

By: Corey Hanson, Water Quality Coordinator  
For: April 12th, 2007  
RLWD Board Mtg.



### **Data Assessment**

I submitted comments on the more than 50 reaches within the RLWD that are included in the 2007 statewide water quality assessment to Molly Macgregor of the MPCA. She used these comments during the Best Professional Judgment workgroup in St. Paul. Since the MPCA conducted their preliminary assessment for the 2007 statewide water quality assessment in December of 2006 instead of waiting until data was finalized, there are many differences between the preliminary assessment and the data that currently exists in STORET database.

### **Tile Drainage Study**

The tile at the Bachand field is not flowing yet. There is a substantial amount of flow from surface drainage. Continuous water level monitoring equipment has been installed. A preliminary final report for the project was finished and on March 1<sup>st</sup>.



### **Clearwater River Dissolved Oxygen and Fecal Coliform TMDL**

The second Clearwater River TMDL stakeholders' meeting was held in the Clearbrook Community Center on March 21<sup>st</sup>. The results of an assessment of original listing data and current data were presented, along with monitoring plans for each reach.

Shawnn Balstad of the Pembina Trail RC&D moderated the meeting, typed notes, and gathered additional contact information. She would like to come speak to the RLWD Board about the other services that the Pembina Trail RC&D can provide.

Continuous dissolved oxygen monitoring equipment has been ordered by the MPCA for this project (5 units).

### **Thief River Watershed Sediment Investigation**

A work plan is being developed for the project. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency local project manager will be Jim Courneya. I will be meeting with Jim and Pete Fastner (MPCA – St. Paul) to discuss the project.

Continuous water quality monitoring equipment has been ordered by the RLWD and by Agassiz NWR. Agassiz NWR was able to find funding for 4 continuous monitoring sondes. There likely will be a student worker whose position will be funded jointly by the Northwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership, Agassiz NWR, a CAP grant, and the RLWD. I will be factoring the student worker into the monitoring budget. I will be training the worker and helping with installation of Agassiz NWR's continuous monitoring equipment.



Agassiz NWR is paying the USGS to conduct accurate flow measurements at their monitoring sites using Acoustic Doppler technology. The first round of flow measurements and samples was completed on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Project 60E**

The continuous turbidity and water level monitoring equipment has been installed on the Brandt Channel and County Ditch 2 this spring when runoff was just beginning.

### **March (and other past) Meetings and Events**

- ❖ **March 1<sup>st</sup>** – Original due date for the final report of the Tile Drainage Study. Financial and progress reports submitted to the Northwest Minnesota Foundation. Preliminary Final Report and Brochure are completed.
- ❖ **March 7<sup>th</sup>** – Water Quality Monitoring Training Session at UMC
  - I gave a presentation on “Using Standard Operating Procedures in the Field.”
- ❖ **March 8<sup>th</sup>** – Red Lake River Corridor Enhancement meeting @ Red Lake Falls Mall, 6:30 PM
  - Red Lake River Rendezvous Canoe/Kayak Expedition
    - GPS points and photos will be taken along the way to document erosion sites. The Streambank Erosion Severity Index that I tried out on a couple sites near Red Lake Falls could be used to get a visual assessment of the sites as well (for prioritization purposes).
    - I will probably be helping with preparation for the erosion assessment part of the project. I may also volunteer some time to look into geocaching and Google Earth related activities that could be used to promote use of the river
    - They are looking for private landowners that will let them camp on their land to even-out the number river miles traveled each day.

- Brad Johnson, Red Lake County Chief Sherriff's Deputy, was present at the meeting. He brought up a good point about the difficulties in accessing the river for rescue/recovery operations, especially in shallower areas. There was discussion about how an increased number of accesses will help them out with this problem. There also was discussion about ways to purchase a hovercraft for Thief River Falls, Red Lake Falls, and Crookston emergency response personnel.
- There is a possibility that the Huot Access (Old Crossing Park) could be moved upstream near the Black River confluence. They could avoid problems with erosion and/or sedimentation at this point. The confluence area is also deeper and would provide better access for boats and would be a good secondary water supply point for Red Lake Falls and Crookston fire departments.
- The bonding proposal will be introduced again this year by David Olin and Leroy Stumpf.

**Red Lake River Rendezvous Schedule ~ 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Canoe/Kayak Expedition**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>May 27</u>	<u>May 28</u> Memorial Day Ceremony at Lower Red Lake ON-near LRL	<u>May 29</u> 22 RM 195-173: 22 Begin: LRLake End: PennCR27 ON-Penn27	<u>May 30</u> 34 RM 173-161: 12 Begin: PennCR27 End: PennCR24 (High Landing) ON-PennCR24- High Landing	<u>May 31</u> 47 RM 161-148: 13 Begin: PennCR24 End: PennCR22 (Kratka) ON-Penn22- Kratka (full moon)	<u>June 1</u> 69 RM 148-126: 22 Begin: PennCR22 End: TRFalls ON-TRFalls	<u>June 2</u> 81 RM 126-114: 12 Begin: TRFalls End: St. Hilaire ON-St.Hilaire City Park
<u>June 3</u> 103 RM 114-92: 22 Begin: St.Hilaire End: RedLkFalls ON-RLF Sportsmans Park	<u>June 4</u> 118 RM 92-77: 15 Begin: RedLkFalls End: Huot Park ON-Huot Park	<u>June 5</u> 128 RM 77-67: 10 Begin: HuotPark End: PolkCR11 ON-Polk11	<u>June 6</u> 141 RM 67-54: 13 Begin: Huot Park End: Crookston ON-Crookston Central Park	<u>June 7</u> 155 RM 54-40: 14 Begin: Crookston End: B4 Fisher ON-between Crx & Fisher	<u>June 8</u> 168 RM 40-27: 13 Begin: B4 Fisher End: Fisher ON-Fisher	<u>June 9</u> 181 RM 27-14: 13 Begin: Fisher End: B4 EGF ON-between Fisher & EGF
<u>June 10</u> 195 RM 14-0: 14 Begin: B4 EGF End: EGF ON-EGF Red River Recreation Area or disperse END of TOUR.	<u>June 11</u>	<u>June 12</u>	<u>June 13</u>	<u>June 14</u>	<u>June 15</u>	<u>June 16</u>

