



Natural Resources Conservation Service

Room 3416, Federal Building
700 W. Capitol Ave.
Little Rock, AR 72201
Web: http://www.ar.nrcs.usda.gov

FACT SHEET

April 2015

2015 Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative Strawberry River Watershed

Overview

The Strawberry River Watershed Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative (MRBI) Project is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers for addressing water quality concerns in the Little Strawberry River and Philadelphia Creek-Piney Fork watersheds in portions of Fulton and Izard counties. The project area covers 43,821 acres.

Resource Concerns Addressed by the Project

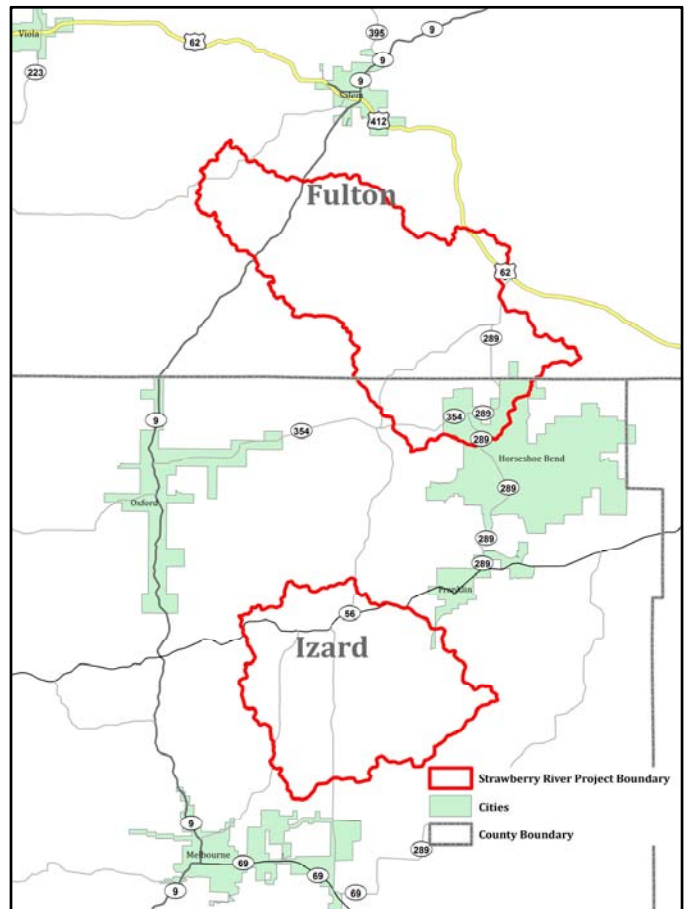
- Water Quality Degradation - Excessive sediment in surface waters (primary)
Water Quality Degradation - Excess pathogens and chemicals from manure, bio-solids or compost applications (secondary)
Soil Erosion - Sheet, rill, and wind erosion (secondary)
Inadequate Habitat for Fish and Wildlife - Habitat degradation (secondary)

Project Goals

- Reduce sediment loss within the Little Strawberry River and Philadelphia Creek-Piney Fork watersheds by 2018.
Increase public interest in water quality and soil health by conducting educational workshops and field days.
Develop "AR NRCS Strawberry River MRBI Demonstration Farms" to promote soil health practices that reduce soil erosion and sedimentation in the river.

Conservation Practice Funding

Funding will be available to eligible landowners through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program



(EQIP). NRCS will provide financial assistance for a systems approach using approved conservation practices for the purpose of addressing resource concerns. Land and producer eligibility, adjusted gross income, and all other program criteria for participation must be met to participate in this initiative. Agricultural lands are eligible for enrollment in the initiative.



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## Approved Conservation Practices

### *Core Practices*

- 327 - Conservation Cover
- 342 - Critical Area Planting
- 390 - Riparian Herbaceous Cover
- 391 - Riparian Forest Buffer
- 393 - Filter Strip
- 512 - Forage and Biomass Planting
- 528 - Prescribed Grazing
- 580 - Streambank and Shoreline Protection
- 612 - Tree/Shrub Establishment

### *Supporting Practices*

- 313 - Waste Storage Facility
- 315 - Herbaceous weed control
- 316 - Animal Mortality Facility
- 367 - Roofs and Covers
- 378 - Pond
- 381 - Silvopasture Establishment
- 382 - Fencing
- 484 - Mulching
- 490 - Tree/Shrub Preparation
- 516 - Livestock pipeline
- 533 - Pumping Plant
- 558 - Roof runoff structure
- 561 - Heavy Use Area
- 574 - Spring Development
- 578 - Stream Crossing
- 614 - Water Facility
- 620 - Underground Outlet
- 642 - Water Well

## How to Apply for MRBI

NRCS and associated conservation partners will deliver this program collaboratively. Applications may be obtained and filed with NRCS at:

<p><b><i>Fulton County</i></b> Salem FSC 236 Byron Road Salem, AR 72567 (870) 895-3201, ext. 3</p>	<p><b><i>Izard County</i></b> Melbourne FSC Oliver Building 1107 Hwy. 69 E., Room 103 Melbourne, AR 72556 (870) 368-4413, ext. 3</p>
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## Partners

- Fulton County Conservation District
- Izard County Conservation District
- Arkansas Natural Resource Commission
- Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
- Arkansas Forestry Commission
- University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service
- American Burger Center
- Arkansas Grazing Lands Coalition
- Bank of Salem
- Batesville Poultry Equipment
- Black Jacks Feed and Farm
- Burns Poultry Equipment
- D & L Discount
- Farm Service Agency Sharp/Izard/Stone County Employees
- Farmer's Co-op
- Farmers Plant Food
- Fin to Fur
- First National Bank of Sharp County- Izard County Branch
- Fulton County Fair Board
- Fulton County Farm Bureau
- Fulton County Master Gardeners
- Hirsch Feed and Farm
- Izard County Farm Bureau
- Izard County Fair Board
- Miller Poultry and Cattle, Inc.
- North Arkansas Electric Cooperative
- Powell Feed & Milling Co., Inc.
- Salem Feed
- Shavers Hardware and Plumbing
- That Farm
- Tri-County Cattlemen's Association
- Weatherford Feed
- Weatherford Brothers Feed

## For More Information

If you need more information about MRBI, please contact one of the above offices or visit the NRCS Arkansas Web site at: [www.ar.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ar.nrcs.usda.gov)