

AGENDA
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING
March 1, 2016
The Nature Conservancy

- I. 9:30 AM: Call to Order**
- II. Approve Minutes of January 2016**
- III. Clean Water Indiana**
 - a. Clean Water Indiana Grants –Leah Harmon
 - a. Late Final Report Discussion- Leah Harmon
 - b. Vanderburgh County- Jordan Seger
 - b. Clean Water Indiana Budget Update- Jordan Seger
 - c. CWI Grants Committee Report
- IV. State Soil Conservation Board Business**
 - a. SSCB Chairman’s Report-Ray Chattin
- V. Soil and Water Conservation Districts**
 - a. Floyd County- Laura Fribley
 - b. Fountain County- Nathan Stoelting
 - c. Jay County- Jennifer Thum
 - d. Vermillion County- Nathan Stoelting
- VI. 10 Minute Break**
- VII. ISDA Updates**
 - a. Director’s Report- Jordan Seger
 - b. Technical Report- George Reger
 - c. Agricultural Affairs-Jordan Seger
 - d. Accountability and Technology-Deb Fairhurst
 - e. District Support-Laura Fribley
 - f. Water Quality and CREP-Julie Harrold
- VIII. Conservation Partner Reports**
 - a. IASWCD Report
 - b. IDEM Report
 - c. DNR Report
 - d. Purdue Report
 - e. FSA Report
 - f. NRCS Report
 - g. IDEA Report
- IX. Public Comment**
- X. Next Meeting:**
2016 Meeting Dates
 - May 17, Salem Public Library, Salem
 - July 19, TNC Indianapolis
 - September 20, TNC Indianapolis
 - October 25, Huntington County
- XI. Adjourn**

*****PLEASE NOTE*****

This agenda is in DRAFT FORM. Open Door Law does not prohibit the public agency from changing or adding to its agenda during the meeting.



State Soil Conservation Board

March 1st, 2016

Clean Water Indiana Grants



Program Updates

Clean Water Indiana Competitive Grants

- All grant agreements have come back fully executed.
- Nine grantees have submitted claim vouchers for the initial 50% of funds. Five still have to submit claims. I am following up with those districts that have not submitted a voucher.
- The grants committee met last week to discuss the competitive grant program. More information will be available in the committee report.
- I am drafting a standard grant modification procedure that we will use for future modifications. This will standardize the timeline, paperwork and process of processing modifications for our grants.
- CWI will be featured in a breakout session at all 4 region meetings. This discussion will provide updates on the program and allow districts to ask me questions. Sessions at each region meeting will be recorded and a master list of questions and answers will be distributed to all districts by the end of March.

Annual Financial Report Grants

- The AFR template has been sent to districts.
 - AFRs were submitted to Gateway by February 29th and will be sent to their DSS by March 31st.
- Grant agreements for AFR grants and training funds will go out shortly after April 1st. Grant services is ready to start processing the contracts when the deadline passes.

Grant Reviews

- In 2015, the DSS team conducted 10 grant reviews.
- Overall, the reviews went well and we were able to learn about the program as it is put into practice.
- The team will again be conducting 10 reviews in 2016. Grantees that are being reviewed were notified in February.
- Moving forward, ISDA will have a written standard policy for how to select and complete these grant reviews. This policy is currently in a draft stage and will be rolled out soon.

Process Videos

- Videos detailing the CWI contract process have been uploaded to the ISDA YouTube channel.
- I am currently finalizing videos detailing the reporting and review processes. These will be uploaded in the next week or so.



Vanderburgh County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

921 North Park Drive, Evansville, IN 47710; Phone: (812) 423-4426 x 3, FAX: (855)-408-4686

February 17, 2016

Dear State Soil Conservation Board Members:

The Vanderburgh County SWCD is submitting this Letter of Intention to you for our 2014 CWI 2-stage ditch project we have jointly with Posey County. This letter is to inform you that Vanderburgh and Posey have every intention of having this grant completed by December 31, 2016.

There was an initial change in the site location due to complications with the landowner and the 2 stage ditch design that was presented. We have a new site location with the landowner and farmers are on board, but we are waiting for the final design from NRCS. Our NRCS tech team has been back logged due to staff reductions but we received confirmation today that the design will be ready within the next two weeks. Once we have the design, it will be presented to all involved parties to confirm they are in agreeance with the design and will begin installing the 2-stage ditch immediately after.

If for any reason there is a complication in the design or any other unforeseen circumstances we will submit a request to the State Soil Conservation Board asking for a change in the grant to include cover crops. We will add the use of cover crops, if the SSCB were to allow the change to the grant, in order to make sure the funds get spent this year. We absolutely do not want to have dollars we requested for CWI not being spent. We are committed to completing the 2-stage ditch project this year and hope you are able to see our effort is being made but our hands are tied as we wait on NRCS for the design.

The Vanderburgh and Posey SWCD's would like to thank you for your patience in allowing us to complete this grant by December of 2016.

Thank You,

Erin Shoup
Vanderburgh County Office Administrator

Jeri Ziliak
Posey County District Coordinator



INDIANA STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD

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Chair
Ray Chattin

Vice Chair
Robert Woodling

Members
Nola Gentry
Warren Baird
Larry Clemens
Bob Eddleman

To: District Supervisors and Staff
From: Ray Chattin, Chair-State Soil Conservation Board
Subj: 2017 Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Grant Program
Date: March 1, 2016

On behalf of the State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB), I'm pleased to inform you we are launching our 2017 CWI Grant Program today. The State Soil Conservation Board has voted to utilize Clean Water Indiana Grant Program funds to support competitive proposals for multi-year projects which address the state priorities in the State Soil Conservation Board's Business Plan adopted in 2016.

Eligible Applicants: Applications can be submitted by any SWCD in the State of Indiana. However, only one application is permitted per project and must be submitted by the lead SWCD. All districts must be current on SharePoint reporting for previous grants, including both financial and conservation practice tracking.

Please note: Clean Water Indiana funding to expand or extend CWI projects/initiatives is available to current grantees, provided the funding is at least 66% spent and reporting is up to date. Extension applications may include minor changes, but must stay within the scope of the original approved grant. All changes requested must be explained on the application. Lead Districts on an active CWI project may apply as the lead district in a new project; however, new lead districts are encouraged.

Application Process: The link to the online application is available on Clean Water Indiana page of the ISDA website. ISDA is providing a template for districts to use for planning and drafting proposals. SWCDs can then copy and paste information into the online form for submission. Districts should complete the online application and may attach up to five (5) additional pages in word document or pdf format if desired.

Application Deadline: The application must be submitted by **September 15, 2016 at 4 pm EDT**. By submitting the application, the lead SWCD certifies that each partnering district has agreed to the terms outlined in the application. **Please carefully review the 2017 CWI Grant Guidance with your board(s) before completing the grant application.**

We look forward to receiving your grant application.

Handwritten signature of Ray Chattin in cursive.

Ray Chattin
Chairman

State Soil Conservation Board



Clean Watering Indiana 2017 Competitive Grants Guidance

Executive Summary: The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Grant Program (IC14-32-8-5) utilizes the Clean Water Indiana Fund to Support Indiana Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) in efforts to improve water quality by reducing sediment and nutrients from nonpoint sources. The State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) is accepting competitive proposals for targeted projects up to three years in length.

Application Process: The link to the online application is available on the Clean Water Indiana Page of the ISDA website. Applications are completely online and can be saved or updated in your browser. Applications will be submitted via a web portal. Districts should complete the online application and may attach up to five (5) additional pages if desired. Attachments will be accepted in word document or pdf format.

Application Deadline: The application must be submitted by **September 15, 2016 at 4 pm EDT**. By submitting the application, the lead SWCD certifies that each partnering district has agreed to the terms outlined in the application.

Eligible Applicants: Applications can be submitted by any SWCD in the State of Indiana. However, only one application is permitted per project and must be submitted by the lead SWCD. All districts must be current on SharePoint reporting for previous grants, including both financial and conservation practice tracking.

Please note: Clean Water Indiana funding to expand or extend CWI projects/initiatives is available to current grantees, provided the funding is at least 66% spent and reporting is up to date. Extension applications may include minor changes, but must stay within the scope of the original approved grant. All changes requested must be explained on the application. Lead Districts on an active CWI project may apply as the lead district in a new project; however, new lead districts are encouraged.

Ineligible Projects: Research projects, including water quality monitoring, are not eligible under the 2017 CWI grant program. IC 14-32 prohibits SWCDs from conducting research except in conjunction with Purdue University. Projects relating to urban practices that will reduce sediment and nutrient are eligible; however, no funding will be awarded for cost-share on rain barrels. Cost-sharing is also not allowed on specific practices that an entity is required to install to comply with a state or local rule or ordinance. *Example: CWI funds cannot be used to meet MS4 requirements unless the proposed use of funds goes above and beyond the requirement outlined in the MS4 permit's Storm Water Quality Management Plan.*

Proposal Guidance: A lead district must be selected to serve as the grantee to receive and administer the grant. However grant funds can be shared between districts through cooperative agreements locally. The grant proposal must document how the grant funds will address at least two of the State priority resource concerns referenced in the State Soil Conservation Board's (SSCB's) Business Plan adopted in 2016. Proposals that outline how CWI funds will leverage additional funding from other sources as well as engage other partners are strongly encouraged. CWI project proposals that will be in tandem with ongoing projects are encouraged. *Example: CWI funds might be used to add technical assistance to help implement sediment and nutrient reduction practices cost-shared through a LARE or 319 project.*

Project Dates: All 2017 Clean Water Indiana Grant projects shall take no longer than three full years to complete. Projects will start on January 1, 2017 and must be finished and all funds spent by December 31, 2019.

