USDA PROGRAMS

WETLAND RESTORATION PROGRAMS IN TENNESSEE
Fiscal Year 2012
10/1/2011 – 9/30/2012

PROGRAMS FOR WETLANDS IN TENNESSEE

EASEMENT PROGRAMS
- WETLANDS RESERVE PROGRAM (WRP)
- EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM (FLOODPLAIN EASEMENT)
- CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP)
- CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP)
- WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVE PROGRAM (WHIP)

EASEMENT PROGRAMS

WRP
- Authorized in 1990 farm bill (FACTA)
- Currently authorized for 3 million acres nationwide
- TN authorized in 1994
- Approximately 36,000 acres enrolled through FY11

EWP FLOODPLAIN
- Authorized in 1996 farm bill (FAIRA)
- Emergencies from natural disasters
- TN authorized in 1997
- Approximately 1,140 acres enrolled between 1997 and 2000; 1,734 acres enrolled in 2010.
WRP PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- RESTORE FUNCTIONS/VALUES
- MAXIMIZE WILDLIFE BENEFITS
- PROVIDE HABITAT FOR MIGRATORY BIRDS

ELIGIBLE LANDS
- PRIVATELY OWNED
- TRIBAL
RESTORABLE WETLANDS IDENTIFIED AS:

- Prior Converted Cropland
- Farmed Wetland
- Farmed Wetland Pasture
- Lands Substantially Altered by Flood
- Drained Wooded Wetlands
- Associated Lands (≤50%)

ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

- Permanent Easement
- 30-Year Easement
- 10-Year Restoration Agreement

PERMANENT EASEMENT

- 100% of Geographic Rate Cap, Appraised Value or Landowner Offer (Lesser of)
- 100% Restoration Cost
30-YEAR EASEMENT

100% RESTORATION COST SHARE
APPRaised VALUE, OR LANDOWNER
OFFER (LESSER OF)

□ 75% RESTORATION COST SHARE

30-YEAR RESTORATION AGREEMENT

□ 75% RESTORATION COST SHARE

RESTORATION REQUIREMENTS

□ Pre-conversion hydrology
□ Hydrologic enhancement for targeted species
□ Pre-conversion native plant restoration
□ 75% reforestation
□ 30% open/shallow water/otherwise different native plant communities
□ 5% Food plots
LANDOWNER RESERVED RIGHTS

- Quiet Enjoyment
- Undeveloped Recreation
- Hunting
- Fishing

COMPATIBLE USES

- Timber Harvesting
- Haying, Grazing, Burning, Disking
- Food Plots
- Water Level Manipulation

- Authorized only when functions/values enhanced

EWP PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Restore and protect floodplain functions
- Reduce federal disaster assistance
- Safeguard lives and property from floods
EWP ENROLLMENT
- Permanent Easement
- Lesser of 100% of Geographic Rate Cap, Appraisal, or Landowner Offer
- 100% of Restoration Costs
- 75% of Cost of Removing Buildings

EWP RESTORATION GOALS
- Re-establish topographic diversity
- Increase duration of inundation and saturation
- Re-establish native vegetation

EWP LANDOWNER RIGHTS
- Same reserved rights as in WRP
- Similar compatible use options as in WRP
CRP PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Protect nation’s soil, water, and wildlife resources
- Improve water quality
- Enhance fish and wildlife habitat

CRP WETLAND/BUFFER PRACTICES

- Filter strips (CP21)
- Forested riparian buffer (CP22)
- Wetland restoration (CP23 and CP23A)
- Farmable Wetland pilot wetland (CP27)
- Farmable Wetland pilot wetland buffer (CP28)
- Marginal pastureland wetland buffer (CP30)
- Bottomland timber on wetlands (CP31)
- SAFE – Wetlands for Wildlife (CP38B)

CONTINUOUS CRP

CRP HISTORY OR MARGINAL PASTURELAND
10 TO 15 YEAR CONTRACTS
RENTAL RATE – SOIL TYPE
20% OF RENTAL RATE
SIGNING INCENTIVE – $100/AC
PRACTICE INCENTIVE – 90% C/S INSTEAD OF 50%
ANNUAL MAINTENANCE PAYMENT
CRP WETLAND BUFFERS

