

County To Be Included In USDA Watershed Study

Davis County will be a part of a U. S. Department of Agriculture study of watershed problems and project needs in Iowa, Harold Baughman, chairman of the Davis County Soil Conservation District, announced this week.

According to Baughman, interested state, county and other federal agencies and groups are invited to participate and assist in the assembly of data, problems and needs to complete the study.

VERLE ARNOLD, local Soil Conservation Service work unit conservationist, recently attended a training workshop at Otumwa to obtain detailed procedures for conduct of the survey in Davis County.

The Soil Conservation Service has been assigned leadership in assembly of data and the compilation of the county and state report, according to Lyall Mitchell, SCS Conservationist at Fairfield.

Mitchell said the objectives of the study were two-fold:

"Determine the extended and

seriousness of floodwater damage, sediment problems, water quality, water based recreation needs, farm drainage needs, rural and municipal water supply and fish and wildlife development needs in all watersheds of the state, which have potential and a possibility of being solved by projects now authorized by Public Law 566 as amended by Congress.

"TO PROVIDE data on these same problems now needed for the comprehensive river basin study now underway in the Upper Mississippi River Basin States. This river basin survey is under leadership of the Corps of Army Engineers with other departments of government and the states assisting."

Baughman pointed out that the present amendments to Public Law 556 permit federal cost-share assistance to locally organized groups of land owners for solving problems of floodwater and sediment damage, land drainage, rural water supply, fish and wildlife develop-

ment, water quality control and water based recreation

Organization groups of landowners may apply for assistance under the small watershed act, Baughman said.

Detailed information on organization and development of watershed projects is available at the office of the County Extension Director or the local SCS office.