



Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance

DATE: SEPTEMBER 11, 2020
TO: GBERBA MEMBERS
FROM: KAY GROSS and DAVID BUCKLIN, GBERBA COORDINATORS
SUBJECT: COORDINATOR REPORT GBERBA POLICY MEETING

MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

Update on progress made in areas 5 and 6 – See Certification Specialist Reports. Over 625,000 acres and over 900 certified producers statewide!

GBERBA has the Area 5 and 6 MAWQCP administrative contract approved through 2021. The Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program is launching three new endorsements in addition to 10-year certification a farmer or landowner receives in the program. The endorsements are for soil health, integrated pest management, and wildlife.

2017 MPCA 319 Grant - Cover Crops and Alternative Tile Intakes

An Implementation Policy Paper for the grant titled "Greater Blue Earth River Basin TMDL Implementation" has been developed and reviewed at the Technical meeting. This guidance document will be posted on the GBERBA website.

Cover crops: \$50.00 dollars per acre maximum, 50% cost share maximum (\$25.00 ac.), 80-acre size maximum per owner. Prioritization required. Alternative intakes: Rock and pattern tile. \$500.00 maximum and 50% cost share.

These are federal dollars and require state or local match. Perforated risers, broom and other water quality intakes: \$200.00 maximum and 50% cost share. These are federal dollars and require state or local match.

The grant amendment has been completed and all remaining cost share for projects including Alternative intakes, Side inlets, and Cover crops will be at 50% cost share.

For 2020, the cover crop acre limits are removed. At this point the 50% cost share rate will continue. GBERBA staff has requested and received an extension of this grant due to 2019 weather conditions and the Covid-19 outbreak. The new end date of the grant will be August 31, 2021.

2017 CWF Grant- Multipurpose Drainage Management

Multipurpose Drainage Management - \$301,200: Projects for this Drainage Grant will need to be located in public ditch sheds. **GBERBA member entire counties are eligible.** Priority parameters are developed to identify the eligible ditches. A guidance policy sheet is online.

A grant Work Plan Revision has been approved by the BWSR to allow for CAP 130 Drainage Water Management plans and for Structures for Water Control.

Grant Amendment Agreement has been approved to extend the expiration date to 12-31-2020.

One Watershed One Plan Planning Grants, Watonwan and Le Sueur Watershed

The Watonwan 1W1P Planning Project has completed the Plan 60 day comment period. The revised plan document is complete. The next step is for the plan to have public hearings in each county. The BWSR Board has chosen the Le Sueur Watershed for a 2021 planning grant!

The GBERBA Policy board has agreed to revise the Joint Powers Agreement to allow inclusion of 1W1P duties. A GBERBA committee is working to assist with writing a new GBERBA Joint Powers document. The new document would allow for the Watonwan, Le Sueur, and Blue Earth Watersheds to participate if the individual watersheds 1W1P boards see a benefit to do so.

2021 Minnesota Conservation Corps Position

The Minnesota/Iowa Conservation Corps program has received the GBERBA application for a 2021, one-year position to assist GBERBA with the MAWQCP program.

2021 Clean Water Fund Grant Application

GBERBA staff has submitted a Projects and Practices Drinking Water application for protection of public drinking water sources within the Watonwan Watershed. We should find out in December, 2020 if the application receives funding.

KAY GROSS: Administrative Coordinator
DAVID BUCKLIN: Technical Coordinator
KARI CLOUSE: Financial Coordinator

210 10th Street Windom, MN 56101
PHONE: (507) 832-8287

E-MAIL: kay.gross@co.cottonwood.mn.us
E-MAIL: david.bucklin@co.cottonwood.mn.us
E-MAIL: kari.clouse@co.cottonwood.mn.us



Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

South Central MAWQCP Certification Specialist

Serving the Counties of: Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, McLeod, Nicollet, Renville, Sibley, Waseca, Watonwan



Herman Bartsch
AREA 6 MAWQCP CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST
August 20th, 2020

Workload:

- Working with producers and SWCDs to complete assessments and certifications
- Assisting producers with MDA Grant Applications
- Cover Crop Plans
- Practice Plans
- Program Reviews
- Endorsements
- Field Verifications

AREA 6	Applications	Assessments	Certifications
Blue Earth SWCD	14	13	7
Brown SWCD	13	7	3
Faribault SWCD	28	22	18
LeSueur SWCD	14	9	5
Martin SWCD	13	7	5
McLeod SWCD	9	7	4
Nicollet SWCD	2	1	1
Renville SWCD	16	10	8
Sibley SWCD	3	3	3
Waseca SWCD	12	11	5
Watonwan SWCD	13	10	7
Total	137	100	66

Certified producers will be given "high priority" for Conservation Stewardship Program funding through NRCS.

