

John Marshall SWCD Annual Awards Luncheon

December 14, 2016



John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District
2016 Annual Awards Luncheon

Fauquier County Public Schools
Senior Government Internship
and
BMP As-Built Mapping

Project Summary - FCPS Internship Program

- School Course – Seniors.
- Places students in professional settings forming a bridge between the academic world and the working environment.
- Students work with Department heads to complete assigned projects, and then present findings.
- Required to submit a book, journal, or article with thier findings and experiences.
- Complete 120 hours with local business, agency, or community organization.

Project Summary – As-built Mapping

- Utilized interns (2 so far) to digitize records of all completed practices under lifespan.
- Students used GIS mapping to log completed (As-built) agricultural best management practices.
- Over 200 projects mapped going back to 2010.
- Mostly structural Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) - fencing, water troughs, pipeline, etc.
- Allows us to fully document the accomplishments and effectiveness of the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District programs.

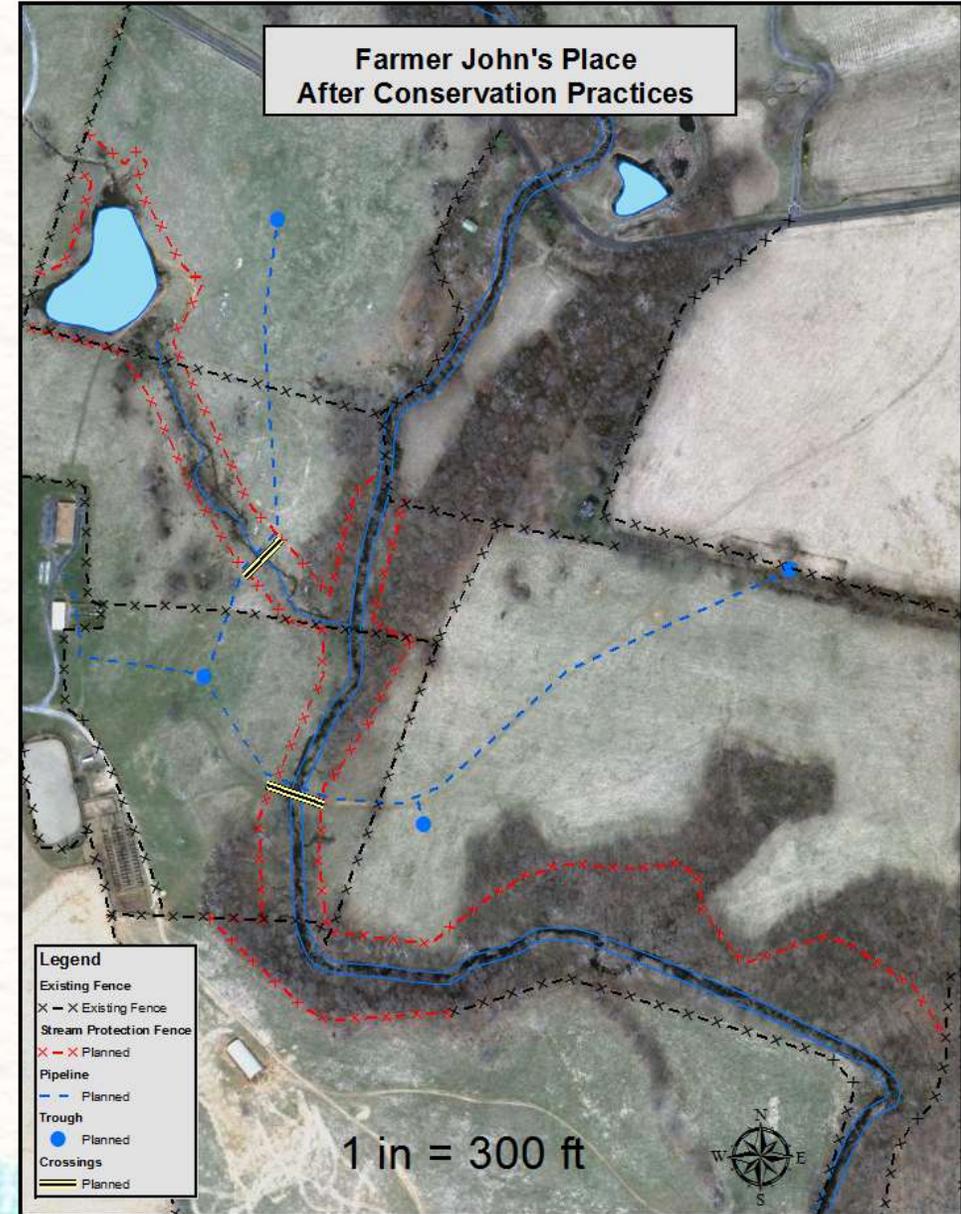
Geographic Information System - GIS

- A system designed to capture, manage, and present spatial and geographical data.
- Technology that has dramatically improved our ability to present projects to our program participants and document our efforts.
- Before GIS – paper copies of maps with hand drawn practices.

