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MPCA Should Move Quickly to Determine Sulfate Load Reductions and Regulate Mining Pollution to Restore Wild Rice Waters. Sulfate discharge from mining pollution is the predominant cause of the wild rice waters sulfate impairments listed by MPCA. The most efficient way to restore these waters is to set and enforce sulfate discharge limits in mining National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits to reduce sulfate and achieve compliance with Minnesota's wild rice sulfate standard.