



Office of the Secretary
Washington, DC 20250

September 5, 2023

THE HONORABLE JOHN BOOZMAN
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
United States Senate
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ranking Member Boozman:

In accordance with Section 1231A of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended, the enclosed report provides Congress the Secretary of Agriculture's required annual report to Congress that describes, with respect to each Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) agreement, the: 1) status of the agreement; 2) purpose and objectives of the agreement; 3) Federal and partner commitments made under the agreement; and 4) progress made in fulfilling those commitments. This report contains fiscal year 2022 data and information.

If you have any questions, please have a member of your staff contact the Office of Congressional Relations at (202) 720-7095. A similar letter and the report are being sent to Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow.

Sincerely,

/s/ Thomas J. Vilsack

THOMAS J. VILSACK
Secretary

Enclosure



Office of the Secretary
Washington, DC 20250

September 5, 2023

THE HONORABLE DAVID SCOTT
Ranking Member
House Committee on Agriculture
U.S. House of Representatives
1010 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member Scott:

In accordance with Section 1231A of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended, the enclosed report provides Congress the Secretary of Agriculture's required annual report to Congress that describes, with respect to each Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) agreement, the: 1) status of the agreement; 2) purpose and objectives of the agreement; 3) Federal and partner commitments made under the agreement; and 4) progress made in fulfilling those commitments. This report contains FY 2022 data and information.

If you have any questions, please have a member of your staff contact the Office of Congressional Relations at (202) 720-7095. A similar letter and the report are being sent to Chairman Glenn Thompson.

Sincerely,

/s/ Thomas J. Vilsack

THOMAS J. VILSACK
Secretary

Enclosure



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Washington, DC 20250

September 5, 2023

THE HONORABLE DEBBIE STABENOW
Chairwoman
Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Unites States Senate
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Stabenow:

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If you have any questions, please have a member of your staff contact the Office of Congressional Relations at (202) 720-7095. A similar letter and the report are being sent to Ranking Member John Boozman.

Sincerely,

/s/ Thomas J. Vilsack

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Secretary

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Washington, DC 20250

September 5, 2023

THE HONORABLE GLENN "GT" THOMPSON
Chairman
House Committee on Agriculture
U.S. House of Representatives
1301 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Thompson:

In accordance with Section 1231A of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended, the enclosed report provides Congress the Secretary of Agriculture's required annual report to Congress that describes, with respect to each Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) agreement, the: 1) status of the agreement; 2) purpose and objectives of the agreement; 3) Federal and partner commitments made under the agreement; and 4) progress made in fulfilling those commitments. This report contains FY 2022 data and information.

If you have any questions, please have a member of your staff contact the Office of Congressional Relations at (202) 720-7095. A similar letter and the report are being sent to Ranking Member David Scott.

Sincerely,

/s/ Thomas J. Vilsack

THOMAS J. VILSACK
Secretary

Enclosure

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

Fiscal Year 2022

Report to the United States Congress



Farm Service Agency and
FPAC/Business Center/Economic and Policy Analysis Division
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a part of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) under which the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), through the Farm Service Agency (FSA) on behalf of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), and with non-Federal partners, co-invests in partner-led projects which target regional and national resource concerns.

CREP was administratively established in February 1997 whereby USDA was authorized to enter into agreements with States to address resource concerns (see 7 CFR 1410.50, circa 1997). By October 1997, USDA executed its first CREP agreement with the State of Maryland targeting acreage that, once enrolled, reduces runoff, sediment, and nutrients into the Chesapeake Bay and promotes enhanced wildlife habitats. The 2018 Farm Bill established CREP as a permanent subprogram under CRP and codified program requirements (see 7 CFR 1410.90).

Through CREP agreements, financial, educational, and technical assistance are provided to producers who voluntarily implement certain conservation measures on land in lieu of continued agricultural production. Each agreement identifies the specific geographic area and conservation concerns to be addressed and the commitments of both USDA and the partner. Partners are required to submit annual reports regarding the status of each project.

This report to Congress is provided in accordance with Section 1231A of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended, which requires the Secretary of Agriculture to submit an annual report to Congress that describes, with respect to each agreement, the: 1) status of the agreement; 2) purpose and Goals of the agreement; 3) Federal and partner commitments made under the agreement; and 4) progress made in fulfilling those commitments.

Program Improvements

FSA has rolled out several CREP improvements to promote and support Secretary Vilsack's priority for USDA to work with agriculture, forestry, and rural communities to develop Climate Smart Agriculture and Forestry practices and solutions. These include:

- **Engage New Types of Partners.** USDA partnered with Tribal Nations in the Great Plains to maintain and improve grassland productivity, reduce soil erosion, and enhance wildlife habitat on tribal land.

FSA continues to explore partnership opportunities with Tribes and non-governmental organizations. By engaging more partners, FSA can expand the reach of CREP and co-invest in conservation-focused efforts with groups that provide a direct link to historically underserved producers and landowners.

- **Provide Flexibility to Meet Local Needs.** CREP is one of the most flexible tools FSA has for locally driven, partner-led conservation efforts to reward producers and drive important environmental and climate outcomes. FSA continues to find ways to use these flexibilities to shape CRP to address the conservation priorities of State and national significance most important to partners.

Section 2202 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (the 2018 Farm Bill) authorizes dryland crop production on land enrolled in CRP through CREP projects which address regional drought concerns. In response to water scarcity issues throughout the West, USDA is exploring ways to use this authority to balance conservation priorities with local water use needs.

- **Streamline Administrative Processes Associated with New and Existing CREP Agreements.** Historically, implementation of a new CREP agreement has taken more than a year to complete. This process includes, but is not limited to, the partner submitting a concept plan and proposal for consideration, FSA and the partner negotiating and drafting the CREP agreement, completing an Environmental Assessment, developing state policy required to enroll land in CREP, and training staff. In 2022, FSA developed CREP agreement templates and additional resources for partners which will shorten the time required to implement a new CREP or revise and amend an existing CREP.

Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Success Stories

- **Habitat Conservation and Creation.** Creation and conservation of wildlife habitat, particularly for vulnerable species and species of local importance, remain a key goal of many CREPs. For example, the South Dakota-James River CREP reported that they were able to more than quadruple public fishing and hunting acreage in Hutchinson County, South Dakota to more than 8,000 acres, which will provide key wildlife habitat as well as an economic benefit to small communities in the area. This CREP has also facilitated the enrollment of 58,000 acres of cropland in Brown, Marshall, Spink, and Day Counties. These counties have experienced two major flood events in the past decade. These enrollments are expected to yield water quality and flood reduction benefits, as well as create large blocks of habitat for grassland nesting birds.
- **Improved Water Quality.** Water quality is targeted by 32 of the 35 active CREP projects. The Indiana CREP focuses on the CP31 Bottomland Timber Establishment practice as a means of protecting water quality, with more than 73,000 additional trees planted across 122 acres in FY 2022 and a total of 4.4 million trees planted across Indiana watersheds since the CREP's inception in 2005. In a similar vein, the Maryland CREP has also been using trees to advance water quality goals. The Maryland CREP received state partner support in the form of an increased signing bonus for CP22 Riparian Buffer practice enrollments and authority to hire 13 additional staff members to support recent state legislation to plant and maintain an additional 5 million trees by 2030, including 500,000 trees in underserved communities.
- **Increased Outreach.** Outreach to farmers, landowners, and other key stakeholders is a major focus for many CREPs, especially those with new or renewed agreements. Partners in Montana noted a successful kickoff year for the new Upper Clark Fork River CREP in which

outreach efforts have been emphasized. The State of Montana spent the year meeting with key partners (including Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) representatives) to ensure a smooth application process, identifying landowners who are strong candidates for the CREP program and drafting landowner proposals. This CREP is expected to lead to water quality benefits and improved fish and wildlife habitat.

Goals and Next Steps

- **Continue to Improve Reporting.** Each year, an emphasis is placed on improving the CREP report by advancing the quality of reporting. For the FY 2023 report, FSA will review reporting tools to streamline the process and reduce the potential for human error. FSA will also continue to engage with CREP partners through hosting webinars and providing tools that most accurately and comprehensively capture program benefits.
- **Identify Additional Conservation Opportunities that can be Addressed through CREP.** FSA continues to explore ways in which CREP can be used to address new and existing conservation issues in a State or throughout the nation. These may include issues of acute local importance such as resource scarcity and environmental degradation, as well as maintaining the flexibility to emphasize local conservation priorities in the future.
- **Focus on Outcome-Driven Results.** As CREP engages new partners and continues to strive for greater program participation, program results must be outcomes-driven to be impactful. As new CREP agreements are negotiated, a greater emphasis will be placed on selecting and measuring outcomes that contribute to FSA mission success, benefiting both farmers and the environment.

CREP Program Summary

Since CREP was authorized in 1997, USDA has entered into 53 CREP agreements with state partners, 35 of which are active. As of September 30, 2022, over 784,800 acres were under contract including acres that remain enrolled under CREP agreements that are no longer active.¹ The Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay Watershed CREP (79,169.6 acres), the South Dakota James River CREP (76,611.5 acres), and the Ohio Scioto River Watershed CREP (59,164.5 acres) have the highest total enrollment; these three CREPs account for 27 percent of total CREP enrollment.

FY 2022 CREP Program Summary

In FY 2022, 73,980 acres were enrolled through 29 separate agreements in 23 states. Of those 73,980 acres, 23,557 acres, or approximately 32 percent, were new enrollments. The South Dakota James River CREP (6,012.1 acres), the Ohio III-Scioto River Basin CREP (3,093.1 acres), and the Colorado I Republican River CREP (2,810.8 acres) accounted for 50.6 percent of all new enrollments in FY 2022. At the close of FY 2021, 50,424 acres in expiring contracts was re-enrolled into new FY 2022 contracts. The South Dakota James River CREP (19,905 acres), the Ohio III-Scioto River Basin CREP (10,010.3 acres), and the Idaho Eastern Snake River Basin CREP (4,724.3 acres) made up 68.7 percent of all re-enrollments in FY 2022.

Federal contributions totaled \$148,543,397 in FY 2022 for annual rental, signing incentive, practice incentive, and cost-share payments to acreage enrolled in active CREP agreements. CREP partners reported \$96,023,546 in cash and in-kind contributions for FY 2022.



Land enrolled in CRP, through the South Dakota James River CREP, enhances wildlife habitat and creates public hunting and fishing access while improving water quality and reducing soil erosion.

¹ An active CREP agreement refers to any agreement that is currently in effect and has the potential to accept enrollment.

FY 2022 STATUS OF AGREEMENTS

In FY 2022, eligible acreage was enrolled in 29 separate agreements in 23 states. There were six additional active agreements (State of Illinois, State of Kansas, State of Louisiana, State of Michigan, State of Montana, and State of New York) under which no acres were enrolled. While it is possible for a CREP agreement to be terminated, all acres previously enrolled in CRP through the terminated CREP agreement continue to be maintained through to the completion of the original contract. The CRP participant continues to maintain the conservation cover established and use limitations and other terms of the contract remain in effect until the contract period has ended.

State	CREP Agreement	New Acres in FY 2022	Re-enrolled Acres in FY 2022	Total acres as of Sept. 30, 2022
Arkansas*	Arkansas I-Bayou Meto			28.5
Arkansas*	Arkansas II-Cache River/Bayou DeView			443.0
Arkansas*	Arkansas III-Illinois River			11.1
Colorado	Colorado I-Republican River	2,810.8	0.0	14,161.3
Colorado*	Colorado II-High Plains			851.1
Colorado	Colorado III-Rio Grande	340.0	0.0	10,386.0
Delaware	Delaware	48.2	198.2	3,039.0
Hawaii*	Hawaii			1,268.0
Idaho	Idaho-Eastern Snake River Plain	343.4	4,724.3	11,108.3
Illinois ²	Illinois			50,898.3
Indiana	Indiana	749.3	780.4	21,487.4
Iowa	Iowa	162.4	0.0	3,362.4
Kansas ³	Kansas-Upper Arkansas River			23,430.4
Kentucky*	Kentucky-Green River			58,624.8
Louisiana ⁴	Louisiana I-Lower Ouachita River			1,513.2
Maryland	Maryland	580.4	1,613.1	42,490.1
Michigan ⁵	Michigan			20,239.0
Minnesota*	Minnesota II - Mississippi			2,246.8
Minnesota*	Minnesota II - Missouri/Des Moines			1,788.2
Minnesota*	Minnesota II - Red River			509.6
Minnesota	Minnesota Water Quality	1,640.2	506.0	29,442.0
Mississippi	Mississippi Delta	615.0	0.0	5,698.8
Missouri*	Missouri			17,508.8

² The Illinois CREP Agreement was revised in May 2021 and re-opened for enrollment in FY 2022. Over 487 acres were enrolled in FY 2022 but are not included in this report because the contracts do not take effect until FY 2023.

³ The Kansas CREP Agreement was revised in August 2021 to expand the CREP project area effective June 2022. While acreage was not enrolled in FY 2022, additional outreach is planned to encourage participation.

⁴ The Louisiana I-Lower Ouachita River CREP reached its acreage goal during the first three years of the project; additional acreage will not be enrolled in this project. This agreement will be terminated after the last active contract expires on September 30, 2022.

⁵ The Michigan CREP was revised in March 2022 and re-opened for enrollment in FY 2022. Over 1,100 acres were enrolled in FY 2022 but are not included in this report because the contracts do not take effect until FY 2023.

