

What to do with Sows during Renovation

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What to do with Sows during Renovation

- ▶ This question came up when the Sow Housing Committee got together in the planning stage
- ▶ We, SWVs & Marsha Chambers have a keen interest in loose sow barn conversions and how to do the process with out changing or minimize the current farm output
- ▶ Visits to Quebec to touch and feel some of the conversions and new constructions.
- ▶ Do an illustration of one of our sow units and see what the out come looks like.
- ▶ Your Mileage May Vary (YMMV)

What to do with Sows during Renovation

- ▶ Things to consider.....
- ▶ Capable of rolling over existing herd into the new housing project (Fit with existing facilities)
- ▶ Need to maintain existing cash flow?
- ▶ Need to maintain existing pig flow supply to our own early wean, feeder pig or market hogs commitments?
- ▶ Is there a better time of year to reduce pig flow
- ▶ Market hogs shipped in December market

What to do with Sows during Renovation Options

- ▶ Build new barn (\$2,500 - \$3000/Sow) and establish a new herd if older facilities are not useable or do not work as a retrofit, or are end of life span (Add new herd \$850/Sow)
- ▶ Build new barn and keep existing herd that is healthy

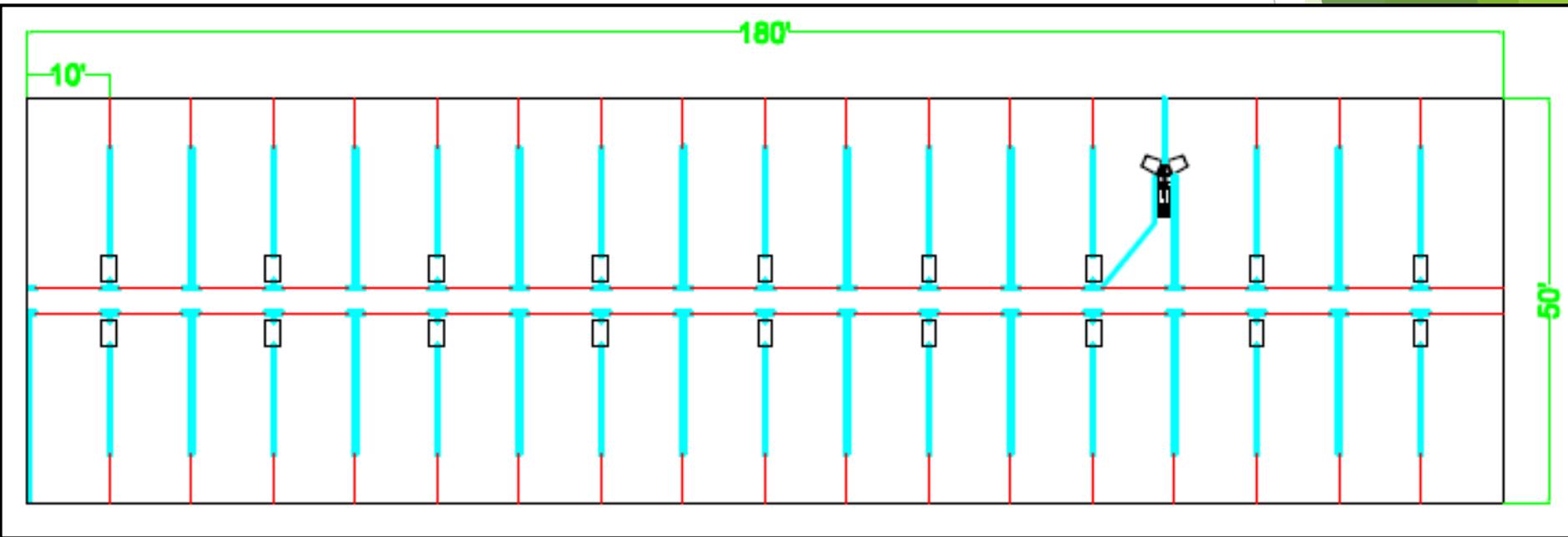
What to do with Sows during Renovation Options

