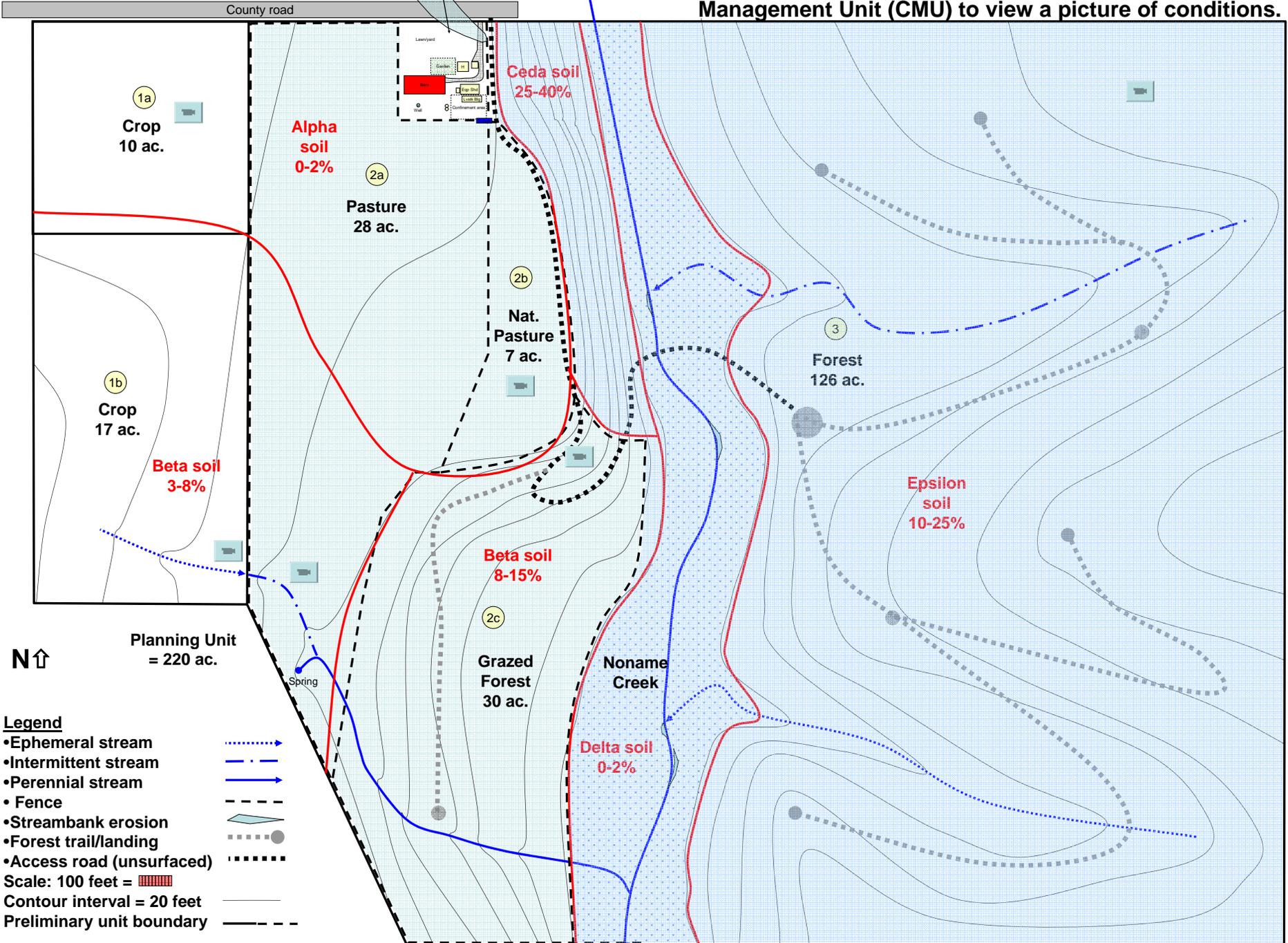


Upwind area to the northwest is predominately open cropland with few forest patches or windbreaks

Headquarters (HQ) 2 ac.

