



MLC



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USDA Programs Focusing on Water



Virtual Meetings 101

- This event is being recorded.
- The recording will be available later today at <https://csgmidwest.org/events-past/> and at <https://greatlakeslegislators.org/>
- All lines will be muted while our speakers are talking
- To ask a question:
 - ✓ Under “participants,” click “raise hand”
 - ✓ Type into the “chat” pane
 - ✓ Or just unmute yourself and ask a question

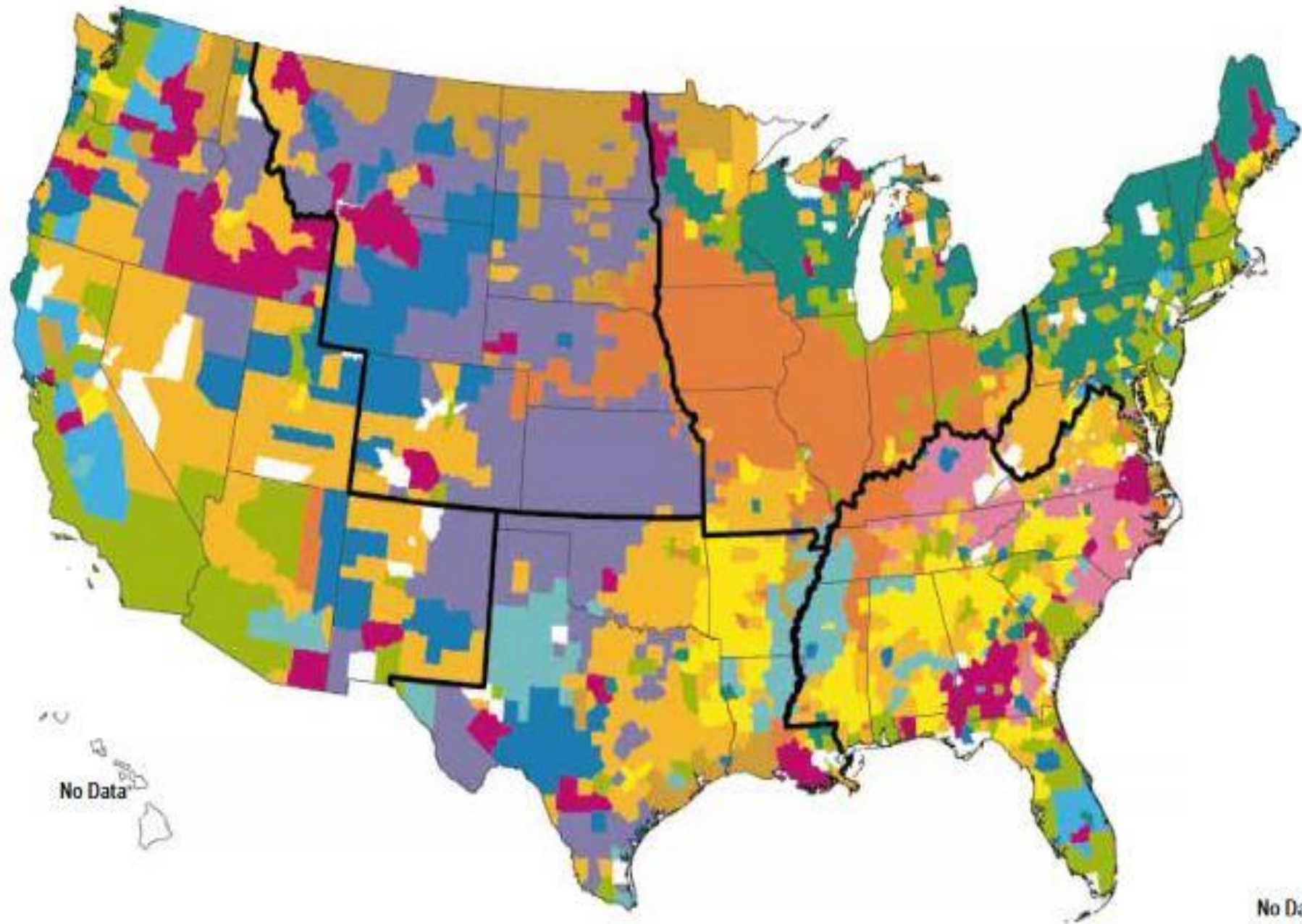
Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