Montana	Montana - Missouri and Madison River	11.8	138.0	10,785.9
Montana ⁶	Montana - Upper Clark Fork River Basin	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nebraska*	Nebraska I-Central Basins Resources			1,981.1
Nebraska	Nebraska II-Platte Republican Resource Area	1,596.4	1,952.1	39,727.3
New Jersey	New Jersey	52.3	0.0	652.1
New York	New York I-New York City	11.1	15.7	1,241.6
New York	New York II-Syracuse	0.0	0.0	43.8
New York	New York III-Statewide	149.9	113.6	7,151.7
North Carolina	North Carolina	88.7	0.0	3,552.7
North Dakota*	North Dakota			85.7
North Dakota	North Dakota Riparian Project	119.0	0.0	1,051.2
Ohio	Ohio I-Lake Erie	2,094.3	1,358.5	51,879.6
Ohio*	Ohio II-Upper Big Walnut Creek			27.3
Ohio	Ohio III-Scioto River Basin	3,093.1	10,010.3	59,164.5
Oklahoma*	Oklahoma			535.3
Oregon	Oregon	758.3	2,427.2	45,402.8
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania I-Chesapeake Bay Watershed	1,115.4	3,731.3	79,169.6
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania II-Ohio River Basin	2.1	614.6	12,479.2
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania III - Delaware River Basin	8.3	6.3	90.3
South Dakota	South Dakota-James River	6,012.1	19,905.0	76,611.5
Vermont	Vermont	32.5	90.0	2,089.3
Virginia	Virginia I-Southern Rivers	116.0	228.9	6,640.9
Virginia	Virginia II-Chesapeake Bay	33.7	428.7	9,954.7
Washington	Washington	84.7	511.0	13,273.1
West Virginia	West Virginia	13.5	429.4	4,764.0
Wisconsin	Wisconsin	873.9	641.5	35,938.3
TOTAL		23,556.6	50,423.7	784,829.2

* Terminated or suspended CREP agreement with active contract acreage enrolled under a previous CREP signup.

⁶ The Montana Upper Clark Fork River Basin CREP signup opened in FY 2021. The partner and State FSA staff continue to work on necessary education and outreach to assist with enrollment.

FY 2022 FEDERAL AND ELIGIBLE PARTNER COMMITMENTS

The USDA issued a total of \$148,543,397 in FY 2022 for all active agreements. Partner contributions totaled \$96,023,546. Federal and partner contributions by agreement are provided below.

State	Agreement Name	FY 2022 Cash and In Kind Commitments			
		Federal Cash	Partner Cash	Partner In-Kind*	Total Partner
Colorado	Colorado I-Republican River	\$2,312,858	\$616,294	\$186,000	\$802,294
Colorado	Colorado III-Rio Grande	\$1,373,743	\$854,995	\$10,789,880	\$11,644,875
Delaware	Delaware	\$438,498	\$88,284	\$78,624	\$166,908
Idaho	Idaho-Eastern Snake River Plain	\$2,078,623	\$0	\$22,316,286	\$22,316,286
Illinois	Illinois	\$14,259,216	\$0	\$1,666,902	\$1,666,902
Indiana	Indiana	\$6,060,586	\$739,126	\$304,893	\$1,044,020
Iowa	Iowa	\$2,586,922	\$1,622,764	\$0	\$1,622,764
Kansas	Kansas-Upper Arkansas River	\$3,039,395	\$0	\$341,845	\$341,845
Louisiana	Louisiana I-Lower Ouachita River	\$130,582	\$0	\$0	\$0
Maryland	Maryland	\$10,342,933	\$1,486,347	\$392,071	\$1,878,418
Michigan	Michigan	\$3,590,017	\$518,511	\$518,511	\$1,037,022
Minnesota	Minnesota Water Quality	\$10,929,133	\$23,657,469	\$3,613,395	\$27,270,864
Mississippi	Mississippi Delta	\$1,234,078	\$66,546	\$5,632	\$72,178
Montana	Montana - Missouri and Madison River	\$666,993	\$0	\$0	\$0
Montana	MT - Upper Clark Fork River Basin	\$0	\$0	\$13,842	\$13,842
Nebraska	Nebraska II-Platte Republican Resource Area	\$7,635,208	\$3,773,711	\$3,733,312	\$7,547,423
New Jersey	New Jersey	\$476,800	\$40,995	\$73,950	\$114,945
New York	New York I-New York City	\$189,341	\$151,123	\$127,379	\$278,502
New York	New York II-Syracuse	\$5,565	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000
New York	New York III-Statewide	\$1,227,241	\$16,487,913	\$173,000	\$17,020,913
North Carolina	North Carolina	\$491,642	\$1,128,030	\$18,395	\$1,146,425
North Dakota	North Dakota Riparian Project	\$57,992	\$13,432	\$13,481	\$26,912
Ohio	Ohio I-Lake Erie	\$16,069,545	\$868,800	\$321,738	\$1,190,538
Ohio	Ohio III-Scioto River Basin	\$19,806,557	\$20,562	\$41,675	\$62,237
Oregon	Oregon	\$4,299,506	\$515,165	\$235,411	\$750,576
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania I-Chesapeake Bay Watershed	\$12,248,834	\$111,111	\$720,635	\$831,746
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania II-Ohio River Basin	\$1,278,027	\$3,529	\$0	\$3,529
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania III - Delaware River Basin	\$15,155	\$89	\$0	\$89
South Dakota	South Dakota-James River	\$9,964,551	\$3,166,576	\$39,614	\$3,206,190
Vermont	Vermont	\$482,850	\$108,626	\$0	\$108,626
Virginia	Virginia I-Southern Rivers	\$1,403,430	\$242,460	\$16,554	\$259,014

Virginia	Virginia II-Chesapeake Bay	\$1,041,533	\$9,911	\$847	\$10,758
Washington	Washington	\$3,415,099	\$1,255,389	\$0	\$1,255,389
West Virginia	West Virginia	\$750,882	\$4,331	\$10,776	\$15,107
Wisconsin	Wisconsin	\$8,637,082	\$475,207	\$433,485	\$908,692
TOTAL		\$148,543,397	\$58,027,296	\$37,996,250	\$96,023,546

* Partner in-kind activities may include outreach and promotion, monitoring, program administration, and related activities.



Permanent vegetative cover established on land enrolled in CRP through the Nebraska II-Platte Republican Resource Area CREP reduces ground and surface water used for irrigation and reduces non-point source contaminants.

AGREEMENT PURPOSE

Agreement Name	Agreement Purpose
Colorado I-Republican River	Reduce the amount of irrigation water consumptive use, conserve energy, and reduce agricultural chemicals and sediment from entering waters of the State from agricultural lands. Enhance aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat through establishment of permanent vegetative cover.
Colorado III-Rio Grande	Improve water quantity and quality, enhance habitat for wildlife populations, reduce irrigation water consumptive use, and reduce agricultural chemical and sediment runoff within the Rio Grande Basin in Colorado.
Delaware	Enhance water quality through reduction of agricultural nutrients to further the goal of restoring designated uses of the State's waterbodies and to enhance wildlife habitats.
Idaho-Eastern Snake River Plain	Improve water quantity and quality, enhance wildlife habitat through establishment of vegetative cover, reduce irrigation water consumptive use, and reduce agricultural chemical and sediment runoff to the waters of the State.
Indiana	Improve water quality and address wildlife issues by reducing erosion, sedimentation and nutrients, and enhancing wildlife habitats.
Illinois	Reduce the amount of agricultural chemicals and sediment from agricultural lands entering waters within the project area. In addition, aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat will be enhanced through establishment of permanent vegetative cover.
Iowa	Improve water quality by reducing nitrate loads to surface waters, enhance wildlife habitat, and increase recreational opportunities.
Kansas-Upper Arkansas River (UAR)	Reduce the amount of irrigation water consumptive use and reduce agricultural chemicals and sediment from entering waters of the State from agricultural lands that contribute to poor water quality in rivers and alluvial and high plains aquifers.
Louisiana I-Lower Ouachita River	Reduce the delivery of agricultural nonpoint source pollution by installing buffers and bottomland hardwoods and restoring wetlands to improve water quality and improve both subsurface and surface water quality.
Maryland	Help reduce the occurrence of runoff, sediment, and nutrient accumulation in the Chesapeake Bay and promote enhanced wildlife habitats.
Michigan	Reduce sediment, phosphorus and nitrogen in the surface water supply of the Macatawa, River Raisin, Saginaw Bay watersheds and the Michigan portion of Western Lake Erie Basin Watershed. Improve water quality,

	enhance habitat for fish and wildlife, and enhance nesting for upland birds, mammals and waterfowl.
Minnesota Water Quality	Improve water quality in the project area by establishing and maintaining buffers of permanent vegetation between eligible waterbodies and adjacent agricultural cropland, restoring and maintaining wetlands; establishing permanent vegetative cover in wellhead protection areas, and establishing beneficial habitat for terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat.
Mississippi Delta	Assist in the maintenance and/or improvement of current water quality conditions through the reduction of agricultural sources of sediment, nutrients, and waterborne pathogens in the targeted watershed.
Montana- Missouri/Madison River	Improve water quality and enhance fish and wildlife habitat along the Missouri and Madison Rivers.
Montana- Upper Clark Fork River Basin	Address water quality issues by the reduction of sediment, nutrients and other pollutants entering rivers and streams, restoring and maintaining wetlands, and the enhancement of habitat within the Upper Clark Fork River Basin.
Nebraska II-Platte Republican Resource Area	Improve water quantity and quality, and the enhancement of wildlife habitat, through establishment of vegetative cover to reduce irrigation water consumptive use and agricultural chemical and sediment runoff into waters of Nebraska.
New Jersey	Improve water quality, reduce impairment from agricultural non-point sources and restore the ecological functions of New Jersey streams.
New York I- New York City	Enhance water quality by reduction of agricultural sources of sediment, nutrients, and waterborne pathogens and the enhancement of wildlife habitats.
New York II-Syracuse	Assist in the maintenance of current water quality conditions through the reduction of agricultural sources of sediment, nutrients, and waterborne pathogens.
New York III-Statewide	Maintain or improve current water quality conditions through the reduction of agricultural sources of sediment, nutrients, and waterborne pathogens.
North Carolina	Enhance water quality by the reduction of sediment and nutrients, and the enhancement of fisheries and wildlife habitats for State and federally listed threatened and endangered species.
North Dakota	Address water quality issues by the reduction of sediment, nutrients and other pollutants entering rivers and streams within the project area, and the enhancement of habitat and forage for honeybees and other wildlife.

Ohio I-Lake Erie	Reduce the amount of sediment and nutrients entering the targeted watersheds from agricultural sources
Ohio III-Scioto River Basin	Improve water quality, reduce agricultural nonpoint source pollution to surface waters, and reduce soil erosion.
Oregon	Assist in the recovery of fish species which have been listed as threatened or endangered species under the Federal Endangered Species Act.
Pennsylvania I-Chesapeake Bay Watershed	Reduce nutrient and sediment loading of the Upper and Lower Susquehanna and Potomac River Basins, improving water quality, enhancing wildlife, and producing nutrient reductions.
Pennsylvania II-Ohio River Basin	Reduce nutrient and sediment loading of the Ohio, Monongahela, and Allegheny Rivers and the smaller streams and tributaries in the same watersheds.
Pennsylvania III-Delaware River Basin	Reduce nutrient and sediment loading of the Delaware River and the smaller streams and tributaries in the same watersheds.
South Dakota-James River	Improve of water quality, reduction in soil erosion, flood control, enhancement of water wildlife habitat, and creation of public hunting and fishing access.
Vermont	Achieve non-point source pollutant reduction, enhance fish and wildlife habitat and to attain conservation goals established by the State.
Virginia I-Southern Rivers	Enhance water quality by reduction of sediment and nutrients within the Southern Rivers Basin and the enhancement of fish and wildlife habitats for State and federally listed threatened and endangered species.
Virginia II-Chesapeake Bay	Reduce the amount of nutrients entering estuaries from agricultural sources to assist Virginia in achieving its nutrient reduction goals for agriculture in the area, the significantly reduce the amount of sediment entering water courses, and the enhance habitat for the preservation of natural diversity of biological resources.
Washington	Assist in the recovery of salmon species that have been listed as threatened or endangered species under the federal Endangered Species Act.
West Virginia	Reduce the runoff, sediment, and nutrients from agricultural enterprises into the boundaries of the designated watersheds, and which will promote improved water quality and enhanced wildlife habitats.
Wisconsin	Improve the water quality of several waterbodies that drain agricultural lands throughout the State of Wisconsin, through a reduction of sediment and the nutrient loading to these waterbodies.

**AGREEMENT GOALS AND PROGRESS
(As Reported by Partner)**

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
Colorado I-Republican River	Water Quantity	Reduce irrigation water use for agricultural purposes from the Ogallala Aquifer by 6.5 percent. This is a lifetime goal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average irrigation consumption in the Republican River CREP is approximately 1.5 acre-foot of irrigation water per acre of land irrigated. Water reduction is calculated by multiplying the total number of irrigated acres retired through CREP since 2005 times 1.5, resulting in an estimated reduction of 48,036 acre-feet of irrigation water per year. • Irrigation use has been reduced by 6.6 percent to date, which exceeds the goal.
	Water Quantity	Reduce irrigation water use by 49,800 acre-feet to 69,200 acre-feet a year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measuring devices have been required on all wells within the District since 2009. Actual well performance is measured annually and that data is used to measure progress. • Irrigation water use was reduced by 48,036 acre-feet or 96 percent of the minimum 49,800 acre-feet per year of the goal.
	Soil Erosion	Reduce soil erosion from 751,633 tons to 259,395 tons per year, a total reduction of 492,238 tons per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion reduction is based on the original goal of 492,238 tons per acre for 35,000 acres of the Republican River CREP. • Since this CREP requires permanent retirement of the irrigation component, it is appropriate to use the total number of acres enrolled over time, including those where contracts have expired. • Multiplying the tons per acre by the 32,024 irrigated acres enrolled since 2005 indicates that 450,384 tons of soil erosion have been reduced. The goal is 91 percent achieved.

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
	Water Quality	Reduce annual fertilizer and pesticide application by a minimum of 3,865 tons per year from 2004 levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRCS and Colorado State University provided an annual application rate for fertilizers and pesticides for acres under irrigation within the CREP area. The calculation reduces that number to zero for each acre enrolled in CREP. • For the 32,024 irrigated acres, the reduction in application is 3,536 tons per year. The goal is 91 percent achieved.
	Energy Reduction	Reduce the total annual use of electricity by 2.76 million kilowatt hours through reductions in groundwater pumping.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each center pivot is operated by electricity and monitored by several power companies within the region. The electricity is quantified by acre and the total number of kWh/yr is calculated by multiplying the 32,034 acres retired since 2005 through CREP by the electricity it takes to irrigate the enrolled acres. • In FY 2022, 2,525,323 kWh/yr were reduced, contributing to 91 percent of the goal being achieved.
Colorado III-Rio Grande	Water Quality and Soil Health	Reduce soil erosion from 681,252 tons to 149,487 tons per year on all acres enrolled in CREP, a total reduction of 531,765 tons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil erosion is determined by soil type and is quantified by NRCS for irrigated agriculture and permanent cover. Progress is measured by calculating the difference in soil erosion between irrigated acres and permanent cover, then multiplying it by the number of acres enrolled. • Approximately 136,000 tons/year in soil erosion have been reduced, meaning that 26 percent of the goal has been achieved to date.
	Habitat	Establish up to 40,000 acres of habitat for numerous wildlife species, including several aquatic and wetland dependent species that are declining due to habitat loss and degradation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Almost 26 percent of the 40,000 acres have been enrolled to date. Due to the arid environment and complex aquifers, habitat goals will not be realized for many years. • Specific measurements immediately following enrollment will not demonstrate long-term benefits for several years.

