\$858,900	\$831,600	\$868,000	\$964,700	\$1,047,905	\$1,138,839
Rate		0.0728%	0.1135%	0.1542%	0.2559%	0.3445%	0.3577%	0.4594%	0.5612%	0.3450%	0.3990%	0.4030%	0.4290%	0.4490%	0.4490%	0.4660%	0.5450%	0.5430%	0.5410%	0.5550%	0.5660%	0.4068%
Various Values																						
\$150,000	1,263	\$0.92	\$1.43	\$1.95	\$3.23	\$4.35	\$4.52	\$5.80	\$7.09	\$4.36	\$5.04	\$5.09	\$5.42	\$5.67	\$5.67	\$5.88	\$6.88	\$6.86	\$6.83	\$7.01	\$7.15	\$5.14
\$170,514	1,486	\$1.08	\$1.69	\$2.29	\$3.80	\$5.12	\$5.32	\$6.83	\$8.34	\$5.13	\$5.93	\$5.99	\$6.38	\$6.67	\$6.67	\$6.93	\$8.10	\$8.07	\$8.04	\$8.25	\$8.41	\$6.05
\$185,000	1,644	\$1.20	\$1.87	\$2.53	\$4.21	\$5.66	\$5.88	\$7.55	\$9.23	\$5.67	\$6.56	\$6.63	\$7.05	\$7.38	\$7.38	\$7.66	\$8.96	\$8.93	\$8.89	\$9.12	\$9.31	\$6.69
\$190,000	1,699	\$1.24	\$1.93	\$2.62	\$4.35	\$5.85	\$6.08	\$7.80	\$9.53	\$5.86	\$6.78	\$6.85	\$7.29	\$7.63	\$7.63	\$7.92	\$9.26	\$9.22	\$9.19	\$9.43	\$9.61	\$6.91
\$200,000	1,808	\$1.32	\$2.05	\$2.79	\$4.63	\$6.23	\$6.47	\$8.30	\$10.14	\$6.24	\$7.21	\$7.28	\$7.75	\$8.12	\$8.12	\$8.42	\$9.85	\$9.82	\$9.78	\$10.03	\$10.23	\$7.35
\$210,000	1,917	\$1.39	\$2.17	\$2.95	\$4.90	\$6.60	\$6.86	\$8.81	\$10.76	\$6.61	\$7.65	\$7.72	\$8.22	\$8.61	\$8.61	\$8.93	\$10.45	\$10.41	\$10.37	\$10.64	\$10.85	\$7.80
\$225,000	2,080	\$1.51	\$2.36	\$3.21	\$5.32	\$7.17	\$7.44	\$9.56	\$11.67	\$7.18	\$8.30	\$8.38	\$8.92	\$9.34	\$9.34	\$9.69	\$11.34	\$11.29	\$11.25	\$11.54	\$11.77	\$8.46
\$250,000	2,353	\$1.71	\$2.67	\$3.63	\$6.02	\$8.10	\$8.41	\$10.81	\$13.20	\$8.12	\$9.39	\$9.48	\$10.09	\$10.56	\$10.56	\$10.96	\$12.82	\$12.77	\$12.73	\$13.06	\$13.32	\$9.57
\$275,000	2,625	\$1.91	\$2.98	\$4.05	\$6.72	\$9.04	\$9.39	\$12.06	\$14.73	\$9.06	\$10.47	\$10.58	\$11.26	\$11.79	\$11.79	\$12.23	\$14.31	\$14.25	\$14.20	\$14.57	\$14.86	\$10.68
\$291,300	2,803	\$2.04	\$3.18	\$4.32	\$7.17	\$9.66	\$10.02	\$12.88	\$15.73	\$9.67	\$11.18	\$11.30	\$12.02	\$12.58	\$12.58	\$13.06	\$15.28	\$15.22	\$15.16	\$15.56	\$15.86	\$11.40
\$308,000	2,985	\$2.17	\$3.39	\$4.60	\$7.64	\$10.28	\$10.68	\$13.71	\$16.75	\$10.30	\$11.91	\$12.03	\$12.80	\$13.40	\$13.40	\$13.91	\$16.27	\$16.21	\$16.15	\$16.57	\$16.89	\$12.14
\$325,000	3,170	\$2.31	\$3.60	\$4.89	\$8.11	\$10.92	\$11.34	\$14.56	\$17.79	\$10.94	\$12.65	\$12.78	\$13.60	\$14.23	\$14.23	\$14.77	\$17.28	\$17.21	\$17.15	\$17.59	\$17.94	\$12.90
\$350,000	3,443	\$2.50	\$3.91	\$5.31	\$8.81	\$11.86	\$12.31	\$15.82	\$19.32	\$11.88	\$13.74	\$13.87	\$14.77	\$15.46	\$15.46	\$16.04	\$18.76	\$18.69	\$18.62	\$19.11	\$19.49	\$14.01
\$375,000	3,715	\$2.70	\$4.22	\$5.73	\$9.51	\$12.80	\$13.29	\$17.07	\$20.85	\$12.82	\$14.82	\$14.97	\$15.94	\$16.68	\$16.68	\$17.31	\$20.25	\$20.17	\$20.10	\$20.62	\$21.03	\$15.11
\$400,000	3,988	\$2.90	\$4.52	\$6.15	\$10.21	\$13.74	\$14.26	\$18.32	\$22.38	\$13.76	\$15.91	\$16.07	\$17.11	\$17.90	\$17.90	\$18.58	\$21.73	\$21.65	\$21.57	\$22.13	\$22.57	\$16.22
\$425,000	4,250	\$3.09	\$4.82	\$6.55	\$10.88	\$14.64	\$15.20	\$19.53	\$23.85	\$14.66	\$16.96	\$17.13	\$18.23	\$19.08	\$19.08	\$19.81	\$23.16	\$23.08	\$22.99	\$23.59	\$24.06	\$17.29
\$450,000	4,500	\$3.27	\$5.11	\$6.94	\$11.52	\$15.50	\$16.10	\$20.67	\$25.25	\$15.53	\$17.96	\$18.14	\$19.31	\$20.21	\$20.21	\$20.97	\$24.53	\$24.44	\$24.35	\$24.98	\$25.47	\$18.31
\$475,000	4,750	\$3.46	\$5.39	\$7.32	\$12.16	\$16.36	\$16.99	\$21.82	\$26.66	\$16.39	\$18.95	\$19.14	\$20.38	\$21.33	\$21.33	\$22.14	\$25.89	\$25.79	\$25.70	\$26.36	\$26.89	\$19.32
\$500,000	5,000	\$3.64	\$5.67	\$7.71	\$12.80	\$17.23	\$17.88	\$22.97	\$28.06	\$17.25	\$19.95	\$20.15	\$21.45	\$22.45	\$22.45	\$23.30	\$27.25	\$27.15	\$27.05	\$27.75	\$28.30	\$20.34

*Estimated TCAP (as of 08/16/2021)	245,684,638
Pay 2021 Median Value: 291,300	
Pay 2022 Median Value: 308,000	

WHAT IF TAX COMPARISON PAY 2021 vs Pay 2022

FISCAL YEAR 2021			
8,368,832 GROSS TAX CAPACITY		\$	33,350 FINAL CERTIFIED LEVY
(9,016) 10% KV TRANS LINE (-)			
(411,066) FISCAL DISPARITY (-)			
7,948,750 NET TAX CAPACITY		\$	(3,287) FISCAL DISPARITY (-)
		\$	30,063 TAX LEVY OR SPREAD LEVY
Tax Rate		0.378%	
FISCAL YEAR 2022			
8,664,890 GROSS TAX CAPACITY		\$	32,350 PROPOSED LEVY OR CERTIFIED LEVY
(10,249) 10% KV TRANS LINE (-)			
(441,022) FISCAL DISPARITY (-)			
8,213,619 NET TAX CAPACITY		\$	(3,287) FISCAL DISPARITY (-)
		\$	29,063 TAX LEVY OR SPREAD LEVY
as of 10/28/2021		Tax Rate 0.354%	

