



# 2017 REAP Assembly Report

During the October 2017, 18 Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Assemblies were conducted throughout Iowa. The REAP Assemblies are required, per Iowa Code Chapter 455A.17, to be conducted on odd numbered years to provide attendees with information about REAP expenditures, ask attendees to identify opportunities or changes in policy, programs or funding, vote on motions for the five elected delegates per region to vote on at REAP Congress. 555 Iowans participated in the 2017 REAP Assemblies. In addition to electing delegates, the participants made 63 motions that will be forwarded to the REAP Congress for consideration on January 6, 2018.

**The following motions were approved at the Assemblies.** The number behind the motion indicates the number of Assemblies at which it was approved.

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. **12**
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. **12**
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. **8**
- 4) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax, including keeping the current formula intact. **7**
- 5) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports adding maintenance as an acceptable use of REAP funds. **2**
- 6) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports removing the REAP sunset date. **2**
- 7) This REAP Assembly recommends that the Department of Natural Resources work with the Army Corps of Engineers for improved access on rivers and improve the permitting process. **1**
- 8) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress support more varied use trails for hiking, biking, equestrian, etc. on public lands where applicable. **1**
- 9) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress find a way to empower local REAP Committees. **1**
- 10) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports extending REAP for 30 years beyond the 2021 sunset date. **1**
- 11) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress declares that animal feeding operations are in opposition to the REAP Program. **1**
- 12) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress contend that the Open Spaces portion of REAP is a critical piece and it should remain the same. **1**
- 13) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports increasing the hunting and fishing fees. Hunters, anglers and trappers have paid their way and always will. **1**
- 14) This REAP Assembly recommends that there should be dedicated funding for watershed management authorities in the state of Iowa. **1**

- 15) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress encourage federal partners to increase conservation funding in the Farm Bill. **1**
- 16) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress ask the legislature to take action to improve water quality. **1**
- 17) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress recommend that a sensitive plant and area inventory be a priority for REAP and the state of Iowa. **1**
- 18) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress recommend that REAP Assemblies are held in early September or late November. **1**
- 19) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress add small, medium and large categories for the County Conservation grant program. **1**
- 20) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress emphasize education at a younger age. **1**
- 21) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports that liability laws for recreation purposes needs to be addressed. **1**
- 22) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports the expansion of riparian buffers. **1**
- 23) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress work to educate legislators on the REAP Program. **1**
- 24) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP at \$25 Million. **1**
- 25) This REAP Assembly recommends evaluating the CAFO matrix as it relates to land use. **1**
- 26) This REAP Assembly recommends reinstating the Forestry Bureau. **1**
- 27) This REAP Assembly recommends that motions and responses be sent to appropriate offices. **1**

Additionally, participants at each assembly broke into small groups to discuss the most significant things REAP has done in their communities, positive and negative impacts and then a vision for the next five years. They listed and discussed over 710 ideas, recommendations and impacts. They are listed by region in the Assembly Summary later in this document.

**Below is a list of the most prevalent themes:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of life</li> <li>• Economic development for communities</li> <li>• Trails</li> <li>• New &amp; improved facilities (campgrounds, parks)</li> <li>• Places to go, things to do</li> <li>• Health (mental/physical)</li> <li>• Provides new and enhanced access (hunting, fishing, wildlife watching, recreation)</li> <li>• Diversity in recreational experience: communities can play to their strength</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Materials for classrooms statewide/electronic</li> <li>• Connecting NGSS/CORE standards, curriculum development</li> <li>• Programs available to the public</li> <li>• Interpretive signage</li> <li>• Enables groups to collaborate</li> <li>• Engaging Iowans of all ages</li> <li>• Dedicated funding to each county for staff and programming</li> <li>• Knowing exactly what is</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digitize newspapers, historic photos, documents</li> <li>• Building restoration</li> <li>• Revitalizing downtowns</li> <li>• Economic impact/tourism</li> <li>• Retaining community identity</li> <li>• Leveraging of funds</li> <li>• Matching use of volunteer time, adds number of people involved in projects/organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving water quality/nutrient reduction</li> <li>• Buffer strips, bioreactors, wind breaks, cover crops, etc.</li> <li>• Urban conservation</li> <li>• Awareness to water quality</li> <li>• Grant match dollars for rural</li> <li>• Restoration/ habitat improvement, threatened &amp; endangered species</li> </ul>

(river, lake, forest, history, etc.)	funded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Museums, document preservation and historic areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project Coordinators help carry out the projects</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<p>Positive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase in tourism to region.</li> <li>Leverages funds</li> <li>Attracts businesses</li> </ul> <p>Negative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Competitive funding</li> <li>Ease to find areas</li> <li>Failure to promote</li> <li>No funding for maintenance</li> </ul>	<p>Positive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Travelling exhibits</li> <li>Nature Centers (staff, programming, building, displays, et. al.)</li> <li>Available locally</li> </ul> <p>Negative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not enough funds to reach kids, because busing costs</li> <li>Competitive funding</li> <li>Reliance on funds that change</li> </ul>	<p>Positive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More public access to digital records/information</li> <li>Lots of visitors to sites</li> <li>Funds large &amp; small projects</li> </ul> <p>Negative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can't save everything</li> <li>Belief that "free money" still exists</li> <li>Competitive</li> </ul>	<p>Positive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved soil health for future generations</li> <li>Improved quality of life</li> <li>Knowledgeable staff at the local level</li> </ul> <p>Negative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Iowa known for water quality issues</li> <li>Not enough money</li> <li>Not enough awareness</li> </ul>
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More funding (fund IWILL, REAP, etc.)</li> <li>More education of Iowans &amp; legislators about REAP</li> <li>Fishing jetties, trails, wetland development, campground, water trails</li> <li>Trail connectivity, expansion &amp; maintenance</li> <li>Recreational shooting</li> <li>Share successful projects – more outreach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More funding (fund IWILL, REAP, etc.)</li> <li>Expand existing efforts</li> <li>Target audiences: younger ages and landowners</li> <li>Community support with schools &amp; other groups</li> <li>Need to reach public (boards, schools, non-profits, parents) as to what is available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More funding (fund IWILL, REAP, etc.)</li> <li>Need to engage communities</li> <li>Cemetery restoration &amp; repair</li> <li>Identify, map, signage for one-room schools</li> <li>Better knowledge for counties/communities about program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More funding (fund IWILL, REAP, etc.) Additional habitat on both public and private areas</li> <li>Promote benefits of practices</li> <li>Promote greater awareness of REAP</li> <li>Expand practices available to farmers</li> </ul>

