

EPA Grant Work Plan – Indiana State Nutrient Reduction Strategy Science Assessment Support – Relevant Milestones achieved in 2022



Information on the Indiana Science Assessment can be found at <https://www.in.gov/isda/divisions/soil-conservation/indiana-state-nutrient-reduction-strategy/indiana-science-assessment/>. A Core Team of partners in the state are working together on the Science Assessment and include the ISDA, IDEM, NRCS, the Indiana Chapter of TNC, IANA, and Purdue University, College of Agriculture.

The Science Assessment includes two components:

Component 1: Determine historic and ongoing nutrient loads leaving the state, and also by watershed basins used in the State Nutrient Reduction Strategy.

Component 2: Improve method to quantify nutrient reductions from conservation practices, including dissolved nutrients, and determine efficiency of practice in reducing loads.

ISDA was awarded a \$200,000 grant from EPA in 2020 through the Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force to help advance the state's nutrient reduction strategy. The EPA funds under this grant proposal are being used to help carry out Component 2 of the Assessment, and more information on the workplan for the EPA grant for this component can be found on the website link above.

Relevant Milestones that were achieved under this grant proposal during calendar year 2022 are:

The Science Assessment continues to advance towards the goal of an agreed-upon method to quantify the expected nutrient reductions from conservation practices in Indiana to be used statewide.

- Phase 1 analyzed 10 practices that were selected at the beginning of the project. In phase 2, a structured process was used to select 15 additional practices, bringing the total to 25 practices.
- Preliminary practice effectiveness has been determined for 12 practices, and these results will be shared with the [Science Committee](#) for final consensus and approval on load reduction and percent reduction values.
- A preliminary 2-page factsheet for each individual practice has been created that will share results with the public in an understandable way, and these factsheets have been completed for 2 practices. These factsheets will be available in 2023.
- A [Year 2 progress report](#) has been completed and can be found on the Science Assessment website listed above. More accomplishments and information on key decisions that were made can be found in the progress report.