RESIDENTIAL IMPACTS

RESIDENTIAL IMPACTS										Pay 2021	Pay 2022			Median & Average Values			
										Net Payable 2021	Net Payable 2022			Net Inc/Dec 2021 vs 2022	Net Difference % Change	2021 Median Values	2022 Median Values
	% Value Range Inc/Dec	# of affected Properties	Average Market Value 2021	Average Market Value 2022	Value Exclusion 2021	Taxable Market Value 2021	Value Exclusion 2022	Taxable Market Value 2022	Taxable % Chg 21-22								
Elko New Mrkt City 1500	+15.01+%	12	\$ 301,300	\$ 346,495	\$ 10,123	\$ 291,177	\$ 6,055	\$ 340,440	16.92%	\$ 11.01	\$ 12.05	\$ 1.03	9.384%	\$ 307,400	\$ 316,300	\$ 311,000	2.9%
	+10.01-15.00%	81	\$ 301,300	\$ 338,963	\$ 10,123	\$ 291,177	\$ 6,733	\$ 332,229	14.10%	\$ 11.01	\$ 11.76	\$ 0.74	6.746%				
	+5.01-10.00%	289	\$ 301,300	\$ 323,898	\$ 10,123	\$ 291,177	\$ 8,089	\$ 315,808	8.46%	\$ 11.01	\$ 11.17	\$ 0.16	1.470%				
	+0.01-5.00%	1016	\$ 301,300	\$ 308,833	\$ 10,123	\$ 291,177	\$ 9,445	\$ 299,387	2.82%	\$ 11.01	\$ 10.59	\$ (0.42)	-3.806%				
	No Change	17	\$ 301,300	\$ 301,300	\$ 10,123	\$ 291,177	\$ 10,123	\$ 291,177	0.00%	\$ 11.01	\$ 10.30	\$ (0.71)	-6.444%				
	-0.01-5.00%	78	\$ 301,300	\$ 293,768	\$ 10,123	\$ 291,177	\$ 10,801	\$ 282,967	-2.82%	\$ 11.01	\$ 10.01	\$ (1.00)	-9.082%				
	-5.01-10%	3	\$ 301,300	\$ 278,703	\$ 10,123	\$ 291,177	\$ 12,157	\$ 266,546	-8.46%	\$ 11.01	\$ 9.43	\$ (1.58)	-14.358%				
	-10.01-15%	2	\$ 301,300	\$ 263,638	\$ 10,123	\$ 291,177	\$ 13,513	\$ 250,125	-14.10%	\$ 11.01	\$ 8.85	\$ (2.16)	-19.634%				
-15.01+	2	\$ 301,300	\$ 256,105	\$ 10,123	\$ 291,177	\$ 14,191	\$ 241,914	-16.92%	\$ 11.01	\$ 8.56	\$ (2.45)	-22.272%					
New Market Twp 1152	+15.01+%	12	\$ 472,000	\$ 542,800	\$ -	\$ 472,000	\$ -	\$ 542,800	15.00%	\$ 17.85	\$ 19.58	\$ 1.73	9.710%	\$ 452,300	\$ 463,200	\$ 484,200	2.4%
	+10.01-15.00%	18	\$ 472,000	\$ 531,000	\$ -	\$ 472,000	\$ -	\$ 531,000	12.50%	\$ 17.85	\$ 19.06	\$ 1.21	6.787%				
	+5.01-10.00%	63	\$ 472,000	\$ 507,400	\$ -	\$ 472,000	\$ -	\$ 507,400	7.50%	\$ 17.85	\$ 18.02	\$ 0.17	0.940%				
	+0.01-5.00%	900	\$ 472,000	\$ 483,800	\$ -	\$ 472,000	\$ -	\$ 483,800	2.50%	\$ 17.85	\$ 17.12	\$ (0.73)	-4.105%				
	No Change	50	\$ 472,000	\$ 472,000	\$ -	\$ 472,000	\$ -	\$ 472,000	0.00%	\$ 17.85	\$ 16.70	\$ (1.15)	-6.444%				
	-0.01-5.00%	81	\$ 472,000	\$ 460,200	\$ -	\$ 472,000	\$ -	\$ 460,200	-2.50%	\$ 17.85	\$ 16.28	\$ (1.57)	-8.783%				
	-5.01-10%	4	\$ 472,000	\$ 436,600	\$ -	\$ 472,000	\$ -	\$ 436,600	-7.50%	\$ 17.85	\$ 15.45	\$ (2.40)	-13.461%				
	-10.01-15%	16	\$ 472,000	\$ 413,000	\$ -	\$ 472,000	\$ 70	\$ 412,930	-12.51%	\$ 17.85	\$ 14.61	\$ (3.24)	-18.152%				
-15.01+	8	\$ 472,000	\$ 401,200	\$ -	\$ 472,000	\$ 1,132	\$ 400,068	-15.24%	\$ 17.85	\$ 14.16	\$ (3.70)	-20.702%					
County Wide		45,815	\$ 339,400	\$ 358,100	\$ 6,694	\$ 332,706	\$ 5,011	\$ 353,089	6.13%	\$ 12.58	\$ 12.49	\$ (0.09)	-0.712%	\$ 303,800	\$ 321,400	\$ 358,100	5.8%

6b. Mid-term Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan Review

Meeting Date: 8/26/2021
Item Type: Information
Contact: Mark Zabel
Telephone: 952-891-7011
Prepared by: Mark Zabel

**PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED**

- Mid-term Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan Review

SUMMARY

The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board adopted the 2016-2025 Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan (Plan) in June 2016. The Vermillion River Watershed Management Organization (VRWJPO) has been working toward achieving the goals, objectives, and actions identified in the Plan since its adoption. Each year the staff review the Implementation Section to identify areas listed for action and incorporate activities into work plans, develop feasibility studies, or pursue grant proposals as appropriate. The VRWJPO also prepares and publishes an annual activity report listing accomplishments from the previous year.

This is the mid-point of the term of the current Plan; therefore, it is time to review the progress made and to identify any adjustments required for Plan implementation. Staff presented a spreadsheet compiling all objectives and actions listed in Section 6 of the Plan along with a status for each action as assigned to them. The Watershed Planning Commissioners discussed the process for evaluation and agreed to apply a priority ranking to each of the actions with a status of Future or Ongoing. Further discussion of actions and their rankings led to a request to indicate actions that are a requirement of the VRWJPO via State Statute or Rule and the level of effort required to undertake and complete an action.

Staff will present the prioritized actions identified in the review of the 2016-2025 Plan for discussion with the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board.

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
A	5	Regulation	Reg 9a	Ongoing	3	20	H	Ensure that VRWJPO regulations minimize water quality impacts from land-disturbing activities.	Ensure that local governments include the VRWJPO Standards in Local Water Management Plan revisions and implement them through official controls.
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 6b	Future	3	20	H	Collaborate with SWCDs, federal, State and local programs to cost share for stream bank restoration projects	Mitigate the impact of past increases in stormwater discharge on downstream conveyance systems
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 14e	Ongoing	3	20	M	Apply and partner with others to apply for grant funding to implement high-priority restoration and protection projects.	Coordinate with partners in grant applications implementing high-priority restoration and protection projects.
F	19	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6c	Future	3	19	H	Work with partners and landowners to protect and restore wetlands with strategic value in flood protection and pollutant filtration through conservation easements, restoration, revegetation, and other techniques	Preserve and restore the Vermillion River watershed's pre-development hydrology to the extent practicable
F	19	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6b	Ongoing	3	19	H	Work with partners and landowners to restore straightened river or stream reaches through remeandering projects, streambank stabilization, buffers, revegetation, habitat improvement or other techniques	Preserve and restore the Vermillion River watershed's pre-development hydrology to the extent practicable
G	20	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5c	Ongoing	3	19	H	Collaborate with other partners, agencies and groups (Pheasants Forever, Trout Unlimited, DNR, for example) to identify high priority riparian habitat and assist with restorations or protection by providing technical assistance, volunteers, cost-share, or incentives	Coordinate with partners to identify, prioritize, protect, connect, restore, and maintain lands with impacts or connectivity to riparian habitat
A	5	Regulation	Reg 9c	Ongoing	3	19	M	Require local governments to submit proposed land alteration plans to the VRWJPO for review and comment, prior to issuing a permit, if plans include any of the following: 1. Variances from local ordinances that affect surface water or impact surface water/groundwater interactions 2. Diversions 3. Intercommunity flows (to or from) 4. Project site size of 40 acres or more 5. Activities directly adjacent to the Vermillion River, its tributaries, a lake, or protected wetland.	Ensure that local governments include the VRWJPO Standards in Local Water Management Plan revisions and implement them.
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 26a	Ongoing	3	18	H	Assist with buffer acquisition, riparian plantings, shoreline restoration, acquisition and/or removal of structures that degrade the corridor	Work with public agencies and landowners to improve the ecological quality of the Vermillion River corridor and main tributaries
F	19	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6a	Ongoing	3	18	H	Work with partners and landowners to preserve and protect healthy meandered river and stream reaches through conservation easement, buffers/filter strips, invasive species control, and other stabilization practices	Preserve and restore the Vermillion River watershed's pre-development hydrology to the extent practicable
F	19	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5c	Ongoing	3	18	H	Cost-share in-stream restorations that increase shade, dissolved oxygen, and bank stability, such as riffles, root wads, luner structures, toe wood, refuge pools, and other features	Increase resilience of the river system to changing precipitation and temperature patterns through riparian buffers/filter strips, shading, in-stream restorations, and shoreland/floodplain management
G	20-21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5d	Ongoing	3	18	H	Collaborate with other agencies, organizations, and private landowners to develop fish and wildlife habitat corridors that connect open spaces, lakes, wetlands, stream corridors, and other critical habitat	Coordinate with partners to identify, prioritize, protect, connect, restore, and maintain lands with impacts or connectivity to riparian habitat
A	5	Regulation	Reg 10a	Ongoing	3	18	M	Enforce buffer standards tied to changes in land use in rural areas.	Increase lake and riparian shoreline miles with managed vegetated buffers/filter strips to mitigate stormwater runoff impacts.
F	19	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6d	Ongoing	3	18	M	Encourage cities and developers to integrate LID practices when feasible	Preserve and restore the Vermillion River watershed's pre-development hydrology to the extent practicable
B	9	Research and Planning	R&P 1a	Ongoing	3	18	L	Coordinate with other agencies to monitor condition and trends in groundwater levels and contaminant concentrations	Help advance research on the watershed's groundwater system and groundwater management strategies
D	14	Regulation	Reg 3c	Ongoing	3	18	L	Ensure that local water management plans incorporate consensus solutions to intercommunity flow issues	Address known flooding/erosion/flow diversion or alteration problems that cross community boundaries
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 5c	Ongoing	3	17	H	Facilitate acquisiton and restoration of restorable wetlands suitable for wetland banking	Simplify VRWJPO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 4a	Ongoing	3	17	M	Apply (solely or in partnership) for grants to conduct special projects, studies, and demonstrations, and fund best management practices	Use VRWJPO dollars to leverage additional funding for watershed management
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 20b	Ongoing	3	17	M	Target projects to water resources that have problems that are urgent, pose potential health risks, threaten public infrastructure, or adversely affect people, property, or natural resources	Optimize cost share funding to achieve the greatest benefits for the least expenditure of public money
A	5	Regulation	Reg 8b	Future	3	17	M	Consider new watershed standards to respond to changes in legislation, new scientific information, or altered conditions.	Update, adopt, and enforce VRWJPO Standards/Rules.
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 2b	Future	3	17	M	Collaborate with Scott County on groundwater monitoring for the Scott County portion of the watershed	Assist federal, state, and local partners in monitoring, restoring, and maintaining groundwater quality
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 6a	Ongoing	3	17	M	Identify bank stabilization projects and restore damaged banks at priority locations	Mitigate the impact of past increases in stormwater discharge on downstream conveyance systems
D	13	Regulation	Reg 2a	Ongoing	3	17	M	Require local governments to enforce ordinances that are consistent with VRWJPO Standards	Support requirements for local governments to identify, protect, and reconnect floodplains
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 13b	Ongoing	3	17	L	Maintain contacts with agencies developing or revising statutes or rules, pollutant standards, detection limits, testing recommendations, grant opportunities, or information resources.	Track emerging issues, legislation, trends, and technologies with potential watershed management impacts.
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6d	Ongoing	3	17	M	Promote cover crops, no-till, conservation tillage, conservation cropping rotation, and other BMPs that help maintain water in the soil	Assist partners in promoting and cost-sharing practices that conserve groundwater in agricultural settings
F	18	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4b	Future	3	17	L	Work with media outlets to call attention to demonstration projects with significant benefits or results	Develop, implement, and promote demonstration projects of BMPs that help mitigate high flows, flooding, high temperatures, drought, and severe weather events

