

AGENDA
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING

September 21, 2021

Farm Bureau Building

225 S East St, Indianapolis, IN 46202

Conference call

- I. 9:30 am.: Call to Order**
- II. Approve Minutes of July 2021**
- III. Clean Water Indiana**
 - a. Clean Water Indiana 2022 Grants update- Tara Wesseler-Henry
 - b. Clean Water Indiana Grant Modifications
 - 1. Grant County SWCD- Tara Wesseler-Henry
- IV. State Soil Conservation Board Business**
 - a. Surety Bond- Trevor Laureys
 - b. Virtual Attendance Policy- Amy Burris
- V. Soil and Water Conservation Districts**
 - a. Porter Co SWCD- Geneva Tyler
 - b. Union Co SWCD- Tara Wesseler-Henry
- IX. Public Comment**
- X. Training**
 - a. Purpose and Responsibilities of the SSCB- Laura Fribley
 - i. Roles of the Board
 - ii. Individual Responsibilities
 - b. Public Access Law- Geneva Tyler
 - c. Parliamentary Procedure- Nathan Stoelting
- XI. Next Meeting:**
2021 Meeting Date
 - October 26, TBD
- XII. 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
Policy on Electronic Participation in SSCB Meetings

In accordance with IC 5-14-1.5-3.6, the State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) established under IC 14-32-, may allow board members to participate in SSCB meetings by electronic means. This policy, effective upon approval by the SSCB, establishes the requirements for participation in SSCB meetings by electronic means.

- 1 There must be at least four (4) SSCB voting members physically present at the place where the meeting is conducted.
- 2 Each board member is required to physically attend at least one (1) meeting of the SSCB annually.
- 3 A board member who is not physically present at an SSCB meeting may participate in the meeting by electronic communication only if the member uses a means of communication that permits simultaneous communication during the meeting between:
 - (A) the member;
 - (B) all other members participating in the meeting;
 - (C) all members of the public physically present at the place where the meeting is conducted; and
 - (D) all members of the public participating electronically in the meeting.
- 4 Remote participation may be accomplished by using an internet connection with audio and, if feasible, video or by a telephone connection.
- 5 Any voting member who participates in a meeting by electronic communication:
 - (A) is considered to be present at the meeting;
 - (B) shall be counted for purposes of establishing a quorum; and
 - (C) may vote at the meeting.
- 6 All votes of the SSCB during the electronic meeting must be taken by roll call vote.
- 7 Members of the public may attend an SSCB meeting at the place where the meeting is conducted and a minimum of four (4) voting board members is physically present, or they may attend remotely through the virtual meeting platform used by the SSCB to conduct board meetings.
- 8 Except under an Executive Order of the Governor, the SSCB may not conduct meetings using a means of electronic communication until the SSCB adopts this policy by a simple majority of a valid quorum at a meeting that meets the requirements of IC 5-14-1.5, also known as Indiana's "Open Door Law".
- 9 This policy must be adopted by the State Soil Conservation Board and posted on the ISDA web site at: <https://www.in.gov/isda/boards/state-soil-conservation-board>.

Tyler, Geneva (ISDA)

From: Microsoft Power Apps and Power Automate <microsoft@powerapps.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 9:52 AM
To: Harmon, Leah; Tyler, Geneva (ISDA)
Subject: Update: Porter Temp/Vacant Appt

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

PorterSWCD has submitted a Recommendation for Temporary or Vacant Appointment. Please add it to the next SSCB agenda.

SWCD
Porter
Appointment Type
Temporary_Elected_Position
Who is the Candidate Replacing?
Nathan Ruge
Term Expiration
2023
Reason for Vacancy
Resignation
Supervisor Candidate Name
Mike Kreiger
Address
878 S. 250 W.
City, State, ZIP
Hebron, IN 46341
Qualifications
Partner in the management of family farm ground, which includes cropland, wildlife habitat, restored wetlands and more. Particularly dedicated to cover crops and buffers. Assisted with District events including field days and meetings. Also, regularly submits photos for use in District publications and social media.
Occupation

Construction equipment sales representative

Conservation Interests

Wildlife habitat, pollinator habitat, restored wetlands, cover crops

The candidate has been informed of the dual office holding policy and certifies that they do not hold a public office.

Yes

The candidate is of legal voting age.

Yes

The duties of the office of supervisor has been explained to the candidate.

Yes

Chairman Name

Bradley Hunter

Date of Submission

08/18/2021

Is a letter of resignation attached?

