



Grant Progress Report

Watershed Based Implementation 2025

Grant Title: Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25

Grant ID: C25-0341

Grant Award (\$): \$1,958,370.00

Grant Execution Date: 05/14/2025

Grantee: Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area

Required Match (%): 10

Grant End Date: 12/31/2027

Fiscal Agent: Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area

Required Match (\$): \$195,837.00

Grant Day-to-Day Contact: Kerry Netzke

	Total Budgeted	Total Spent	Balance Remaining*
Grant Funds	\$1,958,370.00	\$274,482.68	\$1,683,887.32
Match Funds	\$195,837.00	\$84,840.14	\$110,996.86
Other Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$2,154,207.00	\$359,322.82	\$1,794,884.18

*Grant balance remaining is the difference between the Awarded Amount and the Spent Amount. Other values compare budgeted and spent amounts.

Project Abstract	<p>The Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan identifies priority concerns, short-term and long-term goals for groundwater, surface water, excess water and lands. Through the plan, specific details for structural and management practices are described in the implementation profile for each of the five planning regions, which include the Western Uplands, Central, Minnesota River Valley, Eastern Cottonwood and Little Cottonwood. PTMAApp was used to prioritize and target possible projects for each planning region and was designed to select the most cost-effective structural and management projects for removing sediment, TP, and TN. The highest priority for implementation efforts is focused on the areas identified as high priority within the subwatersheds on the Comprehensive Watershed Priority Map (page 1-9). The comprehensive map was created by overlaying all the individual goal maps into one comprehensive map which clearly demonstrated where implementation efforts should be focused. The Scoring and Ranking Sheet will determine the highest priority projects and their eligibility for grant funding.</p>
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Proposed Measurable Outcomes	<p>Projects will be prioritized through a scoring and ranking worksheet developed by the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Steering Team and approved by the Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area (RCRCA) Board.</p> <p>Existing and contract staff will work with urban and agricultural landowners to encourage the installation of BMPs on the landscape focusing on the goals and actions identified in the plan.</p>
	<p>With the implementation grant, it is estimated to complete 45 agricultural practices, 8000 acres of non-structural management practices, 20 well decommissions, and 20 subsurface sewage treatment system replacement incentive contracts, and 1 multipurpose drainage management study/plan. The partners will work collectively with local and state authorities to develop projects addressing Stream Habitat and Connectivity.</p>

Budget Details

<i>Activity Name</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Source Type</i>	<i>Source Description</i>	<i>Budgeted</i>	<i>Spent</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>Match Fund?</i>
Administration/Coordination	Administration/Coordination	Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$195,000.00	\$60,521.45	\$134,478.55	N
Agricultural Practices	Agricultural Practices	Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$902,000.00	\$167,899.17	\$734,100.83	N
Education/Information	Education/Information	Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$20,000.00	\$2,680.00	\$17,320.00	N
Groundwater	Groundwater	Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$20,000.00	\$2,512.50	\$17,487.50	N
Non-Structural Management Practices	Non-Structural Management Practices	Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant	\$384,000.00	\$4,620.00	\$379,380.00	N

<i>Activity Name</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Source Type</i>	<i>Source Description</i>	<i>Budgeted</i>	<i>Spent</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>Match Fund?</i>
			FY25				
Planning and Assessment	Planning and Assessment	Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$30,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	N
Project Development	Project Development	Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$107,370.00	\$2,837.06	\$104,532.94	N
Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems	Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems	Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$100,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$80,000.00	N
Technical/Engineering Assistance	Technical/Engineering Assistance	Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$200,000.00	\$3,412.50	\$196,587.50	N
Agricultural Practices	Agricultural Practices	Landowner Fund	Local Match	\$175,837.00	\$82,227.64	\$93,609.36	Y
Groundwater	Groundwater	Landowner Fund	Local Match	\$20,000.00	\$2,612.50	\$17,387.50	Y

