



One Watershed, One Plan

BWSR Academy - 2013



“Each River system, from its headwater in the forest to its mouth at the coast, is a unit and should be treated as such”

President Theodore Roosevelt



One Watershed, One Plan History & Background

BWSR Academy
October 2013



Outline

- Background & drivers
- Framework concepts
- Benefits
- Schedule



History

- 2011-12 Local Gov't Water Roundtable
- Complaints of too many players
- Draft policy recommendations:
 - Watershed management (scale)
 - Comprehensive water planning & management
 - State Funding Process for Local Water Plan Implementation

LGR Policy Rec 1: Use major wshds

- Watershed management should use (81) major watersheds or smaller





LGR Policy Rec 2: Look at it all

- Use existing statutes and rules to streamline the process to integrate local government capacity for ground and surface water mgmt.
- Streamline the water planning process by organizing on major watersheds instead of county and/or SWCD boundary.
- BWSR should adopt plan content rules that acknowledge and replace the SWCD, WD, and County plans.



LGR Policy Rec 3: Better funding idea

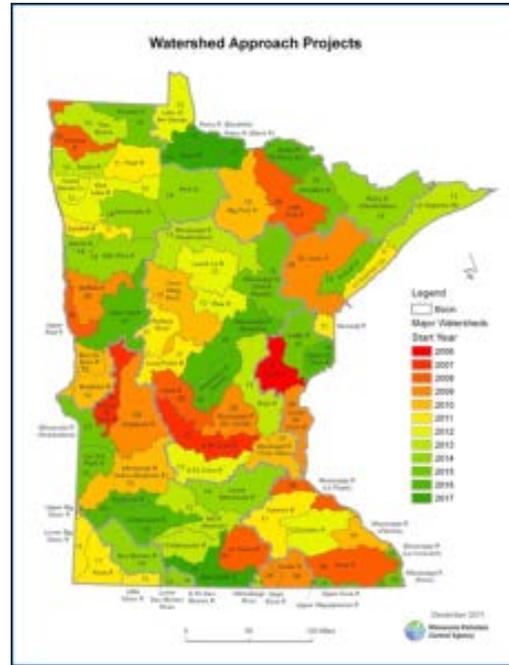
- Distribute all 'water funds' on equitable statewide basis as a foundation for implementing local priorities.
- Provide watershed level funding authority outside of levy limits for base and programmatic activities.
- Require a formal agreement to receive funding for a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.



1W1P - 2012 Legislation

- BWSR may adopt resolutions, policies, or orders that allow a comprehensive plan, local water management plan, or watershed management plan to serve as substitutes for one another or be replaced with a comprehensive watershed management plan.
- Shall establish a suggested watershed boundary framework for development, approval, adoption, and coordination of plans.

Suggested Boundary Framework





2012 Legislation - continued

- Grants may be provided to develop, amend, or implement a comprehensive watershed management plan.
- BWSR shall develop and utilize performance-based criteria for local water resources restoration, protection, and management programs and projects.



New things have appeared

- MPCA's 10 year watershed approach & WRAPS
- Water governance evaluation – 2013 Report to the Legislature
- 2013 - Clean Water Accountability Act
- 2014-2015 CWF Appropriations

