AGENDA
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING

March 21, 2023

Indiana Soybean Alliance
8425 Keystone Crossing, Indianapolis, IN 46240
MS Teams

I. **9:30am: Call to Order**
II. **Approve Minutes of January 2023**
III. **Clean Water Indiana**
   - **a.** Clean Water Indiana Grants- Geneva Tyler
   - **b.** CWI $2k Capacity Payments- Geneva Tyler
IV. **State Soil Conservation Board Business**
   - **a.** Chairman's report- Ray Chattin
   - **b.** Director's report- Trevor Laurey's
   - **c.** Legislative update- Katie Nelson
V. **Soil and Water Conservation Districts**
   - **a.** Temporary appointments
     - i. Jay Co SWCD- Sandra Hoffarth
     - ii. Vermillion co SWCD- Nathan Stoelting
VI. **ICP Reports**
   - **a.** ISDA
   - **b.** IASWCD
   - **c.** CCSI
   - **d.** Purdue
   - **e.** NRCS
   - **f.** FSA
   - **g.** IDEA
   - **h.** Other
VII. **Public Comment**
VIII. **2023 Meeting Dates**
   - May 16
   - July 18
   - September 19
   - October 24
IX. **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.

DRAFT

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING
Minutes
January 8, 2023
The Westin Indianapolis, 241 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis
MS Teams

Board Members Present:
Kenny Cain
Brad Dawson
Ray Chattin
Gene Schmidt
Larry Clemens

Board Members Absent:
Amy Burris

Others Present:
Trevor Laureys
Tara Wesseler-Henry
Laura Fribley
Geneva Tyler
Julie Harrold
Jennifer Thum
Leah Harmon
Will Drews
Shalyn Sargeant
Clevie Bennett
Kelly Kent
Becca McClellan
Judi Brown
Cress Hizer
Lois Mann
Elli Blaine
Megan Ayers
Liz Rice
Marian Rodriguez
Kim Jeffery-Wolfert
John Kruce
Katie Starr
Julie Loehr
Matthew Johnson
Sheila Schroeder
Martha Miller
Tracey Johnson
Amy Work
Brent Jarnecke
Bradley Hunter
Carrie Parmenter
Les Zimmerman
Marc Roberts
Jon Roberts
Stan Moore
Susan Chattin

Present Virtually:
Sheryl Vaughn
Kim Peterson

I. **Call to Order:** Kenny Cain called the meeting to order at 3:01PM
II. **Approve Minutes of October 2022:** the minutes were presented. Brad Dawson moved to approve the minutes. Gene Schmidt seconded. All were in favor.
III. **Clean Water Indiana**
    a. Tara Wesseler-Henry
        i. Presented the CWI Report and highlighted pieces of the report.
        ii. A survey will be available for Districts and Partners to provide feedback to fill out anytime about the grant process. It will be available anytime of the year. It can be submitted anonymously as well.
IV. **SSCB Minutes**
    a. SSCB Member Terms and Appointments:
        i. Trevor Laureys touched on the member terms. A few terms expired at the first of this year: Amy Burris, Ray Chattin, and vacancy by Bob Eddleman. Under statutes, the term of a board member continues until a successor has been named. The Board makeup for now remains the same. ISDA has submitted all required information to reappointment a few members here and fill vacancy left by Bob.
        ii. Trevor shared a resolution came through about a year ago from Kosciusko County to examine term limits of the SSCB. A memo was approved but to avoid confusion, we waited until this new year. Trevor asked the Chair to approve that we change the dates, double check language, and get out this month.

Memo was developed with ISDA, a few members of the Association and a few members of the Board. The memo is where we landed as a non-legislative effort to promote a healthier Board. One could seek reappointment after four years off the board and when someone is appointed, now retroactively, it would be a two-term limit.

iii. Ray Chattin made a motion to accept it as presented. Brad seconded. Motion passed.

iv. Brad mentioned the reason Kosciusko brought this up was to use the SSCB as an example to limit terms and this may funnel down to the districts because it's always good to have new ideas on boards. So that's why we're stepping up.

v. Larry Clemens asked if anyone else was affected. Trevor clarified it's non-retroactive.

vi. Larry asked if anyone else was affected by the term limits. Trevor clarified it's non-retroactive. Anyone who would be appointed in this round right now, would have two terms from here. Larry would have two terms after 2026 when he is reappointed. The intention was to set an example not to come after anyone on the Board.

b. Purdue University & IASWCD Research MOU

i. Trevor presented the Memorandum of Understanding between Purdue University and the Indiana Association of Soil Conservation District. This is the exact same document and needs to be renewed.

ii. Larry moved to accept the memorandum. Ray seconds. Motion passed.

iii. Kenny will sign and get MOU to Trevor for other Partners to sign.

c. Chairman's Report

i. Kenny thanked all the Partners and shared it was a pleasure to serve you all. He reviewed highlights of 2022. It was a successful year.

d. Officer Elections

i. Brad moved that Ray Chattin become Chairman. Seconded by Larry. Ray accepted. Motion passed.

ii. Ray nominated Gene Schmidt to be Vice Chair. Larry seconded. Gene accepts. Motion passed.

e. Committee Appointments

i. CWI Grants Committee: the Chair and Vice Chair traditionally don't serve on the Grants Committee. Kenny will serve with Brad and Amy.

ii. CCSI Oversight committee: Ray's two-year appointment is up. Kenny and Ray will continue serve.

iii. Pathway to Water Quality: No term on this appointment. Larry will continue to serve. Brad can try to cover if Larry cannot attend.

V. Soil and Water Conservation Districts

a. SWCD Supervisor Appointments:

i. Geneva Tyler provided the list of recommendations of appointed supervisors throughout the state. Brad asked if they had been informed for Dual Office holding. Geneva confirmed they had.

ii. Brad moved to accept and approve the nominated appointees. Seconded by Gene. Motion passed.

b. Temporary Appointments:

i. Laura Fribley presented:

1. Crawford: David Grow- temporary elected; David Grow- vacant appointed
2. Floyd: Laura Lewis- temporary elected

ii. Tara presented:

1. Dearborn: Chris Powell- temporary elected

iii. Geneva Tyler presented:

1. Johnson: Andy Duckworth- temporary elected

iv. Gene Schmidt made motion to approve the appointments. Seconded by Ray. Motion carried.

VI. ICP Reports:

a. ISDA-

i. Trevor presented the Director's report:

1. Presented the CWI FY 2023 document.
2. Shared that last week the Governor put his budget online. Note it is submitted and anything can change. Both the DSC and CWI funds got adjustments to make up for salary compensation adjustments, and restoring the 15% we'd been cut before. The last piece is the estimated one million dollars additional for CWI. Ultimately this is at the discretion of the Board, but we've talked about in public forums using that to double the AFR match to $20k. Again, this is as submitted.
3. Presented staffing updates. ISDA is filling a Resource Specialist CREP Leader position, and a Resource Specialist position. Also hiring a Nutrient Stewardship Program Manager (this position will be funded with EPA Gulf Hypoxia dollars). Director Bruce Kettler has accepted a position with the Agribusiness Council of Indiana.
4. Trevor shared the Cover Crop Premium Discount program has expanded to 35 counties

ii. Tara clarified there will be a tracking mechanism with the $2k district capacity dollars since they are grant dollars.

iii. Julie Harrold presented the 2022 CREP Accomplishments. They will be opening the contract with FSA to add more acres and watersheds and get the program available in more areas of the state.

iv. Laura shared the Board Certification Program supervisor training overarching topics and asked if the Board had topics or speaker ideas to let us know

b. **IASWCD:**

i. Amy Work provided staffing updates. Julie Loehr was hired as a Program Manager with CCSI. The new Executive Director of the State Association is Liz Rice. She officially January 23.

ii. Elli Blaine provided updates for the Urban Soil Health Program. Megan Ayres has been hired in the southeast and Casey Kennett in the southwest.

