

# 2002 Wetlands Reserve Program



**Program Focus — The Wetlands Reserve Program was created as a voluntary land-retirement program and is designed to assist eligible landowners in restoring and protecting wetlands.**

**WRP work in Indiana includes the restoration of vegetation and shallow water. Vegetative restoration includes tree and warm season grass plantings. Shallow water restoration includes practices such as macrotopography development, ditch plugs, tile breaks, dikes, and water control structures. The restoration work is done with landowners providing input on needed restoration practices.**

**Indiana has two very large WRP projects. The Wilder Project in Greene County which encompasses 7,200 acres and the Kankakee Sands Project in Newton County which covers 2,800 acres. These sites will provide significant resting and nesting sites for a variety of migratory waterfowl shore-birds, amphibians and reptiles.**

## Indiana Summary

### Overview

The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) is a voluntary program that offers landowners the means and opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property. Through WRP we offer landowners payment for conservation easements plus technical and financial assistance for restoration activities. The WRP restorations aid in flood control and ground water recharge, improve water quality, and improve migratory bird and wildlife habitat.

### Accomplishments

There are 31,006 acres enrolled in the Wetlands Reserve Program in Indiana. This represents 261 private landowners in 44 counties. Restorations have been completed using various techniques including tree planting, macrotopography development, ditch plugs, tile cuts, and water control structures.

### Program Benefits

Wetland restoration reduces downstream flooding and improves water quality. It also provides breeding, nesting and feeding habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds and other wetland dependent animal species. Restored sites provide habitat for threatened and endangered species, such as, the copperbelly water snake, bald eagle, and Indiana bat. Participating landowners receive an easement payment to restore these areas to their natural condition.

### State Contact

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## Indiana WRP Dollars and Contracts

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2002		Cumulative Total (94-02)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 1	1,173,471.00	3	3,761,149.00	9
District 2	4,104,375.00	4	5,397,160.00	30
District 3	532,500.00	5	1,534,587.00	35
District 4	149,315.00	2	518,184.00	5
District 5	-	-	1,185,332.00	10
District 6	-	-	-	-
District 7	-	-	16,275.00	1
District 8	3,981,918.00	7	23,140,818.00	117
District 9	377,550.00	4	3,381,209.00	54
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>10,319,129.00</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>38,934,714.00</b>	<b>261</b>

## Indiana WRP Request Backlog-Dollars and Number of Applications

Congressional Districts	As of February 20, 2003	
	Requested Dollars	Number of Applications
District 1	972,500.00	6
District 2	1,205,400.00	16
District 3	1,983,915.00	20
District 4	236,800.00	2
District 5	-	-
District 6	304,310.00	4
District 7	58,200.00	1
District 8	5,545,375.00	39
District 9	1,439,100.00	17
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>11,745,600.00</b>	<b>105</b>

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