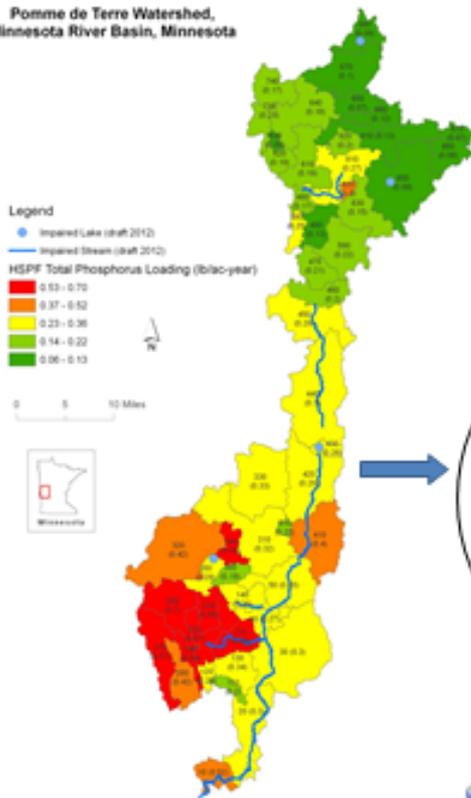
MPCA Watershed Approach

The 10 Year Cycle



- First level of
- Prioritized
 - Targeted
 - Measureable

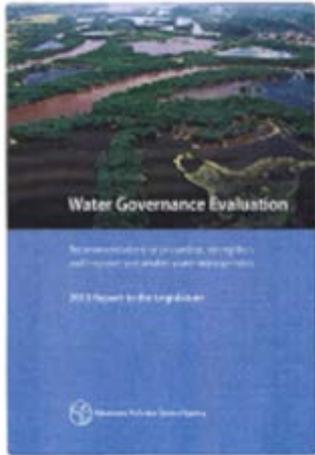
Pomme de Terre Watershed,
Minnesota River Basin, Minnesota



Targeting &
Measures will be
informed and built
of WRAPS, large
scale TMDL's, or
watershed studies



Water Governance Evaluation 2013 Report to the Legislature



- Implement Water Management at a Watershed Scale at All Levels of Government
 - Establish the 2012 “one watershed-one plan” legislation as the preferred option for local watershed management outside the Metropolitan Area.
 - complete the transition to a “one watershed” scale for future TMDLs.
 - Define essential watershed management services for defined watershed outcomes
 - Explore ways that existing clean water funding can be “packaged” at the watershed or regional scale.

