

**Greater Harney Basin Agricultural Water Quality Management Area  
Biennial Review Report to the Board of Agriculture & ODA Director**  
*Submitted by the Local Advisory Committee (LAC)*



<b>Meeting Date(s):</b> February 13, 2020
<b>LAC Members Present:</b> Jack Southworth, Steve Grasty, Steve Rickman, Ken Bentz, Ron Whiting, Karen Moon, Brandon Haislik, Gary Defenbaugh
<b>Reporting Time Frame:</b> 2017-2019 Biennium (2 years since last full review)

**PROGRESS**

**Management Area**

Measurable Objective: The LAC intends to strategically address water quality throughout the Management Area by systematically working in Demonstration (Focus) Areas.

**Focus Area**

Measurable Objective: Increase agricultural stream miles in State A from 90.8 stream miles (79%) to 96.3 stream miles (84%) by June 30, 2029; while also decreasing State C stream miles from 9.6 (8%) to 7.2 (6%).

Milestone(s):

1. By June 20, 2019, conduct restoration work on 8.0 stream miles that will lead to an increase in State A from 88.7 stream miles to 96.7 stream miles.
2. By June 30, 2021, conduct restoration work on 10.0 stream miles that will lead to an increase in State A from 90.8 stream miles to 100.8 stream miles.

Current Conditions: 90.8 stream miles in State A, 14.2 in State B, 9.5 in State C, 0 in State D.

Progress Towards Measurable Objective: State A has increased by 2.1 stream miles

**Activities and Accomplishments:**

Activities	Number	Activities	Number
Active Events	6	Conservation Plans Written	12
Landowners Participating in Active Events	523	Funding Applications Submitted	13
Landowners Provided Technical Assistance	68	Funding Applications Awarded	9
Site Visits	52		

**Summary of Progress and Impediments**

Progress has been made on increasing streamside vegetation throughout the Management Area. Lack of baseline data to show how far they have come. Landowners are essential for progress, communication is key. Landowners and government are communicating and working well; if that doesn't occur, progress often stalls. Improvements can be limited due to circumstances in the watershed above the landowner. Some landowners may not have much flexibility to make significant improvements. Outreach sometimes still difficult; after years utilizing numerous outreach methods, some people in the community still do not know what and who the SWCD, WC and NRCS are. The LMAs often are strategic with outreach and opportunistic with technical assistance, at least initially. People tend to be followers, there are some who take initiative and others who wait until they see the results with their neighbors before they want to improve their land. Regulations can serve as an impediment. LMAs have lines of landowner and projects but not enough capacity and implementation funds to accomplish all.

**Recommended Modifications and Adaptive Management**

Continue conversations between government and landowners. Keep the Area Rules and Plan simple enough that they can be understood. Increase capacity and implementation funds for the Management Area. Review funding applications for proposed projects to ensure written well and soundness of the project.

**COMPLIANCE ACTIONS**

Location	Letter of Compliance	Pre-Enforcement Notification	Notice of Noncompliance	Civil Penalty
Outside SIA(s)	0	0	0	0
Within SIA(s)	Not Applicable (NA)	NA	NA	NA