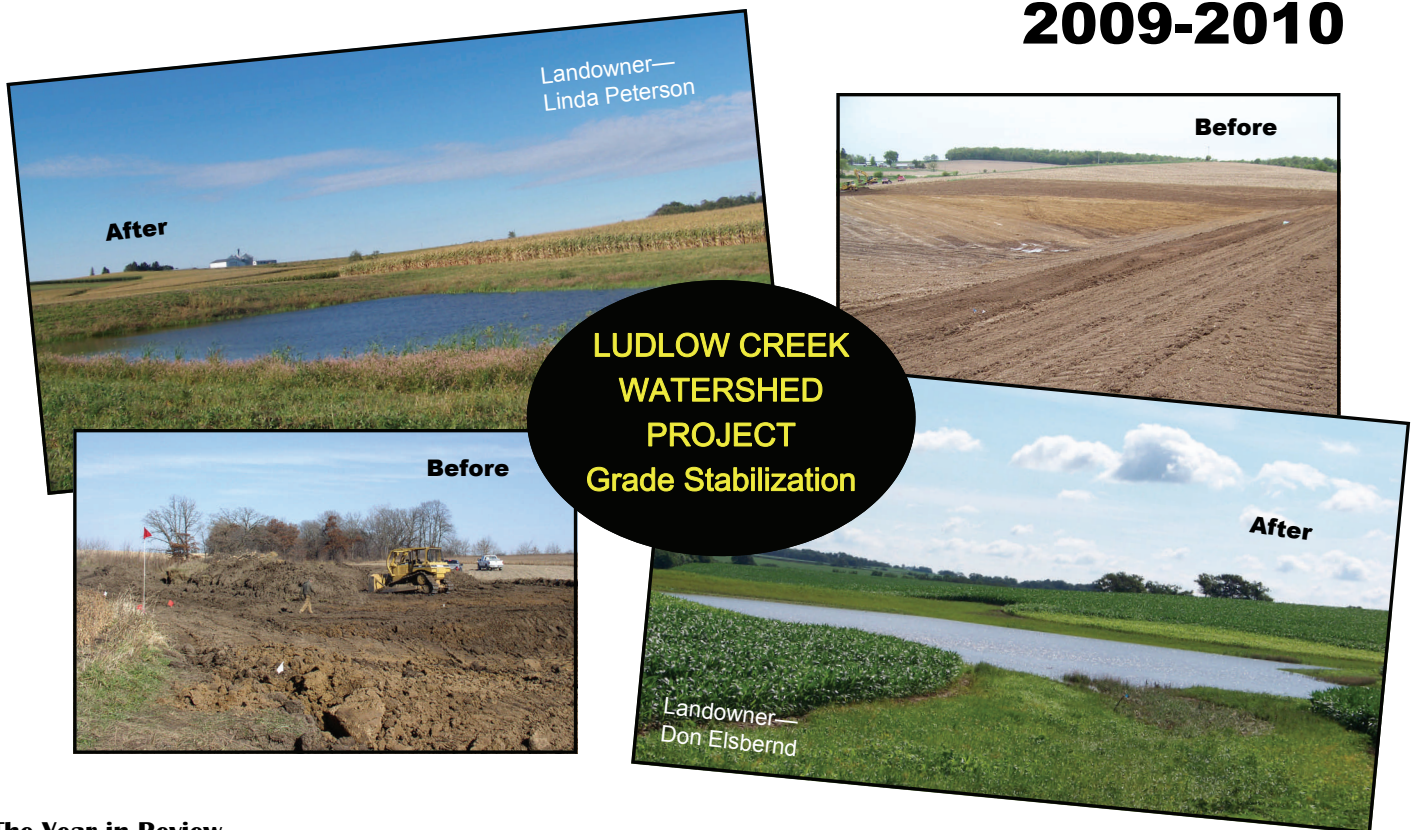


Allamakee County Annual Report

2009-2010



The Year in Review

by Lynn Stock, Chairman

The past year once again brought some new beginnings and some endings to programs being offered by the Allamakee Soil and Water Conservation District. We ended two watershed projects, the Norfolk Creek Watershed Project and the Yellow River Direct Drain Project. A total of \$311,249 was spent on the Norfolk Creek project to install 37,675 feet of terraces, three grade stabilization structures, and five sediment control basins, which treated a total of 362 acres. The Yellow River Direct Drain Project installed 11 grade stabilization structures at a cost of \$220,306 and treated 327 acres. Both were very successful in treating these areas by reducing erosion and improving water quality.

