

Final Report

Fox River Water Quality Project
Fox River Ecosystem Development Board
1243-020

7/1/13-12/31/15

Environmental Accountability

A total of 2,082 acres within the priority area were treated with best management practices. The project goals included 13 grade stabilization structures, 10 water and sediment control basins, 7,000 feet of terraces, and 600 acres of cover crop. There were 10 grade stabilization structures completed, 52 water and sediment control basins, 26,917 feet of tile outlet terraces, and 1,160.7 acres of cover crop planted within the priority area of Fox River. Attachment 1 illustrates the BMP’s installed in the WIRB priority area from 2013 thru current. These practices combined provide a sediment delivery reduction of 2,522 tons per year (cover crop not included) to the river as well as a reduction of 3,279 pounds per year of phosphorus. Table 3 below provides a comparison of goals versus accomplishments.

Practice	Unit	Approved Application Goal	Accomplishment	Percent Complete	Approved Application Goal (sediment)	Accomplishment	Percent Complete
Grade Stab	No.	13	10	77	1600	1360	85
W&S Basin	No.	10	52	520	126	468	371
Terrace	Ft.	7,000	26,917	385	70	695	992
Cover Crop	Acres	600	1,160.7	193	264	510	193

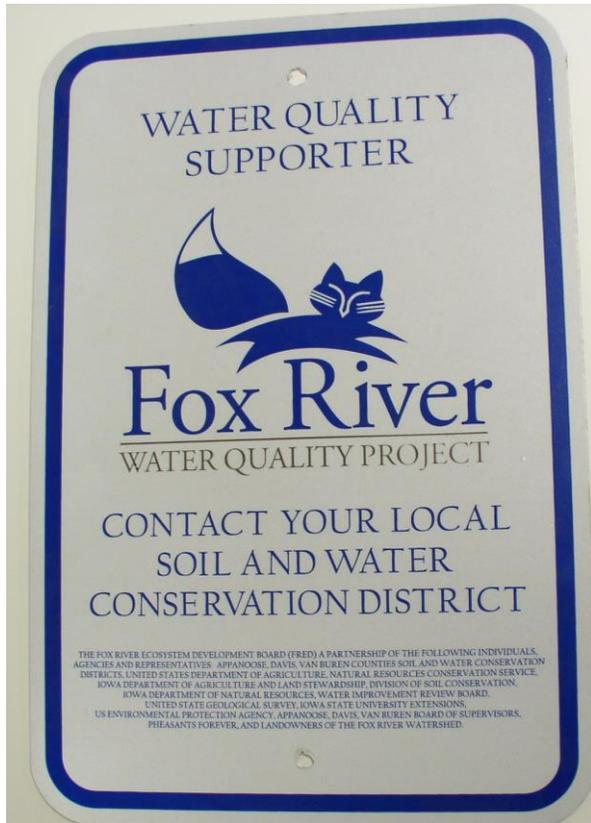
The project was able to far surpass the total application goals for sediment reduction. Projects were evaluated prior to approval for funding, field visits where active classic and ephemeral gully erosion taking place was documented. Designed sediment storage capacity was used to calculate an average annual sediment capture.

Program Accountability

FRED Board members and partners completed the following activities in support of the original application, as well as reaching project goals in reducing sediments loads from entering the Fox River.

- Maintained a full time temporary employee to work with a team of technical advisors, field staff, FRED Board members, and partners who were responsible for planning, implementing, and assessing the completion and impact of project activities.
- FRED Board members, partner representatives, and project coordinators, reviewed projects and the implementation of project activities and accomplishment of project objectives. The FRED Board submitted the required project plans of work, narrative reports, and financial ledgers.
- Continued to seek and secure funding from other sources such as WPF/WSPF, as well as submitted a full proposal for RCPP funding (status unknown at this time).
- Promoted the use and partner of additional sources of cost share such as EQIP, WSPF, WIRB, state cost share, and low interest loans.
- Organized and led a tour of projects for student interns, summer of 2015.
- Put together information and presentations to show the progress and accomplishments as part of the FRED Boards information and education efforts made in the project. Attended county fairs handing out promotional materials, along with sending out press releases, and posting signage around the

watershed showing the support and appreciation of all our partners. Also installed road signs along state and county highways at river crossings.



(Above) Highway signs placed at Fox River crossings on state and county highways in Appanoose, Davis, and Van Buren Counties.

(Above) Project supporter sign, these signs were placed on cooperating private landowners that installed BMP's on their ground. Fox River landowners are proud supporters of the watershed and their contributions to the project.
(Right) Grade stabilization structure completed September 2014. This structure has a drainage area of 260 acres, and filled up over night following a large rain event.





Above: Group photo from the intern tour that took place May 26, 2015. Interns toured several structures throughout the Fox River and South Chequest Creek Watersheds.

