

# Duck and Coot Zones and Dark Goose Unit Boundary Proposals



June 2025 Commission Meeting  
Sidney, Nebraska

# Timeline

---

- **November 2024**
  - Asked hunters to submit zone boundary proposals
  - Most input ever received
- **February 2025**
  - Sent out a survey to get hunter opinions regarding hunter submitted proposals that met criteria
  - Most input ever received: 4,423 responses (~400 in 2019)
- **April 2025**
  - Targeted survey sent to Missouri River hunters in Dakota, Thurston, Burt & Washington Counties
- **June 2025**
  - Commission will vote on zone and unit boundaries as an action item
- **September/October 2025**
  - A season date preference survey will be sent out to correspond with new zones/units
- **Fall 2026:** New zone/unit boundaries go into effect

# Duck and Coot Seasons

**Zone 1** — Oct. 12 - Dec. 24, 2024

**Zone 2** — Oct. 5 - Dec. 17, 2024 (Low Plains); Oct. 5 - Dec. 17, 2024 and Jan. 8 - 29, 2025 (High Plains)

**Zone 3** — Oct. 26, 2024 - Jan. 7, 2025 and Jan. 8 - 29, 2025 (High Plains)

**Zone 4** — Oct. 26, 2024 - Jan. 7, 2025

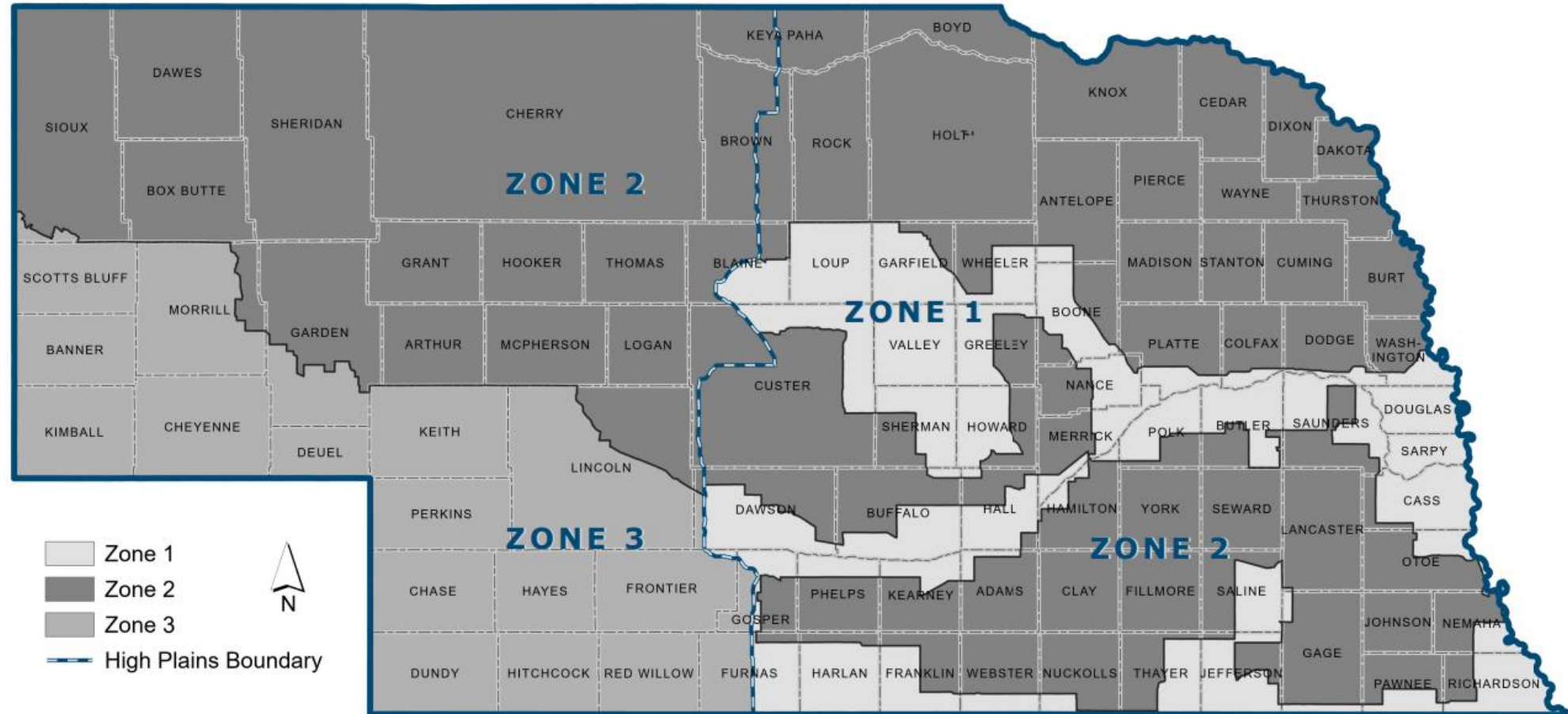
Examining the previous season dates for each zone can help with understanding the following hunter proposed changes.



0 25 50 Miles

High Plains ← → Low Plains

# Proposed Boundary Change

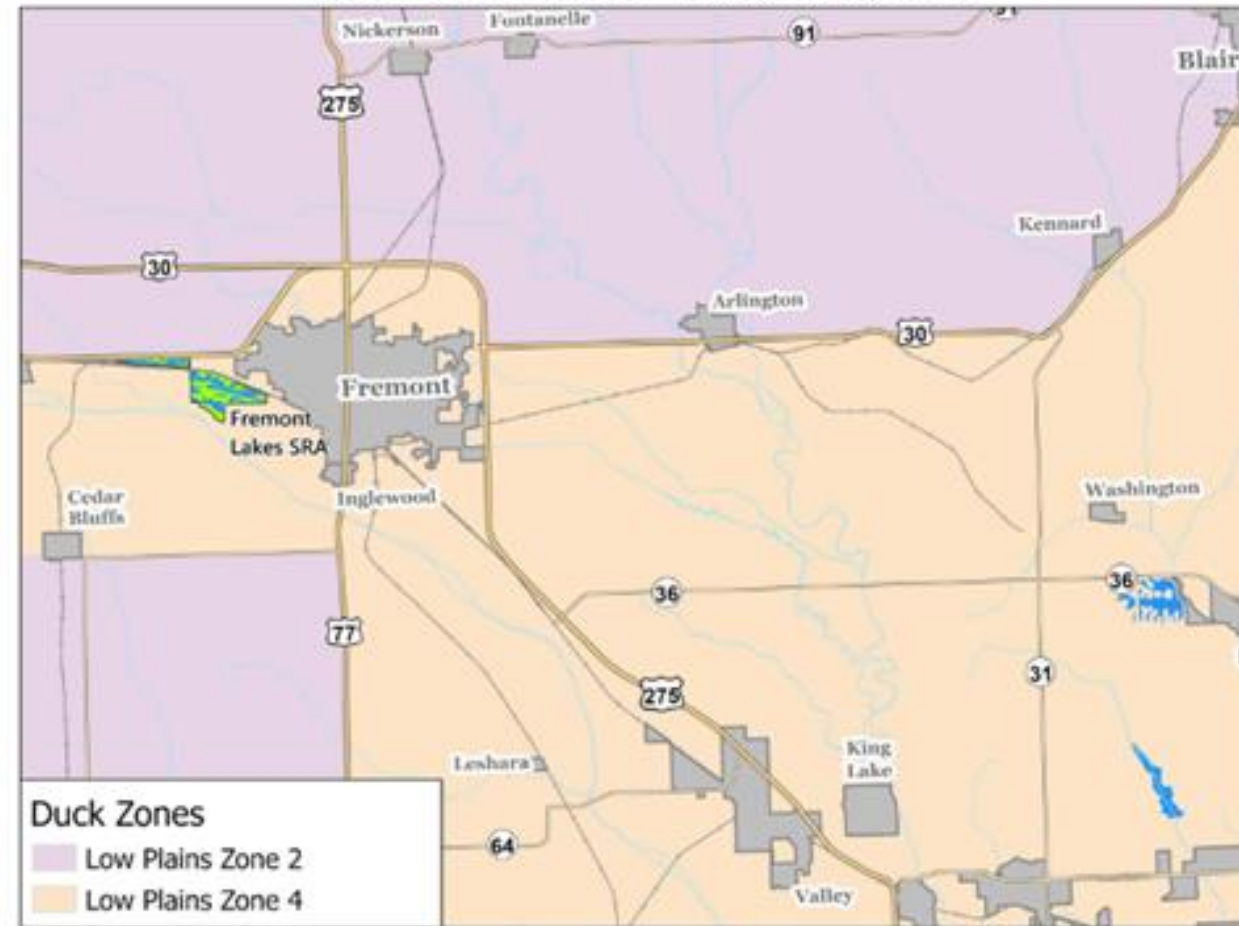


***Proposal:*** Zone 2 will absorb all of current Zone 1. Current Zone 4 will be renamed Zone 1. This will result in Nebraska having 3 Duck and Coot Zones which will allow “splits” to be offered in future duck hunting seasons.

