



“Helping bring YOU clean water”



Lincoln SWCD

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**LINCOLN SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Ivanhoe, Minnesota

ANNUAL PLAN

2011

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The SWCD prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program.

LINCOLN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

The Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District was organized July 3, 1944. The district works with landowners in both rural and urban settings to carry out a program for the conservation, use, and development of soil, water, and related resources. The district is a political subdivision of the State and is governed by a five member Board of Supervisors. The board sets policy, hires employees, and is responsible to see that the operations of the district are run effectively and according to law and rule. Listed are the Supervisors, employees, and cooperating agencies.

LINCOLN SWCD SUPERVISORS:

Daniel Christianson.....Chairperson
Glen Sorensen Vice Chairperson
Conrad Schardin..... Secretary
Joe Weber..... Treasurer
John Boulton PR&I

LINCOLN SWCD STAFF:

Pauline VanOverbeke District Manager
Ron Madsen Engineering Technician
Dale SterzingerConservation Technician
Randy KrausFarm Bill Assistant

COOPERATING AGENCIES:

Board of Soil and Water Resources:

John Jaschke..... Director, St. Paul
David Sill Board Conservationist, Marshall
Kane Radel..... Wetland Specialist, Marshall

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Marshall Area Office
Gary WatsonArea Conservationist

Lincoln County Commissioners:

Joan Jagt.....Tyler
Curt Blumeyer..... Canby
Larry Hansen.....Tyler
Donald Evers.....Lake Benton
Adam Gillund..... Hendricks

Ivanhoe Field Office

Dennis Johnson..... District Conservationist
Randy Sheik..... Soil Conservation Technician

OTHER AGENCIES:

- Lincoln County Environmental Office
- Yellow Medicine River Watershed District (YMRWD)
- Redwood Cottonwood Rivers Control Area (RCRCA)
- Lac qui Parle River Watershed District (LqPWD)
- Southwest Prairies Technical Service Area (SWPTSA)
- US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- Farm Service Agency (FSA) – Ivanhoe
- Resource Conservation and Development
- Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water (LPRW)
- MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)
- Department of Health

LINCOLN SWCD BOARD MEETINGS:

Regular board meetings are held the Third Wednesday of each month as follows, unless otherwise published in the Ivanhoe Times or on the Lincoln SWCD web site:

- April to October: 7:00 a.m.
- November to March: 10:00 a.m.

PROGRAMS:

District Programs:

- Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Program
- Annual Plan/Year-End Reporting
- Farmer Magazine Award Program
- Haybuster Drill Program
- DNR Well Monitoring
- Conservation News Releases
- Working Lands for Wildlife Initiative
- Engineering – Ag Waste Systems, W&SCB, Terraces, Waterways
- State C-S Program
- Animal Repellent Program
- Joint Agency Newsletter
- LGU and Administer WCA
- Process Water Permits
- Rain Gauge Program
- Yellow Medicine Project CWF
- Tree Program
- Tree Mat Program
- County Fair Booth
- Riparian Buffers
- District Web Site
- Verdi DWSMA CWF
- Grant Writing
- Federal 1026's

Federal Programs (assisted by the Lincoln SWCD): Water Quality Incentive Program, Conservation Plans, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Status Reviews and Environmental Quality Incentive Programs (EQIP).

Administer the Local Water Management Plan: Well Sealing Program, Rock Inlet Program, Conserving Use Acres Program, and the Ag BMP Loan Program.

INTRODUCTION:

The Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District's Annual Plan is developed from the long-range priority concerns and objectives in the Lincoln County Water Management Plan. This plan was adopted as the Comprehensive Plan of the Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). Specific actions, an annual budget, staffing and funding needs and State Cost-Share program requirements have been identified in order to implement the plan.

The mission of the Lincoln SWCD is to protect and improve the quality of our water, soil, and natural resources by providing programs and services to the citizens and owners of Lincoln County to implement conservation practices.

