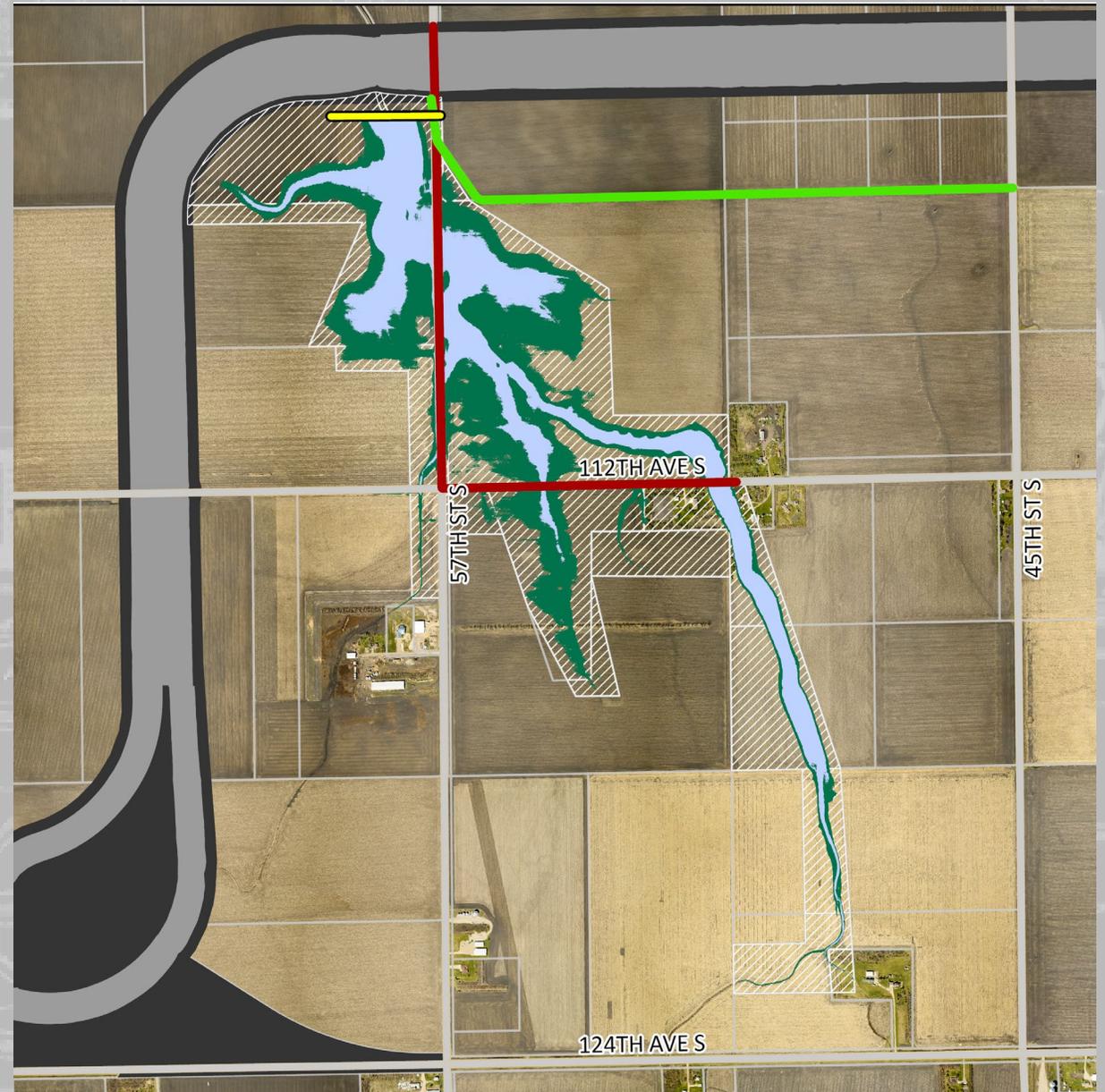


DRAIN 27 WETLAND RESTORATION

Environmental Assessment Virtual Public Meeting

July 21st, 2020

4:00 PM



US Army Corps
of Engineers®



BUILDING STRONG®
and Taking Care of People!



MEETING AGENDA



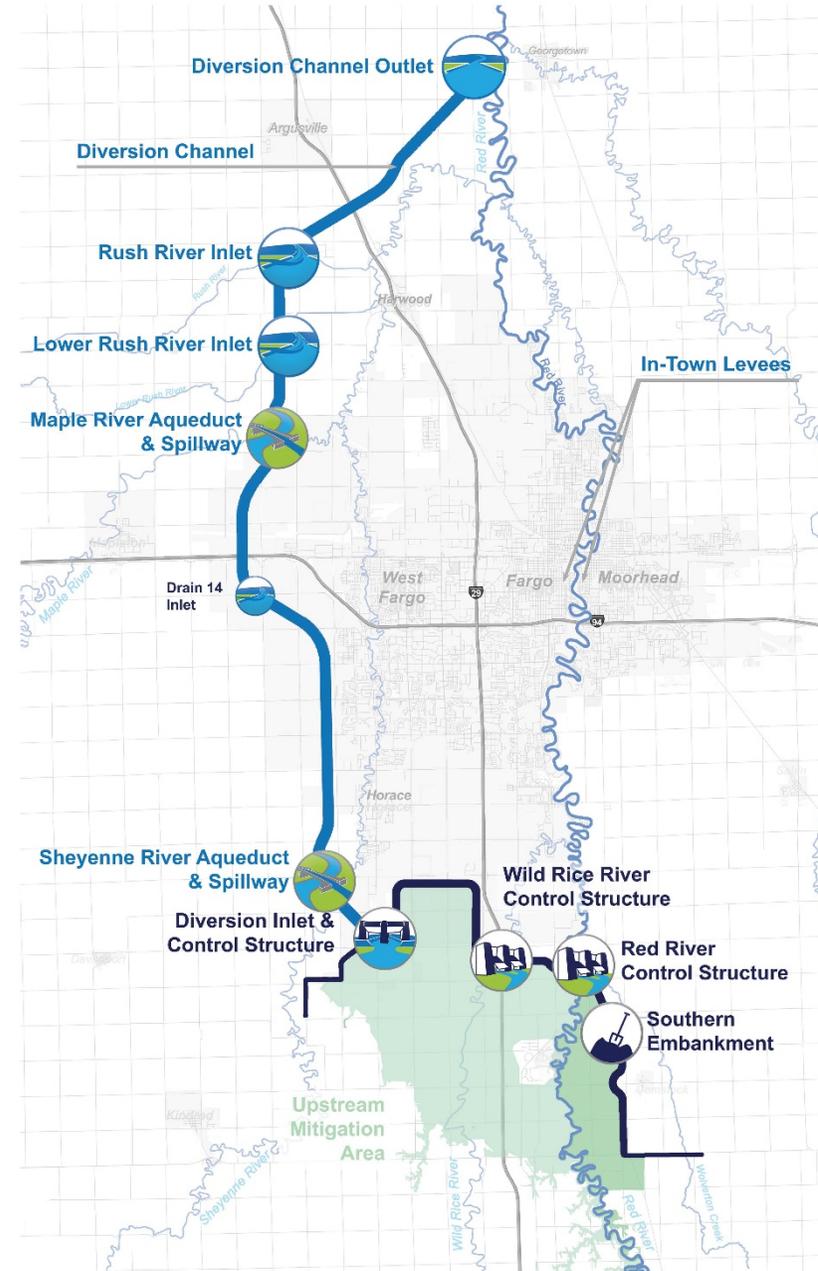
- FM Diversion Project Overview
- Wetlands background
- Reasons for Drain 27 Wetland Restoration Project
- Design
- Impacts
- Schedule
- Comments/Questions