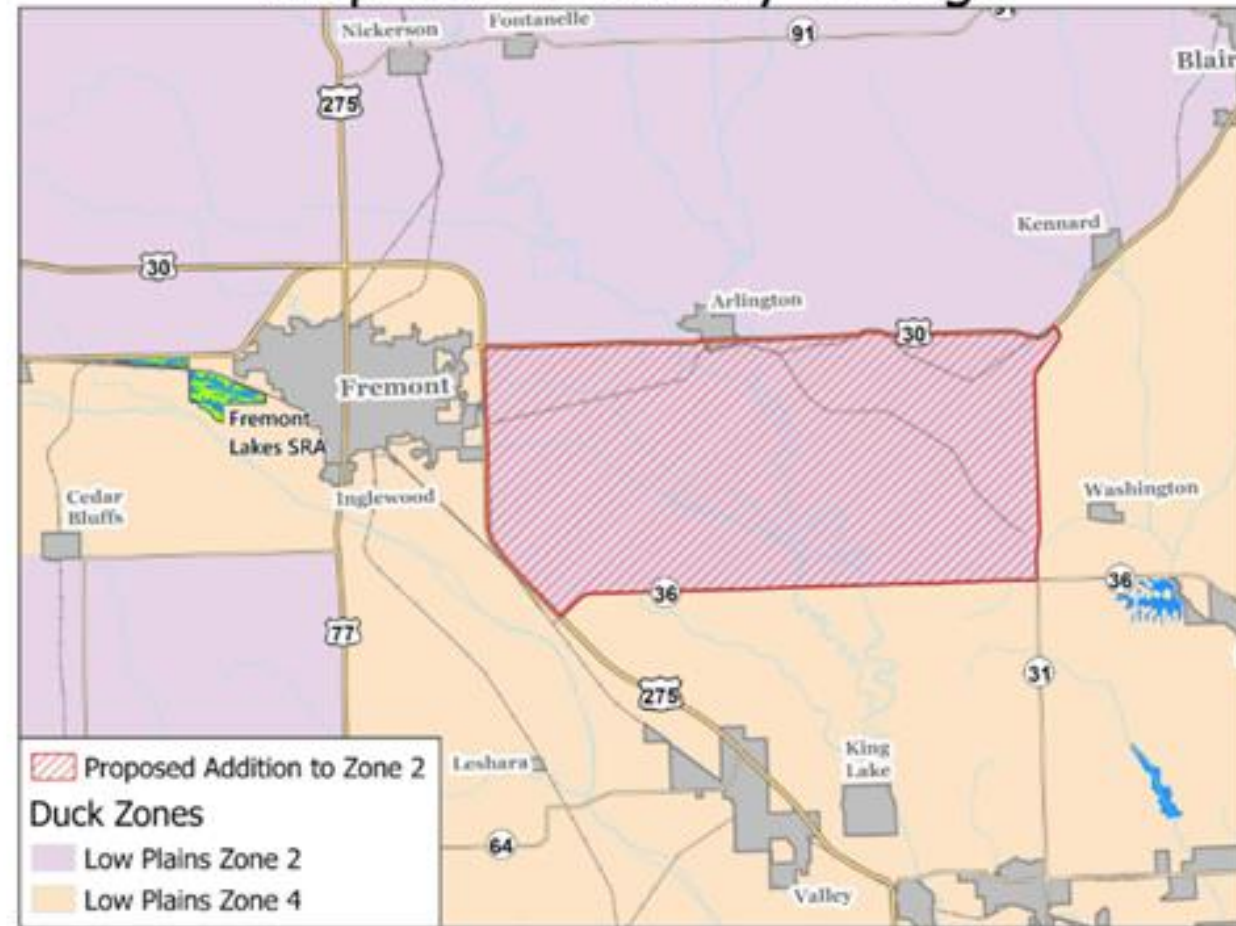


# Dodge County

## Current Zone Boundaries



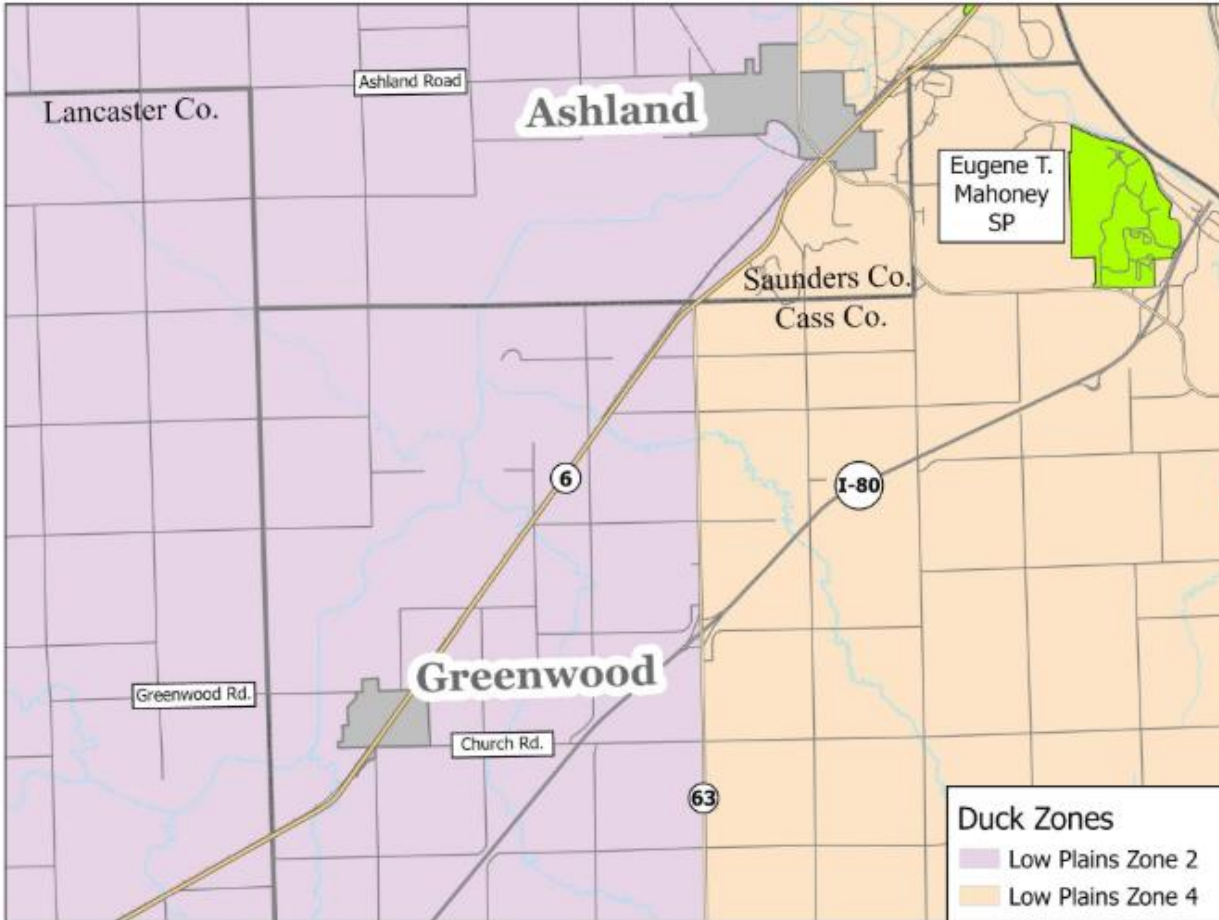
## Proposed Boundary Change



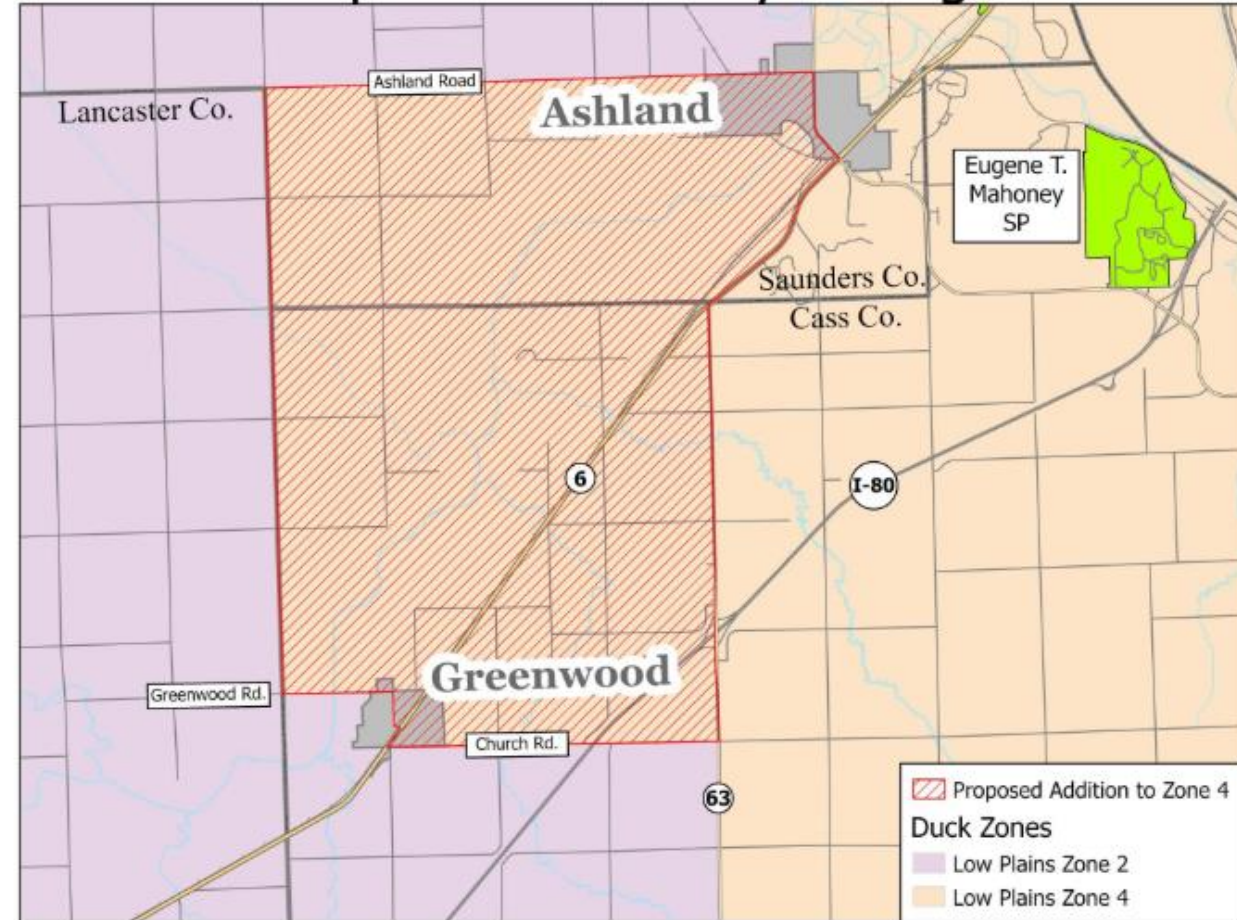
*Proposal:* Extend Zone 2 into Zone 4 east of Fremont and south to HWY 36.

# Cass-Saunders County

## Current Zone Boundaries



## Proposed Boundary Change

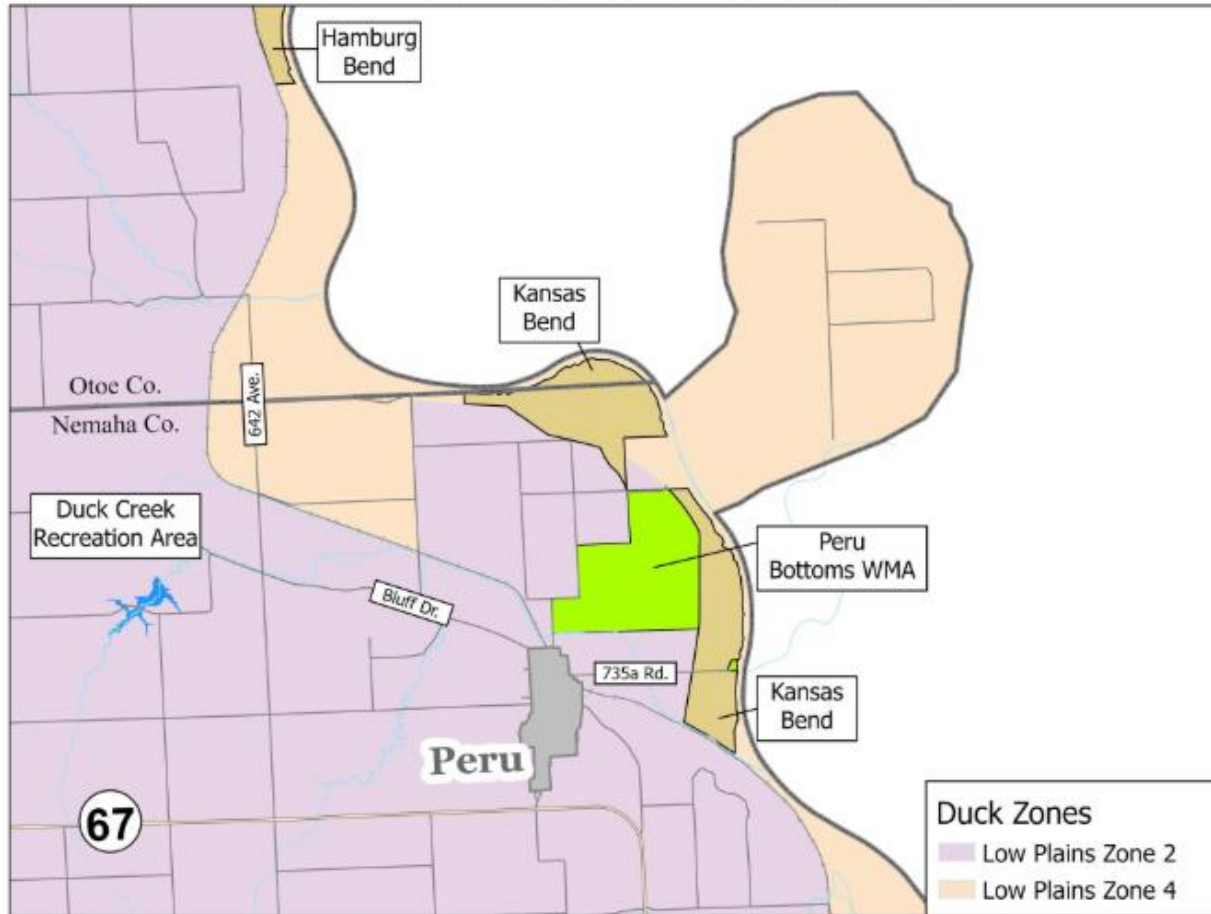


*Proposal:* Extend Zone 4 past Ashland and south to Greenwood.

