



# ***Autonomous Sugarbeet Hauling***

***Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative***

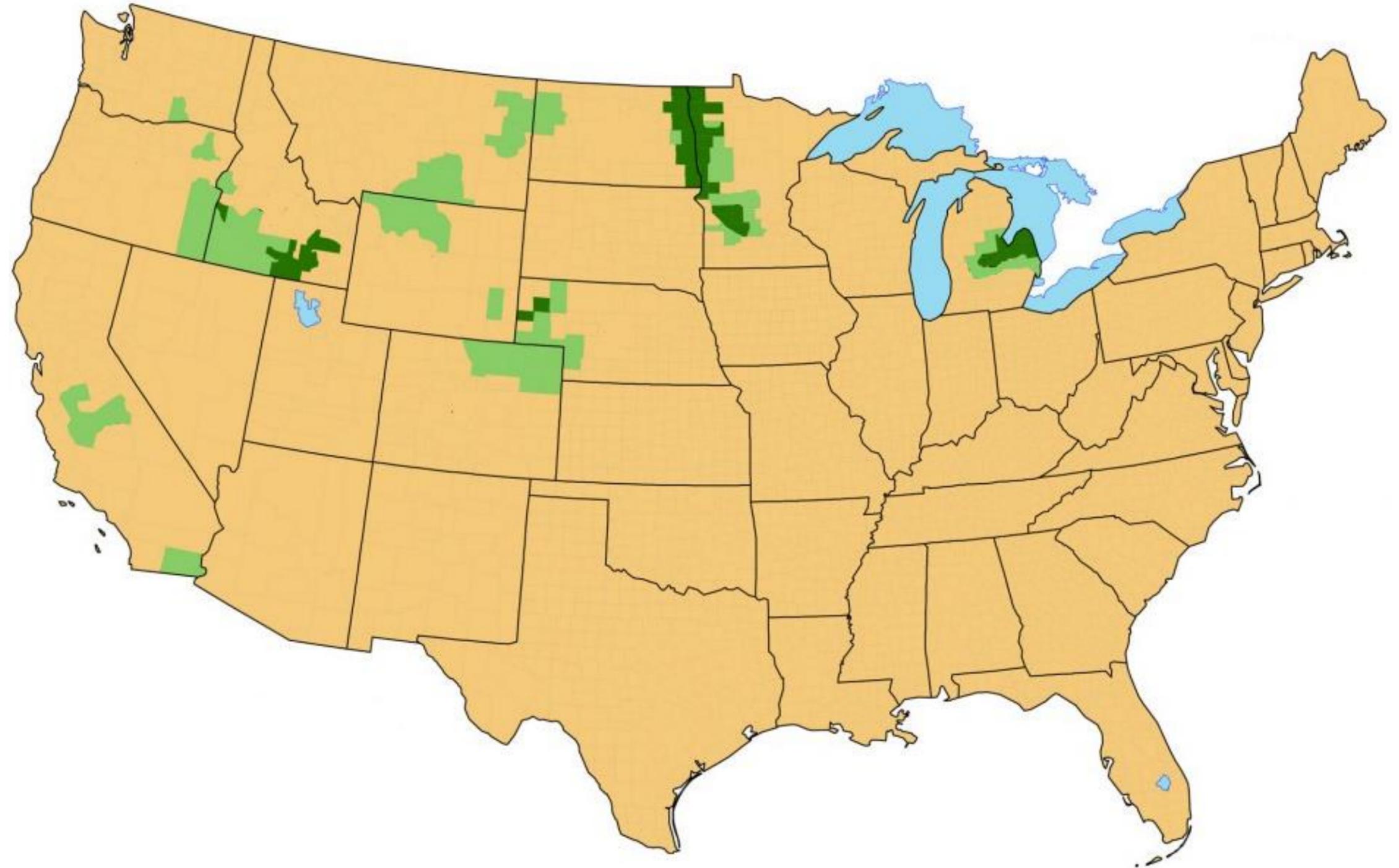
***Mike Metzger, Ph.D. – Executive Vice President***

