



Farmland Protection Policy Act Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2025

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Blueberry farm in western Oregon (NRCS Oregon).

Implementation of Farmland Protection Policy Act

Under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA), federal agencies are required to evaluate the impacts of federally funded or federally assisted projects that may involve permanently converting prime and important farmlands to nonagricultural use and to consider alternative actions that would lessen the effects of converting that productive agricultural land. In complying with the FPPA, federal agencies request assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) by submitting a Farmland Conversion Impact Rating Form (Form AD-1006 or CPA-106). The requesting agency then conducts a Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) of the project area. NRCS provides the land evaluation information necessary for the responsible federal agency to complete the site assessment portion of the analysis. To implement the FPPA, federal agencies address the potential conversion of agricultural land when reviewing internal projects or providing assistance to local communities.

Important Farmland: Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, and Additional Farmland of Statewide and Local Importance

As defined in 7 CFR part 657, important farmland encompasses prime and unique farmland as well as additional farmland of statewide and local importance. Prime farmland is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and is available for these uses. The land could be cropland, pastureland, rangeland, forestland, or other land—though not developed urban land or water. Land used for a specific high-value food or fiber crop is classified as unique farmland. Generally, additional farmland of statewide importance includes farmland that is nearly prime farmland and that economically produces high yields of crops when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods. In some local areas, there is concern for certain additional farmlands, even though these lands are not identified as having national or statewide importance. These farmlands are identified as being of local importance through ordinances adopted by local government. The NRCS State Conservationist reviews and certifies lists of farmland of statewide and local importance. These lists, along with state and locally established LESA systems, where applicable, are used by federal agencies to review and evaluate activities that may impact farmland.

Important Farmland Evaluated for Conversion to Nonagricultural Use

Table 1 summarizes the proportion and amount of important farmland considered for conversion to nonagricultural use as a part of federal projects under the FPPA in fiscal years 2008 through 2025.

Table 1.—Important Farmland Evaluated Under FPPA in Fiscal Years 2008 Through 2025

Fiscal year	Acres of important farmland within land evaluated	Percent of important farmland within land evaluated	Number of agencies that submitted requests
2008	87,902	71%	25
2009	58,106	67%	23
2010	54,103	38%	30
2011	99,386	49%	29
2012	36,146	33%	33
2013	245,972	60%	33
2014	106,136	67%	32
2015	44,886	48%	34
2016	32,370	77%	22
2017	42,561	63%	35
2018	31,557	50%	36
2019	47,297	67%	31
2020	43,416	54%	35
2021	97,416	63%	35
2022	48,610	39%	32
2023	27,131	53%	34
2024	53,330	65%	36
2025	44,147	56%	39

In fiscal year 2025, NRCS received 2,611 AD-1006 or CPA-106 forms from 39 federal departments and agencies and 8 state entities requesting assistance to evaluate the impact of proposed conversions of land that would result from their projects. A total of 78,225 acres of land in 49 states and U.S. territories were proposed for conversion to nonagricultural use. Two states, Alaska and Rhode Island, did not receive any FPPA requests in fiscal year 2025. Of the acres reviewed, about 56 percent (44,147 acres) were identified as important farmland (as defined in 7 CFR part 657). Of the important farmland, 33,663 acres were prime or unique farmland, and 10,483 acres were farmland of statewide or local importance.

Important Farmland Proposed for Conversion to Nonagricultural Use

Indiana and Iowa had the highest number of important farmland acres proposed for conversion, with 7,504 acres and 3,701 acres, respectively (table 2). Two states reported no acres of important farmland under consideration, and 11 states reported less than 100 acres of important farmland proposed for conversion (table 3).

Table 2.—Top Five States or Territories with Acres of Farmland Proposed for Conversion by Federal Projects

State	Acres
Indiana	7,504
Iowa	3,701
Florida	3,369
North Carolina	2,748
Oklahoma	2,293



Table 3.—Acres of Farmland Proposed by State or U.S. Territory for Conversion by Federal Projects

State	Total acres proposed	Total acres proposed: nationwide total	Acres of important farmland proposed	Acres of important farmland proposed: nationwide total of proposed important farmland
AL	9,462	12.1%	1,941	4.4%
AR	5,464	7.0%	155	0.4%
AZ	1,244	1.6%	694	1.6%
CA	2,340	3.0%	1,418	3.2%
CB	1,642	2.1%	1,429	3.2%
CO	72	0.1%	54	0.1%
CT	3	0.0%	2	0.0%
DE	19	0.0%	18	0.0%
FL	6,524	8.3%	3,369	7.6%
GA	218	0.3%	140	0.3%
IA	3,938	5.0%	3,701	8.4%
ID	820	1.0%	820	1.9%
IL	936	1.2%	888	2.0%
IN	7,504	9.6%	7,504	17.0%
KS	1,276	1.6%	973	2.2%
KY	1,365	1.7%	754	1.7%
LA	429	0.5%	423	1.0%
MA	4	0.0%	4	0.0%
MD	27	0.0%	18	0.0%
ME	142	0.2%	122	0.3%
MI	96	0.1%	94	0.2%
MN	653	0.8%	468	1.1%
MO	4,071	5.2%	1,308	3.0%
MS	940	1.2%	532	1.2%
MT	108	0.1%	107	0.2%
NC	4,160	5.3%	2,748	6.2%
ND	244	0.3%	117	0.3%
NE	1,936	2.5%	1,536	3.5%
NH	129	0.2%	62	0.1%
NJ	82	0.1%	6	0.0%
NM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
NV	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
NY	4,385	5.6%	1,786	4.0%
OH	1,241	1.6%	119	0.3%
OK	4,069	5.2%	2,293	5.2%
OR	543	0.7%	414	0.9%
PA	968	1.2%	689	1.6%
PIA	1,135	1.5%	1,060	2.4%
SC	3,336	4.3%	1,978	4.5%
SD	1,388	1.8%	989	2.2%
TN	753	1.0%	287	0.7%



