

Clean Water Fund Trajectory for FY24-25



Paul Gardner, Administrator

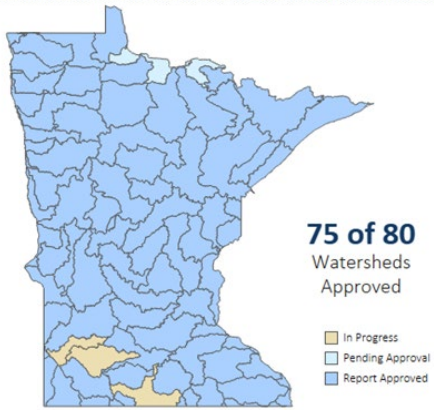
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Subcommittee on MN Water Policy





CWF Strategy The Watershed Approach

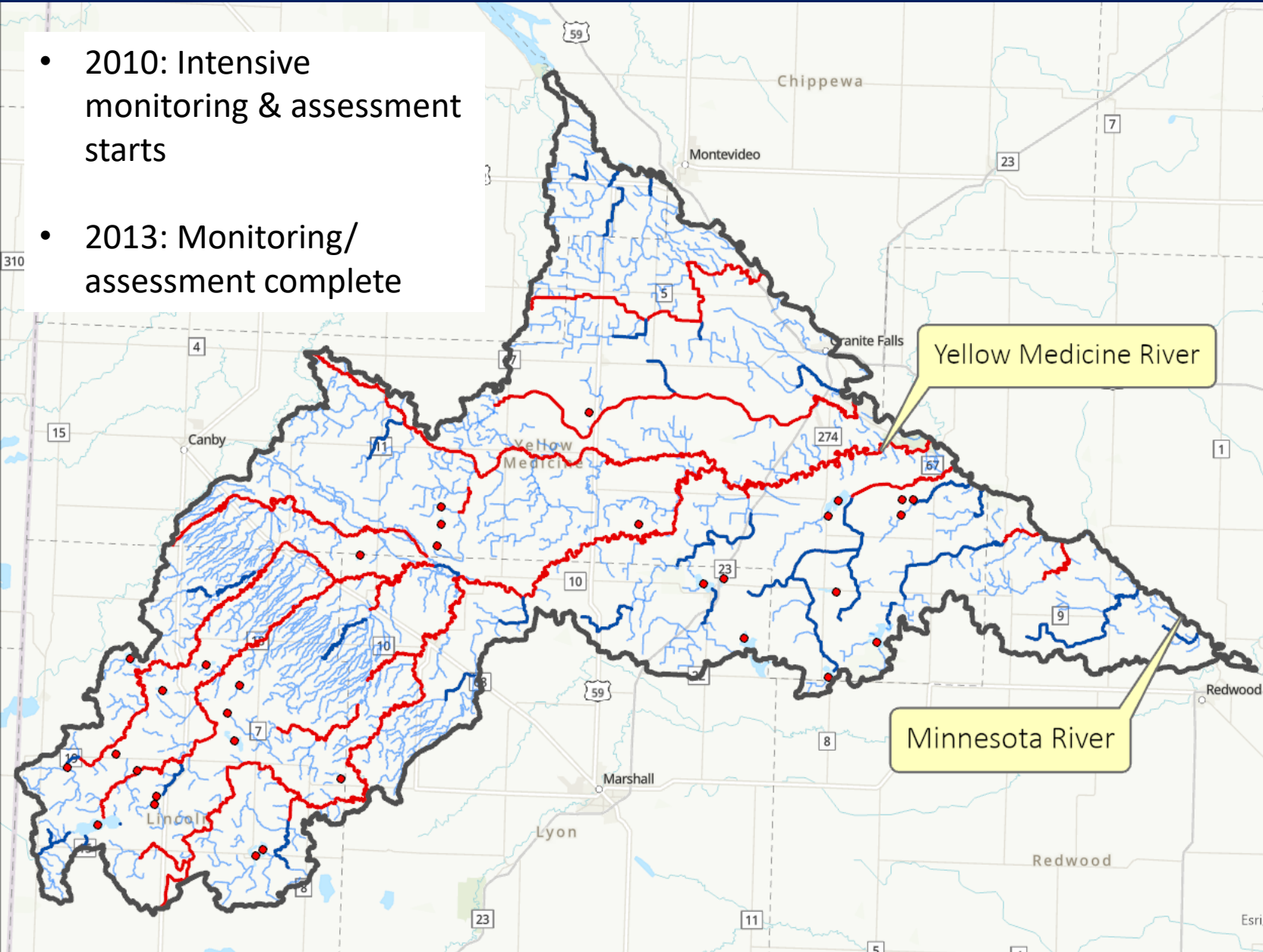


- **Test it & find source of problem** (Monitoring, assessment & characterization)
- **Make a plan to fix it** (Watershed Restoration & Protection Strategies- WRAPS; One Watershed One Plan)
