

# Sign-in Sheet

Name	Org	Email
Jennifer Thum	ISDA	jthum@isda.in.gov
CLINT ORR	Cumson Co. SWCD	candnor@clorrr.com
Ben Reinhart	Purdue University	breinhart@purdue.edu
Leah Garden	Clinton SWCD	leah.garden@in.usda.gov
Matt Williams	ISDA	MattWilliams@isda.in.gov
Leah Haman	ISDA	
David Lettorge	ISDA	
Amy Mattox	Clear Elevation	amy@clearelevation.com
Cheryl Jarrett	Huntington SWCD	cheryl.jarrett@in.usda.gov
Bob Eddlers		
Jordan Segs	ISDA	
Nick Alles	ISDA	nalles@isda.in.gov
Amy Work	IASWCD	
Mary Lou Musselman	Miami SWCD	
Darci Letman	Kosciusko	
Susi Stephens	Wabash SWCD	
Anchia Baker	Kosciusko	
Bucky Doughty	Delaware SWCD	DELTOSWCD@gmail.com
Susan Hovernale	FSA State Office	susan.hovernale@in.usda.gov
Julie Havel	ISDA	
Ed Mc Lamm	ISDA	
KATH SELL	Purdue Extension	ksell@purdue.edu
ANDREW FORSTEVILLE	NRCS	
Brandi Frozier	Madison Co SWCD	

**AGENDA**  
**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING**  
**October 25, 2016**  
**Huntington University**

- I. 9:30 AM: Call to Order**
- II. Approve Minutes of September 2016**
- III. Clean Water Indiana**
  - a. Clean Water Indiana Grants –Leah Harmon
    - a. Hendricks County- Leah Harmon
    - b. CWI Grants Committee Report- Bob Eddleman
- IV. State Soil Conservation Board Business**
  - a. SSCB Chairman’s Report-Ray Chattin
    - 1. 2017 Meeting Dates
- V. Soil and Water Conservation Districts**
  - a. Grant County- Jennifer Thum
  - b. Clinton County- Leah Harden
- VI. 10 Minute Break**
- VII. ISDA Updates**
  - a. Director’s Report- Jordan Seger
  - b. Technical Report- Jennifer Thum
  - c. Agricultural Affairs-Jordan Seger
  - d. Accountability and Technology- Jordan Seger
  - e. District Support-Jennifer Thum
  - 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:**  
**2017 Meeting Dates**  
January 22, 2017: IASWCD Annual Conference
- 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

October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Clean Water Indiana Grants



## Program Updates

### Clean Water Indiana Competitive Grants

- CWI Application Snapshot

	2016	2017
Total Applications	26	31
Total Districts Participating	55	57
Total Amount Requested	\$1,780,000	\$2,529,142

- The grants committee met on October 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss proposals and make funding recommendations.
- Pending funding approval today, I will create grant program and individual summaries for our website. These will be similar to years past.
- I am working with grant services to start the contract process for funded applicants.
- I will be available to districts to provide feedback on their grant proposals.
- More information will be in the grants committee report.

### Annual Financial Report Grants

- I am starting to develop documents for next year's AFRs.
- The template will remain largely unchanged pending SBOA updates.
- New this year, all SWCDs will be required to register as a bidder to receive state funding. This goes into effect immediately and also impacts competitive grants. Some may have already completed this registration for 319 or LARE grants. It is a one-time registration.

### Training Reimbursement/Sponsorship

- I have developed a training reimbursement application similar to year's past. It uses the same online portal that we used for the competitive grant application. It can be found at <http://www.in.gov/isda/3371.htm>
- Like last year, we will distribute these funds to districts with their AFR payment.
- More information regarding this funding is in the grants committee report.

### Grant Reviews

- The DSS team has conducted four grant reviews since the last meeting.
- Both ongoing and completed projects were reviewed.
- No modifications needed at this time.
- I will follow up with some districts on conservation project tracking.
- Results of the review were sent to all districts involved in the grants as well as their boards of supervisors.
- One other is scheduled at this time.
  - The final review was delayed because of project status. The lead SWCD will provide weekly updates to me through project completion by the end of the year.



# State Soil Conservation Board

October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Clean Water Indiana Grants Committee

Warren Baird, Bob Eddleman, Robert Woodling



\$1,102,651 (4.5% already reverted) - \$89,000 for CCSI - \$25,000 for CCSI Director - \$30,000 for training reimbursement - \$20,000 for grant writing training reimbursement = \$938,651 for competitive grants

## Clean Water Indiana Competitive Grants

- The State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) received 31 applications representing 57 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs).
- Major changes to the process this year include:
  - Removal of the funding maximum: Districts could apply for the amount they felt was needed for their project.
  - Removal of the funding categories: Districts no longer applied for funds for specifically cost share, technical assistance, and adult education.
  - Blind scoring: Applications were blindly scored and ranked without identifying details (i.e. county or watershed names). District names were brought into the process once applications had been discussed with funding recommendations.
- Requests totaled \$2.53 million. Applications ranged from \$1,200 to \$300,000.
- Applications were blindly ranked without county identifying details and discussed for content and impact. This process was new this year to reduce biases. 16 applications were selected for funding. Selected applications will assist with efforts to reduce sediment and nutrients from nonpoint sources per Indiana Code 14-32-8.
- The SSCB Grants Committee recommends the following applications, representing 34 SWCDs, for funding. These funded applications address a variety of concerns in both rural and urban areas.

Grant (Lead County Listed First)	Title	Recommendation
Adams (Wells)	Upper Wabash Watershed Conservation Partnership Promoting Soil Health & Water Quality	\$107,540
Clark	Clark County Pathway to Water Quality Education Area	\$3,241.67
Crawford	We All Live In A Watershed	\$1,200
DeKalb (Steuben)	Conservation Implementation, Education, and Innovation	\$119,875
Delaware (Blackford, Grant, Randolph)*	Upper Mississinewa River Watershed Project Implementation	\$123,303
Hamilton (Boone, Clinton, Madison)*	Central Indiana Soil Tunnel Trailer	\$55,000
Hancock (Henry)	Covering our Soil - with Pollinator Habitat and Cover Crops	\$51,000
Jasper (Benton, Newton)	Roller Crimping Cover Crops for Soil & Water Quality	\$26,450
Knox	Invasive Plant Species Removal & Native Plant Restoration Program	\$12,000
Kosciusko	Conservation Practices On Land and In Stream and Impacts to Water Quality and Soil Health	\$86,331.04
Marion (Hendricks)	Soil Health Outreach and Cost Share	\$80,000
Monroe (Brown, Greene, Owen)	Remove, Replant, and Restore	\$61,710
Parke (Vermillion)*	Soil Health Conservation Technician	\$75,000
Spencer (Perry)	Pollinator Forage Program	\$6,000
Washington (Lawrence)	Nutrient Management Systems	\$85,000
Wells (Huntington)*	Healthy Soil, Clean Wabash Watershed	\$45,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$938,650.71</b>

\*Partial Funding Recommended

- Key partners on funded proposals include (not a complete list):
  - ICP Agencies
  - Local media
  - A&L Labs
  - Clark County Sheriff's Office
  - County Surveyors
  - Cardinal Greenway
  - Pathway to Water Quality
  - SICIM and CWMAs
  - Community Foundations
  - Local Schools
  - Ag Retailers
  - Farm Bureau
- \$1,590,491.29 is needed to fully fund all proposals and get more conservation on the ground.
- Per the guidance document, all proposals were required to show at least a 50% match. This could be cash or in kind.
- Funded SWCDs will be required to submit pictures and/or videos of the project to ISDA to be used in communication efforts.
- Any CWI funded equipment/signage will be required to have a CWI logo on it.
- Funded applications will be posted on the ISDA SharePoint. Districts who were not awarded funds are encouraged to discuss their proposal with the Grants Program Manager to get feedback on their application. A summary of written comments will be made available to districts upon request.
- The DSS team will encourage unfunded SWCDs to submit their proposal to another grant program.

