

# RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT MONTHLY WATER QUALITY REPORT

August 2020

By Corey Hanson, Red Lake Watershed District Water Quality Coordinator. 11/24/2020

## Long-Term Water Quality Monitoring Program

A round of sampling for the District's long-term monitoring program was completed in June, 2020.

The impaired portion of the Red Lake River notably met the total suspended solids standard at:

- Fisher
- Crookston
- CSAH 11 Bridge near Gentilly
- CSAH 13 near Red Lake Falls



Severe erosion along the Red Lake River, 1 mile east of Crookston (north bank)



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Samples were collected from Long Lake, near Pinewood. Total phosphorus (16 µg/L) and chlorophyll-a (4.45 µg/L) concentrations were low enough to meet standards.

High concentrations of *E. coli* bacteria indicate an increased risk of gastrointestinal illness from aquatic recreation activities (swimming) that involve contact with water. High *E. coli* concentrations (>126 MPN/100ml) were found in the following waters (alphabetical order) during August 2020 sampling:

- Branch A of Judicial Ditch 21 at CSAH 48
- Burnham Creek at 320<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW
- Burnham Creek at CSAH 48
- Chief's Coulee at Dewey Avenue
- Clear Brook at CSAH 92
- Coburn Creek at CSAH 30
- Darrigan's Creek at CSAH 23
- Hill River at County Road 119
- Hill River at CSAH 35
- Kripple Creek at 180<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW
- Kripple Creek at CSAH 53
- Judicial Ditch 73 at 343<sup>rd</sup> Street SE
- Little Black River at CR 102
- Lost River at Oklee
- Lost River at CSAH 28, north of Trail
- Lower Badger Creek at CR 114
- Lower Badger Creek at 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE
- Mud River at CSAH 54
- Nasset Creek
- North Cormorant River at CSAH 36
- O' Briens Creek at Harvest Road NE
- Pennington County Ditch 96 at Highway 32
- Polk County Ditch 1 at County Road 61
- Polk County Ditch 2 at Polk County Road 62
- Polk County Ditch 14 near the Maple Lake outlet
- Polk County Ditch 20 at CSAH 20
- Poplar River at CR 118
- Ruffy Brook at CSAH 11
- Silver Creek at County Road 111
- Silver Creek at 159<sup>th</sup> Ave
- South Cormorant River at CSAH 37
- Terrebonne Creek at CSAH 92
- Thief River at CSAH 7
- Thief River at 380<sup>th</sup> St. NE

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Erosion control project completed by the Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District near the 159<sup>th</sup> Avenue crossing of Silver Creek



High flow in the Poplar River at 310<sup>th</sup> Street SE



The state's water quality standard for **total phosphorus** varies by river nutrient region. Rivers and tributaries in the western part of the District have to meet a 0.150 mg/l standard in the South River Nutrient Region. Rivers and tributaries assigned to the Central River Nutrient region have to meet a 0.100 mg/l standard. Rivers and tributaries in the eastern part of the District have to meet a more protective standard of 0.050 mg/l in the North River Nutrient Region. High total phosphorus

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concentrations relative to the State of Minnesota's new regionalized river eutrophication nutrient criteria were recorded in samples collected at the following sites in August 2020:

- Blackduck River at Deer Trail Road NE
- Branch 200 of JD 11 at 190th Ave NE
- Chief's Coulee at Dewey Avenue
- Coburn Creek at CSAH 30
- Cyr Creek at 220<sup>th</sup> Street SW
- Darrigan's Creek at CSAH 23
- Grand Marais Creek at 130<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest
- Grand Marais Creek at 110<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest
- Heartsville Coulee at 13<sup>th</sup> Street Southeast
- Hill River at 335<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE
- Judicial Ditch 30 at 140<sup>th</sup> Ave NE
- Lost River at 109<sup>th</sup> Ave
- Marshall County Ditch 20 at 180<sup>th</sup> Ave NE
- Mud River at Highway 89
- North Cormorant River at CSAH 36
- O' Briens Creek at Harvest Road NE
- Polk County Ditch 2 at Polk County Road 62
- Polk County Ditch 20 at CSAH 20
- Poplar River at CR 118
- Poplar River at 310<sup>th</sup> Street SE
- Red Lake River at Greenwood Street in Thief River Falls
- Ruffy Brook at CSAH 11
- Silver Creek at County Road 111
- South Cormorant River at CSAH 37
- Terrebonne Creek at CSAH 92

Low dissolved oxygen concentrations were found at:

- Moose River at Moose River Road
- Branch 200 of JD 11 at 190<sup>th</sup> Ave NE
- Clearwater River at CSAH 2
- Clearwater River at CSAH 25, near Bagley
- Hill River at 380<sup>th</sup> Ave SE
- Judicial Ditch 30 at 140<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE
- Judicial Ditch 73 at the Maple Lake inlet
- Judicial Ditch 73 at 343<sup>rd</sup> Street SE
- Little Black River at County Road 102
- Lost River at 109<sup>th</sup> Ave
- Moose River at Moose River Road NW
- Mud River at Highway 89
- Pennington County Ditch 21 at 135<sup>th</sup> Ave NE
- Polk County Ditch 14 near the Maple Lake outlet

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- Poplar River at 310<sup>th</sup> Street SE
- Poplar River at CSAH 35
- Poplar River at CSAH 30
- Poplar River Diversion at the Badger Lake Inlet
- Walker Brook at CSAH 19



Sediment accumulation upstream (above) and downstream (below) of the CSAH 54 crossing of the Moose River



**Blue-Green Algal Blooms**

In response to a July 31, 2020 confirmation of an algal bloom in Lake Sarah, within the Sand Hill River Watershed, samples were collected from nearby lakes in the Red Lake Watershed District (Maple Lake, Cameron Lake, Oak Lake, Badger Lake, and Hill River Lake) on August 3, 2020 and tested for the presence of algal toxins. The samples collected from Maple Lake (east shore public swimming beach), Badger Lake (at the public access), and Hill River Lake (at the public access) all clearly had 0 ppb algal toxins. The Cameron Lake test result was difficult to discern between a clear 0 parts per billion (ppb) and a 1 ppb blue-green algal toxin concentration, so it was assumed to be somewhere between those two values (<1 ppb).

