

# Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist

## Quarterly Partners Report



Jason Andersen - Audubon, Cass, Harrison, Pottawattamie, Shelby Counties

October - December 2019

### Hello to my new partners!

Beginning at the end of December, I transitioned into a different coverage area with Pheasants Forever, taking over for Nic Salick. I now cover Harrison, Pottawattamie, and Shelby Counties as my primary area, and continue to cover Audubon and Cass County until a new biologist is hired to take over for me in those counties. If I haven't had the chance to meet you yet, I will soon. I look forward to working with all of you and doing good things!

#### Quarterly Achievements

47 Landowner Contacts

13 Site Visits

6 Habitat Projects  
*(Habitat proposals, seeding, conservation, burn, and mid-contract management plans)*

1 Outreach

### Pollinator seeding quality control

I have often said that the most rewarding part of my job is providing ongoing assistance to producers that I work with. One of those relationships is with Rick Pellett, a 'gold star' landowner from Atlantic, in Cass County.



Just deep enough to cut through the residue and get the seed to the soil

Rick and I have worked together on several projects, the most recent being a pollinator seeding he did through the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). Rick is the kind of guy that wants to do things the right way. He asked that I come out on seeding day to make sure he was drilling his new seeding exactly the way it needed to be. So that's what we did! He did a test pass and we would look at it, checking the depth, and it didn't take long to get it dialed in. Rick was satisfied and I'm sure his seeding will be a success due to his attention to detail!



Making some slight adjustments

### Native planting evaluation training

In mid-October (actually, it was on my birthday!), I crossed into Area 1 to lead a local training on how to evaluate native plantings. Jeff Sporrer, District Conservationist in Carroll County, had requested some assistance on the topic and I happily obliged. We did a morning tour of different native stands and talked about what to look for without having to know every species. Remember, you don't have to know what a plant is, you just have to know that it's different from the ones you DO know!



You don't have to be a botanist to be able to evaluate native plantings!

#### Jason Andersen

Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist III  
Audubon, Cass, Harrison, Pottawattamie, Shelby Counties

305 McKenzie Ave.  
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503

(712) 328-2489 ext. 3  
jandersen@pheasantsforever.org

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.