The priority concerns identified in the Management Plan are:

- **Ground Water Protection for the Verdi Well Field** – The Verdi Well Field is the main source of water supply for: portions of 4-counties which include most of Lincoln, and portions of Lyon, Murray, and Pipestone; have availability to move this source of water to other areas; 3,500 rural customers, 31 cities/communities, and 206 rural customers using more than one million gallons per year per customer.
- **Surface Water Quality Deterioration focusing on MPCAs list of TMDLs and Impaired waters. TMDL-South Branch, Yellow Medicine River for Fecal Coliform. Impaired waters include various river reaches and the following Lakes: Dead Coon, Benton, Perch, Shaokatan and Hendricks. TMDLs underway: Lac qui Parle River-Yellow Bank-Bacteria, Turbidity, and Low Dissolved Oxygen; Lake Shaokatan-Excess Nutrients; Redwood River-Fecal Coliform and Turbidity; and Minnesota River-Turbidity** – Our primary focus will be on Nutrients and Bacteria in the TMDL sites and on Impaired Waters listed by MPCA.
- **Erosion and Sediment Control on agricultural land primarily gully erosion and concentrated flow with several priority areas throughout Lincoln County, including: TMDL-South Branch, Yellow Medicine River for Fecal Coliform. Impaired waters including various river reaches and lakes including: Dead Coon, Benton, Perch, Shaokatan and Hendricks. TMDLs underway: Lac qui Parle River-Yellow Bank-Bacteria, Turbidity and Low Dissolved Oxygen; Lake Shaokatan-Excess Nutrients; Redwood River-Fecal Coliform and Turbidity and Minnesota River-Turbidity** – Reducing the volume of sedimentation, potential attached pollutants and nutrients reaching County lakes, streams, rivers and wetlands, will improve surface and ground water quality, through implementing Best Management Practices particularly in listed priority areas.
- **Lake Management Improvement (water quality) and Recreational Opportunities targeting Lake Benton, Lake Shaokatan and Lake Hendricks** – Lincoln County has six major lakes having a total water surface area of about 6,480 acres with an average depth ranging from three to twelve feet and many smaller lakes. We will focus on three major Recreational Lakes in Lincoln County, as they represent the greatest potential for additional recreational development including Lake Benton, Lake Shaokatan and Lake Hendricks.
- **Surface water runoff and Drainage addressing runoff volume and water quality through drainage management** – In this section, we will focus on the Wetland Conservation Act, Wetland Banking and the Lincoln County Public Drainage Ditch Systems.

The plan also addresses the following:

- Provide for an effective/efficient District Operation and provide assistance to landowners/operators.
- Increase public awareness through educational, promotional and informational activities.

PRIORITY CONCERNS; GOALS; OBJECTIVES; ACTIONS

PRIORITY CONCERN: Groundwater Protection for the Verdi Well Field.

GOAL: Protect the public water supply from potential contaminant sources due to land use activities; and establish and maintain a Wellhead Protection Plan (WHP) continuing public education and information program.

Objective: Encourage property owners to adopt tillage, chemical and nutrient BMPs for cropland within the Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA).

Action: Continue to work with current feedlot owners/operators in the DWSMA area and contact any potential new operators to discuss feedlot operations. Develop an understanding of local drinking water issues and the benefits of implementing the wellhead protection plan.

Action: Encourage the development and adoption of tillage, pesticide and nutrient management plans on cropland within the DWSMA to reduce potential for contaminants entering the aquifer. LPRW will cost share with other local agencies for nutrient soil testing as a component of nutrient management plans. Through this process the application of commercial fertilizer will be applied at recommended agronomic rates and nitrogen management plans are implemented from cropland in the DWSMA.

Objective: Continue to upgrade septic systems in the DWSMA and encourage closing of abandoned wells.

Action: Provide cost-share assistance to landowners in the Verdi DWSMA and the entire Big Sioux Watershed to properly seal their abandoned wells. The Verdi DWSMA is a high priority for well sealing and sealing as funds allow. Funding: WMP.

Objective: Inventory and prioritize areas within the DWSMA for adoption of set-a-side and buffer easement programs.

Action: Continue to work with property owners in the DWSMA to encourage enrollment in easement and cost-share programs such as CRP/CCRP, RIM, WRP, WHIP and adoption of buffer strips. Increase the number of acres of easement programs by 10 acres per year. LPRW will offer a \$15/acre incentive for land enrolled in the CRP in those areas identified as “high priority” in the Verdi Wellhead Protection Area (WHP). Funding: LPRW Incentives.