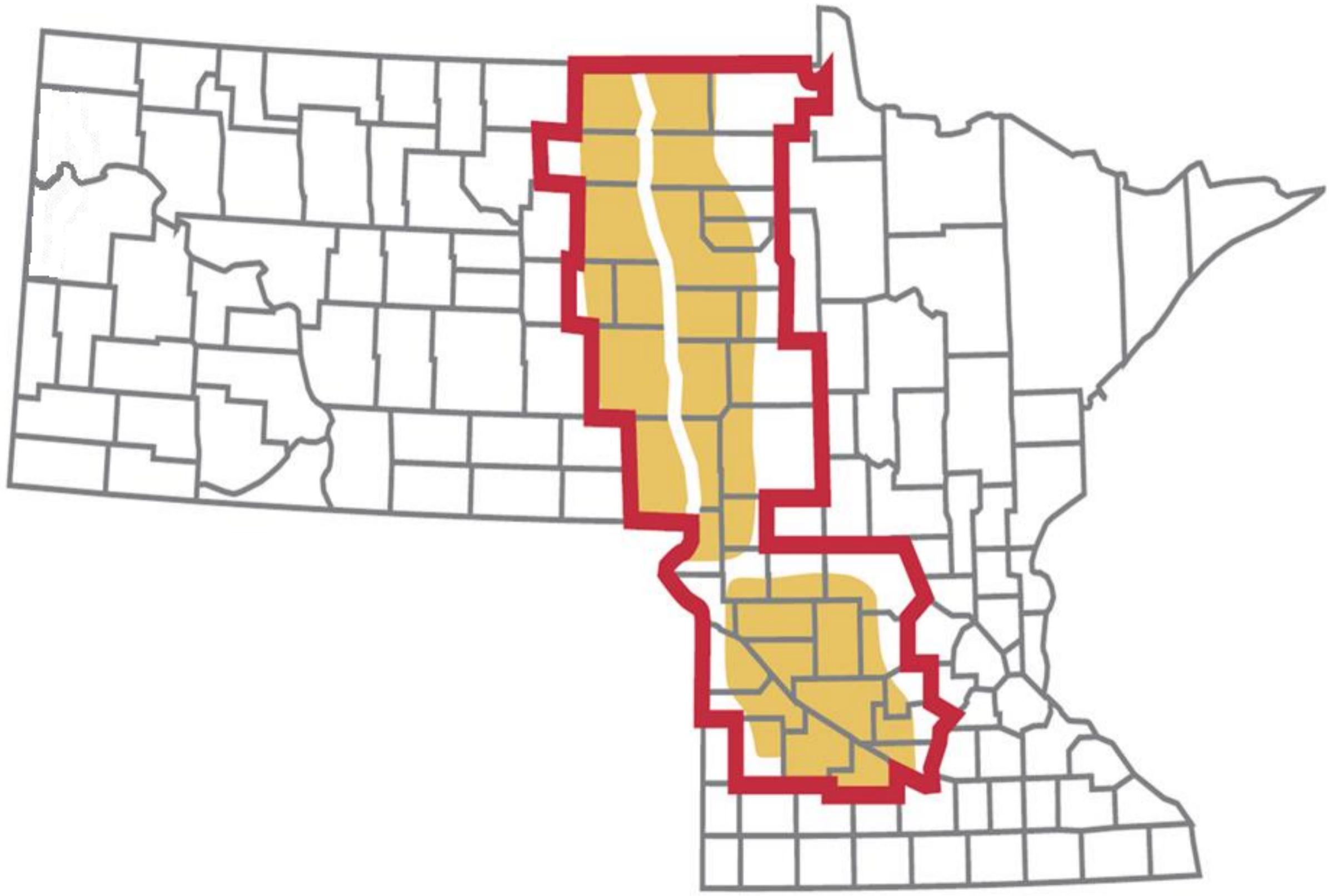
***Building a Sustainable Future by Hardening the Agriculture Supply Chain Leveraging Driverless Technology Solutions of Today***

