



PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army Corps
of Engineers
Rock Island District

Sponsor: Rick and Sue Family Trust, Mr. Rick McDowell
24284 130th Street, Iowa Falls, Iowa 50126

Issued: May 5, 2020
Expires: June 3, 2020

Corps Project Number: CEMVR-OD-P-2020-0582

Proposed Project: Beaver Creek Mitigation Bank

WETLAND AND STREAM COMPENSATORY MITIGATION BANK PROPOSAL

This notice is issued in accordance with the Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources; Final Rule (the Mitigation Rule) described in the Federal Register dated April 10, 2008 (33 CFR Parts 325 and 332).

1. **Project Location:** The proposed site is located within Section 17, Township 90 North, Range 18 West, Butler County, Iowa. See attached location maps. Latitude: 42.6052 Longitude: -92.9990.

2. **Bank Objectives:** The fundamental objective of compensatory mitigation is to offset environmental losses resulting from unavoidable impacts to waters of the United States authorized by Department of Army Permits. Other Objectives include: Provide economical mitigation options, support no net-loss of wetlands; enhance or create additional wildlife habitat; provide flood retention for the watershed and provide natural areas for the watershed.

3. **Project Description/Bank Establishment:** The bank sponsor proposes to complete activities on 102 acres of privately owned property that would result in the establishment of both stream and wetland mitigation credits. The goal of the bank is to restore 5,224 linear feet of North Beaver Creek to generate 61,360 stream credits and restore/enhance onsite wetlands to generate 7.02 wetland credits. The bank sponsor would use many different in-stream restoration methods that include cross vanes, j-hook vanes and bank stabilization to generate credits. Riparian buffer creation and enhancement will generate credits by removing undesirable vegetation and establishing native vegetation to improve stream functions such as sediment trapping, nutrient cycling, stream shading, energy dissipation, natural moderation of floods, bank stability, and delivery of organic matter to the stream. The wetland restoration and oxbow enhancement would include shallow excavation, small berms and wetland seeding to enhance species diversity. Success criteria will be developed and required to be met in order to generate credit for the proposed activities. Please see the detailed project description and drawings located within the bank Prospectus on RIBITS (link in #14, below).

4. **Service Area:** The proposed primary bank service area will be the Cedar Service Area.

5. **Bank Need/Technical Feasibility/Ecological Suitability:** The sponsor has considered future Iowa DOT projects and development in surrounding municipalities to determine the need for stream and wetland mitigation. The proposed bank would improve water quality, create fish habitat and stabilize North Beaver Creek. The proposed bank would use stream restoration techniques, vegetation management techniques and earthwork to restore and enhance the stream and wetlands onsite. Much of the soils within the site are mapped hydric which should easily retain wetland hydrology. The low topographic relief provides conditions conducive to wetland restoration/enhancement. The proposal would restore the ecological value that was lost due to previous impacts to this stream and riparian area.

6. **Long Term Management:** Post bank closure management would include ongoing plant management which may require herbicide and fire treatment additional seeding, as well as, general site maintenance. The responsibility for long term management is held by the bank sponsor/landowner. A conservation easement will be required in perpetuity and will be held by a third party grantee to ensure the conservation value of the property is protected. A long term management fund will be established, and available to the grantee, to ensure funds are available should the sponsor fail to properly maintain the site.

7. **Sponsor Qualifications:** The sponsor has experience developing and constructing White Fox Mitigation Bank in Wright County, Iowa. The sponsor has also hired a professional consultant familiar with mitigation bank approval, development and monitoring. This consultant has experience developing multiple successful mitigation banks around the State of Iowa.

8. **Water Rights:** The sponsor currently owns the property associated with the bank proposal. The sponsor would not have complete control of upstream practices that may alter flows to the project area.

9. **Agency Review:** Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers. The Corps of Engineer is participating in this matter as the chair of an Interagency Review Team. The Interagency Review Team consists of the Corps of Engineers, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. The project would require Section 404, Clean Water Act authorization prior to the proposed construction. If approved, the proposed bank could provide stream and wetland credit for future, Section 404, authorized projects that require compensatory mitigation. Formal authorization of the bank proposal occurs through Corps approval of a Mitigation Banking Instrument.

10. **Historical/Archaeological:** The District consulted with the Iowa online geographic information systems archeological site and survey databases and determined the permit area has not been previously surveyed. Based on a review of historic and current aerial photos, topo maps, the HILD database / Culture Map it is the opinion of the District Archaeologist the permit area has the potential to contain historic properties that may be potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The District will require the applicant to submit two (2) copies of a Phase I archaeological survey and geomorphological evaluation report covering the permit area. Geomorphological investigation must extend at least 50 centimeters below the proposed depths of soil disturbance or to a depth below which no possibility of historic properties exists. The applicant, in addition to this Phase I report, may be required to conduct additional Phase II test excavations to evaluate sites for eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP as well as other studies, site avoidance, or data recovery as may be the case.

