



## Summary of DRAFT Project Plan: Appropriations to BWSR for N&E Metro GWMA

---

### **Purpose:**

Plan for putting to work appropriations to BWSR for N&E Metro GWMA

The **N&E Metro** appropriations include:

**\$150,000:** to ID strategies for ground water protection and potential locations for infiltration projects and practices, through development or implementation of local water management plans (as in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 103B, 103C, 103D, and 114D), in collaboration with the MDH and local units of government.

**\$100,000:** for a workshop for public works professionals or other local officials that promote landscape best management practices and for grants to local units of government to keep water on the land.

### **Goals**

At the end of this project, BWSR will have:

- Documented strategies and framework for incorporating ground water protection within the existing local water management authorities in the N&E Metro GWMA.
- Develop and provide Ground water Education for Municipal Officials (“GEMO”) Workshops.

### **BWSR staff roles**

- **Project Lead:** Don Buckhout [[don.buckhout@state.mn.us](mailto:don.buckhout@state.mn.us) 651/296-0768]
- **Project Support:** Eric Mohring [[eric.mohring@state.mn.us](mailto:eric.mohring@state.mn.us) 651/297-7360]  
also Doug Thomas, Jim Haertel, Melissa Lewis ,  
**N&E Metro BWSR Field Staff:** Dan Fabian (Anoka and Washington), Mary Peterson (Ramsey),  
(Steve Christopher working on related North Fork Crow River pilot and Bonanza Valley GWMA)

## North and East Metro GWMA Approach

Use a standalone, facilitated process working with the existing local water management authorities and the water management framework of 103B.201 (metro [surface] water management), 103B.235 ([metro] local water management plans and 103B.255 ([metro] ground water plans). The project will not be incorporated into 1W1P at this time. However, the work may be informed by 1W1P coordination with GWMA in the Bonanza Valley and Straight River areas and will be informed by the work of the other agencies.

### **N&E Metro Collaboration Funds (\$150K):**

- Investigate strategies already in local water plans (GAPS analysis)
- Facilitate development of strategies appropriate for local government coordination and implementation
- Work to incorporate strategies into existing GW management plans. Promote adoption of Metro Ground Water Plans **AND/OR** Work directly with WDs, WMOs, and cities to discuss role of 103B.201 and 103B.235 plans and authorities.
- Work towards reaching consensus on future role for each of the water management authorities.
- Consensus on outline for amending plans to incorporate strategies.

### **NE Metro Workshop and Grant Funds (\$100K):**

- Contract with U of MN Extension to develop and provide "GEMO" (Ground water Education for Municipal Officials) Workshops. Potentially leverage this work and funds from the other GWMA to provide 'GEMO' in Bonanza Valley and Straight River.
- Use any remaining funds for project & planning grants specifically to meet the requirements of the appropriation.

### **Agency Roles (specific to the NE Metro GWMA)**

- **DNR:** GWMA Plans for the NE Metro & Bonanza
  - Improve information about our ground water resources;
  - Reinforce partnerships to provide better support for sustainable ground water use;
  - Improve compliance with existing ground water regulations;
  - Assure that permits for large water appropriations provide sustainable supplies of ground water for future generations; and
  - Concentrate action in areas of high ground water use and /or limited ground water supply.
- **Met Council:** Develop a plan for the NE Metro GWMA and to design long-term solutions to address regional water supply and sustainability; and to investigate the feasibility of collecting and treating storm water in the North and East Metro Ground Water Management Area to enhance surface waters and ground water recharge. Current intent is to leverage similar work completed in Dakota County, and complete the plan within 3-5 months after DNR GWMA Plan.
- **MDH:** Leverage the work above in order to update wellhead protection areas within the NE Metro GWMA to meet the sustainability standards of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 103G, including Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.287, subdivision 5, and to be available for the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 103H. The update should identify the most critical areas that need protecting.
- **PCA** (including PFA): Collaborate with the other agencies.
- **BWSR:** Leverage the work of and collaborate with the agencies above to achieve the intent of the appropriation. See scope and approach below.

