



nine**b** group

2019 NATIONAL WATERSHED
COALITION
10.01.19



HOW WE GOT HERE - NWC FARM BILL/APPROPRIATIONS WORK

- National Watershed Coalition are your eyes and ears in DC, but without engagement from sponsors on the ground our reach will be limited
- Engagement from sponsors with their Members of Congress (whether in their districts or in DC) is critical to our continued success
- NWC has been successful but that past success doesn't mean future success is guaranteed
- Leadership Session this past year hopefully gave participants some tools to better engagement



ADVOCACY IN DC-BIG PICTURE

- Someone is always advocating, if you aren't, someone else is telling your story from a different perspective.
- Relationships matter more than people think, often time it's not the better idea but it's trust and relationships that win the day.



HOW WE GOT HERE - NWC FARM BILL/APPROPRIATIONS WORK

- The results are significant
 - \$500 million over the next ten years is PERMANENTLY authorized in the Farm Bill for PL-566 Watershed work
 - While other programs need reauthorization or funding needs to be reauthorized, PL-566 can go on with \$50 million a year FOREVER (or until Congress decides to take it away)



HOW WE GOT HERE - NWC FARM BILL/APPROPRIATIONS WORK

- The results are significant
 - FY17 \$162 million for Watershed Work
 - FY18 \$160 million for Watershed Work
 - FY19 \$160 million for Watershed Work

FY20- Both House and Senate have over \$150 million in their respective bills



HOW WE GOT HERE - NWC FARM BILL/APPROPRIATIONS WORK

0



THE CHAMPION- HOW ONE CHAMPION CAN BE ENOUGH

Rep. Frank Lucas- Watershed Champion

- 2008 Farm Bill
 - \$100 million for Rehab

- 2012 Farm Bill
 - \$250 million for Rehab



2018 FARM BILL

- Chairman Lucas was no longer the Full Committee Chair
- What did we do?
 - Had Watershed Coalition Members engage the Chairman
 - Engaged his staff
 - Refocused our message
 - Hearing in the Subcommittee

Results

- 2018 Farm Bill
 - \$50 million a year (\$500 million over ten) permanently authorized
 - Language in RCPP to allow PL-566 to be used across the entire country



APPROPRIATIONS - TEAM EFFORT

- We had a lot of work ahead of us
- In DC, once a program gets zero funding, its almost impossible to bring back to life
- Appropriations work, all hands on deck
- It takes a lot more work and engagement from you
- Our basic tool for this work is an appropriations letter both in the House and Senate



APPROPRIATIONS - TEAM EFFORT

- We had a lot of work ahead of us
- In DC, once a program gets zero funding, its almost impossible to bring back to life
- Appropriations work, all hands on deck
- It takes a lot more work and engagement from you
- Our basic tool for this work is an appropriations letter both in the House and Senate



FINAL THOUGHTS

- If we want continued funding, we'll need to see some progress. Dirt moving, projects starting/completing, etc.
- Without engagement at the local level, we can only do so much. Talk to your member of Congress when they are in the District.
- There are a lot of competing interests, we need to work to keep our small piece of the pie.