

**Agricultural Conservation Easement Program - Agricultural Land Easement (ACEP-ALE)
 Parcel Eligibility and Ranking Form**

Fiscal Year	
Landowner Name and Address	
Eligible entities names and addresses	
Parcel Location:	Locality (Town/Township):
County:	State:
Are all landowners of record AGI eligible? (Y/N)	
Are all landowners of record HEL eligible? (Y/N)	
Are all landowners of record WC eligible? (Y/N)	
NRCS employee confirming landowner eligibility:	
Name:	Signature:
Is the entity eligible? (Y/N)	
NRCS employee confirming entity eligibility:	
Name:	Signature:
Does the eligible entity have a written pending offer for the parcel? (Y/N)	
NRCS employee confirming written pending offer:	
Name:	Signature:
Does the land (<i>enter a response for each</i>):	
_____ Have 50-percent prime, unique, and important farmland? (Y/N)	
_____ Have historical or archeological resources? (Y/N)	
_____ Protect grazing uses and related conservation values by restoring and conserving land? (Y/N)	
_____ Have land that supports the policy of a State or local farm and ranch land protection program? (Y/N)	
Is the land eligible? (Y/N)	
Which land eligibility criteria is the land being enrolled under? (<i>Identify only one eligibility category</i>)	

NRCS employee confirming land eligibility:	
Name:	Signature:

National Ranking Criteria (Must be 200 Points Maximum)		
National Ranking Factors and Scaling	Maximum Points	Points
<p><u>N1.</u> Percent of prime, unique, and important soils in the parcel to be protected</p> <p>(0 points for 50 percent or less, 4 points for greater than 50 percent and less than or equal to 60 percent, 8 points for greater than 60 percent and less than or equal to 70 percent, 12 points for greater than 70 percent and less than or equal to 80 percent, 17 points for greater than 80 percent)</p>	17	
<p><u>N2.</u> Percent of cropland, pastureland, grassland, and rangeland in the parcel to be protected</p> <p>(0 points for 33 percent or less, 4 points for greater than 33 percent and less than or equal to 40 percent, 8 points for greater than 40 percent and less than or equal to 50 percent, 17 points for greater than 50 percent)</p>	17	
<p><u>N3.</u> Ratio of the total acres of land in the parcel to be protected to average farm size in the county according to the most recent USDA Census of Agriculture (USDA - NASS - Census of Agriculture)</p> <p>(0 points for a ratio of 1.0 or less, 7 points for ratios of greater than 1.0 and less than or equal to 2.0, 15 points for ratios of greater than 2.0)</p>	15	
<p><u>N4.</u> Decrease in the percentage of acreage of farm and ranch land in the county in which the parcel is located between the last two USDA Censuses of Agriculture (USDA - NASS - Census of Agriculture)</p> <p>(0 points for decrease of 0 percent or less, 1 points for decreases of greater than 0 and less than or equal to 5 percent, 5 points for decrease of greater than 5 and less than or equal to 10 percent, 9 points for decreases of greater than 10 and less than or equal to 15 percent, 16 points for decreases of more than 15 percent)</p>	16	
<p><u>N5.</u> Decrease in the percentage of acreage of permanent grassland, pasture, and rangeland, other than cropland and woodland pasture, in the county in which the parcel is located between the last two USDA Censuses of Agriculture (USDA - NASS - Census of Agriculture)</p> <p>(0 points for decrease of 0 percent or less, 3 points for decreases of greater than 0 and less than or equal to 5 percent, 5 points for decrease of greater than 5 and less than or equal to 10 percent, 8 points for decreases of greater than 10 and less than or equal to 15 percent, 15 points for decreases of more than 15 percent)</p>	15	

