USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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MD State Technical Committee Fall Meeting 2024

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
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Overview

- Agricultural Management Assistance Program
- Conservation Stewardship Program
- CSP Program Opportunities

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Agricultural Management Assistance Program Updates

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FY24 AMA

Fund Code	Number of Contracts	Obligated Amount
AMA-Irrigation	6	$239,506.00
AMA-RMA High Tunnel	5	$243,084.00

FY 2025 AMA Funding Target

- Irrigation
- AMA Irrigation allocation: $250,000
- AMA-RMA Irrigation allocation: NHQ will provide allocation later.

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Conservation Stewardship Program Updates

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AMA and CSP Obligation History

Program	Amount Obligated	Fiscal Year	Increase from 2023-2024	Unobligated Funds	Allocated Funds
AMA	$211,784	2023	$27,674.75	38,215.74	$250,000.00
	$239,459	2024	13%	$10,540.99	$250,000.00
CSP	$1,922.555.70	2023	$239,459	$152,049.00	$2,074,604.70
	$2,752,843	2024	9%	$10,000	$2,762,843.00
CSP-IRA	$ 12,984.00	2023	$ 1,485,970.00	$8,261.00	$21,245.00
	$1,498,954	2024	99%	$0.00	$1,498,954.00
Total	**$4,716,024**	**N/A**	**$1,753,103.63**	**$ 219,066.73**	**$6,857,646.70**

CSP Renewals FY 2024

Program	Total Number of Contracts	Total Cost of Contracts	Total Number of Acres
CSP Renewal-24	6	$333,167.00	2,910.6

Fund Code	Area 1	Area 2	Grand Total
CSP AgLand Renewal		$246,709.00	$ 246,709.00
CSP NIPF Renewal	$20,000.00		$ 20,000.00
IRA CSP AgLand Renewal		$66,458.00	$ 66,458.00
Grand Total	**$20,000.00**	**$313,167.00**	**$ 333,167.00**

FY 2024 CSP Classic and CSP IRA

Program	Total Number of Contracts	Total Cost of Contracts	Total Number of Acres
CSP Classic	53	$2,486,159.00	8991.7
CSP Classic IRA	31	$1,433,251.00	2363.1

Fund Code	Area 1	Area 2	Grand Total
CSP-IRA AgLand	$569,752.00	$408,155.00	$977,907.00
CSP-IRA NIPF	$373,793.00	$81,551.00	$455,344.00
CSP-AgLand BFR	$268,327.00	$75,048.00	$343,375.00
CSP-AgLand General	$577,225.00	$245,660.00	$822,885.00
CSP-AgLand SDFR	$110,227.00	$20,000.00	$130,227.00
CSP-NIPF BFR	$114,427.00	0	$114,427.00
CSP-NIPF	$920,881.00	$67,101.00	$987,982.00
CSP-NIPF SDFR	$87,263.00	0	$87,263.00
GRAND TOTAL	**$3,021,895.00**	**$897,515.00**	**$3,919,410.00**

Top Base Practices Planned FY 2024

Practice	Items	Extent	Units
Brush Management	16	284.8	Ac
Herbaceous Weed Treatment	11	303.4	Ac
Conservation Cover	18	19.2	Ac
Conservation Crop Rotation	11	6,244.7	Ac
Residue and Tillage Management, No Till	9	3,061.6	Ac
Prescribed Burning	5	201.4	Ac
Cover Crop	7	45.9	Ac
Critical Area Planting	1	2.5	Ac
Woody Residue Treatment	2	117.8	Ac
Field Border	2	2.5	Ac
Riparian Herbaceous Cover	2	4.1	Ac
Firebreak	2	19,400.0	Ft
Wildlife Habitat Planting	4	2.2	Ac
Hedgerow Planting	1	428.0	Ft
Irrigation Water Management	2	2.2	Ac
Mulching	1	10.5	Ac
Prescribed Grazing	9	418.2	Ac

Top Enhancements Planned FY 2024

Practice	Items	Extent	Units
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	3	9.7	Ac
Structures for Wildlife	55	230.0	No
Forest Stand Improvement	26	581.8	Ac
Existing Activity Payment-Land Use	630	71,192.0	Ac
Existing Activity Payment-Resource Concern	450	865.0	No
Brush management to improve wildlife habitat	34	766.5	Ac
Herbaceous weed treatment to create plant communities consistent with the ecological site	30	571.4	Ac
Conservation cover for pollinators and beneficial insects	12	8.7	Ac
Establish Monarch butterfly habitat	6	13.7	Ac
Leave standing grain crops unharvested to benefit wildlife	9	8,166.3	Ac
Modifications to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter	12	7,033.2	Ac
Improved crop rotation to provide benefits to pollinators	21	6,207.0	Ac
Leaving tall crop residue for wildlife	5	16.5	Ac
Diversify crop rotation with canola or sunflower to provide benefits to pollinators	25	4,605.4	Ac

