

STORY COUNTY



REAP

RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT AND PROTECTION PLAN

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Story County Resource Enhancement and Protection program is to enhance the quality of life for all citizens of and visitors to Story County by wisely managing our natural and historic resources, providing recreational and leisure opportunities, and by educating the public to be conscientious caretakers of our natural environment.

FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM PLAN

Introduction

The history of Iowa in the last 185+ years is one that has seen dramatic changes in the natural resources of the state: 98 percent of the wetlands present in 1833 have been drained; over 85 percent of the original 7 million acres of forest have been cut; over 99 percent of the prairie acres that once covered 85 percent of the state have now been converted to other uses. Those changes have brought us one of the most productive agricultural systems the world has ever seen, but almost all of those changes took place without a plan. It is only now, in retrospect, that we can assess the benefits and the drawbacks of our past actions regarding natural resources.

The passage of the Resource Enhancement and Protection Act of 1989 provided an unparalleled opportunity for Iowa counties to make a concerted effort to plan for future usage and protection of natural and historic resources. Story County is pleased to take an active role in that effort. The plan that follows is an attempt to build on the resources we now have by enhancing their utility to both human and non-human users and to restore, in part, those that we may have lost. As humans seldom give perfect visions of the future, we expect to adapt and change this plan during its implementation period as new and better information, techniques, and opportunities arise.

Background

Story County established its REAP Committee in October 1989. The committee consisted of 55 representatives from cities and towns, school districts, conservation groups, the conservation board, farm groups, and other recognized wildlife, environmental, historical and recreation groups. In 2017, the committee is primarily composed of representatives of groups with an interest in REAP programs.

The county is not new to resource planning. Previous efforts include, but are not limited to: the 1972 Recreational Open Space Survey (ROSS) Plan for the Central Iowa Regional Association of Governments; a 1973-75 analysis of the landscape features, geology, soils, vegetation, and wildlife; the 1979 Skunk River Greenbelt Conservation District Zone Plan; the Soil Survey Update of 1984; the Story County Parks, Open Space and Recreation Plan of 1989; the 1994 County Planning and Zoning update; the City of Ames Natural Areas Inventory Project, which was completed in 1994; the Story County GAP Analysis of 2001, Story County's 2006 Land Development Regulations, the 2013 Story County Conservation Strategic Plan, the 2015 Story County Strategic Plan, the 2016 Story County Cornerstone to Capstone plan (comprehensive plan), and the 2017 Story County Conservation Strategic Plan (in progress at this writing).

Inventory

Story County covers 527 square miles, or 368,640 acres. The topography is a legacy created by the most recent glacial period of 10,000 to 12,000 years ago. It left behind a topography that was flat to gently rolling, punctuated by numerous prairie potholes, wetlands, and dissected by the drainage patterns of several streams and the Skunk River. As the glacier withdrew to the north

and tall grasslands became established, they brought Story County its most predominant natural asset--prime agricultural land. Lands that are being cultivated are located primarily on the rich uplands and on the wide, riparian flood plains. Steep lands are generally restricted to areas adjacent to stream and river valleys or lands on a glacial moraine.

Farm Service Administration (FSA) records for the 2017 crop year indicated that 75 percent of Story County land (276,496 acres) was planted to corn and soybeans. An additional .9 percent (3,365 acres) was in legume forage and about 1 percent (3,799 acres) was in grass forage. Nearly 2.7 percent of the land was enrolled in the Conservation Reserve (CRP – 9,968 acres) and Wetland Reserve (WRP - 40 acres). The remaining 19.3 percent (71,132 acres) is devoted largely to communities and roads, with towns along the I-35 growth corridor, in particular, continuing to annex major areas of farm land for industrial, commercial, and residential expansion. Cities annexed 2,778 acres between 1999 and 2006. Minor crops like Christmas trees, orchards, grapes, tree nurseries, and truck gardens have increased slightly since 2000 but still comprise only a fraction of a percent of the county's land. Acreage of farm buildings, lots, and yards continues to decline, while rural residential (non-farm) lots and acreages had increased to 9,100 acres by 2007. Less than 1,000 acres of somewhat ecologically intact pre-European settlement vegetation is present, primarily as creek bottom woodland, wetland, and some prairie remnants. Although over 30,000 acres is wooded, diversity in most of it has been negatively impacted by over a century of heavy grazing. Much of that is undergoing understory succession again as grazing of woodland continues to decline as an agricultural practice.

As in most counties, wildlife habitat varies in both quantity and quality. High quality habitat is located in old fields with pioneer vegetation and long riparian areas and associated woodlands. Medium quality habitat is available along road and highway right-of-ways, pastures, and some residential areas. Areas of commercial, industrial, high-density residential and paved recreational usage are of little use to most native wildlife species. Cultivated land, about 80.7% percent of the county, is generally of low quality for wildlife; however, its presence enhances the quality of nearby habitat areas by providing some food during the growing season. Fish habitat is located primarily on human-made ponds and lakes and along stretches of the Skunk River. The unpredictability of consistent rain in central Iowa coupled with changes caused by widespread drainage results in intermittent flow of most streams and reduces their value as fish habitat. Flooding has become more frequent along the Skunk and tributary streams as a result of climate change.

The 2010 census reported a population of 89,542 for Story County. Projections of the Iowa Department of Economic Development continue to show accelerated population growth for the central Iowa area that includes Story County. The county claimed around 97,000 people in 2016. If we are to maintain a high quality natural environment, it is essential that we protect the existing natural areas, enhance those already under protection, and seek to acquire additional natural areas. Nearly 6,000 acres are under public ownership and management, and an additional 6,000 acres have been added under the Integrated Roadside Management program. More public recreational acres will be added under this plan, and protection of more conservation district zones is recommended. This additional acreage will more adequately serve the diverse needs of the public by providing more areas for the varied needs of the population of Story County and those from other locations that use these facilities.

Goals and Implementation Plans

The following goals (in bold) are intended to implement our mission. Following each goal are examples of projects that may be submitted for funding.

The maps (see Appendix 1) summarize this plan visually. They give the reader an idea of the greenbelts, public parks and recreational areas, conservation districts, historic sites, and trails that are in existence and planned in Story County. The maps also include trails and other features that are relevant to natural resource protection but not specifically to REAP. Some trails, for example, are being developed under funding from the Department of Transportation's Trails Program. The County REAP Committee feels it is important to present the total picture of resource management in Story County.

1. Protect and enhance riparian greenbelts throughout Story County to create connected corridors of quality open spaces.

- a. Develop an Indian Creek Greenbelt, including a biking/hiking trail for non- motorized traffic, from northwest Nevada to the southern city limit of Nevada south of Highway 30, and an extension of trail to the Indian Creek County Club south of Nevada along 11th St. to connect with the existing trail system in the city's SCORE Park. (City of Nevada).
- b. Extend the Indian Creek Greenbelt and trail from Nevada to Maxwell along West Indian Creek and to Hickory Grove Park along East Indian Creek. (Cities of Nevada and Maxwell, Story County Conservation Board (SCCB), and others.)
- c. Improve city parks by reshaping creek beds to reduce soil erosion and planting trees and shrubs to provide habitat for birds and butterflies, as well as creating outdoor learning areas for the local elementary schools.
- d. Expand and enhance the Skunk River Greenbelt, from Hamilton to the Polk county lines, including floodplain and upland timbers, prairies, savannas and oxbows. (SCCB)
- e. Further develop public use areas, road access, forest habitat and fisheries in Story County parks. (SCCB)
- f. Increase and improve roadside management to enable greater use and production of locally collected seed sources. (SCCB)
- g. Expand and enhance public access to the Skunk River, Squaw Creek, and Indian Creek Greenbelts across Story County.
- h. Expand conservation district zones or acquisition of development rights to protect other small greenbelt and watershed areas within the county and in communities.
- i. Extend Skunk River Greenbelt and Squaw Creek Greenbelt trails in Story County.
- j. Develop the Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor as an example of resource

stewardship, recreational development, and community betterment.

- 2. Protect and enhance right-of-ways along existing transportation routes including railroads, primary roads, and secondary roads, especially those that link isolated open space areas. Wherever possible, connect and extend existing trails to each other so as to create an interconnected trail network in the county, one that is also connected to trails (existing and proposed) in adjacent counties.**
 - a. Implement the Story County Trails and Greenways Map by building, upgrading, and enhancing bike/walking paths which provide non-motorized transportation alternatives in and between towns and cities in the county.
 - b. Continue to improve, complete, and enhance the Heart of Iowa Trail and the Praeri Rail Trail and connect them to other regional trails.
 - c. Continue to expand wildlife habitat improvement work along secondary roads utilizing local ecotype seed sources in the county. (SCCB)
 - d. Acquire future railroad abandonments to expand Story County's trail network and protect their value as wildlife travel corridors. (SCCB and others)
 - e. Provide for non-motorized transportation within the county. This may take the form of traffic lanes wide enough to accommodate both motor vehicles and non-motorized vehicles or separate lanes parallel to the existing roadway or not. These are necessary for commuting by students within school districts and by workers commuting to places of employment in nearby communities. Examples would be widened traffic lanes between cities such as Ames, Gilbert, Nevada, and Colo; an "artery" from Ames to the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail and the communities of Kelley, Slater, Huxley, Cambridge, Maxwell, and Collins; a trail link between Ames and Gilbert, and the Praeri Rail Trail.
 - f. Enhance entryways into cities.
 - g. Create and enhance trails that connect parks and other areas within Story County towns and cities.
- 3. Protect and enhance other open spaces, especially those involving stream, wetlands, prairie areas, and existing parks.**
 - a. Renovate and enhance Story County Parks to provide ADA accessibility to beaches, docks, and fishing areas wherever possible. (SCCB)
 - b. Acquire and develop new city park lands. (Kelley, Cambridge, and others)
 - c. Renovate and enhance city and county parks in Story County by constructing and maintaining trails, restrooms, landscaping and other amenities. (Story City and others)
 - d. Plant additional trees in city parks. (All cities)

- e. Acquire and develop abandoned railroad areas to preserve remnant prairie and provide open space. (City of Kelley and others)
- f. Improve vegetation management practices, including management of invasive species, on public and private lands in Story County. (SCCB)
- g. Acquire additional acreage to increase natural habitat for public use. (SCCB)
- h. Acquire, improve and enhance trails and natural habitat in county-managed area. (SCCB)
- i. Develop desirable borrow pits and gravel pits as they become available. (SCCB)
- j. Improve wildlife habitat on county and city areas.
- k. Identify, inventory, and manage vegetation and its seed source and historical values in pioneer era cemeteries. (REAP Committee and others)
- l. Seek agreements with existing railroads to improve management practices along right-of-ways to protect prairie remnants. (REAP Committee)
- m. Restore Ames High Prairie to eliminate inappropriate vegetation and reconstruct trail to reduce erosion. (REAP Committee)
- n. Acquire easements or leases for additional public open spaces.
- o. Improve vegetation management practices which are consistent with each property's mission. This includes suppression of undesirable non-native vegetation and the promotion of desirable vegetation to enhance the area's natural character and improve its wildlife habitat value. (SCCB)
- p. Upgrade equipment to harvest and prepare for planting seed from local natural areas to provide high quality local ecotype seed stock for restoration projects within our area. (REAP Committee)
- q. Implement and enforce county environmental impact statements.

4. Preserve, enhance, and document the historical resources found in Story County.

- a. Identify and preserve historic sites and areas within Story County.
- b. Expand historical focus of interpretive programs (SCCB and others)
- c. Protect and restore historic prairie and pioneer cemeteries. (REAP Committee)
- d. Conduct a county-wide inventory of Native American archeological sites by the State

Archeologist. (SCCB, cities, and others)

- e. Conduct a county-wide inventory of historic resources to assess the condition of the county's historic record.
- f. Preserve, protect, and renovate country schools, historic barns, bridges, and churches in Story County.
- g. Preserve microfilm and digitize Story County newspapers.

5. Assist landowners and land managers in protecting and enhancing soil and water quality.

- a. Reduce non-point source water pollution through planting of cover crops, vegetated buffers, and other conservation practices. (Story County Soil and Water Conservation District and others)
- b. Reduce point source water pollution problems such as those from livestock waste management. (Story County SWCD and Story County)
- c. Implement habitat improvements including tree planting programs and timber stand improvement. (Story County SWCD, SCCB, and others)
- d. Encourage land conversion projects in priority watersheds that benefit soil conservation, water quality improvements, and wildlife habitat. (Story County SWCD, REAP Committee, and others)
- e. Design and create soil retention areas and other water quality practices upstream of Story County ponds and lakes to enhance water quality.
- f. Complete the Sensitive Areas Inventory of Story County private lands and develop plans for assisting landowners in their management.

6. Expand environmental education opportunities for all age groups.

- a. Continue to support acquisition and distribution of classroom environmental education materials.
- b. Expand volunteer network for programs across the county. (SCCB)
- c. Work with Friends of Ada Hayden Park and other groups to enhance public education and interpretation in all parks and other natural areas in the county.
- d. Promote the use of non-motorized transportation and recreation and traffic safety education. (SCCB, Friends of Central Iowa Biking, Skunk River Paddlers and others)

- e. Create and install appropriate interpretive signage in Story County Parks.
- f. Educate people about the historical influence of agriculture and the prairie on community development.
- g. Expand the use of electronic media to provide comprehensive and up-to-date maps and guides to Story County parks, natural areas, and outdoor recreational opportunities.
- h. Continue development and support of citizen science programs to enhance education of Story County citizens of all ages and involve them in the process of science (MRSP, Wasp Watchers, Breeding Bird Survey, water monitoring, etc.)

7. Implement other plans to improve the environment of Story County's rural and urban areas.

- a. Encourage county-wide use of LED and other energy-efficient lights to conserve energy and full cutoff fixtures to avoid light pollution. (Ames Area Amateur Astronomers, City of Ames).
- b. Promote alternative transportation with traffic safety education, bicycling and pedestrian lanes along transportation corridors. Pursue trail improvements - greenbelts, county parks, connect existing public areas, bridges, elevated trail and step systems, surfacing and other "hardening" techniques, and land purchases or easements for trail extensions.
- c. Pursue projects and alternative energy sources to improve energy efficiency in the public and private sectors.
- d. Identify, acquire, enhance, and expand water and other recreational trails within Story County.

APPENDIX 1

C2C Conservation of Natural Resources and
Recreation Chapter

C2C Proposed Trails and Greenways Map

C2C Land Use

Land Use Framework Map

Map of Public Lands in Story County

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Conservation of Natural Resources and Recreation

The abundance and health of our natural resources and recreation are vital to the well-being of our communities, the prosperity of our economy and the health of our regional ecological systems. This Chapter outlines the goals, objectives, and strategies for preserving, protecting, restoring, and enhancing our natural and recreation resources. Because all systems are interconnected, these goals address water, land, wildlife, air, vegetation, soil, geology, and the welfare of our citizens.

