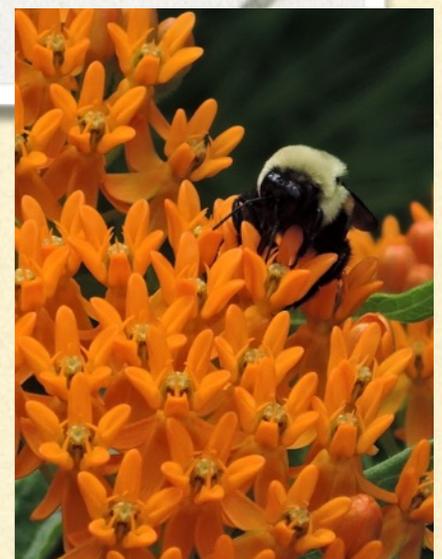




MOW - SPRAY GENERATION

A Sunday Afternoon Drive Story



ROW CORRIDORS

OFTEN SHARED WITH HIGHWAYS



- Fiber Optic lines
 - Cable lines
 - Sewer & water lines
 - Electrical lines
 - Phone lines
 - Oil & Gas Pipelines
 - Rail lines
- Environmental Concerns in Rights of Way Management Conference, 1996. “Using Native Plants as Problem Solvers”



CONSTRAINTS, OBSTACLES & BMPS

to enhance pollinator habitat on Right-of-Way,

highway ROWS equal 17,000,000 acres of opportunity

OBSTACLES

- WILDFLOWERS AS “A BUNCH OF WEEDS”
 - NO RULES/STANDARDS
 - CHANGE= REGS AND/OR \$\$\$
-

1987 STURRA

REAUTHORIZATION ACT:

WILDFLOWER REQUIREMENT



CONSTRAINTS

- ADVERSE TO CHANGE
- INFORMATION SHARING
- LACK OF KNOWLEDGE
- NPDES - QUICK COVER
- “FRONT LAWN OF AMERICA”



Highway Mix #5

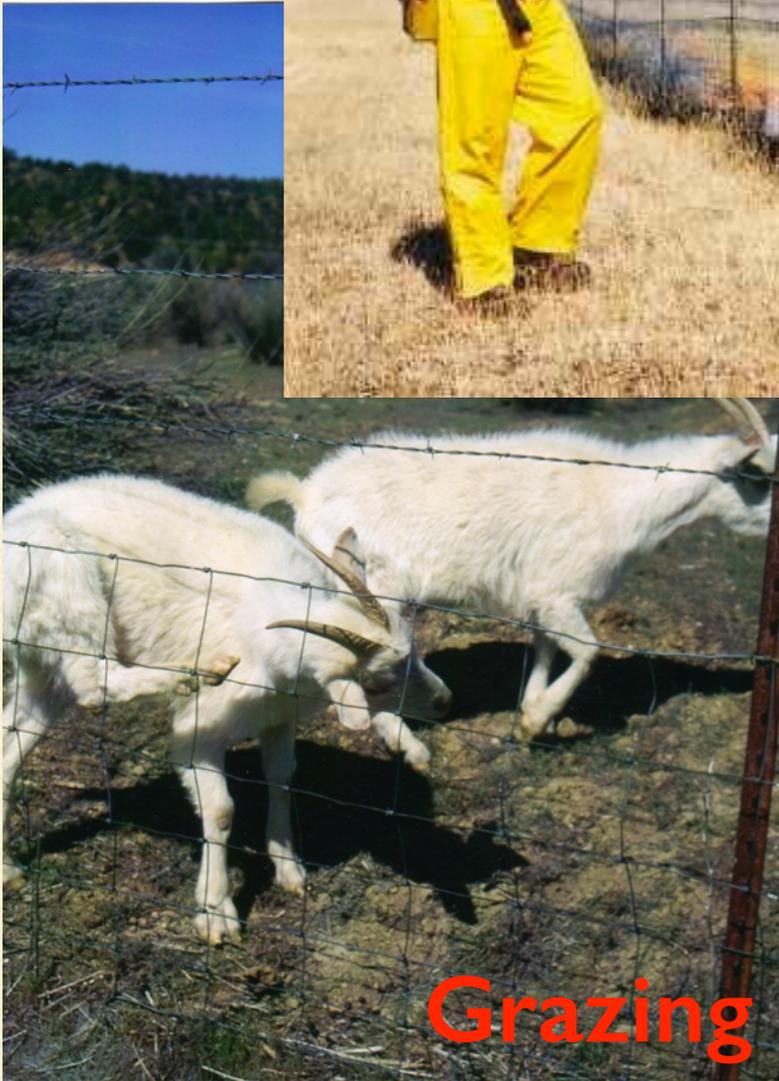
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES



