



ROSEAU RIVER HABITAT RESTORATION



BACKGROUND

Roseau River Watershed District in partnership with the MN DNR is leading implementation to restore a channelized reach of the Roseau River that is located almost entirely within the Roseau River Wildlife Management Area (RRWMA).

This stretch of the Roseau River was channelized in the early 1900s and is currently classified as MN State Ditch 51.

TIMELINE



**additional phases subject to funding availability*

PROJECT SCOPE

Design and restore natural channel geomorphology based on stream classification and channel evolution principles

Reconnect historic oxbows to reestablish natural meandering pattern

Recreate diverse geomorphic river features such as riffles, runs, bends, pools, and sand/gravel bars

Rebuild conservation corridor between priority habitats

Restore natural hydrology to the area

Reconnect floodplain and riparian corridor to the river

RIPARIAN CORRIDOR ENHANCEMENT

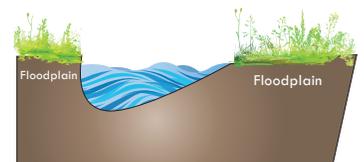
RIVER CROSS-SECTION

Access to floodplain blocked by ditch spoilbanks



Before

Restored Roseau River



After

Restored high-quality aquatic terrestrial habitat

RIVER RESTORATION

OUTPUT AND OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS

OUTPUT

Reconnect
13.6 miles
of historic oxbows



Total restoration of
22.5 miles of
river, floodplain,
and associated
riparian habitat

366 acres of
restored aquatic
habitat for several
species:



- Lake sturgeon*
- Black sandshell*
- Walleye
- Northern pike

OUTCOMES/BENEFITS

Restored Riverine Habitat

to augment the
RRWMA waterfowl
pools and the
Roseau Lake
Restoration



Increased
resilience of
the ecosystem
surrounding
the river and
protection from
invasive species



Strengthen
biodiversity
and support native
plant communities



Improved
populations
of species
of greatest
conservation
need and game
fish species



Support and
strengthen
reestablishment
of lake sturgeon*
within the Red
River Basin



Enhanced
paddling and
fishing
along the restored
river



Expanded
opportunities
for outdoor
recreation, birding,
and wildlife viewing



Reduce bank
erosion and
entrenchment for
improved
water quality



*species of greatest conservation need