- ▶ Renovate (up to \$500 sow) (YMMV) and maintain existing herd with out reduction of herd size pending barn layout?
- ▶ Renovate and reduce the herd so to make room for the renovation (Timing of market)
- ▶ Expanding the facilities
- ▶ Depopulation / Repopulation (major health)

Loose Sow Housing

- ▶ One option is to move enough sows from gestation to other facilities that can hold these sows as we renovate
- ▶ Finishing barn with auto sort gates and set up ESFs to accommodate these sows

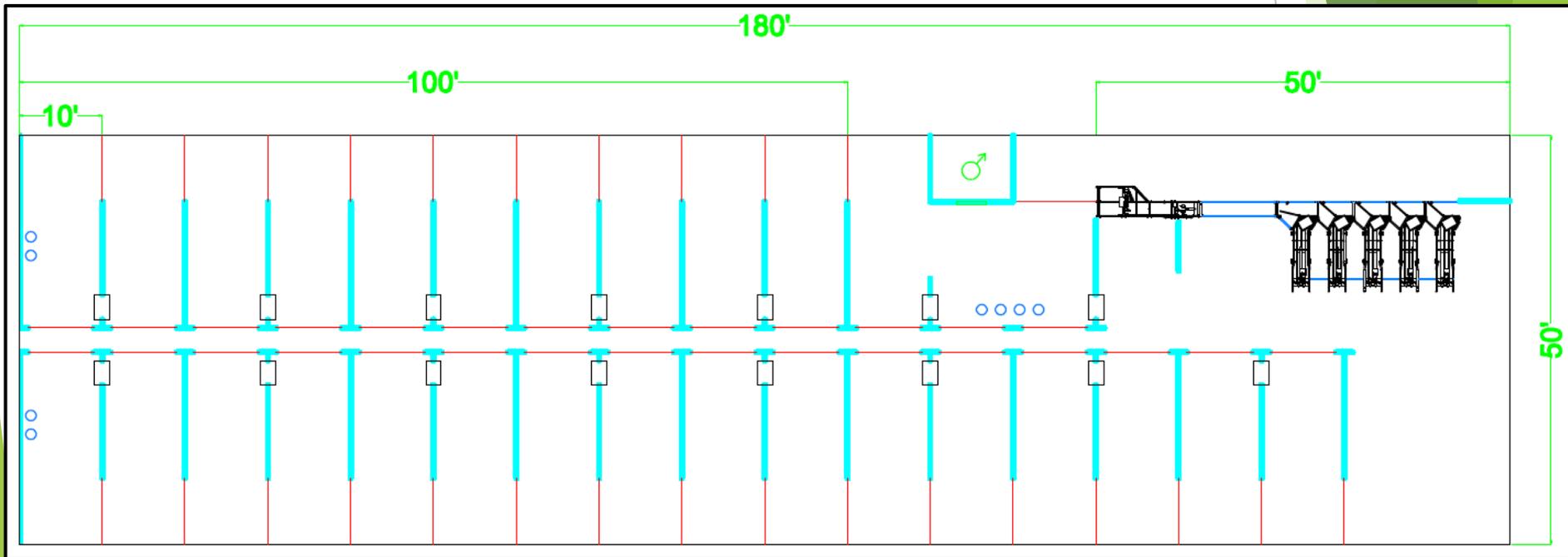
Finisher Barn Auto Sort



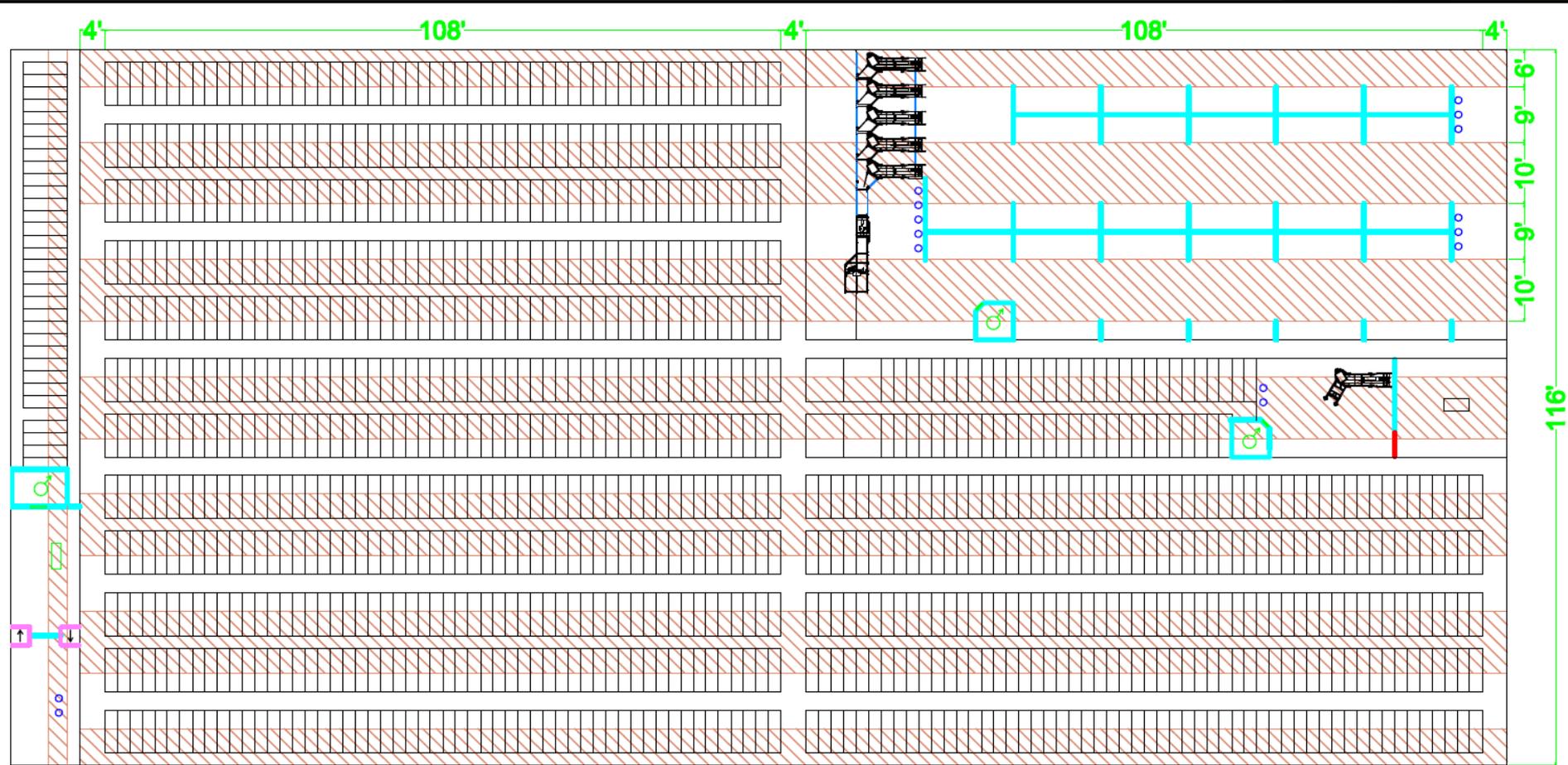
Loose Sow Housing

- ▶ Ideal to have enough space to store sows in an auto sort finisher barn and allow the barn to be one group with adequate ESF feeding stations
- ▶ Allow enough time to renovate the required gestation barn
- ▶ Calculate the space, timing and flow as to meet the timing needs of renovation

