

**Brown County Locally Led Workgroup:
EQIP 2004**

(November 20, 2003)

Soil (erosion, condition & deposition)

- most agricultural operations are in Bean Blossom Creek and Upper Salt Creek watersheds, primarily on the floodplains
- streambank stabilization and bank erosion is a priority of the District's CWI funding
- want to buffer vulnerable stream corridors approximately ½ mile
- priority watersheds should be Bean Blossom Creek, upper North fork Salt Creek and upper Middle Fork Salt Creek
- local ranking points assigned are **100**

Water (quality & quantity)

- Monroe Reservoir is a concern for protection
- floodplains are at highest risk of cropland and stream bank erosion, as well as, excess nutrients and pesticides in surface runoff
- concern for *E. coli* contamination in Bean Blossom Creek and Lake Lemon watershed
- faulty/inadequate septic systems are a concern throughout the county
- want greater emphasis on water quality than soil erosion
- most livestock operations are small numbers of animals adjacent to streams
- local ranking points assigned are **150** and targeted select stream corridors as at greatest risk attributed agricultural operations and increasing residential/commercial development

Air (quality & quantity)

- concern for air pollutions attributed to traffic along S.R. 46, especially during tourist season of late summer and autumn
- dairy operations would be considered as potential source of air quality impairment
- water resource priority areas identified as air resource concern areas due to overlap of concerns in regards of tillage methods and sequestration of carbon
- local ranking points assigned are **25**

Plants (suitability, condition & management)

- exclusion of livestock from woodlands is important
- want to support The Nature Conservancy's priority corridors and protect species of concern
- public lands occupy 50% of Brown County and want to buffer these areas to enhance wildlife benefits
- timber harvests on private land occurs throughout the county
- grazing and forage management will also address water quality concerns
- local ranking points assigned are **100**

Animals (habitat & management)

- want to support The Nature Conservancy's priority areas and protect and enhance wildlife travel corridors
- want to expand ranges of wildlife on public lands
- most livestock operations appear to be on lands too small to adequately support existing grazing systems
- horse operations are scattered throughout the county
- local ranking points assigned are **125**

Many of the issues raised during 2003 locally led were raised again this year and seem to be more appropriate in 2004 ranking design. The workgroup agreed to utilize five resource maps to expedite local ranking. Points were weighted for each resource depending upon its vulnerability of degradation due to current or anticipated pressures. The group recognized the interactions between resources and weighted the points according to anticipated needs on working lands.