Land Trades: A Win-win for Producers and Wetland Conservation

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1. Wetlands America Trust owns 4-5,000 ac in Nebraska
2. Majority of our lands are in the Rainwater Basin, a priority
3. Primarily interested in spring migration habitat
   - Playa wetlands
   - Class III or worse soils (Massie, Scott, Fillmore, some Butler)
4. We continue farming upland portions, which are irrigated
5. Trades are conducted on a value for value basis based on appraisals
   - Boot money
   - We pay for appraisals
6. We are a trade partner for wetland owner willing to part with productive cropland
7. We also have numerous pasture tracts
8. We will purchase wetlands
DU’s Hinz cropland trade- 82.96 acres total.
• 4 grassland (i.e. Pasture) tracts have new fence and 3 have livestock wells and tanks
• 160 acres in Phelps County, 121 acres in Phelps County, 86 acres in Butler County, and 114 acres in Fillmore County
CONCLUSIONS

• DU is a willing trade partner to obtain RWB wetland acres, which are usually the least productive portions of a producer’s operation

• Producers obtain quality, irrigated farm land from DU on a value for value basis to keep that land in production and from being developed

• The wetlands obtained by DU are restored, which improves water quality, aquifer recharge, and wildlife habitat
QUESTIONS?