



# Migratory Bird, Butterfly and Pollinator SAFE Proposal Overview



# Migratory Bird SAFE

## Presentation Overview

- What Is a Playa?
- SAFE Overview
  - Background
  - Proposed Changes
    - Reverse Auction
      - Auction anchor points
      - Batching cycles
      - Selection criteria
- Questions

# Migratory Bird SAFE

## What Is a Playa?

- Description
- Services

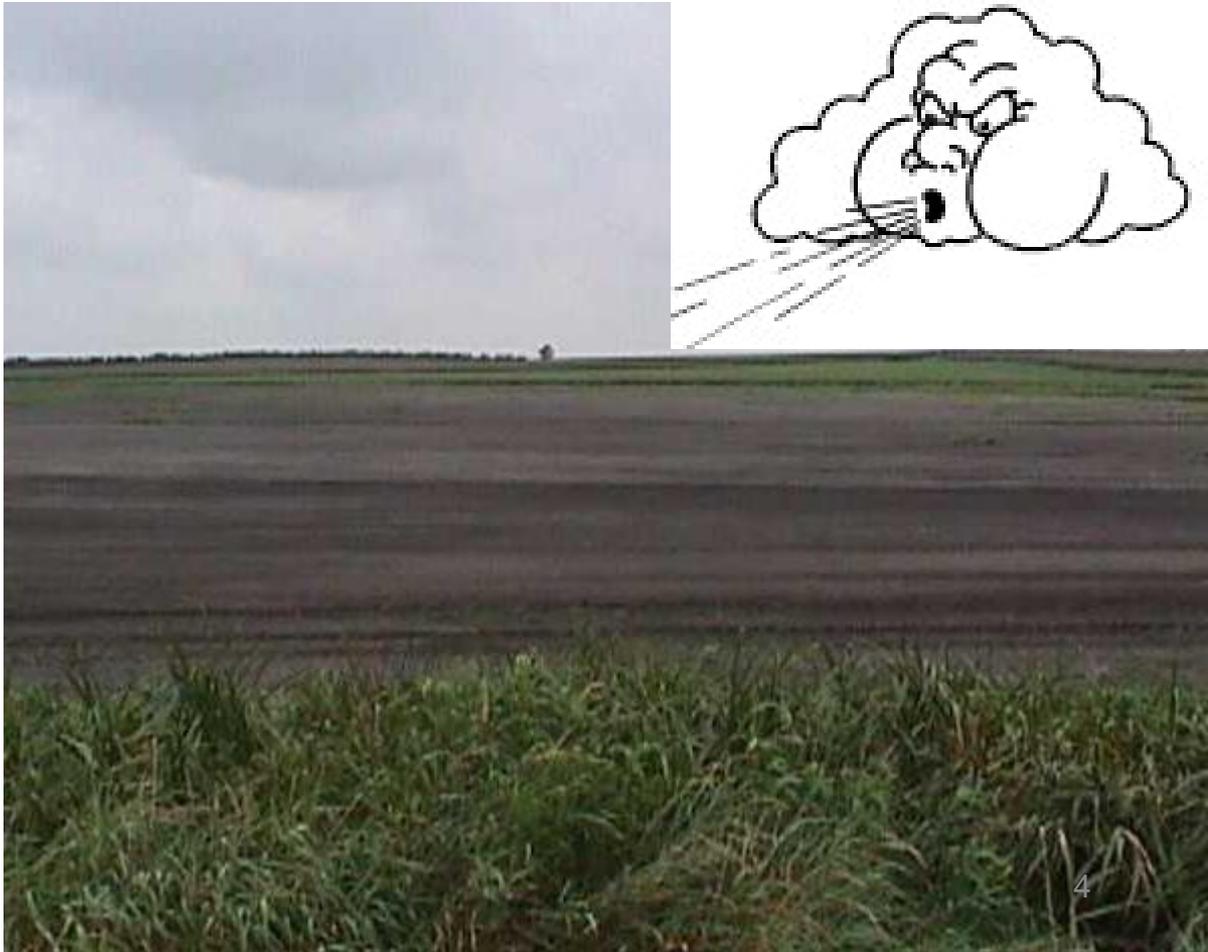