We continue with the Ludlow Creek Project, which is funded by the Watershed Improvement Review Board (WIRB), and are currently implementing many new practices. The goals of the project are to reduce sediment delivery to the stream, reduce animal waste run-off, and reduce the water quality impact that sinkholes have on this watershed.

We were fortunate to receive funding for two new projects that began in 2010, the Indian Springs Watershed Project and the Waterloo Creek project development grant. The Indian Springs project is also funded by WIRB, and is the first watershed we have worked with that has an urban component, encompassing part of Waukon that includes the industrial park and most of the city park. The goals of this project are to minimize the amount of stormwater runoff from the city of Waukon into the Indian Springs Pond, reduce the amount of sediment and nutrient loading in the stream through pasture management and cropland conservation practices, and to educate the public on how urban and rural residents can impact water quality.

The assessment of the Waterloo Creek watershed began in April with a planning grant received from the Division of Soil Conservation and a water monitoring grant received from the Iowa DNR. Waterloo Creek was added to the Impaired Waters list in 2008 for a bacterial impairment. The results of this study will be used to provide support for a project grant to fund conservation practices with the goals of reducing the level of bacteria and turbidity in the watershed.

Our annual state cost-share programs, the State Cost-Share program for terraces and the REAP program for forestry practices, continue to provide a funding source for landowners and play a vital part in the overall conservation efforts in our county. Funding for these programs is awarded on a first come, first serve basis, so we encourage producers to sign up as soon as possible. We continually keep a waiting list so that if cancellations occur, the funding can be obligated to the next eligible landowner. Funding for calendar year 2011 has already been received and allocated, but landowners can still get on the waiting list to receive the next available funding.

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We were again able to award three \$500 scholarships and distribute prizes at the 2010 Allamakee County Fair. The scholarships were rewarded to Allamakee County students that were pursuing degrees in an agriculture related field. The scholarships and county fair prizes were funded with the generous donations that were made to the Allamakee SWCD.

The Allamakee County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners are elected on the general ballot, on a non-partisan basis to administer and direct the conservation programs in our county. We serve 4 year the people that are utilizing the terms and are not compensated for our time. We are proud of the conservation effort that producers in our county expend and enjoy working with them to accelerate and enhance the activities they are doing. We understand that progress is only made through the voluntary efforts of land and water resources. We would encourage people to let us know where we can improve our efforts. Please share your ideas with myself or the other Commissioners; Dan Byrnes, Jack Knight, Arlyn (Butch) Fossum, and Randy Kruger.

Ludlow Creek Watershed Project

by Chad Gilles

The Ludlow Creek Watershed project, funded by the Watershed Improvement Review Board (WIRB), is nearing the end of the second year of its three-year duration. Since the fall of 2009, 9,125 feet of terraces, one manure storage facility, five grade stabilization structures, and 19.4 additional acres of filter strips have been implemented in the Ludlow Creek Watershed. Thus far, a total of \$202,039 federal EQIP dollars, \$123,743 in WIRB project dollars, and \$91,430 in landowner dollars have been spent. These installed conservation practices will prevent an estimated 1,814 tons of sediment from directly entering sinkholes and Ludlow Creek every year.

Landowners in the Ludlow Creek watershed have been taking advantage of this funding to receive 75% cost-share during the first two years of this project and there is plenty more funding available heading into 2011, the third and final year of the project. Cost-share dollars are available for pasture and grazing management practices such as fencing, watering systems, and rotational grazing paddocks, as well as for manure management systems such as settling basins and storage tanks. Funding for grade stabilization structures and terraces is available but has become very limited due to the high amount of interest from landowners. However, we are still taking applications in the event that additional funding would become available.

If you live within the Ludlow Creek watershed and are interested in any of the practices mentioned, or would like to know more about the project please don't hesitate to contact me at the Allamakee SWCD at 563-568-2246 ext. 113. We can discuss available cost-shareable practices and look at options that are the right fit for your operation. I look forward to talking with you.

Conservation Education Day

The Allamakee SWCD sponsored the 34th annual Conservation Education Day on May 6, 2010 for the county sixth-grade students. The event was held at the Waukon city park. The day was successful and the weather cooperated. We hope the students learned many concepts about conservation and had fun at the same time.

