MEETING NOTICE
June 18, 2020 – 8:00 a.m.
Workshop Conference Room (2nd floor) - Anoka City Hall

PRELIMINARY REGULAR AGENDA
Agenda to be Finalized at Meeting

A. CALL TO ORDER
B. ROLL CALL
C. APPROVE AGENDA
D. RESIDENT’S FORUM
E. APPROVE MINUTES
   1. May 21, 2020, Regular Meeting
F. FINANCE MATTERS
   1. Treasurer’s Report
   2. Payment of Bills
G. NEW BUSINESS
   1. Permit #2018-06 ~ The COR Infiltration Basin ~ City of Ramsey (tabled to 06-30-2020)
   2. Permit #2020-04 ~ Puma Street Improvement Project ~ City of Ramsey
   3. Permit #2020-05 ~ Wesp Property ~ Andover
   4. Permit #2020-06 ~ Upper Midwest Athletic Const. ~ Andover
   5. Permit #2019-30 ~ Anoka CSAH 116 at MN TH47 ~ Ramsey and Anoka ~ WCA Utility Exemption Decision
H. CONSIDER COMMUNICATIONS
I. REPORT OF OFFICERS & WAC ADMINISTRATION REIMBURSEMENT ~ None
J. ACD REPORT ~ None
K. OLD BUSINESS
   1. Watershed Based Implementation Funding Update ~ Musgrove
L. OUTSTANDING ITEMS/TASK CHECKLIST
M. OTHER BUSINESS
   1. Update on Fourth Generation Plan ~ Williams
   2. Discuss Rum River 1W1P Implementation Organizational Arrangements
   3. Discuss Wetland Monitoring Requirements
   4. Discuss 15370 Eldorado Street NW/City of Andover
   5. Consider Request for Wetland Mitigation Sites within the LRRWMO/City of Andover
N. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: Some or all members of the Lower Rum River WMO may participate in the April 16, 2020 Lower Rum River WMO meeting by telephone rather than by being personally present at the Lower Rum River WMO regular meeting place at the Anoka City Hall, 2015 First Avenue North, Anoka, MN 55303. Members of the public can physically attend, although there is very limited seating in the workshop conference room (2nd floor) as appropriate social distancing will be done by the Commission and visitors.

This will be a remote conference call meeting. Conference Call Phone Number: 763-717-4037
Conference Room Code/Meeting Number: 62785# / Attendee Access Code: 62785#

Pending: Permit #2016-16 ~ 2274 164th Avenue Driveway Access ~ Wetland Replacement Plan
          Permit #2018-21 ~ Sonstebly Properties ~ Andover
          Permit #2019-09 ~ Surface Water Resource Mgm. Plan Update ~ City of Anoka
          Permit #2019-15 ~ ANP Pond Excavation Project ~ City of Anoka
          Permit #2019-20 ~ Meadows at Petersen Farms ~ Andover
          Permit #2019-22 ~ The American Club ~ Anoka

Next Meeting: Regular meeting is July 16, 2020 – at 8:00 a.m.

** PLEASE POST **
PUBLIC WELCOME TO ATTEND
Memorandum

To: Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization (LRRWMO)
From: Karen Wold, Barr Engineering Co.
Subject: Anoka CSAH 116 at MN TH47 ~ Ramsey and Anoka
Date: June 15, 2020
Barr Project: 23020047.00 RJB 1930
LRRWMO Permit: 2019-30

c: Bob Obermeyer, Barr Engineering Co.
   Carla Wirth, TimeSaver, LRRWMO Recording Secretary

On May 14, 2020, Barr received a request for Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) utility exemption approval for activities associated with the Anoka CSAH 116 at MN TH47 project located in the Cities of Ramsey and Anoka.
The wetland boundaries and types associated with this project were previously approved by the LRRWMO on January 16, 2020.
We submitted a WCA Notice of Application on May 18, 2020 with a comment period ending on June 9, 2020.