OVERALL PROJECT

- Project includes
 - Diversion Channel
 - River Control Structures
 - In-Town Protections
 - Southern Embankment
 - Upstream Mitigation Area
- Construction on the Diversion Inlet and Wild Rice River Structure is ongoing
- Split delivery



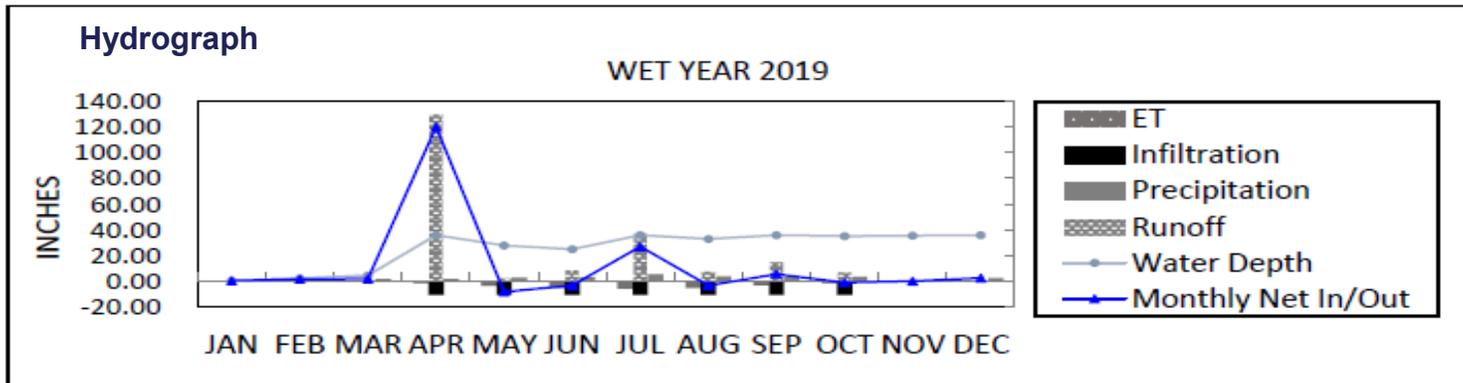


WHAT IS A WETLAND?



3 general characteristics

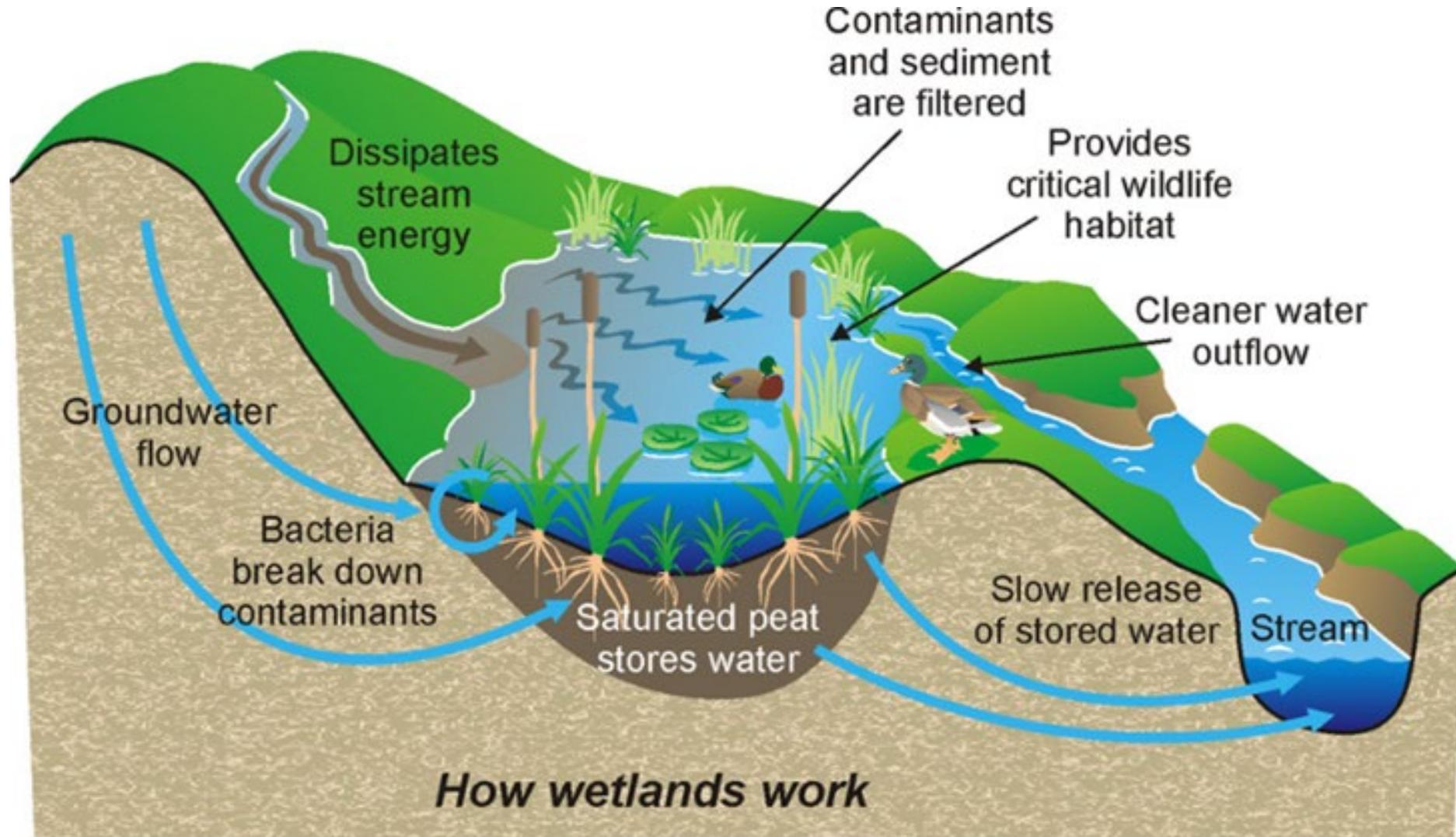
- Hydric soils
- Hydrology
- Vegetation



and taking care of people!



WHY ARE WETLANDS IMPORTANT?



How wetlands work





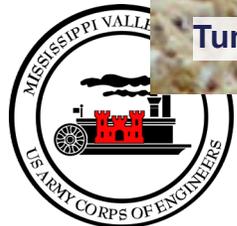
WHY ARE WETLANDS IMPORTANT?



Tundra swan



Tiger salamander





WHAT IS WETLAND RESTORATION?