### **Training Sponsorship/Reimbursement**

- The committee recommends that \$30,000 be offered to districts for training sponsorship and reimbursement. This is the same amount that was set aside last year which was fully utilized.
- The committee also makes a new recommendation that an additional \$20,000 be offered to districts specifically for grant writing training. This funding will allow SWCDs to build capacity by being more proficient in grant writing. Each SWCD that is awarded this funding would be required to submit one non-CWI, non-319 grant proposal within a year of the training or would be ineligible for grant training funding for the next year. A copy of these proposals would be sent to the ISDA grants program manager to verify this requirement and will be tracked by ISDA.
- All trainings, including grant writing trainings, would be completed between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017.
- These funds would follow a similar process to last year's training reimbursement program.

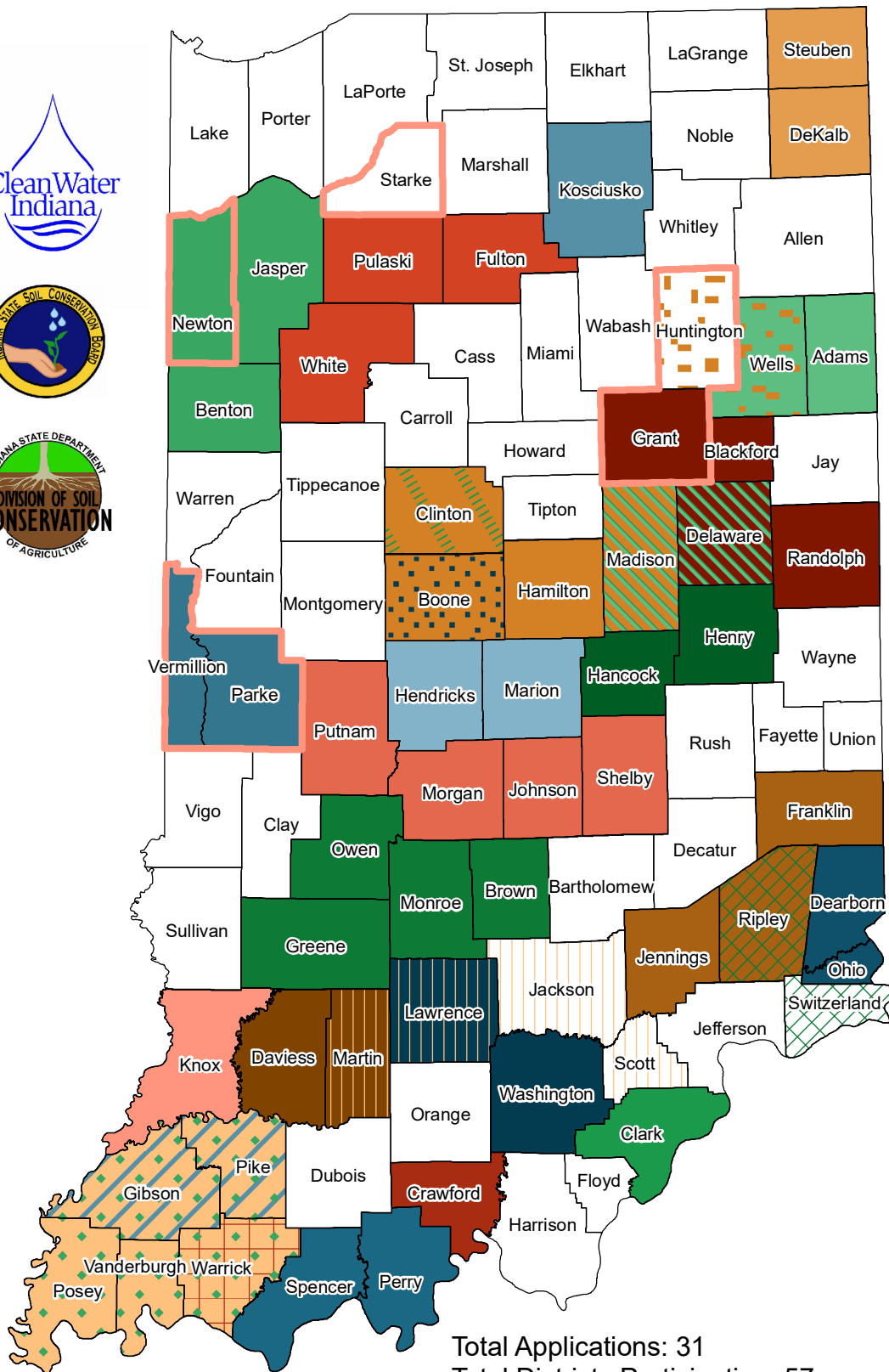
*Clean Water Indiana funds are derived from a portion of cigarette tax revenue per Indiana Code 6-7-1. For more information about the Indiana Clean Water Indiana Program please visit: <http://www.in.gov/isda/2374.htm>*

*For more information about the State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) please visit: <http://www.in.gov/isda/2361.htm>*



