

The State of Wisconsin

EXECUTIVE



DEPARTMENT

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EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 380

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Relating to the Creation of the Menomonee River Council

WHEREAS, the Menomonee River watershed drains approximately 135 square miles as it flows the approximately 28 miles from its headwaters to the confluence of the Milwaukee and Kinickinnic Rivers where it empties into Lake Michigan; and

WHEREAS, more than 330,000 citizens reside in this watershed; and

WHEREAS, there is currently no agency with the mandate or authority to develop a water management plan for this river system; and

WHEREAS, severe flooding in the Menomonee River watershed in 1997 and 1998 caused significant property and environmental damage; and

WHEREAS, these flooding problems illustrate the serious problems related to the lack of planning, and underscore the need for a watershed approach to flood abatement planning and storm water management;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TOMMY G. THOMPSON, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, and specifically by section 14.019 of the Wisconsin Statutes, do hereby:

1. Create the Menomonee River Council (hereinafter "Council"); and
2. Provide that the Council shall be composed of fifteen (15) members, the majority of whom must reside in the Menomonee River watershed, appointed by the Governor to serve at the pleasure of the Governor; and
3. Provide that the following officials shall each recommend to the Governor one (1) individual for membership on the Council:
 - a. The Majority Leader of the Wisconsin Senate; and
 - b. The Minority Leader of the Wisconsin Senate; and
 - c. The Speaker of the Wisconsin Assembly; and
 - d. The Minority Leader of the Wisconsin Assembly; and
4. Provide that the Governor shall designate one (1) member on the Council as its chair to serve in that capacity at the pleasure of the Governor; and

5. Provide that the Council have the following purpose and mission:
 - a) Assess the problems of the Menomonee River Watershed as it relates to river management; and
 - b) Develop a plan to address identified problems in cooperation with the local civil jurisdictions and related agencies; and
 - c) Research and propose any legislation necessary to implement plans or recommendations; and
 - d) Identify funding sources to implement recommendations; and
 - e) Insure that all recommendations can serve as a model for addressing similar problems and issues in other state watersheds; and
6. Require the Council to submit to the Governor a final report on its findings and recommendations by July 1, 2000; and
7. Direct the Secretary of Natural Resources and the Executive Director of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission to provide the Council with administrative and support services; and
8. Direct the Secretary of Administration to provide the Council with such sums of money as are necessary for travel and operating expenses in accordance with section 20.505(3)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this fourteenth day of September in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine.


TOMMY G. THOMPSON
Governor

By the Governor:


DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State