c. **CCSI**:
   i. Carrie Parmenter with the TNC presented for CCSI. They are announcing the 2023 mini-grant program. A total of $40k will be given out on a rolling, first come, first serve basis. Focus is on soil health. A webinar will be held February 1.
d. **Purdue-** not present
e. **NRCS**
   i. Dan Hovland provided updates, and highlights from the provided 2022 Annual Report.
   ii. Staffing changes: Jerry Raynor accepted a new position at Headquarters beginning February 13. He will be Director of FAPD. Announcement for Indiana State Conservationist opened on Friday. Two new Area Conservationists were hired in the southeast and northeast, and new Executive Secretary. 12 District Conservationist vacancies closed on the 3rd.
f. **FSA**- not present
g. **IDEA**
   i. Martha Miller provided an update on the New Employee program. Two people from each region of the state will serve in the pilot. Training dates are set. Website is up and ready to roll.
h. **Other**- none presented

VII. Public Comment

a. Trevor thanked Kenny for serving as Chair and the Association for having us.
b. Ray took over from Kenny as Chair at 4:24PM. Ray thanked the Board for their confidence in him. He spoke about SICIM's discussion with the Lt. Governor, and budget request to combat invasive species. He shared numbers of annual soil loss in IN, effects, and future goals of ways to tell the story. Ray shared his appreciation of Kenny's leadership and spirit. Ray asked for any public comment.

VIII. Adjourn: Brad motioned to adjourn at 4:35PM. Seconded by Larry. Motion passed.

IX. 2023 Meeting Dates

- March 21
- May 16
- July 18
- September 19
- October 24

CWI Payment for District Operations

SWCD Name (have a dropdown) **this will be pulled from user data**

Proposed Categories (to match AFR)	**Amount**
Annual Meeting Expenses (e.g., speaker, venue, catering)	
Capital Outlays (Equipment) (e.g., rental equipment, ATV)	
Clean Water Indiana Projects or other State grant funded projects: Conservation Practices, ie, cover crops, no-till, etc. (note: all practices must be entered into Conservation Project Tracking. Please contact your ISDA Resource Specialist for assistance.)	
Clean Water Indiana Projects or other State grant funded projects: Other cost-share not tracked in CPT (e.g., well sampling, testing supplies, other cost share)	
Conservation Education Programs (e.g., marketing, field days, workshops,newsletters, websites, promotional material)	
Dues & Subscriptions (e.g., IASWCD, NACD, IDEA, SWCS, magazines, memberships)	
Employee Salaries Paid by District	
Office Supplies (e.g., computer, furniture, printer, paper)	
Rent	
Repair & Vehicle Expenses (e.g., gas, repairs/maintenance, insurance)	
Supervisor Per Diem (meetings, trainings, event attendance)	
Telephone or Other Utilities	
Travel/Lodging/Mileage/Registration/Meals (e.g., registration fee, travel per diem, lodging, mileage)	
Workshops/Field Days	
Money retained in fund for future use (include a text box to describe)	
Matching funds for grants (non CWI grants only)	
Other (please describe- add a small text box with character limit) What is the character limit?	

TOTAL (should not exceed but must equal $2,000) **Should be equal to the amount recorded in the AFR for CWI funds received for District Operations**

Optional: please describe any successes you'd like to highlight here (insert text box)

Optional: upload a file (picture, etc.) that could be used for promotional purposes

Email Confirmation **this will be pulled from user data**

Date of Submission **this will be auto generated from the system**

State Soil Conservation Board

March 21, 2023

ISDA – CREP & Water Quality Initiatives, Julie Harrold

Program Updates

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

- Still working with FSA and the CREP Steering Committee on what it will take to do an expansion of the program.
- Attached to this report is the usual report showing the current status of acres and dollars in CREP, including total completed acres and total enrolled acres since the beginning of the program, and total dollars paid out through the CREP program.
- We are at approximately 155 acres signed up so far this calendar year.
- According to the states tracking system, there are currently 22,306 acres completed, which is 85% of the goal.
- To date, the state has paid out more than $10.4 million. For every state dollar that is spent, the federal match is approximately $4-$13 for every state dollar, which is currently between $38.3 million and $124.6 million of federal dollars depending on the practice.

IN State Nutrient Reduction Strategy (SNRS)

- Work on the Science Assessment is continuing. A progress report for Year 2 has been completed and is available on the Science Assessment website. https://www.in.gov/isda/divisions/soil-conservation/indiana-state-nutrient-reduction-strategy/indiana-science-assessment/
- ISDA has hired Breegan Andersen as the Nutrient Stewardship Program Manager…"Welcome Breegan". This is through the BIL-Gulf Hypoxia Program (GHP), (Infrastructure Bill dollars). Breegan will manage the GHP dollars for Indiana, and she has already began working on getting the statewide soil sampling program going by updating the QAPP and the soil sampling protocol. She will also support me in efforts related to the SNRS. I am excited to have Breegan on board with us.

Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force (HTF)

- I continue to co-chair the HTF Research Needs Workgroup to provide pertinent and relevant research literature to the Hypoxia Task Force states.
- NOAA has released the 2023 National Hydrologic Assessment as part of their Spring Outlook. There is a section near the end of the National Hydrologic Assessment that discusses the implications for Gulf of Mexico hypoxia for this summer. Here is a summary paragraph on the Gulf of Mexico..."*The predicted spring flood risk across the MARB will likely lead to average or normal hypoxic conditions in the northern Gulf of Mexico this summer. Large portions of the basin are predicted to have a normal risk of flooding this spring. Absent major flooding, normal springtime discharges of nutrients and freshwater from the Mississippi River are predicted.*"... To read more about this, check out the link above.

SSCB Meeting - March 21, 2023 - CREP Summary

	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 3/19/2023	236.68	52.20	6,892.63	62.93	868.05	8,193.30	2136.41	3,863.90	**22,306.10**	**26,250.00**	**84.98%**
Total CREP Enrollment	243.27	53.20	7,223.52	74.14	897.74	8,426.25	2427.79	4,321.51	**23,667.42**	**26,250.00**	**90.16%**
Total Acres in Extension				1.00	53.70	428.50	121.70	6.00	**610.90**		
								Difference =	1,361.32		
									22,508.85	**26,250.00**	**85.75%**

	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	$ 23,348.00	$ 5,220.00	$ 732,977.00	$ 26,050.00	$ 373,433.00	$ 3,491,393.00	$ 1,928,878.00	$ 3,004,080.00	**$ 9,585,379.00**	**$ 817,075.40**	**$ 10,402,454.40**

Federal Match of $4-$13 is between $ 38,341,516.00
$ 124,609,927.00

	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
Total CREP to CREP Re-enrollment Reported on SharePoint as of 3/19/2023	0.00	0.00	580.13	4.08	43.13	304.48	0.00	226.75	**1,158.57**

Note: These acres are not re-counted in the total above, however they do receive incentive payments.

