
APPENDIX A: STAKEHOLDER AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MATERIALS

Organized by meeting or event

STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

- August 23, 2021: WMA Board / Stakeholder Meeting
 - Meeting minutes
 - Stakeholder brainstorm on watershed vision, goals, and issues
- October 7, 2021: WMA Board / Stakeholder Meeting
 - Meeting minutes
- November 18, 2021: WMA Board / Stakeholder Meeting
 - Meeting minutes
- January 24, 2022: WMA Board / Stakeholder Meeting
 - Meeting minutes
- March 30, 2022: WMA Board / Stakeholder Meeting
 - Meeting minutes
- May 25, 2022: WMA Board / Stakeholder Meeting
 - Meeting minutes
- July 20, 2022: WMA Board / Stakeholder Meeting
 - Meeting minutes
- August 31, 2022: WMA Board / Stakeholder Meeting
 - Meeting minutes

PUBLIC MEETINGS

- November 10, 2022: Public Open House Meetings (Story City and Jewell)
 - Meeting sign-in sheet (Story City)
 - Meeting sign-in sheet (Jewell)
 - Open house brochure
 - Written comments
 - Comment received via email

PRESS RELEASES, MAILINGS, OR OTHER MEDIA MATERIALS

- Facebook post by Prairie Rivers of Iowa advertising the open house meetings
- Facebook post by Hamilton County Conservation Board advertising the open house meetings
- Facebook post by Story County Conservation advertising deadline for giving input on the plan
- Social media graphic advertising the open house meetings
- Printable flyer advertising the open house meetings
- Press release advertising the open house meetings

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Headwaters of the South Skunk River, Watershed Management Authority
August 23, 2021, 2:00 PM
Bertha Bartlett Public Library – Story City, IA
Also available via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members - Linda Murken (Story County), Lynn Knutson (Hamilton County Soil & Water), Nathan Hovick (City of Roland), Erik Christian (City of Story City) and Gregg Wright (City of Randall). Alisha Bower (Story County Soil & Water) via Zoom

Non-voting - Kyle Ament (Iowa Department of Natural Resources), Kate Hansen (Center for Rural Affairs), Rick Young (Hamilton County), Kimberly Grandinetti (Story County Environmental Health), Mike Cox (Story County Conservation), Marianne Harrelson (Story County Conservation), Catherine DeLong (ISU Extension) Brian Lammers (Hamilton County Conservation), Sara Carmichael (Story County Conservation), Jeff Kopaska (Iowa Department of Natural Resources), Neil Weiss (City of Ames), Adam Rupe (JEO Consulting Group), and Mike Heller (JEO Consulting Group). Wes Wiese (Hardin County Conservation), Ben Dodd (Iowa Department of Natural Resources) and Leanne Harter (Story County) via Zoom.

1. Meeting is available for public viewing via Zoom.
2. **Call to Order** - by Murken at 2:04 PM
3. **Roll Call** – Introductions of all in attendance
4. **Approval of Agenda** - MOTION by Hovick, SECOND by Knutson. MCU.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – April 19, 2021 – MOTION by Christian, SECOND by Hovick. MCU.
6. **Update On Revised 28E Agreement** – Leanne Harter provided some information regarding the amendment to the 28E Agreement. We will be adding Hardin County, Hamilton County, and the Cities of Ellsworth and Jewell. Members of the 28E Agreement will be asked to adopt Amendment #1 in the next action item of the meeting. Leanne will send an email to the original entities which she is waiting for original notarized signatures from. Once those are all received, she will record the document with the Story County Recorder's office and then file it with the Secretary of State.
- 7I. **Discussion and Consideration Of Amendment #1 To The Adopted 28E Agreement For The Headwaters Of The South Skunk River Watershed Management Authority Agreement To Accept Additional Cooperators, Including Hardin County, Hamilton County, City of Ellsworth, And City of Jewell.** MOTION by Hovick, SECOND by Knutson. MCU.
- 7II. **JEO Quarterly Meeting.** Mike Heller and Adam Rupe, with JEO Consulting Group, conducted their quarterly meeting with members and others in attendance. They discussed the planning process. The draft public (stakeholder) involvement plan, watershed vision, goals, issues, and identification existing data sources, were discussed. They answered questions and discussed next steps.
8. **Other Reports/Next Steps** – Some of the current board members provided a few contacts to the Technical Advisory Committee to contact to see if they would be willing to attend the next meeting. Murken asked that all members think about other farmers in their jurisdictions that might be interested in being part of the Technical Advisory Committee and bring those names and contact information to the next meeting.

9. Public Comments

10. Next Meeting – A quarterly meeting and work session is scheduled for Thursday, October 7, 2021 beginning at 2:00 PM. Location will be determined at a later time and an email will be sent out.

11. Adjournment – at 4:04 PM. MOTION by Knutson, SECOND by Christian. MCU.

- Soil Health
- Productivity
- Economics

• Practices to moderate wet/dry cycle

• Sustainability

• Rural water → Private wells

↳ costs

↳ WQ

↳ Reliability

↳ lack of trust

↳ GW → Sources + Education

• All in it together

↳ All drink the water

• Treatment costs

• Limited Resource

• Recreation → local economy

• WQ in flooding + drought

Goals

* From Grant

- Remove impaired waters
- Negative effects of flooding
- Lack of education
 - ↳ Behavioral change
- Better practices (BMPs)
- Protect Env.
- Safe water for future generations
- Keep Iowa farmland productive
- Downstream users
- Protecting GW / Sewer Water

Goals

* From Grant

- ① Full Political support
- ② Enhance Water Quality
- ③ Individual & Community
Commitment

- Local benefits - landowners
- Quality of life
- Amenities, for local communities
 - Parks / lakes
 - Water Trail

- Implement practices (BMPs) *
- Drainage Districts (supervisors)
↳ Urban & Rural
- Keep soil + nutrients here
- Policy, Funding, Education
- Manure Mngt
- Voluntary

Headwaters of the South Skunk River, Watershed Management Authority
October 7, 2021, 2:00 PM
Fairview Lodge – Story City, IA
Also available via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members - Linda Murken (Story County), Nathan Hovick (City of Roland), Erik Christian (City of Story City) and Gregg Wright (City of Randall). Amber Corrieri (City of Ames) via Zoom

Non-voting – Dustin Albrecht (City of Ames), Brian Lammers (Hamilton County Conservation), Ben Gleason (Iowa Corn Growers Association), Sara Carmichael (Story County Conservation), Kimberly Grandinetti (Story County Environmental Health), Rick Young (Hamilton County), Kate Hansen (Center for Rural Affairs), Marianne Harrelson (Story County Conservation), Adam Rupe (JEO Consulting Group), and Mike Heller (JEO Consulting Group). Kyle Ament (Iowa Department of Natural Resources), Seldon Spencer (Ioway Creek WMA Board Chair), Laura James (Beaver Creek WMA Coordinator), Catherine DeLong (ISU Extension), and Leanne Harter (Story County) via Zoom.

1. Meeting is available for public viewing via Zoom.
2. **Call to Order** - by Murken at 2:05 PM
3. **Roll Call** – Introductions of all in attendance and via Zoom
4. **Approval of Agenda**
5. **Approval of Minutes** – August 23, 2021 – MOTION by Hovick, SECOND by Christian. MCU.
6. **Update On Revised 28E Agreement** – No update at this time.
- 7I. **JEO Update on Watershed Study** - Mike Heller and Adam Rupe, with JEO Consulting Group, updated members and others in attendance of watershed planning process. Adam provided a timeline schedule of the six tasks of the process. Future meetings need to be planned on an approximate bi-monthly basis to keep the process on schedule.
- 7II. **Review and Give Feedback on Goals** – Adam provided a draft vision statement and draft goals and asked for any suggested changes. Members in attendance provided feedback and Adam will incorporate them into a final version to be adopted at the next meeting. Then we will need to make these goals “SMART”.
- 7III. **Review and Discuss Sample Case Studies** – Adam provided some additional information regarding case studies. Part of the process is to identify and develop case study reports that can assist in future implementation and allow for some initial projects to get a jump start on the implementation process. There are two types of case studies, recently completed projects that should be replicated, or project ideas that need to be assessed. Adam provided examples of some past and current case studies. Attendees provided information on other projects that have recently been implemented in the area including drainage district issues.
- 7IV. **Discuss Planning to Involve Stakeholders** – A working draft copy of the Boone River WMA Stakeholder Involvement Plan was attached to the agenda. Adam reviewed an overview of the contents of the plan. Modifications were noted for individuals on the Technical Team and a unique stakeholders list needs to be

established. Members were asked to send possible stakeholders contact information to JEO and they will get the list updated and a draft document compiled. Mike indicated that they could develop a press release to send out that would formally announce the WMA, potentially including some of the goals, what the WMA is, etc. to get the community involved. The members could send the press release to their local newspapers and other community newsletters. Adam showed an example of a stakeholder map that they created for another WMA. This type of map could be distributed to the public to show them that stakeholders involved are their neighbors and there is representation from across the watershed.

