

Programs Update

- CSP**
- 13 active FY2017 applications
 - All CAET/rankings due March 31st
 - 83 of 84 producer document reviews and payments submitted for 2016 growing season
 - Field office has approved 78 of the 2016 payments
 - o 5 pending upper level review/action before approval can be completed
 - Contract reviews due March 31st
- EQIP**
- Working with producers to complete/certify practices for existing contracts
 - 2 EQIP applications preapproved for funding
 - 1 Upper Big Sioux application (stream crossing)
 - 1 Energy Initiative application (energy upgrades)
 - Soil Health Initiative deadline extended to April 21st
 - Contract reviews due March 31st
- WRP/WRE**
- Working with Kaytee and landowners on their active restoration contract payments and compatible use requests
 - FY2017 Monitoring:
 - o Contribution agreement with SDACD has 85 easement monitorings assigned to the Brookings County Conservation District
 - offsite and ownership reviews monitorings were due March 1st
 - all assigned to CD will be onsite
 - NRCS easement staff at Huron SO has asked that these be divided and submitted monthly from June 1 up to the August 1 deadline to assist their workload
 - o Remaining easements are assigned to an easement support specialist
 - 1 FY14 WRE has closed, restoration contract to be completed
 - 3 applications on file for FY2017 funding
 - o Rankings completed by March 1 deadline
- CRP**
- Currently 25 new offer and 34 re-enroll applications to process
 - Statewide teleconference scheduled for NRCS/FSA staff next week (3/14)

Wetlands

- There are currently 9 outstanding CWD requests to be completed in Brookings County

Staffing

- Nick Klingenberg (Iowa NRCS Pathways student) will be working in Brookings Field Office March 6-10
- Soil Conservation Technician: suspended indefinitely by federal hiring freeze
- Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist currently advertised for Flandreau, SD, closes Feb. 24th, no updates known

Dates

- 3/14 Statewide Joint FSA/NRCS CRP teleconference
- 3/29 Ryan on Radio (910 AM) at 8:40 am
- 3/31 CSP CAET/ranking deadline, EQIP/CSP contract review deadline