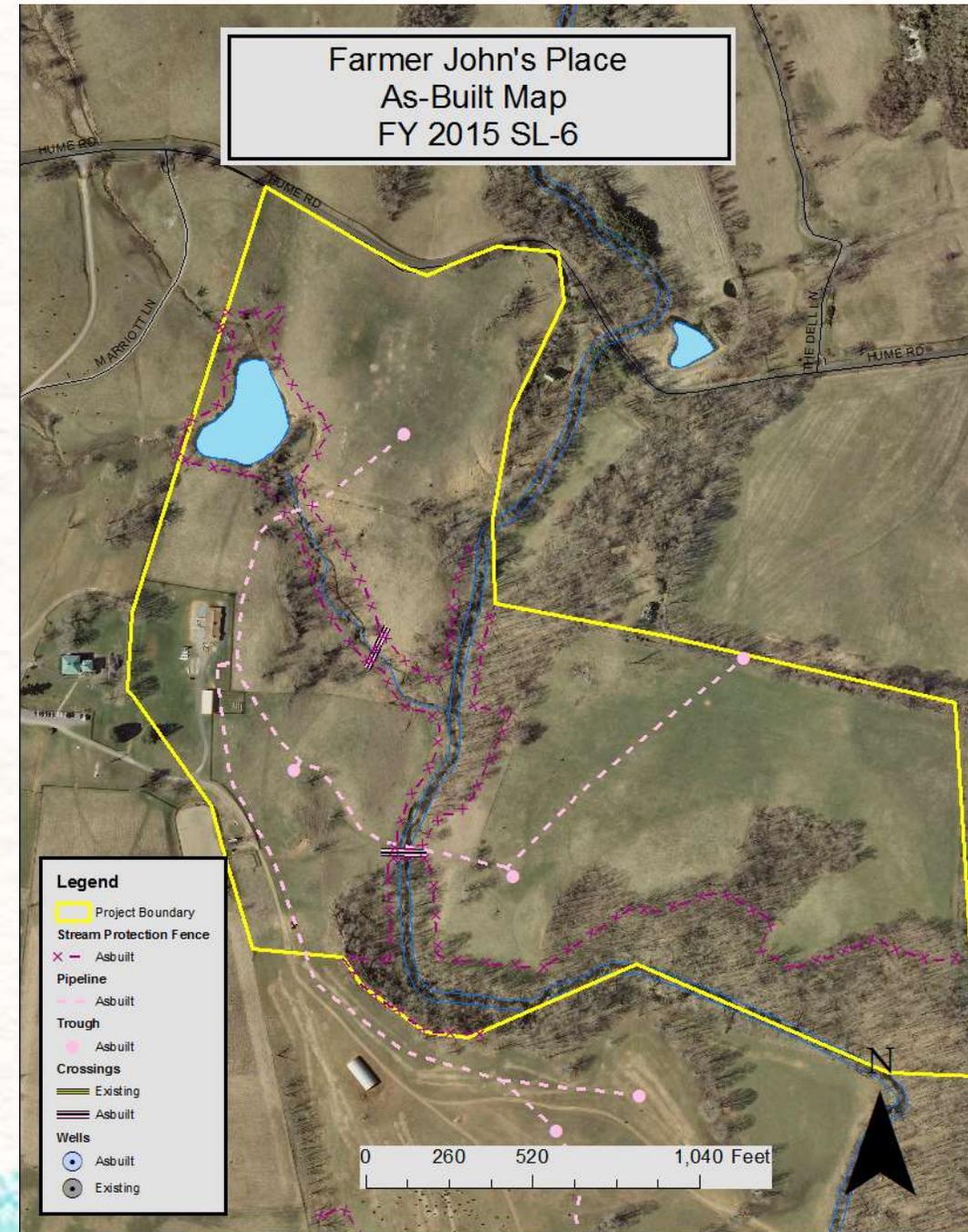
Agricultural Best Management Practices - BMPs