- 7V. Review of Next Steps** – Some tentative items for the next meeting agenda are general updates, finalize the case studies list, goals, and stakeholder plan and then to start discussions on the BMP priorities. Members were asked to provide JEO with input on items that were discussed at this meeting and to continue to recruit stakeholders. Murken indicated that if we need to make additions or changes to the Technical Team, we need that information prior to the next meeting to get them added to the meeting agenda.
- 8. Other Reports/Next Steps** - None
- 9. Public Comments** - None
- 10. Next Meeting** – scheduled for Thursday, November 18, 2021 beginning at 10:00 AM at the Roland Community Center.
- 11. Adjournment** – at 3:57 PM. MOTION by Wright, SECOND by Christian. MCU.

Headwaters of the South Skunk River, Watershed Management Authority
November 18, 2021, 10:00 AM
Community Center – Roland, IA
Also available via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members - Linda Murken (Story County), Gregg Wright (City of Randall), Amber Corrieri (City of Ames), and Alisha Bower (Story County Soil and Water).

Non-voting – Neil Weiss (City of Ames), Rick Young (Hamilton County), Mike Cox (Story County Conservation), Kimberly Grandinetti (Story County Environmental Health), Catherine DeLong (ISU Extension), Brian Lammers (Hamilton County Conservation), Sara Carmichael (Story County Conservation), Kate Hansen (Center for Rural Affairs), Jeff Kopaska (Iowa Department of Natural Resources), Jodi Meredith (City of Roland), Marianne Harrelson (Story County Conservation), Emily Perrott (JEO Consulting Group), and Mike Heller (JEO Consulting Group). Kyle Ament (Iowa Department of Natural Resources), Wes Wiese (Hardin County Conservation), Andrea Gebhart (JEO Consulting Group), and Adam Rupe (JEO Consulting Group) via Zoom.

1. Meeting is available for public viewing via Zoom.
2. **Call to Order** - by Murken at 10:01 AM
3. **Roll Call** – Introductions of all in attendance and via Zoom
4. **Approval of Agenda** – MOTION by Corrieri, SECOND by Wright. MCU.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – October 7, 2021 – MOTION by Corrieri, SECOND by Bower. MCU.
- 6I. **Adopt Updated Vision and Goals** – MOTION by Corrieri, SECOND by Bower. MCU.
- 6II. **Select Case Studies for Evaluation** – Adam with JEO, indicated that case studies could be recently completed projects that should be replicated across the watershed or project ideas that need to be assessed. He reviewed some other recent case studies and provided a list of ideas that were presented at the last meeting. JEO recommended three case studies for analysis and inclusion in the plan. They recommended urban stormwater BMPs, cover crop usage and implementation, and two-stage drainage ditches. Members had a lengthy discussion regarding the case studies and decided to recommend the urban stormwater BMP's, in-field and edge of field usage and implementation, and streambank stabilization as case studies for this plan.
- 6III. **Review Updated Stakeholder Plan** – this is a “living” document and will continually have changes throughout the process. If any members want to add to this list they can send information to Mike or Adam at JEO. Adam will add a map to the plan to show where the stakeholders are from. Story County will continue to use their website for open meeting notices and minutes. Discussion will take place in the future for creating a website for this WMA.
- 6IV. **General Project and Schedule Updates/Next Steps** – Adam reviewed the implementation and prioritization throughout the process. Generally, there are two strategies that can be followed, a shotgun or targeted approach. He recommends that BMP implementation should be targeted so it allows resources to be focused within those locations. This allows the results to be measured and we will be able to see the changes in the future. This will also help us develop a scalable, sustainable process that we can roll out around the

watershed as needed. Part of the planning process will be to identify some initial priority areas. The watershed is 210,000 acres, so members need to be thinking about the areas that they feel needs to be addressed first. We will be working to identify these at the next meeting,

- 6V. Learning Moment: Agricultural BMP's** – Catherine DeLong, Water Quality Program Manager, with ISU Extension, presented information on Agricultural BMP practices. She handed out a pamphlet, “Reducing Nutrient Loss: Science Shows What Works” from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. She reviewed some of the practices being used in Iowa and their impact on nitrate concentration reduction and phosphorus load reduction.
- 6VI. Consideration of Appointment of Technical Team Members:** Catherine DeLong, ISU Extension; Kate Hansen, Center for Rural Affairs; Sara Carmichael, Story County Conservation; Kimberley Grandinetti, Story County Environmental Health; and Ben Gleason, Iowa Corn Growers Association. MOTION by Corrieri, SECOND by Bower. MCU.
- 7. Other Reports** - None
- 8. Public Comments** - None
- 10. Next Meeting** – Scheduled for Monday, January 24, 2022 at 10:00 AM
- 11. Adjournment** – at 11:57 AM. MOTION by Corrieri, SECOND by Bower. MCU.

Headwaters of the South Skunk River, Watershed Management Authority
January 24, 2022, 10:00 AM
Community Center – Roland, IA
Also available via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members - Linda Murken (Story County), Nathan Hovick (City of Roland), Erik Christian (City of Story City), and Alisha Bower (Story Soil and Water Conservation District).

Non-voting – Neil Weiss (City of Ames), Mike Cox (Story County Conservation), Kimberly Grandinetti (Story County Environmental Health), Brian Lammers (Hamilton County Conservation), Sara Carmichael (Story County Conservation), Kate Hansen (Center for Rural Affairs), Kyle Ament (Iowa Department of Natural Resources), Ben Dodd (Iowa Department of Natural Resources) Marianne Harrelson (Story County Conservation), Dalton Johnston (City of Roland), Brian Hill (Hall Backhoe & Tiling), Emily Perrott (JEO Consulting Group), Caleb Rasmussen (JEO Consulting Group), Adam Rupe (JEO Consulting Group), and Mike Heller (JEO Consulting Group). Rick Young (Hamilton County), Catherine DeLong (ISU Extension), and Leanne Harter (Story County) via Zoom.

1. Meeting is available for public viewing via Zoom.
2. **Call To Order** - by Murken at 10:00 AM
3. **Roll Call** – Introductions of all in attendance and via Zoom
4. **Approval Of Agenda** – MOTION by Bower, SECOND by Hovick. MCU.
5. **Approval Of Minutes** – November 18, 2021 – MOTION by Hovick, SECOND by Bower. MCU.
- 6I. **Discussion Of Amending The 28E Agreement** – Murken indicated that the City of Ames’ attorney had some issues with the agreement and we are still working through the document.
- 7I. **Amendment To The Bylaws** – Submission and review of proposed bylaws amendment to allow for alternate members to be appointed and to vote at meetings, establishing the audit point as Story County Administration Building, and clarifying that a simple majority is sufficient to pass a measure submitted for vote at a regular meeting.
- 7II. **JEO General Project Update** – Adam Rupe reviewed the project schedule that indicates we are completing task number two and starting to move into the action plan. We are about halfway through the process and have approximately four planning meetings left. The vision and goals were adopted at the last meeting and the case studies were discussed. The case studies include the urban stormwater BMPs, in-field and edge of field practices and implementation, and streambank stabilization. The homework from this meeting was to start thinking about priorities for implementation. Adam clarified the process for reviewing the plan. Chapters one, two, and three are under internal review. The drafts will be sent out to the planning team in the next couple of weeks for review and then they will be sent to all of the WMA members and technical team to review.
- 7III. **Consideration Of Watershed Resource Inventory And Assessment Of Issues** – Adam indicated that this would include chapters one and two. Chapter two includes the watershed inventory –climate, landform topography, soil, physical water resources, etc. Chapter three, will start describe water quality data and

existing BMPs – things that are more related to “watershed management”. Adam reviewed and referred to the watershed map that was included with the agenda. The map shows the watershed, the county boundaries, communities, major recreation sites, and streams and lakes. The next map shows the floodplain, water quality monitoring sites, and impaired lakes and streams. The charts show annual monitoring levels on the South Skunk River. The maps on the bottom of the page represent the mapping status of potential BMPs; drainage districts; watershed soils; land use & habitat; pollutant sources; and Iowa landforms.

JEO handed out a draft Technical Memo on Existing BMPs. This document goes through all of the BMPs that we’re considering as part of the plan, summarizes the data sources and what the BMP estimates are, and identifies recommendations for additional data needs. Adam reviewed and highlighted some of the findings documented in the memo. He would like for members to provide information for existing urban BMPs that they are aware of in their areas. JEO is currently contacting local communities to try to get this information as well. There was some discussion about having JEO do ACPF mapping of the whole watershed. JEO will work with Murken to review the contract and see what options are available for getting this done. Members provided quite a few other contacts for JEO to see if they can contact to get more information and data to include in the plan.

