Background Information

- Location of Root River Tract
- History
- Existing habitat and wildlife use
- Key features and their condition
- Wildlife-dependent recreation
- Project goals

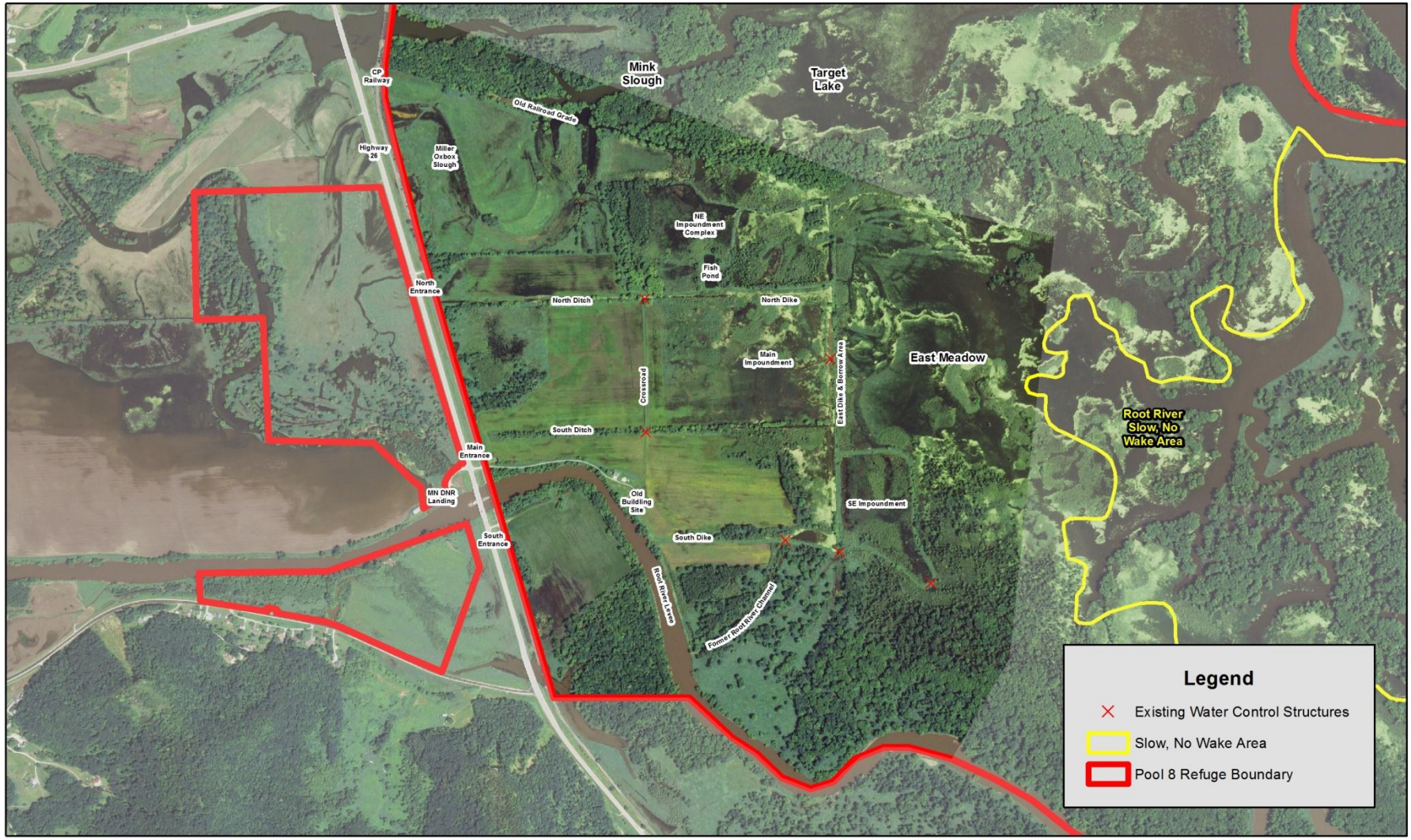
Presented by Jim Nissen
Photography by Ruth Nissen

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Root River Tract with Names and Features

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge

Pool 8



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Base Map is 2013 Aerial Photography

