Farm Legacy Report for Example Landowner

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This report gives information about past, present, and desired future land-use and management for the land owned by Example Landowner (**Attachment 1**).

History

According to the 1875 Andreas Atlas, much of this ground was covered by scattered trees (like a savanna) (**Attachment 2**). Example landowner's great-grandpa started farming the land when he bought it in the 1870s. Changes in land use and management over time can be seen by looking at some of the historic aerial photography (**Attachments 3-9**).

Initially, crops would have been grown for use on the farm. The whole farm would not have been planted to corn. There would have been more diversity and plenty of hay for livestock. When Example Landowner's dad and uncle were first farming, many of the hilltops were pastured. In the 1940s, Example Landowner's dad started farming the ridges utilizing strip-cropping and contour farming. Example Landowner started installing terraces during the 1970s. Some of those terraces were redone in the 1990s. They have not pastured since the 1980s.

Most of the ground has been in the Example Landowner family for several generations. There used to be a few outlying farms that Example Landowner sold when he took over the operation.

Soils

Attachments 10-11 show the soils on the farm. The majority of the soils on the farm are in the Downs silt loam (162) or Fayette silt loam (163) mapping units, which are well drained and are at least 80 inches deep. Both soils are very common in Allamakee County. Silt loam soils have fine particles with a good mixture of sands, silts, and clays and are prime farmland soils. The average slopes of the Downs and Fayette soils on this farm range from 2-14% with the majority of the Downs in the 2-9% range and the majority of the Fayette in the 5-14%. Approximately 60% of the soils are designated as moderately eroded with the number two at the end of the soil map unit, ex. 162C**2**. This means that the topsoil had already eroded to a thickness of 3-7 inches at the time the soil survey was conducted in 1984-1989. A few areas on the farm have steeper soils with slopes greater than 14% slope. These areas are currently pastured or not farmed. It is suggested that they should not be sodbusted in the future because they would be very easily eroded and would require a long-term hay rotation to get even 1-2 years of corn production based on RUSLE2 values. A more detailed description of the soil types can be found at the NRCS office or online.

The producer is required to be following a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) approved conservation system on the HEL acres in order to be eligible for USDA Program benefits. Every year, a random subset of farms are checked by NRCS staff to ensure that waterways and headlands are established as needed and that the rotation and tillage do not cause excessive erosion.

Land Use

Rotation and tillage

The suggested rotation is corn-bean or continuous corn no-till. If a hay rotation is implemented, minimal tillage or no-till is suggested. Even though some of the fields have terraces, it is preferred to do as little tillage as possible to ensure that there is minimal erosion. Any tillage should be done in the spring to maximize the amount of surface reside to protect the soil from erosion in the winter and early spring. After soybean harvest, it is suggested that a cover crop be planted to help protect the soil due to the minimal residue provided by soybean stubble. If corn residue is baled, maintenance rates of P&K should be applied in addition to a cover crop to replenish lost nutrients and protect the soil from erosion.

Conservation Practices

Terraces

The location of the currently installed terraces is shown on **Attachment 12**. Terraces are designed to capture surface runoff and allow it to infiltrate into the soil. Most of the terraces on this farm were constructed in the 1980s and are tile-outlet terraces. All terraces should be maintained so that trees, shrubs, and weeds do not take over and damage their structural integrity. The maintenance lengths for all terraces have expired.

Waterways

Waterways should be established and maintained to control all ephemeral and classic gullies, whether identified on the Conservation Plan Map (**Attachment 13**) or not. These areas should be seeded to sod forming grasses to control the ephemeral or classic gully erosion. Ephemeral gullies are ditches that form in predictable areas within the field and can be filled with tillage equipment. Classic gullies are gullies that have formed that are not considered crossable or cannot be filled with tillage equipment.

Field Borders (Headlands)

Field borders should be established and maintained as shown on **Attachment 13** for all crop ground. They should be seeded to perennial vegetation and must be seeded wide enough to eliminate all end/turn rows. If field borders of sufficient width to eliminate

end rows are not established and rills or gullies form, this may result in a determination of non-compliance with provisions of the 1985 Food Security Act and may result in the loss of all USDA Farm Bill Program payments.

Ponds and dry detention basins
The locations of ponds are shown on **Attachment 14**. The landowner is expected to do some maintenance as needed to ensure the structural integrity of the sites. Periodic mowing may be required and trees should be kept from growing on the dam of the structures.

Example Landowner's Suggestions for Future Management
Rent should be determined based on the land use. For ground that is in hay or pasture, the rent should be a percentage of the price for the ground in corn. It is suggested that waterway and field border acres be deducted from the rental acres as an incentive for the renter to leave them in.

Example Landowner's goal is to keep the farm in the family as long as possible. However, there is a benefit to having the operator also be the landowner. An operator will more likely take better care of the land they own than ground that they rent. The main point is that the land needs to be well-managed in order to support intensive farming into the future.

Report compiled January 23, 2015 for Example Landowner.

Farm Map
(with 2014 aerial photo)