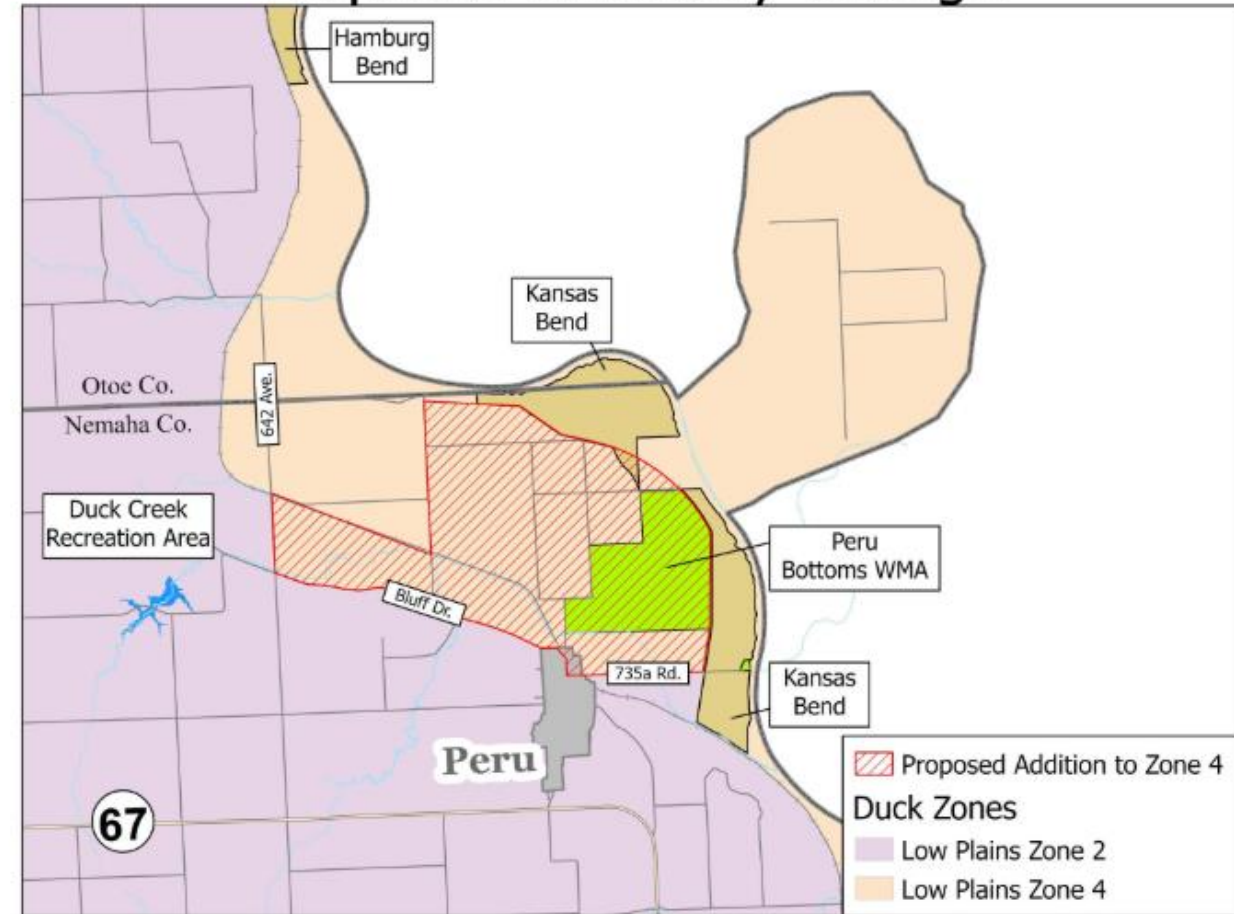


# Nemaha County

## Current Zone Boundaries



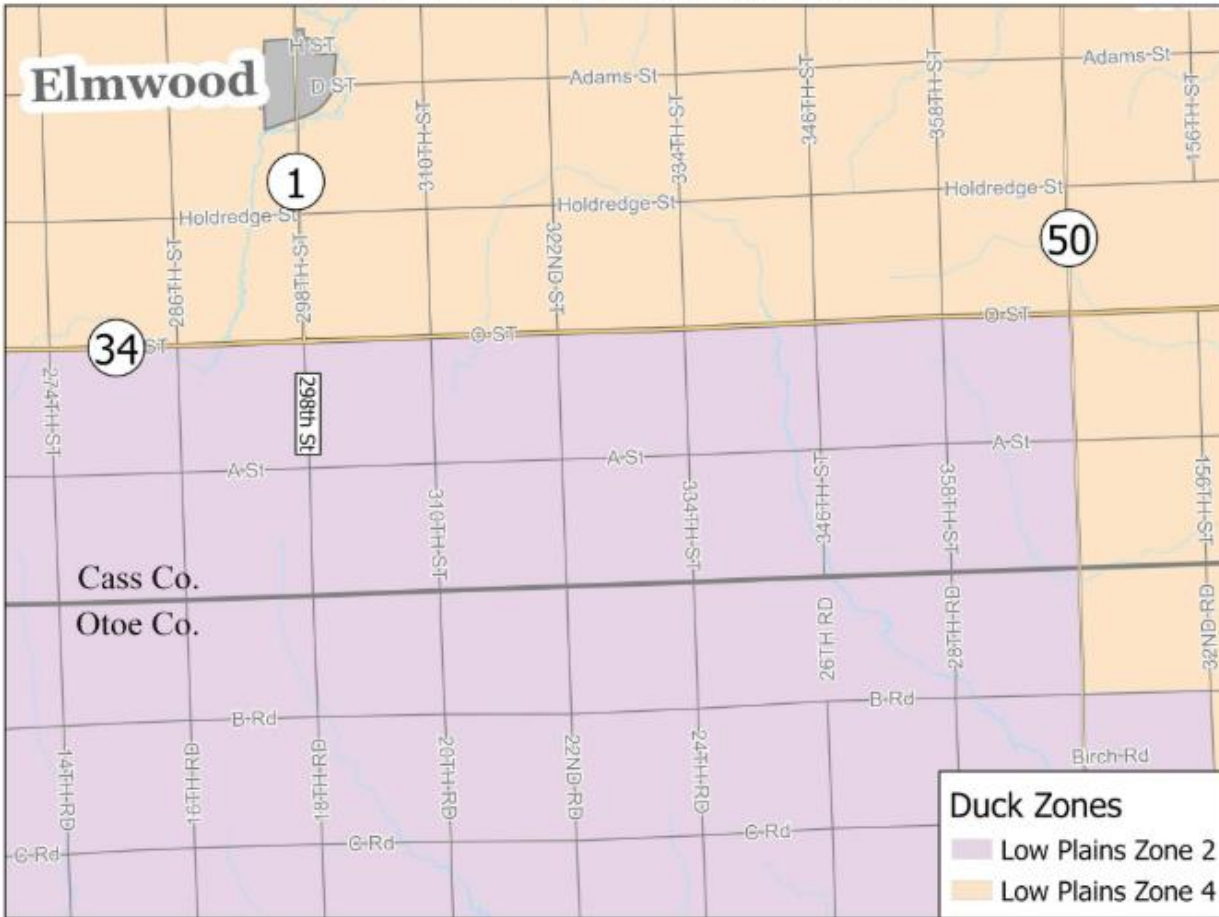
## Proposed Boundary Change



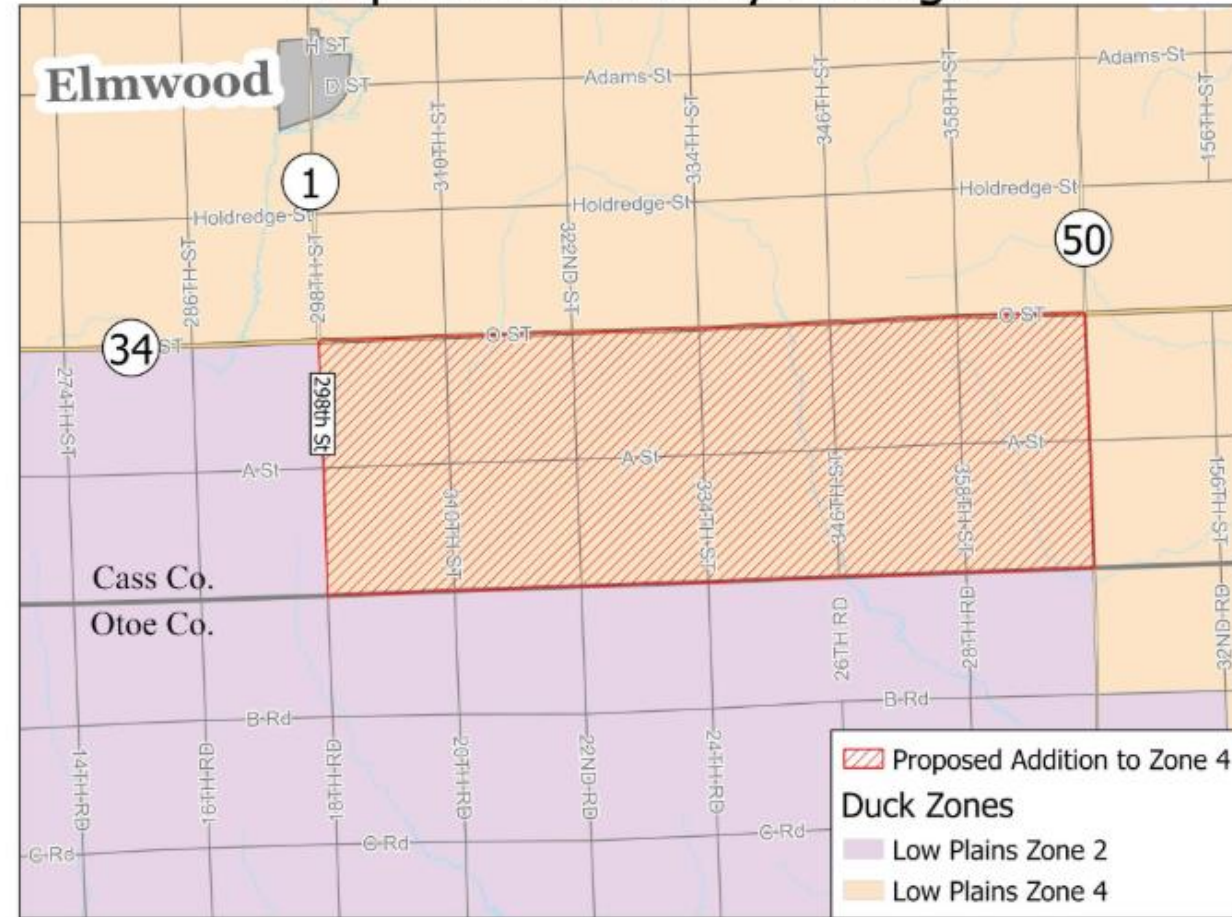
**Proposal:** Move Peru Bottoms WMA and the western adjacent area from Zone 2 to Zone 4.