Prescribed Burns



Biocontrols



Grazing



Planting Natives



Equipment cleaning

POLLINATORS PREFER GRASSLAND HABITAT



SO DO HIGHWAYS !



Florida



California



Minnesota

PROTECT NATIVE PLANT REMNANTS

Discover Nebraska's
Roadside Flowers
and Grasses



NATIVE PLANTINGS SINCE THE 1970'S

SPOT SPRAYING **(not BROADCAST)**

- TECHNICAL
- BACK-PACK
- ATV SPRAYERS
- HORSE-BACK

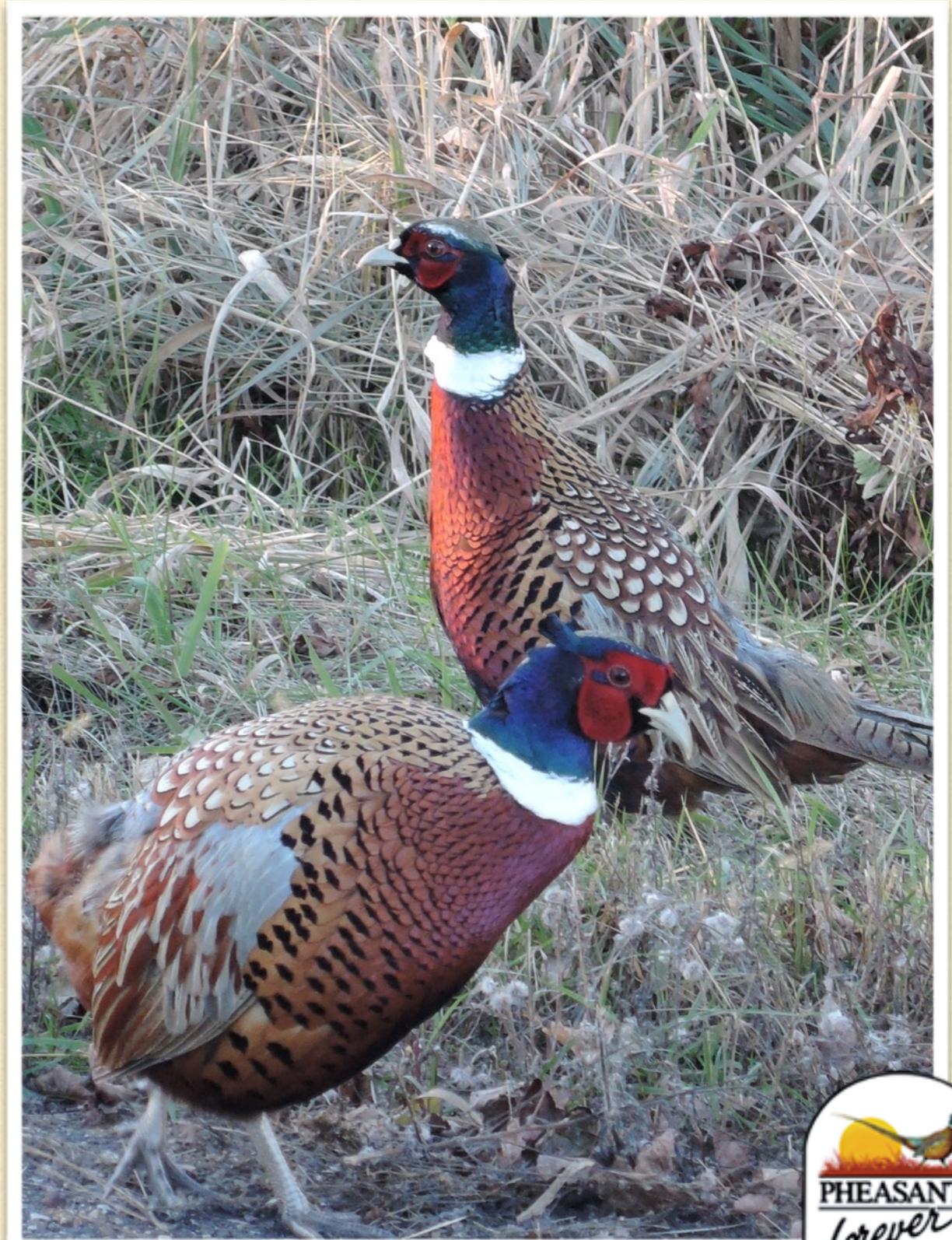


REDUCED MOWING