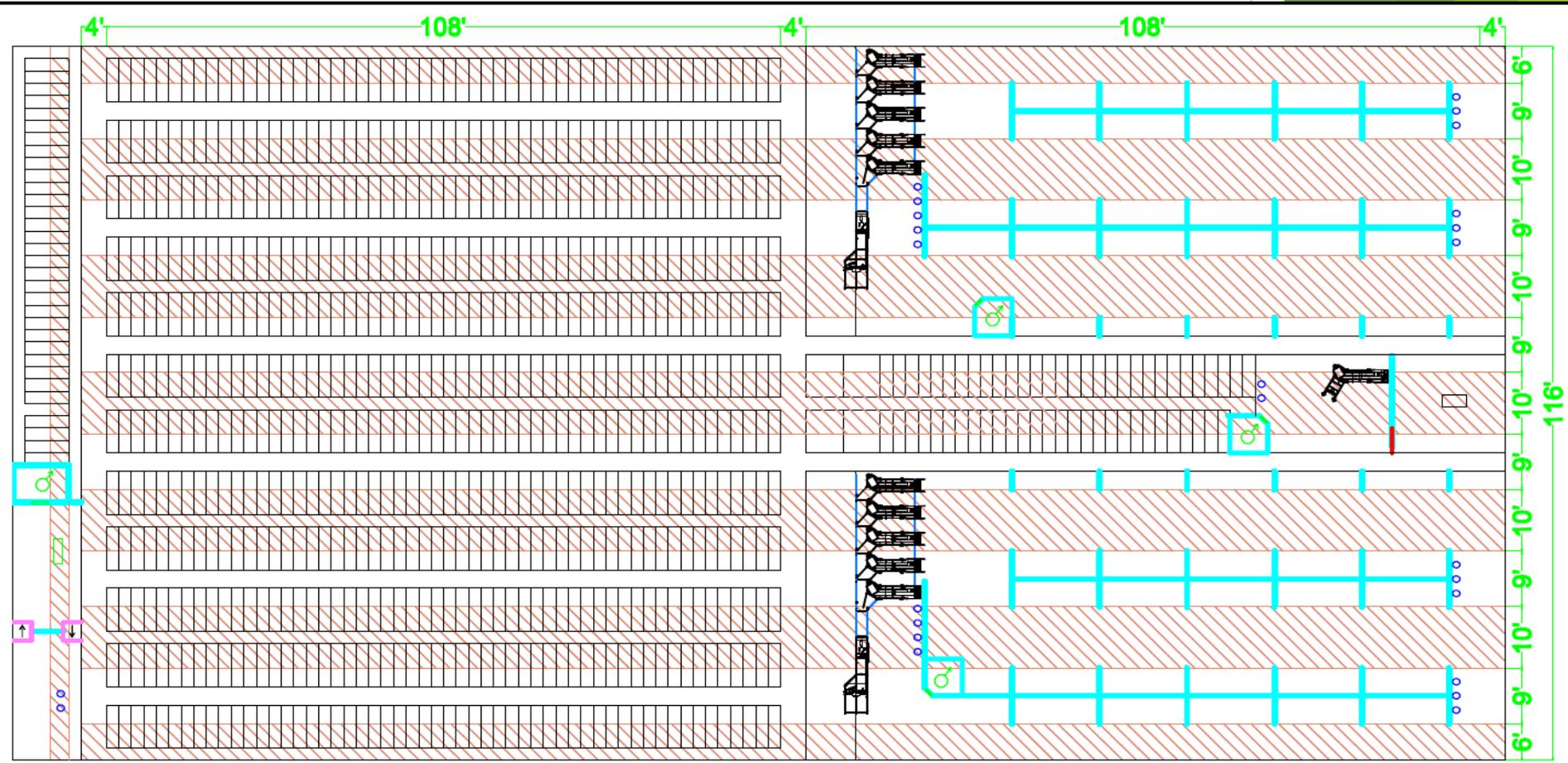
Finisher Barn Transition for Sows on ESF 350 Cap.



