



FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR AWARD

AISWCD | www.aiswcd.org

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

AISWCD Area: 1
Land Use Council: 2
SWCD: Rock Island
Nominee: Jim Mueller
Address: 14505 120th Ave W.
City, State, Zip: Taylor Ridge, IL 61284
Phone: 309-235-0631
Email: jim.mueller44@yahoo.com

Person or persons being honored are: ☐ Owner ☐ Operator ☒ Both

List all names of the family (families) being nominated:

Jason Mueller, 14305 120th Ave W. Taylor Ridge, IL 61284 309-737-5235

Wife - Sarah Children - Madalyn and Colby

Name listed on additional plaque: Jason Mueller

If nominee consists of more than one person/family and the nominating District would like to have multiple plaques given, it is the responsibility of the District to pay for the additional plaques.

District Chairman Signature:

Gary Blanchard

Date: 5-13-19



FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR AWARD

AISWCD | www.aiswcd.org

SECTION 1: NOMINEE & LAND OVERVIEW

1. List the number of acres for each of the following and enter "0" if an item does not pertain to nominee.

Total Acres (FSA plus farmstead acres)	1745
Highly Erodible Land	746.9
HEL at or below "T"	746.9
Standard soil testing program	1267

Tillable Cropland	1267
Non-Highly Erodible Land	632.1
NHEL at or below "T"	632.1
Nutrient Management	1267

2. List residue percentage amounts required by conservation farm plan after each crop rotation for most of nominee's HEL acres and list tillage method (e.g. soybeans after corn = 30% residue, mulch-till; corn after soybeans = 40% residue, no-till).

No-till Soybeans into 80% corn residue, Strip-till corn into 40% soybean residue. Turbo-till (mulch-till) corn into 50% corn residue.. Mulch-till Oats/ alfalfa seeding into 30% + residue

3. List residue percent amounts left after each crop rotation for most of nominee's NHEL acres and list tillage method (e.g. soybeans after corn = 30% residue, mulch-till; corn after soybeans = 40% residue, no-till).

Same at HEL. Everything is treated the same.

4. Select soil types that apply to nominee's land and give approximate percentage of each.

☒ Timber 60 ☒ Prairie 30 ☒ Hydric 10

5. Score the nominee using a scale of 1-5 with 5 being "excellent" and 1 being "poor."

a. Follows and utilizes Best Management Practices such (but not limited to) conserving water, eliminating or reducing soil erosion, integrated pest management or other pesticide or herbicide management, maximizes animals' such living conditions and veterinary care	5
b. Stays current with and implement new and innovative technologies	4
c. Demonstrates a history of maintaining a conservation plan and consistently implementing it	5
d. Demonstrates a commitment to conservation by investing their own resources in implementing practices and has sought sources of support other than NRCS	5
e. Demonstrates good stewardship such as placing conservation easements on land, allowing public and multi-use access, building trails, maintaining wildlife habitat	5



FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR AWARD

AISWCD | www.aiswcd.org

f. Participates in educational programs such as 4-H, allows tours or conducts demonstration events, participates in the community including donating to food banks, schools, or contributing to other groups or other events	5
g. Demonstrates leadership by participating in community, government, and nonprofit or grassroots groups and furthers their work	5

SECTION 2: CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

1. Add recent FSA Aerial Photos (Arc View acceptable) with farm fields delineated out.
2. Add copy of nominee's current FSA 1026A
3. List nominee's acres in the following conservation practices:

Pasture w/out rotational grazing	200	Pasture with rotational grazing	0
Timber w/out livestock exclusion	20	Timber with livestock exclusion	36
Wetlands (shallow water areas, bogs, marshes)	0	Prairie	24
Streams w/out livestock exclusion	3	Streams with livestock exclusion	0
Ponds w/out livestock exclusion	0	Ponds with livestock exclusion	3
Waterways	20	Terraces	15
Riparian Buffers	0	Filter Strips	15
Streambank Stabilization Practices	0	Wildlife Habitat	24
Diversions	0	Field Border Strips	0
Farmstead/Field Windbreak	1	Total Acres	361

4. List the number of practices the nominee has completed for each type of practice listed.

Grade Control Structures	5	Water & Sediment Control Basins	17
Abandoned Well Sealing	2		

5. Briefly describe nominee's livestock waste management or animal waste system, if applicable.

Hog manure is applied to cropland using a honey wagon equipped with low-disturbed knives into either cornstalks or soybean stubble for next year's corn crop. Has some calves on an lot feedlot in the winter months where manure will be hauled to the field in the spring and worked into the soil.



FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR AWARD

AISWCD | www.aiswcd.org

6. Evaluate nominee's involvement in the following areas:

- ☒ Yes ☐ No All tillable cropland must be at or below Tolerable Soil Loss level
- ☒ Yes ☐ No Residue Management must be practiced on all tillable cropland
- ☒ Yes ☐ No Demonstrates a history of maintaining a conservation plan & consistently implementing it
- ☒ Yes ☐ No Cooperator demonstrates participation in conservation programs and uses conservation technical assistance

SECTION 3: OVERALL FARM EFFORTS

1. What specific accomplishments have the various members of this family made to better their farm/land and community?

Four generations of Mueller's have farmed the original farmstead starting with Henry, Stewart, Jim, and now Jason. Potentially, Jason's son, Colby, could be the 5th generation to farm this land. Over the years, this family has been involved in numerous community and farm related activities. Activities include Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Farm Business Farm Management (FBFM), 4-H, FFA, Farm Bureau, and Edgington Township,

Jim served for 30 years on the Rock Island Soil and Water Conservation District board, finally setting off in 2017.

2. How do the members of this family work together to make their farming operation viable & sustainable? List specific examples.

They utilize No-till and Strip-Till farming on all of their cropland acres except for the few times when they need to grow corn after corn to adjust the acres. Then, they will use mulch-till system using a Turbo-till machine to prepare the seedbed prior to planting.

They recently started using Cereal Rye as a cover crop on some of their acres. Most of it is terminated in the spring prior to planting. Some they harvest livestock feed and immediately plant soybeans into it after Rye grass harvest. They use soil sampling on a grid pattern.

The last two years Colby has been taking soil samples using a GPS App on his iPhone on some of the acres and getting the data for his FFA class project.

3. Tell how nominee's farm has been used to demonstrate to others in the community the problems & solutions in pollution abatement & environmental enhancement. Explain other ways the nominee helps publicize conservation and natural resources.

For 20 years, the Mueller's maintained the AISWCD No-till corn and soybean variety plot. The plot was on Route 192, west of Edgington, making it a visible plot for the farm community to view and visit. Annual field days were held at the plot to demonstrate the use of No-Till farming and answer questions for area farmers to make their operation better for soil and water conservation.

The Mueller's hosted students from Augustana College to show farming practices that are sustainable.

They had a field day for the local Pork Producers discussing residue management and nutrient management. +



FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR AWARD

AISWCD | www.aiswcd.org

4. Describe condition of the nominee's farm when they started and its current condition.

In the 60'S, they changed from hogs in the field to a confinement operation and still do so today. Thirty years ago, they added a farmstead windbreak. The farmstead is a typical working farm with machine sheds, hog confinement and small cattle feedlot for winter

5. Identify the soil & water resource management problems found on nominee's farm. Describe the innovative, as well as traditional, conservation techniques they have used to address these problems.

The Mueller family have applied numerous conservation practices over the years including grasses waterways and grade stabilization structures or WASCOB's to address gully erosion. They maintain terraces and contour farming with residue management to address sheet and rill erosion on steep HEL cropland. Grid sampling with VRT nutrient management is used to address water quality issues. They closed two wells when they were no longer needed to safeguard the groundwater from contamination. They recently started using cover crops on part of their cropland.

6. List participation, offices held, awards presented to nominee in conservation/farm organizations (e.g. SWCD, Farm Bureau, etc), local community organizations, church, 4-H or FFA.

This family has been involved in numerous community and farm related activities. Activities include Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Farm Business Farm Management (FBFM), 4-H, FFA, Farm Bureau, and Edgington Township, Jim served for 30 years on the Rock Island Soil and Water Conservation District board, finally setting off in 2017.

7. Attach any additional information to supplement this section such as newspaper clippings, etc.

*see news paper
clippings at end.*



FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR AWARD

AISWCD | www.aiswcd.org

JUDGING CERTIFICATIONS FORM

COUNTY JUDGING COMMITTEE SECTION

Name: Tara Mayhew Title: Rock Island Co. Farm Bureau Manager

Signature: *Tara Mayhew* Date: 5-14-19

Name: Jenny Garner Title: U of IL Extension County Director

Signature: *Jenny Garner* Date: 5-14-19

COUNCIL JUDGING COMMITTEE SECTION

Council MUST choose one entry to represent LUC at State contest

Name: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Adjoining Council: _____ Council #: _____

COMMENTS:



FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR AWARD

AISWCD | www.aiswcd.org

STATE JUDGING FORM

The AISWCD Awards Committee is responsible for selecting the Illinois Conservation Farm Family. A spot check may be made when recommended by the Executive Committee. A member of the Annual Meeting & Awards Committee and an Area Vice President will conduct the spot check.