Before and After Comparison

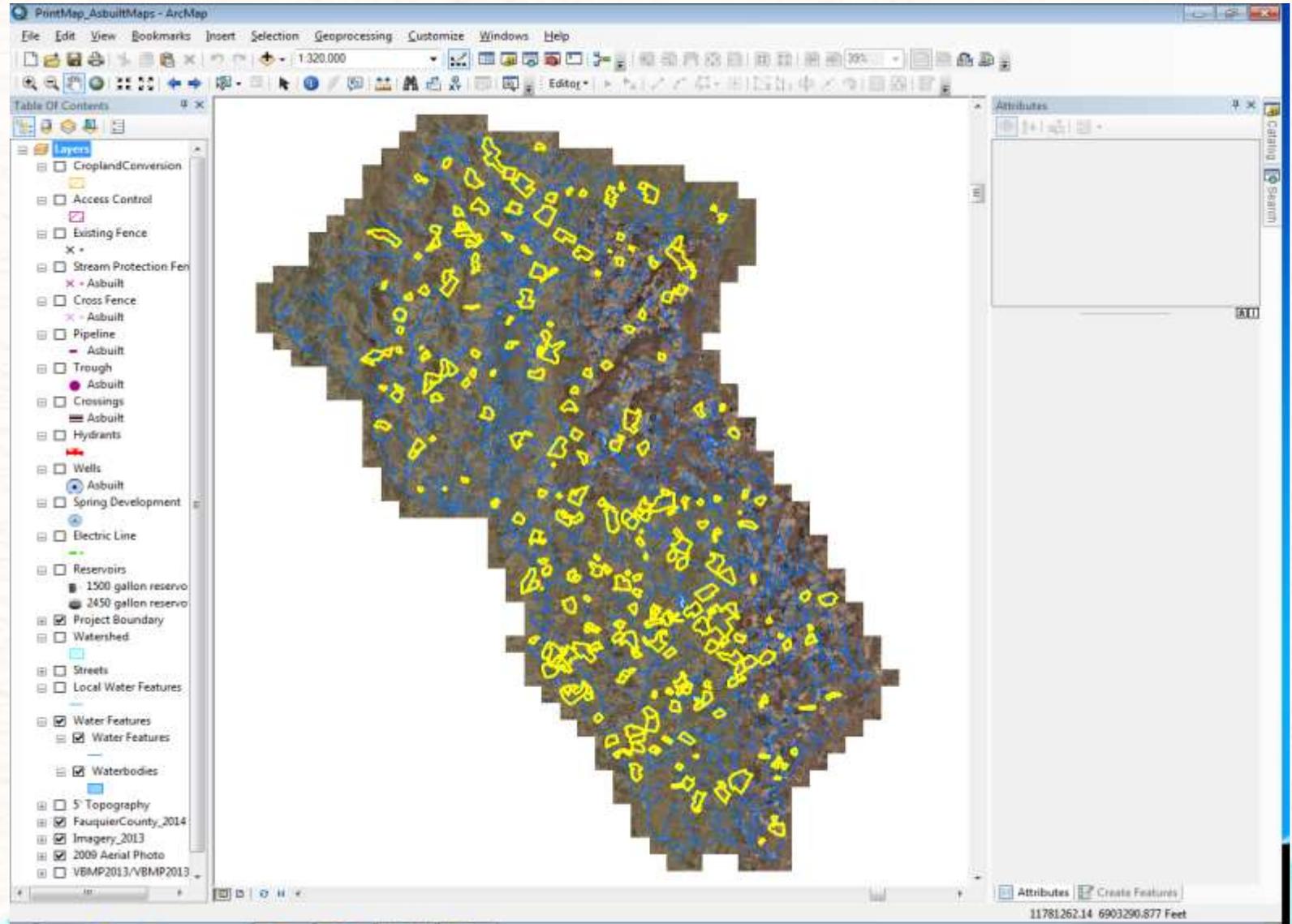


Project As-Built Map



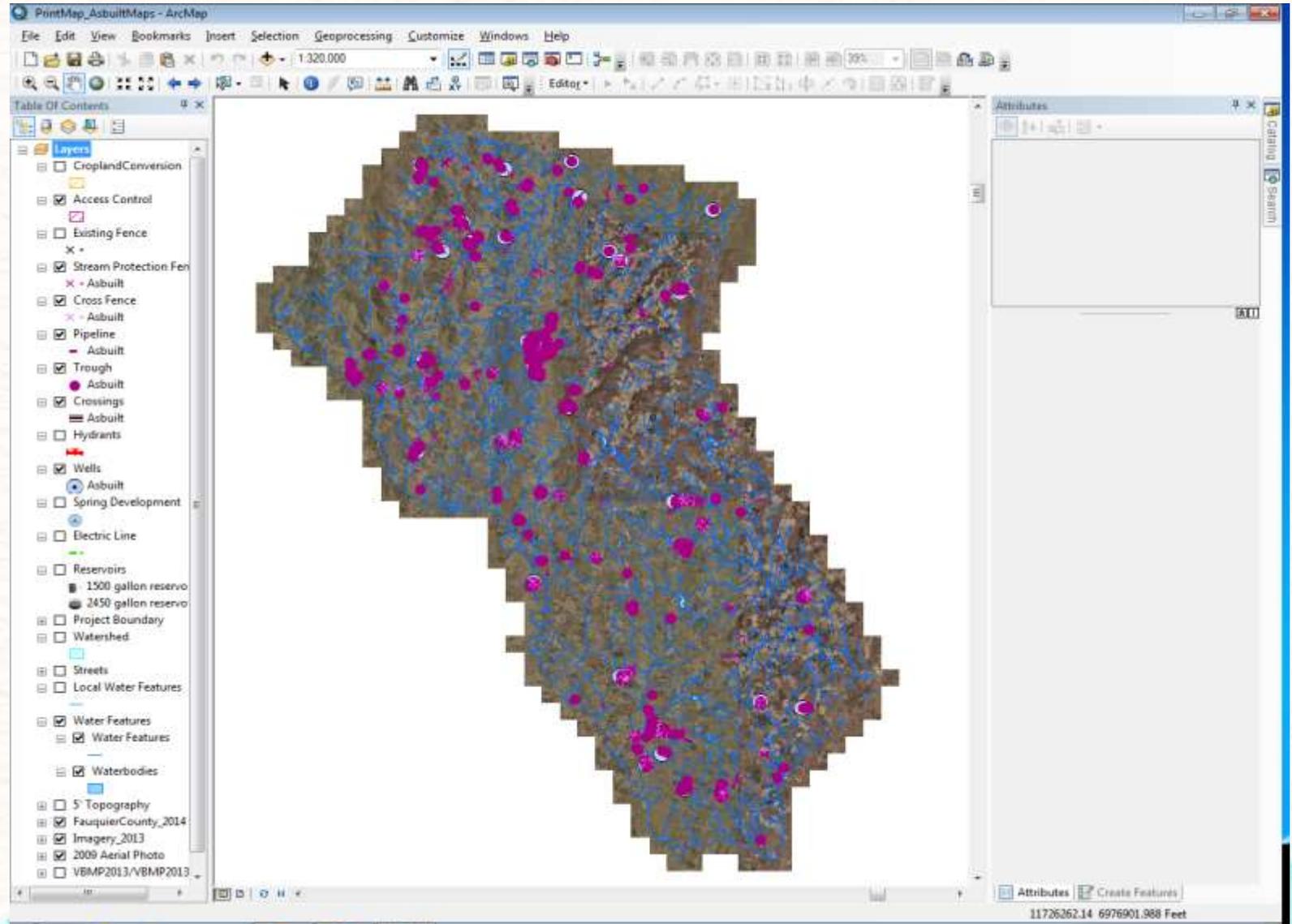
John Marshall GIS Mapping

- Yellow Project Boundaries
- All planned practices
- Demonstrates effective outreach



John Marshall GIS Mapping

- As-Builts
 - Stream protection fences
 - Troughs
 - Pipelines
 - Stream crossings
 - Cross fences
 - Wells
 - Access control areas



Goals

- Develop a county-wide layer of all completed practices under lifespan.
- Better demonstrate our accomplishments – and make it easier to show local and state governments tangible results of their investments.
- Help us see areas where we have been less successful.



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2016 Annual Awards Luncheon

Special Recognition





Virginia Association of Conservation
District Employees - Outstanding
Conservation District Professional Award



Chaffin - Soil & Water Conservation
District Employee of the Year



John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District
2016 Annual Awards Luncheon

John Marshall SWCD
recognizes
Tammy Hockensmith
for the
2016 Conservation Partner Award



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4 <html lang="en">          JOHN MARSHALL SWCD
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8 <h1 style="text-align: center;">JOHN MARSHALL SWCD recognizes</h1>
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11 for service and partnership above and beyond the norm.
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13 <h2 style="text-align: center;">Tammy Hockensmith</h2>
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15 norm.</h1>
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17 <h1 style="text-align: center;">Congratulations!</h1>
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19 <h1 style="text-align: center;">2016 Conservation Partner Award</h1>
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JOHN MARSHALL SWCD

recognizes

Tammy Hockensmith

