



# Madison Soil and Water Conservation District Soil and Water Resource Conservation Plan



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**(2022-2026)**  
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## Mission of the Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District

Our mission is to conserve, protect, and enhance our resources for current and future generations by providing information and assistance to landowners, operators, and residents of Madison County.

Photo: Roseman Covered Bridge, courtesy of Anna Golightly.



## Priority Goals

The following priority goals of the Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) were established in collaboration with input from a Local Working Group (consisting of farmers, local business owners, and other residents of the community), SWCD Commissioners, and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and partner staff.

- A. Inform the community through outreach and education.
- B. Conserve, protect, and enhance our SOIL through education, technical and financial assistance, assessment, and practical application of the best conservation practices in agricultural, rural, and urban areas.
- C. Conserve, protect, and enhance our WATER through education, technical and financial assistance, assessment, and practical application of the best conservation practices in agricultural, rural, and urban areas.
- D. Conserve, protect, and enhance WILDLIFE HABITAT and LANDSCAPE DIVERSITY through education, technical and financial assistance, assessment, and practical application of the best conservation practices in agricultural, rural, and urban areas.
- E. Be an Outstanding District!

*(See Appendices A through E for specific information about the goals, and the actions and timeframes determined to meet them.)*

**Table of Contents:**

Cover Page	<b>1</b>
Table of Contents	2
About the Soil and Water Conservation District	3
About the 5-Year Soil and Water Resource Conservation Plan	4
Preface	
General Description of the Madison County SWCD	5
<b>Land Use</b>	6
Geology & Mineral Resources	7
Natural Areas	9
Recreation and Wildlife Resources (Public Areas)	11
<b>Soil Resources</b>	14
Land Management	14
<b>Water Resources</b>	19
List of Waterbodies	19
Iowa Watershed Management Authorities	19
Public Water Sources	19
CREP Wetlands	20
<b>Air Resources</b>	22
<b>Plant Resources</b>	23
Crops	23
Native Plants	23
<b>Animal Resources</b>	24
Livestock	24
Wildlife	25
<b>Human Resources</b>	26
Population and Employment	26
Producer Information	26
Priority Goals	27
Purpose of the Planning Process	27
Credits for Information and Resources	28
Credits for Input	28
Acknowledgements	28
Table of Contents for Appendices	29
Appendix A – Priority Goal A: Inform the community through outreach and education	30
Appendix B – Priority Goal B: Conserve, , and enhance our SOIL	32
Appendix C – Priority Goal C: Conservate, protect, and enhance our WATER	34
Appendix D – Priority Goal D: Conserve, protect, and enhance WILDLIFE HABITAT and LANDSCAPE DIVERSITY	37
Appendix E - Priority Goal E: “Be An Outstanding District”	40
Appendix F - Maps	44
Appendix G - District Policies	55
Appendix H - SWCD Organization and Authority	59
Appendix I - Local Working Group	62
SWCD Statement of Adoption	63
IDALS Statement of Approval	64

## **About the Soil and Water Conservation District**

*Due to the effects of weather and farming practices that lead to the Dust Bowl, Hugh Hammond Bennet, considered the father of conservation, rallied support in Congress to pass the Soil Conservation Act. The Act established the Soil Conservation Service- now the Natural Resources Conservation Service and **sought to “control floods, prevent impairment of reservoirs and maintain the navigability of rivers and harbors, protect public health, public lands and relieve unemployment.”** The Act allowed for cost-sharing for practices and structures were positive for the landscape and other natural resources.*

*Although over 50,000 farmers were involved in these early outreach efforts, it became apparent early on that the federal agency would need help expanding the reach of conservation knowledge. In February of 1937, President Roosevelt sent a letter to each state governor with sample language that would establish soil and water conservation districts to serve as a bridge between SCS and producers. The Iowa legislature passed legislation in 1939 that allowed for organization of soil conservation Districts.*

*Madison Soil and Water Conservation District was organized at the request of local citizens interested in soil and water conservation. On September 19, 1942, a referendum was held on the “Creation of Proposed Madison County Soil Conservation District, Embracing Lands Lying in the County of Madison, in the State of Iowa” and there was an election of commissioners for proposed district, with seven candidates running for three positions. The referendum passed, and Melvin H. Jones, Robert Macumber, and R. Edward Baur were elected as the first commissioners. A charter was issued under the provisions of the Soil Conservation Districts’ Law, Code of Iowa, which has resided in section 161A since 1993.*

# **MADISON COUNTY LANDOWNERS ACT TO FORM SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

*The District is a subdivision of state government governed by five locally elected commissioners, who are elected on the general ballot and serve four-year terms. District Commissioners are charged by the Iowa General Assembly with the restoration and conservation of the soil, water, and the related natural resources of the county. The District receives support services from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. Commissioners can appoint as many Assistant Commissioners as they deem necessary. Additional authorities have been given to the Soil and Water Conservation District since it was founded in 1942. Some of these additional authorities are:*

- 1. Sub-districts of a soil and water conservation district may be formed for the purpose of carrying out watershed protection and flood prevention programs with the sub-district.*
- 2. The Commissioners of the Soil and Water Conservation District shall adopt reasonable regulations to establish a soil loss limit or limits for the District and provide for the implementation of the limit or limits and may subsequently amend or repeal their regulations as they deem necessary. Chapter 161A also provides for mandatory erosion control after due process.*

3. *The District advises and consults with counties and sub-districts upon the request of any of them or any affected landowners, and is authorized to cooperate with other state subdivisions, or instrumentalities and affected landowners, as well as with the federal government or any department or agency thereof, to construct, operate, and maintain suitable projects for flood or soil erosion control.*
4. *The District is authorized to request assistance from and enter into Memorandums of Understanding between themselves and other federal, state, and local entities to carry out their assignment and leadership role in the conservation, development, and productive use of the county's soil, water, and related natural resources.*



**Frederick  
Martens**



**Lisa  
Coverdale**



**Tim Palmer**



**Michael Koch**



**Jason Hirsch**

**Madison Assistant Commissioner**



**Jim Gillespie**



# Madison Soil and Water Conservation District

## Soil and Water Resource Conservation Plan

### (2022-2026)

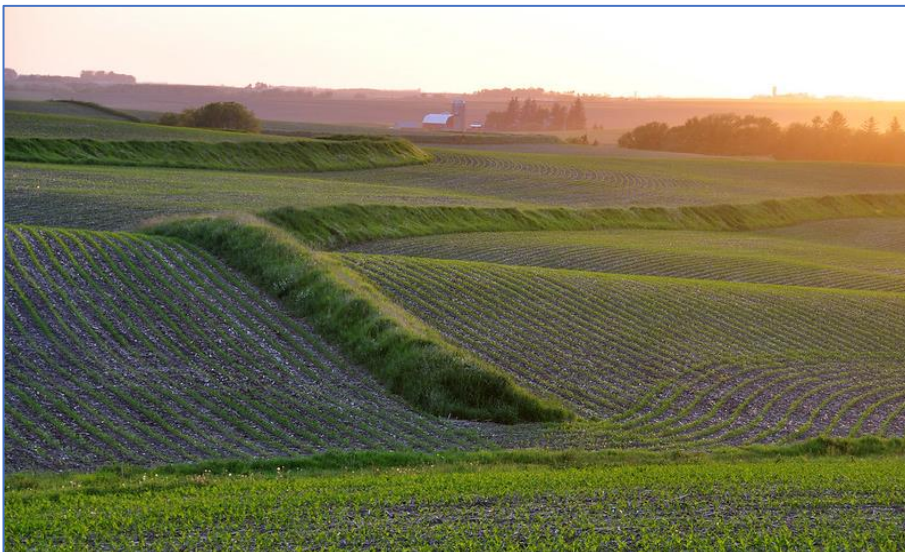
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#### General Description of the Madison County SWCD

Madison County SWCD lies in the Southern Iowa Drift Plain and has abundant natural resources including fertile soil that supports farms; waterbodies that provide drinking water, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities; natural areas including prairies, savannas, wetlands, and woodlands; animals, both livestock and wildlife; and people who value conservation.

The SWCD encompasses a total area of approximately 561 square miles, or nearly 360,000 acres. The district has a population of roughly 16,000. Land usage is primarily rural and agricultural; each year, roughly 270,000 acres are utilized for agricultural use, comprised of significant cropland and pastureland.

Municipalities within the Madison County SWCD include the county seat, Winterset; Bevington, Earlham, East Peru, Macksburg, Patterson, St. Charles, and Truro. Madison is one of five counties that make up the Des Moines-West Des Moines Metropolitan Statistical Area.



## Land Use

Madison County agricultural land is predominantly used for row crops and pasture... also specialty crops including vineyards, tree farms, orchards, flower farms, and native seed production farms. There is increasing amount of urban / rural residential development.

Existing Land Use	
Total Land (Acres)	359,400
Urban Usage (Acres)	1,216
Rural Usage (Acres)	357,824
Number of Farms	977
Land in Farms (Acres)	271,017
Median Farm Size (Acres)	76
Percent of District Land in Farms	75%
CRP (Acres)	23,133
Farm-Owned (Acres)	83,774
Farms-Rented (Acres)	94,040
Organic Operations	4

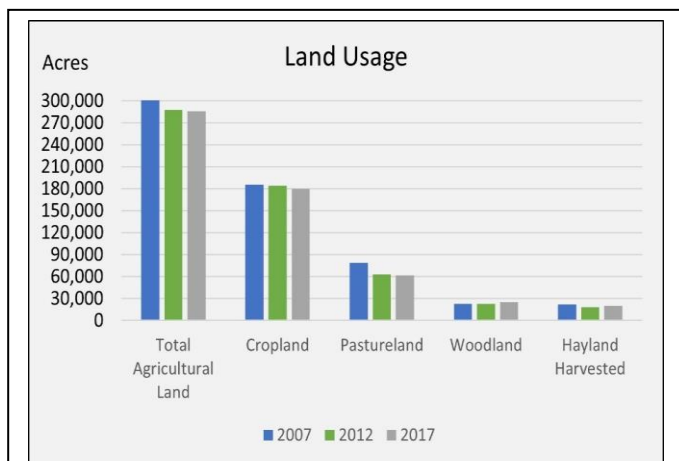


Table 2 : Agricultural Land Usage by Acres in 2007, 2012, and 2017.

Source: NASS

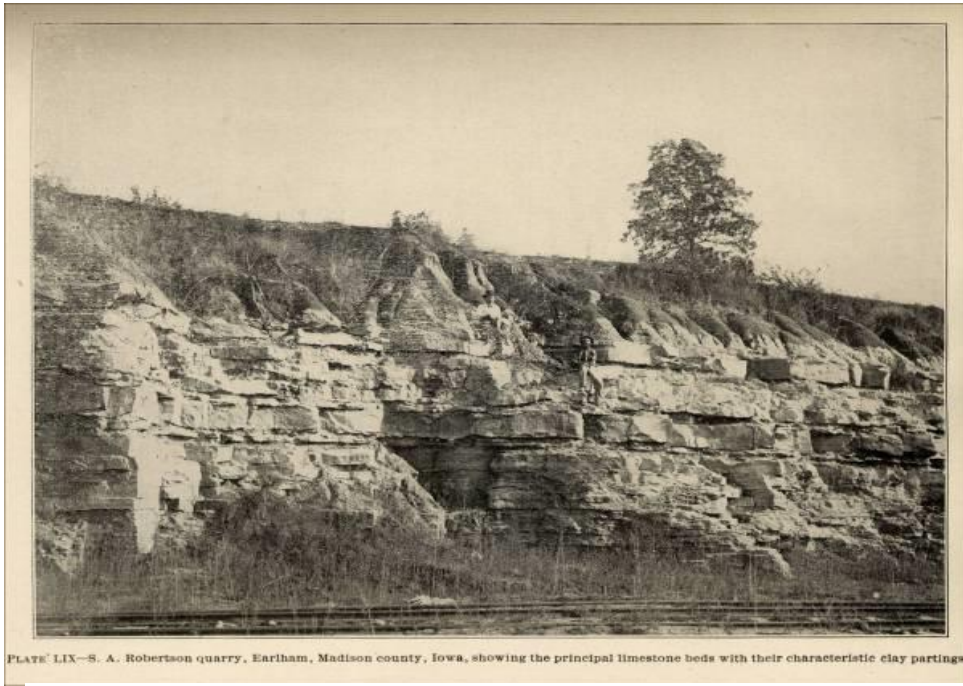
Practice	2012	2017
Tile-Drained Land (Acres)	73,756	87,362
Ditch-Drained Land (Acres)	18,522	16,353
Land in Conservation Easement (Acres)	6,239	4,356

Table 3. Drainage and Easement Information.

Source: nass.usda.gov



## Geology & Mineral Resources



Rocks found at or near the surface in Madison County formed during the Pennsylvanian (aka Late Carboniferous) Period more than 295 million years ago and is made up of limestone and shale.