# Clean Water Indiana

## 2017 Competitive Grant Proposals

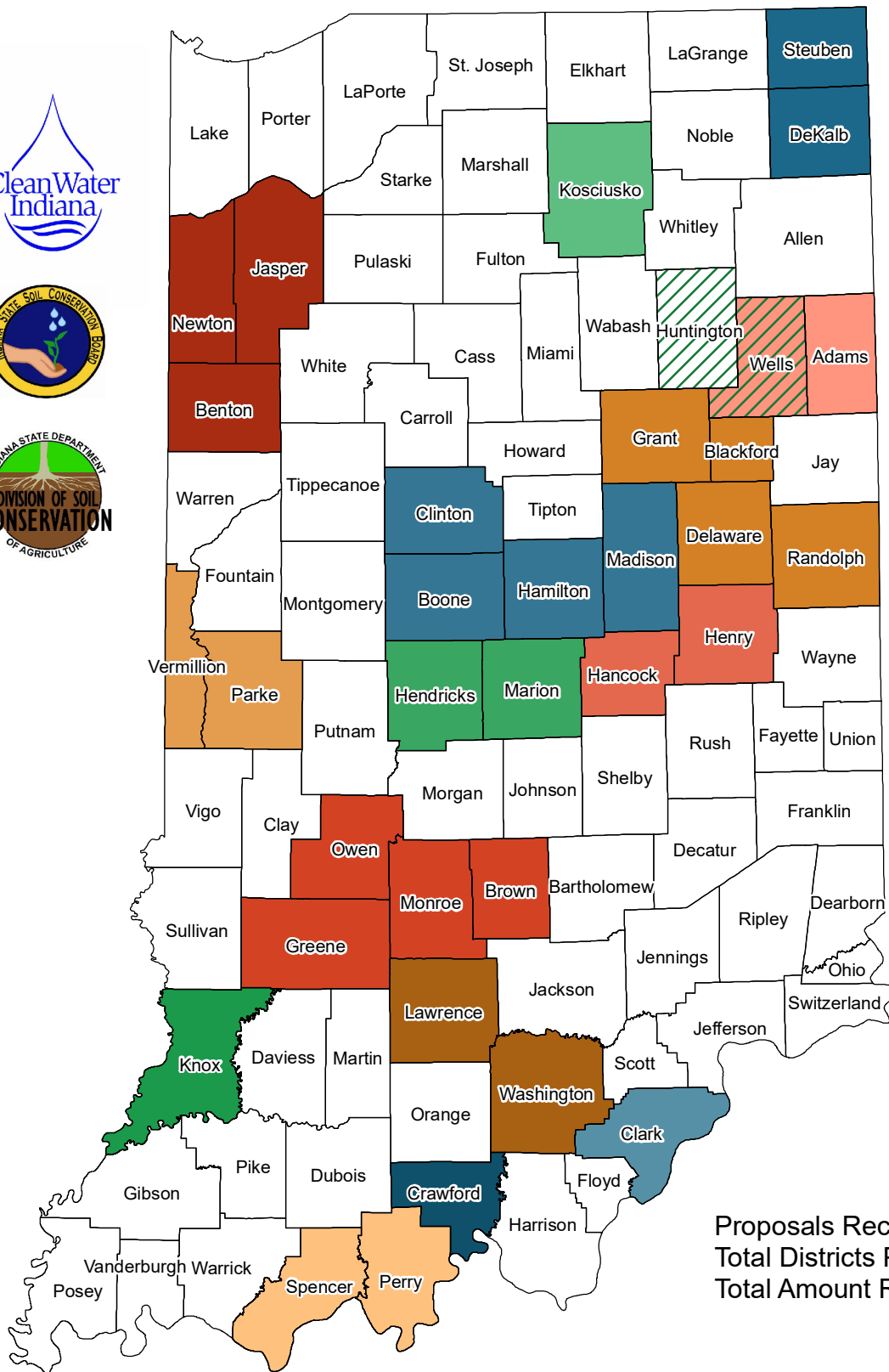


- Adams
- Boone
- Clark
- Clinton
- Crawford
- Daviess
- Dearborn
- DeKalb
- Delaware
- Gibson
- Hamilton
- Hancock
- Jackson
- Jasper
- Jennings
- Knox
- Kosciusko
- Madison
- Marion
- Monroe
- Morgan
- Newton
- Parke
- Pike
- Posey
- Ripley
- Spencer
- Warrick
- Washington
- Wells
- White

Total Applications: 31  
 Total Districts Participating: 57  
 Total Amount Requested: \$2,529,142

# Clean Water Indiana

## 2017 Competitive Grant Funding Recommendations



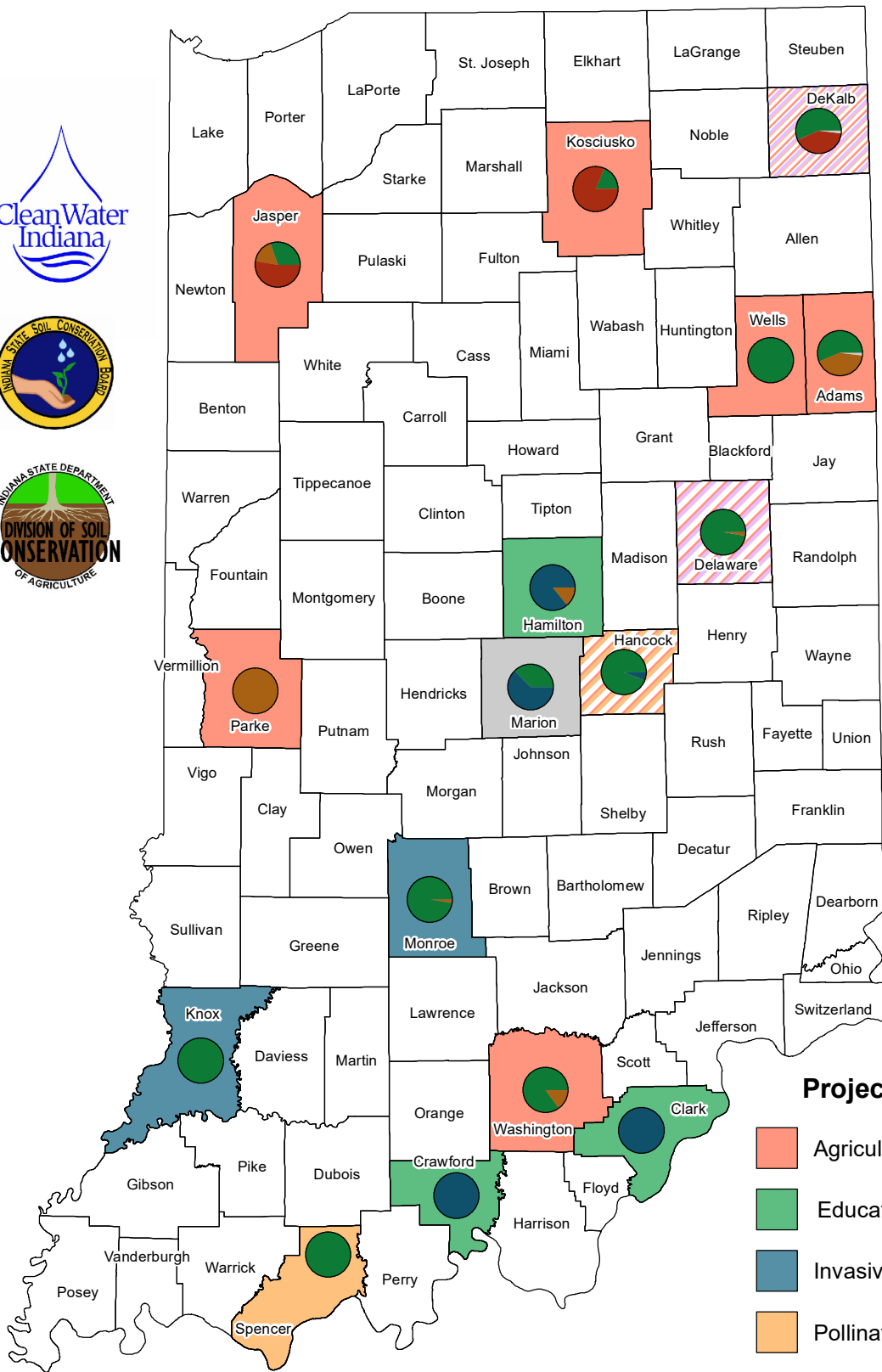
### Lead Districts

- Adams
- Clark
- Crawford
- DeKalb
- Delaware
- Hamilton
- Hancock
- Jasper
- Knox
- Kosciusko
- Marion
- Parke
- Monroe
- Spencer
- Washington
- Wells