for service and partnership above and beyond the norm.

Congratulations!

2016 Conservation Partner Award



John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District
2016 Annual Awards Luncheon

2016 Edwin F. Gulick
Conservation Educator Award



Patricia Colot
Taylor Middle School

Farm Field Days















JOHN MARSHALL SWCD
recognizes

Patricia Colot

for her outstanding contribution to
education in Fauquier County.

Congratulations!

2016 Edwin F. Gulick Conservation Educator Award



John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District
2016 Annual Awards Luncheon

2016 Conservation Contractor Award

Johnny Wright
Earth & Turf LLC
Warrenton, VA



2015-16 Crestone Farm SL-6 Practices

Cedar Run Watershed

Earth & Turf installed the alternative water system and stream crossings, which contributed to the protection of 10,280 feet of streambank and created 8.6 acres of riparian buffer.



2015 Boteler SL-6 Practice

Great Run Watershed

Earth & Turf installed an intricately designed spring development that serves as the focal point of a water corral system. Mr. Boteler's livestock exclusion practice protected 2,760 feet of streambank on Great Run, a TMDL stream, and over five acres of wetland and riparian buffer.



2016 Husson Lewis Enterprises SL-6 Practice

Buck Run Watershed

Earth & Turf excavated the pressure tank housing and electric line for the new well, in addition to the water lines and trough pads for this livestock exclusion practice. The pastures are located on rocky complex soil with C and D slopes, which required extensive rock removal and grading to achieve the required on-site drainage. In total, this practice protected 5,000 feet of stream bank on Buck Run and created an 11-acre riparian buffer.

JMSWCD wishes to recognize Johnny Wright and his staff for their professionalism, attention to detail and high quality workmanship.



JOHN MARSHALL SWCD
recognizes

Johnny Wright – Earth & Turf LLC
for their outstanding cooperation in the installation
of agricultural best management practices.

