



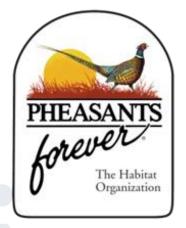




#### The Habitat Organization

Pheasants Forever's mission is to conserve pheasants, quail, and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public access, education, and conservation advocacy.



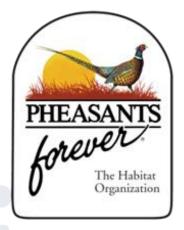




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## The Habitat Organization

#### **Private Lands Staff - technical assistance**

- Precision Ag & Conservation Specialist (PACS)
- Farm Bill Biologists (FBB)

Using

precision agriculture data

to guide

conservation







#### precision conservation

Targeted changes
to transform
unprofitable acres
to vibrant habitat







#### precision conservation

Improve farm operation

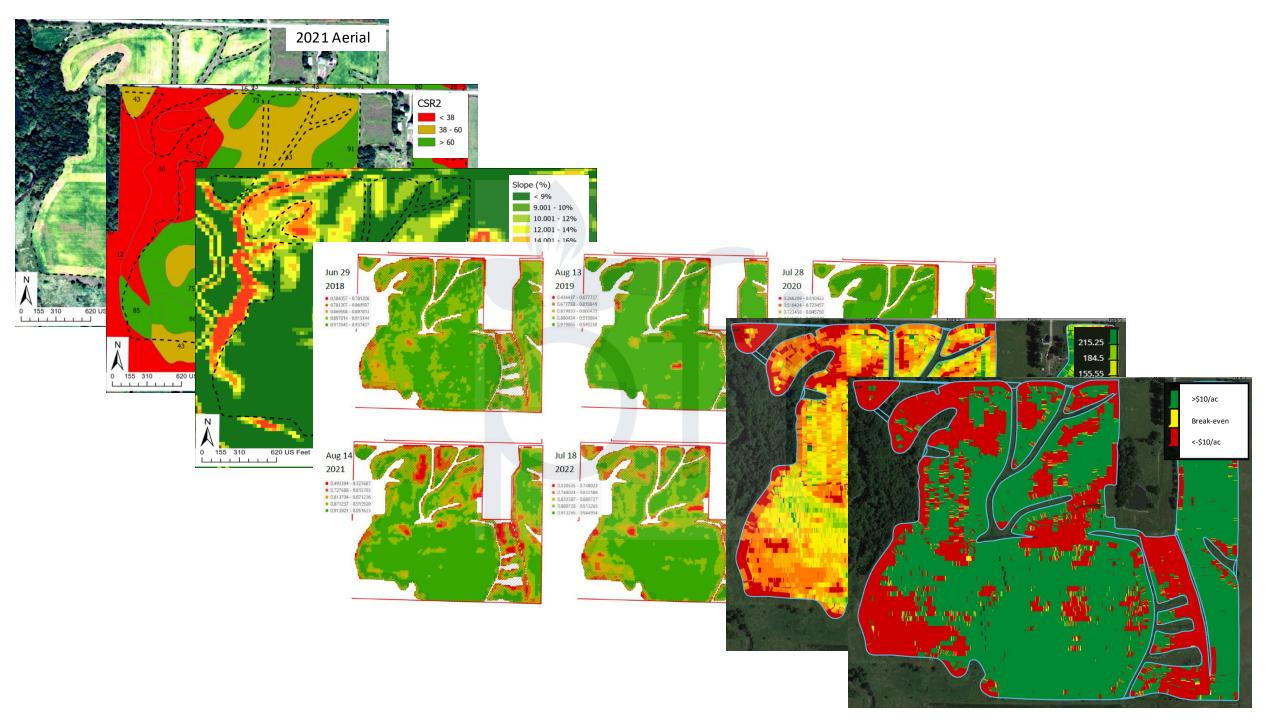
- increased profits
- reduced input costs
- reduced risk

Improve wildlife habitat, soil health, water quality











#### Break-even Yields

CORN: 222 bu/ac

SOYBEANS: 61 bu/ac

	Corn		Soybeans
Seed/fertilizer/chem/labor	\$ 439.	05	\$ 274.11
machinery/equip/facilities	\$ 184.	28	\$ 104.02
land	\$ 285.	00	\$ 285.00
Total costs/ac*	\$ 908.	33	\$ 663.13