SSCB Meeting - March 21, 2023 - CREP Acres (broken down by watershed)

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	20.86	0.00	1.12	134.60	0.00	0.00	156.58
Lower Wabash	0.00	0.00	11.63	0.00	0.00	663.30	0.00	0.00	674.93
Lower East Fork White	53.50	45.20	168.71	41.60	83.17	751.44	287.16	0.00	1430.78
Lower White	10.70	0.00	193.62	0.00	129.29	2,349.07	138.53	0.00	2,821.21
Middle Wabash-Busseron	2.00	0.00	14.32	0.00	19.70	1,572.69	840.81	91.60	2,541.12
Middle Wabash-Deer	6.60	0.00	117.91	0.00	0.00	73.10	37.17	59.42	294.20
Middle Wabash-Vermillion	4.50	0.00	174.94	6.97	87.12	757.35	505.89	177.70	1,714.47
Tippecanoe River	93.84	0.00	843.65	0.00	3.41	21.40	87.30	2,434.90	3,484.50
Upper East Fork White	0.00	0.00	508.55	0.00	48.30	201.92	0.00	0.00	758.77
Upper Wabash	23.15	7.00	1028.14	2.56	64.19	282.43	117.85	89.10	1614.42
Upper White	38.29	0.00	265.80	0.00	291.05	328.10	0.00	71.18	994.42
Reported Completed as of 3/19/2023	**232.58**	**52.20**	**3,348.13**	**51.13**	**727.35**	**7,135.40**	**2014.71**	**2,923.90**	**16,485.40**
Enrolled as of 3/19/2023	**239.17**	**53.20**	**3,679.02**	**62.34**	**757.04**	**7,368.35**	**2,306.09**	**3,381.51**	**17,846.72**

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	2,916.80	0.00	7.80	20.40	121.70	924.00	3,990.70
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**

Extension Acres

				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**	**6.00**	**610.90**

CREP to CREP reenrollment

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	Total
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Highland Pigeon	0.0	0.0	31.35	4.08	2.90	26.6	0.0	0.0	64.90
Tippecanoe	0.0	0.0	413.25	0.00	0.00	14.1	0.0	209.55	636.86
Upper White	0.0	0.0	135.53	0.00	40.23	263.9	0.0	17.2	456.81
CREP to CREP Re-enrollment Reported on SharePoint as of 3/19/2023	**0.0**	**0.0**	**580.13**	**4.08**	**43.13**	**304.48**	**0.0**	**226.75**	**1158.57**

SSCB Meeting - March 21, 2023 - CREP Dollars (broken down by watershed)

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	$ -	$ -	$ 3,183.00	$ 632.00	$ 1,272.00	$ 53,840.00	$ -	$ -	$ 58,927.00	$ 5,892.70	$ 64,819.70
Lower Wabash	$ -	$ -	$ 1,163.00	$ -	$ -	$ 265,320.00	$ -	$ -	$ 266,483.00	$ 26,648.30	$ 293,131.30
Lower East Fork White	$ 5,350.00	$ 4,520.00	$ 16,871.00	$ 16,640.00	$ 33,268.00	$ 300,576.00	$ 272,802.00	$ -	$ 650,027.00	$ 65,002.70	$ 715,029.70
Lower White	$ 1,070.00	$ -	$ 19,362.00	$ -	$ 51,716.00	$ 939,628.00	$ 112,832.00	$ -	$ 1,124,608.00	$ 112,460.80	$ 1,237,068.80
Middle Wabash-Busseron	$ 200.00	$ -	$ 1,432.00	$ -	$ 7,880.00	$ 626,020.00	$ 774,569.50	$ 87,020.00	$ 1,497,121.50	$ 149,712.15	$ 1,646,833.65
Middle Wabash-Deer	$ 660.00	$ -	$ 11,791.00	$ -	$ -	$ 29,240.00	$ 21,781.50	$ 18,073.00	$ 81,545.50	$ 8,154.55	$ 89,700.05
Middle Wabash-Vermillion	$ 450.00	$ -	$ 11,264.00	$ 2,788.00	$ 34,848.00	$ 302,940.00	$ 480,595.50	$ 163,315.00	$ 996,200.50	$ 99,620.05	$ 1,095,820.55
Tippecanoe River	$ 9,384.00	$ -	$ 124,126.00	$ -	$ 1,364.00	$ 14,184.00	$ 75,235.00	$ 2,223,871.50	$ 2,448,164.50	$ 244,816.45	$ 2,692,980.95
Upper East Fork White	$ -	$ -	$ 50,855.00	$ -	$ 19,320.00	$ 80,768.00	$ -	$ -	$ 150,943.00	$ 15,094.30	$ 166,037.30
Upper Wabash	$ 2,315.00	$ 700.00	$ 101,882.00	$ 1,024.00	$ 25,676.00	$ 112,972.00	$ 111,957.50	$ 59,799.50	$ 416,326.00	$ 41,632.60	$ 457,958.60
Upper White	$ 3,509.00	$ -	$ 36,598.00	$ -	$ 128,380.00	$ 235,620.00	$ -	$ 74,501.00	$ 478,608.00	$ 47,860.80	$ 526,468.80
Upper White Extensions	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,800.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,800.00	$ 180.00	$ 1,980.00
Reported Paid as of 3/19/2023	**$ 22,938.00**	**$ 5,220.00**	**$ 378,527.00**	**$ 21,084.00**	**$ 305,524.00**	**$ 2,961,108.00**	**$ 1,849,773.00**	**$ 2,626,580.00**	**$ 8,170,754.00**	**$ 817,075.40**	**$ 8,987,829.40**