Congratulations!

2016 Conservation Contractor Award



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2016 Annual Awards Luncheon

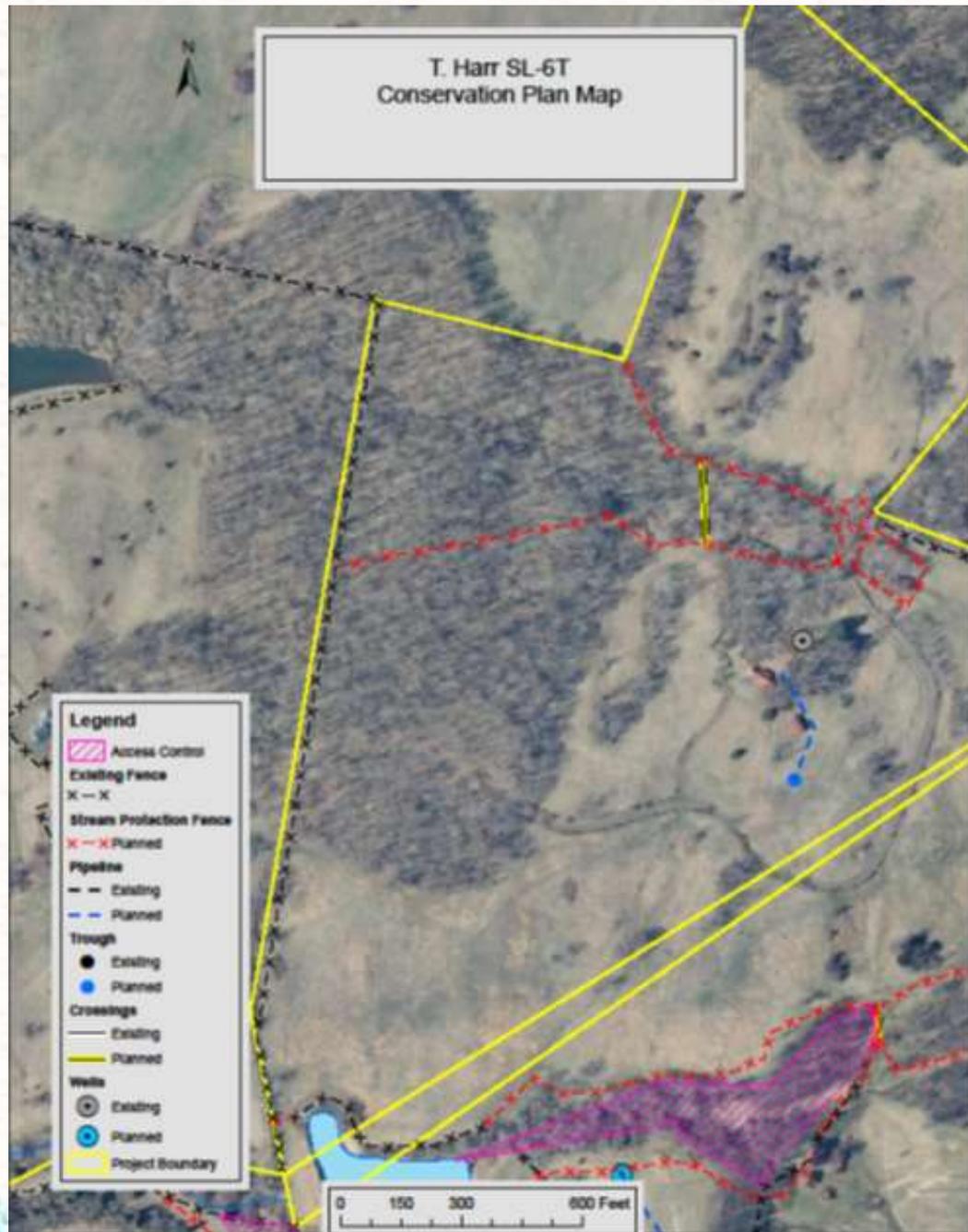
2016 TMDL
Conservation Farm
Award

Timothy Harr
Thumb Run Watershed



The Harr's 78-acre parcel, was previously part of the expansive Texas Ranch, located outside of Hume. It contains several water features including a spring, stream and pond frontage, and is grazed by approximately 80 head of beef cattle who also access an adjoining farm.





- Installation of a livestock exclusion practice in June 2016 protected all surface waters
- A total of 4,600 feet of stream bank was protected
- 12 acres of riparian buffer were created
- 1 pressurized trough and 1 limited access stream crossing was installed for an alternative water source and rotational grazing purposes



BEFORE

Tim first contacted JMSWCD three years ago. His practice had numerous inherent challenges including a braided stream with multiple channels, a neighborhood access road and public utility crossings. He worked diligently through the design and revision process to meet the needs of all parties, and ultimately did his part to “protect the Bay.”



