

**Water Resources Coordinating Council**  
**Agenda**  
**June 12, 2009**  
**1:00 – 3:00 PM**  
**Iowa State Capitol – Room G19**

- I. Call to Order, Jamie Cashman, IGOV
- II. Topics of Discussion
  - a. MOU review (Jim Gillespie)
    - 1. Handout provided
    - 2. Request WRCC members review and comment
    - 3. Send comments to Elaine Ilvess, [Elaine.ilvess@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:Elaine.ilvess@iowaagriculture.gov), or Jim Gillespie [jim.gillespie@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:jim.gillespie@iowaagriculture.gov)
  - b. Legislative Review
    - 1. I-Jobs and RIFF (Jamie Cashman)
      - a. Handout provided, IGOV
    - 2. Legislative Liaison from each respective agency regarding water
      - a. Director Leopold, DNR, provided itemized list of I-Jobs monies dedicated to water quality. Handout provide, IDNR
      - b. Lori Beary, IFA, provided handout, draft rules for I-Jobs specifically related to water-wastewater projects. Public hearing for I-Jobs rules is scheduled fro July 22. Rules are going through the normal rule-making process
    - 3. Federal Stimulus Update (DNR, IFA, NRCS, and other affected agencies)
      - a. SF477 will be discussed next session; involves modernizing State parks
      - b. SF474 will be discussed next session; involves bonding for Regents
      - c. Susan Judkins-Josten, RIO, explained HF64 will have approximately \$22 million for communities adversely affected by disasters
      - d. SF482 will be discussed next session; involves Iowa Green Corps

- e. Dave Miller, IHSEMD, a gap has been creating with recent funding (or lack thereof), specifically for areas protected by levees
- c. Iowa – Cedar River Basin Update (Bill Ehm)
- 1. Due to the creation of the WRCC, members decided to conduct study of the Iowa-Cedar River Basin (also known as the Iowa-Cedar River Basin Committee). Committee will make recommendation to full WRCC. Handout provided
  - 2. Chuck Spitzack, USACE, coordination and developing scope of work is complex, regardless of the amount of money provided for the study.
  - 3. Larry Weber, University of Iowa Flood Center, the University is conducting similar research, also known as Flood Forecasting and Mapping. Received worldwide significant recognition from UNESCO.
  - 4. Ken Tow, RIO, suggestions identifying the cost of all state/federal agencies, present information to the Legislature to incorporate in collaborate statewide Water Plan, which incorporates water quality and quantity.
  - 5. Rich Simms, USDA-NRCS, suggests looking at floodplains throughout the State, rather than spot-analysis
- d. Flooding
- 1. Update on IDNR mini-Kaizen for Floodplain Mapping and Program (Wayne Gieselman, IDNR)
    - a. Handout provided.
    - b. Kaizen took place in May 2009. Follow-up will be in September 2009 with ideas for mapping.
  - 2. Charge to WRCC via HF 756 (Susan Judkins-Jensen)
    - a. Summary of legislation. Because deadline for HF756 is November 15, 2009, request to develop subcommittee to begin work
    - b. Jamie Cashman, IGOV, recommends coordination with other subcommittee(s)
    - c. WRCC agrees to create subcommittee
  - 3. Iowa Flood Center (Larry Weber)
    - a. Presentation provided

- b. Approximately \$5 million for five years, with the potential of %40 million.
- c. Working with many different parties: NEXRAD, Jerry Galloway, University of Maryland, UNESCO, National Weather Service, Google Earth.

III. Future plans and meetings, Governor

- a. Future agenda will reflect all members of WRCC
  - a. Other agencies included
  - b. Water quality and rural landscapes at next meeting
  - c. Watershed planning
- b. How to move forward
  - a. Emphasis on collaborating with one another
  - b. Stay on top of collaborating with one another, provide continual updates on funding sources and subcommittee actions

## Attendees

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
X	Aaron Todd	RIO	<a href="mailto:Aaron.todd@rio.iowa.gov">Aaron.todd@rio.iowa.gov</a>	515-242-5299
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**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**BETWEEN**

**STATE OF IOWA GOVERNOR AND THE FOLLOWING PARTIES**

This memorandum identifies the roles and responsibilities of the Water Resource Coordinating Council in the coordination of the implementation of community-based subwatershed improvement plans and shall be a commitment by the agencies participating in council to reach consensus regarding communications with subwatershed planning units.

**PARTIES**

The parties to this memorandum are the members of the Water Resource Coordinating Council who include:

- The Governor, or designee, who serves as the Chair
- Director, Department of Natural Resources, or designee
- Director, Soil Conservation Division, or designee
- Secretary of Agriculture or designee
- Director, Department of Public Health, or designee
- Director, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division, or designee
- Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Iowa State University, or designee
- Dean, College of Public Health, University of Iowa, or designee
- Dean, College of Natural Sciences, University of Northern Iowa, or designee
- Director, Department of Transportation, or designee
- Director, Department of Economic Development, or designee
- Director, Iowa Finance Authority, or designee
- Dean, College of Engineering, University of Iowa, or designee
- Director, Rebuild Iowa Office, or designee

**BACKGROUND**

In 2006, the Iowa Legislature created the Watershed Quality Planning Task Force. The Watershed Quality Planning Task Force was tasked with discussing statewide water quality programs and recognizing needs within the State. As a recommendation in November 2007, the Watershed Quality Planning Task Force suggested creating a Water Resources Coordinating Council to the Iowa Legislature. In 2008 and 2009, the Iowa General Assembly enacted and amended the Surface Water Protection and Flood Mitigation Act, creating the Water Resources Coordinating Council.

**AUTHORITIES**

Iowa Code section 466B.3

**PURPOSE OF THE COUNCIL**

The purpose of the council shall be to preserve and protect Iowa's water resources, and to coordinate the management of those resources in a sustainable and fiscally responsible manner.

In the pursuit of this purpose, the council shall use an integrated approach to water resource management, recognizing that insufficiencies exist in current approaches and practices, as well as in funding sources and the utilization of funds. The integrated approach used by the council shall attempt to overcome old categories, labels, and obstacles with the primary goal of managing the state's water resources comprehensively rather than compartmentally.

#### **GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL PARTIES**

The council shall engage in the regular coordination of water resource-related functions, including protection strategies, planning, assessment, prioritization, review, concurrence, advocacy and education.

The council shall develop a marketing campaign to educate Iowans about the need to take personal responsibility for the quality of water in their local watersheds.

To coordinate water resource-related functions, the council may do the following:

1. Consider the steps necessary to address the planning, management, and implementation of water resource improvement
2. Identify ways to facilitate communication and participation among all water resource stakeholders, including owners of land in Iowa whether they are residents or not
3. Identify inefficiencies in current programs and recommend ways to eliminate duplicative services
4. Improve the availability and management of water resource information
5. Provide incentives for, and recognition of, environmental excellence
6. Regularly assess and identify measurable improvements in water quality
7. Oversee the complete, statewide regional watershed assessment, prioritization, and planning process described in Iowa Code section 466B.5, including a short-term interim program and a long-term comprehensive state water quality and quantity plan updated every five years as provided in sections Iowa Code sections 466B.5 and 466B.6
8. Develop a protocol which identifies high-priority watersheds, including local and community-based subwatersheds, and which appropriately directs resources to those watersheds
9. Review best available technologies on a regular basis to improve water quality within regional and community subwatersheds
10. Review voluntary, performance-based standards for water resource management, land management, and soil conservation
11. Develop a protocol for assigning multiagency teams to regional watersheds and local subwatersheds and guide those teams in the coordination of citizen and agency activities within those watersheds
12. Engage in dialogue with, and pursue efforts to make cooperative agreements with, other states when a watershed extends beyond borders of this state
13. Enter into agreements and make contracts with third parties to implement the above-mentioned duties.