Adam also reviewed some information about water quality data in the watershed. There are some sites in the watershed that have water quality data, but most are missing information and not complete. The City of Ames has data available for sites above and below the water treatment plant that they will share with JEO to include in the plan.

No action was taken at this time until the details discussed at this meeting are updated in the document.

- 7IV. Discuss Priority Area Identification** – This was discussed at the last meeting and Adam wanted to review the highlights. The watershed plan is going to follow a targeted approach within the priority areas, likely based on HUC 12 boundaries. That will allow us to target those resources, see results on a smaller scale, and that will become a scalable process that we can repeat project by project. It will offer the opportunity for WMA partners to work on other priority projects at the same time in another area. There are two general approaches for identifying these priorities. One is data-driven, which is essentially the water quality data. The other is the WMA or partner priorities, which may be certain projects that are important to the members or individuals that you feel need to be addressed. If members have any ideas for the priority areas, please let Adam know.
- 7V. Discuss BMP Targets** – Adam noted that the information going into the implementation plan will be the estimated level of needs for BMP, mostly based on the ACPF data and any other partner input. This will assist with getting counts and estimated costs for the watershed and priority areas. Adam will be sending out a master list of BMPs that we will consider for the plan. Adam passed out a “Whole Farm Conservation Best Practices Manual”. This provides a great overview of each of the major BMPs and guidance to landowners and conservation professionals on where and how to implement them and decision tools.
- 7VI. Next Steps** – At the next meeting, we will be talking about the action plan, the education plan, and implementation priorities. If you have suggestions for the “Learning Moments” please send them to Adam at JEO. Homework – Adam would like to have some photographs from the watershed. If anyone has photos that show conservation practices, sites along the rivers, pollution problems, or aerial photos – something that we can put in the plan to help illustrate concepts or to make it a visual document.
- 8. Other Reports** - Caleb Rasmussen, with JEO Consulting Group, shared some information about the water quality blitz going on in the area, sponsored by Polk County. Sara Carmichael is also involved with this project. Caleb’s role is the design and implementation of the projects. Polk County, the NRCS, and other

partners contacted landowners and received information from them on tile, they did surveys, and they gathered any other information needed to design them. Caleb takes this information, evaluates the site for feasibility on saturated buffers or bioreactors, then provides a recommendation and a cost estimate. During this first round, sixty sites were evaluated in Polk, Boone, Story, and Dallas County and an additional twenty to twenty-five tile outlets were brought forward to be reviewed for implementation of a saturated buffer or bioreactor. The first review is always for a saturated buffer. They have a longer design life and are cheaper to install. If a saturated buffer is not feasible, then they look at a bioreactor to be installed. If none of those were feasible, then nothing was proposed to be done with the tile outlet. Currently, there are approximately ten tile outlets within this watershed to have saturated buffers installed, treating about 500 acres.

8. Public Comments - None

10. Next Meeting – Scheduled for Wednesday, March 30, 2022, at 10:00 AM at the Roland Community Center. This will be a longer meeting to allow for a work session. Plan to bring your own lunch.

11. Adjournment – at 12:08 PM. MOTION by Bower, SECOND by Christian. MCU.

Headwaters of the South Skunk River, Watershed Management Authority
March 30, 2022, 10:00 AM
Community Center – Roland, IA
Also available via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members - Linda Murken (Story County), Nathan Hovick (City of Roland), Alisha Bower (Story Soil and Water Conservation District), and Tim Gartin (City of Ames via Zoom).

Non-voting – Neil Weiss (City of Ames), Mike Cox (Story County Conservation), Kimberly Grandinetti (Story County Environmental Health), Brian Lammers (Hamilton County Conservation), Sara Carmichael (Story County Conservation), Kate Hansen (Center for Rural Affairs), Wes Weiss (Hardin County Conservation), Catherine De Long (ISU Extension), Kyle Ament (Iowa Department of Natural Resources), Marianne Harrelson (Story County Conservation), Dalton Johnston (City of Roland), Caleb Rasmussen (JEO Consulting Group), Adam Rupe (JEO Consulting Group), and Matt Mardesen (JEO Consulting Group).

1. Meeting is available for public viewing via Zoom.
2. **Call To Order** - by Murken at 10:03 AM
3. **Roll Call** – Introductions of all in attendance and via Zoom
4. **Approval Of Agenda** – MOTION by Hovick, SECOND by Bower. MCU.
5. **Approval Of Minutes** – January 24, 2022 – MOTION by Hovick, SECOND by Bower. MCU.
- 6I. **Update On 28E Agreement Revision** – Murken indicated she was just notified that the agreement will be approved by the City of Ames, so we should be able to it forward. Leanne Harter will send out the amendment to all of the entities to have them sign, notarize, and return back to her. Once those are all received, she will record the document with the Story County Recorder’s office and then file it with the Secretary of State.
- 7I. **Approve Amendment To The Bylaws As Presented At The January 23, 2022 Meeting** – Murken stated that the Amendment to the Bylaws was submitted for review at the last meeting to allow for alternate members to be appointed and to vote at meetings, establishing the audit point as Story County Administration Building, and clarifying that a simple majority is sufficient to pass a measure submitted for vote at a regular meeting. This is the second review and request for approval. MOTION by Bower, SECOND by Hovick. MCU.
- 7II. **JEO General Project Update** – Adam Rupe reviewed the items that he will be covering at today’s meeting. He let everyone know that Mike Heller is no longer with JEO and that he will be the project manager on this project now. Since the last meeting, he has drafted Chapters 1, 2, and 3 and sent them out for review. We will discuss high level priority areas and the BMP targets today along with working on the Action Plan.
- 7III. **Consideration Of ACPF Modeling** –During the January meeting, we discussed some of the existing resources that JEO was using in the plan and one of those resources was existing Agricultural Conservation Planning Framework (ACPF) mapping data. This information exists for Story County but not for Hamilton County. Members requested that JEO complete ACPF mapping in Hamilton County instead of creating Case Studies for the plan. JEO would be able to do this “swap” of services for no additional funding. Murken asked for suggestions from the members. Carmichael and Lammers recommended the change and felt the ACPF would

be more beneficial for this WMA plan. MOTION by Hovick to replace the case studies with the ACPR mapping, SECOND by Bower. MCU.

- 7IV. Review Draft Chapters** – Adam sent out draft Chapters 1, 2, and 3 and asked members to review and send him any comments or suggestions. He would like members to look at the content, make sure that it is addressing the priorities recommended by the WMA and the accuracy of the data. He reviewed some of the highlights in each Chapter. The references to the City of Gilbert in the Chapters will be removed as they are not a part of the WMA. The References and Abbreviations and Acronyms at the end of each chapter will be compiled into one area of the final plan document. Adam will add the HUC 12 boundaries to all of the maps. He will apply all of the suggestions and comments discussed at this meeting to the Chapters and will send undated Chapters out to the member for review again.
- 7V. Discuss Prioritization Process** – The priority areas have been discussed in prior meetings. Adam would like the priority areas to be identified in the HUC 12, then within those, use the ACPF data to prioritize BMPs. Adam recommended targeting Long Dick Creek and Keigley Branch as the initial priority areas since they have some of the highest levels of nitrogen and E. Coli. The priority areas will need to be decided on by the members in the near future and will be included in Chapter 5.
- 7VI. Working Session On Action Plan** – Adam handed out a worksheet to help guide members through the Action Plan. The Action Plan is broken down into four areas; Projects and Studies, Education, Monitoring and Plan Evaluation, and Partnerships and Policy. Examples for each of these areas were listed in the handout. He gathered the list from information provided at prior meetings and from other previous projects. All the members reviewed and discussed some items from each area. Adam will take the information discussed during the meeting and add them to the draft Action Plan.
- 7VII. Next Steps** – Adam will update all items discussed at the meeting and send out items for review before the next meeting. He will work on setting up an on-line polling to rank the action items and getting a draft copy of the Action Plan.
- 8. Other Reports** - None
- 8. Public Comments** - None
- 10. Next Meeting** – Scheduled for Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 10:00 AM in Roland. This will be a longer meeting to allow for another work session. Lunch will be provided.
- 11. Adjournment** – at 1:08 PM.

Headwaters of the South Skunk River, Watershed Management Authority
May 25, 2022, 10:00 AM
Erickson Park Shelter House – 110 North Park St., Roland, IA
Also available via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members - Linda Murken (Story County), Nathan Hovick (City of Roland), Alisha Bower (Story Soil and Water Conservation District), and Tim Gartin (City of Ames via Zoom).

