



Working Lands Programs (EQIP, CSP)

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM (EQIP)

- Funding and assistance for producers and landowners to plan, install, or maintain practices reducing natural resource concerns
- Enhances water quality and wildlife habitat, reduces soil erosion and sedimentation
- Eligible on cropland, rangeland, pastureland, non-industrial private forestland, and others
- More than 200 targeted initiatives, including National Water Quality Incentives, On-Farm Energy, and Sage Grouse initiatives



AWWG Recommendations: EQIP

- Increase annual baseline funding, and increase portion of EQIP funds used for wildlife conservation to at least 10%
- Grant Secretary of Agriculture authority to waive EQIP payment cap for high-cost conservation practices and environmentally significant projects
- Allow cost share rate adjustments according to conservation or environmental performance.
- Expand and enhance the EQIP-WaterSMART partnership
- Maintain EQIP's Conservation Innovation Grant program.

**For more information, please visit www.trcp.org/farmbill
or contact Alex Maggos (amaggos@trcp.org)**



CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP)

- Assists producers in maintaining, improving, or beginning conservation practices addressing priority natural resource concerns
- Targets improvements in soil, air, and water quality, energy use, and wildlife habitat on tribal and private working lands

AWWG Recommendations: CSP

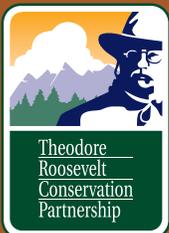
- CSP rankings and payments should reward practices with higher conservation benefits
- Authorize supplemental payments for resource-conserving crop rotations and managed rotational grazing
- Encourage better planning by adding comprehensive conservation planning as a CSP activity, and authorize technical and financial assistance for such plans

SPORTSMEN'S SUPPORT

- Working lands conservation programs are popular with farmers and sportsmen alike.
- EQIP and CSP provide farmers with the resources to implement innovative practices while assisting with regulatory compliance. These programs address issues such as nutrient overload and other water quality issues impacting fish and wildlife.
- When sportsmen see issues like the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico caused by excessive nutrient runoff, they look to the Farm Bill working lands programs to provide critical tools for reducing fertilizer runoff into the Mississippi River System, the Gulf and its world-class fisheries.

AWWG Recommendations: Working Lands

- Grant USDA Secretary waiver authority to allow designated wildlife practices on non-federal public land, where restoration of such land benefit eligible lands.
- Support post-harvest flooding of agricultural fields in areas of high historic wetland loss.
- Promote prescribed fire and grazing to benefit wildlife
- Support native vegetation for conservation practices on private lands



529 14th Street NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20045
202-639-08727 (TRCP)

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