

Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist

Quarterly Partners Report



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

January - March 2020

Learning to work on new types of projects has been fun and challenging over the last few months. There has been much to learn and I know there is much more to come! Adding this additional diversity to my project workload has been exciting and enjoyable.

Below are a couple of highlights from these projects so you can share in my learning journey!

Quarterly Achievements

124 Landowner Contacts	15 Burn Plans
49 Site Visits	3 Habitat Booths
4 Habitat Proposals	1 Article Written
7 Wildlife Plans	

Working on wetlands

Conservation planning for wetlands is not something I was previously familiar with. In the Missouri River bottom, there is a lot of demand for enrollment into wetland programs. The learning curve for these practices has been steep but I feel (and hope) that I have kept up and been able to help these folks get what they need. I want to take this opportunity to thank Weston Dittmer for his continual assistance in helping me learn about wetland planning as well as always being available for my constant questions, along with Julie McMichael for going out of her way to teach me to be dangerous with hydric soils.



Looking for hydric soils with a soil probe



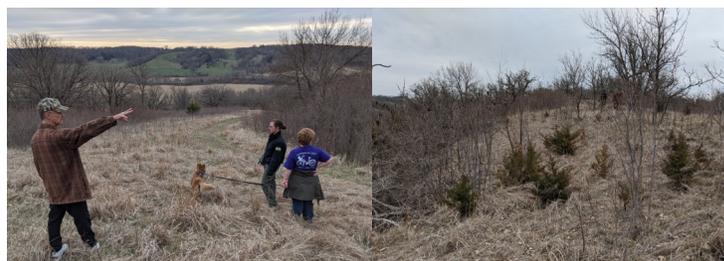
I asked the muskrats living in this low spot if it should be a wetland and they said yes



Weston Dittmer explaining the finer points of wetland planning and reconstruction

Reclaiming remnant prairie

I often describe myself as a 'prairie enthusiast' and working with landowners to manage and protect remnant prairies is an aspect of my job that I am *super* excited about. Cedar cutting and fire is something that I personally enjoy, so it's also great to be able to use my knowledge to help people revitalize these special areas.



Meeting with landowners to plan how to manage remnant prairie in the Loess Hills through brush removal and prescribed fire

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

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