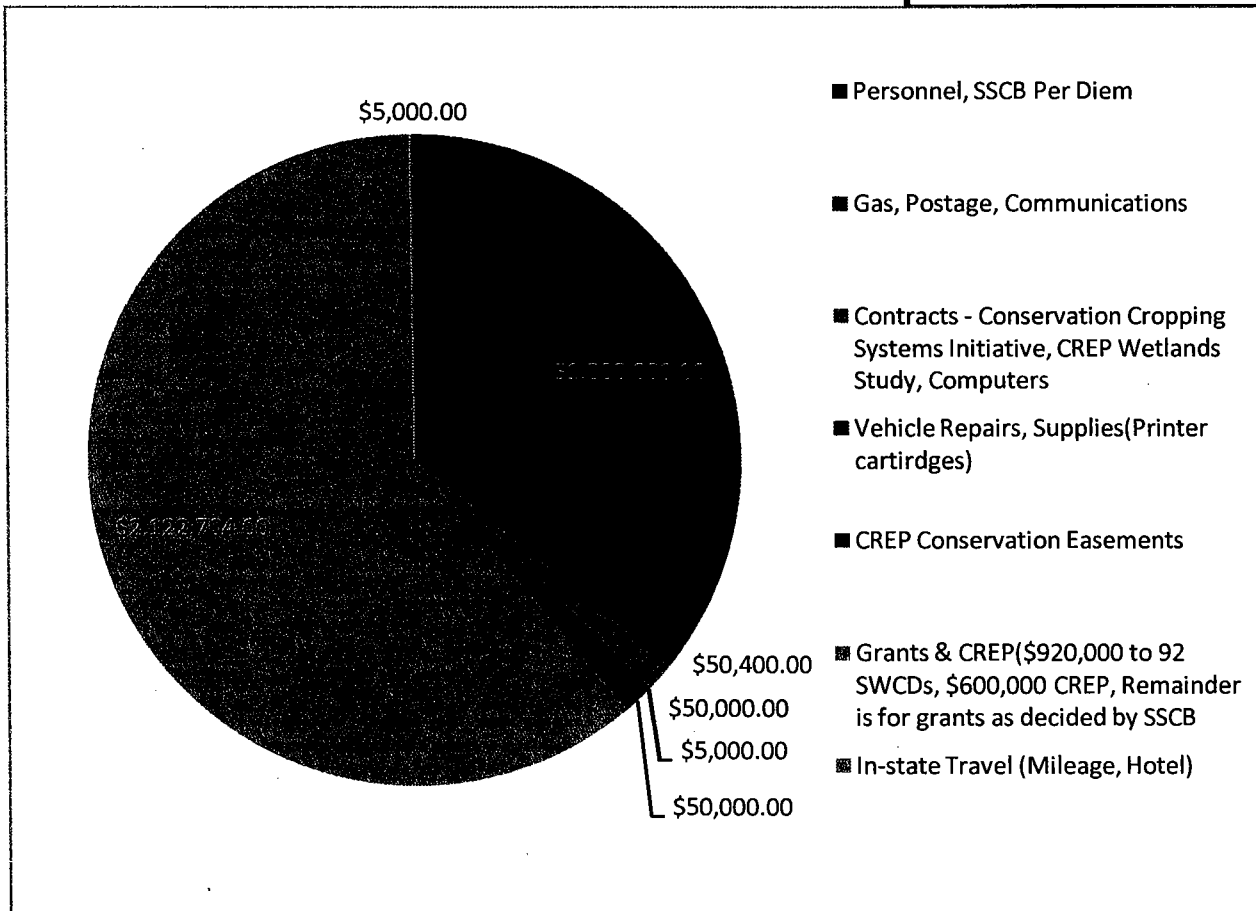


Clean Water Indiana - FY 2010 Budget

Personnel, SSCB Per Diem	\$ 1,200,000.00
Gas, Postage, Communications	\$ 50,400.00
Contracts - Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative, CREP Wetlands Study, Computers	\$ 50,000.00
Vehicle Repairs, Supplies(Printer cartirdges)	\$ 5,000.00
CREP Conservation Easements	\$ 50,000.00
Grants & CREP(\$920,000 to 92 SWCDs, \$600,000 CREP, Remainder is for grants as decided by SSCB	\$ 2,122,704.00
In-state Travel (Mileage, Hotel)	\$ 5,000.00
Total after 5% Reserve	\$ 3,483,104.00



CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM REPORT

September 1, 2009

Watersheds	Contracts	Acres	Acres/Contract	Average Dollars/Acre	Obligated State Funds	Estimated Federal Leverage
Tippecanoe River	451	3528.1	7.8	\$193.07	\$681,175.00	\$10,287,939.60
Upper White River	219	1436.9	6.6	\$430.40	\$618,445.00	\$4,190,000.40
Pigeon/Highland Rivers	120	430.86	3.6	\$214.81	\$92,554.00	\$1,256,387.76
TOTAL	790	5395.86	6.8	\$258.01	\$1,392,174.00	\$15,784,327.76

