

Building Collaborative Geodesign Systems in Agricultural Contexts

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Background: Two main projects

Seven Mile Creek, near St. Peter MN

- Years-long, transdisciplinary project
- Several GIS research assistants
- Multiple geodesign applications
- Iterative improvements

Middle Cedar River Watershed, Iowa

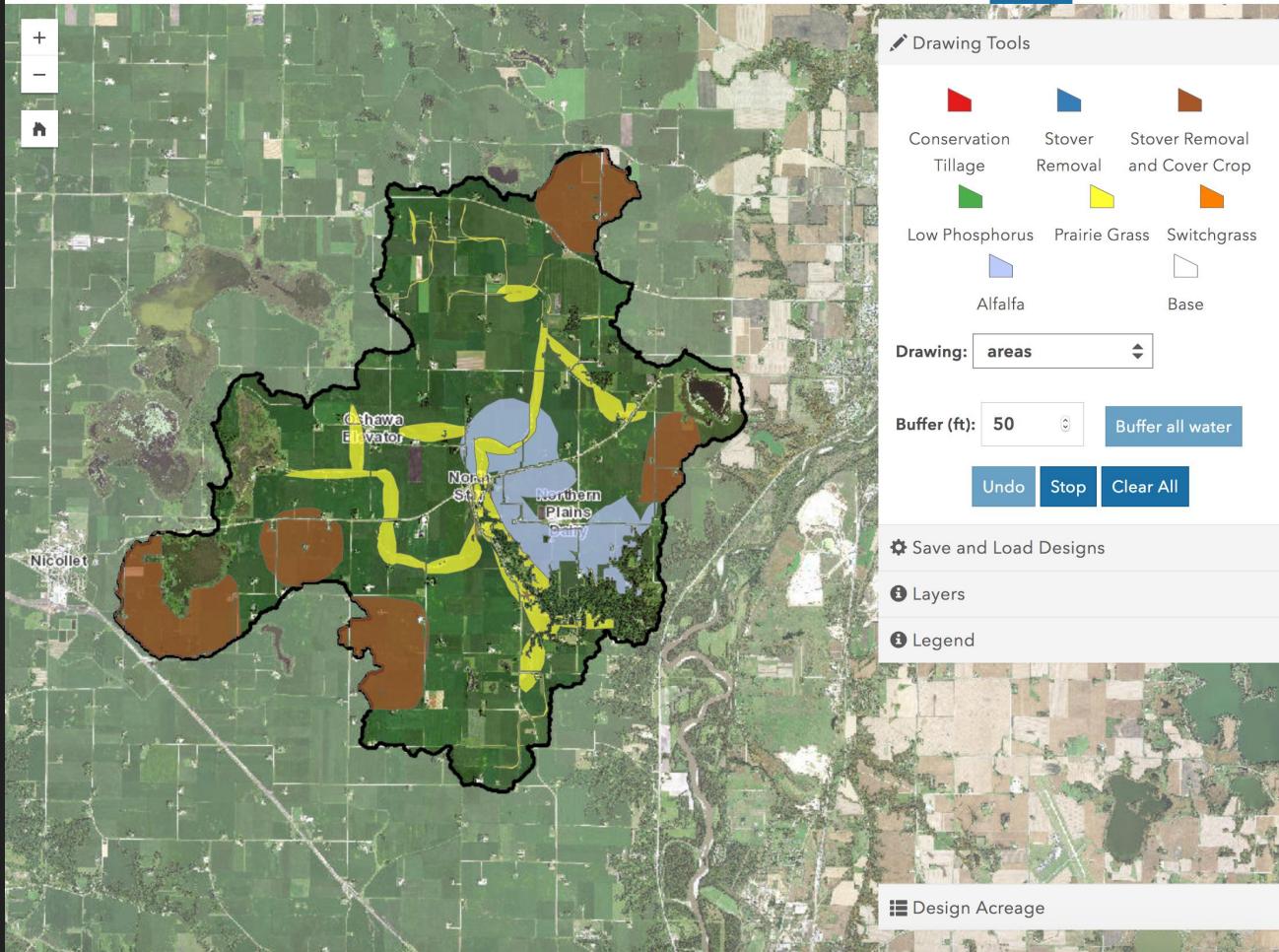
- One geodesign application (copy of 7MC v4)
- Multiple sub-watersheds; one significantly larger AOI (~9.4x editable acreage)

Application user needs

Very simplified, assumes existing knowledge (landscape, economics, etc.)

1. Adjust agricultural practice application
2. View and understand the impact of these changes
3. Compare results between designs
4. Iterate

Seven Mile Creek Geodesign

[Draw](#)[Results](#)[Compare](#)

Middle Cedar Geodesign (Rock Creek)

[Draw](#)[Results](#)[Compare](#)

Aerial satellite map showing agricultural fields. A large area is outlined in black, and several smaller areas within it are highlighted in green. The map is overlaid with a grid of roads and property boundaries.

