



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: Watonwan River Watershed Priority Management Zone Strategy
2. Project sponsor (Grantee): Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance
3. Contact name: Kay Gross
4. E-mail address: kay.clark@windomnet.com
5. Funding: [] 319 [] CWP [] Clean Water Fund [] Other:
6. Contract number: 000000000000000000077390
7. MPCA Project Manager: Paul Davis
8. Effective date (mm/dd/yyyy): 5/1/2014 Expiration date (mm/dd/yyyy): 6/30/2017

II. Semi-annual Report Information

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

Much of the work in this semi-annual report was done in conjunction with the Watonwan Watershed Civic Engagement MPCA project contracted to the Minnesota State University Water Resources Center.

Objective 1, Task A, Subtask 1: No activity.

Subtask 2: The Watonwan Watershed Technician attended the annual Board of Water & Soil Resources Academy in Breezy Point, MN, where the curriculum track was geared toward conservation marketing. The courses centered around identifying the attitudes and interests of the landowners in a specific region and how to use that information to develop a marketing plan to reach specific landowners, private property and business owners, and managers who are most likely to install conservation practices.

Subtask 3: Social scientists, outreach professionals, conservation professionals, and members of the Watonwan River Watershed Engagement Team came together for 2 sessions to develop the framework for identifying community/landowner opportunities, obstacles, and opinions on land management and water quality in the Watershed. The format emulates that of the Freeborn County Le Sueur Watershed Priority Management Zone project of face to face interviews. This format will help to build relationships, identify a variety of opinions, and provide information on conservation programs to residents of the watershed.

Through guidance from SWCD/County members, 3 priority sub-watersheds/areas were identified as starting points for engagement efforts: Mountain Lake (Cottonwood county), Long Lake (Watonwan county), and Lake Hanska (Brown/Watonwan county). We will identify residents in these priority watersheds that are conservation-minded and open to being interviewed about their views on land management and water quality in the region. Several informational handouts will be provided to the interviewee: best management practice (BMP) information, maps of identified areas where BMPs could be implemented, list of conservation programs, contact information for local conservation and technical professionals, and information on how to become more involved. Further Inquiry during interviews will ideally provide opportunities for additional interviews based on interviewee suggestions.

A list of questions and topics for the interview have been proposed. Areas of interest included barriers to conservation, trends in land use and water quality, involvement in the community, personal conservation goals and achievements, financial decision making, land ethic, and family ties. The interview should last approximately 45-60 minutes, depending on the willingness and involvement of the interviewee.

Task B: No budget report has been submitted due to no reimbursement requests. This is the first semi-annual report being submitted for the project.

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

Various handouts have been identified that will be useful in providing targeted information to interviewees:

- *Various MN DNR shoreline and streambank informational documents.
- *Agriculture and Urban BMP information.
- *Soil health literature.
- *Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) program summaries.
- *Federal & State conservation easement program summaries.
- *GBERBA services and program summaries.

3. Challenges faced (optional):

It has been difficult to identify priority areas that will provide the best opportunity to effect change.

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:

Phosphorus Load Reduction: _____ lbs./year

Nitrogen Load Reduction: _____ lbs./year

Sediment Load Reduction: _____ lbs./year

7. Did the MPCA execute a change order or amendment for this project during this reporting period? No Yes

If yes, summarize those changes:

8 List anticipated program objectives or tasks to be completed during the next six (6) months please be specific):

Objective 1, Task A, subtask 2: Attend specialized training workshops or sessions on administering interviews and design the community assessment process. We hope to identify 10 landowners in the 3 prioritized sub-watersheds and perform terrain analysis to identify potential areas of BMP adoption.

Subtask 3: We hope to conduct 10 interviews that will help build relationship with and among watershed citizens and provide information for community assessment. From the initial 10 interviews, we hope to identify additional interview opportunities and implement conservation practices on the landscape.

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

Complete the table below:	Amount
Total Grant Amount	\$58,638.00
Total Match Amount (if applicable)	
Total Project Amount	\$58,638.00
Grant Expenditures this period	\$0.00
Match Expenditures this period (if applicable)	
Cumulative Grant Expenditures to date	\$0.00
Cumulative Match Expenditures to date (if applicable)	
Total Cumulative Expenditures to date	\$0.00

Date form completed (mm/dd/yyyy): 01/29/2015