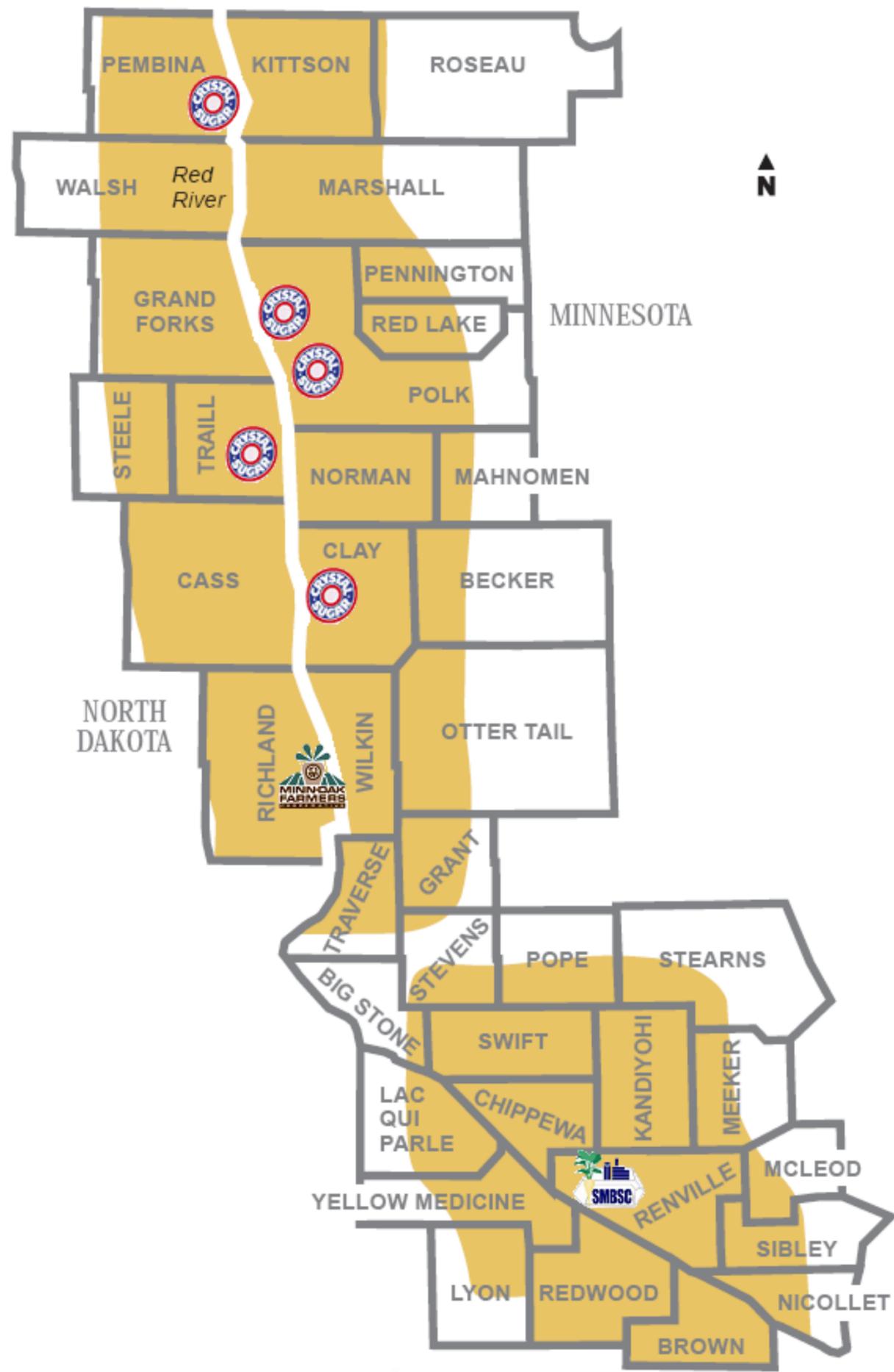


# Sugarbeet production across the nation

State	Planted Acres
Minnesota	420,000
North Dakota	214,000
Idaho	167,000
Michigan	136,000
Nebraska	46,000
Montana	42,000
Wyoming	32,000
Colorado	29,000
Oregon	9,000
Washington	1,800





