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20 FARMS, 1,900 ACRES — — —

State Action Opens Watershed To Federal Funds For Drainage

Twenty farms covering 1,900 acres south of Iowa Falls are in the Honeycomb Watershed project which has been approved for federal assistance for soil and water conservation.

The State Soil Conservation Committee took the action last week approving the watershed for such action. Lack of adequate drainage outlets resulting in crop flooding is a major problem in the watershed.

There also is a need for several miles of tile intake terraces in the watershed which cannot be accomplished until the drainage system is improved.

Achieving the approval has in effect opened an entirely new outlet for federal funds

in the county, said Chuck McCarty of the Hardin Soil Conservation office at Eldora.

Next step will be to apply for a planning grant to determine how to install a drainage system. After that, another application would be necessary to fund the project.

Large drainage projects have not been undertaken generally since about 1925 because of the prohibitive cost, McCarty said.