

FEDERAL FARM CONSERVATION PROGRAMS CRITICAL TO OUR SUCCESS

Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)

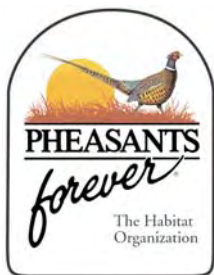
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Conservation Security Program (CSP)

Grasslands Reserve Program (GRP)

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)





Press Releases and Activities- 2003/2004

- April 28** **Pheasants Forever Encourages Landowners to Enroll in CRP**
USDA Announces CRP Sign-Up to Begin May 5th
- May 15** **Pheasants Forever Requests CRP Extension from USDA**
Request Cites Insufficient Sign-up Opportunity for Farmers
- May 21** **Pheasants Forever Thanks USDA for CRP Extension**
Current CRP Sign-Up Extended Through June 13
- June 26** **Pheasants Forever Encourages Landowners to Consider GRP**
Sign-up for New USDA Conservation Program to Begin June 30th
- Sept. 22** **Pheasants Forever Reports Banner Year for Pheasants Across**
The Upper Midwest
- Oct. 8** **Farmed Wetlands Program Helps Farmers and Wildlife**



Press Releases and Activities- 2003/2004

- Dec. 4 Pheasants Forever Concerned about the Future of the CRP**
Letter to USDA Secretary Veneman Requests Meeting
- Dec. 12 Pheasants Forever CEO Meets with President Bush**
Bush and Cabinet Members Express Support for CRP
- Dec. 18 USDA Secretary Veneman Sets Meeting with Pheasants Forever**
*Pheasants Forever Applauds Bush Administration's Recent
Conservation-Friendly Announcements*
- April 21 President Bush and PF Discuss Future of CRP**
Bush Ranch Tour Focuses on Conservation
- June 7 Testimony at the CRP Conference in Fort Collins, CO**
- June 15 PF Testifies before key House Committee on Future of CRP**

saljournal.com
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Program affecting ag firms

CRP idles farmland, consequently cutting grain for elevators

The Associated Press
October 29, 2003



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Kansas farmers idle 300,000 more acres

Conservation program bad news for rural communities

Roxana Hegeman
The Associated Press

September 13, 2003



The Washington Post

Montana Town's Boys Are Its Last Gasp of Hope

By Blaine Harden

Washington Post Staff Writer

Monday, November 17, 2003; Page A01



Los Angeles Times

Bush Makes Time for 'Hook and Bullet' Set

Fishing and hunting groups have the administration's ear and are emerging as a lobbying force for environmental issues.

By Elizabeth Shogren
Times Staff Writer

January 4, 2004





CRP, CSP programs under fire

In a textbook example of bait-and-switch, the Bush administration continues to renege on key soil and water conservation programs it agreed to in the 2002 Farm Bill.

A quick look at almost any 2002-approved conservation program shows the White House, with ample help from a foot-dragging U.S. Department of Agriculture, will backpedal even faster on its green commitments in 2005.

**Staff Writer
The Hawk Eye
Burlington, Iowa**

June 27, 2004



American Corn Growers Association



Corn Growers Call for CRP Sign-Up This Year

ACGA Reminds Secretary that Conservation Program is Not a Supply Management Tool

Keith Dittrich, president of the American Corn Growers Association (ACGA) and a corn farmer from Tilden, Neb., has asked Secretary of Agriculture Veneman to move forward as soon as possible with a general sign-up of the Conservation Reserve Program.

WASHINGTON D.C.
Press Release
June 15, 2004





IDAHO FISH AND GAME
preserve • protect • perpetuate

J. Unsworth

- Valuable habitat for several wildlife species; including, pheasants, sharp-tailed grouse, mule deer, and elk
- Very important to Columbian sharp-tailed grouse.
285 harvested in 1984 to a high of 6,200 in 1992
56 new leks identified were on CRP lands



Illinois DNR

J. Brunsvold

- CRP has been an unparalleled success in conserving rural America's land, water and wildlife
- Continued existence of Henslow's sparrow, greater prairie chickens, ring-necked pheasants, and northern bobwhite in Illinois is dependent on maintaining CRP grasslands



R.A. Bishop

- CRP is the largest and best wildlife conservation program ever implemented by the USDA
- In 1996, the economic impact of upland game hunting in Iowa was almost ¼ billion dollars
- Current CRP acreage may produce 3.8 million pheasants
- 1.4 million acres of Iowa CRP contracts will expire between now and 2010
Remaining CRP acreage would produce an estimated 890,000 pheasants
- Back into row crop production would increase soil sheet and rill erosion in Iowa an estimated 7-17 million tons per year



G. Merriam

- CRP has restored more wildlife habitat than any other program
- During 1987-96, average fall pheasant harvest increased 34% compared to the period 1965-85 (pre-CRP)



D. Childress

- 1971 to 1986, combined harvest for ring-necked pheasants, gray partridge, and sharp-tailed grouse averaged 21,209 birds bagged
- 32,926 birds from 1987 through 2002, a 55% increase





J.L. Cooper


- CRP in South Dakota has contributed to an increased pheasant population to levels not experienced in over 35 years
- In 2003, pheasant hunters harvested an estimated 1.8 million birds, with direct impact of pheasant hunting on small town rural economies estimated at over \$90 million




PF's LEGISLATIVE ACTION FUND (LAF)

 Educational publications and mailings

 PF lobby weeks

 Congressional and Administrative
Hearings

 PF leadership in wildlife conservation
coalitions

 Program implementation

 All PF Washington, DC activities

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