Council: LUC 2

Farm Family Name: Mueller

Overall Rating
(5 = excellent, 1 = poor)

Section Comments

Section 1: Nominee & Land Overview		
Section 2: Conservation Activities		
Section 3: Overall Farm Efforts		
Section 4: Nominee's Essay		
Section 5: SWCD Letter of Support		
Section 6: Photos and Narratives		



FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR AWARD

AISWCD | www.aiswcd.org

STATE JUDGING FORM

OVERALL COMMENTS:



FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR AWARD

AISWCD | www.aiswcd.org

ADDITONAL SPACE



FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR AWARD

AISWCD | www.aiswcd.org

ADDITONAL SPACE



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



street100k_11_utm
Common Land Unit
Cropland
Tract Boundary
Non-Cropland

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions

0 450 900 1,800
Feet
NAIP Imagery 2017

2018 Program Year

Map Created December 11, 2017

Farm 4057
Tract 1763

Tract Cropland Total: 266.96 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



street100k_il_utm

Common Land Unit

Non-Cropland

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions

Cropland
Tract Boundary

0 170 340 680
Feet

NAIP Imagery 2017

2018 Program Year

Map Created December 11, 2017

Farm **3491**
Tract **2809**

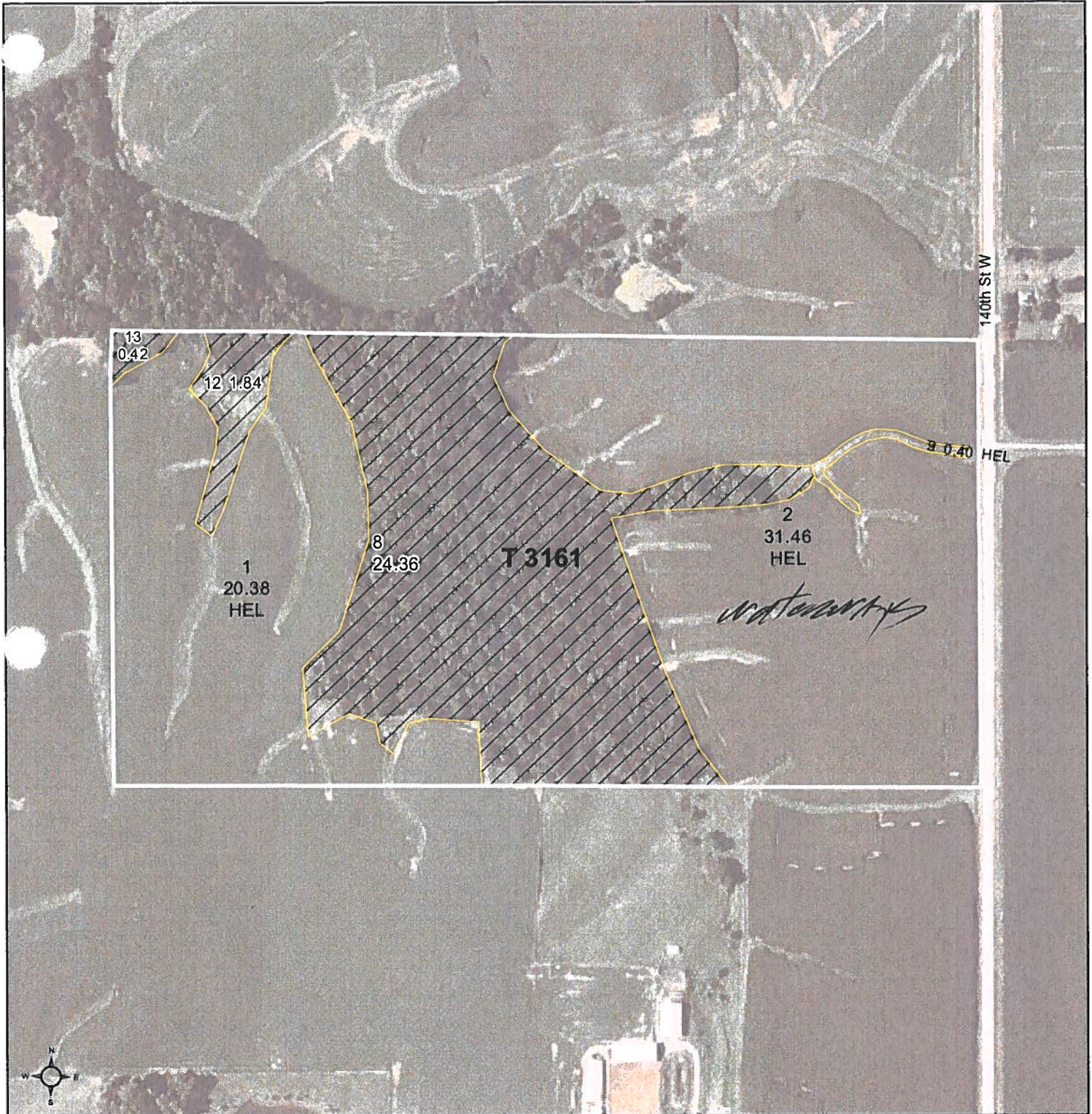
Tract Cropland Total: 26.36 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland Identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



Common Land Unit

- Non-Cropland
- Cropland

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation
- Compliance Provisions

Tract Boundary

0 170 340 680
Feet

NAIP Imagery 2017

2018 Program Year

Map Created December 11, 2017

Farm **4057**

Tract **3161**

Tract Cropland Total: 52.24 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



street100k_1_il_utm

Common Land Unit

Non-Cropland

Wetland Determination Identifiers

Restricted Use

Limited Restrictions

Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions

Cropland

Tract Boundary

0 170 340 680

Feet

NAIP Imagery 2017

2018 Program Year

Map Created December 11, 2017

Farm 4057

Tract 3150

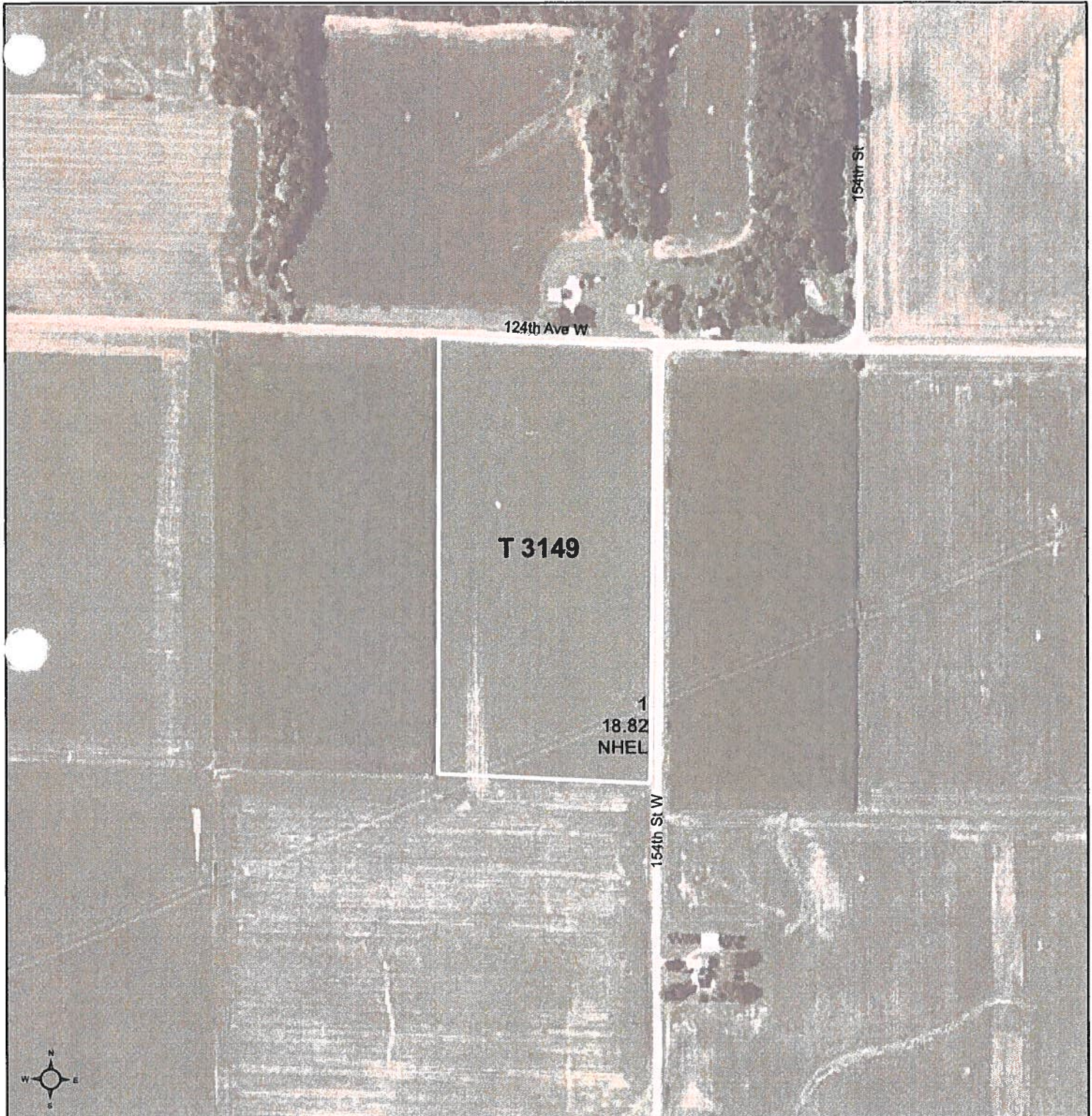
Tract Cropland Total: 138.21 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois

