

## MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - On Tuesday June 20, 2017, at 7:04 pm a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the St Joseph County SWCD at the Centre Township Branch of the St. Joseph County Public Library was called to order by John Dooms, Chairman.
- II. **Yellow River 319 Implementation Grant** – Tyson Edwards (Chairman) & Debbie Palmer (District Coordinator) from Marshall County SWCD came to explain a grant they are wanting to apply for and have our county be partners with them since location 12 from the Headwaters of the Yellow River 319 grant showed high levels of E.coli, nitrogen, etc. (attached). Application deadline is in September 2017 and if awarded funds would be available for 3 years from 2019-2021. After some discussion it was decided to mull it over and have a further discussion during the quarterly supervisors meeting in early August and a decision will be made at the August board meeting.

**PRESENT – SWCD**

John Dooms, Chair/Supervisor  
 Stacey Silvers, Supervisor  
 Jeremy Cooper, Vice-Chair/Supervisor  
 Dave Vandewalle, Supervisor

**PRESENT – SWCD/NRCS**

Sarah Longenecker, SWCD CC  
 Sandra Hoffarth, SWCD AA

**Present - EX-OFFICIO**

n/a  
**PRESENT – Public**  
 David Straughn  
 Marshall County SWCD (Tyson  
 Edwards & Debbie Palmer)

**ABSENT – SWCD**

Debbie Knepp, NRCS DC  
 Rick Glassman, SWCD EEC  
 Mike Burkholder, Supervisor  
 Dave Craft  
 Jan Ivkovich  
 Dru Wrasse  
 Richard Schmidt  
 Randy Matthys  
 Dale Stoner  
 Arlene Schuchman  
 Chuck Lehman  
 Jim LaFree  
 Carole Riewe

III. **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

IV. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

- a. **Legislative Updates** – n/a
- b. **Indiana Conservation Partnership Updates** – n/a
- c. **Minutes: April 18, 2017 board meeting** – Minutes were reviewed and approved as presented.
- d. **Treasurer’s Report: (4/19/17-6/20/2017)** – The treasurer’s reports were both reviewed and approved as submitted.
- e. **Approval of Claims (4/19/17-6/20/2017)** –A motion (Cooper, Vandewalle) was made to approve Claim Nos. 11226-11237 for a total of \$3,243.03 as presented. Motion carried.

V. **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **St. Joseph Co. Soil & Water Conservation Partnership Staff Written Reports** – The field office & Education reports were presented to the board & reviewed. (Attached).
- b. **Committee Reports**
  - i. **Education** – Cooper informed the board that Glassman will be judging at the St Joseph County 4-H Fair (wildlife, forestry, soil & water, weather, and sport fishing). Glassman does receive \$120 for doing this which he recommends endorsing the check back to them which will go towards the 4-H scholarship fund. Board approved this action. Cooper also informed the board that Glassman has been asked by WNIT to host 13 Citizen Action segments on their Outdoor Elements program. He is still working on the topics but possibilities are bat monitoring, amphibian monitoring, bird counts, Hoosier Riverwatch, raingardens, etc. The programs will air starting in January or February 2018. Board approved this action enthusiastically.
  - ii. **Urban Conservation & Grants – Raingarden Workshop** – Straughn recapped the workshop and expressed that the speakers from Purdue were fantastic. He felt like he really learned a lot throughout the entire day. He felt the whole day went very smoothly and is excited to see the garden grow. Longenecker informed the board that the plants were \$710. She has found a source for mulch that will deliver 6.5 cubic yards of mulch to the site for a total cost of \$341.87. A motion (Cooper, Silvers) was made to approve the purchase of the mulch. The purchase of both the mulch and plants will be reimbursed by the CWI grant later this year. Motion carried.
- c. **Review AWP** – Dooms reminded the board of the importance of the AWP to help keep the board and staff on track. A copy of the 2017 AWP is attached and he asked to have everyone keep their copy handy and ask questions and look at it periodically to make sure we are all getting tasks done on time.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Schedules/ Upcoming Events / Any Related Claims** - calendars were handed out explaining upcoming special events & holiday schedules on the back of the agenda.
- b. **Emergency Watershed Program – tabled to July**
- c. **Spring Tillage Transect** – Longenecker went over the results of the transect (attached).

**VII. PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT** – The board meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,*

**Sandra Hoffarth**

**Administrative Assistant**

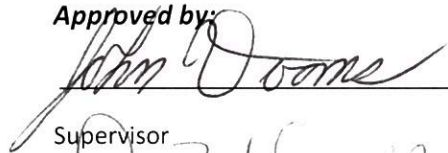
**St. Joseph County Soil & Water Conservation District**

2903 Gary Drive, Plymouth, IN 46563

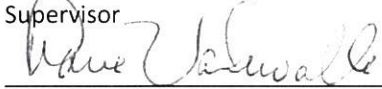
Email: Sandra.hoffarth@in.nacdnet.net

[www.stjosephswcd.org](http://www.stjosephswcd.org)

**Approved by:**

  
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Supervisor

  
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Supervisor

  
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Supervisor

  
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Supervisor

  
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Supervisor

## MARSHALL COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2903 Gary Drive, Suite 1, Plymouth, IN 46563  
Phone 574/936-2024 Ext. 3 Fax 855/496-7861



May 24, 2017

St. Joseph County SWCD  
2903 Gary Drive  
Plymouth, IN 46563

Dear Supervisors:

In 2015, Marshall County SWCD was awarded a 319 grant to write a Watershed Management Plan (WMP) for the Upper Headwaters of the Yellow River Watershed. The majority of land in this watershed is in Marshall County but includes land in St. Joseph, Kosciusko, and Elkhart Counties. As a result, we requested and you kindly gave, your support for that grant. The final draft of the WMP has been submitted and that grant will be complete on December 31, 2017.

The purpose of developing a WMP was to identify the pollution problems contributing to listing the Yellow River as an impaired waterbody. Now that the problems have been identified, the next step is to attempt to solve those problems. This will be accomplished through both education and installation of BMPs. Therefore, Marshall County SWCD intends to submit a 319 Implementation Grant application in September 2017 to finance that work.

We will again be asking for letters of support but, more importantly, will be asking for cooperation from SWCD staff to communicate and work with your local landowners to install BMPs with cost share funds and work together on the educational component of the grant. This will be included as In-Kind Partner Match in the grant application.

I and/or a Marshall County SWCD supervisor would be happy to attend an upcoming board meeting to discuss this grant and answer any questions or concerns you may have. We also welcome input on the grant application itself so please let us know if you would like to be included in that process.

