



US Army Corps
of Engineers
St Paul District

SPONSOR: Craig Wensmann
Maywood Farms

Public Notice

ISSUED: November 7, 2022
EXPIRES: December 7, 2022

REFER TO: 2022-01086-LED

SECTION: 404 - Clean Water Act

1. WETLAND COMPENSATORY MITIGATION BANK PROPOSAL
2. SPECIFIC INFORMATION

SPONSOR'S ADDRESS: Craig Wensmann
Maywood Farms
5842 165th Avenue NE
Foley, MN 56329

SPONSOR'S AGENT Nathan Hylla
Kanati Land Management
33599 Poverty Point Drive
Avon, MN 56310

PROJECT LOCATION: The project site is in Section 33, Township 37 North, Range 26 West, Mille Lacs County, Minnesota. The approximate coordinates Latitude 45.659321, Longitude -93.581509.

BANK SERVICE AREA: The proposed bank service area (BSA) is 7 within the Rum River watershed.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: The sponsor is proposing to develop Maywood Farms Mille Lacs Bank. The proposed bank site is approximately 54 acres in size, including upland buffer areas.

NEED AND OBJECTIVE OF PROJECT: The proposed bank is located within a bank service area experiencing a shortage of wetland banks credits. The sponsor's goal for the project is to restore wetland hydrology by breaking tile and disabling drainage ditches within this agricultural site. In addition to generating wetland credits onsite, this restoration would provide high quality wildlife habitat, pollinator-friendly habitat, outdoor recreation opportunities, and water quality improvements. BSA 7 is continuing to see on-going development. The site, if approved, would have compensatory wetland mitigation credits that applicants for Department of the Army permits could purchase to offset unavoidable losses of wetland functions.

ESTABLISHMENT, OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT: The sponsor proposes to re-establish and rehabilitate 45 acres of effectively and partially-drained wetlands in cultivated farm fields by disabling subsurface pattern drainage tile.

OWNERSHIP AND LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT: The established bank site would be owned and managed by the sponsor or their successors in property ownership through the monitoring period. The site would be adaptively managed for development of the proposed wetland and upland communities dominated by native species as listed in the Prospectus. Credit sales would be tracked by sponsor and reported to the state as required by state law. The reported credit releases and sales would be tracked on both Corps and state databases using ledger data supplied by the state. By state law, long-term management of the property would be the responsibility of the landowner and the sponsor

until all released credits have been debited. The sponsor proposes to transfer ownership and long-term management responsibilities to Winona State University once all credits have been sold.

TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY AND QUALIFICATIONS: The sponsor is a licensed land surveyor and owns BPA, which has wetland specialists, engineers, land surveyors, GIS specialists, and other resource professionals trained and accredited in wetland restoration design. The sponsor has secured the services of Kanati Land Management (Kanati) to provide expertise in the design and management of the wetland restoration project. Kanati states that it has designed and inspected several successful wetland restoration projects similar to this site that include tile breaks, ditch plugs, and embankments. Kanati has worked with contractors building the projects and vegetation specialists to ensure proper technical standards.

ECOLOGICAL SUITABILITY: The sponsor's goal is to restore hydrology on-site to historical conditions by disabling existing tile and ditch drainage infrastructure. The natural topography of the site combined with the restoration of groundwater and surface water sources will support the planned wetland types of shallow marsh and wet meadow. Onsite soils with hydric characteristics and the possibilities to disable drainage will allow for restoration of the site to original conditions. The soils also support the development of the proposed wetland communities particularly in the areas around Cell A with some additional plant communities in Cell B.

HYDROLOGY: The site contains both tile and drainage ditch systems that are privately owned and managed by the sponsor, discharging into an adjacent private ditch system which drains into the Rum River. No drainage easements or public drainage systems exist onsite.

CURRENT LAND USES: Currently, the parcel is predominantly comprised of agricultural wetland and upland with a small area of pasture at the south end. The area surrounding the site is similarly in agricultural production.

COORDINATION WITH RESOURCE AGENCIES: The Corps has coordinated this proposal with the following members of the Interagency Review Team (IRT) and other resource agencies: the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. We will consider all comments received from the IRT during our review of this proposal.

