

NEBRASKA STAC MEETING MINUTES

March 2, 2023

1:00 – 4:30 p.m.

100 Centennial Mall N. RM 397B

Lincoln, NE 68508

[YOUTUBE RECORDING LINK](#)

ATTENDEES: Brad Soncksen, Robert Lawson, Tami Nordman, Conor Ward, Jason McCaulley, Brach Johnson, Carlos Villarreal, Elbert Traylor, Mike Murphey, Dan Ruterburris, Katie, Al Juhnke, ; VIA TEAMS: Britt Weiser, Brad Weaver, LaVaine Moore, Misha Mazurkewycz, Conor Ward, Scott Schaneman, Curt Becker, Buffalo Bruce, Greg Whitmore, Adam Smith, Marcia Trompke, Judy Trent, Daniel Ross, Tatiana Davila, Shelly Kelly, Dave Eigenberg, Rich Walters, Ryan Lodge, Kalee Olson, Mary Reece, Eric Zach, Rachael Whitehair, Steve Fairbairn, Doug Wagner, Dustin Wilcox, Rachael Herpel, Mike Crosby, Laura Nagengast, Jennifer Swanson, Matt Smith, Chandler Schmidt, Ann Briggs, Kelsi Wehrman, Mike Crosley, Kyle Hauschild, Jennifer Swanson, Mike Williams, Becky Potmesil, Tammy Timms, Megan McGuffey, James Huntwork, Stacie Turnbull, Shawna Orth, George Cunningham, Nancy Finley, Bryce Puck, Ritch Nelson, Phillip Dobesh, Bill Arbrust, Roric Paulman, Jana Ingwerson-Laws, Seiji Kuwata, Bruce, Paula Steffen, Roy Stoltenberg, Nick Streff, Amanda Reed, Andy Bishop, Shelly Trojan, Kara Cooney, Butch Heinamen.

FUTURE Meetings:

- ❖ JUNE 8, 2023
- ❖ SEPTEMBER 7, 2023
- ❖ DECEMBER 7, 2023

 **WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & OPENING COMMENTS:** *Brad Soncksen - NRCS ASTC-Programs & Robert Lawson - NRCS State Conservationist*

- Local Working Group meetings around the state & will be completed by end of March.
- CSP Deadline
- Tri-Basin NRD that was awarded the National NACD Earth Team award at the NACD Meeting.
- Went over the Agenda

 **CONSERVATION PROGRAMS UPDATE:** *Brad Soncksen - NRCS ASTC-Programs*

- Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) REVIEW
 - **SEE SLIDES & HANDOUT attached.**
 - IRA funds begin in fiscal year 2023; all IRA funds must be spent by September 30, 2031

- Producers interested in EQIP or CSP should apply by March 31, 2023, to be considered for funding in the current cycle. Funding is provided through a competitive process.
- ACEP applications for the current IRA funding cycle must be submitted by March 17, 2023, for the first funding round.
- NRCS plans to roll out the next RCPP funding opportunity in early spring, which will include IRA funds for fiscal year 2023.

○ **EQIP REVIEW**

- **SEE SLIDES & HANDOUT attached.**
- Time Lines
 - November 18, 2022 was application deadline
 - February 21, 2023 – Applications Ranked
 - April 1, 2023 – Contracts obligated
 - Statewide Wildfire Initiative
 - May 31, 2023 application cutoff
 - ACT Now
 - NWQI
 - May 1, 2023 application cutoff
 - ACT Now
 - Tribal Initiative – additional application cutoff TBD
 - GPGI
 - February 17, 2023 application cutoff

○ **CSP REVIEW**

- **SEE SLIDES & HANDOUT attached.**

○ **ACEP REVIEW**

- **SEE SLIDES & HANDOUT attached.**
- Applications taken year-round.
- FY23 application cut-off November 18, 2022, for WRE, WRE-WREP, ALE and ALE-GSS.
- FY23 application cut-off March 17, 2023 for IRA-WRE, IRA-ALE, and IRA-ALE-GSS
- Will use appraisals again in FY2023 to determine acquisition costs.

○ **LOCAL WORK GROUP MEETINGS**

- **Completed end of March**
 - See Slides in handout or website for the meetings scheduled.
- **LOCAL WORK GROUP AGENDA ITEMS:**
 - Priority Resource Concerns
 - Fund Pools - Ranking Tools – Screening Tools
 - Practice Payment Schedule
 - Local issues

WATER QUALITY SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE: Tatianna Davilla –

- 2018 Farm Bill added Provision for the protection of source water through targeted conservation practices.
 - USDA encourage the protection of drinking water sources through the following methods:
 - Identify
 - Providing
 - Dedicating
 - Wellhead protection Areas
 - Total Medium & High Priority Areas
 - 8,006,050 acres
 - EQIP FY22 Practice Summary
- Purpose of the Sub-Committee
 - Provide assessment and guidance on NRCS Source Water and NWQI priority areas/practices.
 - Collaborate on water quality efforts moving forward.
 - Update and exchange information on water quality efforts with partner organizations.
 - Further goals to be ID'd by group.
- Future meetings:
 - NDEE Office (Fallbrook)
 - Continuing to meet monthly until further decision.
 - Focus on broadening group to include more producer and ag group representation.
 - Current participants: NRCS, NRDs, DNR, City of Hastings, Dept of Ag, Sierra Club, NE Corn Growers, NE Cattlemen, ...

SMALL SCALE FARM AND URBAN AG – Jason McCauley & Brach Johnson- NRCS

- Accomplishments since last State Technical Committee Meeting
 - Nebraska Urban Agriculture and Conservation Council (NUACC) formed
 - Urban practice list finalized
 - SSUA signup ended, applications ranked, and EQIP preapprovals
 - Working with CCA participants, NECC and UN-L for Urban Soil Health Agreement
 - Met with over 70 new farmers in Small Scale and Urban Ag (SSUA)
 - Working with 7 different grant opportunities
 - Identify community code and zoning for SSUA
 - Promotion of NRCS programs to a new audience
 - Aurora Garden of Eat'n Community Garden
 - Beavers Producer in Rogers, NE
- Outreach
- Cardinal Farms in Dakota City, NE



FSA REVIEW & Grasslands CRP State Priority Zones: Lavaine Moore - FSA

Programs Specialist

- FY 2023 Enrollment
 - Contracts
 - 19,718
 - Farms
 - 11,302
 - Acres Expiring September 30, 2023
 - 50,672
- Continuous Signup 59
 - FY23 Deadlines
 - July 31, 2023
 - August 7, 2023
 - September 8, 2023
 - September 29, 2023
- Migratory Bird SAFE
 - 4th Signup started January 2, 2023
 - Southwestern NE Ranking Cluster
 - Central Table NE Ranking Cluster
 - Rainwater Basin NE Ranking Cluster
- General Signup 60
 - Signup Date
 - February 27 through April 7, 2023
 - SRR's have been published
 - FSA has updated tools that will be used to estimate water & wind erosion for CRP as follows:
 - RUSLE > RUSLE2
 - WEQ > WEPS
 - Changes have been implemented for FY2023 CRP Signups as of October 1, 2023
 - Water Erosion Tool Changes:
 - RUSLE2 – universal soil loss equation tool to estimate water erosion
 - More accurate method of erosion estimation
 - Using site-specific data versus county data
 - Captures daily interaction weather, soil, and tillage parameters
 - WEP – Wind Erosion Prediction System
 - More accurate method of erosion estimation
 - Uses updated climate data
 - Simulates daily effect of precipitation, wind, soil properties & family operations.

- RUSLE2 & WEPS Results:
 - Soil loss estimates will be more site specific & accurate to the site being offered
 - Top 3 predominant soil components within the offered area. Top 3 soil types calculated for a weighted average loss value
 - Bare ground fallow – 12 monthly rotary hoe operation (Continuous light tillage)
- RUSLE2/WEPS will result in different Erodibility Indexes (EI):
 - Changes will vary by region
 - On average, water EI values will decrease, and wind EI values will increase, and
 - These changes will more accurately reflect erosion risks to identify the most environmentally sensitive land
- SU60 Timeline
 - April 7, 2023
 - August 11, 2023
 - September 30, 2023
- Grasslands CRP
 - Announcement is forthcoming.
- CRP Cost Docket Review
 - The State Committee must develop C/S rates in consultation with the State Technical Committee for CRP.
 - In Nebraska, these rates are established at the State level along with NRCS according to National guidelines.
 - Added Component under Herbaceous Control when vegetation removal is needed as part of site prep
 - This would be utilized in instances where haying is not practical or feasible, Example: Swath/burn; swath/windrow or haying/bale/destruction of bales. This would require an onsite inspection and review by FSA of destruction of hay. \$48 (100%) Producer would pay for inspection.
 - Added component under Upland Wildlife Habitat Management to allow a producer to seed a dense forb plot as an alternative to planting a shrub thicket this cost would include cost for site prep and seed at \$171.17 (100%).
 - Increased chemical component for:
 - Site prep
 - Mechanical & site prep
 - Combination complex .
 - Increased fencing cost: electric, barbed and barbed for rugged terrain

- CRP Clear30 Cost Docket Review
 - Maintenance Rates
 - Maintenance payment rates must be established by STC, in consultation with NRCS, for ALL CLEAR30 maintenance activities to be used within the State
 - Establishing these CLEAR30 maintenance rates require States to:
 - consider the CLEAR30 practices in your state, (What's expiring versus what's not)
 - coordinate with NRCS to determine what maintenance activities, or O&M activities, may be needed for those practices,
 - State Committee will set an appropriate maintenance rate at 75% of the average cost of completing that activity.
 - The following is a minimum list of maintenance activities requiring rates to be established:
 - Site Prep
 - Seeding/Inter-seeding/Planting
 - Control of weeds – chemical/mechanical
 - Mowing/Discing
 - Prescribed Burning/Firebreaks
 - Maintenance of structures, i.e:
 - Grassed Waterways
 - Re-establishment of conservation practice damaged by no fault of producer
 - Maintenance of installed structures, i.e:
 - Fence
 - Watering components
 - Livestock crossing
 - Added Component under Herbaceous Control when vegetation removal is needed as part of site prep
 - This would be utilized in instances where haying is not practical or feasible, Example: Swath/burn; swath/windrow or haying/bale/destruction of bales. This would require an onsite inspection and review by FSA of destruction of hay. \$48 (100%) Producer would pay for inspection.
 - Increased chemical component for:
 - Site prep
 - Mechanical & site prep
 - Combination complex
 - Increased fencing cost for:
 - electric
 - barbed
 - woven
 - barbed for rugged terrain

- **EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM (ECP) UPDATE**
 - Updated guidance and procedure for implementing ECP payment scenarios
 - Policy recommends reviewing ECP payment scenarios and descriptions of ECP practices with State Technical Committee
 - Any suggested changes may be submitted to the national program manager for review and consideration.
 - **PRACTICES**
 - EC1 – Removing Debris From Farmland
 - EC2 – Grading, Shaping, Releveling, or Similar Measures
 - EC3 – Replacing or Repairing Permanent Fences
 - EC4 – Restoring Conservation Structures and Other Installations
 - EC6 – Drought Emergency Measures
 - EC7 – Other Emergency Conservation Measures
 - EC8 – Field Windbreaks and Farmstead Shelterbelts
 - Emergency Measures
 - Why Payment Scenarios?
 - What's my Region?
 - Review of Payment Scenarios & Descriptions
- Current Counties Approved for ECP in 2022
- Current Counties Approved for ECP in 2023
 - Cherry/Thomas Counties – Bovee Fire = 10/2/2022
 - Nuckolls County = 10/23/2022 Wildfire

Concerns on any of the dockets or issues with regarding costs for CRP or ECP, please let us know of any questions or concerns.

Working on outreach materials to host about 20 CRP meetings with FSA & NRCS around NE.



NEBRASKA FOREST RESTORATION RCPP PROJECT UPDATE - Adam Smith, Chief -

Nebraska Forest Service

- Summary of the NFRP
- New Publications
- Capacity Building Events
- Landowner/Contractor Workshops
- Financial Assistance
- Windbreak Management & Tree Planting
 - Upper Niobrara-White
 - Lower Loup
 - Lower Elkhorn

- KEY POINTS:
 - Program is available on a continuous basis
 - Average windbreak reimbursement from 2022 was \$230 per project. With newly funded activities and updated agreements, these reimbursements would increase to \$875 per project.
 - NFS is responsible for tracking eligibility requests, distribution of funds, and outcomes.
 - If an NRCS field office is working with NSWCP or NRD cost-share, please engage with your local NFS forester regarding possible NFRP opportunities.
 - For windbreak/tree planting projects, producers must first have a financial agreement for NRD cost-share or NSWCP.
 - If NRDs are working to sign-up producers, let NFS take care of NFRP enrollment activities and sign-up, communicate the program with potential landowners and have them contact NFS.
 - Forestry Sub-Committee Meeting
 - Wednesday, June 14 (1:00 -4:30pm)
 - Field Tour: Cedar Canyon
 - Cedar Canyon is a UNL property managed by NFS, which is used as a demonstration for the management of redcedar forests and windbreaks in the Loess Canyons
 - Thursday, June 15 (8:00 am –Noon)
 - Business Meeting: West Central Research and Extension Center
 - Updates to NRCS Windbreak Guidelines
 - Discussion about emerging tree and forestry issues
 - Challenges facing agencies related to trees and forests.
 - Agency updates
-

PARTNER UPDATES:

- NDEE Updates
 - Section 319
 - NOI Submissions project funding due May 1, 2023
 - Project approval or accepted by EPA to do detail mapping of the Sandhills area.
 - Community Wildfire Grants
 - Available in the next couple of months.
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WRAP UP AND REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- If you have any further Agenda items, please feel free to share that with Tami or Brad.
 - Thanks for coming.
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NEBRASKA STATE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

March 2, 2023
1:00 – 4:30 p.m.

