



FY 18 - 19 Biennial Budget Request Root River SWCD

Total Requested Biennial State Contribution:	\$2,647,600.00	BBR ID	BBR16-9475
Total Leveraged Funds	\$408,800.00	Submitted Date	4/12/2016
Total Resource Project and Activities Budget	\$3,056,400.00	Staff Contact	Bob Scanlan
Total BMPs	184	Board Conservationist	Tom Gile
Total FTEs	6.15		

SWCD Program Grant Summary

Grant Source	Estimated Amount Available	Estimated Amount Budgeted
SWCD Conservation Delivery	\$45,010.00	\$72,000.00
SWCD State Cost-Share	\$41,802.00	\$386,000.00
RIM Easement Delivery	\$6,366.00	

Water Resources of Concern

Primary Water Resource of Concern	Water Resource Category	Watershed	Impairments	Trend
Organization Wide - Ground Water	Ground Water		Yes	Not Enough Data
Organization Wide - Ground Water	Ground Water		Yes	Not Enough Data
Organization Wide - Surface Water	Surface Water		Yes	Not Enough Data
Root River - flood control	Surface Water	Root River	Yes	Not Enough Data
Winnebago Watershed - flood control	Surface Water	Mississippi River - Reno	Yes	Not Enough Data
Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water	Surface & Ground Water		Yes	Not Enough Data
Crooked Creek Watershed	Surface & Ground Water	Root River	Yes	Not Enough Data
Bee/Duck Creek Watershed	Surface & Ground Water	Upper Iowa River	Yes	Not Enough Data
Root River	Surface Water	Root River	Yes	Not Enough Data

Activity Summary

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	Convert marginal ag lands to perennial vegetation through programs such as RIM or CRP thereby providing filtering effects along streams or other sensitive areas, providing habitat for wildlife, and improving the overall ecology of the county.		
Activity Category	Agricultural Practices	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	RIM - (All Sources)	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$20,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	20
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$10,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$30,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Develop local/regional incentives to establish 1,000 acres of perennial vegetation annually.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Typical workload of SWCD staff includes working with landowners on projects that address resource concerns. Through incentives to landowners to address these concerns, staff will be able to provide an incentive to landowners to take marginal ag lands out of production or develop buffers along sensitive areas such as streams. Funding would be made available to landowners similar to rental rates for cropping land of similar soil type, slope, or crop equivalency.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Ground Water		
Activity Description	Review manure application sites under a "Level III" inspection per MPCA guidelines. Provide follow up inspection reports and BMP's to livestock producers to ensure that technical requirements are being met on each level III inspection. Also provide technical assistance to livestock producers who submit manure management plans for review under feedlot permit requirements. By being more cognizant of manure application activities, shortfalls of producers to maintain setbacks from sensitive areas can be addressed at the time of application thereby keeping phosphorus and pathogens out of surface and ground water. Improved ag waste management will inevitably improve situations of waterways that may be compromised through poor management of ag waste.		
Activity Category	Technical/Engineering Assistance	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	MN Pollution Control Agency	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$30,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$10,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-

Projects & Activities Budget	\$40,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	metro counties only)
			Provide technical assistance on ag waste management on 20 farms per year.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	SWCD maintains a feedlot technician on staff who is trained to address feedlot and manure management scenarios. Anticipated work load will include routine inspections and follow-up with livestock producers to ensure that BMPs are being met. This workload will continue inevitably through a continued wide range of service through any of a number of activities including mmp review, Level I, II, and III inspections, etc.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	Phosphorus loading and loss of sediment into flowing streams has long been a problem for stream ecology in Houston County. Improving perennial vegetation along riparian zones has a positive effect on stream ecology, reduction of sediment loading, and reducing phosphorus loading. Increasing the number of acres dedicated to stream bank buffers will ultimately improve water quality both locally and downstream to other areas like the gulf of Mexico.		
Activity Category	Streambank or Shoreline Protection	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD State Cost-Share	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$2,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	10
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$200.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$2,200.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Promote perennial vegetation within the riparian zone through buffer initiatives that reduce sediment deliver and nutrient reduction. Goal of 20 acres annually.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	SWCD staff will work with landowners who are interested in improving the buffer in riparian areas. This would be an on-going activity for SWCD staff.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Ground Water		
Activity Description	Hold a manure application field day to demonstrate such things as manure spreader calibration, application rates, and manure management planning. This activity would be anticipated at one field day or seminar per year and would be in conjunction with UM Extension.		
Activity Category	Technical/Engineering	Capital Improvement Project?	No

Source of State Contribution	Assistance	Estimated # of FTEs	0.1
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	MN Pollution Control Agency		
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$2,000.00		
Projects & Activities Budget	\$0.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	\$2,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
		Action or Objective (from plan)	Manure Application Field Day
	Efforts to include this activity during regular work loads during the spring/summer in cooperation with U of M Extension staff. Anticipated delivery of action would be one seminar or field day per year.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Offer education and technical assistance as well as financial support for landowners interested in converting crop land to perennial vegetation. With the 2015 Buffer Initiative coming to fruition, landowners will be addressing the 50 ft. buffer requirement on their individual parcels. SWCD will be the technical guidance through this program and will provide landowners with opportunities to come into compliance with the buffer law. In addition, SWCD will remain as a source of information to landowners interested in converting cropland or other vulnerable lands into programs such as CRP, RIM, etc. It has been proven that such things as shoreline buffer, establishment of CRP and other similar programs that establish permanent perennial vegetation do a good job of filtering pollutants, and keep nutrients from reaching surface and ground water. Establishing perennial vegetation near sensitive areas will further the SWCD's goal of improving water quality throughout the county and beyond.		
Activity Category	Technical/Engineering Assistance	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	Buffer Implementation Funds	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$50,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$50,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Promote existing programs which offer incentives to establish/maintain perennial vegetation.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	SWCD technician work encompasses a number of programs and activities. On-going efforts to promote, educate, and provide technical assistance all fall under the umbrella of SWCD technician's daily activities. This activity would remain as an on-going program within the SWCD.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Providing financial incentives to landowners interested in implementing conservation practices county wide has been proven as a means to help landowners justify the costs associated with addressing the resource concerns on their land. By seeking grants to provide cost share assistance to landowners many conservation practices will be implemented that may otherwise not. By using public dollars to implement these practices, the practices will be put on the ground with over sight by knowledgeable technicians and the practices will ultimately have a positive impact on the environment which can be enjoyed by all.		
Activity Category	Project Development	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD Local Capacity Funds	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$10,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$10,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Seek federal, state, and local grants including but not limited to National Fish and Wildlife Fund, Emergency Defense Fund, Clean Water Fund, and the Nature Conservancy to provide cost share and technical assistance to landowners for conservation practice implementation county wide.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	By taking the time to research grant opportunities, technicians will potentially resource public funds to enact projects on the ground. This will be a focus of staff during times when workloads allow.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	Provide technical assistance to Houston County while administering the WCA as a means to improve riparian areas where wetlands exist as well as provide alternative solutions in order to lessen the impacts of wetland impacts to landowners through out the county.		
Activity Category	Administration/Coordination	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	NRBG WCA	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$24,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$24,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)