Producers continue to use the MDA \$5,000 grant to install conservation practices that will address water quality concerns and help them gain certification.

MAWQCP is beginning to offer **three new endorsements** in addition to certification. Endorsements will recognize producers who are going above and beyond in the areas of **soil health, integrated pest management, and wildlife.**

MAWQCP Numbers as of 8-17-20

- 935 producers certified
- 649,703 acres certified
- 1,920 new practices installed or planned to be installed
- Sediment delivery to surface waters reduced by 37,734 tons per year
- Soil loss reduced by 105,981 tons per year
- Phosphorus loss reduced by 46,798 lbs. of P per year
- 15 Soil Health Endorsements
- 14 IPM Endorsements
- 14 Wildlife Endorsements

Herman Bartsch:
Area 6 Certification Specialist
422 Belgrade Ave, Suite 104
North Mankato, MN 56003

Office: (507) 344-3210
Cell: (507) 380-9134

E-MAIL:
hermanbartsch@outlook.com



Greater Blue Earth River Basin

September 1st, 2020



DANIELLE EVERS

AREA 5 MAWQCP CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST

Serving the Counties of: Cottonwood, Jackson, Lac Qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Rock, & Yellow Medicine

Projects and Workload:

- Continuing to “meet” with producers for assessments, mapping, & uploading documents for state verification
- Assisting producers in submitting MAWQCP Cost-Share Grant Applications
- Working on program promotion, and story map participation
- Working to finish up the assessments and program reviews
- Doing field verifications

Events:

- August 27th – RCPP Conference Call
- September – New Employee Training – Ivanhoe, MN
- September 10th – Soil Health School - Marshall, MN

Program Updates and Information:

- Drafted a new customizable “press release” advertisement for the MAWQCP. Contact me if you would like me to personalize it for your county.
- Grant applications still available for up to \$5,000 75% cost-share through the MDA for producers
- MAWQCP has certified over **944 farms**, including over **654,172 acres** with **1,941 new BMP’s**
- Estimated benefits include: **37,747 tons** of TSS reduced per year, **106,074 tons** soil reduced per year, **46,822 lbs** Phosphorous reduced per year, ***38,445 CO_{2-e} tons** per year **NOTE Last number listed here was incorrect**
- **17** Soil Health Endorsements, **16** Integrated Pest Management Endorsements, **14** Wildlife Endorsements

TO DATE NUMBERS

Area 5	Applications	Assessments Completed	Actively Pursuing Cert.	Certifications	Endorsements		
					IPM	Soil Health	Wildlife
Cottonwood	35	33	1	15	0	0	0
Jackson	33	32	0	18	2	2	0
Lac Qui Parle	6	6	0	4	0	0	0
Lincoln	21	20	0	6	1	0	1
Lyon	16	15	0	8	0	0	0
Murray	17	17	3	10	0	0	0
Nobles	16	15	0	10	0	0	0
Pipestone	44	40	1	20	0	0	0
Redwood	35	34	1	22	1	1	0
Rock	22	16	1	12	0	0	0
Yellow Med.	29	29	1	17	0	0	0
Totals	274	257	8	142	3	2	1

DANIELLE EVERS:
Area 5 Certification Specialist
119 2nd St SW Suite 13
Pipestone, MN 56164

PHONE: (507) 825-1199
CELL: (507) 221-0304

E-MAIL:
Danielle.Evers@co.pipestone.mn.us



Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

Agriculture and Water Outreach Corpsmember
Conservation Corps of MN & IA
Ashley Broussard



Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance



August 19th 2020

Workload:

- Assisting Herman and Danielle with mapping assessed fields in the MAWQCP mapping tool and assessment tool
- Run P-index on MAWQCP farms
- Blogging for the Conservation Corps
- RIM, ditch, and CRP inspections with Hannah and Becky

Projects and Events:

- Work with MAWQCP and contacting newly certified producers
- Attend producer meetings with Herman and Danielle
- Attend 1W1P, GBERBA, and SWCD meetings
- Riverfest parade 8/15

Upcoming Events:

- Continue work with MAWQCP mapping and assessment tool and running the P-index
- MN Soil Health Coalition Soil Health School (9/10-9/11)
- *(Tentative date)* MAWQCP filming for Conservation Corps

Ashley Broussard
Agriculture and Water Outreach Corpsmember
210 10th Street
Windom MN 56101