# Cass County

## Current Zone Boundaries



## Proposed Boundary Change

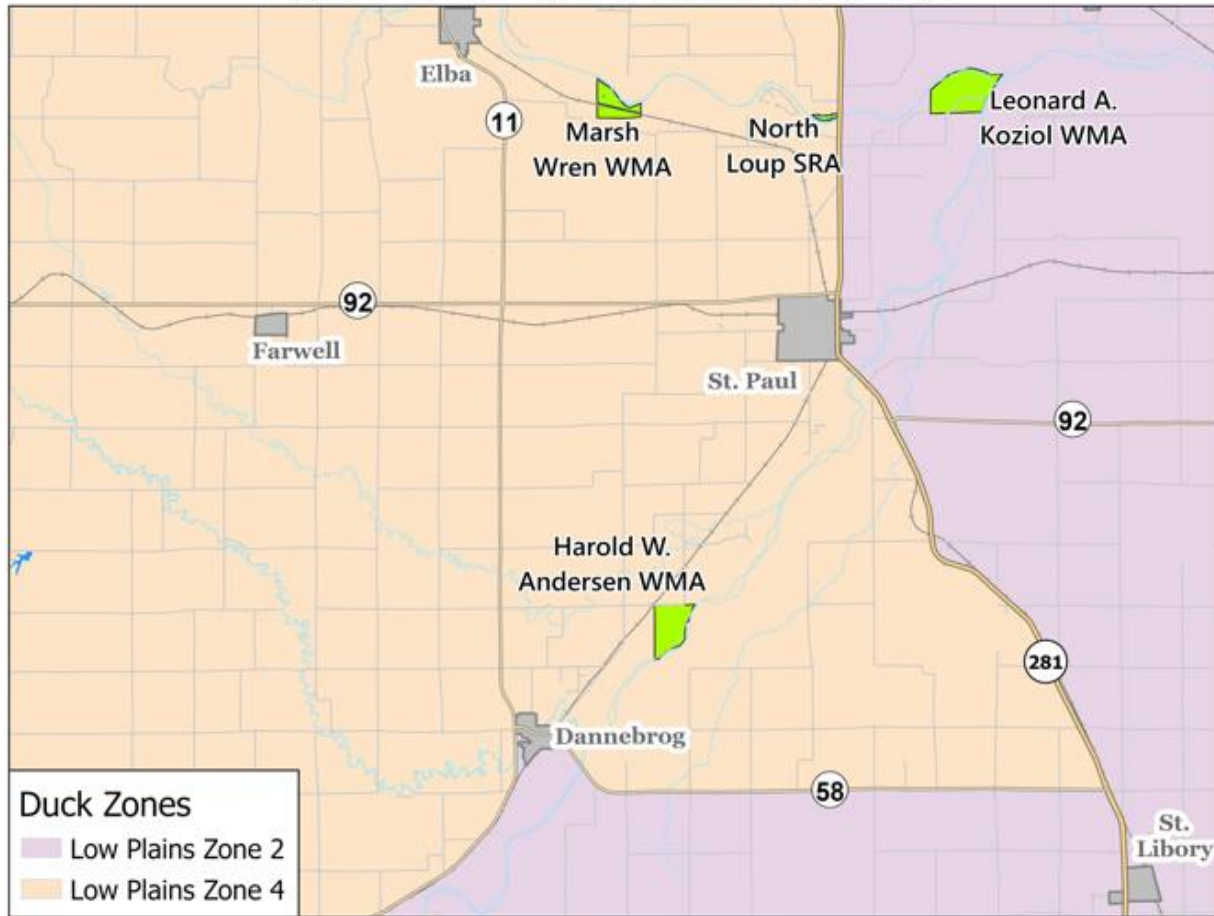


**Proposal:** Extend Zone 4 westward between HWY 34 and the Cass/Otoe Co. line south of Elmwood.

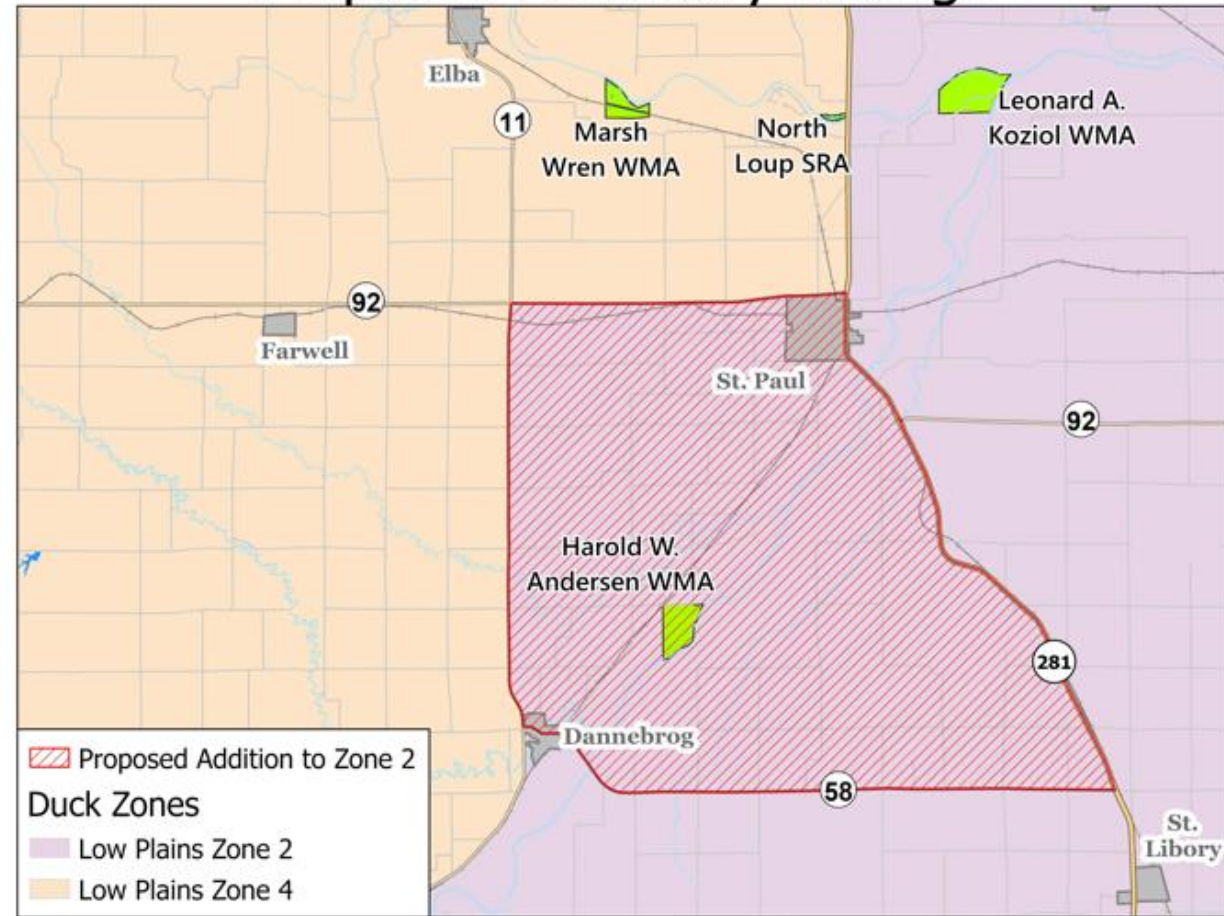


# Howard County

## Current Zone Boundaries



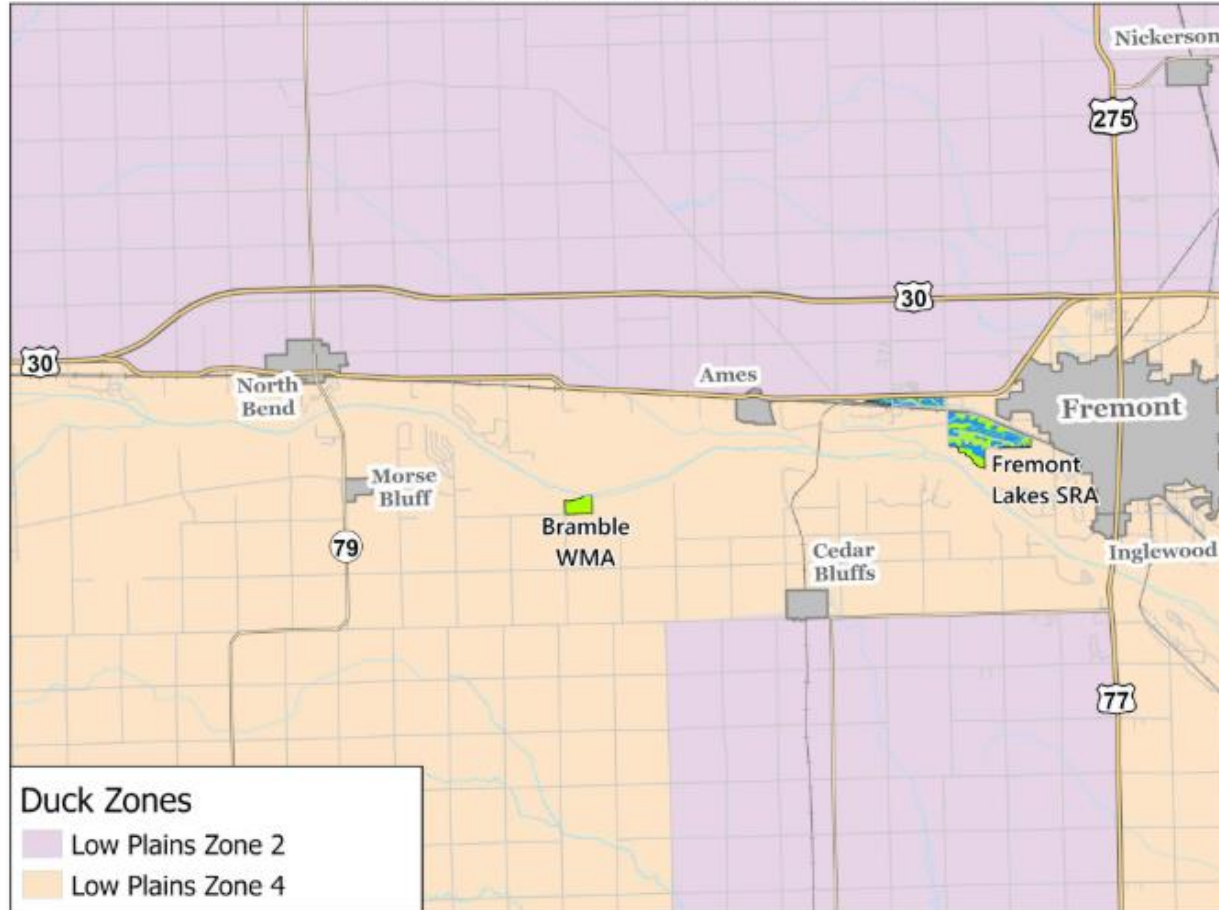
## Proposed Boundary Change



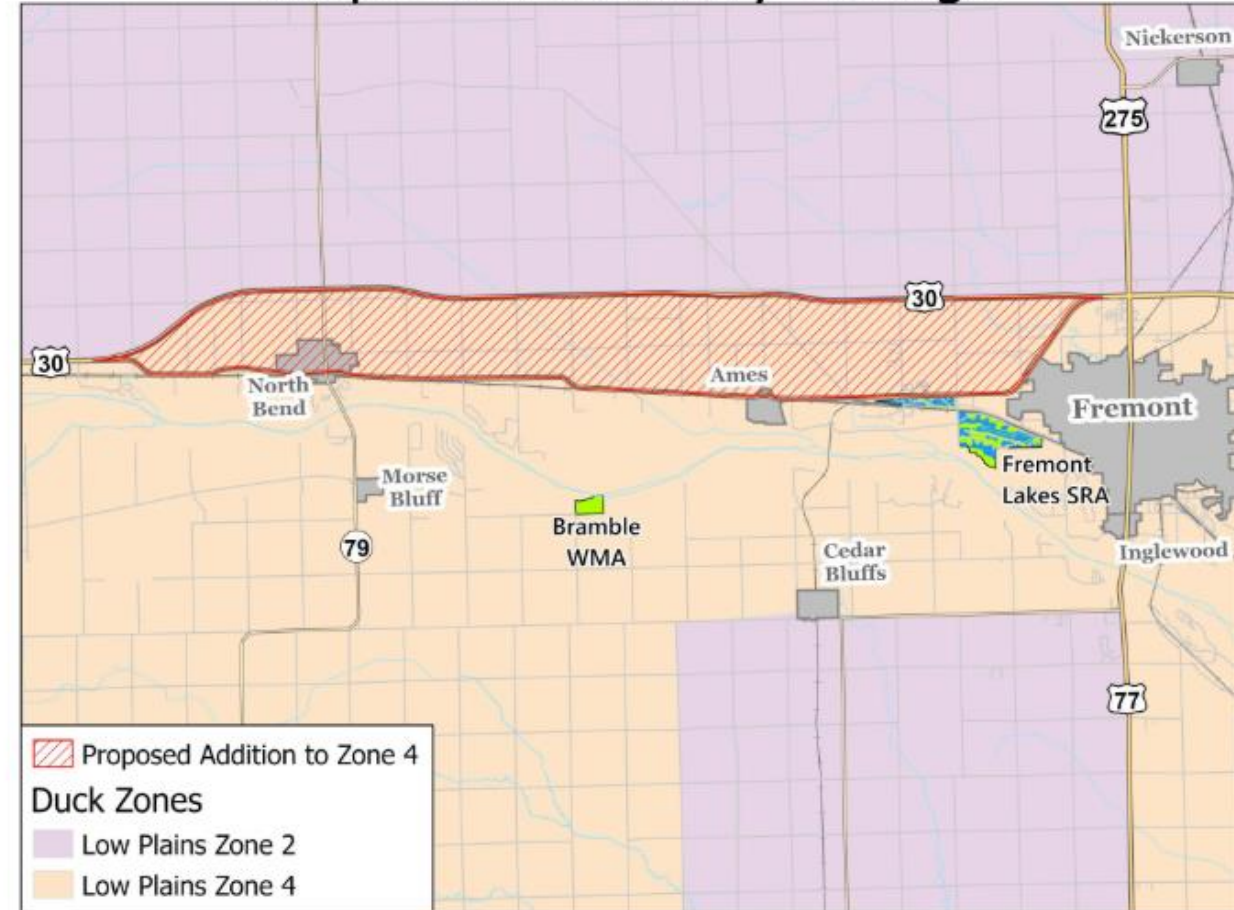