**Limestone outcropping near Earlham**



**Stripping of a quarry location**





**Active crushing site**

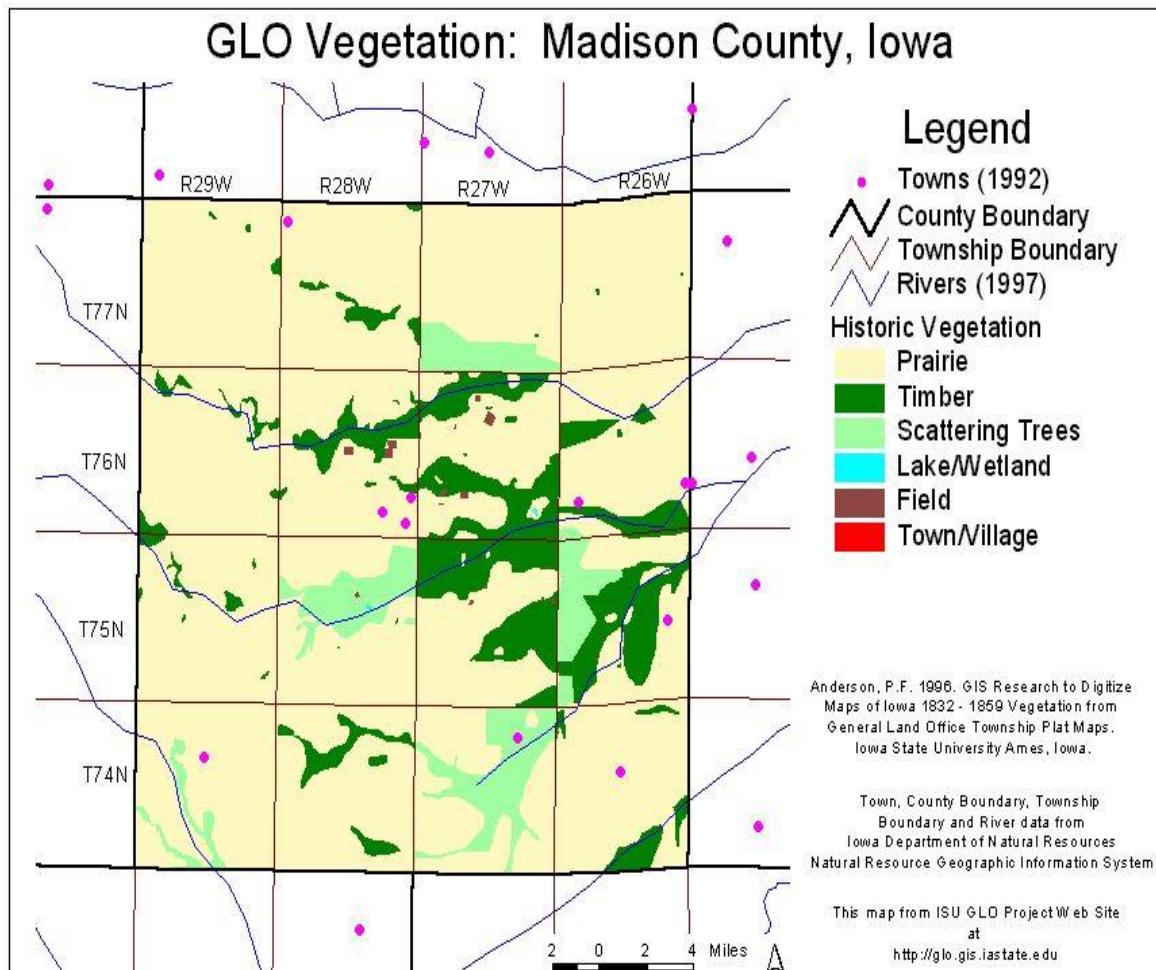


**Restored quarry site**





**Oak Savanna Natural Areas**



**Though much of the historic vegetation has been altered, there are several natural areas managed by the state, county, and city for the purpose of outdoor recreation and wildlife habitat.**



**General Land Office surveys were conducted in 1849, the majority of Madison County's vegetation was prairie, though there were also substantial areas of scattering trees and timber, mostly along river and stream corridors.**



**Madison County Prairie**



## **Recreation and Wildlife Resources (Public Areas)**

- State (managed by Iowa Department of Natural Resources):
  - Badger Creek State Recreation Area / Wildlife Management Area
  - Heritage Hills Wildlife Management Area
- County (managed by the Madison County Conservation Board):
  - Cedar Covered Bridge Park
  - Clanton Creek Natural Resource Area
  - Criss Cove
  - Fellowship Forest
  - Goeldner Woods
  - Guye Woods
  - Hanson Prairie Preserve
  - County Conservation Board Headquarters
  - Jensen Marsh
  - McBride Timber Preserve
  - Middle River Park
  - Pammel Park
  - Schildberg Access
  - Winterset Outdoor Classroom



**Pammel Park Tunnel**

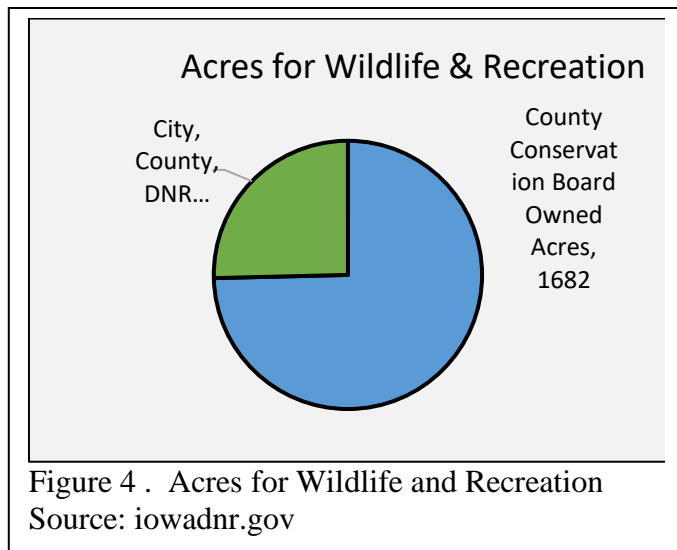




**Middle River Ford in Pammel Park near Winterset**



**Prairie Remnant at Moon Cemetery Macksburg**



**Jensen Marsh near St Charles**



**Clanton Creek Recreation Area near**

## Soil Resources

Madison County is entirely located in the 108D Major Land Resource Area (MLRA) known as the “Illinois and Iowa Deep Loess and Drift, Western Part”, which is characterized by loess ridges and glacial till. The MLRA description states, “Slopes in this region are mostly rolling to hilly, but some broad ridge tops are nearly level to undulating. The slopes bordering major stream valleys are steep. Nearly level, broad valley floors area long a few large rivers.”

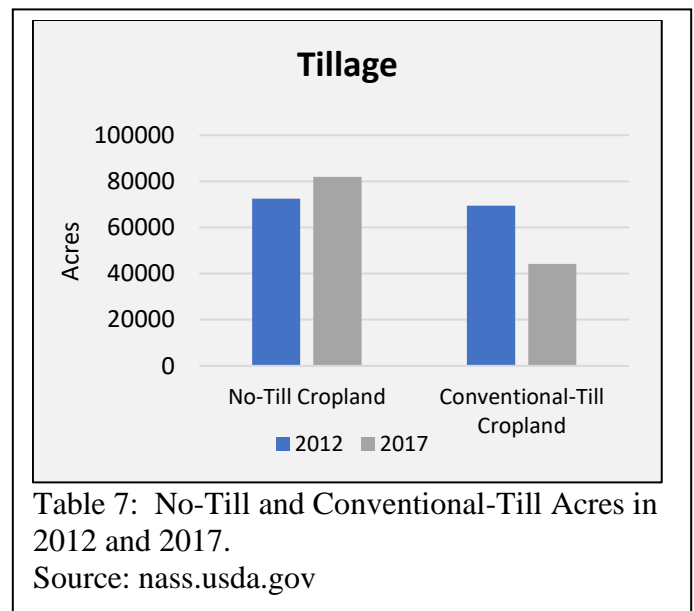
**Madison County has five main soil associations.**

Soil Association	% of County	Description
Macksburg-Winterset	17.5%	Nearly level and gently sloping, somewhat poorly drained and poorly drained soils that formed in loess on uplands.
Shelby-Sharpsburg	28%	Moderately sloping to steep, moderately well drained soils that formed in glacial till and loess on uplands
Sharpsburg-Lamoni	25.5%	Nearly level to strongly sloping, moderately well drained and somewhat poorly drained soils that formed in loess and glacial till on uplands
Clinton-Lindley-Steep rock land – Clanton	23%	Strongly sloping to very steep, moderately well drained soils that formed in loess and glacial till; and very slowly permeable, droughty soils that formed in shale on uplands
Zook-Wabash-Nodaway	6%	Nearly level, moderately well drained to very poorly drained soils that formed in alluvium on bottom lands

Figure 5. Summary of the five soil associations in Madison County. Source: Soil Survey of Madison County, Issued June 1975

Highly Erodible Land	
Total Acres	359,040
Highly Erodible Land Acres (HEL)	149,815
Potentially HEL Acres	139,974
HEL Percentage of Total	42%
Potentially HEL Percentage of Total	39%

Table 6: Highly Erodible Land (HEL) Information  
Source: fsa.usda.gov







**Erosion - Shelby Complex**



**Contour Farming** *Photo courtesy of NRCS*

Crop	Acres
Mixed Forage	82,903
Soybeans	71,438
Corn	69,287
Alfalfa	7,947
Grass	3,109
Mixed Forage	4,520
Oats	2,101
Cover Crop	1,077
Wetland Reserve	966
Table 9: Top Crops by Acres. Source: FSA (2019)	

Crop	Acres Produced (2017)
CUT CHRISTMAS TREES	86
VEGETABLE TOTALS	83
PUMPKINS	43
NON-CITRUS TOTALS	32
GRAPES	13

Table 10: Other significant crops by acres in 2017.  
Source: nass.usda.gov

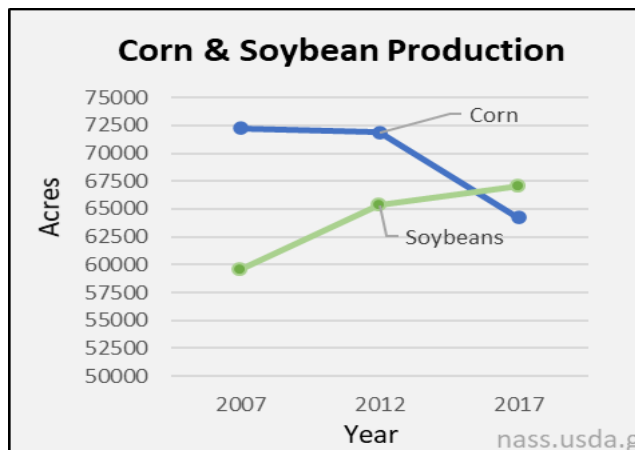


Table 11: Corn and soybean production by acres in 2007, 2012, and 2017.  
Source: nass.usda.gov

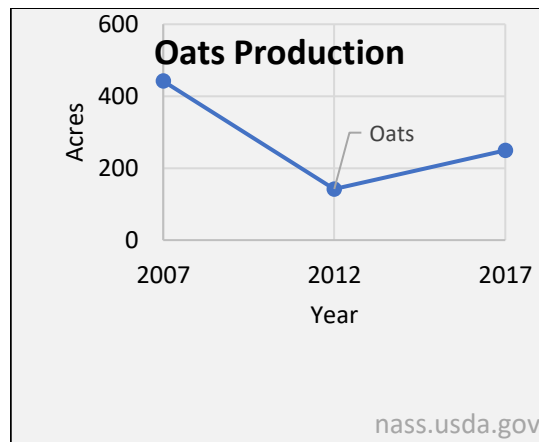
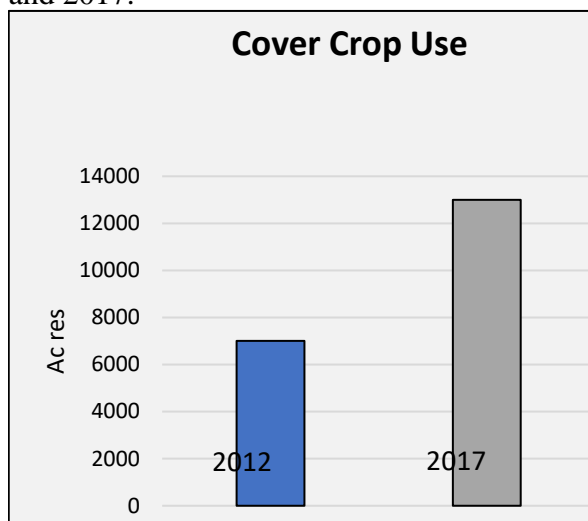


Table 12: Production of oats by acres in 2007, 2012, and 2017.  
Source: nass.usda.gov

Table 8: Cover Crop Use by Acres in 2012 and 2017.



Source: [nass.usda.gov](http://nass.usda.gov)



**Cover crops**





**Grassed Waterway** *Photo courtesy NRCS*

## Water Resources

Madison County has several rivers and many streams flowing through the landscape. The majority fall in the Red Rock Subbasin HUC-8 watershed, which ..... Mississippi River. The southwest corner of the county is in the North Thompson River Watershed, which is part of ... Missouri River.

