

JUDICIAL DITCH #19 WATERSHED
PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT
REVIEW POINT NO. 2
PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION
AND SCOPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT

November 30, 2017

Prepared on behalf of:

U.S Department of Agriculture – Natural Resource Conservation Service
and Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District

Technical Assistance by:

Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI #3429-048)



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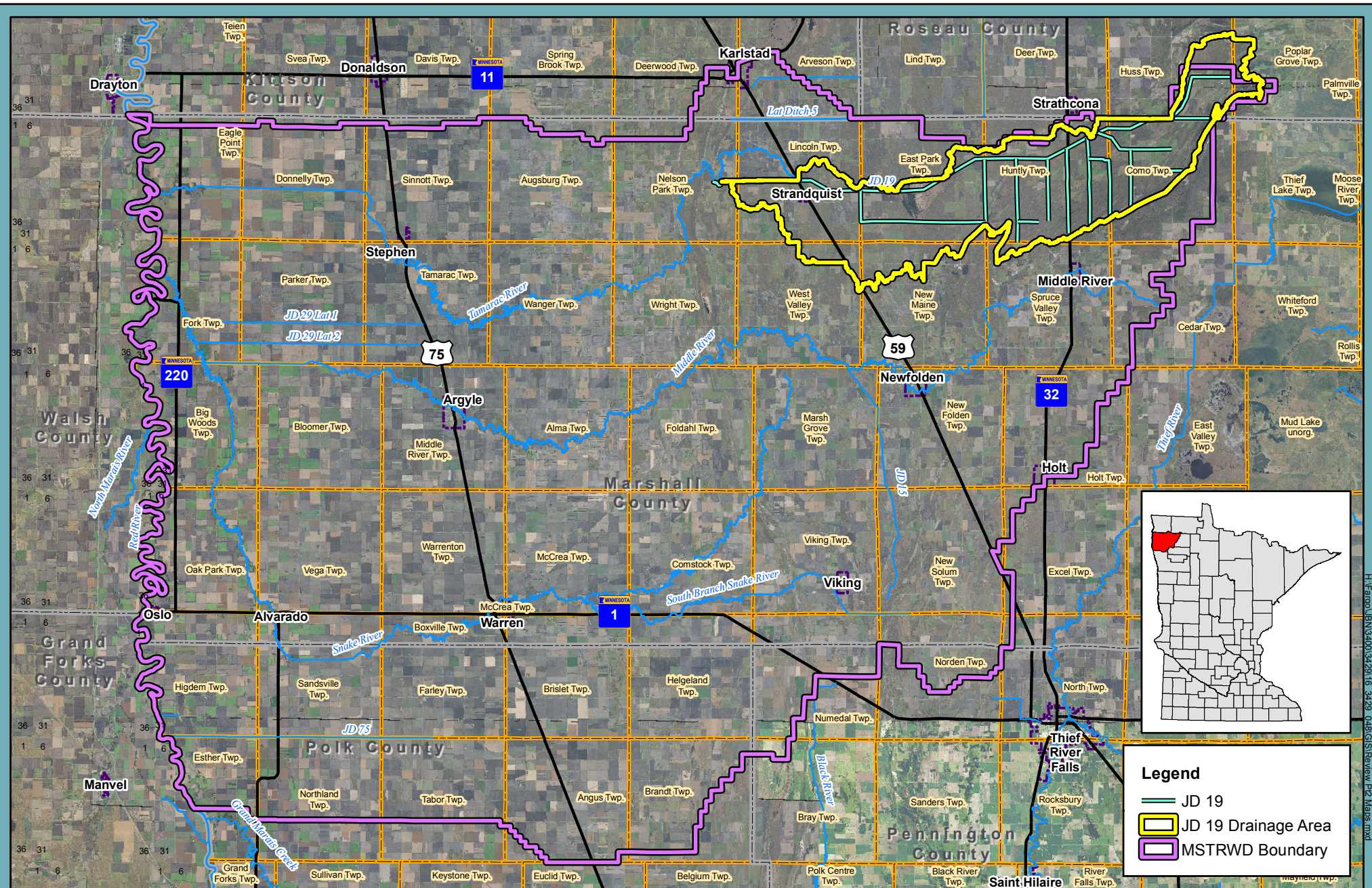
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1 PROJECT SUMMARY

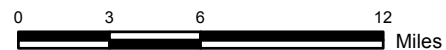
The Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District (MSTRWD) is composed of approximately 1,476 square miles and is located in the northern (downstream) end of the Red River Valley in Northwestern Minnesota. The MSTRWD encompasses drainage basins of the Middle River, Snake River, and Tamarac Rivers. The MSTRWD includes parts of Marshall, Polk, Pennington, Kittson, and Roseau Counties. For this study, the Judicial Ditch (JD) #19 Watershed is a sub-watershed within the Tamarac River basin. [Figure 01](#) shows the 104-square mile sub-watershed drainage area with respect to the overall MSTRWD boundary. [Figure 02](#) and [Figure 03](#) provide additional detail within the Judicial Ditch #19 sub-watershed study area.



F-01

Figure 01: Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Location Map

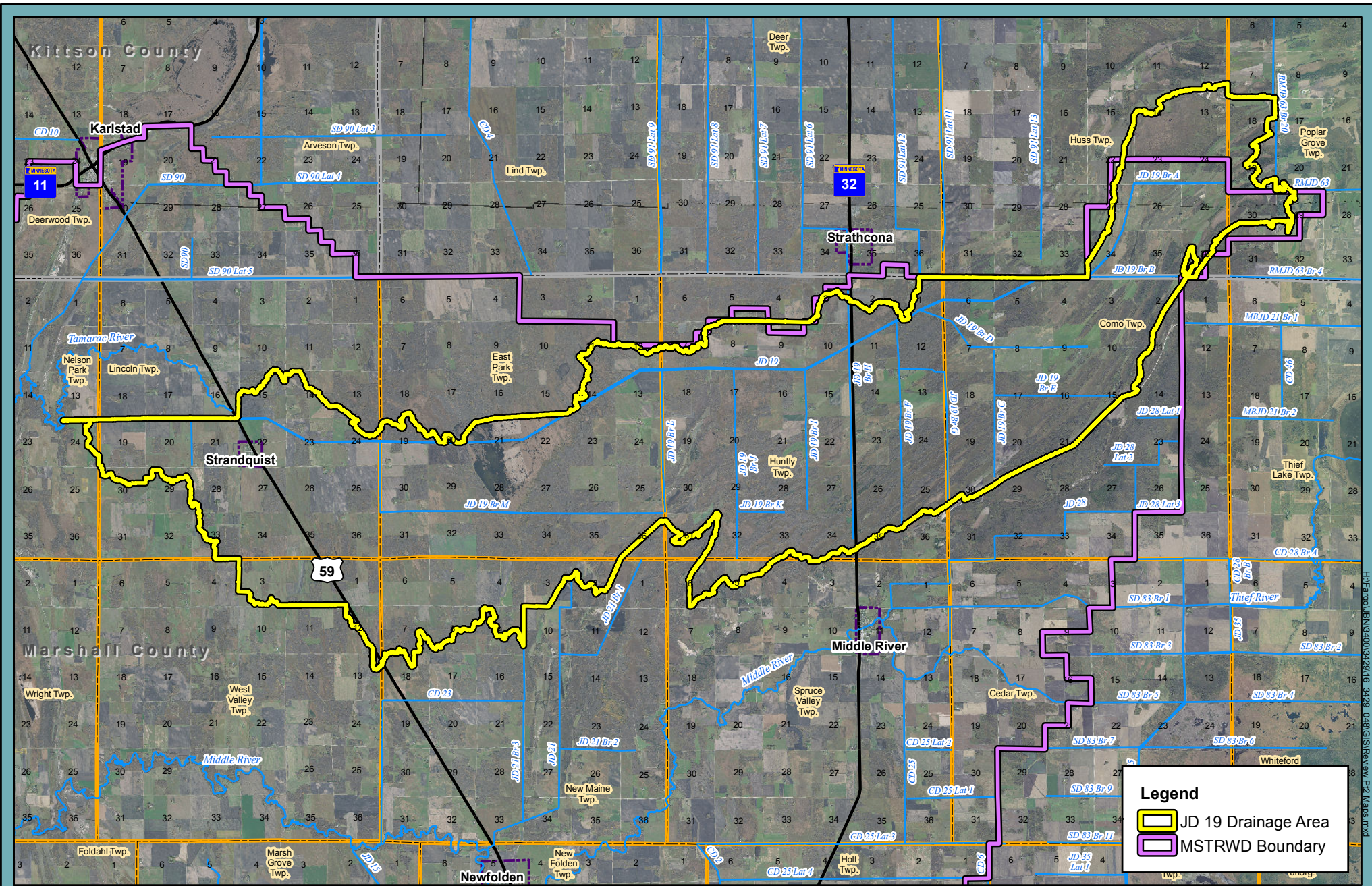
Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed
 Review Point No. 2
 Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District



- Legend**
- JD 19
 - JD 19 Drainage Area
 - MSTRWD Boundary



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Legend

- JD 19 Drainage Area
- MSTRWD Boundary

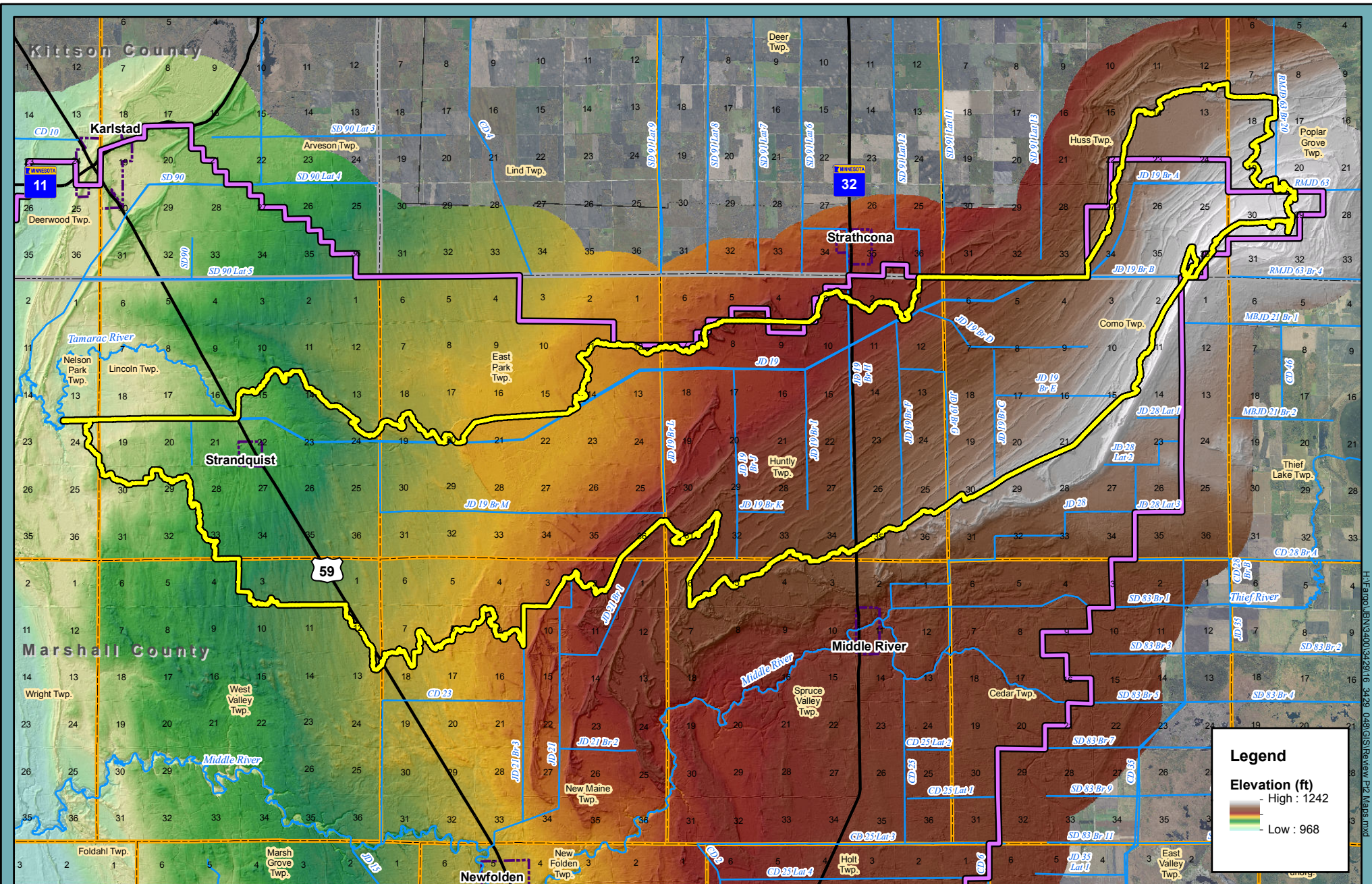
F-02

Figure 02: Watershed Boundary
 Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed
 Review Point No. 2
 Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District

North arrow and scale bar (0 to 4 Miles).



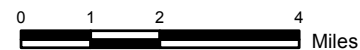
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F-03

Figure 03: LIDAR Map

Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed
 Review Point No. 2
 Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District



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2 INTRODUCTION

The Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District (MSTRWD) made application for assistance from the Red River Retention Authority (RRRA) for Watershed Planning under the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The RRRA authorized the RRWD to proceed in a Cooperative Agreement (No. 68-6322-16-514) with NRCS to perform Watershed Planning in the MSTRWD for the Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan. Watershed Planning funded through NRCS RCPP is required to follow Public Law 83-566 requirements.

This project's Environmental Assessment (Federal, NRCS document) will be written to address the Federal environmental review as well as the Minnesota Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW), in accordance with Chapter 6 – *Substitute Methods of Environmental Review*, in the Guide to Minnesota Environmental Review Rules (May 2010) produced by the Environmental Quality Board.

The Purpose and Need for Action along with Scope of the Environmental Assessment presented in the following sections are intended to meet both the Federal and State Requirements. Invitations were sent to state, federal and tribal agencies that have a potential interest in the project. The potential Cooperating Agencies invited included the following:

- US Army Corps of Engineers
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Minnesota State Historical Preservation Offices
- Tribal Historical Preservation Offices (MN, ND, SD, MT, WY)

Copies of the letters of invitation are included in **Appendix A**. The US Army Corps of Engineers has agreed to be a Cooperating Agency in development of the Environmental Assessment for this project. Their letter of concurrence is also included in **Appendix A**.

3 PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION (REVIEW POINT NO. 2A)

3.1 PURPOSE:

The purpose of this project is to provide flood damage reduction to agricultural lands due to a 10-year 24-hour rainfall event and to reduce flood damage to public and private infrastructure in the Judicial Ditch #19 sub-watershed.

3.2 NEED:

There is a need for 10-year 24-hour flood damage reduction for agricultural land and reduction in public and private infrastructure flood damages in the Judicial Ditch #19 sub-watershed. Additional information supporting this need is included in the following list:

- The JD 19 system was originally designed for a 2-5-year rainfall event. Hydraulic modeling efforts have shown that the ditch system has less capacity in the upstream reaches, performing more consistent with the 2-year event, while the downstream reaches were originally designed with greater slope, so they perform more consistent with the 5-year event. Minimal maintenance has been performed on the system causing channel restrictions. Improved agricultural drainage since

- the system was built has caused runoff to enter the system more efficiently.
- Reduce flood damages within the JD 19 sub-watershed associated with spring snow melt and rains.
 - Flooding also results in damages to some rural transportation systems and other public drainage systems. Based on information from the Minnesota Disaster Declaration, Counties, Townships, and watershed district data, road and culvert damages occurred in multiple locations within the JD 19 sub-watershed during floods in 1996, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2006, 2009, and 2011.
 - Lack of aquatic and riparian habitat along JD 19.
 - Lack of drainage water Best Management Practices (BMPs) for surface and subsurface drainage systems.
 - Channel erosion and degradation is a recognized problem by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources along many areas of the JD 19 ditch system. The downstream portion of JD 19, starting at the Nelson Slough outlet structure has unstable channels caused by steep ditch grades/side slopes and erosive soils.
 - Operation of Nelson Slough can cause downstream flow during freezing conditions and immediate upstream flooding to private property. In years past the water level within Nelson Slough has remained at a height where water continues to flow over the outlet weir during the fall and into winter, causing flow downstream within JD 19 during freezing conditions. Upstream flooding conditions are also an issue when water levels at Nelson Slough are high during the growing season and the site lacks capacity when upstream runoff events occur, causing backwater effects that inundate upstream private property.
 - Flooding in the watershed results in damages to crop land due to channel erosion, delayed planting, prevented planting, and prolonged inundation. Total inundated acres and associated agricultural damages are estimated for various synthetic rainfall events and shown in [Table 1](#) below.

Table 1 – Inundated Lands Summary

Return Period	4-Day* Rainfall (in.)	Total Inundated Acres	Agriculture** Inundated Acres
2 – year	3.1	15,843	2,288
5 – year	3.9	21,982	3,442
10 – year	4.6	26,663	4,416
25 – year	5.6	32,405	5,721
50 – year	6.5	36,244	6,706
100 – year	7.5	39,585	7,608

*NOAA Atlas 14 Rainfall Depths

**Estimated from National Agricultural Statistics Service 2016 Dataset GIS data layer

[Figure 04](#) through [Figure 06](#) show the 4-Day Runoff Hydrographs for JD 19 at three locations on the ditch system. [Figure 04](#) presents the discharge hydrographs of JD 19 at Minnesota Hwy. 32. [Figure 05](#) presents the discharge hydrographs of JD 19 at U.S. Hwy. 59. [Figure 06](#) presents the discharge hydrographs near the JD 19 confluence with the Tamarac River.

