

Conservation Reserve Program

CP23

WETLAND RESTORATION ON FLOODPLAINS

Filter Runoff | Water Quality Enhancement | Wildlife Habitat



Why Choose CRP? You Benefit Land, Water, and Wildlife.

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) provides farmers and landowners with various enrollment opportunities to achieve many farming, ranching, and conservation goals. Whatever the challenge—soil conservation, water quality protection, or wildlife habitat enhancement—CRP is a proven land performance and management solution.

Why Wetland Restoration?

Restoring former wetlands that have been converted for agricultural use, as well as maintaining their associated functions, can yield significant ecological benefits. Wetland restoration on floodplains:

- Holds runoff to reduce downstream flooding
- Improves water quality by intercepting sediment, nutrients, and chemicals
- Creates habitat to support hundreds of species of birds, plants, amphibians, and other wildlife

CP23 is offered in continuous sign-up. For more information on CRP sign-up types, visit fsa.usda.gov.

Financial Benefits

CP23 participants receive:

- 10–15 years of annual rental payments
- 50% cost-share assistance for establishment costs
- A signing incentive payment (SIP) and a practice incentive payment (PIP)

Additional incentives may be available in your state under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP).



Eligible Land

- Planted or considered planted at least 4 out of 6 years between 2012 and 2017
- Capable of being planted to an agricultural commodity
- Compliant with USDA's highly erodible land and wetland provisions
- Located within the 100-year floodplain of a permanent river or stream

Practice Requirements

- Prepare the site for growth of selected species
- Establish and maintain an upland buffer of native trees or grasses to protect the wetland
- Apply nutrients as needed to ensure growth
- Control noxious weeds and other undesirable plants, insects, and pests

Owner/Operator Eligibility

Participants must:

- Have owned or operated the land for at least 12 months prior to program sign-up
- Be in control of the land for the length of the contract
- Meet USDA payment eligibility provisions

FSA will ultimately determine participant and land eligibility.

Obligations

Participants will:

- Not harvest or graze the practice area except under certain approved conditions
- Work with USDA-approved conservationist to develop a conservation plan
- Perform periodic management activities according to the conservation plan
- Complete practice establishment within 12 months of the effective date of the contract

Proven Conservation Benefits

- CRP contributes to a net increase of an estimated one million ducks per year
- Restored wetlands are capable of removing up to 90% of nitrates and herbicides in runoff
- In 2020, CRP lowered greenhouse gas emissions by the equivalent of 30 million metric tons of CO₂—the same benefit as taking nearly 6 million cars off the road

For more information about FSA and its programs, visit fsa.usda.gov or contact your local FSA office. To find your local FSA office, visit farmers.gov/service-locator.