#### **SPECIFIC ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH PARTY**

Governor, or designee, agrees:

1. To convene the council at least quarterly.

2. To coordinate the efforts of the council and in so doing may invite representatives from any other public agency, private organization, business, citizen group, or nonprofit entity to give public input at council meetings provided the entity has an interest in the coordinated management of land resources, soil conservation, flood mitigation, or water quality.
3. To invite and solicit advice from the following:
  - a. The director of the Iowa Water Science Center of the United States Geological Survey or the director's designee.
  - b. The state conservationist from the Iowa office of the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service or the state conservationist's designee.
  - c. The executive director for Iowa from the United States Department of Agriculture's Farm Services Agency or the executive director's designee.
  - d. The state director for Iowa from the United States department of Agriculture's Office of Rural Development or the state director's designee.
  - e. The director of region seven of the United States Environmental Protection Agency or the director's designee.
  - f. The corps commander from the United States Army Corps of Engineers' Rock Island District or the commander's designee.

All Parties, or their designees, agree:

1. A majority of the members, as stated above, shall constitute a quorum, and any action taken by the council must be adopted by a majority of the voting membership.
2. The council shall engage in the regular coordination of water resource-related functions, including protection strategies, planning, assessment, prioritization, review, concurrence, advocacy, and education.
3. In coordinating water resource-related functions, the council may do all of the following:
  - a. Consider the steps necessary to address the planning, management, and implementation of water resource improvement.
  - b. Identify ways to facilitate communication and participation among all water resource stakeholders, including owners of land in Iowa whether they are residents or not.
  - c. Identify inefficiencies in current programs and recommend ways to eliminate duplicative services.
  - d. Improve the availability and management of water resource information.
  - e. Provide incentives for, and recognition of, environmental excellence.
  - f. Regularly assess and identify measurable improvements in water quality.
  - g. Oversee the complete, statewide regional watershed assessment, prioritization, and planning process described in Iowa Code 466B.5, including a short-term interim program and a long-term comprehensive state water quality and quantity plan updated every five years as provided in Iowa Code 466B.5 and 466B.6.
  - h. Develop a protocol which identifies high-priority watersheds, including local and community-based subwatersheds, and which appropriately directs resources to those watersheds.
  - i. Review best available technologies on a regular basis, so that investments of time and program resources can be prioritized and directed to projects that will best and most effectively improve water quality and reduce flood damage within regional and community subwatersheds.



- j. Review voluntary, performance-based standards for water resource management, land management, and soil conservation.
  - k. Develop a protocol for assigning multiagency teams to regional watersheds and local subwatersheds and guide those teams in the coordination of citizen and agency activities within those watersheds.
  - l. Engage in dialogue with, and pursue efforts to make cooperative agreements with, other states when a watershed extends beyond borders of this state.
  - m. Enter into agreements and make contracts with third parties for the performance of its duties.
4. The council shall develop recommendations for policies and funding promoting a watershed management approach to reduce the adverse impact of future flooding on this state's residents, businesses, communities, and soil and water quality. Policy and funding recommendations shall be submitted to the Governor and the General Assembly not later than November 15, 2009. The council shall consider policies and funding options for various strategies to reduce the impact of flooding including but not limited to additional flood plain regulation; wetland protection, restoration, and construction; the promulgation and implementation of statewide stormwater management standards; conservation easements and other land management; perennial ground cover and other agricultural conservation practices; pervious pavement, bioswales, and other urban retention structures. In development recommendations, the council shall consult with hydrological and land use experts, representatives of cities and counties, drainage and levee districts, agricultural interests, and soil and water conservation districts, and other urban and regional planning experts.

#### **ACCOUNTABILITY**

The success of the council's efforts shall ultimately be measured by the following outcomes:

1. Whether the citizens of Iowa can more easily organize local watershed projects.
2. Whether the citizens of Iowa can more easily access available funds and water quality program resources.
3. Whether the funds, programs, and regulatory efforts coordinated by the council eventually result in a long-term improvement to the quality of surface water in Iowa.
4. Whether the potential for flood damage in each watershed in the state has been reduced.

**TERMS OF MEMORANDUM**

This Memorandum of Understanding is effective on the date of the last party's signature and shall have no expiration date. This Memorandum will be reviewed annually by the signing parties. Amendments will be made as deemed necessary and agreed to by the signing parties.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor's Signature, or Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of Agriculture's Signature, or Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department of Natural Resources  
Director's Signature, or Designee

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Soil Conservation Division, IDALS  
Director's Signature, or Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

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Date

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Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department of Public Health  
Director's Signature, or Designee

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Homeland Security & Emergency Mgt. Division  
Director's Signature, or Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

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Printed Name

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Date

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Date

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College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, ISU  
Dean's Signature, or Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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College of Public Health, UI  
Dean's Signature, or Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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College of Natural Sciences, UNI  
Dean's Signature, or Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department of Transportation  
Director's Signature, or Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

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Date

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Department of Economic Development  
Director's Signature, or Designee

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Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Iowa Finance Authority  
Director's Signature, or Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
College of Engineering, UI  
Dean's Signature, or Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rebuild Iowa Office  
Director's Signature, or Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## IJOBS Overview

### SF 376 (Primary I-JOBS Bill)

- Creates 11 member I-JOBS Board consisting of the following members:
  - Iowa Finance Authority
  - Department of Economic Development
  - Iowa Workforce Development
  - Rebuild Iowa Office
  - State Treasurer
  - 6 public members from geographically diverse areas (1 from a non-profit org., 2 general public, and 3 public members with expertise in either public financing, architecture, engineering, or major facility development or construction.
- Establishes criteria I-JOBS board must consider when making awards of financial assistance:
  - The total number of number and quality of jobs to be created and the benefits accruing to areas distressed by high unemployment
  - Financial feasibility, including the ability of projects to leverage additional federal, state, local, and private sources of funding.
  - Sustainability and energy efficiency
  - Contributions to Disaster Recovery
  - Project's readiness to proceed.
- Authorizes Treasurer to issue \$545 million in revenue bonds to be backed by gaming revenue. Of which is broken down into the following areas:
- \$185 million complete important ready to go state projects scheduled to be funded this year by securitizing the tobacco settlement moneys. However, the Tobacco Settlement Authority did not proceed with the securitization last year due to the down-turn in the market on tobacco-company backed issuances.

