

West Branch Lac qui Parle River Bank Planting Final Report September 30, 2010

The Work Plan for the West Branch Lac qui Parle River Bank Planting was completed and approved by Minnesota Waters in March 2010. Upon approval, final consultation with DNR, Chris Domeier and Lac qui Parle SWCD technician, Les Kvidera ordered shrubs. Shore line repairs were made after flood waters receded and planting of shrubs were scheduled for week of May 17th.

- On May 19, 2010 thirty-six eighth grade students from Dawson Boyd School and six adult chaperones planted 350 shrubs on the south bank of the Lac qui Parle River. The planting was on a 3:1 slope and while planting several rocks were encountered that made it challenging.
- Madison Bottling (local Anheuser Busch distributor) provided cookies and soft drinks for the students and chaperones.
- On May 24, 2010 planting on the north bank of the Lac qui Parle River with six Sentence-to-Serve participants and four support staff planted 275 shrubs on 2:1 slope banks with very few rocks.
- On May 25, 2010 planting continued on the north bank with six Sentence-to-Serve participants and two support staff planting another 190 shrubs.
- Madison Bottling (local Anheuser Busch distributor) again provided cookies and soft drinks for the Sentence-to-Serve participants and support staff.
- On June 9, 2010 SWCD, City and Clean Water Partnership staff visited site to check growth status of trees and shrubs. Timely rains have provided valuable moisture with 80-85% of the shrubs showing an initial progress of growth. This will be a monthly maintenance visit throughout the summer.
- July 8 and 28, 2010 maintenance check of shrubs.
- August 20th, 2010 SWCD and CWP staff selected site for rain garden installation. At this time the concrete pad was poured but shelter construction was not completed.
- September 21st met with City of Dawson for finalizing plans of rain garden
- September 22nd flagged out the rain garden site for Gopher One Call.
- September 24th shrubs were delivered to SWCD. They are currently taking care of the shrubs till they are planted.
- September 27th met with City of Dawson to review final plans for rain garden.
- September 27th met with contractor at the rain garden site and reviewed plans.
- October 4th expected bronze sign installed on rock at the river's edge.
- Week of October 4-8 expected to excavate site for rain garden, have compost and sand brought to site to blend for fill of rain garden, and planting shrubs.
- Final news article in Dawson Sentinel with pictures of construction and the completed rain garden.
- Week of October 18th-22nd final pictures sent in upon completion of project.

Some adjustments occurred from the original plans and included the following: 152 shrubs were planted on the river banks for a total of about 18,000 square feet rather than 13,950 square feet. Also the trees were not planted on the north side to keep the view of the river available as requested by nearby homeowners. The south side has not had trees planted either as some landscaping needs to be completed for rain garden and parking lot. The rain garden will remain about the same size but include native shrubs rather than native flowers for easier maintenance by the City. The City of Dawson is not planning to pave the parking lot this year as original plans suggested and the shrubs will incorporate nicely into the surrounding area.

An evaluation survey was planned for education and outreach to the public. Without a good way to distribute and retrieve the survey it was decided to devote a weekly radio program to reach people in the area. A fifteen minute radio program on KLQP-FM radio in Madison, MN on May 12, 2010 reviewed the MN Waters grant award and purposes for the river planting. Also another grant was received from Prairie Country RC&D by the Lac qui Parle SWCD to sponsor water festival activities at Riverfest on Friday afternoon. Riverfest is a local town celebration and was celebrated June 25-27, 2010. The water festival included MN DNR-Fisheries staff presenting information onsite of the low head dam replacement, shrub planting and native fish identification for approximately 125 people-to bad we had bad weather and got rained on or it could have been much larger numbers. A Dawson community bus driver that shuttled people between sites also stated that he has frequent requests to take citizens to the river rock rapids during the week. Other activities included a tour of a rain garden, drawing for a rain barrel, water trivia wheel, minnow races, games and a presentation by the Raptor Center.

Monthly visits during July, August and September to check shrub growth and establishment were conducted by SWCD and CWP staff.

A new picnic shelter was erected by a Dawson Boy Scout as his Eagle Project. Planting the rain garden was delayed till the construction was completed to enable the rain garden to be properly placed to catch the shelter's roof runoff. The shrubs, Redoiser and Yellow Twigged dogwood have been ordered received by the Lac qui Parle SWCD and are ready to be planted by volunteers from the City of Dawson. A bronze metal sign with project title and sponsor names was ordered to match another sign in the parking area. This sign is being mounted on a rock when conditions are fit for equipment to get into the area.

