



2002 Floodplain Easements - Emergency Watershed Protection

Program Focus — Floodplain easements are purchased on land that is at high-risk for, and subject to, repeated flood damage. In Indiana, floodplain easements are along the major river systems (Ohio, White, and Wabash). The program puts emphasis on protecting and developing contiguous parcels of land. Often the Wetlands Reserve Program can be used in conjunction with the Floodplain Easement Program to restore large riparian areas to their natural condition prior to being cleared and drained for agriculture. Restoration measures are more often vegetative (tree planting) than structural. One FEP site in Gibson County is 1,120 acres in size. Restoration on this site will provide significant benefits for flood protection and wildlife.

Indiana Summary

Overview

The Floodplain Easement Program (FEP) is used to acquire easements on land that is at high risk of repeated flood damages including crop loss, building loss, and related high repair costs. The high costs of recovering from repeated damages makes it practical to establish FEP easements as an alternative to traditional Emergency Watershed Protection construction approaches.

Accomplishments

There are 3,176 acres enrolled in FEP in Indiana. The easements are on the land of 23 private landowners in eight counties. Restoration techniques include tree planting, warm season grass planting, shallow water development, ditch plugs and tile breaks.

Program Benefits

Benefits include reducing public risk of flood damages; protecting lives and property from flooding; reducing soil erosion and improving water quality; eliminating future disaster payments; restoring protecting and enhancing wetlands and riparian areas; and conserving fish and wildlife habitats. Participating landowners receive an easement payment to restore these areas to their natural condition.

State Contact

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Indiana EWP-FEP Dollars and Contracts

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2002		Cumulative Total (95-02)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 1	-	-	-	-
District 2	-	-	-	-
District 3	-	-	-	-
District 4	-	-	-	-
District 5	-	-	-	-
District 6	-	-	-	-
District 7	-	-	-	-
District 8	-	-	3,864,694.00	20
District 9	-	-	222,040.00	3
State Totals	-	-	4,086,734.00	23

Indiana EWP-FEP Request Backlog-Dollars and Number of Applications

Congressional Districts	As of February 20, 2003	
	Requested Dollars	Number of Applications
District 1	-	-
District 2	61,200.00	1
District 3	56,200.00	1
District 4	700,100.00	2
District 5	-	-
District 6	-	-
District 7	-	-
District 8	3,347,200.00	14
District 9	227,200.00	2
State Totals	4,391,900.00	20

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