

590 standard revision team meeting 11/12/13
Bragger Family Dairy
9:30am – 2:30pm

Attendees: Joe, John, Kevin, Tony, Matt, Nikki, Terry, Sue, Sara, Carrie, Todd, Laura, Andrew, Amanda (UW Discovery Farms), Jim VandenBrook (WLWCA)

Attendees toured several fields at Bragger Family Dairy and discussed the basic winter spreading risk assessment NRCS already has as part of their conservation plan.

Winter spreading assessment plans are an educational tool. This is currently in the standard's plans and specifications to help identify the go-to winter spreading places. The group agrees that this language is fine. Joe, John, Matt, Terry, Nikki will draft directions for the Technical Note based on Joe's farm. Perhaps UW NPM can help us with a winter spreading publication.

NRCS cost shared with landowners to do a winter risk assessment to determine how much the runoff from the field leaves the field's edge as concentrated flow. Helps farmers recognize potential problems. Tillage activity, residue, area disturbed are part of the winter risk assessment. This is in addition to 590 restrictions. NRCS Jim Kaap did some of this work in creating the addition requirements in Wisconsin. About half WI has lidar data which can be used for this assessment.

In the field identify all concentrated flow that reoccurs year after year. These areas are based on filter strips and contour strip standards. Determine 0.5 to 1 acre size drainage area.

Recommendation is not winter spread within 50' from the blue lines depending on how far the water is being delivered to the concentrated flow channel.

The assessments would be done on the hilltops and the C slopes.

Joe thinks that the depth of frost has a lot to do with runoff. Little frost would likely allow for less runoff. Some farmers can't afford to buy pits. The manure pit may or may not solve the problem if everyone in the neighborhood spreads the same day. But, this is not likely.

The Title 190 National Instruction system is good now. We have the tools in place to minimize risk of runoff or at least plan for the best for the farm areas. RUSLE2, contouring, Maps, MMAS, Filter strips are all components we have to manage winter spreading.