Department of Agriculture

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Proposal

*Pending

H2Ohio Pasture Hayland Project

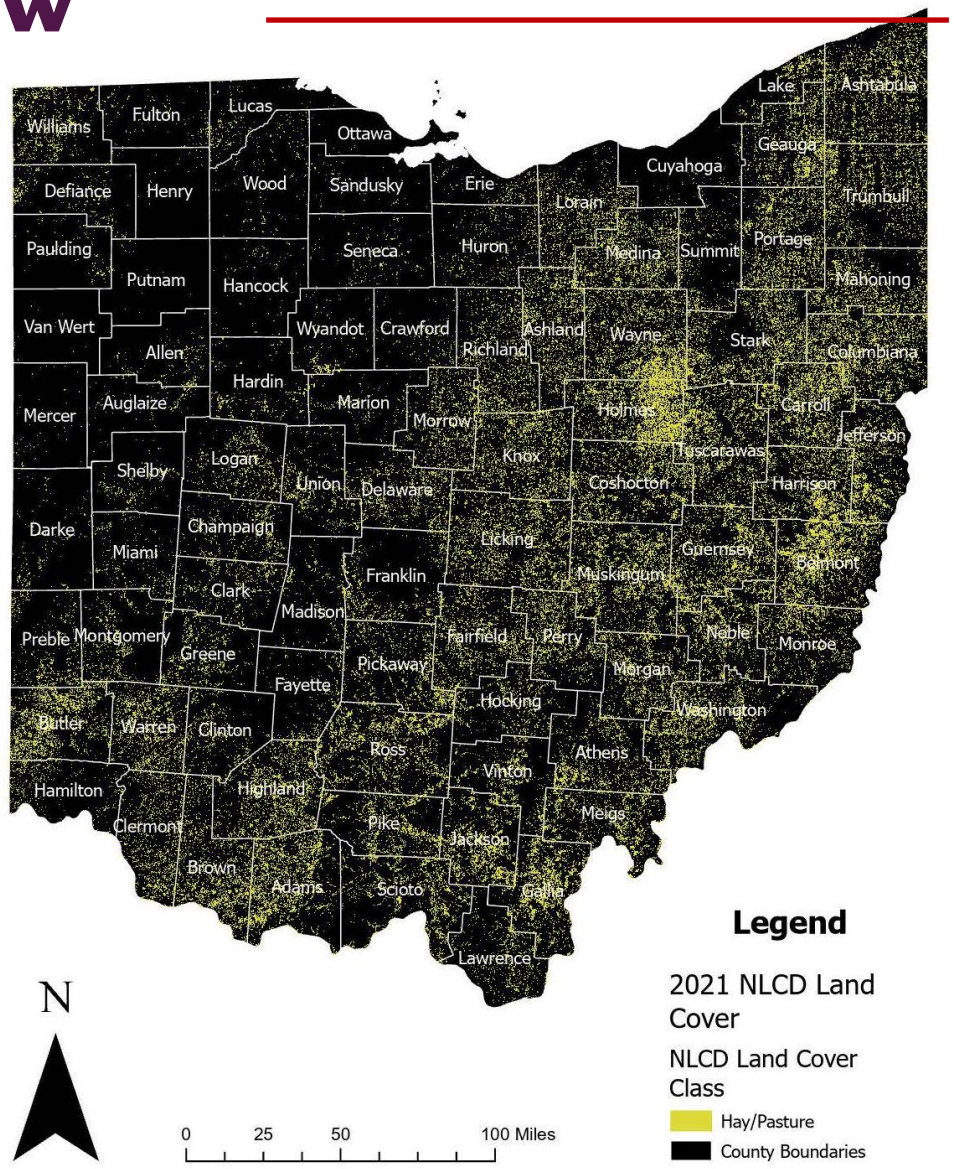


Overview

Pasture and Hayland is a major agricultural land use in southern/eastern Ohio regard compared to central and western Ohio which is predominantly row crops.

Common need for more funding of grazing and hayland practices was given in interviews with SWCDs and other partners over the past few years.

