**PROJECT TITLE: Developing Cover Crop Systems for Sugarbeet Production**

**Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description**

**Dr. Anna M. Cates, Project PI, Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, Minnesota Office for Soil Health and Department of Soil, Water, and Climate**. The Minnesota Office for Soil Health (MOSH, https://www.wrc.umn.edu/mosh), of which Dr. Cates is the principal member, was founded in 2018 to address water quality in Minnesota’s agricultural lands by focusing attention on soil stewardship. Dr. Cates is involved with technical training for local government personnel including Soil and Water Conservation Districts and NRCS staff to increase support for farmers in implementing conservation practices across the state. The MOSH is putting together a Minnesota Cover Crop Guide in 2019 which will compile research on cover crops in the state to make recommendations and identify research needs in this burgeoning area. Dr. Cates has experience managing budgets and personnel in both academic and private settings. She has published in peer-reviewed journals on cover crops and crop management impacts on soil organic matter pools and soil structure.

**Dr. Lindsay A. Pease, co-PI, Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist in Nutrient and Water Management, Northwest Research & Outreach Center and Department of Soil, Water, and Climate.** Dr. Pease is the newest faculty member at the University of Minnesota Northwest Research & Outreach Center in Crookston, MN. The goal of Dr. Pease’s research and outreach programming is to develop nutrient and water management strategies that improve agricultural productivity, profitability, and sustainability through smarter management of fertilizer and water. She aims work alongside growers to develop practical management solutions for the unique soils, cropping systems, and climate of Northwest Minnesota. She has ten years of research experience in soil and water management, and she has been an author or co-author on eight peer-reviewed publications exploring the connection between agricultural management and edge-of-field nutrient loss.

**Jodi DeJong-Hughes, co-PI,** has been a Regional Educator with the University of Minnesota Extension for over 22 years. Her area of specialization includes reduced tillage management, soil compaction, and improving soil health. Jodi’s work focuses on reducing soil erosion to improve the grower’s bottom line and to reduce the movement of soil and nutrients to our natural waterways. Jodi enjoys working alongside growers, ag industry, and government agencies to bring high-quality, educational programs and research to the people of Minnesota.

**The Water Resources Center** (WRC, wrc.umn.edu) houses MOSH, and is itself part of both the College of Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Sciences and University of Minnesota Extension. This center provides education and outreach on water issues for private citizens and students at UMN.

**The Northwest Research and Outreach Center** (NWROC) is one of ten unique Research and Outreach Centers (ROCs) located in communities throughout Minnesota. The University's ROCs are affiliated with the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and represent the College and University's mission to respond to the needs of all Minnesotans. NWROC serves the prairie and adjacent land area of northwestern Minnesota. The center provides analytical, biological, and field laboratories to University of Minnesota faculty, staff, and students to conduct research and demonstrations that will enhance the efficient use of agriculture and natural resources in northwest Minnesota.

**The University of Minnesota** (UMN, umn.edu) houses all research personnel. It is the flagship institution in the state for agricultural research and has a thriving Extension program, with deep expertise in disseminating research to the agricultural community.