11. **Endangered Species:** This proposal is being reviewed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Any comments USFWS may have concerning Federally-listed threatened or endangered wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work. Any adverse effects on endangered species will be resolved prior to the Corps authorization, or approval, of the proposed work.

12. **Who Should Reply:** The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to approve the proposed bank. Any comments received will be distributed to the members of the Interagency Review Team. Comments should be submitted on or before the expiration date specified at the top of page 1. Comments should bear upon the adequacy of plans and suitability of locations and should, if appropriate, suggest any changes considered desirable. Any person may also request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing to the District Engineer within the designated comment period of the notice and must state the specific reasons for requesting the public hearing.

13. **Reply to the Corps of Engineers:** Comments or questions concerning this notice may be directed to Abby Steele (309/794-5377), US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, ATTN: OD-P, Clock Tower Building - Post Office Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004.

14. **Complete Prospectus:** The complete prospectus can be found on our public website at: https://ribits.ops.usace.army.mil/ords/f?p=107:278:2018635068252::NO:RP,278:P278_BANK_ID:5703.

matthew a zehr

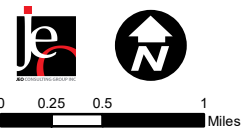
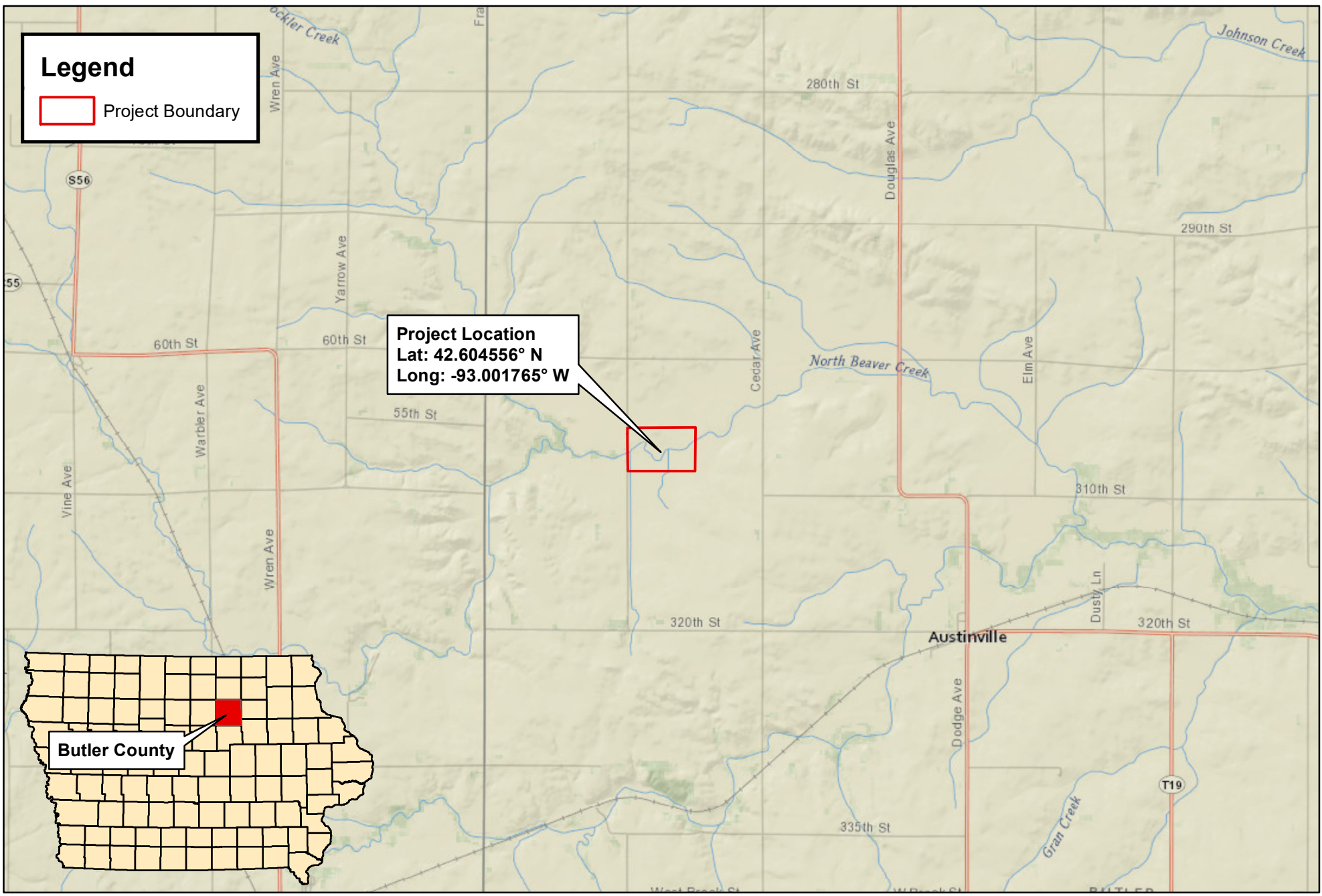
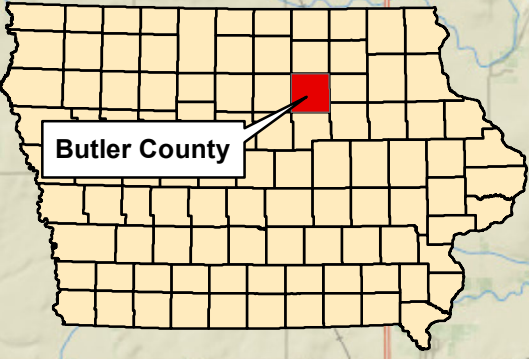
Attach
Plan

