



# Field Staff Idea Sharing Session

Monday, September 12 to Thursday, September 15, 2011  
 Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel  
 Columbus, Ohio

## Suggested Topics & Presenters:

	NAME	STATE	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
1.	Bob Fowler	Arkansas	Conservation District Budgeting and Cash Flow	A current, priority issue as Arkansas conservation districts deal with reduced local funding.
2.	Blake Walters	Arkansas	ANRC Tax Credit Incentives Program	Arkansas Tax Credit Incentives for construction of impoundments, land leveling, metering, and conversion from ground water to surface water use
3.	Ashley Ross	Colorado	New on-line certification program for Supervisors and Staff	Colorado is building a new certification program to unify the training that are Supervisors and staff receive
4.	Laura Fribley	Indiana	Statewide technical Training and Certification Program	A program of training and building technical proficiency in the technical district and state employees
5.	James Lake	Indiana	Improving District Staff and Program Capacity with Level or Declining State and Local Funding---Is Consolidating Districts a Viable Option?	A brief background on Indiana's situation relative to state and local funding for conservation districts as well as current district staff and program capacity will be provided. This will set the stage for a group discussion as to whether consolidation of districts might be a viable option for helping districts improve staff and program capacity
6.	Nathan Stoelting	Indiana	Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative Program	Indiana Conservation Cropping System Initiative (CCSI) is a program developed to promote a systematic approach to production agriculture focusing on continuous no-till/strip-till, cover crops, precision farming, nutrient and pest management, and conservation buffers resulting in improved soil quality, water quality and profitability on Indiana cropland.
7.	Katrina Beckley	Kentucky	Agricultural Conservation Technicians (50/50) & Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Construction Inspectors	The use of federal grant monies to place technical personnel (50/50) into district offices to assist landowners with planning, design and implementation of best management practices to protect our natural resources and ensure producers participating in farm bill conservation programs receive adequate technical assistance.  The use of federal grant monies to place technical personnel (EWP Construction Inspector) to assist with the planning, design and implementation of emergency watershed protection recovery projects.

8.	Lance Middleton	Mississippi	Watershed Structure Camera Inspection and De-watering	This program provides camera inspection of principal spillway outlets and de-watering of watershed lakes for state and federal agencies and SWCDs in MS.
9.	Natalie Woolard	North Carolina	Professional Conservation Employees Program (PCEP)	North Carolina's PCEP develops a structure to assess and address professional development needs for technical, administrative, managerial and educational staff as well as district supervisors through training plan templates that can be tailored to the individual soil and water conservation districts' priorities.
10.	Chad Amos	Ohio	The ERIN project" – Earth Resource information Network	
11.	Ed Crawford	Ohio	"From soup to ash"	
12.	Clark Hutson	Ohio	"From soup to ash"	
13.	Liz Cline	Ohio	"The USP program"	
14.	Dorothy Farris	Ohio	"The USP program"	
15.	Lisa Knauf Owen	Oklahoma	Successfully Delivering Conservation with ARRA Funds	With state budgets in a continued state of despair, the Oklahoma Conservation Commission took the opportunity to apply federal ARRA dollars to numerous conservation projects around the state.
16.	Thayne Mickelson	Utah	Opportunities for Conservation Work on a state scale & How to increase state conservation relevance in your state	Utah state conservation work with the state Department of Transportation to plan for infrastructure with minimizing ag land loss, (tools and strategies)  Discussion with Board Members regarding ideas for increasing state conservation agency relevance - changes in structure, budget, Governor requests, other
17.	Stu Trefry	Washington	Partnering with your State Auditor for better conservation district accountability & Voluntary Stewardship Program	Washington partnered with the State Auditor to create a one-stop checklist to help guide the state Auditor in targeting and correcting issues of concern. This checklist replaces at least two others presented at previous NASCA field staff sharing sessions.  Washington States new Voluntary Stewardship Program addresses county needs to address critical agricultural land needs on a voluntary basis
18.	Ray Ledgerwood –	Board Works by Ledgerwood	WSCC's improved Supervisor Orientation and Continuing Education Process	Washington has increased the frequency and depth of supervisor orientation including ensuring each supervisor receives an orientation from a WSCC Regional Manager. Also offered is a WSCC facilitated annual 3-day supervisor track at the WADE conference.