

By: Corey Hanson, Water Quality Coordinator
For: January 11th, 2007
RLWD Board Mtg.



Data Assessment

I have been working on assessments of the data for all of our monitoring sites in preparation for the MPCA's 2007 Statewide Water Quality Assessment. I am "killing two birds with one stone" with this effort because, in addition to being prepared for data reviews and the March Best Professional Judgment Meeting in St. Paul, I will also have about 40 pages of a 2007 comprehensive water quality report (like the July 2004 report) completed by the time I am done with the assessments.

Although I am finding new impairments at some sites (especially where there was insufficient data for past assessments), I have also found some sites that no longer seem to be impaired. I will make these assessment results available to the Board when they are completed.

I am using a trial version of Microsoft Excel 2007 for the analysis and have set up the assessment worksheets so that data can be easily imported from our Microsoft Access database and the assessments can be easily updated for future assessments. I plan to purchase the new version of Microsoft Office 2007 when becomes available.

The MPCA has proposed a new standard for e-Coli. Even though we have only been collecting e-Coli data for the last two years, many of our sites have already had instances where the water e-Coli concentrations have exceeded the proposed standard. Several more years worth of data will be necessary to determine whether or not any of our sites will be officially listed as impaired by high e-Coli bacteria concentrations.

Clearwater River Dissolved Oxygen and Fecal Coliform TMDL

As reported last month, the first meeting for the Clearwater River Dissolved Oxygen and Fecal Coliform TMDL Study was held on December 1st. The contract between the MPCA and the RLWD has been signed and executed so we may begin work on the study. Some of the first tasks will include establishing monitoring sites, acquiring monitoring equipment, and getting the EERC started on the SWAT modeling portion of the project.

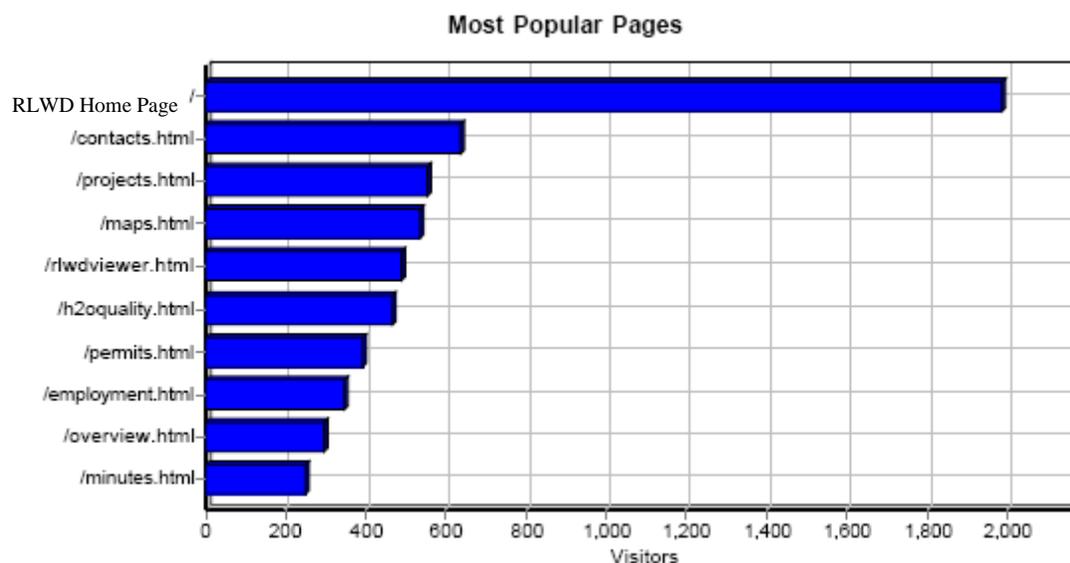
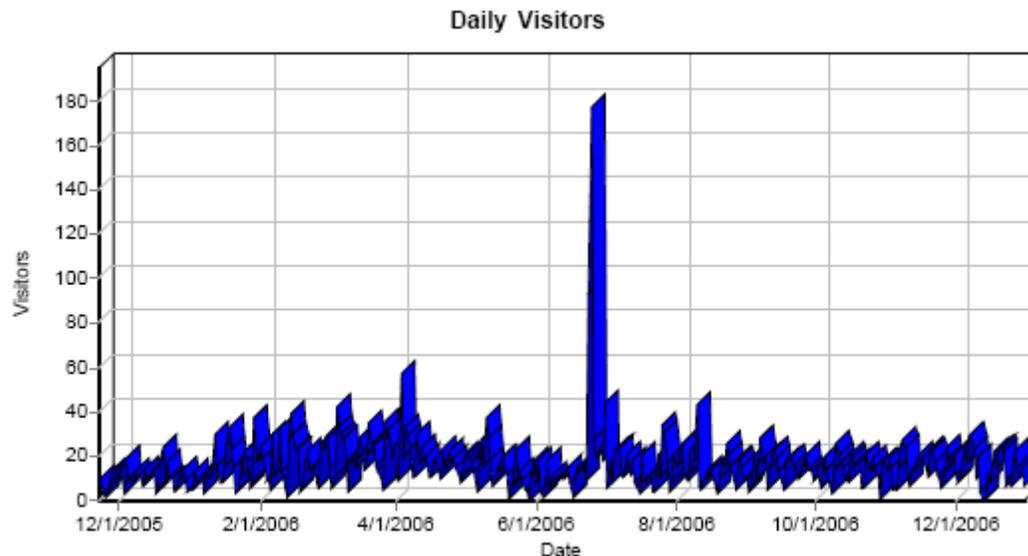
Thief River Watershed Sediment Investigation