Cell:(815)600-6906

Email: Broussard.Ashley@outlook.com

Month Ending 8/31/2020
GBERBA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING - 9/11/2020

Checking /Savings Beginning Balance - 7/31/2020 \$ 109,663.87
 Total Receipts 24,956.62
 Total Disbursements (29,689.57)
Checking/Savings Balance - 8/31/2020 \$ 104,930.92

Receipts 8/1/2020 to 8/31/2020
 Minnesota Pollution Control - January - June 2020 - 319 Grant Reimbursement \$ 24,952.26
 Interest 4.36
\$ 24,956.62

Disbursements - 8/1/2020-8/31/2020
 3935 VOID \$ -
 3936 Pipestone SWCD - MAWQCP Area 5 Specialist 6,774.80
 3937 Cottonwood SWCD - MAWQCP Area 6 Specialist 9,562.61
 3938 Yellow Medicine SWCD - MAWQCP - TS-87-5-06 - Additional Technical Assistance 6,000.00
 3939 Dale Hesemann - MAWQCP - 32-5-21 - Worksheet/Certification Incentive 300.00
 3940 Ken Lucht - MAWQCP - 32-5-22 - Worksheet Incentive 100.00
 3941 Gary Carlson - MAWQCP - 51-5-14 - Worksheet Incentive 100.00
 3942 Keith Carlson - MAWQCP - 51-5-15 - Worksheet Incentive 100.00
 3943 Stephen Schreier - MAWQCP - 51-5-16 - Worksheet Incentive 100.00
 3944 Brian and Gloria Greenslit - MAWQCP - 65-6-08 - Worksheet Incentive 100.00
 3945 Richard Enger - MAWQCP - 83-6-09 - Worksheet/Certification Incentive 300.00
 3946 Jason Wayne Smith - MAWQCP - 83-6-10 - Worksheet Incentive 100.00
 3947 Jeremy Smidt - MAWQCP - 59-5-30 - Worksheet Incentive 100.00
 3948 Cottonwood SWCD - GBERBA Coordinators 6,052.16
\$ 29,689.57

Accounts Payable - 9/11/2020
 3949 Cottonwood SWCD - GBERBA Coordinators \$ 4,588.15
 3950 Pipestone SWCD - MAWQCP Area 5 Specialist 6,934.34
 3951 Cottonwood SWCD - MAWQCP Area 6 Specialist 6,822.03
 3952 Tony Dick - 319-TMDL-16-17-08 - Cover Crop Cost-Share - CHECK REISSUED 914.34
 3953 Doug Meyer - 319-TMDL-16-22-62 - Alternative Tile Intakes - Cost-Share 500.00
 3954 Redwood SWCD - MAWQCP - TS-64-5-06 - Additional Technical Assistance 6,000.00
 3955 Brian Etrheim - MAWQCP - 59-5-31 - Worksheet Incentive 100.00
 3956 Craig Rollag - MAWQCP - 67-5-17 - Worksheet Incentive 100.00
 3957 Thomas Balfany - MAWQCP - 87-5-20 - Worksheet/Certification Incentive 300.00
 3958 Todd Balfany - MAWQCP - 87-5-21 - Worksheet/Certification Incentive 300.00
 3959 William Balfany - MAWQCP - 87-5-22 - Worksheet/Certification Incentive 300.00
 3960 Chris Balfany - MAWQCP - 87-5-19 - Certification Incentive 200.00
 3961 Loran Haas - MAWQCP - 87-5-23 - Worksheet/Certification Incentive 300.00
 3962 Randy Kraus - MAWQCP - 87-5-24 - Worksheet Incentive 100.00
 3963 Darryl Schwartz - MAWQCP - 08-6-05 - Worksheet Incentive 100.00
 3964 Clinton Benz - MAWQCP - 22-6-22 - Worksheet Incentive 100.00
 3965 VOID -
\$ 27,658.86

Accounts Receivable
 Minnesota Department of Ag. - July - **Received** \$ 18,697.54
 Minnesota Department of Ag. - August - **Requested** \$ 22,575.38
\$ 41,272.92

Bank Account Balances
 GBERBA Checking - #1839 \$ 39,996.34
 GBERBA CWL Savings - #3367 34,888.83
 GBERBA Operating Savings - regulated funds - #1871 30,045.75
\$ 104,930.92

