

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER - On Tuesday January 17, 2017, at 9:08 am a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the St Joseph County SWCD at Farm Credit Services was called to order by John Dooms, Chairman.

PRESENT – SWCD

John Dooms, Chair/Supervisor
Jeremy Cooper, Vice-Chair/Supervisor
Stacey Silvers, Supervisor
Carole Riewe
Dave Craft

PRESENT – SWCD/NRCS

Rick Glassman, SWCD EEC
Sarah Longenecker, SWCD CC
Sandra Hoffarth, SWCD AA
Debbie Knepp, NRCS DC

Present - EX-OFFICIO

n/a

PRESENT – Public

ABSENT – SWCD

Dave Vandewalle, Supervisor
Mike Burkholder, Supervisor
Randy Matthys
Dale Stoner
Jan Ivkovich
Arlene Schuchman
Richard Schmidt
Chuck Lehman
Joe Long
Jim LaFree
Dru Wrasse

II. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA - n/a

III. REGULAR BUSINESS

- a. **Legislative Updates** –n/a
- b. **Indiana Conservation Partnership Updates** – n/a
- c. **Minutes: December 20, 2016 board meeting**– The minutes were reviewed and approved as presented.
- d. **Treasurer’s Report: (12/21/2016-1/13/2017)** – The treasurer’s reports were both reviewed and approved as submitted.
- e. **Approval of Claims (12/21/2016-1/13/2017)** –A recommendation (Cooper, Craft) & motion (Cooper, Silvers) was made to approve Claim Nos. 11188-11204 for a total of \$2,151.72 as presented. Both carried

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **St. Joseph Co. Soil & Water Conservation Partnership Staff Written Reports** – The field office & Education reports were presented to the board & reviewed. (Attached). Debbie Knepp discussed the NRCS talking points (attached).
- b. **Committee Reports**
 - i. **Annual Meeting** –The committee reminded the board of the date (February 10, 2017). Hoffarth has reached out via e-mail to John Glenn but hasn’t heard back yet. She will try to call them this week to confirm the details with them. She also reminded the board that Items and ticket sale deadline is February 3, 2017. She will contact those she doesn’t hear from by that date to confirm their sales numbers and/or silent auction items. Riewe is doing the table decorations. Hoffarth will purchase the table cloths from Party City when she has final numbers so we don’t have extras.
 - ii. **Education** – Glassman gave an update on Science Alive which is Feb 4th. If anyone is still interested in volunteering please let him know. Glassman has been asked to help with the North Central Envirothon which will be held on March 15th. The board wants him to see if any St. Joseph County students will be attending before agreeing to assist. A new Environmental Network Group is being formed. The next meeting is Feb. 8th, Cooper will check his calendar and will attend if able.
- c. **Designation of Depository** – a motion (Cooper, Silvers) was made to keep PNC Bank as our account holder. Motion carried.
- d. **Internal Audit** – Hoffarth informed the board she is ready with the Annual Financial Review to conduct the internal audit and needs at least 2 supervisors to complete this. It was decided to have Cooper & Silvers stay after the board meeting to complete this.
- e. **Tri County Farming for the Future Workshop** – Longenecker informed the board the vendor/sponsor letters have been mailed out. We received a call prior to them being mailed out from an interested vendor. Marshall County has also already received 1 vendor. If anyone has contacts with potential vendors/sponsors please talk to them and have them contact the office for more information. Vendor deadline is Feb. 6th and participant registration deadline is Feb. 17th.
- f. **Tillage Transect** – Longenecker handed out the 2016 & 2015 results for comparison (attached).

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Schedules/ Upcoming Events / Any Related Claims** - calendars were handed out explaining upcoming special events & holiday schedules on the back of the agenda. Hoffarth explained the Indiana Advocate Program training that will be held in Plymouth on January 26th (attached).

b. **Void Checks & Outstanding Invoice** – Hoffarth informed the board that there are 2 checks from April of 2014 that according to Indiana Code 5-11-10.5 have lapsed and we are able to void these checks. There is also an outstanding invoice for an Irrigation Uniformity Test performed in 2014 for \$1,025. The district is not out any money from this test. A motion (Cooper, Silvers) was made to void checks 10842 & 10861 and invoice 2014-69. Motion carried. Hoffarth will send a letter stating the invoice is void and no payment is due.

VI. **PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR** – Cooper is asking for assistance to look at the 2018-2022 business plan after the board meeting and internal audit meeting to starting drafting the new goals.

VII. **ADJOURNMENT** – The board meeting adjourned at 10:08 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Hoffarth

Administrative Assistant

St. Joseph County Soil & Water Conservation District

2903 Gary Drive, Plymouth, IN 46563

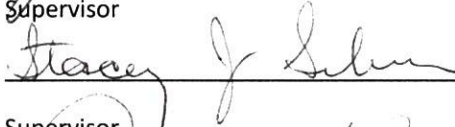
Email: Sandra.hoffarth@in.nacdnet.net

www.stjosephswcd.org

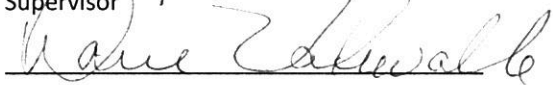
Approved by:



Supervisor



Supervisor



Supervisor



Supervisor

Supervisor



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Site Map

Farm: 5380

Tract: 365

Owner: (Not Entered)

Geographic County: Saint Joseph, IN

Operator: (Not Entered)

FSA Admin County: Saint Joseph, IN


Data sources: USDA, IndianaMap Framework Data



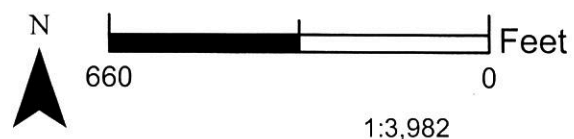
Base Map Image: St Joseph NAIP 2014 (1m Color)

Map Prepared By: Knepp

Map Production Date: 1/13/2017

 Tract and Fields

This is a general location and imagery base map that shows the extent of the tract containing the request site and is not a determination map. The imagery is high resolution data from IndianaMap with an accuracy of +/- 5 horizontal ground feet. Printed copies of this map and other supplemental reference maps may have draft mapping or other pen and ink notes which may or may not be transferred in whole or part to sampling unit or technical delineation data and maps.





