



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

February 9, 2012

INDIANA BULLETIN NO. 300-12-12

SUBJECT: LTP – Mississippi River Basin Initiative (MRBI) Guidance FY 2012 for Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) and Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP).

Purpose: To provide FY 2012 Indiana NRCS guidance for 2010 and 2011 approved projects in the Mississippi River Basin Initiative (MRBI) for EQIP and WHIP.

Expiration Date: September 30, 2012

Action Required by: March 30, 2012

Field Office will adhere to the following deadlines for the 2012 MRBI:

March 9, 2012	Application Cutoff
March 23, 2012	Application Selection Date
April 6, 2012	Obligation Deadline

Background

Five 2010 approved CCPI MRBI proposals were approved for the third year of funding in Indiana. One 2011 project was approved for a second year of funding as well. Field offices in all of the approved watersheds may begin taking applications for the approved programs immediately. Program guidance and specific eligibility areas for the prior year projects is explained in this bulletin.

Description of Approved Proposals

A description of each approved MRBI Project is provided below with a link to each projects folder on the Indiana Share Point website. The Share Point folder contains a map of the watershed, local ranking sheet, and eligible practice list with payment rates for each project. Only those practices listed in each project’s practice list will be eligible for payment. The programs approved for each project are listed next to the project name with funding levels. The information below includes the Project Name on the proposal, targeted watershed HUCs and counties affected.

Approved Projects

Project Name: [The Manchester College, Middle Eel Initiative MRBI CCPI EQIP Project](#) (EQIP)
Targeted Watersheds: 051201040403, 0404, 0406, 0407, 0501, 0502, 0503, 0504, 0505, 0506, 0507, 0508, 0509, 0601, 0602, 0603
Affected Counties: Fulton, Kosciusko, Miami, Wabash, Whitley

Project Name: [The Greater Wabash RC&D Wildcat Creek MRBI CCPI](#) (EQIP and WHIP)
Targeted Watersheds: 051201070404, 0405, 0201, 0202, 0203, 0204, 0205 0301, 0302, 0303, 0311.
Affected Counties: Clinton, Carroll, Howard, Tippecanoe, Tipton

Project Name: [Whitley County SWCD, Upper Eel River Watershed Nutrient Management Project](#) (EQIP and WHIP)

Targeted Watersheds HUCs: 051020140202, 0203, 0204, 0205, 051201040103
Affected County: Whitley

Project Name: [Decatur SWCD, Upper East Fork White Watershed Alliance Nutrient Runoff Reduction](#) (EQIP)

Targeted Watershed HUCs: 051202060306, 0307, 0308, 0309, 0310
Affected Counties: Bartholomew, Decatur, Jackson, Jennings

Project Name: [Upper Wabash River Basin Commission, Hickory Branch Nutrient Management Project](#) (EQIP)

Targeted Watershed: 051201010501, 0502, 0601
Affected County: Adams, Jay

Project Name: [Upper Wabash River Two-Stage Ditch CCPI MRBI](#) (EQIP)

Targeted Watersheds:

0512010105-01, -02	0512010109-01, -02, -03, -04
0512010104-01, -02, -03, -04, -05	0512010111-01, -02, -03, -04
0512010106-01, -02, -03, -04	0512010116-02
0512010110-01, -02, -03, -04, -05, -06	

Affected Counties: Adams, Allen, Cass, Grant, Howard, Huntington, Jay, Miami, Wabash, and Whitley

Processing Applications

The FY2012 MRBI projects will be implemented under the existing authority of EQIP and WHIP using the guidance found in [Indiana Bulletin 300-11-07](#) (click for link). Specific guidance for accepting applications is outlined below. All of the land offered in the application must be within the Mississippi River Basin (e.g. not Great Lakes Basin) and greater than 50% of the acres in the application must be in one or more of the priority (targeted) twelve-digit watersheds listed above.

