

NORTH DAKOTA RIPARIAN PROJECT

Conservation Reserve
Enhancement Program
(CREP)



NORTH
Dakota | Game and Fish
Be Legendary.™



Overview

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm (USDA) Service Agency and the North Dakota Game and Fish Department are partners in a voluntary Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) to enroll up to 20,000 acres in portions of Adams, Billings, Bowman, Burleigh, Dunn, Emmons, Grant, Golden Valley, Hettinger, McKenzie, Mercer, Morton, Oliver, Sioux, Slope and Stark counties.

The North Dakota Riparian Project is part of the USDA Conservation Reserve Program. Participants establish herbaceous cover to control soil erosion, improve water quality and develop wildlife habitat. With CREP, high-priority conservation goals are identified by the state.

The North Dakota Riparian Project combines federal USDA funds with state funds from the North Dakota Game and Fish Department and the Outdoor Heritage Fund to provide incentives to remove cropland from agricultural production near important riparian areas. Producers enroll cropland into a combination of practices including riparian buffers, filter strips or pollinator habitat and must agree to enroll into the Department's Private Land Open To Sportsmen (PLOTS) program.

North Dakota Riparian Project Goals

- Reduce sediment, nutrients and agricultural chemicals entering waterways.
- Increase the number of acres enrolled in the Department's Private Land Open To Sportsmen program.
- Improve habitat for aquatic and terrestrial wildlife.
- Create and improve pollinator habitat.

General Program Guidelines

Enrollment for North Dakota Riparian Project is on a continuous basis. Cropland must meet USDA cropping history criteria and must be physically and legally capable of being cropped.

USDA Payments and Practices

Eligible participants may enroll into the following practices:

CP21 Filter Strips

CP22 Riparian Buffer

CP42 and CP42B Pollinator Habitat

- A cost-share payment of up to 50% of the eligible reimbursable cost to install the approved conservation practice.
- A Signing Incentive Payment (SIP) of an amount equal to 32.5 percent of the first full year (12 months) annual rental payment for practices CP21, CP22 and CP42.
- A Signing Incentive Payment (SIP) of \$75 per acre for practice CP42B.
- An annual rental payment consisting of:
 - A base soil rental rate, determined by the three predominant soils of the eligible land offered, and
- An incentive payment, as a percentage of the base soil rental rate, of:
 - 40% for practices CP21 and CP22
 - 20% for practice CP42
 - 10% for practice CP42B

Department payments:

- A one-time incentive payment of \$100 per CREP acre enrolled.
- A cost-share payment of up to 50% of eligible reimbursable cost to install the approved conservation practice.
- Annual PLOTS payments (contact the Department for details).

Landowner must agree to:

- Enter into a CRP contract with USDA-Farm Service Agency for 10 to 15 years
- Enroll CREP acres into a PLOTS agreement for the term of the CRP contract. A minimum of 40 acres of land must be enrolled in PLOTS.
- Follow terms and conditions of the USDA CRP contract on CREP acres.
- Allow the Department to sign and publicize the access acres as open to walk-in hunting.

How to Apply:

Landowners can apply at their county USDA service center or contact a Department Private Land biologist in their area:

DEPARTMENT PRIVATE LAND BIOLOGIST

701-260-3546 - Adams, Grant, Hettinger and Sioux counties

701-495-2736 - Billings, Bowman, Golden Valley, Slope and Stark counties

701-527-3764 - Burleigh, Emmons, Morton and Oliver counties

701-527-8963 - Dunn and Mercer counties

701-770-3815 - McKenzie County

USDA SERVICE CENTER

701-567-2462 - Adams

701-225-2931 - Billings

701-523-5531 - Bowman

701-989-6154 - Burleigh

701-764-5991 - Dunn

701-254-4791 - Emmons

701-622-3240 - Grant

701-872-4551 - Golden Valley

701-824-3218 - Hettinger

701-842-3628 - McKenzie

701-873-2101 - Mercer

701-989-6269 - Morton

701-873-2101 - Oliver

701-254-4791 - Sioux

701-523-5531 - Slope

701-225-2931 - Stark

