Cost Share Program for Improving Irrigation Management, Water Quality and Habitat

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St. Joseph River Watershed
SJRW Resource Concerns: Water Quantity
SJRW Resource Concerns: Water Quality
SJRW Resource Concerns: 
Habitat Quality
Project Funding

- Farm Bill funds dedicated to SJRW through end of FY19
  - $4,080,000 - EQIP
  - $1,360,000 - ACEP – WRE
Cost Share Project Goals

Healthy Watershed
(St Joseph and Lake Michigan Watersheds)

- Water Quality
- Water Quantity
- Soil Health
- Profitable Farms
- Wildlife & Fisheries Habitat
Program Delivery

- NRCS - Enroll participants, provide engineering and technical assistance
- Conservation Districts - Direct producers to RCPP, provide technical assistance
- Partners – Promote practices
- Producers – Plan and Implement practices
Expected Outcomes

- **Clean and Abundant Water**
  - Reduced sediment and nutrients
- **Better Habitat**
  - Restored wetlands
  - Increased pheasant/turkey/waterfowl populations
  - Improved fisheries
- **Profitable Farms**
32 + Project Partners

- Conservation Districts (IN and MI)
- Farm Bureau
- MDARD
- MSUE
- Friends of the St. Joe River
- St. Joseph River Basin Commission
- Pokagon & Nottaweseppi Huron Bands of Potawatomi
- USGS
- MDNR/IDNR
- MDEQ/IDEM
- Western Michigan Univ., Michigan State Univ.
- Trout & Ducks Unlimited
- Watershed Organizations
- Elkhart, South Bend, Paw Paw Village