Clean Water Fund Trajectory for FY24-25

MINNESOTA CLEAN WATER COUNCIL

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Subcommittee on MN Water Policy

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

MINNESOTA
CLEAN WATER COUNCIL

- State Advisory Council created in 2006 to "advise on the administration and implementation of" the **Clean Water Legacy Act**.
- Every two years, recommends how to spend the **Clean Water Fund**

Voting members (17)

- Counties (2) (Metro, Greater MN)
- Townships (1)
- Municipalities (2)
- Farm organizations (2)
- Environmental organizations (2)
- Tribal government (1)
- Business (2)
- Fishing organizations (1)
- Hunting organizations (1)
- Lakes/Streams nonprofits (1)
- Watershed districts (1)
- Soil & Water Conservation Districts (1)

Plus 6 agencies + U of M + 4 legislators (non-voting)

Clean Water Fund

- ~$3 billion to be spent by 2034
- “May be spent only to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams, to protect groundwater from degradation, and to protect drinking water sources.”
- “At least five percent of the clean water fund must be spent only to protect drinking water sources.”
- As of 10:30 am today, the Legacy Amendment expires in…

11 years, 4 months, 29 days, 13 hours, 30 minutes

Permitted Purposes

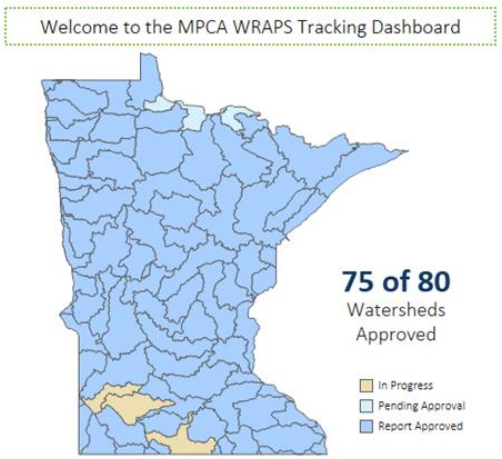
- Testing waters, identifying impaired waters, establishing total maximum daily loads (TMDL), implementing restoration plans, and evaluation
- Prevent surface water from being impaired (“protection strategies”)
- Wastewater and stormwater grants and loans
- Prevent degradation of groundwater
- Support for agencies to do the above, including enhanced compliance and enforcement

Agencies Involved

- Board of Water and Soil Resources
- Metropolitan Council
- MN Department of Agriculture
- MN Department of Health
- MN Department of Natural Resources
- MN Pollution Control Agency
- MN Public Facilities Authority
- University of Minnesota

Agencies send 2/3 of the Clean Water Fund outside state government

>50% of state FTEs are in Greater MN providing direct assistance to communities and landowners