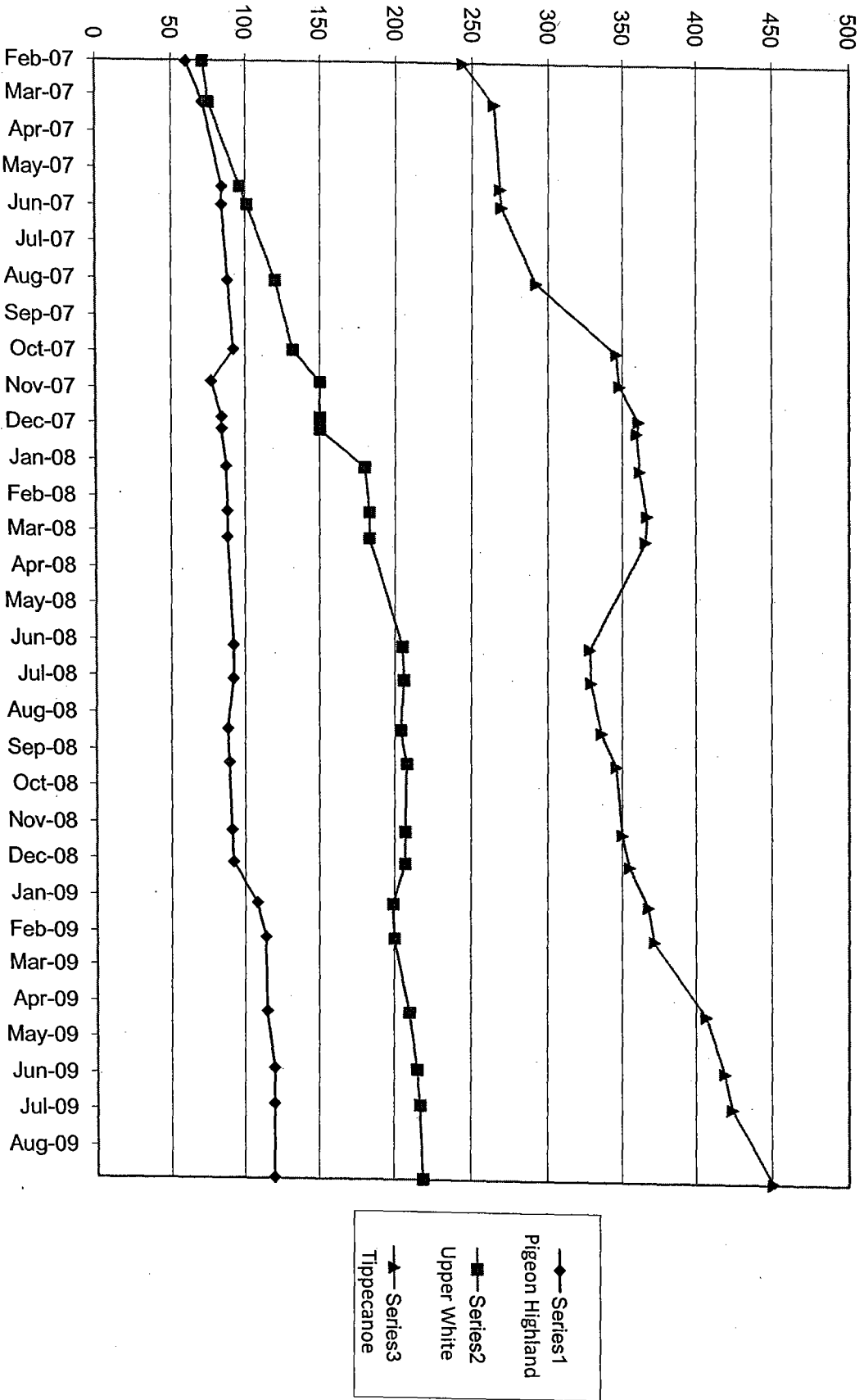
July 1, 2009

Watersheds	Contracts	Acres	Acres/Contract	Average Dollars/Acre	Obligated State Funds	Estimated Federal Leverage
Tippecanoe River	424	3103.2	7.3	\$174.95	\$542,895.00	\$9,048,931.20
Upper White River	217	1463.2	6.7	\$436.76	\$639,060.00	\$4,266,691.20
Pigeon/Highland Rivers	120	430.86	3.6	\$214.81	\$92,554.00	\$1,256,387.76
TOTAL	761	4997.26	6.6	\$255.04	\$1,274,509.00	\$14,572,010.16