VIRTUAL TEAMS MEETING

1:00 – 1:15 WELCOME

➤ *Robert Lawson, State Conservationist - NRCS*

1:15 – 1:45 CONSERVATION PROGRAMS UPDATE

➤ *Brad Soncksen, Asst. State Conservationist-Programs - NRCS*

1:45 – 2:15 WATER QUALITY SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE

➤ *Tatiana Davila, Hydrologist - NDEE*

2:15 – 2:45 SMALL SCALE FARM AND URBAN AG

➤ *Jason McCauley, Resource Conservationist - NRCS*
➤ *Brach Johnson, State Outreach Coordinator - NRCS*

2:45 – 3:15 FSA REVIEW

➤ *Lavaine Moore, Programs Specialist - FSA*

3:15 – 4:00 RCPP Project

➤ *Adam Smith, Chief - Nebraska Forest Service*

4:00 – 4:15 PARTNERS UPDATES

4:15 – 4:30 WRAP UP, AND QUESTIONS

➤ *Robert Lawson, State Conservationist - NRCS*

FUTURE Meetings:

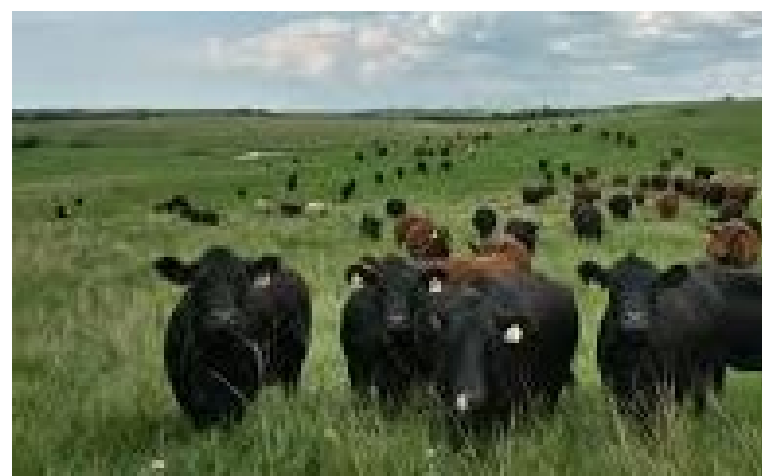
- ❖ *JUNE 8, 2023*
- ❖ *SEPTEMBER 7, 2023*
- ❖ *DECEMBER 7, 2023*



United States Department of Agriculture

Conservation Programs

*FY2023 Programs Update
IRA, EQIP, CSP, ACEP*



Brad Soncksen, ASTC/Programs

brad.soncksen@usda.gov

www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center



NRCS, Climate and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

nrcs.usda.gov

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)

- Signed into law by President Biden in August 2022
- The IRA provides NRCS with \$19.5 billion in **additional** funds for its **existing** conservation programs:
 - \$8.45 billion Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
 - \$4.95 billion Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
 - \$3.25 billion Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
 - \$1.4 billion Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)
 - \$1 billion Conservation Technical Assistance
- **The IRA does not create any new programs** – it gives NRCS additional funds to **expand its existing climate efforts** and satisfy unmet demand
- IRA funds begin in **fiscal year 2023**; all IRA funds must be spent by **September 30, 2031**
- **Nebraska IRA Allocation FY2023**
 - IRA-CSP = \$4.7 million
 - IRA-EQIP = \$2.4 million



NRCS, Producers and the IRA

- Agricultural producers can play a critical role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, sequestering carbon, and deliver lasting solutions to the climate crisis
- NRCS supports farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in meeting their conservation goals, ***regardless of the size, location, and type of operation***
- **IRA provides an opportunity to expand this support, with a focus on climate change mitigation**



The IRA Focuses on Mitigation

- The IRA directs NRCS to use the additional funds specifically for **climate change mitigation**.
- Mitigation activities ***reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve carbon storage***.
- FY23 list of **NRCS climate-smart mitigation activities**:
nrcs.usda.gov/mitigation-activities.pdf
- NRCS is continually evaluating mitigation activities and IRA implementation approach and will update them as appropriate.
 - [Federal Register notice](#) (Nov. 21, 2022)

<div> United States Department of Agriculture </div> <div> Natural Resources Conservation Service </div> <div> Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry (CSAF) Mitigation Activities List^[1] FY2023 </div>				
Climate Change Mitigation Practice Categories	Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ⁽²⁾ (units)	CSP Enhancement Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Bundle and Enhancement Activity
Soil Health			B000BF1	Buffer Bundle#1*
			B000CL24	Cropland soil health management system*
			B000CL25	Climate smart advanced soil health*
	327	Conservation Cover (acres)	E327A	Conservation cover for pollinators and beneficial insects
			E327B	Establish monarch butterfly habitat
			E328A	Resource conserving crop rotation
	328	Conservation Crop Rotation (acres)	E328B	Improved resource conserving crop rotation
			E328E	Soil health crop rotation
			E328F	Modifications to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter
			E328G	Crop rotation on recently converted CRP grass/legume cover for soil organic matter improvement
			E328N	Intercropping to improve soil health
			E328O	Perennial grain crop conservation rotation
	329	Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (acres)	E329A	No till to reduce soil erosion
			E329B	No till to reduce tillage induced particulate matter
			E329C	No till to increase plant-available moisture
			E329D	No till system to increase soil health and soil organic matter content
	332	Contour Buffer Strips (acres)	E329E	No till to reduce energy
				None Available
	340	Cover Crop (acres)	E340A	Cover crop to reduce soil erosion
			E340B	Intensive cover cropping to increase soil health and soil organic matter content
			E340C	Use of multi-species cover crops to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter
			E340D	Intensive orchard/vineyard floor cover cropping to increase soil health
			E340E	Cover crop to minimize soil compaction
			E340G	Cover crop to reduce water quality degradation by utilizing excess soil nutrients
			E340H	Cover crop to suppress excessive weed pressures and break pest cycles
			E340I	Using cover crops for biological strip till
	345	Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (acres)	E345A	Reduced tillage to reduce soil erosion
			E345B	Reduced tillage to reduce tillage induced particulate matter
			E345C	Reduced tillage to increase plant-available moisture
			E345D	Reduced tillage to increase soil health and soil organic matter content
	386	Field Border (acres)	E345E	Reduced tillage to reduce energy use
			E386A	Enhanced field borders to reduce soil erosion along the edge(s) of a field
			E386B	Enhanced field borders to increase carbon storage along the edge(s) of the field
			E386C	Enhanced field borders to decrease particulate emissions along the edge(s) of the field
	393	Filter Strips (acres)	E386D	Enhanced field borders to increase food for pollinators along the edge(s) of a field
			E386E	Enhanced field borders to increase wildlife food and habitat along the edge(s) of a field
	412	Grassed Waterways (acres)	E393A	Extend existing filter strip to reduce water quality impacts
			E412A	Enhance a grassed waterway
	484	Mulching (acres)	E484A	Mulching to improve soil health
			E484B	Reduce particulate matter emissions by using orchard or vineyard generated woody materials as mulch
	585	Stripcropping (acres)	E484C	Reduce particulate matter emissions by using orchard or vineyard generated woody materials as mulch
				None Available
	603	Vegetative Barriers (feet)		
	603	Herbaceous Wind Barriers (feet)		

Facilitating Practices Enable Mitigation

- IRA funding can also be used for practices needed to ***facilitate a mitigation practice***.
- Here are some examples of conservation systems that include mitigation practices and the practices that may be needed to facilitate them.



Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)

Tree Shrub Site Preparation (490)

Mulching (484)

Microirrigation (441)

Pasture and Hay Planting (512)

Access Control (472)

Herbaceous Weed Treatment (315)

Waste Separation Facility (632)

Waste Transfer (634)

Pumping Plant (533)

Prescribed Grazing (528)

Watering Facility (614)

Stream Crossing (578)

Fence (382)

Livestock Pipeline (516)

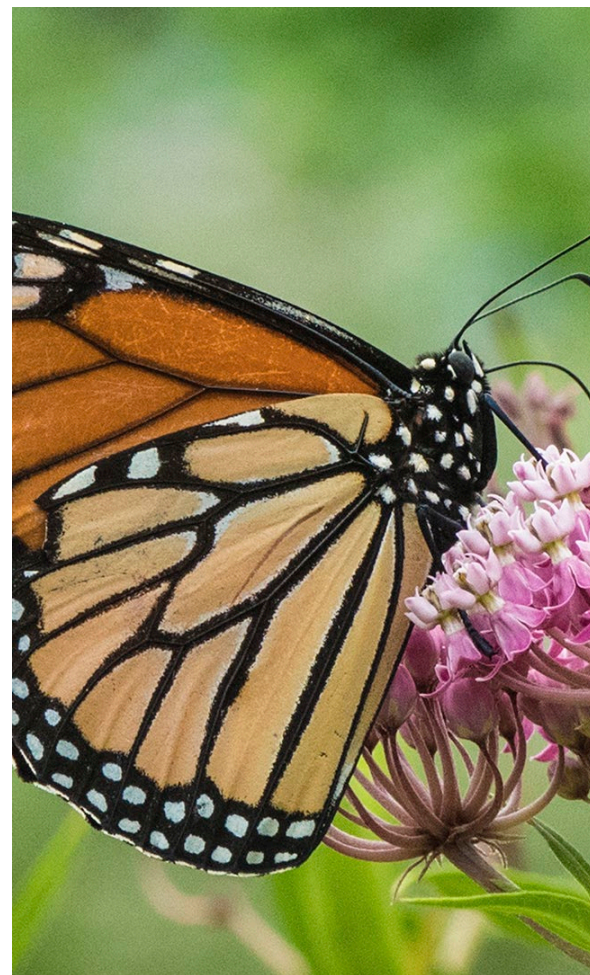
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)

Access Control (472)

Fence (382)

Conservation Systems' Multiple Benefits

- Conservation systems may also provide other benefits besides climate change mitigation:
 - Reducing risks and vulnerabilities and building resilience to climate change impacts (***climate change adaptation***)
 - Addressing other resource concerns like **soil health, water quality, pollinator and wildlife habitat, and air quality**
- Although many conservation practices can provide other benefits, **practices without mitigation benefits are not eligible for IRA funding unless they are needed to facilitate a mitigation practice.**



For Interested Producers

- Everyone has a part to play when it comes to delivering climate solutions, regardless of the size, location, or type of your operation
- If you've never applied, NRCS can help
- If you've applied before, and were not approved due to limited funding, try again in upcoming years!
- NRCS is also working hard to improve producer access to its programs and provide financial and technical assistance to improve your farm, ranch, urban operation or forest land
- Contact NRCS at your [local service center](#)



Applying for Programs in FY23

- NRCS accepts producer applications for its conservation programs year-round.
- Producers interested in **EQIP** or **CSP** should apply by **March 31, 2023**, to be considered for funding in the current cycle. Funding is provided through a competitive process.
- **ACEP** applications for the current IRA funding cycle must be submitted by **March 17, 2023**, for the first funding round.
- NRCS plans to roll out the next **RCPP** funding opportunity in early spring, which will include IRA funds for fiscal year 2023.



IRA and Other Climate Efforts

- Supporting [Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry \(CSAF\)](#) is a priority, including recent efforts to [improve nutrient management](#), [support soil carbon monitoring](#) and [streamline cover crop enrollment](#). Visit farmers.gov/climate-smart to learn more.
- [NRCS's Climate Change Adaptation Plan](#) identifies climate vulnerabilities and actions to integrate climate change into NRCS programs, operations and decision-making.
- [USDA Climate Hubs](#) develop and deliver science-based information and technologies
- The [Partnerships for Climate Smart Commodities](#) opportunity invests \$3.1 billion for 141 projects designed to expand markets for American producers who produce climate-smart commodities



IRA and Other Conservation Efforts

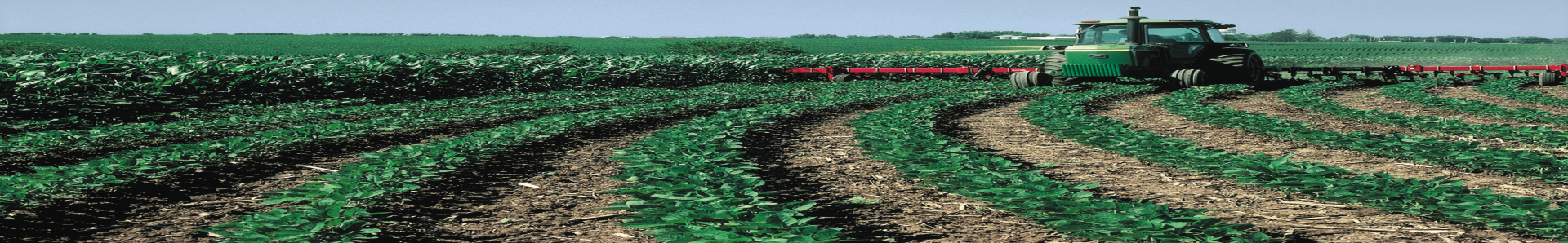
- [Western Water and Working Lands Framework for Conservation Action](#) – identifies six major conservation challenges related to water supply in the West, guidelines for identifying vulnerable agricultural landscapes, and 13 strategies for delivering NRCS assistance for responding to the challenges. The additional funding provided by the IRA for NRCS to implement Climate-Smart Mitigation Activities may also advance Western water priorities.
- [SMART Nutrient Management](#) – NRCS is streamlining, using existing tools, and standing up new initiatives to expand the availability of nutrient management assistance for producers for the 2023 crop year. Funding from the IRA will support producers implementing nutrient management climate-mitigation strategies.