Non-voting – Neil Weiss (City of Ames), Mike Cox (Story County Conservation), Kimberly Grandinetti (Story County Environmental Health), Brian Lammers (Hamilton County Conservation), Kate Hansen (Center for Rural Affairs), Catherine De Long and Julian Canabal-Rodriguez (ISU Extension), Kyle Ament (Iowa Department of Natural Resources), Marianne Harrelson (Story County Conservation), Dalton Johnston (City of Roland), Megan Volkens (IDALS), Adam Rupe and Amelia Long (JEO Consulting Group), and Dan Haug (Prairie Rivers of Iowa).

1. Meeting is available for public viewing via Zoom.
2. **Call To Order** – by Murken at 10:06 AM
3. **Roll Call** – Introductions of all in attendance and via Zoom
4. **Approval Of Agenda** – MOTION by Bower, SECOND by Hovick. MCU.
5. **Approval Of Minutes** – March 30, 2022 – MOTION by Hovick, SECOND by Bower. MCU.
- 6I. **Update On 28E Agreement Revision** – Murken stated that the revised 28E Agreement has been sent to all of the jurisdictions to sign, notarize, and return back to Leanne Harter. Once those are all received, she will record the document with the Story County Recorder's office and then file it with the Secretary of State.
- 7I. **JEO Project and Schedule Update** – Adam Rupe reviewed the items that he will be covering at today's meeting. Amelia Long will be giving an update on ACPF mapping and Adam will discuss finalizing the Priority Areas and Chapters 6 and 7. He will provide a brief introduction the Long-term Implementation Plan (Chapter 5). He would like all members to be thinking about the Public Open House – when to schedule the meeting and how the members can help staff the meeting and assist with educating the public. Amelia reviewed the information she gathered from the ACPF mapping on the four HUC 12's that the members requested. The information gathered from this ACPF mapping will be accessible on Story Map.
- 7II. **Finalize Priority Areas** – Long Dick Creek and Keigley Branch were identified as the priority areas for this project. They represent about 27% of the overall watershed and an opportunity for both Story County and Hamilton County to be engaged. They also have some of the highest levels of nitrogen and E. Coli levels. These priority areas will become part of the action and implementation plans. Kyle Ament will be conducting some field work in this area and will provide some detailed information regarding tillage types, cover crops, sediment phosphorus, and soil loss.
- 7III. **Finalize Short-Term Action Plan (Chapter 7)** – The action plan is focused on the first five-year timeframe. A draft list of items for the action plan was handed out. After the last meeting, Adam sent out an online survey for members to vote for what they determined should be the highest priority in each category. The results were included in the hand out and he added them to the draft action plan. He reviewed those results and members gave suggestions/comments for changes on some of the action items. Adam will make those changes and update the draft action plan.

- 7IV. Working Session On Education Plan (Chapter 6)** – Adam reviewed the draft education plan and asked members to provide comments and he will make the edits and send out an updated draft for review again.
- 7V. Introduction To The Long-Term Implementation Plan (Chapter 5)** – This is a 20-year “road map” of what should be or can be done at the watershed level. It also provides a lot of the background information on strategies, a tool box of BMP’s, watershed targets, and cost estimates.
- 8. Other Reports** - None
- 8. Public Comments** - None
- 10. Next Meeting** – Scheduled for Wednesday, July 20, 2022, at 10:00 AM in Roland.
- 11. Adjournment** – at 12:56 PM.

Headwaters of the South Skunk River, Watershed Management Authority
July 20, 2022, 10:00 AM
Erickson Park Shelter House – 110 North Park St., Roland, IA
Also available via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members - Linda Murken (Story County), Nathan Hovick (City of Roland), Leah Maass (Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District via Zoom), and Tim Gartin (City of Ames via Zoom).

Non-voting – Neil Weiss (City of Ames), Mike Cox (Story County Conservation), Kimberly Grandinetti (Story County Environmental Health), Brian Lammers (Hamilton County Conservation), Kate Hansen (Center for Rural Affairs), Kyle Ament (Iowa Department of Natural Resources), Marianne Harrelson (Story County Conservation), Megan Volkens (IDALS), Sara Carmichael (Story County Conservation), and Matt Mardesen (JEO Consulting Group). Catherine De Long and Julian Canabal-Rodriguez (ISU Extension), Adam Rupe and Amelia Long (JEO Consulting Group) via Zoom

1. Meeting is available for public viewing via Zoom.
2. **Call To Order** – by Murken at 10:05 AM
3. **Roll Call** – Introductions of all in attendance and via Zoom
4. **Approval Of Agenda** – MOTION by Hovick, SECOND by Gartin. MCU.
5. **Approval Of Minutes** – May 25, 2022 – MOTION by Hovick, SECOND by Gartin. MCU.
- 6I. **Update On 28E Agreement** – Murken stated that the revised 28E Agreement is still not finalized. Hardin County had decided to opt-out of the 28E Agreement and she is awaiting information to determine if this will require the jurisdictions to have to sign the agreement again.
- 6II. **Acknowledgement Of Alternate Board Members** – Murken introduced Leah Maass as an alternate for the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District.
- 7I. **JEO Project and Schedule Update** – Adam Rupe reviewed the items that he will be covering at today's meeting. He will review the draft copy of the Long-term Implementation Plan (Chapter 5). At the next (final) meeting, he will present the full draft plan, the executive summary, and finalize plans for the Public Open House. A tentative date/location for the open house is Thursday, November 10th at the Sons of Norway in Story City over the lunch hour and at the Jewell Golf Course in the afternoon/evening. A link to a draft copy of the plan will be placed on the Story County and Hamilton County websites for the public to review.
- 7II. **Overview of Long-Term Implementation Plan (Chapter 5)** – Adam presented the draft of Chapter 5 and reviewed some of the plan's content and asked for any comments or suggestions. This chapter is intended to be a twenty-year "road map" or strategic level implementation plan. There are strategies, a toolbox of BMPs, costs, schedules, milestones, evaluations, and the benefits listed in this part of the plan. Adam will update this section of the plan with comments from today and email it out for review before the next meeting.
- 7III. **Next Steps** – At the next meeting, we will finalize the planning for the Public Open House and the full draft plan. Adam will present the Executive Summary Poster and talk about using the plan, partner rolls, getting things started and the relevancy of the long-term plan.

8. **Watershed Assessment Results For Long Dick Creek And Keigley Branch Priority Areas** – Kyle Ament presented some of the information that he gathered from the assessment of the Long Dick Creek and Keigley Branch areas. He talked about sheet rill erosion and sediment delivery in these areas. He also made notes in his assessment about no-till and cover crop fields.
9. **Public Comments** - None
10. **Next Meeting** – Scheduled for Wednesday, August 31, 2022, at 9:00 AM in Roland.
11. **Adjournment** – at 11:58 AM.

Headwaters of the South Skunk River, Watershed Management Authority
August 31, 2022, 9:00 AM
Erickson Park Shelter House – 110 North Park St., Roland, IA
Also available via Zoom

Attendees:

Voting Members - Linda Murken (Story County), Nathan Hovick (City of Roland), Erik Christian (City of Story City), and Neil Wiess (City of Ames).

Non-voting – Mike Cox (Story County Conservation), Brian Lammers (Hamilton County Conservation), Kyle Ament (Iowa Department of Natural Resources), Marianne Harrelson (Story County Conservation), Sara Carmichael (Story County Conservation), Adam Rupe (JEO Consulting Group), and Amelia Long (JEO Consulting Group). Alyssa Vaughn (JEO Consulting Group), via Zoom

1. Meeting is available for public viewing via Zoom.
2. **Call To Order** – by Murken at 9:11 AM
3. **Roll Call** – Introductions of all in attendance and via Zoom
4. **Approval Of Agenda** – MOTION by Hovick, SECOND by Wiess. MCU.
5. **Approval Of Minutes** – July 20, 2022 – MOTION by Hovick, SECOND by Wiess. MCU.
6. **Old Business - Update On 28E Agreement** – Murken stated that the revised 28E Agreement is still not finalized. We are waiting for the City of Ellsworth to sign and return their agreement and then it will be submitted to the state.
- 6II. **Acknowledgement Of Alternate Board Members** – Murken introduced Neil Wiess as an alternate for the City of Ames.
- 7I. **JEO Project and Schedule Update** – Adam Rupe reviewed the items that he will be covering at today's meeting. He will review the general project updates, open house planning, and final draft plan review.
- 7II. **Review Logistic and Materials for Public Open House Meetings** – Open houses are scheduled for November 10th. Story County will be held at the Community Center in Story City from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Hamilton County will be at the Jewell Golf Course from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Adam handed out and reviewed a tentative open house plan. Individual assignments were confirmed and other items needing more information or finalization were discussed. A finalized meeting plan with details for each station will be sent out to all members via email prior to the open houses.
- 7III. **Review Executive Summary Poster of Draft Watershed Plan** – Adam reviewed the Executive Summary Poster. Members offered comments and suggestions for some changes.
- 7IV. **Review "Getting Started" Section of the Draft Watershed Plan** – Adam reviewed the "Getting Started" section of the plan. He indicated this will be the first page of the plan after the Executive Summary. This section will highlight the initial action items that the WMA wants to complete. Members provided suggestions and Adam will implement them into the plan.
- 7V. **Next Steps** – Once the plan is complete, one printed copy of the plan will be provided to each WMA member including a full-size poster, and a USB drive. There will also be summary version available.

