

1.0 SAFE Project Overview

1.1 Project Name

CP38B Multistate SAFE for Migratory Birds, Butterflies, and Pollinators for Kansas and Nebraska

1.2 Contacts

Matt Smith
Playa Lakes Joint Venture
P.O. Box 177, Wilson, KS 67490
785-420-7000, matt.smith@pljv.org

Andy Bishop
Rainwater Basin Joint Venture
2550 N. Diers Ave. Suite G, Grand Island, NE 68803
308-382-8112, andy_bishop@fws.gov

1.3 Stakeholders

- KANSAS: Audubon of Kansas, Ducks Unlimited, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks and Tourism, Kansas Water Office, Kansas Wildlife Federation, Pheasants Forever/Quail Forever, The Nature Conservancy, USDA Farm Service Agency, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife.
- NEBRASKA: Ducks Unlimited, Nebraska Audubon, Nebraska Association of Resources District, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources Districts, Nebraska Wildlife Federation, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Pheasants Forever/Quail Forever, Sand County Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, USDA Farm Service Agency, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife.

1.4 States

Kansas, Nebraska

1.5 Counties in KS and NE

Migratory Bird SAFE is eligible in all or parts of the following 26 Kansas Counties:

Cheyenne	Graham	Hamilton	Sherman	Lane	Greeley	Sheridan
Clark	Grant	Kearny	Wichita	Ness	Hodgeman	Thomas
Finney	Wallace	Meade	Gray	Seward	Logan	
Ford	Gove	Scott	Haskell	Stevens	Rawlins	

Migratory Bird SAFE is developed in all or parts of the following 37 Nebraska Counties:

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

1.6 List of Hydrologic Unit Codes

Kansas, Nebraska – See attached Shapefile with HUC 12 names and numbers.

2.0 PROJECT GOALS

2.1 Desired Goals of the Project

The purpose of the proposed Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) proposal modification is to outline a framework to implement existing CRP practices to effectively restore the hydrology to playa wetlands and to improve habitat for migrating and wintering waterfowl, most notably Northern pintails (NAWMP 2004), shorebirds, the declining Baird’s sandpiper and Hudsonian godwit, (Brown et al. 2001, Fellows et al. 2001) and waterbirds, including the federally endangered whooping crane (CWS and USFWS 2007, Kushlan et al. 2002).

In addition to providing habitat for migratory birds, the seeding mixtures that will be used will contain a variety of forbs, including milkweed to maximize habitat for pollinators and other priority species like monarch butterflies. Landscapes with high densities of playa wetlands, or playa clusters, will be targeted. This targeted approach will

maximize delivery capacity and result in habitat complexes with both local (wetland size, wetland/upland ratio, etc.) and landscape characteristics (density of wetlands, total area of wetlands, juxtaposition of wetlands, etc.) selected for by wetland dependent migratory birds (Tidwell et al. 2012, Webb et al. 2010). Increasing the acres and distribution of upland habitat containing milkweed and other flowering plants will provide stopover and recruitment habitat for monarch butterflies as well as habitat for numerous pollinators. The distribution of these projects will serve as stepping stones for monarchs and migratory birds during their migrations. Restoration of these wetlands and associated uplands on eligible cropland will not only increase habitat, but also increase recharge of the Ogallala Aquifer (Mullican et al. 1994, Smith 2003, Wood and Osterkamp 1984, Wilson 2010,). Groundwater recharge is critical to sustain the Ogallala Aquifer. Maintaining the aquifer is important since the Ogallala Aquifer is the main source of irrigation and potable water for human consumption in most of the region (Smith 2003). In Kansas, half of all playas are within a mile of a house water well, demonstrating a close linkage between playa health and a family's water supply.

This proposal outlines compensation, restoration activities, and management practices for the enrolled acres. Implementation of this practice will provide producers an economically viable option to restore playa wetlands that are embedded in irrigated and non-irrigated cropland. The playa wetland acres will be required to have the hydrology fully restored to the maximum extent possible within the enrolled tract. The upland buffer acres will be planted with a diversity of native prairie grass species, forbs, and milkweeds common to the ecoregion where the enrolled tract is located. Grazing will be promoted as the desired management practice. Grazing will promote desired habitat conditions within the wetland and associated grassland buffer to allow runoff.

If this SAFE modification is approved, natural resource agencies in three other states (Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas) have expressed an interest in incorporating the restoration activities outlined in this SAFE. These states are underlain by the Ogallala Aquifer and believe the actions outlined in this proposal will help them achieve both wildlife management objectives and help sustain production agriculture.

2.2 Project Outcomes

The project's original goal was approximately 20,000 acres of playa wetlands and 30,000 acres of associated upland buffers to be restored within intensively cropped areas throughout Kansas and Nebraska. At goal 25,000 acres will be delivered in each state through targeted enrollment within focus areas (shown in the attached maps). The focus areas are aggregations of 12 digit Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUCs) that intersect playa clusters.

To spatially delineate playa clusters in, state workgroups were formed. Workgroup membership consisted of project sponsors as well as local, state and federal conservation agencies, and multiple non-government conservation organizations. The workgroup members incorporated criteria presented in multiple peer reviewed research articles (Brennan 2006, Cariveau and Pavlacky 2008 Tidwell et al. 2012, Webb 2010) to develop the mapping criteria. This mapping criteria was integrated into a Geographical Information System (GIS) to spatially define priority landscapes or "playa clusters". Spatially explicit tools have been developed to help focus delivery to playas that will achieve multiple ecosystem services as compared to random program delivery. There are three playa clusters that have desired landscape configuration, in each state. These clusters are distributed east to west and north to south, significantly increasing the potential that at least one of the playa clusters will annually intersect precipitation events and provide habitat during migration. This will ensure redundancy and resiliency in the system. This redundancy has the potential to significantly benefit federally listed species (i.e. whooping crane), millions of waterfowl, shorebirds, and waterbirds that hopscotch between wetland complexes during migration.

A bioenergetics model developed by Playa Lakes Joint Venture (PLJV) and Rainwater Basin Joint Venture (RWBJV) will be used to help quantify the contribution of enrolled tracts to wetland dependent migratory birds. This energetic model framework will provide an estimate of energetic resources provided by assessed enrolled tracts, predict cumulative energetic resources available on all enrolled tracts, and evaluate potential contribution of all enrolled tracts to the achievement of the objectives outlined in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP 2012) and United States Shorebird Plan (Brown et al. 2001).

At the local scale restored crop fields containing more of their acreage in playa wetland basins will be targeted. These larger wetlands generally have longer hydroperiods; increasing the duration and availability of habitat for wetland dependent migrants and resident wildlife. These larger wetlands also generally have larger watersheds. This results in greater ponding frequency and duration, providing more habitat and greater recharge to the Ogallala Aquifer. Recharge to the Ogallala Aquifer through the restored playas will ensure water for irrigation and livestock production into the future thereby sustaining working farm and ranch operations across this landscape.

Wildlife and water quality will also benefit from the adjacent upland buffer. These acres will be planted to a combination of native species. These will include both mixed- and short-prairie grasses and a diversity of forbs, including milkweed. Plantings will be tailored to those species commonly found in the playa cluster ecoregion. Forb

plantings will be a collection of species to ensure at least one species is flowering during the entire growing season. These native prairie plantings will provide a filter to remove sediment and agricultural inputs before water reaches the wetland. The upland buffer acres will potentially eliminate soil erosion over planted acres and significantly reduce sedimentation, or the deposition of upland soil material into the wetlands, which is one of the major threats to playa wetlands embedded in agriculture fields (Johnson et al. 2011, Johnson et al. 2010, LaGrange et al. 2011). The upland buffer acres will also provide nesting habitat for resident birds like ring necked pheasants, greater prairie-chickens and the candidate species lesser prairie-chicken, as well as migratory grassland nesting birds such as dickcissel and grasshopper sparrow (Niemuth et al.2007). Since the upland buffer seed mixtures will contain a variety of forbs and milkweed, these acres are expected to provide much needed habitat for monarch and regal fritillary butterflies as well as other high priority pollinators within these intensely cropped landscapes. Patches of habitat, containing native milkweed, is one of the primary strategies identified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to return monarchs to population levels observed less than a decade ago.

There are multiple existing CRP practices (CP23, CP23A, CP27, CP28, etc.) that already exist, for Kansas and Nebraska, that have the potential to positively impact populations of wetland dependent migratory birds, grassland nesting birds, pollinators, including monarch and regal fritillary butterflies, and other resident wildlife species. Millions of waterfowl, shorebirds, the federally endangered whooping crane, and monarch butterflies depend on playa wetlands and the associated upland grasslands during their biannual migration. Some of the avian species migrate over 5,000 miles roundtrip from their wintering grounds along the gulf coast to their breeding grounds on the Arctic Circle (CWS and USFWS 2007, Krapu et al. 2011), while monarch butterflies migrate nearly 3,000 miles from their wintering grounds in south central Mexico to the summer breeding grounds found throughout the United States and into Canada. Functional playas are important mid latitude habitats that provide birds sanctuary for loafing, roosting and important foraging opportunities. Some species will put on as much as 20% of their body mass during migration (Krapu 2004, Pearse et al. 2010). These lipid reserves allow the birds to continue migration, initiate nesting, produce larger clutches of eggs, and re-nest if an original nest is destroyed (Krapu 1981, Dzus and Clark 1998, Devries et al. 2008). Ensuring that milkweed species native to the ecoregions of the enrolled tracts are present will ensure migrating monarchs have access to nectar sources and shelter from intense storms. The enrolled tracts will act as stepping stones along the migration corridor.