Projects & Activities Budget	\$48,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Assist the county in administrating the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA).
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Root River SWCD will provide administrative and technical assistance to address issues related to existing wetlands within Houston County.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	Establishment of fall cover crops has proven to increase soil organic matter which in-turn increases water infiltration, soil structure, and nutrient availability to the following year's crop. Cover crops are also a benefit in that they scavenge nutrients and provide armor to the soil in order to reduce erosion after harvest and into the next year. By providing incentives to producers to establish cover crops, we will be capturing water that potentially runs off the land, reducing the potential for erosion and aiding to maintain nutrients such as nitrogen for the following crop.		
Activity Category	Agricultural Practices	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Projects and Practices	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$50,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	10
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$5,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$55,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Establish incentive program to plant 500 acres of fall cover crops.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	If funding for this activity were made available to local producers, an increase in the amount of acres dedicated to cover crops will be achieved. SWCD technicians will be available to give advice and technical support while guiding producers to cost share money to help establish cover crops.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Ground Water		
Activity Description	SWCD provides well water test kits to all water users within Houston County and also provides free nitrate testing to Houston County residents.		
Activity Category	Groundwater	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	MN Dept. of Health	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$600.00	Estimated Number of Practices	40
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$600.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)

Projects & Activities Budget	\$1,200.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Offer well water testing kit at low cost to landowners. Provide annual free nitrate testing to Houston County residents.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	SWCD will be available as a resource to citizens interested in testing the quality of their well water. This will be achieved by making test kits available and answering questions pertaining to water quality testing and management. SWCD also provides annual free nitrate testing to Houston County residents.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Ground Water		
Activity Description	Inform the public about well testing opportunities within the area.		
Activity Category	Education/Information	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	NRBG Water Plan	Estimated # of FTEs	0.1
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$1,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$1,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$2,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Emphasis on education is a high priority of the Root River SWCD and news articles on particular subjects are a regular activity. This is an on-going emphasis for the District.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Prepare at least 2 news articles per year.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	There are many options to address sediment and nutrient loss along stream banks along with enhancing stream banks to help stabilize and protect these vulnerable areas. Providing adequate buffer along these banks along with restoring sloughed bank slopes has been shown to lessen the likelihood of excessive nutrients and sediment entering the adjacent waterway. With reduced sediment and nutrient loads, spring ecology can be maintained and even enhanced. It is through projects to enhance these areas that public dollars are given a chance to really make a difference.		
Activity Category	Streambank or Shoreline Protection	Capital Improvement Project?	No

Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Community Partners	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$50,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	20
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$5,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$55,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Continue partnership opportunities with the Nature Conservancy and NRCS to install 500 linear feet of stream bank restoration and 30 acres of stream bank buffers and 20 BMP's within priority areas of the Root River Watershed.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Practices such as stream bank sloping and seeding, rip rap, and cedar tree revetment have all been tied to positive measurable outcomes from successful projects. For instance, Riceford Creek, a priority stream within the Root River watershed has seen success with a stream bank cedar tree revetment project that has slowed flows along the bank in eroded areas and allowed sediment to be deposited within the revetment area. The long term effect will be improved stream banks that are more stable and provide a more defined channel. The result is less sedimentation loads in the larger watershed. Continued efforts and financial assistance is needed to keep projects like this in motion.		

Water Resource Name	Crooked Creek Watershed		
Activity Description	Continue to provide technical, administrative, and planning assistance to the Crooked Creek Watershed District in order to aid in developing and meeting their water shed goals and policies. This assistance will allow the watershed to move forward on plans for capital improvement to build a structure within the watershed as well as develop and administer BMP's for conservation practices that stand to further enhance water quality within the watershed.		
Activity Category	Planning and Assessment	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Planning Grants: One Watershed One Plan	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$28,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$28,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)

Projects & Activities Budget	\$56,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Provide technical and administrative assistance to the Crooked Creek Watershed to implement their watershed plan.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	<p>Root River SWCD provides staff time to administer conservation programs and provide technical assistance within the Crooked Creek Watershed. This cooperative effort has been in place for many years and is a testament to the integrity and resiliency of both the Root River and Crooked Creek Watershed Districts. The SWCD plans to continue to provide Technical and administrative assistance to Crooked Creek Watershed while assisting with implementation of their Watershed Plan and the County's Water Plan. With the advent and future adoption of the Root River One Watershed, One Plan, Crooked Creek Watershed will need assistance in administration of 1W1P as well as technical assistance with the plan to maintain compliance with the initiatives set forth. Additional staff time will be utilized to provide planning and technical assistance to improve water quality in the Watershed.</p>		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	<p>New and evolving information regarding conservation practices is something that SWCD's strive to get out to the public. By providing up-to-date information, technical staff can educate and potentially aid in the implementation of new and improved practices that can benefit the environment in many ways. By holding workshops, SWCD staff has a chance to educate in an environment that fosters two way interaction. It is through these efforts that a lot of information can be transferred. Working with agencies such as ARS enable the access to good information that can then be passed along to the public locally through partnerships with UMN, BWSR, and NRCS. This passage of information can have a positive effect on getting good conservation on the ground.</p>		
Activity Category	Education/Information	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Planning Grants: One Watershed One Plan	Estimated # of FTEs	0.1
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$1,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$1,000.00		Plan Type
Projects & Activities Budget	\$2,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Contact ARS to obtain cover crop data information for Houston County landowners and conduct one landowner workshop.

Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	The Root River SWCD has always been a resource for conservation information. This information is always evolving. It is through efforts of partnerships with NRCS, UMN, and BWSR that Root River can provide good information to the public. Many times this information is best conveyed in landowner workshops or seminars.
--	---

Water Resource Name	Bee/Duck Creek Watershed		
Activity Description	Providing the best possible service to landowners is a caveat of good partnerships. Root River SWCD has always worked closely with NRCS to provide technical assistance and cost share to landowners wanting to address their resource concerns. As Bee/Duck Creek watershed crosses state boundaries as well as watershed boundaries, it is through good partnerships that Root River SWCD has been able to serve the landowners within this watershed who also lie in Houston County. It is through these cooperative efforts that these landowners can do whats best for the environment.		
Activity Category	Special Projects	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD State Cost-Share	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$4,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	20
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$40,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$44,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Provide guidance, cost share assistance, and recommendations to 20 Bee/Duck Creek Watershed landowners through the federal EQIP program.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	As Bee/Duck Creek is a priority watershed it is important to work to address the resource needs within this watershed. Root River SWCD plans to work closely with NRCS to provide both technical guidance as well as cost share incentives through EQIP in order to put conservation projects on the ground.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Providing technical, planning and financial assistance to feedlot owners has been shown to improve the overall water quality downstream of feedlot facilities. The best solution for each feedlot is dependent on many site specific criteria. By focusing efforts to reduce runoff from open lots in a low cost scenario, environmental benefits can be obtained while at the same time enabling the producer to remain viable. Many times technical assistance along with cost share incentives are a great combination to achieve both goals.		
Activity Category	Livestock Waste Management	Capital Improvement Project?	No

Source of State Contribution	SWCD State Cost-Share	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$60,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	5
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$30,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$90,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Provide planning and financial assistance for low-cost feedlot fixes on five (5) lots per year.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	A feedlot technician remains on staff at the SWCD to oversee inspections and provide technical advice to feedlot owners. In order to move feedlot runoff abatement projects forward, it is important to include financial assistance as a means to help producers cover the cost of such practices.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Technical assistance through routine inspections and follow-up with non-compliant producers is a focus of the partnership between Houston County and the SWCD. SWCD provides advice to feedlot operators working on open lot feedlot compliance that ultimately works to reduce runoff leaving the open lots with a goal of reducing pathogen and nutrient loads. BMP's placed in appropriate areas are proven to increase water quality near open feedlots.		
Activity Category	Technical/Engineering Assistance	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	MN Pollution Control Agency	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$30,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$30,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$60,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Provide technical assistance to Houston County to conduct inspections and provide maintenance recommendations on 7% of open lot agreements (OLA program) per year.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Root River will continue to work closely with Houston County to enact local feedlot ordinances and MN rule 7020. A goal of inspection on at least 7% of the registered feedlots is expected to continue into the next biennium. SWCD will strive to meet this goal with the intent of improving water quality through the county.		