AFTER

Deciding on the stream crossing site was particularly challenging due to steep slopes and the presence of ecologically valuable trees. It was Tim's thorough knowledge of the property and the cattle herd's habits that enabled us to find a workable solution.

In addition to water quality protection, the Harr's support research, outreach and education by making their land available to the Virginia Working Landscapes program at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute. Volunteers periodically survey grassland songbirds, plant communities, mammals and pollinators as a part of this project.



Photo Credit: USFWS

JOHN MARSHALL SWCD
recognizes

Timothy Harr

for his outstanding conservation and
land stewardship.

Congratulations!

2016 TMDL Conservation Farm Award



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John Marshall SWCD's

2016 Conservation Farmer Award

Norman and Bonnie Bower
Warrenton, VA

- Farming appears to be a passion for Norman.
- Norman manages a 100 head cow/calf operation that has his cattle spread out on at least 8 different farms.
- He has been instrumental in promoting good conservation practices on these farms and getting the landowners to participate in John Marshall's cost share program.
- He is being recognized today for this passion and his contributions to promoting good conservation practices on his farm and other land that he rents.



Norman has cattle on 8 different farms totaling over 400 acres of pasture. Plans are in the works for additional farms that will bring that total to more than 500 acres.

Norman is always willing to try new things if he feels it will help his operation. He tried this new type of trough. He uses movable troughs to facilitate his rotational grazing plan.





Norman has encouraged and actively participated in improving water quality on most of this acreage. He uses temporary electric fences to divide pastures.

On farms that Norman rents, over 30,000 feet of streambank has been protected and over 77 acres of riparian buffer have been established.





Norman's goal with his operation is to not have to feed any hay.

Stockpiling grass is one way to achieve this goal.



He is working with Virginia Forage and Grassland Council, Extension and NRCS to study stockpiling, fertilization of pastures and other grazing practices.

Hopes are that the results can be shared through Educational Tours for other farmers.



JOHN MARSHALL SWCD
recognizes

Norman Bower

for his outstanding conservation
and land stewardship.

Congratulations!

2016 Conservation Farmer Award



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John Marshall SWCD's

2016 Conservation Farm Award

Silver Hill Farm
Beauleton, VA

Silver Hill Farm

- Silver Hill Farm is a family farm consisting of several parcels cobbled together by Mr. Taylor.
- In total, about 200 acres are farmed: 119 acres of pasture, 22 acres of hay, with 60 acres devoted to row crop production. The cow/calf operation has around 50 pairs.
- The farm lies within the Rappahannock River/Rock Run watershed in Southern Fauquier County.



Mr. Taylor constructed more than 15,000 feet of exclusion fence over the past 2 years. 12,800 feet of streambank was protected and 13 acres of riparian buffer was established.





Mr. Taylor installs pipeline and troughs with the assistance of hired help. He installed over 4,900 feet of pipeline.

One of ten troughs installed by Mr. Taylor.











JOHN MARSHALL SWCD
recognizes

Silver Hill Farm

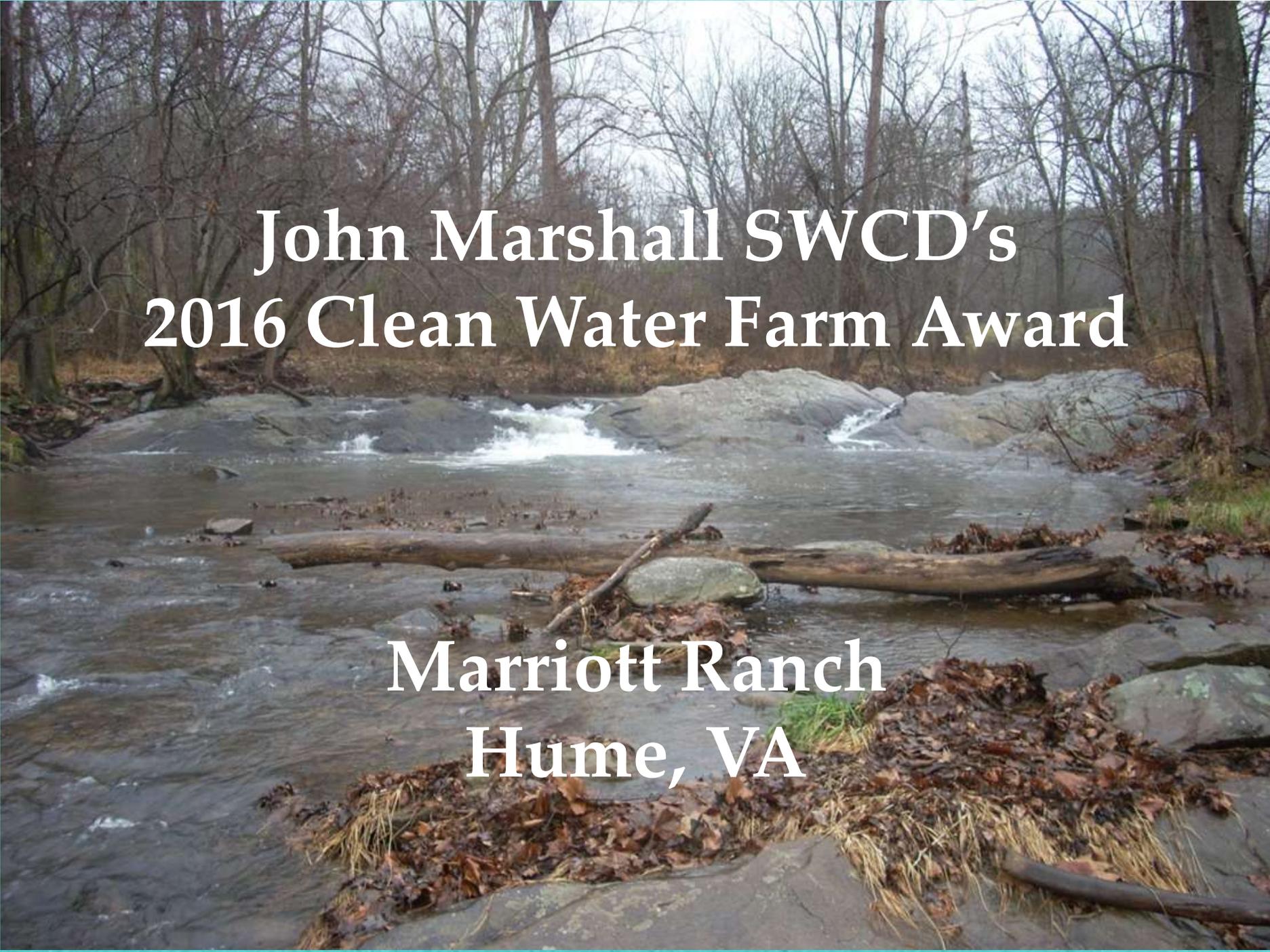
for their outstanding conservation
and land stewardship.

