

**Rush River Watershed  
Flood Risk Reduction Meeting**

**Governor's Inn, Casselton, ND  
9:00 a.m.**

**Cass County Joint Water Resource District  
April 8th, 2014**

# Welcome!

## Bill Hejl - Introductions

- Please silence your cell phones
- Please sign the record of attendance
- Introduction of board members & staff
- Introduction of presenters

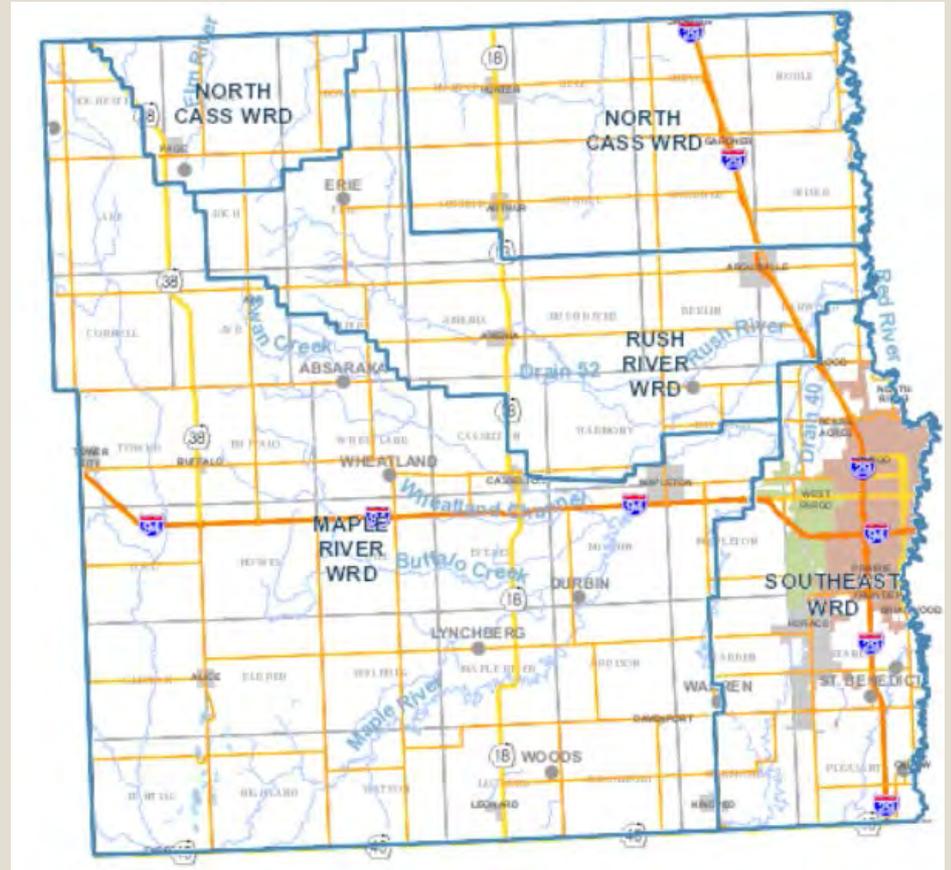
# Introduction

## Rush River Watershed

- **Rush River Water Resource District**
  - Ray Wolfer, Chair
  - William Hejl, Vice Chair
  - Richard Sundberg
- Appointed by Cass County Commission
- Owns, operates, and collects assessments for several existing projects in the Rush River Watershed within Cass County

# Introduction

- Water Resource District Organization
  - Cass County Joint WRD
  - Maple River
  - Rush River
  - North Cass
  - Southeast Cass



# Introduction

- **Cass County Joint Water Resource District**
  - Mark Brodshaug, Chair (Southeast Cass)
  - Rodger Olson, Vice Chair (Maple River)
  - Raymond Wolfer (Rush River)
  - Michael Buringrud (North Cass)
  - Dan Jacobson (Southeast Cass)
- Appointed by individual WRD boards
- Constructed the Maple River Dam
- Develops detention projects within Cass County

# Introduction

## ◦ Presenters

- Chad Engels – Moore Engineering
- Pat Downs – Red River Retention Authority
- Jon Roeschlein – Bois De Sioux Watershed District  
Wheaton, MN

# Introduction

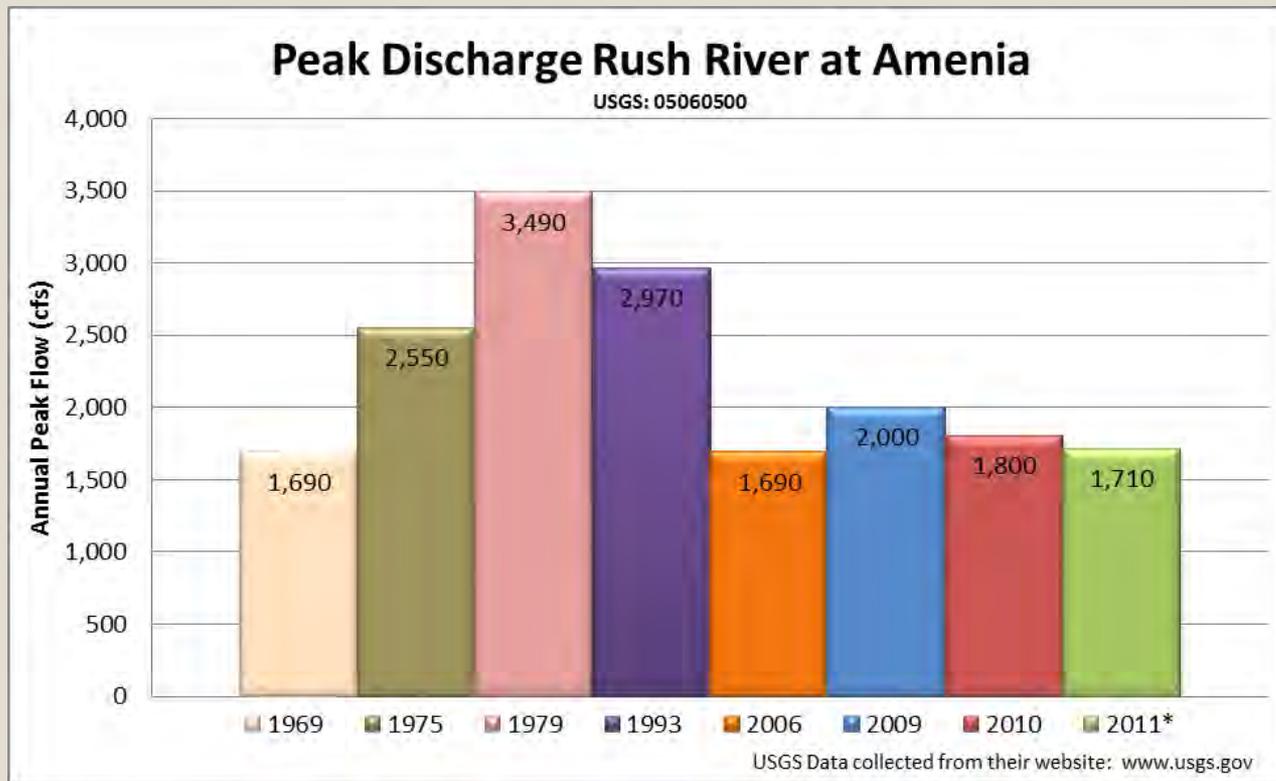
- Questions we hope to answer.....
  - Why are we having this meeting?
  - Why now?
  - What is the cost?
  - What are the benefits?
  - What is the schedule?
  - How would these projects work?
  - What would these projects look like?
  - Who are flood risk reduction projects for?