United States Department of Agriculture

Environmental Quality Incentives Program



Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- 2018 Farm Bill Funding: \$9.1 Billion
 - \$1.75 Billion for FY19
 - \$1.75 Billion for FY20
 - \$1.8 Billion for FY21
 - \$1.85 Billion for FY22
 - \$2.025 Billion for FY23



2023 Mandatory Distribution

- Source Water Protection = 10%
- Wildlife Initiative = 10%
- Historically Underserved = 10%
- EQIP-CIC = 5%
- Livestock = 50%



Nebraska EQIP Fund Pools FY2023

FY2023 STATEWIDE FUND POOLS

- NE Great Plains Grassland Initiative
- Working Lands for Wildlife – Sandhills
- Working Lands for Wildlife - Quail
- Urban and Small-Scale Agriculture
- Organic
- Energy
- Conservation Activity Plans
- Animal Feeding Operations
- Tribal
- Disaster

FY2023 EQIP Allocations

FA Initial Allocation = \$23,957,000

- Urban and Small-Scale Agriculture (formerly High Tunnel) = \$500,000
- Wildlife Initiative (10%) = \$896,000 (10% includes WIN, GPGL and Quail WLFW initiative)
- Great Plains Grassland Initiative = \$1,200,000
- Quail WLFW Initiative = \$300,000
- Historically Underserved (10%) = \$2,396,000
- Reserve = \$600,000
- AFO's = \$1,000,000
- Conservation Activity Plans = \$200,000
- Organic = \$100,000
- Tribal = \$100,000
- Sandhills Working Lands for Wildlife (WLFW) = \$100,000

FY2023 EQIP Allocations

FA Initial Allocation (Estimate) = \$24,000,000

- Disaster = \$1,500,000
- Source Water Protection (10%) = \$2,396,000
- EQIP-CIC (5%) = \$1,200,000
- Inefficient Energy = \$25,000

Balance left to distribute to Local Fund Pools = \$9,994,000

National Initiatives Allocations (NOTE: Included in FA initial allocation total)

- Joint Chiefs = \$0 (NOTE: UNW, MN, UL, NRD's – No request for FY23)
- Water Smart = \$250,000
 - URNRD = \$250,000
 - MRNRD = \$0 (Project expired 9/30/22, No request for FY23)
- NWQI = \$1,200,000
 - Bazile Creek (LCNRD, LENRD, UENRD) = \$800,000
 - Big Sandy (LBNRD) = \$200,000
 - Turkey Creek (LBBNRD) = \$200,000

Environmental Quality Incentives Program - Nebraska

• Time Lines

- November 18, 2022 was application deadline
- February 21, 2023 – Applications Ranked
- April 1, 2023 – Contracts obligated
- **Statewide Wildfire Initiative**
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- **Tribal Initiative** – additional application cutoff TBD
- **GPGI**
 - February 17, 2023 application cutoff

Environmental Quality Incentives Program - Nebraska

- Total Active EQIP Contracts – March 2023
 - Total Active Contracts = 2,187
 - Total Contract Acres = 906,000
 - Obligated funds = \$72 million

Planned and Applied 2014 – 2028 Top 25 Practices – Obligations

Practice	Count	Amount	Obligations
Cover Crop	4632	640679.4	\$ 23,395,338.46
Livestock Pipeline	1930	10061025.4	\$ 15,445,573.18
Sprinkler System	383	31549.5	\$ 13,313,867.15
Conservation Crop Rotation	2262	88927.1	\$ 11,782,863.61
Terrace	1474	8128520.2	\$ 10,216,479.68
Irrigation System, Microirrigation	235	12831.4	\$ 9,778,032.65
Brush Management	2234	107764.2	\$ 9,748,693.33
Watering Facility	3308	37651.5	\$ 9,523,631.68
Pumping Plant	1719	1833.5	\$ 9,041,159.01
Fence	2029	7219837.5	\$ 8,854,276.17
Irrigation Water Management	4171	599997.4	\$ 8,227,341.77
Underground Outlet	1101	1856950.7	\$ 6,705,788.06
Water Well	1223	3062	\$ 4,958,182.01
Waste Storage Facility	57	62	\$ 3,824,389.78
Nutrient Management	626	173242.6	\$ 3,557,348.03
Irrigation System, Sprinkler	87	9647.2	\$ 3,001,929.05
Irrigation Pipeline	461	523604.9	\$ 2,764,352.22
Prescribed Grazing	593	125043	\$ 2,748,983.70
Pasture and Hay Planting	302	21482.5	\$ 2,144,798.28
Forest Stand Improvement	184	3739.8	\$ 1,772,369.40
Grassed Waterway	269	1028.2	\$ 1,396,931.67
Prescribed Burning	443	97327.8	\$ 1,273,119.06
Mulching	551	38040.8	\$ 1,265,119.62

Planned and Applied 2014 – 2028 Top 25 Practices – Count

Practice	Count	Amount	Obligations
Cover Crop	4632	640679.4	\$ 23,395,338.46
Irrigation Water Management	4171	599997.4	\$ 8,227,341.77
Watering Facility	3308	37651.5	\$ 9,523,631.68
Conservation Crop Rotation	2262	88927.1	\$ 11,782,863.61
Brush Management	2234	107764.2	\$ 9,748,693.33
Fence	2029	7219837.5	\$ 8,854,276.17
Livestock Pipeline	1930	10061025.4	\$ 15,445,573.18
Pumping Plant	1719	1833.5	\$ 9,041,159.01
Terrace	1474	8128520.2	\$ 10,216,479.68
Water Well	1223	3062	\$ 4,958,182.01
Underground Outlet	1101	1856950.7	\$ 6,705,788.06
Critical Area Planting	789	1940.5	\$ 405,208.40
Nutrient Management	626	173242.6	\$ 3,557,348.03
Prescribed Grazing	593	125043	\$ 2,748,983.70
Structure for Water Control	584	823	\$ 767,670.68
Mulching	551	38040.8	\$ 1,265,119.62
Irrigation Pipeline	461	523604.9	\$ 2,764,352.22
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation	455	1792363.8	\$ 502,637.02
Prescribed Burning	443	97327.8	\$ 1,273,119.06
Sprinkler System	383	31549.5	\$ 13,313,867.15
Pasture and Hay Planting	302	21482.5	\$ 2,144,798.28
Grassed Waterway	269	1028.2	\$ 1,396,931.67
Residue and Tillage Management, No Till	265	49444.7	\$ 584,149.89



United States Department of Agriculture

Conservation Stewardship Program



FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

2018 Farm Bill Funding:

\$700 million in FY19

\$723 million in FY20

\$750 million in FY21

\$800 million in FY22

\$1 billion in FY23



Conservation Stewardship Program - Nebraska

- Total Active CSP Contracts – March 2023
 - Contracts = 1,568
 - Contract Acres = 2.4 million
 - Obligated funds = \$97.2 million

Conservation Stewardship Program - Nebraska

- FY2023 Allocations

- CSP Classic = \$11.8 Million
- CSP Organic = \$200,000
- CSP Renewal = \$10.9 Million
- CSP-Grassland Conservation Initiative = \$48,225

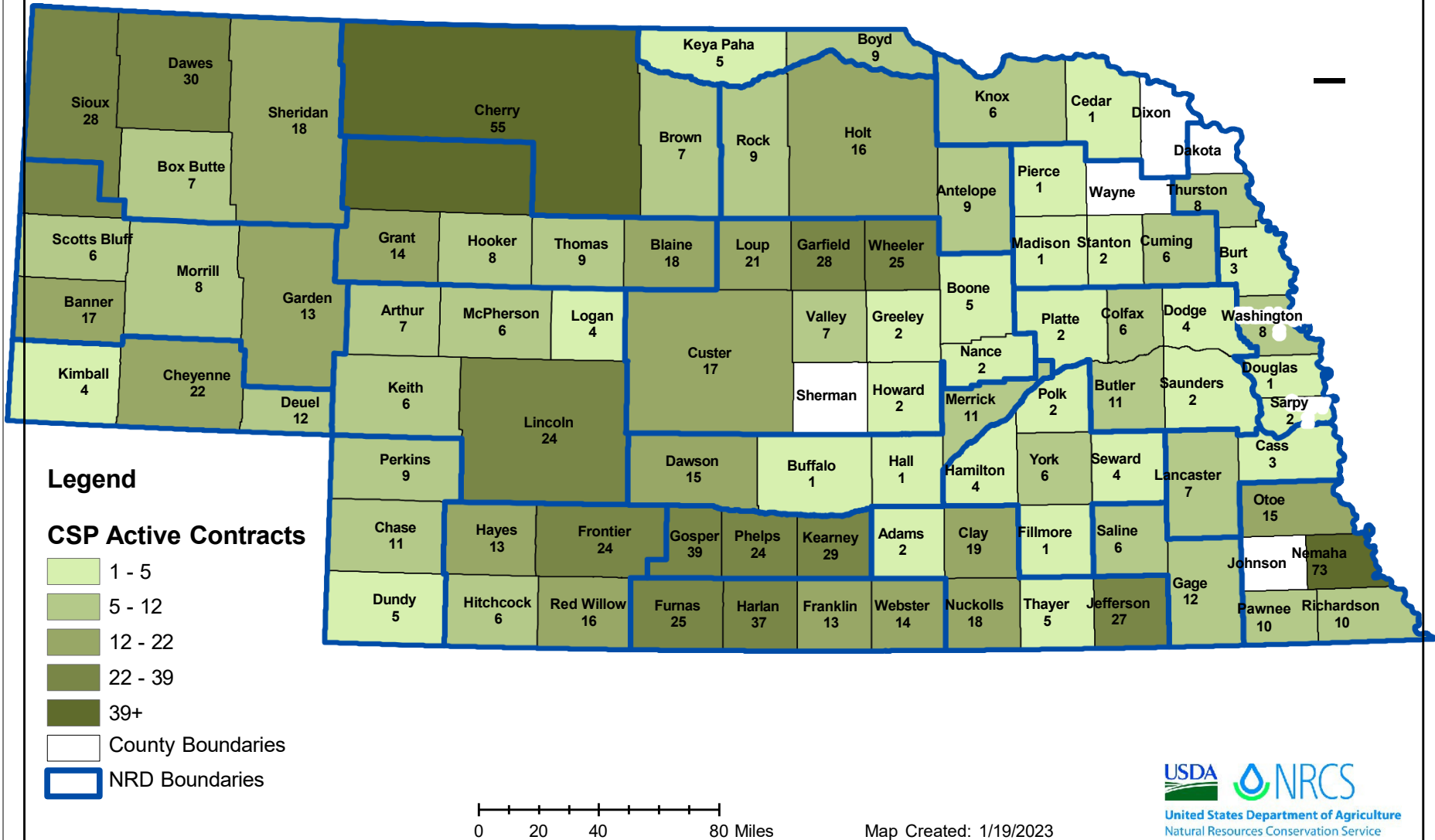
- FY2023 Applications

- Classic = 964
- Renewal = 381
- GCI = 46

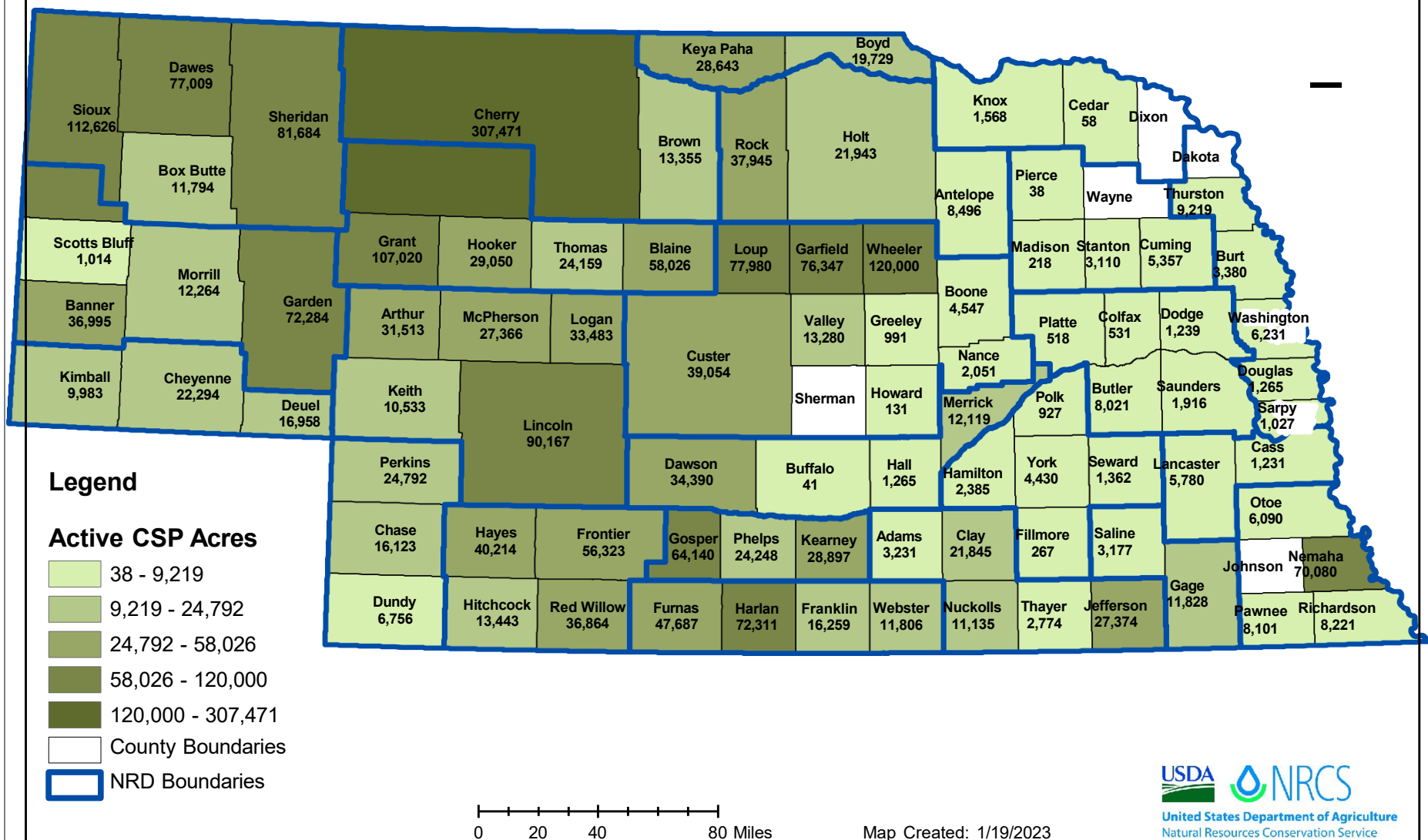
- FY2023 Contracts

- Renewal = 104

Nebraska Active CSP Contracts by County

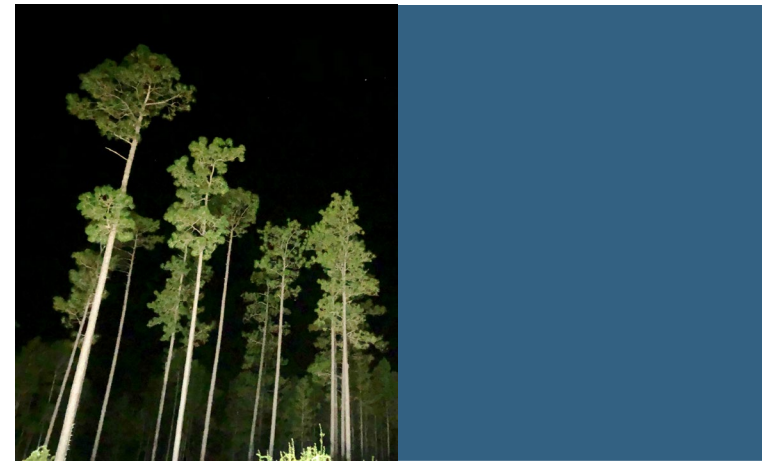


Nebraska Active CSP Acres by County





United States Department of Agriculture



Agricultural Conservation Easement Programs

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center

FY2023 ACEP - Nebraska

Fiscal Year Allocation of Funds

- ACEP-WRE - \$2,014,067
- ACEP-ALE - \$652,477
- ACEP-WRE/WRP Stewardship Funds - \$554,631
 - These funds are for maintenance and repairs of existing WRE and WRP easements.