We look forward to continuing our work together for clean water and healthy soils.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debbie Palmer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Debbie Palmer  
District Coordinator  
Marshall County SWCD

2017 - Application  
2018 - Notification  
2019 - Funds Available

Grant Period 2019 - 2021

generally reduce soil erosion and nitrate leaching from row-crop agricultural land (Snapp et al. 2005). When no-till farming and cover crops are continuously combined together into a conservation cropping system additional soil benefits are obtained including reduced soil compaction, improved soil structure, increased organic matter, and increased available nitrogen. Due to the numerous benefits and widespread applicability conservation cropping systems are recommend throughout the watershed.

#### **Nutrient Reduction Recommendations**

- Increase the implementation of conservation cropping systems through education, outreach, and promotion of financial assistance programs.
- Reduce streambank erosion by addressing stabilizing areas of existing erosion.
- Reduce rill erosion by promoting financial assistance programs for the installation of grassed waterways.
- In areas of the watershed with significant subsurface drainage promote the available financial assistance programs for the installation of blind inlets and saturated buffers.
- Protect, create, enhance, and restore wetlands by promoting financial assistance programs.
- Develop an education campaign to promote the use of phosphorus-free fertilizer in both urban and rural portions of the watershed.

#### **E. coli Reduction Recommendations**

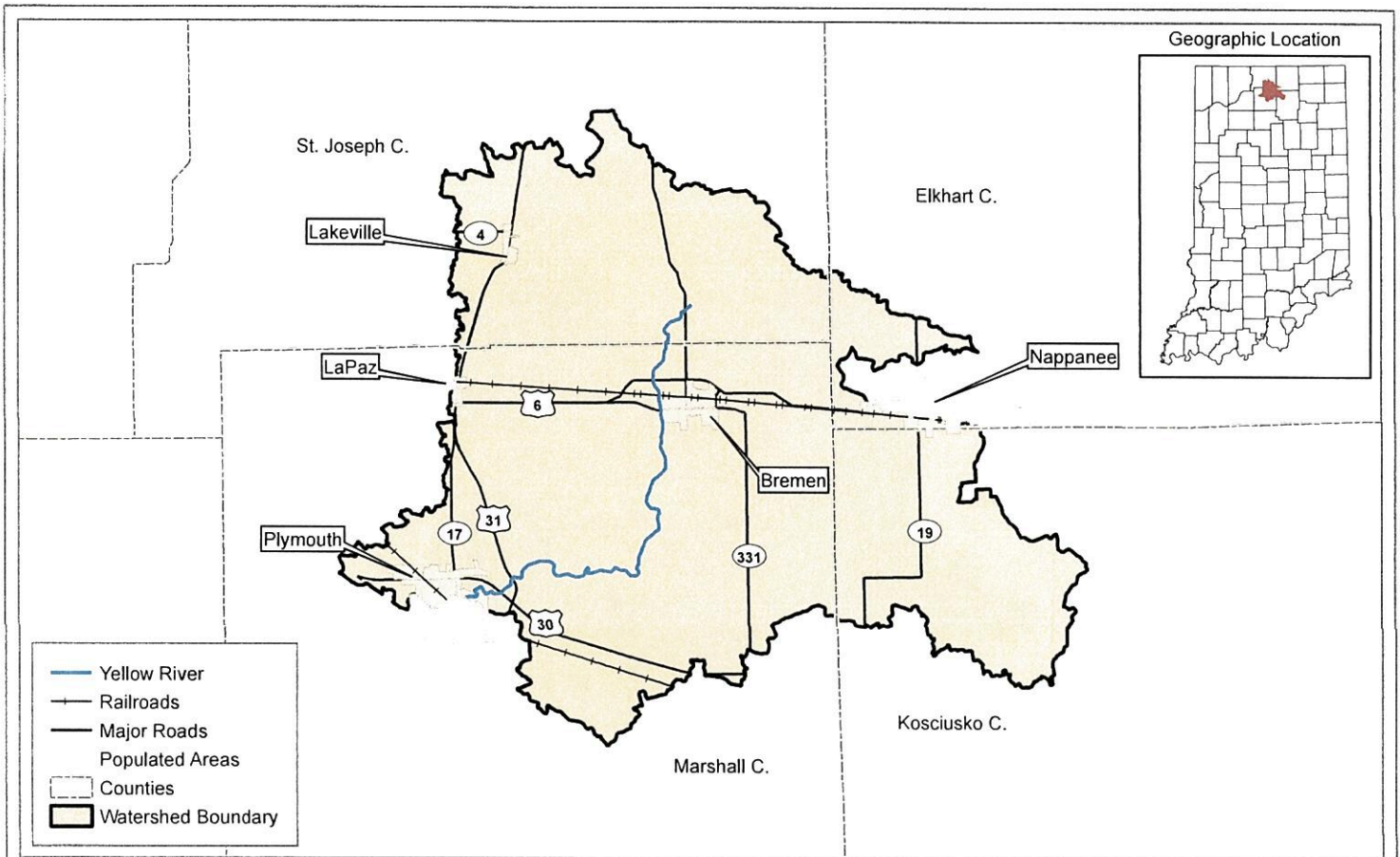
- Where applicable apply livestock exclusion practices by promoting financial assistance programs.
- Where applicable install filter strips between pastures and streams by promoting financial assistance programs.
- Partner with applicable county health departments to identify septic system maintenance issues.
- Partner with applicable county health departments and other agencies to develop a financial assistance program to promote septic system maintenance and repair.

#### **Sediment Reduction Recommendations**

- Increase the implementation of conservation cropping systems through education, outreach, and promotion of financial assistance programs.
- Reduce streambank erosion by addressing stabilizing existing areas of existing erosion.
- Reduce rill erosion by promoting financial assistance programs for the installation of grassed waterways.
- Install and/or enlarge riparian corridors along streams by promoting financial assistance programs.
- In areas of the watershed with significant subsurface drainage promote the available financial assistance programs for the installation of blind inlets.
- Protect, create, enhance, and restore wetlands by promoting financial assistance programs.

#### **Habitat Improvement Recommendations**

- Increase the implementation of conservation cropping systems through education, outreach, and promotion of financial assistance programs.
- Install and/or enlarge riparian corridors along streams by promoting financial assistance programs.