8. **Public Comments** - None
9. **Next Meeting** – To be determined after open houses and the final plan is complete.
10. **Adjournment** – at 11:04 AM. MOTION by Christian, SECOND by Weiss.

Headwaters of the South Skunk Watershed Management Plan

Thursday, November 10, 2022
 Location: Community Center

City: Story City

Time: 11:00 - 1:00

NAME	ADDRESS <small>Street #, Street Name, City, Zip</small>	EMAIL <small>(optional)</small>	PHONE	INTEREST IN PROJECT <small>(Check all that apply)</small>
LeRoy Kester	814 Pennsylvania Ave Story City	leroy.kester@me.com	515-291-6844	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Rosemary Jordan	309 Grand Ave. Story City	beringmarble@gmail.com	515-231-8979	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Larry Taylor	3185 Kerech Ave Ellsworth Ia		515-836-4256	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
JATHAN CHICONE	15583 580th Ave Story City IA 50248	jathan.chicone@gmail.com	605-202-0101	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Kayla Bergman	27873 610th Ave Nevada, IA 50201	kayla@ctra.us	515-310-3100	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Rick Dietz	5782 FELBER ST AMES SWI0	rdietz@ya.com	515 708 3097	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Jim Pease	Story CEI	j.pease@pease.edu		<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Jeff White	1421 Carroll Ames	jeff.white@ic3@gmail.com	515-231-7444	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Don Wade	1004 Kellogg Ames	dkw@ic3@gmail.com	515-232-8569	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Rachael Meyer	321 S 5th St #223 Ames, IA	rachael.e.meyer@gmail.com	515 460 6268	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:

Please Sign In!

Headwaters of the South Skunk Watershed Management Plan

Thursday, November 10, 2022
 Location: Community Center

City: Story City

Time: 11:00 - 1:00

NAME	ADDRESS <small>Street #, Street Name, City, Zip</small>	EMAIL <small>(optional)</small>	PHONE	INTEREST IN PROJECT <small>(Check all that apply)</small>
Jenny Ann Huber	Prairie Rivers of Iowa	phromhuber@ prred.org		<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Jessica Butters	Prairie Rivers of Iowa	jbutters@ prred.org		<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Kristen Grotteman	Ames, Iowa			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Naomi Friend	Story City, IA			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Traug Peterson	City of Ames	traug.peterson @cityofames.org		<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
TRIP	AMES			<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
				<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
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				<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:

Please Sign In!

Headwaters of the South Skunk Watershed Management Plan

Thursday, November 10, 2022
 Location: Soft Course

City: Jewell

Time: 5:00-7:00

NAME	ADDRESS <small>Street #, Street Name, City, Zip</small>	EMAIL <small>(optional)</small>	PHONE	INTEREST IN PROJECT <small>(Check all that apply)</small>
Brian Lammers	2490 Briggs woods Tr. W.C., IA	blammers@hamilton-county.org	515-836-9525	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Doug VanLange	3435 Tollman Ave Ellsworth, IA 50075		515-836-8529	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Roger W. Mason	2964 830th Ellsworth		515-836-8020	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Christine Lammert	Ames			<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>See Board</u>
Mike BRANDY	Windsor Cir		515-290-0461	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Jeff Evans	Ellsworth		515-836-8538	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Grant Evans	Ellsworth		515-836-3357	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Alan W. Spahnlein	Ames		515-240-8696	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>CAUSE</u>
NEX THOMAS	AMES IA		515-233-2648	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Kevin Bottoma	Ellsworth		515-836-8025	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:

Please Sign In!

Headwaters of the South Skunk Watershed Management Plan

Thursday, November 10, 2022

Location: Golf Course

City: Jewell

Time: 5:00 - 7:00

NAME	ADDRESS <small>Street #, Street Name, City, Zip</small>	EMAIL <small>(optional)</small>	PHONE	INTEREST IN PROJECT <small>(Check all that apply)</small>
Roggy Volkman	Eillswooth	415	836-4651	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Cindy Barrowdoff	Aves			<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
				<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
				<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
				<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
				<input type="checkbox"/> Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official <input type="checkbox"/> Other:

Please Sign In!

Headwaters of the South Skunk River Watershed Management Plan

For More on the Watershed Management Plan:

Read the full draft plan and learn more about the WMA by visiting www.jeo.com/headwaters-south-skunk-wma or scan the QR code below with your smart phone.



Comments on the plan will be accepted until Friday, November 18, 2022 and can be submitted online or to a project team member.

WMA Members

Cities

- » Ames
- » Jewell
- » Randall
- » Roland
- » Story City

Counties

- » Hamilton
- » Story

Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD)

- » Hamilton
- » Story

Technical Advisory Team

- » Center for Rural Affairs
- » City of Ames Department of Water & Pollution Control
- » Hamilton County Conservation
- » Hardin County Conservation
- » Iowa Corn Growers Association
- » Iowa State University
- » ISU Extension
- » Practical Farmers of Iowa
- » Story City
- » Story County Conservation
- » Story County Environmental Health

The Plan Purpose

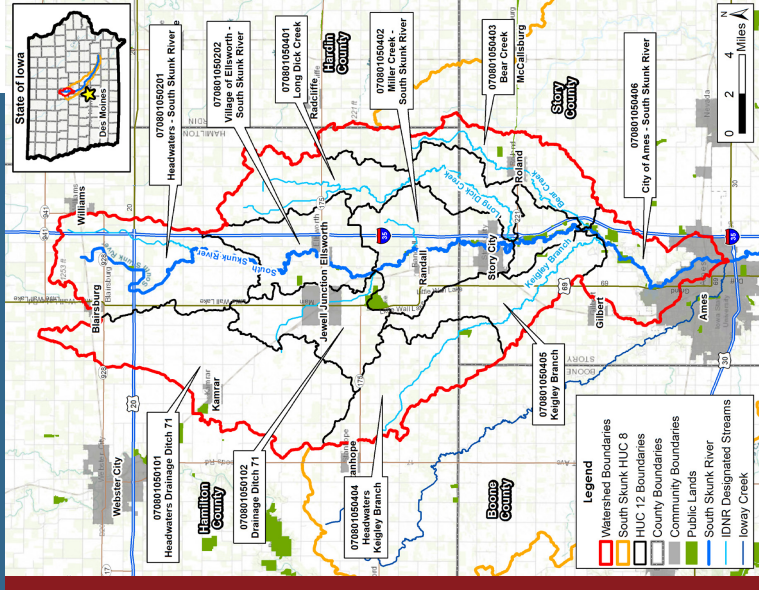
The Headwaters of the South Skunk River Watershed Management Plan is sponsored by the Headwaters of the South Skunk River Watershed Management Authority (WMA), which is a voluntary coalition of local counties, cities, and soil and water conservation districts within the watershed. The plan identifies and prioritizes projects and activities to address water quality and flooding concerns across the watershed. Implementation of the plan is based on voluntary cooperation between WMA members, landowners, and other stakeholders.

The Plan Vision

The WMA will bring together farmers, landowners, residents, soil and water conservation districts, cities, counties, and other stakeholders through an "all in it together" approach towards watershed management. Education, outreach, and voluntary efforts will be used to improve water quality, increase flood resiliency, and enhance soil health across the watershed.

Established Goals

1. Generate and maintain full political, technical, and public support across all participating political subdivisions and other stakeholders to ensure plan sustainability.
2. Improve water quality to enhance quality of life, environmental integrity, and recreational opportunities, within the watershed.
3. More widely and deeply affect water quality improvements in the watershed by increasing individual and community commitment to water quality.



