



LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

616 THIRD AVENUE, TWO HARBORS, MN 55616

P: (218) 834-8370

WWW.CO.LAKE.MN.US/SWCD

Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors

Thursday, November 8th noon

408 1st Avenue, Two Harbors, MN 55616

- Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:07 PM by Chair Todd Ronning.
Present: Ronning – Haus- Omarzu -Sagen-Brodigan
Absent: None
Guests: Erin Loeffler, Rachel Brodeur
Staff: Tucker-Smerud-Hogfeldt
- Agenda: **Motion by Brodigan and seconded by Sagen to approve the agenda. Affirmative: Ronning, Haus, Omarzu, Sagen, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried.**
- Minutes: **Motion by Haus and seconded by Brodigan to approve the minutes for October 11th, 2018 meeting as printed. Affirmative: Ronning, Haus, Omarzu, Sagen, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried.**
- Treasurers Report: **Motion by Sagen and seconded by Omarzu to approve the treasures report as presented. Affirmative: Ronning, Haus, Omarzu, Sagen, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried.**
- **Guest Updates:**
- NRCS Report: Jon Sellnow's report was shared.
- District Manager:
- Tucker update the Board on the progress working with PEIP for health insurance. We will be submitting applications from staff soon.
- **Cost Share: Motion by Haus and seconded by Brodigan to send a letter of denial for the Wright Culvert request. Affirmative: Ronning, Haus, Omarzu, Sagen, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried**
- Hogfeldt updated the Board about the Beaver River project. They should be completed by this Friday. He has been supervising the tree planting on site. **Motion by Sagen and seconded by Omarzu to approve the payment of the Stantec Invoice to Silver Bay. Affirmative: Ronning, Haus, Omarzu, Sagen, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried.** Tucker will request reimbursement. The DNR funds have been extended to next year to complete the planting in the Spring. **Motion by Omarzu and seconded by Omarzu to sign the DNR Contract extension. Affirmative: Ronning, Haus, Omarzu, Sagen, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried.**
- **Motion by Haus and seconded by Brodigan to sign and pay the Hasse Voucher for \$8,280 for drain tiles using Flood Funds. Affirmative: Ronning, Haus, Omarzu, Sagen, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried.**
- Cost Share Policy: The template used by other districts was in the Board packet. We will work at getting the policy ready for approval at the December meeting. Hogfeldt present a proposal for a cost share projects for terrestrial invasives. Loeffler stated that we would need to get a Nonstructural Land Management Practices Implementation Plan approved before we can have a program for invasives.
- **Motion by Haus and seconded by Sagen to approve applying for Crew Days for 2019. Affirmative: Ronning, Haus, Omarzu, Sagen, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried.**

- Stewart is working with NRRI on a Coastal grant for “Chloride Contamination in Lake Superior”. More information in December.
- BWSR is trying a pilot for new rules for the Annual Financial report. If we have an audit scheduled from an outside Auditor for the year (\$income over \$500.000) we will have a simple form to fill out and submit to BWSR and then the Auditor will do the full form that we are both doing now. This should save Staff time.
- Sonja spoke about the Invasives Conference that Hogfeldt and she attended, and she presented at. She showed three more Maps that Elizabeth Anderson worked on. Everyone agreed that the maps have been very well received.

Correspondence:

NACD Membership request: The Board decided not to join.

- Request from Cook County to sign the Joint ownership agreement for the Trimble Total Station. **Motion by Sagen and seconded by Omarzu to approve and sign the joint agreement. Affirmative: Ronning, Haus, Omarzu, Sagen, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried.**

Supervisor Committee Reports and Concerns:

Audit Committee: Motion by Sagen and seconded by Haus to accept the Audit committee’s signing 22 checks and 12 auto deposits for a total of \$173,207.05. Affirmative: Ronning, Haus, Omarzu, Sagen, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried.

- **Annual Meeting:** The annual meeting will be held December 9-11 **Motion by Omarzu and seconded by Haus to approve sending up to 4 Staff or Supervisors to the Annual Meeting. Affirmative: Ronning, Haus, Omarzu, Sagen, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried.**
- **Stream Symposium:** Ronning, Omarzu and Brodigan attended and felt it was run very well and very informative.
- **County Property Owner’s Guide:** Smerud took notes of corrections that she will add to the digital copy on line. A sheet with updated information will be added into the copies that we have on hand. The County will probably take the lead on replacing it with a new version.