Proposals Recommended: 16  
 Total Districts Participating: 34  
 Total Amount Requested: \$938,651

# Clean Water Indiana

## 2017 Funding Themes



### Funding Allocation

- Cost Share
- Demonstration
- Field Days
- Outreach
- Staffing

### Project Theme

- Agriculture
- Education
- Invasives
- Pollinators
- Streambank Practices
- Urban





# INDIANA STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD

1 North Capitol, Suite 600 • Indianapolis, IN 46204 • 317.232.8770 Phone • 317.232.1362 Fax

*Chair*  
Ray Chattin

*Vice Chair*  
Robert Woodling

*Members*  
Nola Gentry  
Warren Baird  
Larry Clemens  
Bob Eddleman

To: All SWCD Staff and Supervisors

Date: October 25, 2016

Re: Supervisor and Staff Training Sponsorships and Reimbursements

The State Soil Conservation Board is pleased to again offer SWCD supervisor and staff training funds for 2016 and 2017. This year the funds will be available in the form of sponsored district capacity building trainings and reimbursements.

A portion of these funds will directly sponsor established trainings. This will reduce registration fees and increase availability to high quality speakers. Support will be directed to trainings such as the Supervisor Summit and Leadership Institute.

The other portion of these funds will be reserved for training registration fee reimbursements. Each district is eligible to apply for supervisor and/or staff training reimbursements through March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Actual amounts of training reimbursements will depend on the number and amount of requests submitted, and will be capped at \$1,000 per district. Funds will be prioritized to supervisors and those districts demonstrating financial need. Eligible trainings take place between July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016, and June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Reimbursement requests are due **December 15<sup>th</sup> and March 15<sup>th</sup>** and will be reviewed thereafter, and applicants will be notified immediately after the review is complete. If awarded, registration fees will be reimbursed to districts pending confirmed attendance with 2016 AFR grant payments. Please note that AFR eligibility is not required to apply for training funds.

The form to be used to request reimbursements can be found at <http://www.in.gov/isda/3371.htm>. Submit the form needed by **through March 15, 2017**.

Please contact the grants program manager or your district support specialist with any questions on the new procedures.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ray Chattin".

Ray Chattin  
Chairman  
State Soil Conservation Board



# State Soil Conservation Board

October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016

ISDA – DSC Director’s Report

Jordan Seger



## DSC Staffing

- Matt Williams started Oct 17 as new CREP Leader/Resource Specialist based in Danville, covering the Upper White River CREP watershed
- Pending background check, offer made to individual for Part Time CREP Leader/Resource Specialist based in Albion, covering Upper Wabash CREP watershed
- Pending offer to part time fall/winter intern

## Key Performance Indicators and Performance Measures (based on CY)

KPI	2014	2015	2016
	Yellow Target	Green Target	(as of 10/3)
Top soil stabilization, prevention of sediment from entering waters of the State	252,000,000	280,000,000	233,850,000 438,682,000 84,866,000
<b>Program Measures</b>			
Nitrogen reduced from entering waters of the State	250,000	275,000	249,972 452,425 83,474
Phosphorus reduced from entering waters of the State	125,000	150,000	123,643 228,523 41,792
Number of soil and water conservation practices installed	750	1,000	1,282 1,864 591
Number of newly enrolled acres in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	650	750	681 938 2,589
Number of acres in INField Advantage	40,000	60,000	50,540 60,270 72,100

## SWCD Visits

- Jane Hardisty, Jennifer Boyle Warner, and Jordan commencing SWCD “3 J” visits in November
- SSCB members are welcomed to Join
- Approximately 20 SWCDs already visited

## Fall/Winter Tillage and Cover Crop Transect

- Instructions went to DSC and ICP 10/20/16
- Nonfederal in kind tracked for CCSI match

Transect results to date:

- Indiana landowners increased no-till acres on corn and soybean fields by 466% since 1990
- Indiana landowners increased conservation tillage acres on corn and soybean fields by 311% since 1990
- Indiana landowners increased cover crop acres on corn and soybean fields by 413% since 2011

## Congratulations to District Showcase Award Winners

- Huntington group (Wabash, Wells, Blackford, and Grant)
- Jennings
- Washington
- Hamilton



# State Soil Conservation Board

October 25, 2016

DSC Technical Assistance Report



## Field Staff Activities

*January 1, 2016 – October 7, 2016*

Resource Specialist Activities	Total
SWCD Board Meetings	261
ICP Meetings, Conference Calls, Webinars, etc.	303
Field Days	105
Training	120
Conservation Planning	722
Survey, Design and Inspections	991
Construction	300
Public Interaction	8,087
CREP – Met with Landowners	168
CCSI Activities	38
INFA Activities	292

## DSC Conservation Workload

*January 1, 2016 – October 19, 2016*

Action	Currently Reported
Technical Assistance	1,810
Practices Underway	1,626
Completed Practices	592
Practice Acres	6,103
Practice Feet	294,600
Field Acres	13,034
Nitrogen Reduction	86,028 lbs.
Phosphorus Reduction	43,072 lbs.
Sediment Reduction	44,409 tons



# State Soil Conservation Board

October 16, 2016

Northeast Resource Specialist's

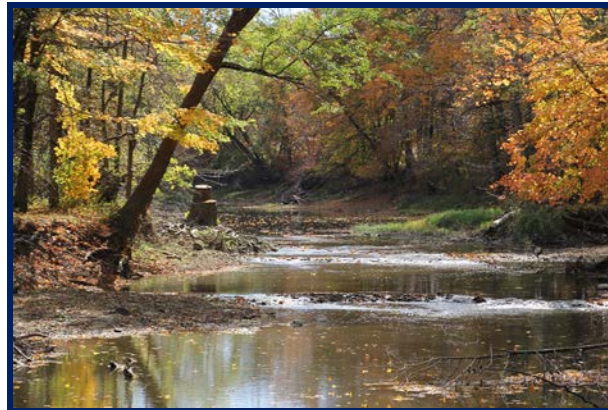
Nick Alles, Chris Gardner, Jill Krause, Dave Lefforge, Ted McCammon

Team Leader: Jennifer Thum



## Lower Salamonie Watershed Project and Upper Salamonie Watershed Project (drains to Upper Wabash WS)

The resource specialists that cover the Lower and Upper Salamonie watershed areas are Dave Lefforge and Ted McCammon. They both serve on the steering committees for each project, and work with the SWCD's on their outreach efforts with their farmers to promote the best management practices. Dave and Ted have been a huge help to the Districts. Both Phase 1 grants are coming to an end. The cost-share assistance within the Lower Salamonie grant was committed quickly. The Upper Salamonie project submitted a proposal for a Phase II 319 grant, which is an implementation grant that would include cost-share assistance. Ted maintains a Facebook page, "Salamonie River Watershed", for the entire watershed to inform the public of current projects and events.



