

REDWOOD COTTONWOOD RIVERS CONTROL AREA (RCRCA) JPO



FY2013 Clean Water Funds Redwood and Cottonwood Rivers Accelerated Implementation Grant Project

Waters of Concern
Minnesota River
Cottonwood River
Redwood River

CWF Grant Awarded:
\$52,600

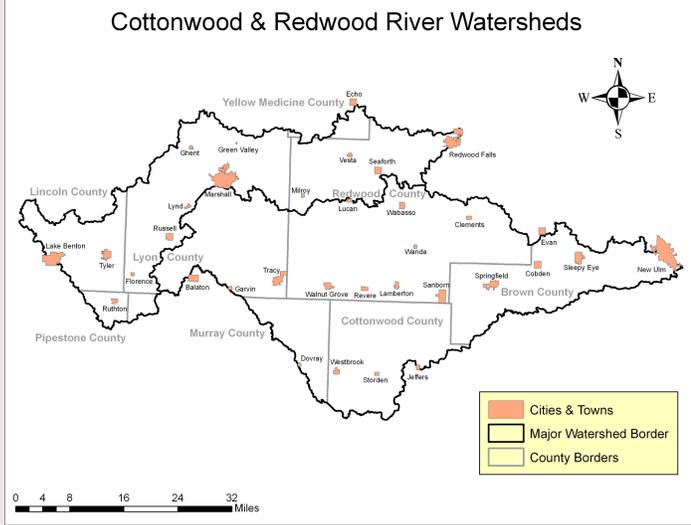
Leveraged Funds:
\$18,000

**Grant Period: 1/1/2013—12/31/2015
Extended to 12/31/2016**

CWF Fund Categories

Administrative, Project Development, and Technical/Engineering Assistance Funds

AS OF: January, 2016	Grant Budget	Encumbered/ Spent
Administrative	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 888.13
Technical - RCRCA	\$13,212.07	\$13,212.07
Technical - TSA 5	\$36,787.93	\$16,900.00
Cash Match	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00
Totals	\$70,600.00	\$49,000.20
Implementation Funds		
BMP's	- 0 -	- 0 -
Total CWF Budget	\$70,600.00	\$70,600.00



Overall Description

The Redwood and Cottonwood River Watersheds have been assessed and many reaches have been listed on the EPA's 303(d) list according to Minnesota Pollution Control Area (MPCA) protocol for turbidity, bacteria, and low dissolved oxygen. This project will accelerate conservation efforts to reduce overland runoff sediment, bacteria, and nutrient loadings contributing to water quality impairments through further refinement of already targeted sub-watersheds in the Redwood and Cottonwood rivers as outlined in (TMDL) studies. Activities through this project seek to create a suite of maps showing focus areas based on environmental sensitivity variables through GIS analysis using precision Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) Digital Elevation Model (DEM) data obtained through a Minnesota Legislative edict. Staff technicians have been trained in the methodology of GIS-based LIDAR data analysis using variables such as stream gradient, erodibility, land use, soils, and slope and will apply them to create media (maps and datasets) for distribution to partners in an effort to expedite funding to accelerate BMP implementation in the highest priority targeted areas of the Redwood and Cottonwood watersheds. Another goal of the project is to provide a means for organizational partners for prioritizing and targeting areas for future funding and BMP implementation addressing pollutant reduction goals of TMDLs and county water plans.

Initially, the project would employ a GIS technician at roughly .5 FTE/yr over two years to procure and analyze LIDAR DEM datasets using ESRI's ArcMap 9.3 for Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Spatial Analyst Extension. In January 2015, a Sub-Recipient agreement was executed between RCRCA and Southwest Prairie Technical Service Area 5 (TSA 5) to transfer the remaining technical funds into their larger scale terrain analysis project which would encompass the entire Redwood and Cottonwood watersheds rather than select sub-watersheds. The larger effort also allows that portion of the Cottonwood River watershed which lies in Brown County, which is outside TSA 5, to be included in the more comprehensive terrain analysis being produced by Houston Engineering, Inc.

RCRCA will continue to provide in-kind match through staff contributions to administer and report on this grant and to conduct field verification or "ground truthing" of the LIDAR data, especially in the Brown County portion of the Cottonwood River watershed.

PROJECT CONTACT:

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