

An aerial photograph showing a large, calm lake on the left side of the frame. The right side is dominated by a dense forest of trees in various shades of green, yellow, and orange, indicating autumn. A paved road curves along the edge of the forest, with a few cars visible. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

FY 2023 WATERSHED BUDGET

ERIC SCHMECHEL, WATERSHED
PROGRAM DIRECTOR 1-26-22

2021 IN REVIEW

- Zach Timm (Conservation Agronomist Hired)
- John Wiley (Conservationist Hired)
- Truterra, SWOF, and Eco-Services Launched
- All Programs used allocated dollars allowed (FY21)
- 2 Successful Farmer Field Days (May and August) with Over 100 attending each event
- Website, Logo, FB, all Created
- 2 Watershed Video's Created
- 8 Billboards Installed
- WFPO \$600k Grant NRCS grant kickoff and JEO Consulting Hired

28E AGREEMENT FY23 (YEAR 3)

- FY 23 Dubuque County Contribution - \$238,702.50 28e agreement – administrative – Minus Health Care Coverage (\$30,000)
- FY 23 Land Stewardship Fund (Pay for Performance) Request \$465,000

TRUTERRA INSIGHT ENGINE - \$100,000

- \$100,000 allocated to fund farmers for practice changes in the field using Truterra Insight Engine
- \$7500 went to Truterra administration (Insight engine review and setup)
- 26 growers in program
- \$92,000 Farmer Payments (First and Second Payments)

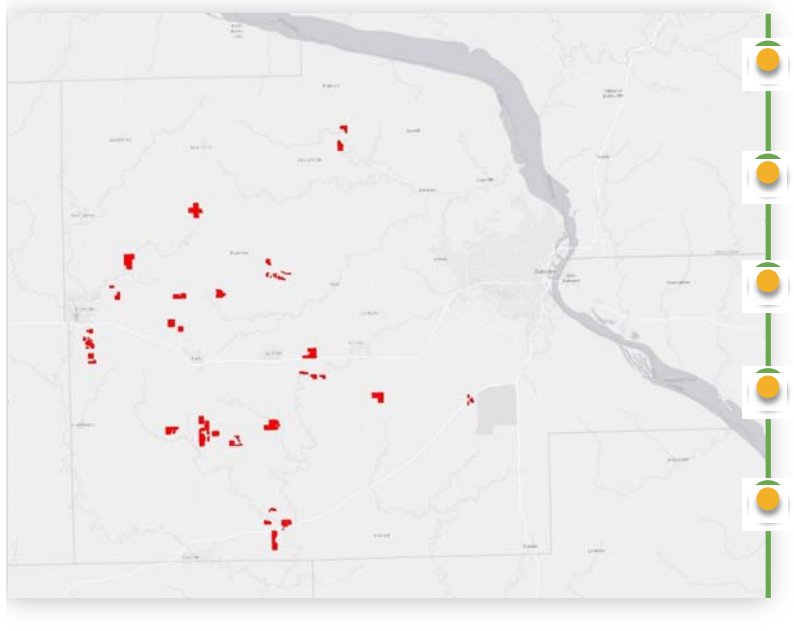
TRUTERRA 2022 CHANGES

- Continue to work with all farmers in program from 21
- Cover crop, no-till contracts from 2021 will still be eligible for payment at reduced cost
- 2021 rates - \$1.50/point increase (reduced from \$2.50/acre).
- This would leave approx. \$60k for new applicants and \$40k for existing growers
- No Point Increase for Stalk Nitrate Sampling in 2022 – Create separate contract with Minnesota Valley Testing Lab. Approx. (Cost Estimate: \$1,000)

SOIL & WATER OUTCOME FUND - \$150,000

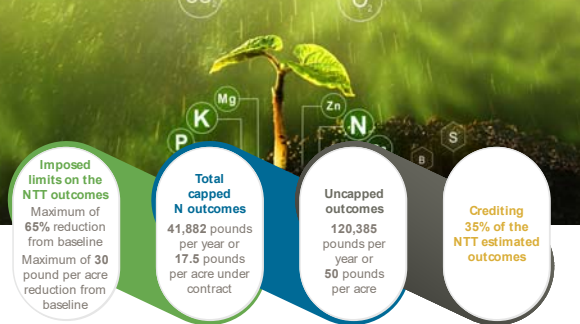
- No changes for FY 2022 for the SWOF.
- \$150,000 Requested for FY23

Summary

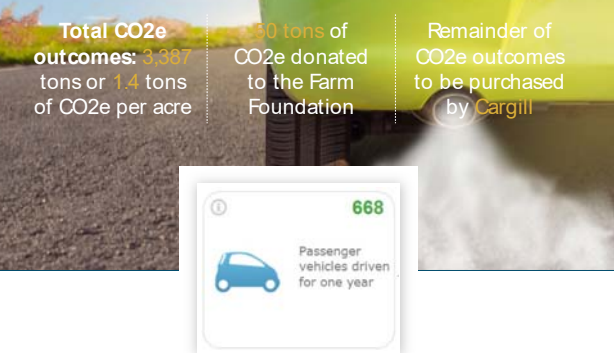


- 13 executed contracts with farmers
- 2,389 acres, 40 fields, average size of 60 acres
- 4 fields selected for water monitoring (underway)
- 4 fields selected for soil sampling this fall
- All fields will be visited after harvest to verify compliance

Water Quality: Nitrogen Outcomes



Climate: CO2e Outcomes



ECOSYSTEM SERVICES - \$140,000

- 2021 – 3 projects have been funded. Both Schieltz and Mozena Structure have been built. (FY 21 dollars)
- Hoffman structure will be built in Spring of 2021.
- 3 Potential Projects in the works – awaiting design/survey
- FY 23 request \$140,000

BUFFER PROGRAM \$75,000

- FY 23 Request: \$75,000.
- Goal: 50 acres (50' stream buffer both sides of streams)
- \$100-200 per acre incentive (one-time DBQ County Payment)
- 10 year contracts

- Coordination with SILT Buffer Proposal? (ARP funding application).

FARMER FIELD DAYS - 2022

- 2 (possible 3) farmer field days
- Practical Farmers of Iowa (partnering/promoting)
- Early Summer (June) and later summer (September)

- Winter Roundtable Series – Watershed Working Group
- More Coordination with Recreational Groups in DBQ

WFPO WATERSHED PLAN

- Public Input (Jan 19th) completed
- Project Scoping underway
- Identify Potential Project Sites and Landowners (2022)
- Cost Benefit Ratio

LITTLE MAQUOKETA GREENWAY PROPOSAL

- FY 2023: Develop Proposal with consultant to work on WIF (Iowa Finance Authority) for Little Maquoketa Greenway Project?
- Coordination with WFPO Project Team
- Project Cost: \$15k?



DISCUSSION

- 28E Annual Meeting – February 23rd
- Water Monitoring Update – Adam Hoffmann
- Review Program Goals and Projects