United States
Department of
Agriculture

USGS Topo Map

Farm: 5380

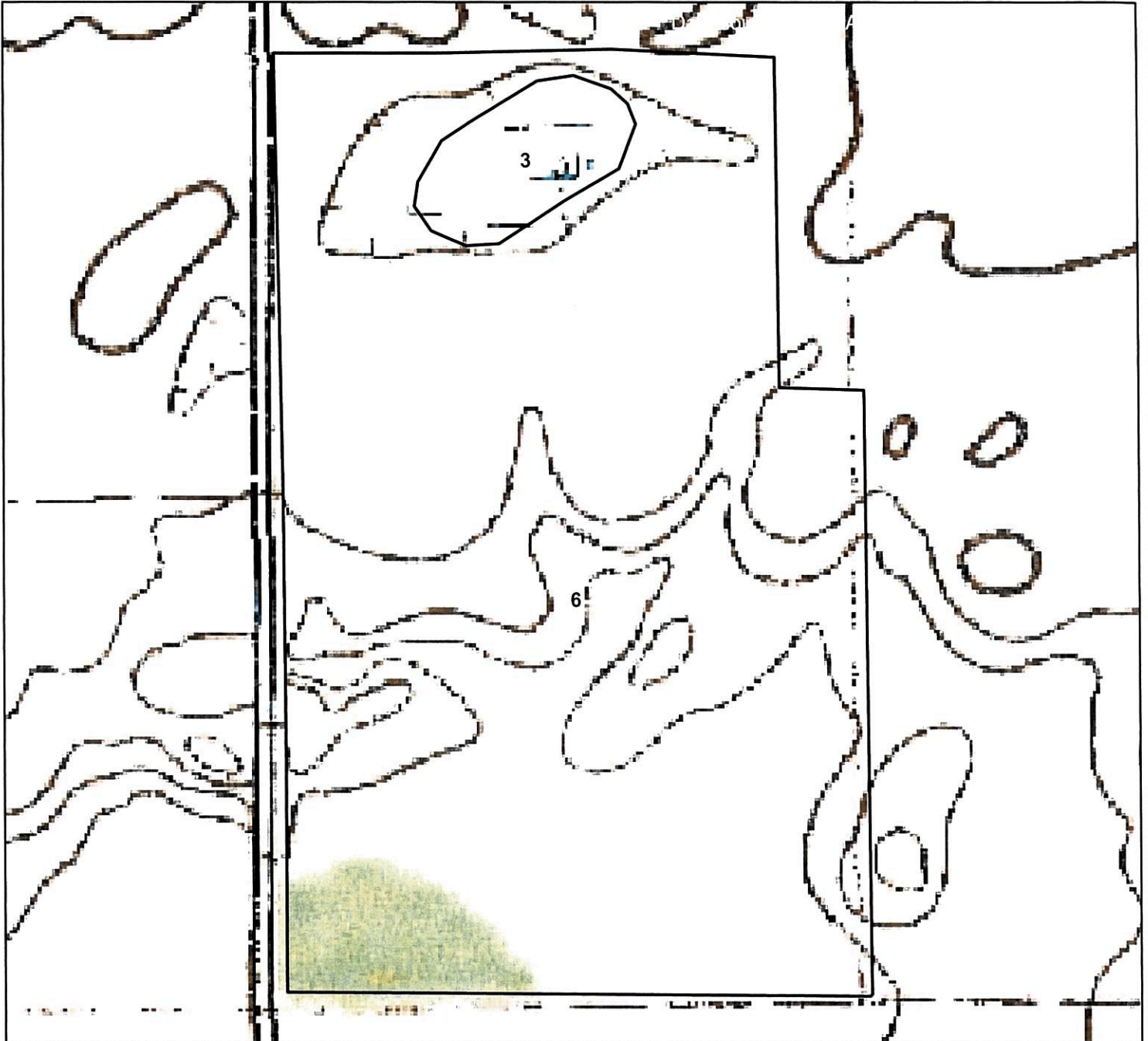
Tract: 365

Owner: (Not Entered)

Geographic County: Saint Joseph, IN

Operator: (Not Entered)


FSA Admin County: Saint Joseph, IN



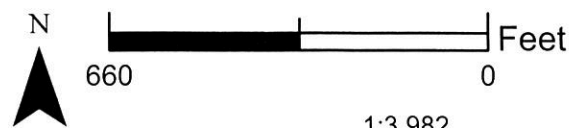
Base Map Image: St Joseph NAIP 2014 (1m Color)

Map Prepared By: Knepp

Map Production Date: 1/13/2017

 Tract and Fields

This is a map of the tract shown on the USGS topographic map. It is used by NRCS as one of the supplemental datasets to help identify the topographic and hydrologic characteristics of the site, including potential locations for wetlands. The USGS data was originally published at 1:24,000 scale.





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Soil Map

Farm: 5380

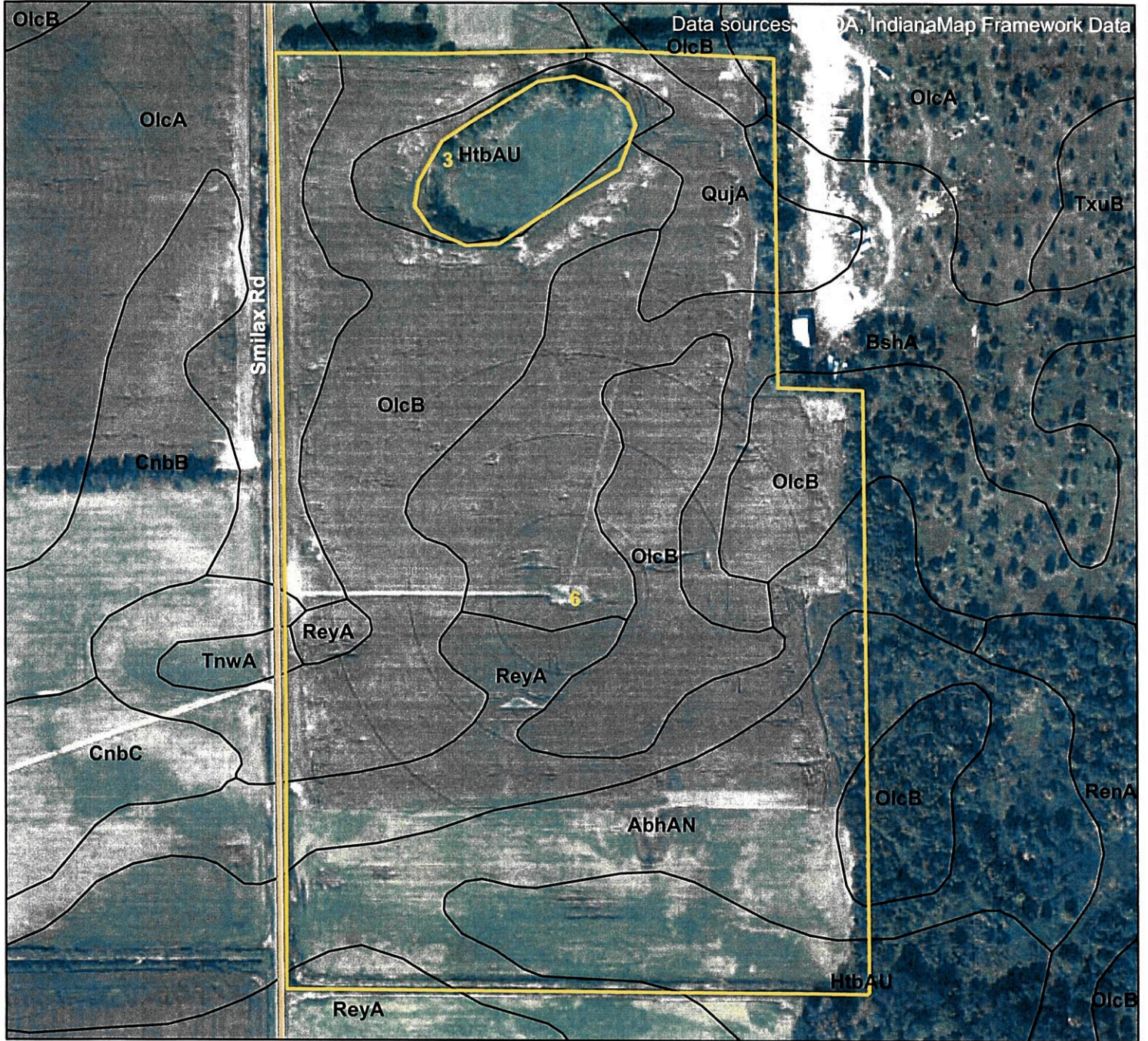
Tract: 365

Owner: (Not Entered)

Geographic County: Saint Joseph, IN

Operator: (Not Entered)

FSA Admin County: Saint Joseph, IN





Data sources: USDA, IndianaMap Framework Data

Base Map Image: St Joseph NAIP 2014 (1m Color)

Map Prepared By: Knepp

Map Production Date: 1/13/2017

-  USDA Soils
-  Tract and Fields

This is a map of the soil survey data (SSURGO) on the request site. Hydric soil characteristics are one of the three factors or criteria (soils, vegetation, and water by saturation or inundation) for evaluating wetland conditions as required by the 1985 Food Security Act Wetland Conservation Provisions. Soil Survey mapping in Indiana was done on imagery base maps from 1:12,000 to 1:20,000 scales. Due to differences in mapping scales, final NRCS determination delineations may or may not match SSURGO boundaries.





