

Conservation Security Program

Fact Sheet Blue Earth Watershed Minnesota, 2005

Blue Earth Watershed Description



The Blue Earth Watershed is located in south-central Minnesota and northern Iowa. The Blue Earth Watershed includes parts of Martin, Faribault, Blue Earth, Freeborn, Jackson, Watonwan, and Cottonwood counties in Minnesota and Emmet, Kossuth and Winnebago counties in Iowa.

The predominant land cover/use is cropland, with the major crops being corn and soybeans. The remaining acres are divided between pastureland, forest, developed land, water and other miscellaneous land. The Blue Earth Watershed is part of the Minnesota River Basin. The topography is nearly level to gently rolling, formed primarily from loamy glacial till. This is part of the prairie pothole region, but most wet soils have been drained for crop production. Primary crops include corn and soybeans.

The soils are well drained and moderately well drained, nearly level to sloping. Excessively drained soils are on the uplands and organic soils are in depressions.

Watershed Statistics

The total estimated area in the watershed is 1,013,200 acres. Cropland covers about 858,300 acres, and pastureland covers about 24,100 acres. Almost 80% of the total acres are located within Minnesota. There are about 2,121 farms in the watershed.

For More Information

For more information about CSP, visit the local USDA Service Center located in your county. Information is also available on the web at <http://www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/csp.html>. Producers may contact Kasey Reed, watershed coordinator for the Blue Earth watershed, or the NRCS district conservationist located in your county.

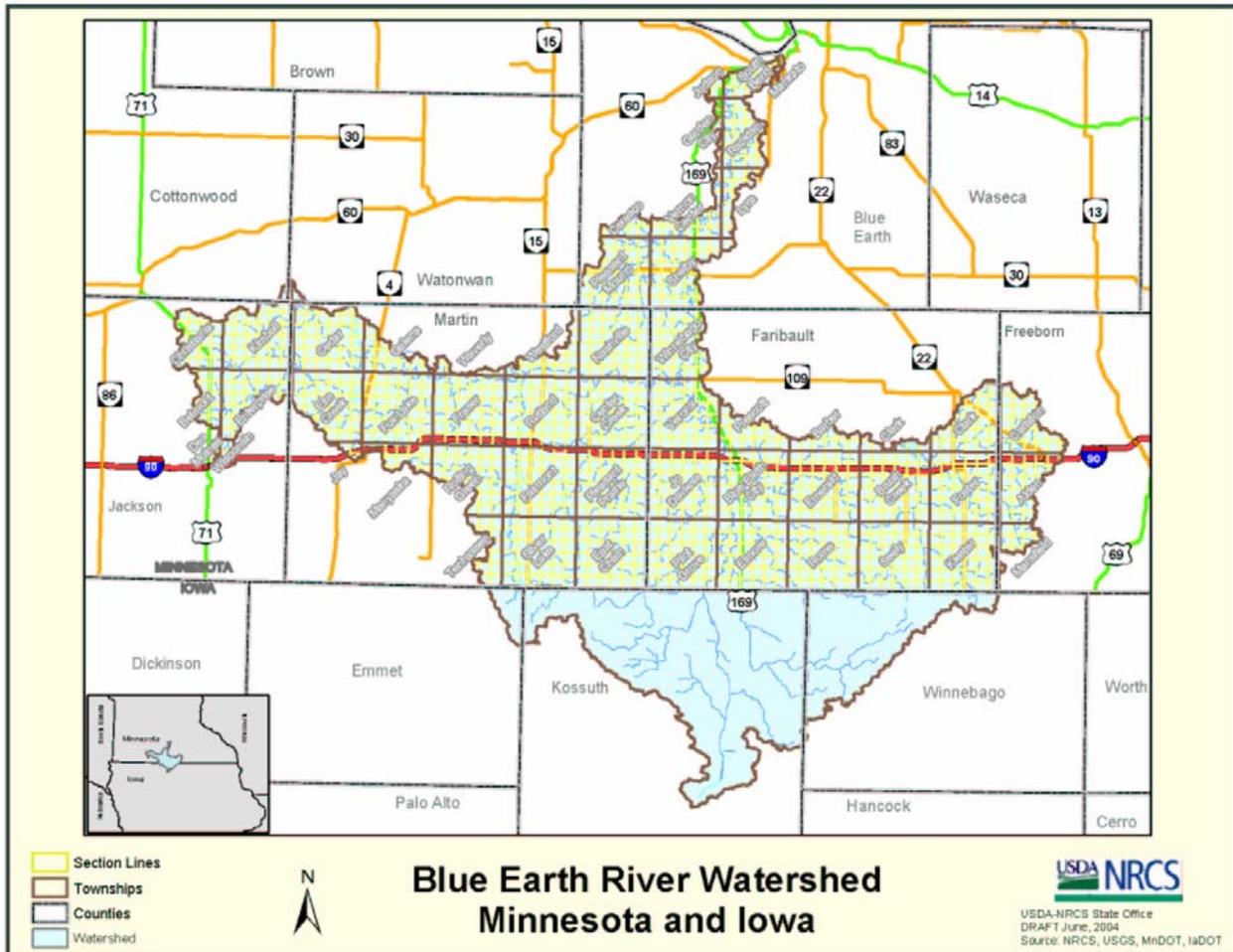
County	NRCS Conservationist	E-Mail Address	Phone Number
Watershed Coordinator	Kasey Reed	kasey.reed@mn.usda.gov	507-931-2530
Martin County	Ryan Kruse	Ryan.kruse@mn.usda.gov	507-235-6670
Faribault County	Jason Sickmann	Jason.sickmann@mn.usda.gov	507-526-2400
Blue Earth County	Pooh Vongkhamdy	Pooh.vongkhamdy@mn.usda.gov	507-345-7418
Jackson County	Joel Poppe	Joel.poppe@mn.usda.gov	507-662-6682
Watonwan County	Phillis Brey	Phillis.brey@mn.usda.gov	507-375-3104
Cottonwood County	Michelle Legatt	Michelle.legatt@mn.usda.gov	507-831-1153



Natural Resources Conservation Service
United States Department of Agriculture

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Land Use (Acres)	Iowa Acres	Minnesota Acres	Total Acres
Cropland	192,900	665,000	858,300
Pasture	1,300	22,800	24,100
Forest	0	31,300	31,300
Developed	5,600	37,400	43,000
Water	1,600	18,600	20,200
Other	8,200	28,100	36,300
Total Acres	209,600	803,600	1,013,200