With most of the project area outlined in this proposal in private ownership and managed as working lands, conservation programs must complement or be easily integrated into agricultural operations. If conservation programs conflict with working farm operations, these programs will not be implemented. If there is not an economically viable playa conservation program, there will be a continued loss of playa wetlands within the Central Flyway. Loss of wetlands within this corridor is projected to have significantly negative effects on migratory birds, especially on the federally endangered whooping crane. Loss of stopover habitat for monarch butterflies has been suggested as one of the multiple stressors that have led to the significant decline of this migratory insect. Loss of wetland and associated upland buffer habitat will also negatively impact resident wildlife populations, like ring-necked pheasant, that positively impact local economies.

3.0 Project Description

3.1 Project Boundary

Enrollment in these practices will be available only in the 12 digit HUCs identified by the attached focus area maps. As described in Section 2.2 the focus areas delineations were finalized by State Workgroups, prior to submission to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) State Technical Committees (STC) and FSA STC's for their support.

3.2 GIS File

Limited to 12 digit HUCs delineated in shape files:

- Shapefile for Project Area-see exhibits and attached shapefile
- Shapefile for each target species within Project Area-see exhibits

3.3 CRP Acreage Request

A significant majority of the playas within the priority 12 digit HUCs, shown in the maps, are not embedded, nor intersect, fields currently enrolled in CRP. **In total, there are 37,000 playas within the priority 12 digit HUCs. Approximately 1,000 of these playas intersect existing fields enrolled in CRP while only 445 are fully contained in existing CRP fields. Additionally, within the proposed 12 digit HUC's, there are 4,800 cropland tracts that have 15% or more of their acreage delineated as playa wetland basins. These tracts cover over 370,000 acres of cropland.** Nearly all of the existing CRP acres in the southern Great Plains are coming to the end of their contracts. With the last spike in commodity prices there has been a renewed pressure to convert CRP

acres back to cropland. As a result, the number of CRP tracts containing playa wetlands is expected to suffer significant declines. This is troubling since playas within these tracts are some of the only “protected” playas on the landscape.

At project goal, 25,000 acres will be delivered in both Kansas and Nebraska. In Kansas there are three playa clusters identified, each comprising portions of six to eight counties. Based on distribution of NRCS’s Soil Survey Geographic Database (SSURGO) hydric soils within these playa clusters, the northern and southern areas each should conserve 6,250 acres, while the central cluster will be apportioned the remainder of the 22,500 acres (12,500 acres) as a delivery target.

In Nebraska three distinct playa clusters were identified. These are the Rainwater Basins (RWB), Central Table Playas (CTP), and Southwest Playas (SWP). Approximately 80% of the playa wetland soils, defined by SSURGO, are found in the RWB while 12% are located in the SWP, and the remaining 8% are located in the CTP. Based on this distribution of wetlands, a goal was set of delivering 20,000 acres (wetland and upland) in the RWB, 2,000 acres in the CTP, and 3,000 acres in the SWP.

3.4 SAFE Eligible Practices

CP38B-CP-23A

3.5 Additional SAFE Requirements

- Eligible land:
 - Cropland according to 2-CRP, Paragraph 151.
 - Cropland outside the recognized 100-year floodplain of a permanent river or stream.
 - Cropland containing playa wetland(s) which are at least partially located within the State-designated Migratory Bird SAFE clusters. SSURGO soil data and other available tools will be used to describe playa wetlands. Playa wetlands are found on deep, poorly drained soils with clay subsoil. Parental material is generally calcareous loess. Playa wetlands are nearly level and characterized as depressions scattered across the uplands.
- Contract length: 10 to 15 years
- Ranking Offers:

As with the previous Migratory Bird SAFE sign-ups future enrollment will be based on a combination of absolute and relative rankings. This approach was used with the last two sign-ups. This framework allows for both the financial and ecological ranking to be done in a complimentary/concurrent manner within each playa cluster; meaning that offered tracts should only compete against other tracts within their respective playa cluster.

To date, there have been two sign-ups for the Migratory Bird SAFE. These sign-ups were completed using the reverse auction process. Each sign-up used the same ranking criteria, that included a combination of ecological benefits and cost factors to determine acceptable offers. As a partnership we have learned from these sign-ups and if approved the partners will support additional sign-ups that integrate new criteria to improve the success of this program. One major change will be integration of bid ranges or county specific bands defined by the National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS) average irrigated and dryland render rates. This is expected to help drive offers to a price point reflective of the market. It is the partner’s opinion that the market has not yet found an efficient and favorable price point since all offers have been batched statewide. Batching by playa cluster will ensure eligible offers with similar crop production potential compete against each other and ultimately will ensure more competitive bids are received.

To achieve a favorable price point, we propose tightening the range of acceptable offers using the NASS county average irrigated rental rates as an upper bound and average dryland rental rates as the lower bound. This range of price points will be developed for each county. It is anticipated this would greatly reduce the effect of anchor point bias that was seen during previous signups caused by only having an upper bound.

Both states have three focus areas or playa clusters. In Nebraska, because the areas are arrayed east to west, and have very different agricultural production potential, it will be important for offers to be batched within playa clusters rather than aggregated among all three playa clusters. In Kansas, playa clusters are distributed north to south, so there is relatively less variation in production potential; therefore, there was similar competitive bids between playa clusters. Consequently, there is less concern about batching by playa cluster in Kansas, compared to Nebraska. Depending on final criteria acceptance; however, it may still be beneficial for Kansas to batch within playa clusters to accommodate regional issues that may result in lower offers.

To further drive competition among offers, we suggest announcing in advance that no more than 50% of offers from any cluster be accepted during a particular signup. As described above, these discrete playa clusters were defined

based on wildlife habitat (playa density), but also represent different factors including soils, precipitation, and production potential. Focus area batching ensures “like offers” compete against one another.

As with past sign-ups, we recommend criteria that prioritizes largest playas with the lowest ratio of buffer to playa as long as the buffer is a minimum of 120’ around the entire playa when possible. Secondary criteria such as remaining saturated thickness in the aquifer below the offered playa, is valuable, and we recommend it be retained in the ranking criteria as well. Simplicity and transparency will be critical in incorporating these criteria into the ranking. Retaining these ranking criteria will ensure that this program can be highlighted as a “win-win” solution that provides wildlife habitat as well as aquifer sustainability for local residents and producers.

Experience from restoration efforts associated with the past two sign-ups demonstrated that restoration can be more effectively completed when the entire playa wetland footprint is enrolled. To incentivize enrollment of the entire playa additional ranking points will be awarded to applications that either contain the entire playa or when applications by adjoining entities result in enrollment of the entire playa wetland footprint. This should incentivize whole playa enrollment and restoration.

Annual ranking periods will help bring continuity and ensure interested landowners understand how and when to sign-up for the program. With this SAFE being a continuous sign-up practice applications will be accepted at any time with the first ranking cut-off being June 15th and the second being December 15th. These dates coincide with slower periods in a row crop farm operation and would allow producers more time to develop their bid offers. That said, the partners recognize the multiple deadlines associated with administering USDA Farm Bill Programs and will coordinate to maximize opportunities for two ranking periods annually. As part of each ranking period only 50% of offers from any cluster will be accepted. This continuous application period with set ranking period cutoffs will allow producers to work with local USDA and partner staff to develop competitive offers and complete the planning process. We also received feedback from NRCS that this would be helpful in managing site visits and restoration planning workload.

- Expired or expiring CRP may be enrolled but the cover may need to be upgraded and wetland hydrology restored to meet the needs of migrating waterfowl and other waterbirds. This will especially be the case if the site has become dominated with invasive species like reed canary grass, cattails, or river bulrush. Upland buffer acres need to contain a mix of native grass and forb species, including milkweed, to provide for the reproductive needs of ground nesting resident birds, pollinators, and other wildlife, and not impede surface water runoff from reaching the playa. Determinations for suitability and feasibility on expired CRP will consider upgrades to the upland buffer to meet the desired species diversity/cover requirements and hydrologic function restoration needed to meet the resource concern.

3.6 Technical SAFE Requirements

- Conservation plans and planting specifications will be designed to maximize wildlife benefits.
- To be eligible for the program, playa hydrology must be restored to the full extent possible as determined by NRCS and partners on the enrolled tract (e.g. filling concentration pits, excavating fill material placed within the hydric soil footprint, removing culturally accelerated sediment that has accumulated within the wetland, redirecting terraces and other water conveyance features to improve overland flow to the wetlands, and removing surface drains and/or road ditches that have been constructed and unintentionally facilitate surface drainage).
- Eligible size: Maximum enrollment per offer is 160 acres and a minimum of 2 acres. Minimum wetland buffer distance will be 120 feet if possible. The maximum upland to wetland ratio will be set at 4:1 to allow producers to effectively square off fields and maximize farm operations on the remaining cropland in enrolled fields
- Seeding Mixes: Information on seeding diverse prairie mixtures on upland buffers to benefit wildlife habitat are outlined in the NRCS Field Office Tech Guide (FOTG) Conservation Practice Standard 550, Range Planting Specification (KS); FOTG Conservation Practice Standard 327, Conservation Cover (NE); FOTG Conservation Practice Standard 645, Upland Wildlife Habitat (NE) and in NRCS Biology. Tech Note KS-37. NOTE: Seeding will only apply to the upland buffer acres.
- Trees are not eligible. Management (cost share for MCM activities is not available). The contract management requirement will apply to SAFE enrollments, with management activities designed in the conservation plan to maximize the benefits for migratory birds throughout the CRP contract period. In the past, playa wetlands were enrolled into conservation programs that “set land aside”. This was done with the expectation that resting the site would maximize conservation benefits. Unfortunately, this conservation strategy negatively impacted wetland function and habitat for wetland dependent migratory birds. Trees (cottonwood, Russian olive, green ash, etc.) and undesired perennial hydrophytes (reed canary grass, cattails, river bulrush) have a

tendency to dominate undisturbed wetland sites within a few years. Playa wetlands and the associated upland grasses in these landscapes evolved under an intense disturbance regime that included grazing by large herds of ungulates (bison, deer, elk), fire, and weather (drought and deluge).

