

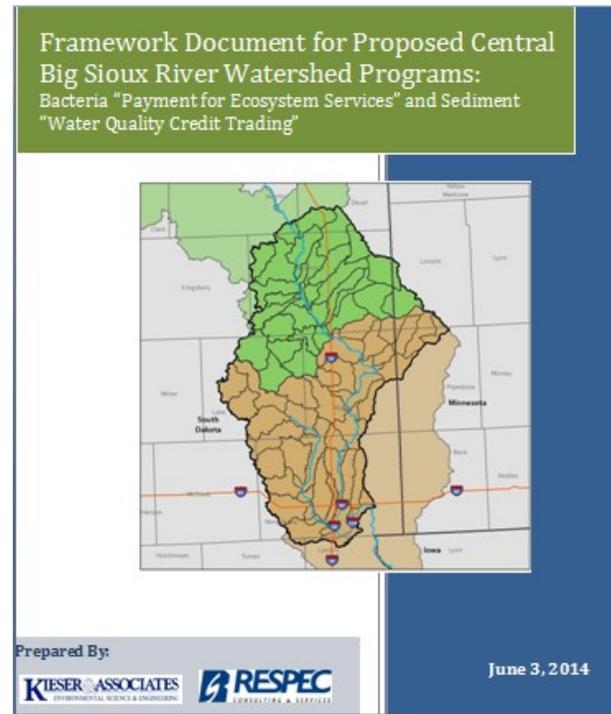
Central Big Sioux River Watershed (CBSRW) NPS/NPS WQT Feasibility and Program Framework (K&A)

K&A supported RESPEC consultants to assist in the development of market-based approaches in the CBSRW that would facilitate BMPs for sediment and bacteria. K&A's efforts for this bi-state (SD and MN) program focused on economic and pollutant suitability for offsetting MS4s loads with reductions from animal operations. This was a highly collaborative effort involving multiple local (conservation districts and municipalities), state (South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency), and federal (Natural Resources Conservation Service and Environmental Protection Agency) government stakeholders with a vested interest in the successful implementation of the CBSRW Master Plan and Project Implementation Plan (PIP).

The CBSRW approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies for total suspended solids (TSS) and *E. coli*. The TMDLs assigned TSS and *E. coli* waste load allocations (WLAs) to the City of Sioux Falls municipal MS4 program. Achieving TMDL goals with stormwater control retrofits within the City's MS4 footprint will be expensive. Purchasing reduction offsets generated elsewhere in the watershed was considered a cost-effective, interim alternative.

Two seminal K&A project documents distributed locally as well as to USDA and EPA for such offsets, illustrate K&A's ability to: 1) assess WQT program conditions as they affect program feasibility; and, 2) illustrate the breadth of economic considerations for assessing complex trading program settings. Such documents now define framework needs and opportunities for urban stormwater WQT offsets and an innovative Payment for Watershed Services program to address bacterial load reduction needs upstream of the City by agricultural sources for downstream urban stormwater sources.

Pilot options were subsequently developed for 2015-2016 implementation.



These frameworks provided the basic requirements and organizational structures for operating the programs during the pilot stage of the project. Program requirements were created to provide clear definitions for program operations, enhance stakeholder support, and provide guidance for program development to ensure water quality protection objectives are achieved.

The framework report describes the infrastructure for both the PES and WQCT pilot programs. The specific steps and details associated with carrying out transactions were addressed in separate protocol guidance documents.

Contact:

Jack Majeres, Chairman
Moody County Conservation District
202 East 3rd Avenue
Flandreau, SD 57028
Phone: 605-997-2949 ext. 3

Project Costs: \$200,000 K&A

Project Duration: 2012-2015