

Lake Preservation Association Water Quality Recognitions:

2006 has been a great year for the Storm Lake Water Quality Project. Every year local goals are set and the stakes get higher for getting long term funding.

Every practice put on the ground in the Storm Lake watershed benefits water quality.

Everything we teach both students and local organizations encourages conservation and

With every news paper article, newsletter or field day our goal is to give someone a new idea and leave a lasting impression of our mission to improve the water quality of the Storm Lake Watershed.

As the water quality coordinator, I hold the smallest part in the story. It is the land owners and operators who commit to high conservation standards. It is the local support from the community partners that want improved water quality.

It is the local, state and federal funding that supports our project and conservation programs.

If it weren't for these, the Storm Lake Water Quality Project would not be as successful:

Tonight the Lake Preservation Association is recognizing the land owners and operators who have committed to high conservation standards:

Dan Kluver Dan installed a 3000 ft waterway system on the west side of the lake.

Dan was in the middle of construction when I started with the Storm Lake Project, and it was the first waterway I surveyed on this side of the state. It was here I found out that waterways were very wide and very deep in Buena Vista county.

Gordon Johannesen With Gordy's help we have seeded 3 acres to native grasses that buffer Powell Creek and have two waterways in the very north part of the watershed being installed totaling over 4400 ft. Gordy came into the office last fall asking for assistance on some waterways and other problem areas he wanted to improve. Working with Gordy has been great, and I hate to see him retire. He has brought multiple land owners into the office to talk about conservation practices.

Producers are an asset to any project. Many times they are the ones who convince a land owner to install the conservation practice, and that is how I came to work for Mr. Ballou. On the land directly North of Little Storm Lake is a pasture that until last fall, allowed the cattle full access to the creek. There is now 26.2 acres converted to wetland buffer that is seeded to Native grasses. Powell Creek is completely fenced off with no access for the cattle; instead a water line and tank were installed to supply the cattle with water.

Steve Turnquist Steve is earning his second LPA recognition award tonight. Since the beginning of the project, Steve has hosted two field days on the family farm.

Steve is a participant and contract holder in the NRCS Conservation Security Program

The Turnquist family was awarded the 2005 Trees Forever Buffers and Beyond Award for the family riparian project.

He has installed two waterways on his farm in the north part of the watershed. And finally he allowed us to install 3 boulder weirs as a demonstration site in his riparian.

Steve has been great to work with, and is a model for conservation in the watershed. As a producer and land owner, he has made a difference in the water quality of Storm Lake.

Please lets give everyone a hand again for there commitment to Storm Lake.