Map of the Project Area

NOVEMBER 2022

Funding provided by Iowa DNR/EPA Section 319 Watershed Improvement Program and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Plan developed by JEO Consulting Group

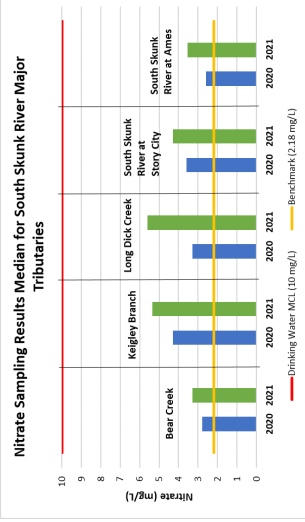
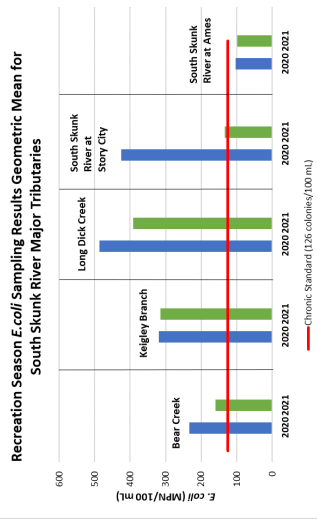
Primary Concerns to Address in the Watershed Area

A key discovery made during the planning process was a need to expand water quality monitoring effort across the watershed. In particular, tributary monitoring in Hamilton County is needed to help better identify and prioritize locations for best management practices (BMPs) and implementation efforts.

Additionally, development of watershed-wide water quality model could leverage all stream monitoring data, help to understand pollutant sources, and better predict outcomes from implementation of BMPs.

See Chapters 2 and 3 of the watershed plan for a description of watershed characteristics and an assessment of existing conditions.

High Nitrogen and E. coli Bacteria Levels



Short-Term Action Plan

The action plan identifies priority activities that each city, county, and SWCD, along with the WMA should take over the next 5 years. This action plan has been developed around a framework of four categories of activities which include Education, Projects and Studies, Partnerships and Policy, and Monitoring and Plan Evaluation. Each of these categories contain specific actions that help to address the plan's goals and objectives.

See Chapter 7 of the watershed plan for the full Action Plan.

Education

Public events, outreach, and educational assistance aimed at various target audiences that helps to increase awareness of the WMA, the watershed, and the importance of watershed protection of BMPs. This is measured by changes in measurable metrics in terms of changes in knowledge, attitude, and behavior.



Projects & Studies

A variation or specific effort meant to produce a product, tool, report, or achieve a tangible result. Projects are temporary work efforts. This is measured by documenting the efforts, outcomes, or other deliverables produced through each project.

Partnerships & Policy

Collaboration between WMA members, or other partners and the resulting actions, guidelines, or protocols set forth to achieve a specific outcome. Generally these are undertaken to address a specific problem or need at the WMA level or at the individual partner level. Whenever possible, policy should promote incentives rather than be punitive. This is measured by the number of policy, WMA membership status, and the number of partnerships on other activities.

Monitoring & Plan Evaluation
The process of tracking progress of meeting watershed plan goals. Baseline and goal benchmarks are established through plan goals and objectives, or through other sources. The action is measured by diversity of resources monitored, amount of data collected, and the development of a long period of record.

Long-Term Action Plan

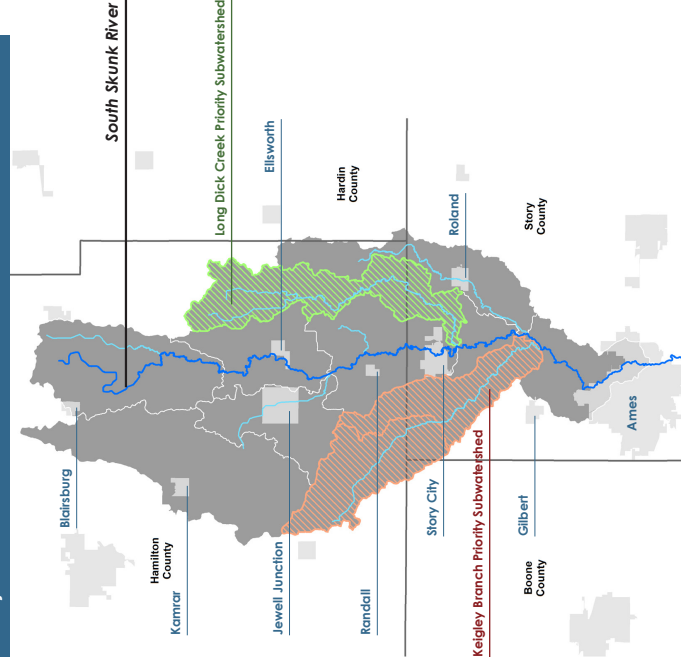
The watershed plan lays out a long-term implementation time frame of 20 years, and education will be the cornerstone to achieving success.

It will take the education and buy-in of landowners, farmers, and communities; plus grants and other partner funds to help make this plan a reality.

Priority subwatersheds were identified for initial areas to focus BMP adoption efforts towards. These areas (shown on the map) were selected based on high levels of nitrogen and E. coli in water quality samples and opportunities for multiple partners to work together.

See Chapter 5 of the watershed plan for the full Long-Term Implementation Strategy.

Priority Subwatersheds



BMP Examples



In-Field BMP: Cover Crop



Livestock & Manure BMP: Manure Injection



Edge-of-Field BMP: Bioreactor



Urban Stormwater BMP: Bioretention Cell

Best Management Practices

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are defined as a broad set of conservation practices that help to conserve soil and water resources.

Both watershed-wide and targeted implementation efforts to improve water quality and flood resiliency will primarily be accomplished through both existing partner programs/projects and newly identified best management practices.

There are a variety of BMPs which are proven to improve water quality and reduce flooding — including in-field, edge-of-field, livestock & manure, and urban stormwater BMPs.

See Chapter 5 of the watershed plan for more information on BMPs.

HEADWATERS OF THE SOUTH SKUNK WMA WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

NOVEMBER 10, 2022 | OPEN HOUSE COMMENT FORM

1. How did you hear about today's meeting?

Soil and water conservation district

2. Do you agree with the problems and goals discussed within the plan? Please explain.

Yes, appreciate the education component and the farm conservation practices

3. Do you agree with the actions laid out in the Action Plan? Please explain.

Yes, really appreciate the attention to partnerships and policy

4. Any additional comments, questions, concerns?

~~Just~~ seems like a great group of partners!

Contact Information (optional)

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Learn more about the project at www.jeo.com/headwaters-south-skunk-wma

Drop your completed comment in the box or send via email to Alyssa Vaughan at avaughan@jeo.com by Nov. 18, 2022.



**HEADWATERS OF THE SOUTH SKUNK WMA
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN**
NOVEMBER 10, 2022 | OPEN HOUSE COMMENT FORM

1. How did you hear about today's meeting?

Email

2. Do you agree with the problems and goals discussed within the plan? Please explain.

Yes -

3. Do you agree with the actions laid out in the Action Plan? Please explain.

Pretty much

4. Any additional comments, questions, concerns?

Yes, this work & plan are vital!

Contact Information (optional)

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Learn more about the project at www.jeo.com/headwaters-south-skunk-wma

Drop your completed comment in the box or send via email to Alyssa Vaughan at avaughan@jeo.com by Nov. 18, 2022.



HEADWATERS OF THE SOUTH SKUNK WMA WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

NOVEMBER 10, 2022 | OPEN HOUSE COMMENT FORM

1. How did you hear about today's meeting?
2. Do you agree with the problems and goals discussed within the plan? Please explain.
3. Do you agree with the actions laid out in the Action Plan? Please explain.
4. Any additional comments, questions, concerns?

Lake Cairo - history

Contact Information (optional)

Name:

[REDACTED]

Mailing Address:

[REDACTED]

Phone:

[REDACTED]

Email:

[REDACTED]

Learn more about the project at www.jeo.com/headwaters-south-skunk-wma

Drop your completed comment in the box or send via email to Alyssa Vaughan at avaughan@jeo.com by Nov. 18, 2022.



