

## KANSAS REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### BMP Subcommittee Report for April 9, 2018 Meeting

The BMP Subcommittee has been working on:

- Providing input to the Milford RCPP
- Continuing coordination between COE and KDWPT for BMPs on land around the four main reservoirs

**Milford RCPP** -- \$2.88 million awarded to KWO to deal with HAB via the NRCS EQIP program and with additional funding input from multiple Partners. Funds will be used to implement BMPs in the watershed; this is a program with great potential. Kansas RAC BMP Subcommittee members have been attending RCPP Partner meetings and are providing input.

Funds will be used to implement BMPs in the watershed. Three “**Work Groups**” have been established to help develop the program to most effectively affect HAB and nutrient loading in Milford. The Work Groups include 1. Conservation Practice Implementation, 2. Education and Outreach, and 3. Project Monitoring and Evaluation. BMP Subcommittee members are involved in the Conservation Practice Implementation Work Group.

1. Conservation Practice Implementation –So far the Work Group has concentrated on developing target areas (see map), a list of eligible practices (see list), cost share rate, signup period details, etc.

The eligible BMPs will be broken up into 2 groups: A “Core” Practice group and a “Supporting” Practice group. Briefly, Core Practices will be the one that are most desirable for nutrient load reduction; Supporting Practices will be those that are beneficial for. To receive cost share, landowners and producers will be required to implement a Core Practice before any funds will be available for any Supporting Practices. The Core Practice list is still being developed as are the requirements for what/how many Core Practices are needed before cost share for Supporting Practices is granted. More meetings to come....

2. Education and Outreach –Kelly Fry and “Jerry” from Water One are assisting with the outreach plan for the Milford RCPP. Logos and a website are being worked on and these look very good! Slogans like “Don’t Feed the Bloom” are being considered and website addresses using this slogan or “Save Milford” are being considered. They are also looking into what materials and media outlets are already available to use in the watershed which is wise. Much more to come on this! I was excited to see how this is coming together and the SPEED at which it is moving. The group is being cautious so as not to overtake the statewide outreach/education efforts but it is looking good. *Kudos to Water One* for their assistance!
3. Project Monitoring and Evaluation – this group is looking at the existing system of monitoring sites and frequency in order to understand if it will provide data needed to establish baseline data for inflows to Milford and evaluate effectiveness of BMP implementation.

ISSUES: A couple of issues with the Milford RCPP are how to implement BMPs on public lands around the lake and additional Technical Assistance that will be needed in the watershed to implement BMPs. These are being discussed.

**Continuing coordination between COE and KDWPT for BMPs on land around the four main reservoirs:**

We have continued communications with David Hoover, Land Manager with Corps of Engineers about BMP implementation and priority leases regarding the four main reservoirs in the Kansas River Basin (Milford, Tuttle, Perry and Clinton).

- Dave is working with the Natural Resource Management staff at lake projects to obtain more detailed project specific info on our existing BMPs. Dave provided us an overview example from Kanopolis Lake that shows acres managed, under no-till, cover crops, etc.
- The COE has had discussions on the NRCS farm plans and the role of NRCS with regards to Highly Erodible Lands (HEL)
- Dave is working on gather additional reservoir information to share with us.

The Upper Wakarusa WRAPS recently reported that the leases around Clinton are now 100% no-till and 25% cover crop.