Natural Resources Conservation Service

Farm Foundation Forum
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NRCS Vision

“Productive Working Lands In Harmony With A Healthy Environment”
Priorities

Focus conservation delivery on the customer experience.

Fortify stewardship of the taxpayer dollar.

Enhance and expand NRCS’s scientific and technical capabilities.

Strengthen existing relationships and forging new partnerships.
NRCS Has Field Offices Across the Nation

50 States
Puerto Rico
Guam

Field Service Centers

National Technical Centers

Plant Materials Centers
70% of land in the lower 48 states is privately owned
Focus Areas

- Soil
- Water
- Air
- Energy
- Wildlife
- Forests
- Technologies
Customers and Partners include:

- Private landowners
- Farmers
- Ranchers
- New Beginning Farmers
- Women in Ag
- Young Farmers
- Veterans
- Urban Farmers
- CBOs & NGOs
- Private industry
NRCS works hand-in-hand with farmers, ranchers, forest landowners and Tribes across the nation on natural resources conservation and planning.
NRCS conservation programs and practices are helping producers prepare for what’s ahead.
Incentivizing Our Customers

ACEP-ALE

EQIP

ACEP-WRE

CSP

RCPP
Conservation Technical Assistance

Conservation technical assistance is the help NRCS and its partners provide to land users to address opportunities, concerns, and problems related to the use of natural resources and to help land users make sound natural resource management decisions on private, tribal, and other non-federal lands.
Suite of Initiatives include:

- Working Lands for Wildlife
- Longleaf Pine
- Lesser-Prairie Chicken
- Sage Grouse
- Gulf of Mexico
- National Water Quality
- Ogallala Aquifer
- Red River Basin

Key Ingredients:
1. Trust and credibility
2. Shared vision
3. Strategic approach
4. Accountability
5. Leverage
Conservation on Working Lands

Finding the common link between wildlife & agriculture that invites cooperation.

“It’s been a win-win situation for our wildlife and our operation,”
Steve Pokorny, Wyoming Rancher
• Ducks Unlimited and the Rice Federation are co-leads for the Rice Stewardship Partnership.

• The U.S. rice industry is important to feeding the nation and North America’s wetland wildlife. Combining the U.S. rice industry – represented by USARF – and the conservation community – represented by DU – is an aggressive approach to innovation, collaboration, and solution-oriented conservation.
Conservation on Working Lands

Directing resources where the biological returns are the highest.

“It’s been rewarding to watch us stitch together prime black bear habitat across private lands through strategically placed conservation easements,”

John Pitre,
State resource conservationist
Greenhouse Gas and Soil Carbon Markets

- Voluntary Participation in carbon and GHG markets provides producers with the opportunity to access a new revenue stream.
- Often referred to as carbon farm, working lands producers adopt NRCS conservation practices that enhance soil carbon stocks and reduce emissions from their operation.
- The atmospheric benefits are quantified and the producers free to receive payments for carbon benefits.
- Some Environmental markets partners include:
  - Ducks Unlimited
  - Chevy Motor Company
  - Microsoft
  - Climate Trust Capital
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