



Upper Peoria Lakes Wetland & Water Quality Project



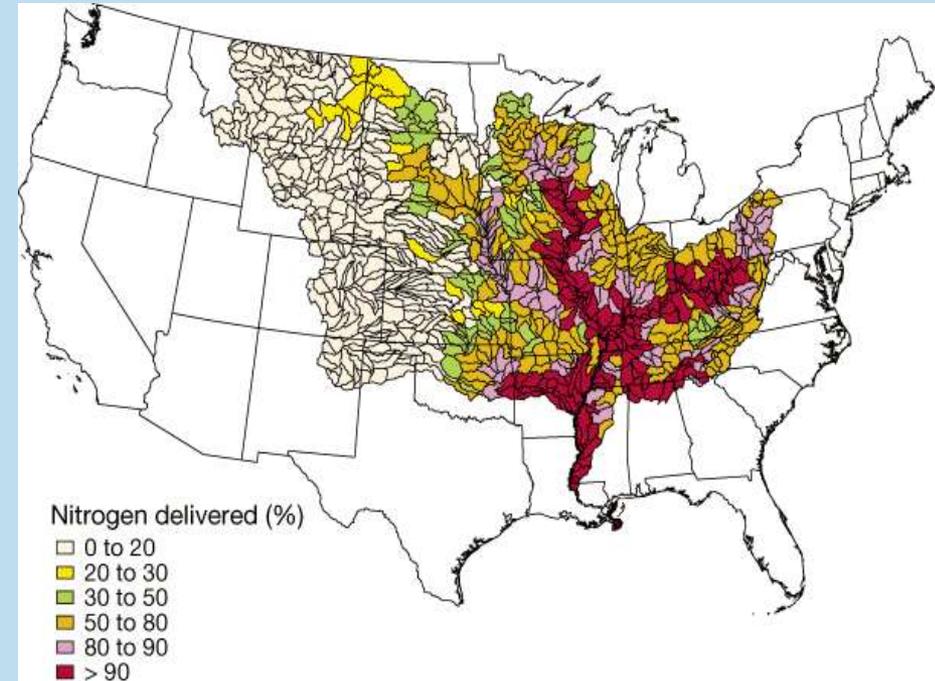
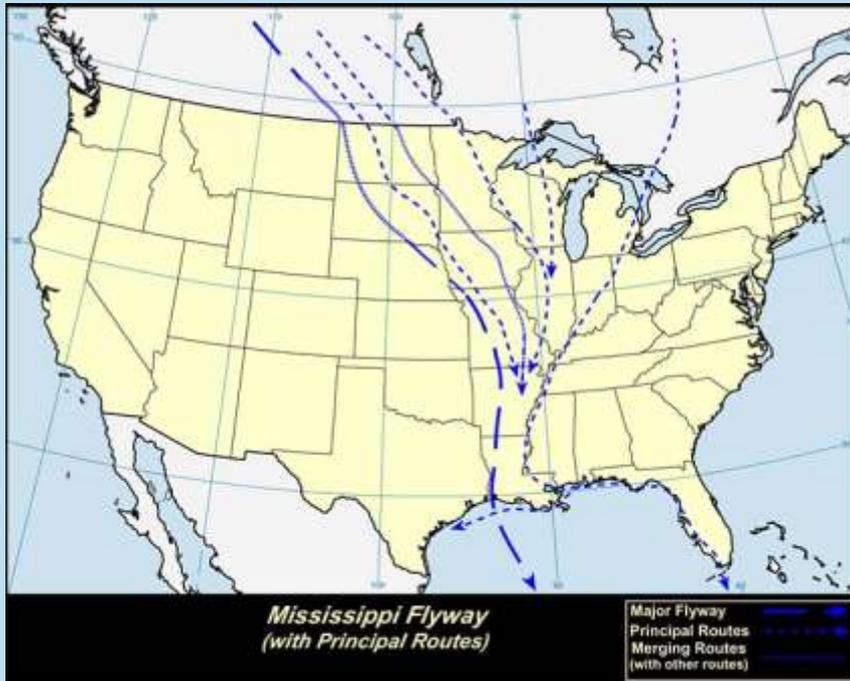
Eric W. Schenck
Regional Biologist





