



# Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist

## Quarterly Partners' Report



**Jake Holt - Fremont, Mills, Montgomery, & Page Counties**

**July-Sept 2018**

This quarter is always enjoyable for me as landowners finish up with planting and are starting to think of the other tasks at hand. This has provided me the opportunity for many site visits with landowners to look at their resource concerns and work toward solutions that address them.

These last few months, I have spent a fair amount of time working with landowners on conservation planning that meets their objectives and addresses resource concerns. This has led to the opportunity for new EQIP and WRE applications along with a few new and reenrolled CRP contracts that continue to keep the marginal farmland acres in grass.

Conservation Programs	Acres Impacted
CRP	
CP9	10
CP21	41.64
CP22	12.99
CP23	178.34
Cp33	5.6
CSP	49.70
<b>Total</b>	<b>298.27</b>



This photo is of the Fremont-Mills school students seeding pollinator habitat on a small island in the school parking lot!

### Contacts & Conservation Plans

- ◆ Landowner contacts = 35
- ◆ Total site visits = 16
- ◆ Habitat proposals/ Conservation plans = 40
- ◆ Practice checkout = 3
- ◆ NRCS seed plan review = 12



**Thank you to all our partners!**

Jake Holt  
Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist  
Fremont, Mills, Montgomery, & Page Counties

503 West St  
Sidney, IA 51651

712-374-2014  
jholt@pheasantsforever.org

### Outreach Opportunities

This quarter, the Fremont County field office hosted soil health workshop that included the state soil scientists, the regional soil health specialist and a local landowner panel that enable them to share their knowledge on the benefits of soil health.



Outreach & Education	Amount
Presentations & Articles Delivered	5



This was the first property signed through the Southwest Iowa Communities for Pheasants and Farming Initiative.

### Quarter Highlight — CP42, CP9, CP21 in Fremont County



This project was with a landowner who was looking at his 2015 yield maps and decided that it was in his best interest to go a different direction. He choose to enroll in to three different voluntary CRP programs to improve his bottom line. The top picture was taken 2 years after seeding and construction of their wetland and the bottom picture was taken after the first rain post-construction.

Training/Conference Type	Description
<b>Windbreaks Training</b>	This NRCS training was a refresher for conservation planners about how to use the practices and standards.
<b>Filter Strip Design Training</b>	This training allowed staff to understand the new processes and worksheets that were released for the current CRP sign up.
<b>IDNR Meeting</b>	This meeting was a great opportunity to learn about new programs and discuss current programs and the implementation of common practices such as native plantings.

*\*If anyone wishes to discuss habitat projects or knows others who are interested; please contact me at the information below.*