This presentation will report on preliminary data from a Year 2 Iseed, conducted collaboratively among the 3 universities.
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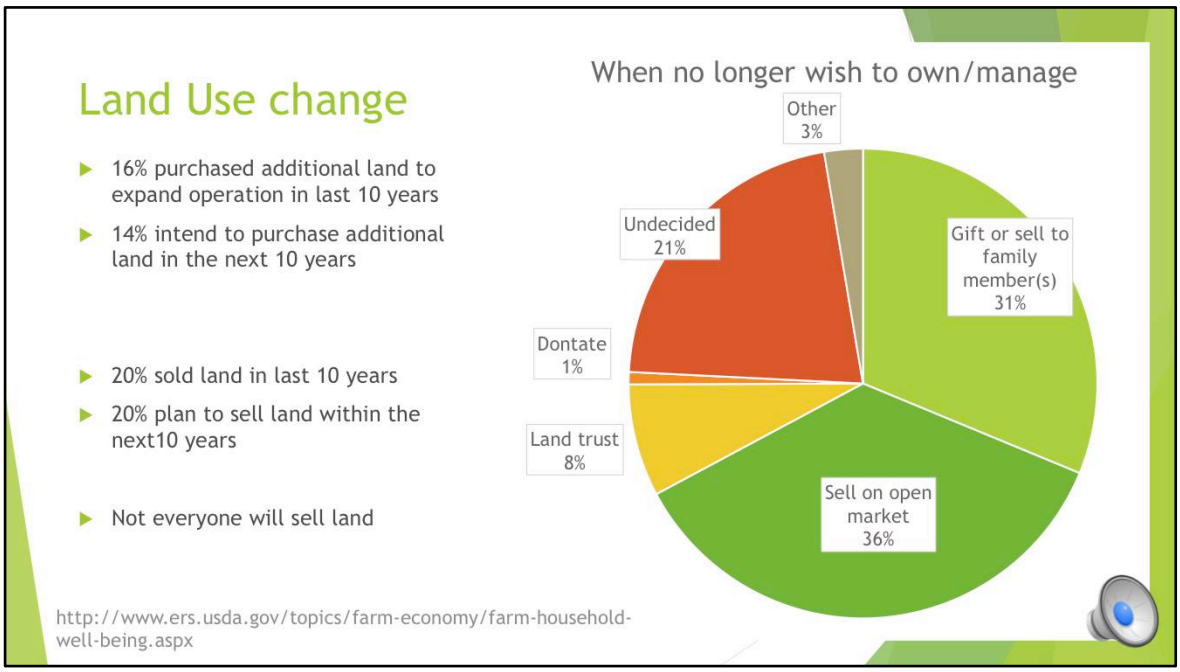
Among the outcomes from this Iseed, was the completion of a survey of Ada, Canyon and Bannock Counties
Mailed to urban interface landowners identified via the N. American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in addition to a stratified sample of non-NAICS landowners

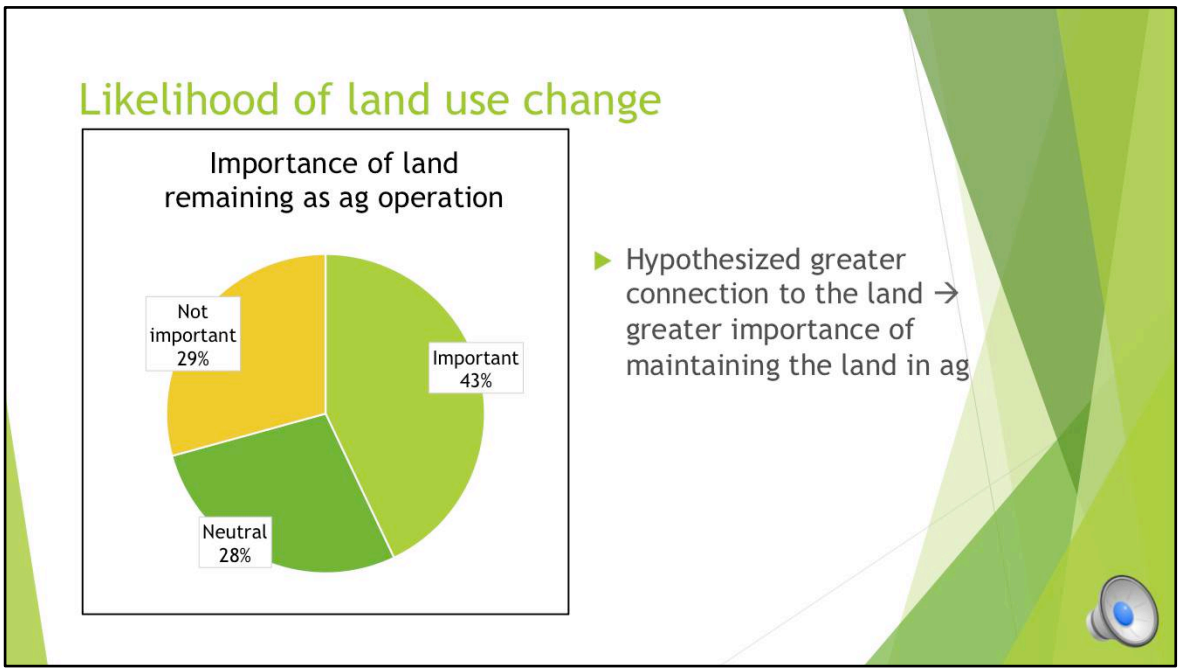
We had 613 completed surveys, (26.2% Response rate)– which, although we were hoping for 30%, is better than most surveys of this type which report a 10-20% response rate.