Lower Salamonie



Upper Salamonie

## HEADWATERS YELLOW RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

In the fall of 2014, the Marshall County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) received state and federal funds to produce a watershed management plan for the Headwaters Yellow River Watershed. The Headwaters Yellow River Watershed encompasses approximately 187,423 acres of land across Marshall, Elkhart, St. Joseph and Kosciusko Counties. Plymouth, Bremen, LaPaz, Lakeville and Nappanee are all cities / towns located within the Headwaters Yellow River Watershed. Chris Gardner actively serves on the steering committee for this project, and he will provide technical assistance when they get to the stage of offering cost-share assistance to producers within the watershed. The Indiana DNR's Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) Program has provided funds to collect and analyze water quality data at multiple locations throughout the watershed. IDEM funds will be used to produce the watershed management plan, conduct education/outreach events and install a demonstration best management practice in the watershed.



Log Jam on the Yellow River

IN Field Advantage (Numbers represent the fields that the RS and TL sampled)

INFA 2016 County	GSS Fields	RST Fields	Total
Adams/Wells	22		22
Allen	33	6	39
Blackford	7		7
Delaware	10		10
Fulton	45		45
Jay	22		22
Kosciusko	4		4
			149

## Western Lake Erie Basin

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture has received funding from the U.S. EPA for a three-year program to address water quality issues related to phosphorus within the WLEB. This is due to the ongoing issues with excessive phosphorus levels found in Lake Erie that lead to harmful algae blooms. One part of this program is conducting soil sampling on farm fields to determine available, or extractable, phosphorus (P) levels in the soil. Phosphorus recommendations are based on the next crop and the quantity of nutrients in the soil. Reducing Ag phosphorus loss by proper application and timing will improve farm economics and help minimize these ecological issues.

### Progress so far:

Sampling Season	Allen Co INFA	Allen Co Additional Fields	Adams Co INFA	Adams Co Additional Fields	Total
2015	10 Fields	18 Fields	15 Fields	1 English 17 Amish	<b>61 Fields Completed</b>
2016	31Fields	3 Fields	7 Fields	Awaiting	<b>3 Fields Completed</b>
<b># Samples Completed (to Lab)</b>	40	54 <small>(42 in 2015 &amp; 12 in 2016)</small>	60	36 <small>(4 English &amp; 32 Amish)</small>	<b>190 Samples</b> <small>(178 in 2015 &amp; 12 in 2016)</small>

### Additional highlights of in the WLEB:

- Creation of Educational Booklets for the Amish (or anyone in the area)
  - Adams County - 2 booklets finalized
  - Allen County – 1 booklet (under review)
  - Steuben County – 1 booklet (under review)
  - WLEB – 1 booklet (awaiting printing)
- Creation of A Soil Sampling How to Guide for training purposes
- Jill and Nick assist Steuben SWCD with their two LARE grants
- Amish Education and Outreach





Bean Splitter Drill – pulled by horses



Esch No-till Drill – pulled by horses

#### Field Days (WLEB):

- **Soil Health Field Day - Harlan, IN August 11<sup>th</sup>**
  - ~120 in attendance
  - **Topics:** Learn the impacts of various corn and soybean residue herbicides on the emergence-establishment of cover crops; New Technology for seeding cover crops-A first look at the option to inter-seed cover crops in V4 or V5 corn; Best Management Practices that reduce Phosphorous run-off
- **Back to Your Roots Field Day – Decatur, IN August 24<sup>th</sup>**
  - ~115 in attendance
  - **Topics:** Drainage Water Management; Soil Health; Interseeder/New Technology; Economic Benefits of Manure; Farmer Panel
- **Amish Make-up Field Day – Monroe, IN September 28<sup>th</sup>**
  - ~50 in attendance
  - **Topics:** Cover Crops, Manure Management, and Soil & Manure Testing

## Regional Conservation Partnership Programs

- **RCPP – Shatto Watershed**

- with Notre Dame, TNC and Jasper SWCD as partners
- continues cost share for cover crops and installation of 2-stage ditch
- continues research (building on CIG project data) on nutrient and sediment reduction from the stacking of these practices
- cover crops implemented for this year



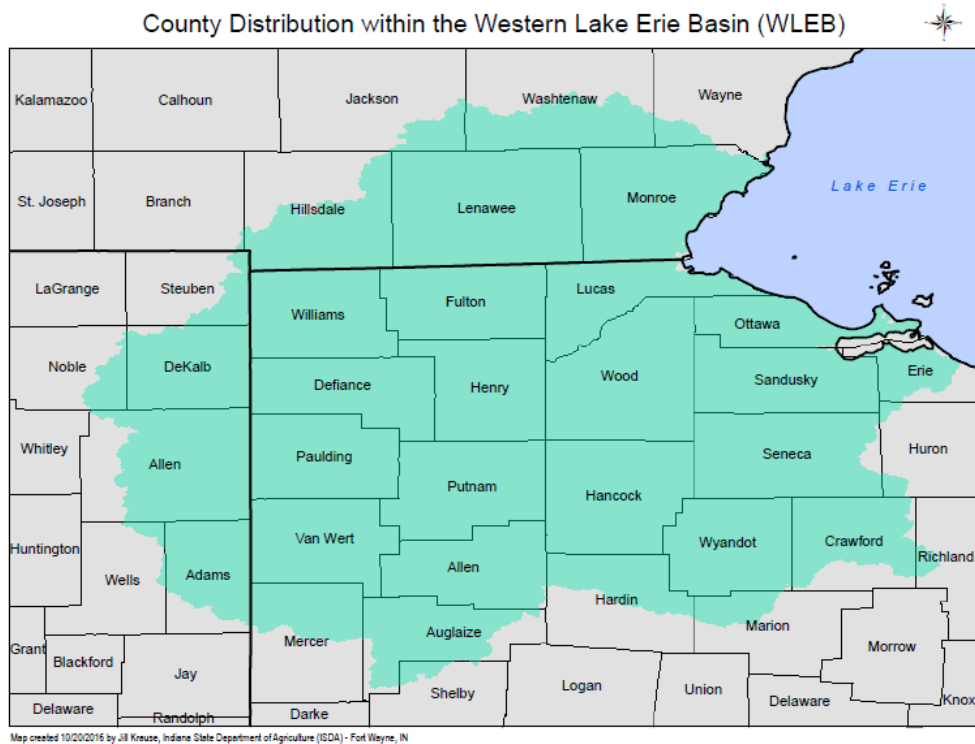
**Two-stage ditch with cover crops**

- **RCPP St Joseph (Great Lakes Basin)**

- Partnership between Michigan and Indiana
- 7 IN counties, 8 MI counties
- Covers a cadre of conservation practices to reduce nutrient loading into the Great Lakes
- Had all funds obligated in the first year! Applied for and received additional funding to continue this work

- **RCPP Western Lake Erie Basin**

- Partnership between Michigan, Ohio and Indiana
- 7 IN counties, 7 MI counties, 24 OH counties
- Project to protect the WLEB by reducing Phosphorus (P) and sediment loading, and harmful algal blooms (HAB)
- Leverage 17.5 million in NRCS cost-share dollars with nearly \$36 million in partner contributions
- Priority EQIP BMP practices for IN; Cover Crops, Nutrient Management Planning, No-till, strip till, modified no-till, blind inlets, variable rate, cropping rotation including wheat
- Spent approximately \$203,464 in FY 2015, \$251,248 in FY 2016 on cost-share assistance.
- Planning to allocate \$371,487 in FY 2017 (according to the budget)



## Clean Water Indiana Grants (current projects)

### – DeKalb/Steuben

- Their project is to promote the adoption of conservation practices that reduce sediment and nutrient loading through education/outreach, cost-share incentives, and a controlled drainage water project.