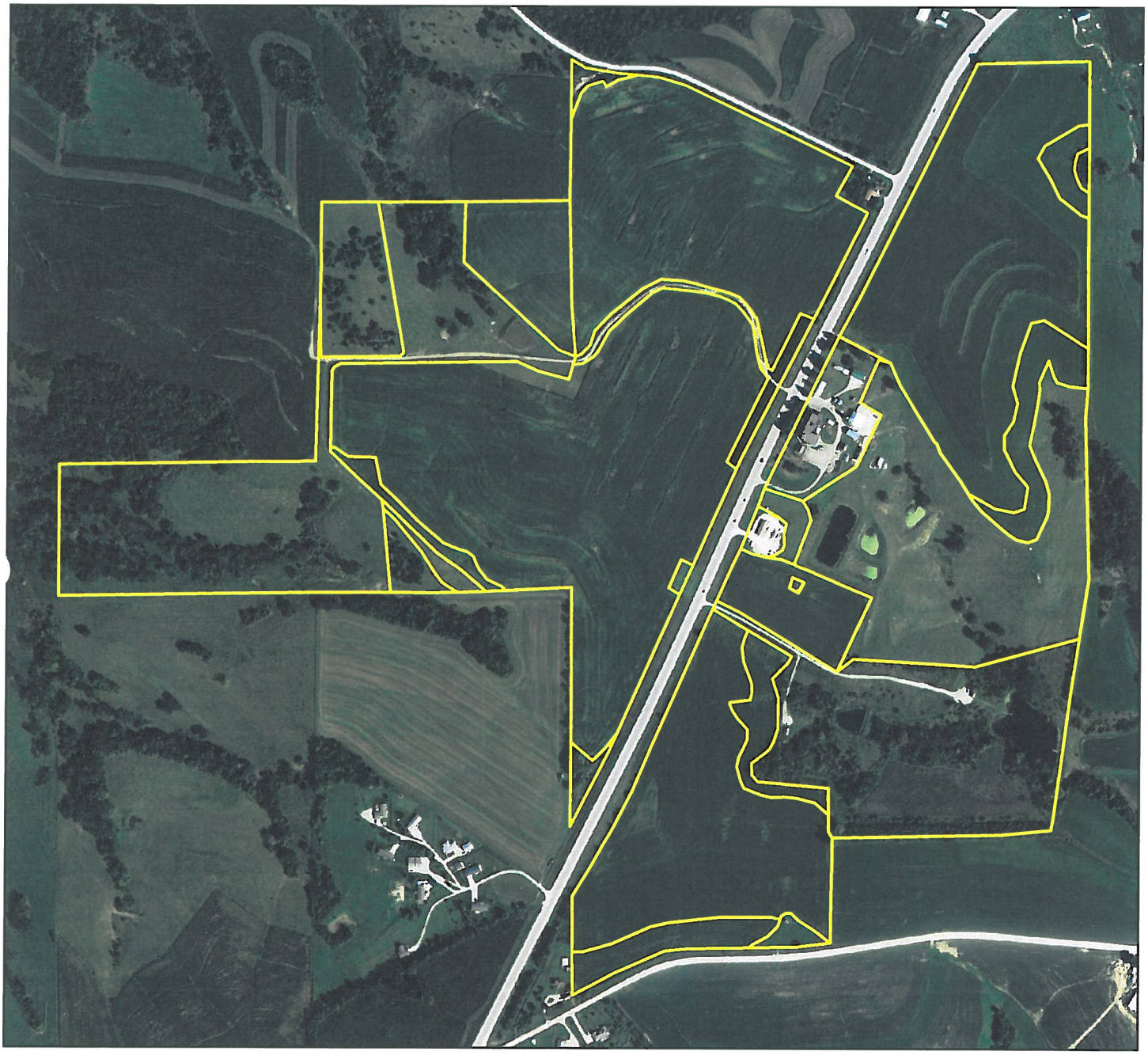
Date: 1/23/2015

Customer(s): EXAMPLE COUNTY

Agency: USDA-NRCS

District: EXAMPLE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Legal Description: Example Tract