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Goals, Objectives and Strategies

As population, development, and land values increase, the need for strategic natural resource and recreation planning and management becomes more important. Preserving, protecting, restoring, and enhancing our natural resources will help improve the quality of life for those currently living in Story County and help ensure a legacy for future generations.

The goals, objectives, and strategies for this Chapter are generally intended to be implemented by the Story County Conservation Board and incorporated into the Conservation Board's strategic plan. Both the Conservation Board and the Board of Supervisors should periodically review this Chapter and evaluate its progress and priorities. Partnerships with local schools, cities, conservation groups and other organizations should be sought to support these efforts.

To establish a shared vision for Story County that will guide future actions and decisions, the following natural resource and recreation goals have been developed.

The goals often build upon one another. For example, installing vegetated buffer strips along waterways protects ground and surface water, protect adjacent land from erosion, attracts wildlife and pollinators, and increases plant diversity. Buffer strips also provide space for trails that promote active lifestyles. This one effort helps accomplish seven of the eight goals listed below.

Natural Resource and Recreation Goal 1

Preserve, protect, restore, and enhance the quality of Story County's ground water and surface water.

Objective NRR1.1: Provide leadership for limiting the loss or degradation of Story County's riparian zones, wetlands, and other water bodies.

Objective NRR1.2: Preserve, enhance, and where possible restore the natural and beneficial functions of wetlands, streams, rivers, creeks and lakes.

Objective NRR1.3: Implement and/or encourage the implementation of stormwater Best Management Practices to reduce the speed and impact of stormwater runoff.





Objective NRR1.4: Educate the public to lessen the negative human impact on water quality and quantity.

Objective NRR1.5: Encourage the use of conservation practices for agricultural land.

Strategies

- Recommend the use of Best Management Practices (i.e. bioretention cells, permeable paving, vegetated swales, etc.) on County approved projects and promote their use and requirement.
- Identify and map impaired water bodies to raise water quality awareness in Story County.
- Provide citizens with educational resources and activities on improving water quality at the watershed level.
- Consider establishing a city-county “Ground Water Task Force” to analyze existing underground water and aquifer usage and capacity and develop a long-term strategy to manage water usage to ensure adequate future capacity and access.
- Encourage water quality improvement strategies such as bioretention cells in drainage districts.
- Encourage landowners along open drainage ditches to adopt water quality improvement strategies such as buffer strips or vegetated swales.
- Work with the Natural Resource Conservation Service to incentivize the agricultural community to adopt additional water quality and quantity best practices.
- Encourage buffer strips along priority stream beds.
- Investigate creating a “Waterway Reserve Program” similar to the Iowa “Forest Reserve Program” that preserves native Iowa timber while allowing the land owner to hold the land tax free. Consider developing a similar reserve program for buffer strips.
- Encourage greenway development along surface waters.
- Develop a program to promote sustainable agriculture techniques and practices.



Natural Resource and Recreation Goal 2

Preserve, protect, restore, and enhance Story County's land, soil, and geological resources.

Objective NRR2.1: Protect the native soils and geologic resources (processes and features) as integral components of natural systems.

Objective NRR2.2: Prevent the unnatural erosion, physical removal, or contamination of native soils, as they support diverse biotic communities and serve as the foundation for all terrestrial ecosystems.

Objective NRR2.3: Maintain and restore the integrity of existing geologic resources.

Strategies

- Research, map, and inventory the existing below-surface resources of Story County to identify particularly significant and sensitive areas and develop practices and strategies to protect them.
- Develop educational resources and activities to promote positive behavior changes that improve Story County's soil and geologic resources.



Natural Resource and Recreation Goal 3

Restore the natural diversity, dynamics, distributions, habitats, and behaviors of Story County's native plant and animal populations.

Objective NRR3.1: Preserve and protect the existing native plants and animals, as well as re-establishing them where they historically occurred.

Objective NRR3.2: Restore native plant and animal populations in parks where they have been eliminated due to natural processes or human activity, given adequate space and habitat for their re-establishment.

Objective NRR3.3: Promote the return of native Iowa vegetation, to enhance the ecosystem's ability to handle human and natural impacts and for natural beauty.

Objective NRR3.4: Re-populate historic native plant types where possible, and initiate and maintain the processes that sustain them (i.e. prescribed prairie burns).



Objective NRR3.5: Establish and maintain healthy habitats that meet the needs of native animal populations and their migratory patterns.

Objective NRR3.6: Minimize human impacts on native plant and animal populations, the ecosystem they comprise, and processes that sustain them.

Objective NRR3.7: Restrict development within environmentally sensitive areas including floodplains, steep slopes, wooded areas, and wetlands.

Objective NRR3.8: Establish native vegetation communities along roadways and drainage ditches.



Strategies

- Inventory the County’s sensitive areas, prairies, habitats, and other natural resources and seek protection for those areas.
- Continue to review and follow the County’s floodplain regulations to restrict and regulate development.
- Promote and encourage the planting of ‘pollinator plots’ in strategic areas, through education programs.
- Encourage development that limits impact on existing wooded areas and preserves and restores natural prairie and wetlands.
- Promote educational programs to protect and restore Story County’s native plants and animals.
- Advocate for restoration of ‘prairie potholes’ within Story County.
- Continue to implement the roadside vegetation program and identify roadsides eligible for roadside vegetation to be included as part of the roadside vegetation program.
- Protect the quality of natural resources in County managed areas - water, habitat, soil, and prairie.
- Recognize the significance of drainage corridors in serving important ecological functions.



Natural Resource and Recreation Goal 4

Maintain, improve, and expand recreational features (parks, trails, and open space) and their services for current and future safe access and use.

Objective NRR4.1: Ensure all public parks, green spaces, and services within Story County are safe and easy to access.

Objective NRR4.2: Provide accessibility for all individuals through the use of accessible parking spaces, play equipment, and paved trails.



GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

Objective NRR4.3: Provide connected networks of pedestrian and bike friendly pathways that link public parks and communities, area attractions and destinations.

Objective NRR4.4: Maximize the use of current parks by researching, introducing, implementing, and evaluating state-of-the-art equipment and activities.

Objective NRR4.5: Provide safe biking, hiking, watercraft, fishing, hunting, camping, swimming, and equestrian opportunities within the county.

Objective NRR4.6: Connect existing and future trails and routes across cities and adjoining counties.

Objective NRR4.7: Meet the varied recreational needs of our residents while protecting and enhancing the natural environment.

Objective NRR4.8: Construct park improvements which provide safe recreation and meet needs of park visitors.

Strategies

- Encourage citizen participation in the planning, development, and maintenance of recreational trails and facilities through public hearings, surveys, and activities to ensure community needs and desires are met.
- Periodically review the existing trail network and the proposed trails and greenway plan to identify gaps, determine trail improvements, and set greenway priorities.
- Develop and fund a future trails network to increase connectivity, and ensure safe access to all public parks and recreation areas.
- Partner with local school districts, conservation groups, and organizations to support and promote recreation and natural resource protection programs.
- Work with land owners adjacent to trails and parks to develop a conservation strategy.
- Work with the NRCS and similar entities to develop, implement, and evaluate a plan that provides public access to and/or through developed buffer strips and pollinator planting zones.
- Provide natural resource areas with very limited development for wildlife observation, resource protection, bird watching, and hunting.
- Invest in park infrastructure to maintain safe and enjoyable experiences for visitors.





- Develop park amenities which increase usage of parks and add to the economic, social, and health benefits of parks.
- Invest in equipment and staff training to provide safe recreational opportunities.

Natural Resource and Recreation Goal 5

Foster air quality improvement to preserve natural resources and sustain community health and enjoyment.

Objective NRR5.1: Provide safe, easy, and affordable options for sustainable transportation.

Objective NRR5.2: Promote the use of sustainable forms of transportation to decrease the amount of harmful small particulates entering and jeopardizing the quality of the air.

Objective NRR5.3: Increase the amount of tree canopy in select areas to enhance clean air and reduce summer temperatures throughout Story County.

Objective NRR5.4: Promote increased walkability and bikability within Story County and incorporate the use of complete streets designs.

Strategies

- Continue to review the existing trails network, as well as the proposed trails and greenway plan to identify and provide needed connectivity.
- Promote the use of bicycle travel and increased walkability with an improved trail network and increase in safely designed bike and pedestrian lanes.
- Provide educational resources and activities that relate air quality to health and advocate residents to improve air quality and lower their carbon footprint.
- Implement tree planting programs to re-establish natural tree cover within the county.
- Promote the creation of greenways that include native vegetation.

Natural Resource and Recreation Goal 6

Promote and conduct environmental education to create awareness and behavior change for improved natural resources.

Objective NRR6.1: Educate the public on the significance of preserving, protecting, restoring, and enhancing Story County’s natural resources.



GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

Objective NRR6.2: Work with individuals and organizations to improve the quality of the water, air, soil, geology, vegetation, and wildlife of Story County.

Objective NRR6.3: Reach an increasingly diverse group of residents with environmental education opportunities.

Strategies

- Promote natural resource protection programs that are easy to implement and understand to allow people of all ages to become involved.
- Establish opportunities for community members to connect with nature to gain a sense of environmental awareness and responsibility.
- Promote experiential and place-based educational programs to encourage active participation and develop a sense of community ownership.
- Provide opportunities for volunteers to educate as well as learn.
- Provide interactive and technology-based learning opportunities.

Natural Resource and Recreation Goal 7

Focus resources on high-priority areas identified within Story County.

Objective NRR7.1: Identify and improve high-priority areas within Story County as environmentally sensitive, habitat for endangered species, or lacking safe trails and recreational opportunities.

Objective NRR7.2: Ensure that areas in need remain a high priority, and are able to improve over time.

Objective NRR7.3: Provide increased ecosystem services for residents and visitors of Story County. Ecosystem services are benefits for humans that arise from healthily functioning ecosystems. (i.e. production of air, food and fiber, and fresh water).

Objective NRR7.4: Work with the agricultural community to establish support for preserving, protecting, restoring, and enhancing natural and recreation resources.

Strategies:

- Work with the NRCS office and State of Iowa Department of Agriculture to develop a large scale sustainable agriculture plan.





- Consider development of a test site or streambed area with the agricultural community, DNR, and the NRCS office to document soil and water quality and the impact on agricultural business.
- Explore and prioritize areas around existing Story County parks for potential future expansion.
- Work with the City of Ames to explore and prioritize the Hallet materials extraction site located SW of I-35/US 30 interchange for potential reuse and revitalization.
- Identify and improve steep slopes that need erosion control or riparian restoration.
- Identify potential future trail, park, and natural resource conservation locations and pursue land acquisition and/or easements.
- Focus resources on land acquisition of high-priority areas.
- Provide opportunities for volunteers to help improve high-priority areas.



Story County 2015 Strategic Plan

Story County's 3-year Strategic Plan (2015-2018) serves as a roadmap to guide priorities, strategic directions, and concrete goals and objectives for the Board of Supervisors and County departments.

Through the strategic planning process, a series of conditions and needs have been identified in the County's 2015 Strategic Plan that relate to parks and trails, water quality, greenways, and habitat.

Parks and Trails

Story County aims to ensure sustainable funding for conservation, parks and recreation, trails, natural resources, and outdoor recreation to sufficiently enact priorities, and continue to monitor development in the Legislature regarding funding initiatives and proposed changes. These steps will assist as the County works with the ISU Research Park on their green space planning and works to create a Comprehensive Conservation and Recreation Plan for the entire County. Additionally, recreational facility infrastructure improvements will be a priority.

Water Quality

Story County hopes to work with partner agencies to address known water quality improvement needs and assess county-wide water quality on a watershed basis. Address critical water quality issues, such as the County passing regulations at the State and Federal level to ensure the County accounts and plans for any and all regulatory standards regarding water, wastewater, floodplains, and management.

Greenways

Greenways link natural areas, parks, cultural sites or historic sites with each other and in some cases with populated areas. Greenways can protect environmentally sensitive lands and wildlife, and also can provide people with access to outdoor recreation and enjoyment close to home. In 2000, a "Creating a Central Iowa Greenways System" plan was established. Story County aims to build upon this greenway system to create safe greenway areas within the cities and connect to adjoining counties.





Habitat

Preserving habitat, as well as establishing and enhancing habitat areas is a key goal of the Story County Conservation Board. As part of this plan, Story County aims to preserve and protect the existing native plants and animals within the county, as well as seek to re-establish them where they historically occurred.



4.3 SOUTH SKUNK RIVER WATER TRAIL PLAN

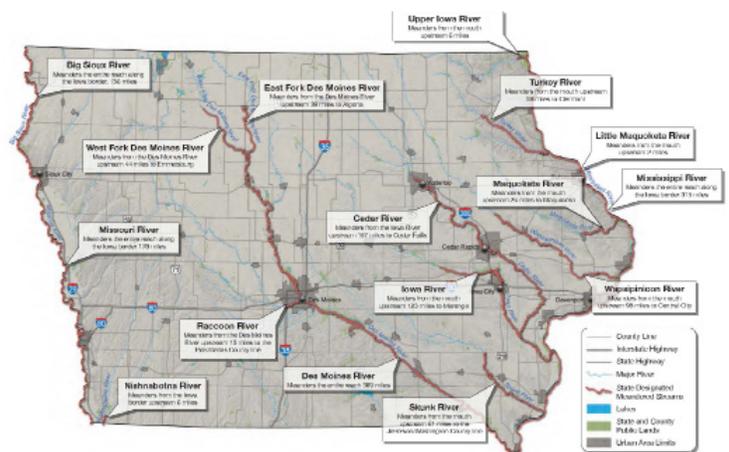
South Skunk River Water Trail Plan

Story County Conservation, and the Skunk River Paddlers have been working to designate the South Skunk River in Story County as a State Water Trail since the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) began the water trail program in 2008. The status of “state-designated” is reserved for water trails that represent the best paddling experiences in each region of the state. Not every county in Iowa will have a state-designated water trail. The IDNR sponsored a comprehensive Water Trail Plan in 2013. Story County Conservation Board (SCCB) emerged as the water trail sponsor as a result of that planning and a steering group of residents and stakeholders is also in place to guide development and management.