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Hydric Soil Map

Farm: 5380

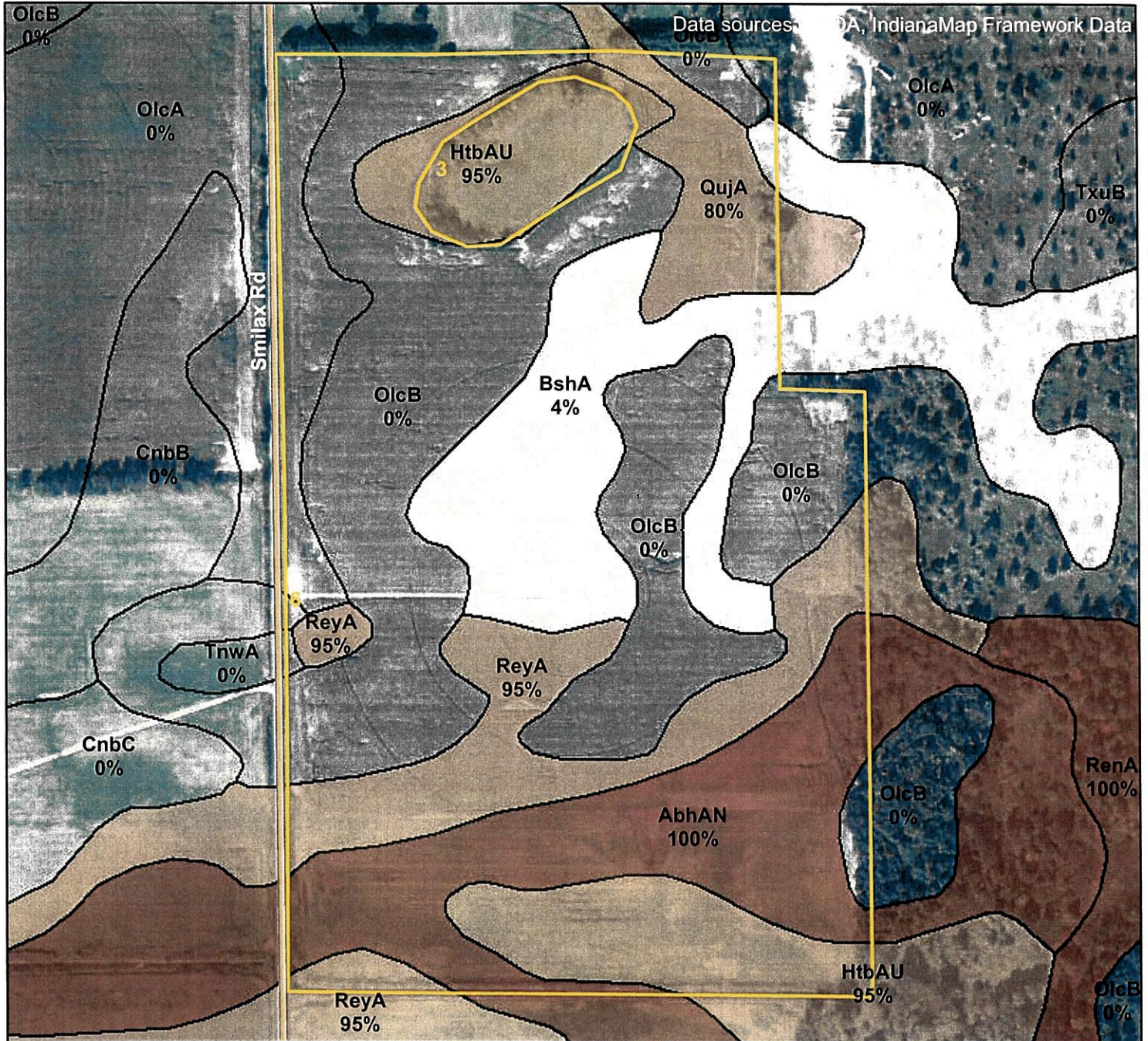
Tract: 365

Owner: (Not Entered)

Geographic County: Saint Joseph, IN

Operator: (Not Entered)

FSA Admin County: Saint Joseph, IN



Base Map Image: St Joseph NAIP 2014 (1m Color)

Map Prepared By: Knepp

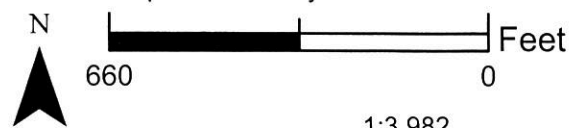
Map Production Date: 1/13/2017

Tract and Fields

Hydric Classification - Presence (%)

- Not Hydric or Not Classified (0%)
- Predominantly Non-Hydric (1-33%)
- Somewhat Hydric (34-66%)
- Predominantly Hydric (67-99%)
- All Hydric (100%)

This is a map of the hydric presence of the soil survey data (SSURGO) on the request site. Hydric soil characteristics are one of the three factors or criteria (soils, vegetation, and water by saturation or inundation) for evaluating wetland conditions as required by the 1985 Food Security Act Wetland Conservation Provisions. Soil surveys can be the sole indicator that an area contains a predominance of hydric soils. Onsite soil investigations may supersede SSURGO data for either the absence or presence of hydric soils.





United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Wetlands Inventory Map

Farm: 5380

Tract: 365

Owner: (Not Entered)

Geographic County: Saint Joseph, IN

Operator: (Not Entered)

FSA Admin County: Saint Joseph, IN

Data sources: USDA, IndianaMap Framework Data



Base Map Image: St Joseph NAIP 2014 (1m Color)

Map Prepared By: Knepp

Map Production Date: 1/13/2017

- Tract and Fields
- USFWS NWI

This is a map of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) on the request site. It is used by NRCS to help identify potential locations for wetlands. NWI wetlands were identified with a different categorization system by the USFWS and may not actually locate a wetland that meets the definitions of the 1985 Food Security Act. NWI mapping scale varied by USFWS mapping project. Due to differences in definitions and mapping scales, final NRCS determination delineations may or may not utilize NWI boundaries.





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Local Resolution Hydrography Map

Farm: 5380

Tract: 365

Owner: (Not Entered)

Geographic County: Saint Joseph, IN

Operator: (Not Entered)

FSA Admin County: Saint Joseph, IN



Base Map Image: St Joseph NAIP 2014 (1m Color)

Map Prepared By: Knepp

Map Production Date: 1/13/2017

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Tract and Fields | Lake or Pond |
| Perennial Stream | Reservoir |
| Intermittent Stream | Swamp or Marsh |
| Ephemeral Stream | |
| Concentrated Flow | |
| Canal/Ditch | |
| Artificial Path | |
| Connector | |

This is a map of the USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) local resolution data on the request site. It is used by NRCS to help identify potential locations for wetlands. The presence or absence of any feature does not indicate the presence or absence of any wetland features as defined by the Food Security Act of 1985. The local resolution NHD was mapped as an update to the hydrography features from the USGS topographic maps using high resolution aerial imagery and elevation datasets from between 2005 and 2013.