Next meeting will be December 13th at Noon.

Motion by Sagen and seconded Brodigan to adjourn the meeting at 2:47. Affirmative: Ronning, Haus, Omarzu, Sagen, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried.

Todd Ronning, Chairman

Doug Haus, Secretary

Submitted by:

Karen R. Tucker, District Manager

For:

Doug Haus, Lake SWCD

Engineering Monthly Update

October 10, 2018 to November 2, 2018

Prepared by Derrick Passe



WETLAND CONSERVATION ACT

Alteration Plan Applications - Louisiana Pacific Expansion, Split Rock Mountain Bike Trail

Wetland delineations - City of Silver Bay (3) (repeat from prev. meeting), MN Power Substation-Airport Road

COST SHARE

East Beaver River Restoration

Schedule

- 11/2-11/7 Construction wrapping up.
- New channel open (It wasn't pretty)

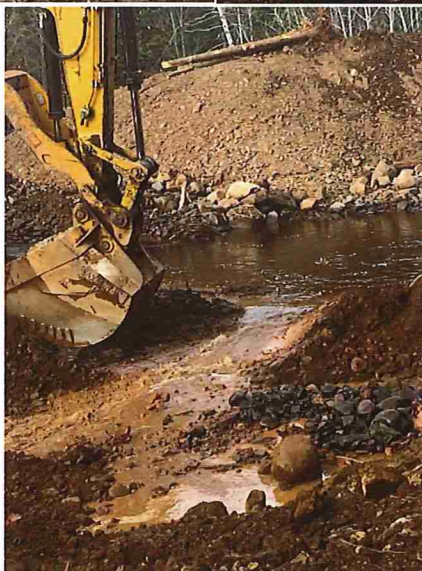




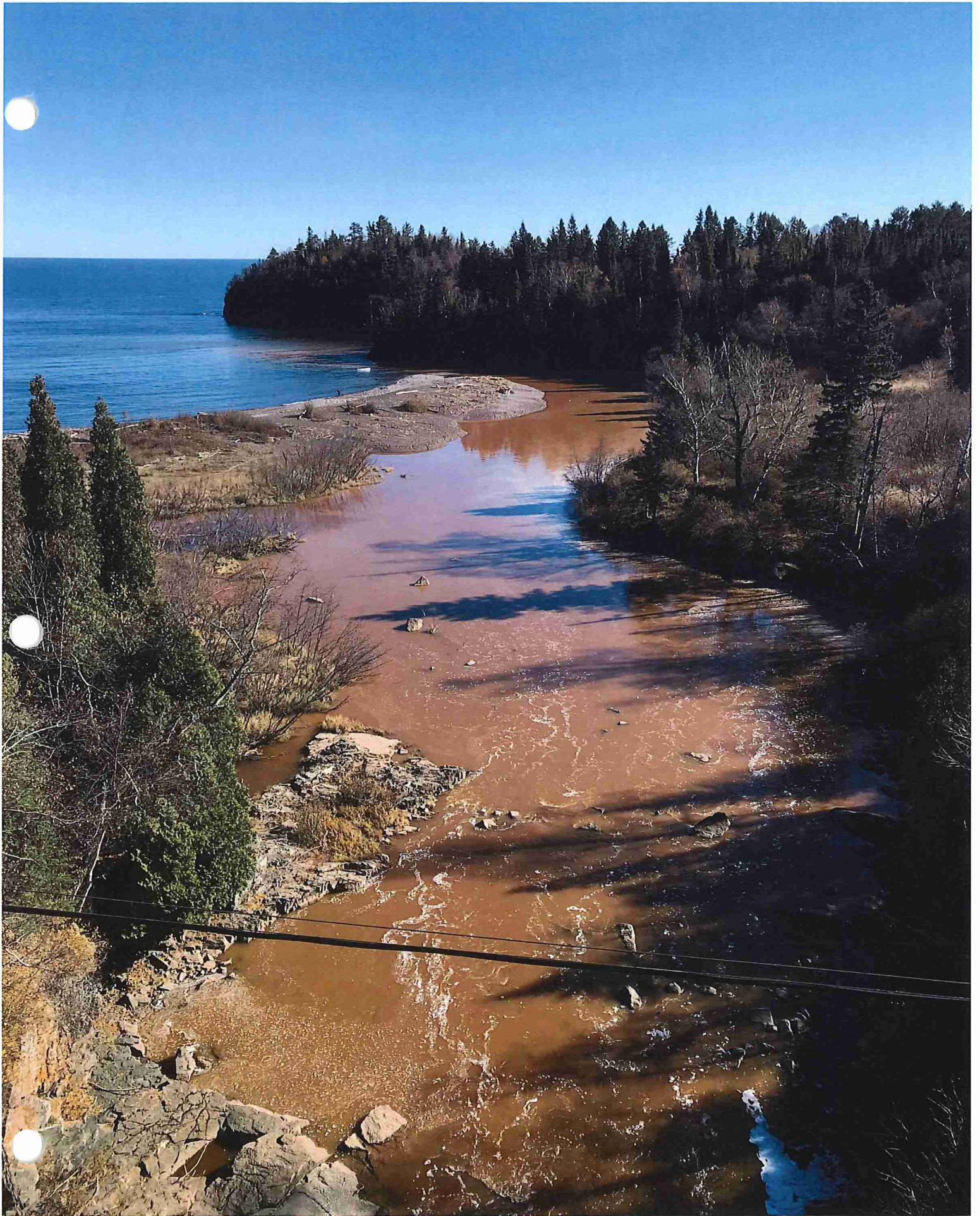
Photo – Courtesy of MNDOT

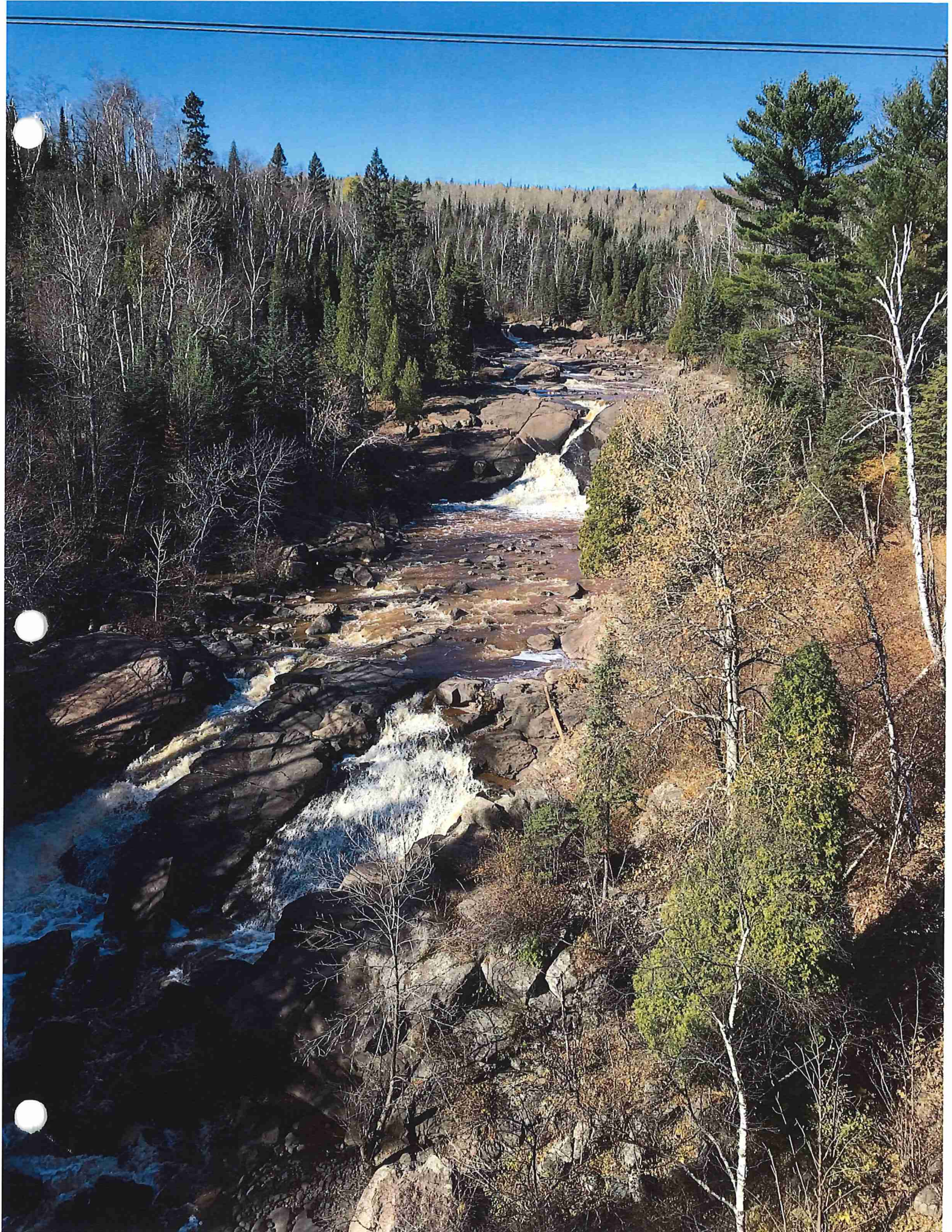
- 10/31 met with DNR, Stantec, County on site.
 - Created Punchlist
 - Discussed restoration of temporary wetland impacts
- 11/5 Boreal Natives scheduled to seed site (\$9820).
- 11/5- 11/9 SWCD/CCMI to undertake tree planting (145 white pines, white spruce and white cedar available from SWCD Inventory.) **DNR Funding can be extended into 2019 to pay for restoration.**
- Spring 2019- Anticipate shrub, willow, bare root planting of non-riparian areas. Apply for CWF Crew.

