Hypoxia Task Force and LGU SERA-46 Priorities for Collaborative Work

STRENGTHENING NETWORKS:

- Refer the pertinent work of other multistate committees and land-grant university researchers and extension educators to the HTF and its member agencies.
- Work with NIFA and other HTF agencies to identify and share information on latest research relevant to HTF work being done across university systems with a priority for those being done under federal grants, SERA-46 can share topic-specific information via short presentations on monthly calls as requested and link HTF to USDA Current Research Information System (CRIS) database.
- Explore opportunities for collaboration toward HTF goals with the agriculture and food industry.

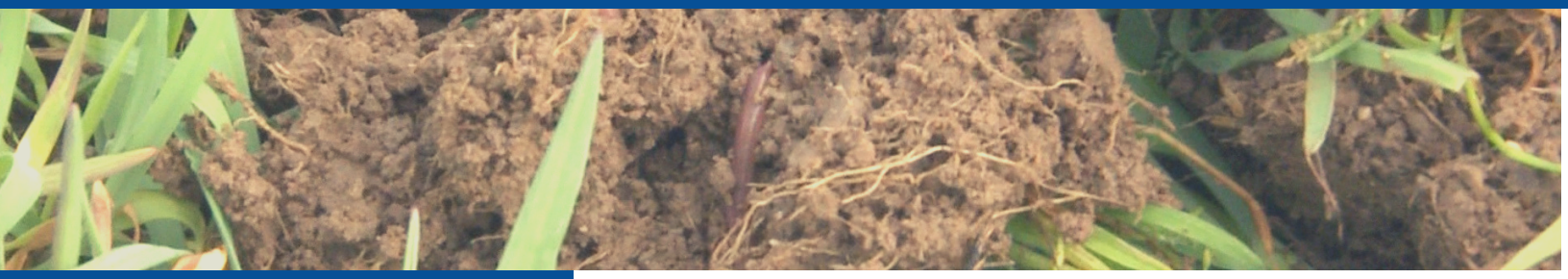
For more information, visit:
www.epa.gov/ms-htf
https://northcentralwater.org/watershed-management/sera-46/

BROAD OBJECTIVES:

1. Strengthening Networks: Establish and strengthen relationships that can serve the missions of multiple organizations addressing nutrient movement and environmental quality.

2. Conservation Systems Research & Outreach: Expand the knowledge base through the discovery of new tools and practices as well as the continual validation of recommended practices.

3. Monitoring & Tracking of Progress: Improve the coordination and delivering of educational programming and increase the implementation effectiveness of nutrient management strategies that reduce nutrient movement for agricultural and non-agricultural audiences.



Selected Deliverables:

- Completed a semantic and qualitative analysis of the 12 state nutrient reduction strategies reflecting the EPA's 2011 and 2016 state nutrient framework.
- SERA-46 members conducted a comprehensive analysis of three complete science assessments developed by Iowa, Illinois, and Minnesota as a component of their state nutrient management strategies (Journal of Environmental Quality).
- SERA-46 partnered with the HTF, pilot states, and the Walton Family Foundation to support the development of NPS metrics and a common measurement framework.
- Members of SERA-46 partnered with NCERA-217 to deliver an Extension publication entitled "Ten Ways to Reduce Nitrogen Loads from Drained Cropland in the Midwest (University of Illinois Extension, 2016)"
- SERA-46 members teamed with EPA and the Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA) to develop and implement measures to track progress in the human dimension of reducing nutrient pollution within the basin and across the northern Gulf.

CONSERVATION SYSTEMS RESEARCH & OUTREACH

- Expand research and outreach on multifunctional agricultural landscapes that provide a broad suite of societal and ecosystem services.
- Communicate progress related to development of a fertilizer efficiency metric that quantifies nutrient loss to the environment in terms of water quality related to the 4Rs. Improve understanding and translate into adoptable options for quantifying efficiency to improve metrics and accounting for nutrient reduction.
- Create a network of watershed practitioners and farmer leaders to strengthen the implementation effectiveness of nutrient management strategies that reduce nutrient movement.

MONITORING & TRACKING OF PROGRESS

- Communicate Edge-of-Field Monitoring Data as it becomes available.
- Develop a Measurement Framework that Mississippi and Atchafalaya Basin (MARB) states, with partners, will use to report progress on nonpoint source nutrient reductions individually by state and in aggregate for the MARB.
- Develop and implement projects that result in the implementation of systems that track social and civic progress related to effective stewardship and support nutrient reduction activities at various scales.