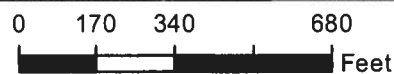


Common Land Unit

- Cropland
- Tract Boundary

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions



NAIP Imagery 2017

2018 Program Year

Map Created December 11, 2017

Farm 4057

Tract 3149

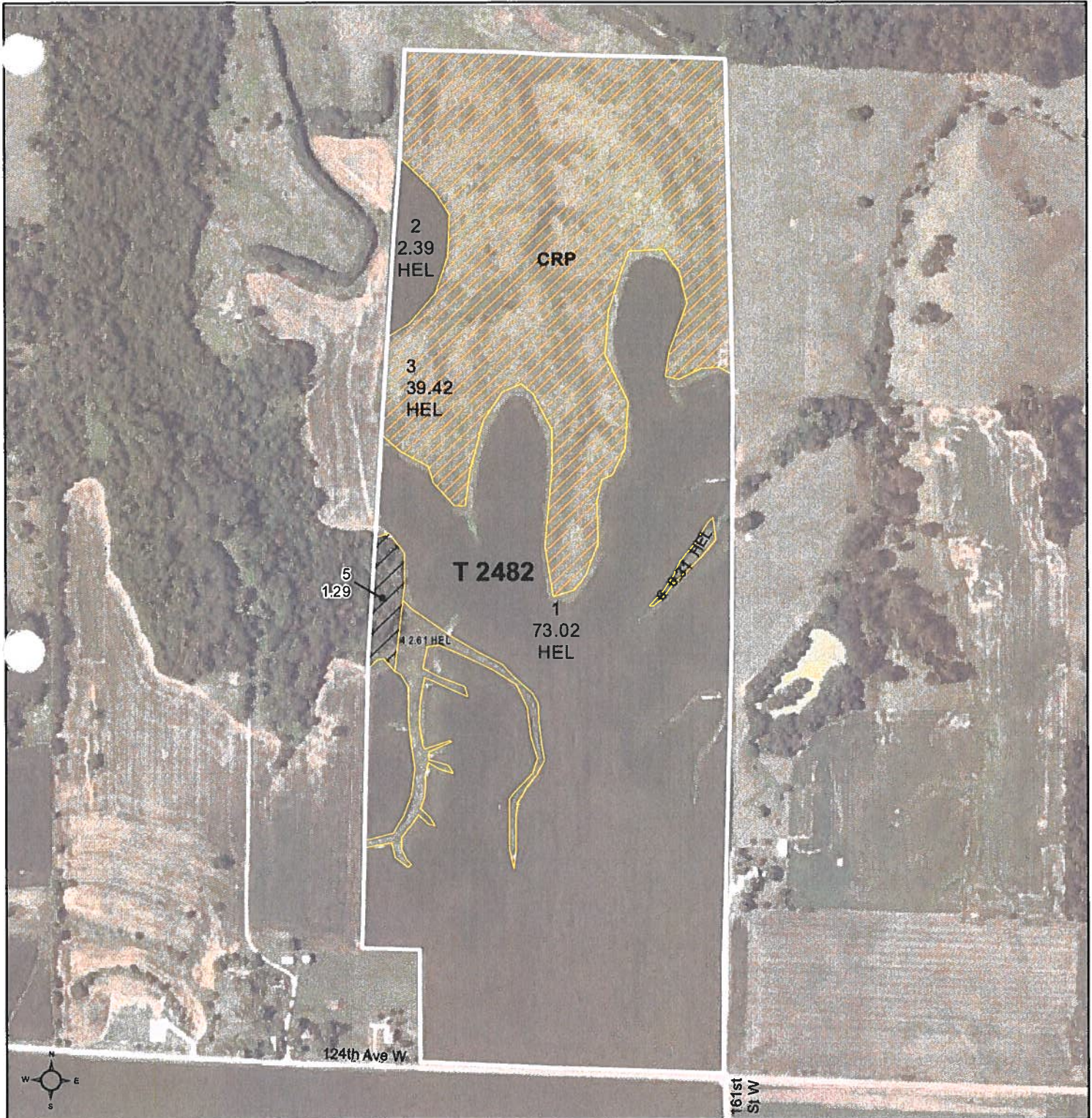
Tract Cropland Total: 18.82 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



Common Land Unit

- CRP
- Non-Cropland
- Cropland

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions

Tract Cropland Total: 117.75 acres

2018 Program Year

Map Created March 09, 2018

Farm 4057

Tract 2482

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



Common Land Unit

- Cropland
- Tract Boundary

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions

0 170 340 680
Feet

NAIP Imagery 2017

2018 Program Year

Map Created December 11, 2017

Farm **4057**

Tract **2086**

Tract Cropland Total: 38.00 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



Common Land Unit

- CRP
- Non-Cropland
- Cropland

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions

0 170 340 680
Feet

NAIP Imagery 2017

2018 Program Year

Map Created December 11, 2017

Farm **4057**
Tract **1786**

Tract Cropland Total: 75.10 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



Common Land Unit

- Cropland
- Tract Boundary

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation
- Compliance Provisions

0 170 340 680
 Feet

NAIP Imagery 2017

2018 Program Year

Map Created December 11, 2017

Farm **4057**

Tract **1765**

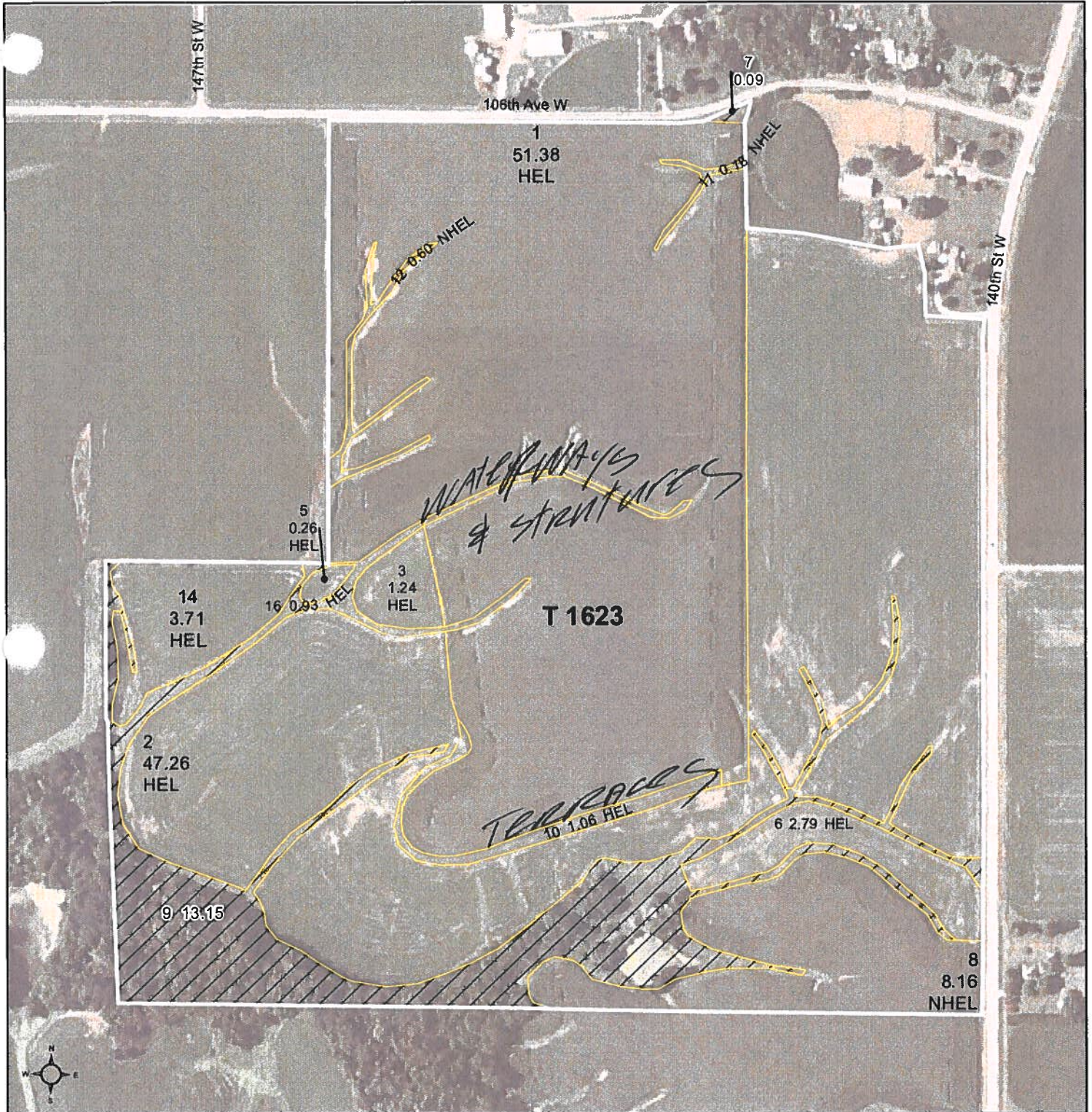
Tract Cropland Total: 38.37 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