- **Train people how to fix it or persuade landowners to act** (Technical assistance)
- **Set aside land where feasible** (Protection strategies)
- **“Restore” when necessary** (Restoration and mitigation strategies)
- **Measure**

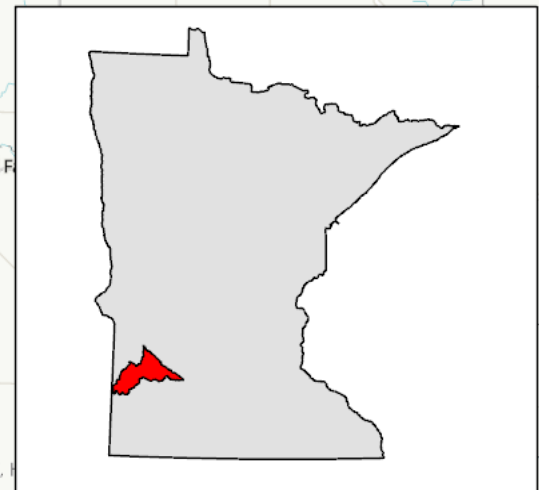


Impaired waters in the Yellow Medicine River Watershed

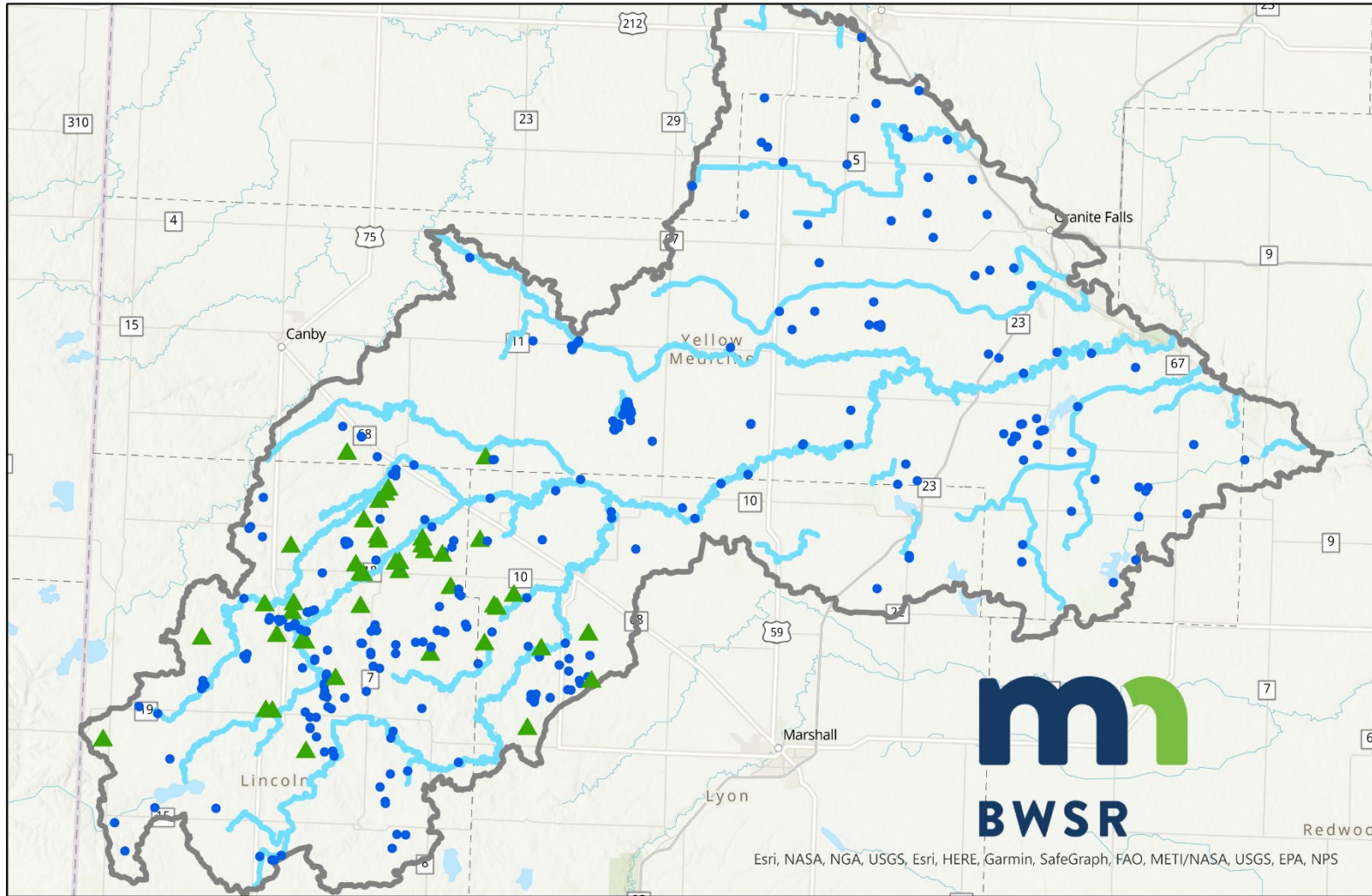
- 2010: Intensive monitoring & assessment starts
- 2013: Monitoring/assessment complete