We recommend that the LRRWMO approve the WCA utility exemption under MN Rule 8420.020, subpart 6 A. with conditions as described in the attached draft WCA Notice of Decision.
# Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act
## Notice of Decision

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Local Government Unit (LGU):</th>
<th>Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization (LRRWMO)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>County:</strong></td>
<td>Anoka</td>
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<td><strong>Applicant Name:</strong></td>
<td>Anoka County Highway Department (Nicolas Dobda, P.E.)</td>
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<td><strong>Applicant Representative:</strong></td>
<td>WSB (Shawn Williams)</td>
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<td><strong>Project Name:</strong></td>
<td>Anoka CSAH 116 at MN TH 47 culvert outlet</td>
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<td><strong>LGU Project No. (if any):</strong></td>
<td>2019-30</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Date Application Received by LGU:</strong></td>
<td>5/14/2020</td>
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<td><strong>Date of LGU Decision:</strong></td>
<td>6/18/2020</td>
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<td><strong>Date this Notice was Sent:</strong></td>
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### Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) Decision Type - check all that apply

- [ ] Wetland Boundary/Type
- [ ] Sequencing
- [ ] Replacement Plan
- [ ] Bank Plan (not credit purchase)
- [x] Exemption (8420.0420)

#### Part:
- [ ] A
- [ ] B
- [x] C
- [ ] D
- [ ] E
- [ ] F
- [ ] G
- [ ] H

#### Subpart:
- [ ] 2
- [ ] 3
- [ ] 4
- [ ] 5
- [ ] 6
- [ ] 7
- [ ] 8
- [ ] 9

### Replacement Plan Impacts (replacement plan decisions only)

- **Total WCA Wetland Impact Area:** not applicable
- **Wetland Replacement Type:**
  - [ ] Project Specific Credits
  - [ ] Bank Credits
- **Bank Account Number(s):**

### Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP) Findings and Recommendations (attach if any)

- [x] Approve
- [ ] Approve w/Conditions
- [ ] Deny
- [ ] No TEP Findings Report, see TEP communication described below.

### LGU Decision

- [x] Approved with Conditions (specify below)\(^1\)
- [ ] Approved\(^1\)
- [ ] Denied

**List Conditions:** Work must be conducted according to no-loss and exemption conditions under MN Rule 8420.0410, including:

- A. appropriate erosion control measures are taken to prevent sedimentation of the wetland or of any receiving waters;
- B. the activity does not block fish activity in a watercourse; and
- C. the activity is conducted in compliance with all other applicable federal, state, and local requirements, including best management practices and water resource protection requirements.

**Decision-Maker for this Application:**
- [ ] Staff
- [x] Governing Board/Council
- [ ] Other:

**Decision is valid for:**
- [x] 5 years (default)
- [ ] Other (specify):

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\(^1\) Wetland Replacement Plan approval is not valid until BWSR confirms the withdrawal of any required wetland bank credits. For project-specific replacement a financial assurance per MN Rule 8420.0522, Subp. 9 and evidence that all required forms have been recorded on the title of the property on which the replacement wetland is located must be provided to the LGU for the approval to be valid.

**LGU Findings** – Attach document(s) and/or insert narrative providing the basis for the LGU decision\(^1\).
On behalf of the Anoka County Highway Department, WSB submitted a joint application form requesting WCA utility exemption approval for the Anoka CSAH 116 at MN TH 47 project located in the Cities of Ramsey and Anoka (Sections 25 and 36, Township 32N, Range 25W) within Anoka County. Wetland boundaries and types were previously approved for this project on 1/16/2020.

The project proposes to construct a new culvert outlet from Wetland 1 at the same elevation of the wetland, which will result in 100 square feet of permanent wetland fill within the Type 1 seasonally flooded community of Wetland 1. The project as planned will avoid and minimize wetland impacts to the extent possible.

The application and a WCA Notice of Application were provided to TEP members on 5/18/2020. The comment period ended on 6/9/2020 and no comments were received.

The proposed wetland impacts associated with the culvert outlet work in Wetland 1 is consistent with the WCA utilities exemption standards under MN Rule 8420.0420, subpart 6 A. (1) for installation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of utility lines, and a wetland replacement plan is not required for these impacts if work is conducted according to no-loss and exemption conditions under MN Rule 8420.0410 as described in the above listed conditions.

Note that records for the state-threatened Blanding’s turtle indicate that this species may be present within the area. State law and rules prohibit the destruction of threatened or endangered species, except under certain prescribed conditions. Please see the attached Blanding’s turtle fact sheet for species identification and recommendations for avoidance. If Blanding’s turtles are encountered on site during proposed activities, they should be left undisturbed if possible; if they are in imminent danger, they should be moved by hand out of harm’s way. If Blanding’s turtles are encountered nesting on the site, please contact the DNR Nongame Program staff for the Central Region (http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/nongame/central.html).

