

# Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist Quarterly Partners Report



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

**January - March 2020**

## Opportunities for Wildlife Habitat—Wetlands in Fremont County

This quarter, a landowner in the western portion of my coverage area contacted me with a significant amount of interest in WRE, Wetland Reserve Easement, Program. These areas have been typically wet year after year, but the tipping point for this landowner was this most recent flood. After experiencing everything that came along with the 2019 flood, he decided to look into the easement program. This project has led to working on soils with the Area Soil Scientist to determine if these fields were eligible for the program.

During this time, we also met with landowners who have expressed interest in EQIP, Environmental Quality Incentives Program. This allowed us to plan with these landowners while on the site visit to determine their goals and address resource concerns. After conducting a site visit and discussing options,

the landowner determines which practices they want to implement. Then we discuss financial assistance and the landowner applies for the program. Once these projects get funded, the habitat work can begin.



This picture is of an area that a landowner applied for WRE .



The picture above is of a firebreak. The firebreak was mowed prior to the upcoming burn which is pictured to the left. The prescribed burn was completed on April 10th as part of an EQIP contract.



- ### Quarterly Achievements
- 49 Landowner Contacts
  - 15 Site Visits
  - 9 Eligibility Check
  - 3 Seed Plans Reviewed
  - 6 Practices Certs
  - 9 Habitat Proposals
  - 2 Press Releases
  - 4 Outreach Presentations

**Thank you so much for your support Without this partnership, I wouldn't be able to provide assistance to landowners and positively impact conservation in Iowa!**

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