#### Revenue Bonds Capitals Fund (FY 09)

<b>Department of Administrative Services</b>	
Major Maintenance	14,624,923
<b>Department of Blind</b>	
Dorm Remodel Adult Orientation Center in Des Moines	869,748
<b>Department of Corrections</b>	
First CBC - Waterloo Residential Expansion	6,000,000
Third CBC - Sioux City Residential Expansion	5,300,000
Fifth CBC - Des Moines Residential Expansion/land acquis.	13,100,000
Seventh CBC - Davenport Residential Expansion	2,100,000
Eighth CBC - Ottumwa Residential Expansion	4,100,000
Iowa Correctional Institution for Women Expansion	47,500,000

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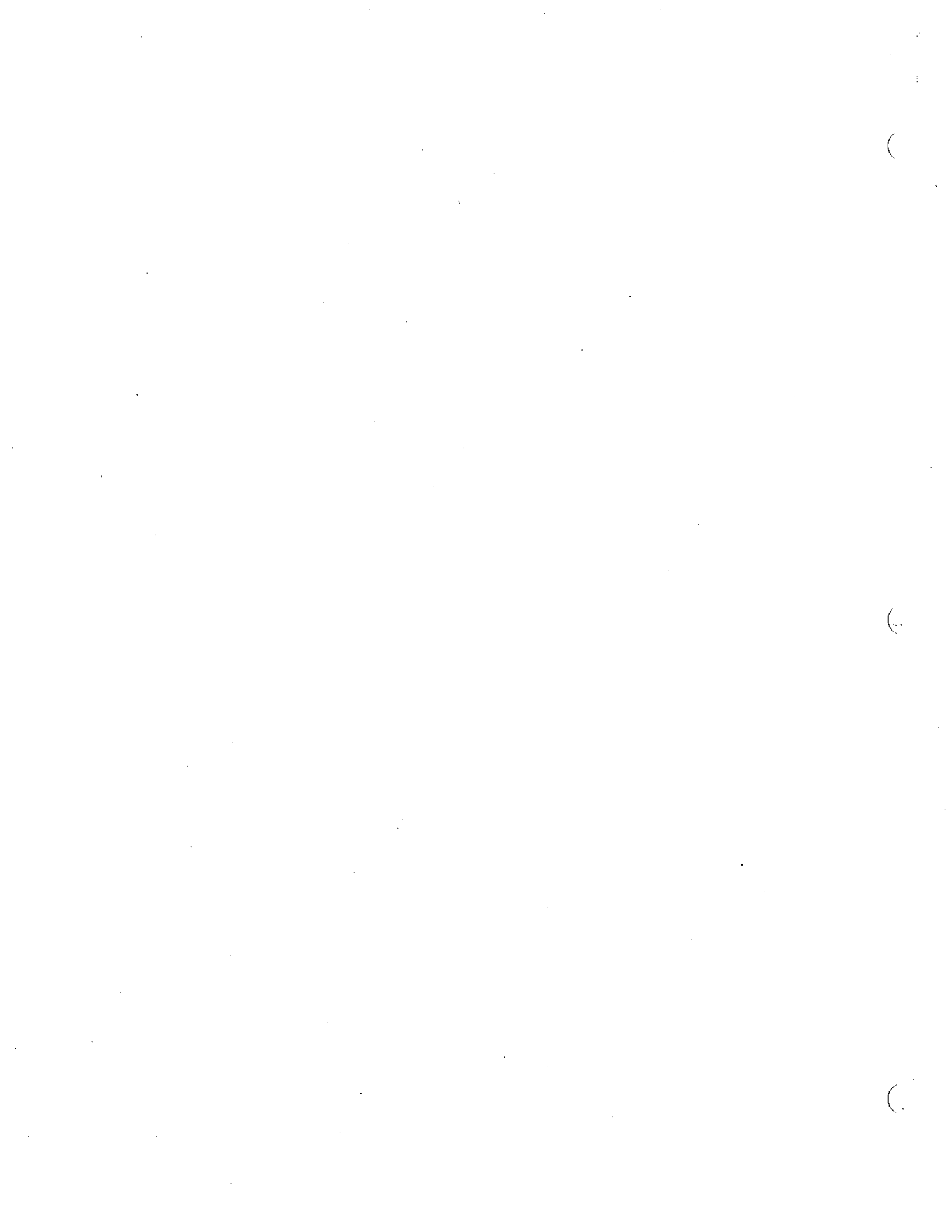
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Mt. Pleasant/Rockwell City Improvements	12,500,000
<b>Department of Economic Development</b>	
Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT)	12,000,000
River Enhancement CAT	10,000,000
ACE Vertical Infrastructure for Community Colleges	5,500,000
<b>Department of Education</b>	
Community College Major Maintenance Infrastructure	2,000,000
<b>Department of Natural Resources</b>	
Volga River Rec. Area Infrastructure Improvement	750,000
Carter Lake Improvements	500,000
Lake Dredging	10,000,000
<b>Regents</b>	
Iowa Public Radio Infrastructure	1,900,000
ISU - Veterinary Lab Phase II Animal Teaching Hospital	10,000,000
<b>Department of Transportation</b>	
Public Transit Infrastructure	2,200,000
Commercial Airport Vertical Infrastructure	1,500,000
<b>Department of Veterans Affairs</b>	
Iowa Veterans Home Master Plan	22,555,329
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$185,000,000</b>

- \$118.5 million for local infrastructure grants by IJOBS board for disaster rebuilding, reconstruction of local infrastructure (FEMA plus), flood control, and other flood mitigation projects.
- \$25 million for Watershed and Water Quality Improvement Efforts
  - \$11.5 million to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship for repairs to conservation practices that were damaged due to the severe weather of 2008, creation of wetland mitigation banks, and flood control measures.
  - \$13.5 million to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for construction of measures relating to the control of surface water including addressing needs as combined sewer overflows, enrollment in emergency watershed programs, flood mitigation, and low-head dam replacement.
- \$55 million to Iowa Finance Authority for grants for improvements to city sewer infrastructure
  - \$35 million dedicated specifically for communities under \$10,000
  - Remaining \$20 million is at the discretion of the Iowa Finance Authority of which larger communities would be eligible
- \$35 million to Iowa Finance Authority for Housing Assistance
  - \$5 million for disaster related housing distributed in the same formula as Jumpstart



- \$20 million for affordable targeted housing for the elderly, disabled, and low income Iowans.
- \$10 million for construction or remodeling of homeless, domestic abuse, and emergency shelters
- \$50 million for bridge safety and rehabilitation of structurally deficient and functionally obsolete bridges on the primary and instate road system
- \$46.5 million for targeted disaster recovery effort projects:
  - \$10 million - Human Services Resource Center in Cedar Rapids
  - \$5 million - Options of Linn County (Mental Health workshop building in CR)
  - \$5 million - Steam Energy Generation
  - \$10 million - National Czech and Slovak Museum
  - \$5 million - Paramount Theater
  - \$5 million - Cedar Rapids Public Library
  - \$5 million - Cedar Rapids Public Works Building
  - \$500,000 - Palo Fire Station
  - \$500,000 - Elkader Fire Station
  - \$500,000 - Charles City Fire Station
- \$5 million to the Alternative Energy Revolving Loan at the Iowa Energy Center which provides zero interest for individuals and organizations that are interested in installing alternative energy projects such as wind, solar and hydro.
- \$25 million for grants to expand high speed broadband access all over Iowa.

SF 477 (Next Phase Bonding):

- Authorizes State Treasurer to issue \$105 million in appropriations bonds which are expected to be issued in July of 2010. \$100 million of this funding will be appropriated in next year's legislative session for specific potential projects such as the modernization of our State Park System. \$5 million of this will be added on top of the \$5 million already appropriated to the Iowa Energy Center for Alternative Energy Projects in SF 376.

