

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.

Conservation Security Program in Yamhill



Yamhill Watershed

Watershed Acres:

Total - 493,500

Private Land - 425,900

Tribal Land - 10,000

Land Use Acres:

Cropland - 43,400

Pastureland - 144,100

Orchards/Vineyards - 15,100

Forestland - 280,900

2,126 Total Farms

Major Commodities:

Wheat & Grass Seed

Row Crops

Dairy

Vineyards

Nurseries & Christmas Trees

Orchards & Berry Fruits

For More Information

Contact the Local NRCS

Field Office:

McMinnville 503-472-1474

Dallas 503-623-5534

CSP 2005 in the Yamhill Watershed

The Yamhill River watershed is located in the northwest Willamette Valley in Yamhill County and northern Polk County. Both counties are predominately rural, with agriculture and forestry comprising the dominant land uses. The watershed includes forestland held by the Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde Community. Current watershed population is 65,000 (2002 census).

The landscape of the Yamhill River Watershed is rich in diversity. Agricultural fields dominate the lower south and eastern portion, but share the landscape with floodplains, riparian areas and wetlands. The western portion of the watershed is dominated by steep forestland.

The Yamhill River watershed has a dynamic geological history. After a millennia as part of the sea floor, the land was lifted through subduction, sedimentation and volcanism. The Missoula floods spilled south down the Willamette River channel and filled the valley with deep deposits of rich sedimentary soil. This rich soil supports a variety of commodities ranging from grass seed, grain, row crops, grapes, berries and nurseries.

The priority natural resource issues for this watershed are soil erosion affecting surface water quality, surface and ground water quality, wildlife habitat and increasing urbanization. The challenge is for producers to achieve profitable, sustainable agricultural production while maintaining and improving watershed health amid the growing pressure of urbanization.



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