Return wetland characteristics to site(vegetation, soils, hydrology)

Reestablish lost functions

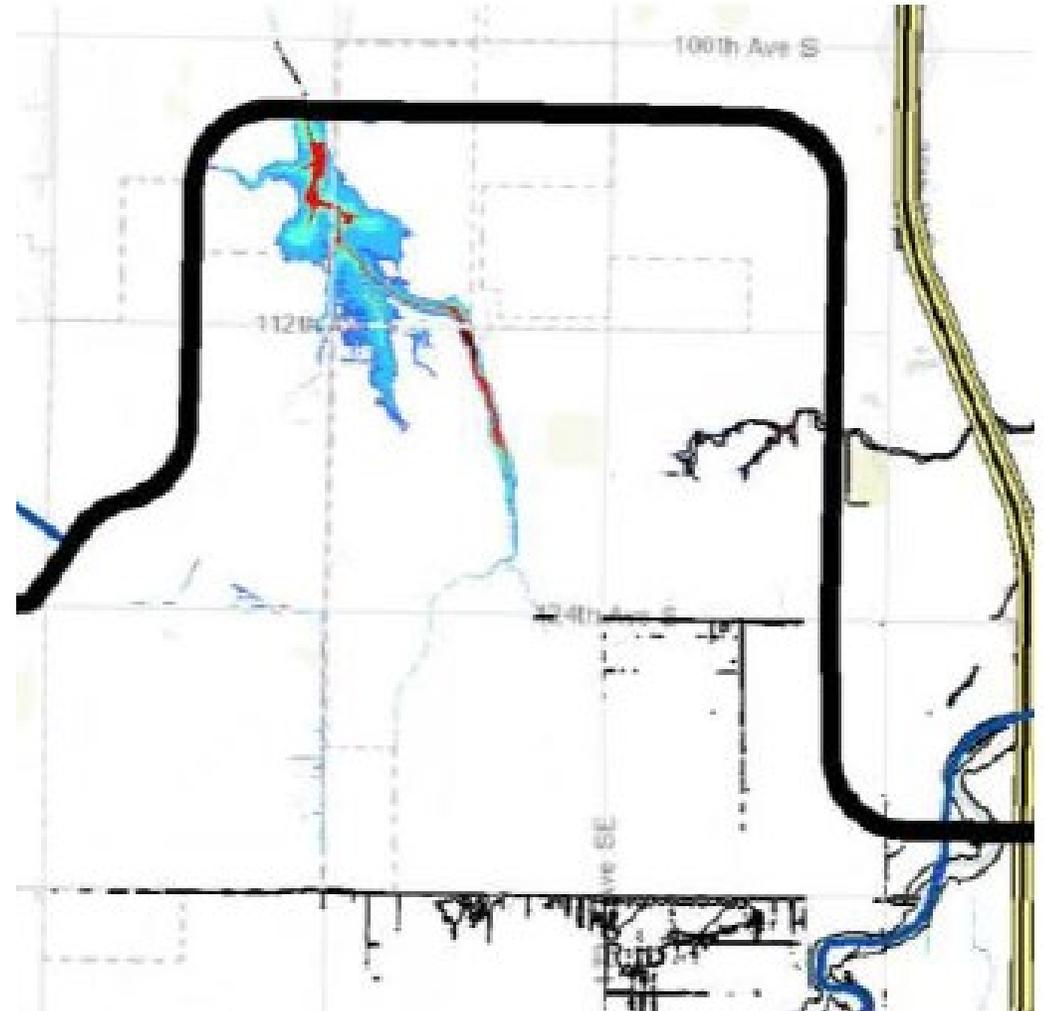




WHY IS THIS PROJECT BEING CONSIDERED?

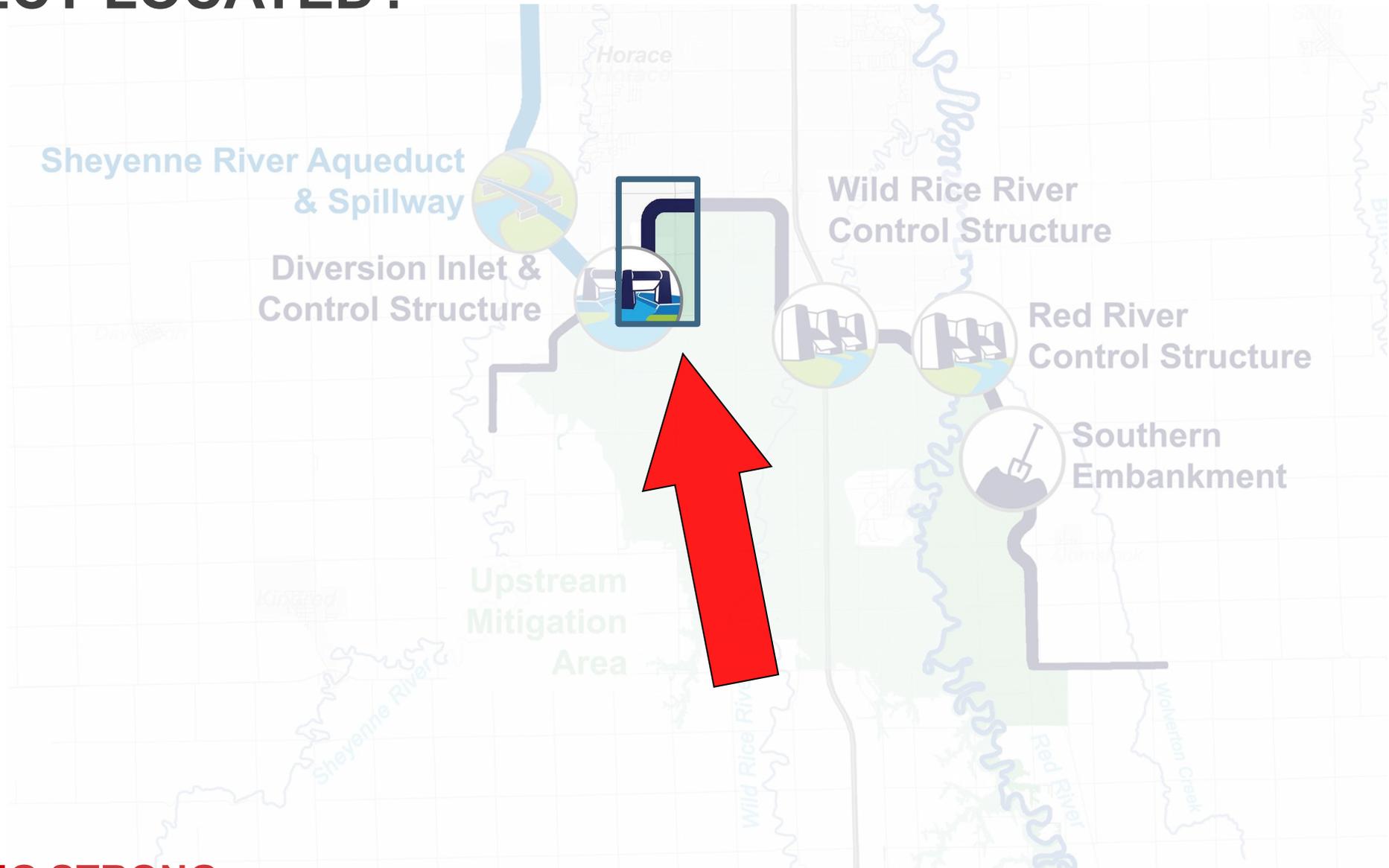


- Mitigate unavoidable wetland impacts.
- Challenges for continued agricultural use.
- Area has characteristics of a historic wetland.





