**Project Implementation Plan SFY23-25** 

# **Cheney Lake WRAPS**

WRAPS Coordinator: Lisa French

Grant Start: July 1, 2022 Grant End: December 31, 2025 Total Allocation: \$375,000

This WRAPS Implementation PIP will help accomplish the long-term goals established in Kansas' Nonpoint Source Management Plan Goals including:

- 1. No lake, river, stream or wetland has a violation of Kansas Surface Water Quality Standards due to nonpoint sources of pollutants and all designated uses are fully supported;
- 2. Kansas surface and ground water are protected from all nonpoint pollutant sources through the use of recommended water quality best management practices.
- 3. Reducing the levels of phosphorus, nitrogen, and sediment that adversely affect the water quality of Kansas lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Personnel/Fringe	\$86,900	\$86,900	\$86,900
Admin/Indirect	\$8,100	\$8,100	\$8,100
Travel/Supplies	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Strategy Implementation/BMPs	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
Total:	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000

Estimated Load Reductions			
Phosphorus	6,683 lbs.		
Nitrogen	13,256 lbs.		
Sediment	3,921 tons		

		Load Reductions		
Strategy and Goals	Funding	Phosphorus (lbs/yr)	Nitrogen (lbs/yr)	Sediment (tons/yr)
Implement regenerative agriculture cropland practices (soil health) in our designated priority area to reduce sediment and phosphorus loading. BMPs to achieve strategy include: • Cover Crops (750ac/yr) • No-till adoption (750ac/yr) • Crop rotation (750ac/yr) *Cheney Lake Watershed Inc. pursues a diverse array of funding for BMPs in the	\$25,000*	4,449	8,880	2,976

watershed from WRAPS, City of Wichita, & various USDA Programs.				
Implement regenerative agriculture rangeland practices (soil health) in our designated priority area to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus loading. BMPs to achieve strategy include: • Alternative watering systems (150 AUs relocated) • Cross fencing & rotational grazing (250 AUs relocated)	\$25,000*	806	1,520	N/A
Incentivize and assist with the conversion of cropland to permanent forage including the retention of expired CRP acres as grazing systems instead of a return to conventionally tilled cropland. BMPs to achieve strategy include: • Conversion of cropland to permanent vegetation (500 ac/yr) • Load avoidance through grazing development on former CRP acreages (500ac/yr)	\$25,000*	1,428	2,856	945

\*Diverse funding sources are leveraged to achieve beneficial conservation outcomes for all involved.

## **Project Information**

## **Project Title**

Cheney Lake WRAPS Implementation SFY23-25

This WRAPS Implementation PIP will help accomplish the long-term goals established in Kansas' Nonpoint Source Management Plan including:

- 1. No lake, river, stream or wetland has a violation of Kansas Surface Water Quality Standards due to nonpoint sources of pollutants and all designated uses are fully supported;
- 2. Kansas surface and ground water are protected from all nonpoint pollutant sources through the use of recommended water quality best management practices;
- 3. Kansas Water Plan objectives are achieved by:
  - a. Reducing the levels of pathogens, biochemical oxygen demand, dissolved solids, metals, nutrients, pesticides and sediment that adversely affect the water quality of Kansas lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands;
  - b. Reducing the levels of dissolved solids, metals, nitrates and volatile organic chemicals that adversely affect the quality of Kansas ground water;
  - c. Maintaining water quality conditions for unimpaired waters at a level equal to or better than existing conditions

## Contact Information

## Enter Sponsoring Organization Information

#### **Sponsoring Organization Name**

Reno County Conservation District

## Street Address

18 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave.

## City, State, Zip

South Hutchinson, Kansas, 67505

## Sponsor Taxpayer ID (FEIN)

48-0723065

## Signature Authority Name

Chloe Gehring

## Signature Authority Email

Chloe.gehring@ks.nacdnet.net

## Signature Authority Phone Number

620-661-8161, ext. 2033

## Enter project contact information

Name

Lisa French

### **Street Address**

18 E. 7th

## City, State, Zip

South Hutchinson, Kansas, 67505

### Phone Number

620-888-2054

### Email

Lisa.french@ks.nacdnet.net

## **Project Overview**

## List the HUC12s that are included in this project.

110300140304, 110300140305, 110300140301, 110300140302, 110300140303, the northern half of 110300140204) (18), the eastern portion of 110300140205, 110300140109. Also HUC 12s where the focus of implementation is on riparian corridors only: 110300140106,110300140107 and 110300140108, 110300140201, 110300140202,110300140203, the southern half of 110300140204 and western portion of 110300140205.