Upper Mississippi River

Waterfowl Flyway *Nutrient Delivery*





The “Win-Win” Solution:

Wetland Restoration

- 1) Provides habitat for waterfowl
- 2) Removes excessive nutrients



“The Prototype”



Wightman Lake and Gimlet Creek

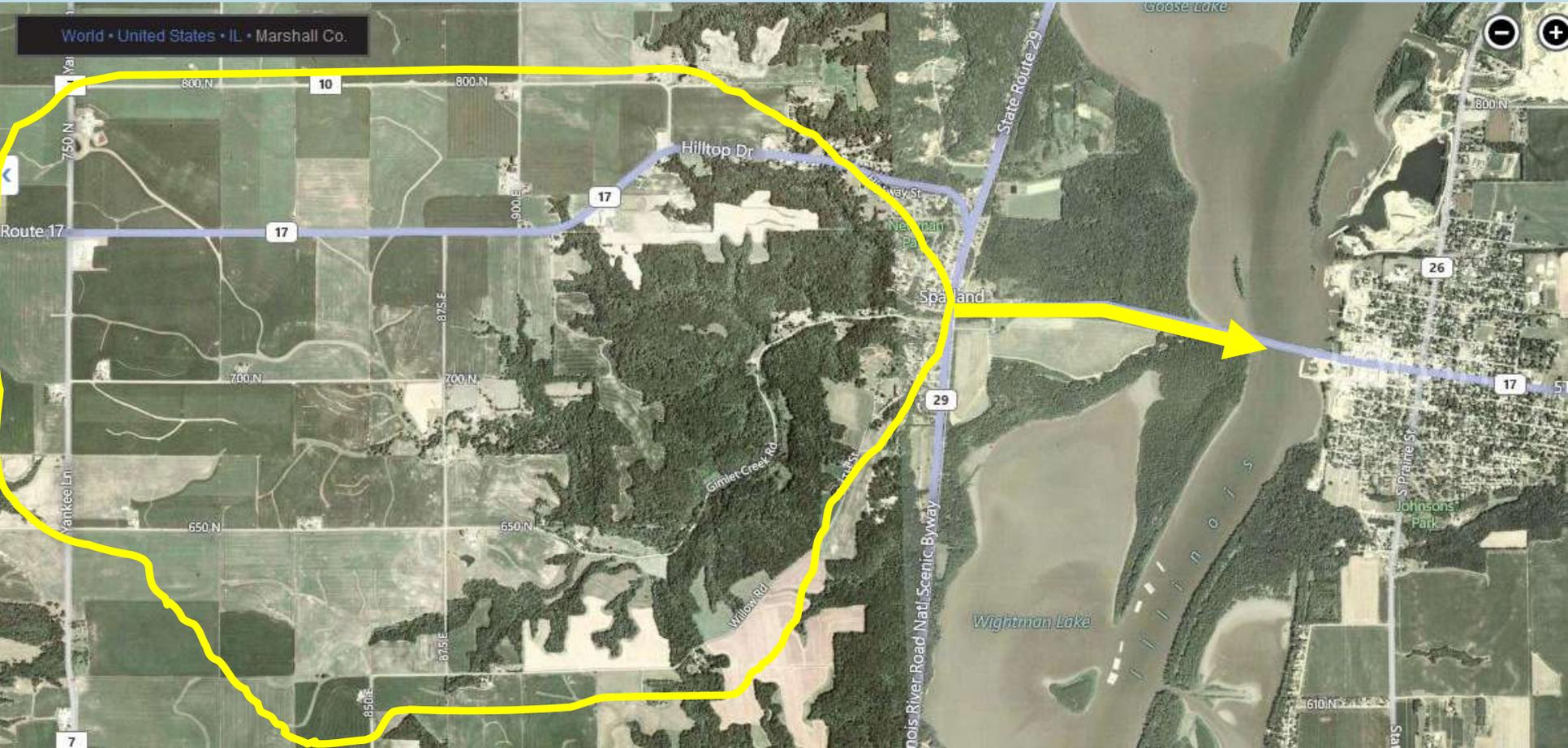
- Three Restored Wetlands
- Waterfowl & Water Quality
- IL River Road Scenic Byway

