



MRGCD AGRICULTURAL LOAN PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Prepared and presented by:
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For the Village of Los Ranchos Paseo del Norte Public Open House
February 23, 2023 4:30 -6:30 pm at Village Hall

Why did we do this?

To leverage a low-interest loan opportunity from the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District that would make funding immediately available for overdue irrigation infrastructure improvements, elm removal, and concrete removal often not covered by other conservation cost-share programs.

Through this funding, we can now showcase the multi-purpose potential of Open Space Properties that support sustainable agriculture, conservation, community enrichment, and the financial investments and management practices required to achieve those goals.

Improved irrigation efficiency and water conservation

- Increased farmable acreage
- Increased water conserved
- Reduced irrigation time/labor
- Support NM's Rio Grande Compact
- Improved stormwater function

Soil Health Management and Habitat Restoration

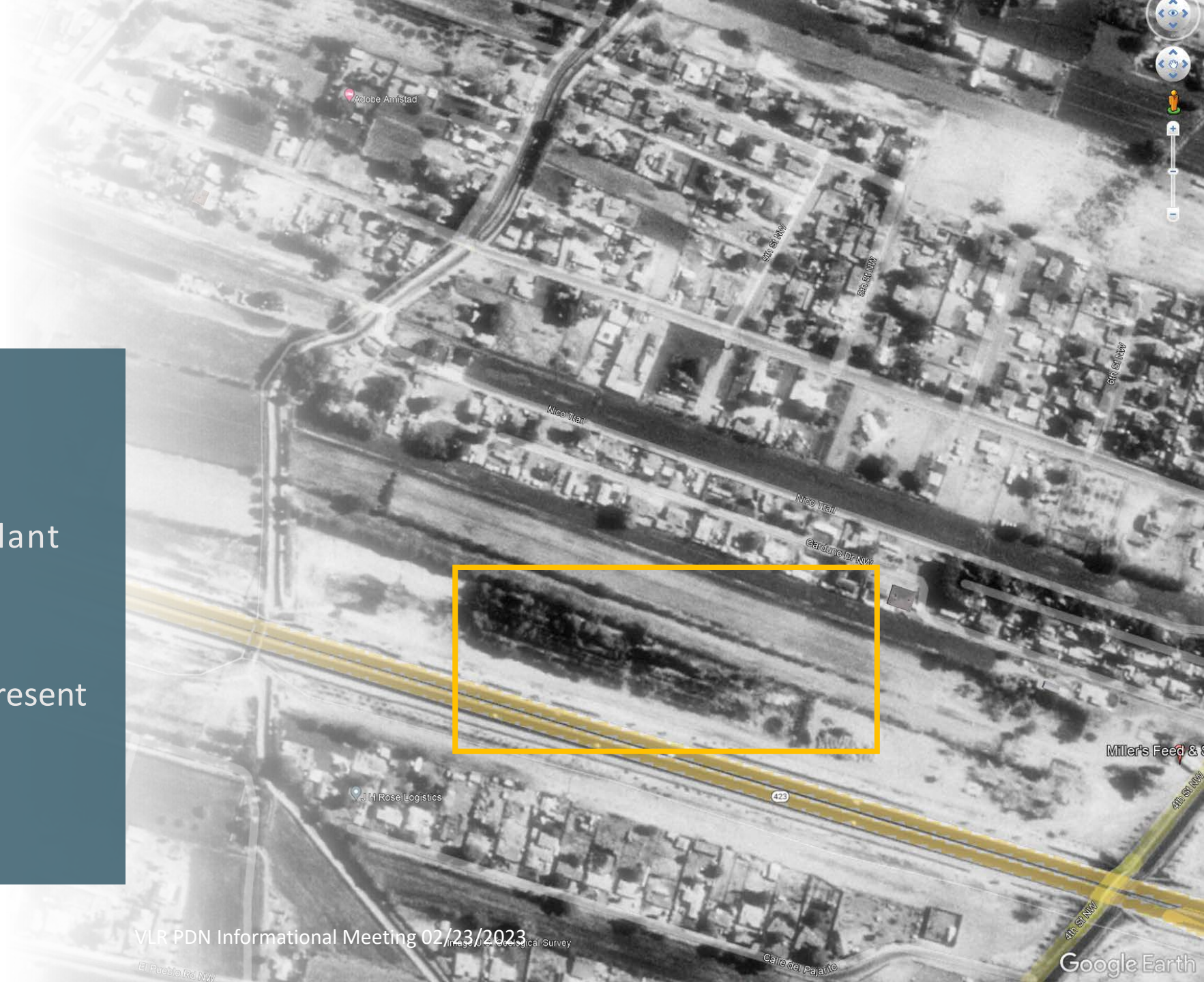
- Increased infiltration and rooting depth
- Reduced compaction, waterlogging, and pests
- Increased biodiversity aboveground and below
- Demonstration of climate-smart cropping systems
- Increased urban wildlife corridors
- Pedestrian safety