## Will a public water supply system be impacted by the project?

⊠Yes □No

## If yes, please enter the impacted public supplies.

Cheney Reservoir is a primary water source for the City of Wichita and other surrounding communities that purchase water from Wichita. These communities include Derby, Valley Center, Andover, Rose Hill, Eastborough, Bentley, Benton, Bel Aire, Park City, and Kechi. More than 425,000 people are dependent on this reservoir for at least 60-80% of their water supply.

The watershed is also the location for public water source wells for small cities and public facilities providing water for an additional 6,500 people. Those sources include Turon, Haviland, Stafford, Arlington, Cheney, Preston, Garden Plain, five schools, a restaurant, and two locations at Cheney State Park.

## Describe the project history.

The Reno County Conservation District established Cheney Lake Watershed as a citizen-led organization to promote water quality projects and distribute supplemental cost share funds from the City of Wichita for projects that positively impact water quality in Cheney Reservoir. The Citizens Management Committee is composed of watershed farmers who take their role as ambassadors for clean water very seriously – talking to their neighbors one-on-one through phone calls, personal visits, and small meetings.

Besides traditional conservation practices, the Cheney Lake Watershed has focused on soil health practices that keep soil covered and enhance soil structure so that it can infiltrate and hold water. These practices have a positive impact on water quality as well as on farm resilience.

Our current educational programming is driving strong interest across the watershed in soil health and regenerative ag practices. Cheney Lake Watershed sponsors workshops, field days, and peer-topeer discussion groups throughout the year to build a knowledge base and spur interest in regenerative ag.

The past 3-year grant of EPA 319 funds served as leverage for additional work on soil health in the watershed. General Mills provided regenerative ag coaching for more than 2 dozen farmers in the area and funded extensive research on the impact of their farming practices. Toward the end of that grant, we see growing implementation of soil health practices throughout the watershed. As a result of this work, we also saw the establishment of a Special EQIP Initiative within the watershed. In both 2021 and 2022, we were able to contract more than \$500,000 for soil health practices within the watershed through NRCS.

A 9 Element Plan for this watershed was completed in June 2011 and updated in May 2019 with revisions in the priority areas to include riparian corridors throughout the watershed.

## Enter the project start date (MM/DD/YYYY)

## 07/01/2022

## Enter the project end date (MM/DD/YYYY)

12/31/2022

## Describe your Stakeholder Leadership Team (SLT),

Local farmers and landowners are members of the Stakeholder Leadership Team "SLT" and they are strong supporters of this project as evidenced by past implementation of BMPs, participation in educational events, attendance at SLT meetings, and general knowledge of the project in the watershed.

Continued support will be demonstrated by good rates of BMP implementation and participation at events in the watershed. Members of the SLT serve as hosts at watershed events and work with their neighbors to promote water quality practices. The SLT has met monthly with a quorum almost every month since 1996.

## SLT Members: List the name, role, affiliation, and email for each SLT member.

Allan Grilliot, Chairman, dispatcher for trucking company/farmer, <u>agrilliot@gmail.com</u> Sig Collins, member and CEO of CLW, Inc., rancher, no email Derek Zongker, member, farmer, <u>dzongker33@gmail.com</u> Brian Stauffer, secretary, farmer, <u>brian.stauffer@hotmail.com</u> Cami Roth, member, farmer/rancher, <u>cami.roth3@gmail.com</u> Brent Oatney, treasurer, farmer, <u>brentoatney@gmail.com</u> Katie Johnson, member, rancher/banker, <u>kjohnson@peoples.bank</u> Chloe Gehring, RCCD manager, <u>chloe.gehring@ks.nacdnet.net</u> Melody McCurry, RCCD board chair, rancher/loan officer, <u>mmccurry@agloan.com</u> Howard Miller, CLW outreach coordinator, <u>howard.miller@ks.nacdnet.net</u>

## **Project Scope**

Describe the TMDLs and/or water quality impairments directly addressed in this project.

Cheney Lake Watershed has three TMDL listings – eutrophication and siltation within Cheney Lake and pH within the North Fork Ninnescah River system. Eutrophication occurs when a water body becomes rich in dissolved nutrients, usually phosphorus and nitrogen. The high nutrient levels often lead to algal blooms, low dissolved oxygen, and an unpleasant taste and odor even in treated water. Toxic algal blooms in the reservoir are a hindrance to swimming, fishing, and other recreational uses. Taste and odor problems are of special concern for the City of Wichita and its residents. Although the City has completed construction of an ozone treatment plant to reduce taste and odor in raw water, treatment levels and the resulting expenses can be reduced through management of the phosphorus entering the reservoir.

