



Lower St Croix Watershed Partnership

1-24-22: Policy Committee

LOWER ST. CROIX “ONE WATERSHED, ONE PLAN”

Vision

The St. Croix River, groundwater, lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands, and upland habitat in the Lower St. Croix watershed sustain healthy ecosystems, recreation, public health, tourism, agriculture, the economy, and quality of life in our communities.

Mission

Through the *Lower St. Croix “One Watershed, One Plan”* process, partners will develop a collaborative and comprehensive plan to guide the protection and restoration of priority natural resources in our region over the next ten years.

Strategies

- Enhance collaboration and consistency between upstream and downstream neighbors, and between different levels of government;
- Identify and address gaps in data, technology, or implementation funding across the region;
- Avoid duplication of efforts; and
- Make efficient use of federal, state and local funds to address priority issues and protect/improve valuable natural resources in the Lower St. Croix watershed.

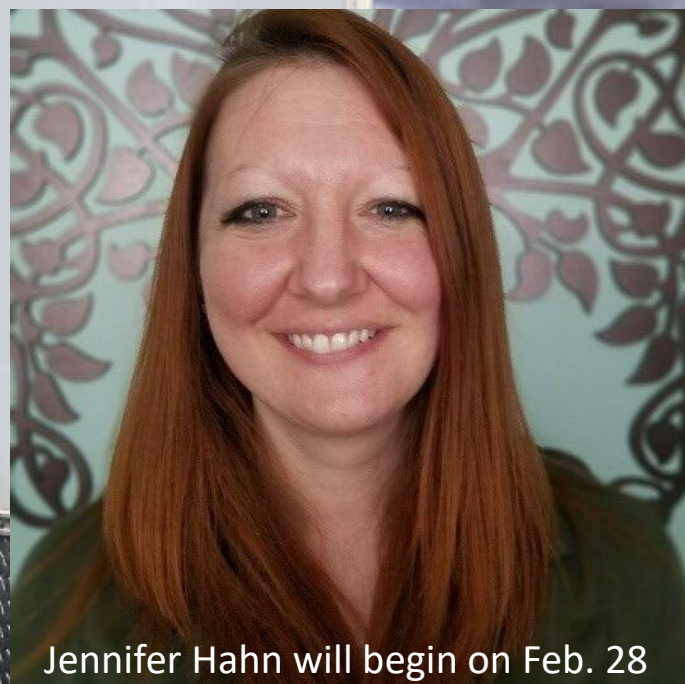
Adopted by Policy Committee on 1-28-19



Policy Committee

Responsibilities: The Policy Committee makes recommendations on matters that require approval by the local governing boards, including: annual work plans, additional parties to the JPC agreement, and revisions to the agreement. Policy Committee member serve as liaisons to their respective governing boards.

Activity #	Grant Activity	eLINK Activity Category	Grant Budget	Match Budget	Grant Spend	Match Spend	Total Spend
1	Basin Ag Outreach Program	Project Development	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2	Structural Ag BMP Implementation	Agricultural Practices	\$160,000	\$75,000	\$97,985.31	\$82,630.84	\$180,616.15
3	Shared Services Educator	Education/Information	\$125,000	\$4,800	\$39,448.98	\$23,060.00	\$62,508.98
4	Non-Structural Ag/Urban Implementation	Non-Structural Management Practices	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5	Structural Urban BMP Implementation	Urban Stormwater Practices	\$200,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
6	Wetland Restoration Implementation	Wetland Restoration/Creation	\$39,531	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
7	Internal Analyses	Planning and Assessment	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
8	Targeting Analyses	Planning and Assessment	\$150,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$671.61	\$3,671.61
9	Technical/Engineering	Technical/Engineering Assistance	\$40,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
10	Administration/Coordination	Administration/Coordination	\$100,000	\$0	\$24,219.27	\$712.17	\$24,931.44
TOTAL			\$1,264,531	\$129,800	\$164,653.56	\$107,074.62	\$246,796.74



Jennifer Hahn will begin on Feb. 28



(A1) Basin Ag Outreach Program (\$200k)