Action: Increase conservation tillage practices in the DWSMA, reducing sedimentation in the surface waters recharging the ground water. Promote Ag BMP Loans for upgrading conservation tillage equipment to reduce erosion and runoff by targeting one landowner per year or as loan funds permit. Funding: \$75,000; Ag BMP.

Objective: Protect the groundwater and the drinking water sources for the Verdi Well Field.

Action: Educate and provide information to land owners/operators on the importance of protecting groundwater from pesticides, nutrients, etc. by providing information through various outreach sources: SWCD fair booth and web site, newsletters/releases, and individual contacts. Funding: \$250.

- Proper usage and rates of pesticides/herbicides through the Minnesota Department of Ag (MDA) product use requirements;
 - Sealing abandoned wells and septic system upgrades;
 - Feedlot pollution reduction, and the importance of proper manure management;
 - CRP/CCRP, RIM, WRP, WHIP and adoption of buffer strips; and
 - Conservation tillage, pesticide and nutrient management plans.
-

Objective: Work with landowners in order of priority to address the project element: DWSMA Vulnerability area, Groundwater Capture Zone, Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA).

Action: Offer an incentive payment of \$10/acre/year for two-years on 3,000 acres for landowners to develop and follow a nutrient management plan used to identify resource concerns, sensitive areas and changes in

management needed to improve crop production and decrease the pollution potential. The three tier nutrient management project will be developed and determined by a certified crop advisor. The nutrient management plans will be reviewed by Minnesota Department of Agriculture. The nutrient management plans will be developed from March to October, 2011. Funding: CWF-\$60,000.

Action: Offer an incentive payment of \$10/acre (one-time payment) on 1,000 acres for landowners to use variable rate technology which will reduce the rate of nitrogen being applied. Funding: CWF-\$10,000.

Action: Offer an incentive payment of up to \$8/acre/year for two-years on 3,000 acres for landowners to incorporate nitrogen stabilizers and/or nitrogen efficiency products that delays nitrification of ammoniacal and urea nitrogen fertilizer compositions in the soil by controlling the nitrification process in corn. Funding: CWF-\$60,000.

Action: Install filter strips on 40 acres of rivers/streams from 33' to 120' feet by offering a signing incentive of \$75/acre/year for landowners to enroll in a 15-year CRP contract. Filters will help to reduce settling out of suspended soil particles, infiltration of runoff and soluble pollutants, absorption of pollutants on soil and plant surfaces and uptake of soluble pollutants by plants. The Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District staff and Farm Service Agency will be the agencies responsible for the filter strip program. The filter strips could be installed as early as spring of 2011. Funding: CWF-\$45,000.

Action: Conduct follow-up surveys to determine implementation of nutrient management BMP's and subsequent reduction in amount of nitrate-nitrogen being applied to croplands within the DWSMA. Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water (LPRW) will track nitrate-nitrogen levels in monitoring and production wells to observe the impacts nitrate-nitrogen reduction efforts have on the ground water. Funding-Lincoln SWCD.

Action: Promote the CWF Grant and implementation of nutrient management plans and filter strips. This will be done as soon as the grant agreement is signed. Funding-Lincoln SWCD.

Action: Long-term inspections and maintenance will be conducted by the SWCD staff for the filter strip projects. Funding-Lincoln SWCD.

PRIORITY CONCERN: Surface Water Quality Deterioration focusing on MPCAs list of TMDLs and Impaired waters. TMDL-South Branch, Yellow Medicine River for Fecal Coliform. Impaired waters include various river reaches and the following Lakes: Dead Coon, Benton, Perch, Shaokatan and Hendricks. TMDLs underway: Lac qui Parle River-Yellow Bank-Bacteria, Turbidity, and Low Dissolved Oxygen; Lake Shaokatan-Excess Nutrients; Redwood River-Fecal Coliform and Turbidity; and Minnesota River-Turbidity.

GOAL: To restore and protect the surface water quality entering Lincoln County's lakes, rivers, and streams.

Objective: Protect surface water quality from contamination caused by point and non-point source pollution and properly treat both human and animal waste.