Season-avg price estimate (USDA)\*\* \$ 4.10 / bu \$ 10.80 / bu

break-even bu/ac 221.5 61.4

\*https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/crops/pdf/a1-21.pdf

CSR2 > 89

2025 Price Projections (USDA)

Corn: \$3.90/bu Beans: \$10.00/bu

<sup>\*\*</sup>https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/articles/hart/HarNov24.html







# Iowa and Minnesota Precision Conservation Incentive

Get paid to farm your best acres

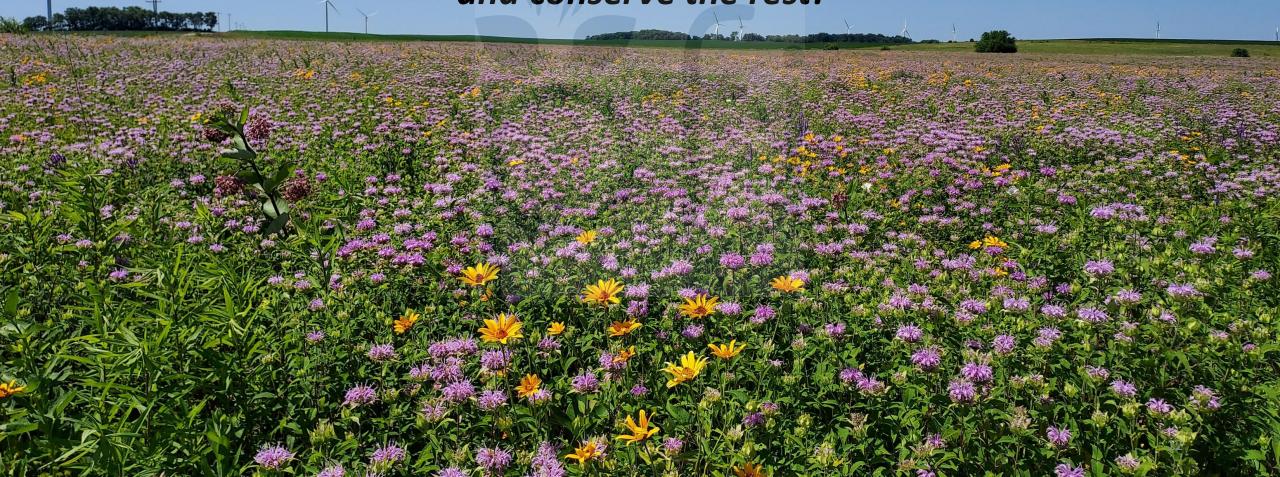






# Iowa and Minnesota Precision Conservation Incentive

Get paid to farm your best acres and conserve the rest!







# Iowa and Minnesota Precision Conservation Incentive

Get paid to farm your best acres and conserve the rest!

Make a change based on conservation analysis



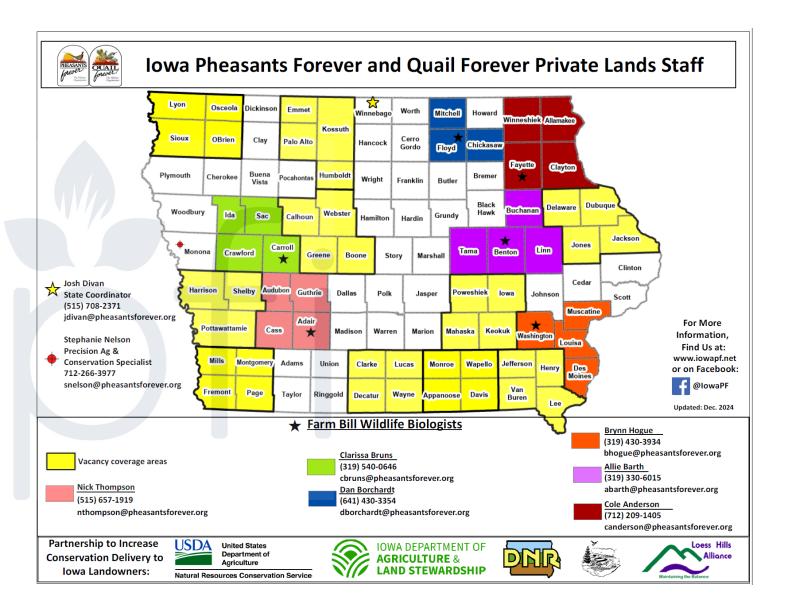
#### Earn a financial incentive

- Amount is based on % conservation adoption of the field
  - Paid on what remains in production in that field
- 5-year maintenance agreement (or length of CRP contract)