Drawing Tools

- Base
- CT
- NT
- CC
- NTCC
- RF
- RFNT
- RFCC
- RFNTCCPrairieGrWForest

Drawing: **areas**

Buffer (ft): **250**

Buffer water (50')

Undo Stop Clear All

Save and Load Designs

Layers

Design Acreage

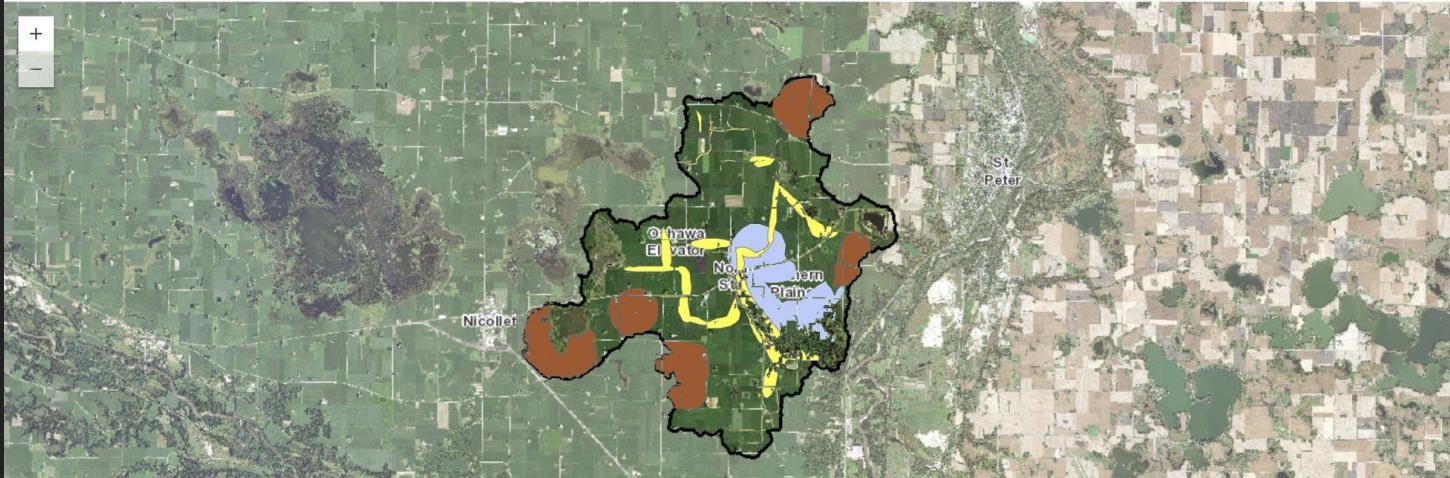
Seven Mile Creek Geodesign

Draw Results Compare

+

-

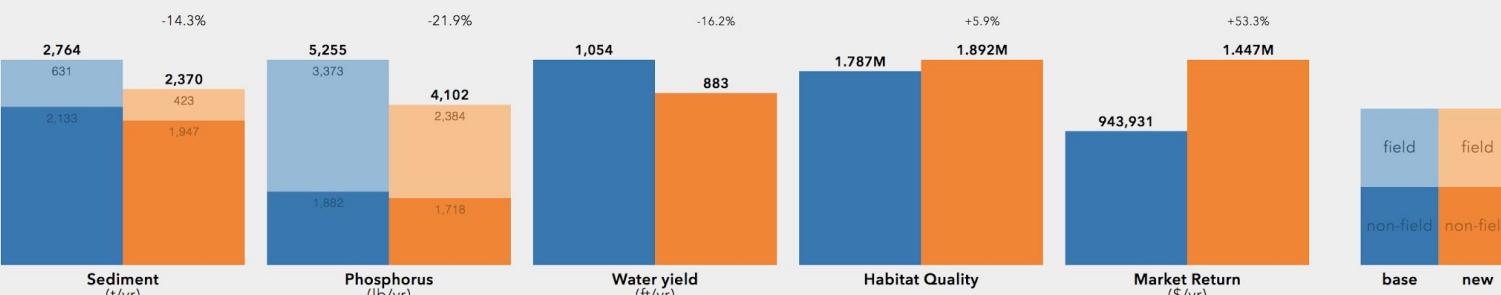
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View Design Results

Name prairie grass 2

\$ Prices

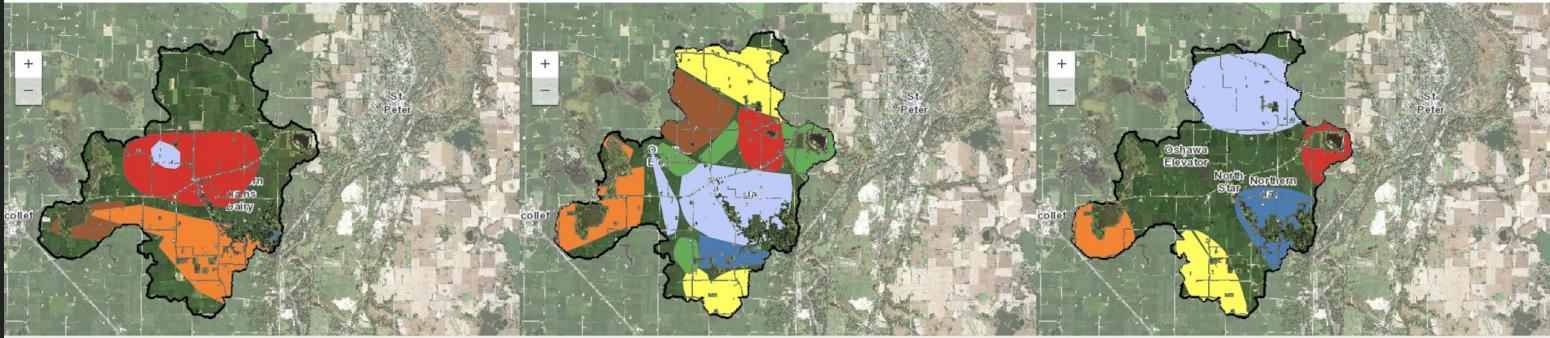


Carbon sequestration
15,874 t/yr

Percent of Acreage by Practice	
Base	65.4%
Alfalfa	8.2%
Conservation Tillage	
Low Phosphorus	
Stover Removal	
Stover and Cover Crop	17.8%
Prairie Grass	8.5%
Switchgrass	0%

