

Winneshiek Soil and Water Conservation District Five-Year Soil and Water  
Resource Conservation Plan (2021-2025)

**Preparer Information:** Winneshiek SWCD, Conservation Assistant, 2296 Oil Well Rd. Decorah, Iowa, (563) 382-4352

**Taxpayer Information:** N/A

**Return Document To:** See above

**Grantors:**

John Lubke, Chairman, Winneshiek SWCD

**Grantees:**

See pg. 2

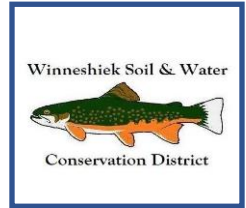
**Legal Description:**

N/A

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Winneshiek Soil and Water conservation District has adopted a 5-year soil and water resource conservation plan which was approved by the State soil Conservation Committee and signed by the director of the Division of Soil Conservation in April 2021. The plan is available for your inspection during normal business hours, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., at the District office located at the address listed above. This notice is given pursuant to the requirements of Iowa Code section 161A.7n(2), or as subsequently amended.



**Winneshiek  
Soil & Water Conservation District  
Five-Year Soil & Water Resource Conservation Plan  
2021-2025**



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Decorah, Iowa 52101

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Soil health and water quality not only determine the quality of human life, but whether human life is possible. Conservation and restoration of our soil and water resources benefits everyone and requires community-wide involvement. The Winneshiek Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) invites everyone to get involved in preserving our essential natural resources for future generations.



*The only known native Iowa strain of Brook Trout was found in Winneshiek County. Efforts are being made to conserve and propagate this strain by introducing it into healthy cold-water streams beyond its current range.*

**Mission & Vision of the Winneshiek Soil and Water Conservation District**

It is the mission of the Winneshiek SWCD to: Be a leader in providing technical, educational, and financial assistance that promotes and implements soil and water conservation projects and practices that sustain and enhance the natural resources of Winneshiek County.

**The Priority Goals for the Winneshiek Soil and Water Conservation District are as follows:**

The priority goals were established in collaboration with input from a Local Working Group (consisting of farmers, local business owners, and other residents of the community), Winneshiek Commissioners and Natural Resources Conservation Service staff.

<b>Priority goal:</b>	Advocate for the support of conservation programming with the legislature and interest groups.
<b>Priority goal:</b>	Educate women, senior, and absentee landowners in Winneshiek County of their property rights and responsibilities to both encourage and promote conservation practices.
<b>Priority goal:</b>	Expand community outreach and awareness on topics regarding soil conservation and water quality through articles, field days, signage, etc.
<b>Priority goal:</b>	Support and execute objectives of the current watershed programs.
<b>Priority goal:</b>	Increase management acres that improve soil health, water quality, and reduce soil erosion.

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

## Who We Are and How We Operate

The Winneshiek Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) was organized at the request of residents interested in soil and water conservation. The Winneshiek SWCD was officially formed in 1942. A charter was issued under the provisions of the Soil Conservation Districts' Law, Code of Iowa, Chapter 467A, on November 20, 1942. In the state of Iowa, the geographical boundaries of the County and Conservation District are usually the same. There is a total of 100 Conservation Districts in the state of Iowa.

The SWCD Board is composed of five elected Commissioners. They hold monthly meetings that are open to the public. They also conduct periodic Local Working Group meetings to obtain input and investment of community members and organizations. Their conservation efforts include education and outreach, and they form partnerships that protect and improve the soil and water resources of the District.

## What We Do and Who We Serve

The Soil and Water Conservation (SWCD) Board's purpose is to be aware of the soil and water issues of the District and work with the community and related organizations to address them. SWCD Boards serve and support individuals, organizations, farmers, urban residents, local school districts' conservation curriculum and the community-at-large in their work.

## What is in the Plan

The Soil and Water Resource Conservation Plan (SWRCP) represents the state of soil and water resources of the Winneshiek SWCD and the priority goals to focus on for the next five years to protect and promote natural resources. The Board also uses the SWRCP to formulate their annual plans. The SWRCP includes a brief history of the District, an inventory of the District's resources, and an in-depth description of the SWCD Board's goals and credits.



Keith Newhouse



Donna Rasmussen



Mark Jensen



Dennis Blumhagen



John Lubke

### Winneshiek Assistant Commissioners

There are currently no Assistant Commissioners.

**Winneshiek Soil & Water  
Conservation District (SWCD)  
Five-Year Soil & Water Resource Conservation Plan  
2021-2025**

**Preface**

*“Man, despite his artistic pretensions and his many accomplishments, owes his existence to a six-inch layer of topsoil and the fact that it rains.” ~ Paul Harvey*

The lands and water we enjoy in the Winneshiek Soil & Water Conservation District are resources borrowed from future generations. We are responsible for their care. This Five-Year Soil and Water Resource Conservation Plan (SWRCP) recognizes that obligation. We have created it with the belief that we can enjoy the benefits of land and water stewardship today, while ensuring environmental security for tomorrow. Your involvement in the plan’s success is your gift to the future.

*“Someone’s sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago.” - Warren Buffett*

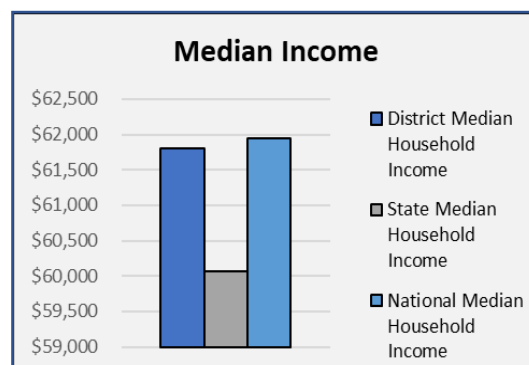
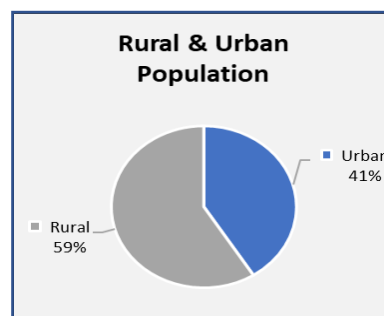
**General Description of the Winneshiek Soil & Water Conservation District**

The total area of the District is approximately 689.9 square miles or 441,536 acres. Roughly 99 percent of the total acres in the District are land, and the other one percent is in water. Nearly 60% of the District population is rural. Urban land usage is less than one percent in the District. Agricultural tendencies of the Winneshiek District have seen pastures, hay ground, and timber ground converted to row crop production. There are no lakes in the District. Towns and rural areas in the District rely on wells for their water supply. The rivers are classified as secondary human contact supplies in that they are warm-water areas for fish and aquatic wildlife purposes. There are various other creeks in the District that would fall in the same category.