In mid-December, the MPCA notified us that they had approved the Thief River Watershed Sediment Investigation study for funding. Currently, I am hoping that we will receive a grant agreement in time for this Board Meeting so that it can be signed. If the study is on this meeting's agenda, then the grant agreement made it here in time. If not, we'll just have to wait until the next meeting to sign the grant agreement. The sooner we can get the grant agreement signed, the sooner we can start charging staff time and buying equipment for the project. Some of the first things to be done will be the creation of a detailed work plan and budget. I have

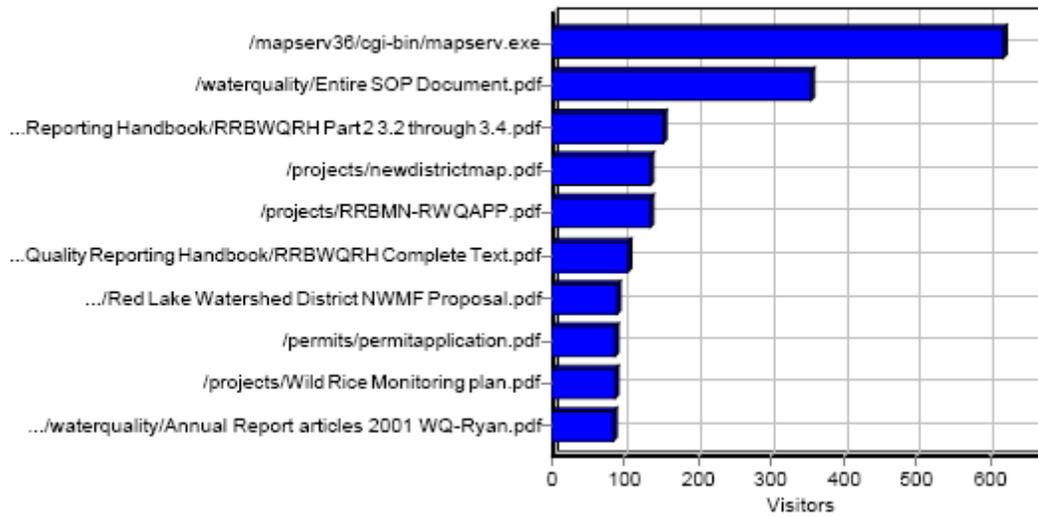
received quotes for equipment and have also been reviewing the work plan guidance document on my own time.