Project Description: The proposal must identify the current nonpoint source water quality concern(s) in the selected district(s). The proposal must also identify how addressing this resource concern pertains to both the SSCB business plan and SWCD business plan(s).

Partnerships: Each application must state clearly what each partner and participating district will be contributing to the proposed project (i.e. outreach, professional assistance, estimated funds, etc.) Partnering districts and organizations must be identified with a point of contact for the project and their contact information.

Conservation Practices: Conservation practices and structural measures shall follow NRCS Field Office Technical Guide where applicable. New technologies not currently in the technical guide may be implemented if reviewed and concurred in by a technical representative of the Conservation Implementation Teams (CIT) or their designee. For cost-share practices, CWI funds may be used to pay up to a maximum of 75% of the total conservation practice cost. At least 25% of the cost must be provided by the landowner or other non-federal source as match. However, cover crop cost share is limited to a maximum of \$20/acre. Cost share funding for cover crops shall be limited to three years per field for any CWI grants. *Example: A producer who has received cover crop cost share on a previous CWI grant for two year is only eligible to receive cost share for that field for one year on a new grant.* If applying for cost share, please describe the process you will implement to select grant recipients. Priority will be given to SWCDs who demonstrate a strategic process for managing cost share dollars.

Funds Available: This grant opportunity is competitive. The SSCB is looking for targeted proposals of up to 3 years in length. Proposals can be for any amount that would accomplish the project described. The SSCB will utilize a scoring sheet to aid in ranking the proposals. The SSCB may use discretion when awarding grant funds.

Funding Restrictions: Proposals must fall within the funding context allowed under the Clean Water Indiana Law (IC 14-32-8). The law prohibits funds to be used for food, food related paper products, office equipment or district self-promotional materials (i.e. mugs, t-shirts, pens, etc.)

Match Requirements: A 50 percent cash and/or in-kind match is required. Match contributions can be federal, state, and/or local sources including such things as landowner costs, staff time, supervisor time, equipment use, purchase, rental, etc. The match is applicable only if directly related to the purpose of the proposed project. Grant proposals should use the match standards outlined at the end of this document to develop their project budget.

Leveraging Funds: SWCDs are encouraged to partner with traditional and non-traditional organizations/agencies at the local, state, and federal level to leverage additional funds for their project/initiative. However, the SSCB will show preference to projects which do not add to the percent cost-share/incentive rate offered through another program. *Example: A project where CWI funds are used for cost share and 319 funds for technical assistance would be preferred over a project where CWI and 319 funds are both used to give producers a larger cost share amount.*

Process of Payments: Once the proposal is approved by the SSCB, the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) will issue a contract to the designated lead SWCD. SWCDs should return their signed contract to ISDA within 30 days of receipt in order to receive their funds. Funds must be utilized in a timely manner. Districts will receive 50 percent of their grant funding up front and the remaining 50 percent at the end of the project upon receipt of the final report and claim voucher. *Please note that after the initial 50 percent of funds, all payments will be made as reimbursement to the lead district and require proof of payment by the lead district and a claim voucher.*

Reporting Requirements: Financial and project status reports through SharePoint will be required for the duration of the grant and a final report will be due at the end of the grant. This report must be completed semi-annually (every 6 months) and summarize the outcomes and achievements of the project. These reports will be due 30 days following the anniversary date of the grant and. *Example: grants that begin on January 1st will have reports due January 31st and July 31st.* The first report will be due on July 31st, 2017. Tracking of conservation practice implementation (following FOTG standards) must be reported through SharePoint's conservation tracking system on a (minimum) quarterly basis.

Grant Reviews: ISDA routinely visits with its grantees to ensure projects and grants are proceeding as intended and offer guidance and support if needed. Each year, ISDA will strategically select grants to review. These reviews can include open grants and grants that have been completed in the last three years. Upon completion of a review, ISDA will send a summary of results to all districts involved in the project and their board(s). If found during formal review or routine reporting checks, failure to make progress on the project or report progress as specified in the grant agreement will be noted in a project's file and may jeopardize a district's ability to receive competitive grant funds in future cycles.

Questions: Please contact the Grants Program Manager or your District Support Specialist. See DSS Map and contact information under documents on SWCD SharePoint.

Match Standards: (all figures are per hour of project work)

SWCD Administrative Staff: \$15

SWCD Technical Staff: \$20

SWCD Supervisor: \$15

ISDA/NRCS Technical Staff: \$25

Landowner Time: \$20

Professional Services: \$25

Student/Intern: \$10

Any landowner contribution toward the remaining portion of cost share practices should be counted as cash match.

In general, time spent working on the project should be considered in-kind match; whereas money would be considered cash match.

Deadlines that SWCDs must meet to be eligible for CWI 2017:

- Election Committee Report: November 1, 2015
- Recommendation for Supervisor Appointment: November 1, 2015
- Annual Financial Report entered into Gateway: February 29th, 2016
- Annual Meeting Held: March 31, 2016
- Election held at Annual Meeting: March 31, 2016
- Annual Financial Report and Audit Form/Page 2 of AFR: March 31, 2016
- Certification of Election of Supervisors: Within 7 days of election
- CWI Grant Reports and Conservation Project Tracking: Due dates established in grant agreements)
- Recommendation for Temporary or Vacant Appointment: Within 30 days of vacancy

The items are not specified in district law but are considered essential for district operations and could be used as a tiebreaker for CWI 2017:

- District Annual Meeting Information: January 1, 2016
- Updated SharePoint Directories: Within 30 days of changes
- District Success Story: Due date determined by ICP outreach committee
- The district has a current business plan.
- The district has had at least one supervisor attend the Supervisor Summit hosted by ISDA and IASWCD since 2013.
- The district has had at least one current supervisor attend a Leadership Institute workshop session since 2008.
- District Staff or supervisors participated in the 2015 spring tillage or cover crop transects.

CWI 2017 Application Template

Contact Information

Lead District	
Lead District Contact Name	
Email Address	
Phone	
Project Amount Request	
Lead District Chairman Name	
Participating District(s), if applicable	

Project Information

Project Name
Project Description/timeline (Maximum 5000 characters)
How will this project impact the targeted watershed/project area? (Maximum 2500 characters)
How will you determine the effectiveness of the project? (Maximum 2500 characters)

Comment [LH1]: All CWI proposals must fall within the scope of eligible uses of funds found in Indiana Code 14-32-8. The law can be found at <https://iga.in.gov/legislative/laws/2015/ic/titles/014/articles/032/chapters/008/>

How is this project unique in comparison to other programs currently available in your district? (Maximum 2500 characters)

How will this project target new producers? (Maximum 2500 characters)

What are the goals of the project and how do these goals relate to the SSCB business plan? (Maximum 2500 characters)

Comment [LH2]: The business plan can be found at http://jn.gov/isda/files/SSCB_Business_Plan_2016_approved.pdf

Please provide information describing all project partners. The information must include partnering districts and their board of supervisors. Also, please provide a point of contact for each partner and briefly describe their role in the project.

Budget Information

Please fill out the following table with your project budget:

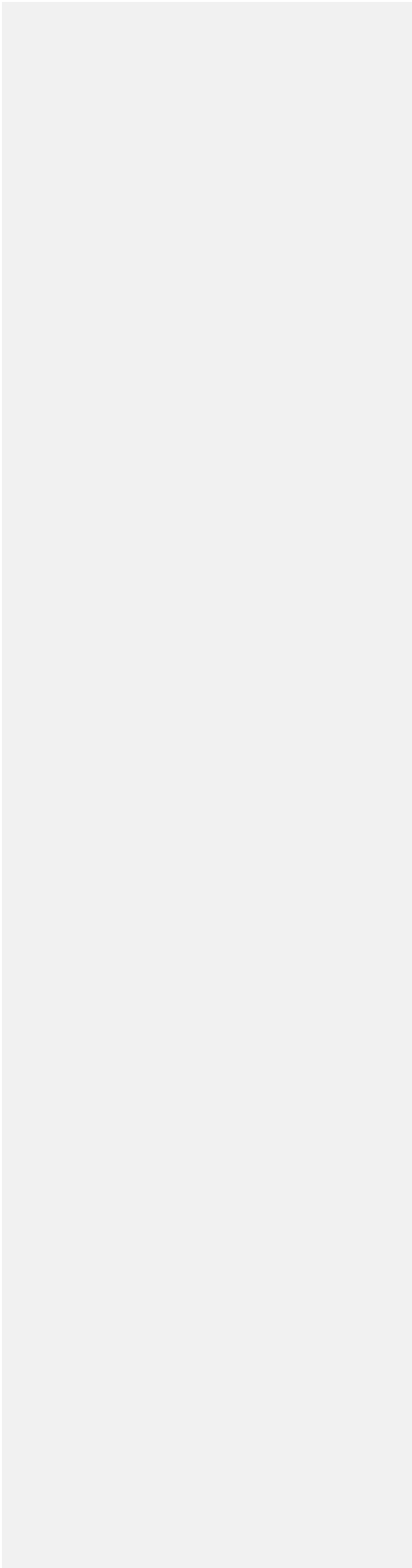
Entity/Type of Expense	CWI Funds Requested	Cash Match	In Kind Match

Comment [LH4]: To calculate match, districts must use the match standards listed in the guidance document.

