



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

May 9, 2007

INDIANA BULLETIN NO. 440-7-8

SUBJECT: PGM – Fiscal Year 2007 Wildlife Habitat Development Plans for the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program.

Purpose: To distribute guidance to ensure completion of Wildlife Habitat Development Plans for Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program contracts in fiscal year 2007.

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 (DFW), have a mutual interest in helping to bring about the conservation and wise use of land, water, wildlife, and related resources, and both agencies have been working collectively toward the same goals through Memorandums of Understanding and contribution agreements.

In fiscal year 2007, NRCS-Indiana is unable to enter into a contribution agreement with the IDNR DFW to implement Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) contracted practices. However, the IDNR DFW leadership is still committed to assisting NRCS-Indiana to implement WHIP contracts.

The IDNR DFW has agreed to write Wildlife Habitat Development Plans (WHDPs) for WHIP participants **as the local District Biologist's workload will allow**. NRCS-Indiana will complete any WHDPs not completed by IDNR District Biologists and will also be responsible for providing technical assistance to implement WHIP practices.

NRCS District Conservationists with WHIP participants in need of a WHDP should contact their local District Biologist immediately to determine the level of assistance the District Biologist is capable of providing. **IDNR assistance should only be requested for WHIP participants who are committed to installing all of the practices in their WHIP contracts.**

For each WHIP participant the IDNR District Biologist is able to assist, please compile landowner contact information (phone and address), contract location (plat book map or equivalent with the property highlighted), conservation plans (NRCS-CPA-1155 from

DIST: District Conservationists, Area Conservationists, Harold Thompson, Elana Cass, Shannon Zezula, Roger Kult, Jill Reinhart, John Poenisch, Dave Stratman

ProTracts), plan maps (with practice location marked), and any other information requested by the District Biologist, **and deliver this information immediately** to ensure there is sufficient time for the IDNR District Biologist to work with the WHIP participant.

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.

Please contact John Poenisch, Program Analyst, for questions regarding programs at (317) 290-3200 ext. 357, and Dave Stratman, Biologist, for all technical questions at (317) 290-3200 ext. 354.

/s/

JANE E. HARDISTY
State Conservationist

Enclosures

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