

# United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service

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# **MISSION**

The mission of NRCS is to work on the Nation's non-Federal lands to conserve, improve, and sustain natural resources. The agency emphasizes voluntary, science-based assistance, partnerships, and cooperative problem solving at the community level. To carryout its mission, the Agency works in partnership with owners and operators of non-Federal lands, providing resource inventories and assessments and conservation planning technical assistance.



TECHNICAL SUPPORT

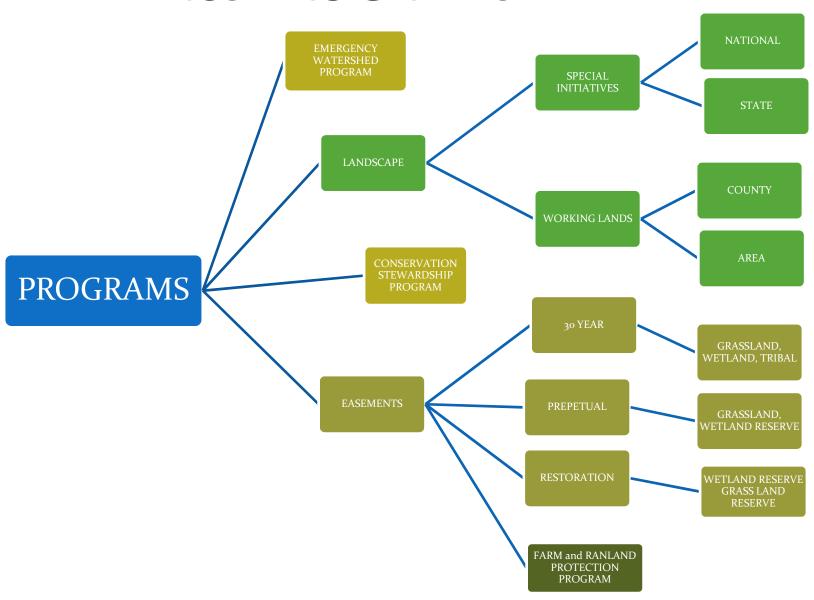
PROGRAMS

TECHNOLOGY

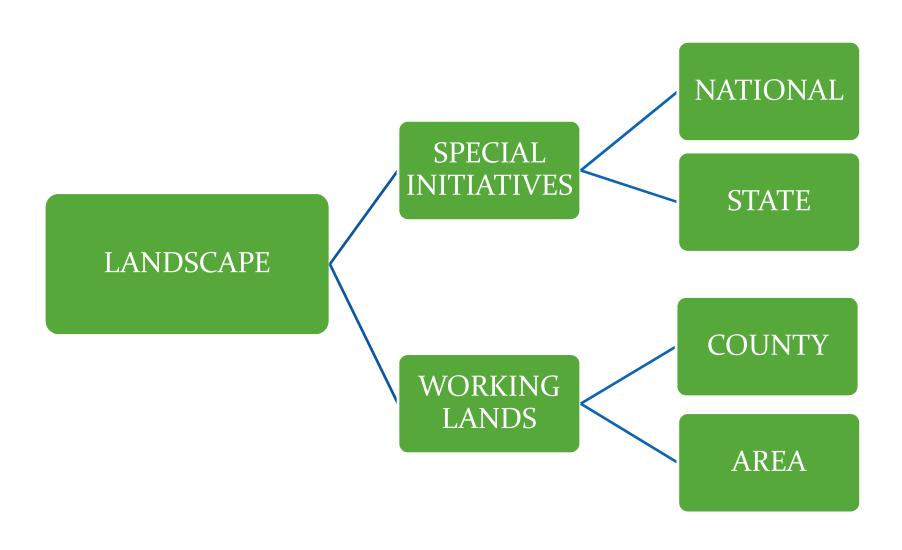
SUPPORT SERVICES

ENGINEERING

# NRCS PROGRAMS



# NRCS LANDSCAPE PROGRAMS



# ELIGIBILITY

Must be an individual, legal entity, Indian tribe, or joint operation

Must have signature authority to obligate an individual, legal entity, joint operation or Indian tribe to a contract

Must be engaged in agricultural production or forestry management, or has an interest in the agricultural or forestry operation associated with the land being offered for enrollment.

Must have control of the land for the term of the proposed contract period

Be in compliance with the highly erodible land (HEL) and wetland conservation (Swampbuster) compliance provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended

Be within appropriate payment limitation requirements

Be in compliance with adjusted gross income (AGI) requirements.

# LANDSCAPE PROGRAM

#### 1. ENRIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP)

The purposes of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is to promote agricultural production, forest management, and environmental quality as compatible goals; optimize environmental benefits; and help farmers and ranchers meet Federal, State, Tribal, and local environmental regulations

#### 2. WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVE PROGRAM (WHIP)

The Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program for private landowners to develop and improve high quality habitat that supports wildlife populations of National, State, Tribal, and local significance.

#### 3. AGRICULTURAL WATER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (AWEP)

The Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP) is a special opportunity for conservation partner groups under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Financial assistance will be set aside nationally for approved AWEP proposals from partners groups and organizations that propose water conservation or water quality improvements on agricultural lands.