Seven Mile Creek Geodesign

Draw Results Compare



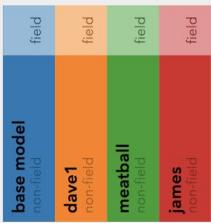
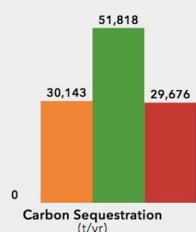
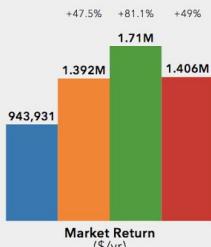
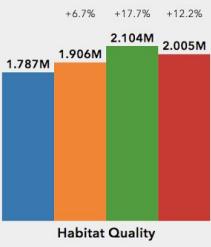
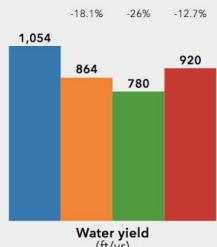
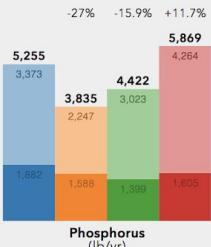
⚙ Designs to Compare

First Design

Second Design

Third Design

\$ Prices



	Percent of Acreage by Practice		
	dave1	meatball	james
Base	55.4%	21%	52.2%
Alfalfa	1.7%	20.2%	21%
Conservation Tillage	22.1%	6.5%	3.7%
Low Phosphorus	10.1%		
Stover Removal	0.3%	4%	7.7%
Stover and Cover Crop	3.1%	9.8%	
Prairie Grass		18.9%	9.7%
Switchgrass	17.4%	9.5%	5.8%

Data/reference for users

- Imagery*
- Land cover
- Water, roads
- Section lines, parcels, other boundaries
- Hillshade/elevation
- Crop productivity
- Soil erosion risk, water quality risk