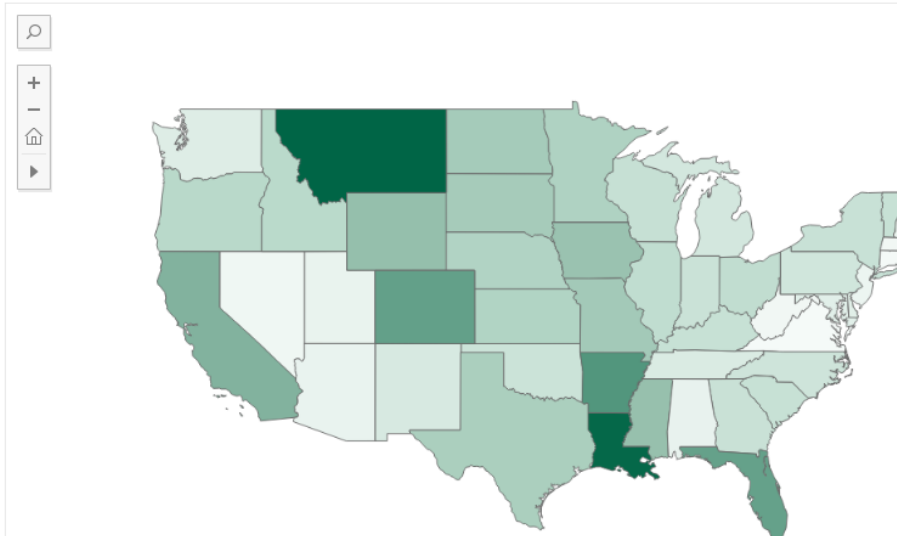
30 Years of NRCS Easement Programs

Easements Overview Map

Use the measure selector dropdown to customize what is visualized on the map. Select a map area to choose an area to focus the map on. Selecting a state to drilldown to will filter the map and go down to the county level.

Select Measure:

Select Map Area:



Data Filters

Conservation Purpose Filter

Program Filter

Closing Fiscal Year Filter

Easement Type

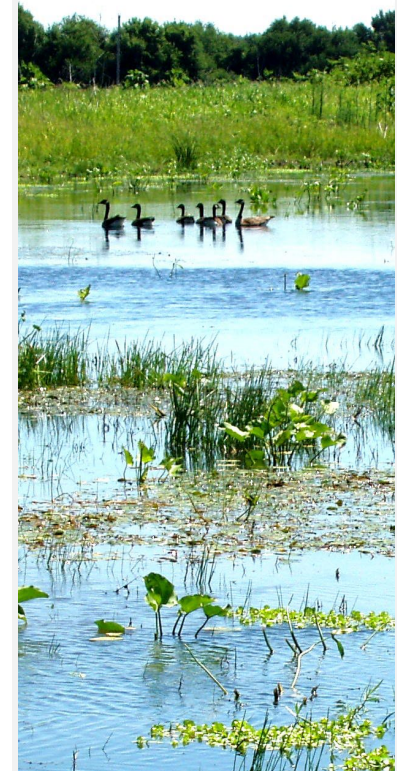
State Drilldown

Select a State

Color Legend

59 338,455

Nationwide



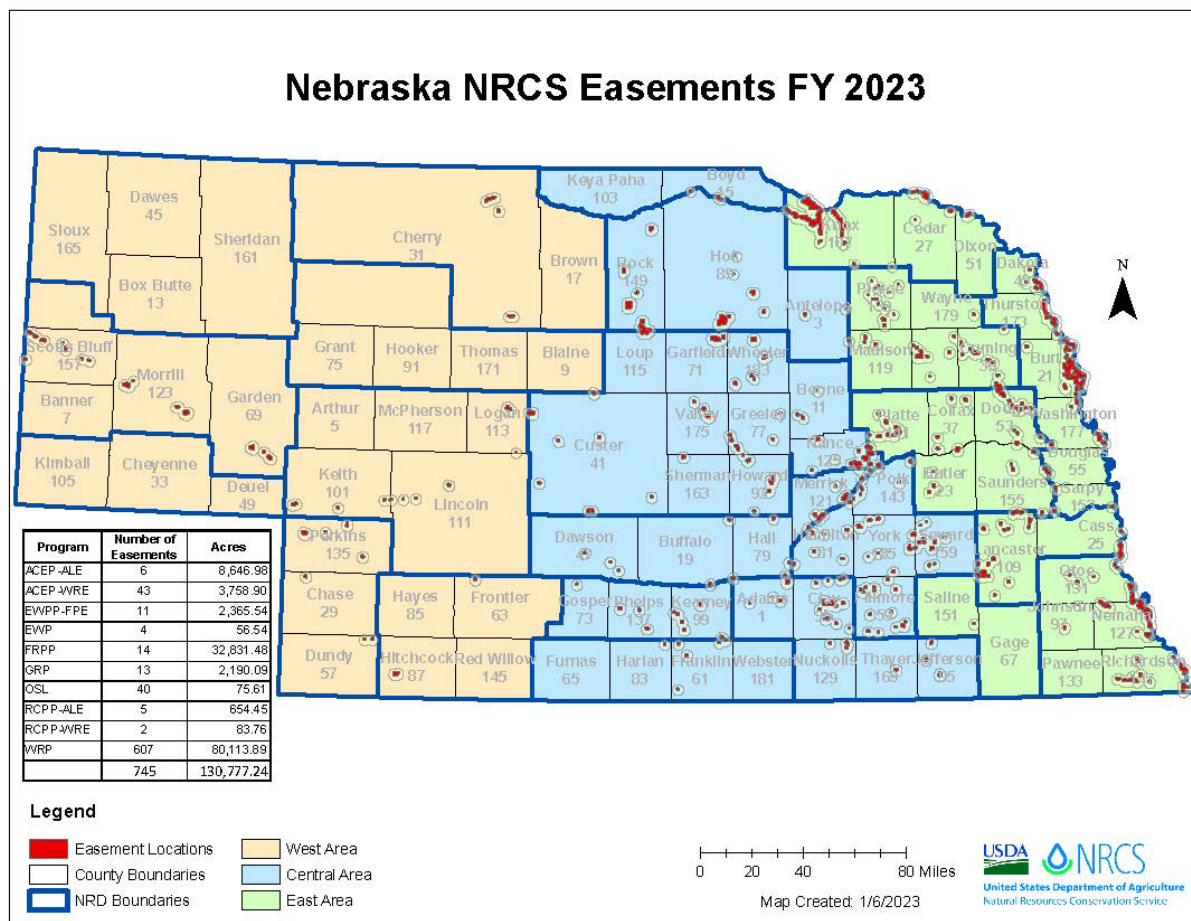
Natural
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nrcs.usda.gov/

[Easement Program Data | Farmers.gov](https://farmers.gov)



30 Years of NRCS Easement Programs



Nebraska



745 easements

130,777.24 acres

**Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service**

nrcs.usda.gov/





United States Department of Agriculture

ACEP Programmatic Requirements



[Nebraska Agricultural Conservation Easement Program \(ACEP\) | Natural Resources Conservation Service \(usda.gov\)](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/acep)

Webpage Updates

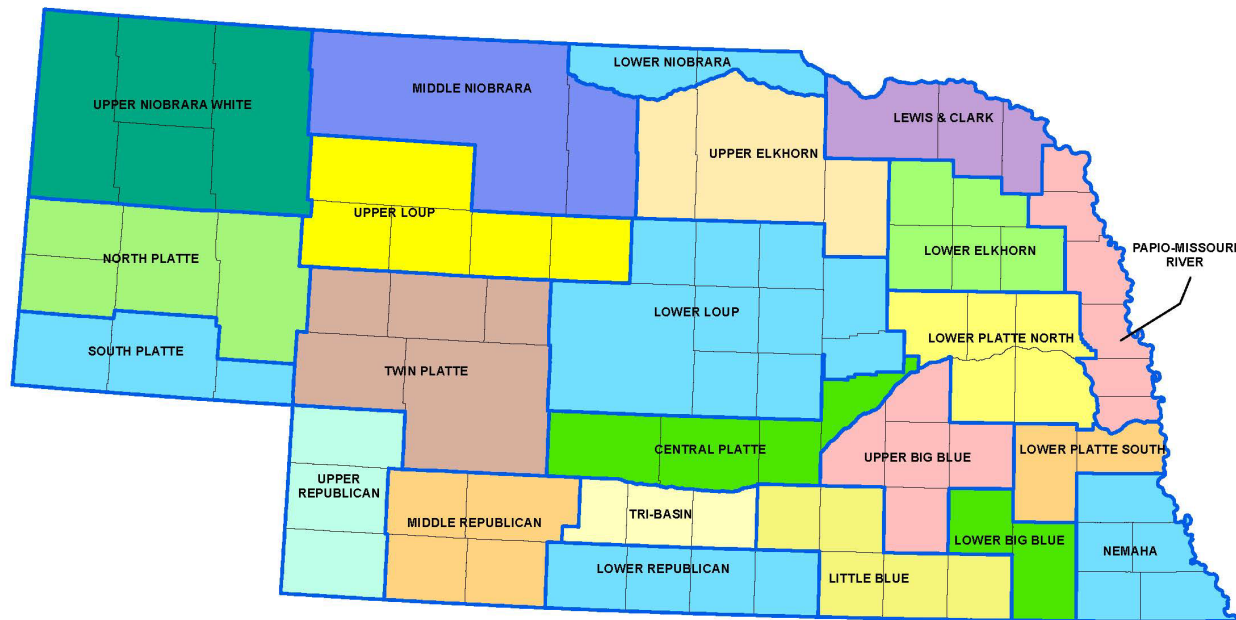


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FY2023 LOCAL WORK GROUP MEETINGS



LOCAL WORK GROUP MEETINGS

- Meetings completed in February/March 2023
- *LOCAL WORK GROUP AGENDA ITEMS:*
 - Priority Resource Concerns
 - Fund Pools - Ranking Tools – Screening Tools
 - Practice Payment Schedule
 - Local issues



FY2023 LOCAL WORK GROUP MEETINGS

NRD	DATE	TIME	PLACE	
North Platte NRD	2/16/2023	1:30-3:30 p.m.	North Platte Natural Resources District office at 100547 Airport RdScottsbluff, NE 69361	
Lower Big Blue NRD	2/23/2023	10:00 a.m.	Beatrice FO	
Lower Republican NRD	2/23/2023	10:00 a.m.	LRNRD Board Room, 30 North John Street, Alma, NE.	
Little Blue NRD	2/23/2023	9:30 a.m.	Little Blue NRD office, 100 East 6th #100, Davenport NE 68335 & Virtual	
Nemaha NRD	2/23/2023	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Nemaha Natural Resource District 62161 Hwy 136 Tecumseh, NE 68450.	
Lower Loup NRD	2/27/2023	10:00 a.m.	Lower Loup NRD Headquarters, 2620 Airport Drive Ord, NE	
Lower Platte North NRD	2/28/2023	1:00-4:00 p.m.	LPN NRD Headquarters - 511 Commercial Park Road, Wahoo NE 68066	
Papio-Missouri River NRD	3/1/2023	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Blair USDA Service Center at 1060 Wilbur St. Blair NE. 68008	
Central Platte NRD	3/2/2023	9:30 a.m.	Central Platte NRD Board Room at 215 Kaufman Ave, Grand Island, NE	
Upper Republican NRD	3/8/2023	1:30 p.m. MST	511 E. 5th Street, Imperial, NE	
Tri-Basin NRD	3/8/2023	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Tri Basin NRD Conference Room and via Zoom	
Middle Republican NRD	3/8/2023	1:30 p.m.	McCook Service Center Conf. Rm, 1400 West 5th St.	
Lower Niobrara NRD	3/9/2023	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	410 Walnut Street; Butte, NE 68722	
Lower Elkhorn NRD	3/9/2023	5:00-7:00 p.m.	601 East Benjamin Ave, Norfolk	
Middle Niobrara NRD	3/13/2023	5:00-7:00 pm.	Middle Niobrara NRD Office, 303 E Highway 20, Valentine, NE 69201	
Upper Loup NRD	3/15/2023	1:00 p.m. CST	Upper Loup NRD Learning Center; 39311 Hwy 2, Thedford, NE 69166	
Upper Big Blue NRD	3/15/2023	10:00 a.m.	UBB NRD Office	
Twin Platte NRD	3/15/2023	10:00 a.m.	North Platte Area Office Training Room	
Upper Niobrara-White NRD	3/15/2023	9:30 a.m.	Upper Niobrara White NRD Conference Room - Chadron, NE	
Lewis & Clark NRD	3/17/2023	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Hartington Country Club - 710 W. Clubhouse, Hartington, NE	
South Platte NRD	3/29/2023	10:00 a.m. MST	South Platte NRD, 551 Parkland, Sidney.	
Upper Elkhorn NRD	3/23/2023	10:00 a.m.	301 North Harrison St.; O'Neill, NE 68763	
Lower Platte South NRD	3/28/2023	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Lower Platte South NRD, 3125 Portia Street; Lincoln, NE	



QUESTIONS?