# LANDSCAPE PROGRAM 2013

1. ENRIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP)

16Area Fund Pools (Rangeland, Soil Health, Water, Forest) 53 County Fund Pools

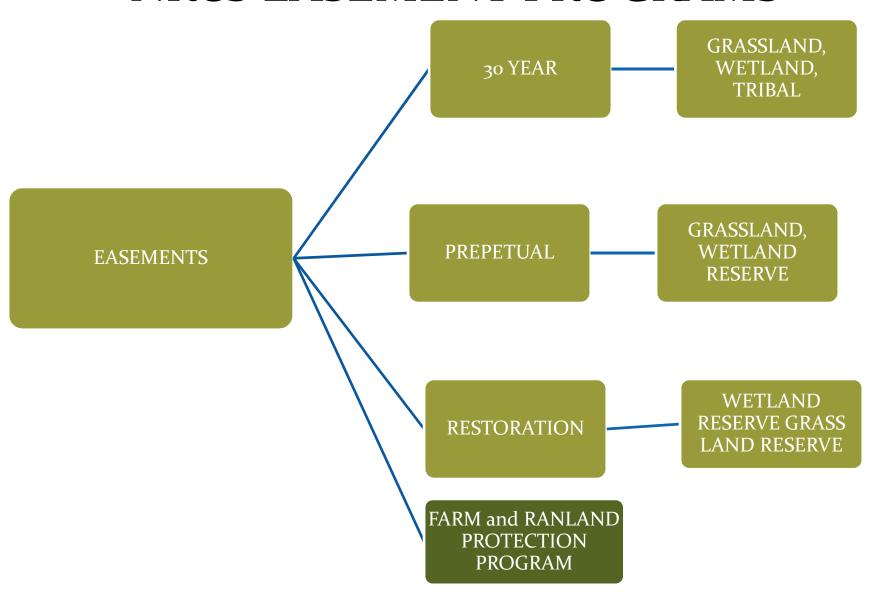
- 4 State Fund Pools (Fire Recovery, AFO/CAFO, BFR, Tribal)
- 8 National Fund Pools (2Organic, Energy, SGI, SHT, NWQI, AGO, CCPI)
- WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVE PROGRAM (WHIP)
   Working Lands for Wildlife
- 3. AGRICULTURAL WATER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (AWEP) 1 Lower Yellowstone

# 1900 APPLICATIONS for > \$37 Million

# SGI LANDSCAPE PROGRAM 2010- 2013

- ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP)
   36 Contracts \$8,567,848
- 2. WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVE PROGRAM (WHIP) 24 Contracts \$ 1,207,220.00

## NRCS EASEMENT PROGRAMS



### **EASEMENT PROGRAMS**

#### WETLAND RESERVE PROGRAM

The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) is a voluntary conservation program that offers landowners the means to restore, enhance, and protect wetlands on their property through permanent easements, 30 year easements, or Land Treatment Contracts.

#### 2. GRASSLAND RESERVE PROGRAM

The Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) is a voluntary conservation program that assists landowners and operators in protecting grazing uses and related conservation values by conserving and restoring grassland resources on eligible private lands through rental contracts, easements, and restoration agreements.

### PARTNERSHIP EASEMENTS

#### FARM AND RANCH LAND PROTECTION PROGRAM

The FRPP is a voluntary program to help farmers and ranchers preserve their agricultural land. The Program provides matching funds to State, Tribal and local governments, and non-governmental organizations with farmland protection programs to purchase conservation easements.

# SGI EASEMENT PROGRAM 2010- 2013

GRAZING LAND RESERVE PROGRAM(GRP)

2 EASEMENTS CLOSED 5270 Ac. \$1,610,147.00

3 EASEMENTS PENDING 6932 Ac. \$2,909,137.00

2. FARM AND RANCH LAND PROTECTION PROGRAM(FRPP)

1 PENDING 4087 Ac. \$500,000.00 (VALUE 1 MILL)

## OTHER NRCS PROGRAMS

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

PROGRAMS

EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROGRAM

## OTHER NRCS PROGRAMS

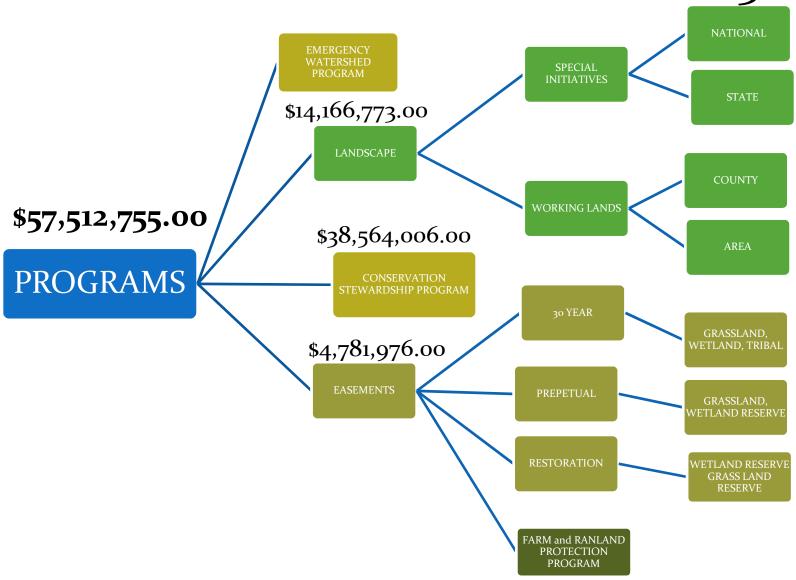
### CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) is a voluntary conservation program that offers payments to producers who maintain a high level of conservation on their land and who agree to adopt higher levels of stewardship.

#### **EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROGRAM**

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program available for local sponsors to use to aid in recovery work. NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to install measures that reduce post-flood and fire damage. The measures are intended to reduce threats to life or property, retard runoff, restore capacity of waterways, prevent flooding and/or soil erosion and reduce damage from sediment and debris.

# NRCS PROGRAMS BUDGET 2013





# United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service

#### Helping People Help the Land

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