The rain garden has currently been delayed because of the recent and frequent rains in the region. A county road that leads to the parking area is currently under construction. The road detour hinders additional excavation equipment, sand and compost materials to be delivered to the site. It is expected that by mid-October equipment and materials will be able to access the site and the rain garden construction will be completed.

The restoration of the river banks has created a lot of interest and activity where the river was rarely utilized in the past. The restoration included the rock rapids versus old crumbling concrete dam, concrete handicap accessible sidewalk versus muddy dirt paths down to the river, native shrubs and grasses versus overgrown shrubs and trees have

transformed the area into a mini park enjoyed by young and old alike. The Dawson-Boyd Volleyball Team had their team pictures taken in front of the rapids versus the school gym. A Dawson Boy Scout chose to build a picnic shelter for the mini park as his eagle scout project.

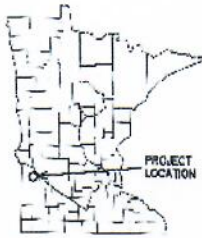
This project was challenging especially when additional plans were added to the mini park area. The rain garden was delayed till the picnic shelter was erected so that it could be properly placed. Once the shelter was completed then the road construction began which made it difficult to access the site. The City of Dawson were exceptionally easy to work with and eagerly offered assistance when needed.

List of Native Shrubs

Sand Cherry
Highbush Cranberry
Redoiser Dogwood
Yellow Twigged Dogwood
Nanneberry
Creeping Juniper

List of Project Partners

Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District
& Clean Water Partnership
Lac qui Parle Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)
Lac qui Parle Sentence-to-Serve
Dawson-Boyd School
Madison Bottling



PROJECT LOCATION

GENERAL LOCATION MAP
NO SCALE

DAWSON DAM DAM REPLACEMENT

PRELIMINARY PLAN

THIS DOCUMENT SHALL NOT BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION
UNLESS RECORDED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE
BASED FOR THE DELIVERY OF A PERMIT.

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

SECRET INDEX

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- 2 SITE MAP AND REMOVALS
- 3 GENERAL LAYOUT
- 4 RIPRAP EXTENTS
- 5 PROFILE - CENTERLINE OF ROCK RAPIDS DAM
- 6 TYPICAL SECTIONS
- 7 WALKWAY AND FISHING PLATFORM DETAILS
- 8 BOULDER WEIR ELEVATIONS
- 9 WALKWAY ELEVATIONS
- 10 EXISTING DAM
- 11 EXISTING DAM



