

PLANTING #93 FCNA FRIENDS HEADWATERS TRACT

November 17, 2010

Prepared by Bill Kleiman, The Nature Conservancy, Nachusa Grasslands Project Director

Updated:

Location: T21N – R10E, NE quarter of Section 2, Lee County, IL 41 Lat Long: deg 50'26.19"N, 89 deg 18'36.89W

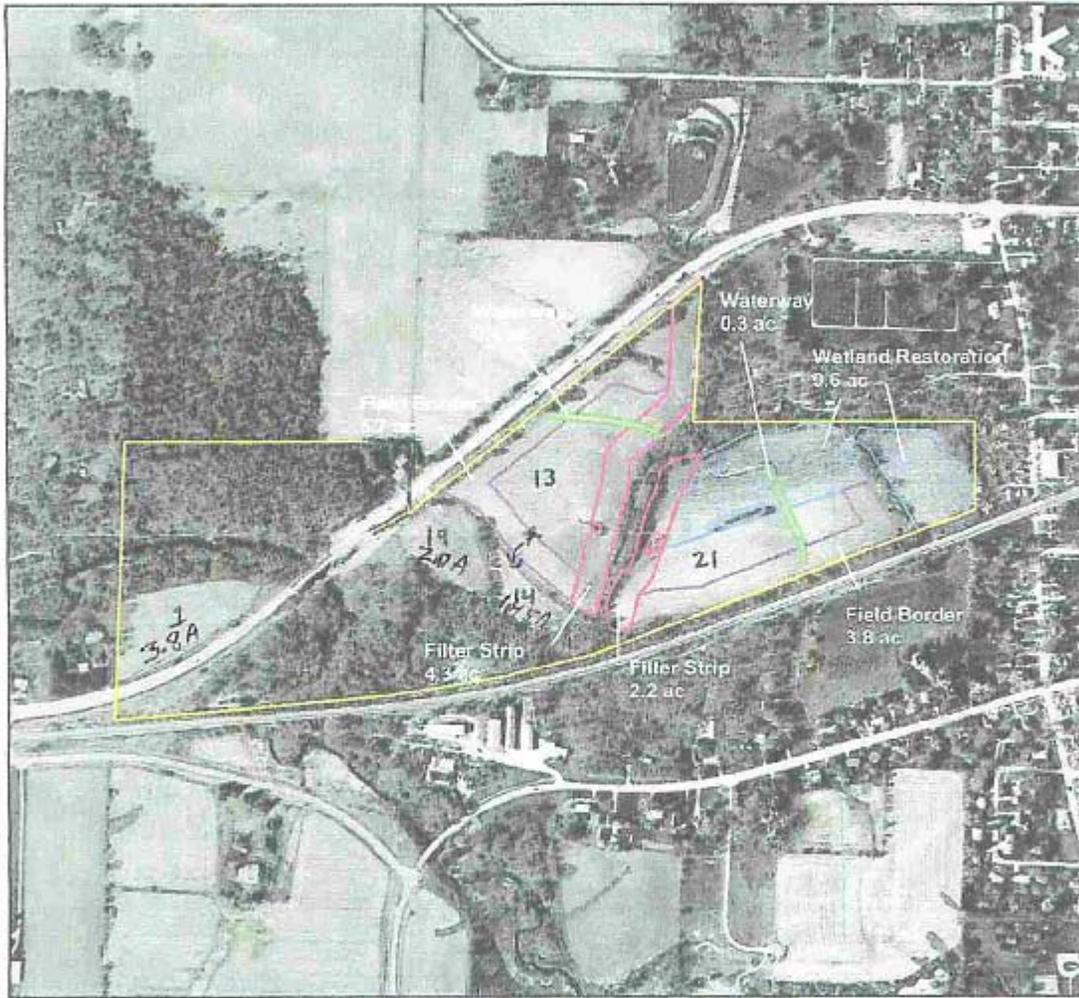
Maps and many details follow below:

CRP Plan Map

Rick A.