# Migratory Bird SAFE

## What Is a Playa?

### Description

- Formation
- Soils
- Function

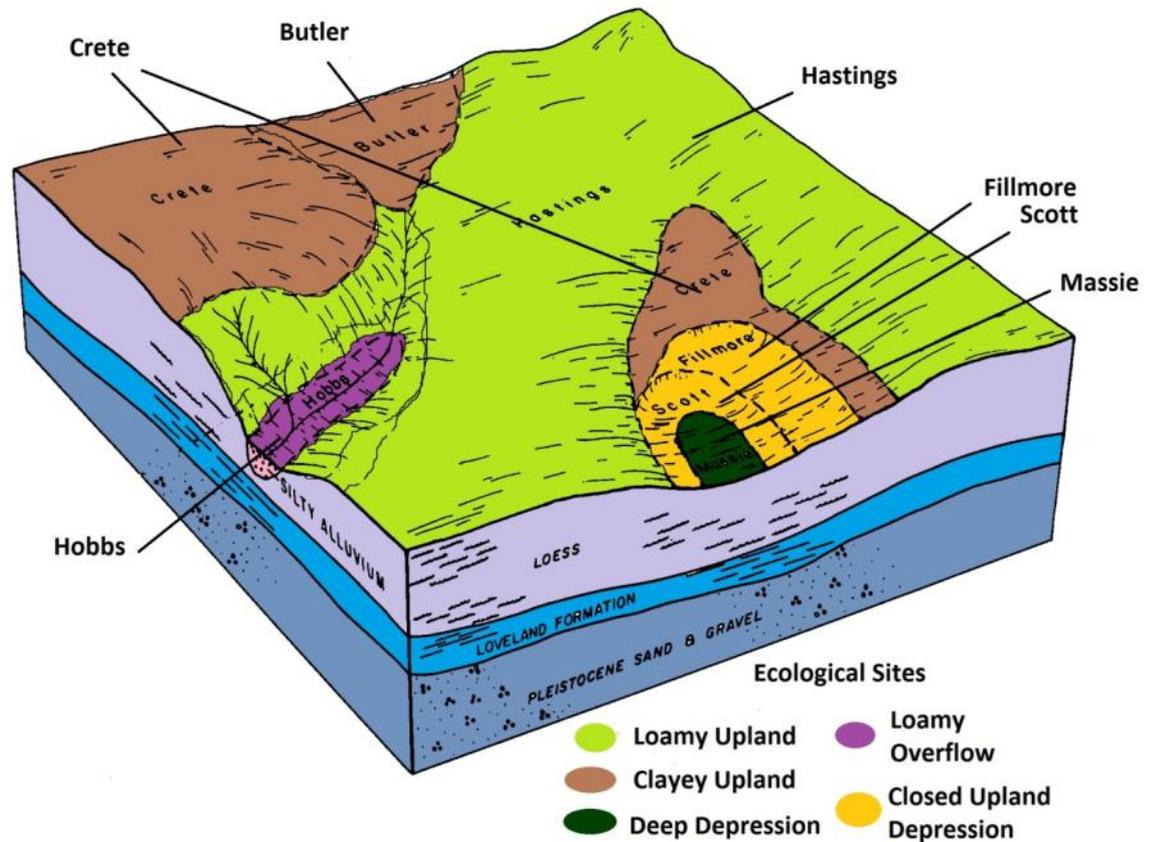


# Migratory Bird SAFE

## What Is a Playa?

### Description

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# Migratory Bird SAFE

## What Is a Playa?

### Description

- Formation
- Soils
- Function



Feb 2008



April

June



September

Rainwater Basin Wetlands are ephemeral, and pond water as a result of precipitation & surface runoff



