

**AGENDA**  
**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING**  
**January 13, 2016**  
**Marriott- Downtown Indianapolis**

- I. 4:30 PM: Call to Order**
- II. Approve Minutes of October 2015**
- III. Clean Water Indiana**
  - a. Clean Water Indiana Grants –Leah Harmon
  - b. Clean Water Indiana Budget Update- Jordan Seger
- IV. State Soil Conservation Board Business**
  - a. SSCB Chairman’s Report-Scott Ham
  - b. SSCB Business Plan
  - c. CWI Grants Committee Report
- V. Soil and Water Conservation Districts**
  - a. Approval of Recommendations for Appointment
  - b. Randolph County- Tara Wessler-Henry
  - c. Union County- Tara Wessler-Henry
  - d. White County-Geneva Tyler
  - e. Warren County- Geneva Tyler
- VI. 10 Minute Break**
- VII. ISDA Updates**
  - a. Director’s Report- Jordan Seger
  - b. Technical Report- Jordan Seger
  - c. Agricultural Affairs-Meg Leader
  - 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**

January 14, Roundtable	July 19, TNC Indianapolis
March 1, TNC Indianapolis	September 20, TNC Indianapolis
May 17, Washington County	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

January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Clean Water Indiana Grants



## Program Updates

### **Clean Water Indiana Competitive Grants**

- Most 2013 grants ended on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Final reports are due January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Annual reports for most 2014 and all 2015 grants are due January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The grants committee had a conference call to discuss survey feedback in December.

### **Training Funds**

- The grants committee reviewed another round of applications in December.
- So far to 32 districts and 95 individuals (52 supervisors, 43 staff) have been awarded reimbursement funds.
- Trainings funded include IASWCD Annual Conference, IDEA Conference, Leadership Institute and more.

### **Annual Financial Report Grants**

- The AFR template has been sent to districts.
  - AFRs must be submitted to Gateway by February 29<sup>th</sup> and sent to their DSS by March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- We created a guidance document to accompany the spreadsheet this year. This will hopefully answer some of the more common questions that DSSs receive about what to put in which category.



## State Soil Conservation Board Business Plan 2016-2020

**The mission of the State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB)** is to provide information, advice and consultation to Soil and Water Conservation District supervisors to assist them in carrying out their powers and programs.

*Key Actions/Progress:* The SSCB will also provide policy and funding direction to the Indiana State Department of Agriculture-Division of Soil Conservation (ISDA-DSC) on the administration of the Clean Water Indiana Program (CWI), to help address statewide natural resource concerns on rural, suburban, and urban lands as identified in local Soil and Water Conservation District business plans.

**The SSCB has identified the following as statewide priority natural resource concerns** to be addressed over the next five years:

- **Soil Health/Degradation** which includes but isn't limited to, soil biology impacts that degrade soil quality, the loss of top soil due to water and wind erosion, the depletion of organic matter, as well as soil compaction.
- **Water Quality and Quantity** including sediment, nutrients, pesticides, *E-coli* and other non-point sources of water pollution found in our streams, rivers and lakes as well as supply and flooding.
- **Invasive Species**, both flora and fauna
- **Other soil and water related natural resources concerns** including forest lands, wildlife habitat areas and protection, pasture and forage lands and air quality.

### **Watersheds:**

There are geographical areas within all watersheds of Indiana that have critical natural resource concerns related to soil and water conservation. The SSCB will work with the ISDA-DSC, Districts and all partners to address these concerns and will support Federal initiatives.

In a strategic effort to address the top four resource concerns identified above, the SSCB developed the following goals and strategies. These goals and strategies are consistent with the Board's general authority and duties outlined in the District Law as well as its specific authority to provide direction to the Indiana State Department of Agriculture-Division of Soil Conservation on the administration of the Clean Water Indiana Program:

- ***By 2020, increase the reporting activity from the Districts to 100%.***
  - All Districts will submit a success story annually in order to stay in compliance.
  - Encourage Districts to communicate with elected officials.
  - The District Deadline Verification Tool form will be used annually when awarding grant funds.
  - Annually, the SSCB will communicate with any SWCD not meeting key deadlines as required in statute (e.g. Nominees for Election)
  
- **By 2020, the State Soil Conservation Board will see a 10% increase in no till implementation statewide based on tillage transect results.**
  - ISDA-DSC will provide training and support for tillage transects.
  - Annually, the SSCB will provide training dollars to SWCD Supervisors and Staff attending educational events that cover related topics, if funding is available.
  - Annually, the SSCB will support the ICP's Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI). Financial contributions will be considered on a year by year basis if funds are available.
  - Annually, the SSCB will provide CWI competitive grant opportunities to SWCDs statewide that support conservation cropping systems, if funding is available.
  
- **Through 2020, the State Soil Conservation Board and ISDA-DSC staff will work with the Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (IASWCD) and other Indiana Conservation Partnership (ICP) partners in developing a reporting format and procedure for reporting income and expenses, accomplishments, federal, state and local dollars leveraged as well as state and District program needs for the coming year that is compatible with current technology available in District offices.**
  - SSCB will annually provide a consolidated report to the general assembly including program and funding needs.
  - ICP accomplishments report used annually to highlight District success stories along with state and federal funding received in each District.
  - All Districts entering annual financial report through State Board of Accounts Gateway web-based reporting system.