**Chad Engels, PE**  
**Moore Engineering, Inc.**

# Why.....

- Why are we having this meeting?

- Repetitive flooding - 4 historic floods in past 9 years
- Record floods occur in the summer too
- July 2, 1975



**Top 8 Floods**  
**1947 – Current**  
**(67 year gage record)**

# 2009 Spring Flood

## Overland Flooding



# 2010 Spring Flood

**Overland Flooding**



# 2009 Spring Flood

Existing storage volume utilized  
- Erie Dam



# 2011 Spring Flood

Countless Road Washouts



# 2011 Spring Flood

**Another Road Washout**



# 2011 Spring Flood



**Bridge Washouts**

# 2009 Spring Flood

## Transportation Disruptions



# 2011 Spring Flood

## Transportation Disruptions I-29 North of Harwood



# 2009 Spring Flood



**Stranded Homeowners**

# Delayed Planting



# Summer Floods - Crops



# • Why now?

- Frequent flooding...spring & summer
- Affordability...new funding sources!
  - New ND State Water Commission cost share policy
  - New Federal Farm Bill funding
  - Increased Red River Joint WRD cost share (recent)
  - Cass County sales tax (recent)
- Technology
  - Recent completion of LiDAR and G.I.S. based watershed models

# Who will benefit?

- **Who will flood risk reduction be for?**
  - Any future flood risk reduction project constructed in the Rush River Watershed should be built for the purpose of reducing flooding in the Rush River Watershed.
  - Projects should be constructed for the primary purpose of benefitting local agriculture and the local rural community in the Rush River Watershed. Projects should also benefit the City of Amenia.
  - Projects should not be constructed for the primary purpose of benefitting Red River communities, although these areas would benefit secondarily.
  - Local benefits must outweigh local costs!

# Funding.....

## Pat Downs

### Red River Retention Authority

- Cost Share Partners
  - **North Dakota State Water Commission**
    - 60% cost share (no federal participation)
    - 50% (with federal participation)
    - Easements and lands are cost share eligible

# Funding.....

- Cost Share Partners
  - **Federal Farm Bill**
    - PL-566 (NRCS Small Watershed Protection Program)
    - Absaraka Dam was a PL-566 project
    - \$5 Million cap per project likely (existing rule)
    - 4,000 AC-FT project cap likely (existing rule)

# Funding.....

- Cost Share Partners
  - **Red River Joint Water Resource District**
    - Collects 2 mills from each member county annually
    - 65% cost share (non-state, non-federal)
    - Easements and lands are cost share eligible

# Funding.....

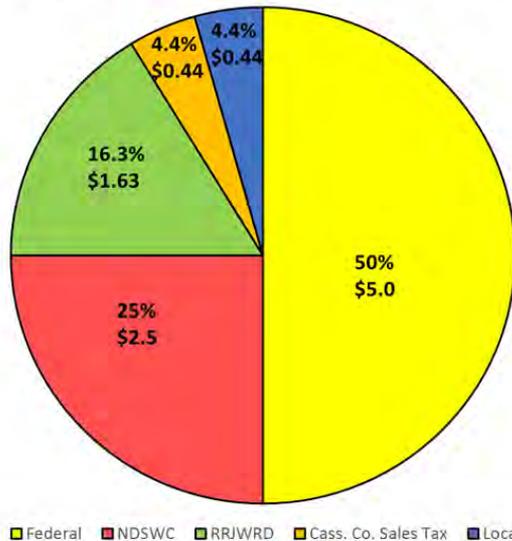
- Cost Share Partners
  - **Cass County Funding**
    - Flood Control Measure Sales Tax (1/2 cent)
    - 20 years: April 1, 2011 – March 31, 2031
    - 50% Cost Share (non-federal, non-state, non-RRJWRD)

# Example \$10.0 Million Project

## With Federal Funding

	Cost Share (%)	Total Funding (\$ in millions)
Federal	50	5
NDSWC (50% non-federal)	25	2.5
RRJWRD (65% non-federal, non-state)	16.3	1.6
Cass Co. Sales Tax	4.4	437.5 k
Local*	4.4	437.5 k
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>10</b>

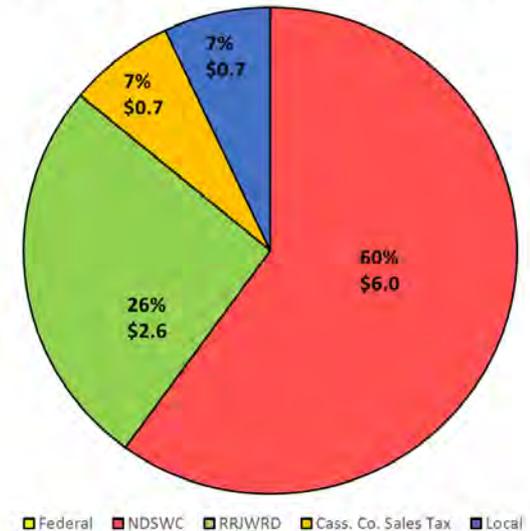
Cost Share/Funding (\$ in millions)



## Without Federal Funding

	Cost Share (%)	Total Funding (\$ in millions)
Federal	0	0
NDSWC (60% non-federal)	60	6
RRJWRD (65% non-federal, non-state)	26	2.6
Cass Co. Sales Tax	7	700 k
Local*	7	700 k
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>10</b>

Cost Share/Funding (\$ in millions)



