



BMPs implemented with small acreage landowners

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Resource Improvement Projects Corral Relocation/Facility Improvements



Up to 80% Cost Share
29 projects since 2001



Resource Improvement Projects

Septic System Improvements

Up to 50% Cost Share
28 projects since 2004



Resource Improvement Projects

Stream Stabilization/Diversions/Riparian Projects

Up to 90% Cost Share
21 projects since 2004



Why Small Acreage?



- **An increasing demographic in Sheridan County**
- **Identified in local Watershed Plans as a concern**
 - Smaller Land Units- limited space for management
 - Other full-time jobs- limited time for management
 - Non-Ag background- limited experience in management
 - “Hobby Farms”- limited incentive for financial investment

Small Acreage Concerns



- 4 acres
- **Primarily Horses**
- **Water Gaps**



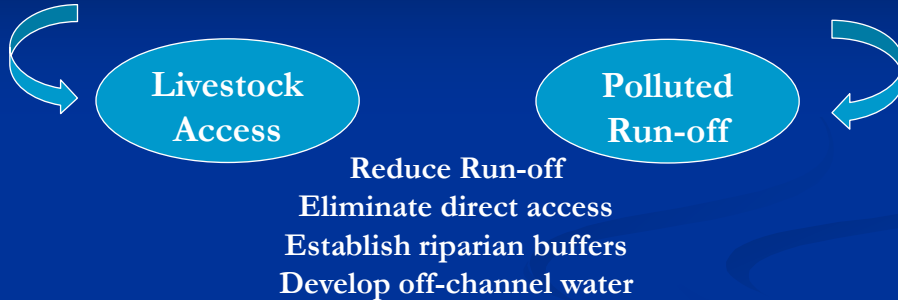
Small Acreage Concerns



- 10 acres
- Polo horses
- Non-resident

Resource Concerns & Practices

Small acreage concerns are similar to Large acreage concerns

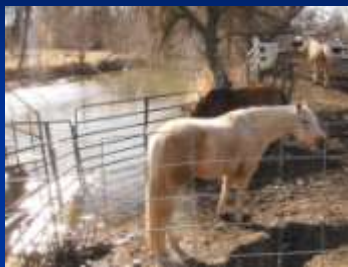


Big Goose Creek Project



- 16 acres
- Primarily horses
- Corral/water gap
- Slough Area

Big Goose Creek Project Concerns



Big Goose Creek Project Practice: Facility Relocation



Resource Benefits

- Increased buffer
- Downsize corrals

Landowner Goals

- Higher-Drier
- Improved health
- Improved access

Big Goose Creek Project Practice: Stockwater Development

Resource Benefits

- Close water gap
- Eliminate access

Landowner Goals

- More reliable water
- No breaking ice!



Big Goose Creek Project

Practice: Run-off Management



“Clean” Water intercepted 1st

Minimize treatment needs

Natural Slough = Treatment Area

Big Goose Creek Project

Practice: Run-off Management



Big Goose Creek Project Practice Summary

*“It was a total win/win situation
... We would urge SMALL
property owners to look into this
program. . . you would be doing
yourself a favor as well as
improving the water quality
in our area.”*

—Rick & Kathy Woods

Total Cost:
\$20,119.17

Federal 319:
\$14,891.31

State WDA:
\$885.86

Landowner :
\$4342.00

Corral Relocation~Stockwater~Run-off Management

Five Mile Creek Project



- 7 acres
- Primarily Horses
- 4-H stock
- No confinement
- Some creek fence
- Bank erosion

Five Mile Creek Concerns



Five Mile Creek Project Practice: Corral/Confinement



Resource Benefits

- **Allows pasture rest periods**

Landowner Goals

- **Ease of handling**
- **Near home**

Five Mile Creek Project Practice: Fencing



Landowner Goals

- More riparian habitat
- Animal safety
- Decreased weeds

Resource Benefits

- Allows pasture rest
- Eliminates access
- Bank stabilization



Five Mile Creek Project Practice: Stockwater development



Resource Benefits

- Eliminates access
- Improved distribution

Landowner Goals

- More reliable water
- Easy maintenance

Five Mile Creek Project Practice: Irrigation System

Resource Benefits

- Improved cover
- Reduced run-off

Landowner Goals

- Improved forage
- Reduced weeds



Five Mile Creek Project Practice Summary



Total Cost:
\$36,375.49

Federal 319:
\$23,557.52

State WDA:
\$5622.88

Landowner:
\$7195.09

Corral~Fence~Stockwater~Irrigation~Management

Five Mile Creek Project



Board Concerns/Challenges

Higher cost/acre

**Non-traditional
practices**

**Uncertain future
management**



Lessons Learned. . .

Landowner Concerns \neq Resource Concerns
Find the Common Ground

New customers, not “old-timers”
More active involvement/education needed



Questions?