The students learned many different reasons why conservation is important and different ways to conserve our natural resources. The instructors and the stations were as follows: Watersheds and Water Quality, Sara Berges and Chad Gilles, Allamakee SWCD; Native Animals, Larry Stott, Waukon Sixth Grade Teacher; Fur Bearers, DNR officers Vicky Hanson and Bill Collins, Waukon; Archaeology, Dennis Kirschbaum, Effigy Mounds; Tree Planting, Forester Andy Wroble, Harpers Ferry; Soils, LuAnn Rolling, Jacob Groth, and Barb Hanson, Allamakee NRCS; and Fish Identification, Theresa Shay and J.J. Moser, Fisheries, Decorah.

Andy Wroble furnished trees for the students to plant during his session. The students were each given a spruce tree to take home and plant on their own. District Commissioner Arlyn Fossum attended on behalf of the district. The district also furnished the lunches for the staff and instructors. Pat Monroe, State Secretary, organized the event and served the lunches.

District Commissioners

Lynn Stock, Chairman
Dan Byrnes, Vice Chair
Randy Kruger, Treasurer
Arlyn Fossum
Jack Knight

District Staff

Chad Gilles
Sara Berges
Matt Welsh

IDALS-DSC Staff

Stacy Riley, Acting
Secretary From
Winnesheik Co.

NRCS Staff

LuAnn Rolling, DC Tom Duvel, CA
Jacob Groth, SC
Steve Scholtes, CT
Barb Hanson, CT
Jim Ranum, Area Grassland Specialist

Allamakee SWCD Awards Scholarships

The Allamakee SWCD awarded three \$500 scholarships in conjunction with Allamakee Dollars for Scholars. The recipients were Patricia Melcher and John Erb of Waukon and Shannon Plaht of Postville. To be eligible for the scholarships, the applicants must be enrolling in an agricultural or natural resource based major. The SWCD was able to present these scholarships due to the generous donations that we receive from members of the conservation club.



Left to right – Stacy Riley (acting secretary from Winneshiek County), Pat Monroe, Lynn Ellefson, John Hausman



Staff Changes at the Waukon Field Office

The staff at the NRCS/Allamakee County SWCD office has gone through a lot of changes during the past year. Pat Monroe, Lynn Ellefson, and John Hausman have all retired from their conservation duties at the Waukon field office.

John Hausman retired in October of 2009 after 10 years of work as a District Technician. During that time, John handled most of the Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CCRP) for the county and assisted with conservation practice layout. Since retiring, John has been spending time with his wife Jane and dog Farfel, and pursuing his hobbies of fishing, hunting, woodworking, and knife making.

In January of this year, Lynn Ellefson retired after 14 years of employment as a District Watershed Coordinator. Lynn was in charge of numerous watershed projects including Hickory Creek, Williams Creek, Norfolk Creek, Yellow River Direct Drain, and the Sorenson Creek Project. During her tenure, Lynn assisted with conservation practice surveys, completed paperwork for cost share practices associated with these projects, and completed all reporting and accounting for the grants. During retirement, Lynn has been spending time with her husband Roger and family, babysitting her five grandchildren, hanging out at the family campground, and helping plan her son's wedding.

Pat Monroe retired after 13 years of service as the Allamakee SWCD's District Secretary in June 2010. Pat was responsible for managing state cost-share and REAP programs, district finances, conservation club donations, the county fair booth, as well as the agendas, minutes, and financial reports for the commissioners' meetings. In addition, Pat organized the SWCD's annual conservation education day, annual newsletter, and annual report. Pat also answered phone calls and was the first person to greet customers that came through the door. During retirement, Pat has been spending a lot of time with her family and friends. She has been helping her husband Jerry around the farm and babysitting her eight grandchildren. Pat has also been busy canning produce and learning to quilt and sew.

All three of these employees were a tremendous asset to the soil and water conservation effort in Allamakee County and will be missed. Their combined years of service resulted in many conservation practices being applied and preservation of our fragile natural resources. Due to the current financial climate, the secretary position will not be filled in the foreseeable future. Stacy Riley from the Decorah field office will be filling in and working two to three days a week in Waukon. If you are unable to reach anyone by phone, please leave a message and available staff will get back to you as soon as they can.

The past year also included several additions to the Waukon field office staff. In January, the SWCD hired Sara Berges to administer the Indian Springs Pond Watershed Project. This is a new project and is aimed at improving the water quality in the pond in the Waukon City Park and the headwaters of Big Paint Creek.