Water Resource Name	Winnebago Watershed - flood control		
Activity Description	Two sites have been targeted through a needs assessment that involve the construction of 2 different flood control structures at 2 different sites within the Winnebago Watershed. Numerous past flood events have impacted downstream landowners by increasing damage to stream banks, flooding agricultural properties, damaging roads and flooding building structures. Construction of these 2 structures will lessen the impacts on numerous downstream landowners.		
Activity Category	Special Projects	Capital Improvement Project?	Yes
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Projects and Practices	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$500,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	2
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$10,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$510,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Seek funding opportunities for cost share assistance through the Clean Water Grant proposal to install flood retention structures within the Bee/Duck Creek, Crooked Creek, and Winnebago Watersheds.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	A needs assessment has been completed on the two sites. A preliminary design has been drawn up but the project remains on hold until public funding can be made available. Upon successful award of cost-share funding, the project will proceed during the 2018-19 biennium.		

Water Resource Name	Crooked Creek Watershed		
Activity Description	The SWCD has been actively working with two landowners within a sub-watershed of Crooked Creek. These priority sites have been identified for flood control structures that will significantly reduce the impacts of future flood events and have a positive effect on downstream properties. Funding through NRCS is not an option as flood control structures are not in the NRCS docket. State funding is appropriate as the number of benefiting landowners will be many.		
Activity Category	Special Projects	Capital Improvement Project?	Yes
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Projects and Practices	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$400,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	2
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$40,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-

Projects & Activities Budget	\$440,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	metro counties only)
			Seek funding opportunities for cost share assistance through the Clean Water Grant proposal to install flood retention structures within the Bee/Duck Creek, Crooked Creek, and Winnebago Watersheds.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	The SWCD will provide technical and engineering assistance through JPB staff to design and install 2 flood control structures in the Crooked Creek Watershed. A preliminary needs and site investigation has been completed. A more in-depth soils investigation is being planned for 2016-17 with final design and commencement of construction to be completed in 2018-19.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Root River SWCD works diligently with landowners to plan and implement an array of conservation practices on their lands that address a number of resource concerns. As this is a continued focus of the District, it is imperative that continued support from the Legislature remains. Local Capacity grants through the CWF help ensure that financial aid is available to the SWCD's in order to provide the staff necessary to do the ground work necessary (survey, design, work with cooperators, follow-up inspections) to keep putting good conservation on the ground.		
Activity Category	Administration/Coordination	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD Local Capacity Funds	Estimated # of FTEs	1
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$100,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$100,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Seek federal, state and local grants including but not limited to National Fish & Wildlife (NFWF), Emergency Defense Fund (EDF), Clean Water Fund (CWF), and the Nature Conservancy to provide cost share and technical assistance to landowners for conservation

Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium		practice implementation county wide.
	The Root River SWCD plans to provide technical assistance to landowners who wish to implement conservation on private lands. The Local Capacity Grant mechanism is an important factor in the SWCD's continued efforts. This funding provides the staff necessary to aid landowners in implementing projects that address soil erosion, riparian zone management, and water storage treatment practices along with working to manage excess nutrients throughout the watershed and beyond. Root River will continue to be a resource to landowners to address any of a number or resource concerns on their land.	

Water Resource Name	Bee/Duck Creek Watershed		
Activity Description	A willing landowner has shown a need to make improvements to a drainage area that impacts the Bee/Duck creek watershed. Said project will include the reshaping and seeding/mulching of a critical area that has eroded immensely during the last few flood events. Massive gully erosion has prevented the use of low cost BMP's and, as a result, has not been fixed as required. State funding will be needed to shore up the cost which, in essence will benefit downstream landowners by reducing the sediment load into the Bee/Duck creek watershed.		
Activity Category	Special Projects	Capital Improvement Project?	Yes
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Projects and Practices	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$100,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	1
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$10,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$110,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Seek funding opportunities for cost share assistance through the Clean Water Grant proposal to install flood retention structures within the Bee/Duck Creek, Crooked Creek, and Winnebago Watersheds.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	A preliminary needs assessment has been completed but construction is on hold until funding has been made available. Plans are to commence construction upon successful attainment of funds in 2018.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water
Activity Description	Continue to administer the Aquatic Invasive Species program through continued efforts to educate the

Activity Category	public about the importance of preventing the spread of AIS.		
Source of State Contribution	Education/Information	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	MN Dept. of Natural Resources	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$80,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Projects & Activities Budget	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	\$80,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Participate with US Fish and Wildlife Service, Root River Citizens Committee and other partners. Review local/regional plans to insure compliance with Water Plan. Discuss and prepare staff training needs for both technical and administrative employees.
	SWCD staff will educate the public by speaking directly with the public at boat landings, publicizing articles in local newspapers, and setting up educational booth at local trade shows and county fairs. A concerted effort will be made to educate through out the year but especially during summer months when use of public waters by citizens is higher.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	As a means to provide the best possible information generated through monitoring, mapping and other projects, it is important to make improvements to computer design software, mapping programs, and stream monitoring equipment. It is through improvements in technology that our conservation partners can make informed decisions on water quality while at the same time get that information to the public.		
Activity Category	Monitoring/Data Collection	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD Conservation Delivery	Estimated # of FTEs	0.1
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$40,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$40,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Provide funding and in-kind contributions for improved technology using "LIDAR",

Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium		stream monitoring projects, and computer design software in an effort to enhance natural resource protection.
	Through partnerships with NRCS, BWSR, DNR, and Houston County, the SWCD is always striving to improve water quality through testing, inventory and mapping projects. These efforts are very important while making decisions on BMP's to enhance natural resource protection. SWCD will continue to provide technical and administrative services and work with conservation partners to gather information gleaned from stream monitoring projects, field demonstrations, and other testing data. The SWCD will also continue to utilize the most up- to- date mapping and computer software to analyze, digitize, and store important information. Use of these funds will allow the SWCD to manage the day-to-day activities including the storage of important information.	

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Root River SWCD has housed a local water planner for many years. The public has come to respect the work of the SWCD and looks to the District in guiding the implementation, coordination, and administration of many conservation programs including the County water plan and other subwatershed plans (Crooked Creek Watershed Plan). As well as other larger regional water plans (1W1P).		
Activity Category	Administration/Coordination	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	NRBG Water Plan	Estimated # of FTEs	0.5
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$26,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$26,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$52,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Staff part time Water Plan Coordinator, Continue participation on the SEMNWRB, Review local/regional plans to ensure compliance with Water Plan.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Root River SWCD will continue to house a local water planner and work with the County on issues pertaining to said plan through both administrative and technical efforts. The SWCD has also been active in planning, guiding, and promoting the One Watershed, One Plan Project and will continue those efforts along with implementation of the plan into the next biennium and beyond. The Water Planner is responsible for ensuring that components of the County Water Plan are being followed.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Conservation Delivery Grants provide each SWCD with funds for the general administration and operation of the district. These administrative and operational costs include paying for the costs of employing staff, office space, transportation, postage and utilities, and supervisor's compensation and expenses. These programs incur costs associated with the day - to - day activities and are an important part of the district's activities.		
Activity Category	Administration/Coordination	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD Conservation Delivery	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$32,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$32,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Seek federal, state and local grants including but not limited to National Fish and Wildlife (NFWF), Emergency Defense Fund (EDF), Clean Water Fund (CWF), and the Nature Conservancy to provide cost share and technical assistance to landowners for conservation practice implementation county wide.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Root River SWCD will continue to provide conservation programs to landowners through administrative, planning, and technical efforts.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Provide technical assistance to landowners planning for forestry stewardship practices.		
Activity Category	Forestry Practices	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	MN Dept. of Natural Resources	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$250,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	30
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$2,500.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$252,500.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Provide Technical assistance

Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium			and cost share to 30 private forest landowner using various programs (CRP, EQIP, State) for forest stewardship activities that reduce runoff, improve wildlife habitat and maintain, expand and improve perennial cover.
		SWCD will partner with DNR, FSA, and NRCS to provide technical assistance and cost-share opportunities through such programs such as CRP, EQIP, and State Cost share.	