Website Usage Report Summary for 2006:

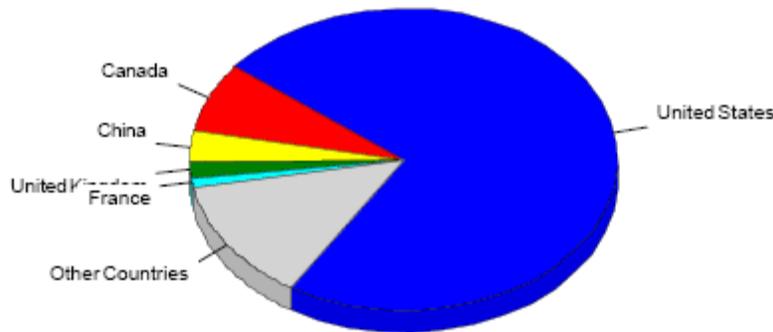
- ❖ Beginning in December 2006, a monthly report of activity on our website is now available at: www.redlakewatershed.org/weblog_report/rlwd_weblog_report.pdf
- ❖ December Stats
 - 97,009 total hits (includes results from searches)
 - 239 average hits per day
 - 13,165 total number of pages viewed
 - 32 pages viewed each day, on average
 - 6,392 total visitors – 3,779 unique IPs
- ❖ 2006 Activity