# Individual Assembly Summary

## Region 1: Decorah (Allamakee, Clayton, Fayette, Howard, Winneshiek)

**Attendance:** 50

**Chair:** Jenna Pollock

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa’s statewide sales tax, including keeping the current formula intact. **Vote: Unanimous.**
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. **Vote: Unanimous.**
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. **Vote: Unanimous.**
- 4) This REAP Assembly recommends evaluating the CAFO matrix as it relates to land use. **Vote: Unanimous.**
- 5) This REAP Assembly recommends reinstating the Forestry Bureau. **Vote: Unanimous.**

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to get IWILL passed in Congress</li> <li>• Quality of life</li> <li>• Moving for livelihood, then finding employment – sense of place is HUGE</li> <li>• Economic development for communities – study determined – builds continued financial, etc. support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Materials for classrooms statewide, electronic</li> <li>• NGSS/CORE standards: connections &amp; help</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digitize newspapers, historic photos, documents</li> <li>• Building restoration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving water quality/nutrient reduction</li> <li>• Staffing/outreach</li> <li>• Consistent funding – IWILL w/ original formula</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No negatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Field experiences</li> <li>• Research funding especially involving students &amp; non-directed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for inventory/remnants</li> <li>• More forestry practices &amp; education – return bureau</li> </ul>
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep formula the same and increase funding</li> <li>• Figure out a way to push Iowa into national leader of efforts – always behind MN, WI, etc.</li> <li>• More education at the Capitol: REAP funded areas (interpretive signage). – Critical role of REAP – Maybe invite legislators to experience recreational areas in person</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public education</li> <li>• License Plates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional habitat/public &amp; private</li> <li>• Improve soil health education</li> <li>• Updating &amp; strengthen livestock confinement/manure regulations</li> <li>• Increased consequences for natural resource degradation</li> <li>• Increased CRP!!</li> <li>• Simply CRP</li> </ul>

**Region 2: Ventura** (Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Kossuth, Mitchell, Winnebago, Worth)

**Attendance:** 23

**Chair:** Jeff Jenson

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP at \$20 Million. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New &amp; improved facilities (campground , parks)</li> <li>• Places to go, things to do</li> <li>• Improved equip. for habitat management</li> <li>• Health (mental/physical)</li> <li>• Economic stimulation – give people places to go locally</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funds that were not present for Cons. Ed.</li> <li>• Continue to encourage people to enjoy the outdoors</li> <li>• Enhanced county-wide net working with Cons. Ed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mansion Portico – Forest City. Museum, archives to community.</li> <li>• Downtown project – bank building (private owner) – leverage other \$ for these projects, encourages other donations</li> <li>• Historic preservation is quite visible in Mason City</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buffer Strips</li> <li>• Bioreactors</li> <li>• Funding for soil &amp; water</li> <li>• Marginal land acquisition for habitat</li> <li>• Quality of life</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No negatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zero negative=more \$ more results!</li> <li>• Greater impact/more coverage for ALL ages, more county, regional &amp; state wide coordination = expand &amp; develop the “web”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can't save everything</li> <li>• Spread to a lot of areas – brick &amp; mortar, interior</li> <li>• Generational gap on why to do this</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of Life</li> <li>• Improve water quality</li> <li>• Improve soil health for future generations</li> </ul>
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fishing jetties, trails, wetland development, campground improvements</li> <li>• Expand recreational shooting area &amp; programs</li> <li>• Trail connectivity &amp; expansion</li> <li>• Continued land acquisition</li> <li>• Water trails – river use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More emphasis on the human connection to the land – dependency &amp; cause &amp; effects. BIG pictures, ex. water quality, land ethic</li> <li>• Change &amp; eliminate nothing=expand programs, coverage &amp; audiences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smaller counties don't understand what a small amount of \$ could do – doesn't have to be a building</li> <li>• Need to engage these communities</li> <li>• Help them generate projects</li> <li>• Get message out about our Technical Assistance Network</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue County Conservation: parks, education, open spaces</li> <li>• Sustainability of the funding</li> <li>• Fund the Trust</li> </ul>

**Region 3: Spencer** (Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Lyon, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Sioux)

**Attendance:** 28

**Chair:** Jon Kruse

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP and IWILL formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General enhancement opportunities: cabins, etc.</li> <li>• Places to go &amp; things to do</li> <li>• Trail development &amp; accompanying economic development</li> <li>• More open spaces &amp; places to explore</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building our conservation future through education</li> <li>• Naturalist program &amp; interns &amp; conservation centers</li> <li>• Programs available to public at no charge</li> <li>• Economic development in communities near education centers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic homes/buildings</li> <li>• Newspaper digitization</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special projects/people</li> <li>• Ag conservation</li> <li>• Awareness of water quality</li> <li>• County Conservation Areas</li> <li>• Urban conservation</li> <li>• Grant match dollars for rural</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Negative: lack of funding puts pressure on county and loss of opportunity due to reductions in funds (never fully funded)</li> <li>• Positive: Increase in tourism to region – campers, trail users, etc.; health and wellness; family bonding (keeping Johnny out of trouble)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Debunking myths as stated by chair// lack of knowledge</li> <li>• General awareness of stewardship</li> <li>• Quality of life/open spaces</li> <li>• Poor job of telling story/PSA</li> <li>• Need for full funding/more \$ per capita and per county</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserving the past</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programs not known</li> </ul>
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep the formula the same</li> <li>• Fully fund</li> <li>• Increase sales tax to fund IWILL</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully fund</li> <li>• Continued or improved legislator support/county board of supervisors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing funds for cemetery preservation</li> <li>• Historical education (Iowa History)</li> </ul>	