What are the benefits?

PASEO DEL NORTE OPEN
SPACE HISTORICAL
TIMELAPSE

MAY 4, 1991

- Previous site of local plant nursery
 - Tree nursery present
 - Building structures present



NOVEMBER 12, 2012

- Tree nursery and structures have been removed
- Footprint of previous land-use visible from aerial imagery

APRIL 22, 2017

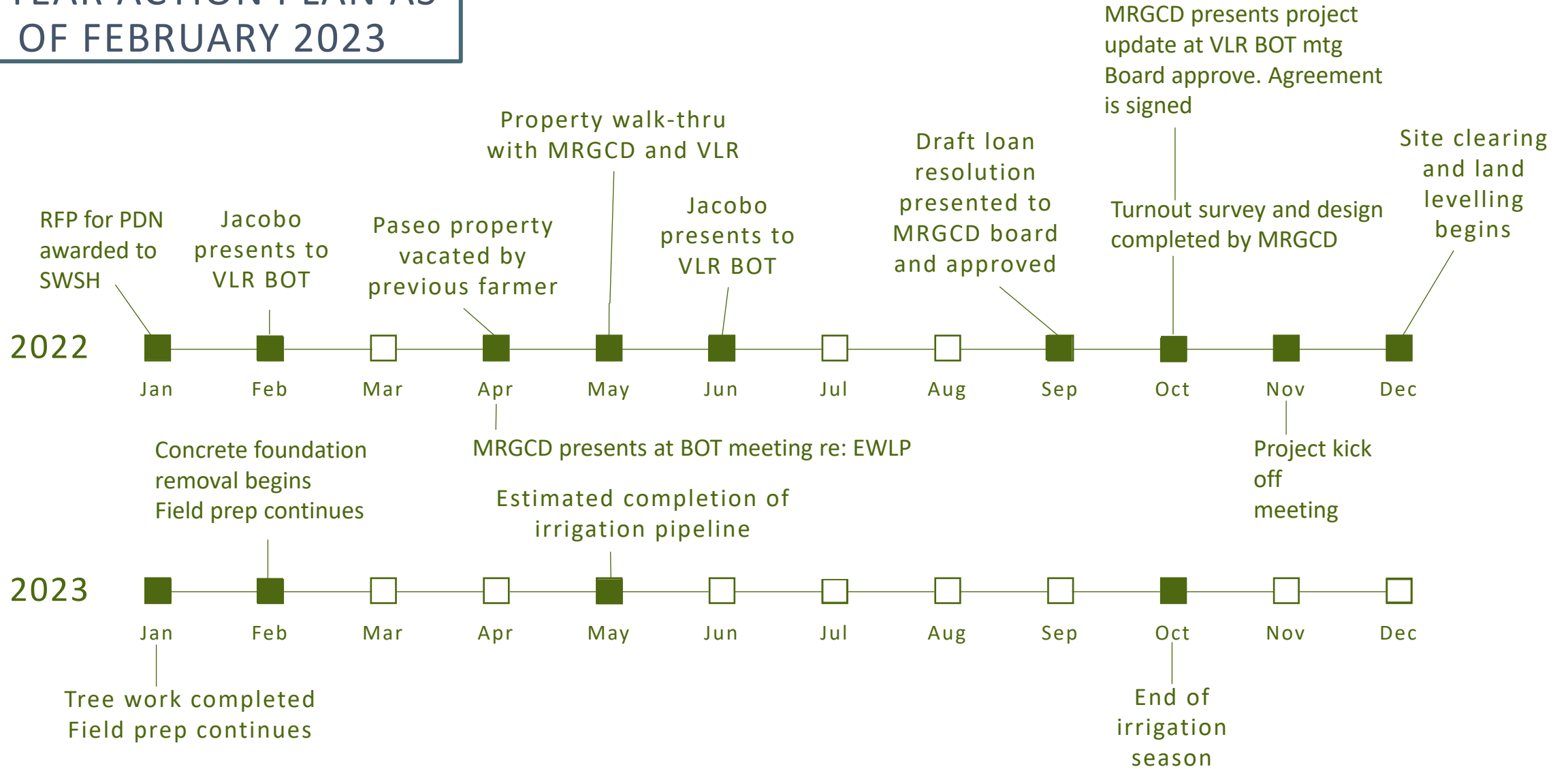
- Hay production begins to fill in previously disturbed spots
- Large areas of reduced production persists

SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

- Inconsistent irrigation patterns present
- Decreasing green up response down field



2-YEAR ACTION PLAN AS OF FEBRUARY 2023



Full presentation previously presented at VLR Board of Trustees Meetings:

1. February 9th, 2022
2. June 8th, 2022

IRRIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE LAYOUTS

Current: 20 hrs

Exhibit 1

Proposed: 16 hrs



Legend:

- Turnout
- Irrigation pipeline
- Alfalfa valve
- ⊕ Livestock drinker
- Dirt access road



Full presentation previously presented at VLR Board of Trustees Meetings:

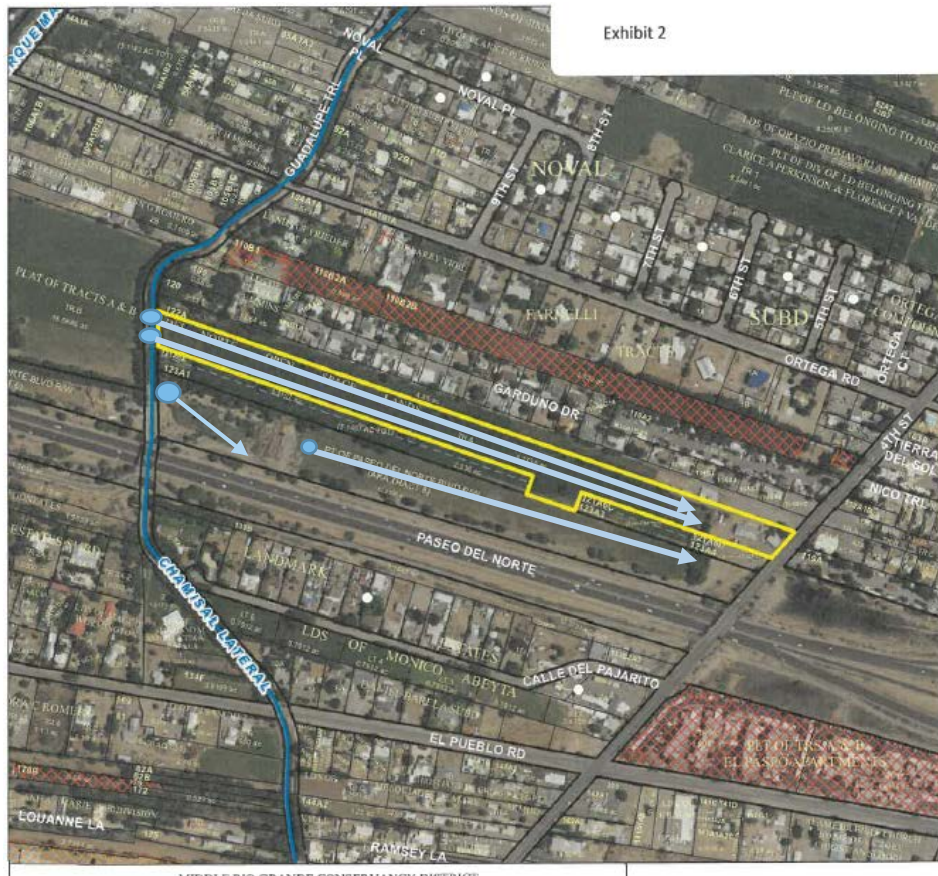
1. February 9th, 2022
2. June 8th, 2022

IRRIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE LAYOUTS

Current: 48+ hrs

Exhibits 2, 4, 5, & 6

Proposed: 24 hrs



Legend:



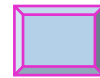
Turnout



Irrigation pipeline



Alfalfa valve



Stormwater structure/
bioswale, wildlife habitat



Dirt access road



Full presentation previously presented at VLR Board of Trustees Meetings:

1. February 9th, 2022
2. June 8th, 2022

IRRIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE LAYOUTS

Current: 8-12 hrs

Exhibit 3

Proposed: 3 hrs



Legend:



Turnout



Irrigation pipeline



Alfalfa valve



Re-set turnout for farm delivery pad/irrigation pipeline



Dirt access road



DESIGN

An approved engineering design and schedule for installation of the irrigation pipeline for the 16 ac. Cover Crop Fields.

VILLAGE OF LOS RANCHOS NEW MEXICO



THE VILLAGE OF LOS RANCHOS
DE ALBUQUERQUE
SETTLED 1661 - INCORPORATED 1958

IRRIGATION IMPROVEMENTS

FEBRUARY 2023

INDEX OF DRAWINGS

- T1 COVER SHEET
- G1 SUMMARY OF QUANTITIES AND GENERAL CONSTRUCTION NOTES
- C1 IRRIGATION LAYOUT PLAN AND PROFILE
- C2 IRRIGATION LAYOUT PLAN AND PROFILE
- C3 IRRIGATION LAYOUT PLAN AND PROFILE
- C4 SITE DETAILS
- C5 SITE DETAILS



NO.	DATE	COMMENTS

PROJECT NO.	Z-096
DATE	FEBRUARY 7, 2023
DESIGNER	PHILLIPS
CHECKER	M. GARCIA
SCALE	

PROJECT TITLE	IRRIGATION IMPROVEMENTS VILLAGE OF LOS RANCHOS NEW MEXICO
SHEET TITLE	COVER SHEET

T1

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Design and Review

- MRGCD completed and submitted turnout survey and design to VLR
- Land leveling and irrigation pipeline surveys and designs completed
 - Designs are currently being reviewed by MRGCD

Contracting and Implementation

- Fields were ripped, disced, and leveled per survey and design
- Site debris/concrete removal continues
- Elms removed and/or thinned



FIELD PREPARATION

- Ripping
- Discing
- Land leveling

FOCUS AREAS



CONCRETE REMOVAL

- 280 cu/yd of concrete removed (180" x 40")
- ~2 ac. farmable acreage increased



ELM REMOVAL/THINNING

- Dirt ditches cleared of elm trees and saplings
- Mulch from trees used for walkways
- Overhanging limbs removed to allow for pedestrians and equipment to safely travel



FIELD PREPARATION DECEMBER 2022





DEBRIS REMOVAL
DECEMBER 2022



DEBRIS REMOVAL
DECEMBER 2022



DEBRIS REMOVAL JANUARY 2022



DEBRIS REMOVAL JANUARY 2022



ELM REMOVAL/THINNING



ELM REMOVAL/THINNING



**CONCRETE REMOVAL
FEBRUARY 2023**



PROPERTY OVERVIEW

- Green areas indicate fields that will be planted in 2023
- Orange areas indicate areas that have been reclaimed and will be planted in 2023
- Purple areas indicate Wildlife Habitat areas that will be monitored and maintained as they currently exist



2023 CROP PLAN

- ~15 ac. of Cool/Warm Season forage mixture of 4 different species for livestock grazing
- ~3 ac. of already existing native buffalograss will be maintained

2023 CROP PLAN

A series of ~2 ac. cover crop fields will be grown, incorporated back into the soil, and then rotated with other cover crop species throughout the year to address the following soil health resource concerns:

- Nutrient management, pest management and compaction

Species were selected for this first year based on:

- Growing season, soil type, water use, and cost



THANK YOU

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