# Migratory Bird SAFE

## What Is a Playa?

### Services

- Wildlife
- Recreation
- Groundwater Recharge/Nutrient Cycling
- Forage Production



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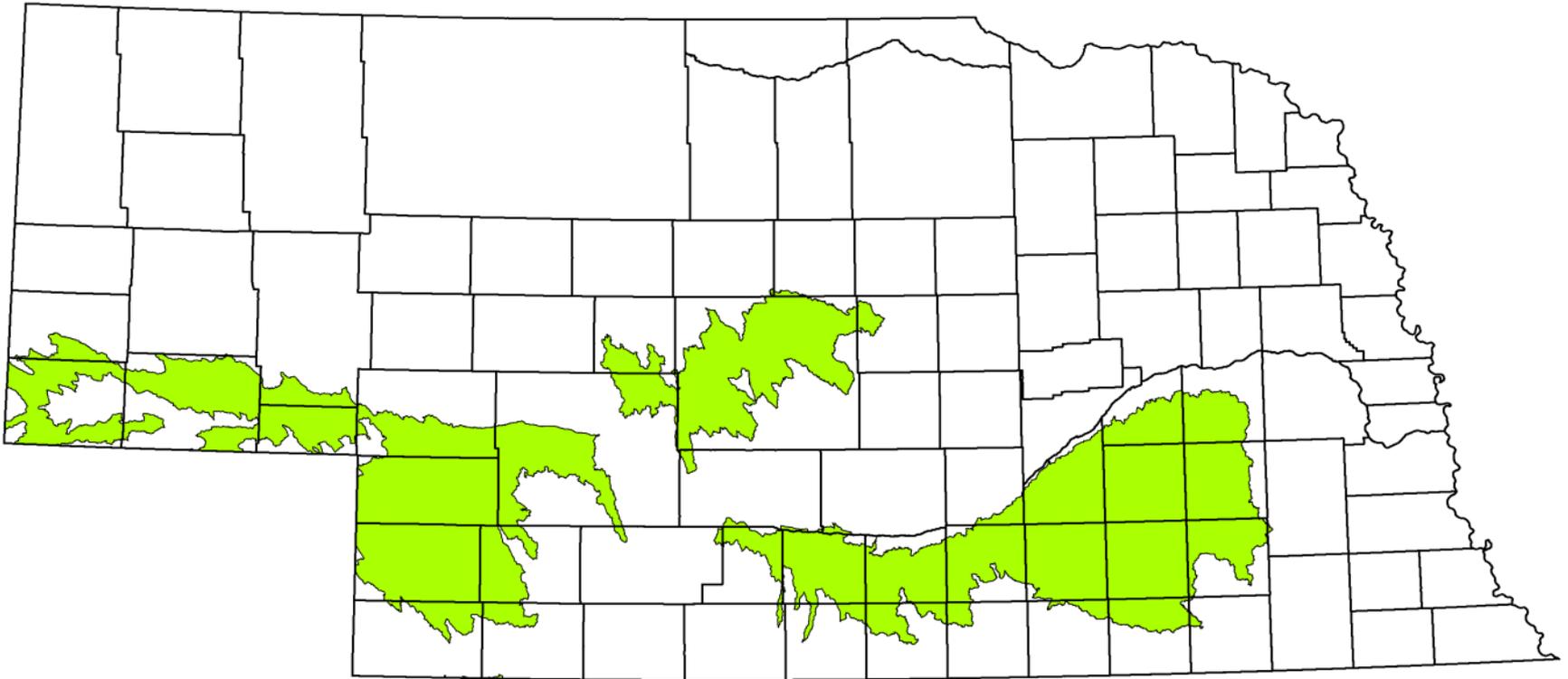
## Background

- 2014 – Multi-State SAFE proposed by:
  - Playa Lakes Joint Venture
  - Rainwater Basin Joint Venture
- January 2017 - Authorized FSA National Office
- Notice CRP-818
  - Kansas – 10,000 acres
  - Nebraska – 10,000 acres
- February 17, 2017 – Notice CRP-825, Migratory Bird SAFE Project Approval



