



NGO Support of Local Watershed Efforts The Nature Conservancy Example

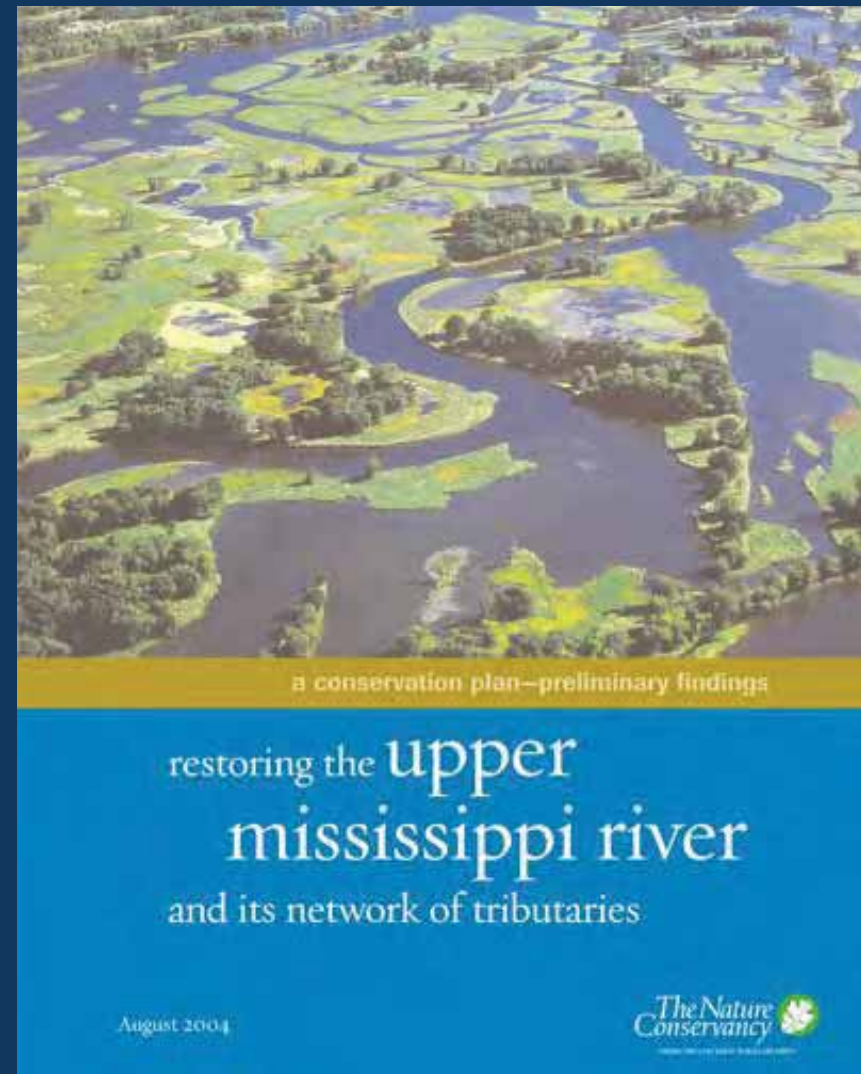
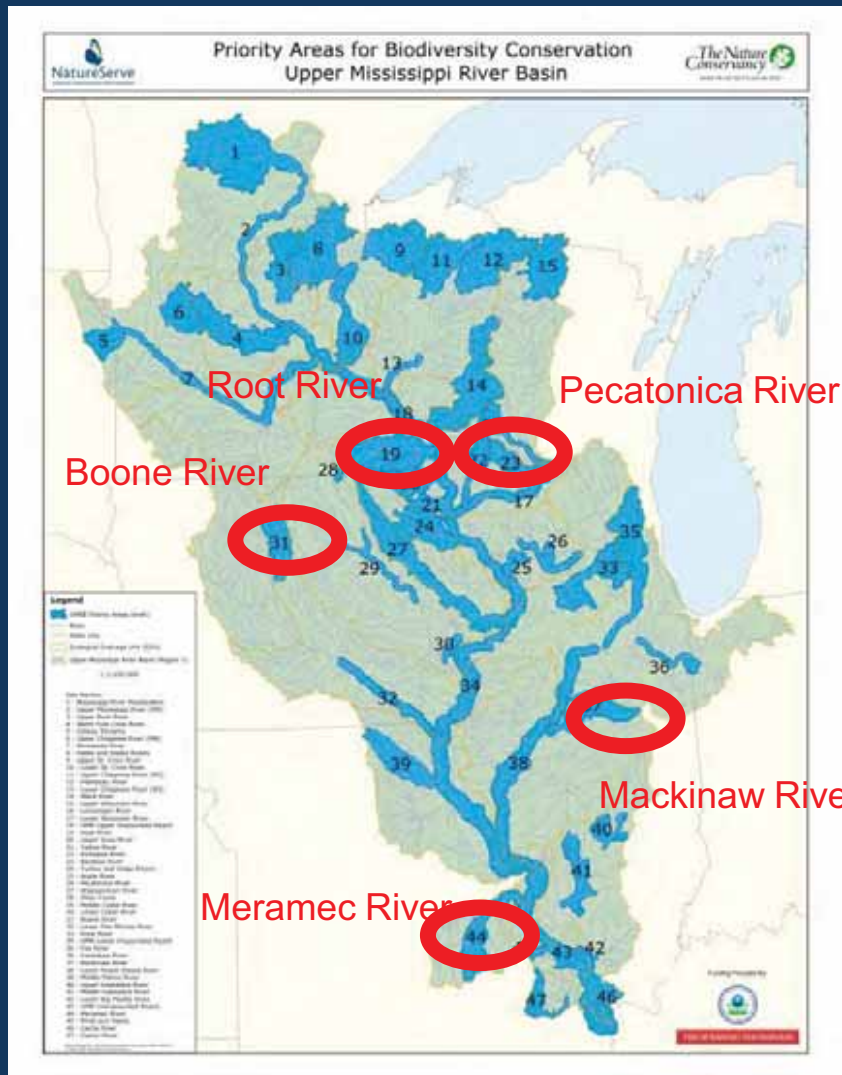
Rich Biske