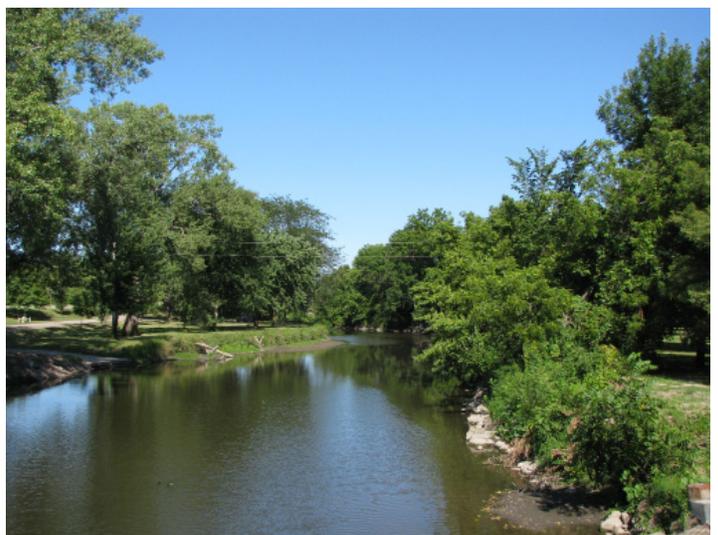
The South Skunk River is a non-meandered stream beginning in Hamilton County. The South and North Skunk rivers join in Keokuk County, becoming the Skunk River. The Skunk enters into the Mississippi River in the far southeast part of the state. The Story County portion of the South Skunk River is 38 miles in length. The watershed area draining into the Story County portion of the river is approximately 651 square miles.

The South Skunk River has always been used by the people living in the area. The Phase IA Study conducted by the Iowa Office of State Archeology for the water trail plan concluded there are 131 known archaeological sites recorded from bluff top to bluff top on either side of the South Skunk in Story County and 87 within 400m of the streambanks of the South Skunk (OSA 2014). Some of these sites are located on public property and others are privately-owned. Of the 131 sites, 95 sites include prehistoric components, 19 with historic components and 18 contained both historical and prehistoric components. Recorded prehistoric sites included isolated finds, camps, scatters, lithic scatters, open habitations, and kill/butchering.

In recent times, the South Skunk River in Story County has been used for recreation by anglers, canoeists, kayakers, and tubers. The thirty-eight miles of river is divided into eleven segments by river access points.



Source: Iowa Department of Natural Resources





The water trail passes through three communities (Story City, Ames, and Cambridge). Two low-head and one sheet pile dams are located on the South Skunk River in Story County. Story City Park has a sheet pile dam that is impassable to paddlers during most water conditions. Several attempts to modify the structure for fish and paddler passage have been unsuccessful. The General Filter/Hannum’s Mill Dam is located slightly upstream of Sleepy Hollow Access. The 13th Street dam is located in North River Valley Park and owned by the City of Ames. Paddler hazard warning signs exist for all three obstructions. A portage route was constructed around the General Filter/Hannum’s Mill and the 13th Street dam in 2013 by Conservation Corps volunteers and Iowa DNR staff.



Water Trail Experience Types

A set of Iowa criteria established in 2010 is applied to guide classification of state designated segments. This experience classification system allows paddlers to match water trail routes with their ability level. These criteria also help water trail managers, sponsors and trail volunteers select a classification assignment for each segment based on their management resources and abilities. State-designated water trails in Iowa are designed to provide four basic types of experiences: Gateway, Recreational, Challenge, and Wilderness.



• Gateway Experience Segments:

At normal flow conditions, these segments provide the most predictable experience for paddlers.

• Recreational Experience Segments:

Recreational experiences generally require more skill and experience compared to Gateway segments.

• Challenge Experience Segments:

These segments are not for beginners. At normal flow conditions, paddlers will experience a moderate to high number of hazards including logjams, rapids, the potential for high waves, or limited egress.

• Wilderness Experience Segments:

The goal of this classification is to provide users with all that is possible in the state in terms of wilderness experience with minimal human-made distractions and amenities.



According to the Water Trail Plan, the entire length of the South Skunk River in Story County can remain in its current classification as a Recreational use classification with one exception. The rapids created at the North River Valley Park dam modification site will likely create Challenge experience classification conditions. Additionally, with enhancement, one segment has the potential to be converted to a Gateway classification.

The Sleepy Hollow to North River Valley segment is an ideal length for a Gateway classification but requires enhancement. The 2.9 mile length of the segment makes it an ideal shorter distance for beginners and novices. Its juxtaposition in Ames relates well to the urban context, interpretation and service expectations of this experience classification. Upgrades would be necessary to both accesses as well as channel conditions.

The water trail for the South Skunk River spells out improvements of many kinds including larger parking lots and better accesses to the river. It also talks at length about the natural resources of the river.





From the Draft Water Trail Plan to be completed in 2016:

“As much as further developing recreation potential, the water trail sponsor (SCC) shares the values of resource protection held by the state program. They see one of the primary purposes of the water trail as a means to further conservation on and near the river and to communicate this to users. Conditions will be protected for the already high diversity of bird and mussel species. Greater attention on natural channel restoration to reduce mass channel wasting and mid-channel deposition will occur. And the expansion of diverse riparian plantings will create a continuous perennial buffer on the water trail route. In the long term, previously channelized segments of the river can serve as candidates for stream mitigation. Eventually, trail and greenspace connections between Ames and the Story - Polk county line along the South Skunk are desired. Additional goals include diverse resource enhancement of the river corridor including permanent protection of critical cultural and historic resources, river edge riparian forests, is to make gains in water quality enhancement in Story County. Bacteria and biologically impaired reaches of the river in Story County impact river users and have the potential to influence the quality of aquatic habitat.”



Source: Wagner, M., L. Buscher, J. Wilson. 2016. For the love of a river: South Skunk Water Trail Plan. Des Moines: Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

Natural Resource and Recreation Inventory

Substantial information pertaining to Story County's geology, vegetation, soil, and wildlife has been gathered and analyzed to better understand the natural resources found under, on, and above the land surface. Recreation resources have also been mapped. To portray this information, a series of maps have been created, and will be elaborated upon further throughout the Chapter.

Use of the Inventory

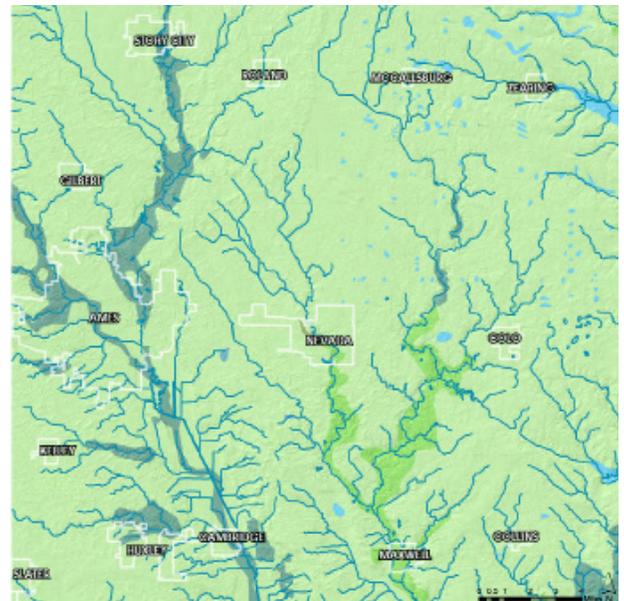
With the use of inventory data from the Story County GIS Department, as well as the Iowa Department of Natural Resources GIS Library (NRGIS), patterns of geographic significance become clear, and help aid in determining natural resource goals and opportunities as well as locations for future growth in Story County.

Utilizing this inventory data, the following maps were created:

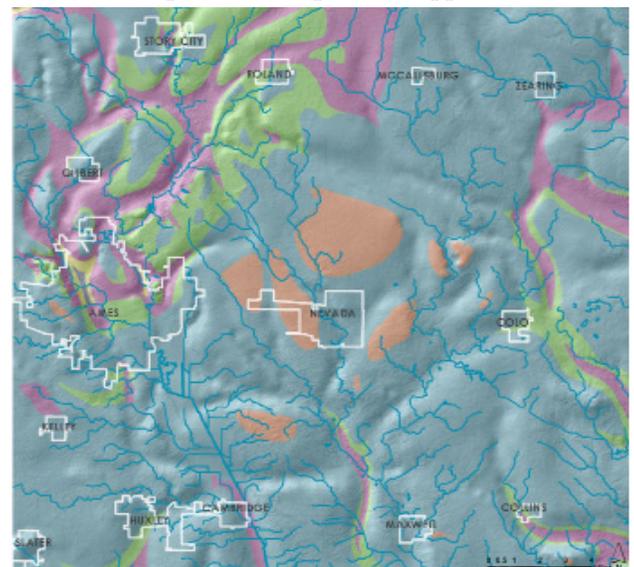
- City Annexation and Land Area Map
- Story County Base Map
- Existing Trails Map
- Surface Geology Map
- Bedrock Geology
- Slope Analysis Map
- Soil Types Map
- Soil Categories Map
- Soil-Based Corn Yield Map
- Soil-Based Soybean Yield Map
- Hydric Soils Map
- HUC 8 Watersheds Map
- HUC 10 Watersheds Map
- HUC 12 Watersheds Map
- Floodplains, Wind Turbines, and Quarries Map
- Greenways Map
- Historic Vegetation Types Map
- Current Land Cover Map
- Prairie Land Map
- Vegetation Type Map
- Aquifer Map
- Habitat Map
- Wildlife Corridors Map
- Drainage Districts Map
- Landscape Types Map
- Existing Land Use Map

The selection of resources for this study was based primarily on the availability of data and the significance of these resources in land planning.

Each of the maps in Appendix D is accompanied by a brief description, as well as a legend. This information is presented to help resource users gain a basic understanding of Story County's natural and recreation resources. This is one of the first steps in the process of future land use decision-making.



Story County Historic Vegetation
(Full Map and Description in Appendix D)



Story County Geology
(Full Map and Description in Appendix D)



Natural Resource Analysis

Information for this Chapter was gleaned from the August 1975 Natural Resource Analysis conducted for the county by the Land Use Analysis Laboratory. Findings presented in this analysis provided substantial base information and analysis for this inventory. Through more recent exploration and analysis, new findings have been discovered through this review process and are discussed below.

Land Cover

Through land cover analysis mapping, the historic land cover of Story County (1873) was much different than it is today. In 1873, as much as 332,505 acres of prairie existed, which encompasses over 90% of the Story County's land. Today, the majority of the land that was historically prairie has been converted into cropland.

Additionally, Story County historically had as much as 3,307 acres of marsh/wetland. Similar to the loss of prairie land, the majority of these wetlands were drained and converted into agricultural land. Therefore, one of the key conservation of natural resources goals of Story County is to protect and enhance the diversity, dynamics, distributions, habitats, and behaviors of Story County's native plant and animal populations.

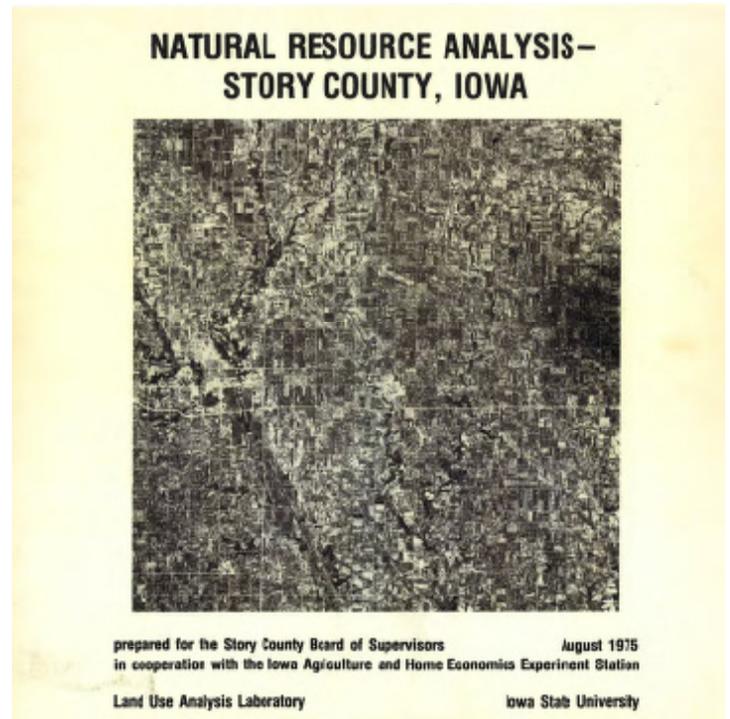
Water Quality

Another key finding has been the poor conditions of some of our county's water bodies. Impaired streams and rivers can be found on the Story County watershed maps, as well as on the Story County aquifer map.

To improve these conditions and prevent other water bodies from further degradation, Story County strives to preserve, protect, restore, and enhance the ground water and surface waters through best management practices and conservation practices for agriculture.

Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Analysis maps helped identify environmentally sensitive areas within the County. This includes areas located within the floodplain, areas with particularly steep slopes, habitat areas, and areas with hydric soils. A thorough flora and fauna inventory of sensitive and potentially sensitive



1975 Story County Natural Resource Analysis



areas, which was not possible through GIS analysis, should be done. Story County will work to preserve, protect, and limit development within these identified areas.

Trails and Greenways

Through mapping the existing Story County trails and greenways, it has become evident that gaps within the trail system exist, and that certain areas of the County are not fully served.

As a result, a proposed trails and greenways expansion plan and map have been created based upon the input from community members, Conservation Board members, and various interest groups.

