

Please complete and submit to your project manager.

Reporting Period: January 1 through June 30 (Due August 1)
 July 1 through December 31 (Due February 1)

All information is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Do not leave blanks (unless otherwise noted). This report form can be typed using your computer. Use the "tab" key to move through the fields of this form. Enter responses using text and check boxes as indicated. Keep a copy for your records.

I. General report information

1. Project title: Greater Blue Earth River Basin TMDL Implementation
2. Project sponsor (Grantee): Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance
3. Contact name: Kay Gross
4. E-mail address: kay.clark@windomnet.com
5. Funding: 319 CWP CWP Loan Clean Water Fund Other: _____
6. Contract number: 118749
7. MPCA Project Manager: Paul Davis
8. Effective date (mm/dd/yyyy): 12/30/2016 Expiration date (mm/dd/yyyy): 8/31/2020

II. Semi-annual report information

1. Project activities completed during last six (6) months according to the program objectives or tasks (please be specific):

Objective 1, Task A: Areas within the Greater Blue Earth River Basin (GBERB) were targeted for implementation. The GBERBA Watonwan Watershed Technician assisted staff in Cottonwood county to initiate a cover crop mailing and soil health team meeting to promote the cover crop practice use. Counties in the GBERB have been promoting the Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program and leveraging interest in the program to promote cover crops and alternative tile intakes. Additionally, both Freeborn and Faribault County have active Soil Health Teams that promote cover crops during their events. The cover crop practice has really caught on in the basin with over 1,576.6 acres being planted to cover crops through this grant in the past six months..

Objective 2, Task A: 11 contracts were approved by GBERBA for funding cover crops and 1 for alternative tile intakes, with 25 cover crop contracts being approved for payment during this period. 2 contracts were approved for payment by GBERBA for funding alternative tile intakes.

After a plan ammendment allowing more dollars to be spent on cover crops and side inlet intakes the new grant deliverable project numbers are as follows, 6300 acres of cover crops, 135 alternative intakes, and 34 alternative side inlets.

Objective 3, Task A: Monthly reports have been given at all GBERBA Technical, Executive, and Policy meetings for this grant. This information is being compiled and used for semi-annual reports.

2. List all products (documents, pamphlets, videos, maps, etc.) produced in this reporting period:

A revised policy paper for use by the GBERBA members was developed. This was made necessary due to the plan ammendment and revised work plan that will allow member staff to more fully utilize the grant cost share dollars.

3. Challenges faced (optional):

Local farmers have shown little interest in securing cost-share for alternative tile intakes. This made it nessessary to amend the work plan to allow more dollars to be used on cover crops and larger alternative intakes or side inlets.

4. Summary of monitoring data collected (if applicable):

N/A

4a. Have all monitoring stations been established in EQulS? Yes No N/A

4b. Are the data being routinely submitted for storage into EQulS? Yes No NA

If yes, last submittal date (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

5. Are the Best Management Practices data being annually entered into eLINK)? Yes No N/A

If yes, date last entered (mm/dd/yyyy): 1/20/2019

6. Describe specific (quantifiable, if possible) results achieved during this period:

25 multi-species cover crop contracts on 1,576.6 acres was completed in the second half of 2018 in the GBE watershed. In addition to the pollution reductions listed below, this project saved 752.47 tons of soil. It is likely that there is an additional indirect sediment savings as a result of increased organic matter in the soil. Increased organic matter in the soil increases the water storage potential of the soil, decreasing the amount of precipitation that reaches streams which lessens the impact of river flow on streambank erosion.

Phosphorus Load Reduction: 1,195.87 lbs./year
 Nitrogen Load Reduction: 15,011.56 lbs./year
 Sediment Load Reduction: 1,452,580 lbs./year

7. Did the MPCA execute a change order or amendment for this project during this reporting period? No Yes

If yes, summarize those changes:

Funding was reassigned to pull more funding into cover crops and alternative side inlets were added to the practice listing. Cost-share for cover crops (with the additional funding) will now be at a rate of 50%, same as the other practices offered. This will bring our match into line and on track for completion of the grant.

Updated grant policies were distributed to all members counties and SWCDs outlining the changes.

8 List anticipated program objectives or tasks to be completed during the next six (6) months please be specific):

Objective 1, Task A: Area technicians will continue to target locations for cover crop and alternative tile intake placement with the prioritization criteria in mind. With the completion of the amendment staff will also be targeting alternative side inlets as part of this grant.

Objective 2: Task A: Funds will continue to be allocated and projects approved for payment and approved by the GBERBA Executive/Policy Board.

Objective 3: Task A: The GBERBA Coordinators will continue to produce monthly reports of progress on the grant and complete semi-annual reports as necessary.

III. Expenditure information for this period

Provide a copy of your workplan budget showing cumulative expenditures and budget balances by workplan objective and task. Also, fill out the summary below.

Expenditure report attached

| Complete the table below: | Amount |
|---|---------------------|
| Total grant amount | \$400,000.00 |
| Total match amount (if applicable) | \$266,700.00 |
| Total project amount | \$666,700.00 |
| Grant expenditures this period | \$61,104.45 |
| Match expenditures this period (if applicable) | \$24,487.61 |
| Cumulative grant expenditures to date | \$77,034.53 |
| Cumulative match expenditures to date (if applicable) | \$35,178.33 |
| Total cumulative expenditures to date | \$112,212.86 |

Date form completed (mm/dd/yyyy): 1/29/2019