

# Conservation Security Program



*You've been taking care of natural resources on your land for years...  
...now, you have a chance to be financially rewarded for your work.*

## **Conservation Security Program Overview**

The Conservation Security Program (CSP) was authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill to reward farmers and ranchers who are implementing conservation on America's working lands. CSP is a voluntary program based on conservation accomplishments that recognizes the contributions of the best land stewards and encourages them to do more.

CSP rounds out a portfolio of conservation for America's farmers and ranchers. CSP is helping producers improve management of private lands through NRCS conservation services and programs to sustain past environmental gains, address current resource problems, and provide for regulatory relief.

## **The Watershed Approach**

To provide the best service possible to producers, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is implementing CSP on a watershed basis. Focusing on high priority watersheds allows NRCS to provide quality service to more applicants than if the program were implemented nationwide because of limits on both program and technical assistance funding in Fiscal Year 2005.

CSP is being offered in watersheds across the country. The Chetco Watershed has been chosen as a CSP priority watershed for 2005.

## **Signing up for CSP**

Applicants will be selected at the national level for the 2005 sign-up. The fact sheet entitled "CSP Eligibility, Qualification and Application Steps" contains detailed information about applying for CSP. Generally, to apply, land managers will need to complete the following steps:

### **Before the Sign-up Begins:**

1. Complete a Self-Assessment Workbook.
2. Gather appropriate records and documentation.
3. Contact your local Farm Service Agency to receive a USDA (also called SCIMS) Identification Number.

### **Once the Sign-up Begins:**

4. Attend a Self-Assessment workshop to learn more about CSP and receive assistance in finalizing your Self-Assessment Workbook.
5. Set up an appointment with your Local NRCS staff to confirm your eligibility, documentation and determine your enrollment category.
6. Submit your Conservation Stewardship Plan.
7. If you are selected for funding, complete your Conservation Stewardship Contract.

For additional information on the Conservation Security Program in Oregon, go to [www.or.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov).

# Conservation Security Program in Willow



## Willow Watershed

### Watershed Acres:

Total - 555,800

Private Land - 536,100

### Land Use Acres:

Cropland - 128,500

Pastureland - 69,200

Rangeland - 242,000

Forestland - 38,000

150 Working Farms

### Major Commodities:

Wheat

Cattle

Barley

Alfalfa Hay

### For More Information

Contact the Local NRCS

Field Office:

Heppner 541-676-5021

Condon 541-384-2671

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## CSP 2005 in the Willow Watershed

The Willow Watershed drains into an area starting in the Umatilla National Forest and running about 50 miles north to the Columbia River. Soils are mostly wind deposited silts that range from deep to very shallow. Water erosion potential is high on steeper slopes, and wind erosion can be severe on the low rainfall sandier soils.

Most of the cropland is used for wheat and barley production with winter wheat-summer fallow as a typical rotation. Rainfall varies from less than 10" a year at the Columbia River to about 30" a year in the forest, most falling in the winter. There is a significant amount of rangeland in the watershed providing livestock forage and wildlife habitat. Irrigated fields are typically located along the creeks and are used for hay or grain.

## Willow Watershed