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
	Water Quality	Reduce annual fertilizer and pesticide application from enrolled acres by approximately 3,650 tons per year from 2012 levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress is measured by using a baseline of fertilizer and pesticide applications per acre and multiplying by the total number of acres enrolled. Almost 26 percent of this goal has been met to date for a reduction of 948 tons per year.
	Water Quality and Habitat	Establish up to 40,000 acres of native vegetation throughout the project area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almost 26 percent of the 40,000 total acres (10,264 acres) have been enrolled to date. All enrolled acres are being checked by NRCS and Subdistrict #1 staff to ensure native vegetation is being established on enrolled acres.
	Water Quality and Habitat	Restore and enhance up to 750 acres of degraded temporary and permanent wetlands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No acreage has yet been enrolled.
	Water Quantity	Reduce irrigation water use for agricultural purposes of the confined and unconfined aquifer within the targeted watershed by approximately 60,060 acre-feet of ground water per year, equal to almost 12 percent water savings within the project area and 5 percent water savings throughout the entire Rio Grande basin in Colorado.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 26 percent or 10,264 acres have been enrolled to date. Annual irrigation water reduced to date is 15,587 acre-feet, which is 26 percent of the goal.
	Water Quantity	Increase stream flows in streams associated with the watershed within the project area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stream flows are monitored regularly by the Colorado Division of Water Resources and Subdistrict #1. However, factors such as the extreme flashiness of the hydrograph, snowpack in surrounding mountains, precipitation variability during the growing season, multi-year groundwater transit times, large scale recharge operations, and other factors make it impossible to attribute any specific changes to CREP enrollment in this very large basin. The reduction in consumption on 10,264 acres increases available water for stream flows as that water is either not diverted or remains in the

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			groundwater system where it can migrate to streams.
	Energy Reduction	Reduce energy consumption from an average sized (125 acre) pivot from approximately 47,000 kilowatt hour (kW-hr) per year to less than 14,000 kW-hr per for the first three years during cover establishment on all pivots enrolled in the CREP. Subsequent years' energy consumption will be reduced to zero for all pivots enrolled in the CREP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each 125-acre pivot enrolled uses the data in the goal to estimate the total energy savings by year. • With 83 pivots enrolled, the total reduction is 20.9 million kW-hr this year and 80 million kW-hr to date, or 38 percent of the overall goal.
	Water Quality	Reduce the percentage of groundwater test wells containing nitrogen (NO ₃) levels above EPA standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline and current Nitrogen in groundwater information was generated from the Colorado Department of Agriculture and Colorado State University resources for the Upper Rio Grande. • Fifteen wells with pre- and post- CREP data in the 200,000-acre Subdistrict were reviewed. The EPA drinking water standard is 10ppm. The natural level of nitrate is 2.5 ppm for the area. For the 15 wells, the average nitrate level declined to 6.28 ppm, while the median increased slightly to 3.81 ppm.
Delaware	Water Quality	Facilitate nutrient and sediment reduction pursuant to the goal of restoring designated uses of surface waters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Models can estimate cumulative CREP nutrient reductions by watershed for nitrogen (N), phosphorous (P) and sediment. CREP practices in Delaware contribute to improving the State's water quality. • By having CREP practices in place for FY 2007- 2022, the amount of each nutrient pollutant load that will not reach surface and/or ground water on a yearly basis include: CP 3A – 1,962.31 acres, 82,241.53 of N and 2,537.04 lbs. of P reduction; CP4D – 355.55 acres, 12,351.53 lbs. of N and 269.2 lbs. of P reduction; CP9 – 178.99 acres, 7,246.6 lbs. of N and 138.2 lbs. of P reduction; CP21 – 315.81 acres, 8,686.54 lbs. of N and 193.02 lbs. of P reduction; CP22 – 56.62 acres, 2,390.9 lbs. of N and 68.8 lbs. of

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<p>P reduction; CP23 - 89.18 acres, 2,144.9 lbs. of N and 73.5 lbs. of P reduction; CP23A – 80.52 acres 1,975.6 bs. of N and 68.1 lbs. of P reduction. The total active acres under CREP practices from 2007-2022 is 3,038.98 acres with a cumulative total of N and P estimated load reductions of 117,037.6 lbs. and 3,347.86 lbs., respectively.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Load reductions are routinely incorporated into the total maximum daily load (TMDL) development process both for crediting purposes and for future reductions from additional best management practice (BMP) implementation.
	Habitat	Increase wildlife habitat and create wildlife corridors in the Chesapeake Bay, Delaware Bay, and Delaware Inland Bays.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delaware set a goal of establishing 10,000 acres of selected practices to meet the goals of the CREP Program. Cumulative CREP program activity from FY 2007-2022 is 3,038.98 acres which are currently under 10- to 15-year contract terms. While there was a loss of 89.9 acres in FY 2022, there were 11 new and re-enrolled Signup 57 contracts in the Delaware Bay, Chesapeake Bay, and Delaware Inland Bay. This represents 38.57 acres of new and/or renewed practices for Signup 57. These acres are represented by the following conservation practices: 7.1 acres of CP3A; 8.4 acres of CP4D, 10.58 acres of CP9, 9.19 acres of CP21; and 3.3 acres of CP22. • Each of these practices are acres that were formerly farmland or marginal pastureland. By installing and managing these conservation practices, areas are provided for wildlife to seek and establish habitat that will be protected from disturbances and wildlife populations will increase. • With 3,038.98 enrolled acres, Delaware has achieved 30.34 percent of the 10,000-acre conservation practice implementation goal.

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	Water Quality	Restore natural conditions for water temperature and dissolved oxygen in areas protected by riparian forested buffers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 56.62 acres of Riparian Buffers that are planted along Delaware’s waterways and enrolled in CREP. • The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program conducts stream assessments throughout the state to survey for freshwater mussels. The increased presence of freshwater mussels is a solid indicator of improved water quality. On August 29, 2022, DNREC survey crew members completed a freshwater mussel presence/absence study of Brecknock County Park – Isaac Branch in the St. Jones River watershed in Kent County, DE. The team found four (4) live mussel individuals, and all were Eastern Elliptio (E. complanata), ranging in size from 7-11 cm. The Eastern Elliptio species is commonly found in Delaware, but not located in this watershed until now. In the future, this group would like to provide quantitative results from their stream surveys with the hopes of being able to measure mussel population increases and decreases possibly relating to water quality and habitat.
	Water Quality	Provide conservation buffers on approximately 1,200 miles of the State’s waterways and drainage systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In FY2022, cumulative practice acres are 2,859.99 acres, which include the following: CP3A-Hardwood Trees (1,962.31 acres), CP4D-Permanent Wildlife Habitat (355.55 acres), CP21-Filter Strips (315.81 acres), CP22-Riparian Forested Buffers (56.62 acres), and CP23/23A-Wetland Restoration (169.7 acres). These conservation practices all must border a waterway or drainage area. The only practice not included in the list above is the CP9 – Shallow Water Areas for Wildlife. This practice does not need to be

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<p>installed along a stream or body of water, so the CP9 acres are being left out of the acreage calculations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An acre is 43,560 square feet, the square root of that is 208.71 feet. One acre can be described as a square of side of ~ 209 feet or 0.04 miles (=4/100 of a mile). Since there are 2,859.99 acres along the Delaware waterways and drainage systems, they can be multiplied by the 209 feet to equal 597,737.91 feet. To convert 597,737.91 feet to miles, divide by 5,280 feet per mile which equals 113.21 miles. • These conservation buffers are monitored by the same systems that are in place for Goal #1 and Goal #3. Approximately 113.21 miles out of the 1,200 miles are covered with conservation buffers. Hence, approximately 9.43 percent of the State’s waterways and drainage systems have a CREP conservation buffer alongside.
Idaho-Eastern Snake River Plain	Water Quantity	Enroll up to 50,000 acres of eligible cropland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12,200 acres of cropland are currently enrolled, approximately 24 percent of the goal.
	Water Quantity	Cease the application of water on up to 50,000 acres of irrigated cropland and thereby reduce consumptive use of water from the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer by an estimated 2 acre-feet annually per enrolled acre up to a total of 100,000 acre-feet annually.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24,200 acre/ft annually of groundwater is conserved by the enrolled 12,200 acres of farmland.
	Habitat	Provide up to 50,000 additional acres of native grassland habitat for wildlife in the Idaho CREP project area, improving habitat for grassland-nesting birds such as sage grouse and sharp-tailed grouse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving water quantity helps with flow and temperature for aquatic species. Upland wildlife and bird habitat benefit from permanent vegetative cover and protection during nesting seasons. Columbian sharp-tailed grouse are one of six subspecies of sharp-tailed grouse. Currently, there are approximately 56,000 to 61,500 Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse across their range; Idaho

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			<p>supports about 62.5 percent of the overall population. This information is cited by Idaho Fish & Game in “2015–2025 Columbian Sharp Tailed Grouse Management Plan for Idaho.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout their historical range, the decline of Columbian sharp-tailed grouse has been primarily attributed to the loss of native grassland and shrub-grassland vegetation types. • CRP and CREP have generally had a major positive impact on sharptail/upland bird populations in Idaho. Between these programs, hundreds of thousands of acres were seeded to a mixture of perennial grasses and forbs. • The extensive, undisturbed grassland that developed on these seeded areas has provided secure nesting and brood-rearing habitat, especially where alfalfa/forbs were included in the seeding mix. • Currently in Idaho, approximately 70 percent of Columbian sharp-tailed grouse habitat occurs on private land with the remaining 30 percent on public land. In most areas, the birds are dependent on both private and public land to meet their seasonal habitat requirements.
Illinois	Water Quality	Decrease sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus loading by 10 percent within stream reaches associated with land enrolled in CRP through this CREP, when compared to 1998 pre-enrollment averages.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During 2022, a scalable load estimation modeling framework was developed at the Illinois State Water Survey to assist with evaluating the progress towards meeting the Illinois CREP goals. Load estimation models were set up for the 12 Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC)-12 watersheds that cover the monitored CREP watersheds in the Illinois River and the Kaskaskia River watersheds. Annual percent load reductions were calculated in comparison with a No-CREP scenario for the same years. The estimated loads are bias-corrected using observed sediment

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<p>and nutrient data collected by the Illinois State Water Survey. Water year 2021 data (the most recently available) were used for the calculations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the Illinois River Watershed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The total water year 2021 CREP practice acreage in the monitored HUC12s of the Illinois River Watershed accounted for 2.1 percent of the watershed area and resulted in estimated load reductions of 4,338 tons of sediment (2.40 percent), 38,492 lbs. of nitrogen (1.74 percent), and 5,391 lbs. of phosphorus (1.46 percent). ○ The total load reductions since 2000 were estimated to be 82,187 tons of sediment (2.21 percent), 676,863 lbs. of nitrogen (1.38 percent), and 105,103 lbs. of phosphorus (1.47 percent). • For the Kaskaskia River Watershed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The total water year 2021 CREP practice acreage in the monitored HUC12s of the Kaskaskia River Watershed was 0.2 percent of the watershed area and the resulting load reductions were 146 tons of sediment (0.24 percent), 949 lbs. of nitrogen (0.12 percent), and 279 lbs. of phosphorus (0.14 percent). ○ Since water year 2015 (the first year of data available for analysis for the Kaskaskia River watershed), the total load reductions in the monitored HUC12s were estimated to be 1,645 tons of sediment (0.26 percent), 10,007 lbs. of nitrogen (0.14 percent), and 3,053 lbs. of phosphorus (1.47 percent). • The Illinois CREP is making progress towards meeting the 10 percent reduction in sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus goal even though. As noted above, only 2.1 percent of Illinois River Watershed and 0.26

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<p>percent in Kaskaskia River Watershed are enrolled in CREP. Percent load reductions vary from HUC12 to HUC12 based on enrollments. Of all monitored HUC12s, the largest total load reduction in 22 years (water year 2000-2021) was obtained for 7130005080-Haw Creek in the Illinois River Watershed, which also has the highest CREP acreage enrollment of 6.5 percent. This resulted in load reductions of 7.29 percent for sediment, 5.43 percent for nitrogen, and 6.16 percent for phosphorous.</p>
	Habitat	<p>Increase the population of avian "Species of Greatest Conservation Need," as defined in the Illinois Wildlife Action Plan, on land enrolled in CRP through this CREP by 50 percent, when compared to similar land managed for agricultural production.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illinois Natural History Survey researchers conducted 218 multi-species point counts between May and July of 2022 at 114 randomly selected locations within 76 CREP easements in the Illinois and Kaskaskia River watersheds. Researchers detected 99 species of birds on CREP easements over the course of the 2022 breeding season. Of the species observed, 24 were avian "Species of Greatest Conservation Need" (SGCN). Comparisons were made using a 1990 study in Illinois that recorded 7 SGCN using agricultural fields, and a 2014 study in Illinois that recorded 3 SGCN using agricultural fields. • The combined density of all avian species was 4.2 times greater on CREP acreage compared to similar land managed for agriculture. Overall, the SGCN found on CREP easements increased in density by 248 to 11,421 percent when compared to land managed for agricultural production. • Illinois CREP has substantially surpassed the goal of a 50 percent increase in SGCN on CREP acreage when compared to similar land managed for agricultural production.

