Lake Water Quality Management Areas

The District's Revised Water Management Plan has a two-tiered strategy for achieving water quality goals.

The first tier deals with District wide strategies. In general these reflect on-going actions of the District, with minor modifications, expansions of programs such as water quality initiatives (regional storm water treatment basins, Agricultural best management practices, alum treatments), regulation of impervious surface and shoreline activities through District Rules; water quality data collection, public education and outreach, aquatic Invasive plant prevention, management, research, education, and legal drainage system management (Becker County Ditches 11-12, 13, and 14).

The second tier strategy involves the establishment of eight Lake Water Quality Management Areas as identified below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Actions and Strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brandy/Oak</td>
<td>Poor water quality, small lakesheds, heavily impacted by nearby agricultural and industrial development, (gravel pits, landfill)</td>
<td>Review shoreland practices and watershed area land use (Ag. Residential)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit/Rice</td>
<td>Large lakeshed, heavily developed &quot;at risk&quot; lakes, problems with specific upstream nutrient sources.</td>
<td>Rice Lake Nutrient Reduction Project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floyd Campbell</td>
<td>Large lakeshed, heavily developed, variable quality lakes, with definite large lakeshed area, problems associated with specific upstream nutrient sources.</td>
<td>Assess effectiveness of Agricultural Best management practices on Campbell Creek.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fox-Monson</td>
<td>Small lakeshed area, little surface water contribution, heavily developed, moderate water quality.</td>
<td>Review shoreland practices and watershed area land use (Ag. Residential)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long</td>
<td>Small lakeshed area, little surface water contribution, heavily developed, impacted by industrial sites (airport/gravel mining), good water quality.</td>
<td>Mitigate stormwater impacts where possible; Advocate for strict enforcement of shoreland standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pearl-Loon</td>
<td>Small lakeshed area without major upstream nutrient sources, small developing lakes, fair water quality.</td>
<td>Review shoreland practices and watershed area land use (Ag. Residential)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sallie-Melissa</td>
<td>Large lakeshed area. Large, heavily developed, &quot;at risk&quot; lakes, with definite problems associated with upstream nutrient sources. Sallie is borderline eutrophic and impacted by upstream nutrients from Ditch 14 (St. Clair Lake) and Little Detroit Lake.</td>
<td>St. Clair Lake TMDL Study—Completed in 2014; City of Detroit Lakes Waste Water Treatment Permit requiring phosphorus release reductions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Southern Area Lakes</td>
<td>Numerous small lakes, of variable water quality; some surface connections; but mostly groundwater controlled.</td>
<td>Monitored Johnson-Reeves and Lind Lakes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Board of Managers

PRWD is led by a seven-person Board of Managers that guides the implementation of goals and objectives set forth in the 2004-15 PRWD Revised Watershed Management Plan. Board Managers are appointed by the Becker County Board of Commissioners to serve a three-year term.

Dennis Kral  
Board President  
Floyd Lake Area  
Service since 1988  
Current Term 2013-16

Orrin Okeson  
Board Vice-President  
Rural Richwood Area  
Service since 1987  
Current Term: 2012-15

David Brainard  
Board Secretary  
Rural Long Lake Area  
Service since 1997  
Current Term: 2012-15

Ginny Imholte  
Treasurer  
Detroit Lake Area  
Service since 1991  
Current Term: 2014-17

Janice Haggart  
Board Member  
Muskrat/Sallie Area  
Service since 2005  
Current Term 2013-16

Rick Michaelson  
Board Member  
Melissa Area  
Service since 2013  
Current Term: 2013-206

Gary Nansen  
Board Member  
Long Lake Area  
Service since 2012  
Current Term 2014-17
Citizen Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee is comprised of persons representing special constituencies within the District (in accordance with the Watershed District statute), together with people who have special expertise or influence over District lakes: John Okeson, Becker County Commissioner; Ted Heisserer, Izaak Walton League; John Postovit, Floyd Lake Association; Tim James, MPCA; Brad Green, City of Detroit Lakes Streets & Parks; Peter Mead, Becker Soil & Water Conservation District.

Consulting Engineers
Marlon Mackowick, Wenck Associates, Fargo ND/Maple Plain, MN
Emmons & Olivier Resources, Inc, Oakdale, MN

Legal Services
Briggs, Ramstad & Skoyles, Detroit Lakes, MN

Staff
Tera Guetter, Administrator
Jon Staldine, Asst. Administrator;
Brent Alcott, Asst. Administrator (since August 2014)
Brenda Moses, Office Assistant

Seasonal Aquatic Plant Management staff
Terry Anderson, Aquatic Plant—Harvesting/Roadside Pickup (Seasonal)
Jerome Genz, Harvesting/Roadside Pickup (Seasonal)

Seasonal Water Resources Interns
Emily Nelson & Alex Courneya

Summer interns are kept very busy on various projects throughout the summer. To the left, Emily Nelson works with equipment on a stream run and to the right, Alex Courneya works with staff from Mississippi State University taking core samples of flowering rush on area lakes.
Our Work

Website/Facebook
The new platform was built which includes technology improvements including data manage-

Office Move
In November 2014, the District moved into an adjacent office space in the Wells-Fargo Building. The new space is similar to the square footage of the old office space however, the new office provides a monitoring equipment/supply room, a small conference room, and an additional office due to a more efficient room layout.