- Entering into a partnership with University of Minnesota to host an embedded Extension Educator, Agronomy and Water Resources.
- Jennifer Hahn will begin on Feb. 28

TOTAL SPENT = \$0



(A2) Structural Ag BMPs (\$160k)

- **McQuade Ravine Stabilization – Denmark Twp. (South Washington Watershed District)**
 - Stabilize a ravine directly tributary to Lake St. Croix delivering an estimated 250 tons per year of sediment to Lake St. Croix.
 - 220lb per year of phosphorus
 - \$91,000
- **Hinze Cattle Exclusion – Rock Lake, Pine County**
 - Install fencing 50ft from edge of lake to keep cattle out of the water – estimated 3.5lb of phosphorus reduction per year
 - \$6000

TOTAL SPENT= \$97,985



(A3) Shared services educator (\$125k)

- **Barbara Heitkamp** began May 24, 2021
 - Virtual project tour, 10 new videos, 80+ social media posts, one cover crop flyer, three lake association events, two soil health field days, three visits with landowners, one public officials tour, two presentations for lake groups, two quarterly emails for Lower St. Croix partners, one e-newsletter to lake associations, a successful nomination for AMC-BWSR Conservation Award
- TOTAL SPENT = \$ 39,448**



(A4) Nonstructural practices – ag and urban (\$200k)

Working with the A8 subcommittee to establish protocols for enhanced street sweeping studies (a highly cost-effective non-structural urban BMP). Once protocols are complete, partners will complete enhanced street sweeping studies for priority communities.

TOTAL = \$0

(A5) Structural urban BMPs (\$175k)

