

520 Lafayette Road North St. Paul, MN 55155-4194

Notice of availability and request for comments on draft Le Sueur River

Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS)

Update Report

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Report 2025

General information

Public comment period begins: March 3, 2025

Public comment period ends: April 2, 2025

MPCA contact person:

Paul Davis Watershed Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 12 Civic Center Plaza, Ste 2165 Mankato, MN 56001

Phone: 507-344-5246

Email: paul.a.davis@state.mn.us

File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or 844-828-0942

The draft reports for the Le Sueur River Watershed TMDL Report 2025 and Le Sueur River WRAPS Update Report 2025 are available for review on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) draft/public noticed MPCA Public Comments webpage, or at the MPCA office address listed under the MPCA contact person above. Following the comment period, the MPCA will revise the report(s) and submit the final TMDL to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval. Comments, petitions, and other requests must be received at the MPCA in writing on or before the public comment period end date and time identified above.

Watershed: 07020011 Le Sueur River Major Watershed

Description of the Le Sueur River Watershed TMDL and WRAPS Reports

Required by the federal Clean Water Act, a TMDL is a scientific study, conducted on waters assessed to be impaired, that calculates the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards for that pollutant. The TMDL study is a process that identifies all the sources of the pollutant causing an impairment and quantifies necessary reductions among the sources.

The WRAPS Update Report is the next iteration of the initial Le Sueur River WRAPS Report (2015) required by the state Clean Water Legacy Act. This report uses TMDL and other information to develop strategies for addressing point and nonpoint pollution sources. The objective of the WRAPS Update process is to provide updated information and refine strategies to restore impaired waters and protect the unimpaired waters from degradation. This report is a collaborative effort between the MPCA, other state agencies, local government partners, and other stakeholders and supports the work planned under the One Watershed, One Plan program.

Procedure for public participation

As stated in Minn. R. chs. 7000 and 7001, there are three formal procedures for public participation in the MPCA's consideration of this matter. Interested persons may:

- 1. Submit written comments on the draft reports.
- 2. Petition the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting.
- 3. Petition the MPCA to hold a contested case hearing.

Submitting written comments

Comments may be submitted to the MPCA by the two methods below:

- 1. Online at www.pca.state.mn.us/publiccomments
- 2. U.S. Mail to the following address:

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency c/o Paul Davis 12 Civic Center Plaza, Ste 2165 Mankato, MN 56001

To submit comments or petitions online or by mail to the MPCA, you must state:

- 1. Your interest in the draft TMDL or WRAPS Update reports.
- 2. The action you wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to the section of the draft report(s) you believe should be changed. It is important to clearly specify which of the two reports the comments pertain to since the reports will proceed along separate tracks for final approval.
- 3. The reason(s) supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the MPCA to investigate the merits of the position.

Public informational meeting

A public informational meeting is an informal meeting during which interested persons can ask questions concerning the proposed project. The MPCA staff will be present to provide information. If an interested person would like the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting, the person should include all information identified above and in addition include a statement of the reasons the person desires the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting and the issues that the person would like the agency to address at the public informational meeting.

Contested case hearing

A contested case hearing is a formal proceeding before an administrative law judge empowered to advise the MPCA regarding issues of fact. As described in Minn. R. 7000.1800, persons who submit petitions for a contested case hearing must also state the issues they propose to address in a contested case hearing, the specific relief requested or resolution of the matter, and the reasons (which may be in the form of proposed findings) supporting an MPCA decision to hold a contested case hearing. Failure to comply with these rules exactly may result in a denial of the request. To the extent known, the petitioner may also submit a list of prospective witnesses to be called at a hearing, a proposed list of publications, references, or studies to be introduced at a hearing and the approximate time required for the petitioner to present the matter at a hearing. The decision whether to hold a contested case hearing will be made under Minn. R. 7000.1900.

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