2002 Farm Bill Programs

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USDA-NRCS
Environmental Quality Incentives Program

• Provides assistance to farmers and ranchers who face threats to soil, water, air, and related natural resources on their land
Environmental Quality Incentives Program

• Conservation practices include:
  – Irrigation improvement
  – Soil erosion
  – Wildlife habitat
  – Grasslands

• The cost-sharing may be 50% and an additional 10-15% is available for beginning farmers and limited resource producer
  – Beginning farmer
  – Limited resource producer
Conservation Reserve Program

• A 10 year contract with the USDA
• The program encourages farmers to convert highly erodible cropland or other environmentally sensitive acreage to vegetative cover, such as introduced or native grass species
• Must have adequate vegetative cover with the option of planting shrubs and trees for wildlife habitat
• Weed control is mandatory and is primarily achieved by chemical, mechanical or biological treatment
• Livestock grazing is exempt (except under new contracts, grazing and haying may be done with reduced payments)
Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

- Encourages creation of high quality wildlife habitats that support wildlife population of National, State, Tribal, and local significance
- NRCS places emphasis on enrolling:
  - Habitats for wildlife species experiencing declining or reducing populations
  - Practices beneficial to fish and wildlife that may not otherwise be funded
  - Wildlife and fishery habitats identified by local and State partners and Indian tribes in each state
Resource Conservation and Development

- Program objectives address improving the quality of life, including social, economic, and environmental concerns
- Directed by a locally elected council that implements natural resource protection and wise use accelerated economic and/or improvement of social conditions
Thank you..

Any Question??