Phase 1 Sow Barn



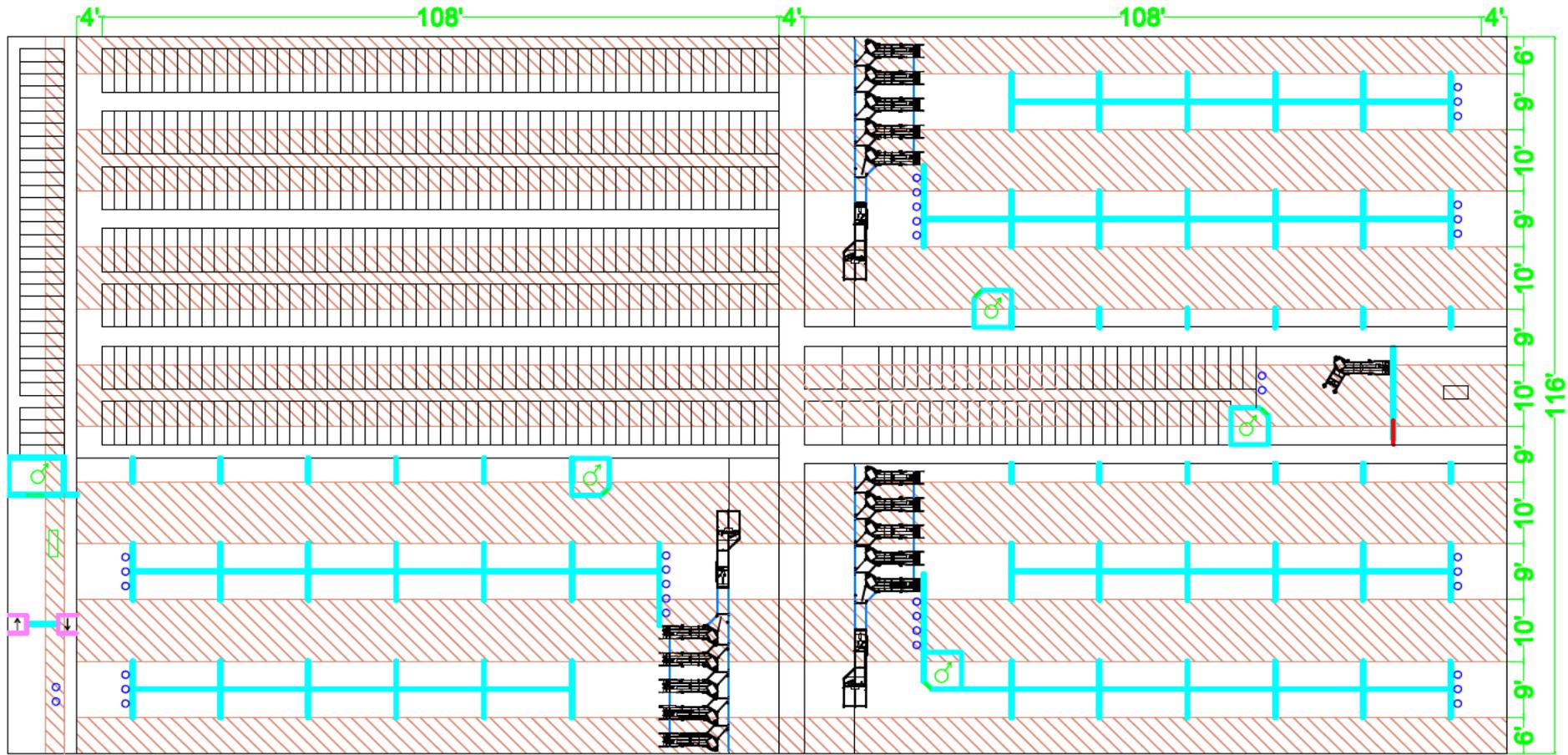
Phase 2 Sow Barn



Loose Housing Sow Flow

Week	Description	Total # sows	untrain end	intrain ing	# train ed sows	# sows pen 1	# sows pen 2	# sows pen 3	# sows pen 4	# sows training pen	# sows Finisher barn	# sows in farrowing barn
5	2nd grp coming from finisher to farrowing	2095	1120	380	595	280	280			30 G	350	210
	Train next 4 groups at 28 to 55 days preg Pen 2											
	Breed grp goes to finisher for holding.											
	Build pen 3 Train 30 gilts in training pen											
6	3rd grp coming from finisher to farrowing	1850	875	0	975	280	280				350	140
	Breed grp goes to finisher for holding.											
	Tear out crates for pen 4 move stations from finisher to breeding barn.											
7	4th grp going to farrowing from finisher	1915	770	170	975	280	280	140		30 G	350	70
	Breed grp goes to finisher for holding.											
	Train 2 grps ages 28 to 41 day preg, in Pen 3. Train 30 gilts in training pen & Install pen 4											
8	5th grp going to farrowing from finisher.	1810	595	70	1145	280	280	140	70		280	0
	Breed grp goes to finisher for holding.											
	Train grp that is 28 -34 days preg pen 4											