- As described, when playa wetlands are “set aside” and/or left undisturbed, the vegetation communities quickly transition to undesirable stands of perennial hydrophytes or trees, significantly reducing the habitat for migratory birds. Recognizing that nearly all remaining playa wetlands are located on private lands, it is important to maximize management strategies that are consistent with working lands management. Haying can be a very effective management tool to control woody species invading playa wetlands or adjacent buffers. Managed grazing can also be implemented to effectively manage invasive or undesirable species that may occur within the wetland or uplands.
- Use of herbicides applied for a specific purpose may also be used to accomplish contract management and maintain or create suitable wildlife habitat for the target species. Within the wetland, invasive plant species, such as phragmites or reed canary grass, can be suppressed thus allowing desired wetland plant species to establish. Similarly, in the adjacent uplands, grasses such as smooth brome may encroach on the site and need herbicide treatment on a site-specific basis. For example, adjusting the rate and timing of a glyphosate application can modify the plant community in a beneficial manner.
- Whenever possible, routine grazing of the entire tract in accordance with an NRCS Prescribed Grazing Plan will be the preferred method of contract management. Grazing plans will be designed to promote grazing the wetland, as needed, annually from April 1 – July 15 and upland grazing after July 15th as needed every other year. Upland grazing will not occur until the upland buffer acres are deemed to be established
- Other applicable practices could include:
 - Strip disking, haying and grazing will be in accordance with 2-CRP, prescribed fire, spraying with herbicides for both the upland and wetland acres, and inter-seeding of upland buffers will be available for voluntary use if deemed necessary.
- Mowing without removal of residue shall not be considered an acceptable form of management except to facilitate burning, disking, or inter-seeding.
- Noxious weeds and trees must be controlled. Undesirable plants shall be controlled as necessary to avoid an adverse impact on surrounding land. Spot spraying shall be the method of choice for herbicide application.
- Enrolled acres shall not be used for roads, storage of hay, or equipment storage.

3.7 Habitat Type to Be Restored

Implementation of actions outlined in this proposal will result in the conservation of playa wetlands and an associated native prairie upland buffer. The restored playa wetlands will provide essential roosting, loafing, and foraging habitat for millions of migrating birds that rely on these wetland sanctuaries. The diverse assemblage of native grasses and forbs, including milkweed, will ensure enrolled acres provide quality habitat for pollinators and priority butterfly species. Numerous grassland nesting birds are also expected to use these tracts, including resident and Neotropical migrants alike. In addition to the wildlife benefits, the restored playa wetlands will increase recharge to the Ogallala Aquifer, sustaining future generations of agriculture producers. The restored upland grasslands will also function as living buffers filtering agriculture chemicals and trapping sediment before it reaches the restored playa wetlands.

Common playa wetland restoration activities include filling concentration pits, excavating fill material placed within the hydric soil footprint, removing culturally accelerated sediment that has accumulated within the wetland, redirecting terraces and other water conveyance features to improve overland flow to the wetlands, and removing surface drains and/or road ditches that have been constructed and unintentionally facilitate surface drainage.

Seeding the wetland portion at these sites will not be necessary. Based on previous restorations, there is often a viable wetland plant seed bank that readily colonizes the restored wetland portion of the site to maximize the wetland benefits provided by the restored playas, upland buffers will be established. Buffer width will vary, depending on the juxtaposition of the playa wetland within the field, but a 120-foot buffer will be the minimum accepted, if possible. It is recognized that land ownership, roads, and other physical features may preclude establishment of a 120-foot buffer. NRCS staff and partners in coordination with the landowner will collaborate to develop the buffer specifications. To ensure program flexibility, up to a 4:1 (upland: wetland) ratio will be allowed. This will allow producers to square off fields and maximize production on the acres around the enrolled tract. The upland buffer will be required to include native prairie grasses, flowering forbs that provide optimal nesting cover and pollinator habitat, as well as milkweeds and flowering species utilized by priority butterfly species. Multiple forb species will be planted to ensure there are flowering species during the entire growing season. The integration of

this variety of species will ensure viable pollinator habitat for multiple species throughout their lifecycles. The diverse species composition of these buffers will also provide nesting and brood rearing habitat for resident upland birds and migratory grassland nesting birds. This will be a critically important habitat in these highly cultivated landscapes. In Kansas, the playas and associated upland habitat, restored through this project, will provide important “linkage habitat” facilitating movement of lesser prairie-chickens between core areas and ensuring genetic transfer between isolated flocks.

These upland buffers are also important filters and provide significant improvements to water quality by slowing sediment transport and filtering agriculture inputs from runoff before it reaches the wetland. **The upland buffer seed mixes will also be designed to ensure the established vegetation will not preclude runoff from entering the playa wetland.**

3.8 Maps of Land Use and Existing Habitat Types in Project Area

The maps showing the project area, priority species migration corridors, the project area relationship to existing Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, Lesser Prairie Chicken CHAT, and other existing conservation programs, and land cover statistics are found in the map exhibits.

3.9 Description of Existing Conditions

The areas of eligibility, in both states, are primarily a matrix of croplands (both irrigated and non-irrigated), small interspersions of native range land/pasture land, and anthropogenic usage such as farmsteads, agricultural crop storage, small urban areas, roads and other similar land uses. Most of the irrigated croplands are in a corn/soybeans rotation. Alfalfa is also produced on irrigated lands, especially on those acres close to dairy and/or confined feeding operations. The non-irrigated croplands are a mix of wheat, grain sorghum, forage sorghum, alfalfa and other crops. Rainfall in the western third of each state ranged from an average of 15 to 25 inches for 1990--2009, while the eastern thirds were in the 30-inch ranges. In many areas, the Ogallala Aquifer is found relatively deep below the surface (from 100 to 300 feet below) and water use coupled with slow recharge rates has led to significant groundwater declines. In many areas, wells have become unable to sustain high enough volumes of water to grow water hungry crops such as corn without significant precipitation assistance. This has led, in many cases, to several wells being coupled together to get enough water volume to sustain irrigation. The landscapes containing the playa clusters delineated as part of this proposal are prone to droughts that may last several years or longer. Even in drought periods many of the playas are dry for long periods, followed by short cycles of being wet for a few weeks or months. As a result, cropped playa wetlands often “drown-out” even in drought conditions. This is especially true of RWB playas that receive more precipitation and tend to have longer hydroperiods. As a result, tracts with playa wetlands in the RWB can be cropped one year and have emergent marsh species.

3.10 Description of Other Federal, State and Private Efforts to Achieve Project Goals and Objectives

The RWBJV and PLJV were established in the early 1990s to enhance communication, coordination, and collaboration between government agencies, landowners, local communities, and private organizations, in order to conserve and restore migratory bird habitat. These partnerships work toward restoring wetland habitat while also addressing community needs within their respective geographies. Both the Joint Ventures are guided by a Management Board. Although each board is different there are many of the same agencies, organizations and entities represented, including: Ducks Unlimited, Farm Service Agency, local conservation districts, Natural Resource Districts, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Pheasants Forever/Quail Forever, State Game and Fish Agencies, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Private landowners are also a very active and important component of these Management Boards. Both Joint Venture Management Boards fully support this application and the opportunity to work together to deliver this conservation program.

Both Joint Venture Management Boards have worked locally and nationally to develop programs and initiatives that make sense economically and ecologically in their respective landscapes. The RWBJV piloted the Reserved Grazing Right option in the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP). This option has been carried over into the Agriculture Conservation Easement Program (ACEP). This option allows producers to retain grazing rights on part of NRCS wetland easements. Previously grazing was only authorized for the producer through an annual Compatible Use Authorization (CUA), making it difficult for producers to develop economically viable long-term plans to integrate WRP tracts into their operations, within programmatic rules. To date, the RWBJV has received four Wetlands Reserve Enhancement Program/ Wetland Reserve Easement Partnership (WREP) agreements that allow pivots to cross NRCS wetland easements. This ensures that wetland restorations will not impede irrigation efficiency or cropland production on adjacent cropland acres. These examples demonstrate the RWBJV Management Board’s commitment to conservation that complements producers’ operations in this landscape. PLJV was instrumental in developing CP23A to support the initial playa wetland enrollments. This application/modification

builds off of these past successes and if approved will provide another opportunity for landowners and eligible producers to conserve these important resources.

