

Conservation Reserve Program

CP39

FARMABLE WETLANDS PROGRAM, CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS

Improve Water Quality | Enhance Wildlife Habitat | Sequester Carbon



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 Constructed Wetlands?

The Farmable Wetlands Program (FWP) is an effective conservation strategy for restoring wetlands and their associated environmental benefits. Establishing constructed farmable wetlands:

- Improves water quality by filtering out nitrogen and sediment
- Enhances habitat vital to wildlife, especially waterfowl, game birds, and songbirds
- Sequesters carbon

CP39 is offered in continuous sign-up. For more information on CRP sign-up types, visit fsa.usda.gov.

Financial Benefits

CP39 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)



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
- Receives water flow from an upstream watershed that is at least 25% row cropped

Practice Requirements

- Prepare the site for growth of selected species
- Establish and maintain a site not to exceed 40 acres
- Develop a buffer zone not more than four times the size of the wetland
- Control noxious weeds and other undesirable plants, insects, and pests
- Ensure adequate nitrogen removal and other wetland functions

FSA will ultimately determine participant and land eligibility.

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.

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

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

- Constructed wetlands in Iowa remove on average over 5 tons of nitrate per year
- CRP contributes to a net increase of an estimated one million ducks per year
- 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