Maple Lake east shore public swimming beach (and some of the recently completed construction at the beach/access area



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Badger Lake public access



Cameron Lake public access



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Hill River Lake public access



Oak Lake

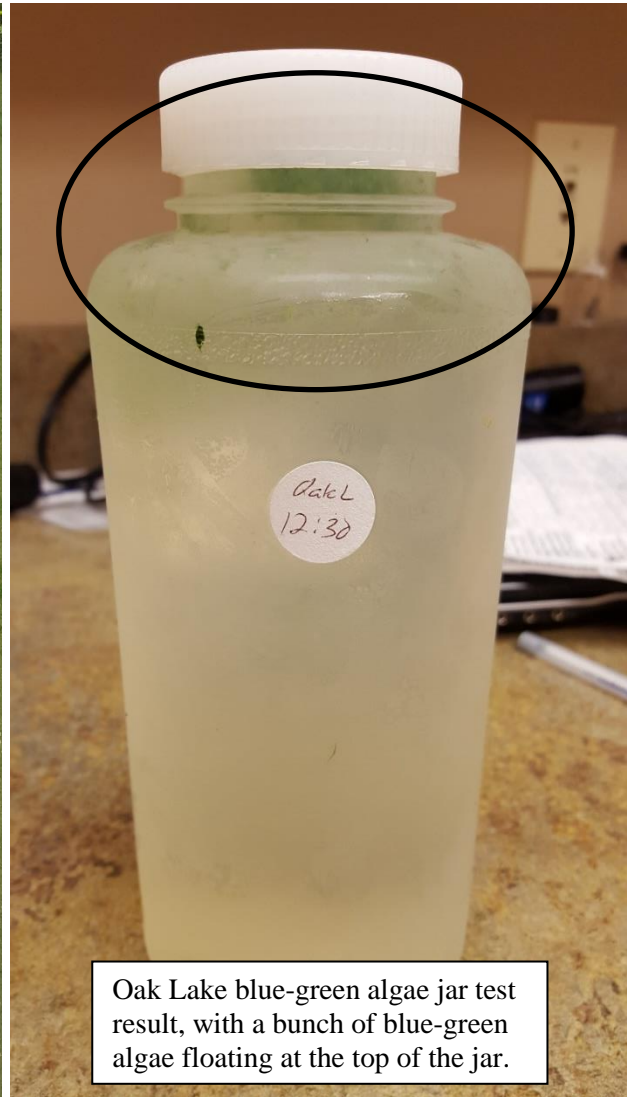
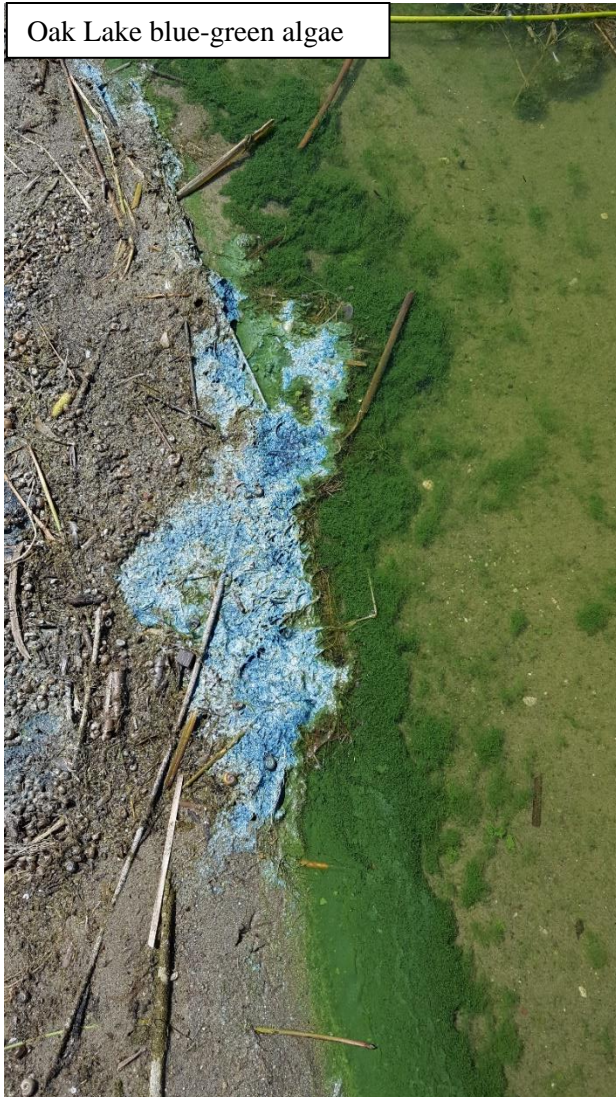


Oak Lake (by Erskine) had visual evidence of a blue-green algae bloom along the shoreline and throughout the open water. The sample, collected from the open water, contained algal toxins at a concentration of at least 5 ppb. The concentration of toxins could have been higher where it had been accumulating along the shoreline (where a pet might drink). The results of the August 3, 2020 sampling effort were shared with DNR staff, county staff, SWCD staff, on the District's Facebook page, and Maple



Lake groups (Maple Lake Improvement District members and a Maple Lake, Mentor Facebook group). District staff answered questions from the public about the blooms and about the appropriate level of concern. To help answer questions and inform the public about the identification of blue-green algae blooms, District staff shared a link to an [MPCA presentation](#) with excellent information about harmful blue-green algae blooms (what they are, how can they be identified, and how can they be reported). The MPCA's description of an easy, [no-cost test for the presence of blue-green algae](#) was also shared. The following photo on the left shows the unnaturally bright green and blue coloration of blue-green algae that had accumulated along the Oak Lake shoreline. The photo on the right shows the "jar test" result for the Oak Lake sample. The floating, green stuff at the top of the jar is blue-green algae.

Oak Lake blue-green algae



Oak Lake blue-green algae jar test result, with a bunch of blue-green algae floating at the top of the jar.