TNC's Watershed Perspective

Watershed Conservation Process

2-stage Ditch as Strategy Example

Areas of Freshwater Biodiversity significance



Developing Replicable, Multi-Area Strategies to conserve freshwater biodiversity

Individual landscape projects for

- **floodplain restoration,**
- **watershed conservation, and**
- **flow naturalization**

designed to influence action at a broader suite of priority areas.

Conservation by Design

Watershed or Systems Approach

Adaptive Management

Precision Conservation

Local Control and Collaboration

Conserving Targets, ex. Headwater streams

Strategy Development and Evaluation

Inform Policy Development

Learn by Doing

Learn from and support each other

By our engagement, we become, by extension, a part of the larger conservation community serving to deliver programs and solutions to a broader area.

Private Funds to Leverage Public Resources

Coordination Assistance

Connections to new resources

Increase Local Capacity

Convene Multiple Interest

Coordination

Implementation

Research

Policy

Outreach

Improving Hydrology and Biological Integrity of Headwater Streams

Goals:

Compatible Conservation Practice

Demonstrate Effectiveness

Build Support and Increase Adoption

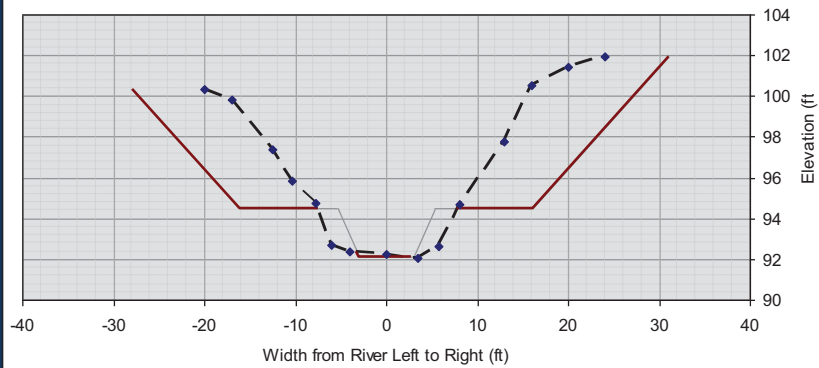
Organize Researchers, Regulators, Agencies,
Contractors, Landowners