Two interns, Karissa Mercial and Justin Boersma, joined the staff this past summer. Karissa served as an NRCS summer intern with a forestry emphasis and spent the summer assisting NRCS employees with conservation

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duties and shadowing IDNR district foresters. Karissa returned to Iowa State University this fall for her sophomore year. Justin worked as a district intern and conducted a water quality analysis of Waterloo Creek. Justin collected water samples, conducted landowner surveys, and completed a land-use assessment of the watershed. Justin worked until mid-August when he accepted a position with NRCS in Anamosa. In September, Matthew Welsh from Waukon joined the staff to continue with the Waterloo Creek watershed analysis and plan.

**Allamakee County Soil
& Water
Conservation District
FY-10 – July 2009—June 2010
Report on Annual Use of District
Funds**

Yellow River Direct Drain (WIRB)

Beginning Balance	\$70,957.67
Obligated	\$0.00
Expended	\$62,898.25
Unobligated Balance	\$8,059.42

Norfolk Creek (WIRB)

Beginning Balance	\$61,361.51
Allocation	\$37,000.00
Obligated	\$0.00
Expended	\$30,830.05
Unobligated Balance	\$67,531.46

Ludlow Creek Watershed (WIRB)

Beginning Balance	\$53,139.52
Allocation	\$177,968.00
Obligated	\$39,705.75
Expended	\$71,651.67
Unobligated Balance	\$119,750.10

Indian Springs Pond Watershed (WIRB)

Allocation	\$50,847.00
Obligated	\$5,082.55

Expended	\$14,613.12
Unobligated Balance	\$31,151.33

Waterloo Creek Watershed (Watershed Planning Grant)

Allocation	\$14,960.00
Expended	\$2,069.40
Unobligated Balance	\$12,890.60

Revolving Funds Beginning Balance**\$4,951.25****Income**

Conservation Club Donations	\$2,688.00
Interest	\$25.37
Petty Cash Deposit	\$0.89
Total Receipts	\$2,714.26

Expenses

Audit of District Funds	\$750.00
Commissioner's Mileage	\$113.63
Conservation Ed. Day	\$135.98
Markers/Shirts for Fair	\$135.98
Fair Booth	\$135.98
Newsletter Printing	\$110.33
Newspaper Subscription	\$35.00
Postage	\$390.64
Scholarships	\$1,500.00
Website Domain	\$13.67
Total Expenses	\$3,222.89
Ending Balance	\$4,442.62

District Employee Funds**Beginning Balance \$3,193.83****Income**

Agri-fine, Sale of Drill	\$4,300.00
Agri-fine, Water Sampling	\$16.20
Allamakee Co. Board of Supervisors	\$2,000.00
Correction of Check Amnt	\$0.63
Fleval	\$1,625.00
Indian Springs Project	\$31,847.00
Indian Springs Salary	\$19,000.00
Interest	\$182.55
Ludlow Creek Project	\$136,610.00
Ludlow Creek Salary	\$41,358.00
Norfolk Project	\$15,000.00
Norfolk Salary	\$22,000.00
Transfer from NASB Money Market	\$12,592.14

Transfer from WSB Money Market	\$216,448.43
USFWS	\$56,812.50
Waterloo Creek Salary & Survey	\$14,760.00
Waterloo Creek (Trout Unlimited)	\$200.00
Total Receipts	\$574,752.45

Expenses

Agri-fine Funds	\$8,592.00
Commissioners' Buffer Initiative	\$32,180.00
Fed Taxes	\$14,286.65
Hagen & Kallevang	\$895.00
IA Taxes	\$2,663.00
IA Workforce Development	\$292.77
Indian Springs Project	\$2,396.79
IPERS	\$7,166.65
Ludlow Project	\$42,732.08
Newspaper	\$24.00
Norfolk Project	\$18,299.68
Service Charge + Tax	\$5.35
Transfer to WSB Money Market	\$263,872.03
USFWS	\$56,812.50
Wages Paid	\$52,238.88
Yellow River Direct Drain Project	\$62,898.25
Total Expenses	\$565,355.63
Ending Balance	\$12,590.65

Money Market NASB

Beginning Balance	\$182,281.51
Interest	\$2,884.32
Transfer to Payroll Account	\$12,592.14
Ending Balance	\$172,573.69

Money Market WSB

Beginning Balance	\$128,968.56
Interest	\$2,791.35
Deposits (from Payroll)	\$264,272.03
Payment (to Payroll)	\$216,848.43

