



The Conservation Reserve Program: 39th Signup Results



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REPORT ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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INFORMATION

Additional information about the Farm Service Agency's Conservation and Environmental Program Division can be accessed at www.fsa.usda.gov.

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Front Cover Photos: Upper left, *Turkeys in Manhattan, Kansas*, Jeff Vanuga, USDA; Middle left, *Fox kit explores Beltsville ARS research farm*, Stephen Ausmus; Upper right, *Wetland in Butte County, CA*, Lynn Betts, USDA; Middle right, *Pheasants find food and shelter in perennial plants provided by landowners*, photo by Roger Hill; Center *Hérons on the Beltsville ARS research farm*, Stephen Ausmus; Lower left, *Contour buffer strip in Tama County, IA*, photo by Tim McCabe; and Lower right, *Wetland in northcentral Iowa*, photo by Tim McCabe.

Photos availability made possible by Jennifer Connelly and Julie Polt.



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Conservation Supporters,

As we approach the 25th Anniversary of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), it is appropriate to reflect on the significant benefits this program has accomplished in cooperation with our Nation's farm and ranch partners.

CRP has restored grasses, trees, and wetlands on over 31 million acres. These lands provide water quality protection, enhance wildlife habitat, and maintain soil productivity. CRP not only benefits farmers and ranchers and their local communities, but suburban and urban residents as well. CRP helps protect the water supplies and air quality of many major cities. CRP provides numerous recreation benefits to Americans in the form of wildlife hunting and viewing.

CRP continues to evolve from its beginnings as an erosion control initiative, authorized in the 1985 Farm Bill, to an environmental program that addresses diverse local and national resource priorities. In 2010, we expanded two initiatives that create or restore important wildlife habitat for migratory waterfowl, game birds, threatened and endangered species, and other species of economic and social importance.

CRP continues to promote partnerships with local and State conservation authorities through the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). In 2010, we signed new CREP agreements that will improve water quality, reduce soil erosion, aid flood control, enhance wildlife habitat, and provide additional protection for watersheds.

The September 14, 2010, announcement of the enrollment of 4.3 million acres in the 39th CRP Signup will further President Barack Obama's commitment to help our Nation's farmers and ranchers maintain a healthy environment and a sound agricultural economy. I hope the information contained in this report will assist in your efforts to conserve and protect America's greatest treasure, our natural resources.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas J. Vilsack".

Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary

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CRP Overview

Background

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is a voluntary conservation program available to agricultural producers to assist them to enhance environmentally-sensitive lands. Producers enrolled in the CRP plant long-term, resource-conserving covers such as introduced or native grasses or trees to improve the quality of water, control soil erosion, and enhance wildlife habitat.

In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance for 10 to 15 years.

The 39th CRP Signup

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that a CRP general sign-up would begin on August 2, 2010, and continue through August 27, 2010.

Eligibility Criteria

For land to be eligible for general signup, it must be:

- cropland that has been planted or considered planted to an agricultural commodity four of the six years between 2001 through 2007; and
 - physically and legally capable of being planted in a normal manner to an agricultural commodity;
- or
- certain marginal pastureland.

Also, cropland must meet one of the following three criteria:

- have a weighted average Erosion Index of 8 or greater
- be expiring CRP
- be located in a national or State Conservation Priority Area.

Rental and Cost Share Payments

CRP rental rates are based on local dry-land cash rental rates. Producers may offer land at these rates or may offer a lower rental rate to increase the likelihood that their offer will be acceptable.

CRP cost share assistance is available to eligible participants in an amount not to exceed 50 percent of the eligible costs of establishing the approved practice.

Offer Evaluation

Because not all offers can be accepted, they were evaluated and ranked using an Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) based on the environmental benefits expected to accrue if the land is enrolled in the CRP.

Use of the EBI ensures that only the most environmentally-sensitive lands are selected and that all offers are considered fairly.

The six EBI factors are:

- wildlife habitat benefits
- water quality benefits from reduced erosion, runoff and leaching
- on-farm benefits of reduced erosion
- enduring benefits
- air quality benefits from reduced wind erosion
- cost.

