

Jake Holt— Fremont, Mills, Montgomery, & Page Counties

July – Sept 2017

This quarter, we have kept busy in the local field offices working with landowners about their new seeding establishment and maintenance. These contacts with landowners have provided a great opportunity to give them the technical assistance and planning they need to be confident that their project is establishing correctly.

Additionally, we had the opportunity to provide two CRP workshops for landowners. These workshops helped set landowners up for success in terms of the best management practices for new seedings and the first few years of establishment. The field tours gave landowners the chance to get out in the field and look at first and second year seedings to see the difference between new seedings that are managed versus ones that haven't had any management performed since they were seeded. This led to some good group discussions among landowners and field staff.



This photo is from the Page County CRP workshop in which we visited a CP42 site.

Conservation Practices	Acres Impacted
CP2 HELI	13.77
CP42 Pollinator Habitat	5.2
Total	18.97

Contacts & Conservation Plans

- ◆ Landowner contacts = 83
- ◆ Total site visits = 26
- ◆ Habitat proposals = 3
- ◆ Conservation plans = 7
- ◆ Practice checkout = 1
- ◆ NRCS seed plan review = 12



This photo is of a cover crops seeding completed in August with cost-share through WQI.



Thank you to all our partners!

Outreach & Education

- 2 CRP workshops (Montgomery & Page Counties)

These workshops covered the best management practices for CRP in regards to: establishment, maintenance, mid-contract management and weed and tree control. The workshops started with presentations and ended with field tours of CRP.



This photo is of the Montgomery County CRP workshop.

Outreach & Education	Amount
Presentations Delivered	2
Quarterly Partner Updates Delivered	6



This photo is of a first year CP42 planting that had a diverse seeding mixture.

Quarter Highlight — Pollinator and Water Quality Field Day in Montgomery



The objective for this project is a shallow water wetland(cp9). The bottom pic was after the first small rain after competition.

Training/Conference Type	Description
Soil Health Training	This NRCS training was a refresher for conservation planners about soil health. The training also covered how to interact with landowners to provide assistance in regards to conservation practices that improve soil health.
Iowa Prairie Conference	This meeting was to learn about what conservationists are accomplishing across the United States to help prairie ecosystems. This information is extremely valuable as we can take what we have learned and apply it to deliver better conservation in our home areas.

**If anyone wishes to discuss habitat projects or knows others who are interested; please contact me at the information below.*