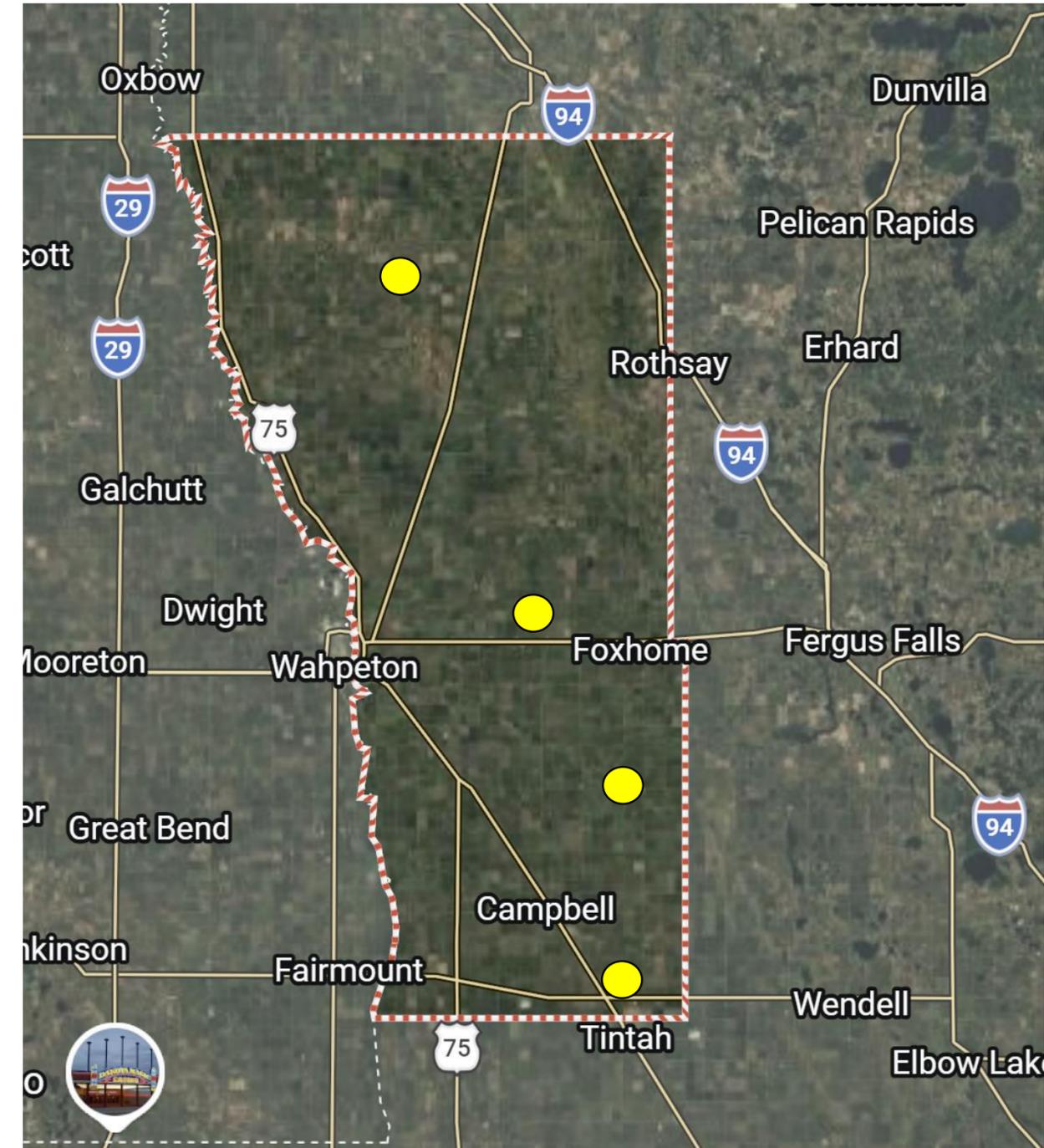


- We were the nation's first Grower-Owned Sugarbeet Coop
  - Established in 1972 – Over 50 'sweet' years!
- Shareholders = 484 Individuals
- Growers = 300 Farms
- 2025 Total Acreage = 100,000 acres
- Produce roughly 10% of the nation's sugar supply
  - Industrial Users & Confectioners
  - Breakfast-cereal Manufacturers
  - Bakeries





# Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative – MN Receiving Stations