Project No. J130701101

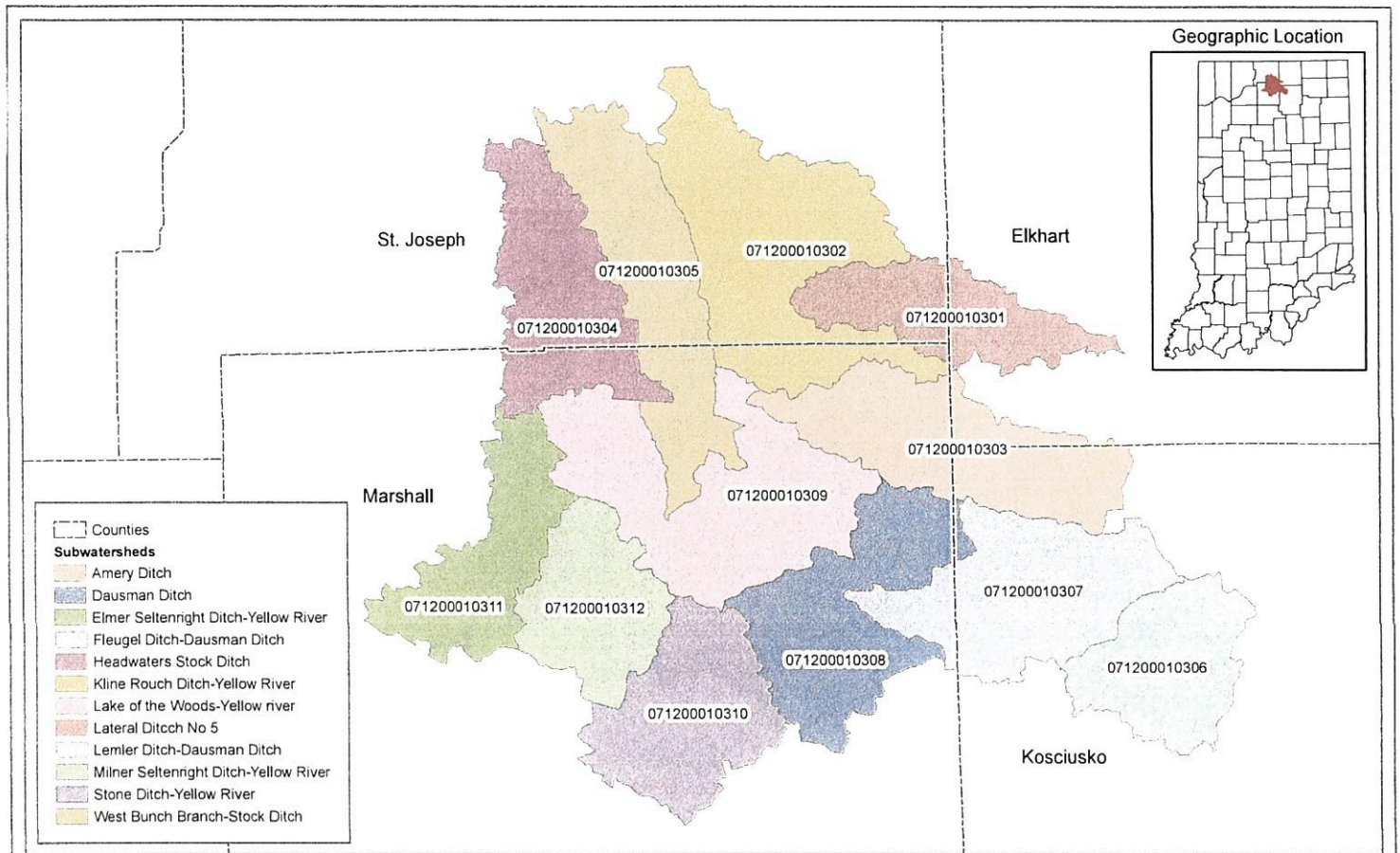
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**Figure 1-1. Location of the Headwaters Yellow River Watershed**

**Headwaters Yellow River WMP  
Marshall County SWCD  
Marshall County, Indiana**



708 Roosevelt Road Waukegan, IN 46574 USA  
Phone (+1) 574-586-3400 Fax (+1) 574-586-3446  
www.cardno/new.com



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**Figure 2-2. Headwaters Yellow River HUC 12 Subwatersheds**  
 Headwaters Yellow River WMP  
 Marshall County SWCD  
 Marshall County, Indiana

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 Shaping the Future

708 Roosevelt Road Walkerton IN 46574 USA  
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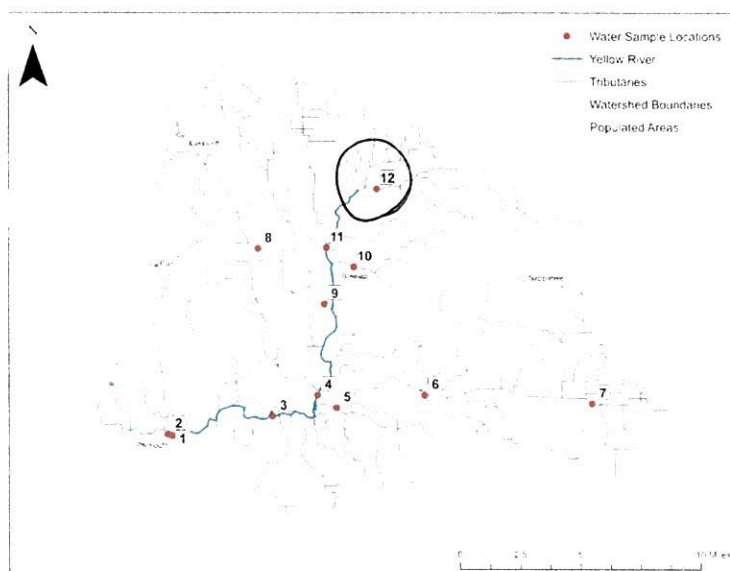


Figure 3-13. Geographic location of each sample site in the Headwaters Yellow River Watershed.

### 3.1 Nutrients, *E. coli*, and Sediment

#### 3.1.1 Phosphorus

Over the twelve month sampling period approximately 33% of all water samples collected in the watershed exceeded state water quality standards for phosphorus. The highest average total phosphorus concentration in the Headwaters Yellow River watershed was observed at sample site #12, while the lowest average total phosphorus concentration was observed at sample site #7 (Figure 3-14). The Dausman Ditch drainage (sample site #5, #6, and #7) had low average total phosphorus concentrations relative to other portions of the watershed (Figure 3-14). The estimated annual phosphorus load using the Spreadsheet Tool for Estimating Pollutant Loads (STEPL) model for the Headwaters Yellow River watershed was 129,538 pounds per year.