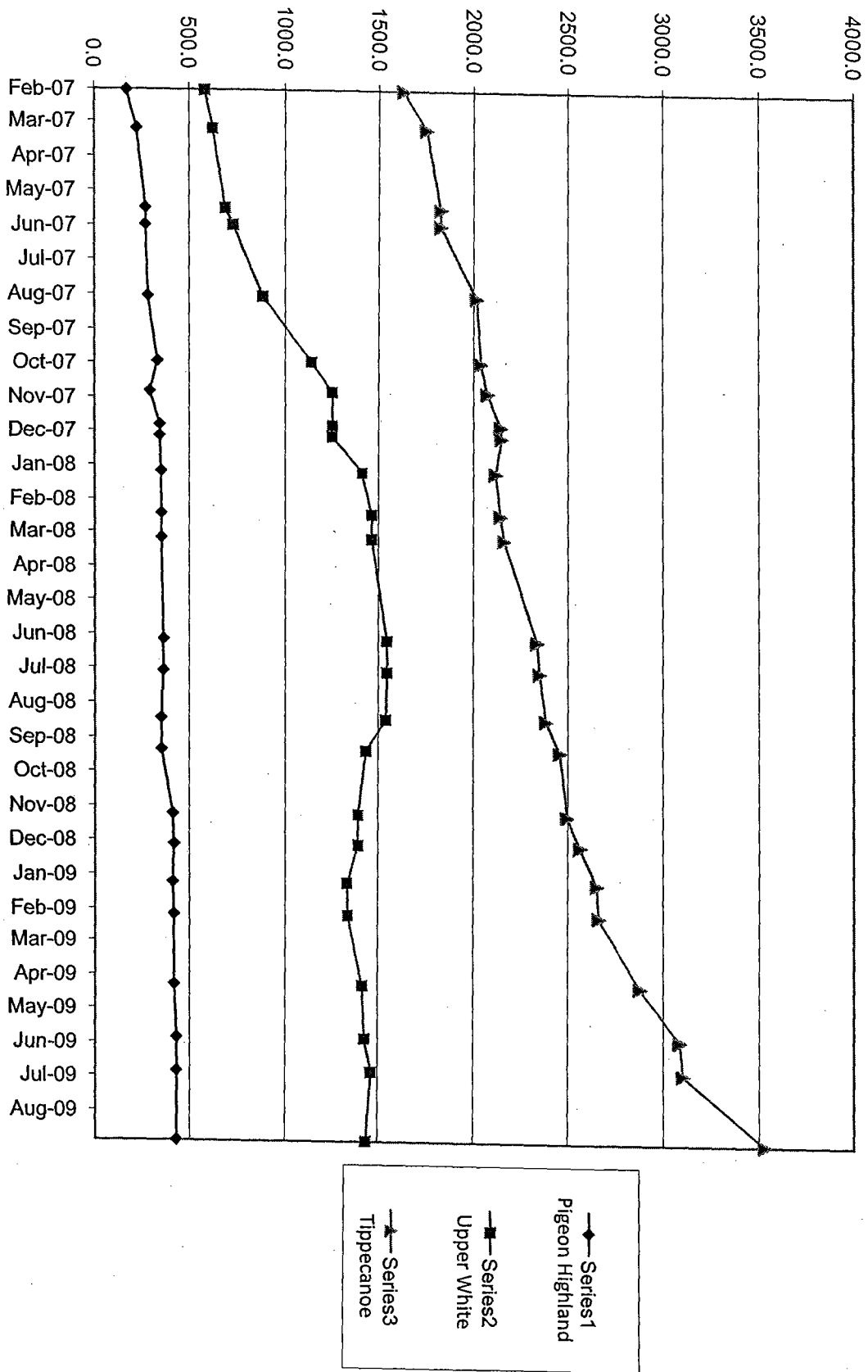
CRP Obligated vs. Paid Funds

Watersheds	Obligated	Paid	Difference
Tippecanoe River	\$681,175.00	\$321,700.00	\$359,475.00
Upper White River	\$618,445.00	\$474,845.00	\$143,600.00
Pigeon Highland Rivers	\$92,554.00	\$38,875.00	\$53,679.00
Total	\$1,392,174.00	\$835,420.00	\$556,754.00

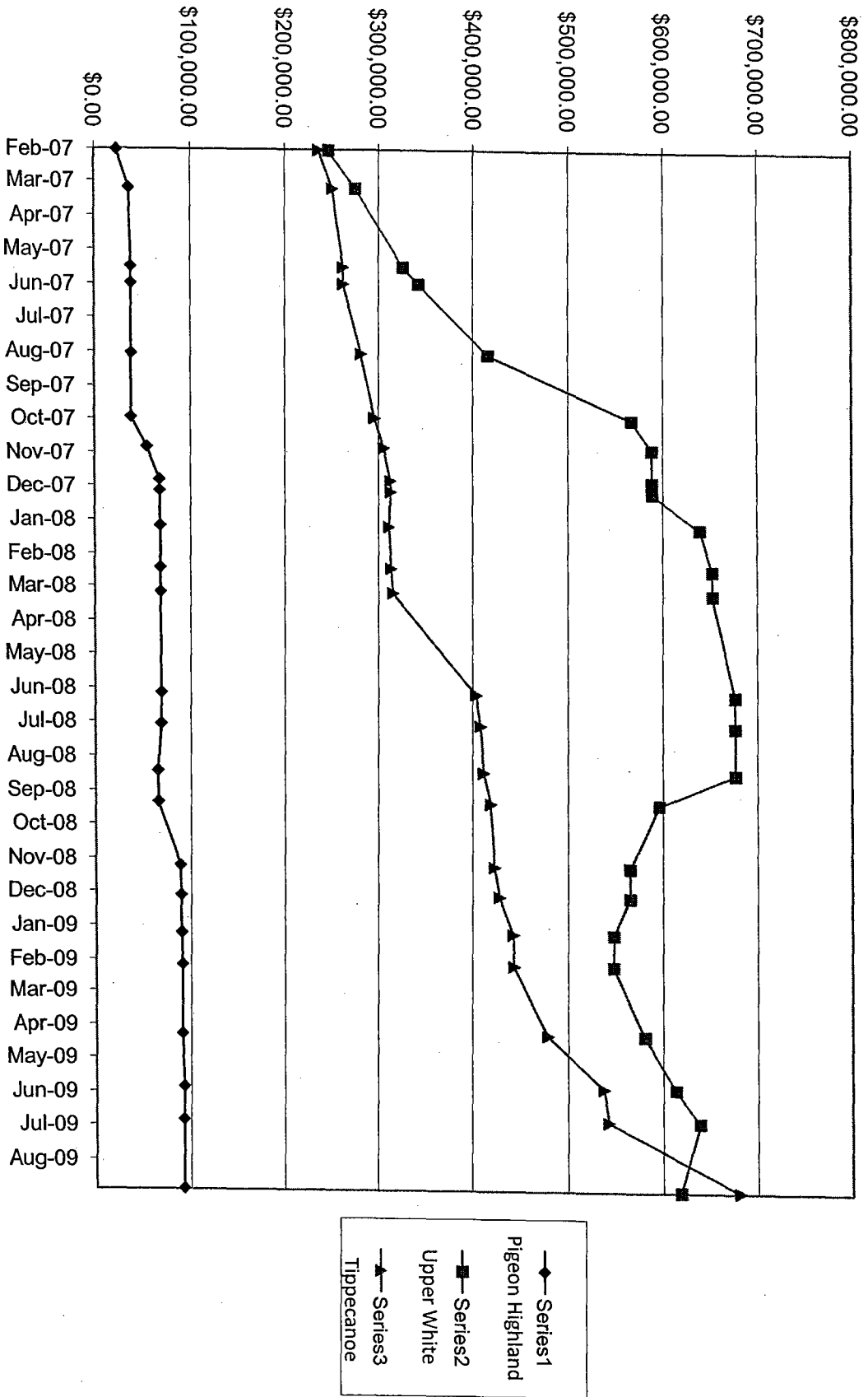
CREP Landowner Contracts February 2007 - September 2009