Form NRCS-CPA-1200 from ProTracts will be used as the application for MRBI EQIP/WHIP applicants and will be entered to ProTracts. All applications signed by the applicant by **March 9, 2012** must be entered in to Protracts to be considered for funding.

Area Conservationists or designees will select the highest ranked applications for funding from those applications marked as preapproved on **March 23, 2012**. Approved applications must be obligated by the Area Conservationists no later than **April 6, 2012**.

Specific EQIP and WHIP cost lists and corresponding HU cost lists have been distributed to F:\FOTG\Section_I and should be copied to C:\Field_Office_Technical_Guide\Section_I for use in Toolkit. Only the practices in each Project's list of eligible practices will be allowed to be added to a MRBI application. Each Project's list of eligible practices can be found under the project folder on the Share Point by clicking on the project name in this document.

Applicants who have already submitted an application for general EQIP funding will not need to sign a new application. However, a new Toolkit plan must be uploaded to Protracts using the specific MRBI project cost list. The field office will also need to ensure the correct fund code and cost list are selected in ProTracts MRBI fund codes. If the participant wants to apply for non-eligible MRBI practices to treat a resource concern, the participant will need to make a separate EQIP application.

Fund Codes for MRBI EQIP and WHIP

Fund Code or Subaccount	Available Cost List
EQIP CCPI MRBI Decatur County	2012_EQIP_MRBI_Decatur_County_CL.xlsx
	2012_EQIP_MRBI_Decatur_County_CL_HU.xlsx
EQIP CCPI MRBI Greater Wabash River RC&D	2012_EQIP_MRBI_Greater_Wabash_CL.xlsx
	2012_EQIP_MRBI_Greater_Wabash_CL_HU.xlsx
EQIP CCPI MRBI Manchester College	2012_EQIP_MRBI_Manchester_Cllge_CL.xlsx
	2012_EQIP_MRBI_Manchester_Cllge_CL_HU.xlsx
EQIP CCPI MRBI Upper Wabash River Basin	2012_EQIP_MRBI_Upper_Wabash_CL.xlsx
	2012_EQIP_MRBI_Upper_Wabash_CL_HU.xlsx
EQIP CCPI MRBI Upper Wabash River Basin – Two-Stage Ditch	2012_EQIP_MRBI_Two_Stage_Ditch_CL.xlsx
	2012_EQIP_MRBI_Two_Stage_Ditch_CL_HU.xlsx
EQIP CCPI MRBI Whitley County SWCD	2012_EQIP_MRBI_Whitley_County_CL.xlsx
	2012_EQIP_MRBI_Whitley_County_CL_HU.xlsx
WHIP CCPI MRBI Greater Wabash River RC&D	2012_WHIP_MRBI_Greater_Wabash_CL.xlsx
	2012_WHIP_MRBI_Greater_Wabash_CL_HU.xlsx
WHIP CCPI MRBI Whitley County SWCD	2012_WHIP_MRBI_Whitley_County_CL.xlsx
	2012_WHIP_MRBI_Whitley_County_CL_HU.xlsx

Conservation Practice 799 Monitoring and Evaluation

Job Sheets will be provided for each of the 799 payment scenarios. Participants will be required to complete the job sheets prior to payment for the practice. Please contact Shannon Zezula, State Resource Conservationist at 317-290-3200, ext. 388 for more information about the implementation of 799 Monitoring and Evaluation.

Ranking for MRBI EQIP and WHIP

Field offices will use the national and state ranking questions in the AERT to rank applications.

Local ranking questions were developed for the each project and can be found in each project’s folder on the Share Point. This set of local ranking criteria will be used in all counties within the eligible watershed for the MRBI signup.

For more information contact Teresah P. Caire, ASTC – Farm Bill Programs at 317-290-3200, ext. 320, Adam Heichelbech EQIP/WHIP Specialist at 317-290-3200, ext. 357.

/s/ Roger Kult Acting for

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