



## SUMMARY OF WATERSHED PLAN AMENDMENT

The Upper Rum River Watershed Management Organization (URRWMO) is proposing amendments to its Watershed Management Plan that was adopted in July 2019. Comments may be submitted by:

- Emailing\* [jamie.schurbon@anokaswcd.org](mailto:jamie.schurbon@anokaswcd.org)
- Mailing\* comments to:

Anoka Conservation District  
C/O Jamie Schurbon  
1318 McKay Drive suite 300  
Ham Lake, MN 55304

- Speaking at a public hearing March 4, 2025 at 6:30pm at Oak Grove City Hall

\* Emailed or mailed comments must be received before 4:30pm March 4, 2025

### Summary of proposed amendments:

1. **Plan location:** Appendix A – URRWMO Joint Powers Agreement (JPA)

**Proposed amendment:** Replace the full length URRWMO Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) with one page containing the online location of the current JPA.

**Explanation:** The JPA was recently updated, so the version in the Watershed Plan is no longer current. In order to shorten the plan and minimize future amendments, the reader will be directed to the JPA online.

2. **Plan location:** Appendix F – URRWMO Guidance Documents Adopted by Reference

**Proposed amendment:** Add the “Ford Brook, Pickerel Lake, and East Twin Lake Subwatershed Analysis” to the list of guidance documents. Delete the same waterbodies from the list of future subwatershed studies.

**Explanation:** This new subwatershed assessment was completed in 2024. It identifies and ranks by cost effectiveness many water quality improvement plans. The URRWMO board has already adopted it as a guidance document. Projects in the study are only eligible for certain state grants if the study is amended into the Watershed Plan. Doing so does not create a new financial obligation for the URRWMO to build these projects. The study has been posted to <https://www.urrwmo.org/watershed-management-plans-reports/>

Neither of these proposed amendments change anticipated costs to the URRWMO communities.

The full, current watershed plan can be found at [www.urrwmo.org](http://www.urrwmo.org)

On the following pages changes are shown by ~~strikethrough~~ and underline.

## **Proposed Amendments: Appendix A**

*[Full length outdated joint powers agreement will be removed]*

The current Upper Rum River joint powers agreement (JPA)  
can be found at [www.URRWMO.org](http://www.URRWMO.org)

## Proposed Amendments: Appendix F

### URRWMO Guidance Documents Adopted by Reference

*Appendix F*

Guidance documents help the URRWMO prioritize and select projects that advance the goals outlined within this plan. The URRWMO has adopted by reference all of the guidance documents within Appendix F. When future guidance documents are completed or existing guidance documents are updated, the URRWMO Board will take action to formally adopt each guidance document and amend this plan (following Minnesota Rules 8410.0140 Subp. 2) and update Appendix F to identify all guidance documents adopted by the URRWMO.

All Guidance Documents's will clearly describe the project(s), the measureable goals to be achieved, the estimated total project cost. Ideally, guidance documents will also include the URRWMO's cost, any outside funding sources, and the project partners.

Adoption Date	Guidance Document Name	Description	Weblink
Dec-18	Lake George Water Quality Improvement Assessment Phase 1: Lakeshed Analysis	<p>Monitoring in Lake George has revealed declining water quality trends. The ACD is finalizing a diagnostic study of potential water quality improvement projects around the lake.</p> <p>The project prioritization is still ongoing at this time, but possible projects will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Iron enhanced sand bench within the Lake George Regional Park</li> <li>• Replace/repair Ditch 19 weir.</li> <li>• Numerous lakeshore restorations.</li> <li>• Wetland restorations, primarily north of the lake.</li> <li>• Prevent increases in stormwater inflow to the lake by:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Requiring retention of stormwater in new developments.</li> <li>o Keeping landlocked areas landlocked.</li> <li>o Consider MIDS or similar stormwater standards within the lake's watershed.</li> <li>o Ensure culverts are replaced with culverts of the same size and elevation.</li> <li>o Minimize ditch cleaning that enhances water delivery to the lake.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.urrwmo.org/">http://www.urrwmo.org/</a>
Dec-18	Rum River Field Assessment	<p>Portions of the Rum River are experiencing significant bank erosion, which leads to reduced water quality. Some bank erosion is natural, but healthy levels of erosion are relatively slow and on a small scale in stable river system. Erosion can be accelerated by a variety of factors and result in higher sediment loads within the stream. ACD conducted a streambank inventory in 2017 and another in 2018 to identify sites with high levels of erosion, and soliciting interest from private landowners to participate in future projects.</p>	<a href="http://www.urrwmo.org/">http://www.urrwmo.org/</a>
Dec-18	City of St. Francis Stormwater Retrofit Analysis	<p>The City of St. Francis coordinated with ACD to conduct a city-wide stormwater BMP retrofit analysis. The report identified and ranked seventeen (17) water quality improvement projects all of which drain to the Rum River. Projects were ranked by nutrient reduction (TP and TSS) and also assigned an estimated project cost and annual maintenance fees. This allows for project prioritization on a rating scale (e.g. \$ per lb TP removed per year). Since all of the BMPs drain to the Rum River, these projects would provide a water quality benefit to all of the communities downstream.</p>	<a href="http://www.urrwmo.org/">http://www.urrwmo.org/</a>
<u>Nov-24</u>	<u>Ford Brook, Pickerel Lake, and East Twin Lake Subwatershed Analysis</u>	<p><u>This study identified and ranks by cost effectiveness projects for improving water quality. Projects within it will benefit the waterbodies named in the study title, and may additionally help meet goals for downstream waters including the Rum River and Mississippi River.</u></p>	<a href="http://www.urrwmo.org/">http://www.urrwmo.org/</a>

## Continued: Proposed Amendments to Appendix F

Locations of future Subwatershed Assessment Studies (SWAS) will be recommended by the TAC and selected by the URRWMO Board with consideration of these priority subwatersheds:

### Highest priority

Rum River direct drainage (minor watershed #21095)

~~Pickereel Lake~~

~~Ford Brook~~

### Medium priority

Seelye Brook

~~East Twin Lake~~

Others as recommended by the TAC

If future subwatersheds are identified by the TAC for SWAS, the URRWMO can amend this plan (following Minnesota Rules 8410) and update Appendix F with the priority subwatersheds.