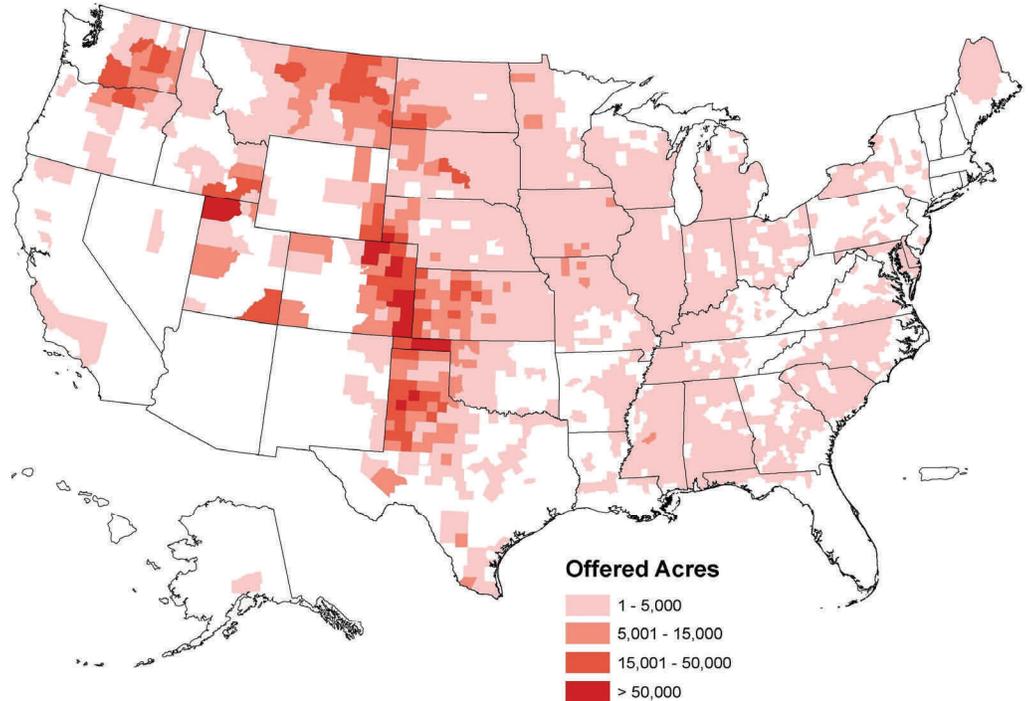
New for Signup 39 EBI

- Award 20 EBI points in the wildlife factor to encourage development of habitat for pollinators, by planting a minimum of 10 percent of offered acres to pollinator-friendly species mixes.
- Revised point scale for the soil erosion factor to encourage the enrollment of the most highly erodible soils.
- Revised cost factor to increase the incentive to bid below the maximum acceptable rental rate and to increase the selection of the best seeding mixes.