SF 474 (Regents Bonding):

- Authorizes the Regents to issue \$115 million in academic revenue bonds for flood recovery projects at the University of Iowa (\$100 million) and the Veterinary Hospital at Iowa State University (\$15 million).
- Potential flood affected projects at the University of Iowa could include:
  - Hancher/Voxman/Clapp Complex which is home of the School Of Music and performing arts venue
  - Arts Building East and West
  - Iowa Advanced Technology Labs
  - Iowa Memorial Union





- Museum of Art Building
- Power plant and energy distribution system
- Hawkeye Court Apartments

Overall Key I-JOBS Figures:

- \$830 million in total package
- \$765 million total from bonding
- \$65 million from Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund, federal stimulus, and transportation funds
- State Vertical Infrastructure Projects: \$300 million
- Transportation: \$115 million
  - Road: \$55 million divided equally between county and city roads
  - Bridges: \$50 million for structurally and functionally obsolete bridges
  - Multi-Modal: \$10 million for airports, passenger rail, and transit
- Disaster Rebuilding and Prevention: \$290 million
- Sewer Infrastructure Improvements: \$55 million
- Housing: \$35 million
- Alternative Energy: \$10 million
- Expanding Broadband Access: \$25 million

Water Relating Funding in RIIF

- \$2.8 million for Lake Restoration at DNR
- \$2 million for the Flood Plain Management Program at DNR
- \$5 million for the Watershed Improvement Review Board
- \$1.3 million for the Iowa Flood Center at U of Iowa
- \$800,000 for Water Trails and Low Head Safety at DNR
- \$100,000 for streambed erosion/degradation at Hungry Canyons



ISNR-handout  
WRCC- 6/12/09  
S. Taktinen

## Legislative Brief – Water Resources Coordinating Council – June 12, 2009

### HF 468 Unsewered Community Revolving Loan Fund

- Establishes a RLF at IFA.
- No funding appropriated for this activity.
- However, in SF 376, an appropriation of \$55 million is made for the purpose of providing additional financial assistance to communities receiving the SRF. SF 376 requires IFA to create and administer the Water Quality Assistance Program.

### HF 735 Stockpiling Dry Manure – Poultry

- Regulates the storing of dry manure outside of a manure storage structure, referred to as a stockpile.
- Provides separation distances, limiting locations such as on karst terrain.
- Exempts facilities constructed prior to Jan. 1, 2006.

### HF 756 Watershed Management

- Establishes the Mississippi River Partnership Council.
- Adds flood mitigation as a focus of the Water Resources Coordinating Council.
- Adds flood mitigation as an eligible activity for the WIRB to fund.

### HF 759 Flood Insurance

- Requires cities and counties with flood hazard areas and approved maps to meet the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program by June 30, 2011.
- Eligibility for flood related disaster funding contingent upon participation in the NFIP.
- Commission of insurance, in collaboration with the Rebuild Iowa office, homeland security and emergency management division (DPD) and DNR (even though not identified in legislation) required to produce recommendations policies and incentives to expand the availability and procurement of flood insurance in Iowa. Must submit report by 11/15/09 to chairperson and ranking member of both the House and Senate RIO committees.

### SF 268 Watershed Improvement Grants

- Allows grant to be used over 5 years, with potential to be extended for an additional 5 years. The existing time for the grant is 3 years.

### SF 339 Wastewater Treatment and Sponsored SRF Programs.

- Makes changes to the wastewater financial assistance program administered by IFA.
- Establishes a sponsored projects program – allowing for the addition of water resource restoration projects to be combined with conventional SRF projects.

### SF 432 Manure on Frozen and Snow Covered Ground

- Addresses the application of manure on frozen and snow covered ground and the stockpiling of manure associated with dry bedded CFOs.
- Applies only to surface application of liquid manure from a confinement required to submit an mmp.
- No application of manure on snow covered ground from 12/21-4/1 except in emergencies.
- No application of manure on frozen ground from 2/1-4/1 except in emergencies.
- Emergencies include (not limited to) natural disasters, unusual weather conditions or equipment or structural failures.
- Provides for the stockpiling of dry bedded manure and establishes separation distances.

**Funding Bills:****HF 822 – Infrastructure**

Lake Restoration (see also SF 376)	\$2,800,000
Flood Plain Management	\$2,000,000
Hungry Canyons – streambed erosion	\$100,000
Iowa Flood Center	\$1,300,000
WIRB	\$5,000,000

**SF 376 – Bonding Bill**

Repair Infrastructure–conservation practices DALS	\$11,500,000
Repair Infrastructure-WQ improvements DNR	\$13,500,000
WQ and WWT projects IFA	\$55,000,000
Improvements-Volga River	\$750,000
Improvements-Carter Lake	\$500,000
Lake Restoration Program (also see HF 822)	\$10,000,000

**SF 467 – Ag and Natural Resources Budget**

Groundwater Protection Fund	\$3,455,832
CREP	\$1,500,000
Watershed Protection	\$2,550,000
Farm Mgmt Demo Program	\$800,000
Ag Drainage Wells	\$1,500,000
Soil & Water Conservation Practices	\$7,000,000
CRP	\$1,500,000
Water Quality Monitoring	\$2,955,000
Public Water Systems	\$500,000
Water Quantity	\$495,000
AFOs	\$360,000
REAP	\$18,000,000



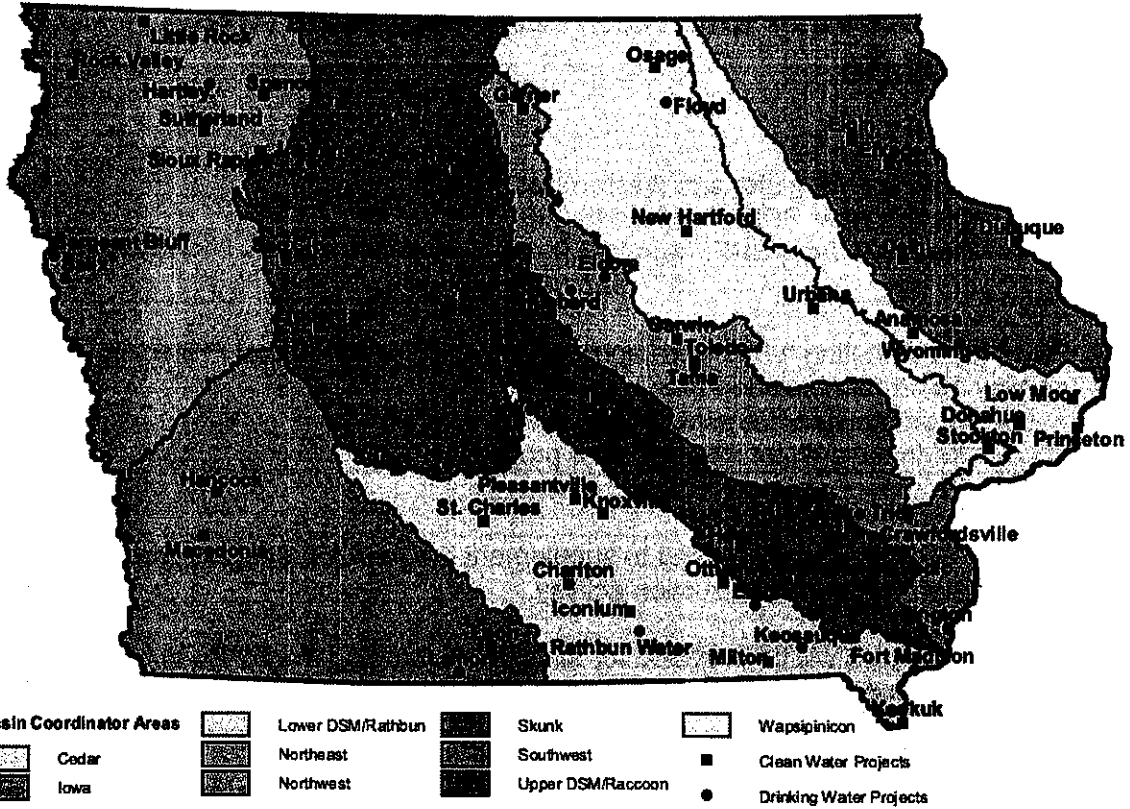
## American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Funding Update