Attachment 1

Legend

Consplan

460 0 460 920 1,380 1,840
Feet

N

1875 Andreas Atlas

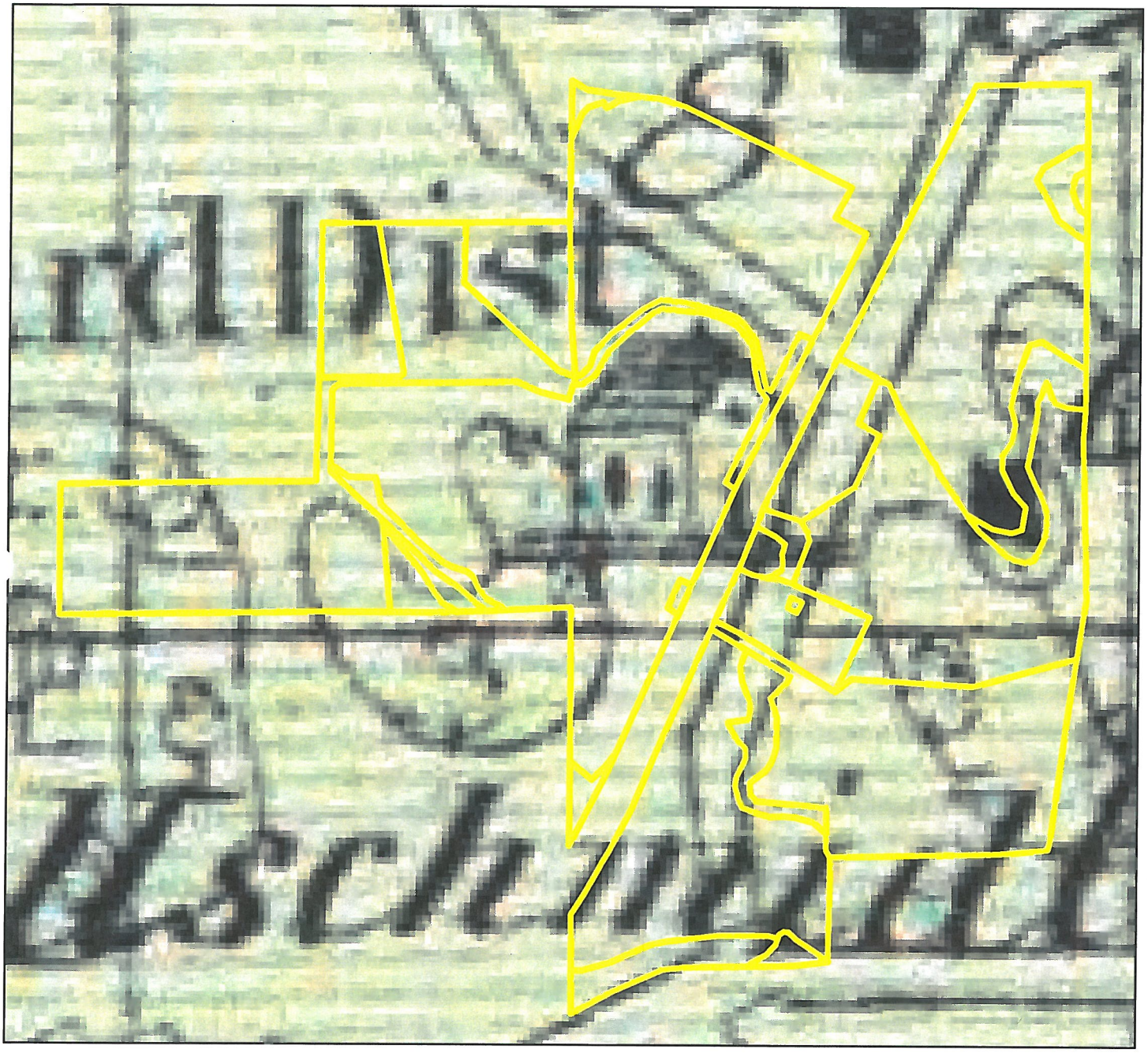
Date: 1/23/2015

Customer(s): EXAMPLE COUNTY

District: EXAMPLE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Agency: USDA-NRCS

Legal Description: Example tract



Attachment 2

Legend

Consplan

500 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet

N

1937 Aerial Photo

Date: 1/23/2015

Customer(s): EXAMPLE COUNTY

District: EXAMPLE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Agency: USDA-NRCS

Legal Description: Example tract

Attachment 3

Legend

Consplan

460 0 460 920 1,380 1,840 Feet

N

1950s Aerial Photo

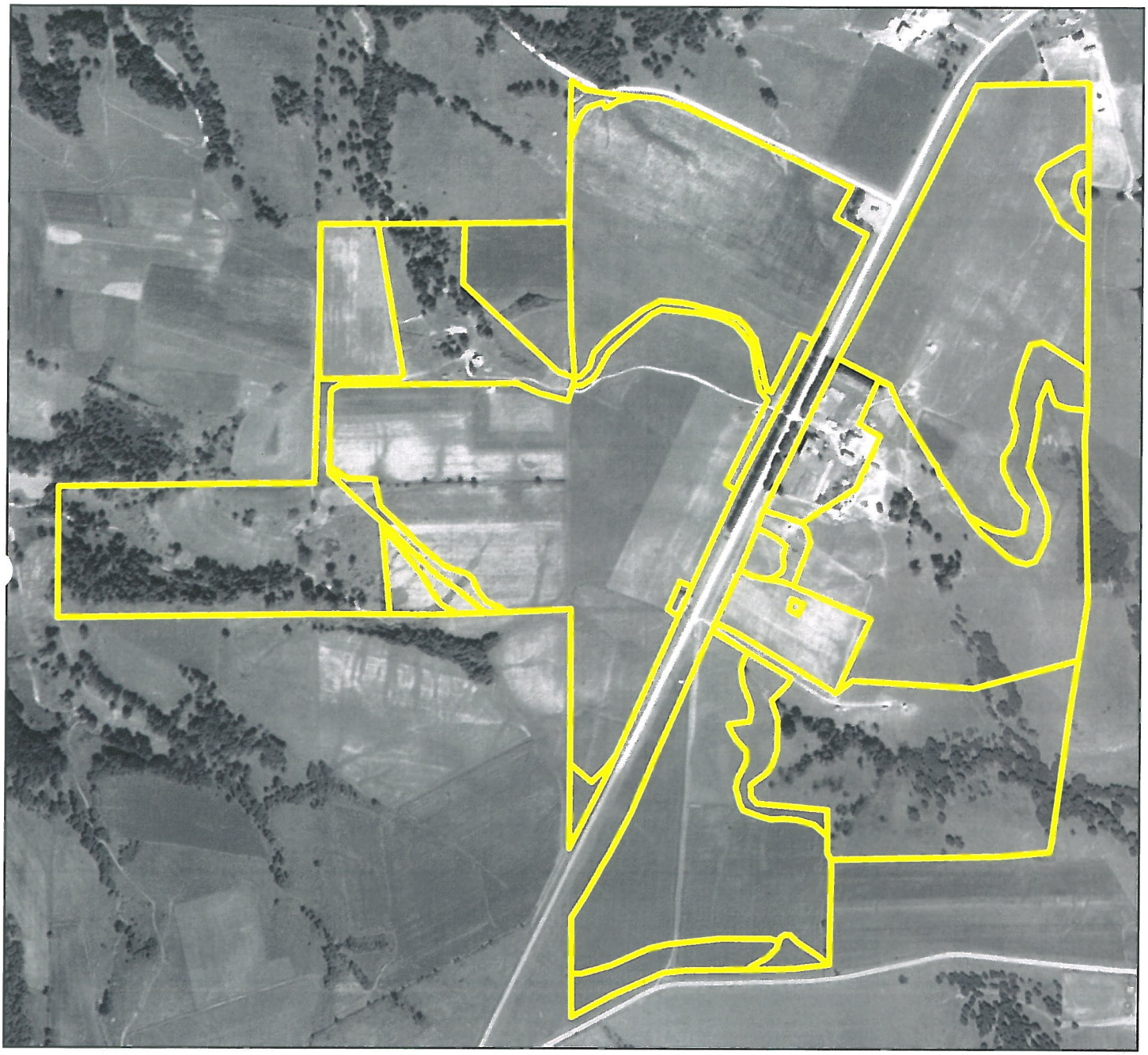
Date: 1/23/2015

Customer(s): EXAMPLE COUNTY

District: EXAMPLE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Agency: USDA-NRCS

Legal Description: Example tract



Attachment 4

Legend

Consplan

460 0 460 920 1,380 1,840 Feet

N

1960s Aerial Photo

Date: 1/23/2015

Customer(s): EXAMPLE COUNTY

District: EXAMPLE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Agency: USDA-NRCS