National Ranking Factors and Scaling	Maximum Points	Points
<p><u>N6. Percent population growth in the county as documented by the most recent United States Census (Census Bureau Home Page)</u></p> <p>(0 points for growth rate of less than one times the State growth rate, 4 points for growth rate of greater than one and less than or equal to two times the State growth rate, 7 points for growth rate of two and less than or equal to three times the State growth rate, 15 points for growth rate of more than three times the State growth rate)</p>	15	
<p><u>N7. Population density (population per square mile) as documented by the most recent United States Census (Census Bureau Home Page)</u></p> <p>(0 points for population density less than one times the State population density, 4 points for population density of greater than one and less than or equal to two times the State population density, 7 points for population density of greater than two and less than or equal to three times the State population density, 15 points for population density of greater than three times the State population density)</p>	15	
<p><u>N8. Existence of a farm or ranch succession plan or similar plan established to address farm viability for future generations</u></p> <p>(0 points for no plan, 7 points for a plan, 15 points for plan documented and performed by industry professional)</p>	15	
<p><u>N9. Proximity of the parcel to other protected land, such as compatible military installations; land owned in fee title by the United States or an Indian Tribe, State or local government, or by a nongovernmental organization whose purpose is to protect agricultural use and related conservation values; or land that is already subject to an easement or deed restriction that limits the conversion of the land to nonagricultural use or protects grazing uses and related conservation values.</u></p> <p>(0 points easement offer area (EOA) boundary greater than 3 miles from the protected land boundary, 4 points EOA is greater than 1 miles but less than 3 miles from protected land, 7 points EOA is within 1 mile of protected land boundary, 15 points EOA boundary adjoins protected land boundary)</p>	15	
<p><u>N10. Proximity of the parcel to other agricultural operations and agricultural infrastructure</u></p> <p>(0 points if EOA boundary greater than 3 miles in proximity, 4 points if EOA is greater than or equal to 1 miles but less than 3 miles in proximity, 7 points EOA is within 1 mile in proximity, 15 points EOA boundary adjoins)</p>	15	
<p><u>N11. Parcel ability to maximize the protection of contiguous or proximal acres devoted to agricultural use</u></p> <p>(15 points if the parcel links two noncontinuous corridors of protected agricultural use, 6 points if parcel is a contiguous or proximal expansion of agricultural use protected area, 0 points parcel does not increase a protected agricultural use area)</p>	15	

National Ranking Factors and Scaling	Maximum Points	Points
<u>N12.</u> Currently enrolled in CRP in a contract that is set to expire within a year (15 points for Yes, 0 points for No)	15	
<u>N13.</u> The parcel is a grassland of special environmental significance that will benefit from the protection under the long-term easement (15 points if Yes, 0 points if No)	15	
Total Points for National Ranking Factors	200	

State Ranking Factors – (Maximum of 200 Points)

State Ranking Factors	Maximum Points	Points
<u>S1.</u> The parcel is located in a priority resource area designated by the Iowa State Technical committee Strategic plan (see attached maps) Grasslands Priority Areas 30 points Iowa Wildlife Action plan areas 20 points Iowa Watershed Initiative areas 10 points (0 points for not located in any of the above areas)	30	
<u>S2.</u> Eligible entity has demonstrated performance in managing and enforcing easements by monitoring 80 percent or more of its easements each year. (10 points for Yes, 0 points for no or if there is no documentation to support a “Yes” determination)	10	
<u>S3.</u> The parcel is located in or adjacent to a designation Bird Conservation Area or contains warm season native grass pastures. (30 points for BCA, 15 for warm season native grass pastures, 0 points for None of the above)	30	
<u>S4.</u> Parcel contains habitat for species of interest (30 points for federally listed threatened and endangered species, 20 points for federally listed candidate species, 10 points for State listed threatened and endangered, 5 points for State species of concern (according to State criteria), 0 points for no species)	30	
<u>S5.</u> Parcel will contain pollinator habitat and landowner will practice Integrated Pest Management to assist in the recovery of Monarch Butterflies and other local pollinators. (30 points Yes, 0 points No)	30	
<u>S6.</u> Enrollment of parcel will provide diversity of natural resource protections. (as recorded on CPA-52) (30 points for 5 or more resource protections, 20 points for 3 to 4 resources, 10 points for 1 to 2 resources, 5 points for 1 resource, 0 points for no resources protected)	30	

<p><u>S7.</u> Contains state-specific factors for grasslands of special environmental significance (little to now invasive species & threat of conversion & native or naturalized prairie & habitat for T&E or at-risk species) (20 points for Yes, 0 points for No)</p>	<p>20</p>	
<p><u>S8.</u> Protecting the parcel provides the multifunctional benefit of farm or rangeland protection or improvement such as: Are landowners a historically underserved group, small scale farmer, limited resource landowner, new or beginning farmer or rancher or veteran landowner (20 points for Yes, 0 points for No)</p>	<p>20</p>	
<p>Total Points for State Ranking Factors</p>	<p>200</p>	