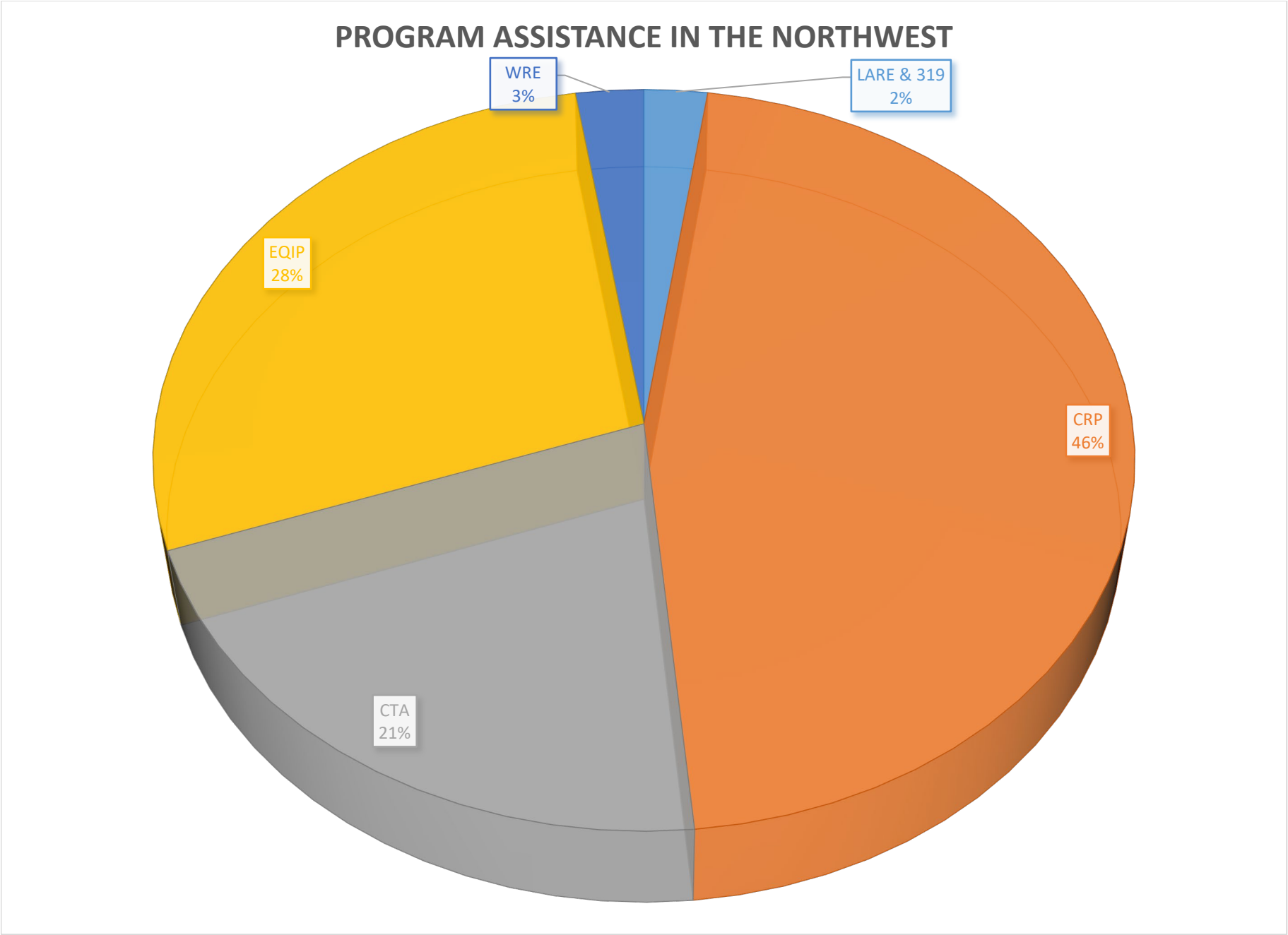
Pre-Expansion Dollars

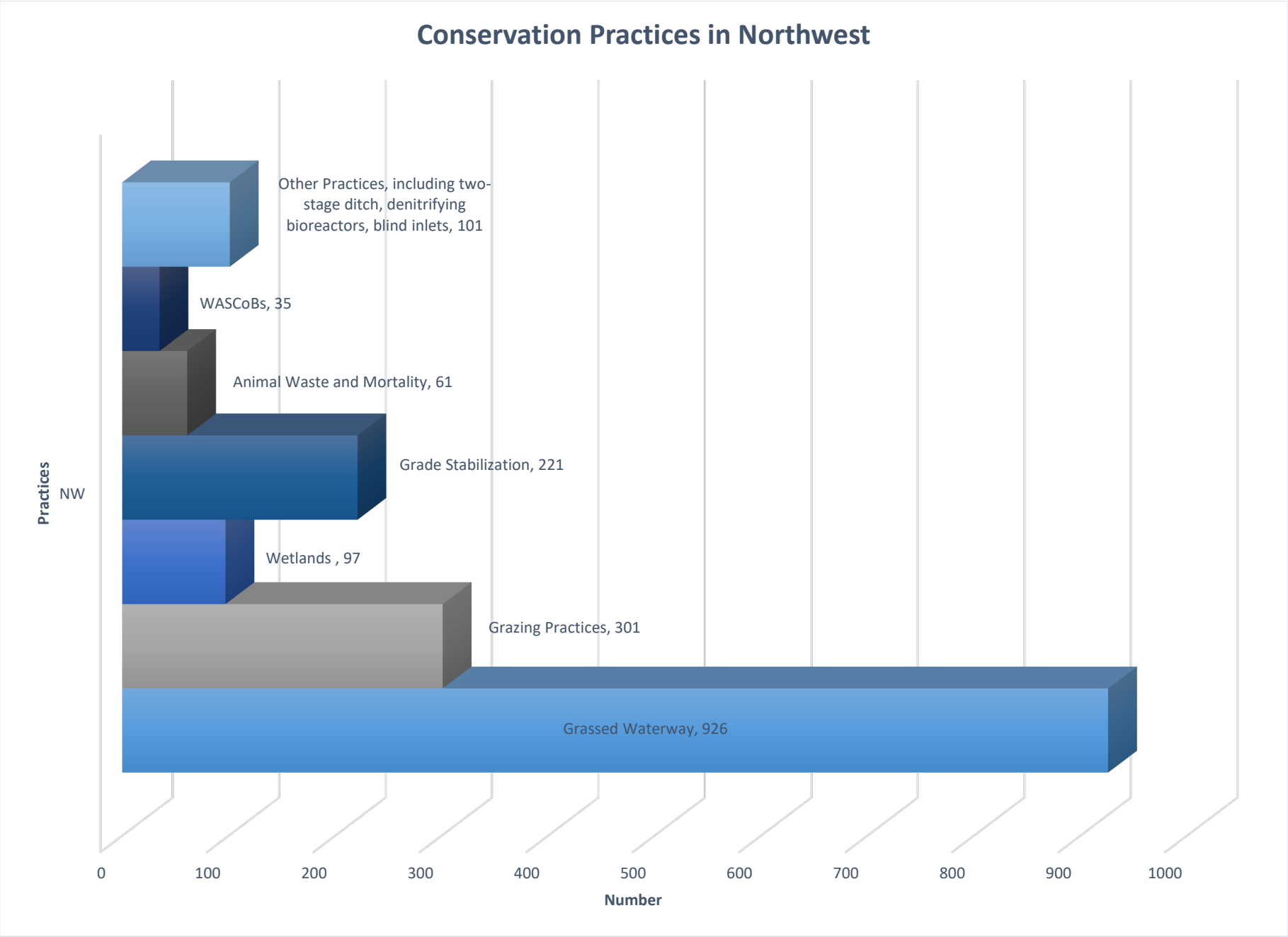
CREP Watershed	Native Grasses	Permanent Wildlife Habitat	Filter Strip	Hardwood Tree Planting	Riparian Buffer	Bottomland Timber Establishment	Wetland Restoration	Wetland Restoration (non-floodplain)	Practice Total
	CP-2	CP-4D	CP-21	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A	
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	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**