Please pass this information on to contractors working on the project

Appeals of LGU Decisions

If you wish to appeal this decision, you must provide a written request within 30 calendar days of the date you received the notice. All appeals must be submitted to the Board of Water and Soil Resources Executive Director along with a check payable to BWSR for $500 unless the LGU has adopted a local appeal process as identified below. The check must be sent by mail and the written request to appeal can be submitted by mail or e-mail. The appeal should include a copy of this notice, name and contact information of appellant(s) and their representatives (if applicable), a statement clarifying the intent to appeal and supporting information as to why the decision is in error. Send to:

Appeals & Regulatory Compliance Coordinator
Minnesota Board of Water & Soils Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155
travis.germundson@state.mn.us

Does the LGU have a local appeal process applicable to this decision?

☐ Yes
☐ No

1 If yes, all appeals must first be considered via the local appeals process.
Local Appeals Submittal Requirements (LGU must describe how to appeal, submittal requirements, fees, etc. as applicable)

Notice Distribution (include name)

**Required on all notices:**
- ☒ SWCD TEP Member: Becky Wozney (Anoka Conservation District)
- ☒ BWSR TEP Member: Ben Meyer
- ☒ LGU TEP Member: Karen Wold (Barr Engineering for the LRRWMO)
- ☒ DNR Representative: Melissa Collins
- ☒ Watershed District or Watershed Mgmt. Org.: Todd Haas (LRRWMO), Bob Obermeyer (Barr Engineering Co.)
- ☒ City Contact for LRRWMO permitting: Bruce Westby (City of Ramsey), Ben Nelson (City of Anoka)
- ☒ Applicant (notice only): Anoka County Highway Department (Nicolas Dobda, P.E.)
- ☒ Agent/Consultant (notice only): WSB (Shawn Williams)

**Optional or As Applicable:**
- ☒ Corps of Engineers: Eric White (USACE Regulatory file No. MVP-2019-02965-EJW)
- ☐ BWSR Wetland Mitigation Coordinator (required for bank plan applications only):
- ☐ Members of the Public (notice only):
- ☐ Other:

**Signature:**

**Date:**

6/18/2020

This notice and accompanying application materials may be sent electronically or by mail. The LGU may opt to send a summary of the application to members of the public upon request per 8420.0255, Subp. 3.
Figure 6: Wetland Delineation
CSAH 116 and TH 47 Improvements
Anoka County, MN
TRUNK HIGHWAY 47

DRAINAGE PLANS

TRUNK HIGHWAY 47

S.P. 0206-78 (TH 47), S.A.P. 002-716-020

忖距: UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY

CERTIFIED BY:

LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER - EARTH EVANS, PE

NOTES:

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE TO FACE OF CURB 
   OR EDGE OF BITUMINOUS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

2. ALL HIGH POINTS AND LOW POINTS ARE ON THE ROWADWAY PROFILE GRADE.

3. SEE SHEETS TO FOR DRAINAGE PROFILES AND TABULATIONS.

4. ALL HIGH POINTS AND LOW POINTS ARE ON THE ROWADWAY PROFILE GRADE.

5. SEE SHEETS TO FOR DRAINAGE DETAILS.

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CAUTION

BLANDING’S TURTLES MAY BE ENCLOSED IN THIS AREA

The unique and rare Blanding’s turtle has been found in this area. Blanding’s turtles are state-listed as Threatened and are protected under Minnesota Statute 84.095, Protection of Threatened and Endangered Species. Please be careful of turtles on roads and in construction sites. For additional information on turtles, or to report a Blanding’s turtle sighting, contact the DNR Nongame Specialist nearest you: Bemidji (218-308-2641); Grand Rapids (218-327-4518); New Ulm (507-359-6033); Rochester (507-206-2820); or St. Paul (651-259-5772).

DESCRIPTION: The Blanding’s turtle is a medium to large turtle (5 to 10 inches) with a black or dark blue, dome-shaped shell with muted yellow spots and bars. The bottom of the shell is hinged across the front third, enabling the turtle to pull the front edge of the lower shell firmly against the top shell to provide additional protection when threatened. The head, legs, and tail are dark brown or blue-gray with small dots of light brown or yellow. A distinctive field mark is the bright yellow chin and neck.