**Proposal:** Move a portion of the Middle Loup River south of St. Paul into Zone 2.

# Dodge County

## Current Zone Boundaries



## Proposed Boundary Change

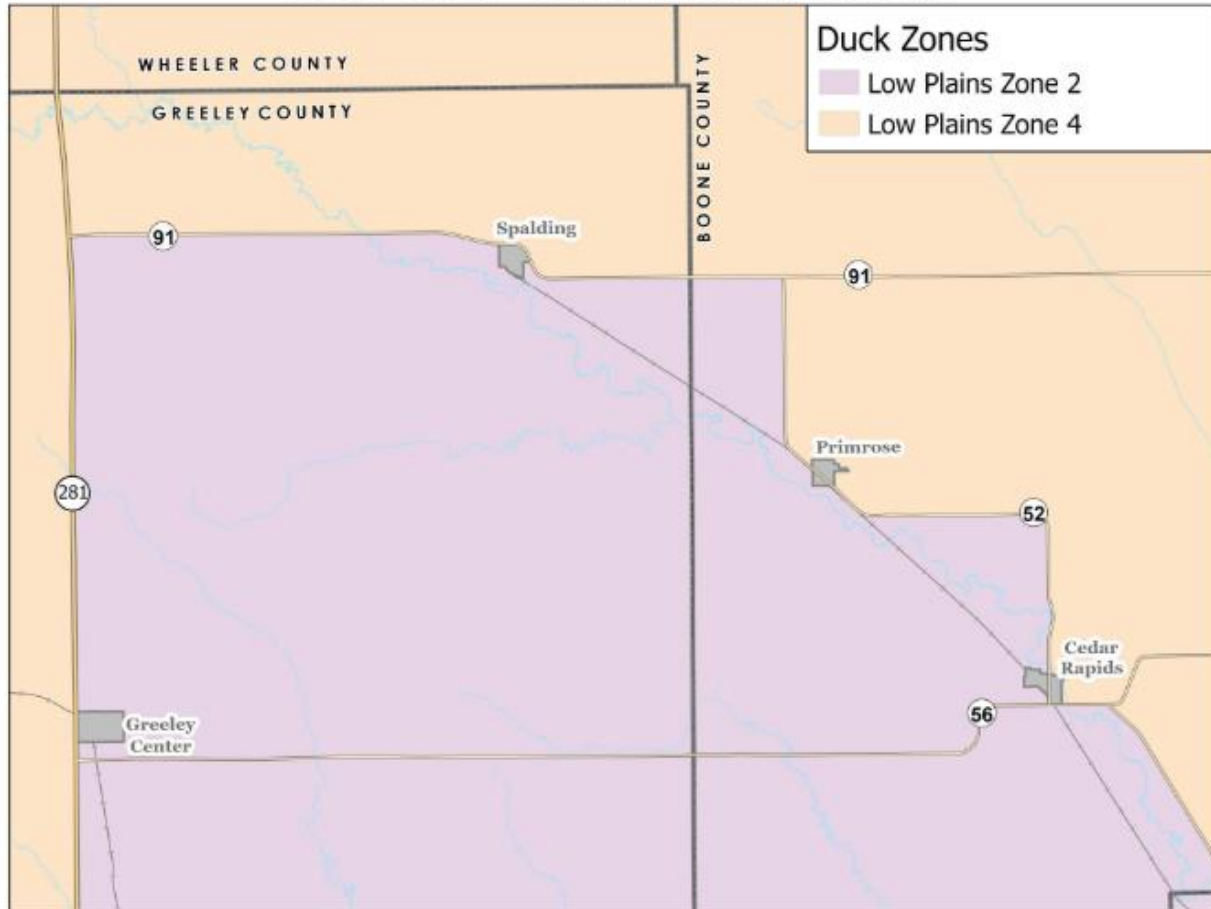


*Proposal:* Extend Zone 4 into Zone 2 between old HWY 30 and new HWY 30.

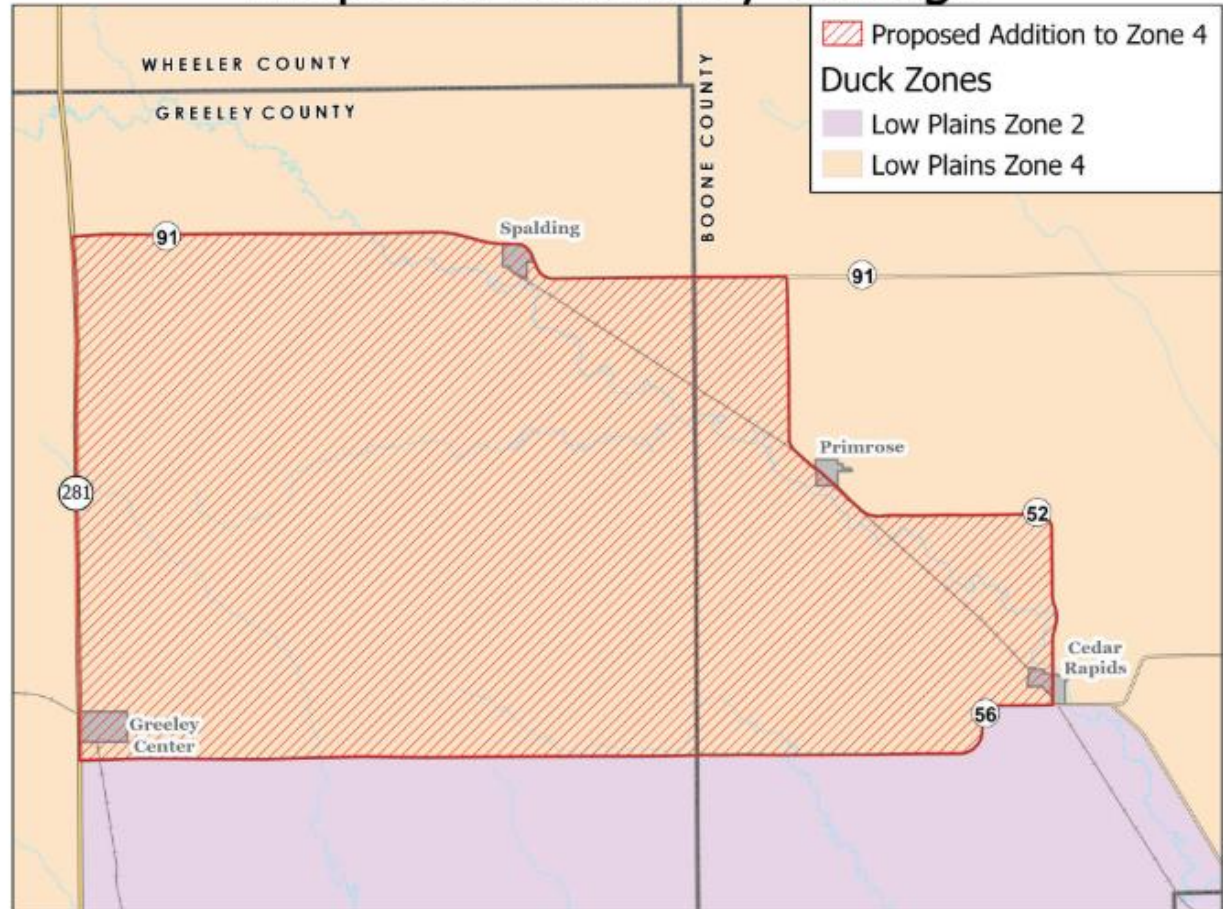


# Greely County

## Current Zone Boundaries



## Proposed Boundary Change



**Proposal:** Move a portion of Zone 2 from Cedar Rapids to Greeley Center and north to Spalding into Zone 4. Area encompasses portion of Cedar River.