Residential and Commercial Development

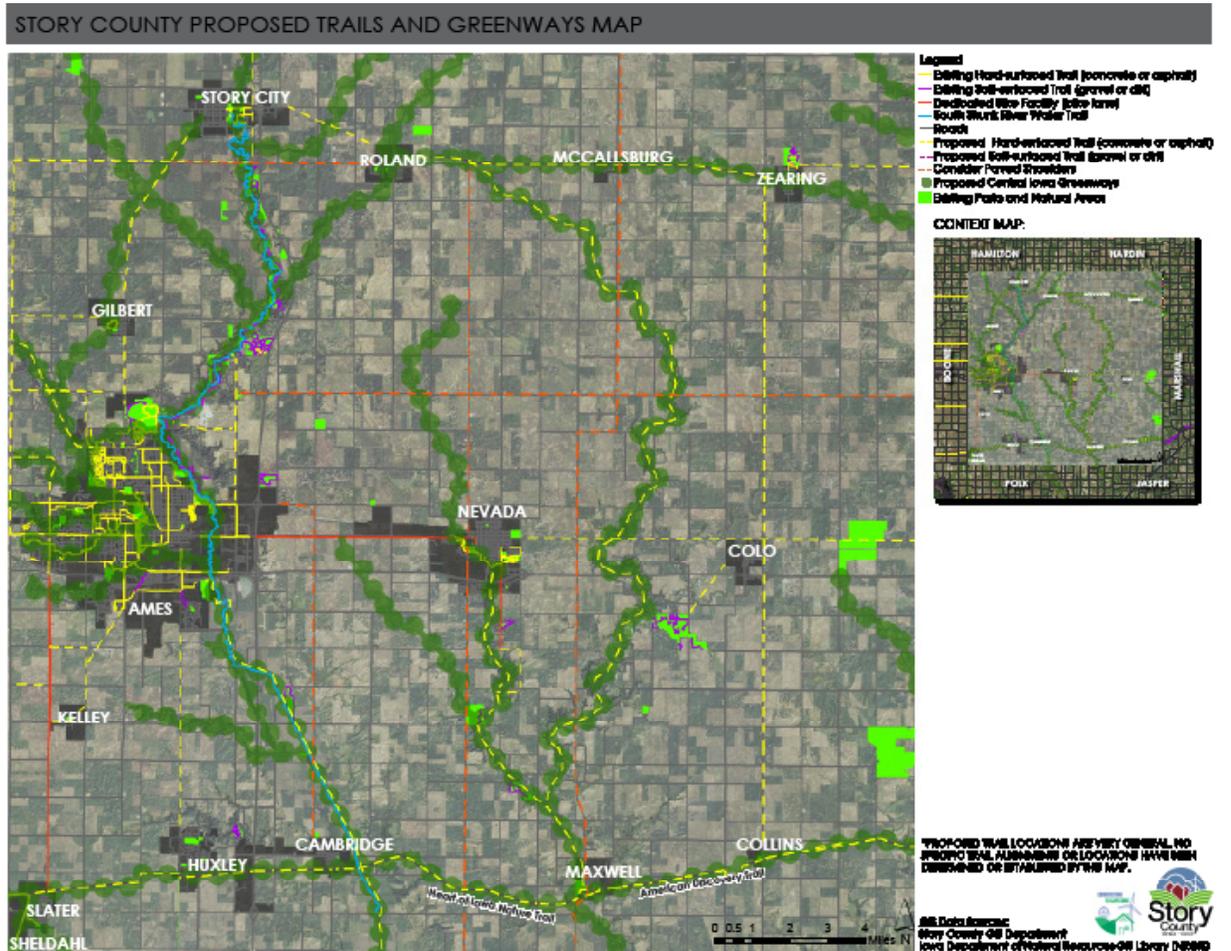
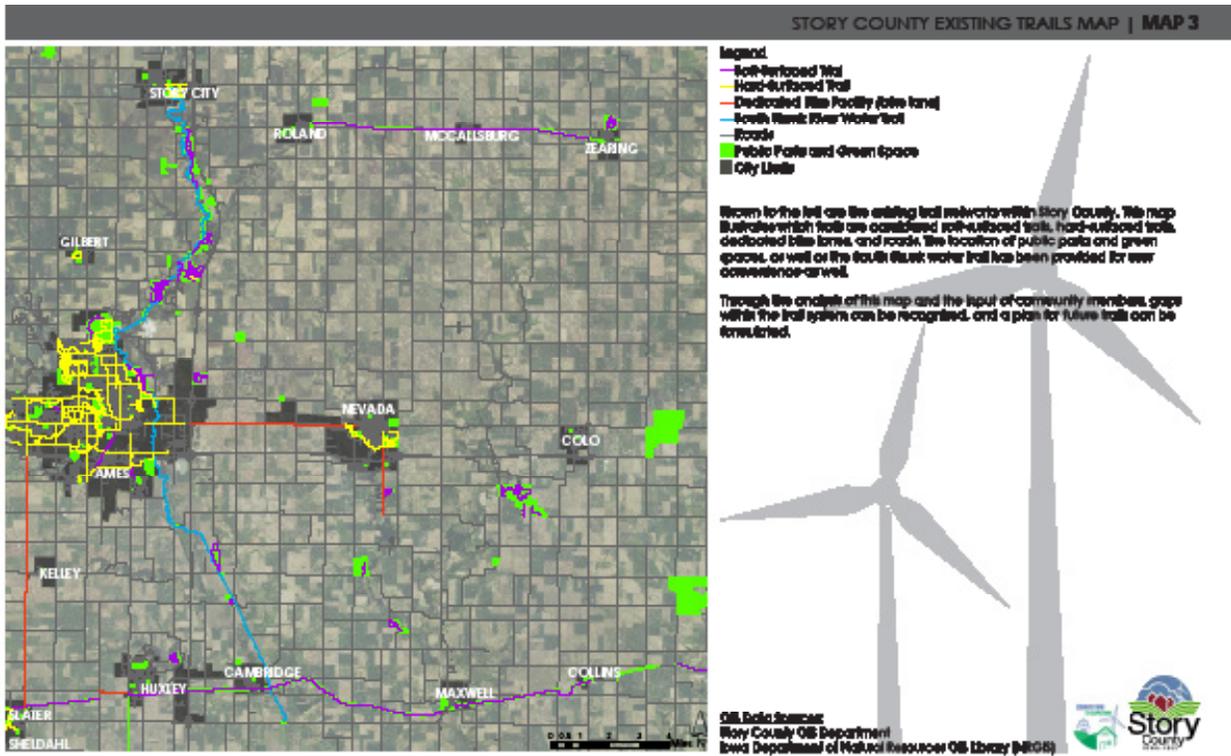
The inventory reveals the amount and patterns of growth and development that have occurred over time. As seen in the land cover and land use maps, a large amount of residential and commercial development has been established within municipalities. These developments often increase the amount of impervious surfaces in the county, increasing runoff and decreasing the quality of the natural environment.

Therefore, Story County strives for future development to be well-planned and aligned with smart growth principles and practices to preserve sensitive and agriculturally valuable land.

Soil

The analysis of county soils illustrates locations of valuable, nutrient rich soils that exist in much of Story County. The types and locations of these soils help determine where future growth and development should or should not occur. The analysis reveals areas of high potential for soil loss. Soil conservation practices should focus on these areas.





Conditions and Needs

The August 1975 Natural Resource Analysis served as the foundation for this Chapter, building upon the data and study assembled by its authors. Of particular note, the landscape type map was created based on the landscape types information and map from the 1975 analysis. The following section contains key findings and points that were made in the 1975 analysis.

“Land use planning at any level - local, multi-county, or statewide - must begin with a realistic inventory of natural resources to be matched against the needs and goals of the people. With data on kinds and amounts of land and water resources, on their suitability for different uses, and on their spatial relationships, it is possible to meet human and economic needs and at the same time maintain or improve the quality of the environment.”

(Upper Explorerland Resource Conservation and Development Project, Land Use Committee, 1973)

The following analysis of individual resources identified in areas of Story County may be important environmentally or economically; may contain either unique or non-renewable resources; or may impose development limitations.

Floodplains

Areas of greatest concern are primarily floodplains, with geologic and soil limitations; and valley walls, with geologic, soil, vegetation, and wildlife limitations. On the uplands, areas of greatest concern are the smaller and more discontinuous pothole, peat, and mulch areas, and the areas of tree cover, marsh, or prairie remnants.

Geologic Resources

The study of geologic resources is a necessary part of a natural resources assessment. The protection and use of Story County’s geologic resources depends not only on wise resource management, but also on the planning and location of future land uses.





Habitat

Existing woodland, marsh, and early successional areas are extremely important habitat types. These areas of low human use contain the greatest diversity of vegetation species and forms, and offer a variety of needed food and cover. Consequently, these areas which support the greatest wildlife populations and have the greatest species diversity should be protected.

Slopes

Development on steep slopes should be restricted because of erosion and slippage problems. Geologic, water, soil, vegetation, and wildlife resources provide the residents of Story County with the necessities of food and water, as well as scenic enjoyment and recreation opportunities.

Soil

Soil characteristics can often indicate potential hazards and costs associated with a particular development. Costs of land development could be minimized through proper use of soils information. Construction in areas of low bearing capacity may be more costly over time because buildings and roads may crack due to uneven settling. Low areas on the uplands are subject to short-term flooding, and the flood hazard on stream bottoms is even more severe.

Vegetation

In all vegetation planning and management decisions, the effects on soil and water resources should be of prime consideration. Vegetation is important as permanent cover, which protects soil and water resources by decreasing soil erosion and water runoff and by increasing infiltration. Invasive vegetation has a detrimental effect on native plant and wildlife communities. Invasive species should be removed or minimized.

Water

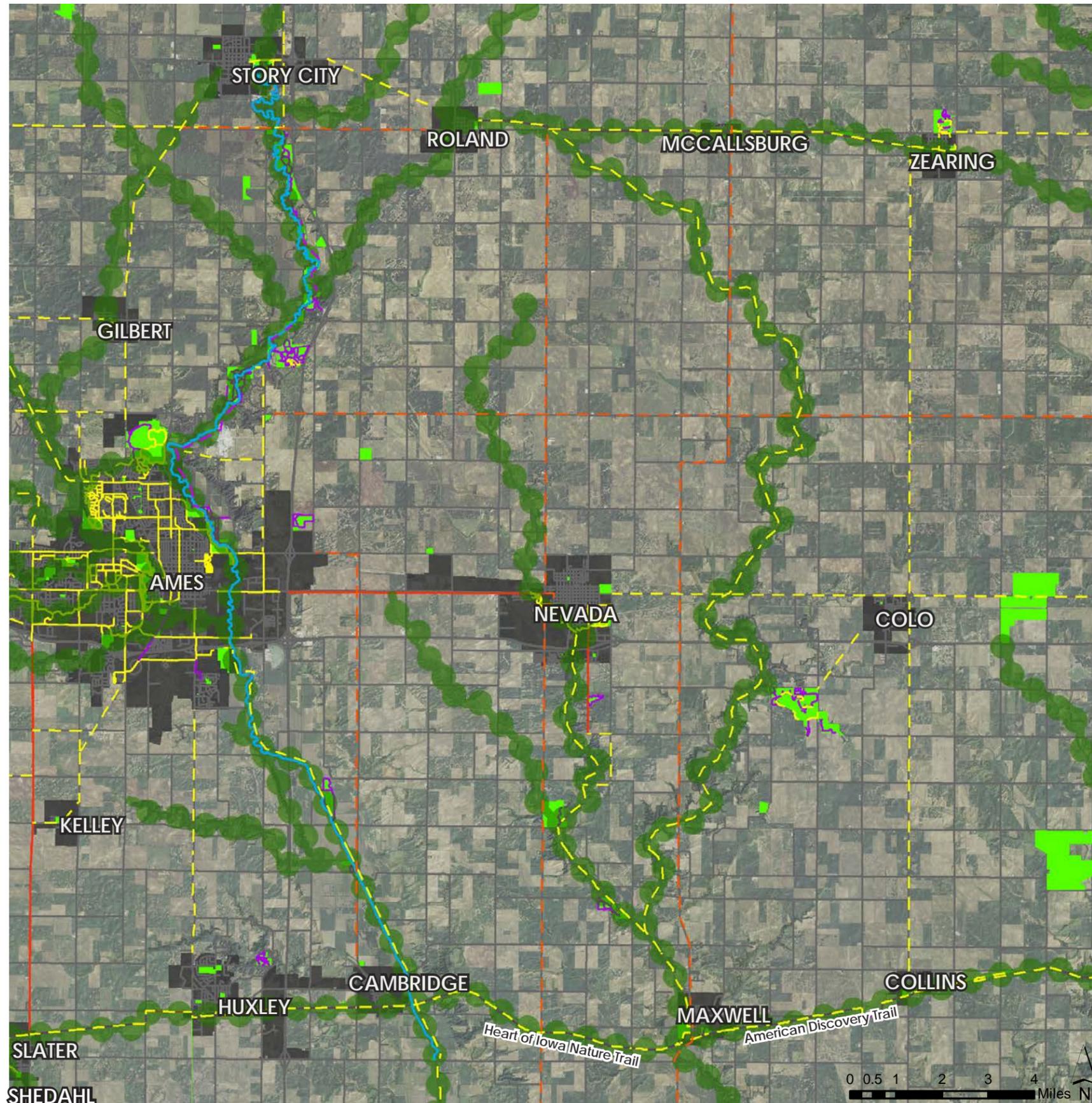
Potable water availability and quality are important considerations in resource planning. Because alluvial and buried channel aquifers provide approximately one-half of the public water supply in Story County, they are primary factors in directing future growth and ensuring that water remains a sustainable resource.

The objectives and strategies for preserving, protecting, and restoring Story County's natural resources strive to be similar to those declared in the California Environmental Quality Act:

“Take all action necessary to protect, rehabilitate and enhance the environmental quality of the state... Take all action necessary to provide the people of this state with clean air and water, enjoyment of aesthetic, natural, scenic, and historic environmental qualities, and freedom from excessive noise... Prevent the elimination of fish or wildlife species due to man's activities, ensure that fish and wildlife populations do not drop below self-perpetuating levels, and preserve for future generations representations of all plant and animal communities and examples of the major periods of California history... Ensure that long term protection of the environment shall be the guiding criterion in public decisions.”

(California Environmental Quality Act - Section 21000).

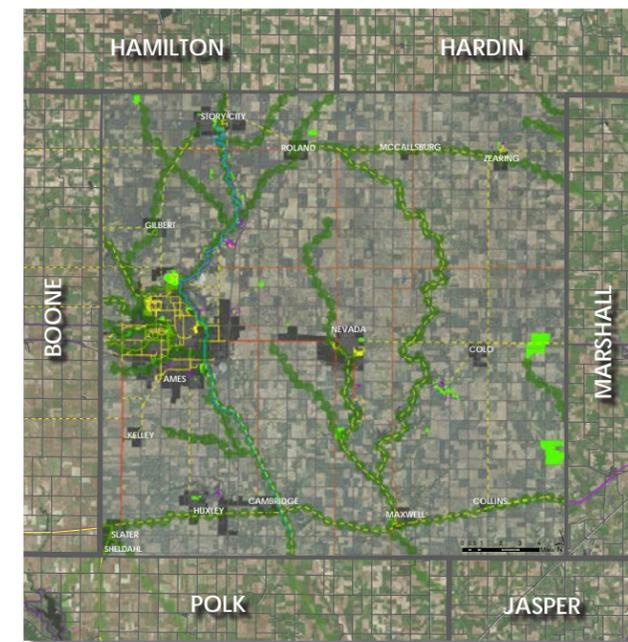
Together, the inventoried data, analysis, and studies can assist in planning for resource utilization, conservation, or preservation. As new land use issues and needs arise, the application of this system will help ensure a high quality natural environment and high quality of life for the people of Story County.



Legend

- Existing Hard-surfaced Trail (concrete or asphalt)
- Existing Soft-surfaced Trail (gravel or dirt)
- Dedicated Bike Facility (bike lane)
- South Skunk River Water Trail
- Roads
- Proposed Hard-surfaced Trail (concrete or asphalt)
- Proposed Soft-surfaced Trail (gravel or dirt)
- Consider Paved Shoulders
- Proposed Central Iowa Greenways
- Existing Parks and Natural Areas

CONTEXT MAP:



GIS Data Sources:
 Story County GIS Department
 Iowa Department of Natural Resources GIS Library (NRGIS)



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Appendix A
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Appendix D

Land Use

This Chapter outlines land use goals, objectives, and strategies, defines land use designations, and describes the desired future land uses for Story County.

