

## **Beaver Creek Watershed**

### **Initiative/Project Title:**

Iowa Watershed Project

### **Watershed Location:**

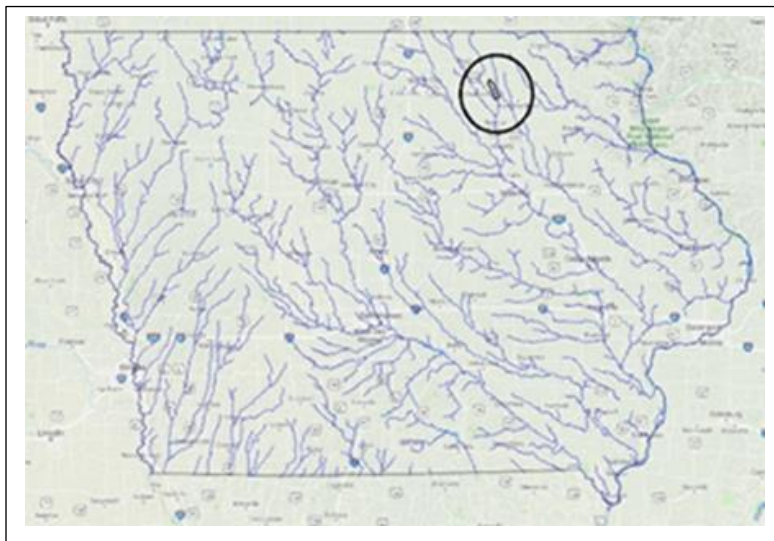
Beaver Creek, Floyd and Chickasaw Counties in Iowa

### **Watershed Size:**

11,238 acres

### **Start-End Dates**

2010-2016



### **Project Highlights:**

Flooding, high levels of nutrients, and high levels of sediment are some of the main issues in the Beaver Creek Watershed. Additionally, changing weather patterns and shifting land use are other challenges faced within the watershed. To address these issues, the Iowa Watershed Project is aiming to minimize soil erosion and sand deposition during floods, maximize the water holding capacity of soil, manage water runoff in uplands under saturated soil conditions, and to reduce and mitigate flood damage. For this initiative the Iowa Watershed Project is focused on the creation and enhancement of nine wetlands in the Beaver Creek Watershed by using various forms of structural and nonstructural techniques, subsequently these structural and nonstructural improvements have provided a savings in federal, state, and local road/bridge maintenance costs as a result of the wetlands better managing runoff in the watershed.

**Techniques Used:** A cluster of six wetlands were constructed in the Northeastern Iowa watershed of Beaver Creek. Prior to the Iowa Watersheds Project, three constructed multi-purpose wetlands-type projects were built in the Beaver Creek Watershed between 2006 and 2013. Together, the six Iowa Watersheds Project wetlands and three existing wetlands provide total flood storage of 155.2 acre-feet.

**Expected Benefits:** Nitrates reduction, flood storage, infrastructure maintenance cost savings, flood damage reduction, aesthetic improvements, recreation, wildlife habitat, livestock watering, erosion control.