Working with other Agencies

MN DNR AIS Advisory Committee. Administrator Guetter was appointed by the MN DNR Commissioner to the State Advisory Board. In 2014, the Advisory Committee...... type in main points from the 2014 report.

University of Minnesota AIS Research Center. Administrator Guetter was appointed to the University of MN MAISRC Advisory Committee to provide input into the center for sustainable funding, research directions, transfer of knowledge to water resource managers.

MN Association of Watershed Districts—2014 AIS Symposium. The event focused on the importance of public-private partnerships and sound science in the fight against AIS. Guetter assisted with the planning of this event.

2014 Northern Rockies Invasive Plant Council Symposium
Administrator Guetter presented Flowering Rush research project from a water management perspective and reviewed the process the District took towards managing Flowering Rush.

Drainage Ditch System Inventory and Inspection Grant (Ditch 11/12, 13, 14)—Becker Soil and Water Conservation District and the Pelican River Watershed District are working to inventory legal drainage systems in the Becker County to identify where erosion, sediment, and/or nutrients are contributing substantially to water quality degradation, and prioritize sites for side water inlet control and/or buffer strip implementation.

Becker County Shoreland Ordinance Review Advisory Committee—The District, along with MN DNR, Becker Soil & Water Conservation Service, serve as technical advisors to the committee members.
Working with other Agencies

Jillian Walechka, Green Corps member, began her service this year and will complete it in August 2015. The MN GreenCorps program, an AmeriCorps program coordinated by the MPCA, is a statewide initiative to help preserve and protect the environment and train young environmental professionals. Jillian will be providing assistance with storm water inventory & assessment, designing a maintenance/repair schedule; providing outreach and education campaigns to reduce untreated runoff; and assisting with installation of 3 best management practices.

Detroit Lake Overlook Area Enhancement

In the Fall of 2014, a field assessment of the Detroit Lake Highway 10 Overlook site was completed by staff from GreenCorps, Pelican River WD, Becker Soil and Water Conservation Service, and Pheasants Forever. Plant conditions were assessed, and nuisance species and erosion problem areas were identified. In November, 50 trees were mulched with assistance from Becker County STS Program, and the City of Detroit Lakes. Plans are under development for additional vegetation (forbes, grass, shrubs, trees) replacement and weed management and maintenance schedule.

Revised Water Management Plan and Rules Revision

With assistance from GreenCorps, the District began compiling and reviewing various water management rules from other Watershed Districts and governmental units related to stormwater, drainage, and wetland management.

The District has started compiling updated background data for the Revised Management Plan and an outline template.
Our Work

Education and Outreach

Jon Staldine demonstrates to students how water is filtered through different types of soil.

General Outreach

The Pelican River Watershed District continued outreach to students and adults in 2014 through direct work with organizations and community groups.

PRWD staff were involved through public events, trainings, presentations, resource assistance, school visits, and field trips within the District.

This included working with the City of Detroit Lakes Water Festival and mentoring a 4th grade class on storm water management; led a tour of Concordia College Limnology Students on various water quality issues/practices; had a display board and educated Becker County Home and Sports Show attendees on Aquatic Invasive Species; hosted a learning station at the Ike Fischer Farm (5th grade level); Rotary and Becker County Coalition of Lake Association meetings; Attended Lake Association meetings; Becker County Fair.

The District has a monthly radio spot on the local radio Station KDLM on Hodge Podge with Carol McArthy on the third Friday of the month. Some of the topics discussed throughout the year included an overview of 2013 water quality conditions, ice-on/ice off dates, and localized weather patterns.

The Aquatic Invasive Species education materials were updated, including new information panels on the display board which emphasis water related equipment inspections (clean.drain.dry) and different types of AIS—plants, invertebrates, fish, etc.
New Displays

One of the 2014 projects was to update educational materials. The picture on the right shows Summer Intern, Emily Nelson, at the Becker County Fair with pages from our new display on Aquatic Invasive Species, including the spread of zebra mussels around the country, flowering rush in our area, and invasive plants and animals in nearby states. There were also new pages designed to show how our water quality monitoring program operates.

Green Corps Member

As part of her experience with the District, Green Corp. member, Jillian Walechka, was exposed to working with local students and educating them on characteristics of a watershed using a model. In the photo to the left, she is demonstrating how both agricultural and shoreline practices can effect the water quality on the local level.

Concordia College

Concordia College limnology classes were here on September 27 and 29th to review the District’s programs including monitoring, storm water management, wetland restoration, and AIS activities. The students collected water samples on Little Floyd, Big Detroit, and Long lakes for e coli. Little Floyd results came back high. The 2015 monitoring plan will include e coli sampling on Little Floyd. The tests will be set up to differentiate between waterfowl and human bacteria.