



Public Drainage Ditch Buffer Strip Reporting Calendar Year 2007

Beginning with Calendar Year 2008, BWSR is required to collect buffer strip establishment data pursuant to 103E.067. To establish procedures, this information was also collected for Calendar Year 2007. This document summarizes this information.

On September 12, 2008, BWSR notified Chapter 103E drainage authorities of the new buffer strip reporting requirements in Section 103E.067 and provided a form to document the requested information. This notification was sent via email using an updated drainage authority point-of-contact list developed for the Public Drainage Ditch Buffer Study, February 2006. Drainage authorities were asked to provide the information by November 14, 2008. The following information was requested:

- 1) For calendar year 2007, please fill in the number of actions for which viewers were appointed for each of the categories below. Also include the number of miles of buffer strip established according to Section 103E.021 under each of the categories:
 - a) Ditch Establishment 103E.212
 - b) Ditch Improvement 103E.215
 - c) Improvement of outlet 103E.221
 - d) Redetermination of benefits 103E.351
 - e) Repair by Petition 103E.715 Subd 6
- 2) Provide the number of drainage system inspections conducted.
- 3) Provide the number of violations of section 103E.021 identified.
- 4) For each of the violations in (3), identify the enforcement action(s) taken.

On November 14, 2008, BWSR sent out a reminder and second request.

As of February 2, 2009, BWSR had received the following responses:

Counties

Responses 55/87 (63%), Not Applicable 10/87 (12%), No response 22/87(25%)

In the 2006 Public Drainage Ditch Buffer Study, there were 7 counties identified as not having public drainage systems and 6 did not respond to the questionnaire. Two of the 6 have indicated they do not have public drainage systems (Clay and Olmsted). Becker County, identified in the 2006 study as having public drainage systems, indicates that it has turned over its public drainage systems to watershed districts.

Counties that have not responded:

Benton	Grant	Mille Lacs	Stearns
Brown	Isanti	Murray	Steele
Cass	Koochiching	Ramsey	Wadena
Dakota	Lake	Red Lake	Winona
Faribault	Le Sueur	Rice	
Freeborn	Lyon	St. Louis	

Watershed Districts

Responses 16/46 (35%), Not Applicable 25/46 (54%), No response 5/46 (11%)

The 2006 Public Drainage Ditch Buffer Study identifies 25 watershed districts as not having public ditch systems.

Watershed Districts (WDs) that have not responded:

High Island	Sauk River
Lac Qui Parle-Yellow Bank	Wild Rice
Sand Hill River	

Tabulated Reporting Results

Total miles of 103E.021 buffer strips established in calendar year 2007: 71.7

Total number of drainage system inspections: 1,205 (976 County and 229 WD)

Total number of 103E.021 violations identified: 101 (96 County and 5 WD)

Reported Number of Actions Requiring 103E.021 Buffer Strips			
Drainage System Action	County	WD	Total Actions Requiring Buffers
a) Ditch Establishment 103E.212	0	0	0
b) Ditch Improvement 103E.215	7	4	11
c) Improvement of outlet 103E.221	0	0	0
d) Redetermination of benefits 103E.351	17	2	19
e) Repair by Petition 103E.715 Subd. 6	4	1	5
Total	28	7	35

Reported Miles of Buffer Strip Established			
Drainage System Action	County	WD	Total Buffer Strip Miles Established
a) Ditch Establishment 103E.212	0.0	0.0	0.0
b) Ditch Improvement 103E.215	0.9	10.0	10.9
c) Improvement of outlet 103E.221	0.0	0.0	0.0
d) Redetermination of benefits 103E.351	54.8	0.0	54.8
e) Repair by Petition 103E.715 Subd. 6	0.0	6.0	6.0
Total	55.7	16.0	71.7

Reporting Procedure Additions for Calendar Year 2008

For calendar year 2008 reporting, the following procedures are being added:

- Add this reporting requirement to the BWSR Level 1 Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP) for LGUs, and inform drainage authorities that PRAP Level 1 includes website posting of results.
- Copy email request for reporting to all county auditors/auditor-treasurers and all watershed district administrators.
- For drainage authorities that do not respond within 60 days, follow up to ensure receipt of the request, correct drainage authority point-of-contact, and understanding of reporting requirements and procedures.
- Provide updated information and reporting form access on BWSR website.