3030 Protection and Restoration of Grasslands

Conservation practices to reduce nutrient loss and improve water quality

What is RCPP?

The Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) promotes coordination of NRCS conservation activities with partners that offer value-added contributions to expand our collective ability to address on-farm, watershed, and regional natural resource concerns. Through RCPP, NRCS seeks to co-invest with partners to implement projects that demonstrate innovative solutions to conservation challenges and provide measurable improvements and outcomes tied to the resource concerns they seek to address.

Project

The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation will address key conservation concerns to restore 10,000 acres of vital grasslands across 40 counties in western and southern Iowa, focusing on the Loess Hills Landform and other priority areas. The Department of Natural Resources will use predictive models to assess environmental impacts and estimate effects on grazing and forage production.

Eligible Practices

The project establishes an approach for private sector conservation planning support for practices such as:

- Brush Management
- Conservation Cover
- Cover Crops
- Firebreaks
- Herbacious Weed Control
- Prescribed Buring
- Prescribed Grazing
- Restoration of Rare and Declining Natural Communities
- Wildlife Habitat Management
- Woody Residue Treatment

More Information

For more information about conservation planning and financial assistance, contact your local NRCS office.

Funding:

Duration:
Five years (2024-2029)
Federal Funds:
Financial Assistance:
$9,478,963.50
Technical Assistance:
$2,550,500
Partner Contributions:
$14,380,000

Portions of the following Counties:

See map: 40 counties in western and southern Iowa.

Where to Apply:

Find your local service center at https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/find-a-service-center

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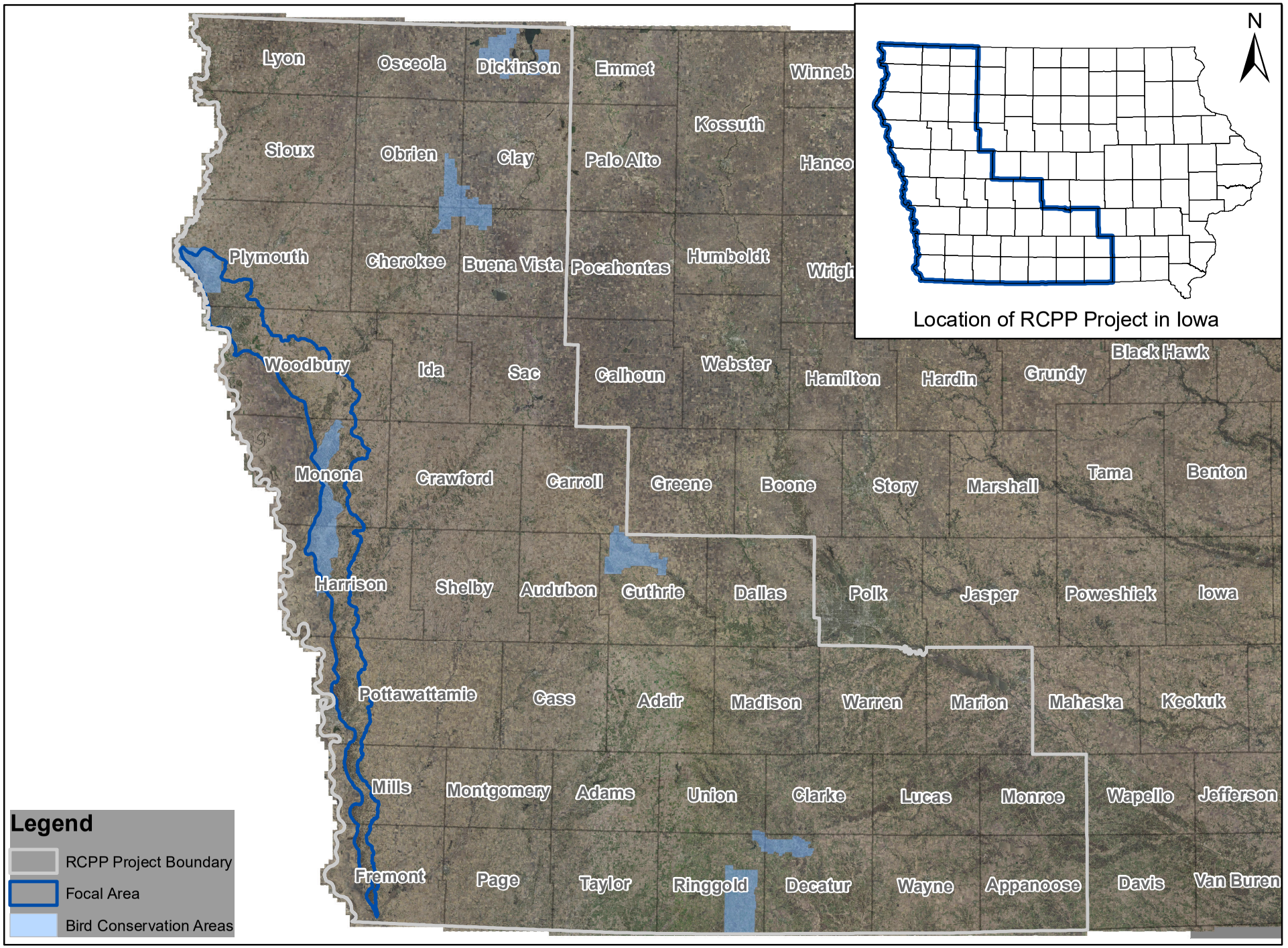
Protection and Restoration of Grasslands in Iowa

Attachment A