



NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT PRIVATE LAND INITIATIVE

WETLAND RESERVE PROGRAM (WRP) INCENTIVE



The North Dakota Game and Fish Department is offering incentives on completed WRP easements or cost share agreements that meet Department requirements. The incentives may be applied to new and existing WRP contracts and are available for 10-year cost share agreements and 30-year easements.

30-year WRP Easement

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department will provide an incentive payment in addition to the 75% paid by NRCS for a 30-year WRP easement. The Department will provide an additional:

- 5% of the NRCS established value if the producer signs a public access easement for 15 years
- 15% of the NRCS established value if the producer signs a public access easement for 30 years

10-year WRP Cost-Share Agreement

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department will provide up to 25% cost share assistance for wetland restorations and associated upland buffers as well as an access payment of \$1.00-3.00 per acre (rates vary depending up on habitat quality, management practices etc...) if producer signs a public access agreement for 10 years.

To qualify for North Dakota Game and Fish Department incentives, a producer or operator must:

- Have a completed NRCS WRP easement or cost share agreement
- Meet North Dakota Game and Fish Department requirements (see below)
- Be willing to sign an easement or cost share agreement with the Department allowing public access for walk-in hunting from Sept. 1 – April 1 on the entire WRP tract (does not pertain to motorized vehicle use, trapping, or any other non-hunting activities)
- Be willing to limit WRP haying and grazing only to maintenance manipulations specified in the NRCS WRP easement or cost share agreement

Due to limited funding, the Department will rank offers using the following requirements:

- Tracts with no substantial upland buffer will be ineligible
- Size of tract – greater preference for larger tracts (at least 80 acres or more)
- Accessibility – greater preference for road/trail access to tract
- Upland / Wetland Ratio – maximum upland to wetland ratio preferred
- Location – greater preference for tracts located near other protected lands
- Habitat diversity – greater preference for habitat interspersed such as adjacent food supply, and winter cover (woody draws, cattails)

For more details and information about the WRP Incentive, contact Kevin Kading at the North Dakota Game and Fish Department at 701-328-6371 or visit the Department's website at <http://gf.nd.gov/maps/pli-program.html>

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