Common Land Unit

- Non-Cropland
- Cropland

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation
- Compliance Provisions

Tract Boundary

0 170 340 680

Feet

NAIP Imagery 2017

2018 Program Year

Map Created December 11, 2017

Farm 4057

Tract 1623

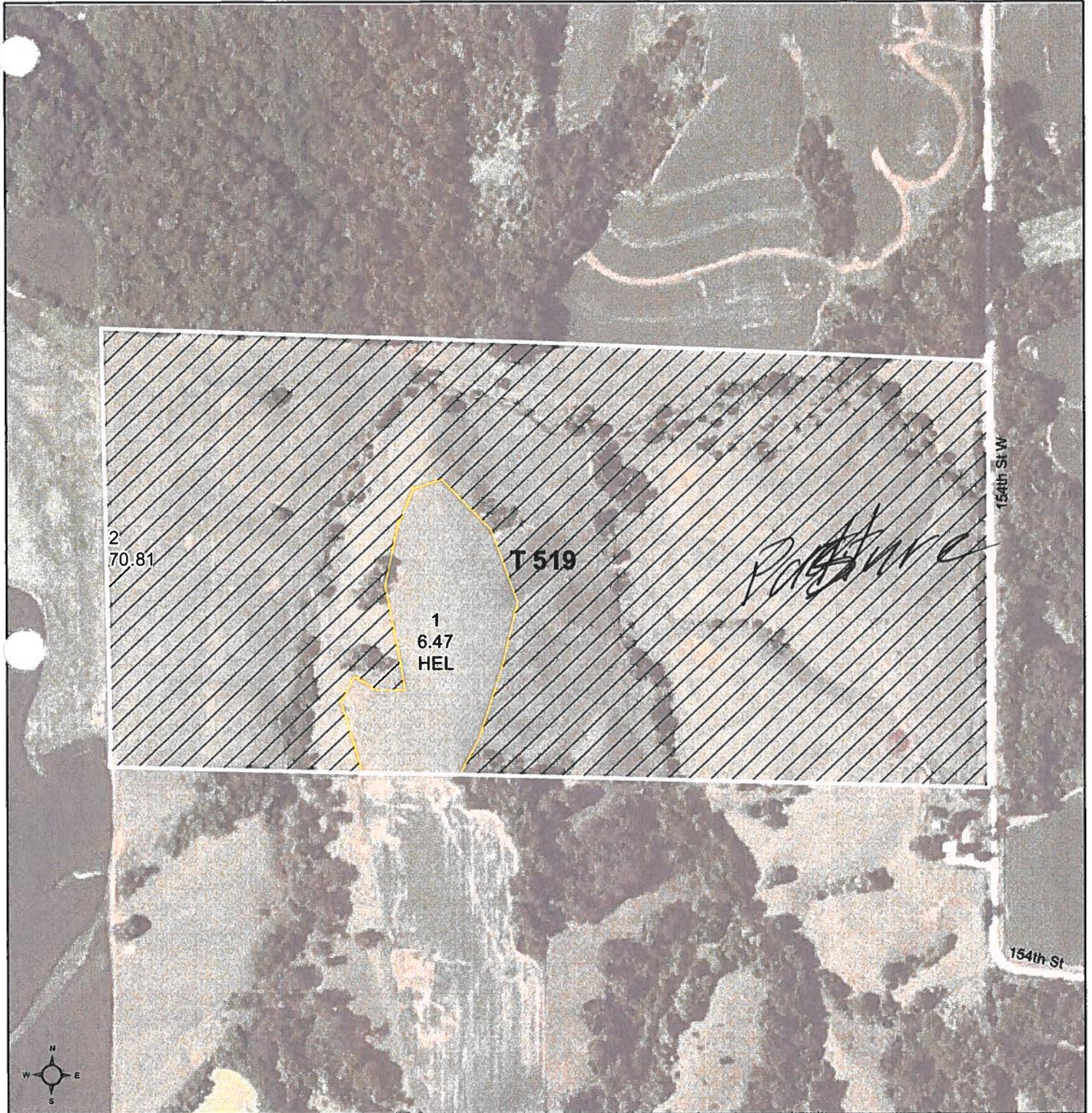
Tract Cropland Total: 117.57 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



Common Land Unit

- Non-Cropland
- Cropland

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation
- Compliance Provisions

Tract Boundary

0 170 340 680
Feet

NAIP Imagery 2017

2018 Program Year

Map Created December 11, 2017

Farm **4057**

Tract **519**

Tract Cropland Total: 6.47 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



street100k_1_11_utm
Common Land Unit
Non-Cropland
Cropland
CRP
Tract Boundary

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation
- Compliance Provisions

0 305 610 1,220
Feet

NAIP Imagery 2017

2018 Program Year

Map Created December 11, 2017

Farm **4057**

Tract **8**

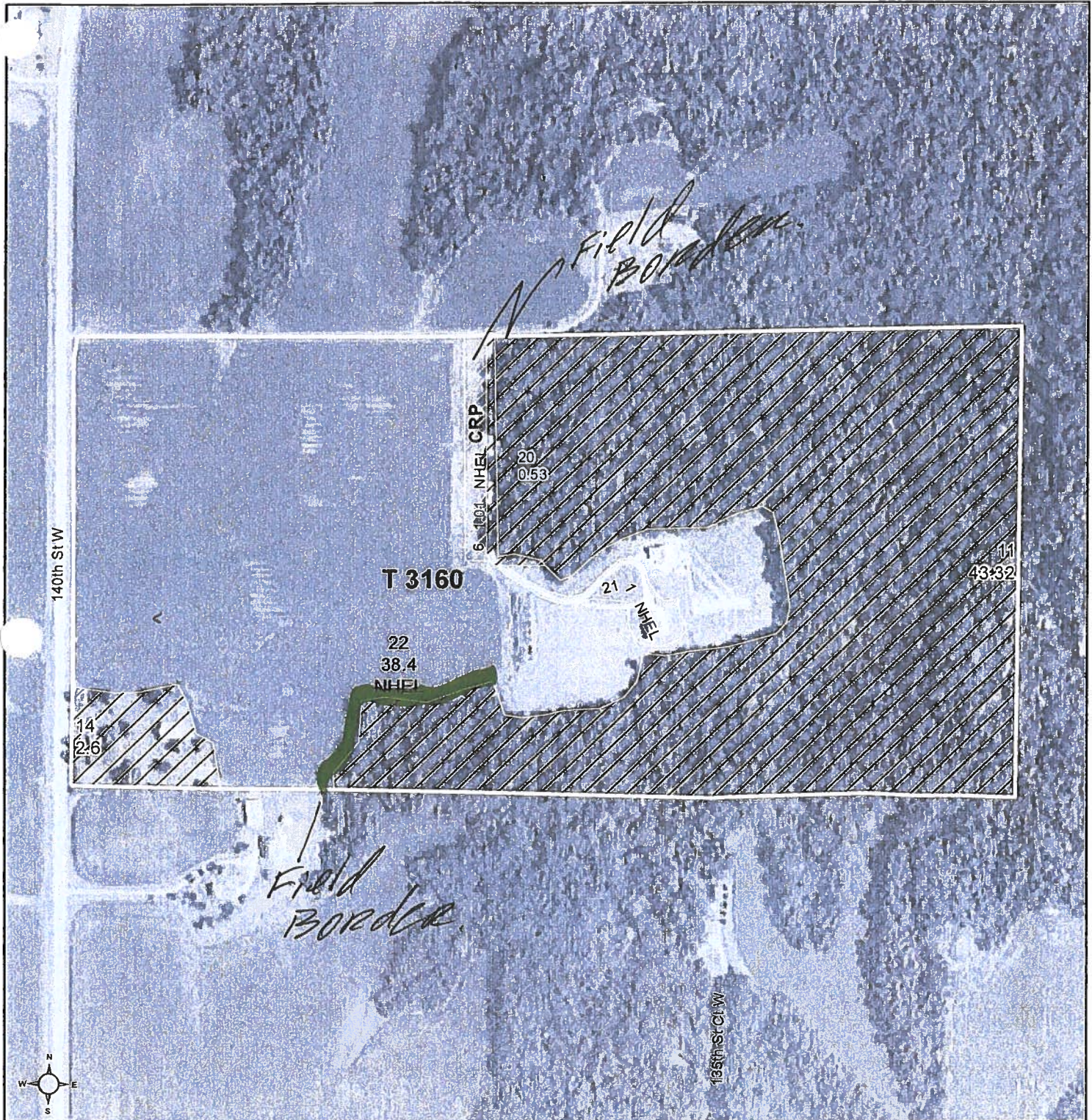
Tract Cropland Total: 166.01 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



Common Land Unit CRP
 Non-Cropland
 Cropland
Tract Boundary

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation
- Compliance Provisions