CREP Obligated Acres February 2007 - September 2009



CREP Obligated Funds February 2007 - September 2009



	Awarded	Paid to Districts	Balance	comments
2006 CWI	\$ 609,257.00	\$ 528,877.00	\$ 75,975.00	Recommitted \$ 4,405.00 5 Districts still have a balance

DT	\$ 69,000.00	\$ 52,688.41	\$ 16,311.59	
AFR		\$ 907,400.00		

2007 CWI	\$ 533,662.50	\$ 497,985.00	\$ 29,693.26	Recommitted \$ 5,984.08 6 District still have a balance
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DT		\$ 96,670.73		
AFR	\$ 920,000.00	\$ 920,000.00	\$ -	Completed contract process

2008 CWI	\$ 164,000.00	\$ 162,800.00	\$ 1,200.00	12 District still have a balance
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SNRG	\$ 210,500.00	\$ 206,850.00	\$ 3,650.00	8 District still have a balance
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DT	\$ 135,000.00	\$ 116,413.01	\$ 18,586.99	47 District received maximum of \$ 1500.00 30 District received some part of \$ 1500.00 11 District did not submit reimbursement 2 District did not request DT
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AFR	\$ 920,000.00	\$ 920,000.00	\$ -	Completed contract process
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2009 CWI	\$ 284,887.00	\$ 271,143.00	\$ 13,744.00	1 district has completed contract process
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AFR	\$ 920,000.00	\$ 920,000.00	\$ -	Completed contract process
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ECAP	Awarded	Paid to Districts	Swept	Waiting Project Completion	
Flood Relief	\$ 1,197,094.82	\$ 1,151,239.38	\$ 45,855.44		5 Districts have completed project
CWI	\$ 293,399.96	\$ 204,083.90		\$ 89,316.06	7 Districts have completed project

24 District were allow to amend their contracts to extend time of completion to Dec 31, 2009

Kosciusko County Soil and Water Conservation District
217 E Bell Drive
Warsaw, IN 46582
574-267-7445, ext. 3

September 2, 2009

Nola Gentry, Chair
Indiana State Soil Conservation Board
101 W Ohio Street, Suite 1200
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Chairwoman Gentry,

The Kosciusko County Soil and Water Conservation District is requesting changes to our two Clean Water Indiana grants.

Clean Water Indiana Grant A377-8-CWI-018: This grant is a sediment and nutrient reduction grant, designed to offer cost-share assistance to farmers to conduct pre-sidedress nitrogen tests and fall stalk nitrate tests. We were previously given an extension of this grant to the end of October, 2009. We would like to add a third component to the cost-share options, which would assist landowners with the cost of getting infrared images of fields to determine chlorophyll levels. This information will assist landowners with documenting nitrogen sufficient and deficient areas, leading to more appropriate application of nutrients in diverse field settings. This test will compliment the pre-sidedress and fall stalk nitrate tests currently being offered.

Clean Water Indiana Grant A377-9-CWI-011: This grant assists with the construction of a 2-stage ditch on the Stoneburner-Putney Ditch, an area that has been identified as a problem area for years. We are pleased to report that this site was accepted into the EQIP program. This has allowed us to extend the length of the 2-stage, while also decreasing the cost-share needed to complete the project. Kosciusko County SWCD would like to use remaining CWI grant monies (approximately \$2500.00) to assist with a second 2-stage project on the Ring Ditch in the southern part of the county. This project has also been approved for EQIP and construction is expected to take place next spring/summer. This would require both a change to the use of funds (from one 2-stage project to two) and a time extension to the end of June, 2010.

Kosciusko County SWCD respectfully requests these modifications to the Clean Water Indiana Grants. We feel these changes will allow for additional conservation practices and management to be put into place, in an efficient manner.

Sincerely,

Jamie Scott, chairman
Kosciusko County Soil & Water Conservation District



**APPLICATION FOR 2008 CWI GRANT:
 SEDIMENT AND NUTRIENT REDUCTION GRANT
 INDIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD**

This application **MUST** be typed and **MUST** be submitted electronically to Amy Eizinger at: Aeizinger@isda.in.gov

Grantee Name	Kosciusko County Soil and Water Conservation District
Address	217 E. Bell Drive
City/State/Zip	Warsaw, IN 46582

Contact Name	Darci Zolman
Title	Program Administrator
Address	217 E. Bell Drive
City/State/Zip	Warsaw, IN 46582
County	Kosciusko
Telephone	574-267-7445, ext. 3
E-mail	

Signature Authority (District Chairman)	Jamie Scott, Chair
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Federal ID Number	35-1172663
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Project Title	Nitrogen Management
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Sediment or Nutrient Reduction Practice	Nutrient Reduction through Nitrogen Management
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County	Kosciusko
CIT Region	NE
14-digit HUC Code(s)	Entire county: HUC05120106, 05120104, 07120001, 04050001