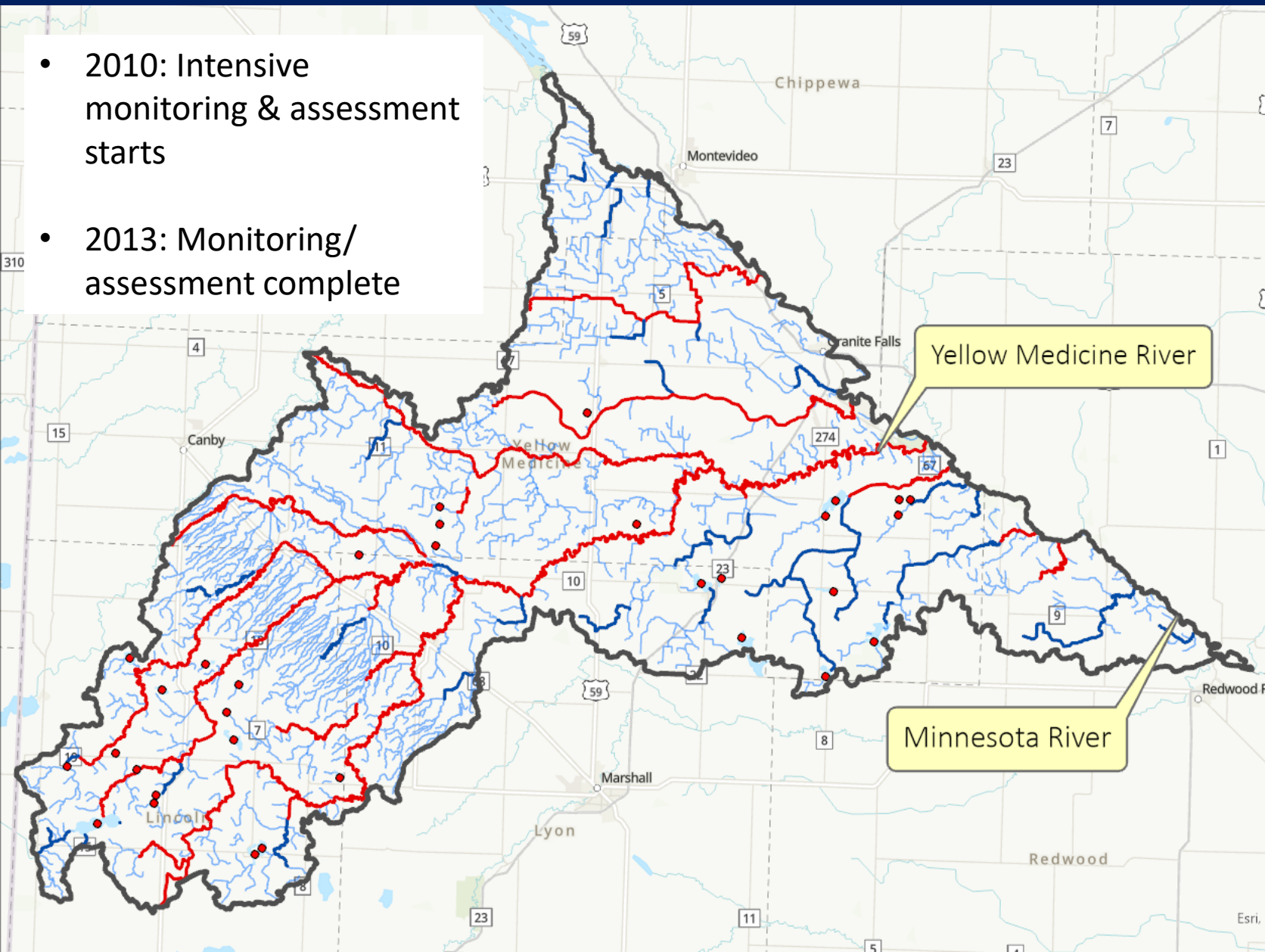
CWF Strategy The Watershed Approach

- **Test waters for impairments**
- **Find source of problem** (Monitoring, assessment & characterization)
- **Make a plan to protect it or fix it** (Watershed/Groundwater Restoration & Protection Strategies-WRAPS/GRAPS; One Watershed One Plan)
- **Fund the fix** (Implementation: Technical assistance, protection strategies, restoration projects, other)
- **Measure to see if the fix worked**

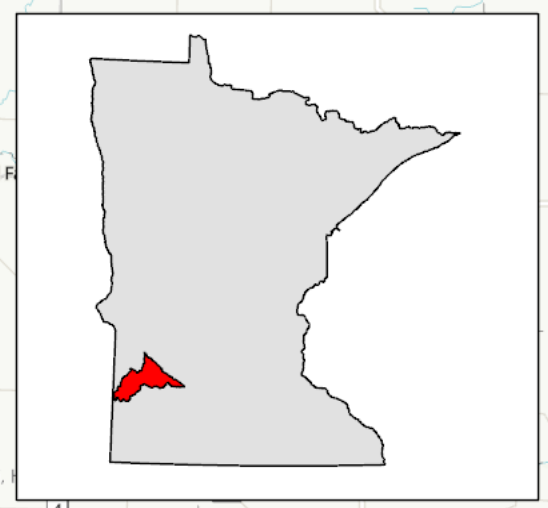
THIS TAKES A DECADE OR MORE ON A WATERSHED SCALE

Example: Impaired waters in the Yellow Medicine River Watershed

- 2010: Intensive monitoring & assessment starts
- 2013: Monitoring/ assessment complete