Figure 04: 4-Day Runoff Hydrographs at MN HWY 32

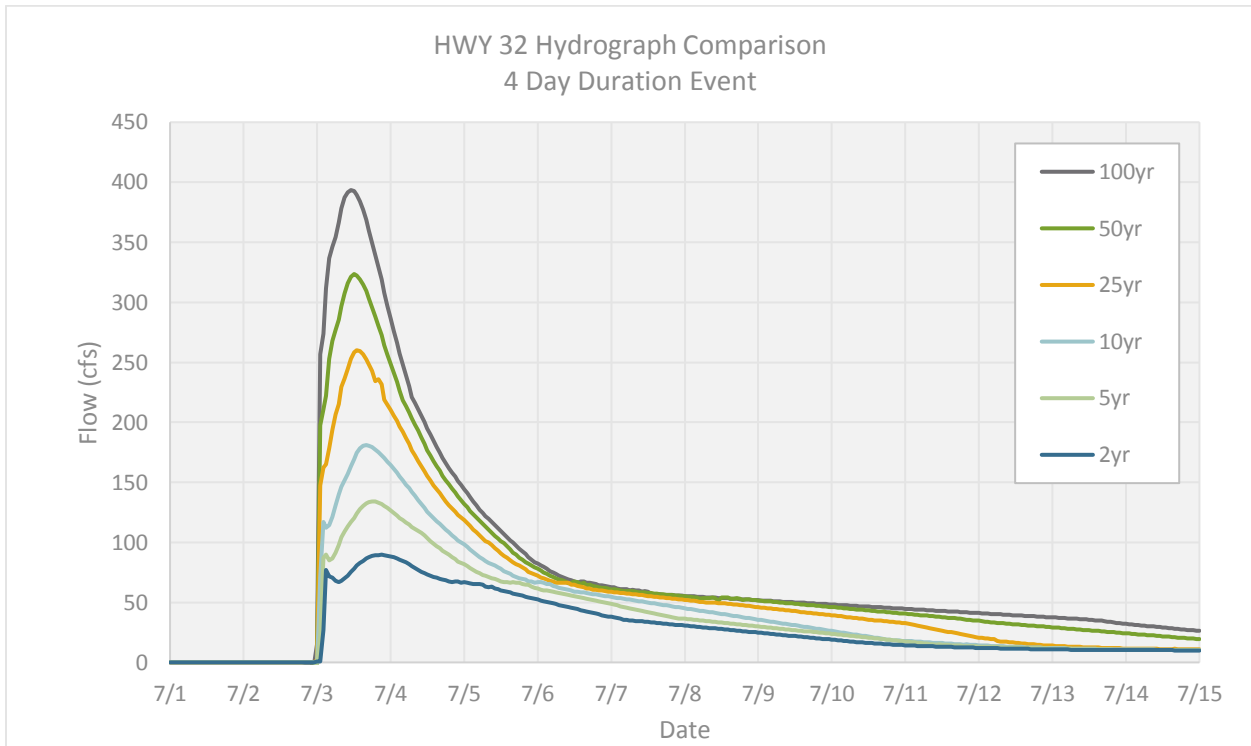


Figure 05: 4-Day Runoff Hydrographs at US HWY 59

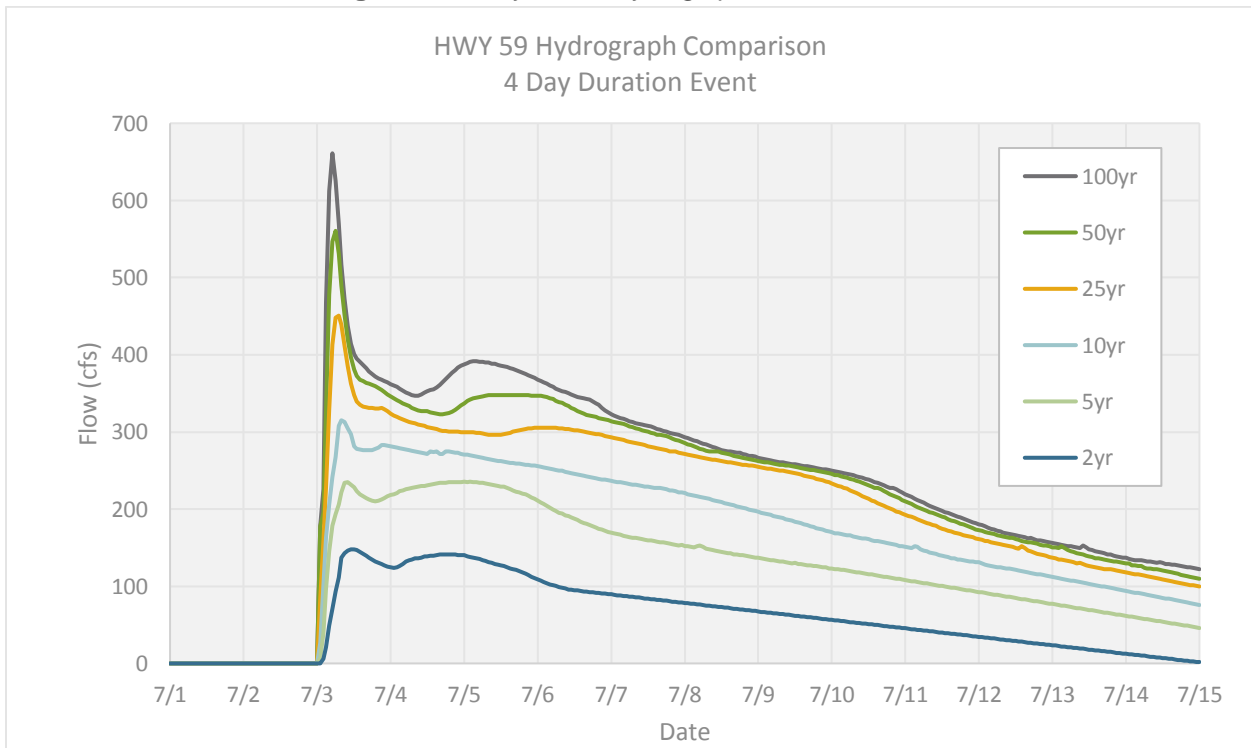
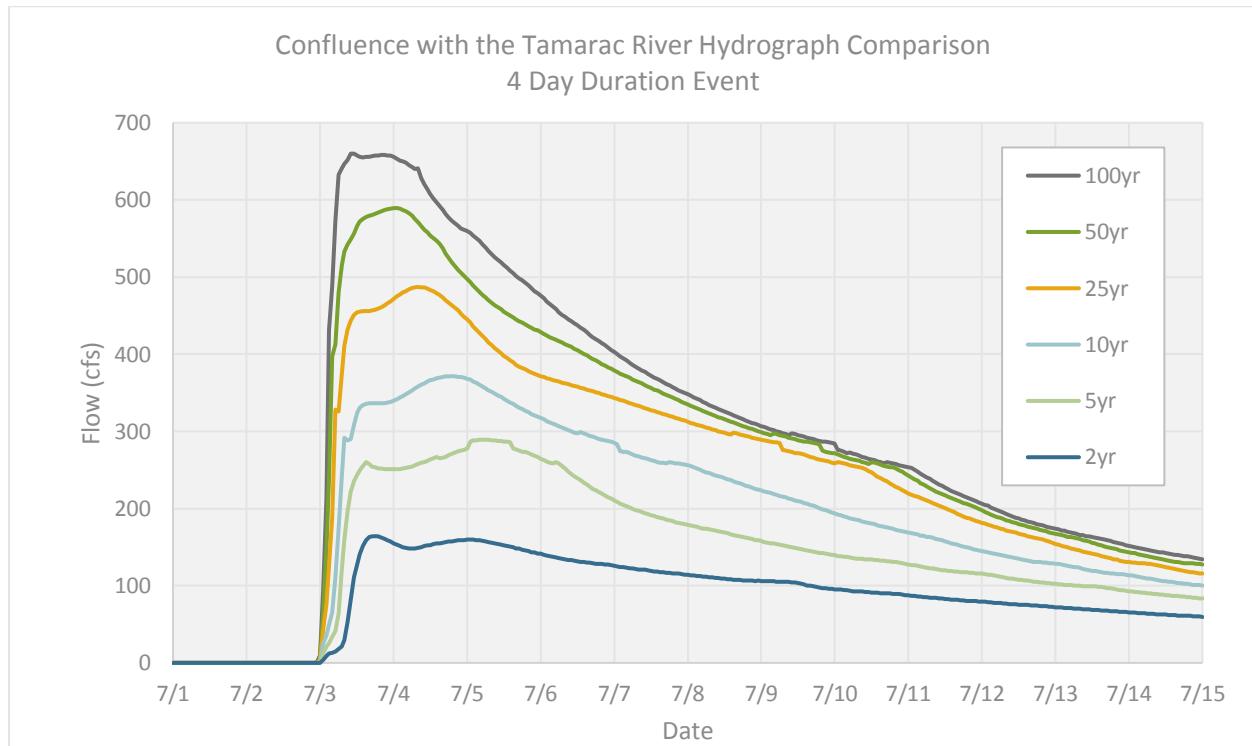


Figure 06: 4-Day Runoff Hydrographs Near the Confluence with the Tamarac River



Additional Supplemental Documentation to Support the Existence of the Problems is provided in **Appendix B**

- Map 1 – Public Infrastructure Damage and Federal Disaster
- Map 2 – Channel Erosion and Degradation Areas
- Map 3 – Synthetic 2-Year 4-Day Rainfall Event
- Map 4 – Synthetic 5-Year 4-Day Rainfall Event
- Map 5 – Synthetic 10-Year 4-Day Rainfall Event
- Map 6 – Synthetic 25-Year 4-Day Rainfall Event
- Map 7 – Synthetic 50-Year 4-Day Rainfall Event
- Map 8 – Synthetic 100-Year 4-Day Rainfall Event
- Map 9 – Synthetic 500-Year 4-Day Rainfall Event

4 SCOPE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (REVIEW POINT NO. 2B)

Systematic scoping was used to identify resource concerns within the watershed, and to rate their potential significance. An abbreviated list of concerns was initially presented to the public during the September 26, 2016 public meeting in Strandquist, MN. Additional details of the meeting are included in **Appendix C**. This meeting discussed several known concerns within the watershed, and allowed the general public to rate the level of concern for several various considerations. The following concerns were initially presented to the public for consideration:

Identified Resource Concerns:

- Flooding/Flood Damages (i.e. agricultural effects from delayed planting, prevented planting, crop flood inundation, road damages, culvert/bridge damages, breakout flows, field erosion/deposition, floodplain management, etc.)
- Water Quality/Erosion and Sedimentation (water quality, water resources, soil resources, field erosion/deposition, channel erosion/deposition, etc.)
- Wildlife and Habitat (Fish and wildlife, wetlands, endangered and threatened species, invasive species, migratory birds, forest resources, etc.)
- Other

Following the meeting and subsequent public comment period, the Judicial Ditch #19 Project Team reviewed the public input and also considered the following resource concerns as set forth in Section 501.24 of Title 390 – National Watershed Program Manual. Each of the concerns was ranked based on their relevance within the study area. The results of this scoping process are listed in the following table:

Item/Concern	Relevance to the Proposed Action	Rationale
REQUIRED RESOURCE CONCERN CONSIDERED		
(1) National Economic Development (NED) P&G	MEDIUM	Potential to utilize other local, state, and regional funding
(2) Air quality	LOW	Impacts only likely to be temporary in nature
(3) Coral reefs	N/A	N/A
(4) Cultural resources	MEDIUM	Will depend on alternative feature locations, but known resources exist within project study area.
(5) Ecologically critical areas	MEDIUM	Will depend on alternative feature locations, but known resources exist within project study area.
(6) Endangered and threatened species	MEDIUM	Will depend on alternative feature locations, but known resources exist within project study area.
(7) Environmental justice and civil rights	LOW	Not likely to impact Minority and Low-Income Populations
(8) Essential fish habitat	LOW	Essential Fish Habitat describes all waters and substrate necessary for fish for spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity
(9) Fish and wildlife (including coordination requirements)	MEDIUM	
(10) Floodplain management	LOW	Limited designated floodplains exist in the study area.
(11) Forest resources	HIGH	Significant forest resources in study area.
(12) Invasive species	LOW	

(13) Land use	MEDIUM	Limited land use change anticipated to result from alternatives to be considered.
(14) Migratory birds	LOW	
(15) Natural areas	MEDIUM	Will depend on alternative feature locations, but known resources exist within project study area.
(16) Parklands	LOW	No park land in study area.
(17) Prime and unique farmland, and farmland of statewide significance	HIGH	Project alternatives have the potential to impact prime and unique farmland
(18) Public health and safety	LOW	Limited population within study area.
(19) Regional water resource plans (including coastal zone plans)	N/A	N/A
(20) Riparian areas	MEDIUM	Riparian corridors exist adjacent to existing channels and wetland complexes.
(21) Scenic beauty	LOW	Natural landscape exists within the study area.
(22) Scientific resources	LOW	
(23) Sole source aquifers	LOW	Limited impact on groundwater expected
(24) Social issues	LOW	Limited population in study area
(25) Soil resources	MEDIUM	Will vary depending the alternatives considered.
(26) Water quality	MEDIUM	Water quality is currently high with the study area.
(27) Water resources	HIGH	Will vary depending the alternatives considered.
(28) Waters of the United States, including special aquatic sites	HIGH	Significant areas of wetlands identified within the study area.
(29) Wetlands	HIGH	Significant areas of wetlands identified within the study area.
(30) Wild and scenic rivers	N/A	N/A
<i>Other concerns identified by SLO, agencies, and the public</i>		
Delayed Planting	HIGH	Will vary depending the alternatives considered.
Prevented Planting	HIGH	Will vary depending the alternatives considered.
Crop damages from prolonged inundation	HIGH	Will vary depending the alternatives considered.
Channel erosion/deposition	HIGH	Will vary depending the alternatives considered.

Appendix A

Cooperative Agencies Information

- Letters of Invitation
- US Army Corps of Engineers Cooperating Agency Request



APPENDIX A.1

Letters of Invitation



United States Department of Agriculture

June 13, 2016

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Minnesota
State Office

375 Jackson Street
Suite 600
St. Paul, MN 55101

Ph: 651-602-7900
Fax 855-823-7656
www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

Regulatory Functions Branch
US Army Corps of Engineers
180 5th St. East, Suite 700
St. Paul, MN 55101-1678

Dear Sir:

Subject: Formal Request to be a Cooperating Agency on the Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers
Watershed District Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan – Environmental Assessment

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) at 40 CFR Part 1501.6, NRCS is formally requesting that your agency become a cooperating agency in the planning and development of the Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan – Environmental Assessment (EA).

This request is being made because your agency has been identified as having special expertise or jurisdiction by law related to this project. The EA is being prepared to fulfill NRCS NEPA compliance responsibilities pertaining to our potential federal financial assistance through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (Public Law 83-566) for this project. As your agency may also have NEPA compliance responsibilities concerning this project or other future projects that may be evaluated in this EA, preparation of this EA should also assist in fulfilling environmental review requirements for your agency or other federal agencies and meet the NEPA intent of reducing duplication and delay between agencies.

If your agency is unable to participate as a Cooperating Agency, please return a written explanation why your agency can not participate. Please note that a response declining to be a Cooperating Agency is required to also be submitted to the Council on Environmental Quality per 40 CFR Part 1501.6(c). Upon acceptance of this invitation, roles can be defined in an informal agreement or formal MOU can be established.

Thank you for your timely response and cooperation with this project. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator on my staff at keith.weston@nd.usda.gov or via phone at 701-356-6641 or cell phone 701-318-8566.

Sincerely,

CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

cc:

Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND



United States Department of Agriculture

June 13, 2016

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Minnesota
State Office

375 Jackson Street
Suite 600
St. Paul, MN 55101

Ph: 651-602-7900
Fax 855-823-7656
www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

Regional Director
US Fish and Wildlife Service
5600 American Blvd. West, Suite 990
Bloomington, MN 55437-1458

Dear Sir:

Subject: Formal Request to be a Cooperating Agency on the Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers
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Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND



June 29, 2016

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Minnesota
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375 Jackson Street
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St. Paul, MN 55101

Ph: 651-602-7900
Fax 855-823-7656
www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

Sarah J. Beimers
Manager, Government Programs and Compliance
State Historic Preservation Office
345 Kellogg Boulevard West
St. Paul, MN 55102

Dear Ms. Beimers:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

The Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District (MSTWD) made application for assistance from the Red River Retention Authority (RRRA) for Watershed Planning under the RCPP, administered by NRCS. The RRRA authorized the MSTWD to proceed with a Cooperative Agreement with NRCS to perform Watershed Planning in the Judicial Ditch #14 and Judicial Ditch #19 watersheds. The MSTWD is committed to develop solutions to flooding, erosion, drainage issues and related natural resource concerns within these watersheds. This work includes developing an NRCS watershed plan and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document. RCPP watershed plans are required to conform to Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (Public Law 83-566).

The NRCS and MSTWD invite your Tribe to participate in these planning efforts. The planning process will identify watershed natural resource concerns and problems, define a scope of action, evaluate resource issues and develop a range of alternatives to address the watershed needs, and ultimately identify a preferred alternative for the watershed. These watershed plans require communication with a Watershed Stakeholder's Committee and/or Project Team consisting of concerned citizens and local governing units. You will be invited to participate in these meetings and provide input into the planning process, especially as it relates to your historical and cultural interests within the watershed planning area (see enclosed map). I hope you or a representative from your office can attend and participate at these meetings.

The NRCS and MSTWD requests your office to please identify and provide any new point of contact information to the MSTWD administrator as it relates to Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed-EA and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed-EA.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator on my staff, at keith.weston@nd.usda.gov or via phone at 701-356-6641 or cell phone 701-318-8566; or Danny Omdahl, MSTWD Administrator at mstrwd@hotmail.com or by phone at (218) 745-4741.

Sincerely,

CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

cc:

Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762

Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



June 29, 2016

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Minnesota
State Office

375 Jackson Street
Suite 600
St. Paul, MN 55101

Ph: 651-602-7900
Fax 855-823-7656
www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

John Murray
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
The Blackfeet Nation
850 Government Square
Browning, MT 59417

Dear John Murray:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Sincerely,

CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc:

Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



June 29, 2016

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Minnesota
State Office

375 Jackson Street
Suite 600
St. Paul, MN 55101

Ph: 651-602-7900
Fax 855-823-7656
www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

Alvin Windy Boy, Sr.
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation
9740 Upper Box Elder Road
P.O. Box 230
Box Elder, MT 59521

Dear Alvin Windy Boy, Sr.:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Enclosure

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Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



June 29, 2016

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St. Paul, MN 55101

Ph: 651-602-7900
Fax 855-823-7656
www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

Ira L. Matt
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
P.O. Box 278
Pablo, MT 59855

Dear Ira L. Matt:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Sincerely,

CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc:

Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



June 29, 2016

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Minnesota
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St. Paul, MN 55101

Ph: 651-602-7900
Fax 855-823-7656
www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

Emerson Bull Chief
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
The Crow Tribe of Indians
P.O. Box 159
Crow Agency, MT 59002

Dear Emerson Bull Chief:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

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Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Michael J. Black Wolf
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Fort Belknap Indian Community
656 Agency Main Street
Harlem, MT 59526

Dear Michael J. Black Wolf:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

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Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Darrell Youpee
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes
501 Medicine Bear Road
P.O. Box 1027
Poplar, MT 59255

Dear Darrell Youpee:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Sincerely,

CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

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Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Teanna Limpy
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Northern Cheyenne Tribe
P.O. Box 128
Lame Deer, MT 59043

Dear Teanna Limpy:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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State Conservationist

Enclosure

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Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Wilfred Ferris
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation
P.O. Box 538
Fort Washakie, WY 82514

Dear Wilfred Ferris:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Darlene Conrad
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Northern Arapaho Tribe
P.O. Box 396
Ft. Washakie, WY 82514

Dear Darlene Conrad:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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State Conservationist

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Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Fax 855-823-7656
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Elgin Crows Breast
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation
404 Frontage Road
New Town, ND 58763

Dear Elgin Crows Breast:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Dr. Erich Longie
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Spirit Lake Tribe of Fort Totten
P.O. Box 76
Fort Totten, ND 58335

Dear Dr. Erich Longie:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Waste'Win Young
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box D
Fort Yates, ND 58538

Dear Waste'Win Young:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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State Conservationist

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Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Bruce Nadean
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa
P.O. Box 900
Belcourt, ND 58316

Dear Bruce Nadean:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Bill Latady
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Indians
1500 Bois Forte Road
Tower, MN 55790

Dear Bill Latady:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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If you have any questions or comments, please contact Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator on my staff, at keith.weston@nd.usda.gov or via phone at 701-356-6641 or cell phone 701-318-8566; or Danny Omdahl, MSTWD Administrator at mstrwd@hotmail.com or by phone at (218) 745-4741.

Sincerely,

CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc:

Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



June 29, 2016

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Fax 855-823-7656
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Marcu Ammesmaki
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
1720 Big Lake Road
Cloquet, MN 55720

Dear Marcu Ammesmaki:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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State Conservationist

Enclosure

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Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Mary Ann Gagnon
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
P.O. Box 428
Grand Portage, MN 55605

Dear Mary Ann Gagnon:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Sincerely,

CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc:

Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Amy Burnette
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
190 Sailstar Drive NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Dear Amy Burnette:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Sincerely,

CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc:

Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Michael Bergervoet, M.S.
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Prairie Island Indian Community of Minnesota
5636 Sturgeon Lake Road
Welch, MN 55089

Dear Michael Bergervoet, M.S.:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

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Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Grace Goldtooth-Campos
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Lower Sioux Indian Community
39527 Reservation Highway 1
Morton, MN 56270

Dear Grace Goldtooth-Campos:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Natalie Weyaus
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
43408 Oodena Drive
Onamia, MN 56359

Dear Natalie Weyaus:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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State Conservationist

Enclosure

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Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

Sara Childers
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Upper Sioux Community
P.O. Box 147
Granite Falls, MN 56241

Dear Sara Childers:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Cayla Olson
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
White Earth Nation of Minnesota Chippewa
P.O. Box 418
White Earth, MN 56591

Dear Cayla Olson:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Enclosure

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Steven Vance
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 590
Eagle Butte, SD 57625

Dear Steven Vance:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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State Conservationist

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Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Darrell Zephier
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Crow Creek Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 50
Fort Thompson, SD 57339

Dear Darrell Zephier:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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James B. Weston
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 285
Flandreau, SD 57028

Dear James B. Weston:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

The Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District (MSTWD) made application for assistance from the Red River Retention Authority (RRRA) for Watershed Planning under the RCPP, administered by NRCS. The RRRA authorized the MSTWD to proceed with a Cooperative Agreement with NRCS to perform Watershed Planning in the Judicial Ditch #14 and Judicial Ditch #19 watersheds. The MSTWD is committed to develop solutions to flooding, erosion, drainage issues and related natural resource concerns within these watersheds. This work includes developing an NRCS watershed plan and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document. RCPP watershed plans are required to conform to Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (Public Law 83-566).