**Population & Employment**

<b>General Population &amp; Employment</b>	
Total Population	20,575
Working Population	11,764
Median Household Income	\$ 61,807.00
Female Population	50%
Male Population	50%
Caucasian	96.9%
African American or Black	1.0%
Hispanic or Latino	2.2%
Asian	1.1%
Native American or Native Alaskan	0.0%
One Race/Other Race	0.2%

2010 US CENSUS

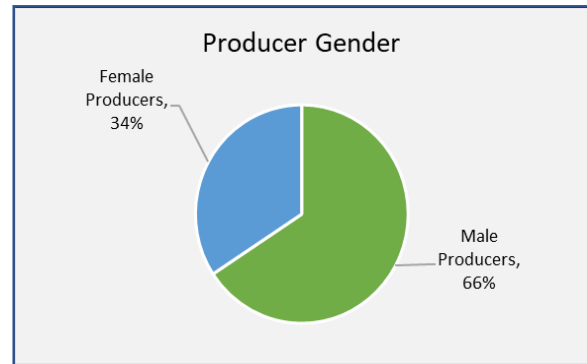


2010 US CENSUS

## Producer Information

Producers	
Total Producers	2,520
Primary Occupation: Farming	1,176
Primary Occupation: Other	1,309
Average Age	57.6
Caucasian Producers	2,483
Hispanic	5
More than One Race	2
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0
Other Race	30

2010 US Census



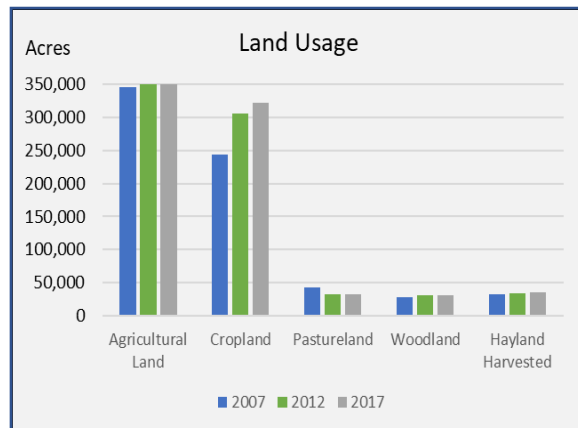
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## Soil & Water Resources

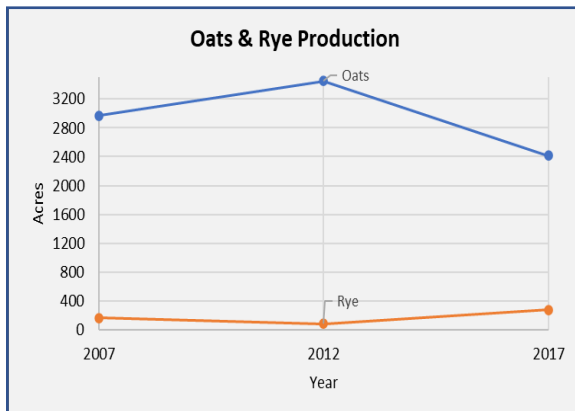
### Existing Land Use

Existing Land Use	
Total Land (Acres)	441,536
Urban Usage (Acres)	3,328
Rural Usage (Acres)	438,208
Number of Farms	1,458
Average Farm Size (Acres)	135
Land in Farms (Acres)	391,000
Percent of District Land in Farms	89%
CRP (Acres)	25,811
Organic Ag. Land (Acres)	6,290

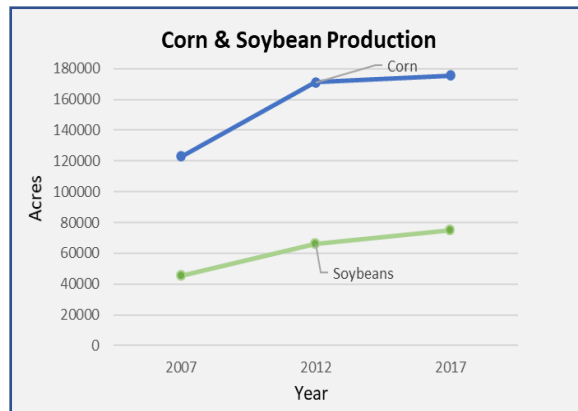
Nass.usda.gov (2007-2017) Data



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**Other Significant Crops**

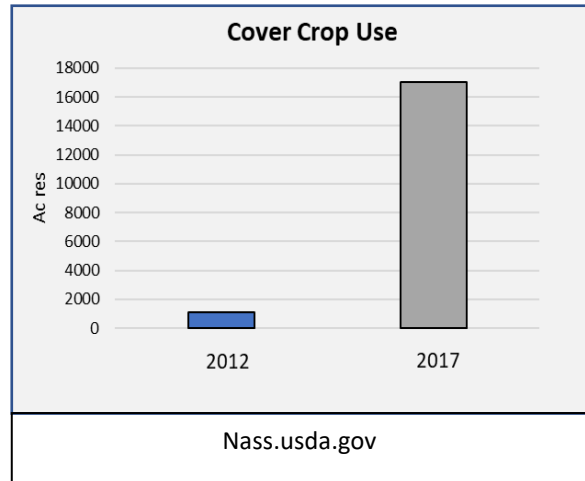
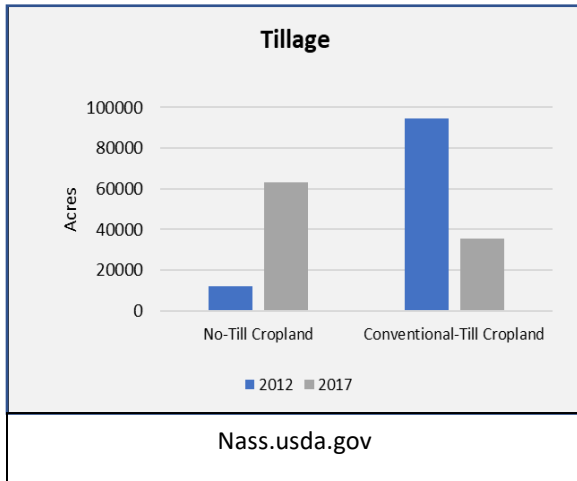
Crop	Acres Produced (2017)
Cut Christmas Trees	67
Vegetables	61
Pumpkins	18
Berries	17
Apples	14
Nass.usda.gov	