- **By 2017, the State Soil Conservation Board will explore the role of the conservation marketplace in Indiana in association with the ICP and others.**
- **By 2016, the State Soil Conservation Board will financially support District capacity programs such as Leadership Institute, Chair/Vice-Chair Workshop, and the ICP Certification for training.**
  - Explore new opportunities for funding training programs to expand on existing capacity.
  - Explore ways state funding can be used to create new capacity.
  - Provide annual training sponsorship and reimbursement options to SWCDs and SWCD related events as suggested by the CWI Grants Committee, if funding is available.
- **By 2017, the State Soil Conservation Board will explore the creation of SWCD/Cooperative Weed Management Areas.**
  - Invite one or more representatives from statewide CWMA's to present information to the SSCB or a SSCB Committee in 2016.
- **By 2020, 80% of District supervisors will be actively engaged in District program planning and development, community outreach, local, state and federal conservation policy and legislative affairs.**
  - Continue to support the Leadership Institute Four Corners of Leadership Workshops series. As funds are available, provide financial support annually to these events and SWCD attendees by means of CWI training dollars. In 2016, initiate discussions among ICP Leaders on any other key topics that could be added to the workshop series (e.g. Conflict) to meet needs of program "graduates".
  - Work with the Leadership Institute Program Committee and the ICP Leadership Development Workgroup to identify additional training needs and assist with implementing additional training based on needs identified and prioritized.
  - Annually, all SWCDs will have a current long range business plan or annual plan of work.
  - By 2018, 75% of SWCDs will have at least one "shovel ready project" waiting for various funding opportunities.

- **By 2020, 2/3 of Districts will be employing District staff with skills in program development and revenue enhancement (ie; grant writing and project management), adult education, technical assistance, marketing and public relations.**

  - Provide special training targeted to the training needs of District program managers.
  - Work with the ICP to continue to develop and implement the Training and Certification Program.
  - Pursue opportunities for joint training with partners, as well as opportunities to utilize trainers from other partners and states.
  - Investigate and evaluate training programs already in place in other states that could be modified for use in Indiana.
  - Provide CWI incentive grants to Districts for the purpose of developing or adding staff capacity for program development, revenue enhancement, etc., if funds are available.
  - Offer specific CWI incentive grants to limited Districts willing to share program development and/or technical staff if funds are available.
  - Skill Inventory and Training Needs Inventory requested of all Technical Staff in 2016.
  - Provide webinar options for training events, if feasible.
  - Approach IASWCD and ISDA in 2016 about developing a committee to ensure annual strategies are implemented each year that support topics regarding staff development.
  
- **By 2020, there will be an average of 25 joint sediment and nutrient reduction projects among Districts.**

  - Offer specific CWI grants for joint District projects targeted at sediment and nutrient reduction, if funds are available.
  - By 2020, all SWCDs will have applied for CWI competitive grants since 2011 and all will have received funding for quality local projects tying to sediment and nutrient reduction.
  
- **Work with ISDA-DSC, IASWCD, and 3 local Districts to increase the number of cooperative conservation projects with non-governmental organization and private industry. At least one organization or industry will be approached each year.**

  - Continue to support the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI).

- Compile a list of partners as listed in CWI grant applications since 2014
- **Explore opportunities to work with Certified Crop Advisors (CCAs) and private sector to help promote agronomic conservation practices and technologies.**
  - Provide opportunities for Division and SWCD employees to increase their proficiency and assistance in promoting agronomic conservation practices and technologies.
  - Continue to support the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI).
- **By 2020, see an increase by 3% federal leveraged funds for conservation implementation in the state**
  - Continue to commit state matching dollars for CREP from CWI funds.
  - Continue to work with the partners to leverage federal funding from all federal sources.
  - Work with our partners to develop a strategic plan to expand CREP to other areas of the state.
  - Work with the ICP and other traditional and non-traditional partners to enroll 26,250 acres into CREP.
  - Meet with NRCS, ISDA, and IASWCD in 2016 to develop specific strategies that could assist in getting more RCPP dollars into Indiana by 2020.

- **Key actions to make progress in implementing each the goals**
  - Continue to solidify ICP Partnership.
  - Meet with top leadership of ISDA and other state government officials as appropriate to discuss District needs and Clean Water Indiana funding.
  - Support the Division in maintaining staff to provide District assistance.
  - Continue to improve communication with Districts:
    - Occasionally hold board meetings in different regions of the state, utilize the ISDA-DSC website, partner newsletters, webinars, etc. ISDA and SSCB will utilize SharePoint to foster open communications.
    - Pursue opportunities to meet with other state and local government organizations and agencies and others dealing with soil and water issues.
    - Publish draft minutes on SSCB website in a timely manner after meetings.
  - Explore creation of Cooperative Weed Management Areas with local SWCDs.
  - In recognition of demonstrable benefits of CCSI we continue to support this initiative for the foreseeable future.
  - In recognition of demonstrable benefits of the tillage transect program we continue to support this initiative for the foreseeable future.
  
