



United States Department of Agriculture

April 7, 2017

Leonard Scott
33799 Diltly Road
Sedalia, Missouri 65301

Dear Mr. Scott:

Enclosed is an approved Compatible Use Agreement (CUA) associated with your United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Agricultural Conservation Easement Program - Wetlands Reserve Easement (ACEP-WRE) agreement #5464241401G2N, with authorization # 2017-01 which is located in Pettis/Cooper Counties, Missouri. Those compatible uses granted back to you are for a specified period, frequency, and duration and follow NRCS best management practices guidelines for easement programs. See the CUA for statement of effect, compatibility, and special conditions. The CUA is valid through December 31, 2022.

NRCS retains the right to modify or cancel this compatible use authorization at any time if NRCS determines that such activities do not further the protection and enhancement objectives of the easement, or that the landowner has failed to comply with the specified terms and conditions. The landowner engages in such activities at his/her own risk. This authorization does not vest any right of any kind in the landowner. This authorization is null and void after the expiration date specified above. By signing the CUA, the landowner agrees to the terms described on any referenced documents.

If you require additional information, please contact the Field Office in Sedalia, Missouri at (660) 826-3339 extension 3 from 7:30 a.m. through 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Thank you for your continued support in the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program part of the 2014 Farm Bill.

Sincerely,

Harold L. Deckerd
Assistant State Conservationist - Water Resources

Enclosures

cc: Tony Bittiker, District Conservationist, NRCS, Sedalia, Missouri
David Ritchhart, Wetland Team Leader, NRCS, Warrensburg, Missouri
Se'ese'ei Ioane, Soil Conservationist, NRCS, Warrensburg, Missouri

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

WRP COMPATIBLE USE AGREEMENT

County:

Pettis/Cooper

Contract Number

5464241-401G2N

Expiration Date:

December 31, 2022

Authorization Number: 2017-01

A. Person Responsible for Agreed-To Activities (Name, Address, & Tel. No.)

Leonard Scott
33799 Dilly Road
Sedalia, MO 65301
(309)-525-0877

B. Is this authorization assignable to subsequent landowner(s)? YES ☒ NO

(NRCS initial Block)

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C. Purpose: To permit the landowner or their assigns to perform/conduct the following Compatible Uses for the specified period, frequency and durations:

- 1) To allow prescribed burning with an approved Burn Plan from NRCS or MDC PLC/Biologist with restrictions on acreages, timing and frequency.
- 2) To control woody encroachment and plant succession in herbaceous fields by mowing, disking with restrictions on areas to affect and timing.
- 3) To plant food plots with restrictions to size, distance from other food plots and individual sizes as supplemental foods for wildlife and not for harvest.
- 4) Haying will be allowed to control woody encroachment in herbaceous fields and to promote younger succession vegetation.
- 5) To use selective herbicides to control noxious weeds and suppress unwanted vegetation as directed by the WET team.
- 6) To provide levee maintenance by mowing or prescribed burning during certain periods of the year with certain restrictions on mowing /burning frequency.
- 7) To allow for water level manipulations to provide varying depths and coverage within pools and provide critical water bird and other wetland wildlife seasonal habitat.
- 8) Hunting and observatory structures allowed under special circumstances.
- 9) Trails, field roads and levee tops are points of access.

D. Location Description (Attach a copy of map showing approximate area of compatible use.):

S6,7 T47N, R19W, 20W

Fields 1, 2, 3, 4

Total easement Acreage = 290.8

Total Pool Acreage = 89.6

Total Herbaceous Acreage = 185.8

Total Wooded Acreage = 105

See attached map.

E. Beginning Condition of Site: All restoration is complete. Per monitoring performed in 2016, all fields progressing as planned.

F. Statement of Affect & Compatibility: NRCS issues certain compatible uses to the landowner at their request to maximize benefits to migratory birds, I/E species and other wetland wildlife and to provide outdoor recreational opportunities. The above listed compatible uses have been deemed acceptable by the WET team administering the easement.

G. Special Conditions, Specifications and Other Details Including Information From Consultation with FWS, CD and State Wildlife Agency.

