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October 2014

NRCs-Iowa

At-a-glance

FY 2014 Program Accomplishments

Fund	Dollars	Acres Treated	Contracts
Total EQIP Obligation	\$23.8 M	113,285	1,085
Local County Sub Accts	\$9.9 M	53,105	506
Total Organic	\$398,785	1,248	18
Historically Underserved	\$5.91 M	15,478	169
NWQI	\$831,896	2,642	34
CCPI MRBI	\$7.04 M	34,756	209
DALCI	\$407,000	2,724	27
Wildlife	\$440,278	2,727	69
On Farm Energy	\$765,914	2,424	28
Seasonal High Tunnel	\$286,500	63	39
Prairie Pothole WGRP	\$505,394	3,030	15
Conservation Stewardship Program	\$4.5 M	201,209	436
Total WRE	\$11 M	1,670	18
General WRP-Riverine	\$4.9 M	805	10
General WRP-Pothole	\$6.1 M	862	8
WRP Restoration		3,583	2

Ongoing Program Impementation

Fund	Dollars	Acres Treated	Contracts
Conservation Security Program	\$606,000	27,496	100
Conservation Stewardship Program (FY 11,12 & 13)	\$25.4 M	1.02 M	2,072
EQIP (Active Contracts FY 13)	\$22.4 M		

WRP Easement Monitoring/Restoration

Continued:

- Agreements with four RC&Ds to complete easement land monitoring, landowner reviews and land surveys.
- Agreement with private engineering firm to complete easement land monitoring.
- Agreements with two vendors to complete wetland restoration.
- Winnebago SWCD agreement management plan review.

Successful Partnership Agreements

NRCS strives to maximize our accomplishments through leveraging our funding through agreements and grants. Here's a brief description of these agreements and the partners involved.



Contribution Agreement - Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship – Division of Soil Conservation in support of the Iowa Learning Farms Program.

Contribution Agreement – with IDALS-DSC to provide technical assistance across Iowa. This agreement supports the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy by financially supporting technical assistance that is needed for implementing conservation practices which support the strategy.



Contribution Agreement – the Farm Bill agreement with Conservation Districts of Iowa provided funding for Soil and Water Conservation Districts to support technical service delivery to Iowa landowners and operators. This partnership effort also included the Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship.

FY 2014 Conservation Innovation Grants

USDA recently awarded \$15.7 million to 47 organizations for national Conservation Innovation Grants to help improve conservation on agricultural land. Four have ties to Iowa:

- **National Association of Conservation Districts** to research and show benefits of soil health practices like no-till, strip-till, cover crops and crop rotations. (\$750,000)
- **Winneshiek Energy District** to establish an agricultural energy planning program with partners including NRCS, soil and water conservation districts, Iowa State University Extension, producer groups, and utilities. (\$408,692)
- **National Corn Growers Association** to address the need for improved soil health and water quality in the Mississippi River Basin, Great Lakes Basin and Chesapeake Bay Watershed by developing recommendations to farmers on a variety of soil management practices aimed at improving productivity, profitability and environmental outcomes. (\$998,000)
- **Winrock International Institute of Agricultural Development** will establish and monitor 50-acre, side-by-side control and treatment plots within cornfields on eight farms that combine rotational grazing and multi-species cover crops. They will research soil health, water infiltration, erosion reduction, and production capacity of the land. (\$395,930)



Cooperative Agreements – Iowa Soybean Association to collect data and analyze information to be used for adaptive nitrogen management.



Contribution Agreement – Iowa Department of Natural Resources in support of woodland management planning technical assistance

In addition to these two national CIG recipients, Iowa NRCS has awarded 7 statewide CIG for \$436,000. Here's a breakdown of Iowa's CIG grant recipients:

- **Pathfinders Resource Conservation & Development Area, Inc.** to find ways to "Increase Markets for Grass Fed Beef Producers in Southern Iowa." (\$75,000 through Aug. 31, 2017)
- **Iowa State University** is receiving a CIG to "Extend Field Scale 4-R Nutrient Management to Watershed Scale Outcomes." (\$74,865 through Dec. 31, 2016)
- **Iowa League of Cities** to develop "Nutrient Trading through the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy's Technology-Based Standards." (\$74,310 through Aug. 31, 2015)
- **The Nature Conservancy** to find "Economic and Ecological Benefits of Sustainable Grazing in the Little Sioux Watershed." (\$58,092 through Sept. 1, 2017)
- **Northeast Iowa Resource Conservation and Development, Inc.** for the "Demonstration of the Rapid Land Cover Mapper Tool as a Method of Systematically Quantifying the Engagement of Landowners and Adoption of Conservation Practices." (\$75,000 through Aug. 31, 2017)
- **Northeast Iowa Resource Conservation and Development Inc.,** for "Marketing Northeast Iowa's Grass Fed Livestock." (\$40,000 through Aug. 31, 2017)
- **The Nature Conservancy** for "Adapting Oxbow Restorations for the Topeka Shiner to provide Nutrient Processing and Water Storage." (\$75,000 through Aug. 31, 2017)