NO SCALE

NEW DAM NOTE

NO MORE TO BE

APPROVED

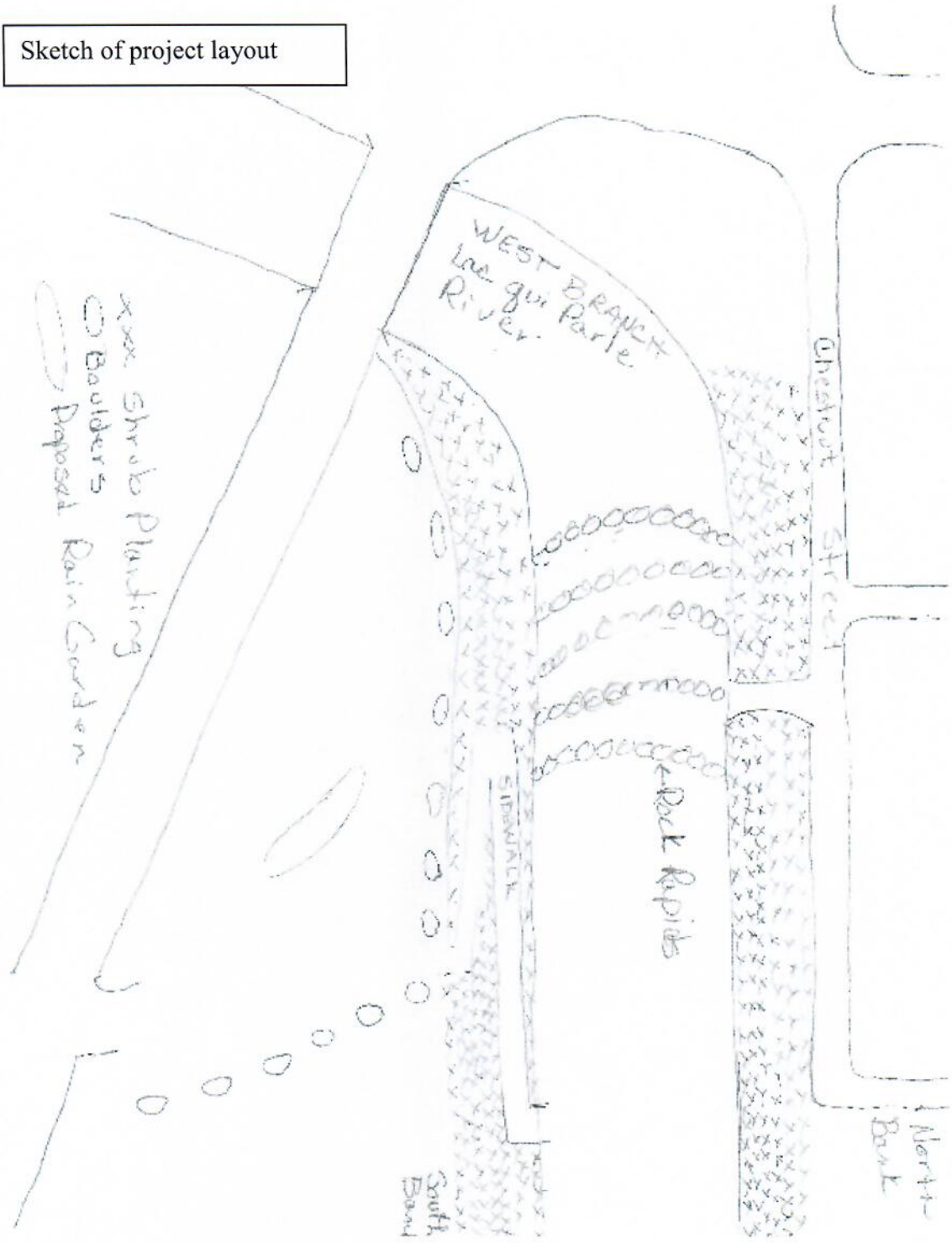
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PROJECT LOCATION

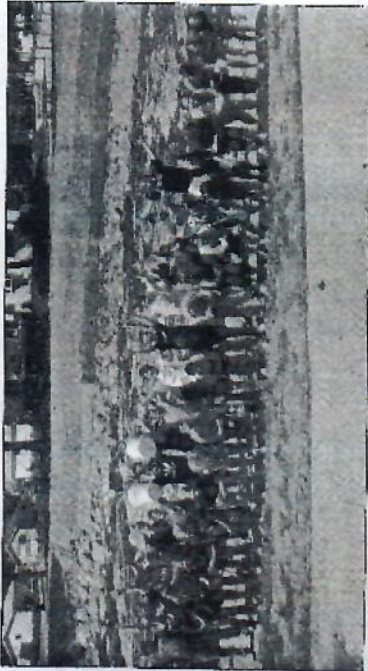


MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
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Sketch of project layout



Minnesota Waters announces Conservation Partnership Grant recipients



Dawson-Boyd eighth grade students planted trees at the Rock Rapids area.



Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District received a grant for the project which included the river bank and rain garden in Dawson.

achieving maximum conservation impact by developing and applying best practices and innovative methods for measurable outcomes.

Based in St. Louis, Ar. Heuser Busch is the leading American brewer, holding a 48.5 percent share of U.S. beer sales. The company brews the world's largest-selling beer, Budweiser and Bud Light. The company's Michelob Golden Draft Light brand has sponsored the Conservation Partnership grants for the past three years.

The Conservation Partnership grants are designed to help citizen groups across Minnesota improve their projects that improve stream bank habitat and water quality in their communities. The grant program is designed to help address the problem of habitat water warming and nutrient loading through riparian restoration.

The 2010 local grant recipients are Lac qui Parle Yellow Bank Watershed District, to restore native vegetation in a river bank near a low land area in Dawson, and construct a rain garden adjacent to a parking lot to improve

An advisory committee will representatives from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Minnesota Land Trust, the Initiative Foundation, the Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District, Great River Accounting, and Minnesota Waters, assisted in the grant selection process.

A nonprofit established by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation administers, restores and enhances the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Through excellent conservation investments with public and private partners, the

Minnesota Waters is happy to announce its 2010 Lake and Stream Conservation Partnership grant recipients.

The grants are made possible with funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and support from Michael Goldberg, Draft Light. A total of \$35,000 in Conservation Grants was made possible.

Contributors in recognizing and supporting these outstanding projects.

Dawson Sentinel 5/26/2010