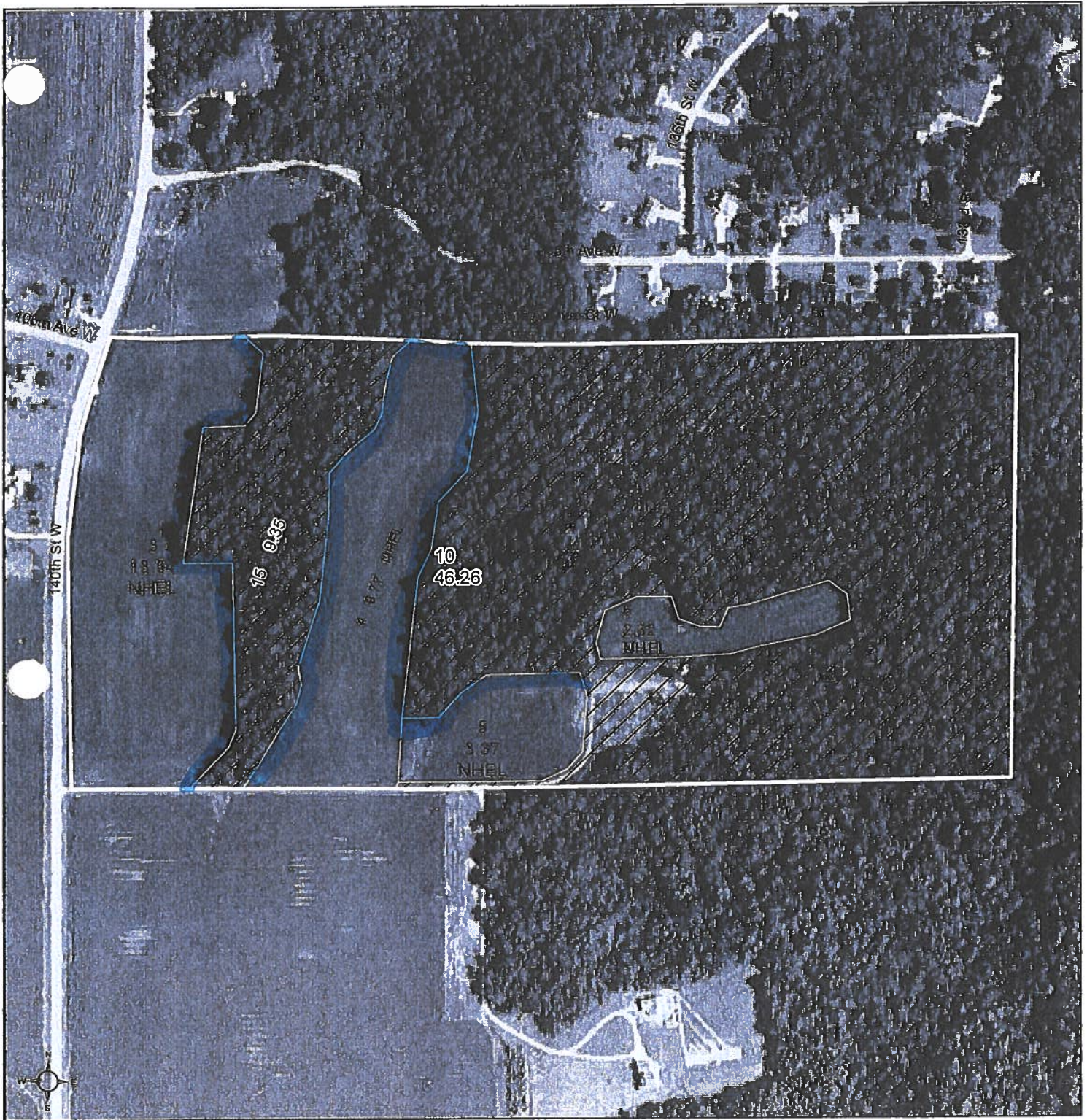
Tract Cropland Total: 40.41 acres

2017 Program Year

Map Created December 15, 2016

Farm **4052**
Tract **3160**

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



Common Land Unit

clu_classification_code

Cropland

Non-Cropland
Tract Boundary

Tract Boundary

0 170 340 680

Feet

2017 Program Year

Map Created December 14, 2016

Farm 4051

Tract 3159

Wetland Determination Identifiers

 Restricted Use

▼ Limited Restrictions

Exempt from Conservation

Compliance Provisions

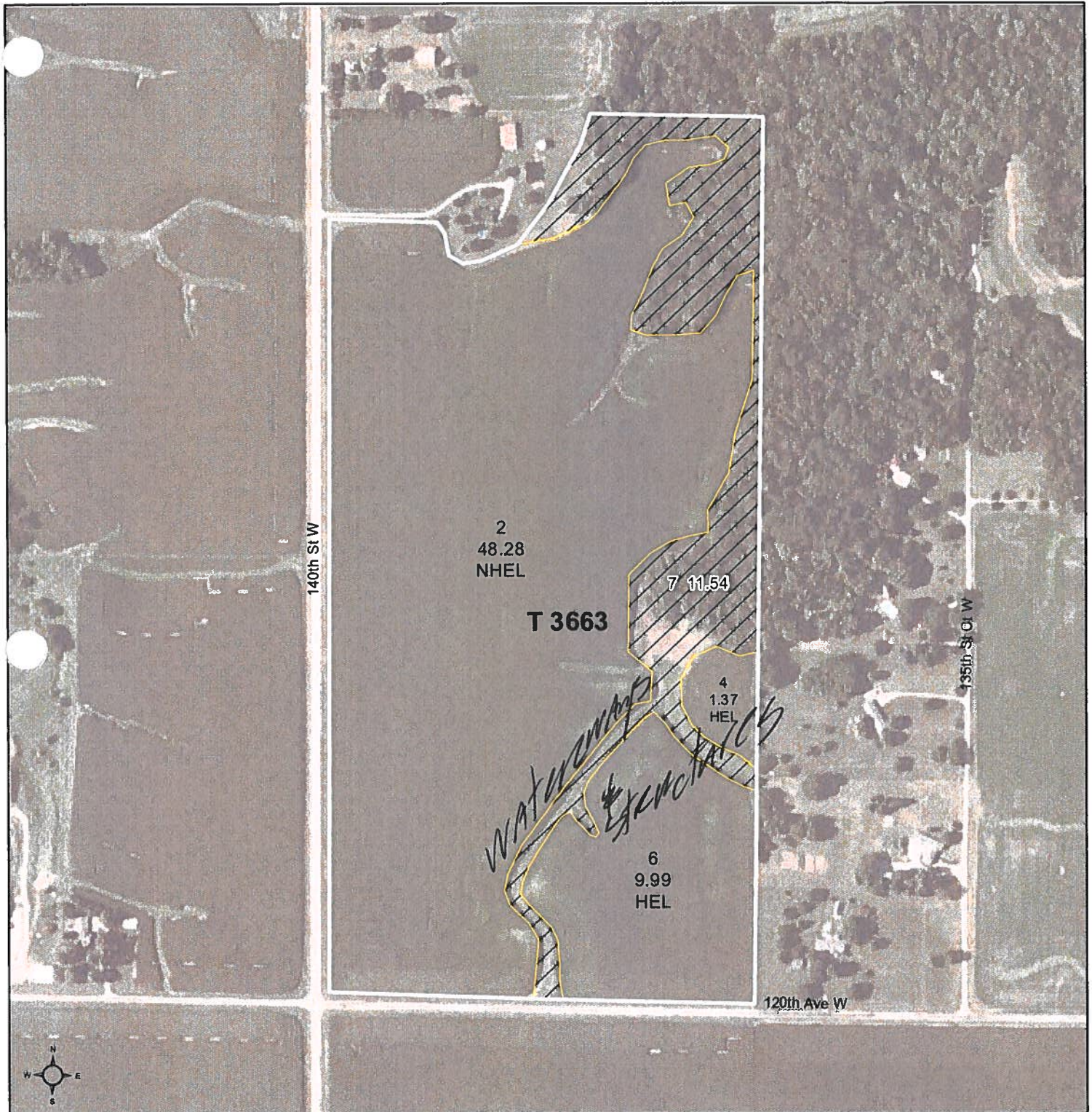
Tract Cropland Total: 29.00 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



Common Land Unit

- Non-Cropland
- Cropland

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions

Tract Boundary

0 170 340 680

Feet

NAIP Imagery 2017

2018 Program Year

Map Created December 11, 2017

Farm **4675**

Tract **3663**

Tract Cropland Total: 59.64 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



Common Land Unit

- Non-Cropland
- Cropland

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions

Tract Boundary

0 170 340 680 Feet

NAIP Imagery 2017

2018 Program Year

Map Created December 11, 2017

Farm 1121

Tract 1611

Tract Cropland Total: 57.04 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rock Island County, Illinois



Common Land Unit

- Cropland
- Tract Boundary

Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation
- Compliance Provisions

0 170 340 680
 Feet

NAIP Imagery 2017

2018 Program Year

Map Created December 11, 2017

Farm 1121

Tract 1612

Tract Cropland Total: 19.31 acres

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and/or National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The producer accepts the data 'as is' and assumes all risks associated with its use. USDA-FSA assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CPA-026 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations or contact USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Production Data Report

Crop Year: 2019

Date: 5/9/19 3:33 PM

Page: 2

DISCLAIMER: This is data extracted from the web farm database. Because of potential messaging failures in MIDAS, this data is not guaranteed to be an accurate and complete representation of data contained in the MIDAS system, which is the system of record for Farm Records.