FILTER STRIP (CP21)
- 20-120 FT. WIDTH
- NATIVE OR IMPROVED GRASSES
- NO HAYING OR GRAZING

FORESTED RIPARIAN (CP22)
- 35-180 FT. WIDTH
- 3 SPECIES TREES/SHRUBS
- 20 FT NWSG ZONE 3

CRP WETLAND RESTORATION

CP23
- In 100 yr floodplain
- Grassland or Forest
- 3:1 upland buffer
- 25% hydrology incentive payment

CP23A
- Outside 100 yr floodplain
- Grassland or Forest
- 4:1 upland buffer
- 25% hydrology incentive payment

BOTTOMLAND TIMBER ESTABLISHMENT ON WETLANDS (CP31)
CURRENT TENNESSEE ENROLLMENT THROUGH FY2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TN ALLOCATION (ACRES)</th>
<th>ENROLLMENT (ACRES)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CP21 – NO LIMIT</td>
<td>CP21 – 9,231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP22 – NO LIMIT</td>
<td>CP22 – 6,223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP23 – 1,000</td>
<td>CP23 – 111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP23A – 500</td>
<td>CP23A – 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP27/28 – 500</td>
<td>CP27/28 – 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP31 – 7,000</td>
<td>CP31 – 2,950</td>
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CSP PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- REWARD GOOD CONSERVATION STEWARDS FOR CURRENT PERFORMANCE
- ENCOURAGE GOOD STEWARDS TO IMPLEMENT NEW MEASURES
- ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO BECOME GOOD STEWARDS BY PUSHING THEM THROUGH OTHER PROGRAMS TO QUALIFY FOR CSP

CSP ELIGIBLE LANDS

- CROPLAND (INCLUDING HAY)
- GRASSLANDS (PASTURE)
- NON-INDUSTRIAL PRIVATE FOREST LAND
- CONSIDERED ADEQUATELY TREATED BASED ON 3-5 TARGETED RESOURCE CONCERNS WITH LITTLE VISIBILE EROSION
CSP PAYMENTS

- **ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP PAYMENT FOR 5 YEARS**
- **ANNUAL ENHANCEMENT PAYMENT BASED ON NUMBER OF ENHANCEMENTS AND BENEFITS TO RESOURCES**
- **$40,000 PAYMENT LIMIT PER YEAR**
- **$200,000 PAYMENT LIMIT PER CONTRACT**

WETLAND ENHANCEMENTS

- Drainage water management for seasonal wildlife habitat
- Defer crop production on temporary and seasonal wetlands
- Extend existing filter strip
- Extend existing riparian forest buffer
- Extend existing riparian herbaceous cover
- Shallow water habitat
- Non-forested riparian zone enhancement
- Riparian forest buffer management
- Wildlife corridors

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CSP – Shallow Water Enhancement

One cluster of at least 2 per 20 acres of Ag. Land. Each vernal pool at least 0.1 acre up to 0.5 acre in size.
CSP – Defer crop production on temporary and seasonal wetlands
Defer crop production until after spring migratory bird season. No disturbance from November 1 or immediately after crop harvest until June 1.

WHIP PROGRAM OBJECTIVES
- RESTORE PC ACRES TO WETLANDS
- CREATE WETLANDS ON I1W AND IIIW SOILS

WHIP PROGRAM COMPONENTS
- 5-10 YEAR CONTRACTS
- 75-90% COST SHARE
- Eligible components:
  - tree/NWSP planting, dike, tile break, shallow excavation, water control structures
- Water control structures closed Oct 1- March 1
THE UNLISTED PROGRAM – THE WETLAND CONSERVATION PROVISION OF THE FARM BILL

- 1985 Food Security Act, as amended
- Protects wetlands from conversion to crops by USDA program participants
- Eliminates participation in most other USDA programs unless compliant