



15 March 2021

Erin Meier
Executive Director, Green Lands Blue Waters, SARE Project Lead

Dear Erin,

On behalf of Grassland 2.0, I am writing to confirm our commitment to collaborate with Green Lands Blue Waters on this 2021 NCR SARE Research and Education project titled *Match made in heaven: livestock + crops*. Grassland 2.0 is a 5-year project to foster transformation of Midwestern agriculture toward a livestock-integrated, grazing-based system that delivers economic stability for farmers, vitality for rural communities, and ecosystem services for us all. This project will further our goals by helping us understand farmers' current practices and identifying the barriers and opportunities to re-integrating livestock into cash grain farming systems. The project will provide much-needed information on the practices and interests of both grain and livestock producers throughout the region.

We agree to abide by the project's Management Plan and work with Green Lands Blue Waters for the duration of the project in the following ways:

- Participating in the project's survey development team to create a survey instrument that will generate valuable information for our own organization as well as for the project team.
- Using our organization's communications resources to help distribute and publicize the survey to encourage farmer participation.
- Participating in summarization and analysis of survey data.
- Cooperatively developing and carrying out educational programming based on survey results.

Over the three-year project, from November 2021 to October 2024, Grassland 2.0 looks forward to working with Green Lands Blue Waters staff and participants to support re-integration of livestock and crop farming in the North Central region.

Sincerely,

Randall D. Jackson
Campbell-Bascom Professor of Grassland Ecology
Department of Agronomy
University of Wisconsin-Madison
608.219.5699 | rdjackson@wisc.edu

Laura Paine
Grassland 2.0 Outreach Coordinator
Co-chair GLBW Midwest Perennial Forage
Working Group



University of Wisconsin Survey Center
University of Wisconsin-Madison

March 16, 2021

Erin Meier, Executive Director
Green Lands Blue Waters
SARE Project Lead

Dear Erin,

On behalf of The University of Wisconsin Survey Center, I am writing to confirm our commitment to collaborate with Green Lands Blue Waters on this 2021 NCR SARE Research and Education project titled *Match made in heaven: livestock + crops*. The project will provide much-needed information on the practices and interests of both grain and livestock producers throughout the region and help us develop projects and educational programming that will support their needs and encourage integration of these systems.

The University of Wisconsin Survey Center is a full-service academic survey research organization located in the College of Letters and Science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The UW Survey Center conducts telephone, mail, web, and face-to-face interviews for University faculty research projects, for state and local government agencies, and for other non-profit agencies. The Center's mission is to assist researchers by providing the highest quality survey research services available. We are excited to partner with Green Lands Blue Waters on this project and bring our world class knowledge of survey design and survey research methods to the project. This project will further our mission by bringing together research-based information from the project partners with an in depth understanding of farmers' current practices and future goals and interests to create collaborative educational opportunities.

We agree to abide by the project's Management Plan and work with Green Lands Blue Waters for the duration of the project in the following ways:

- Participating in the project's survey development team to create a survey instrument that will generate valuable information for the project team, providing expert technical review of survey items for web and mail administration.
- Programming and debugging of the web survey instrument.
- Graphic layout of the paper version of the survey instrument
- Assisting with development of the recruitment material scripts to maximize survey participation rates
- Delivery of final survey data for the team to analyze.

The project has budgeted \$16,866 for our participation to support our participation in designing and disseminating the survey. Over the three-year project, from November 2021 to October 2024, The UW Survey Center looks forward to working with Green Lands Blue Waters staff and participants to support re-integration of livestock and crop farming in the North Central region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JD', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jennifer Dyekma, Ph.D.
Director, University of Wisconsin Survey Center

Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics
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Madison, Wisconsin 53706

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March 18, 2021

Erin Meier, Executive Director
Green Lands Blue Waters
SARE Project Lead

Dear Erin,

I hereby confirm my excitement to collaborate with Green Lands Blue Waters on this 2021 NCR SARE Research and Education project titled *Match made in heaven: livestock + crops*. As a co-investigator on Grasslands 2.0, a USDA-CAP grant project working with farmers and rural communities to expand the role of grasslands in dairy and beef production across the Upper Midwest, I believe that the proposed project will be an excellent complement to ours in terms of thematic focus, information gathering, and coalition building.