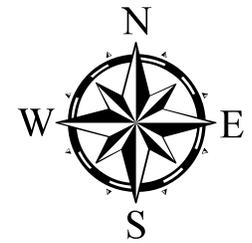
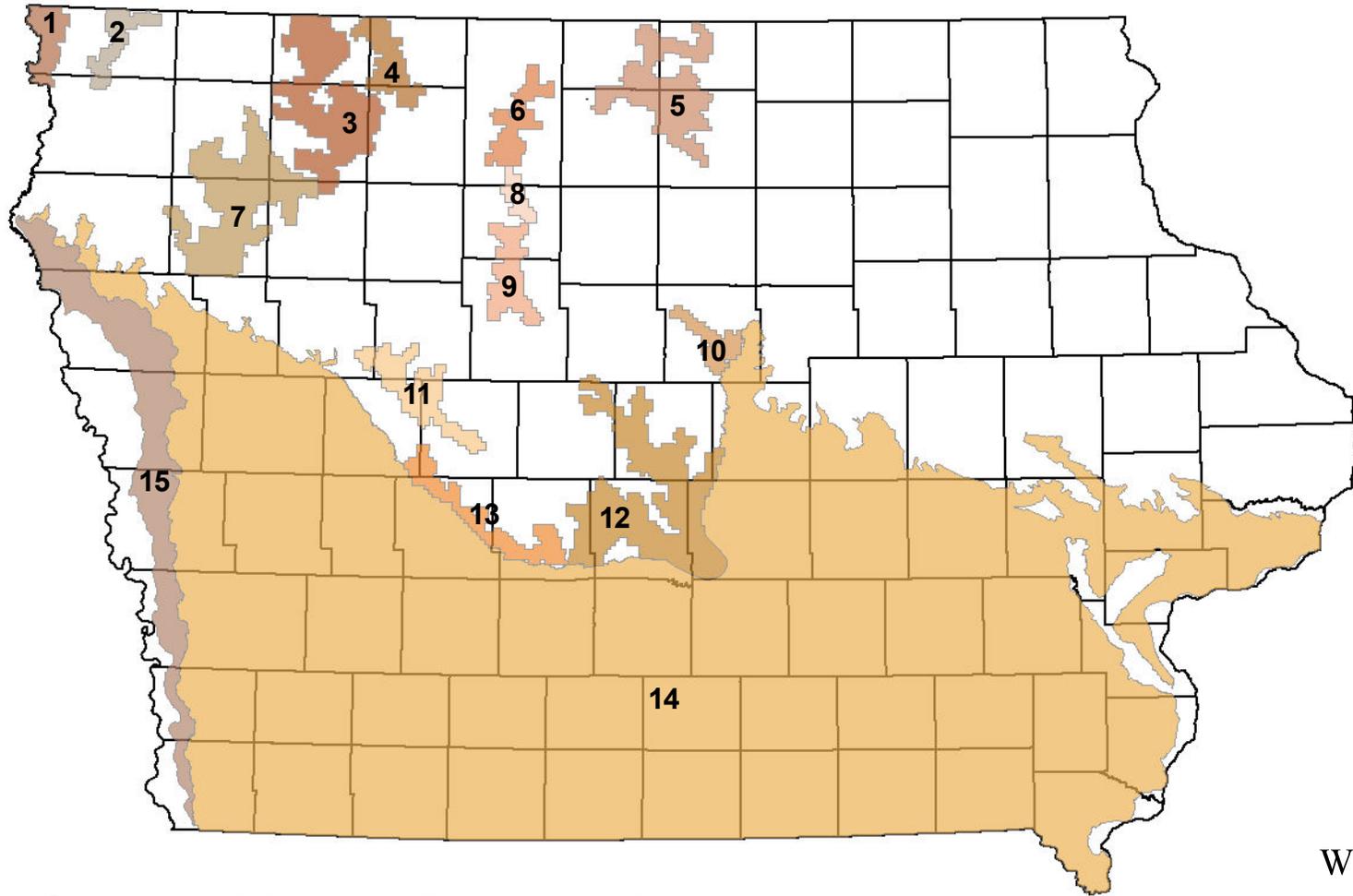
Land Unit	2012 Ag Census Average Size Farm in Acres	2012 Ag Census Farm Land in Acres	2007 Ag Census Farm Land in Acres	2012 to 2007 Ag Census Decrease in Farm Land by %	2010 US Census Resident total pop.	2000 US Census Resident total pop.	2010 to 2000 US Census pop. growth by %	Land area in square miles	2010 US Census pop. density per square mile	2012 Ag Census Pasture Land in Acres	2007 Ag Census Pasture Land in Acres	2012 to 2007 Ag Census Decrease in Pasture Land by %
Statewide	345	30,622,731	30,747,550	-0.4%	3,046,355	2,926,324	4%	55,858	55	2,478,116	3,144,321	-21%
Adair	446	323,549	311,678	3.8%	7,682	8,243	-7%	569	13	58,227	60,469	-4%
Adams	491	229,267	224,882	1.9%	4,029	4,482	-10%	423	10	50,871	48,421	5%
Allamakee	286	289,164	274,844	5.2%	14,330	14,675	-2%	639	22	59,693	71,440	-16%
Appanoose	252	187,713	197,904	-5.1%	12,887	13,721	-6%	497	26	56,479	75,889	-26%
Audubon	451	280,351	279,079	0.5%	6,119	6,830	-10%	443	14	12,249	22,891	-46%
Benton	347	422,127	400,934	5.3%	26,076	25,308	3%	716	36	21,304	31,518	-32%
Black Hawk	321	296,765	282,163	5.2%	131,090	128,012	2%	566	232	9,640	10,099	-5%
Boone	334	313,343	332,048	-5.6%	26,306	26,224	0%	572	46	12,638	18,403	-31%
Bremer	276	271,500	243,057	11.7%	24,276	23,325	4%	435	56	9,120	10,037	-9%