In addition to the policy work that helped develop these conservation programs, state and federal agencies, as well as non-governmental organizations associated with the two Joint Ventures work to promote and deliver “on-the-ground” projects. The RWBJV and PLJV have provided financial assistance to support delivery capacity within USDA offices. Both Joint Ventures have substantial in-house GIS capability to promote outreach to producers with priority tracts, if this SAFE is modified/approved. Through Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreements between these Joint Ventures and the Farm Service Agency (FSA) Common Land Unit (CLU) datasets have been shared and integrated into this GIS system. As part of the MOU agreement, the CLU datasets includes owner and operator information associated with each tract. This allows the Joint Venture GIS staff to compile a summary of eligible producers that would qualify for the practices outlined in this proposal. This information has then been used in collaboration with FSA and NRCS to complete directed mailings, host landowner meetings, and maximize outreach to eligible producers and landowners. The NRCS conservation delivery staff will work directly with the numerous partner positions in both Kansas and Nebraska to maximize landowner engagement through shared positions. Positions include Soil Conservation District Soil Conservationists and Farm Bill Biologists. In Kansas and Nebraska, there are 37 of these positions. If this SAFE proposal/modification is approved, the partners will utilize the existing delivery network, and if necessary, expand the network to effectively deliver this conservation program.

4.0 Project Benefits

4.1 Description of Project Benefits

This project will improve habitat for migrating waterfowl, shorebirds, waterbirds, grassland nesting birds, pollinators including butterflies and other wildlife species. Permanent grass and forb cover will provide soil and water quality benefits in addition to habitat. Buffering playa wetlands from sedimentation while restoring wetland hydrology ensures these wetlands continue to function as recharge sites across the region and provide benefits to the Ogallala Aquifer.

4.2 Relations to State and Federal Wildlife Plans

Playa wetlands are recognized as continentally important migratory stopover sites. These wetlands provide critical roosting, loafing, and foraging habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, and waterbirds, including the federally listed whooping crane. Playa wetlands and their associated buffers also provide significant habitat for pollinators, grassland nesting birds including the candidate species lesser prairie chicken and other wildlife species. See the pertinent federal plans below:

- Brown, S., C. Hickey, B. Harrington, and R. Gills, eds. 2001. U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan. 2nd Edition. Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, Manomet, MA.
- Canadian Wildlife Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2007. International recovery plan for the Whooping Crane. Ottawa: Recovery of Nationally Endangered Wildlife (RENEW), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Albuquerque, New Mexico. 162 pp.
- James A. Kushlan, Melanie J. Steinkamp, Katharine C. Parsons, Jack Capp, Martin Acosta Cruz, Malcolm Coulter, Ian Davidson, Loney Dickson, Naomi Edelson, Richard Elliot, R. Michael Erwin, Scott Hatch, Stephen Kress, Robert Milko, Steve Miller, Kyra Mills, Richard Paul, Roberto Phillips, Jorge E. Saliva, Bill Sydeman, John Trapp, Jennifer Wheeler, and Kent Wohl. 2002. Waterbird Conservation for the Americas: The North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, Version 1. Waterbird Conservation for the Americas, Washington, DC, U.S.A., 78 pp.
- North American Waterfowl Management Plan, Plan Committee. 2012. North American Waterfowl Management Plan: People Conserving Waterfowl and Wetlands. U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Canadian Wildlife Service, Secretaria de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales. Washington D.C., USA. 48 pp.
- Rainwater Basin Joint Venture. 2013. The Rainwater Basin Joint Venture Implementation Plan. Rainwater Basin Joint Venture. Grand Island, Nebraska, USA. 67 pp.
- USFWS. 2017. United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, Mountain Prairie Region Strategic Plan 2017-2021, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Lakewood, Colorado. (314 pp.)

Relationship to the Kansas State Wildlife Action Plan:

[The Kansas State Wildlife Action Plan](#) (KSWAP) identifies ecological focus areas throughout the state. For each focus area threats and mitigating strategies were developed to address conservation needs. Individual species within each focus area are ranked into two tiers based on their conservation priority needs. The Playa Landscape is recognized as an ecological focus area and is contained within the Shortgrass Prairie Conservation Region. The Northern Pintail is ranked as a tier two species in greatest conservation need within the Playa Landscape focus area.

The conservation strategies contained within the SAFE Migratory Bird Habitat proposal are consistent with several strategies identified within the KSWAP. More specifically, “develop cost neutral/positive conservation practices for

producers in order to provide for maintenance of viable farming/ranching operations” and “develop new programs...for private lands to be ‘wildlife friendly’ and compatible with agricultural production.”

Rohweder, M.R. December 2015. Kansas Wildlife Action Plan. Ecological Services Section, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism in cooperation with the Kansas Biological Survey. 176 pp.

Relationship to Nebraska State Wildlife Action Plan:

Similar to the Kansas Plan the [Nebraska State Wildlife Action Plan](#) grouped the state into several geographies with focus areas or Biologically Unique Landscapes identified to guide conservation delivery. Three Biologically Unique Landscapes (Central Loess Hills, Kimball Grasslands, and Rainwater Basin) identified playa wetlands as important habitats in need of protection, restoration, or enhancement. In addition these wetlands provide important habitat for Tier I species including whooping cranes, buff-breasted sandpipers, king rails, and nearly 20 other Tier II priority species. The actions to be implemented as part of this project will implement multiple conservation strategies outlined in the Nebraska Natural Legacy Plan including:

- Restore priority wetland playa wetlands and associated upland buffers, develop and implement best management practices to control and manage invasive plant communities, work with public and private landowners to develop an efficient system to conduct grazing.

Schneider, R., K. Stoner, G. Steinauer, M. Panella, and M. Humpert (Eds.). 2011. The Nebraska Natural Legacy Project: State Wildlife Action Plan. 2nd ed. Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Lincoln, NE.

5.0 Project Costs

5.1 Estimate of FSA CRP Payments

Total annual rental payments costs are estimated to be \$142.5 Million over the life of the contracts, assuming all contracts are 15 years and all 50,000 acres are enrolled and require maximum restoration. We expect this to be a high estimate as it used the average irrigated rate for the cluster and assume maximum restoration costs for all wetlands acres. The reverse auction process is going to be used and only producers in the top 50% of offers will be accepted (See section 3.5). Competition for enrollment should ensure rental rates are below the playa cluster irrigated rate reference price.

To estimate the cost for this application, actual density of playa soils was used to allocate acres by playa cluster in Section 3.3 (CRP Acreage Request) of the proposal. As described, there are three distinct playa clusters identified for Nebraska. These include the RWB, CTP, and SWP. Approximately 80% of the playa wetland soils are found in the RWB while 8% are located in the CTP, and the remaining 12% are located in the SWP. Based on this distribution of wetlands we set a goal of delivering 20,000 acres in the RWB, 2,000 acres in the CTP, and 3,000 acres in the SWP. Annual payments were estimated by averaging the NASS reported irrigated rental rates for those counties that intersected each playa cluster. Only the irrigated rate was considered in order to provide a conservative upper bound. For the RWB, the estimated annual rental payment would be \$261/acre, \$235/acre in the CTP, and \$200/acre in the SWP respectively. Based on the distribution of wetlands within the three distinct clusters, reference price for each region, annual payments are estimated to be \$6.3 million.

Three priority areas in western Kansas, each comprising portions of six to eight counties and roughly associated with the boundaries of KS Groundwater Management Districts (GMD) 1, 3 and 4, are targeted for this program. Given the actual number of playa basin acres in each area, the northern or GMD4 area and southern or GMD3 area should each receive about 6,250 acres as a delivery goal and the central or GMD1 area the remaining 12,500 acres. We estimate annual payments to be \$153/acre in the north priority area, \$122/acre in the central priority area, and \$121/acre in the south priority area. Over 25,000 acres and a 15-year contract period, annual payments are estimated to be \$3.2 million.

Wetland and upland buffer restoration costs for all areas will be determined collaboratively by NRCS and partner staff. As part of the new CRP rules there are Sign-up Incentive Payments (SIP) and Practice Incentives Payments (PIP) for new producers enrolling in the program. These incentive payments are acre based on the first year's annual payment. Payment rates for SIP and PIP will be in accordance with current FSA policy. Estimated SIP and PIP payments would be \$4.99 million (32.5% SIP and 20% PIP based on current CRP policy).

As per current FSA policy the selected applications will also receive the Clean Lakes, Estuaries and Rivers (CLEAR) initiative incentive. This incentive provides a 10% increase in the rental rates for the life of the contract. If estimated based on the irrigated rental rate (like above) this incentive would require \$14.25 million over a 15-year contract. Again this method over estimates the actual CLEAR Incentive cost since it is being based on the irrigated rate.

5.2 Other Partner Resources to Assist with Project

The partners recognize that SIP and PIP incentives are not directly tied to restoration work, but are committed to leveraging partner resources and grant funds for 80% of the restoration costs, including the funds provided through the SIP and PIP. This ensures the landowner has a 20% vested interest in implementation of the restoration and seeding. Estimated restoration costs for wetland acres are \$250/acre with upland buffer establishment estimated at \$100/acre. Based on the proposed acreage targets and estimated restoration costs, \$8.0 million will be required for restoration and seeding of enrolled acres (\$5.0 wetland restoration [\$250/acre] and \$3.0 million upland buffer establishment [\$100/acre]). SIP and PIP incentives are estimated to provide \$4.99 million. Partners will work to leverage approximately \$1.41 million (17.6% of the restoration costs). Landowners would provide 20% (\$1.6 million) of the restoration costs above their SIP and PIP payment and partner contributions.