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	Habitat	Increase the average number of native fish species and environmentally sensitive aquatic insects (stoneflies, caddisflies, and mayflies) by 15 percent within stream reaches associated with land enrolled in CRP through this CREP when compared to similar streams surrounded by land managed for agricultural production. The stream reaches sampled for this goal rotate between streams in the Kaskaskia Basin and the Illinois Basin, annually.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Illinois Natural History Survey has continued efforts to monitor the impacts of CREP on aquatic life in Illinois. Twenty-nine wade-able stream sites were sampled in the Kaskaskia River watershed in 2021 and 30 wade-able stream sites were sampled in the Illinois River Basin in 2022. Sampling was conducted under base-flow conditions to evaluate fish assemblages, benthic macroinvertebrate assemblages, stream habitat, and water chemistry in the watershed. Taxonomic identification results were received in 2022 for the macroinvertebrate samples collected in 2021 from the Kaskaskia River watershed. The taxonomic identification results for the macroinvertebrate samples taken during the 2022 sampling season in the Illinois River watershed will be available for the 2023 report. • Illinois CREP is making progress towards meeting the goal of a 15 percent increase in the average number of native fish species. Stream reaches within CREP parcels have 12 percent more native fish species on average than stream reaches associated with agricultural production in the Illinois and Kaskaskia River watersheds. Sixty-one percent of the sampled streams had more native fish present in the CREP reach than the agricultural reach, and 39 percent of the sampled streams met or exceeded the goal. • In the Kaskaskia River watershed, none of the sampled streams had more types of sensitive aquatic insect species present in the CREP reaches than the agricultural reaches. However, at 57 percent of the sampled streams, sensitive aquatic insect species made up a higher percentage of the total aquatic insect community in the CREP reaches than the agricultural reaches.

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
Indiana	Water Quality	Protect a minimum of 3,000 linear miles of watercourses through the installation of conservation buffer practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) records and tracks all practices that are enrolled and that have signed a state landowner participation agreement form. When a project is recorded as completed in the state’s tracking system, the CREP Leader records the length in feet of the practice that is protecting a body of water. (The definition for a body of water is taken from the CRP Manual.) The feet are then converted to miles. • Through the installation of conservation buffer practices, approximately 1,047.5 linear miles of watercourses are currently protected within the Indiana CREP watersheds. Overall, this is 34.9 percent of the goal to protect 3,000 linear miles of watercourses in the targeted CREP watersheds.
	Water Quality	Reduce the amount of sediment, phosphorus, and nitrogen entering rivers and streams in the designated watersheds by 2,450 tons per year of sediment, 2,400 pounds per year of phosphorus, and 4,700 pounds per year of nitrogen.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISDA uses the Region 5 Sediment and Nutrient Load Reduction Model developed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to estimate the sediment, nitrogen and phosphorus load reductions from individual best management practices installed on the ground. CREP leaders apply this model to each conservation practice enrolled and installed to estimate the positive effects of the practice on water quality. These estimates are then tracked. • Practices installed in FY 2022 resulted in a reduction of 6,633 tons of sediment, 8,946 lbs. of phosphorus, and 17,392 lbs. of nitrogen—meaning that the three goals were exceeded. Overall, since the expansion of the program in 2010, reductions include 85,907 tons of sediment, 100,288 lbs. of phosphorus, and 197,091 lbs. of nitrogen.
	Water Quality	Increase the acres of wetlands in the watersheds for erosion control, sediment reduction, stormwater retention, and nutrient uptake.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISDA records and tracks all practices that are enrolled, including wetland restoration acres.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In FY 2022, according to the state’s tracking system, approximately 265.4 acres of wetland restorations were completed and 507 acres were enrolled. Cumulatively, the Indiana CREP has restored/enhanced or re-enrolled approximately 5,998.7 acres of wetlands.
	Water Quality	Seek enrollment of up to 26,250 acres of eligible cropland, including frequently flooded agricultural lands and restorable wetlands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ISDA records and tracks all CREP-eligible practices that are enrolled. There are approximately 23,516 acres that have been enrolled,⁷ with approximately 22,293 of those acres completed.⁸ As of Sept. 30, 2022, there are 21,487 acres enrolled in CRP through this CREP. In 2023, the tracking system will be updated to record overall acres enrolled, and also the acres that are currently enrolled and under contract.
Iowa	Water Quality	Add the capacity to remove 300 to 600 tons of nitrate-nitrogen per year from agricultural tile drainage. Over the next ten years, this would add wetland capacity to annually remove 3,000 to 6,000 tons of nitrate- nitrogen from agricultural tile drainage. Over a 60-year life, each wetland acre would remove approximately 20 to 40 tons of nitrate-nitrogen.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three wetlands were constructed in 2022 which remove an estimated 34.4 tons of nitrogen from the receiving waters. These wetlands will remove 5,164 tons of nitrogen over their 150-year lifespan. Cumulatively, all the CREP wetlands constructed to date remove 790 tons per year of nitrogen at a weighted average cost of \$496 per pound of nitrogen removed from the receiving waters.
	Water Quality	Reduce sediment entering surface waters in the Lake Panorama Watershed by 80,000 tons per year following filter strip and riparian buffer establishment. This has the potential of significantly reducing total sediment accumulation into Lake Panorama.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress toward meeting this goal has been very limited. While some landowners have installed grade control structures or filter strips using state cost-share programs in recent years, no landowners have signed up for the available CREP incentives in the watershed. Landowners are reticent to sign

⁷ Enrolled acres include the practices that have been installed on the ground in addition to the projects that have been signed up for the program by have not been installed on the ground yet.

⁸ Completed acres are acres/projects where conservation practices have been installed on the ground or have been re-enrolled into the program.

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<p>easements for the CREP filter strips and riparian buffers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional staff have been hired to support the implementation of edge-of-field practices statewide and will be used to support implementing practices within the Lake Panorama Watershed.
	Water Quality	Reduce or maintain soil erosion on agricultural land enrolled in the CREP to below the soil loss tolerance level for the soils present (2-5 tons per acre).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The required CP23 wetland upland buffer seeding consists of perennial native warm season grasses and native forbs. Perennial vegetation protects the soil and keeps soil erosion to a minimum. Soil erosion rates are less than one ton per acre per year, exceeding the goal. • Additionally, CREP sites are in landscapes dominated by low-gradient slopes. If the upland buffer area includes steeper slopes, these areas are generally small acreages and are also protected by perennial vegetation and plant residues.
	Water Quality	Demonstrate a variety of available wetland technologies and their value for improving water quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two types of wetland development technologies are being researched, evaluated, and demonstrated currently. The first technique is “Tile Zone Wetlands.” The second technique is wetland development on floodplain landscapes. • “Tile Zone Wetlands” are being researched, monitored, and implemented. This type of wetland is suited to pothole, low-gradient landscapes. To create a wetland using this design, existing tile lines are intercepted by a newly installed “interceptor” tile line which re-directs drainage water to a surface outlet and then to a pothole lower in the landscape. After this drainage water is treated by flowing through the wetland, it is collected and re-deposited into the same tile line that it originated from further downslope in the landscape, or to another suitable outlet. This type of wetland design has several

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<p>advantages. First, the amount of surface water entering the wetland is greatly reduced since primarily only tile drainage water is directed to the wetland. Second, since the wetland is a naturally formed pothole, the earthwork cost for a structure and berm are eliminated or minimal. Third, the easement area necessary for this type of wetland could be much smaller since the volume of water treated and size of the wetland would also be smaller. Researchers at Iowa State University are actively identifying sites which may work for this type of design. Several tile zone sites are being designed and implemented through the state-funded Water Quality Initiative (WQI) program. One tile zone site was implemented in 2022. More sites that meet CREP criteria are in the design stage and scheduled for implementation in 2023 using the gravity-flow tile zone concept.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The second wetland development technique is floodplain wetlands. In this technique, areas on existing floodplains are constructed with berms or excavation to create a depression or holding cell for tile water to be directed into the wetland or have surface drainageways with tile-dominated baseflow redirected into the wetland. This technique targets tile-drainage water like tile zone wetlands and may have the wetland inlet designed to allow the baseflow into the wetland while bypassing the high-volume surface runoff from storm events. A floodplain site meeting CREP criteria was planned for construction in 2021. However, due to permitting delays, this wetland construction is delayed until 2023.

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Kansas-Upper Arkansas River	Soil Conservation	Reduce the amount of annual soil lost to erosion by approximately 150,000 tons per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With 23,340 acres enrolled in the CREP program as of Sept. 30, 2022, the amount of soil lost to erosion will be reduced by about 93,720 tons per year. • Sixty-two percent of this objective has been met.
	Energy Conservation	Reduce the total annual use of electricity by 16 million kilowatt hours when full enrollment is met.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kansas State Research and Extension staff provided a rough estimate of energy consumption for a 125-acre center pivot in counties along the Upper Arkansas River. Average energy consumption of 59,850 kW-hr per pivot per year was derived from their estimates. In the first two years of the program, offers made for acres that occur in soils unsuitable for dryland agriculture will have the opportunity to irrigate minimally to ensure establishment of grass cover. Therefore, a small amount of energy consumption will still be experienced in the first years of the program. • With 22,842 irrigated acres enrolled as of Sept. 30, 2021, more than 10 million kW-hr of energy savings are achieved each year.
	Agricultural Transition	Demonstrate the ability to gradually transition from irrigation farming to non-irrigation farming through enrollment of 1,000 acres of land that has a Wind Erodibility Index of less than 134 and will be devoted to CRP practice CP43.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This goal was added to the CREP agreement in 2021. There is no data to report as no acreage was enrolled in FY2022. • Progress will be measured by recording the number of CRP acres enrolled in conservation practice CP43 - 'Prairie Strips.'
Louisiana I-Lower Ouachita River	Water Quality	Reduce by 30 percent sediment loading to streams, bayous, and lakes by assisting participants with the installation of conservation measures which reduce erosion rates, with an emphasis on those lands that are highly erosive and are eroding at a rate equal to or slightly above tolerance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the life of the CREP project over 49,417 acres of farmland have been enrolled and have had conservation cover established on those acres. • This conservation cover has helped reduce an estimated average of over 5 tons of sediment delivery per year to the targeted watersheds. This estimate is based on NRCS RUSLEII. • This goal is 100 percent complete.

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	Water Quality	Reduce runoff containing dissolved nitrogen and phosphorus by a reduction of 2,100 tons of nitrogen and 975 tons of phosphorus annually in the project area. The hypoxia zone that lies in the northern Gulf of Mexico would benefit from this reduction with a decrease in excess nitrogen and phosphorus delivered from the Mississippi River and its tributaries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the life of the CREP, over 49,417 acres of farmland have been enrolled and have had conservation cover established. • This conservation cover has helped reduce phosphorus load delivery to the targeted watersheds by idling farmland. • This goal is 100 percent complete.
	Water Quality	Increase shallow water areas and wetlands to serve as nutrient/chemical uptake and filtering sites for neo-tropical migrants, shore birds, waterfowl, and other wetland dependent species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 100 acres of shallow water areas have been installed since the CREP inception. • This goal is 100 percent complete.
	Habitat	Establish more critical habitat for fish and wildlife resources by assisting landowners and operators in developing 13,500 acres of bottomland wildlife habitat, 17,000 acres of wetland habitat, and 4,500 acres of riparian buffers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 49,417 acres of conservation cover (Trees and Native Grasses) have been established under the Louisiana Lower Ouachita River Basin “Macon Ridge” Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (LA CREP I) agreement. • This goal is 100 percent complete.
	Habitat	Establish more critical habitat for fish and wildlife resources by assisting landowners and operators in developing 13,500 acres of bottomland wildlife habitat, 17,000 acres of wetland habitat, and 4,500 acres of riparian buffers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 49,417 acres of conservation cover (Trees and Native Grasses) have been established under the Louisiana Lower Ouachita River Basin “Macon Ridge” Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (LA CREP I) agreement. • This goal is 100 percent complete.
Maryland	Water Quality	Reduction of nutrient pollution from agricultural lands of approximately 11,500,000 pounds of nitrogen and 1,100,000 pounds of phosphorus on an annual basis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maryland’s Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) outlines specific actions and strategies that it will take to achieve pollution limits set by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by 2025. Maryland listed 41 agricultural milestone actions in their goals to accelerate Chesapeake Bay restoration and meet the total maximum daily load (TMDL) goal. These actions included four categories of CREP

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<p>practices: highly erodible land protection, riparian grass buffers, riparian forest buffers, and wetlands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress toward each practice is tracked and reported through the Soil Conservation Districts and reported annually to EPA for progress. Subsequently, a suite of modeling tools is employed by the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program to estimate nutrient and sediment delivery across the watershed. In addition to newly installed practices, the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) completes site inspections and field verification over the lifespan of the Best Management Practice (BMP) to ensure that water quality benefits remain. • Based on enrolled acreage through FY 2022, progress is estimated at 1,787,791 pounds of nitrogen and 33,034 pounds of phosphorus annually reduced through CREP.
	Water Quality	Reduction of sediment loading into streams from agricultural lands of approximately 200,000 tons of sediment on an annual basis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress for FY 2022 is estimated at 26,712 tons of sediment reduced annually.
	Habitat	Increase the survivability, distribution, and abundance of targeted fish, wildlife, and plant species in the Chesapeake Bay region. Emphasis on Rare and Declining Species Habitat enrollments will be given to high priority species listed under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and State and Federally-listed threatened or endangered species, such as bald eagles, Delmarva fox squirrel, Eastern bog turtle, dwarf wedge mussel, glassy darter, and harparella.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CREP acres have expanded conservation cover for critical wildlife habitat. Of the CREP acres currently enrolled, 18,669 (40 percent) were within the BioNet mapping of important areas for rare species. • In addition, currently enrolled CREP practices are providing an estimated \$20,932,567 a year in ecosystem services. This includes the value of air pollution removal, carbon sequestration, groundwater recharge, nutrient removal, flooding and stormwater mitigation, wildlife and biodiversity, and surface water protection. • CREP provides important habitat to a minimum of 79,640 additional breeding birds annually compared to similar non-CREP acres in Maryland. Species of

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<p>Greatest Conservation Need that use grasslands and shrublands such as northern bobwhite, grasshopper sparrow, eastern meadowlark, and prairie warbler have particularly benefited, with an additional 18,857 birds using habitat created via CREP buffer practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CREP wetland practices have provided valuable habitat for waterfowl species such as the regionally-prioritized American black duck, with an estimated 2,229,907 duck-use days resulting from current CREP enrollments.
Michigan	Water Quality	When full enrollment is reached, annually reduce sediment entering rivers and streams by 52,000 tons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The suspension of the Michigan CREP agreement was lifted in March of 2022 and the first signup since 2016 was run from April through September. • All new and re-enrolled acres are effective Oct. 1, 2022 or later. With no new acres enrolled and no new practices established in FY 2022, there is no reportable progress.
	Water Quality	When full enrollment is reached annually reduce phosphorus entering rivers and streams by 52,000 pounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The suspension on the Michigan CREP agreement was lifted in March of 2022 and the first signup since 2016 was run from April through September. • All new and re-enrolled acres are effective Oct. 1, 2022 or later. With no new acres enrolled and no new practices established in FY 2022, there is no reportable progress.
	Water Quality	When full enrollment is reached annually reduce nitrogen entering rivers and streams by 105,000 pounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The suspension on the Michigan CREP agreement was lifted in March of 2022 and the first signup since 2016 was run from April through September. • All new and re-enrolled acres are effective Oct. 1, 2022 or later. With no new practices established in FY 2022, there is no reportable progress.
	Soil Health	When full enrollment is reached annually sequester approximately 60,000 metric tons of carbon.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The suspension on the Michigan CREP agreement was lifted in March of 2022 and the first signup since 2016 was run from April through September.