PROJECTS

Susan Duffy – reviewed Site

Stewart River – Walked site with TSA and FEMA. Potential for FEMA funding for repairs.







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October 2018 Forestry Report

Tim Byrns

Forest Stewardship Plans

- Rodney Johnson FSP- 90 acres, inventory and plan completed
- Eric Sismo FSP request- 40 acres (plan rewrite)
- Matt Carlson FSP request (Cook County)

NRCS EQIP Plans

- John Coultier Forest Stand Improvement and Woody Residue Treatment project - 36 acres, TNT has begun work
- Sheryl Camper Forest Stand Improvement and Woody Residue Treatment project- 13 acres postponed until spring 2019
- Steve Dlohy Forest Stand Improvement, Woody Residue Treatment Request
- Does Gerdes, Forest Stand Improvement, Woody Residue Treatment Request

Project Certifications

- Terry Gydesen, tree planting and protection
- Julie Andres, tree planting and certification
- Paul Fish, bank stabilization

Grant Updates

- NRCS Conservation Collaborative Grant for the Arrowhead Forest Partnership ready for implementation

Engineering Assistance

- Crown Creek road project design completed and delivered to landowner
- Wright subdivision culvert improvement denial letter
- 17th Ave ditch seeding and blanketing, City of Two Harbors completed

Meetings

- Forestry GIS Meeting October 2, SWCD Office
- Arrowhead Forest Partnership, October 3, Duluth NRCS Field Office
- River Restoration 2018, October 29, Superior Shores Resort

Rainy River Citizen Engagement

- Ely Community Resource AIS monitoring projects
 - (Ongoing) Plankton Community project aimed at defining spiny waterflea densities in Burntside, Shagawa and Fall Lakes and characterize how the native zooplankton community responds. We are exposing several students per week to AIS/plankton sampling protocols, laboratory techniques, microscope use, and dichotomous key use. (ECR students conduct this activity during summer, and then the Ely High School picks it up while school is in session).
- Held an orientation session at Ely High School for the students involved in the plankton project
- Winterization of water quality sondes and other equipment.
- Working with DNR and USFS on an oxy-thermal pinch study on 4 lakes in Lake County (and 1 in Cook). These are lakes that are thought to be particularly sensitive to climate change in that the habitable area for fish in summertime is “pinched” into an increasingly thin zone which is cold enough (deeper), but also has adequate oxygen (shallower). USFS purchased the temperature loggers and providing help with field work (James Anderson). DNR to provide various sampling equipment and run analysis. Lake SWCD (me) to lead field work, and compile data. Loggers have been deployed in 5 of 5 lakes and oxygen profiles are being conducted bi-weekly in 4 of these lakes. Monthly in Cook County’s Loon Lake. Temp sensors have been retrieved and data downloaded and distributed to DNR.
- Working on obtaining 2 separate grants for 2 riparian improvement projects. Sites are: North shore of Pickerel Lake, and FS-owned land between Farm/Garden Lakes. I’m working with FS Silviculture folks for prescriptions and technical expertise. We’ve done similar projects on Birch Lake with success.
- Researching different options for metals testing on Birch/White Iron Lakes. Original quote from Pace was over \$25k (to do both sampling and analysis), 18k to do just the analysis, and around 3k for just the analysis of Arsenic, Copper, and Nickel. NRS lab in Grand Rapids is much cheaper (3-4k for all parameters), but detection limits are not as good for these three parameters. Could possibly deliver samples to both labs for cost savings, or Just to NRS with the acceptance of lower detection limits (I think this is fine, but its WICOLA’s decision).