**Region 4: Correctionville** (Cherokee, Ida, Monona, Plymouth, Woodbury)

**Attendance:** 45

**Chair:** Rick Schneider

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax, including keeping the current formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.
- 4) This REAP Assembly recommends that the Department of Natural Resources work with the Army Corps of Engineers for improved access on rivers and improve the permitting process. Vote: Unanimous.
- 5) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress support more varied use trails for hiking, biking, equestrian, etc. on public lands where applicable. Vote: Unanimous.
- 6) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress find a way to empower local REAP Committees. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oakridge/trails - Mapleton-C'ville campground equipment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More education programs for youth &amp; public</li> <li>• Curriculum development</li> <li>• Teacher workshops</li> <li>• Move access to teach all ages</li> <li>• Interp. signage</li> <li>• Grants for exhibits, trails</li> <li>• Teaching about Natural Resources &amp; connect with people</li> <li>• Enables various groups to collaborate</li> <li>• Historical, natural resources- Quality of life</li> <li>• Parks, nature centers, tourism, economic development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digitization of newspapers so can access via internet, so people nationally</li> <li>• Can view and also brings people to town to view at libraries</li> <li>• Last operating school house could benefit</li> <li>• Preservation of Merchants State Bank</li> <li>• Significant economic development impact</li> <li>• Survey historic buildings and districts</li> <li>• Siouland Historic Railroad District</li> <li>• Helps so many cities &amp; towns</li> <li>• Correctionville's Unique historic buildings could benefit</li> <li>• Historic buildings make a place unique</li> <li>• Can tend to overlook significance of historical buildings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nitrogen reduction strategy</li> <li>• Conservation practices</li> <li>• Wildlife Habitat Forbs/CRP</li> <li>• 95% may not know what funds are for</li> <li>• Money plus protecting 20% of pie</li> <li>• Research Bioreactor &amp; other novel top practices</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<p>Negatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers think trails is taking land</li> </ul> <p>Positives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tax base</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adding broad reaching, available to all</li> <li>• Trails, nature centers, EE programs</li> <li>• Misconception on use of funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough outreach about it</li> <li>• REAP logo indicates quality</li> <li>• Not enough funding</li> <li>• Siouland Railroad Project-increasing economic development each year,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Representation</li> <li>• Increase REAP County Commission meeting</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tourism/Economics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough funds to reach kids, because busing costs are high</li> <li>• No child left behind schools limited</li> <li>• Consumptive sports, hunting/fishing has decreased</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May not have happened without REAP investment</li> <li>• Correctionville's Merchant Band - roof saved building</li> <li>• Union Bridge (part of Trail)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formalize structure</li> </ul>
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**Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Push towards fuller funding</li> <li>• More education &amp; expanding into other areas (biking, hiking, equestrian)</li> <li>• Vision for next 5 years - Acquisition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnerships - new revenue streams can come from education programs</li> <li>• Continue to provide EE money &amp; expand thru partnerships</li> <li>• If we lose REAP--HUGE NEGATIVE Impact on all Sectors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand historical Correctionville - looking to put emphasis in that area in the near future. (archeological and historical district)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
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**Region 5: Fort Dodge** (Calhoun, Hamilton, Humboldt, Pocahontas, Webster, Wright)

**Attendance:** 21

**Chair:** Robert Lynch

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports extending REAP for 30 years beyond the 2021 sunset date. **Vote: Unanimous.**
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. **Vote: Unanimous.**
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax, including keeping the current formula intact. **Vote: Unanimous.**
- 4) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. **Vote: Unanimous.**

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biggest Impact - trails</li> <li>• Improving public recreation, i.e. land acquisition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trail markers</li> <li>• Campgrounds</li> <li>• 3/8 of tax/formula</li> <li>• Legislature</li> <li>• Quality of life</li> <li>• IWill education</li> <li>• Ag/Conservation harmony</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digitize newspapers, historic photos, documents</li> <li>• Building restoration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquisitions</li> </ul>

**Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?**

Positives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attracts people to communities-benefits</li> </ul>	Positive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Campgrounds</li> <li>• Trails</li> <li>• OHV</li> </ul>	Positives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More public access to digital info</li> <li>• Preserving history allows us to do things otherwise may not get done w/out funds</li> </ul> Negatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Belief "free money" still exists</li> <li>• Less awareness of volunteer match of historic projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perennials on the landscape</li> </ul>
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leave the formula</li> <li>• Figure a way to increase funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respect of environment</li> <li>• Stewardship</li> <li>• River clean-ups</li> <li>• Anti-litter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cemetery restoration &amp; repair</li> <li>• Reclassification/designation for historic areas with in "modern" cemeteries</li> <li>• Full funding or expanded funding</li> <li>• Identify, map, signage for one-room schools</li> <li>• Better knowledge for counties/communities about program</li> <li>• Stage lines mapping</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved water quality</li> </ul>

**Region 6: Marshalltown** (Hardin, Marshall, Poweshiek, Tama)

**Attendance:** 22

**Chair:** Wes Wiese

**Motions:**

- 1) Missing report

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve water quality</li> <li>• Acquisition – protect, enhance, maintain parks</li> <li>• Trails</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crucial getting involvement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserve past</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep the pie as is – fully fund REAP</li> <li>• Private land is impacted – How to educate landowners? Are we testing the streams? Are we utilizing tech &amp; combination of practices?</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-use development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools: 4H/FFA in Community Schools, Hunters Ed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educating population on past history</li> <li>• Tourism/Revenue</li> </ul>	
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanding trail system</li> <li>• Quality of recreation/benefits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Outreach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscape preservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