Pollutant or stressor	
Benthic macroinvertebrates bioassessments	34
Chlorpyrifos	1
Dissolved oxygen	1
Escherichia coli (E. coli)	21
Fecal coliform	10
Fish bioassessments	21
Mercury in fish tissue	18
Nutrients	10
PCBs in fish tissue	3
Total suspended solids (TSS)	1
Turbidity	12
	132



Yellow Medicine River Watershed Planning Area Clean Water Funded Best Management Practices



Yellow Medicine 1W1P Boundary ● CWF
 YM Impaired Streams ▲ CWF WBIF Only

Practice Type	Total Number of Activities*
Septic System Improvement	8
Alternative Tile Intake - Dense Pattern Tiling	33
Alternative Tile Intake - Gravel Inlet	76
	5
Critical Area Planting	2
Well Decommissioning	57
Diversion	1
Filter Strip	45
Grade Stabilization Structure	2
Grassed Waterway and Swales	17
Streambank and Shoreline Protection	1
Structure for Water Control	1
Denitrifying Bioreactor	1
Water and Sediment Control Basin	69
Wetland Restoration	1
Wetland Creation	1
Grand Total	320

*Note: Number of practices maybe greater as treatment trains of BMPs grouped together

- 2017: One Watershed One Plan Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan Complete

