Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy Timeline of Activities and Accomplishments

Timeline

2013

- INRS Released
- WQI Established - Funding for WQI begins
- WQI statewide program started - cover crops, NT/ST, and N inhibitor
- INRC established — 127 projects funded for over $15 million since 2013
- Stream Monitoring Network enhancement begins and IWQIS developed
- INRS Water Quality Science Team continues to meet (started in 2010)
- Point Source Feasibility Studies begin
- INRS tracking of practice implementation begins, including tracking human and financial inputs along with implementation of practices on the land
- Logic model development to guide tracking of INRS activities
- The Agricultural Conservation Planning Framework model enhances to enable watershed planning
- First INRS Tracking Report published

2014

- Priority watersheds designated (9 HUC 8 watersheds)
- WQI Watershed Demonstration Projects begin (annual call for projects)
- Saturated Buffers added as INRS practice
- Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance established
- Nutrient monitoring of point sources begin (~32000 samples per year as of 2023)
- SERA-46: Framework for Nutrient Reduction Strategy Collaboration Established (multi-agency partnership that promotes multi-state research and extension activities) - SERA-46 is Southern Extension and Research activities committee number 46.
- Conservation Infrastructure Working Groups Established
- ISUEO establishes Water Quality Program Manager position
- Iowa Nutrient Research and Education Council (INREC) Established
- INRS Measurement Coordinator Established
- Revisions to RMA cover crops and crop insurance eligibility w/ NRCS and other state partners: https://www.rma.usda.gov/about-crop-insurance/highlighted-initiatives-plans/cover-crops

2015

- Iowa Farmers and the INRS surveys began
- Middle Cedar RCPP awarded
- Iowa Targeted Demonstration Watersheds Partnership Project RCPP funded
- First point source feasibility received by IDNR from City of Dubuque
- Regional Grassland Bird and Grazing Land Enhancement Initiative RCPP funded
- WQI Practice Demonstration Projects begin
- WQI Urban Demonstration Projects begin
- INREC begins developing in-field management tracking project

2016

- Blind inlets added as INRS practice
- State of Iowa Received HUD grant for Iowa Watershed Approach
- Upper Cedar Watershed Urban-Rural Partnership RCPP awarded
- Midwest Agriculture Water Quality Partnership RCPP awarded
- Improving Working Lands for Monarch Butterflies RCPP awarded
- Iowa Watershed Academy pioneered through ISUEO
- Stream water-quality monitoring conducted in support of the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy report released

2017

- INREC developed annual in-field management practice survey
- INRC narrows focus to 4 main research categories
- Iowa Learning Farms introduces the Conservation Station trailer ON THE EDGE
- INRS Science Team completes baseline nonpoint source assessment from 1980-1996
- Innovative Conservation Agriculture RCPP awarded
- Fox River Water Quality Project RCPP awarded

2018

- WQI expanded to provide additional resources
- Water Quality Infrastructure Fund established — Specific funding for Urban Conservation
- Cover crop insurance discount program (IDALS and USDA-RMA)
- WQI Planning and Development Projects begin
- INRC gets first full time Director
- INRC holds it first research round table
- Results of Iowa Ag BMP Mapping project released
- Smithfield Grow Sustainable Grain Supply Chains RCPP awarded
- Driftless Area Habitat for the Wild & Rare Phase 2 RCPP awarded
- INRS baseline revised to align with Hypoxia Task Force period

2019

- Multi-purpose oxbows added as INRS practice
- Iowa Nutrient Reduction Exchange established
- INRS Farmer Survey final surveys conducted
- Iowa Farm and Rural Life poll begins including conservation practice adoption section for technical reports
- USDA-NRCS introduces Source Water Protection focus
- USDA-NRCS in Iowa introduces Iowa Partners in Conservation program
- Prairie STRIPS standard adopted by the USDA

2020

- INRS Data dashboard reporting begins
- Soil and Water Outcomes Fund launched
- ISA launches conservation agronomist program
- INRC Launches Online Water Quality Research Map
- Iowa established as Agricultural Conservation Planning Framework Hub
- Midwest Agriculture Water Quality Partnership renewed
- Soil and Water Outcomes Fund RCPP awarded
- North Raccoon Partnership for Soil and Water RCPP awarded
- Iowa Systems Approach to Conservation Drainage RCPP awarded
- Turkey River Watershed Partnership Project RCPP awarded
- Iowa participating in second pilot of UMRBA Upper Mississippi River Interstate Water Quality Monitoring pilot project for Mississippi River Pools 8 & 9
- Expanded water quality wetland concepts to increase the opportunities to restore water quality wetlands
- First drainage water recycling system funded by EPA-GOM and IDALS constructed in Iowa
- Central Iowa Water Quality Infrastructure Project (Polk and Dallas Counties) water quality EoF batch and build begins

2021

- Iowa Learning Farms 'Marsh Madness' trailer introduced
- 100th CREP wetland built
- Cedar River Watershed Edge of Field Project batch and build begins
- Cedar River Source Water Partnership RCPP awarded
- Floyd River Water Quality Partnership RCPP awarded
- SE Iowa Watershed Partnership RCPP awarded
- IDALS initiates Southern Iowa Grade Stabilization Structure pilot program

2022

- Iowa Nitrogen Initiative established
- Wastewater treatment optimization partnership established between and Iowa Wastewater and Waste to Energy program
- USDA pilots the pandemic cover crop program (national pilot of the IDALS-led crop insurance discount program)
- South Skunk River Watershed in Story and Jasper Counties EoF batch and build begins
- Iowa Working Lands Conservation Partnership RCPP awarded
- Iowa Climate Smart Switchgrass Cropping System Transition RCPP awarded
- West Nishnabotna Water Quality and Infrastructure Partnership RCPP awarded
- Iowa Conservation Agriculture RCPP awarded
- Iowa Partners for Natural Infrastructure RCPP awarded

2023

- INRS Online Dashboards for all 4 logic model areas officially online - updated regularly
- INRS Commemorates 10th Anniversary
- DNR completes point source feasibility studies
- Iowa Seed Association EoF batch and build begins

2024

- 3-Year Extended Crop Rotation added as an INRS practice
- Final agricultural drainage well in Iowa remediated
- North Raccoon Edge of Field Project batch and build begins

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