Comment [LH3]: For this column, please list the district or partner and what the funds will be used for. For example: ___SWCD, conservation proactice cost share or ___ SWCD, technical assistance

Attachments

Please attach any documentation, up to 5 pages, that you feel will help the grants committee. This documentation may include, but not limited to, letters of support from project partners, example cost share ranking systems, etc....



What's New in CWI 2017?
Leah Harmon, ISDA District Support Specialist

The goals of the CWI program remain the same. With the adoption of a new State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) business plan, the SSCB looked to better align CWI grants with their priority resource concerns. The board sought feedback from districts via a survey in November 2015 to assess their needs for CWI competitive grants. Based upon this feedback, the following changes have been made. Applications and guidance were launched at the March 1st meeting of the SSCB.

Application:

- Applications have moved to an online format. ISDA will provide a template for the application in a word document that you can use to share with partners and create drafts of the application. Information can be copied and pasted directly into the web tool. All applications must be submitted via the web tool. The web tool will provide confirmation of submission, and the proposal will go directly to the grants program manager.
- Applications now allow for up to five pages of attachments for supplemental information. This can be in a single document or up to five individual files. Attachments must be submitted as word or pdf files. Attachments may include, but not limited to, letters of support from project partners, example cost share ranking systems, etc. Attachments will be used to provide more information about proposals and will primarily be used as a tiebreaker.
- Applications are due September 15th at 4 pm EDT. No late applications will be accepted. Districts no longer need to submit a District Deadline Verification Tool; however districts must still meet required deadlines as specified in guidance. The DSS team will verify that deadlines have been met.
- Partners' roles should be expanded upon and must include a point of contact. This box has been expanded from previous applications. For example, if you are working with a local AG retailer, then list what role they will have with field days, printing items, sending the flyer to the customers, etc.
- The question regarding watershed plans has been eliminated. Instead, SWCDs should show how the proposed project relates to their District business plan and the SSCB business plan.
- The budget section has been simplified. The categories and year-by-year breakdown have been removed. Also district and partner match categories have been combined into general match categories. Match standards have been added and must be used.

Guidance:

- Guidance has been updated to reflect all goals of the SSCB business plan. Previous grant cycles focused solely on soil health and water quality. The grants committee has opened up the proposal guidance beyond soil health and water quality.
- The Grants Committee has chosen to remove the \$75,000 cap. Please apply for what your district(s) need for a targeted proposal.

- Single districts are eligible to apply, but must give a valid reason for why a single district application should be considered. Example: your targeted watershed falls entirely within a single district.
- Research projects are not allowed under CWI 2017. This was the case in previous grant cycles but language has been updated to be more specific.
- Producers are now limited to the amount of time they can receive cost share on the same field. It is now capped at 3 years per field regardless of specific CWI grant.
- Removed funding categories. SWCDs should apply for a project that relates to their business plan.
- Removed specific instances where the SSCB will use discretion when awarding grant funds. The board will still use discretion to award funds, but it will be on a case-by-case basis.
- Match requirements have been clarified and match standards that must be used have been added to the end of the guidance document. These standards will allow for better comparisons of match between proposals when scoring applications.
- The leveraging funds section has been clarified with a specific example about stacking funds.
- The timetable for return of contracts has been extended to 30 days to allow for board meetings. The payment and reimbursement procedure has been given more detail and claim voucher procedures have been added.
- An example has been added to reporting requirements.
- Reporting requirements have been changed. Financial and progress reports are now required every six months throughout the life of the grant.
- A section regarding the grant review process has been added. This section includes specific procedures of how ISDA will select grants to be reviewed and how the agency will report results to all districts involved in the project and their boards.
- Leah Harmon, the grants program manager, was added as a point of contact for questions.

For further information regarding CWI 2017, please contact Leah Harmon.

317-607-4127

Lharmon2@isda.in.gov



State Soil Conservation Board

March 1, 2016

ISDA-DSC Director, Jordan Seger



Updates

- **Indiana Agriculture Strategic Plan** - ISDA, working with Ag partners, has initiated a strategic planning process for the future of the IN Ag Industry – 2015 – 2025
 - A plan for the Ag industry, not just ISDA
 - Water quality and quantity are top issues that have been raised
 - Likely roll out late March – Early April
- **Clean Water IN Legislation**
 - Bill passed Senate and House Natural Resources Committee. Now in third reading on House floor.
 - Four corrections (Further info posted to ISDA CWI web page: <http://www.in.gov/isda/2379.htm>)
 - Update DNR with Division of Soil Conservation – cig tax funding (Thanks to DNR)
 - Strike outdated LARE language (Thanks to DNR)
 - Allow SWCD's to receive 10k match each if they choose on their own to merge in the future
 - Allow other SWCD contributions from other than county govt. source to be considered to qualify for State 10k CWI match. (Thanks to IASWCD for working together on this)
- **Staffing**
 - Jennifer Thum, former DSS promoted to Northeast Resource Specialist Team Leader. Will retain many DSS duties in her same counties and take on supervision of the NE Resource Specialist Team. Based in Ft Wayne USDA Service Center. (Thanks to NRCS for office space)
 - Interviewing Thursday for DSC summer intern (Paid by ISDA budget). Will start mid May-Aug. Over 15 applications. Interviewing three current Master students.
- **Lieutenant Governor**
 - Last Day March 2, Mr. Eric Holcomb named as next LG contingent upon House and Senate vote
 - In IN the LG serves as Secretary of Agriculture
- **SWCD business planning improvement**
 - Meetings held with respected Ag business consultant and DSS Team re improving SWCD business planning process. Contract in process to be paid out of ISDA budget.
- **SSCB Appointment**
 - In November the ISDA along with IASWCD and PU approval submitted name for SSCB appointment consideration by Governor to replace vacancy left by Scott Ham.
 - Appointment was going to be made by March 1, but upon last check this will be delayed by one week.
- **Electric Power Research Institute Water Quality Trading**
 - ISDA working with EPRI to sign "Phase 2" contract for water quality trading program with forestry focus.

- 200k outside dollars (Mainly CIG) to fund conservation practices and SWCD administration
- Thanks to NRCS, DNR, and SWCDs for exploring this further opportunity with EPRI
- May work with new, outside of Ohio River Basin SWCDs if “phase 1” SWCDs don’t have interest. “Phase 1” SWCDs first priority to work with.
- Thanks to Tara Wesseler Henry, ISDA for her leadership on this project
- Further information: <http://wqt.epri.com/>
- **2015 DSC/SSCB Annual Report Online:**
[http://www.in.gov/isda/files/DSC Annual Report 2015.pdf](http://www.in.gov/isda/files/DSC%20Annual%20Report%202015.pdf)
- **Key Performance Indicator and Performance Measures**
 - 2015 goals all met, most exceeded thanks to SWCD and ISDA staff! These achievements detailed in annual report linked above
 - 2016 CY Goals (Accomplished by ISDA and SWCD staff)
 - Top soil stabilization, prevention of sediment from entering waters of the State = 280,000,000 lbs
 - Nitrogen reduced from entering waters of the State = 275,000 lbs
 - Phosphorus reduced from entering waters of the State = 150,000 lbs
 - Number of soil and water conservation practices installed = 1,000 practices
 - Number of newly enrolled acres in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) = 750 acres
 - Number of acres in INfield Advantage = 60,000 acres
- **Kankakee River Basin Conservation Area Discussions**
 - Conservation groups and Ag groups met with USFWS to discuss new conservation area in the Kankakee river basin (IL and IN)
 - Likely to start rollout in IL first
- **Avian Influenza**
 - Many local, state and federal agencies worked together to contain incident in Dubois county
 - 10 k control zone has been lifted
 - Affected Turkey barns in middle of in house composting – compost heat kills virus
 - Thanks to the Board of Animal Health Staff and State Veterinarian Dr. Brett Marsh for their leadership.
- **Bicentennial Visioning Report – Environment and Conservation Chapter – areas of focus for the next 200 years**
 - ISDA participation in planning sessions
 - Conservation funding, water quality, wildlife corridors, environmental education, and payment in lieu of taxes all likely topics to come out
- **Reminder - All Employee Partnership Meeting - May 10 Hendricks County Fairgrounds**
 - NRCS, ISDA, SWCD employees and SSCB