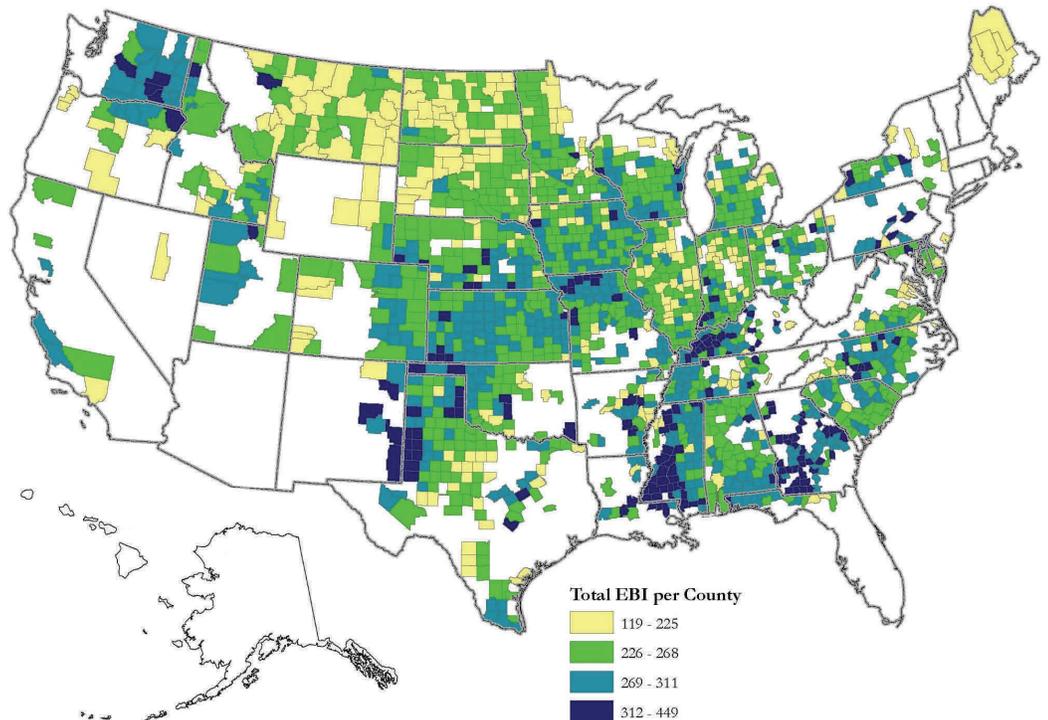
The 39th CRP Signup Results

Offered Acres

FSA received 50,094 offers to enroll about 4.84 million acres



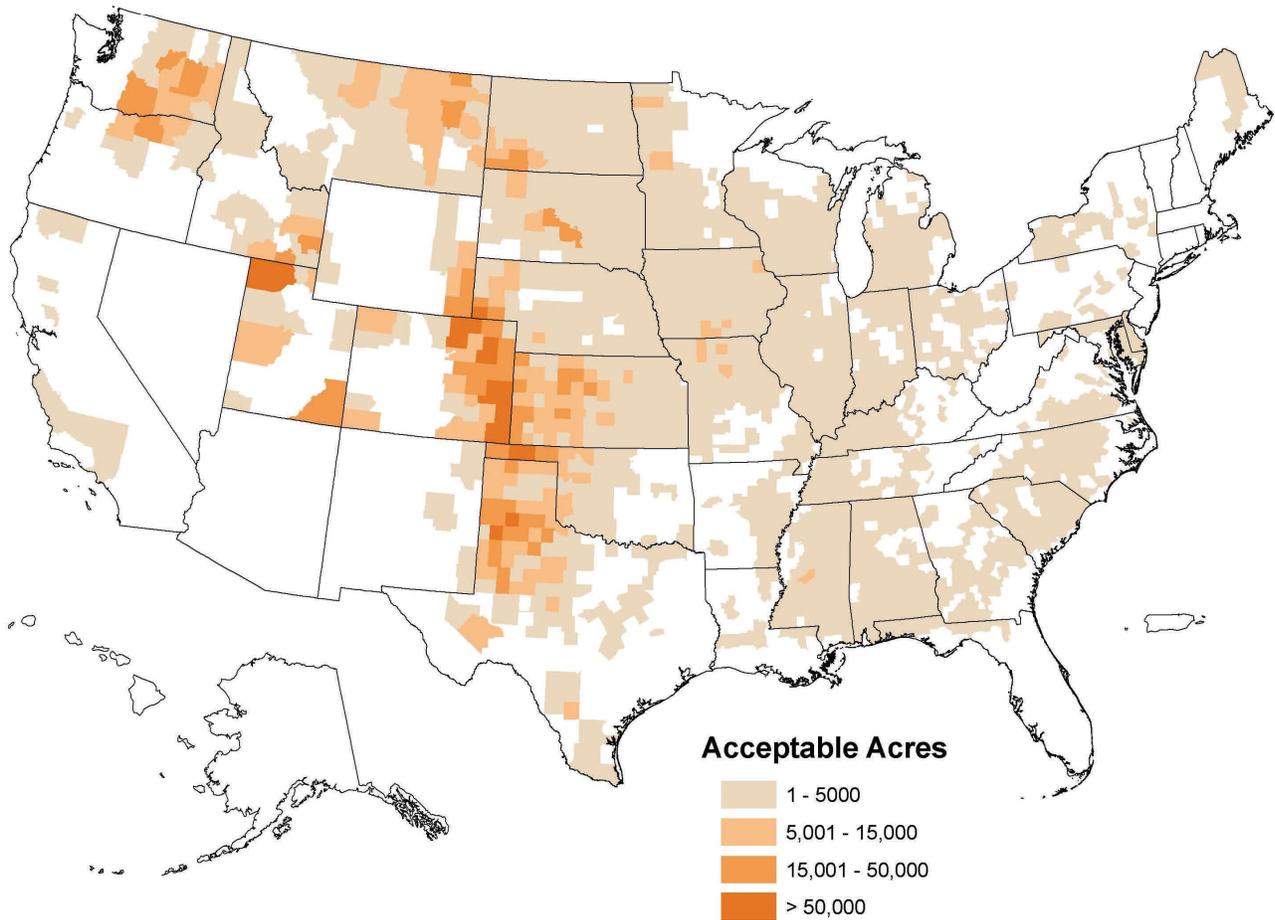
Average EBI Score (without cost)



The 39th CRP Signup Results

Acceptable Acres

About 4.34 million acres on over 45,000 offers were acceptable.



