

**Resolution from Shallow Lakes Forum III
Willmar, MN April 6, 2006**

Whereas the shallow lakes and wetlands of Minnesota are a precious natural resources, and

Whereas the quality of life for Minnesota residents and experience of Minnesota's visitors depends on the quality of Minnesota's water resources, and

Whereas the economy of Minnesota depends on the existence of clean water resources, and

Whereas our shallow lakes and wetlands continue to decline in quality due to rural and urban pressures, and

Whereas land use impacts the quality of our waters, and

Whereas agricultural producers can provide the predominant solution to water quality degradation, and

Whereas agricultural producers depend on federal farm assistance for the production of food, fuel and fiber, and

Whereas the Federal Farm Bill is the opportunity to initiate meaningful change in assistance to agricultural producers for improved protections for Minnesota's watersheds which includes among numerous actions, developing and implementing farm resource conservation plans.

Therefore,

The 260+ participants of Shallow Lakes Forum III on April 5 and 6, 2006 in Willmar, Minnesota request changes to the Federal Farm Bill that fully rewards agricultural producers who implement water quality protections,

And furthermore,

We the Shallow Lakes Forum III participants also fully support the constitutional amendment in the state of Minnesota that earmarks funds for water quality protection and restoration.

A vote of confidence in this resolution passed overwhelmingly among the Forum participants on April 6, 2006. Participants included County Commissioners, agency and county staff, consultants, lake association and conservation club members, private landowners, academics, and grass roots organization representatives among others.