

NRCS in the Illinois River Watershed

Spoon River Successes

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NRCS Role

- NRCS invests in natural resources
- NRCS helps private landowners take care of their land
- NRCS uses science, stewardship and partnerships to solve resource problems

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NRCS Offers...

- Financial assistance puts conservation solutions on the ground
- Conservation Technical Assistance
- Good Planning!

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EQIP

- NRCS' Flagship program
- Well funded -- \$13-14 Million/year
- Flexible client base
- Special projects allow targeted efforts

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Special EQIP Projects

- Spoon River
- Stream bank Stabilization Efforts
- Forestry Management Plans
- CNMPs

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Spoon River

- Special Project Criteria
 - Stream bank erosion exceeding 500 cubic feet (1 foot of lateral recession) per year
 - At least 50 feet of eroding stream bank
 - Project cost --including cost share-- less than \$100,000

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Special Features

- Cost basis for rock riprap 30% higher than the statewide average
- EQIP cost share based on 70% of average costs rather than 60%
- Potential participation in IDNR program

Good incentives for good conservation

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Stream bank Erosion

In order to stabilize streams, conservation solutions and designs balance the force of the flowing water against the resistance of the channel sides and bottom.

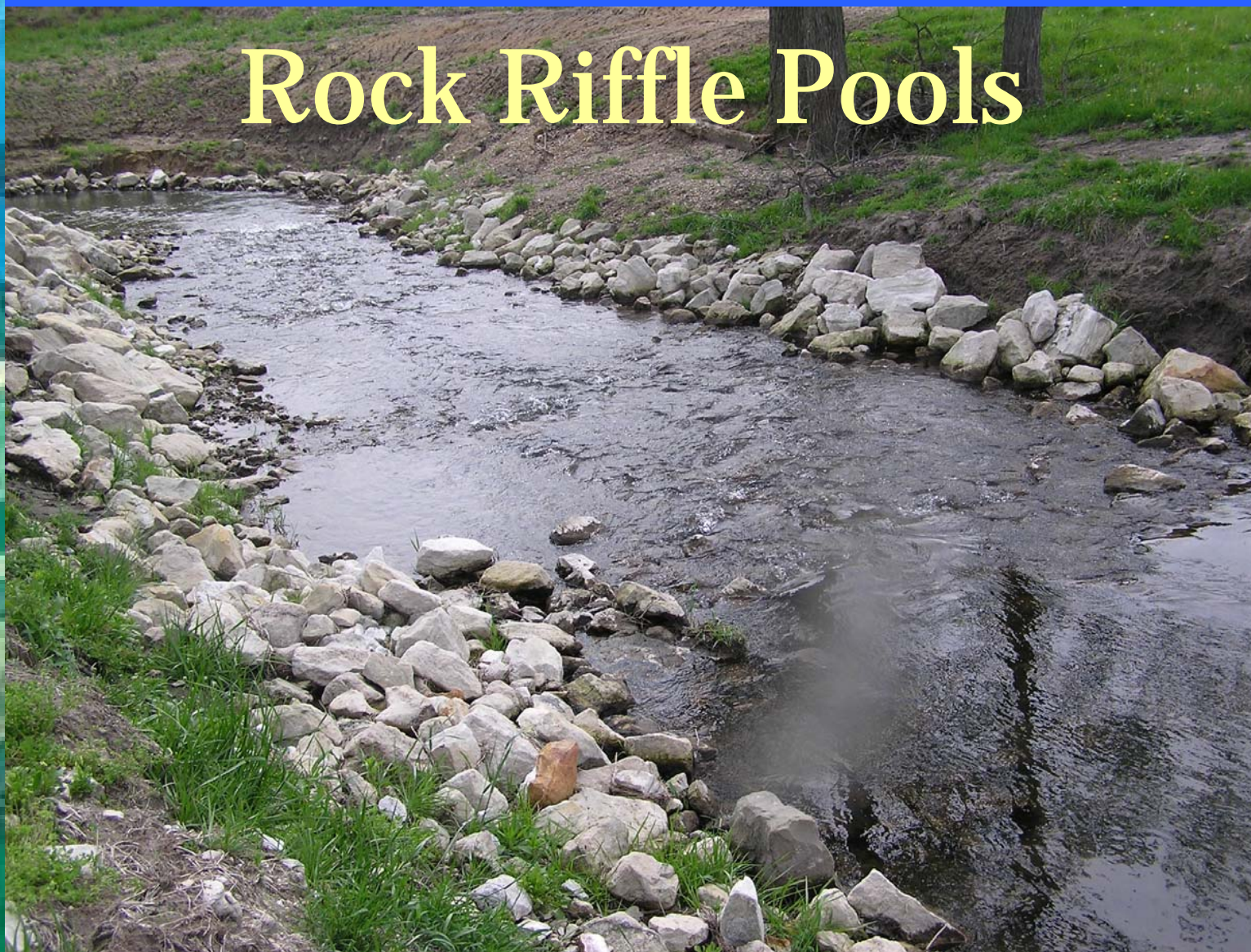
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Stone Toe Protection