Indicator Summary

<i>Indicator Category</i>	<i>Proposed Indicator</i>	<i>Total Value</i>	<i>Unit</i>
Water Pollution (Reduction Estimates)	Sediment (Tss)	7312	Tons/Yr
Water Pollution (Reduction Estimates)	Nitrogen	37371	Lbs/Yr
Water Pollution (Reduction Estimates)	Sediment (Tss)	2361	Tons/Yr
Water Pollution (Reduction Estimates)	Phosphorus (Est. Reduction)	531	Lbs/Yr
Water Pollution (Reduction Estimates)	Phosphorus (Est. Reduction)	1915	Lbs/Yr
Water Pollution (Reduction Estimates)	Nitrogen	7003	Lbs/Yr

<i>Indicator Category</i>	<i>Final Indicator</i>	<i>Total Value</i>	<i>Unit</i>
Water Pollution (Reduction Estimates)	Nitrogen	647.89	Lbs/Yr
Water Pollution (Reduction Estimates)	Phosphorus (Est. Reduction)	46.29	Lbs/Yr
Water Pollution (Reduction Estimates)	Sediment (Tss)	212.66	Tons/Yr
Water Pollution (Reduction Estimates)	Nitrogen	351.55	Lbs/Yr
Water Pollution (Reduction Estimates)	Phosphorus (Est. Reduction)	17.39	Lbs/Yr
Water Pollution (Reduction Estimates)	Sediment (Tss)	53.31	Tons/Yr

Grant Activities

Activity Name: Administration/Coordination

Activity Category: Administration/Coordination

Staff time?: Yes

Description: The Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area (RCRCA) was chosen to handle the administrative and fiscal responsibilities for the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Implementation Grant. A watershed coordinator will be hired by RCRCA, and funded by the WBIF grant, to coordinate cost share contracts with the partnering SWCDs and counties, maintain accurate and complete project files, oversee MS4Front Tracking software, maintain website information, track all grant expenditures, process payments, and complete all grant reporting and other responsibilities. All grant administration will be for administering the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. In 2026, when the Redwood River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan is approved, this watershed coordinator will be shared and financed equally by both watersheds and their implementation grants.

The Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota implementation process will flow through the existing RCRCA structure with monthly Board of Directors meetings. These meetings will incorporate the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Technical Committee recommendations for discussion and decision on grant implementation activities. RCRCA staff will invoice using billable hourly rates throughout the grant process with a detailed description of services provided. Staff will include the RCRCA administrative and bookkeeping personnel, and the watershed coordinator to be hired through this grant.

Yearly support subscriptions for the MS4Front Implementation Tracking System will be provided through this category as billed by Houston Engineering, Inc. as well as required grant audits. A laptop computer, file cabinet and office supplies specifically for this grant will be purchased for the Watershed Coordinator. Grant policies will be created for each project category, reviewed by the Technical Committee, and approved by the RCRCA Board.

Budget Details

<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Last Transaction Date</u>	<u>Match Fund?</u>
Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$195,000.00	\$60,521.45	\$134,478.55	12/31/2025	N

Actual Results

<u>Results</u>	<u>Date Added</u>
JUNE 30, 2025 - The grant was executed May 14, 2025. The first 4 contracts will be acted upon at the 7/3/2025 RCRCA (Policy Committee) meeting. Interviews are being held 7/2/2025 for the Watersheds Coordinator position who will administer the CWMM Plan.	6/30/2025 11:21:48 AM