1) Total herbaceous acreage is 185.8 acres. You may burn up to 33% of the total herbaceous area (61.3 acres) with an NRCS/MDC approved plan in fields 1, 4. Burning will be conducted between the dates of March 1 through April 30 or between the dates of July 15 through September 30 only unless the WET allows a variance with differing dates in writing. Acres mowed, disked or hayed cannot be burned the same calendar year.

2) Total herbaceous acreage is 185.8 acres. Portions of all herbaceous fields may:

- ...be mowed or disked once annually.
- ...area to be disturbed will be allowed over 33% of the herbaceous area not to exceed ~~61.9~~ 61.3 acres annually. Any changes to this acreage will be authorized by the WET by Addendum.
- ...mowing/disking may only be implemented after July 15 to avoid the primary nesting period unless authorized by the WET by Addendum.
- Acres burned or hayed cannot be mowed or disked during the same calendar year.
- The landowner is responsible for the control and eradication of all local, county or state listed noxious plants.

3) Food plots:

- ...may not exceed 5% of the easement area (14.5 acres).
- ...may not exceed an individual size greater than 2.9 acres.
- ...must be planted at least 50' apart and it's suggested it be rotated annually to create young browse.
- ...may only be planted in herbaceous fields. Other fields require approval of the WET. If food plots are planted in non-herbaceous areas or areas planned for natural regeneration to trees and will not be rotated.
- ...must in no way adversely impact wetland conditions and water level management on the Easement.
- ...must not be for harvest and will be left standing as food and structure for wildlife.
- ...seed sources are restricted to row crop, cereal grains, millets, buckwheat or other seed sources as identified by the WET in writing.

4) Total herbaceous acreage is 185.8 acres. Haying will be allowed over 25% of the herbaceous fields and not to exceed 46.4 acres annually. Haying is not allowed during the primary nesting period of May 1 through July 15 of the year. Acres disked, mowed or burned cannot be hayed during the same calendar year.

5) If herbicides are used on food plots or other portions of the Easement, the Landowner must contact the WET prior to any herbicide application. The WET will provide the landowner a WIN-PST report which identifies the approved herbicides for use on the easement area.

6) Levee sides may be mowed once annually for maintenance and levee tops may be mowed twice annually to provide access but not between the dates of the primary nesting season of May 1 through July 15 of the year. Levees can also be burned once every three years between March 1 and April 30. All burning will be conducted in accordance with a NRCS or MDC approved burn plan. Landowner is responsible to protect the water control structure(s) during any mowing or burning.

7) Manipulation of water control structures (WCS) must be in accordance with an NRCS provided plan (see attached plan).

8) Hunting structures will be allowed to be placed within the confines of the easement in accordance with the approved Structure Policy (copy attached) as developed at the State Office level and no CUA is required. All hunting structures (duck blinds, deer blinds) not in compliance with this policy will require a CUA for a specified period of time not to exceed 5 years.

9) Trails, field roads and levee tops are points of access for landowner and NRCS for maintenance, management and monitoring efforts and may be maintained for traversing the easement area.

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NRCS retains the right to modify or cancel this compatible use authorization at any time if the NRCS determines that such activities do not further the protection and enhancement objectives of the easement, or that the landowner has failed to comply with specified terms and conditions. The landowner engages in such activities at his/her own risk. This authorization does not vest any right of any kind in the Landowner. This authorization is null and void after the expiration date specified above. By signing this document, the landowner agrees to the terms described above and on referenced documents.

Recommended (NRCS Signature, Title, Date)

[Signature], Soil con, 3-29-17

Landowner or Representative (Signature, Date)

[Signature], 7-2-17

Approved (NRCS Signature, Title, Date)

[Signature], ASTCWR, 4-6-17

Ver 17.0



WRE-CUA MAP
Leonard Scott
5464241401G2N
Pettis/Cooper

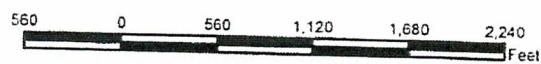
Date 1/31/2017

Approximate Acres: 290.8
T47N_R19W, 20W_S6,7

Assisted By: SEEESEI TOA



Prepared with assistance from USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service



WETLANDS RESERVE EASEMENT PROGRAM
ACEP-WRE #5464241401G2N
WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN – LEONARD SCOTT
Cooper ~~PLATT~~ COUNTY, MO

Management Objective: To provide quality, diverse wetland habitat with an emphasis on waterfowl use and recreation. You are not required to manipulate water in your wetland pools. If you choose to actively manage water depths, the following information is intended as a template to guide optimizing plant response in your wetlands for maximum food and cover conditions for wildlife.