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES REPORT OCTOBER 3 – NOVEMBER 1, 2018

**PREPARED BY: SONJA SMERUD, AIS COORDINATOR
LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

OUTREACH

- Regional AIS Call and Outreach Planning with Cook, St. Louis and Wildlife Forever – Nov 1
 - Developing two new PSAs 2019: Didymo/Lake Superior Streams and BWCA/Bait
- Completed unique ad for North Shore Explorer 2019 publication (print and online)
- Brainstorming with Burntside, Vermilion LA about regional efforts
- Conceptualizing and drafting Story Map for AIS Projects & Programs Summary
- Expansion of StarryTrek 2019 with Vermilion LA – meeting at UMISC

WATERCRAFT INSPECTIONS

- Compiling and Reporting on 2018 Data Begun (Pivot Table Analysis)

MONITORING, ASSESSMENTS, GRANTS, ADMIN

- UMISC Conference in Rochester – October 15th – 18th
 - International, National, Regional Representation - Networking
 - 20min Presentation on Water Watchers and Youth Outreach (at least 30 attendees) with Lake County and Regional 4H Extension
 - Native and Invasive Aquatic Plant Workshop from Paul Skawinski
 - UMN premiering new Extension Course educating citizens on how best to engage resource managers
 - Starry Stonewort best managed when caught early and pulled by hand
 - Wild Spotters working in National Parks with EddMaps, EddMaps still primarily information sharing platform
 - Water garden plants an increasing concern: Parrot Feather & Yellow Floating Heart in Michigan
 - Red Swamp crayfish in Michigan: trapping a valuable tool for detection of invasions and perhaps more reliable than eDNA but time is of the essence
 - Need for a data dictionary in house
 - Importance of documentation in restoration projects; sweet spot of effectiveness
 - MIPN developing a revegetation guide for post-invasive species removal; focus in future GLRI funding will be on revegetation
- Phragmites – seeking advanced monitoring efforts from last season per conversation with MNPhrag and follow-up of some reports along North Shore of invasive Phragmites (negative)

- 4th Quarter AIS Request Submitted (overbudget)
- Final seasonal invoicing (All Over Media ads)

LIZ ANDERSON– AIS

- Completed ArcCollector Project and Data Integration – AIS Monitoring Database Project

ZACH STEWART– AIS

- Cleaning/organizing summer Watercraft Inspector field-season equipment
- Worked with AIS Coordinator to plan “off-season” AIS work goals
- Distributed Lake County AIS maps to State Parks

PAUL TRYGSTAD – AIS

- Updated 2018 monitoring data in spreadsheet for entry into ArcCollector

UPCOMING – HIGHLIGHTS

- Presentation to Lake County Commissioners – 2019 Budget, Renewed Contract, AIS Plan Update approval
- Volunteer appreciation



WATER PLAN REPORT
OCTOBER 3 – NOVEMBER 1, 2018

PREPARED BY: SONJA SMERUD, WATER PLANNER
LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

- BWSR Academy Annual SWCD Training – October 29th-31st - highlighted take-aways include:
 - Implementing some strategies for Basin Alliance/Collaborations for LSN1W1P in 2019
 - Cost-Share Policy Example
 - Using Logic Models for Grants and Water Plan Implementation
 - Stormwater Training, History, & MIDs/LIDS from Jay Michaels and Washington CD
 - Partnerships and Contracting – lessons from MCIT