<u>Results</u>	<u>Date Added</u>
JULY 31, 2025 - 5 Projects were approved at the July 3, 2025 CWMM Board Meeting. Total grant encumbered is \$43,914.49. Total grant spent on admin from May-July 2025 is \$2,804.43	7/31/2025 12:00:00 AM
AUGUST 31, 2025 - Since the last entry, the CWMM CWMP has 17 contracts approved for funding totaling \$457,158.51 grant funds encumbered. The Watershed Coordinator was hired on August 11, 2025. Total spent on admin was \$7,698.98.	8/31/2025 12:00:00 AM
SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 - Approved at the September 4, 2025 Policy Committee Meeting - 6 cost-share contracts (3 Ag Practice & 3 SSTS) and 2 vouchers (1 Ag Practice & 1 Planning and Assessment). Total funds encumbered included the amendment \$62,203.33, and total project funds spent \$30,588.87. Total admin funds spent \$12,648.03.	9/30/2025 1:50:48 PM
October 31, 2025 - Approved at the October 17, 2025 Policy Committee Meeting - 12 cost-share contracts (6 Ag Practice, 4 Nonstructural, 2 Well Decommissioning), 1 amendment, 3 vouchers (1 Ag Practice & 2 SSTS), 2 project development invoices (Cottonwood & Brown SWCD), 1 Education & Outreach invoice (Cottonwood SWCD), 1 technical assistance invoice (Area II). Total funds encumbered including the amendment \$282,227.30, and total project funds spent \$81,100.26. Total admin funds spent \$15,894.26.	10/31/2025 12:00:00 AM
November 30, 2025 - Approved at the November 6, 2025 Policy Committee Meeting - 1 voucher (1 SSTS). Total project funds spent \$5,000. Total admin funds spent \$10,714.80.	11/30/2025 12:00:00 AM
December 31, 2025 - Approved at the December 4 & 22, 2025 Policy Committee Meetings - 1 cost-share contract (1 Well Decommissioning). 11 vouchers paid out (5 Ag Practice, 1 Non-Structural, 1 SSTS, 3 Well Sealings), 1 Project Development Reimbursement (Cottonwood SWCD), 3 Education/Information Reimbursements (2 Cottonwood & Brown SWCD), 1 Technical/Engineering Reimbursement (Area II), and admin costs. Total funds encumbered \$800.00 and total funds (including admin) spent \$108,033.05.	12/31/2025 1:38:05 PM

Activity Name: Agricultural Practices

Activity Category: Agricultural Practices

Staff time?: No

Description: Targeted agricultural practices will be determined by the project scoring and ranking worksheet with the emphasis on identified high priority areas. Practices will be consistent with the NRCS FOTG or a professionally-engineered conservation practice. Under the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan, this is addressed on pages 5-7, 5-13, 5-17, 5-21, 5-25 and 5-29.

Cost-Share – as allowed by the locally-approved grant policy and scoring and ranking worksheet.

Estimated Pollution Reductions were generated from the BEAST spreadsheet estimating 33 WASCOBs, 10 Grassed Waterways, and 2 Grade Stabilizations.

Implementation of Agricultural Practices are estimated to make progress toward the Plan goals as listed below:

2% towards the Sediment goal of 135,700 tons/yr

3% towards the Total Phosphorus goal of 17,600 lbs/yr

2% towards the Total Nitrogen goal of 328,800 lbs/yr

Budget Details

<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Last Transaction Date</u>	<u>Match Fund?</u>
Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$902,000.00	\$167,899.17	\$734,100.83	12/22/2025	N
Landowner Fund	Local Match	\$175,837.00	\$82,227.64	\$93,609.36	12/22/2025	Y

Actual Results

<u>Results</u>	<u>Date Added</u>
25-CWMM-LYO-008 - Amiret 20 Grade Stabilization Restoration - 08/07/2025 start date; 09/04/2025 paid date; \$20,588.87 WBIF grant; \$3,633.33 landowner funds.	9/11/2025 8:37:39 AM
25-CWMM-LYO-007 - Sodus 9 Water and Sediment Control Basins (638) - 10/07/2025-10/22/2025 project construction; 10/31/2025 paid date; \$66,603.33 WBIF grant; \$56,230.00 NRCS; \$6,464.91 landowner funds.	10/31/2025 12:00:00 AM
25-CWMM-COT-004 - Delton 9 Water and Sediment Control Basins (638) - 09/22/2025-10/10/2025 project construction; 12/22/2025 paid date; \$11,900.85 WBIF grant; \$3,754.14 landowner funds.	12/31/2025 8:30:36 AM

Results**Date Added**

25-CWMM-COT-005 - Delton 9 Grassed Waterway (412) - 10/24/2025-11/25/2025 project construction; 12/22/2025 paid date; \$8,681.06 WBIF grant; \$1,531.95 landowner funds. 12/31/2025 8:30:56 AM

25-CWMM-LYO-005 - Rock Lake 9 Water and Sediment Control Basins (638) - 11/12/2025-11/13/2025 project construction; 12/22/2025 paid date; \$5,553.05 WBIF grant; \$979.95 landowner funds. 12/31/2025 8:31:01 AM

