



Ducks Unlimited Conservation

Wetland Habitat for the Future



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Wetland Conservation



- **Wetland restoration**
- **Project examples**
- **Corporate support**



WETLANDS

Critical to Fish and Wildlife & People!





**The United States has lost over
50% of its original wetlands....**

.... and is still losing 82,500 acres per year !

85% are <5 ac

52% are <1 ac

Mostly conversion to agriculture and urban development



In spite of “no net loss” policies

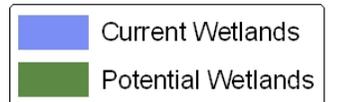
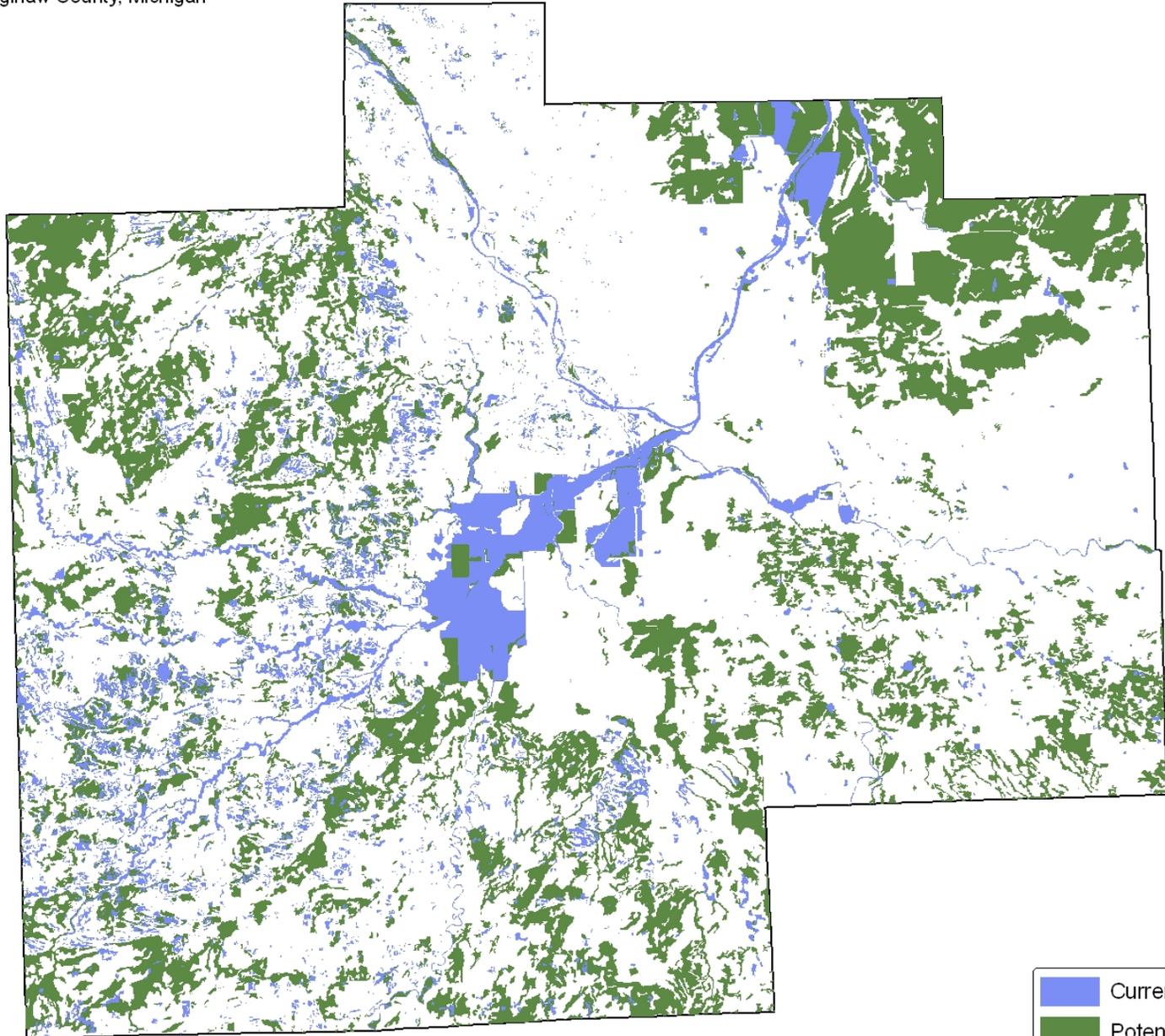
What does this mean?



