

2015 Project of the Year

Manston Slough Restoration Project - Buffalo Red River Watershed

Manston Slough was drained in the late 1800s with State Ditch 15. About 10 years ago, the BRRWD brought together a group of interested agencies to discuss a multi-use, comprehensive project that could achieve multiple goals. In 2014, the \$6 million dollar project was completed by the BRRWD. Project benefits include 5,446 acre-feet of temporary flood storage, restoration of a 1,150 acre wetland, 2,053 acres of Wetland Reserve Program buffers around the wetland, and ground water recharge for the Buffalo Aquifer. The Project area encompasses over 7,000 acres of public recreational opportunities. The impressive fact is the assembly of multiple stakeholders, including 33 private landowners, to make this project a reality.

What the Committee said: "An impressive 7,000 acre project."

"7,000 protected acres, including 1,150 acre wetland & 5,446 acres storage; project partners Federal (USFWS, NRCS), State (MN DNR, BWSR, LSOHC), and Local LGU (WD), 33 Private Landowners, and River Watch; Benefits include - Flooding, Water Rate control, Recreation, 1,280 acre wetlands, 2,500 acres of Wildlife Management Area grass-land, project included groundwater recharge, Outreach and overcame many obstacles"



MAWD Project of the Year, left to right: Peter V. Fjestad, Vice Chairman, Brea L. Kobiela, Manager, John E. Hanson, Secretary, Gerald L. Van Amburg, Chairman, Bruce E. Albright, Administrator, Mark T. Anderson, Treasurer, and Erik S. Jones, Project Engineer, Houston Engineering, Inc., and MAWD Awards Committee