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If you have any questions or comments, please contact Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator on my staff, at keith.weston@nd.usda.gov or via phone at 701-356-6641 or cell phone 701-318-8566; or Danny Omdahl, MSTWD Administrator at mstrwd@hotmail.com or by phone at (218) 745-4741.

Sincerely,

CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc:

Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



June 29, 2016

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Minnesota
State Office

375 Jackson Street
Suite 600
St. Paul, MN 55101

Ph: 651-602-7900
Fax 855-823-7656
www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

Dennis Yellow Thunder
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Oglala Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 129
Kyle, SD 57752

Dear Dennis Yellow Thunder:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Sincerely,

CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc:

Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

Russell Eagle Bear
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Rosebud Sioux Tribe of Indians
P.O. Box 809
Rosebud, SD 57570

Dear Russell Eagle Bear:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Sincerely,

CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc:

Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Minnesota
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375 Jackson Street
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Ph: 651-602-7900
Fax 855-823-7656
www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

Dianne Desrosiers
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
P.O. Box 907
Sisseton, SD 57262

Dear Dianne Desrosiers:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Sincerely,

CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc:

Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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St. Paul, MN 55101

Ph: 651-602-7900
Fax 855-823-7656
www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

Lana M. Gravatt, RPA
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Yankton Sioux Tribe
800 Main Avenue SW
P.O. Box 1153
Wagner, SD 57380

Dear Lana M. Gravatt, RPA:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Sincerely,

CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc:

Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



June 29, 2016

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St. Paul, MN 55101

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Fax 855-823-7656
www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

Kade M. Ferris, MS
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians
P.O. Box 274
Red Lake, MN 56671

Dear Kade M. Ferris, MS:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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State Conservationist

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Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



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Fax 855-823-7656
www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov

Leonard Wabasha
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community of Minnesota
2330 Sioux Trail N.W.
Prior Lake, MN 55372

Dear Leonard Wabasha:

Subject: Invitation to Participate in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Watershed Planning Process on the Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment and Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment

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Sincerely,

CATHEE PULLMAN
State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc:

Danny Omdahl, Administrator, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, 453 North McKinley Street Box 154, Warren, Minnesota 56762
Keith Weston, Red River Basin Coordinator, NRCS, 1120 28th Avenue N., Ste B, Fargo, ND 58102



APPENDIX A.2

US Army Corps of Engineers

Cooperating Agency Request



REPLY TO ATTENTION OF
REGULATORY BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ST. PAUL DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
180 FIFTH STREET EAST, SUITE 700
ST. PAUL, MN 55101-1678

SEP 09 2016

Cathee Pullman
State Conservationist
Natura Resource Conservation Service
375 Jackson Street, Suite 600
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1678

Dear Ms. Pullman:

This letter is in response to your requests for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), St. Paul District to participate as a Cooperating Agency in development of Environmental Assessments (EA) for the following projects:

- Middle-Snake-Tamarac Watershed District Judicial Ditch #14 Watershed Plan
- Middle-Snake-Tamarac Watershed District Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Plan
- Boise De Sioux Watershed District Direct Watershed Plan
- Two River Watershed District Klondike Clean Water Retention Project
- Red Lake Watershed District Four Legged Lake Watershed Plan
- Red Lake Watershed District Pine Lake Watershed Plan
- Wild Rice River Watershed District Green Meadow Watershed Plan
- Wild Rice River Watershed District South Branch Wild Rice River Watershed Plan
- Wild Rice River Watershed District Moccasin Creek Watershed Plan
- Roseau River Watershed District Beltrami Island State Forest Watershed Plan
- Roseau River Watershed District Whitney Lake Watershed Plan

It is our understanding that the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is the lead Federal Agency initiating the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process due to financial assistance to the Sponsoring Local Organization provided through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (Public Law (PL) 83-566).

The USACE St. Paul District appreciates your invitation and agrees to be a cooperating agency for the development of these EAs. We understand the agency roles and responsibilities will be defined in a separate Memorandum of Understanding. We appreciate your request for comments, and look forward to continued coordination on these projects.

Mr. Craig Jarnot from our Bemidji Office has been assigned as the project manager for this review. If you have any questions, please contact him in our Bemidji office at (651) 290-5337 or Craig.L.Jarnot @usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad S. Konickson".

Chad S. Konickson
Chief, Regulatory Branch

cc:

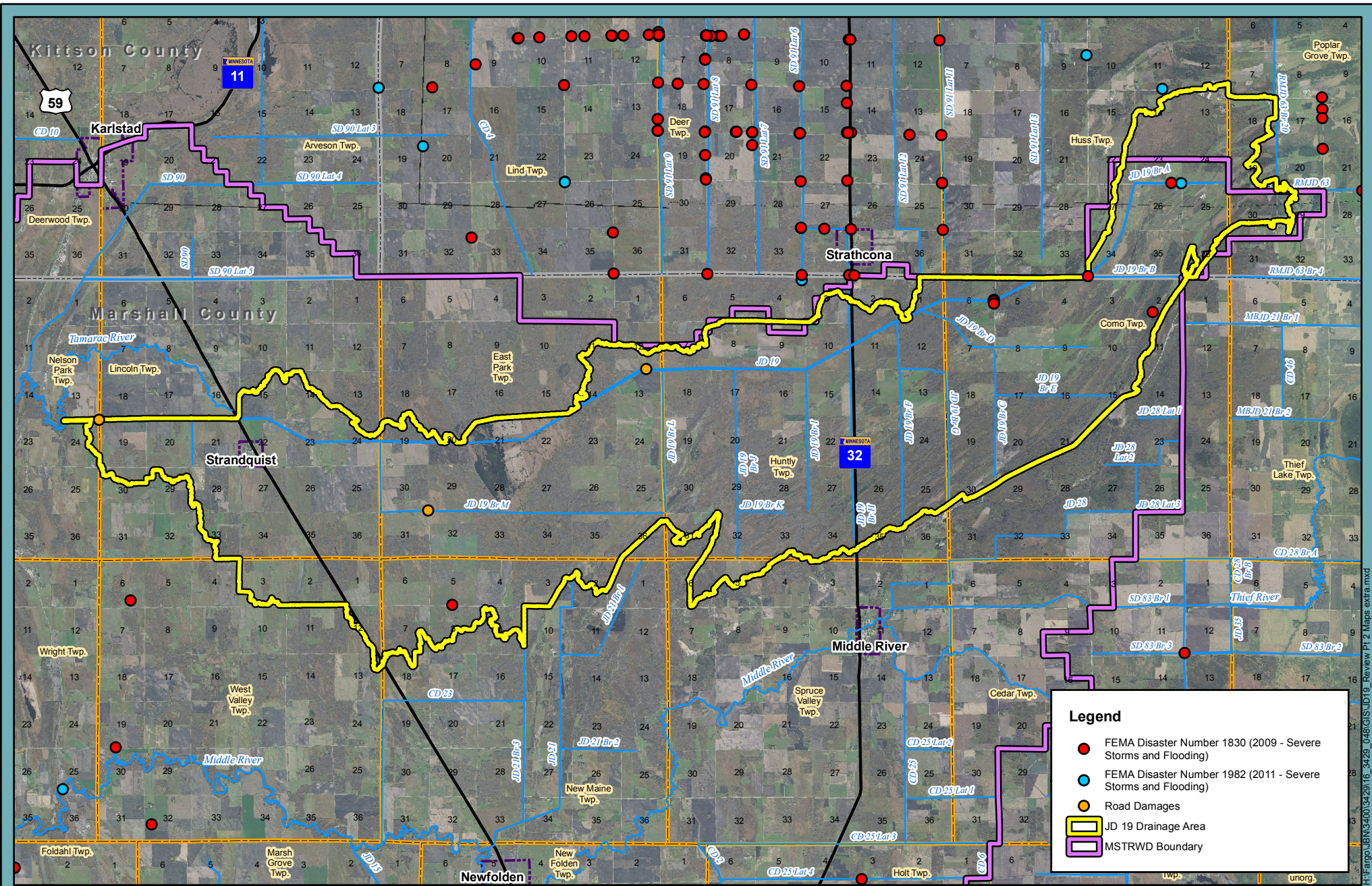
Brent Silvis, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Watershed District
John Roeschlein, Boise de Sioux Watershed District
Dan Money, Two River Watershed District
Myron Jesme, Red Lake Watershed District
Kevin Ruud, Wild Rice River Watershed District
Tracy Halstengard, Roseau River Watershed District
Keith Weston, NRCS



Appendix B

Additional Supplemental Documentation to Support the Existence of the Problems

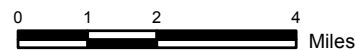
- Map 1 – Public Infrastructure Damage and Federal Disaster
- Map 2 – Channel Erosion and Degradation Areas
- Map 3 – Synthetic 2-Year 4-Day Rainfall Event
- Map 4 – Synthetic 5-Year 4-Day Rainfall Event
- Map 5 – Synthetic 10-Year 4-Day Rainfall Event
- Map 6 – Synthetic 25-Year 4-Day Rainfall Event
- Map 7 – Synthetic 50-Year 4-Day Rainfall Event
- Map 8 – Synthetic 100-Year 4-Day Rainfall Event
- Map 9 – Synthetic 500-Year 4-Day Rainfall Event



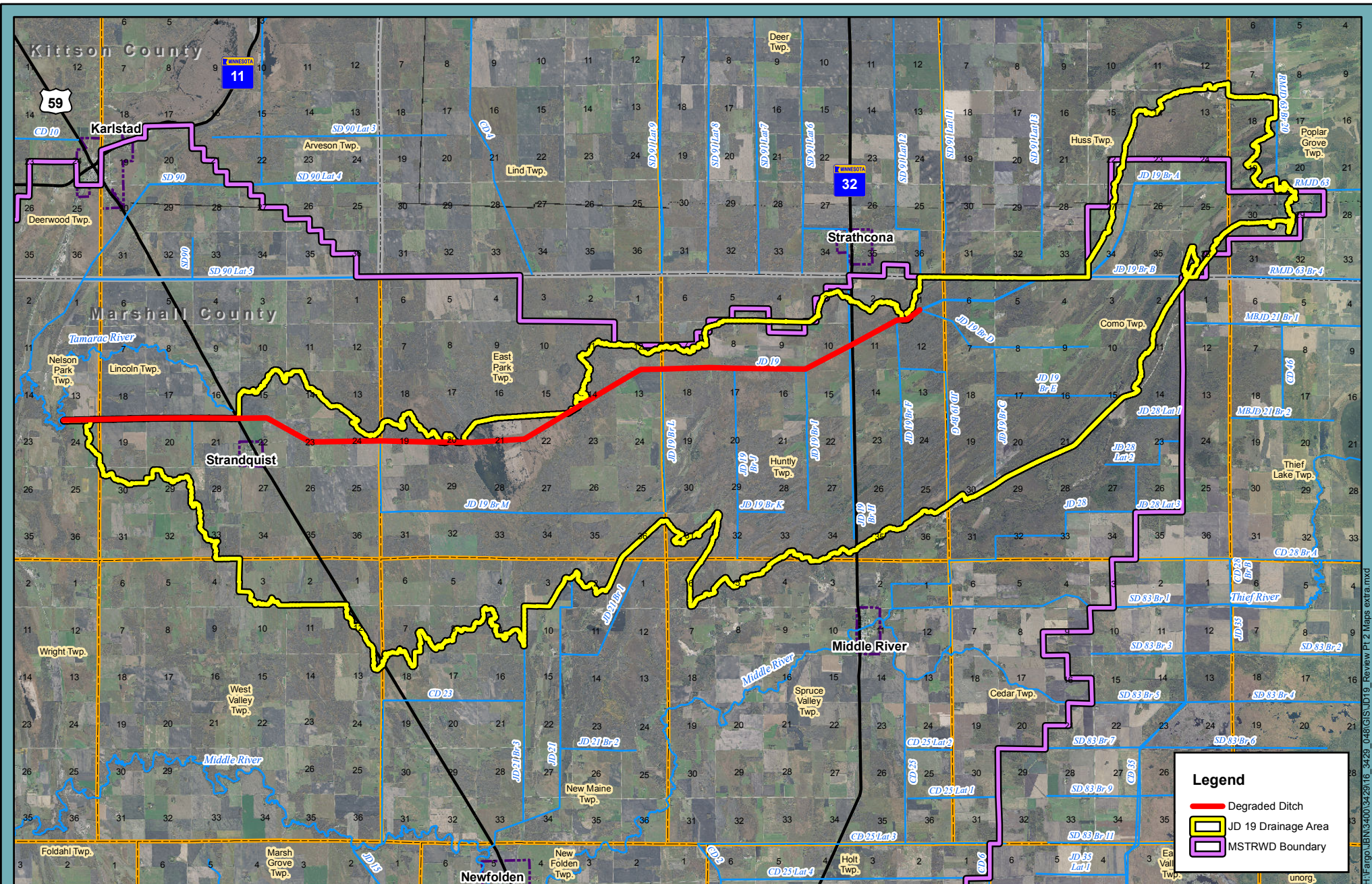
M-01

Map 01: Public Infrastructure Damage and Federal Disaster

Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed
 Review Point No. 2
 Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District



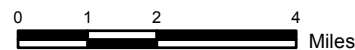
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M-02

Map 02: Channel Erosion and Degradation Areas

Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed
 Review Point No. 2
 Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District

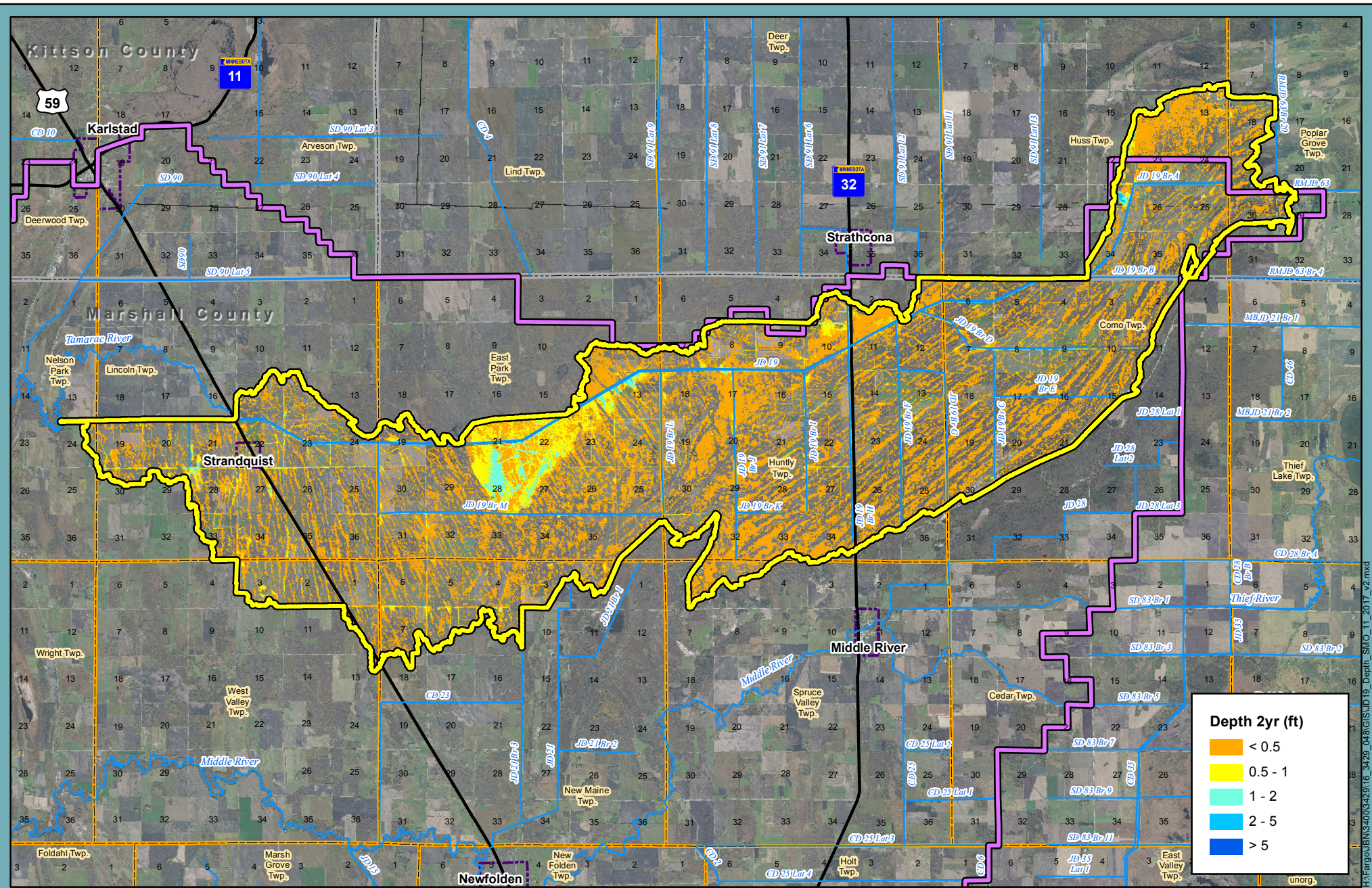


Legend

- Degraded Ditch
- JD 19 Drainage Area
- MSTRWD Boundary



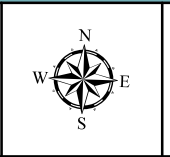
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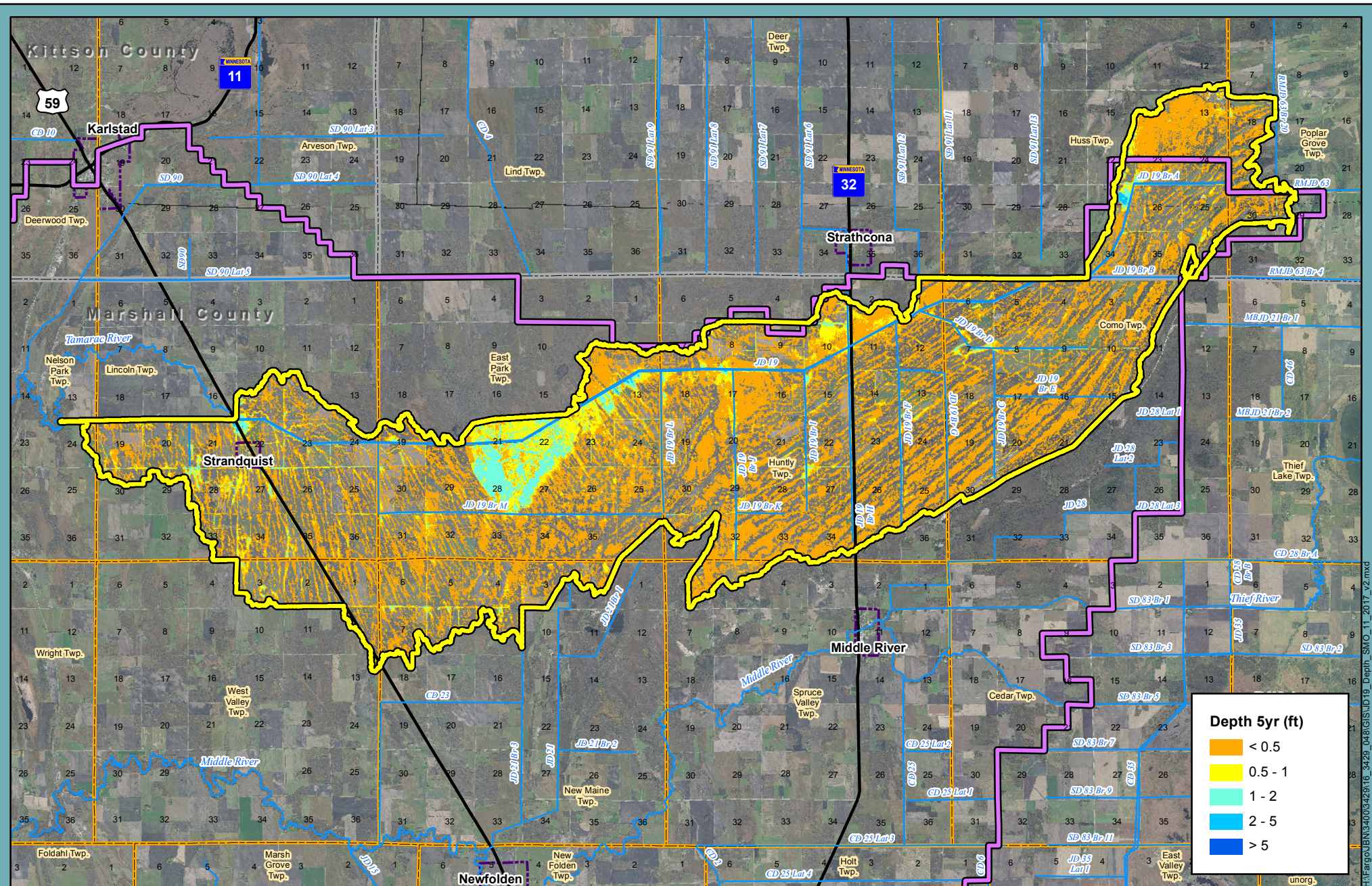