Blue green algae blooms in Maple Lake were reported by a resident on the southwest end of the lake and by someone at the Polk County Park on 8/5/2020. District staff visited the lake and confirmed both of the reported blue-green algae blooms (they were quite obvious and had started to turn a blue-green color). Only one algal toxin test kit was available that day to test one of three samples that were collected from the public beach on the northeast end of the lake, the extreme bloom shown in some of

the photos in this album, and from a dock near the Polk County Park bloom. To (momentarily) answer questions about whether the open water is safe, the water sample collected at a dock at Polk County Park was selected for testing. It was near a visually verifiable bloom, but the presence of blue-green algae was less obvious near the dock (though some particles did appear to be present if someone was looking for them). It represented a “worst case scenario” for potential algal toxins in open water (open water adjacent to a visible bloom). The Abraxis algal toxin test kit showed that the concentration of toxins in the water at the dock was not measurable as of the afternoon of 8/5/2020. The test did not indicate that the open water was hazardous at the time of the sample, but communication with the public cautiously noted that there was no way to predict when/if the bloom might become more toxic or if that will affect the open water areas of the lake. Examination of other, publicly viewable shoreline along the lake on August 5, 2020 didn’t yield much additional evidence. There seemed to be more wave action near the northeast end of the lake that would have kept the blue-green algae from accumulating. Another landowner near the southwest end of the lake shared a photo of a blue-green algae bloom near their dock.

Blue-green algae bloom within the Maple Bay (southwest) portion of the lake



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Blue-green algae bloom within the Maple Bay (southwest) portion of the lake



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Blue-green algae bloom at the Polk County Park marina on Maple Lake

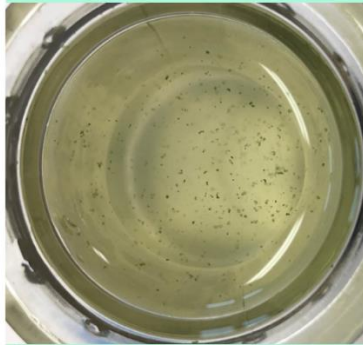


Maple Lake, 8/5/20  
Maple Bay Blue-Green Algae Bloom



Visible blue-green algae bloom,  
high risk

Maple Lake 8/5/2020  
Open Water at Polk County Park Marina



Blue-green algae present in sample  
0 parts per billion algal toxins (low risk)

Oak Lake, 8/3/20



5-10 parts per billion algal toxins,  
moderate risk

Maple Lake, 8/5/20  
East Shore Swimming Beach



Appears to have less blue-green algae  
than the Polk Co. Park, low risk

The collage of photos to the left is a comparison of jar test results and corresponding algal toxin test results, and risk levels. Though they only represent conditions in local lakes during a short period of time, they provide some insight on how to judge the level of risk based on the appearance of the water in a jar test. A jar test is performed by collecting a sample in a jar and storing the jar in a refrigerator overnight. Blue-green algae floats to the top of the jar. Sediment and green algae floats to the bottom.

The toxicity of blue-green algae can be unpredictable, though. A visible bloom can have a 0 ppb algal toxin concentration. In 2018, samples of water with no visible algae blooms (like the two photos on the right-hand side of the collage) contained low, but measurable, concentrations of algal toxins (up to 5 ppb).

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The test results from Maple Lake on August 5, 2020 did not show that there was a measurable risk for open water recreation, but the presence of visible algae blooms meant that there was some risk to pets and small children in shallow and sheltered areas where blue-green algae could accumulate. The general advice/slogan for dealing with harmful algal blooms is "when in doubt, stay out." It is best that pets and small children are kept out of the shallow water, especially areas where blue-green algae can accumulate. Blue-green algae thrive on excess nutrients (we had a lot of runoff from storms earlier this summer), heat, and stagnant water. The conditions in the bays where the blooms were found likely meet that criteria.

Water from the east shore swimming beach was tested on August 14, 2020 and the test returned a result of zero algal toxins. Another sample from a Maple Lake beach was collected and tested for algal toxins on August 21, 2020. Though a jar test indicated that there was a small amount of blue-green algae present, the algal toxin concentration was 0 parts per billion (no measurable algal toxins). The blue-green algae bloom in the Polk County Park Marina has cleared-up significantly (the bluish-colored scum was gone), but there was still a significant amount of fluorescent green colored blue-green algae in the innermost, shallowest, most stagnant portion of the marina (confirmed by a jar test).



Jar test results for samples collected at the Polk County Park Marina (right) and Trinity Point Beach (left) on August 21, 2020.

Trinity Point Beach – barely any blue-green algae



Polk County Park Marina – significant blue-green algae



Some residents asked about whether Cable Lake had been tested. Only a limited amount of historical water quality data has been collected on that lake because it has no public access. District staff replied to the Cable Lake questions by asking if there are residents that would be interested in help with water quality monitoring or would be willing to allow access for sampling efforts. No residents responded to that request/offer. The person that originally reported the Lake Sarah bloom reported that the bloom had cleared-up and that a jar test showed that the blue-green algae was gone on August 7, 2020.

Available information from the EPA and WHO indicates that concentrations above 8-10 ppb create a moderate risk during recreational exposure. Measurable concentrations below that level would be classified as "low risk." It is advisable to recommend keeping animals away from the water with a measurable concentration because they could drink from an area where the blue-green algae has accumulated along the shoreline and they could also end up licking blue-green algae from their fur. Nutrients, light intensity, and temperature are the drivers behind blue-green algae blooms. There is more to learn about how to predict blue-green algae blooms in our area, since they are a relatively recently documented problem in the Red Lake Watershed District. A guess/hypothesis about what triggered the 2020 blooms would be that there was excess nutrient runoff during storms that occurred early in the summer. In late July and early August, the high temperatures (>75 Degrees Fahrenheit water temperatures), along with excess nutrients, likely created conditions in which the blue-green algae could proliferate and cause problems.

District staff shared information about the confirmed blue-green algae blooms with MPCA staff that track Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB). The MPCA staff asked us to share their water quality hotline number (651-757-2822) and MN\_MPCA\_algae inbox (algae.mPCA@state.mn.us) contact information to help other report blue-green algae blooms. The MPCA staff also provided some advice/recommendations on how to communicate the level of risk to the public so that they can make informed choices about recreation.