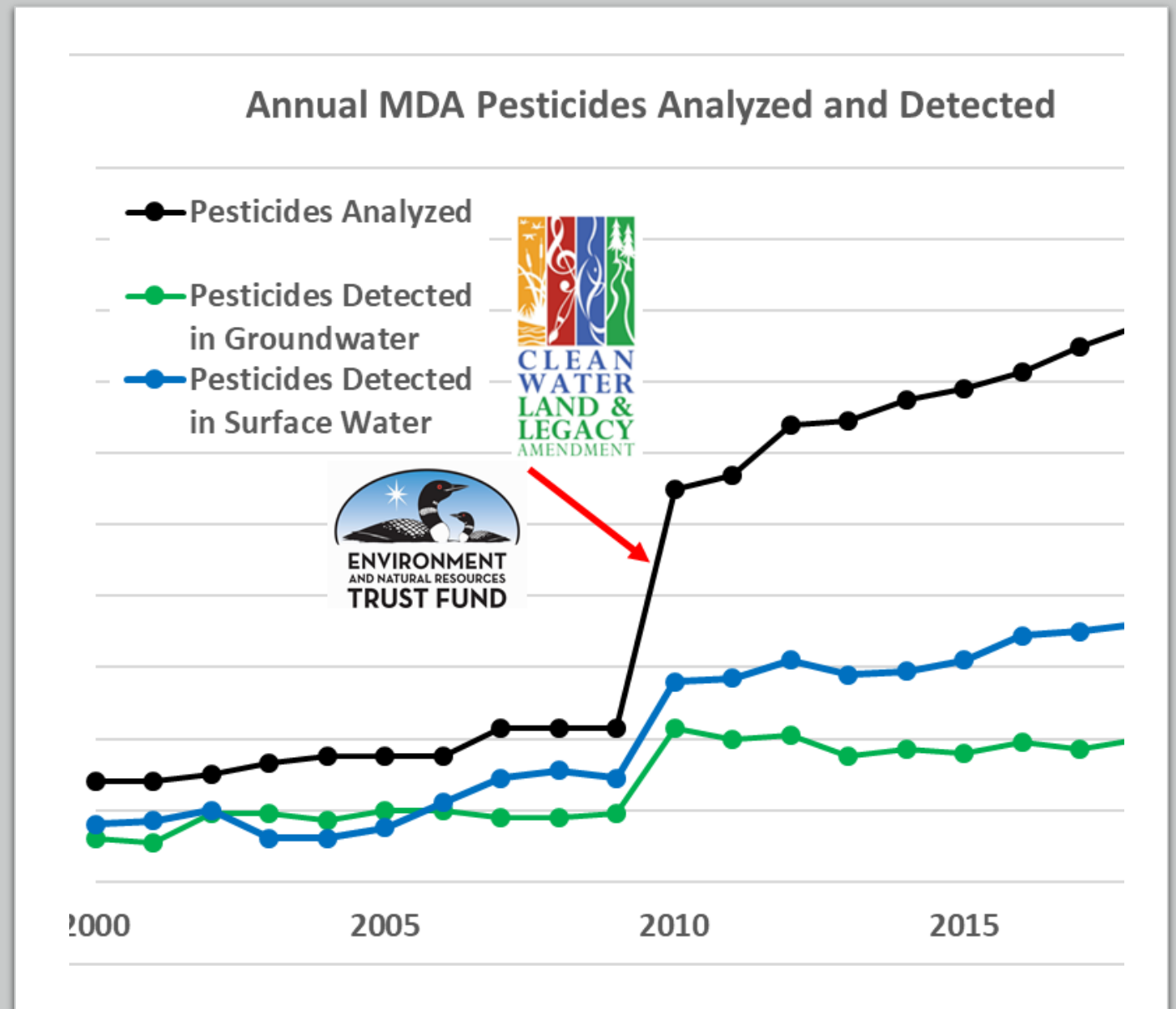
Big Goals from Council Strategic Plan

- Protect & restore 200,000 priority acres in Mississippi Headwaters Basin
- Protect 400,000 acres surrounding 900+ wellheads
- Enroll 6.5 million acres of farmland in MN Ag Water Quality Certification program
- Conserve 150 million gallons/yr of metro groundwater
- 80% septic system compliance



Value of the Clean Water Fund

- Fulfill federal requirements (Total Maximum Daily Loads-TMDL)
- Accurate data supports more precise permitting requirements
- More expertise
- Enhanced compliance
- Protect waters that are of high quality before there is a problem



Value of the Clean Water Fund

2

- More projects become “shovel-ready” more quickly, get more state and federal funds than other states
 - Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
 - Tech assistance to farmers
 - Permanent conservation easements—CREP
 - Voyageurs National Park
- Every \$1 in CWF leverages >\$1



\$337 million in recommendations (before new forecast)

Highlights of FY24- 25 DRAFT Recommendations

Expand What Works for Bigger Impact

- More “shovel-ready” projects
- 50% increase for perennials
- More chloride reduction grants
- More low-income grants to replace septic systems
- Increased water storage
- More farm acreage w/soil health