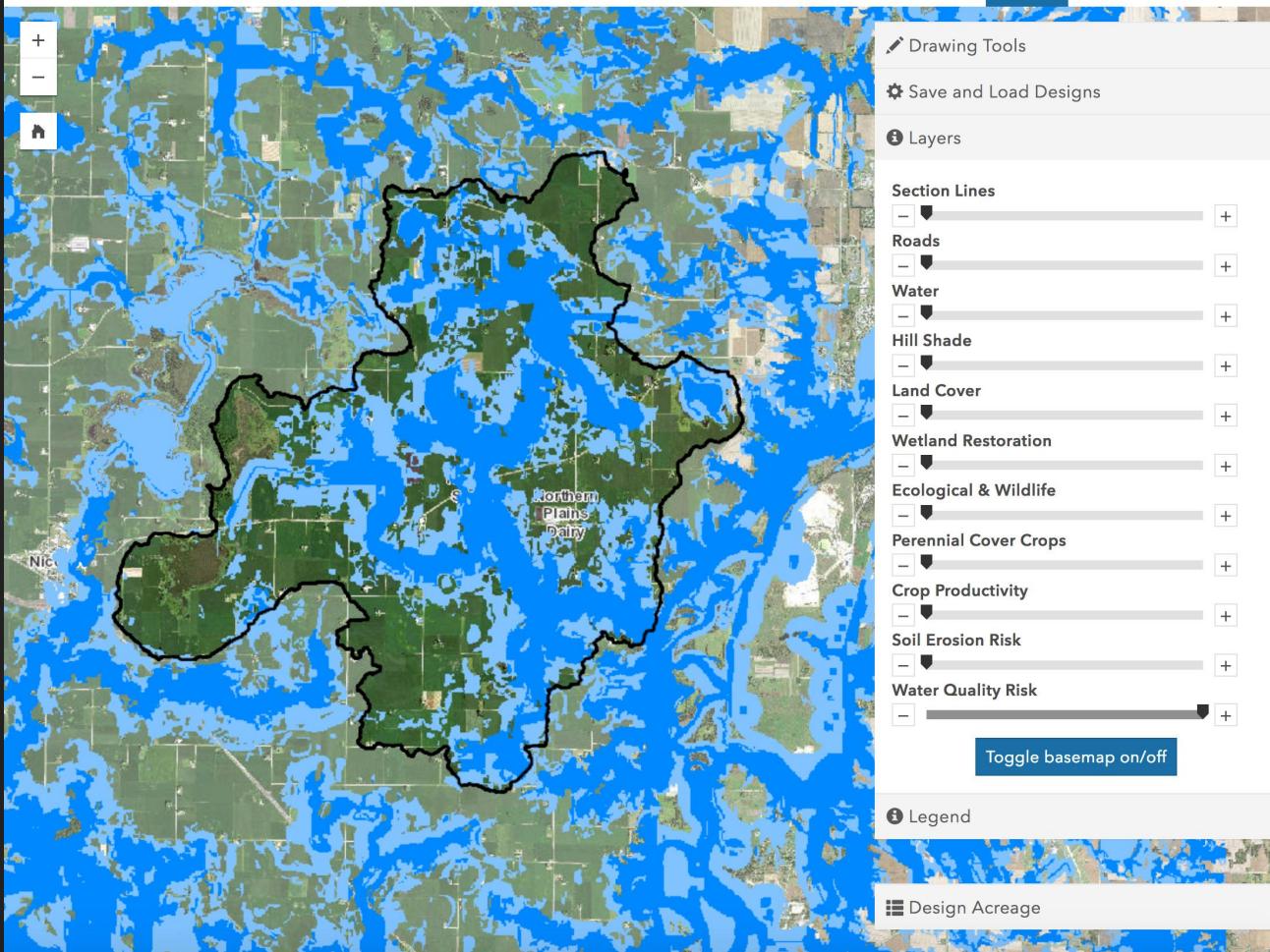
* *Watch out: NAIP horizontal accuracy*

Seven Mile Creek Geodesign

Draw

Results

Compare



Seven Mile Creek app progression

Version	Client App	Drawing	Draw Processing	Design Processing
1	JavaScript	polygon	server	vector
2	Java	polygon	client (and server?)	vector
3	JavaScript	polygon	server	vector
4	JavaScript	polygon buffered line water buffering parcel/section fill	client	raster (mostly)

Modeling

- Hydrologic response units (HRUs)
- Models
 - SWAT
 - InVEST
 - Carbon & Habitat
 - UMN Extension Farmgate Economic Model
- Semi pro-tip: Make sure the modelers generating HRUs use a reasonable projection, one you can easily use with something like your web map tools of choice