Buchanan	318	341,903	360,316	-5.1%	20,958	21,093	-1%	571	37	10,757	14,220	-24%
Buena Vista	421	360,849	362,553	-0.5%	20,260	20,411	-1%	575	35	11,353	13,811	-18%
Butler	331	362,751	375,781	-3.5%	14,867	15,305	-3%	580	26	15,038	19,487	-23%
Calhoun	434	358,205	359,434	-0.3%	9,670	11,115	-13%	570	17	9,625	11,219	-14%
Carroll	337	358,858	358,142	0.2%	20,816	21,421	-3%	569	37	14,106	21,306	-34%
Cass	412	289,926	317,913	-8.8%	13,956	14,684	-5%	564	25	32,979	43,208	-24%
Cedar	327	312,457	336,885	-7.3%	18,499	18,187	2%	579	32	20,134	25,047	-20%
Cerro Gordo	419	326,879	336,732	-2.9%	44,151	46,447	-5%	568	78	8,560	9,209	-7%
Cherokee	419	337,334	314,896	7.1%	12,072	13,035	-7%	577	21	32,296	31,852	1%
Chickasaw	289	299,179	289,146	3.5%	12,439	13,095	-5%	504	25	16,346	11,404	43%
Clarke	269	168,964	190,727	-11.4%	9,286	9,133	2%	431	22	52,303	67,198	-22%
Clay	443	318,216	328,216	-3.0%	16,667	17,372	-4%	567	29	13,267	15,731	-16%
Clayton	252	398,022	409,987	-2.9%	18,129	18,678	-3%	779	23	40,612	56,064	-28%
Clinton	335	417,189	395,585	5.5%	49,116	50,149	-2%	695	71	27,383	28,922	-5%
Crawford	501	450,871	432,351	4.3%	17,096	16,942	1%	714	24	32,436	39,473	-18%
Dallas	306	306,423	297,090	3.1%	66,135	40,750	62%	588	112	19,516	27,781	-30%
Davis	233	214,033	218,698	-2.1%	8,753	8,541	2%	502	17	56,023	67,711	-17%
Decatur	326	231,504	228,528	1.3%	8,457	8,689	-3%	532	16	71,166	77,466	-8%