BLANDING’S TURTLES DO NOT MAKE GOOD PETS
IT IS ILLEGAL TO KEEP THIS THREATENED SPECIES IN CAPTIVITY
Environmental Review Fact Sheet Series

Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern Species of Minnesota

Blanding’s Turtle
(Emydoidea blandingii)

Minnesota Status: Threatened
Federal Status: none

State Rank¹: S2
Global Rank¹: G4

HABITAT USE
Blanding’s turtles need both wetland and upland habitats to complete their life cycle. The types of wetlands used include ponds, marshes, shrub swamps, bogs, and ditches and streams with slow-moving water. In Minnesota, Blanding’s turtles are primarily marsh and pond inhabitants. Calm, shallow water bodies (Type 1-3 wetlands) with mud bottoms and abundant aquatic vegetation (e.g., cattails, water lilies) are preferred, and extensive marshes bordering rivers provide excellent habitat. Small temporary wetlands (those that dry up in the late summer or fall) are frequently used in spring and summer -- these fishless pools are amphibian and invertebrate breeding habitat, which provides an important food source for Blanding’s turtles. Also, the warmer water of these shallower areas probably aids in the development of eggs within the female turtle. Nesting occurs in open (grassy or brushy) sandy uplands, often some distance from water bodies. Frequently, nesting occurs in traditional nesting grounds on undeveloped land. Blanding’s turtles have also been known to nest successfully on residential property (especially in low density housing situations), and to utilize disturbed areas such as farm fields, gardens, under power lines, and road shoulders (especially of dirt roads). Although Blanding’s turtles may travel through woodlots during their seasonal movements, shady areas (including forests and lawns with shade trees) are not used for nesting. Wetlands with deeper water are needed in times of drought, and during the winter. Blanding’s turtles overwinter in the muddy bottoms of deeper marshes and ponds, or other water bodies where they are protected from freezing.

LIFE HISTORY
Individuals emerge from overwintering and begin basking in late March or early April on warm, sunny days. The increase in body temperature which occurs during basking is necessary for egg development within the female turtle. Nesting in Minnesota typically occurs during June, and females are most active in late afternoon and at dusk. Nesting can occur as much as a mile from wetlands. The nest is dug by the female in an open sandy area and 6-15 eggs are laid. The female turtle returns to the marsh within 24 hours of laying eggs. After a development period of approximately two months, hatchlings leave the nest from mid-August through early-October. Nesting females and hatchlings are often at risk of being killed while crossing roads between wetlands and nesting areas. In addition to movements associated with nesting, all ages and both sexes move between wetlands from April through November. These movements peak in June and July and again in September and October as turtles move to and from overwintering sites. In late autumn (typically November), Blanding’s turtles bury themselves in the substrate (the mud at the bottom) of deeper wetlands to overwinter.

IMPACTS / THREATS / CAUSES OF DECLINE
- loss of wetland habitat through drainage or flooding (converting wetlands into ponds or lakes)
- loss of upland habitat through development or conversion to agriculture
- human disturbance, including collection for the pet trade* and road kills during seasonal movements
- increase in predator populations (skunks, raccoons, etc.) which prey on nests and young

*It is illegal to possess this threatened species.
**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AVOIDING AND MINIMIZING IMPACTS**

