Grant Progress Report

LWM-NRBG 2025

Grant Title: 2025 - Local Water Management - NRBG (Cottonwood County)

Grant ID: P25-0197

Grantee: Cottonwood County

Fiscal Agent:

Grant Day-to-Day Contact: Kay Gross

Grant Award ($): $20,265.00

Required Match (%): 0

Required Match ($): $0.00

Grant Execution Date: 10/10/2023

Grant End Date: 12/31/2025

	Total Budgeted	**Total Spent**	Balance Remaining*
Grant Funds	$20,265.00	**$20,265.00**	$0.00
Match Funds	$5,000.00	**$28,194.09**	($23,194.09)
Other Funds	$0.00	**$0.00**	$0.00
Total	$25,265.00	**$48,459.09**	($23,194.09)

***Grant balance remaining is the difference between the Awarded Amount and the Spent Amount. Other values compare budgeted and spent amounts.**

Budget Details

Activity Name	*Category*	*Source Type*	*Source Description*	*Budgeted*	*Spent*	*Balance Remaining*	*Match Fund?*
Administration/Coordination	Administration/Coordination	Local Fund	County Match	$0.00	$23,549.09	($23,549.09)	Y
Administration/Coordination	Administration/Coordination	Current State Grant	Administration/Coordination	$10,000.00	$16,602.50	($6,602.50)	N
Education/Information	Education/Information	Current State Grant	Education/Information	$250.00	$222.00	$28.00	N
Well Sealing CS	Groundwater	Current State Grant	Well Sealing CS	$9,515.00	$3,100.00	$6,415.00	N
Monitoring/Data collection	Monitoring/Data Collection	Current State Grant	Monitoring/Data Collection	$500.00	$340.50	$159.50	N

Activity Name	Category	Source Type	Source Description	Budgeted	Spent	Balance Remaining	Match Fund?
Well Sealing CS	Groundwater	Landowner Fund	Landowner match	$5,000.00	$4,645.00	$355.00	Y

Indicator Summary

Indicator Category	Proposed Indicator	Total Value	Unit

Indicator Category	Final Indicator	Total Value	Unit
Pollution Prevention	Prevention	6	Count

Grant Activities

Activity Name: Administration/Coordination

Activity Category: Administration/Coordination | **Staff time?:** No

Description: Provide the proper administration of the Local Water Management Program for Cottonwood County and submit the required reporting for grant reconciliation. Assist County landowners with projects reflected in the Cottonwood County Comprehensive Water Plan.

Budget Details

Source Type	Source Description	Budgeted	Spent	Balance Remaining	Last Transaction Date	Match Fund?
Current State Grant	Administration/Coordination	$10,000.00	$16,602.50	($6,602.50)	04/30/2025	N
Local Fund	County Match	$0.00	$23,549.09	($23,549.09)	10/31/2025	Y

Actual Results

Results	Date Added
OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2023: No activity associated with this grant.	1/22/2024 3:02:07 PM
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2024: No activity associated with this grant item.	1/15/2025 2:26:52 PM
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2025: Staff time was spent administering and coordinating the goals of the county water plan and applicable watershed plans throughout the	1/21/2026 4:37:13 PM

Results	***Date Added***
county. Two special projects came into development this year with the Talcot Lake dam and the String Lake outlet structure. DNR staff approached the county and SWCD regarding partnership on the replacement of the Talcot Lake dam and staff was spent in multiple meetings about the partnership. In 2023, DNR staff brought forward the issue of the Talcot Lake outlet structure and its failing condition. In 2025, the landowner whose land is around the structure saw significant damage from high waters and brought it back up to the SWCD's attention. Two stakeholder meetings were held to inform people about the failing structure, the implications of the structure failing, and to gauge stakeholder response to the different options available to them for replacement. A stakeholder survey was taken and results were not overly clear other than stakeholders did not want to become a designated Shallow Lake and they didn't want the most expensive replacement structure option. After discussions with DNR, the engineer and local staff, it was determined to move forward with a rock arch rapids design due to the grant options available for that type of structure. Stakeholders were notified in a follow up meeting and staff assisted with the grant application process. Staff also assisted local residents with well sealing applications and well questions. Coordinated with residents on water testing and MVTL. January: $4,031.97 February: $4,843.41 March: $5,157.82 April: $3,994.85 May: $5,212.82 June: $4,955.00 July: $3,912.56 August: $2,386.19 September: $4,470.64 October: $1,688.20 November: $1,636.50 December: $2,288.65 Total: $44,578.61 WCA flex spent: $643.02 Shoreland flex spent: $3,784.00 LWM admin coord (grant funds): $16,602.50	

Results	***Date Added***
LWM admin/coord match funds: $23,549.09	

Activity Name: Education/Information

Activity Category: Education/Information | **Staff time?:** No

Description: SWCD and County staff provide educational opportunities for area students through a variety of educational programs. The staff assist with booths at the Windom Farm & Home Show and Cottonwood County Fair and provide information on a variety of programs.