FY 2025 CSP Updates

FY25 CSP Renewals

- Ranking pools are drafted. Planners will be notified when they are accessible.
- FY-25 Renewals will use FY24 CSP Documents except for the FY24 CSAF List.
- FY25 CSAF List is available for use in planning CSP-IRA Renewals.
- FY 2025 CSP Renewals Allocation: TBD

FY 2025 CSP Renewal Ranking Pools

- Agricultural Land SDFR
- Agricultural Land BFR
- Agricultural Land
- Agricultural Land Organic
- NIPF
- NIPF BFR
- NIPF SDFR

FY 2025 CSP Ranking Pools

Classic (Non IRA and Non ACT NOW)
AgLand BF
AgLand SD
AgLand
AgLand Organic
NIPF BF
NIPF SD
NIPF
Urban

IRA
AgLand BF
AgLand SD
AgLand
AgLand Organic
NIPF BF
NIPF SD
NIPF
Urban

CSP Classic and CSP-IRA Funding Targets FY 2025

CSP Classic Allocation	CSP-AgLand BFR	$	146,000.00
	CSP-AgLand SDFR	$	146,000.00
	CSP-NIPF BFR	$	146,000.00
	CSP-NIPF SDFR	$	146,000.00
	CSP Urban	$	200,000.00
	CSP Organic	$	200,000.00
	CSP-AgLand General	$	968,000.00
	CSP-NIPF	$	968,000.00
	Classic Allocation Total		$2,920,000.00

CSP - IRA Allocation	CSP-IRA AgLand BFR	$	50,000.00
	CSP-IRA AgLand SDFR	$	50,000.00
	CSP-IRA AgLand	$	50,000.00
	CSP-IRA NIPF BFR	$	50,000.00
	CSP-IRA NIPF SDFR	$	500,000.00
	CSP-IRA NIPF	$	300,000.00
	IRA Allocation Total		$1,000,000

FY 2025 CSP Summary Enhancements /Bundles

Summary of Retired, Revised and New CSP Activities for FY-25					
Enhancements			Bundles		
Retired	*Revised*	*New*	*Retired*	*Revised*	*New*
E327A	E338B	E327C	None	B000BFF1	None
E328I	E449G	E614A		B000CPL10	
E512A	E449H			B000CPL11	
E512C	E512B			B000CPL12	
E528U	E512D			B000CPL13	
	E512I			B000CPL14	
	E512J			B000CPL15	
	E512L			B000CPL16	
	E512M			B000CPL17	
	E612B			B000CPL19	
	E666H			B000CPL20	
	E666J			B000CPL22	

FY 2025 CSP Documents

- Retired Enhancements:
  - **E327A –** Conservation cover for pollinators and beneficial insects
    - Use of E420A is more applicable.
  - **E328I –** Forage harvest to reduce water quality impacts by utilization of excess soil nutrients
    - Base practice standard doesn't have forage harvest criteria; use of 512 enhancements and or 590 enhancements are more applicable.
  - **E512A** - Cropland conversion to grass-based agriculture to reduce soil erosion
    - Duplicate costs with base practice.
  - **E512C** - Cropland conversion to grass for soil organic matter improvement
    - Duplicate costs with base practice.
  - **E528U** – Contingency Planning for Resiliency
    - Undergoing NDL review for consistency in planning units and need for TSP to complete.

FY 2025 CSP Documents

- New Enhancements:
  - **E327C** - Wildlife habitat for nesting and brooding on non-cropped areas
  - **E614A** - Adding telemetry to a watering facility to monitor water levels remotely

FY 2025 CSP Documents

- Revised Enhancements:
  - **E338B** – Short-interval burns to promote a healthy herbaceous plant community
    - Range and Associated Ag Land added as Land Uses for FY-25.
  - **E449G** - Intermediate IWM— Years 2-5, Soil or Water Level monitoring
    - Enhancement name corrected in footer.
  - **E449H** - Intermediate IWM— Years 2 - 5, using soil moisture or water level monitoring
    - "Must" reference in enhancement description replaced with "may".
  - **E512B** – Forage and biomass planting to reduce soil erosion or increase organic matter to build soil health
    - Clarified species selection must contain a minimum of two functional groups.
    - Clarified species must be planted into existing perennial stands.
    - Added criteria related to site preparation.

FY 2025 CSP Documents

- Revised Enhancements:
  - **E512D** – Forage plantings that help increase organic matter in depleted soils
    - Removed Crop (Annual) and Crop (Perennial) as applicable land uses.
    - Clarified species selection must contain a minimum of two functional groups.
    - Clarified species must be planted into existing perennial stands.
    - Added criteria related to site preparation.
  - **E512I** – Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect and/or Monarch habitat
    - Clarified species must be planted into existing perennial stands.
    - Added criteria related to site preparation.
  - **E512J** – Establish wildlife corridors to provide habitat continuity or access to water
    - Clarified species must be planted into existing perennial stands.
    - Clarified selected species must be compatible with existing stands or terminate corridor area with herbicide or tillage.
    - Added criteria related to site preparation.