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Contour Map

Farm: 5380

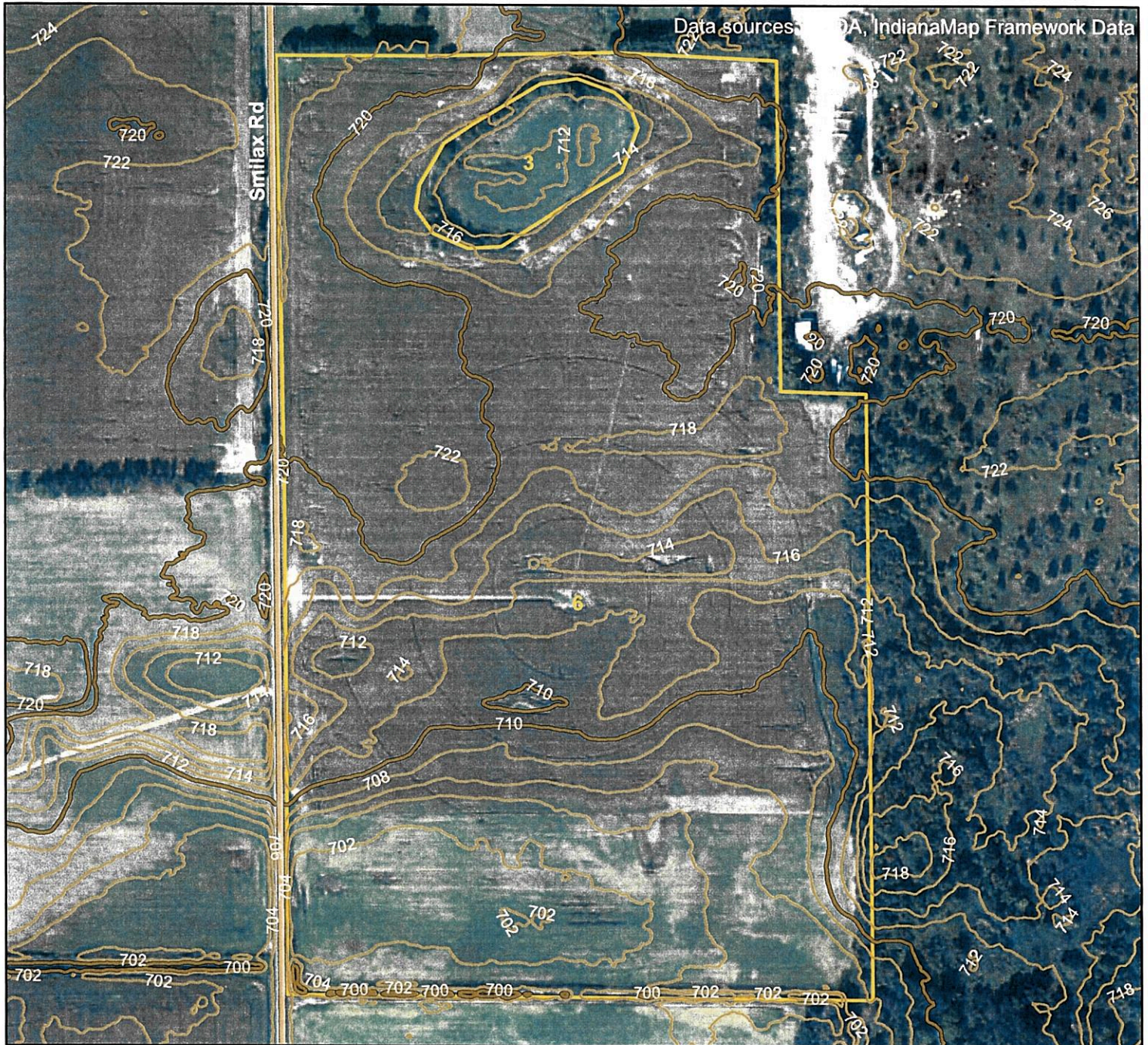
Tract: 365

Owner: (Not Entered)

Geographic County: Saint Joseph, IN

Operator: (Not Entered)

FSA Admin County: Saint Joseph, IN



Data sources: USDA, IndianaMap Framework Data

Base Map Image: St Joseph NAIP 2014 (1m Color)

Map Prepared By: Knepp

Map Production Date: 1/13/2017

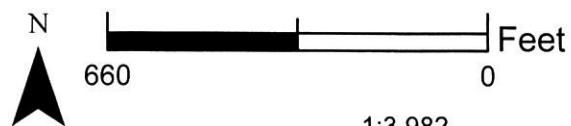
Tract and Fields

Contour Lines

Intermediate

Index

This is a map of contour line data generated from IndianaMap's high resolution Digital Elevation Models (DEMs) on the request site. It is used by NRCS as a reference dataset that provides detailed information about the topographic characteristics at and around the site. Contours are a cartographic representation of lines of common elevation. The horizontal accuracy of the DEM data is +/- 5 feet and the vertical accuracy is +/- 1 foot.



1:3,982



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Elevation Map

Farm: 5380

Tract: 365

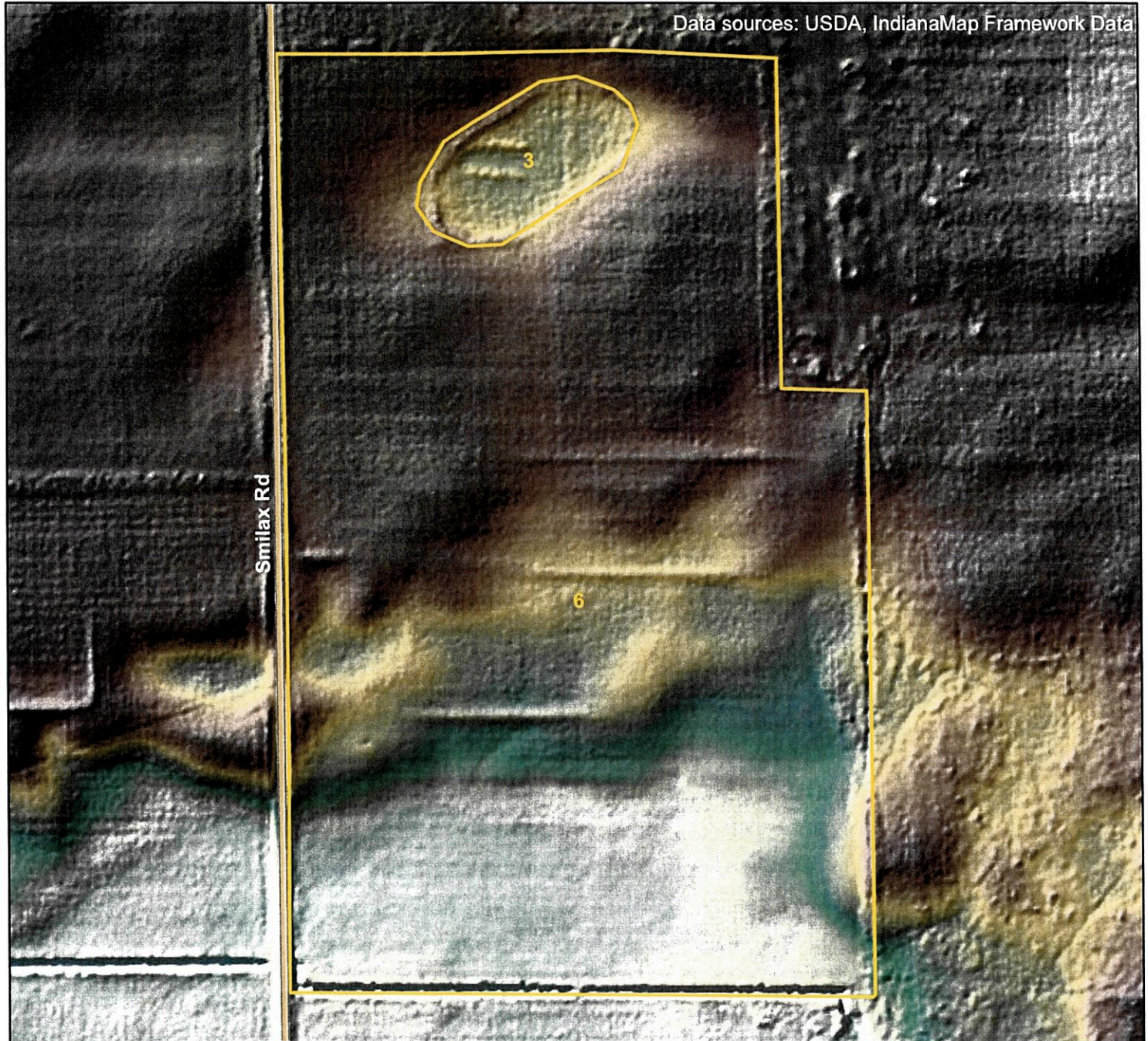
Owner: (Not Entered)

Geographic County: Saint Joseph, IN

Operator: (Not Entered)

FSA Admin County: Saint Joseph, IN


Data sources: USDA, IndianaMap Framework Data




Base Map Image: St Joseph NAIP 2014 (1m Color)

Map Prepared By: Knepp

Map Production Date: 1/13/2017

 Tract and Fields

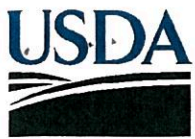
DEM

 - High
- Low

This is a map of the elevations of the request site displayed by color coding the elevations from IndianaMap's high resolution Digital Elevation Model (DEM) data. It is used by NRCS as a reference dataset that provides detailed information about the topographic characteristics at and around the site. The horizontal accuracy of the DEM data is +/- 5 feet and the vertical accuracy is +/- 1 foot.



