



## **DNR designates Teal and Bolstad as the 46th and 47th wildlife management lakes**

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Teal Lake in Jackson County and Bolstad Slough in Cottonwood County have officially been designated as Minnesota's 46th and 47th wildlife management lakes by Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Commissioner Tom Landwehr.

The formal designations follow months of planning and public input gathering. They provide the DNR with special authority to manage lakes for waterfowl, wildlife and clean water through the use of periodic, temporary water level drawdowns in addition to other strategies. A drawdown can improve waterfowl, wildlife and water quality conditions by stimulating critical aquatic plant growth and promoting a rough fish die-off.

The DNR partnered with Ducks Unlimited (DU) to survey and design both projects, determining solutions that address the water and habitat quality problems in each basin. DU will hire and manage the construction of new water control structures through a pending 2012 grant appropriation from the Outdoor Heritage Fund that was recently recommended by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. DU also recently requested a federal cost-share grant to augment state Outdoor Heritage Fund funding for the projects through a North American Wetlands Conservation Act small grant proposal entitled "Windom Area Wetlands."

"Without the support of the public, local sportsman's clubs, local units of government and organizations like DU, projects like these would not be possible," said Randy Markl, DNR area wildlife supervisor. "They benefit wildlife, the environment and people."

"DU is pleased to provide bio-engineering technical assistance to design and implement these important shallow lake enhancement projects in partnership with the DNR and with funding from the Outdoor Heritage Fund," said Jon Schneider, manager of Minnesota Conservation Programs for DU. "These will be two more excellent migration marshes for ducks and hunters alike."