Siltation refers to the deposition of sediment in the reservoir and the suspension of sediment within the lake water. Siltation reduces the capacity of the reservoir for water storage. Suspended sediments impact water quality for aquatic life, recreational purposes, and drinking water treatment.

A pH measurement indicates whether a solution is acidic or alkaline as measured on a scale of 0 to 14. A reading of 7 is neutral while lower numbers indicate increasing acidity and higher numbers indicate alkalinity. Water quality standards for the State of Kansas state that artificial sources of pollution shall not cause the pH of any surface water outside of a zone of initial dilution to be below 6.5 and above 8.5 (KAR 28-16-28e(c)(2)(C). These standards are established as "fully supporting aquatic life".

Most aquatic life is adapted to a specific range of pH levels. Extreme pH can have a negative impact on fish, aquatic insects, and other aquatic life. High pH may also increase the toxicity of other substances. Please describe how this watershed has been assessed. This will include aerial assessments, soil and water tests, survey data, land use cover, and any other important information.

The Cheney Lake Watershed has been the subject of numerous assessments by many organizations including the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Kansas State University (KSU), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), University of Kansas – Kansas Biological Survey, General Mills, & the Kansas Water Office (KWO).

The Cheney Lake Watershed participated in a Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) study to estimate the effects of U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) conservation practices implemented in the Cheney Watershed. This NRCS study began by synthesizing information from previous assessments done between 1994 and 2004 based on land use data and conservation practices implemented in those years. The primary emphasis of the CEAP study was to use the Annualized Agricultural Nonpoint Source (AnnAGNPS) model to estimate the effects conservation practices had on the water, sediment loadings & nutrient loadings to the Reservoir from all upstream sources & all types of erosion. The CEAP study has provided some useful tools for identifying areas most vulnerable to soil loss.

KSU conducted a second CEAP study. By using the Universal Soil Loss Equation (USLE), maps were generated that showed areas most vulnerable to erosion. Unlike the AnnAGNPS generated maps, they did not illustrate delivery of sediment to the reservoir, just soil losses. However, the maps are quite similar and indicate much the same priority areas.

The KWO completed a draft report on streambank erosion using ArcGIS to conduct a comparison study of 1991 vs. 2008 aerial photography to determine bank losses on the main stem of the North Fork Ninnescah. A total of 41 erosion sites were identified, covering 33,336 feet of unstable streambank.

USGS has monitored water quality & stream flow in the North Fork Ninnescah and Cheney Reservoir for over 30 years. Data indicates low sedimentation rates in the reservoir but continuous high phosphorus levels due to impoundment and accumulation of phosphorus.

## Budget

Personnel				
Budget Line	Grant Request	Match	Total	
Year 1	\$71,900	\$28,100	\$100,000	
Year 2	\$71,900	\$28,100	\$100,000	
Year 3	\$71,900	\$28,100	\$100,000	
Total Requested	\$215,700	\$84,300	\$300,000	
Description	This category will cover 2.0 FTE – project director and outreach			
	coordinator. Match will include volunteer hours from SLT members and			
	funding from Wichita to cover additional cost of 2 FTE personnel.			

Fringe			
Budget Line	Grant Request	Match	Total
Year 1	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$20,000
Year 2	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$20,000
Year 3	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$20,000
Total Requested	\$45,000	\$15,000	\$60,000
Description	This will cover fringe benefits for 2.0 FTE personnel – project director		
	and outreach coordinator. Matching funds from Wichita for remainder		
	of expense.		

Travel				
Budget Line	Grant Request	Match	Total	
Year 1	\$3,500	\$1,000	\$4,500	
Year 2	\$3,500	\$1,000	\$4,500	
Year 3	\$3,500	\$1,000	\$4,500	
Total Requested	\$10,500	\$3,000	\$13,500	
Description	Travel will include mileage, lodging, registrations. Match will include volunteer mileage and Wichita funds to cover additional travel			
	expenses.			