### List of Water Bodies:

- Major Rivers and Streams:
  - North River
  - North Branch
  - Badger Creek
  - Cedar Creek
  - Howardon Creek
  - Middle River
  - Clanton Creek
  - South River
  - North Thompson River  
(aka Grand River)
- Public Lakes and Ponds
  - Badger Creek Lake
  - Cedar Lake
  - Criss Cove

Water Bodies	
Acres of Water Bodies	387
Miles of Interior Rivers	?
Acres of Wetlands	6120

Table 13: Information about waterbodies in Madison County  
Source: iowadnr.gov

### Iowa Watershed Management Authorities:

- North Raccoon River Watershed Management Coalition
- North and Middle Rivers Watershed Management Authority

### Public Drinking Water Sources:

- Cedar Lake (Municipal Source Water for the City of Winterset)
- Warren Water District
- Southern Iowa Rural Water Association (SIRWA)
- Xenia Rural Water District

## CREP Wetlands

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a partnership between state agencies and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency. Through these partnerships, CREP provides financial incentives to farm landowners willing to voluntarily implement conservation measures on sensitive land in lieu of continued agricultural production. Conservation practices implemented under CREP (e.g., stream buffers, conservation plantings, restored wetlands) contribute to improved water quality, reduced water losses, increased water storage, and increased habitat quantity and quality for a variety of wildlife species; but are targeted towards specific State or nationally significant conservation concerns.

CREP wetlands are man-made or restored wetlands that are strategically placed in a watershed to intercept water from tile drained fields. Madison county has two of these- McNamara just west of Winterset above Cedar Lake and Martens at the headwaters of Badger Creek

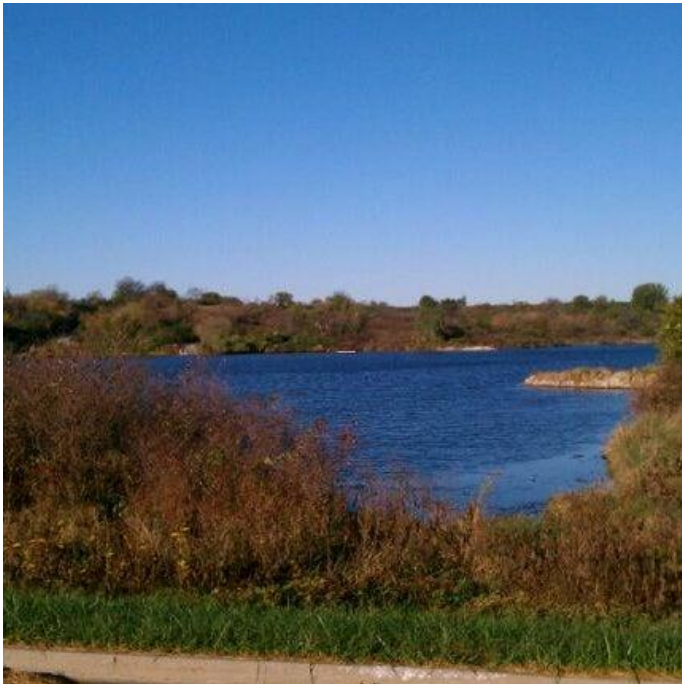


**Martens wetland** *Photo courtesy of Anna McDonald*





**Cedar Lake** *Photo courtesy of the City of Winterset*



**Badger Creek Lake**



## Watersheds

Badger

Cedar

Clanton

Head waters South River

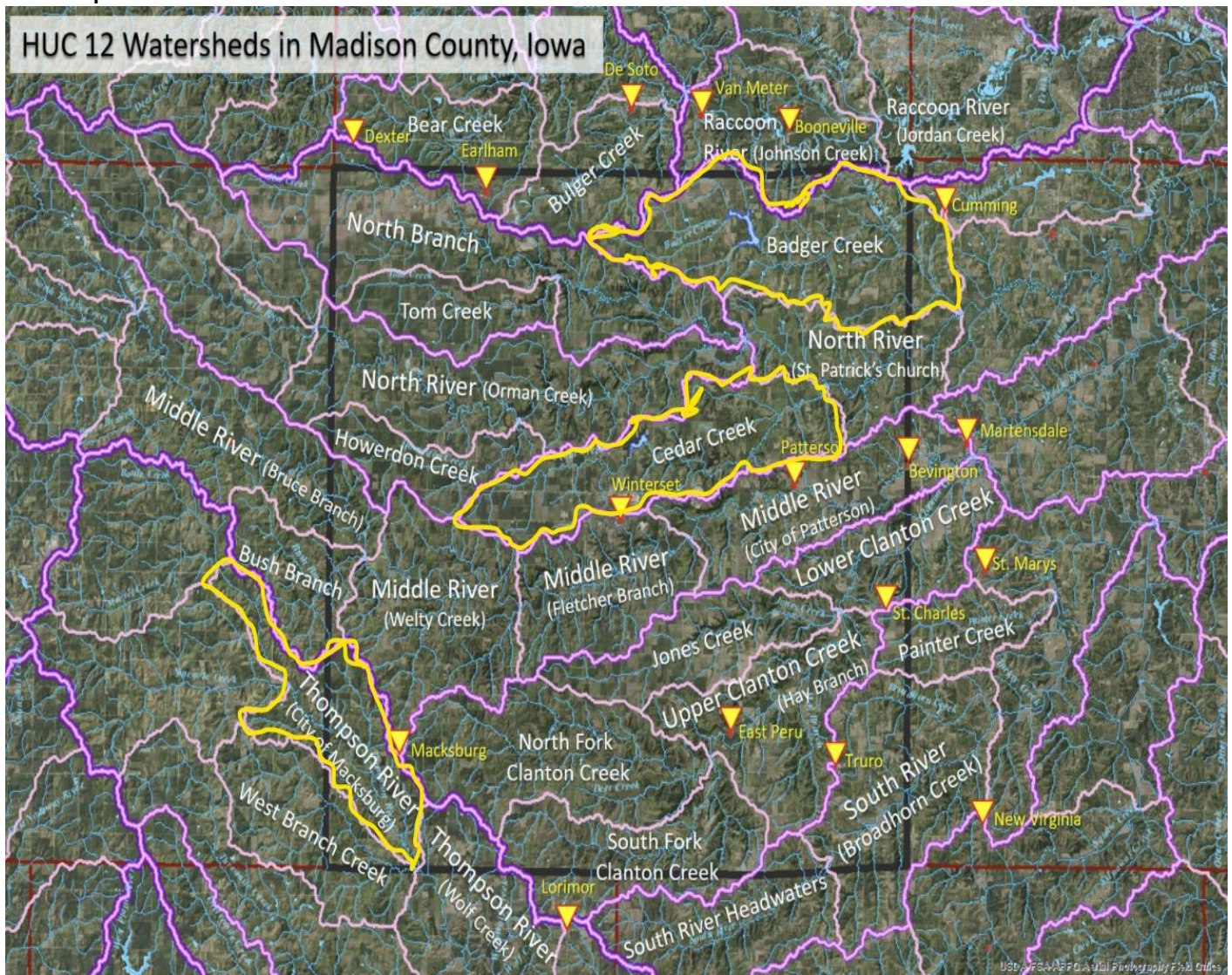
South Fork Middle River

North Branch North River

Plunger Creek North River

North River

Thompson



## Air Resources

There are no EPA-designated nonattainment areas in Madison County. Current air quality conditions can be found at [www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Air-Quality](http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Air-Quality) and [www.airnow.gov](http://www.airnow.gov).

## Plant Resources

### Native Plants

Historically, this area was dominated by prairie with the remainder of its landscape covered by forest, savannas, or shrub lands.

T&E

SGCN

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Prairie Bush Clover	<i>Lespedeza leptostachya</i>	Threatened
Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Threatened

Table 14: Federally Protected Plant Species in Madison County

Source: (NRCS T&E Assessment Database)



U of Wisc



NPS photo

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Earleaf Foxglove	<i>Tomanthera auriculata</i>	Special Concern
Hill's Thistle	<i>Cirsium hillii</i>	Special Concern
Nodding Thistle	<i>Cirsium undulatum</i>	Special Concern
Broom Sedge	<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>	Special Concern
Glomerate Sedge	<i>Carex aggregata</i>	Special Concern
Oval Ladies'-Tresses	<i>Spiranthes ovalis</i>	Threatened
Slender Ladies'-Tresses	<i>Spiranthes lacera</i>	Threatened

Table 14: State Protected Plant Species in Madison County

Source: Iowa DNR Natural Areas Inventory

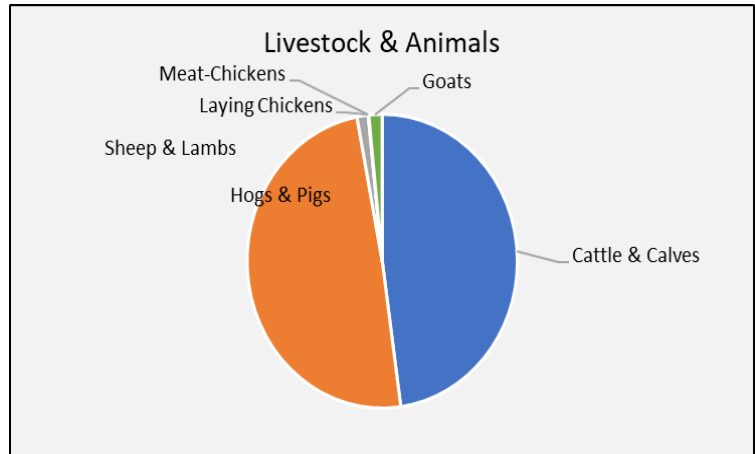


## Animal Resources

### Livestock

Livestock numbers generally have dropped drastically the past 30 years. Very few cattle and sheep are finished in the area and most finished hogs are in buildings in large groups

Livestock/Animals (2017)	Number
Cattle & Calves	28,583
Hogs & Pigs	29,409
Sheep & Lambs	810
Laying Chickens	n/a
Meat-Chickens	37
Goats	951



### Livestock/Animals 2017

Source: U.S. Census of Agriculture ; USDA NASS 2017



## Wildlife

Common Name	Scientific Name	Class	Federal Status
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Birds	Protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act
Northern Long-Eared Bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Mammals	Threatened
Indiana Bat	<i>Myotis sodalist</i>	Mammals	Endangered

Table 16: Federally Listed Animal Species in Madison County

Source: NRCS...

Common Name	Scientific Name	Class	State Status
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Birds	Special Concern
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Birds	Endangered
Henslow's Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>	Birds	Threatened
Creeper	<i>Strophitus undulatus</i>	Freshwater Mussels	Threatened
Byssus Skipper	<i>Problema byssus</i>	Insects	Threatened
Edwards' Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium edwardsii</i>	Insects	Special Concern
Hickory Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium caryaevorum</i>	Insects	Special Concern
Regal Fritillary	<i>Speyeria idalia</i>	Insects	Special Concern
Wild Indigo Dusky Wing	<i>Erynnis baptiseae</i>	Insects	Special Concern
Zabulon Skipper	<i>Poanes zabulon</i>	Insects	Special Concern
Indiana Bat	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	Mammals	Endangered
Blanding's Turtle	<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>	Reptiles	Threatened
Bullsnake	<i>Pituophis catenifer sayi</i>	Reptiles	Special Concern
Smooth Green Snake	<i>Liochlorophis vernalis</i>	Reptiles	Special Concern
Speckled Kingsnake	<i>Lampropeltis getulus</i>	Reptiles	Threatened
Western Worm Snake	<i>Carphophis amoenus</i>	Reptiles	Threatened

Table 16: State Listed Animal Species in Madison County

Source: Iowa DNR Natural Areas Inventory

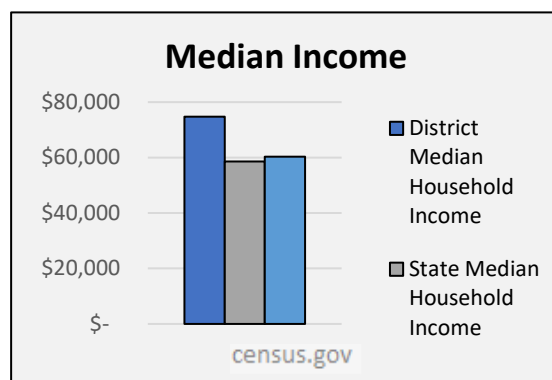


**Timber Rattlesnake**

## Human Resources

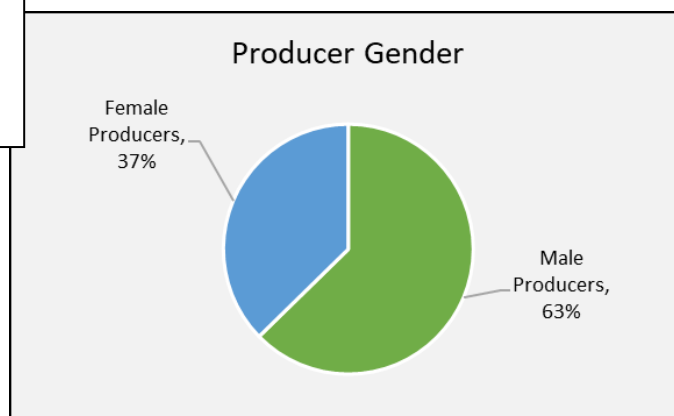
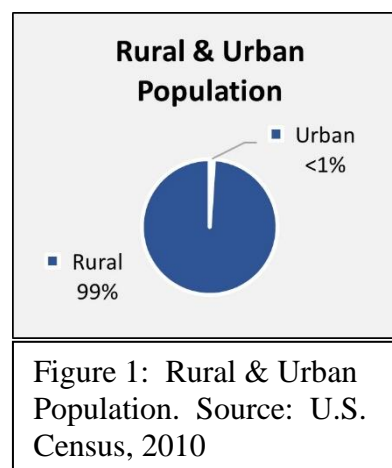
### Population and Employment

Date	Name
	Bruce
11/5/2021	Bellamy
1/21/2022	Verlon Rouw
5/20/2022	Craig Speer



General Population & Employment	
Total Population	15,720
Working Population	7,054
Median Household Income	\$74,794
Female Population	51%
Male Population	49%
Caucasian	98%
African American or Black	.3%
Hispanic or Latino	.3%
Asian	1%
Native American or Native Alaskan	0.3%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.1%

Table 1: General Population and Employment.  
Source: U.S. Census, 2010



### Producer Information

Producers	
Total Producers	1650



Primary Occupation: Farming	572
Primary Occupation: Other	1078
Average Age	57.1
Caucasian Producers	1630
Native American or Native Alaskan	3
Asian	8
Black or African American	1
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1
Hispanic	5
Multi-Race	7

## Purpose of the Planning Process

Planning enables us to take positive, considered action, rather than just reacting to what's in front of us.