State	Total acres proposed	Total acres proposed: nationwide total	Acres of important farmland proposed	Acres of important farmland proposed: nationwide total of proposed important farmland
TX	1,475	1.9%	1,251	2.8%
UT	479	0.6%	475	1.1%
VA	875	1.1%	331	0.7%
VT	85	0.1%	36	0.1%
WA	321	0.4%	321	0.7%
WI	522	0.7%	425	1.0%
WV	786	1.0%	272	0.6%
WY	16	0.0%	16	0.0%

Note: Alaska, (AK), New Mexico (NM), Nevada (NV), and Rhode Island (RI) reported 0 acres of proposed important farmland for conversion. Numbers have been rounded to the nearest acre. As a result, there is a slight discrepancy between the overall total and the sum of state totals for “Total acres proposed.” This note also applies to the acreage totals for “Number of acres proposed for conversion” in table 4.

In fiscal year 2025, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) reported the largest number of important farmland acres proposed for conversion, with 6,933 acres (table 4). This accounts for about 16 percent of all important farmland acres proposed for conversion in 2025.

Table 4.—Breakdown of Acres and AD-1006 or PA-106 Forms Received from Federal Agencies and Other Entities in Fiscal Year 2025

Federal agencies and other entities	Number of form requests to NRCS	Number of acres proposed for conversion	Number of acres identified as important farmland	Number of acres identified as prime or unique farmland	Number of acres identified as having statewide or local importance
Appalachian Regional Commission (Total)	1	0	0	0	0
Department of Agriculture (Total)	642	24,055	13,905	9,189	4,716
Agricultural Marketing Service	2	3	2	2	0
Farm Service Agency	2	1	1	1	0
Natural Resources Conservation Service	36	10,084	5,734	3,579	2,155
Other (Unspecified)	17	1,093	1,017	944	73
Rural Business Cooperative Service	6	105	102	86	16
Rural Development	426	8,972	5,206	3,272	1,934
Rural Utilities Service	153	3,797	1,843	1,305	538
Department of Commerce (Total)	39	2,786	1,635	1,463	172
Economic Development Agency	24	213	181	164	17
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	2	32	27	22	5



Federal agencies and other entities	Number of form requests to NRCS	Number of acres proposed for conversion	Number of acres identified as important farmland	Number of acres identified as prime or unique farmland	Number of acres identified as having statewide or local importance
National Telecommunications and Information Administration	10	4	2	2	0
Other (Unspecified)	3	2,537	1,425	1,275	150
Department of Defense (Total)	39	4,217	3,483	2,424	1,059
Defense Logistics Agency	2	1,509	1,459	862	597
National Guard Bureau	2	172	6	4	2
Other (Unspecified)	4	52	49	47	2
United States Army Corps of Engineers	31	2,484	1,969	1,511	458
Department of Energy (Total)	47	5,183	1,905	1,554	352
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	6	27	24	14	10
Other (Unspecified)	41	5,156	1,881	1,540	342
Department of Health and Human Services (Total)	1	15	13	5	8
Other (Unspecified)	1	15	13	5	8
Department of Homeland Security (Total)	47	1,515	514	262	252
Federal Emergency Management Agency	47	1,515	514	262	252
Department of Housing and Urban Development (Total)	2	117	105	90	15
Federal Housing Authority	2	117	105	90	15
Department of Interior (Total)	48	2,594	875	533	343
Bureau of Indian Affairs	15	577	345	52	294
Bureau of Reclamation	3	1,032	303	297	6
National Park Service	13	507	71	50	21
Office of Surface Mining	10	108	4	4	0
Other (Unspecified)	1	22	22	0	22
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	6	348	130	130	0
Department of Transportation (Total)	626	16,706	9,467	7,753	1,716
Federal Aviation Administration	43	1,729	1,458	1,312	146
Federal Highway Administration	508	13,359	6,933	5,392	1,541
Federal Railway Administration	1	8	2	2	0
Federal Transit Administration	1	11	11	3	10
Other (Unspecified)	73	1,599	1,063	1,044	19



Federal agencies and other entities	Number of form requests to NRCS	Number of acres proposed for conversion	Number of acres identified as important farmland	Number of acres identified as prime or unique farmland	Number of acres identified as having statewide or local importance
Environmental Protection Agency (Total)	317	6,635	6,140	6,008	132
General Services Administration (Total)	4	36	31	18	13
Housing and Urban Development (Total)	572	4,450	3,890	2,907	902
Other (Unspecified)	572	4,450	3,809	2,907	902
Northern Border Regional Commission (Total)	2	2	1	0	0
Other (Total)	66	75	71	70	1
State Agencies (Total)	148	298	297	295	2
Colorado Department of Transportation	1	5	5	5	0
Indiana Health Services	29	0	0	0	0
Indiana Department of Environmental Management	8	0	0	0	0
Indiana Department of Transportation	96	169	169	167	2
Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs	4	104	104	104	0
Indiana State Revolving Fund	5	19	19	19	0
Utah Department of Water Quality	1	1	0	0	0
Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona	4	0	0	0	0
Tennessee Valley Authority (Total)	8	9,492	1,896	1,096	800
United States Postal Service (Total)	1	0	0	0	0
Veterans Administration (Total)	1	52	3	0	3