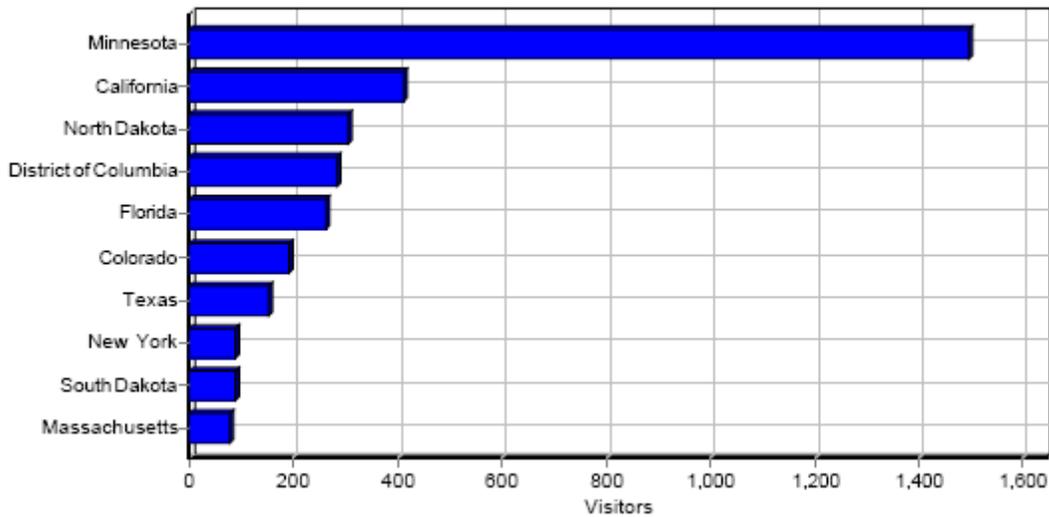
Most Downloaded Files



Most Active Countries



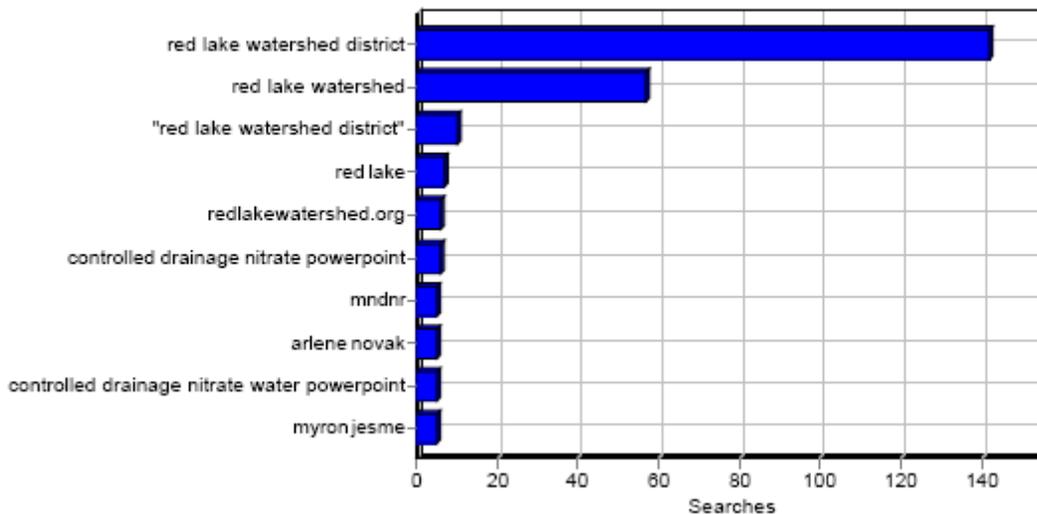
Most Active US States



Most Active Cities

	City	Hits	Visitors
1	Minneapolis, Minnesota, United States	8,660	347
2	Thief River Falls, Minnesota, United States	11,268	328
3	Washington, District of Columbia, United States	532	284
4	Saint Paul, Minnesota, United States	7,414	276
5	San Diego, California, United States	345	243
6	Montréal, Canada	830	197
7	Fargo, North Dakota, United States	4,719	188
8	Erskine, Minnesota, United States	3,224	139
9	Eustis, Florida, United States	194	133
10	Beijing, China	282	121

Top Search Phrases

December (and other past) Meetings and Events

- ❖ **December 1st** – First meeting for the Clearwater River Dissolved Oxygen and Fecal Coliform TMDL Study. Clearbrook Community Center
- ❖ **December 8th** – Red River Basin Monitoring Advisory Committee meeting
- ❖ **December 14th** – RLWD Board Meeting
- ❖ **December 18th** – eLink training in Bemidji (BWSR Challenge Grant reporting software)
- ❖ **January 8th** – Tele-conference with Brian Fischer about Ditch Inventory Challenge Grant Project
- ❖ **January 10th** – Presentation to the Northwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership about the Thief River Watershed Sediment Investigation. 2:30 – 3:30 at Mt. St. Benedict in Crookston

Future Meetings/Events

- ❖ **January 16th** – Judging at the Franklin Middle School 7th and 8th grade science fair.
- ❖ **January 22nd 2007** – Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Moorhead – Review preliminary water quality assessments
- ❖ **January 26th** - Red River Basin Monitoring Advisory Committee – Fertile
- ❖ **January 31st** – Conference call with USFWS local staff and state scientists to discuss the Thief River Watershed Sediment Investigation and the possibility of piggyback projects.
- ❖ **February 1st, 2007** – Release of preliminary assessments and data summary reports for the 2008 statewide water quality assessment cycle.
- ❖ **February 14th 2007** – Marshall County Water Resources Advisory Committee. Power Point presentation on water quality monitoring program
- ❖ **February 14th and 15th 2007** – Moorhead Ag Drainage Workshop
 - Asked by Gary Sands to present on the Tile Drainage Study. The 14th won't work due to the presentation to the Marshall WRAC. The 15th might work, though.
- ❖ **February 26th 2007** – Detroit Lakes MPCA meeting to review data and assessments prior to the BPJ meeting in St. Paul.
- ❖ **March 1st** – The final report(s) for the Tile Drainage Study are due.
- ❖ **March 12th and 13th 2007** – St. Paul Best Professional Judgment meeting for Red River Basin water quality assessments.
 - I will be down there to make sure that correct water quality assessments are made for the waters within the RLWD.
- ❖ **March 13 through 15th 2007** – International Water Conference and River Watch Forum
 - Will be giving a presentation on the macroinvertebrate monitoring we did in 2003 (Talked into it by Andre Delorme of Valley City State University).
- ❖ **March 22nd** – Clearwater River Dissolved Oxygen and Fecal Coliform TMDL Study Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting at the Clearbrook Community Center.
- ❖ **March 26th 2007** – Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Thief River Falls – Ethanol
- ❖ **April 11th** - Marshall County WRAC – Holt CC
- ❖ **April 15th 2007** – Challenge grant progress reports to BWSR are due
- ❖ **May 21st** – Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Moorhead
- ❖ **June 13th** - Marshall County WRAC
- ❖ **June 25th** – Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Thief River Falls
- ❖ **July 23rd** – Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Moorhead
- ❖ **August 8th** - Marshall County WRAC
- ❖ **August 27th** - Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Thief River Falls
- ❖ **September 24th** - Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Moorhead
- ❖ **October 10th** - Marshall County WRAC
- ❖ **October 22nd** - Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Thief River Falls
- ❖ **November 26th** - Red River Basin Water Quality Team - Moorhead