# Need for the Proposed Pilot-Program

## Addressing the Impacts of the Driver Shortage

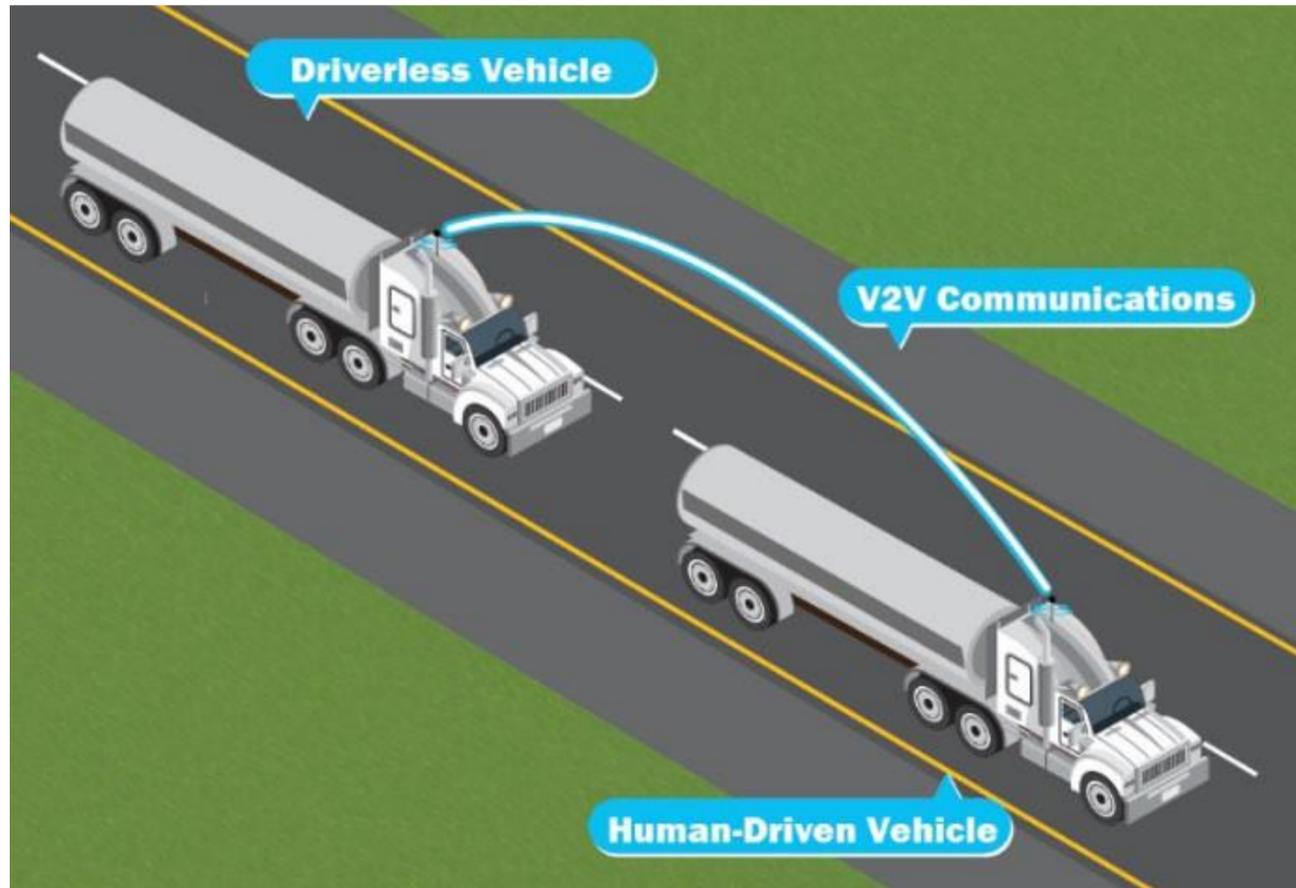
ATA reports a nationwide shortage of 80,000 drivers, projected to reach 1.2 million within a decade — a challenge even more pronounced in rural regions with lower population densities.

