

THE USE OF SOIL SAMPLING AND INVESTIGATIONS TO IMPROVE RECLAMATION COSTS

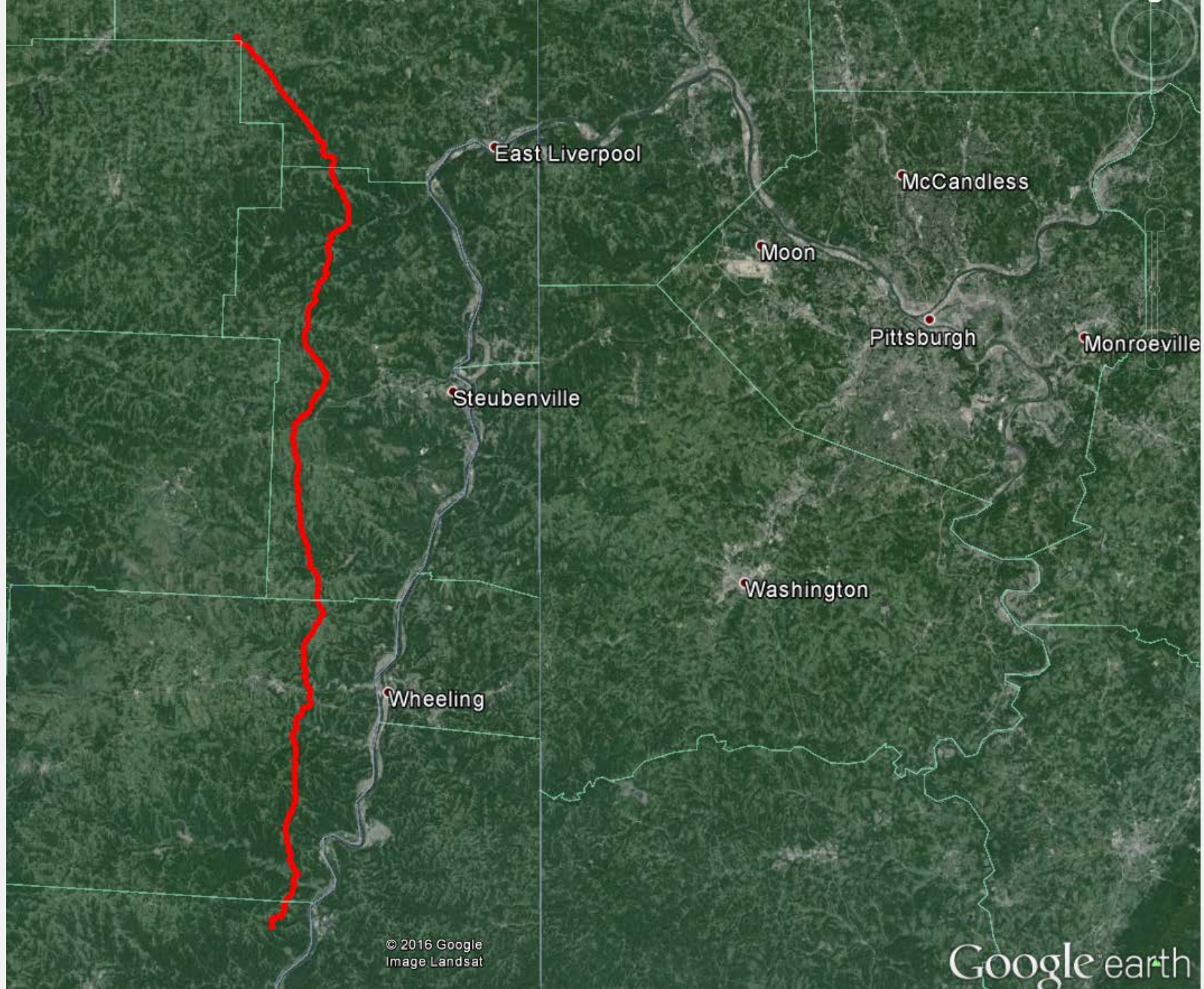
James Hartsig, Senior Soil Scientist, Duraroot Environmental Consulting

