PROJECT TITLE: MAWRC Research and Education Program
PROJECT NUMBER: 4026-19SP
REPORTING PERIOD: October 1 - December 31
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1.) PROJECT ACTIVITIES COMPLETED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD. (Describe project progress specific to goals, objectives, and deliverables identified in the project workplan.)

Monitoring at 8 core farm sites and 20 CIG tile monitoring sites continued throughout the quarter. The Discovery Farms staff team, including MDA staff, met in December to review all data collected in 2019. Graduation summary reports are in process for the Blue Earth and Wilkin sites. The summary report for Goodhue site will be ready for publication in February.

2.) IDENTIFY ANY SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS AND RESULTS OF THE PROJECT TO DATE.

Date for the current Water Year (WY), ending on September 30, are now final. Some highlights from an unusually wet year across most of Minnesota.

- Like most of the state, Discovery Farms sites received a lot of rain. The average site received 134% of its 30-year average, with a range from 118 to 157.
- Tile flow occurred an average of 260 days, a new high (248 in 2017).
- Timing trends continue- 80% of surface runoff and 70% of tile drainage occurred from March through July.
- 70% of soil loss occurred in May and June, during intense storms and prior to crop canopy.

3.) CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED. (Describe any challenges that you encountered related to project progress specific to goals, objectives, and deliverables identified in the project workplan.)

Ongoing sample collection and maintenance of monitoring sites are all within scope of the project. All tile-drained sites have been flowing for all of October and November, and most days in December.

4.) FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Describe any budget challenges and provide specific reasons for deviations from the projected project spending.)

Project budget is on track.

5.) EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES. (Describe any conferences, workshops, field days, etc attended, number of contacts at each event, and/or publications developed to disseminate project results.)
October 1- Presented at Arrowhead Regional Farm Bureau Annual Meeting. Approximately 50 in attendance.
November 22-23- Participated in MN Farm Bureau 100th Anniversary Annual Meeting & Convention. Approximately 550 in attendance.
November 23-24- Participated in MN Farmers Union Annual Meeting and Convention. Approximately 400 in attendance.

December 3-4- Participated in MN Milk Producers Annual Meeting and Convention. Approximately 250 in attendance.
December 9- Participated in MN Association of SWCD Annual Meeting and Convention. Approximately 400 in attendance.
December 10- Presented at Red River Basin Commission Watershed Planning Event. This is a small group of 5 cities involved in litigation with MPCA. We met to identify common ground between rural cities in Northwest MN and surrounding farmers/farm groups.
December 11-12- Participated in MN Wheat and Barley Growers Annual Meeting and Convention. Approximately 600 in attendance.
December 13-14- Participated in MN State Cattlemen’s Annual Meeting and Convention. Approximately 200 in attendance.