

Shortfoot Creek Watershed – Project Team Meeting #3 Notes
8/30/16

The meeting was started with a welcome and with introductions from all in attendance. Pat Downs from Moore Engineering, Inc. facilitated the meeting. The project team briefly reviewed the proceedings from the previous meetings. They reviewed the inundation map with other damage areas noted on the map. Pat asked them to put arrows on the map noting their places on the map that are the greatest problem areas in their opinion.

A guest from Richland County to the project team noted he is unhappy that he could not find previous meeting notes/minutes or the notice of this meeting. It was noted who is invited directly with emails about the project team meetings and that includes both Duerr Twp and Grant Twp in Richland County as they had requested being notified from the beginning of the planning process.

The project team reviewed the draft Purpose and Need statement and watershed goals. Luke Siemieniewski, Chairman of the Sargent County WRD asked for a motion to adopt the draft purpose and need to submit to NRCS. A motion was made by Ron Heley and seconded by Duayne Baldwin. There was no further discussion. The motion passed with one voice vote against.

The project team reviewed the watershed goals. A landowner suggested adding upstream impacts to Goal #6. The goal will read consider upstream and downstream impacts for all alternatives.

The project team started the process of reviewing alternative categories (on the worksheet that was provided via email and also at the meeting) on how the alternatives meet the Purpose & Need and also how they help accomplish the watershed goals.

A landowner asked “will channel cleanouts downstream on Shortfoot Creek address the issue?” It was noted that the proposed cleanout is only for the last 2 miles (outlet reach) which is about 7 actual river/stream miles in that 2 mile stretch and would provide some benefits but not likely enough to stop other upstream damages.

A break was taken for about 10 minutes.

Work continued on the evaluation of the alternative categories. Someone asked about the possibility of a diversion of some of the Shortfoot Creek flows over to LaBelle Creek then into the USFWS land or directly to the Tewaukon Refuge. The project team then reviewed whether or not the alternative categories should be carried forward for further review or they are not applicable. They discussed whether the alternative categories are a primary consideration – secondary consideration – or not applicable to meet watershed goals. 6 categories were eliminated as not meeting the watershed goals.

Moore Engineering will formulate concepts for the remaining alternative categories for the project team to begin to review at the next meeting.

The next meeting is tentatively targeted for January 31, 2017.