During the SWRCP planning process, the SWCD Board reviewed current information about the state of the soil and water resources in their District. The commissioners also requested input from the community —through the formation of a Local Working Group, and public involvement in their board meetings — about natural resource issues and opportunities in the District. They then set their goals for the next five years, seeking partnerships with organizations and individuals that share their concerns and goals. That planning process helped the SWCD Board to be aware, focused, and effective.

The finished plan provides Information about the environmental and social issues the District faces, and what the SWCD Board hopes to do about them. It is also an invitation to everyone in the community to get involved in the conservation of the District's natural resources.

## Priority Goals

*The SWCD Board developed their goals with input from the Local Working Group and the general public, an inventory of the natural resources of the district (above), and their own experiences and consideration. The goals for the SWCD for the next five years are listed and described thoroughly in Appendices A through E.*

## Credits for Information and Resources

The following list includes the organizations that provided materials, data, and resources for the information provided in this plan.

- USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service ([www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov))
  - USDA - National Agricultural Statistics Service ([www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov))
  - USDA - Farm Service Agency ([www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov))
  - US Census Bureau ([www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov))
  - Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship ([www.iowaagriculture.gov](http://www.iowaagriculture.gov))
  - Iowa Department of Natural Resources ([www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov))
  - Conservation Districts of Iowa ([www.cdiowa.org](http://www.cdiowa.org))
  - Madison County Conservation Board ([www.madisoncountyparks.org](http://www.madisoncountyparks.org))
- 

## Acknowledgements

The following list includes the groups and individuals that provided input concerning the conservation issues and potential goals for the District.

- Local Working Group Members (Residents of Madison County)
- Elected SWCD Commissioners
- Field Office Staff (NRCS/IDALS/SWCD)
- Other members of the community including agribusinesses, the Madison County Cattlemen's Association, Madison County Heart & Soul, For Lands Sake!, and others.

Madison SWCD would like to recognize the following individuals for their assistance in developing and reviewing the 5-year SWRCP:

- Jonathan Hendricks, CDI Planning Coordinator
- Anna Golightly, IDALS Conservation Assistant
- Jim Gillespie, Assistant Commissioner
- Tim Palmer, Commissioner

APPENDICES

Table of Contents

Appendix A: Priority Goal (Inform) Page 30

Appendix B: Priority Goal (Soil Resources) Page 32

Appendix C: Priority Goal (Water Resources) Page 34

Appendix D: Priority Goal (Habitat) Page 37

Appendix E: Priority Goal (Outstanding District) Page 40

Appendix F: Maps Page 43

Land Use

- Map with Townships and Cities
- Map of Land Use
- Map of Natural Areas
- Map of Quarries
- Map of Non-Ag Areas

Soil

- Soil “Types” (Associations?) Page \_\_\_\_
- Highly Erodible Land Page \_\_\_\_

Water

- Rivers and Streams
- HUC 10 Watersheds
- HUC 12 Watersheds
- District Priority Watersheds
- State Priority Watersheds
- FEMA 100 Year Occurrence Flood Zones
- Cedar Lake Source Water Watershed
- Badger Creek PL 566 Watershed

Human/Community

- School Districts
- Scenic Byway

Appendix G: District Policies

Appendix H: Organization and Authority



## Appendix A.

Priority Goal: Inform the community through outreach and education.

Promote and share information (information about the District and partners, program deadlines, events and opportunities, success stories, and build awareness of conservation issues and conservation planning)

<i>Actions planned</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Milestones</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use outreach tools</li> <li>• Produce an Annual Report</li> </ul>	Goal to have prepared to send by September 30th	Rough draft by September Regular Meeting Post on website, email to partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote and share relevant information online</li> <li>• Website – keep up to date</li> <li>• Flyers – create and share (website, social media, email, bulletin board/window)</li> <li>• Flyers – create and share (website, social media, email, bulletin board/window)</li> </ul>	Blog – create, post regularly (weekly?) Social Media – post at least 1x/week	Ads – publish as necessary for public meetings requiring publication in a local newspaper; publish for job openings as applicable; sponsor Outdoors page for Soil and Water Conservation Week, etc.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host SWCD Events            Madison County Fair – booth in Farm Bureau building            Farm Bureau Conservation Photo Contest at County Fair            NACD Photo Contest            CDI S.T.A.R.            Environmental Credits</li> <li>• Community and Partner Events/Opportunities</li> <li>• School/Youth Events</li> <li>• Present to scouting groups (e.g., Soil &amp; Water Conservation Badge)</li> <li>• Recognize stewardship by nominating for awards, highlighting using outreach tools</li> </ul>	Plan and host at least one field day per year Plan and host at least one workshop / meeting / lunch & learn per year  Participate in Farm Bureau's Ag4Kids Day for Madison County 5th Graders (annually in spring)	Participate in school field trips / presentations as opportunities arise (e.g., sophomore biology field trip, guest speaker visits)  Communicate with local troop leaders to plan  Promote and support partner-sponsored activities (e.g., NCF Envirothon, NACD poster contest, CDI scholarships) Investigate opportunities for youth mentoring  SWCD Award(s) SWCD Wildlife Habitat Award IFELA Iowa Conservation Awards

*Factors Limiting Practice Application:* **Potential limitations in staff and funding**

*Actions needed to overcome limiting factors:* **Utilize volunteers and continue creative fundraising.**

○

## Yearly Goal Updates

	<i>Actions completed, date</i>	<i>Revisions to goals, actions</i>	<i>Additional goals or actions?</i>
<i>Year 1</i>			
<i>Year 2</i>			
<i>Year 3</i>			
<i>Year 4</i>			
<i>Year 5</i>			

## Appendix B

Priority Goal:

Conserve, protect, and enhance our **SOIL** through education, technical and financial assistance, assessment, and practical application of the best conservation practices in agricultural, rural, and urban areas.

<i>Actions planned</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Milestones</i>
Continue and enhance assistance (FA and TA) for practices that improve soil health Promote Mgmt. Practices (reduced tillage, cover crops, rotations, etc.) and prioritize	e.g., Q2 ... planning meeting to ID / solicit help (reach out to partner, etc.) /	Focus on identifying critical areas in priority watersheds / develop maps
Identify critical areas (esp. classic gullies and ephemeral gullies)	Q2 ... planning meeting	Focus on identifying critical areas in priority watersheds / develop maps
Prioritize FA applications for practices that improve soil health Goal of 2,000 ac of cover crops (IDALS WQI Cover Crop Challenge) / increase each year	Track acres each year (to be compiled by April) and share with commissioners, staff, and the public via outreach tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conserve, protect and enhance our SOIL through education, technical and financial assistance, assessment, and practical application of the best conservation practices in agricultural, rural, and urban areas.</li> </ul>
Provide information about soil loss (e.g., Daily Erosion Project, RUSLE2 estimates, info about HEL compliance, etc.) using outreach tools	Share through annual and ongoing reporting/outreach	Develop and determine content. Distribute accordingly

- *Factors Limiting Practice Application*
  - *Need for consistent messaging*
  - *Staff and time to identify, prioritize key areas, and to provide ongoing information through social media & education*
- *Actions needed to overcome limiting factors.*
  - *Effective planning and resource management*
  - *Developing a specific plan to achieve goals with volunteers, Earth Team, LWG*



## Yearly Goal Updates

	<i>Actions completed, date</i>	<i>Revisions to goals, actions</i>	<i>Additional goals or actions?</i>
<i>Year 1</i>			
<i>Year 2</i>			
<i>Year 3</i>			
<i>Year 4</i>			
<i>Year 5</i>			

**Appendix C** (could be priority goal on front of page, yearly goal updates on back)

Priority Goal:

Conserve, protect, and enhance our **WATER** through education, technical and financial assistance, assessment, and practical application of the best conservation practices in agricultural, rural, and urban areas.

<i>Actions planned</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Milestones</i>
Continue and enhance assistance (FA and TA) for practices that <b>reduce runoff</b> and improve water quality Prioritize FA applications in priority watersheds, and in areas that reduce direct runoff to perennial streams (ranking worksheet) Identify areas where future development may create resource concerns due to runoff from urban/suburban/acreage areas	Ongoing with agenda item (as program deadlines dictate) to determine priorities	Determine areas of prioritization Share areas of priority with community to inform.
Continue and enhance assistance (FA and TA), promotion, and education for the practices that <b>reduce erosion</b> and improve water quality (e.g., streambank protection, livestock exclusion / access control, etc.)	Ongoing with agenda item (as program deadlines dictate) to determine priorities	Special agenda item annually to ask “how can we enhance?” Implement continual improvement plans
Identify critical areas of streambank erosion by planning a county-wide RASCAL stream assessment (2022) and Stream Management (e.g., start with infrastructure like bridges and culverts) (2023)	2022 2023	Identify areas with potential sub-committee or annual meeting. Identify priority structures and how to incentivize practices
<b>Support watershed projects</b> Prioritize the following practices in Cedar Lake Watershed by identifying potential locations and reaching out to landowners Buffers and Biofilters Wetlands and Saturated Buffers for drainage systems Livestock Exclusion (2021) / promote Rx grazing and Access Control Streambank Stabilization	Continual & Ongoing	Determine method of outreach and rate of content distribution. Invite landowners to the table for discussion and education.

- *Factors Limiting Practice Application*
  - *Ongoing challenges with practice adoption*
  - *Economic realities of installing systems like buffers, wetlands*
  
- *Actions needed to overcome limiting factors.*
  - *Continue messaging and educational outreach*
  - *Promote incentives to help ease economic challenges*



## Yearly Goal Updates

	<i>Actions completed, date</i>	<i>Revisions to goals, actions</i>	<i>Additional goals or actions?</i>
<i>Year 1</i>			
<i>Year 2</i>			
<i>Year 3</i>			
<i>Year 4</i>			
<i>Year 5</i>			

**Appendix D** (could be priority goal on front of page, yearly goal updates on back)

Priority Goal:

Conserve, protect, and enhance **WILDLIFE HABITAT and LANDSCAPE DIVERSITY** through education, technical and financial assistance, assessment, and practical application of the best conservation practices in agricultural, rural, and urban areas.