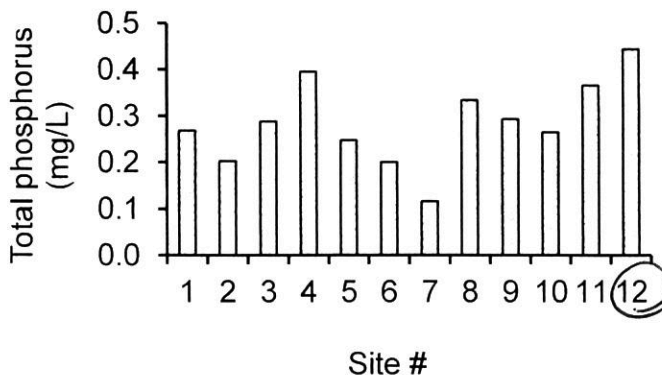
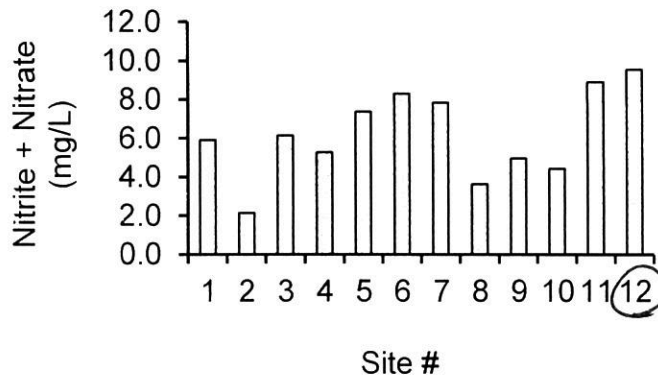


Figure 3-14. Average total phosphorus concentration (mg/L) for each sample location in the Headwater Yellow River watershed from June 2015 through May 2016.

#### 3.1.2 Nitrogen

Over the twelve month sampling period approximately 15% of all water samples collected in the watershed exceeded state water quality standards for nitrate-N+nitrite-N. The highest average nitrate-

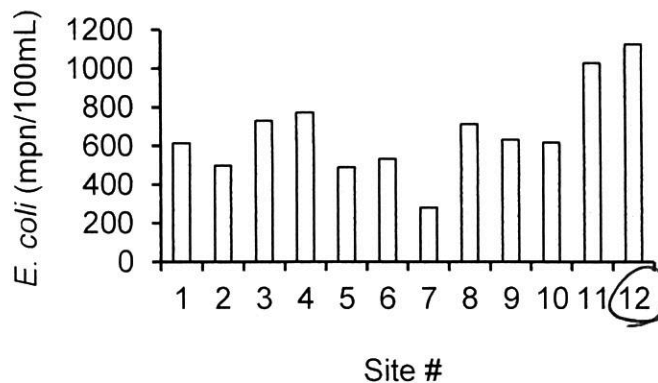
N+nitrite-N concentration in the Headwaters Yellow River watershed was observed at sample site #12, while the lowest average nitrate-N+nitrite-N concentration was observed at sample site #2 (Figure 3-15). The Dausman Ditch drainage (sample site #5, #6, and #7) had low average total phosphorus concentrations relative to other portions of the watershed, however nitrate-N+nitrite-N concentrations are relatively high (Figure 3-15). The estimated annual nitrogen load using the Spreadsheet Tool for Estimating Pollutant Loads (STEPL) model for the Headwaters Yellow River watershed was 652,625 pounds per year.



**Figure 3-15. Average nitrate-N+nitrite-N concentration (mg/L) for each sample location in the Headwater Yellow River watershed from June 2015 through May 2016.**

**3.1.3 E. coli**

The Indiana water quality standard for one grab sample per month of *E. coli* is 235 cfu/100mL. Average *E. coli* concentrations exceed this water quality standard at each sample site in the Headwaters Yellow River watershed (Figure 3-16). Sample site #12 (Lateral Ditch No. 5 subwatershed) had the highest average *E. coli* concentration, while sample site #7 (Fleugel Ditch subwatershed) had the lowest average *E. coli* concentration (Figure 3-16). *E. coli* concentrations regularly exceeded 235 cfu/100mL during both stormflow and baseflow conditions. Approximately, 69% of all of the water samples collected in the watershed exceeded state standards for *E. coli*.



**Figure 3-16. Average *E. coli* concentration (mpn/100mL) for each sample location in the Headwater Yellow River watershed from June 2015 through May 2016.**

As a result of the high *E. coli* concentrations that were observed during baseflow conditions additional *E. coli* samples were collected on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and submitted for source tracking analysis. Source tracking samples were collected at three samples sites along the Yellow River. Sample sites included site #1 (Centennial Park, Plymouth), site #4 (7<sup>th</sup> Road, Marshall County), and site #11 (1<sup>st</sup> Road, Marshall



County). One additional sample was collected from Lateral No. 5 at site #12 (Elm Road, St. Joseph County), which has a history of high *E. coli* concentrations. Samples collected from the Yellow River suggest that the primary source of *E. coli* to the Yellow River is human in origin (Figure 3-17). In fact, 80% of the *E. coli* at site #4 was human in origin (Figure 3-17). The sample collected from Lateral No. 5 suggests that the sources of *E. coli* to the stream are equally distributed between human and animal (Figure 3-17).



**Figure 3-17. Source tracking of *E. coli* samples collected on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Red represents the percentage of *E. coli* from human sources and blue represents the percentage of *E. coli* from animal sources.**

#### 3.1.4 Sediment

During the twelve month sampling period the average total suspended solids (TSS) concentration leaving the Headwaters Yellow River watershed was 9.4 mg/L (Figure 3-18). The average TSS concentration is generally higher further upstream in the watershed, with higher average TSS concentrations at each of the sample sites (sample sites #3, #4, and #11) along the mainstem of the Yellow River (Figure 3-18). Sample sites #4 and #9 appear to be significant areas of the sediment contribution (Figure 3-18). However, the average TSS concentration for these sites may be skewed to temporary drainage maintenance activities that were taking place during some sampling events. This data also suggests that a high proportion of the sediment being transported from headwater drainages to the Yellow River drops out of the water column before reaching Plymouth. There are a large number of floodplain wetlands between Bremen and Plymouth that likely promote the removal of sediment during storm flow events (Figure 2-4). The estimated annual sediment load using the Spreadsheet Tool for Estimating Pollutant Loads (STEPL) model for the Headwaters Yellow River watershed was 24,193 tons per year.

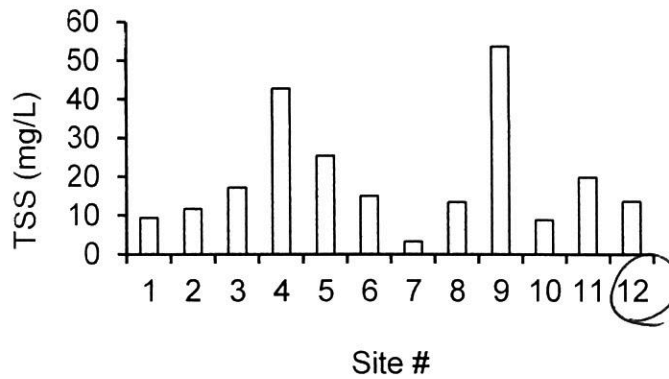


Figure 3-18. Average TSS concentration (mg/L) for each sample location in the Headwater Yellow River watershed from June 2015 through May 2016.

