



Shawn Foss



Gracie Hagen

Two degrees awarded to Maddock FFA members

At the 2026 ND FFA State Convention, two members of the Maddock A. S. Gibbens FFA chapter were given special recognition for their outstanding SAE (supervised agriculture experience) projects.

Shawn Foss received the American Farmer Degree, the highest degree that can be bestowed upon an FFA member. Gracie Hagen received the State

Degree, which is the highest FFA degree to be given by the state of North Dakota.

Shawn is a 2023 graduate of Maddock High School. His parents are Scott and Vicki Foss of Maddock. His FFA advisor was Gary Wald. Gracie is a 2026 graduate of Maddock High School. Her parents are Jeff and Jennifer Hagen of Esmond. Her FFA advisor is Shawn McCloud.

Bridging the activity gap until summer camp

Many summer camps do not begin right at the end of school, meaning there may be a lull when kids are at home uttering the dreaded words, "I'm bored." Parents can bridge the gap between the end of the school year and the start of summer camp in numerous ways.



STEM, or dance. Some run just a week or two.

Library events: The library can be a great source of inspiration and engaging activities for kids. Plus, libraries often have available free passes for museums, parks and tours.

Online platforms: Children can brush up on some of their school lessons by looking into online classes. Outschool, for example, is an educational platform that offers online classes for kids and teens ages one to 18. Khan Academy is a free educational app with games, books, lessons and more.

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Decorating for America's 250th anniversary

Each year on July 4, many Americans are in a celebratory mood as they prepare for all the fanfare involved with Independence Day festivities. But Independence Day 2026 stands to be extra special since it marks America's 250th birthday. Towns, cities and the entire country will be planning much more extravagant July 4 celebrations in 2026.

People who want to get in on the America 250 action may want to begin thinking about how they are going to make their homes and businesses more festive.

Bunting and banners: Bunting and banners are traditional patriotic decorations. They traditionally are red, white and blue and can be hung from porches, fences and railings.

American flags: Many homes and businesses already display the flag, but this is the perfect opportunity to do so for those who want to exhibit their pride in America. Be sure to treat the flag with respect and review the official United States Flag Code, which mandates that the flag never touches the ground and is illuminated if flown at night. When hanging against a wall or window, the blue union must be at the top left.

municipalities are getting in on the America 250 action and will organize specialty parades and parties. People can check with local government offices to see if lawn signs will be available. If so, they can be displayed in front of homes or retail stores.

Tablescapes: Themed America 250 tablecloths can be used for backyard parties and picnics. Centerpieces of mason jars filled with mini flags and birthday number candles spelling out 250 are another fun idea.

Cozy accents: Both homeowners and store owners can incorporate cozy accents like wooden blocks or patriotic table runners that display the 1776-2026 theme. Throw pillows and blankets featuring stars and stripes tossed over an antique rocking chair on a porch or near an entryway is a great way to offer a touch of Americana.

Lights: Twinkling holiday lights in red, white and blue can be hung around windows and doors, or wrapped around trees in the yard for festive appeal.

Communities may identify specific decorating goals, like entire streets featuring paper lanterns, or America 250 flags on telephone poles. Residents can participate in such plans where possible.

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Church of Cash coming to Maddock Opera House

The Maddock Opera House will welcome the acclaimed Johnny Cash tribute band Church of Cash on Saturday, Aug. 1 at 7 p.m. for an evening celebrating the music and legacy of the legendary "Man in Black." This special event will take place during Maddock's RRF/125th Celebration, July 30-August 2.

Led by powerhouse vocalist Jay Ernest,

Church of Cash has earned national recognition for its authentic sound, energetic performances and deep respect for Johnny Cash's music. Originally formed in Honolulu in 2009 and now based in Minneapolis, the band has performed thousands of shows across the United States and Europe, earning honors including the Midwest Country Music Organization's "Best Tribute Act"

award and induction into the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame.

Fans of Johnny Cash and live country music will not want to miss this special performance at the historic Maddock Opera House. Don't delay! Get your reserved seating tickets online now at maddockoperahouse.com.

