

## Bobcats return to Snake River Farm.

In the 1970's my son Joel and I would see a bobcat almost every year.

Bobcats are solitary and territorial.

Only one at a time, we never saw two at once.

Bobcats are shy and secretive.

On the rare occasions we would spot one, it would deep in the woods along the river, or on edge field, crouched on the top of a big wooden fence post, motionless, nearly invisible.

They need large areas of secluded habitat.

We have not seen a bobcat, or bobcat signs, for most of fifty years.

Joel was a little boy then, now he is nearing retirement age.



**BOBCAT on the wooden platform bridge across the Snake River, heading south, hunting downstream.**

Elijah Robeck, who helps Juan and Samantha run the Farm, placed a game-camera in the bison pasture along the Snake River.

He is the teenage son of our neighbor and part-time mechanic Mike Robeck.

Mike has roots in St. Michael, same as me.

Elijah is Janelle's replacement.

You may recall that Janelle got married at the Farm last June.

Janelle was great help to us for more than ten years.

She started working with me when she was barely ten years old.

Janelle grew into a good farmer, for cattle, hogs, sheep, poultry, horses, and bison.

Elijah mounted his camera on the west side of the bridge, looking towards the east. This bridge is located on the river, a quarter mile downstream after it crosses under Township Road 67<sup>th</sup>, heading south.

You may recognize this bridge if you attended one of our "Ancient Bison Dig Days."

This is the location of the primary dig sites, and where Dr. Mead and his crew set up for teaching.

Elijah has gotten several good deer photos before he captured the bobcat photo.

This deer is probably only a two-year-old.

Deer have a healthy diet in this country.

Tom.



**Seven-point BUCK DEER, crossing on the same bridge.**



**Bobcat image from the Internet.**



**Elijah's Bobcat photo greatly magnified.**