### 3.2 mIBI and QHEI

#### 3.2.1 mIBI

Figure 3-19 describes the health of the macroinvertebrate community for each sample site using the mIBI. The mIBI is a biotic index that uses macroinvertebrate community structure as an indicator of stream impairment. Sample sites #1, #3, #4, #5, #6, and #9 scored between 4 and 6 on the mIBI indicating that each of these streams is slightly impaired (Figure 3-19). Sample sites #2, #7, #8, #10, #11, and #12 scored between 2 and 4 on the mIBI indicating that each of these streams is “moderately impaired” (Figure 3-19). There were no streams in the watershed that are categorized as “non-impaired” or “severely impaired” on the mIBI.

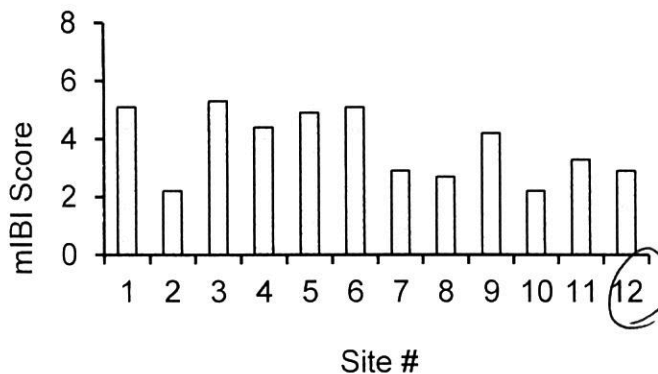
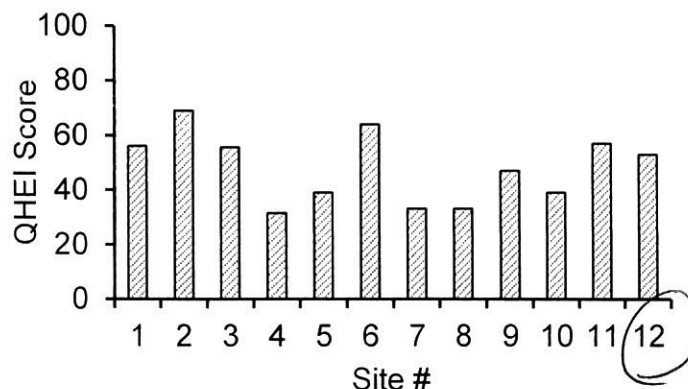


Figure 3-19. Comparison of mIBI scores for each sample site in the Headwaters Yellow River watershed. Based on the IDEM mIBI protocol severely impaired streams have a score between 0 and 2, moderately impaired streams are between 2 and 4, slightly impaired streams are between 4 and 6, and non-impaired streams are between 6 and 8.

#### 3.2.2 QHEI

Figure 3-20 describes the available habitat at each sample site using the Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index (QHEI). Sample site #2 had the highest QHEI score in the watershed and is categorized as having “good” habitat (Figure 3-20). Sample site #1, #3, #6, and #11 are the remaining samples sites categorized as having “good” habitat (Figure 3-20). Sample site #9 and #12 had QHEI scores between 43 and 54, which categorizes these sites as “fair” habitat (Figure 3-20). Sample site #4, #5, #7, #8, and #10 had QHEI scores between 30 and 42, which categorizes these sites as “poor” habitat (Figure 3-20). There

were no streams in the watershed that scored in the “excellent” or “very poor” habitat category. The majority of the headwater streams in the watershed and the upper portion of the Yellow River lack riparian vegetation. Riparian corridors become more common along the lower portion of the Yellow River between Plymouth and 7<sup>th</sup> Road in Marshall County.



**Figure 3-20. Comparison of QHEI scores for each sample site in the Headwaters Yellow River watershed. Based on the QHEI protocol, sites with scores <30 are very poor, 30 to 42 are poor, 43 to 54 are fair, 55 to 69 are good, and >70 are excellent.**

### 3.3 Analysis of Trends

The water quality data collected from June 2015 through May 2016 in the Headwaters Yellow River watershed demonstrates that there are spatial differences in the contribution of nutrients, *E. coli*, and sediment to the Yellow River. The export of nutrients to the Yellow River appears to be influenced partially by the soils of the watershed. Hydric soils are common in Dausman Ditch, Lemler Ditch, and Fleugel Ditch subwatersheds (sample site #5, #6, and #7). Each of these subwatersheds had relatively high nitrate-N+nitrite-N concentrations and relatively low concentrations of total phosphorus. This suggests that the Dausman Ditch, Lemler Ditch, and Fleugel Ditch subwatersheds are exporting greater quantities of nitrogen via subsurface flow. The remainder of the watershed contains less hydric soil, therefore greater quantities of phosphorus are exported to the Yellow River via erosion. This is supported by relatively low TSS concentrations in areas of the watershed dominated by hydric soils and relatively high TSS concentrations in areas of the watershed with little hydric soil.

*E. coli* concentrations are the primary cause of stream impairment in the watershed and water samples collected from June 2015 through May 2016 suggest that *E. coli* concentrations exceed state water quality standards throughout the watershed. While *E. coli* concentrations regularly exceed state water quality standard at all sample sites, the northeastern portion of the watershed appears to have the highest concentrations. The Lateral Ditch No. 5 subwatershed had the both the highest average concentration of total phosphorus and *E. coli*. This suggests that fecal contamination is a significant source of *E. coli* and phosphorus to the Lateral Ditch No. 5 subwatershed. Source tracking samples collected during the spring of 2016 demonstrate that human and animal fecal waste are sources of *E. coli* and phosphorus to Lateral Ditch No. 5 and the Headwaters Yellow River watershed as a whole. Therefore, the increased implementation of agricultural BMP's and improved human waste treatment practices will need to be addressed to reduce *E. coli* concentrations. Lastly, macroinvertebrate (mIBI) and habitat (QHEI) surveys demonstrate that the biotic communities of many of the streams in the watershed are impacted by pollutants and/or habitat.



## Field Office Report April 17 – June 16, 2017

### Environmental Quality Incentive Program (19 applications)

- Develop Contract – Conservation Activity Plan for Nutrient Management
- Re-rank application – 1 (producer changed farms)
- Field check pollinator/monarch habitat plantings – 5 (South Bend, Mishawaka, Lakeville, North Liberty)
- Process payment on 5 pollinator/Monarch Habitat, 1 Rotational Grazing
- 13 applications funded – develop contracts and job sheets
- Maps/information to AgriSolutions for nutrient management plans
- Request 12 month commencement waiver from State Conservationist for cover crop contract

### Wetland Reserve Enhancement Program

- Worked on paperwork for title company

### Wetland Reserve program (WRP)

- Monitoring – 4 sites
- Status reviews - 3
- Modify contract to add 30 acres of pollinator habitat
- Meet with landowners on wetland enhancements for this year
- Maps to engineers for culvert placement
- Bid meeting for Federal Contract (80 ac monarch habitat)