5.3 CCC Life of Contract Cost

As described above, the estimated CRP rental rates were based on the irrigated rental rates by county (Section 5.1). Using irrigated rental rates will over inflate costs but provides a conservative estimate. For these additional 50,000 acres the CRP payments are estimated at \$9.5 million annually with a total contract cost (15-year contracts) at \$142.5 million. The one time SIP and PIP payments are estimated at \$4.99 million. The CLEAR incentive is estimated at \$14.25 million for 15 year contracts. In total the estimated CRP contracts, SIP, PIP, and CLEAR incentive would be \$161.74 million for the duration of these contracts.

5.4 Additional Partner Investment and Out-of-Pocket Cost

The Voluntary Public Access Habitat Incentives Program (VPA-HIP) is a USDA grant program funded through the 2012 Farm Bill. The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism was awarded a VPA-HIP grant in 2012. The grant was used to augment the existing popular Walk-In Hunting Access Program (WIHA) in Kansas by leasing land for longer terms and paying an upfront incentive payment for those lands with new or newly enrolled CRP lands. Incentive payments of \$20/acre for acres enrolled in general CRP and \$100/acre for lands enrolled into CCRP were offered. Over 65,000 new acres were open for public hunting opportunities with this grant. VPA-HIP was re-authorized in the 2018 Farm Bill. Kansas again applied for and was awarded a grant of \$2.1 million and will be offering incentives again to expand its current WIHA program even further. There is potential of using these funds for additional incentive payments to landowners (up to \$100/acre). Kansas also has an active private lands habitat cost share program called Habitat First. This program has an annual budget of \$1.2 million. Funds from Habitat First can be used to help cover the cost of playa restoration.

Kansas was recently approved for a Regional Conservation Partnership Program project which targets playa restoration in western Kansas. This RCPP project will support wetland restoration goals and aquifer recharge objectives. Approximately \$1.5 million in federal funding was leveraged through this project. PLJV was awarded a Wetland Conservation Society grant to conduct additional playa restoration work in Kansas.

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) was awarded funding through a VPA-HIP grant in 2011. The grant was used to enhance the existing Open Fields and Waters program by providing incentives to producers who allow access to their lands and agree to improve existing wildlife habitat. Incentives vary from \$1 to \$15 dollars depending on the type and location of habitat for access, and additional incentives for habitat upgrades. Over 68,000 new acres were open for public hunting and fishing opportunities with this grant. With the re-authorization of VPA-HIP in the 2018 Farm Bill, the NGPC will be applying for a grant to continue improving upon the current Open Fields and Waters program. Additional public access enrollments and habitat upgrades within the SAFE playa complexes are anticipated.

In Nebraska, the conservation community routinely works together to implement wetland projects and leverage technical and financial resources to maximize conservation effectiveness of USDA programs. The RWBJV leverages both federal (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, North American Wetlands Conservation Act, etc.) and non-federal funds (Nebraska Environmental Trust, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Ducks Unlimited, etc.) to complete wetland and associated upland projects. This funding is directed towards projects through different Landowner Agreements depending on which agency has the lead. These agreements describe program activities (sediment removal, filling concentration pits, etc.) as well as the partner contributions to the project. In FY 2018, the RWBJV leveraged >\$1.5 million in federal and non-federal funds to support playa restoration projects. We anticipate this level of contribution in the future.

6.0 Public Outreach Program

6.1 Public Support and Outreach

In 2017, PLJV and RWBJV worked closely with state FSA offices and other local partners to promote the Migratory Bird SAFE within the priority areas. Communication tools included informational meetings, flyers and handouts,

direct mail, media releases, radio ads, social media and large posters in county offices. During that time and since, PLJV has continued to promote the program through stories, articles and videos featuring landowners who participate in the SAFE.

6.2 Communication Plan

Based on past successes, the partners would continue to promote the plan using similar tactics as in the past (see 6.1 above) as well as the following items.

- Provide staff training for resource professionals providing technical assistance to implement the program.
- Promote program through USDA county newsletters to producers.
- Project partners will update existing promotional materials (flyers, website content, direct mail letters, etc).
- Focus area outreach will include mailings to landowners and tenants with playas under our FSA MOAs, landowner meetings, and technical service provider directed enrollment

6.3 Fact Sheet for use with Producers

Please see the example fact sheet in the exhibits attached.



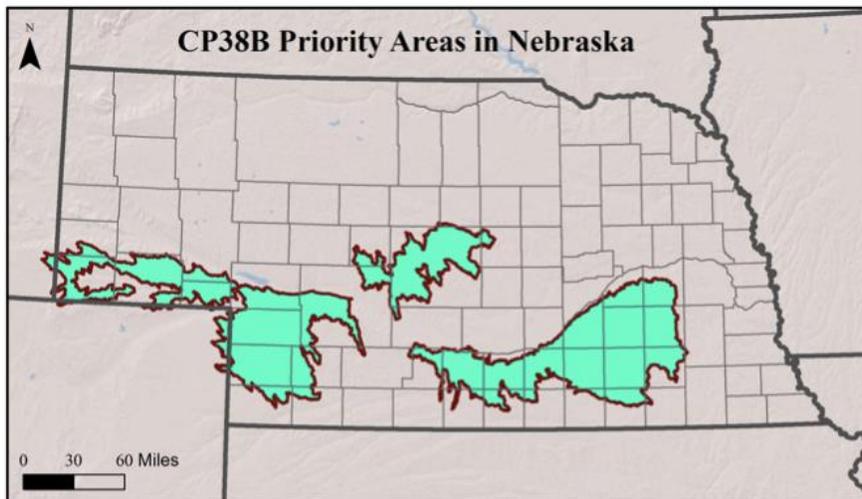
Migratory Bird, Butterfly, and Pollinator Habitat SAFE for Nebraska

The Migratory Bird, Butterfly, and Pollinator Habitat SAFE (CP38B) is designed to provide private landowners a market-based financial incentive for restoring playas, the most common wetlands in the region, through 10-15 year contracts. Research has shown that properly functioning playas are a primary source of recharge for the Ogallala Aquifer — contributing up to 95 percent of inflow to the aquifer and improving the quality of that water — and also provide critical habitat for migrating waterfowl, cranes and shorebirds.

In 2013, Playa Lakes and Rainwater Basin Joint Ventures conducted 13 landowner focus groups throughout the western Great Plains, which led to recommendations for designing conservation programs that appeal to landowners, including higher compensation for enrolling their land in a conservation program. CP38B is a direct response to this social research.

Partners

- USDA Farm Service Agency
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- US Fish & Wildlife Service Partners for Fish & Wildlife
- Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism
- Kansas Water Office
- Nebraska Association of Natural Resource Districts
- Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
- Nebraska Cattlemen Association
- Nebraska and Kansas Wildlife Federation
- Ducks Unlimited
- The Nature Conservancy
- Audubon of Kansas, Nebraska Audubon



Key Points

- Healthy playas **facilitate recharge** and **improve the quality of water** flowing into the **Ogallala Aquifer**
- **Annual payments** will be **determined by landowners** through an innovative reverse auction where **bids are submitted based on landowner values** in a competitive process
- Program **targets priority playas** to benefit migratory bird species in priority areas
- Playas will be **restored to full hydrology**
- **Prescribed grazing** as outlined by a NRCS-approved plan will be the **preferred management** of vegetative habitat
- Tracts of **up to 160 acres** may be enrolled
- More than **15,000 playas** are eligible in Nebraska
- This **market-based approach** will yield **more accurate payments** while providing a **great financial opportunity** to the producer

Photo above: Aerial view of a playa. Courtesy of Brian Slohe.



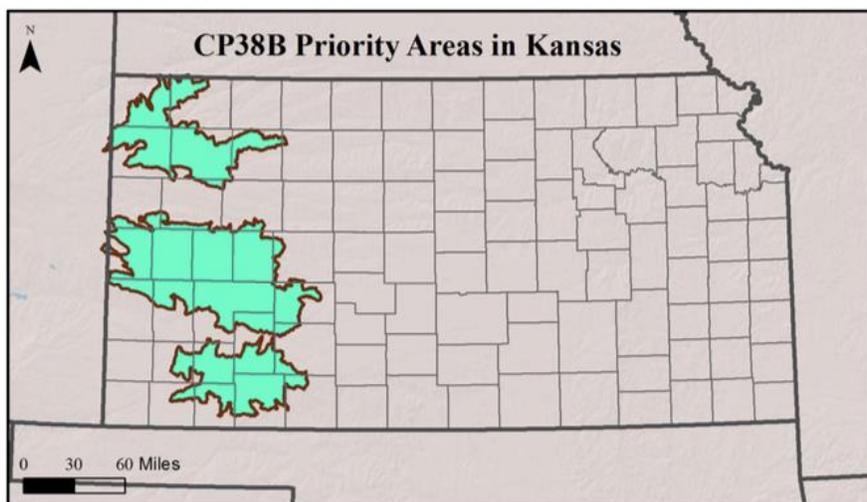
Migratory Bird, Butterfly, and Pollinator Habitat SAFE for Kansas

The Migratory Bird, Butterfly, and Pollinator Habitat SAFE (CP38B) is designed to provide private landowners a market-based financial incentive for restoring playas, the most common wetlands in the region, through 10-15 year contracts. Research has shown that properly functioning playas are a primary source of recharge for the Ogallala Aquifer — contributing up to 95 percent of inflow to the aquifer and improving the quality of that water — and also provide critical habitat for migrating waterfowl, cranes and shorebirds.

In 2013, Playa Lakes and Rainwater Basin Joint Ventures conducted 13 landowner focus groups throughout the western Great Plains, which led to recommendations for designing conservation programs that appeal to landowners, including higher compensation for enrolling their land in a conservation program. CP38B is a direct response to this social research.