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All new and re-enrolled acres are effective Oct. 1, 2022 or later. With no new practices established in FY 2022, there is no reportable progress.
Minnesota Water Quality	Water Quality	Reduce phosphorus by 19,200 pounds per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) used the most current nutrient reduction coefficients to calculate nutrient reductions. The reduction in phosphorus pollutant loading is 12,589 pounds/acre/year for new practices installed. Existing watercourse and wetland practice acres were excluded from this calculation because they are unlikely to revert to cropland. Tree and shrub practices were also excluded because the necessary information regarding these practices was not included in the model used to calculate benefits.
	Water Quality	Reduce nitrogen by 1,220,000 pounds per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) used the most current nutrient reduction coefficients to calculate nutrient reductions. The reduction of nitrogen pollutant loading is 391,334 pounds/acre/year for new practices installed. Existing watercourse and wetland practice acres were excluded from this calculation because they are unlikely to revert to cropland. Tree and shrub practices were also excluded because the necessary information regarding these practices was not included in the model used to calculate benefits.
	Water Quality	Reduce sediment runoff by 123,000 tons per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The BWSR used the most current nutrient reduction coefficients to calculate nutrient reductions for this report. The reduction of nitrogen pollutant loading is 1,517 tons/acre/year for new practices installed. Existing watercourse and wetland practice acres were excluded from this calculation because they are unlikely to revert to cropland. Tree and shrub practices were also excluded because the necessary

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			information regarding these practices was not included in the model used to calculate benefits.
Mississippi Delta	Habitat	Increase native bottomland forest acreage, which is considered to be one of the most degraded ecosystems in North America and provides habitat for several migratory waterfowl and shorebird species as well as the federally threatened Louisiana black bear.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While not specified in the CREP agreement, to accomplish this goal, the partner will restore 8,000 acres of bottomland hardwoods and plant 3,480,000 trees within the Mississippi Delta. • As of Sept. 30, 2022, 5,698.9 acres have been enrolled connecting fragmented forest and creating travel corridors for expanding wildlife populations in the Mississippi Delta region while providing critical habitats. This represents 71.2 percent of the 8,000-acre goal.
	Water Quality	Reduce sediment loading in streams and lakes in the project area by installing conservation measures which reduce erosion rates and reduce off-field transportation rates of herbicides, pesticides, and nutrients. This would lead to water quality improvements benefiting the federally endangered Sheepsnose mussel (<i>Plethobasus cyphus capax</i>), and the Pallid sturgeon (<i>Scaphirhynchus albus</i>).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The amount of excess sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorous reduced and calculated on a per acre/year basis is used to determine the total volume of these nutrients leaving the fields and entering the waterways. • Using the RUSLE model, predicted per acre annual reduction rates are 10,822 lbs of sediment, 5.4 lbs of nitrogen, and 10.8 lbs of phosphorous.
	Habitat	Restore wetlands with CRP practice CP23, in a coordinated effort by Federal and State agencies and non-governmental organizations. Assist producers in establishing an increased acreage amount on Mississippi-adapted bottomland hardwood native tree species to serve as habitat for several migratory waterfowl and shorebird species, as well as the federally threatened Louisiana black bear.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRP practice CP23 is implemented on marginal agricultural lands that frequently flood. • As of Sept. 30, 2022, 797.42 acres have been enrolled in CRP practice CP23, Wetland Restoration.
	Water Quality	Provide increased protection of sub-surface water sources from contamination by agricultural chemicals, nutrients and pathogens by assisting with the installation of conservation measures that	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land enrolled in all CREP practices reduce point and non-point source pollution by conserving sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorous and preventing these

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
		reduce point and non-point pollution. Assist producers in establishing increased riparian buffer acreage to serve as nutrient/chemical uptake and filtering sites.	<p>contaminants from entering the Yazoo River Watershed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of Sept. 30, 2022, 5,698.9 total acres have been enrolled in this CREP project.
Montana - Missouri and Madison River	Habitat	Establish, restore, and improve up to 11,000 acres of riparian buffers along approximately 524 miles of the Missouri and Madison Rivers and their tributaries within a two-mile corridor in nine counties. This will be the key practice, given the importance of riparian habitat. The specific measurable item will be acres of riparian habitat restored. Riparian habitat restoration will help recover candidate species and species of special concern such as the arctic grayling and westslope cutthroat trout and listed Threatened and Endangered species such as the pallid sturgeon.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The goal is being measured by the number of acres that are established, restored, or improved within the two-mile corridor of the Missouri or Madison Rivers. In FY 2022, no new acres of riparian buffers were enrolled. As of Sept. 30, 2022, 4.52 acres have been enrolled in CRP practice CP22, Riparian Buffer. Currently researching low enrollment and potential barriers for participation which include the high cost of establishing and maintaining the required trees.
	Habitat	Establish and improve up to 14,000 acres of permanent, native, and introduced wildlife habitat within the 2-mile-wide corridor of the Missouri and Madison Rivers. Many wildlife species depend on both riparian and upland habitats. Native and introduced grassland and scrubland habitat establishment will support recovery of these species as well as a number of ground-nesting grassland obligates. In addition, establishment of permanent native and introduced cover on highly erodible cropland will support the water quality and fishery goals of this agreement by reducing sediment inputs to water bodies. The specific measurable criteria of success will be acres of permanent wildlife habitat restored.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The specific measurable criteria of success will be acres of permanent wildlife habitat restored. In FY 2022, 11.8 new acres of permanent, native, and introduced wildlife habitat were enrolled. In addition, 138.0 acres were re-enrolled in FY 2022.
	Habitat	Restore up to 1,000 acres of degraded wetlands within a 2-mile-wide corridor of the Missouri and Madison Rivers. Wetland restoration within the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The specific measurable criteria of success will be acres of wildlife habitat restored.

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		corridor will support the fish and wildlife habitat restoration and water quality goals of the project. The specific measurable criteria of success will be acres of wildlife habitat restored.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In FY 2022, 0.0 new acres of degraded wetlands were enrolled. The semi-arid climate of Montana poses natural challenges to the successful establishment of a wetland restoration.
Montana - Upper Clark Fork River Basin	Water Quality	Reduce non-point source pollution, restore environmental function, and improve wildlife and habitat by improving or restoring up to 12,300 acres of riparian buffers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A site visit and CREP proposal summaries were developed for 89.36 acres of marginal pastureland, riparian areas, and wetland buffers during the reporting period.
	Water Quality	Restore 1,000 acres of wetlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is the first year of potential signup for the Upper Clark Fork River Basin CREP. Multiple projects are under development—none have been implemented.
	Habitat	Enroll up to 45,500 acres of grasslands to improve the hydrologic function of the uplands and provide for sustainable range management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acres restored are our measure for success. Current projects in development are focused on riparian areas. Future projects will include native intermountain grasslands.
Nebraska II-Platte Republican Resource Area	Water Quantity	Reduce the application of water for cropland irrigation in the project area by 125,000 acre-feet annually from 2004 irrigated usage levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The estimated consumptive use savings for curtailing irrigation on the CREP program acres for the 2022 irrigation season is 36,417 acre-feet. The implied irrigation efficiency within Goal 1 and Goal 2 is 0.68. Therefore, the expected reduction in application of water for 2022 is 53,554 acre-feet. This is 43 percent of the goal. For the 2022 irrigation season, there were approximately 40 percent of the maximum acres enrolled in the program. This progress is in line with the level of participation. The Nebraska Legislature passed a bill in 2017 that makes re-enrollment of irrigated land under a surface water appropriation more likely, because the number of years that a surface water appropriation may be protected from cancellation for nonuse was increased from 15 to 30 years. This paved the way for 15-year contracts to be

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			renewed for another 15 years without placing the water appropriation in jeopardy.
	Water Quantity	Increase surface and ground water retention by a target amount of 85,000 acre-feet of water annually within the project area reservoirs, groundwater tables, and streams.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The retention of surface and groundwater is dependent and synonymous with the reduction in consumptive use. Consumptive use of irrigation water is lost to lakes, streams, and groundwater aquifers through irrigation. • The estimated retention (consumptive use) from all sources is 36,417 acre-feet for 2022. • That is 43 percent of the goal.
	Habitat	Provide up to 85,000 additional acres of native grassland habitat for wildlife in the project area, increasing the populations of pheasants and other ground nesting birds by 25 percent in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the MOA, 85,000 acres may be put into the following practices: Permanent Native Grasses CP2, Permanent Wildlife Habitat CP4D, and Rare and Declining Habitat CP25. In addition, practice Wildlife Food Plot CP12 may be used in conjunction with any of the three primary practices. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Currently, all but 111.4 acres of the enrolled acres in the CREP program are in these practices. Therefore, the practices are attractive to producers. • Monitoring of wildlife populations in the Platte-Republican Basins CREP area continues to be completed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) using standard game surveys. The primary impact on wildlife in the CREP area at this point has been the enrollment of 39,727 acres of formerly cropped irrigated fields into appropriate wildlife cover. The bulk of the CREP acres were enrolled in the spring of 2005 and were planted to perennial cover in the fall of 2005 and spring of 2006 and now are being reenrolled. The National Wild Pheasant Management Conservation Plan (2021) estimates that 2.1 acres of CRP are needed to produce 1 pheasant in Nebraska. Thus, the 39,738

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<p>CREP acres are estimated to produce 18,922 pheasants annually. The NGPC has graphed several species' survey data showing prevalence since 2005. The survey data provides a baseline for detecting changes in populations that can be attributed, at least in part, to CREP enrollment. Annual variations in wildlife populations are very common and, in Nebraska, are typically tied to weather conditions. Surveyed wildlife populations in the CREP area are compared to those across the state to better understand the relative impact of CREP habitat enrollments on Nebraska wildlife populations of interest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pheasant numbers improved slightly in the CREP area in 2022, as did bobwhite quail, likely due to dry conditions during nesting and hatch. All surveyed species in the CREP area are faring as good or better than the statewide average. Without suitable habitat like that provided by CREP acres, this may not have been the case.
	Habitat	Provide up to 15,000 additional acres of conservation buffers and restored wetlands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 15,000-acre target is further broken down to 10,000 acres for CP21 and CP22, and 5,000 acres for CP23 and CP23A. Currently there is only one contract for 111.43 acres in the CP23 practice. It is unusual in that it has irrigated land situated partly in a wetland area.
	Water Quality	Seek to reduce the application of triazine products by approximately 93,000 pounds annually, when fully enrolled, from existing application rates in the project area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the terms of the program, lands included under contract must be replanted to native grasses and, therefore, would not be treated with herbicides. • The average amounts of application associated with triazine compounds is 1.3 pounds per acre. Therefore, the amount of triazine that likely would have been applied to the contracted acres, had they

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<p>remained as irrigated cropland, is approximately 51,645 lbs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is 56 percent of the goal, which has only partially been met. This is in part due to the 40 percent participation rate for total enrolled acres.
	Water Quality	Seek to reduce leaching of nitrate compounds into project area streams and groundwater by 5,900,000 pounds annually, when fully enrolled, from the 2004 application rates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the terms of the program, lands included under contract must be replanted to native grasses and, therefore, would not be fertilized. The average nitrogen application is 200 pounds per acre. Therefore, the amount of nitrogen that likely would have been applied to the contracted acres, had they remained as irrigated cropland is approximately 7,945,500 lbs. This goal has been met.
	Water Quality	Seek to reduce the application of phosphate products by approximately 2,440,000 pounds annually, when fully enrolled, from 2004 application rates in the project area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the terms of the program, lands included under contract must be replanted to native grasses and, therefore, would not be fertilized. The average phosphate application is 24.4 pounds per acre. Approximately 39.7 percent of the goal has been met, which corresponds to the level of participation of approximately 39,700 acres out of a possible 100,000 acres. This goal is on track to be completed.
	Water Quality	Assist community public water supplies (surface and groundwater) by reducing nitrogen and phosphorus levels from agricultural activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts (NRDs) are the primary regulator of nonpoint source pollution in groundwater. The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) administers the Wellhead Protection Program and state Nonpoint Source Management program. Together, these programs offer planning and financial assistance to public water systems interested in protecting and restoring their water supplies. Recently, NDEE is funding nonpoint source planning efforts specific to community water system wellhead

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			<p>(source water) protection areas. Once these community-based plans are approved by EPA, implementation is eligible for federal Clean Water Act Section 319 nonpoint source funds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight such plans are currently approved and in development.
	Education	Provide educational assistance to project area irrigators to develop a more efficient use of applied water, nutrients, and herbicides.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Natural Resources Districts (NRDs) have been successful in working with state and local partners including the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR), the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE), universities, and the University of Nebraska - Lincoln (UNL) Extension service, to research groundbreaking technology, cropping strategies, and input practices that best address local management needs. This research has been used to engage producers and stakeholders and demonstrate both the economic and conservation impacts of best management practices. • A few examples of some of the programs offered or required by NRDs are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NRD-level cost-share programs offering technical assistance of 0-100 percent on purchase of soil moisture sensing equipment; ○ Required flow meters on groundwater wells over specified capacity; ○ Allocation of a certain number of inches that can be pumped over a certain number of years; ○ Required soil sampling for water quality indicators. • A recent example of a creative program to engage producers in the adoption of new technologies is the testing Ag Performance Solutions (TAPS) program (taps.unl.edu). This program provides opportunities for producers to virtually compete against each