Pollutant or stressor	
Benthic macroinvertebrates bioassessments	34
Chlorpyrifos	1
Dissolved oxygen	1
Escherichia coli (E. coli)	21
Fecal coliform	10
Fish bioassessments	21
Mercury in fish tissue	18
Nutrients	10
PCBs in fish tissue	3
Total suspended solids (TSS)	1
Turbidity	12
	132

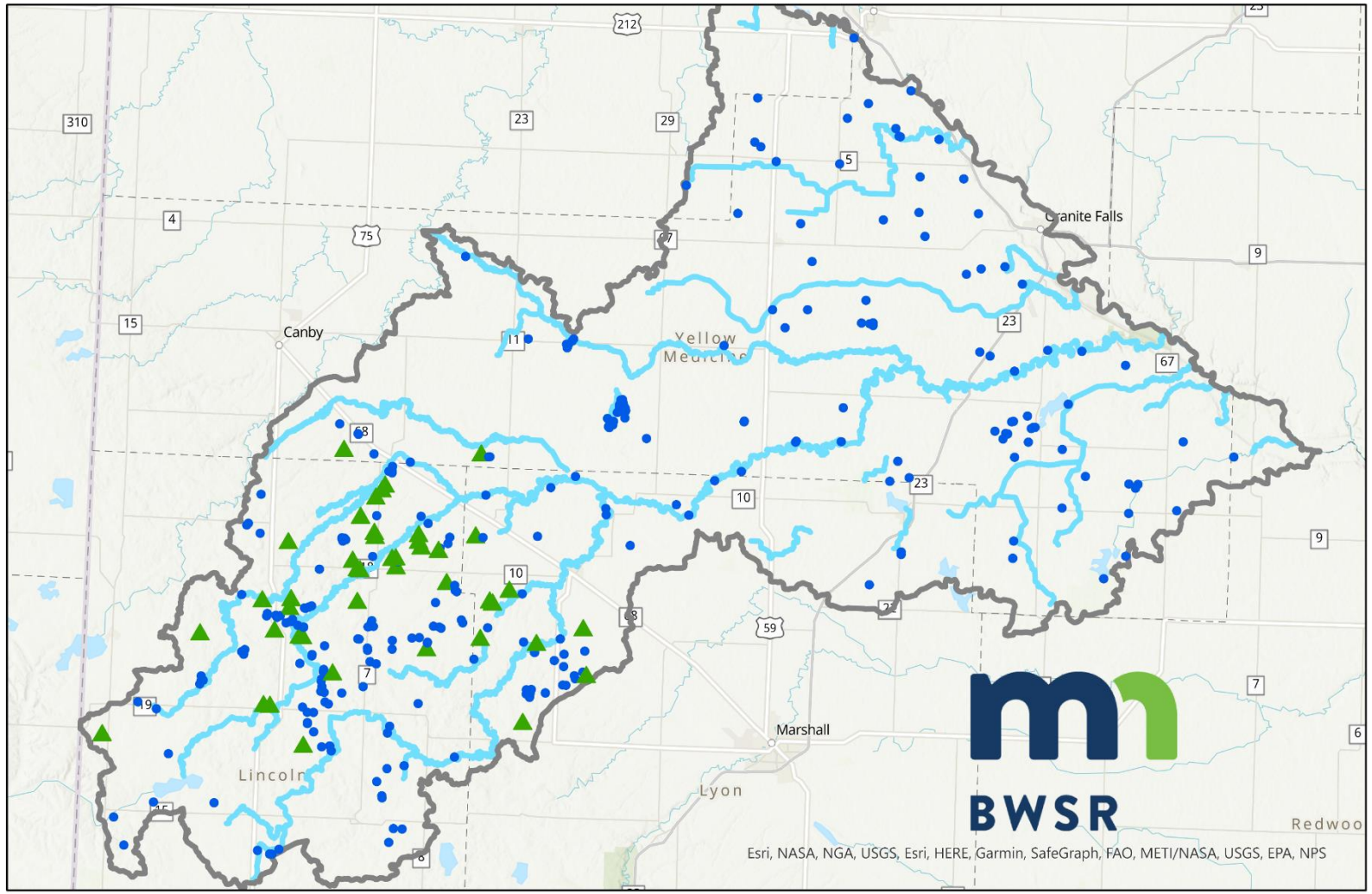


DO THESE PROJECTS → **BY YEAR** → **AND YOU GET THESE REDUCTIONS** → **AND IT WILL COST**

Drainage	Treatment Group Type & Number of BMPs	Cost	Issue	Unit	Existing Conditions	Quantitative Measurable Goal				PTMApp Scenario Reduction	5 year Load Reduction Goal	10 year Load Reduction Goal	10 yr. Progress towards Measurable Goal (%)
						Metric	Amount (%)*	Target Load Reduction	Year				
Drainage to Mississippi River	Storage (244) Filtration (78) Infiltration (3) Source Reduction (812)	$6,437,605	Sediment	tons/ yr	116,416	Annual Load (mass/yr.)	45	52,387	2025	14,488	7,244	14,488	28
			Nutrients: Total Nitrogen	lbs/yr	10,848	Annual Load (mass/yr.)	45	4,882	2040	112	56	112	2
			Nutrients: Total Phosphorus	lbs/yr	134	Annual Load (mass/yr.)	45	60	2025	12	6	12	20
			Excess Runoff: 2 Year	acre feet	71,177	2-Yr. Runoff Volume	25	17,794	2030	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
			Excess Runoff: 10 Year	acre feet	167,868	2-Yr. Runoff Volume	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Drainage to Upper Iowa River	Storage (44) Filtration (15) Source Reduction (268)	$1,410,038	Sediment	tons/ yr	112,249	Annual Load (mass/yr.)	45	50,512	2025	27,776	13,888	27,776	55
			Nutrients: Total Nitrogen	lbs/yr	32,828	Annual Load (mass/yr.)	45	14,773	2040	3,285	1,642	3,285	22
			Nutrients: Total Phosphorus	lbs/yr	2,024	Annual Load (mass/yr.)	45	911	2025	360	180	360	40
			Excess Runoff: 2 Year	acre feet	7,781	2-Yr. Runoff Volume	25	1,945	2030	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
			Excess Runoff: 10 Year	acre feet	17,036	2-Yr. Runoff Volume	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Excerpt from Root River "One Watershed One Plan"

Yellow Medicine River Watershed Planning Area
Clean Water Funded Best Management Practices

