ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM (EQIP)
Local Work Goup Meeting
Tuesday, November 18, 2008

Meeting called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Ron Tibodeau, Supervisor - Cottonwood Soil and Water Conservation District, at the Cottonwood SWCD meeting room.

Work Group Participants in Attendance:
April Sullivan – NRCS
Dave Bucklin – Cottonwood SWCD
Ron Tibodeau – Cottonwood SWCD
Karen Boysen - NRCS

Recap of 2008 EQIP in Cottonwood County:
18 obligated contracts ~ 3,170.30 acres ~ $181,583.72.

Discussion of Resource Concern Surveys:
#1 Priority – Erosion Control – 14 votes
#2 Priority – Water Resource Protection – 10 votes
#3 Priority – Wildlife Habitat – (1 vote)
Consensus of the group to use the 2008 Resource Concern Priority List.

Prioritize Local Work Group and Concerns

Factor	Resource Priority (L-M-H)	Weight (1-10)
A1. Erosion Control	H	6
Moldboard Plow to Mulch Till	H	10
Mulch Till to No-Till	H	8
A2. Gully Control	H	8
B1. Water Resource	H	7
Nutrient Mgmt (590 non-784)	H	10
Well Sealing	H	10
B2. Wastewater/CNMP	H	7
Increase Storage/Repair (784)	L	0
C. Habitat Improvement	M	6
D. Air Quality	M	4
E. Impaired Water	H	8
F. Distance	M	5
**300 ft – 1000 ft from water	H	10
G. Grazing System	M	6
H. Forest Mgt.	L	1
***Additional Local	H	10

- If the additional local concern is scored, describe the concern here and how points will be scored. Include any geographic priorities.

Geographic regions and concerns for the county:
**Score high priority for projects within 300 feet from surface water or intake and 1,000 feet from a lake.
***Will also give high priority to the Drinking Water Supply Management Areas in Cottonwood County.

The group did not delete any practices from the state Conservation Practice Payment Document.

Group dismissed at 10:44 a.m.

Submitted by Dave Bucklin

Local Work Group - Development of Local EQIP.

Cottonwood Soil and Water Conservation District FY09 EQIP

1. List the local resource concerns that EQIP can address:

Soil erosion (sheet and rill erosion) (ephemeral gully erosion)

Surface water and ground water

Feedlot runoff – manure application

Pasture conditions and grazing concerns

Wildlife habitat, especially for ducks

Invasive species

2. If applicable, list any geographic regions (i.e. watersheds, townships, etc.) and their respective resource concerns within the District to receive priority:

Drinking Water Supply Management Areas in Cottonwood County. (Map)

Federally impaired waters
- Des Moines River
-Lower MN River for Dissolved Oxygen
-Greater Blue Earth for Fecal Coliform

3. From items 1 & 2 above prioritize the local resource concerns to be addressed with EQIP funding for the district. Describe a minimum of 3 categories of the highest priority applications which you would want to receive funding.

Soil loss county wide – sheet-rill-wind erosion

Water quality concerns in the Des Moines River Watershed

Water quality in the rest of Cottonwood County

Drinking Water Supply Management Areas as designated in Cottonwood County

4. Develop a minimum of 3 and maximum of 12 yes/no questions to determine if an application is addressing the high priority concerns described in item 3.

1. (Non-point Source)	*Nutrient management plan is not addressing feedlot runoff or manure? (Emphasis on Commercial Applications)*	*10 points*
2. (Soil Erosion)	*Soil loss calculations equaling three or more tons saved?*	*10 points*
3. (All Concerns)	*Does this application address three or more concerns?*	*10 points*
4. (Water Quality)	*Are the proposed projects within 300 feet of surface water or 1,000 feet from a lake?*	*10 points*
5. (Water Quality)	*Is the proposed project within the Drinking Water Supply Management Area?*	*10 points*

5. Assign points to the questions in Item #4 as desired to reflect local priorities. The total points assigned to the questions must equal between 35-60 points.

YES

6. Submit this worksheet to your respective ASTC(FO). After approval from the state office, the questions will be entered into the Local Issues section of the ranking tool.

7. 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 09 EQIP. Attached is a roster of participation in the Local Work Group.

Ronald Tibodeau — Nov. 18, 2008

Chair, Local Work Group — Date