CONSERVATION & WATER QUALITY PROGRESS

RIVERS

Source: United States Geological Survey (USGS) & U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), 2024

Since 2014, nitrate levels are trending 75% lower in the Raccoon River and 85% lower in the Des Moines River, while corn and soybean yields continue to increase.

WETLANDS

Source: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farr Service Agency (FSA) & Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS)

Iowa has more water quality wetlands than any other state.

Research shows that wetlands prevent on average, 52% of nitrates (with some wetlands preventing up to 90% of nitrates) from reaching our water.

EROSION

Source: USDA 2017 National Resources Inventory Data

From 1982 – 2017, Iowa farmers reduced erosion on cropland by 47%