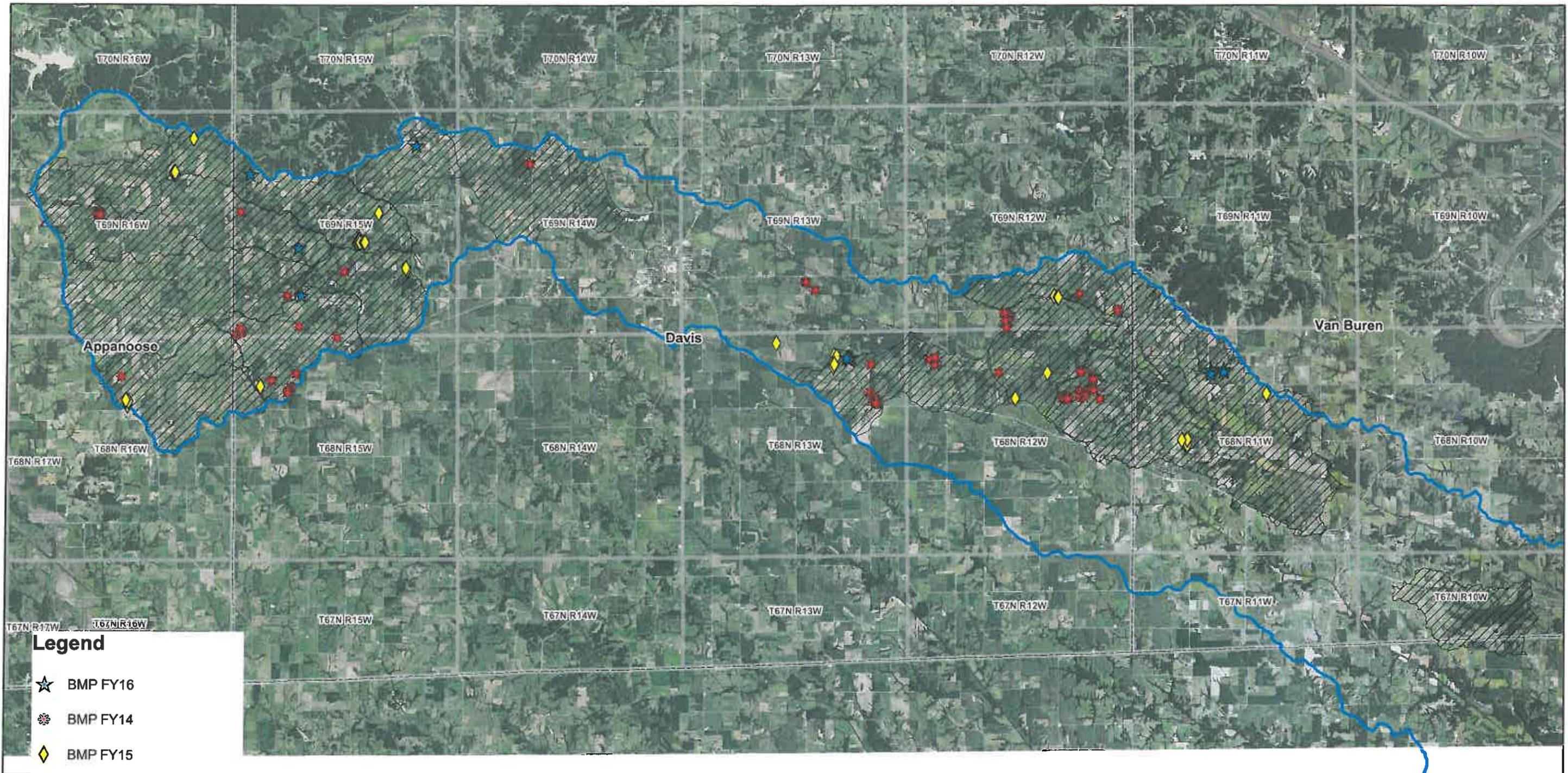
Summary

The Fox River has had great success over the years and is entering into its seventeenth year of being a formal watershed group. Over the years there's been a lot of work completed within the watershed providing benefit to the Fox River as well as the Mississippi River, where the Fox outlets. Landowners within the watershed seem to be satisfied with the progress that has been made; significant flood reduction is noticeable after heavy rains. And while landowners are pleased with the work that has been completed there's still a backlog of applications on hand. The ability to partner several different funding sources to provide landowners 75% cost share has allowed for tremendous support and landowner participation making the project goals attainable. It is the intention of the Fox River Ecosystem Development Board to continue to seek funding to further implement practices within the landscape of the watershed.

The Fox River Ecosystem Board has been fortunate to receive support from a variety of agencies, organizations, and individuals to get this project to where it is today. The board would like to extend a special thanks to: The Appanoose, Davis and Van Buren and Soil and Water Conservation Districts, participating landowners and their land improvement contractors in the Fox River Watershed, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship's Division of Soil Conservation, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Section 319 Program, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Agency and USDA Farm Service Agency.

Fox River Watershed Project BMP's July 2013-Dec 2015

Assisted By: FELICIA CAMPBELL



Legend

- ★ BMP FY16
- ✱ BMP FY14
- ◇ BMP FY15
- Fox River Watershed
- ▨ Fox_Priority_Subwatersheds
- Iowa - Counties
- Iowa - PLSS Townships