Water Resource Name	Root River - flood control		
Activity Description	Flood control structures placed strategically on the landscape can have a huge impact on downstream landowners. Projects such as this have been shown to greatly reduce the negative impacts of large flood events and improve quality of life for those whose property is located in floodplain areas.		
Activity Category	Special Projects	Capital Improvement Project?	Yes
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Projects and Practices	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$225,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	1
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$22,500.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$247,500.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Complete 2007 - 2008 flood workload.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	A willing landowner has been working with local SWCD and NRCS staff to plan and implement a flood control structure on the property. A needs assessment has been done with preliminary surveying of the site. Follow-up soil testing, design, construction are needed and planned in the next biennium. The construction of the flood control structure (NRCS 402) is planned in Yucatan Township on private land. As flood control structures are not on the NRCS docket as a funded item, we are asking for assistance from state funds. The site has been flagged as a project that can benefit down stream landowners who have been impacted by past flood events. A flood control structure in this area would reduce the impacts of future flood events downstream.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Assist landowners interested in applying for the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program. This program aims to recognize the efforts of landowners who have done a good job of applying conservation practices to their property.		

Activity Category	Administration/Coordination	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	MDA Ag Water Quality Certification Funds	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$12,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$12,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Assist with implementation/administration of programs that support/promote animal agriculture.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Root River SWCD will work with potential applicants to file the correct paperwork, review and collect relevant information and work jointly with the applicant and program coordinator to ensure that requirements are being met by the applicant. SWCD wishes to extend operation of the current program in to the next biennium.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Provide technical and administrative assistance to program participants within the MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program. Root River SWCD will work jointly with landowners who wish to address the resource concerns on their property while complying with the MAWQCP requirements. These projects may include establishment of BMP's such as contour strips, buffer strips, waterways, water and sediment control basins, etc.		
Activity Category	Technical/Engineering Assistance	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	MDA Ag Water Quality Certification Funds	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$46,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$46,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	This program has not been prioritized within the County Water Plan
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	SWCD will work with landowners to address needs of their natural resource concerns by surveying, designing, and working with contractors to implement BMP's on the land. This is the continued work already being done and will continue through the next biennium.		

Water Resource Name	Root River		
Activity Description	A willing landowner has shown a need to have extensive stream bank restoration work completed on a tributary stream of the Root River. It is located in the city of Hokah and will benefit numerous downstream landowners by reducing sedimentation into the Root River.		
Activity Category	Streambank or Shoreline Protection	Capital Improvement Project?	Yes
Source of State Contribution	SWCD State Cost-Share	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$200,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	1
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$20,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$220,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Promote perennial vegetation within the riparian zone through buffer initiatives that reduce sediment delivery and nutrient reduction. Goal of 20 acres annually.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	A need has been shown to improve the stream bank along a stretch of the targeted area. A plan to implement BMP's to stabilize this area are planned in the next biennium. If funding were made available, construction could commence in 2018-19.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	Administration of the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) is an integral part of the partnership between local agencies such as Houston County and Root River SWCD as well as state and federal agencies such as DNR, BWSR, and Corps of Engineers. It is because of these partnerships acting in a cooperative effort, that administration of WCA can occur.		
Activity Category	Regulations/Ordinances/Enforcement	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	NRBG WCA	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$2,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$2,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$4,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Encourage wetland restoration on two (2) sites in Houston County.

Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	The SWCD will work with willing landowners to restore wetlands on at least 2 sites in the next biennium.
--	--

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	Grazing of livestock has proven to be beneficial to the environment in many ways when compared to cropping systems including the following: it increases infiltration of water, reduces the need for pesticides, builds organic matter, and reduces erosion as well as others.		
Activity Category	Agricultural Practices	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Projects and Practices	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$2,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	10
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$1,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$3,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Plan and implement grazing plans on 250 acres of sensitive area annually.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	The SWCD will work with NRCS to plan and implement grazing systems to with at least 10 landowners or 250 acres per year. The District will work with producers to increase the forage production on their pastures, upgrade or construct new fencing systems, and maximize pasture utilization through managed intensive grazing systems.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	As livestock production is an integral part of the agricultural economy in Houston County, efforts to continually improve the infrastructure on livestock farms while reducing open lot runoff and managing the nutrients produced is very important to the environment. Technical assistance to producers to design liquid manure storage areas (LMSA's) and developing systems to reduce runoff is a key role of the SWCD and other agencies.		
Activity Category	Livestock Waste Management	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD State Cost-Share	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$120,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	2
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$80,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$200,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Assist JPB with two (2) large



FY 18 - 19 Biennial Budget Request Root River SWCD

Total Requested Biennial State Contribution:	\$2,647,600.00	BBR ID	BBR16-9475
Total Leveraged Funds	\$408,800.00	Submitted Date	4/12/2016
Total Resource Project and Activities Budget	\$3,056,400.00	Staff Contact	Bob Scanlan
Total BMPs	184	Board Conservationist	Tom Gile
Total FTEs	6.15		

SWCD Program Grant Summary

Grant Source	Estimated Amount Available	Estimated Amount Budgeted
SWCD Conservation Delivery	\$45,010.00	\$72,000.00
SWCD State Cost-Share	\$41,802.00	\$386,000.00
RIM Easement Delivery	\$6,366.00	

Water Resources of Concern

Primary Water Resource of Concern	Water Resource Category	Watershed	Impairments	Trend
Organization Wide - Ground Water	Ground Water		Yes	Not Enough Data
Organization Wide - Ground Water	Ground Water		Yes	Not Enough Data
Organization Wide - Surface Water	Surface Water		Yes	Not Enough Data
Root River - flood control	Surface Water	Root River	Yes	Not Enough Data
Winnebago Watershed - flood control	Surface Water	Mississippi River - Reno	Yes	Not Enough Data
Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water	Surface & Ground Water		Yes	Not Enough Data
Crooked Creek Watershed	Surface & Ground Water	Root River	Yes	Not Enough Data
Bee/Duck Creek Watershed	Surface & Ground Water	Upper Iowa River	Yes	Not Enough Data
Root River	Surface Water	Root River	Yes	Not Enough Data