25-CWMM-LYO-009 - Sodus 26 Water and Sediment Control Basins (638) - 11/20/2025 project construction; 12/22/2025 paid date; \$15,257.50 WBIF grant; \$2,692.50 landowner funds. 12/31/2025 8:30:44 AM

25-CWMM-RED-001 - Springdale 7 Water and Sediment Control Basins (638) - 10/24/2025-12/08/2025 project construction; 12/22/2025 paid date; \$39,314.51 WBIF grant; \$6,937.86 landowner funds. 12/31/2025 8:21:42 AM

Final Indicators

<u>Indicator</u>	<u>Total Value</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Phosphorus (Est. Reduction)	46.29	Lbs/Yr
Sediment (Tss)	212.66	Tons/Yr
Nitrogen	647.89	Lbs/Yr

Activity Action Name: 25-CWMM-RED-001				Activity Count: 3
Practice Type: 638 - Water and Sediment Control Basin				Size/Units: 3 - Count
TA Provider/JAA: TSA				Lifespan: 10 Years
Practice Description: 3 Water and Sediment Control Basins (638) with Underground Outlet (620)				Install Date: 12/08/2025
				Mapped: Yes
Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Sediment (Tss)	Tons/Yr	50.12	PTMApp - Catchment	Western Uplands - Cottonwood River
Phosphorus (Est. Reduction)	Lbs/Yr	10.38	PTMApp - Catchment	Western Uplands - Cottonwood River
Nitrogen	Lbs/Yr	136.11	PTMApp - Catchment	Western Uplands - Cottonwood River

Activity Action Name:	25-CWMM-COT-004	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	638 - Water and Sediment Control Basin	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	TSA	Lifespan: 10 Years
Practice Description:	1 Water and Sediment Control Basin	Install Date: 11/17/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Sediment (Tss)	Tons/Yr	12.46	PTMApp - Catchment	Little Cottonwood - Cottonwood River
Nitrogen	Lbs/Yr	47.35	PTMApp - Catchment	Little Cottonwood - Cottonwood River
Phosphorus (Est. Reduction)	Lbs/Yr	3.7	PTMApp - Catchment	Little Cottonwood - Cottonwood River

Activity Action Name:	25-CWMM-LYO-005	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	638 - Water and Sediment Control Basin	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	TSA	Lifespan: 10 Years
Practice Description:	1 Water and Sediment Control Basin	Install Date: 12/02/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Phosphorus (Est. Reduction)	Lbs/Yr	3.19	PTMApp - Catchment	Western Uplands - Cottonwood River
Sediment (Tss)	Tons/Yr	15.31	PTMApp - Catchment	Western Uplands - Cottonwood River
Nitrogen	Lbs/Yr	42.13	PTMApp - Catchment	Western Uplands - Cottonwood River

Activity Action Name:	25-CWMM-LYO-009	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	638 - Water and Sediment Control Basin	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	TSA	Lifespan: 10 Years
Practice Description:	1 Water and Sediment Control Basin	Install Date: 11/06/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Phosphorus (Est. Reduction)	Lbs/Yr	3.5	PTMApp - Catchment	Western Uplands - Cottonwood River
Nitrogen	Lbs/Yr	46.24	PTMApp - Catchment	Western Uplands - Cottonwood River
Sediment (Tss)	Tons/Yr	16.8	PTMApp - Catchment	Western Uplands - Cottonwood River

Activity Action Name:	25-CWMM-LYO-008	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	410 - Grade Stabilization Structure	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	Other	Lifespan: 10 Years
Practice Description:	1 Grade Stabilization Restoration	Install Date: 08/29/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Nitrogen	Lbs/Yr	95.2	PTMApp - Catchment	HUC12: 070200080102
Sediment (Tss)	Tons/Yr	16.81	PTMApp - Catchment	HUC12: 070200080102
Phosphorus (Est. Reduction)	Lbs/Yr	4.42	PTMApp - Catchment	HUC12: 070200080102