Natural Stream Function

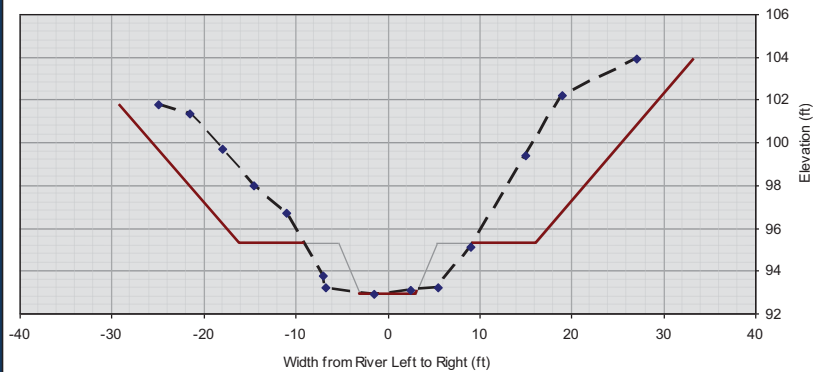


Mower County Example

Cross Section 1 at Station 2 + 75
Elevation: 94.5 ft Cut 116 sq.ft. Bench



Cross Section 2 at Station 6 + 0
Elevation: 95.3 ft Cut 104 sq.ft. Bench

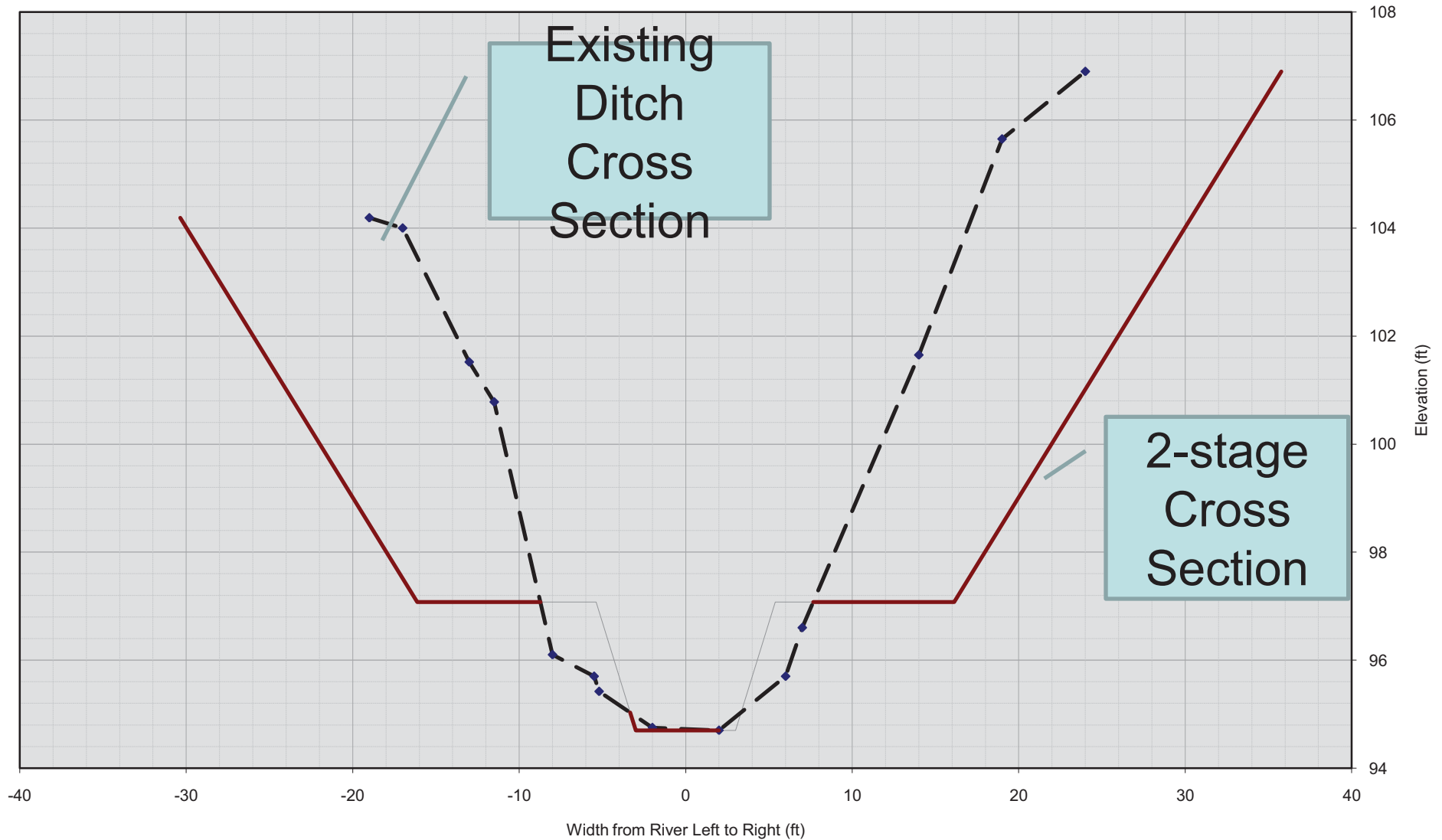


2-Stage Ditch

What's a 2-Stage Ditch

Cross Section 4 at Station 21 + 0

Cut 174 sq.ft. Bench Elevation: 97.1 ft





Slumping

Before



During



Leveling Benches



Photo: Joel Peterson

Vegetated Bench



2-Stage Ditch at Different Stages



Results – Narrowing Channel Increased Habitat



Next Steps

Continued Monitoring & Evaluation

Share Results

Modify Design and Sighting as Necessary

Implement at Appropriate Scale

Develop Funding Program and Guidance

The Nature Conservancy



Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

MOWER
SWCD  **Soil and Water Conservation District**

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
FROM THE FARM TO YOUR FAMILY

 **NRCS** Natural Resources Conservation Service



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



Minnesota Pollution Control Agency



South Branch Root River Watershed Project

The Nature Conservancy 
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

Project Partners

Construction:

Funding to The Nature Conservancy Provided By:

- USDA NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant
- Cargill
- General Mills

Monitoring:

Funding to U of M and Mower SWCD from MPCA

NGO's can Help... Sometimes, Some places

- Be Creative
- Learn from Others
- Try Something New
- Think Big
- Measure Success
- Share it

Questions?



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