



**BWSR Disaster Recovery Program for DR-4069**  
**Guidance for Prioritizing Streambank and Hillside Stabilization**  
**Funding Assistance**

8-30-12

**Key Considerations**

- 1) The June 2012 floods in NE and SE Minnesota caused widespread streambank erosion that was often severe, as well as hillside slumping. However, it is not economically feasible to restore or stabilize all eroding streambanks or slumped hillsides.
- 2) Some amount of streambank erosion is a natural process of stream geomorphology. It would be unwise to try to stabilize all eroding streambanks.
- 3) Minnesota Statutes Chapter 12A, Section 12A.03 State Assistance, indicates that state funding under this chapter may not duplicate or replace available private insurance, flood insurance or federal assistance.
- 4) Minnesota Statutes Chapter 12A, Section 12A.05 Board of Water and Soil Resources, Subd. 2. Erosion and Sediment Control, Water Quality and Watershed Protection Projects, indicates that associated appropriations may be used to install, repair, or rehabilitate erosion and sediment control, water quality and watershed protection projects in the disaster area. The associated state appropriation language for DR-4069 indicates that priority use of these funds shall be to supplement or match federal funds whenever possible and practical.
- 5) Streambank and hillside stabilization priorities should be considered in relation to all flood response priorities and funding sources for erosion control, future flood damage reduction, water quality protection, fish and wildlife habitat restoration and watershed protection.
- 6) Benefit - cost relationships should also be a substantial consideration in prioritizing potential streambank and hillside stabilization projects, as well as other flood response priorities.

**Recommended Order of Priorities for Streambank and/or Hillside Stabilization**

1. Streambank and/or hillside stabilization that is critical to help restore or protect:
  - a. public infrastructure such as buildings, roads, bridges, or water control structures not otherwise assisted by FEMA Public Assistance and associated State match from the Department of Public Safety, or eligible funding through MnDOT or MDNR;
  - b. private infrastructure such as homes, other buildings, or roads.
2. Streambank and/or hillside stabilization that provides high priority erosion and sediment control for restoration or protection of water quality, developed lands, agricultural lands and/or fish and wildlife habitat.

Note: The percent state cost-share can be limited by an SWCD board to require landowner cost-share to help provide consistency of conservation program incentives for new conservation practices, and landowner incentive to control project costs.