Grant Amount Requested	\$10,000.00
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List specific partners who will assist with this project, as well as the amount of their contribution.			
Partner	Amount	Partner	Amount
Ag Plus (in-kind promotion)	500		
Andersons	500		
Crop Fertility Specialists	500		
Clunette Elevator	500		
Fricks Services	500		
Total			2500

Describe your proposed project and how it will address sediment and nutrient management. Be sure to include key steps, benchmarks and desired outcomes. (500 words or less)

Due to the abundance of water in Kosciusko County, a principal goal of the SWCD (as referenced in the Business Plan) is the reduction of nutrient loading. A management plan that includes monitoring nitrogen levels can result in more appropriate and efficient application of this nutrient. This proposal will assist farmers by providing cost share for pre-side dress nitrate testing and/or late season stalk nitrate testing, and providing a chlorophyll meter for loan. Key steps will include:

- Develop incentive parameters and protocol (75% cost of tests with \$500 cap proposed)
- Develop marketing materials
- Coordinate promotional efforts with local fertilizer dealers
- Purchase chlorophyll meter and establish loan system
- Develop a participant survey to document outcomes and publish results

Budget		
Expense Item(s)	In-Kind Match	CWI Funds Requested

Personnel	3500	
Fringe Benefits		
Travel		
Equipment (Itemize Below)		
Chlorophyl Meter		1600
Supplies (Itemize Below)		
Brochure and Survey	200	
Postage	100	
Other (Itemize Below)		
Incentive/Cost Share payments		8400

Total CWI Funds Requested	10000
Total SWCD In-Kind Match	3800
Total Partner Funds Contributed (J:44)	2500
Total Project Cost	16300



**APPLICATION FOR 2009 CWI GRANT:
SEDIMENT AND NUTRIENT REDUCTION GRANT
INDIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD**

This application MUST be typed and MUST be submitted electronically to Amy Eizinger at: Aeizinger@isda.in.gov

Grantee Name	Kosciusko County Soil & Water Conservation District
Address	217 E Bell Drive
City/State/Zip	Warsaw, IN 46582

Contact Name	Darci Zolman
Title	Program Administrator
Address	217 E Bell Drive
City/State/Zip	Warsaw, IN 46582
County	Kosciusko County
Telephone	574-267-7445, ext. 3
E-mail	

Name of District Chairperson:	Jamie Scott
Project Title	Stoneburner-Puntney Ditch Project
Sediment and/or Nutrient Reduction Practice	Two-stage ditch

Describe your proposed project and how it will address sediment and nutrient management. Be sure to include key steps, benchmarks and desired outcomes. (500 words or less)

Our proposed project is to partner with the Kosciusko County Drainage Board, Tippecanoe Watershed Foundation, and The Nature Conservancy to install a two-stage ditch on the Stoneburner-Puntney ditch upstream from Little Barbee Lake. The two-stage ditch is an innovative, relatively new method of constructing drainage ditches to create benches that imitate natural stream floodplains where flood water spreads out and releases sediment and nutrients that would otherwise be carried downstream. The Stoneburner-Puntney Ditch has been identified as a major contributor of sediment and nutrients to the Barbee chain of lakes and to Lake Tippecanoe downstream. We plan to construct an 800 foot section of two-stage ditch at a strategic location where two tributaries join. We will also seed a 30 foot wide filter strip along the two-stage ditch. The Nature Conservancy will assist by providing the engineering design for the project. The Tippecanoe Watershed Foundation will assist with the information and education phase of the project, which will include a public field day to demonstrate the two-stage ditch, as well as, water monitoring efforts to determine success.

The Kosciusko Drainage Board will assist by allowing us to construct the project on their drainage easement and by helping supervise the construction.

Key Steps:

- Secure Funding
- Final site approval with Drainage Board and County Surveyor
- Engineering design through The Nature Conservancy
- Implement/Construct project
- Follow-up outreach (field day, articles, water monitoring) with Tippecanoe Watershed Foundation

How does this project tie into and advance your Districts business plan? (50 words or less)

The SWCD Business Plan contains many water quality items related to sediment and nutrient reduction. Several goals refer to buffers and filter strips, including information, education, and implementation efforts. The Business Plan contains specific goals referencing the use of two-stage ditch technology to reduce sedimentation and associated nutrient loading.

List specific partners who will assist with this project, as well as the amount of their contribution.			
Partner	Amount	Partner	Amount
The Nature Conservancy	1000		
Tippecanoe Watershed Foundation	1000		
Kosciusko Drainage Board	500		
Total			2500

CIT Region		
14-digit HUC Code(s)		
Grant Amount Requested		
Budget		
Expense Item(s)	In-Kind Match	CWI Funds Requested
Personnel	2500	
Fringe Benefits	300	
Travel	200	
Equipment (Itemize Below)		
Supplies (Itemize Below)		
Seed, Fertilizer, Mulch, Jute Net blanket		1500
Other (Itemize Below)		
Construction Expense		8500

Total CWI Funds Requested	10000
Total SWCD In-Kind Match	3000
Total Partner Funds Contributed (J:77)	2500
Total Project Cost	15500



INDIANA
AGRICULTURE



2010 Clean Water Indiana Grant Application
Indiana State Department of Agriculture
State Soil Conservation Board

Executive Summary: For the 2010 grant cycle, the State Soil Conservation Board has voted to give each Soil and Water Conservation District an equal opportunity to funds. Districts may use the full amount or partial amount, depending on the needs of the district. The focus for this round of grant funding will include:

- Adult Education
- Outreach
- Cost Share Incentives
- Capacity Building

Districts will be required to select from one or more of the specific practices/programs/uses from the list on the following page. Partnering with other organizations is encouraged to not only leverage additional funding, but also widen SWCD exposure and strengthen local relationships. Emphasis should be placed on reducing nonpoint source pollution through adult education, outreach, cost-share incentives, and capacity building. SWCDs are encouraged to target work on a multicounty or a watershed area to extend resources. Analysis of conservation results should be monitored and reported (details on a reporting tool will be forthcoming). SWCDs are encouraged to utilize CWI funding to help address statewide concerns such as sediment and nutrient loading into the Gulf of Mexico and the Great Lakes, altered hydrology, and other nonpoint source pollution reduction initiatives. Current examples of state initiatives include the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB), and the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI).

Application Deadline and Address: Application forms can be found at the bottom of this funding notice. These forms must be e-mailed to Paul Hoffman at PHoffman@isda.in.gov by 4 p.m. EST on (Date). Only e-mailed forms will be accepted. SWCD's must submit a copy of their boards meeting minutes as to who attended the meeting and what was discussed regarding this project.

Eligible Applicants: Applications are accepted from all Soil and Water Conservation Districts throughout the state of Indiana; however, only one application is permitted per district.

Project Description: Districts have a set amount of funding they will receive. Districts must select on the application form how they plan on utilizing these funds. Please see the **Available Projects** for additional descriptions.

Partnership: SWCDs are encouraged to partner with other districts and organizations; however, each district must state that partnership clearly in their own applications and manage their grants individually.

Funds Available: Each district will be given the opportunity to receive up to \$\$\$\$\$. Each grant will fund one year projects, only.

Match Requirement: A 50% cash match or in-kind contribution is required.

Project Dates: All 2010 Clean Water Indiana Grant projects are to take no longer than one full year to complete. Projects may start on (Date) and must be finished by (Date).

Funding Restrictions: CWI grant stipulations prohibit funds be used for food, food related paper products, office equipment or district self-promotional materials. Grant funds may not be used to pay annual dues.

Leveraging Funds: SWCD's are encouraged to look for areas in which they could leverage funds with federal, state and local partners; however, it is not mandatory.

Acknowledge of Submission: Proposals received by the deadline will be acknowledged with an e-mail return receipt. If this e-mail receipt is not received, applicants **MUST** contact Paul Hoffman to confirm timely receipt of your application. Applicants are solely responsible for providing proof of receipt via the return receipt. **Failure to provide this proof of receipt may result in application not being funded.**

Process of Payments: Once the application has been received by ISDA, a contract will be issued to the SWCD. SWCD's are encouraged to get their signed contract into ISDA as soon as possible in order to receive their funds. Funds must be utilized in a timely manner.

Reporting Requirements: A final report will be due at the end of the grant summarizing the outcomes and achievements of the project.

Available Projects with Descriptions:

Adult Education: The purpose of this project is to educate adults on conservation practices and issues. Districts are encouraged to use the theme "We All Live Downstream" and are encouraged to use the marketing tools provided by ISDA (<http://www.in.gov/isda/2356.htm>).

Examples of education tools include: field days, demonstrations, workshops and seminars.

Outreach: Outreach must focus marketing on sediment and nutrient reduction. Districts are encouraged to use the theme "We All Live Downstream" and are encouraged to use the marketing tools provided by ISDA (<http://www.in.gov/isda/2356.htm>).

Examples of outreach include: webinars, CREP marketing, We All Live Downstream marketing themes (logos), electronic marketing software (e-blasts and newsletters), website development, direct mailings, PSAs and billboards.

Cost-Share Incentives: Practices and measures must be focused on the reduction of sediment and nutrient. Districts are encouraged to match additional dollars with federal funds. Structural measures shall follow NRCS standards and specifications. Districts also have the ability to assist in the purchase/off-set rental costs for equipment to encourage new technology adoption.

District Capacity Building: Projects in this area are to focus on building district capacity through supervisor training and/or increasing technical assistance and professional staff to carryout sediment and nutrient reduction initiatives. Districts are encouraged to target work on a multicounty or a watershed area to extend resources. Projects in this category should focus on the following:

- **Staffing** – Incentive to increase technical and professional staffing Capacity for SWCDs to carryout sediment and nutrient reduction initiatives.

Examples include: District Technician, Watershed Coordinator, Watershed Specialist, GIS Specialist, Program Development Specialist, District Managers.

- **Training**-Funds for training will be limited to Supervisors only and will have a \$1,000 cap. Training should focus on leadership development.

Examples include: Leadership Institute, Annual Conference, or other leadership opportunities.

IDEM REPORT, WATERSHED PLANNING BRANCH

Submitted by Marylou Renshaw

September 8, 2009

2009 – Second Quarter Activities (July and August)

STORM WATER PROGRAM

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES:

- **Storm Water staff are participating in an inspectors forum** that is held every two months. This meeting is organized by a sub-committee of the Indiana Association of Floodplain and Storm Water Management (INAFSM).
- **Several initiatives are underway with INDOT staff**, including several committees and a Joint Transportation Research Project (JTRP). The intent of this effort is to address storm water issues associated with INDOT construction projects. Topics of discussion include adoption of storm water measures, policy and procedures, and contractor certification.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND INITIATIVES:

- **New database and online submittal of Notice of Intent**s development continues. Rule 5 program application will be released in conjunction with the Rule 6 application. A final date has not been set.