State & County	Farm	Tract	Relationship to Farm Tract	Producer	Farmland	Cropland	DCP Cropland	CRP Cropland	Eff DCP Cropland	HEL Code	Wetland Code
Rock Island, IL	4057	519	Other Tenant	MUELLER, JASON A	77.28	6.47	6.47	0.0	6.47	SA	DNC
		1623	Owner	STEWART & JAMES MUELLER INC	130.81	117.57	117.57	0.0	117.57	SA	DNC
		1763	Other Tenant	MUELLER, JAMES S							
			Other Tenant	MUELLER, JASON A	466.73	266.96	266.96	0.0	266.96	SA	DNC
		1765	Owner	STEWART H MUELLER ESTATE							
			Other Tenant	MUELLER, JAMES S							
		1786	Other Tenant	MUELLER, JASON A	38.37	38.37	38.37	0.0	38.37	N	DNC
			Owner	STEWART & JAMES MUELLER INC							
		2086	Other Tenant	MUELLER, JAMES S	76.57	75.1	75.1	1.6	73.5	N	DNC
			Other Tenant	MUELLER, JASON A							
		2482	Owner	STEWART & JAMES MUELLER INC	38.00	38.0	38.0	0.0	38.0	N	DNC
			Other Tenant	MUELLER, JAMES S							
		3149	Other Tenant	MUELLER, JASON A	119.04	117.75	117.75	39.42	78.33	SA	DNC
			Owner	MUELLER, JAMES S							
		3150	Other Tenant	STEWART H MUELLER ESTATE	18.82	18.82	18.82	0.0	18.82	N	DNC
			Owner	MUELLER, JAMES S							
Rock Island, IL	4675	3663	Owner	STEWART & JAMES MUELLER INC	139.59	138.21	138.21	0.0	138.21	N	DNC
			Owner	MUELLER, JAMES S							
			Other Tenant	MUELLER, JASON A	78.86	52.24	52.24	0.0	52.24	SA	DNC
			Other Tenant	MUELLER, JAMES S							
Rock Island, IL	4675	3663	Owner/Operator	STEWART & JAMES MUELLER INC	71.18	59.64	59.64	0.0	59.64	DNC	DNC
			Owner	MUELLER, SARAH F							

HEL Codes	SA = HEL: Sys Applied SNA = HEL: Sys Not Applied	SNR = HEL: Sys Not Required 2YR = HEL: 2-yr Implement	DNC = Determination Not Complete N = Not HEL	Wetland Codes	WL = Wetland N = No Wetland	DNC = Determination Not Complete
-----------	---	--	---	---------------	--------------------------------	----------------------------------

Producer Farm Data Report

Crop Year: 2019

Date: 5/9/19

3 PM

Page: 1

DISCLAIMER: This is data extracted from the web farm database. Because of potential messaging failures in MIDAS, this data is not guaranteed to be an accurate and complete representation of data contained the MIDAS system, which is the system of record for Farm Records.

Producer Name and Address

MUELLER, JASON A

14305 120TH AVE W

TAYLOR RIDGE IL 61284-9777

Telephone: (309) 737-5235

Recording County Office Name

Rock Island, Illinois

Number of Farms 6

Number of Tracts 17

Farmland 1745.01

Cropland 1267.26

DCP Cropland 1267.26

CRP Cropland 66.35

Eff DCP Cropland 1200.91

Relationship to Farm Tract

Farmland 1745.01

Cropland 1267.26

DCP Cropland 1267.26

CRP Cropland 66.35

Eff DCP Cropland 1200.91

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Owner

Owner

Owner

Operator

Owner

Producer: **irm Data Report**

Crop Year: 2019

Date: 5/9/19 2:2 PM

Page: 2

DISCLAIMER: This is data extracted from the web farm database. Because of potential messaging failures in MIDAS, this data is not guaranteed to be an accurate and complete representation of data contained the MIDAS system, which is the system of record for Farm Records.

State & County	Farm	Tract	Relationship to Farm Tract	Producer	Farmland	Cropland	DCP Cropland	CRP Cropland	Eff DCP Cropland	HEL Code	Wetland Code
Rock Island, IL	4057	✓ 3149	Owner	STEWART H MUELLER ESTATE	18.82	18.82	18.82	0.0	18.82	N	DNC
			Other Tenant	MUELLER, JAMES S							
			Other Tenant	MUELLER, JASON A							
		✓ 3150	Owner	MUELLER, JAMES S	139.59	138.21	138.21	0.0	138.21	N	DNC
			Owner	STEWART H MUELLER ESTATE							
			Other Tenant	MUELLER, JASON A							
		✓ 3161	Owner	STEWART & JAMES MUELLER INC	78.86	52.24	52.24	0.0	52.24	SA	DNC
			Other Tenant	MUELLER, JAMES S							
			Other Tenant	MUELLER, JASON A							

HEL Codes	SA = HEL: Sys Applied SNA = HEL: Sys Not Applied	SNR = HEL: Sys Not Required 2YR = HEL: 2-yr Implement	DNC = Determination Not Complete N = Not HEL	Wetland Codes	WL = Wetland N = No Wetland	DNC = Determination Not Complete
-----------	---	--	---	---------------	--------------------------------	----------------------------------

S.T.A.R. Field Form Calculation		Acres	Field Name	May 14, 2019	Crop
Name: James and Jason Mueller		Field: 90			Soybeans
9. Cover crops established in the Fall of 2017 using NRCS guidelines (Max of 7 points)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Annual ryegrass * <input type="checkbox"/> Crimson clover <input type="checkbox"/> Oats <input type="checkbox"/> Tillage Radish <input type="checkbox"/> Cereal Rye * <input type="checkbox"/> Winter wheat (even if intended for harvest) * <input type="checkbox"/> Other Species					
5		<SUB TOTAL			
10. Soil Sampling - use previous 5-year history <input type="checkbox"/> Sampled every 3 years or less = (+4 points) <input type="checkbox"/> Sampled every 4 or 5 years (+3 points) <input type="checkbox"/> Not sampled (-1 point) <input type="checkbox"/> Fall sampled (0 points) <input type="checkbox"/> Spring sampled (+1 point) <input type="checkbox"/> GPS sample, either by grid or zone (+2 points)					
5		<SUB TOTAL			
11. Fall 2017 - February 2018 Nutrient Management (check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> NH ₃ (82-0-0) was applied with an inhibitor AND when the 4" soil temperature was consistently below 50 (+1 point) <input type="checkbox"/> The NH ₃ application was less than 50% of the total (actual N) Nitrogen Program (+1 point) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6 No Nitrogen was applied in this time frame, other than MAP (11-52-0) or DAP (18-46-0) (+6 points) <input type="checkbox"/> MAP or DAP applied before December 1st AND a winter hardy cover crop was used (+2 points) <input type="checkbox"/> Manure was applied (0 points)					
6		<SUB TOTAL			
12. March 1st - Summer 2018 Nutrient Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6 No Nitrogen applied in this time frame other than MAP or DAP (and NO fall nitrogen) (+6 points) <input type="checkbox"/> The Nitrogen application(s) during this time frame amounted to at least 75% of the total Nitrogen Program (+2 points) <input type="checkbox"/> The Nitrogen application(s) during this time frame amounted to 50% to 74% of the total Nitrogen Program (+1 points) <input type="checkbox"/> A side-dress application was at least 25% of the total Nitrogen Program (+2 points) <input type="checkbox"/> Manure was applied (+2 points)					
6		<SUB TOTAL			
13. Additional Nutrient activities: <input type="checkbox"/> Nitrogen application on corn: No more than 200 pounds of actual Nitrogen was applied on first year corn (or 225 lbs. on corn following corn) (+3 points) <input type="checkbox"/> Phosphorus: At least 50% of actual phosphorus used was banded subsurface in fall or spring (+3 points) <input type="checkbox"/> Used Triple Super (0-45-0) in fall or spring (+2 points) <input type="checkbox"/> Used Variable Rate Technology application (+2 points) <input type="checkbox"/> A fertilizer source (includes manure) containing Nitrogen and/or Phosphorus was broadcast on frozen ground (-5 points) <input type="checkbox"/> A fertilizer source (includes manure) containing Nitrogen and/or Phosphorus was broadcast on snow covered ground (-5 points)					
2		<SUB TOTAL			
		TOTAL POINTS		41	
14. Crop Rotation <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corn-soybeans (+2 points) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Corn-corn-soybeans (0 points) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Corn-corn-corn (0 points) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Soybeans-soybeans-soybeans (+1 point) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Any rotation with small grain (+4 points) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Any rotation with 1 year of forage in the last 5 years (+5 points)					
2		<SUB TOTAL			
15. Tillage Practices - starting after harvest of the 2017 crop: <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Fall: No-till OR Strip-till (+5 points) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Fall: Any full width tillage operation on soybean stubble (-3 point) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Fall: Any full width tillage operation on corn stalks (0 points) <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Spring: No tillage OR Strip-till (+5 points) Spring: Any full width operation, two or more passes, where 0 no fall tillage was performed (0 points) Spring: Any full width operation, where fall tillage was performed, one or more passes (0 points) Spring: Any full width operation, limited to a single pass, where no fall tillage was performed (+1 point) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 where no fall tillage was performed (+1 point)					
10		<SUB TOTAL			
16. Conservation and Management Practices (check all that apply) (Maximum of +5 points for this section) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Saturated buffers (+2 points) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Bioreactors (+2 points) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Terraces/contours (+2 points) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Constructed wetland (+2 points) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Grass Filter Strip (+2 points) <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Grass waterway (+2 points) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Current HEL Plan (+1 point) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 On-site agronomic trial (includes N rate studies, variety trials, or tissue/plant sampling) (+1 point) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Pollinator plantings (a 1/2 acre minimum) (+1 point) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Attended soil or nutrient management meeting (+1 point) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Have a written nutrient program (+1 point) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Enrolled in PCM, EQIP, or CSP (+1 point) <input type="checkbox"/> 0 Completed S.T.A.R. in 2017 (+1 point)					
5		<SUB TOTAL			
		Maximum of 5 points			

Star Rating scale	
40+ points =	5 Stars
32-39 points =	4 Stars
23-31 points =	3 Stars
18-22 points =	2 Stars
17 < points =	1 Star

CONFIDENTIAL: This scoresheet is only for the participant. Please do not distribute!