1985
MINNESOTA
PRECEDENT:

1. ONE SWATH ONLY
2. RURAL ROADSIDES
3. ALL ROW - AUGUST

= NO COST HABITAT



Pheasants Forever



POLLINATOR/ HIGHWAY HISTORY

- PRAIRIE PASSAGE - 1993
- IOWA RESEARCH - 2001
- U.S. POSTAL OFFICE - 2006
- NAPPCC/FHWA MOU - 2008
- MONARCH HIGHWAY -2015





STATES MET WITH MRS. JOHNSON

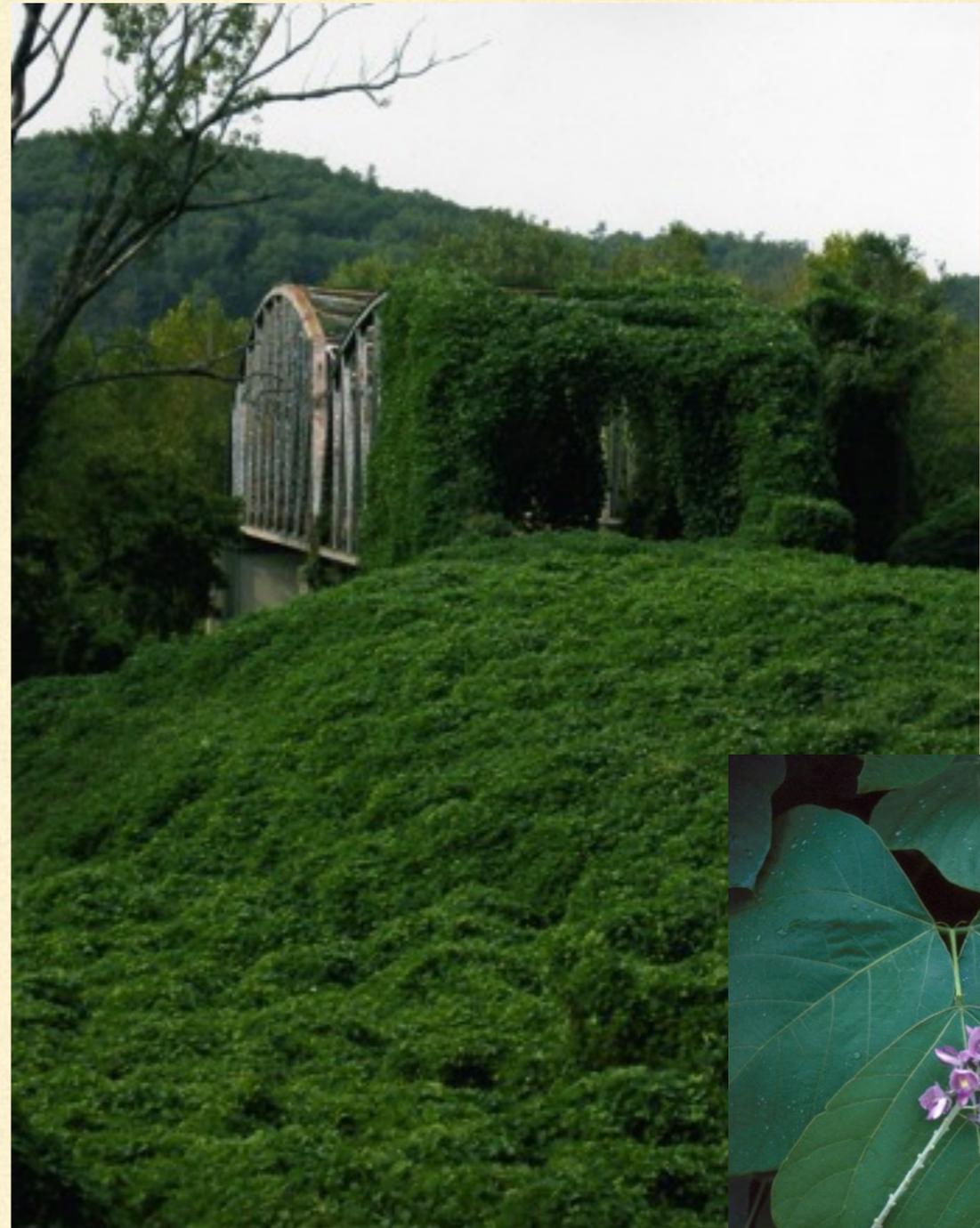
In 1987, she asked what were our obstacles to planting native wildflowers.

