

Project Description - This project is located on the 1,084 acre PA State Game Lands #317 in Union County, PA. Historic land use of this area was predominately row crops and grazing, with much of the area effectively drained with subsurface tile drains, diversions, and open ditches. Project deliverables were the survey, design, and implementation of a plan to protect water quality and increase wetland and wildlife habitat. Project implementation occurred during the summer of 2019.

Project Timeframe – December 11, 2018 through December 31, 2021

Project Goals - Goals of the project were to protect/improve water quality in streams by increasing wetland habitat and retention of sediment and nutrients onsite, and decreasing ditch and subsurface erosion with installation wetland habitat, native grass, forbs, trees and shrubs. The goal of replacing invasive vegetation with natives was directed at providing better wildlife habitat for recreational use.

Pictures –



Project Results – Resulting benefits included creation of 13 acres of shallow water wetlands, 50 acres of wetland enhancement, 50 acres of combined native warm season grass and wildflower plot establishment, and control of invasive vegetation and planting tree and shrubs over some 90 acres. Elimination of invasive vegetation by chemical and mechanical means, with planting of native species greatly increased wildlife habitat availability for public enjoyment on this State Game Lands.

Project Costs - \$79,906 Growing Greener plus an additional \$70,500 in match funds.

Partners - Pheasants Forever, Habitat Forever, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pennsylvania Game Commission, Foundation for California University.

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