

# Exhibit L – FY 2017 RCPP Fox River Water Quality Project

**Initiative Name and Acronym** – RCPP Fox River Water Quality Project

**Initiative Description/Summary:**

The Fox River Water Quality Project is one of the longest running watershed projects in Iowa, entering into the projects 18th year. The board meets bimonthly and is committed to continued conservation efforts improving the health of the Fox River by addressing water quality, conservation, protection, and development of natural resources using voluntary programs, while providing economic opportunity. Based on the tremendous support from landowners and other partners, the involved Soil and Water Conservation Districts along with the Fox River Ecosystem Development board is seeking to secure additional funding sources to continue current efforts and to expand project implementation downstream into the Missouri project area. Water quality problems within the Fox River watershed have been well documented over the years.

The river has been on Iowa and Missouri’s impaired waters list for many years. The nonpoint source pollution sources responsible for the water quality problems associated with sediment include: (1) Unstable gullies draining cropland, timber, and pastureland, (2) Sheet and rill erosion on cropland and degraded pastures, and (3) unstable stream banks and stream channel avulsions. The Primary goal of this proposal for the Fox River Water Quality Project is to continue water quality protection efforts initiated in 1999. The secondary goal is to continue to address frequent flooding in Missouri. The Fox River is channelized in Iowa and returns to a meandering river system in Missouri leading to frequent flooding and channel movement. These goals will be accomplished by installing grade stabilization structures, water and sediment control basins, tile outlet terraces, and cover crops. Project success will be measured by meeting goals for BMP installation, attaining load reduction estimates, completing the information and education activities proposed, and completion of administrative/reporting requirements.

Primary natural resource concerns to be addressed include Water Quality Degradation and Soil Erosion. There are excessive nutrients in surface water as well as suspended sediment. In addition to Water Quality and Soil Erosion, Water Quantity and Degraded Plant Condition are secondary resource concerns for the project area.

**Participating Counties See Exhibit M Map:**

Appanoose, Davis and Van Buren counties in Iowa. Scotland and Clark counties in Missouri.

**Program Contact Information:**

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**Project Financial Assistance through EQIP:**

- \$310,077 in Iowa

**ProTracts Requirements:**

**1. Subaccount Guidance:**

One subaccount is available in ProTracts to support this Initiative under RCPP EQIP 2014 titled “Fox River Water Quality Project.”

Batching dates for fiscal year 2018 will be March 16, 2018. Following years will be the regular EQIP batching dates and will be placed on the NRCS Web Page.

**2. Application, Evaluation, and Ranking Tool Guidance – Choice Lists and Matrix Data:**

- a. Approved Land Types – The following applicable land types are eligible for this initiative:

Cropland
Other
Pastureland
Associated Ag Land

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b. RCPP Application Type - National

c. Approved Natural Resource Concerns:

<b>Water Quality Degradation – Excess Nutrients in Surface and Groundwater</b>
Nutrients in Surface Water
<b>Water Quality Degradation – Excess Sediment in Surface Water</b>
Excessive Sediment in Surface Water

<b>Excess Water – Ponding, Flooding, Seasonal High Water Table, Seeps, and Drifted Snow</b>
Runoff, Flooding or Ponding

<b>Soil Erosion – Sheet, Rill, &amp; Wind Erosion</b>
Sheet and Rill Erosion
<b>Soil Erosion – Concentrated Flow Erosion</b>
Ephemeral Gully Erosion
Classic Gully Erosion
<b>Soil Erosion – Excessive Bank Erosion from Streams, Shorelines or Water Conveyance Channels</b>
Streambank, Shoreline, Water Conveyance Channels

<b>Degraded Plant Condition – Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health</b>
Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health

Note: No additional resource concerns may be added or used in ProTracts AERT to support this initiative.

d. For this initiative the FYXX EQIP Cost List will be used for the Eligible Practices listed below using regular EQIP or EQIP HU Payment Rates.

### Conservation Practices (Regular EQIP and Regular EQIP HU Payment Rates)

Practice Name	Practice Code
Cover Crops	340
Critical Area Planting	342
Fence	382
Grade Stabilization Structure	410
Heavy Use Area Protection	561
Livestock Pipeline	516
Pond	378
Terrace	600
Underground Outlet	620
Water & Sediment Control Basin	638
Watering Facility	614

e. The current FY20XX EQIP cost list will be uploaded into ProTracts for the RCPP Projects each fiscal year. This cost list will be provided to the Field Office to be loaded into Toolkit.

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### 3. Application, Evaluation, and Ranking Tool Guidance – Ranking Criteria Questions:

Ranking will be uploaded into ProTracts each fiscal year.

### 4. Additional Initiative Guidance:

The primary project partner for this project is the Davis County Soil and Water Conservation District.