CHANGE ONLY HAPPENS WITH NEW Authority and Funding

**SAFTEA LU:
6006.439 (2005)**

NEW ELIGIBILITY FOR
FEDERAL-AID FUNDS:

- 1. NOXIOUS WEED
CONTROL**
- 2. NATIVE PLANT
ESTABLISHMENT**





2014



“Tres Amigos” Summit

Pollinator Health Task Force - 2015

- Reduce honeybee colony losses
- Protect **monarch** populations
- Restore 7,000,000 acres

President’s Memorandum:
A White House Task Force
including USDOT

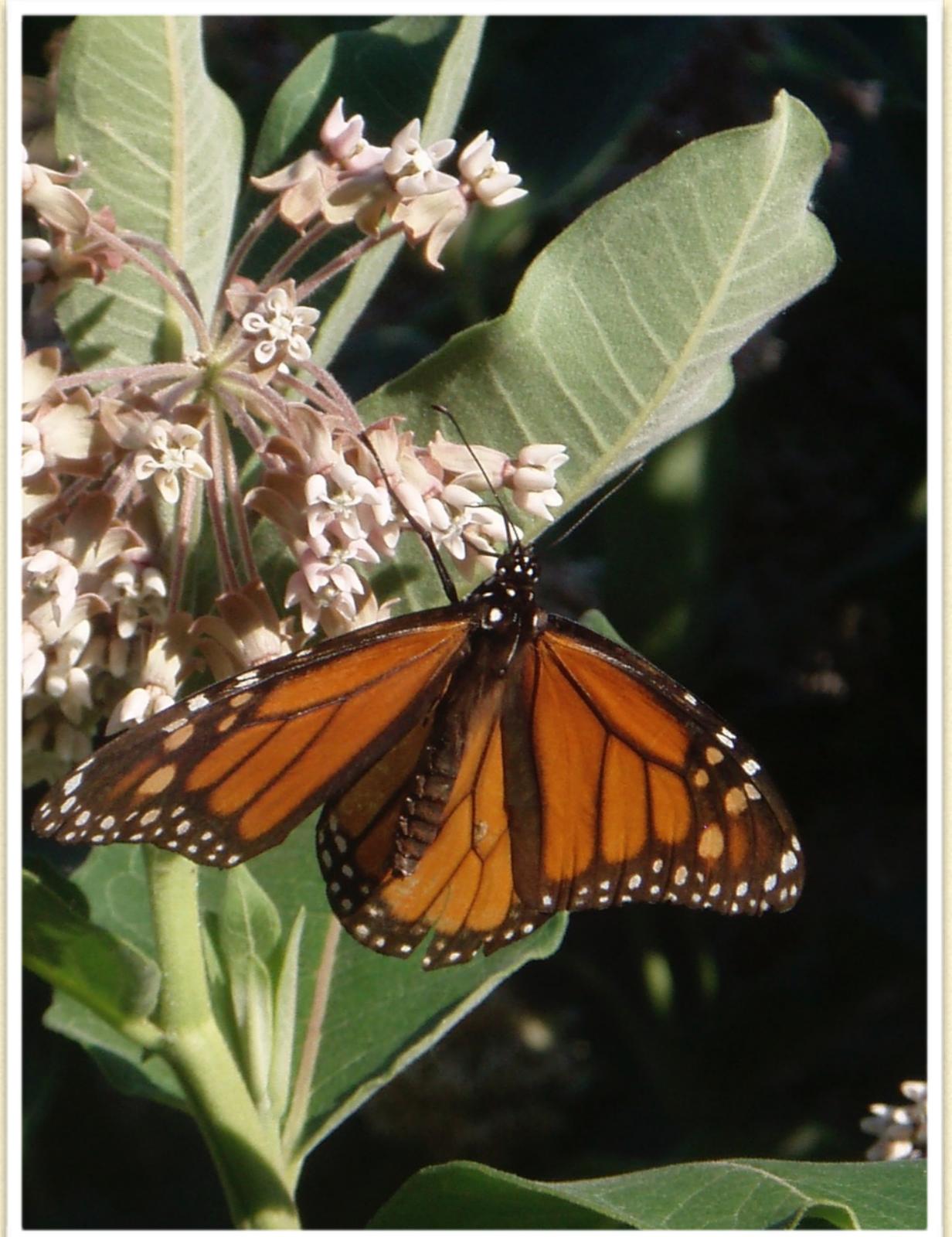
Led to 2016 FHWA/USDOT
Pollinator support & FAST
@environment.fhwa.dot.gov