1M Funds

Beginning Balance	\$0.04
Deposit	\$2,405.00
Supplemental Deposit	\$400.00
CDI Dues	-\$850.00
Commissioners' Mileage	-\$263.92
Jackson SWCD – Regional Mtg.	-\$8.00
NACD Dues	-\$61.50
Newsletter Printing	-\$500.67
Pamida	-\$16.99
Postage	-\$913.96
Poster Contest	-\$5.00
USPS Bulk Mailing Permit	-\$185.00
Ending Balance	\$0.00

Petty Cash

Beginning Balance	\$24.64
Amount Spent	-\$23.75
Balance (Transferred to Revolving)	\$0.89
Ending Balance (Closed)	\$0.00

Ending Balance \$179,183.51

Indian Springs Pond Watershed

By Sara Berges

The Indian Springs Pond Watershed Project is nearing the end of the first year of the three-year water quality project funded by the Watershed Improvement Review Board (WIRB). This is a unique project because it is utilizing both rural and urban conservation practices to improve the water quality of Paint Creek and Indian Springs Pond, which is located within the Waukon city park. There is a great need for conservation in this watershed because the pond is filling in at a rate of 6-8 inches per year. Twenty years ago, when the pond was constructed, the initial depth was approximately 16 feet but has since been reduced to 3 feet due to sedimentation.

The rural practices funded through the project are terraces, sediment basins, pasture management, and filter strips. These common practices help to reduce the amount of sediment that erodes off agricultural ground or traps it before it reaches the stream.

Urban conservation is a new field that focuses on collecting and infiltrating rainfall rather than allowing it to run off of the many impervious surfaces found in cities such as streets, roofs, and driveways. The two urban practices that are funded through this project are rain gardens and rain barrels. Rain gardens often look like a regular flower garden, but are designed to increase the amount of water that infiltrates or soaks into the soil. A rain garden is planned to be installed next year in the city park. Rain barrels capture rain water from downspouts and contain it for future use. This reduces the amount of water and pollutants that enter streams during storm events. Water from rain barrels is not meant for drinking but can be used for household tasks such watering plants and washing cars which can save you money. Several rain barrels were installed this summer and the owners were amazed at how much water they could capture to use around their yards.

Landowners in the watershed have the opportunity to take advantage of this grant to receive up to 75% cost-share on these conservation practices. If you live or farm within the Indian Springs Pond watershed and are interested in any of these practices, please contact me at the Allamakee SWCD at 563-568-2246 ext. 115.



Rain barrel in the Indian Springs Pond Watershed.

Allamakee SWCD Mission Statement

The mission of the Allamakee County Soil and Water Conservation District is to provide local leadership in the advancement of the protection and enhancement of the natural resources of Allamakee County by providing technical, education, and financial assistance to the public by using all available resources.

IDALS-DSC Mission Statement

The Division of Soil Conservation is responsible for state leadership in the protection and management of soil, water, and mineral resources assisting soil and water conservation districts and private landowners to meet their agricultural and environmental protection needs.

What is the best grass for pastures?

By Jim Ranum

When working with livestock producers on grazing systems I am often asked, "What is the best grass for my pastures?" My answer is, you want a grass that is highly productive, high quality, very palatable, establishes easily and will last indefinitely. Unfortunately, there is not a perfect grass that has all these desirable traits. The best grass is the one that has many of these traits and will work for the class of livestock, production goals, and soil types for the grazing system on your farm.

One of the first considerations is matching the grass to the soil types. Some grasses, like Timothy, will perform well in heavy, wet soils but do not last in drier soils while others, like Smooth brome, are the opposite and do well in the drier sites but can't tolerate saturated soils. There are some grasses, such as Reed canarygrass or Tall fescue, that do well in both wet or dry soils so they would be the logical choice, but these tend to have palatability issues. There are grasses, like perennial ryegrass, that are high quality, very palatable, and establish easily, but these tend to be short lived.

With the soil type production goals and class of livestock, the grass that fits your situation best can be selected. Once you have decided on the type of grass, the variety should be selected. There can be a large yield difference between cultivars of the same species. Research done in Wisconsin comparing cultivars has shown as much as a ton difference. Another consideration is the growth curve; some cultivars produce most of their yield in the first two months while others spread it out more evenly throughout the growing season.