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0 0.25 0.5 1 Kilometers

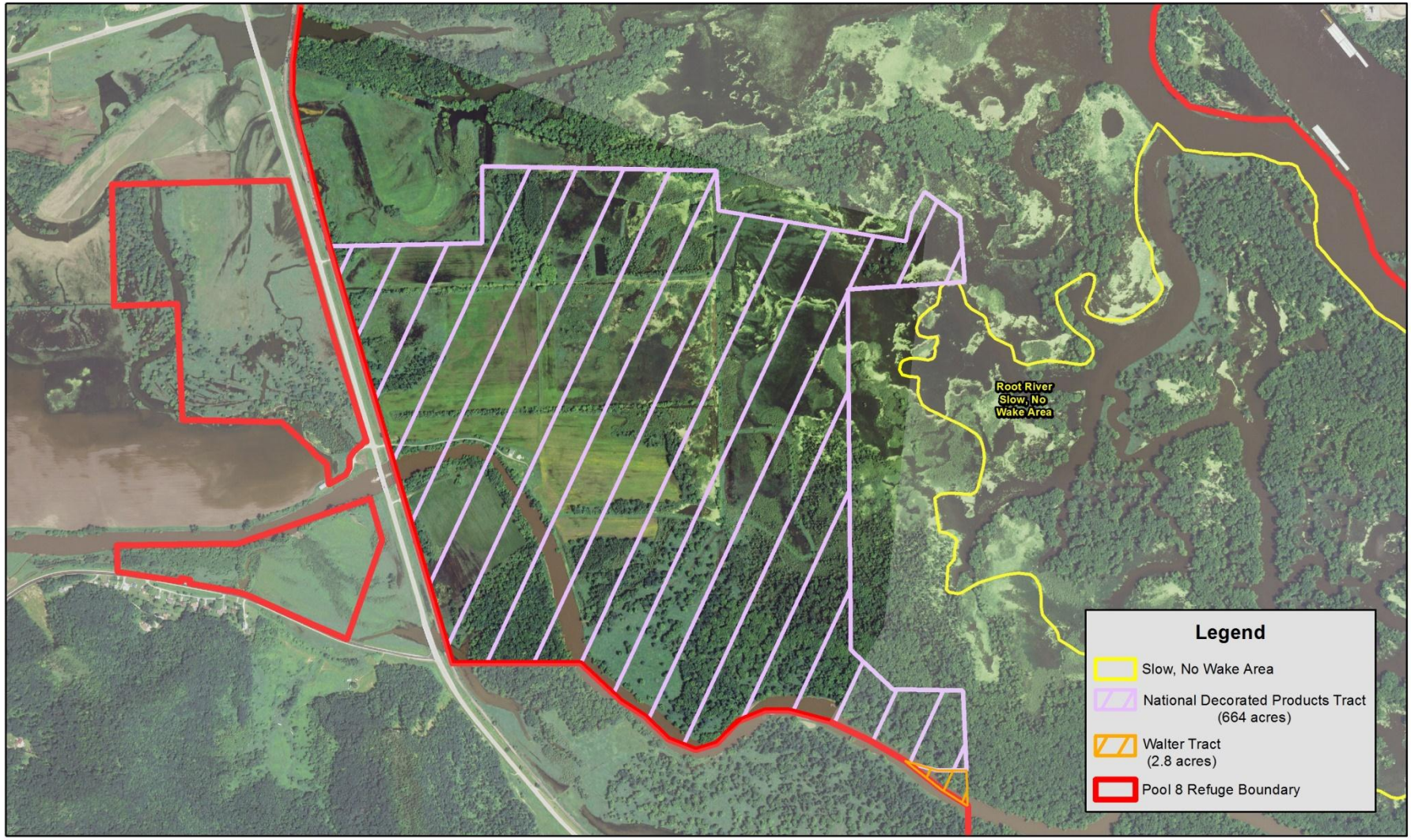
N W E S

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Root River Tract with National Decorated Products Acquisition

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge

Pool 8



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N W E S

LICENSED
SHOOTING
PRESERVE
NO
TRESPASSING
Northern Development Co. LLC

MACK
OVERSIZE LOAD

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Root River Tract Existing Habitat Types