Lots of opportunities for wetland restorations

Current and Potential Wetlands

Saginaw County, Michigan



Restoration

- Re-establish drained wetlands
 - Ditch plugs, tile breaks



Enhancement

- Improve wetland quality
- Habitat management capability
 - Water control structures, pumps
 - Infrastructure renovation



Opportunities Abound!!



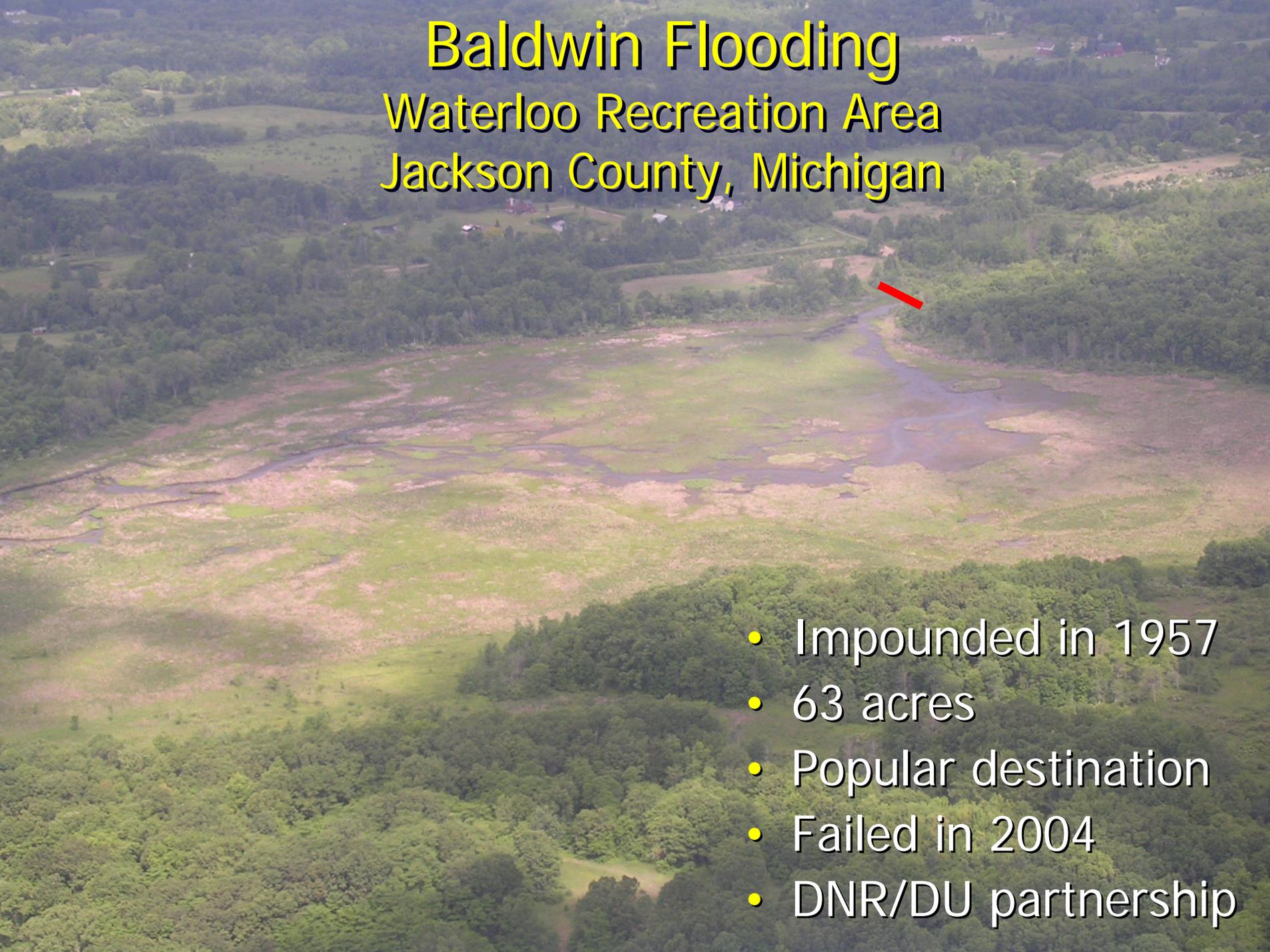
- Good landowner interest
 - High demand for Farm Bill programs that include hydrology restoration
 - e.g., CREP, WRP
- DU works extensively with partners to design, fund, and implement wetland restoration
 - Range in scale from large ecosystem restoration projects to ½-acre isolated wetlands
 - DU is currently involved in over 50 projects in the Great Lakes basin