LAKE SUPERIOR NORTH ONE WATERSHED, ONE PLAN

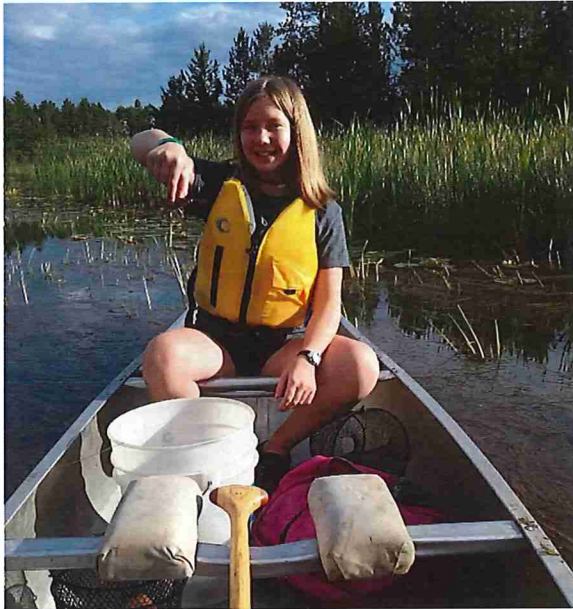
- Coastal Erosion Hazard Map Task Force
 - Task Force Meeting October 10th
 - Updated Budget, Work Plan
 - ARDC Contract – Cook SWCD approval
 - Drafted Coastal Grant for CEHM
- Presentation (Ilena) to North Shore Management Board – October 17th

ITEMS OF NOTE AND/OR MOTION NEEDED

Liz Anderson – Water Resources Technician Fall Lake Township
October Update



- Final Burntside River Rusty crayfish trapping for the season with Ely Community Resource