<i>Actions planned</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Milestones</i>
<p>a. Protect and maintain high quality remnant habitat</p> <p>i. Identify high quality remnant areas (prairies, savannas, woodlands, wetlands)</p> <p>ii. Share information about the value of remnants and ways to maintain high quality habitat areas using outreach tools</p> <p>iii. Promote permanent protection / easement programs such as ACEP</p>	Ongoing with prioritization during application process	<p>Identify remnant habitat in opportunities like applications and TA</p> <p>Schedule a meeting to collaborate with stakeholders (CCB, DNR, public, etc.) to identify high quality natural areas and discuss opportunities to protect and maintain them.</p>
<p><b>Restore degraded habitat</b></p> <p>Promote conservation practices such as brush management, prescribed fire, forest stand improvement.</p>	Ongoing prioritization	<p>Identify remnant areas and determine restoration potential</p> <p>Include promotion of best-practices in education &amp; outreach methods.</p>
<p><b>Establish and improve new/reconstructed habitat areas</b></p> <p>...PF-style identification of “turning red acres green” potential areas ... low-hanging fruits like “odd areas”, and identify sensitive areas where habitat will have additional benefits for soil and water (buffer strips, wetlands, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partner with “roadside people” to identify opportunities for IRVM</li> <li>• Promote practices</li> </ul>	Ongoing habitat development. Partner and promotion opportunities regularly with social media/outreach.	<p>Invite roads/infrastructure organizations to planning meeting</p> <p>Promote using outreach tools</p> <p>Promote FA opportunities, share sign-up deadlines for CRP, EQIP, state cost share, etc.</p> <p>Promote diverse seed mixes (e.g., CP-25 instead of CP-2)</p>
<p>Support and encourage land uses and practices that <b>promote landscape diversity and scenic beauty</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify key areas and opportunities (e.g., scenic byway), promote using outreach tools, and provide FA and TA</li> </ul>	Identification of priority practices with dual-purpose as deadlines dictate	Establish planning meeting and types of prioritization

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote Crop Rotations (extended rotations, small grains, cover crops)</li> <li>• Livestock on the Land</li> <li>• Alternative Food Systems (“specialty” crops and livestock, etc.)</li> </ul>	<p>Include information regularly in outreach/education.</p>	<p>Determine content for distribution for “systems-approach” and alternative food systems</p>
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▪ *Factors Limiting Practice Application*

- *Staff and funding to create in-depth priority areas and educational content*
- *Adoption challenges with cover-crop adoption*
- *Limited awareness of Alternative Food Systems*

▪ *Actions needed to overcome limiting factors.*

- *Utilize effective planning and volunteers*
- *Continue to win “hearts and minds” by spreading fact-based information, data, and program details*



## Yearly Goal Updates

	<i>Actions completed, date</i>	<i>Revisions to goals, actions</i>	<i>Additional goals or actions?</i>
<i>Year 1</i>			
<i>Year 2</i>			
<i>Year 3</i>			
<i>Year 4</i>			
<i>Year 5</i>			

**Appendix E** (could be priority goal on front of page, yearly goal updates on back)

Priority Goal: **“Be An Outstanding District”**

<i>Actions planned</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Milestones</i>
<b>Strengthen the district and support the field office</b> Commissioner development (region and state meetings, NACD training program, webinars), recruit Assistant Commissioners Funding (use of grants and matching funds, seeking donations and sponsorships as appropriate) Promote Earth Team volunteer opportunities	Quarterly/Annual commissioner development Ongoing recruitment Quarterly Earth Team volunteer opportunities	Establish educational plan and timeline. Create and plan Earth Team opportunities regularly
Support watershed projects Badger Creek Watershed Cedar Lake Watershed North Thompson River Water Quality Project Equipment rental for customers as a service and fundraising tool Equipment and Supplies (providing equipment for staff, etc.)	Continual and Ongoing	Sustain watershed prioritization Ensure equipment and supplies meet needs.
<b>Enhance partnerships and cooperation</b> with partner agencies, field office staff, organizations, individuals, and others to ... best serve customers and communities and address conservation issues in Madison County. Build a strong Local Working Group and maintain engagement by meeting at least once a year and sharing other opportunities for involvement Involvement with county and municipal government Development of ordinances (watershed-based?) and permitting (fees?) Cooperate with county in development of comprehensive plan (2021) Focus on protection of infrastructure Advocacy for conservation at state and national levels	Ongoing with Annual meetings Conservation Partnership Day Annually Quarterly outreach	Continue to host LWG meetings Establish new meetings to invite new and existing partners. Agenda item to discover new areas to improve involvement/cooperation with county and municipal governments.

Conservation Partnership Day Outreach to local, state, and federal elected officials		
Facilitate communication and promote opportunities amongst various audiences Agricultural (e.g., Promote CDI S.T.A.R. program) Non-Ag Rural (absentee landowners, acreage owners, etc.) Urban / Acreage (esp. newcomers to county) Historically Underserved Customers Support Madison County Women, Land & Legacy	Promotion as events arise and as opportunities present. Annual agenda item	Find method of direct contact to Non-Ag Rural, Urban/Acreage, and Historically underserved customers.

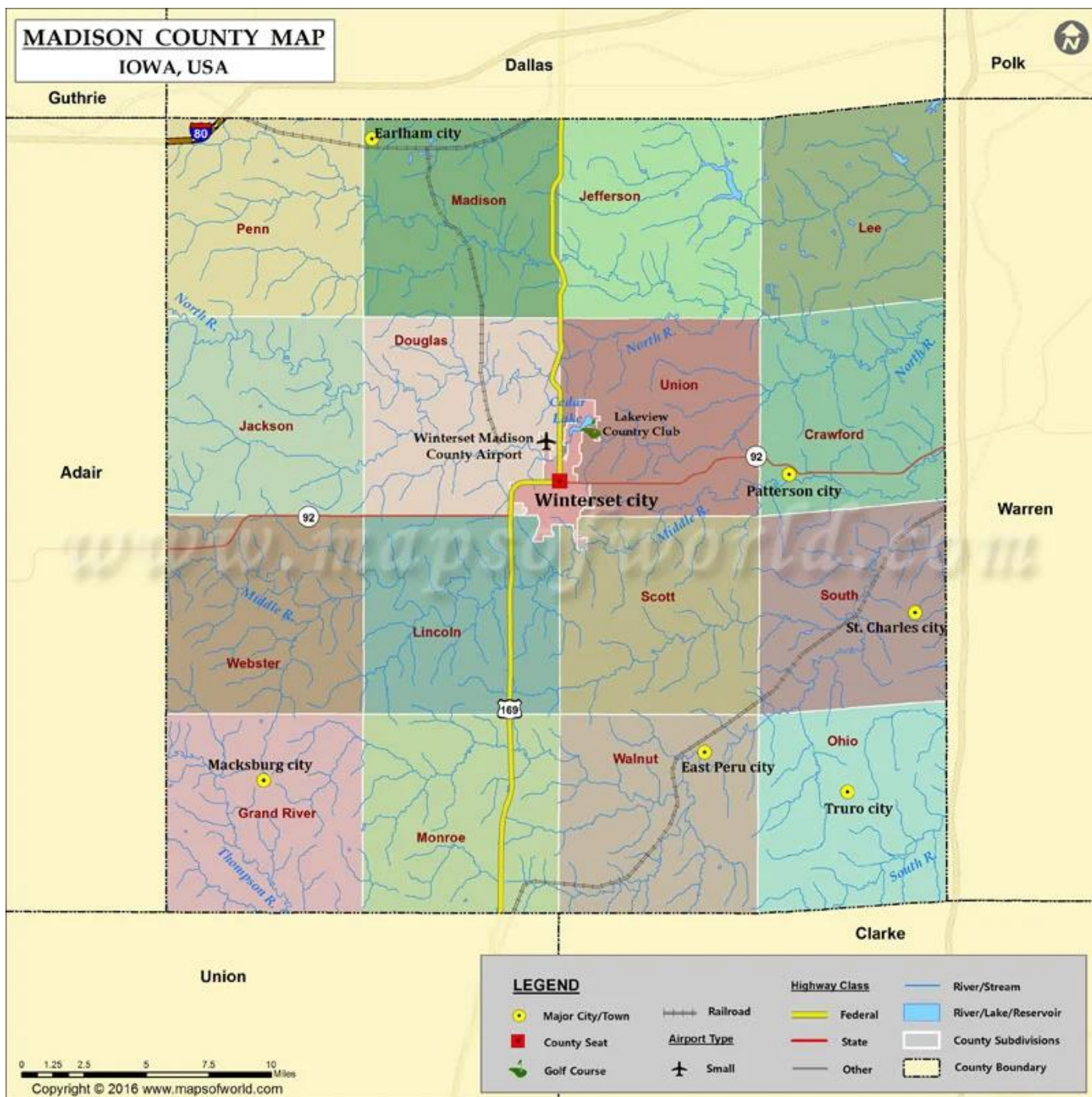
- *Factors Limiting Practice Application*
  - *Potential limited Commissioner time for education and development*
  - *Challenge in reaching groups that are not a traditional customer*
- *Actions needed to overcome limiting factors.*
  - *Find the “how-to” methods for reaching non-traditional/underserved base*
  - *Get creative and make education available for commissioners in convenient ways (online, individual, as group.)*



## Yearly Goal Updates

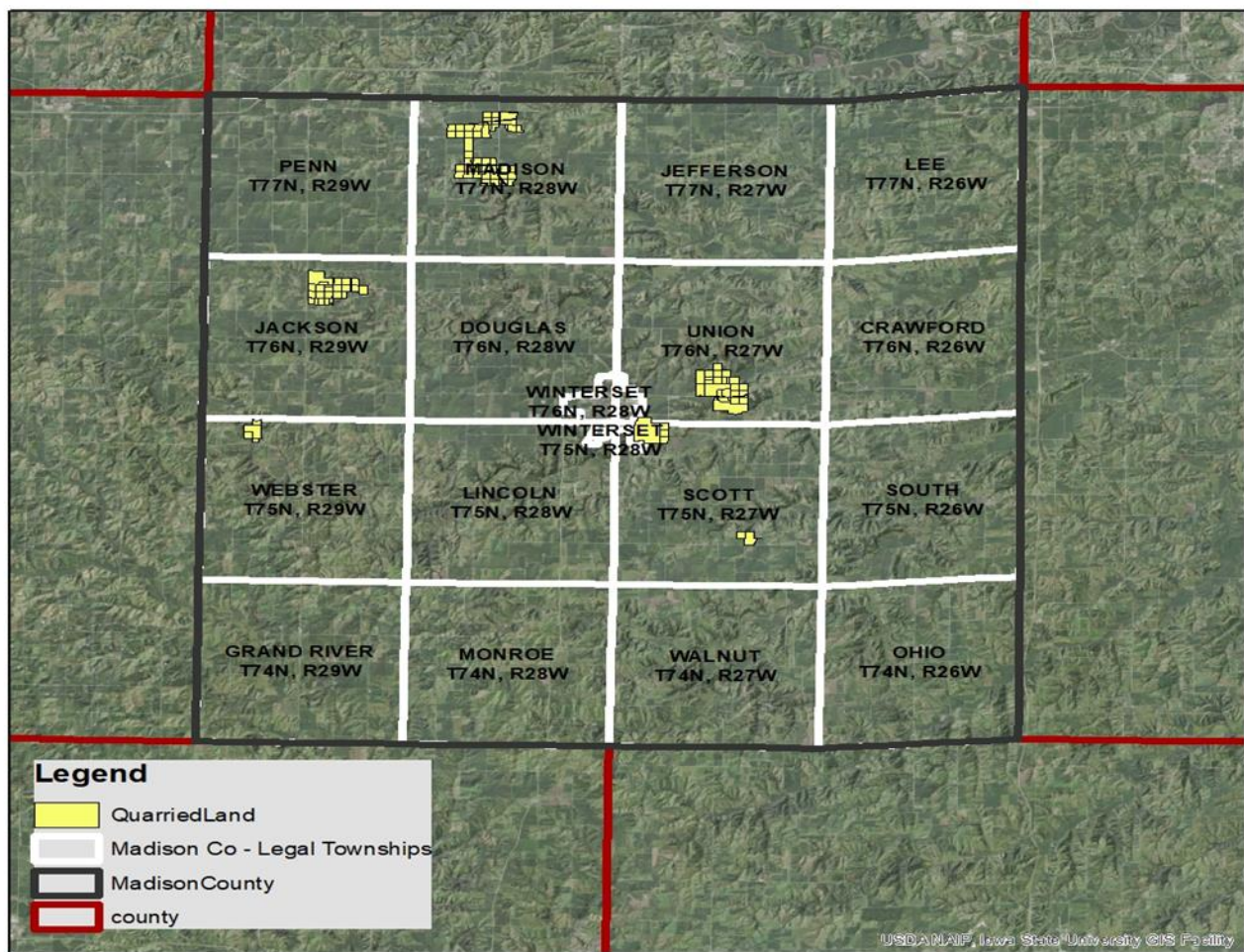
	<i>Actions completed, date</i>	<i>Revisions to goals, actions</i>	<i>Additional goals or actions?</i>
<i>Year 1</i>			
<i>Year 2</i>			
<i>Year 3</i>			
<i>Year 4</i>			
<i>Year 5</i>			