### Planning Unit – (Module 3)

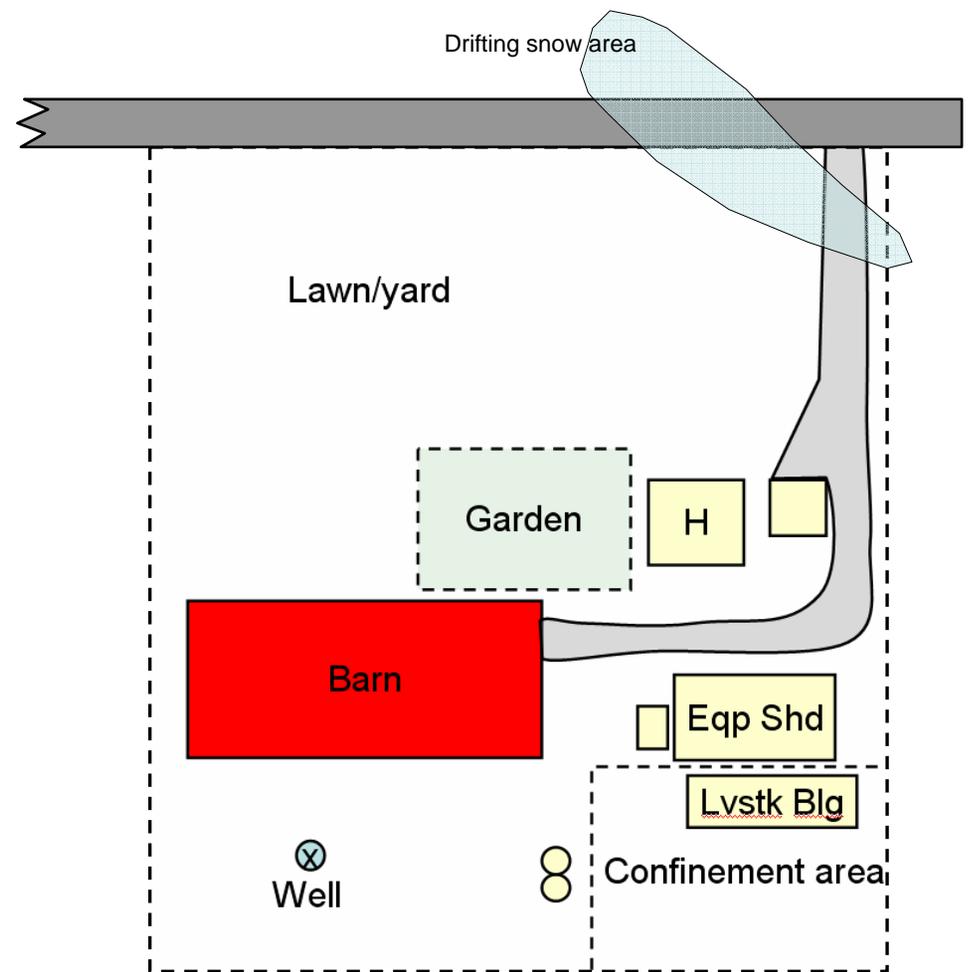
Click on the video camera icon within a Conservation Management Unit (CMU) to view a picture of conditions.



Planning unit joins with a large Nature Conservancy bottomland forest property

# CMU HQ - Headquarters

- The unit consists of a house, garage and shop, well, a small barn for hay and silos for grain storage, and a yard and garden. There is a small confined feeding/holding area for beef cattle. Deer frequently damage the few ornamental trees and shrubs around the house. Dust from nearby cropland is common in the spring. During the winter, drifting snow on the county road and driveway and near the house cause access problems. High winter heating bills are common.



## CMU 1a - Crop

- **Crop seedling establishment (annual crops) is impaired by unsheltered winds from the northwest. Soil is being deposited along the east edge of the field. The Alpha soil is the predominate soil type with slopes that range from 0-2%. No permanent cover is present. Limited fall hunting opportunities. Wind erosion in the field was 10 tons/acre/year. The habitat evaluation worksheet for the crop field resulted in a score of 0.2 for wildlife habitat.**



## CMU 1b - Crop

- The Beta soil is the predominate soil type with slopes that range from 3-8%. Cropland soil erosion has created soil deposition along the east fence line. An ephemeral gully was observed at the south end of the unit. No permanent cover is present.



## CMU 2a - Pasture

- Livestock grazing is alternated between the pasture unit (2a) and the naturalized/grazed forest units (2b, 2c). Livestock are confined during the winter and early spring. Livestock are causing stream bank trampling at the south end of the pasture unit and damage to the spring area. Slopes range from 2-8% on soil types Alpha and Beta. Upland bird species were noted along the south end edges of the unit.



Above: Condition of upper intermittent stream.



Right: Condition of lower intermittent stream just above the confluence with the spring-fed reach.

## CMU 2b – Native Pasture

- Livestock grazing is alternated between this unit, the pasture unit (2a), and grazed forest unit (2c). Livestock is confined during the winter and early spring. Soil type Alpha has 0-2% slopes. Scattered conifers are present. Arrow head chips can be found along the road cut at the south-east end of the unit.



## CMU 2c – Grazed Forest

- The Beta soil predominates on the unit with slopes ranging from 8-15%. Unrestricted livestock access throughout the entire unit.
- A naturally-established, even-aged stand of conifers occupy the northern area of the unit and range from 12-18" diameters-at-breast-height (DBH). There are scattered openings of herbaceous vegetation/forage; canopy shading has reduced forage production under the trees. Snags are scattered throughout the area.
- The south end consists of upland mixed "high quality" hardwoods adjacent to the spring-fed stream with slopes ranging from 15-25%. The hardwoods range from 6-14" DBH and are uneven-aged mast-producing trees. The area has evidence of livestock trampling and compaction including the stream area. Also, tree regeneration and understory vegetation densities are low. Lower than optimum wildlife numbers are also present.



View from road at the northern tip of unit looking south.

## CMU 3 – Forest

- **Shade-intolerant 4-8” dbh conifers occupy east facing steep slopes (25-40%). The area has extensive mortality from bark beetles and tree competition creating slash and debris that pose a significant wildfire risk. “High-graded” bottomland hardwoods occupy 0-2% along Noname Creek. The stream crossing consists of an old, undersized culvert that has been damaged by flooding and is acting as a barrier to fish movement. Tree removal from riparian areas has reduced shade and increased stream water temperatures. Stream banks are eroding in several spots. These conditions have decreased suitable trout habitat and populations have declined. East and upslope of Noname creek, the slopes range from 10-20%. All merchantable conifers and hardwoods were harvested 5 years ago. The site is now occupied with herbaceous, shrub and undesirable hardwood tree species. Roads and skid trails have numerous areas of excessive erosion partially caused by trespass of 4WD vehicles.**



East and upslope of Noname Creek.