Other Notes

- ❖ Clean Water Legacy Act Water Quality Protection Funding
 - The Clearwater SWCD's Clean Water Legacy Act water quality protection application for erosion control and buffer installation projects in the Silver Creek watershed was successful. The project was fully funded for the amount of \$25,000.
- ❖ Clean Water Legacy Act Assessment Funding
 - The Red River Basin Stream Monitoring and Assessment Proposal was unsuccessful. This means that there will be no outside funding this year for adding stream monitoring sites to our long-term monitoring program.
- ❖ The equipment has been ordered for Steve Young's Trout Stressor study. It is being shipped directly to Tony Kennedy of the MNDNR so he can get it installed.
- ❖ The following budget is my best guess at how my time will be distributed for the next year. In the expenses column, I only included things that I knew for certain, so it is incomplete. The Salary + Overhead column should be fairly accurate.
 - I cut the Beltrami County stream monitoring and the Maple Lake monitoring to make the budget come out as even as possible. This doesn't necessarily mean they can't be worked in at all, but the extent to which I am able to work them into my schedule.
 - We have been monitoring Maple Lake for three years now, which is a sufficient time span to get a good characterization of the water quality there. Because it will be hard to work into my schedule for this year the following options could be considered:
 - Some time may be better spent in the next few years on developing some implementation related efforts. The intensive monitoring schedule could be renewed at a later date to monitor results of projects in the watershed.
 - Special sampling for the Maple Lake District could be limited to large runoff events.
 - Stream monitoring by summer help and Jim.

2007 Budget - Just Looking at Staff Time for myself (Corey Hanson)... will I have enough time to do everything?	\$36,500 =Paid for by grants	41.9% =Percent of Total Paid By Grants	Overtime Hours/Play Period	
	\$85,540 =Budgeted Salary + Overhead for CH		1	
Project	Salary + Overhead	CH Staff Time	Cuts/Assistance	Cut Notes
Clearwater DO and fecal TMDL	\$24,000	\$61,540	\$1,000	
Regular Stream Monitoring	\$5,300	\$56,240	\$12,600	
Lake Monitoring	\$3,290	\$52,950	\$600	
*RRWMB CWLA Assessment Grant	\$0	\$52,950	\$0	Not awarded
Beltrami County Stream Mon.		\$52,950	\$400	\$1,400
RRB Buffer Init	\$1,000	\$51,950	\$900	\$1,300 Project done - less mon.?
Thief River Sediment Study	\$19,000	\$32,950	\$41,000	
Data Entry	\$3,000	\$29,950		
RRBWQT	\$3,600	\$26,350		
46K Report	\$1,500	\$24,850		
Water Quality Report	\$3,000	\$21,850		
SOP Revision		\$21,850		\$1,300 Not enough time this year
RRBMAC	\$2,000	\$19,850		
Misc Water Quality - Phone calls, planning, meetings, etc	\$4,600	\$15,250		
RLRCE	\$800	\$14,450		
Maple Lake Monitoring		\$14,450	\$1,600	
More Misc Water Quality - Ruffy Brk	\$750	\$13,700	\$4,350	More \$ charged to projects
Stream Gauging	\$700	\$13,000		
Tile Drainage Study - Report	\$1,500	\$11,500	\$200	
Tile Drainage Study - Flow	\$1,500	\$10,000		
Admin - staff mtgs, diary, time sheet	\$5,000	\$5,000		
Website Maintenance	\$1,000	\$4,000		\$500 More efficient, chg to prjcts
Project 60 Monitoring	\$1,000	\$3,000		\$1,000 Involve West Polk SWCD
Erosion Assessment for Turbidity TMDL - Lower Red Lake River	\$3,000	\$0		\$3,000 Involve Gary and Loren
Steve Young's Trout Stream Study		\$0	\$8,000	
Education (46-17, 82F)	\$1,500	\$1,500		
Totals	\$87,040	\$1,500	\$64,700	\$14,450
* Money not guaranteed		Bold Projects are Grant Funded		