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			<p>other as well as UNL scientists for (1) most profitable farm, (2) highest input (water and nitrogen) use efficiency, and (3) greatest grain yield. The goal of the competition is to promote efficiency and profitability while giving a chance to learn from those who grow corn profitably. The competition is supported by UNL Extension, NRDs, non-profit organizations, and agricultural industries, among others. The program has grown each year and has expanded to different farming scenarios. The data gathered each year is being analyzed to provide better support and recommendations for agricultural producers.</p>
	Habitat	Monitor the aquatic communities and associated habitat parameters in project area reservoirs and rivers to determine biological relationships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fisheries program with Nebraska Game & Parks Commission (NGPC) has been involved in an ongoing limnological assessment at Harlan County Reservoir during the entire Nebraska CREP program timeframe. • NGPC has a database of abiotic, zooplankton, and larval fish collection results. For the Platte River basin, the NGPC conducts standardized annual fish monitoring surveys on the reservoirs. NDEE facilitates water quality sampling and management statewide through delegated programs from EPA through the Clean Water Act. • During FY 2022, monitoring within the CREP area was conducted through 3 monitoring programs. Monitoring results are used to produce the Integrated Report that combines the 303(d) list of Impaired Waters and the 305(b) Water Quality Report every two years. The report is used for future water quality management, particularly through the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (discharge permits for point sources) and the

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			<p>Section 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution grant program. Common lake impairments in the CREP area are for fish consumption, nutrients, pH, and chlorophyll, while stream impairments are predominantly for E. coli bacteria. Bacteria TMDLs have been established for 11 stream segments in the CREP area. Bacteria TMDLs for 26 stream segments in the Republican River basin are in progress.</p>
	Environmental	For irrigation purposes, reduce the total consumption of fossil fuels by 350,000 gallons and electricity use by 10 million kilowatt hours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nebraska Department of Energy’s data indicates that approximately 55 percent of all irrigation pumps are powered by electricity, and 45 percent are powered by fossil fuels. The Nebraska Public Power District, one of the Nebraska Platte/Republican CREP partners, provided information from a 2001 Report – “Estimated Irrigation Costs” by Roger Selley, UNL. Using assumptions from that report, the following method has been employed each year to estimate energy savings from the CREP program in Nebraska. • The representative distribution system is a 135-acre center pivot pumping 800 gallons per minute and applying 9.5 acre-inches per acre with a lift of 100 feet at 60 percent efficiency, the annual electric usage is 45,966 kilowatt hours, and fossil fuels (diesel, propane and gasoline) average 4,600 gallons. • The formulas are: (electric consumption = acres x .55 x (46,000 kilowatt hours/135 acres)) and (fossil fuel consumption = acres x .45 x (4,600 gallons/135 acres)). Using this method, the 2022 estimated electrical energy savings would have been 7,445,190 kilowatt hours. • The estimated fossil fuels savings would have been 609,152 gallons. It appears the fossil fuel goal is

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			likely met. The electrical energy savings was about 74 percent met.
New Jersey	Water Quality	Maintain and restore ecological functions of streams by reducing biological impairments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) will be establishing monitoring stations throughout the state in an effort to obtain information regarding water quality. In the future, NJDEP will be able to monitor the effectiveness of the NJ CREP through their comprehensive ambient monitoring network. There will be over 200 Ambient Monitoring Stations, located at perennial streams throughout the state. The monitoring consists of macro-invertebrate sampling and habitat quality monitoring and assessment. NJDEP has indicated they hope to implement this in within a year or two. • 13.82 stream miles were buffered through this agreement. Of all acres enrolled through the agreement, nearly half represented riparian buffer acres, indicating a strong focus on water quality and stream health.
	Water Quality	Annual reduction of 26,000 pounds of phosphorous.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the number of stream miles buffered, an estimated 1,170 pounds of phosphorus were removed from NJ watersheds last year due to buffers implemented under this agreement.
	Water Quality	Annual reduction of 7 million pounds of Total Suspended Solids (TSS).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the number of stream miles buffered, an estimated 939,652 pounds of TSS were removed from NJ watersheds last year due to buffers implemented under this agreement.
New York I-New York City	Water Quality	Reduce the amount of silt and sedimentation entering the tributaries, main streams, and reservoirs in the Catskill and Delaware watersheds of the New York City drinking water supply system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress toward achieving the goal of reducing the amount of sediments entering the New York City drinking water supply system may be estimated through modeling. The Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST) estimates edge of stream load reductions for total suspended solids (TSS) using coefficients for various BMPs. The impact of riparian

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<p>buffer plantings was assessed in CAST using scenarios of current acreage of riparian forest buffer plantings compared to a 2007 baseline scenario.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riparian forest buffer plantings with exclusion fencing in the estimated 1,241.6 acres of CREP lands under contract as of 09/30/22 showed the potential to reduce total TSS by ~4,550 tons annually. • In addition to CREP, the Watershed Agricultural Program (WAP) has implemented thousands of additional agricultural BMPs (including nutrient management plans, cover crops and exclusion fencing) since the NYC CREP agreement was signed in 1998 that have helped reduce the amount of sediments entering the water supply system.
	Water Quality	Reduce the amount of phosphorous and nitrogen entering the tributaries, main stems, and reservoirs in the Catskill and Delaware watersheds of the New York City drinking water supply system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress toward achieving the goal of reducing the amounts of phosphorous and nitrogen entering the New York City drinking water supply system was estimated through modeling described in Goal #1. • CAST estimated that the 1,241.6 acres of riparian forest buffers under contract as of 9/30/22 had the potential to reduce phosphorous by ~ 7.6 tons and nitrogen by ~30.3 tons annually.
	Water Quality	Reduce the amount of waterborne pathogens entering the tributaries, main stems, and reservoirs in the Catskill and Delaware watersheds of the New York City drinking water supply system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is difficult to evaluate progress toward achieving the goal of reducing the amount of water borne pathogens entering the New York City drinking water supply system attributable to CREP because of the size and dynamics of the watershed. • In addition to CREP, there are numerous programs and practices in the NYC watershed dedicated to controlling and monitoring pathogens, including ultra-violet treatment. Furthermore, the WAP has implemented thousands of additional agricultural best management practices since the CREP agreement was signed in 1998, including calf

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
	Water Quality	Promote the continued health and viability of natural habitats and ecosystems in the Catskill and Delaware watersheds of the New York City drinking water supply system, including those of endangered species, such as the Bald Eagle and native cold water fish.	<p>housing and young stock manure storage practices, which have helped reduce the amounts of pathogens from agricultural activities entering the water supply.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • True aquatic habitat benefits for cold water species or eagle habitat will be achieved when canopy closure over CREP reaches on streams is achieved. • The Stroud Water Research Center in southeastern PA, which has highly productive soils and a warmer, extended growing season than the NYC Watershed, estimates reaching canopy closure in 15 years with perfect tree maintenance management. • WAP staff estimate that it will take at least 25 years to achieve canopy closure in the NYC watershed based on soils, climate, and management.
New York II- Syracuse	Water Quantity	Reduce the risk of pathogens from animal manure applied to pasture and cropland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farms voluntarily participating in the Skaneateles Lake Watershed Agriculture Program (SLWAP) have a Whole Farm Plan and in that plan are manure spreading recommendations. The SLWAP Farm Planner obtains and reviews that data annually. The planner also generates nutrient management recommendations (manure spreading volumes and locations) for the farm and their crop fields.
	Water Quantity	Reduce sediment deposition in Skaneateles Lake and its tributaries attributable to erosion of croplands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farms voluntarily participating in the City of Syracuse SLWAP have a Whole Farm Plan. That plan helps farmers implement buffers and cover crops on their corn for silage ground. • Numerous BMPs have been implemented in the watershed since 1994 to help keep the soil on the land, nutrients in the soil and the water clean. • Per the Chesapeake Bay model for NYS, a forest buffer applied along pasture can provide up to a 57.57 percent reduction in sediment loading.

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	Water Quantity	Reduce nutrient runoff from animal manure and fertilizer applied to adjacent cropland and pastures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of the production acres in the watershed are enrolled in the SLWAPs nutrient management program. Manure is analyzed for nutrient content, spreaders are calibrated, and farmers receive fertilizer recommendations targeted to reducing nutrient runoff. • Per the Chesapeake Bay model for NYS, a forest buffer applied along pasture can provide up to 39.43 percent reduction in phosphorous loading.
	Water Quantity	Assist the City of Syracuse in continuing to meet filtration avoidance criteria issued by the NYS Dept. of Health in order to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farms voluntarily participating in the City of Syracuse SLWAP have a Whole Farm Plan. In that plan are BMPs that the farmer and the SLWAP have agreed to plan and implement. The City of Syracuse provides funding for the SLWAP. The SLWAP staff leverage those funds to secure additional grant funding to implement BMPs. • The SLWAP Farm Planner reviews 100 percent of the BMPs on 25 percent of the farms annually. Any BMPs that need repair, replacement, etc. are re-planned with the farmer, then City of Syracuse funds are again leveraged to secure additional grant funds to repair and/or replace the BMP. • The City of Syracuse has an indefinite filtration avoidance waiver from the New York State Department of Health.
	Habitat	Establish, preserve, or enhance wildlife habitat leading to an increase in populations and diversity of birds, mammals, and aquatic organisms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SLWAP staff work with farmers in the watershed to plan and implement BMPs related to wildlife and habitat. Some farmers in the past have participated in USDA's delayed mowing program. • Other farms have installed 25 acres of buffer strips around their forest lands and/or hedgerows that increase habitat diversity and provide permanent vegetative cover.

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
New York III- Statewide	Water Quantity	Reduce phosphorous from 145,284 lbs. per year to 72,642 lbs. per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phosphorus reductions for CREP practice cost-share and/or for complementary practices in the eligible watersheds contracted in 2022 are estimated using the Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST, Chesapeake Bay Program). Monitoring reductions is accomplished by performing the CAST analysis annually. FY 2022 saw phosphorus reductions estimated at 12,471 lbs.
	Water Quantity	Reduce nitrogen from 77,316 lbs. per year to 38,688 lbs. per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nitrogen reductions for CREP practice cost-share and/or for complementary practices in the eligible watersheds contracted in 2022 are estimated using the Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST, Chesapeake Bay Program). Monitoring reductions is accomplished by performing the CAST analysis annually. FY 2022 saw nitrogen reductions estimated at 43,787 lbs.
	Water Quantity	Reduce sedimentation from 175,316 tons per year to 70,216 tons per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sediment reductions for CREP practice cost-share and/or for complementary practices in the eligible watersheds contracted in 2022 are estimated using the Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST, Chesapeake Bay Program). Monitoring reductions is accomplished by performing the CAST analysis annually. Values for sediment were calculated using the average of reduction coefficients within CAST for pastureland and a range of values available for cropland. FY 2022 saw sediment reductions estimated at 1,078 tons.
	Water Quantity	Establish riparian buffers adjacent to 4,598 stream miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress towards establishing riparian buffers adjacent to 4,598 stream miles is not measured or monitored.

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Riparian buffers have been established adjacent to an estimated 37 stream miles.
	Water Quantity	Establish riparian buffers adjacent to 473,457 acres of surface waters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress towards establishing riparian buffers adjacent to 473,457 acres of surface waters is not measured or monitored. Riparian buffers have been established adjacent to an estimated 45 acres of surface waters.
	Water Quantity	Establish conservation cover on areas that serve EPA-approved wellhead zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress towards establishing conservation cover on EPA-approved wellhead zones is minimal with no existing CREP projects reported to fit this description. Additional FSA training on implementing CREP in EPA-approved wellhead zones is needed.
North Carolina	Water Quality	Restore and enhance riparian habitat corridors next to streams, drainage ditches, estuaries, wetlands, and other water courses by enrolling up to 85,000 acres of riparian forested buffers, grass filter strips and other riparian tree plantings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 32,041 acres have been enrolled to date and 895 additional acres were enrolled towards this goal in FY2022. The NC CREP estimates that the 2022 projects will save 224 tons/year of sediment, have 770 pounds/year of nitrogen reduction, and provide 303 pounds/year of phosphorus reduction.
	Habitat	Restore up to 15,000 acres of non-riparian wetlands either associated with drainage ditches or adjacent to primary fishery nursery areas to address impacts associated with drainage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2,820 acres have been enrolled towards this goal to date and no additional acres were enrolled in FY2022. While the NC Chapter of the National Audubon Society supports North Carolina's CREP efforts, additional outreach and education is needed.
North Dakota Riparian Project	Habitat	Enroll 20,000 acres of cropland in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) consisting of filter strips, riparian buffers, and pollinator habitat to improve and maintain water quality and wildlife habitat, including habitat and forage for pollinators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,051.2 acres have been enrolled to date, well short of the desired goal. These acres are providing habitat for all species. There has been difficulty enrolling producers due to CREP specific eligibility requirements, past CRP enrollment, competing rental rates and lack of desire and participation by local county USDA offices

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			to adequately inform producers of CREP opportunities.
	Habitat	Enroll 40,000 acres of land into the North Dakota Game and Fish Department’s Private Land Open to Sportsmen (PLOTS) program.	2,444 acres of CREP and non-CREP have been enrolled towards this goal to date.
	Water Quality	Improve water quality in the project area by enrolling 1,500 acres annually reducing the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment entering rivers, streams, and other waterbodies by 75,000 pounds of nitrogen per year; 37,500 pounds of phosphorus per year; and 4,750 tons of sediment per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In FY2022, 119 acres were enrolled. This represents 8 percent of the 1,500-acre annual goal. • As of Sept. 30, 2022, annual reduction of nitrogen, phosphorous, and sediment are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 140,884 pounds nitrogen • 14,087.6 pounds phosphorous • 1,759 tons of sediment
Ohio I-Lake Erie	Water Quantity	Install 67,000 acres in conservation practices on 10 percent of the total riparian acres in the basin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress is measured by the number of practices that are installed annually. • During FY 2022, 2,094 acres of new practices were installed. Currently there are just under 52,000 acres enrolled.
	Water Quality	Protect farmlands from erosion and to reduce loads of sediment to Lake Erie.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heidelberg College conducts water quality sampling to help measure progress. Final flow values from USGS generally do not become available until at least a year after the end of the water year of interest. Heidelberg College results show that total suspended solids (TSS) flow-weighted mean concentrations (FWMC) continue to be lower than, or sustained at levels that, for the years 2012-2019 averaged 135 mg/L. • The goal is to sustain this average or further reduce the levels. For 2021, the TSS FWMC average was 117 mg/L which is lower than the goal of 135 mg/L.
Ohio III-Scioto River Basin	Water Quality	Reduce sediment and phosphorus loading by 20 percent and nitrogen loading by 30 percent on an annual basis upon reaching enrollment goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site variabilities and annual water volume in runoff influence riparian buffer effectiveness. While buffer effectiveness greatly varies, a Penn State University study reported the relative gross effectiveness of filter strips for sediment reduction as follows:

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<p>sediment, 65 percent; phosphorus, 75 percent; and nitrogen, 70 percent. Similarly, a U.S. EPA report on buffers shows the effectiveness of trapping sediment to range from 41 to 100 percent and nitrogen removal efficiency between 9 to 100 percent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While it is difficult to measure the level of effectiveness when compared to loading, research shows that buffers reduce sediment and nutrient level contributions to streams and rivers. • Progress is measured by data collected by Heidelberg College through water quality sampling. Final flow values from USGS generally do not become available until at least a year after the end of the water year of interest. Results show that total suspended solids (TSS) flow-weighted mean concentrations (FWMC) continue to lower or sustain at levels that for the years 2012-2019 averaged 85 mg/L. • The goal is to sustain this average or further reduce the levels. For 2022, the TSS FWMC average was 56 mg/L, a 34% reduction from the 2012-2019 average.
	Protection of Conservation Practices	Seek up to 5,000 acres of permanent conservation easements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 585 acres that are permanently protected with conservation easements. • These easements protect approximately 8 miles of streambank. • Many of the CRP participants who have shown interest in permanent conservation easements are concerned about the loss of land use and land rights.
	Water Quality	Stabilize and improve the distribution of species in the Scioto River watershed. Progress is measured through the Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI), the Intervertebrate Community Index (ICI), and the Qualitative Habitat Index (QHEI).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over time, the distribution and abundance of species in the Scioto River have shown continued improvement. • The lower mainstem of the Scioto River has been regularly surveyed and assessed by Ohio EPA since

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<p>1979. Ambient biological monitoring since that time has documented steady and regular improvement, culminating in full warmwater habitat aquatic life use attainment in 2011; many sites supported exceptional or near exceptional fish and macroinvertebrate communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently, the Scioto River is Ohio's richest and most intact large river system.
	Habitat	Increase targeted habitats in the Scioto River Watershed by at least 15 percent to benefit targeted wetland, grassland, and riparian corridor species groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat for wildlife has experienced growth and distribution as a result of CREP. • Pheasant distribution in Ohio is closely tied to Ohio's top CRP counties, many of which are counties with Scioto CREP. The increased growth applies to other grassland bird species commonly found in Ohio. This study shows the direct connection between CRP cover and grassland bird distribution and abundance. • Land use plays a major role in the number of pheasant and grassland bird species. As the percent of CRP grassland cover increases, so does pheasant occurrence. Major increases have occurred in pheasant numbers when CRP cover reaches 10-15 percent. In contrast, an increase for both developed land and forest cover show a decrease in pheasant occurrence. Ohio has experienced significant increases in wildlife because of the Scioto CREP.
Oregon	Water Quality	Restore 100 percent of the area enrolled for the riparian forest buffer practice to a properly functioning condition in terms of distribution and growth of woody plant species, filtration of nutrients and sediment from agricultural runoff, and shade and stabilization of stream banks under normal non-flood conditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2022, all the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) funded CREP technicians (11 total grantees) have continued to implement a monitoring approach to track contract performance and inform management of CREP buffers. • This monitoring approach includes completion of a CREP monitoring checklist at different intervals after conservation practices have been implemented to

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			assist landowners with mid-management practices and with efforts needed to be eligible for reenrollment.
		Provide a way for farmers and ranchers to voluntarily meet water quality requirements established under federal law and under Oregon's water quality act.	See goal just prior.
		<p>Attain enrollments for the following targets for a maximum of 100,000 acres enrolled in Oregon under CREP:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coastal Basins - 1,250 acres of riparian forest buffer; 1,000 acres of restored wetlands = 2,250 acres 2. Columbia Basin - 8,000 acres of riparian forest buffers; 1,000 acres of restored wetlands = 9,000 total acres 3. Interior drainages - 3,500 acres of riparian forest buffers, 1,000 acres of restored wetlands = 4,500 total acre. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Tualatin Watershed Option implemented by Clean Water Services has worked to restore the Tualatin Watershed primarily through riparian forest buffer practices. • Based on annual CREP enrollments, Oregon is meeting this goal as enrollments continue to convert land into CREP that otherwise would not be under a conservation use. • The Oregon CREP has enrolled 45,402.77 acres to date.
		This is the primary goal that goals 1-3 aim to address. A number of fish species native to Oregon have either been listed or proposed for listing as threatened or endangered species under the Federal Endangered Species Act. This Agreement seeks to help alleviate some of these problems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a result of over 45,000 acres that are enrolled in CREP, the water temperatures and shade provided by riparian buffer practices, in addition to filtering agricultural runoff, have provided improved habitat for a number of fish species located in the state.
Pennsylvania I-Chesapeake Bay Watershed	Water Quality and Habitat	Permit the Commonwealth's producers to voluntarily restore wetlands, riparian areas, and grasslands by enrolling up to 219,746 acres of farmland into the Chesapeake Bay CREP, through financial and technical assistance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pennsylvania currently has 75,993.3 acres of wetlands, riparian areas, and grasslands enrolled in the Chesapeake Bay CREP. • Note: The calculated sum of acreage for the wetlands, riparian areas, and grasslands used the conservation practices CP1, CP2, CP8A, CP9, CP10, CP15A CP21, CP22, CP23, CP29, CP30, and CP33 based on the Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			(CAST) "category." Conservation practices CP3A, CP4D and CP12 were excluded from the calculation.
	Water Quality	Reduce erosion on cropland in the Chesapeake Bay watershed by an estimated 3.5 million tons using April 22, 2000, as the beginning of the base period for measuring erosion reduction levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay CREP is responsible for preventing an estimated 36,123 tons/yr. of sediment from entering the Chesapeake Bay Watershed during this program year. • Estimated calculations used loading rates and reduction coefficients based on the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model.
	Water Quality	Prevent 72,500 tons of sediment and 4.4 million pounds of nitrogen and phosphorus from reaching the Chesapeake Bay using April 22, 2000 as the beginning of the base period for measuring erosion reduction levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated pollution prevented from entering the Chesapeake Bay Watershed during this program year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 36,123 tons/yr. of sediment ○ 1,770,689 lbs./yr. of nitrogen ○ 94,772 lbs./yr. of phosphorous • Estimated calculations use loading rates and reduction coefficients based on the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model.
	Water Quality and Habitat	Restore and enhance riparian habitat corridors next to streams, estuaries, wetlands, and other watercourses by seeking to enroll at least 31,746 acres of buffers, grass filter strips, and wetlands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pennsylvania currently has 15,218.17 acres of buffers, grass filter strips, and wetlands enrolled in the Chesapeake Bay CREP. • The calculated sum of acreage for the buffers, grass filter strips, and wetlands used the conservation practices CP8A, CP9, CP15A, CP21, CP22, CP23, CP29, CP30, and CP33 based on the CAST "category." Conservation practices CP1, CP2, CP3A, CP4D, CP10 and CP12 were excluded from the calculation.
	Water Quality and Habitat	Restore and enhance grassland habitats for declining grassland dependent wildlife and improve water quality by seeking to enroll 188,000 acres of Highly Erodible Land (HEL) in conservation cover plantings.	Pennsylvania currently has 63,619.94 acres of HEL in conservation cover plantings through the Chesapeake Bay CREP.
	Water Quality and Habitat	Improve the water quality and restore damaged riparian areas of the Susquehanna and Potomac	Under the Chesapeake Bay CREP, Pennsylvania currently has 15,218.17 acres of buffers, grass filter strips, and

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
		Watersheds to facilitate the health of fish, game, and other wildlife populations.	wetlands and 63,619.94 acres of HEL in conservation cover plantings.
Pennsylvania III - Delaware River Basin	Water Quality and Habitat	Permit Pennsylvania landowners and operators to voluntarily restore and protect wetlands, Highly Erodible Land (HEL), and riparian areas by enrolling up to 20,000 acres of farmland into the Delaware River Basin CREP.	Pennsylvania currently has 51.63 acres enrolled in the Delaware River Basin CREP.
	Water Quality	Reduce erosion in the Delaware River, and ultimately the Delaware Bay, by an estimated 557 tons per year when fully enrolled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Delaware River Basin CREP is responsible for preventing an estimated 72 tons of sediment from entering the Delaware River, and ultimately the Delaware Bay, during this program year. • This calculation uses loading rates and reduction coefficients based on the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model.
	Water Quality	Prevent 557 tons of sediment, 349,500 pounds of nitrogen, and 12,353 pounds of phosphorus per year from entering the Delaware River and Bay when fully enrolled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated pollution prevented from entering the Delaware River Basin during this program year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 72 tons/yr. of sediment ○ 2,261 lbs./yr. of nitrogen ○ 196 lbs./yr. of phosphorous • These calculations use loading rates and reduction coefficients based on the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model.
	Water Quality and Habitat	Restore up to 4,000 acres of riparian buffers and wetlands; this will reduce flooding, improve in-stream water quality, stabilize stream banks and flood plains, reduce water temperature, increase time to runoff, facilitate groundwater recharge, and provide a host of other benefits to humans and wildlife.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pennsylvania currently has 38.7 acres of buffers, grass filter strips, and wetlands enrolled in the Delaware River Basin CREP. • The calculated sum of the acreage for buffers, grass filter strips, and wetlands used the conservation practices CP8A, CP9, CP15A, CP21, CP22, CP23, CP29, CP30, and CP33 based on the Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST) "category." Conservation practices CP1, CP2, CP3A, CP4D, CP10 and CP12 were excluded from the calculation.
	Water Quality and Habitat	Restore up to 16,000 acres of HEL to protect water quality and create wildlife habitat, particularly	Pennsylvania currently has 51.63 acres of HEL enrolled in the Delaware River Basin CREP.

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
		grassland habitat for song and ground-nesting birds, by planting native warm-season grasses and/or cool-season grasses, creating field borders, and protecting intact habitats.	
South Dakota-James River	Water Quality	Establish 15,000 acres of permanent vegetative cover adjacent to rivers and streams.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 33,000 acres of permanent vegetative cover have been established adjacent to rivers and streams in the James River Watershed. This is measured and monitored by performing a spatial analysis in Geographic Information System software of the acres of land enrolled in the James River watershed CREP that are adjacent to a river or stream.
	Water Quality	Provide and maintain a reduction of sediment, phosphorous, and nitrogen runoff from agricultural land previously used for row crops, if not enrolled through this CREP, as follows: by 90 percent for sediment from 80,000 tons/year to 8,000 tons/year; by 75 percent for phosphorus from 134,000 lbs/year to 33,500 lbs/year; and by 85 percent for nitrogen from 450,000 lbs/year to 67,500 lbs/year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sediment has been reduced by 97.1 percent from 66,020 tons/year to 1,516 tons/year; phosphorus has been reduced by 94.7 percent from 100,612 lbs/year to 4,781 lbs/year; nitrogen has been reduced by 85.9 percent from 335,561 lbs/year to 46,583 lbs/year on the 76,611.5 acres of cropland enrolled. This is measured by running each piece of land enrolled in CREP through the Spreadsheet Tool for Estimating Pollutant Loads (STEPL) model to estimate reductions. These lands are maintained in perennial vegetative cover and comply with the CRP contract.
	Wildlife Production	Produce an additional 285,000 pheasants annually.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the 2006 report by Nielson et al., who estimated response of the ring-necked pheasant (<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>) to CRP, 100,000 acres of CRP is estimated to produce 285,000 pheasants annually. Based on the number of acres enrolled in CREP, it is estimated that over 218,300 additional pheasants are produced annually.
	Wildlife Production	Contribute an additional 60,000 ducks to the fall flight annually.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the 2007 report by Reynolds and Shaffer, Waterfowl Response to the Conservation

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			<p>Reserve Program and Swampbuster Provision in the Prairie Pothole Region, 1992-2004, 100,000 acres of CRP is estimated to produce 60,000 ducks annually.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the number of acres enrolled in CREP, it is estimated that over 45,900 additional ducks are produced annually.
	Habitat	Create 85,000 acres of permanent vegetative cover by restoring wetlands and grasslands to store water and serve as breeding habitat for migratory and resident wetland- and grassland-dependent species including bobolink, upland sandpiper, chestnut collared longspur, western meadowlark, grasshopper sparrow and savannah sparrow, dickcissel, and sedge wren.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 76,611 acres of permanent vegetation has been created in the James River Watershed CREP, providing prime nesting and breeding habitat for migratory and resident wildlife. The South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks completed a research study from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015, in which it contracted with two PhD students attending South Dakota State University. The goals of the study were to assess the benefits of CREP to grassland nesting birds. Three years of field work were completed with final reports completed in the spring of 2017 and included in the FY2017 CREP report. The researchers observed a rapid response in game and non-game grassland bird numbers associated with lands enrolled in the CREP. They conducted observations on 693 breeding bird transect surveys and documented 3,081 individuals consisting of 49 species. Seven of eight CREP focal bird species of conservation concern were documented (except for the chestnut collard longspur). They also observed several other non-game species, as well as ring-necked pheasant, sharp-tailed grouse, and 9 waterfowl species. Nest searching of 144 fields yielded 731 nests of 28 different species, including the same 7 CREP focal species of conservation concern.