Congratulations!

2016 Conservation Farm Award



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**John Marshall SWCD's
2016 Clean Water Farm Award**

**Marriott Ranch
Hume, VA**

Marriott Ranch

- Marriott Ranch, is located in Hume, owned by Marriott Ranch Properties Inc., and managed by Lanier Cate (General Manager).
- The land consists of about 4,200 acres, with 2,000 acres of pasture, 100 acres of cropland, with another 2,100 acres in mixed hardwoods.
- Cattleman Phillip McCracken runs the 1,000 head herd as a traditional cow calf operation with his brother Joe and daughter Tammy.

Marriott Ranch – Community Partners

Marriott Ranch works hard to be a good community partner and hosts many outdoor activities that promote agri-tourism and an appreciation for the rural country side.

They include:

- Conducting over 4,000 cross country horse back rides along the scenic Rappahannock River and Fiery Run.
- They host Bird and Mammal studies conducted by the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute to determine the effects of land use on various native species.

Host Trout in the Classroom



At the same time, classes study the stream to better understand its ecology and the trout habitat.



With help from the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and Trout Unlimited, kids learn to raise trout in their classroom and then release them into Fiery Run at Marriott Ranch.



Marriott Ranch was instrumental in making possible the first annual “From the Rappahannock, For the Rappahannock” Event.



This partnership provided a great opportunity for over 150 citizens to sample the bounty of the River and tour BMPs to understand how and why it is being protected.



Over the course of the last three years Marriott Ranch has been host to three separate riparian buffer plantings (approximately 6 acres total) using volunteers from various organizations.

Marriott Ranch – Community Partners

Outdoor activities continued:

- They have also hosted teacher trainings on aquatic ecology and conservation with area schools, Friends of the Rappahannock, and JMSWCD.
- They have hosted field days for local school kids providing wagon rides to stations where they learn about wetlands, watersheds, and floodplains from agency professionals.
- They have also allowed the JMSWCD staff to take local elected officials, and other agency VIPs to tour the farm and discuss the benefits of implementing conservation practices.

Getting Conservation on the Ground



In fiscal year 2010 Marriott Ranch began working on their first grazing land protection practice - building the fence and water system themselves.



These two phases protected 4,050 feet of streambank and created 25 acres of Woodland and riparian buffer along the Rappahannock River and its tributaries.