- **Desired Outcomes for the State Soil Conservation Board Business Plan**
  - Soil health
  - Clean drinking water
  - Clean rivers, lakes and streams
  - More productive soils
  - Enhanced quality of life
  - Increased cooperation with partnership
  - Improved soil and water quality
  - Districts have increased capacity to deliver conservation programs locally
  - Expanded partnerships and conservation partners
  - Resilience of soil
  - Early detection and control of invasive species
  - Sustainable resource base
  - Clean Water Indiana accountability and transparency
  - Continued support of the state's Nutrient Reduction Strategy

For questions, comments, or more information please email:  
[cleanwaterindiana@isda.in.gov](mailto:cleanwaterindiana@isda.in.gov)

*Clean Water Indiana funds are derived from a portion of cigarette tax revenue per Indiana Code 6-7-1. For more information about the Indiana Clean Water Indiana Program please visit:*

*<http://www.in.gov/isda/2374.htm>*

*For more information about the State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) please visit:*

*<http://www.in.gov/isda/2361.htm>*



# State Soil Conservation Board

January 13, 2016

"Director's Report"

ISDA-DSC Director, Jordan Seger



## Updates

- **ISDA Agency Bill**
  - See handout titled "ISDA Agency Bill" for details
  - Three corrections
    - Update DNR with Division of Soil Conservation – cig tax funding
    - Strike outdated LARE language
    - Allow SWCD's to receive 10k each if they choose on their own to merge in the future
- **New ISDA Staff**
  - Happy to announce two new Resource Specialists joining the ISDA Team
    - Jared O'Brien – NW – Rensselaer
    - Nick Alles – NE – Decatur
- **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
  - Reviewing and incorporating over 43 existing strategic plans from across the IN Ag industry to identify commonalities as well as hosting over 25 listening sessions and individual surveys to gather feedback
  - Water quality and quantity are top issues that have been raised
  - Likely roll out in March
- **2015 Division of Soil Conservation Annual Report – published in next 30 days on ISDA website**
  - 2015 was a successful year for the ISDA – Division of Soil Conservation. New employees joined the Team, existing programs grew and improved, accountability and transparency was increased, and new initiatives were rolled out. Soil Health, Big Data, program improvement, increased use of technology, Western Lake Erie Basin focus and outcome reporting were the big themes of 2015.
- **4R's – (Right rate, form, timing, placement)**
  - In 2016 the DSC will work with Ag partners with the goal of growing the 4R program across the state
  - For more info: <http://www.nutrientstewardship.com/>
- **Avian Influenza** – ISDA has been meeting with BOAH, IDEM, DHS, the poultry industry and others to further prepare for a potential AI outbreak in IN this winter/spring
  - If a large AI outbreak were to occur ISDA staff will support BOAH staff in "control zones" uninfected but quarantined sites that must use permits to move products
- **SWCD Meetings** -ISDA, IASWCD, and NRCS Leadership will continue to attend SWCD board meetings over the coming months to share ICP accomplishments and seek feedback and alignment on state ICP initiatives
  - SSCB members are more than welcome and encouraged to join in these visits as they get scheduled

- **Nutrient Reduction Strategy/Load Reduction Modeling** – ISDA and IDEM have worked with EPA to finalize the IN Nutrient Reduction Strategy.
  - The most updated strategy can be found here: <http://www.in.gov/isda/2991.htm>
  - ISDA has completed many one page load reduction snapshots for significant water bodies and watersheds across the state with focus on drinking water sources. One pagers can be found here: <http://www.in.gov/isda/2991.htm>
  - CY 2015 load reductions are being calculated now, scheduled to publish in March
- **Cover Crop and Tillage Transects/Soil Health**
  - Updated data and maps posted here: <http://www.in.gov/isda/2383.htm>
  - 2015 Fall/Winter Transect data is being compiled now
  - Soil Health – Indiana landowners supported by the DSC and the Indiana Conservation Partnership (ICP) continue to lead the nation in implementing the principles of Soil Health as demonstrated by these transect trends:
    - Indiana landowners increased no till acres on corn and soybean fields by 466% since 1990
    - Indiana landowners increased conservation tillage on corn and soybean fields by 311% since 1990
    - Indiana landowners increased cover crop acres on corn and soybean fields by 413% since 2011
- **State Soil Conservation Board**
  - The DSC thanks Chairman Ham for his leadership, guidance, State service, and support over the years, wishing him well in his future endeavors.
  - A new nominee representing the private water treatment/distribution industry has been nominated to the Governor’s office, awaiting appointment
  - ISDA made the nomination for appointment with approval from the IASWCD and Purdue per IC 14-32-2-3