# Funding.....

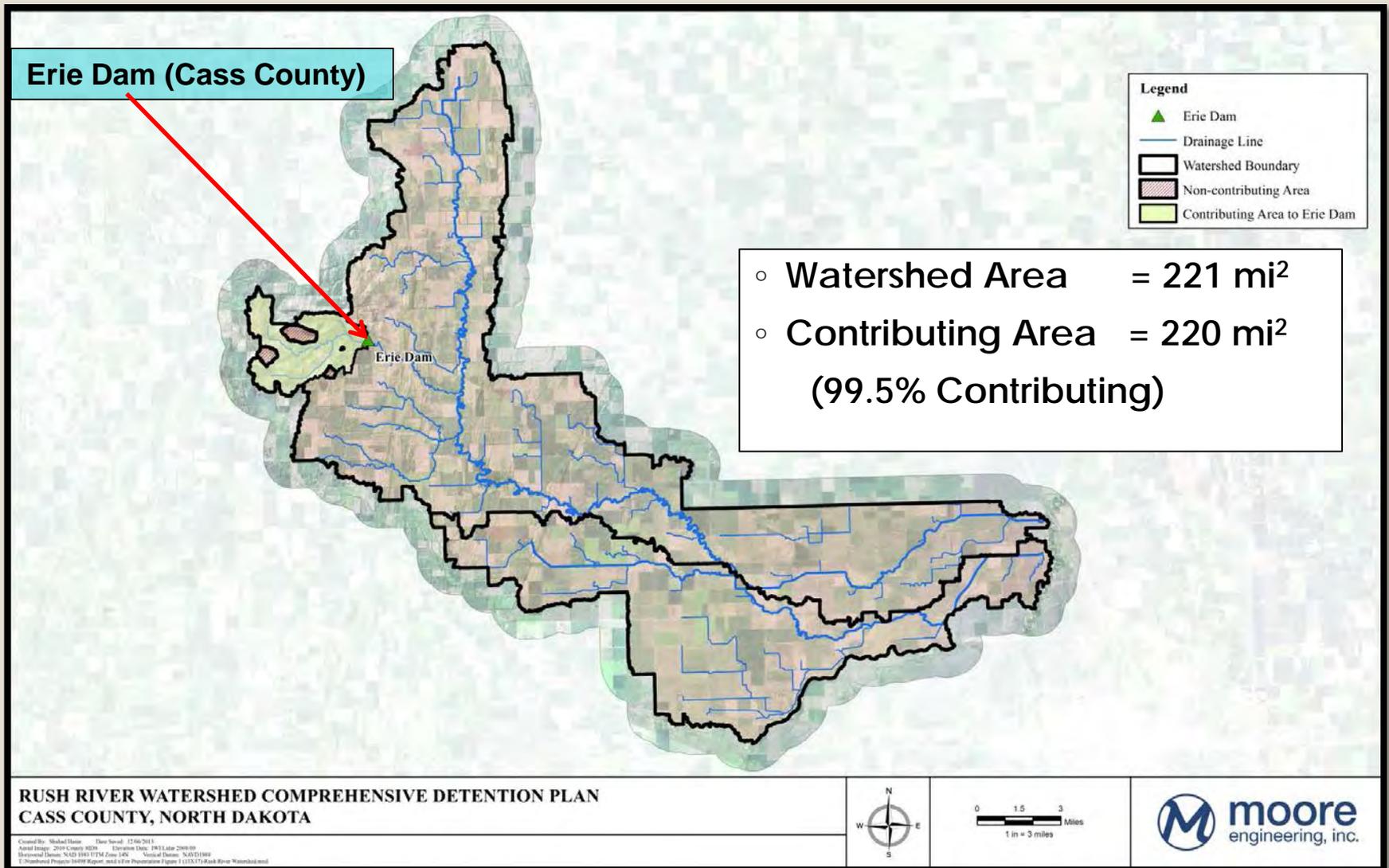
- **Funding Summary**

- Local cost relatively small for Detention Projects

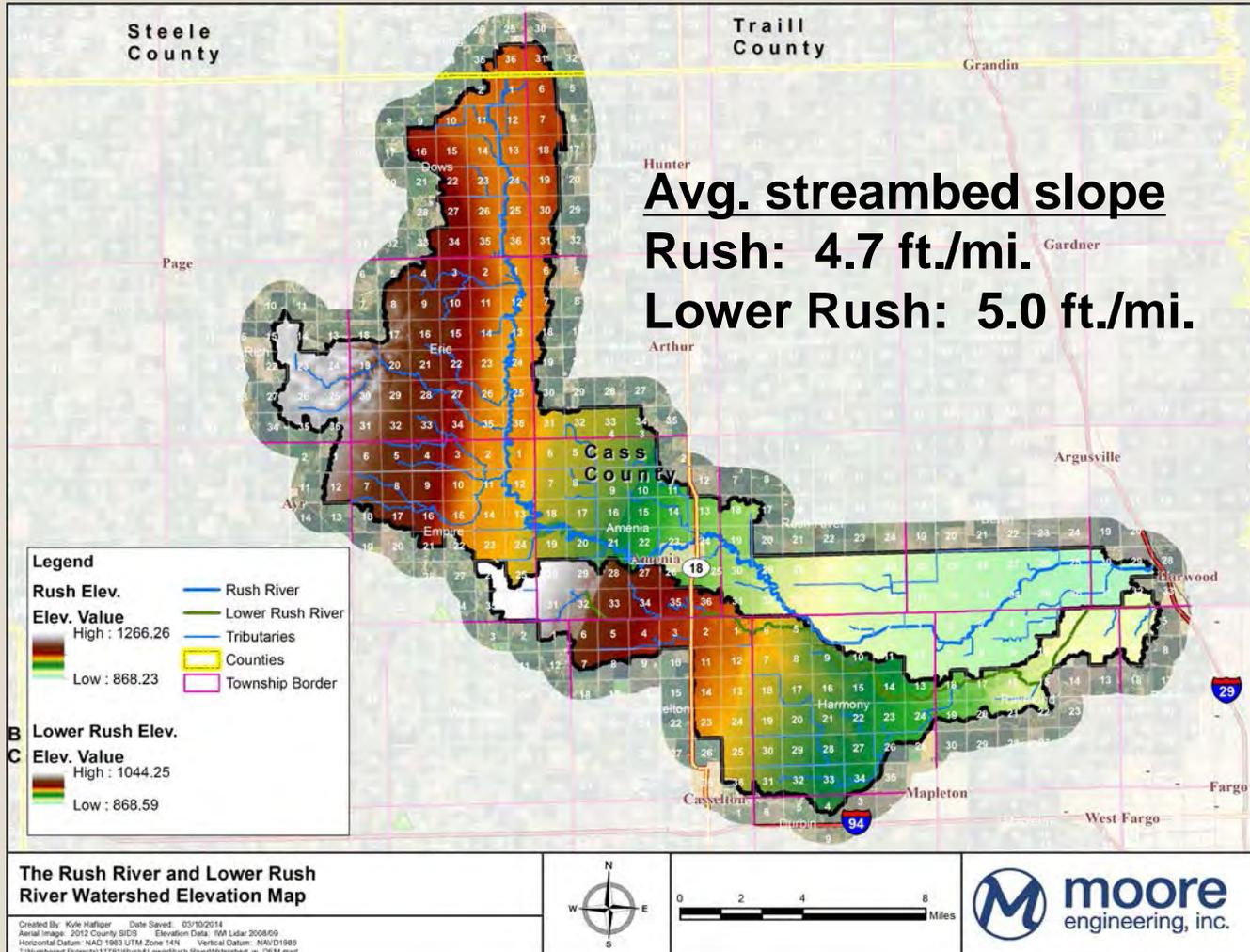
- With federal funding, local cost can be less than 5% of the total project cost

- Without federal funding, local cost can be less than 10% of the total project cost

