CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

State of Wisconsin

DATE: **September 13, 2023**

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) and Advisors

FROM: Joanna Griffin
Watershed Management Bureau, DNR

SUBJECT: **DNR Scoring and Ranking of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Applications for Calendar Year (CY) 2024 Funding**

Recommended Action: DNR staff request that the Land and Water Conservation Board make recommendations on the DNR proposed funding of TRM applications.

Summary: The DNR, pursuant to s. 281.65(4c)(b), Wis. Stats., is informing the LWCB of the Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) applications ranked list for CY 2024 funding. Scoring results for projects being considered for CY 2024 funding are presented in the attached tables.

Chapter NR 153, Wis. Adm. Code, which governs the TRM Grant Program, became effective on January 1, 2011, and includes four separate TRM project categories as noted below. Projects are scored individually and ranked against other projects in the same category. Once total available funding is determined, funds are allocated among the four project categories. The maximum possible awards are $225,000 for Small-Scale projects and $600,000 for Large-Scale projects.

Scoring and Ranking Summary to Date:

A. Small-Scale Non-Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

- Three (3) applications were submitted and are eligible for grant consideration.
- Funding requests for the applications total $503,608.
- Based on available funding, the Department proposes to allocate $503,608 to fully fund all 3 projects in this category.

B. Small-Scale TMDL

- Five (5) applications were submitted and are eligible for grant consideration.
- Funding requests for the applications total $873,835.
- Based on available funding, the Department proposes to allocate $875,835 to fully fund all 5 projects in this category.

In the two small-scale categories, adjustments to the ranked list may be made once the total available funding is determined. The attached tables show the current rank order of applications. A requirement in s. NR 153.20(2)(d)3.b., Wis. Adm. Code, states that no one applicant may receive multiple grants that exceed 20% of the total available funding in a given project category. Applicants on the ranked list whose total funding requests exceed 20% of the total available funding will be awarded funds for the projects that do not exceed 20% and the balance of the applicant's requests will be moved to the bottom of the ranked list; additional funding is provided only after all other eligible projects have first been funded. However, based on the list of applicants, this was not needed this grant cycle.

C. Large-Scale TMDL

- Three (3) applications were submitted and are eligible for consideration.
- Funding requests for these applications total $1,266,950.

Printed on Recycled Paper

- Based on available funding, the Department proposes to allocate$1,266,950 to fully fund all 3 projects in this category.

D. Large-Scale Non-TMDL

- No applications were submitted in this project category.

The following process was used to score and rank projects and make funding decisions:

1. All projects were scored and then ranked by score for each project category.
2. For Small-Scale TMDL and Small-Scale Non-TMDL applications only, the highest scoring application from each DNR region that is above the median score in each of the two project categories would typically be identified and moved ("region boost") to the top of the ranked list. However, the region boost was not needed in this cycle because all Non-TMDL grant applications were from the same region, and the four top ranked TMDL grant applications were from each of the DNR regions.

The Department will include final allocations to counties for TRM projects in the *CY 2024 Joint Final Allocation Plan*. Once the *2024 Joint Final Allocation Plan* is signed, DNR will develop grant agreements for successful applications. During the grant agreement development process, funding amounts may be adjusted as necessary to reflect final cost-share rates and eligible project components.

Materials Provided:

CY 2024 Small-Scale Non-TMDL TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank
CY 2024 Small-Scale TMDL TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank
CY 2024 Large-Scale TMDL TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank

All Large-Scale and Small-Scale TRM Applications

	Preliminary Allocation		
	GPR	**319**	**Seg**
Structural BMPs (including force account and engineering)	$1,683,204	$0	$0
Non-Structural Practices (e.g., cropping)	$0	$605,706	$154,055
Local Assistance	$0	$201,428	$0
Total TRM	**$1,683,204**	**$807,134**	**$154,055**

Large-Scale and Small-Scale TRM Applications from Counties

	Preliminary Allocation - Counties		
	GPR	**319**	**Seg**
Structural BMPs (including force account and engineering)	$1,522,204	$0	$0
Non-Structural Practices (e.g., cropping)	$0	$534,761	$0
Local Assistance	$0	$201,428	$0
Total TRM	**$1,522,204**	**$736,189**	$0

TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank for 2024

Table 1. Small-Scale Non-TMDL Project Applications

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Region Boost	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	Oconto County	Buckfoot Farm	NER	139	No	$225,000	$225,000
2	Kewaunee County	LeCaptain Manure Storage Project	NER	127	No	$53,608	$278,608
3	Outagamie County Land Conservation Department	Olson's Best Dairy	NER	75	No	$225,000	$503,608

Black font = proposed to be fully funded
Red font = funding not available

Table 2. Small-Scale TMDL Project Applications

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Region Boost	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	Deforest, Village	Yahara River Streambank Stabilization	SCR	140	No	$161,000	$161,000
1	Waupaca County Land & Water Conservation Department	Johnson Farms	NER	140	No	$225,000	$386,000
3	Big Round Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District	Big Round Lake Water Quality Goal Plan Implementation/Lake St. Croix TMDL Implementation - Alum 2	NOR	134	No	$225,000	$611,000
4	Kenosha County	Pike River Phase III River and Habitat Restoration	SER	128	No	$225,000	$836,000
5	Washburn County Land and Water Conservation Department	Robotti, Charles	NOR	124	No	$37,835	$873,835

Black font = proposed to be fully funded
Red font = funding not available

TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank for 2024

Table 3. Large-Scale TMDL Project Applications

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	Walworth County	Delavan Lake Watershed Project	SER	138	$436,950	$436,950
2	Wood County	Mill Creek Watershed 9 Key TMDL Project (Phase II)	WCR	130	$600,000	$1,036,950
3	Dodge County	Wildcat Creek Watershed	SCR	105	$230,000	$1,266,950

Black font = proposed to be fully funded
Red font = funding not available