MS4 PROGRAM UPDATE:

- **Staff continues to conduct audits of the MS4 entities.** To date, 56 audits (includes MS4 and those that are co-permitted) have been completed for the Public Education, Public Involvement, and Good Housekeeping Minimum Control Measures. The Storm Water Specialists have completed 55 audits of the Construction Run-Off Minimum Control Measure. There are 189 MS4 entities and 143 permits to account for those MS4s that are co-permitted.
- **Two compliance assistance sessions were conducted for MS4s** in northeast and south central part of the state. MS4s were provided information related to compliance with their permit and preparation for the MS4 audit.

RULE 6 PROGRAM UPDATE:

- Currently there are 3,231 permits associated with Industrial Operations exposed to storm water.
- Compliance:
 - Inspections: 17
 - Violation Letters: 1
 - Enforcement Referrals: 0

RULE 5 PROGRAM UPDATE:

- Compliance:
 - Inspections: 103
 - Violation Letters: 6
 - Enforcement Referrals: 0

NPS §319(H)

- Twenty-seven 319 grant applications totaling \$7,051,134.00 (nearly twice the amount appropriated for projects) were received by the September 1st deadline; seven are for state-wide projects.

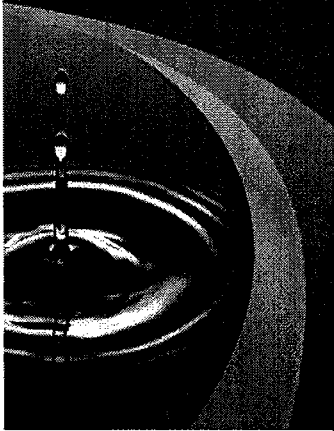
WATERSHED SPECIALISTS

- **Indiana State Fair Pathway to Water Quality:** Several volunteered at this event, which was very well attended by the public.
- **Continue to work on the Web-based Watershed Tool-kit:** it is very close to being deployed, although the tool for pollutant load calculations is still being tweaked.
- **Attended the Coastal Advisory Board** meeting at Red Mill Park in LaPorte. Topics discussed were updates to the LMCP, and presentations on the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, coastal planning technical assistance, NIRPC's 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan, Wind power in Indiana, and an update on restoration in Hoosier Prairie nature Preserve.
- **Networking sessions on hydro-modification** are being planned for the last quarter of this year.
- **Assisted a number of watershed groups and SWCDs with 319 grant applications.**



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

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



IASWCD

225 S. East Street
Suite 740
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Phone: 317.692.7325
Fax: 317.423.0756
Web: www.iaswcd.org

PRESIDENT:

Paula Baldwin
Marion County

VICE PRESIDENT:

Ray McCormick
Knox County

TREASURER:

Brian Campbell
Elkhart County

SECRETARY:

Jeff Meinders
Ripley County

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Jennifer Boyle Warner
Jennifer-boyle@iaswcd.org

To: State Soil Conservation Board
From: Paula Baldwin, President, IASWCD
Date: Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative Update

- CCSI project officially began on September 1. A press release was sent to all media.
- Hans Kok, LLC and Dan Tower, Ag Conservation Solutions are the contractors on the project.

Pathway to Water Quality

- Over 47,000 visitors went through the PWQ exhibit during the state fair. A special thanks to the SSCB members and all the Division of Soil Conservation staff for volunteering during the fair.

District Showcase Award Winners

- DeKalb, Elkhart, Scott/Jefferson, and Tippecanoe SWCD's were the four winners for the 2009 award. Nine applications were received in total.
- Tour dates are being set up for Sept-November. All SSCB members will receive invitations to the events. We encourage each of you to attend at least one of the tours.

Other

- IASWCD presented, along with NRCS at a Farm Bill meeting sponsored by the Indiana Wildlife Federation on Sept. 1. Many SWCD staff were in attendance.
- IASWCD submitted a 319 grant for the Conservation Development Specialist position.
- River Friendly Farmer event was held at the State Fair on August 19. Over 30 winners were in attendance to receive their certificate from Lt. Governor Skillman and Don Villwock.
- 2010 SWCD Annual Conference – Alert about registration sent to all District staff and supervisors. We have established early, late and on-site registration fees this year.

THE IASWCD MISSION is to represent SWCDs as one voice and assist the leadership of local Districts through coordination and education for the wise use and management of our natural resources.

**State Soil Conservation Board Meeting
NRCS State Conservationist Report
September 2009**

2009 Contribution Agreements with SWCDs

NRCS was able to enter into 21 Contribution Agreements with 16 SWCDs for technical and administrative assistance for FY2009. NRCS appreciates the SWCD's patience this year as we worked through our budget situation, and is pleased to be able to maintain the commitment to our partnership with the Districts. Funded SWCDs are listed below:

Cass County SWCD
Clay Co SWCD
Crawford Co SWCD
Daviess Co SWCD
Dearborn Co SWCD
Dubois Co SWCD
Howard Co SWCD
Johnson Co SWCD
Knox Co SWCD
Kosciusko County
Pike Co SWCD
Ripley Co SWCD
Sullivan Co SWCD
Switzerland Co SWCD
Wabash Co SWCD
Wells Co SWCD

Programs Update

Please see the attached handout for an FY 2009 programs update as of the end of August. Final FY 2009 program numbers will be available in October.

Conservation Stewardship Program

CSP sign-up is ongoing through September 30, and NRCS appreciates the SWCDs assistance in getting the word out about this program. Producers are encouraged to use the self-screening checklist to determine whether the new program is suitable for them and their operation, available on the NRCS CSP Web site at http://www.in.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/CSP/csp2009/csp_homepage.html. Producers then need to submit an application (form NRCS-CPA 1200) to their NRCS district conservationist. Eligible lands now include cropland, grassland, improved pastureland, and non-industrial private forestland.