Activity Summary

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	Convert marginal ag lands to perennial vegetation through programs such as RIM or CRP thereby providing filtering effects along streams or other sensitive areas, providing habitat for wildlife, and improving the overall ecology of the county.		
Activity Category	Agricultural Practices	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	RIM - (All Sources)	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$20,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	20
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$10,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$30,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Develop local/regional incentives to establish 1,000 acres of perennial vegetation annually.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Typical workload of SWCD staff includes working with landowners on projects that address resource concerns. Through incentives to landowners to address these concerns, staff will be able to provide an incentive to landowners to take marginal ag lands out of production or develop buffers along sensitive areas such as streams. Funding would be made available to landowners similar to rental rates for cropping land of similar soil type, slope, or crop equivalency.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Ground Water		
Activity Description	Review manure application sites under a "Level III" inspection per MPCA guidelines. Provide follow up inspection reports and BMP's to livestock producers to ensure that technical requirements are being met on each level III inspection. Also provide technical assistance to livestock producers who submit manure management plans for review under feedlot permit requirements. By being more cognizant of manure application activities, shortfalls of producers to maintain setbacks from sensitive areas can be addressed at the time of application thereby keeping phosphorus and pathogens out of surface and ground water. Improved ag waste management will inevitably improve situations of waterways that may be compromised through poor management of ag waste.		
Activity Category	Technical/Engineering Assistance	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	MN Pollution Control Agency	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$30,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$10,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-

Projects & Activities Budget	\$40,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	metro counties only)
			Provide technical assistance on ag waste management on 20 farms per year.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	SWCD maintains a feedlot technician on staff who is trained to address feedlot and manure management scenarios. Anticipated work load will include routine inspections and follow-up with livestock producers to ensure that BMPs are being met. This workload will continue inevitably through a continued wide range of service through any of a number of activities including mmp review, Level I, II, and III inspections, etc.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	Phosphorus loading and loss of sediment into flowing streams has long been a problem for stream ecology in Houston County. Improving perennial vegetation along riparian zones has a positive effect on stream ecology, reduction of sediment loading, and reducing phosphorus loading. Increasing the number of acres dedicated to stream bank buffers will ultimately improve water quality both locally and downstream to other areas like the gulf of Mexico.		
Activity Category	Streambank or Shoreline Protection	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD State Cost-Share	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$2,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	10
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$200.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$2,200.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Promote perennial vegetation within the riparian zone through buffer initiatives that reduce sediment deliver and nutrient reduction. Goal of 20 acres annually.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	SWCD staff will work with landowners who are interested in improving the buffer in riparian areas. This would be an on-going activity for SWCD staff.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Ground Water		
Activity Description	Hold a manure application field day to demonstrate such things as manure spreader calibration, application rates, and manure management planning. This activity would be anticipated at one field day or seminar per year and would be in conjunction with UM Extension.		
Activity Category	Technical/Engineering	Capital Improvement Project?	No

Source of State Contribution	Assistance	Estimated # of FTEs	0.1
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	MN Pollution Control Agency		
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$2,000.00		
Projects & Activities Budget	\$0.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	\$2,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
		Action or Objective (from plan)	Manure Application Field Day
	Efforts to include this activity during regular work loads during the spring/summer in cooperation with U of M Extension staff. Anticipated delivery of action would be one seminar or field day per year.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Offer education and technical assistance as well as financial support for landowners interested in converting crop land to perennial vegetation. With the 2015 Buffer Initiative coming to fruition, landowners will be addressing the 50 ft. buffer requirement on their individual parcels. SWCD will be the technical guidance through this program and will provide landowners with opportunities to come into compliance with the buffer law. In addition, SWCD will remain as a source of information to landowners interested in converting cropland or other vulnerable lands into programs such as CRP, RIM, etc. It has been proven that such things as shoreline buffer, establishment of CRP and other similar programs that establish permanent perennial vegetation do a good job of filtering pollutants, and keep nutrients from reaching surface and ground water. Establishing perennial vegetation near sensitive areas will further the SWCD's goal of improving water quality throughout the county and beyond.		
Activity Category	Technical/Engineering Assistance	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	Buffer Implementation Funds	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$50,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$50,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Promote existing programs which offer incentives to establish/maintain perennial vegetation.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	SWCD technician work encompasses a number of programs and activities. On-going efforts to promote, educate, and provide technical assistance all fall under the umbrella of SWCD technician's daily activities. This activity would remain as an on-going program within the SWCD.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Providing financial incentives to landowners interested in implementing conservation practices county wide has been proven as a means to help landowners justify the costs associated with addressing the resource concerns on their land. By seeking grants to provide cost share assistance to landowners many conservation practices will be implemented that may otherwise not. By using public dollars to implement these practices, the practices will be put on the ground with over sight by knowledgeable technicians and the practices will ultimately have a positive impact on the environment which can be enjoyed by all.		
Activity Category	Project Development	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD Local Capacity Funds	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$10,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$10,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Seek federal, state, and local grants including but not limited to National Fish and Wildlife Fund, Emergency Defense Fund, Clean Water Fund, and the Nature Conservancy to provide cost share and technical assistance to landowners for conservation practice implementation county wide.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	By taking the time to research grant opportunities, technicians will potentially resource public funds to enact projects on the ground. This will be a focus of staff during times when workloads allow.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	Provide technical assistance to Houston County while administering the WCA as a means to improve riparian areas where wetlands exist as well as provide alternative solutions in order to lessen the impacts of wetland impacts to landowners through out the county.		
Activity Category	Administration/Coordination	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	NRBG WCA	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$24,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$24,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)

Projects & Activities Budget	\$48,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Assist the county in administrating the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA).
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Root River SWCD will provide administrative and technical assistance to address issues related to existing wetlands within Houston County.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	Establishment of fall cover crops has proven to increase soil organic matter which in-turn increases water infiltration, soil structure, and nutrient availability to the following year's crop. Cover crops are also a benefit in that they scavenge nutrients and provide armor to the soil in order to reduce erosion after harvest and into the next year. By providing incentives to producers to establish cover crops, we will be capturing water that potentially runs off the land, reducing the potential for erosion and aiding to maintain nutrients such as nitrogen for the following crop.		
Activity Category	Agricultural Practices	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Projects and Practices	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$50,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	10
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$5,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$55,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Establish incentive program to plant 500 acres of fall cover crops.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	If funding for this activity were made available to local producers, an increase in the amount of acres dedicated to cover crops will be achieved. SWCD technicians will be available to give advice and technical support while guiding producers to cost share money to help establish cover crops.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Ground Water		
Activity Description	SWCD provides well water test kits to all water users within Houston County and also provides free nitrate testing to Houston County residents.		
Activity Category	Groundwater	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	MN Dept. of Health	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$600.00	Estimated Number of Practices	40
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$600.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)

Projects & Activities Budget	\$1,200.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Offer well water testing kit at low cost to landowners. Provide annual free nitrate testing to Houston County residents.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	SWCD will be available as a resource to citizens interested in testing the quality of their well water. This will be achieved by making test kits available and answering questions pertaining to water quality testing and management. SWCD also provides annual free nitrate testing to Houston County residents.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Ground Water		
Activity Description	Inform the public about well testing opportunities within the area.		
Activity Category	Education/Information	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	NRBG Water Plan	Estimated # of FTEs	0.1
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$1,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$1,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$2,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Emphasis on education is a high priority of the Root River SWCD and news articles on particular subjects are a regular activity. This is an on-going emphasis for the District.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Prepare at least 2 news articles per year.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	There are many options to address sediment and nutrient loss along stream banks along with enhancing stream banks to help stabilize and protect these vulnerable areas. Providing adequate buffer along these banks along with restoring sloughed bank slopes has been shown to lessen the likelihood of excessive nutrients and sediment entering the adjacent waterway. With reduced sediment and nutrient loads, spring ecology can be maintained and even enhanced. It is through projects to enhance these areas that public dollars are given a chance to really make a difference.		
Activity Category	Streambank or Shoreline Protection	Capital Improvement Project?	No

Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Community Partners	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$50,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	20
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$5,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$55,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Continue partnership opportunities with the Nature Conservancy and NRCS to install 500 linear feet of stream bank restoration and 30 acres of stream bank buffers and 20 BMP's within priority areas of the Root River Watershed.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Practices such as stream bank sloping and seeding, rip rap, and cedar tree revetment have all been tied to positive measurable outcomes from successful projects. For instance, Riceford Creek, a priority stream within the Root River watershed has seen success with a stream bank cedar tree revetment project that has slowed flows along the bank in eroded areas and allowed sediment to be deposited within the revetment area. The long term effect will be improved stream banks that are more stable and provide a more defined channel. The result is less sedimentation loads in the larger watershed. Continued efforts and financial assistance is needed to keep projects like this in motion.		