### Conservation Stewardship program (12 applications)

- Add cost estimate to rankings
- Field verification and update of ranking for 7 approved applications

### Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

- Site visit – 9 farms and contract/job sheet development
- Site visit with drainage board for tile issues
- Wetland Restoration Development request to Conservation Delivery Team

### Rule 5/Rule 13

- SWPPP – 5 reviews
- Sedimentation investigation at Pinhook Lake

### Wetlands – 2 wetland determinations

- Potential Violation Requests – 1
- Flag wetland area for producer
- Field visit with landowner for tile repairs

### Highly Erodible Determinations – 1 (field check on appeal and revise HEL determination)

- Field visit for planning – Potential wetland Enhancement in a wooded area; information to Conservation Delivery Team for preliminary design (2<sup>nd</sup> visit to site with tech Team leader)
- Site visit for gully/streambank erosion
- Wildlife Area (potential CRP)
- Discuss National Organic program/wildlife habitat
- Harris Twp parks

5% status reviews – 7 tracts selected – mailed letters, verify producers

St Mary's college cover crop recommendations

Quality Assurance Field Review – 7 farms

Rain Garden Workshop

Tillage Transect

**Meetings:**

Staff Meetings – 8	NRCS Area Meeting
Rain Garden Teleconference	Indiana Field Employees Council
St Joseph River basin Symposium	Business Plan meeting with J Thum
Webinar – Forest management for Northern Bobwhite	NW SWCD Staff Mtg. (Sandra for PSS)
USDA reorganization Teleconference	
County Budget meeting (Sarah)	

Office Closed – May 29

## Education Report

### April 17, 2017 – June 16, 2017

Project WILD/ Growing up WILD workshop – The Center at Donaldson – 20 participants

Project Learning Tree workshop – St. Patrick’s County Park – 6 participants.

Mishawaka Summer School – Career/Soil Health program – 33 students

Adam H.S. – Riverwatch Program – 18 students

Mishawaka H.S – Audubon Invasive species field day – 16

Clay H.S. – Environmental Concerns program – 9 students

The RES – Mishawaka 4<sup>th</sup> grade field trip meeting

The RES – Mishawaka 4<sup>th</sup> grade field trip – 2 days, approximately 400 students.

St. Joseph County Juvenile Center – 4 amphibian/reptiles programs - 35 participants.

#### Swamp Stomps – 14 stomps for 12 different schools

St. Anthony-7<sup>th</sup>, Muessel – 4<sup>th</sup>, (2) Boston – 6<sup>th</sup>, Walkerton – 6<sup>th</sup>& North Liberty 6<sup>th</sup> (afterschool) , (2) Beiger- 5<sup>th</sup>, St. Johns – 6<sup>th</sup>, (2) LaSalle SB – 5<sup>th</sup>, St. Matthew – 6<sup>th</sup>, Harrison – 4<sup>th</sup>, Liberty – 6<sup>th</sup>, St. Pius – 6<sup>th</sup> (120 students ☺)

Swamp Stomp Shirts – Total income - \$1,196.26      Total expense - \$628.56      **Net total - \$567.70**

### 11 in-school program days for 10 different schools.

Program	# of presentations	Program	# of presentations
Jethro	2	Mammals of IN	1
Am/Rep	8	Recycling	2
Spirit of America	2	Riverwatch	1
Wildlife Dynamics	3	Legends/Folktales	3
Hollow tree	1	Environmental concerns	1
Earthworms	11	Endangered Species	2
General Nature Hikes	2	Wetlands	1
Invasive Species	1	Soil Health	1
Animals of IN	2		

## Summary 2017 Annual Work Plan

January	February	March
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Annual Financial Report (due 3/1) internal audit</li> <li>-IASWCD Annual Conference Legislative notebook</li> <li>-SJC SWCD Annual Meeting Order awards, Confirm count Supervisors election, Approve AFR</li> <li>--Bi-monthly Newsletter</li> <li>-Board meeting – Designation of Depository</li> <li>-Producers Mtg –Advertise, confirm speaker(s)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Recruit new board members Focus on diversity of residents</li> <li>-Board meeting Election of officers Committee review</li> <li>- Science Alive</li> <li>- Field Day Planning</li> <li>- District Audit by SWCD Supervisors</li> <li>- Contact Non-Active Supervisors</li> <li>- Enter into Gateway by 3/1 AFR, 100R, Debt Management</li> <li>- Tri-county producers meeting (CWI)</li> <li>- Quarterly Supervisors Meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Schedule Landfill inspection</li> <li><b>-Review current Business Plan (2013-2017)</b></li> <li>-Compost meeting (2017)</li> <li>-Bi-monthly newsletter</li> </ul>
April	May	June
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Compost Seminars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Bi-monthly newsletter</li> <li>-IASWCD Success Story (due in June)</li> <li>-River friendly farmer award (due early June)</li> <li>- Quarterly Supervisors Meeting / Staff Performance Reviews</li> <li>-Rain Garden Workshop/demo garden (CWI)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-SJC SWCD Annual Meeting Location &amp; start looking for speaker/entertainment</li> <li>-SJC Board Meeting – review AWP</li> <li>- Soil Health Field Day</li> <li>-<del>Big Tree of SJC (2019)</del></li> </ul>
July	August	September
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Locally led meeting</li> <li>-Field tours - Urban/producers</li> <li>-2018 CWI grant</li> <li>-District showcase award application</li> <li>-Bi-monthly newsletter</li> <li>-Donor program – revise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-NRCS MOU review</li> <li><del>Big Tree (2019) – Measure trees</del></li> <li>- Approval of annual report style (calendar or other) at board meeting.</li> <li>-Quarterly Supervisors Meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schedule Landfill inspection</li> <li>-IASWCD annual conference Resolutions</li> <li>-Awards Friends of Conservation Conservation Farmer of the year Supervisor of the year</li> <li>-Bi-monthly newsletter</li> <li>-Forestry Field day</li> <li>-Compost seminar (2017)</li> </ul>
October	November	December
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-SJC SWCD Annual Meeting Supervisors Election Appointed due 11/1 Elected due 12/1</li> <li>-2018 Budget</li> <li>-Producers meeting Location Topics/speakers</li> <li>- Confirm Annual Mtg Speaker</li> <li>- Christmas Party planning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Develop 2017 Annual Work Plan</li> <li>-Donor Program Mail letters</li> <li>-SJC SWCD Annual Report</li> <li>-Bi-monthly newsletter</li> <li>-Board Meeting Present budget &amp; AWP</li> <li>-SJC SWCD Annual Meeting - Confirm other award winners, Silent auction</li> <li>-Quarterly Sup. Mtg/Staff Reviews</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Donor Program</li> <li>-IASWCD Annual conference Registration, Confirm delegates Prepare legislative notebook</li> <li>- SJC Annual Meeting Distribute tickets/silent auction</li> <li>- Board meeting Confirm budget &amp; AWP</li> </ul>

