

2021 Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative

Canal 43 MRBI Fact Sheet



Overview

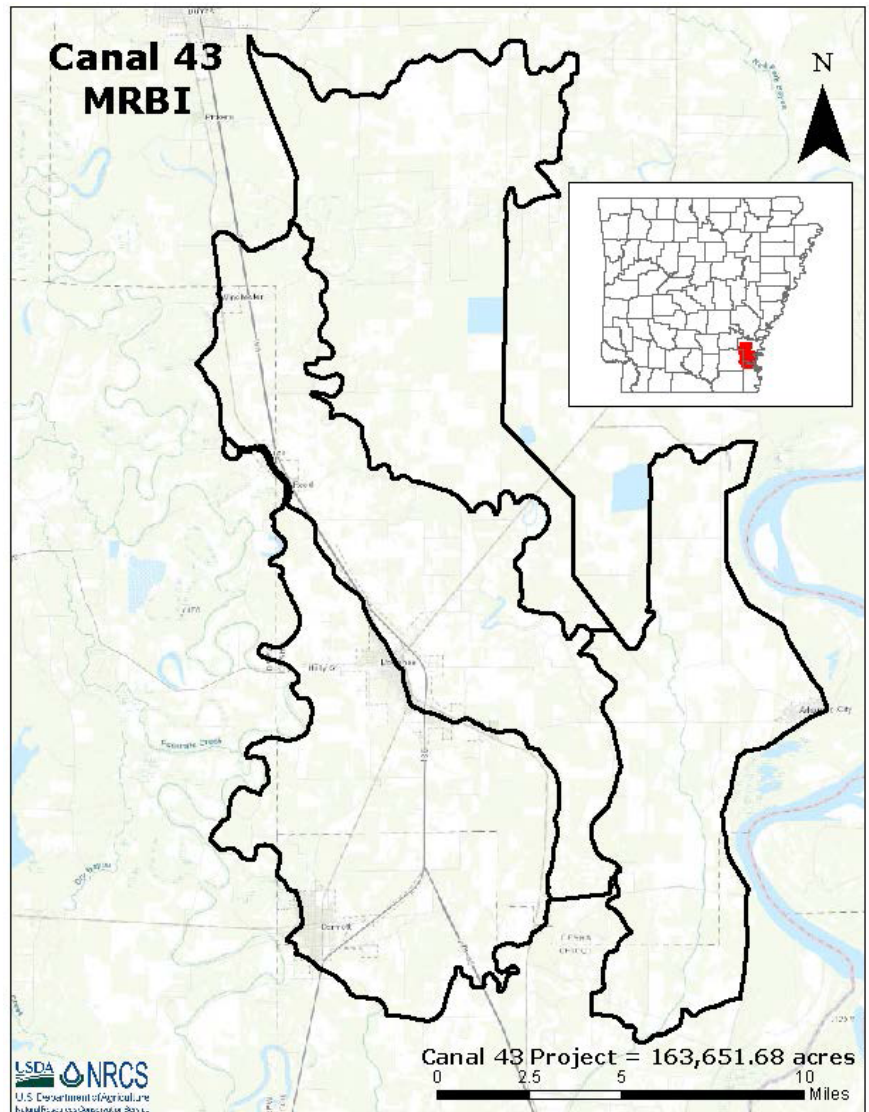
The Canal 43 Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watershed Initiative (MRBI) Project is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers for addressing water quality concerns in the following watersheds: Canal 18, Upper Big Slough, Canal 43, and Canal 43-Clay Bayou. These watersheds lie in portions of Chicot, Desha and Drew counties. The project area covers 163,652 acres.

Resource Concerns Addressed by the Project

- Water Quality Degradation—Excessive sediment in surface water, field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss
- Water Quality Degradation—Excessive nutrient in surface water, field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss, storage and handling

Conservation Practice Funding

The life of the project is from 2021 through 2024. Each year of the project, the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will provide financial assistance through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) for a system approach using approved conservation practices to address water quality resource concerns. Land and producer eligibility, adjusted gross income, and all other program criteria for participation must be met to participate in this initiative. Agricultural lands are eligible for enrollment in the initiative.



ARKANSAS
Natural Resources Conservation Service

nrcs.usda.gov/



Project Goals

- 25% of priority field acres in the project area will be treated through implementing conservation plans and contracts
- Increases water quality benefits through reducing sediment/ nutrient loading by 25% in the project area.
- A documented savings of water for basic irrigation water management and associated supporting practices will be 10-25% in the life of the project.

Approved Conservation Practices

- 327-Conservation Cover
- 328-Crop Rotation
- 329-Residue Mgt-No Till
- 340-Cover Crop
- 342-Critical Area Planting
- 345-Residue Mgt-Mulch Till
- 386-Field Border
- 410-Grade Stabilization
- 412-Grassed Waterway
- 430-Irrigation Pipeline
- 436-Irrigation Reservoir
- 612-Tree/Shrub Establishment
- 391-Riparian Forest Buffer
- 393-Filter Strip
- 447-Tailwater Recovery
- 449-Irrigation Water Management
- 464-Irrigation Land Leveling
- 484-Mulching
- 490-Tree/Shrub Site Preparation
- 533-Pumping Plant
- 587-Structure for Water Control
- 590-Nutrient Management
- 595-Integrated Pest Management
- 606-Sub Surface Drain
- 607-Surface Drain, Field Ditch
- 608-Surface Drain, Main or Lateral
- 656-Constructed Wetland
- 657-Wetland Restored
- 658-Wetland Creation
- 356-Dike use with wetland practices
- 645-Upland Wildlife Habitat
- 646-Shallow Water Development and Management

How to Apply for MRBI

NRCS and associated conservation partners will deliver this program collaboratively. Applications may be obtained and filed with NRCS at:

Desha County
McGehee FSC
3303 Highway 65 North
McGehee, AR 71654
(870) 222-4867, ext.3

Drew County
Monticello FSC
419 West Gaines Street,
Suite 3
Monticello, AR 71655
(870) 367-8400, ext. 3

Chicot County
Lake Village FSC
3219 South Highways 65
& 82
Lake Village, AR 71653
(870) 265-2608, ext. 3

If you need more information about MRBI, please contact one of the above offices or visit the NRCS Arkansas Web site at: www.ar.nrcs.usda.gov

Partners

- Desha County Conservation District
- Drew County Conservation District
- Chicot County Conservation District
- Arkla Miss Crop Insurance
- Farm Service of Southeast Arkansas
- Arkansas Department of Ag-Natural Resource Division