Highlights of FY24-25 DRAFT Recommendations₂

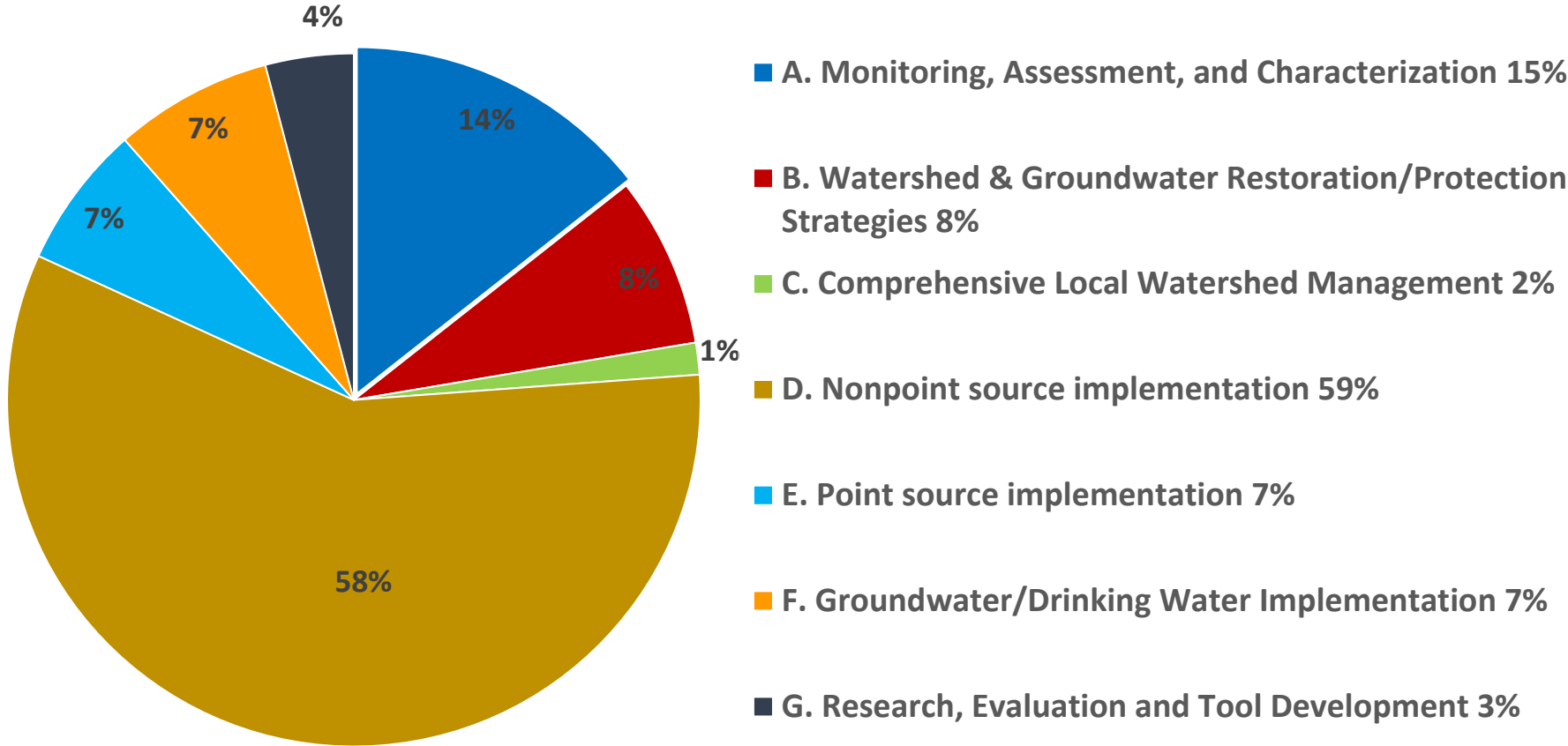
Increase Capacity to Assess Threats to Groundwater, Drinking Water, and Aquatic Life



- Free well testing for five contaminants for 10% of MN annually for ten years
- Additional PFAS monitoring/assessment
- Culvert cost-share
- Mussel restoration
- Leverage federal Great Lakes \$\$
- Statewide beach closing web site

