

The Economic Impact of Conservation Funding

2021 IMPLAN Report Results



The 2021 IMPLAN Report

When a landowner enters into a Farm Bill agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) or a state-funded agreement with one of its partners, the entire community benefits. This is demonstrated in the IMPLAN report for NRCS Minnesota and its partners' conservation work in 2021. To get an accurate picture of the economic impact of conservation funding, NRCS Minnesota, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), and local Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) worked together to find an answer.

What is IMPLAN?

IMPLAN is an economic impact analysis and modeling program that measures the economic impact of actions taken by government agencies, business and other institutions to understand their direct and indirect effects in an area.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service utilizes IMPLAN to understand how it and its partners' financial assistance benefits not just producers, but their surrounding communities. The 2021 IMPLAN report has just recently been completed.

Results

In 2021, NRCS Minnesota, BWSR, and local SWCDs spent \$228,448,531 on conservation programs. Some of this money left the state for a variety of reasons, but when all said and done, \$186,916,423, over 80 percent, directly benefited the Minnesota economy.

This influx of funding in Minnesota, through direct effects (such as buying cover crop seed) and indirect effects (such as a seed supplier buying gas) resulted in an output of \$413,692,920 generated in Minnesota from conservation-related expenditures. This meant that for every \$1 spent by the NRCS and its partners, \$1.81 was generated in the local economy. This funding also supported new jobs for Minnesotans. According to the analysis, 2,527 jobs were supported in 2021 as a result of conservation expenditures.

Whatever numbers you pull from the IMPLAN report, one thing is clear throughout: conservation work amounts to substantial benefits for the state of Minnesota. Yes, the work landowners do with the NRCS and its partners helps the land and improves the efficiency of individual agricultural operations; but it does so much more than that. It puts money in the pockets of Minnesotans across the state.

\$228,448,531

Spent on conservation programs

\$413,692,920

Output into the Minnesota economy

\$1.81

Generated for every \$1 spent

2,527

Jobs supported

Conservation Expenditure and Total Output