Indiana Representative David Abbott,
Task Force on Nutrient Management

USDA Funding Focused on Water





Each of the cluster categories represents farm types that are similar in terms of commodities produced, farm resources, and employment and income on- and off-farm. Eastern and southeastern states are characterized by smaller, more diverse production activities (e.g., mixed dairy, woodlots, specialty crops) than those in the Midwest and Northern Plains.

LEGEND

- Corn, Soybeans, Hogs
- Poultry
- Dairy
- Cattle, Wheat, Sorghum
- Tobacco
- Part-time Cattle
- Fruit
- Other Crops
- Vegetables, Nursery Products
- Wheat, Oats, Other Grains
- Cotton
- Sheep, Cattle, Other Livestock
- Insufficient Data

Source:
 USDA Economic Research
 Service, Diversity in U.S.
 Agriculture

Speaker – Lori Ziehr– Acting Ohio State Conservationist

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is pleased to announce Lori Ziehr as the Acting Ohio State Conservationist. Ziehr comes to Ohio from Texas where she serves as the Assistant State Conservationist for Programs.

During her 23 years with NRCS, Ziehr has served in technical positions such as rangeland management specialist and agronomist, in addition to technology and leadership positions. She also served as Acting ASTC for Management and Strategy in Louisiana and Acting State Conservationist in Montana.





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NRCS Programs and Opportunities

Lori Ziehr, Acting Ohio State Conservationist

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USDA is An Equal Opportunity Provider, Employer and Lender

Summary



- **Scope of Issue**
- **NRCS Strategy & Practices**
- **NRCS Program Implementation & Successes**
- **Future Opportunities**





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Scope & Strategy



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Scope of Issue



NRCS Role



Land Treatment Strategy

Science-Based

Systematic

Targeted

Adaptive

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NRCS Nutrient Load Reduction Strategies



AVOID

- Avoid loss of nutrients by ensuring placement rate, place & with the right source



CONTROL

- Control movement of nutrients and water off field with residue, tillage & drainage management