So many spreadsheets

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	
1	WS	SCENARIO	HRU	LULC	SCENARIO	LULC_BAS	AREAkM2	AG_COSTS	AG_PROD	AG_PROF1	AG_REVEN	N_LOADIN_P	LOADIN_S	LOADIN	AREAkM2	AG_COSTS	AG_PROD	AG_PROF1	AG_REVEN	N_LOADIN_P	LOADIN_S	LOADIN	AG_PROF1	AG_PROD	AG_REVEN	AG_COSTS	N_LOADIN_P	LOADIN_S	LOADING_REL	
2	M2	CC	1	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.027	2883.44	22.1364	3219.35	6102.79	20.0463	6.7442	8.73234	0.027	2576.29	22.1364	3562.51	6102.79	32.1563	9.10508	13.6123	-307.15	0	0	307.152	-12.11	-2.3609	-4.88	
3	M2	CC	2	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.4014	42867.1	331.904	48479.8	91346.9	94.7926	22.9641	16.7324	0.4014	38300.8	331.904	53046.1	91346.9	96.5487	29.0012	25.6876	-4566.3	0	0	4566.33	-1.7561	-6.0371	-8.9552	
4	M2	CC	3	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0351	3748.47	32.8827	3062.7	6811.17	10.8735	2.2292	5.55826	0.0351	3349.17	23.8827	3462	6811.17	20.4608	3.32608	4.46191	-399.3	0	0	399.298	-9.5874	-1.0969	-1.9036	
5	M2	CC	4	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.3294	35179.7	233.635	30804.7	65982.6	410.459	77.1092	123.677	0.3294	31430.7	233.635	34551.9	65982.6	764.814	110.669	202.877	-3747.3	0	0	3747.25	-354.36	-33.559	-7.201	
6	M2	CC	5	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0747	7977.51	45.0213	4676.62	12564.1	101.69	2.0958	0.10533	0.0747	7127.72	45.0213	5526.41	12564.1	160.546	0.41832	0.22634	-849.79	0	0	849.787	-59.256	-0.1277	-0.121	
7	M2	CC	6	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0387	4132.93	31.5914	4541.62	8674.55	4.35356	1.23763	0.64552	0.0387	3692.61	31.5914	4981.87	8674.55	3.86478	1.53871	1.02129	-440.25	0	0	440.251	0.48878	-0.3011	-0.3758	
8	M2	CC	7	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0225	2402.76	15.7385	1944.37	4347.12	11.4689	0.0549	0.0225	2146.81	15.7385	2200.31	4347.12	18.436	0.06772	0.01496	-255.95	0	0	255.949	-6.9672	-0.0128	-0.0071		
9	M2	CC	8	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0009	96.1659	0.59388	73.7141	169.88	0.9037	0.00353	0.0136	0.0009	85.92	0.59388	83.958	169.88	0.30253	0.00418	0.00229	-10.244	0	0	10.2439	-0.2122	-0.0006	-0.0009	
10	M2	CC	9	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0018	192.186	1.34595	189.002	381.189	1.13531	0.14107	0.15865	0.0018	171.714	1.34595	209.474	381.189	2.93691	0.19094	0.2582	-20.472	0	0	20.4722	-1.8016	-0.0499	-0.0995	
11	M2	CC	10	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.1656	17685.1	121.575	16894.3	34579.5	3.1616	50.981	121.57	0.1656	15801.2	121.57	18778.6	34579.5	6.7484	5.61683	-1883.9	0	0	1883.87	-32.216	-1.0433	-1.852		
12	M2	CC	11	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0378	4036.81	27.6203	3827.82	7864.64	5.74579	0.104347	0.02944	0.0378	3060.5	27.6203	4257.84	7864.64	8.89056	1.14516	0.65715	-430.01	0	0	430.011	-3.1448	-0.1017	-0.2277	
13	M2	CC	12	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0283	44.2833	24.1748	3089.77	5973.2	16.4797	3.91554	5.17212	0.0283	2576.29	24.1748	3396.92	5973.2	8.52056	5.37611	0.25206	-307.15	0	0	307.151	-20.463	-1.4606	-3.0781	
14	M2	CC	13	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.1395	14897.8	110.614	15887.8	30785.6	37.4544	7.51068	5.84645	0.1395	13310.8	110.614	17474.8	30785.6	88.2679	9.80127	0.94794	-1587	0	0	1586.93	-50.814	-2.2906	-3.5733	
15	M2	CC	14	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.2421	25858.4	159.255	19493.7	45485.8	7.67215	0.81467	0.19852	0.2421	23100.7	159.255	2247.8	45485.8	23.077	0.85977	0.31594	-2754.1	0	0	2754.13	-15.405	-0.0811	-0.1174	
16	M2	CC	15	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0287	2883.44	20.6714	2936.54	5819.98	8.17763	1.91997	1.43924	0.0287	2576.28	20.6716	3243.69	5819.98	10.2771	2.41124	2.3625	-307.15	0	0	307.151	-2.0494	-0.4913	-0.9233	
17	M2	CC	16	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.171	2816.18	129.304	18218.9	36480.7	181.038	50.492	69.503	0.171	16316.5	129.304	2016.42	36480.7	35.7946	63.2444	100.319	-1945.3	0	0	1945.3	-17.91	-12.752	-30.816	
18	M2	CC	17	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.1845	17903.5	133.794	18405.6	38109.1	74.3766	18.8079	18.4693	0.1845	17604.6	133.794	20504.5	38109.1	123.204	2.4979	0.26145	-2088.9	0	0	2098.87	-48.827	-3.69	-7.5451	
19	M2	CC	18	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0095	1057.23	7.89164	1137.84	2195.07	7.3071	0.79608	0.82855	0.0099	944.61	7.89164	1250.46	2195.07	11.7403	1.05511	1.32141	-112.62	0	0	112.619	-4.4323	-0.2594	-0.4929	
20	M2	CC	19	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0207	2110.6	15.2324	2101.3	431.913	26.9625	5.39307	5.76169	0.0207	1975.15	15.2324	2336.78	431.913	44.6808	0.04338	0.11579	-235.48	0	0	235.483	-17.718	-1.16503	-3.9362	
21	M2	CC	20	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0342	3635.25	24.6854	3349.73	7002.09	45.8354	10.0206	11.2674	0.0342	3263.3	24.6854	3738.79	7002.09	46.0567	14.2369	18.1433	-389.06	0	0	389.059	-28.23	-4.2163	-6.8759	
22	M2	CC	21	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0684	7304.71	55.1735	187.158	202.88	44.9846	7.30204	5.9732	0.0684	6526.59	55.1735	7896	15322.6	65.3107	9.4841	8.89742	-778.12	0	0	778.118	-20.326	-2.5428	-3.2001	
23	M2	CC	22	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.1161	12398.8	84.0599	11417.13	23816.1	99.0014	10.4028	9.5581	0.1161	11074	84.0599	12738.1	23816.1	17.506	13.5916	15.6671	-1320.8	0	0	1320.75	-77.505	-4.9888	-6.1086	
24	M2	CC	23	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.2187	23535.8	138.48	18215.4	2051.74	304.175	62.9298	67.8298	0.2187	2086.7	138.48	1964.82	2051.74	549.911	92.9409	112.23	-2487.9	0	0	2487.93	-245.74	-30.011	-44.4	
25	M2	CC	24	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0135	1441.72	8.82484	111.101	2551.82	17.0327	2.59079	3.05929	0.0135	1284.1	8.82484	1636.68	2551.82	2.62549	7.00959	-15.538	0	0	153.578	-15.216	-1.0347	-2.6466		
26	M2	CC	25	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0027	288.344	1.97925	266.807	557.254	2.3231	0.1481	0.15972	0.0027	257.629	1.97925	299.725	557.251	2.3231	0.20749	0.27049	-307.15	0	0	307.151	-1.8817	-0.6624	-0.1108	
27	M2	CC	26	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0056	576.698	3.93343	532.314	110.093	4.59711	0.34337	0.2903	0.0054	515.267	3.93343	593.746	110.093	8.48952	0.49708	0.60605	-61.492	0	0	61.4316	-3.8924	-0.1474	-0.2686	
28	M2	CC	27	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0225	2402.76	14.761	1862.12	4246.84	29.0609	4.67687	7.07774	0.0225	2146.81	14.761	2118.70	4246.84	54.1591	6.57263	11.3786	-255.95	0	0	255.949	-25.098	-1.8958	-4.3009	
29	M2	CC	28	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0513	5478.64	34.3745	4354.453	4928.87	71.541	11.6143	20.9924	0.0513	4895.04	34.3745	4937.83	4928.87	125.1952	15.9882	37.3274	-583.6	0	0	583.6	-54.411	-6.3939	-16.335	
30	M2	CC	29	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0162	1730.06	12.6083	170.36	3490.74	12.1985	0.80077	0.77914	0.0162	1545.77	12.6083	19.0446	3490.74	19.8198	1.18843	1.38324	-184.29	0	0	184.291	-7.6213	-0.3877	-0.6041	
31	M2	CC	30	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0063	672.056	4.30371	505.488	117.384	1.9656	0.01446	0.00082	0.0063	601.184	4.30371	577.154	117.384	1.31602	1.01887	0.00202	-71.674	0	0	71.6743	0.64958	-0.0044	-0.0012	
32	M2	CC	31	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0342	3635.25	24.4167	316.26	6814.96	12.2024	0.83705	0.53643	0.0342	3263.3	24.4167	3551.66	6814.96	14.2847	1.21063	0.98137	-389.06	0	0	389.059	-2.0823	-0.3736	-0.4449	
33	M2	CC	32	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0069	96.1659	0.42626	22.019	15.074	0.0197	1.68924	0.42663	0.02057	0.0095	89.522	0.42626	43.0945	12.0197	2.41512	2.2133	0.09043	-10.244	0	0	10.2438	-0.7259	-0.0756	-0.1354
34	M2	CC	33	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.2637	2816.16	188.763	24494.5	52656.1	6.75665	6.0295	5.15776	0.2637	2516.17	188.763	27494.3	52656.1	7.73801	8.52938	6.4	-2999.9	0	0	2999.85	-9.8136	-4.999	-2.8822	
35	M2	CC	34	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.018	1922.39	11.8894	1419.28	2341.58	21.244	5.81462	6.9416	0.018	1717.52	11.8894	1634.05	2341.58	26.3784	8.11647	10.8267	-204.26	0	0	204.763	-5.0269	-2.3019	-3.9226	
36	M2	CC	35	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.2115	2258.69	173.595	25372.6	47995.5	40.7328	11.9487	8.3828	0.2115	20180.9	173.595	2777.8	47995.5	35.6504	15.2883	12.9089	-2406	0	0	2406.02	5.08235	-3.3396	-4.5261	
37	M2	CC	36	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0018	192.186	1.41032	204.256	396.442	0.6711	0.08431	0.05656	0.0018	171.714	1.41032	22.4778	396.442	0.67438	0.11287	0.09699	-20.472	0	0	20.4722	-0.0032	-0.0286	-0.0404	
38	M2	CC	37	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0009	96.1659	0.70858	100.542	196.707	0.62507	0.04878	0.05157	0.0009	85.92	0.70858	110.785	196.707	0.94237	0.06961	0.08799	-10.244	0	0	10.2439	-0.3173	-0.0208	-0.0364	
39	M2	CC	38	CORNSOY	Baseline	CORNSOY	0.0162	1730.06	11.1919	186.47	319.57	22.5735	5.4966	15.7445	0.016															