General Considerations

- This plan pertains to Pools 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. This plan assumes water is at full pool going into spring.
- Wetland pools dependent on opportunistic flooding may not refill in time for the beginning of waterfowl season in the fall if drained completely in the spring. Missouri tends to have low precipitation in early fall. Recharge may not occur until later in the fall or early winter.
- The water depths of your tract are shallow and subject to natural weather cycles. In normal precipitation years, there may be no need to manually drain the pools.
- Puddle ducks like mallards and teal prefer shallow water. A Mallard's preferred feeding depth is water 6" deep or less.
- You can generally expect the following plant responses to drawdown times:
 1. Early drawdown (March 15 – April 30) will encourage broad leaved plant like annual smartweeds, bidens, etc.
 2. Mid-term draw-downs (April 30 – June 15) Some annual smartweeds, nut sedge, and wild millets are likely to respond.
 3. Late draw-downs (June 15 – August 1) usually produces grasses like wild millet and sprangletop.
- Do not be alarmed at the emergence of persistent wetland vegetation such as cattails and river bulrush. The presence of these plants is an indication of a healthy, diverse wetland. Strive to keep the area covered by these species between 15% and 35%. These plants play an important role in various life cycles of migrating waterfowl by harboring high protein animal food sources in the form of insects, crustaceans and other invertebrate larvae.

- Monitor vegetation responses and progression during each growing season and from year to year. This will aid in the early detection of problem vegetation before it gets a foothold.
- The plan is meant to be a flexible set of guidelines. Adjust or modify dates annually with changing weather patterns.

Water Management Draw-downs

- Why manage? Typically, restored wetlands, such as yours, are managed (drained) in order to maximize seed producing plants for waterfowl.
- Due to the shallow water depths of your wetland, active water management (physical draining) will not always be necessary unless vegetation problems arise.
- Allow water levels to fluctuate with natural wet/dry cycles as they occur throughout the year. This will insure a diverse plant community.
- If you choose to actively drain your pools, vary the drawdown time between pools as well as between years. This plan employs a High water, Low water and Mid-level management strategy.

Active Water Management-Drawdown: Pool 1 (2017 – 2021)

2017 Mid-level Management

- Begin slowly draining the field after May 1st (less than 1" per day). Continue drawdown until you have lowered the water level approximately 6".
- Allow water levels to fluctuate with natural precipitation cycles. This will provide shorebird habitat. The transition zone (mudflat), is where willow and maple seedlings are likely to become invasive. Be prepared to disturb with disking or mowing if necessary.
- Resume your slow drawdown in late May or early June and continue until the water level drops another 6".
- Resume draining around July 1st and continue until water levels drop another 8" to 12".
- Allow the remainder of the pool to fluctuate with naturally occurring weather patterns.

2018 High Water Management

- Do not manually drain pool. Hold water and allow evaporation to occur allow pool level fluctuation with naturally occurring weather patterns.

2019 Low Water Management

- Begin slowly draining (1" or less per day) the pool around March 1st. Continue this process until the pool is dry.
- This is the year to address existing or developing vegetation problems, and perform soil disturbances or plant food plots.

2020 Mid-level Water Management

2021 High Water Management

Active Water Management-Drawdown: Pool 2 (2017 – 2021)

2017 High Water Management

- Do not manually drain pool. Hold water and allow evaporation to occur allow pool level fluctuation with naturally occurring weather patterns.

2018 Low Water Management

- Begin slowly draining (1" or less per day) the pool around March 1st. Continue this process until the pool is dry.
- This is the year to address existing or developing vegetation problems, and perform soil disturbances or plant food plots.