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge

Pool 8

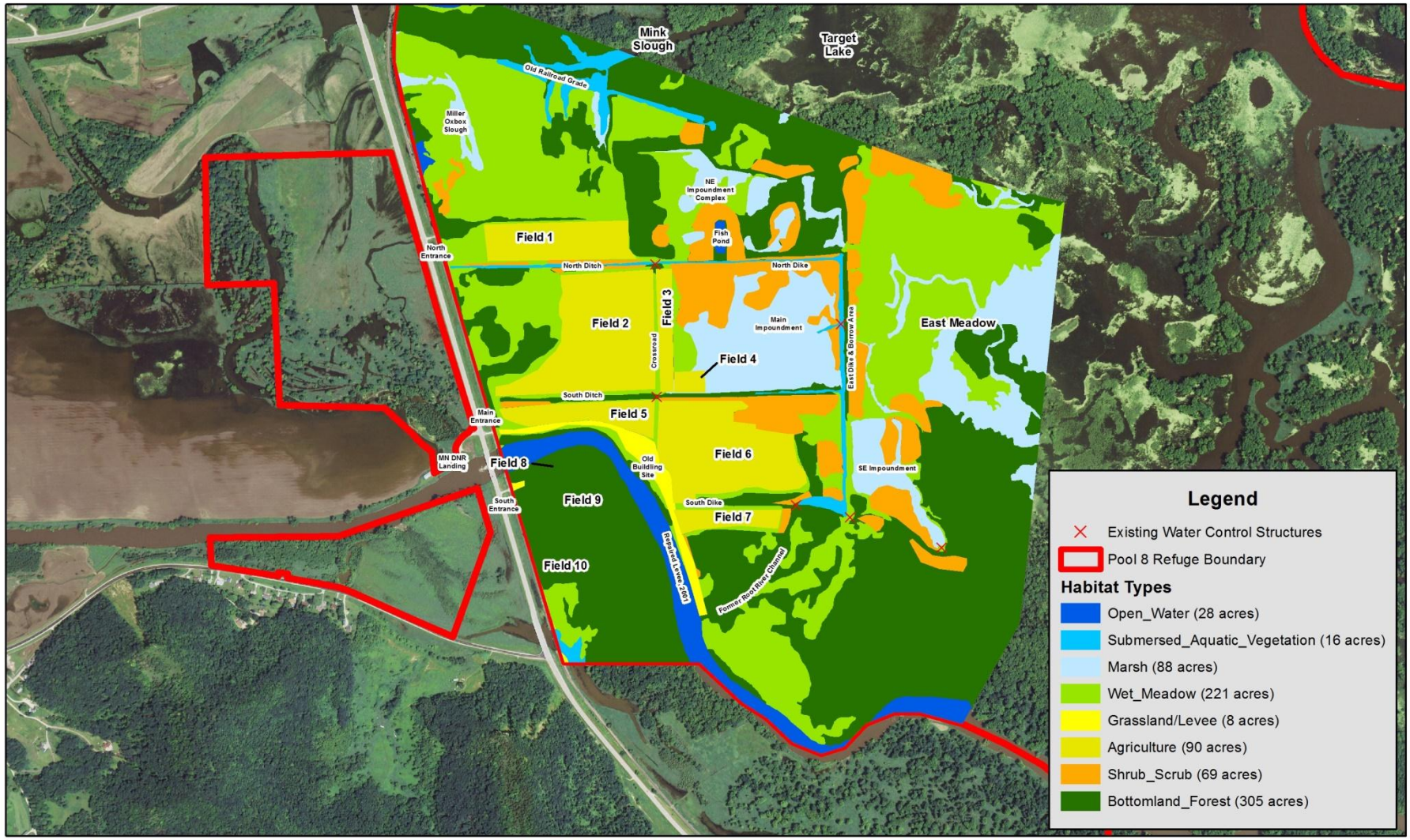

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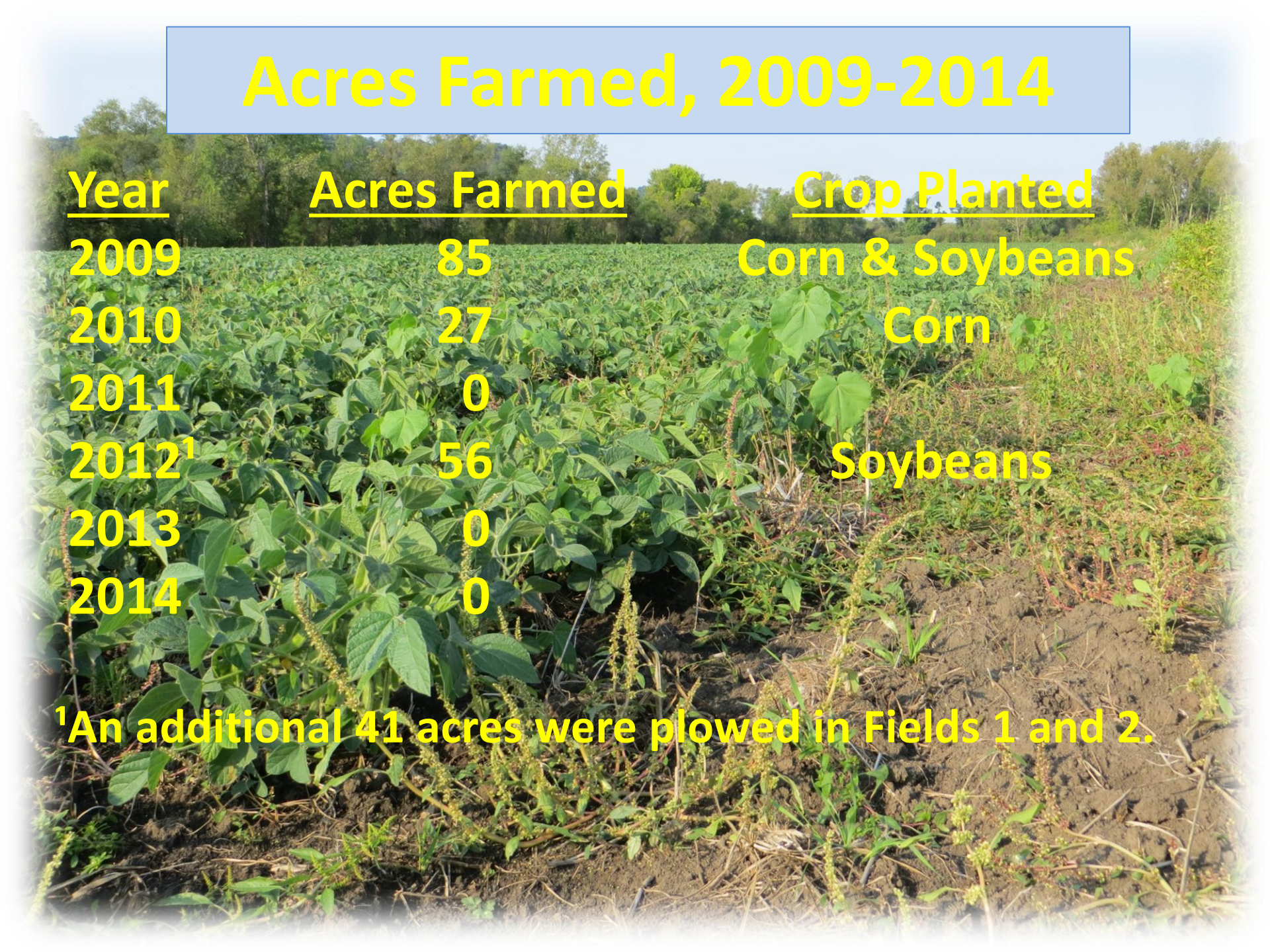
Photo: USFWS

Acres Farmed, 2009-2014



Year	Acres Farmed	Crop Planted
2009	85	Corn & Soybeans
2010	27	Corn
2011	0	
2012[1]	56	Soybeans
2013	0	
2014	0	

[1]An additional 41 acres were plowed in Fields 1 and 2.