## Ongoing

-Implement 2014 Farm Bill -Recruit New Board Members -Implement Rule 5/13 and MSP -Focus – Volunteer programs -Implement SBOA/District Ops -Provide Administrative duties to program -Legislator relations -Focus – Urban Conservation Practices -Youth & Adult EE programs	-Donor Program -Pursue Conservation Grants -Displays for special events -Update Website/social media -CC – obtain Indiana Certified Conservation Planner -Provide Guidance as requested from County -Provide Quality Conservation Planning -Focus – Minority and/or underserved public - NRCS Program Support Contribution Agreement
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## Standing Committees

### **ANNUAL MEETING & AWARDS COMMITTEE:**

Plans and oversees the Annual Meeting & Selects Award Recipients for Annual Meeting & IASWCD Awards

### **EDUCATION PLANNING:**

Develops youth programs and water testing programs, displays for Science Alive and other public festivals, and assist other committees on their educational projects

### **ELECTION:**

Selects new Supervisor candidates, oversees election at Annual Meeting/election of new Chair/Vice Chair

### **GRANTS & MARKETING & SPECIAL INITIATIVES:**

In charge of researching, writing & administrative paperwork for available grants. Also assist other committees to carry out projects that will spend the grant monies. Undertakes activities such as developing marketing strategies, brainstorming/developing new fundraising ideas and programs for the District. Emphasis on legislative - developing activities related to local, state & national legislators, including IASWCD breakfast and developing/distributing legislative notebooks.

### **RURAL CONSERVATION:**

Develops and implements rural conservation projects, including education and fundraising

### **URBAN CONSERVATION:**

Develops and implements urban conservation projects, including education and fundraising



**Project:** Indiana Cropland Transect Survey

**Year:** 2017 SPRING

**County:** ST JOSEPH

**Percent and Number of ST JOSEPH County fields with indicated Tillage system for each Present crop.**

Present crop	No Till		Strip Till		Ridge Till		Mulch Till		Reduced Till		Conventional Tillage		Tillage Unknown or N/A		Cover Crops		Ephem-eral Erosion		Ris-ers / Inlets	
	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts
Corn	34%	66	0%	0	0%	0	24%	46	23%	45	18%	35	0%	0	18%	34	0%	0	0%	0
Soybeans	45%	78	1%	1	0%	0	35%	62	11%	20	8%	14	0%	0	27%	47	0%	0	0%	0
Small grains	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	100%	7	86%	6	0%	0	0%	0
Hay/Pasture	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	100%	38	5%	2	0%	0	0%	0
Fallow	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	100%	22	9%	2	0%	0	0%	0
Specialty Crops	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	75%	3	25%	1	50%	2	0%	0	0%	0
CRP and similar	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	100%	5	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0</b>

**ST JOSEPH County's Tillage on Cropland - Impacts on Sheet/Rill EROSION in 2017:**

*If each Corn or Soybean site on the 2017 transect in ST JOSEPH County were:*

**CONVENTIONALLY TILLED** = an estimated average of **3.9** tons of soil/acre/yr would be lost

ST JOSEPH County's Conventionally-Tilled Corn will lose an average of **5.4** tons of soil/acre/yr in 2017

ST JOSEPH County's Conventionally-Tilled Beans will lose an average of **3.3** tons of soil/acre/yr in 2017

**REDUCE-TILLED** = an estimated average of **2.7** tons of soil/acre/yr would be lost

ST JOSEPH County's Reduce-Tilled Corn will lose an average of **3.1** tons of soil/acre/yr in 2017

ST JOSEPH County's Reduce-Tilled Beans will lose an average of **1.8** tons of soil/acre/yr in 2017

**MULCH TILLED** = an estimated average of **2.3** tons of soil/acre/yr would be lost

ST JOSEPH County's Mulch-Tilled Corn will lose an average of **2.1** tons of soil/acre/yr in 2017

ST JOSEPH County's Mulch-Tilled Beans will lose an average of **1.5** tons of soil/acre/yr in 2017

**NO-TILLED/STRIP/RIDGE TILLED** = an estimated average of **0.8** tons of soil/acre/yr would be lost

ST JOSEPH County's No-Tilled Corn will lose an average of **0.8** tons of soil/acre/yr in 2017

ST JOSEPH County's No-Tilled Beans will lose an average of **0.9** tons of soil/acre/yr in 2017

**As a result of the actual TILLAGE practices on ST JOSEPH County's Corn and Soybean acres, an estimated: **2.2** tons of soil/acre/yr are SAVED!**

ST JOSEPH County's cropland planted to small grains will lose an average of **0.8** tons of soil/acre/yr in 2017

ST JOSEPH County's fallow lands will lose an average of **0.2** tons of soil/acre/yr in 2017

ST JOSEPH County's CRP and pastureland will lose an average of **0.1** tons of soil/acre/yr in 2017

**As a result of the actual CONSERVATION PLANTINGS in ST JOSEPH County, an estimated: **7.2** tons of soil/acre/yr are SAVED!**

- Acreage Estimates from NASS 2012 (corn and soybean only)

- Erosion estimates are from USLE based on each point's R, K, LS, and appropriate C factor based on rotation and tillage

- Diesel fuel savings are from NRCS Energy Estimators - Tillage

**Estimated Acres of ST JOSEPH County Corn and Soybeans with indicated Tillage system for each Present crop (based on 2016 NASS data)**

Present crop	No Till + Strip + Ridge acres	Mulch Till acres	Reduced Till acres	Conventional Tillage acres	Cover Crops acres	Risers / Inlets acres
Corn	25,500	18,000	17,300	13,500	13,500	0
Soybeans	22,900	17,400	5,500	4,000	13,400	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>48,400</b>	<b>35,400</b>	<b>22,800</b>	<b>17,500</b>	<b>26,900</b>	<b>0</b>

**ST JOSEPH County's Tillage on Cropland - Impacts on Sheet/Rill EROSION in 2017:**

*If each Corn or Soybean site on the 2017 transect in ST JOSEPH County were:*

**CONVENTIONALLY TILLED** = an estimated **484,000** tons of soil would be lost from sheet/rill

ST JOSEPH County's Conventionally-Tilled Corn will lose **73,503** tons of soil in 2017

ST JOSEPH County's Conventionally-Tilled Beans will lose **13,082** tons of soil in 2017