# Appendix F MAPS

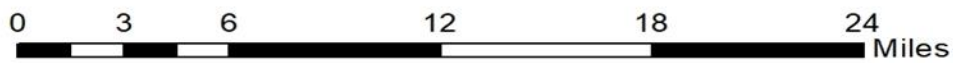


## Cities and Townships

# Quarried Land Madison County, Iowa



2019 Spring Aerial Imagery



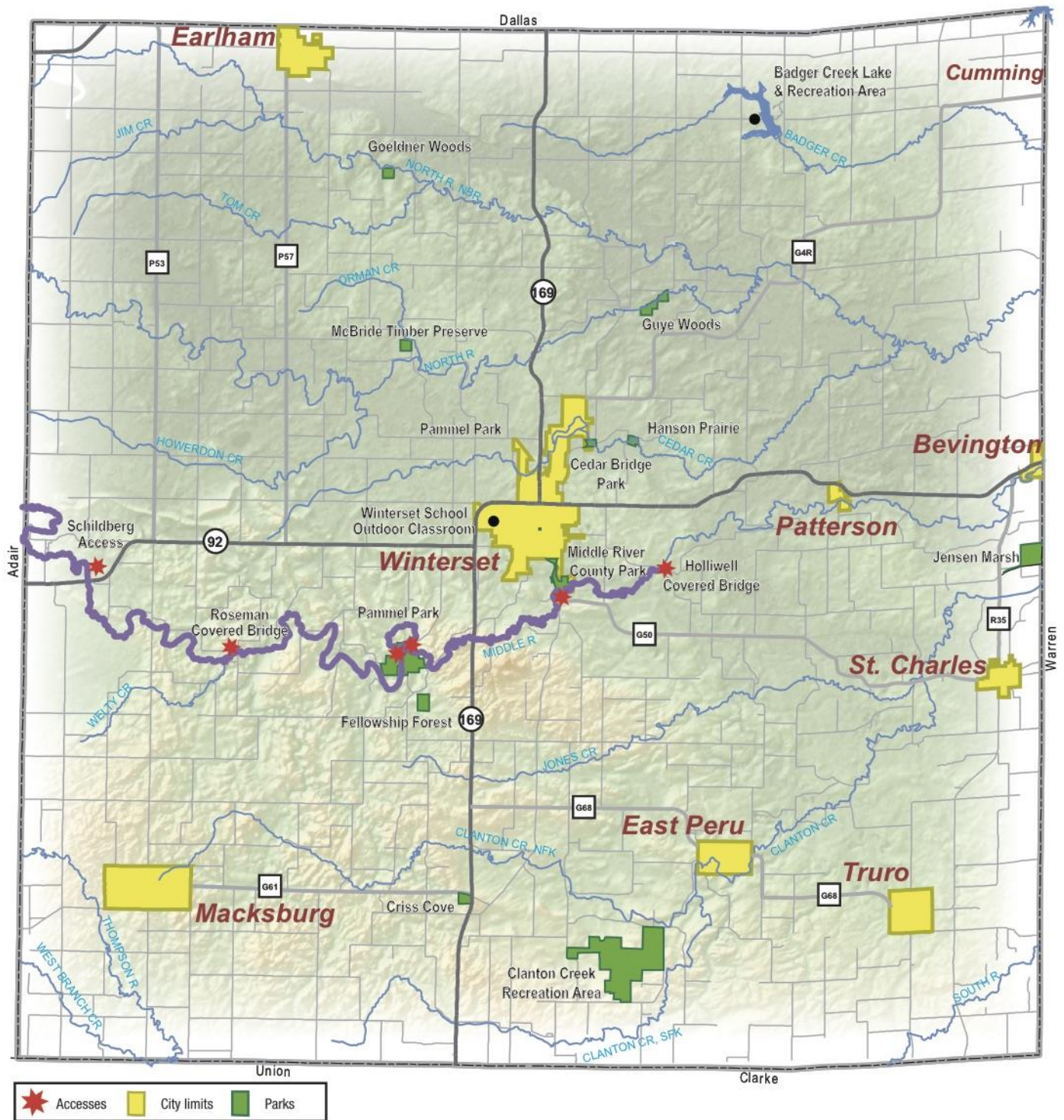


## Rivers and Streams

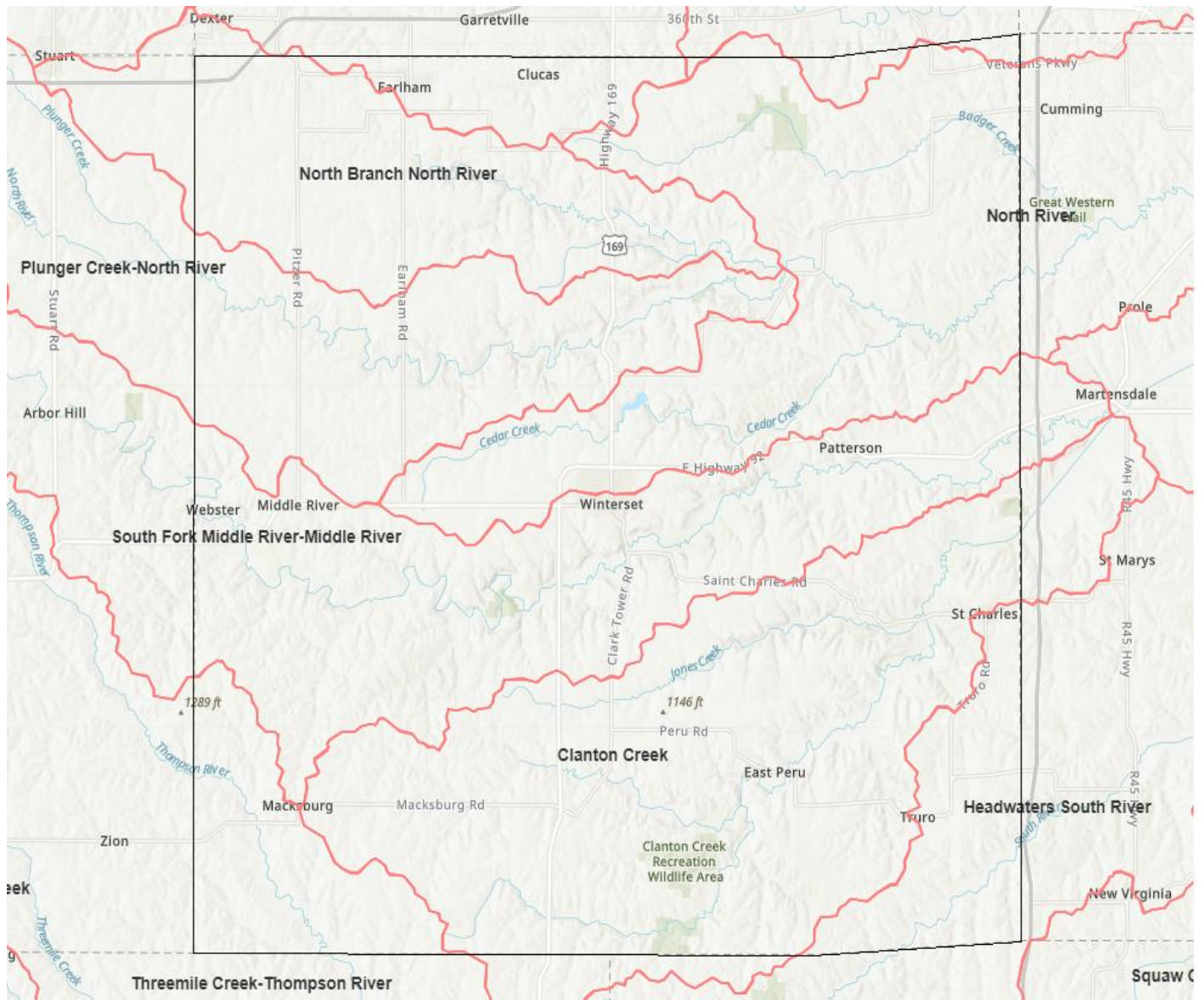




## Middle River Water Trail

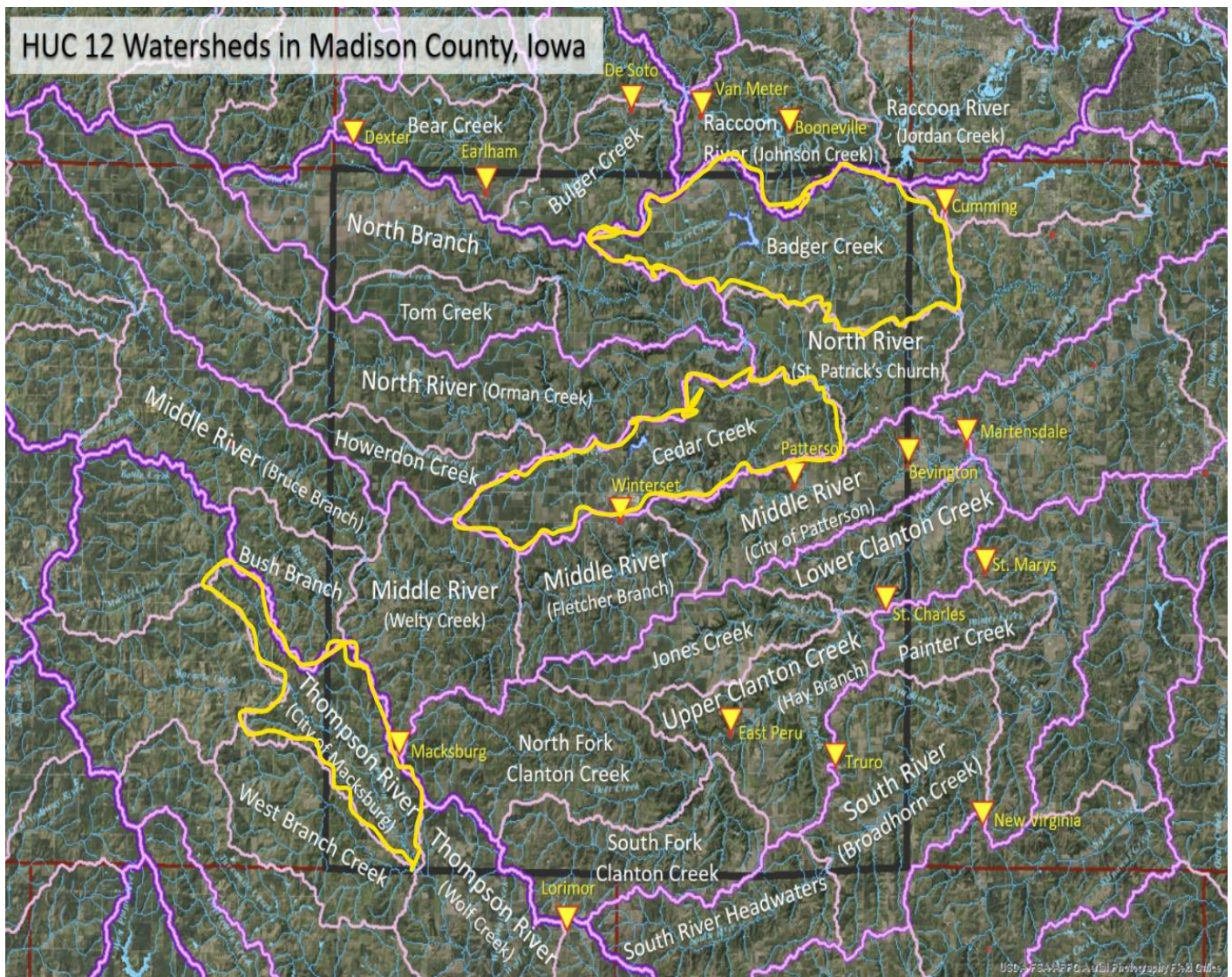


## HUC 10 Watersheds



**HUC is the acronym of Hydrologic Unit Code and represent watershed sizes from HUC 2 (Missouri River for example) to HUC 12 which would be water sheds in the 10000-40000 Acre range.**



