

Bootheel Nutrient Management Coalition

Conference Call

November 20, 2009

Notes

Jim Steuver, Mark White, Scott Crumpecker, Bob Ball, Glenn Davis, David Dunn

1. Mark White shared information about the Environmental Resources Coalition's Conservation Innovation Grant. Will build framework of nutrient trading program within MO. Mark Twain area but could be expanded to other areas in future. Will analyze several BMPs that could be used and identify load reductions. www.erc-env.org
2. Healthy Watersheds Initiative Bob Ball. Forty-one watersheds have been accepted in Mississippi River Basin. Announcement will come out next week. MO watersheds include Little River Ditches and Lower St. Francis. All forty-one watersheds represent 5% of the total acreage of the river basin. Will include funding for WREP and CIG in chosen areas. Need to identify sub-watersheds for priority within chosen watersheds. NRCS looking for partners to bring something to the table. Activity Plan—payments go directly to farmers but farmer could have outside NGO to do monitoring on their farm. Arkansas—Michael Sullivan is contact.
3. CCA Training. Doug Daigle is confirmed. USDA grant will pay for speakers.
4. Corn Stalk Sampling Project. FFA students need to be trained. No more than 2 kids per site/farmer. Scott has talked to 3 FFA advisors. Need students who can drive. \$200/sample would include testing. Scott would like to meet with one more FFA advisor. Jim—call Mark Light. Equipment—some schools have coolers, loppers. May have to purchase a couple of loppers. There are 18 FFA chapters in the bootheel. Perhaps let students compete for chance to do sampling. Have a gathering of these students to educate them on project, nutrient management, etc. Time frame: winter sign-up for farmers. Need to know which SWCDs, schools will be involved. Next step: cmj will get proposal to EPA for okay. Have meeting with instructors over December holiday break.
5. Corn Growers Meetings Dec. 10. Scott and David will cover the ½ day in Sikeston. Will cover the corn stalk sampling project. David and Gene will cover the Jackson meeting.
6. Rice conference. Dexter February ____. 125-150 people. 20-30 minute speaker time slots. Dave Guethle wants Scott to speak about our project. Scott could talk about corn stalk sampling/our field days coming up, or Rick Norman could talk about his research on developing a new soil test to predict N fertilization on rice—to cut down on N fertilizer. USDA grant could cover his travel.
7. Need to be thinking about the Malden meeting, to hold at end of February. Need to set date and promote at corn and rice meetings.
8. Cotton conference? David will send us information.
9. Irrigation conference Dec. 9. Need speaker on remote sensing? Joe Masko of Vancoe. ?
10. Next conference call December 11 at 10:00 AM Central.