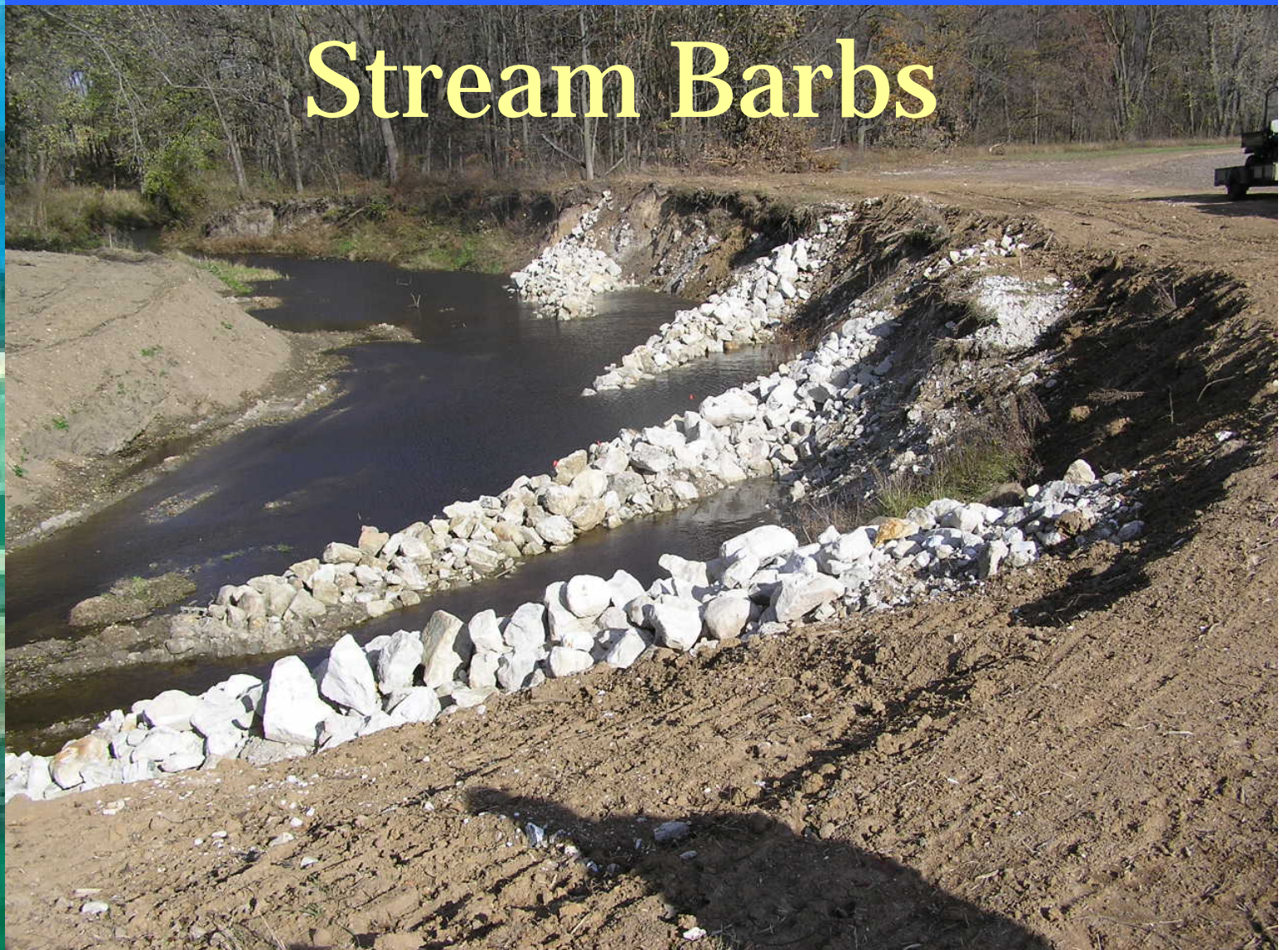
Rock Riffle Pools



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