**Region 7: Cedar Falls** (Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Chickasaw, Grundy)

**Attendance:** 69

**Chair:** Roger White

**Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax, including keeping the current formula intact. Vote: Yes: 68, No: 1. Motion carried.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress declares that animal feeding operations are in opposition to the REAP Program. Vote: Yes: 22, No: 17. Motion carried.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Yes: majority, No: 1. Motion carried.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land trails, water trails, campgrounds, parks</li> <li>• Land purchases</li> <li>• Brings Tourism in</li> <li>• Improves quality of life</li> <li>• Promotes connection to nature</li> <li>• More gear/boost to local economies</li> <li>• Brings in new residents</li> <li>• Increases opportunities</li> <li>• Distribution of funds all over stat</li> <li>• Quality of life Improvements</li> <li>• Trails</li> <li>• Recreation opportunity</li> <li>• Keeping life/opportunity in small communities (eg., schools)</li> <li>• Land acquisition</li> <li>• Hunting access</li> <li>• Campground &amp; other facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New people to Iowa! (2 of our group)</li> <li>• Work with young people in conservation issues</li> <li>• The entire "pie chart" helps with education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revitalize downtowns</li> <li>• Preserve National Register sites</li> <li>• Economic impact - tourism</li> <li>• Job creation</li> <li>• Retain community identity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WMAs funding for Practices</li> <li>• Funding Practices</li> <li>• BMP: Cover crops</li> <li>• Wind brakes</li> <li>• WQ Economic Development</li> <li>• Funding source</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<p>Positives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise in quality of life</li> <li>• Health benefits/blue zones</li> <li>• Attracts businesses</li> <li>• Wildlife benefits</li> <li>• Leverages money for bigger projects</li> <li>• Stay-cations</li> <li>• Variety of partnerships formed</li> <li>• Wide variety of projects supported</li> <li>• Self-sustaining park</li> </ul> <p>Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Butler county (acquisition)</li> <li>• White Oak Savanna</li> <li>• Habitat and rare species - turtles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traveling Exhibits</li> <li>• Informational booklets</li> <li>• Watershed education at Hartman</li> <li>• Environmental Education in school (like in the past)</li> <li>• Animal husbandry has effect on</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Downtown Cedar Falls development</li> <li>• Portage project</li> <li>• Wapsi Mill - Improvements- Flood insurance</li> <li>• Provide access to Historic sites</li> <li>• Digitizing old records</li> <li>• Preserve CCC projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bremer county (acquisition)</li> <li>Igwanis woodland (boy scout camp)</li> <li>Grundy county</li> <li>Concrete trails</li> </ul> <p>Negatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fear of change ex trails near private property</li> <li>Loss of wild spaces overdeveloped</li> <li>REAP not fully funded</li> </ul>			
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Better marketing of what is funded by REAP</li> <li>What REAP is to the general public</li> <li>Improved ADA accessibility at parks, birding blinds, etc.</li> <li>Trail maintenance funds</li> <li>Maps of projects</li> <li>Increase volunteerism on REAP projects</li> <li>Require a percentage match for grants, so more applicants get funded</li> <li>More transparency on grant criteria</li> <li>Share successful project proposals on website?</li> <li><b>**FUNDING**</b></li> <li>Fund IWILL</li> <li>Funding for management</li> <li>Keep formula for REAP?</li> <li>Eliminated? None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$350,000 What percentage</li> <li>Continue educating!</li> <li>Watershed/Drainage districts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get full funding from state legislation (\$30 million)</li> <li>Preserving the preserved</li> <li>Develop multi group cooperation</li> <li>Develop community education on History</li> <li>Historic bridge saving</li> <li>Continue or expand matching project</li> <li>Preserve Historical areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bring REAP funding to \$20 million</li> <li>Open REAP dollars to greater applicants</li> <li>Greater Awareness of REAP</li> </ul>

**Region 8: Maquoketa** (Cedar, Clinton, Delaware, Dubuque, Jackson)

**Attendance:** 30

**Chair:** Ann Burns

**Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. **Vote: Unanimous.**
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. **Vote: Unanimous.**
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress contend that the Open Spaces portion of REAP is a critical piece and it should remain the same. **Vote: Carried.**
- 4) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports increasing the hunting and fishing fees. Hunters, anglers and trappers have paid their way and always will. **Vote: Unanimous.**  
This REAP Assembly recommends that there should be dedicated funding for watershed management authorities in the state of Iowa. **Vote: Unanimous.**
- 5) This REAP Assembly recommends that the Conservation Education Program be raised to \$500,000 without affecting the rest of the REAP formula. **Vote: Does not pass.**

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help develop parks</li> <li>• Enhance quality of life, trails,</li> <li>• Acquisition of open spaces,</li> <li>• Buffer strips for water quality</li> <li>• Implement the approved sales tax</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Naturalists hired</li> <li>• Nature center built</li> <li>• Traveling exhibits</li> <li>• Statewide curriculum development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small museums don't have access to a lot of funds, so REAP provides opportunities</li> <li>• To do things they normally couldn't</li> <li>• Dubuque, bring Aquarium and historical, has been able to draw funds from REAP</li> <li>• Through HRDP/CEP</li> <li>• Traveling turtle exhibit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manchester Whitewater,</li> <li>• Enhanced fishing habitation</li> <li>• Lack of access to funding</li> <li>• Money to put grants together</li> <li>• Provide leveraged money</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Competitive (fiercely)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No negatives, only positives</li> <li>• Funding for historic preservation is a gain</li> </ul>	<p>Positives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Success in working with land owners</li> <li>• Trails success and outdoor recreation</li> <li>• Knowledge of where grants money comes from</li> <li>• Whitewater Canyon multiple use is up for tourism</li> </ul> <p>Negative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conversion of farmland</li> <li>• Iowa known for water quality issues</li> </ul>
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand more for water quality</li> <li>• Not enough money &amp; information</li> <li>• Raise more money for REAP</li> <li>• Promote economic impact &amp; benefits to agriculture</li> <li>• Educate public &amp; legislators</li> <li>• Promote program as info structures</li> <li>• Promote healthy lifestyle &amp; economic development program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More funding</li> <li>• More news coverage &amp; public awareness/about projects that are completed or ongoing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue, expand, change, eliminate</li> <li>• REAP should be fully funded</li> <li>• What about lottery money?</li> <li>• Keep formula as is</li> <li>• Expand/promote REAP projects/general visibility</li> </ul>