Action: Work with 4-5 producers/year with feedlots. Priority based on size of the operation and their proximity to water. Work with engineers to survey problem feedlots and supply the producer with 2-3 options to fix pollution problems (cost-estimate included). Work with the SWCD/NRCS on possible cost-share availability. Funding: \$50,000-\$150,000; EQIP, BWSR, Watersheds, CWF.

Action: Reduce feedlot pollution by working with one feedlot producer on developing a nutrient management plan on 450 acres. Priority will be given to feedlot producers who spread manure in sensitive areas and with 300+ animal units. Funding: \$3,000/EQIP.

Objective: Protect and improve existing surface water quality by addressing nutrient loading, bacteria issues, fecal coliform, and turbidity.

Action: Assist in pursuing grants through the Clean Water Funds and Clean Water Partnerships for watershed based activities for the following watersheds: Yellow Medicine, Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank, Redwood and Big

Sioux. This is for current projects, TMDLs underway and for new TMDLs/Impaired waters projects as they are updated through MPCA in 2011 and beyond. Address pollutants/stressors in each of the affected water bodies. This would be done through the technical work groups for the Yellow Medicine and Lac qui Parle, the RCRC joint powers and through neighboring SWCDs. Funding: \$2,500; SWCD.

Objective: Educate property owners, land owners/operators on the importance of protecting our surface waters from deterioration.

Action: Educate and provide BMP information to land owners/operators on water impairments and the importance of reducing nutrients and bacteria in surface water quality. Funding: \$750. Outreach sources: newsletters, releases, SWCD web site, fair booth, and individual contacts for:

- Feedlot pollution reduction, and the importance of proper manure management; and
- Implementation of BMPs in order to reduce the nutrients and bacteria in surface water.

PRIORITY CONCERN: Erosion and Sediment Control on agricultural land primarily gully erosion and concentrated flow with several priority areas throughout Lincoln County including: TMDL-South Branch, Yellow Medicine River for Fecal Coliform. Impaired waters including various river reaches and lakes including: Dead Coon, Benton, Perch, Shaokatan and Hendricks. TMDL/s underway: Lac qui Parle River-Yellow Bank-Bacteria, Turbidity and Low Dissolved Oxygen; Lake Shaokatan-Excess Nutrients; Redwood River-Fecal Coliform and Turbidity and Minnesota River-Turbidity.

GOAL: To protect and preserve Lincoln County's long-term valuable soil and water resources.

Objective: Protect and improve existing surface and ground water quality by addressing and reducing soil erosion, sedimentation and potential attached pollutants.

Action: Reduce water erosion to 5-ton or less soil loss per acre on cropland. Implement BMPs such as but not limited to (approximate footage/year):

- Water & Sediment Control Basin's (WSCB'S)-70 each,
- Waterways-6 acres,
- Conservation Tillage, and,
- Increase acres of buffers, filter strips and Critical Area Plantings by 20 new sites (125 acres) per year through CCRP. The entire county is a concern with priority given to areas deemed necessary by the Technical Groups in each of the watersheds. Funding: \$300,000-\$1,000,000; EQIP, BWSR, CRP/CCRP, CWF.

Action: Reduce wind erosion to 5-ton or less soil loss per acre on cropland selling 10,000 trees per year by implementing the following (approximately footage – per year): 1 mile-Field Windbreaks/Living Snow Fences, 10 acres-Farmstead Shelterbelts, and 5 acres-Wildlife Tree Plantings, depending on programs available. Funding: \$20,000; BWSR, DNR, MN-DOT.

Action: Make the following contacts: 10-contacts in areas where MN-DOT and the County have identified for the Living Snow Fence Program/Field Windbreaks; 30-contacts to promote the tree program. Follow-up contacts on all tree projects and keep townships informed on the available tree programs. Funding: SWCD.

Action: Provide a Conserving Use Acres Contract to six landowners where the Water Management Task Force pays \$599.00 for planting 10 acres or more of small grain for conservation practice design and/or earthwork construction from August 10 to September 30. Funding: \$3,594; WMP.

Action: Provide cost-share to approximately 20 landowners to seal their abandoned well(s). Funding: \$6,000; WMP.

