

## Local Government Road Wetland Replacement Program

### 2024 Governor's Funding Recommendation

The Governor recommends \$2.5 million in general obligation bonds and \$2 million in general funds for the Local Government Roads Wetland Replacement Program. The timing and consistency of funding is critical because it takes a minimum of three years for any wetland credits to become available, and up to ten years for all credits to become available, from a wetland banking site.



### Program Overview

The Minnesota Local Government Road Wetland Replacement program (LGRWRP) is a wetland and upland habitat restoration program that generates mitigation credits for local road authorities to satisfy their federal and state wetland regulatory permit requirements. Minnesota law requires BWSR to replace wetlands, and wetland areas of public waters, that are drained or filled by public transportation projects on existing roads.

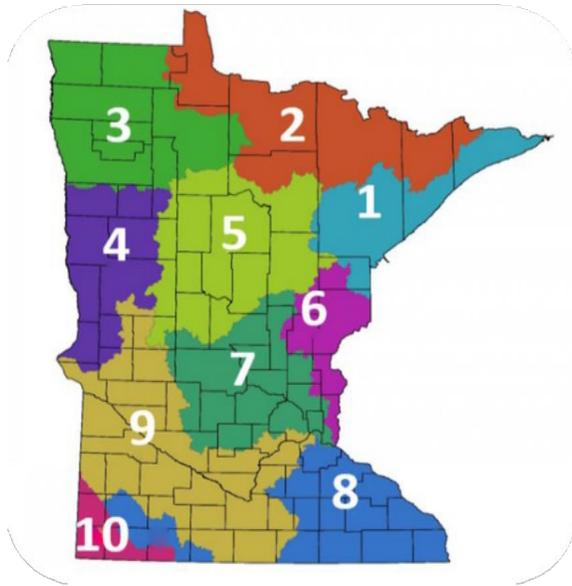
### Benefits

- Streamlined and predictable permitting for local governments
- Larger and higher quality replacement wetlands
- More cost efficient for taxpayers
- Significant reductions in workload for local road authorities



**Clockwise from left:** A local road project with unavoidable wetland impacts; a restored wetland mitigates impacts; a wetland bank site prior to vegetation restoration; a fully restored wetland bank site that generates credits to mitigate local road projects.

## Wetland Bank Service Area Map and Credit Availability



Bank Service Area	# Available Credits as of 01/19/2024
1 - Great Lakes	27.1
2 - Rainy River	126.3
3- Red River North	42.3
4 - Red River South	12.1
5 - Upper Mississippi North	68.7
6 - St. Croix River	0
7 - Upper Mississippi South	28.2
8 - Lower Mississippi	9.1
9 - Minnesota River	5.4
10 - Missouri River	0.1

Average Annual Statewide Demand: 171 Credits

## Wetland Bank Project Development Timeline



- Eight to ten years from appropriation to final credit release.
- Funding must be based on credit needs three to ten years into the future.

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