Grant Balances and Projects

GBERBA Policy Board Meetings - 9-11-2020

		Grant Deadlines		Grant 37		Grant 39	
County	Code	Project Dev. & T/E	Project Funds	Cover Crops/Intakes	Multi Purpose DM		
Blue Earth	7						
Brown	8						
Cottonwood	17						
Faribault	22						
Freeborn	24						
Jackson	32						
LeSueur	40						
Martin	46						
Waseca	81						
Watonwan	83						
		Encumbered and/or Paid Totals					
		Funds Remaining					
319-TMDL	22-33	J-Ace Farms, Inc - J.Erdahl	\$1,119.20	cover crops	Slippage - \$880.80	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	22-34	Scott Voiz	\$1,180.00	cover crops	Slippage - \$820.00	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	22-35	Tim Murray	\$557.37	cover crops	Slippage - \$442.63	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	22-36	Daryl Murray	\$627.48	cover crops	Slippage - \$497.52	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	17-07	Darby Harder	\$2,000.00	cover crops	Slippage - \$380.00	8/1/2020	2/14/2020
319-TMDL	07-07	Roger Hubmer	\$1,620.00	cover crops	Slippage - \$380.00	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	07-08	John Rollings	\$500.00	cover crops	Slippage - \$380.00	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	81-04	Tom Klug	\$1,306.70	cover crops	Slippage - \$68.30	8/1/2020	11/8/2019
319-TMDL	81-05	Dan Roemhildt	\$681.40	cover crops	Slippage - \$1318.60	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	22-37	Mark Yokiel	\$1,572.90	cover crops	Slippage - \$177.10	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	22-38	Nathan Carr	\$1,165.25	cover crops	Slippage - \$834.75	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	22-39	Clint Eastman	\$1,446.53	cover crops	Slippage - \$453.47	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	22-40	Ryan Hagedorn	\$1,180.00	cover crops	Slippage - \$820.00	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	22-41	Eric Volsen	\$1,506.25	cover crops	Slippage - \$493.75	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	22-42	Roger Iloff	\$1,165.50	cover crops	Slippage - \$684.50	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	81-06	Mark Byron	\$1,430.00	cover crops	Slippage - \$570.00	11/1/2019	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	22-43	Shawn Hassing	\$1,125.00	cover crops	Slippage - \$375.00	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	22-44	Schimek Enterprises	\$1,725.00	cover crops	Slippage - \$375.00	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	17-08	Tony Dick	\$914.34	cover crops	Slippage - \$1085.66	8/1/2020	5/8/2020
319-TMDL	22-45	Jared Mensing	\$1,368.00	cover crops	Slippage - \$532.00	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	22-46	Neal Mensing	\$1,440.00	cover crops	Slippage - \$560.00	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	81-07	Terry Groskreutz	\$0.00	cover crops	Canceled 3-2020	11/1/2019	Canceled
319-TMDL	22-47	Douglas Meyer	\$500.00	alternative tile intakes	Slippage - \$166.87	8/1/2020	12/20/2019
319-TMDL	22-48	Jared Mensing	\$665.63	cover crops	Slippage - \$166.87	8/25/2020	7/10/2020
319-TMDL	22-49	Neal Mensing	\$702.10	cover crops	Slippage - \$17.90	8/25/2020	7/10/2020
319-TMDL	22-50	Neal Mensing	\$935.48	cover crops	Slippage - \$752.02	8/25/2020	7/10/2020
319-TMDL	22-51	Neal Mensing	\$1,035.32	cover crops	Slippage - \$44.68	8/25/2020	7/10/2020
319-TMDL	22-52	Neal Mensing	\$755.58	cover crops	Slippage - \$189.42	8/25/2020	7/10/2020
319-TMDL	22-53	Neal Mensing	\$1,277.29	cover crops	Slippage - \$320.21	8/25/2020	7/10/2020
319-TMDL	22-54	Faribault Co. D.A.	\$45,981.00	Grade Stabilizations		8/1/2020	
319-TMDL	22-55	Andy Linder	\$6,325.00	cover crops		8/25/2020	
319-TMDL	22-56	Bill Rauenhorst	\$4,220.00	cover crops		8/25/2020	
319-TMDL	22-57	Trails End Farms	\$6,020.00	cover crops		8/25/2020	
319-TMDL	22-58	J-Ace Farms	\$17,400.00	cover crops		8/25/2020	
319-TMDL	22-59	Eric Volsen	\$10,462.50	cover crops		8/25/2020	
319-TMDL	22-60	Don Linder	\$6,322.50	cover crops		8/25/2020	
319-TMDL	81-08	Terry Groskreutz	\$315.50	cover crops	Slippage - \$434.50	8/31/2020	6/12/2020
319-TMDL	81-09	Curt Russell	\$675.00	cover crops	Slippage - \$434.50	8/25/2020	5/8/2020
319-TMDL	17-09	Ramont Schrock	\$3,875.00	cover crops		8/27/2020	
319-TMDL	07-09	Blue Earth Co. D.A.	\$24,500.00	Alternative Side Inlets	Amendment 7/10/20	8/25/2020	
319-TMDL	07-10	Karson Duncanson	\$18,375.00	cover crops		8/25/2020	
319-TMDL	17-10	Darby Harder	\$1,550.00	cover crops		8/20/2021	
319-TMDL	17-11	Tom Muller	\$3,250.00	cover crops		8/30/2021	
319-TMDL	46-07	Andrew Krusemark	\$11,250.00	cover crops		8/30/2021	
319-TMDL	07-11	Roger Hubmer	\$6,700.00	cover crops		8/30/2021	
319-TMDL	22-61	Scott Voiz	\$4,240.00	cover crops		8/30/2021	
319-TMDL	81-10	Dan Roemhildt	\$5,230.00	cover crops		8/30/2021	
319-TMDL	22-62	Doug Meyer	\$500.00	alternative tile intakes		8/30/2021	9/11/2020
319-TMDL	81-11	Karl Swenson	\$3,000.00	cover crops		8/30/2021	
319-TMDL	22-63	Tim Perrizo	\$2,700.00	cover crops		8/30/2021	
319-TMDL	46-08	Larry Cowing	\$3,500.00	cover crops		8/30/2021	
319-TMDL	22-64	Ron Volsen	\$3,767.50	cover crops		8/30/2021	
319-TMDL	81-12	Mark Byron	\$1,900.00	cover crops		8/30/2021	
		TOTAL					
		\$309,516.78					

