



Natural Resources Block Grant for FY 2010

Fillmore County, MN

Natural Resources Block Grant Awarded for FY 2010

Local Water Management	\$19,551
Wetland Conservation Act	\$10,000
DNR Shoreland Admin. Grant	\$ 3,067
SSTS (Septic System Program)	\$ 9,931
Feedlot Base Grant	\$78,813
TOTAL	\$121,362

Grant Period (including extensions)

From: December 22, 2009
To: June 30, 2011

Funds Returned to State

Type \$0
Date Fund Returned: N/A

The Natural Resources Block Grant combines five base grants into one agreement between the County and the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). All of the grants help to carry out the goals of the Fillmore County Local Water Management Plan.

The DNR Shoreland Program, MPCA Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) Program, and the MPCA Feedlot Program Base Grant are all administered by the Fillmore County Zoning Office. The administration of the Local Water Management Plan and the Wetland Conservation Act has been delegated by the County to the Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).

The Natural Resources Block Grant is a non-competitive grant awarded to all counties with a Local Water Management Plan that has been locally adopted and BWSR approved. The amount awarded to each county varies based on tax base or workload for a particular program. There are required cash and/or in-kind matches for all the grants except the SSTS grant.

Natural Resources Block Grant Expenditures in 2010

GRANT PROGRAM		GRANT EXPENDITURE	CASH MATCH	LOCAL IN-KIND MATCH
Local Water Management	FY10 GRANT	\$ 9,442.07	\$ 5,445.00	—
	FY09 GRANT	\$ 9,628.86		
Wetland Conservation Act Administration	FY10 GRANT	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,254.00
DNR Shoreland Ordinance Administration	FY10 GRANT	\$ 3,067.00	—	\$ 3,104.68
SSTS (Septic System Program Administration)	FY10 GRANT	\$ 9,931.00	—	—
Feedlot Program Base Grant	FY10 GRANT	\$ 60,899.50	\$ 94,681.32	\$ 38,970.00
	FY09 GRANT	\$ 21,470.56		
Total Expenditures	FY10 GRANT	\$ 93,339.57	\$105,126.32	\$ 47,328.68
	FY09 GRANT	\$ 31,099.42		

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*Prepared by Fillmore SWCD
for BWSR Website Reporting Requirements*



The Fillmore County Local Water Management Plan for 2006-2015 was reviewed after five years of implementation and amended. The amendment was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources on December 15, 2010 and adopted by the Fillmore County Board of Commissioners on February 1, 2011, as authorized under MN Statutes Chapter 103B.301. A complete update of the plan will be done in 2015.



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Natural Resources Block Grant Activities as reported in eLINK

Local Water Management Base Grant: The Water Management Committee met eight times, including three Citizens' Advisory Committee meetings and five Technical Advisory Committee meetings. Topics discussed during these meetings included the Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative, National Trout Learning Center (NTLC), Sediment Fingerprinting, Stormwater Attenuation Study in Newburg Township, SE MN Regional Nitrate TMDL (now part of the Comprehensive Strategy), Water Plan Amendment, Root River Turbidity TMDL, Root River Comprehensive Strategy, funding for well replacement, LiDar and Digital Terrain Analysis, Stressor ID, Trout Stream Habitat Improvement, Midwest Natural Resources Group (MNRG), and the Root River Field to Stream Partnership (small watershed project). Presentations at these meetings included one on the Southeast Minnesota Regional Nitrate TMDL (Justin Watkins - MPCA), Lidar and Digital Terrain Analysis in the Root (Jason Carlson - Fillmore SWCD), SE MN Trout Stream Habitat Improvement Projects (Vaughn Snook - DNR), and one about the Midwest Natural Resources Group (Tex Hawkins - USFWS). The video "Troubled Waters: A Mississippi River Story" was also shown at one of the meetings. SE MN WRB and BALMM meetings were attended by the county and SWCD to aid in the management of the region's water resources. One sampling round for the Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring project was completed in August. Presentations were given to Mabel - Canton 5th/6th graders (~30+ students total), Chatfield 4th graders (3 classes, ~63 students, Ag in the Classroom), and Kingsland 3rd graders (2 classes, ~51 students, Ag in the Classroom). The SWCD also helped out with the Kingsland Science Fair. Community education classes were put on by the SWCD throughout the county. Another tool used for education was news articles in local papers. The SWCD used some of the data collected from the road culvert inventory for a Stormwater Attenuation Study in Newburg Township. The District contracted Bonestroo to perform the study. Sampling/monitoring and data analysis continued for the Root River Turbidity TMDL, and sampling/monitoring, data management/analysis, and maintenance began for the Root River Field to Stream Partnership. Two TMDL Technical Advisory Group meetings were also held. Half of the time for the Water Plan/TMDL Coordinator position is funded through CWL TMDL Development Money.