June 12, 2009

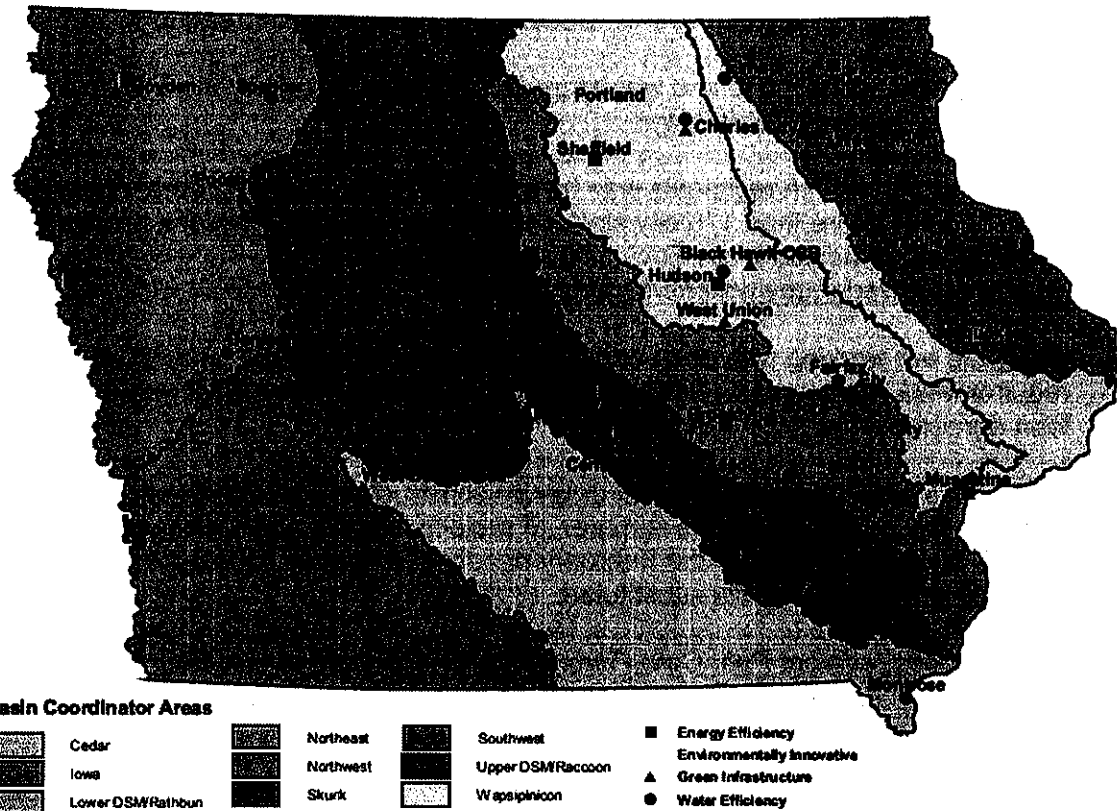
- Iowa's allocation for water and wastewater projects:
  - Clean Water SRF: \$53,040,000
  - Drinking Water SRF: \$24,293,000
  - \$77,333,000
  
- Plans for distributing funds were approved by the Environmental Protection Commission on May 19, 2009. Included are:
  - 40 wastewater infrastructure projects
  - 20 drinking water infrastructure projects
  - 50 "green" projects
  
- Regular SRF funds will be used to supplement the ARRA funds, to leverage a total of \$209 million worth of construction activity.
  
- Loan forgiveness will be provided for all projects, ranging from 20% to 50% of the total project costs up to a cap of \$2 million per project.
  
- Green projects include:
  - Water efficiency: Water meters, leak detection, low-flow toilets.
  - Energy efficiency: Variable frequency drives, fine bubble aeration, high efficiency pumps and motors, a wind turbine.
  - Green infrastructure: Rain gardens, porous paving, bioretention, wetlands, a green roof.
  - Environmentally innovative: Decentralized wastewater treatment.
  
- Buy American compliance and waiver guidance was released by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in May.
  
- A workshop for ARRA recipients was held May 20, 2009 including an attorney-advisor from the EPA. More than 175 city staff, consulting engineers, vendors, and others participated. In addition, all ARRA information is posted at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/water/srf/stimulus.html>.
  
- SRF staff are working with each applicant to ensure that all SRF and ARRA requirements are covered. Projects must be certified as meeting all requirements before loan agreements may be finalized.
  
- All projects must be under contract or under construction by February 17, 2010. Project progress will be assessed this summer. If projects are not proceeding on a timeframe that will allow them to meet the February deadline, they may be dropped for funding and other shovel-ready projects substituted.

*For more information, contact Patti Cale-Finnegan, 515-725-0498 or Lori Beary, 515-725-4965.*

## Infrastructure Projects by Basin Coordinator Area



## Green Projects by Basin Coordinator Area



**DRAFT – 4 June 2009**

**CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR WATERSHED STUDY OF THE  
IOWA – CEDAR RIVERS BASIN**

**STUDY PURPOSE** – Formulate a comprehensive plan to address water resource and related land resource problems and opportunities in the Iowa – Cedar Rivers Basin in the interests of systemic flood damage reduction by the means of – structural and non-structural flood control and floodplain management strategies; management of bank caving and erosion; watershed nutrient and sediment management; habitat management; recreation needs; and other related purposes. Although a specific interest of the study is systemic flood damage reduction, it will be addressed in the context of a broader purpose of increasing social and economic value and robustness and improving and stabilizing the natural environment.

**STUDY OBJECTIVES**

1. Vision for sustainable management of water and natural resources of the Iowa-Cedar Rivers Basin for multiple purposes.
2. Watershed plan exemplifying the vision
3. Process for managing the Iowa-Cedar Rivers Basin through coordination, collaboration, and partnership toward achievement of the vision
4. Identification of early start initiatives during course of study

**PHASES**

1. Watershed Assessment of Current Conditions
2. Forecast of Future Conditions (Without Plan)
3. Goals and Objectives
4. Watershed Plan (Desired Future Conditions)
5. Watersheds for Learning
6. Process for Watershed Management
7. Decision Support System

**ORGANIZATION FOR COORDINATION**

1. Iowa Water Resources Coordinating Council
2. Iowa-Cedar Rivers Basin Coordinating Committee
3. HUC 8 Watershed Teams
4. Technical Teams
5. Science and Information Support Center

**OUTPUTS**

1. Watershed Plans
2. Process for Watershed Management
3. Decision Support System

**AREAS OF INVESTIGATION** – See Figure 1



**PHASE 1 –WATERSHED ASSESSMENTS (CURRENT CONDITIONS) IN TWO PARTS**  
– HUC 8 Watershed assessments (9 separate assessments) and assessment of basin as a whole.