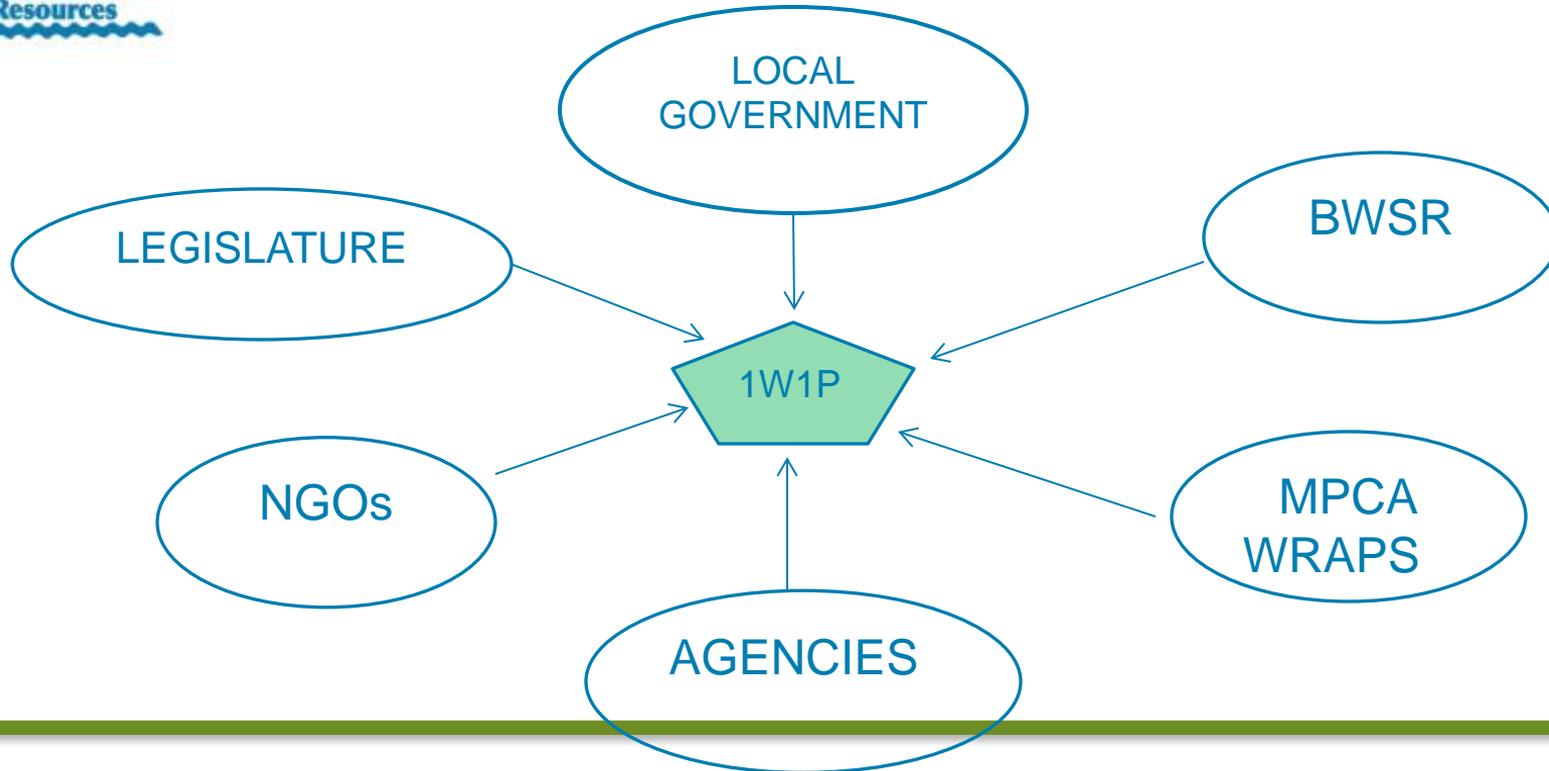


2014-15 CWF Appropriations

- \$5,000,000 the first year and \$7,000,000 the second year are for grants to local government units organized for the management of water in a watershed or subwatershed that have multiyear plans that will result in a significant reduction in water pollution in a selected subwatershed.
- \$450,000 the first year and \$450,000 the second year are for assistance and grants to local governments to transition local water management plans to a watershed approach.



Lots of Expectations – Are We Up To It ?





1W1P Building Blocks

- Built largely around the State's 81 major watersheds
- Approvable Plan Types – options will exist
- Level of organization required should be flexible, but will require formal agreements
- Can be a substitute for all or portions of existing plans
- Grants to support plan development
- Raises the bar for prioritized, targeted, and measurable implementation
- Agency support via core/project team approach
- Voluntary
- Capable of addressing the multiple expectations that exist
- Not an effort to change local governance



One Watershed, One Plan

What we heard from you...