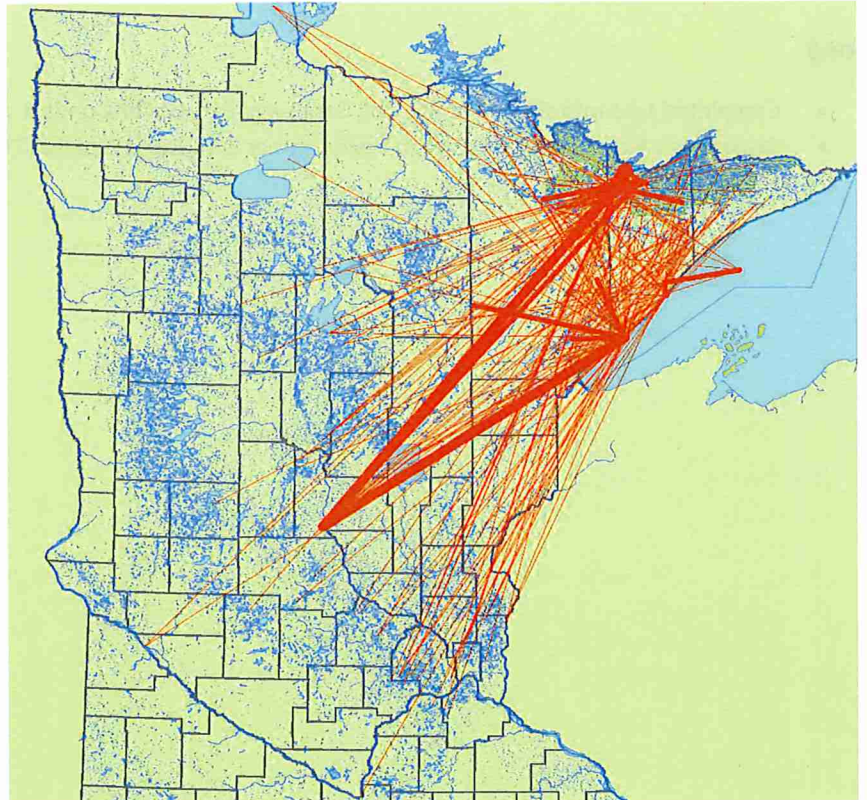


Volunteer trapper

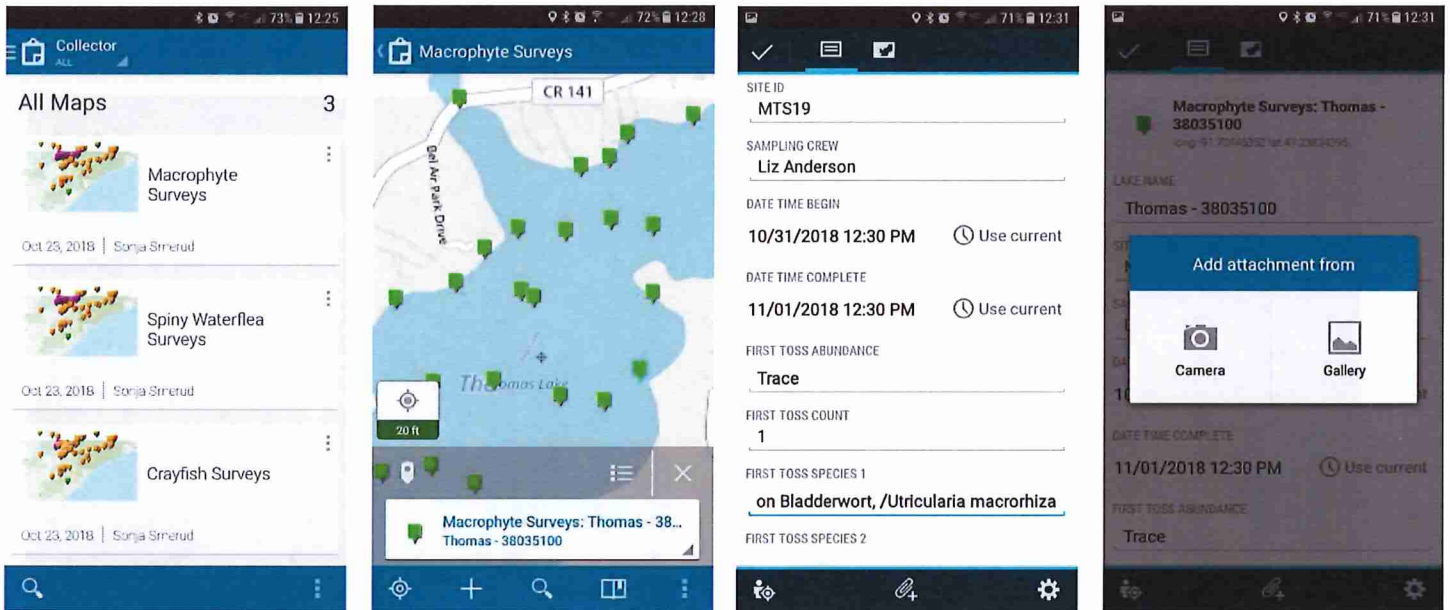


Julie Hignell of Ely Community Resource

- Created maps showing boater movement based on entry/exit surveys from watercraft inspection program and preparing report detailing those connections, AIS risk, traffic patterns, and inspector scheduling. Here is a preview image from the report:
- Developed a geodatabase and maps to be used with the Arcgis Collector app for conducting AIS surveys. This involved:
 - Compiling, validating, and reformatting past survey data into one table with the same coordinate system
 - Importing survey data to Arcmap, establishing rules for data integrity, preparing the symbology of survey features and map layers, and publishing to Lake County's ArcGIS online page
 - More map formatting on ArcGIS online
 - Testing maps and surveys on the Collector app, fixing errors, and refining functionality
 - Remaining work: write instructions for field use of the Collector app and guidelines for data management



Here are some screen shots of the Collector app with our survey maps:



Using the Collector app for AIS surveys will provide consistency in data collection, increase efficiency by combining data collection and data entry into one action, and automatically prepare data for mapping that can be used for many purposes.

- Wrapped up trial run of PWA trail cam project at boat landings and recorded data
- Last shift inspecting boats at Ely area lakes

RRHW

- Completed lake info sheets for Browns, Sand, and Fall. Waiting on this season's CLMP+ data for Cedar
- Discussing ideas for youth outreach next summer with Julie Hignell at ECR and Becca Reiss at North St. Louis SWCD