What HRUs are malleable?

- What land cover/use will you allow to change?
- Realistically, you won't be
 - tearing up roads,
 - razing homes, or
 - removing forest
- In our AOIs, we're commonly switching corn/soy to something else

Putting the pieces together

General approach (server)

The server provides

- data and reference layers,
- agricultural practice choices,
- AOI polygon,
- malleable HRU polygon (dissolved), and
- geoprocessing services (run model, load existing, etc.).

General approach (client)

The client

- works exclusively in vector (excluding ref/data layer display);
- does all the necessary clipping and erasing;
- sends only polygons by practice, group name, design name, watershed name/ID back to the server for processing; and
- handles all the charts and tables.

If you can reasonably expect to do something on the client, do it there. If you're particularly concerned with less powerful, handheld clients, evaluate carefully.

Components

Client

- Designed primarily for 1920x1080, 55" touchscreens
- ArcGIS API for JavaScript 3.x
- Dojo and jQuery
- Esri Calcite Maps
- D3.js
- Custom JS for economics
- More JS to tie it together

Server

- ArcGIS Server 10.2, 10.4
- PostgreSQL 9.1.8
- PostGIS 2.0.1
- Python 2.7 (ArcPy, psycopg2)

The giant touchscreen experience

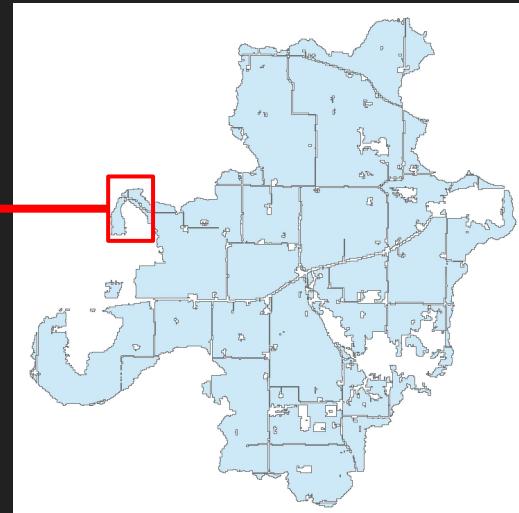
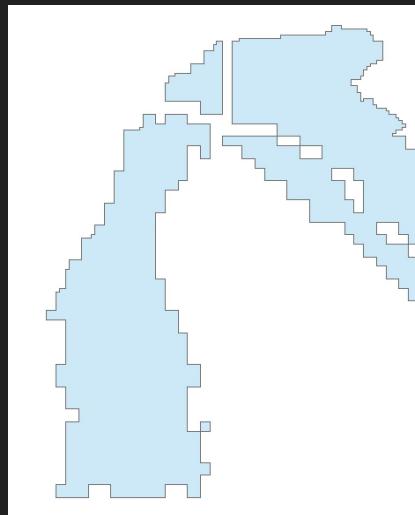


The paper legends live on



Editable HRUs

Identify editable HRUs and dissolve into a single, multipart polygon for client use