More specifically, its multi-state farmer survey on the use of crops and the potential for deepening the links between permanent cover (crops and pasture) and livestock is an essential 'stock-taking' exercise at this historical juncture. It will help to inform state and federal policy initiatives aimed at improving environmental and health outcomes associated with agriculture as well as to the ongoing work of the member organizations associated with this project.

As the leader of a WI dairy farm survey efforts in the Grasslands 2.0 project, I look forward to learning from my colleagues in this project and combining efforts to develop high quality survey instruments, data analysis, and write-ups for farmers, stakeholders, public officials, and legislators. I agree to abide by the project's Management Plan and work with Green Lands Blue Waters for the duration of the project in the following ways:

- Participating in the project's survey development to create a survey instrument that generates valuable information for our own organization as well as for the project team.
- Participating in summarization and analysis of survey data.
- Developing and carrying out educational programming based on survey results.

From November 2021 to October 2024, I look forward to working with Green Lands Blue Waters staff and participants to support re-integration of livestock and crop farming in the North Central region.

Sincerely,



Brad Barham, Professor

March 24, 2021

Erin Meier, Executive Director
Green Lands Blue Waters
SARE Project Lead

Dear Erin,

As a former University of Minnesota Extension Educator, and now operating my own consulting business; I am writing to confirm my commitment to collaborate with Green Lands Blue Waters on this 2021 NCR SARE Research and Education project titled *Match made in heaven: livestock + crops*. The project will provide much-needed information on the practices and interests of both grain and livestock producers throughout the region and help us develop projects and educational programming that will support their needs and encourage integration of these systems.

My personal mission is help people succeed. I am excited to partner with Green Lands Blue Waters on this project because my passion for regenerative agriculture and how important it is to incorporate livestock into the plan. This project will further our mission by bringing together research-based information from the project partners with an in depth understanding of farmers' current practices and future goals and interests to create collaborative educational opportunities.

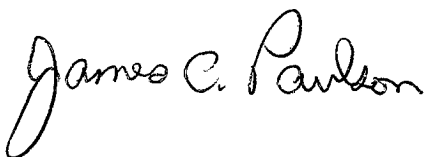
I agree to abide by the project's Management Plan and work with Green Lands Blue Waters for the duration of the project in the following ways:

- Participating in the project's survey development team to create a survey instrument that will generate valuable information for our own organization as well as for the project team.
- Distributing and publicizing the survey to my livestock clients, encouraging them to participate.
- Participating in summarization and analysis of survey data.
- Cooperatively developing and carrying out educational programming based on survey results.

The project has budgeted \$18,000 for our participation to support our participation in designing and disseminating the survey, and participation in educational programming.

Over the three-year project, from November 2021 to October 2024, I look forward to working with Green Lands Blue Waters staff and participants to support re-integration of livestock and crop farming in the North Central region.

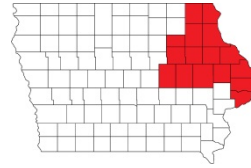
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James C. Paulson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James C. Paulson

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Extension and Outreach



Denise Schwab
Beef Program Specialist
ISU Extension
501 1st Ave.
Vinton, IA 52349
Ph: 319-721-9624
Email: dschwab@iastate.edu

March 9, 2021

To: Erin Meier, Executive Director
Green Lands Blue Waters
SARE Project Lead

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denise L. Schwab".

From: Denise L. Schwab
ISU Extension Beef Program Specialist

This is to confirm my commitment to the 2021 NCR SARE Research and Education project titled Match made in heaven: livestock + crops in collaboration with Green Lands Blue Waters. As an Extension beef specialist for northeast Iowa, I understand the importance of both perennial forages to protect our soil resources and the roll of livestock in farm diversification. Input from farmers is critical in developing programs and activities to meet their needs.

Our mission at ISU Extension and Outreach is to build a strong Iowa by engaging all Iowans in research, education, and extension experiences to address current and emerging real-life challenges. Our involvement in this project will assist in identifying the challenges our producer face and to better development programs and resources for them. It will also help strengthen our collaboration with other partners across the Midwest and with other organizations.