Winneshiek County courtesy of Winneshiek CCB

**Soil Resources (refer to maps in appendices)**

Practice	2012	2017
Tile Drained	95,030	103,336
Artificially Drained via Ditch	7,823	7,361
Under Conservation Easement	1,470	5,290
No-Till Cropland	11,906	62,960
Intensive-Till Cropland	94,697	35,628
Cover Crop Used	1,094	17,029
Nass.usda.gov		



Highly Erodible Land	
Total Acres	441,536
Highly Erodible Land Acres (HEL)	255,661
Potentially HEL Acres	92,464
HEL Percentage of Total	58%
Potentially HEL Percentage of Total	21%
FSA 2019	

**Top Crops by Acres (FSA, 2019)**

Crop	Farms	Acres
Corn	1,622	162,246
Soybeans	896	66,309
Alfalfa	834	22,664
Grass	1,541	19,006
Oats	451	7,469
Mixed Forage	559	5,968
Wheat	12	597
Barley	19	562
Rye	19	377
Honey	2	129

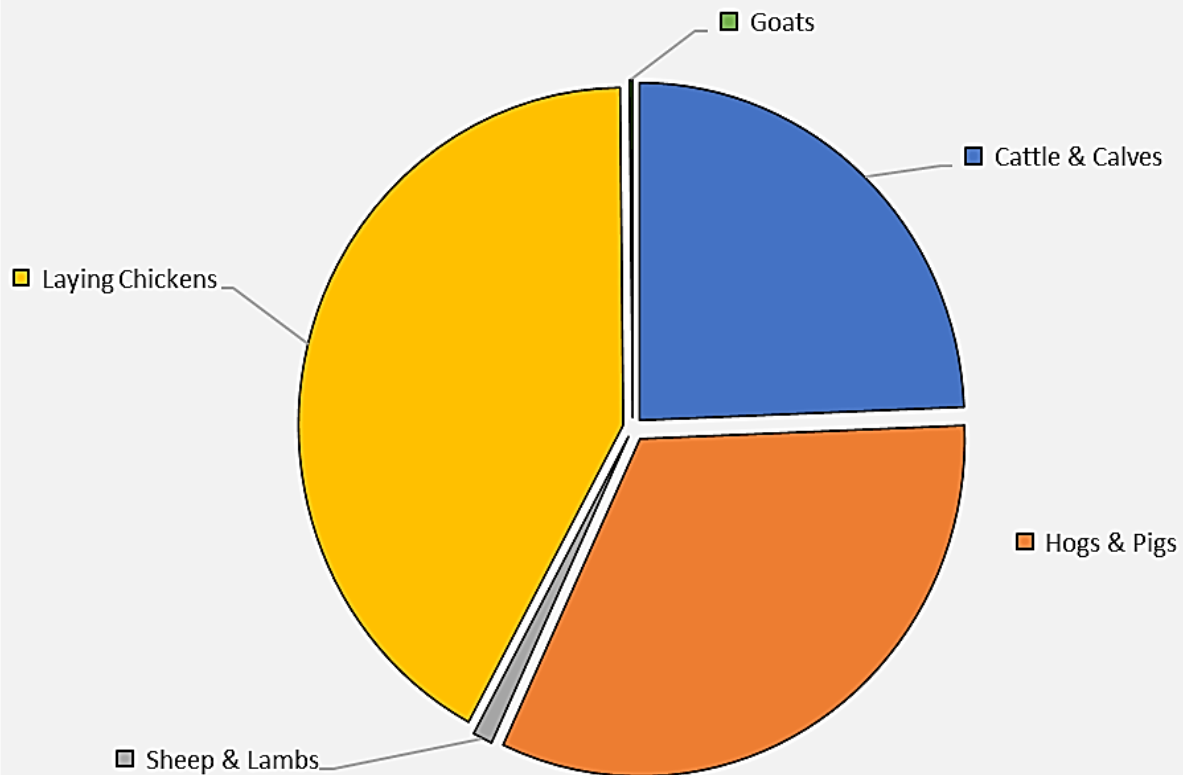
FSA.USDA.GOV

**Livestock & Animals**

Livestock/Animals (2017)	Number
Cattle & Calves	43,995.20
Hogs & Pigs	77,255.80
Sheep & Lambs	0
Laying Chickens	4,318.50
Meat-Chickens	192
Goats	0

FSA.USDA.GOV

**Livestock & Animals**



Nass.usda.gov 2017

**Water Resources (refer to maps in appendices)**

Water Bodies	
Acres of Waterbodies	153
Miles of Perennial Streams	224.25
Acres of Wetlands	415

lowadnr.gov 2019



Fall foliage in Winneshiek County.

**List of Water Bodies:**

Canoe Creek and Turkey River are the longest waterbodies with lengths of 21.68 miles and 20.11 miles, respectively. Other water bodies include Pine Creek, Ten Mile Creek, Dry Run Creek, Trout Creek, Smith Creek, Bear Creek, in addition to many smaller creeks & private ponds.

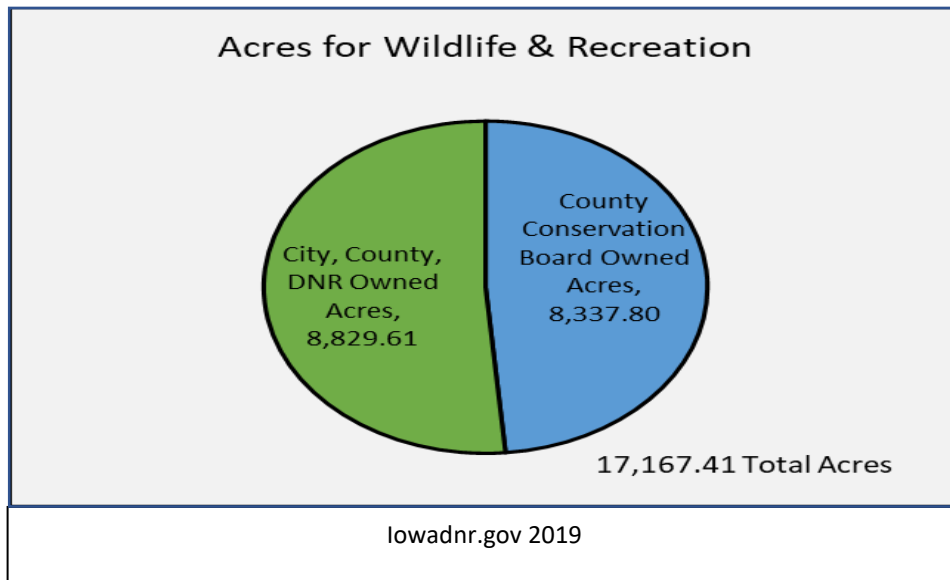
**Watershed Management Authorities:**

Upper Iowa WMA and Turkey River WMA. A Watershed Management Authority (WMA) is a mechanism for cities, counties, Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) and stakeholders to cooperatively engage in watershed planning and management.