- ❖ **March 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> 2007** – St. Paul Best Professional Judgment meeting for Red River Basin water quality assessments.
  - I submitted comments to Molly MacGregor for each assessed reach and was able to participate in the BPJ meeting by phone instead of having to travel down to St. Paul.

- ❖ **March 13 through 15<sup>th</sup> 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).
  - River Watch Forum is on March 13th
- ❖ **March 20<sup>th</sup>** – Carnegie Training Class - UMC
- ❖ **March 21<sup>st</sup>** – Clearwater River Dissolved Oxygen and Fecal Coliform TMDL Study Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting at the Clearbrook Community Center.
  - Data review
  - Monitoring Plans
  - 2007 Assessments
- ❖ **March 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Red River Basing Monitoring Advisory Committee – Fertile
  - There will be a data and STORET training session in September
  - Tanya Hanson asked about the possibility of a BWSR Challenge Grant project to coordinate the establishment of stream gauging sites.
  - A DVD of the PBS program *Red River Divide*, a history of the Red River of the North, is available through the Lake Agassiz Regional Library system.
- ❖ **March 26<sup>th</sup>** – Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Thief River Falls – Ethanol
- ❖ **March 27<sup>th</sup>** – Carnegie Training
- ❖ **March 30<sup>th</sup>** – Deadline for annual report articles

### Future Meetings/Events

- ❖ **April 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Carnegie Training Class - UMC
- ❖ **April 9<sup>th</sup>** – Pennington Co. Water Resource Advisory Committee Meeting – 9am
- ❖ **April 10<sup>th</sup>** – Carnegie Training Class – UMC – ½ day
- ❖ **April 11<sup>th</sup>** - Marshall County WRAC – Holt CC
- ❖ **April 13<sup>th</sup>** – eLink Challenge Grant progress reports due
- ❖ **April 15<sup>th</sup>** – Challenge grant progress reports to BWSR are due
- ❖ **April 19<sup>th</sup>** – Red Lake River Corridor Enhancement Project meeting – Thief River Falls City Hall, 6:30pm
- ❖ **April 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Moorhead, 10am
  - Agricultural Nonpoint Source Pollution
- ❖ **April 25<sup>th</sup>** - Envirothon
- ❖ **May 21<sup>st</sup>** – Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Moorhead
- ❖ **May 28<sup>th</sup> through June 10<sup>th</sup>** – Red Lake River Rendezvous 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Canoe/Kayak Expedition
- ❖ **June 6<sup>th</sup>** – Red River Basin Commission Tour – I will be presenting on the tile drainage water quality study
- ❖ **June 13<sup>th</sup>** - Marshall County WRAC
- ❖ **June 25<sup>th</sup>** – Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Thief River Falls
- ❖ **July 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Moorhead
- ❖ **July 31<sup>st</sup>** – Final reports due for ditch inventory and project 60E BWSR Challenge Grant projects
- ❖ **August 8<sup>th</sup>** - Marshall County WRAC
- ❖ **August 27<sup>th</sup>** - Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Thief River Falls
- ❖ **September 24<sup>th</sup>** - Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Moorhead



- ❖ **October 10<sup>th</sup>** - Marshall County WRAC
- ❖ **October 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Red River Basin Water Quality Team – Thief River Falls
- ❖ **November 26<sup>th</sup>** - Red River Basin Water Quality Team - Moorhead

### Other Notes

- Ordered a year's supply of AA batteries for Clearwater River Trout Stressor Study Eureka Midges with some of the remaining money that was approved for equipment.
- Completed annual report articles
- Rounds of sampling at RLWD long-term monitoring sites will be conducted in April, May, July, and September of this year.
- BWSR announced that it has \$350,000 available for Challenge Grants this year. We may not have time to plan projects for this round of funding. It will be a good idea to plan some projects for the next round of funding so they are ready to go when the grants application period is announced in the spring of 2009.
  - John Gunvalson visited the office and asked about possible funding to help install some main-line tile in wild rice paddies. The tile drainage study has shown that main line tile can have a great benefit for water quality in the Clearwater River. Since John would like to install the tile this summer, it may be easier (and maybe less expensive) to pay for the materials for an additional stretch of main-line tile. The cost of this additional reach would be between \$4,000 and \$5,000.

