



We are now in the middle of the eighth year of the North Thompson Water Quality Project with Fiscal Year 2012. The North Thompson River Watershed is an 111,600 acre watershed located in Adair, Madison, and Union Counties. Primary resource concerns within the watershed are degraded water quality in the North Thompson River caused by sediment and nutrients from sheet and rill erosion on cropland and gully erosion on pastureland. In order to better manage a watershed this large, it has been divided up into 32 sub-watersheds. The sub-watersheds are then prioritized by doing on-the-ground land assessment determining which sub-watersheds are contributing the most sediment. These sub-watersheds are where we concentrate the most time and funding. To-date, we have prioritized thirteen sub-watersheds located in Adair and Madison Counties. We will be reviewing more of the assessment this winter and hopefully prioritizing more sub-watersheds soon.

This fiscal year the Watershed received \$189,298.45 from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship/Division of Soil Conservation (IDALS/DSC) through the Watershed Protection Fund (WSPF) and the Water Protection Fund (WSP). We also have several other avenues of funding available from the state as well as a substantial amount of federal funds administered through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Farm Service Agency (FSA). So far this fiscal year, the Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners in their represented counties have approved twenty-nine applications consisting of four water impounding Grade Stabilization Structures which control 649 acres of drainage and have a combined pool size of 18 acres, 55,345 feet of contour terraces which control another 381 acres of runoff, 14.7 acres of waterways, and one sediment basin.

The weather, along with the producers, landowners, and contractors has been very cooperative this year and it shows on the landscape. Thanks to all who have been involved in the North Thompson Watershed and I'm looking forward to more accomplishments with you in the future.

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