#### **Continuous Dissolved Oxygen Monitoring**

HOBO DO loggers were deployed at the following sites during the first half of August:

- Pennington County Ditch 21 at the 135<sup>th</sup> Ave NE.
- Marshall County Ditch 20 at 180<sup>th</sup> Ave NE
- Judicial Ditch 30 at 140<sup>th</sup> Ave NE
- Branch 200 of Judicial Ditch 11 at 190<sup>th</sup> Ave NE (downstream of Farmes Pool)
- Branch 200 of Judicial Ditch 11 at 270<sup>th</sup> St NE (upstream of Lost River Pool)

The HOBO DO loggers were then deployed at the following sites for the last half of August:

- Branch A of Judicial Ditch 21 at CSAH 48 (440<sup>th</sup> Street NE)
- Moose River at CSAH 54
- Mud River at Highway 89
- Moose River at Moose River Road NW
- Marshall County Ditch 20 at Magnum Road NW

Discrete field measurements (dissolved oxygen, temperature, pH, specific conductivity, and stage) were recorded near the midpoint of each deployment to aid the data review and correction process. The DO loggers were retrieved, cleaned, re-calibrated, and re-deployed after two weeks of deployment. Dissolved oxygen levels in Marshall County Ditch 20 and Moose River at Highway 54 met the 5 mg/L water quality standard during the August dissolved oxygen logger deployments.

Low dissolved oxygen levels were recorded in the Moose River at the Moose River Road crossing (first road crossing downstream of the Moose River Impoundment outlet) in late August.

There was only one day (August 17, 2020) in which dissolved oxygen levels in Branch A of Judicial Ditch 21 suddenly dropped from 10.25 mg/L to 1.73 mg/L. That was the only day with a low dissolved oxygen reading in Branch A of Judicial Ditch 21. There was no precipitation recorded on that day to explain the change. Debris, or a beaver dam removal could be other explanations.

At the Magnum Road crossing in the headwaters of Marshall County Ditch 20, dissolved oxygen levels fell below 5 mg/L on 1 day during 4 weeks of deployments in the raw data. There were other days in which the dissolved oxygen levels were close to falling below the 5 mg/L threshold.

In Pennington County Ditch 21, dissolved oxygen concentrations dropped below 5 mg/L almost every calendar day (during the nighttime). Concentrations were often very low, near 1 mg/L.

The dissolved oxygen logger in Branch 200 of Judicial Ditch 11 was located at the next crossing upstream of where the ditch flows into the Elm Lake WMA area. The ditch was monitored at 290<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE for an Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge water quality study in 2007 through 2009, where water is typically stagnant. At the 270<sup>th</sup> Street NE crossing, 1.5 miles east of 290<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, water was freely flowing and expectations were higher for dissolved oxygen and aquatic life. However, dissolved oxygen concentrations at the 270<sup>th</sup> Street crossing dropped below 5 mg/L daily and the daily fluctuation in dissolved oxygen concentrations was very high.

The dissolved oxygen concentrations in Judicial Ditch 30, at 140<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, regularly dropped below 5 mg/L with a high level of daily fluctuation.

### **River Watch and Public Education**

District staff and International Water Institute staff organized a paddling event for Red Lake Falls River Watch students in Thief River Falls. The River Watch team met at the confluence of the Thief and Red Lake River to explore a little and say goodbye to some of their River Watch seniors. A [story map](#) was created to document the trip.



District staff also began working on a video script and an activity worksheet for the virtual 2020 Northwest Minnesota Water Festival, which is an educational event for area fourth graders. District staff were in charge of the Water Quality Station portion of the event. The video and activities will be based on the discussion and activities that are normally part of an in-person water festival. The video will give

us an opportunity to provide a more complete description and better demonstration of some of the discussion topics.

### **Red Lake River Watershed One Watershed One Plan**

The Red Lake River 1W1P Planning Work Group was informed that the Red Lake River proposal for the Fiscal Year 2020 Section 319 Small Watersheds Focus grant had been recommended for funding (\$284,275) by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The projects that will be funded by this grant include:

- Grade stabilization structures (including side water inlets)
- Water and Sediment Control Basins (WASCOBs)
- Streambank stabilization or meander cutoff stabilization along the Red Lake River
- Cover crops, nutrient management, and other non-structural source reduction projects
- Riparian buffers
- Riparian forest buffers
- Field borders
- Grazing management plans
- Cattle exclusion or access control plans

A progress report for the 2018-19 watershed-based funding grant for the Red lake River 1W1P was reviewed and accepted by BWSR. The reported total expenditures were only \$146,348.65 of the \$745,307.00 budget. Significant chunks of that budget will be spent in the latter half of 2020 for side water inlets on RLWD projects, completion of the Russia 13 project, the Westside Flood Damage Reduction project outlet stabilization, and more.