# Rush River Watershed



# Rush River Watershed



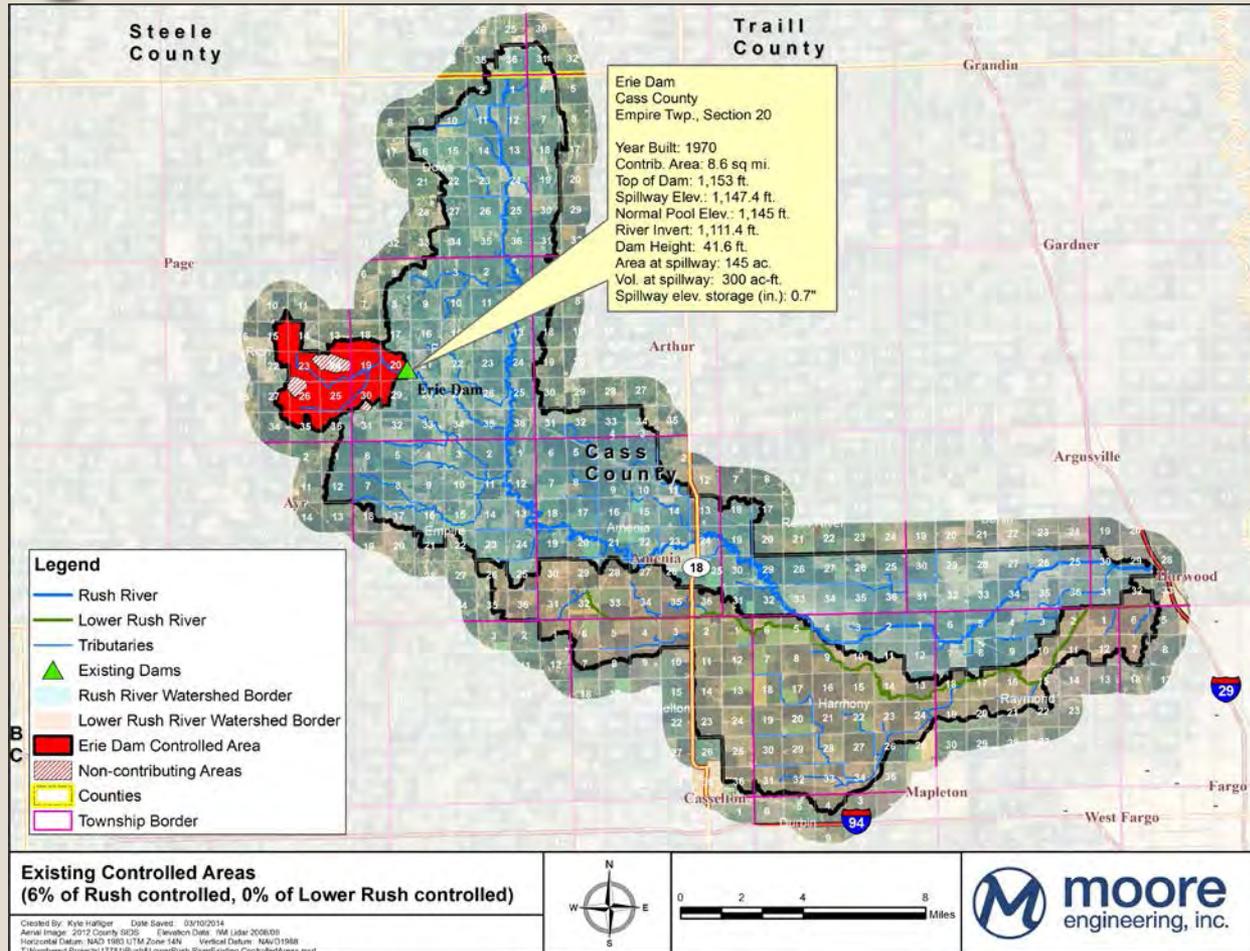
**Avg. streambed slope**  
**Rush: 4.7 ft./mi.**  
**Lower Rush: 5.0 ft./mi.**

**Rush Watershed:**  
 Highest Elev: 1,266 ft.  
 Lowest Elev.: 868 ft.  
 Fall: 398 ft.

**Lower Rush Watershed:**  
 Highest Elev.: 1,044 ft.  
 Lowest Elev.: 869 ft.  
 Fall: 176 ft.

\* Based on 2008 LiDAR data

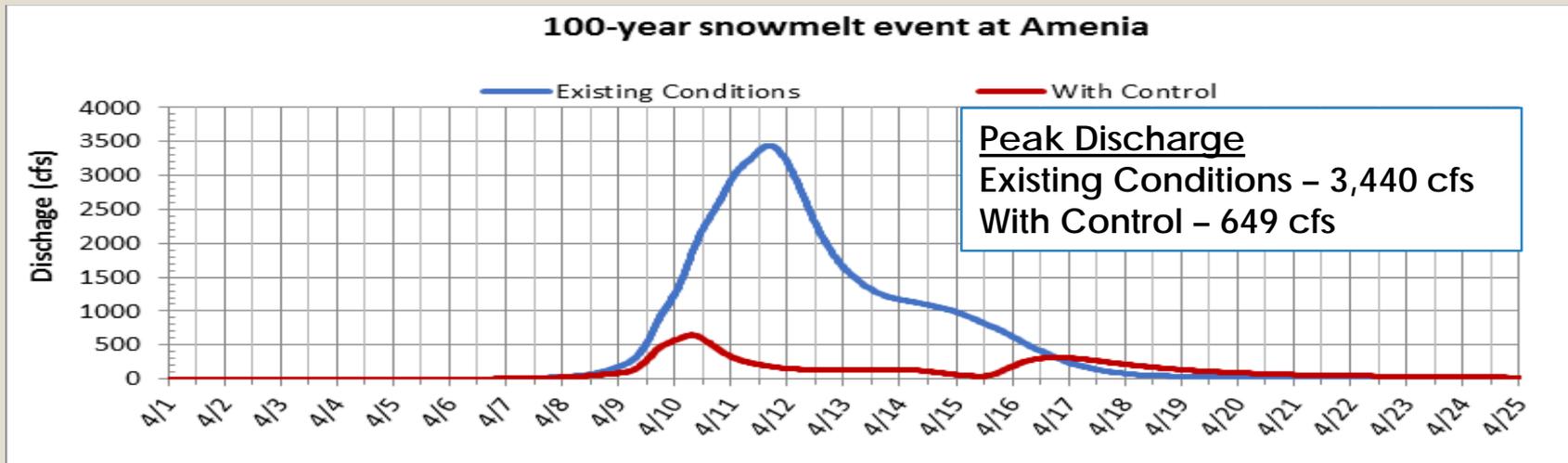
# Existing Dam – Erie Dam



**Erie Dam controls less than 5% of the Watershed  
Primary Purpose is Recreation**



# Flood Reduction Benefits



**Peak reduction: 81%**

**Volume reduction: 80%**

# How Does it Work?

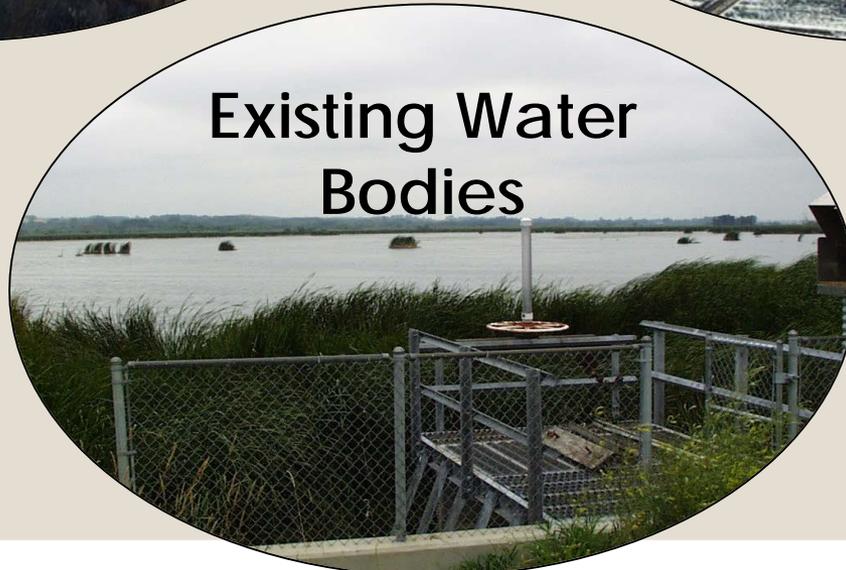
River Channel



Off-River  
(Off-Channel)



Existing Water  
Bodies



# Example Off-Channel Detention

***Angus Oslo Site #4  
Snake River Watershed, MN***

Angus, MN  
Polk County

***Controls 23 square miles  
4,500 Ac-Ft of gated storage***

**ANGUS OSLO SITE #4**

An aerial photograph showing a large, rectangular, off-channel detention pond. The pond is filled with water and is surrounded by green agricultural fields. A road or path runs along the bottom edge of the pond. The sky is overcast and grey.