WHERE IS THE DRAIN 27 WETLAND RESTORATION PROJECT LOCATED?



BUILDING STRONG[®]
and Taking Care of People!



DESIGN



BUILDING STRONG[®]
and Taking Care of People!

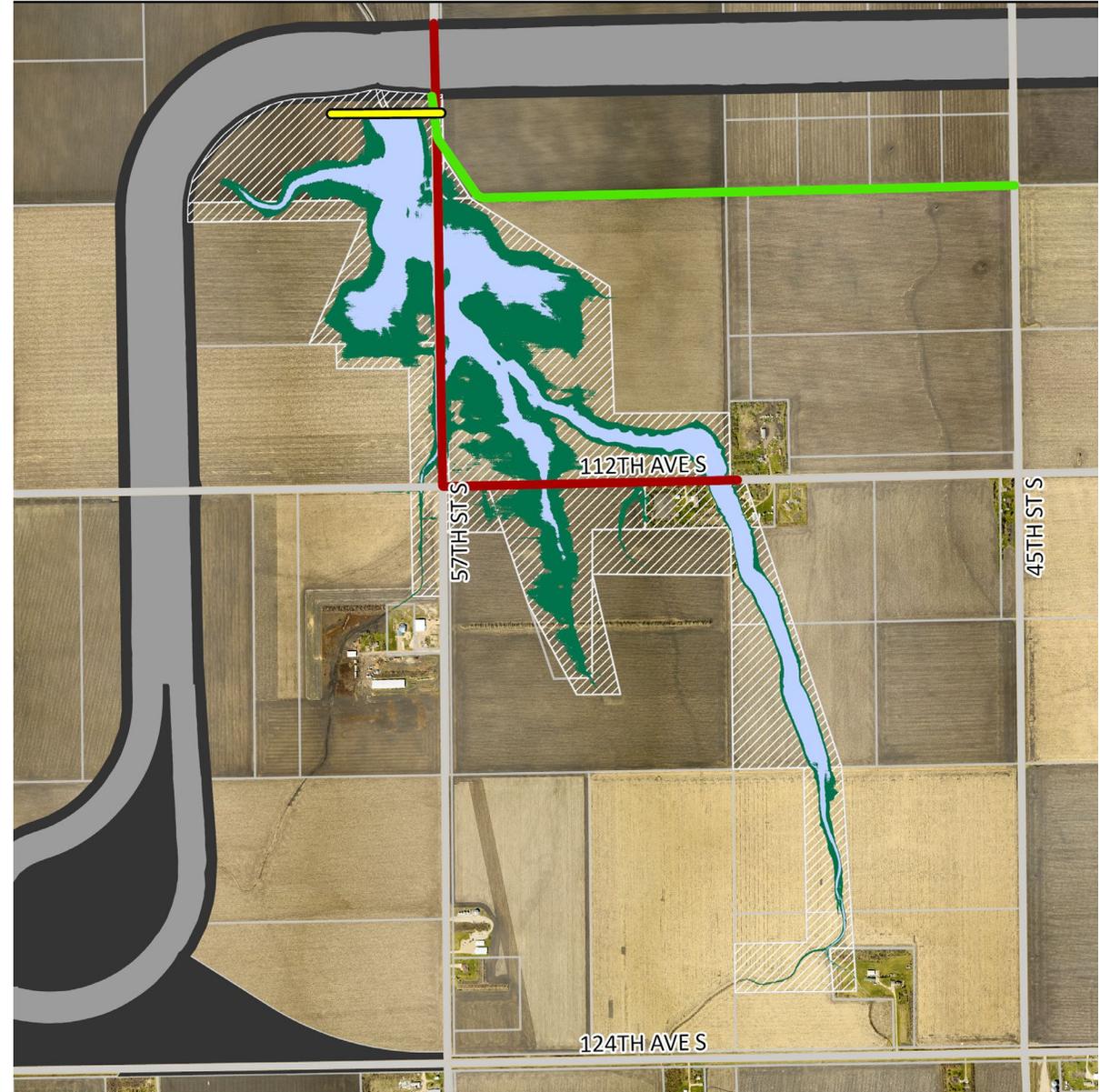


WHAT WILL THE AREA LOOK LIKE?



Total of 320 acres

- 150 acres of wetland
- 70 acres of wetland buffer
- 100 acres of inefficient/inaccessible land