Yes

If you want to unsubscribe from these emails, please use this [form](#).

July 26, 2021

To: Porter County Soil & Water Conservation District Board
From: Nate Ruge

This letter is to inform you that due to work and farm obligations I no longer have the time to dedicate to serving as a board supervisor and would like to resign my position effective as of this date.

Nate Ruge

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Nate Ruge', written over the printed name.

Tyler, Geneva (ISDA)

From: Microsoft Power Apps and Power Automate <microsoft@powerapps.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 2:24 PM
To: Harmon, Leah; Tyler, Geneva (ISDA)
Subject: Update: Union Temp/Vacant Appt

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

UnionSWCD has submitted a Recommendation for Temporary or Vacant Appointment. Please add it to the next SSCB agenda.

SWCD
Union
Appointment Type
Vacant_Appointed_Position
Who is the Candidate Replacing?
Brad Logue
Term Expiration
2024
Reason for Vacancy
Resignation
Supervisor Candidate Name
Taylor Bryson
Address
1721 S Hubble Rd.
City, State, ZIP
Liberty, IN 47353
Qualifications
Parks and Rec board Secretary 2017, Current President since 2020 Various Programs with Soil and water through the Parks board
Occupation
Current preschool director and teacher, 10 years as a farm manager

Conservation Interests

Cover Crop benefits, pollinators, bee keeping, watershed runoff prevention, invasive control and native pollinators, reforestation, local grown product farm-table initiative, soil preservation - compost, crop rotation action and biodiversity

The candidate has been informed of the dual office holding policy and certifies that they do not hold a public office.

Yes

The candidate is of legal voting age.

Yes

The duties of the office of supervisor has been explained to the candidate.

Yes

Chairman Name

Dana Risch

Date of Submission

09/16/2021

Is a letter of resignation attached?

No

If you want to unsubscribe from these emails, please use this [form](#).



State Soil Conservation Board
September 21, 2021
District Support Specialist (DSS) Report: 7/6/21 to 8/30/21



DSS Coverage in the Northeast

ISDA Resource Specialists in the region have agreed to step up and assist with district support and capacity for their respective coverage areas. Our DSS team has agreed to support our folks in the field during while this temporary measure is in effect. Thank you to Katie Secrest for covering the northeast region as further decisions were made on coverage.

- For your Resource Specialist's contact information please visit the following link:
<https://www.in.gov/isda/divisions/soil-conservation/technical-assistance/>
- To contact the DSS team, please visit the following link:
<https://www.in.gov/isda/divisions/soil-conservation/district-support/>

Trainings for SWCD Supervisors and Staff

- **VirTuesday Trainings:**
 - District Insurance Needs and Liability. View the recording here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RA3b0KXSTrE>
 - Human Resources Management 101: Contract Employee vs. District Employee. View the recording here: <https://youtu.be/9xBn6Wnh8z8>
 - September 21: Record Retention- register here:
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0rcuipqjwuHtyMgDsypoe2MFKqJ46_eQp7
 - October 19: Turning Data into Action: register here:
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcsc-mqqTgvH9CrzY7hK6C8GAwHgNeubr_9
 - BONUS TRAINING: October 27, we'll offer a lunch webinar on electronic records management. This will complement the September 21 record retention training. More information coming.
- **Leveraging Spreadsheet Training:** view the recording here: <https://youtu.be/cGuHST0x6NU>

New Supervisor Training with DSSs

- DSSs presented and recorded the "New Supervisor and Staff Training". Supervisors and staff may request the link from their DSS. In-person or virtual trainings are still available as well.

Clean Water Indiana

DSSs have been working with groups applying for 2022, as well as those with active grants. We appreciate everyone's hard work that makes these grants possible!