If you are interested in learning more information about this proposal, please review the full Prospectus submittal at the following location:
https://ribits.ops.usace.army.mil/ords/f?p=107:278:13013428022275:::P278_BANK_ID:6467

3. FEDERALLY-LISTED THREATENED OR ENDANGERED WILDLIFE OR PLANTS OR THEIR CRITICAL HABITAT

None were identified by the bank sponsor or are known to exist in the action area and no critical habitat currently exists onsite. However, Mille Lacs County is within the known historic range for the following Federally-listed species:

Northern Long-Eared Bat	Hibernates in caves and mines – swarming in surrounding wooded areas in autumn. Roosts and forages in upland forests during spring and summer.
-------------------------	--

Grey Wolf

Keystone predator adapted to a wide range of habitats such as temperate forests, mountains, tundra, taiga, and grasslands.

This notice is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Any comments the Service 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.

4. JURISDICTION

This proposal is being reviewed in accordance with the practices for documenting Corps jurisdiction under Sections 9 & 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act..

5. HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL

The Corps will review information on known cultural resources and/or historic properties within and adjacent to the project area. The Corps will also consider the potential effects of the project on any properties that have yet to be identified. The results of this review and the Corps' determination of effect will be coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Officer independent of this public notice. Any adverse effects on historic properties will be resolved prior to the Corps authorization of the work in connection with this project.

6. PUBLIC HEARING REQUESTS

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, in detail, the reasons for holding a public hearing. A request may be denied if substantive reasons for holding a hearing are not provided or if there is otherwise no valid interest to be served.

7. REPLIES/COMMENTS

Interested parties are invited to submit to this office written facts, arguments, or objections within 30 days of the date of this notice. These statements should bear upon the suitability of the location and the adequacy of the project and should, if appropriate, suggest any changes believed to be desirable. Comments received may be forwarded to the applicant. A copy of the full prospectus submitted by the sponsor is available to the public for review upon request.

Replies may be addressed to:

Regulatory Division
St. Paul District Corps of Engineers
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E1500
St. Paul, MN 55101

Or, IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROJECT, call Leslie Day at the St. Paul District Office of the Corps, telephone number 651-290-5365 or email leslie.e.day@usace.army.mil.

To receive Public Notice notifications, go to: <https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Contact/RSS/> and subscribe to the RSS Feed for which you would like to receive Public Notices.

Regulatory (File No. 2022-01086-LED)

