

# Indiana NRCS

## Update on Flooding Disaster

June 30, 2008



### Summary of Damage:

- A total of 38 counties have been declared Federal Disaster Areas by the President.

### Funding Options for Farmers:

- The Farm Service Agency has requested funds for the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP). They are holding a sign-up through July 11 in the following counties: Bartholomew, Benton, Brown, Clay, Daviess, Decatur, Dubois, Fountain, Gibson, Greene, Hendricks, Jackson, Jennings, Johnson, Knox, Lawrence, Marion, Martin, Monroe, Morgan, Owen, Parke, Pike, Putnam, Randolph, Rush, Shelby, Sullivan, Vermillion, and Vigo. Repairs must meet a \$1,000 minimum to be eligible.
- 2008 and 2009 NRCS program dollars (EQIP, WHIP, WRP) can be used to repair or replaced damaged conservation practices that are still within their design lifespan, and were being maintained prior to the flood event.

### Ag Forums

June 23, 24 and 25 three Ag Forums were held for producers affected by the flooding to share information on available resources and assistance. Held in North Vernon, Bicknell and Martinsville, the forums were attended by IN agriculture leaders, including State Conservationist Jane Hardisty.

She was able to provide information on how NRCS programs and technical assistance can assist with repairs, restoration and recovery.



### Impact to NRCS:

- To date, IN is requesting \$2.5 million in exigency Emergency Watershed Program (EWP), \$15 million in non-exigency EWP, and \$6 million for the flood-plain easements.



- To date, 36 Emergency Watershed Protection 'exigency' requests have been submitted from the field for \$1.36 million.

- NRCS' Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program can fund debris removal from streams, protect destabilized steam banks, establish cover on critically eroding lands, and repair conservation practices. Repairs must meet a \$2,000 minimum to be eligible. All projects must have sponsor that is a legal subdivision of state government, such as an SWCD, that will provide 25% of the project cost.