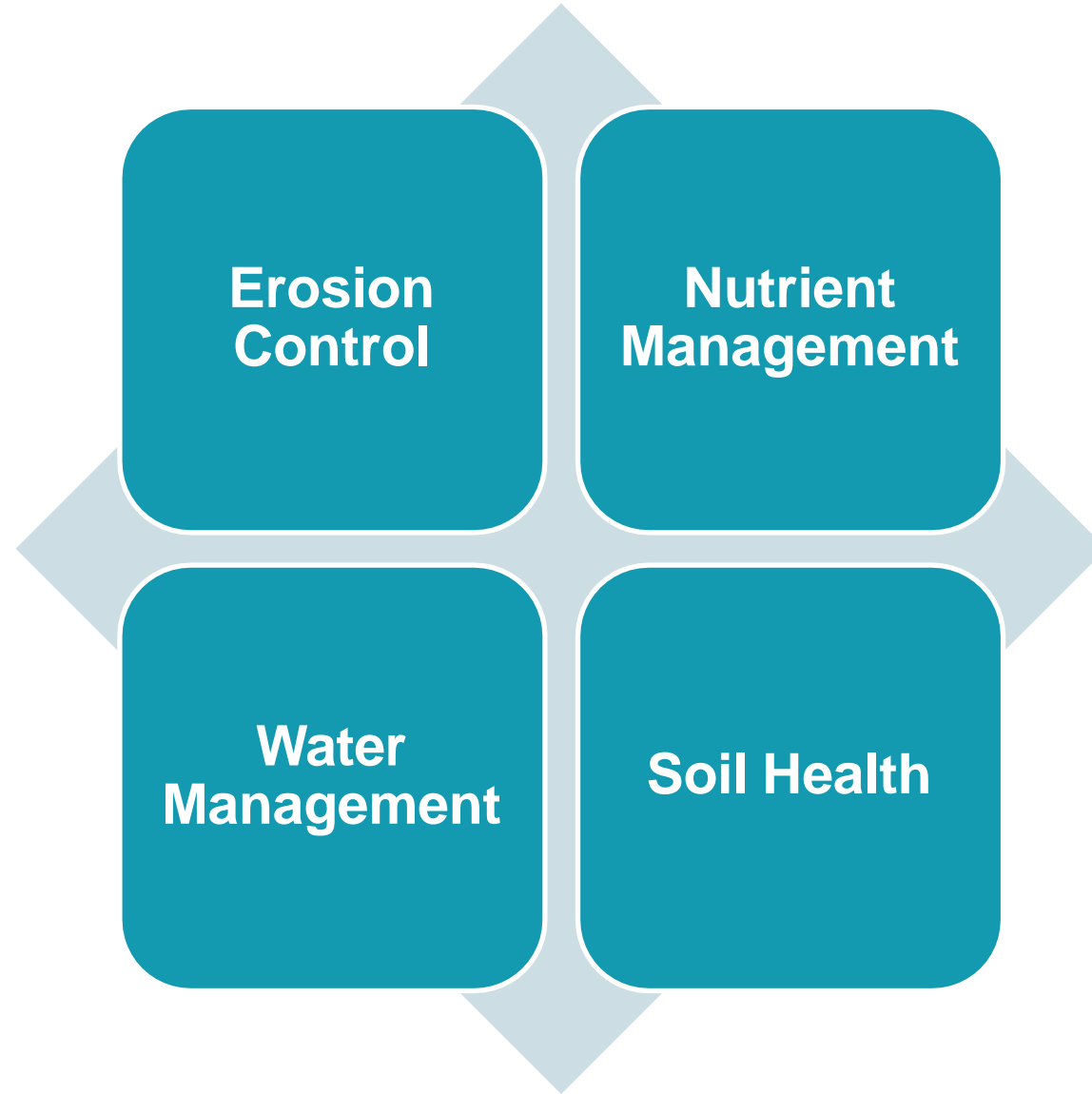


TRAP

- Trap nutrients and water at edges of field with wetlands and other practices



NRCS ACT Principles



Erosion Control Practices



- **No-Till & Strip Till**
- **Cover Crops**
- **Grass Waterways**
- **Erosion Control Structures**
- **Critical Area Planting**



Nutrient Management Practices



- **NRCS Nutrient Management Standard**
- **Subsurface Placement**
- **Phosphorus Removal Structures**



Water Management Practices



- **Wetlands**
- **Grass Filter Strips**
- **Two-Stage Ditches**
- **Drainage Water Management**



Soil Health Practices



- **Cover Crops**
- **No-Till & Strip Till**
- **Conservation Crop Rotation**
- **NRCS Nutrient Management Standard**