Baldwin Flooding

Waterloo Recreation Area

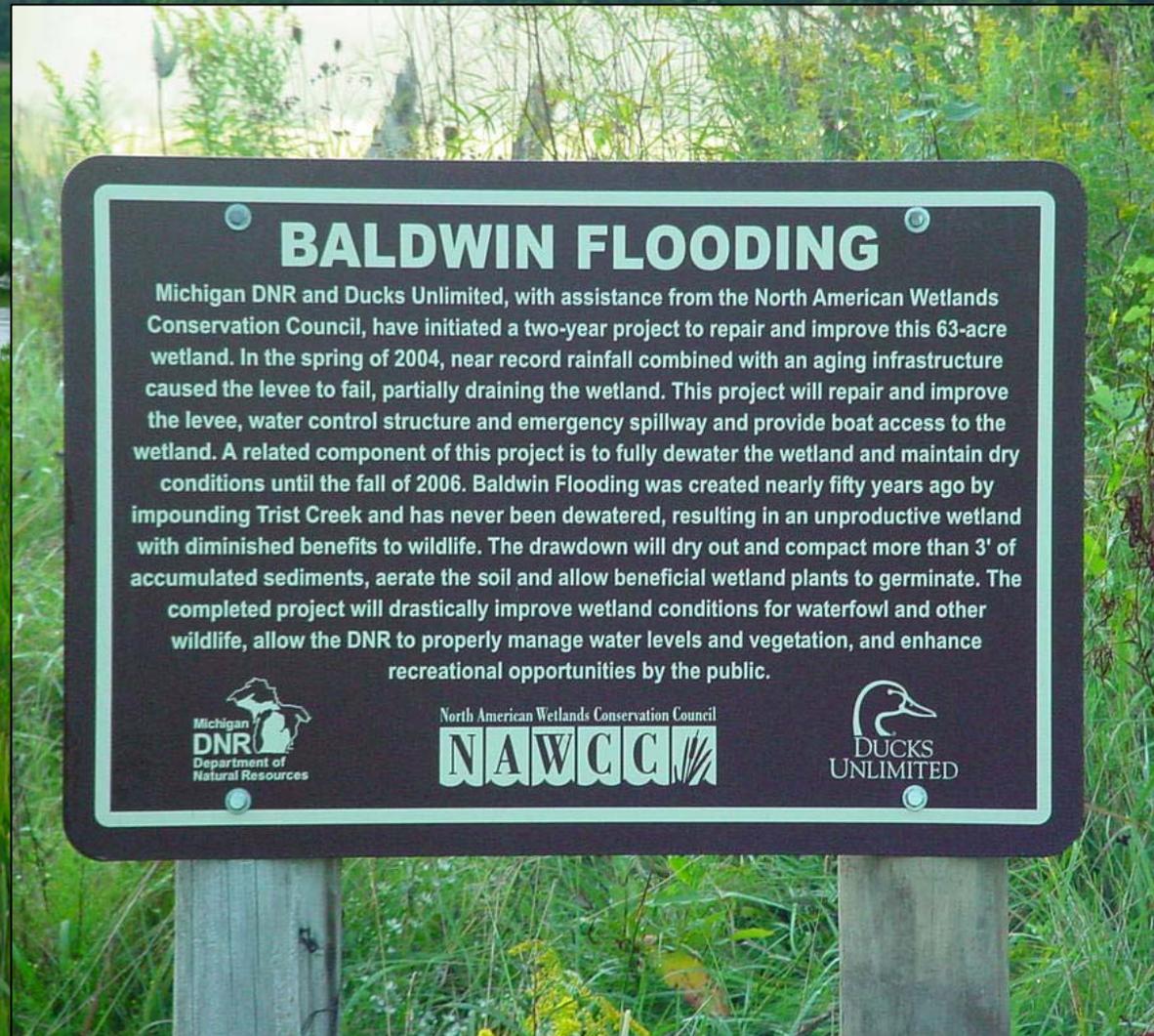
Jackson County, Michigan

- 
- Impounded in 1957
 - 63 acres
 - Popular destination
 - Failed in 2004
 - DNR/DU partnership

Baldwin Flooding

Waterloo Recreation Area

Jackson County, Michigan



BALDWIN FLOODING

Michigan DNR and Ducks Unlimited, with assistance from the North American Wetlands Conservation Council, have initiated a two-year project to repair and improve this 63-acre wetland. In the spring of 2004, near record rainfall combined with an aging infrastructure caused the levee to fail, partially draining the wetland. This project will repair and improve the levee, water control structure and emergency spillway and provide boat access to the wetland. A related component of this project is to fully dewater the wetland and maintain dry conditions until the fall of 2006. Baldwin Flooding was created nearly fifty years ago by impounding Trist Creek and has never been dewatered, resulting in an unproductive wetland with diminished benefits to wildlife. The drawdown will dry out and compact more than 3' of accumulated sediments, aerate the soil and allow beneficial wetland plants to germinate. The completed project will drastically improve wetland conditions for waterfowl and other wildlife, allow the DNR to properly manage water levels and vegetation, and enhance recreational opportunities by the public.