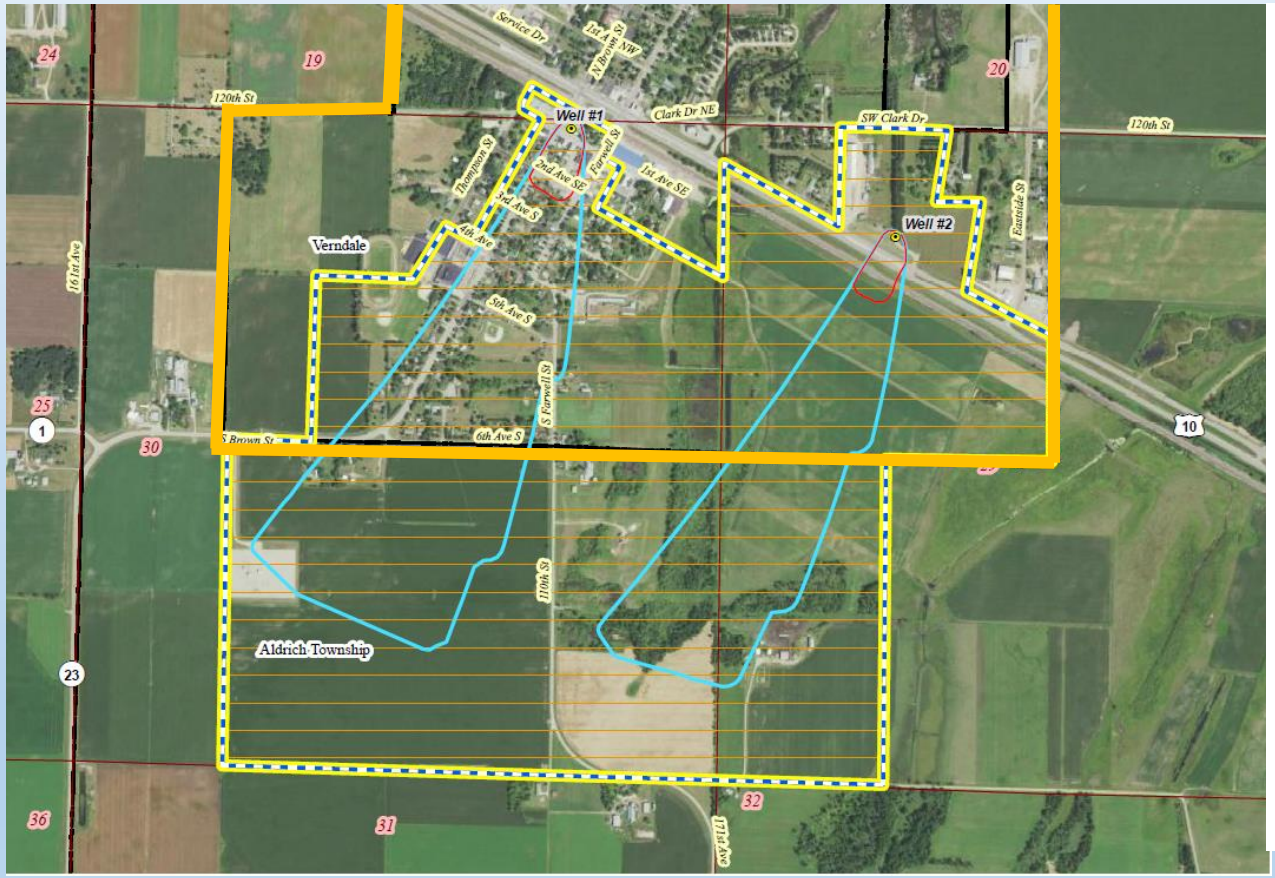


Practice Type	Total Number of Activities*
Septic System Improvement	8
Alternative Tile Intake - Dense Pattern Tiling	33
Alternative Tile Intake - Gravel Inlet	76
Alternative Tile Intake - Other Blind Intake	5
Critical Area Planting	2
Well Decommissioning	57
Diversion	1
Filter Strip	45
Grade Stabilization Structure	2
Grassed Waterway and Swales	17
Streambank and Shoreline Protection	1
Structure for Water Control	1
Denitrifying Bioreactor	1
Water and Sediment Control Basin	69
Wetland Restoration	1
Wetland Creation	1
Grand Total	**320**

**Note: Number of practices maybe greater as treatment trains of BMPs grouped together*

- 2017: One Watershed One Plan Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan Complete

Verndale (Wadena Co)
Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA)



