

Conservation Reserve Program

CP37

DUCK NESTING HABITAT

Improve Wildlife Habitat | Enhance Recreation | Increase Duck Populations



Why Choose CRP? You Benefit Land, Water, and Wildlife.

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) provides farmers and landowners with various enrollment opportunities to achieve many farming, ranching, and conservation goals. Whatever the challenge—soil conservation, water quality protection, or wildlife habitat enhancement—CRP is a proven land performance and management solution.

Why Duck Nesting Habitat?

Healthy, sustainable wetlands are critical to duck populations, which in turn play a significant ecological role. Restoring wetlands and buffers to create duck nesting habitat:

- Gives ducks feeding territory and cover for nesting and brooding
- Restores habitat for other wetland fowl species
- Improves water quality by intercepting sediment and nutrients
- Reduces downstream flooding damages
- Sequesters carbon

CP37 is limited to the prairie pothole region encompassing certain counties in Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. It is offered in continuous sign-up. For more information on CRP sign-up types, visit fsa.usda.gov.

Financial Benefits

CP37 participants receive:

- 10–15 years of annual rental payments
- 50% cost-share assistance for establishment costs
- Under continuous sign-up, a signing incentive payment (SIP) and a practice incentive payment (PIP)

Additional incentives may be available in your state under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP).



Eligible Land

- Planted or considered planted at least 4 out of 6 years between 2012 and 2017
- Capable of being planted to an agricultural commodity
- Compliant with USDA's highly erodible land and wetland provisions
- Located outside of the 100-year floodplain

Practice Requirements

- Prepare the site for growth of selected species
- Establish and maintain permanent vegetative cover in a buffer between 1/4 and 1/10 the wetland width
- Apply nutrients as needed to ensure growth
- Control noxious weeds and other undesirable plants, insects, and pests

Owner/Operator Eligibility

Participants must:

- Have owned or operated the land for at least 12 months prior to program sign-up
- Be in control of the land for the length of the contract
- Meet USDA payment eligibility provisions

Obligations

Participants will:

- Not harvest or graze the practice area except under certain approved conditions
- Work with USDA-approved conservationist to develop a conservation plan
- Perform periodic management activities according to the conservation plan
- Complete practice establishment within 12 months of the effective date of the contract

Proven Conservation Benefits

- CRP contributes to a net increase of an estimated one million ducks per year
- CRP reduced nutrient losses in FY 2020 by an estimated 400 million pounds of nitrogen and 78 million pounds of phosphorus
- In 2020, CRP lowered greenhouse gas emissions by the equivalent of 30 million metric tons of CO₂—the same benefit as taking nearly 6 million cars off the road

FSA will ultimately determine participant and land eligibility.

For more information about FSA and its programs, visit fsa.usda.gov or contact your local FSA office. To find your local FSA office, visit farmers.gov/service-locator.