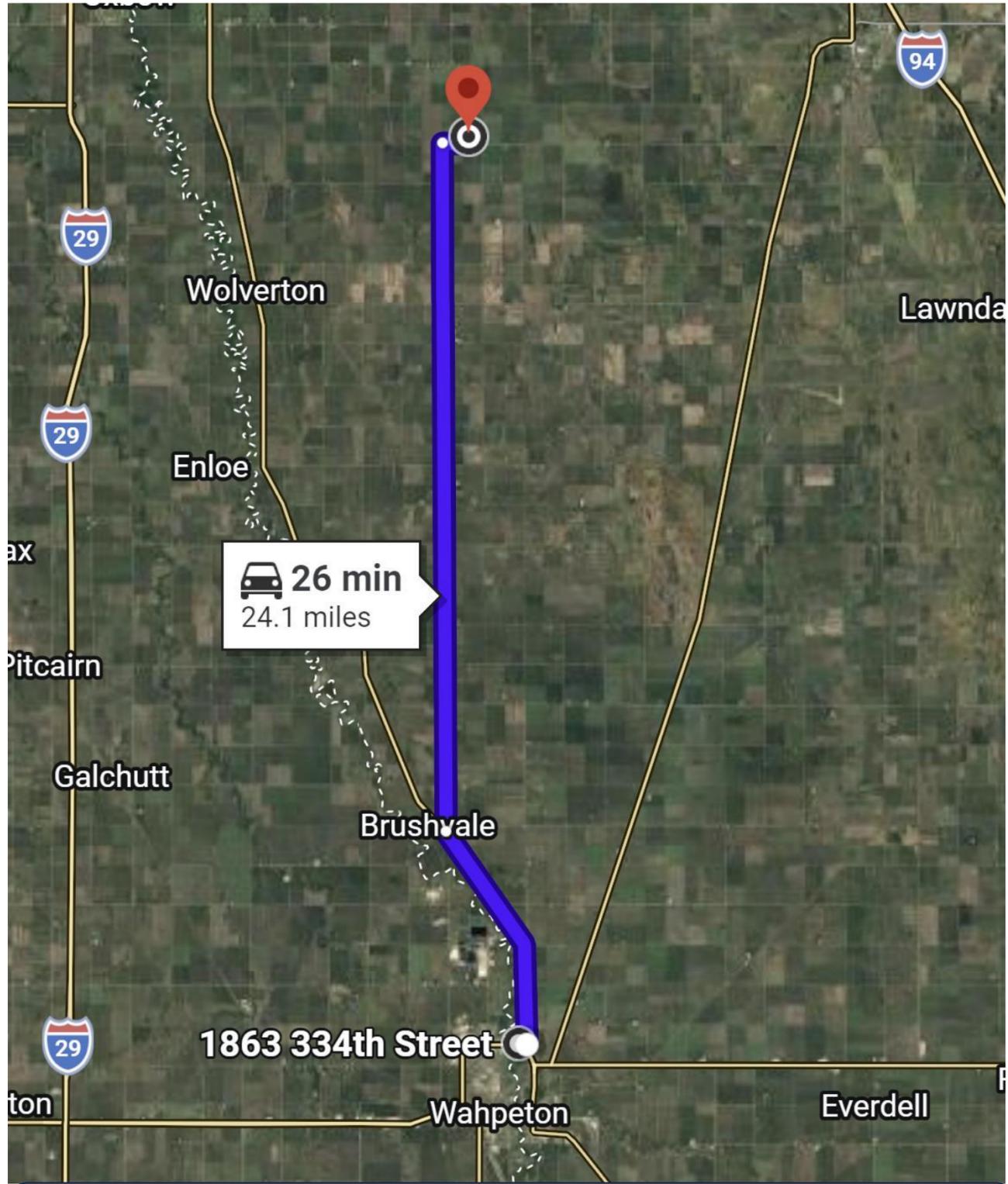
## Configuring Automated Truck Platoons

A human-driven lead truck paired with a driverless follower using field-proven technology enables deployment flexibility, preserves qualified CDL jobs, and increases safety.

