



Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278

May 24, 2007

INDIANA BULLETIN NO. IN440-7-10

SUBJECT: PGM – Fiscal Year 2007 Wetlands Reserve Program Monitoring Contribution Agreement with Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Purpose: To distribute guidance to implement the fiscal year 2007 WRP Monitoring contribution agreement with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish and Wildlife.

Expiration Date: September 30, 2007.

Action Required: Immediately

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – Indiana and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Division of Fish and Wildlife, have entered into a Contribution Agreement to complete the monitoring requirements for 145 Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) easements. This agreement states that we have a mutual interest in helping to bring about the conservation and wise use of land, water, wildlife and related resources.

The purpose of monitoring is to ensure compliance with WRP easement requirements, evaluate restoration progress, collect GPS waypoints of easement boundaries and other pertinent geographic features, and to determine what repairs or enhancements are needed to ensure maximum wetland/wildlife benefits.

The NRCS State Office identified which WRP easements will be monitored in fiscal year 2007 and provided this list along with the *WRP Monitoring Form* and a *FY07 NRCS Technical Assistance Referral Form* to Gary Langell, IDNR Technical Liaison. Gary Langell will provide these items to the IDNR District Biologists, who will work with the District Conservationists (DC) to implement the contribution agreement.

The following process will be followed to implement the WRP monitoring contribution agreement:

1. The **NRCS DC** will compile landowner contact information (phone and address), contract location (plat book map or equivalent with the property highlighted), conservation plans (NRCS-CPA-1155), and plan maps (with practice location marked) for each contract on the attached list. **The NRCS DC will contact IDNR District Biologist and deliver this information immediately** to ensure there is sufficient time for the IDNR District Biologist to complete the WRP Monitoring.

2. The **IDNR District Biologist** will complete the *WRP Monitoring Form* on-site and document that the monitoring has been completed using the *FY07 NRCS Technical Assistance Referral Form* (attached).
3. The **IDNR District Biologist** will provide an electronic file of the GPS waypoints to **Gary Langell** for those easements identified as needing the WRP boundary marked via GPS.
 - a. **Gary Langell** will provide the GPS waypoints file to **Dave Stratman**.
4. The **IDNR District Biologist** will sign the *FY07 NRCS Technical Assistance Referral Form*, and submit it along with a copy of the *WRP Monitoring Form* to **their Regional Private Lands Supervisor** and the **NRCS District Conservationist** and to **Gerald Roach**, WRP Coordinator, at 656 S. Boatman Rd, Ste #3, Scottsburg, IN 47170
5. NRCS will place the *FY07 NRCS Technical Assistance Referral Form* and *WRP Monitoring Forms* in the participant's file and document as appropriate.

The fiscal year 2007 contribution agreement is effective through March 31, 2008. However, reimbursement will only be made for those activities that are initiated during the period of April 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007.

I am excited about the continued partnership with IDNR and look forward to the great conservation and wildlife habitat that will be accomplished in Indiana through this agreement.

Please contact Gerald Roach, WRP Coordinator, for program-specific questions at (812) 752-2269 Ext. 3, and Dave Stratman, State Biologist, for technical questions at (317) 290-3200 ext. 354.

/s/

JANE E. HARDISTY
State Conservationist

Enclosures

DIST: District Conservationists, Area Conservationists, Area Program Specialists, Harold Thompson, Elana Cass, Shannon Zezula, Roger Kult, Gerald Roach, Dave Stratman

cc: Gary Langell, IDNR, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Bloomington, IN