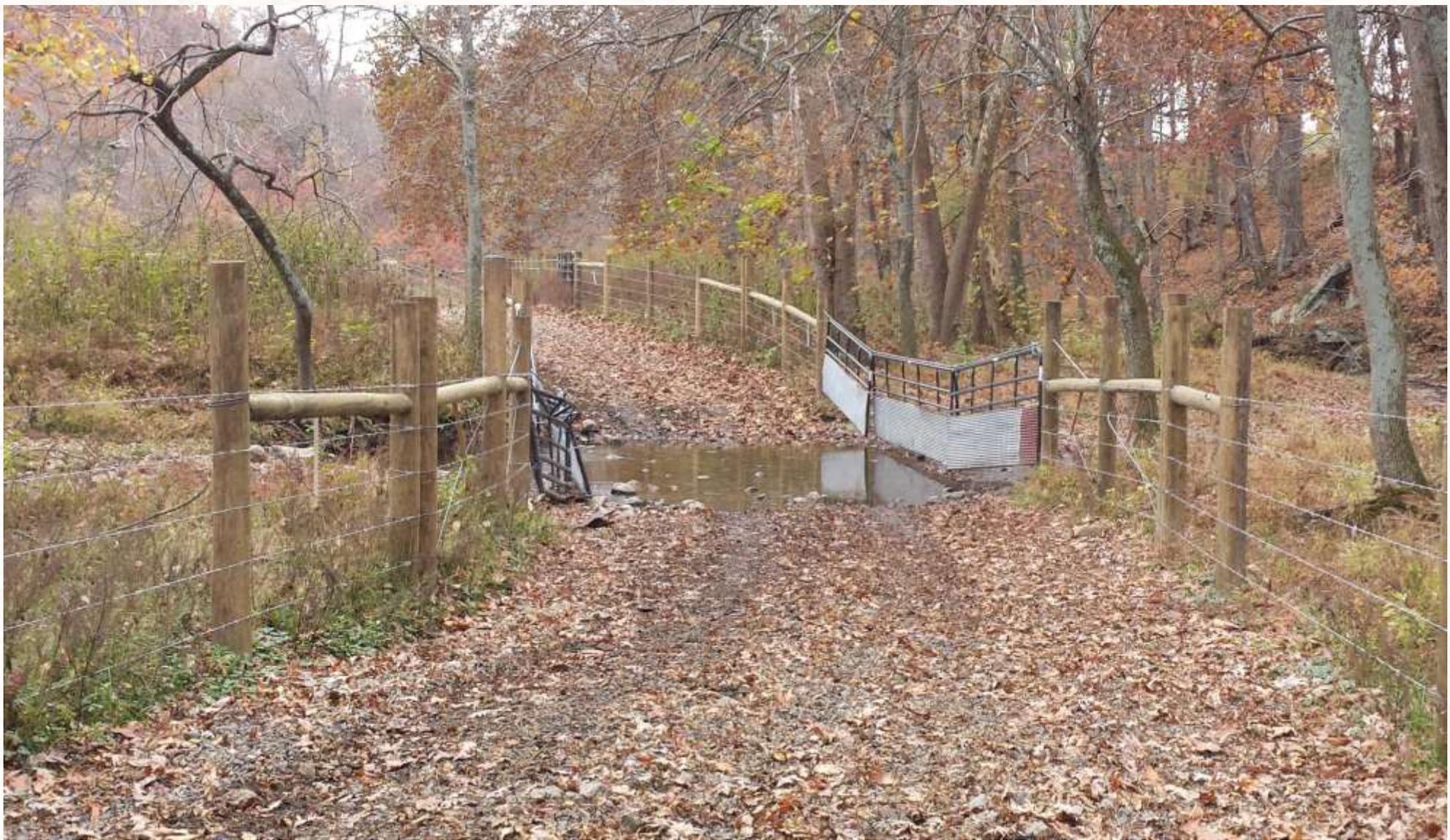
In FY 2012 Marriott Ranch installed their second Grazing Land Protection Practice addressing 275 acres of grazing area. To provide water for livestock, the farm installed two spring developments and four cascading gravity troughs.



As part of this practice 16,000 feet of stream exclusion fence was installed as well as two stream crossings, one over Fiery Run. This protected 27,000 feet of stream bank and created 135 acres of woodland buffer along the Rappahannock River and Fiery Run.



In FY 2013 Marriott Ranch installed another large Stream Protection Practice addressing 210 acres of grazing area. To provide clean water for livestock, the farm installed another spring Development, as well as 3,350 feet of pressure pipeline to and two frost proof troughs.



To complete this practice 15,200 feet of stream exclusion fence was installed as well as two stream crossing over Fiery Run. This protected 23,940 feet of stream bank and created 25 acres of woodland buffer along Fiery Run and its tributaries.



In 2015 Marriott Ranch began work on their most recent conservation practice. This practice included a well, 3,500 feet of pipeline, two troughs and two steam crossings.



To exclude cattle from the surface water, the Ranch installed 8,600 feet of fence and protected over 11,200 feet of stream bank and 25 acres of riparian buffer.

Marriott Ranch – BMP Summary

- 45,800 feet (8.7 miles) of stream exclusion fencing
- 8 stream crossings
- 2 wells
- 3 spring developments
- Over 12,000 feet of livestock water line
- 16 livestock watering troughs
- 6 acres of planted riparian forest buffer



In the course of the last seven years, Marriott Ranch has excluded cattle from over 14 miles of stream bank, more than any other participant in the history of the JMSWCD. This effort has created 210 acres of riparian buffer along the Rappahannock River and Fiery Run, two beautiful streams worthy of protection.

JOHN MARSHALL SWCD
recognizes

Marriott Ranch
for their outstanding conservation efforts.

Congratulations!

2016 Clean Water Farm Award



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