Stream Barbs



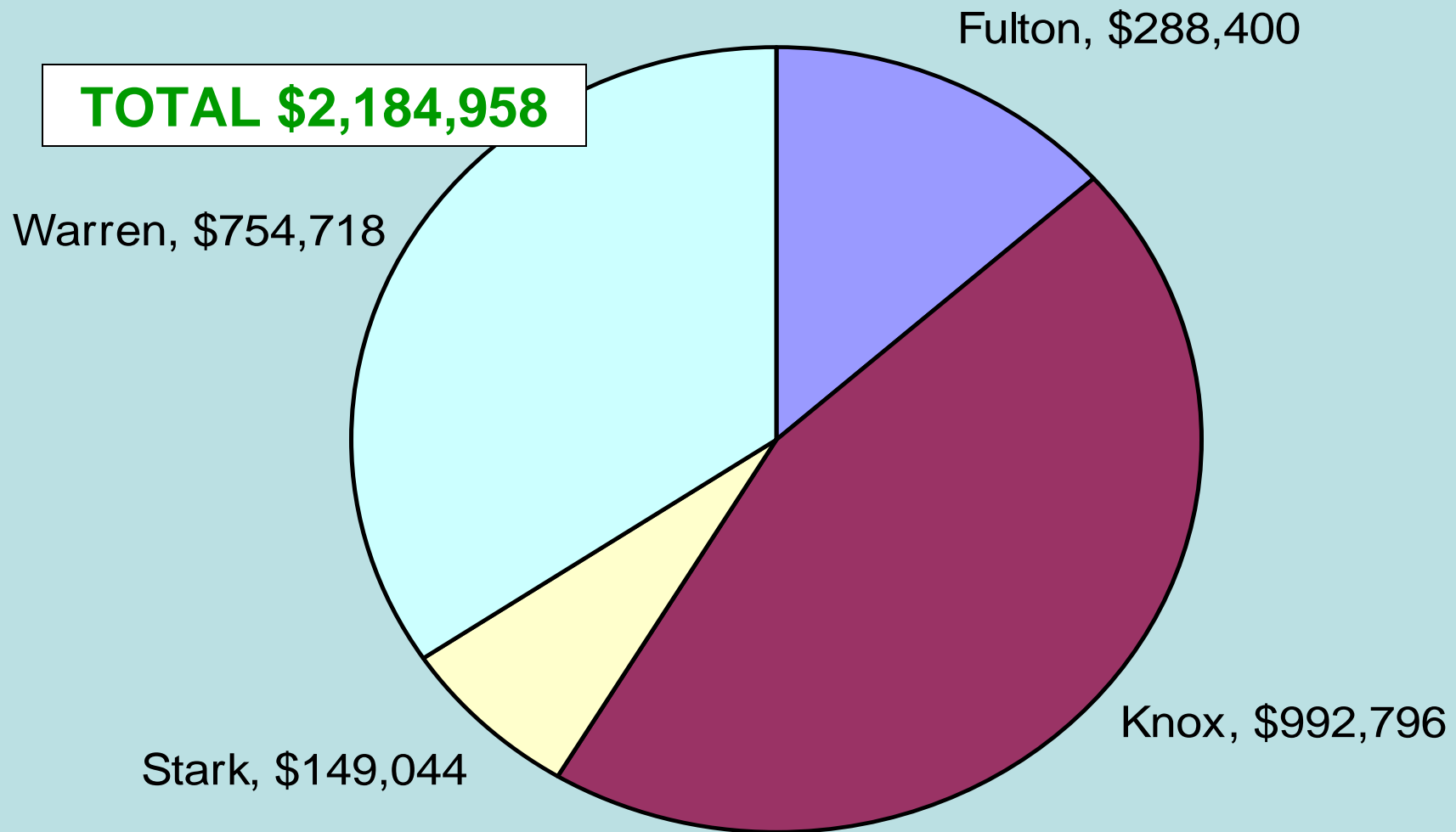
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