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry (CSAF) Mitigation Activities List ^[1] FY2023



Climate Change Mitigation Practice Categories	Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ^[2] (units)	CSP Enhancement Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Bundle and Enhancement Activity
Soil Health			B000BFF1	Buffer Bundle#1*
			B000CPL24	Cropland soil health management system*
			B000CPL25	Climate smart advanced soil health*
	327	Conservation Cover (acres)	E327A	Conservation cover for pollinators and beneficial insects
			E327B	Establish Monarch butterfly habitat
	328	Conservation Crop Rotation (acres)	E328A	Resource conserving crop rotation
			E328B	Improved resource conserving crop rotation
			E328E	Soil health crop rotation
			E328F	Modifications to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter
			E328G	Crop rotation on recently converted CRP grass/legume cover for soil organic matter improvement
			E328N	Intercropping to improve soil health
			E328O	Perennial grain crop conservation rotation
	329	Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (acres)	E329A	No till to reduce soil erosion
			E329B	No till to reduce tillage induced particulate matter
			E329C	No till to increase plant-available moisture
			E329D	No till system to increase soil health and soil organic matter content
			E329E	No till to reduce energy
	332	Contour Buffer Strips (acres)	None Available	
	340	Cover Crop (acres)	E340A	Cover crop to reduce soil erosion
			E340B	Intensive cover cropping to increase soil health and soil organic matter content
			E340C	Use of multi-species cover crops to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter
			E340D	Intensive orchard/vineyard floor cover cropping to increase soil health
			E340F	Cover crop to minimize soil compaction
			E340G	Cover crop to reduce water quality degradation by utilizing excess soil nutrients
			E340H	Cover crop to suppress excessive weed pressures and break pest cycles
			E340I	Using cover crops for biological strip till
	345	Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (acres)	E345A	Reduced tillage to reduce soil erosion
			E345B	Reduced tillage to reduce tillage induced particulate matter
			E345C	Reduced tillage to increase plant-available moisture
			E345D	Reduced tillage to increase soil health and soil organic matter content
			E345E	Reduced tillage to reduce energy use
	386	Field Border (acres)	E386A	Enhanced field borders to reduce soil erosion along the edge(s) of a field
			E386B	Enhanced field borders to increase carbon storage along the edge(s) of the field
			E386C	Enhanced field borders to decrease particulate emissions along the edge(s) of the field
			E386D	Enhanced field borders to increase food for pollinators along the edge(s) of a field
			E386E	Enhanced field borders to increase wildlife food and habitat along the edge(s) of a field
	393	Filter Strips (acres)	E393A	Extend existing filter strip to reduce water quality impacts
	412	Grassed Waterways (acres)	E412A	Enhance a grassed waterway
	484	Mulching (acres)	E484A	Mulching to improve soil health
			E484B	Reduce particulate matter emissions by using orchard or vineyard generated woody materials as mulch
			E484C	Reduce particulate matter emissions by using orchard or vineyard generated woody materials as mulch
	585	Stripcropping (acres)	None Available	
	601	Vegetative Barriers (feet)		
	603	Herbaceous Wind Barriers (feet)		

Climate Change Mitigation Practice Categories	Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ⁽²⁾ (units)	CSP Enhancement Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Bundle and Enhancement Activity
Nitrogen Management	590	Nutrient Management (acres)	E590A	Improving nutrient uptake efficiency and reducing risk of nutrient losses
			E590B	Reduce risks of nutrient loss to surface water by utilizing precision agriculture technologies
			E590C	Improving nutrient uptake efficiency and reducing risk of nutrient losses on pasture
			E590D	Reduce risks of nutrient losses to surface and groundwater by increasing setback awareness via precision technology
Livestock Partnership	366	Anaerobic Digester (number)	None Available	
	632	Waste Separation Facility (number)*		
Grazing and Pasture	512	Pasture and Hay Planting (acres)	E512A	Cropland conversion to grass-based agriculture to reduce soil erosion
			E512B	Forage plantings that help increase organic matter in depleted soils
			E512C	Cropland conversion to grass for soil organic matter improvement
			E512D	Forage plantings that help increase organic matter in depleted soils
			E512E	Forage and biomass planting that produces feedstock for biofuels or energy production
			E512I	Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect and/or monarch habitat
			E512J	Establish wildlife corridors to provide habitat continuity or access to water
			E512L	Diversifying forage base with interseeding forbs and legumes to increase pasture quality
			E512M	Forage plantings that improve wildlife habitat cover and shelter or structure and composition
	528	Prescribed Grazing (acres)	E528A	Maintaining quantity and quality of forage for animal health and productivity
			E528D	Grazing management for improving quantity and quality of food or cover and shelter for wildlife
			E528E	Improved grazing management for enhanced plant structure and composition for wildlife
			E528F	Stockpiling cool season forage to improve structure and composition or plant productivity and health
			E528G	Improved grazing management on pasture for plant productivity and health with monitoring activities
			E528H	Prescribed grazing to improve/maintain riparian and watershed function-elevated water temperature
			E528I	Grazing management that protects sensitive areas -surface or ground water from nutrients
			E528J	Prescribed grazing on pastureland that improves riparian and watershed function
			E528L	Prescribed grazing that improves or maintains riparian and watershed function-erosion
			E528M	Grazing management that protects sensitive areas from gully erosion
			E528O	Clipping mature forages to set back vegetative growth for improved forage quality
			E528P	Implementing Bale or Swath Grazing to increase organic matter and reduce nutrients in surface water
			E528R	Management intensive rotational grazing
			E528S	Soil Health Improvements on Pasture
			E528T	Grazing to Reduce Wildfire Risks on Forests
	550	Range Planting (acres)	E550A	Range planting for increasing/maintaining organic matter
			E550B	Range planting for improving forage, browse, or cover for wildlife

Climate Change Mitigation Practice Categories	Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ^[2] (units)	CSP Enhancement Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Bundle and Enhancement Activity
Agroforestry, Forestry and Upland Wildlife Habitat	311	Alley Cropping (acres)	None Available	
	342	Critical Area Planting (acres)		
	379	Forest Farming (acres)		
	380	Windbreaks/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation (feet)		
	381	Silvopasture (acres)	E381A	Silvopasture to improve wildlife habitat
	390	Riparian Herbaceous Cover (acres)	E390A	Increase riparian herbaceous cover width for sediment and nutrient reduction
			E390B	Increase riparian herbaceous cover width to enhance wildlife habitat
	391	Riparian Forest Buffer (acres)	E391A	Increase riparian forest buffer width for sediment and nutrient reduction
			E391B	Increase stream shading for stream temperature reduction
			E391C	Increase riparian forest buffer width to enhance wildlife habitat
	420	Wildlife Habitat Planting (acres)*	E420A	Establish pollinator habitat*
			E420B	Establish monarch butterfly habitat*
	422	Hedgerow Planting (feet)	None Available	
	612	Tree/Shrub Establishment (acres)	E612A	Cropland conversion to trees or shrubs for long term improvement of water quality
			E612B	Planting for high carbon sequestration rate
			E612C	Establishing tree/shrub species to restore native plant communities
			E612G	Tree/shrub planting for wildlife food
	645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (acres)	E645B	Manage existing shrub thickets to provide adequate shelter for wildlife
			E645C	Edge feathering for wildlife cover
	666	Forest Stand Improvement (acres)*	E666A	Maintaining and improving forest soil quality*
			E666D	Forest management to enhance understory vegetation*
			E666E	Reduce height of the forest understory to limit wildfire risk*
			E666F	Reduce forest stand density to create open stand structure*
			E666H	Increase on-site carbon storage*
			E666I	Crop tree management for mast production*
			E666J	Facilitating oak forest regeneration*
			E666K	Creating structural diversity with patch openings*
			E666L	Forest Stand Improvement to rehabilitate degraded hardwood stands*
			E666P	Summer roosting habitat for native forest-dwelling bat species*
			E666R	Forest songbird habitat maintenance*
			E666S	Facilitating longleaf pine regeneration and establishment*
Restoration of Disturbed Lands	453	Land Reclamation, Landslide Treatment (acres)	None Available	
	543	Land Reclamation, Abandoned Mined Land (acres) ^[3]		
Energy, Combustion, and Electricity Efficiency	372	Combustion System Improvement (number)	None Available	
	374	Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation (number)*		
			E533C	Install VFDs on pumps[4] *
			E533D	Complete pumping plant evaluation for energy savings[4] *
	672	Energy Efficient Building Envelope (number)*	None Available	
	670	Energy Efficient Lighting System (number)*		
Wetlands	657	Wetland Restoration (acres)*	None Available	
Rice	449	Irrigation Water Management (acres) ^[4]	E449B	Alternated Wetting and Drying (AWD) of rice fields

NOTES:

In addition to the designated CSAF conservation activities listed, conservation practices which facilitate the management or the function of a CSAF activity but does not achieve the desired effects on its own (and may not have a quantifiable benefit), may be planned as applicable. Examples: Tree-Shrub Establishment (612) may need facilitating practices such as site prep (490) or access control (472). Conservation Crop Rotation (328) may need facilitating practices such as pest management conservation system (595), cover crops (340), or irrigation water management (449). Waste Separation Facility (632) may need facilitating practices such as waste transfer (634) or roofs and covers (367). Prescribed grazing (528) may need facilitating practices such as watering facility (614), stream crossing (578), fence (382), or livestock shelter structure (576).

Activities highlighted have been added to the list in FY23.

*Noted activities are added to the list as “provisional.” These practices, associated enhancements, and bundles are being added under the premise that they may provide benefits, and a quantification methodology will be evaluated during the fiscal year. Practices may be removed from the mitigation practice list in a subsequent fiscal year if quantification is not possible.

- [1] Unless otherwise noted, listed practices have quantifiable carbon sequestration and/or GHG reduction methodologies described in COMET-Planner (www.comet-planner.com). New practices will be added as science progresses and scientifically defensible quantification methodologies are identified to accompany existing and new NRCS conservation practice standards.
- [2] The included Conservation Practice Standard links provide national information. Please consult the NRCS office at your local USDA Service Center for any local and state level criteria. Visit farmers.gov/service-locator to find contact information for your local office.
- [3] Effective Oct 1, 2022, Land Reclamation, Currently Mined Land (544) was archived and has been removed from this mitigation list, the practice was combined into Land Reclamation, Abandoned Mined Land (543). See NHCP Notice 172 for more information.
- [4] Conservation Practice Standards Irrigation Water Management (449) and Pumping Plant (533) are not GHG mitigation practice standards. The only atmospheric-beneficial applications are with Enhancement Activities E533C, E533D, and E449B or when 449 is implemented as part of an alternated wetting and drying (AWD) system in rice fields.



Water Quality Subcommittee Update

NRCS STATE TECHNICAL MEETING

MARCH 2, 2023

2018 Farm Bill

The 2018 Farm Bill added a provision providing for the protection of source water through targeted conservation practices. This provision, 1244(n), instructs USDA to encourage the protection of drinking water sources through the following methods:



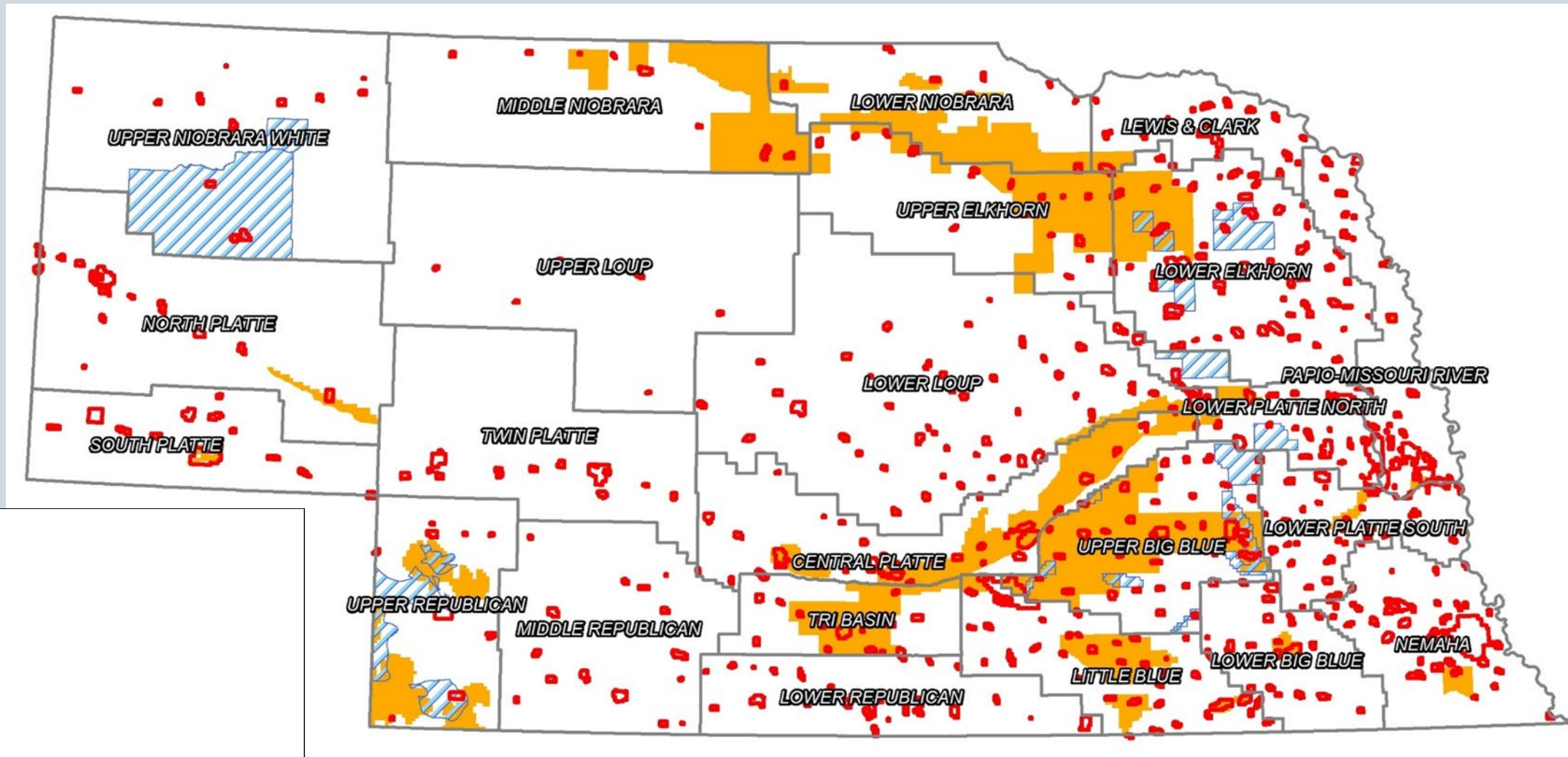
Identify local priority areas for drinking water protection in each State to address quality, quantity, or both.



Providing increased incentives for practices that relate to water quality and quantity and protect drinking water while also benefitting producers.