The main purpose of this research was to look at land use change, and ultimately the risk associated with that change.
We have a lot of rich data; this presentation briefly examines some of the general preliminary data that we have analyzed.

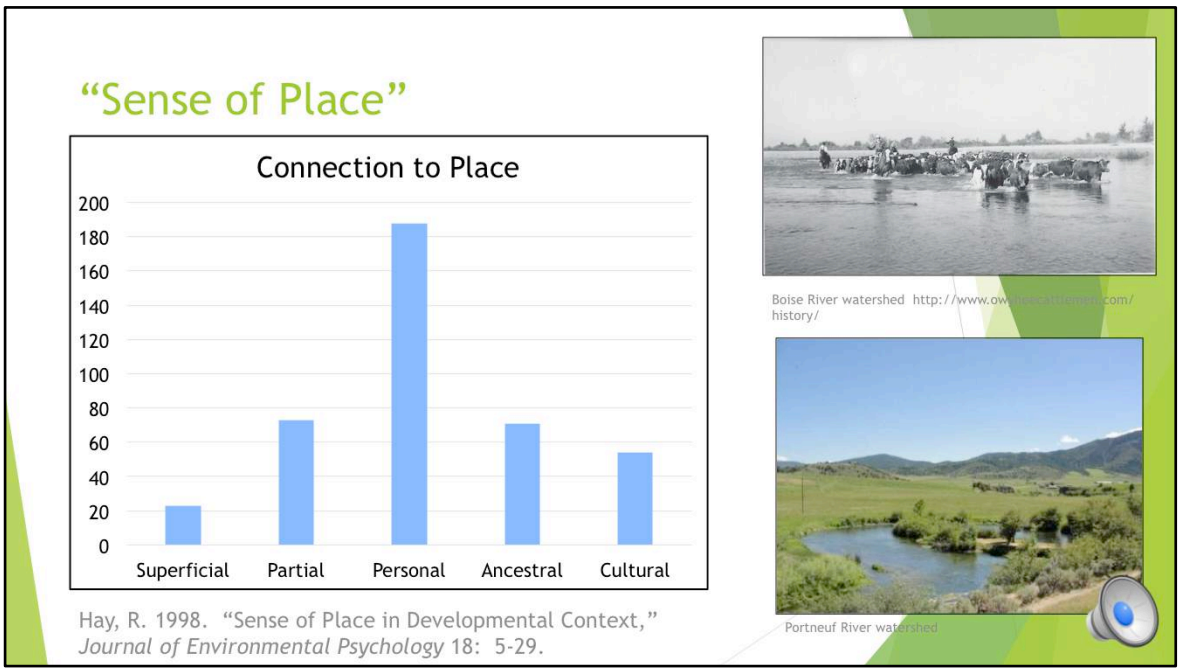
As you can see in this slide, overall the survey shows that although there are some ag operations expanding (purchasing land) in these counties, a larger % of respondents reported selling or planning to sell land. This fits with the USDA literature which suggests nation-wide up to 65% of ag operations will likely change hands (including through sales) between 2005 and 2025.