Legal Description: Example tract

Attachment 5

Legend

Consplan

460 0 460 920 1,380 1,840 Feet

N

1971 Aerial Photo

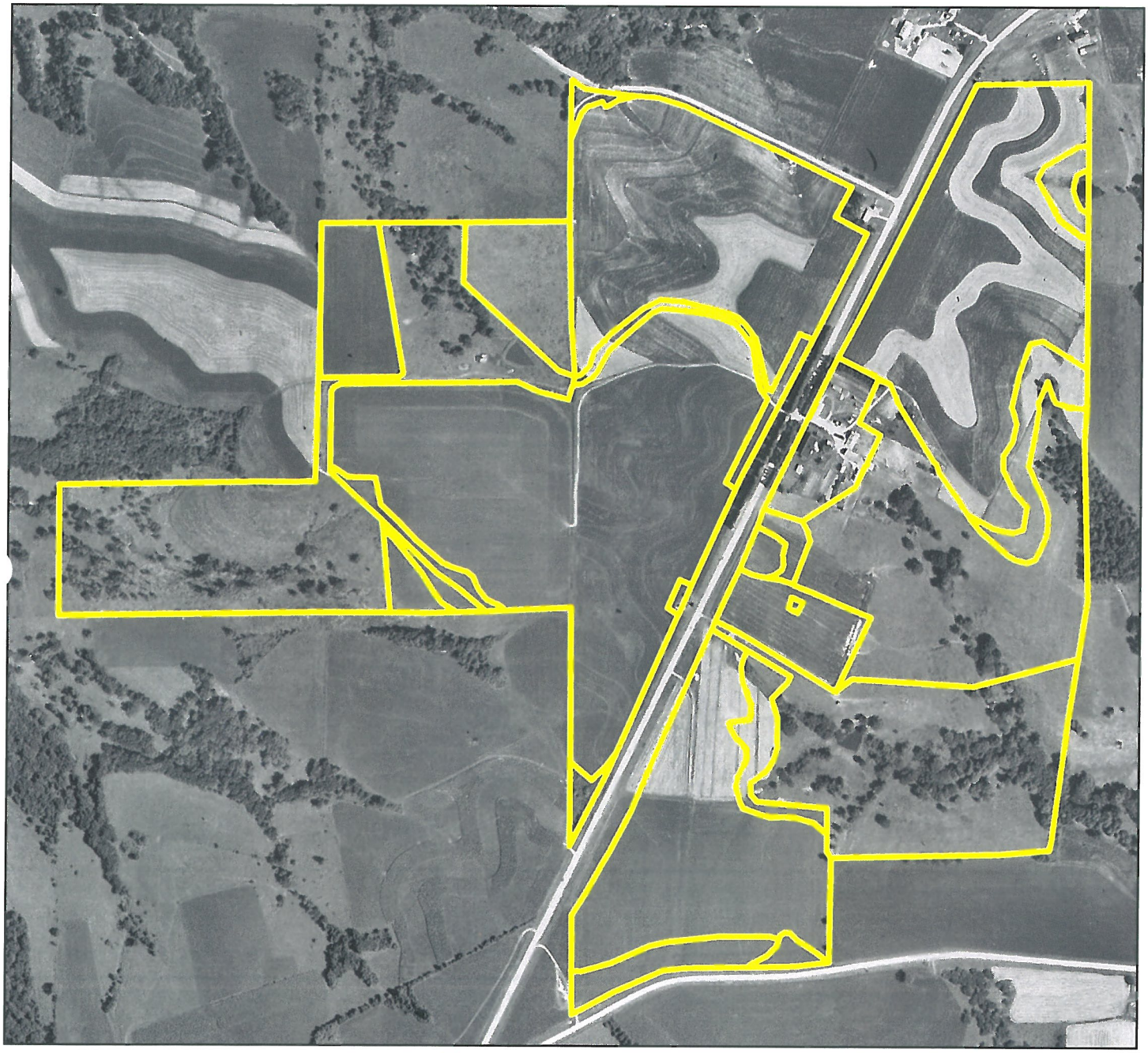
Date: 1/23/2015

Customer(s): EXAMPLE COUNTY

District: EXAMPLE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Agency: USDA-NRCS

