



**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

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**November 3, 2020**

**Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources**

**RE: Le Sueur County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan Extension**

To Whom it May Concern,

The Le Sueur County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is due to expire on December 31, 2021. The current water plan was updated in 2016 and will continue to provide valuable guidance as Le Sueur County transitions to One Watershed, One Plan. Le Sueur County has four HUC 8 watersheds: Cannon River, Lower Minnesota River, Middle Minnesota River, and Le Sueur River.

Le Sueur County is actively participating with the Cannon River One Watershed One Plan process. The plan was approved on June 24<sup>th</sup> 2020 by the BWSR Board, and adopted on October 7<sup>th</sup> 2020 by the Cannon River Joint Powers Board. On April 21, 2020, Le Sueur County adopted a resolution of support and opted out of planning efforts for the Le Sueur River One Watershed One Plan due to limited areas within the watershed. Le Sueur County is actively working with partners in the Lower Minnesota River Watershed, and intends to apply for a planning grant in 2021. Le Sueur County also intends to participate in the Middle Minnesota River Watershed, but planning efforts will likely not occur before 2023 due to all of the planning partners participating with other One Watershed One Plans.

Le Sueur County would like to request that the Board of Soil and Water Resources consider granting Le Sueur County an extension from the end date of the current water plan until December 31, 2026. This would be a five-year extension from the current water plan expiration date. At the end of the requested extension, Le Sueur County will transition fully to One Watershed One Plan.

**Five Year Water Plan Extension Plan**

January 2021	Receive extension for Le Sueur County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan
2021	Begin implementation activities of the Cannon River 1W1P
2021-2022	Initiate Lower Minnesota River 1W1P Planning Process
2021-2023	Participating Planning Partners complete and adopt Le Sueur River 1W1P
2022-2024	Complete and adopt Lower Minnesota River 1W1P
2023-2024	Initiate Middle Minnesota River 1W1P Planning Process
2024-2026	Complete and adopt Middle Minnesota River 1W1P

Thank you,

County Board Chair  
Le Sueur County Board of Commissioners