Water Resource Name	Crooked Creek Watershed		
Activity Description	Continue to provide technical, administrative, and planning assistance to the Crooked Creek Watershed District in order to aid in developing and meeting their water shed goals and policies. This assistance will allow the watershed to move forward on plans for capital improvement to build a structure within the watershed as well as develop and administer BMP's for conservation practices that stand to further enhance water quality within the watershed.		
Activity Category	Planning and Assessment	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Planning Grants: One Watershed One Plan	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$28,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$28,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)

Projects & Activities Budget	\$56,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Provide technical and administrative assistance to the Crooked Creek Watershed to implement their watershed plan.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	<p>Root River SWCD provides staff time to administer conservation programs and provide technical assistance within the Crooked Creek Watershed. This cooperative effort has been in place for many years and is a testament to the integrity and resiliency of both the Root River and Crooked Creek Watershed Districts. The SWCD plans to continue to provide Technical and administrative assistance to Crooked Creek Watershed while assisting with implementation of their Watershed Plan and the County's Water Plan. With the advent and future adoption of the Root River One Watershed, One Plan, Crooked Creek Watershed will need assistance in administration of 1W1P as well as technical assistance with the plan to maintain compliance with the initiatives set forth. Additional staff time will be utilized to provide planning and technical assistance to improve water quality in the Watershed.</p>		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	<p>New and evolving information regarding conservation practices is something that SWCD's strive to get out to the public. By providing up-to-date information, technical staff can educate and potentially aid in the implementation of new and improved practices that can benefit the environment in many ways. By holding workshops, SWCD staff has a chance to educate in an environment that fosters two way interaction. It is through these efforts that a lot of information can be transferred. Working with agencies such as ARS enable the access to good information that can then be passed along to the public locally through partnerships with UMN, BWSR, and NRCS. This passage of information can have a positive effect on getting good conservation on the ground.</p>		
Activity Category	Education/Information	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Planning Grants: One Watershed One Plan	Estimated # of FTEs	0.1
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$1,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$1,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$2,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Contact ARS to obtain cover crop data information for Houston County landowners and conduct one landowner workshop.

Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	The Root River SWCD has always been a resource for conservation information. This information is always evolving. It is through efforts of partnerships with NRCS, UMN, and BWSR that Root River can provide good information to the public. Many times this information is best conveyed in landowner workshops or seminars.
--	---

Water Resource Name	Bee/Duck Creek Watershed		
Activity Description	Providing the best possible service to landowners is a caveat of good partnerships. Root River SWCD has always worked closely with NRCS to provide technical assistance and cost share to landowners wanting to address their resource concerns. As Bee/Duck Creek watershed crosses state boundaries as well as watershed boundaries, it is through good partnerships that Root River SWCD has been able to serve the landowners within this watershed who also lie in Houston County. It is through these cooperative efforts that these landowners can do whats best for the environment.		
Activity Category	Special Projects	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD State Cost-Share	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$4,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	20
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$40,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$44,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Provide guidance, cost share assistance, and recommendations to 20 Bee/Duck Creek Watershed landowners through the federal EQIP program.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	As Bee/Duck Creek is a priority watershed it is important to work to address the resource needs within this watershed. Root River SWCD plans to work closely with NRCS to provide both technical guidance as well as cost share incentives through EQIP in order to put conservation projects on the ground.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Providing technical, planning and financial assistance to feedlot owners has been shown to improve the overall water quality downstream of feedlot facilities. The best solution for each feedlot is dependent on many site specific criteria. By focusing efforts to reduce runoff from open lots in a low cost scenario, environmental benefits can be obtained while at the same time enabling the producer to remain viable. Many times technical assistance along with cost share incentives are a great combination to achieve both goals.		
Activity Category	Livestock Waste Management	Capital Improvement Project?	No

Source of State Contribution	SWCD State Cost-Share	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$60,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	5
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$30,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$90,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Provide planning and financial assistance for low-cost feedlot fixes on five (5) lots per year.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	A feedlot technician remains on staff at the SWCD to oversee inspections and provide technical advice to feedlot owners. In order to move feedlot runoff abatement projects forward, it is important to include financial assistance as a means to help producers cover the cost of such practices.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Technical assistance through routine inspections and follow-up with non-compliant producers is a focus of the partnership between Houston County and the SWCD. SWCD provides advice to feedlot operators working on open lot feedlot compliance that ultimately works to reduce runoff leaving the open lots with a goal of reducing pathogen and nutrient loads. BMP's placed in appropriate areas are proven to increase water quality near open feedlots.		
Activity Category	Technical/Engineering Assistance	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	MN Pollution Control Agency	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$30,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$30,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$60,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Provide technical assistance to Houston County to conduct inspections and provide maintenance recommendations on 7% of open lot agreements (OLA program) per year.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Root River will continue to work closely with Houston County to enact local feedlot ordinances and MN rule 7020. A goal of inspection on at least 7% of the registered feedlots is expected to continue into the next biennium. SWCD will strive to meet this goal with the intent of improving water quality through the county.		

Water Resource Name	Winnebago Watershed - flood control		
Activity Description	Two sites have been targeted through a needs assessment that involve the construction of 2 different flood control structures at 2 different sites within the Winnebago Watershed. Numerous past flood events have impacted downstream landowners by increasing damage to stream banks, flooding agricultural properties, damaging roads and flooding building structures. Construction of these 2 structures will lessen the impacts on numerous downstream landowners.		
Activity Category	Special Projects	Capital Improvement Project?	Yes
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Projects and Practices	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$500,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	2
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$10,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$510,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Seek funding opportunities for cost share assistance through the Clean Water Grant proposal to install flood retention structures within the Bee/Duck Creek, Crooked Creek, and Winnebago Watersheds.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	A needs assessment has been completed on the two sites. A preliminary design has been drawn up but the project remains on hold until public funding can be made available. Upon successful award of cost-share funding, the project will proceed during the 2018-19 biennium.		

