



2014 Farm Bill Summary

CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

The 2014 Farm Bill makes substantial investments (\$57.6 billion over 10 years) in key conservation programs. As a whole, the programs are streamlined and consolidated to increase efficiency. The farm bill continues to promote healthier soils, water, and air while maintaining the productivity of farmland.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Throughout the life of the 2014 Farm Bill, CRP acreage will be gradually reduced from the current 32 million acres to 24 million acres in 2018 – a 25 percent reduction.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

As it has throughout the life of the program, EQIP will provide technical and financial assistance to farmers and ranchers for various conservation practices.

- Each year, 60 percent of EQIP funds will be used for assistance to livestock producers.
- The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) will be merged into EQIP.
- WHIP participants are guaranteed at least five percent of total EQIP funding.
- WHIP provides support for farmers to create wildlife habitats on their farms.

CRP Acreage Caps

Year	Acreage
Current	32 million acres
2014	27.5 million acres
2015	26 million acres
2016	26 million acres
2017	24 million acres
2018	24 million acres

EQIP Funding Levels

Year	Funding
2014	\$1.35 billion
2015	\$1.6 billion
2016	\$1.6 billion
2017	\$1.65 billion
2018	\$1.75 billion

Conservation Stewardship Program: a working-lands program that pays farmers for conservation benefits.

- Caps the program at 10 million acres per year.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP): A new program that combines the Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative and the Agricultural Water Enhancement Program. The RCPP creates a merit-based system that targets specific vulnerable areas, such as the Great Lakes.

- \$100 million in mandatory funding over 5 years.

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP):

- Consolidates Grassland Reserve Program, Wetlands Reserve Program, and Farm and Ranch Protection Program.
- Provides funding authority for ten years, so that funding is available if the bill is extended.
- Total funding level of \$2.025 billion through 2018.