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
F	19	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5b	Ongoing	3	17	L	Promote the benefits of buffers/filter strips for water quality improvement and watershed resilience to landowners along the river and tributaries	Increase resilience of the river system to changing precipitation and temperature patterns through riparian buffers/filter strips, shading, in-stream restorations, and shoreland/floodplain management
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5c	Future	2	17	H	Assist Vermillion Stewards, a coordinated volunteer program to raise awareness of the importance of watershed protection; involve community members in stewardship and education activities; and provide a recognition program for volunteers	Recognize and celebrate stewardship in the Vermillion River Watershed
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22e	Ongoing	2	17	M	Assist Dakota County and Scott County Land Protection programs in acquiring permanent conservation easements in riparian areas in the Vermillion River Watershed	Refer individuals and organizations to other federal, state, regional, or local agencies with services or resources not available from the VRWJPO.
G	20	Regulation	Reg 1a	Ongoing	2	17	M	Require local water management plans (and comprehensive wetland management plans, where existing) to take reasonable measures to avoid impacts of land-disturbing activities on known sensitive habitats and communities and rare species	Protect sensitive habitats and communities, and rare species
G	20	Regulation	Reg 1b	Ongoing	2	17	M	Review projects and plans for land-disturbing activities within the VRWJPO's jurisdiction for potential impacts on sensitive habitats and communities and rare species, and propose reasonable measures to avoid the impacts	Protect sensitive habitats and communities, and rare species
A	9	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 29b	Future	2	17	L	Foster partnerships with groups and individuals working closely with farmers using broadly based civic engagement methods	Build partnerships, exchange ideas, and problem-solve with agricultural producers to improve water quality
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5d	Future	2	17	M	Publish stories recognizing stewardship activities online, in the newsletter, and other public venues	Recognize and celebrate stewardship in the Vermillion River Watershed
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23c	Future	3	16	H	Work with livestock owners and public agencies to eliminate direct livestock access to natural water bodies (e.g., wetlands, rivers, streams).	Collaborate to reduce non-point source pollution from agricultural activities
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4c	Future	3	16	H	Consider cost-share of demonstration projects that re-use treated industrial or municipal wastewater	Promote and cost-share BMPs that conserve water
F	19	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 7	Future	3	16	H		Collaborate with local and regional land-use planning partners to address potential cumulative impacts of specific land-use changes that affect Vermillion River Watershed water resources or natural hydrology (e.g., expansive aggregate mining, widespread drainage management practices, impervious cover expansion)
F	19	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5d	Future	3	16	H	Consider options for re-routing treated wastewater effluent to supplement base flow during drought conditions	Increase resilience of the river system to changing precipitation and temperature patterns through riparian buffers/filter strips, shading, in-stream restorations, and shoreland/floodplain management
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 2c	Ongoing	3	16	M	Fund high-priority projects using VRWJPO CIP dollars, cost-sharing with partners, grant funding or a combination of strategies	Prepare a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) annually that focuses resources on highest-priority subwatershed problems
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 20a	Ongoing	3	16	M	Prioritize projects that provide multiple benefits, multiple pollutant reductions, system-wide improvement, or synergy with other projects	Optimize cost share funding to achieve the greatest benefits for the least expenditure of public money
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23a	Ongoing	3	16	L	Assist agencies that provide information and technical assistance on point and non-point source pollution prevention and remediation to feedlot operators and agricultural landowners	Collaborate to reduce non-point source pollution from agricultural activities
F	18	Administration and Operations	A&O 1a	Future	3	16	L	Develop procedures to operate wetland banks and sustain wetland restorations in the Vermillion River Watershed, creating a revolving fund that rolls fees from purchasers back into further wetland restorations	Establish wetland banks in the watershed
F	19	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5e	Ongoing	3	16	L	Encourage and promote alternative perennial crops and cover crops in agricultural areas of the watershed	Increase resilience of the river system to changing precipitation and temperature patterns through riparian buffers/filter strips, shading, in-stream restorations, and shoreland/floodplain management
A	5	Regulation	Reg 9b	Future	2	16	H	Consider an "above and beyond" Stormwater Management certification for (re-) development interests seeking documentation of higher performance (e.g., conserve water or meet a sustainability goal).	Ensure that local governments include the VRWJPO Standards in Local Water Management Plan revisions and implement them through official controls.
D	14	Regulation	Reg 3a	Future	2	16	H	Continue to document intergovernmental hydrology through use and maintenance of the watershed hydrologic model	Address known flooding/erosion/flow diversion or alteration problems that cross community boundaries
G	20	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5a	Ongoing	2	16	H	Collaborate with Dakota Land Conservation staff to identify and prioritize riparian and upland habitat and assist in easement acquisition and restoration or protection through cost-share and incentives	Coordinate with partners to identify, prioritize, protect, connect, restore, and maintain lands with impacts or connectivity to riparian habitat
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23b	Ongoing	2	16	M	Coordinate with other agencies to identify potential agricultural point and non-point pollution sources	Collaborate to reduce non-point source pollution from agricultural activities
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 14a	Ongoing	2	16	M	Integrate WRAPS recommendations for high-priority restoration and protection projects into the VRWJPO's CIP	Complete and implement the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS)
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6b	Ongoing	2	16	M	Assist federal, state and local partners in promoting irrigation water management and BMPs	Assist partners in promoting and cost-sharing practices that conserve groundwater in agricultural settings
D	15	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 10b	Future	2	16	M	Implement a targeted program to inform landowners about liabilities associated with artificial river blockages located on or originating from private land	Work with partners to ensure that the Vermillion River and its tributaries are managed properly for large debris, beaver dams, and other channel blocking features to avoid flooding with property/ infrastructure damage, and other flow related issues
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6a	Future	2	16	M	Build capacity among individuals and groups interested in watershed protection and improvement to participate in, lead, or develop civic engagement actions	Support and create opportunities for people to work together on projects that will improve water quality, water quantity, or habitat
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6b	Ongoing	2	16	L	Support and participate in the Scott Clean Water Education Program	Support and create opportunities for people to work together on projects that will improve water quality, water quantity, or habitat