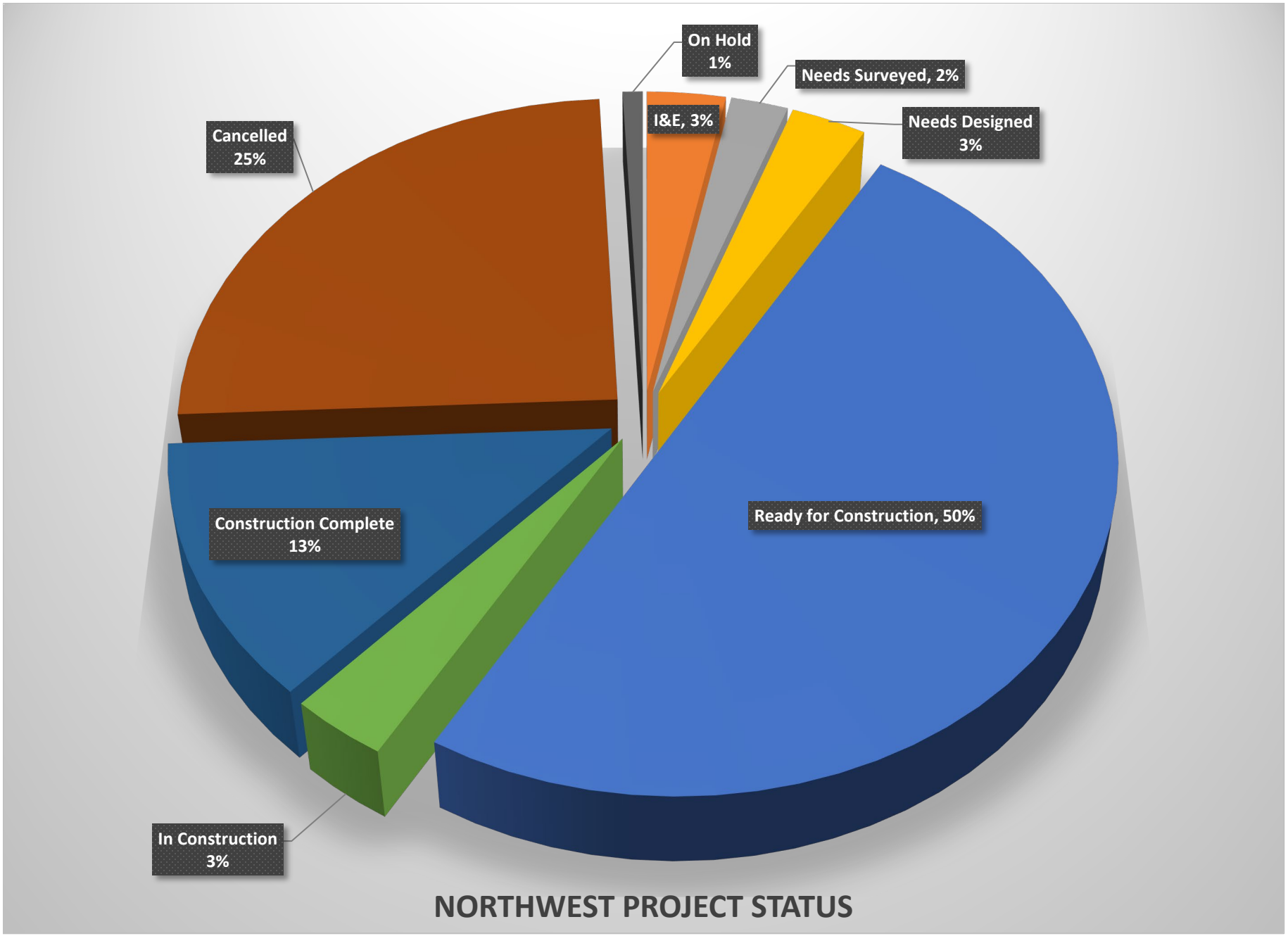
CREP to CREP reenrollment

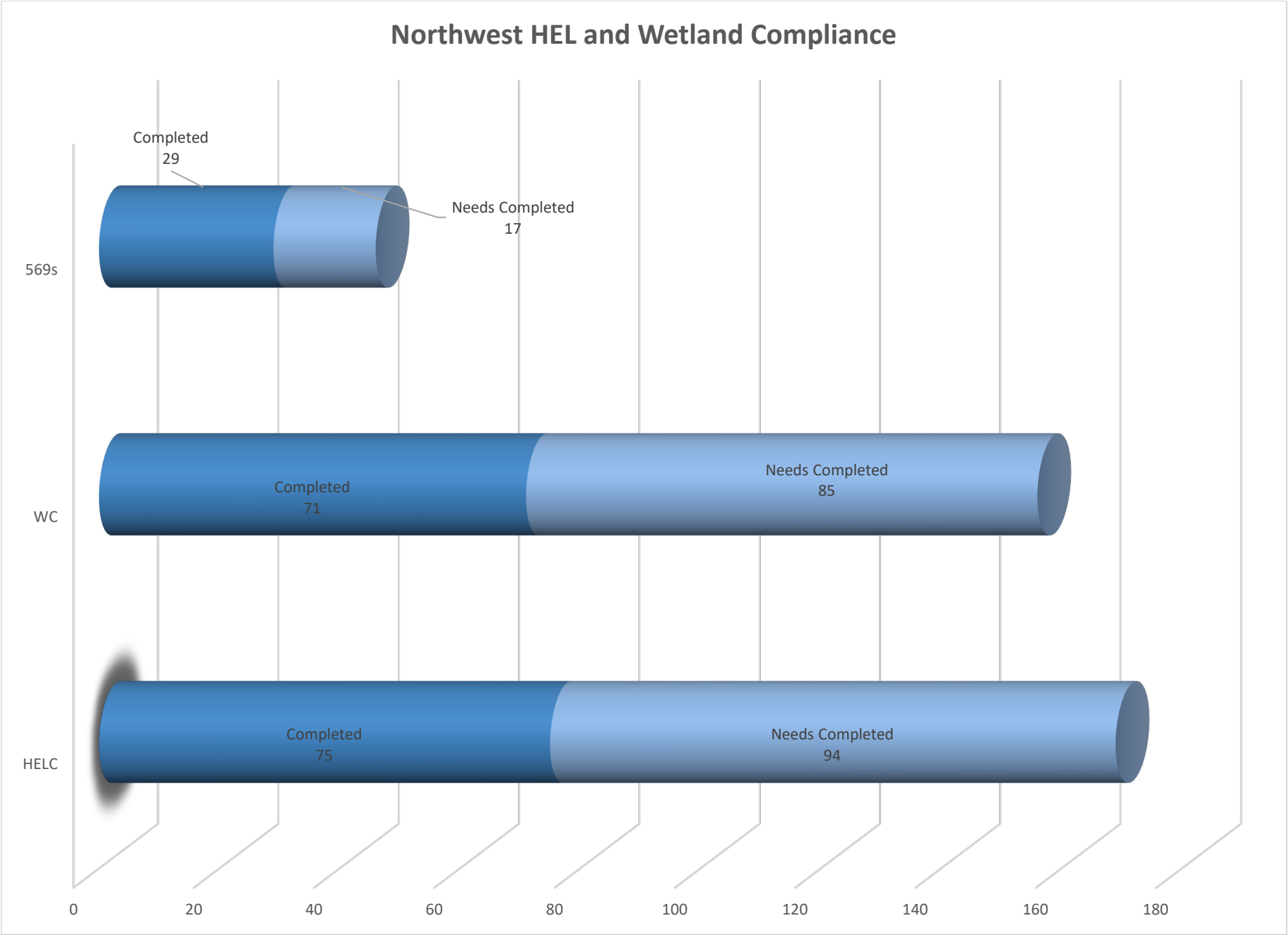
CREP Watershed	Native Grasses	Permanent Wildlife Habitat	Filter Strip	Hardwood Tree Planting	Riparian Buffer	Bottomland Timber Establishment	Wetland Restoration	Wetland Restoration (non-floodplain)	Practice Total
	CP-2	CP-4D	CP-21	CP-3A	CP-22	CP-31	CP-23	CP-23A	Total
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Highland Pigeon	$ -	$ -	$ 1,985.00	$ 632.00	$ 1,160.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,777.00
Tippecanoe	$ -	$ -	$ 40,205.00	$ -	$ -	$ 5,624.00	$ -	$ 83,820.00	$ 129,649.00
Upper White	$ -	$ -	$ 11,368.00	$ -	$ 11,960.00	$ 104,380.00	$ -	$ 6,880.00	$ 134,588.00
CREP to CREP reenrollment reported paid as of 3/19/2023	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 53,558.00**	**$ 632.00**	**$ 13,120.00**	**$ 110,004.00**	**$ -**	**$ 90,700.00**	**$ 268,014.00**

Note: These incentive dollars are figured in the total above. This table shows only the breakdown of what is paid for reenrolled CREP to CREP acres.


PROGRAM ASSISTANCE IN THE NORTHWEST
WRE
3%
LARE & 319
2%
EQIP
28%
CRP
46%
CTA
21%


Conservation Practices in Northwest
Practices
NW
Other Practices, including two-stage ditch, denitrifying bioreactors, blind inlets, 101
WASCoBs, 35
Animal Waste and Mortality, 61
Grade Stabilization, 221
Wetlands , 97
Grazing Practices, 301
Grassed Waterway, 926
0
100
200
300
400
500
600
700
800
900
1000
Number


On Hold
1%
Needs Surveyed, 2%
I&E, 3%
Needs Designed
3%
Cancelled
25%
Construction Complete
13%
Ready for Construction, 50%
In Construction
3%
NORTHWEST PROJECT STATUS


Northwest HEL and Wetland Compliance
569s
WC
HELC
Completed
29
Needs Completed
17
Completed
71
Needs Completed
85
Completed
75
Needs Completed
94
0
20
40
60
80
100
120
140
160
180

State Soil Conservation Board
January 8, 2023 District Support Specialist (DSS) Report: 12/20/22 to 2/28/23

DSS Transition

- Thank you Tara for your wisdom and work over the last 18 years as a DSS! Congratulations on your new role within ISDA!
- The ISDA DSS job posting went live on the State job board March 1: https://workforindiana.in.gov/job-invite/421542/ The office and work location is flexible. The DSS will serve and travel to the following counties: Wells, Adams, Blackford, Jay, Delaware, Randolph, Henry, Wayne, Shelby, Rush, Fayette, Union, Bartholomew, Decatur, Franklin, Ripley, Dearborn, Ohio and Switzerland.

Statewide or Regional Trainings for SWCD Supervisors and Staff

- New Supervisor Training- attention all new SWCD Board Members! Please schedule a new Supervisor Training with your ISDA DSS. We can meet you in-person, virtually, or share a recorded training link. We can also provide the training to the whole Board.
- Completed since last report:
    - New Supervisor Training was conducted at Annual Conference by Tara and Laura
    - Nathan spoke at the Annual Conference training: Engaging with Legislators
    - on Natural Resources Policy
- "Board Certification Program": currently, committees are working on various trainings, modules and training ideas that tie to overarching key priority training topics. IASWCD and ISDA discussed the initiative on February 7 and have a meeting scheduled again April 4.

