



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
1860 North 100 East  
North Logan, UT 84341-1734  
(435) 753-5616  
FAX (435) 755-2117

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January 19, 2005

Dear Farm Operator/Owner:

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service is excited to announce a new conservation program. The Conservation Security Program (CSP) was authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill to support ongoing stewardship on privately owned agricultural lands which include: cropland; hayland; pasture and rangeland along with incidental forest land. This program is unlike any previous conservation program because it is designed to reward farmers who are already applying sound conservation practices on their land.

In 2005, the Little Bear-Logan Watershed was selected as one of three watersheds in Utah that are eligible for the CSP. The program boundary covers the southern end of Cache Valley and extends northward to approximately the Logan Airport Road running east to west. You have been identified as owning or operating land within the program boundary.

We have set up a series of public information meetings to try and answer questions regarding the opportunities the new program provides. The information meetings will be held on January 20, 2005 at 2:00 pm or 7:00 pm in room 901 of the Bridgerland Applied Technology College (1301 N. 600 West, Logan) and January 26, 2005 at 10:00 am or 7:00 pm at the Hyrum Civic Center (83 W. Main St., Hyrum). At the meeting NRCS will explain producer eligibility, land eligibility, minimum program requirements, and potential payment options under CSP. The variety of meetings times and locations is intended to help accommodate your schedule. Meetings should last approximately 90 minutes.

CSP identifies and rewards farmers who currently maintain high standards of soil and water conservation practices on their lands and who have maintained two years of records indicating levels of irrigation water, fertilizer, manure and pesticides applied along with soil testing records. On pasture and rangeland documentation of a grazing plan that includes forage balance, livestock distribution, time of use, and managing livestock access to surface water is required. Qualifying farms are eligible for financial and technical assistance to maintain and enhance their conservation efforts. The enclosed CSP brochure will provide additional information, which also may be obtained online at [www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp).

Join us at this first information meeting and learn how you can determine, if the Conservation Security Program has a place in your farming operation.

Sincerely,

Jon Hardman, NRCS District Conservationist - Logan

Enc: brochure

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.