**Region 9: Davenport** (Muscatine, Scott)

**Attendance:** 31

**Chair:** Larry Makoben

**Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote:  
Unanimous

- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact.  
Vote: Unanimous
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New showers, cabins, park trails</li> <li>• Land Acquisitions</li> <li>• Attract people to the area</li> <li>• Remove invasive species &amp; restore naturally</li> <li>• ATV- Flood access, dead areas, restored naturally</li> <li>• River Heritage - 1st railroad bridge over River Drive</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elementary school through college</li> <li>• Community education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National register of Historic Districts</li> <li>• Benefit of preserving historic building</li> <li>• County fairgrounds collections</li> <li>• Leverage other use of grants to get other money</li> <li>• Survey of county sites</li> <li>• Making resources available to community</li> <li>• Match use of volunteer time, adds number of people involved in projects/organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation catalyst/seed \$</li> <li>• Infrastructure</li> <li>• Land purchase</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applied for REAP for 2 years but was denied</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourages "Eco Tourism"</li> <li>• Local &amp; regional</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic tourism</li> <li>• Publicity about projects &amp; local history</li> <li>• Leveraging funds eligible for other grants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park Improvements: Weed Park, Lagoon Trail, Conservation Ed. Center, Fairport Hatchery Reservoir Valves, Forest Grove oak savanna restoration</li> <li>• Need increased awareness of REAP funded projects</li> </ul>
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vision of Outdoor Vision element to continue or expand</li> <li>• Veterans Memorial Park</li> <li>• Former Land fill</li> <li>• River outlook</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small Grants</li> <li>• Signage for environmental projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More publicity about HRDP</li> <li>• Promoting meetings</li> <li>• Boiler plates for generating</li> <li>• Press release &amp; letters to contact state</li> <li>• Senators, legislators, etc. regarding projects</li> <li>• Use technology to provide information about historic site artifacts</li> <li>• Historic applications similar to Dept. of Cultural Affairs app</li> <li>• Match structure is do able-don't change, we like volunteer match</li> <li>• Change Iowa grants.gov to make more user friendly</li> <li>• Good with consistency of questions asked in grant applications &amp;</li> <li>• Type of information required.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully fund REAP</li> <li>• Fund the Trust Fund</li> <li>• More boots on the ground/education</li> <li>• Expand practices available to farmers</li> <li>• Additional pollution prevention/point source</li> </ul>

**Region 10: Oxford** (Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn, Washington)

**Attendance:** 60

**Chair:** Dick Heft

**Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Match \$ for projects</li> <li>• Base natural areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Competitive grants (ex. take a kid outside) used curriculum, materials and training workshops.</li> <li>• Dedicated funding for every county, as well.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preservation &amp; Interpretation (need to know what they are seeing)</li> <li>• Get the experience of visiting historical sites</li> <li>• Draws tourism</li> <li>• Historic sites are often near tied to outdoor recreation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Properties purchased- Public use</li> <li>• Restoration/habitat improvement</li> <li>• Urban Conservation</li> <li>• Roadside vegetation</li> <li>• Watershed management</li> <li>• Pollinators</li> <li>• Trails</li> <li>• Health/Economy</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<p>Positive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote opportunities for people enjoy the outdoors</li> <li>• Community icons &amp; draw</li> <li>• Bike Trails</li> <li>• Recreation variety</li> <li>• Basic outdoor skills</li> <li>• Making Iowa attractive to retain our educated young people</li> </ul> <p>Negative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ease to find areas</li> <li>• Failure to promote</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By educating the people in the community, it will inspire more participation in conservation. It will also teach the next generation about REAP and conservation.</li> <li>• Competitive grants can discourage project applicants over time.</li> </ul>	<p>Negative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When there isn't enough funding for all worthy projects</li> <li>• Some might say that preservation impedes development</li> <li>• Misunderstanding of why public \$ money is spent on this</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biosensitive areas - streams</li> <li>• Rare species</li> <li>• Price Creek</li> <li>• Floodplain restoration</li> <li>• Access pts rivers</li> <li>• Trails</li> </ul>
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full funding</li> <li>• Fund IWILL – People have spoken</li> <li>• Serve the people – Iowa Leg.</li> <li>• Comprehensive water quality</li> <li>• Keep formula the same</li> <li>• Natural Resource Enhancement emphasis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• REAP can improve by reaching more young people in the public school systems.</li> <li>• Also, by building more green buildings such as schools REAP can educate students.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully FUND!</li> <li>• Iowa water &amp; Land Legacy Fund</li> <li>• Can deposit 5 cents to REAP</li> </ul>

**Region 11: Bondurant** (Boone, Dallas, Jasper, Marion, Polk, Story, Warren)

**Attendance:** 35

**Chair:** Joe McGovern

**Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax, including keeping the current formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress encourage federal partners to increase conservation funding in the Farm Bill. Vote: carried.
- 4) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress ask the legislature to take action to improve water quality. Vote: carried.
- 5) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress recommend that a sensitive plant and area inventory be a priority for REAP and the state of Iowa. Vote: Unanimous.
- 6) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports removing the REAP sunset date. Vote: carried.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• User services:</li> <li>• Trail System</li> <li>• Land Acquisition</li> <li>• Increase Access to Nature</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get more kids OUTSIDE without "SCREENS"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having dedicated funds for projects that might not otherwise get funding</li> <li>• Education tourism and quality of life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land Acquisitions</li> <li>• \$ for tree plantings and timber management on private lands</li> <li>• EDUCATION (kids and adults too)</li> <li>• Find &amp; keep all pieces of remnant habitat left</li> <li>• FULLY FUND REAP - \$20 million/year</li> <li>• MARKETING - REAP to landowners</li> <li>• Why are counties (Not spending all \$10,000 forestry/yr?)</li> <li>• We know WHY water quality is a mess -the sciences (engineering &amp; Agronomy)</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<p>Plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tourism</li> <li>• Property value</li> <li>• Water quality</li> <li>• Conservation</li> <li>• Quality of life</li> <li>• population retention</li> <li>• Reduce health expenses</li> <li>• Ex. - High Trestle Trail</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep formula - though we could use MORE!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive - Both large and small projects</li> <li>• Negative - Can't think of any negatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensitive plants inventory</li> <li>• We need social science help to understand what will make private landowners act.</li> <li>• Water quality is a major problem</li> <li>• The Leopold Center is STILL need to help us innovate agriculture</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ownership &amp; responsibility</li> <li>• Reduced crimes</li> <li>• Habitat Diversity</li> <li>• Increased opportunities (multi use areas)</li> <li>• Maintain pie chart</li> </ul> <p>Minus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rope swing is gone</li> <li>• Lack of expansion space</li> <li>• Access to public lands for hunting</li> <li>• Funding for Land Acquisition Trust</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for private tax money</li> </ul>
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
•	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add a focus on education, sustainability, lifestyle/ alternative energy strategies for</li> <li>• Adults &amp; kids</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pie is unbalanced, but don't know what should change because this works</li> </ul>	•