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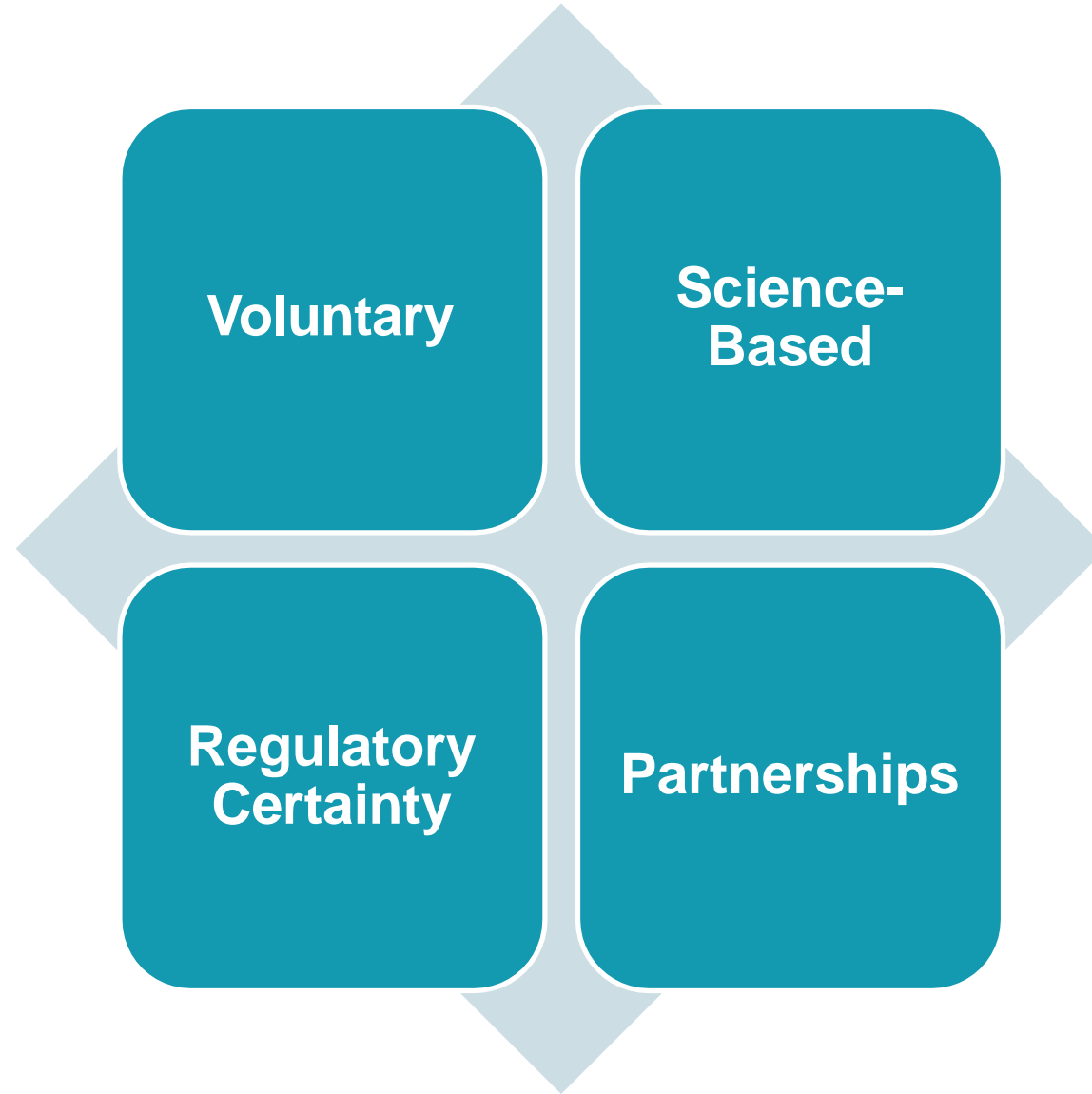
NRCS Program Implementation



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Putting Practices On The Land



Voluntary



Land Treatment
Strategy

Science-Based

Systematic

Targeted

Adaptive



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Science-Based: Edge-Of-Field Research



Determines
conservation
practice
effectiveness

Operating since
2005

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Science-Based: Watershed-Level Research



Model Predicts
Changes for

- Sediment
- Total Phosphorus
- Nitrogen
- Soil Carbon



Regulatory Certainty



Nearly 2/3 of all federally listed species exist on private land.

If producers maintain conservation practices, lands remain ESA compliant for up to 30 years.

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Partnerships: Demonstration Farms



Barry Bubolz, NRCS DC & Derek Van De Hay, a farmer in the Lower Fox Demonstration Farm Network.