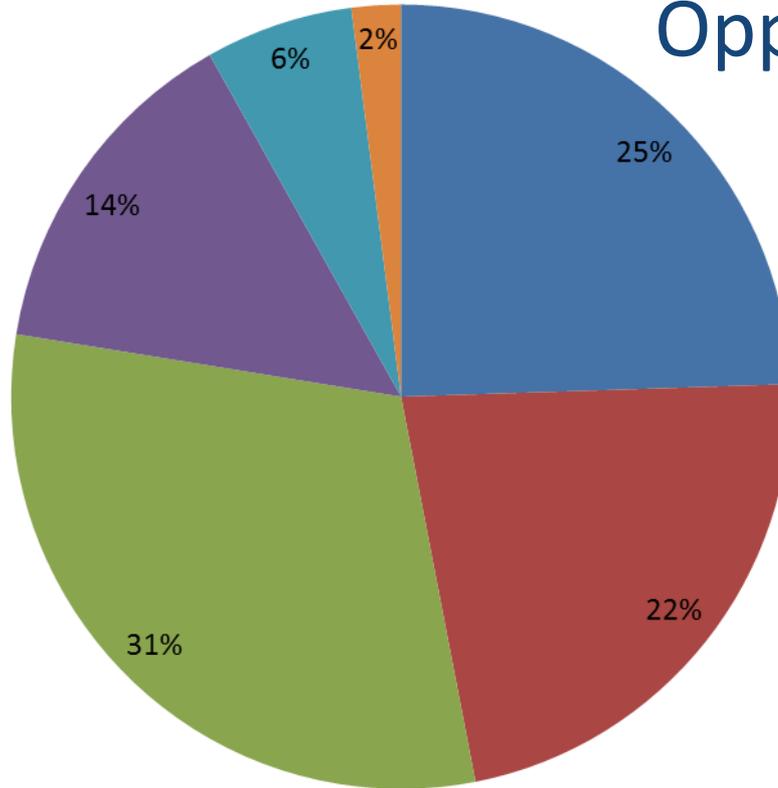


**What opportunities & benefits,
do you see with *One Watershed,
One Plan?***



Opportunities/benefits

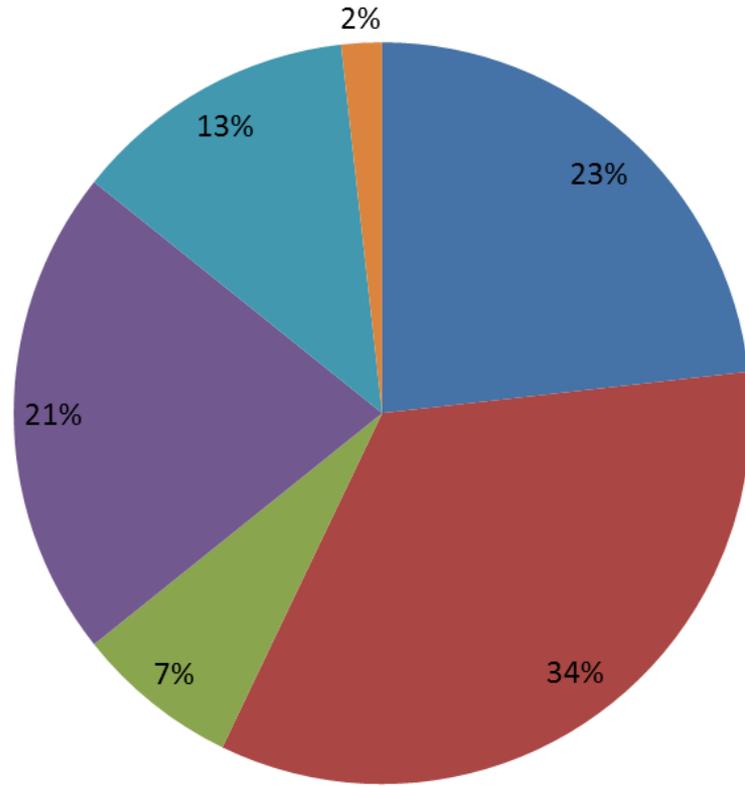
(45 responses)



- Eliminate Duplication
- Time or \$ Benefits
- Improved Cooperation
- Improved Performance
- None
- More Plan Ownership



What are your fears & concerns?