### – Huntington/Wells

- Collaboration with the Upper Wabash River Basin Commission to educate landowners on Best Management Practices by having a three-year demonstration area, and meetings/field days that highlight BMPs that can lead to Sediment and Nitrogen Load Reductions in the Upper Wabash River Watershed.

### – Kosciusko/Miami/Wabash

- Their project is technical based. They plan to increase technical assistance in order to increase efficiency for their district conservationists and watershed coordinator, in the Middle Eel River Watershed.

### – Marshall/St. Joseph

- The purpose of their grant is to raise awareness of the impact of stormwater runoff on the Kankakee and St. Joseph River watersheds, to create a cultural change in how stormwater runoff is handled both in urban and suburban settings. They hope to do this by installing raingardens, and ultimately reducing the amount of stormwater runoff entering the Kankakee and St. Joseph River watersheds.

– **St. Joseph/Marshall/Starke**

- The goal of their grant is to improve water quality by helping producers utilize all aspects of the conservation cropping systems (no-till, cover crops, nutrient management, & filter strips) which will improve soil health and reduce erosion & nutrient runoff in the Kankakee Watershed. To reduce nutrient loading this program will offer a cost-share program for new acres of cover crops, no-till, nutrient management & filter strips.

– **Wabash/Miami**

- The purpose of this project is to expand cost-share opportunities to farmers in both Miami and Wabash Counties, with priority to those landowners and/or producers living in the Wabash River Watershed. The Miami and Wabash County SWCDs focused their efforts on fall cover crops with an emphasis on soil health.



# State Soil Conservation Board

October 25, 2016  
Director of Soil Health



## Program Updates

### ➤ INfield Advantage

- Corn stalk sampling is finished. This year went faster than previous years. All together 43,000 stalks were collected.
- As in previous years, enrolled fields were lost due to miscommunication causing the wrong field to be enrolled and early harvesting. We also lost a number of fields due to tornado damage. Our final numbers are 975 GSS fields and 15 RST fields.
- For the 2016 program, INFA has 403 participants. Based on NASS calculated average farm sizes in each county (varies from about 150 to 450 acres per farm), this year's program impacts the management of 130,000 acres.
- About two dozen staff and SWCD supervisors attended the A&L Great Lakes facility tour on October 7.
- I will be presenting INFA informational sessions to PU ANR county staff on November 14 (Greene Co.) and November 16 (Tipton Co.)
- The Annual Group Leader Appreciation Luncheon will be November 30 at Indiana Corn and Soy's offices. Speakers include Linda Prokopy, PhD, Purdue University, and Nathan Paul, Iowa Soybean Association. Reservations are required.
- We will be holding a session as part of the Midwest Pork Conference on December 6.
- The Winter Grower Meetings are scheduled. Meeting observers need to request an invitation, but all local ICP staff are welcome to attend.

### ➤ Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative

- New staff hiring completed: Joe Rorick hired as Agronomist. He will be starting in December. Ashley Brucker hired as Program Manager. She started on October 17.
- SARE Professional Development Plan of Work for next two years completed. Soil Health Area finalized.
- Multiple watersheds and groups identified as potential pilots for Soil Health Strategy/Nutrient Management Ag Retailer Outreach.
- 2017 field day schedule in draft form, to be finalized shortly



# State Soil Conservation Board

October 26, 2016  
Accountability and Technology



## **Program Updates**

### ***2016 Fall Cover Crop and Tillage Transect Survey***

ICP Leaders approved all documentation for the fall cover crop and tillage transect survey. This week the ICP Leaders will email their respective personnel the documentation and instruct them to complete their county transect by December.

### ***SharePoint Online Migration***

The State Office of Information and Technology is in the process of migrating all State agency SharePoint 2010 sites to SharePoint Online. They plan to complete the migration by December 2017.

Last week, IOT migrated the ISDA SharePoint site to the SharePoint Online testing environment. Deb is currently reviewing the test site to ensure all items migrated correctly to the test site and are working properly.

Deb will also begin updating the SharePoint tutorial to reflect the new look and feel of SharePoint Online.

It is anticipated the release of the new ISDA SharePoint Online site will occur in March 2017.





# State Soil Conservation Board

September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## District Support Specialist Update



### Major Activities or Events:

- CWI grants:
  - Leah scrubbed all 31 CWI applications and attachments. Then posted them along with the score card online for review.
  - DSS assisted and provide input to the SSCB CWI Grants Committee on the ranking of the 2017 grant applications. The grants committee met on October, 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss the applications.
- Pathway to Water Quality:
  - Nathan gave the pathway report at the ICP leaders meeting and facilitated the Sponsorship meeting.
- The annual IDEA Fall Conference was held in Syracuse Indiana, in the NNE region. The event was well attended. Jennifer gave a presentation on Time Management and served as a moderator for the PSS panel discussion.
- Tara participated in a vision session for Fayette County.
- Tara worked with Meg Leader, David Bausman, and Shelby SWCD on informing the state government on INfield Advantage (INFA).
- Several DSS assisted their counties with INFA stalk sampling.
- Jennifer represented Indiana at the Western Lake Erie Basin Partnership meetings, and gave an update on the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP).
- Laura created draft supervisor and associate supervisor template brochure.
- Laura held a 101 urban workshop in the SW
- We held our annual DSS retreat. This is where we discuss our current workload and review our annual plan of work.
- Nathan assisted several districts with personnel issues.
- Geneva worked with Deb Fairhurst and Shannon Zezula (NRCS) on the fall cover crop transect

### Ongoing Key Support:

- Business plans and/or annual plans of work- DSSs facilitated and/or provided input and assistance to LaGrange and Steuben
- CWI Grant Reviews- conducted on Allen (Adams and Wells), Wabash (Miami), DeKalb (Steuben) county grants
- SWCD Board Meetings-DSSs have attended and assisted with various topics in the following counties: Bartholomew, Grant, Hendricks, Huntington, Johnson, Kosciusko, Newton, Pulaski, St. Joseph, Union, Washington, Wayne and Wells.
- District Staff and Supervisor visits- DSSs visited staff and/or supervisors and provided training, assistance with various projects or tasks, and provided guidance in the following counties: Allen,

Brown, Elkhart, Grant, Hendricks, Kosciusko, Marion, Owen, Perry, Posey, Putnam, and Scott, Steuben, St. Joseph, Wabash, and Warrick.