Dedicating at least 10% of total funds available for conservation programs (excluding CRP) to be used for source water protection each year, from FY 2019 through 2023



The Phase 2-4 and Quantity Management Areas that intersect a Wellhead Protection Area are medium priority.

Total Medium & High Priority Areas: 8,006,050 acres

Environmental Quality Incentives Program – FY2022

Contract Practice Summary

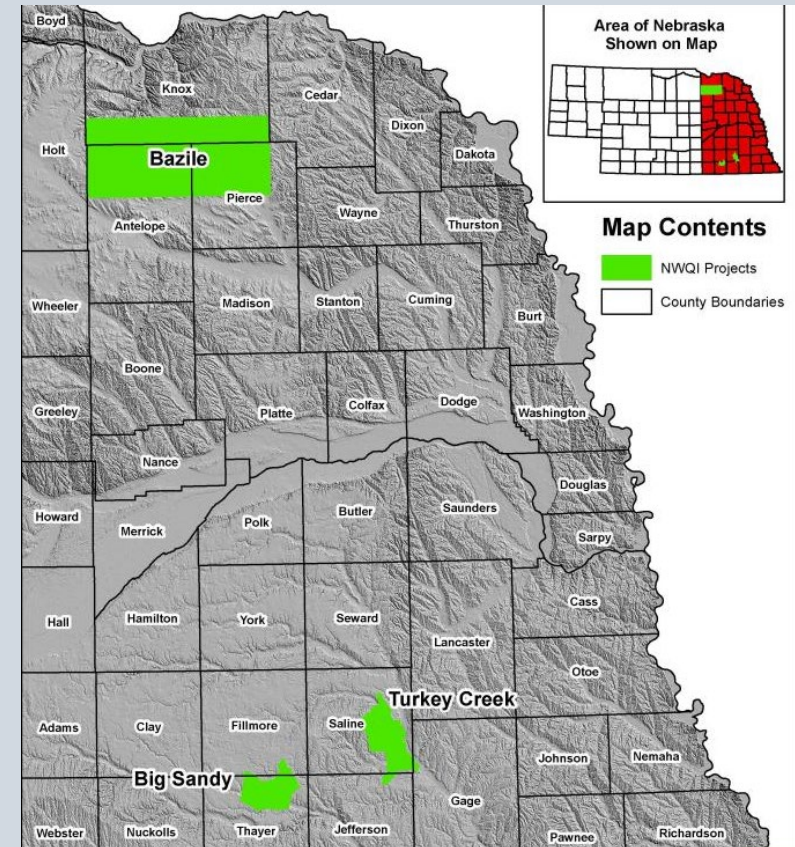
FY22 Source Water Protection	
Conservation Practice	Obligated
Irrigation System, Microirrigation	\$ 845,584.73
Sprinkler System	\$ 582,867.03
Irrigation Water Management	\$ 568,104.00
Pumping Plant	\$ 263,467.30
Cover Crop	\$ 191,338.00
Nutrient Management	\$ 144,225.00
Irrigation Pipeline	\$ 121,418.18
Conservation Crop Rotation	\$ 120,238.30
Structure for Water Control	\$ 63,591.68
Pest Management Conservation System	\$ 60,000.00
TA Design	\$ 30,356.98
TA Application	\$ 12,769.68
TA Check-Out	\$ 4,912.95
Water Well	\$ 1,968.00
Field Border	\$ 640.00
Critical Area Planting	\$ 464.00

FY20 – FY22 Source Water Protection

Practice	Count	Amount	Obligations
Irrigation Water Management	325	52503.5	\$ 1,111,328.86
Conservation Crop Rotation	112	1490.8	\$ 282,905.17
Cover Crop	109	22323.2	\$ 568,041.71
Irrigation Pipeline	60	60113	\$ 287,196.04
Nutrient Management	60	16283.3	\$ 308,185.17
Pumping Plant	45	48	\$ 466,396.36
Sprinkler System	45	3022.7	\$ 1,458,141.20
Structure for Water Control	40	74	\$ 67,760.92
Pest Management Conservation System	21	3107.6	\$ 118,449.48
TA Check-Out	20	2499.9	\$ 8,118.26
TA Design	20	2499.9	\$ 46,993.34
Irrigation System, Microirrigation	16	739.4	\$ 900,825.50
TA Application	15	298.9	\$ 20,022.27
Conservation Cover	6	49.2	\$ 15,104.62
Field Border	1	1	\$ 640.00
Irrigation Reservoir	1	2	\$ 2,251.00

Committee Purpose

- Provide assessment and guidance on NRCS Source Water and NWQI priority areas/practices
- Collaborate on water quality efforts moving forward
- Update and exchange information on water quality efforts with partner organizations
- Further goals to be ID'd by group



Upcoming Meetings

- NDEE Office (Fallbrook)
- Continuing to meet monthly until further decision
- Focus on broadening group to include more producer and ag group representation
- Current participants: NRCS, NRDs, DNR, City of Hastings, Dept of Ag, Sierra Club, NE Corn Growers, NE Cattlemen, ...

Small Scale & Urban Agriculture

Brach Johnson – State Outreach Coordinator

Jason McCauley – Acting - Urban Conservationist



Brach Johnson – State Outreach Coordinator

Accomplishments since last State Technical Committee Meeting

- Nebraska Urban Agriculture and Conservation Council (NUACC) formed
- Urban practice list finalized
- SSUA signup ended, applications ranked, and EQIP preapprovals
- Working with CCA participants, NECC and UN-L for Urban Soil Health Agreement
- Met with over 70 new farmers in Small Scale and Urban Ag (SSUA)
- Working with 7 different grant opportunities
- Identify community code and zoning for SSUA
- Promotion of NRCS programs to a new audience

**Beavers
Producer –
Rogers,
Nebraska**







Outreach



Cardinal Farms – Dakota City, Nebraska



Cardinal Farms – Dakota City, Nebraska





Questions?



State Technical Committee March Updates

**Farm
Service
Agency**

fsa.usda.gov

CRP – FY2023 – October 1, 2022

Nebraska CRP Enrollment:

Contracts = 19,718

Farms = 11,302

Signup Type	Acres
General	348,965
Continuous Non-CREP	110,537
Migratory Bird SAFE	1,939
Upland Bird SAFE	113,224
Grasslands	1,230,768
Platte Republican CREP	40,070
Central Basins CREP	1,183
Total Acres	1,846,686

Acres Expiring September 30, 2023, in Nebraska = 50,672

Continuous Signup 59 - October 1, 2022

Continuous CRP allows producers and landowners to enroll environmental sensitive land into the program throughout the year. If producer and land meet the eligibility requirements an offer is accepted automatically. No ranking is required. (Filter strips, Grass Waterways, Wetlands, Riparian Buffers, Trees, etc.) Includes Upland Bird SAFE (Grass).

Continuous CRP Deadlines

The following are the FY 2023 continuous CRP deadlines.

Date	Action
July 31, 2023	Deadline for producers to submit an offer for re-enrolled land or combination new and re-enrolled land for continuous CRP signup 59.
August 7, 2023	Deadline for producers to request a conservation plan from NRCS. County Office deadline to enter the status in COLS as "Submit for Plan" for continuous CRP signup 59. Note: FSA must provide offers to NRCS within 5 workdays of receiving the submitted offer from the producer.
September 8, 2023	Deadline for NRCS/TSP to complete the conservation plan, sign and obtain signatures of all signatories on CRP-1, and return the conservation plan to FSA.
September 29, 2023	Deadline for COC or CED to approve CRP-1's and load CRP-1 approvals in COLS. Note: There is no authority to approve CRP-1 after September 29, 2023, for offers that include re-enrolled land for continuous CRP signup 59.

Migratory Bird SAFE - October 1, 2022

Nebraska, Kansas & Oklahoma

Landowners submit offers to enroll their playa acres into this program for an amount they are willing to accept as an annual payment. Does involve a ranking process to determine if accepted or not.

4th Signup Started January 3, 2023

Nebraska						
Southwestern Nebraska Ranking Cluster						
Banner	Chase	Cheyenne	Deuel	Dundy	Frontier	Garden
Hayes	Hitchcock	Keith	Kimball	Lincoln	Perkins	
Central Table Nebraska Ranking Cluster						
Buffalo	Custer	Dawson	Logan	Sherman	Valley	
Rainwater Basin Nebraska Ranking Cluster						
Butler	Clay	Franklin	Gosper	Hall	Hamilton	Harlan
Kearney	Adams	Nuckolls	Filmore	Phelps	Polk	Thayer
Saline	Seward	York	Webster			

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Migratory Bird SAFE - October 1, 2022

Nebraska, Kansas & Oklahoma

Signup Timeline:

Completion Date	Action
February 17, 2023	Deadline for producer to submit the initial offer. Offers submitted must be delivered to NRCS for suitability and feasibility determination within 5 business days of offer request. Signature on CRP-2C and CRP-1 are not required for the initial offer submission.
March 3, 2023	Deadline for NRCS or TSP to complete and deliver the Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet to County Office. If determined needed and feasible, NRCS or TSP must deliver a GIS shapefile indicating the wetland and buffer location.
March 17, 2023	Deadline for producer to sign and date completed CRP-2C and CRP-1, provide the signed documents to the County Office, be loaded in COLS, and place in "Submitted" status.
September 8, 2023	Deadline for NRCS or TSP to complete the conservation plan, sign and obtain signatures of all signatories on CRP-1, and return the conservation plan to FSA.
September 29, 2023	Deadline for County Offices to obtain all signatures on CRP-1 and for COC or CED to approved CRP-1's and load CRP-1 approvals in COLS. Note: There is no authority to approve CRP-1 after September 29, 2023.

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General Signup 60

Producers and landowner when signing up under General CRP will establish long-term, resource –conserving plant species to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland.

Signup Date - February 27 through April 7, 2023

- SRR's have been published
- FSA has updated tools that will be used to estimate water & wind erosion for CRP as follows:
 - RUSLE > RUSLE2
 - WEQ > WEPS

Changes have been implemented for FY2023 CRP Signups as of October 1, 2023

General Signup 60

Water Erosion Tool Changes:

- RUSLE2 – universal soil loss equation tool to estimate water erosion
- More accurate method of erosion estimation
 - Using site-specific data versus county data
 - Captures daily interaction weather, soil, and tillage parameters

General Signup 60

Wind Erosion Tool Changes:

- WEP – Wind Erosion Prediction System
- More accurate method of erosion estimation
 - Uses updated climate data
 - Simulates daily effect of precipitation, wind, soil properties & family operations.

General Signup 60

RUSLE2 & WEPS Results:

- Soil loss estimates will be more site specific & accurate to the site being offered
- Top 3 predominant soil components within the offered area. Top 3 soil types calculated for a weighted average loss value
- Bare ground fallow – 12 monthly rotary hoe operation (Continuous light tillage)

General Signup 60

RUSLE2/WEPS will result in different Erodibility Indexes (EI):

- Changes will vary by region
- On average, water EI values will decrease, and wind EI values will increase, and
- These changes will more accurately reflect erosion risks to identify the most environmentally sensitive land

General Signup 60

General SU60 Timeline:

Dates	Deadlines
April 7, 2023	Deadline for producer to submit offer
August 11, 2023	NRCS/TSP deadline to return completed/signed Conservation Plan to FSA
September 30, 2023	CRP-1's approved and loaded into COLS by FSA

Grasslands CRP

Announcement is forthcoming.

CRP Cost Docket Review

The State Committee must develop C/S rates in consultation with the State Technical Committee for CRP.

In Nebraska, these rates are established at the State level along with NRCS according to National guidelines.

CRP Cost Docket Review

- **Added Component under Herbaceous Control when vegetation removal is needed as part of site prep**
 - This would be utilized in instances where haying is not practical or feasible, Example: Swath/burn; swath/windrow or haying/bale/destruction of bales. This would require an onsite inspection and review by FSA of destruction of hay. \$48 (100%) Producer would pay for inspection.
- **Added component under Upland Wildlife Habitat Management to allow a producer to seed a dense forb plot as an alternative to planting a shrub thicket this cost would include cost for site prep and seed at \$171.17 (100%).**
- **Increased chemical component for:**
 - Site prep
 - Mechanical & site prep
 - Combination complex .
- **Increased fencing cost: electric, barbed and barbed for rugged terrain**

CRP Clear 30 Cost Docket Review

CLEAR30 Docket – (Maintenance Rates)

- **Maintenance payment rates must be established by STC, in consultation with NRCS, for ALL CLEAR30 maintenance activities to be used within the State**
- **Establishing these CLEAR30 maintenance rates require States to:**
 - consider the CLEAR30 practices in your state, (What's expiring versus what's not)
 - coordinate with NRCS to determine what maintenance activities, or O&M activities, may be needed for those practices,
 - State Committee will set an appropriate maintenance rate at 75% of the average cost of completing that activity.

CRP Clear 30 Cost Docket Review

The following is a minimum list of maintenance activities requiring rates to be established:

- Site Prep
- Seeding/Inter-seeding/Planting
- Control of weeds – chemical/mechanical
- Mowing/Discing
- Prescribed Burning/Firebreaks
- Maintenance of structures, i.e:
 - Grassed Waterways
- Re-establishment of conservation practice damaged by no fault of producer
- Maintenance of installed structures, i.e:
 - Fence
 - Watering components
 - Livestock crossing

CRP Clear 30 Cost Docket Review

- **Added Component under Herbaceous Control when vegetation removal is needed as part of site prep**
 - This would be utilized in instances where haying is not practical or feasible, Example: Swath/burn; swath/windrow or haying/bale/destruction of bales. This would require an onsite inspection and review by FSA of destruction of hay. \$48 (100%) Producer would pay for inspection.
- **Increased chemical component for:**
 - Site prep
 - Mechanical & site prep
 - Combination complex
- **Increased fencing cost for:**
 - electric
 - barbed
 - woven
 - barbed for rugged terrain

Emergency Conservation Program Update

What is ECP?

ECP is a cost share program that provides emergency funding and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by **natural disasters**.