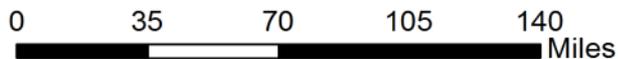


# Migratory Bird State Acres For wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) Eligible Areas of Nebraska



## Eligible Wetland Areas

 High Playa Wetland Density HUCs



Produced by the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture, Grand Island, NE

# Migratory Bird SAFE

Eligible in parts of the following 42 counties:

<b>Adams</b>	<b>Banner</b>	<b>Blaine</b>	<b>Buffalo</b>
<b>Butler</b>	<b>Chase</b>	<b>Cheyenne</b>	<b>Clay</b>
<b>Custer</b>	<b>Dawson</b>	<b>Deuel</b>	<b>Dundy</b>
<b>Fillmore</b>	<b>Franklin</b>	<b>Frontier</b>	<b>Furnas</b>
<b>Garden</b>	<b>Gosper</b>	<b>Hall</b>	<b>Hamilton</b>
<b>Harlan</b>	<b>Hayes</b>	<b>Hitchcock</b>	<b>Jefferson</b>
<b>Kearney</b>	<b>Keith</b>	<b>Kimball</b>	<b>Lancaster</b>
<b>Lincoln</b>	<b>Logan</b>	<b>Loup</b>	<b>Morrill</b>
<b>Nuckolls</b>	<b>Perkins</b>	<b>Phelps</b>	<b>Polk</b>
<b>Saline</b>	<b>Seward</b>	<b>Thayer</b>	<b>Valley</b>
<b>Webster</b>	<b>York</b>		

# Migratory Bird SAFE

## Program Details – Consistent with Original Proposal

- Signup Process
  - Sign-up anytime
  - Continuous - CCRP
  - Batch Process



# Migratory Bird SAFE

## Program Details – Consistent with Original Proposal

- Playa hydrology must be restored to the full extent possible as determined by NRCS
- Remove sedimentation
- Fill concentrated pits
- Remove fill within hydric soil footprint
- Cost-share available

# Migratory Bird SAFE

## Program Details – Consistent with Original Proposal

- Eligible Land:
  - Cropland meeting 2-CRP par. 151 – Land must be planted 4 out of 6 years
  - Located “ENTIRELY” in project area
  - Located outside 100-year floodplain
  - Is a playa lake
- Marginal pastureland is not eligible

# Migratory Bird SAFE

## **Program Details – Consistent with Original Proposal**

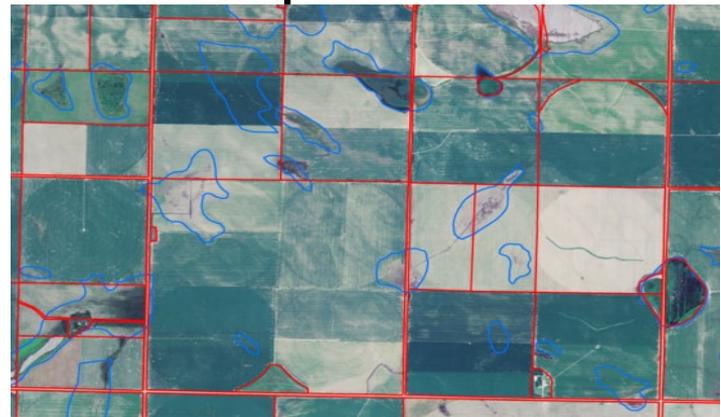
- Contract Duration & Effective Date:
  - 10 to 15 year contracts



# Migratory Bird SAFE

## Program Details – Consistent with Original Proposal

- Eligible size:
  - Maximum enrollment per offer (tract) is 160 acres
  - Minimum offer is 2 acres for entire offer
  - No wetland determination required or needed



