

# Project Partners



## Vision Statement

- Sense of Place**
- We are home to the largest lakes within Minnesota and the largest patterned peatlands in the nation.*
  - We are the homeland of the Red Lake Nation.*
  - We are home to residents and visitors who enjoy our lakes, rivers, and forests, and work our farmlands.*
- Vision**
- We envision a future of cooperation among residents, and tribal, state, and local agencies with shared goals of preserving our cultural and natural resources for future generations.*

For questions or cost share to implement practices, please contact your local partners:

- Beltrami SWCD: 218-333-4158
- Beltrami County Environmental Services: 218-333-4158
- Red Lake Watershed District: 218-681-5800
- Red Lake Department of Natural Resources: 218-679-3959

## Funded by



**View the plan online!**  
Scan this QR code to visit the plan's website



UPPER / LOWER RED LAKE  
WATERSHED PLAN  
2025-2035

## What is One Watershed, One Plan?

- Voluntary program and plan
- Aligns water planning along watershed boundaries, including all the counties, watershed districts, and tribal governments within the watershed border
- Local priorities, locally driven
- Uses existing authorities and funding mechanisms (county, SWCD, and watershed district boards, tribal councils)
- After adopted, implementation funding from the State is obtained through a non-competitive process instead of competitive
- Program website: <https://bwsr.state.mn.us/one-watershed-one-plan>



# Watershed Highlights

- The Upper/Lower Red Lake Watershed is rich with natural resources and is a vast patchwork of peatlands, forests, lakes, streams, and agricultural lands spanning 1,940 square miles.
- Three quarters of the ULRWL consists of open water or wetlands and peatlands.
- The watershed includes Upper and Lower Red Lake, which combined is the largest lake in Minnesota (completely within Minnesota’s borders).
- All the drainage from within the smaller subwatersheds ends up in Upper/Lower Red Lake and eventually outlets into the Red Lake River at the Red Lake Dam. The outflows at the dam are controlled by the USACE.


# Plan Highlights

- Implementation of this plan is voluntary, and outreach, cost share, and incentive programs will be used to assist with voluntary implementation on private lands (See map below).
- Planning partners include Beltrami Soil and Water Conservation District, Beltrami County, Red Lake Nation, and Red Lake Watershed District.
- The planning partners have a long history of cooperation and working together on projects, grants, monitoring, and programs in the watershed. This plan enhances the partnership by providing more funding for projects and programs moving forward.
- The Planning partners set 7 goals during the planning process. The goals and their outcomes are highlighted below. Funding from the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment will be provided for plan implementation.

## 10-Year Plan Goals


### Riparian Enhancement

Implement **2 miles** of riparian enhancement projects.




### Forest Management

Implement **12,000 acres** of Forestry Management Plans (100 plans) and plant **2,000 acres** of trees.




### Land Protection

Protect **9,170 acres** with Sustainable Forest Incentive Act (SFIA) or easements.




### Agricultural Land Management

Implement best management practices (BMPs) on **2,805 acres** on pastureland and **4,224 acres** of cropland.




### Drinking Water Protection

Seal **100 unused wells**.




### Lake Enhancement

Reduce phosphorus loading to Bartlett Lake by **5 pounds a year** and Blackduck Lake by **37 pounds a year**.



### Hydrologic Enhancement

Explore opportunities for peatland restoration and complete **one feasibility study** and **one project**.



## Overall Priorities