Activity Action Name:	25-CWMM-LYO-007	Activity Count: 3
Practice Type:	638 - Water and Sediment Control Basin	Size/Units: 3 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	Private Consultant	Lifespan: 10 Years
Practice Description:	3 - Water & Sediment Control Basins (638) 1 - Underground Outlet (620)	Install Date: 10/22/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Phosphorus (Est. Reduction)	Lbs/Yr	20.63	PTMApp - Catchment	HUC 12: 070200080202
Nitrogen	Lbs/Yr	272.67	PTMApp - Catchment	HUC 12: 070200080202
Sediment (Tss)	Tons/Yr	99.08	PTMApp - Catchment	HUC 12: 070200080202

Activity Action Name:	25-CWMM-COT-005	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	412 - Grassed Waterway and Swales	Size/Units: 174.54 - Acres
TA Provider/JAA:	TSA	Lifespan: 10 Years
Practice Description:	1 Grassed Waterway with subsurface drainage	Install Date: 11/26/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Nitrogen	Lbs/Yr	8.19	PTMApp - Catchment	Little Cottonwood
Sediment (Tss)	Tons/Yr	2.08	PTMApp - Catchment	Little Cottonwood - Cottonwood River
Phosphorus (Est. Reduction)	Lbs/Yr	0.47	PTMApp - Catchment	Little Cottonwood - Cottonwood River

Activity Name: Education/Information

Activity Category: Education/Information

Staff time?: Yes

Description: Education and Information will focus on watershed-wide efforts. Outreach will be completed by all five counties and SWCDs throughout the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed. Multiple types of education and information outreach efforts are outlined in the CWMP for well testing and sealing, water and land conservation, soil health, urban BMPs, shoreline management, land protection programs, MAWQCP benefits, and water storage and floodplain management, pages 5-30 and 5-31.

Funding will be used for field days, demonstrations, displays, direct mailings, postage and other media. Staff time can be billed at the calculated hourly rate and invoiced accordingly with a description of services or products produced.

Budget Details

<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Last Transaction Date</u>	<u>Match Fund?</u>
Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$20,000.00	\$2,680.00	\$17,320.00	12/22/2025	N

Actual Results

<u>Results</u>	<u>Date Added</u>
October 31, 2025 - Radio Ads for Cottonwood SWCD 4x/day from 09/15/25-09/30/25	10/31/2025 12:00:00 AM
December 31st, 2025 - November Radio Ads: Brown (\$950.00) & Cottonwood SWCD (\$864.00) - Paid 12/04/2025. Newspaper Ads: Cottonwood SWCD (\$290.00) - Paid 12/22/2025.	12/31/2025 12:00:00 AM

Activity Name: Groundwater

Activity Category: Groundwater

Staff time?: No

Description: Well decommissioning will take place watershed-wide by licensed contractors. This section is addressed under the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan under pages 5-8, 5-13, 5-17, 5-21, 5-25 and 5-29 to protect drinking water from contaminants.

Cost-Share – as allowed by the locally-approved grant policy and scoring and ranking worksheet.

Estimated Pollution Reduction – Pollution Prevention Count – 20 wells, achieving 12% toward the Plan goal of 160 wells.

Budget Details

<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Last Transaction Date</u>	<u>Match Fund?</u>
Landowner Fund	Local Match	\$20,000.00	\$2,612.50	\$17,387.50	12/22/2025	Y
Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$20,000.00	\$2,512.50	\$17,487.50	12/22/2025	N

Actual Results

<u>Results</u>	<u>Date Added</u>
25-CWMM-MUR-001 - Holly 14 Well Decommissioning - 11/17/2025 start date; 12/04/2025 paid date; \$1,000.00 WBIF grant; \$1,000.00 landowner funds.	12/4/2025 12:00:00 AM
25-CWMM-RED-014 - North Hero 31 Well Decommissioning - 10/15/2025 start date; 12/22/2025 paid date; \$1,000.00 WBIF grant; \$1,000.00 landowner funds.	12/22/2025 12:00:00 AM
25-CWMM-BRO-004 - Cottonwood 24 Well Decommissioning - 11/17/2025 start date; 12/22/2025 paid date; \$512.50 WBIF grant; \$512.50 landowner funds.	12/22/2025 12:00:00 AM