2019 Mid-level Management

- Begin slowly draining the field after May 1st (less than 1" per day). Continue drawdown until you have lowered the water level approximately 6".
- Allow water levels to fluctuate with natural precipitation cycles. This will provide shorebird habitat. The transition zone (mudflat), is where willow and maple seedlings are likely to become invasive. Be prepared to disturb with disking or mowing if necessary.
- Resume your slow drawdown in late May or early June and continue until the water level drops another 6".
- Resume draining around July 1st and continue until water levels drop another 8" to 12".
- Allow the remainder of the pool to fluctuate with naturally occurring weather patterns.

2020 High Water Management

2021 Low Water Management

Active Water Management-Drawdown: Pool 3 (2017 – 2021)

2017 Low Water Management

- Begin slowly draining (1" or less per day) the pool around March 1st. Continue this process until the pool is dry.
- This is the year to address existing or developing vegetation problems, and perform soil disturbances or plant food plots.

2018 Mid-level Management

- Begin slowly draining the field after May 1st (less than 1" per day). Continue drawdown until you have lowered the water level approximately 6".
- Allow water levels to fluctuate with natural precipitation cycles. This will provide shorebird habitat. The transition zone (mudflat), is where willow and maple seedlings are likely to become invasive. Be prepared to disturb with disking or mowing if necessary.
- Resume your slow drawdown in late May or early June and continue until the water level drops another 6".
- Resume draining around July 1st and continue until water levels drop another 8" to 12".
- Allow the remainder of the pool to fluctuate with naturally occurring weather patterns.

2019 High Water Management

- Do not manually drain pool. Hold water and allow evaporation to occur allow pool level fluctuation with naturally occurring weather patterns.

2020 Low Water Management

2021 Mid Level Water Management

Active Water Management-Drawdown: Pool 4 (2017 – 2021)

2017 Mid-level Management

- Begin slowly draining the field after May 1st (less than 1" per day). Continue drawdown until you have lowered the water level approximately 6".
- Allow water levels to fluctuate with natural precipitation cycles. This will provide shorebird habitat. The transition zone (mudflat), is where willow and maple seedlings are likely to become invasive. Be prepared to disturb with disking or mowing if necessary.

- Resume your slow drawdown in late May or early June and continue until the water level drops another 6".
- Resume draining around July 1st and continue until water levels drop another 8" to 12".
- Allow the remainder of the pool to fluctuate with naturally occurring weather patterns.

2018 High Water Management

- Do not manually drain pool. Hold water and allow evaporation to occur allow pool level fluctuation with naturally occurring weather patterns.

2019 Low Water Management

- Begin slowly draining (1" or less per day) the pool around March 1st. Continue this process until the pool is dry.
- This is the year to address existing or developing vegetation problems, and perform soil disturbances or plant food plots.

2020 Mid-level Water Management

2021 High Water Management

Active Water Management-Drawdown: Pool 5 (2017 – 2021)

2017 High Water Management

- Do not manually drain pool. Hold water and allow evaporation to occur allow pool level fluctuation with naturally occurring weather patterns.

2018 Low Water Management

- Begin slowly draining (1" or less per day) the pool around March 1st. Continue this process until the pool is dry.
- This is the year to address existing or developing vegetation problems, and perform soil disturbances or plant food plots.

2019 Mid-level Management

- Begin slowly draining the field after May 1st (less than 1" per day). Continue drawdown until you have lowered the water level approximately 6".
- Allow water levels to fluctuate with natural precipitation cycles. This will provide shorebird habitat. The transition zone (mudflat), is where willow and maple seedlings are likely to become invasive. Be prepared to disturb with disking or mowing if necessary.

- Resume your slow drawdown in late May or early June and continue until the water level drops another 6".
- Resume draining around July 1st and continue until water levels drop another 8" to 12".
- Allow the remainder of the pool to fluctuate with naturally occurring weather patterns.

2020 High Water Management

2021 Low Water Management

Active Water Management-Drawdown: Pool 6 (2017 – 2021)

2017 Low Water Management

- Begin slowly draining (1" or less per day) the pool around March 1st. Continue this process until the pool is dry.
- This is the year to address existing or developing vegetation problems, and perform soil disturbances or plant food plots.