Supplies				
Budget Line	Grant Request	Match	Total	
Year 1	<b>\$1,500</b>	\$2,000	\$3,500	
Year 2	<b>\$1,500</b>	\$2,000	\$3,500	
Year 3	<b>\$1,500</b>	\$2,000	\$3,500	
Total Requested	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$10,500	
Description	Will include all supplie meetings. Matching fu	Will include all supplies for office, field work, events, meals for meetings. Matching funds will be from the City of Wichita and corporate		
	sponsors.			

BMP/Strategy Funding			
Budget Line	Grant Request	Match	Total
Year 1	\$25,000	\$75000	\$100000
Year 2	\$25,000	\$75000	\$100000
Year 3	\$25,000	\$75000	\$100000
Total Requested	\$75,000	\$225,000	\$300000
Description	BMP grant funds for cove cropland to perennial veg projects as well as brush other BMPs that impact v or other sponsors to cove	er crop/notill, alternate wa getation. Matching funds management, fencing, inc water quality. Also matchi er other needs – laptop, vi	ater systems, seeding for these same centive payments, and ing funds from Wichita deo camera, etc.

Contractual Services			
Budget Line	Grant Request	Match	Total
Year 1	\$0	\$9,570	\$
Year 2	\$0	\$9,750	\$
Year 3	\$0	\$9,750	\$
Total Requested	\$0	\$29,250	\$
Description	Matching funds from Cit	y of Wichita and other sp	onsors to cover audit,
	insurance, website fees, building rent for events, education scholarships,		
	speaker honorariums		

Other				
Budget Line	Grant Request	Match	Total	
Year 1	\$8100	\$2500	\$10600	
Year 2	\$8100	\$2500	\$10600	
Year 3	\$8100	\$2500	\$10600	
Total Requested	\$24,300	\$7500	\$31800	
Description	This category includes office rent and phone expenses. Match includes			
	Wichita funds to cover the remaining cost.			

Indirect			
Budget Line	Grant Request	Match	Total
Year 1	\$0	\$	\$
Year 2	\$0	\$	\$
Year 3	\$0	\$	\$
Total Requested	\$0	\$	\$
Description			

## WRAPS Strategic Planning

General Plan Implementation

Implementing Years 13 through 15 of the approved Cheney Lake Watershed WRAPS 9-Element Watershed Plan. The load reduction goals of these years of the plan are 13,337 pounds of nitrogen, 8,033 pounds of phosphorus, and 8,596 tons of sediment. The strategies in this project implementation plan will achieve 13,256 pounds of nitrogen, 6,683 pounds of phosphorus, and 3,921 tons of sediment. The below strategies will focus on one or more specific impairments identified in the 9-Element Watershed Plan. As this grant does not provide enough funding to fully implement the identified best management practices from the plan, project coordinators will partner with various other natural resource programs to leverage resources for the implementation of such practices. These programs include but are not limited to county conservation districts state cost share programs, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) programs, Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks, Farm Service Agency, municipalities, and other nonprofit organizations.

Practices implemented beyond the below strategies will focus on the improvement of soil health, watershed hydrology, and the mitigation of impairments identified in the 9-Element Watershed Plan. Priority practices could include cover crops with no-till farming, alternate watering systems for livestock, conversion of cropland to perennial vegetation, rotational grazing and improved grazing management, livestock exclusion from riparian areas, nutrient management practices, moving livestock feeding areas away from streams.

## What are the resources that you will need for General Plan Implementation?

We depend upon our relationship with NRCS to provide technical assistance for grazing plans, specs for watering systems, seeding recommendations, and other work. Our NRCS management unit is currently understaffed and could possibly continue to be so for a period of years. We may need additional training for current and future staff at the watershed level to allow us to provide our own recommendations. We work closely with soil health organizations in Kansas and out-state to provide advice and speakers for our watershed farmers regarding regenerative practices. We will continue to need these mentors and we will need to provide compensation and/or travel expenses when they are requested. We intend to hire a new Project Coordinator in late 2022 and may need additional training for this person depending on the skills they bring to the project.

## Strategy One

## Provide a general summary of Strategy One

Implement regenerative agriculture cropland practices (soil health) in our designated priority area to reduce sediment and phosphorus loading. HUC 12s include: 110300140304, 110300140305, 110300140301, 110300140302,110300140303, the (northern half of 110300140204) (18), the eastern portion of 110300140205, 110300140109. Also these HUC 12s where the focus of implementation is on riparian corridors only. These include: 110300140106,110300140107 and 110300140108, 110300140201, 110300140202,110300140203, the southern half of 110300140204 and western portion of 110300140205.