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6c	Ongoing	2	16	L	Assist Scott and Dakota counties in planning and implementing their respective Outdoor Education Days	Support and create opportunities for people to work together on projects that will improve water quality, water quantity, or habitat
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 2b	Ongoing	3	15	M	Develop an approved project list with input from potential partners and stakeholders.	Prepare a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) annually that focuses resources on highest-priority subwatershed problems
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22c	Ongoing	3	15	M	Assist Dakota County, the MPCA, and cities in implementing the Wetland Health Evaluation Program	Refer individuals and organizations to other federal, state, regional, or local agencies with services or resources not available from the VRWJPO.
A	9	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 28	Ongoing	3	15	M		Build partnerships with professionals engaged in land-use change (developers, planners, environmental consultants, lenders, builders, real estate agents, development agencies, and others) to achieve water-quality improvements in development and redevelopment that add value or benefit to property
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 20c	Ongoing	3	15	M	Measure project outcomes in reducing pollutants and estimate derived benefits	Optimize cost share funding to achieve the greatest benefits for the least expenditure of public money
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8g	Future	3	15	M	Consider outreach on nutrient management practices to turf-intensive developments, such as homeowners associations, golf courses, business campuses, and other urban/suburban users of fertilizers	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 3a	Ongoing	3	15	M	Promote and cost share bio-infiltration BMPs for new development, redevelopment, and stormwater retrofits	Continue policies and programs to conserve groundwater by use of plant species’ drought and water tolerances
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5b	Ongoing	3	15	M	Evaluate developed areas to prioritize those with the greatest impacts on flow and volume fluctuations	Target and prioritize cost-share, incentives, and outreach activities for retrofits in developed areas, to reduce stormwater flow rates and volumes
D	13	Regulation	Reg 2b	Ongoing	3	15	M	Require cities and townships to obtain easements for flood, flood drainage, maintenance access, and emergency overflow routes during development and/or building permit processes	Support requirements for local governments to identify, protect, and reconnect floodplains
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 3a	Ongoing	3	15	L	Develop annual budgets with levy requests based on a transparent public process	Adopt VRWJPO budgets that are transparent, allocate levy amounts fairly, and include accountability measures. (applies to all goals)
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 3b	Ongoing	3	15	L	Develop annual budgets with levy requests based on the watershed tax capacity in each county	Adopt VRWJPO budgets that are transparent, allocate levy amounts fairly, and include accountability measures. (applies to all goals)
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 4b	Ongoing	3	15	L	Report on leveraged federal, state and local dollars in cost-share	Use VRWJPO dollars to leverage additional funding for watershed management
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5a	Ongoing	3	15	L	Identify urban/suburban developed areas without adequate stormwater infrastructure	Target and prioritize cost-share, incentives, and outreach activities for retrofits in developed areas, to reduce stormwater flow rates and volumes
D	13	Regulation	Reg 2c	Ongoing	3	15	L	Assist responsible government units in ensuring that structures are properly located relative to the floodplain before permits are issued	Support requirements for local governments to identify, protect, and reconnect floodplains
D	13	Regulation	Reg 2d	Ongoing	3	15	L	Limit floodplain alterations to obtain "no net loss" of floodplain storage, and preserve, restore and manage floodplain wetlands	Support requirements for local governments to identify, protect, and reconnect floodplains
G	20	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4c	Ongoing	3	15	L	Incorporate potential BMPs for sediment-load reduction in the CIP	Identify and implement sediment-reducing BMPs in the highest sediment-yielding subwatersheds
E	16-17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5f	Ongoing	2	15	H	Consider establishing kiosks, signs, or other location-specific educational displays at VRWJPO CIP projects, public access, and open spaces	Recognize and celebrate stewardship in the Vermillion River Watershed
G	20	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5b	Ongoing	2	15	H	Collaborate with Scott County Land Conservation staff to identify high priority riparian habitat and assist in easement acquisition and restoration or protection through cost-share and incentives	Coordinate with partners to identify, prioritize, protect, connect, restore, and maintain lands with impacts or connectivity to riparian habitat
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4a	Ongoing	2	15	M	Promote and cost-share BMPs that infiltrate stormwater and replenish groundwater, where feasible and not a threat to groundwater quality	Promote and cost-share BMPs that conserve water
D	15	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 10a	Future	2	15	M	Work with partners to develop assessment techniques for channel blockages, define appropriate criteria for potential removal/ management, and identify funding sources to achieve identified removal/ management activities. Ensure that removing blockages does not adversely affect river pattern, structure, wildlife, or habitat	Work with partners to ensure that the Vermillion River and its tributaries are managed properly for large debris, beaver dams, and other channel blocking features to avoid flooding with property/ infrastructure damage, and other flow related issues
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 12b	Ongoing	2	15	M	Promote and support Vermillion Stewards hands-on educational events/workshops	Increase resilience of the watershed through direct preparedness, outreach, and engagement efforts
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 6a	Ongoing	2	15	L	Meet routinely with “key leaders” in water resource management to exchange information, solve problems, identify opportunities, or streamline processes	Seek recommendations, solutions, and balanced representation from advisory groups
A	8-9	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 27	Ongoing	2	15	L		Evaluate impacts of proposed land uses on surface water and groundwater when commenting on environmental reviews prepared by local governments, such as Environmental Assessment Worksheets (EAW), Alternative Urban Area Reviews (AUAR), and Environmental Impact Statements (EIS).
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 19e	Future	2	15	L	Annually review the cost-share program to ensure that identified priorities are being addressed	Provide cost-share and other incentives to watershed landowners implementing best management practices
A	5	Regulation	Reg 10c	Future	2	15	L	Provide information on riparian easements and buffer benefits, requirements, and incentives on the VRWJPO website.	Increase lake and riparian shoreline miles with managed vegetated buffers/filter strips to mitigate stormwater runoff impacts.

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3c	Ongoing	2	15	L	Assist science teachers conducting field education classes or projects in the watershed	Assist in public education and civic engagement regarding the fish, macroinvertebrates, plants, and wildlife in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4a	Ongoing	2	15	L	Employ existing communication channels (VRWJPB, WPC, TAG, Dakota and Scott Counties, Agricultural Outreach, newsletters, website, other) to update key stakeholders about groundwater quality issues of importance to the watershed	Assist state and local partners in providing information and education on protecting groundwater quality and quantity
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 7b	Ongoing	2	15	L	Promote the recreational opportunities and other initiatives to increase appreciation and enjoyment of the Vermillion River system	Increase public awareness of the Vermillion River and its major tributaries as a valued resource
F	19	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5a	Ongoing	3	14	H	Assist partners in acquisition of shoreland easements along the Vermillion River corridor	Increase resilience of the river system to changing precipitation and temperature patterns through riparian buffers/filter strips, shading, in-stream restorations, and shoreland/floodplain management
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 25b	Future	3	14	M	Consider providing stormwater management system maintenance guidance for watershed communities	Work with local government units to ensure that stormwater infrastructure is maintained and functions effectively over time
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 7a	Ongoing	3	14	M	Identify and prioritize gully erosion problems using geomorphic or other relevant assessments	Address gully erosion problems in the watershed
G	20	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4a	Ongoing	3	14	M	Collect data from the Vermillion River Monitoring Network annual sampling regime to identify sensitive species, analyze TSS, and locate sediment sources from the highest sediment-yielding subwatersheds	Identify and implement sediment-reducing BMPs in the highest sediment-yielding subwatersheds
G	20	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4b	Ongoing	3	14	M	Target locations where implementing BMPs would effectively reduce sediment loading	Identify and implement sediment-reducing BMPs in the highest sediment-yielding subwatersheds
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22d	Ongoing	3	14	L	Continue to support agricultural outreach by the counties, MDA, University of Minnesota Extension and other partners	Refer individuals and organizations to other federal, state, regional, or local agencies with services or resources not available from the VRWJPO.
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23e	Ongoing	3	14	L	Promote participation in conservation programs, such as Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Dakota County Land Protection, and Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), and others.	Collaborate to reduce non-point source pollution from agricultural activities
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 24c	Ongoing	3	14	L	Assist state and local programs in preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species (e.g., zebra mussels).	Assist local governments in management of recreational lakes in the watershed
A	5	Research and Planning	R&P 13a	Ongoing	3	14	L	Remain engaged in professional water management networks that discuss issues, trends, and technology.	Track emerging issues, legislation, trends, and technologies with potential watershed management impacts.
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3a	Ongoing	3	14	L	Supprt and consult partners (MPCA, MDA for fertilizer and pesticides) when historical land uses (spills, leaks, dump sites) may pose a threat to groundwater or surface water in the watershed	Continue contributing to groundwater information networks tracking current and emerging issues and trends.
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3b	Ongoing	3	14	L	Consult hazardous waste and remediation resources to ensure that land-disturbing BMPs for which the VRWJPO is providing cost share do not have a documented history of site contamination	Continue contributing to groundwater information networks tracking current and emerging issues and trends.
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5a	Ongoing	3	14	L	Assist in identifying potential impacts on public or private drinking water supplies during plan and permit reviews	Assist state and local agencies in managing wells (installation, testing, placement, or sealing) to protect groundwater quality
B	11	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6b	Ongoing	3	14	L	Support use of appropriate stormwater best management practices in wellhead protection areas	Assist MDH and other agencies in implementing wellhead protection programs and plans in the watershed
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8e	Future	3	14	L	Assist partners in assessing nitrogen application rates in high infiltration areas of the watershed and promoting nitrogen application rate reductions	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5b	Ongoing	3	14	L	Host VRWJPO watershed tours for elected and appointed officials to highlight demonstrations of innovative technology, successful water quality and quantity improvement practices, and restoration activities	Recognize and celebrate stewardship in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 9	Ongoing	3	14	L		Publish a VRWJPO e-newsletter at least once a year
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 12a	Ongoing	3	14	L	Promote and support programs to learn about, design, and install residential raingardens and shoreline restorations	Increase resilience of the watershed through direct preparedness, outreach, and engagement efforts
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 23d	Future	2	14	H	Work with landowners and other agencies to eliminate fencing across public waters and associated potential liabilities (e.g., Vermillion River and tributaries).	Collaborate to reduce non-point source pollution from agricultural activities
C	12	Research and Planning	R&P 1a	Future	2	14	H	Consider developing Water Conservation Standards for the watershed	Assist partners in preventing reductions to the river's base flow and to normal levels in lakes and wetlands
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6f	Ongoing	2	14	H	Facilitate multi-partner solutions to water quality or habitat restoration issues	Support and create opportunities for people to work together on projects that will improve water quality, water quantity, or habitat
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 6c	Ongoing	2	14	M	Discuss critical watershed issues and seek recommendations from the citizen advisory Watershed Planning Commission (WPC)	Seek recommendations, solutions, and balanced representation from advisory groups
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 25a	Future	2	14	M	Initiate discussions with local government units about barriers to stormwater infrastructure maintenance	Work with local government units to ensure that stormwater infrastructure is maintained and functions effectively over time