Legal Description: Example tract



Attachment 6

Legend

Consplan

500 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet

N

1982 Aerial Photo

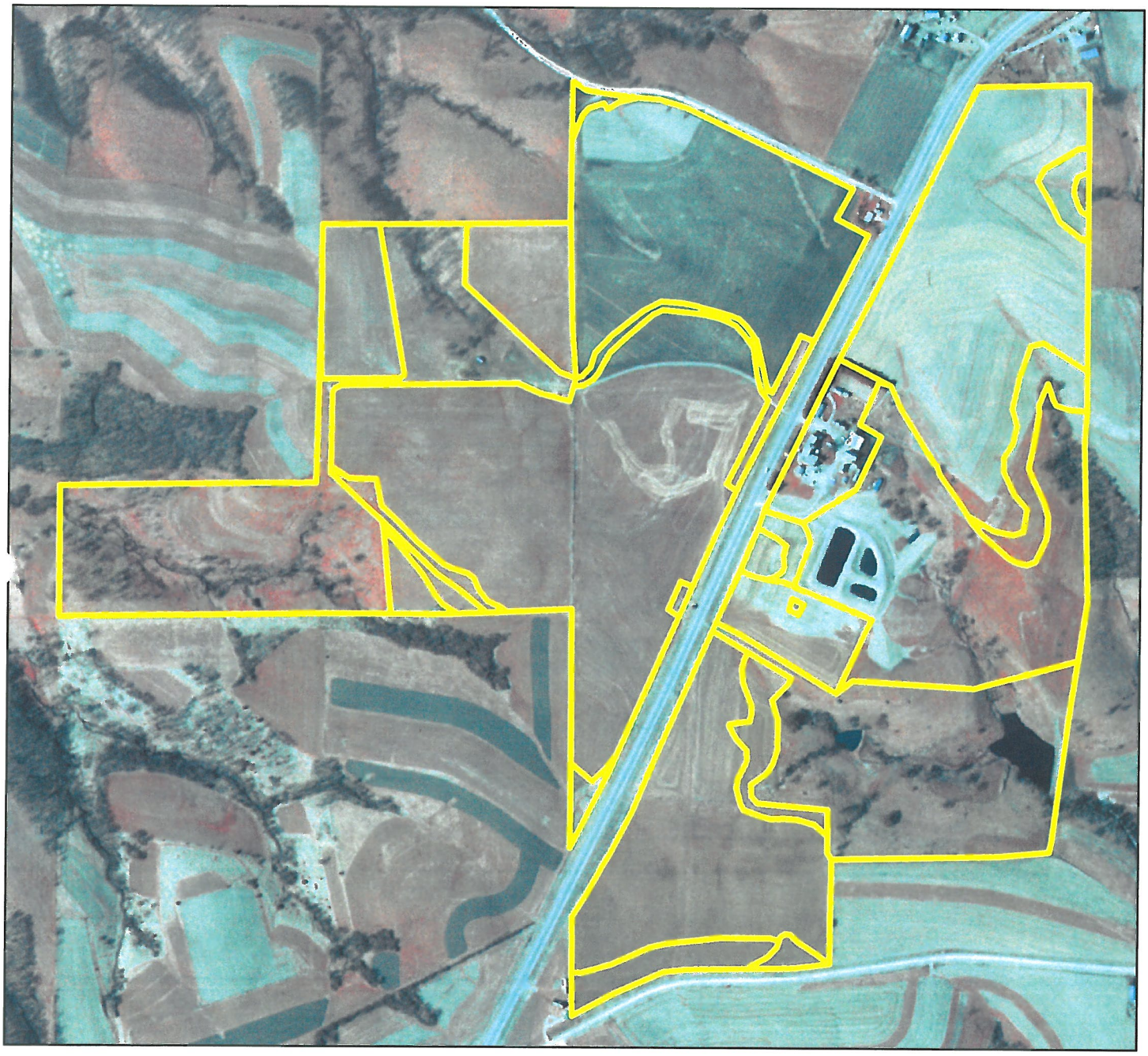
Date: 1/23/2015

Customer(s): EXAMPLE COUNTY

District: EXAMPLE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Agency: USDA-NRCS

Legal Description: Example tract



Attachment 7

Legend

Consplan

500 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet

N

1994 Aerial Photo

Date: 1/23/2015

Customer(s): EXAMPLE COUNTY

District: EXAMPLE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Agency: USDA-NRCS

Legal Description: Example tract

Attachment 8

Legend

Consplan

500 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet

N

2002 Color Infrared Aerial Photo

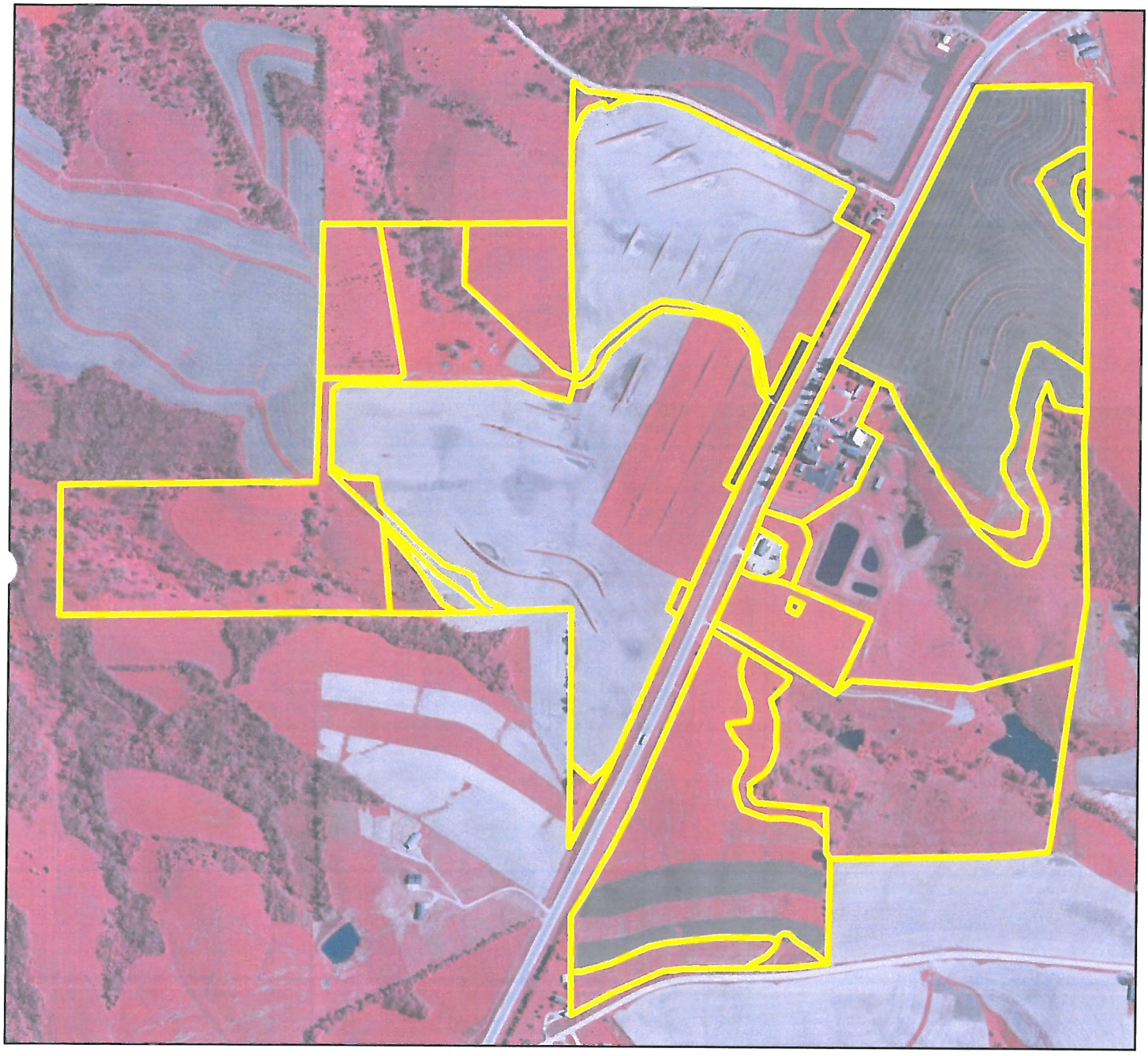
Date: 1/23/2015

Customer(s): EXAMPLE COUNTY

District: EXAMPLE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Agency: USDA-NRCS