# Example Off-Channel Detention

*PL-566 Project*  
*Snake River Watershed, MN*

Warren, MN  
Marshall County

*Controls 57 square miles*  
*Storage Capacity: 6,800 Ac-Ft*

**OFF CHANNEL STORAGE SITE**  
**PL-566 PROJECT**



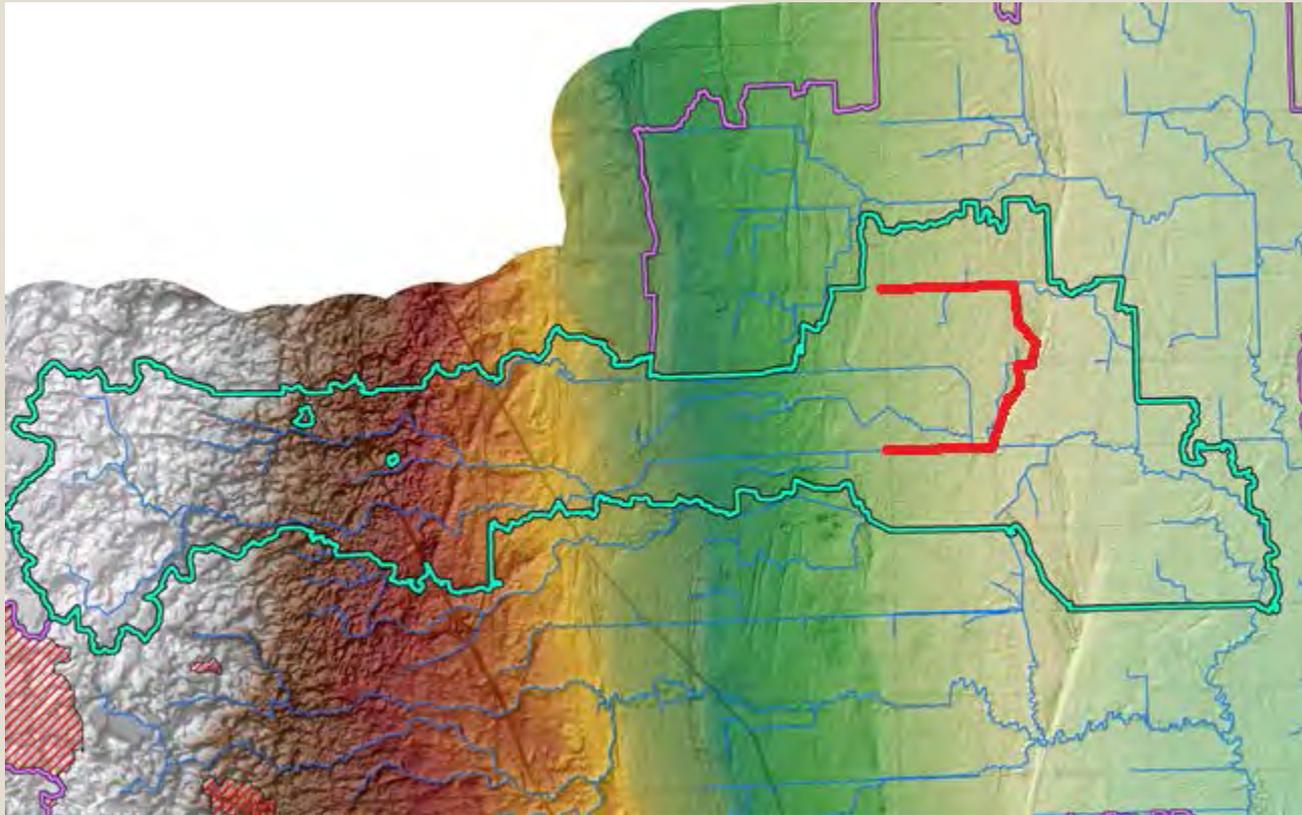
# Site Selection Method

## ◦ Site Identification Criteria

- Control minimum of 20 square miles (if possible)
- Store a minimum of 3 inches of runoff (if possible)
- Avoid impact to residential structures / infrastructure
- Avoid mainstem locations where permitting will be overly burdensome if possible
- Primarily select sites with less environmental impacts where practical
- Minimize impacts to farmland
- Reasonable levee heights & inundation impacts
- Sites can be gated or ungated depending on circumstances
- Dry storage concept for majority of storage area