Jordan Seger

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in.gov/isda/



State Soil Conservation Board

March 1, 2016

DSC Technical Assistance Report

Field Staff Activities

January 1, 2016 – February 15, 2016

Resource Specialist Activities	Total
SWCD Board Meetings	61
ICP Meetings, Conference Calls, Webinars, etc.	71
Field Days	7
Training	32
Conservation Planning	62
Survey, Design and Inspections	114
Construction	0
Public Interaction	3,119
CREP – Met with Landowners	2

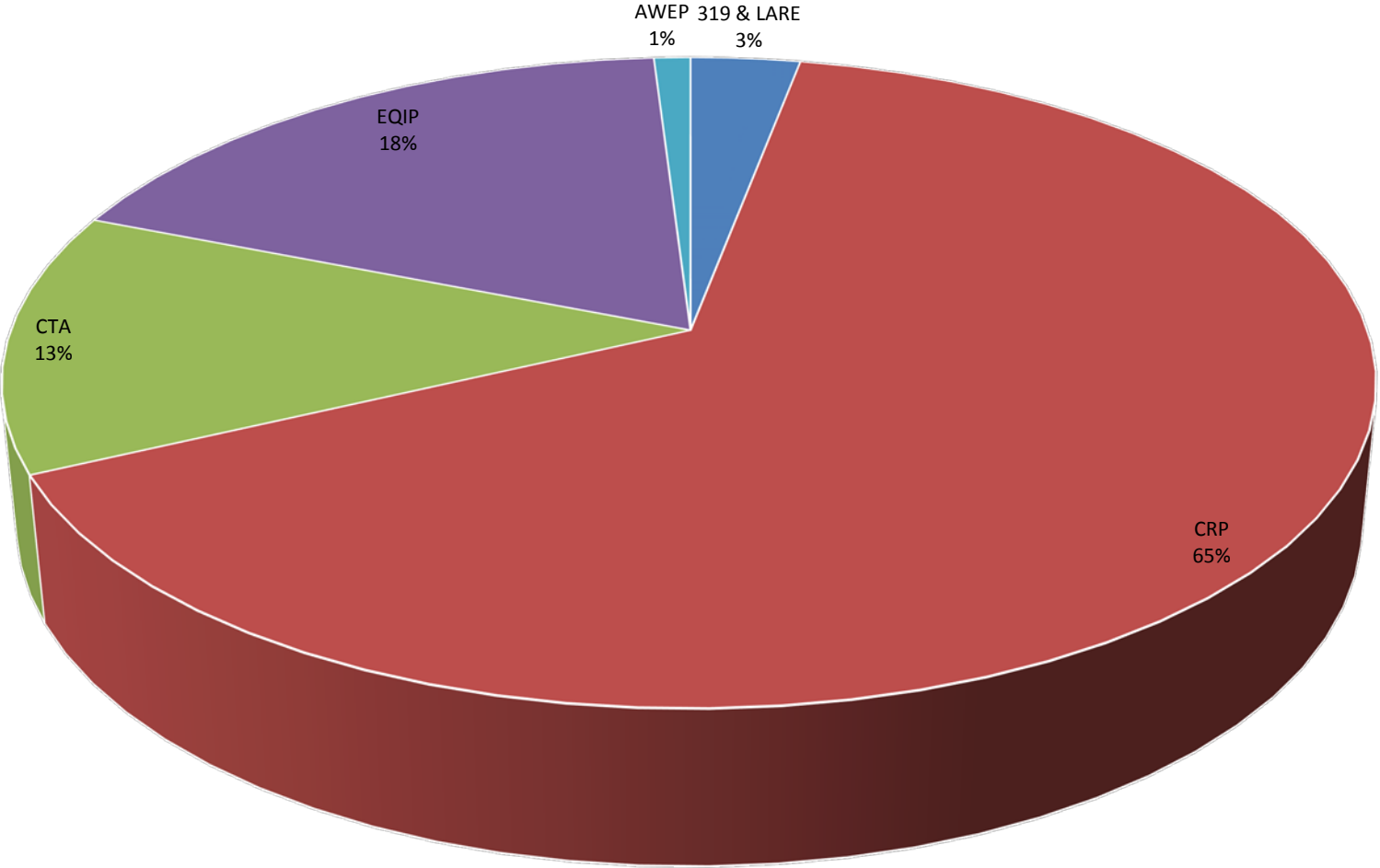
DSC Conservation Workload

January 1, 2016 – February 25, 2016

Action	Currently Reported
Technical Assistance	179
Practices Underway	1,321
Completed Practices	9
Practice Acres	183
Practice Feet	8,216
Field Acres	436
Nitrogen Reduction	1,520 lbs.
Phosphorus Reduction	759 lbs.
Sediment Reduction	704 tons

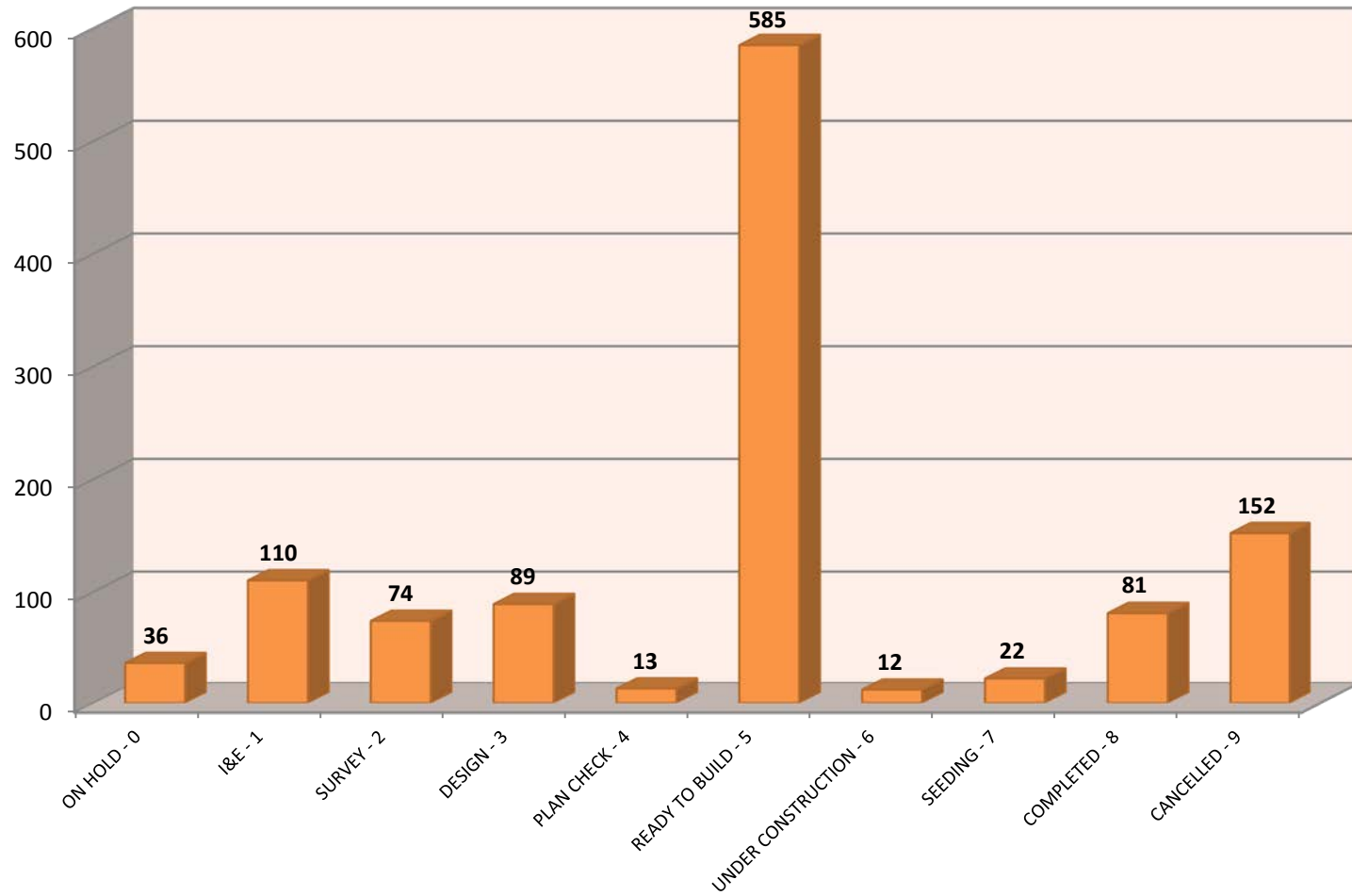
NW Area Engineering Workload Per Program

2/22/2016



Status of Engineering Practices in the Northwest

2/22/2016





State Soil Conservation Board

March 1, 2016

Agricultural and Environmental Affairs Program Manager



Program Updates

➤ INfield Advantage

- 19 of the 28 INFA Winter Grower Meetings have been held. Meetings continue through March 10.
- Seven SWCD staff members that are involved with INfield Advantage attended Iowa's Research Conference on February 16 and 17 along with three ISDA staff members. Their registration and hotel charges were sponsored by Indiana Corn and Soy and most of them traveled with ISDA.
- For 2016, we are working with Indiana Pork to start a pilot project with growers that apply hog manure on their crop ground. The tentative plan is to augment existing participants with additional testing and to start a new group in the northeast, along US 24, where all the participants apply hog manure.
- I'm looking at 34 INFA groups in 2016. Groups in Kosciusko and Clay Counties will be reactivating with new group leaders. Warrick County will be joining the Spencer/Perry group. New groups are starting in Montgomery and Shelby counties. I have one other SWCD that still needs to decide if they will be starting a group.