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M-03

Map 03: Flood Depth, 4-day, 2yr Event
 Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed
 Review Point No. 2
 Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District

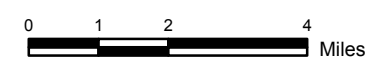
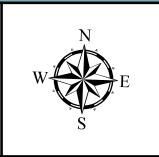


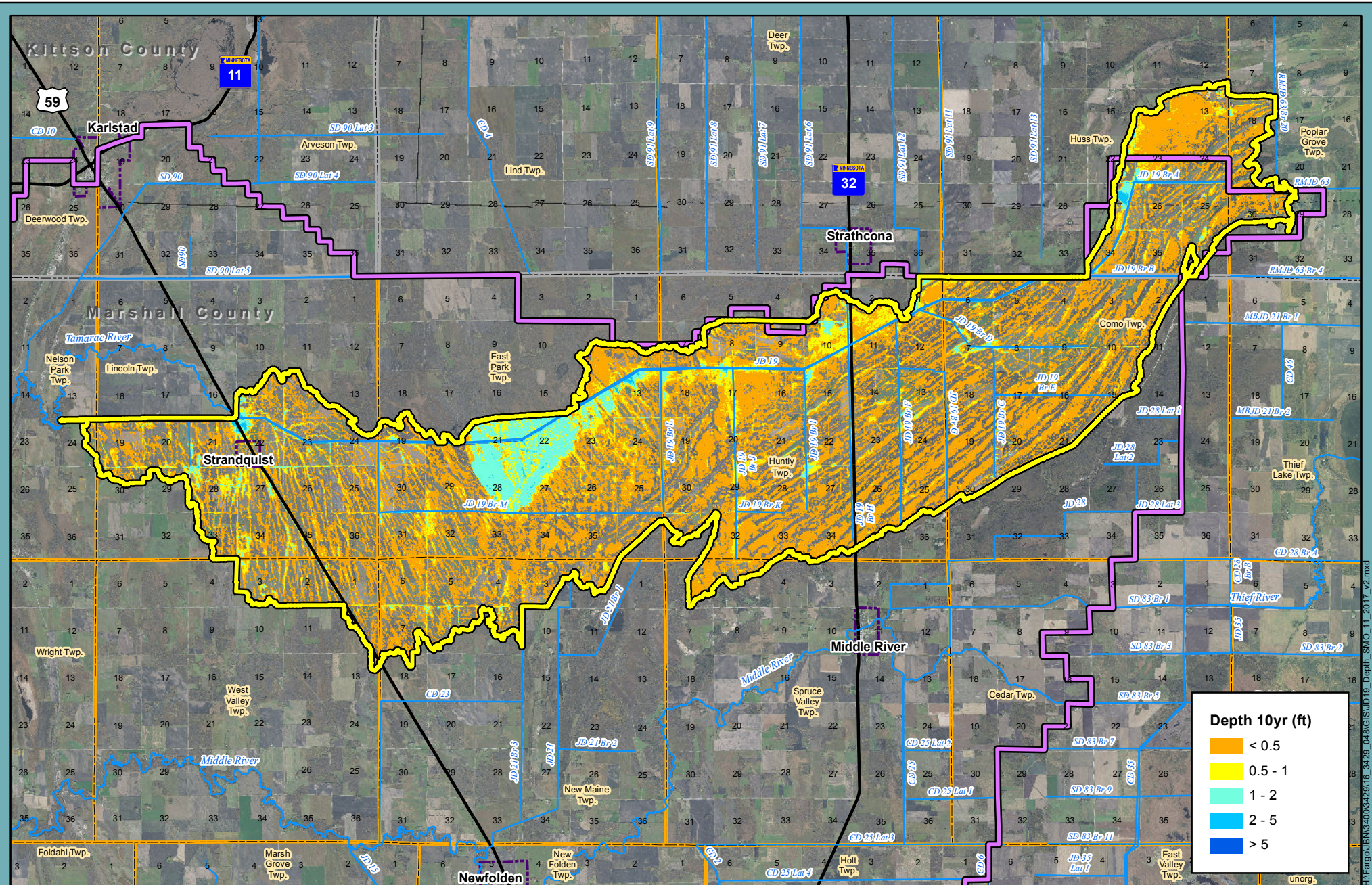


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M-04

Map 04: Flood Depth, 4-day, 5yr Event
 Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed
 Review Point No. 2
 Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District

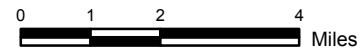
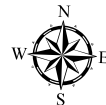




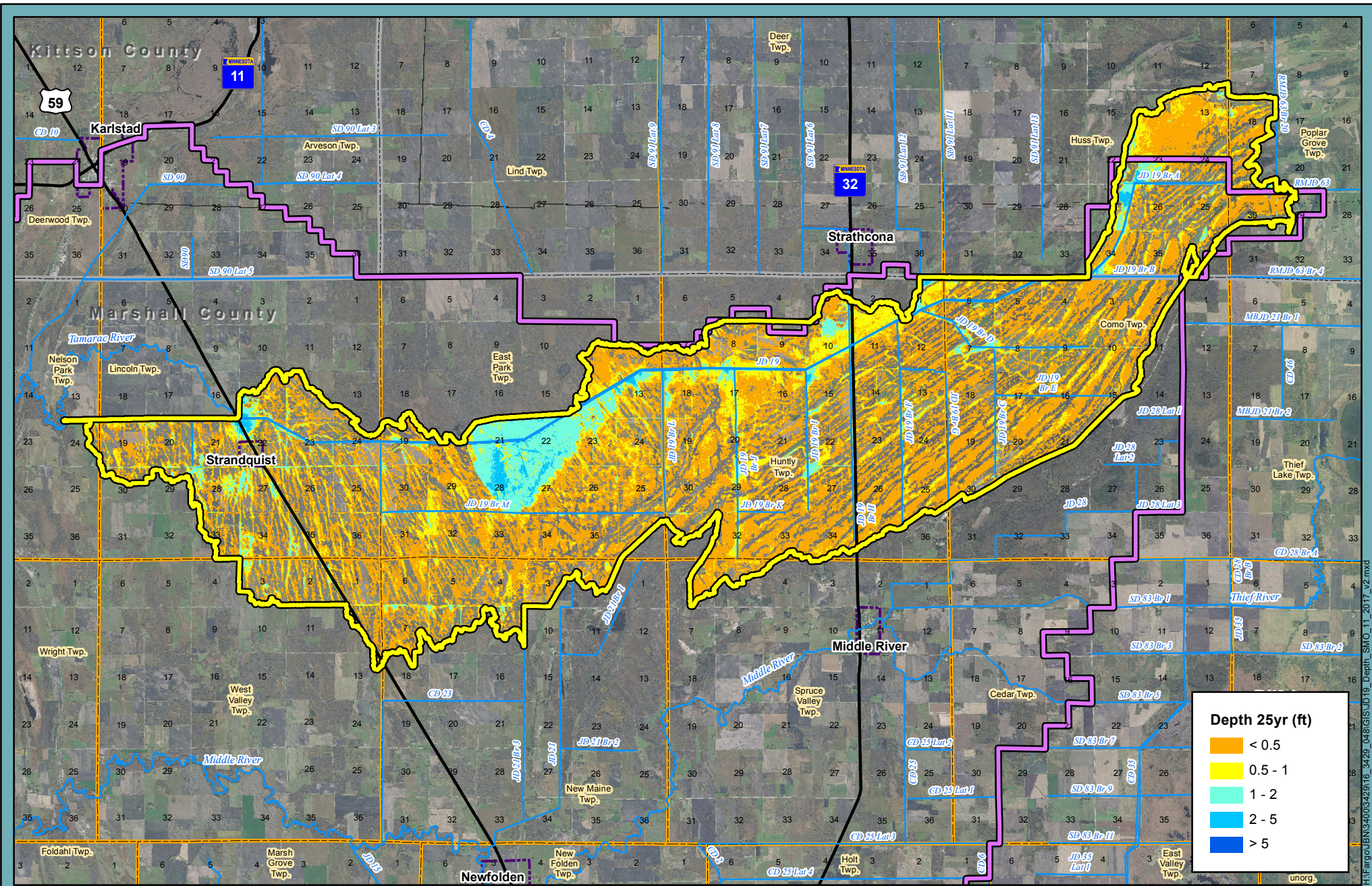
M-05

Map 05: Flood Depth, 4-day, 10yr Event

Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed
 Review Point No. 2
 Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District



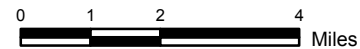
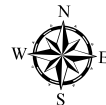
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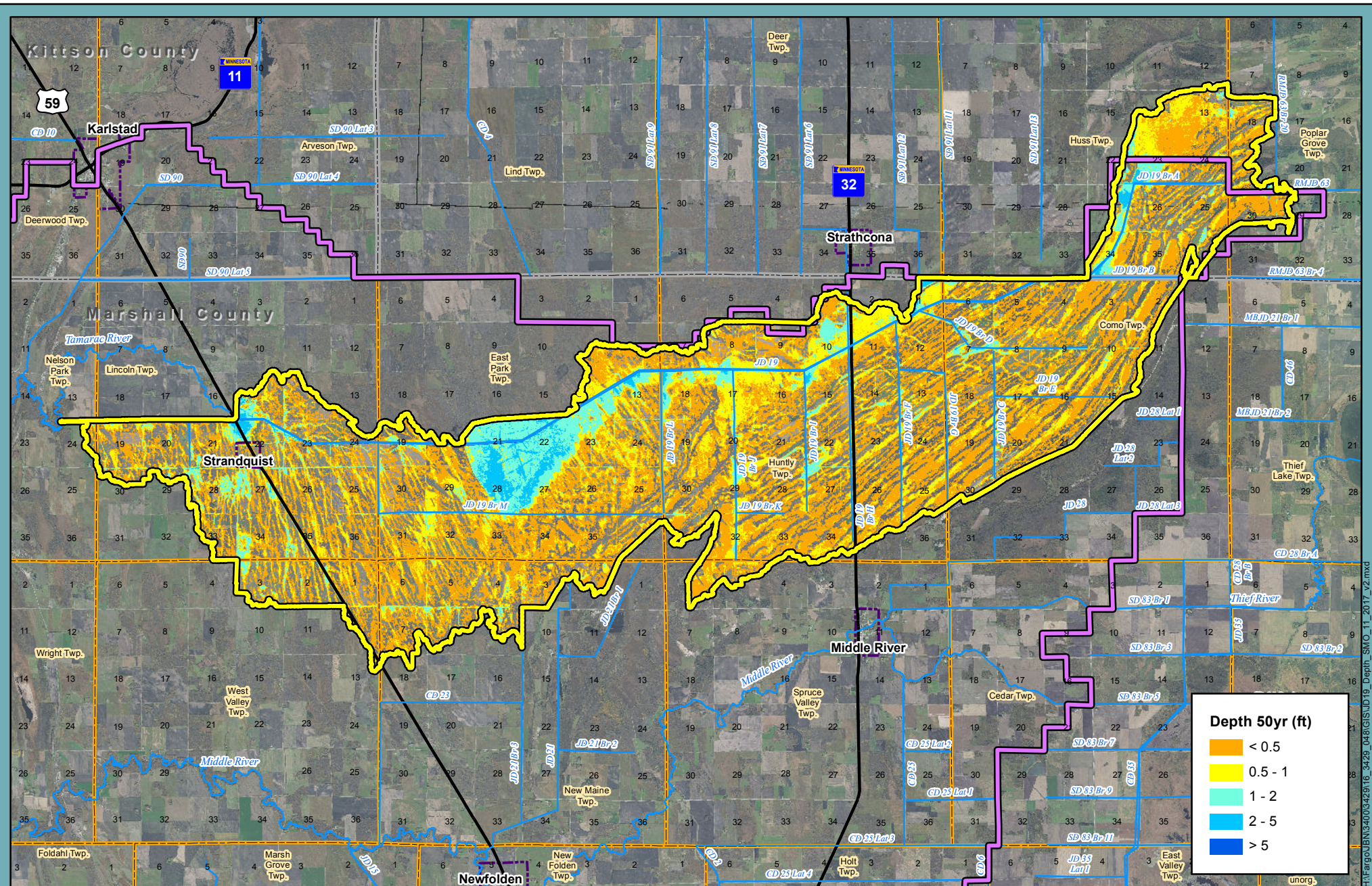
M-06

Map 06: Flood Depth, 4-day, 25yr Event

Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed
 Review Point No. 2
 Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District



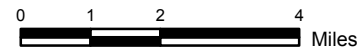
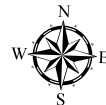
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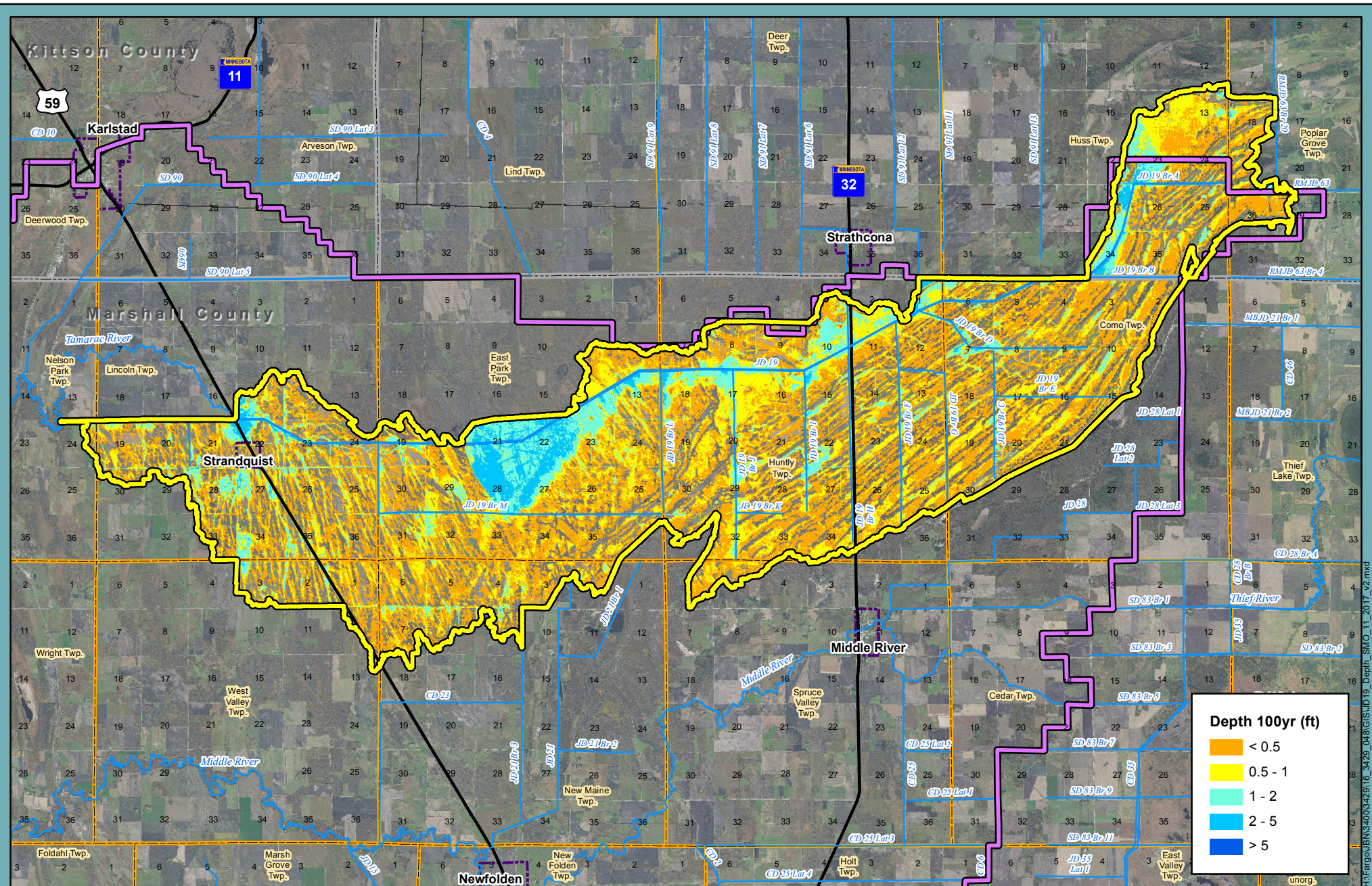
M-07

Map 07: Flood Depth, 4-day, 50yr Event

Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed
 Review Point No. 2
 Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District



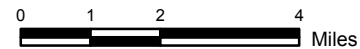
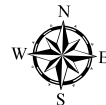
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M-08

Map 08: Flood Depth, 4-day, 100yr Event

Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed
 Review Point No. 2
 Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District



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Appendix C

Public Scoping Meeting Information

- Public Meeting Notice
- Mailing List for Meeting
- Agenda
- Questionnaire
- Presentation
- Minutes
- Sign-in Sheet
- Public Comments

Notice of Public Meeting
Monday, September 26, 2016 at 10:00am
Strandquist Community Center
202 Main Street Strandquist, MN 56758
Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed
Public & Agency Scoping
Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District (MSTRWD)

The MSTRWD will host a public meeting on Monday September 26, 2016 at 10:00am at the Strandquist Community Center (202 Main Street Strandquist, MN 56758). The MSTRWD is proceeding as the Local Sponsoring Organization for completion of a NRCS Watershed Planning effort in the Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed. The purpose of the meeting is to provide background of the Watershed Planning effort and opportunity for public and agency input about resource concerns as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This information will be used to determine the scope of Watershed Planning activities within the Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed. Input may be provided through oral comments at the meeting as well as through completion of a questionnaire. For those unable to attend the meeting, the questionnaire will be made available, along with presentation material from the meeting, at the MSTRWD web page following the public meeting. The MSTRWD website is listed below:

<http://www.mstrwd.com/>

Comment forms will be accepted for all forms postmarked on or before October 31, 2016. Completed comment forms can be mailed to the MSTRWD office at:

Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District
PO Box 154
Warren, MN 56762