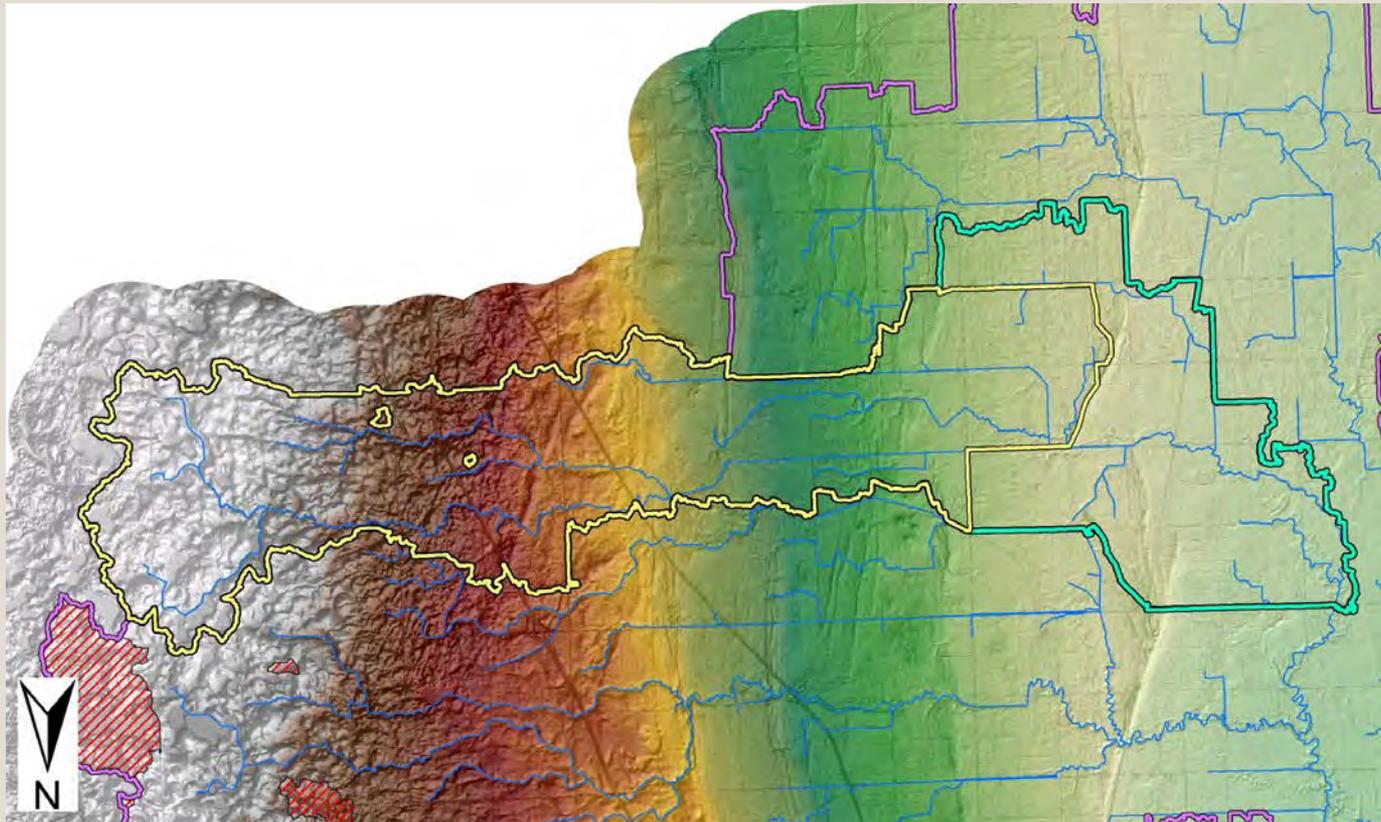
# Example Site Selection

Identify Project Location



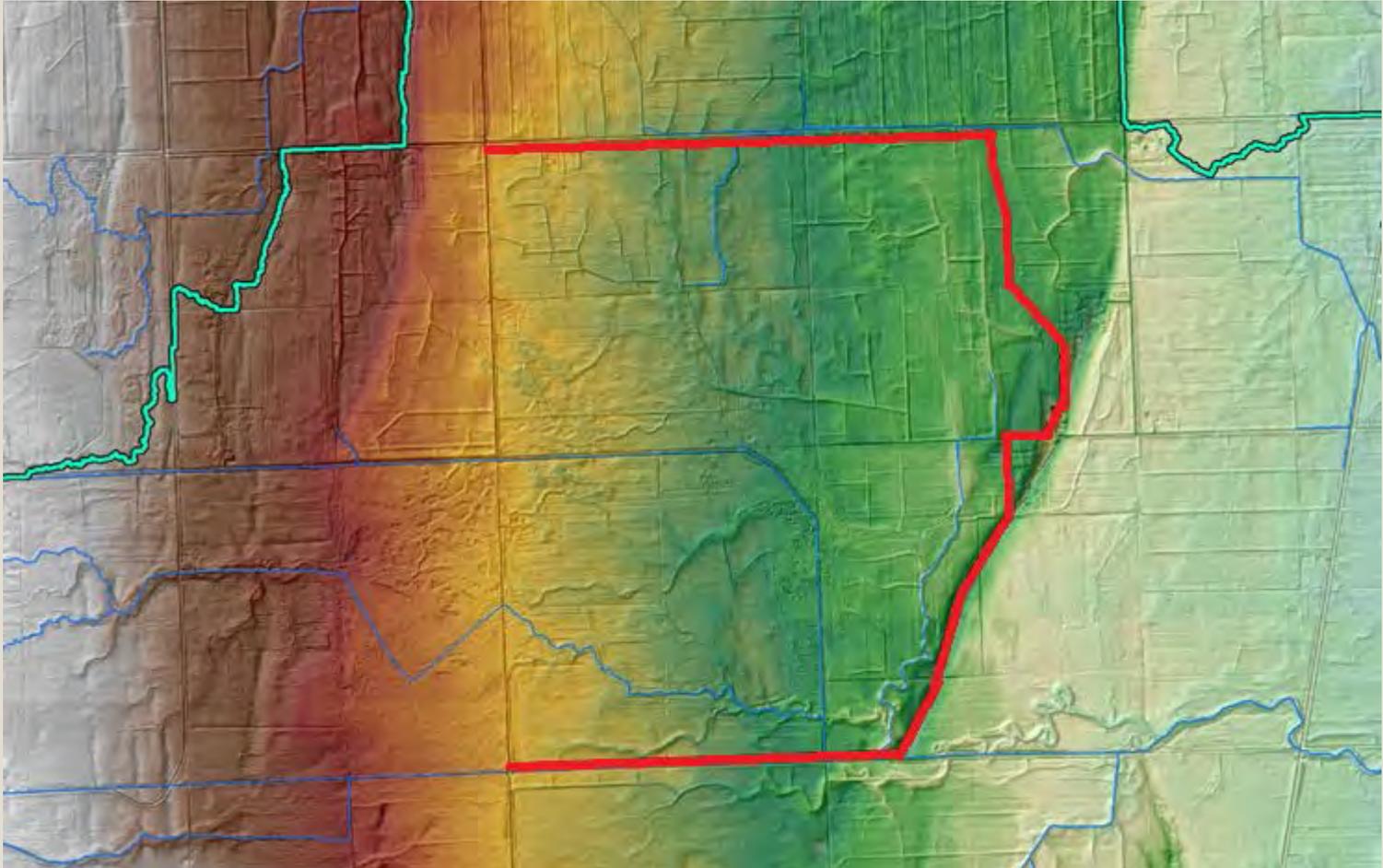
# Example Site Selection

Determine Contributing Area



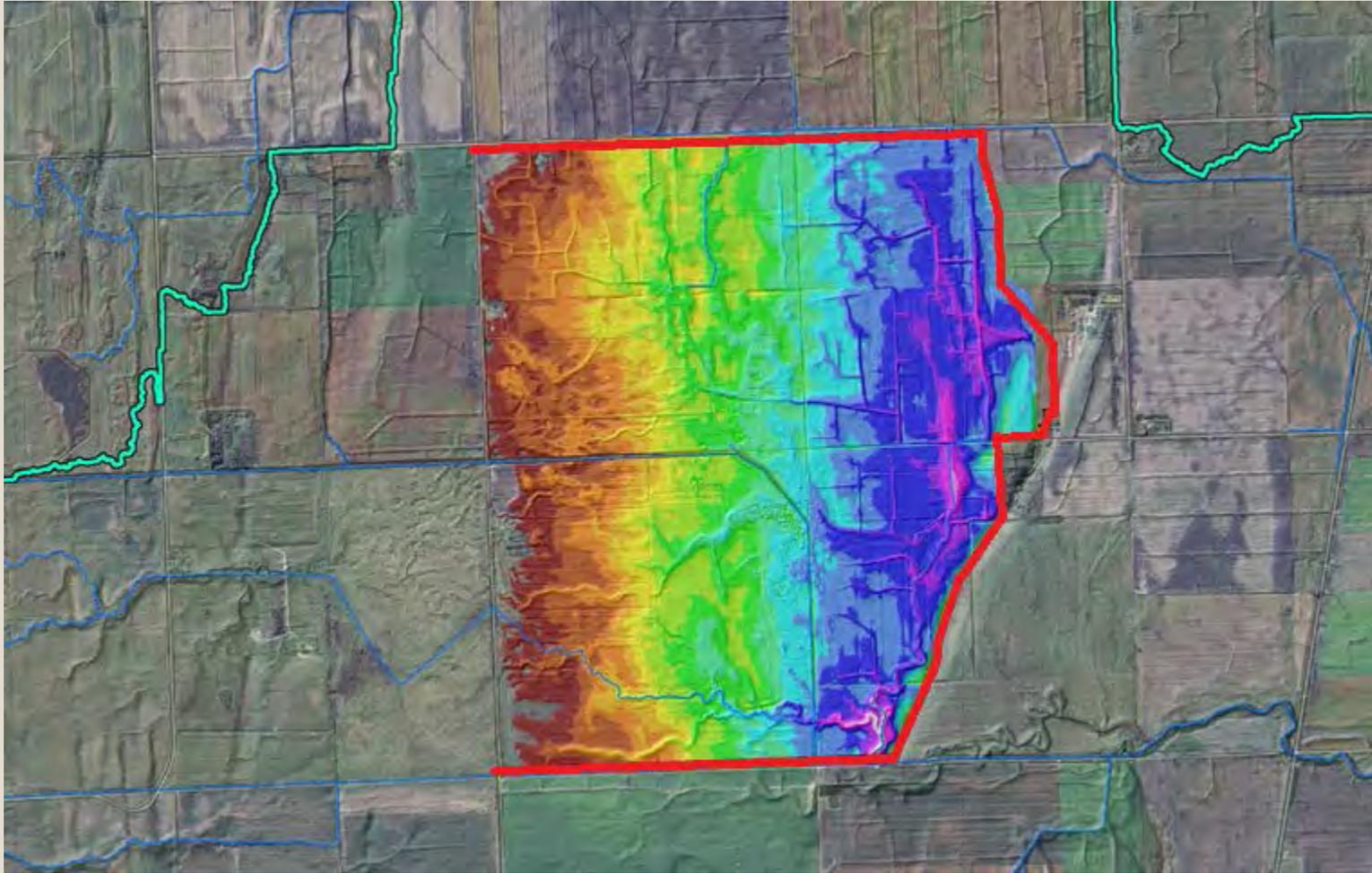
# Example Site Selection

Refine Site to Meet Storage Goal



# Example Site Selection

Inundation Depth

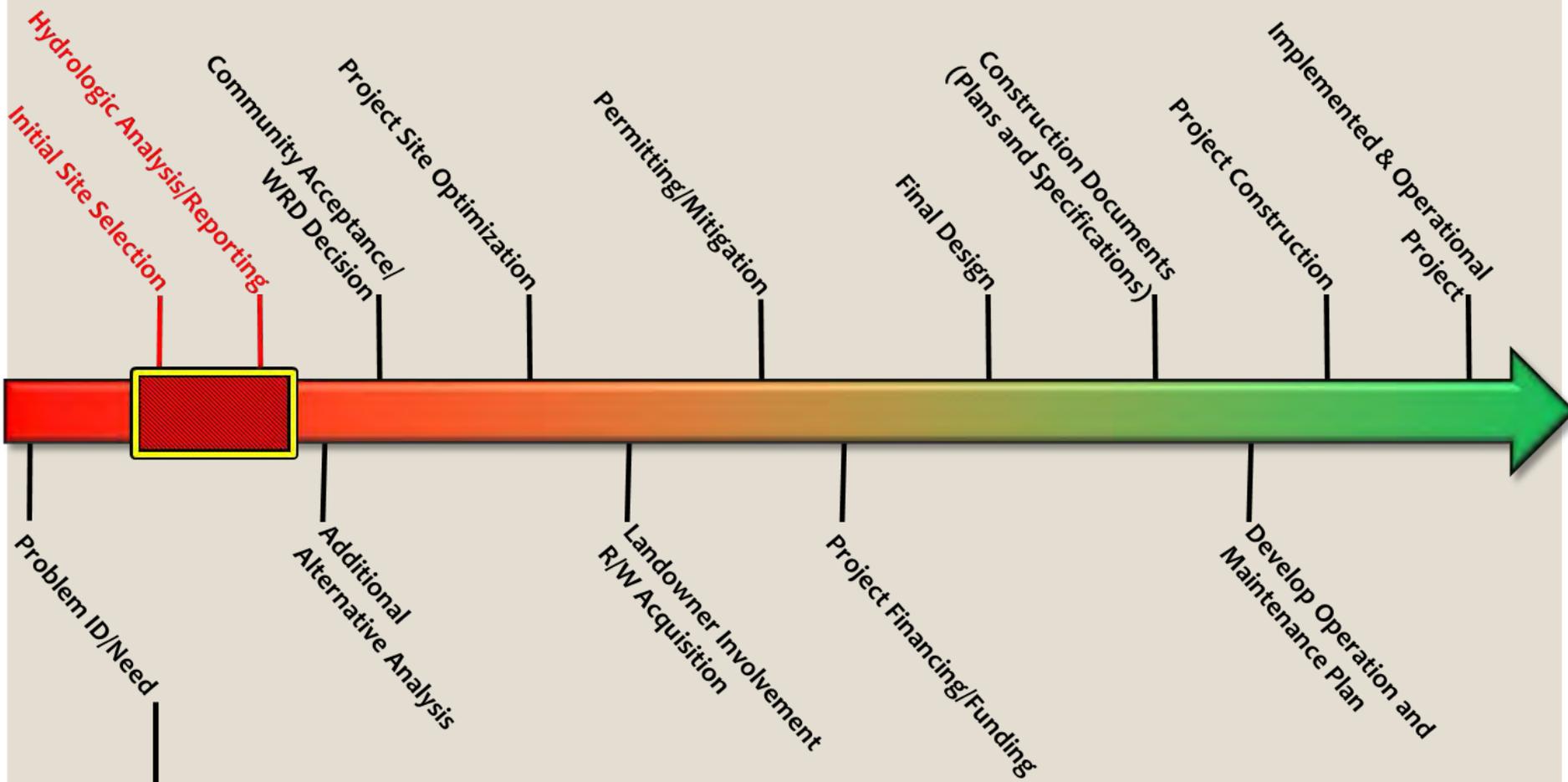


# Goals.....

## ◦ Project Goals

- Fairly compensate landowners
- **Continue to farm majority of project interior!**
- Tile interior of project
- Utilize entire project for spring runoff
- Utilize a portion of the project for frequent summer flood reduction benefits
- Determine fair compensation method if project is needed for extreme summer flooding
- Incorporate water quality benefits within a portion of the project.