Legal Description: Example tract



Attachment 9

Legend

Consplan

500 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet

N

SOILS

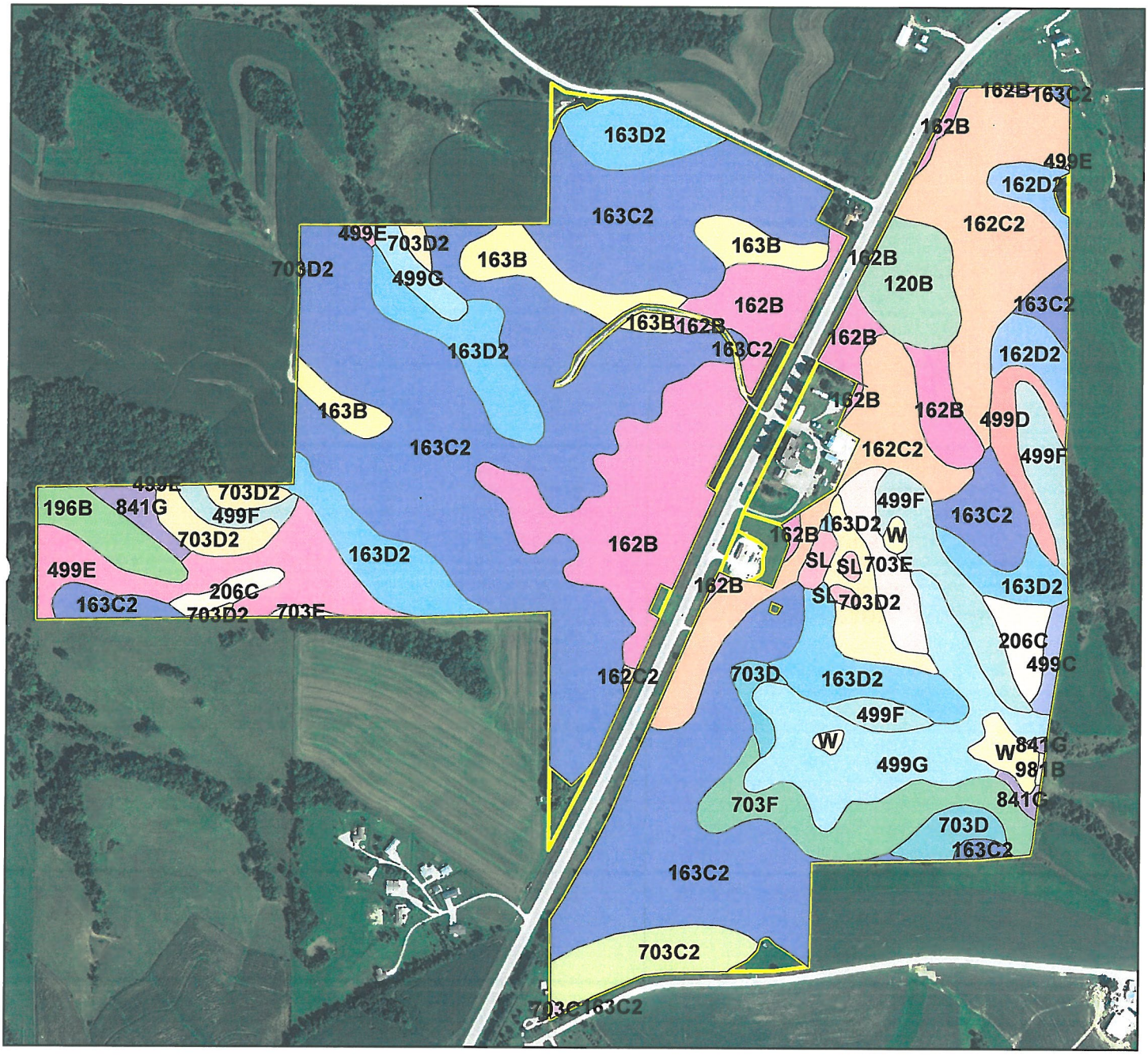
Date: 1/23/2015

Customer(s): EXAMPLE LANDOWNER

Agency: USDA-NRCS

District: EXAMPLE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Legal Description: Example tract



Attachment 10

460 0 460 920 1,380 1,840 Feet

N

Soils Inventory Report

EXAMPLE LANDOWNER

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres	Percent
120B	Tama silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	5.8	2%
162B	Downs silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	29	10%
162C2	Downs silt loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes, moderately eroded	26.1	9%
162D2	Downs silt loam, 9 to 14 percent slopes, moderately eroded	4.4	2%
163B	Fayette silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	8.8	3%
163C	Fayette silt loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes	0	0%
163C2	Fayette silt loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes, moderately eroded	101	36%
163D2	Fayette silt loam, 9 to 14 percent slopes, moderately eroded	23.7	8%
196B	Volney channery loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	3.9	1%
206C	Shullsburg silty clay loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	3.6	1%
499C	Nordness silt loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes	1.1	0%
499D	Nordness silt loam, 9 to 14 percent slopes	3.1	1%
499E	Nordness silt loam, 14 to 18 percent slopes	10	4%
499F	Nordness silt loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes	11.2	4%
499G	Nordness silt loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	15.8	6%
703C	Dubuque silt loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes	0.1	0%
703C2	Dubuque silt loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes, moderately eroded	5.7	2%
703D	Dubuque silt loam, 9 to 14 percent slopes	2.9	1%
703D2	Dubuque silt loam, 9 to 14 percent slopes, moderately eroded	7.6	3%
703E	Dubuque silt loam, 14 to 18 percent slopes	3.8	1%
703F	Dubuque silt loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes	7.7	3%
841G	Rock outcrop-Boone complex, 20 to 70 percent slopes	2.1	1%
981B	Worthen silt loam, 2 to 7 percent slopes	0.1	0%
SL	Sewage lagoon	1.4	0%
W	Water	2.4	1%
	Total:	281.3	100%