DSS Activities Statewide For This Reporting Period	Total
Input, Assistance & Attendance At SWCD Board Meetings	13
Visits With SWCD Supervisors/Staff For Training, Assistance, Guidance, CWI, etc.	62



State Soil Conservation Board

September 21st, 2021

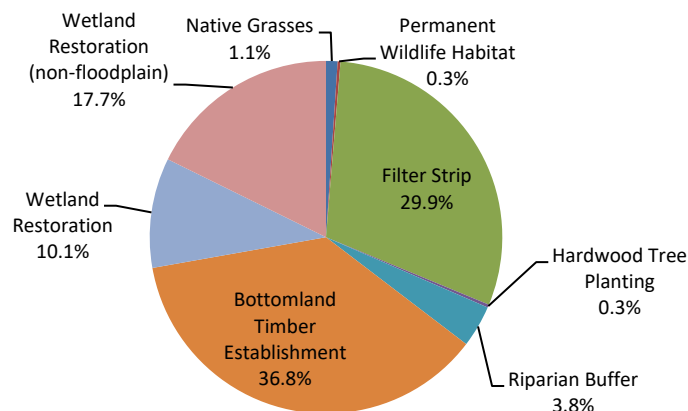
ISDA – CREP & Water Quality Initiatives, Julie Harrold



Program Updates

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

- Sign-up for this year has been slow and we are experiencing lower acreage numbers than the last few years due to a number of factors. As of Sept. 14th, we are at 755.4 acres signed-up for this year.
- Contract amendments with the SWCDs to add more dollars to the watersheds is currently happening.
- 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.
- According to the states tracking system, we are currently at approximately 22,547 acres of enrollment, which is 85.9% of the enrollment goal.
- To date, the state has paid out more than \$9.5 million. For every state dollar that is spent, the federal match is approximately \$4-\$13 for every state dollar, which is currently between \$35 million and \$113 million of federal dollars depending on the practice.



IN State Nutrient Reduction Strategy (SNRS)

- The current strategy document can be found at <https://www.in.gov/isda/divisions/soil-conservation/indiana-state-nutrient-reduction-strategy/>.
- Comments on the SNRS can be sent to ISDANutrientReduction@isda.in.gov.
- Indiana Science Assessment – Component 1: **Determine historic and ongoing nutrient loads leaving the state, and also by watershed basins used in the SNRS.** We are working with The Nature Conservancy and Indiana University to do a comparison on the loading results before the report is released, but we are getting closer to a completed report showing results.
- Indiana Science Assessment – Component 2: **Improve method to quantify nutrient reductions from conservation practices, including dissolved nutrients, and determine efficiency of practices in reducing loads.** The Science Committee made up of researchers from universities, colleges and organizations began meeting in June to provide guidance to the systematic review process and toward decision making of practice and research criteria. Meetings with the Science Committee have continued bi-monthly to monthly and good progress is being made toward determining efficiency of the first ten practices in the first phase of the assessment and toward development of a tool to

determine more accurate nutrient load reductions. The Core Team has also developed a document showing conservation practice definitions for the first ten practices and has shared that with the WLEB Science and Solutions group. The Core Team is also in the process of re-hiring for the research position.

Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force (HTF)

- The HTF has a quarterly newsletter now and if interested in looking at the latest newsletter or receiving future ones, visit <https://www.epa.gov/ms-htf/hypoxia-task-force-newsletter-august-2021>.
- I serve as co-chair of the Research Needs Workgroup for the HTF, and a lot of work has happened with this workgroup over the last year. We are currently working with NOAA Librarians and EPA Office of Research and Development (ORD) to conduct a literature search of the top priority research needs of the HTF states that were identified by the workgroup. List of identified research needs can be found here, <https://www.epa.gov/ms-htf/research-needs-committee-letter-and-priorities>.
- The HTF and Coordinating Committee is working on the planning of the next bi-annual meeting to be late this fall. It will be a virtual meeting again this fall, and I will share details once they become available.
- Under the new federal Infrastructure package (HR 3684), there is an excerpt under USEPA's Environmental Programs and Management related to the Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan that includes authorization of appropriations to the HTF member states. This measure amounts to \$12 million per year over five years (from FY2022 to FY2026) to the states, meaning \$1 million to Indiana each year. There will be more details on this given through a conference call in October or November, so more to come on this.

SSCB Meeting - September 21st, 2021 - 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		Goal	Percentage of Goal
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres		
Total Reported Completed on SharePoint as of 9/14/2021	231.58	52.20	6,174.82	51.63	805.96	8,046.54	1911.76	3,665.45	20,939.94	26,250.00	79.77%
Total CREP Enrollment	238.17	58.56	6,749.40	62.93	865.54	8,306.92	2271.62	3,994.69	22,547.83	26,250.00	85.90%
Total Acres in Extension				1.00	53.70	428.50	121.70	6.00	610.90		
Difference =									1,607.89		

	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	\$ 23,158.00	\$ 5,220.00	\$ 619,550.00	\$ 21,530.00	\$ 333,497.00	\$ 3,294,513.00	\$ 1,723,160.50	\$ 2,747,074.00	\$ 8,767,702.50	\$ 735,307.75	\$ 9,503,010.25