Wetland Conservation Act Administration: The Fillmore SWCD had 33 landowner contacts in 2010 related to wetland issues. Ten no loss applications were approved either by notice of decision or a letter sent to the landowner, and two ag exemptions were approved. Three site visits were conducted for the Fillmore County Zoning Office to investigate potential wetlands where buildings were being proposed, two of which were Decorah Shale sites. A landowner contacted the SWCD about doing a wetland restoration on 160 acres in York Township. However, a funding source could not be found to provide payments that could compete with current land prices.

DNR Shoreland Administration: There were 3 permits issued in the Shoreland District. The buffer initiative started by the SWCD is ongoing.

MPCA SSTS Program Administration: The Fillmore County Zoning Office issued 97 septic system permits in 2010. A total of 111 septic tanks were installed in the county in 2010. The annual report was submitted to MPCA with details about the program's administration.

MPCA Feedlot Program Base Grant: (see also <http://www.co.fillmore.mn.us/zoning.html>)

Complaints: All feedlot complaints were handled as they occurred. All moved toward coming into compliance in cooperation with MPCA if necessary. There were 14 sites inspected and required to be registered as a result of a complaint. One pollution events occurred where an emergency response was conducted.

County Program Goals: There were 4 workshops/trainings hosted and/or co-sponsored by the CFO, and 20 feedlot owners attended feedlot producer workshops, training events or information meetings. Manure workshops educating farmers on the value of manure were also held. Feedlot owners were assisted with coming into compliance through technical assistance and cost-share funding. Other assistance was provided with Conditional Use Permit applications, nutrient management requirements, and other needs. Fillmore County has continued to receive additional funds from regional entities because of the number of projects in progress that were in need of funding.



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Inspection and Compliance Plan: Conducted compliance inspections targeted to sites within the Shoreland District to help move the Open Lot Agreements into compliance with the 2010 deadline.

Number of sites inspected with 10 - 99 AU that are required to be registered: 79

Number of sites inspected with 100 - 299 AU: 39

Number of Non-NPDES sites greater than or = to 300 AU inspected: 15

Number of NPDES sites inspected: 2

Total number of sites inspected at feedlots that are required to be registered: 135

Number of sites that were inspected that were not required to be registered but were the result of a complaint or referral: 0

Number of sites inspected at feedlots required to be registered that were the result of a complaint: 14

Non-NPDES sites =300 AU (or >100 AU located in a vulnerable DWSMA) where a land application review was attempted, but no written records were available: 0

Non-NPDES sites =300 AU (or > 100 AU located in a vulnerable DWSMA) with land application records where a Level II review was conducted and the determination was compliance: 1

Non-NPDES sites =300 AU (or > 100 AU located in a vulnerable DWSMA) with land application records where a Level II review was conducted and the determination was non-compliance: 1

Feedlots where a Level III land application inspection was conducted and the determination was compliance: 0

Feedlots where a Level III land application inspection was conducted and the determination was non-compliance: 0

Number of sites constructing (new or modifications) where 2 or more on-site producer contacts and/or inspections were done: 20

Number of sites with OLAs where 2 or more on-site producer contacts and/or inspections were done: 19

Number of sites with an interim permit where 2 or more on-site producer contacts and/or inspections were done: 7

Owner Assistance Goals: 18 feedlot fixes were completed during 2010. Fixes included roof gutters, small pits, buffers, picket fences, fencing, etc.

Number of workshops or trainings hosted and/or co-sponsored by the CFO: 4

Number of feedlot owners attending feedlot producer workshops, training events or information meetings: 20

Number of mailings to feedlot owners: 0

Number of feedlot articles placed in local newspapers: 2

Permitting: Issuing interim and construction short form permits and permits for farmers who need to meet requirements for NPDES. Updating Open Lot Agreements for some sites that do not require a permit but are undergoing fixes.

Number of 30-day construction/expansion notifications received:

Number of interim permits issued for feedlots with < 300 AU: 3

Number of interim permits issued for Non-NPDES feedlots with > than or = to 300 AU: 3

Number of short-form permits issued by the county: 1

Number of public meetings held for construction/expansion to > 500 AU: 0

Registrations and Inventories: Maintained/updated registrations in eLINK.

Number of feedlots registered in shoreland with 10 - 299 AU: 133

Number of feedlots registered outside shoreland with 50-299 AU: 610

Number of Non-NPDES sites > or = 300 AU: 119

Number of feedlots registered with NPDES permits: 8

Total: 870

Number of sites with 10 AU or more in shoreland: 135

Number of sites with 10 AU or more that are both in shoreland and in a Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA): 1

Number of sites with 50 AU or more that are in a DSWMA and are not in shoreland: 14