The 39th CRP Signup Results

Table 1 - Offers Received, Offers Accepted, CRP Acreage, and Rental Payments							
STATE NAME	Offers Received	Offers Accepted	Acres Offered	Acres Accepted	Enrollment Aug. 2010	Expiring 9/30/2010	Enrollment Oct. 2010
NATIONAL	50,094	45,862	4,842,714	4,343,452	31,302,058	4,452,042	31,290,459
ALABAMA	981	933	50,009	47,883	416,366	67,349	397,597
ALASKA	*	*	*	*	25,800	7,137	19,013
ARKANSAS	243	215	14,130	12,255	248,456	24,398	238,701
CALIFORNIA	46	45	11,039	11,024	125,934	11,323	125,635
COLORADO	3,784	3,642	766,583	739,467	2,015,736	450,804	2,305,662
CONNECTICUT	0	0	0	0	151	13	138
DELAWARE	10	5	267	130	6,894	354	6,670
FLORIDA	150	147	6,043	5,915	62,397	10,990	57,322
GEORGIA	389	389	13,868	13,868	320,352	30,924	303,963
HAWAII	0	0	0	0	61	0	61
IDAHO	852	667	124,195	95,487	720,427	156,365	672,990
ILLINOIS	2,981	2,550	63,672	55,314	1,022,322	60,201	1,019,060
INDIANA	643	554	11,685	10,001	287,317	16,806	281,230
IOWA	4,359	4,135	133,770	128,243	1,639,944	115,565	1,657,412
KANSAS	7,680	7,526	627,670	618,905	2,784,916	613,312	2,791,504
KENTUCKY	653	608	21,358	20,038	382,470	41,465	361,224
LOUISIANA	101	97	5,295	5,144	317,878	17,133	308,677
MAINE	96	48	3,156	1,512	20,594	4,104	18,003
MARYLAND	37	36	531	529	79,502	3,366	76,970
MASSACHUSETTS	0	0	0	0	15	0	15
MICHIGAN	428	401	9,444	8,810	232,788	13,902	227,880
MINNESOTA	1,242	1,145	48,626	44,543	1,642,877	68,087	1,624,205
MISSISSIPPI	1,431	1,391	76,001	74,211	863,201	97,131	841,231
MISSOURI	2,609	2,572	108,357	107,078	1,392,071	130,907	1,369,401
MONTANA	1,661	1,175	321,082	224,198	3,082,384	386,128	2,920,555
NEBRASKA	2,017	1,919	198,514	189,515	1,094,629	178,437	1,107,590
NEVADA	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
NEW HAMPSHIRE	0	0	0	0	60	6	54
NEW JERSEY	*	*	*	*	2,515	209	2,306
NEW MEXICO	62	57	12,430	11,069	543,298	102,979	451,388
NEW YORK	66	63	1,391	1,340	53,942	2,290	53,126
NORTH CAROLINA	567	526	11,122	10,290	122,852	16,842	116,333
NORTH DAKOTA	1,747	1,398	187,733	151,985	2,717,581	255,943	2,639,800
OHIO	327	311	5,696	5,255	343,643	13,977	335,500
OKLAHOMA	2,071	1,885	256,100	226,875	861,827	210,806	877,963
OREGON	395	343	85,777	75,720	548,010	73,797	550,379
PENNSYLVANIA	22	21	570	550	221,525	1,751	220,532
PUERTO RICO	0	0	0	0	2,052	20	2,032
RHODE ISLAND	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
SOUTH CAROLINA	357	352	13,343	13,010	172,896	29,119	157,134
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,537	1,324	148,495	124,754	1,110,335	144,258	1,113,424
TENNESSEE	797	766	26,460	25,541	217,811	38,115	205,407
TEXAS	6,010	5,238	1,000,414	858,437	3,302,611	669,786	3,497,006
UTAH	518	496	122,538	116,567	141,082	84,282	173,367
VERMONT	0	0	0	0	2,707	0	2,791
VIRGINIA	158	140	3,138	2,791	63,052	3,129	63,094
WASHINGTON	1,347	1,136	214,639	182,255	1,444,718	172,149	1,454,884
WEST VIRGINIA	0	0	0	0	5,445	0	5,497
WISCONSIN	1,345	1,261	27,724	26,266	428,343	51,435	404,082
WYOMING	371	343	109,339	96,328	210,271	74,948	231,651