Dustin Buckalew, Project Superintendent, Arnold's Custom Seeding



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- 47-miles of linear disturbance
- Eastern Ohio
- Steep terrain (>15%)
 - Helicopters
- Summer and fall of 2015
- Specified lime application rate: 4.5 tons/acre
- \$750,000 for amendment costs
- Limiting factor was acidic soils



East Liverpool

McCandless

Moon

Pittsburgh

Monroeville

Steubenville

Washington

Wheeling







SITE SOIL INVESTIGATION

- Site investigated by soil scientist and superintendent
- Soil and vegetation conditions were observed and noted
- Natural Resource Conservation Services soil data was reviewed





SITE SOIL SAMPLING

- Soil samples collected every mile
- Penn State's Agricultural Analytical Services Laboratory
- pH, N, P, K, Mg, Ca, Zn, Cu, and CEC
- Laboratory analysis costs total \$630
- Seed mixes prescribed for low pH soils





SOIL TEST REPORT FOR:	ADDITIONAL COPY TO:
DUSTIN BUCKALEW ARNOLD CUSTOM SEEDING 118 VALLEY GROVE RD VALLEY GROVE WV 26060	KELLEY HOUSE DURAROOT & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING 4626 WCR 65 KEENESBURG CO 80643

DATE	LAB #	SERIAL #	COUNTY	ACRES	ASCS ID	FIELD ID	SOIL
10/13/2015	S15-36782		OUT OF STATE			FARMINGTON RD	

SOIL NUTRIENT LEVELS			Below Optimum	Optimum	Above Optimum
¹ Soil pH	5.5				
² Phosphorus (P)	17	ppm			
² Potassium (K)	189	ppm			
² Magnesium (Mg)	98	ppm			

RECOMMENDATIONS: *(See back messages for important information)*

Limestone*: 9000 lb/A for a target pH of 6.5.