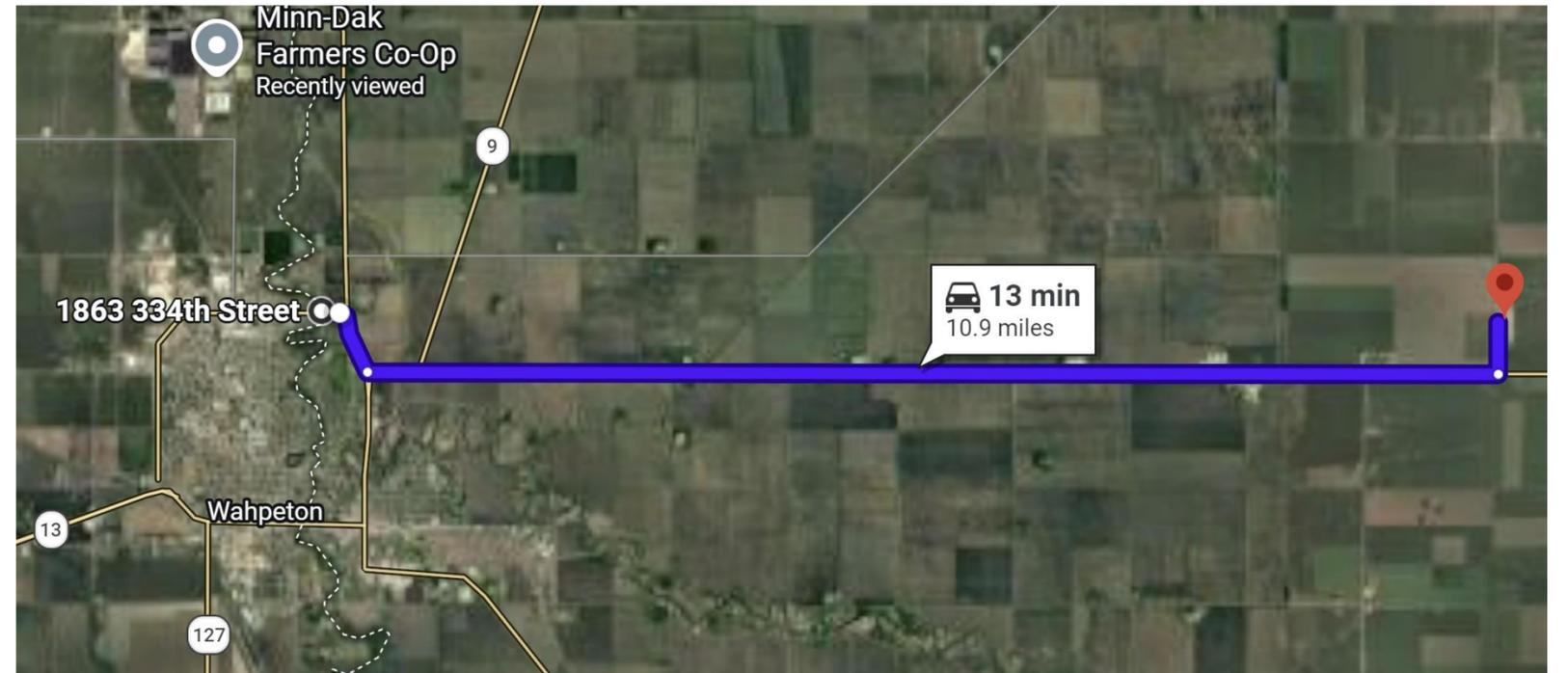
## Short Distance / Repetitive Routes

Our fleet of 14 trucks runs 24-hours per day / 7-days per week. Collectively, our Fleet puts on over 2.5 million miles during a single hauling campaign (August – April)