### **Clearwater River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS)**

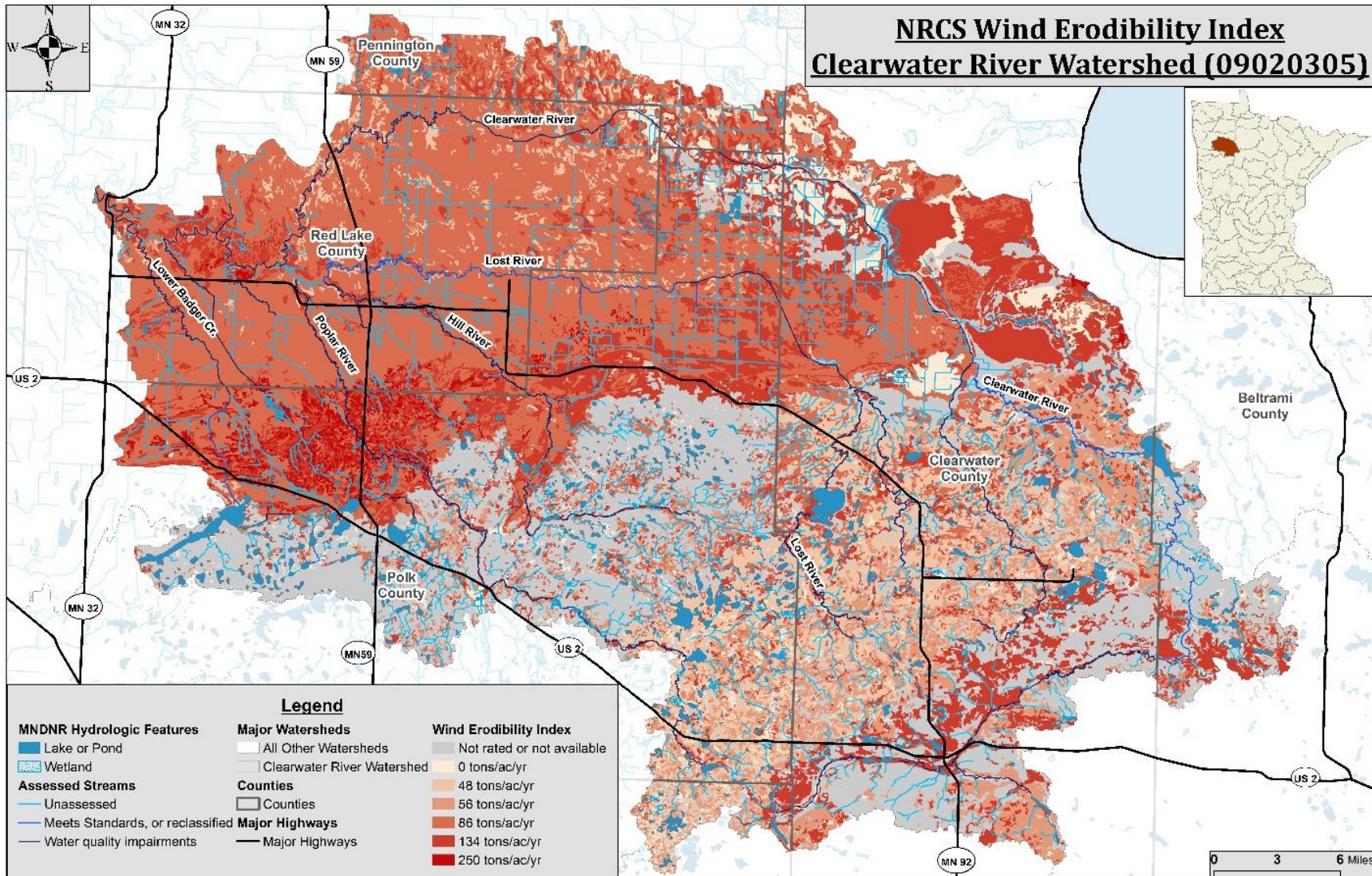
District staff finished a revision of the Clearwater River WRAPS report based on comments from an MPCA review of the spring 2019 version of the document. Some revisions were made to maps in the WRAPS report. Additional maps were created, based on a list of maps that were added by the MPCA to the final version of the Red Lake River WRAPS.

District staff then began reviewing the EPA comments on the Clearwater River Watershed Total Maximum Daily Load and providing information to the MPCA Project Manager to help with the responses to EPA comments. Some research was done to learn about how to handle tribal land that was within the drainage area of some TMDLs, but not under state or federal jurisdiction. Research into multijurisdictional TMDLs was helpful in finding a narrative solution rather than having to recalculate the TMDLs. Some map revisions were made to add details that were recommended in the EPA comments (locations of cities with wastewater treatment facilities and wasteload allocations, assessment unit identification number additions to maps and figures).