ECP does not compensate participants for damage to non-farmland or buildings, but does assist with restoring the productive agricultural capacity to damaged land

Emergency Conservation Program Updates

- Updated guidance and procedure for implementing ECP payment scenarios
- Policy recommends reviewing ECP payment scenarios and descriptions of ECP practices with State Technical Committee
 - Any suggested changes may be submitted to the national program manager for review and consideration

ECP Practices

EC1 – Removing Debris From Farmland

EC2 – Grading, Shaping, Releveling, or Similar Measures

EC3 – Replacing or Repairing Permanent Fences

EC4 – Restoring Conservation Structures and Other Installations

EC6 – Drought Emergency Measures

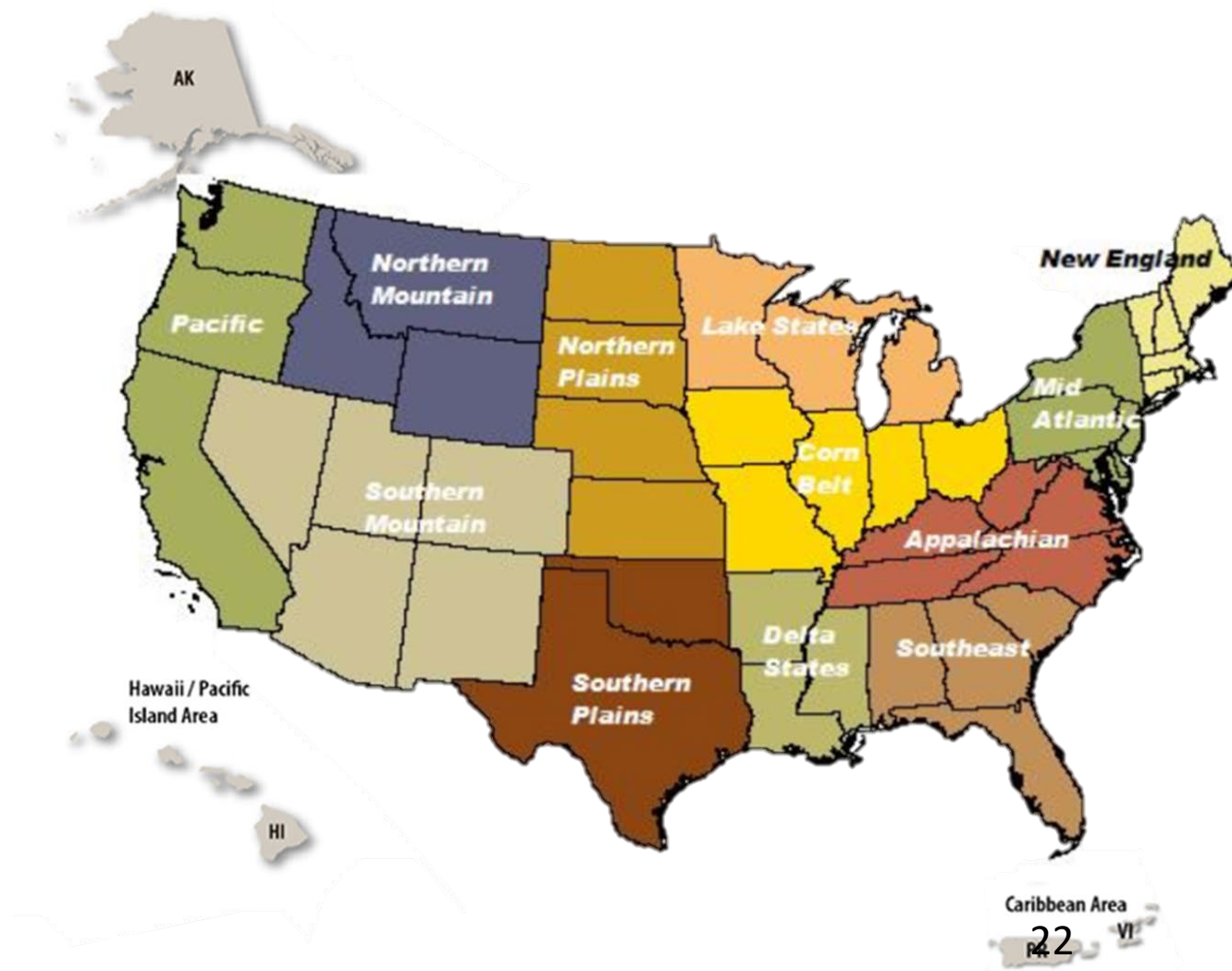
EC7 – Other Emergency Conservation Measures

EC8 – Field Windbreaks and Farmstead Shelterbelts Emergency Measures

Why Payment Scenarios?

- Streamlined and straight-forward program implementation
- Reduced opportunity for improper payments
- **SIGNIFICANT** reduction in COF workload
- Improved timeliness of payment processing
- Consistency in payment rates across agencies, states, counties

What's My Region?



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Review of Payment Scenarios and Descriptions

EC1 Debris Removal – Technical Code 500

Available scenarios include:

- Removal of Trees less than 6 Inches in Diameter
- Removal of Trees greater than 6 Inches in Diameter
- Removal and Disposal of Fence
- Removal and Disposal of Rock or Boulders Heavy Concentrated Debris – Requires Heavy Equipment to Move
- Light Scattered Debris – Can Be Picked Up By Hand or With Small Equipment
- Sand Debris Removed Off Site 12-30 Inches
- Sand Debris Removed Off Site greater than 30 Inches

EC3 Replacing or Repairing Permanent Fences – NRCS Technical Code 382

Repairs or replaces damage to fences caused by natural damage. Fencing must meet NRCS standards and specifications to be approved for cost share.

Available scenarios include:

- Multi Strand Barbed/ Smooth Wire
- Multi Strand Barbed or Smooth Wire Difficult Terrain
- Woven Wire
- Electric

Practice: 500 - Obstruction Removal

Scenario: #1 - Removal and Disposal of Brush and Trees < 6 inch Diameter

Scenario Description:

Remove and disposal of brush and trees < 6 inches in diameter by demolition, excavation or other means required for removal. Dispose of all brush and trees so that it does not impede subsequent work or cause onsite or offsite damage. Dispose of all brush and trees by removal to an approved landfill, wood chipping and or land distribution, or recycling center, burial at an approved location or burning. If burning is used, implement appropriate smoke management to protect public health and safety. Remove and dispose of brush and trees in order to apply conservation practices or facilitate the planned land use. Brush and tree removal will address the resource concerns of the prevention or hindrance to the installation of conservation practices or present a hazard to their use and enjoyment.

Before Situation:

On any land where existing obstructions interfere with planned land use development, public safety or infrastructure. The site may be abandoned mine lands, construction sites, recreation areas, farms, ranches, and areas affected by natural disasters. This is not intended for the removal of obstructions from aquatic environments.

After Situation:

The typical area will be a 2.0 acre impaired area. The removal of brush and trees < 6 inch diameter will be performed with the use of equipment and hand labor. Dispose of all brush and trees from the obstruction removal so that it does not impede subsequent work or cause onsite or offsite damage. Revegetate or otherwise protect from erosion disturbed areas as soon as possible. Refer to NRCS Conservation Practice Standard 342, Critical Area Planting for seedbed preparation, seeding, fertilizing, and mulching requirements. The practice is to improve site conditions in order to apply conservation practices or facilitate better use of the landscape.

Feature Measure: Land Area

Scenario Unit:: Acres

Scenario Typical Size: 2.0

Scenario Total Cost: \$2,205.54

Scenario Cost/Unit: \$1,102.77

Cost Details:

Cost Details:

Component Name	ID	Description	Unit	Cost	QTY	Total
Equipment Installation						
Dozer, 140 HP	927	Track mounted Dozer with horsepower range of 125 to 160. Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hour	\$116.68	8	\$933.44
Brush Chipper, 6" capacity	938	Brush Chipper, 6" capacity, typically 35 HP. Includes chipper and power unit. Labor not included.	Hour	\$19.47	8	\$155.76
Truck, Pickup	939	Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hour	\$17.00	8	\$136.00
Labor						
Skilled Labor	230	Labor requiring a high level skill set: Includes carpenters, welders, electricians, conservation professionals involved with data collection, monitoring, and or record keeping, etc.	Hour	\$34.74	9	\$312.66
General Labor	231	Labor performed using basic tools such as power tool, shovels, and other tools that do not require extensive training. Ex. pipe layer, herder, concrete placement, materials spreader, flagger, etc.	Hour	\$23.78	9	\$214.02
Equipment Operators, Light	232	Includes: Skid Steer Loaders, Hydraulic Excavators <50 HP, Trenchers <12", Ag Equipment <150 HP, Pickup Trucks, Forklifts, Mulchers	Hour	\$25.02	8	\$200.16
Mobilization						
Mobilization, medium equipment	1139	Equipment with 70-150 HP or typical weights between 14,000 and 30,000 pounds.	Each	\$253.50	1	\$253.50

Practice: 382 - Fence**Scenario: #1 - Multi Strand Barbed/Smooth Wire****Scenario Description:**

Multi-strand, Barbed or Smooth Wire - Installation of fence will allow for implementation of grazing management that allows for an adequate rest and recovery period, protection of sensitive area, improved water quality, reduction of noxious and invasive weeds. Constructed using fencing materials rather than a pre-manufactured gate.

Before Situation:

On grazing lands health and vigor are negatively impacted by poor grazing distribution, timing of grazing and inadequate rest and recovery periods. Water quality is impacted by increased erosion and runoff, cattle access to water bodies is uncontrolled. Reduced vegetative cover increases the opportunity for encroachment of noxious and invasive weeds.

After Situation:

Installation of fence will allow for implementation of grazing management that allows for an adequate rest and recovery period, protection of sensitive area, improved water quality, reduction of noxious and invasive weeds. Fence includes posts, wire, fasteners, gates, etc... Four strand wire is commonly installed. Fence will be installed with wildlife friendly considerations.

Feature Measure: Length of Fence**Scenario Unit::** Feet**Scenario Typical Size:** 1320**Total Scenario Cost:** \$2,885.76**Cost Per Unit:** \$2.19

Component Name	ID	Description	Unit	Cost	QTY	Total
Equipment Installation						
Auger, Post driver attachment	934	Auger or post driver attachment to a tractor or skidsteer. Does not include power unit. Labor not included.	Hours	\$12.74	5	\$63.70
Truck, Pickup	939	Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hours	\$24.18	5	\$120.90
Tractor, agricultural, 60 HP	963	Agricultural tractor with horsepower range of 50 to 90. Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hours	\$23.54	5	\$117.72
Labor						
General Labor	231	Labor performed using basic tools such as power tool, shovels, and other tools that do not require extensive training. Ex. pipe layer, herder, concrete placement, materials spreader, flagger, etc.	Hours	\$24.56	33	\$810.44
Equipment Operators, Light	232	Includes: Skid Steer Loaders, Hydraulic Excavators <50 HP, Trenchers <12 in., Ag Equipment <150 HP, Pickup Trucks, Forklifts, Mulchers	Hours	\$25.40	5	\$127.00
Materials						
Wire, Barbed, Galvanized, 12.5 Gauge, 1,320' roll	1	Galvanized 12.5 gauge, 1,320' roll. Includes materials and shipping only.	Each	\$69.30	4	\$277.22
Post, Wood, CCA treated, 3-4 in. x 7 ft.	9	Wood Post, Line 3-4 inch dia. X 7 ft., CCA Treated. Includes materials and shipping only.	Each	\$7.18	20	\$143.59
Post, Wood, CCA treated, 6 in. x 8 ft.	12	Wood Post, End 6 inch dia. X 8 ft., CCA Treated. Includes materials and shipping only.	Each	\$16.88	8	\$135.02
Post, Steel T, 1.33 lbs, 6'	15	Steel Post, Studded 6' - 1.33 lb. Includes materials and shipping only.	Each	\$5.54	90	\$498.47
Fence, Wire Assembly, Barbed Wire	30	Brace pins, battens, clips, staples. Includes materials and shipping only.	Feet	\$0.19	1320	\$244.94
Gate, Pipe, 12 ft.	1057	6 rail tube gate, 16 gauge. Includes materials and shipping only.	Each	\$174.82	1	\$174.82
Mobilization						
Mobilization, small equipment	1138	Equipment <70 HP but can't be transported by a pick-up truck or with typical weights between 3,500 to 14,000 pounds.	Each	\$171.94	1	\$171.94

Current Counties Approved for ECP in 2022

Gosper = 4/7/22 Wildfire

Furnas = 4/7/22 & 4/22/22 Wildfires

Frontier = 4/22/22 Wildfire

Red Willow = 4/22/22 Wildfire

Perkins = 4/22/22 Wildfire

Thurston = 3/30/22 & 4/23/22 Wildfires

Blaine/Brown/Rock = 4/22/2022 Wildfire

Scottsbluff = 7/30/2022 Wildfires

Current Counties Approved for ECP in 2023

Cherry/Thomas Counties – Bovee Fire = 10/2/2022

Nuckolls County = 10/23/2022 Wildfire



Nebraska Forest Restoration Partnership

STAC Update – 3/2/23



NFRP Summary

Technical Assistance-Implementation

- Project planning
- Landowner visits
- Program Enrollment

Technical Assistance-Enhancement

- 10 technical publications
- 7 capacity-building training events
- 40 landowner/contractor workshops

Financial Assistance

- \$1.5 million for FSI
 - 2,500 acres
- \$725,000 for WB/tree planting
 - 250,000 trees
- \$900,000 for WB renovation
 - 115 miles

Continuous, open enrollment



RCPP

Alternative Funding Arrangement

- RCPP-Classic vs RCPP-AFA
 - RCPP-Classic: NRCS manages enrollments and FA
 - RCPP-AFA: Project lead (NFS) manages enrollments and FA
 - NRCS still provides assistance with eligibility reviews and NEPA
- RCPP-AFA as part of the Farm Bill
 - Projects must meet NRCS standards
 - Producers must be “EQIP-eligible”
 - NRCS must complete necessary environmental and cultural reviews



2022 - New Publications



DECIDUOUS TREE THINNING USING THE HACK-AND-SQUIRT METHOD

By Chris Wood, Forester



Hack-and-Squirt is a method used to treat and remove unwanted and undesirable deciduous trees from the forest where these 'weed' trees are out-competing desirable species. Forest thinning using Hack-and-Squirt is a tool that can help restore forests that have become overstocked since fire suppression began in the late 1800s.



WINDBREAK RENOVATION GUIDE

by Steve Karloff, Forester



NEBRASKA FOREST RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP



In partnership with your local Natural Resources District (NRD), the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC), the Nebraska Forest Service (NFS) is offering financial assistance to landowners and producers for:

- Establishing a Windbreak
- Renovating an Existing Windbreak
- Planting Conservation Trees (outside of windbreaks)
- Managing Forests and Woodlands

This opportunity is being offered as a result of a funding award from the NRCS.