*2016 is sure to be another busy and productive year for the Division of Soil Conservation with developing themes including nontraditional landowner engagement, crediting privately implemented conservation practices into state trend reports, more collaboration with the private sector, and addressing the lag time between conservation practice implementation and direct, in stream water quality improvements. The Division of Soil Conservation will continue to adapt to and address the natural resources needs of Indiana while working with landowners, the State Soil Conservation Board, the IN Conservation Partnership, and many stakeholders to grow the adoption of voluntary conservation practices across the Hoosier state.*

Jordan Seger

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Indiana State Department of Agriculture - Division of Soil Conservation, State Accountability Goals								
KPI			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	Yellow Target	Green Target						
Top soil stabilization, prevention of sediment from entering waters of the State	252,000,000	280,000,000				296,556,000	213,306,000	399,358,000
<b>Program Measures</b>								
Nitrogen reduced from entering waters of the State	250,000	275,000				324,496	228,487	403,651
Phosphorus reduced from entering waters of the State	125,000	150,000				163,373	112,906	203,981
Number of soil and water conservation practices installed	750	1,000				1,872	1,180	1,399
Number of newly enrolled acres in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	650	750		750	1,119	837	681	954
Number of acres in INField Advantage	40,000	60,000	2,660	22,540	29,330	42,630	50,540	60,270
<i>As set by the IN Office of Management and Budget</i>								
<i>KPI = Key Performance Indicator</i>								
Learn more and view automated tracking here: <a href="https://mybi.omb.in.gov/analytics/saw.dll?Dashboard">https://mybi.omb.in.gov/analytics/saw.dll?Dashboard</a>								
<b>in.gov/isda/</b>								



# State Soil Conservation Board

January 13, 2016

DSC Technical Assistance Report

## Field Staff Activities

*January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015*

Resource Specialist Activities	Total
SWCD Board Meetings	262
ICP Meetings, Conference Calls, Webinars, etc.	472
Field Days	93
Training	191
Conservation Planning	503
Survey, Design and Inspections	1,090
Construction	252
Public Interaction	26,390
CREP – Met with Landowners	144

## DSC Conservation Workload

*January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015*

Action	Currently Reported
Technical Assistance	2,677
Practices Underway	486
Completed Practices	1,486
Practice Acres	55,784
Practice Feet	203,303
Field Acres	70,245
Nitrogen Reduction	422,908 lbs.
Phosphorus Reduction	213,769 lbs.
Sediment Reduction	207,981 tons



# State Soil Conservation Board

January 13, 2016

Agricultural and Environmental Affairs Program Manager



## Program Updates

### ➤ INfield Advantage

- Approximately 80 assorted ICP staff attended the November 30 training. Lunch was sponsored by Indiana Corn and Soy. The speakers were Dr. Randall Pearson, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, and Dr. Robert Nielsen, Purdue University.
- Hans Kok and I held a breakout meeting at the Midwest Pork Conference on December 1 for our INfield Advantage participants. At the request of the hog manure applying growers, we offered them their own discussion group and report binders.
- The first of the winter grower meetings were held last week and earlier this week. We have a total of 28 meetings and will be holding them through the middle of March.
- About eight SWCD staff that are involved with INfield Advantage will be attending Iowa's Research Conference in February. Their registration and hotel charges are being sponsored by Indiana Corn and Soy and most of them will be traveling with ISDA .

### ➤ Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative

- The CCSI Annual Meeting is scheduled for February 8. They will be presenting CCSI results as well as information on other projects related to soil health (and economics) testing. This meeting will be held at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds.
- The Top Farmer Roundtable will be held February 17. It is an invitation-only event.
- CCSI was awarded the 2015 No-till Innovator Organization Award at the National No-Till Conference on January 8, 2016.
- Has been finalizing plans for a series of 6-8 late winter / early spring manure management workshops.
- Intermediate Cover Crop workshops are scheduled for April 4 and 5.

### ➤ Red Gold Tomato Conservation Stewardship Award

- I am working with Red Gold on topics/speaker possibilities for their spring grower meetings in March and April.



# State Soil Conservation Board

January 13, 2016

Accountability and Technology



## Program Updates

### **2015 Fall Cover Crop Transect Survey**

A total of 62 counties have completed their fall cover crop transect surveys. District Support Specialists continue to encourage the remainder 29 counties to complete their transects by February.

### **2015 DSC KPI and Program Measures**

KPI	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	Yellow Target	Green Target				
Top soil stabilization, prevention of sediment from entering waters of the State	252,000,000	280,000,000			297,092,000	415,962,000
<b>Program Measures</b>						
Nitrogen reduced from entering waters of the State	250,000	275,000			325,048	422,908
Phosphorus reduced from entering waters of the State	125,000	150,000			163,648	213,769
Number of soil and water conservation practices installed	750	1,000			1,881	1,486
Number of newly enrolled acres in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	650	750	750	1,119	837	950
Number of acres in INField Advantage	40,000	60,000	2,660	22,540	29,330	42,630
					50,540	60,270

\*KPI and Program Measures data compiled on January 7, 2016.

\*Data includes both DSC and SWCD conservation workload.

\*Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Sediment reported in pounds.

