

United States Department of Agriculture

News Release

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USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Announces Funds to Help Mississippi Agricultural Producers Improve Migratory Bird Habitat extended through June 9, 2023

JACKSON, Miss, May 8, 2023 – Mississippi's State Conservationist Kurt Readus of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced today additional signup through the <u>Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)</u> to provide financial assistance for enhancing and managing habitats for Migratory Birds.

The counties included as part of this targeted effort to improve migratory bird habitat through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) are Adams, Bolivar, Calhoun, Carroll, Claiborne, Clay, Coahoma, DeSoto, Grenada, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Itawamba, Jefferson, Leflore, Monroe, Panola, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tate, Tunica, Warren, Washington, Wilkinson, and Yazoo Counties.

"The Migratory Bird Resurgence Initiative (MBRI) contributes to ensuring these migratory birds are conserved for generations to come," said Readus.

The EQIP Migratory Bird Resurgence Initiative (MBRI) is aimed at preserving and protecting habitat for migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, neotropical, and other avian species in Mississippi Flyways with conservation practices standards (CPS) 327– Conservation Cover, (CPS) 356 – Dike (CPS) 587– Structure for Water Control, (CPS) 644– Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management, (CPS) 646– Shallow Water Development and Management and possibly (CPS) 647– Early Successional Habitat Development and Management.

How to Apply

NRCS accepts applications for its conservation programs year-round. However, producers interested in the Migratory Bird Resurgence Initiative (MBRI) should contact their local <u>USDA Service Center</u> to apply by June 9, 2023, to be considered for funding in the current cycle.

More Information

USDA touches the lives of all Americans daily in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy, and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate-smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit www.usda.gov.

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