10 year time of travel

- Emergency Response Area
- Wellhead Protection Area
- DWSMA
- High Risk

The Fund in the Twin Cities Metro

“Metro Heavy” Activities

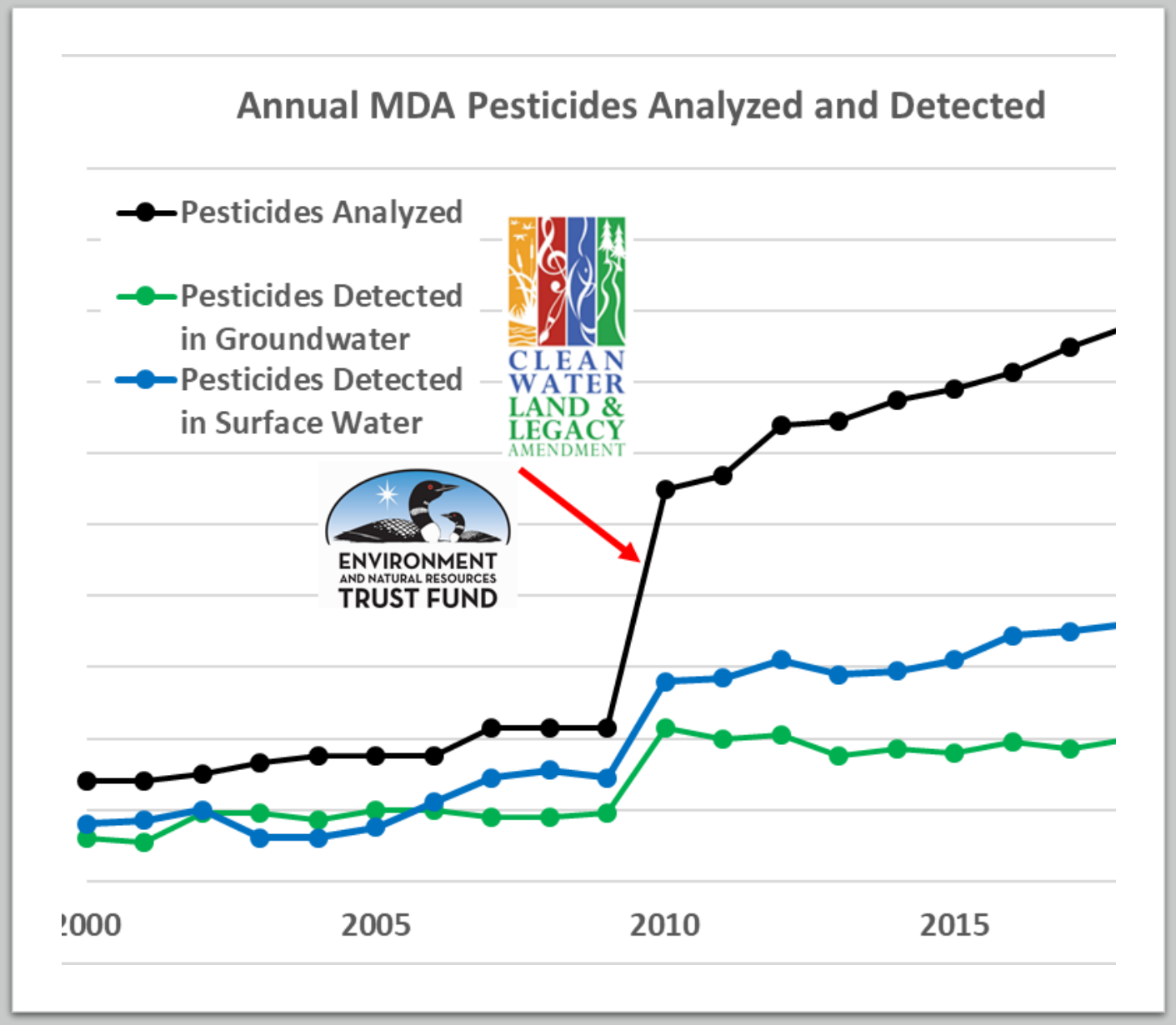
- Water Demand Reduction
- Well sealing
- Stormwater
  - Retrofits
  - Research
  - Compliance
- Carp removal
- Stream restoration
- Lead report
- Chloride reduction

The Clean Water Fund & Equity

- Protection activities that keep water service affordable (MDH)
- Planning support for under-sewered communities (Public Facilities Authority)
- Water Legacy Partner Grants open to tribal governments and NGOs (BWSR)
- Coordination with tribal governments on surface water monitoring
- Leak detection & toilet/fixture replacement in designated areas of concentrated poverty (ACP) in St. Paul (Met Council)
- Assistance to low-income households to replace septic system (MPCA)
- Free private well test for five contaminants over 10 years & low-income mitigation (MDH)

Value of the Clean Water Fund

- Fulfill federal requirements (Total Maximum Daily Loads-TMDL)
- Accurate data supports more precise permitting requirements
- More expertise
- Enhanced compliance
- Protect waters that are of high quality before there is a problem



Value of the Clean Water Fund

- More projects become “shovel-ready” more quickly, get more state and federal funds than other states
  - Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
  - Tech assistance to farmers
  - Permanent conservation easements—CREP
  - Voyageurs National Park
- Every $1 in CWF leverages >$1