2018 Mid-level Management

- Begin slowly draining the field after May 1st (less than 1" per day). Continue drawdown until you have lowered the water level approximately 6".
- Allow water levels to fluctuate with natural precipitation cycles. This will provide shorebird habitat. The transition zone (mudflat), is where willow and maple seedlings are likely to become invasive. Be prepared to disturb with disking or mowing if necessary.
- Resume your slow drawdown in late May or early June and continue until the water level drops another 6".
- Resume draining around July 1st and continue until water levels drop another 8" to 12".
- Allow the remainder of the pool to fluctuate with naturally occurring weather patterns.

2019 High Water Management

- Do not manually drain pool. Hold water and allow evaporation to occur allow pool level fluctuation with naturally occurring weather patterns.

2020 Low Water Management

2021 Mid Level Water Management

Water Management – Fall Flooding (All Fields)

Natural flooding – Make sure all Water Control Structures (WCS) are closed in order to begin catching water from rainfall and to provide habitat for migrants. Staggering the timing and levels of stop-log boards when closing the Water Control Structure (WCS) on a yearly basis to provide a variety of habitats and more closely mimic natural systems.

Early flooding, which consists of closing the WCS during the first two weeks of August, will provide habitat for the peak of shorebird migration and early migrating waterfowl. Early flooding makes food available for use which may reduce food reserves that are available during the late fall and winter migration in November. Food availability for overwintering waterfowl may be reduced using this flood schedule.

Mid season flooding: Close the WCS between Oct.1 thru October 15, to provide habitat for the later migrating waterfowl. Under this scenario, more food is available for overwintering waterfowl.

Late season flooding, after Nov. 1, will allow food to be available through most of the winter for waterfowl and for the early spring migrants. The decaying vegetation will provide food for invertebrates (insects and crustaceans for example) for waterfowl and shorebirds to feed on during the spring migration.

Pool 1

2017 – Late season Flooding

- Put boards in water control structure Nov. 1 – 10th.

2018 – Early season Flooding

- Put boards in water control structure August 1 – 10th.

2019 – Mid Season Flooding

- Put boards in water control structure on October 1 – 10th.

2020 – Late Season Flooding

2021 – Early Season Flooding

Pool 2

2017 – Early season Flooding

- Put boards in water control structure August 1 – 10th.

Pool 2 (cont.)

2018 – Mid Season Flooding

Put boards in water control structure on October 1 – 10th.

2019 – Late season Flooding

Put boards in water control structure Nov. 1 – 10th.

2020 – Early Season Flooding

2021 – Mid Season Flooding

Pool 3

2017 – Mid Season Flooding

Put boards in water control structure on October 1 – 10th.

2018 – Late season Flooding

Put boards in water control structure Nov. 1 – 10th.

2019 – Early season Flooding

- Put boards in water control structure August 1 – 10th.

2020 – Mid Season Flooding

2021 – Late Season Flooding

Pool 4

2017 – Late season Flooding

- Put boards in water control structure Nov. 1 – 10th.

2018 – Early season Flooding

- Put boards in water control structure August 1 – 10th.

2019 – Mid Season Flooding

- Put boards in water control structure on October 1 – 10th.

Pool 4 (cont.)

2020 – Late Season Flooding

2021 – Early Season Flooding

Pool 5

2017 – Early season Flooding

Put boards in water control structure August 1 – 10th.

2018 – Mid Season Flooding

Put boards in water control structure on October 1 – 10th.

2019 – Late season Flooding

Put boards in water control structure Nov. 1 – 10th.

2020 – Early Season Flooding

2021 – Mid Season Flooding

Pool 6

2017 – Mid Season Flooding

Put boards in water control structure on October 1 – 10th.

2018 – Late season Flooding

Put boards in water control structure Nov. 1 – 10th.

2019 – Early season Flooding

Put boards in water control structure August 1 – 10th.

2020 – Mid Season Flooding

2021 – Late Season Flooding

Pumping (this section will be amended if and when wells and pumps are installed).