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Land Use Planning

Planning for future land uses allows Story County to determine the best locations for future growth and development within the county. Good land use planning involves community engagement, wise natural resource management, and accurate projections in relation to where and how growth will and should occur. Furthermore, it is important to establish unique characteristics of the area, themes to implement, and types of land use strategies to help build upon that character. The following goals and strategies help guide the decision-making process as Story County continues to grow and prosper.

The Legal Authority for Zoning

Story County, Iowa, is authorized to regulate land use and development through its right to zone in accordance with a comprehensive plan under the Code of Iowa Chapter 335.5. Additionally, there is authority granted to counties to conduct land use planning under Chapter 352 of the Code addressing agricultural preservation and the right to farm. Within the context of this authority, the Story County Board of Supervisors and Planning and Zoning Commission created the Cornerstone to Capstone Plan to guide land use and development activities in unincorporated Story County.

Goals and Strategies

Land Use Goal 1

Identify and map areas to guide future development in unincorporated Story County.

Strategies

- Classify the following designations on the Future Land Use Map: Agricultural Conservation Area, Natural Resource Area, Rural Residential Area, Rural Village Area, Urban Expansion Area, and Commercial-Industrial Area.
- Through ongoing communications with Story County's communities, annually review the Future Land Use Map to ensure designations remain relevant and serve to guide growth and development.
- Adopt or amend implementation measures necessary to fully implement the goals and strategies of the Future Land Use Map and the Cornerstone to Capstone (C2C) Plan.





Land Use Goal 2

Preserve, protect, and plan around the physical characteristics of the land, including floodplains, steep slopes, wetlands, rich soils, and rare geologic or environmental characteristics.

Strategies

- Designate natural resources, including inventoried Sensitive Areas as Natural Resource Areas on the Future Land Use Map. As new areas are inventoried, amend the Future Land Use Map accordingly.
- Establish strategies to ensure preservation and protection of the aggregate resources and deposits such as gravel and sand located in Story County from encroachment by incompatible uses.
- Continue to implement a strong floodplain management program that incorporates regulations, mapping, permitting requirements, and participation in the Community Rating System to accommodate flood water and mitigate risks achieving the following:
 - Educates residents about flood hazards.
 - Provides information about flood insurance.
 - Implements policies and measures that protect people and property from flood hazards.
 - Requires responsible building practices.
 - Protects the natural floodplain functions.



Land Use Goal 3

Consider the availability and capacity of local services and infrastructure when determining future land uses.

Strategies

- Encourage new urban density development within city boundaries or within appropriately planned locations as designated on the Future Land Use Map.
- Locate commercial and industrial uses in urban areas except where uses have specific requirements which justify a potential location in rural areas.
- Establish Minimum Levels of Service (MLS) requirements to ensure that adequate public facilities and services are available, or can be provided, to new development.
- Encourage future land uses that efficiently match the capacity of the existing transportation system.



5.1 GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND STRATEGIES

Land Use Goal 4

Evaluate short and long-term financial impacts to the County budget when considering development proposals.

Strategies

- Review proposed subdivisions in Rural Residential Areas on a case-by-case basis.
- Establish location guidelines for Story County to follow in the review process for new subdivisions within Rural Residential Area or Urban Expansion Area.

Land Use Goal 5

Establish open space buffers or greenways that provide connectivity from one city to the next.

Strategies

- When adjacent to agricultural areas or natural resources, minimize development impacts through transitional uses, edge treatments, and other appropriate measures.
- As part of ongoing communications with communities, define appropriate community separation strategies that help the community to sustain its identity.
- To create linkages within Story County, coordinate trails and transportation improvements identified through the C2C Plan with development proposals located in close proximity to communities.

Land Use Goal 6

Continue to protect and preserve Story County's agricultural resources for current and future generations.

Strategies

- Promote the use of conservation practices to protect agricultural land and water quality.
- Promote the long term value of agriculture through voluntary, incentive-based programs and strategies, and identify partners to facilitate the creation and use of such programs.
- Conduct best management practice test studies and experiments on water quality improvement projects.

Minimum Level of Service (MLS)

Story County residents rely on facilities and services to define and maintain their quality of life, health, and well-being. Public facilities and services are often taken for granted. Yet, without coordination and conscientious planning for future growth, facilities and services may be interrupted or inadequate. Existing facilities and services must be able to support new development or provisions for improvements must be made where deficiencies exist.

Minimum levels of service (MLS) requirements regarding public facilities and services will help ensure that Story County strives to maintain the quality of life for existing and future development. Levels of service standards are usually quantifiable measures of the amount of provided public facilities or services and measure the quality of some public facilities. Levels of service standards are measures of the quality of life of Story County. The standards should be based on the vision for our future and our values.

Following adoption of the C2C Plan, as part of the Plan's implementation strategies, minimum levels of service requirements will be identified and adopted as a component of Story County's development review process.



- Continue to foster land strategies and regulations that conserve the productivity and availability of high value agricultural lands for the production of food and fiber.
- Seek to reduce conflicts that may arise between development and agricultural practices.



Land Use Goal 7

Identify and preserve areas of historical and cultural significance.

Strategies

- Develop a preservation plan that includes an inventory of potentially culturally and/or historically-significant properties and establishes strategies for their use and preservation.
- Encourage the preservation and renovation of existing structures, neighborhoods, or districts that may qualify as designated historic landmarks.



Land Use Goal 8

Ensure that land use transitions are gradual or designed to reduce potential incompatibilities among land uses.

Strategies

- Establish design and development standards to enhance collaboration between development, agriculture, and natural and recreation resources.
- Design new residential development to maintain the rural character and protect sensitive environmental features and agricultural uses.
- Ensure new development is setback an adequate distance from existing and proposed major utility transmission lines and pipelines.



Future Land Use Map and Designations

To facilitate the orderly development, use, and preservation of land in unincorporated Story County, the County established a Future Land Use Map with a set of land use designations and strategies specific to each designation. These designations relate to certain zoning districts. The definition and identification of future land use designations shown on the Future Land Use Map are:

Agricultural Conservation Area:

These areas encompass large areas of highly valuable farmland, with farming and agricultural production as the primary activity.

Natural Resource Area:

Natural areas, floodplains, green spaces, and parks help create open space linkages between the countryside and communities and make up this designation. The Future Land Use Map identifies certain natural features in the county in order to preserve unique habitats, natural or sensitive areas, as well as open and recreational spaces.

Rural Residential Area:

The Rural Residential Area designation offers the rural housing market segment choices in the unincorporated areas of the county. They are characterized by residential land uses adapted for a rural or agricultural setting at low, non-urban densities. Urban level services are not provided in these areas, and these are not priority areas for infrastructure development.

Rural Village Area:

Existing areas characterized by a variety of land uses in one location are designated as Rural Village Area. These areas have unique land use patterns that provide valued and established services for citizens in Story County. Roads in these areas are generally platted as right-of-way and maintained by Story County. The uses are served by private wastewater treatment systems (septic) and private water sources – wells and rural water systems. As shown on the Future Land Use Map, these areas contain the rural villages of Iowa Center, Shipley, and Fernald.

Commercial-Industrial Area:

The Commercial-Industrial Area designation supports the long-term planning objective of accommodating future demand for types of commercial and industrial growth

that may be best located in a rural setting outside of an urbanized area.

Urban Expansion Area:

The Urban Expansion Area designation reflects those areas identified by certain communities as future growth areas. Development proposed in these areas should be encouraged to be annexed into the neighboring city in order for an urban level of service to be provided. Proposed land use and regulations should comply with that city's plans and standards as appropriate.

Ames Urban Fringe Area:

The Ames Urban Fringe Area designation is the planning area defined in the Ames Urban Fringe Plan that lies within two miles of the official boundary of the cities of Ames, as it existed in 2006. The Ames Urban Fringe Plan is implemented through a 28E agreement between Ames, Gilbert, and Story County. The Plan addresses proposed future land uses within the planning area. The process for proposed development proposals and changes occurring therein. The Future Land Use Map incorporates by reference all land uses shown on the Ames Urban Fringe Plan – Land Use Framework Map.



Zoning Compatibility Matrix

(ZONING DISTRICTS FOR UNINCORPORATED AREAS)

FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATIONS	A-1	A-2	A-R	R-1	R-2	RMH	C-LI	HI	GB-C	R-M	R-C
AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION AREA	●	●	●								
NATURAL RESOURCE AREA									●		●
RURAL RESIDENTIAL AREA			●	●	●	●					●
RURAL VILLAGE AREA			●	●	●	●	●			●	
COMMERCIAL-INDUSTRIAL AREA		●					●	●		●	
URBAN EXPANSION AREA				●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Establishment of Zoning Districts

1. In order to carry out the purpose and intent of the Ordinance, the unincorporated area of Story County, Iowa, is hereby divided into the following base district classifications:

- A-1 Agricultural District
- A-2 Argibusiness District
- A-R Agricultural Residential District
- R-1 Transitional Residential District
- R-2 Urban Residential District
- RMH Residential Manufactured Housing District
- C-LI Commercial/Light Industrial District
- HI Heavy Industrial
- GB-C Greenbelt-Conservation District

2. In addition to the base districts identified above, the following overlay districts are established.

- R-M Residential/Mixed-Use (Overlay) District
- R-C Residential/Conservation Design (Overlay) District

Excerpted from the Story County, Iowa Code of Ordinances, Chapter 86.

AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION AREA

Agricultural Conservation Area





Agricultural Conservation Area

Farming and agricultural production is the primary component of the Agricultural Conservation Area. More than 90% of the unincorporated land area of Story County is used for agricultural purposes. Nearly 80% of the land is classified as “high value” agricultural land, according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) definitions. In regard to soil productivity, topography, rural character, availability of agricultural support services, and isolation from incompatible land uses, the majority of unincorporated Story County is prime land for agricultural activities.

Preservation and enhancement of valuable agricultural land has continually remained a top priority in Story County. Existing State and Federal policies recognize that prime agricultural land is a resource to be protected. Farms are significant historic and economic elements in Story County and play a large role in the quality of life to many county residents.

The following principles help guide future land use decisions regarding the Agricultural Conservation Area:

Principle 1:

Conserving agricultural land, as well as agricultural practices, is a fundamental principle in Story County. Areas are identified, conserved, and enhanced within the county for farming practices and agricultural production.

Principle 2:

Continue to work towards strategies that promote alternative agricultural methods that work in harmony with conventional operations. A variety of farm types is a good thing.

Principle 3:

Encourage high-value agricultural lands to remain as agricultural and discourage non-agricultural development of such lands. Direct future non-agricultural development toward the designated Urban Expansion, Rural Residential, Rural Village, and Commercial-Industrial Area designations on the Future Land Use Map.

Principle 4:

Design areas identified for development to limit conflicts between agricultural uses and rural residences and other types of land uses. Through development practices preserve and protect prime agricultural lands and the ability to engage in agricultural activities.

Principle 5:

Promote the continued health of agriculture through an ongoing planning process to identify partnerships and develop voluntary, incentive-based programs and strategies.

NATURAL RESOURCE AREA





Natural Resource Area

Certain aspects of the county, including clean air, water, open spaces, native prairie, mature trees and fertile soil all contribute to the quality of life in Story County. Areas designated as Natural Resource Area illustrate natural resource elements which present limitations to development and/or contain sensitive environmental conditions requiring special design and development standards when development is proposed. Chapter Four of this Plan defines goals and objectives to guide Story County with the identification and enhancement of natural resources and recreational opportunities within the county. As natural resources are identified as defined through Chapter 4, Story County will take steps necessary to amend the Natural Resource Area designation on the Future Land Use Map accordingly.

To help preserve Story County's natural resources, the following principles have been developed for the Natural Resource Area designation:

Principle 1:

Generally discourage development within these areas. In unique circumstances where appropriate development types may enhance the area, recognize and encourage such approaches.

Principle 2:

Mitigate impacts of proposed development contiguous to areas identified as Natural Resource Area.

Principle 3:

Consider areas identified as Natural Resource Area for inclusion in the Greenbelt-Conservation District of the Land Development Regulations and/or take necessary steps to ensure resource conservation through other mechanisms.

Principle 4:

Develop site planning and performance standards to apply to properties designated as Natural Resource Area not included in the Greenbelt-Conservation District and in which limited development may occur.

RURAL RESIDENTIAL AREA





Rural Residential Area

The Rural Residential Area offers rural housing market choices in unincorporated areas of Story County, typically with larger lot sizes than available within city limits. The existing residential land uses that are found in rural Story County provide a desirable housing market worthy of both protection and cultivation.

In certain circumstances, some rural residential developments will not have full range of public utilities or may be limited such as lacking public sector sewer, natural gas and paved roads. Types of services such as water, wastewater, roads, utilities and others normally provided for development when it occurs inside a city are likely not available or, at the minimum, not available at “urban” levels in the Rural Residential Area. Story County does not identify these areas for infrastructure development and/or improvement.

The following principles have been developed for the Rural Residential Area designation:

Principle 1:

Ensure that new development is sensitive to the predominantly rural nature of the areas.

Principle 2:

Encourage clustering of residential sites to limit the short-term and long-term costs associated with infrastructure improvements and the distribution of public services.

Principle 3:

Review design and development standards to ensure that conflicts between proposed development and agricultural and natural resources are minimized. Design new residential development to maintain the open character of rural areas and to protect and maintain agricultural uses and sensitive environmental features.

Principle 4:

When development is adjacent to agricultural uses, provide adequate buffers to minimize conflicts.

Principle 5:

Locate proposed subdivisions on a case-by-case basis. Establish and use location guidelines in the review process for new rural subdivisions.

Principle 6:

Encourage proposed development to take access off existing paved roads unless it can be demonstrated that Minimum Levels of Service requirements may be met or development can mitigate impacts.

Principle 7:

Mitigate and manage stormwater run-off, soil erosion, and wastewater discharge according to IDNR and Story County standards.

RURAL VILLAGE AREA





Rural Village Area

Rural Village Areas are existing developed areas within unincorporated Story County characterized by a variety of land uses existing in one location. At the time Story County was platted, these areas were platted at urban-level densities, similar to incorporated towns with blocks and lots. These areas have some existing residential platted lots, some lots with homes from older housing stock, while other lots are vacant and appropriate for future development. The opportunity exists for Rural Village Areas to become vital places that serve many of the social, economic, and cultural needs of the area's rural residents.

With this mix of uses, these areas provide valued services for adjacent areas. Future development, infrastructure, and services in these areas focus on minimizing impacts outside of these areas and enhancing the support that they provide to nearby residents and businesses.

The following principles have been developed for the Rural Village Area Designation:

Principle 1:

Continue to promote improvements and re-investments.

Principle 2:

Support private efforts to seek grants and other sources of funding for the redevelopment and revitalization.

Principle 3:

Review design and development standards to ensure that conflicts between proposed development and agricultural and natural resources are minimized. Design new residential development to maintain the open character of rural areas and to protect and maintain agricultural uses and sensitive environmental features.