## What are the goals for this strategy?

1. The follo	owing BMPs will b	be completed by Dece	ember 31, 2025:	
•	<ul> <li>2250 acres under cover crops, no-till, and conservation crop rotation over three</li> </ul>			
	years. (750 acres in each practice/year)			
Load reductions				
		Nitrogen (lbs/yr)	Phosphorus (lbs/yr)	Sediment (tons/yr)
	Cover crops	1,283	643	425
	(750 ac/yr)			
	No-till	1,283	643	425
	(750 ac/yr)			
	Crop rotation	394	197	142
	(750 ac/yr)			
	Total/Year	2,960	1,483	992
	3 Year Total	8,880	4,449	2,976

## **Tactics and action steps**

a)	Develop producer contact lists
	<ul> <li>By March 31<sup>st</sup> of each year, develop list of producers who have EQIP contracts in the watershed for Soil Health or the Cheney Lake Watershed Special Initiative</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>By March 31<sup>st</sup> of each year, revise or develop a list of producers who have indicated an interest in improving soil health but have not implemented practices</li> </ul>
	iii. Create and maintain a list of producers who have significant experience with regenerative ag practices and can provide advice to others.
b)	Outreach
	<ul> <li>Host at least 3 workshops between January and March each year on regenerative ag principles with an average attendance at each of 30 people.</li> </ul>
	<li>ii. Host at least 4 meetings between December and April for a cover crop discussion group to share information from their own farms (average attendance of 10 people).</li>
	iii. Farm visits with at least 3 producers each year who are new to regenerative ag and who have an EQIP contract for soil health

## iv. Quarterly newsletters to distributed to at least 500 watershed landowners and stakeholders

- Provide information on regenerative ag
- Showcase local examples of regenerative ag
- Advertise program opportunities
- v. Social media
  - Develop YouTube videos on successful and innovative projects such as relay cropping, companion plantings, fertilizer reduction trials.
  - Frequent original and shared posts about regenerative ag on Cheney Lake Watershed Facebook page with at least 500 "followers".

### Key performance indicators for the tactics

<ul> <li>BMP Indicators – 750 acres of cover crops, crop rotation, no-till added for each</li> </ul>
practice every year of the grant
<ul> <li>Info/Education indicators – 3 workshops each year, 2 field events per year</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Social media Indicators – 1 YouTube video per year, 10 Facebook posts per year</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Planning Indicators – 20 plans for soil health developed at the NRCS field office</li> </ul>
level each year.

#### What are the resources that you will need and use to get the tactics done?

Building rent, speaker fees and travel, lunch meal for each workshop - \$750/event (total for 3 years is \$6750) – from contractual budget or matching funds Refreshments for discussion group meetings - \$20/mtg for \$240 total over 3 years – from supplies budget or matching funds Newsletter - \$200 per issue for total of \$2,400 over 3 years – from supplies budget or matching funds Video camera, updated laptop and editing software – from supplies budget or matching funds

2250 acres of cover crops/notill/crop rotation @ \$50 – cost share of \$112,500 – split between WRAPS funds, City of Wichita, and EQIP or other USDA programs

## Strategy Two

## Provide a general summary of Strategy Two

Implement regenerative agriculture rangeland practices (soil health) in our designated priority area to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus loading: HUC 12s include: 110300140304, 110300140305, 110300140301, 110300140302,110300140303, the (northern half of 110300140204) (18), the eastern portion of 110300140205, 110300140109. Also these HUC 12s where the focus of implementation is on riparian corridors only. These include: 110300140106,110300140107 and 110300140108, 110300140201, 110300140202,110300140203, the southern half of 110300140204 and western portion of 110300140205.

## What are the goals for this strategy?

2. The foll	owing BMPs will be complete	d by December 3	1, 2025:	
<ul> <li>15 Alternative watering systems providing water for at least 150 animal units</li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>15 contracts for brush management, cross fencing, and/or rotational grazing to improve health and vigor of grass stands for at least 250 animal units.</li> </ul>				
•	Load reductions			
		Nitrogen (lbs)	Phosphorus (lbs)	Sediment (tons)
	Alternative watering	760	403	0
	systems (150 AUs)			
	Cross fencing & rotational	760	403	0
	grazing (250 AUs)			
	3 Year Total	1,520	806	0

## **Tactics and action steps**

0	<ul> <li>Develop producer contact lists – Year 1</li> <li>Develop list of producers who have EQIP contracts in the watershed for grazing management practices</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Develop a list of producers who have significant rangeland within the priority</li> </ul>
	area who have not made improvements
0	Outreach
	<ul> <li>Host at least 1 workshops between January and March each year on range management.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Host at least 1 field event each year on range management and/or invasive species control.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Quarterly newsletters each year to watershed landowners and stakeholders</li> <li>Provide information on range management</li> </ul>
	Showcase local examples
	Advertise program opportunities
	<ul> <li>Social media</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Develop YouTube videos on successful and innovative projects such as rotational grazing, watering systems, fencing materials and techniques – 1 each year</li> </ul>

• Frequent original and shared posts about grazing management on Cheney Lake Watershed social media.