➤ Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative

- The CCSI Annual Meeting was held February 8. On February 9 the CCSI Technical Advisory Committee met for the first time.
- A Top Farmer Roundtable was held on February 17.
- CCSI is advertising for a Director. Applications are being accepted through March 15.
- There is a Manure Management Workshop being held on March 29 at Greensburg.
- Intermediate Cover Crop workshops are scheduled for April 4 (north) and 5 (south).

➤ Red Gold Tomato Conservation Stewardship Award

- The Red Gold Spring Grower Meetings will be March 16 through 22. At that point I'll be introducing this year's Annual Conservation Stewardship Awards. The initial applications will be due April 25.
- At the grower meetings Hans Kok and the NE NRCS Soil Health Team will be talking about soil health and presenting the slake test.



State Soil Conservation Board

March 1, 2016

Accountability and Technology



Program Updates

2015 Fall Cover Crop Transect Survey

All transects are completed except for Madison County. Tara Wesseler and Ted McCammon are working with the District Conservationist to complete the transect by March 4.

2015 ICP Conservation Accomplishments

Data: Provided by Indiana State Department of Agriculture, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

2015 Nutrient Load Reductions

HUC8	HUC NAME	SEDIMENT (Tons)	NITROGEN (lbs.)	PHOSPHORUS (lbs.)
04040001	Little Calumet-Galien	1,884	5,007	2,509
04050001	St Joseph (MI)	60,193	139,157	69,539
04100003	St Joseph (OH)	86,778	160,854	80,550
04100004	St Marys	5,281	15,720	7,869
04100005	Maumee	10,870	26,500	13,265
04100007	Auglaize	1,396	4,394	2,203
05080001	Upper Great Miami	266	835	418
05080002	Lower Great Miami	370	828	414
05080003	Whitewater	20,518	42,769	21,403
05090203	Middle Ohio-Laughery	39,882	67,381	33,649
05120101	Upper Wabash	17,017	46,687	24,131
05120102	Salamonie	10,777	30,324	15,211
05120103	Mississinewa	4,167	11,887	5,830
05120104	Eel (WR)	56,134	138,609	69,557
05120105	Middle Wabash-Deer	8,276	22,069	10,912
05120106	Tippecanoe	31,220	77,135	38,226
05120107	Wildcat	17,721	39,095	19,422
05120108	Middle Wabash-Little Vermillion	48,481	108,899	56,342
05120109	Vermillion	4,304	10,465	5,414
05120110	Sugar	12,506	30,907	15,299
05120111	Middle Wabash-Busseron	33,436	70,934	36,432
05120113	Lower Wabash	39,613	76,648	38,444
05120201	Upper White	13,808	34,312	16,730
05120202	Lower White	91,103	174,651	87,972
05120203	Eel (WFWR)	50,604	108,245	54,251
05120204	Driftwood	5,926	14,251	7,021
05120205	Flatrock-Haw	4,535	11,368	5,684
05120206	Upper East Fork White	22,922	55,035	27,507
05120207	Muscatatuck	26,765	59,997	29,907
05120208	Lower East Fork White	113,521	219,007	109,030
05120209	Patoka	64,767	116,036	58,014
05140101	Silver-Little Kentucky	13,428	28,012	13,991
05140104	Blue-Sinking	90,393	179,737	89,073
05140201	Lower Ohio-Little Pigeon	42,160	66,238	33,548
05140202	Highland-Pigeon	19,797	36,493	18,331
07120001	Kankakee	18,384	39,609	19,826
07120002	Iroquois	4,560	13,935	6,970
07120003	Chicago	0	0	0
	TOTAL	1,093,763	2,284,033	1,144,892

2013-15 ICP Cumulative Nutrient Load Reductions

HUC8	HUC NAME	SEDIMENT (Tons)	NITROGEN (lbs.)	PHOSPHORUS (lbs.)
04040001	Little Calumet-Galien	2,055	8,029	2,695
04050001	St Joseph (MI)	64,084	166,459	80,129
04100003	St Joseph (OH)	87,827	163,225	81,742
04100004	St Marys	7,185	22,413	10,292
04100005	Maumee	11,002	26,878	13,421
04100007	Auglaize	1,429	4,487	2,250
05080001	Upper Great Miami	275	852	441
05080002	Lower Great Miami	689	1,412	706
05080003	Whitewater	27,920	57,451	28,627
05090203	Middle Ohio-Laughery	63,355	109,527	54,122
05120101	Upper Wabash	22,534	58,644	30,116
05120102	Salamonie	11,440	31,757	15,931
05120103	Mississinewa	5,865	15,714	7,731
05120104	Eel (WR)	59,835	147,149	73,828
05120105	Middle Wabash-Deer	11,113	28,614	14,194
05120106	Tippecanoe	36,712	90,404	44,889
05120107	Wildcat	25,424	56,292	28,037
05120108	Middle Wabash-Little Vermillion	76,671	167,992	84,961
05120109	Vermillion	4,388	10,670	5,498
05120110	Sugar	28,952	64,803	32,177
05120111	Middle Wabash-Busseron	44,209	93,273	47,698
05120113	Lower Wabash	51,105	96,878	48,644
05120201	Upper White	19,798	46,522	22,876
05120202	Lower White	112,719	215,066	108,174
05120203	Eel (WFWR)	70,459	148,999	74,029
05120204	Driftwood	7,062	16,514	8,119
05120205	Flatrock-Haw	5,507	13,295	6,653
05120206	Upper East Fork White	32,548	74,377	37,170
05120207	Muscatatuck	34,542	78,097	38,758
05120208	Lower East Fork White	185,714	346,779	172,718
05120209	Patoka	78,163	140,580	70,275
05140101	Silver-Little Kentucky	23,289	46,773	23,364
05140104	Blue-Sinking	121,098	231,770	115,375
05140201	Lower Ohio-Little Pigeon	60,503	100,664	50,789
05140202	Highland-Pigeon	21,200	39,134	19,635
07120001	Kankakee	21,307	45,906	22,980
07120002	Iroquois	6,120	16,784	8,386
07120003	Chicago	0	0	0
	TOTAL	1,444,098	2,984,179	1,487,431



State Soil Conservation Board

March 1, 2016

District Support Specialist Report (January 2, 2016 – February 19, 2016)



Major Activities or Events:

- DSSs assisted the SSCB CWI Grants Committee with updating the 2017 CWI Grants Program documents and guidance. Leah's spent a considerable amount of time getting the backbone of these documents and software prepared.
- DSSs met to brainstorm ways to improve the Business Plan and Annual Plan of Work sessions offered to SWCDs

Ongoing Key Support:

- Business plans and/or annual plans of work- Sessions were facilitated in Allen, DeKalb, Kosciusko and Washington
- SWCD Annual Meetings: DSSs presented at, assisted, and/or attended meetings in the following counties: Crawford, Decatur, Franklin, Gibson, Hamilton, Harrison, Hendricks, Howard, Jefferson, Johnson, Kosciusko, Marion, Marshall, Montgomery, Morgan, Owen, Parke, Scott, Vanderburgh, Vermillion
- SWCD Board Meetings-DSSs have attended and assisted with various topics in the following counties: Allen, Carroll, Clay, Clinton, Kosciusko, Pike, Porter, Scott, Vanderburgh
- District Staff visits- DSSs visited staff and provided training, assistance with various projects or tasks, and provided guidance in the following counties: Boone, Clinton, Delaware, Hamilton, Marion, White
- District Supervisor Visits- DSSs visited staff and provided training, assistance with various projects or tasks, and provided guidance in the following counties: Benton, LaGrange, St. Joseph, Union, Wayne
- DSSs are assisting SWCDs with Annual Financial Report, election and Gateway related paperwork
- A DSS Facebook page is up and running, to remind SWCDs of upcoming deadlines, help share ideas, etc.
<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/ISDADistrictSupportSpecialists/>
- DSSs attended workshops, field days, trainings, meetings, etc. where they were able to interact with the following SWCDs: Clark, Crawford, Elkhart, Hamilton, Harrison, Hendricks, Jackson, Marion, Washington, Wayne
- Leah spoke at SPEA about urban BMPs and grants from a funder's perspective
- Leah posted SBOA's presentation from the December 17th SWCD Staff Training on YouTube:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e_9j_vl7ATE
- Jennifer facilitated a 4R session at the Agribusiness Council of Indiana Conference in Marion County.
- Planning for the February "Board Development" Leadership Institute (cancelled due to lack of participation)
- Planning is underway for the upcoming March Region Meetings
- Tara's assisting Ohio County with preparation for an upcoming meeting with Commissioners/Council