- New Staff or Supervisor Training was conducted in the following counties: Posey, Grant, and Hendricks.
- DSSs are providing support to SWCDs as they prepare for election and annual meeting responsibilities
- DSSs are providing ongoing support on district success stories and internal controls.

**Committees and Advisory Roles:** DSSs have been involved serving on committees and/or providing these groups with assistance and accomplishing related tasks.

- Laura- INFA, ICP Training & Certification Program, Leadership Institute
- Nathan- INFA, Pathway to Water Quality, Leadership Institute
- Leah- SSCB, CWI, IASWCD Annual Conference, GIS, tillage transects, INFA
- Geneva- Women4theLand, Leadership Institute, INFA
- Tara- CCSI, WQT, IDEM Recycling Marketing Development Board
- Jennifer – WLEB Partnership, WLEB RCPP, St. Joseph RCPP, Fort Wayne Farm Show, LaGrange Manure Management, and CCSI

**Upcoming Events:**

- Fall IASWCD Region Meetings:
  - SW Region Mtg. is November 17<sup>th</sup> in Martin County
  - NW Region Mtg. is November 29<sup>th</sup> in Tippecanoe County
  - SE Region Mtg. is December 6<sup>th</sup> in Bartholomew County
  - NE Region Mtg. is December 7<sup>th</sup> in Whitley County
- 2017 March Region Meetings:
  - SW Region Mtg. is March 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - SE Region Mtg. is March 9<sup>th</sup>
  - NW Region Mtg. is 16<sup>th</sup>
  - NE Region Mtg. is March 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Leadership Institute – Impacting Communities is on December 2 & 3 in French Lick

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



# State Soil Conservation Board

October 25th, 2016

ISDA – CREP & Water Quality Initiatives, Julie Harrold



## Program Updates

### • **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program**

- The allocation of the \$660,000 has been split up between 6 of the 10 CREP Administrators. Contract amendments have been sent to the districts to be signed and 4 of the amendments have been returned and have been sent to the state office for final signatures.
- There has been incredible demand, we are now at \$1.76 million for obligated dollars toward practices. We have had over 2,700 acres of signup in 2016.
- Total Completed acres are 10,103.93. Total enrolled acres are 12,892.92. To date the state has paid out \$3,611,101.70 in the CREP program. For every state dollar that is spent, the federal match is \$7-\$10 for every state dollar.
- Attached to this report is a report on the current status of acres and dollars in CREP.

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

- Next version of the strategy will be submitted to EPA by the end of October.
- It will be found on the ISDA webpage at <http://www.in.gov/isda/2991.htm>.
- Comments on the SNRS can be sent to [ISDANutrientReduction@isda.in.gov](mailto:ISDANutrientReduction@isda.in.gov).

### • **Other Water Quality Issues**

#### Gulf Hypoxia Task Force (HTF)

- Work is on-going with the Coordinating Committee and with the Sub-Committee on 'Common Measures' and 'data sharing' within the states in order to determine the impact we are having on the Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Zone.
- The next HTF meeting will take place in New Orleans from December 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>. Ted, Jordan and Julie will be attending.

#### Western Lake Erie Basin

- I am participating on the Advisory Committee for the development of Indiana's Domestic Action Plan (DAP) for Lake Erie as part of the Lake Erie Binational Phosphorus Reduction Strategy. The goal is to have the draft plan completed by the end of the calendar year.

#### Indiana Water Monitoring Council (InWMC)

-

SSCB Meeting, October 25, 2016 - 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 10/19/2016	182.23	14.00	3,753.52	17.20	425.07	3,895.70	303.00	1,513.21	10,103.93	26,250.00	38.49%
Total CREP Enrollment	209.89	14.00	3,962.88	33.04	542.29	5,324.99	838.05	1,967.78	12,892.92	26,250.00	49.12%
Total Acres in Extension				1.00	53.70	428.50	121.70	6.00	610.90		

	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	\$ 18,223.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 366,519.00	\$ 7,126.00	\$ 183,457.00	\$ 1,665,405.00	\$ 251,340.00	\$ 917,952.00	\$ 3,411,422.00	\$ 199,679.70	\$ 3,611,101.70

SSCB Meeting, October 25, 2016 - 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	0.00	0.00	3.10	99.90	0.00	0.00	103.00
Lower Wabash	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	454.69	0.00	0.00	454.69
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	58.86	465.48	0.00	0.00	535.04
Middle Wabash-Busseron	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	687.29	0.00	0.00	687.29
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	139.01	80.20	36.80	260.51
Tippecanoe River	89.50	0.00	49.83	0.00	3.41	21.40	73.30	463.39	700.83
Upper East Fork White	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	74.16	0.00	0.00	74.16
Upper Wabash	12.53	7.00	93.59	0.00	0.00	162.96	27.80	43.32	347.20
Upper White	20.80	0.00	59.80	0.00	177.90	143.91	0.00	29.70	432.11
<b>Reported Completed as of 10/19/2016</b>	<b>178.13</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>209.02</b>	<b>5.40</b>	<b>284.37</b>	<b>2,837.80</b>	<b>181.30</b>	<b>573.21</b>	<b>4,283.23</b>
<b>Enrolled as of 10/19/2016</b>	<b>205.79</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>418.38</b>	<b>21.24</b>	<b>401.59</b>	<b>4,267.09</b>	<b>716.35</b>	<b>1027.78</b>	<b>7,072.22</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>

	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
<b>Total Extension Acres</b>		<b>1.00</b>	<b>53.70</b>	<b>428.50</b>	<b>121.70</b>	<b>610.90</b>

SSCB Meeting, October 25, 2016 - 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	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,240.00	\$ 39,960.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,200.00	\$ 4,120.00	\$ 45,320.00
Lower Wabash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 181,876.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 181,876.00	\$ 18,187.60	\$ 200,063.60
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	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,544.00	\$ 186,192.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 210,806.00	\$ 21,080.60	\$ 231,886.60
Middle Wabash-Busseron	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 274,916.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 274,916.00	\$ 27,491.60	\$ 302,407.60
Middle Wabash-Deer	\$ 660.00	\$ -	\$ 580.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,480.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,720.00	\$ 972.00	\$ 10,692.00
Middle Wabash-Vermillion	\$ 450.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55,604.00	\$ 76,190.00	\$ 34,960.00	\$ 167,204.00	\$ 16,720.40	\$ 183,924.40
Tippecanoe River	\$ 8,950.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,364.00	\$ 8,560.00	\$ 69,635.00	\$ 440,220.50	\$ 528,729.50	\$ 52,872.95	\$ 581,602.45
Upper East Fork White	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,664.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,664.00	\$ 2,966.40	\$ 32,630.40
Upper Wabash	\$ 1,253.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 7,409.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65,184.00	\$ 26,410.00	\$ 37,056.50	\$ 138,012.50	\$ 13,801.25	\$ 151,813.75
Upper White	\$ 2,080.00	\$ -	\$ 4,080.00	\$ -	\$ 71,160.00	\$ 57,564.00	\$ -	\$ 28,215.00	\$ 163,099.00	\$ 16,309.90	\$ 179,408.90
Upper White Extensions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 1,980.00
<b>Reported Paid as of 10/19/2016</b>	<b>\$ 17,813.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 12,069.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,160.00</b>	<b>\$ 115,548.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,135,120.00</b>	<b>\$ 172,235.00</b>	<b>\$ 540,452.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,996,797.00</b>	<b>\$ 199,679.70</b>	<b>\$ 2,196,476.70</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>