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	Habitat	Open 1,000 blocks, as defined for the purposes of this CREP in Section IV. K, of private land to public hunting and fishing access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is measured and monitored by performing a spatial analysis in Geographic Information System software of the acres of land enrolled in the James River watershed CREP. • There were 985 blocks of CREP open to public hunting and fishing access during FY2022.
Vermont	Water Quantity	Supplement existing efforts to achieve phosphorus reductions attributable to non-point sources (NPS) described in the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP). The LCBP identifies a NPS phosphorus reduction target of 48.3 tons per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the total acres enrolled in the Lake Champlain Basin, total phosphorous reduction attributed to CREP buffers is 7.90 metric tons per year or 3.70 percent of the required reduction for Vermont across all sectors and 5.725 percent of the required reduction for the agricultural sector.
		The Connecticut River Basin and Hudson River Basin drain into Long Island Sound. The TMDL identifies a nitrogen reduction target of 1,173 tons per year for Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont. The TMDL provides that point sources and NPS must show a 25 and 10 percent reduction, respectively. Vermont CREP efforts in the Connecticut River Basin will account for a majority of Vermont's nitrogen reduction for the Long Island Sound TMDL.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Connecticut River watershed, where nitrates are the primary nutrient of concern, we estimate that CREP is responsible for an annual loading reduction of 6,318.20 lbs per year. • The state does not currently have a non-point source nitrogen reduction tracking system for the Long Island Sound as the state is grouped with other states in the Upper Connecticut River and is estimated to contribute only 4 percent of the overall loading to the watershed.
		Supplement existing efforts to achieve phosphorus reductions in the Lake Memphremagog Basin, which has been identified as a phosphorous-impacted watershed. Vermont's CREP efforts in the Lake Memphremagog Basin are designed to help reduce the NPS phosphorous level by 10 percent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to a modeling tool developed by EPA (the BMP Scenario Tool) for TMDL reporting purposes, the total phosphorous reduction attributed to CREP buffers in the Lake Memphremagog Basin is currently 0.1396 metric tons per year, or 1.16 percent of the required reduction for Vermont across all sectors.
	Habitat	Provide secondary benefits to wildlife and aquatic habitat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Vermont CREP program continues to partner with U.S. Fish and Wildlife, The Orianna Society, Trout Unlimited, and The Nature Conservancy, and others to promote shared wildlife conservation goals.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The program continues to be the largest riparian forest buffer conservation program available to landowners in Vermont and remains a vitally important tool to meet water quality and wildlife goals.
Virginia I- Southern Rivers	Water Quality	Riparian buffer enrollment of 13,500 acres.	To date, approximately 15,768 acres of buffer have been restored through this CREP agreement protecting 904 linear stream miles.
	Water Quality	Wetland enrollment of 1,500 acres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less than 1 percent of Southern Rivers CREP signups have been for CP-23 Wetland Restoration on cropland with a total of 16 completed contracts. Historically, CREP in Virginia has been much more popular on marginal pastureland in combination with stream exclusion than any practices related to the conversion of active cropland to other types of cover, including wetlands conversion.
	Water Quality	The Southern Rivers CREP's third goal is 3,000 acres of enrolled permanent CREP easements	Most CREP easements were enrolled between 2004 and 2011 with over 1,745 acres STATEWIDE enrolled for the Chesapeake Bay and Southern Rivers.
Virginia II- Chesapeake Bay	Water Quality	Riparian buffer enrollment of 22,000 acres	To date, approximately 18,637.5 acres of riparian buffer have been enrolled under the Chesapeake Bay CREP agreement along with 978 miles of streams of stream buffered.
	Water Quality	Wetland enrollment of 3,000 acres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thus far the CP-23 Wetland Restoration practice has been fairly unpopular in Virginia. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historically, CREP in Virginia has been much more popular on marginal pastureland in combination with stream exclusion than any practices related to the conversion of active cropland to other types of cover, including wetland conversion. This has led to limited uptake of CP23, as marginal pastureland is ineligible for this practice, and the value of

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
			<p>eligible cropland generally far outweighs payments associated with CP23.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only 10 CP-23 Best Management Practices (BMPs) have been implemented in the history of this CREP agreement, less than half a percent of total CREP sign-ups.
	Water Quality	Enrollment of 6,000 acres of CREP easements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most CREP easements were enrolled between 2004 and 2011 with over 1,745 acres STATEWIDE enrolled (Chesapeake Bay and Southern Rivers). • In the Chesapeake Bay approximately \$715,610 in state funding has gone towards easements.
Washington	Habitat	Restoration of 100 percent of the area enrolled for the riparian forest practice to a properly functioning condition in terms of distribution and growth of woody plant species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual monitoring evaluates growth rate, diversity, and percent invasive species of conifer, deciduous, and shrub species on CREP sites in the project area. • Annual reports for the past 5 years have shown that most sites have growth rates appropriate for their location, or better, indicating an appropriate species mix for optimal riparian forest function in these sites. • Monitoring has shown that species diversity stabilizes over time as buffers mature.
	Water Quantity	Reduction of sediment and nutrient pollution from agricultural lands adjacent to riparian buffers by more than 50 percent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A recent literature review by the Washington Department of Ecology noted that most sediment trapping in a buffer tends to occur in the first few meters (Lee et al. 2003, Zhang et al., 2009; Gharabaghi et al., 2006; Dosskey et al., 2002). In particular, Yuan et al., (2009) found that a 5-m buffer can trap about 80 percent of incoming sediment. • Buffers in the Washington CREP program average 142 ft (433.28 m) width, greatly exceeding the 80 percent reduction afforded by 5 m and the 50 percent reduction goal.

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	Water Quality	Establishment of adequate vegetation on enrolled riparian areas to stabilize 90 percent of stream banks under normal (non-flood) water conditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual monitoring shows that CREP sites have stable banks with adequate vegetation and no active erosion.
	Water Quality	Reduction of the rate of stream water heating to meet state ambient water quality standards by planting adequate vegetation on all riparian buffer lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual monitoring shows that for small streams, CREP provides substantial canopy cover that should meet the goal of reduced stream water heating for salmonid health. In several watersheds (Tucannon River in southeast Washington; Tenmile Creek in Whatcom County; Chemicum Creek in Jefferson County), stream temperatures have dropped by over 10 degrees over time resulting in the increased presence of as compared to those present before CREP riparian buffers were installed.
	Water Quality	Provision of a contributing mechanism for farmers and ranchers to meet the water quality requirements established under federal law and under Washington’s water quality laws.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farmers and ranchers that participate in CREP immediately realize a physical separation of their activity from streams and salmon habitat. Provision of off-stream water when riparian forest buffers are installed also enables ranchers to comply with water quality standards. A study by the Washington State Department of Agriculture (Hancock, et.al., 2019) found that hedgerows, a practice allowed under Washington CREP on small streams, reduce pesticide deposition from aerial spray operations by 96 percent compared to fields without hedgerows.
	Habitat	Provision of adequate riparian buffers on 2,700 stream miles to permit natural restoration of stream hydraulic and geomorphic characteristics which meet habitat requirements of salmonids.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CREP currently provides riparian forest buffer along 900 miles of streamside on streams that support salmon. Annual increases in mileage have been approximately 20-30 miles per year. As of Sept. 30, 2022, this goal is 33 percent complete.

Agreement Name	Goal Type	Goal	Progress and Methods Used
West Virginia	Program enrollment	Enroll 9,160 acres annually.	In FY 2022, 442.9 acres were enrolled under this CREP. 4,763.95 acres have been enrolled in this agreement to date.
	Water Quality	Reduce runoff, sediment, and nutrients from agricultural enterprises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive progress, as monitored through the State’s Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) goals, EPA models, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) reviews, West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) monitoring, Nutrient Management Plans, EPA test sites, local water districts, and Source Water Protection Plans (SWPP). • According to FieldDoc.org, the following are estimated reduction amounts across the state: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 29,092.7 lbs./ac/yr. total suspended solids reduced, ○ 138.33 lbs./ac/yr. total nitrogen reduced, and ○ 41.99 lbs./ac/yr. total phosphorus reduced. • For the total 4,763.95 acres currently under contract a total estimated amount reduced of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 138,597,522.80 lbs./yr. of total suspended solids, ○ 659,004.12 lbs./yr. of total nitrogen, and ○ 200,040.36 lbs./yr. of total phosphorus.
	Water quality and wildlife habitat	Improvement of environmentally sensitive areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive progress, as monitored through the State’s WIP goals, EPA models, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) reviews, West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) monitoring, Nutrient Management Plans, EPA test sites, local water districts, and Source Water Protection Plans (SWPP). • Water quality has been improved and wildlife habitat has been increased due to the establishment of riparian buffers (CP22) on 4,243.91 acres
Wisconsin	Water Quality	Riparian Project Area: The state seeks to improve the water quality of several water bodies that	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The state tracks enrollment, payments, landowner transfers, buyouts, and environmental benefit

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		<p>drain agricultural lands throughout the State of Wisconsin, through a reduction of sediment and the nutrient loading to these water bodies. Improving water quality through CREP will assist in improving water quality in the state’s list of impaired waters (303d list). Wisconsin’s CREP includes over 95 percent of the waters included on the state’s list of impaired waters that are impacted by agricultural activities. The specific goals for Wisconsin’s CREP are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduce nutrient runoff of phosphorus (610,000 pounds) and nitrogen (305,000 pounds) by up to 10 percent and sediment (335,000 tons) in runoff by up to 15 percent from cropland and pastureland in the project areas. - Establish riparian buffers on up to 50 percent (about 3,700 miles) of the stream miles in the project area that drain farmland which currently is without adequate buffers. 	<p>progress information through a statewide CREP database.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wisconsin had 3,592 active CREP contracts on 41,224 acres as of October 1, 2022. During the 2022 federal fiscal year, the state processed 160 CREP contracts totaling 1,497 acres, including 159 15-year agreements and 1 easement across the CREP project areas. Of these, 99 were new CREP contracts on 1,029 acres. The state saw a slight reduction (212 acres) in acres enrolled overall as new and reenrolled acres were less than acres under contracts that expired or were terminated with the state in 2022. • Riparian practices comprise 71 percent of the CREP conservation cover installed through the Wisconsin CREP. Filter strips (CP21) are the majority of the riparian practices at 66 percent, while riparian buffers (CP22) make up another 21 percent. Wetland restorations (CP23) under active CREP agreements or easements in the state comprise just over 10 percent of the acres. • Annual reductions in agricultural runoff for each CREP site are estimated by county land conservation staff. Estimates are calculated using an environmental benefits report which is submitted to the state to compile the values appearing in the state CREP database. The 2022 results of the estimated total annual reduction in phosphorus, nitrogen, and sediment runoff are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pounds of Phosphorus: 77,887 ○ Pounds of Nitrogen: 41,921 ○ Tons of Sediment: 38,521 • Miles of Stream or Shoreline Buffered: 678 miles.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State CREP enrollment totals are often slightly different than federal totals, as multiple CRP-1 contracts can be associated with a single state CREP contract and active CREP contracts for the state include both 15-year agreements and perpetual easements. Additionally, FSA Offices often finalize CREP CRP-1 contracts close to September 30th of each year. Subsequently, submittal of the majority of state CREP agreements for processing occurs in the following fiscal year. The state works annually with the FSA state office to cross reference state and federal CREP enrollment for each CRP sign-up to monitor and ensure all CRP-1s are accounted for that fiscal year.
	Habitat and Water Quality	<p>Grassland Project Areas: The state seeks to enhance wildlife habitats for endangered grassland birds and other wildlife species in two grassland project areas in north central and south-central Wisconsin; the goal is to improve habitat for several grassland birds included under the Endangered Species Act. The specific goal of Wisconsin's CREP is to establish an additional 10 percent (15,000 acres) of grassland habitat acreage within the grassland project areas to increase populations of endangered or threatened grassland birds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wisconsin CREP has two grassland project areas that can enroll up to 15,000 acres. While these regions are also eligible for the riparian CREP practices, there are several conservation practices unique to the grassland project areas. These practices include CP1 (permanent introduced grasses), CP2 (permanent native grasses), and CP25 (rare and declining habitat: prairie and oak savanna restoration). For the Wisconsin CREP, these grassland practices must be placed adjacent to and within 1,000 feet of an eligible water body and be on steep slopes in order to address water quality issues as well as provide habitat for birds and pollinators. In total, about 11,000 acres of grassland conservation practices are currently under an active CREP contract within the CREP grassland project areas. The CREP southern grassland project area reached its maximum allowable acres (10,000 acres) of grassland practice acres in 2016 and has remained at

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			<p>its cap each year since. The rare and declining habitat: prairie and oak savanna restoration practice makes up the majority of grassland practices established in the southern grassland project area. The northern grassland project area enrolled just over a fifth of its allowable grassland practices with permanent introduced grasses the primary practice established in that region. There are 265 acres of grassland practices under CREP perpetual conservation easements in the grassland project areas.</p>
	Water Quality	<p>Reduce the peak runoff flow in critical areas of the Lake Superior Basin by 10 percent to 15 percent. The reduction in peak flow will be greater in the upper portions of watersheds with concentrations of agricultural lands. On individual participating farmland, reduce the overall hydrologic runoff curve numbers (RCN) from an average RCN of 89 to an RCN of 77 on the red clay soils on cropland and marginal pastureland. Based on models, this should reduce peak flow in streams, thereby reducing stream scouring (bank cutting and erosion) and sediment levels in the streams and to their Lake Superior outlets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lake Superior Project area provides the same conservation practice options for landowners to choose from as the riparian project area along with the addition of CP30 (Marginal Pastureland Wetland Buffer). Minimum and maximum widths for buffer practices in this region, however, are set higher in order to target reduction of flow rate. State and federal incentives and annual rental payment incentives are also higher for practices in this project area. • The primary Goal for CREP practices installed in this region is to reduce the peak channel flow in streams within critical areas of the Lake Superior Basin. On individual fields, CREP practices aim to reduce the hydrologic runoff curve number (RCN) on the red clay soils on cropland and marginal pastureland. According to the agreement application, CREP riparian buffers will greatly reduce the rate of runoff due to the “roughness” of the vegetation and the reduction in raindrop energy. Planting of trees on slumping banks will not only stabilize the bank and reduce sediment loss to the stream, but the trees

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			<p>established also will prevent small channels from becoming further incised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two of the four counties in the Lake Superior project area have had landowners enroll in the CREP program for a total of five contracts covering 132 acres. Three of the contracts are perpetual easements on 43.1 acres. All 132 acres currently enrolled in CREP in this project area are riparian buffers (CP22).



Land enrolled in the Wisconsin CREP improves the water quality of streams, rivers, lakes, and wetlands through sediment reduction and nutrient loading from adjacent agricultural lands.