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Delaware	265	365,560	333,920	9.5%	17,764	18,404	-3%	578	31	22,339	25,812	-13%
Des Moines	260	172,683	184,975	-6.6%	40,325	42,351	-5%	416	97	13,772	15,416	-11%
Dickinson	425	187,363	226,331	-17.2%	16,667	16,424	1%	381	44	7,886	12,137	-35%
Dubuque	199	291,441	310,817	-6.2%	93,653	89,143	5%	608	154	37,006	50,328	-26%
Emmet	461	218,987	249,779	-12.3%	10,302	11,027	-7%	396	26	9,194	11,471	-20%
Fayette	302	388,497	417,219	-6.9%	20,880	22,008	-5%	731	29	24,921	33,645	-26%
Floyd	337	317,709	417,219	-23.9%	16,303	16,900	-4%	501	33	9,856	12,204	-19%
Franklin	417	335,381	366,609	-8.5%	10,680	10,704	0%	582	18	8,659	11,547	-25%
Fremont	539	287,545	245,299	17.2%	7,441	8,010	-7%	511	15	16,912	17,424	-3%
Greene	458	356,867	353,516	0.9%	9,336	10,366	-10%	570	16	15,898	21,844	-27%
Grundy	432	318,047	315,968	0.7%	12,453	12,369	1%	502	25	6,252	7,605	-18%
Guthrie	395	327,627	354,851	-7.7%	10,954	11,353	-4%	591	19	36,709	52,935	-31%
Hamilton	430	327,031	346,552	-5.6%	15,673	16,438	-5%	577	27	6,431	10,592	-39%
Hancock	397	353,351	361,066	-2.1%	11,341	12,100	-6%	571	20	4,749	7,437	-36%
Hardin	406	332,266	339,001	-2.0%	17,534	18,812	-7%	569	31	13,653	17,551	-22%
Harrison	481	393,638	365,071	7.8%	14,928	15,666	-5%	697	21	29,159	43,365	-33%
Henry	299	269,561	239,628	12.5%	20,415	20,336	0%	434	47	21,562	28,635	-25%
Howard	340	299,927	278,635	7.6%	9,566	9,932	-4%	473	20	9,939	17,663	-44%
Humboldt	409	234,829	270,227	-13.1%	9,815	10,381	-5%	434	23	4,184	5,961	-30%
Ida	477	260,962	272,578	-4.3%	7,089	7,837	-10%	432	16	14,944	14,819	1%
Iowa	330	336,084	345,231	-2.6%	16,355	15,671	4%	586	28	35,142	46,642	-25%
Jackson	246	308,956	296,433	4.2%	19,848	20,296	-2%	636	31	68,250	85,691	-20%
Jasper	340	373,652	296,433	26.0%	36,842	37,213	-1%	730	50	28,723	35,276	-19%
Jefferson	289	198,138	197,301	0.4%	16,843	16,181	4%	436	39	21,250	30,883	-31%
Johnson	245	328,672	321,139	2.3%	130,882	111,006	18%	614	213	22,289	29,661	-25%
Jones	296	314,005	324,003	-3.1%	20,638	20,221	2%	576	36	36,971	38,483	-4%
Keokuk	301	295,483	318,160	-7.1%	10,511	11,400	-8%	579	18	32,992	46,659	-29%
Kossuth	444	599,439	601,517	-0.3%	15,543	17,163	-9%	973	16	12,079	18,093	-33%