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22b	Ongoing	2	14	M	Consult or partner with cities, townships, or other public entities on applications for public and private grants.	Refer individuals and organizations to other federal, state, regional, or local agencies with services or resources not available from the VRWJPO.
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 18b	Ongoing	2	14	M	Provide technical assistance or referrals to assistance providers to watershed landowners that contact the VRWJPO	Ensure that technical assistance is available to landowners considering BMPs for water quality or habitat improvement
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 21a	Ongoing	2	14	M	Estimate soil loss, sediment, and phosphorus reduction from practices that reduce sheet and rill erosion; stabilize gully, stream bank, or ditch erosion; or act as filter strips or buffers	Use standard pollutant-reduction calculators to estimate cost-effectiveness of BMPs installed or cost-shared by the VRWJPO
A	5	Regulation	Reg 11b	Ongoing	2	14	M	Require annual reporting on permits and inspections from non-MS4 communities fully or partly within the watershed.	Establish procedures to review implementation of local water management ordinances.
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4b	Ongoing	2	14	M	Promote and cost-share BMPs that use stormwater for irrigating urban landscapes	Promote and cost-share BMPs that conserve water
D	14	Regulation	Reg 3b	Ongoing	2	14	M	Coordinate mediation with affected local government units to find practical and equitable solutions	Address known flooding/erosion/flow diversion or alteration problems that cross community boundaries
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3b	Ongoing	2	14	M	Collaborate with county and city parks on programs, classes, and activities that focus attention on the fish, macroinvertebrates, plants, and wildlife in the watershed	Assist in public education and civic engagement regarding the fish, macroinvertebrates, plants, and wildlife in the Vermillion River Watershed
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 22a	Ongoing	2	14	L	Promote existing information on programs, funding, and resources for best management practices (e.g MDA's Ag BMP Handbook).	Refer individuals and organizations to other federal, state, regional, or local agencies with services or resources not available from the VRWJPO.
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 24a	Ongoing	2	14	L	Review the status of lake water quality and management plans on at least a five-year basis as part of VRWJPO planning	Assist local governments in management of recreational lakes in the watershed
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 19d	Future	2	14	L	Consider cost-share or other incentives to fund the long-term operation and maintenance of BMPs	Provide cost-share and other incentives to watershed landowners implementing best management practices
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4a	Future	2	14	L	Assist the MPCA in requiring communities to implement a septic system inventory, inspection, and upgrade program	Collaborate to reduce levels of fecal coliform/E. coli bacteria, nitrate, and other pollutants in groundwater and surface water through improved management of septic systems in the watershed
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4b	Future	2	14	L	Assist Dakota County's efforts to inventory failing/noncompliant systems, prioritize areas for upgrades, and use cost-share or loans to fund upgrades if the state delegates this authority to the county	Collaborate to reduce levels of fecal coliform/E. coli bacteria, nitrate, and other pollutants in groundwater and surface water through improved management of septic systems in the watershed
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8f	Ongoing	2	14	L	Collaborate with partners on turf and fertilizer management workshops for facility managers of businesses, parks, schools, and others	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 10	Future	2	14	L		Submit articles on the watershed and its activities to publications of partners (e.g., MPCA Water Line, Scott County Scene) and news media (newspapers, magazines).
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6e	Ongoing	2	14	L	Develop and maintain a VRWJPO presence at community events with relevance to the watershed (Earth Week events, clean-up events, lake association meetings, community festivals, park opening events, for example)	Support and create opportunities for people to work together on projects that will improve water quality, water quantity, or habitat
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 7a	Ongoing	2	14	L	Continue working with WaterShed Partners to educate the general public (through publications, ads, television, and other media) on water resources and stewardship behaviors and choices	Increase public awareness of the Vermillion River and its major tributaries as a valued resource
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 12c	Ongoing	2	14	L	Consider continuing workshops on ice/snow management and turfgrass maintenance	Increase resilience of the watershed through direct preparedness, outreach, and engagement efforts
A	6	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 16a	Ongoing	3	13	H	Conduct synoptic surveys to pinpoint specific pollution sources and target prevention or restoration activities	Update the VRWJPO's surface water quality monitoring program to assess conditions and track trends
A	6	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 16b	Ongoing	3	13	M	Collect and analyze surface water quality monitoring data and report annually on condition, trends, and recommendations for improvement	Update the VRWJPO's surface water quality monitoring program to assess conditions and track trends
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 14d	Future	3	13	M	Provide townships and MS4 communities with waste load allocations an annual summary of BMPs installed using VRWJPO cost share (including Landscaping for Clean Water program projects) and estimated pollutant reduction	Complete and implement the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS)
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 14c	Ongoing	3	13	M	Provide MS4s with technical assistance, cost-share, or grant funding to install best management practices (BMPs) identified in the WRAPS and/or the CIP	Complete and implement the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS)
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3c	Ongoing	3	13	L	Consult databases of confirmed remediation sites, industrial wastewater permits, and other point sources of pollution when investigating groundwater and surface water incidents or complaints	Continue contributing to groundwater information networks tracking current and emerging issues and trends.
F	18	Administration and Operations	A&O 2	Future	2	13	H		Establish a riparian habitat improvement program that includes tree shading in critical reaches
A	3-4	Administration and Operations	A&O 1d	Ongoing	2	13	M	Report outcomes for key indicators in the annual activity report, financial statement, and other reports	Define outcome measures for waterbodies or stream reaches in each sub-watershed, based on statutory classifications, designated uses, impairments, current conditions, and in consultation with local governments and partners.
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 21b	Ongoing	2	13	M	Estimate water use reduction from various water conservation actions	Use standard pollutant-reduction calculators to estimate cost-effectiveness of BMPs installed or cost-shared by the VRWJPO
A	9	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 31	Ongoing	2	13	M		Provide opportunities for Vermillion Stewards volunteers on targeted watershed priorities

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
E	15-16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 2b	Future	2	13	M	Collaborate with educators, including DNR's Project WET, to determine an appropriate role for the VRWJPO in water education	Identify and develop an appropriate role for the VRWJPO in K-12 education in cooperation with teachers, environmental educators, and other key education stakeholders
E	15	Research and Planning	R&P 1a	Ongoing	2	13	M	Incorporate appropriate recommendations from "Perspectives on Minnesota Water Resources: A Survey of Sand Creek and Vermillion River Watershed Landowners," a University of Minnesota 2012 survey; WRAPS civic engagement plan; and annual Dakota County Residential Survey into the VRWJPO communication plan	Update the VRWJPO communication plan
G	20	Research and Planning	R&P 2b	Future	2	13	M	Propose demonstration or research projects that have the potential to protect the brown trout population from thermal impacts	Research emerging scientific information and technology for reducing thermal impacts to streams from stormwater runoff to protect species sensitive to elevated temperature or low dissolved oxygen conditions
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 18a	Ongoing	2	13	L	Coordinate with county SWCDs to provide technical assistance to landowners in the Dakota and Scott County portions of the watershed	Ensure that technical assistance is available to landowners considering BMPs for water quality or habitat improvement
A	6	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 16e	Ongoing	2	13	L	Provide surface water quality monitoring data online and summarize data for public information	Update the VRWJPO's surface water quality monitoring program to assess conditions and track trends
A	5	Regulation	Reg 11a	Ongoing	2	13	L	Meet annually with MS4 communities to review implementation of local water management plan.	Establish procedures to review implementation of local water management ordinances.
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 13c	Ongoing	2	13	L	Maintain contact with educational/research institutions studying watershed management, developing new technologies, or providing conferences, demonstrations, and training.	Track emerging issues, legislation, trends, and technologies with potential watershed management impacts.
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 13d	Ongoing	2	13	L	Maintain contact with environmental education, communication, civic engagement, and survey research professionals to be more informed about effective approaches.	Track emerging issues, legislation, trends, and technologies with potential watershed management impacts.
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8a	Ongoing	2	13	L	Assist Dakota County's agricultural outreach program activities (Crop Days, Field Days, and newsletter) that focus on economically optimal nitrogen rates in rural communities	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 3c	Ongoing	2	13	L	Require certified native seed mixes where appropriate for VRWJPO-funded restoration projects	Continue policies and programs to conserve groundwater by use of plant species' drought and water tolerances
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4c	Future	2	13	L	Collaborate with partners to develop a consistent message on the low cost of groundwater protection and the high cost of groundwater remediation	Assist state and local partners in providing information and education on protecting groundwater quality and quantity
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 11	Future	2	13	L		Continue to implement targeted education programs on responsible land use and stewardship for elected officials, inspectors, real-estate professionals, and other key groups
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 7b	Future	2	13	L	Encourage DNR to consider the potential to stock native cold-water species in suitable habitat reaches of the Vermillion River	Work with state agencies to review the applicability of specific standards and classifications to the Vermillion River and its tributaries
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6b	Future	1	13	M	Work with partners to develop and fund a cooperative strategy to manage beavers and remove dams that create poor conditions in cold-water reaches for sensitive biological communities	Coordinate with partners to protect and enhance refuge areas in the Vermillion River trout streams.
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8c	Ongoing	1	13	L	Assist in implementation of MDA's Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
A	9	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 29a	Future	3	12	H	Consider implementing demonstration projects with VRWJPO funds to bring attention to promising innovative technologies and BMPs for water quality improvement	Build partnerships, exchange ideas, and problem-solve with agricultural producers to improve water quality
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4d	Future	3	12	M	Research strategies for water use, re-use, or infiltration that minimize groundwater use at mining sites	Promote and cost-share BMPs that conserve water
C	13	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 7	Future	3	12	M		Work with partners to develop a public outreach campaign designed to mitigate drought conditions for implementation during persistent drought
E	18	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 13b	Future	3	12	M	Develop or adapt a "by-topic" web-based tool to refer landowners and other stakeholders to the appropriate agency or organization to answer questions about regulations, permits, or resources	Provide clear information to landowners and other stakeholders on how to navigate the multiple layers of water governance
F	19	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8	Future	3	12	M		Increase awareness and understanding of the benefits of maintaining natural hydrology
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 15b	Future	3	12	L	Discuss research needs to evaluate cumulative landscape-scale impacts of aggregate mining in the watershed with partners	Study how aggregate mining affects surface water and groundwater quality, quantity, or inflow in the Vermillion River and its tributaries
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5b	Ongoing	3	12	L	Assist partners in identifying natural and constructed conduits from the ground surface to the groundwater (e.g., Karst features, improperly abandoned wells) with potential to introduce pollutants into drinking water	Assist state and local agencies in managing wells (installation, testing, placement, or sealing) to protect groundwater quality
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5d	Ongoing	3	12	L	Assist Dakota and Scott counties with increasing landowner awareness of well information and participation in well sealing programs	Assist state and local agencies in managing wells (installation, testing, placement, or sealing) to protect groundwater quality
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4d	Ongoing	3	12	L	Collaborate with partners to develop public awareness about the connectivity of groundwater and surface water	Assist state and local partners in providing information and education on protecting groundwater quality and quantity
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5c	Future	2	12	H	Develop outreach and cost-share incentives for homeowners, homeowners' associations and businesses in areas without stormwater controls to install stormwater rate and volume control BMPs	Target and prioritize cost-share, incentives, and outreach activities for retrofits in developed areas, to reduce stormwater flow rates and volumes

