

North Raccoon River Watershed 1208-005 Final Project Report

Financial Accountability

Summary: Watershed Improvement Funds

| Grant Agreement Budget Line Item | Total Approved Funds | Total Funds Expended | Available Funds |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Salary and Benefits | \$62,400 | \$62,400.00 | \$0 |
| Marketing and Publicity | \$1,500 | \$791.93 | \$708.07 |
| Totals | \$63,900 | \$63,191.93 | \$708.07 |
| Difference | | | \$708.07 |

Because WIRB funds became available towards the latter half of the project the need for marketing and publicity was less than anticipated.

Summary: Total Project Funding

| Funding Source | Approved Budget | Actual Expended |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| WIRB | 63,900 | \$63,191.93 |
| MRBI (EQIP) | 800,000 | \$2,558,203.75 |
| Landowner | 0 | \$377,184.03 |
| Other (BVSWCD) | 0 | \$19,271.16 |
| Total | \$863,900 | \$3,017,850.87 |

WIRB % application approved: 8%

WIRB % actual: 2%

Environmental Accountability

Summary: Activities Planned / Completed

| Activity | Unit | Goal | Actual | Percentage Completion |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Contacts | No. | 200 | 191 | 95.5 |
| News Releases | No. | 8 | 6 | 75 |
| Radio Spots | No. | 2 | 2 | 100 |
| Workshops | No. | 2 | 2 | 75 |

The project had very good outreach participation and the two years of WIRB funding represent only a portion of the entire project that has practices scheduled from 2010 through 2016. WIRB funds allowed the project to continue outreach through FYs 13 and 14. The practices summary below accounts for certified completed practices in those years. The use of cover crops was highly successful and greatly exceeded expectations.

Summary: Practices

| Cropland/Livestock Related | Program | Units | FY13 Goal | FY13 Actual | FY14 Goal | FY14 Actual | Total Goal | Total Actual |
|---|---------|-------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| 102- Comprehensive Nutrient Mgmt Plan Written | EQIP | No | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 |
| 104- Nutrient Mgmt Plan Written | EQIP | No | 19 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 23 | 9 |
| 329- Residue & Tillage Mgmt, No-Till/Strip-Till | EQIP | Ac | 5875 | 1333 | 4375 | 1105 | 10,250 | 2438 |
| 313- Waste Storage Facility | EQIP | No | 5 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 9 | 6 |
| 340- Cover Crop | EQIP | Ac | 6240 | 9700 | 4140 | 10,931.00 | 10,380 | 20,631 |
| 342- Critical Area Planting | EQIP | Ac | 4 | 4.1 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 4.1 |
| 350- Sediment Basin | EQIP | No | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 382- Fence | EQIP | Ft | 600 | 0 | 500 | 0 | 1100 | 0 |
| 393- Filter Strip | EQIP | Ac | 17 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 27 | 0 |
| 410- Grade Stabilization Structure | EQIP | No | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 412- Grassed Waterway | EQIP | Ft | 7000 | 1400 | 3375 | 0 | 10,375 | 1400 |
| 484- Mulching | EQIP | Ac | 4 | 0 | 2.5 | 0 | 6.5 | 0 |
| 512- Pasture & Hay Land Planting | EQIP | Ac | 15 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 25 | 0 |
| 516- Pipeline | EQIP | Ft | 500 | 0 | 500 | 0 | 1000 | 0 |
| 528- Prescribed Grazing | EQIP | Ac | 20 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 35 | 0 |
| 533- Pumping Plant | EQIP | No | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 554- Drainage Water Mgmt- Written | EQIP | No | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| 561- Heavy Use Area Protection | EQIP | Ac | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| 590- Nutrient Management | EQIP | Ac | 6640 | 1333 | 5340 | 1337 | 11,980 | 2670 |
| 632- Solid/Liquid Waste Separation Facility | EQIP | No | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 600- Terraces | EQIP | Ft | 1700 | 2088 | 1000 | 0 | 2700 | 2088 |
| 606- Subsurface Drain | EQIP | Ft | 1000 | 1663 | 1000 | 0 | 2000 | 1663 |
| 614- Watering Facility | EQIP | No | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 620- Underground Outlet | EQIP | Ft | 3100 | 0 | 2875 | 0 | 5975 | 0 |
| 638- Water and Sediment Control Basin | EQIP | No | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| 657- Wetland Restoration | WREP | No | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 747- Denitrifying Bioreactor | EQIP | No | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| 799- Field Monitoring | EQIP | No. | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 1 |

Program Accountability

Workshops, tours and demonstration sites were very helpful to allow producers and landowners to experience firsthand practice requirements and how they work. There are many producers and landowners out there that have an interest in applying conservation practices to their operation, but hesitate because of a lack of knowledge and concerns over financial impact. EQIP funding of practices with an incentive rate helped eliminate financial risk concerns. However, EQIP contracts are a little frightening to many potential applicants. After the fears of a federal contract are eased, EQIP is an effective means of getting new participants involved in water quality improvement practices. The project created a heightened awareness

for the need to put conservation practices on the ground and the more people see the use of these practices the more interest is sparked. With increased implementation of reduced tillage, proper nutrient management and the use of cover crops great strides have been made to improve water quality in the North Raccoon River watershed and Iowa.

WIRB/MRBI Headwaters North Raccoon River - Applied Practices October 2012 - June 2014.