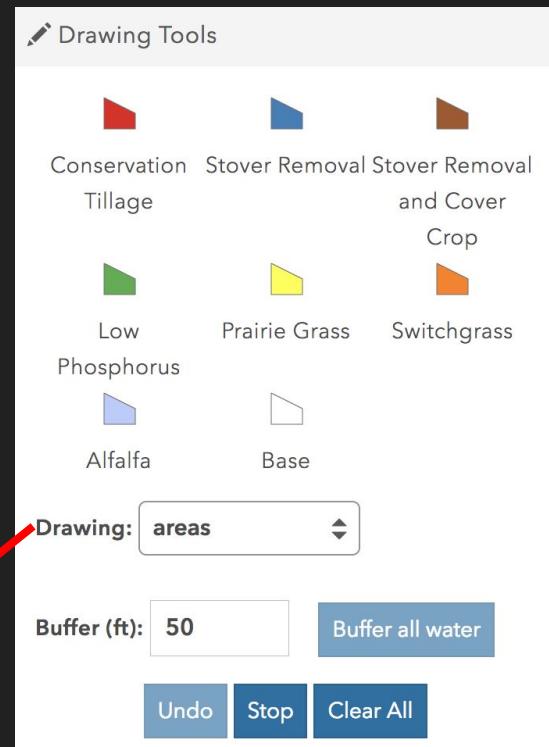
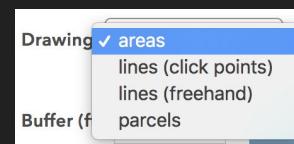


Drawing

- Publish a feature service with each practice to establish templates (just IDs)
- Use Esri's TemplatePicker against the service
- Draw away

Geodesign_v4/7MC_PracticeDefinitions_WithBase

- geodesignv4.sde.practices_incl_base
 - id
 - Conservation Tillage
 - Stover Removal
 - Stover Removal and Cover Crop
 - Low Phosphorus
 - Prairie Grass
 - Switchgrass
 - Alfalfa
 - Base



Client geometry operations

- GeometryEngine.buffer
- GeometryEngine.contains
- GeometryEngine.difference
- **GeometryEngine.intersect** \Leftarrow reduce drawn areas to editable HRUs only
- GeometryEngine.intersects
- GeometryEngine.planarArea
- GeometryEngine.union

Raster generation

- Recall the spreadsheet
- For every spreadsheet (ag. practice)
 - a. Join the attributes to HRUs (vector)
 - b. Rasterize the HRUs, one attribute at a time
 - c. Stack the attribute rasters into a multiband GeoTIFF
 - d. Load each into its own PG table
- It's not so bad: At 30m, the Seven Mile Creek AOI is only 447x455.

	objectid integer	band smallint	measure character varying(20)
1	1	1	carbonSeq
2	2	2	sediment
3	3	3	phosphorous
4	4	4	waterYield
5	5	5	yieldBiomass
6	6	6	yieldCorn
7	7	7	yieldSoy
8	13	8	yieldAlfalfa
9	8	9	habitat
10	9	10	sedimentField
11	10	11	sedimentNonField
12	11	12	phosphorusField
13	12	13	phosphorusNonField

Generate results / process design

- Geometries for each practice used are passed into a geoprocessing service, along with group and design name
- The GP service primarily relies on `psycopg2` to call custom functions in PostgreSQL+PostGIS
- A bit more Python and SQL to wrap the results into a JSON string

```
queryCreateBaseGeometry = """SELECT createBaseGeometry(%(gname)s, %(dname)s);"""
queryClipPracticeRasters = """SELECT clipPracticeRasters(%(gname)s, %(dname)s);"""
queryGenerateDesignResults = """SELECT generateDesignResults13Band(%(gname)s, %(dname)s);"""
```

`createBaseGeometry` and `clipPracticeRasters`

- Base geometry is the base condition of the AOI, be it corn/soy, pavement, water, or something else
- Take the overall AOI and erase out the union of all other practices to get the base geometry
- Once base geometry is created, `ST_Clip` the performance raster for each practice (and base) using the associated geometry