* Data withheld to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

The 39th CRP Signup Results

STATE NAME	Expiring Sept 2010 (Acres)	New Lands (Acres) 1/	Average Rental Payment (\$/Acre)	Total Rental Payment (\$/Year)	Average EBI Score	
					without cost	with cost
NATIONAL	2,478,127	1,865,325	\$46.08	\$200,164,926	168	280
ALABAMA	43,134	4,750	\$40.96	\$1,961,381	161	272
ALASKA	*	*	*	*	*	*
ARKANSAS	10,927	1,328	\$63.69	\$780,469	191	289
CALIFORNIA	6,046	4,978	\$54.32	\$598,787	150	260
COLORADO	340,650	398,817	\$32.84	\$24,284,545	147	269
DELAWARE	106	24	\$84.71	\$11,021	142	221
FLORIDA	5,794	121	\$42.90	\$253,759	165	273
GEORGIA	13,228	640	\$50.17	\$695,786	214	318
IDAHO	67,453	28,034	\$49.59	\$4,735,353	151	267
ILLINOIS	19,018	36,296	\$131.34	\$7,265,043	195	258
INDIANA	3,708	6,293	\$126.54	\$1,265,551	199	260
IOWA	33,672	94,571	\$165.31	\$21,200,145	243	279
KANSAS	417,429	201,476	\$38.92	\$24,087,732	176	286
KENTUCKY	6,778	13,260	\$112.38	\$2,251,735	258	324
LOUISIANA	4,499	646	\$50.03	\$257,374	192	299
MAINE	1,232	281	\$32.44	\$49,061	113	238
MARYLAND	287	242	\$74.17	\$39,248	179	269
MICHIGAN	4,240	4,569	\$83.62	\$736,641	167	254
MINNESOTA	25,587	18,956	\$71.18	\$3,170,417	165	259
MISSISSIPPI	65,859	8,352	\$50.63	\$3,757,605	207	314
MISSOURI	63,079	43,999	\$102.77	\$11,004,346	225	299
MONTANA	152,998	71,200	\$27.72	\$6,215,061	127	243
NEBRASKA	103,163	86,352	\$45.87	\$8,693,946	192	297
NEW MEXICO	7,165	3,905	\$37.05	\$410,085	219	327
NEW YORK	478	863	\$50.53	\$67,723	165	264
NORTH CAROLINA	8,705	1,585	\$47.80	\$491,880	172	282
NORTH DAKOTA	100,534	51,451	\$33.36	\$5,069,553	132	247
OHIO	1,851	3,404	\$96.60	\$507,609	187	265
OKLAHOMA	145,132	81,743	\$34.03	\$7,720,199	185	304
OREGON	59,809	15,910	\$58.42	\$4,423,753	190	302
PENNSYLVANIA	210	339	\$52.57	\$28,890	206	301
SOUTH CAROLINA	12,737	273	\$30.48	\$396,539	144	268
SOUTH DAKOTA	58,344	66,411	\$50.30	\$6,275,547	145	247
TENNESSEE	20,831	4,710	\$80.52	\$2,056,665	193	285
TEXAS	432,342	426,095	\$36.90	\$31,680,186	162	283
UTAH	69,764	46,803	\$31.66	\$3,690,284	154	275
VIRGINIA	2,117	673	\$36.15	\$100,890	153	262
WASHINGTON	115,002	67,253	\$49.22	\$8,971,437	201	315
WISCONSIN	15,004	11,262	\$91.93	\$2,414,551	192	277
WYOMING	38,867	57,461	\$26.24	\$2,527,733	143	267

1/ Includes land that may have been in CRP in the past.