September 2010

Acres Hayed, 2009-2014

Year	Acres Hayed
2009	216
2010	0
2011	49
2012	96
2013	73
2014	22

Key Features and Their Condition

Old Railroad Grade

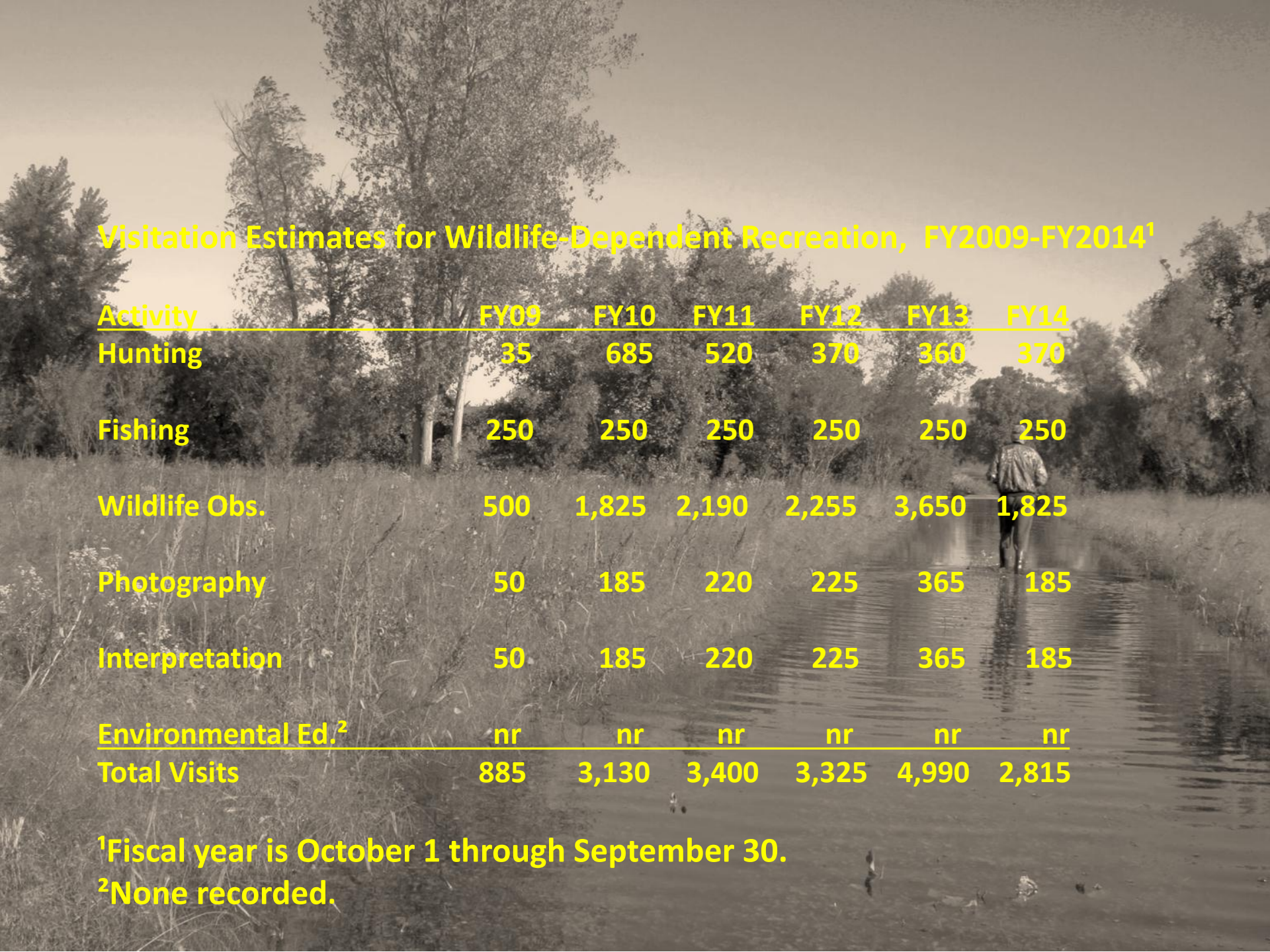
Partial breach at Mink Slough

Existing breach in Old Railroad Grade

Low section of North Dike

Root River Levee

Root River Levee, April 2013



Visitation Estimates for Wildlife-Dependent Recreation, FY2009-FY2014[1]

Activity	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14
Hunting	35	685	520	370	360	370
Fishing	250	250	250	250	250	250
Wildlife Obs.	500	1,825	2,190	2,255	3,650	1,825
Photography	50	185	220	225	365	185
Interpretation	50	185	220	225	365	185
Environmental Ed.[2]	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
Total Visits	885	3,130	3,400	3,325	4,990	2,815