Principle 4:

When development is located adjacent to agricultural uses, provide adequate buffers to minimize conflicts with agricultural practices.

Principle 5:

Encourage proposed development to take access off existing paved roads unless it can be demonstrated that Minimum Levels of Service requirements may be met or development can mitigate impacts.

Principle 6:

Mitigate and manage stormwater run-off, soil erosion, and wastewater discharge according to IDNR and Story County standards.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL AREA





Commercial and Industrial Areas

The Commercial-Industrial Area designation supports the long term planning objective of accommodating future demand for types of commercial and industrial growth that may be best located in a rural setting outside of an urbanized area.

The following principles have been developed for the Commercial and Industrial Area designation:

Principle 1:

Give preference to clustering uses to limit short-term and long-term costs associated with infrastructure improvements and the distribution of public services.

Principle 2:

Support new commercial and industrial development within incorporated areas and areas where infrastructure exists and extensions are logical.

Principle 3:

Where appropriate, support expansion of existing and/or new industrial or commercial development when it can be demonstrated that agricultural and natural resources can be preserved and protected.

Principle 4:

Provide adequate buffers to agricultural uses with new development to minimize conflicts.

Principle 5:

Review design and development standards to ensure that conflicts between proposed development and agricultural and natural resources are minimized. Design new development to maintain the open character of rural areas and to protect and maintain agricultural uses and sensitive environmental features.

Principle 6:

Mitigate and manage stormwater run-off, soil erosion, and wastewater discharge according to IDNR and Story County standards.

Principle 7:

Encourage proposed development to take access off existing paved roads unless it can be demonstrated that Minimum Levels of Service requirements may be met or development can mitigate impacts.

URBAN EXPANSION AREA





Urban Expansion Area

Story County and all the communities share similar concerns about issues and impacts from development that occurs in areas surrounding the cities, such as:

- Overlapping regulations of different local jurisdictions;
- Inconsistencies among different land use strategies; and
- Impacts of development on rural/agricultural activities.

The Urban Expansion Area helps address issues that may arise in these areas of joint planning and coordination. The Urban Expansion Area designation reflects those areas identified by individual communities through the planning process as future growth areas and/or are mapped by the community with future land uses. Areas outside the Urban Expansion Area, however still within two miles of a community (and their two-mile statutory subdivision review authority pursuant to the Code of Iowa), represent areas that communities do not foresee growing into within the planning horizon of this Plan. As such, these areas are designated on the Future Land Use Map as a designation other than Urban Expansion Area.

Principle 1:

Development in the Urban Expansion Area occurs in accordance with the applicable city's future land use plans and goals.

Principle 2:

Encourage annexation when development is proposed.

Principle 3:

Where annexation is not appropriate at that time of a development proposal, coordinate a cooperative review/approval between Story County and the city according to the following standards:

1. Development occurs at an urban density/scale using city development standards where applicable.
2. Use conditional rezoning agreements and annexation agreements to ensure development is built so as to facilitate a seamless transition into the city when the area is annexed.

Principle 4:

Review design and development standards to ensure that conflicts between proposed development and agricultural and natural resources are minimized. Design new residential development to maintain the open character of rural areas and to protect and maintain agricultural uses and sensitive environmental features.

Principle 5:

When development is located adjacent to agricultural uses, provide adequate buffers to minimize conflicts.

Principle 6:

Encourage proposed development to take access off existing paved roads unless it can be demonstrated that Minimum Levels of Service requirements may be met or development can mitigate impacts.

Principle 7:

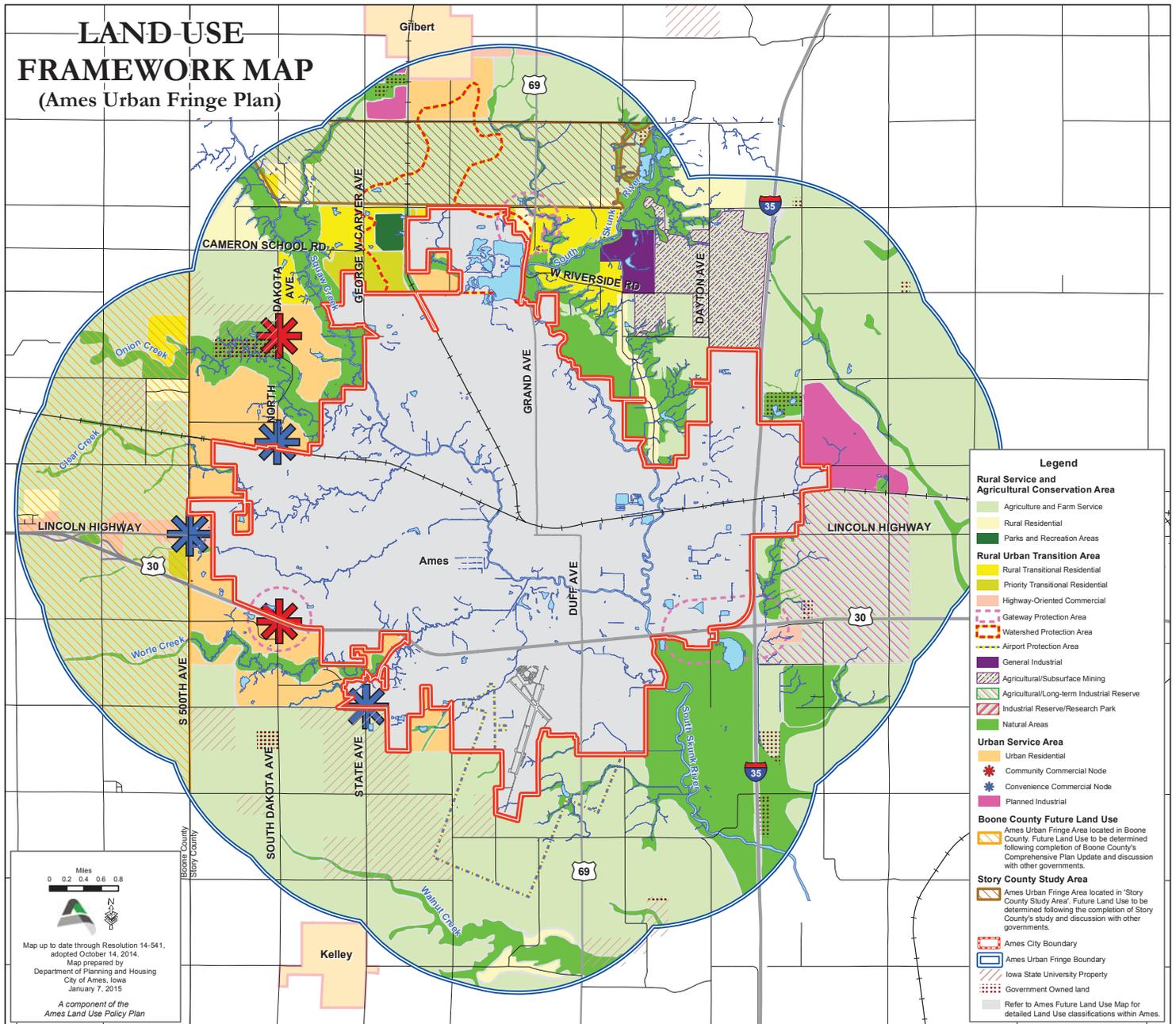
Mitigate and manage stormwater run-off, soil erosion, and wastewater discharge according to IDNR and Story County standards.

Principle 8:

Encourage clustering of residential sites with Urban Expansion Area designation to limit the short-term and long-term costs associated with infrastructure improvements and the distribution of public services.

AMES URBAN FRINGE AREA

LAND USE FRAMEWORK MAP (Ames Urban Fringe Plan)



(City of Ames, Iowa Urban Fringe Plan)



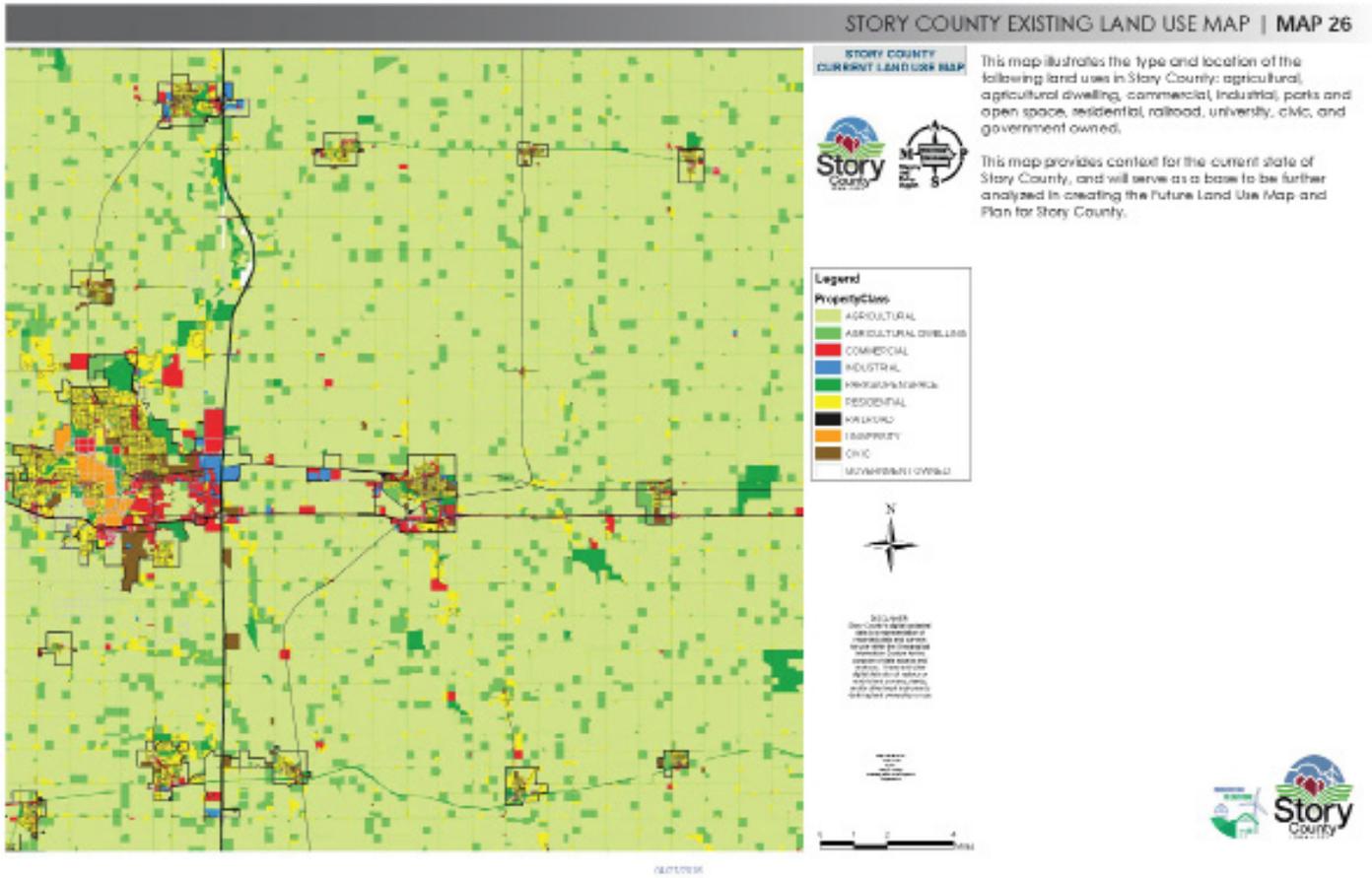
Ames Urban Fringe Area

The planning area defined in the Ames Urban Fringe Plan lies within two miles of the official boundary of the City of Ames, as it existed in 2006. The Ames Urban Fringe Plan is an agreement between Ames, Gilbert, and Story County addressing proposed future land uses within this planning area and addresses the process for proposed development proposals and changes. There are many different stakeholders in the identified planning area, each with unique purposes, positions, plans, and priorities for development. Inconsistencies, potential for conflict, and increased public costs spurred the need for a shared vision and planning practices within this fringe area.

The Future Land Use Map incorporates this Ames Urban Fringe Plan herein by reference and it is intended to be the guide for any zoning or development proposed within its boundary. The latest adopted version of the Fringe Plan should be examined when necessary.

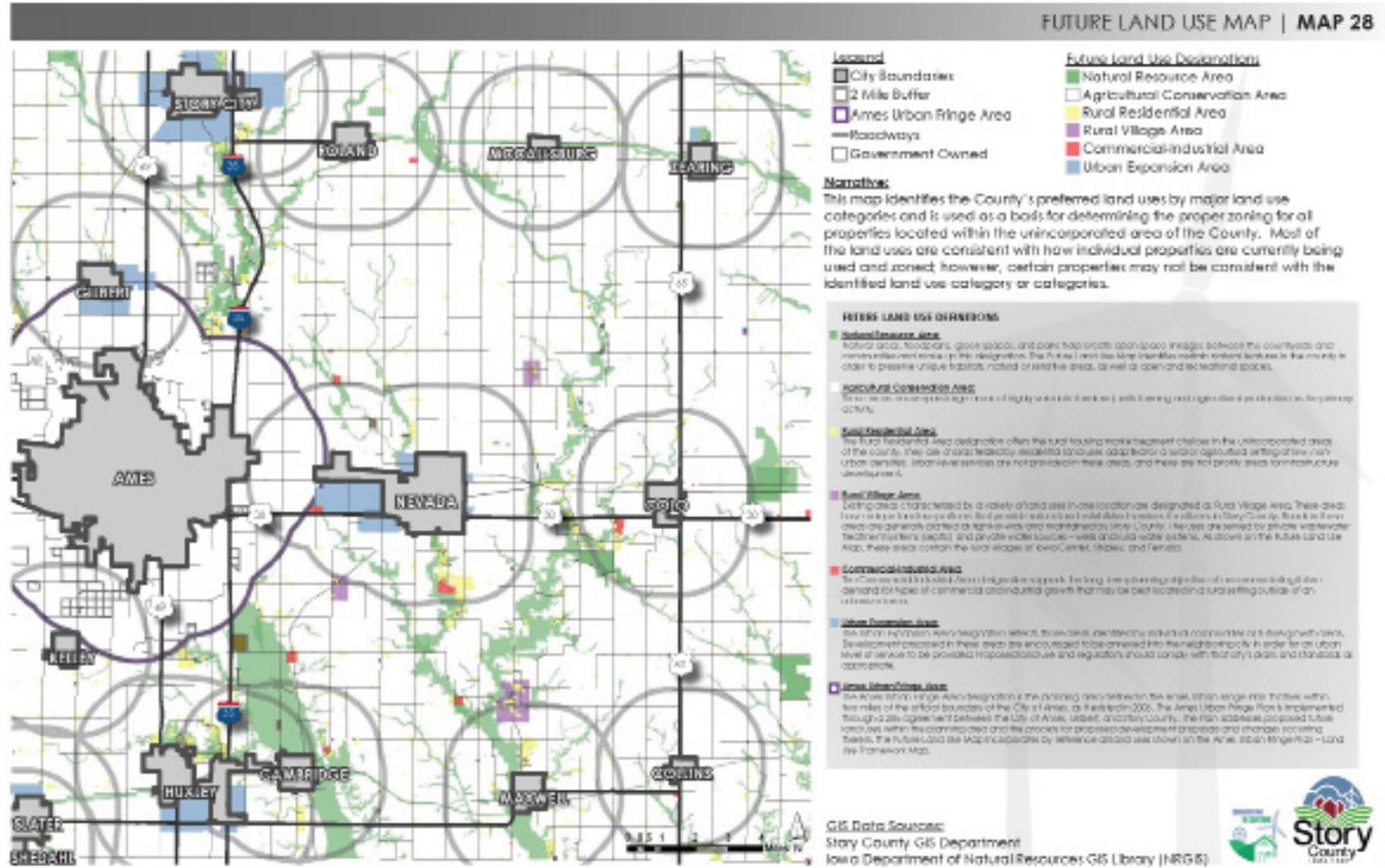
5.3 EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USE MAPS

