

The following questions arose during the public consultations. The project management team would greatly appreciate any information you could provide to answer these specific questions:

1. What is the current number and status of water use licences in the Boyne – Morris Watershed? **As of 2017-03-08 there are 77 Approved Licenses issued in this watershed. Additionally, 21 Applications are at various stages of the licensing process [14 surface water + 7 groundwater]**
2. What percentage of the available water supply is accounted for through water use licenses? Is there a great demand for the issuance of more Water Use Licenses in this watershed? **It is often useful to compare the licensed allocation volumes under the Water Rights licensing process with the average annual precipitation volumes for a watershed. When we express the licensed allocations as a percentage of average annual precipitation on the watershed it works out to much less than 1% of the total. Typically the largest component of water “use” in a watershed is the evapotranspiration component.** If so, what category do you see this demand primarily coming from (e.g. potato irrigators, hog barns, etc). **There are currently 5 applications waiting “On Hold” in this watershed. This is due to the fact there is no more water available to be loaned out for licensed use in this area. This demand is primarily coming from irrigators.**
3. What is the typical capacity (e.g. in acre-feet) of an irrigation reservoir in the Boyne-Morris watershed? Do irrigators typically take advantage of high flows in the fall to fill reservoirs? **The reservoir size varies from 100 ac-ft to 500 ac-ft. They generally do not take advantage of high flows in the fall, but last fall there were some that did do some pumping, depending on the river system they were on. Some irrigators do not like to have a full reservoir going into winter conditions.**
4. If it's a dry winter and spring runoff potential is predicted to be low, do the licensed users work together to share the available melt volume? **Yes. The irrigators do work together to fill their reservoirs during periods of low spring time stream flows. They know who has the precedence to the water (based on the project application dates) but they typically work together accordingly.**