

## **WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSAL**

**Project ID:** MI3001

**Title:** Natural Resources Integrated Information System

**Focus Categories:** Management and Planning, Models

**Keywords:** Watershed Management, Water Quality Management, Geographic Information Systems, System Analysis, Information Dissemination, Storage and Retrieval, Data Analysis

**Start Date:** 03/01/2001

**End Date:** 02/28/2002

**Federal Funds:** \$20,000

**Non-Federal Matching Funds:** \$39,935

**Congressional District:** 8

**Principal Investigator:**

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**Abstract**

Numerous federal and state agencies are increasing their emphasis on examining water problems from the watershed perspective. The watershed perspective is being emphasized in the reauthorization of the Clean Water Act, the new Farm Bill as well as several other pieces of legislation. Because of our Institute's long-term position relative to national and state water programs, we function as a coordinator to assist with linkages, support education, research, and outreach with and among agencies in the broad water arena. Accordingly, we are in a unique position to facilitate watershed policy, planning, and management with a multi-disciplinary perspective. Our proposed effort includes three major thrusts. The first is the enhancement of integrated watershed systems that can be used for analysis of various management options. The second is extended education where the internet and advanced computer systems in addition to traditional conferences and workshops are used to extend new knowledge to agencies, organizations, and local level watershed and land use groups. The third involves developing a networking infrastructure to facilitate cooperation among partners such as the USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service, USEPA, and state Departments of Natural Resources, Environmental Quality, and Agriculture, as well as township associations and county organizations.