NRCS, seed companies, and coop agronomists can provide technical assistance to select options for your operation. Contact the NRCS at 563-568-2246.

New REAP Grant to Fund Trails in Park Addition

The city of Waukon was awarded a Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) grant to fund trails in a new addition to the city park, located southwest of the current park. The Allamakee SWCD worked closely with city officials in the grant writing process and will continue to work together as we commence work on the project. The main components of the project are to develop recreational trails and bridges throughout the new park addition, to remove invasive shrub and tree species that have taken over the woodland areas in the park and park addition, and to clean and fence around the sinkholes that are near the campground in the park. A kiosk will be installed in 2011 at the proposed trail head to illustrate trail locations, plans for future trails, and updates on the project. As this project proceeds, there will be numerous volunteer opportunities to participate in such as removing invasive trees and shrubs, and building trail bridges. If you would like more information on the project or would like to serve as a volunteer in any way, please call us at 563-568-2246 or email Sara Berges at sara.berges@ia.nacdnet.net.

Introducing Sara Berges, New Watershed Technician

My name is Sara Berges and I am a new District employee at the Allamakee SWCD. I started in January of this year as a watershed technician for the Indian Springs Pond Watershed Project. I have been working with landowners and the city of Waukon to improve the quality of water in Big Paint Creek and the Indian Springs Pond, which is located in the city park.

I grew up in Ottumwa, Iowa. I received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 2006 from Central College in Pella with a major in Biology and a minor in Chemistry. I then attended Iowa State University to work towards a Master of Science degree from the department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management and graduated in 2009. My thesis work included a study on streambank erosion in northeast Missouri and a bird survey on Bear Creek, just north of Ames. After graduating, I took a temporary position with the Wapello County SWCD.

I am glad that I have the opportunity to work in my field in such a beautiful part of Iowa. My husband, Cameron, and I recently purchased a house in Waukon and he started the Computer Technology degree at NICC in Calmar this fall. We are enjoying Waukon and I look forward to meeting and working with the people of Allamakee County.



Waterloo Creek Watershed Study

By Matt Welsh

The Waterloo Creek Watershed study started April 2010, as a collaborative effort between the Allamakee SWCD and the Houston County (MN) Soil and Water Commission. The Bee and Duck Creek Watershed Committee is aiding the project for the portion of the watershed located in Houston County (MN). The culmination of this study will be a watershed plan for the entire Waterloo Creek Watershed and grants will be sought to implement the watershed plan. The goals for this watershed are to decrease soil erosion, improve water quality, assist landowners with implementing conservation practices, and improve the quality of the Waterloo Creek Watershed.

The 31,000 acre watershed is located in both Minnesota and Iowa. Bee and Duck Creeks, in southern Houston County (MN), enter Iowa and form Waterloo Creek. Waterloo Creek is designated as a High Quality Cold Water Stream in Iowa. The creek is a popular location for trout fishermen and outdoorsmen. The unique limestone dominated Karst topography of this region has features, such as springs, that keep the water cold, but many of these features, such as sinkholes, also make the creek susceptible to contamination from many possible sources.

A large part of the study is an assessment to examine impairments that are currently affecting Waterloo Creek. This assessment involves water sampling to determine factors that might degrade the water quality of Waterloo Creek. A survey was sent to landowners to receive their input and feedback on the watershed. With the help and financial support of the Iowa DNR, fish sampling is occurring on Waterloo Creek. GIS assessments are also being completed to examine erosion and sediment delivery to the stream. Components of the project underway currently are a livestock assessment and sinkhole assessment. The data collection and assessment will continue through the fall, and a watershed plan will be completed in December of 2010. The Waterloo Creek Advisory Committee is working diligently with landowners in the watershed and providing frequent updates on the project as they occur.

Matt Welsh is the district intern working on the Waterloo Creek study. He is originally from the Allamakee County area and graduated from Waukon Senior High. He received a B.S. degree in Agricultural Studies from ISU in 2009. After graduation, he worked as a Quality Assurance Supervisor for BPI Technology, based out of Waterloo. He moved back to Waukon this summer and started working on the Waterloo Creek study at the beginning of September when the previous intern, Justin Boersma, took a job with NRCS. If anyone would like additional information on the project, please contact Matt at the NRCS Office in Waukon.