Adam Rupe

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 9:25 AM
To: Alyssa Vaughan; Adam Rupe
Subject: Adding to public comments for the South Skunk River Watershed Project

Adam and Alyssa,

I hope this email finds you doing well. I probably should have written up an email when I was taking a deep dive into the plan, as it was fresher in my mind. However, as I know the public comment period deadline is tomorrow, I want to respond with some quick reflections on the plan. Overall, I think it is outstanding and I'm hoping to be a champion in helping to implement parts of it. The following bullets are some of my observations:

- **Bring more focus to flood mitigation.** Within the plan itself there seems to be a focus on flood mitigation, but that didn't seem to be conveyed in the project overview. In the short term action plan it states under #4 of Partnership & Policy to: Work with County Energy Managers and Iowa Homeland Security and Energy Management (IHSEMD) official to integrate the watched plan with local county hazard mitigation plans. I spoke with the current director who was not able to participate in this process due to capacity and I understand they are creating their local plan beginning in January. I understand that it's a matter of timing, but it seems a bit backwards as I would hope their perspective is captured in this broader plan. Note, I visited in good detail with the previous director Kieth Morgan. He shared quite a bit about the issues around flooding on these particular watershed and validated some of my concerns and observations.
- **Be more specific with goals.** While I appreciate the established goals and they are broad enough to be able to capture any successes, I feel they lack some focus on measurable outcomes. For instance, if we're talking about implementing BMPs, can't we be more specific? What does it mean to enhance water quality, quality of life, environmental integrity, etc. What does it mean to increase individual and community commitment to water quality?
- **Focus on deliverables.** The Plan specifically mentioned the South Skunk River Watershed project that was part of the Water Quality Initiative between ISU and IDALs between 2018 to 2021. Not only did I look into it, but I made some calls to try to gather the reason no BMPs were implemented during that time. To me this stood out and in the context of the proposed plan, I think it's worth understanding reasons no projects were implement. While I understand the Headwaters South Skink River WMP needs to be broad, I feel like there are opportunity to bring more focus to actual deliverables. I believe that is important.
- **Identify champions for the WMP.** The plan references the Lyons Creek Watershed Project. I took quite a bit of time to go through lessons learned. While the Headwaters South Skunk River WMP seems to have a heavy focus on educating famers/landowners and

there is a potential bias toward shifting traditional farming practices (e.g. edge of field practices), I believe we don't want to miss opportunities for those that already open to implementing BMPs. After all, success breeds more success. I feel strongly there needs to be something about incentives and/or or working with those landowners whose are wanting to make changes, but need support in doing. We don't want to miss any low hanging fruit. One of the clear lessons learned from the Lyons Creek Watershed Project was the important of identifying and having champion(s) early on in the project.

As you are aware, we have a 180 acres property that is part of the watersheds system identified in South Skunk River project. I imagine the opportunity to do some oxbow restoration and even potentially a bioreactor. We are more than open to collaborating and potentially using the farm as a demonstration site. We believe the vision for our farm and the efforts we have taken are directly aligned with the intent of the proposed WMP. I am more than willing to be involved in the broader process and happy to be a champion specific to implementing tangible practices.

Respectfully,

[Redacted signature]

Caution: This email is from an external source and may have malicious content or links. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.



Prairie Rivers of Iowa

1d · 🌐



Save the Date! You're invited to attend either #HeadwatersoftheSouthSkunk open houses; no formal presentation will be made, and attendees may drop in anytime. Light refreshments will be available at each event. Members of the planning team will be available to answer questions, and each open house will feature informational displays and handouts detailing the community-guided watershed plan.

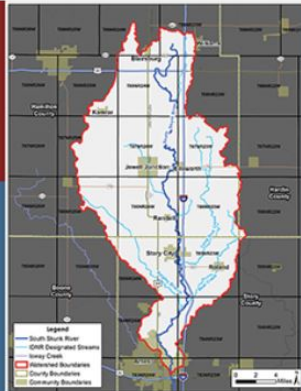
YOU'RE INVITED!

Join us to learn more about voluntary practices to protect water quality on the South Skunk River.

OPEN HOUSE EVENTS | THURSDAY, NOV. 10, 2022

- **11 AM to 1 PM**
Story City Community Center | 503 Elm Avenue, Story City, IA
- **5 PM to 7 PM**
Jewell Golf Course | 1225 Main Street, Jewell, IA

Hosted by the Headwaters of the South Skunk River Watershed Management Authority (WMA)
Learn more at: www.jeo.com/headwaters-south-skunk-wma



👍 5

3 Shares



Like



Comment



Share



Write a comment...



Hamilton County Conservation Board

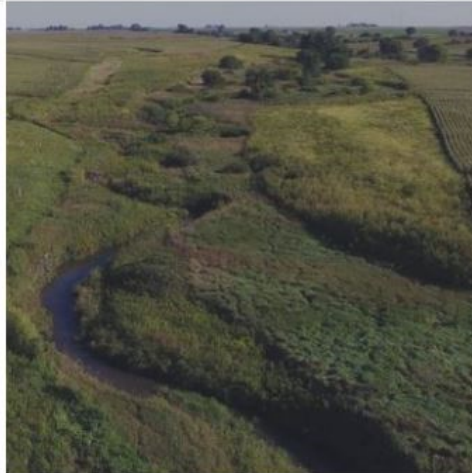
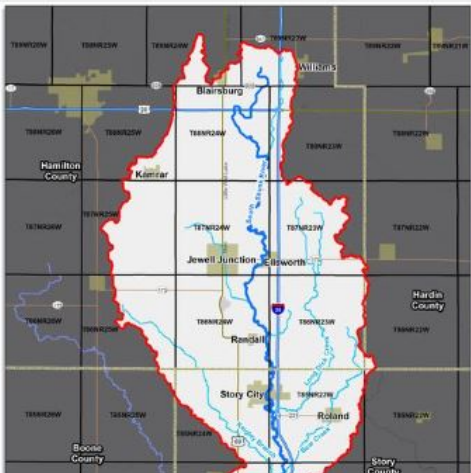
October 17 at 4:05 PM · 🌐



THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO AN OPEN HOUSE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WATER QUALITY PROTECTION IN THE SOUTH SKUNK RIVER WATERSHED

Thursday, November 10, 2022

Landowners, farmers, and all residents within Story and Hamilton County can learn more about the recently drafted Watershed Management Plan for the Headwaters of the South Skunk River Watershed through two upcoming open house meetings on Thursday, November 10, 2022: ... See more



👍 2



Like



Comment



Share



Write a comment...





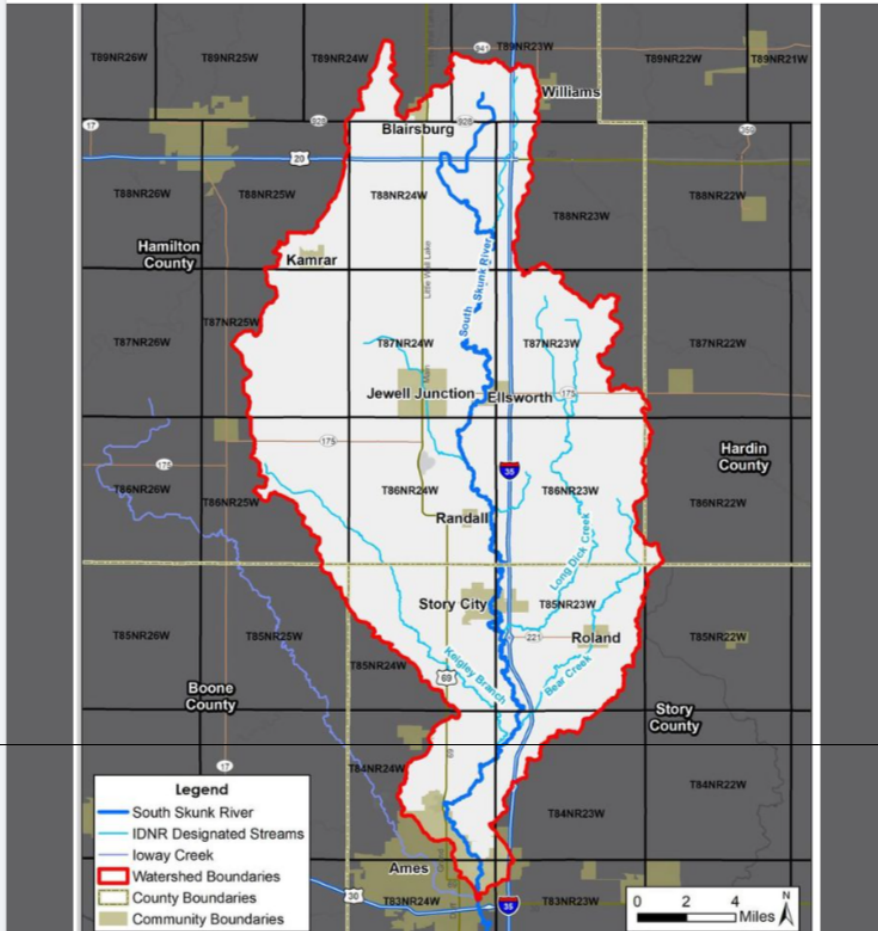
Story County Conservation

19m · 🌐



Make your voice heard! 📣 📣

The Headwaters of the South Skunk is looking for input on the watershed management plan that was created over the past year. Short-term and long-term goals have been identified to address multiple sources of pollution in the watershed. Comments and suggestions are due this Friday, November 18th. You can submit online at <https://www.jeo.com/headwaters-south-skunk-wma> or by emailing Sara Carmichael, Watershed Coordinator at scarmichael@storycountyowa.gov



👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share



Write a comment...