Poplar Grove Township Clerk
William Schafer
30337 120th St
Strathcona, MN 56759

Huss Twp Clerk
Debra Wiskow
24624 160 St
Greenbush, MN 56726

Arveson Twp Chairman
Steve Anderson
PO Box 9
Karlstad, MN 56732

Deerwood Twp Chairman
Scott Fossell
4057 St Hwy 11
Karlstad, MN 56732

Como Twp Clerk
Patricia Hanson
40085 220th Ave NE
Middle River, MN 56737

Huntly Twp Clerk
Lyzette Olson
44620 130th Ave NE
Strathcona, MN 56759

East Park Twp Clerk
David Rux
15718 410th St NW
Strandquist, MN 56758

Lincoln Twp Clerk
Charles R. Edgar
40339 160th Ave NW
Strandquist, MN 56758

Nelson Park Clerk
Kenneth Stusynski
42392 270th Ave NW
Strandquist, MN 56758

Wright Twp Clerk
Charlene Kuznia
35737 270th Ave NW
Argyle, MN 56713

Augsburg Twp Clerk
Denise Grandstrand
PO Box 163
Stephen, MN 56757

Wanger Twp Clerk
Jeff Nelson
PO Box 495
Stephen, MN 56757

Sinnott Twp Clerk
Patricia Field
306 3rd St
Stephen, MN 56757

Tamarac Twp Clerk
Alen Szczepanski
35897 340 Ave NW
Argyle, MN 56713

Donnelly Twp Clerk
Alvin Nybladh
41950 400th St NW
Stephen, MN 56757

Eagle Point Twp Clerk
Luther Anderson
49505 County Line Rd NW
Stephen, MN 56757

Marshall County Auditor
Scott Peters
208 E Colvin Suite 11
Warren, MN 56762

MN Deer Hunters Assn
Roger Kazmierczak
223 1st St
Stephen, MN 56757

City of Stephen
Mayor Richard Lee
PO Box 630
Stephen, MN 56757

City of Strandquist
Mayor Loyal Lefrooth
308 1st Ave S
Strandquist, MN 56758

Middle River Sportsmen Club
David Thompson
PO Box 180
Middle River, MN 56737

Agassiz Rod & Gun Club
PO Box 251
Newfolden, MN 56738

Florian Park Mgr
Allan Kuck
106 Rainbow Drive
Strandquist MN 56758

Bradley Kilian
44427 170 Av NE
Strathcona, MN 56759

Ken Beito
19903 Cty Line Rd NE
Strathcona, MN 56759

Jack Beito
42835 Cty Rd #48 NE
Middle River, MN 56737

Gary Hodne
36300 150th Ave NW
Newfolden, MN 56738

Howard Hodne
39389 240th Ave NE
Middle River, MN 56737

Neil Widner
PO Box 47
Stephen, MN 56757

Hjalmer Hanson
40085 220th Ave NE
Middle River MN 56737

City of Middle River
Mayor Mark Stromsodt
PO Box 57
Middle River, MN 56737

Evert Langelett
701 Kendall Ave S
Thief River Falls, MN 56701

Marilyn Carlson
289 Stephen Ave
Stephen MN 56757

Earl Anderson
PO Box 593
Stephen MN 56757

Larry Opp
PO Box 195
Stephen MN 56757

Mark Syverson
PO box 197
Stephen MN 56757

Laurie Hougard
38954 US Hwy 75 NW
Stephen MN 56757

Doug Schindele
33866 400th St NW
Stephen MN 56757

Jim Schindele
PO Box 298
Stephen MN 56757

Tim Paulson
PO Box 354
Stephen MN 56757

Eugene Kuznia
37187 380th Ave NW
Stephen MN 56757

Evert Langelett
701 Kendall Ave S
Thief River Falls, MN

Kathy Wright
PO Box 364
Stephen, MN 56757

Leonard Bazey
838 5th Street
Stephen, MN 56757

Carol Larson
124 Hill Ave
Stephen MN 56757

Aase & Bruce Hamnes
PO Box 375
Stephen MN 56757

Ralph Swenseid
Box 271
Stephen, MN 56757

Ethel Thorlaciuss
630 Manila St Apt 2
Stephen, MN 56757

Stanley Gostanzik
29218 350 St NW
Argyle, MN 56713

Tim Hvidsten
36387 340 Ave NW
Stephen, MN 56757

Carl Green
43590 210 Ave NW
Strandquist, MN 56758

Julian Stusynski
26123 430 St NW
Strandquist, MN 56758

Glenn Setterholm
27474 370 St NW
Argyle, MN 56713

RED BELOW GETS EMAIL

MN Board Soil Water Resources
Brian Dwight
701 Minnesota Ave, Suite 234
Bemidji, MN 56601

Ruth Ann Frankie
DNR Area Wildlife Supervisor
PO Box 154
Karlstad, MN 56732

Rydell Nat. Refuge
Laurie Fairchild
17788 349 St SE
Erskine, MN 56535

Marshall Co FSA
Russell Miller
105 S Division St Suite 1
Warren, MN 56762

Jim Courneya
MPCA Watershed Project Mgr
714 Lake Ave., Suite 220
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

Josh Johnston
Water Planning Coordinator
208 E Colvin Ave Suite 3
Warren, MN 56762

Brian Ketring
Roseau Co Hwy Department
407 5th Ave NW
Roseau, MN 56751

MN Pollution Control Agency
Denise Oakes
714 Lake Ave, Suite 220
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

Darren Carlson
MC SWCD

John Williams
MN DNR

Marshall Co SWCD
Danny Thorstad
105 Division St S
Warren, MN 56762

Robert Sip
MDA Pest & Fert Mgmt Div
625 Robert St. N
St. Paul, MN 55155-2538

Tony Nordby
Houston Engineering
208 4th St E
Thief River Falls, MN 56701

Matt Waterworth
Marshall Co NRCS
105 Division St S
Warren, MN 56762

Craig Jarnot
Army Corps Engineers
4111 Technology Dr, Suite 295
Bemidji, MN 56601

Ben Kleinwachter
22160 420 St NW
Strandquist, MN 56758

Matt Fischer
4 West Office Building
403 4th St NW Room 200
Bemidji, MN 56601

USDA
Dan Weber
2038 State Hwy 1 NE
Thief River Falls, MN 56701

Ruth Anne Franke
MN DNR

Henry VanOffelen
Red River Basin Coordinator
50785 Bucks Mill Rd
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

Kenneth Borowicz
PO Box 344
Stephen, MN 56757

Phil Talmage
Area Fisheries Supervisor
204 Main Street East
Baudette, MN 56623

Marshall Co Engineer
Lon Aune
447 S Main
Warren, MN 56762

MN DNR
Graham Parson
202 Main St N
Karlstad, MN 56732

Craig Mowry
Agassiz Wildlife Refuge
22996 290 St NE
Middle River, MN 56737

MN DNR
Stephanie Klamm
246 125th Ave NE
Thief River Falls, MN 56701

Roseau Co SWCD
Scott Johnson
502 7th St NW, Suite 8
Roseau, MN 56751

Christine Reisz
MN DNR

453 N McKinley St
Warren, MN 56762
Phone 218-745-4741
Fax 218-745-5300
brent.silvis@mstrwd.org
www.mstrwd.com

**Judicial Ditch #19 – Watershed Plan
NRCS – Regional Conservation Partnership Program
Public Scoping Meeting 10 a.m. – September 26, 2016**

Strandquist Community Center
202 Main Street | Strandquist, MN 56758

Meeting Objective:

- Review Tamarac Project Work Team Progress
- Overview – PL566 Planning Process
- Solicit Comments on the Resource Concerns
- Inform Public of Future Steps

Agenda:

- Review Tamarac Project Work Team Progress
- Introduce Study Area
- Public Law 566 Planning Process Overview
- Watershed Setting and Resource Concerns
- Overview of Next Steps
- Questions/Public Comment Period
- Adjourn

Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District
Public Scoping Meeting Comment Form
Judicial Ditch #19
NRCS Watershed Plan
September 26, 2016

Background

The Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District (MSTRWD) secured funding through the Red River Retention Authority for Watershed Planning under the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The RCPP funding was made available for watershed planning in the Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed and it is required to follow Public Law 83-566 requirements.

The Watershed Planning must also comply with the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) requirements. Tasks required for the NRCS Watershed Plan are described in the *Feasibility Study and Plan of Work* document, and generally include: Identifying a Purpose and Need, developing an Environmental Assessment, Identifying the Affected Environment (resource problems), Developing Alternatives, Identifying Environmental Consequences of the alternatives, determining a Preferred Alternative, and creating an overall Watershed Plan. Public participation will be a vital component throughout the entire planning process, beginning with this public meeting.

Purpose of Today's Meeting

The initial step in NRCS Watershed Planning, as directed by NEPA, is to allow for input from all interested parties including federal, state, and local agencies and other interested groups or persons. Initial input will be focused on resource concerns in and adjacent to the Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed. In order to gather input on resource concerns, we would request that the attached comment form be completed and provided to the MSTRWD.

Identified Resource Concerns:

- **Flooding/Flood Damages** (i.e. agricultural effects from delayed planting, prevented planting, crop flood inundation, road damages, culvert/bridge damages, breakout flows, field erosion/deposition, floodplain management, etc.)
- **Water Quality/Erosion and Sedimentation** (water quality, water resources, soil resources, field erosion/deposition, channel erosion/deposition, etc.)
- **Wildlife and Habitat** (Fish and wildlife, wetlands, endangered and threatened species, invasive species, migratory birds, forest resources, etc.)
- **Other**

Please fill out the following information based on your priorities for the Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed.

Comment forms will be accepted for all forms postmarked on or before October 31, 2016.

Completed comment forms can be mailed to the MSTRWD office at:

**Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District
PO Box 154
Warren, MN 56762**

Or via email to brent.silvis@mstrwd.org

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Would you like to receive project updates and be added to the contact list? YES NO

Affiliation: _____

(agency, resident, commissioner, mayor, etc...)

Circle the most appropriate ranking for each concern listed below. Refer to the KEY for definitions of each ranking. Concerns where the degree of concern is not indicated will be considered a zero value (No Concern or Not Relevant).

KEY: 0 = No Concern or Not Relevant 1 = Minimal Concern 2 = Minor Concern
3 = Moderate Concern 4 = Significant Concern 5 = Severe Concern

Concerns for Project Scoping:

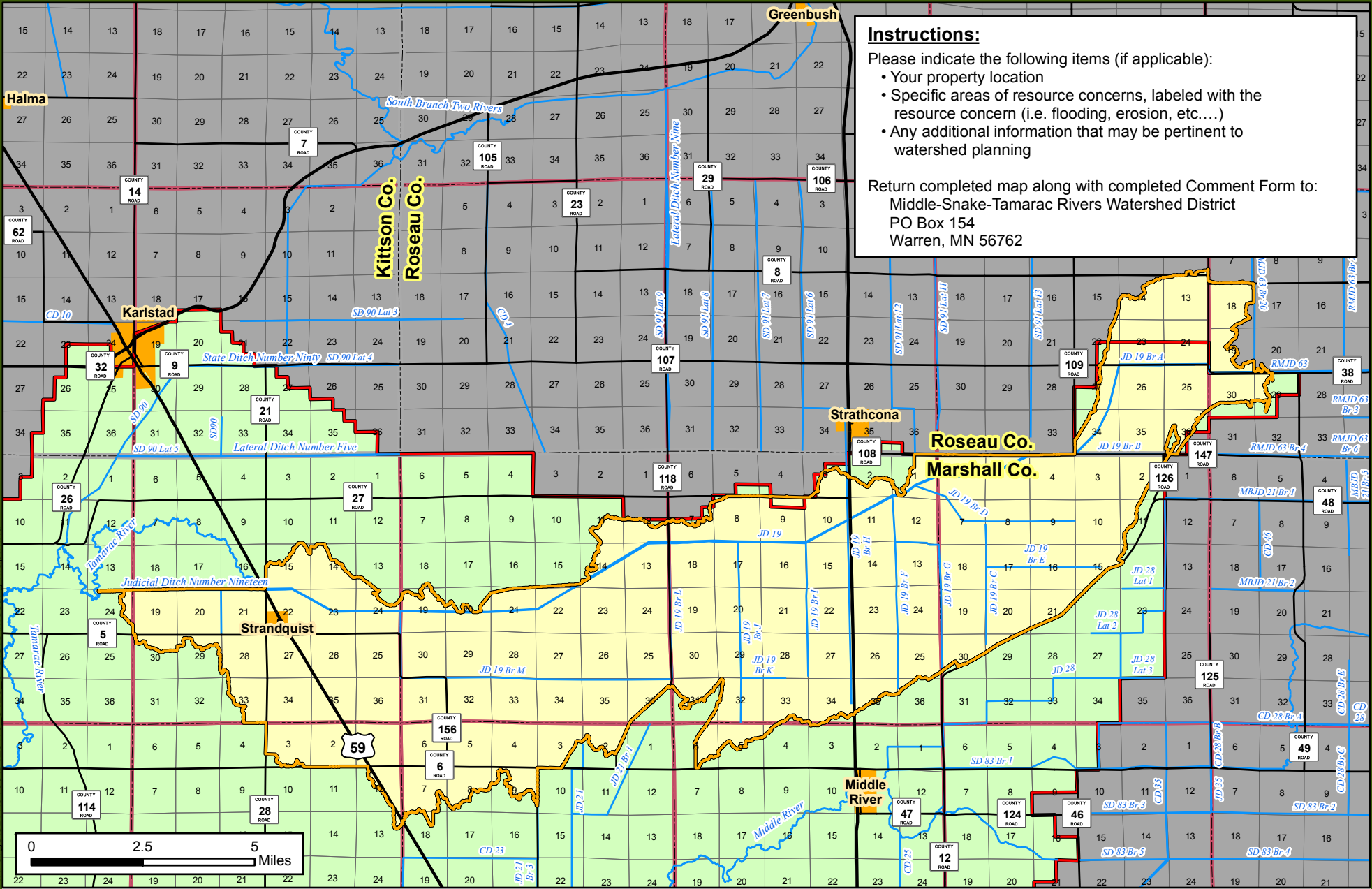
No Concern

Severe Concern

- | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| • Flooding/Flood Damages..... | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Water Quality/Erosion and Sedimentation..... | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Wildlife and Habitat..... | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Others (Please describe in comment section)..... | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Additional Comments: _____

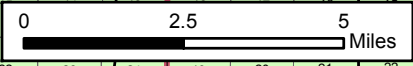
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Instructions:

- Please indicate the following items (if applicable):
- Your property location
- Specific areas of resource concerns, labeled with the resource concern (i.e. flooding, erosion, etc....)
- Any additional information that may be pertinent to watershed planning

Return completed map along with completed Comment Form to:
 Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District
 PO Box 154
 Warren, MN 56762



Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District
 Judicial Ditch #19
 Watershed Planning
 Public Comment Form

-  JD #19 Watershed
-  MSTRWD Boundary
-  Rivers and Streams
-  County Boundary
-  Township Boundary
-  City Limits



Prepared By:
 **Houston Engineering Inc.**

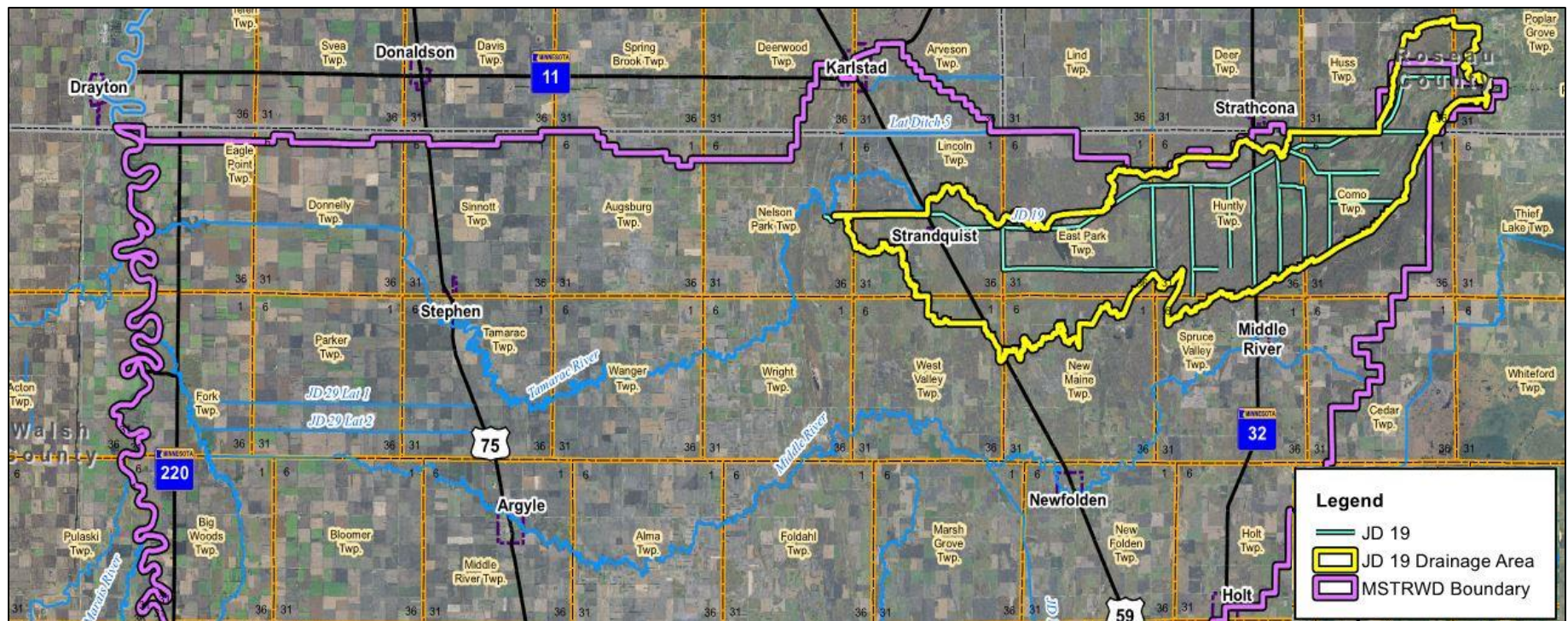
Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District

Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

Public Scoping Meeting

September 26, 2016



Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Public Scoping Meeting OBJECTIVES

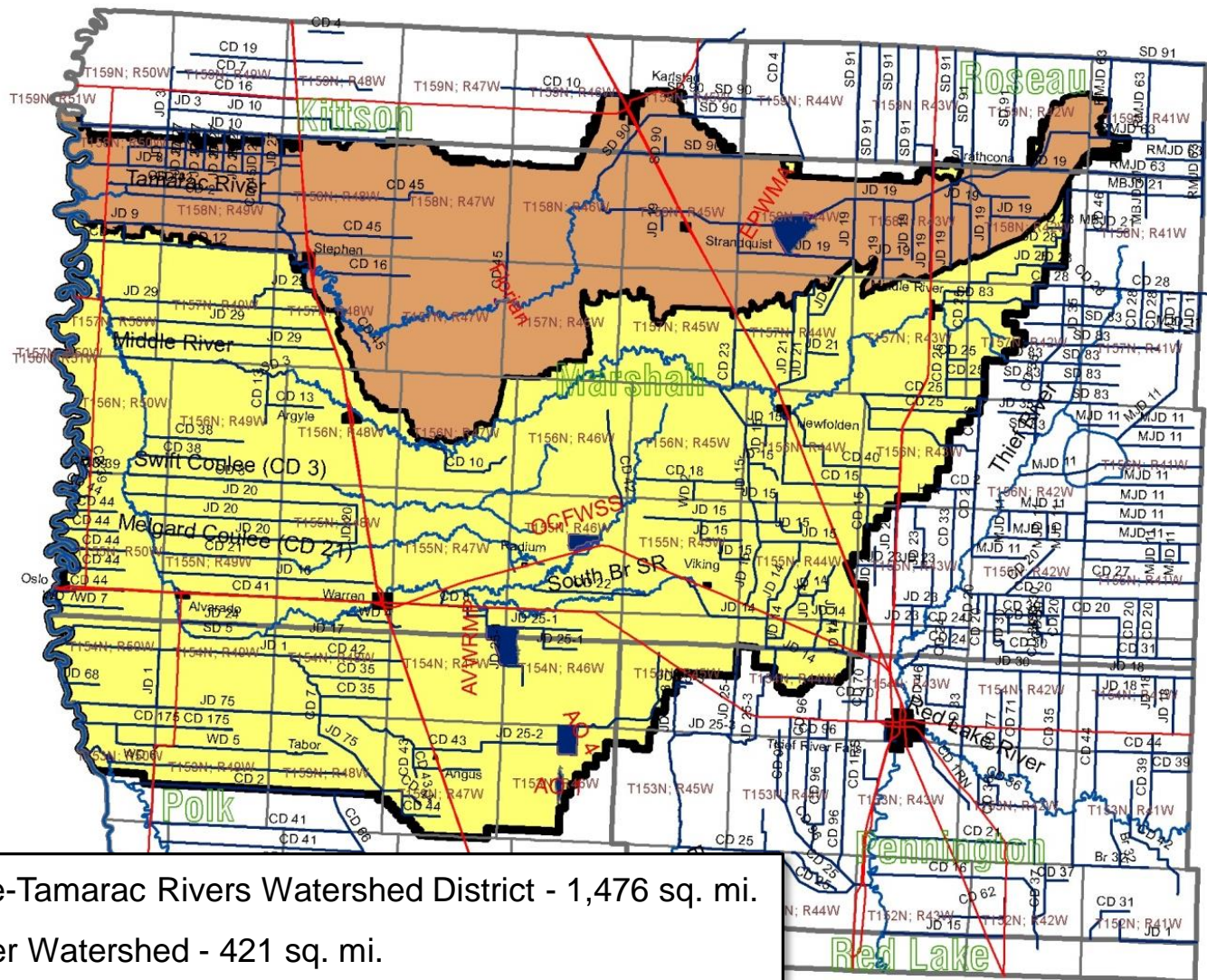
1. Review Tamarac Project Work Team Progress
2. Overview - PL566 Planning process
3. Solicit Comments on the Resource Concerns
4. Inform Public of Future Steps

Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Public Scoping Meeting AGENDA

1. Review Tamarac Project Work Team Progress
2. Introduce Study Area
3. Public Law 566 Planning Process Overview
4. Watershed Setting and Resource Concerns
5. Overview of Next Steps
6. Questions/Public Comment Period

Review Tamarac Project Work Team Progress

Tamarac River Watershed Area



Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District - 1,476 sq. mi.

