



Seeing the Prairie for the Switchgrass: Mulling Over FSA Conservation Data Needs

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FSA Needs to Know

- Which fields ought to be in CRP?
- Which fields will choose to be in CRP?



Current Situation

- Drowning in data
- Poorly organized for analysis
 - Inconsistent IDs
 - Link to past severed as records evolve
 - Various physical & electronic locations
 - Backlogs



Improving the situation

- In-house data integration
- Solicit data from research community
better tailored to needs



Water Quality

- WQ1: Change in losses at edge of field
- WQ2: Transit time to edge of water
- WQ3: IBI for body of water



Wildlife Habitat

- Suitable habitat for which declining species?
- Rates of decline summed over declining species
- Weighted by habitat suitability

$$WH = HSI_1 * \%Decline_1 + HSI_2 * \%Decline_2 \dots$$



What we don't need so much of

- Cost-effectiveness studies of select benefits
- WTP studies w/o adequate context
- Broad surveys of environmental condition that lack landscape context
- Watershed studies that are not scalable or easily replicated