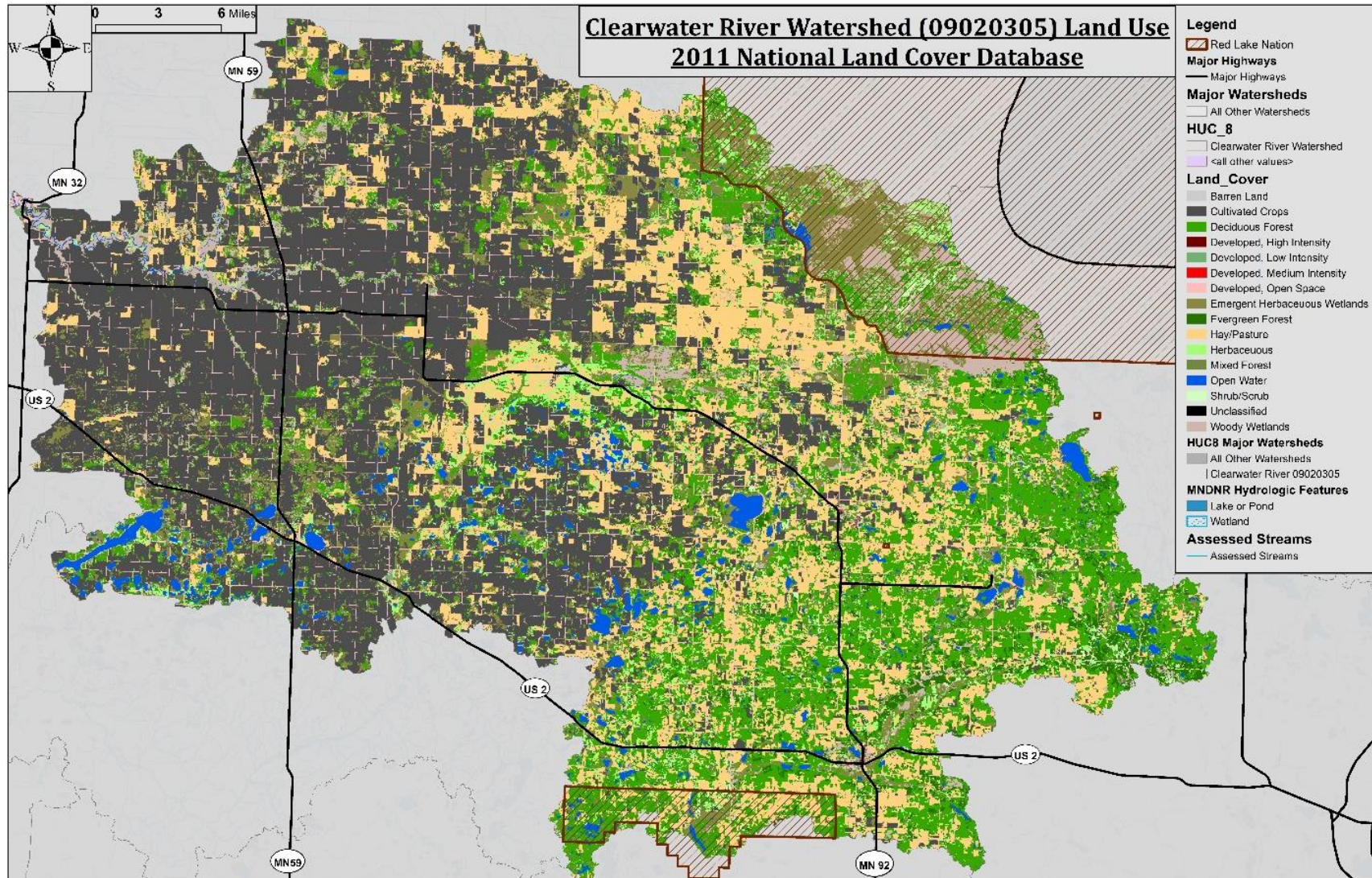
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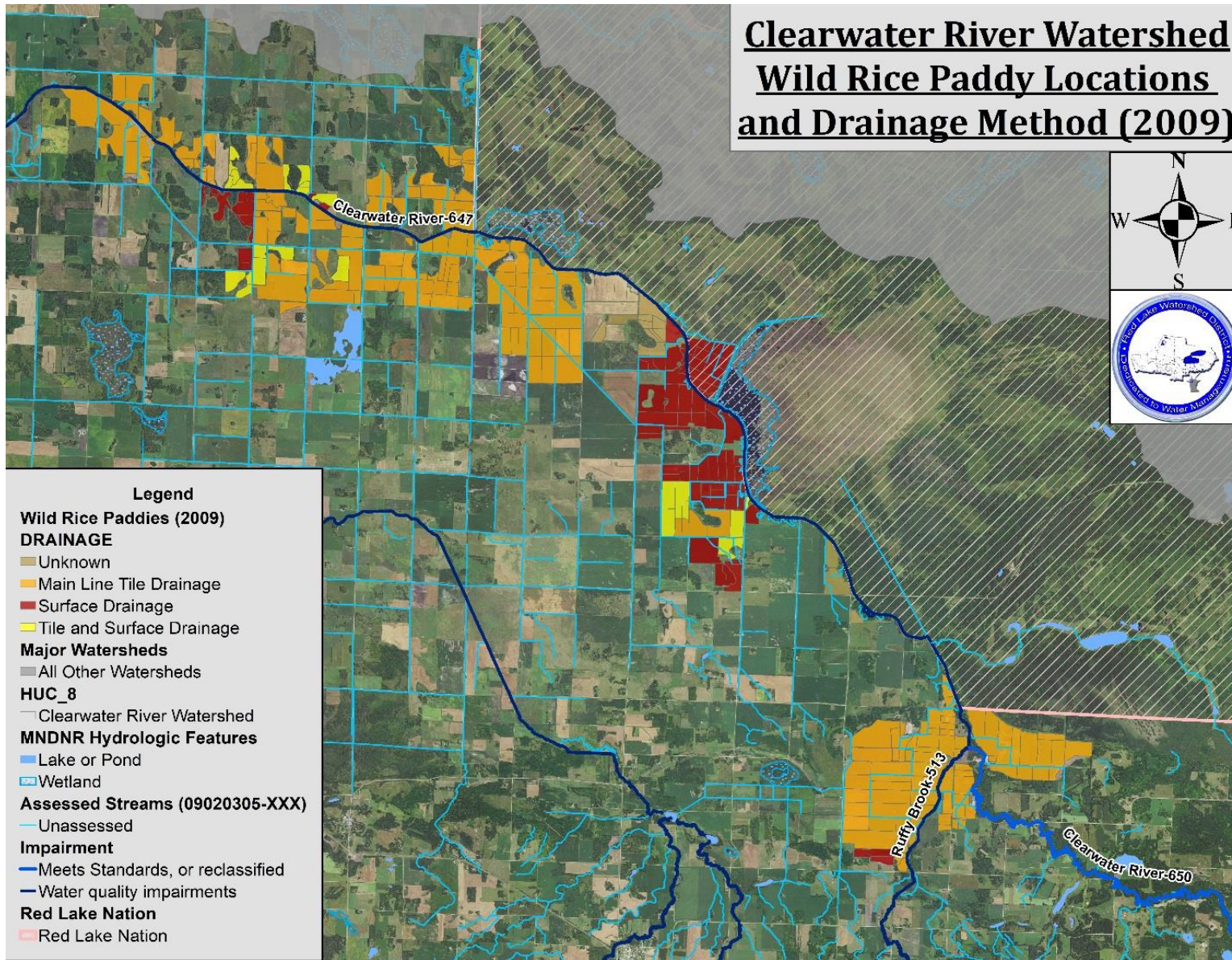


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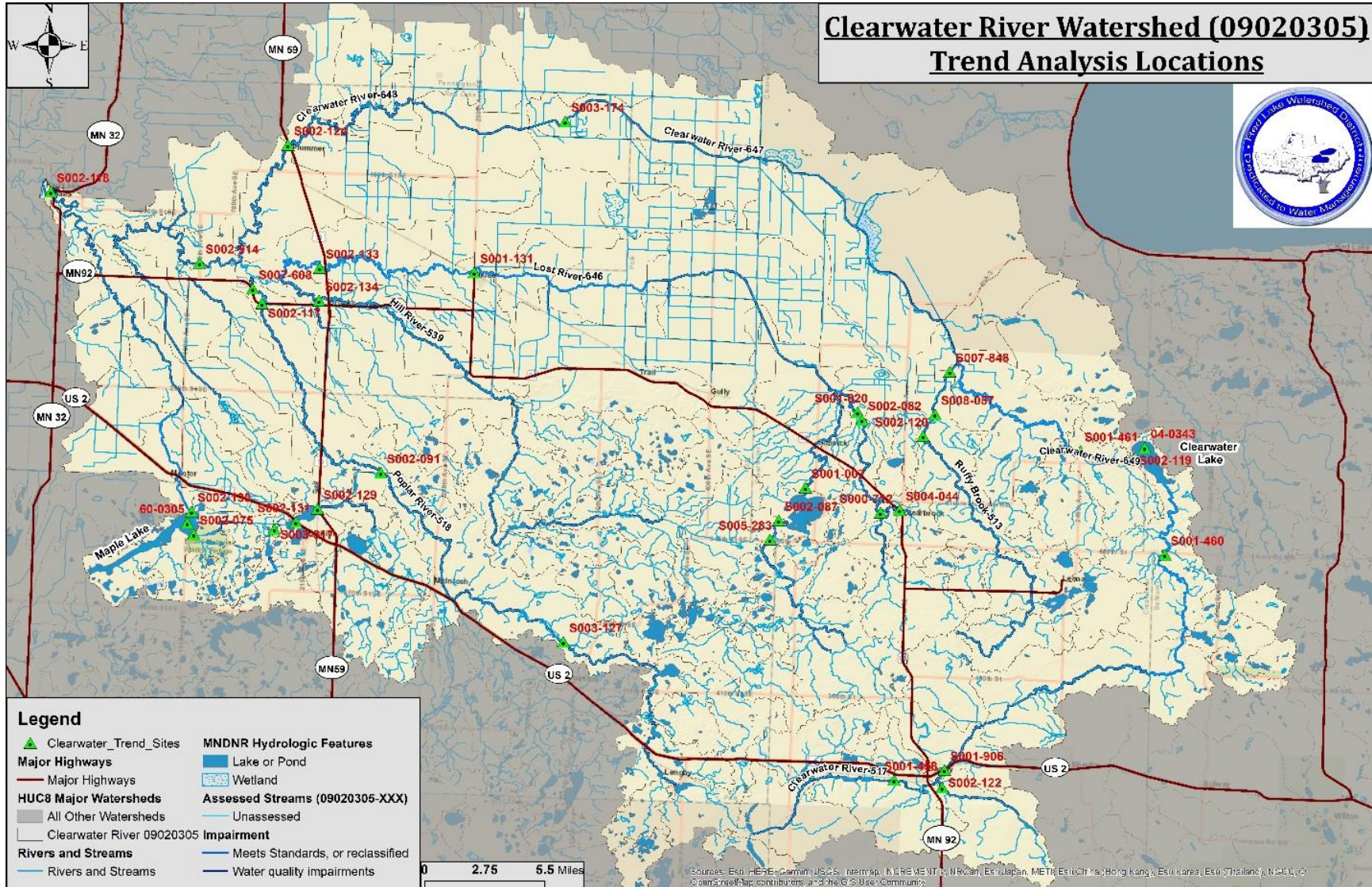