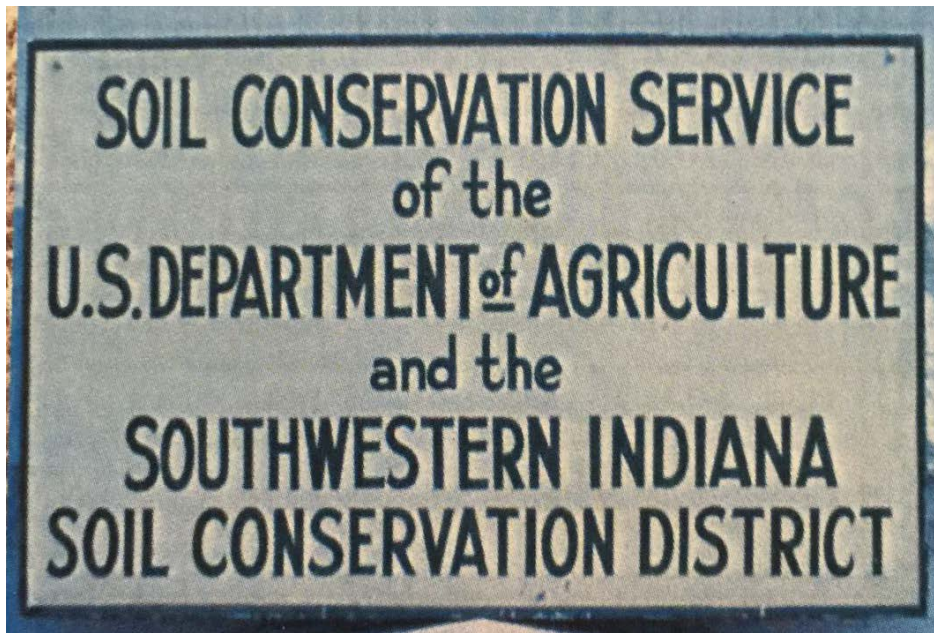
Committees and Advisory Roles: DSSs have been involved serving on committees and accomplishing related tasks.

- Leah: SSCB duties, CWI Grants, CCSI
- Laura: CCSI, Women's Conservation Learning Circles, ICP Training and Certification Program, IASWCD Legislative Training
- Nathan: Pathway to Water Quality, Myers-Briggs
- Jennifer: Adams/Allen Field Day, WLEB, WLEB RCPP, Leadership Institute
- Tara: Leadership Institute, Water Quality Trading, CCSI
- Geneva: CCSI, INFA, Women's Conservation Learning Circles

Upcoming Events:

- March Region Meetings: The key presentation will be on Parliamentary Procedure (with FFA students), and Open Door Law/Executive Sessions. Breakout sessions include New Supervisor and Staff training, CWI Grants, and (varies by region) Soil Health Outreach to Ag Retailers OR INField Advantage.
 - March 2: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/northwest-region-meeting-2016-tickets-20988455034> , deadline to register early was February 25
 - March 7: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/southwest-region-meeting-2016-tickets-20988496157> , deadline to register early is March 1
 - March 15: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/northeast-region-meeting-2016-tickets-19998332551/> , deadline to register early is March 10
 - March 17: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/southeast-region-meeting-2016-tickets-20988250422> , deadline to register early is March 11
- WordPress Trainings for SWCDs: March 23rd- north (Fulton Co) , April 20th- south (Jackson Co)
- May 10th: ICP Staff Meeting. Hendricks Co Fairgrounds

**Note: due to the large amount of data summarized, errors or omissions may exist.*



Historical photo featured at Vanderburgh Co SWCD's 2016 Annual Meeting.

Summary of Returned Indiana Conservation Partnership's 2015 "Individual Development Inventories"

Name of Agency and & Number of Employee Respondents (157 Total)

Agency	Extension	FSA	IDEM	IDNR	ISDA	NRCS	SSCB	SWCD
# of Respondents	18	0	5	12	29	52	0	41

Number of Times A Training Subject or Objective was Identified as Needed by Employees (Top 24 Subjects out of 142)

RANK	SUBJECT	# OF TIMES REQUESTED	RANK IN 2014	RANK IN 2011
1	Wetland Plant ID	43	2	8
2	Tree & Shrub ID	41	3	6
3	Weed ID	39	1	4
4	Prescribed Grazing	36	16	18
4	Conservation Planning	36	4	1
5	Forest Stand Improvement	33	22	33
6	Cover Crop	32	19	9
6	Wetland Restoration	32	5	7
7	Wetland Creation	31	7	13
7	Forestland Management	31	11	36
8	Nutrient Management	30	15	2
8	GIS - ArcView	30	11	5
8	Forest Health Assessment	30	8	36
9	Pasture & Range Forage ID	29	8	17
10	How to talk to producers - "selling conservation"	28	9	14
11	Waste Storage Facility	27	13	19
11	Soil Testing & Interpreting Results	27	8	11
12	Pasture Management	26	15	15
13	USLE or RUSLE Evaluation	25	9	3
14	Timber Production Assessment	24	14	41
14	NRCS Customer Service Toolkit	24	10	14
15	Hydric Soils for Wetland Delineation	23	6	13
15	Nutrient Management (NMP)	23	18	13
15	Backyard Conservation / Wildlife	23	13	24
16	Brush Management	22	17	38
16	Composting Facility	22	16	22
16	Pond	22	24	18
17	Critical Area Planting	21	22	36
17	Shallow Water Development and Management	21	17	28
17	Wetland Enhancement	21	20	20
18	Drainage Water Management	20	15	14
18	Pest Management	20	17	12

(Continued on other side)

RANK	SUBJECT	# OF TIMES REQUESTED	RANK IN 2014	RANK IN 2011
18	Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management	20	20	18
18	Local Land Use Ordinances	20	26	20
18	Rain Gardens	20	5	19
19	Forage and Biomass Planting	19	26	30
19	Stream Crossing	19	32	18
19	Soil Properties & Interpretations	19	24	10
19	Website management	19	10	8
19	Marketing/Media	19	21	26
19	Load reductions/modeling	19	27	17
20	Herbaceous Weed Control	18	15	29
20	Animal Mortality Facility	18	22	24
20	Tree and Shrub Establishment	18	26	29
20	Low Impact Development Planning	18	26	17
20	Septic System O&M	18	14	17
20	Grant writing and reporting	18	12	4
21	Conservation Cover	17	30	17
21	Residue and Tillage Management, No Till/Strip Till	17	28	17
21	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	17	28	31
21	CNMP	17	22	23
21	Construction Erosion & Sediment Control	17	22	27
21	Fluvial Geomorphology	17	23	----
22	Pipeline	16	32	24
22	Pasture & Forage Production Assessment	16	17	30
22	Ag Waste Management Primer 1 and 2	16	25	34
22	Grant writing	16	26	12
23	Grade Stabilization Structure	15	20	15
23	Heavy Use Area Protection	15	34	36
23	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	15	20	28
23	Soil Survey - Using for Planning	15	26	11
23	Aquatic Habitat Restoration	15	15	30
23	Riparian Area Restoration	15	20	28
23	Upland Habitat Restoration	15	19	39
23	Green Building	15	20	37
23	NRCS ProTracts	15	25	31
23	Region 5 Model	15	26	----
24	Watering Facility	14	30	29
24	Water & Sediment Control Basin	14	27	21



State Soil Conservation Board

March 1, 2016

ISDA - CREP & Water Quality Initiatives, Julie Harrold



Program Updates

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

- Amendment to the CREP Agreement between FSA and ISDA has been completed and is in the review process in Washington, D.C.
- The CREP Brochure has been revised to reflect changes. County specific pamphlets have been developed to include as inserts in the new brochure.
- The State CREP Fact Sheet has been revised, the CREP webpage on the ISDA website has been updated and I am working through updates on the CREP information on ISDA SharePoint site.
- Attached to this report is a report on the current status of acres and dollars in CREP. We have had a huge flush of interest throughout the state in the last several weeks.

IN State Nutrient Reduction Strategy (SNRS)

- The latest version of the State Nutrient Reduction Strategy can be found at <http://www.in.gov/isda/2991.htm>.
- The Nutrient Reduction Strategy Workgroup had its first meeting on February 19th, 2016. We had a good discussion and progress was made toward addressing EPA comments, discussion of watershed prioritization, and a plan for developing a milestones table.

Other Water Quality Issues

Gulf Hypoxia Task Force (HTF)

- The spring Hypoxia Task Force meeting will take place in St. Louis, Missouri from April 25th to 27th.

Western Lake Erie Basin

- The WLEB webpage on ISDA website: <http://www.in.gov/isda/3261.htm>.
- ISDA is working on the development of an online interactive story map for the WLEB area in Indiana, known as a GIS Story Map.