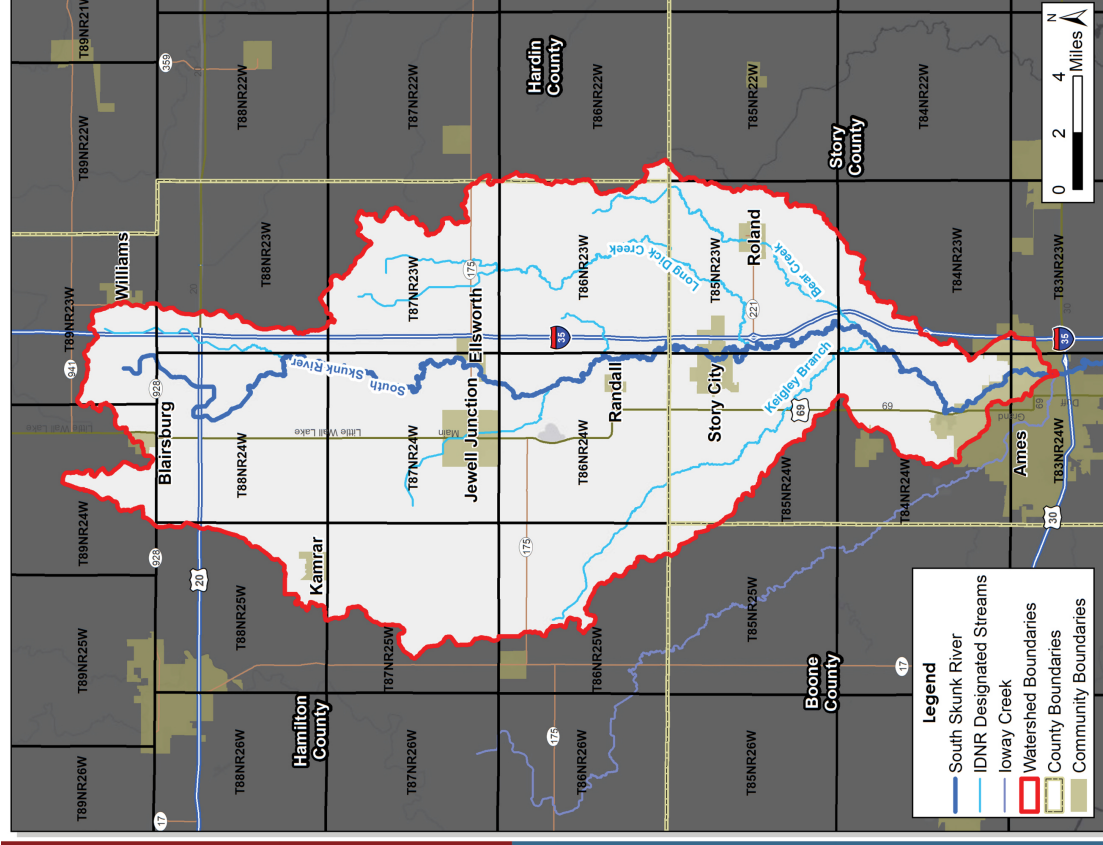
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Join us to learn more about voluntary practices to protect water quality on the South Skunk River.

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- **5 PM to 7 PM**
Jewell Golf Course | 1225 Main Street, Jewell, IA

Hosted by the Headwaters of the South Skunk River Watershed Management Authority (WMA)
Learn more at: www.jeo.com/headwaters-south-skunk-wma



YOU'RE INVITED!

Join us to learn more about protecting water quality in the South Skunk River.

OPEN HOUSE EVENTS
THURSDAY, NOV. 10, 2022

11 AM to 1 PM

Story City Community Center
503 Elm Avenue, Story City, IA

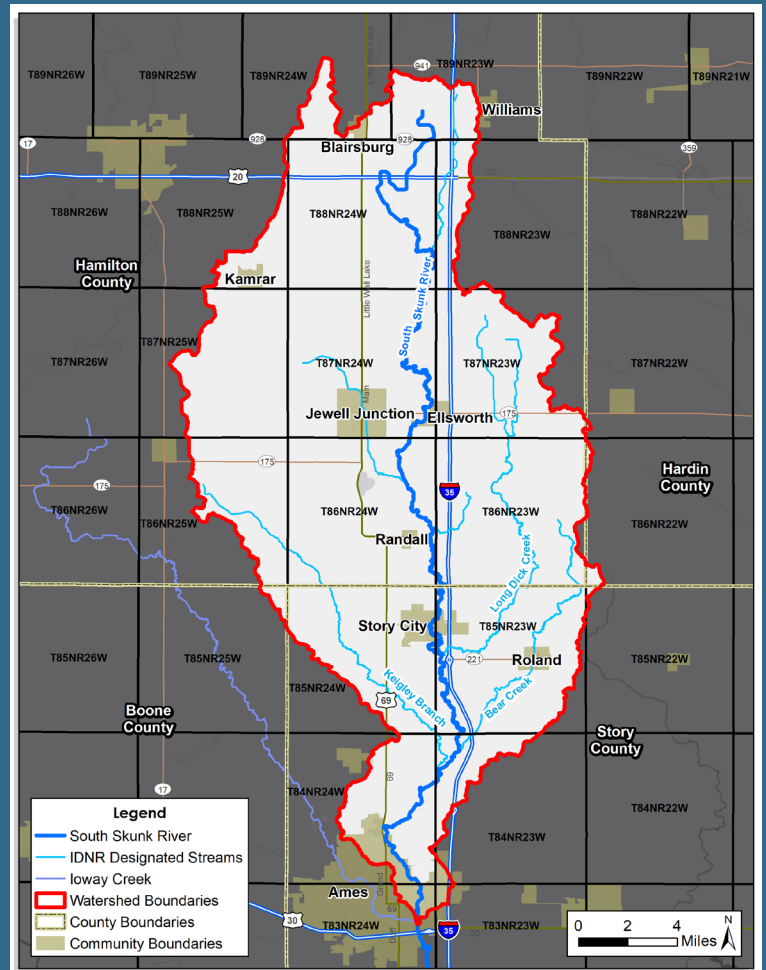
5 PM to 7 PM

Jewell Golf Course
1225 Main Street, Jewell, IA

There are two chances to join the Headwaters of the South Skunk River WMA to learn more about the Watershed Management Plan and voluntary best practices to protect water quality in the region. The public is encouraged to provide feedback on the draft plan.

WMA members and the planning team will be available to discuss the plan and answer questions. No formal presentations are planned.

To learn more about the WMA and the Watershed Management Plan, visit:
www.jeo.com/headwaters-south-skunk-wma or scan the QR code at right with your smart phone.



For more information, contact:

[organization]

[contact name and title]

[phone and email]

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO AN OPEN HOUSE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WATER QUALITY PROTECTION IN THE SOUTH SKUNK RIVER WATERSHED

Story City, Iowa (**date, 2022**) – Landowners, farmers, and all residents within Story and Hamilton County can learn more about the recently drafted Watershed Management Plan for the Headwaters of the South Skunk River Watershed through two upcoming open house meetings on Thursday, Nov. 10, 2022:

- A lunch open house will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Story City Community Center, 503 Elm Avenue, Story City, IA 50248
- An evening open house will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Jewell Golf Course, 1225 Main Street, Jewell, IA 50130

The public is invited to attend either open house; no formal presentation will be made, and attendees may drop in anytime. Light refreshments will be available at each event. Members of the planning team will be available to answer questions, and each open house will feature informational displays and handouts detailing the community-guided watershed plan. The plan’s primary goals address efforts to improve water quality, flood mitigation, nutrient and sediment loss reduction, and restoration and protection of natural resources and habitat. Resources and information will also be available at the meeting for those wishing to participate in conservation practices.

Planning efforts were conducted in collaboration with the Headwaters of the South Skunk Watershed Management Authority (WMA) members, Iowa State (ISU) Extension, Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS), Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as well as other local officials and agency leaders. WMA board members, the consultant team, and other partners will be available for discussion and questions during the open house. The plan relies on voluntary efforts from farmers, landowners, cities, counties, and other stakeholders and will help to bring in additional grant funds to pay for the efforts.

The Headwaters of the South Skunk River starts near Williams and Blairsburg and flows south, meeting up with the loway Creek in Ames. The watershed includes all areas that drain to the river and covers portions of Hamilton and Story Counties. The WMA is a voluntary coalition of representatives from local soil and water conservation districts (SWCD), cities, and counties, as well as other state and nonprofit agencies with similar missions. Funding for the planning process was provided through the Iowa DNR’s Watershed Improvement Grant. JEO Consulting Group has been retained to develop the watershed management plan.

For more information, please visit www.jeo.com/headwaters-south-skunk-wma.

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