Breakdown by Water Management Framework Activity

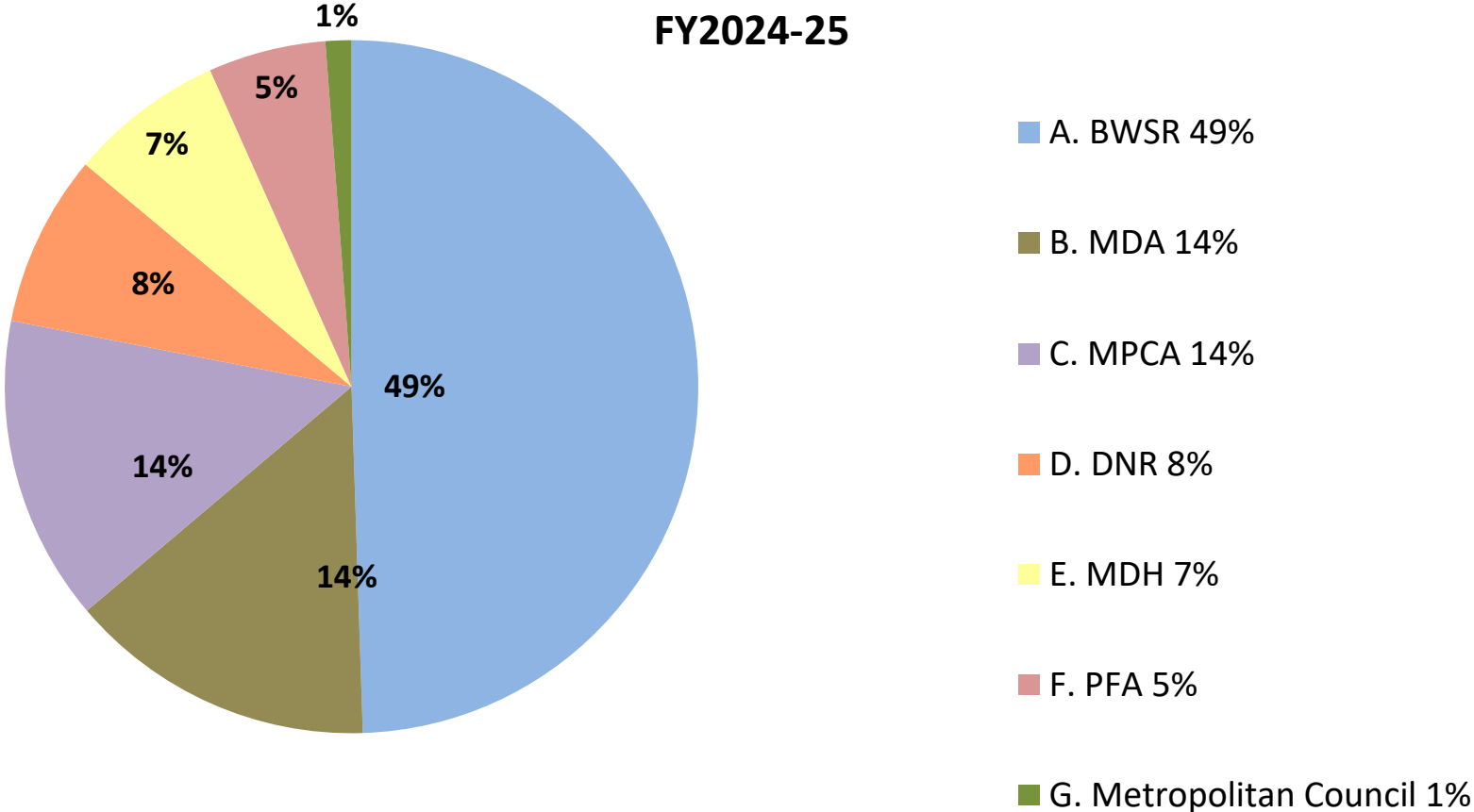
Proposed CWF budget by category
FY2024-25



72% goes to projects

Breakdown by Agency

Proposed CWF budget by Agency
FY2024-25



~2/3 goes to non-state entities

Big Strategic Questions for CWF

What's the best use of the next available dollar?

Should funding be spread evenly across the state or spent on high statewide priorities?

Should we pivot to new and emerging issues, or “stick to the plan”, or try to do both?

Should we move some spending out of the CWF before expiration of the Legacy Amendment?

Is the CWF so reliable that programs seek CWFs first and not other sources?



Thank you!