**Public Water Sources:**

All towns and rural areas in the District rely on wells for their water supply.

**Recreation and Wildlife**



**Mining & Mineral Resources**

Fourteen pits utilizing stone and gravel resources are present in the district.  
*Please see appendices J and K for full details and map.*



## **Maps and Additional Documents**

The maps and charts included provide further information/understanding about the soil and water resources of the District, and they appear in Appendices F through K.

## **Priority Goals**

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

## **Purpose of the Planning Process**

Planning enables District Commissioners and Staff to take positive, proactive steps to preserve and improve our natural resources.

During the SWRCP planning process, the SWCD Board utilized current information about the states of the soil and water in their District. The Commissioners also requested input from the community through the formation of a Local Working Group, and public involvement in public board meetings about the natural resource issues for the District. The Board established goals for the next five years, seeking partnerships with individuals and organizations that share their concerns and objectives.

The finished Five-Year Plan provides Information about the soil and water issues the District faces, and what the SWCD Board strives to implement to preserve and improve our natural resources. 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 determines their goals from an inventory of the natural resources of the district (above), input of the Local Working Group and the public. The goals for the SWCD for the next five years are listed and described thoroughly in Appendices A through E.

## **Credits for Information/Resources**

These are the individuals and organizations who provided materials, data, and resources for the information provided in this plan.

- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship
- Conservation Districts of Iowa
- Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- National Agricultural Statistics Service
- Farm Service Agency
- US Census Bureau

## **Credits for Input**

These are the individuals and groups that provided input concerning the conservation issues and potential goals for the District.

- Local Working Group Members (Residents of Winneshiek County)
- District Staff
- Elected Commissioners
- Winneshiek County Supervisors

## **Organization & Authority**

The Winneshiek Soil and Water Conservation District was organized at the request of local citizens interested in soil and water conservation on December 14, 1938. A charter was issued under the provisions of the Soil Conservation Districts' Law, Code of Iowa, Chapter 467A, on November 20, 1942. The boundaries of the District and the county are the same, (the exception is Pottawattamie County being divided into two districts). Winneshiek consists of 16 townships. 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 (Chapter 161A.5). 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. At this date, there are currently no Assistant Commissioners serving Winneshiek.

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 (Chapter 467A, Sec. 13-41) 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, but may not be formed solely for the purpose of establishing or taking over the operation of an existing drainage district.
2. The Commissioners of the Soil and Water Conservation District shall adopt reasonable regulations (Chapter 467A, Sec. 42-53) 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 467A also provides for mandatory erosion control after due process.
3. The Soil and Water Conservation District (Chapter 467B) 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. Under Chapter 467C, the County Board of Supervisors can establish districts having for their purpose of soil conservation and the control of flood waters. The establishment of these districts requires the approval of the Soil and Water Conservation District along with the Department of Natural Resources. This section includes the role of the District in representing the rural as well as urban interests in the administration of the Erosion Control Law and other programs in which the District is involved. Consultative assistance is provided to both cities and the county upon request. Also, these authorities are within the Code of Iowa, Chapter 467E – Agricultural Energy Management and Chapter 467F – Water Protection Projects and Practices. However, the ultimate responsibility for soil erosion control rests with the District pursuant to Chapter 161A, Subchapter V. 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.

**Active Memorandums of Understanding have been signed with:**

- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

**District Policies**

Some of the duties, authorities, and responsibilities of the district commissioners are to provide guidance for soil and water conservation in the District. This includes but is not limited to conducting surveys, investigations, demonstrations, and help to determine research needs relating to soil and water problems; to collaborate with other agencies, governmental or otherwise, and with landowners/operators; to promote the development of comprehensive programs of planning, application, and maintenance soil erosion control and conservation practices. Our activities are intended to benefit the people of the district, the state of Iowa and our nation to ensure our natural resources are here for the next generations.

The Winneshiek County Soil and Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity provider and employer in line with all state and federal opportunity guidelines.

Winneshiek SWCD reserves the right to modify the Five-Year Soil & Water Resource Conservation Plan as needed for the best interest of our Natural Resource Conservation Goals.



*Kayaking through Winneshiek County.*

**Statement of Adoption**

We, the Commissioners of Winneshiek Soil and Water Conservation District, adopt this program on the 16<sup>th</sup>  
day of March 2021

John Lubke  
**John Lubke**  
**Chairman, Winneshiek SWCD**

**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: Winneshiek

On 3/17/21 before me, Rebecca Pankow  
(notary)

Personally appeared, John Lubke  
(signer)

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**

Rebecca Pankow  
Notary Signature

(Seal)

Rebecca L Pankow  
Print Name



**Statement of Approval**

This *5-Year Soil & Water Resource Conservation Plan* of the Winneshiek Soil and Water

Conservation District was reviewed and approved by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land