Attachment 11

Existing Terraces

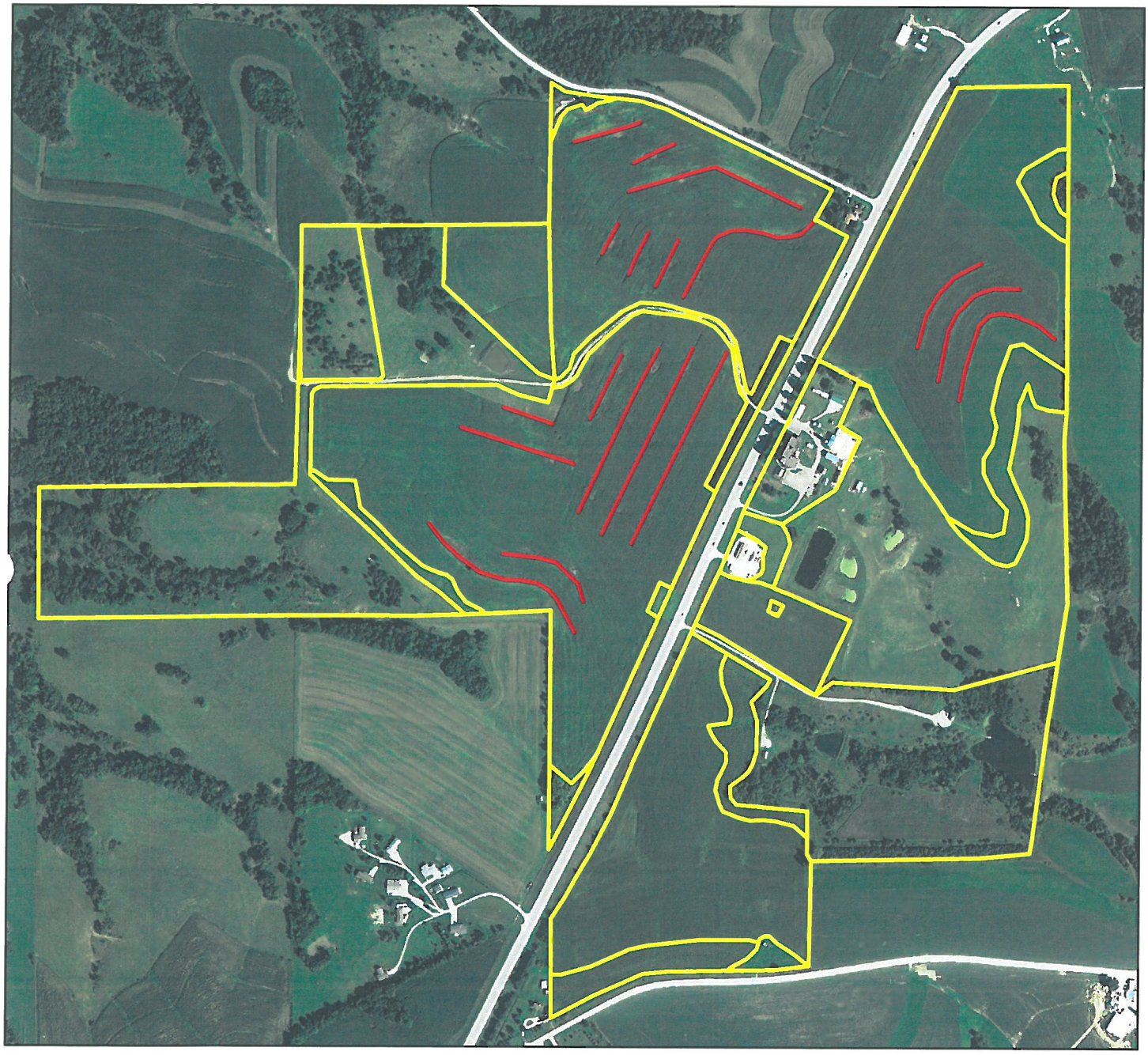
Date: 1/23/2015

Customer(s): EXAMPLE LANDOWNER

Agency: USDA-NRCS

District: EXAMPLE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Legal Description: Example tract