**Clearwater River Watershed  
Wild Rice Paddy Locations  
and Drainage Method (2009)**



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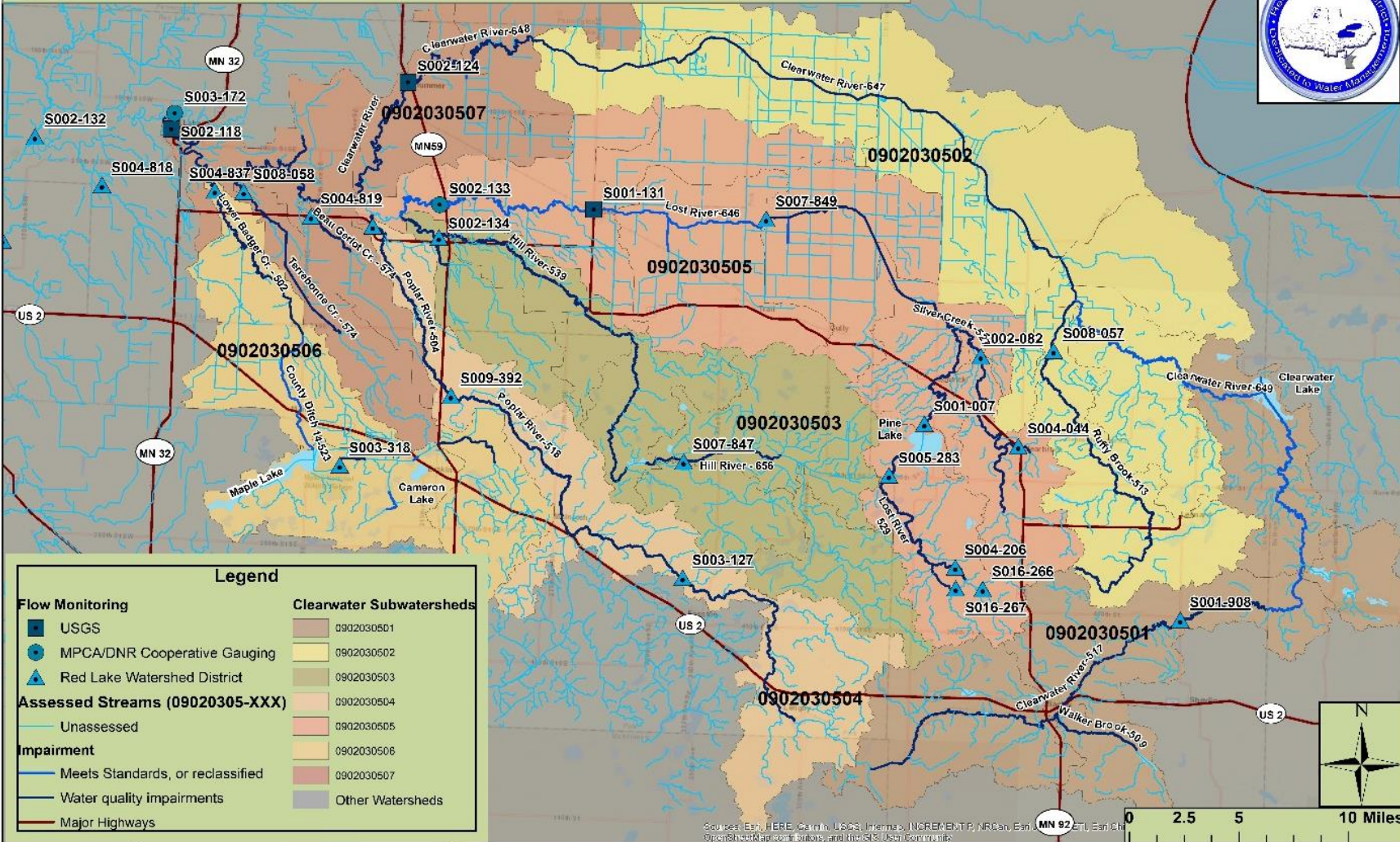
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## Clearwater River Watershed - 2017 Flow Monitoring Sites



**Other**

- The International Water Institute published a [Summer 2020](#) edition of their River Rendezvous newsletter.

Water quality related notes and minutes from the August 13, 2020 Red Lake Watershed District Board of Managers meeting.

