



July 20, 2020

SUBJECT: FNM – Fiscal Year 2021 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative (MRBI) Priority Watersheds

TO: Kurt Simons
State Conservationist
Des Moines, IA

File Code: 300

Thank you for your support of priority watersheds targeting conservation efforts through the Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative (MRBI). The following watersheds have been approved for MRBI in FY21. The associated project budgets as shown below should be used as the basis for your MRBI funding requests in the State Resource Assessment (SRA).

Per NB 300-20-19, states were asked to request the CTA needs for planning watersheds in the SRA, but the SRA tool will not provide this functionality. Another process will be used.

In FY21, the Areawide Planning Branch will begin working with the MRBI Board of Directors to develop a new MRBI strategy, based on direction from leadership. Part of that strategy will entail balancing funding levels across the 12 MRBI states. Therefore, although planning phase watersheds are approved for FY21, this does not guarantee they will receive future funding through MRBI.

MRBI Project	# of HUC12s	FY21 EQIP Project Budget	FY21 CSP Project Budget
Implementation Watersheds		FA	
Boone River -Eagle Creek	7	\$375,739	\$202,500
Cedar Creek	3	\$332,365	
Turkey River	3	\$102,710	
Deep Creek	2	\$246,693	
Lower Skunk River	6	\$545,513	
Walnut Creek	3	\$282,475	
West Branch Floyd River	4	\$165,046	
West Fork Crooked Creek	3	\$323,436	
North Racoon	10	\$578,000	
Mud Creek	7	\$409,000	
Central Turkey River	6	\$187,005	
NB Turkey	3	\$365,000	
Middle Cedar	3	\$163,124	
Slocum	1	\$98,840	
South Skunk-HW Cedar	4	\$540,787	

TOTAL IMPLEMENTATION FA	65	\$4,715,733	\$202,500
Planning Watersheds			CTA (maximum of \$150,000)
TOTAL PLANNING CTA	0		\$0

An announcement is being planned to communicate the approval of MRBI watersheds for FY 2021 at the fall Hypoxia Task Force meeting in September. Please do not make state or local announcements of implementation and planning watersheds until the national announcement.

There is an annual reporting requirement for all implementation phase watersheds. In addition to the interim metrics you identified in the implementation plan (submittal spreadsheet), you will be required to track implementation on critical source areas.

Thank you for your continued support of MRBI. If you have any questions, please contact Dee Carlson, MRBI Coordinator, at (202) 720-5287, or Martin Lowenfish, Areawide Planning Branch Chief, at (202) 690-4979.



JIMMY BRAMBLETT
Deputy Chief of Programs

cc:

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