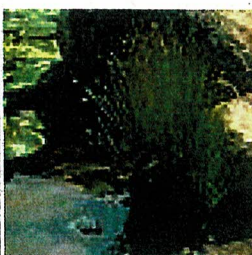
Vegetation Management

- Disturbing the vegetation periodically by discing or mowing up to 1/3 of the pool as provided by the CUA helps control woody invasion and encourages annual plants. If more than 3 to 5 years go by without disturbance, there may be an increase in the less desirable perennial plants like swamp smartweed, and a decline in the more desirable, seed producing annual plants like wild millet and annual smartweeds.
- Aside from providing water, managing the structure (height, thickness, etc.) of your vegetation will be the key to your success in terms of waterfowl use.
- Mowing will be the most valuable and cost effective management tool at your disposal.
 1. As soon as conditions allow but not before July 15th, mow up to 60% of the **pool area**. This vegetation should be mowed at the highest setting. Plants mowed at this time will be set back, causing them to be considerably shorter in height. They will, however, have plenty of time to make seed. This action will also “release” vegetation (often very desirable) in the understory allowing it to grow and make seed. This activity may not always be necessary, depending on vegetation response. Mowing will be carried out in a “mosaic” pattern, not in blocks.
 2. Around mid-September, mow an additional 30% of the pool area as short as possible. This activity should occur primarily in the shallowest portions of the pool. Again use a mosaic pattern. This action is primarily to maximize visibility. It will also provide habitat for invertebrates (bugs) that are sought by early migrants, as well as providing shorebird habitat.
 3. The key to waterfowl use is visibility. Managing vegetation height will insure waterfowl will be able to see the water on your wetland from great distances, thus maximizing use.

Periodically soil disturbance (disking) is necessary to rejuvenate the natural seed bank. Plan to carry out this activity during Low Water management years. Plant species such as Aster sp. or spike rush are good indicators of the need for a disturbance. When mowing, concentrate on undesirable vegetation.

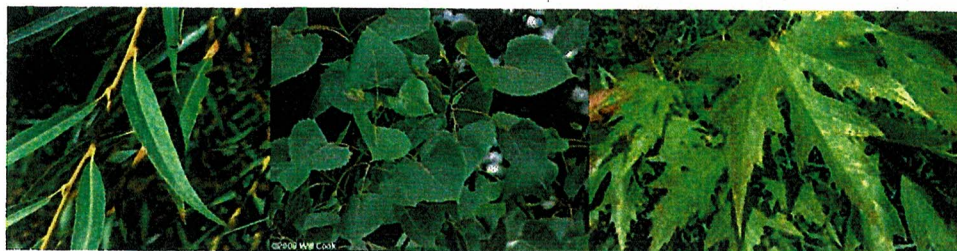


Aster sp.



Spike rush (*Eleocharis* sp.)

Recognize vegetation problems before they become problems. Some examples that may be encountered are:



Black willow

Eastern Cottonwood

Silver maple

1. Woody invasion: Typically defined as cottonwood, silver maple and/or green ash. Willows are not a great concern, in moderation. Avoid purposefully pulling water down during the fruiting period of these species in late May or early June. All three of these species are wind borne and require fresh mud flats for germination. In the event of an outbreak of trees, attack them early with a disk. If disking does not adequately control the trees, use prescribed burning. We can help with this.
2. Cattails, river bulrush, lotus (lily pads). These plants species are not undesirable until they become dominant. At that point, they begin to choke out seed producing plants and reduce open water. It will be virtually impossible to keep these plants out, so you need to determine a level of tolerance and work to stay within it. 25% coverage of the pool is an acceptable level. As levels exceed this, enact controls such as disking. Use chemical treatments only as a last resort. Remember: these plant species are a natural occurrence in wetlands and provide many benefits to waterfowl and other wildlife during various stages of their life cycle.
3. Cocklebur, sunflower, giant ragweed (horse weed): These plants are not desirable and will generally cone on during dry times. Control in relatively easy, especially if you have the ability to pump. Irrigate (flood) during July or August and hold. These species will not tolerate inundation during the growing season. Other means of control are disking and/or mowing. Once again, establish a level of tolerance (typically less than 15% coverage).



