

<b>ROCK RIVER WATERSHED Action Plan 2018 to 2020</b>					
<b>Strategy I_ Locally-Led/Farmer Engaged Conservation</b>					<b>Complete - X</b>
<b>Actions:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Who is responsible?</b>	<b>When Begin Month-Year</b>	<b>When End Month-Year</b>	
Assist with Watershed Planning Group Meetings.	Assist NRCS with planning and conducting 2-3* Watershed Action Planning Group meetings each year of the agreement (Year 1, January 1 to December 31, 2018; Year 2, January 1 to December 31, 2019). (*As scheduled by NRCS, if less are scheduled this deliverable is reduced).	UVM & NRCS	Mar-18	Mar-19	
Assist with Watershed Planning Group Meetings.	Year 2 of the above.	UVM & NRCS	Apr-19	Mar-20	
Provide peer-to-peer farm education and networking opportunities.	Collaborate with NRCS, education & non-profit organizations.	UVM	Mar-18	Mar-20	
Farmer to Farmer Meetings	Meet with farmers in the watershed	UVM	Mar-18	Sep-19	
<b>Strategy 2: Technical Assistance to Farmers</b>					
<b>Actions:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Who is responsible?</b>	<b>When Begin</b>	<b>When End</b>	
Develop a plan to provide technical assistance to farmers.	Include target audiences, key messages, expected outcomes and timeline.	NRCS & UVM	Mar-18	Sep-18	
Serve as a case manager for farmers. Maximum to provide is 5 farmers.	Using the farmer's preferred method of communication, either by email or letter offer to serve as a case manager for farms by assisting farmers in the Hungerford Brook Watershed in developing their NRCS EQIP contract application (including assisting them with completing the application form and associated documents necessary to be considered eligible for NRCS program benefits) especially related to agronomic practices (assist the participant in identifying fields for the application of cover crops, no-till, nutrient management plans and other practices). Provide the case manager services as requested by farmers.	UVM	Mar-18	Mar-20	

Outreach to farmers to encourage use of Resource Stewardship Evaluation Tool.	Obtain one participant permission to participate in the evaluation. Obtain necessary data from cooperating farm to run the tool and evaluate 10-20 representative fields depending on farm size.	UVM	Mar-18	Mar-19	
Initiate individual contact each year with at least 50% of the approximately 36 farmers (18 total per year) in watershed to explain the water quality issues in the Rock River Watershed	Present the goals of the watershed planning group as it relates to the EPA TMDL. Inform the famers of financial assistance programs available to help them implement conservation practices to improve soil health, reduce nutrient and sediment run-off and to address other water quality concerns with the intent of improving water quality.	UVM	Mar-18	Mar-19	
Initiate individual contact each year with at least 50% of the approximately 36 farmers (18 total per year) in watershed to explain the water quality issues in the Rock River Watershed	Year 2 of the above.	UVM	Apr-19	Mar-20	
Contact 1-3 famers each year whose farmsteads are located outside of the watershed that manage land inside the watershed.	Present the goals of the watershed planning group as it relates to the EPA TMDL. Inform the famers of financial assistance programs available to help them implement conservation practices to improve soil health, reduce nutrient and sediment run-off and to address other water quality concerns with the intent of improving water quality.	UVM	Mar-18	Mar-19	
Contact 1-3 famers each year whose farmsteads are located outside of the watershed that manage land inside the watershed.	Year 2 of the above.	UVM	Apr-19	Mar-20	
Each year identify farmers willing to share conservation practices implemented on their farm but were not contracted in EQIP and with farmer written permission record these practices into "Vermont State Partner Database."	Year 1.	UVM	Mar-18	Mar-19	

Each year identify farmers willing to share conservation practices implemented on their farm but were not contracted in EQIP and with farmer written permission record these practices into "Vermont State Partner Database."	Year 2.		Apr-19	Mar-20	
Each year NRCS and UVM are to track accomplishments (practices contracted and implemented as well as tracking available monitoring results, etc.) made in meeting phosphorous goals and realign action plan as needed.	Utilizing this information, estimate annual P reduction using the EPA BMP modeling tool and annually report back to the Watershed Planning Group.	UVM	Mar-18	Mar-19	
Each year NRCS and UVM are to track accomplishments (practices contracted and implemented as well as tracking available monitoring results, etc.) made in meeting phosphorous goals and realign action plan as needed.	Year 2 of the above.	UVM	Apr-19	Mar-20	
<b>Strategy 3: Financial Assistance to Farmers</b>					
<b>Actions:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Who is responsible?</b>	<b>When Begin</b>	<b>When End</b>	
Assist NRCS with certification of conservation practices.	Practices to include cover crops, no-till & cropland buffers for minimum of 2 farms and max of 5 farms per year.	UVM	Mar-18	Mar-19	
Assist NRCS with certification of conservation practices.	Year 2 of the above.	UVM	Apr-19	Mar-20	
<b>Strategy 4: Outreach and Education</b>					
<b>Actions:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Who is responsible?</b>	<b>When Begin</b>	<b>When End</b>	
Develop an outreach/education plan.	Include target audiences, key messages, and expected outcomes.	NRCS & UVM	Mar-18	Sep-18	

Identify & contact 1 farmer to be profiled in a published success story.	Story can be regarding the totality of the farmer's conservation efforts or successful implementation of a conservation practice or completed an EQIP contract.	UVM	Mar-18	Mar-19	
Work with minimum of 1 farmer to establish on-farm demonstration.	Highlight conservation practices. Will be available for other farms to visit.	UVM	Mar-18	Mar-19	
Conduct at least one on-farm field day.	In one of the 4 watersheds (Rock River, Pike River/Lake Carmi, St Albans or Hungerford Brook) showcasing the conservation practices applied	UVM	Mar-18	Mar-19	