Soil Conservation has been a part of this family for generations, because it is the right thing to do. The life of soil is very long compared to the life of man, but one family generation can have a significant impact on its condition and usefulness.

Soil conservation and commercial agriculture is a balance. For example, it is common to drive the countryside and see a farmer disk or field cultivate in eroded spots in their field. It looks smooth and fixed, but unless something is done to remedy the problem, it will do it again. In fact, it is usually more vulnerable to eroding again, to the depth it was tilled! To maintain the profitability and the maintenance of the land requires effort.

Proper waterways are needed to maintain the hollows of a field and are a long-term solution, but they are also difficult to avoid spraying without killing, and it takes money and time to seed, maintain, and mow them.

No till and Strip till work. They are essential to maintaining fields and farming profitable, but extra planning is involved in planting the seed right and keeping the planter on the strips.

Cover crops do provide the cover over the winter the land needs, but add complications and risk that must be managed, and require precise timing to compliment production agriculture.

The help of NRCS and the government payments and reimbursements are crucial to the success of special projects but usually require significant effort and cost sharing from the farmer as well.

Many times, soil conservation is a forgotten cost when it comes to balance sheets. As competitive land rental rates go up, there is very little margin to maintain the fertility and conservation of the soil. Landlords may get a premium now but, in the end, can be left as owners of deteriorated soil.

We are very proud of our family tradition with our relationship with the land. Soil Conservation is not always easy but, in the end, essential the success of a farm now and for the generations to come.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jason Mueller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jason Mueller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.



ROCK ISLAND COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

3020 East 1st Avenue, Milan, Illinois 61264

Phone: (309)764-1486 ext. 3

www.rockislandswcd.org

April 30, 2019

To: Judging committee

Re: Conservation Farm Family – Jim and Jason Mueller

It is our pleasure to endorse Jim and Jason Mueller as Conservation Farm Family for 2019.

The Mueller Family has been involved with farming and the farm community over the past four generations. Throughout those years, they have been actively involved in many community, church, school, and organizational groups as well as passionate advocates for conservation efforts.

Jim served as Associate Director and finally as a Director on the Rock Island SWCD Board starting in 1987 and leaving in 2017. During that time, Jim's farm was the site of the No-Till corn and soybean hybrid plot for Rock Island County. They hosted annual tours and field days showing and sharing information to area farmers the use of No-Till farming, which at that time, was an innovative and controversial way of farming.

They also hosted events for the local Pork Producers, and they participated in showing students from Augustana College farming methods that are sustainable in today's agriculture.

Jason Mueller is Jim's nephew and has been actively involved with the farm operation for several years and has started incorporating the use of cover crops into the operation.

Jason's son, Colby, is using a GPS App on his iPhone to mark location and take soil samples of fields for developing a nutrient management plan for the family farm.

Though the years, the Mueller's have applied conservation best management practices including grassed waterways, grade stabilization structures, Water and Sediment Control Basins (WASCOB), no-till and strip-till farming, and cover crops.

In addition, they maintain terraces on some of their steeper cropland. CRP practices include waterways, filter strips, and some native prairie seeding for wildlife.

The manure from their hog operation is applied to the cropland with low disturbance knives for next years corn crop. Three ponds and a farmstead windbreak add wildlife value to the land.



ROCK ISLAND COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

3020 East 1st Avenue, Milan, Illinois 61264

Phone: (309)764-1486 ext. 3

www.rockislandswcd.org

They believe in doing all this for the purpose of saving the soil for the next generation. This farm and the way they are faring it benefits many resource concerns including soil erosion, water quality, wildlife habitat, livestock health, manure and nutrient management, soil health, and air quality. Recently, they signed up and completed the application for the S.T.A.R. Program and were honored to receive a 5-star rating!

We are happy to endorse the Mueller Family as the 2019 Conservation Farm Family.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Blanchard".

Gary Blanchard
Chairman,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rich Stewart".

Rich Stewart
Resource Conservationist

Soil conservation plan a must for subsidies

By Mary Otto
Correspondent

EDGINGTON — Farmers with erodible land need to start planning now in order to have a soil conservation plan in place by 1990 and remain eligible for farm subsidies.

Farmers whose eligibility depends on having a conservation plan completed by January 1, 1990 and in practice by Jan. 1, 1995 can draw up their own plan, resource conservationist Bill Joseph told visitors on the Rock Island County Soil and Water Conservation District Tour Wednesday.

About 250 residents from Rock Island, Henry and Mercer counties had taken the tour by mid-day Wednesday to see conservation projects on the Margaret and Harley Strope farm, the Alan Fuhr farm, and the Stewart and James Mueller farm in the Lake George Watershed area.

The tour, with the theme "Beyond 1990! Farming in the Future With Compliance," gave participants a close-up look at conservation practices farmers could use to qualify for future subsidies.

"It's important the farmer like the plan, so we set it up nowadays so he can push his own pencil and make his own calculations," Mr. Joseph said. There is a universal soil-loss equation which considers rainfall, different rates of erosion, length and slope of the land, and cropping and conservation practices that a farmer can use to figure out a plan individualized to his own situation.

"There are a lot of alternatives; we

help you identify them."

The plan must be approved by the local Soil and Water Conservation District.

Farmers must understand that the conservation-compliance provision of the 1985 farm bill applies to any highly erodible land where annual crops were grown at least once between 1981 and 1985, he said.

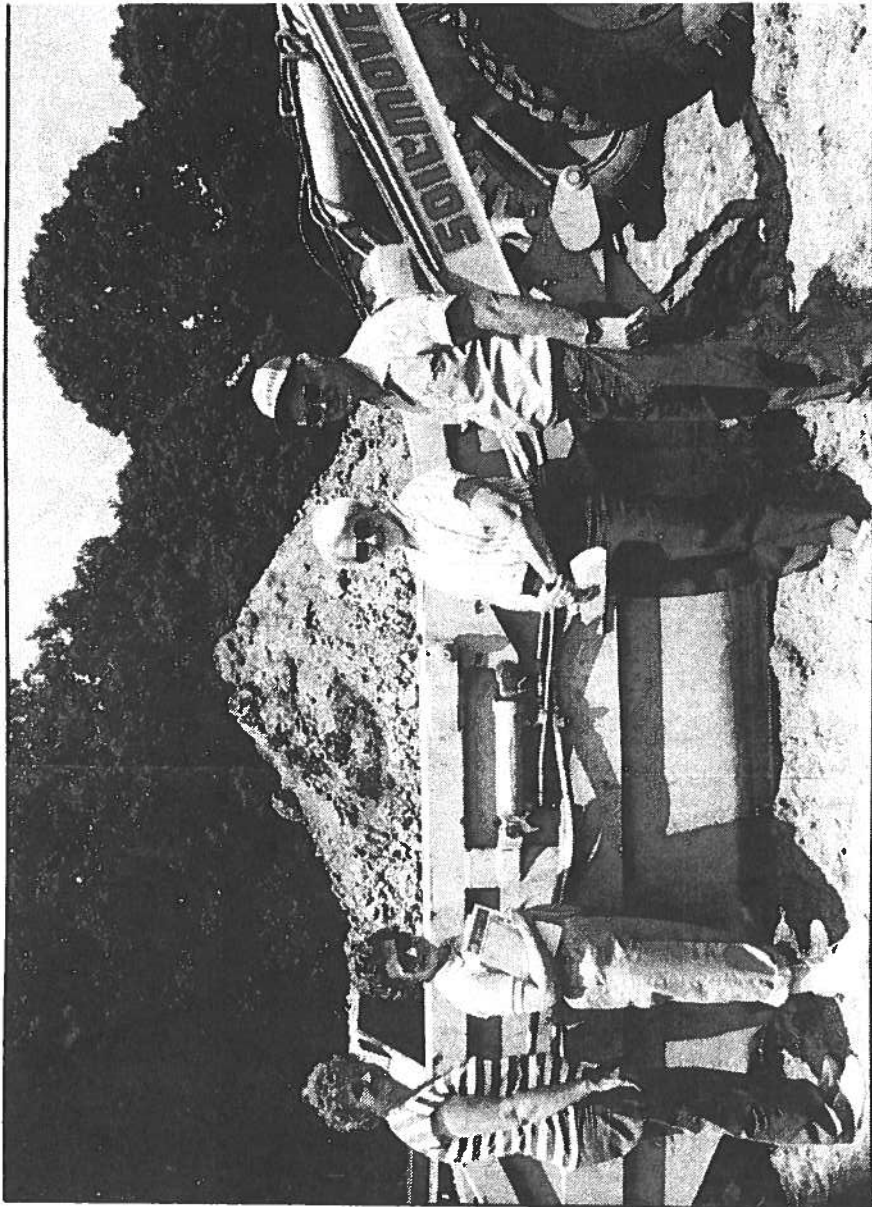
Highly erodible land has an erodibility index of 8 or more. In Illinois, this means nearly any soil with a 5 percent slope, 200 feet long. Clay-pan or glacial-till soils generally are considered highly erodible with only a 3 percent slope.