Field Office: AMBOY SERVICE CENTER
Agency: USDA NRCS

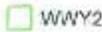
District: LEE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Field Borders and Filter strips
are 120' wide

* Can shift that planting west 40'

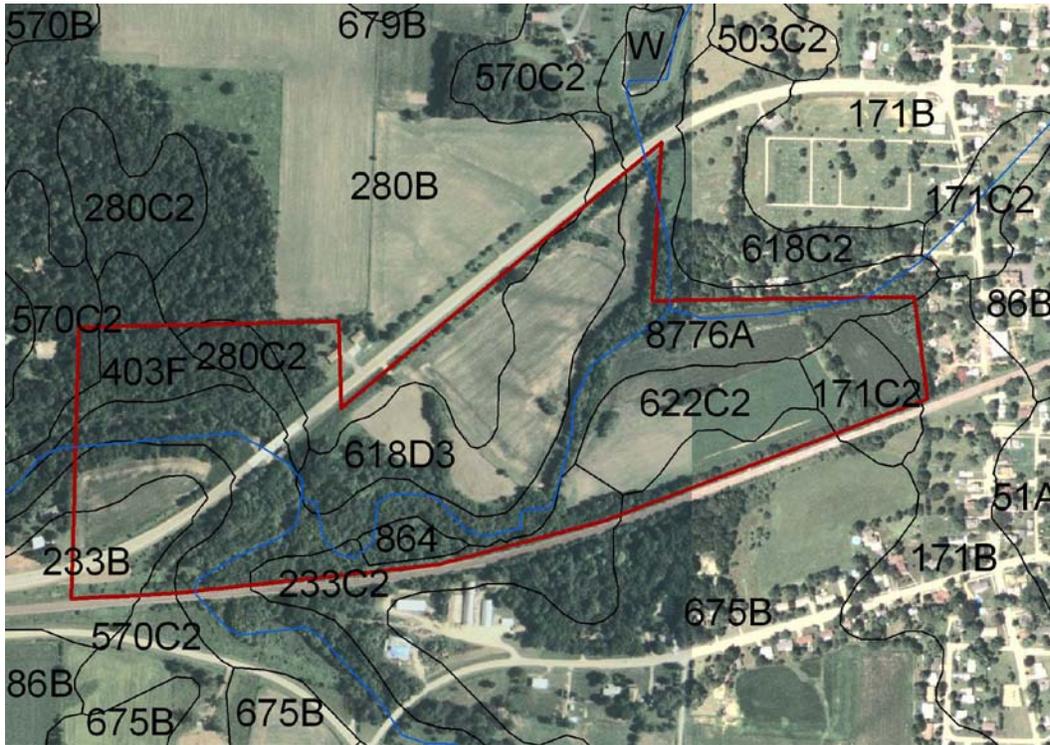
Legend

-  WWY2
-  WWY1
-  FilrStrp.shp
-  FldBdr1.shp
-  Wetland



1 inch equals 660 feet

Soil types:



233B: Birkbeck silt loam, gently sloping moderately well drained soil is on till plains.

570C2 Martinsville silt loam. This sloping, well drained soil is on stream terraces and along drainage ways in the uplands.

618D3

280B Fayette silt loam. This sloping, well drained soil is on uplands.

622C2

171C2 Catlin silt loam. This sloping, moderately well drained soil is on convex slopes on glacial till plains.

Topography: A very gentle roll on the most of the area.

Agricultural history: Google Earth showed all fields that are currently in row crops appear to be in row crops in 1999, 2005, 2006 and 2009.

Site preparations: Crops this year were all soybeans. Rick Apelquist did a light disking of the fields within a week of our planting. No other preparations were done.