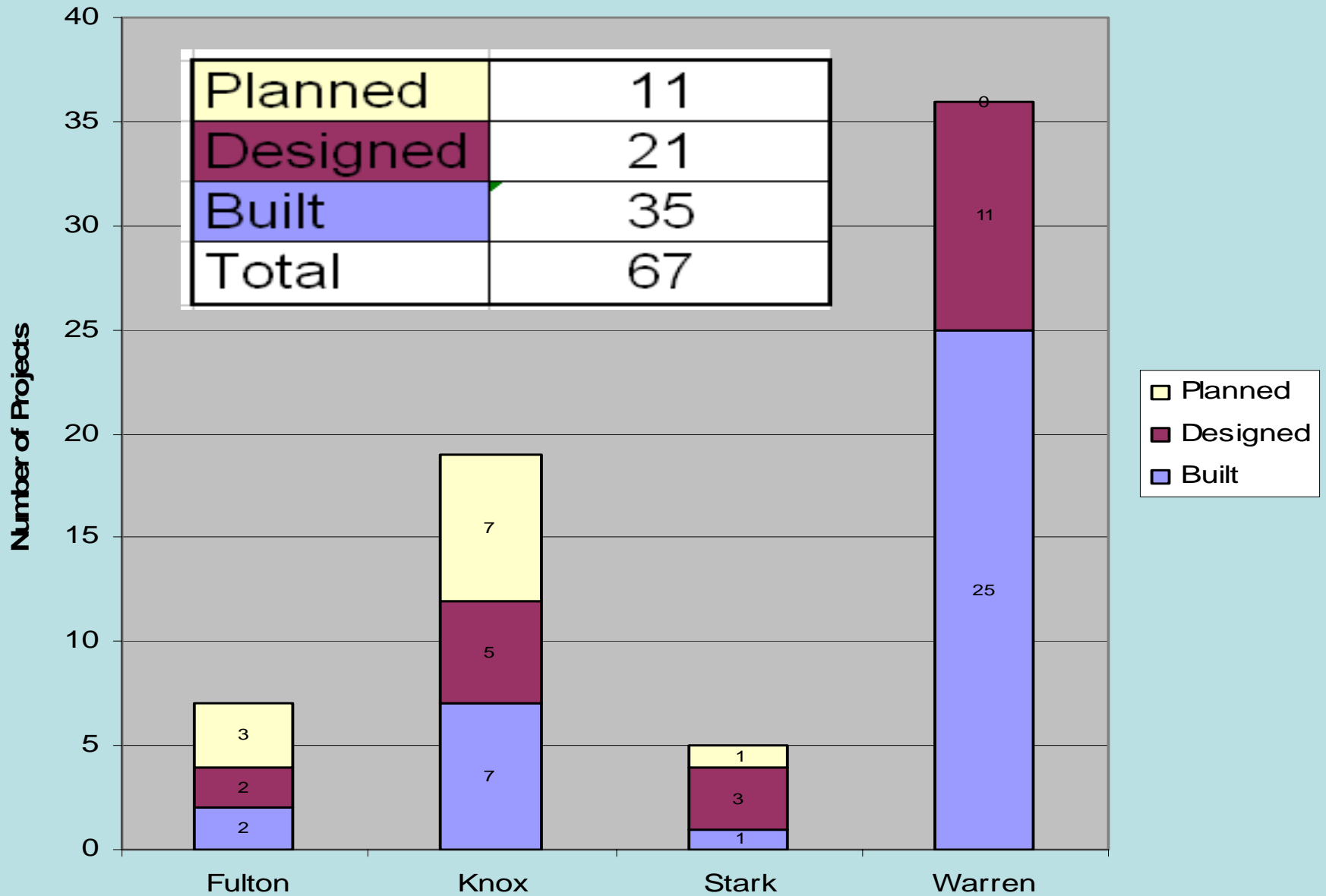
Spoon River EQIP Special Project Contracts