1. Establish and assign representatives to the interagency groups – see ORGANIZATION FOR COORDINATION.
2. Conduct public outreach meetings to inform the public and stakeholders about the study.
3. Conduct Rapid Watershed Assessments (RWA) for each of the nine HUC 8 Watersheds.
4. Supplement the RWA with additional analysis to provide a comprehensive understanding of the watershed - base information, water assessment, floodplain assessment, social and institutional assessment, cultural resources assessment, environmental assessment, and recreation assessment.
5. Integrate the nine HUC 8 watershed analyses and supplement as necessary to achieve a basin-level watershed assessment.
6. Perform a quality assessment regarding quality of data, methods and tools, level of detail and extent of analysis.

**PHASE 2 – FORECAST OF FUTURE CONDITIONS** - This phase of work provides a projection of what the future is likely to be without a watershed plan for guidance on management actions and process.

1. Identify forecasting methods and tools for each of the areas of investigation – water management, floodplain management, social and institutional, cultural resources, environmental resources, and recreation.
2. Perform analysis and forecast future conditions for each of the nine HUC 8 watersheds with regard to each of the areas of investigation.
3. Integrate the HUC 8 watershed analyses and supplement as necessary to achieve a basin-level forecast.
4. Perform a quality assessment regarding quality of data, methods and tools, level of detail and extent of analysis.

**PHASE 3 – GOALS AND OBJECTIVES** – This phase of work evaluates current conditions and the likely “future without” and begins the process of formulating an alternative future by establishing goals and objectives for each of the HUC 8 watersheds and the basin as a whole.

1. Consolidate and synthesize information into a comparative presentation of what exists and what is forecast with an explanation of consequences.
2. Conduct agency and public workshops for purpose of exploring goals and objectives for the future of the watersheds and basin.
3. Set watershed goals and objectives with understanding that study is an iterative process.

PHASE 4 – WATERSHED PLAN – This is the first outcome of what will become a cyclical process tied to an adaptive management approach. The Watershed Plan is the specific measures identified and sequenced for achieving the established objectives.

1. Prepare for formulation - select tools and methods for watershed planning and evaluation and identify a range of measures that might be used to achieve each objective.
2. Formulate a reasonable range of alternatives by adjusting the “value” of objectives and the mix of measures used to achieve objectives for each HUC 8 watershed.
3. Conduct agency and public workshops for the purpose of adjusting alternatives and determining evaluation criteria.
4. Complete evaluation of alternatives for each HUC 8 watershed and for each basin as a whole.
5. Conduct agency and public workshops for purpose of reviewing final evaluation.
6. Select the watershed plan to serve as the pathway toward achieving the objectives and establish short and long-term strategies for implementation.

PHASE 5 – WATERSHEDS FOR LEARNING – Watersheds for Learning are small watersheds located in geomorphically different parts of the basin where there is an availability of data needed for modeling and willing landowners and stakeholders. Watersheds for Learning represent an intensive intersection of science and action – pushing the envelope for the purpose of understanding and modeling complex relationships regarding current conditions, without future conditions, and alternative future conditions with the intent on moving forward with intensive implementation and post-implementation monitoring and assessment. Watersheds for Learning will serve as functional models of the vision for the Iowa – Cedar Rivers Basin.

1. Identify and select Watersheds for Learning,

2. Conduct watershed studies of much greater intensity than the HUC 8 watershed studies with more sophisticated monitoring, modeling, and analysis in preparation for intensive implementation with ongoing and post-modification monitoring and analysis.

PHASE 6 – DEVELOP A PROCESS FOR WATERSHED MANAGEMENT – The Process for Watershed Management links the Organization for Coordination, the Watershed Plan; Watersheds for Learning; and the Decision Support System together in a way that promotes informed decision making by local, state, and federal government and non-government entities under a framework of coordination, collaboration, and partnership.

1. Develop a process that will allow for coordinated watershed management to continue after formal study is complete toward achievement of the vision through an adaptive approach.

PHASE 7 - DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM (DSS) – The DSS will assist the public in understanding long-term requirements to meet watershed objectives and assist decision-makers in making informed investment decisions.

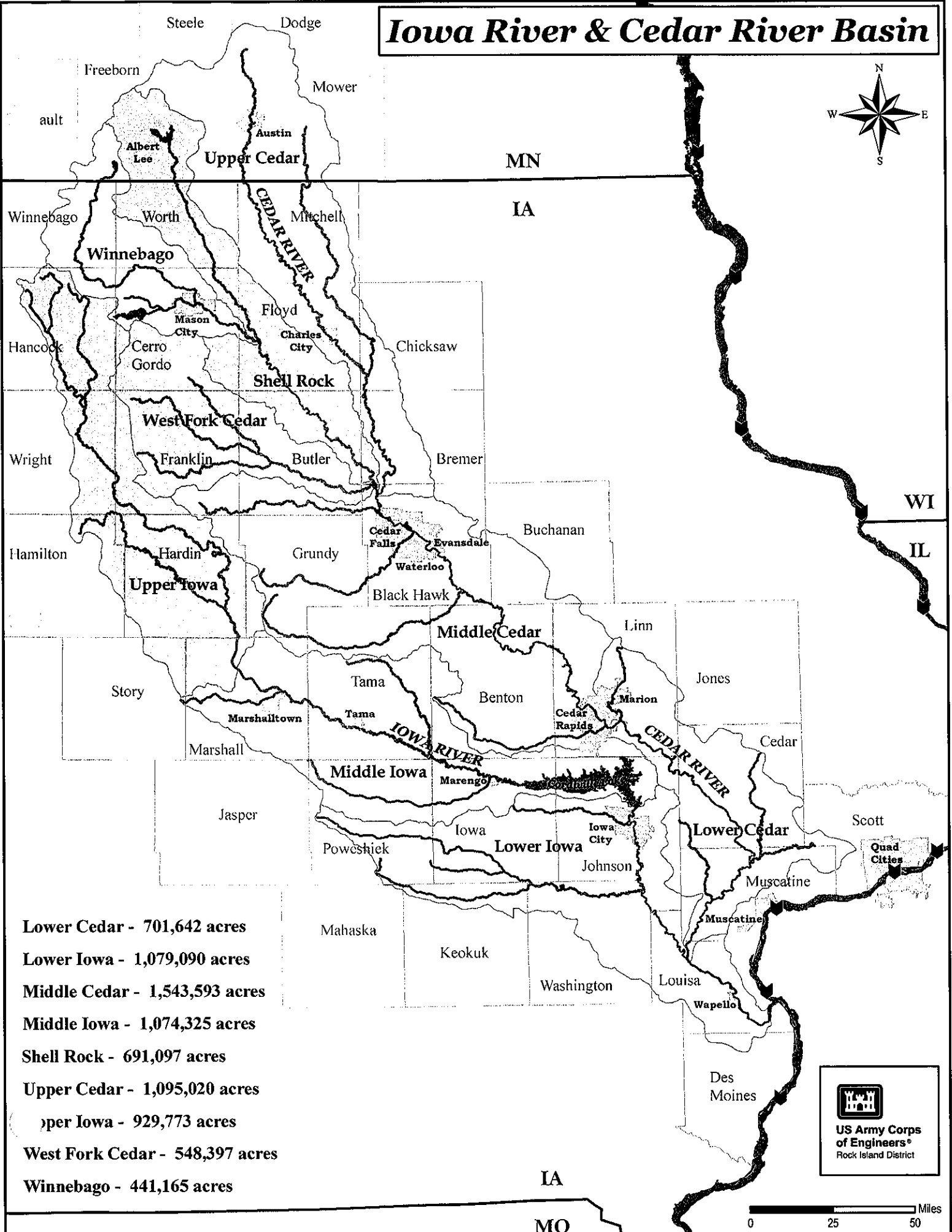
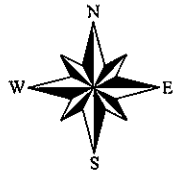
1. Develop a watershed DSS from methods and tools used for the analysis, formulation, and evaluation in this study to support the adaptive management process and enable decision-making about investments in watershed management, ecosystem restoration, water quality, water quantity, and groundwater management measures. Link the DSS to the basin GIS for visualization of basin information and of management measures.
2. Deliver the DSS to planners, resource managers, and decision-makers through the Iowa-Cedar Rivers Basin via the internet. The internet site will include findings of the study (i.e. The Watershed Plan), methods and tools, a description of the adaptive management process, and instructions for use of the DSS. The internet site will be designed to enable tracking implementation of management and restoration measures and system response as revealed by monitoring.