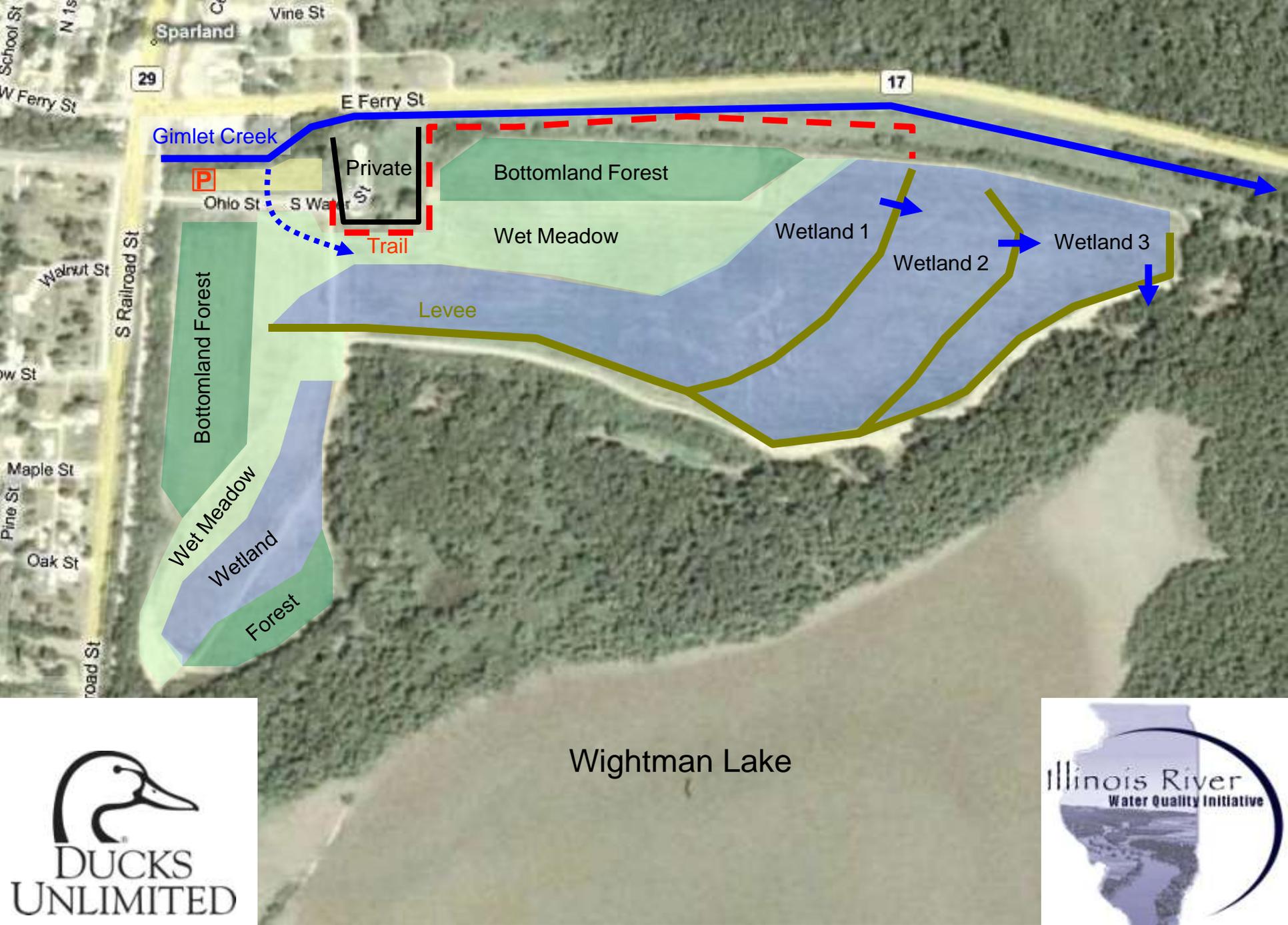


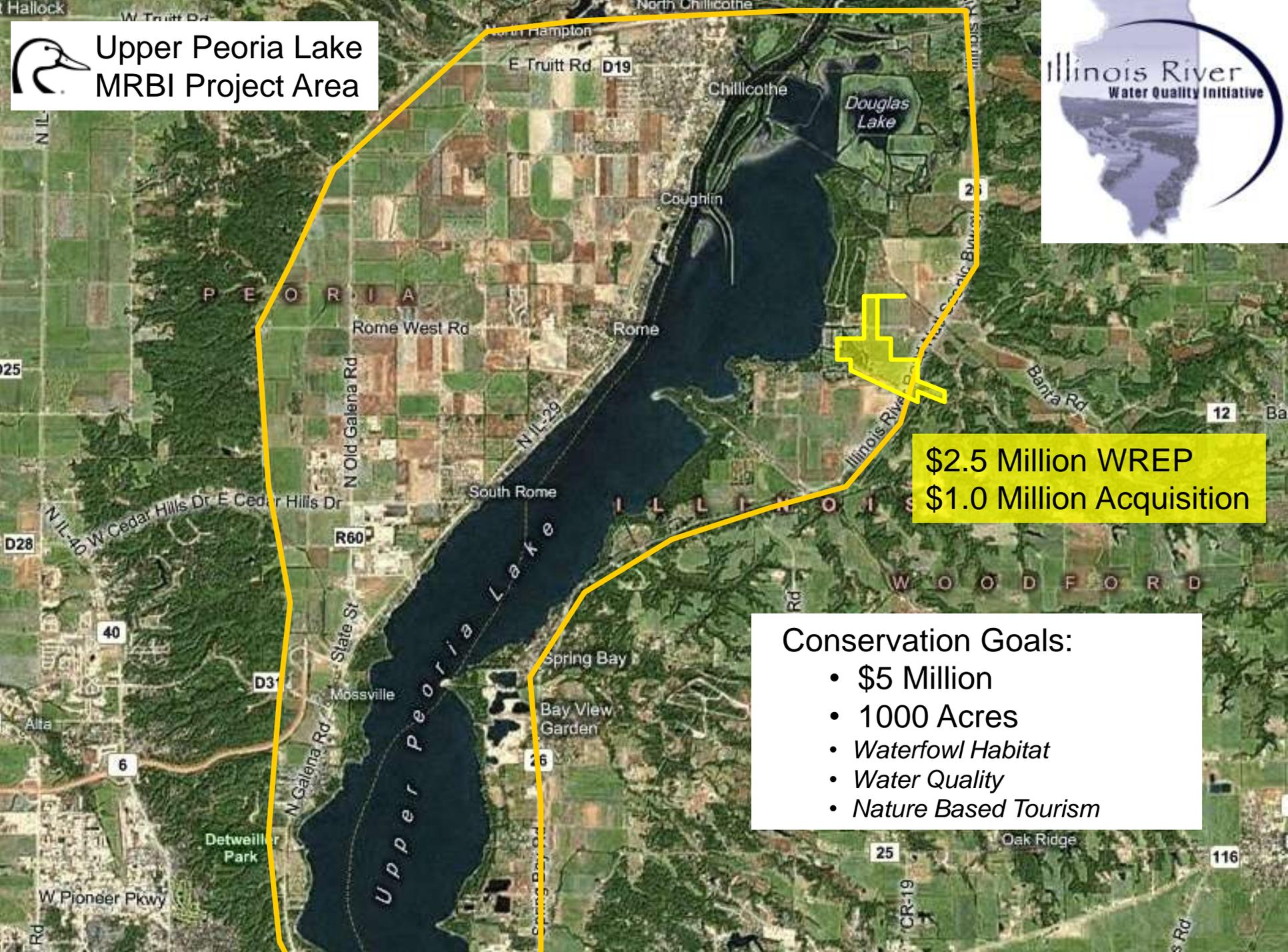


Gimlet Creek

3,600 ac. Watershed







Upper Peoria Lake MRBI Project Area



\$2.5 Million WREP
\$1.0 Million Acquisition

- Conservation Goals:**
- \$5 Million
 - 1000 Acres
 - *Waterfowl Habitat*
 - *Water Quality*
 - *Nature Based Tourism*



Wetlands Reserve Enhancement Program (WREP)



- Approved under NRCS's Mississippi River Basin Initiative
- Provides \$3,200/acre for cropland in the 100 yr. floodplain.
- Ducks Unlimited develops restoration plan with NRCS.
- Covers 100% of landowner's wetland restoration cost.





Upper Peoria Lake

Woodford County SFWA

83 ac.

