



BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT HOSTS STATE MEETING

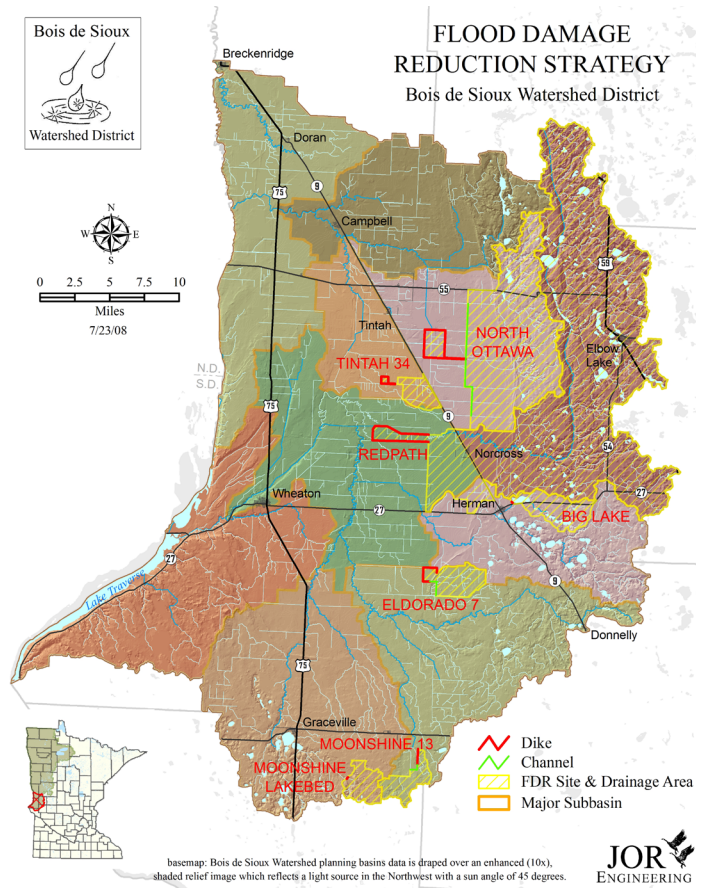
Wheaton, MN

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District hosted the summer tour and meeting of the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) June 18-21, 2008 at the Dakota Magic Casino & Hotel. The highlight of the meeting was the tour of the North Ottawa Impoundment Project.

The North Ottawa Impoundment Project is located within a sub-watershed of the Rabbit River drained by Judicial Ditches 2 and 12. The project stores a large percentage of the

floodwater generated within the sub-watershed. It reduces flooding of agricultural lands in the area while reducing the Rabbit River's contribution to flood flows on the Red River of the North. In addition to flood control, the impoundment provides erosion and sediment control, stream flow maintenance, improved water quality, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities.

According to Ray Bohn, MAWD Coordinator, the North Ottawa Impoundment Project is



Pictured Left to Right – Front Row; Dennis Zimbrick, Robert Marts, Dan Ellison – Back Row; Jerome Deal, John Lampert, Don Davenport, Robert Roach, John Kappahn, Jon Pansch.



Pictured Left to Right – Jon Roeschlein, Administrator; Charlie Anderson, P.E., Engineer; Monica Wilson, Assistant Administrator; Thomas C. Athens, Attorney at Law.

an excellent example of how local watershed districts protect citizens from potential flood damage while at the same time controlling erosion and improving water quality. "The citizens of the Bois de Sioux Watershed District can be proud of the North Ottawa Impoundment Project. It's design, scope, and implementation is quite impressive."

In addition to touring the North Ottawa project, the nearly 100 conference attendees from all over Minnesota, attended infor-

mative sessions on watershed management, public information, and water monitoring. The staff and administration of the Bois de Sioux Watershed District "can be very proud of the hard work done in preparing for the meeting. Everything was top-notch," adds Bohn.

The Bois de Sioux Watershed District was established on May 11, 1998 by order of the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). The District represents an area of approxi-

mately 1,430 square miles and includes Traverse County (38%), Grant County (27%), Wilkin County (14%), Stevens County (10%), Big Stone County (7%), and Otter Tail County (4%). The District constitutes the drainage basins of Lake Traverse and Bois de Sioux within the state of Minnesota. The major tributaries are the Mustinka River and numerous creeks in the south and east and the Rabbit River to the north.

RRWMB MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

At it's regularly scheduled July meeting, the RRWMB:

- *Discussed the FY 2009 RRWMB tax levy rate and approved maintaining the levy at 100%.*
- *Received a report from Mark Meister, Public Information Officer.*
- *Received a report from Naomi Erickson, Administrator.*
- *Authorized an extension for the Step I application of the Felton Ditch Storage Project of the Wild Rice WD which was originally approved on July 19, 2005.*
- *Received a report from Ron Harnack, Project Coordinator.*
- *Discussed the objections to the Project No. 42 project of the Wild Rice WD with the Citizens for Farmland Preservation.*
- *Authorized the Step I submittal of Project No. 42 of the Wild Rice WD.*
- *Toured the Maple River Dam and West Fargo Diversion projects in conjunction with the meeting conducted with the Red River Joint Water Resource Board of North Dakota following the board meeting.*



VISIT US ONLINE AT
WWW.RRWMB.ORG

EVENTS COMING UP

The next scheduled meeting of the RRWMB will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 19, 2008 at the Red Lake Watershed District, 1000 Pennington Ave. S, Thief River Falls, MN. Following the board meeting, the Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Work Group will meet at 1:00 p.m.

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