

Message

---

**From:** Rhines, Steven [sprhines@noble.org]  
**Sent:** 2/16/2018 2:08:36 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Tate [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1fa92542f7ca4d01973b18b2f11b9141-Bennett, E]  
**CC:** French, Stephanie [skfrench@noble.org]  
**Subject:** Noble: Visit March 8th  
**Attachments:** NRI\_Ecosystems-Marketplace-flyer\_FINAL (002).pdf

Tate,

We hope this email finds you well.

When we met in Oklahoma with you and Administrator Pruitt, we outlined an early concept for a land stewardship program to yield and quantify ecosystem services on working lands with a related free market approach to properly value such ecosystem services. The intent is build the quality of our working lands while also creating new value for agricultural producers and land managers (as well as society). Our early focus is improved soil health to benefit carbon sequestration and clean water.

Since this early conversation, Noble has hosted a series of convenings of industry and market stakeholders; the early concept is taking shape. We invite you to review the attached overview of our overall direction.

Our president, Bill Buckner, who you met in your office the last time we visited in person, will be in DC on March 8. He will be accompanied by others who are assisting in the advancement of this effort, including Bruce Knight, former Chief of Natural Resources Conservation Service (2002-2006), the lead USDA agency for conservation on private working agricultural lands.

**We would hope to brief the Administrator regarding the project, if his schedule would permit, on March 8.** Of course, we can be flexible regarding timing.

Based on our past conversations, this project well-aligns with the Administrator's indicated approach of land stewardship (with natural resource betterment) through intentional management with the added benefit of free market (rather than government) incentives.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Steve

**Steven Rhines**  
Vice President, General Counsel and Director of Public Affairs

P. Ex. 6 C. Ex. 6

Noble Research Institute, LLC  
2510 Sam Noble Parkway, Ardmore, OK 73401  
[www.noble.org](http://www.noble.org)



Science Serving Agriculture