Partnerships



**nutrient
stewardship**



Generates

Awareness

Adoption

Advocates



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NRCPS Program Successes



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EQIP



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EQIP CIG



Rid-All Foundation

Urban Farm &
Education Center

2020 CIG Award
to teach urban
agriculture

Aquaponics, start-
ups, & anaerobic
digestion

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NWQI



Mission:

Source water protection to protect public health

NRCS dedicated 10% of funds to protect drinking water sources

Work with EPA & state water utilities to target funding

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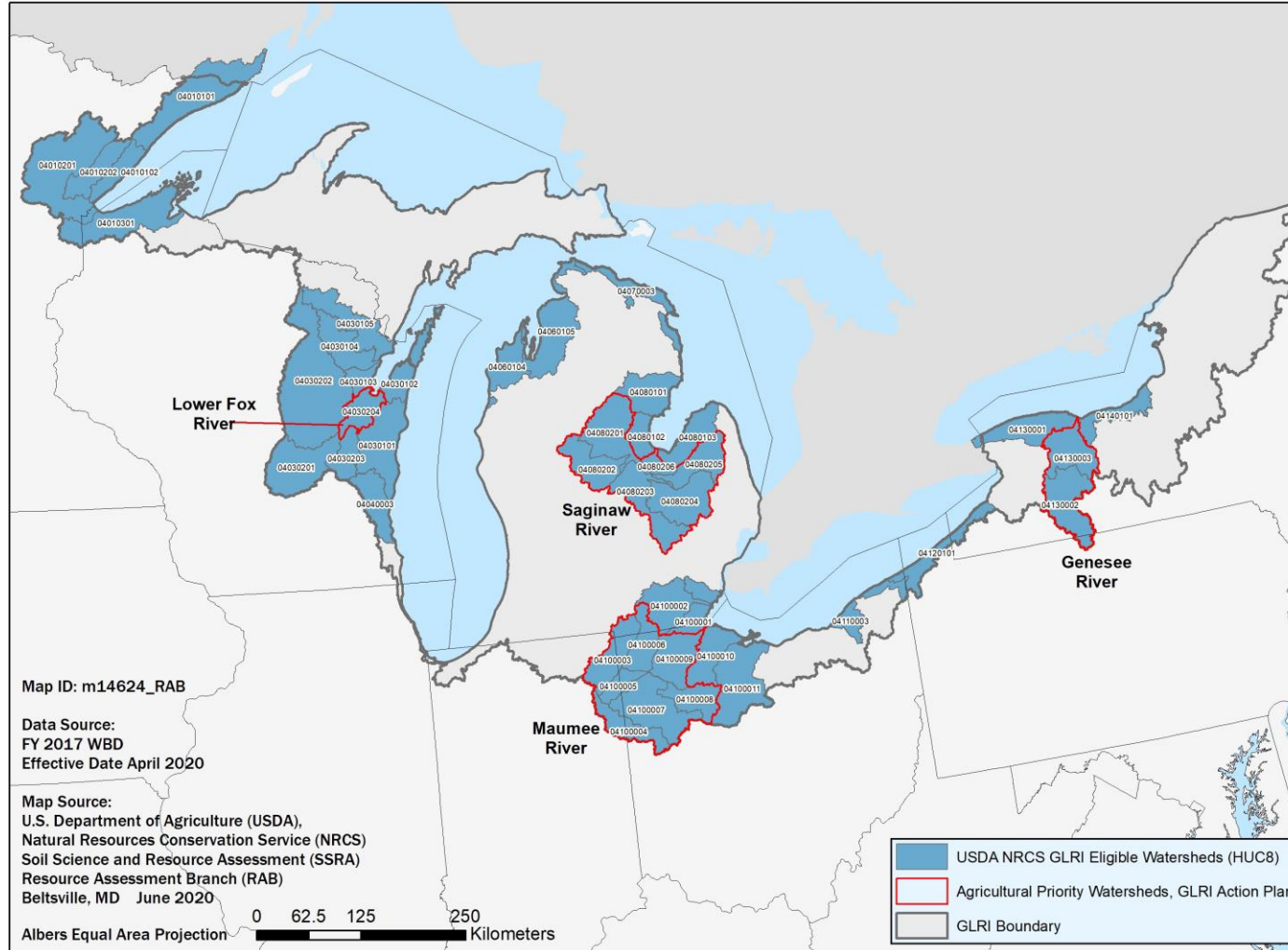
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GLRI