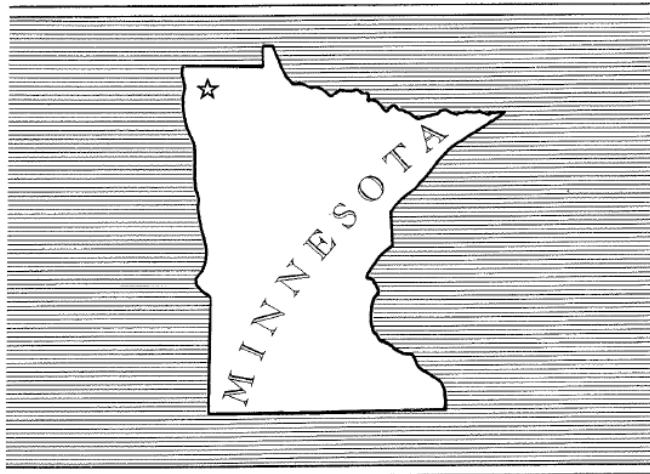
Tamarac River Watershed - 421 sq. mi.

1965 PL-566 Work Plan

WORK PLAN
FOR WATERSHED PROTECTION AND FLOOD PREVENTION

TAMARAC RIVER WATERSHED

Marshall, Kittson, Roseau Counties, Minnesota



WATERSHED WORK PLAN

TAMARAC RIVER WATERSHED

Marshall, Kittson and Roseau Counties, Minnesota

Prepared Under the Authority of the
Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act
(Public Law 566, 83rd Congress, 68 Stat. 666)
As Amended

Prepared By

Marshall County Soil Conservation District

Village of Stephen, Minnesota

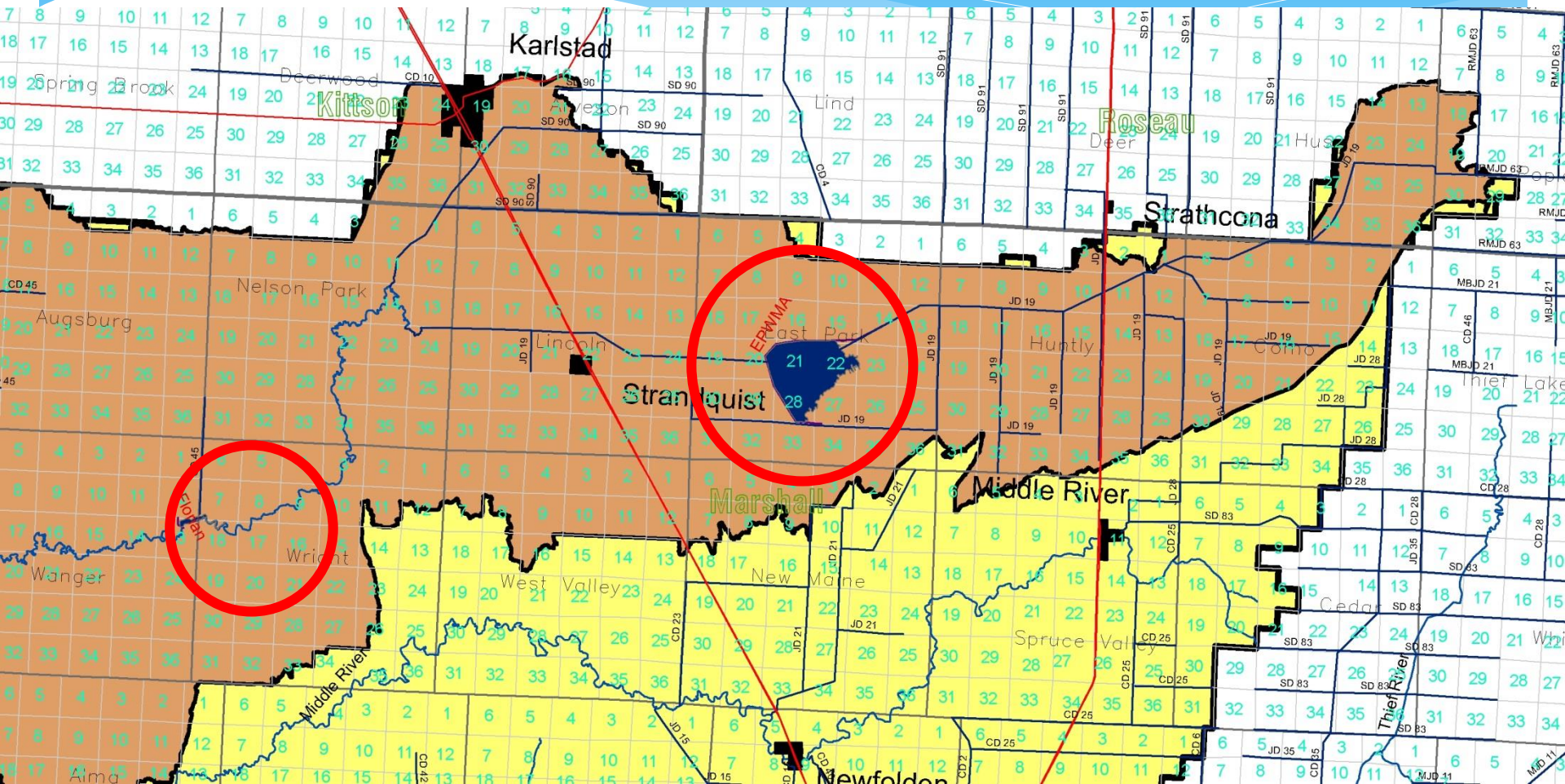
Assisted By

U. S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
U. S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
Minnesota Department of Conservation

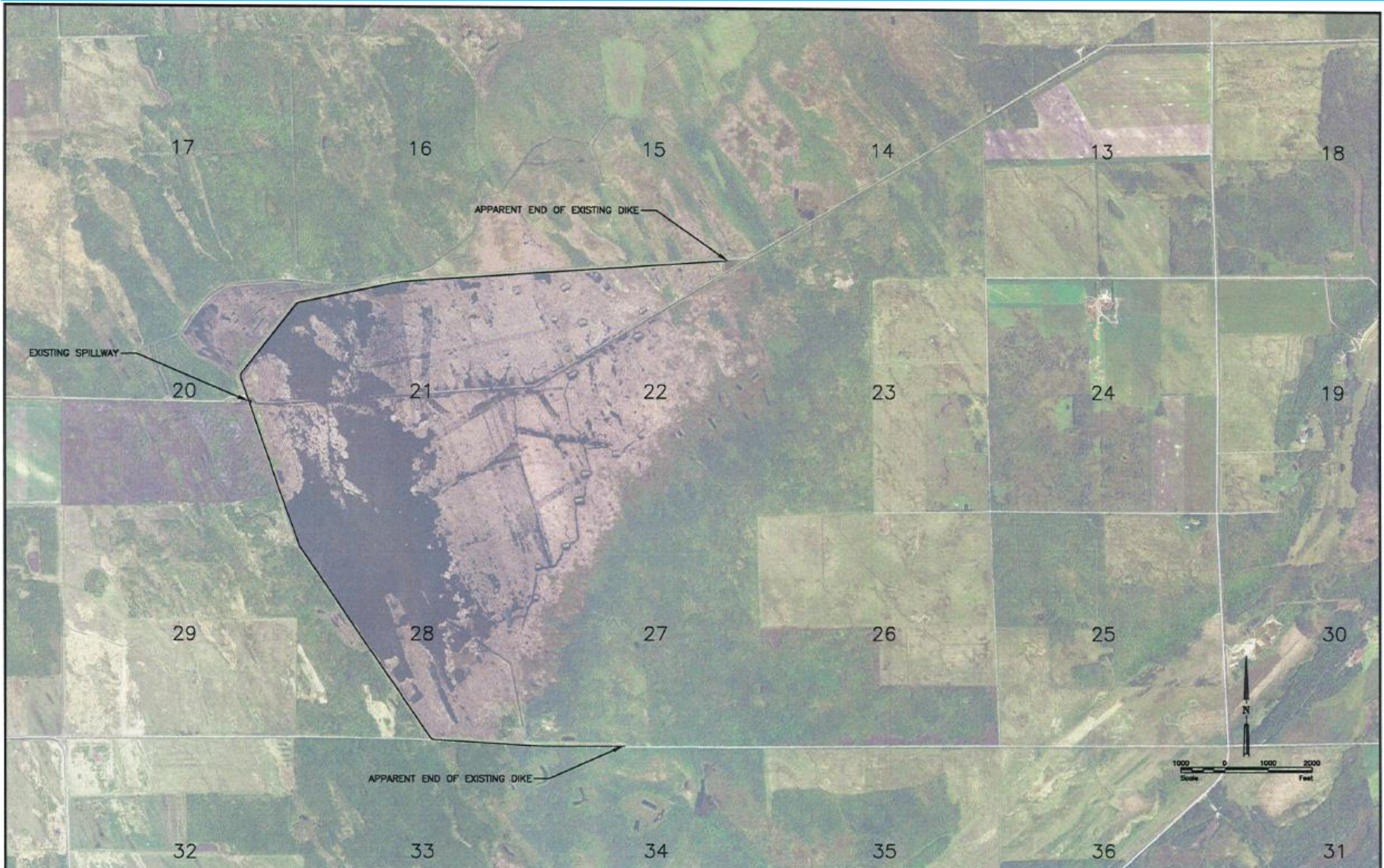
April 1965



Tamarac PL566 Impoundments Florian & East Park



Existing Plan View East Park WMA



No.	Revision	Date	By



Thief River Falls	Drawn by TAN	Date 2-11-14
P: [218.681.2951] F: [218.681.2987]	Checked by RIJH	Scale AS SHOWN

EAST PARK LEVEE
MIDDLE-SNAKE-TAMARAC RIVER WATERSHED DIST.
WARREN, MINNESOTA

EXISTING PLAN VIEW
EAST PARK SITE
PROJECT NO. 3429-014

SHEET
1 of 2

Florian & East Park Selected Info (1965 Workplan)

	Florian		East Park	
Drainage Area (sq mi)	197.31		70.06	
Storage Capacity (ac-ft)	(ac-ft)	inches	(ac-ft)	inches
Sediment	125	0.012	71	0.019
Recreation	172	0.016	0	0.000
Wildlife	0	0.000	3329	0.891
Flood Water	800	0.076	4520	1.210
Total	1097	0.104	7920	2.121
Between High & Low Stages	379	0.036	2290	0.613
Surface Area (acres)	(acres)		(acres)	
Sediment	26		150	
Recreation	50		0	
Wildlife	0		1720	
10 yr Freq Pool	76		2000	
Design Freq Pool	104		2310	
Volume of Fill (embankment) (cy)	35097		229584	
Elevation Top of Dam (ft 1929 MSL)	929.1		1104.9	
Max Height (ft)	31.6		14.9	

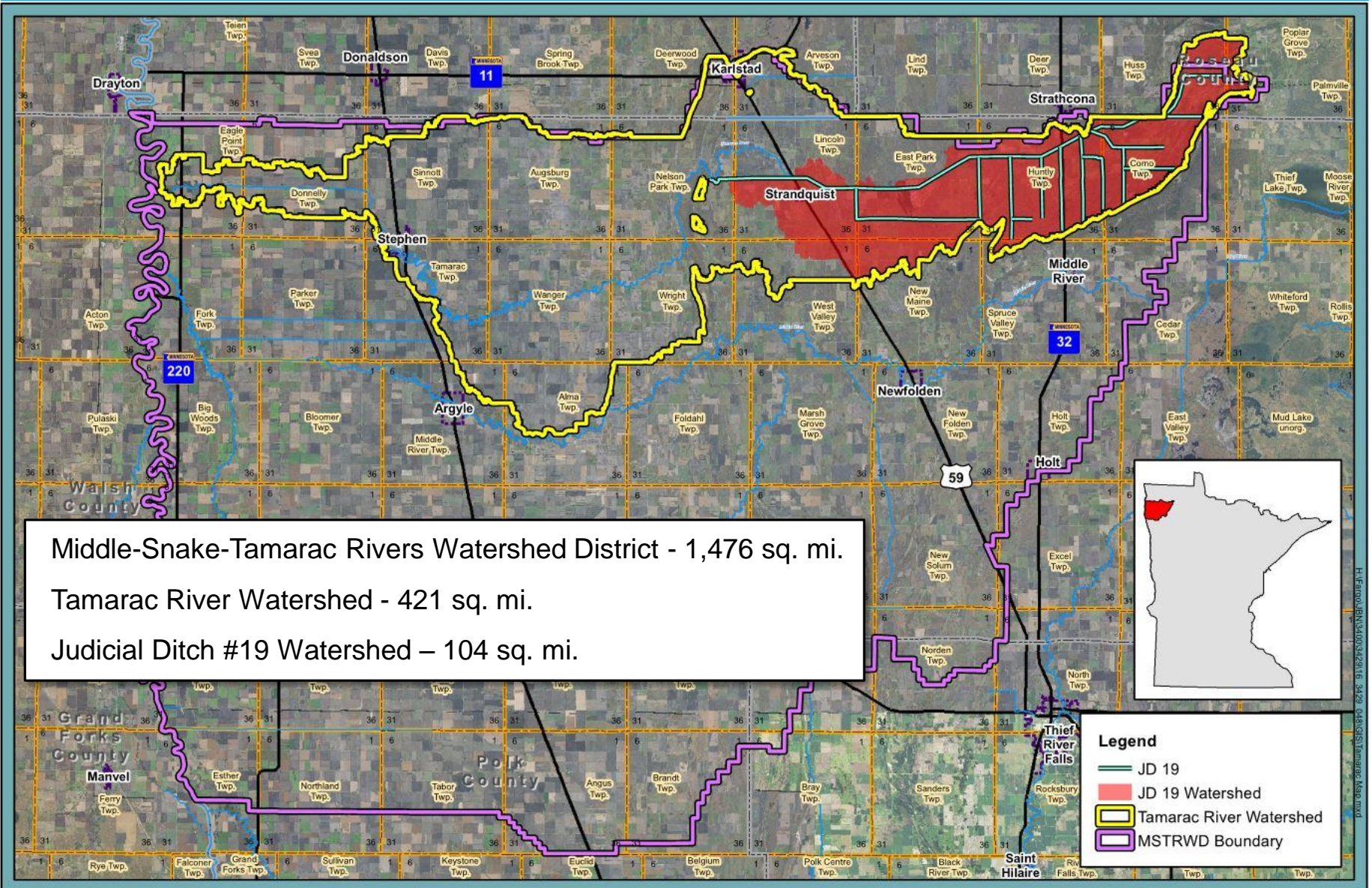
Tamarac River PWT Review

- PWT Focused Mainly on East Park WMA (Nelson Slough)
 - Expansion/Modification/Repair
 - Alternatives Discussed & Analyzed
- City of Stephen – 100 Year Flood Plain
- Stream Erosion – Tamarac River Watershed Area
- No Purpose and Need Identified

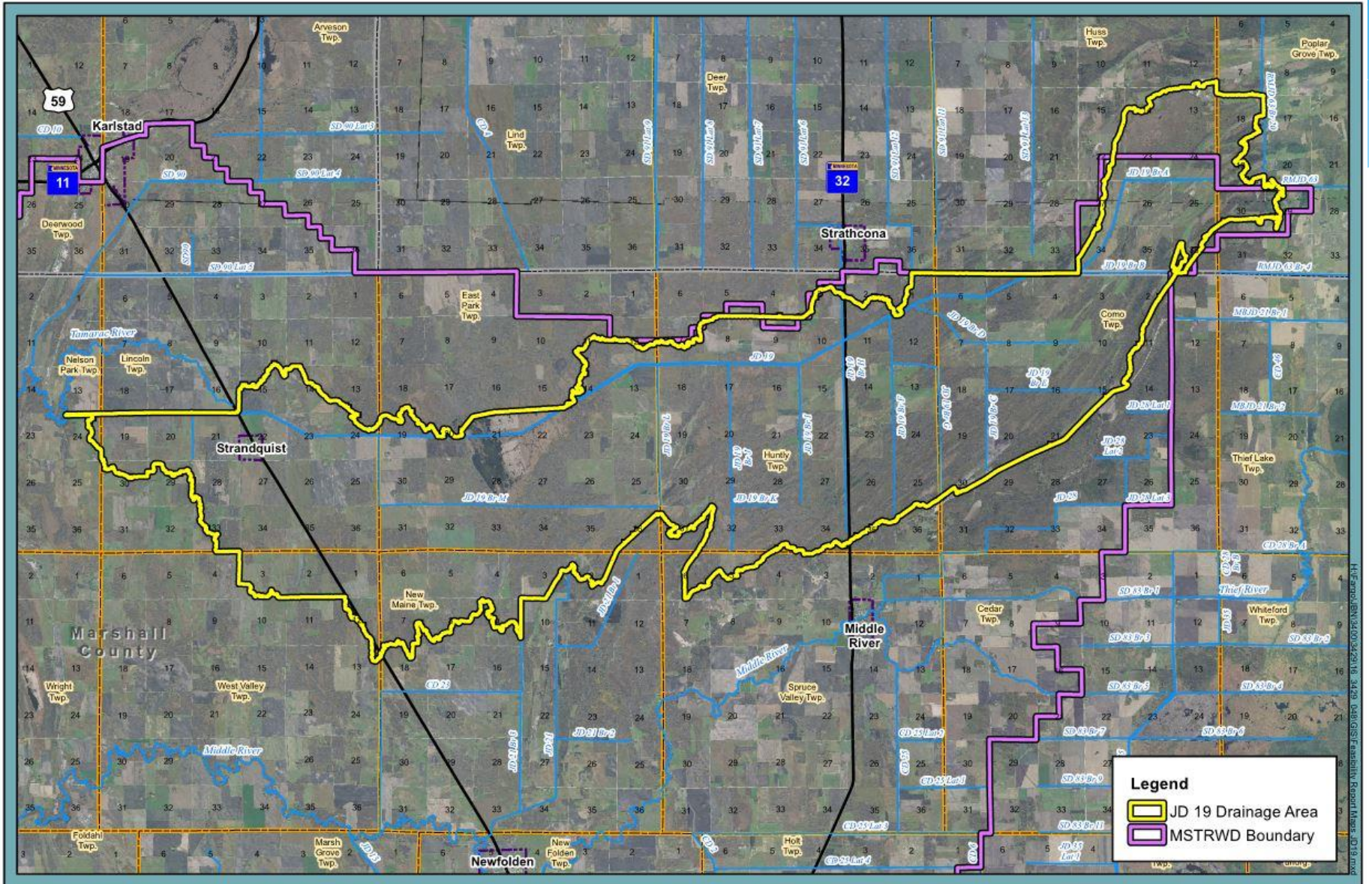
Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

- 2014 Farm Bill
- Red River Retention Authority awarded \$12M
- RRRRA approved 20 Watershed Planning Efforts
 - 12 Minnesota, 8 North Dakota
- MSTRWD entered into Cooperative Agreements with NRCS
 - Judicial Ditch #19 and Judicial Ditch #14

Study Area



Study Area



RCCP Planning Process

INITIATE PLANNING

- * Discuss purpose and need for project with sponsors/Initiate study.

Step 1 - IDENTIFY PROBLEMS, OPPORTUNITIES & CONCERNS

- * Identify the need for the proposed action (quantify, extent, magnitude, timing, frequency etc.)

Step 2 - DETERMINE OBJECTIVES

- * Write purpose and need statement and Write scope of plan-EA/EIS

Step 3 - INVENTORY RESOURCES

- * Conduct detailed resource inventories and watershed assessment
- * Economics, social effects, Archeological and historic resources
- * Engineering/Geology/Support maps
- * Document problems

Step 4 - ANALYZE RESOURCE DATA

- * Geology, Hydrology & Hydraulics, Cultural, Economics and Social

Step 5 - FORMULATE ALTERNATIVES

- * Develop reasonable alternatives, mitigation strategies and costs (Preliminary plans)

Step 6 - EVALUATE ALTERNATIVES

- * Env. Resources, Geotechnical, Hydrology & Hydraulics, Economics, Significance of effects,...

Step 7 - MAKE DECISIONS (EA/EIS, Public Involvement,...)