1:3,982



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Slope Map

Farm: 5380

Tract: 365

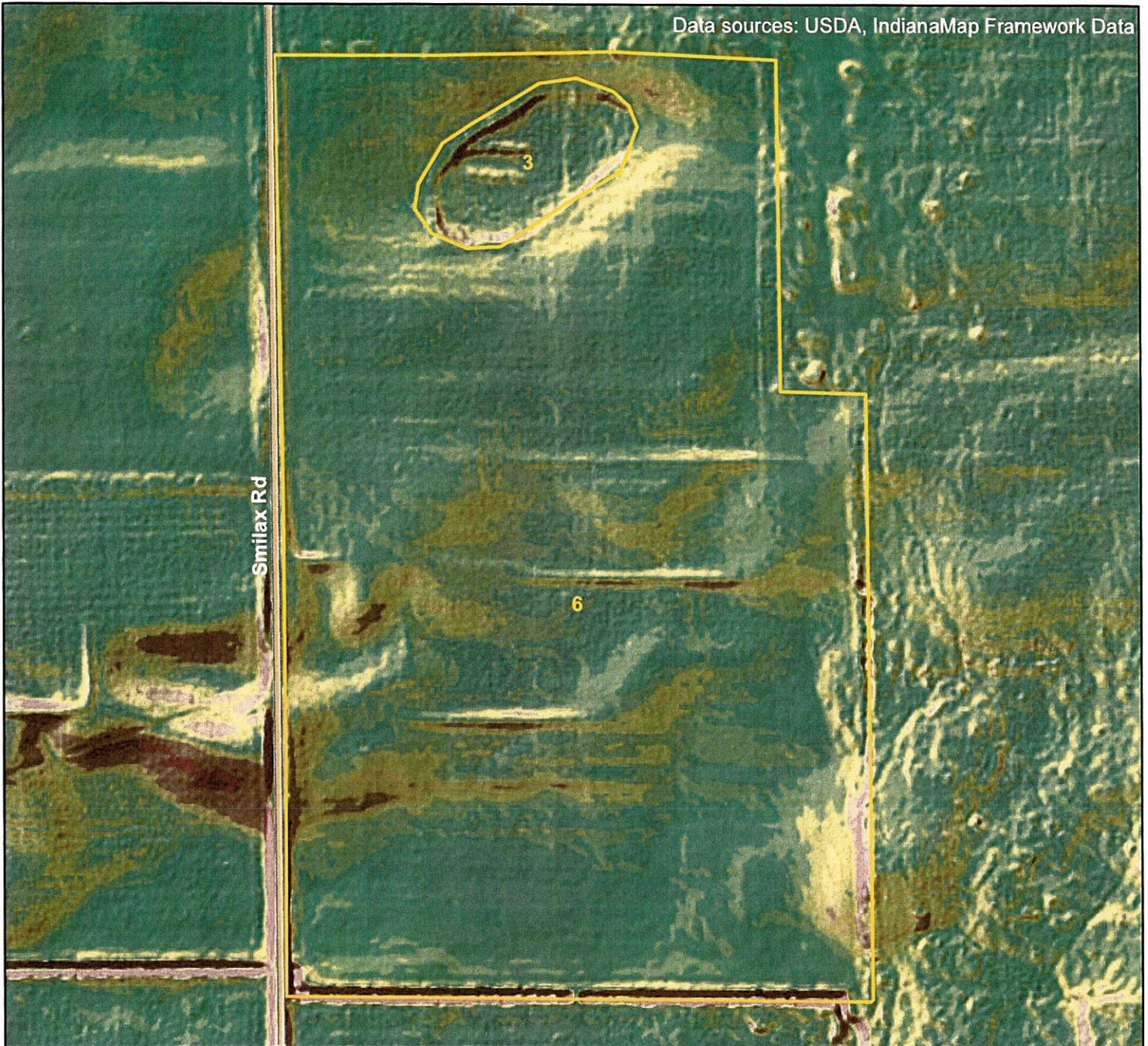
Owner: (Not Entered)

Geographic County: Saint Joseph, IN

Operator: (Not Entered)

FSA Admin County: Saint Joseph, IN

Data sources: USDA, IndianaMap Framework Data



Base Map Image: St Joseph NAIP 2014 (1m Color)

Map Prepared By: Knepp

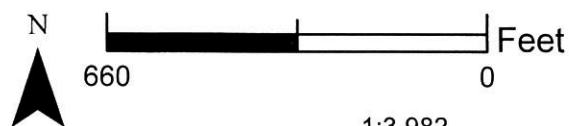
Map Production Date: 1/13/2017

Slope Percent

- 0.00% - 2.00%
- 2.01% - 4.00%
- 4.01% - 6.00%
- 6.01% - 8.00%
- 8.01% - 12.00%
- >12.00%

Tract and Fields

This is a map of the average slope of the request site computed from IndianaMap's high resolution Digital Elevation Model (DEM) data. It is used by NRCS as a reference dataset that provides detailed information about the slope at and around the site. The horizontal accuracy of the DEM data is +/- 5 feet and the vertical accuracy is +/- 1 foot.





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Depth Grid (Fill) Map

Farm: 5380

Tract: 365

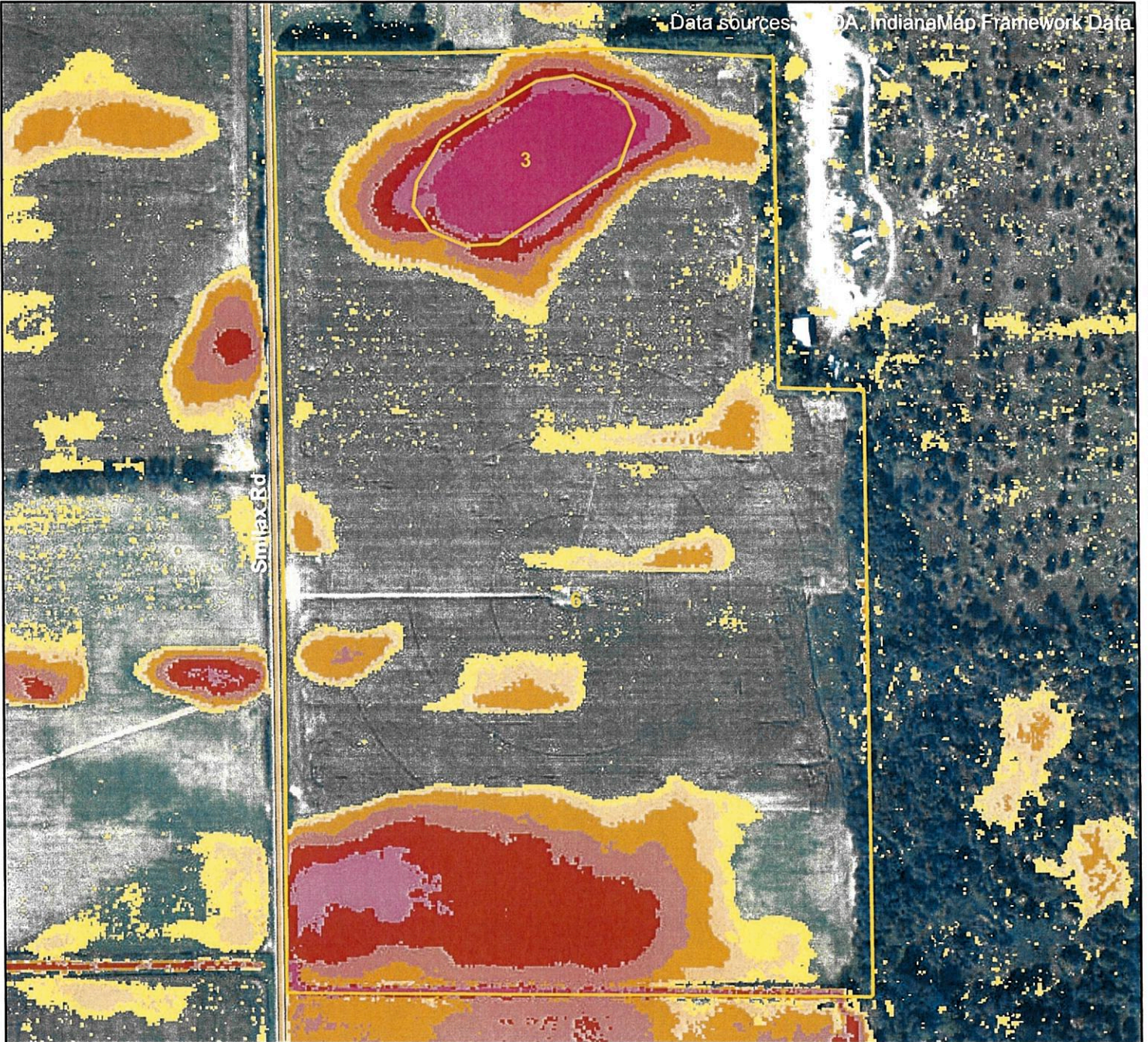
Owner: (Not Entered)

Geographic County: Saint Joseph, IN

Operator: (Not Entered)

FSA Admin County: Saint Joseph, IN

Data sources: USDA, IndianaMap Framework Data








Base Map Image: St Joseph NAIP 2014 (1m Color)

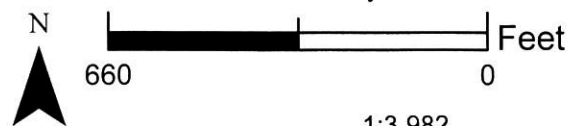
Map Prepared By: Knepp

Map Production Date: 1/13/2017

Local Depth Grid (Fill)  Tract and Fields

-  0 to 1 in.
-  1 to 6 in.
-  6 in. to 1 ft.
-  1 to 2 ft.
-  2 to 3 ft.
-  3. to 4 ft.
-  4 to 5 ft.
-  >5 ft.