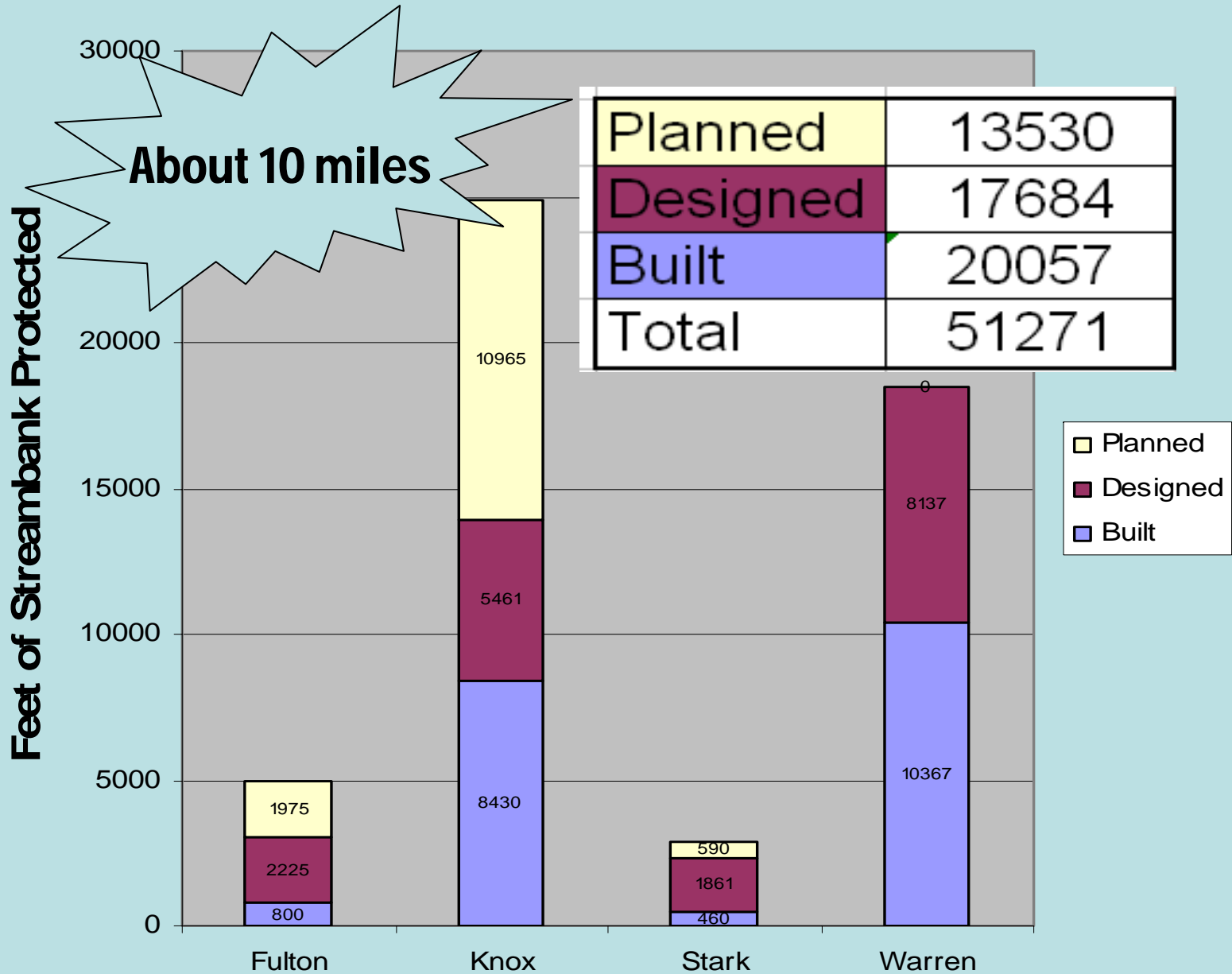
EQIP Spoon River Dollars



Spoon River Special EQIP Project - Progress



Spoon River Special EQIP Project - Progress



Future Funding

- Uncertain at this time
- Depends on:
 - Level of interest
 - Availability of dollars
 - Availability of technical design staff
- Visit NRCS county office and sign up! *(Don't wait for funding announcements)*



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2007 Accomplishments in Illinois River Basin

- ✓ Conservation plans written on
247,141 acres
- ✓ 185,180 acres of cropland with
conservation applied to improve
soil quality

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2007 Accomplishments in Illinois River Basin

- ✓ 165,276 acres of land with conservation applied to improve water quality
- ✓ 40 Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs) written
- ✓ 19 CNMPs applied

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2007 Accomplishments in Illinois River Basin

- ✓ 62,302 acres of private land with conservation applied for improving fish and wildlife habitat
- ✓ 2,859 acres of wetlands created, restored or enhanced
- ✓ Emiquon wetland, 6,400 acres

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2007 Accomplishments in Illinois River Basin

- 32 Ground and Surface Water Conservation (GSWC) contracts worth \$240,000
- Drainage water management and irrigation water management solutions

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2007 Accomplishments in Illinois River Basin

- 284 EQIP Forest Management Plans
- 2007 EQIP cost-share \$5.9 Million

*Half of Illinois' EQIP funds
went to IL River Basin!*

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Thank you

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