

Issues and Priority Level: Approved by BCWMC August 2023

Issue Category	Item ID	Issue Title and Description	Priority Level
Waterbody & Watershed Quality	1	Impaired waterbodies – Some lakes and streams within the Bassett Creek watershed do not meet State water quality standards; some are listed as impaired for aquatic life function and recreational due to pollutants such as nutrients, chloride, bacteria, and other stressors.	High
	2	Chloride loading – High chloride loading from overuse of winter deicers across the Bassett Creek watershed negatively impacts lakes streams, and groundwater water quality.	High
	3	Streambank and gully erosion – Excessive erosion along streambanks and gullies negatively impacts stream geomorphology, water quality, aquatic habitat, and floodplain function.	Medium
	4	Lakeshore erosion – Erosion along lake shorelines degrades water quality and negatively impacts lake ecology.	Medium
	5	Wetland health and restoration – The function, value and quantity of wetlands within the Bassett Creek watershed have been negatively impacted by development and the changing climate.	Medium
	6	Aquatic invasive species – Aquatic invasive species (AIS) present in the Bassett Creek watershed negatively impact water quality, lake and stream ecology, and climate resiliency.	Medium
	7	Ground-/surface water interaction – The flow of water between groundwater and lakes, streams, and wetlands complicates the protection, restoration, and responsible management of natural resources.	Medium
	8	Degradation of riparian areas – Degraded riparian areas allow excess pollutant loading to lakes and streams, contribute to impairments (water quality and biological), and result in poor ecological function and habitat.	Low
	9	Degradation/loss of upland areas – Natural areas in uplands may be threatened by development pressure, lack of proper management, and negative impacts from climate change.	Low
	10	Groundwater quality – Groundwater quality impacts public health as a source of drinking water and may be threatened by infiltration of stormwater and associated pollutants.	Low
Climate Resiliency	11	Impact of climate change on hydrology, water levels, and flood risk – Increasing precipitation amounts, intensities, and drought cycles can increase flood risk and contribute to water level and flow fluctuations that may negatively impact ecology, water quality, and recreation	High
	12	Bassett Creek Valley stormwater management – Projects in the Bassett Creek Valley would provide an essential opportunity to reduce flood risk and promote implementation of partner-coordinated projects	High
	13	Groundwater quantity – Groundwater sustainability may be negatively impacted by overuse and loss of recharge	Low
Education & Outreach	14	Insufficient outreach to and relationships with diverse communities – Additional efforts are needed to reach communities under- represented in past BCWMC planning and projects	Medium
	15	Protect recreation opportunities – Minnesota Statutes 103B references WMOs’ role in protecting recreation facilities	Low

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Organizational Effectiveness	16	Organizational assessment of capacity and staffing – Current capacity may not be sufficient to achieve intended goals and execute projects and programs	High
	17	BCWMC funding mechanisms – Assessment of funding sources is necessary to determine if intended actions can be reasonably achieved and goals met	High
	18	Progress assessment –Rules 8410 require WMOs to assess progress towards measurable goals every 2 years	High
	19	Projects and programs implemented through a DEI lens – Additional focus is needed to ensure equity in BCWMC projects and programs.	Medium
	20	Public ditch management – The Plan must address management of three public ditches within BCWMC jurisdiction (per MN Statutes 103B)	Low
	21	Carbon footprint of BCWMC projects – Carbon released in the construction and ongoing maintenance of BCWMC projects is not currently considered and contributes to climate change	Low