Highlights of FY24-25 DRAFT Recommendations

$315 million in recommendations

Expand What Works for Bigger Impact

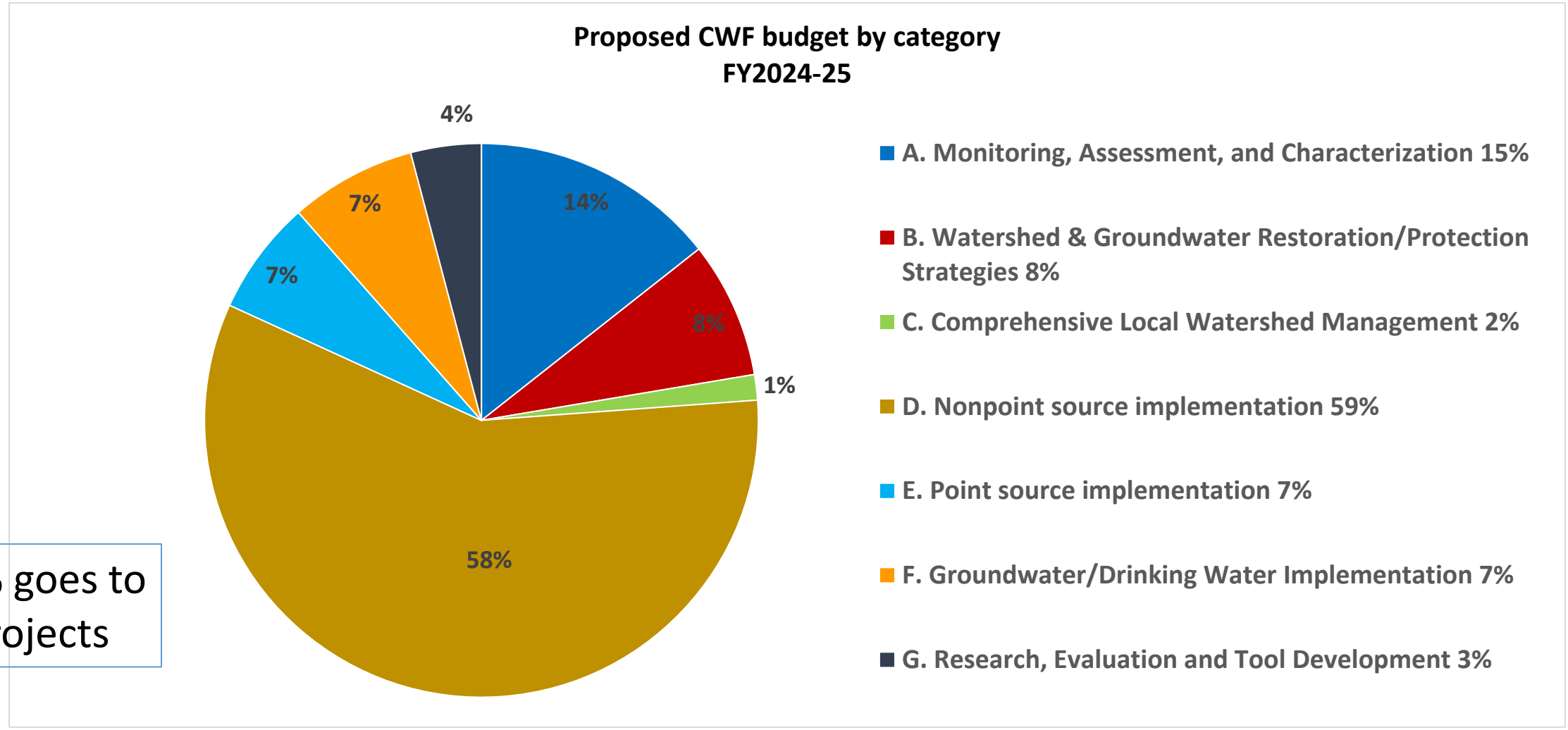
- More “shovel-ready” projects (BWSR)
- 50% increase for perennials (MDA)
- More chloride reduction grants (MDH)
- More low-income grants to replace septic systems (MPCA)
- Increased water storage (DNR, BWSR)
- More farm acreage w/soil health (MDA, BWSR)

Highlights of FY24-25 DRAFT Recommendations

Increase Capacity to Assess Threats to Groundwater, Drinking Water, and Aquatic Life