## Iowa PF/QF Private Lands Staff

- Why work with private landowners in lowa?
  - 97% Private Land
  - Most altered landscape in North America
  - 85% in row crop ag
- Farm Bill Biologist (FBB)
  - o 6 currently in Iowa
  - Hiring 10 more!
  - Collaborate with IA DNR private lands staff for other counties
- Precision Ag & Conservation Specialist (PACS)
  - o 1 in Iowa based in West
  - Hiring 2<sup>nd</sup> for East





#### The Buchanan's Big Move!





#### **Spring - 2023**

- Moved to family home
- Goal: conserve/improve the farmland
- 15 Acres homestead
- 110 Acres -Tub'NJo Acres rented out farmland

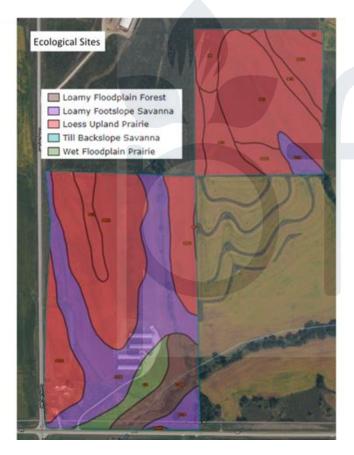
# Context for Tub & Jo Acres

- Managed by 7 siblings
- Planted corn-on-corn w/ injected manure - 10+ yrs
- Evidence of excess nutrients:
  - o Canada Thistle
  - Elm Creek algal bloom
  - Well water contamination



## Working with Precision Conservation







# Next Steps: Suggested Changes, Family Meeting, Planting!

Map A Scenario Map Tub & Jo Acres, Shelby County Southwest Field - Possible Changes with NDVI context Proposed CRP - Prairie or Filter Strip Continuous Signup 61 Property boundary Scenario Name: Tub\_Joacres\_CP43\_CP42 (3) Proposed CRP - Prairie i\_\_ crop Layered NDVI (2018-2023) Proposed CRP - Prairie or Filter Strip Tract: 18687 Proposed CRP - Prairie Strip Crop or possible CRP Existing CRP Handlos Finishing LLC Layered NDVI (2018-2023) Low 10.1 82 Medium ollinator CRP? **Consensus Changes Suggested Changes** #: Scenario ID Scenario\_Polygon #.00: Scenario Acres 2,000 Feet Cropland #: CLU Number Prepared by Stephanie Nelson, IA Precision Ag & Conservation Specialist Not Cropland Pheasants Forever & Ouail Forever PRECISION

#### **Cost Comparison of Renting vs Conserving**

Farm Rental Revenue calculations

В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	1
Current Proposal for Set- Aside Land			Revenue proposed for 2025				
Total Acres rented 2024:	108	_	CRP - 14.01 acres @ \$300/acre	\$4,203.00		Revenue w/out Conservation Practices	
CRP acres proposed 14.01	14.01		PFI Incentive 1x 12.87 @ \$256/acre	\$3,294.72		Farmed acres @ \$325/acre	35,100.00
			PFQF 1x incentive: \$16/ acre farmed	\$1,503.84			
Farmable Acres Proposed	93.99		SIP 1x Incentive: 32.5%	\$1,365.98			
			Rent 93.99 acres@\$325/ acre	\$30,546.75			
			Total Revenue Year 1:	\$40,914.29		Revenue Gain Yr 1	2,227.73
Input Costs Year 1 @ Avg cost of \$256/acre	3586.56		Year 1 Revenue - Costs	\$37,327.73		Approx Gain/ sibling yr 1	318.25
Ongoing Input Costs/year (mowing) which are cost shared with USDA	\$200-300		Total Revenue Year 2+	\$34,749.75		Revenue Loss Year 2+	(650.25)
			Total Revenue Year 2+ minus Costs (\$300)	\$34,449.75		Approx loss/ sibling/year	(92.89)

# Nick Thompson Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever Farm Bill Biologist

# Farm Bill Biologists (FBB)

- NRCS office, covers 3-4 counties
- Technical Assistance: Habitat/Wildlife Management Planning
  - Utilize NRCS, IDALS, & DNR programs
  - General habitat management recommendations

# **FBB Process**

- Landowner reaches out
- Site visit
- Create habitat proposal/wildlife plan
- Landowner chooses their preferred route
- Planning and contracting (Federal or State)
- Practices implemented by landowner