Attachment 12

Legend

- Consplan
- Existing Terraces

500 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet

N

Plan Map

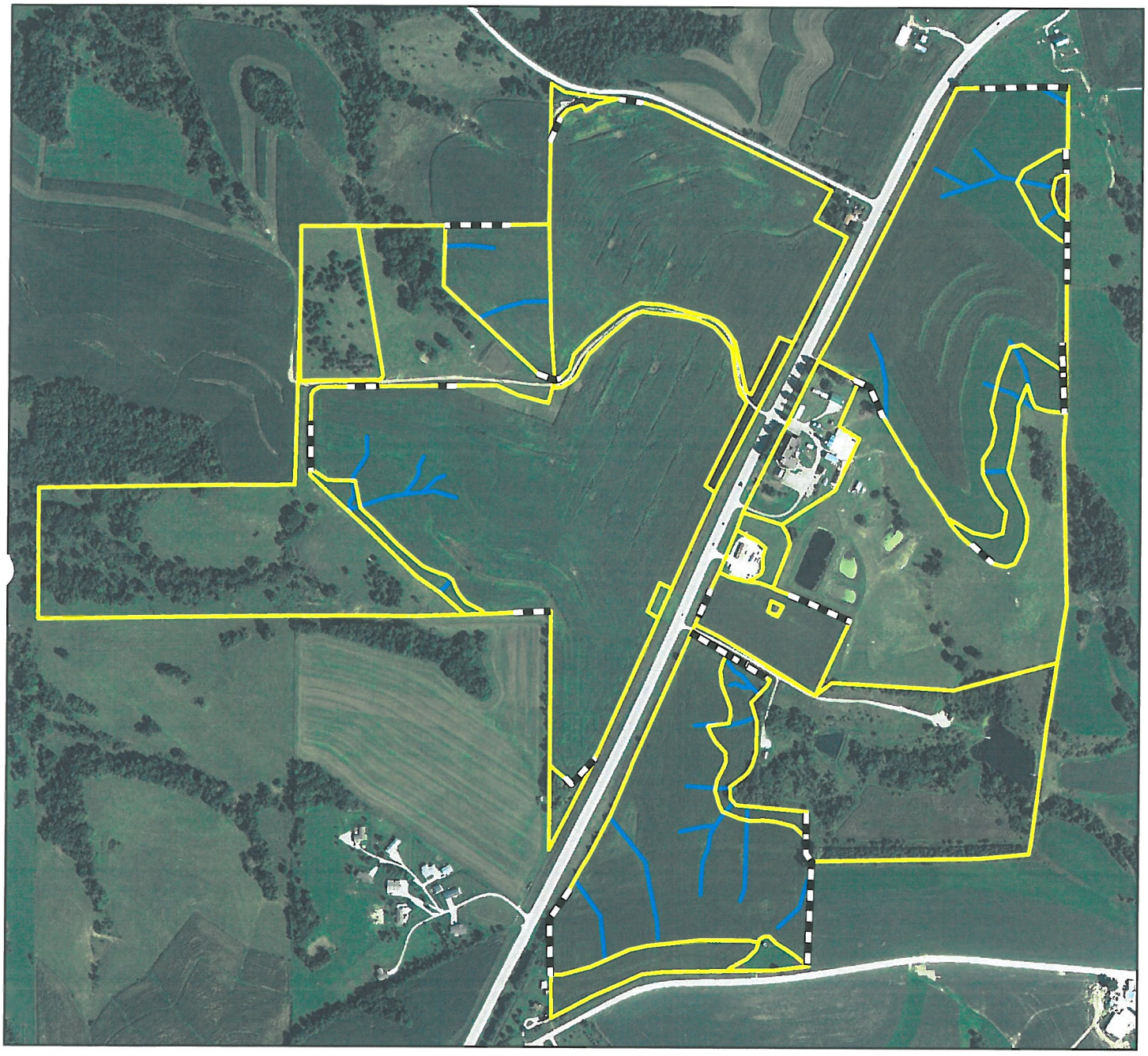
Date: 1/23/2015

Customer(s): EXAMPLE LANDOWNER

District: EXAMPLE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Agency: USDA-NRCS

Legal Description: Example tract



Legend

- Field Borders
- Consplan
- Critical Area (waterway)

Attachment 13

500 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet

N

Pond Map

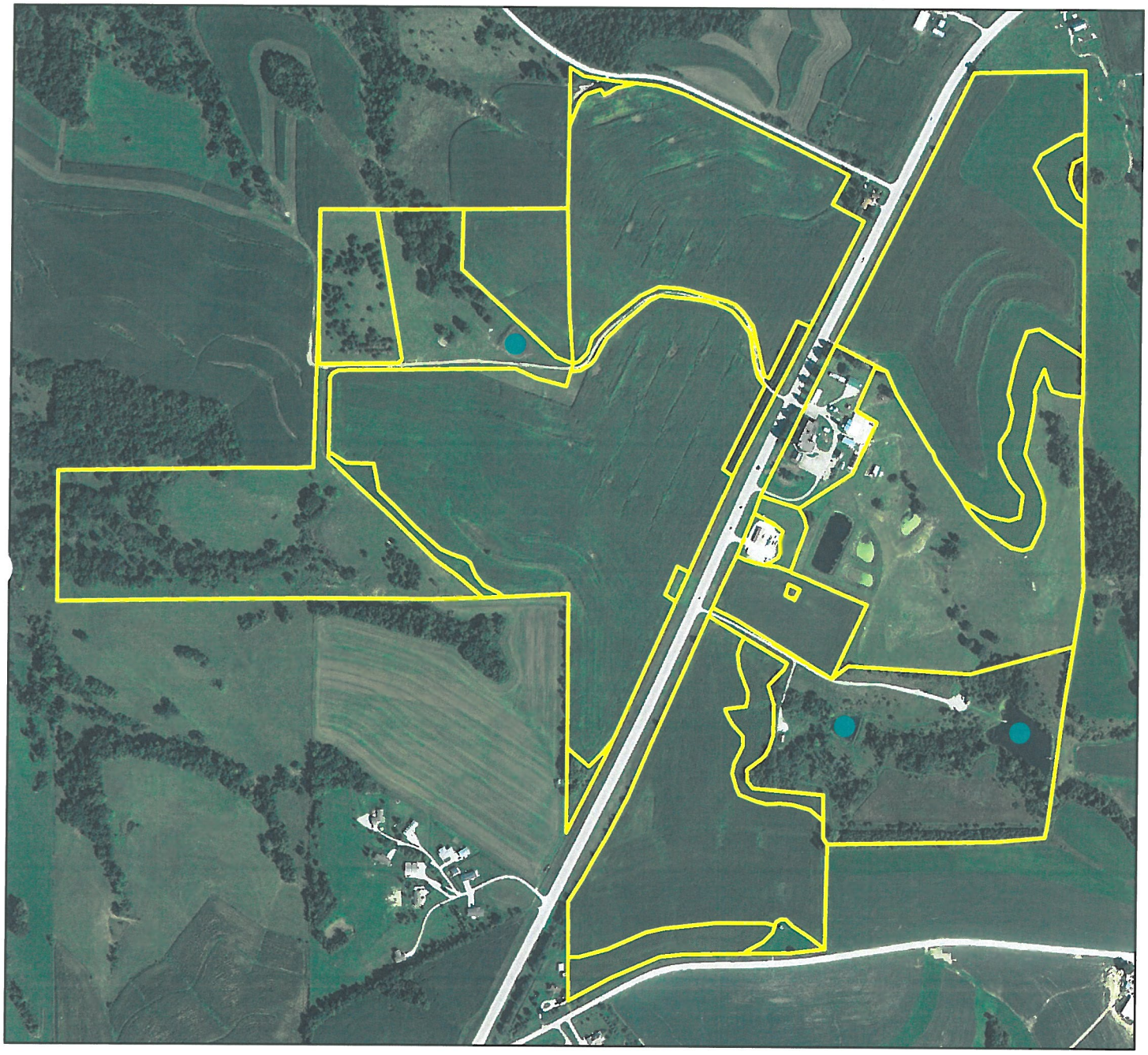
Date: 1/23/2015

Customer(s): EXAMPLE LANDOWNER

District: EXAMPLE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Agency: USDA-NRCS

Legal Description: Example tract



Attachment 14

Legend

Consplan

500 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet

N