RCPP Planning Process - NEPA

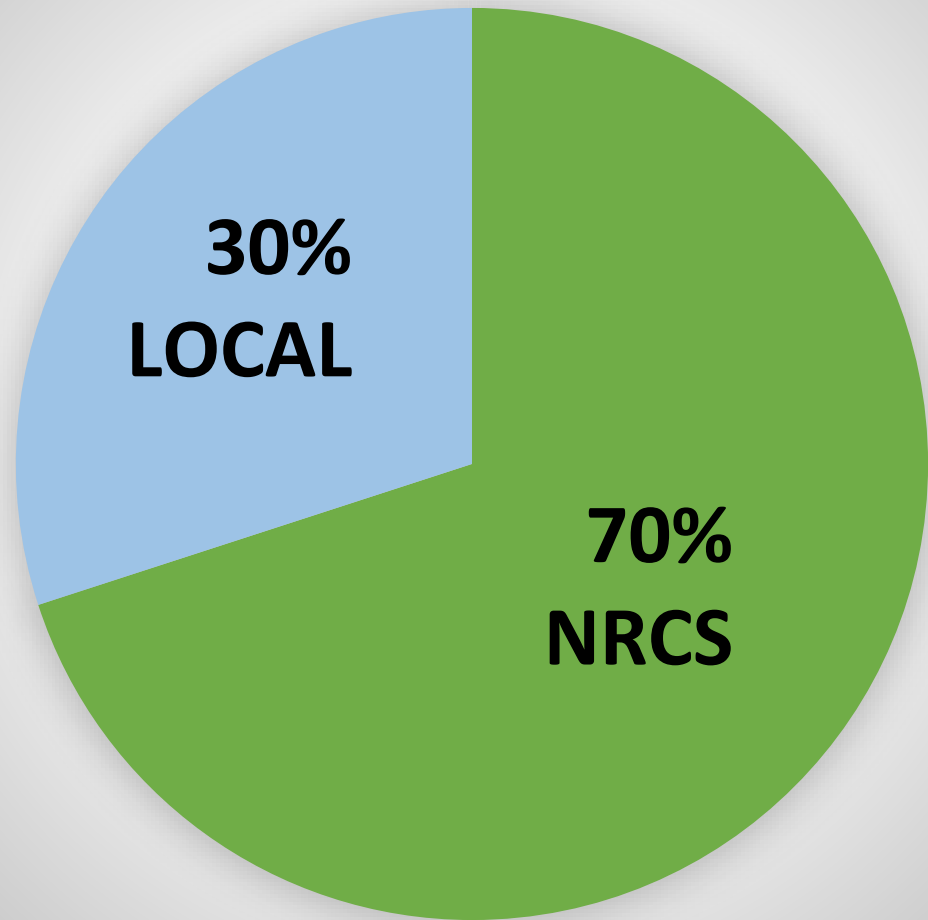
RCPP planning process will follow National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) guidelines

- * 40 CFR 1506.6 – Public Involvement
- * Primary Goal
 - * Ensure all interested and affected parties are aware of the proposed action

(a) “make diligent efforts to involve the public in preparing and implementing their NEPA procedures.”

Why RCPP?

COST SHARE BREAKDOWN



Watershed Setting and Known Resource Concerns

Problems – Flooding/Flood Damages



Como Twp. Agriculture Field Flooding



Natural Resource and Water Quality Concerns

- * Channel instability
- * Lack of riparian buffers
- * Degradation and loss of existing grassland and wetland habitats (ex. CRP conversion)
- * Soil erosion (wind and water) from upland sources
- * Degraded soil health

Problems

- * East Park WMA (Nelson Slough)
 - * Capacity/Operation/Outlet
 - * Sandbagging Overflows in 1997
- * JD #19 Channel Instability
 - * Water Quality/Erosion/Sediment

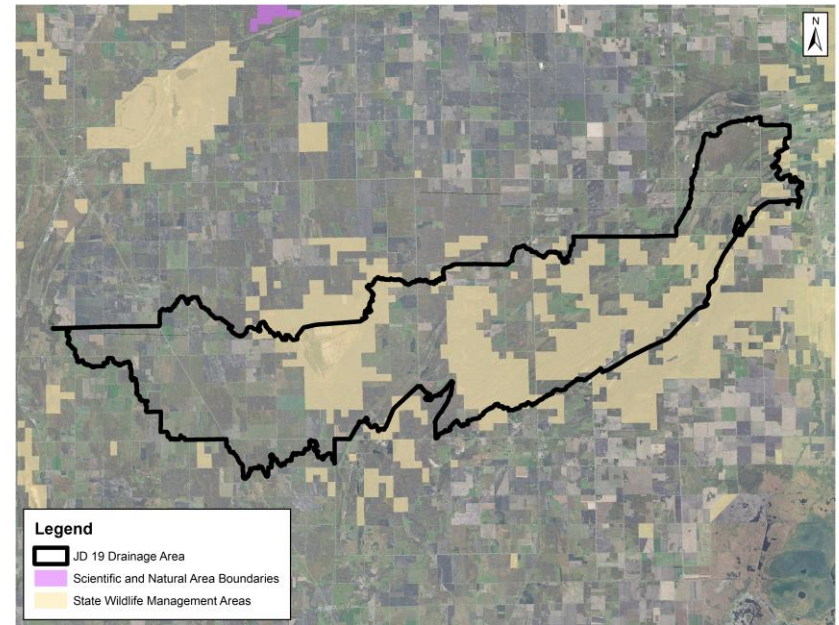


Natural Resource Goals

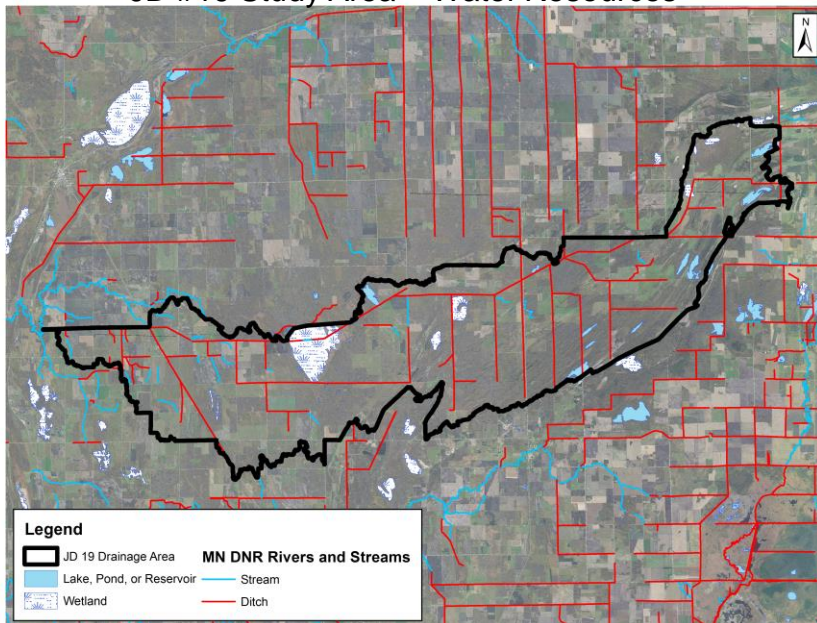
Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed 10-yr Plan (2011)

- * Restore and protect unique ecological values and recreational opportunities within the district
- * Maintain/improve water quality of rivers, streams, lakes, and groundwater resources.
- * Protect wetlands and channels from sedimentation, and maintain the soil productivity of ag lands with the district
- * Promote district goals to residents within the district as well as local, state, and federal agencies.

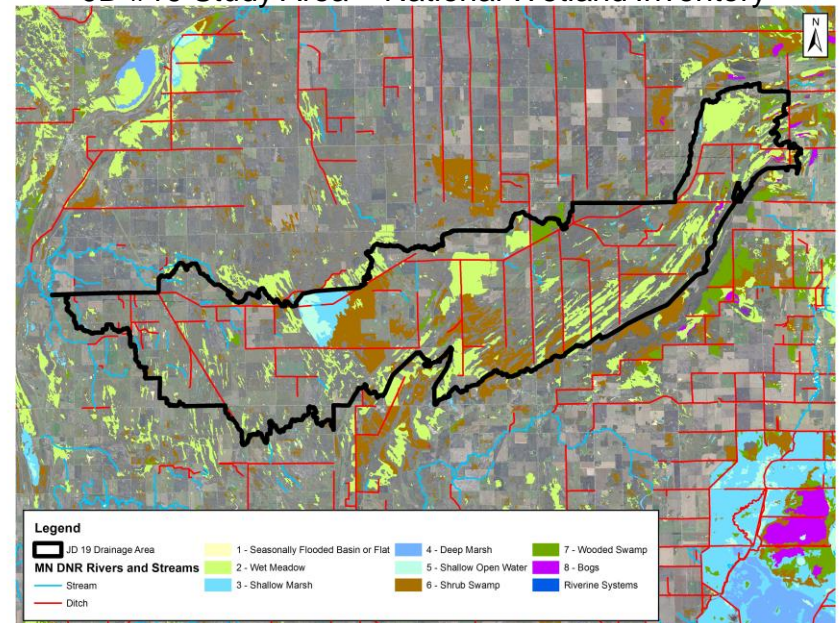
JD #19 Study Area – Public Land Resources



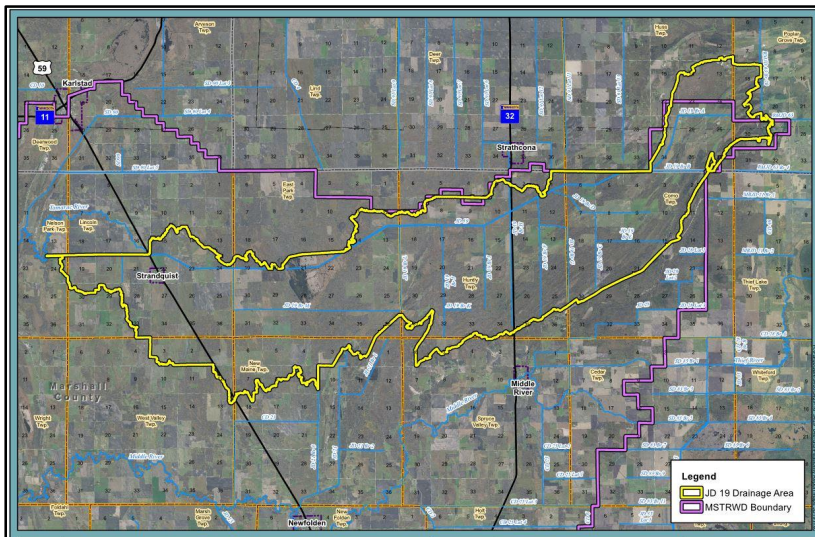
JD #19 Study Area – Water Resources



JD #19 Study Area – National Wetland Inventory



Overview of Next Steps



RCPP Planning Process

INITIATE PLANNING

- * Discuss purpose and need for project with sponsors/Initiate study.

Step 1 - IDENTIFY PROBLEMS, OPPORTUNITIES & CONCERNS

- * Identify the need for the proposed action (quantify, extent, magnitude, timing, frequency etc.)

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- * Env. Resources, Geotechnical, Hydrology & Hydraulics, Economics, Significance of effects,...

Step 7 - MAKE DECISIONS (EA/EIS, Public Involvement,...)

Watershed Planning Timeline

1-3 Months

- * Plan of Work
- * Develop Team
- * Feasibility Report
- * Define Concerns
- * **Public Meeting**
- * Field Survey
- * Begin H&H

3-6 Months

- * Purpose & Need
- * Scope EA
- * Field Survey
- * Ex. H&H Modeling
- * Field Inventory
- * Begin Economics

6-12 Months

- * Finalize Ex. H&H
- * Without Project Conditions
- * Economics:
- * Preliminary Alternative Screening
- * Preliminary Cultural Review

12+ Months

- * Alternative Screening
- * Geotech
- * Impacted Lands
- * Alternatives for Detailed Study
- * H&H Alternatives
- * Detailed Survey, Geotech, Design

Questions/Comments/ Form Completion

Public Input

Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District
Public Scoping Meeting Comment Form
 Judicial Ditch #19
 NRCS Watershed Plan
 September 26, 2016

Background

The Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District (MSTRWD) secured funding through the Red River Retention Authority for Watershed Planning under the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The RCPP funding was made available for watershed planning in the Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed and it is required to follow Public Law 83-566 requirements.

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Identified Resource Concerns:

- **Flooding/Flood Damages** (i.e. agricultural effects from delayed planting, prevented planting, crop flood inundation, road damages, culvert/bridge damages, breakout flows, field erosion/deposition, floodplain management, etc.)
- **Water Quality/Erosion and Sedimentation** (water quality, water resources, soil resources, field erosion/deposition, channel erosion/deposition, etc.)
- **Wildlife and Habitat** (Fish and wildlife, wetlands, endangered and threatened species, invasive species, migratory birds, forest resources, etc.)
- **Other**

Please fill out the following information based on your priorities for the Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed.

Comment forms will be accepted for all forms postmarked on or before **October 31, 2016**.

Completed comment forms can be mailed to the MSTRWD office at:

Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District
 PO Box 154
 Warren, MN 56762

Or via email to brent.silvis@mstrwd.org

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Would you like to receive project updates and be added to the contact list? YES NO

Affiliation: _____

(agency, resident, commissioner, mayor, etc...)

Circle the most appropriate ranking for each concern listed below. Refer to the KEY for definitions of each ranking. Concerns where the degree of concern is not indicated will be considered a zero value (No Concern or Not Relevant).

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<u>Concerns for Project Scoping:</u>	No Concern					Severe Concern					
• Flooding/Flood Damages.....	0	1	2	3	4	5					
• Water Quality/Erosion and Sedimentation.....	0	1	2	3	4	5					
• Wildlife and Habitat.....	0	1	2	3	4	5					
• Others (Please describe in comment section).....	0	1	2	3	4	5					

Additional Comments: _____

Public Input

Identified Resource Concerns:

- **Flooding/Flood Damages** (i.e. agricultural effects from delayed planting, prevented planting, crop flood inundation, road damages, culvert/bridge damages, breakout flows, field erosion/deposition, floodplain management, etc.)
- **Water Quality/Erosion and Sedimentation** (water quality, water resources, soil resources, field erosion/deposition, channel erosion/deposition, etc.)
- **Wildlife and Habitat** (Fish and wildlife, wetlands, endangered and threatened species, invasive species, migratory birds, forest resources, etc.)
- **Other**

state, and local agencies and other interested groups or persons. Input will be focused on resource concerns in and adjacent to the Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed. In order to gather input on resource concerns, we would request that the attached comment form

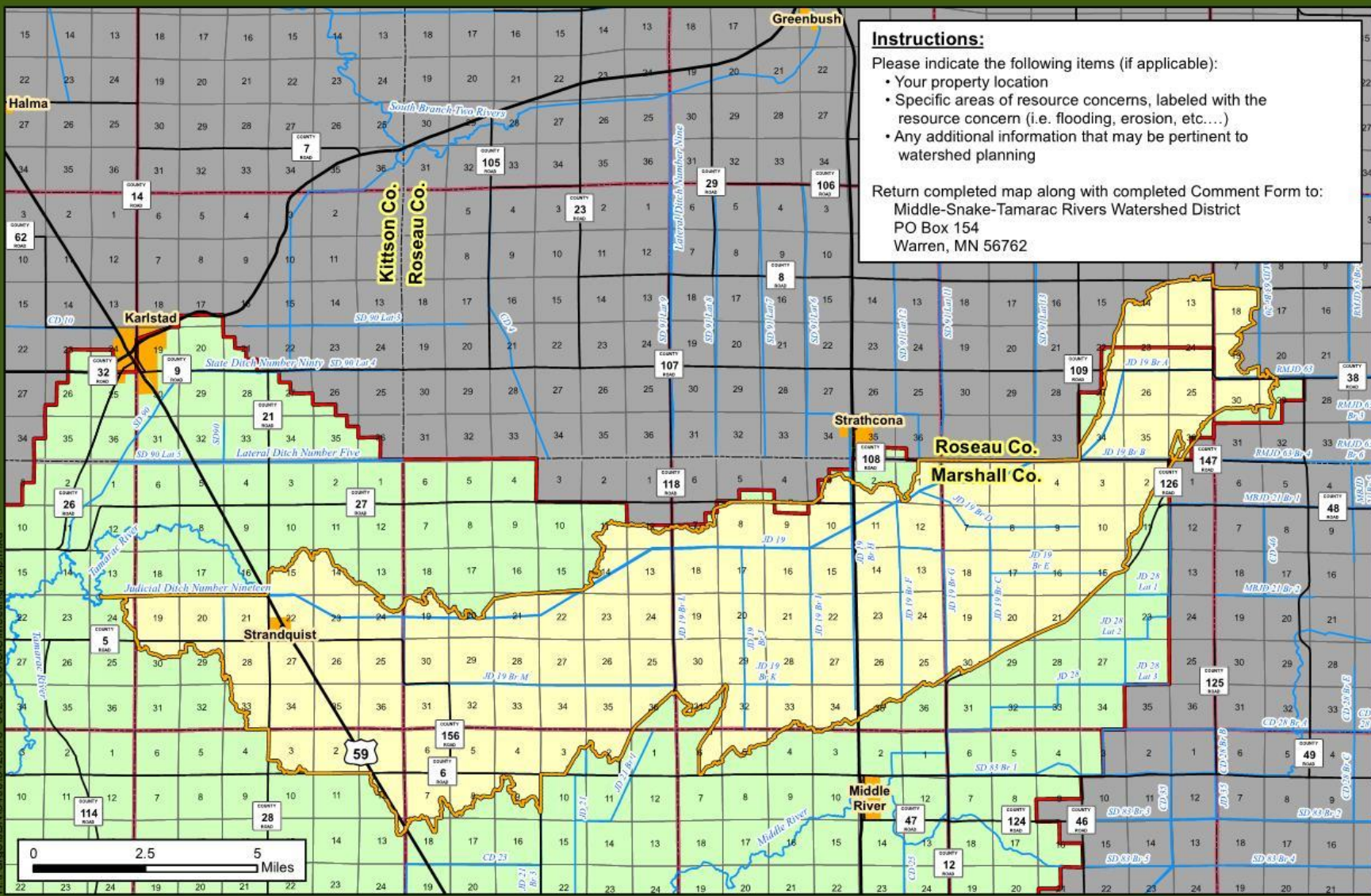
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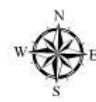
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 - Specific areas of resource concerns, labeled with the resource concern (i.e. flooding, erosion, etc....)
 - Any additional information that may be pertinent to watershed planning

Return completed map along with completed Comment Form to:
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 PO Box 154
 Warren, MN 56762

H:\Farrol\IBN\3400\3429\16_3429_048\GIS\MapInfo_Map.mxd

Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District
 Judicial Ditch #19
 Watershed Planning
 Public Comment Form

- JD #19 Watershed
- MSTRWD Boundary
- Rivers and Streams
- County Boundary
- Township Boundary
- City Limits



Prepared By:
Houston Engineering Inc.

Questions

A public scoping meeting was held by the Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District for the Judicial Ditch #19 (JD19) Watershed Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) planning process on September 26, 2016 at 10am at the Strandquist, MN Community Center. The meeting was held to inform the public within the watershed area of the study tasks and schedule, and allow for public input to be gathered about problems and concerns within the watershed.

Below is a list of attendees, taken from the sign-in sheet. Please submit any corrections to brent.silvis@mstrwd.org

Elroy Aune, landowner
Jerry Strandberg, resident
Arllys Strandberg, resident
Gula Stromgren, resident
Peter Kostrzloski, landowner
Danielle Kvasager, MPCA
Denise Oakes, MPCA
Kenneth Borowicz, Marshall County Commissioner
Neil Widner, landowner
Craig Mowry, USFWS
Lon Aune, Marshall County
Gary Kiesow, Marshall County
Bill Petersen, landowner
Dan Bert, resident
Lloyd Fagerston, resident
Bob Fagerston, resident
Ben Kleinwachter, MSTRWD
Jerry Grochowski, landowner
Keith Weston, NRCS
Theresa Olson, DNR
Ruth Anne Franke, DNR
Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering
Brent Silvis, MSTRWD

Brent gave an overview of the agenda and attendees introduced themselves. Agendas and comment forms were distributed.

