

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
REPORT TO THE
LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
November 20, 2019**

PERSONNEL:

- Fred Stevens, Resource Conservationist in Weeping Water, has left the staff for another opportunity within NRCS. Fred began his new duties as the Resource Conservationist in Hebron on October 28th. We wish Fred the best of luck.
- Tom Cowan, Soil Conservationist in Lincoln, will be leaving staff for a promotion. Tom began his duties as the Resource Conservationist in David City on November 12th. Tom will continue to assist the Lincoln Field Office for a couple days a week through mid-December.

LAND TREATMENT:

- The Conservation Technicians are busy with fall layout and construction. A stretch of good weather has allowed them to stay in front of most contractors with layout. We hope the good weather continues!

PROGRAMS:

- EQIP – All contracting for FY19 has been completed. The original EQIP obligation for the LPSNRD was approximately \$219,000. An additional \$269,339 was secured through state initiatives and “slippage” from other districts.
 - Lancaster – 10 contracts – 1,845.3 acres - \$281,029 obligated
 - Cass – 8 contracts – 1,114.1 acres - \$207,310 obligated
- CRP – A General CRP Sign-up is tentatively planned to begin in December. There have been several changes to the program in the 2018 Farm Bill. There is a state-level training for staff being held in Kearney the week of November 18th.
- CStP – Staff is starting to meet with producers to make annual Conservation Stewardship Payment (CStP) payments.
 - Cass – 19 contracts – 11,469 acres
 - Lancaster – 63 contracts – 56,884 acres

CONSERVATION UPDATE:

- Craig Derickson, State Conservationist, presented a Conservation Update Report to the NRD Managers in Ord on October 29th. Please see the attached report for a summary of NRCS statewide activities.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- November 28th – Thanksgiving Day Holiday

Cory Schmidt - District Conservationist

