

Agriculture Water Quality Partnership Forum

Conclusions and Next Steps

Tuesday, Apr 4, 2017 – Springfield IDA FFA Room

1:30 – 3:30 pm

1:40 – 2:00 pm	<p>Des Moines Water Works Lawsuit – Craig Sonderoth, IDOA General Counsel</p> <p>Summary of informational talk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Two years ago, Des Moines Water Works sued drainage districts in Federal Court. They wanted 1. to declare that tiles are point sources and 2. to be awarded money for plant upgrades. The state ruled that drainage districts are immune from money damages. The case has been dismissed in entirety. The Federal Court reiterated not an allowed constitutional claim. Bill Northey, IA Secretary of Agriculture, stated that “this is a welcome result.”
2:00 – 2:15 pm	<p>Science Team update – Warren Goetsch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ NLRS Science Team is transitioning due to retirements. Dr. Laura Christianson, University of Illinois, is one of the new members.
2:15 – 3:00 pm	<p>Biennial Report Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Decided to call the first two logic model elements “Resources” and “Outreach”.➤ Outreach –➤ Discussion about tech committee data and the most accurate graphic representation for the categories. Dr. Anna Marshall, University of Illinois, covered her analysis of the Outreach data.
3:00 – 3:10 pm	<p>Winter Meeting Recap and Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ NREC made connections with southern part of the state. Carbondale meeting about P. Questions about gypsum.➤ IFCA also doing more in S. IL.➤ AFT working in Vermilion and Macoupin Cr. Been working with modelers on where to locate BMPs. Also working with USGS on WQ monitoring.➤ TNC hiring new Dir of sustainable Ag. Upper Sangamon watershed program. Working with SWCD McLean Co Field Day.➤ Soils and Water Lobby Day April 26.➤ New MRTN for Spr Watershed is out. At IFCA website.➤ SWCD finishing up plan for summer conf. Working to develop a common policy among districts.
3:10 – 3:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ NLRS Workshop and Next steps <p>Root of what we’re trying to do: changing behavior. Are there policies that encourage changes in behavior? w/o regulation or money. How about recognition like “River Friendly Farmer”? non regulatory.... Show that you’re a good steward of the land.</p> <p>Bring in some farmers to talk about their experiences. Why don’t they? Why do they? Discussion panel. Facilitated. What wd it take for you to try it?</p>

	<p>Bridge between the two. Can we show that adaption of these rates show WQ improvement? Can you move the needle faster if you TARGET? Where do we focus on the landscape? SWAT optimization model in watershed.</p>
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Agriculture Water Quality Partnership Forum Charge

1. Steer and coordinate **outreach** and **education** efforts to help farmers address nutrient loss and select the most appropriate BMPs:
 - i. Identify needed education initiatives or training requirements for farmer and technical advisors
 - ii. Strengthen connections between industry initiatives, certified crop advisor continuing education requirements, state initiatives, and other technical service
2. BMP Tracking
3. Coordinate cost share and targeting
4. Develop other tools as needed