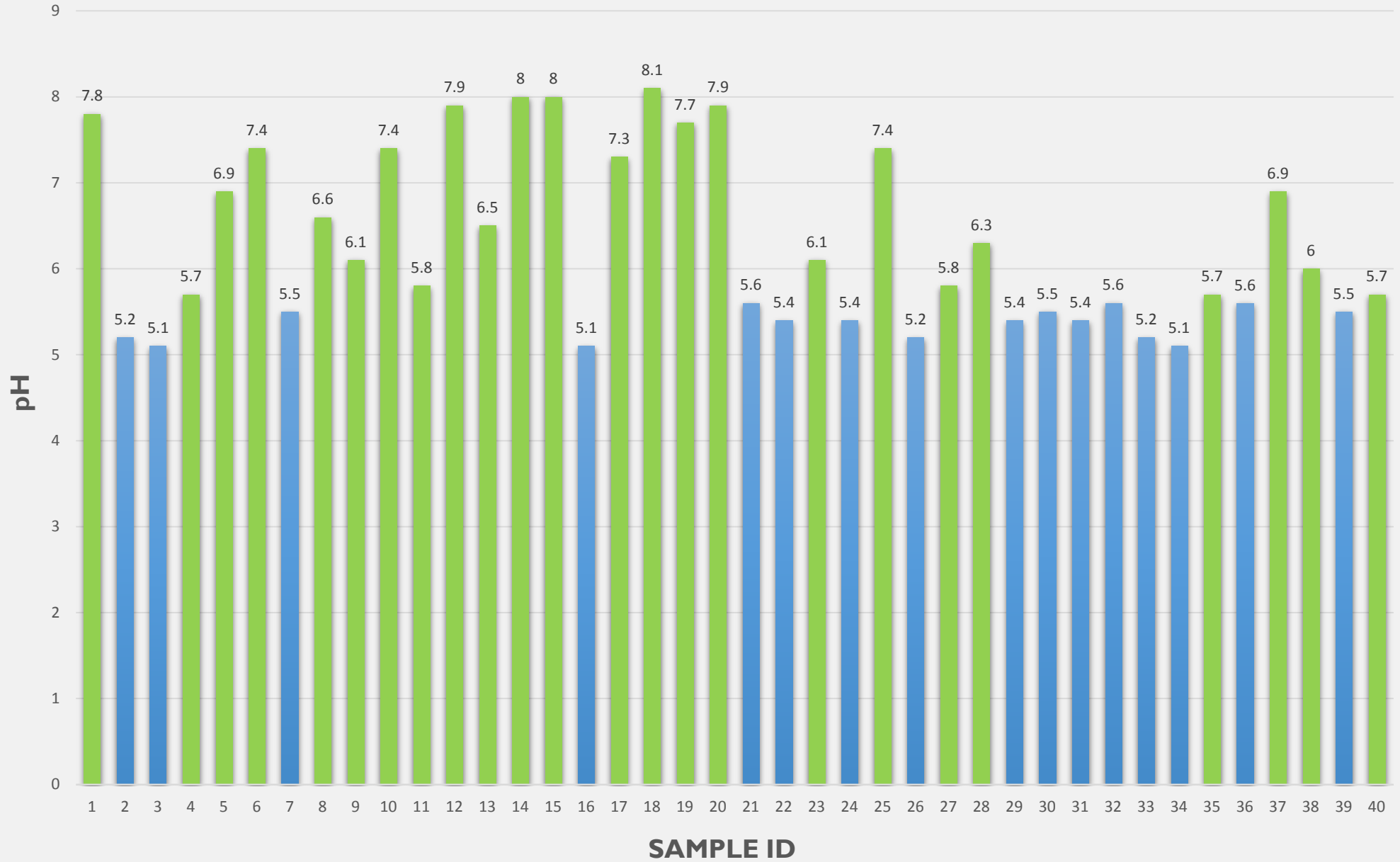
Magnesium (Mg): NONE

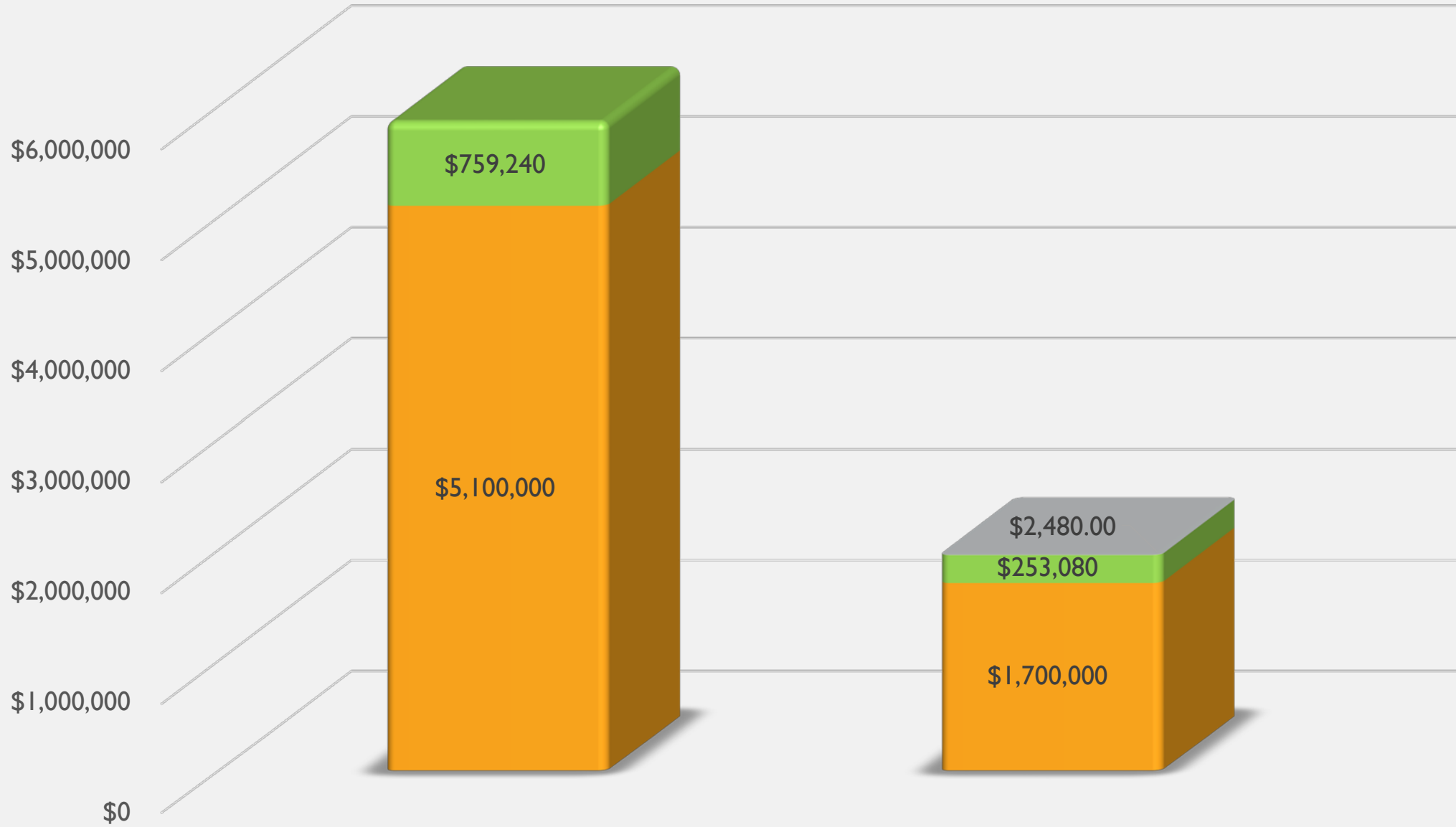
*Calcium Carbonate equivalent

Plant Nutrients: *(If manure will be applied, adjust these recommendations accordingly. See back of report.)*