USDA NRCS Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Priority Watersheds



By the Numbers:

2,880 conservation contracts

\$125M in financial assistance

+654,000 acres

+1.5M pound reduction of phosphorus in targeted areas

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GLRI Successes



God's Country Creamery

Utilized NRCS for Nutrient Control

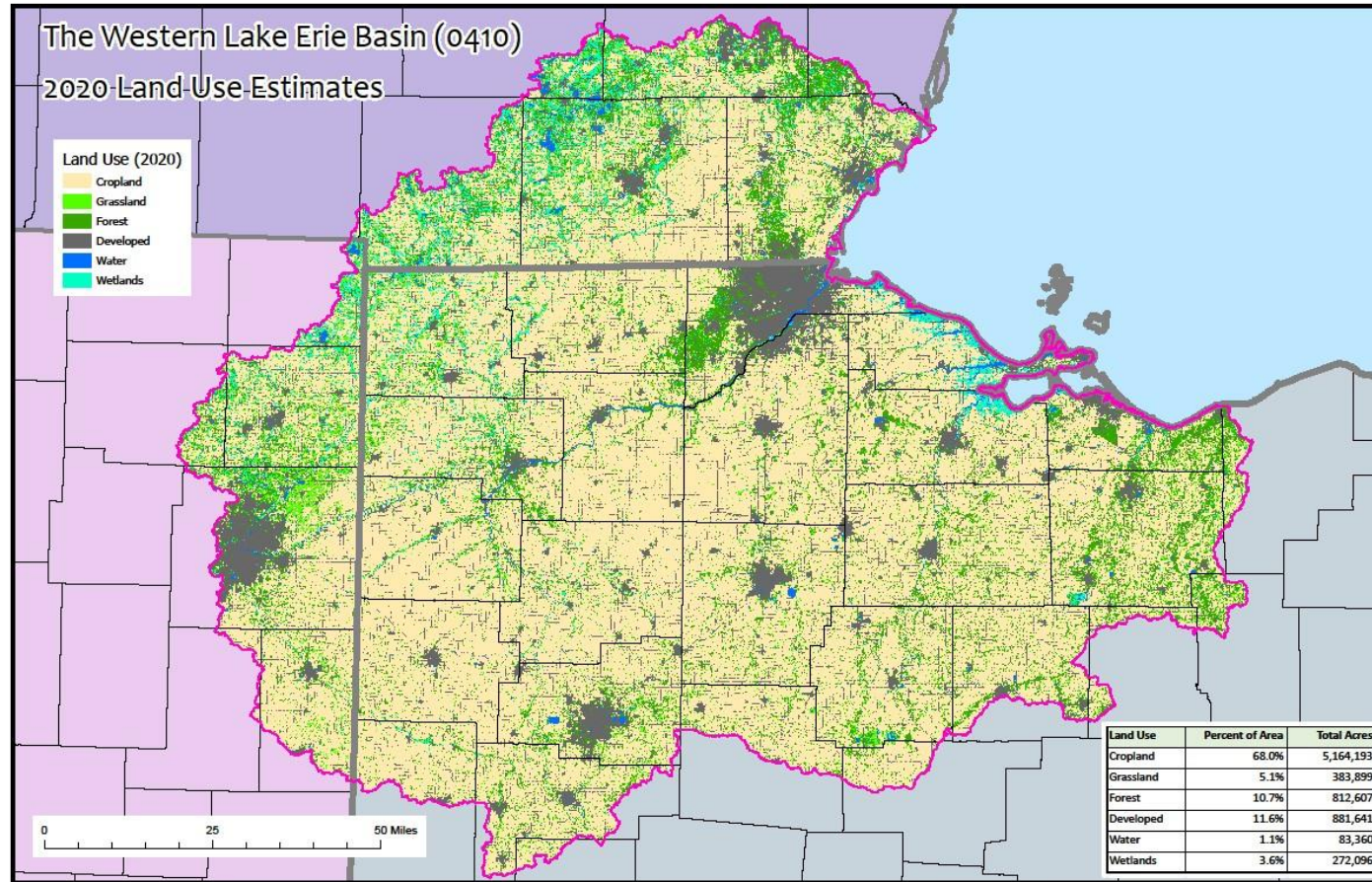
Practices included a waste storage facility, nutrient management, structure for water control