This is a map that displays low lying collection areas of the request site and is computed via a Fill process from IndianaMap's high resolution Digital Elevation Model (DEM) data. It is used by NRCS as a reference dataset to identify potential low lying areas with no surface outlet. Low lying areas shown may or may not have a surface outlet. Other areas with surface outlets may not be shown. Proper interpretation of the data is needed to avoid misunderstanding. The horizontal accuracy of the DEM data is +/- 5 feet and the vertical accuracy is +/- 1 foot.



1:3,982

Field Office Report
December 19, 2016 – January 13, 2017

Deb – Acting DC in LaPorte from Jan 4 – Feb 3rd (3 days in LaPorte)

Environmental Quality Incentive Program

Practice Reminder letters (all active contracts)

Revise Monarch/Pollinator Habitat seeding mix for landowner

Application packet mailed to producer

Field verify Seasonal High Tunnel

Process payments – Forage/Biomass Planting; Invasive Species Control

Deliver Engineering plans for 30' deep gully in woods

Wetland Reserve Enhancement Program

2 Restoration contracts approved on existing sites – additional tile breaks; enhancement of herbaceous plantings

Compatible use request to remove raspberries

Wetlands – 1 determination for a report of a potential violation

Provide dimensions of wetland area to landowner

Provide previous wetland determination information to the Farm Service Agency

Program/Practice values for leveraging form

Truck auctioned and removed

Annual Report

Annual Financial Review

Legislative Notebook

CWI Annual Report

Meetings:

Staff Meetings – 3

EQIP/CSP Training

Food and Agriculture Council meeting

NRCS Area Meeting

Webinar – Weather Extremes

Office Closed – Dec 26, Jan 2

Education Report

December 17, 2016 – January 13, 2017

Science Alive Prep

Work on EEC's supervisors report

Work on Annual Conference presentation

7 in-school program days for 7 different schools.

Program	# of presentations
Jethro	2
Spirit of America	1
Wildlife Dynamics	1
Earthworms	1
Invasive Species	1
Insects	2
Legends/Folktales	1
Soils	1
Wetlands	1
Water and You	2
Soil Health	2
Environmental Concerns	1
Recycling	1
Amphibians/Reptiles	5
Animals of IN	3

DC Talking Points

January, 2017

FARM BILL UPDATES

1 - St. Joe
1 - Elkhart

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) –Applications for CSP will be accepted through **February 3, 2017**. The new CSP helps producers better evaluate their conservation options and the benefits to their operations and natural resources. Changes that producers can expect to see include nearly double the enhancements and conservation practices offered and better reporting tools to tell them the results of their conservation efforts on their land. Also, agricultural producers and forest landowners earn payments for actively managing, maintaining, and expanding conservation activities like cover crops, ecologically-based pest management, buffer strips, and pollinator habitat – all while maintaining active agriculture production on their land. CSP is for producers who are already established conservation stewards and who want to add more conservation benefits on their land. Information about CSP, including national and state ranking questions and enhancement descriptions, is available at www.nrcs.usda.gov/csp.

St. Joe - 5
LaPorte - 3

Wetland Reserve Easement Program (WRE) - Indiana NRCS will receive nearly \$13 million for the Wetland Reserve Easement program this year. This is almost three times last year's allocation. Please help us promote this opportunity to anyone who might have interest. Contact Beth Clarizia, Acting Easement Program Specialist, at Beth.clarizia@in.usda.gov or 317-295-5821.

Wetland Reserve Easement Partnership (WREP) - NRCS is partnering with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to make over \$1.5 million available in financial and technical assistance through WREP. WREP is a targeted partnership program in the Lower Wabash and White River watersheds in southwest Indiana and focuses on protecting water quality and at risk species habitat through wetland easements and restorations. WREP addresses high-priority wetland protection, restoration, and enhancement activities and improve wildlife habitat on eligible lands within these watersheds. Private landowners and other eligible entities located in Warren, Fountain, Vermillion, Parke, Vigo, Sullivan, Knox, Dubois, Pike, Gibson, Daviess, Greene, and Posey counties must submit applications for the current funding pool on or before **January 13, 2017**. Funding is also available to assist landowners with mineral rights issues associated with wetland easements through the Conservation Law Center.

St. Joe -
LaPorte - 5
(made contact w/ those who weren't given specific deadline).

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) - EQIP Conservation Activity Plan applications are accepted and funded on an ongoing basis pending available funding and program eligibility. Participants must use a Technical Service Provider found in TechReg to write any Conservation Activity Plan.

Beginning in Fiscal Year 2017, a Nutrient Management Conservation Activity Plan (CAP 104) will be needed as the plan component when applying through EQIP for Nutrient Management (590). This only applies to new applications beginning in 2017. Producers can apply for a CAP 104 at the same time they apply for 590. Applications for CAPs can be accepted/evaluated immediately, and funded if program eligibility requirements are met.

January 20, 2017 is the application cutoff for the following EQIP and Resource Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) initiatives:

1. General EQIP
2. State EQIP Wildlife Habitat General
3. State EQIP Wildlife Habitat Pollinators
4. State EQIP Wildlife Habitat Invasive Species Treatment



5. Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)
6. Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Initiative (LRP)
7. Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Restoration Initiative (MRBI)
8. Monarch Butterfly Habitat Development Project (Monarch HDP)
9. National On-Farm Energy Initiative
10. National Organic Initiative
11. National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI)
12. Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB)
13. Working Lands for Wildlife 2.0: Bobwhite Habitat in Working Grasslands
14. RCPP- Big Pine Watershed
15. RCPP- Indiana Watershed Initiative (Cover Crop/Two-Stage Ditch Project)
16. RCPP- Soil Health on Reclaimed Mine Lands Project
17. RCPP- Tri State Western Lake Erie Basin Project

For more information about EQIP or RCPP projects visit our website

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/in/programs/financial/eqip/> or
<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/in/programs/farmland/rcpp/>.

PROGRAM SUPPORT SERVICES AND CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM AGREEMENTS

The Program Support Services (PSS) and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) agreement between NRCS and the Indiana Association of Conservation Districts (IASWCD) is on schedule to begin in January, however there may be a slight delay in the individual Soil and Water Conservation District Boards contracts due to the holidays. We have discussed the upcoming agreement at each of the four NRCS area meetings and a question and answer document from these sessions will be available on the IN NRCS Share point under the Programs tab in the PSS folder. Please contact Whitney.McGrew@in.nacdnet.net or Susan.Meadows@in.usda.gov if you have additional questions.

INFORMATION SECURITY AWARENESS TRAINING

All USDA employees, partners, TSPs, volunteers and contractors who have access to a CCE compliant computer must complete the mandatory annual information security awareness (ISA) training. This training is required by law and is an essential part of keeping the information systems secure. The deadline for completing this training is February 1, 2017. Those who do not complete the training by this deadline will have their access to USDA computer systems suspended until the training is complete.

