



Please complete and submit to your project manager.

Reporting Period: [ ] January 1 through June 30 (Due August 1)
[ X ] July 1 through December 31 (Due February 1)

All information is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Do not leave blanks (unless otherwise noted). This report form can be typed using your computer. Use the "tab" key to move through the fields of this form. Enter responses using text and check boxes as indicated. Keep a copy for your records.

I. General Report Information

- 1. Project title: WF Des Moines River TMDL Implementation Project
2. Project sponsor (Grantee): Heron Lake Watershed District
3. Contact name: Jan Voit, District Administrator
4. E-mail address: jan.voit@mysmbs.com
5. Funding: [ X ] 319 [ ] CWP [ ] Clean Water Fund [ ] Other:
6. Contract number: 37241
7. MPCA Project Manager: Katherine Pekarek-Scott
8. Effective date (mm/dd/yyyy): 1/1/2011 Expiration date (mm/dd/yyyy): 8/30/2015

II. Semi-annual Report Information

1. Project activities completed during last six (6) months according to the program objectives or tasks (please be specific):

Objective 1. Task A. Conduct Level III Inventory

- Met with Jon Bloemendaal, Murray County Feedlot Officer (CFO), on July 9, 2014 at 12:00 pm to choose feedlot inspection sites for the week of July 21-25. Inspections were scheduled for July 3, 2014.
• Met with Jake Grages, Jackson CFO, on July 10, 2014 at 9:00 am to choose feedlot inspection sites for the week of July 28-August 1. Inspections were scheduled for July 30, 2014.
• Met with Jon Bloemendaal, Murray CFO, on July 24, 2014 at 9:30 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of eight inspections were conducted.
• Met with Al Langseth, Nobles CFO, on July 24, 2014 at 2:00 pm to choose feedlot inspection sites for the week of August 4-8. Inspections were scheduled for August 5, 2014.
• Met with Jake Grages, Jackson CFO, on July 30, 2014 at 9:15 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of six inspections were completed. Jared Morrill, Cottonwood CFO trainee, was also in attendance.
• Met with Al Langseth, Nobles CFO, on August 5, 2014 at 8:30 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of four inspections were conducted.
• Met with Jake Grages, Jackson CFO, on August 6, 2014 at 2:30 pm to select feedlot inspection sites for the week of August 18-22. Inspections were scheduled for August 21, 2014.
• Met with Al Langseth, Nobles CFO, on August 14, 2014 at 9:00 am to select feedlot inspection sites for the week of August 25-29. Inspections were scheduled for August 28, 2014.
• Met with Jon Bloemendaal, Murray CFO, on August 19, 2014 at 2:30 pm to select feedlot inspection sites for the week of September 1-5. Inspections were scheduled for September 3, 2014.
• Met with Jake Grages, Jackson CFO, on August 21, 2014 at 8:30 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of seven inspections were conducted.
• Met with Jon Bloemendaal, Murray CFO, on August 27 at 2:00 pm to select feedlot inspection sites for the week of September 15-19, 2014. Inspections were scheduled for September 17, 2014.