FY 2025 CSP Documents

- Revised Enhancements:
  - **E512L** – Diversifying forage base with interseeding forbs and legumes to increase pasture quality
    - Clarified species must be planted into existing perennial stands.
    - Added criteria related to site preparation.
  - **E512M** – Forage plantings that improve wildlife habitat cover and shelter or structure and composition
    - Clarified species must be planted into existing perennial stands.
    - Added criteria related to site preparation.
  - **E612B** - Planting for carbon sequestration and storage
    - Long-lived pine species (longleaf and shortleaf) added as species options in addition to deciduous trees.

FY 2025 CSP Documents

- Revised Enhancements:
  - **E666H** - Increase on-site carbon storage
    - Clarified applicability on land uses with multiple tree species.
  - **E666J** - Facilitating oak forest regeneration
    - Range added a Land Use for FY-25.

FY 2025 CSP Documents

- Revised Bundles:
  - **B000BFF1** – Buffer Bundle #1
    - Removed E327A as applicable enhancement.
  - **B000CPL10** – YEAR 1 Irrigated Cropland (MRBI/Ogallala)
  - **B000CPL11** – YEAR 2+ Irrigated Cropland (MRBI/Ogallala)
  - **B000CPL12** – Non-Irrigated Precision Ag (MRBI)
  - **B000CPL13** – Non-Irrigated Cropland (MRBI)
  - **B000CPL14** – YEAR 1 Irrigated Precision Ag Cropland (MRBI)
  - **B000CPL15** – YEAR 2+ Irrigated Precision Ag Cropland (MRBI)
  - **B000CPL16** – Non-Irrigated Cropland with Water Bodies (MRBI)
  - **B000CPL17** – Non-Irrigated Cropland with Water Bodies Riparian Forest Buffer (MRBI)

    Revised to note Bundle is program neutral.
  - **B000CPL19** - Crop Bundle #19 - Soil Health Precision Ag
    - Removed E327A as applicable enhancement.
  - **B000CPL20** - Crop Bundle #20 - Soil Health Assessment
    - Removed E327A as applicable enhancement.
  - **B000CPL22** - Crop Bundle #22 - Erosion Bundle (Organic)
    - Removed E327A as applicable enhancement.

CSP Website Updates for FY 2025

- NRCS's CSP Enhancements, Bundles and Supplemental Payments Website updates are **IN PROGRESS**.

CSP Enhancements, Bundles and Supplemental Payments | Natural Resources Conservation Service (usda.gov)

CSP Enhancements, Bundles and Supplemental Payments

Home › CSP Enhancements, Bundles and Supplemental Payments

On this page, find links to national CSP Enhancements, Bundles and Supplemental Payment documents.

Enhancements

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) is for producers who want to take their conservation efforts to the next level. Most CSP applicants have already applied conservation practices to their land. Through CSP, producers can further improve their conservation efforts with conservation activities called "enhancements."

Enhancements allow a producer to address additional levels of conservation beyond what the minimum conservation practice standard requires. CSP applicants work one-on-one with their NRCS conservation planner to select enhancements that best fit their management goals and will address resource concerns on the enrolled land.

Through CSP, producers can choose from approximately 140 enhancements to address resource concerns on their operation. Conservation practice standards and quality criteria for resource concerns can be found in sections II and III of the Field Office Technical Guide.

For more information on producer-specific enhancements, please visit Enhancement Factsheets

Index:

- Enhancements
- Bundles

Enhancements

- Brush management to improve wildlife habitat (E314A)
- Herbaceous weed treatment to create desired plant communities consistent with the ecological site (E315A)
- Conservation cover for pollinators and beneficial insects (E327A)
- Establish Monarch butterfly habitat (E327B)
- Conservation crop rotation on recently converted CRP grass/legume cover (E328C)
- Leave standing grain crops unharvested to benefit wildlife (E328D)
- Soil health crop rotation (E328E)
- Modifications to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter (E328F)

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CSP Opportunities

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CSP ORGANIC

- This is funding pool can be used by certified and transitioning to an organic system producers.
- Land uses- cropland, pasture, forestry, AAL
- Comprehensive Conservation Plan (requires use of TSP) equivalent to CAP PLAN in EQIP
- B000CPL22 Crop Bundle #22
- Enhancements available if within organic production guidelines

CSP Urban

- Urban agriculture includes the cultivation, processing, and distribution of agricultural products in urban and suburban areas.
- Community gardens, rooftop farms, hydroponic, aeroponic and aquaponic facilities, and vertical production, are all examples of urban agriculture.
- Tribal communities and small towns may also be included.
- Soil health
- Weed and pest management
- Composting facilities
- Irrigation

Contact Information

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