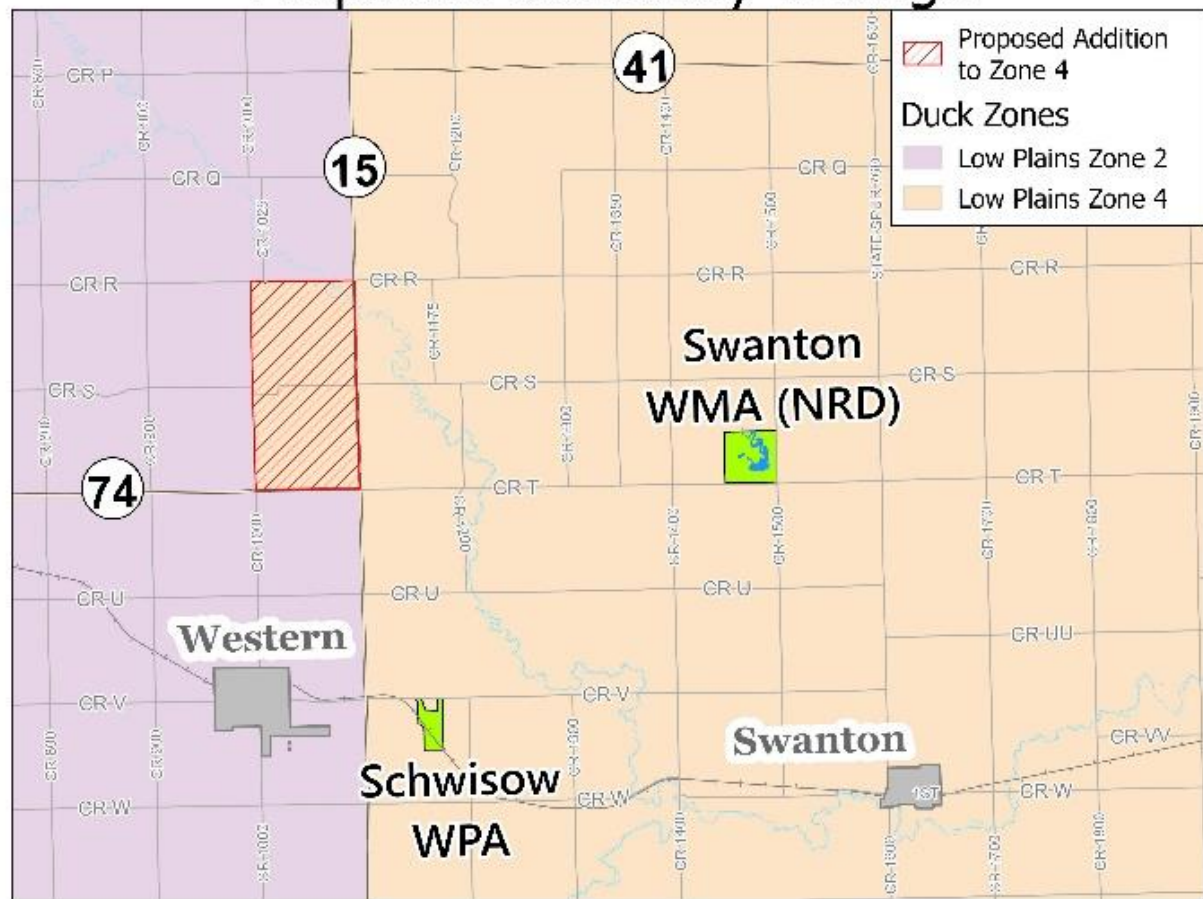


# Saline County

## Current Zone Boundaries



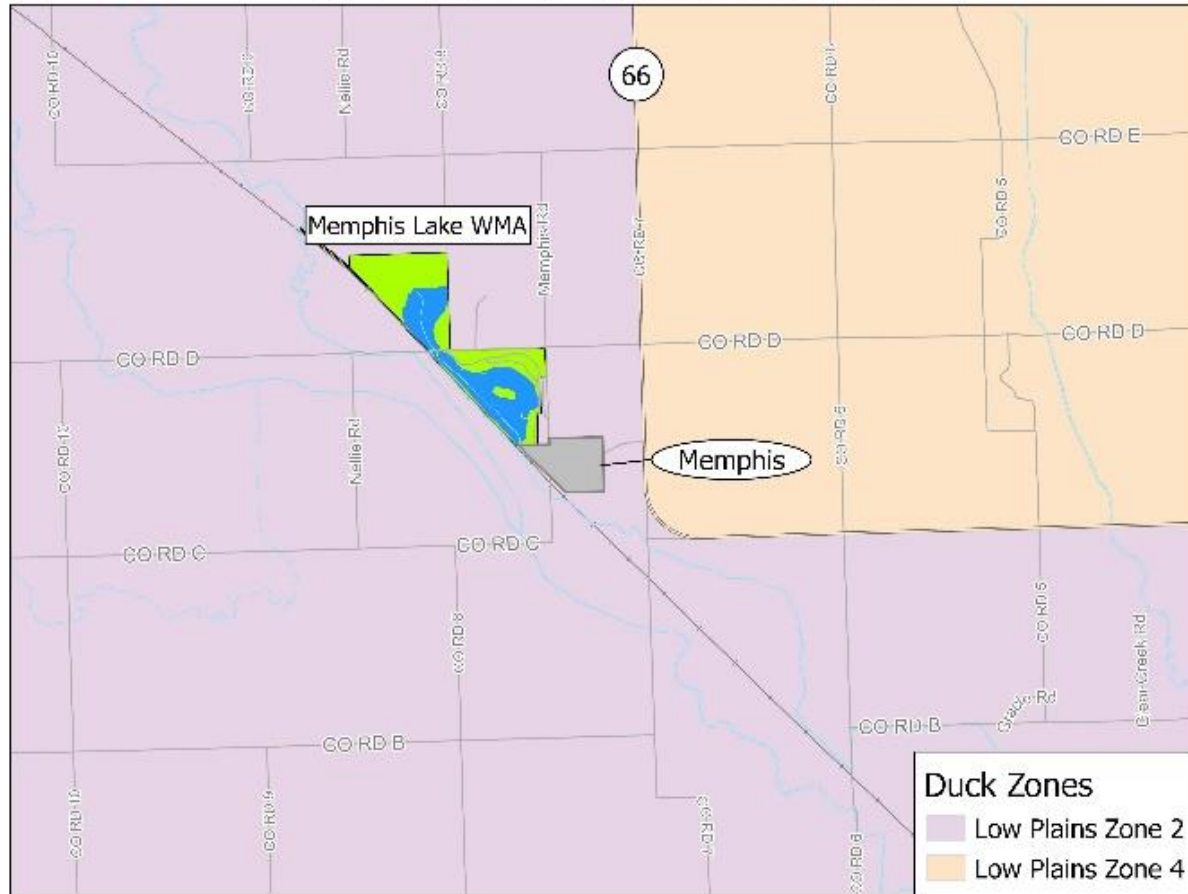
## Proposed Boundary Change



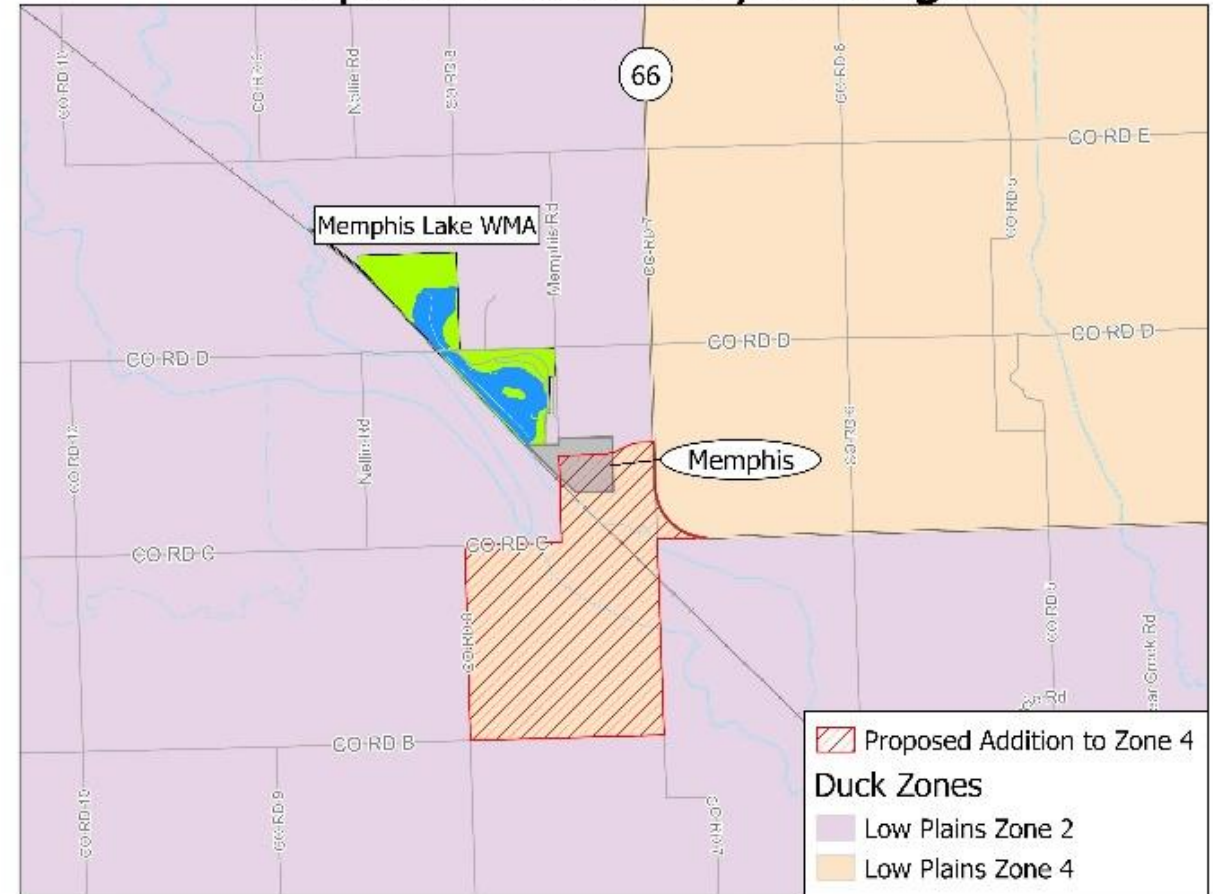
**Proposal:** Move Zone 4 westward between HWY 15 & HWY 74