SSCB Meeting - March 1, 2016

	Native Grasses	Permanent Wildlife Habitat	Filter Strip	Hardwood Tree Planting	Riparian Buffer	Bottomland Timber Establishment	Wetland Restoration	Wetland Restoration (non-floodplain)	Total		
	CP-2	CP-4D	CP-21	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A			
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Goal	Percentage of Goal
Total Reported Completed on SharePoint as of 2/25/2016	174.80	14.00	3616.10	17.20	361.61	3580.86	222.80	1440.89	9,428.26	26,250.00	35.92%
Total CREP Enrollment	202.98	14.00	3642.78	18.27	376.91	4105.72	477.57	1746.62	10,584.85	26,250.00	40.32%
Total Acres in Extension				1.00	53.70	428.50	121.70	6.00	610.90		

	Native Grasses	Permanent Wildlife Habitat	Filter Strip	Hardwood Tree Planting	Riparian Buffer	Bottomland Timber Establishment	Wetland Restoration	Wetland Restoration (non-floodplain)	Practice Total	SWCD Administrative Fee	Total
	CP-2	CP-4D	CP-21	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A			
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Total CREP Dollars	\$ 17,480.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 361,610.00	\$ 7,126.00	\$ 158,073.00	\$ 1,539,469.00	\$ 175,150.00	\$ 853,345.50	\$ 3,113,653.50	\$ 169,902.85	\$ 3,283,556.35

SSCB Meeting - March 1, 2016

Post-Expansion Acres

CREP Watershed	Native Grasses	Permanent Wildlife Habitat	Filter Strip	Hardwood Tree Planting	Riparian Buffer	Bottomland Timber Establishment	Wetland Restoration	Wetland Restoration (non-floodplain)	Total
	CP-2	CP-4D	CP-21	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A	
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Highland-Pigeon	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.10	79.70	0.00	0.00	82.80
Lower Wabash	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	372.86	0.00	0.00	372.86
Lower East Fork White	33.50	7.00	0.00	5.40	41.10	567.80	0.00	0.00	654.80
Lower White	10.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	251.60	0.00	0.00	262.30
Middle Wabash-Busseron	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	711.10	0.00	0.00	711.10
Middle Wabash-Deer	6.60	0.00	5.80	0.00	0.00	21.20	0.00	0.00	33.60
Middle Wabash-Vermillion	4.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	134.70	0.00	0.00	139.20
Tippecanoe River	90.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.41	21.40	73.30	463.39	652.40
Upper East Fork White	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	67.90	0.00	0.00	67.90
Upper Wabash	3.70	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	161.30	27.80	33.60	233.40
Upper White	20.80	0.00	65.80	0.00	173.30	133.40	0.00	3.90	397.20
Reported Completed as of 2/25/2016	170.70	14.00	71.60	5.40	220.91	2,522.96	101.10	500.89	3,607.56
Enrolled as of 2/25/2016	198.88	14.00	98.28	6.47	236.21	3,047.82	355.87	806.62	4,764.15

Pre-Expansion Acres

CREP Watershed	Native Grasses	Permanent Wildlife Habitat	Filter Strip	Hardwood Tree Planting	Riparian Buffer	Bottomland Timber Establishment	Wetland Restoration	Wetland Restoration (non-floodplain)	Total
	CP-2	CP-4D	CP-21	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A	
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Highland-Pigeon	2.50	0.00	215.00	10.80	16.40	109.20	0.00	0.00	353.90
Tippecanoe River	0.00	0.00	2916.80	0.00	7.80	20.40	121.70	924.00	3990.70
Upper White	1.60	0.00	412.70	1.00	116.50	928.30	0.00	16.00	1476.10
Total Acres Prior to Expansion of CREP	4.10	0.00	3,544.50	11.80	140.70	1,057.90	121.70	940.00	5,820.70

	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A	Total Extension Acres
Extension Acres -Tippecanoe			14.80	121.70		136.50
Extension Acres -Upper White		1.00	53.70	413.70	6.00	474.40
Total Extension Acres		1.00	53.70	428.50	121.70	610.90

SSCB Meeting - March 1, 2016

Post-Expansion Dollars

CREP Watershed	Native Grasses	Permanent Wildlife Habitat	Filter Strip	Hardwood Tree Planting	Riparian Buffer	Bottomland Timber Establishment	Wetland Restoration	Wetland Restoration (non-floodplain)	Practice Total	SWCD Administrative Fees	Total
	CP-2	CP-4D	CP-21	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A			
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Highland-Pigeon	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,240.00	\$ 31,880.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33,120.00	\$ 3,312.00	\$ 36,432.00
Lower Wabash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 149,144.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 149,144.00	\$ 14,914.40	\$ 164,058.40
Lower East Fork White	\$ 3,350.00	\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ 2,160.00	\$ 16,440.00	\$ 227,120.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 249,770.00	\$ 24,977.00	\$ 274,747.00
Lower White	\$ 1,070.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,640.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 101,710.00	\$ 10,171.00	\$ 111,881.00
Middle Wabash-Busseron	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 284,440.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 284,440.00	\$ 28,444.00	\$ 312,884.00
Middle Wabash-Deer	\$ 660.00	\$ -	\$ 580.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,480.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,720.00	\$ 972.00	\$ 10,692.00
Middle Wabash-Vermillion	\$ 450.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,880.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54,330.00	\$ 5,433.00	\$ 59,763.00
Tippecanoe River	\$ 9,090.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,364.00	\$ 8,560.00	\$ 69,635.00	\$ 440,220.50	\$ 528,869.50	\$ 52,886.95	\$ 581,756.45
Upper East Fork White	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,160.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,160.00	\$ 2,716.00	\$ 29,876.00
Upper Wabash	\$ 370.00	\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 64,520.00	\$ 26,410.00	\$ 31,920.00	\$ 123,920.00	\$ 12,392.00	\$ 136,312.00
Upper White	\$ 2,080.00	\$ -	\$ 6,580.00	\$ -	\$ 69,320.00	\$ 53,360.00	\$ -	\$ 3,705.00	\$ 135,045.00	\$ 13,504.50	\$ 148,549.50
Upper White Extensions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 1,980.00
Reported Paid as of 2/25/2016	\$ 17,070.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 7,160.00	\$ 2,160.00	\$ 90,164.00	\$ 1,009,184.00	\$ 96,045.00	\$ 475,845.50	\$ 1,699,028.50	\$ 169,902.85	\$ 1,868,931.35

Pre-Expansion Dollars

CREP Watershed	Native Grasses	Permanent Wildlife Habitat	Filter Strip	Hardwood Tree Planting	Riparian Buffer	Bottomland Timber Establishment	Wetland Restoration	Wetland Restoration (non-floodplain)	Practice Total
	CP-2	CP-4D	CP-21	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A	
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Highland-Pigeon	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 21,500.00	\$ 4,316.00	\$ 6,564.00	\$ 43,680.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 76,310.00
Tippecanoe River	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 291,680.00	\$ -	\$ 3,120.00	\$ 8,160.00	\$ 48,680.00	\$ 369,600.00	\$ 721,240.00
Tippecanoe River Extensions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 30,425.00	\$ -	\$ 34,125.00
Upper White	\$ 160.00	\$ -	\$ 41,270.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 46,600.00	\$ 371,320.00	\$ -	\$ 6,400.00	\$ 466,150.00
Upper White Extensions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 11,625.00	\$ 103,425.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 116,800.00
Total Acres Prior to Expansion of CREP	\$ 410.00	\$ -	\$ 354,450.00	\$ 4,966.00	\$ 67,909.00	\$ 530,285.00	\$ 79,105.00	\$ 377,500.00	\$ 1,414,625.00



**Indiana Association of
Soil and Water
Conservation Districts**

Protecting and enhancing Indiana's soil
and water resources for all Hoosiers



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Decatur County

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Jennifer Boyle Warner
Jennifer-boyle@iaswcd.org

To: State Soil Conservation Board

From: Mike Starkey, President, IASWCD

Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2016

Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI)

- CCSI Director has been advertised. Taking applications through March 16 or until a suitable candidate is found. See attachment.
- Annual hub meeting was held on February 8 and a Technical Advisory Committee was held on Feb. 9
- Ashley Hammac will be leaving the CCSI Agronomist position the end of March. This position will be re-advertised soon as we still have about 2 years of funding left for this position.
- A CCSI report was included in everyone's conference packet.

Pathway to Water Quality

- Sara Peel has been hired as the PWQ Coordinator for 2016. This is being funded through an IDEM 319 grant.

District Agreements

- Working on a new CRP agreement for 2016 that will be valued at over \$190,000 for Districts.
- Program Support Services contribution agreements are in place with 39 Districts to provide administrative assistance to NRCS. This work is valued at over \$300,000 for Districts.
- IASWCD will continue to utilize a few individual Districts to provide technical and administrative assistance on these various projects.

