The Context
What’s a priority?

- 2004: Prime Farmland
- 2007: Prime Farmland that someone wanted to donate an agricultural easement on
- 2017: Farmland where the landowner was willing to wait up to three years to complete an acquisition with the federal (ACEP) funds
- 2020: Farmland that also contributes to broader conservation goals including habitat and water quality
Priority Farmland includes

- Connectivity to protected land
- Proximity to INAI & McNAl sites
- Property includes natural resources or buffers them
  - Wetlands
  - Streams
  - Oak woods
- Located in the Hackmatack NWR project area
Kim & Dave worked some GIS magic!
Farmland Prioritization McHenry County Illinois

Legend:
- High
- Moderate
- Low
- No Data
- Poor
- Non-Fertilizer - Concurrent
- Soil
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 10 Miles

0 1.25 2.5 5 7.5 10
Additional applications of GIS for land protection priorities
Tall Pines example
Questions?