- Met with Al Langseth, Nobles CFO, on August 28, 2014 at 8:30 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of four inspections were conducted. Jared Morrill, Cottonwood CFO trainee, was also in attendance.
- Met with Jon Bloemendaal, Murray CFO, on September 3, 2014 at 9:30 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of six inspections were conducted.
- Met with Jake Grages, Jackson CFO, on September 4, 2014 at 2:30 pm to select feedlot inspection sites for the week of September 22-26. Inspections were scheduled for September 23, 2014.
- Met with Al Langseth, Nobles CFO, on September 10, 2014 at 1:30 pm to select feedlot inspection sites for the week of September 22-26. Inspections were scheduled for September 24, 2014.
- Met with Jon Bloemendall, Murray CFO, on September 17 at 9:30 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of five inspections were conducted. Feedlot inspection sites were also selected for the week of October 6-10. Inspections were scheduled for October 8, 2014.
- Met with Jake Grages, Jackson CFO, on September 23, 2014 at 8:30 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of six inspections were conducted.
- Met with Al Langseth, Nobles CFO, on September 24, 2014 at 9:30 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of four inspections were conducted.
- Met with Jon Bloemendaal, Murray CFO, on October 8, 2014 at 8:30 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of six inspections were conducted.
- Met with Al Langseth, Nobles CFO, on October 10, 2014 at 9:00 am to select feedlot inspection sites for the week of November 3. Inspections were scheduled for November 6.
- Met with Jared Morrill, Cottonwood CFO, on October 16, 2014 at 9:30 am to visit a producer's site and discuss possible environmental upgrades. The producer indicated that he would be willing to install upgrades on his property to divert clean water from his open lots and to install buffer strips to filter his runoff. Jared will be contacting an engineer to determine exact design requirements and cost estimates.
- Met with Jake Grages, Jackson CFO, on October 22, 2014 at 2:00 pm to select feedlot inspection sites for the week of November 17. Inspections were scheduled for November 20.
- Met with Jared Morrill, Cottonwood CFO, on November 4, 2014 at 2:00 pm to select feedlot inspection sites for the week of November 24-28. Inspections were scheduled for November 24.
- Met with Al Langseth, Nobles CFO, on November 6, 2014 at 8:30 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of three inspections were conducted.
- Met with Jake Grages, Jackson CFO, on November 20, 2014 at 8:30 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of eight inspections were conducted.
- Met with Jared Morrill, Cottonwood CFO, on November 24, 2014 at 12:30 pm to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of five inspections were conducted.
- Met with Al Langseth, Nobles CFO, on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at 9:00 am to select feedlot inspection sites for the week of December 15. Inspections were scheduled for December 15.
- Met with Jon Bloemendaal, Murray CFO, on Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 9:30 am to select feedlot inspection sites for the week of December 29. Inspections were scheduled for December 29.
- Met with Al Langseth, Nobles CFO, on Monday, December 15 at 8:30 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of five inspections were conducted.
- Met with Jake Grages, Jackson CFO, on Wednesday, December 17 at 2:00 pm to go review inspections completed throughout the year.
- Met with Jake Grages, Jackson CFO, on Thursday, December 18 at 11:00 am to select feedlot inspection sites for the week of December 29. Inspections were scheduled for December 30.
- Met with Jon Bloemendaal, Murray CFO, on Monday, December 29 at 9:30 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of seven inspections were conducted.
- Met with Jake Grages, Jackson CFO, on Tuesday, December 30 at 8:30 am to conduct feedlot inspections. A total of four inspections were conducted.

#### Objective 2. Task A. Website

- The semi-annual report was uploaded to the webpage on August 13, 2014.

#### Objective 2. Task B. Brochure

- Updated CFO contact information was collected for changes that need to be made to the back panel of the brochure.
- Formatting for the updated back panel on the current brochure was completed and sticker options were researched.

#### Objective 2. Task C. Conduct Semi-Annual Meetings

- A Doodle Poll was sent out to the advisory and technical committee on October 20, 2014 to gauge the availabilities for possible meeting dates.
- A date for the Semi-Annual Meeting was selected and a save the date was sent out to the advisory and technical committee on October 27, 2014. The meeting will be held on December 11, 2014.
- Semi-annual meeting was conducted in the Senior Citizens' Center at the Heron Lake Community Center on December 11, 2014.

