



January 30, 2020

The Honorable Congressman, Ron Kind
1502 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Funding Announcement - Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations Program
2019 Consolidated Appropriations Act

Dear Congressman Ron Kind:

The 2019 Consolidated Appropriations Act provided \$150,000,000 for the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations Program. The Wisconsin NRCS was allocated \$1,667,500 to assist La Crosse, Monroe, and Vernon Counties (Project Sponsors) with watershed planning in the Coon Creek and West Fork Kickapoo watersheds. The need for watershed planning arises from the failure of five dams during a flood on August 28, 2018. The primary purpose of planning is to prevent or reduce future flood damages.

The NRCS will contract technical services from an architectural and engineering firm to develop a Watershed Project Plan & Environmental Impact Statement in each watershed. The NRCS also will execute a project agreement with the University of Wisconsin - Madison to study changes in rainfall resulting from frequent and intense storms in the southwest region. Those findings will be integrated into the hydrologic modeling and economic evaluations associated with project proposals.

If you have questions concerning the funding allocation or watershed planning proposal, please contact Steve Becker, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, State Conservation Engineer, at 608-662-4422 ext. 234.

Respectfully,

GREG KIDD
Acting State Conservationist

cc:

Steve Becker, State Conservation Engineer, Madison, Wisconsin
Eric Hurley, State Resource Conservationist, Madison, Wisconsin