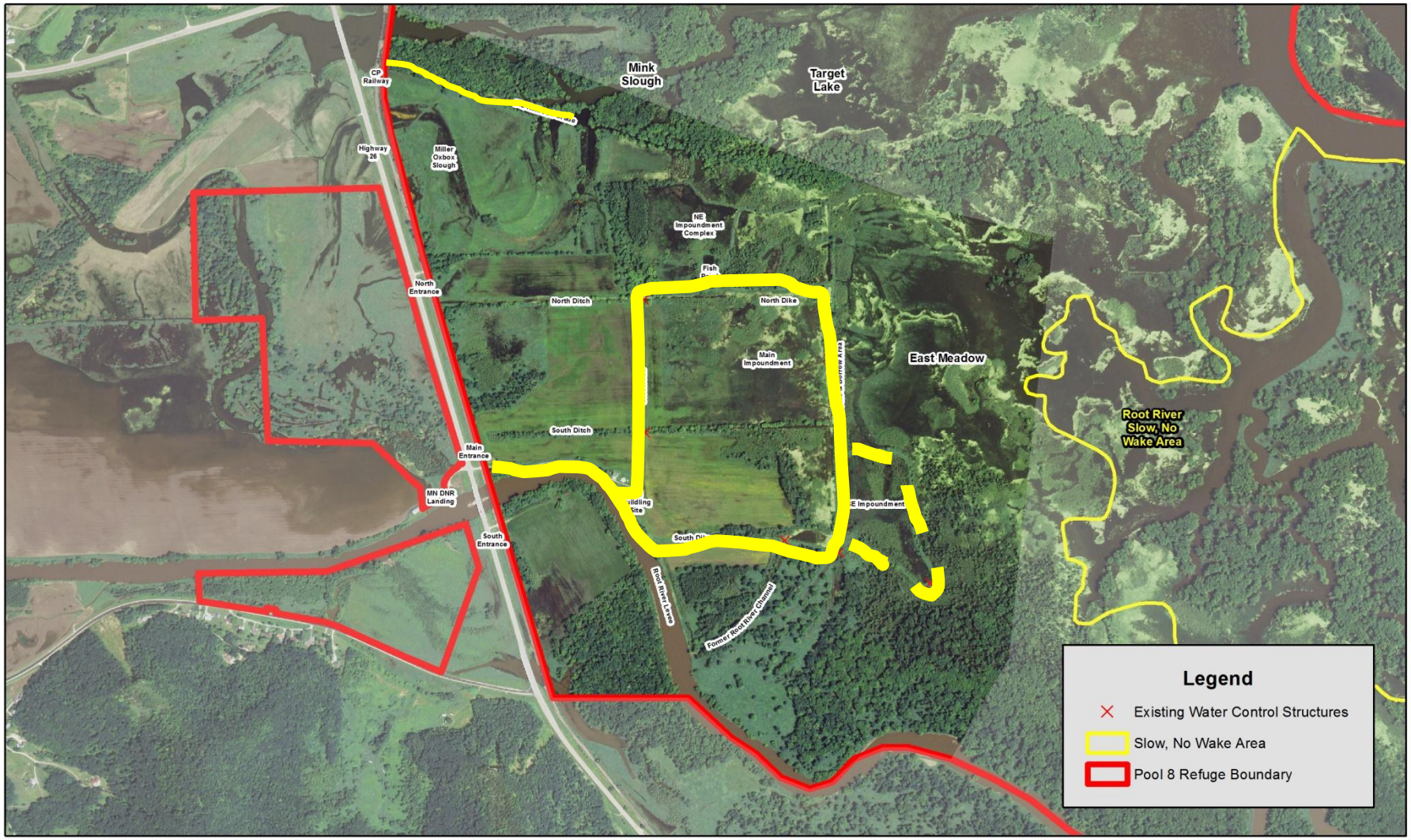
[1]Fiscal year is October 1 through September 30.
[2]None recorded.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Root River Tract with Names and Features