CONSERVATION EFFECTS ASSESSMENT PROJECT (CEAP) - REDUCTION IN ANNUAL FUEL USE FROM CONSERVATION TILLAGE

Conservation tillage is one of the most widely adopted conservation practices in the country. The CEAP-1 survey of farmers from 2003 through 2006 indicates that nearly 86 percent of the nation's cultivated cropland acres use some form of conservation tillage for at least one crop in the crop rotation. In addition to the more commonly recognized environmental benefit of reduced soil disturbance, conservation tillage significantly reduces fuel consumption and therefore emissions from operations. CEAP recently published an article on this topic titled: "Conservation Insight on Fuel Savings and Emissions Reductions from Conservation Tillage Adoption." To read the full article please visit: http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcseprd1258255.pdf

SECOND YEAR CONSERVATION EFFECTS ASSESSMENT PROJECT (CEAP) SURVEY

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will launch the second year of its Natural Resources Inventory – Conservation Effects Assessment Project national cropland survey this fall. NASS is in the second year of the two-year survey. The second official survey period will cover November 2016 – February 2017. This data collection is critical because the quality of the information gathered from farmers provides conservation leaders and policymakers with valuable data to measure the success and impact of our conservation programs. The survey



results also can be used to determine what farmers need to more effectively implement conservation practices on their agricultural land and identify natural resource issues that need to be addressed.

NASS enumerators will attempt to survey about 23,500 farmers (439 in Indiana) in 2,150 counties across the U.S. Data collection will begin the week of February 13 and will need to be completed by May 12, 2017. Training for the field will be provided on a request basis as a refresher or for new DCs. If interested, they should contact Rick Neilson at rick.neilson@in.usda.gov.

Visit https://www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Conservation_Effects_Assessment_Project/index.php for additional information about the NRI-CEAP survey process.



Project: Indiana Cropland Transect Survey

Year: 2015 FALL

County: ST JOSEPH

Percent and Number of ST JOSEPH County fields with indicated Tillage system for each Present crop.

Present crop	No Till		Strip Till		Ridge Till		Mulch Till		Reduced Till		Conventional Tillage		Tillage Unknown or N/A		Cover Crops	
	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts
Corn	46%	86	0%	0	0%	0	51%	96	2%	4	1%	1	0%	0	17%	32
Soybeans	50%	86	0%	0	0%	0	26%	45	15%	26	8%	13	0%	0	27%	46
Small grains	20%	2	0%	0	0%	0	30%	3	20%	2	20%	2	0%	0	30%	3
Hay/Pasture	4%	2	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	2%	1	2%	1	0%	0	4%	2
Fallow	6%	1	0%	0	0%	0	6%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	6%	1
Specialty Crops	40%	2	0%	0	0%	0	20%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	60%	3
CRP and similar	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
TOTALS	40%	179	0%	0	0%	0	33%	146	7%	33	4%	17	0%	0	20%	87

Estimated Acres of ST JOSEPH County Corn and Soybeans with indicated Tillage system for each Present crop (based on 2014 NASS data)

Present crop	No Till + Strip + Ridge acres	Mulch Till acres	Reduced Till acres	Conventional Tillage acres	Cover Crops acres
Corn	32,900	36,500	1,400	700	12,200
Soybeans	22,700	11,800	6,800	3,600	12,300
TOTALS	55,600	48,300	8,200	4,300	24,500

Estimated Percents of ST JOSEPH County Cover Crops, Quality, and Methods

	COVER CROP SPECIES											CC QUALITY				CC METHOD			
	A	B	C	G	L	O	W	Y	S	P	N	G	F	P	N	B	D	N	
Corn	4.8%	0%	1.6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10.6%	83%	10.6%	5.9%	0.5%	83%	3.3%	3.7%	83%
Soybeans	15.1%	0%	0.6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11%	73.3%	15.1%	7%	4.7%	73.3%	5.7%	10.5%	73.8%
Small Grains	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	70%	20%	10%	0%	70%	30%	0%	70%
Specialty Crops	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	40%	40%	40%	20%	0%	40%	60%	0%	40%

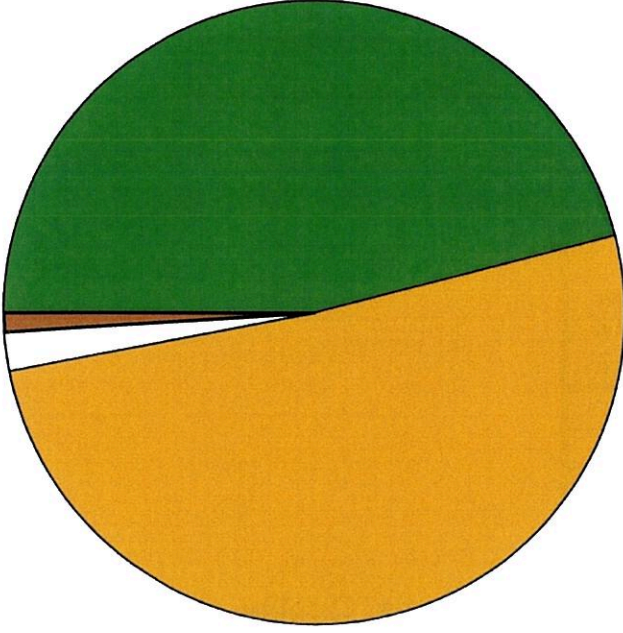
- Acreage Estimates from NASS 2012 (corn and soybean only)

- Erosion estimates are from USLE based on each point's R, k, LS, and appropriate C factor based on rotation and tillage

- Diesel fuel savings are from NRCS Energy Estimators - Tillage

ST JOSEPH

2015 FALL Tillage Data - Corn

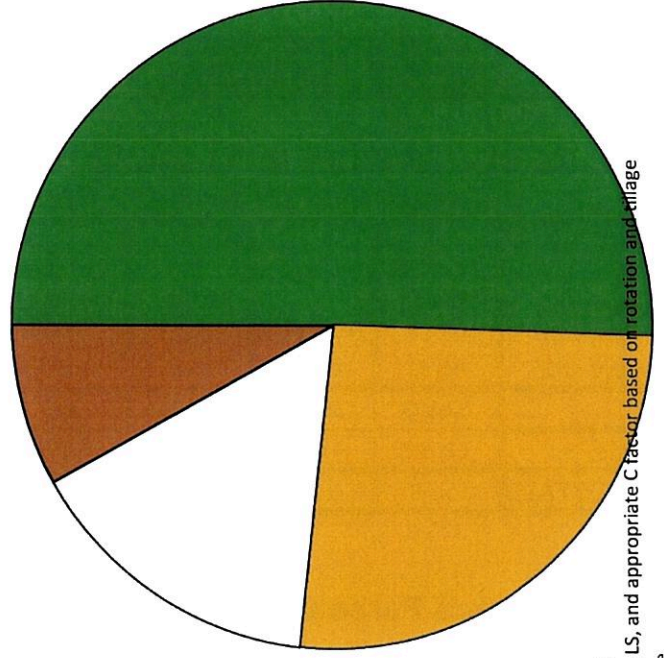


- No-Till * (46%) = 32900 ac
- Mulch Till (51%) = 36500 ac
- Reduced Till (2%) = 1400 ac
- Conventional (1%) = 700 ac

* **No-Till** - Any direct seeding system, including site preparation, with minimal soil disturbance (includes strip & ridge till)

Mulch Till - Any tillage system leaving 30% - 75% residue cover after planting, excluding no-till

2015 FALL Tillage Data - Soybean



- No-Till * (50%) = 22700 ac
- Mulch Till (26%) = 11800 ac
- Reduced Till (15%) = 6800 ac
- Conventional (8%) = 3600 ac

Reduced - Any tillage system leaving 16% - 30% residue cover after planting

Conventional - Any tillage system leaving less than 15% residue cover after planting

- Acreage Estimates from NASS 2009 (corn and soybean only)
 - Erosion estimates are from USLE based on each point's R, K, LS, and appropriate C factor based on rotation and tillage
 - Diesel fuel savings are from NRCS Energy Estimators - Tillage

Project: Indiana Cropland Transect Survey

Year: 2016 FALL

County: ST JOSEPH

Percent and Number of ST JOSEPH County fields with indicated Tillage system for each Present crop.