- 1. Base Information – Mapping and Survey Information**
  - 1.1. Stream profiles and cross-sections
  - 1.2. Land elevation – 2' contours
  - 1.3. Land use – land cover
  - 1.4. Drainage systems
  - 1.5. Stormwater conveyance systems
  - 1.6. Areas of special interest – cultural, environmental
  - 1.7. Geology and Soils
  - 1.8. Hazardous Waste
  
- 2. Water and Watershed Analysis**
  - 2.1. Supply – Surface, Groundwater, Rivers and Streams
  - 2.2. Use
  - 2.3. Quality
  - 2.4. Pollutant Sources
  
- 3. Floodplain Analysis**
  - 3.1. Watershed Hydrology
  - 3.2. River Hydraulics
  - 3.3. Floodplain Uses & Benefits
  - 3.4. Risk Assessment
  
- 4. Social and Institutional Analysis**
  - 4.1. Sociological, institutional, economic, and demographic conditions
  
- 5. Cultural Resources Analysis**
  - 5.1. Cultural resources within floodplain and riparian areas
  
- 6. Environmental Analysis**
  - 6.1. Hydrology and hydraulics
  - 6.2. Geomorphology
  - 6.3. Biogeochemistry
  - 6.4. Biota
  - 6.5. Habitat
  
- 7. Recreation Analysis**
  - 7.1. Recreation resources within floodplain and riparian areas

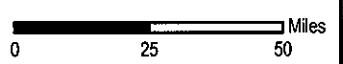
**Figure 1 - Watershed Assessment – Areas of Assessment**

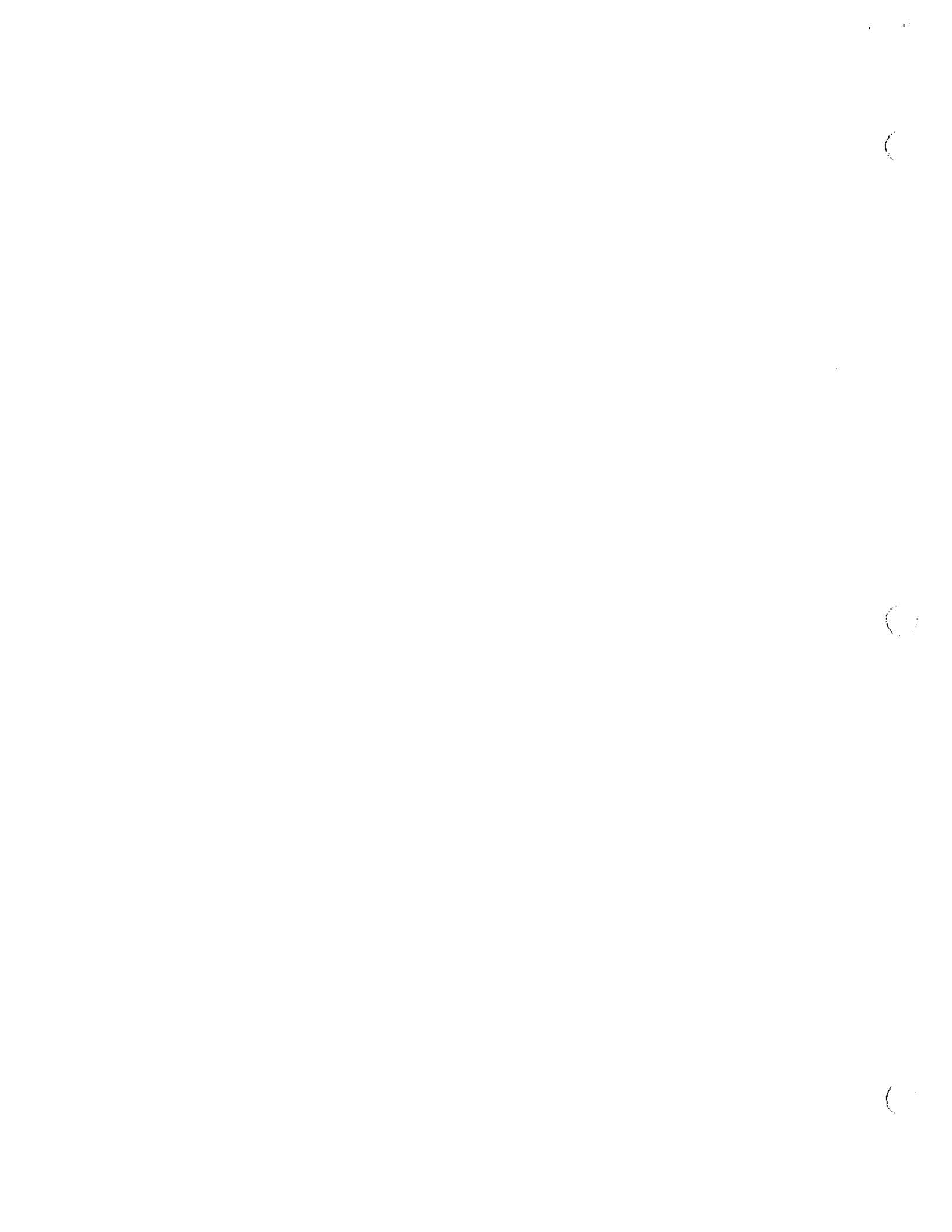


# Iowa River & Cedar River Basin



- Lower Cedar - 701,642 acres**
- Lower Iowa - 1,079,090 acres**
- Middle Cedar - 1,543,593 acres**
- Middle Iowa - 1,074,325 acres**
- Shell Rock - 691,097 acres**
- Upper Cedar - 1,095,020 acres**
- Upper Iowa - 929,773 acres**
- West Fork Cedar - 548,397 acres**
- Winnebago - 441,165 acres**





Flood plain maps can be used to reduce the effects of a disaster in many ways. The following are just a few examples:

**Planning:** To avoid construction in flood-prone areas

**Preparedness:** To develop an emergency action plan through the identification of homes, businesses and critical facilities

**Response:** To evacuate people and prioritize sandbagging in residential and business areas

**Recovery:** To help decision makers rebuild and allocate disaster assistance

Flood plain maps provide fundamental data on elevation of flood plains, which can be used for all kinds of decisions. The maps can protect lives and property both before and during a flood. Although there have been technical modifications and updates to the original paper maps of the 1970s and 1980s, current flood plain maps are often inaccurate and of low quality. Flood plain maps assist with emergency response and community planning, and can be used for such things as:

- Community land use planning and design purposes
- Insurance determinations
- Quickly allocating resources before or during a flood event

In 2004, the State of Iowa invested in an innovative Light Detection and Ranging technology (LiDAR) for developing 2-foot interval topographic elevation maps for the entire state. With further advances in technology, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources will create flood plain maps using LiDAR data along with hydraulic and hydrological analysis that would be easily accessible to all state and federal agencies, and most importantly, to Iowa's citizens and businesses.