### Key performance indicators for the tactics

BMP Indicators – 5 new livestock watering systems each year
Info/Education indicators – 1 workshop each year, 1 field event per year
Social media Indicators – 1 YouTube videos per year, 10 Facebook posts per year
Planning Indicators – 10 grazing management plans at the NRCS field office level each year.

### What are the resources that you will need and use to get the tactics done?

Newsletter - \$200 per issue for total of \$2,400 over 3 years – from supplies budget or matching funds Video camera, updated laptop and editing software – from supplies budget or matching funds 15 alternative watering systems @ \$7500 – total of \$112,500 – split between WRAPS, City of Wichita, State cost share, EQIP, and landowners.

Cost share for brush management, cross fencing – from City of Wichita and EQIP (amount unknown)

## Strategy Three

## Provide a general summary of Strategy Three

Incentivize and assist with the conversion of cropland to permanent forage including the retention of expired CRP acres as grazing systems instead of a return to conventionally tilled cropland. : HUC 12s include:110300140304, 110300140305, 110300140301, 110300140302,110300140303, the (northern half of 110300140204) (18), the eastern portion of 110300140205, 110300140109. Also, these HUC 12s where the focus of implementation is on riparian corridors only. These include: 110300140106,110300140107 and 110300140108, 110300140201, 110300140202,110300140203, the southern half of 110300140204 and western portion of 110300140205.

## What are the goals for this strategy?

- 500 acres converted from cropland to perennial vegetation each year
- 500 acres expired CRP converted to grazing systems each year by providing cost share for perimeter fence and watering systems. This goal is likely to contribute to load reductions by increasing grazing flexibility. This will avoid additional loading through the retention of untilled rangeland.

#### Load Reductions

	Nitrogen (lbs/yr)	Phosphorus (lbs/yr)	Sediment (tons/yr)
Cropland conversion to	952	476	315
permanent vegetation			
(500 acres/year)			
3 Year Total	2,856	1,428	945

#### **Tactics and action steps**

0	Develop producer contact lists annually
	<ul> <li>Develop a list of producers who expiring CRP contracts and/or have indicated</li> </ul>
	an interest in converting CRP to a grazing system.
0	Outreach
	<ul> <li>Host at least 1 field event each year showing the conversion of cropland (or</li> </ul>
	CRP acres) to a grazing system.
	<ul> <li>Quarterly newsletters to more than 500 watershed landowners and</li> </ul>
	stakeholders
	<ul> <li>Provide information on converting cropland to permanent</li> </ul>
	vegetation.
	Showcase local examples
	Advertise program opportunities
	<ul> <li>Social media</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Develop YouTube videos on successful and innovative projects such</li> </ul>
	as the economics of grazing perennials vs cash crops- Year 2
	<ul> <li>Post regarding current projects on Cheney Lake Watershed social</li> </ul>
	media.

### Key performance indicators for the tactics

BMP Indicators – 100 acres of cropland converted to perennial vegetation annually; 400 acres of expired CRP grass converted to a grazing system each year.

Info/Education indicators -4 newsletters per year, 1 field event per year

Social media Indicators - 5 Facebook posts per year

Planning Indicators – 3-4 farm management plans at the NRCS field office level each year.

## What are the resources that you will need and use to get the tactics done?

Work with FSA and NRCS to be apprised of producers who inquire through their agencies.

NRCS Range Specialist or other speakers for field events

Sponsors or funding for field events - \$150 total (supplies budget or match) Video camera and updated laptop with editing software - \$2,000 (supplies budget or match)

Incentive payments for converting cropland to perennial - \$30,000 from City of Wichita

Cost share for planting grass 300 acres @ \$120/a - \$36,000 – from WRAPS, City of Wichita, EQIP, State cost share

Cost share for perimeter fence for expired CRP - Wichita and EQIP