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CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Building Better Outcomes

The slide features a teal header with the USDA logo and name. The main title 'CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM' is centered, with 'CONSERVATION' in green, 'STEWARDSHIP' in blue, and 'PROGRAM' in blue. A stylized green leaf is positioned above the 'P' in 'PROGRAM', and a root system is below it. Below the title is the tagline 'Building Better Outcomes' in a blue script font. The bottom of the slide shows a stylized landscape with a green horizon line, a brown soil layer, and a small orange water drop icon on the left.

The CSP Footprint

- 70 million acres of productive ag and forest land
- Active conservation on working lands
- An array of resource benefits for the American people

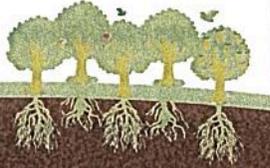
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The infographic has a teal header with the USDA logo and name. The title 'The CSP Footprint' is centered. Below it are three overlapping circles: a green circle on the left containing '70 million acres of productive ag and forest land', a brown circle on the right containing 'Active conservation on working lands', and a blue circle at the bottom containing 'An array of resource benefits for the American people'. To the right of the circles is a stylized illustration of a tree with roots and a bird flying. The bottom of the slide shows a stylized landscape with a green horizon line, a brown soil layer, and a small orange water drop icon on the left. The text 'CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM' is at the bottom right.

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Uniquely CSP

-  Stewardship on working lands
-  Conservation enhancements
-  Enhancement and "bundles"
-  Advances producers' business goals



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CSP at work



Elsbernd Farm Allamakee & Winneshiek Counties IOWA

- Improved Soil Health
- Increased Productivity
- Reduced Erosion
- Improved Wildlife Habitat



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CSP at work

**Birdwell Clark Ranch
Clay County
TEXAS**

- Improved Forage Production & Quality
- Optimized Animal Health
- Improved Wildlife Habitat
- Self-sustaining Operation



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CSP at work

**Crown Point Ecology Center
Summit County
OHIO**

- Improved Crop Productivity
- Improved Plant Health
- Improved Wildlife Habitat
- Increased Pollinator Habitat



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The Next Steps for a Successful Program

- Providing greater flexibility
- Responding to customer and partner feedback
- Advancing precision conservation
- Demonstrating outcomes better

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Straightforward Conservation

- Redesign program tools for clearer, more logical process
- Engage stronger conservation planning
- Foster collaboration between applicants and NRCS planners
- Provide more options for producers
- Improve connection with enhancements and resource concerns
- Support farm and ranch business planning and goals

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Coordination with Other NRCS Programs

- Connect with conservation planning and CTA
- Better incorporate practice standards and quality criteria
- Improve coordination with practices and EQIP
- Integrate with other NRCS field business tools

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Better Connection to our Conservation Standards

- Enhancements linked to conservation practices
- More enhancements and conservation practices offered
- Better reporting tools get a improved picture of results

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Greater Flexibility

 More flexibility for state and local offices to set resource priorities

 Easier for farmers and ranchers to make changes to their CSP contracts



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Promotion of Local Priorities

- Provides a more locally-led process
- Offers greater ability to address region-specific natural resource concerns
- Contracts will be ranked according to how they address local resource concerns
- States have options to request additional enhancements in future years

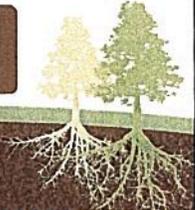


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The Role of Partners & Stakeholders

-  Partners & stakeholders provide valuable input
-  Input is essential for effective program delivery & results
-  New ideas are welcomed
-  Feedback important for future improvements



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Determining Targeted Priority Resource Concerns

- States have 10 priority resource concerns to choose from
- Each State identifies five
- Used to prioritize applications
- Used to determine eligibility



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Developing the Ranking Questions

- State Technical Committee and local work groups have input
- Ranking process evaluates applications and prioritizes them for funding
- NRCS will develop local issue questions based on state, local input
- National and state questions developed for FY17 from partner and stakeholder input at national level
- Questions are based on resource concerns and do not consider the size of an operation



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Providing Information & Outreach



- Partnerships are essential
- NRCS will share CSP information with partners this summer
- You can help us get the word out



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For additional information:

Partners and stakeholders who are interested in providing input can do so through the State Technical Committee meetings as well as the Local Working Group meetings.

- CSP National Website

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/csp/>

- State Website

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/wy/programs/financial/csp/>

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