- Engineer Mike Flaagan, Pennington County Highway Department, appeared before the Board to discuss a RRWMB Water Quality Grant Application for repairs to the outlet of Pennington County Ditch 96 in the amount of \$26,313.00. Flaagan stated that bids for the project came in higher than anticipated. Discussion was held on the District contributing towards the cost of the project. Motion by Dwight, seconded by Ose, to contribute \$26,313.00 for repairs to the outlet of Pennington County Ditch 96 from the District's Erosion Control Fund, RLWD Project No. 164. Motion carried.
- The Red Lake River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149, was awarded a MPCA Section 319 Clean Water Act grant for the Red Lake River Targeted Watershed Grant-Phase 1 in the amount of \$280,000.00. Administrator Jesme stated that this is a federal grant so we can use state Clean Water funds to match the grant.
- Jesme received a call from Congressman Collin Peterson's office as well as from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers concerning the high-water levels on the Upper Red Lake. The calls were directed at damages to private properties and shorelines due to high water conditions.

Water quality related notes and minutes from the August 27, 2020 Red Lake Watershed District Board of Managers meeting.

- Staff member Christina Slowinski and Dave Marshall presented information on an erosion problem that is forming in Section 10, Andover Township, Polk County, as it outlets into Polk County Ditch 63 Improvement Project, RLWD Project No. 134. Slowinski and Marshall have surveyed the area and originally developed plans which included a culvert drop structure. Upon investigation and staking the project, it became apparent that an open side inlet with rock riprap would be best to repair the gully at an estimated cost of \$5,000. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to authorize District staff the authority to solicit quotes for repair in Polk County Ditch 63, RLWD Project No. 134. Motion carried.
- Administrator Jesme updated the Board on the recent Planning Work Group (PWG) meeting held for the Red Lake River 1W1P, RLWD Project No. 149, where discussion was held on transferring of funds for projects that are ready to be constructed, but not in the original Work Plan, referencing the above erosion repair on Project No. 134.
- The Board reviewed a funding request from the Red Lake SWCD for the Randy Myhre Water and Sediment Control Basin Project, located in Section 2, Terrebonne Township for a total project cost of \$7,092.00. The Red Lake SWCD is requesting cost share in the amount of \$1,000.00 for construction from the 2020 Erosion Control Funds, RLWD Project No. 164. Motion by Page, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve cost share in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the Randy Myhre Water and Sediment Control Basin Project, from the District's Erosion Control Fund, RLWD Project No. 164. Motion carried.

**August 2020 Meetings and Events**

- **August 11, 2020** – Red River Watershed Management Board Water Quality Monitoring Advisory Committee meeting – discussed the Red Lake Watershed District’s application for water quality project funding for the Thief River Falls Oxbow Restoration Project. The group approved of the application and recommended it for funding.
- **August 20, 2020** - Agricultural Drainage and the Future of Water Quality virtual workshop
  - Iowa Water Quality Initiative (practices to reduce nitrogen loading)
    - Wetland installations, including the replacement of existing grassed waterways with long, narrow wetlands, tile zone wetlands, and traditional wetlands.
  - Drainage Project Planning
    - Preparing for new projects, “attorneys and engineers,” communication, and hurdles.
  - Soil and water Outcomes Fund (Iowa)
    - Municipalities fund upstream water quality practices to improve source water quality, recreational suitability, and flood protection. Large companies like Microsoft and Coca-Cola are looking into funding agricultural practices that sequester carbon in an effort to become carbon neutral.
  - Advanced Modeling (XP SWMM)
  - Conservation Drainage: Win-Win Solutions
    - We wouldn’t want to use a road built in 1920, so why are we still using early-1900s (“water is the enemy”) drainage methods in 2020?
    - Multi-purpose Drainage Management (MDM) can improve drainage while protecting water quality.
    - Landowners are more supportive when they see projects on the land.
  - Saturated Buffers and Bioreactors Edge of Field Practices
- **August 20, 2020** – Red Lake River One Watershed One Plan Planning Work Group (PWG) conference call
  - An application for 319 Small Watersheds Focus grant was submitted and approved for funding.
  - The Red Lake Watershed District successfully applied for Red River Watershed Management Board water quality funding for the installation of side water inlets in the Black River Impoundment project area, installation of side water inlets along RLWD Ditch 16, and for the Thief River Falls Oxbow Restoration Project.
  - The RLWD Board of Managers approved funding for the completion of the Pennington County Ditch 96 outlet stabilization project.
  - The 1W1P funding for side water inlets along the Westside Flood Damage Reduction Project will be used-up.
  - Polk County SWCD staff predict that the Russia 13 project will be completed under-budget.
  - District engineering staff surveyed and drafted plans to fix gully erosion along Project 134 (a drainage system that flows into Burnham Creek, southwest of Crookston).
  - Funding for additional projects (like the Project 134 gully erosion fix) will be made available by the Red Lake County SWCD’s ability to use additional grant funds, and cost share to cover the costs of side water inlets along County Ditch 69, County Ditch 12, County Ditch 13, and County Ditch 28.

- There will be additional money available for side water inlets in the Black River watershed – there was some discussion about additional locations that could use side water inlets.
- The next PWG meeting will be held in mid-September
- **August 27, 2020** – Virtual meeting for planning the 2020 Northwest Minnesota (Virtual) Water Festival
  - Donna Christianson (Pennington SWCD) created a fish painting video.
  - Education.com has a crossword puzzle generator
  - In the past, some schools didn't participate because of the logistics of bringing too many kids to the event. That likely won't be a limiting factor this year because they don't have to worry about transportation and chaperones.
  - Video editor options were discussed.
  - Deadlines and the schedule for completing the activities, videos, and packets were discussed.
  - Heather Donoho will provide a uniform introductory slide for videos and a template for the activity packets.
- **August 31, 2020** – Red Lake River Planning Work Group conference call to discuss the 319 Small Watershed Focus Grant

Red Lake Watershed District Monthly Water Quality Reports are available online:

<http://www.redlakewatershed.org/monthwq.html>.

Learn more about the Red Lake Watershed District at [www.redlakewatershed.org](http://www.redlakewatershed.org).

Learn more about the watershed in which you live (Red Lake River, Thief River, Clearwater River, Grand Marais Creek, or Upper/Lower Red Lakes) at [www.rlwdwatersheds.org](http://www.rlwdwatersheds.org).

“Like” the Red Lake Watershed District on [Facebook](#) to stay up-to-date on RLWD reports and activities.