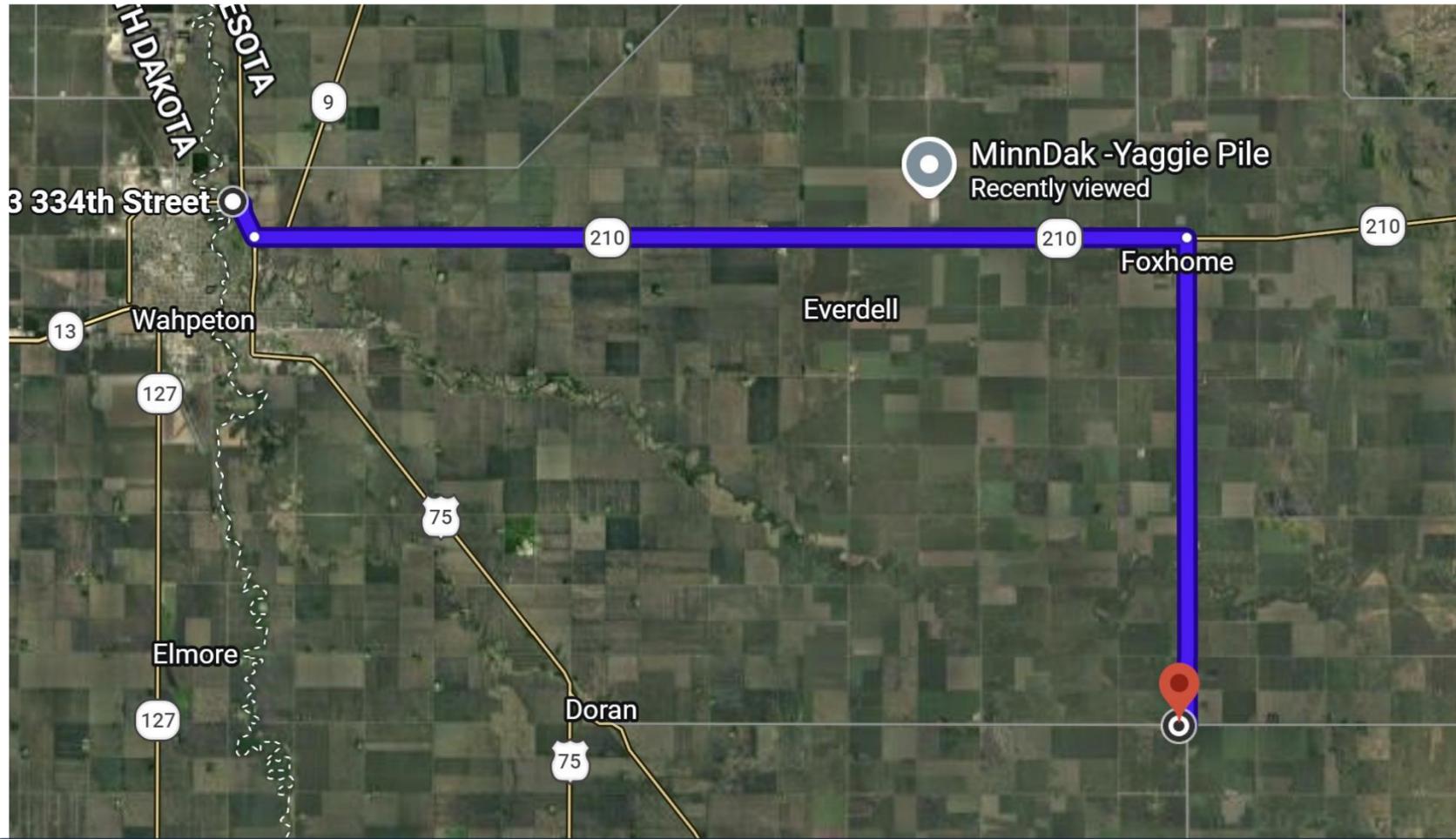




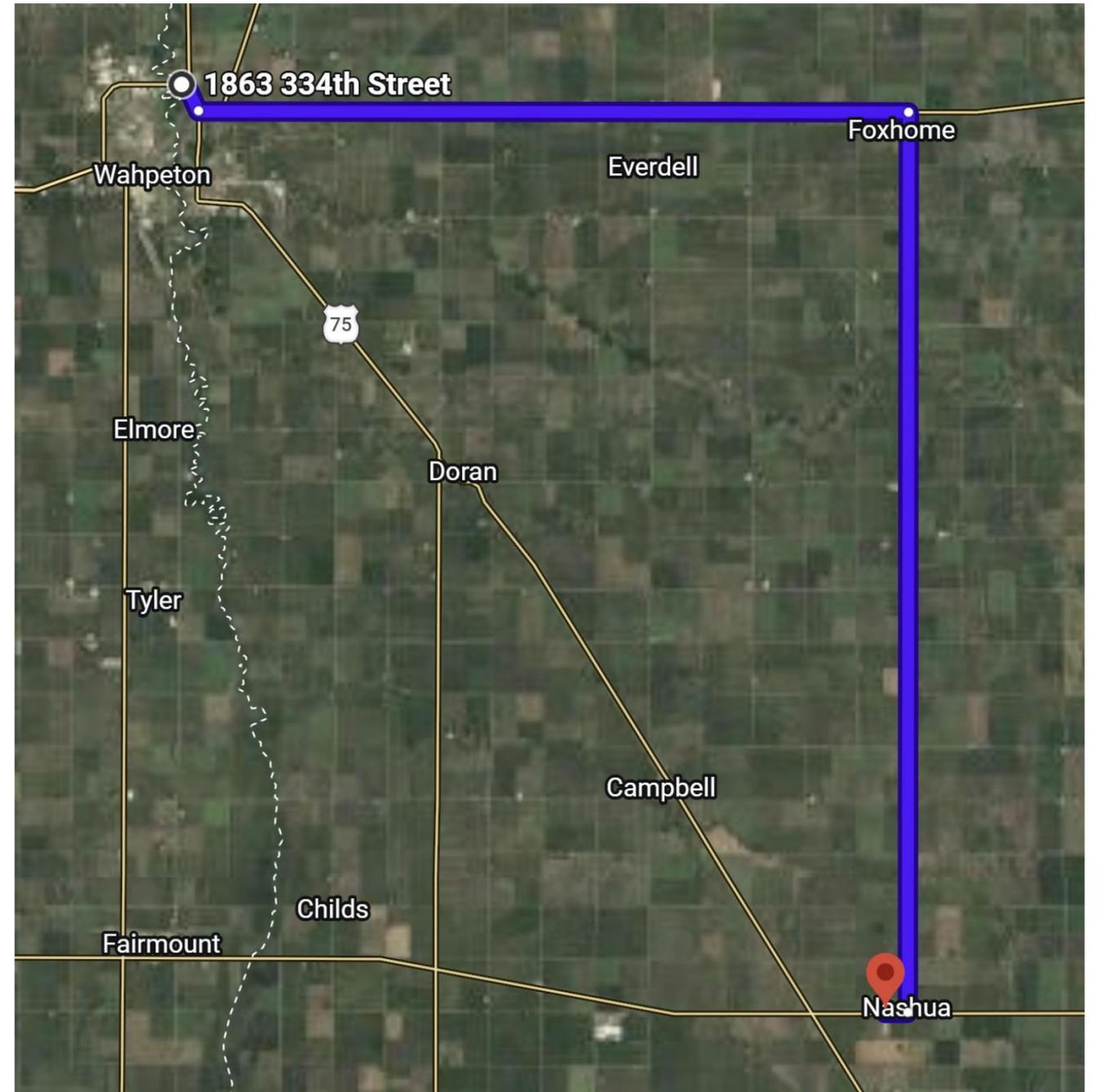
**Peet - 24.1 miles**



**Yaggie – 10.9 miles**



Lyngaas – 21.8 miles



Hawes – 31.5 miles









- Technology is proven – >100,000 miles
- The AI System has been ‘learning’ for two consecutive years
- Autonomously Trained CDL Safety Rider behind the wheel of the Follower vehicle at all times
- Trucks are manned during inclement weather
- Pilot Program would be conducted in a very rural area
  - Wilkin County = 6,500 people
  - City of Breckenridge = 3,000 people
- The ability to turn the trucks ‘On’ in a manner that is safe to the public



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