# Migratory Bird SAFE

## Program Details – Consistent with Original Proposal

- Amount of adjacent upland acreage (buffer) to be enrolled shall be determined by the landowner and NRCS
- Amount of adjacent upland acres:
  - Limited to acres required to provide a protective buffer to the cropped wetland
  - Minimum average buffer is 120 feet
  - May be less than 4 to 1 ratio
  - Shall not exceed 4 to 1 ratio



# Migratory Bird SAFE

## Program Details - New

- Reverse Auction: (New Concept)
  - Annual rental amount determined by landowner
  - Top rental rate NASS irrigated rental rate by Playa Cluster
  - Lower rental rate dryland rental rate by Playa Cluster
  - Competitive ranking based on offer bid amounts

# Migratory Bird SAFE

## Program Details

- Rainwater Basin

Rainwater Basin Irrigated Cash Rent		
Percent of hydric soils ~80%		
Target RWB enrollment 20,000		
Estimated RWB restoration Cost \$1,100/acre		
County	Irrigated Cash Rent	Dryland Rental Rates
Adams	\$268.00	\$141.00
Butler	\$285.00	\$216.00
Clay	\$300.00	\$153.00
Dawson	\$240.00	\$112.00
Fillmore	\$285.00	\$147.00
Franklin	\$240.00	\$107.00
Gosper	\$228.00	\$80.00
Hall	\$256.00	\$121.00
Hamilton	\$278.00	\$143.00
Harlan	\$205.00	\$92.00
Kearney	\$267.00	\$128.00
Nuckolls	\$301.00	\$149.00
Phelps	\$243.00	\$124.00
Polk	\$277.00	\$177.00
Saline	\$255.00	\$156.00
Seward	\$273.00	\$193.00
Thayer	\$275.00	\$126.00
Webster	\$220.00	\$128.00
York	\$275.00	\$182.00
<b>Average Rates</b>	<b>\$261.63</b>	<b>\$140.79</b>



# Migratory Bird SAFE

## Program Details - New

- Southwest Playas

<b>Southwest Playas Irrigated Cash Rent</b>		
<b>Percent of hydric soils 12%</b>		
<b>Target SWP enrollment 3,000</b>		
<b>Estiamted SWP restoration Cost \$800/acre</b>		
	<b>Irrigated</b>	<b>Dryland</b>
<b>County</b>	<b>Cash Rent</b>	<b>Rental Rates</b>
<b>Chase</b>	<b>\$220.00</b>	<b>\$56.00</b>
<b>Cheyenne</b>	<b>\$179.00</b>	<b>\$39.00</b>
<b>Dundy</b>	<b>\$174.00</b>	<b>\$46.00</b>
<b>Garden</b>	<b>\$169.00</b>	<b>\$37.00</b>
<b>Gosper</b>	<b>\$228.00</b>	<b>\$80.00</b>
<b>Hayes</b>	<b>\$245.00</b>	<b>\$55.00</b>
<b>Hitchcock</b>	<b>\$170.00</b>	<b>\$54.00</b>
<b>Keith</b>	<b>\$208.00</b>	<b>\$47.00</b>
<b>Lincoln</b>	<b>\$215.00</b>	<b>\$56.00</b>
<b>Perkins</b>	<b>\$195.00</b>	<b>\$46.00</b>
<b>Average Rates</b>	<b>\$200.30</b>	<b>\$51.60</b>

# Migratory Bird SAFE

## Program Details - New

- Reverse Auction: (Continued)
  - Batching
    - Batch by Playa Cluster
    - 2 batching periods annually
    - Only accept 50% of offers or 50% of the acres



# Migratory Bird SAFE

## Program Details - New

- Incentives:
  - Practice Incentive Payments (PIP) authorized on new land (5%)
  - Signing Incentive Payment (SIP) at 32.5%
  - Partners work to leverage Landowner 42.5% restoration costs
  - Landowner provides 20% of restoration costs



# Migratory Bird SAFE

## Questions