Giant Ragweed



Wild sunflower



Cocklebur

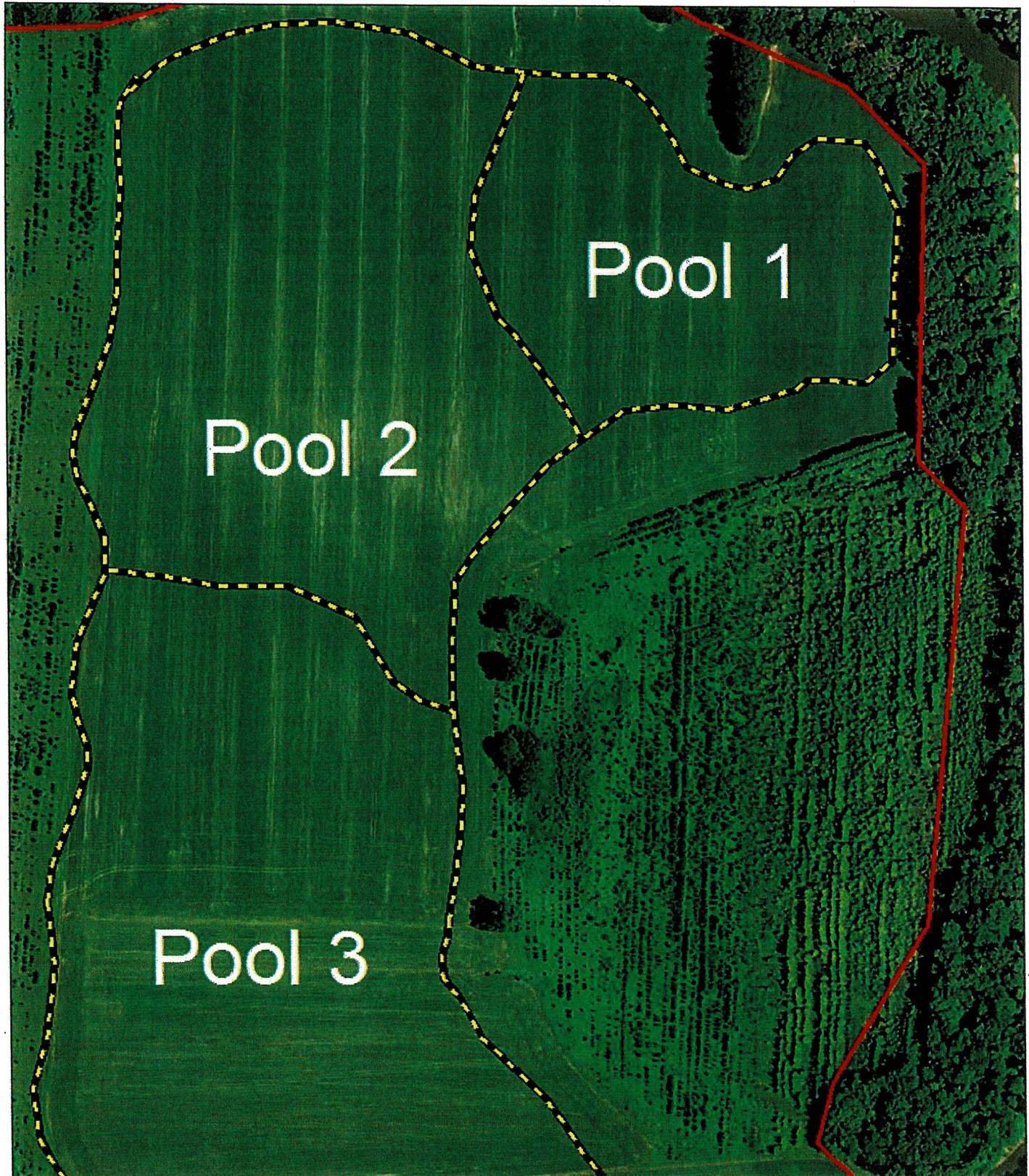
4. Primrose: Primrose is an aggressive plant with floating stems. It is easily recognized by its creeping stems and bright yellow flowers. Primrose will likely first develop in the deeper areas of the pools and spread from there. Once established, it is difficult to control. If the primrose appears, attack it during the low water management years. Unlike other undesirable plants, chemical control is the most effective method of control for primrose. Contact the WETs office (660)747-8200 ext.4) before using ANY herbicides on your wetland.