Action: Work with the landowners involved with the flood of September 22, 2010 to implement their projects that were damaged due to the flooding. Funding is dependent upon availability through MN Recovers.

Objective: Reduce the volume of sedimentation reaching Lincoln County’s lakes, streams, rivers, and wetlands.

Action: Increase conservation tillage on 1,500 acres with high residue and encourage landowners to plant 500 high residue acres with a No-Till Drill. Funding: \$190,000; Ag BMP.

Action: Assist in pursuing grants/funding for implementation of conservation practices for watershed based activities through the Clean Water Funds, Clean Water Partnership, Ag BMP, Watersheds, and BWSR. Funding based on current projects, TMDLs underway and for new TMDLs/Impaired waters projects as they are updated through MPCA in 2011 and beyond in the following watersheds: Yellow Medicine, Lac qui Parle, Redwood River and the Big Sioux. Address pollutants/stressors in each of the affected water bodies and areas deemed as high priority through the watershed project areas. This would be done through the technical work groups for the Yellow Medicine and Lac qui Parle, the RCRCA and neighboring SWCDs. Funding: \$2,500; SWCD.

Objective: Implement Best Management Practices in the Yellow Medicine Watershed project area. Future projects will be implemented based on future funding.

Action: Implement BMPs, alternative tile intakes, nutrient management, feedlots, or filter strips in the South Branch of the Yellow Medicine River to help reduce Phosphorus loading. Funding source is the 2007 South Branch TMDL Implementation Plan through the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District. Funding exhausted. Work with the Watershed to get the remaining projects completed by June 30, 2011.

Action: Continue to implement the 2009 Clean Water Legacy Grant funded for the Yellow Medicine Watershed through the Lower Minnesota River TMDL. This grant is for the Lincoln, Lyon and Yellow Medicine SWCDs with the Lyon SWCD administering the grant. Funding exhausted. The Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District will provide technical assistance to complete two remaining projects.

Action: Participate in the Yellow Medicine River Watershed technical team meetings to develop monitoring and implementation plans the team deems a priority in the watershed based on the TMDLs/impaired waters. Funding: YMRWD, SWCD.

Action: In the entire Yellow Medicine Watershed accelerate the implementation of BMPs. Funds remain for implementation of conservation practices of \$8,333 and alternative intakes of \$6,131. The funding is through the 2010-Clean Water Funds Grant for the Yellow Medicine Project. This grant is for the Lincoln, Lyon and Yellow Medicine SWCD’s with the Lincoln SWCD administering the grant. Funding: \$90,125 CWF.

Objective: Implement Best Management Practices in the Redwood River Watershed project area. Future projects will be implemented based on future funding.

Action: Participate in the RCRCA joint powers meetings and technical team meetings to develop monitoring and implementation plans the team deems a priority in the watershed based on the TMDLs/impaired waters. The Engineering Technician will serve on Redwood-Cottonwood Technical Advisory Committee, with meetings scheduled to start in January, 2011. Funding: Lincoln SWCD.

Action: Implement conservation practices for sediment reduction in the Redwood River Watershed. Funds remaining of \$43,000 from the Federal 319 grant (2010-2014) “Redwood River Watershed Nonpoint Pollution Reduction Project” administered through RCRCA. This project encompasses the entire Redwood Watershed.

Action: Implement conservation practices, alternative intakes, buffer incentives, stream bank restoration, etc. through a CWL funded project with federal 319 dollars (2010-2013) administered through RCRCA. Project is for the “Redwood and Cottonwood River Watershed Conservation and Nutrient Reduction Projects”.

Action: In the Redwood River Watershed accelerate the implementation of BMPs such as sediment basins, waterways, filter strips, etc. Funding is dependent on future grants specific current and future TMDL/impaired water projects in the watershed. Funding: \$50,000; RCRCA, SWCDs, CWLL.

Objective: Implement Best Management Practices in the Lac qui Parle Watershed project area. Future projects will be implemented based on future funding.

Action: Participate in the Lac qui Parle River Watershed technical team meetings to develop monitoring and implementation plans the team deems a priority in the watershed based on the TMDLs/impaired waters. Funding: SWCD, LqP-CWP, Watershed.