DESIGN – WEIR

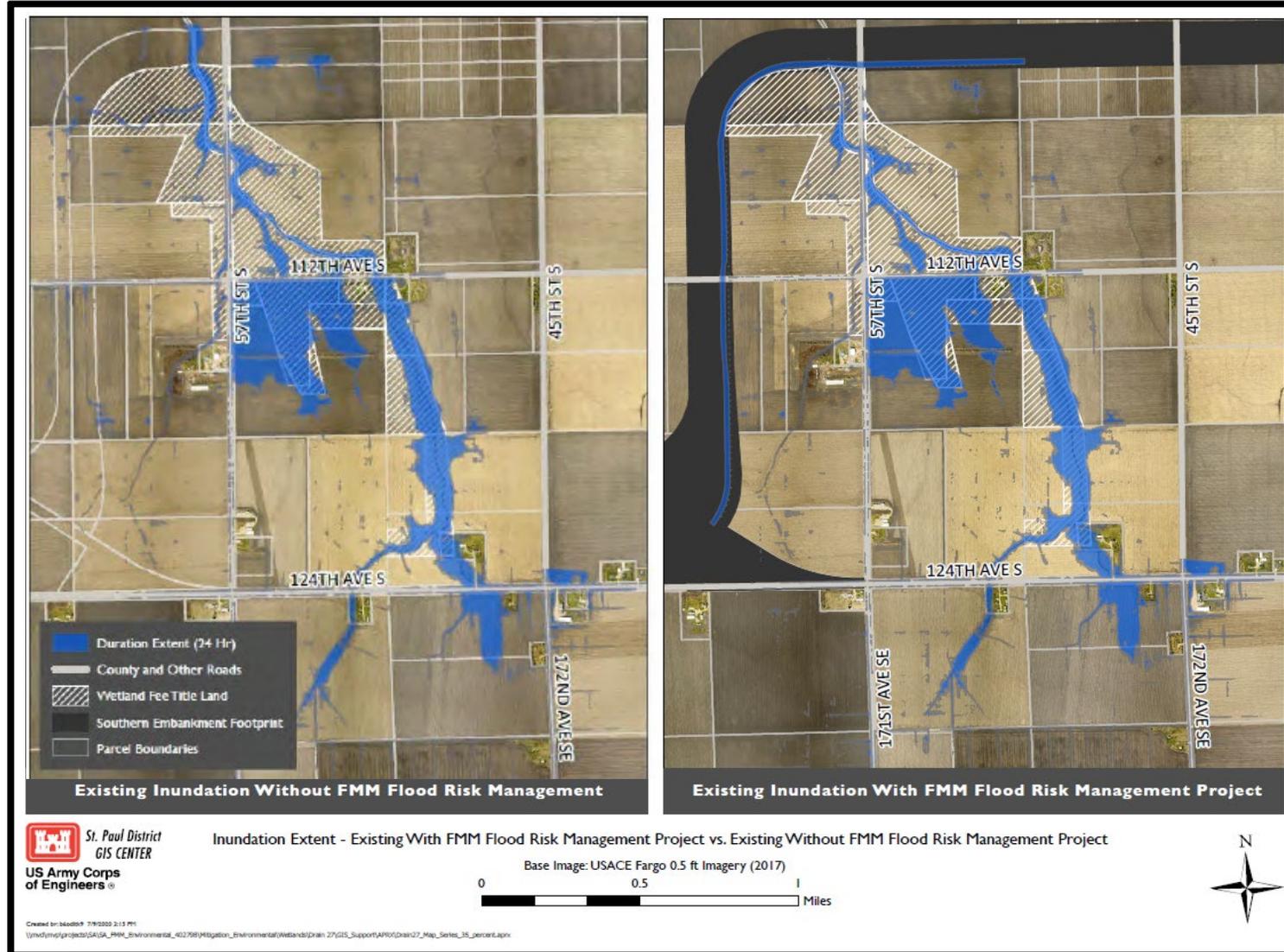


Hydraulic Goal: Design the weir to maximize the extent and duration of the inundation within the wetland fee parcels following the 10-year, 24-hour event, while maintaining adjacent property owner flood duration to less than 24 hours from the peak pool elevation.





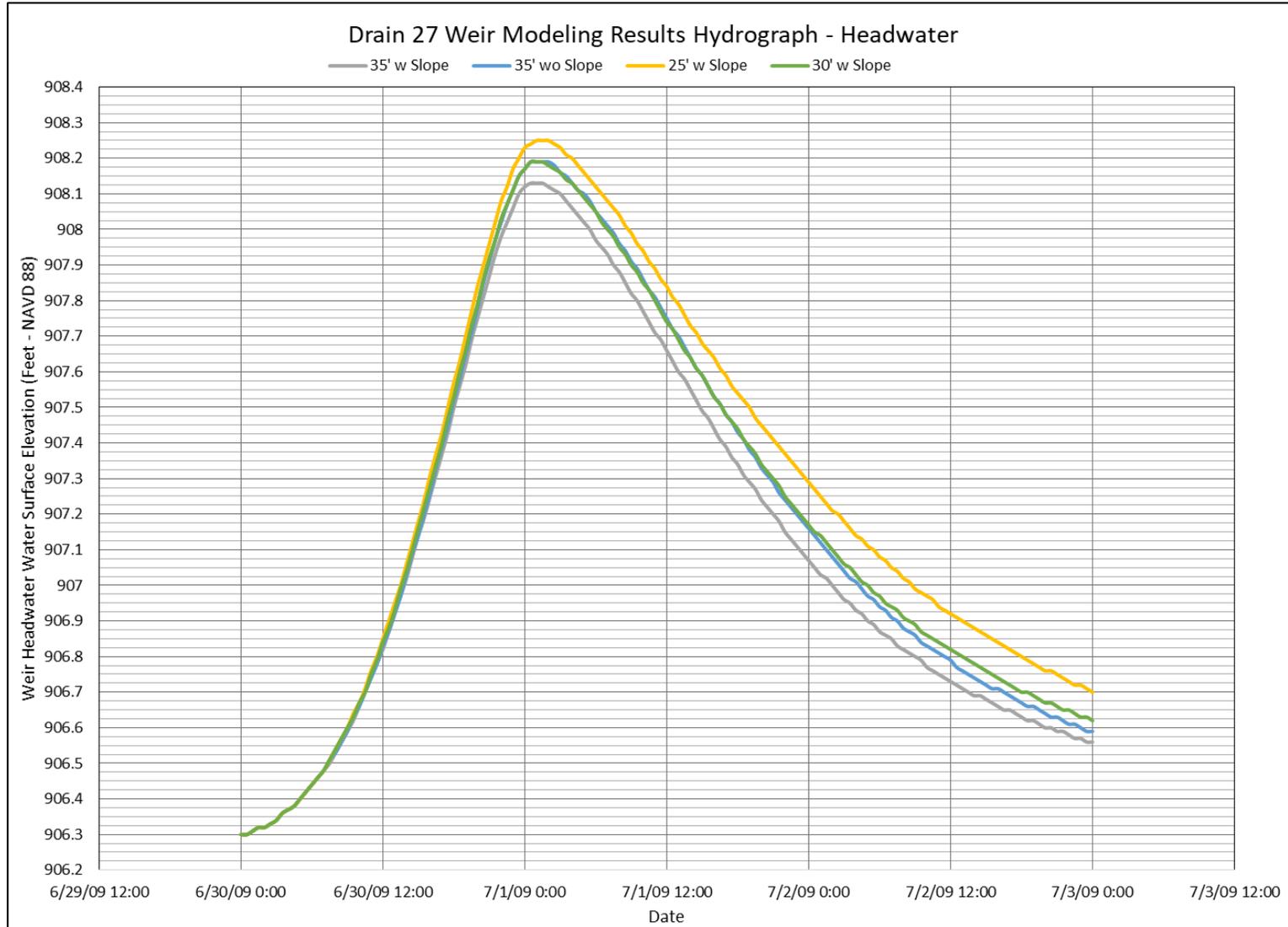
DESIGN – HYDRAULICS



BUILDING STRONG®
and Taking Care of People!