DSC Funding Report

FARMS Regular Account		Expended	\$62,898.25
Allocations	\$47,339.60	Unobligated Balance	\$8,059.42
Supplemental	\$26,180.20		
Obligated	\$19,871.18	Norfolk Creek	
Expended	\$93,109.58	Beginning Balance	\$61,361.51
Recalled	\$281.40	Allocation	\$37,000.00
		Expended	\$30,830.05
FARMS REAP-P		Unobligated Balance	\$67,531.46
Allocations	\$12,300.19		
Supplemental	\$5,746.57	Ludlow Creek Watershed	
Obligated	\$22,930.54	Beginning Balance	\$53,139.52
Spent	\$39,940.25	Allocation	\$177,968.00
Recalled	\$1,037.05	Obligated	\$39,705.75
		Expended	\$71,651.67
FARMS REAP-F		Unobligated Balance	\$119,750.10
Allocations	\$4,101.30		
Supplemental	\$12,300.90	Indian Springs Pond Watershed	
Obligated	\$6,405.00	Allocation	\$50,847.00
Expended	\$22,410.00	Obligated	\$5,082.55
Recalled	\$397.20	Expended	\$14,613.12
		Unobligated Balance	\$31,151.33
Buffer Initiative - \$200/acre			
65.2 acres	\$13,040.00	Waterloo Creek Watershed (Watershed Planning Grant)	
		Allocation	\$14,960.00
Special Projects (WIRB funded):		Expended	\$2,069.40
Yellow River Direct Drain		Unobligated Balance	\$12,890.60
Beginning Balance	\$70,957.67		

PRACTICES/PROJECTS COMPLETED FY10 July 2009—June 2010

State Cost Share - Terraces

Keith Johnson	2,000'
Randall Bakke	1,575'
Thomas Wiemerslage	1,750'
Kenneth Kerndt	1,000'
Timothy Enyart	850'
Robert Moses	650'
Daryl Schultz	300'
Dean Teslow	4,700'
Kenneth McCormick	2,100'
Robert Berns	6,775'
David Prestemon	350'
Willis Johanningmeier	2,150'
Robert Keehner	2,400'
Hall Everman	300'
Dean Teslow	1,775'
Jackie Everett	1,450'
Thomas Berns	1,475'
John Ruff	525'
Jeffery Byrnes	6,450'
Wayne Weber	1,850'
Richard Grove	750'
Theodore McNally	3,250'
Terry Mohs	1,150'
Total	45,545'

REAP-P

Paul Szurek	Tree/Shrub Estab.	6.7 ac
Florence Cohen	Tree/Shrub Estab.	5 ac
Florence Cohen	Site Prep.	5 ac
Ronald Snitker	Tree/Shrub Estab.	12 ac
Ronald Snitker	Site Prep.	12 ac
Donald Piche	Tree/Shrub Estab.	9.5 ac
Norbert Palmer	Tree/Shrub Estab.	3 ac
Gerald Conway	TSI	5 ac
Gerald Conway	Tree/Shrub Estab.	3.4 ac
Richard Gander	Site Prep.	56 ac
Richard Gander	TSI	21 ac
Lee Venteicher	TSI	31.5 ac
Terry Cannady	Tree/Shrub Estab.	8 ac
Angela Freilingner-Mohs	TSI	15 ac
Kevin Bentien	Windbreak	1 ac
Ronald Berns	TSI	5 ac

REAP-F

Paul Szurek	Tree/Shrub Estab.	13.7 ac
Richard Gander	TSI	48 ac
David Weymiller	TSI	50 ac
David Weymiller	TSI	50 ac

TCRP

Indian Hills Farm LLC	5.7 ac
Arvin Koopman	6 ac
DBTH Inc	6.3 ac

USFWS - Streambank Stabilization

Loren Lenth	380'
Curtis Lundy	785'
Tim Meyer	250'

Ludlow Project

Mauray Regan	Terraces	450'
Randy Kruger	Terraces	4,050'
Steve Enyart	Terraces	2,075'
Gary White	Terraces	5,300'
Don Elsbernd	Grade Stab.	1
Randy Pausch	Grade Stab.	1
Linda Peterson	Grade Stab.	1
Tony Halverson	Grade Stab	1
James Duvel	Filter Strips	15.8 ac
Gary White	Filter Strips	3.6 ac

Yellow River Direct Drain

Dick Dage	Grade Stab.	1
Glenn Griffin	Grade Stab.	1
Marsha Cooper	Grade Stab.	1
Gary Gelo	Grade Stab.	3