Partners

- USDA Farm Service Agency
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- US Fish & Wildlife Service Partners for Fish & Wildlife
- Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism
- Kansas Water Office
- Nebraska Association of Natural Resource Districts
- Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
- Nebraska Cattlemen Association
- Nebraska and Kansas Wildlife Federation
- Ducks Unlimited
- The Nature Conservancy
- Audubon of Kansas, Nebraska Audubon



Key Points

- Healthy playas **facilitate recharge** and **improve the quality of water** flowing into the **Ogallala Aquifer**
- **Annual payments** will be **determined by landowners** through an innovative reverse auction where **bids are submitted based on landowner values** in a competitive process
- Program **targets priority playas** to benefit migratory bird species in priority areas
- Playas will be **restored to full hydrology**
- **Prescribed grazing** as outlined by a NRCS-approved plan will be the **preferred management** of vegetative habitat
- Tracts of **up to 160 acres** may be enrolled
- More than **10,000 playas** are eligible in Kansas
- This **market-based approach** will yield **more accurate payments** while providing a **great financial opportunity** to the producer

Photo above: Aerial view of a playa. Courtesy of Brian Slobe.

PLAYA CONSERVATION

HOW THE MIGRATORY BIRD SAFE IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE



KS PLAYA CONSERVATION

1.5
YEARS

11,681 ACRES
of playas and buffers
restored through the
Migratory Bird SAFE

25
YEARS

11,255 ACRES
of playas and buffers
restored and conserved
through **other programs**
(WRP, ACEP and CP23A)



PLAYAS = WATER FOR PEOPLE

Restoring all degraded **playas near wells** (822 acres) in Wichita County can provide enough **clean water** for **2.5x the population** each year.

2.5X
AVG ANNUAL
WATER USE

FOR

2,234
PEOPLE

What are playas?

- Small, temporary **wetlands**
- Mostly on **private land**
- Lowest point in a closed watershed
- Collect **rainfall and runoff**
- Landcover determines playa health

What benefits do they provide?

- Primary source of **recharge** to Ogallala aquifer (10-1,000x greater)
- Higher **quality** of water
- Flood control
- Good for wildlife and **people**



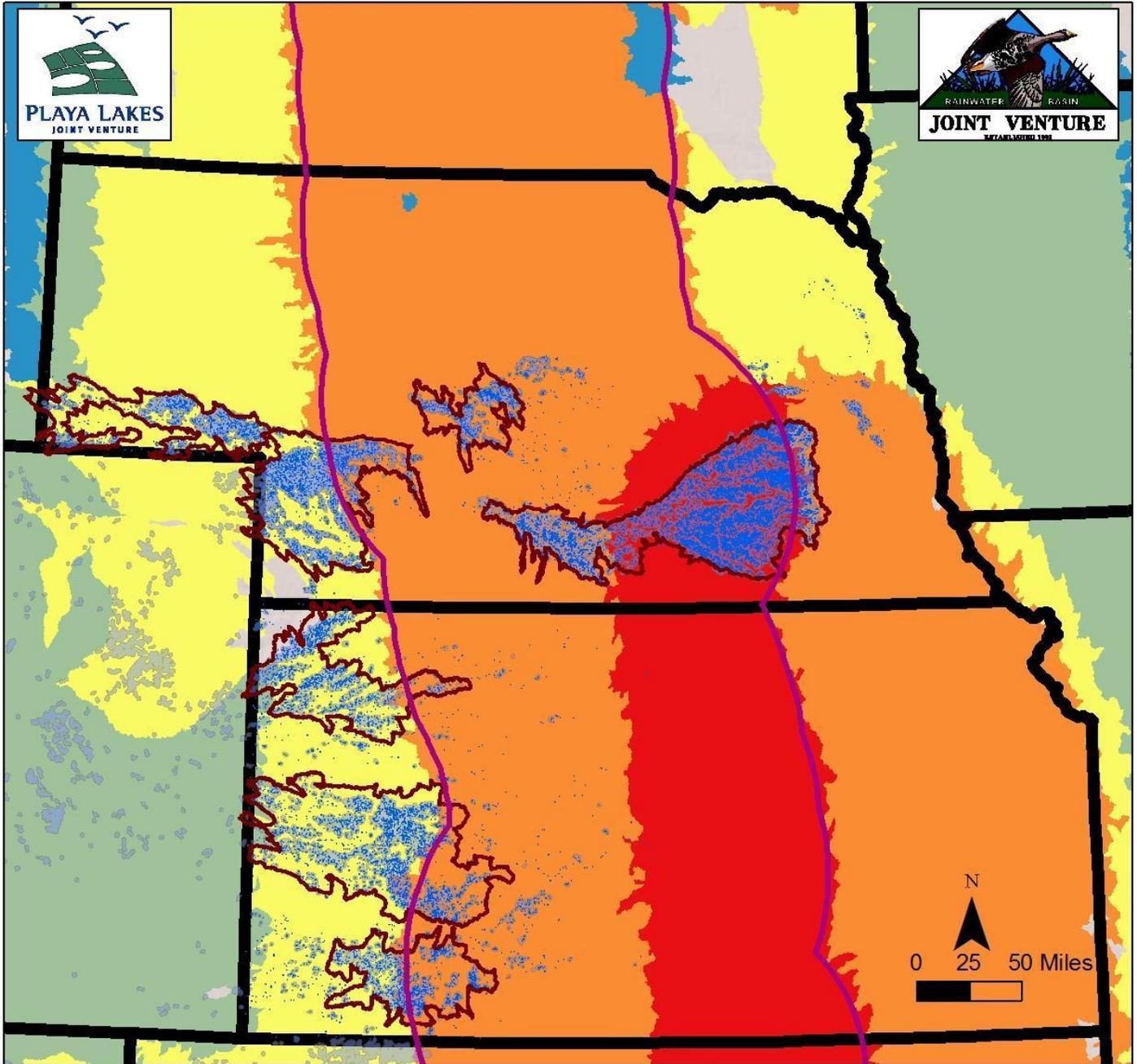
PLAYA CRP PRACTICE THAT WORKS

- Built on partnerships
- Fosters a positive conservation atmosphere
- Relevant to people
- Supports critical resource needs
- Measurable outcomes
- Efficient delivery
- Provides water for communities

"Everything about this program is right. It's a very well designed program!"

-Kansas landowner

Selected Priority Species in the Kansas & Nebraska Proposed Migratory Bird Priority Areas



Northern Pintail RWBJV



Whooping Crane
© Norman Carl



Baird's Sandpiper
© Andy Johnson



Sprague's Pipit
© Greg Page

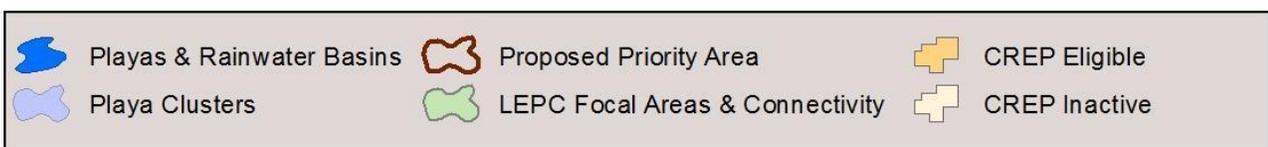
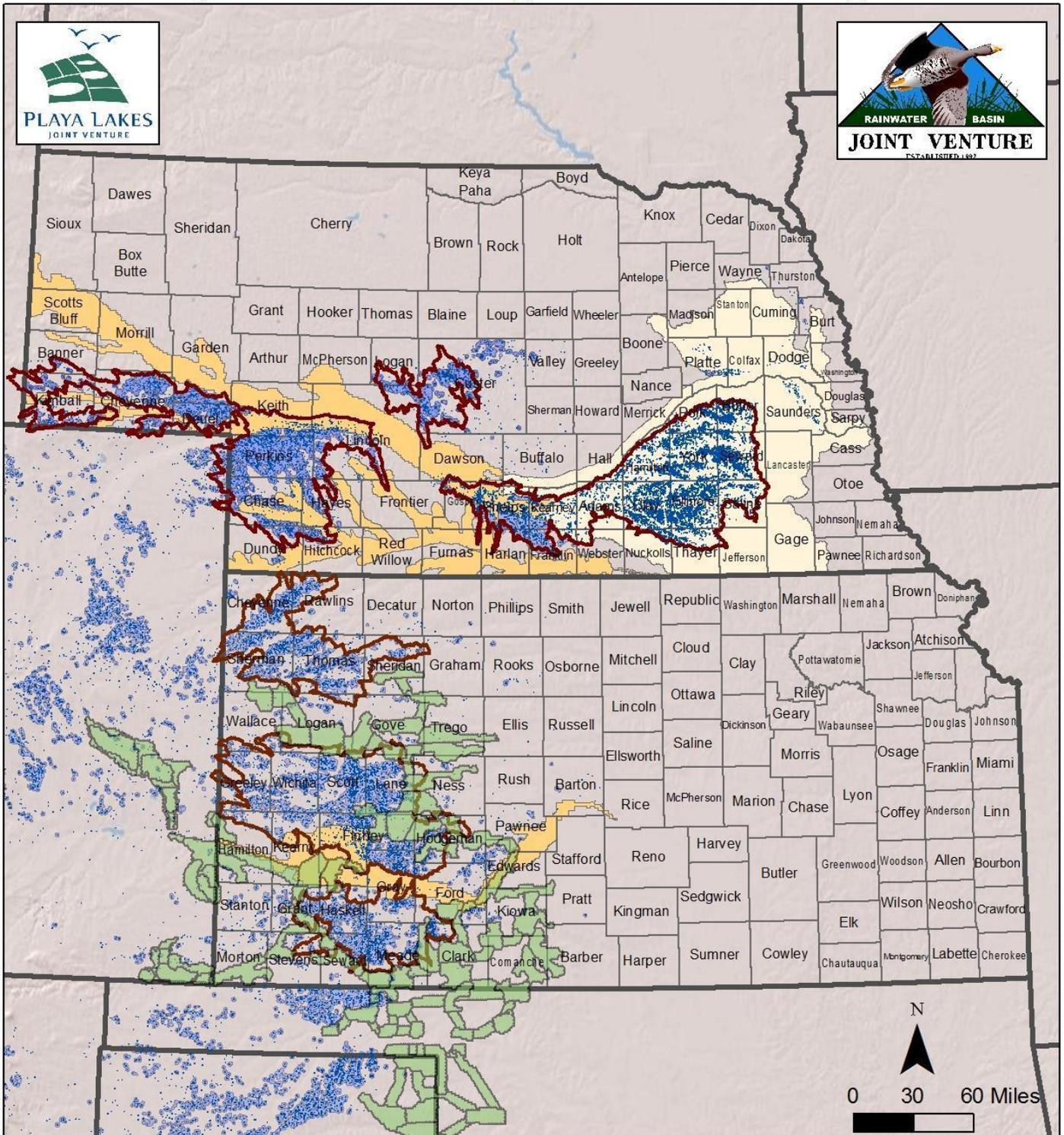