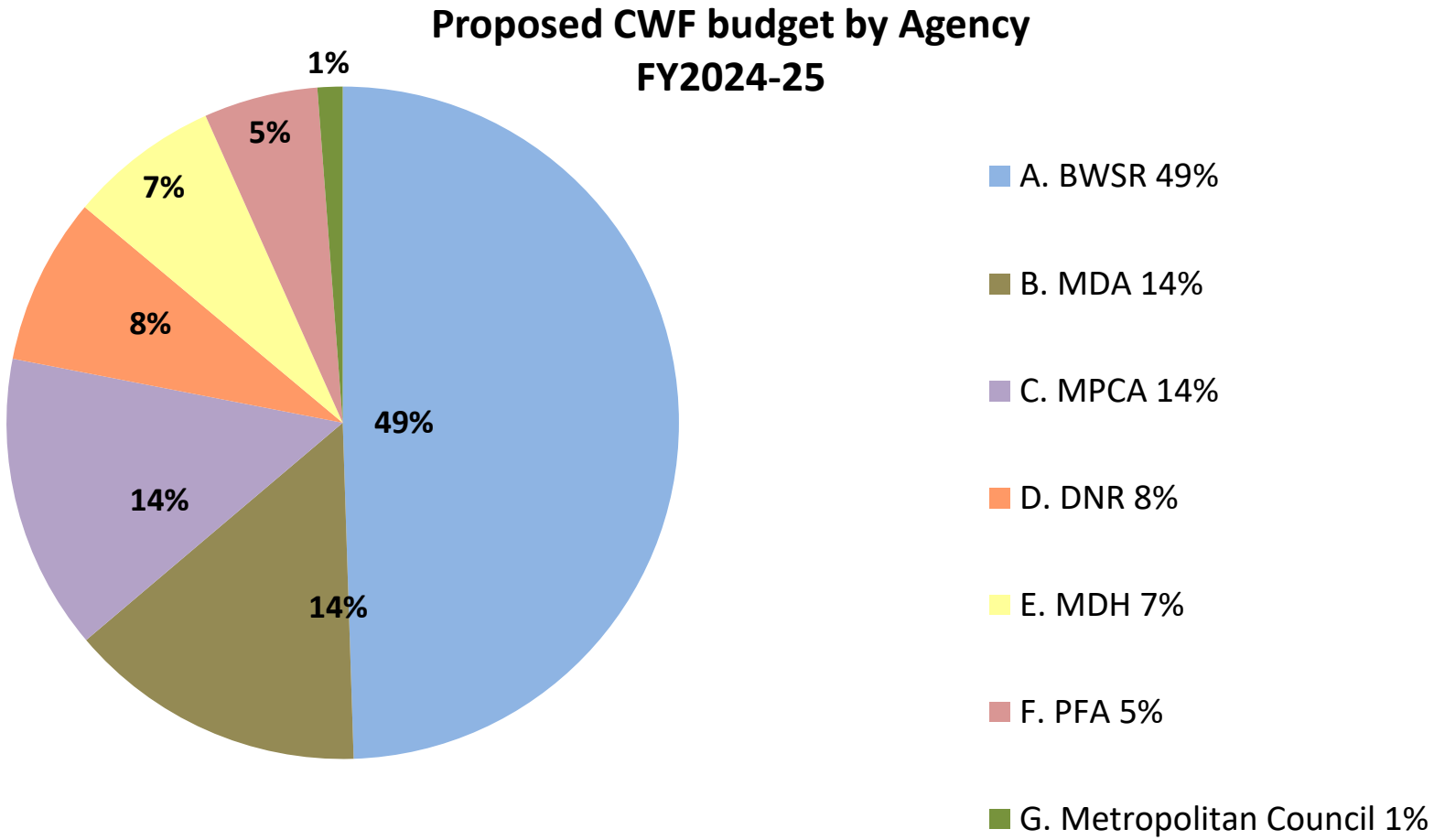
- Free well testing for five contaminants for 10% of MN annually for ten years
- Additional PFAS monitoring/assessment
- Culvert cost-share
- Mussel restoration
- Leverage federal Great Lakes $$
- Statewide beach closing web site

Breakdown by Water Management Framework Activity



72% goes to projects

Breakdown by Agency



~2/3 goes to non-state entities

Big Strategic Questions for CWF

- What's the best use of the next available dollar?
- Should funding be spread evenly across the state or spent on high statewide priorities?
- Should we pivot to new and emerging issues, or "stick to the plan", or try to do both?
- Should we move some spending out of the CWF before expiration of the Legacy Amendment?
- Is the CWF so reliable that programs seek CWFs first and not other sources?

Thank you!