Water Management Map
Pools and Fields
#5464241401G2N - Scott
Pettis County



Legend

 Levee

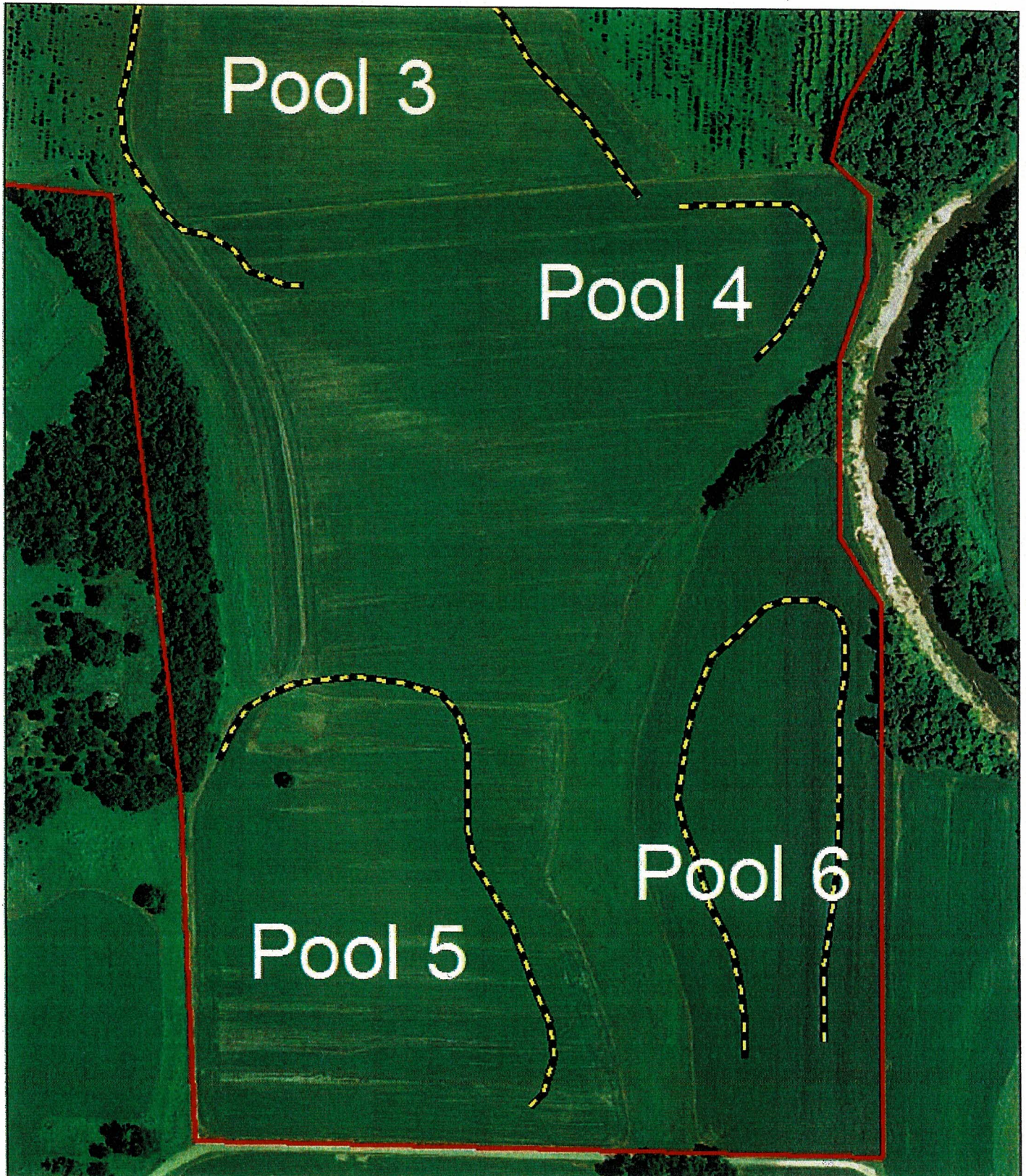


Water Management Map
Pools and Fields
#5464241401G2N - Scott
Pettis County



Legend

 Levee



Pettus County

Cooper County

162 Acres

253 Acres