*Pending



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RCPP Application Type

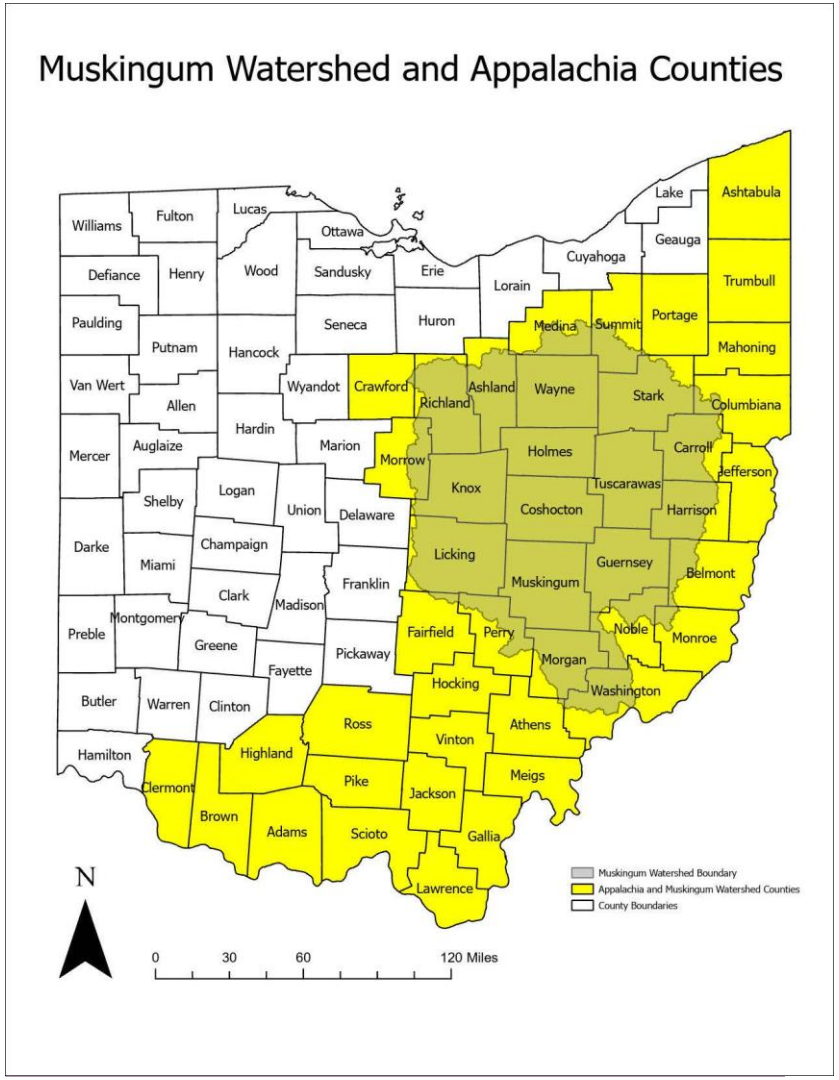
- Classic RCPP focusing on land management practices focused on pasture and hayland.
- CCA: Mississippi River Basin – Water Quality Degradation-Field Sediment, Nutrient, and Pathogen Loss.
- Utilize the Climate Smart practice of Prescribed Grazing (528), Pasture and Hay Planting (512), and Nutrient Management (590) as the core practice with supplemental practices to assist in implementation.
- Total application of almost $10 million.

*Pending

Project Area

*Pending

- ❑ All counties with the state of Ohio designated as part of Appalachia
- ❑ Additional counties included within the Muskingum watershed basin
- ❑ Totaling for ½ the state of Ohio, 44 counties