* Data withheld to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

The 39th CRP Signup Results

Table 3 -- Description of Signup 39 Accepted Acres

STATE NAME	Average Erodibility Index (EI)	Highly Erodible (Acres)	National Priority Area (Acres)	State Priority Area (Acres)	Rare and Declining Habitat (Acres)	Permanent Wildlife Habitat (Acres)	Pollinator Habitat Offers	Estimated Pollinator Habitat (Acres)
NATIONAL	14	3,643,283	248,279	2,785,306	374,688	462,271	4,581	41,231
ALABAMA	20	45,659	0	12,732	220	2,613	4	65
ALASKA	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
ARKANSAS	14	7,876	0	9,410	0	216	9	27
CALIFORNIA	14	7,659	0	10,007	0	4	1	12
COLORADO	13	709,458	0	500,060	1,252	206,617	1,019	19,865
DELAWARE	3	8	130	0	0	33	0	0
FLORIDA	9	3,598	10	0	0	0	0	0
GEORGIA	14	12,126	0	1,908	0	93	2	7
IDAHO	16	68,342	0	74,905	41	6,539	180	3,360
ILLINOIS	19	47,039	0	18,695	150	1,944	378	797
INDIANA	20	7,359	2,056	2,966	233	261	124	256
IOWA	25	120,181	12,956	49,589	50,574	1,254	452	1,731
KANSAS	11	489,219	0	387,194	215,927	181,840	457	2,825
KENTUCKY	38	19,454	0	17,580	13,327	39	28	82
LOUISIANA	15	4,087	0	1,428	0	2	5	34
MAINE	16	1,492	0	190	0	0	0	0
MARYLAND	7	206	529	0	0	15	5	10
MICHIGAN	5	1,630	8,810	0	0	872	19	45
MINNESOTA	8	15,044	40,228	3,928	12,246	697	57	363
MISSISSIPPI	30	65,421	74	34,023	0	754	2	54
MISSOURI	31	104,958	0	82,923	1,492	204	536	2,288
MONTANA	13	213,449	94,945	81,125	6,119	0	114	1,720
NEBRASKA	14	186,409	0	144,138	52,609	18,504	486	3,031
NEW MEXICO	31	11,069	0	11,069	0	0	0	0
NEW YORK	14	1,136	1,183	0	0	107	4	5
NORTH CAROLINA	19	8,737	16	4,367	0	191	3	3
NORTH DAKOTA	13	135,598	39,466	69,379	4,588	15,490	87	898
OHIO	13	2,951	2,170	1,541	487	377	93	173
OKLAHOMA	13	201,322	0	190,598	2,149	147	9	187
OREGON	18	73,627	0	69,155	1,785	0	7	16
PENNSYLVANIA	27	549	513	28	0	79	6	23
SOUTH CAROLINA	8	5,030	0	319	0	81	1	4
SOUTH DAKOTA	9	86,154	39,773	65,968	7,007	10,618	255	1,200
TENNESSEE	32	25,508	0	10,967	0	356	28	82
TEXAS	12	627,408	0	607,206	0	917	40	586
UTAH	9	56,020	0	116,004	0	361	5	68
VIRGINIA	15	2,524	1,220	1,170	0	23	5	6
WASHINGTON	19	162,294	0	104,522	3,034	10,383	83	1,145
WISCONSIN	23	20,208	4,200	10,395	1,211	198	74	181
WYOMING	13	92,120	0	89,816	237	441	3	83

