

Project Factsheet for: Yellow Springs, Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Project

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Project Location Information

Location: Yellow Springs Watershed, Des Moines County, Iowa

State(s): IA

Congressional District(s): IA-2

Status

Terminated due to unresolved real estate and contracting issues.

Description

The opportunity exists to improve the ecological functioning and habitat value of the Yellow Springs watershed. Current problems include soil erosion, poor water quality, lack of quality aquatic habitat, and lack of stream flow. Proposed alternatives for aquatic ecosystem restoration under the Section 206 program authority include restoring old vegetative sites into aquatic habitat and wetlands, creating vegetated buffers, reducing streambank erosion, constructing sediment basins and berms, and pool/riffle structures. The Geode Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) coordinator received a grant to develop a Yellow Springs Watershed Plan that offers a holistic planning opportunity for the area. The NRCS District Conservationist has taken the lead in uniting the various stakeholders. Recently, a partnership of 8 state and county units of government was formed under Iowa Code, Section 28e. This agreement allows the interested agencies to unite as one organization capable of being the Non-Federal sponsor. The 28e agreement allows the Corps to move from the general watershed planning process into a Section 206 project implementation process. Alternative methods of stream restoration, stream stabilization, and watershed improvement will be considered in the Preliminary Restoration Phase, and will be examined in greater detail during the feasibility phase. This project is modeled after the Whitebreast (Section 206) project. Policy resolution is needed on real estate and contracting issues to move forward. These issues have significant project cost and landowner willingness implications.

Authority

CA - Continuing Authorities - Section 206 --

Project Manager Information

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