

Minnesota Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

Voluntary conservation. Willing landowners. Conservation that works.



MN CREP creates and enhances grassland and wetland habitats, working with landowners to target environmentally sensitive land. Water quality benefits as a result. Private ownership continues in this federal-state partnership. Landowners simultaneously enroll in two voluntary conservation easement programs: the federally-funded Conservation Reserve Program, and the state-funded, BWSR-administered Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve Program. RIM permanently protects enrolled land. Landowners receive payments from both programs.



It's a good opportunity to get a fair payment on ground that would be idle and to do your part for resource conservation.

— Leroy VanWhye, Rock County landowner



It's the best use for the land, in the sense that you're taking a piece of ground that may be marginal and utilizing its full potential by restoring it.

— Steven Geis, Redwood County landowner



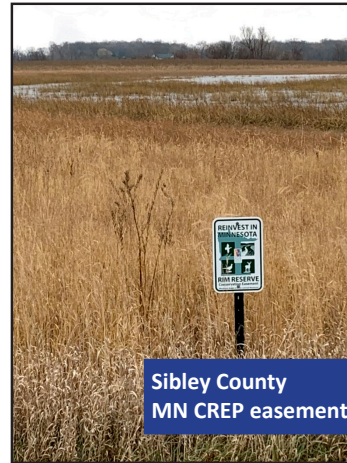
In addition to enjoying the habitat benefits, it also made sense for us financially. We really like that the payment was spread out over 15 years compared to a one-time payment.

— Wayne Nelson, Freeborn County landowner



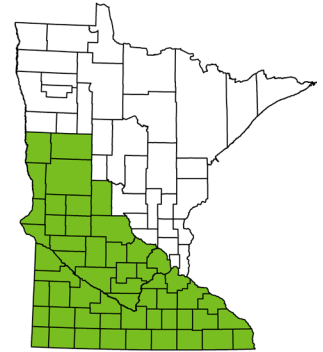


Otter Tail County MN CREP wetlands easement



Sibley County MN CREP easement

MN CREP Status



54-county MN CREP area in green

MN CREP Overview

- Prioritizes three conservation practices
 - Buffers,
 - Wetlands,
 - Wellheads for drinking water
- Voluntary approach using the Reinvest in MN (RIM) Reserve easement program and the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

MN CREP Funding

MN CREP is \$16.7 million away from meeting the state contribution of \$175 million, which makes \$350 million in federal matching funds available for direct payments to landowners.

MN CREP secured state contribution to date (in millions)

State funding for MN CREP (,000s)	Appropriated in past sessions	Remaining Need
Env. and Natural Resources Trust Fund (LCCMR)	\$19,500	-
Clean Water Fund	\$62,043	*\$1,207
Outdoor Heritage Fund	\$55,790	-
Capital Investment	**\$21,000	
Total	\$158,333	\$15,500

*Amount returned due to spring 2020 COVID budget projection

**This appropriation includes up to \$1 million for working lands easements

ACRES ENROLLED:
More than 31,000 to date

APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED: 776
applications submitted to date totaling \$303 million in requests.

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