Hudsonian Godwit
© Andy Johnson

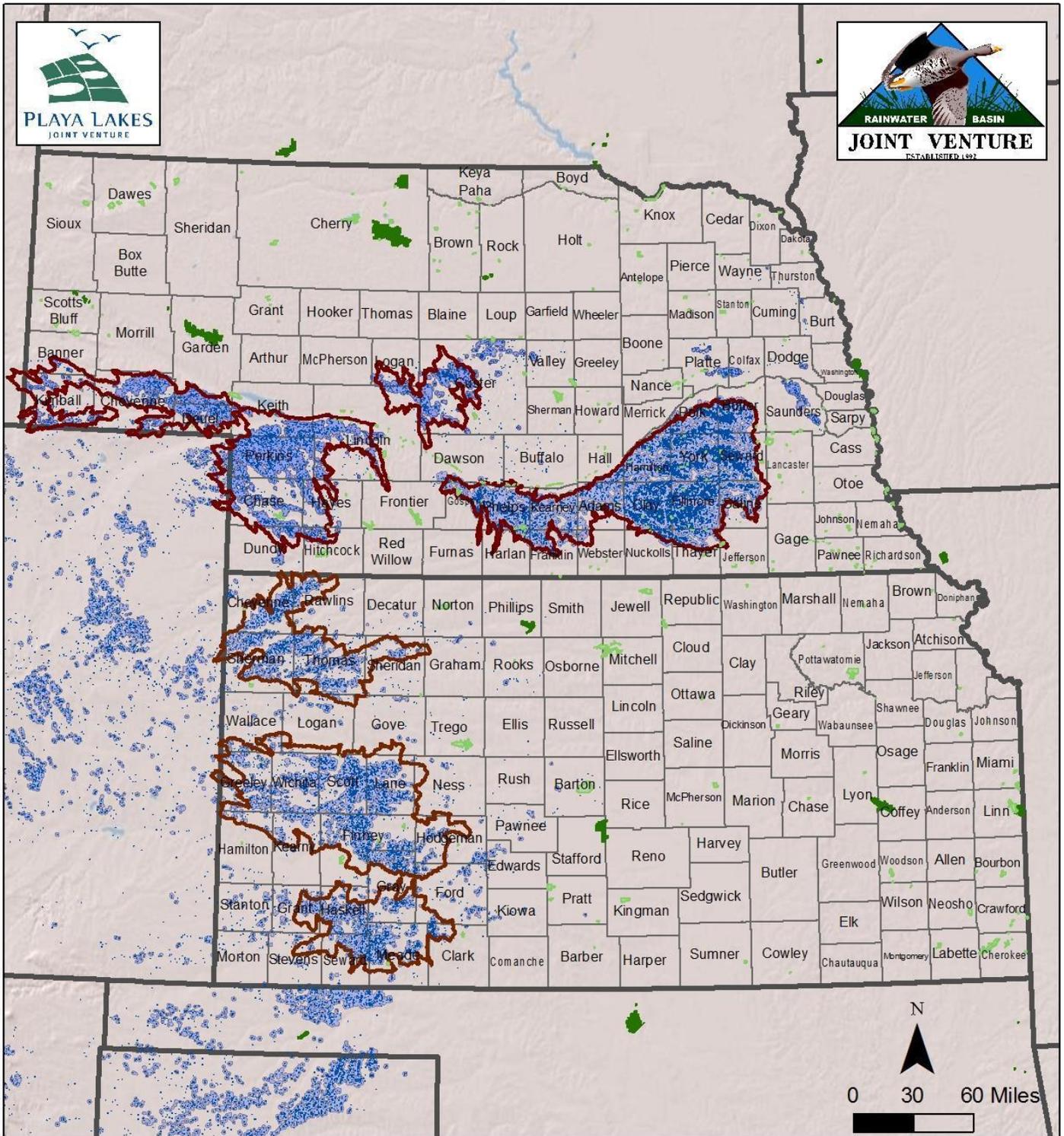
Priority Species (of 5) using area



Kansas & Nebraska Proposed Migratory Bird SAFE Project Area & Existing Conservation Programs



Kansas & Nebraska Proposed Migratory Bird SAFE Project Area

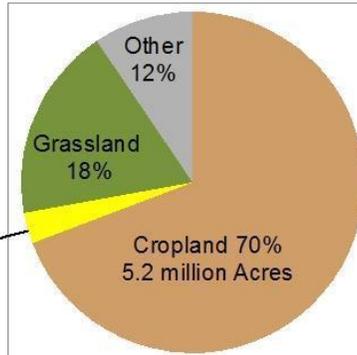


Landcover Statistics in the Kansas & Nebraska Proposed Migratory Bird Priority Areas



Nebraska Proposed Priority Area

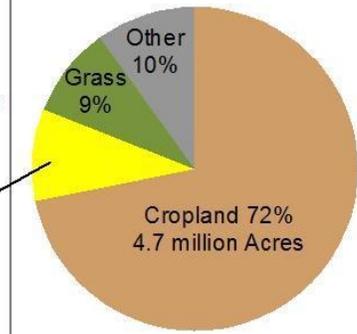
Total Acres: 7.5 million
Playa Acres: 220,000