Contact: Deidre Remley
202-366-0524

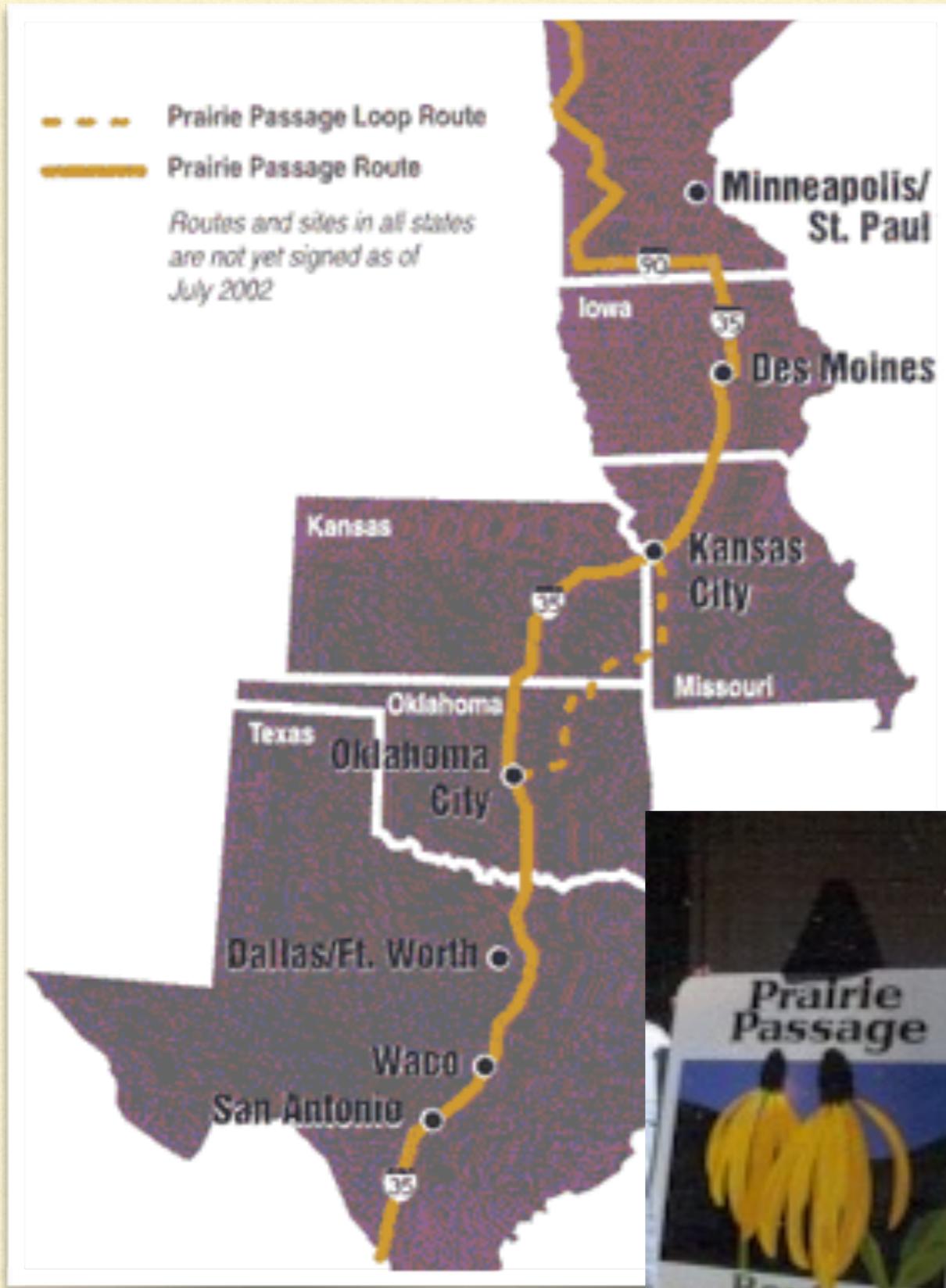
The FAST ACT: 2015

**PROVISIONS TO
ENCOURAGE
POLLINATOR
HABITAT AND
FORAGE ON
TRANSPORTATION
RIGHTS-OF-WAY
INCLUDES:**

- A) INTEGRATED VEG. MGT.**
- B) REDUCED MOWING**
- C) NATIVE PLANTINGS**



THE MONARCH HIGHWAY



1993 Prairie Passage established



ME, DE, MD, WA, TX, CA, WY, SD, UT, OR, MA

OTHER STATE DOT'S EFFORTS



- **FLORIDA:** investigating **reduced mowing** and butterfly collisions
- **IDAHO:** planting native habitats.
- **IOWA:** leading Midwest planting efforts with aid of Monarch Watch milkweeds.
- **MAINE:** **reducing mowing** and native planting.
- **MINNESOTA:** 5000a. in 10 years and added 4 milkweed sp. to highway mixes. (**reduced mow**)
- **MISSOURI:** a pollinator garden at St. Louis Zoo
- **OHIO:** expanding pollinator research plantings
- **ILLINOIS:** since 1992 inventoried remnants to protect
- **INDIANA:** **Reduced mowing**-spraying plus native plantings with their own 3 seed farms.

WisDOT **reduced mowing**
partnered with 22 groups.