Grant Balances and Projects

GBERBA Policy Board Meetings - 9-11-2020

		Grant 37	Grant 39			
		Cover Crops/Intakes	Multi Purpose DM			
		8/31/2021	12/31/2020			
County	Code	Project Funds	Project Dev. & T/E			
Blue Earth	7	\$300,000.00	\$86,325.00			
Brown	8	\$56,941.24	\$2,350.24			
Cottonwood	17	\$21,266.48				
Faribault	22	\$178,668.72	\$4,575.00			
Freeborn	24	\$6,510.00				
Jackson	32					
LeSueur	40	\$19,141.17	\$50,000.00			
Martin	46	\$17,287.73	\$85,625.00			
Waseca	81	\$7,351.20				
Watonwan	83					
Encumbered and/or Paid Totals		\$309,516.78	\$226,525.00			
Funds Remaining		-\$9,516.78	\$13,795.50			
FY17 Multipurpose Drainage		Grant 39		Expiration Date	Payment Date	
CWF-MDM-17	07-01	Blue Earth DA	\$23,550.00	side inlets	12/1/18 to 12/1/19	1/12/2018
CWF-MDM-17	81-01	%Craig Austinson Byron Properties of New Richland	\$35,625.00	Bioreactor	C-S Increase \$2,775.00	10-11-19 Held Until Approved by Tech
CWF-MDM-17	22-01	G&S Drainage & Excavating	\$1,575.00	Drainage Water Mgmt Plan	4/31/19	10/12/2018
CWF-MDM-17	40-01	Le Sueur County Drainage Authority	\$50,000.00	Storage and Treatment Wetland	12/1/19 C-S Increase \$13,551.50	
CWF-MDM-17	07-02	Blue Earth DA %Craig Austinson	\$0.00	Water Sediment Control Basin or ASI/ASIRO	12/1/2019	Canceled
CWF-MDM-17	07-03	Blue Earth DA %Craig Austinson	\$0.00	Water Sediment Control Basin or ASI/ASIRO	12/1/2019	Canceled
CWF-MDM-17	81-02	Waseca County Drainage Authority	\$50,000.00	Storage and Treatment Wetland Restoration	Canceled 2-14-2020 Amendment 12-31-2020	
CWF-MDM-17	07-04	Blue Earth DA %Craig Austinson	\$37,650.00	Water Sediment Control Basin or ASI/ASIRO	12/19/2019	
CWF-MDM-17	0705	Blue Earth DA %Craig Austinson	\$25,125.00	Water Sediment Control Basin or ASI/ASIRO	12/1/2020	
CWF-MDM-17	22-02	Faribault Co. Drainage Authority	\$3,000.00	Denitrifying Bioreactor	12/1/2020	
TOTAL			\$226,525.00			

Amend Partial Pmt 10-11-19
\$27,439.64 Amend End Date
12-31-2020

Amend - C-S Increase and
End Date 12-31-20

Canceled 2-14-2020

Canceled 2-14-2020
Amendment
12-31-2020