Stewardship Division of Soil Conservation & Water Quality

on April 1 \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

*Susan Kozak*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Susan Kozak**

**Director of Soil Conservation & Water Quality Division  
Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship**

Appendix A

**Priority Goal:** Advocate for the support of conservation programming with the legislature and interest groups.

Actions Planned	Timeframe	Milestones
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold VIP luncheon with local and state-elected officials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annually</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invite State Representatives and State Senators</li> <li>• Invite key members of Winneshiek Local Working Group and local elected officials</li> <li>• Have at least 20 invitees attend luncheon</li> <li>• Showcase local success to encourage future conservation programming support</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a Winneshiek SWCD member or Winneshiek SWCD Local Working Group member attend CDI Annual Conference.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annually</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have at least one SWCD Commissioner or Local Working Group member attend CDI Annual Conference</li> <li>• Represent Winneshiek County through presentation of resolution votes</li> <li>• Pass resolutions and significance of what they mean on to Winneshiek SWCD and Local Working Group</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a Winneshiek SWCD member or Winneshiek SWCD Local Working Group member attend Partnership Day at the Capitol.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annually</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have at least one SWCD Commissioner or Local Working Group member attend Partnership Day banquet</li> <li>• Represent Winneshiek County through preparation of 3-5 talking points to share at the event</li> <li>• Pass discussions from event on to Winneshiek SWCD and Local Working Group</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify entities that have separate lobbying efforts to develop a coordinated message.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host at least one Winneshiek County Local Working Group meeting to discuss District needs</li> <li>• Invite community entities or Local Working Group Members to attend and present at SWCD Board meetings 1-5 times a year</li> </ul>

**Factors Limiting Practice Application**

- Commissioner time and availability to attend meetings.
- Covid-19 limitations for in-person meetings and luncheon.
- Availability of legislatures to meet.

**Actions Needed to Overcome Limiting Factors**

- Determine who will attend CDI Annual Conference and Partnership Day at regular SWCD meeting.
- Host virtual meetings and VIP Luncheon.
- Leverage Local Working Group to assist in promoting conservation at the State level.
- Developing succinct talking points to bring up with legislatures or other audiences.

**Yearly Goal Updates**

Year	Actions Completed, (Date)	Revisions to Goals, Actions	Additional Goals/Actions
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

Appendix B

**Priority Goal:** Educate women, senior, and absentee landowners in Winneshiek County of their property rights and responsibilities to both encourage and promote conservation practices.

Actions Planned	Timeframe	Milestones
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further develop educational outreach with a focus on an audience of women, senior, and absentee landowners.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annually</li> <li>Host luncheon Bi-annually</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generate content with the desired focus to publish once a year in the annual newsletter, on social media, etc.</li> <li>Host or collaborate on a Women’s luncheon biannually</li> <li>Utilize NRCS handout for women and absentee landowners to have as a resource in Office, include in newsletter, etc.</li> <li>Partnering with Women Land and Legacy</li> <li>Provide sample language of conservation provisions in rental agreements from ISU extension</li> <li>Utilize Yellow River 319 Project to support education and outreach for women landowners</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support organizations that provide education to women, senior, and absentee landowners.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify target groups and best methods to deliver messaging to them</li> <li>Provide monetary and/or technical support to organizations that cater to women and absentee landowners</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take inventory of absentee, women, and senior landowners in Winneshiek County.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilize relationship with FSA to develop a contact list</li> <li>Use list as a vehicle to reach intended audiences</li> <li>Invite individuals to voluntarily to provide information for contact list through social media or in-person meetings</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>

**Factors Limiting Practice Application**

- Reductions in staff.
- Obtaining contact information for women and absentee landowners.
  - Requires an FOIA to access FSA database with landowner contact information.
- Renter and landowner reluctance to implement practices.

**Actions Needed to Overcome Limiting Factors**

- Leverage available tracking information for Winneshiek County.
- Demonstrate long-term economic value of conservation practices.



**Yearly Goal Updates**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Actions Completed, (Date)</b>	<b>Revisions to Goals, Actions</b>	<b>Additional Goals/Actions</b>
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

Appendix C

**Priority Goal:** Expand community outreach and awareness on topics regarding soil conservation and water quality through articles, field days, signage, etc.

Actions Planned	Timeframe	Milestones
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop content for local publications and social media to focus on soil conservation and water quality.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>Quarterly/When appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore opportunity to publish an annual conservation edition during Soil Conservation Week</li> <li>Contact local churches to share potential sermon messages pertaining to soil health</li> <li>Publish one article in Driftless Journal quarterly (I.e., testimonials, etc.)</li> <li>Utilize ISU resources in the area to provide content for Journal article</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partner with cooperating agencies/organizations to host, collaborate on, or participate in educational events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annually</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leverage Local Working Group relationships to develop content for educational events (I.e., Land Stewardship Project, NICC, PFI, DNR, etc.)</li> <li>Host or participate in a minimum of one educational event per year</li> <li>Pursue opportunities to utilize rainfall simulator and other experiential teaching methods</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the overlap between soil and water conservation and recreation and wildlife protection.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop signage to highlight conservation practices near recreational access sites (parking lots, canoe rental businesses, etc.)</li> <li>Make contact with outdoor recreational organizations and work on developing water quality message delivery (I.e., Trout Unlimited, Iowa Cold Water Conservancy, Pheasants Forever, Ducks Unlimited, etc.)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>

**Factors Limiting Practice Application**

- Access to funding for educational events and creation of signage.
- Time available to organize events.
- Expanding outreach beyond individuals who generally attend meetings.

**Actions Needed to Overcome Limiting Factors**

- Utilize Local Working Group members and local agencies to assist in development of SWCD events, signage, messaging opportunities.
- Invite local outdoor recreation entities to attend SWCD meetings.

**Yearly Goal Updates**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Actions Completed, (Date)</b>	<b>Revisions to Goals, Actions</b>	<b>Additional Goals/Actions</b>
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

## Appendix D

**Priority Goal:** Support and execute objectives of the current watershed programs.

Actions Planned	Timeframe	Milestones
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce bacteria delivery to the YRHW streams by 90%, and address sediment and nutrient delivery.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual review with progress towards project goals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimize cattle in the stream (unrestricted access) on the entire YRHW and North Fork Yellow River Stream corridors</li> <li>Reduce available manure for wash-off from confinement operations by 50%</li> <li>Reduce bacteria delivery from open feedlot operations in close proximity of priority waterbodies to the YRHW</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stay up to date on latest practices, methods, and cost-share programs aimed at enhancing soil health, protecting water quality, regulating water quantity, and improving community landscape resiliency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual review with progress towards project goals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100% cover by one or more of the soil health or perennial cover practices on Critical and High Runoff Risk parcels as shown by ACPF DATA*</li> <li>40% cover by one or more of the soil health or perennial cover practices on remaining High Runoff Risk and present runoff risk acres*</li> <li>Reduce nitrates to below 6mg/L in all surface and source waters</li> <li>Meet standards for all designation/no impairments</li> <li>Reduce turbidity/increase visibility in surface water during rainfall events to no less than 10 cm</li> <li>Increase native vegetation planting adjacent to streams by 50%</li> </ul> <p>*See Upper Iowa Water Management plan at <a href="https://upperiowariver.org/objectives-strategies-and-actions/">https://upperiowariver.org/objectives-strategies-and-actions/</a> for details</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase interactions with producers in Turkey River Watershed and focus on both short- and long-term reductions in contaminants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual review with progress towards project goals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Broaden interactions with 75% of producers, measured through marketing efforts</li> <li>Reduce N (Nitrate + Nitrite) delivery by 25%, measured through water sampling (long-term)</li> <li>Reduce P (Phosphorus) delivery by 25%, measured through water sampling (long-term)</li> <li>Increase land treatment practices by 50% with landowners where conservation planning and stewardship practices were reviewed, measured through before and after land application review</li> </ul>

