Demographic Survey Results

A voluntary report submitted by the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources

February 2008

Background

- The Board of Water and Soil Resources was asked to obtain demographic information on SWCD, WD and WMO board members
- Survey sent out in September 2007
- Received responses from:
  - 444 SWCD, 243 WD and 135 WMO board members
  - 93% response rate with 148 of 154 possible

Gender as Numbers

Gender as percentage

Years of Service

Board Member Age

Occupation of Board Members
Summary

- Survey revealed useful information and could be conducted every five years to determine trends.
- Representation of female board members is greatest in the metro area with 30% of all board members.
- 45% of all board members have 5 years or less of experience and 69% have 10 years or less experience on the board.
- As nearly half of all board members have less than 5 years of experience, board training may be a significant need.
- Occupations seem to reflect the communities they serve with more agricultural representation on SWCD and WD boards and a wider variety of occupations in the metro area.
- Since the “Other” category represented 27% of respondents in the metro area, this category may need to be expanded, using census or legislative categories may be an option.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>24-29</th>
<th>30-39</th>
<th>40-49</th>
<th>50-59</th>
<th>60-69</th>
<th>70-79</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWCD</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>WD</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
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