Existing Land Use

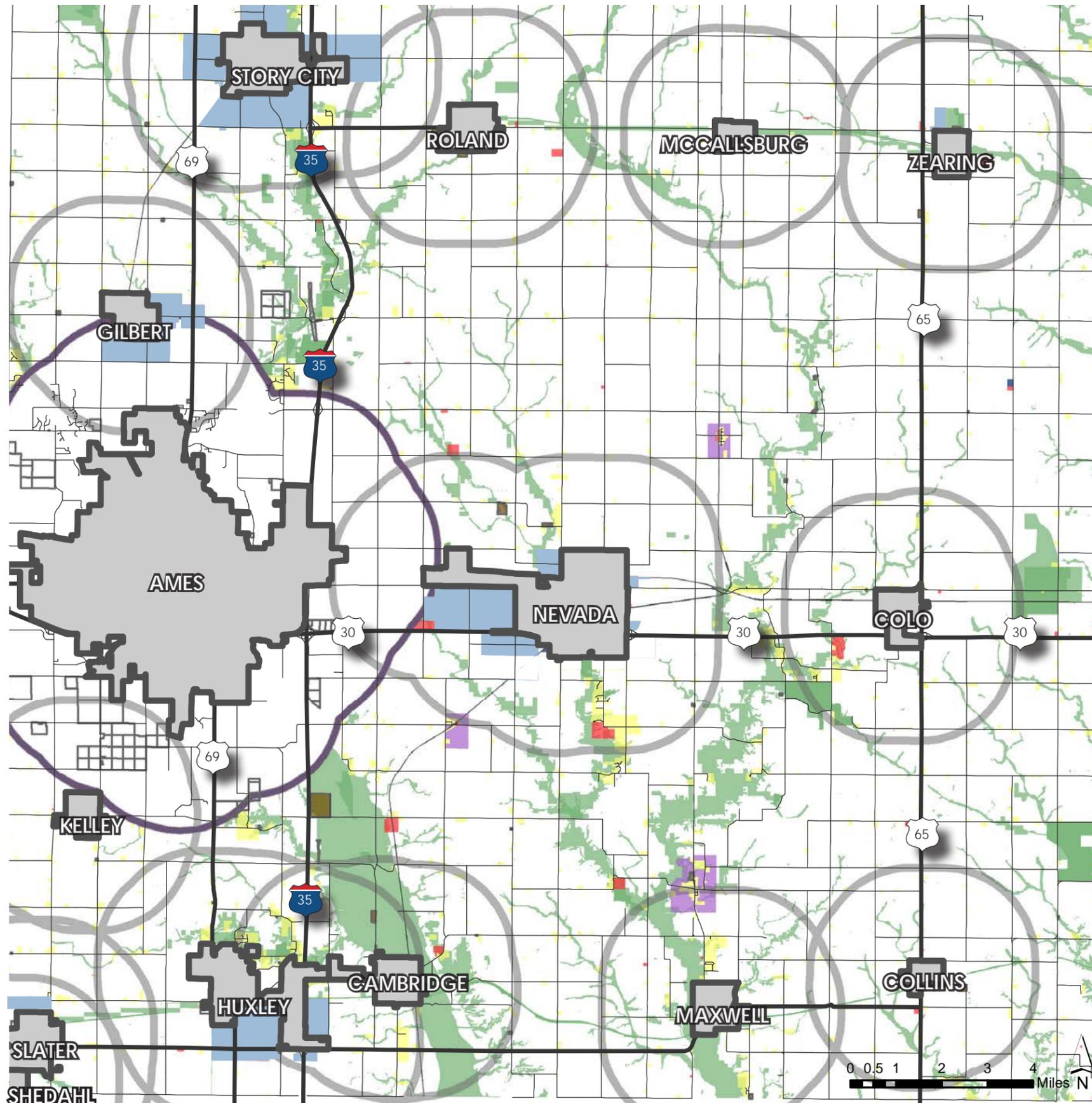


A full sized version of this map is included in Appendix D

Future Land Use



A full sized version of this map is included in Appendix D



Legend

- City Boundaries
- 2 Mile Buffer
- Ames Urban Fringe Area
- Roadways
- Government Owned

Future Land Use Designations

- Natural Resource Area
- Agricultural Conservation Area
- Rural Residential Area
- Rural Village Area
- Commercial-Industrial Area
- Urban Expansion Area

Narrative:

This map identifies the County's preferred land uses by major land use categories and is used as a basis for determining the proper zoning for all properties located within the unincorporated area of the County. Most of the land uses are consistent with how individual properties are currently being used and zoned; however, certain properties may not be consistent with the identified land use category or categories.

FUTURE LAND USE DEFINITIONS

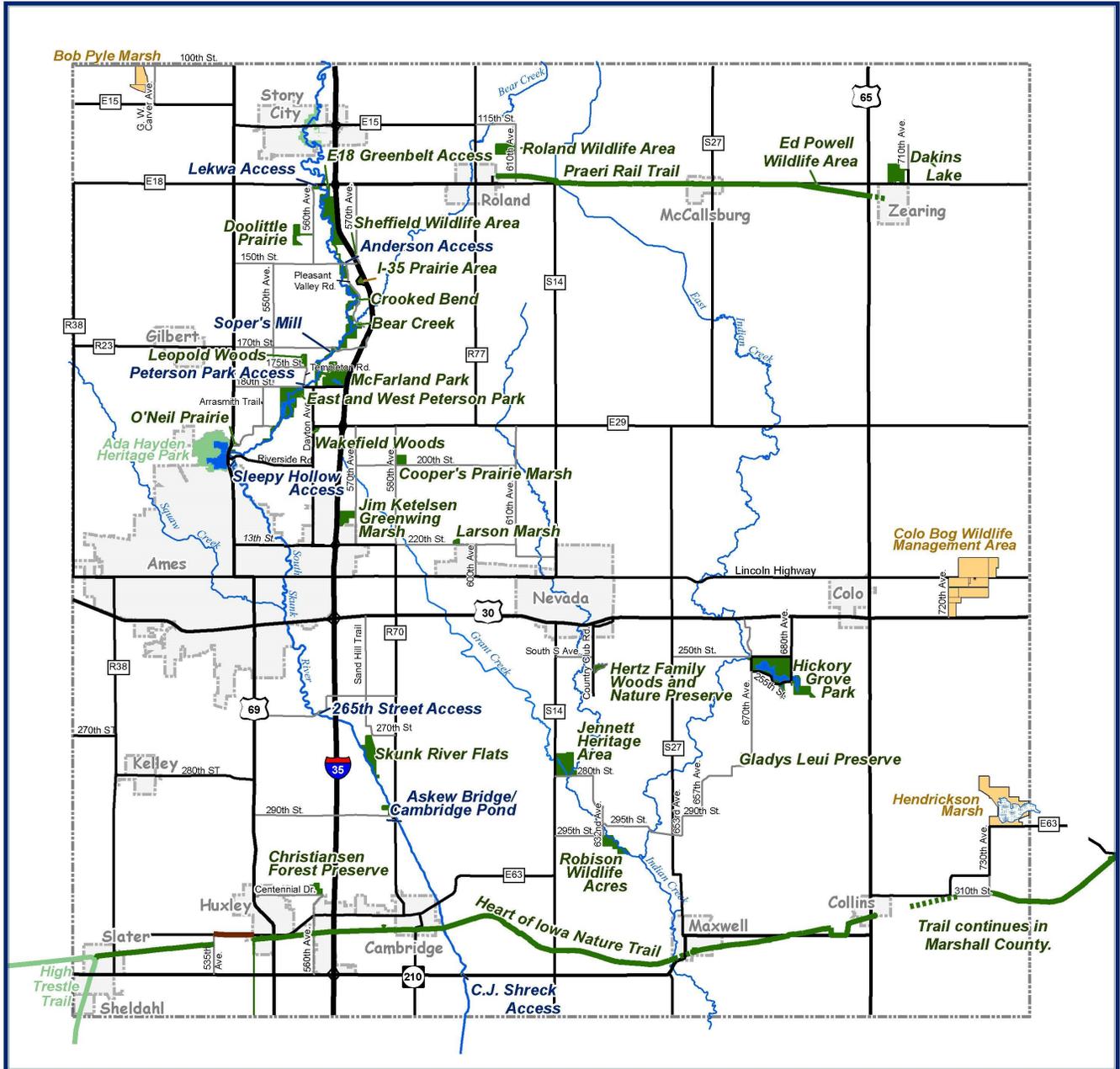
- **Natural Resource Area:**
Natural areas, floodplains, green spaces, and parks help create open space linkages between the countryside and communities and make up this designation. The Future Land Use Map identifies certain natural features in the county in order to preserve unique habitats, natural or sensitive areas, as well as open and recreational spaces.
- **Agricultural Conservation Area:**
These areas encompass large areas of highly valuable farmland, with farming and agricultural production as the primary activity.
- **Rural Residential Area:**
The Rural Residential Area designation offers the rural housing market segment choices in the unincorporated areas of the county. They are characterized by residential land uses adapted for a rural or agricultural setting at low, non-urban densities. Urban level services are not provided in these areas, and these are not priority areas for infrastructure development.
- **Rural Village Area:**
Existing areas characterized by a variety of land uses in one location are designated as Rural Village Area. These areas have unique land use patterns that provide valued and established services for citizens in Story County. Roads in these areas are generally platted as right-of-way and maintained by Story County. The uses are served by private wastewater treatment systems (septic) and private water sources – wells and rural water systems. As shown on the Future Land Use Map, these areas contain the rural villages of Iowa Center, Shipley, and Fernald.
- **Commercial-Industrial Area:**
The Commercial-Industrial Area designation supports the long term planning objective of accommodating future demand for types of commercial and industrial growth that may be best located in a rural setting outside of an urbanized area.
- **Urban Expansion Area:**
The Urban Expansion Area designation reflects those areas identified by individual communities as future growth areas. Development proposed in these areas are encouraged to be annexed into the neighboring city in order for an urban level of service to be provided. Proposed land use and regulations should comply with that city's plans and standards as appropriate.
- **Ames Urban Fringe Area:**
The Ames Urban Fringe Area designation is the planning area defined in the Ames Urban Fringe Plan that lies within two miles of the official boundary of the City of Ames, as it existed in 2006. The Ames Urban Fringe Plan is implemented through a 28E agreement between the City of Ames, Gilbert, and Story County. The Plan addresses proposed future land uses within the planning area and the process for proposed development proposals and changes occurring therein. The Future Land Use Map incorporates by reference all land uses shown on the Ames Urban Fringe Plan – Land Use Framework Map.

GIS Data Sources:

Story County GIS Department
Iowa Department of Natural Resources GIS Library (NRGIS)



Story County Public Lands Map



Legend

- County Managed
- State Managed
- City Owned
- Developed Trail
- Undeveloped Trail
- On Road

Parks in blue are Skunk River Water Trail Access Points

APPENDIX 2

REFERENCE

1. "An Island of Green: The Preservation of a River Valley through Zoning." Robert Pinneke. The Iowa Conservationist, Nov, 1977, pp. 11-13.
2. Acquisition and Restoration of Wetlands in a 31 Iowa County Prairie Pothole Joint Venture. Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Oct. 1988. 111 pp.
3. American Outdoors: The Report of the President's Commission Island Press, 1987. 420 pp.
4. Central Iowa Outdoor Recreation Plan, ROSS, Central Iowa Association of Governments, Feb, 1972. 54 pp.
5. "Five-Year REAP Plans" from Story County Conservation Board; cities of Ames, Cambridge, Gilbert, Huxley, Kelley, Nevada, and Story City; the Story County Soil and Water Conservation District; Ames Area Amateur Astronomers; Ames Heritage Association.
6. Iowa Open Space Plan, a supplement to the 1988 SCORP. Iowa Department of Natural Resources, July 1988. 66 pp.
7. Story County Land Development Regulations, March 10, 2006, Chapter 16 – Greenbelt/Conservation District – Story County Board of Supervisors.
8. Natural Resources Analysis, Story County, Report to the Story County Board of Supervisors in Cooperation with the Iowa Agriculture Experiment Station Study. 30 pp.
9. Outdoor Recreation Plan, 1969, Story County Conservation Board, Harris and Associates, Nevada, Iowa. 40 pp.
6. Park, Recreation, and Open Space Plan 1977-82, Story County Conservation Board, Mark Ackelson. 74 pp.
11. Park, Recreation, and Open Space Plan 1983-88, Story County Conservation Board. 45 pp.
12. Park, Recreation, and Open Space Plan 1989-98, Story County Conservation Board. 47 pp.
13. Story County Conservation Long-Range Plan – 1997.

14. Priorities for the '90's. Proceedings of the Governor's Conference on Environmental Education, Iowa Department of Education, February 1990. 70 pp.
15. Recreation, Tourism and Leisure, an Iowa Plan for the Future. Commission for Iowa's Recreation, Tourism and Leisure, State of Iowa, September 1987. 58 pp.
16. Status of Natural Resources in Iowa, 1984. A report to the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, October 1984. 105 pp.
17. Streamside Forests and the Vital Beneficial Resources. University of Maryland and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1988. 20 pp.
18. Study Recommendations. Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Program. George Butler and Associates, Ames, Iowa, and the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation. 35 pp.
19. Story County Development Plan 1994, Story County Planning and Zoning.
20. Ames Natural Areas Inventory Report to the Ames City Council, December 1994.