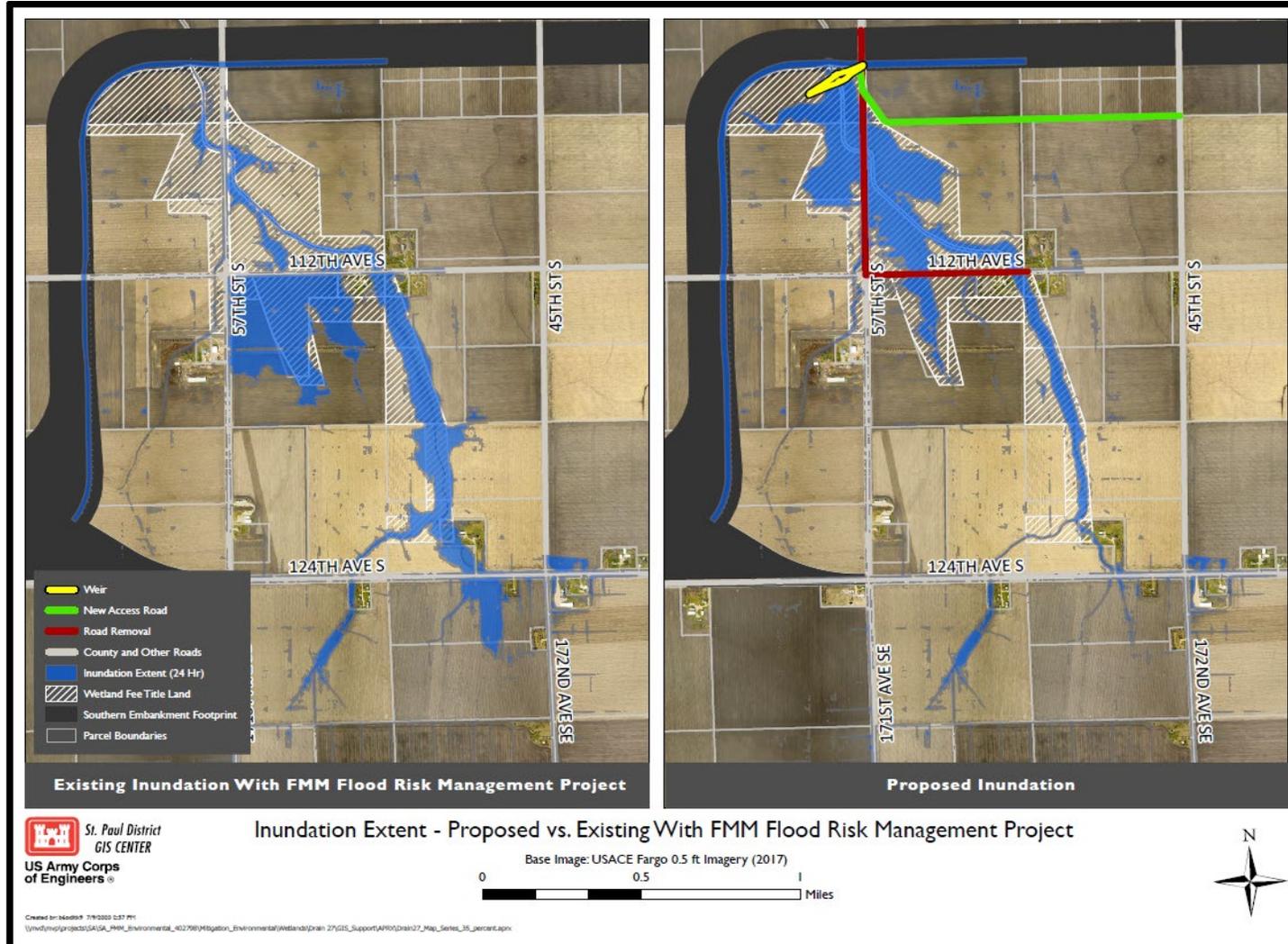
DESIGN – HYDRAULICS



BUILDING STRONG[®]
and Taking Care of People!



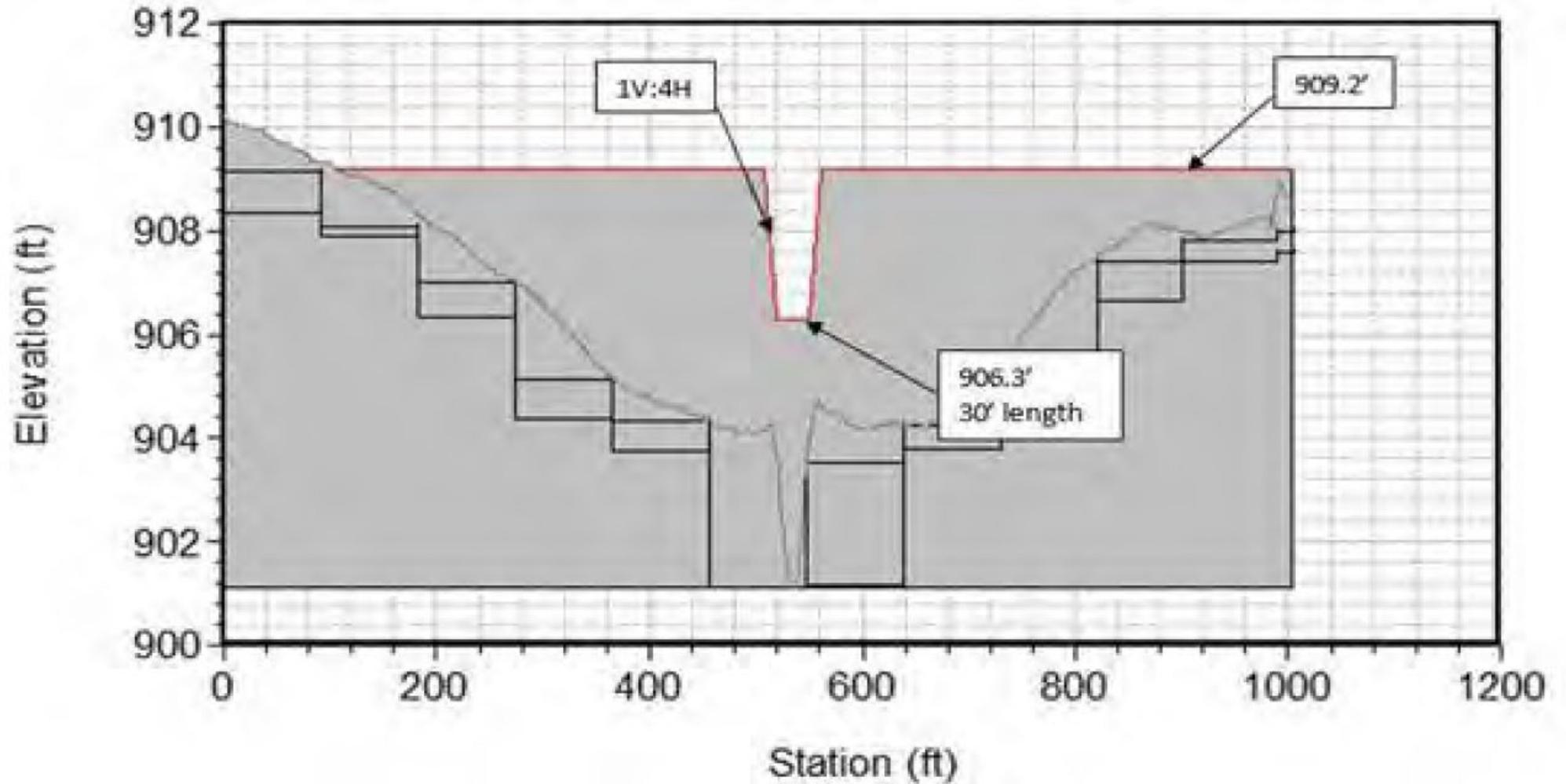
DESIGN – HYDRAULICS



BUILDING STRONG®
and Taking Care of People!