FROM East, West, North, South
INVASIVES



STORMS



WILDFIRES



DROUGHT

VEGETATION UNDER PRESSURE

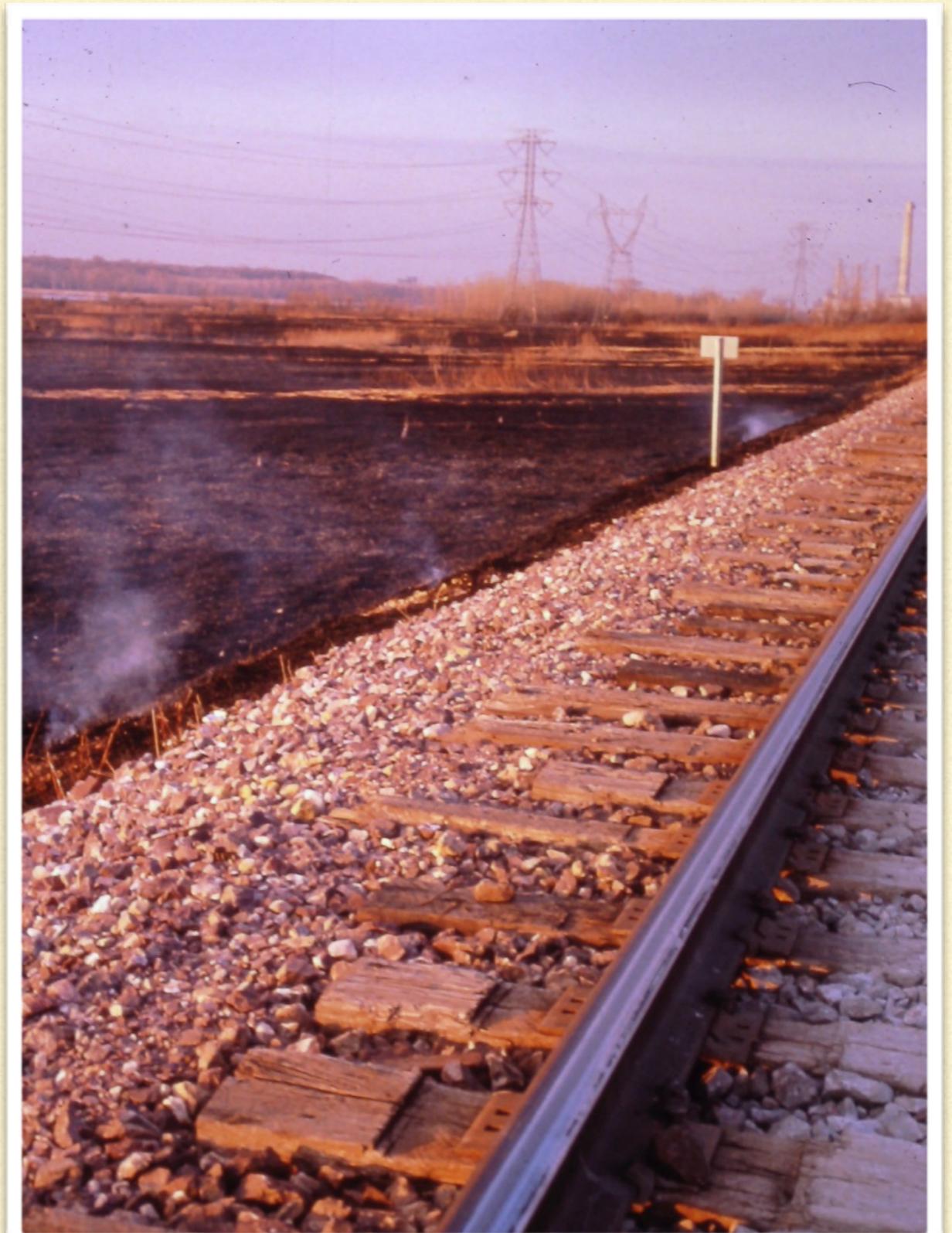
ROW PARTNERSHIPS TOO

NOT ENOUGH FUNDING

PUBLIC SUPPORT EXISTS

POLLINATORS NEED US

**The economy is a wholly
owned subsidiary of the
environment, not the
other way around. Nelson, 2002**



CHANGE HAPPENED

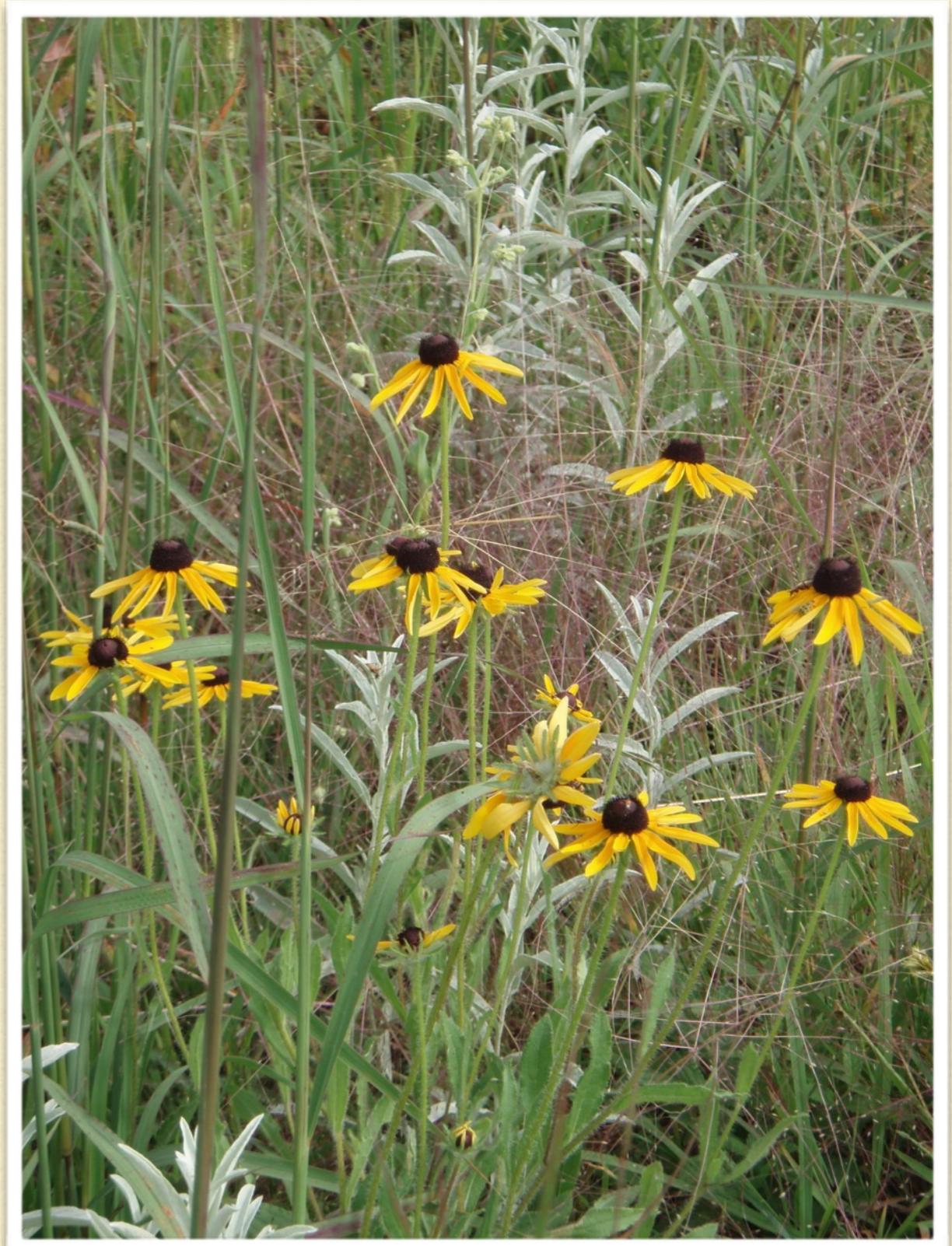
NOT JUST “A BUNCH OF WEEDS” ANYMORE
A DIVERSITY OF FLOWERS AND GRASSES THAT

- PROVIDE HABITAT
- NATURAL BEAUTY
- EROSION CONTROL
- WATER RETENTION
- REGIONAL IDENTITY

THANKS TO A 2014 MEETING IN MEXICO
PLUS EFFORTS OF MANY PARTNERS:
(NAPPC, WILDLIFE FEDERATION, USFWS +++)

FHWA/USDOT

1. AUTHORITY/SUPPORT INCREASED
2. REAPPROPRIATING EXISTING \$\$\$\$\$ DOABLE
3. PUBLIC PRESSURE & AWARENESS NEEDED
4. MULTI STATE COMPETITION HAPPENING



PROTECT or BUILD IT and they will come!

