

## Engineering (Watershed Programs)

NRCS engineers across the state continued work with producers to implement a focused EQIP project in cooperation with the North Dakota Irrigation Association, with sprinkler systems installed or improved on 1,714 acres and irrigation water management applied to 5,288 acres across the state in FY22. Two sessions of the stockwater training course were held, providing training to 51 individuals. A feasibility report was completed for a potential dam on the Upper Turtle River and an initial public scoping meeting held in Larimore. NRCS responded to spring flooding on the Tongue, Park, and Forest Rivers by providing assistance to local governments for dam safety and the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP). Construction is underway on a \$3.6 million EWP project to stabilize Bourbanis Dam, to protect public safety and downstream infrastructure downstream. The final public and agency comment period is currently underway for a PL-566 Watershed Project to stabilize channel incision on the Tongue River, contributing 55,000 tons per year of sediment to Renwick Reservoir since 2013.



Renwick Dam Spillway May 1, 2022, flowing for the first time since completion of the rehabilitation project in 2014

## Conservation Compliance

The NRCS Compliance Team assisted North Dakota agricultural producers by completing over 590 wetland and 2370 highly erodible land determinations. The team eliminated the backlog of requests over a year old and completed 1339 conservation compliance status reviews. The NRCS Compliance Team continues to work with the North Dakota Agricultural Mitigation, LLC through a Wetland Mitigation Banking Program (WMBP) agreement. NRCS delivers technical assistance in mitigation planning and banking as an alternative in water management. NRCS in the Prairie Pothole Region States of Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota updated the tool to provide guidance on lateral effect distances for prospective drainage projects.

More information can be found at:  
<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-by-state/minnesota/lateral-effect-distances-for-the-prairie>



USDA

Natural Resources  
Conservation Service

# FY2022 Accomplishments North Dakota



“Out of the long list of nature’s gifts to man, none is perhaps so utterly essential to human life as soil.”

~ Hugh Hammond Bennett

**Helping People Help the Land**

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# FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

**WBP**

## Water Bank Program

The purpose is to preserve and improve major wetlands as habitat for migratory waterfowl and other wildlife, conserve surface waters, reduce runoff and soil and wind erosion, contribute to flood control, improve water quality, improve subsurface moisture and change the natural beauty of the landscape.

**Contracts:** 57  
**Obligated:** \$3,075,573  
**Acres:** 6,773

**WRE**

## Wetland Reserve Easements

NRCS provides technical and financial assistance directly to private landowners and Indian tribes to restore, protect, and enhance wetlands through the purchase of a wetland reserve easement.

For acreage owned by an Indian tribe, there is an additional enrollment option of a 30-year contract.

**Contracts:** 6  
**Obligated:** \$1,196,080 (estimated)  
**Acres:** 1,441 (estimated)

**EQIP**

## Environmental Quality Incentives Program

**Contracts:** 529  
**Obligated:** \$20,149,276  
**Acres:** 212,810

### EQIP - National Water Quality Incentives and Source Water

**Contracts:** 4  
**Obligated:** \$561,675  
**Acres:** 2,819

**CSP**

## Conservation Stewardship Program

CSP is the largest voluntary conservation program in the Nation that helps agricultural producers maintain and improve their existing conservation systems and adopt additional conservation activities to address priority resource concerns. Participants earn CSP payments for conservation performance - the higher the performance, the higher the payment available.

### CSP Classic

**Obligated:** \$21,614,444  
**Contracts:** 136  
**Acres:** 364,182

### CSP - Renewals

**Obligated:** \$6,573,817  
**Contracts:** 42  
**Acres:** 104,023

### CSP - Grassland Conservation Initiative

**Obligated:** \$110,595  
**Contracts:** 15  
**Acres:** 1,228

**RCPP**

## Regional Conservation Partnership Program

### RCPP 18 Meadowlark

**Obligated:** \$2,458,030  
**Contracts:** 36

### RCPP 18 Little Missouri Grassland Association

**Obligated:** \$250,109  
**Contracts:** 6

# TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

## Soil Science

NRCS soil scientists in North Dakota documented over 1,561 Technical Soil Services (TSS) and logged over 4,722 hours while doing so.

The top 5 activities include:

1. 32.4% Technical consultations
2. 7.0% On-site investigations
3. 14.1% Apply ecological site information
4. 10.6% Provide training to NRCS and partners
5. 8.7% Maintain and update FOTG

5.7 percent of our technical soil services time was spent developing the new Reclamation Suitability (ND) interpretation which is currently available in Web Soil Survey. The interpretation is the result of NRCS collaboration with North Dakota State University, the USDA Forest Service, and private industry stakeholders. It provides a relative ranking of soils based on their resilience and ability to maintain or resume function after being drastically disturbed. Typical disturbances include temporary (approximately, but not limited to 25 years) change in land use or disturbance for the installation of infrastructure such as pipelines, oil well pads, access roads, evaporation ponds, pits, or mines.

