



FY2016 Healthy Forests for Healthy Water Grant

Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District

BWSR Grant Awarded
\$ 50,000

Grant Period (incl. extensions)
From: August 26, 2015
To: December 31, 2018

Funds Returned to State
Type \$0
Date Fund Returned: N/A

Expenditures by Category

As of 12/31/2016

Administration/Coordination	
Project Development	
Technical and Engineering	
Implementation	\$ 5,512.50
Total Expenditures	\$ 5,512.50

PROJECT CONTACT

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*Prepared by Fillmore SWCD
for BWSR Website Reporting Requirements*



CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

The MN DNR initially contracted with Fillmore SWCD to implement the Healthy Forests for Healthy Water project targeted to priority areas in the Riceford Creek and Rush-Pine Creek watersheds where high conservation value parcels with forest and grass cover have been identified. From that DNR agreement, \$50,000 were transferred to BWSR for cost share and incentive payments to landowners in those watersheds to implement practices on tracts deemed important for maintaining water quality, wildlife habitat and forest management. Landowners with existing Forest Stewardship Plans (FSP) that needed updating and implementation assistance were the first to be contacted. Forest Stewardship Planning, both new plans and plan updates, are a potential first step in understanding individual tracts, landowner interests and management needs/opportunities. Conservation practice plans (CPP) were developed by forestry consultants to provide necessary information for agency program administrators to allocate cost-share funds and give adequate guidance for the landowner or contractor to implement the activity. Additional parcels will be identified based on perennial land cover, proximity to waterways and runoff/erosion risk identified by LiDAR derived Terrain Analysis. Other factors to consider are relationship to riparian areas, sinkholes and proximity to existing critical habitat.

Outputs and Outcomes

Outputs:

2015: Five contracts have been encumbered totaling \$8,212.50: 8.9 acres of pre-commercial thinning (2 contracts), 10.2 acres moderate invasive species management, 8.9 acres heavy invasive species management, and one pond cleanout.
2016: Two contracts for invasive species management (19.2 acres) and two contracts for pre-commercial thinning (2.9 acres) were completed and paid in 2016 totaling \$5,512.50. Contracts for a pond cleanout, forest road improvement and a 201-acre forest stewardship plan were approved in 2016.



The Root River Landscape Stewardship Plan identifies Conservation Opportunity Areas of high biodiversity in the watershed where “sustainable activities on the ground, on all lands, public and private ... improve the overall health of natural resources in the watershed.”