These recommendations apply to typical construction projects and general land use within Blanding’s turtle habitat, and are provided to help local governments, developers, contractors, and homeowners minimize or avoid detrimental impacts to Blanding’s turtle populations. **List 1** describes minimum measures which we recommend to prevent harm to Blanding’s turtles during construction or other work within Blanding’s turtle habitat. **List 2** contains recommendations which offer even greater protection for Blanding’s turtles populations; this list should be used *in addition to the first list* in areas which are known to be of state-wide importance to Blanding’s turtles (contact the DNR’s Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program if you wish to determine if your project or home is in one of these areas), or in any other area where greater protection for Blanding’s turtles is desired.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>List 1. Recommendations for all areas inhabited by Blanding’s turtles.</th>
<th>List 2. Additional recommendations for areas known to be of state-wide importance to Blanding’s turtles.</th>
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<td><strong>GENERAL</strong></td>
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<td>A flyer with an illustration of a Blanding’s turtle should be given to all contractors working in the area. Homeowners should also be informed of the presence of Blanding’s turtles in the area.</td>
<td>Turtle crossing signs can be installed adjacent to road-crossing areas used by Blanding’s turtles to increase public awareness and reduce road kills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turtles which are in imminent danger should be moved, by hand, out of harms way. Turtles which are not in imminent danger should be left undisturbed.</td>
<td>Workers in the area should be aware that Blanding’s turtles nest in June, generally after 4pm, and should be advised to minimize disturbance if turtles are seen.</td>
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<tr>
<td>If a Blanding’s turtle nests in your yard, do not disturb the nest.</td>
<td>If you would like to provide more protection for a Blanding’s turtle nest on your property, see “Protecting Blanding’s Turtle Nests” on page 3 of this fact sheet.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silt fencing should be set up to keep turtles out of construction areas. It is critical that silt fencing be removed after the area has been revegetated.</td>
<td>Construction in potential nesting areas should be limited to the period between September 15 and June 1 (this is the time when activity of adults and hatchlings in upland areas is at a minimum).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WETLANDS</strong></td>
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<td>Small, vegetated temporary wetlands (Types 2 &amp; 3) should not be dredged, deepened, filled, or converted to storm water retention basins (these wetlands provide important habitat during spring and summer).</td>
<td>Shallow portions of wetlands should not be disturbed during prime basking time (mid morning to mid- afternoon in May and June). A wide buffer should be left along the shore to minimize human activity near wetlands (basking Blanding’s turtles are more easily disturbed than other turtle species).</td>
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<td>Wetlands should be protected from pollution; use of fertilizers and pesticides should be avoided, and run-off from lawns and streets should be controlled. Erosion should be prevented to keep sediment from reaching wetlands and lakes.</td>
<td>Wetlands should be protected from road, lawn, and other chemical run-off by a vegetated buffer strip at least 50’ wide. This area should be left unmowed and in a natural condition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ROADS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads should be kept to minimum standards on widths and lanes (this reduces road kills by slowing traffic and reducing the distance turtles need to cross).</td>
<td>Tunnels should be considered in areas with concentrations of turtle crossings (more than 10 turtles per year per 100 meters of road), and in areas of lower density if the level of road use would make a safe crossing impossible for turtles. Contact your DNR Regional Nongame Specialist for further information on wildlife tunnels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads should be ditched, not curbed or below grade. If curbs must be used, 4 inch high curbs at a 3:1 slope are preferred (Blanding’s turtles have great difficulty climbing traditional curbs; curbs and below grade roads trap turtles on the road and can cause road kills).</td>
<td>Roads should be ditched, not curbed or below grade.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ROADS cont.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Culverts between wetland areas, or between wetland areas and nesting areas, should be 36 inches or greater in diameter, and elliptical or flat-bottomed.</th>
<th>Road placement should avoid separating wetlands from adjacent upland nesting sites, or these roads should be fenced to prevent turtles from attempting to cross them (contact your DNR Nongame Specialist for details).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wetland crossings should be bridged, or include raised roadways with culverts which are 36 in or greater in diameter and flat-bottomed or elliptical (raised roadways discourage turtles from leaving the wetland to bask on roads).</td>
<td>Road placement should avoid bisecting wetlands, or these roads should be fenced to prevent turtles from attempting to cross them (contact your DNR Nongame Specialist for details). This is especially important for roads with more than 2 lanes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culverts under roads crossing streams should be oversized (at least twice as wide as the normal width of open water) and flat-bottomed or elliptical.</td>
<td>Roads crossing streams should be bridged.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UTILITIES

| Utility access and maintenance roads should be kept to a minimum (this reduces road-kill potential). | Because trenches can trap turtles, trenches should be checked for turtles prior to being backfilled and the sites should be returned to original grade. |

LANDSCAPING AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terrain should be left with as much natural contour as possible.</th>
<th>As much natural landscape as possible should be preserved (installation of sod or wood chips, paving, and planting of trees within nesting habitat can make that habitat unusable to nesting Blanding’s turtles).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graded areas should be revegetated with native grasses and forbs (some non-natives form dense patches through which it is difficult for turtles to travel).</td>
<td>Open space should include some areas at higher elevations for nesting. These areas should be retained in native vegetation, and should be connected to wetlands by a wide corridor of native vegetation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation management in infrequently mowed areas -- such as in ditches, along utility access roads, and under power lines -- should be done mechanically (chemicals should not be used). Work should occur fall through spring (after October 1st and before June 1st).</td>
<td>Ditches and utility access roads should not be mowed or managed through use of chemicals. If vegetation management is required, it should be done mechanically, as infrequently as possible, and fall through spring (mowing can kill turtles present during mowing, and makes it easier for predators to locate turtles crossing roads).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Protecting Blanding’s Turtle Nests: Most predation on turtle nests occurs within 48 hours after the eggs are laid. After this time, the scent is gone from the nest and it is more difficult for predators to locate the nest. Nests more than a week old probably do not need additional protection, unless they are in a particularly vulnerable spot, such as a yard where pets may disturb the nest. Turtle nests can be protected from predators and other disturbance by covering them with a piece of wire fencing (such as chicken wire), secured to the ground with stakes or rocks. The piece of fencing should measure at least 2 ft. x 2 ft., and should be of medium sized mesh (openings should be about 2 in. x 2 in.). It is very important that the fencing be removed before August 1st so the young turtles can escape from the nest when they hatch!

REFERENCES


REFERENCES (cont.)