Objective 3. Task A. Watershed Coordinator

- Attend the Third Crop Phosphorus Reduction grant meeting on July 15, 2014 at 10:30 am in the HLWD office. Discussion was held regarding which plants should be included in the seed mixture for the cover crops, when to aerially apply the seeds, and how to measure the success of the project via increased crop yields and decreased sediment erosion.
- Attend HLWD board meeting on July 15, 2014 at 8:00 pm. The new Watershed Coordinator was introduced. Progress of learning the new position and updates on the inspection process, direction of the major watershed project was provided.
- Attend the HLWD Project Site Tour on July 21, 2014 at 10:00 am. The J-hook weir site at Dale Bartosh's property and the cedar revetment site at Art Olsem's property were visited on the tour.
- Attend the Sustainable Corn Soil & Water Management Field Day on July 23 at 9:00 am at the Brian Hicks Farm in Tracey, MN. Presentations included: results of the farmer survey and interpretations of producer perceptions on climate change, impacts of climate change on farming practices, sub-surface irrigation, and sediment reduction. The day culminated with a question and answer session between those in attendance and a panel of producers, agriculture professionals, and government representatives.
- Attend HLWD board meeting on August 19, 2014 at 8:00 pm. The managers were updated on the progress of the feedlot inspection process, major watershed project, and the Clean Water Fund (CWF) and SWAG process.
- Attend the Hawk Creek Watershed Project Alternate Side Inlet Field Day in Renville, MN on August 20, 2014 at 8:30 am. Introductions to those involved in the alternate side inlet project were held. Attendees then boarded a coach bus and toured four sites which recently had alternate side inlets installed.
- Attend a webinar on August 25, 2014 at 11:00 with staff from Houston Engineering, Inc. These targeting tools would leverage the existing LiDAR and hydro-conditioned digital elevation model that is being developed by Southwest Prairie Technical Service Area. It would extend the products to include data that allows for practice suitability determinations, selection of priority resources, and effectiveness of practices related to priority resource concerns. It was determined that the HLWD would pursue funding to obtain these tools through a CWF Accelerated Implementation Grant.
- Attend a Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) webinar on September 9, 2014 at 1:15 pm with Catherine Sereg, HLWD Technician regarding the CWF Fiscal Year 2015 grants.
- Host a CFO meeting on September 11, 2014 at 10:00 am. Jon Bloemendaal, Murray CFO; Al Langseth, Nobles CFO; Jared Morrill, Cottonwood CFO; Katherine Pekarek-Scott, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA); and Jan Voit, HLWD were in attendance. Attendees discussed the progress of inspections and the changes that have been made to the amendment for the WFDNR TMDL Implementation Grant. These changes will free up approximately \$32,000 which will be used for feedlot fixes. Possible fix sites were identified and discussed in each county. It was determined that the money will be split evenly between the four counties to be used on feedlot fixes.
- Attend HLWD board meeting on September 16, 2014 at 7:00 pm. The managers were updated on the progress of the feedlot inspection process, major watershed project, and the CWF and SWAG process.
- Met with Jared Morrill, Cottonwood CFO, on September 18, 2014 at 2:00 pm to discuss feedlot fixes with producers. Two sites were visited and one producer was met with. The producer indicated he was not interested in pursuing feedlot fixes on his property.
- Attended a Heron Lake Watershed District (HLWD) Advisory Committee meeting on October 1, 2014 at 10:00 am.
- Met with Jon Lore, Brady Swanson, and Brian Nyborg, Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and Catherine Sereg, HLWD, on October 7, 2014 to resurvey cross sections on Lime Creek and Jack Creek. The cross sections were mapped with GPS and bank pins were surveyed to determine the extent of bank erosion after a one year timeframe. The cross section on Lime Creek showed about five inches of bank erosion, while the cross section on Jack Creek had three and a half feet of bank erosion.
- Attended a webinar titled "Explaining Stream Behavior to Landowners" on October 16 at 1:00 pm with Jan Voit and Catherine Sereg, HLWD.
- Attended a HLWD board meeting on October 21, 2014 at 7:00 pm. The managers were updated on the progress of the feedlot inspection process, major watershed project, and the CWF and SWAG process.
- Attended the BWSR Academy in Breezy Point from October 28-30, 2014. The training sessions attended presented information on: CWF; floodplain wetlands; urban stormwater management; side inlets; One Watershed, One Plan; watershed planning tools; pollution estimates; healthy soil; and wetlands in the Minnesota Landscape. The training sessions were beneficial for networking with others from around the state and learning about various conservation programs, strategies, and projects.