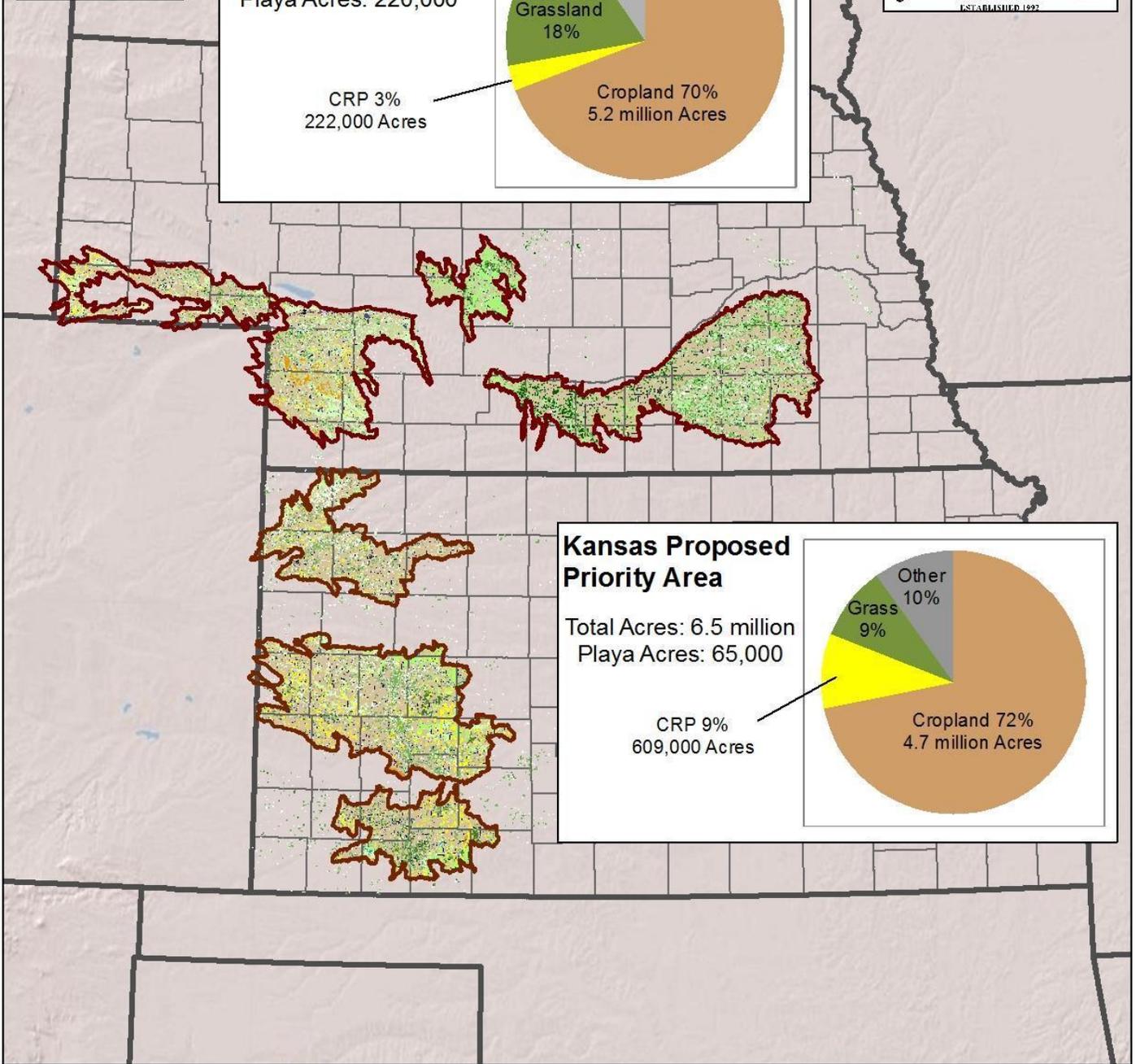
CRP 3%
222,000 Acres

Kansas Proposed Priority Area

Total Acres: 6.5 million
Playa Acres: 65,000

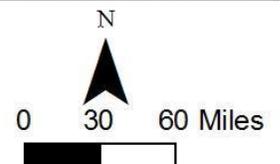


CRP 9%
609,000 Acres

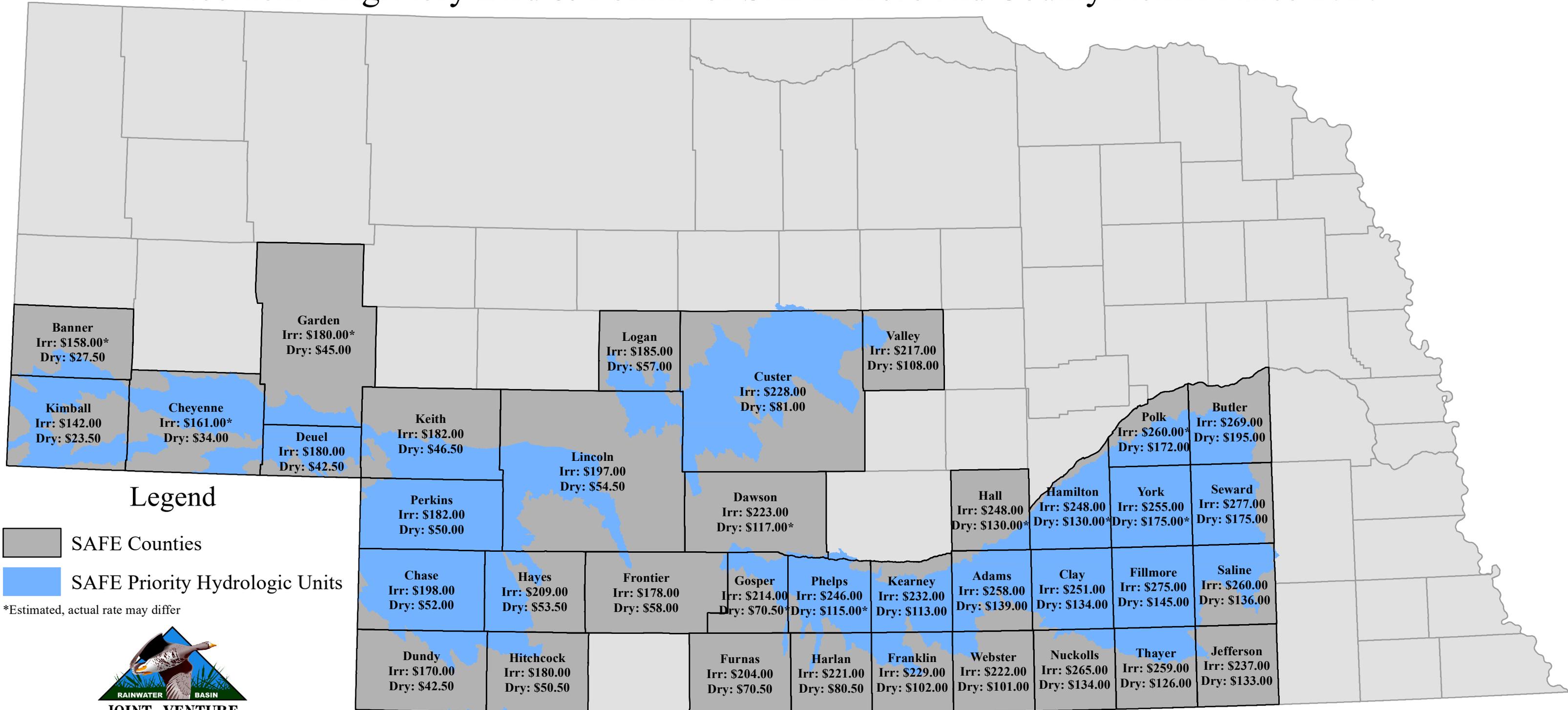


Playas by Buffer Restoration Priority

- Very high priority
- High priority
- Medium priority
- Low priority
- Proposed Priority Area



Nebraska Migratory Bird & Pollinator SAFE Areas and County Rental Rates 2020



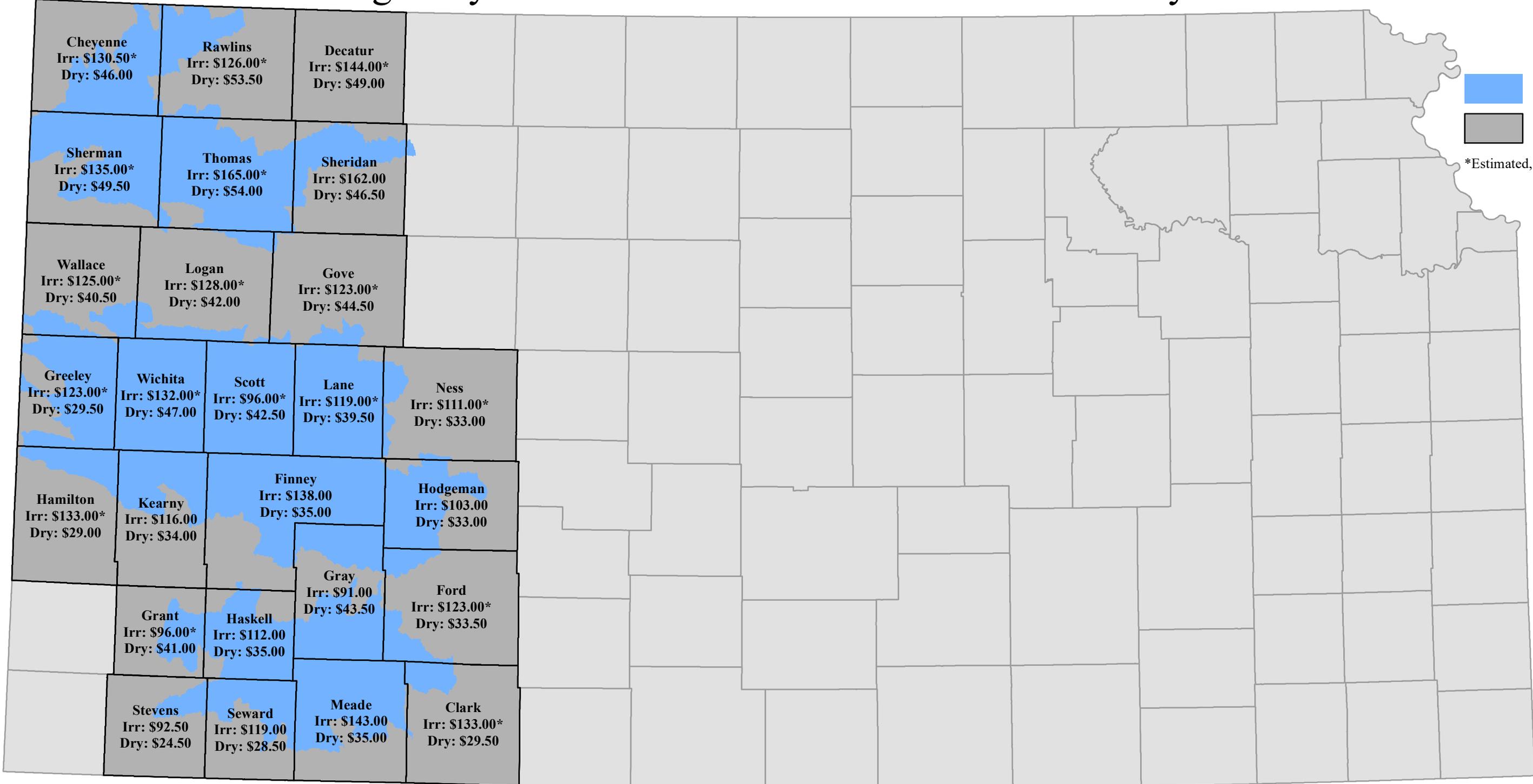
Legend

- SAFE Counties
- SAFE Priority Hydrologic Units

*Estimated, actual rate may differ



Kansas Migratory Bird & Pollinator SAFE Areas and County Rental Rates 2020



Legend

-  SAFE Priority Hydrologic Units
-  SAFE Counties

*Estimated, actual rate may differ