# Saunders County

## Current Zone Boundaries



## Proposed Boundary Change



**Proposal:** Extend Zone 4 into the town of Memphis and southwards.

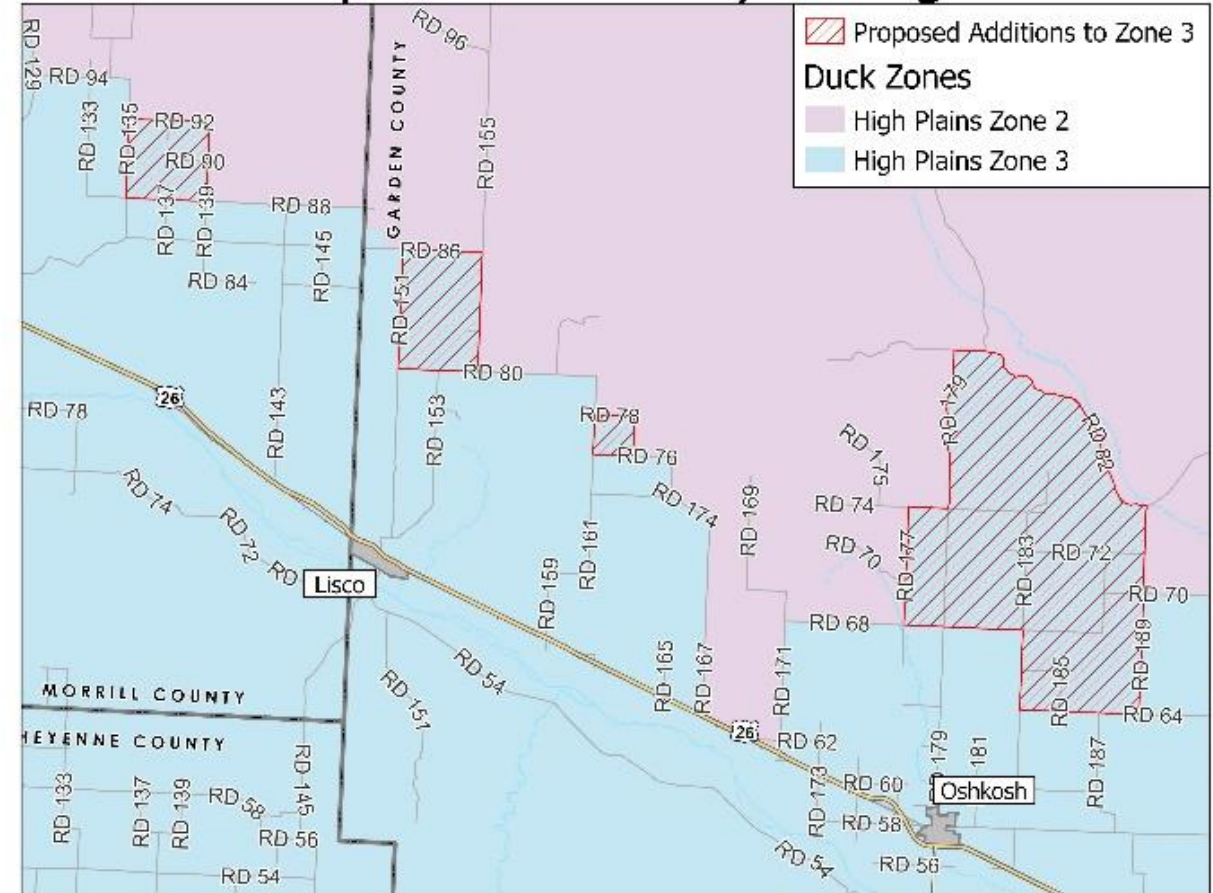


# Morrill and Garden Counties

## Current Zone Boundaries



## Proposed Boundary Change



*Proposal:* Extend Zone 3 northwards into Zone 2 to encompass more agriculture ground.

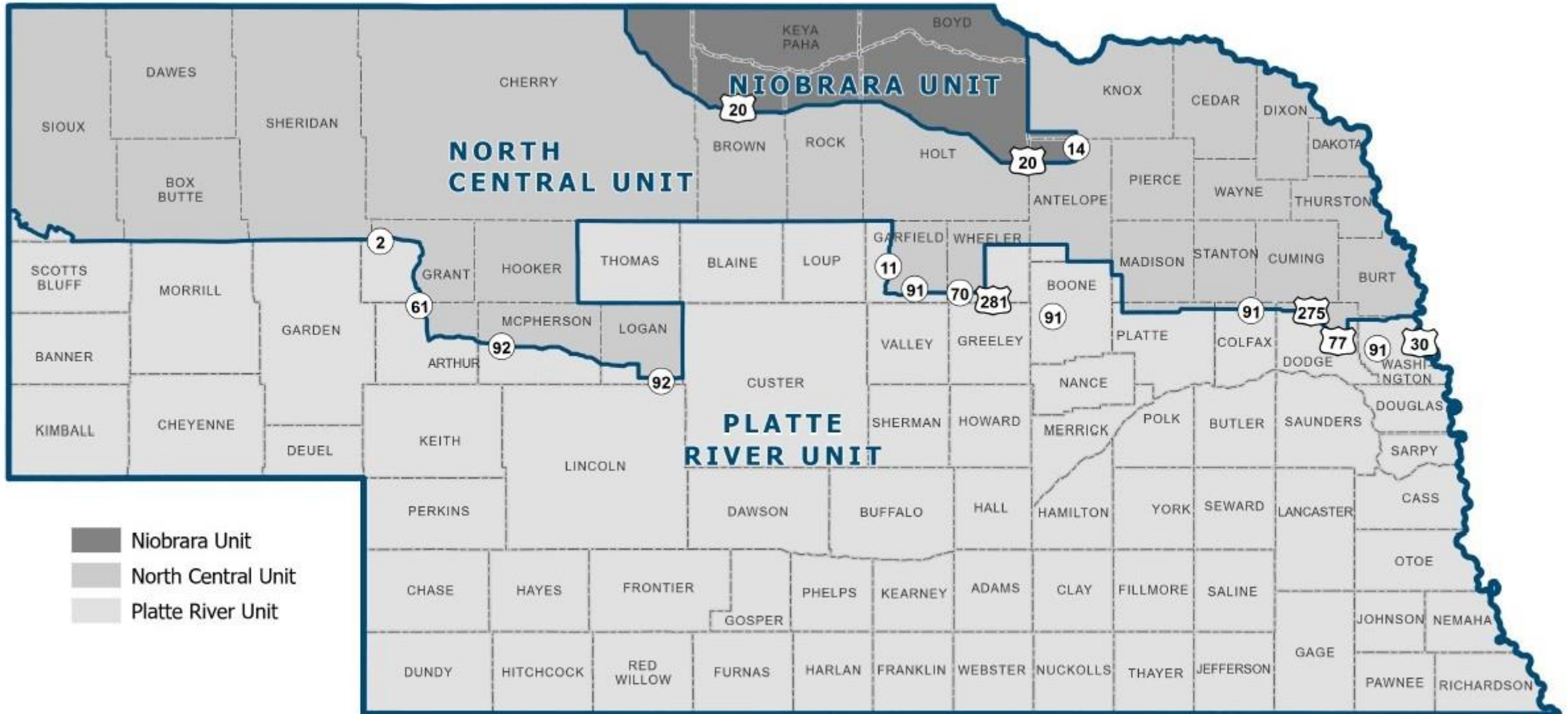


# Dark Goose Units

**North Central Unit** — Oct. 5, 2024 - Jan. 17, 2025

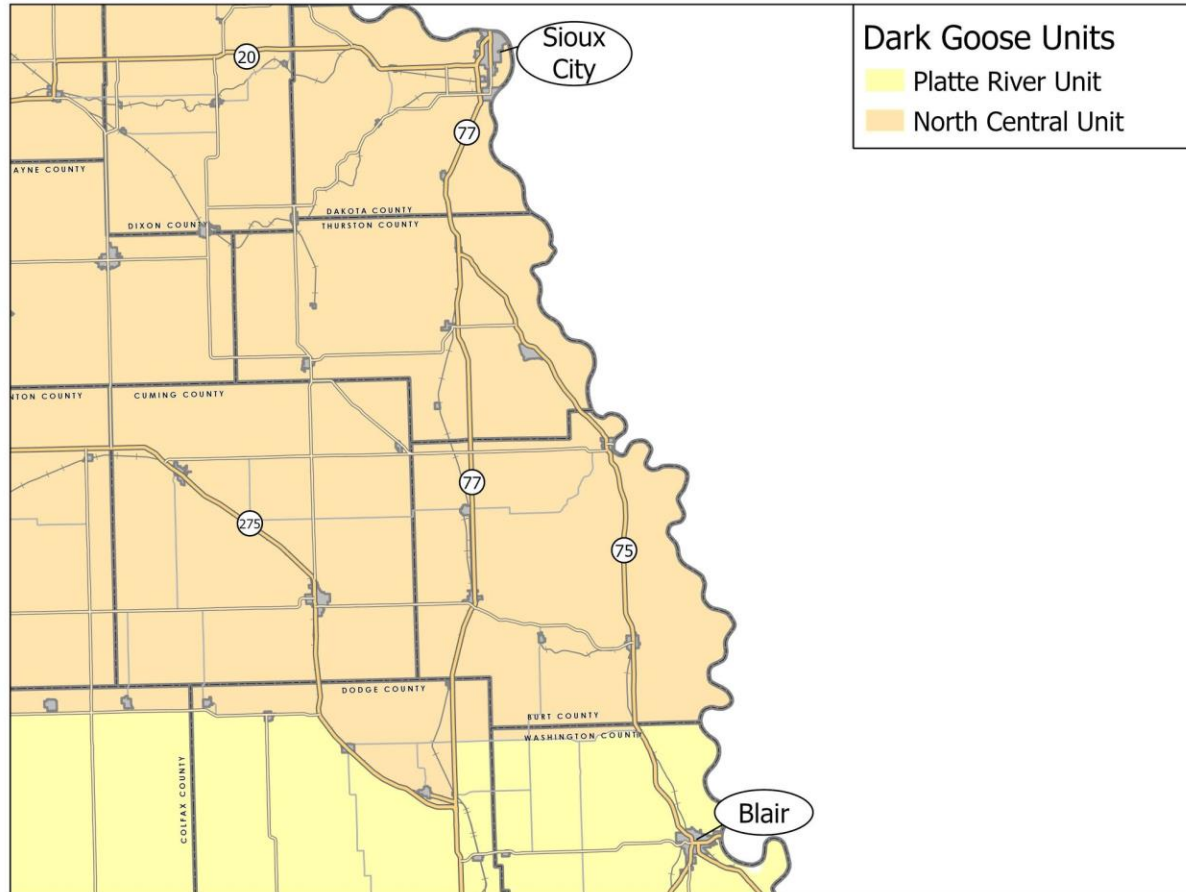
**Niobrara Unit** — Oct. 28, 2024 - Feb. 9, 2025