Budget Details

Source Type	Source Description	Budgeted	Spent	Balance Remaining	Last Transaction Date	Match Fund?
Current State Grant	Education/Information	$250.00	$222.00	$28.00	07/31/2025	N

Actual Results

Results	***Date Added***
OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2023: No activity associated with this grant.	1/22/2024 3:02:15 PM
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2024: No activity associated with this grant item.	1/15/2025 2:27:15 PM
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2025: Information/Outreach expenses for stakeholder meetings regarding the failing outlet structure of String Lake in Cottonwood county. County and SWCD staff hosted two stakeholder meetings regarding the outlet structure, potential fixes, and grant opportunities. The costs include two public advertising notices in the county papers. Total: $222.00	1/21/2026 4:33:04 PM

Activity Name: Monitoring/Data collection

Activity Category: Monitoring/Data Collection | **Staff time?:** No

Description: The Land Management Office offers free well water testing to area landowners.

Budget Details

Source Type	Source Description	Budgeted	Spent	Balance Remaining	Last Transaction Date	Match Fund?
Current State Grant	Monitoring/Data Collection	$500.00	$340.50	$159.50	12/31/2025	N

Actual Results

Results	*Date Added*
OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2023: No activity associated with this grant.	1/22/2024 3:02:22 PM
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2024: No activity associated with this grant item.	1/15/2025 2:27:27 PM
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2025: Cottonwood County Environmental Office provided 4 testing kits to residents in the county to test their well water. The county pays for nitrates, lead and fecal coliforms as part of the well testing program. Total costs: $340.50	1/13/2026 4:21:11 PM

Activity Name: Well Sealing CS

Activity Category: Groundwater | **Staff time?:** No

Description: The County provides well sealing cost-share to landowners in the county to seal abandoned and unused wells. Current reimbursement rate set by County Board of Commissioners.

Budget Details

Source Type	Source Description	Budgeted	Spent	Balance Remaining	Last Transaction Date	Match Fund?
Current State Grant	Well Sealing CS	$9,515.00	$3,100.00	$6,415.00	12/16/2025	N
Landowner Fund	Landowner match	$5,000.00	$4,645.00	$355.00	12/16/2025	Y

Actual Results

Results	*Date Added*
OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2023: No activity associated with this grant.	1/22/2024 3:01:42 PM
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2024: No activity associated with this grant item.	1/15/2025 2:27:37 PM
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2025: 5 landowners took advantage of the county's well sealing program this year. This number is down drastically from previous years. We believe this is because a majority of the county is now under a 1W1P plan with active WBIF funds, these funds have a higher maximum dollar amount per well, and more landowners are taking advantage of that. The cost to seal wells has risen in recent years, we suspect that deeper wells and more complicated wells are being sealed compared to shallow sand point wells, these deeper wells are more expensive to seal. A total of 6 wells were sealed. 2025-01 - 1 well Cost: $1,095.00 CS: $525.00 Landowner match: $570.00 2025-02 - 1 well sealed Cost: $1,250.00 CS: $525.00 Landowner match: $725.00 2025-03 - 1 well sealed	1/13/2026 4:23:12 PM

Results	***Date Added***
Cost: $1,800.00 CS: $525.00 Landowner match: $1,275.00 2025-04 - 2 wells sealed Cost: $2,000.00 CS: $1,000.00 Landowner match: $1,000.00 2025-05 - 1 well sealed Cost: $1,600.00 CS: $525.00 Landowner match: $1,075.00	

Final Indicators

Indicator	**Total Value**	**Unit**
Prevention	6	Count

Activity Action Name:	2025-01	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	351 - Well Decommissioning	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	Private Consultant	Lifespan: 20 Years
Practice Description:	1 well sealed in Great Bend 15	Install Date: 08/13/2024
		Mapped: Yes

Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	1	Other	Groundwater

Activity Action Name:	2025-02	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	351 - Well Decommissioning	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	Private Consultant	Lifespan: 20 Years
Practice Description:	1 well sealed in Rose Hill 28	Install Date: 03/24/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	1	Other	Groundwater

Activity Action Name:	2025-03	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	351 - Well Decommissioning	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	Private Consultant	Lifespan: 20 Years
Practice Description:	1 well sealed in Great Bend 17	Install Date: 05/20/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	1	Other	Groundwater

Activity Action Name:	2025-04	Activity Count: 2
Practice Type:	351 - Well Decommissioning	Size/Units: 2 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	Private Consultant	Lifespan: 20 Years
Practice Description:	2 wells sealed in Ann 21	Install Date: 08/15/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	2	Other	Groundwater

Activity Action Name:	2025-05	Activity Count: 1
Practice Type:	351 - Well Decommissioning	Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA:	Private Consultant	Lifespan: 20 Years
Practice Description:	1 well sealed in Dal 36	Install Date: 11/10/2025
		Mapped: Yes

Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	1	Other	Groundwater