



Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278

June 17, 2004

INDIANA BULLETIN NO. IN 300-4-4

SUBJECT: LTP- Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) and Floodplain
Easement Program (FEP) Ranking and Restoration Costs

Purpose: To provide program update, easement and restoration cap information.

Expiration Date: September 30, 2005

The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) and Floodplain Easement Program (FEP) continue to be of high interest to Indiana landowners. Indiana currently has 44,165 acres enrolled in these programs. In Fiscal Year 2004, Indiana has funded 74 applications totaling 5,720 acres. Additional funding of applications is still possible in 2004. Field offices are encouraged to submit completed applications to the WRP Coordinator. Indiana has a backlog of 112 WRP applicants for 3,372 acres and 18 FEP applicants representing 2,026 acres. Funding has not been received for the FEP Program. The maximum cap for permanent WRP easements and FEP easements is \$2000 per acre or the appraised value of the easement, whichever is lower. Thirty-year WRP easements are paid at \$1500 per acre or 75% of the appraised value, whichever is lower. The WRP and FEP ranking forms had minor changes to the easement cost factor and T&E section, see attachment 1 and 2. Attachment 3 provides guidance for the WRP ranking form. The following restoration rates will be used and applied in fiscal year 2004 funded applications for both WRP and FEP Programs.

The maximum restoration cost per acre is increased to \$750 per acre or the actual costs whichever is lower. Restoration work which would exceed the \$750 per acre cap requires approval from the State Conservationist prior to beginning restoration activities.

Actual costs not to exceed a given amount.

Tree Planting (612) - \$400 per acre which includes, \$60 per acre prior year site preparation \$220 per acre for seedlings, planting, herbicide and \$120 for two years (\$60 per year) of weed control (herbicide)

Containerized Stock - \$400 per acre, includes tree, planting and herbicide costs

Conservation Cover (327) - \$200 per acre includes
Site preparation, fertilizer, lime, seeding and planting

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.

Restoration & Management - \$400 per acre for all costs associated with planting of Declining Habitats (643) of prairie and savanna habitat, \$660 per acre for all costs associated with the planting of sedge meadow

Wetland Restoration (657) - Earthwork for dikes, levees, macro and microtopography is \$4.00 per lineal foot. Includes earthwork, seeding, fertilizer, lime and mulching.

Tile blocks (breaking of tile) is \$200 per tile break.

Ditch plugs will remain at \$750 per plug. Woody debris placement is \$50 per tree placed

Water Control Structures with associated inlet and outlet pipe will be paid at area average costs for the particular structure type and pipe size.

This information is provided as a guide. Earthwork costs for wetland restoration may vary due to site-specific conditions and should be reviewed on a case by case basis.

Restoration work on permanent easements are paid at 100% of actual costs by NRCS, while 30 year easements and restoration only contracts are paid at the 75% rate of actual costs. These payments can not exceed the above-identified rates for individual practices.

Attachment 4 is a checklist of required WRP application materials. This checklist should be completed and attached to materials submitted to the WRP Coordinator. Incomplete packets of material will not be funded until checklist items are submitted.

If you have questions concerning the Wetlands Reserve Program or the Floodplain Easement Program, please contact Gerald Roach, WRP Coordinator, at the Scottsburg Field Office at (812) 752-2269 Ext. 3.

/S/

JANE E. HARDISTY
State Conservationist

Cc: USFWS, Bloomington, IN
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