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge

Pool 8



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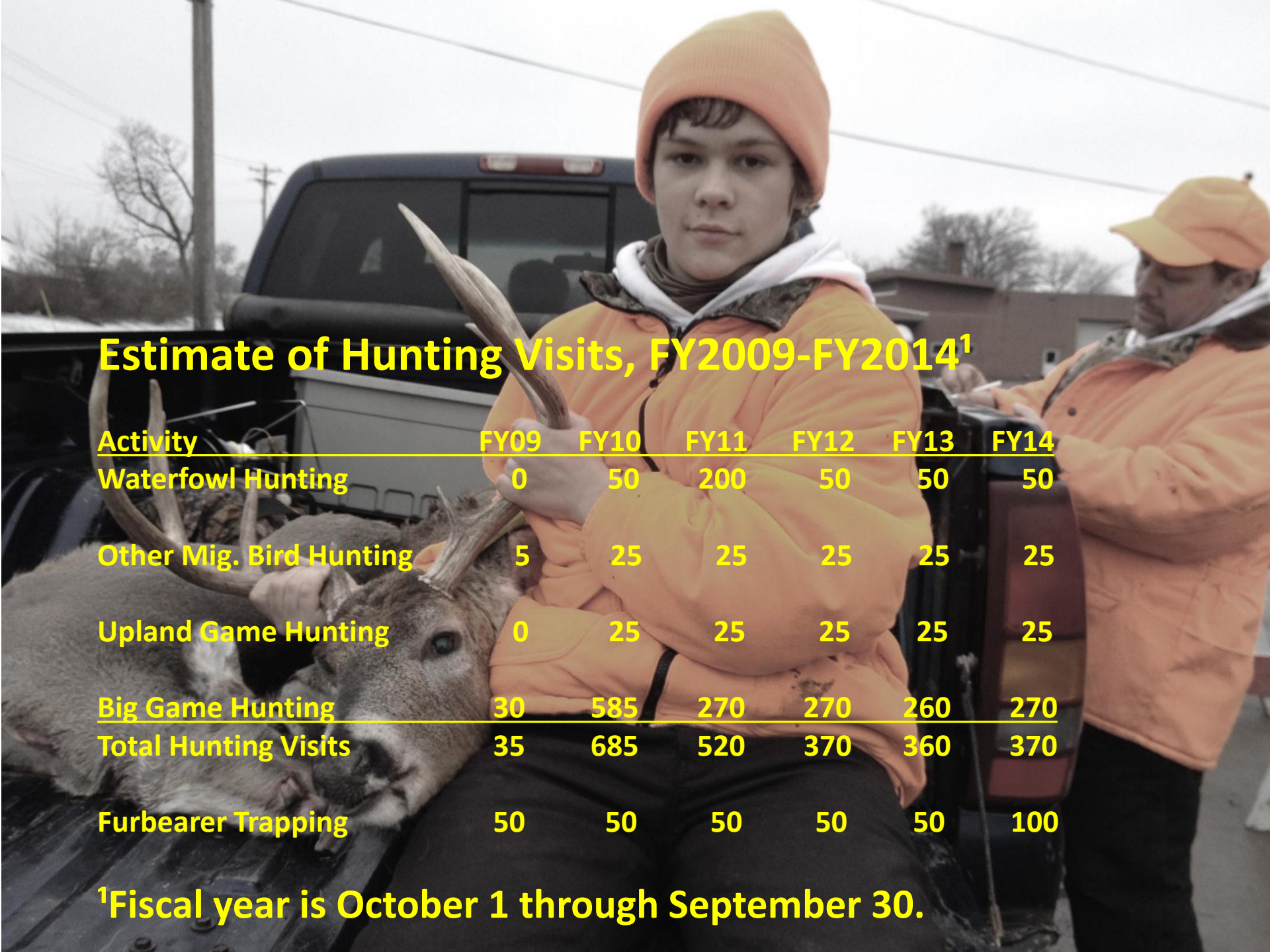

Estimate of Hunting Visits, FY2009-FY2014[1]

Activity	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14
Waterfowl Hunting	0	50	200	50	50	50
Other Mig. Bird Hunting	5	25	25	25	25	25
Upland Game Hunting	0	25	25	25	25	25
Big Game Hunting	30	585	270	270	260	270
Total Hunting Visits	35	685	520	370	360	370
Furbearer Trapping	50	50	50	50	50	100

[1]Fiscal year is October 1 through September 30.