Clean Water Indiana:

- Competitive Grants: DSSs continue to work with grantees on project management and reporting. Grant Updates were due January 31. This includes documenting work completed since the last report, entering cost share practices into the tracking system, and if applicable, submitting claims. We've also been in conversations with SWCDs who are already brainstorming 2024 CWI application ideas as well!
- Training Reimbursements: requests are due March 15. SWCDs are in process of submitting requests. DSSs are assisting with questions tying to the submissions and reviewing/approving applications.
- Annual Financial Reports are due in GMS by March 31. DSSs are helping SWCDs with these as well, and reviewing/approving them as they are submitted. We've assisted SWCDs with their AFR Gateway submissions as well.
- 2023 $2k District Capacity Payment: our team has drafted a tracking form for the payments to help tell the story of how the funds were used. This gets distributed with the legislative match dollars.

Committee Work: DSSs participated in work, discussions, etc. tying to the following statewide or regional initiatives-

- Clean Water Indiana
- State Soil Conservation Board

- Indiana Conservation Partnership Training and Certification Program (ICP TCP), and ICP TCP Pollinator training committee
- Board Certification Program
- Transect
- Pathway to Water Quality

SWCD Annual Meetings: SWCDs can host Annual Meetings through March 31. Please contact the SWCD if you are interested in attending. A list of dates is available on ISDA's Conservation Link.

DSS Activities Statewide For This Reporting Period	Total
Input, Assistance & Attendance At SWCD Board Meetings	21
Assistance with SWCD or Partner Strategic Planning	12
Attendance at SWCD Annual Meetings	14
Visits, Training, and Impacts with SWCD Supervisors/Staff at IASWCD Annual Conference	144
Other Visits with SWCD Supervisors/Staff For Training, Assistance, Guidance, CWI, etc.	207

Indiana NRCS State Conservationist Report

March 2023 State Soil Conservation Board Meeting

FARM BILL PROGRAMS

Participants and field staff are reminded that applications are accepted at all times for all Farm Bill programs. Early application is encouraged as conservation planning is a year-round process that does not always align with internal program deadlines.

Inflation Reduction Act

Indiana received a limited amount of 2023 Inflation Reduction ACT or IRA funds. IRA funds are authorized only for contracts with one or more conservation practices or activities, identified by NRCS, that directly improve soil carbon, reduce nitrogen losses, or that reduce, capture, avoid, or sequester carbon dioxide, methane, or nitrous oxide emissions, associated with agricultural production. Indiana will be using the ACT NOW process to obligate these dollars timely so the field staff can continue conservation planning and working on other program priorities.

In Indiana, $6.6 million are being made available to IRA-EQIP and IRA-CSP. Applications for the current funding cycles for IRA-EQIP and IRA-CSP are being accepted through April 28. Applications for the current ACEP funding cycle are due to your local NRCS office by March 17, 2023.

National Water Quality Incentives Program (NWQI) - Lake Wawasee watershed

Funding is available to producers in Noble and Kosciusko counties through the National Water Quality Incentives Program (NWQI) to help address water quality concerns in the Lake Wawasee watershed. Applications for the current funding cycle are due by April 28.

NWQI provides a way to accelerate voluntary, on-farm conservation investments where they can deliver the greatest benefits for clean water. This targeted funding will help eligible farmers adopt conservation practices that will reduce the amount of nutrients flowing from agricultural land into waterways, curb erosion and improve the resiliency of working lands in the face of droughts and floods. Funding for NWQI comes from the Farm Bill's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

Farmers Helping Hellbender-RCPP

Funding is now available to producers in the Blue River-Sinking Watershed to implement conservation practices on their land to assist with the recovery of Eastern Hellbenders and improvement of aquatic resources. This funding is provided through the Farmers Helping Hellbenders RCPP project and will assist farmers in implementing practices designed to keep nutrients and soil resources on fields and improve their watershed. Applications for the current funding round are being accepted through March 31.

The Farmers Helping Hellbenders RCPP project is led by Purdue University with assistance from 13 collaborating public and private organizations on the state and local level including NRCS. The total financial assistance to landowners over the three-year project is more than $1.9 million and is available for agricultural lands in portions of Washington, Harrison, Crawford, and Floyd counties, the only remaining area in Indiana where the Eastern Hellbender can be found and is currently being actively managed.

CONNECTING INDIANA BIPOC FARMERS AND PRODUCERS TO SUSTAINABLE APPROACHES TO AG SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

Indiana NRCS has recently been awarded an agreement titled "Connecting Indiana BIPOC Farmers and Producers to Sustainable Approaches to Ag Services and Programs." The purpose of this project is to advance NRCS' equity goals by providing critical outreach and technical assistance to BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) farmers and producers throughout the State of Indiana. This project will build networks and increase community support for historically underserved growers in urban and rural settings.

The agreement supports a range of outreach and assistance activities including farm management, climate smart agriculture management, soil health, marketing, application and bidding procedures and will:

- Build, strengthen and support relationships with historically underserved BIPOC farmers and producers in owning and operating successful farms and ranches through Black Loam education series. FY23 Black Loam dates are:
    - Saturday, March 18 in Evansville. Tentative location is Indiana Ag and Tech School at University of Southern Indiana
    - Friday, March 24 and Saturday, March 25 in Bloomington.
    - Saturday, April 8 in Gary.
    - Friday, May 5 in Fort Wayne
    - Friday, May 19 and Saturday, May 20 in Indianapolis.
- Improve participation among urban, underrepresented farmers of access in USDA/NRCS programs (identify barriers and opportunities to accessing information and resources) and services.
- Build relationships and collaborate between current and prospective underrepresented BIPOC farmers and USDA's local, state, regional and national offices, agricultural offices and stakeholders to identify unique needs, challenges and gaps regarding access to services.
- Develop and introduce agricultural education targeting historically underserved BIPOC famers/producers and youth as well as increase BIPOC youth's agricultural career awareness.
- Launch a new regenerative agriculture demonstration farm in Lyles Station, Indiana to teach and model practical ways that BIPOC farmers and producers across the state can improve overall soil health.

URBAN AGRICULTURE AND INNOVATIVE PRODUCTION GRANTS

USDA is making available up to $7.5 million for grants through its Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (OUAIP). The competitive grants will support the development of urban agriculture and innovative production projects through two categories, Planning Projects and Implementation Projects. USDA will accept applications on Grants.gov until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on March 27, 2023. A pre-recorded webinar on Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grants | USDA provides an overview of the grants' purpose, project types, eligibility and basic requirements for submitting an application.

Planning Projects

Planning Projects initiate or expand efforts of farmers, gardeners, citizens, government officials, schools and other stakeholders in urban areas and suburbs. Projects may target areas of food access, education, business and start-up costs for new farmers and the development of plans related to zoning and other needs of urban production.

Implementation Projects
Implementation Projects accelerate existing and emerging models of urban, indoor and other agricultural practices that serve farmers and communities. Projects may improve local food access, include collaboration with partner organizations, and support infrastructure needs, emerging technologies, and educational endeavors.

USDA SEEKING APPLICATIONS TO EXPAND CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE TO UNDERSERVED PRODUCERS

NRCS is seeking applications for projects that will improve outreach to underserved producers and communities about conservation programs and services and opportunities for students to pursue careers in agriculture, natural resources and related sciences. NRCS is offering up to $70 million nationally in cooperative agreements with entities for two-year projects that encourage participation in NRCS programs, especially in underserved communities and among urban and small-scale producers. Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 27, 2023. See the grants.gov announcement for details and application instructions.