* Data withheld to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

The 39th CRP Signup Results

Table 4 -- Description of Signup 39 Accepted Acres

STATE NAME	New Introduced Grass	New Native Grass	Existing Grass	Total Grass	New Hardwood Trees	New Softwood Trees	Existing Trees	Total Trees
NATIONAL	212,056	754,418	2,363,216	3,329,691	8,195	13,711	148,127	170,033
ALABAMA	705	796	12,350	13,851	75	1,489	29,480	31,043
ALASKA	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
ARKANSAS	0	326	4,032	4,358	512	247	6,890	7,649
CALIFORNIA	743	7	10,269	11,020	0	0	0	0
COLORADO	3,926	43,356	484,291	531,574	0	0	20	20
DELAWARE	0	0	88	88	5	0	0	5
FLORIDA	0	0	37	37	0	121	5,742	5,864
GEORGIA	0	12	1,223	1,235	0	501	12,035	12,536
IDAHO	26,120	5,012	56,956	88,088	0	745	69	814
ILLINOIS	19,423	12,702	17,791	49,917	1,498	23	1,139	2,660
INDIANA	1,888	3,287	2,952	8,126	751	24	494	1,270
IOWA	17,814	32,714	23,853	74,380	844	39	252	1,134
KANSAS	3,294	140,291	76,560	220,145	91	0	65	156
KENTUCKY	2,849	1,284	2,102	6,235	136	20	185	342
LOUISIANA	0	208	422	630	160	527	3,806	4,494
MAINE	328	0	986	1,314	0	0	198	198
MARYLAND	198	80	120	398	18	36	59	113
MICHIGAN	2,276	1,199	3,338	6,813	114	150	718	982
MINNESOTA	3,300	6,593	19,793	29,686	333	328	809	1,470
MISSISSIPPI	278	5	9,916	10,200	1,861	6,186	54,827	62,874
MISSOURI	31,226	34,582	37,955	103,763	334	0	657	991
MONTANA	19,165	25,021	173,642	217,828	0	0	45	45
NEBRASKA	2,125	48,941	66,972	118,038	24	34	244	301
NEW MEXICO	0	903	10,167	11,069	0	0	0	0
NEW YORK	118	56	1,025	1,199	5	4	26	35
NORTH CAROLINA	79	12	1,230	1,320	10	957	7,801	8,768
NORTH DAKOTA	13,270	5,311	112,723	131,304	0	2	62	64
OHIO	694	1,383	1,685	3,762	215	27	369	611
OKLAHOMA	687	35,023	188,746	224,456	0	0	86	86
OREGON	7,520	6,284	59,917	73,721	0	0	210	210
PENNSYLVANIA	250	11	205	466	0	0	5	5
SOUTH CAROLINA	2	4	1,407	1,413	5	462	11,001	11,468
SOUTH DAKOTA	6,346	23,575	76,386	106,307	0	0	44	44
TENNESSEE	2,101	3,616	12,868	18,585	174	1,157	5,194	6,524
TEXAS	3,869	229,327	623,220	856,416	0	0	815	815
UTAH	14,046	14,271	87,882	116,198	0	0	0	0
VIRGINIA	228	115	530	873	0	257	1,633	1,889
WASHINGTON	6,497	73,135	88,660	168,292	0	73	410	483
WISCONSIN	4,094	3,835	12,705	20,634	1,031	302	2,698	4,031
WYOMING	16,597	1,143	77,863	95,602	0	0	42	42

* Data withheld to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Continuous CRP

Continuous CRP Signup

Continuous signup provides an effective, ongoing means to enroll certain practices such as filter strips, riparian buffers, grass waterways, shelterbelts, field windbreaks, wetlands restoration, and high-value wildlife habitat.

As of August 31, 2010, there were cumulatively 4.6 million acres enrolled for all continuous sign up conservation practices. Of this total, nearly 1.4 million acres (30 percent) are enrolled in the following eight targeted continuous signup initiatives:

- The Upland Bird Habitat initiative helps producers plant ground covers, shrubs and grasses, to provide appropriate habitat conditions for common upland birds such northern bobwhite quail. Studies show that these conservation practices have increased the population amongst upland bird species. Up to 250,000 acres can be enrolled in this initiative. As of August 31, 2010, there were 228,000 acres enrolled.
- The Duck Habitat initiative helped increase duck populations by an estimated 60,000 birds annually and will restore 150,000 wetland acres. As of August 31, 2010, there were 112,000 acres enrolled.



CEPD, USDA.

- The Bottomland Hardwood initiative works to improve air quality and water quality as well as increase wildlife habitat along wetland areas. As

of August 31, 2010, there were 59,000 acres enrolled.

- Since 2004, the Non-floodplain Wetland Restoration initiative provided an opportunity to enroll up to 250,000 acres wetlands and playa lakes located outside of the 100-year floodplain. As of August 31, 2010, there were 98,500 acres enrolled.
- Since 2004, the Floodplain Wetlands Restoration initiative provided an opportunity to enroll up to 500,000 acres of wetlands located in the 100-year floodplain. As of August 31, 2010, 175,000 acres were enrolled.
- State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) provides States and regions the opportunity to conserve 650,000 acres for high priority wildlife such as safe grouse, lesser prairie chicken, and ring-necked pheasant. As of August 31, 2010, there were 84 projects in 34 States; and 357,000 acres were enrolled.
- The Longleaf Pine initiative's goal is to repopulate the natural longleaf pine forests ranges by enrolling up to 250,000 acres throughout nine southern States. Progress toward re-establishing the original range of 60 million acres will improve water quality, provide critical habitat for wildlife, and help sequester greenhouse gases. As of August 31, 2010, 86,000 acres were enrolled.
- The Farmable Wetlands Program (FWP) goal is to restore up to 1,000,000 acres of farmable wetlands and associated buffers by improving the land's hydrology and vegetation through CRP. Eligible lands types authorized included lands used for commercial aquaculture, flooded land located in the prairie pothole region, and constructed wetlands to receive flows from row crop drainage systems. As of August 31, 2010, there were 231,000 acres enrolled.

