

Issues within the Sub-Watershed: Lower Red Lake River

What are the existing conditions, related potential problems and solution alternatives?

Issues related to: FLOOD DAMAGE	What is the NATURE of the problem?	How SEVERE is the problem? [High, Moderate, Low]	How wide spread or to what EXTENT is the problem?	What are the possible SOLUTIONS?
Flooding	Agricultural flooding	High	Sections 1,2,11, 12 and 14, Polk Centre Twsp, Pennington Co.	Flood storage easement, flowage easement, channel cleaning
	Agricultural flooding	High	Polk County Ditch 53, 2, 66 many in west Polk Co.	Ditch and outlet improvement
	Overland flooding in Crookston / city dikes in poor condition	High	Northeast part of town, CR 11 and Barrett St., CD 99	
	Overland flooding near RLC CD 13/Browns Cr.	High	Section 26 and 35, Browns Creek Tsp	Ditch improvement

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	Huot Dam: 1946, BC not positive: Today Section 205 high flow cutoffs			
Flood Damages <i>(crop land, pastures, residential, roads, etc.)</i>	Residential flooding in NE part of Crookston	High	Street flooding, basement flooding, structural damage	
Drainage	Inadequate E-W ditches in western half of subwatershed	High	From north to south in western half of subwatershed	Ditch and outlet improvements
	JD 60 flooding	High	1 mile north of CR 57, water breaks west, then south to LRLR	
	Lateral 4 of JD 60			

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Drought	Surface water irrigators	Low	Subwatershed wide	BMP's, conservation, allocation
	Bank sloughing in Crookston and Red Lake Falls	High	Along entire reaches	Ordinances (Don't build close to the river on unstable banks)
	Public water supply in EGF and TRF	Low	Future drought may impact these communities	
Stream Flows	Flashy hydrograph	Moderate		
Lake Levels				
Groundwater	Not adequate for municipal supplies	Low	Crookston	

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	Gravel pit contamination of aquifers	Low	Along ridges, near Crookston	Source water protection plans; RLFalls has plan
	Source water protection plans and wellhead protection plans – need to be done, or followed upon			
Other Flood Damage Issues				



Issues related to: NATURAL RESOURCES	What is the NATURE of the problem?	How SEVERE is the problem? [high, moderate, low]	How wide spread or to what EXTENT is the problem?	What are the possible SOLUTIONS?
Erosion and Sedimentation <i>(stream, lake bank, ag and residential, ditches, etc.)</i>	Erosion assessment from reservation to Red; map eroded areas: LCMR grant applied for	There is a very high amount of erosion in this subwatershed.	Entire reach	Prioritize and implement erosion control projects
	Tributary bank instability at outlets into rivers	Moderate	Watershed wide	
	JD 60, south of CR 11, Ricards buildings about to fail	High	At outlet of JD 60	Streambank stabilization?
	Bank sloughing in Crookston and Red Lake Falls	High		Natural processes accelerated by development – do not develop on unstable riverbanks

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	Polk CD 1 outlet, last mile, west of Crookston	High	At outlet of CD 1	
	Ditches outletting into natural streams, filling outlet streams with sediment	High	Widespread in the western subwatershed - sedimentation	Reduce sediment loads in ditches (reduce erosion, implement buffers)
Water Quality (point and nonpoint pollution, groundwater, etc.)	Turbidity – LRLR is impaired water – the cost of treating water is expensive; Burnham Crk to Red; the data available for the next assessment will extend impairment upstream through Crookston (303D)	High	Entire system	
	Outlet of Schirrik dam, feedlot in Black River			

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	Source water protection (TOC)			
	Flowing well protection in Huot			
Ground water	Source water protection			Plans have been developed for EGF and TRF
	Wellhead protection plans Crookston, Red Lake Falls, Thief River falls			Plan developed for RLF
Fish and Wildlife Habitat <i>(fish passage,</i>	(DNR to provide info) Beach Ridges – prairie grouse, deer		Significant habitats that need to be protected	

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<i>waterfowl nesting habitat, beaver, otter, upland game, etc.)</i>	Ottertail Dam – east of Crookston- fish passage in lower flows			
Water-based Recreational Activities <i>(water access, fishing, hunting, recreational trails, etc.)</i>	Low water - tubing	Moderate	Depends on water year and flows, cyclical	Low water - tubing
	Red Lake Corridor Group: need to investigate their work (Paige)		Looking at additional access, canoe routes, portages, signage, city park improvements	Red Lake Corridor Group: need to investigate their work (Paige)
	Fishing: is important in LRLR;		More fish; fish passage issues in Crookston; 5% rock slopes, fish ladder?	Fishing: is important in LRLR;
	Safety near dams, especially above Crookston		Site specific, low head dam	Safety near dams, especially above Crookston

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Unique Water / Land Related Resources	Wayside state park at Huot			
	Prairie remnants			
	The LRLR is a unique resource that needs to be recognized			
	Old Treaty crossing at Huot			
Other Natural Resource Issues				

OTHER COMMENTS/ISSUES TO COMPLETE THE “PICTURE!”

THESE COMMENTS SHARED BY: _____(NAME) _____(TELEPHONE)

NOTE: Return this form to Myron Jesme, Red Lake Watershed District Office