Enclosure(s)
PN Figures 1-7

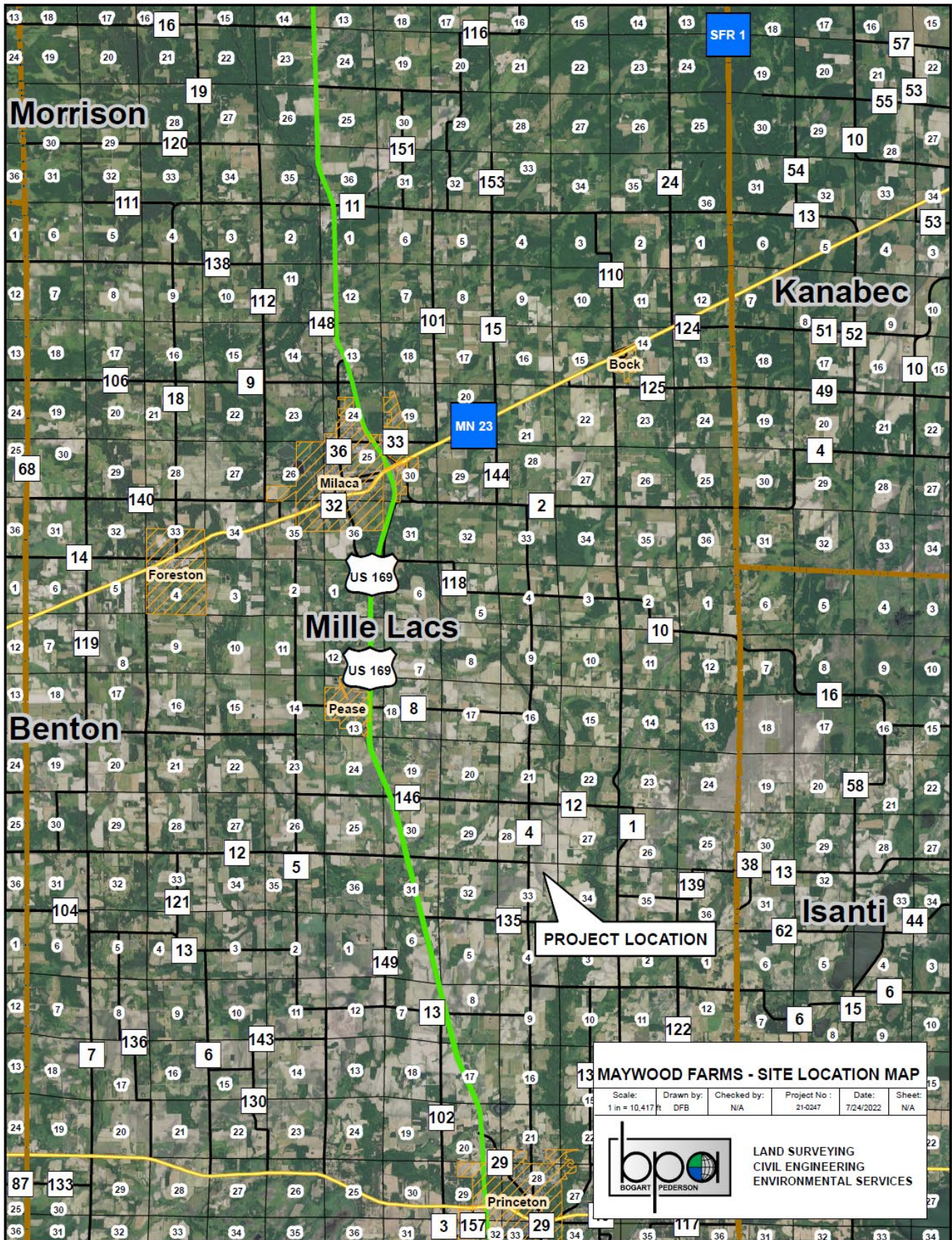


Figure 2.1 Site Location Map

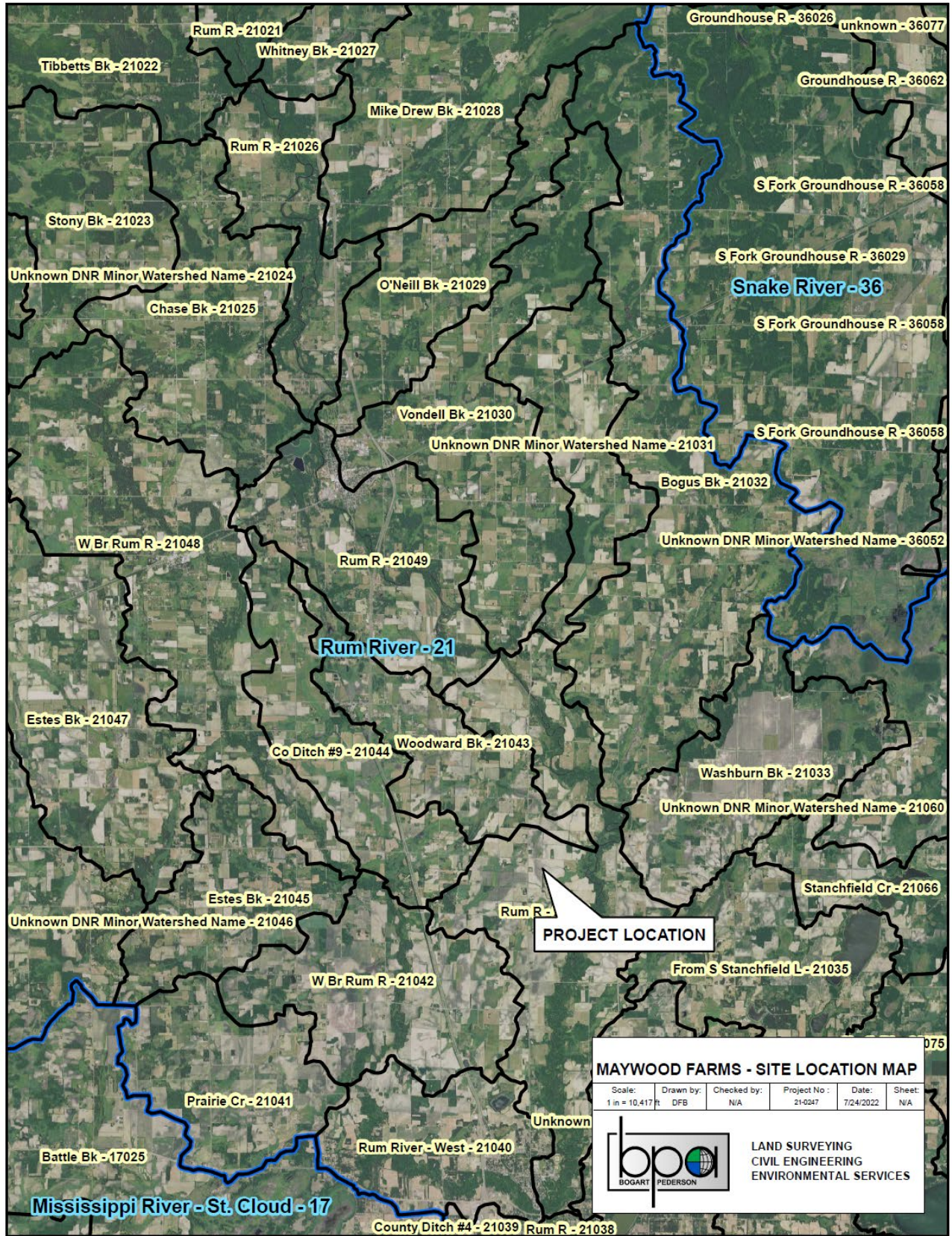


