Saginaw Bay Watershed RCPP

Who?
What?
Where?
When?
Why?

Mary Fales
Saginaw Bay Project Director
Saginaw Bay Watershed RCPP

- Drains 8,709 mi²
- 15% of MI’s total land area
- 7,000 miles of rivers!
- 45% agricultural land use
  - Corn
  - Soybeans
  - Wheat
  - Drybeans
  - Sugar Beets
  - Potatoes
  - Cucumbers
Saginaw Bay Watershed RCPP


Assessment of Water Quality based on Fish Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI)
**Saginaw Bay Watershed RCPP**

Who?  
What?  
Where?  
When?  
Why?

---

**Who?**

**What?**

**Where?**

**When?**

**Why?**

---

**Saginaw Bay Watershed RCPP**

**Who?**

**What?**

**Where?**

**When?**

**Why?**

---

2014: Proposal Submitted  
(1st round of RCPP)  
2015: $10M Project Awarded  
2020: Project Ends
Saginaw Bay Watershed RCPP

What makes this project unique?

1. Agribusiness as a recruitment method
2. Measuring success by tracking environmental impacts
3. Pre-screening process to focus $ on areas with largest ROI

Saginaw Bay Watershed RCPP

$10M Project:

- $2M reserved for NRCS
- $381K for MSU-IWR
- $7.62M for farmers (via EQIP)

$0 for agribusiness $0 for TNC
Saginaw Bay Watershed RCPP

Who?

No Till/Strip Till

What?

Cover Crops

Where?

Filter Strips

When?

Nutrient Management

Why?

Drainage Water Management

Grassed Waterway

Pre-screening Process

Great Lakes Watershed Management System


A tool for evaluating, tracking, and reporting water quality and groundwater recharge improvements at watershed and field scales.

Explore Tool

http://www.iwr.msu.edu/glwms2/
Pre-screening Process

Highest Priority Farmland

Great Lakes Watershed Management System (MSU IWR)

169 acres
Saginaw Bay Watershed RCPP

**Who?**
- Met or exceeded all project goals & deliverables

**What?**
- 2,801 tons of soil saved
- 15,500 lbs P saved
- 59,650 acres of BMPs
- $7.695M allocated

---

Saginaw Bay RCPP

**Recruitment by Agribusiness**

**Who?**
- % of Contracts Recruited by Agribiz
- % of Acres from recruited by Agribiz

**What?**
- % of Contracts Recruited by Agribiz
- % of Acres from recruited by Agribiz

**Where?**
- Saginaw Bay Watershed RCPP

**When?**
- FY2016
- FY2017
- FY2018

**Why?**
- Saginaw Bay Watershed RCPP
- Achievements:
  - Met or exceeded all project goals & deliverables
  - 2,801 tons of soil saved
  - 15,500 lbs P saved
  - 59,650 acres of BMPs
  - $7.695M allocated
What Are We Learning?

What can you get for $1M?

950 Tons
Farm Bill

6,000 Tons
Pay for Performance