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Lee	257	236,004	238,266	-0.9%	35,862	38,052	-6%	518	69	29,802	34,531	-14%
Linn	242	339,283	335,378	1.2%	211,226	191,701	10%	717	295	26,255	27,237	-4%
Louisa	275	168,540	186,007	-9.4%	11,387	12,183	-7%	402	28	11,651	15,974	-27%
Lucas	274	177,342	171,150	3.6%	8,898	9,422	-6%	431	21	56,454	65,075	-13%
Lyon	325	369,847	323,054	14.5%	11,581	11,763	-2%	588	20	22,413	28,198	-21%
Madison	287	276,104	283,393	-2.6%	15,679	14,019	12%	561	28	62,728	78,345	-20%
Mahaska	319	322,964	295,128	9.4%	22,381	22,335	0%	571	39	25,475	32,685	-22%
Marion	259	264,902	246,191	7.6%	33,309	32,052	4%	555	60	38,823	47,896	-19%
Marshall	354	312,402	342,270	-8.7%	40,648	39,311	3%	573	71	16,518	15,432	7%
Mills	413	206,299	196,840	4.8%	15,059	14,547	4%	437	34	10,216	9,948	3%
Mitchell	328	296,235	294,041	0.7%	10,776	10,874	-1%	469	23	10,903	12,732	-14%
Monona	629	338,164	393,600	-14.1%	9,243	10,020	-8%	694	13	22,257	33,928	-34%
Monroe	330	195,115	201,204	-3.0%	7,970	8,016	-1%	434	18	55,338	62,873	-12%
Montgomery	491	244,925	220,463	11.1%	10,740	11,771	-9%	424	25	21,170	28,655	-26%
Muscatine	274	214,992	221,904	-3.1%	42,745	41,722	2%	437	98	14,938	17,778	-16%
O'Brien	344	304,497	345,774	-11.9%	14,398	15,102	-5%	573	25	13,237	18,953	-30%
Osceola	429	238,220	251,161	-5.2%	6,462	7,003	-8%	399	16	4,942	6,924	-29%
Page	429	317,063	271,128	16.9%	15,932	16,976	-6%	535	30	34,382	40,574	-15%
Palo Alto	410	358,769	353,332	1.5%	9,421	10,147	-7%	564	17	8,525	12,907	-34%
Plymouth	407	541,817	517,248	4.7%	24,986	24,849	1%	863	29	39,206	46,980	-17%
Pocahontas	448	332,065	362,404	-8.4%	7,310	8,662	-16%	577	13	3,746	7,217	-48%
Polk	256	197,535	249,427	-20.8%	430,640	374,601	15%	574	751	9,763	10,597	-8%
Pottawattamie	449	532,833	485,943	9.6%	93,158	87,704	6%	950	98	25,182	36,288	-31%
Poweshiek	393	334,447	312,853	6.9%	18,914	18,815	1%	585	32	27,831	36,912	-25%
Ringgold	414	269,777	264,886	1.8%	5,131	5,469	-6%	536	10	71,766	81,037	-11%
Sac	391	357,032	363,295	-1.7%	10,350	11,529	-10%	575	18	10,828	13,788	-21%
Scott	291	220,578	248,646	-11.3%	165,224	158,668	4%	458	361	10,472	9,583	9%
Shelby	428	372,350	358,376	3.9%	12,167	13,173	-8%	591	21	13,914	19,697	-29%