Federal Match of \$4-\$13 is between \$ 35,070,810.00
\$ 113,980,132.50

	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 9/14/2021	0.00	0.00	206.98	1.58	2.90	25.16	0.00	149.62	386.24

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

SSCB Meeting - September 21st, 2021 - 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	11.98	0.00	3.10	134.60	0.00	0.00	149.68
Lower Wabash	0.00	0.00	11.88	0.00	0.00	644.70	0.00	0.00	656.58
Lower East Fork White	53.50	45.20	164.21	30.30	83.17	751.44	287.16	0.00	1414.98
Lower White	10.70	0.00	77.55	0.00	119.99	2,238.71	123.03	0.00	2,569.98
Middle Wabash-Busseron	2.00	0.00	6.42	0.00	13.50	1,550.69	672.62	66.51	2,311.74
Middle Wabash-Deer	6.60	0.00	108.63	0.00	0.00	73.10	37.17	59.42	284.92
Middle Wabash-Vermillion	4.50	0.00	142.62	6.97	61.80	791.79	514.19	177.70	1,699.57
Tippecanoe River	93.84	0.00	623.86	0.00	3.41	21.40	73.30	2,266.35	3,082.16
Upper East Fork White	0.00	0.00	394.65	0.00	36.50	201.92	0.00	0.00	633.07
Upper Wabash	21.25	7.00	892.83	2.56	60.99	275.85	82.59	84.29	1427.36
Upper White	35.09	0.00	195.69	0.00	282.80	304.44	0.00	71.18	889.20
Reported Completed as of 9/14/2021	227.48	52.20	2,630.32	39.83	665.26	6,988.64	1790.06	2,725.45	15,119.24
Enrolled as of 9/14/2021	234.07	58.56	3,204.90	51.13	724.84	7,249.02	2,149.92	3,054.69	16,727.13

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

				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	19.83	1.58	2.90	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.31
Tippecanoe	0.0	0.0	156.80	0.00	0.00	14.1	0.0	132.42	303.28
Upper White	0.0	0.0	30.35	0.00	0.00	11.1	0.0	17.2	58.65
CREP to CREP Re-enrollment Reported on SharePoint as of 9/14/2021	0.0	0.0	206.98	1.58	2.90	25.2	0.0	149.62	386.24

SSCB Meeting - September 21st, 2021 - 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	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,881.00	\$ 632.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 53,840.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 59,753.00	\$ 5,975.30	\$ 65,728.30
Lower Wabash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,188.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 257,880.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 259,068.00	\$ 25,906.80	\$ 284,974.80
Lower East Fork White	\$ 5,350.00	\$ 4,520.00	\$ 14,789.00	\$ 12,120.00	\$ 33,268.00	\$ 287,140.00	\$ 272,802.00	\$ -	\$ 629,989.00	\$ 62,998.90	\$ 692,987.90
Lower White	\$ 1,070.00	\$ -	\$ 7,755.00	\$ -	\$ 47,996.00	\$ 895,484.00	\$ 98,107.00	\$ -	\$ 1,050,412.00	\$ 105,041.20	\$ 1,155,453.20
Middle Wabash-Busseron	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 642.00	\$ -	\$ 5,400.00	\$ 620,276.00	\$ 614,789.00	\$ 63,184.50	\$ 1,304,491.50	\$ 130,449.15	\$ 1,434,940.65
Middle Wabash-Deer	\$ 660.00	\$ -	\$ 10,863.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,240.00	\$ 21,781.50	\$ 18,073.00	\$ 80,617.50	\$ 8,061.75	\$ 88,679.25
Middle Wabash-Vermillion	\$ 450.00	\$ -	\$ 8,232.00	\$ 2,788.00	\$ 24,720.00	\$ 316,716.00	\$ 488,480.50	\$ 159,315.00	\$ 1,000,701.50	\$ 100,070.15	\$ 1,100,771.65
Tippecanoe River	\$ 9,384.00	\$ -	\$ 76,946.00	\$ -	\$ 1,364.00	\$ 14,184.00	\$ 69,635.00	\$ 1,999,270.50	\$ 2,170,783.50	\$ 217,078.35	\$ 2,387,861.85
Upper East Fork White	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,465.00	\$ -	\$ 14,600.00	\$ 80,768.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 134,833.00	\$ 13,483.30	\$ 148,316.30
Upper Wabash	\$ 2,125.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 82,610.00	\$ 1,024.00	\$ 20,920.00	\$ 93,584.00	\$ 78,460.50	\$ 55,230.00	\$ 334,653.50	\$ 33,465.35	\$ 368,118.85
Upper White	\$ 3,509.00	\$ -	\$ 19,729.00	\$ -	\$ 113,120.00	\$ 115,116.00	\$ -	\$ 74,501.00	\$ 325,975.00	\$ 32,597.50	\$ 358,572.50
Upper White Extensions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 1,980.00
Reported Paid as of 9/14/2021	\$ 22,748.00	\$ 5,220.00	\$ 265,100.00	\$ 16,564.00	\$ 265,588.00	\$ 2,764,228.00	\$ 1,644,055.50	\$ 2,369,574.00	\$ 7,353,077.50	\$ 735,307.75	\$ 8,088,385.25

