

Wisconsin Sandhill Crane Conflicts

Brad Koele- WDNR Wildlife Damage Specialist



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Wisconsin Crop Damage

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- Sandhill crane complaints directed to USDA-Wildlife Services for assistance. Approximately 180 complaints are received each year.
- Producers have reported damages to corn, potatoes, cranberries, and wheat. Corn is the main crop damaged with producers reporting approximately \$900,000 of damages in 2022 (not verified by DNR or Wildlife Services).
- Majority of damage occurs in spring from the time of planting until corn is around 8"-10" tall.
- Crop damages are also reported in MN, MI, and Ontario

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Assistance for Producers

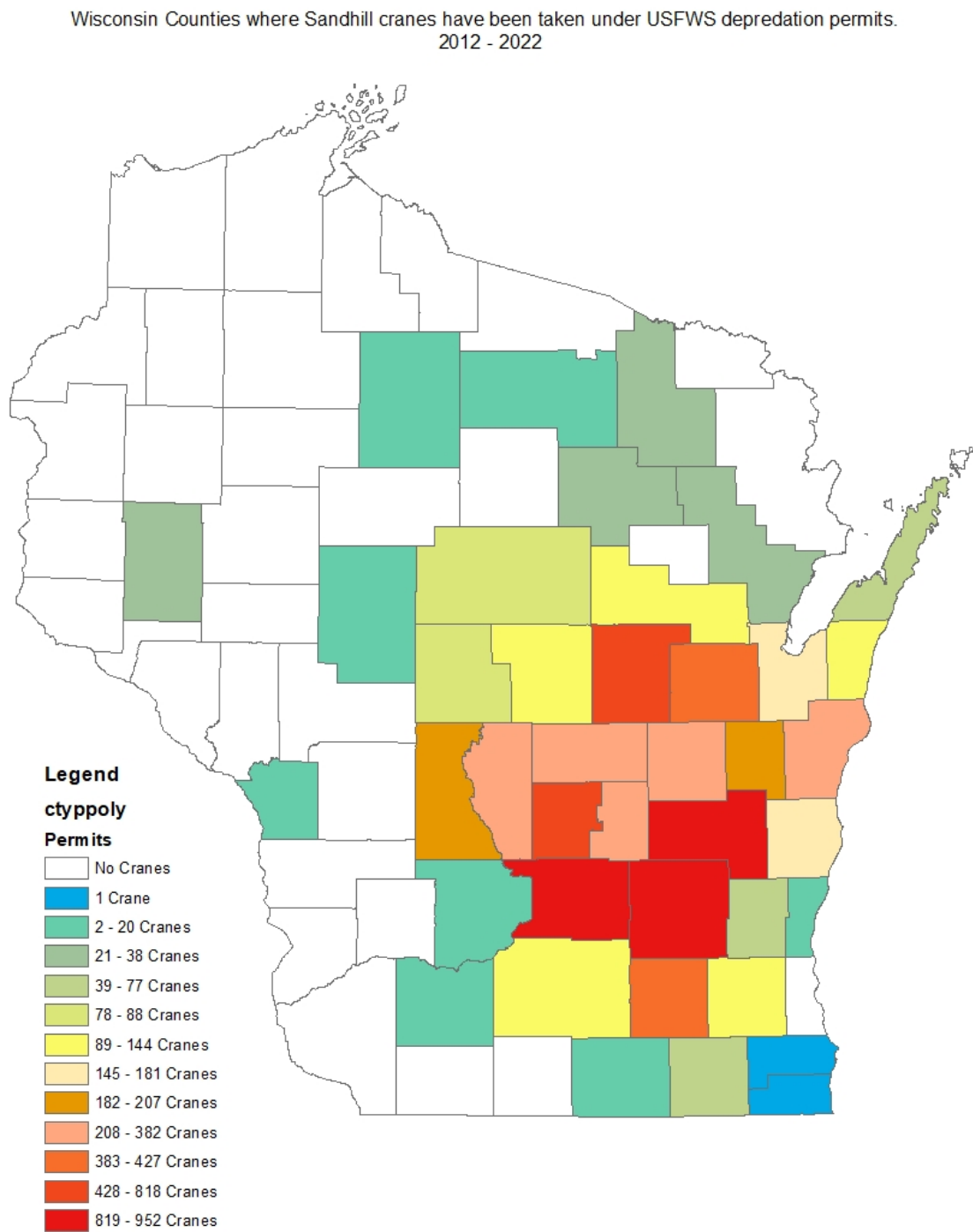
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- State only has authority for non-lethal abatement
 - Harassment methods
 - Avipel corn seed treatment
- Migratory Bird Depredation Permits are available through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Approximately 200 permits issued annually in WI
 - 1,100 – 1,200 cranes removed annually ³
 - Cranes can not be kept for personal consumption and calls or decoys cannot be used (federal rules)
- Under State Statue 29.889(1)(e)., Cranes are not part of the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program until a hunting season is established.

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Sandhill Crane Depredation Harvest by County

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QUESTIONS