### **2015 CWI Conservation Workload**

Action	Reported
Completed Practices	826
Practice Acres	30,525
Practice Feet	12,754
Field Acres	40,509
Nitrogen Reduction	238,141 lbs./yr.
Phosphorus Reduction	119,265 lbs./yr.
Sediment Reduction	245,854,000 lbs./yr.

\*CWI data compiled on January 7, 2016.

### **2015 ICP Conservation Workload**

DSC commends NRCS, IDEM and LARE for submitting their conservation workload data in a timely manner. Practices needing Region 5 Model analysis will be extrapolated from the NRCS conservation workload and submitted to DSC field staff for analyses by January 21. DSC hopes to have the Region 5 Model analyses completed by March. DSC plans to complete the 2015 ICP Conservation Accomplishments and Sediment and Nutrient Load Reductions Report completed by April 2016.



# State Soil Conservation Board

January 13, 2016

District Support Specialist Report (October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – January 1, 2016)



## **Major Activities or Events:**

- SWCD Supervisor and/or Staff trainings hosted included QuickBooks (11 attendees), Communications Leadership Institute (21 attendees), Leadership in Change Leadership Institute (32 attendees), SWCD Grants Workshop (25 attendees), SWCD December Staff Training (78 attendees). A virtual option was offered for the December Staff Training, and it will be posted later on YouTube too.
- DSSs have been assisted counties with tillage transect and cover crop surveys, both in person and administratively
- DSSs are assisting SWCDs with election, annual meeting, financial, Gateway, and other records that relate to end or beginning of year tasks
- A survey was sent to Districts regarding CWI
- SWCD Staff Region Meetings were held in the NNE, SNW and the NNW

## **Ongoing Key Support:**

- Business plans and/or annual plans of work- DSSs have assisted in the following counties: Clay, Marion, Spencer
- SWCD Board Meetings-DSSs have attended and assisted with various topics in the following counties: Adams, Blackford, Boone, Brown, Clay, Decatur, Dubois, Fayette, Floyd, Fulton, Gibson, Grant, Greene, Hamilton, Hendricks, Henry, Howard, Huntington, Jasper, Jay, Jefferson, Jennings, Johnson, Knox, Lake, LaPorte, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Miami, Monroe, Morgan, Owen, Pike, Posey, Pulaski, Rush, St. Joseph, Scott, Spencer, Steuben, Union, Wabash, Warren, Wayne
- District Staff visits- DSSs visited staff and provided training, assistance with various projects or tasks, and provided guidance in the following counties: Adams, Bartholomew, Crawford, Daviess, Decatur, Dekalb, Gibson, Harrison, Hendricks, Jasper, Jennings, LaGrange, Lawrence, Madison, Marion, Monroe, Ohio, Owen, Perry, Pulaski, Ripley, Rush, Scott, Shelby, Spencer, Steuben, Union, Warrick, Wayne, Whitley
- District Supervisor Visits- DSSs visited staff and provided training, assistance with various projects or tasks, and provided guidance in the following counties: Benton
- DSSs attended District Showcases for Dubois, Wabash/Miami/Kosciusko, Spencer
- DSSs assisted the SSCB with CWI Training Cost Share Program, and CWI Competitive Grant Program
- Tara assisted the Union County SWCD Board during staff transition
- Geneva's assisted the Benton County SWCD as they work towards an updated staff position
- CWI Audits were conducted in Dearborn,

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

- Geneva: Women Caring for the Land, Cover Crop and Tillage Transect, INFA
- Laura: Women Caring for the Land, ICP Training and Certification Program, Leadership Institute, INFA, IASWCD Annual Awards, IASWCD Legislative Training Day
- JT: 2016 IDEA Fall Conference, Elkhart River Watershed, Leadership Institute, Western Lake Erie Basin
- Nathan: Pathway to Water Quality, Leadership Institute, Myers-Briggs, INFA
- Tara: Leadership Institute, INFA, Water Quality Trading
- Leah: INFA, CWI Grants, SSCB duties, CCSI

**Upcoming Events:**

- “Board Development” Leadership Institute: February 5 &6 in Wabash
- March Region Meetings: March 2- NW, March 7- SW, March 15- NE, March 17-SE. 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.