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4e	Future	2	12	H	Develop a consistent message about protecting areas sensitive to groundwater contamination from land-use impacts and practices	Assist state and local partners in providing information and education on protecting groundwater quality and quantity
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 12d	Future	2	12	H	Work with partners to develop a watershed-wide education and outreach effort on preparing property to achieve flood/storm resilience	Increase resilience of the watershed through direct preparedness, outreach, and engagement efforts
A	3	Administration and Operations	A&O 1c	Future	2	12	M	Estimate changes resulting from sub-watershed BMPs installed the previous year	Define outcome measures for waterbodies or stream reaches in each sub-watershed, based on statutory classifications, designated uses, impairments, current conditions, and in consultation with local governments and partners.
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 19b	Ongoing	2	12	M	Promote cost-share funding and other incentives to targeted audiences, including cities; townships; homeowners associations; and public, business, and agricultural landowners	Provide cost-share and other incentives to watershed landowners implementing best management practices
A	5	Regulation	Reg 11c	Ongoing	2	12	M	Spot check individual permits for compliance with VRWJPO Standards. Where deficiencies exist, investigate why and determine solutions.	Establish procedures to review implementation of local water management ordinances.
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 14b	Ongoing	2	12	M	Assist communities with municipal separate storm sewer system permits (MS4s) to meet required pollutant load reductions to impaired waters	Complete and implement the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS)
B	11	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6a	Future	2	12	M	Assist communities in assessing septic systems in wellhead protection areas and upgrading, replacing, or removing noncompliant systems	Assist MDH and other agencies in implementing wellhead protection programs and plans in the watershed
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8d	Ongoing	2	12	M	Consider agricultural demonstrations of bioreactors in tiled land and saturated buffers. Partner with County and Extension outreach to introduce demonstrations via Field Days, Crop Days, and the Ag News	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5a	Ongoing	2	12	M	Promote water-use assessment/audits to help permitted high-volume users identify strategies that would conserve water and save money	Assist state and local partners in promoting and implementing water conservation
C	12	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 3b	Ongoing	2	12	M	Promote and cost share infiltration and native species planting through raingarden programs	Continue policies and programs to conserve groundwater by use of plant species’ drought and water tolerances
D	14	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 9	Ongoing	2	12	M		Continue collaboration with SWCDs and communities to include and cost-share Low Impact Development (LID) features that may include Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS)
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 7b	Future	2	12	M	Consider proposals to work with Goodhue County to resolve gully and erosion problems that originate in Goodhue County but have infrastructure and property impacts in Dakota County	Address gully erosion problems in the watershed
D	14	Regulation	Reg 4a	Ongoing	2	12	M	Assess public outreach and communication needs of MS4 permit holders and identify gaps or opportunities for collaboration	Assist cities and counties in meeting MS4 permit requirements
F	18	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4c	Ongoing	2	12	M	Promote and cost share BMPs that manage stormwater through disconnection of stormwater from impervious surfaces	Develop, implement, and promote demonstration projects of BMPs that help mitigate high flows, flooding, high temperatures, drought, and severe weather events
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 6d	Ongoing	2	12	L	Discuss and resolve technical or scientific issues affecting the watershed in consultation with the TAG.	Provide information to and seek recommendations from the public in developing VRWJPO policies, plans, and programs.
E	15	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 2a	Ongoing	2	12	L	Support Dakota and Scott Counties’ role and participation in the annual Children’s Water Festival	Identify and develop an appropriate role for the VRWJPO in K-12 education in cooperation with teachers, environmental educators, and other key education stakeholders
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 3a	Ongoing	2	12	L	Support Dakota County, local communities, and volunteers participating in the Wetland Health Evaluation Program	Assist in public education and civic engagement regarding the fish, macroinvertebrates, plants, and wildlife in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4b	Ongoing	2	12	L	Update existing public information and education materials on groundwater, private well testing, and the connection between land use and groundwater quality	Assist state and local partners in providing information and education on protecting groundwater quality and quantity
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 9	Ongoing	2	12	L		Provide educational materials to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species
G	20	Research and Planning	R&P 2a	Future	2	12	L	Review recommendations from prior VRWJPO research on thermal trading and thermal reduction BMPs	Research emerging scientific information and technology for reducing thermal impacts to streams from stormwater runoff to protect species sensitive to elevated temperature or low dissolved oxygen conditions
D	14	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 5d	Future	1	12	L	Research and make recommendations about BMPs suitable for ultra-urban conditions (no room to integrate most BMPs).	Target and prioritize cost-share, incentives, and outreach activities for retrofits in developed areas, to reduce stormwater flow rates and volumes
D	14	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 8	Future	2	11	H		Request state agencies to evaluate the impacts of increased drain tiling on river flows and develop a strategy with stakeholders to minimize the impacts
A	3	Administration and Operations	A&O 1b	Future	2	11	M	Set baseline measures reflecting current data for high and low flows.	Define outcome measures for waterbodies or stream reaches in each sub-watershed, based on statutory classifications, designated uses, impairments, current conditions, and in consultation with local governments and partners.
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 6b	Future	2	11	M	Convene one-time “summits” or short-term task forces that engage people with specific skills, knowledge, or interests to advise the VRWJPO staff or VRWJPB on unique watershed issues or problems (e.g., Water Monitoring Summit, WRAPS Watershed Engagement Team)	Seek recommendations, solutions, and balanced representation from advisory groups
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 7	Ongoing	2	11	M		Seek representative and timely consultation with the public in developing VRWJPO policies, plans, and programs
A	8	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 24b	Ongoing	2	11	M	Collaborate with existing programs to cost-share landowner lakeshore restoration projects	Assist local governments in management of recreational lakes in the watershed
B	10	Research and Planning	R&P 1b	Future	2	11	M	Assist partners in study of groundwater/surface water interactions in the watershed	Help advance research on the watershed’s groundwater system and groundwater management strategies
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6a	Future	2	11	M	Promote consultations between producers and irrigation experts (such as the UM Extension irrigation specialist) on technological advances in irrigation management and scheduling	Assist partners in promoting and cost-sharing practices that conserve groundwater in agricultural settings

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
C	12	Research and Planning	R&P 1b	Future	2	11	M	Facilitate discussions with appropriate agencies (e.g., DNR and Southwest Metro Groundwater Workgroup) about well interference water appropriation conflicts, and groundwater management	Assist partners in preventing reductions to the river's base flow and normal levels in lakes and wetlands
E	16	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 4f	Ongoing	2	11	M	Provide education opportunities to local governments and residents regarding the hydrologic cycle, groundwater, groundwater/surface water interactions, groundwater recharge areas, and groundwater conservation	Assist state and local partners in providing information and education on protecting groundwater quality and quantity
E	18	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 13c	Future	2	11	M	Encourage local governments and interested parties to coordinate a review meeting at one time and place for projects with potential water resource impacts	Provide clear information to landowners and other stakeholders on how to navigate the multiple layers of water governance
F	18	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 4a	Future	2	11	M	Consider providing 100 percent capital costs of BMPs not commonly used or well-understood by landowners that have high potential to mitigate flow, precipitation, or temperature extremes	Develop, implement, and promote demonstration projects of BMPs that help mitigate high flows, flooding, high temperatures, drought, and severe weather events
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 8	Ongoing	2	11	M		Assist federal, state, and local public health agencies to address water-related health and safety issues, such as high bacteria levels or toxic algae blooms in recreational waters
A	6	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 16d	Ongoing	2	11	L	Coordinate with the MN DNR for flow-gaging assistance to develop and maintain rating curves	Update the VRWJPO's surface water quality monitoring program to assess conditions and track trends
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5c	Future	2	11	L	Assist Dakota and Scott counties with inventory, assessment, and sealing of abandoned wells	Assist state and local agencies in managing wells (installation, testing, placement, or sealing) to protect groundwater quality
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 9a	Future	2	11	L	Provide the well-owner's handbook (or link) on the VRWJPO website	Collaborate with the Dakota County Groundwater Unit to promote the MDH's well-owner handbook
C	12	Research and Planning	R&P 2a	Future	2	11	L	Review 2006 inventory of groundwater recharge areas and update, if needed	Identify and protect groundwater recharge areas in the watershed
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5e	Ongoing	2	11	L	Write and post CIP project fact sheets on the VRWJPO website	Recognize and celebrate stewardship in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8b	Ongoing	2	11	L	Post all major proposed plans and projects and request public comment through published notices and news releases	Maintain and expand the VRWJPO website as a comprehensive information source about the watershed and the VRWJPO
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8h	Future	1	11	M	Consider facilitating a watershed- or county-wide outreach and education campaign to increase awareness about the urban and rural land use contributions to nitrate contamination of groundwater	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
A	9	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 30a	Future	2	10	H	Identify and suggest partnerships with organizations or community leaders representing Southeast Asian, Hispanic/Latino, and other cultural groups that farm or rent land in the watershed	Develop contacts and networks inclusive of all ages, cultural backgrounds, educational attainment, economic status, or faith to participate in watershed management planning, events, or initiatives
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 21c	Ongoing	2	10	M	Estimate thermal reductions from volume or temperature control BMPs	Use standard pollutant-reduction calculators to estimate cost-effectiveness of BMPs installed or cost-shared by the VRWJPO
E	16	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 5a	Future	2	10	M	Consult with local community leaders on appropriate methods to build community pride in water quality achievements	Recognize and celebrate stewardship in the Vermillion River Watershed
E	18	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 13a	Future	2	10	M	Update water resource management governance diagram to illustrate and concisely explain the roles of various government organizations in water resource management in the Vermillion River Watershed	Provide clear information to landowners and other stakeholders on how to navigate the multiple layers of water governance
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 3c	Ongoing	2	10	L	Provide expense and treasurer's reports on the website and in the full packet for each VRWJPB meeting	Adopt VRWJPO budgets that are transparent, allocate levy amounts fairly, and include accountability measures. (applies to all goals)
A	6	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 16c	Ongoing	2	10	L	Coordinate with the USGS for maintenance of the Empire monitoring station	Update the VRWJPO's surface water quality monitoring program to assess conditions and track trends
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8c	Ongoing	2	10	L	Post all progress, activity, and financial reports	Maintain and expand the VRWJPO website as a comprehensive information source about the watershed and the VRWJPO
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 18c	Future	1	10	L	Assist Dakota County in its agricultural outreach	Ensure that technical assistance is available to landowners considering BMPs for water quality or habitat improvement
B	12	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 9c	Future	2	9	L	Consider outreach to visitors' bureaus and "welcome" organizations to include in information packets for new homeowners with a private well	Collaborate with the Dakota County Groundwater Unit to promote the MDH's well-owner handbook
A	9	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 30b	Future	1	9	M	Collaborate with park agencies to identify how different populations use public natural resources for fishing, swimming, or recreation	Develop contacts and networks inclusive of all ages, cultural backgrounds, educational attainment, economic status, or faith to participate in watershed management planning, events, or initiatives
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8a	Ongoing	1	8	L	Post all VRWJPB, WPC, and TAG agendas, background materials and meeting minutes	Maintain and expand the VRWJPO website as a comprehensive information source about the watershed and the VRWJPO