Activity Action Name:	25-CWMM-MUR-001	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	351 - Well Decommissioning	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	Other	Lifespan: 20 Years
Practice Description:	1 Well Sealing on an abandoned property	Install Date: 11/17/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Activity Action Name:	25-CWMM-BRO-004	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	351 - Well Decommissioning	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	SWCD	Lifespan: 20 Years
Practice Description:	1 Well Sealing	Install Date: 11/17/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Activity Action Name:	25-CWMM-RED-014	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	351 - Well Decommissioning	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	SWCD	Lifespan: 20 Years
Practice Description:	1 Well Sealing	Install Date: 10/15/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Activity Name: Non-Structural Management Practices

Activity Category: Non-Structural Management Practices

Staff time?: No

Description: Non-structural agricultural management projects will be consistent with the NRCS FOTG or be a professionally-accepted ecological practice. The Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan addresses the need for BMPs that reduce nutrient loading and sediment runoff to surface waters on pages 5-7, 5-9, 5-13, 5-17, 5-21, 5-25 and 5-29.

Contracts will utilize the flat rate option and will follow the locally-approved policy. Contracts may have a 1, 2 or 3-year duration with payment after the first planting/certification with spot checks each additional year by local staff. Maps and acres are required for each contract year.

Cost-Share – as allowed by the locally-approved grant policy and ranking sheet.

Goal: 4,000 acres of cover crops and 4,000 acres no-till/strip-till

Implementation of Non-Structural Management Practices are estimated to make a progress of 22% of the Plan goal of 18,150 acres.

Budget Details

<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Last Transaction Date</u>	<u>Match Fund?</u>
Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$384,000.00	\$4,620.00	\$379,380.00	12/04/2025	N

Actual Results

<u>Results</u>	<u>Date Added</u>
25-CWMM-BRO-008 - Single Species Cover Crop Contract: 77 Acres, Single Year, Completed 11/01/2025. Check #12124 paid on 12/04/2025.	12/31/2025 12:00:00 AM

Final Indicators		
<u>Indicator</u>	<u>Total Value</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Sediment (Tss)	53.31	Tons/Yr
Nitrogen	351.55	Lbs/Yr
Phosphorus (Est. Reduction)	17.39	Lbs/Yr

Activity Action Name: 25-CWMM-BRO-008				Activity Count: 1
Practice Type: 340 - Cover Crop				Size/Units: 77 - Acres
TA Provider/JAA: SWCD				Lifespan: 1 Year
Practice Description: 77 acre single species cover crop contract - 1 year				Install Date: 11/01/2025
				Mapped: Yes
Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Sediment (Tss)	Tons/Yr	53.31	PTMApp - Catchment	Minnesota River Valley - Cottonwood River
Phosphorus (Est. Reduction)	Lbs/Yr	17.39	PTMApp - Catchment	Minnesota River Valley - Cottonwood River
Nitrogen	Lbs/Yr	351.55	PTMApp - Catchment	Minnesota River Valley - Cottonwood River

Activity Name: Planning and Assessment

Activity Category: Planning and Assessment

Staff time?: No

Description: Planning and Assessment activities will focus on completing at least 1 multipurpose drainage management study (Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan, page 5-32) with local landowners, ditch authorities, and private engineers. These studies will be used to help determine future collaborations with local drainage authorities on county drainage systems. See the locally-approved grant policy for explanation of deliverables.

Budget Details

<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Last Transaction Date</u>	<u>Match Fund?</u>
Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$30,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	09/10/2025	N
Actual Results						
<u>Results</u>					<u>Date Added</u>	
Brown County CD28 MDM Report - 07/09/2025 board approval date; 09/10/2025 paid date; \$10,000.00 grant funds only. No match.					9/11/2025 8:51:03 AM	

Activity Name: Project Development						
Activity Category: Project Development					Staff time?: Yes	
<p>Description: Project Development activities will be led by local staff working with residents to address resource concerns and identify potential best management practices throughout the watershed.</p> <p>Staff can utilize grant funds when working with landowners using their billable hourly rates through time tracking. Invoices will be submitted according to hours worked, billable rates and description of services.</p>						
Budget Details						
<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Last Transaction Date</u>	<u>Match Fund?</u>
Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$107,370.00	\$2,837.06	\$104,532.94	12/04/2025	N
Actual Results						
<u>Results</u>					<u>Date Added</u>	
Landowner Assistance Reimbursement for Sept. 21- Oct. 18, 2025: Cottonwood SWCD (\$841.13) - Check #: 12121 paid on 12/04/2025					12/31/2025 12:00:00 AM	
Landowner Assistance for Brown (\$1,033.47) & Cottonwood SWCD (\$962.46) - Check #'s: 12101 & 12102 - Paid on 10/17/2025					10/31/2025 12:00:00 AM	

