

Aitkin County

Local Work Group development of local EQIP.

 Aitkin

District FY04 EQIP

1. List the local resource concerns that EQIP can address: See item # 2

2. If applicable, list any geographic regions (i.e. watersheds, townships, etc.) and their respective resource concerns within the District to receive priority:
 - a. **Big Sandy, Snake River & MilleLacs Watersheds water quality concern- priority for B1 practices.**
 - b. **DNR designated management areas, White pine restoration, practices # 490 & 643, Site prep & restoration of declining habitats.****
 - c. **DNR designated management areas, sharp-tail habitat management –practice # 647 & 338, early successional habitat development and management.****

**** Reference specific DNR management area maps in Aitkin SWCD office.**

3. Prioritize and weight each local resource concern for the district or for each geographic region. Weight must be between 1 and 10:

Factor	Resource Priority	Geographic Priority	Weight
A1. Erosion Control	Medium		4
A2 Gully Control	Medium		5
B1 Water Resource	High		10
B2 Wastewater/CNMP	Low		3
C Wildlife Habitat	High		10
D Air Quality	Low		4
E Impaired Water	Low		1
F Distance	High		10
G Grazing System	Medium		6
H Forest Mgt.	High		8
Additional Local*	High		10

* If the additional local concern is scored, describe the concern here and how points will be scored. Points will be scored for local concerns if specified practices are planned for implementation. [item #2]

4. Attach the scoring worksheet as recommended for the district. Scoring Worksheet as issued by NRCS State office with priority factors added.
5. List any recommended practices to be deleted from the state Conservation Practice Payment Document none

The local EQIP program description, cost-share docket changes, and ranking worksheet must be reviewed and approved by the State Conservationist before any EQIP contract is approved and signed.

This document serves as the Local Work Group recommendation for FY 04EQIP. Attached is a roster of participation in the Local Work Group.

Steven R Hughes

Feb 26, 2004

Chair, Local Work Group

Date

ENVIROMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM

LOCAL WORK GROUP MEETING

Minutes of the EQIP local work group meeting held at the Aitkin Ag Service center on Tuesday Feb 17, 2004 @9:30 AM.

Those in attendance were:

Daren Wysocki, DNR Forestry

Dave Kanz, DNR Wildlife

John Francis, USF&WS

Mark Jacobs, Aitkin County

Chuck Anderson, FSA

Frank Turnock, SWCD

Mike Lentz, SWCD

Dennis Thompson, SWCD

Steve Gorecky, NRCS

Steve Hughes, SWCD

Purpose of the meeting is to review the EQIP program from 2003 & set priorities for the 2004 project year. New priority sheets were handed out. The group felt that "G" grazing systems needs to be scored higher as some good projects were scoring somewhat low. Moved it up to a more balanced "medium" priority. All other priorities would remain the same as in 2003.

There were no other suggested changes to the program – group felt that as time went on there would interest in the program and better funding.

No other changes to the local program were suggested.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00AM

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Nelson

Aitkin County SWCD