Water Resource Name	Crooked Creek Watershed		
Activity Description	The SWCD has been actively working with two landowners within a sub-watershed of Crooked Creek. These priority sites have been identified for flood control structures that will significantly reduce the impacts of future flood events and have a positive effect on downstream properties. Funding through NRCS is not an option as flood control structures are not in the NRCS docket. State funding is appropriate as the number of benefiting landowners will be many.		
Activity Category	Special Projects	Capital Improvement Project?	Yes
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Projects and Practices	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$400,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	2
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$40,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-

Projects & Activities Budget	\$440,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	metro counties only)
			Seek funding opportunities for cost share assistance through the Clean Water Grant proposal to install flood retention structures within the Bee/Duck Creek, Crooked Creek, and Winnebago Watersheds.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	The SWCD will provide technical and engineering assistance through JPB staff to design and install 2 flood control structures in the Crooked Creek Watershed. A preliminary needs and site investigation has been completed. A more in-depth soils investigation is being planned for 2016-17 with final design and commencement of construction to be completed in 2018-19.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Root River SWCD works diligently with landowners to plan and implement an array of conservation practices on their lands that address a number of resource concerns. As this is a continued focus of the District, it is imperative that continued support from the Legislature remains. Local Capacity grants through the CWF help ensure that financial aid is available to the SWCD's in order to provide the staff necessary to do the ground work necessary (survey, design, work with cooperators, follow-up inspections) to keep putting good conservation on the ground.		
Activity Category	Administration/Coordination	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD Local Capacity Funds	Estimated # of FTEs	1
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$100,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$100,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Seek federal, state and local grants including but not limited to National Fish & Wildlife (NFWF), Emergency Defense Fund (EDF), Clean Water Fund (CWF), and the Nature Conservancy to provide cost share and technical assistance to landowners for conservation

Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium		practice implementation county wide.
	The Root River SWCD plans to provide technical assistance to landowners who wish to implement conservation on private lands. The Local Capacity Grant mechanism is an important factor in the SWCD's continued efforts. This funding provides the staff necessary to aid landowners in implementing projects that address soil erosion, riparian zone management, and water storage treatment practices along with working to manage excess nutrients throughout the watershed and beyond. Root River will continue to be a resource to landowners to address any of a number or resource concerns on their land.	

Water Resource Name	Bee/Duck Creek Watershed		
Activity Description	A willing landowner has shown a need to make improvements to a drainage area that impacts the Bee/Duck creek watershed. Said project will include the reshaping and seeding/mulching of a critical area that has eroded immensely during the last few flood events. Massive gully erosion has prevented the use of low cost BMP's and, as a result, has not been fixed as required. State funding will be needed to shore up the cost which, in essence will benefit downstream landowners by reducing the sediment load into the Bee/Duck creek watershed.		
Activity Category	Special Projects	Capital Improvement Project?	Yes
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Projects and Practices	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$100,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	1
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$10,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$110,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Seek funding opportunities for cost share assistance through the Clean Water Grant proposal to install flood retention structures within the Bee/Duck Creek, Crooked Creek, and Winnebago Watersheds.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	A preliminary needs assessment has been completed but construction is on hold until funding has been made available. Plans are to commence construction upon successful attainment of funds in 2018.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water
Activity Description	Continue to administer the Aquatic Invasive Species program through continued efforts to educate the

public about the importance of preventing the spread of AIS.			
Activity Category	Education/Information	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	MN Dept. of Natural Resources	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$80,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$80,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Participate with US Fish and Wildlife Service, Root River Citizens Committee and other partners. Review local/regional plans to insure compliance with Water Plan. Discuss and prepare staff training needs for both technical and administrative employees.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	SWCD staff will educate the public by speaking directly with the public at boat landings, publicizing articles in local newspapers, and setting up educational booth at local trade shows and county fairs. A concerted effort will be made to educate through out the year but especially during summer months when use of public waters by citizens is higher.		

Organization Wide - Surface Water			
Water Resource Name	As a means to provide the best possible information generated through monitoring, mapping and other projects, it is important to make improvements to computer design software, mapping programs, and stream monitoring equipment. It is through improvements in technology that our conservation partners can make informed decisions on water quality while at the same time get that information to the public.		
Activity Description			
Activity Category	Monitoring/Data Collection	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD Conservation Delivery	Estimated # of FTEs	0.1
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$40,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$40,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Provide funding and in-kind contributions for improved technology using "LIDAR",

Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium		stream monitoring projects, and computer design software in an effort to enhance natural resource protection.
	Through partnerships with NRCS, BWSR, DNR, and Houston County, the SWCD is always striving to improve water quality through testing, inventory and mapping projects. These efforts are very important while making decisions on BMP's to enhance natural resource protection. SWCD will continue to provide technical and administrative services and work with conservation partners to gather information gleaned from stream monitoring projects, field demonstrations, and other testing data. The SWCD will also continue to utilize the most up- to- date mapping and computer software to analyze, digitize, and store important information. Use of these funds will allow the SWCD to manage the day-to-day activities including the storage of important information.	

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Root River SWCD has housed a local water planner for many years. The public has come to respect the work of the SWCD and looks to the District in guiding the implementation, coordination, and administration of many conservation programs including the County water plan and other subwatershed plans (Crooked Creek Watershed Plan). As well as other larger regional water plans (1W1P).		
Activity Category	Administration/Coordination	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	NRBG Water Plan	Estimated # of FTEs	0.5
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$26,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$26,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$52,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Staff part time Water Plan Coordinator, Continue participation on the SEMNWRB, Review local/regional plans to ensure compliance with Water Plan.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Root River SWCD will continue to house a local water planner and work with the County on issues pertaining to said plan through both administrative and technical efforts. The SWCD has also been active in planning, guiding, and promoting the One Watershed, One Plan Project and will continue those efforts along with implementation of the plan into the next biennium and beyond. The Water Planner is responsible for ensuring that components of the County Water Plan are being followed.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Conservation Delivery Grants provide each SWCD with funds for the general administration and operation of the district. These administrative and operational costs include paying for the costs of employing staff, office space, transportation, postage and utilities, and supervisor's compensation and expenses. These programs incur costs associated with the day - to - day activities and are an important part of the district's activities.		
Activity Category	Administration/Coordination	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD Conservation Delivery	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$32,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$32,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Seek federal, state and local grants including but not limited to National Fish and Wildlife (NFWF), Emergency Defense Fund (EDF), Clean Water Fund (CWF), and the Nature Conservancy to provide cost share and technical assistance to landowners for conservation practice implementation county wide.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Root River SWCD will continue to provide conservation programs to landowners through administrative, planning, and technical efforts.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Provide technical assistance to landowners planning for forestry stewardship practices.		
Activity Category	Forestry Practices	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	MN Dept. of Natural Resources	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$250,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	30
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$2,500.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$252,500.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Provide Technical assistance

Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium			and cost share to 30 private forest landowner using various programs (CRP, EQIP, State) for forest stewardship activities that reduce runoff, improve wildlife habitat and maintain, expand and improve perennial cover.
SWCD will partner with DNR, FSA, and NRCS to provide technical assistance and cost-share opportunities through such programs such as CRP, EQIP, and State Cost share.			

Water Resource Name	Root River - flood control		
Activity Description	Flood control structures placed strategically on the landscape can have a huge impact on downstream landowners. Projects such as this have been shown to greatly reduce the negative impacts of large flood events and improve quality of life for those whose property is located in floodplain areas.		
Activity Category	Special Projects	Capital Improvement Project?	Yes
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Projects and Practices	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$225,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	1
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$22,500.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$247,500.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Complete 2007 - 2008 flood workload.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	A willing landowner has been working with local SWCD and NRCS staff to plan and implement a flood control structure on the property. A needs assessment has been done with preliminary surveying of the site. Follow-up soil testing, design, construction are needed and planned in the next biennium. The construction of the flood control structure (NRCS 402) is planned in Yucatan Township on private land. As flood control structures are not on the NRCS docket as a funded item, we are asking for assistance from state funds. The site has been flagged as a project that can benefit down stream landowners who have been impacted by past flood events. A flood control structure in this area would reduce the impacts of future flood events downstream.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Assist landowners interested in applying for the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program. This program aims to recognize the efforts of landowners who have done a good job of applying conservation practices to their property.		