Planning for ICP Technical Training

A group of Indiana Conservation Partnership technicians, trainers and decision makers are gathering September 23 for a Training Development event led by Ray Ledgerwood. The goal of the event is to develop a consistent, progressive technical training for partnership employees.

2009 Planned Practices

NRCS would like to thank the SWCDs for their assistance in getting conservation practices on the ground that were scheduled in Farm Bill contracts for FY 2009 implementation. Staying on top of our practice workload allows us to complete contracts on-time and meet our conservation goals.

ICP Webinar

The second ICP Webinar will be held Tuesday November 10 for partnership staff, focused on conservation programs available statewide.



Indiana Funding Initiatives Fiscal Year 2009

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) – Provides financial and technical assistance for structural and management conservation practices to optimize environmental benefits on working agricultural lands.

- \$11,061,557 in total EQIP obligated.
 - \$3.19 million backlog.
 - Top practices: Nutrient Mgmt., No-Till, Pest Mgmt., Waste Utilization and Grazing.
- a. ***Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP)*** –AWEP’s focus is achieving efficiency in water usage and improving water quality in the water on irrigated farms. In FY09, AWEP makes \$554,000 in additional EQIP funding available directly to producers.
- Michigan Association of Conservation Districts proposal directs \$500,000 in EQIP to Southeast Lake Michigan Watershed in Michigan and northern Indiana (St. Joseph River, Kalamazoo River and Black River watersheds). Indiana NRCS and Indiana SWCDs in the watersheds are cooperating on the project.
 - LaPorte SWCD proposal directs \$54,000 in EQIP to the Kankakee Watershed.
- b. ***Organic Initiative*** – \$669,869 obligated to certified organic farmers and those transitioning to organic production. Technical and financial assistance are available for conservation practices related to organic production. Practices include cover crops, crop rotation, integrated pest management, windbreaks, filter strips, fence, livestock water sources, rotational grazing, and others.
- c. ***Air Quality Initiative*** – \$816,034 obligated in the three target areas, including Clark, Dearborn, Dubois, Floyd, Gibson, Hamilton, Hendricks, Jefferson, Johnson, Lake, Marion, Morgan, Pike, Porter, Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Warrick Counties. Through this initiative, row crop producers are encouraged to adopt practices such as vegetative establishment, no-till, nutrient and pest management, and buffer practices. Livestock producers are encouraged to adopt practices such as anaerobic digesters and bio-filters.
- d. ***Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI) Projects***- Partnership proposals that direct EQIP funds directly to producers. In-state proposals reviewed by State Conservationist, multi-state projects reviewed at the national level.
- The Nature Conservancy: 2-stage Ditches (\$44,000 FY09 and \$260,000 FY10) in 26 counties (Adams, Allen, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, DeKalb, Fountain, Fulton, Huntington, Jasper, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Marshall, Miami, Montgomery, Newton, Noble, Pulaski, Steuben, Tippecanoe, Wabash, Wells, White, Whitley).
 - DNR Forestry: EQIP NOW (EQIP—\$200,000 FY 2009 and \$300,000 annually FY 2010 through FY 2013). Targeting landowners enrolled in DNR’s Classified Forest & Wildlands program to implement seven practices, including: Invasive Species Control/Pest Management, Tree and Shrub Establishment, Post Planting Herbicide Treatment, Stabilizing Forest Trails and Landings, Riparian Plantings, Riparian Post Planting Herbicide Treatment, and Forest Stand Improvement.

Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) – WRP allows landowners to protect, restore and enhance wetlands on their property through technical and financial support.

- \$6,326,460 obligated or pending title.
- Using local County Geographic Area Rate Caps for easement rates.
- \$6.6 million backlog.

Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) – GRP allows landowners to protect, restore and enhance grasslands, protecting valuable grasslands from conversion to cropland and other uses through rental agreements or easements.

- \$262,500 obligated for easements.
- \$209,688 obligated for rental agreements.
- \$23,219 backlog due to one project dropping out.

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) – WHIP allows landowners to develop and improve wildlife habitat on private lands through technical and financial assistance.

- \$1,106,351 obligated.
- No backlog.

Healthy Forest Reserve Program (HFRP) – HFRP helps landowners restore and enhance forest ecosystems to: 1) promote the recovery of threatened and endangered species, 2) improve biodiversity; and 3) enhance carbon sequestration. HFRP is implemented in target geographic areas.

- A total of \$650,000 is available in the St. Joseph River Watershed (Allen, DeKalb, Noble, and Steuben counties) to promote recovery of threatened and endangered species, improve biodiversity, and increase carbon sequestration.

Conservation Stewardship Program (the NEW CSP) – CSP allows agricultural producers to improve conservation systems by improving, maintaining, and managing existing conservation activities and undertaking additional conservation activities through financial and technical assistance. The new CSP sign-up is continuous and nationwide.

- 2009 sign-up is August 10 through September 30, 2009.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) - CRP encourages farmers to convert highly erodible cropland or other environmentally sensitive acreage to vegetative cover. Farmers receive an annual rental payment for the term of the contract, and cost-share to establish the vegetative practices.

- \$29.4 million (37,624 contracts on 280,810 acres).
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) - 670 contracts on 4,352 acres).
- State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) - 5,875 acres for Bobwhite; 2,050 acres for Sedge Wren; 3,075 acres for Henslow's Sparrow; and 1,647 acres for Indiana Bat.
- CP33 - 11,315 acres enrolled in Bobwhite Buffers.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.