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	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,683.00	\$ 632.00	\$ 1,160.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,475.00
Tippecanoe	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,560.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,624.00	\$ -	\$ 52,968.00	\$ 73,152.00
Upper White	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CREP to CREP reenrollment reported paid as of 9/14/2021	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,243.00	\$ 632.00	\$ 1,160.00	\$ 5,624.00	\$ -	\$ 52,968.00	\$ 76,627.00

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

Indiana NRCS State Conservationist Report

September 2021 State Soil Conservation Board Meeting

LOCAL WORK GROUPS

Local Work Groups focus on identifying agricultural and natural resource issues existing in their communities and provide information and feedback to direct NRCS farm bill programs, such as EQIP and CSP. Participants can be farmers; private woodland owners; representatives of agricultural and environmental organizations; and agencies carrying out environmental, agricultural, or conservation programs and activities. The LWG is a subcommittee of the State Technical Committee that meets annually to discuss their local natural resource issues and provide recommendations on their top priority concerns to the STC. Local Work Group meetings should be held by October 15.

NEW COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS FOR RACIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY

NRCS investing up to \$50 million nationally in cooperative agreements to support historically underserved farmers with climate-smart agriculture and forestry. The Racial Justice and Equity Conservation Cooperative Agreements are available to entities and individuals for two-year projects that expand the delivery of conservation assistance to farmers who are beginning, limited resource, socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers.

The projects should help historically underserved farmers in implementing natural resources conservation practices that:

- Improve soil health.
- Improve water quality.
- Provide habitat for local wildlife species of concern.
- Improve the environmental and economic performance of working agricultural lands.
- Build and strengthen local food projects that provide healthy food and economic opportunities.

Entities who provide outreach assistance to historically underserved groups are eligible, including Native American tribal governments and organizations, nonprofit organizations and private and public institutions of higher education.

Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on October 25. See the [grants.gov announcement](https://www.grants.gov/announcements) for details and application instructions. A webinar for potential applicants will be scheduled for late September. When available, instructions regarding how to access the webinar will be posted in the opportunity on Grants.gov in the Synopsis tab. Funding can be requested for between \$100,000 and \$1 million. There is no cost-share or match required for this opportunity.

NRCS HIRING UPDATE

Indiana NRCS has made great strides in increasing its workforce strength. Our current onboard strength has reached a new level and is now at 37% higher than we were in 2018 at 254 employees. By the end of the FY21, we anticipate we will reach 270 employees – a 47% increase from 2018. Our focus continues to be on retention to reduce attrition and on increasing external hires as allowed by current budget affordability levels to sustain an adequate level of growth.

NEW CONSERVATION AT WORK VIDEO

The NRCS Conservation at Work videos are a great series that help explain conservation practices in a meaningful, accessible way. Learn about the benefits of conservation practices directly from the farmers

and forestland owners applying them with NRCS' new 90-second video series. You can explore the conservation practice videos here: [Conservation at Work Video Series | Farmers.gov](#)

MARK SMITH APPOINTED AS NRCS WESTERN LAKE ERIE BASIN COORDINATOR

NRCS has appointed Mark Smith as the agency's Western Lake Erie Basin Coordinator. In this position, he will work with regional partners to leverage resources to provide landowners and communities with the tools that they need to apply innovative, climate-smart solutions to improve water quality and soil health in the basin. During his 34 years with NRCS, Smith has held numerous technical and leadership positions, and previously served as the state resource conservationist for Ohio.