### **Factors Limiting Practice Application**

- Landowner reluctance to try something new.
- Landowner knowledge on practices.
- Cost of implementing practices.
- Ability to see change in water quality in a limited time frame.
- Factors beyond our control drive land use decisions (I.e., weather, economics, time etc.)
- Number of staff to assist with practice implementation

### **Actions Needed to Overcome Limiting Factors**

- Host field days or informational meetings for landowners.
- Introduce landowners to other landowners that have already implemented targeted practices.
- Learn more about practices so that we can effectively communicate their implementation with landowners.
- Educate and assist landowners with cost-share opportunities.
- Seek out and learn about new cost-share opportunities.

**Yearly Goal Updates**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Actions Completed, (Date)</b>	<b>Revisions to Goals, Actions</b>	<b>Additional Goals/Actions</b>
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

## Appendix E

**Priority Goal:** Increase management acres that improve soil health, water quality, and reduce soil erosion.

Actions Planned	Timeframe	Milestones
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase cover crop usage for applicable acres.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual review of progress</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase cover crop usage of up to 25% of applicable acres within the 5-year window</li> <li>Focus on corn silage and soybean acres</li> <li>Establish a Soil Health Team as a farmer-to-farmer resource for producers interested in cover crops; could extend to other practices</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase no-till for applicable acres.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual review of progress</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include as a topic in meetings where soil health and water quality are presented</li> <li>Promote no-till practice with soil health principle discussion and its economic feasibility</li> <li>Focus on HEL ground</li> <li>Ongoing tracking opportunities relating to carbon sequestration</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number of acres enrolled in documented and approved nutrient management plans that comply with ISU recommendations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual review of progress</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a methodology for tracking the number of acres with approved nutrient management plans</li> <li>Provide producers with contact information of NRCS approved TSP who can assist with nutrient management plans</li> <li>Partner with Co-ops, agronomists, certified crop advisors, etc. to promote nutrient management plans for cash crop farmers, and include economic benefits</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase utilization of structural practices (terraces, ponds, grassed waterways, filter strips, buffer strips, etc.).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual review of progress</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilize ACPF DATA to identify Critical and High Runoff Risk parcels where structural practices could be implemented</li> <li>Continue to evaluate methods to track practice implementation</li> </ul>

### **Factors Limiting Practice Application**

- Producer interest/availability in both leadership and participation in establishing a Soil Health Team.
- Difficulty in measuring acres where no-till practices are applied.
- Competitiveness and ranking of CSP and EQIP applications.
- Conflicting economic priorities.
- Availability of support and knowledge of funds for practice implementation and technical assistance.
- The need for long-term planning to implement practices.
- Owner vs. operator agreement on practice implementation.

### **Actions Needed to Overcome Limiting Factors**

- Training on methods to implement BMPs.
- Working with ISU, other institutions, technicians, and other NRCS employees on how to track relevant data.
- Delivering message on the importance of legacy and long-term value as opposed to short-term economics.

**Yearly Goal Updates**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Actions Completed, (Date)</b>	<b>Revisions to Goals, Actions</b>	<b>Additional Goals/Actions</b>
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