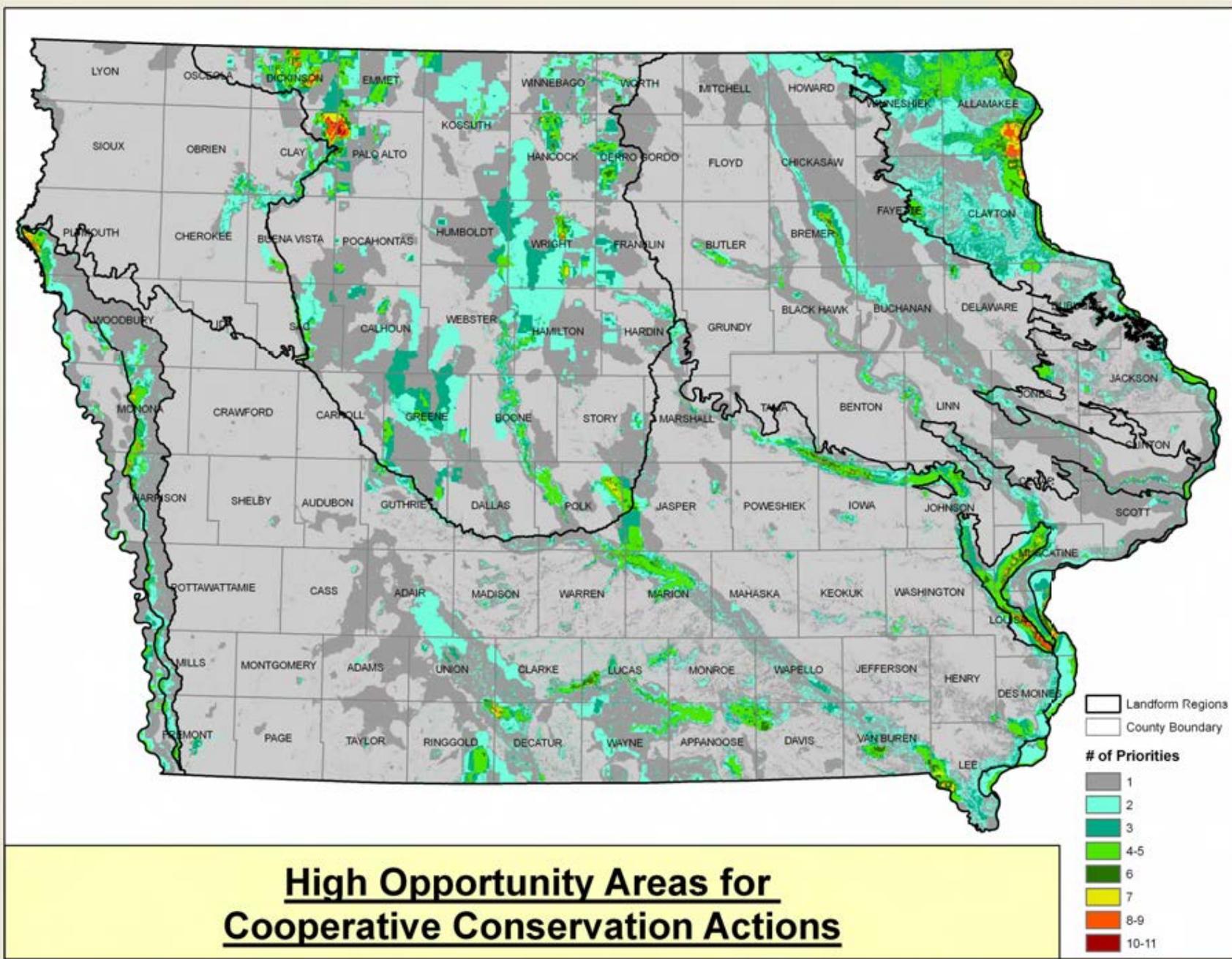
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Sioux	299	484,491	478,697	1.2%	33,704	31,589	7%	768	44	18,331	23,280	-21%
Story	317	306,000	352,240	-13.1%	89,542	79,981	12%	573	156	11,340	13,160	-14%
Tama	356	402,701	430,855	-6.5%	17,767	18,103	-2%	721	25	27,517	38,447	-28%
Taylor	436	278,630	282,637	-1.4%	6,317	6,958	-9%	532	12	44,659	65,834	-32%
Union	331	214,412	214,618	-0.1%	12,534	12,309	2%	424	30	53,703	70,799	-24%
Van Buren	283	213,358	221,529	-3.7%	7,570	7,809	-3%	485	16	36,099	55,155	-35%
Wapello	255	188,845	166,199	13.6%	35,625	36,051	-1%	432	82	27,913	35,150	-21%
Warren	198	263,540	241,647	9.1%	46,225	40,671	14%	570	81	50,272	60,845	-17%
Washington	276	314,409	325,836	-3.5%	21,704	20,670	5%	569	38	19,964	29,818	-33%
Wayne	396	273,774	273,212	0.2%	6,403	6,730	-5%	525	12	55,577	78,491	-29%
Webster	422	408,928	453,930	-9.9%	38,013	40,235	-6%	716	53	8,896	18,810	-53%
Winnebago	367	235,443	251,523	-6.4%	10,866	11,723	-7%	400	27	3,634	10,429	-65%
Winneshiek	245	376,279	313,762	19.9%	21,056	21,310	-1%	690	31	32,297	42,178	-23%
Woodbury	458	445,641	445,554	0.0%	102,172	103,877	-2%	873	117	38,326	41,972	-9%
Worth	367	234,958	231,605	1.4%	7,598	7,909	-4%	400	19	4,380	11,147	-61%
Wright	464	359,713	327,728	9.8%	13,229	14,334	-8%	580	23	5,573	11,210	-50%