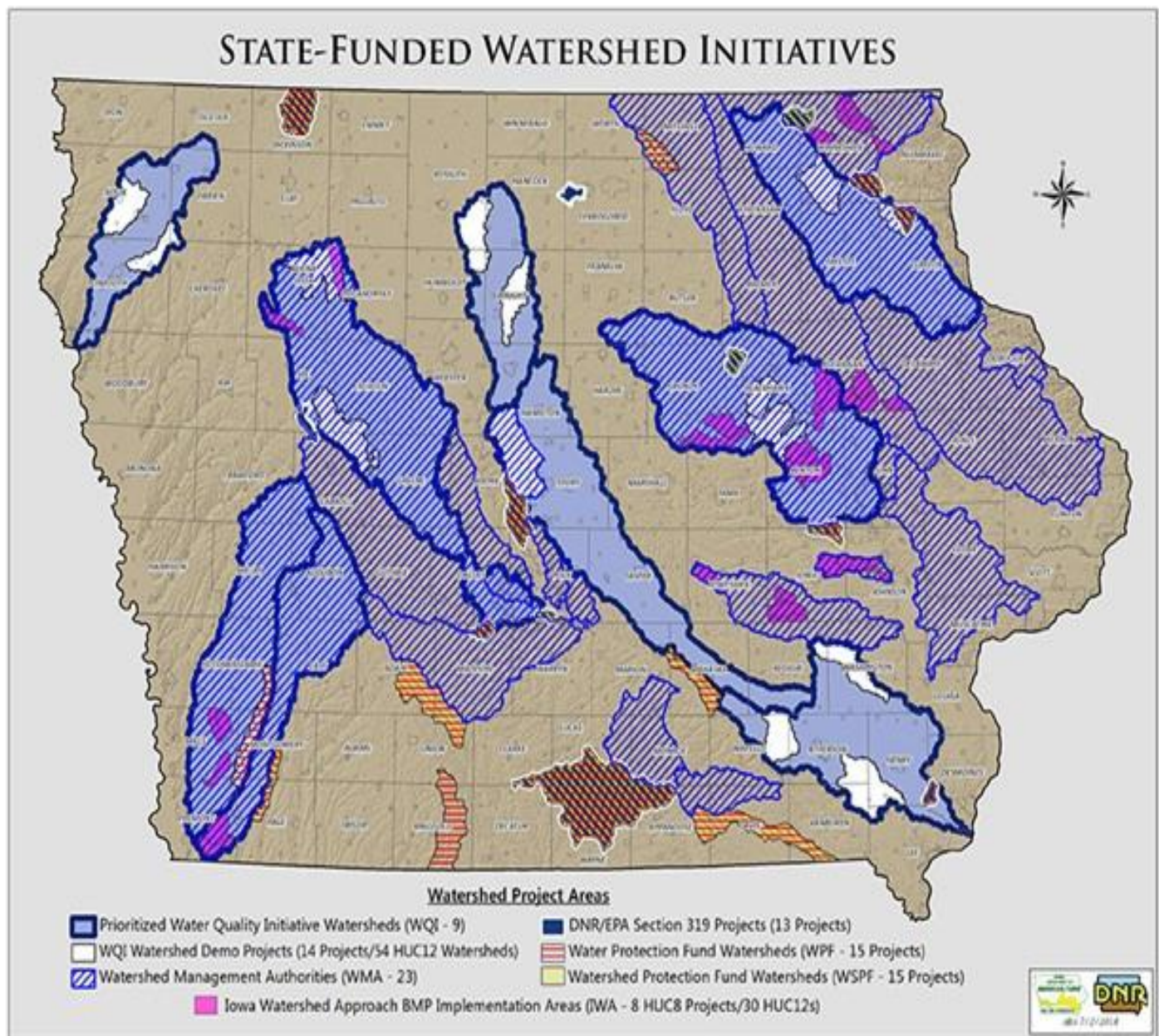


### District Watershed Priorities

- Badger Creek
- Cedar Lake
- North Thompson River



## State Priority Watersheds



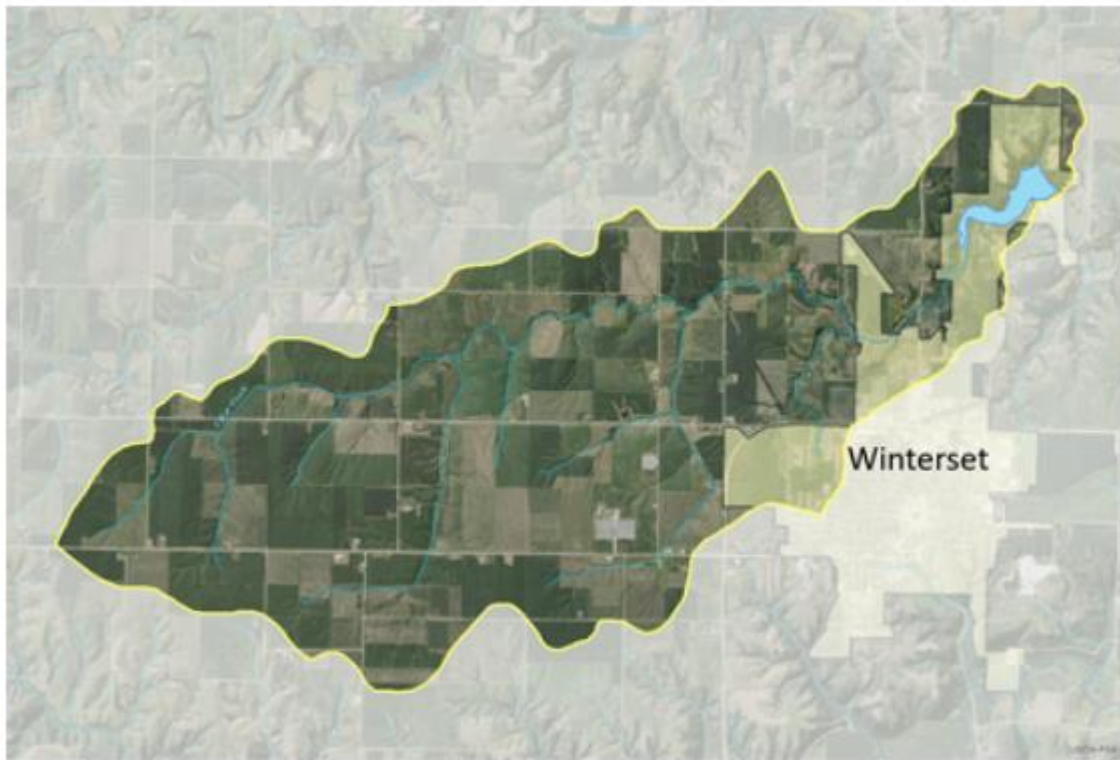
[iowaagriculture.gov/waterResources/pdf/2009AllProjectsList](http://iowaagriculture.gov/waterResources/pdf/2009AllProjectsList)



## FEMA 100 YR Flood Map



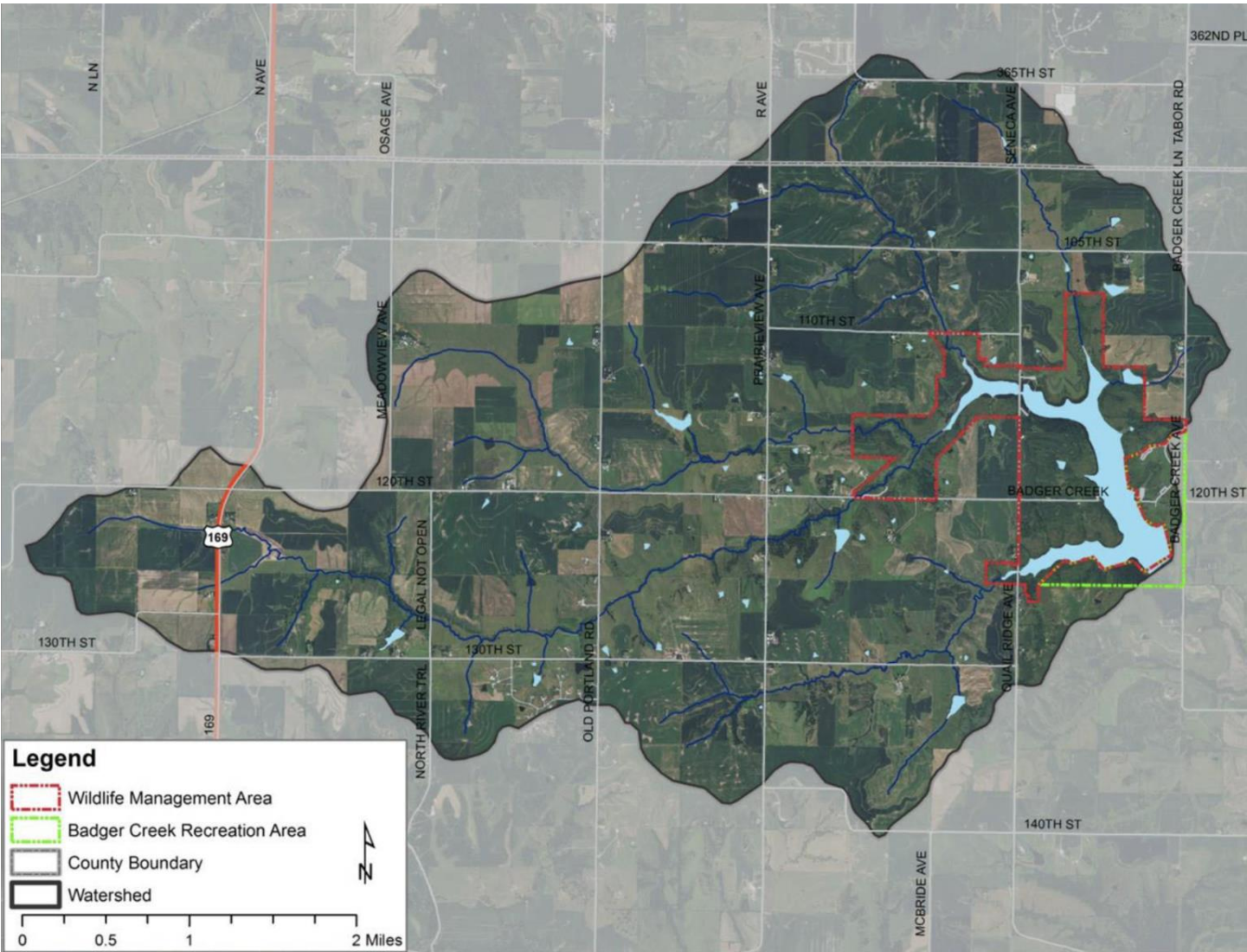
## Cedar Lake Watershed Source Water Map



**Winterset is served exclusively from Cedar Lake. However, roughly 70% of water consumption is from private wells and water distributed by Warren.**

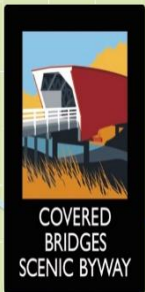


Badger Creek Public Law P.L. 566 Federal Flood Control Watershed



# Covered Bridges

## Scenic Byway



### Map Legend

- ATM / Bank
  - Gas Station
  - Visitor Information
  - Food & Drink
  - Historic Sites
  - Art & Culture
  - Shopping
  - Parks & Campgrounds
  - Recreation / Entertainment
  - Lodging
  - Water Trail Access Points
  - Covered Bridges
  - Primitive Camping
  - RV Camping
  - Public Land
  - Water
  - State Road
  - County Road
  - Covered Bridges Scenic Byway
  - Byway Gravel Sections
- Scale in Miles

### Route Description

The Covered Bridges Scenic Byway is an 82-mile scenic driving route into the heart of iconic America. Dotting the classic Iowa landscape are the famed covered bridges of Madison County. At the center is an authentic and thriving courthouse square. Tour the birthplace of John Wayne and discover other local heroes who have made an impact in the world. Enjoy the abundant natural resources that make this such a desirable place to live.



Discover Iconic America

Visit [www.traveliowa.com/scenicbyways](http://www.traveliowa.com/scenicbyways)



## Appendix G

**District Policies** *These are the policies Madison SWCD has adopted to determine procedures, possible actions, and priorities. The Commissioners review the policies annually, during their first board meeting of the year. The policies are on file at the SWCD office and are available for review during office hours. The following list and rates are current as of July 12, 2021.*

### **Financial** (additional policies beyond those listed in the District Financial Policies Annual Checklist)

- **Standing Motion:** Routine bills (e.g., payroll, withholdings, sales tax, service fees, etc.) and other incidental costs less than \$100 (e.g., recording fees for maintenance agreement corrections, postage, etc.) may be paid without prior approval of the board.
- CDs will be stored in a lockbox at the SWCD office.

### **Equipment Rentals and Flag Sales** (see rental agreement forms)

- **Cultipacker**
  - \$200.00 damage deposit
  - \$10.00/acre
  - \$50.00 minimum
  - Additional \$100.00 for use outside Madison County (Clarification: applies to individuals who are *not* landowners, operators, or residents in Madison County)
  - Sales tax (7%) will be charged unless renter completes a sales tax exemption form
- **Terrace Seeder**
  - \$50.00 damage deposit
  - Rental Fee: donation to Madison SWCD
  - Sales tax not charged on donations
- **Flag Sales**
  - Stake Wire Marking Flags (36" wire) are sold as a courtesy because 3-foot flags are not carried at local stores.
  - Sold for \$15 per bundle of 100 to reimburse district for cost
  - Sales tax not charged (no profit)

### **State Cost Share** (additional policies beyond what IDALS already has in place)

- Farm and Tract number required for applications (with the exception of Windbreaks, Streambank Protection, and Stormwater BMPs)
- Cost share applications will be ranked (see Ranking Worksheet)
  - **April 1** shall be the cutoff date for receiving applications to be batched for consideration for approval after the initial cost share allocations are received in July.
  - Applications will be assessed with all evaluations completed before they are ranked.
  - Eligible applications will have estimates and rankings completed by the end of the SFY.
- Cost share will be provided for eligible components of practices (see cost share applications for what components are included)
- Cost share is provided for what is required for practices to meet standards and specifications; extra or optional amounts or components that do not address resource concerns are not eligible for cost share.
- Contractors' check-out notes are required for (engineered) practices
- Priority Watersheds (for State Cost Share):
  - Badger Creek

- Cedar Lake
- North Thompson River

## **PRACTICES**

- Grade Stabilization Structures
  - Fencing:
    - Eligible for cost share
    - Not required, but livestock must be excluded at all times.
      - The maintenance agreement for Grade Stabilization Structures will include additional language stating that the landowner agrees “to exclude all livestock from being on or around the installed practice for the life of the practice, and that any failure to do so constitutes a failure to maintain and an alteration to the practice”.
  - Livestock Watering Systems
    - Eligible for cost share
    - Optional
  - Maximum IFIP Cost Share:
    - Without livestock watering system: \$12,000 or 50% of actual/eligible cost, whichever is less
    - Including livestock watering system: \$14,000 or 50% of actual/eligible cost, whichever is less; must include heavy use area protection and meet NRCS standards and specifications
- Windbreaks
  - Applications for “Farmstead” Windbreaks will not be considered until new buildings and infrastructure (e.g., houses, sheds, septic systems, propane tanks, etc.) are completed / in place.
  - The entire windbreak must be installed on one property (i.e., no Group Planning Requests, etc.)
- Pasture and Hayland Planting
  - Flat rate of \$60/acre for Pasture and Hayland Planting
- Cover Crops funded by IFIP
  - 100-acre cap (compared to 160-acre cap for WQI)
  - Rates consistent with WQI (\$25/ac for first-time users; \$15/ac for previous users) except for incentive offered for multi-year cover crops:
    - \$25/ac for up to 100 acres for multi-year (up to 4 year) practices
- Stormwater Best Management Practices funded by REAP-P
  - Up to \$2,000 of the REAP-Practices allocation may be used for Stormwater BMPs
- Madison County currently *does not* offer IFIP cost share for these practices:
  - No-Till
  - Ridge-Till
  - Strip-Till
  - Contour Farming
  - Strip-cropping
  - Diversion
  - Underground Outlet (eligible when used in conjunction with a priority practice, not eligible as a stand-alone practice)

## **BADGER CREEK WATERSHED POLICIES**

- Setbacks (recorded 3/23/2018)
  - Properties located in the Badger Creek Watershed which are under an easement with the Madison County Soil & Water Conservation District require the following:
    - FOR GRADE STABILIZATION STRUCTURES (ponds and basins): a setback measured at a minimum of 75 (seventy-five) linear feet from “the top of dam” elevation; a setback of 75

(seventy-five) linear feet from the constructed back toe of dam, splash pool, and auxiliary spillway; and a setback of 200 (two hundred) linear feet from the high bank of the downstream water channel extending from the principal spillway outlet pipe to the easement boundary. Any obstruction that may impede the flow of the principal spillway cannot be placed within 2 (two) feet of elevation below the principal spillway outlet pipe flow line.