2006 9 19

Stop log bays



2006 11 17

Restoration Budget:

Construction \$85,000

DU delivery \$40,000

\$125,000

Funding Sources:

Michigan DNR \$18,000

Ducks Unlimited \$37,000

NAWCA \$35,000

Consumers Energy \$7,500

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Other examples...

Schneider Wetland Restoration

Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge

Ottawa County, Ohio

- Newly acquired land
- Previously drained, converted to agriculture
- Restored 30 acres of wetland in 2005



Other examples...

Marsh Creek Restoration

Shiawassee River State Game Area

Saginaw County, Michigan

- Newly acquired land
- Restored 19 acres of wetland in 2004
- \$58,000 (NAWCA \$29,400; SFCHA \$1,950; DU \$11,650; Dow \$15,000)



Other examples...

Lady of the Lake Restoration

Whiting Power Plant

Monroe County, Michigan

- Project initiated and funded by Consumer's Energy
- Coastal Lake Erie
- Restore, enhance, and re-connect 40-acre marsh
- Offset impacts to fisheries
- Will be donated to Detroit River IWR



... plus many others!

- Working with a wide variety of conservation partners
- Limiting factor is funding
- DU stands ready to work with MNRG, corporations, and others to link expertise, opportunity, and funding to restore wetland habitat



Thanks for your attention!



DUCKS UNLIMITED