Seed planting: We used up to three gravity grass seed planters pulled behind pickup trucks. The seeders have paddle wheel agitators in them and holes in the bottom. The seed is dropped to the surface of the

ground as the seeder wheels turn. Seed planted by Bill Kleiman, Trent Debaer, and John Schmadeke. It took Bill and Trent one half day on November 15, Trent and John one full day on Nov 16, and about a half day for Trent on Nov 17. It took a half day to set up and a half day to put all the stuff away.

Planting rate in pounds per acre: Between 40 and 50.

Seed list:

All of the following fields were planted at 50 pounds per acre with Nachusa Combine harvested mix from the Hook Larson Prairie planting number 62: Field 1, 19, 14, Field Border 5.7 acres, Filter Strip 4.3 acres. So we planted about 15.7 acres with approximately 785 pounds of seed! This was an entire 164 bushel grain wagon filled with this mix. That would be about 40 paper barrels of seed filled each about 2/3 of the way up. We found each paper barrel of seed filled this way had a seed weight of about 20 pounds. This seed was harvested with a Shelbourne seed stripper head on a IH 1640 combine. The species the combine would pick up would only be those about 14 inches high up to about 5 feet high. Below is a plant survey from the planting 62. I highlight yellow below the likely prominent components in this mix

PLANTING 62 PLANT LIST FROM WHICH WE COMBINED PRAIRIE FOR FCNA

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FREQUENCY RATING
<i>Alopecurus carolinianus</i>	Annual foxtail	4
<i>Ambrosia psilostachya coronopifolia</i>	Western Ragweed	4
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Prairie Wild Rye	4
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	Foxglove Beardtongue	4
<i>Poa compressa</i>	Canada Blue Grass	4
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada Goldenrod	4
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	3
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	Big Bluestem; Turkeyfoot	3
<i>Andropogon (Schizachyrium) scoparium</i> D479	Little Bluestem	3
<i>Aster pilosus</i>	Hairy Aster	3
<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	Side-Oats Grama	3
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	Smooth (Hungarian) Brome	3
<i>Cirsium discolor</i>	Pasture Thistle	3
<i>Echinacea pallida</i>	Pale Purple Coneflower	3
<i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i>	Sawtooth Sunflower	3
<i>Koeleria cristata (macrantha)</i>	Prairie June Grass	3
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Wild Bergamot	3
<i>Potentilla arguta</i>	Prairie Cinquefoil	3
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	Yellow Coneflower	3
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Black-eyed Susan	3
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	Stiff Goldenrod	3
<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	Showy Goldenrod	3
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian Grass	3
<i>Aster azureus</i> (oolentangiensis)	Sky-blue Aster	2
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England Aster	2
<i>Aster sericeus</i>	Silky Aster	2

Bromus japonicus	Japanese Chess	2
Daucus carota	Queen Anne's Lace	2
Eupatorium altissimum	Tall Boneset	2
Kuhnia (Brickellia) eupatoroides corymbulosa	False Boneset	2
Parthenium integrifolium	Wild Quinine (Feverfew)	2
Pycnanthemum tenuifolium	Narrow-leaved Mountain Mint	2
Solidago nemoralis	Gray Goldenrod; Oldfield	2
Verbena stricta	Hoary Vervain	2
Alliaria petiolata (officinalis)	Garlic Mustard	1
Anemone cylindrica	Thimbleweed	1
Aster laevis	Smooth (Blue)(Silky) Aster	1
Aster linariifolius	Stiff Aster (Flax-Leaved)	1
Carex bicknellii	Copper-shouldered oval Sedge	1
Cirsium arvense	Canada Thistle	1
Coreopsis tripteris	Tall Coreopsis	1
Geum aleppicum strictum	Yellow Avens	1
Helianthus occidentalis	Western Sunflower; Naked S.	1
Heliopsis helianthoides	False Sunflower; " Ox-eye "	1
Heuchera richardsonii grayana	Rough Heuchera; Alum root	1
Lactuca canadensis	Wild Lettuce	1
Leonurus cardiaca	Motherwort	1
Lespedeza capitata --	Round-headed Bush Clover	1
Liatris pycnostachya	Tall Gayfeather; Prairie Blazing Star	1
Oenothera clelandii (rhombipetala)	Sand Evening Primrose	1
Polygonum tenue	Slender Knotweed	1
Prunus serotina	Wild Black Cherry	1
Quercus macrocarpa	Bur Oak	1
Rubus occidentalis	Black Raspberry	1
Rumex crispus	Curly Dock	1
Scrophularia marilandica	Late Figwort	1
Silphium integrifolium	Rosinweed	1
Silphium perfoliatum	Cup-plant	1
Solanum carolinense	Horse Nettle	1
Taraxacum officinale	Common Dandelion	1
TOTAL SPECIES		60