Activity Category	Administration/Coordination	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	MDA Ag Water Quality Certification Funds	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$12,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$12,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Assist with implementation/administration of programs that support/promote animal agriculture.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Root River SWCD will work with potential applicants to file the correct paperwork, review and collect relevant information and work jointly with the applicant and program coordinator to ensure that requirements are being met by the applicant. SWCD wishes to extend operation of the current program in to the next biennium.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Provide technical and administrative assistance to program participants within the MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program. Root River SWCD will work jointly with landowners who wish to address the resource concerns on their property while complying with the MAWQCP requirements. These projects may include establishment of BMP's such as contour strips, buffer strips, waterways, water and sediment control basins, etc.		
Activity Category	Technical/Engineering Assistance	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	MDA Ag Water Quality Certification Funds	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$46,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$46,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	This program has not been prioritized within the County Water Plan
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	SWCD will work with landowners to address needs of their natural resource concerns by surveying, designing, and working with contractors to implement BMP's on the land. This is the continued work already being done and will continue through the next biennium.		

Water Resource Name	Root River		
Activity Description	A willing landowner has shown a need to have extensive stream bank restoration work completed on a tributary stream of the Root River. It is located in the city of Hokah and will benefit numerous downstream landowners by reducing sedimentation into the Root River.		
Activity Category	Streambank or Shoreline Protection	Capital Improvement Project?	Yes
Source of State Contribution	SWCD State Cost-Share	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$200,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	1
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$20,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$220,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Promote perennial vegetation within the riparian zone through buffer initiatives that reduce sediment delivery and nutrient reduction. Goal of 20 acres annually.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	A need has been shown to improve the stream bank along a stretch of the targeted area. A plan to implement BMP's to stabilize this area are planned in the next biennium. If funding were made available, construction could commence in 2018-19.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	Administration of the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) is an integral part of the partnership between local agencies such as Houston County and Root River SWCD as well as state and federal agencies such as DNR, BWSR, and Corps of Engineers. It is because of these partnerships acting in a cooperative effort, that administration of WCA can occur.		
Activity Category	Regulations/Ordinances/Enforcement	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	NRBG WCA	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$2,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$2,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$4,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Encourage wetland restoration on two (2) sites in Houston County.

Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	The SWCD will work with willing landowners to restore wetlands on at least 2 sites in the next biennium.
--	--

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	Grazing of livestock has proven to be beneficial to the environment in many ways when compared to cropping systems including the following: it increases infiltration of water, reduces the need for pesticides, builds organic matter, and reduces erosion as well as others.		
Activity Category	Agricultural Practices	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Projects and Practices	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$2,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	10
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$1,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$3,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Plan and implement grazing plans on 250 acres of sensitive area annually.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	The SWCD will work with NRCS to plan and implement grazing systems to with at least 10 landowners or 250 acres per year. The District will work with producers to increase the forage production on their pastures, upgrade or construct new fencing systems, and maximize pasture utilization through managed intensive grazing systems.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	As livestock production is an integral part of the agricultural economy in Houston County, efforts to continually improve the infrastructure on livestock farms while reducing open lot runoff and managing the nutrients produced is very important to the environment. Technical assistance to producers to design liquid manure storage areas (LMSA's) and developing systems to reduce runoff is a key role of the SWCD and other agencies.		
Activity Category	Livestock Waste Management	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD State Cost-Share	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$120,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	2
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$80,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$200,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Assist JPB with two (2) large

Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium		feedlot storage and runoff projects.
	The SWCD will work jointly with the Joint Powers Board to investigate needs, survey, design, and inspect the construction of feedlot projects that allow producers to better manage their nutrients through LMSA's and reduce runoff from open lots as a means to improve water quality. Through this appropriation, 2 feedlot owners will be able to address their livestock waste management concerns by partnering with NRCS through an EQIP contract that would cover up to 75% of the cost. The state of MN would cover 15% or more of the cost for a total cost share of 90% with the landowner covering the final 10%. It is through state cost share dollars that producers may be able to meet compliance with MN rule 7020 and 7050 in order to meet water quality standards.	

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	Low-cost non-engineered BMP's play an important role in water quality. Some practices every year are implemented by landowners who utilize low cost ways to better water quality. One specific BMP utilized in Houston County is the push up pond program.		
Activity Category	Agricultural Practices	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	NRBG Water Plan	Estimated # of FTEs	
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$10,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	10
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$10,000.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$20,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Provide financial incentives to establish five (5) push-up ponds annually.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	The SWCD will work with willing landowners to develop plans to place push up ponds on the landscape using local contractors to excavate holding ponds. These non-designed ponds have been shown to collect sediment from nearby upland areas and hold it while reducing water runoff from waterways. The SWCD, through the water plan will continue to implement funds to encourage the construction of push up ponds through out the county.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface Water		
Activity Description	Education has become an emphasis for SWCD's relating to a wide array of conservation practices and ideas. Continuing to support education relating to the prevention of the spread of aquatic invasive species is an important task for SWCD's as well.		
Activity Category	Education/Information	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	MN Dept. of Natural	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25

Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	Resources	Estimated Number of Practices	Plan Type
	\$40,000.00		
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)	
Projects & Activities Budget	\$40,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Not noted in plan.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Root River will continue to provide education to the public relating to Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) through means such as staffing boat landings and providing information to boaters and other recreational water users, publishing relevant newspaper articles, and staffing a booth at the county fair. SWCD staff will continue to be a resource of information to the public in order to further education efforts. DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE.		

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	The One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P) initiative has been progressing to the point where SWCD's will need to address issues not only on a local level - within the county, but on a wider level - one that addresses water quality issues on a whole watershed basis. The Root River 1W1P will aid in addressing these issues in a more comprehensive manner and will require additional staff, locally, to plan for these issues on a watershed wide basis.		
Activity Category	Planning and Assessment	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	BWSR Clean Water Fund - Planning Grants: One Watershed One Plan	Estimated # of FTEs	0.25
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$0.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	Watershed Management Plan (Watershed Districts and Watershed Management Organizations only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$0.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Root River SWCD will be a major player in the implementation of 1W1P and is looking forward to improving water quality through the initiatives set forth in the plan. Fillmore County will be handling the day-to-day administration of the Plan, thus the Fillmore SWCD Administrator will be

Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium			entering the funding portion of the BBR on behalf of Houston County, Root River SWCD and the five other counties associated with the One Watershed, One Plan.
		The Root River SWCD has been taking part in the planning and review stages in development of the Root River 1W1P. Continued efforts of local staff will include any implementation of the 1W1P into the 2018-2019 biennium and beyond.	

Water Resource Name	Organization Wide - Surface & Ground Water		
Activity Description	Providing technical staff to work with landowners on projects that address their resource concerns is an integral part of SWCD's in Minnesota. By funding the positions necessary to address these concerns, SWCD's can continue to oversee projects that keep our waters clean and our sediment on the land.		
Activity Category	Technical/Engineering Assistance	Capital Improvement Project?	No
Source of State Contribution	SWCD Local Capacity Funds	Estimated # of FTEs	1
Total Requested Biennial State Contribution	\$100,000.00	Estimated Number of Practices	
Estimated Leveraged Funds	\$0.00	Plan Type	County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan (non-metro counties only)
Projects & Activities Budget	\$100,000.00	Action or Objective (from plan)	Position not noted in LWM plan.
Describe how this activity could be accomplished in the biennium	Root River has hired another full time technician to work with landowners on developing plans that address their resource concerns. Continued funding of this position is imperative in the next biennium and beyond.		