ACEP-ALE FY15 Grassland Priority Resource Areas

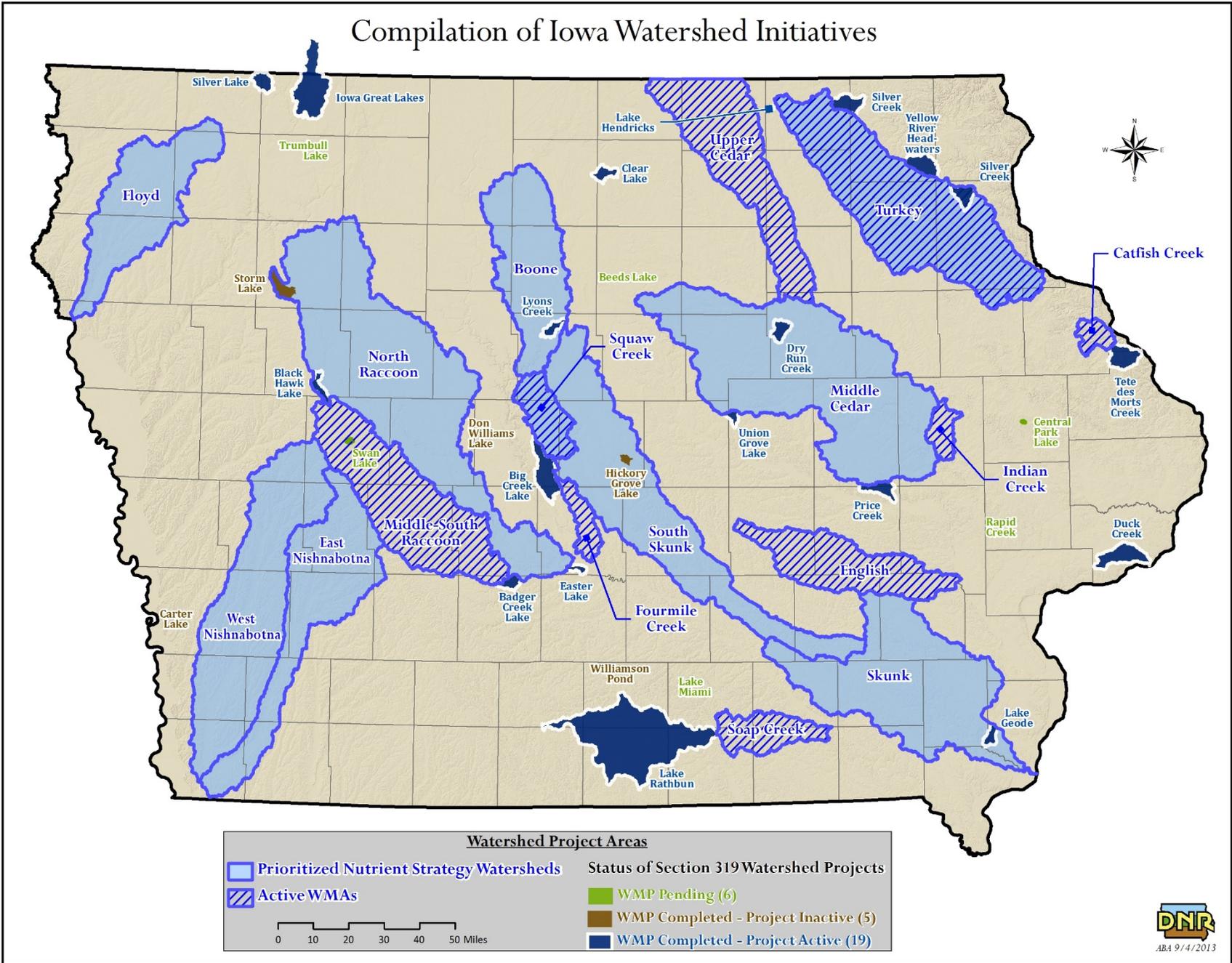


Grassland Priority Resource Areas

1 Northwest Loess Hills	6 Upper Des Moines	11 North Raccoon
2 Rock River	7 Waterman Creek	12 Raccoon-Skunk
3 Little Sioux Headwaters	8 Humboldt Creek	13 Middle Raccoon
4 West Des Moines	9 Soldier Creek	14 Southern Iowa Drift Plain
5 Winnebago	10 Hubbard Prairie	15 Loess Hills



Compilation of Iowa Watershed Initiatives



Iowa's Bird Conservation Areas