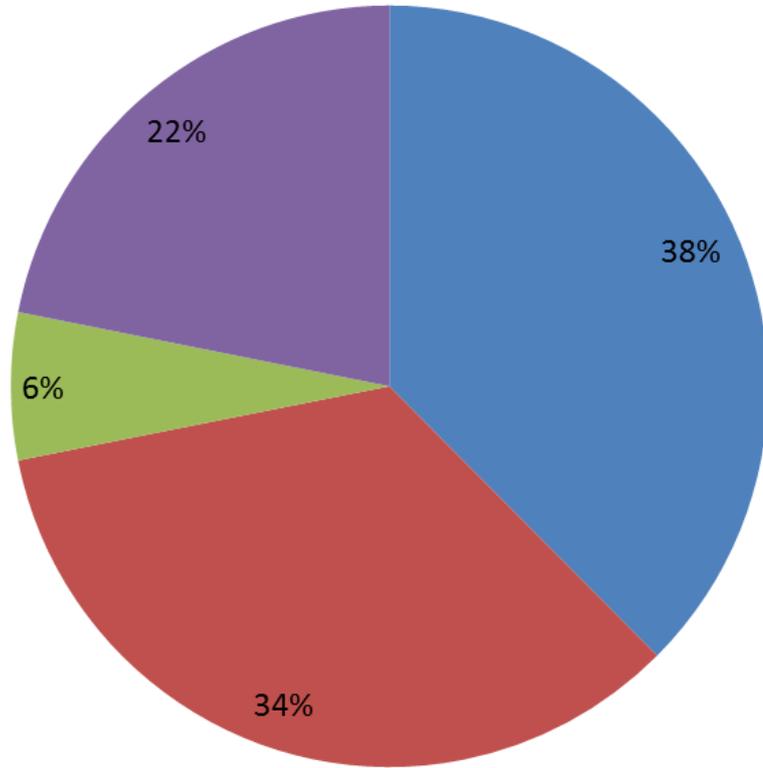
Fears/Concerns

(56 Responses)

- Additional Work or Duplication
- Lack of Cooperation or Leadership
- Funding
- Inadequate / Not Needed
- Turf Issues
- No Concerns



Potential boundary issues?



Boundaries

(40 responses)

- Watersheds on State Border
- Counties with Multiple Watersheds
- Low Population
- Regionally-specific Concerns

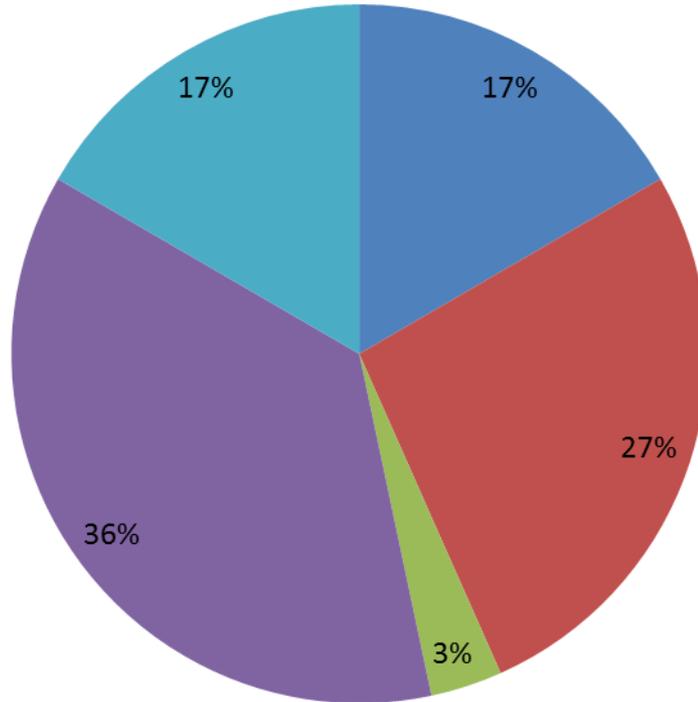


**What additional process input
does BWSR need to consider?**



Process Input

(30 responses)



- Consider Scale and Diversity
- Input/Buy-in from Specific Partners
- None
- More Information Needed to Public & Local Gov't
- Meet with Watershed Areas Individually



**Since 2012 - what have you been
hearing about
*One Watershed, One Plan?***



One Watershed, One Plan

Proposed Plan Types



Proposed Plan Types

- Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan
- Priority Concerns Implementation Plan
- WRAPS Implementation Plan



All Plans

- Major watershed boundaries
- Informed by WRAPS
- Prioritized, Targeted, and Measurable
- Roles, schedule, and costs
- Timing



Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

- WDs, SWCDs, and Counties
- Formal organization
- Highest bar



Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

- Surface & ground water
- Quality & quantity



Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

- Use all the tools
 - Capital Improvement Program
 - Regulatory Controls
 - Other programs?



Priority Concerns Implementation Plan

- County Water Planning on watershed boundary
- County and SWCDs
- Formal organization
- Plan content TBD



WRAPS Implementation Plan

- Overlay plan for grant eligibility
- Not substituting or replacing
- MOA/MOU



Why might I choose...

- Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan
- Priority Concerns Implementation Plan
- WRAPS Implementation Plan



One Watershed, One Plan

Expectations of First Watershed
Areas

“Pilot Watershed”



Pinned to my wall

CONCERNS—2012 BWSR ACADEMY

Who are we doing this for

What are the benefits

Multiple watershed = more planning

NRBG going away

Loss of ownership



How is this going to work

- 10 to 12 watershed areas in 2014
- Show interest via a simple self nomination process
- Supported with plan development grants
 - Facilitator, plan writer, technical assistance
- No match required
- Agency commitment to assist (core/project teams)
- Selection of pilots in April and August of 2014



What is BWSR looking for

- Different landscapes
- Different plan types
- Upfront commitment to organize
- Commitment of time and energy
- Capable of having a plan done in less than 2 years



**What does BWSR want to gain from
the pilot watershed areas ?**



Organizing and operating on a watershed scale

- Insight into organizational requirements
- Operating procedures
- Model agreements for future areas

Plan content

- Refining what will become required plan content
- Standards for the who, what, where, and when



Prioritized, targeted, measureable

- Insight into selection of tools
- Defining the expectations of (PTM)
- Selection of suitable measures

Shared services & consolidated grant application

- Insight into how these concepts could work
- What it takes to put them into practice



Now its your turn !

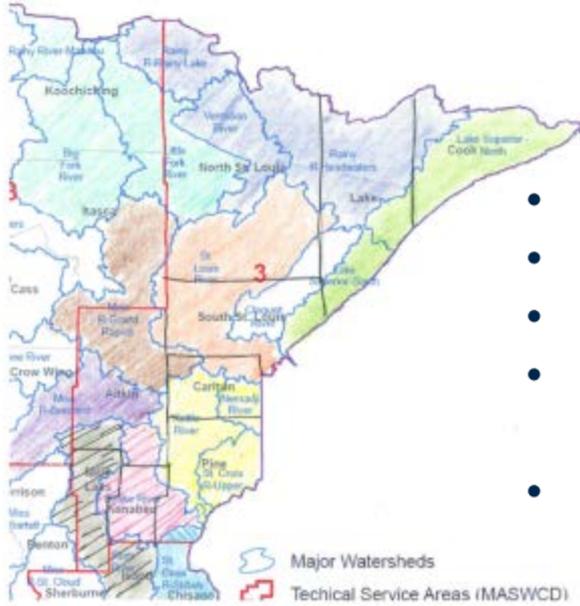
- If you were a pilot watershed area ?



What's next – proposed schedule

- **December (2013)**
 - Board approval guiding principles and operating procedures
 - Boundary map – accept draft and start review and comment period
 - Request for letter of interest for year 1 & 2 watershed starts
- **January- February (2014)**
 - Program development plan finalized
 - Begin development of necessary related policies, procedures, and guidance documents, etc.
- **April**
 - Adopt boundary map
 - Selection of year 1 watersheds
 - Check-in with BWSR Board on program elements
- **August/September**
 - BWSR Board formal adoption of 1W1P program
 - Selection of year 2 watersheds

Suggested Boundary Map



- Start with draft map
- Formal review & comment
- Compile comments
- BWSR adopts final suggested boundary map
- Procedures to adjust will exist



Request for Interest Outline

Tentative

- December 18, 2013 - Approval of solicit request for nominations
- January-February 2014 - Local development of nomination letters
- February 28, 2014 – Nomination deadline at 4:30 PM
- March 2014 - Review of requests
- April 23, 2014 - BWSR Board approval and initiation of year one watershed areas
- May 28, 2014 – Work plan submittal deadline, year one watersheds
- June 2, 2014 – Grant execution deadline, year one watersheds
- August 27, 2014 – BWSR Board approval and initiation of year two watershed areas
- September 24, 2014 – Work plan submittal deadline, year two watersheds
- October 1, 2014 – Grant execution deadline, year one watersheds