# Schedule

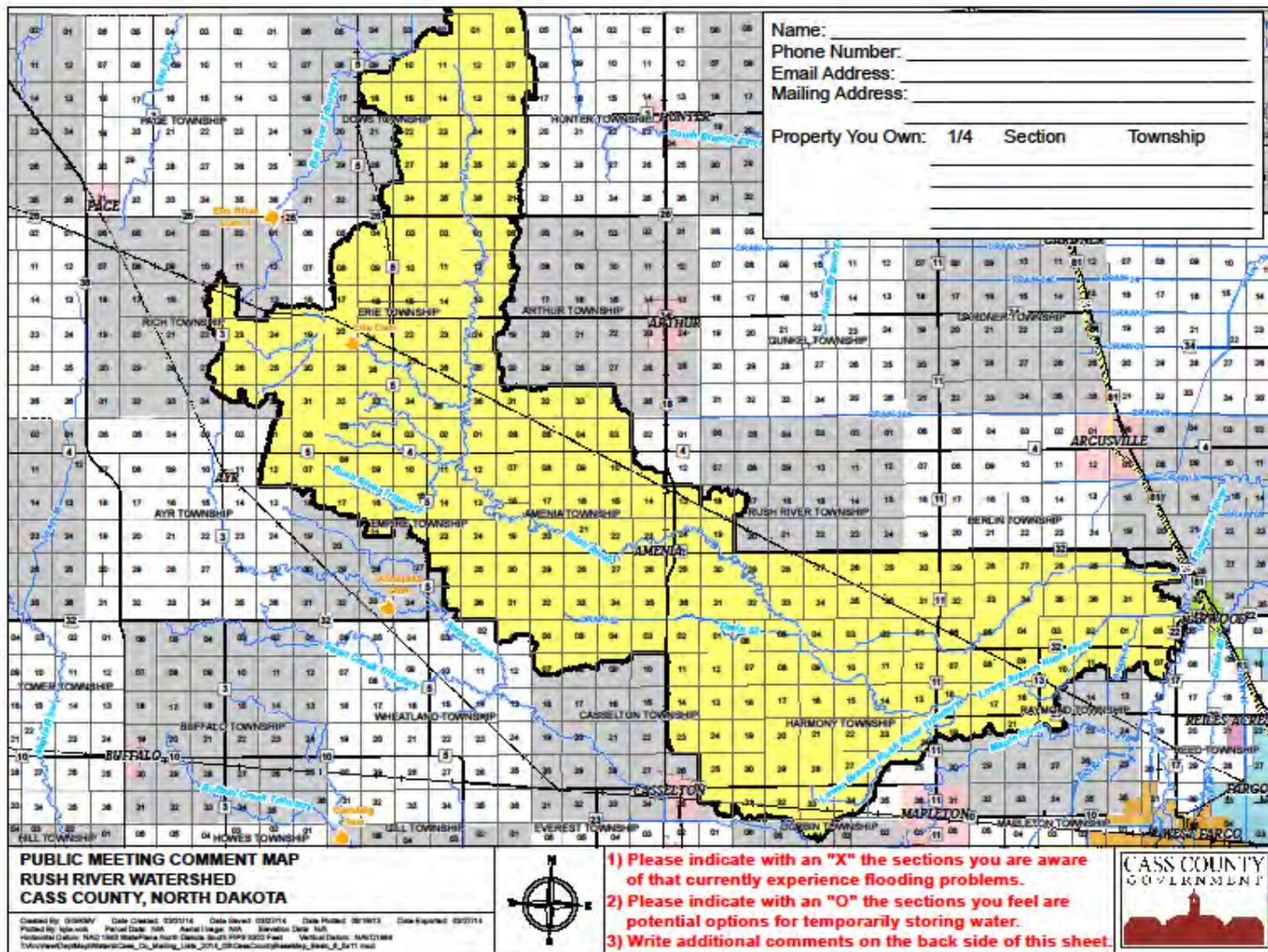


- Local
- Regional
- Basin – RRBC LTFS

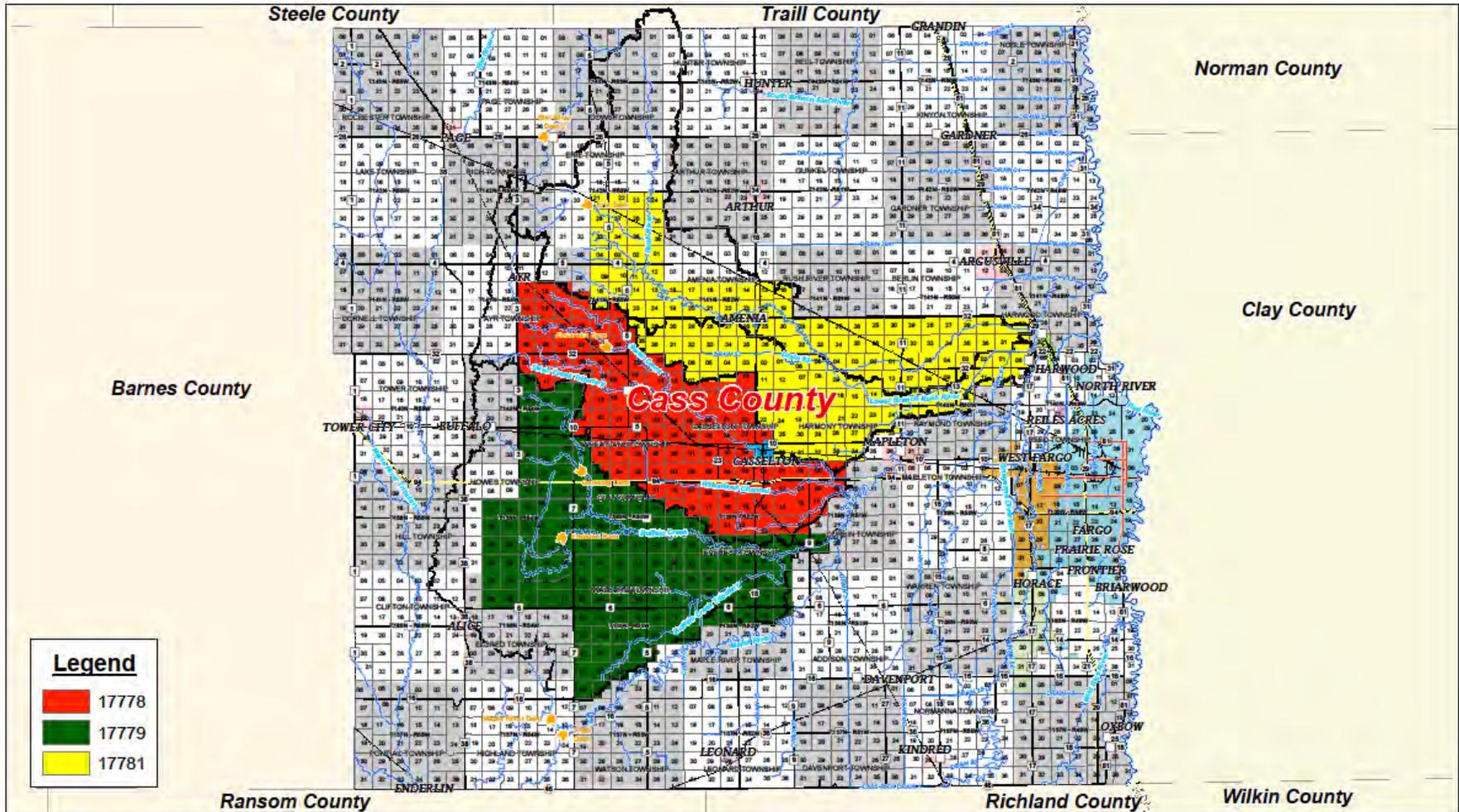


# **North Ottawa Presentation**

# Handout Map



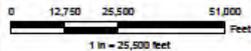
# Mailings



**Legend**

- 17778
- 17779
- 17781

**MAILING LIST AREAS  
CASS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA**



Created By: JCL Date Created: 12/20/12 Date Printed: 02/11/14 Date Issued: 02/11/14  
 Plotted By: gshelton Date Plotted: 02/07/14 Auto Image: 2012 County MAP 8216 Operator: JCL  
 Plotting Station: NAD 1983 StatePlane North Dakota North 8216 Spheroid: NAD 83  
 PLOT: map\CassCountyMailingList\_11171.dwg



# Flood Related Costs

## Cass County Highway Department

- 2009 County Road & Bridge Total \$4.3 Million
- 2010 County Road & Bridge Total \$2.4 Million
- 2011 County Road & Bridge Total \$3.4 Million

## Townships

- ???

## Agriculture

- ???