Townships

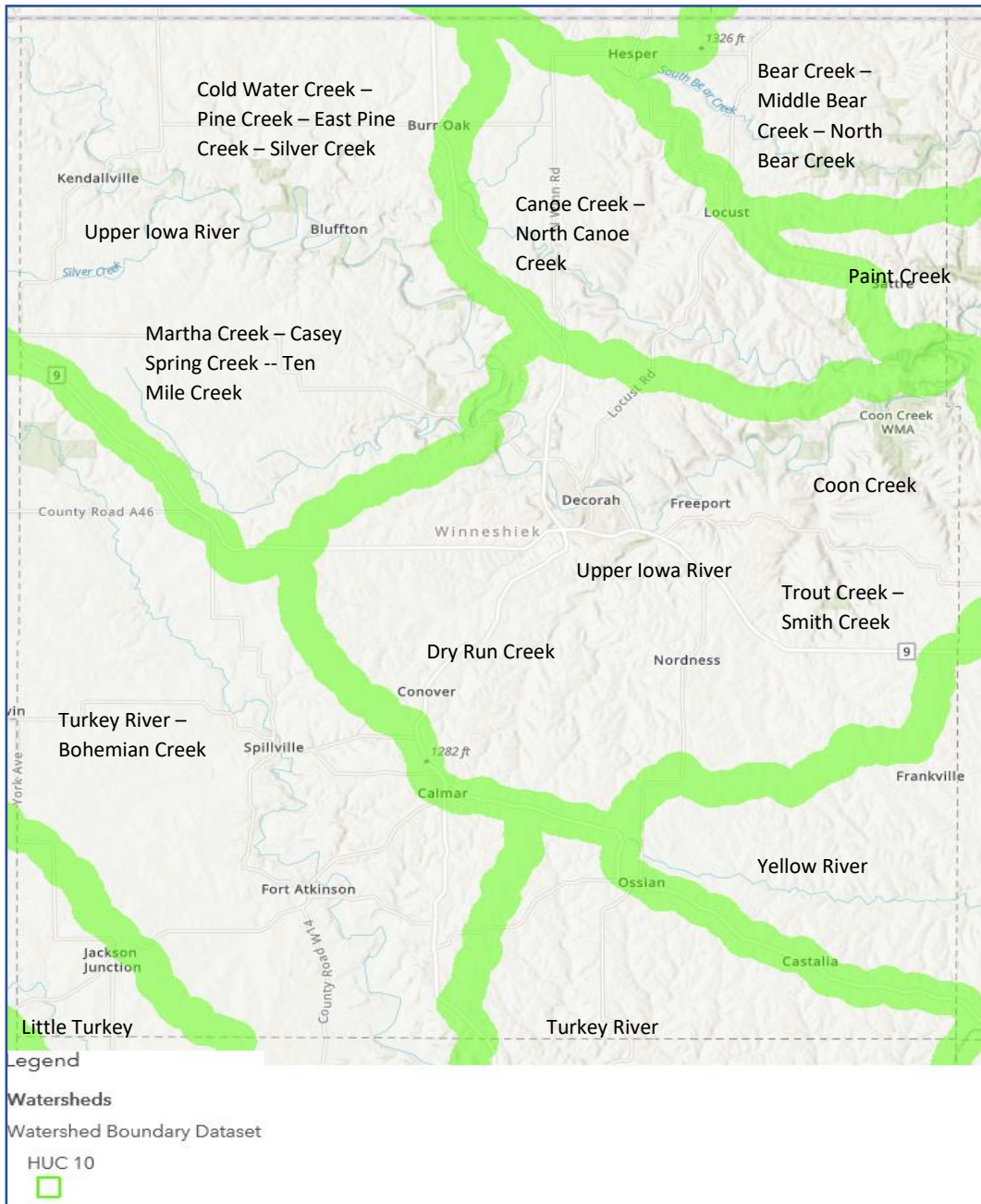


[Winneshiek County Interactive Map](#)



## Maps

Hydrological Unit Code Watersheds Maps: show the full areal extent of surface water drainage for the U.S. using a hierarchical system of layered hydrologic units at various scales, each with an assigned hydrologic unit code (HUC). HUCs are delineated and georeferenced to U.S. Geological Survey. HUC 8 maps the subbasin level, analogous to medium-sized river basins and a HUC 10 covers the drainage area for a watershed, typically 40,000 and 250,000 acres in size.



[HUC 10 Watershed Interactive Map](#)

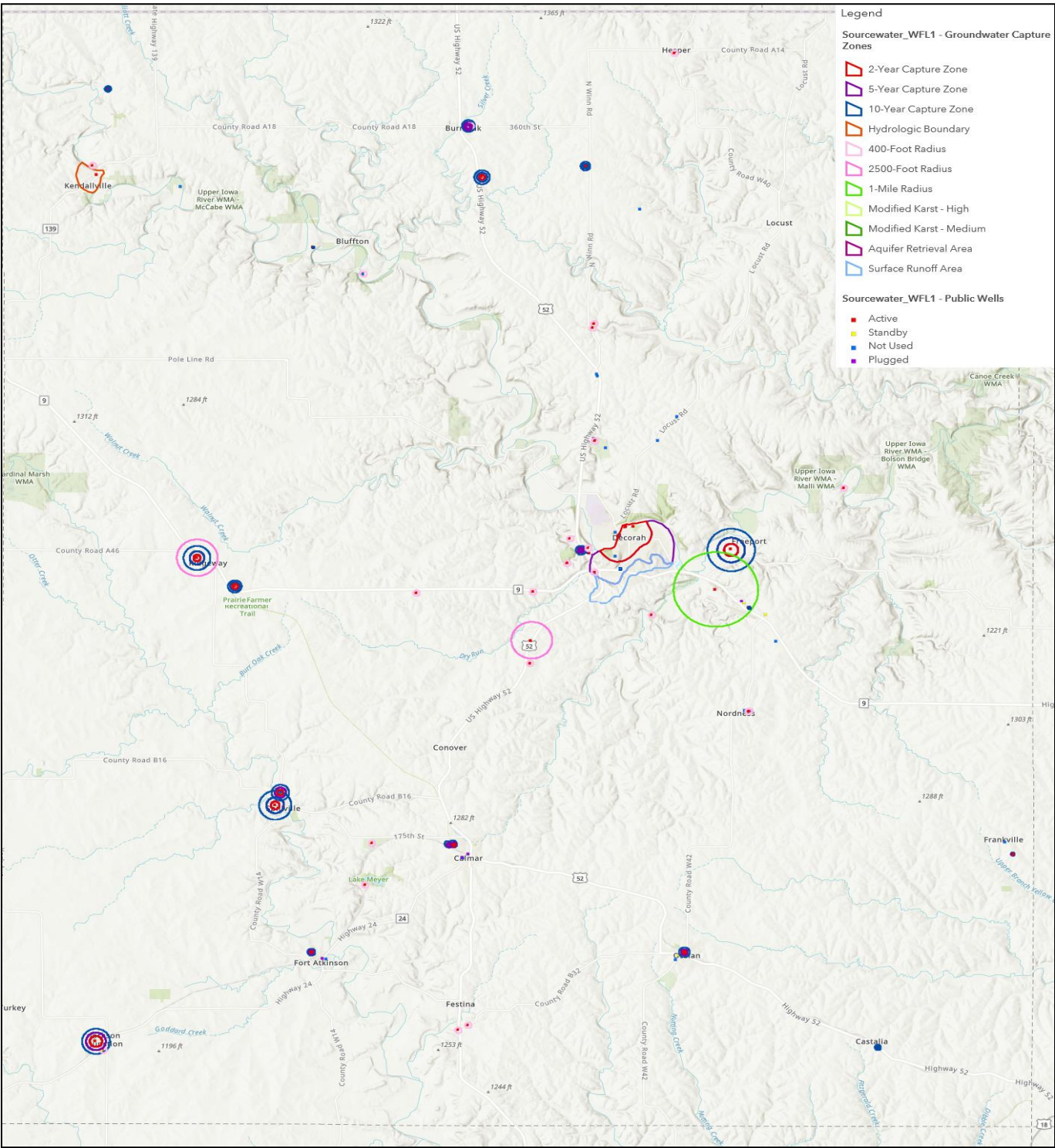
HUC 12 Watersheds



[HUC 12 Watershed Interactive Map](#)

Appendix I

Source Water Map (2020)



[Source Water Interactive Map](#)