The Equity in Conservation Outreach Cooperative Agreements will include projects that:
Promote the benefits of NRCS programs through education or demonstration of conservation practices:

- Develop community conservation partnerships that engage underserved producers to plan and protect farmland ecosystems, watersheds, and wildlife habitat in underserved communities
- Inform small-scale or urban agriculture producers about opportunities to participate in conservation programs
- Support education on, planning for and adoption of climate smart conservation practices

Projects should reach underserved groups through a combination of program outreach and technical assistance in one or more of the following five NRCS priority areas:

- Addressing local natural resource issues
- Promoting conservation career opportunities
- Expanding adoption of climate-smart conservation
- Encouraging conservation in small-scale and urban agriculture
- Developing conservation leadership skills and opportunities

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS FOR COMPOST AND FOOD WASTE REDUCTION

USDA's Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (OUAIP) announced the availability of up to $9.5 million for Compost and Food Waste Reduction (CFWR) pilot projects for fiscal year 2023. The cooperative agreements support projects that develop and test strategies for planning and implementing municipal compost plans and food waste reduction plans.

Applications will be accepted on Grants.gov until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 15, 2023. Projects should span two years with a start date of Dec. 1, 2023, and completion date of Dec. 1, 2025. Eligible entities in Indiana are encouraged to apply.

For more information about the funding opportunity, please see the national news release here: USDA Announces Cooperative Agreements for Compost and Food Waste Reduction | Natural Resources Conservation Service. A pre-recorded webinar will provide an overview of the cooperative agreements' purpose, project types, eligibility and basic requirements for submitting applications. The webinar will be posted at farmers.gov/urban.

STAKEHOLDER INPUT ON WATER QUALITY PROGRAMS

NRCS published a Federal Register Notice requesting public and stakeholder input on how to target program benefits, quantify impact and improve program delivery and outreach for two water quality initiatives: the National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) and the Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative (MRBI). Information garnered through this Request for Information (RFI) will help inform NRCS efforts to identify and prioritize improvements to these initiatives starting in fiscal year 2024. The Notice will be available for public input until April 7, 2023 and is available online through the Federal Register.

INDIANA NRCS STAFFING UPDATES

Indiana NRCS continues to have several personnel updates:

- David Doctorian - Regional Soil Health Specialist within the National Soil Health Division – Acting Indiana NRCS State Conservationist
- Chris Lee – Former Princeton Conservation Delivery Team Leader – New SE Area Conservationist
- Keith Williams – Former Princeton Planning Team Leader – New NE Area Conservationist
- Jerod Chew - Former District Conservationist – New ASTC for Partnerships
- Roger Kult – Asked to stay in current national detail for an additional 120 days
- Amie Lester – Lebanon Conservation Delivery Team Leader – Acting ASTC for Management and Strategy
- Danielle Waldschmidt – NW Area Conservationist – Serving Detail with National Strategic Planning Team
- Doug Walker – Greencastle Planning Team Leader – Acting NW Area Conservationist
- Dan Hovland returns to SW Area Conservationist
- Kris Vance returns to State Public Affairs Specialist

Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative

Report

January 1, 2023 – March 10, 2023

Highlights

New Program Manager Positions
Julie Loehr started as the SW CCSI Program Manager on January 8th.
Lois Mann accepted an offer to join the CCSI team as NE Program Manager. She will start April 1.

New Agronomist Position
The Northern Agronomist Position search committee conducted interviews. An offer was extended. Awaiting news from Purdue HR to further discuss the position.

Purdue Extension Impact Report
The 2022 Purdue Extension Impact Report included a two-page spread on partnerships, featuring CCSI. This report was presented to Indiana State Representatives and Senators during Purdue Extension's and Indiana Farm Bureau's statehouse visit. County Extension Directors were also provided with 10 copies each to distribute to all County Council members and Commissioners in the state.

TNC-CCSI Mini Grants
The TNC-CCSI Mini-Grants were kicked off with an informational webinar on February 1. Applications have begun to come in and are being reviewed on a rolling basis. Several grants have been approved. Partners are highly encouraged to apply quickly – once funds are depleted, this particular opportunity will be gone.

Trainings

- Intro to Soil Health – completed on 2/28 with 50 attendees. Attendance, review of recording or college level soils science class will be required for 3-Day Soil Health
- Fundamentals of Soil Health
  - April 4, 18, 25 = virtual, April 11 in-person
  - Registration currently open
- Soil Health and Sustainability for Midwestern Field Staff (3-Day Soil Health) Training
  - Set for June 27-29
  - This training satisfies requirements for "Soil Health and Sustainability Training" for those seeking USDA-NRCS Conservation Planning Certification

G1. Farmer Engagement and Involvement

1. Innovative and Visionary Farmers

Quarterly Target: 1 ride-a-long, shop visit, or other (Each - A, NPM, SPM)
Listening sessions with Innovative and Visionary Farmers. Use to help identify needed field day and training topics.

- 01/04 Mike Starkey (A)
- 01/10-13 National No-Till Conference (SEPM, NPM)
- 01/13 David Brandt (D)
- 01/26 Blake Vince (D)
- 01/27 David Brandt (D)
- 02/17 Roger Wenning (SEPM)
- 02/16-17 Various – Louisville Farm Show (D)

Conservative and Pragmatic Farmers
Meetings and other opportunities for listening sessions to gain perspective on adoption issues/concerns of soil health practices. Use to help develop outreach topics and tactics.
Quarterly Targets: 1 ride-a-long, shop visit, or other (Each - A, NPM, SPM)

- 02/16-17 Various – Louisville Farm Show (D)
- 02/23 Ripley County Farmer (SEPM)

1. **Farmer Influencers**
Quarterly Targets: 1 LLP per region adding an influencer to their outreach planning team or board. (Each - NPM, SPM)
   - 02/16-17 Various – Louisville Farm Show (D)
   - 02/20 Cargill Success From the Ground Up (D)
   - 03/03 ADM (D)

2. **Presentations**
Quarterly Targets: Average of 3 soil health presentations or demonstrations. (A)
   - 01/09 IASWCD Annual Conference Breakout Session (SEPM, NPM, A)
   - 01/09 American Meteorological Society Conference Session (A)
   - 01/19 Tennessee Soil Health Strategy Team "CCSI and Indiana Partnerships" (D)
   - 02/01 TNC-CCSI Mini Grants Webinar (D)
   - 2/17 Core and Category 14 Training, Evansville, IN, "Category 14 Training" (18 attendees)
   - 2/18 Ag Climate Change Panel, Jeffersonville, IN, "How Climate Change Impacts Indiana Agriculture" (23 attendees, 31 YouTube views)
   - 2/22 Midwest Women in Ag Conference, Terre Haute, IN, "Climate Smart Agriculture and What It Means For You" (27 attendees)
   - 2/23 Knox County Master Gardener Class, Vincennes, IN "Weather and Climate in the Garden" (10 attendees)
   - 2/24 Union County SWCD Annual Meeting, Liberty, IN "CCSI and Soil Health" (70 attendees)
   - 2/27 Gibson County Farm Winter Workshop, Fort Branch, IN, "Soil Health" (8 attendees)
   - 2/28 Intro to Soil Health, Virtual, "Intro to Soil Health" (50 attendees)01/09 American Meteorological Society Conference Session (A)

G2. Local Level Partnership Support

1. **Facilitate and Support Local Level Partnership's Outreach and Education**
Quarterly Target: CCSI as a group materially participate in / support average of 15 LLP Outreach Efforts groups (CCSI Team Goal)
Workshops Completed
   - 01/09 IASWCD Annual Conference Breakout Session
   - 01/16-18 Ft. Wayne Farm Show (Root Banners at SH booth)
   - 01/17 Area 3 (SW) Extension Crop Management Day
   - 01/23-24 Indiana Hort Conference (included Root Banners)
   - 01/24-25 SD Soil Health Coalition (Root Banners)
   - 02/01 CCSI-TNC Mini-Grant Webinar
   - 02/03-04 Northern Indiana Grazing Conference-booth space + CC Banners for NE SH Team
   - 02/07 Regional Soil Health Workshop, Salem Approx 110 in attendance

