

Cedar River Basin Workshop

Iowa Wildlife Action Plan

Iowa Wildlife Action Plan

- State Wildlife Grant from Federal Government for nongame species
 - Requires a 25%-50% match
- Federal Government required a “Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan”
 - Distribution and health of Iowa’s Wildlife
 - Low and declining species are Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN’s)
 - Location and conditions of key habitats essential for SGCN’s
 - Problems that adversely affect SGCN or their habitat and priority research and survey efforts to identify factors that may assist in their restoration and improved conservation
 - Conservation actions necessary to conserve SGCN and their habitats and priorities for implementing such actions
 - Plans for monitoring SGCN and their habitats, for monitoring the effectiveness of conservation actions, and to adapting these actions to new information
 - Procedures to review plan at least every 10 years
 - Plans for coordinating the development of implementation, review, and revision of conservation actions with other agencies that manage land and water areas in Iowa that significantly impact SGCN and their habitat
 - Descriptions of public Participation in the development, revision, and implementation of the plan

Iowa Wildlife Action Plan Visions by 2030

- Iowa will have viable wildlife populations that are compatible with modern landscapes and human social tolerance
 - Keep common species common
 - SGCN will increase to viable populations
- Iowa will have healthy ecosystems that incorporate diverse, native habitats capable of sustaining viable wildlife populations
 - Increase public land ownership to 4% of state land area
 - Protected habitats will be diverse in large and small blocks in public and private ownership
- Diverse wildlife communities will be developed on public and private lands and waters through the use of adaptive ecological principles
 - Wildlife and fisheries management will be based on science
- More Iowans will participate in wildlife-associated recreation, and all Iowans will have access to publicly owned recreation areas to enjoy wildlife in its many forms
 - Recreation will be available to all Iowans
 - Increase participation in recreation by 50%

Iowa Wildlife Action Plan Visions by 2030 Continued

- More Iowans will participate in wildlife-associated recreation, and all Iowans will have access to publicly owned recreation areas to enjoy wildlife in its many forms
 - Recreation will be available to all Iowans
 - Increase participation in recreation by 50%
- Iowans will respect wildlife for its many values and they will advocate effectively for conservation of wildlife and wildlife habitats
 - Iowans will understand the relationships between land use, wildlife diversity and abundance, the quality of life for all citizens, and the positive effects wildlife has on Iowa's economy
- Stable, permanent funding will be dedicated to the management of wildlife at a level adequate to achieve the visions of this plan
 - Government and private conservation spending will be increased so goals are reached by 2030
 - Funding will be dependable, secure, and appreciated as a powerful economic and social investment

So what has Iowa done since plan was written?

- Hire a State Wildlife Action Plan Manager
- Started a wildlife monitoring program
 - Found we didn't have current information
 - All 99 counties will be covered by end of 2013
 - Selected sites across the state will be monitored every year
 - All sites will be monitored every 5 years
- Created a committee for each vision to help accomplish vision goals
 - Committee members include private and public organizations
- Informed others of this plan
 - Presentations, Internet
- Increased assistance to private landowners
 - Wildlife Bureau Private Lands Program
 - Assist landowners in land management through NRCS programs to benefit SGCN

Cedar River Watershed

- Cedar River has been identified as a High Priority Area for Cooperative Conservation Action in the Wildlife Action Plan
 - Multiple private and public agencies view Cedar River habitat as important
 - Increased funding and partnerships are available
- For more information contact Katy Reeder
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 - 515-281-8396

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Iowa DNR Projects

Jason Auel

Wildlife Biologist

Cedar-Wapsi Wildlife Unit

Iowa DNR

- Owns 355,000 acres or .9% of land area in Iowa
 - 14% of DNR property is water
 - 17% of DNR property is hydric
 - 36,267 acres of DNR property in WRP
- 16 Wildlife Management Units manage majority of DNR Land
- Cedar-Wapsi Wildlife Unit
 - Manages approximately 12,000 acres
 - Floyd, Chickasaw, Butler, Bremer, Grundy, Black Hawk, and Buchanan Counties

NAWCA Grants

- Wetland Reserve Program with NAWCA \$\$\$
- 2325 acres being purchased in WRP, EWP, WREP
- Wapsipinicon and Cedar River Watersheds priority
 - Flooding, SGCN, Endangered Species
- First Cedar-Wapsi NAWCA Grant 2007-2010
 - 14 tracts totaling 880 acres
 - 6 are DNR properties
- Second Cedar Wapsi NAWCA Grant 2008-Current
 - 18 tracts totaling 2327 acres
 - 3 are DNR properties
 - 100% of grant money was committed to projects prior to submission
- Third Cedar-Wapsi NAWCA Grant Coming 2013
 - 75% of grant money is currently committed
- DNR Purchases Residual Value of the property at \$1000 per acre
 - 1765 acres from Cedar-Wapsi NAWCA Grants are DNR Owned
 - \$7 million if purchased outright at \$4000 per acre
 - \$1.765 million actual cost to DNR
 - NRCS pays majority of restoration costs