APPENDIX 3

STORY COUNTY REAP PROJECTS

CITY PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

Recipient: City of Ames

FY 1990	Moore Memorial Park	\$150,000
FY 1991	Moore Memorial Park	\$150,000
FY 1995	Bentwood Park and Greenway	\$150,000
FY 1996	Central Park Greenway System	\$150,000
FY 1997	Central Park Greenway System	\$150,000
FY 2000	Central Park Greenway System	\$150,000

Recipient: City of Cambridge

FY 1994	Outdoor Learning Laboratory	\$ 44,000
FY 2009	Recreation area, outdoor learning center	\$ 50,000

Recipient: City of Collins

FY 1994	Trailside Park -Heart of Iowa Trail	\$ 49,905
FY 1995	Trailside Park -Heart of Iowa Trail	\$ 50,000

Recipient: City of Gilbert

FY 1997	Heritage Trails and Parkway System	\$ 49,980
FY 2009	Gilbert-Ames Greenway Trail	\$ 50,000

Recipient: City of Huxley

FY 1990	Berhow Park	\$ 75,000
FY 1992	Berhow Park - Phase II	\$ 55,340
FY 1993	Heart of Iowa Nature Trail Access	\$ 75,000
FY 1994	Heart of Iowa Nature Trail, Huxley Part	\$ 75,000
FY 2006	Huxley Trail Extension	\$ 44,000
FY 2014	Heart of Iowa Nature Trail Enhancement	\$ 75,000

Recipient: City of Maxwell

FY 1998	Heart of Iowa Nature Trail	\$ 40,700
FY 2004	Heart of Iowa Nature Trail	\$ 50,000

Recipient: City of Nevada

FY 1996	Indian Creek Greenbelt	\$100,000
FY 2001	Indian Creek Greenbelt	\$100,000
FY 2007	Indian Creek Greenbelt	\$ 74,472
FY 2009	Indian Creek Greenbelt	\$100,000

Recipient: City of Slater

FY 1991	Northside Trailhead and Arboretum	\$ 58,450
FY 1998	Heart of Iowa Nature Trail Linkage	\$ 46,000
FY 2005	Central Iowa Trail Project - Slater Junction	\$ 70,574
FY 2007	Central Iowa Trail Project	\$ 75,000
FY 2008	Central Iowa Trail Project	\$ 75,000
FY 2009	Grant Central Station, Trailhead	\$ 75,000
FY 2011	South Side Park Improvements/Enhancement	\$ 75,000
FY 2014	Grand Central Station/Trailhead	\$ 59,095

Recipient: City of Story City

FY 2007	Story City River Access & Rec. Improvement	\$ 24,250
FY 2009	Skunk River Trail Bridge	\$ 62,275
FY 2010	Skunk River Trail Bridge	\$ 75,000

Total: \$ 2,754,041

Conservation Education

Recipient: Iowa State University

FY 2006	Measuring Environmental Literacy, Survey	\$ 7,773
FY 2014	Cognitive Enhancement for Nature-based ...	\$ 3,465

Recipient: Prairie Rivers of Iowa

FY 2013	Kids on the Byway	\$ 26,763
FY 2014	Kids on the Byway: Extending Authentic ...	\$ 26,584

Recipient: Story County Conservation Board

FY 1996	1996 Midwest Env. Ed. Conference	\$ 1,550
FY 2004	KinderNature, Early Childhood Ed Guide	\$ 39,936

Total: \$106,071

County Conservation

Recipient: County Special REAP Account

FY 1990	Per county allocations	\$ 9,086
FY 1990	Per population allocations	\$ 22,820
FY 1991	Per county allocations	\$ 12,415
FY 1991	Per population allocations	\$ 33,716
FY 1992	Per county allocations	\$ 6,121
FY 1992	Per population allocations	\$ 16,859
FY 1993	Per county allocations	\$ 4,917
FY 1993	Per population allocations	\$ 13,399
FY 1994	Per county allocations	\$ 4,288
FY 1994	Per population allocations	\$ 12,530
FY 1995	Per county allocations	\$ 4,587
FY 1995	Per population allocations	\$ 13,365
FY 1996	Per county allocations	\$ 5,527
FY 1996	Per population allocations	\$ 15,556
FY 1997	Per county allocations	\$ 6,054
FY 1997	Per population allocations	\$ 17,069
FY 1998	Per county allocations	\$ 5,992
FY 1998	Per population allocations	\$ 17,152
FY 1999	Per county allocations	\$ 5,785
FY 1999	Per population allocations	\$ 15,882
FY 2000	Per county allocations	\$ 6,695
FY 2000	Per population allocations	\$ 18,363
FY 2001	Per county allocations	\$ 6,759
FY 2001	Per population allocations	\$ 18,544
FY 2002	Per county allocations	\$ 4,680
FY 2002	Per population allocations	\$ 13,026
FY 2003	Per county allocations	\$ 183
FY 2003	Per population allocations	\$ 507
FY 2004	Per county allocations	\$ 6,782
FY 2004	Per population allocations	\$ 18,713
FY 2005	Per county allocations	\$ 6,705
FY 2005	Per population allocations	\$ 18,630
FY 2006	Per county allocations	\$ 7,007
FY 2006	Per population allocations	\$ 19,369
FY 2007	Per county allocations	\$ 6,901
FY 2007	Per population allocations	\$ 18,980
FY 2008	Per county allocations	\$ 9,627
FY 2008	Per population allocations	\$ 26,376
FY 2009	Per county allocations	\$ 11,130
FY 2009	Per population allocations	\$ 60,753
FY 2010	Per county allocations	\$ 10,858
FY 2010	Per population allocations	\$ 29,746

FY 2011	Per county allocations	\$ 9,148
FY 2011	Per population allocations	\$ 25,906
FY 2012	Per county allocations	\$ 7,362
FY 2012	Per population allocations	\$ 20,352
FY 2013	Per county allocations	\$ 6,893
FY 2013	Per population allocations	\$ 18,955
FY 2014	Per county allocations	\$ 9,848
FY 2014	Per population allocations	\$ 28,388
FY 2015	Per county allocations	\$ 9,653
FY 2015	Per population allocations	\$ 27,850
FY 2016	Per county allocations	\$ 9,684
FY 2016	Per population allocations	\$ 28,014
FY 2017	Per county allocations	\$ 9,711
FY 2017	Per population allocations	\$ 28,812

Total: \$804,030

Historical Resource Development

Recipient: Ames Heritage Association

FY 1990	Ames Photographic History Collection	\$ 4,874
FY 1997	Story Center Feasibility Study	\$ 5,000
FY 1999	Heritage Tourism Brochure	\$ 2,000
FY 2001	Initiate Collections of Ames History	\$ 5,500
FY 2002	Archive Equipment Acquisition	\$ 1,000
FY 2004	Ames Tribune Photo Archive Phase 1	\$ 3,355

Recipient: Ames Historical Society

FY 2005	Ames Tribune Photo Archive Phase 2	\$ 5,633
FY 2010	Story County World War II Soldier Record	\$ 5,158
FY 2013	Repairs for Hoggatt School	\$ 4,280

Recipient: City of Ames

FY 2008	Ames Photographic History Collection	\$ 30,000
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Recipient: Iowa State University Library

FY 1996	WOI-TV Films Preservation & Access	\$ 18,000
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Recipient: Iowa State University Press

FY 1993	Holding the Moment: Mid-America	\$ 2,584
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Recipient: ISU Farm House Museum

FY 1991	Main floor reinforcement and leveling	\$ 12,544
FY 1997	Assess Farm House Museum exterior	\$ 4,000
<u>Recipient: Nevada Community Historical Society</u>		
FY 2000	Master Plan for Evergreen Lane	\$ 2,500
FY 2006	Briggs Terrace/Evergreen Ln Est. rest-1	\$ 34,158
FY 2007	Halley School, Learning and Community	\$ 3,750
<u>Recipient: Octagon Center for the Arts</u>		
FY 2007	Puppet Preservation Project	\$ 5,000
<u>Recipient: Richard K. Peterson</u>		
FY 1991	Orchestra Pit Re-opening	\$ 4,571
<u>Recipient: Slater Public Library</u>		
FY 1999	Microfilm The Slater News, 1890-1963	\$ 8,975
<u>Recipient: Story City Historical Society</u>		
FY 2014	Replace roof, paint siding, repair windows	\$ 3,962
<u>Recipient: The Community Historical Society</u>		
FY 2004	Microfilming the Maxwell Tribune NPs	\$ 3,310
<u>Recipient: University Museums</u>		
FY 1994	Loess Hills Touring Exhibit - Fragile Giants	\$ 2,816
Total:		\$172,970

Land Management

<u>Recipient: Fisheries</u>		
FY 2007	Soper's Mill Access- fishing riffle	\$ 16,743
<u>Recipient: State Forest Nursery</u>		
FY 2015	Tiling of Nursery Beds	\$ 8,698
FY 2017	Tiling of beds	\$ 17,500

Recipient: State Forest Nursery

FY 1990	Energy improvements	\$ 17,283
FY 1999	Fuel storage upgrade	\$ 24,040
FY 1999	Replace cooler building roof	\$ 20,965
FY 2001	Irrigation system	\$ 30,603

Total: \$ 135,832

Open Space

Recipient: Hendrickson Marsh

FY 2017	Hendrickson Marsh Addition	\$ 56,750
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Recipient: Ledges State Park

FY 2010	Stone bridge repair	\$ 19,780
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Recipient: PF, Big Bluestem Audubon Society

FY 2007	Don Mangels Wildlife MA, Miller Tract	\$189,349
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Recipient: State Forest Nursery - Ames

FY 2001	Storage cooler and renovations	\$ 56,135
FY 2010	Cooler upgrades	\$ 58,590

Recipient: Story County Treasurer

FY 1993	Local property tax reimbursement	\$ 430
FY 1995	Local property tax reimbursement	\$ 1,658

Recipient: Tieg Marsh

FY 1991	Brian Johnson tract	\$ 23,000
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Total: \$ 405,692

Roadside Vegetation

Recipient: AFIRM

FY 2005	Roadside Management Internet Database	\$ 15,000
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Recipient: Ames Maintenance

FY 1990	Seed-Brad Azeltine Maintenance	\$ 68
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Recipient: Bonestroo, Inc

FY 2009	Field guide to wetland plans of Iowa	\$ 8,550
FY 2010	Wetlands field guide	\$ 7,125
<u>Recipient: Brad Azeltine DOT Maintenance</u>		
FY 2009	Central Office Plantings	\$ 568
<u>Recipient: CITC (Ames)</u>		
FY 1995	Plantings	\$ 44
<u>Recipient: City of Collins</u>		
FY 1991	Native Planting	\$ 3,008
FY 1992	Trees	\$ 1,293
FY 1993	Gateway plantings	\$ 2,116
<u>Recipient: City of Huxley</u>		
FY 1992	Gateway Planting	\$ 2,750
<u>Recipient: City of Nevada</u>		
FY 1997	Roadside enhancement	\$ 800
<u>Recipient: City of Story City</u>		
FY 1997	Gateway plantings	\$ 6,000
<u>Recipient: Iowa Association of Naturalists</u>		
FY 2009	“Prairie-Past, Present, and Future”	\$ 900
FY 2010	Prairie display	\$ 750
<u>Recipient: Iowa Department of Natural Resources</u>		
FY 2009	State parks roadside plantings	\$ 18,000
<u>Recipient: Iowa Department of Transportation</u>		
FY 2009	Research, Inventory, Demonstration	\$ 30,000
FY 2010	Research, Inventory, Demonstration	\$ 25,000
<u>Recipient: Iowa DNR – State Parks</u>		
FY 2010	State parks roadside plantings	\$ 15,000
<u>Recipient: ISU, Brian Wilsey</u>		
FY 2009	Research	\$ 6,405
FY 2010	Research	\$ 5,337
<u>Recipient: Jennifer L. Hopwood</u>		
FY 2009	Prairie plantings by native bees	\$ 7,091
FY 2010	Research	\$ 5,910
<u>Recipient: State Roadside Office</u>		

FY 1991	Seed	\$ 708
FY 1995	Native Plantings – Highway 30 Shop/ROW	\$ 2,050
FY 1995	IDOT/ ISTE A I-35 Ames-Roland Match	\$ 49,200

Recipient: Story County Conservation Board

FY 1995	Plantings – Highway	\$ 1,242
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Recipient: Story County

FY 1992	Native Grasses and Wildflowers	\$ 6,600
FY 1992	Roadside Restoration – 2 miles	\$ 3,300
FY 2004	Seeding equipment	\$ 2,100
FY 2006	Video	\$ 8,517
FY 2006	Plantings and Crop Assessments	\$ 2,203
FY 2006	City Program Assistance	\$ 25,000
FY 2006	Seeding equipment	\$ 7,250
FY 2007	State Fair, Clay County Fair	\$ 3,426
FY 2007	Education materials	\$ 11,500
FY 2007	ODCR	\$ 2,364
FY 2007	Seeding equipment	\$ 5,250
FY 2008	Equipment	\$ 3,000

Recipient: Story County IRVM

FY 2009	Land Purchase	\$ 13,200
FY 2009	Equipment	\$ 3,600
FY 2010	Equipment	\$ 3,000
FY 2010	Land Purchase	\$ 11,000

Total: \$ 326,225

Soil and Water Enhancement

Recipient: Soil and Water Conservation District

FY 1990	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 1,513
FY 1991	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 8,903
FY 1991	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 11,928
FY 1992	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 1,551
FY 1992	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 2,018
FY 1993	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 1,690
FY 1993	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 700
FY 1994	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 3,193
FY 1994	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 2,760
FY 1995	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 780
FY 1997	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 1,663
FY 1997	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 5,085

FY 1998	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 983
FY 1998	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 6,487
FY 1999	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 1,096
FY 1999	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 1,438
FY 2000	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 888
FY 2000	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 1,795
FY 2001	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 3,397
FY 2001	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 1,400
FY 2002	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 813
FY 2002	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 1,161
FY 2004	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 7,968
FY 2004	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 1,992
FY 2005	Hallett's Quarry Lake Watershed Project	\$ 14,509
FY 2005	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 7,940
FY 2005	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 1,985
FY 2006	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 2,010
FY 2006	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 8,041
FY 2007	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 11,225
FY 2007	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 4,512
FY 2008	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 11,440
FY 2008	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 4,416
FY 2009	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 3,997
FY 2009	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 11,978
FY 2010	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 4,100
FY 2010	Equal allocations for practices	\$ 12,300
FY 2011	Allocations for practices	\$ 9,828
FY 2011	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 3,277
FY 2012	Allocations for practices	\$ 7,429
FY 2012	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 2,476
FY 2013	Allocations for practices	\$ 6,653
FY 2013	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 2,218
FY 2014	Allocations for practices	\$ 10,461
FY 2014	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 3,283
FY 2015	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 3,283
FY 2015	Allocations for practices	\$ 10,063
FY 2016	Allocations for practices	\$ 10,061
FY 2016	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 3,357
FY 2017	Allocations for practices	\$ 10,091
FY 2017	Forestry & native vegetation	\$ 3,364

Total: \$255,499

Total REAP Allocations in Story County \$4,960,360