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



# State Soil Conservation Board

January 13, 2016

ISDA - CREP & Water Quality Initiatives, Julie Harrold



## Program Updates

### **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program**

- CREP Contract Amendments are now fully executed with all of the SWCD County Administrators. The contracts are effective until December 2018. Funds can be added to the watersheds as needed.
- Annual CREP Report is completed and can be viewed at [http://www.in.gov/isda/files/2015\\_CREP\\_Annual\\_Report.pdf](http://www.in.gov/isda/files/2015_CREP_Annual_Report.pdf).
- In 2015, ISDA paid out \$529,909.50 in direct payments to participants for installation of practices, and more than \$52,000 in administrative fees to partnering SWCDs.
- Attached to this report is a report on the 2015 completed and enrolled acres and dollars spent, and a current status of acres and dollars in CREP to date.
- Amendment to the CREP Agreement between FSA and ISDA has been completed and is in the review process in Washington, D.C. Important changes in the agreement include:
  - Lowering of state incentive payment for re-enrolled wetlands to \$400/acre to allow for more dollars to go for establishment of new wetlands. State Incentive for newly enrolled wetlands remains at \$950/acre.
  - Removal of the one-time incentive payment to participants for enrolling permanent easements in the Tippecanoe River watershed and the Upper White River watershed.
  - Removal of the one-time incentive payment to participants for voluntarily enrolling a contract extension for an additional 10 years in the Tippecanoe River watershed
- Filter Strip planning requirements have now changed for projects enrolled in CREP, allowing for less restrictive requirements and it will significantly impact the acreage enrollment percentage and the length of buffers installed on waterbodies through CREP.
- The CREP Brochure has been revised to reflect changes. County specific pamphlets are also being developed to include as inserts in the new brochure.

### **IN State Nutrient Reduction Strategy (SNRS)**

- The State Nutrient Reduction Strategy was approved by EPA on October 30, 2015. The latest version of the strategy can be found at <http://www.in.gov/isda/2991.htm>. There is also a lot of information located on the ISDA website.
- A Nutrient Reduction Strategy Workgroup has been established to work on strengthening and building upon the Strategy, including adding goals, milestones, and action items. The first meeting is scheduled for February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The members of this group are from the Indiana Conservation Partnership (ICP) and include members from ISDA, IDEM, IASWCD, Purdue University and NRCS, with guidance as needed from IDNR and FSA. Names of members participating in the Workgroup include:
  - Ray McCormick, SWCDs
  - Ron Turco, Purdue University
  - Shannon Zezula, NRCS
  - Mary Hollingsworth, IDEM
  - Marylou Renshaw, IDEM
  - Julie Harrold, ISDA

### **Other Water Quality Issues**

#### 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.
- WLEB Water Quality Monitoring map – working with Marylou Renshaw to put together a map showing all the WQ Monitoring locations done by multiples agencies and organizations. More sites are planned to be added to this map from other agencies such as USGS, and work on this map will be on-going.

## SSCB Meeting – January 13, 2016

### 2015 COMPLETED AND ENROLLED

2015 Practices (in acres)								
	Native Grasses CP2	Hardwood Tree Planting CP3A	Filter Strip CP21	Riparian Buffer CP22	Bottomland Timber CP31	Wetlands CP23	Wetlands CP23A	Total
<b>Completed*</b>	8.00	0.0	5.80	29.91	71.40	27.80	112.26	<b>255.17</b>
<b>Enrolled</b>	23.65	1.07	17.50	36.30	513.26	175.91	185.99	<b>953.68</b>

\* Completed practices are those projects where conservation practices have been installed.

\*\* There were no CP3A or CP4D practices completed in 2015.

### 2015 CREP DOLLARS SPENT (PRACTICES AND ADMIN FEES)

	CP2	CP4D	CP21	CP22	CP31	CP23	CP23A	Practices Total	Admin fees	Total
<b>completed in 2014, paid in 2015</b>						\$42,560.00	\$312,388.50	<b>\$354,948.50</b>	<b>\$35,494.85</b>	<b>\$390,443.35</b>
<b>paid in 2015</b>	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$580.00	\$11,964.00	\$28,560.00	\$26,410.00	\$106,647.00	<b>\$174,961.00</b>	<b>\$17,496.10</b>	<b>\$192,457.10</b>
Total state dollars paid out in 2015 for practices =								<b>\$529,909.50</b>	<b>\$52,990.95</b>	<b>\$582,900.45</b>

### CONSERVATION BUFFER LENGTHS

2005-2010	2010 - current	Total	Goal	Percentage of Goal
2,627,367 feet	348,804 feet	<b>2,976,171 feet</b>		
		<b>563.67 linear miles</b>	<b>3,000 linear miles</b>	<b>18.8%</b>

SSCB Meeting - January 13, 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		Goal	Percentage of Goal
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres		
Total Reported completed on SharePoint as of 12/31/2015	172.30	14.00	3616.10	17.20	358.71	3580.86	222.80	1440.89	9,422.86	26,250.00	35.90%
Total CREP Enrollment	199.85	14.00	3628.50	18.27	376.91	4049.42	398.71	1708.85	10,394.51	26,250.00	39.60%

	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	\$ 17,230.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 361,610.00	\$ 7,126.00	\$ 155,113.00	\$ 1,539,469.00	\$ 175,150.00	\$ 853,345.50	\$ 3,110,443.50	\$ 169,581.85	\$ 3,280,025.35

## SSCB Meeting - January 13, 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	18.30	0.00	65.80	0.00	170.40	133.40	0.00	3.90	391.80
<b>Reported Completed as of 12/31/2015</b>	<b>168.20</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>71.60</b>	<b>5.40</b>	<b>218.01</b>	<b>2,522.96</b>	<b>101.10</b>	<b>500.89</b>	<b>3,602.16</b>
<b>Enrolled as of 12/31/2015</b>	<b>195.75</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>84.00</b>	<b>6.47</b>	<b>236.21</b>	<b>2,991.52</b>	<b>277.01</b>	<b>768.85</b>	<b>4,573.81</b>