Waterfowl hunters in Field 3, October 2010

October 2010

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Root River Tract with Names and Features

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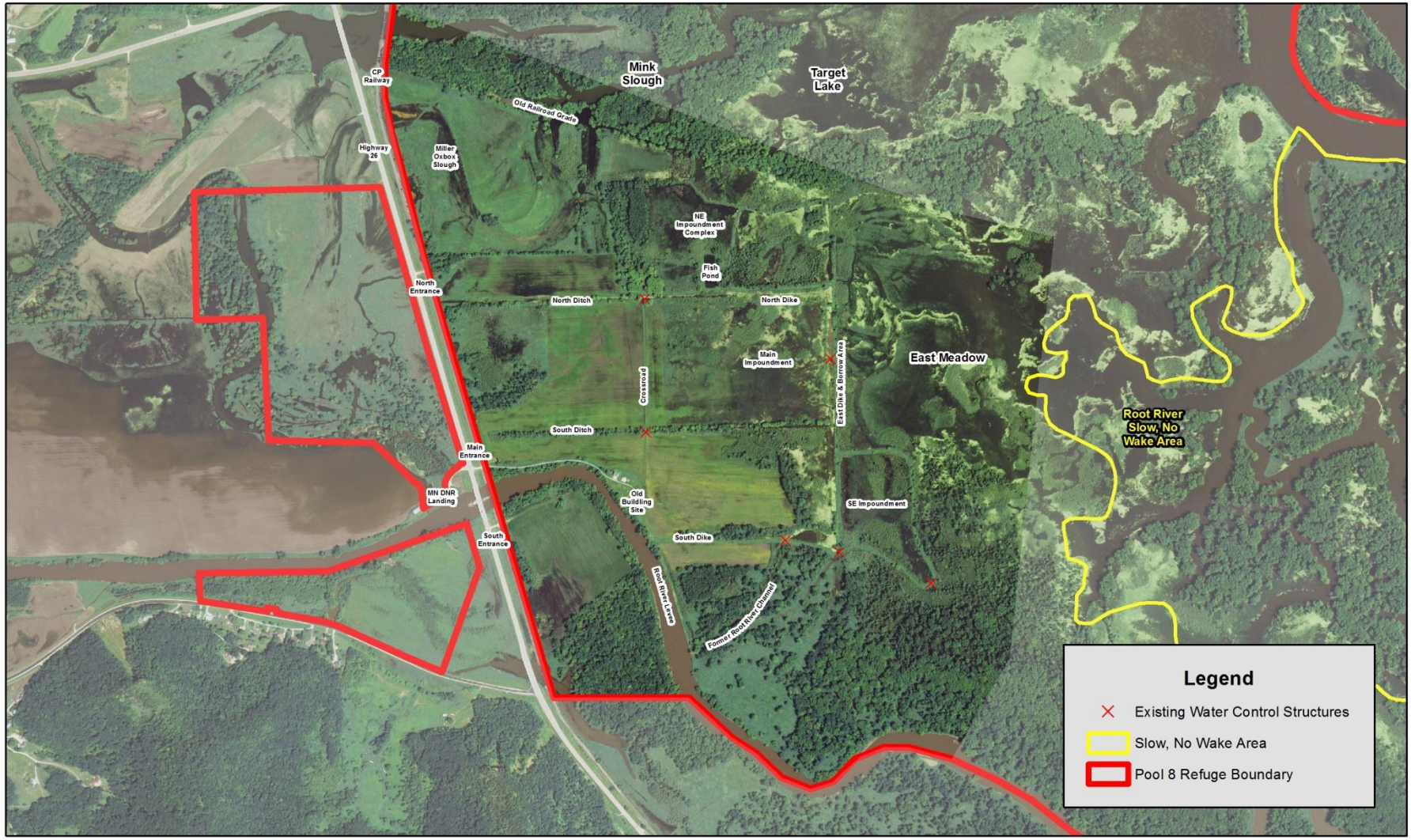
Pool 8



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Planning

Project Goals:

Goal 1 – Restore natural topography and drainage patterns

Goal 2 – Wildlife and habitat

Goal 3 – Wildlife-dependent recreation