RAADs Project Environmental Assessment

The United States (U.S.) Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Great Plains Regional Office (GPRO) is beginning preparation of an environmental assessment (EA) for the design of the Spirit Lake Roads Acting As Dams (RAADs) project near St. Michael, North Dakota, within the Spirit Lake Nation. This public notice is announcing a public comment period beginning **June 11, 2026** through **July 11, 2026** for the public to provide early scoping comments that will inform preparation of the EA.

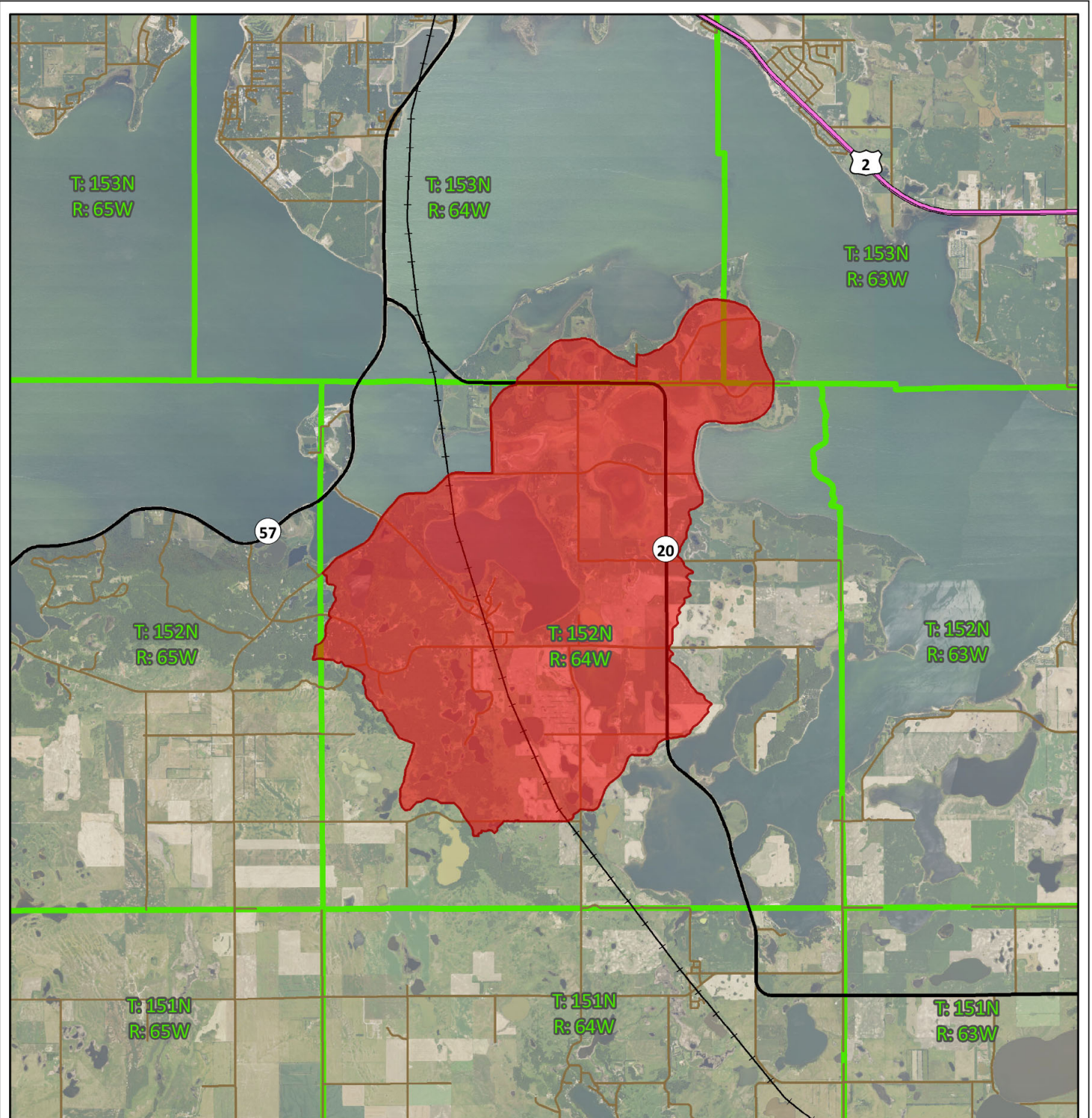
The proposed site for the RAADs project is located within Sections 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 18, 23, 26, 27, Township 152 North, Range 64 West, Sections 34, 35, and 36 in Township 153 North, Range 64 West, Section 31, Township 153 North, Range 63 West, and Sections 1, 2, and 11, Township 152 North, Range 64 West 5th Principal Meridian, in Benson County, North Dakota, and consists of approximately nine miles of existing earthen dams and interior drainage improvements. The EA will analyze the potential impacts associated with the RAADs project. If design is approved, the project will raise the existing earthen dams to a top elevation of 1468 NGVD29 to provide permanent flood protection. Additionally, the project will address the internal drainage behind the earthen dams. Each dam that will be improved is summarized below:

1. BIA 4 Dam consists of raising and constructing BIA Route 4 as a dam for approximately 2.5 miles between the intersection with BIA Route 5 to a little less than one mile south of its intersection with BIA Route 1.
 - a. BIA Route 1 will be raised to match the BIA 4 Dam for approximately 0.25 miles.
2. BIA 5 Dam is approximately 0.7 miles long and is located along BIA Route 5 from its intersection with BIA Route 4 north to high ground.
3. Jetty Dam is approximately 1.1 miles long and is north of ND Highway 20 between the intersections with 80th Avenue NE and 83rd Avenue NE.
4. St. Michael Dam is approximately 4.2 miles long and is located northeast of ND Highway 20 at Geske's Curve.
5. Kurtz Dam is approximately 0.25 miles long and is located east of ND Highway 20 south of the intersection with 38th Street NE.
6. Spring Lake Dam is approximately 1.4 miles long and is located west of ND Highway 20 between ND Highway 20 and 81st Avenue NE.
7. Dam alignments will include raising the approaches and intersecting roads as well.

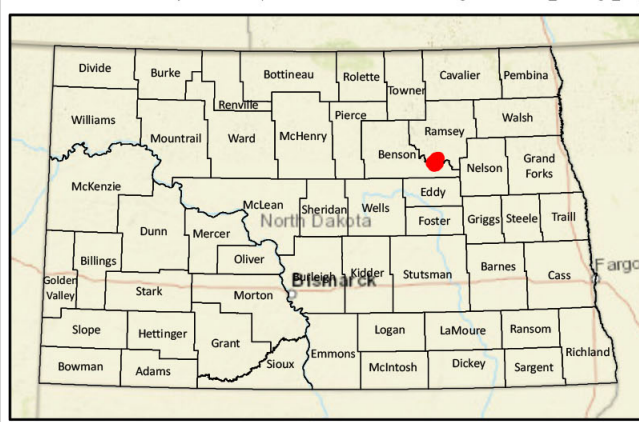
The BIA is seeking your input as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) scoping process for the EA. An EA discloses relevant environmental information concerning the proposed action and the no-action alternative. Comments can be sent by US mail or emailed to the following address:

KLJ Engineering LLC
Attn: Paul Bjornson, PE
1820 Walnut St E, Ste 6
Devils Lake, ND 58301-3411

Email responses to: KLJ_RAADs@kljeng.com. Please include "Spirit Lake RAADs" in the subject line of any correspondence.



Document Location: K:\Projects\Tribal\SpiritLake\2411-00364-BRIC-Design\GIS\RAADs_Drainage_Project_Location.mxd



Spirit Lake Tribe
Comprehensive Flood
Protection & Interior Drainage
Benson County, North Dakota

■ Study Area
— State Highway
— US Highway

0 1 2 4
 Kilometers
 0 0.5 1 2
 Miles

KLJ Project Number: 2411-00364
 Date Created: 2/16/2026 Created By: JDP

Consolidated Newspapers Incorporated is seeking an individual with an **IT, Web Design & Social Media background** for our computers and software. Should be familiar with Windows operating system; familiarity with Adobe Software a plus but not mandatory.

For more information contact

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