Present crop	No Till		Strip Till		Ridge Till		Mulch Till		Reduced Till		Conventional Tillage		Tillage Unknown or N/A		Cover Crops	
	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts	%	pts
Corn	75%	156	0%	0	0%	0	24%	50	1%	2	0%	0	0%	0	24%	49
Soybeans	72%	117	0%	0	0%	0	3%	5	6%	9	19%	31	0%	0	25%	41
Small grains	25%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	75%	3	0%	0	25%	1
Hay/Pasture	100%	36	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Fallow	100%	23	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Specialty Crops	60%	3	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	40%	2	0%	0	40%	2
CRP and similar	100%	5	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
TOTALS	77%	341	0%	0	0%	0	12%	55	2%	11	8%	36	0%	0	21%	93

Estimated Acres of ST JOSEPH County Corn and Soybeans with indicated Tillage system for each Present crop (based on 2016 NASS data)

Present crop	No Till + Strip + Ridge acres	Mulch Till acres	Reduced Till acres	Conventional Tillage acres	Cover Crops acres
Corn	49,500	15,800	700	0	15,800
Soybeans	34,000	1,400	2,800	9,000	11,800
TOTALS	83,500	17,200	3,500	9,000	27,600

Estimated Percents of ST JOSEPH County Cover Crops, Quality, and Methods

	COVER CROP SPECIES											CC QUALITY				CC METHOD		
	A	B	C	G	L	O	W	Y	S	P	N	G	F	P	N	B	D	N
Corn	19.7%	4.3%	2.9%	0%	0%	0.5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	76.4%	20.2%	2.4%	0.5%	76.9%	22.1%	1%	76.9%
Soybeans	24.1%	1.2%	1.2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	74.7%	16.7%	6.8%	1.9%	74.7%	17.9%	7.4%	74.7%
Small Grains	25%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	75%	0%	25%	0%	75%	25%	0%	75%
Specialty Crops	40%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	60%	40%	0%	0%	60%	40%	0%	60%

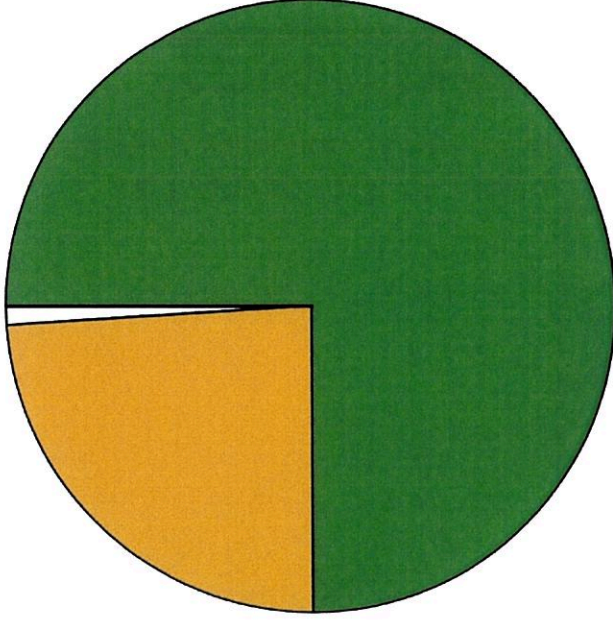
- Acreage Estimates from NASS 2012 (corn and soybean only)

- Erosion estimates are from USLE based on each point's R, k, LS, and appropriate C factor based on rotation and tillage

- Diesel fuel savings are from NRCS Energy Estimators - Tillage

ST JOSEPH

2016 FALL Tillage Data - Corn

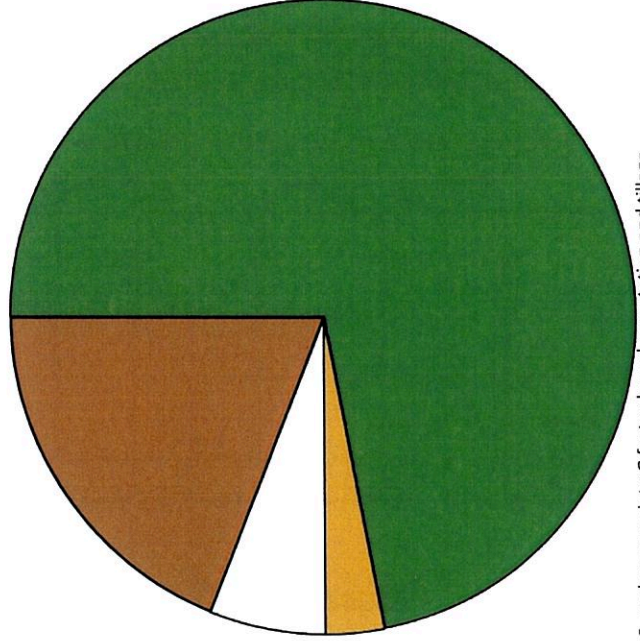


- No-Till * (75%) = 49500 ac
- Mulch Till (24%) = 15800 ac
- Reduced Till (1%) = 700 ac
- Conventional (0%) = 0 ac

* No-Till - Any direct seeding system, including site preparation, with minimal soil disturbance (includes strip & ridge till)

Mulch Till - Any tillage system leaving 30% - 75% residue cover after planting, excluding no-till

2016 FALL Tillage Data - Soybean



- No-Till * (72%) = 34000 ac
- Mulch Till (3%) = 1400 ac
- Reduced Till (6%) = 2800 ac
- Conventional (19%) = 9000 ac

Reduced - Any tillage system leaving 16% - 30% residue cover after planting

Conventional - Any tillage system leaving less than 15% residue cover after planting

- Acreage Estimates from NASS 2009 (corn and soybean only)
 - Erosion estimates are from USLE based on each point's R, k, LS, and appropriate C factor based on rotation and tillage
 - Diesel fuel savings are from NRCS Energy Estimators - Tillage

INDIANA AGVOCATE

Indiana Agvocate Program

Indiana State Department of Agriculture

Kimmi Devaney

Agricultural Marketing & Industry Development Manager

Email: KDevaney@isda.in.gov

Ph: 317.450.3570

Purpose

The Indiana Agvocate program will help those interested in promoting agriculture to the general public more effectively discuss industry topics, break through industry jargon and learn how to tell their agriculture story utilizing social media, presentations, events and more.

Consumers and farmers have choices regarding how food is grown/produced. A goal of this program is to provide information regarding how to share this information without speaking negatively about others in agriculture that may not share those views.

Program Overview

We will tailor trainings to the audience and topics may vary between sessions. Regardless of the length, all trainings will involve two informational presentations about key industry topics. This will help participants better message this information in their outreach efforts.

The public relations session will include:

- How to develop messages to break through industry jargon and scientific terminology so the average person will understand
- Outreach ideas (presentations to civic organizations/non-ag groups, social media, on-farm events, off-farm events, etc.)
- The importance of promoting agriculture in everyday conversations
- Tips for advocating on the internet
- Time for participants to develop their own outreach plan

After the training, I will be a resource for participants as they carry out their outreach plans. Networking is an essential part of advocacy and there is value to participants meeting with each other face to face.

Why it's needed

With less than two percent of Americans involved in agriculture, it is more important than ever for everyone—whether or not they are farming—to know how to be an effective spokesperson for the industry. With social media, everyone is a reporter and everything is on the record. This can be scary when people don't know how to respond. The Indiana Advocate Program will give participants the skills to feel confident speaking on a number of livestock-related topics with consumers on and off line.

Who can participate?

- Crop and livestock farmers
- People who grew up on farms/around agriculture, but who are not currently farming
- Agriculture students
- Others interested in promoting agriculture to the general public

Value to participants

- Improve communications skills
- Enhance networking within the livestock industry
- Gain a better understanding of livestock issues and the proper method for responding
- Assist in developing individual outreach plans

To register for the trainings, contact Kimmi Devaney at KDevaney@isda.in.gov or call 317.450.3570. All trainings are 6-9 p.m. unless otherwise stated. Registration deadlines are three days prior to the scheduled training.

- **January 23-Lebanon (Boone County)**, hosted by Boone County Farm Bureau
- **January 26-Plymouth (Marshall County)**, hosted by Marshall County Farm Bureau
- **February 2-French Lick (Orange County)**, 3:00-4:30 p.m., hosted by Indiana Dairy Producers in conjunction with the inaugural Indiana Dairy Forum