Objective: Increase and protect wildlife habitat.

Action: Assist private landowners with information, cost share, invasive tree management, and prairie management to further enhance wildlife habitat while providing hunting opportunity. Funding: \$10,000; DNR, PF, WHIP, BWSR, USFWS, EQIP, FSA, LOHC.

Action: Implement the Working Lands Initiative (WLI) Program which is designed to help enhance wildlife habitat through private land ownership. This program was developed by joint agencies with the DNR managing the funds. These funds are made available through a WLI Grant Agreement with the Lincoln SWCD. The WLI Market adjustment incentives are paid to the landowners depending on acres and CRP rates. Land must be in a priority area established by the working group. Funding: \$200,000-\$400,000; WLI, LOHC.

Action: Promote and implement the Wetland Reserve Program/Reinvest in Minnesota (WRP-RIM) Program using funding from the federal government and the new Lessard Outdoor Heritage Council. Acres enrolled and accepted depend on dollars available which will vary every year. Funding: \$50,000-\$250,000; Federal, BWSR.

Objective: Educate landowners/operators about erosion and sediment control, the importance of installing conservation practices and encourage conservation programs that help protect wildlife and recreational benefits in Lincoln County.

Action: Provide BMP and cost-share information to land owners/operators to reduce sediment and nutrient loading of surface and ground water and to enhance wildlife and recreation opportunities. Outreach sources: newsletters, news releases, SWCD web site, SWCD fair booth on BMP's. Funding: \$1,500; SWCD.

- WSCB's, terraces, waterways, conservation tillage, restored wetlands,
- Feedlots, nutrient/pesticide management;
- Replacement of open tile intakes with alternative/blind intakes;
- Enhance and protect remnant native prairies, and wildlife habitat management areas;
- Buffer programs: CCRP, RIM/WRP, Working Lands Initiative, critical area plantings, filter strips; and
- Field windbreaks, living snow fences, farmstead shelterbelts, wildlife tree plantings.

PRIORITY CONCERN: Lake Management Improvement (water quality) and Recreational Opportunities targeting Lake Benton, Lake Shaokatan and Lake Hendricks.

GOAL: Increase recreational opportunities by improving the water quality and quantity of Lincoln County's lakes.

Objective: Reduce the blue-green algae in Lake Shaokatan to improve the economic and recreational activities in the lake.

Action: Implement BMP's deemed necessary through the Shaokatan Sportsmen Club dollars in the Lake Shaokatan Watershed. Funds remaining of \$12,194; Sportsmen Club.

Action: Promote landowner awareness around the lake in the watershed on the importance of protecting the lake and reduce the blue-green algae in Lake Shaokatan. Outreach sources: newsletter, news releases.

PRIORITY CONCERN: Surface Water Runoff and Drainage addressing runoff volume and water quality through drainage management.

GOAL: Improve surface water management by decreasing runoff, flooding and erosion while maintaining the drainage systems already in place to sustain agricultural productivity.

Objective: Apply watershed-based principles in properly managing drainage systems and wetlands and repair small dams in the county.

Action: Reduce flooding potential by restoring wetlands by 10 acres. Funding: \$40,000; DNR, PF, BWSR, USFWS.

Action: Repair existing small dams used for flood control and water storage that are located in the county. Funding: \$50,000; Area II, Watersheds.

Action: Administer the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). Administration will come from the Local Governmental Unit-Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District. Technical panel consists of a representative from BWSR, NRCS, and SWCD. Funding: \$8,630; BWSR, \$8,630; SWCD In-kind.

Action: Administer the 1026's providing funding becomes available through the NRCS.

Objective: Educate landowners/operators in Lincoln County on the Drainage programs/issues.

Action: Educate land users on the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) regulations, USDA Swampbuster and Army Corp. of Engineers wetland regulations. Outreach sources: newsletters, the SWCD web site.

Provide for an effective/efficient District Operation.