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Project Area

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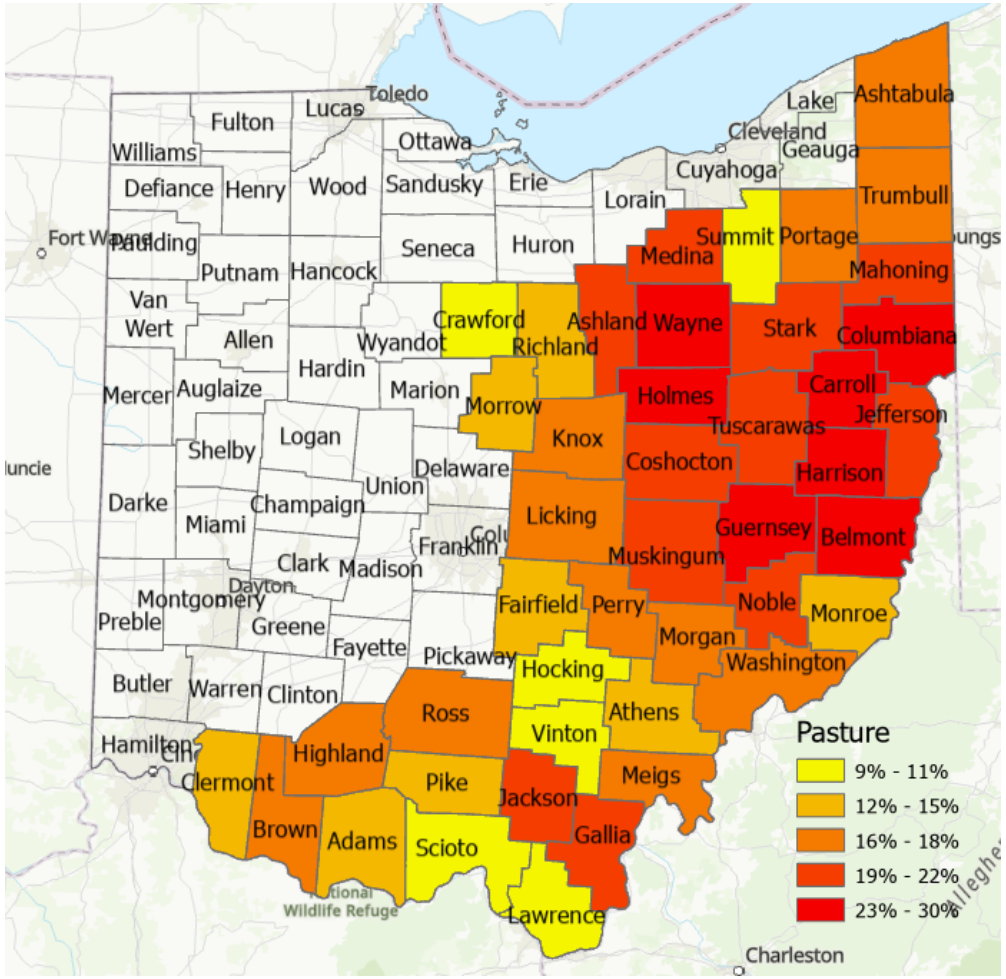
- 44 Counties
- Total Agricultural Ground: 4,996,886 acres
- Total Grass/Pasture: 2,504,522 acres
- 50% of Agricultural Ground is categorized as Grass/Pasture
- 18% of Total Area is Grass/Pasture



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Goals and Objectives

Goal: Reduce the amount of nutrients, sediment and pathogens entering waterbodies from agricultural operations.

Objectives:

1. Improved water quality due to reduction of field sediment, nutrients, and pathogens.

2. Reduce sedimentation in sensitive aquatic habitat by prioritizing pasture and haylands adjacent to streams and within impaired HUC-12 watersheds.

Targets to meet objectives by:

A. 200+ contracts through RCPP.

B. 95,000 acres of nutrient management plans through H2Ohio.

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Potential Practices

Core Climate-Smart Ag. Practices

- **Prescribed Grazing - 528**
- **Pasture & Hayland Planting -512**
- **Nutrient Management -590**

Supplemental Practices (Tentative)

A. Livestock Pipeline 516
B. Spring Development 574
C. Underground Outlet 620
D. Watering Facility 614
E. Fence 382
F. Heavy Use Area Protection 561
G. Access Road 560
H. Stream Crossing 578
I. Herbaceous Weed Treatment (On Pasture/Hay) 315
J. Brush Management (On Pasture/Hay) 314
K. Access Control 472
L. Strategic Harvested Forage Management 827