Figure 2.2 Watershed Map

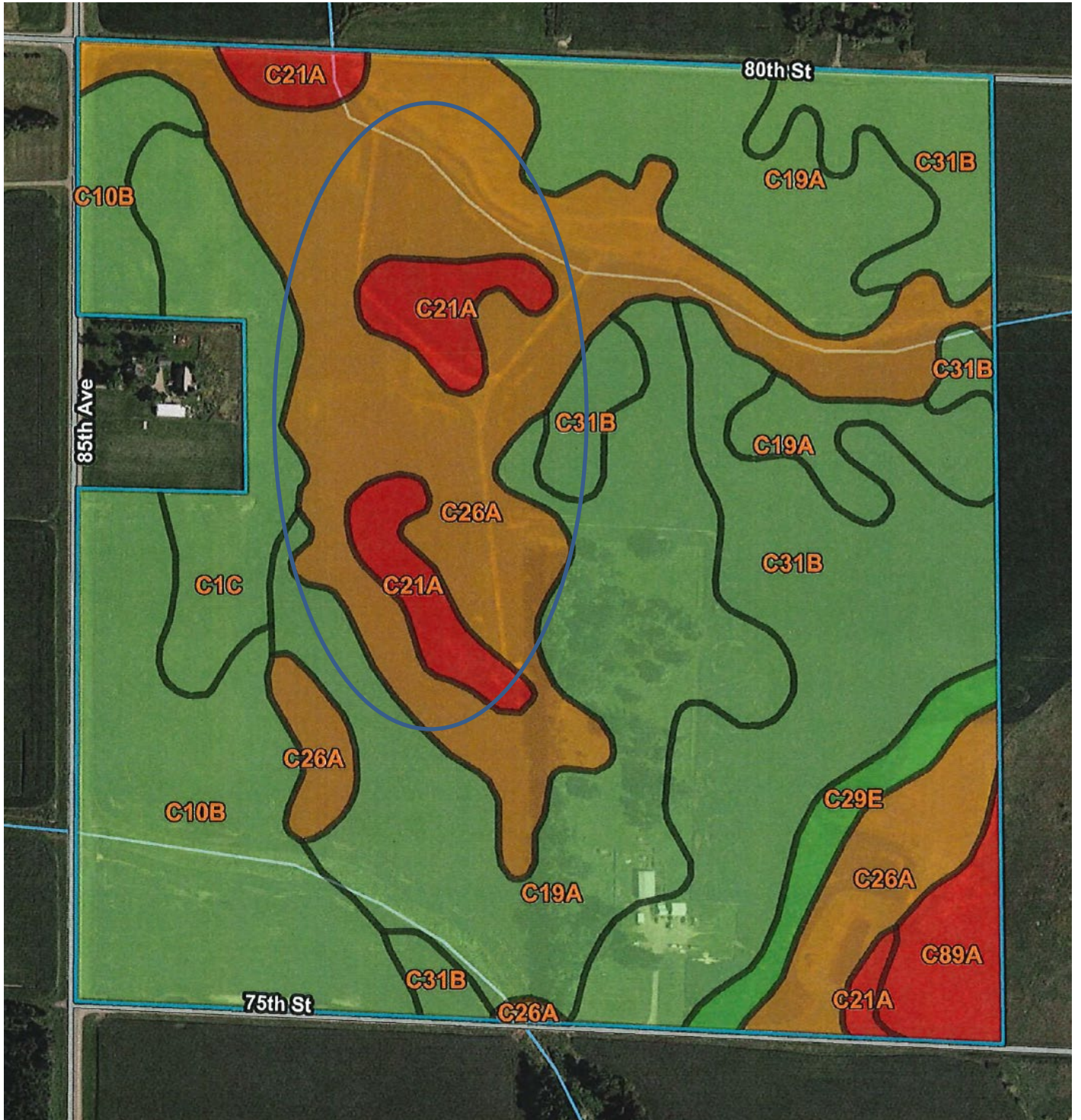


Figure 1.3 Area Soil Map

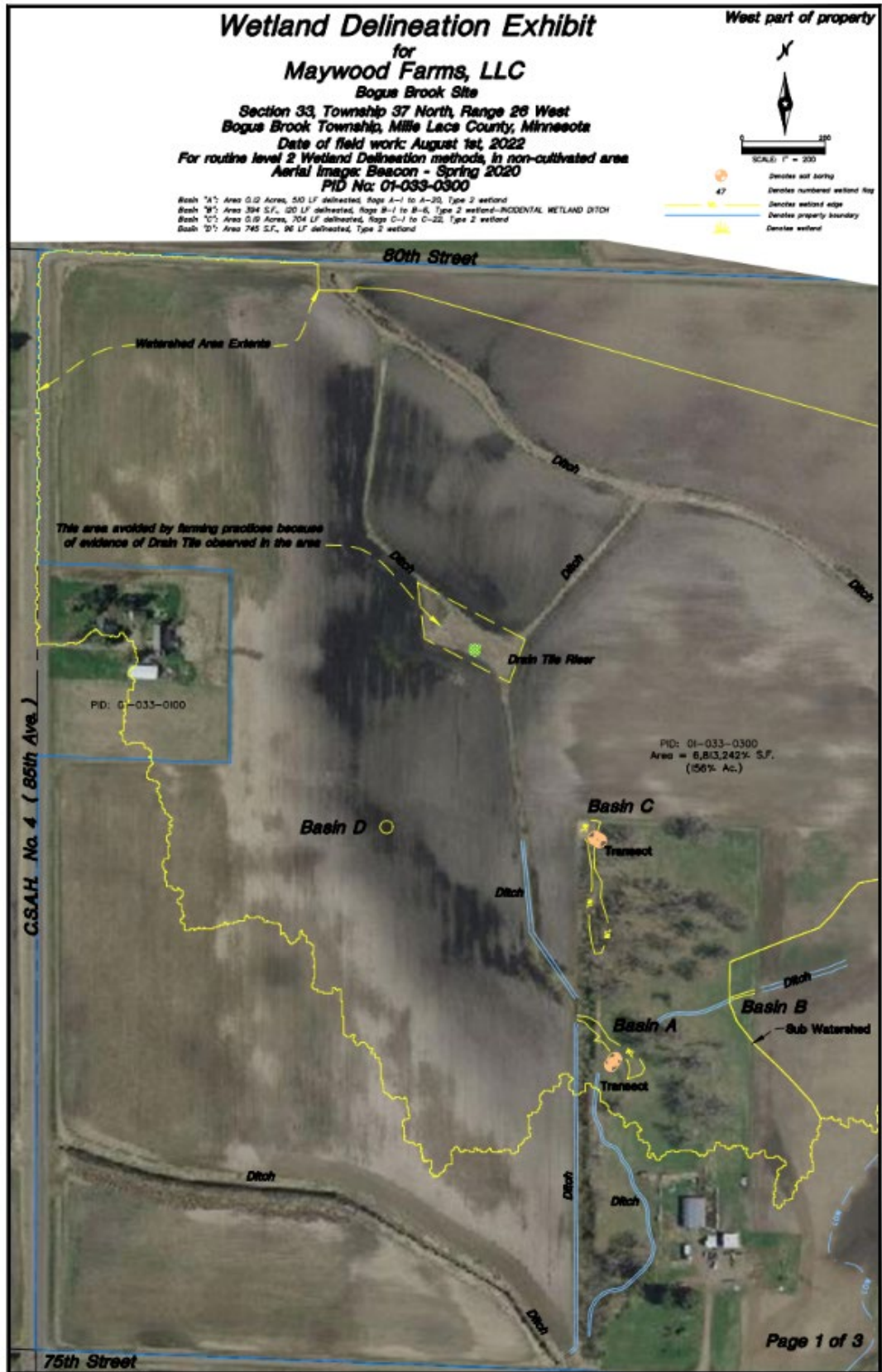