Actions:

- Hold regular board meetings on the third Wednesday of every month.
 - Send county commissioner representative the meeting notice and all county commissioners the minutes.
 - Staff District Manager, Engineering Technician, Conservation Technician, and Farm Bill Assistant.
 - Provide appropriate training for all personnel in order to carry out the SWCD's Programs.
 - Review the Memorandum's of Understanding with other agencies.
 - The Comprehensive Plan is the Lincoln County Local Water Management Plan.
 - Conservation Technician will make comment on all DNR water permits.
 - Participate in the MASWCD, Area V Association and the NACD Programs.
 - District Manager is the Water Plan Coordinator for the Local Water Management Plan.
 - Provide representation to various organizations. Other than the ones listed previously, such as but not limited to: RC&D, Lincoln County Water Plan, Yellow Medicine Watershed Advisory Board, Southwest Prairie Technical Service Area, Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water, EQIP Local Work Group.
 - Develop an Annual Plan of Work; review once a year.
 - State C-S practices will be spot checked by the District Staff according to the State C-S Guidelines.
 - The District Technician's (Sterzinger-tree practices and Madsen-all other practices unless stated in Minutes) will be the designated Technical Representatives for the State C-S Program.
 - Monitor wells designated by the DNR.
 - Utilize e-link web based reporting system to report progress and develop an Annual Report.
 - Work with multiple lenders on the Ag BMP Program.
-

Increase public awareness through educational, promotional and informational activities.

Actions:

- Publish two-newsletters of which one will be the Annual Report.
- Select a Conservation Farmer and participate in the Conservationist Award Program.
- Sponsor and serve on the committee for the SWMACDE Environmental Fair for 6th graders in September.
- Publish news articles to address conservation issues and concerns approximately 20 times during 2011.
- Develop a display for the Lincoln County Fair.
- Participate in and serve on the committee for the women's day program/workshop with six neighboring SWCD's.
- Continue to develop, publish and maintain the SWCD web site.

STAFFING NEEDS

Concern/Objectives	Staff Years	
	Administrative	Technical
Ground Water Protection for the Verdi Well Field -Owner/Operator contacts in the DWSMA area: feedlot, tillage, nutrient management, easement programs and conservation tillage -Implement the Verdi Wellhead Protection Area Project – 2011 CWF Grant for: incentive payment for nutrient management plans, variable Rate technology, incorporate nitrogen products and filter strips. Conduct Following surveys, long-term inspections, maintenance, etc.	.2	.2
Surface Water Quality Deterioration -High priority feedlots; reduce feedlot pollution/nutrient mgmt plans -Address nutrient and bacteria issues -Identify and implement BMP's in the Yellow Medicine Watershed -Educate operators on feedlot pollution and manure management -Educate owners/operators on TMDL Study and need for implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lake Shaokatan Watershed & South Branch of YM River 	.05	.05
Erosion and Sediment Control -Yellow Medicine River Watershed implement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Filter Strips, sediment basins, waterways -Reduce water erosion to 5-ton or less soil loss per acre on cropland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Terraces, WSCB's, Waterways, Conservation Tillage, Livestock exclusions ▪ Increase # buffers, CRP/CCRP, filter strips and Critical Area Plantings -Reduce wind erosion to 5-ton or less soil loss per acre on cropland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sell 10,000 trees by implementing: 1-mile-Field Windbreaks/Living Snow Fences, 10-acres-Farmstead Shelterbelts, 5-acres Wildlife Tree Plantings -Administer Water Plan Implementation Programs -Increase conservation tillage on 5,000 acres with high residue -Encourage operators to plant 500 high residue acres with a NTD -Increase opportunity for wildlife enhancement -Provide information through newsletters	2.	2.1
Lake Management Improvement -Implement BMPs-water quality in Lake Shaokatan watershed above lake -Educate lake/city residents & operators around lakes, protect lake water quality		.05
Surface Water Runoff and Drainage -Reduce flooding-restoring wetlands and increase #filter strips -Administer the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) and 1026's -Develop a Wetland Banking Program -Enroll landowners in the CCRP-one-rod buffer -Education on buffer programs and WCA.	.35	.35
District Operation: Plans, Reports & Financial affairs	.5	
Educational, Promotional and Informational Activities	.15	
Total Staff Years	3.25	2.75

These staff years include four full-time SWCD staff members and two full-time NRCS staff members.