**Region 12: Carroll** (Audubon, Carroll, Crawford, Greene, Guthrie, Sac)

**Attendance:** 22

**Chair:** Dawn Meyer

**Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports adding maintenance as an acceptable use of REAP funds. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports removing the REAP sunset date. Vote: Unanimous.
- 4) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress recommend that REAP Assemblies are held in early September or late November. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
Trails, cities, state parks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improved access on many levels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Winter Solstice weekend for educators at Springbook</li> <li>• Springbook closed? Why? Is it held somewhere else?</li> <li>• Nature centers &amp; similar facilities</li> <li>• Educational materials &amp; kiosks</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• REAP for conservation</li> <li>• Land acquisition/public use/habitat</li> <li>• Soil and Water Conservation District funding (water quality, native species plantings, etc.)</li> <li>• T &amp; E Habitat</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No funding for Maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational displays</li> </ul>		Plus:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land Acquisition</li> <li>More Public Hunting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not enough \$\$</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wildlife Habitat</li> <li>Quality of life</li> <li>Economic Development</li> </ul>
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional funding for Maintenance</li> <li>More Trails</li> <li>More FUNDING</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Needs to reach public (boards, schools) as to what is available</li> <li>Improve contacts</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding (IWILL)</li> <li>No change to formula</li> </ul>

**Region 13: Clarinda** (Fremont, Mill, Montgomery, Page)

**Attendance:** 23

**Chair:** Barbara Johnson

**Approved Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports adding maintenance as an acceptable use of REAP funds. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress add small, medium and large categories for the County Conservation grant program. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided funding (for trails, etc.)</li> <li>Stimulated local economies from tourism \$</li> <li>Improved water quality which effects fishing &amp; drinking water quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grant funds helped to build the earth lodge but then there was no maintenance money available so it wasn't maintained. Funds were also received for the Todd House in Tabor recently.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soil &amp; water conservation practices conserve soil, better water quality, &amp; improve wildlife habitat.</li> <li>Also proves the value of farmland making the land more productive and profitable, stimulating local economies through increased production and creating jobs.</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
Positive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased tourism</li> <li>Improved facilities encourage more use</li> <li>Econ. Development/small business opportunities</li> <li>Get more people outdoors, increased education &amp; awareness, physical activity,</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is important to maintain historical interest to keep tourism. There is a lot of potential in SW Iowa being close to Omaha. There have been archeo digs in the Mills and there was a lot of interest. Funding for maintenance is very hard to come by.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impacts communities by stimulating economy, improving recreational opportunities, &amp; protecting infrastructure.</li> <li>Ex, Viking Lake, Red Oak Creek, Pilot Grove Park, West Tabor Watershed.</li> </ul>

wellness			
Negative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough money to fund all requests</li> <li>• House removed from land acquisition</li> </ul>			
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Funding! Commitment from Legislature!!!</li> <li>• Simplified grant application</li> <li>• More non-profit eligible grant programs</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The grants seem to go more to the central and eastern side of the state. The western side should be looked at more. Maybe the counties need to know more about the opportunities, grant availability? Maybe then they'd get more interest. Of course, more money is always needed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• REAP Demands are great.</li> <li>• REAP is flexible and has the ability to be utilized for new practices that addresses new and changing resource concerns.</li> <li>• REAP should continue to fund new projects as well as maintain what has already been established.</li> </ul>

**Region 14: Afton** (Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Madison, Ringgold, Taylor, Union)

**Attendance:** 19

**Chair:** Kate Zimmerman

**Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact.  
Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used as matching funds to complete project - \$ goes further</li> <li>• REAP needed because other funding sources are being cut - Go to funding source</li> <li>• Broad use of funds - including new projects and maintenance</li> <li>• Put a lot of acres into public ownership</li> <li>• Allow parks to grown and modernize with public demand</li> <li>• Invest in Resources and Development that brings in revenues - tourism \$</li> <li>• People like nice things - brings people to communities if they have nice places</li> <li>• To recreate with nice amenities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More \$\$ for conservation education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most significant things REAP has done for Historic preservation</li> <li>• Ties to education</li> <li>• Ties to tourism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project Coordinators help carry out the projects</li> <li>• Parks, lakes, cabins</li> <li>• Tourist</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>REAP allows CLB's to grow vs just maintaining status quo</li> </ul>			
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<p>Negative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not enough money</li> <li>Arbitrary and unclear scoring criteria county conservation grants</li> </ul> <p>Positive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development at 3-mile Rec Area</li> <li>Cabins, roads, camping, showers, beach parking, fish cleaning, lake renovation</li> <li>Grants are VERY competitive- very high Quality projects are being funded</li> <li>Adams County Lake Icaria, cabins, shower houses, camp grounds, check in stations</li> <li>Trail projects - McKinley Park</li> <li>Matching funds for Fish Habitat projects</li> <li>Union County, Cedar Park, Grovesback wildlife, 3 mile lake</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More applications in this region</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plus - lots of visitors (Round Barn in Taylor County)</li> <li>Preservation of historic sites/info that might have otherwise been lost (covered bridge)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leveraging money to make REAP \$\$ go further</li> </ul>
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Target education at a younger ages - targeted fund</li> <li>Interpretive signs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plus - separate categories</li> <li>grants</li> <li>matching funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add more money to REAP</li> <li>There is more demand than there are funds, which shows the success of REAP</li> <li>There are NO bad projects</li> </ul>

**Region 15: Oskaloosa** (Davis, Jefferson, Keokuk, Mahaska, Van Buren, Wapello)

**Attendance:** 18

**Chair:** Dave Sedivec

**Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 4) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress emphasize education at a younger age. Vote: Unanimous.
- 5) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports that liability laws for recreation purposes needs to be addressed. Vote: Unanimous.
- 6) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports the expansion of riparian buffers. Vote: Unanimous.

7) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress work to educate legislators on the REAP Program. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access - trails parks, natural areas, rivers, etc.</li> <li>• Lower Des Moines River waterway</li> <li>• American Gothic Regional Trail (hiking)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holding Assemblies or meetings</li> <li>• Funding with grant programs putting it towards education</li> <li>• Knowing exactly where grants/funds go in a county</li> <li>• Building trails, allows connections to be made in the communities and in turn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Without funding a lot of towns could not have had adequate resources for</li> <li>• Museums, document preservation and historic areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding equation works!</li> <li>• Land - IE Cedar Bluffs</li> <li>• MuchaKinock Watershed - accomplishments</li> <li>• Cooperation among groups &amp; private land owners</li> <li>• Irum</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
Positives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community pride, involvement, volunteers</li> <li>• Economic benefits</li> <li>• Foster partnerships - public/private</li> </ul> Negatives - self-interest??	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourages education.</li> <li>• Field Days - Little Lick Creek, Bussay Abandoned, and in addition to public meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides funding to a wide variety of sources</li> <li>• But not enough funding to go around</li> </ul>	Negative - property tax  Positive - Keomah updates
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 year plan - more cooperation, connections, education &amp; explanations</li> <li>• \$\$\$Money\$\$\$</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holding Assemblies/meetings</li> <li>• Start education at a younger age</li> <li>• Mahaska - ELC growth</li> <li>• Van Buren-county involvement ex: REAP commission</li> <li>• Information to residents about where grants are going - monthly?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to continue historic preservation because you have to respect history as it has</li> <li>• Evolved in order to pursue the future</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand water quality benefits</li> <li>• Pass IWILL</li> <li>• Private landowners &amp; Public</li> </ul>

**Region 16: Burlington** (Des Moines, Henry, Lee, Louisa)

**Attendance:** 33

**Chair:** Al Ourth

**Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.

3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public hunting</li> <li>Land Acquisition</li> <li>Facility updates</li> <li>Trails &amp; water trails</li> <li>Parks &amp; recreation</li> <li>Protecting habitats</li> <li>Wildlife improvement</li> <li>Facilitations health &amp; wellness</li> <li>Economic Development</li> <li>Quality of life</li> <li>Water Quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding Curriculum Development, Funds for materials</li> <li>Development of nature centers/education centers</li> <li>EE employment</li> <li>Teacher resources and trainings</li> <li>Publications</li> <li>Land improvements</li> <li>Why it matters: Allows us to change/adapt to new standards and teaching.</li> <li>Bring opportunities for new audiences</li> <li>Brings people to areas</li> <li>Helps inspire people to protect U care for our supplements</li> <li>Existing funds, Funds for change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Downtown Burlington has benefited significantly</li> <li>Several train deposits (Keokuk most recently)</li> <li>Museums (Phelps House, Des Moines County Historical)</li> <li>Digitization of records, surveys</li> <li>Nominations of historical properties to National Register</li> <li>Old Threshers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natural Resources Conservation/Water Quality</li> <li>Purchased Recreation ground/Habitat</li> <li>Upkeep on existing recreation acres</li> <li>Complete ground improvements (Big Hollow)</li> <li>Watershed improvement projects (Butters, Riparian's, etc.)</li> <li>Purchasing Hwon Flats</li> <li>REAP has provided a stable funding source for tree planting, timber stand improvement, etc.</li> <li></li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<p>Positive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More places to recreate</li> <li>Quality of life</li> <li>New types of activities</li> <li>Environmental Education</li> <li>Economic/tourism/health</li> <li>Protection of hunting heritage</li> </ul> <p>Negative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of funding</li> <li>Rule breakers</li> <li>Taking land off tax roll</li> <li></li> </ul>	<p>Negatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Become reliant on funds that can change</li> <li>example: Naturalists salary funded/partially</li> </ul> <p>Positives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funds materials buses, displays, classroom programs, some naturalist</li> <li>Changes to existing programs, structures</li> </ul>	<p>Negative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spent money on things that shouldn't be kept or can't be sustained (ongoing maintenance)</li> <li>Lots more positives than negatives</li> <li>So many needs, not enough funding</li> <li>Historical needs that is being met that other funds are not available for</li> <li>Building rehab and digitization, for example.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Negative Impact</li> <li>Positives - trail systems, tree planting, timber stand improvements, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FULLY FUND REAP</li> <li>Fund IWILL - The Trust</li> <li>Make more people aware</li> <li>Promote REAP Education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teach, Experience, Reinforce--Hands on learning</li> <li>Habitat Development Matching curriculum with classroom standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More funding for historic preservation</li> <li>But fully funding REAP could also accomplish this</li> <li>Leopold Childhood home</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More funding</li> <li>Encourage groups to work together (Ag/urban)</li> <li>More water quality</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Another idea for additional funding like License plates</li> <li>• Better coordination of DNR &amp; CCBs, other agencies Pf, Turkey Fed, TNC &amp; others</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zion School -presentation of one-room school</li> <li>• Virginia Grove School</li> <li>• Burlington Depot</li> </ul>	<p>emphasis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More public education about water quality</li> <li>• FUND THE TRUST</li> </ul>
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**Region 17: Council Bluffs** (Cass, Harrison, Pottawattamie, Shelby)

**Attendance:** 17

**Chair:** Mark Shoemaker

**Motions:**

- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax. Vote: Unanimous.
- 4) This REAP Assembly recommends that motions and responses be sent to appropriate offices. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Education</li> <li>• Increase understanding of natural systems &amp; land managements</li> <li>• Increased outdoor usage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helped protect historic resources</li> <li>• Increased public awareness of historic resource</li> <li>• Provided money that aren't otherwise available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land acquisition for prevention and conservation</li> <li>• Important for habitat and soil conservation</li> <li>• Water quality (by product)or good habitat restoration</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive/Negative</li> <li>• Matching difficulty</li> <li>• Local Economics</li> <li>• Local Coordination</li> <li>• Help bring tourist from out of state</li> <li>• Improve quality of life through outdoor recreation</li> <li>• Target specific user groups that hasn't been targeted before.</li> </ul>		<p>Positive impacts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protected resources</li> <li>• Assists diverse groups, private, non-profit &amp; government</li> </ul> <p>Negative impacts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough funding to address needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helped build a trail network in Council Bluffs -- biking in Iowa</li> <li>• Manage urban forest</li> <li>• Prairie Rose -- accessible fishing</li> <li>• Not enough money - or maintain what we used to get.</li> <li>• Clear there are unmet needs</li> </ul>
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			

