

Issues within the Sub-Watershed: Upper 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	Areas of agricultural flooding	Moderate	East ½ Penn. Co.	Upstream storage, Ditch improvements, easements
	City of Goodridge (move to Thief River subwatershed)	High	City wide	Ring Dike, Ditch cleaning / maint.
	Good Lake Impoundment could be more effective; excess water			Evaluate the inlet features and operating plan to optimize flood storage; diversion associated with ditch 18?

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	Uncontrolled drainage area east of Goodridge	Depends on levels in ditch 18, 5yr event+	South of Moose River and north of Good Lake	Construct an impoundment or a south diversion ditch to the Red Lake River. Water currently flows into JD 18 (Thief River) (Lee & Hamre Twps in TRF subwatershed)
Flood Damages <i>(crop land, pastures, residential, roads, etc.)</i>	Highlanding flooding; and east; also west;	Moderate	Pasture and crop land, especially in spring	

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	Smiley bridge west to TRF on RL river; residential flooding in spring; sand bags; S28 of Rocksbury Twsp		Residential, most springs, need sand bags (Newton)	
	Sherwood forest; spring flooding			
Drainage	Inadequate Ag drainage	High	Star Twp. - Penn. Co.	Ditch improvement – redetermine benefited area, construct laterals
	County ditch problems; taken care of annually by county	low		

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Drought	City Th. R. Falls Water supply; source is RL river	low		
Stream Flows	Red Lk. R. – long periods of high flow	Mod. / high	East ½ Penn. Co.	Additional storage, easements, set back levees
	Lack of flow/stage information at Kratka bridge.		Flow information is not available in this undredged reach of the river	Install staff gage or USGS gage

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	Flow controlled by USACE; get copy of current operating plan			
Lake Levels	No lakes in subwatershed			
Groundwater	High water tables in eastern parts?			
Other Flood Damage Issues	More info concerning ag land tiling (wq issues)	Low	Increase tiling each year	



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>	River & Ditch Bank failures	high	Area wide	Stabilization measures, where applicable
	Ditches and tributary outlets to channels	high	Area wide	Sediment traps, grassed riparian strips, stabilization measures
	Encourage filter strips along river and ditches and along side water inlet pipes ag drainage		Area wide	opportunity

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Water Quality (point and nonpoint pollution, groundwater, etc.)	Ag land tiling	mod	Questions concerning discharged WQ	
	Water Quality is relatively good on the RLR within this subwatershed	low		monitoring
	TMDL for turbidity; from lake to confluence of Thief River			Need to check on TMDL/impaired listings
	TMDLs, concerns for development issues?			
	Pasture lands along oxbows; fencing; need to create alternate water source (erosion also)			

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Fish and Wildlife Habitat <i>(fish passage, waterfowl nesting habitat, beaver, otter, upland game, etc.)</i>	Beaver damage	Mod.	Area wide	Continue damage control program
	Fish passage at RL dam at outlet to river; into lake? Out of lake? Changes to operating plans?			USACE to pass us information
Water-based Recreational Activities <i>(water access, fishing, hunting, recreational trails, etc.)</i>	Need more recreational opportunities	Mod	Area wide	Red Lake River Corridor Enhancement Project – signage, improve and increase river access (have 4 existing)

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	Influenced by water level: USACE operating plan and climate conditions; competing interests ag v recreation			
Unique Water / Land Related Resources	Numerous wetlands in eastern area (reservation);			

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	Patterned peatlands on reservation (gw/subsurface flow); perched water table conditions			
	Action item: Check with DNR NH database			
Other Natural Resource Issues	Red Lake River is unique resource within the RLWD and the valley; relatively good quality of associated F&W habitat in some reaches;			
	Myron will check on reclaiming meanders, locally raised opportunity			

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