- FOR WATERWAYS: a setback of 100 (one hundred) linear feet measured from the centerline of the waterway (200 feet total).
  - No permanent or temporary structures are allowed within setback areas or the designated breach zone that are included within the easements with the Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District. Examples of structures include buildings, shelters, septic systems, fences, crossings, livestock facilities, sidewalks, docks, gazebos, trees, gardens, etc. No land disturbing activities (including tiling/hook-ups) are allowed within setback areas without prior approval of the Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District board of commissioners.
  - For all properties within easements: any area where land disturbing activities occur (bare ground is created) will be vegetated immediately (within 14 days) and adequate erosion control will be provided until protective vegetation is established.
  - Approved by Madison County SWCD Board of Commissioners: March 5, 2018
- Tile Hook-up Policy (as of March 24, 2015)
    - Any property owner wanting to hook into tile associated with a Badger Creek structure must obtain Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Commissioner's approval.
    - Landowners may apply for approval by providing a detailed description (exact location, drainage area, tile size) of the proposed tile connection for NRCS review.
    - If approved, the landowner will be required to install a relief well that shall be designed for the maximum protection of the Badger Creek structure. Maintenance of the relief well and connection tile will be required to have a recorded perpetual maintenance agreement.
    - Recording fees will be at the landowner's expense.
  - Dollar threshold for bid-letting (Current policy: for repair projects estimated at  $\geq$  \$20,000, we require a request for sealed bids to be published)

## Appendix H

### SWCD Organization and Authority

161A.7 Powers of districts and commissioners. 1. A soil and water conservation district organized under this chapter has the following powers, in addition to others granted in other sections of this chapter:

- a. To conduct surveys, investigations, and research relating to the character of soil erosion and erosion, floodwater, and sediment damages, and the preventive and control measures needed, to publish the results of such surveys, investigations or research, and to disseminate information concerning such preventive and control measures; provided, however, that in order to avoid duplication of research activities, no district shall initiate any research program except in cooperation with the Iowa agricultural experiment station located at Ames, Iowa, and pursuant to a cooperative agreement entered into between the Iowa agricultural experiment station and such district.
- b. To conduct demonstrational projects within the district on lands owned or controlled by this state or any of its agencies, with the consent and cooperation of the agency administering and having jurisdiction thereof, and on any other lands within the district upon obtaining the consent of the owner or occupier of such lands or the necessary rights or interests in such lands, in order to demonstrate by example the means, methods, and measures by which soil and soil resources may be conserved, and soil erosion in the form of soil blowing and soil washing may be prevented and controlled; provided, however, that in order to avoid duplication of agricultural extension activities, no district shall initiate any demonstrational projects, except in cooperation with the Iowa agricultural extension service whose offices are located at Ames, Iowa, and pursuant to a cooperative agreement entered into between the Iowa agricultural extension service and such district.
- c. To carry out preventive and control measures within the district, including but not limited to crop rotations, engineering operations, methods of cultivation, the growing of vegetation, changes in use of land, and the measures listed in section 161A.2, on lands owned or controlled by this state or any of its agencies, with the consent and cooperation of the agency administering and having jurisdiction thereof, and on any other lands within the district, upon obtaining the consent of the owner or occupier of such lands or the necessary rights or interests in such lands. Any approval or permits from the council required under other provisions of law shall be obtained by the district prior to initiation of any construction activity.
- d. To cooperate, or enter into agreements with, and within the limits of appropriations duly made available to it by law, to furnish financial or other aid to any agency, governmental or otherwise, or any owner or occupier of lands within the district, in the carrying on of erosion-control and watershed protection and flood prevention operations within the district, subject to such conditions as the commissioners may deem necessary to advance the purposes of this chapter.
- e. To obtain options upon and to acquire, by purchase, exchange, lease, gift, grant, bequest, devise or otherwise, any property, real or personal, or rights or interests therein; to maintain, administer, and improve any properties acquired, to receive income from such properties and to expend such income in carrying out the purposes and provisions of this chapter; and to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of any of its property or interests therein in furtherance of the purposes and provisions of this chapter.
- f. To make available on such terms as it shall prescribe, to landowners or occupiers within the district, agricultural and engineering machinery and equipment, fertilizer, lime, and such other material or equipment as will assist such landowners or occupiers to carry on operations upon their lands for the conservation of soil resources and for the prevention and control of soil erosion and for the prevention of erosion, floodwater, and sediment damages.
- g. To construct, improve, and maintain such structures as may be necessary or convenient for the performance of any of the operations authorized in this chapter. Any approval or permits from the council



required under other provisions of law shall be obtained by the district prior to initiation of any construction activity.

h. To develop comprehensive plans for the conservation of soil resources and for the control and prevention of soil erosion and for the prevention of erosion, floodwater, and sediment damages within the district, which plans shall specify in such detail as may be possible, the acts, procedures, performances, and avoidances which are necessary or desirable for the effectuation of such plans, including the specification of engineering operations, methods of cultivation, the growing of vegetation, cropping programs, tillage practices, and changes in use of land; and to publish such plans and information and bring them to the attention of owners and occupiers of lands within the district.

i. To sue and be sued in the name of the district; to have a seal, which seal shall be judicially noticed; to have perpetual succession unless terminated as hereinafter provided; to make and execute contracts and other instruments, necessary or convenient to the exercise of its powers; to make, and from time to time amend and repeal, rules not inconsistent with this chapter, to carry into effect its purposes and powers.

j. To accept donations, gifts, and contributions in money, services, materials, or otherwise, from the United States or any of its agencies, or from this state or any of its agencies, and to use or expend such moneys, services, materials, or other contributions in carrying on its operations.

k. Subject to the approval of the committee, to change the name of the soil and water conservation district.

l. To provide for the restoration of permanent soil and water conservation practices which are damaged or destroyed because of a disaster emergency as provided in section 161A.75.

m. To encourage local school districts to provide instruction in the importance of and in some of the basic methods of soil conservation, as a part of course work relating to conservation of natural resources and environmental awareness required in rules adopted by the state board of education pursuant to section 256.11, subsections 3 and 4, and to offer technical assistance to schools in developing such instructional programs.

n. To develop a soil and water resource conservation plan for the district.

(1) The district plan shall contain a comprehensive long-range assessment of soil and surface water resources in the district consistent with rules approved by the committee under section 161A.4. In developing the plan the district may receive technical support from the United States department of agriculture natural resources conservation service and the county board of supervisors in the county where the district is located. The division and the Iowa cooperative extension service in agriculture and home economics may provide technical support to the district. The support may include but is not limited to the following: (a) Assessing the condition of soil and surface water in the district, including an evaluation of the type, amount, and quality of soil and water, the threat of soil erosion and erosion, floodwater, and sediment damages, and necessary preventative and control measures. (b) Developing methods to maintain or improve soil and water condition. (c) Cooperating with other state and federal agencies to carry out this support. (2) The title page of the district plan and a notification stating where the plan may be reviewed shall be recorded with the recorder in the county in which the district is located, and updated as necessary, after the committee approves and the director of the division signs the district plan. The commissioners shall provide notice of the recording and may provide a copy of the approved district plan to the county board of supervisors in the county where the district is located. The district plan shall be filed with the division as part of the state soil and water resource conservation plan provided in section 161A.4.

o. To enter into agreements pursuant to chapter 161C with the owner or occupier of land within the district or cooperating districts, or any other private entity or public agency, in carrying out water protection practices, including district and multidistrict projects to protect this state's groundwater and surface water from point and nonpoint sources of contamination, including but not limited to agricultural drainage wells, sinkholes, sedimentation, and chemical pollutants. 2. As a condition to the extending of any benefits under this chapter

to, or the performance of work upon, any lands not owned or controlled by this state or any of its agencies, the commissioners may require contributions in money, services, materials, or otherwise to any operations conferring such benefits, and may require landowners or occupiers to enter into and perform such agreements or covenants as to the permanent use of such lands as will tend to prevent or control erosion thereon. 3. The commissioners, as a condition for the receipt of any state cost-sharing funds for permanent soil conservation practices, shall require the owner of the land on which the practices are to be established to covenant and file, in the office of the district of the county in which the land is located, an agreement identifying the particular lands upon which the practices for which state cost-sharing funds are to be received will be established, and providing that the project will not be removed, altered, or modified so as to lessen its effectiveness without the consent of the commissioners, obtained in advance and based on guidelines drawn up by the committee, for a period not to exceed twenty years after the date of receiving payment. The commissioners shall assist the division in the enforcement of this subsection. The agreement does not create a lien on the land, but is a charge personally against the owner of the land at the time of removal, alteration, or modification if an administrative order is made under section 161A.61, subsection 3. 4. No provisions with respect to the acquisition, operation, or disposition of property by other public bodies shall be applicable to a district organized hereunder unless the general assembly shall specifically so state. 5. After the formation of any district under the provisions of this chapter, all participation hereunder shall be purely voluntary, except as specifically stated herein.

## **Appendix I**

### **Local Working Group**

#### **What is a Local Working Group?**

Local Working Groups are composed of agricultural producers, owners/operators of nonindustrial private forest land, professionals representing agricultural and natural resource interests, and individuals representing a variety of disciplines in the soil, water, wetland, plant, forestry, and wildlife sciences who are familiar with agricultural and natural resource issues in the local community.

#### **Role of Local Working Groups**

Local Working Groups provide recommendations to the District Board of Commissioners, the District Conservationist and the State Conservationist on local natural resource priorities and criteria for conservation activities and programs.

#### **Membership**

Local Working Group membership aims to be diverse and focus on agricultural interests and natural resource issues existing in the local community. To ensure that recommendations of the Local Working Group take into account the needs of diverse groups served by USDA, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent the conservation concerns of particular historically underserved groups and individuals including, but not limited to, minorities; women; persons with disabilities; and socially and economically disadvantaged groups.

## Statement of Adoption (SWCD)

We, the Commissioners of the Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District, adopt this 5-year Soil and Water Resource Conservation Plan on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022.



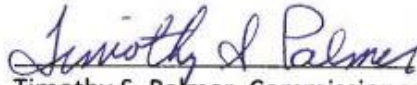
Michael D. Koch, Chairman




Jason M. Hirsch, Commissioner



Frederick W. Martens, Commissioner



Timothy S. Palmer, Commissioner



Lisa R. Coverdale, Commissioner



**Notary Acknowledgement**

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this acknowledgement is attached.

State of: Iowa

County of: Madison

On 04/20/22, before me, Kristine Labertew,  
(notary)

Personally appeared, Michael Koch, Jason Hirsch, Tim Palmer, Frederick Martens, Lisa  
(signer) Corvendale

☒ Personally known to me

OR

☐ Prove to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and has hereby acknowledged to me that they have executed the same in their authorized capacity, and that by their signature on the instrument the person or the entity upon behalf of which the person acted, executed the instrument.

**Witness my hand and official seal**

Kristine Labertew  
Notary Signature

(Seal)

Kristine Labertew  
Print Name



## Statement of Approval (IDALS)

This long-range plan / SWRCP of the Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District was reviewed and approved by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Division of Soil Conservation and Water Quality,

on April 7, 2022.

Susan Kozak  
Susan Kozak, Director

IDALS Division of Soil Conservation and Water Quality