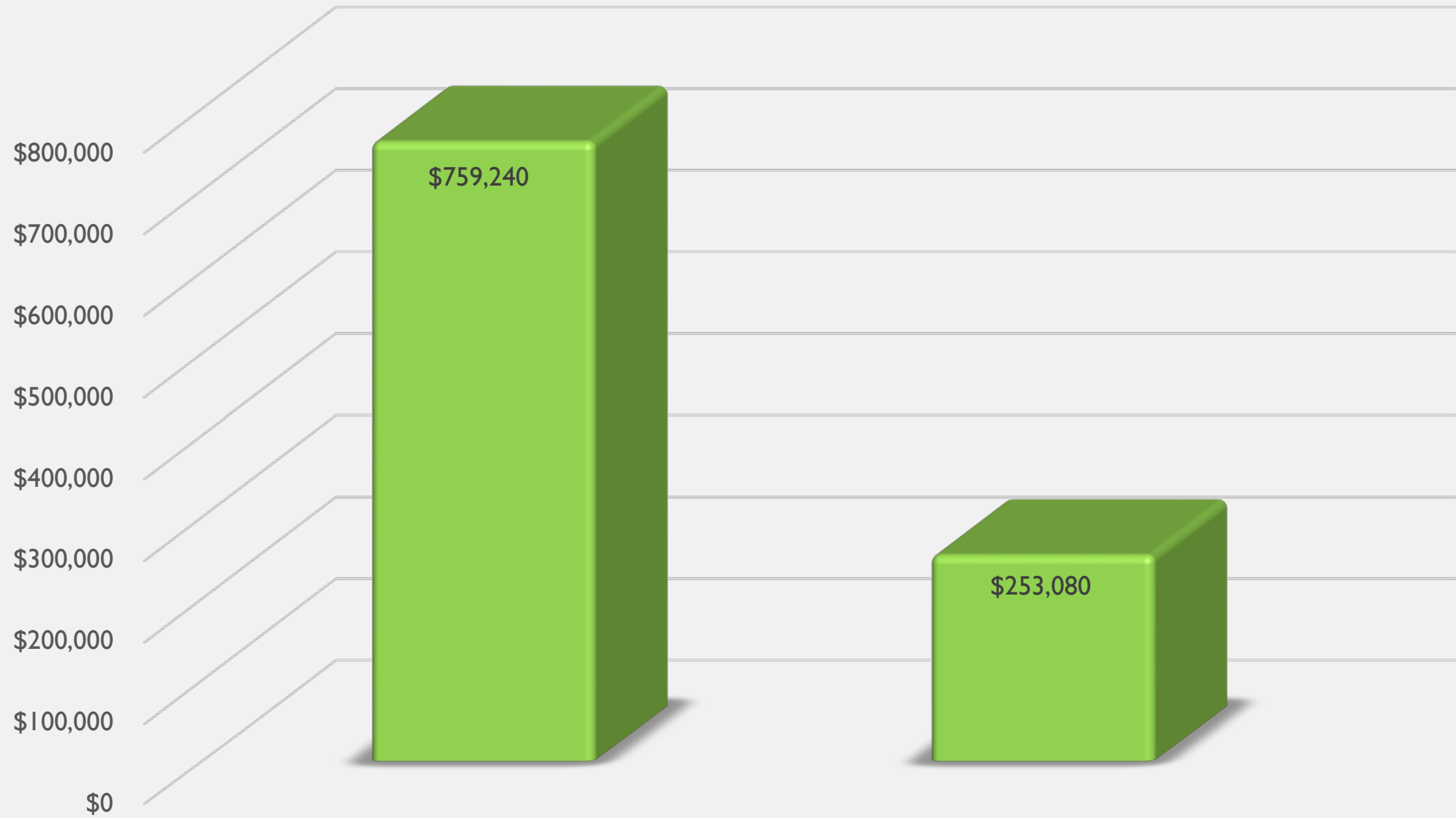
Year	Crop	Expected Yield	Nitrogen (lb N/A)	Phosphate (lb P ₂ O ₅ /A)	Potash (lb K ₂ O/A)	
1	Other	0	0	0	0	<i>See ST2 for other crop recommendations</i>

No crop was specified. Therefore no recommendation is given.





■ Application ■ Amendment ■ Consultation



RECLAMATION DISCUSSION

- Reclamation success is dependent on the conditions of the soils before and after construction
- Having a knowledgeable team of scientists who can identify soil limiting factors can help the treatment of disturbed soils for reclamation purposes
- Interpreting and implementing available and laboratory data will improve reclamation success by identifying agronomical soil properties
- Simple techniques like soil investigations and sampling are cost-efficient ways to understand soils and plan for reclamation success

SOIL RECLAMATION PROCESS

1. Site visit to identify current surface soil conditions

- Moisture levels
- Nutrient deficiencies
- Physical properties

2. Implement soil sampling procedure

- Systematic design
- Accredited soil laboratory
- Identify adequate/inadequate agronomic properties

3. Develop soil nutrient management plan

- Use proper amendments and fertilizers
- Use proper equipment and application methods



FINN HYDROSEEDING
EROSION CONTROL

FINN









QUESTIONS?

- **Dustin Buckalew**
 - **Arnold's Custom Seeding**
 - **303-710-0565**
- **James Hartsig**
 - **Duraroot Environmental Consulting**
 - **970-380-7448**
- **Andrew Harley**
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 - **720-840-4703**