DESIGN - WEIR

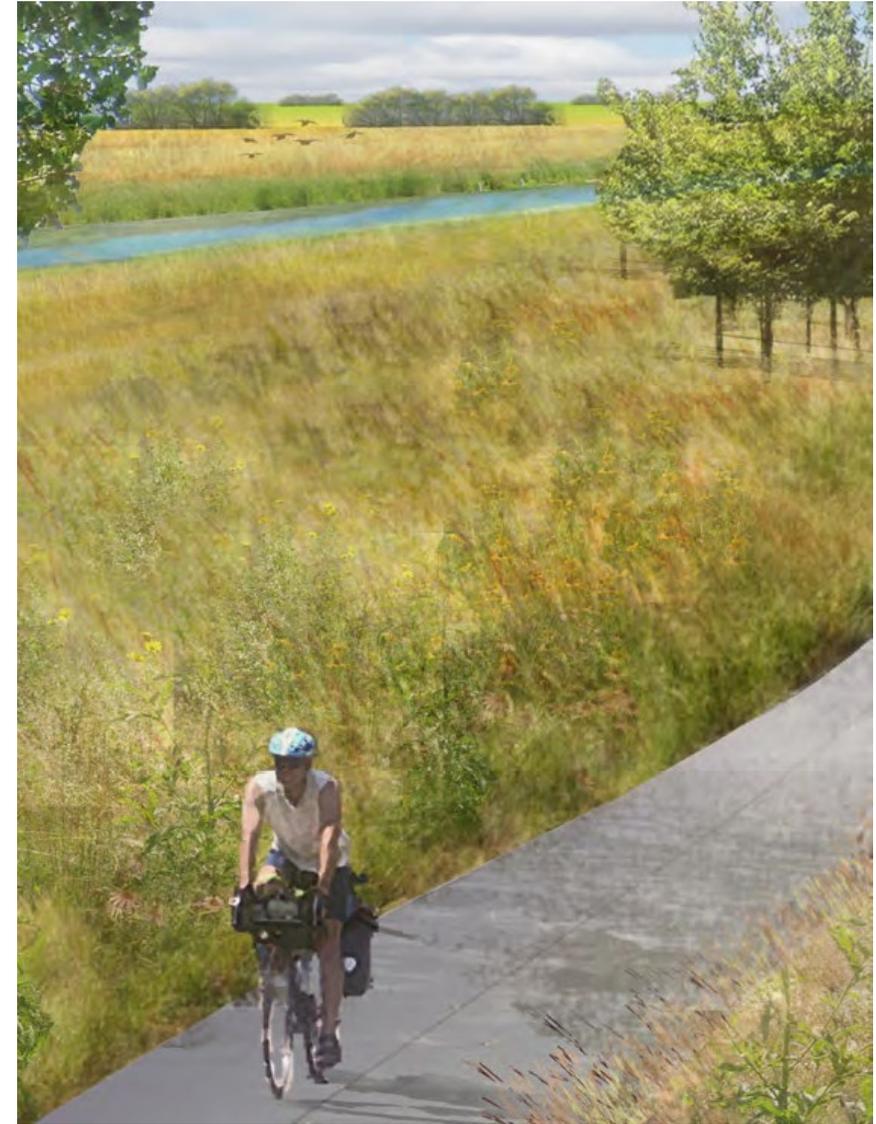


BUILDING STRONG[®]
and Taking Care of People!



DESIGN - RECREATION

- Recreation features being considered but not a part of this project at this time
- Metro COG looking at recreation as part of the Agassiz Greenway Master Plan
<http://fmmetrocog.org/AgassizGreenway>
- Features being considered include: trails, kiosks, and trail access locations



Rendering courtesy of Metro COG





DRAINAGE



BUILDING STRONG[®]
and Taking Care of People!



DRAINAGE

- Existing Conditions:
 - Drainage through Drain 27





DRAINAGE

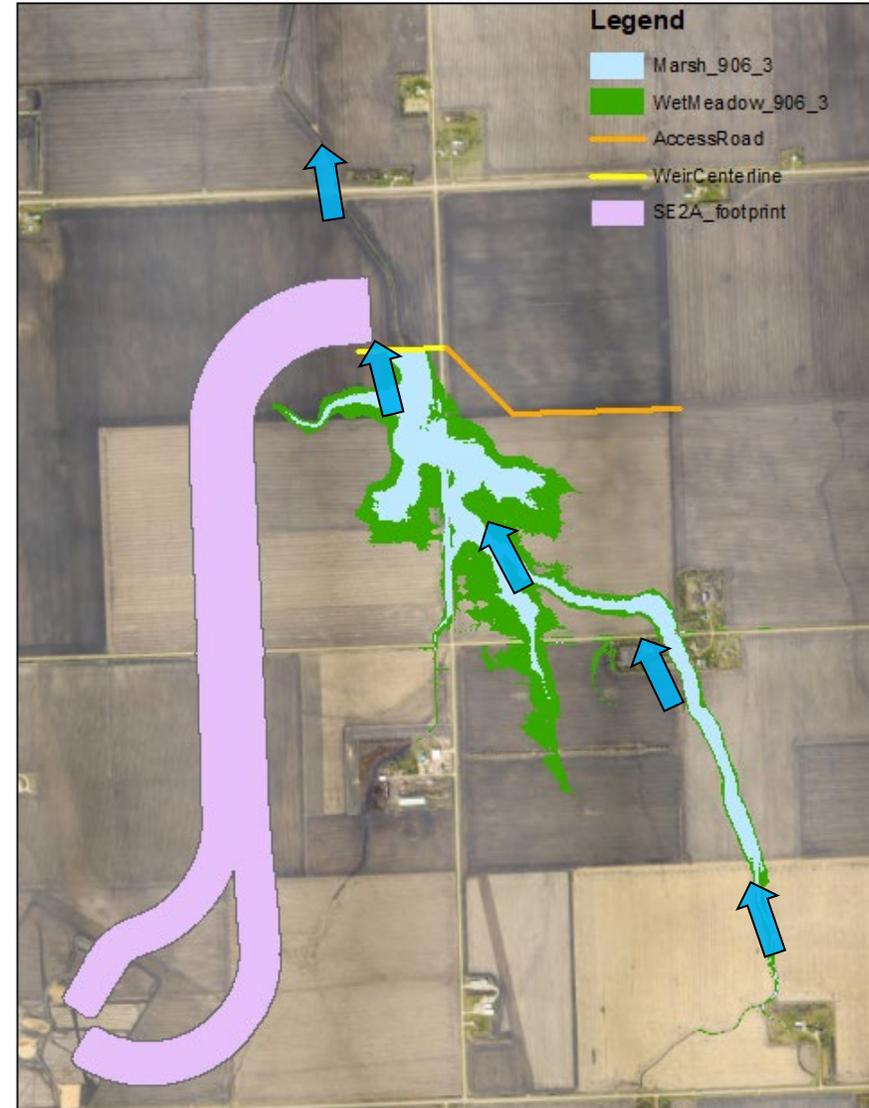
- Wetland Construction:
 - 2022 construction season
 - Drainage through Drain 27 downstream of project





DRAINAGE

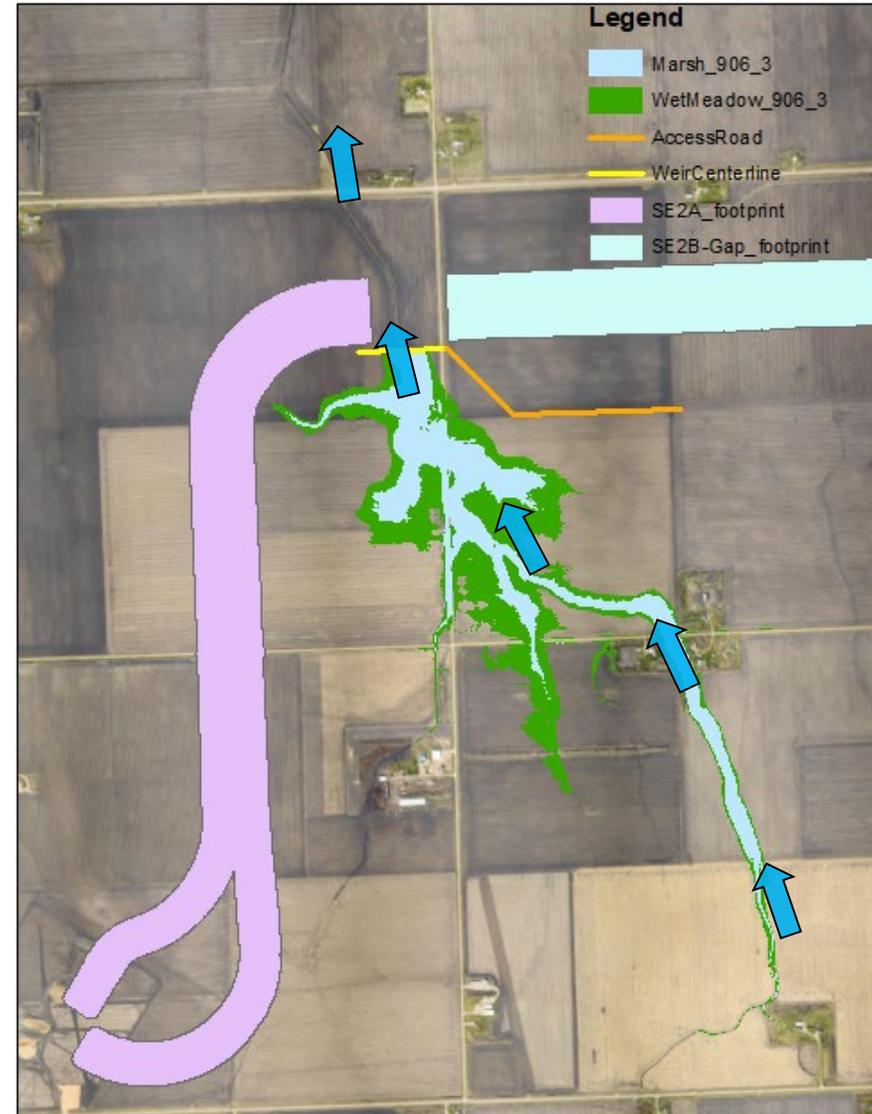
- Southern Embankment SE-2A Construction:
 - 2022 through 2023
 - Drainage through Drain 27 downstream of project