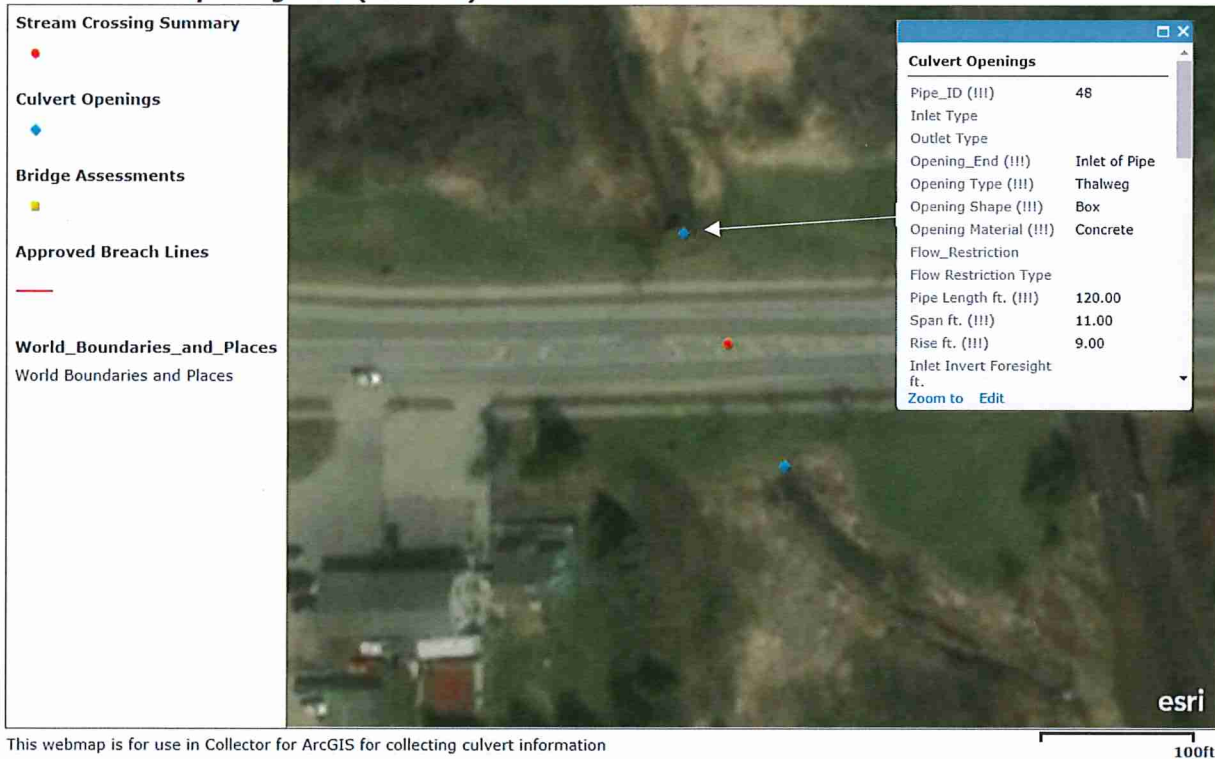
Zach Stewart

Board Report 11/1/2018

Culvert Replacement and Aquatic Organism Passage

- Attended River Restoration 2018 professional conference (Oct. 28-30)
 - Completed workshop with Bill Annable on River Restoration and Sediment Dynamics
 - Discussed future directions for designing and completing sustainable river restoration projects in the context of climate change and watershed urbanization
 - Participated in discussion panel with river restoration experts (Dave Rosgen, Andrew Simon, Patrick Belmont, Janine Castro, and Bob Barr)
 - Joined in river restoration discussions with partners at MPCA, EPA, MN DNR, and WI DNR
- Field-tested GIS culvert assessment app developed by Andy Williquette (MN DNR IT)
- Lake County culvert data can now be shared instantly via a state-wide stream crossing database. Example below shows Culvert Openings and Stream Crossing Summary datapoints that Zach collected where HWY 61 comes into town. Each point is linked to crossing measurements, assessment details, and field photos (see below).

Culvert Inventory - Long Form (Collector) - Production



E. coli Source Investigation

- Following grant reporting plan developed with District Manager
- Continuing review of pertinent peer-reviewed primary literature in preparation for drafting technical report
- Initial data analysis of 2018 culture and environmental sampling

Aquatic Invasive Species

- Cleaning/organizing summer Watercraft Inspector field-season equipment
- Worked with AIS Coordinator to plan "off-season" AIS work goals
- Distributed Lake County AIS maps to State Parks