Norfolk Project

Larry Knocke	Sediment Basin	3
Gary Johnson	Terraces	2,300'
Roswell Davis	Terraces	1,600'

Indian Springs Project

Curtis Schoenthal	Rain Barrel	1
Daniel McGovern	Rain Barrel	1
Daniel Welsh	Rain Barrel	1
Leslie Kerndt	Terraces	1475'

Buffer Initiative - \$200/acre

Glenn Griffin	1.1 ac
Dennis Troendle	8.3 ac
Doris Anderson	8.9 ac
Lenny Bulman	18.1 ac
Chad Hawes	21.6 ac
Donus Dee	7.2 ac
Total	65.2

Commissioners' Buffer Initiative - \$200/ac

Scott Ness	2.8 ac
Jeff Byrnes	17.1 ac
Donus Dee	24.8 ac
Dan Bacon	20.5 ac
Trent Jacobs	3.0 ac
Dan Lyons	6.0 ac
Al Peterson	10.0 ac
Doug Weymiller	2.5 ac
Dennis Troendle	2.5 ac
Earl Schulte	1.2 ac
Heath Dee	7.2 ac
Dave Weymiller	41.1 ac
Dale Mathis	22.2 ac
Total	160.9 ac

IJOBS - CRP

James Ulring	CP31	22.6 ac
Wayne Bruch	CP22	1.3 ac
Sandra Koehring	CP22	7.3 ac
Don Elsbernd	CP22	2.2 ac
David Dull	CP22	7.0 ac
Burton Wild	CP31	2.0 ac

STATE COST SHARE FOR CONSERVATION PRACTICES

Due to the limited amount of state cost share money received, the Allamakee County District Commissioners have prioritized terrace installation over other structural practices such as ponds and sediment control basins. The monies received are available on a first come, first serve basis. The cost share rate is 50%. There is usually a year waiting list, so we encourage any producers thinking about installing terraces to plan ahead and come in to complete their estimates and sign up for cost share to get your name on the list.

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is another potential funding source for terraces. The money is based on a competitive ranking process for this funding. The sign up usually occurs once per year, primarily in January.

Federal Programs Available for Conservation Practices

By LuAnn Rolling

There are currently several programs available for installing conservation practices. They include the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), and the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).

The EQIP program is offered on a competitive basis with each application receiving a ranking score based on environmental factors. These include physical location of the practice, the potential of that practice to impact the environment and national, state, and local priorities. There is not a county pool of funds so each application is being ranked compared to other applications across the entire state. Practices included for Allamakee County included terraces, forestry practices, livestock manure management systems and pasture practices.

The livestock manure systems may include total containment, such as a manure storage tank, a manure settling facility off a lot with a filter channel, or a new building. In order to be eligible for a new building, the producer must be eliminating all of their open lots at this facility. The building has to be entirely roofed with no outside access for the animals. The entire floor of the building must be concrete and any outside manure stacking must also be roofed. Also, all of the animals have to currently be at this location (not expansions or new enterprises) to be eligible. Producers need to obtain their own engineer for design, construction inspection, and certification of the building. If the building is located in karst terrain, characterized by shallow bedrock and/or sinkholes, the building must also have secondary containment constructed around it to prevent any possible runoff in the event of an emergency.

The pasture practices include rotational grazing which may include fencing, planting, watering systems and lane improvements. The watering systems may include installing a fountain, fortifying access to a limited area on a stream or a pond.

The WHIP program is also offered on a statewide competitive basis. The WHIP practices include streambank stabilization, forestry practices, and prairie plantings. Most WHIP approvals in Allamakee County have been for streambank stabilization. This practice involves stabilizing the streambank at its current location utilizing rock and grading the bank back to a flatter grade. The NRCS will assist landowners with survey, design and installation of the practice and with obtaining all necessary permits from the Iowa DNR and from the US Army Corps of Engineers.

The CSP program involves completing an extensive tool to determine the amount of past conservation activity and involves completing new activities. The payment is on either cropland, pastureland or forest. All applications are ranked on a statewide basis.

There is a continuous sign-up for all three of the programs listed above. At a specified date, the applications are all gathered and ranked and funding is allocated. The typical time for EQIP and WHIP has been January/February. If a producer is interested in signing up for either of these program they need to be contacting the NRCS office as soon as possible so cost estimates can be prepared. The funding for the EQIP and WHIP program is on a flat rate basis which typically comes out to approximately 50% of the total cost. The CSP program dates will be announced before the next deadline.

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