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WLEB Initiative



By the Numbers:

2,609
conservation
contracts

\$88.5M in
financial
assistance

755,105,875
acres

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WLEB Successes



Clint Rodabaugh

Utilized NRCS to install erosion control practices

Practices included: cover crops, nutrient management, grassed waterways

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CSP



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EQIP CIC



New enrollment option

Offers flexibility in directing funds to cover new suite of conservation practices

Creates access to enhancements to treat resource concerns and improve conservation performance

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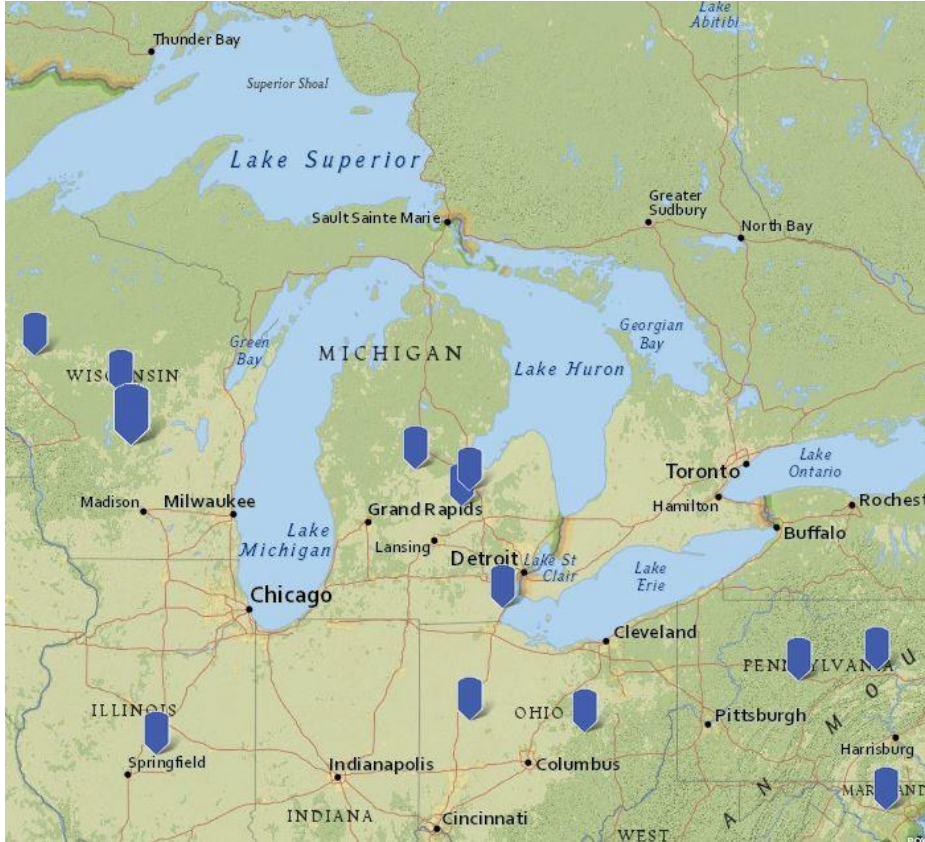
Easements



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Future Opportunities



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Continuing to Innovate



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Informed Education & Outreach



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Leveraging Layered Partnership Resources



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Questions? Comments?

- Under participants click “raise hand” and unmute your line when we announce your name
- Type your question in the chat pane to be read by staff or have staff call on you.
- Just unmute yourself and ask a question

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