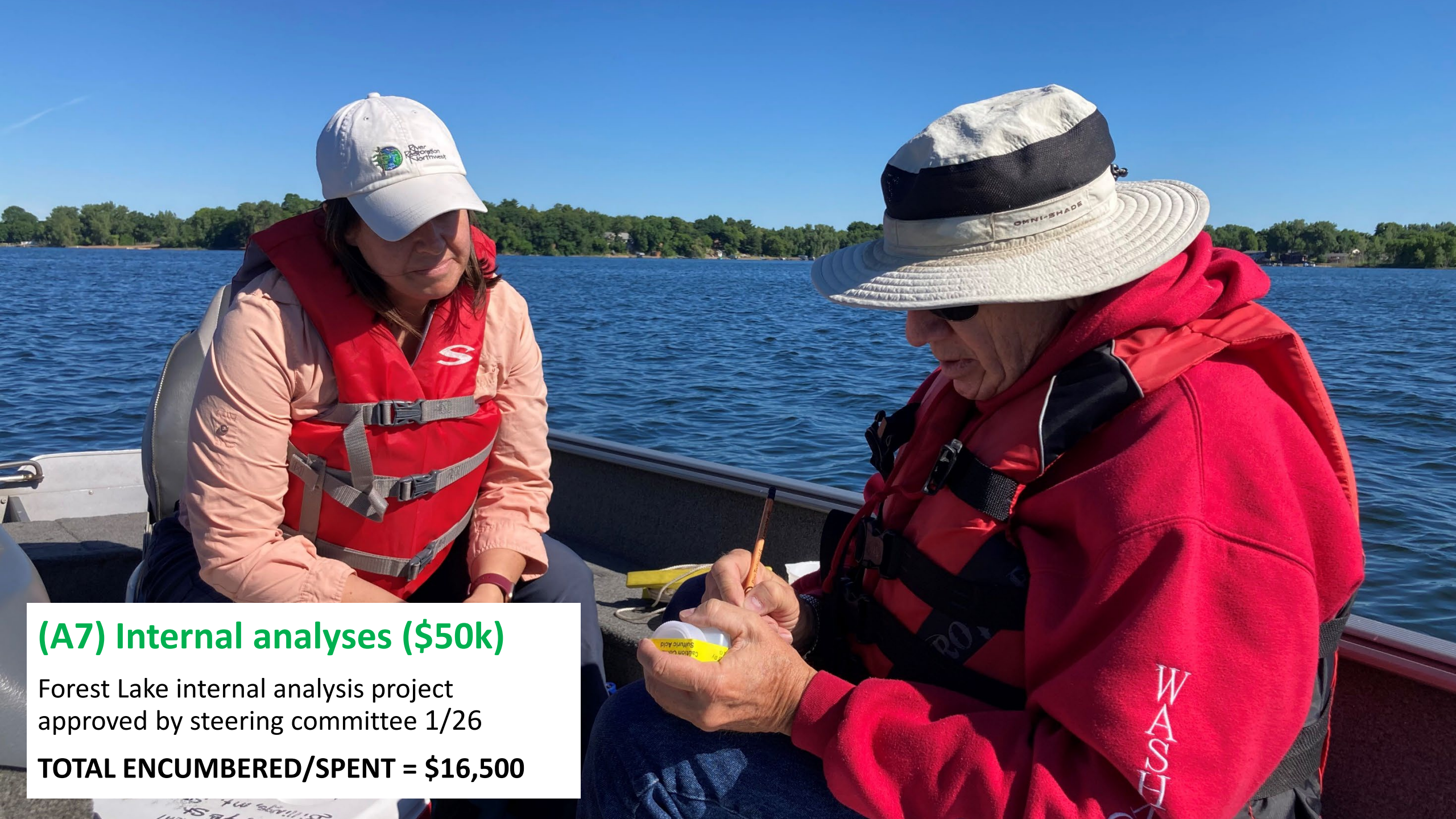
TOTAL = \$0





(A6) Wetland restoration(\$39.5k)

TOTAL = \$0



(A7) Internal analyses (\$50k)

Forest Lake internal analysis project
approved by steering committee 1/26

TOTAL ENCUMBERED/SPENT = \$16,500



(A8) Targeting and prioritization analyses (\$150k)

- **Updating urban and rural subwatershed prioritization (SWA) protocols**
 - \$8000
- **Delineation and prioritization of contributing subcatchments for Pine County and the Sunrise River**
 - \$26,772
- **Tree canopy assessment protocol for enhanced street sweeping**
 - \$8,500
- **Rock Lake SWA approved by steering committee 1/26**
 - \$12,541

TOTAL ENCUMBERED/SPENT = \$55,813



(A9) TA/Engineering (\$40k)

TOTAL = \$0

Water Quality

Washington County

- 😊 13 lakes de-listed since 2008 (7 in 2022)
- ☹️ 22 water bodies added to the impaired waters list in 2020 or 2022
 - 1 mercury
 - 2 chloride
 - 2 dissolved O2
 - 2 TSS
 - 3 E. Coli
 - 3 nutrients
 - 5 fish or macroinvertebrate assessments
 - 5 PFOS

Pine County

- No changes

Chisago County

- 😊 5 lakes and 2 stream reaches de-listed since 2014 (4 in 2022)
- ☹️ 19 water bodies added to impaired waters list in 2020 and 2022
 - 1 mercury
 - 1 dissolved O2
 - 2 nutrients
 - 16 fish or macroinvertebrate assessments

Isanti County

- ☹️ 2 water bodies added to the impaired waters list in 2020 or 2022 in Lower St. Croix watershed
 - 1 stream reach listed for fish or macroinvertebrate assessments
 - 1 lake listed for nutrients

Anoka County

- 😊 1 stream reach de-listed in Lower St. Croix watershed since 2012

2022 Timeline for Implementation and Planning

- **Dec. 13:** Advisory Committee creates draft 2022 Annual Plan of Work
- **Jan. 26:** Steering Committee updates plan with Fiscal Agent/Responsible Party and Funding Source for each activity
- **Feb. 23 - March 23:** Local partners report-out projects completed in 2021, using interactive map to note priority locations
- **March 23:** Advisory Committee reviews revised 2022 Annual Plan of Work and 2021 Annual Report to send to Policy Committee
- **April 25:** Policy Committee reviews 2021 annual report and reviews/recommends 2022 Annual Plan of Work for local approval
 - A vote of 2/3rd of the members present is necessary to move a recommended annual work plan on to the governing boards.
- **May:** Local partners send 2022 Annual Plan of Work to their respective boards for local approval
 - Approval from 2/3rd of the governing bodies is needed to approve the plan