



TWO RIVERS WATERSHED DISTRICT

ROSS NO. 7 FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT NEARING COMPLETION

The Two Rivers Watershed District is nearing completion of a flood control project located 3 miles northeast of the City of Badger, MN. The project, known as the Ross No. 7 Impoundment, will completely control the runoff from Skunk Creek, which is an area 18.2 miles in size. The impoundment is designed to control all of the flow produced from a rainfall event that generates up to 4" of runoff. Gladen Construction from Laporte, MN is near completion of the work. The project will have downstream benefits mainly in Barto and Polonia Townships in Roseau County along lateral no. 1 of State Ditch No. 95. These benefits include reduction of overland flooding of cropland, reduced damages of roads, culverts, bridges and other infrastructure, and reduced erosion.

The project will have a total of 3,611 acre-feet of storage built into it (one acre-foot is equivalent to water that is one foot deep and covers 1 acre of land, or about 326,829 gallons). A gated outlet will allow the Two Rivers Watershed District to shut off the outflows when flood conditions are

occurring or are about to occur at downstream locations. This will prevent any water from the upstream 18.2 square miles of Skunk Creek from contributing to flooding downstream on lateral no. 1 of State Ditch No. 95. Some benefits will also be realized in other downstream areas such as Lake Bronson, Hallock, and the Red River of the North.

During the 2007 construction season, Gladen Construction completed the main dike, the emergency spillway, three ring dikes, the southwest inlet ditch, and the perimeter ditch. Construction of the ridge dike was substantially completed, but will need to be finished in 2008. In addition, Swingen Construction completed the construction of the outlet structure and control gate. If major flooding occurs in 2008, the project could be utilized on a provisional basis. The impoundment would not be operational to its fullest capability, but if needed it could be operated to provide some flood control benefit to downstream areas. This will be determined by the Two Rivers Watershed District Board of Managers if

flooding is imminent come springtime.

For more information on this project or any other projects or programs of the Two Rivers Watershed

District, please call (218) 843-3333, email Daniel.money@mn.nacdnet.net, or visit the office located in the Kittson County Courthouse in Hallock, MN.



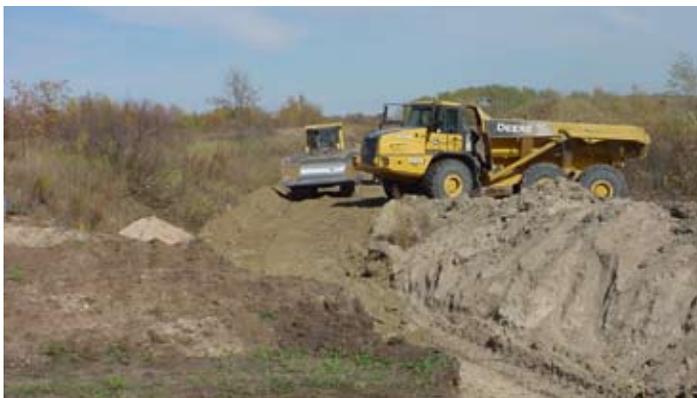
Aerial view looking north at the outlet, main dike, borrow pits, and perimeter ditch.



Ground view of finished main dike and perimeter ditch.



Completed outlet structure / control gate.



Construction of the ridge dike. Trench is dug, backfilled with clay, and compacted to prevent seepage.

JUDICIAL DITCH NO.10 PROJECT SLATED FOR SUMMER 2008

Beginning with the 2008 construction season, the Two Rivers Watershed District will be performing work to Judicial Ditch No.10 to repair damages to the ditch incurred during the 2006 spring runoff. The District applied for FEMA mitigation funding and received notice in the fall of 2007 that the funding was awarded.

A detailed ditch survey was completed during the fall of 2007 and plans and specifications are currently being completed. Generally, the work to be completed will be to repair the erosion and sloughing on the ditch side slopes that occurred along an 8-mile stretch of the ditch. The project is located from Section

35 of Davis Township and west to Section 19 of Svea Township in Kittson County. The work will include relocating a spoil bank along the south edge of the ditch, and changing the side slope on the south side from a 2:1 slope to a 6:1 slope. In addition, the ditch will be cleaned to remove the sediment that has been deposited in the ditch bottom.

The project will not only stabilize the ditch and reduce future erosion, but will also allow the ditch to function more efficiently by opening up earlier in the spring to allow runoff to enter the ditch, thereby reducing overland flooding. The TRWD will be finishing plans this winter, and will open the job up for bids in either February or March, with construction to be completed in the summer of 2008.

TWO RIVERS WATERSHED DISTRICT TURNS 50

On Wednesday, December 11, 1957, Gilmer Berger, Andy Erickson, E. Harley Younggren, Levin Vagle, and R. C. Nelson held a meeting in Hallock at the office of Lyman A. Brink, Attorney at Law. This meeting was the first meeting of the Two Rivers Watershed District. The Watershed District was the second watershed district to be organized in the State of Minnesota, and was going about the business of organizing its Board of Managers, meeting

with county commissioners and soil & water conservation districts, appointing an advisory committee, developing an overall plan, and implementing its first flood control projects.

Fast forward to December 2007 and the District has just turned 50 years old, and has much to show for its efforts over the years. The District is involved in the operation of 3 gated structures (impoundments) for flood control, monitors 28 sites to measure stream flow velocity and volume, monitors 16 sites on rivers and ditches for water quality, monitors 11 sites for snow depth and water content (to help determine potential for spring flooding), manages 90 miles of legal ditch systems, has issued over 1,100 permits for culvert, ditch, diking and other improvements, has completed a district wide culvert inventory, has participated in numerous flood control and water quality studies, and provides technical and financial assistance for water management related activities.

This March, the Two Rivers Watershed District will be hosting an open house to commemorate its 50th anniversary. The event will be advertised in local newspapers and direct mailing to members, affiliates, landowners, and other interested parties. Please join us for an afternoon of commemorating this important milestone!

EVENTS COMING UP

The RRWMB will hold its next meeting in conjunction with the Annual River Watch Forum on Wednesday, March 19, 2008 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Room 308 of Selvig Hall on the University of Minnesota – Crookston campus. Following the board meeting, attendees are invited to lunch with River Watch participants and attend the afternoon session of their program.

HAVE YOU REGISTERED??

The email address to register for the 10th Annual Joint Conference of the Red River Watershed Management Board and the Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Work Group to be held at the Northland Inn, Crookston, MN on March 20, 2008 is: rrwmb@arvig.net. To reserve a room at the Northland Inn, call (218) 281-5210.

RRWMB MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

At it's regularly scheduled February meeting, the RRWMB:

- Received a report from Ron Harnack, Project Coordinator.
- Authorized amending a grant agreement with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for the Red River Turbidity Impairment Project.
- Received a report from Wayne Goeken, Monitoring Coordinator.
- Authorized a resolution for a Surface Water Assessment Grant.
- Received an update on activities of the Red River Basin Commission from Lance Yohe, Executive Director.
- Received a report from Naomi Erickson, Administrator.
- Discussed Project No. 42 of the Wild Rice WD and agreed to conduct the May 20, 2008 board meeting in Ada, MN to facilitate a tour of the project.

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Your comments and contributions are always welcome. If you are receiving this newsletter and are not currently a member of a governing unit in the Red River Basin, please notify us and provide the name of the appropriate person to be added to our mailing list. News & Views, c/o RRWMB, P.O. Box 763, Detroit Lakes, MN 56502-0763, Phone: (218) 844-6166; Fax: (218) 844-6167.