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
B	11-12	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 9b	Future	1	7	L	Consider outreach to real estate agents, to distribute the handbook to purchasers of property with a private well	Collaborate with the Dakota County Groundwater Unit to promote the MDH's well-owner handbook
A	3	Administration and Operations	A&O 1a	Done				Identify key indicators for sub-watershed water resources (e.g., phosphorus loading reduction in Lake Alimagnet or nitrate reduction in South Branch).	Define outcome measures for waterbodies or stream reaches in each sub-watershed, based on statutory classifications, designated uses, impairments, current conditionss, and in consultation with local governments and partners.
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 2a	Done				Identify and prioritize projects using the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS), geomorphic assessments, restorable wetlands inventory, and the Vermillion River Monitoring Network.	Prepare a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) annually that focuses resources on highest-priority subwatershed problems
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 5a	Done				Develop capacity to hold webinars and videoconferences to plan, consult, and share information with partners.	Simplify VRWJPO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 5b	Done				Develop the website capacity to include more partner information	Simplify VRWJPO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 5d	Done				Facilitate development of a wetland bank, using income from wetland credit sales for further wetland resoration	Simplify VRWJPO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	4	Administration and Operations	A&O 5e	Done				Use restorable wetland tools and inventories to develop partnerships and implement restoration projects	Simplify VRWJPO procedures for working with partners in other levels of government
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 19a	Done				Update and clarify the VRWJPO's cost-share policy's eligibility requirements, types of BMPs covered, cost-share percentages, application process, selection criteria, and other details	Provide cost-share and other incentives to watershed landowners implementing best management practices
A	7	Land and Water Treatment	L&WT 19c	Done				Cost-share or stack incentives for demonstrations of new or innovative BMPs that are potentially more effective at reducing impacts to surface waters, less expensive, or easier to maintain	Provide cost-share and other incentives to watershed landowners implementing best management practices
A	7	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 17a	Done				Complete geomorphic assessments on priority subwatersheds	Complete assessments of all Vermillion River reaches and tributary sub-watersheds within 10 years to identify potential improvement projects
A	7	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 18c	Done				Develop prioritization criteria for restoration projects identified through the assessments and integrate highest priority restoration projects into the VRWJPO's CIP.	Complete assessments of all Vermillion River reaches and tributary sub-watersheds within 10 years to identify potential improvement projects
A	9	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 30c	Done				Consider developing social media for the Vermillion River Watershed to engage younger audiences	Develop contacts and networks inclusive of all ages, cultural backgrounds, educational attainment, economic status, or faith to participate in watershed management planning, events, or initiatives
A	5	Regulation	Reg 8a	Done				Update Standards to ensure that requirements minimize land disturbance impacts on water resources and adopt updated Standards as part of Plan adoption.	Update, adopt, and enforce VRWJPO Standards/Rules.
A	5	Regulation	Reg 10b	Done				Support consistent enforcement of existing state and local government buffer regulations.	Increase lake and riparian shoreline miles with managed vegetated buffers/filter strips to mitigate stormwater runoff impacts.
A	5	Research and Planning	R&P 12a	Done				Review updates of Dakota and Scott County Comprehensive Plans for potential conflicts or synergies with the Vermillion River Watershed Plan.	Review relevant planning documents for potential conflicts or synergies with the Vermillion River Watershed Plan.
A	5	Research and Planning	R&P 12b	Done				Review updates of Dakota County Groundwater Plan for potential conflicts or synergies with the Vermillion River Watershed Plan.	Review relevant planning documents for potential conflicts or synergies with the Vermillion River Watershed Plan.
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 13e	Done				Explore implementation of BWSR's "One Watershed, One Plan" principles as a means of addressing watershed-wide needs.	Track emerging issues, legislation, trends, and technologies with potential watershed management impacts.
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 15a	Done				Review existing research on aggregate mining impacts on water and groundwater, in conditions comparable to the watershed.	Study how aggregate mining affects surface water and groundwater quality, quantity, or inflow in the Vermillion River and its tributaries
A	6	Research and Planning	R&P 15c	Done				Evaluate need for new Watershed Standards on aggregate mining, if research shows potential water resource impacts	Study how aggregate mining affects surface water and groundwater quality, quantity, or inflow in the Vermillion River and its tributaries
B	10	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 2a	Done				Continue support for Dakota County's ambient groundwater monitoring program	Assist federal, state, and local partners in monitoring, restoring, and maintaining groundwater quality
B	11	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 7a	Done				Request that county GIS managers obtain MDH data on wellhead protection, management zones and drinking water supply management zones and incorporate into local data layers	Work with Dakota and Scott County Geographic Information Systems (GIS) managers on improving data access to help users to identify areas sensitive to groundwater contamination.
B	11	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 7b	Done				Make local data layers including wellhead protection and drinking water supply management zones available to GIS users	Work with Dakota and Scott County Geographic Information Systems (GIS) managers on improving data access to help users to identify areas sensitive to groundwater contamination.
B	11	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 8b	Done				Provide cost-share or other incentives for producers using cover crops or nutrient management plans	Collaborate with partners to promote nutrient management practices that protect groundwater from nitrate contamination while maintaining viable agricultural production and urban landscapes
B	10	Research and Planning	R&P 1c	Done				Seek partnerships to develop and implement collaborative groundwater projects and programs (e.g., Hastings Area Nitrate Study future phases, Vermillion River Headwaters Groundwater Study)	Help advance research on the watershed's groundwater system and groundwater management strategies
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 5b	Done				Review and comment on DNR groundwater appropriation permits with potential impacts on the watershed's water resources	Assist state and local partners in promoting and implementing water conservation
C	13	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6c	Done				Consider cost-sharing improvements to irrigation equipment to gain water efficiency	Assist partners in promoting and cost-sharing practices that conserve groundwater in agricultural settings
C	12	Research and Planning	R&P 2b	Done				Request County GIS to create a DCGIS layer for groundwater recharge areas identified in the inventory	Identify and protect groundwater recharge areas in the watershed
D	13	Regulation	Reg 1	Done					Use Vermillion River Hydrologic Model to set intercommunity flow Standards that are consistent and science-based to prevent conflicts about water flows among neighboring jurisdictions

Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan 2016-2025: Section 6 - mid point implementation evaluation ranked by SUM (highest to lowest)

Goal	Sec. 6 page#	Role	Item ID	Status	MODE	SUM	Level of Effort	Action	Objective
D	13-14	Regulation	Reg 2e	Done				Encourage local governments to require compensatory storage at 2:1 level for filling in floodplain	Support requirements for local governments to identify, protect, and reconnect floodplains
D	14	Regulation	Reg 4b	Done				Promote Stewardship Grants to help cities or local groups undertake one time water quality improvement projects that would help in meeting MS4 permit requirements	Assist cities and counties in meeting MS4 permit requirements
E	17	Public Communication and Outreach	PC&O 6d	Done				Promote and implement the Stewardship Grant program for short-term events and activities that educate and engage people to improve or protect water quality	Support and create opportunities for people to work together on projects that will improve water quality, water quantity, or habitat
E	15	Research and Planning	R&P 1b	Done				Conduct a follow-up of watershed landowners in 2017 (five years after the University of Minnesota survey).	Update the VRWJPO communication plan
F	18	Research and Planning	R&P 3	Done					Use the VRWJPO hydrologic model in planning decisions with local communities to prevent adverse impacts to intercommunity flows
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 6a	Done				Support and cost-share projects to protect and enhance refuge areas for in-stream restorations (such as stream remeanders).	Coordinate with partners to protect and enhance refuge areas in the Vermillion River trout streams.
G	21	Coordination and Collaboration	C&C 7a	Done				Consult the MPCA for the potential to include brown trout as a native cold-water species equivalent in development, application, and calculation of the Index of Biological Integrity (IBI) for fish within the Vermillion River Watershed	Consult with state agencies in review of the Index of Biotic Integrity metrics as applied to the Vermillion River and its tributaries
G	20	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 3a	Done				Consider modifying monitoring frequency after sufficient fish and macroinvertebrate trends have been identified	Update and continue implementing the VRWJPO Biomonitoring Plan
G	20	Monitoring and Assessment	M&A 3b	Done				Continue partnerships with the DNR, volunteers, students, and others to sample fish and macroinvertebrates	Update and continue implementing the VRWJPO Biomonitoring Plan

6c. Watershed Tour Planning

Meeting Date: 8/26/2021
Item Type: Information
Contact: Mark Zabel
Telephone: 952-891-7011
Prepared by: Mark Zabel

**PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED**

- Discuss planning and potential options for a watershed tour

SUMMARY

The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) hosts a Watershed Tour on odd-numbered years to present recent projects or programs implemented through the Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan. The tour generally includes stops at various sites where a project or practice has been implemented and includes presentations by staff or partners highlighting the function and effectiveness of the project, innovative approaches when applicable, and successful partner collaborations.