- Attend the Watershed Network fall meeting, hosted by the MPCA, on November 18, 2014 at 9:30 am in New Ulm. Presentations were given regarding non-point priority funding, Clean Water Road Map, Restorable Wetland Prioritization Tool, Wild River Academy, Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan, and the Minnesota River congress.
- Attend a Cover Crop Field Day on November 20, 2014 in Okabena. Presentations were given by several agriculture professionals regarding the use of cover crops. A trip to Jerry and Nancy Ackermann's property then followed to examine soil pits located in a field planted with cover crops.
- Attend a HLWD board meeting on November 24, 2014 at 8:00 am. The managers were updated on the BWSR Academy, Toro Legacy Grant, Des Moines River Core Team meeting, Cover Crop Field Day, MPCA Watershed Network fall meeting, feedlot inspections, and planning for WFDNR TMDL semi-annual meeting.
- Attended a HLWD Advisory Committee meeting on December 2, 2014 at 9:00 am.
- Attended a staff meeting with Jan Voit and Catherine Sereg, HLWD, on December 9, 2014 at 8:00 am. Grant reporting and applications were discussed and a timeline was created.
- Katherine Pekarek-Scott, MPCA, Jan Voit, and Amanda Schultz, HLWD met on December 11, 2014 to discuss the TMDL Implementation Project.
- Attended a HLWD Communication Workshop on December 17, 2014 at 9:00 am. The workshop focused on better relations and communication between managers and staff.
- Attended day two of the HLWD Communication Workshop on December 18, 2014 at 9:00. The second day of the workshop built off of the previous day's sessions.
- Attended a HLWD board meeting on December 17, 2014 at 11:30 am. The managers were updated on the WFDNR TMDL Implementation Project Semi-Annual Meeting, interim report for the SWAG, eLINK reporting for the Clean Water Fund grant, and feedlot inspections.

Objective 3. Task B. Reporting

- The semi-annual report was approved on August 11, 2014.
- Work began on the semi-annual report on December 22, 2014.

**2. List all products (documents, pamphlets, videos, maps, etc.) produced in this reporting period:**

- Project updates for July, August, September, October, November, and December
- Semi-Annual Meeting invitation
- PowerPoint presentation for the Semi-Annual Meeting
- Semi-Annual Meeting minutes

**3. Challenges faced (optional):**

**4. Summary of monitoring data collected (if applicable):**

n/a

**4a. Have all monitoring stations been established in EQUIS?**  Yes  No  N/A

**4b. Are the data being routinely submitted for storage into EQUIS?**  Yes  No  NA

If yes, last submittal date (mm/dd/yyyy): \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Are the Best Management Practices data being annually entered into eLINK)?**  Yes  No  N/A

If yes, date last entered (mm/dd/yyyy): \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Describe specific (quantifiable, if possible) results achieved during this period:**

Entire Watershed – 449 Sites Inspected

- Open Lots – 239
- Total Confinement or No Discharge Sites – 92
- Deactivated Sites or No Lots Present or Under 10 AU – 118



### III. Expenditure Information for this Period

Provide a copy of your work plan budget showing cumulative expenditures and budget balances by work plan objective and task. Also, fill out the summary below.

Expenditure Report attached

<b>Complete the table below:</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Total Grant Amount	\$190,248.00
Total Match Amount (if applicable)	\$163,975.00
<b>Total Project Amount</b>	<b>\$354,223.00</b>
Grant Expenditures this period	\$16,084.26
Match Expenditures this period (if applicable)	\$22,775.50
Cumulative Grant Expenditures to date	\$109,750.94
Cumulative Match Expenditures to date (if applicable)	\$115,958.38
<b>Total Cumulative Expenditures to date</b>	<b>\$225,709.32</b>

Date form completed (mm/dd/yyyy): 1/20/2015