It is important to note that, as USDA reports, not all landowners will sell their land when they no longer wish to own or manage the operation (they could gift the land, donate it, etc.) Since we wanted to capture all land use change (not just selling), we asked
"When you no longer wish to own or manage your operation, what will you do with the land?"
As the pie chart shows, most common responses were to sell on the open market (36%) and to gift or sell to family (31%)



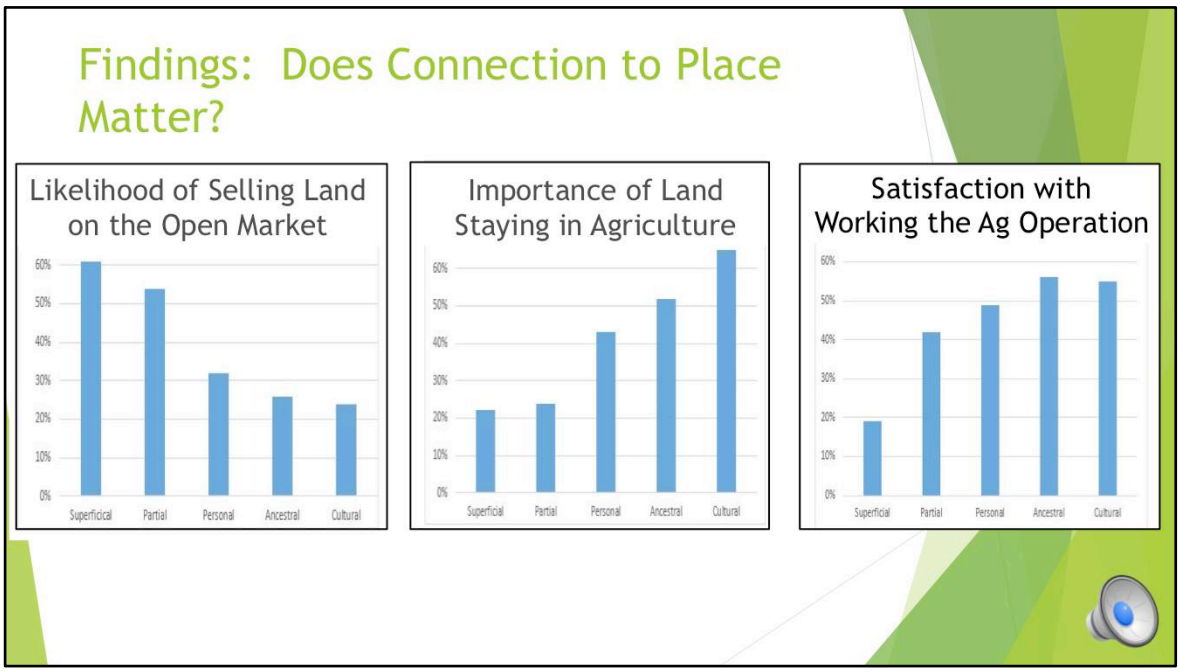
Again, given our focus on land use change, we then asked
How important it was for them to see the land remain as ag operation. The pie chart shows the distribution of responses.

Based on literature, we hypothesized greater connection to the land (think multi-generational family farms) would correlate with greater importance for maintaining the land as ag land



To determine the connection to land or "sense of place" we utilized a scale from Hay (1998) which identifies 5 levels of connection to the land:

Superficial
Partial (defined as new residents, feel some connection)
Personal (residents with roots)
Ancestral (residents with family history/generations of roots)
Cultural (connection via family tradition and culture)



Overall findings for Ada, Canyon and Bannock counties in Idaho show:
(first graph)-Less connected to land, more likely to sell on the open market (thus greater possibility for land use change)
(second graph) -The more connected individuals are to the land, the more likely they are to believe it is important for land to stay in ag.

→These results supported our hypothesis, but are also interesting b/c in US as whole many farms are not moving to next generation. Literature suggests this is due to a number of issues, including falling levels of satisfaction with working an ag operation. These falling levels are particularly true for multi-generational farms in regions on the urban interface. (they feel the pressure of change)

According to the USDA, all 3 counties are classified as "Large metro urban influence." So following this logic, we should find the more connected, the less satisfied.

As the third chart shows, this is not what we found. Leaving us with the question, Is ID bucking the national trend, and greater levels of satisfaction will mean more of the "next generation" are going to maintain the ag operations? (we do have data showing 31% plan to sell or gift land to family; which appears to be higher than the national