## 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
<b>Total Acres Prior to Expansion of CREP</b>	<b>4.10</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3,544.50</b>	<b>11.80</b>	<b>140.70</b>	<b>1,057.90</b>	<b>121.70</b>	<b>940.00</b>	<b>5,820.70</b>

# SSCB Meeting - January 13, 2016

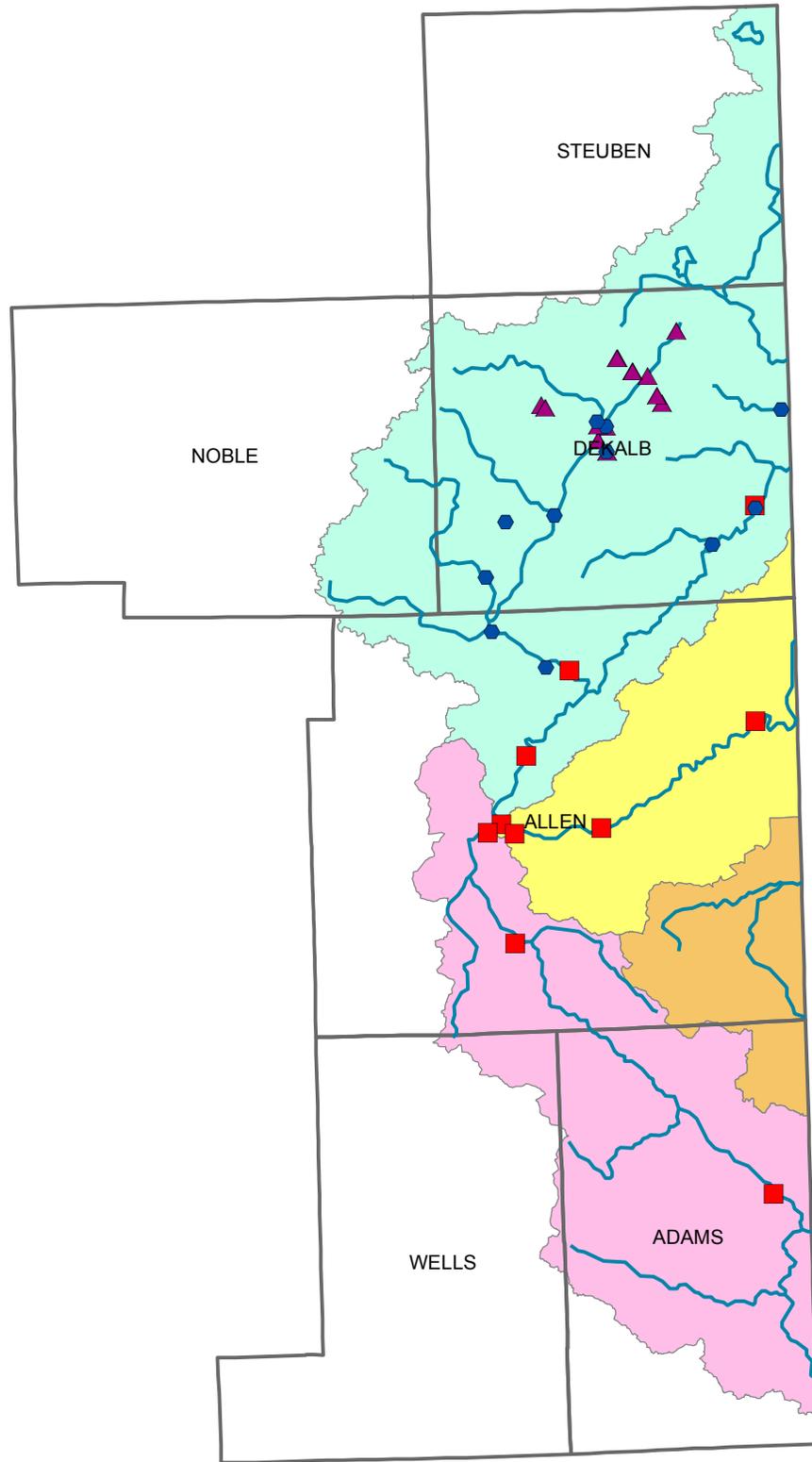
## Post-Expansion Dollars

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	\$ 1,830.00	\$ -	\$ 6,580.00	\$ -	\$ 68,160.00	\$ 53,360.00	\$ -	\$ 3,705.00	\$ 133,635.00	\$ 13,363.50	\$ 146,998.50
<b>Reported Paid as of 12/31/2015</b>	<b>\$ 16,820.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,160.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,160.00</b>	<b>\$ 87,204.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,009,184.00</b>	<b>\$ 96,045.00</b>	<b>\$ 475,845.50</b>	<b>\$ 1,695,818.50</b>	<b>\$ 169,581.85</b>	<b>\$ 1,865,400.35</b>