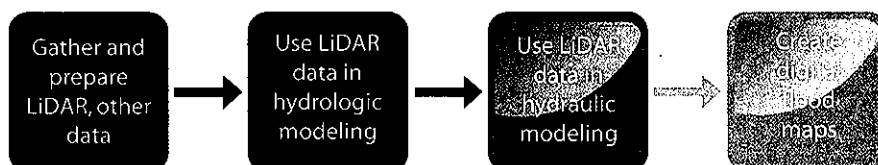
In 2008, Federal Supplemental Disaster Funding was appropriated to Iowa. Of that funding, \$5 million has been allocated for flood plain mapping efforts. As future appropriations are made, another \$10 million will be allocated for flood plain mapping. The Iowa Department of Economic Development is the administrator of this appropriation and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources will be the technical lead to ensure the proper development and completion of statewide flood plain maps. This funding will be used in contracts to complete flood plain mapping for the state of Iowa.

During the 2009 Iowa legislative session, \$2 million was allocated from the Infrastructure Fund for the Flood Plain Management Program. A portion of this funding will be dedicated to the Flood Plain Mapping Program to develop in-house expertise and administration of the contracts to develop the flood plain maps.

#### PLAN OF ACTION

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has already begun work on a Needs Assessment to inventory available current hydrology and hydraulic information, which can be used for (or will need to be updated before) creating the flood plain maps. This Needs Assessment will also provide the information necessary to develop the statewide mapping schedule. Knowing what information is available for each county and if that information needs to be updated will be essential in developing this schedule.

The Department of Natural Resources has also begun work on a Flood Plain Mapping Pilot Project which will be used to further refine the flood plain mapping process. The pilot project will focus on developing a flood plain map for one county. Information that will be tracked includes time needed to refine the LiDAR data, to identify other data needs, to complete each task, to identify where time savings can be found and to refine the mapping methodology. Other outcomes of the pilot project will be the creation of templates and automation of certain tasks to reduce the amount of staff time.



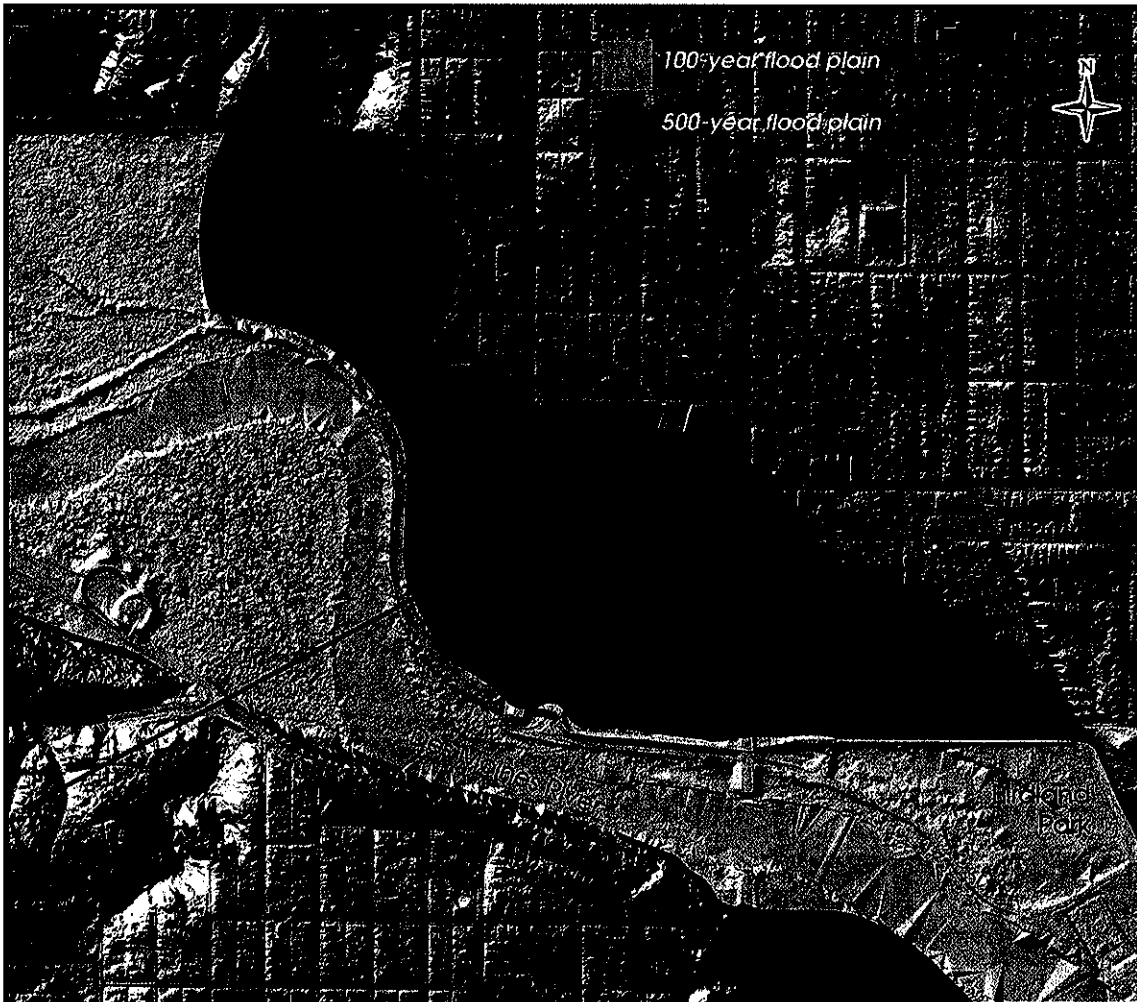


As these two projects are completed, the Department of Natural Resources will develop a Project Plan for each mapping project. The project plan will include the following information:

- Area to be mapped
- Hydraulic and hydrological information for that area
- Potential funding leveraging opportunities
- Communication plan
- Task schedule with milestones
- Quality Assurance/Quality Control Plan
- Communication Plan
- Mapping Activities Statement for submission to FEMA

For each project a specific scope of work will be written and a contract will be executed to complete the scope of work. The Department of Natural Resources will follow the state contracting procedures for evaluating and selecting the appropriate vendor(s) to complete each mapping project. Projects may vary in size ranging from a one-county area to a multiple county area depending on the specific needs of those areas.

The Department of Natural Resources will work with the Department of Economic Development to ensure the appropriate agency level agreements are in place to be able to execute and complete each contract.



A flood plain map of the Birdland neighborhood in Des Moines was created with LiDAR data (left). It shows the areas that would be flooded by different water levels.