Appendix J

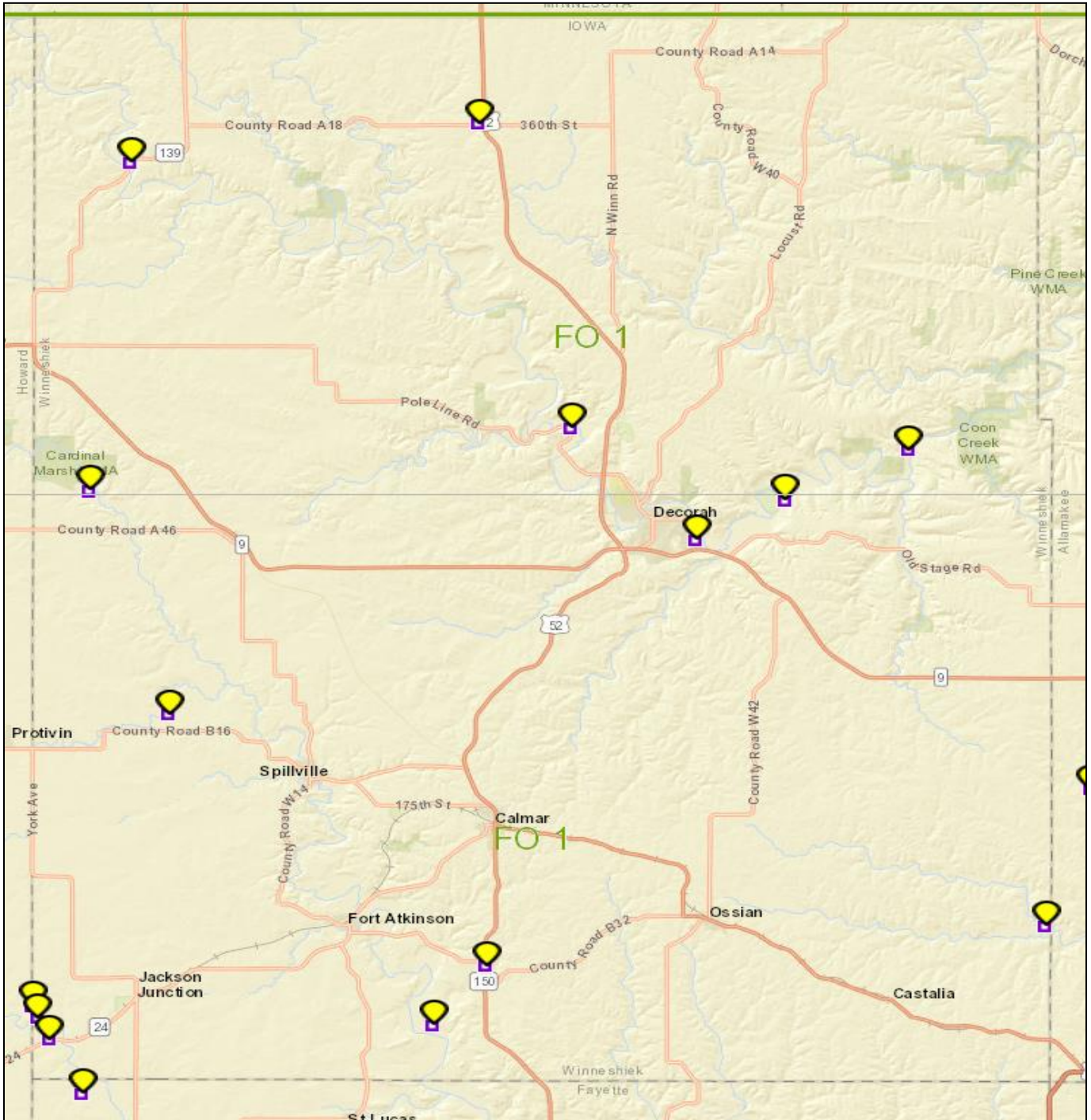
Mining and Mineral Resources (2020)

<a href="#">Facility ID</a>	<a href="#">Facility Name</a> ▲	<a href="#">Address</a>	<a href="#">Programs</a>
<a href="#">312051597</a>	Burr Oak Quarry	2414 County Road A18 Decorah, IA 52101	Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #5 - Quarries- IAG140516
<a href="#">312048183</a>	Busta Quarry	3405 118th St Waucoma, IA 52171	Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #5 - Quarries- IAG140064
<a href="#">312048236</a>	Festina Quarry	1312 HWY 150 Festina, IA 52143	Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #5 - Quarries- IAG140069
<a href="#">312048643</a>	Freeport Sand Pit	2577 River Rd Decorah, IA 52101	Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #5 - Quarries- IAG140113
<a href="#">312051137</a>	Jackson Quarry	3401 Highway 24 Waucoma, IA 52171	Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #5 - Quarries- IAG140441
<a href="#">312050049</a>	Kendallville Quarry	3496 HIGHWAY 139 Cresco, IA 52136	Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #5 - Quarries- IAG140300
<a href="#">313107321</a>	Kendallville Quarry	3496 HIGHWAY 139 Cresco, IA 52136	Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #5 - Quarries- IAG140591
<a href="#">312048263</a>	Lensing Sand Pit	2514 123rd St Festina, IA 52144	Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #5 - Quarries- IAG140072
<a href="#">312050943</a>	Love Quarry	Waucoma, IA 52171	Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #5 - Quarries- IAG140409
<a href="#">312051515</a>	Stika Quarry	1984 312th Ave Calmar, IA 52132	Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #5 - Quarries- IAG140509
<a href="#">312048389</a>	Swedes Bottom Pit	2240 Pole Line Rd Decorah, IA 52101	Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #5 - Quarries- IAG140084
<a href="#">312048334</a>	Wilkins Quarry	2707 River Rd Decorah, IA 52101	Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #5 - Quarries- IAG140079
<a href="#">311306997</a>	Williams Pipeline	900 MONTGOMERY ST Decorah, IA 52101-2343	Contaminated Sites-Chapter 133-1139 Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #5 - Quarries- IAG140110 Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #1-3 - Storm Water-3994
<a href="#">312048343</a>	Wohlsdorf Sand Pit	3305 Madison Rd Ridgeway, IA 52165	Wastewater-NPDES General Permit #5 - Quarries- IAG140080

[Mining Interactive Map](#)

Appendix K

Mining and Mineral Resources (2020)



[Mining Interactive Map](#)

## **Local Working Group**

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

Local Working Groups are composed of agricultural producers, owners/operators of non-industrial 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.

### **Winneshiek Soil and Water Conservation District's Five-Year SWRCP Public Input Meetings**

10/27/2020-Public Local Working Group Meeting

11/30/2020-Public Planning & Input Meeting