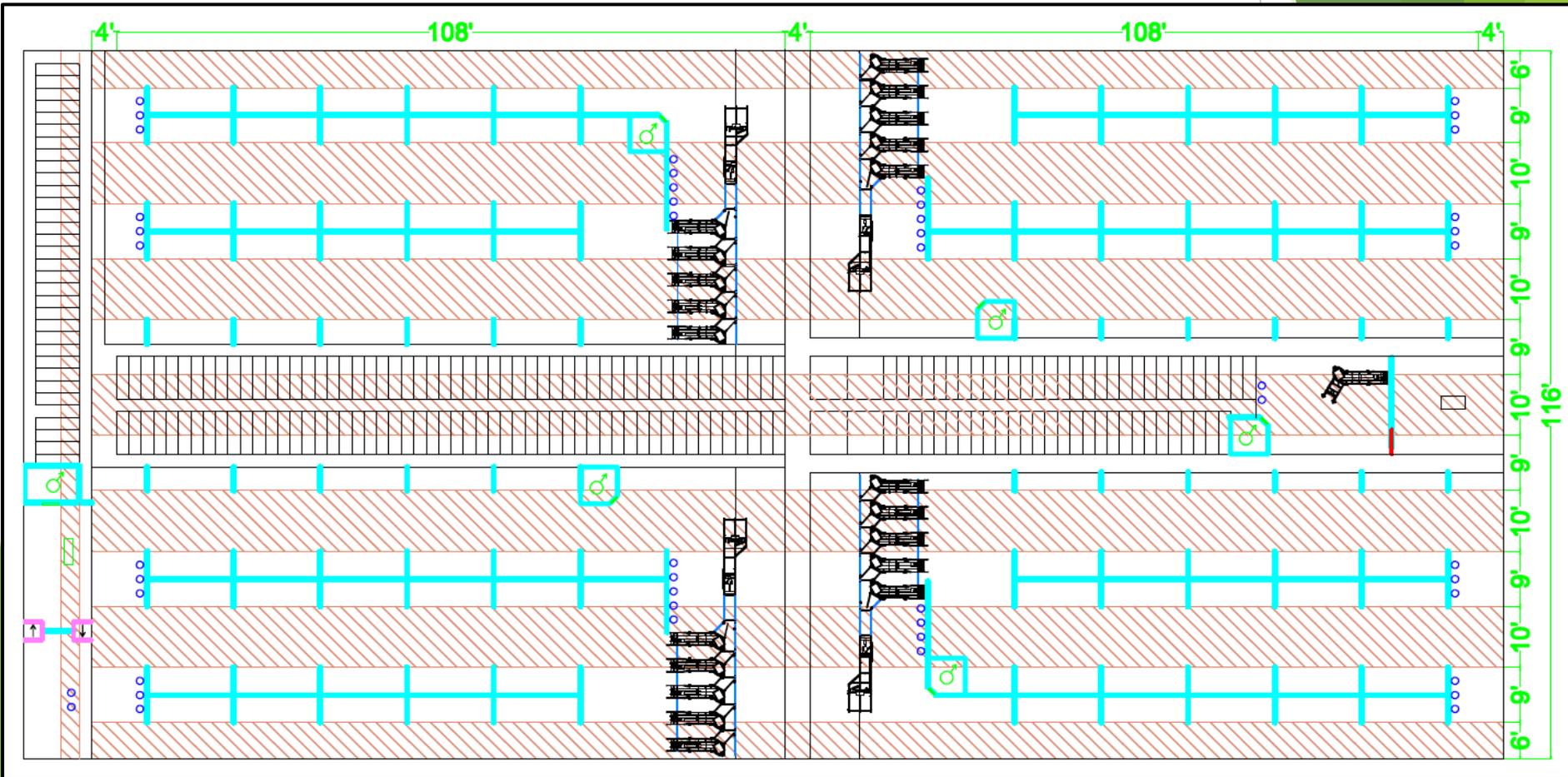
Phase 3 Sow Barn



Loose Housing Sow Flow

Week	Description	Total # sows	untrain end	intrain ing	# traine d sows	# sows pen 1	# sows pen 2	# sows pen 3	# sows pen 4	# sows training pen	# sows Finisher barn	# sows in farrowing barn
9	Move grp from pen 4 that trained last week to pen 3.	1805	560	30	1215	210	280	280		30 G	280	0
	Grp breeding goes into pen 3											
	Moving first grp out of pen 1 to farrowing											
	Train 30 gilts in training pen											
10	Breed grp goes into pen 1	1700	455	0	1245	280	280	280			280	0
	Moving 2nd grp out of pen 1 to farrowing											
11	Breed grp goes into pen 1	1690	385	30	1275	280	280	280		30 G	280	0
	Moving 3rd grp out of pen 1 to farrowing											
	Train 30 gilts in training pen											
12	Move last 4 grps from finisher into pen 4 for training as the youngest grp past 28 days	1555	0	280	1275	280	280	280	280		0	0
	Breeding grp goes to pen 1											
	Moving 4th grp from pen 1 to farrowing											

Phase 4 Sow Barn



What to do with Sows during Renovation

- ▶ Current Gestation capacity with Stalls 1296
- ▶ Dynamic group housing capacity is 1151 @ 20 sq. ft.
- ▶ Static group housing capacity is 1150 @ 20 sq. ft.
- ▶ 10% reduction from stall capacity going to loose housing
- ▶ So if that is the case then

What to do with Sows during renovation

- ▶ 1500 sows @ 30 PSY = 45,000 pigs
- ▶ 1350 sows @ 30 PSY = 40,500 pigs
- ▶ 1350 sows @ 28 PSY = 37,800 pigs

- ▶ And this will cost \$_____

- ▶ So were could there be benefits

What to do with Sows during Renovation

- ▶ Longer lactation heavier piglets
- ▶ Heavier pigs out of nursery
- ▶ Shorter interval to finish market hogs

- ▶ Or we add to the sow barn to support a 1500 sow herd with ESF Loose Housing.

What to do with Sows during Renovation Conclusion

- ▶ Calculate barn capacity and outcomes from housing conversion
- ▶ Plan the time lines
- ▶ Plan the details so renovators and farm staff know the Actions and outcomes
- ▶ Allow lots of time to assist existing sows to adapt to the loose housing and EFS.