An entire field is considered highly erodible if one-third of it contains highly erodible soils, or if the highly erodible area is larger than 50 acres.

The "sodbuster" provision of the law disqualifies farmers for certain Department of Agriculture programs if they produce crops without an approved conservation plan on highly erodible land where annual crops were not grown between 1981 and 1985.

The "swampbuster" provision discourages conversion of wetlands to annual crop production. Wetlands are soils covered with standing water or saturated most of the year, and supporting mostly water-loving plants. Converting wetlands to crop production after Dec. 23, 1985, also disqualifies a farmer from certain USDA programs.

Soil management is an important part of any conservation plan, accord-



Jeanean Kimball, left, Buffalo Prairie, Dorothy Mueller and Katie Hofer, Taylor Ridge, and Pete McVeigh, New Windsor, look at a 12-ton load of soil — the estimated

amount per acre lost to erosion each year in Rock Island County. (Photo by Mary Otto).

ing to the experts.

Soil mapping helps in planning conservation practices, said Emil Kubalek, a conservation district resource technician. Areas of different soils can be located on the aerial map of a farm, so soil problems can be worked on.

A study in Missouri indicates clay soil reduces production, but some

farmers say they are producing more now than ever before, he said. "This is because the farmer used to select the biggest ears from the corn crib, shell them, and plant," he said. "Now we have seed-corn hybrids, more nitrogen fertilizer."

"No-till farming saves 75 percent to 90 percent of erosion," said Mr. Kubalek. "The big problem here is

spray application. You have to do at the right time, and with the right pattern. There is no way to correct. Fertility and conservation are connected, said Dennis Thompson, Rock Island County Extension agriculture adviser.

When excessive phosphates and nitrogen erode, they can harm the environment — for instance, by ending in Lake George, he said.

Conservation projects await funding

By Mary Otto
Correspondent

EDGINGTON — Illinois farmers have one week to go until they learn if \$4 million in Build Illinois funds — plus \$1 million in "match" money —

Future with Compliance."

The Build Illinois program originally committed \$4 million a year for the next five years to conservation, he said. However, financial belt-tightening last year lowered off \$1

job enabled him to transfer his personal philosophy of conservation from his home in Morgan County to the entire state.

"My pitch was to protect our mo

1987

5/20/69

THE DAILY DISPATCH

Published in
Moline, Ill.

TUESDAY,

n
ue
ig

n, will
farm
Rock
year.
money.
isot.
ber a
few
country
each

be
the
1968.
posts
ately
be
this

soil
Farm
ratory,
lime-
potas-
sulfate,
ry and
rtilizer
in field



Six-In-One Rig For Corn

led the
ide the
with
history
ment
of the
71,000
farms

The chisel planting technique of minimum tillage is rapidly gaining popularity, and some area corn fields are being planted this spring with this method. Here, Stewart Mueller, Taylor Ridge farmer, points to the horizontal blade "sweep" on his rig, which provides the only cultivation before planting in the spring. Mueller chiseled his ground last fall, then does all the other work in one operation in the

spring. This machine disks, "plows," plants, applies fertilizer, insecticide and herbicide all in one operation — making it a 6-in-one project of economy and efficiency. This is Mueller's first year with the new rig, second one in lower Rock Island County. It is powered by a 130 HP Case 1630 tractor. Son, Jim Mueller, is at right. The Muellers are planting 275 acres of Funk hybrid corn. (Dispatch Photo)

Dispatch & Argus 9-20-98

Behn, Mueller, Gates honored for service

Three area men were recognized recently for their efforts in soil conservation.

■ Jim Behn of Orion was recognized for his service to the Rock Island County Soil and Water Conservation District board. Elected to the board in 1989, he later was named vice-chairman. He has been active in conservation shows, tours and has helped with displays at the Quad-Cities Farm Equipment show, Bald Eagle Days and at the Rock Island County Fair.

■ Jim Mueller of Edgington received the Outstanding District Director award. He has hosted a variety plot for the county for nearly nine years, has helped with the annual tree sale and is also secretary-treasurer of the board. He helps with displays at the Quad-Cities Farm Equipment Show, Bald Eagle Days and at the Rock Is-

land County Fair. He started as an associate director in 1986, was elected to the board in 1987 and has been secretary/treasurer since 1989.

Both men have been advocates of conservation practices, applying a variety of conservation systems on their own land.

■ Joe Gates, from Rock Island County Natural Resource Conservation Service received the Illinois Natural Resource Conservation Partnership award. Nominations are open to anyone in the conservation partnership, which includes Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the NRCS. Receiving the award has special meaning because it comes from his peers, Mr. Gates said.

Mr. Gates has been with the NRCS for 18 years, including four years in Stronghurst and the last nine years in Rock Island County.

Farm tour features soil conservation


The Rock Island County Soil and Water Conservation District is sponsoring tours of the Margaret Strope, S & J Mueller and Alan Fuhr farms in the Lake George Watershed June 24 and 25 to demonstrate conservation measures farmers must take to qualify for future federal farm subsidies.

Emil Kubalek, a conservation district resource technician, said 25 to 50 percent of future farm income may come from federal subsidies. Farmers must have a conservation plan by 1990, and have it in practice by 1995, to qualify for the subsidies.

Larry Werries, director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture, will be the speaker at noon June 24. A representative from Gov. James Thompson's office will be the speaker at noon June 25. Lunch will be served at the show site — one mile north and 2½ miles west of Edgington — both days for a nominal cost, Mr. Kubalek said.

Tour wagons will leave every 30 minutes both days between 9:30 and 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. Twilight tours will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. June 24. A special tour for women in agriculture, co-sponsored by the Rock Island County Farm Bureau, is June 24. Those tours require reservations, he said.

**Rock Island COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT - INSPECTION
PHOTOS**

Date: May 12, 2019	Site Name:
Photo By: Family photo	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: Jason Mueller, wife- Sarah, Children – Madalyn and Colby, and Jim Mueller	
Photo #: 01	

Date:	
Photo By: Aerial shot	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: Aerial view of Jason Muller's farmstead	
Photo #: 02	

**Rock Island COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT - INSPECTION
PHOTOS**

Date: 5/12/2019	
Photo By: The Muellers	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: Drone view of Jim Mueller's house with farm pond in background	
Photo #: 03	

Date: 5/20/1969	
Photo By:	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: Stewart Mueller was an early Conservation farmer with his son Jim.	
Photo #: 04	

**Rock Island COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT - INSPECTION
PHOTOS**

Date: 1986	
Photo By: Rich Stewart	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: No-till corn and soybean plot that existed for 20 years west of Edgington.	
Photo #: 05	


Date: 1986	
Photo By: Rich Stewart	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: The Mueller's hosted annual tours of the no-till plot	
Photo #: 06	


**Rock Island COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT - INSPECTION
PHOTOS**

Date: 1986	
Photo By: Rich Stewart	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: Jim out front and Jason on the right lead many of the visitors to the variety plot. Jason's brother, Ryan joins in the tour.	
Photo #: 07	


Date: 1986	
Photo By: Rich Stewart	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: Jim Mueller discussing his no-till system at one of the annual tours	
Photo #: 08	

**Rock Island COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT - INSPECTION
PHOTOS**

Date: April 2019	
Photo By: Rich Stewart	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: Recently completed grassed waterway	
Photo #: 09	

Date: April 2019	
Photo By: Rich Stewart	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: Cereal rye used for cover crop	
Photo #: 10	

**Rock Island COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT - INSPECTION
PHOTOS**

Date: May 2019	
Photo By: Rich Stewart	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: Cereal rye that will be chopped for forage and planted to no-till soybeans right after harvest	
Photo #: 11	

Date: May 2019	
Photo By: Rich Stewart	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: New alfalfa seeding	
Photo #: 12	

**Rock Island COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT - INSPECTION
PHOTOS**

Date: 1985	
Photo By: Rich Stewart	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: Jim helping the district with their tree packing and sales	
Photo #: 13	

Date: 5/13/2019	
Photo By: Rich Stewart	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: The Mueller's continue to farm with No-till / Strip-Till farming	
Photo #: 14	

**Rock Island COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT - INSPECTION
PHOTOS**

Date: 5/13/2019	
Photo By: Rich Stewart	
County: Rock Island	
Comments: Welcome to the Mueller Farm north of Edgington, IL	
Photo #: 15	