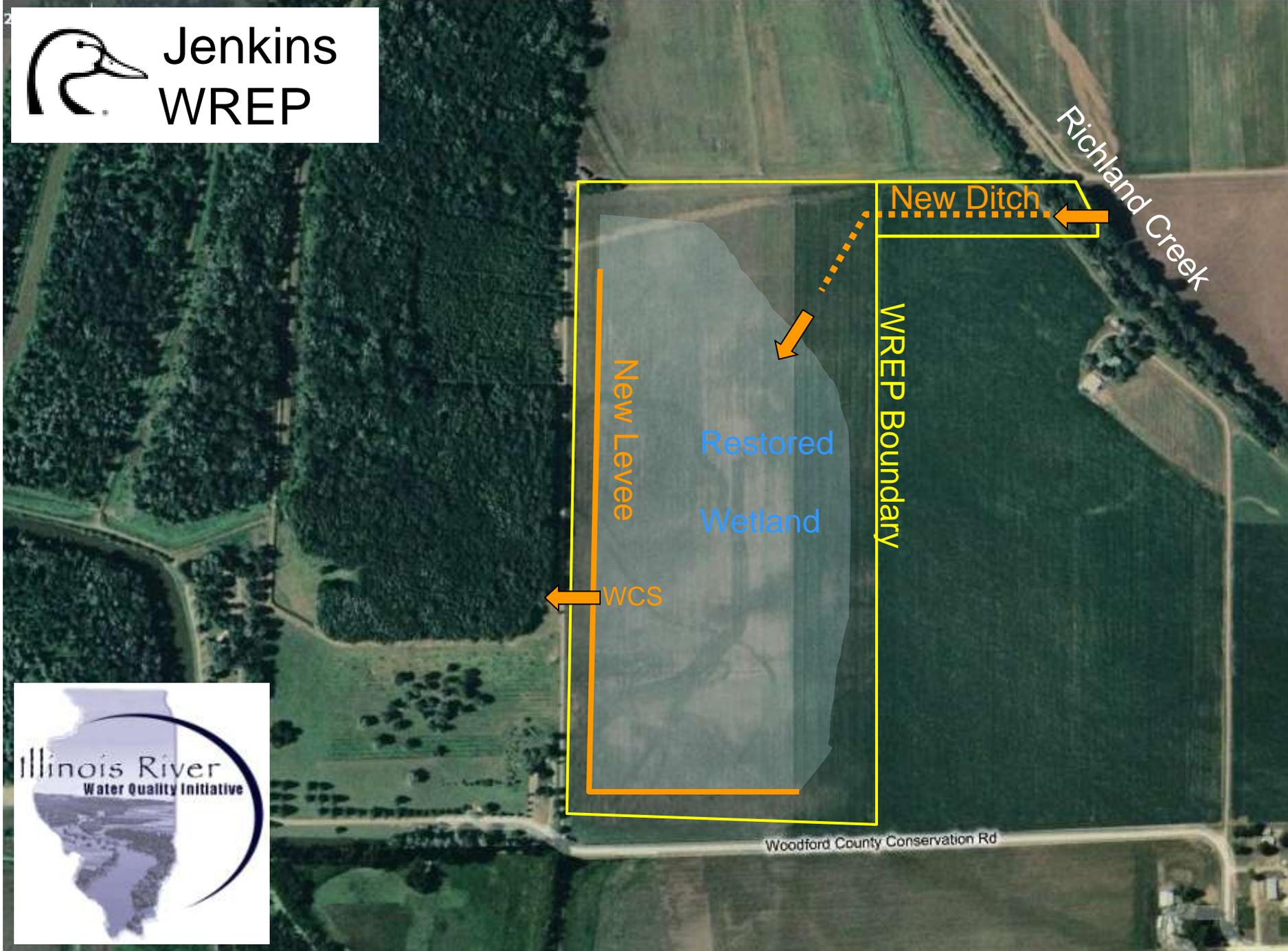
Richland Creek

237 ac.

Jenkins WREP
Ducks Unlimited



Jenkins
WREP





Current Challenges:

- 1) \$3,200/acre easement rate too low.
- 2) Eligibility criteria precludes some lands.
- 3) “Non-standard” restoration practices.



The Future???