Other CRP Initiatives

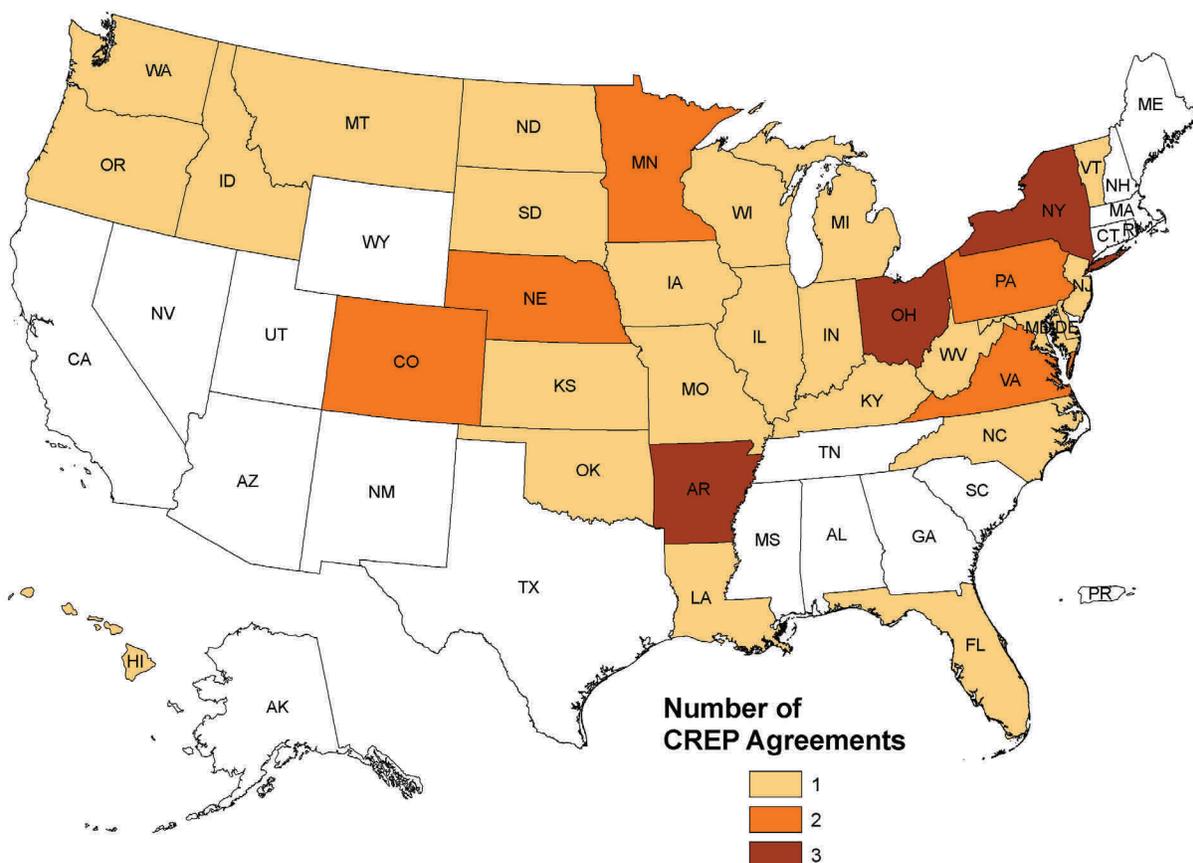
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a continuous CRP signup program. It is voluntary and helps agricultural producers protect environmentally sensitive land, decrease erosion, restore wildlife habitat and safeguard ground and surface water. The program is a partnership among producers, tribal, State, and federal governments, and, in some cases, private groups.

CREP includes targeted conservation practices such as filter strips and riparian buffers. These conservation practices help protect streams, lakes, and rivers from sedimentation and agricultural runoff.

As of August 31, 2010, there were 1.2 million acres enrolled in 44 CREP projects.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) States



About the Farm Service Agency's Conservation and Environmental Programs Division (CEPD):

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency's Conservation and Environmental Programs Division serves the nation's agricultural producers, providing assistance and opportunities for producers to voluntarily invest in safeguarding environmentally sensitive lands.

The Division implements multiple diverse programs that help accomplish these goals, including the following programs:

- Biomass Crop Assistance Program
- Conservation Reserve Program
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
- Emergency Conservation Program
- Farmable Wetlands Program
- Grassland Reserve Program
- Source Water Protection Program
- Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program

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