- 02/07, 21, 28 German American Bank Ag Lender Series
- 02/09 Harrison County SWCD Annual Meeting, 215 attendees
- 02/15 White/Carroll Bi-County Soil Health Meeting, 20 attendees
- 02/15 Kosciusko County Farmer Breakfast, 60 attendees
- 02/21 Cass County Annual Meeting, 60 attendees
- 02/21 Warrick County Cover Crop Breakfast, approx. 37 attendees
- 02/22 Midwest Women in Ag Conference, 27 attendees
- 02/23 Franklin County PARP Meeting, Approx 120 attendees
- 02/24 Union SWCD Annual Meeting, 70 attendees
- 02/28 Elkhart County Pay Dirt
- 03/01 Parke-Vermillion County Farmer Roundtable, Clinton
- 03/01 Marshall / St Joe Workshop
- 03/02 Ripley County Extension PARP
- 03/06 Orange County/Lost River Watershed Meet-n-Greet with Jim Hoorman
- 03/07 Orange County/Lost River Watershed Field Day, Paoli
- 03/07 Posey SWCD Breakfast
- 03/09 Hancock County SWCD Annual Meeting
- 03/09, 10 ILMS Conference
- 03/10 Fountain County Carbon Credit Talk

<u>Workshops in Progress:</u>

- 03/11 Sullivan County Ag Day
- 03/14 Envirothon – Boonville
- 03/14 Perry-Spencer Crop Day
- 03/16 Washington SWCD Cover Crop Dig
- 03/22 Howard/Tiptop Workshop
- 03/23 Wayne County SWCD Conservation Day
- 03/23 Floyd County Master Naturalist Program
- 03/24 Dubois County SWCD “Getting to the Roots of Cover Crops”
- 03/29 Southern Indiana Grazing Conference, Odon
- Late spring 2023 Brown County/Lake Monroe Watershed Field Day/Workshop
- 05/19 Hoosier Chapter SWCS Summer Meeting (tentative)
- 06/15 Gibson SWCD/Purdue Extension – Event with field buffer/filter strip
- Summer 2023 Roger Wenning Workshop
- Late summer/early fall Lawrence County Soil Health Field Day
- Lawrence County Soil Health event (before 2025)
- DeKalb County SWCD Workshop – Date TBD
- March – Miami County Winter PARP meeting
- 2021 – 23 – Kankakee Basin and WLEB series of events to support existing RCPP (WLEB) and proposed RCPP (Kankakee) (NPM)

2. **Consistent Soil Health Messaging**

Annual Target: Outlined in fall with training team.

Foundational Soil Health Trainings / Awareness, Knowledge and Understanding of Soil Health

Completed Trainings

- 02/28 CCSI-SARE Intro to Soil Health, 50 attendees

Trainings in Progress:

- 04/04, 18, 25 (virtual) 04/11 (in-person) CCSI-SARE Foundational Soil Health Series
- 06/27-29 Soil Health and Sustainability for Midwestern Field Staff (3-Day Soil Health)
- Soil Health Signature Program Curriculum Development
- Soil Health PARP Regulatory Topic Development

Professional Development Opportunities

Annual Target: Outlined in fall with training team.

Advanced Soil Health Trainings / Applied Soil Health Knowledge and Skills

Completed Trainings:

- 02/01 NECI Monthly Professional Development Webinar (virtual)
- 02/09 Hoosier Chapter SWCS Winter Meeting, 75 attendees
- 02/23 Indiana-Illinois Climate Series (virtual)

02/27 NC3 Climate Webinar (virtual)

Trainings in Progress

- 09/5, 7, 19, 21 Grow More – Engaging New Audiences

4. **Messaging to/from Local Level Partnerships**

Monthly Targets: 2-3 LLP visits. 1 Teleconference / Region (Each - NPM, SPM)

- 01/06 SE Soil Health Team (SEPM)
- 01/08-10 IASWCD Annual Conference (NPM, SEPM, SWPM)
- 01/24 Owen County SWCD (SWPM)
- 01/24 Purdue Agronomy Extension (A)
- 01/25 NW NRCS Area Meeting (NPM)
- 01/27 Tipton SWCD (NPM)
- 01/27 Howard SWCD (NPM)
- 01/31 Pike SWCD Annual Meeting (SWPM)
- 02/01 – Field Crops Focus Group Winter Meeting, Virtual (A)
- 02/01 – ANR Monthly Update, Virtual (A)
- 02/06 – CCSI Regional Teleconferences (all)
- 02/08 – RC&D Education Committee (NWPM)
- 02/09 – Gibson SWCD Annual Meeting (SEPM)
- 02/13 – Purdue on the Farm Operations Leadership Team, Virtual (A)
- 02/14 – Dubois SWCD Annual Meeting (SEPM)
- 02/15 – Kosciusko SWCD (NEPM)
- 02/15 – St Joe SWCD (NEPM)
- 02/15 – PUCESA General Business Meeting, Virtual (A)

- 02/17 – Farmers Helping Hellbenders RCPP Project Coordinator + Purdue Wildlife Biologist (SEPM)
- 02/21 – Purdue University College of Agriculture Dean Search listening session (D)
- 02/23 – SW Soil Health Team Meeting (SWPM)
- 02/23 – Franklin County Meeting (SEPM)
- 02/27 – CCSI Regional Teleconference South, Virtual (all)

G3. General CCSI Outreach / Communication

1. **Marketing**

   Quarterly Targets: 3-4 "formal" CCSI Updates (CCSI Team Goal)
   Annual Target: 1-2 New External Partners
   Ensure LLPs understand CCSI resources available to them; Ensure external partners are aware of CCSI strengths, tools, and opportunities.

   - January 1 - Events Newsletter; 2251 delivered; 30% open rate; 5% click rate
   - January 15 – Events Newsletter; 2240 delivered; 34% open rate; 5% click rate
   - February 1 - Events Newsletter; 1980 delivered; 36% open rate; 4% click rate
   - February 15 – Events Newsletter; 2240 delivered; 35% open rate; 6% click rate

2. **Soil Health Messaging**

   Quarterly Targets: 3 Podcasts; 3-6 Blog Posts; 6 Newsletters;
   Use social networks and other media tools to deliver soil health messaging and information.
   Completed Materials:

   - Podcasts
     - Hans Schmitz, CCSI / Purdue Extension, and Michael Morrow, Indiana Farmers Union
     - (Recorded) Elli Blaine, IASWCD Urban Soil Health Program and Liz Brownlee, Young Farmers Coalition
   - Social Media
     - Twitter (limited postings as the platform reorganizes)
     - Facebook: Jan 5540 reach / Feb content report unavailable
   - Website: January 547 users, 5.6K visits / February 542 users, 5.5K visits
   - CCSI and Partnerships – 2022 Purdue Extension Impact Report
   - Indiana State Climate Office Spring Outlook, https://extension.purdue.edu/news/2023/03/warm,-wet-spring-predicted-for-indiana.html

   Materials in Progress:

   - Regulatory Pesticide Considerations for Soil Health Systems, by Hans Schmitz and Matt Pearson, OISC
   - HO-203, Effect of Cold Weather on Horticultural Plants in Indiana
   - Full scale Root Project banners ordered – 7 sets total: one for each Program Manager, one for each Agronomist, one spare. These will be available for partners to borrow for their events.

G4. Research

Quarterly Targets: None
CCSI no longer leads research projects; CCSI provides connectivity between researchers and cooperators; potential research needs.

- Support - Indiana University SARE - Participatory Farmer Monitoring on Nitrate Loss (Yoder)
- Support – Purdue University SARE - Precision Winter Hardy Cover Cropping for Improving Farm Profitability and Environmental Stewardship (Armstrong)
- Notre Dame – Indiana University – Purdue University collaboration
- Grant proposals for Midwest Climate Hub Partnership and Midwest Climate Hub CAP submitted. (A)

OTHER

- SE Program Manager started Emerging Professionals Leadership Program
- 02/19 SW Program Manager – Soil health trailer training