

Project Name	Brown's Creek Watershed District (BCWD) Watershed Management Plan Update	Date	8-12-2024
Meeting Location	Stillwater Public Library		
Regarding	Watershed Management Plan Update; Education, Outreach, and Stewardship; Recreation CAC – Anne Maule-Miller, George Vania, Jyneen Thatcher, Hallie Chasensky, Sandy Noreen-Ruben, Dory Herman		
Attendee(s) + Info.	Board Liaison - Celia Wirth District Staff – Karen Kill, Cameron Blake, Alexander Furneaux (EOR) Public - Quinn Judge		
Recorded By	Alexander Furneaux, EOR		

Meeting Overview

EOR staff attended the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) to lead a discussion on two issues in the BCWD Watershed Management Plan (WMP) update. Alexander provided a summary of the initial plan meeting of the WMP, the work completed since the CAC last met, and the list of issues to be discussed with the CAC. The remainder of the meeting was used to discuss two issue categories “Education, Outreach, and Stewardship” and “Recreation”.

CAC members were asked to identify concerns/threats, management strategies, monitoring opportunities, and engagement opportunities associated with these issues. Of importance was understanding how these issues are evolving and what updates are required to ensure the relevance of the Issue for the coming 10 years.

Discussion

The following summary of the meeting discussion includes input received from the CAC during the meeting, input on these Issues received following the meeting (if any), and input on the issue received through prior engagement as part of the Watershed Management Plan update.

This input is summarized in **Table 1** and **Table 2** and separated by content discussed that is Within the Plan Currently¹, New to the Update, or Out of Scope of the District’s authority (if applicable)

Information from these tables will be used to update the following subsections of the issue statements in the plan in the following ways:

- **Concerns/Threats** – Informs potential updates to the General Issue Statement (3.X.1), Relevance to the District (3.X.2), and Sub-Issue Areas (3.X.3).
- **Management Strategies** – Informs potential Goals (new or updated).
- **Monitoring Opportunities** - Informs potential Implementation Items (new or updated).
- **Engagement Opportunities** – Informs potential Implementation Items (new or updated).

¹ This refers to content within the Plan currently that was discussed by CAC members. More content on the Issue is available but was not referenced by participants.

Table 1. Education, Outreach, and Stewardship (EOS)

	Concerns/Threats	Management Strategies	Monitoring Opportunities	Engagement Opportunities
Within the Plan Currently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenge of how to make communication more impactful. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broader public should know they can connect and trust the BCWD. <i>Consider how to incorporate this as a metric.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documenting participant information. <i>Consider how to incorporate this as a metric.</i> Maintaining a list of partners. <i>Consider how to incorporate this as a metric.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue building the BCWD’s potential partners through relationships that help further name recognition (e.g. Master Gardeners) Explore opportunities for innovative engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geographically focused outreach targeting for specific Issues (e.g chloride in Long Lake); could include a kiosk with rotating information. Tote of BCWD information and material to bring or provide to events. Combine multiple techniques to reach people (e.g. kiosk and local outreach directing people to attend virtual webinar or meeting). Opportunity for involvement in Summer Tuesdays . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May require Stillwater Chamber membership. Weekly involvement time intensive.
New to the Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor name recognition of the BCWD and awareness of its role; BCWD is often encountered late in the process because people aren’t aware of its role. Loss of knowledge and expertise from retiring CAC members. Struggle to communicate the story of watershed improvements to watershed partners and broader public. More HOAs have emerged meaning fewer centralized points to contact (previously was builders) making it more resource intensive to conduct outreach. HOAs struggle to understand their responsibilities with stormwater management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanding the CAC to create more opportunities for involvement and ways to pass on knowledge/expertise Integrate the CAC into coordination with watershed partners to share information and partner on EOS opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work to highlight project achievements so people recognize work as BCWD led/involved. Continue to develop business and organizational outreach. Online information sessions during COVID-19 pandemic attracted interest; consider a directory to meeting recordings; consider online webinars. Consider developing a directory to the State’s Stormwater BMP guide.

Table 2. Recreation

	Concerns/Threats	Management Strategies	Monitoring Opportunities	Engagement Opportunities
Within the Plan Currently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private land barrier to lake access. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation can be a pathway to greater knowledge, pride of place, and desire for stewardship of a resource. Coordination with enforcement authorities to manage recreation-related resource degradation. Goal of the BCWD to provide recreation improvements with public benefit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	
New to the Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat degradation from recreation activities (e.g. unofficial mountain bike trails, tree clearing). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal of the BCWD is not to become a park manager. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tracking recreation-related degradation impacts. <i>Consider how to incorporate this as a metric.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination with landowners near resources where there is recreation potential (creek, 110th St property). Outreach to local HOAs to coordinate lake tour event. Developing greater understanding of how watershed partners are using resources for recreation; this may include small interactions (e.g. ECFE summer series in Brown's Creek). Connecting recreational opportunities to changes in water quality.