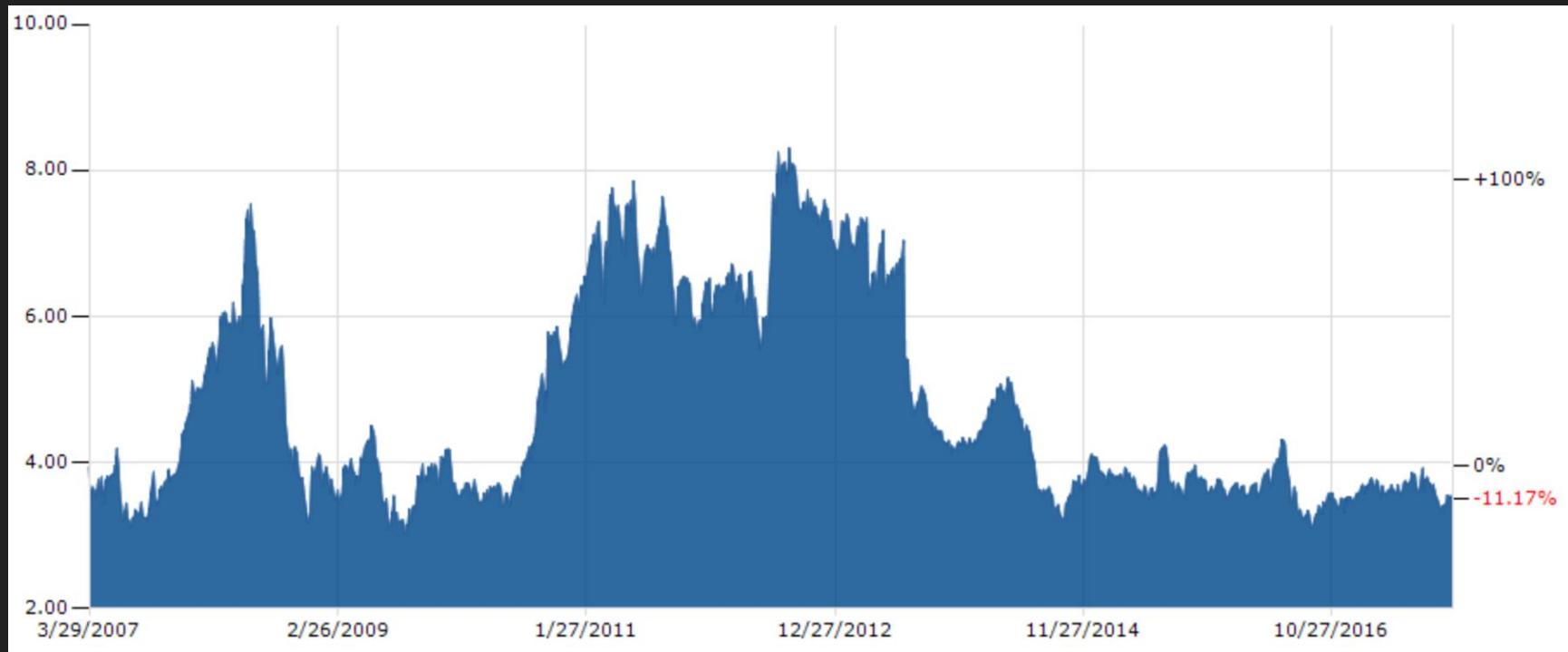
generateDesignResults

- Bulk of the work falls on **ST_SummaryStats**
 - Generate stats for each band of each raster
- All of our data is absolute; nothing relative
- Default **NoData** value of **NULL** in **ST_Clip** is just fine
- A **GROUP BY** query rolls up the sums for each band/measure nicely
- Count of cells (non-null) by band is also a statistic provided; multiply counts by a constant to convert to acres, sq.mi., etc.

More considerations/approaches

- Repeat: Use absolute values, avoid relative
 - Relative values can make comparison more onerous
 - It can be difficult to wrap your head around (just me?)
 - Generate a baseline result (current state) and compare to those absolute values to get changes
- Don't bake in math when non-variable values may change

What is this?



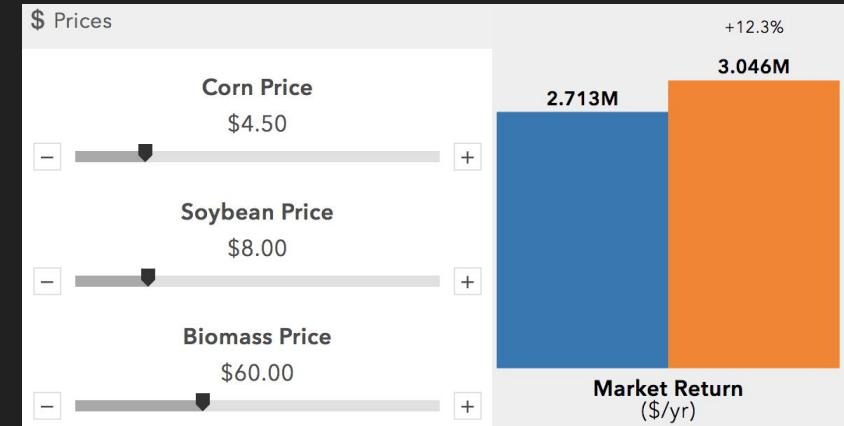
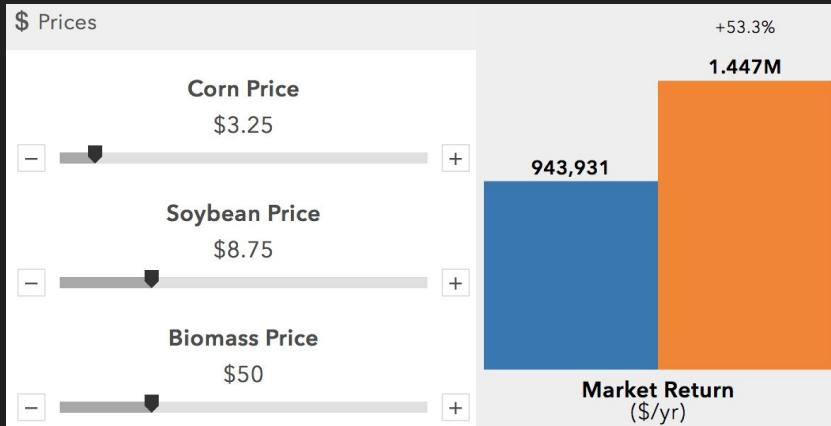
Source (and hint): [Business Insider](#)

The economics of it all

- Fact: Prices fluctuate
- **Likelihood #1**
Prices in the model will differ from those when the model is used
- **Likelihood #2**
A producer will ask you what prices were used in the model (costs, too)
- **Likelihood #3**
Users will wonder about profitability of their designs in different times

Yields are your friend

- Use crop yields in the model, not dollars (revenue or profit)
- Work out the equations for costs and revenues and throw them into JavaScript
- Let users control the prices in the application, but set reasonable defaults



Resources

The New Agricultural Bioeconomy website includes links to these applications

<http://newagbioeconomy.umn.edu/collaborativegeodesign/>

Lightning talk (MN GIS/LIS 2017)

<http://z.umn.edu/collabgeodesign>

These slides

<https://z.umn.edu/collabgeodesign2017>

In conclusion

1. Thanks for coming!
2. Questions?
3. You can reach me at wiringa@umn.edu