DRAINAGE

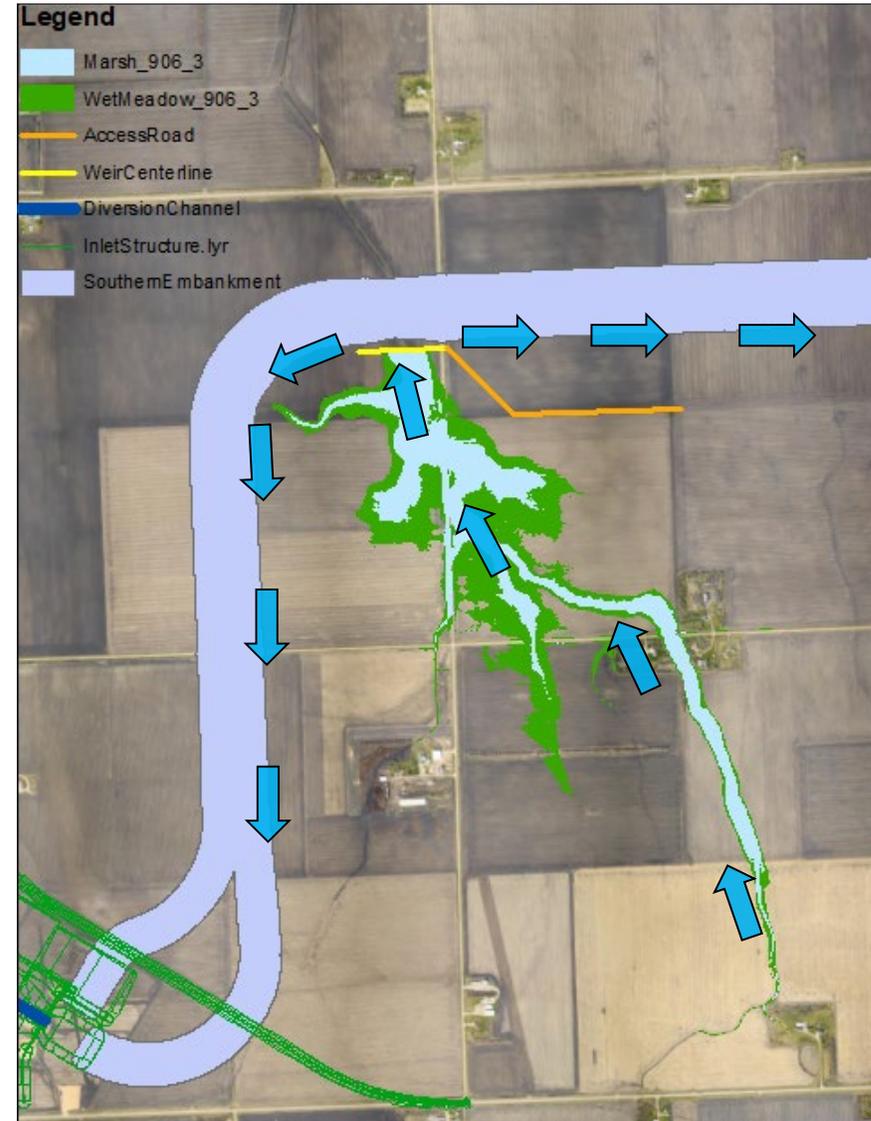
- Southern Embankment SE-2B Construction:
 - 2023 through 2024
 - Gap left in S. Embankment
 - Drainage through Drain 27 downstream of project





DRAINAGE

- Gap filled in Southern Embankment:
 - One of the last phases to be constructed
 - Estimated for construction in 2026/2027





FINAL DRAINAGE



BUILDING STRONG[®]
and Taking Care of People!



WHAT ARE THE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS?



- **Agriculture**

- ~1 mile of Drain 27 would be abandoned and ~300 acres of land currently being farmed would be taken out of production
- Wetland restoration project designed to ensure farmland and crops outside of the project parcels are not inundated for more than 24 hours following a large summer rainfall

- **Transportation**

- To fully restore the wetland, 4,300 linear feet of 57th Street and 2,700 linear feet of 112th Street would be removed
- Affected residents would have alternate routes for traveling in and out of the area





WHAT ARE THE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS?



- **Wetlands**

- Long-term beneficial effect by restoring ~84 acres of wet meadow and 66 acres of marsh
- Restoration of wetland would provide:
 - habitat for wildlife by increasing habitat diversity
 - water quality improvements by filtering sediments, nutrients, & pollutants

- **Vegetation**

- Wetland restoration project would change vegetation from row crops to approximately 150 acres of native wetland and 170 acres of prairie vegetation





ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT



- Released 2 July 2020
- <https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Home/Public-Notices/>
- Questions on the project or comments on the Environmental Assessment can be directed to Derek Ingvalson at (651) 290-5252 or at Derek.S.Ingvalson@usace.army.mil
- Comment period ends 3 August 2020





WHAT IS THE SCHEDULE FOR THIS PROJECT?

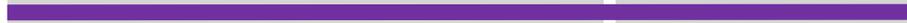


2020

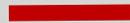
2021

2022

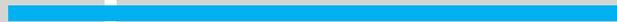
Project Design:



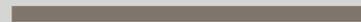
Environmental Assessment: May 2020 – Aug 2020 (Public Comment July 2 – Aug 3)



Land Acquisition: Summer 2020-Summer 2021



Construction Contract Awarded: Sept. 2021



Wetland Construction: 2022 Construction Season





QUESTIONS?

- Questions on the project or comments on the Environmental Assessment can be directed to Derek Ingvalson at (651) 290-5252 or at Derek.S.Ingvalson@usace.army.mil
- Smaller meetings to discuss individual concerns can also be requested.