Activity Name: Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems

Activity Category: Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems

Staff time?: No

Description: This incentive payment requires a completed funding application by the landowner (loan or grant) and SSTS Eligibility Worksheet. Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan pages 5-8, 5-13, 5-17, 5-21, 5-25 and 5-29. Incentive criteria is monetary in addition to other financial assistance. Property must be owner-occupied and be non-commercial (rental properties are ineligible).

Incentive payment as allowed by the locally-approved grant policy and SSTS Eligibility worksheet.

20 septic systems addressed, achieving 12% toward the Plan goal of 160 septic systems.

Systems posing an Imminent Public Health Threat or Failure to Protect Groundwater - \$5,000 incentive

Budget Details

<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Last Transaction Date</u>	<u>Match Fund?</u>
Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$100,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$80,000.00	12/04/2025	N

Actual Results

<u>Results</u>	<u>Date Added</u>
October 17th, 2025 - 25-CWMM-COT-001 & 25-CWMM-BRO-001 paid out for a total of \$10,000.00. Both septic systems were installed in Sept. 2025 and have a valid certificate of compliance.	10/23/2025 12:00:00 AM
November 6th, 2025: 25-CWMM-BRO-003 was paid out \$5,000.00. The septic systems was installed in October 2025 and has a valid certificate of compliance.	11/17/2025 8:53:22 AM
December 4th, 2025: 25-CWMM-BRO-002 was paid out \$5,000.00. The septic systems was installed in September 2025 and has a valid certificate of compliance.	12/12/2025 1:13:25 PM

Activity Action Name:	25-CWMM-BRO-002	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	126M - Septic System Improvement	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	Other	Lifespan: 30 Years
Practice Description:	One septic system that was considered an imminent public health threat was replaced.	Install Date: 09/11/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Activity Action Name:	25-CWMM-BRO-003	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	126M - Septic System Improvement	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	SWCD	Lifespan:
Practice Description:	Replace one septic system labeled as an imminent public health threat (IPHT)	Install Date: 10/07/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Activity Action Name:	25-CWMM-BRO-001	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	126M - Septic System Improvement	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	SWCD	Lifespan:
Practice Description:	Replace non-compliant septic system (IPHT)	Install Date: 09/09/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Activity Action Name:	25-CWMM-COT-001	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	126M - Septic System Improvement	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	SWCD	Lifespan:
Practice Description:	Replace a non-compliant septic system (FTPGW)	Install Date: 09/03/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Activity Name: Technical/Engineering Assistance

Activity Category: Technical/Engineering Assistance

Staff time?: Yes

Description: Technical and engineering expenses include surveying and design of structural agricultural projects from a licensed engineer or staff with NRCS Job Approval Authority (or working towards JAA) for the specific practice. All practices must be consistent with the USDA NRCS FOTG or be a professionally engineered conservation or ecological practice. Staff credentials or Job Approval Authority can be viewed at their respective offices. Invoices will be submitted according to hours worked, billable rates and description of services.

Budget Details

<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Last Transaction Date</u>	<u>Match Fund?</u>
Current State Grant	Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant FY25	\$200,000.00	\$3,412.50	\$196,587.50	12/22/2025	N

Actual Results

<u>Results</u>	<u>Date Added</u>
October 31, 2025: Area II Invoice #05-2188 Engineering for 25-CWMM-LYO-008 (11 hrs. @ \$175/hr); Check #: 12103	10/31/2025 12:00:00 AM
December 31, 2025: Area II Invoice #05-2194 Engineering for 25-CWMM-LYO-007 (8.5 hrs. @ \$175/hr); Check #: 12138	12/31/2025 12:00:00 AM