Mr. Matthew A. Zehr
Chief, Iowa Permit Section
Regulatory Branch

Legend

 Project Boundary

Project Location
Lat: 42.604556° N
Long: -93.001765° W

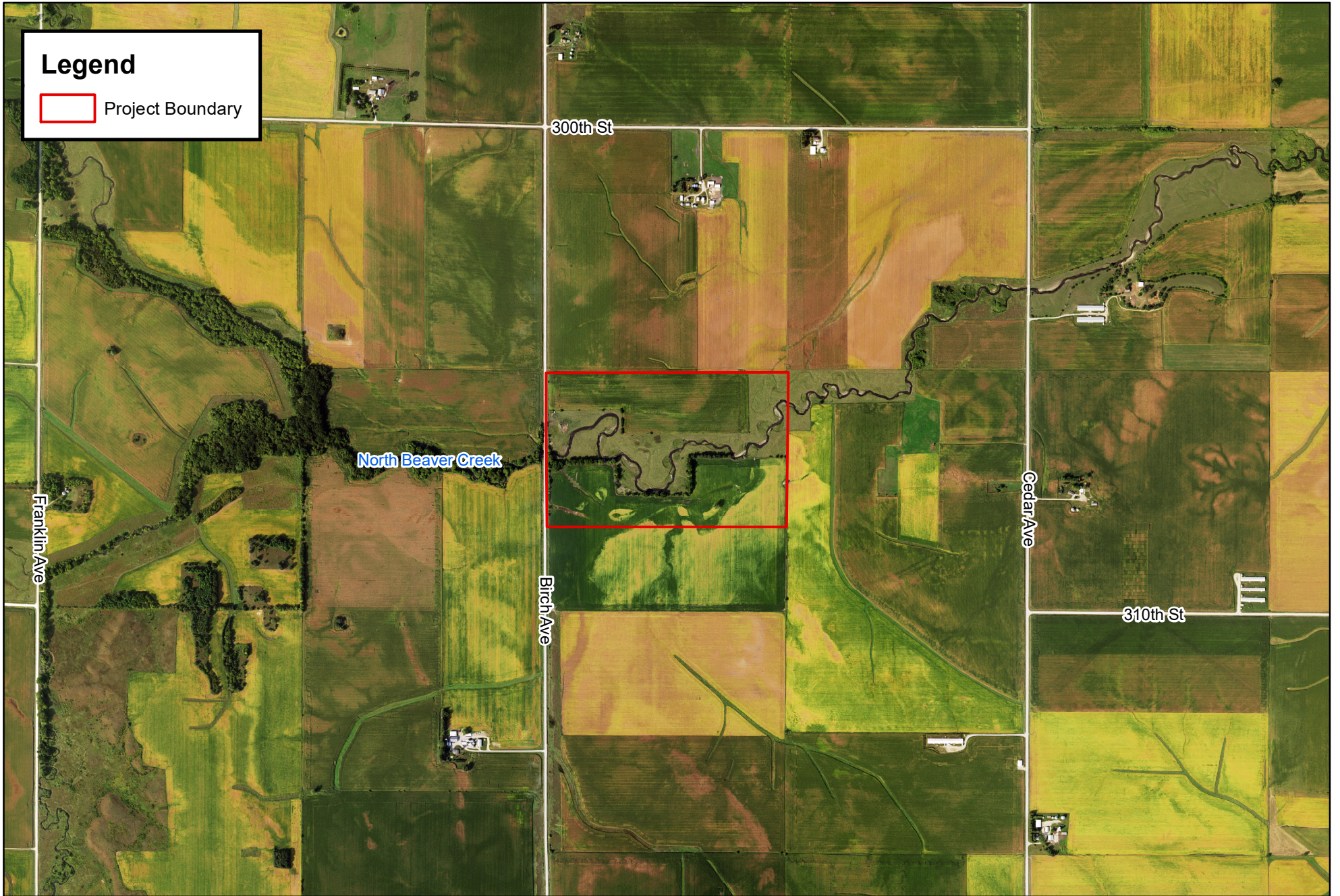


Beaver Creek Mitigation Bank
Butler County, Iowa
JEO Project No. 190189.00

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Sheet 1 of 4
Location Map

Legend

 Project Boundary

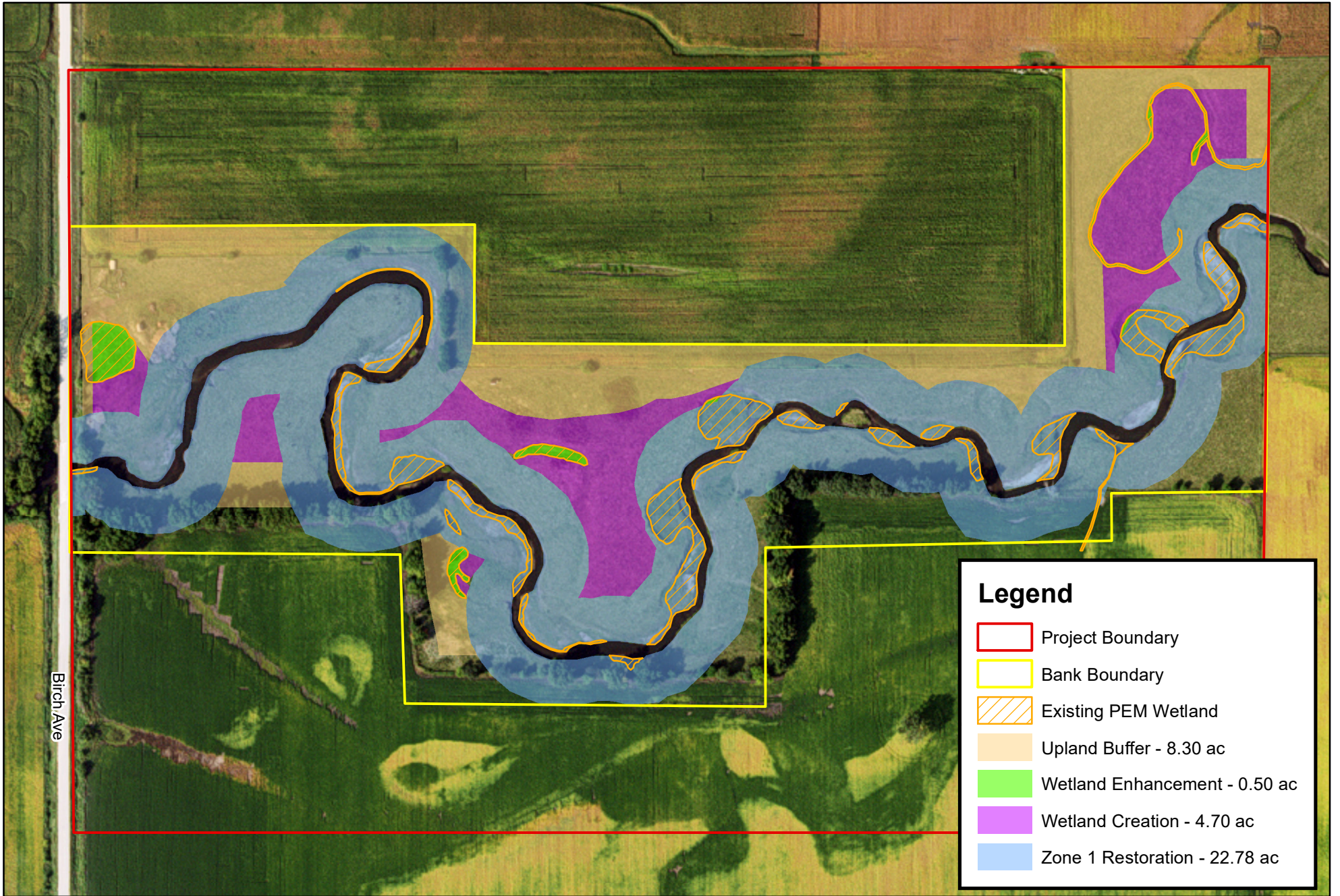


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Sheet 2 of 4
Project Location Map



0 395 790 1,580
Feet



Legend

- Project Boundary
- Bank Boundary
- Existing PEM Wetland
- Upland Buffer - 8.30 ac
- Wetland Enhancement - 0.50 ac
- Wetland Creation - 4.70 ac
- Zone 1 Restoration - 22.78 ac

0 75 150 300
Feet

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Sheet 3 of 4
Restoration Map

Mitigation Bank Service Areas in Iowa

