

Project Name | Watershed Management Plan Update

Date | 04/04/2025

To / Contact info | BCWD Board of Managers

Cc / Contact info | Karen Kill, District Administrator

From / Contact info | Camilla Correll, PE, Alex Furneaux

Regarding | Floodplain Management and Groundwater Management

Background

As we finalize the review and updates to the issues, policies, and goals in the watershed management plan, we ask that the Board of Managers provide feedback on the remaining two issue categories: Floodplain Management and Groundwater Management.

Much of the content for Floodplain Management was developed by the Board of Managers and District Staff in 2022 when the BCWD experienced flooding in Kimbro Basin. The current version of the Plan includes issues, policies, and goals for the **"Protection of Flood Storage Areas"** and **"Management of Flood Prone Areas"** (i.e., landlocked basins), relying on the administration of the BCWD regulatory standards to achieve the goals. Since the flooding in Kimbro Basin took place and the recognition that Minnesota is getting warmer and wetter, the Board of Managers took a closer look at the Floodplain Management section of the watershed management plan and explored their role in floodplain management. After a series of workshops, the BCWD Board of Managers expanded the sub-issues, policies, and goals to include **"Flood Prevention"**, **"Protection of Flood Storage Areas"**, and **"Flood Mitigation and Management of Flood Prone Areas"**. The version attached to this memorandum also reflects feedback/suggestions made by the Technical Advisory Committee.

Much of the content for Groundwater Management reflects what the watershed district has learned about the groundwater system over the last 10 years, as well as feedback/suggestions made by the Technical Advisory Committee. The revised content includes the addition of **"Groundwater Flooding"** in response to the flooding experienced in Kimbro Basin, a flood event driven by high groundwater levels.

Board Review

District staff is requesting that the Board of Managers review the attached sections of the updated Watershed Management Plan so that we can address any questions or concerns at the April 9, 2025 Board Meeting. After this content has been reviewed by the Board, EOR will begin finalizing the issues, policies, and goals so that we can identify the implementation activities that the BCWD should include in the Plan. The draft Implementation Plan will be reviewed by the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) on April 14, 2025 and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on April 22, 2025. Once we have gotten this feedback, we will make revisions to the Implementation Plan so that we can share it with the Board at the upcoming workshop.

Board Action

None.