Tony began a PowerPoint presentation. He gave some brief history of the past Tamarac River Project Team (PT) which had been formed to consider problems within the entire Tamarac River Watershed. In the 2014 farm bill, RCPP funding became available for watershed planning efforts and the MSTRWD shifted their focus to the JD19 watershed area, the upstream sub-watershed of the Tamarac River. He also mentioned that landowners who were involved in the previous PWT and have an interest in the JD19 system should become involved in this new watershed planning effort.

Tony did an overview of the study area and the Tamarac River watershed, showing the delineated watershed along with two existing impoundment sites within the Tamarac River watershed area, East Park (Nelson Slough) and Florian Park. These sites have been developed and management primarily for wildlife habitat and recreation.

Tony gave an overview of the RCPP program and reviewed the seven steps of the RCPP planning process. The process follows National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) guidelines. This watershed planning effort will be paid for at a 70% federal to 30% local cost share for this watershed planning effort available by following the PL-566 process through the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). An upcoming step is the development of a Purpose and Need Statement.

Tony then reviewed some of the known problems the MSTRWD has been made aware of in the watershed area. The primary concern is flooding, but there are also natural resource and water quality concerns. There are concerns with the East Park (Nelson Slough) site and many portions of the JD19 system.

A timeline for the RCPP planning process was provided by Tony. Surveying, H&H modeling, and the development of the Purpose and Need Statement are the next important steps that must be completed to move the watershed planning process forward.

A comment and question and answer session was then held. Some of the input from attendees included:

- Theresa stated that, in addition to NEPA, the Minnesota Environmental Policy Act needs to be considered. Applicable regulations will depend on the size of the project.
- There are concerns that, if an impoundment is proposed, there will be loss of wetlands, no actual impact on downstream flooding, no true wildlife enhancements and protected species will be harmed. The comment was made that no study has been produced which has shown that these impoundments provide wildlife enhancements.
- Keith mentioned that, once constructed, the impoundments are monitored for environmental impacts.
- An attendee made the comment that downstream landowners do appreciate impoundments.
- Management of impoundment drainage needs to be addressed.
- MSTRWD should solicit public comment on their website.
- A landowner asked how much agencies are working together. Why do landowners need to initiate ditch cleaning? Lon answered that the county takes a reactive approach since there is not enough staff to regularly inspect ditches.
- Lon asked if an impoundment was built, would the cost be borne by the landowners in the benefited area or the drainage area? Ben and Brent explained that it would have an entirely new funding source.
- Ruth Anne stated that she would be available to consult regarding natural resource implications of any proposed project.
- Tony stated that the MSTRWD and Houston Engineering would be responsible for the surveying.
- The question was asked whether the state paid into JD19, since there is a large portion of DNR land in the benefited area. Gary responded that the state does pay some money into the system.
- A landowner stated that he didn't believe upstream impoundments reduced flooding in the Red River much, they should be closer to the river. Keith alluded to a study which showed the ideal position is upstream. A copy of that study will accompany this report at mstrwd.com.
- A landowner indicated that he felt that the benefits of CRP land on flood reduction were underappreciated and understudied.

- It was asked what types of works were allowed under the RCPP program. Keith said that most water management projects would be allowed. One type of work which would not be allowed would be the rehabilitation of existing structures.
- It was commented that there are areas on JD19 which are not compliant with buffers.

Tony indicated that some surveying would be done this fall by the MSTRWD and Houston Engineering and another meeting would be held, the place, date and time of which would be announced at a later date.

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

Judicial Ditch #19 Watershed Planning
Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District

September 26, 2016

NAME	AFFILIATION (agency, resident, etc.)	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE/ CELL #	EMAIL
ELROY AUWE	LANDOWNER TAX PAYER	30077 440 th ST NE GATZKE, MN 56724	218-459-3378 689-1244	djaune@gvtel.com
Jerry Strandberg	Resident	4211 130 th Ave NE Strathcona, MN 56759	218-222-3346	jerrystrandberg40@gmail.com
Arllys Strandberg	Same	—————→		
Jula Strongren	Resident	403 Lincoln St Strandquist MN 56758	218-597-2689	jula@wiktel.com
Peter J Kostrzewski	Landowner tax payer	27332 40 th St NW	218-478- 2775	
Danielle Kvasager	MPCA	714 Lake Ave. Detroit Lakes, MN		Danielle.Kvasager@state.mn.us
Denise Oakes	MPCA	714 Lake Ave. D.L., MN 56501	218-846- 8119	denise.oakes@state.mn.us
Kenneth Bobowicz	Marshall county	P.O 344 Stephen	218-478 4567	kb@invisimax.com
Merl Widner	land owner	PO Box 47	218-478 4134	NCwidner@hotmail.com
Craig Mowry	USFWS Assisiz Refg			Craig-Mowry@FWS.gov
LON AUNE	MARSHALL COUNTY		218-745-4381 218-201-1422	
GARY Kiesow	Marshall County	25430 340th Ave NE Goodridge MN 56725	218-378-4480	gary.kiesow@gvtel.com gary.kiesow@co.marshall.mn.us

NAME	AFFILIATION (agency, resident, etc.)	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE/ CELL #	EMAIL
Bill Petersen	MARSHALL COUNTY land owner	38377 130th AVE NE Middle River MN	218-684-5158	midriv2@gmail.com
Dan Dent	Marshall Co	4338 J CARD 48 Middle River	218 686 8006	
Ernie Fogarty	Marshall Co	26829 26th Ave Warren MN	218-745-4899	
Bob Fogartyson	Marshall Co.	27088 240 ST WARREN	218 745 5647	
Ray Kuntz	MSTWD	Stands St	686-4119	
Jerry Grochowski	Marshall County land owner	42231 10th AVE N.W Standquist 56258	218-478-4403	jerryg@ddcommodities
Keith Weston	NRCS	1120 28th Ave N. Suite B Fargo, ND 58102	701 318-8566 or 701 356-6641	Keith.Weston@nd.usda.gov
Theresa OLSON	MN DNR	2119 Birchmont Beach RD NE Bemidji MN, 56601	218-308- 2672	Theresa.Olson@ state.mn.us
Ruth Anne Franke	MN DNR	P.O. Box 154 Karlstad, MN 56732	218-436- 2427 x222	ruth.anne.franke @state.mn.us

Name: Jerry Strandberg

Phone Number: 218-222-3346

Email Address: jerrystrandberg40@gmail.com

Mailing Address: 4221 130th Ave NE Strathcona, MN 56759

Would you like to receive project updates and be added to the contact list? YES NO

Affiliation: Resident

(agency, resident, commissioner, mayor, etc...)

Circle the most appropriate ranking for each concern listed below. Refer to the KEY for definitions of each ranking. Concerns where the degree of concern is not indicated will be considered a zero value (No Concern or Not Relevant).

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• Water Quality/Erosion and Sedimentation.....	0	1	2	3	4	5
• Wildlife and Habitat.....	0	1	2	3	4	5
• Others (Please describe in comment section).....	0	1	2	3	4	5

Additional Comments: Ditches we currently have should be cleaned more often. DNR should release water from Nelson Slough in dry areas. Would like to see actual results and benefits from current impounds. All farms should be considered, not just large ones. Most large farms have the capability of draining water quickly. Projects that reduce land values must be discontinued.

Name: Neil Widner
 Phone Number: 218-478-4134
 Email Address: newidner@hotmail.com
 Mailing Address: PO Box 47, Stephen, MN. 56957

Would you like to receive project updates and be added to the contact list? YES NO

Affiliation: land owner, farmer, representative for Tamarac Township
(agency, resident, commissioner, mayor, etc...)

Circle the most appropriate ranking for each concern listed below. Refer to the KEY for definitions of each ranking. Concerns where the degree of concern is not indicated will be considered a zero value (No Concern or Not Relevant).

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• Others (Please describe in comment section).....	0	1	2	3	4	5

Additional Comments: Addition wildlife, especially geese will damage water quality especially at the Nelson Slough, and the Florion Park.

Name: Peter J Kodrzenski

Phone Number: 218-478-2775

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: 27332 400th St NW

Would you like to receive project updates and be added to the contact list? YES NO

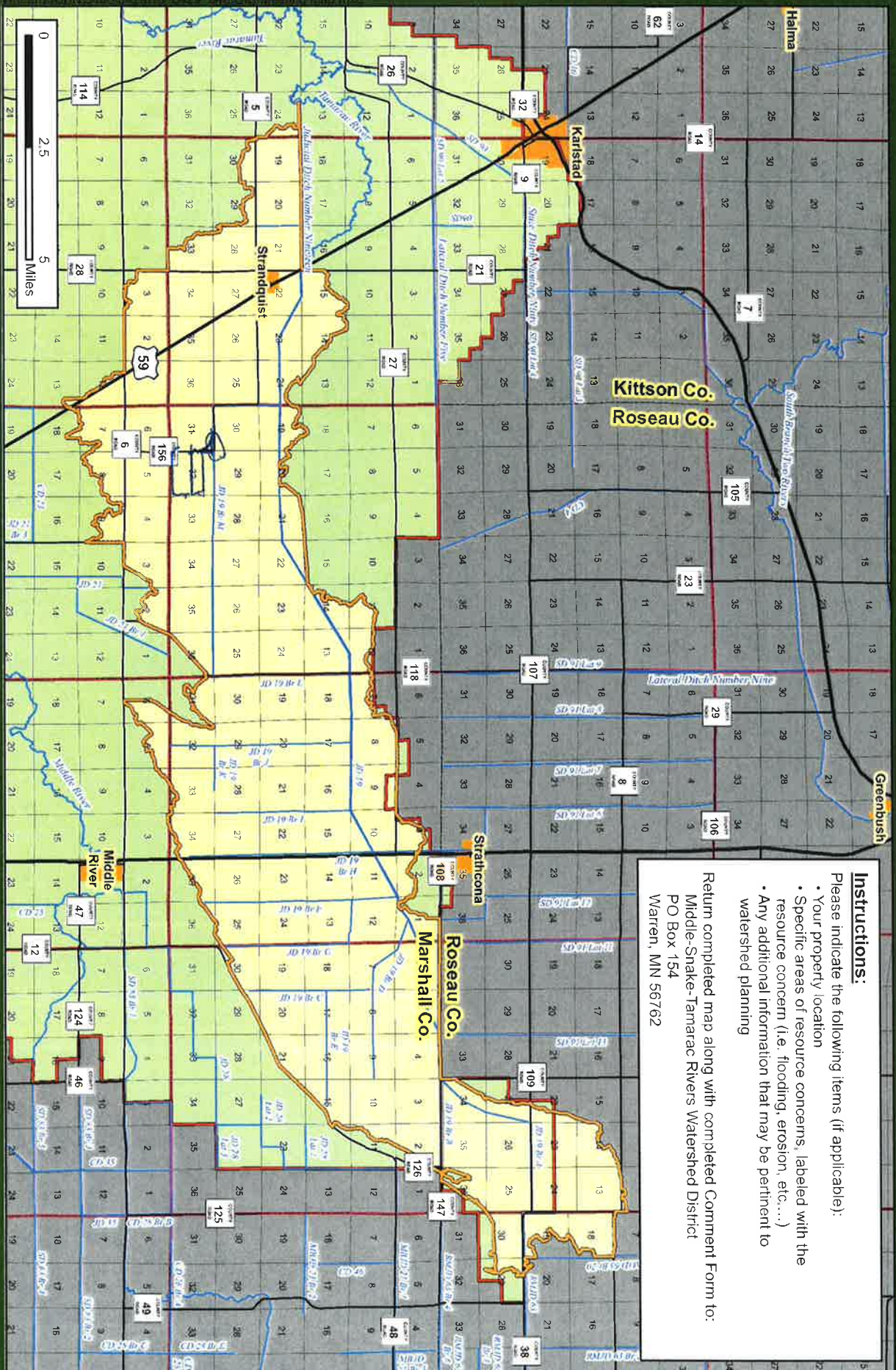
Affiliation: Lansdowne / Taxpayer
(agency, resident, commissioner, mayor, etc...)

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• Others (Please describe in comment section).....	0	1	2	3	4	5

Additional Comments: The water continues to back up on my land with no relief in sight. I have contacted the watershed, county, etc with no real answers. Everything seems to be someone else's concern. Permission to clean the ditch
Solution - open up the ditch to flow north directly to the state ditch.



Instructions:

Please indicate the following items (if applicable):

- Your property location
- Specific areas of resource concerns, labeled with the resource concern (i.e., flooding, erosion, etc....)
- Any additional information that may be pertinent to watershed planning

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 PO Box 154
 Warren, MN 56762

Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District
 Judicial Ditch #19
 Watershed Planning
 Public Comment Form

-  JD #19 Watershed
-  MSTRWD Boundary
-  Rivers and Streams
-  County Boundary
-  Township Boundary
-  City Limits



Name: GARY KIESOW

Phone Number: 218-378-4480

Email Address: ~~gary.kiesow@co.marshall.mn.us~~ gary.kiesow@co.marshall.mn.us

Mailing Address: 25430 340th Ave NE Coonridge MN 56725

Would you like to receive project updates and be added to the contact list? YES NO

Affiliation: Marshall Co Commissioner
(agency, resident, commissioner, mayor, etc...)

Circle the most appropriate ranking for each concern listed below. Refer to the KEY for definitions of each ranking. Concerns where the degree of concern is not indicated will be considered a zero value (No Concern or Not Relevant).

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• Others (Please describe in comment section).....	0	1	2	3	4	5

Additional Comments: _____

Better stabilization in ditches we have now
not in favor of impoundments

Name: Kenweth Borowicz

Phone Number: 218-478-4567

Email Address: kb@invisimax.com

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 344 Stephen MN 56757

Would you like to receive project updates and be added to the contact list? YES NO

Affiliation: Marshall County Commissioner Farmer on Tamarac
(agency, resident, commissioner, mayor, etc...)

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• Others (Please describe in comment section).....	0	1	2	3	4	5

Additional Comments: _____

RECEIVED

NOV 3 2016

MSTRWD

Name: Kevin Roppe

Phone Number: 218-781-2795 cell 686-6679

Email Address: Zynn Harnack@yahoo.com

Mailing Address: 10519 430th St N.W. Strathcona Mn 56759

Would you like to receive project updates and be added to the contact list? YES NO

Affiliation: Landowner
(agency, resident, commissioner, mayor, etc...)

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Additional Comments: The Flooding is getting worse the water comes from east and can't get through Nelson Slough with all the cattails and sediment. Beavers are blocking it up regularly. Its blocked now.

It really needs to be drained down and cleaned out

~~It~~ costs me alot of money with loss of crops from flooding and geese² in spring eating corn seed after seeding. Thank
Kevin

Name: Jerry Grochowski

Phone Number: 218-478-4403 cell

Email Address: jerryg@ddccommodities.com

Mailing Address: 42231 190th AVE N.W. Strandquist MN 56758

Would you like to receive project updates and be added to the contact list? YES NO

Affiliation: resident Farmer + Land renter
(agency, resident, commissioner, mayor, etc...)

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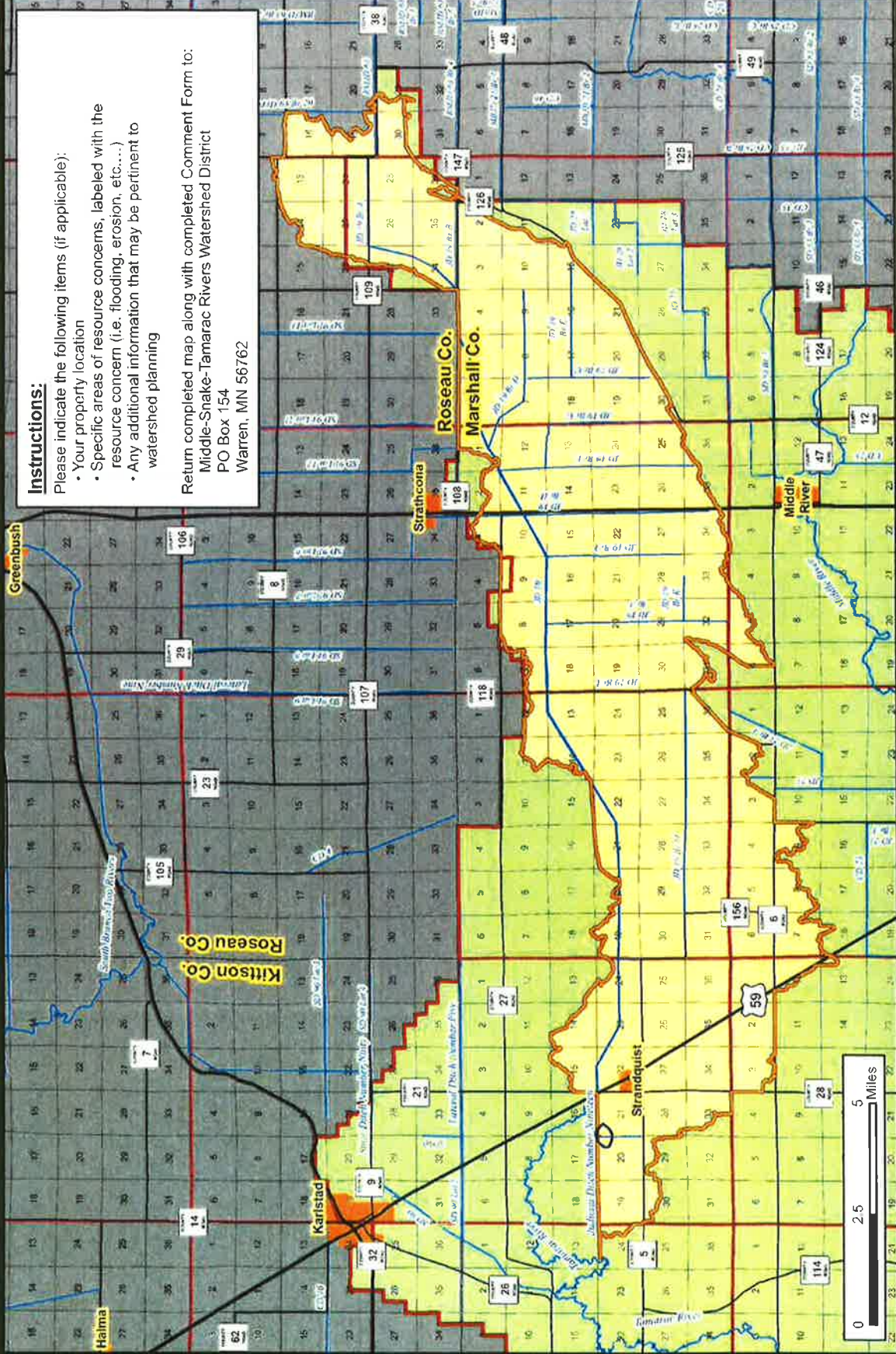
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Additional Comments: The wall of this ditch on the northwest corner of Lincoln Section 21 that attaches to ditch 19 need to be cleaned out and help stop over land flooding to land South and East of County road 5, the wall of this ditch are blocking the flow today because of erosion. The part that need to be cleaned is from ditch 19 to the South about a 1/2 mile on the west side of Section 21 Lincoln as circled in map.

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 Judicial Ditch #19
 Watershed Planning
 Public Comment Form

Prepared By Houston Engineering Inc.

County Boundary
 Township Boundary
 City Limits
 JD #19 Watershed
 MSTRWD Boundary
 Rivers and Streams

RECEIVED

NOV 4 2016

MSTRWD

Name: Jim Frederick

Phone Number: 218-201-0496

Email Address: NA

Mailing Address: 10690 East Park Dr Strachona MN 56759

Would you like to receive project updates and be added to the contact list? YES NO

Affiliation: _____
(agency, resident, commissioner, mayor, etc...)

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• Others (Please describe in comment section).....	0	1	2	3	4	5					

Additional Comments: F live along JD 19 East of the Dam
What ever is done or not done will affect me
The ditch has went over the Road 4 times
since I have lived here. The slough was made
to hold water in the spring and drained down
in summer. The slough has grown in to cat tails
and will not hold any wildlife no matter what the
ANR say

RECEIVED

DEC 13 2016

MSTRWD

Name: Earl McArthur

Phone Number: 218-745-5610

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: 25464 270th St NW Warren Minn 56962

Would you like to receive project updates and be added to the contact list? YES NO

Affiliation: _____
(agency, resident, commissioner, mayor, etc...)

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Additional Comments: THE DNR HAS BEEN DIKING OR BLOCKING WATER IN THE AREA FOR SOME TIME WHICH HAS KILLED TREES AND FLOODED MORE THAN NEED BE. THIS IS HARD ON THE FOREST AND ANIMAL WILD LIFE.