ISU Extension and Outreach work with the management plan of Green Lands Blue Waters for the duration of the project in the following ways:

- Assist in development of the survey instrument to livestock and grain producers.
- Disseminate the survey instrument through our email lists, newsletter, and social media outlets.
- Assist in survey distribution through our Iowa collaborators.
- Assist in summarizing and distributing the results of the survey.
- Cooperate in developing educational resources and programs based on the survey results.
- Assist in the development of financial data intake protocols and financial data analysis.

I look forward to working with Green Lands Blue Waters and the rest of this project team over the next three years to further re-integrate livestock and crop farming in the North Central region.

Erin Meier, Executive Director
Green Lands Blue Waters
SARE Project Lead

Dear Erin,

On behalf of the University of Missouri, I am writing to confirm our commitment to collaborate with Green Lands Blue Waters on this 2021 NCR SARE Research and Education project titled *Match made in heaven: livestock + crops*. The project will provide much-needed information on the practices and interests of both grain and livestock producers throughout the region and help us develop projects and educational programming that will support their needs and encourage integration of these systems.

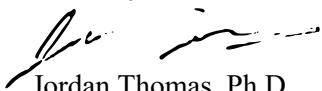
The University of Missouri is committed to not only the economic prosperity of farmers and ranchers but also the broader ecological and societal health of the North Central region. We are excited to partner with Green Lands Blue Waters on this project because the state of Missouri is poised to exemplify reintegration of row-crop and livestock production systems. This project will further our mission as an institution, as it bridges what is often a gap between research findings and the lived experiences and understanding of stakeholders. By bringing together research-based information from the project partners with an in-depth understanding of farmers' current practices and future goals and interests, we will create collaborative educational opportunities that align with sustainable agricultural priorities for the North Central region.

We agree to abide by the project's Management Plan and work with Green Lands Blue Waters for the duration of the project in the following ways:

- Participating in the project's survey development team to create a survey instrument that will generate valuable information for our own organization as well as for the project team.
- Using our organization's communications resources to help distribute and publicize the survey to encourage farmer participation.
- Participating in summarization and analysis of survey data.
- Cooperatively developing and carrying out educational programming based on survey results.

Over the three-year project, from November 2021 to October 2024, The University of Missouri looks forward to working with Green Lands Blue Waters staff and participants to support re-integration of livestock and crop farming in the North Central region.

Sincerely,



Jordan Thomas, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor - Beef Cow-Calf Specialist
Division of Animal Sciences
ThomasJor@missouri.edu
Office: 573-882-1804



The
Minnesota State
Cattlemen's Association
P.O. Box 12, Maple Plain, MN 55359

www.mnsca.org ▪ mnsca@mssca.org ▪ 763-479-1011

3/19/2021

Erin Meier, Executive Director
Green Lands Blue Waters
SARE Project Lead

Dear Erin,

On behalf of The Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association, I am writing to confirm our support to collaborate with Green Lands Blue Waters on this 2021 NCR SARE Research and Education project titled *Match made in heaven: livestock + crops*. The project will provide much-needed information on the practices and interests of our members who are either strictly livestock producers or grain and livestock producers and help us develop educational programming that will support their needs and encourage integration of these systems across our membership.

The Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association's mission is to create and maintain an economic and political climate that provides individual members the opportunity to sustain and grow the cattle industry in Minnesota, and we are excited to partner with Green Lands Blue Waters on this project. This partnership will help our association understand the barriers our members face in planning or executing this integration. This project will further our mission by bringing together research-based information from the project partners with an in depth understanding of farmers' current practices and future goals and interests to create collaborative educational opportunities.

We look forward to working with Green Lands Blue Waters for the duration of the project in the following ways:

- Participating in the project's survey development team to create a survey instrument that will generate valuable information for our association members and the project team.
- Using our organization's communications resources to help distribute and publicize the survey to encourage farmer participation.
- Participating in summarization and analysis of survey data.
- Cooperatively developing and carrying out educational programming based on survey results.

Over the three-year project, from November 2021 to October 2024, The Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association looks forward to working with Green Lands Blue Waters staff and participants to support re-integration of livestock and crop farming in the North Central region.

Sincerely,

Allison VanDerWal
Executive Director
Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association