

OVERVIEW

Private citizens own over 90 percent of the land in Indiana which includes nearly 15 million acres of farmland and about 4 million acres of forestland, making stewardship absolutely critical to the health of our environment. Each day, farmers and forest landowners are making decisions about natural resource use and management that impacts soil and water quality. With the **Natural Resources Conservation Service's** help, many are creating more productive lands while maintaining healthy ecosystems.

Indiana Natural Resources Conservation Service

HFRP

Healthy Forests Reserve Program



The **Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP)** helps landowners in targeted areas of the state restore, enhance and protect forestland resources on private lands through easements and financial assistance. Through HFRP, landowners promote the recovery of endangered or threatened species, improve plant and animal biodiversity and enhance carbon sequestration.

WHAT'S NEW IN HFRP

The new HFRP expands the eligibility of acreage owned by Indian tribes.

BENEFITS

HFRP provides landowners with 10-year restoration agreements and 30-year (or permanent) easements for specific conservation actions. For acreage owned by an Indian tribe, there is an additional enrollment option of a 30-year contract. Some landowners may avoid regulatory restrictions under the Endangered Species Act by restoring or improving habitat on their land for a specified period of time.

ELIGIBILITY

HFRP applicants must provide proof of ownership, or an operator (tenant) must provide written concurrence from the landowner of tenancy for the period of the HFRP restoration agreement in order to be eligible.

Land enrolled in HFRP easements must be privately owned or owned by Indian tribes and restore, enhance or measurably increase the recovery of threatened or endangered species, improve biological diversity or increase carbon storage.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information and how to apply, visit the Indiana HFRP website at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/in/programs/farbill/?cid=stelprdb1119744> or contact Brianne Lowe, Indiana Easement Program Specialist at: brianne.lowe@in.usda.gov