**N&E Metro GWMA Program Timeline - Estimate of the timing for meetings and milestones.**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Description/decision</i>	<i>Leads</i>
January 2015	DNR GWMA Complete	DNR
Oct/Nov 2014	Develop contract with U of MN (Ext/WRC ?)for GEMO Workshops	DT/ML
January – February 2015	Project Plan Complete	SPC
	Develop GEMO workshop goals and content	SPC/U of MN Ext.
March 2015	Tentative - Met Council's work complete	Met Council
	Tentative - MDH ground water restoration and protection strategies completed	MDH
	Finalize GEMO Workshops & content	U of MN Ext.
April / May 2015	Investigate strategies in local water and agency plans and coordinate initial (individual) meetings with LGU and agency staff	SPC
June 2015	Kick off meeting with water management authorities	SPC
	GEMO Workshops held (may be held earlier)	U of MN Ext.
<b>June 30, 2015</b>	<b>GEMO Workshop funds must be expended</b>	
July 2015	Refine Project Plan	SPC
August 2015 – April 2016	Work directly with WDs, WMOs, and cities to discuss role of 103B.201 & 103B.235 plans and authorities	SPC
May - June 2016	Facilitate reaching consensus on future role for each of the water management authorities	SPC
Sept. – January 2016	Consensus on outline/process for incorporating strategies into LGUs local water management plans	
Feb. – April 2017	Project report	
June 30, 2017	Collaboration funds must be expended.	

SPC Special Project Coordinator- (Don Buckout), BC = Board Conservationist, CWS = Clean Water Specialists, GCS = Grants Compliance Specialist, DT = Doug Thomas, ML = Melissa Lewis

## **Appropriation Language, Laws of 2014, Chapter 312 – H.F. 3172 Article 14, Sec 4.**

### **NE Metro Ground Water Management Area appropriations to BWSR**

\$150,000 in 2015 is to collaborate with MDH and local units of government in the North and East Metro Ground Water Management Area through development or implementation of local water management plans as provided for in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 103B, 103C, 103D, and 114D, to identify strategies for ground water protection and potential locations for infiltration projects and practices, including potential wetland restoration, enhancement, or creation that would contribute to ground water recharge, surface water enhancement, and wellhead protection. Areas in the Mississippi River flyway, or that also provide habitat for waterfowl production, fish spawning, or other fish or wildlife habitat, should be specifically identified. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2017.

\$100,000 in 2015 is for a workshop for public works professionals or other local officials that promote landscape best management practices that keep water on the land, including rain gardens, within the North and East Metro Ground Water Management Area and for grants to local units of government in the North and East Metro Ground Water Management Area to keep water on the land.

### **NE Metro Ground Water Management Area appropriations to Metropolitan Council**

\$400,000 in 2015 from the clean water fund is to develop a plan for the North and East Metro Ground Water Management Area and to predesign preferred long-term solutions to address regional water supply and sustainability issues, including enhancing surface waters, in collaboration with the DNR. The plan, incorporating standard engineering practices, must address construction, operation, and maintenance of infrastructure needed to implement the preferred solutions and, in consultation with the Public Facilities Authority, include recommendations for funding that would fairly allocate the costs to users and other beneficiaries. As the plan is developed, the council must meet periodically with the local water supply work group to review details of the plan. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2015.

\$100,000 in 2015 from the clean water fund is to investigate, in collaboration with the Board of Water and Soil Resources and the Pollution Control Agency, the feasibility of collecting and treating storm water in the North and East Metro Ground Water Management Area to enhance surface waters and ground water recharge.

\$50,000 in 2015 from the clean water fund is to partner with the University of Minnesota's Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) to identify opportunities for industrial water users to reduce or reuse their water

### **Ground Water Management Area appropriations to MDH**

\$300,000 in 2015 from the clean water fund is to collaborate with the Board of Water and Soil Resources and local units of government in the North and East Metro Ground Water Management Area, Bonanza Valley Ground Water Management Area, and Straight River Ground Water Management Area and to update wellhead protection areas within ground water management areas, in cooperation with the Board of Water and Soil Resources, to meet the sustainability standards of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 103G, including Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.287, subdivision 5, and to be available for the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 103H. The update should identify the most critical areas that need protecting.