## 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
<b>Total Acres Prior to Expansion of CREP</b>	<b>\$ 410.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 354,450.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,966.00</b>	<b>\$ 67,909.00</b>	<b>\$ 530,285.00</b>	<b>\$ 79,105.00</b>	<b>\$ 377,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,414,625.00</b>

# Water Quality Monitoring Sites in the Western Lake Erie Basin watershed in Indiana



## Legend

### Maumee\_Sites

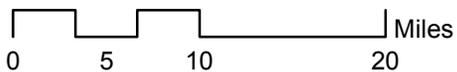
#### Agency

- IDEM
- St.JoeSJRWI
- ▲ USDA-ARS
- Maumee\_Streams

### Watersheds

#### HUC\_8\_NAME

- St Joseph (OH)
- St Marys
- Maumee
- Auglaize





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

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



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Jennifer Boyle Warner  
[Jennifer-boyle@iaswcd.org](mailto:Jennifer-boyle@iaswcd.org)

**To:** State Soil Conservation Board

**From:** Mike Starkey, President, IASWCD

**Date:** Wednesday, January 13, 2016

**Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI)**

- Still waiting to hear on future funding for sampling needs
- Director and Communication Manager Positions – getting agreement in place with NRCS; will be advertising Director position first.
- Annual hub meeting has been moved to February 8
- A CCSI report will be in everyone's packet for conference.
- 2 mini economic case studies were released in December; more to come spring of 2016
- Final CIG report will be done later in 2016.

**Pathway to Water Quality**

- IDEM 319 grant has been signed. This will help fund a coordinator position for 2 years plus additional renovation work. We are currently looking for a coordinator.

**District Agreements**

- The 2015 CRP status review contribution agreement ended Dec. 31. This work was valued at over \$180,000 for Districts. A new agreement for 2016 is currently in the works.
- Contribution agreements for Districts to provide administrative assistance to NRCS have been finalized. 38 Districts are providing support and 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.

**Other**

- Save the Date - The Indiana Conservation Alliance is planning a "Conservation Congress" for April 9, 2016 at Brown County State Park.
- 12 ICP leader visits (with Districts) were conducted by Jane Hardisty, Jordan Seger, and Jennifer Boyle Warner through Dec. 2015. More will be scheduled for 2016.
- Cress Hizer, lobbyist, will be working at the Statehouse on a few amendments/bills in regards to \$10,000 match and others.
- Ray McCormick, Jamie Scott and Roger Wenning will be attending the NACD meeting in Reno to represent Indiana's Districts.
- Emily Neitzel is leaving the IASWCD to move to Seattle, Washington. Her last day is January 19.

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



Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Michael R. Pence, Governor  
Cameron F. Clark, Director

Lake and River Enhancement Program  
Division of Fish & Wildlife  
402 W. Washington Street  
Room W273  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

## **January 13, 2016 Report for the State Soil Conservation Board**

### **Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) Program**

#### **IDNR Division of Fish and Wildlife**

The LARE program is totally funded by the Lake and River Enhancement Fee paid by boat owners annually when they register their boats with the BMV. The fee is based on the value of the boat when new and varies from \$5.00 to \$25.00 annually. One-third of this fee is used by the IDNR Division of Law Enforcement for grants for maritime patrols on lakes in Indiana in the form of grants to local sheriff's departments.

In 2015, LARE grants totaling \$1,943,576.20 were awarded by DNR Director Clark for 80 projects.

Included were projects for Aquatic Vegetation Management, Sediment Removal, Logjam Removal, Watershed Land Treatment and Design and Construction.

Twelve of the grants were awarded to SWCDs for Watershed Land Treatment, including some in the St. Joseph River RCPP watershed area and one in the Western Lake Erie RCPP watershed area. One of the major components in 2015 included many landowners utilizing cover crops.

Major dredging projects were conducted on several lakes in 2015 and several others are in the planning process.

Since the LARE program is part of the Aquatic Habitat Unit in the Fisheries Section of the Division of Fish and Wildlife, many projects include aspects of aquatic habitat enhancement including bio-stabilization of eroding streambanks. The picture on the next page is a recent shot of a completed project on Eagle Creek in Starkey Park in Zionsville, for example and utilizes soil lifts, fiber mats, live stake plantings, and use of stone for j-hook creation in the stream itself.



The “Completed Practice and Load Reduction” information for the Indiana Conservation Partnership that ISDA has produced includes 70 LARE entries in 2015 showing: 7600 acres of Cover crops or Hayland planting, 4040 feet of streambank stabilization, 20,285 tons of sediment load reduction, and 22,490 pounds of phosphorus and 44,665 pounds of nitrogen kept out of Indiana waters.

Applications for Grants in 2016 are due to our office, electronically, by no later than Midnight on January 31, 2016. We expect to be able to award about 2 million in grants in 2016 again, ½ in the spring, ½ in the summer.

Gregory L. Biberdorf, Program Manager  
Lake and River Enhancement Program  
Division of Fish and Wildlife  
Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
402 W. Washington Street, W-273  
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