With the rise in cases of infection from the Delta Variant of COVID-19, staff would like to discuss potential need for adjustments to logistics for the tour format. Discussion may include increased precautions to prevent potential for spread of COVID-19, or the potential for alternative forms of presentation which may include a virtual format.



Minutes

Vermillion River Watershed Planning Commission Meeting

August 11, 2021 – 4:00 p.m.

In-person and Zoom Videoconference

WPC Members in Attendance

Carolyn Miller Chuck Clanton
Josh Borton James Kotz
Ken Betzold Tony Wotzka
Andy Riesgraf

Staff in Attendance

Mark Zabel, VRWJPO
Mark Ryan, VRWJPO
Brita Moore-Kutz, VRWJPO
Travis Thiel, VRWJPO

Others in Attendance

Curt Coudron, Dakota County SWCD

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Vice-chair Betzold at 4:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call

All members present except Mark Henry and Stephen Hamrick.

3. Audience Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

None.

4. Approval of Agenda

Vice-chair Betzold asked for approval of the agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Clanton, second by Commissioner Borton, to approve the agenda. The agenda was unanimously approved by a 7-0 vote.

5. Approval of Minutes

Vice-chair Betzold requested any adjustments to the minutes as presented. Upon hearing none, Vice-chair Betzold called for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2021, meeting of the WPC.

Motion by Commissioner Clanton, second by Commissioner Kotz, to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2021, meeting, as distributed. The minutes were unanimously approved by a 7-0 vote.

6. Business Items

a. Recommendation to Adopt the VRWJPO 2022 Draft Budget

Vice-chair Betzold called on Mark Zabel to introduce the item. Zabel opened a PowerPoint presentation that described the overall budget revenues and expenses and described the levy of the Watershed Management Tax District. Zabel also presented changes to the draft 2022 budget in comparison to the adopted revised 2021 budget. The overall revenues for 2022 are estimated at \$1,942,600 with estimated expenses of \$1,778,860 and a cash reserve of \$163,740 (8.4% of the budget total, which meets the VRWJPO Fund Balance Policy). Revenues include estimated carryover from unspent funds from 2021, grant funded project revenue, the Watershed Management Tax District Levy, and investment earnings from funds held in account. Zabel asked if WPC members had any comments of any suggested changes to the draft budget.

Motion by Commissioner Kotz, second by Commissioner Borton, for recommendation to the VRWJPB to adopt the VRWJPO 2022 draft budget. The motion was unanimously approved by a 7-0 vote.

b. Mid-term Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan Review

Mark Zabel referred to a spreadsheet containing all goals and actions from Section 6 of the Watershed Management Plan that was shared via email. There were responses from seven members in prioritizing actions identified by staff as either future or ongoing status as either a high, medium, or low priority. Zabel reported the results as sorted in the spreadsheet from results receiving the highest cumulative scores to the lowest cumulative scores and then secondarily for those with the same cumulative scores according to the mode (the score occurring most often among the ranks provided). Zabel reported that the first three highest ranked priorities show the general philosophies that carry through in the prioritization, that is, collaboration seems to be highly valued, assuring that people follow standards seems to be valued, and applying for and receiving grants (getting money from other people) seems to be important for us to pursue. There is a bell curve with few actions listed as the top priorities and few as the bottom priorities, with most in the middle. Commissioners Clanton and Miller commented that there are too many line items. Commissioner Clanton commented that he viewed education as a high priority and that actions that are effective in addressing issues with the river (proximity). This is about allocating a limited amount of resources to achieve the greatest effect. Commissioner Clanton brought up septic systems and how much of a role the VRWJPO should have in addressing those issues. Zabel commented that there are some issues that are brought into the Watershed Plan that are there to assure that someone is properly addressing them; looking over others' shoulders to make sure it is getting done (septics or abandoned wells). The 2016-2025 was not developed in a vacuum and some of the actions that are there are issues that were brought to the table through the open, public process. Commissioner Kotz mentioned that he actively ranked some of the lines that addressed drought higher as an expectation that the conditions that we are seeing now are likely to occur more frequently in years to come. Zabel commented that he knows that there are actions in the Plan that address more extreme weather events and that goes both ways, both wet and dry. Commissioner Clanton asked what portion of the actions are required as compared to what actions are there by our (VRWJPO) choice or optional. Some are required to be done, no matter what their priority rank is. Then there is the issue about level of effort where some action can be completed in a matter of minutes (post a link to an agency guidebook) where others may be staff or money intensive and take years in the planning and execution. Commissioner Betzold asked if Zabel found anything in the results surprising-. Zabel replied that results did match up with expectations well. The collaboration, enforcement, and applying for grants as the highest priorities is what we would have expected, and the members of the Joint Powers Board have also encouraged those aspects. Commissioner Kotz asked if there were some results that staff may have seen as an issue where members were not interpreting the issue correctly. Zabel commented that there

were issues that he saw where acronyms may have been an issue. He asked if everyone knew what LID stands for as they may not see it as “Low Impact Development”, a design approach meant to reduce environmental impacts from development. Commissioner Clanton returned to the issue of how much of the Plan actions can be accomplished given the resources available. Thiel asked if it would be valuable for a column to be added that estimates the level of effort required for the action. With that addition there would be some judgement as to the combination of the level of priority with the level of effort. Commissioner Clanton suggested that perhaps those actions that are requirements, those that must be done regardless, not be considered in the ranking since there isn’t any getting around those anyway. Commissioner Miller asked about the larger picture functions of the VRWJPO, are we more of a regulatory body, a monitoring and research body, or more oriented toward implementing infrastructure (improvement projects). Zabel commented that we are all of those. Commissioner Miller commented that those considerations were an issue for her prioritization. Commissioner Miller chose to prioritize the physical aspects including actions that lead to projects. She said it’s all good stuff, but it was difficult to know which way to go with things. Mark Ryan commented that there have been comments over time from WPC members regarding the “edge matching” and trying to avoid overlap with other partners or entities, which can be considered in reviewing the prioritization results. Brita commented that in the communication aspect there are often opportunities to either simply promote or directly partner with others in delivering or developing messaging that supports messages for mutual benefit. Commissioner Kotz commented that he prioritized with the idea that nothing would necessarily be “left out” but with the expectation that there is a limited amount that can be accomplished with limited resources. Zabel noted that he would be sharing the spreadsheet back out to members so that they can see how ranking came out and provide any further comments and thanked members for submitting their priorities.

7. Updates

a. Chairperson’s Report

Vice-chair Betzold had nothing to report.

b. Staff Updates

Curt Coudron commented that Dakota County SWCD staff continue to engage in implementing projects. There are some limitations while crops are in the fields but there are still some project opportunities underway. There is a project near Hampton that was set up last year with some grassed waterways that is now incorporating water and sediment control basins. There will be some planting of cover crops in fields that have some canning crops coming out. There has been a lot of use of the prairie planting program (native vegetation).

Brita reported that the VRWJPO is supporting a display at the Dakota County Fair in the Natural Resources Building. She was also given a tour of the prairie restoration just south of the Dakota County Fairgrounds. Brita attended the Salt Symposium (virtual) put on by Fortin Consulting in cooperation with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and other partners. Although the Symposium has something of a Minnesota focus, it included participants from around the United States. Brita highlighted an airport in Des Moines, Iowa that has implemented a heated runway as a means to manage snow and ice and reduce salt use. Brita has plans to participate in the Farmington Schools Pollution Prevention Day on September 10th. Toward the end of September, she will be assisting with Outdoor Education Days in coordination with Dakota County SWCD. Brita mentioned that the VRWJPO is planning to conduct its biennial Watershed Tour, currently scheduled for Wednesday, September 22nd, starting at 1:30 p.m., departing from the Dakota County Extension and Conservation Center. Brita is planning to attend Starry Trek as a volunteer for this scheduled event for August 21st at Lebanon Hills Regional Park sponsored by

Dakota County. Brita is going through the VRWJPO Communications Plan and making some adjustments. Brita asked members to like the VRWJPO on Facebook and to engage with the VRWJPO on social media through Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.

Mark Ryan mentioned that he and Travis Thiel are both working on applications for Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR) Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants. The application Mark Ryan is completing is for a ravine stabilization project in collaboration with Dakota County in Ravenna Township.

Travis Thiel mentioned he is completing an application for a stormwater basin project in Foxborough Park in Lakeville capturing sediment and phosphorus before it reaches North Creek. Travis also mentioned working on an application to Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Conservation Partners Legacy Grant for habitat improvements on East Lake. The lake has common carp and goldfish in it. To assist with management, the plan would be to place a fish barrier and then pursue some carp and goldfish removals to bring numbers down to a manageable level and reduce negative impacts to the lake.

Commissioner Betzold commented that he had seen a for sale sign on the wetland bank off of Blaine Avenue. Zabel responded that the easement for the wetland bank is established for that property and that it is a perpetual easement held by the State of Minnesota that runs with the property and requires it to remain wetland. That property can have other limited use, such as hunting, but it cannot be built on, developed for other purposes, or cropped. The owner has the right to sell or lease the property, and the owner is still responsible to pay taxes on the property.

8. Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Borton, second by Commissioner Kotz, to adjourn the meeting at 5:18 p.m. The motion passed on a 6-0 vote.