The following fields were planted at 40 pounds per acre with Nachusa Combine harvested mix from the Clear Creek Knolls planting number 66 at 40 pounds per acre went to Field 14, Filter Strip 2.2Field border 3.8A. If you want to see what we might have combined from this planting look up the planting history on Nachusagrasslands.org, or ask Nachusa staff. This planting 66 is also a very diverse planting. We put on about 300 pounds of this combine mix.

Note that field 19 we did not plant seed within 200 feet south of the right of way off of route 38. So the map shows it as 2.0 acres but we only planted about 0.5 acres of this field.

FCNA volunteer John Keller harvested about 4 paper barrels of seed which had a total weight of at least 63 pounds, and likely about 90 pounds. Some seed tags he did not record the weight but it filled our blue kiddie pool we use to mix seed and was likely near 90 pounds. In there were some nice species such as 11 pounds of rough blazing star. John was new to the art of harvesting prairie seed. He was mentored by the Nachusa crew. About 90% of John's seed went into Field 1 (3.8acres) and 10% went into Field 19 on about half an acre.

John Keller's seed mix consisted of the following species

Canada rye

Blanket flower (gallardia)

Brown eyed susan (Rudbeckia)

Round headed bush clover

Rough blazing star LIA ASP

Hoary vervain VER STR

Scarlet bee balm (Monarda)

Lance leaved coreopsis

Prairie coreopsis

Stiff goldenrod

Asters

Prairie sunflower

Yellow coneflower

Black eyed susan

Rattle snake master

Lead plant

Culvers root

Side oats grama

Pruple prairie clover

Pale purple coneflower



Photo shows us planting the 5.7 acre Field Border south of Route 38. Using three drop seeders with two trucks. The wagon held all the combine seed mix.



John Schmadeke driving seed planter.

Follow up care the Friends of FCNA will need to provide:

Place some tee posts in field 19 to show where the native seeding begins, which is 200 feet south of Route 38 right of way. There are white wire flags there now. Seeded area is south of those flags. Maybe put the remainder of that field into row crop if you don't have another use for it in 2011.

Likewise, install tee posts on the west flank of the 5.7 acre Field Border. This is because Apelquist disked up a little more than he meant to. We seeded that waterway that runs along the west boundary here. That waterway could be Rounded up this fall or early next spring to knock off the cool season grass, or just let it mix in.

You can mow the first year if it looks ratty. Unless the ag weeds get very thick it won't hurt the small growing prairie plants.

First winter, 2011/2012, mow down the ag weeds. They will be foxtail and mares tail. That will help for weed cruise of 2012.

June and July 2012: Someone with a little knowledge of what are problem weeds should walk the planting carefully and spray or pull or spade up problem weeds. These likely will be sweetclover, and wild parsnip.

The right of way on Route 38 has these weeds. The county should be encouraged to spray broadleaf herbicide on the ROW, or have FCNA or the farmer do this. As far as I can see there are no native plants of concern in the ROW.

Do prescribed fire of the plantings when you can. Maybe second or third or fourth year. Burn planting north of route 38 with a south wind, and land south of 38 with a north wind.

Seed can be added to the plantings and this would be good for them. Just broadcast in the fall.

End.

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