STATE COST-SHARE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

State Cost-Share Policies:

It is the responsibility of the Lincoln SWCD to administer the state cost-share program to establish sound conservation practices that eliminate, or greatly reduce, an erosion or water quality problem during their effective life. According to their job approval authority, Dale Sterzinger will be the technical representative on all tree practices and Ron Madsen will be the technical representative on all other practices unless otherwise stated in minutes. The Cost-Share rate as set by the Board for 2011 is not to exceed the 75%.

High priority Wind and Water Erosion Problems:

High priority erosion areas where erosion from wind or water is occurring equal to, or in excess of 2T per acre per year or is occurring on any area that exhibits active gully erosion or is identified as high priority in the comprehensive local water plan.

Lands in Lincoln County which are eroding at a rate of over 2T are about 215,000 acres which includes most of Lincoln County but more so in the soil association areas of the Altamont Moraine, Bemis Moraine and the Loess Covered Till Plain. Wind erosion also occurs throughout the county in the same soil areas. Wind and water conservation practices are conservation cropping systems, contour farming, contour strips, water and sediment control basins, terraces, crop residue use, diversions, field strip cropping, sod waterways, field windbreaks, and conservation tillage.

High Priority Water Quality:

High priority water quality mean areas where sediment, nutrients, chemicals, or other pollutants discharge to Department of Natural Resources designated protected waters or to any high priority waters as identified in a comprehensive local water plan, or discharge to a sinkhole or groundwater. The pollutant delivery rate to the water source is in amounts that will impair the quality or usefulness of the water resource.

From the Lincoln County Environmental Office, there are a total of 422 registered feedlots in Lincoln County. Most of the high priority feedlots are near Lake Benton, Lake Hendricks, Lake Shaokatan, and Dead Coon Lake and the Lac qui Parle River, the Yellow Medicine River, and the Redwood River. Practices solving the problems are: holding ponds, water and sediment control basins, clean water diversions, waste storage areas, and filter strips, buffers, hoop barns, waste disposal systems.

High Priority Sedimentation:

High priority sediment areas are characterized as areas near Lake Shaokatan, Lake Benton, and Dead Coon Lake and, areas along the Lac qui Parle, Yellow Medicine and Redwood Rivers. The most extensive areas are around Lake Benton and Lake Shaokatan and along the Yellow Medicine River in Alta Vista and Marble Townships. An estimated 119,800 acres are High Priority Sedimentation areas in Lincoln County. Practices alleviating the problem are diversions, waterways, pasture management, critical area seeding, terraces, stream bank stabilization, controlled grazing, hay land management, and tree plantings.

Funding Sources:

The 2011 EQIP Dollars, approx. \$200,000, are for 3-year contracts.

FY11 State C-S Dollars - \$15,036 with a two-year encumbering period.

Ag BMP Revolving Loan Dollars available in 2011 is approximately \$200,000.

319 grant funds available for projects in the Redwood River Project funding through RCRC.

FY2010 Clean Water Funds: Grant applications funded through BWSR include: Yellow Medicine Watershed-administered through the Lincoln SWCD for \$90,125 (three counties) and Redwood-Cottonwood Watersheds-administered through the Redwood SWCD for \$75,000 (eight-counties). FY 2011 Clean Water Funds: Grant application which was approved through BWSR is the Verdi Wellhead Protection Area Project – 2011 for \$184,211.

BUDGET REQUIREMENTS

<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Projected Budget</u>
BWSR Service Grants	72,000
Other Misc. Revenue	10,500
County Revenue	123,250
WLI-DNRe	252,000
CWF-Verdi/LPRW	182,000
CWF-YMP	85,000
Women's Day Program	900
Charges for Services	138,150
Interest Earnings	4,000
Total Revenues	<hr/> 867,800
<u>Expenditures</u>	
Personal Services	239,230
Other Services/Charges	42,350
Purchases-Capital Outlay	-0-
State C-S Projects	25,000
WLI-Incentive Payments	250,000
CWF-Verdi	100,000
CWF-YMP	85,000
Shaokatan Sportsmen Club C-S	20,000
Women's Day Program	1,800
Charges for Services	104,420
Total Expenses	<hr/> 867,800
Net Profit	<hr/> -0-