Figure 4.3 Wetland Delineation Exhibit and Riser Location

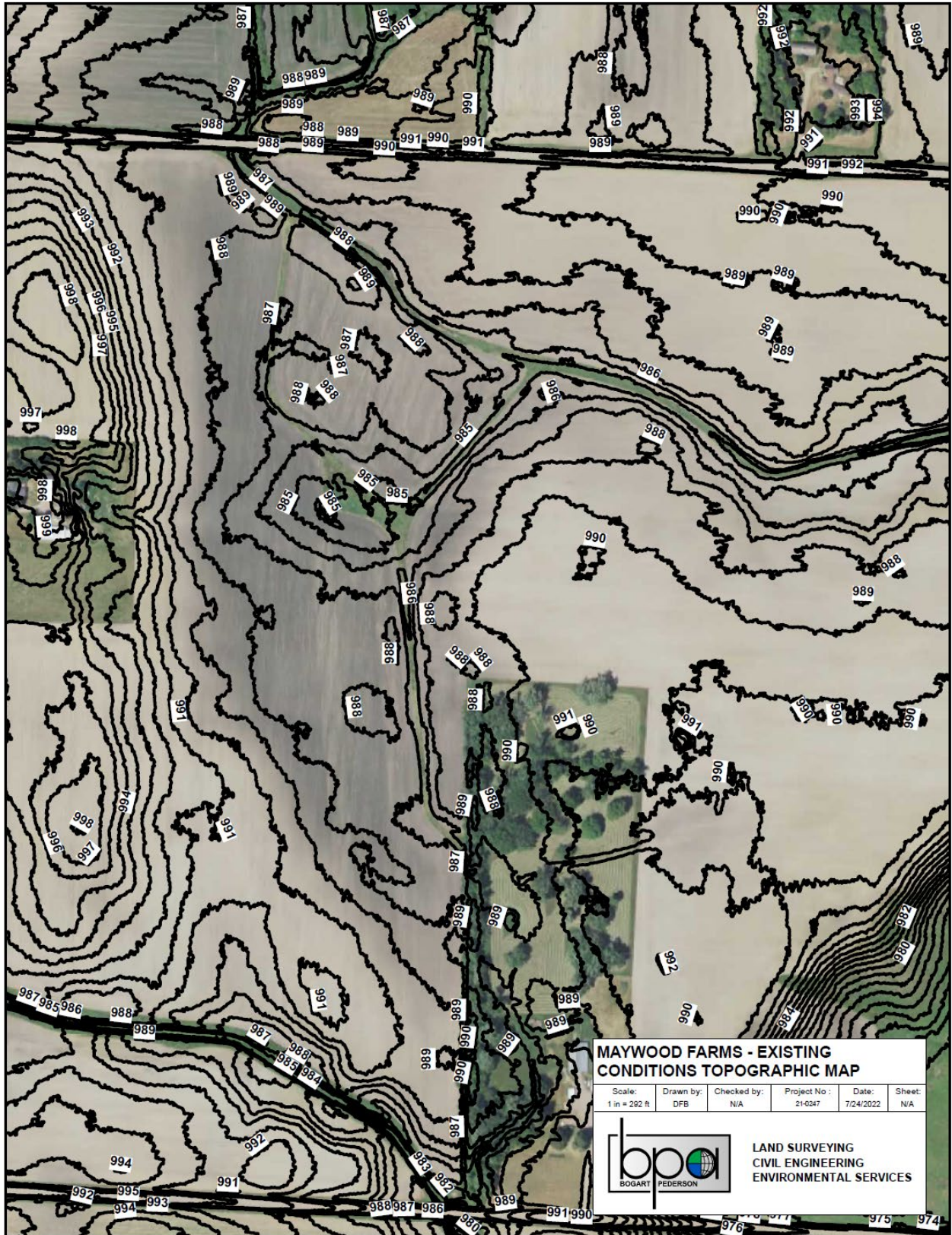


Figure 4.4 Existing Conditions Topographic Map

BASE MAP
AERIAL REVIEW FOR EVIDENCE OF HYDROLOGY IN CULTIVATED LANDS
IMAGE = MILLE LACS COUNTY GIS - SPRING 2020
UNDER "NORMAL" ANTECEDENT PRECIPITATION CONDITIONS