Legislative

- Successfully worked with ISDA to amend SB 238 to include language to allow Districts the ability to match CWI funds with funds outside of municipality origins.
- Worked with SBOA on language regarding Districts ability to pay for meals. SBOA will be amending guidelines and Districts will need to put a policy in place that lays out a process for how meals are paid.
- Five Board members along with Jane Hardisty will be in Washington, DC the week of March 14 to meet with our Congressional offices, NRCS Chief Jason Weller, and other USDA staff.
- Postponement - The Indiana Conservation Alliance is still planning a "Conservation Congress" but it will now be held later in the fall of 2016.
- ICP leader visits (with Districts) will begin again soon.

THE IASWCD MISSION *is to enable the conservation of natural resources of Indiana.*

Purdue Report, March 1, 2016

Purdue Extension 2015 Annual Report

Highlights Important Educational Efforts for Purdue Extension in the program areas of Agriculture and Natural Resources, 4-H Youth Development, Health and Human Science and Community Development
Found online at <https://extension.purdue.edu/annualreport>

Purdue Mobile Friendly Website Publications on Cover Crops

Purdue College of Agriculture and Purdue Extension are developing educational resources into mobile friendly versions for users to access on their mobile devices such as their tablets and smart phones
The first publications in this format are 4 cover crop publications as the demand for cover crop information is at an all time high

Draft of new soil manuals for FFA and 4-H Career Development Events nearing completion

It will include information on cover crop usage, home site safety and updated waste water disposal factors

Septic System Field Days for Installers to highlight new innovations for septic systems

IN Onsite Wastewater Professionals Association is developing a certification for Onsite Wastewater Inspection for transfer of real estate

Model Ordinance available for county adoption on onsite wastewater systems

Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture and Purdue Extension ANR Educators are conducting educational programs to assist producers in developing economical/cost savings production efficiencies for the 2016 cropping season

Western Lake Erie Basin Watershed - 2016 programs focus on sound nutrient management and best management practices

Purdue Extension Land Use Team- train Extension Educators and local elected officials in planning and zoning. The Land Use Team is also helping communities understand the science behind Confined Feeding Operations and their appropriate siting as well as conducted an ongoing Confined Feeding Operations study for the State of Indiana



ANNUAL REPORT

PURDUE
EXTENSION

Online at <https://extension.purdue.edu/annualreport> and as a download.

(Click the "Download" button in the toolbar to create a PDF that you can save to a computer or device.)

It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran.

Purdue University is an Affirmative Action institution. This material may be available in alternative formats.

Purdue Mobile Friendly Website Publications on Cover Crops

AY-352-W – Managing Cover Crops: Cover Crops for Modern Cropping Systems

AY-353-W- Managing Cover Crops: An Introduction to Integrating Cover Crops Into A Corn Soybean Rotation

AY-354-W- Managing Cover Crops: Checklist for Integrating Covers Into Your Cropping Systems

AY-355-W- Managing Cover Crops: Cover Crops for Prevented Planting Acres

AY-352-W

https://ag.purdue.edu/soilandwater/?page_id=21

AY-353-W

https://ag.purdue.edu/soilandwater/?page_id=25

AY-354-W

https://ag.purdue.edu/soilandwater/?page_id=30

AY-355-W

https://ag.purdue.edu/soilandwater/?page_id=34

**Indiana NRCS State Conservationist's Report
March 2016**

FARM BILL PROGRAM UPDATES

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

While NRCS accepts applications for CSP throughout the year, farmers should submit applications by March 31 to their NRCS service centers to ensure they are considered for enrollment in 2016. Participants with existing CSP contracts that will expire on December 31, 2016 have the option to renew their contracts for an additional five years if they agree to adopt additional activities to achieve higher levels of conservation on their lands. Applications to renew are also due by March 31. All documents used for the 16-1 general sign up are available on the Indiana Website for interested applicants.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) – Conservation Application Funding

All applications for RCPP funding consideration in the Western Lake Erie Basin and St. Joseph River watersheds must be received by March 18, 2016.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) – New Projects

The second round of funding for RCPP has been announced. The following projects were approved in Indiana.

- The Big Pine Watershed Partnership will further conservation in Indiana's Big Pine watershed through the targeted implementation of nutrient and sediment reducing practices to achieve watershed water quality objectives. The partnership's goal is to deliver an additional 8,000 acres of cover crops, 10,100 acres of nutrient management and 4,850 acres of Conservation Stewardship Program enhancements.
- The Improving Working Lands for Monarch Butterflies Partnership will restore, manage and conserve wildlife habitat for monarch butterflies on agricultural and tribal lands using four main strategies: conservation planning and assessment; habitat improvement and best management practices; building an adequate seed supply for milkweed and nectar plants; and, enhancing organizational coordination and capacity.
- Soil Health on Reclaimed Mine Lands Partnership will work with farmers, landowners and mine operators to implement a suite of soil health practices on reclaimed mine lands in order to improve the health of the soil, reduce the amount of sediment laden runoff reaching streams and rivers and improve wildlife habitat. The project will focus on the roughly 175,000 acres of reclaimed mine lands that are cropped in the Indiana counties of Vigo, Clay, Sullivan, Greene, Knox, Daviess, Gibson, Pike, Dubois, Warrick and Spencer.

Joint Chief's Landscape Restoration Project

Indiana will receive \$1 million as a federal investment to restore forests, reduce wildfire threats, protect water supplies, improve wildlife habitat and support rural economies through the Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership between the U.S. Forest Service and NRCS. The Hoosier Hills and Highlands Oak Community Restoration Partnership project area is located within 18 counties of the most heavily forested and biologically diverse forest systems in the Central Hardwoods Region including the counties of: Bartholomew, Brown, Clark, Crawford, Dubois, Floyd, Greene, Harrison, Jackson, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Morgan, Orange, Owen, Perry, Putnam and Washington. Project activities will help improve water quality, reduce wildfire risk, and enhance at-risk habitat on public and private lands. The project will also promote improved conservation and restoration practices on private lands, ensure consistent education and outreach, and enable implementation of preferred practices. This is a three year project with the potential to bring additional funds for its implementation in each of the next two years.

INDIANA NRCS DUNS/SAM EQUITABLE RELIEF

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (the Transparency Act) includes a government-wide requirement that entities meet two basic conditions in order to receive any award of Federal financial assistance, including NRCS conservation program assistance. The SAM registration must be renewed at least once every 12 months to remain valid and for the entity to be eligible to receive a program payment.

In the summer of 2015, internal controls were put in place in the NRCS contract management system, ProTracts, to validate both DUNS number and current SAM registration and prevent contract obligation, modification, or payment if DUNS/SAM information is not validated. Participants that incorrectly self-certified DUNS and SAM requirements prior to the implementation of recent internal controls may now be experiencing withheld payments due to an invalid DUNS number and/or an expired SAM registration.

NRCS has implemented a streamlined process through which these affected participants can obtain equitable relief if NRCS determines that they had attempted to comply in good faith. NRCS estimates it could take a few months before a decision is made, but we are aware that it is a top priority at headquarters and the requests are being processed as quickly as possible.

HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA

In mid-January, the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) announced ten commercial turkey farms in Dubois County tested positive for highly pathogenic avian influenza. Over 400,000 birds confirmed to have the HPAI H7N8 virus have been destroyed. Note this is a different strain than what caused the 2015 outbreak. As of February 24, 2016, the Board of Animal Health and Indiana State Poultry Association announced the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza incident in Dubois County, Indiana was successfully contained.

Effective immediately, NRCS employees may once again access poultry farms in Indiana, however Level 2 Biosecurity measures must be implemented on all poultry production facilities and fields where litter has been applied within the last 6 months. NRCS employees must call and ask producers prior to field visits if they have poultry, litter onsite, or if litter applications have been made if not readily known (e.g., backyard flock or poultry litter spread or stored on-site), and adhere to the producer's decision of whether or not to allow access to NRCS employees.

Please continue to encourage all poultry producers of any size, who experience any mortality issues or other unusual symptoms to report it to the USDA Veterinary Service office at 866-536-7593. For five or more dead wild birds report to IDNR 812-334-1137. For updates and more information, <http://www.in.gov/boah/2390.htm>

USDA NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE (NASS) CONSERVATION EFFECTS ASSESSMENT PROJECT (CEAP) SURVEY

As part of a national CEAP study, USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is contacting farmers to provide input on conservation practices on cultivated and non-cultivated agricultural lands to help NRCS and partners determine the efficiency and effectiveness of current conservation techniques and help identify best practices.

NASS is continuing to contact producers to conduct detailed surveys and to gather information on field level management on behalf of NRCS. NASS representatives visit selected farms to collect information, such as on-farm practices; chemical, fertilizer and manure applications; integrated pest management; and installed conservation practices. As with all NASS surveys, respondents are guaranteed by law (Title 7, U.S. Code, and CIPSEA, Public Law 107-347) that their individual information will be kept confidential. No one representing NASS will ask a producer for personal information, such as social security number. NRCS field staff is responsible for completing a supplemental survey by mid-April. If you have any questions, please contact Rick Neilson, NRCS Soil Scientist and State Resources Inventory Coordinator (SRIC) at 317-295-5875 or rick.neilson@in.usda.gov.