**REDUCE-TILLED** = an estimated **335,070** tons of soil would be lost

ST JOSEPH County's Reduce-Tilled Corn will lose **52,882** tons of soil in 2017

ST JOSEPH County's Reduce-Tilled Beans will lose **9,972** tons of soil in 2017

**MULCH TILLED** = an estimated **285,430** tons of soil would be lost

ST JOSEPH County's Mulch-Tilled Corn will lose **38,162** tons of soil in 2017

ST JOSEPH County's Mulch-Tilled Beans will lose **25,644** tons of soil in 2017

**NO-TILLED/STRIP/RIDGE TILLED** = an estimated **99,280** tons of soil would be lost

ST JOSEPH County's No-Tilled Corn will lose **20,413** tons of soil in 2017

ST JOSEPH County's No-Tilled Beans will lose **21,062** tons of soil in 2017

*As a result of the actual tillage practices on ST JOSEPH County's Corn and Soybean acres,*

*an estimated: **278,400** tons of soil in 2017 are SAVED!*

**ST JOSEPH County's Tillage on Cropland - Impacts on DIESEL FUEL USED in 2017:**

*If each Corn or Soybean site on the 2017 transect in ST JOSEPH County were:*

**CONVENTIONALLY TILLED** = an estimated **618,000** gallons of diesel fuel would be used

ST JOSEPH County's Conventionally-Tilled Corn will use **67,230** gal of fuel in 2017

ST JOSEPH County's Conventionally-Tilled Beans will use **19,920** gal of fuel in 2017

**REDUCE-TILLED** = an estimated **618,018** gallons of diesel fuel would be used

ST JOSEPH County's Reduce-Tilled Corn will use **86,154** gal of fuel in 2017

ST JOSEPH County's Reduce-Tilled Beans will use **27,390** gal of fuel in 2017

**MULCH TILLED** = an estimated **510,051** gallons of diesel fuel would be used

ST JOSEPH County's Mulch-Tilled Corn will use **73,980** gal of fuel in 2017

ST JOSEPH County's Mulch-Tilled Beans will use **71,514** gal of fuel in 2017

**NO-TILLED/STRIP/RIDGE TILLED** = an estimated **303,917** gallons of diesel fuel would be used

ST JOSEPH County's No-Tilled Corn will use **70,635** gal of fuel in 2017

ST JOSEPH County's No-Tilled Beans will use **45,113** gal of fuel in 2017

Acresage Estimates from NASS 2012 (corn and soybean only)

Erosion estimates are from USLE based on each point's R, k, LS, and appropriate C factor based on rotation and tillage

Diesel fuel savings are from NRCS Energy Estimators - Tillage

As a result of the actual tillage practices on ST JOSEPH County's Corn and Soybean acres,  
 an estimated: **156,100** gallons of diesel fuel in 2017 are **SAVED!**

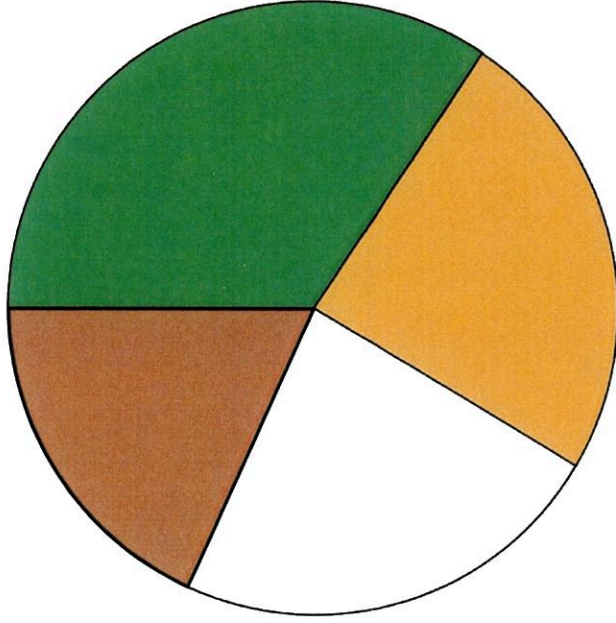
**Estimated Percents of ST JOSEPH County Cover Crops, Quality, and Methods**

	COVER CROP SPECIES											CC QUALITY				CC METHOD		
	A	B	C	G	L	O	W	Y	S	P	N	G	F	P	N	B	D	N
Corn	15.6%	3.1%	2.1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	82.3%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Soybeans	23.4%	2.9%	2.3%	0%	0%	0.6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	73.1%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Small Grains	85.7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	14.3%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Specialty Crops	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%

- Acreage Estimates from NASS 2012 (corn and soybean only)
- Erosion estimates are from USLE based on each point's R, k, LS, and appropriate C factor based on rotation and tillage
- Diesel fuel savings are from NRCS Energy Estimators - Tillage

# ST JOSEPH

## 2017 SPRING Tillage Data - Corn



- No-Till \* (34%) = 25500 ac
- Mulch Till (24%) = 18000 ac
- Reduced Till (23%) = 17300 ac
- Conventional (18%) = 13500 ac

\* **No-Till** - Any direct seeding system, including site preparation, with minimal soil disturbance (includes strip & ridge till)

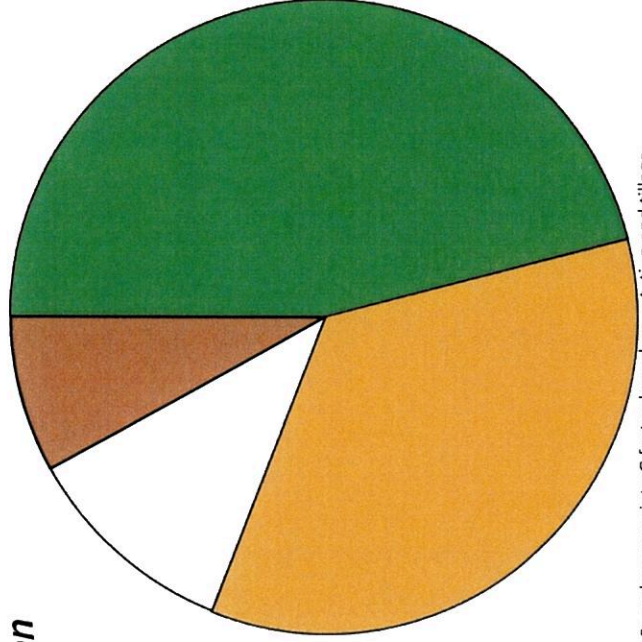
**Mulch Till** - Any tillage system leaving 30% - 75% residue cover after planting, excluding no-till

**Reduced** - Any tillage system leaving 16% - 30% residue cover after planting

**Conventional** - Any tillage system leaving less than 15% residue cover after planting

- No-Till \* (46%) = 22900 ac
- Mulch Till (35%) = 17400 ac
- Reduced Till (11%) = 5500 ac
- Conventional (8%) = 4000 ac

## 2017 SPRING Tillage Data - Soybean



- Acreage Estimates from NASS 2009 (corn and soybean only)  
 - Erosion estimates are from USLE based on each point's R, K, LS, and appropriate C factor based on rotation and tillage  
 - Diesel fuel savings are from NRCS Energy Estimators - Tillage