WRP/EWP SITES

- HEPPELWALD INC
- DOWLING INC
- MULLY INC
- YERGEN CO INC
- LEWIS CO INC
- KOUZNETZ INC
- KOWALSKI INC
- MARRIOTT INC
- DREZDNER INC
- COYNE & INC
- COBURN & INC
- BISH & INC
- WILSON & INC
- ACCURANT
- YESA
- YESA

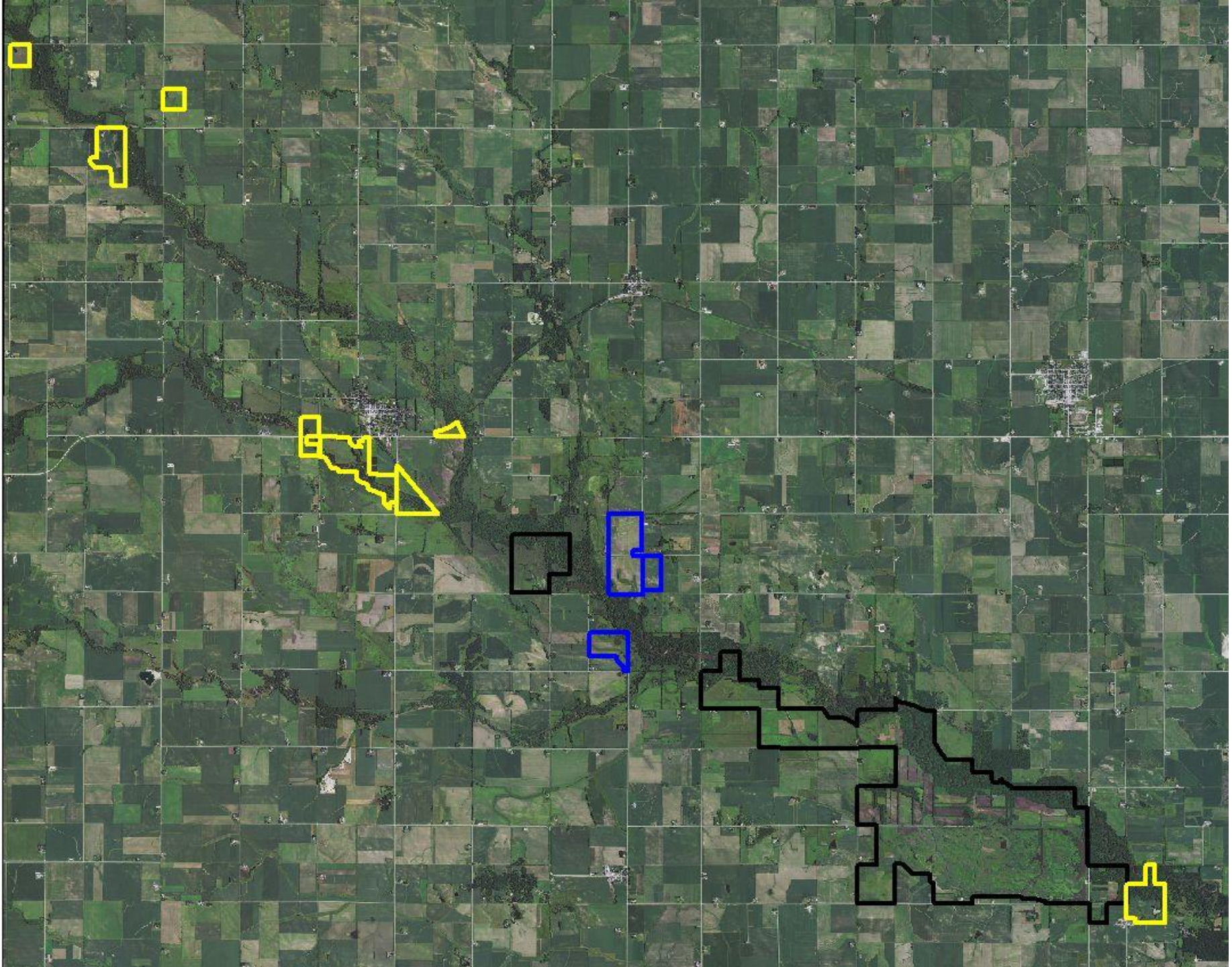


FEBRUARY 10, 2012
IDNR - WILDLIFE BUREAU
CEDAR WAPSI UNIT



2011 West Fork NAWCA Grant

- Designated the watershed of the West Fork of the Cedar River
- \$3.8 million grant
- DNR Match
 - Approx. \$560,000 Water Quality Bureau
 - Approx. \$190,00 Wildlife Bureau in kind
- 809 WRP acres in Butler and Franklin Counties in approximately 6 weeks
- DNR purchases residual value at \$1000 per acre
- 764 acres sold to DNR
 - Cost \$3.3 million if DNR purchased outright at \$4000 per acre
 - Actual Cost to DNR \$764,000
 - WRP pays for native prairie and wetland restoration



Big Marsh Wildlife Area

- 4428 acres along the West Fork of the Cedar River
- 7 miles of dikes, 7 impoundments, 900 acres
- Moist Soil Management
 - Manage for annual vegetation for food and habitat
- Dam across West Fork of Cedar River
 - Start flooding in August, let water out in January