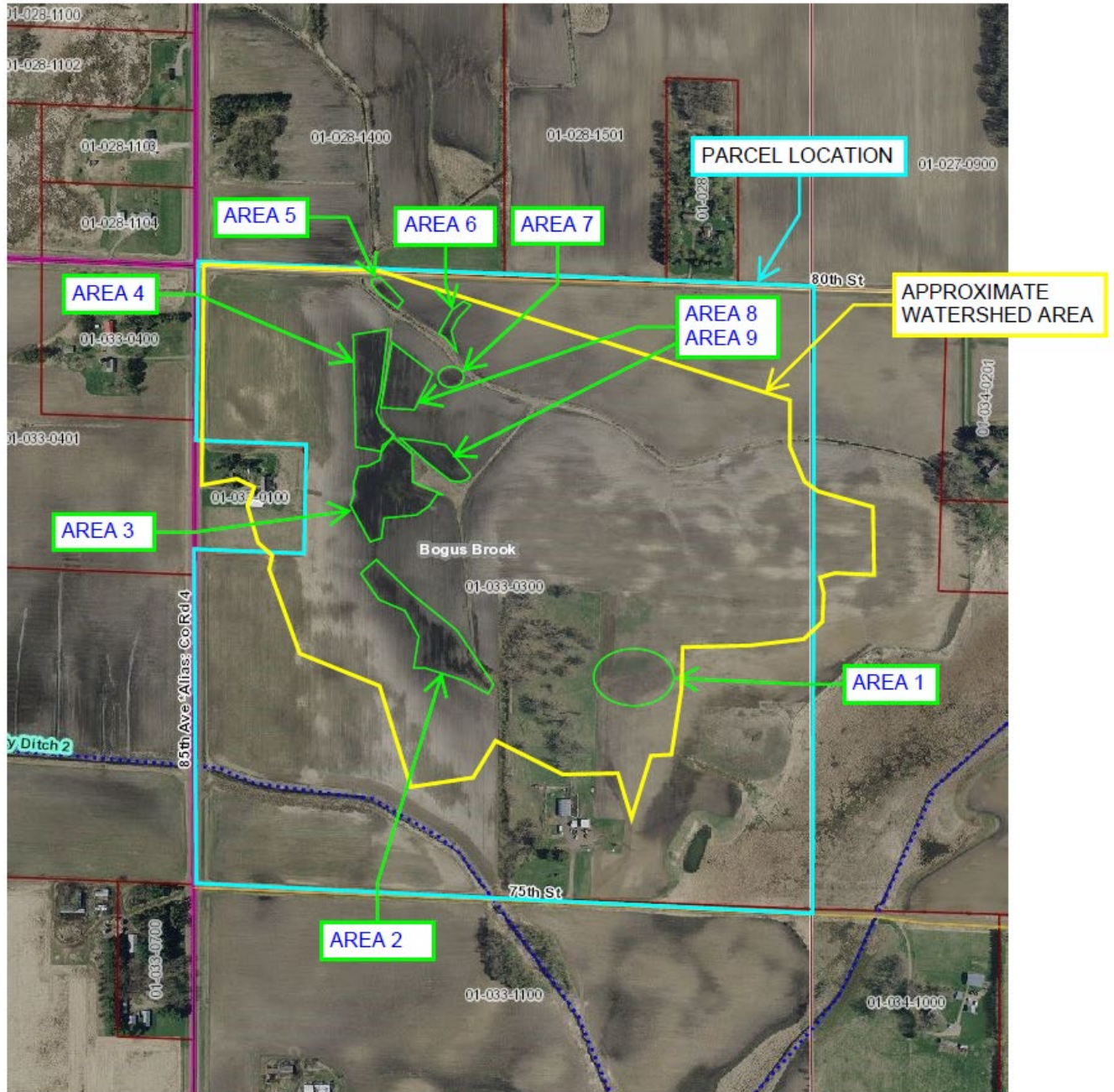
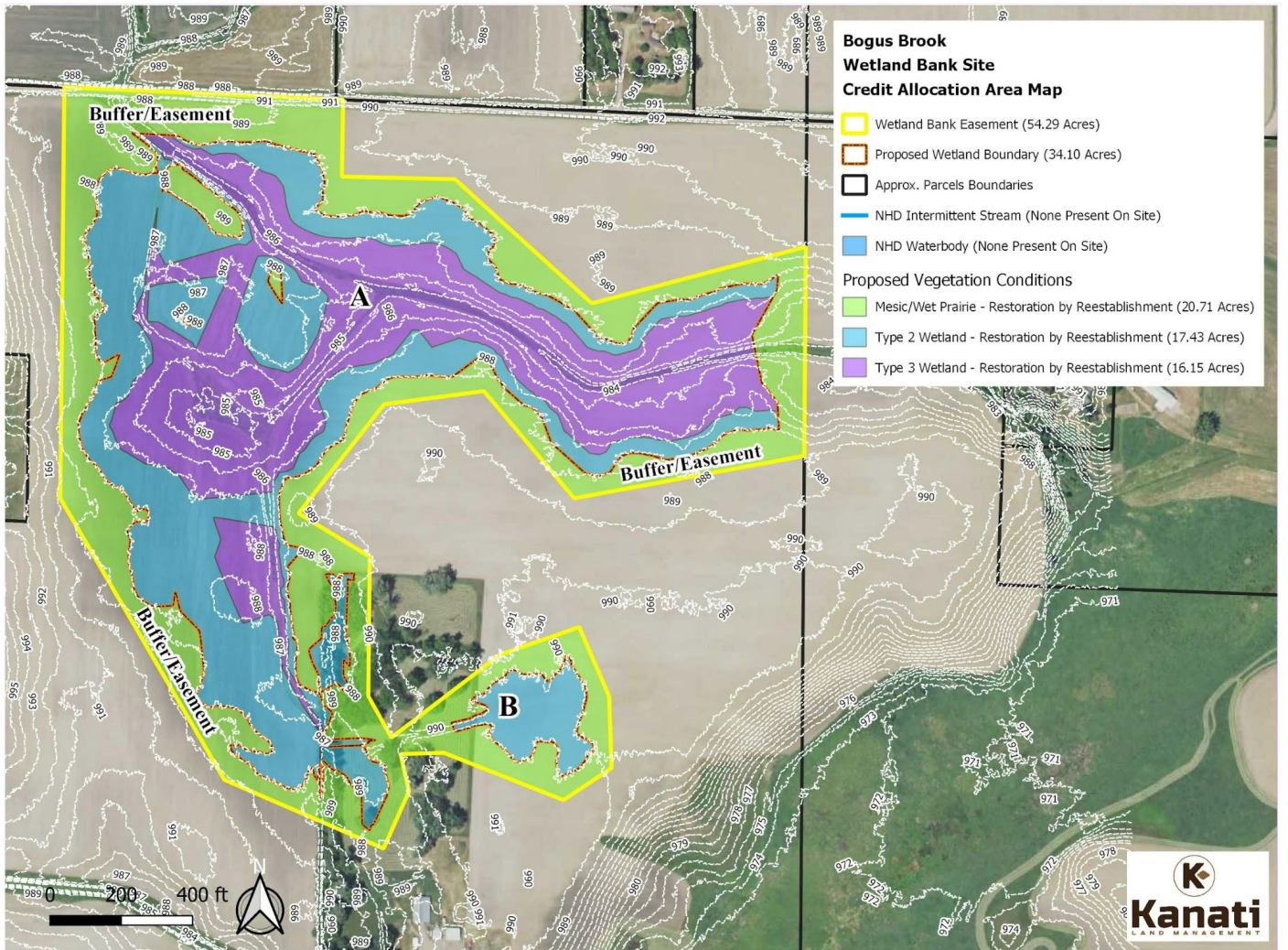


Figure 5.5 Base Map for Onsite Investigations by BPA



Maps are for illustrative purposes only. They do not represent a legal survey.

Aerial - 2021 FSA Imagery

Figure 6.2 Credit Allocation Map