**Platte River Unit** — Oct. 28, 2024 - Feb. 9, 2025

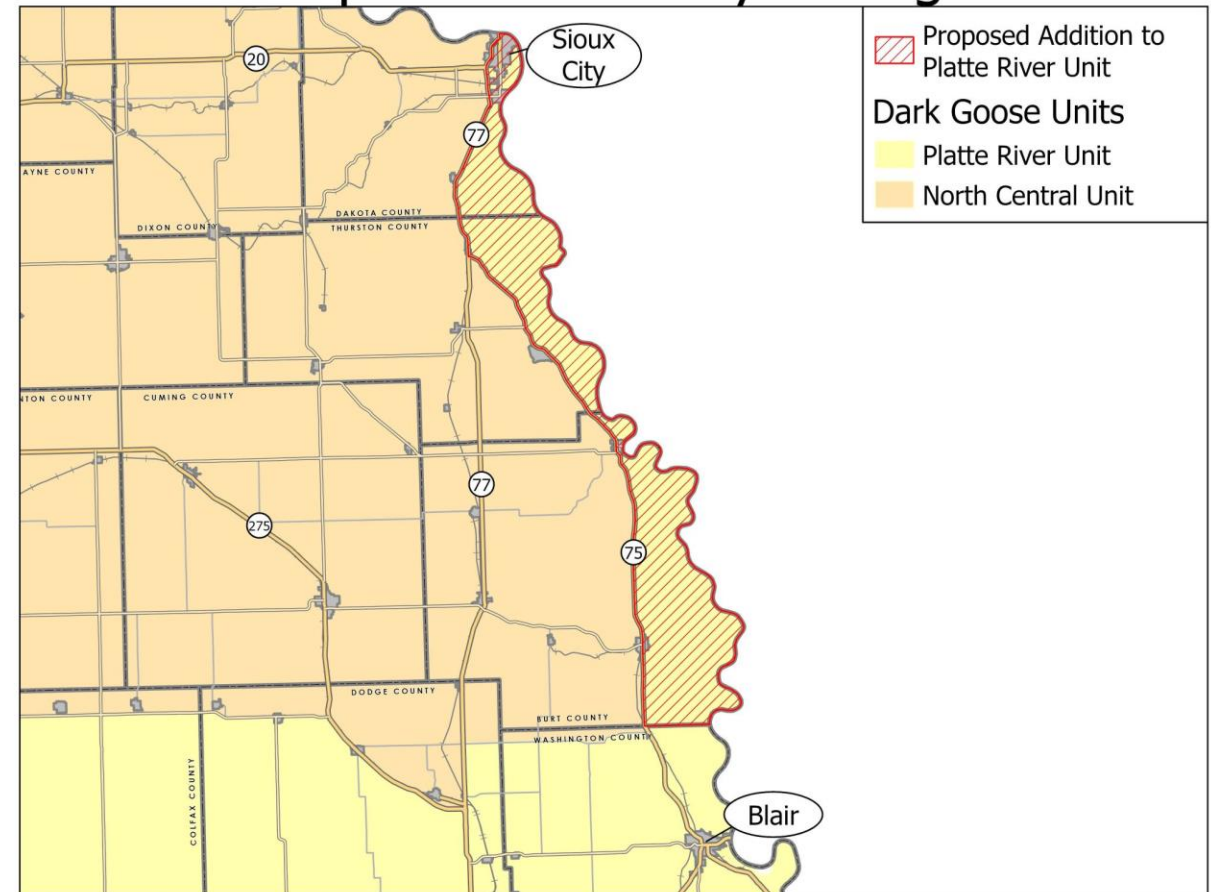


# Dakota, Thurston, Burt & Washington Counties

## Current Unit Boundaries



## Proposed Boundary Change

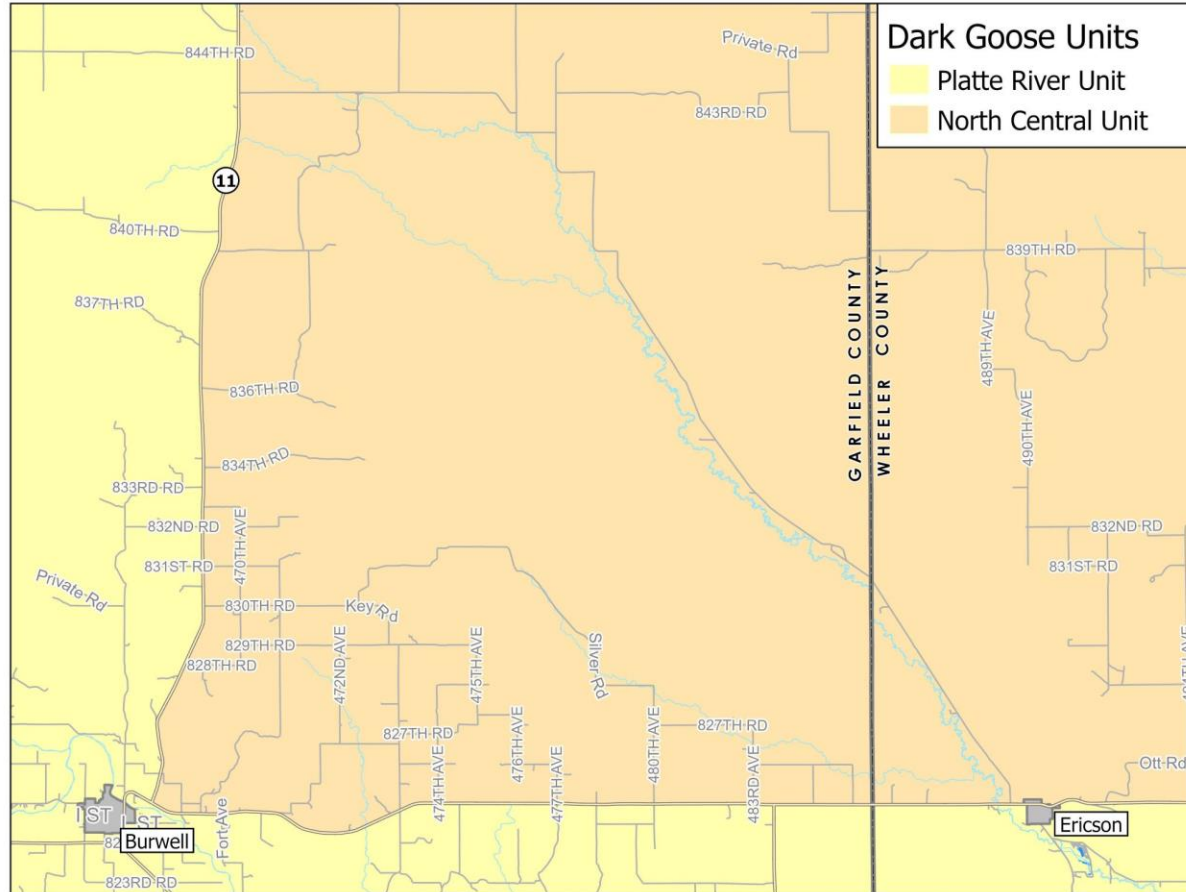


**Proposal:** Extended the Platte River Unit north, along the Missouri River, to South Sioux City, NE.

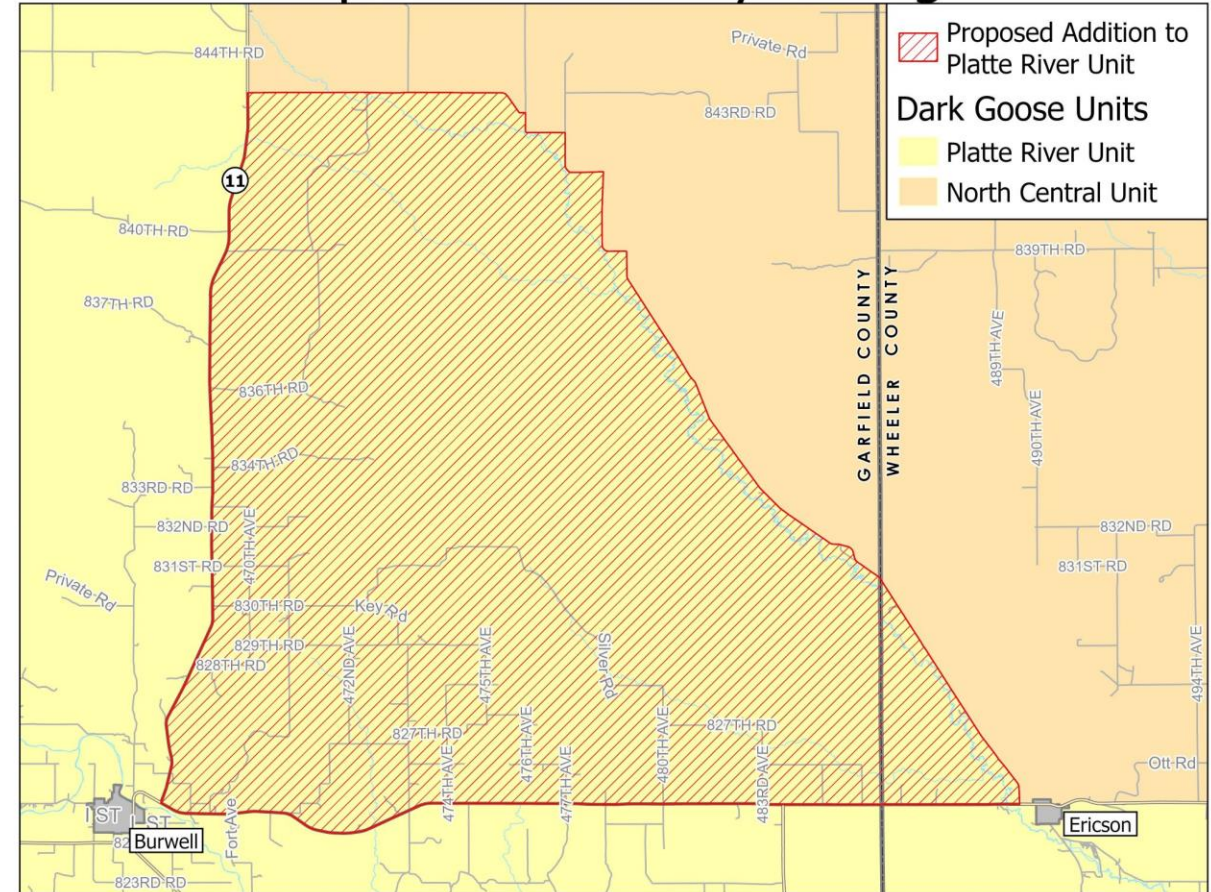


# Garfield and Wheeler Counties

## Current Unit Boundaries



## Proposed Boundary Change



**Proposal:** Move a portion of the Cedar River into Platte River Unit from North Central Unit