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

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



**IASWCD**

225 S. East Street  
Suite 740  
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Phone: 317.692.7325  
Fax: 317.423.0756  
Web: [www.iaswcd.org](http://www.iaswcd.org)

**PRESIDENT:**  
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[Jennifer-boyle@iaswcd.org](mailto:Jennifer-boyle@iaswcd.org)

**To:** State Soil Conservation Board  
**From:** Jamie Scott, Interim President, IASWCD  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 25, 2016

**Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI)**

- Ashley Brucker has been hired as the Soil Health Manager and started on October 17.
- A presentation will be made at the January 22, 2017 SSCB meeting.

**Pathway to Water Quality**

- Sara Peel will continue as coordinator for 2017.

**Other**

- District Showcase tours are scheduled; all are welcome to attend:
  - November 2 in Huntington County
  - November 7 in Jennings County
  - November 14 in Washington County
  - November 17 in Hamilton County
- Fall regions meetings have been scheduled and registration for them will be available soon:
  - November 17: N-SW & S-SW region
  - November 29: S-NW & N-NW region
  - December 6: N-SE & S-SE region
  - December 7: S-NE & N-NE region
- IASWCD Board meetings for the remainder of this year are November 4 and December 16.
- SWCD Annual Conference is January 23-24, 2017. Registration is open.
  - SSCB meeting at SWCD Annual Conference is Sunday, January 22 from 3-5 pm at the downtown Marriott.
- IASWCD will be extending its contribution agreement with NRCS for Districts to provide administrative and technical services for Farm Bill programs. This extension will be a 3-year agreement.
- Jane, Jordan and Jennifer will be conducting more ICP leader visits in November and December.

# NRCS State Conservationist Report - SSCB

## October, 2016

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### FARM BILL PROGRAMS FY16 SUMMARY – NOT FOR RELEASE

#### Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

- 107 contracts obligated for 86.893 acres for a total of \$1,531,128 million.
- Exceeded CSP acres goal with a 56% increase in the number of new CSP contracts funded. Maintained 90% obligation rate for new CSP cropland acres allocated from 2008 to 2016 signups.

#### Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- 808 contracts obligated for 121,176 acres for a total of \$20.7 million.
- 100% contracts reviewed. 99% obligated. Obligated an additional \$3.4 million dollars of EQIP at the end of the FY. No EQIP contracts expired in FY2016.

#### Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE)

- 22 out of 33 applications were funded for a total of 2,081 acres for a total of \$4.5 million. These are now in the easement acquisition process.
- 471 acres of habitat were restored (Number may change).
- Six agreements closed for 231.5 acres.
- Original allocation of \$3.3 million dollars for WRE obligated an additional \$1.2 million dollars was requested and obligated for a total of \$4.5 million dollars 136% of the initial allocation.

### CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT WEBINAR

On October 27 at 2:30 PM (EST), NRCS staff will be holding a webinar to discuss the opportunities and changes to contribution agreements for FY 2017 for Farm Bill program assistance. This includes discussion on program support services (PSS) and CRP status reviews/re-enroll contribution agreements. This webinar will be recorded for viewing again at a later time.

Even if you are not in a USDA Service Center, we invite you to listen to the webinar to learn how you can be involved in contribution agreements. There is a significant amount of conservation work to get done and we hope all partners can help play a role in contributing to the success of the Farm Bill programs.

#### Participant Instructions

The conference begins at 2:30 PM Eastern Time on October 27, 2016; you may join 10 minutes prior.

- Step 1: <http://ems7.intellor.com/login/708009>
- Step 2: Instructions for connecting to conference audio will then be presented on your computer using the Dial-In Option.
- You will be connected to the conference with the AT&T Connect Web Participant Application - there is no software download or installation required.
- If you are unable to connect to the conference by computer, you may listen by telephone only at 1-877-369-5243 or 1-617-668-3633 using 0770880# or Find an Alternate Number
- If you need technical assistance, call the AT&T Help Desk at 1-888-796-6118 or 1-847-562-7015

### INFORMATION SECURITY AWARENESS TRAINING

All USDA employees, partners, TSPs, volunteers and contractors who have access to a CCE compliant computer must complete the mandatory annual information security awareness (ISA) training. This training is required by law and is an essential part of keeping the information systems secure. The FY17 ISA course will be assigned to AgLearn user accounts on October 1, 2016. The NRCS deadline for completing this training is February 1, 2017. Those who



do not complete the training by this deadline will have their access to USDA computer systems suspended until the training is complete.

### **USDA NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE (NASS) CONSERVATION EFFECTS ASSESSMENT PROJECT (CEAP) SURVEY**

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will launch the second year of its Natural Resources Inventory – Conservation Effects Assessment Project (NRI-CEAP)-2) national cropland survey this fall. NASS is in the second year of the two-year survey. The second official survey period will cover November 2016 – February 2017.

The enumerators will survey about 23,500 farmers in 2,150 counties across the U.S. for NRI-CEAP-2. This data collection is critical because the quality of the information gathered from farmers provides conservation leaders and policymakers with valuable data to measure the success and impact of our conservation programs. The survey results also can be used to determine what farmers need to more effectively implement conservation practices on their agricultural land and identify natural resource issues that need to be addressed.

You can visit [https://www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Conservation\\_Effects\\_Assessment\\_Project/index.php](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Conservation_Effects_Assessment_Project/index.php) for additional information about the NRI-CEAP survey process.

### **UPCOMING WOMEN4THELAND LEARNING CIRCLES**

Women4theLand (W4L) is a partnership of agricultural and natural resource conservation agencies and organizations working together to provide information, networking, education and resources to Indiana women landowners and farmers. Our objective is to empower women to make good science-based land use and land management decisions that lead to more viable communities and stronger farm enterprises while improving and sustaining the quality of our natural resources.

W4L uses the learning circle model to provide information in a comfortable, informal setting where women learn from professional conservationists as well as from each other. The meetings are facilitated in a way that builds knowledge and confidence. Participants are considered the “experts” on their own production, farmland and conservation needs, and are encouraged to speak about their own experiences and goals rather than simply listen to a presentation.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Monroe County – October 25 @ 8:30 am - 4:00 pm EDT

Elkhart, Marshall and St. Joseph Counties – October 25 @ 9:00 am - 3:00 pm EDT

Jasper/Newton County – November 9 @ 9:00 am - 3:00 pm CST