•	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Perception/ Education</li> <li>Media Relations: Local/State</li> <li>Focus on Landforms</li> <li>Special Allocation of Funds</li> <li>More money for staff/project administration</li> <li>More local partner cost share/match</li> <li>Split DNR</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully fund REAP</li> <li>Don't change the formula</li> <li>Fund I Will</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully fund at \$20 million</li> <li>Trail maintenance is not eligible, but some of these trail are 20+ years old and funding</li> <li>Is needed to maintain/preserve investments. But know that will have to come from somewhere else.</li> <li>Match requirements?</li> </ul>
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**Region 18: Chariton** (Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe, Wayne)

**Attendance:** 18

**Chair:** James Nelson

**Motions:**

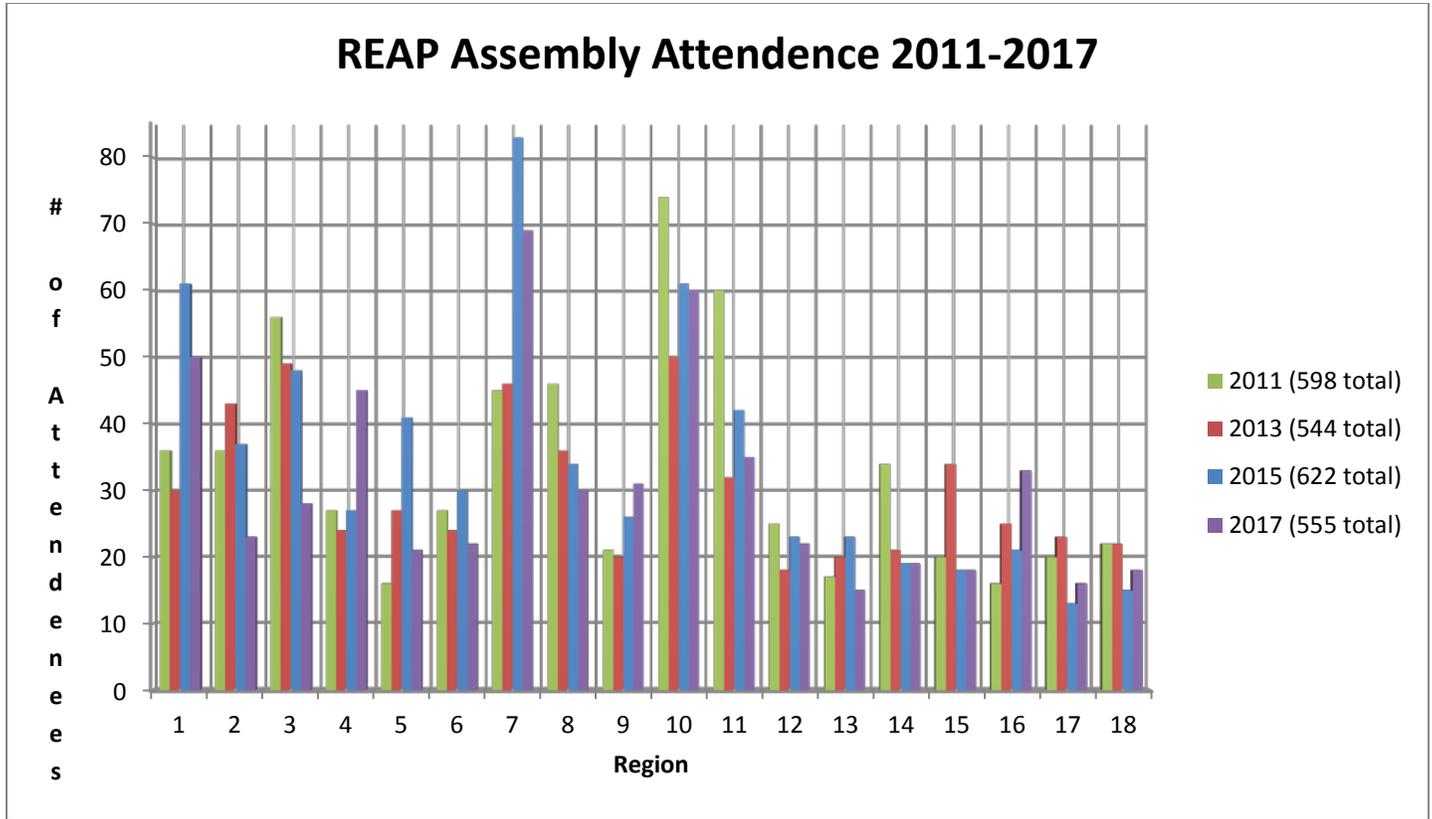
- 1) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding REAP at \$25 Million. Vote: Unanimous.
- 2) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports fully funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund through the passage of a 3/8th of a percent increase of Iowa's statewide sales tax, including keeping the current formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.
- 3) This REAP Assembly recommends that the 2018 REAP Congress supports keeping the REAP formula intact. Vote: Unanimous.

**Small Group Responses:**

Outdoor Recreation	Conservation Education	Historic Preservation	Natural Resources Conservation
<b>Most significant things REAP has done and why are these important to the place you live and the state?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trails!!!</li> <li>Shower house/restrooms</li> <li>Fish habitat restoration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Education Centers</li> <li>Naturalist all 99 counties</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding</li> <li>Signage/Identification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Needs more Funding</li> </ul>
<b>Positive and negative impacts of REAP projects in your community?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Money</li> <li>Low Priority</li> <li>Need for local Buy In on Conservation and value of community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding (need full funding from Legislators)</li> <li>Competition for time</li> <li>Education of public</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of funding</li> <li>Lack of understanding that historic preservation is economic development</li> <li>Lack of education of how to preserve historic resources &amp; why to do it</li> <li>Lack of interest</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awareness at State &amp; Local level</li> <li>Support for NR</li> </ul>
<b>Vision for next 5 years: changes or eliminations?</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IWILL</li> <li>Education on financial benefit of outdoor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IWILL</li> <li>Community support with schools &amp; other groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educate community on certified local government (CLG) through NPS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotion on what funds are used</li> <li>Education</li> </ul>

recreation • Increase local coordination on projects -- CCB/cities/NGO?	• Work with other 501c3 to go for grants to build centers • Start National CPT/ move up to FT	• Marketing -- interest level of people & public • Cultural App • Iowa Culture	
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**Recent REAP Assembly Attendance:**



- **33% of Attendees in 2017 attended a REAP Assembly for the first time.**