WHAT CAN THE PROGRAM OFFER FOR WINDBREAKS AND TREE PLANTING?

NFRP financial assistance is paired with NRD funding to provide 75% cost-share for windbreak and tree planting-related projects. Visit your local NRD about their participation in the NFRP program and the specific activities eligible for reimbursement.

See the back side of this flyer for a list of participating NRDs.

WHAT CAN THE PROGRAM OFFER FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT PROJECTS?

Cost-share is available to reimburse landowners or producers for managing their forests and woodlands. Eligible activities include:

- Removing undesirable species
- Thinning mature trees to promote regeneration
- Managing trees to improve the value of the timber
- Improve wildlife habitat.

Reimbursement amounts are based on established NRCS reimbursement rates for the activity being





2022 - Capacity Building Events

FOREST MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS

SAVE THE DATES!

Natural Resource Professional
Training Opportunity
[More information to follow!](#)



Kearney. May 9-12

- This workshop will be focusing on riparian woodland management.
- Thursday afternoon/Friday morning will be windbreak management.



Chadron. July 25-28

- This workshop will be focusing on pine forest management.
- Thursday afternoon/Friday morning will be windbreak management.



Ponca. September 26-28

- This workshop will be focusing on mixed hardwood management.
- Windbreak training will be held separately, dates TBD



2022

- “Hack-and-squirt” workshop (Ponca)
- Nebraska City
- Niobrara Valley Preserve (Johnstown)

2023

- Kearney
- Chadron
- September



2022 - Landowner/Contractor Workshops

2022

- “Coffee with a Forester” (Alma)
- Windbreak Renovation Workshop (Tecumseh)

2023

- Planning workshops emphasizing local needs
- Engage with area partners

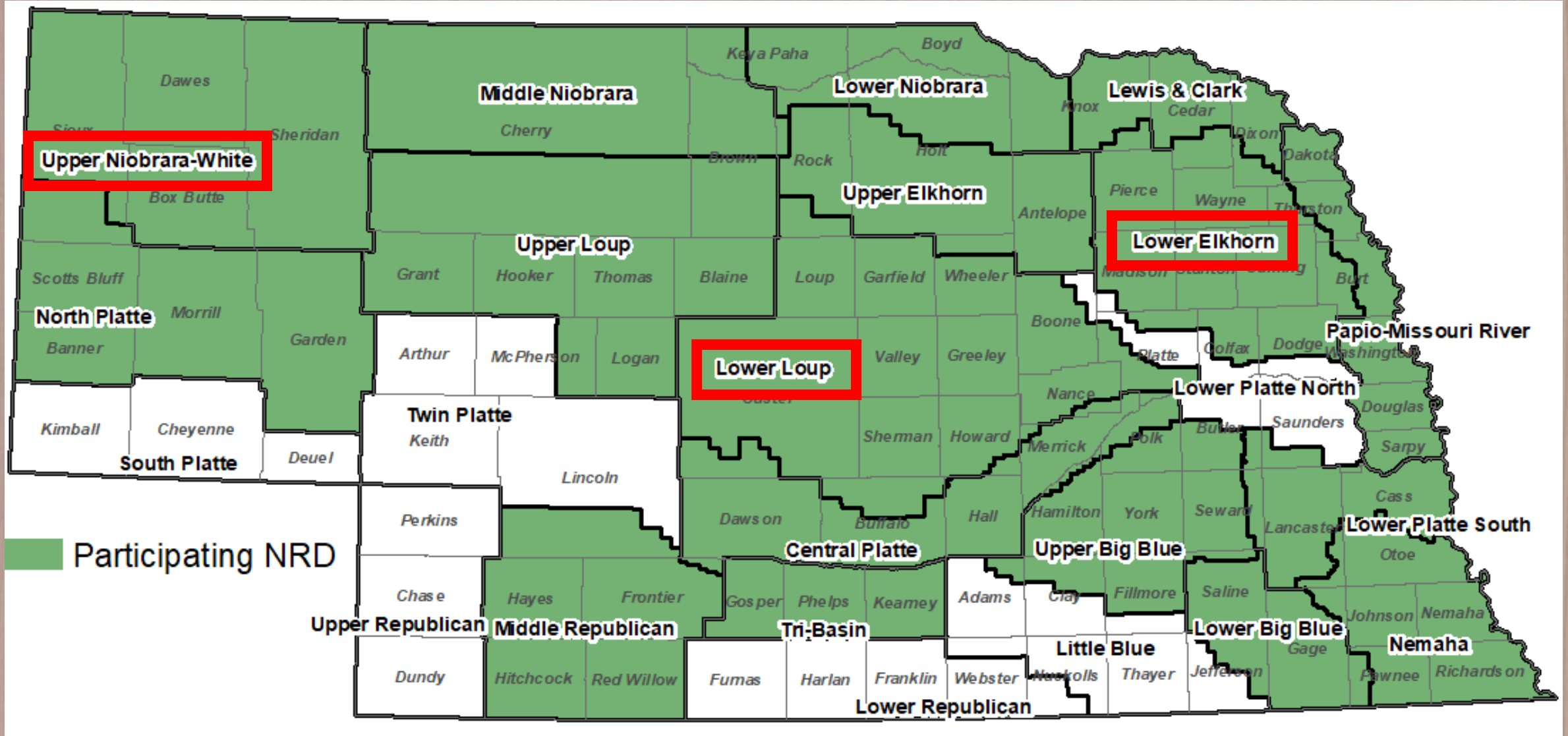


2022 – Financial Assistance

- Windbreak projects
 - 13 projects completed
 - \$3,000 in funds distributed
- Forest stand improvement
 - 3 projects awarded
 - 22 projects in development

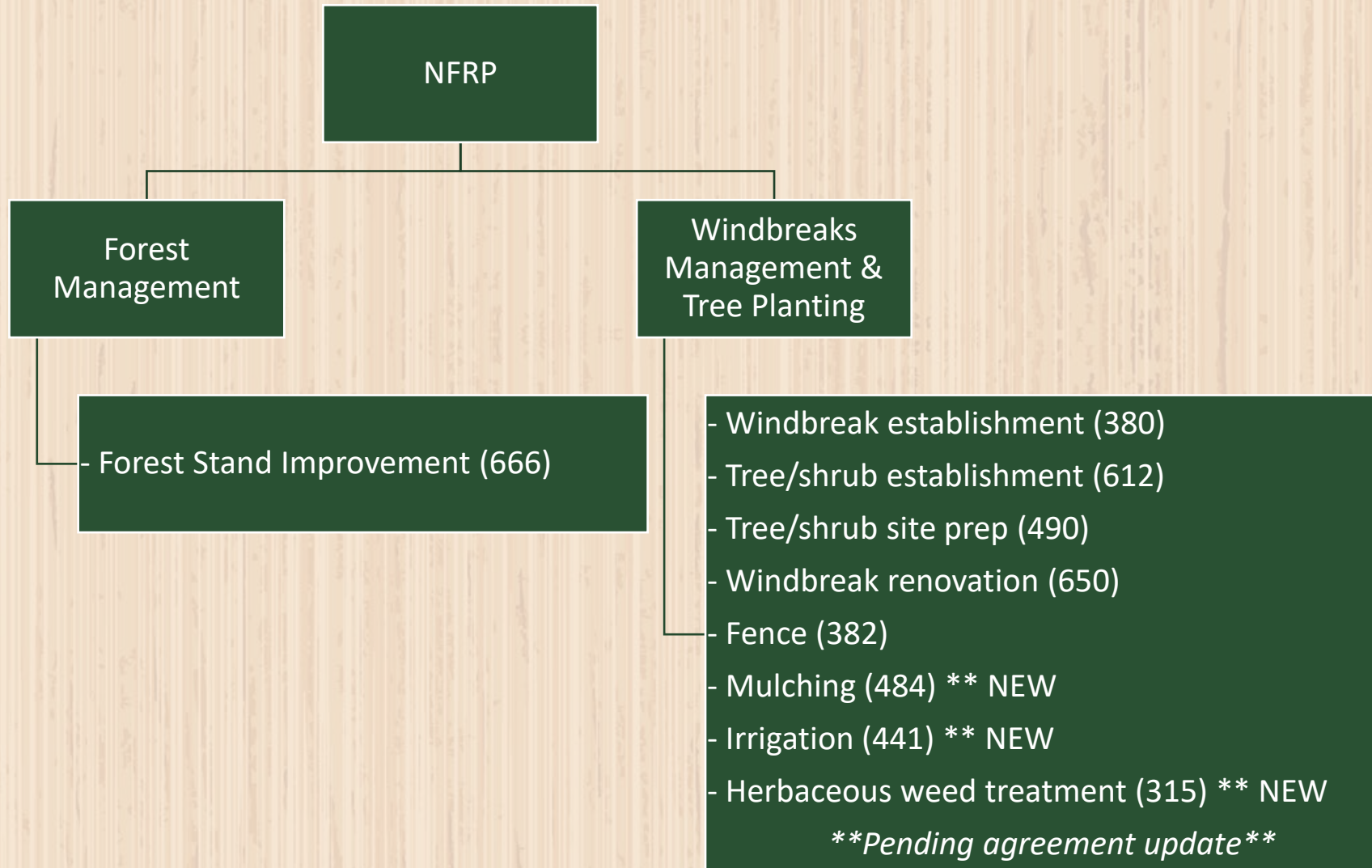


Windbreak Management & Tree Planting



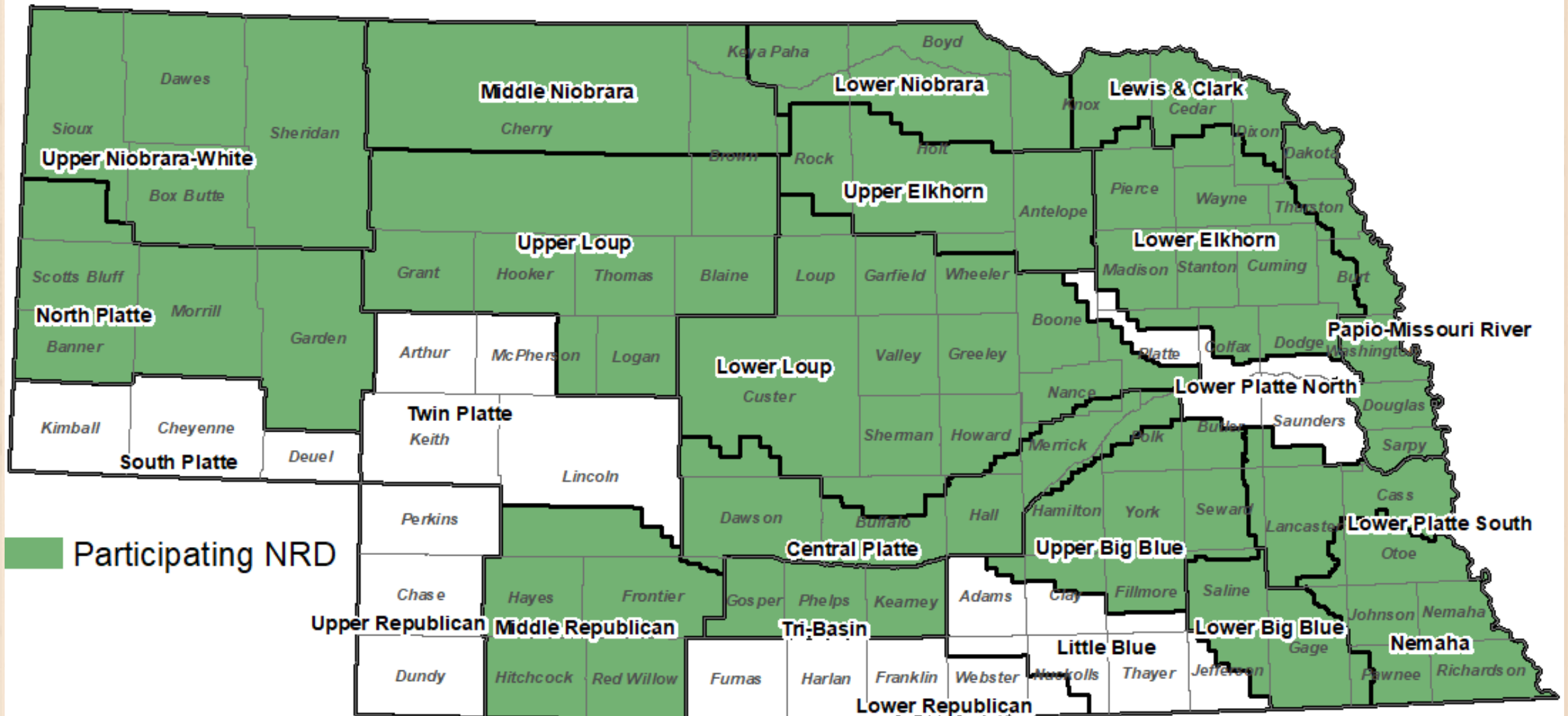


2023 Outlook - NFRP Activities





2023 Outlook





NFRP Key Points

- Program is available on a continuous basis
- Average windbreak reimbursement from 2022 was \$230 per project. With newly funded activities and updated agreements, these reimbursements would increase to \$875 per project.
- NFS is responsible for tracking eligibility requests, distribution of funds, and outcomes
 - If an NRCS field office is working with NSWCP or NRD cost-share, please engage with your local NFS forester regarding possible NFRP opportunities
- For windbreak/tree planting projects, producers must first have a financial agreement for NRD cost-share or NSWCP
 - If NRDs are working to sign-up producers, let NFS take care of NFRP enrollment activities and sign-up, communicate the program with potential landowners and have them contact NFS



Forestry Sub-Committee Meeting

- Wednesday, June 14 (1:00 - 4:30pm)
 - Field Tour: Cedar Canyon
 - Cedar Canyon is a UNL property managed by NFS, which is used as a demonstration for the management of redcedar forests and windbreaks in the Loess Canyons
- Thursday, June 15 (8:00 am – Noon)
 - Business Meeting: West Central Research and Extension Center
 - Updates to NRCS Windbreak Guidelines
 - Discussion about emerging tree and forestry issues
 - Challenges facing agencies related to trees and forests
 - Agency updates



Questions?

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