

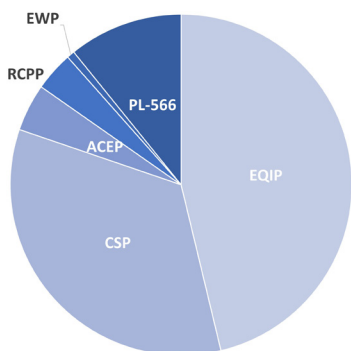
At-a-Glance

Arkansas NRCS • February 2024
 State Conservationist Mike Sullivan
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FY 23



FY23 TOTAL PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS



ACEP	\$7.42 M	395 AC	3 easements
CSP	\$56.2 M	397,033 AC	469 contracts
EQIP	\$76.5 M	232,609 AC	1,559 contracts
RCPP	\$6.16 M	11,425 AC	113 contracts
EWP	\$1.21 M	—	3 projects
PL-566	\$17.9 M	—	4 projects
TOTAL	\$165.39 M	641,463 AC	2,151

Note: This graphic is based on contract obligations as listed below.

EQIP—Environmental Quality Incentives Program

Active Contracts: 2,538 Acres: 502,046
 New Contracts: 1,559 Acres: 232,609
 Obligations: \$76,589,936

CSP—Conservation Stewardship Program

Active Contracts: 818 Acres: 1,856,664
 New Contracts: 469 Acres: 397,033
 Obligations: \$56,297,817

ACEP—Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

Easements: 3 Acres: 395
 Obligations: \$7,428,334

RCPP—Regional Conservation Partnership Program

Contracts: 113 Acres: 11,425
 Obligations: \$6,164,084

EQIP—Environmental Quality Incentives Program

SUB ACCOUNT	CONTRACTS	ACRES	OBLIGATIONS
Beginning Farmer/Rancher	7	834	\$1.1 M
Climate Change	17	2,685	\$1 M
Conservation Incentive Contracts	58	11,402	\$2.8 M
Forest Service Partnership	21	7,507	\$3.9 M
IRA	57	14,996	\$4.7 M
Limited Resource Farmer/Rancher	1	135	\$214 K
Locally Led	598	86,452	\$21.1 M
MRBI	203	38,766	\$15 M
National Water Quality	27	3,224	\$1.5 M
On-Farm Energy	175	6,179	\$6.4 M
Planning	12	6,563	\$48.9 K
Socially Disadvantaged	35	2,696	\$3 M
State	158	7,330	\$7.4 M
Strike Force Initiative	48	5,199	\$2.3 M
Urban Ag/Small Scale	22	173	\$502 K
Wildlife 10%	120	38,460	\$8.7 M
Migratory Bird Resurgent Initiative	56		\$6.9 M



In FY23, Arkansas NRCS worked with more than 200 partners to help put conservation on the ground.

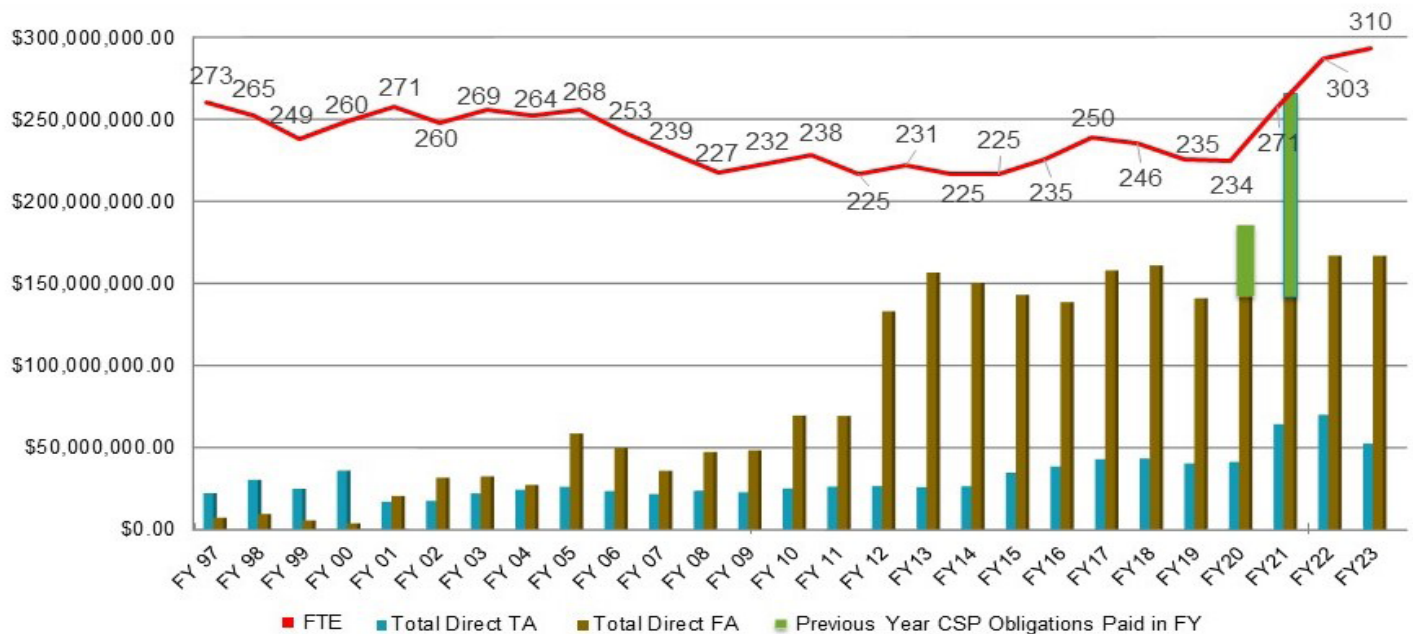
Ongoing Program Workload—Active Contracts, Easements

EQIP: 4,097 contracts
 CSP: 1,287 contracts
 ACEP/WRP: 756 easements

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Total Direct Technical Assistance (TA), Financial Assistance (FA) and Full-Time Equivalents (FTE) FY 1997 through FY 2023 Allocations



USDA NRCS Announces Nearly \$15 Million Available to Protect and Improve Migratory Bird Habitat

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) invested nearly \$15 million nationally to support agricultural producers, through the EQIP - Migratory Bird Resurgence Initiative (MBRI). EQIP is NRCS' flagship conservation program that helps farmers, ranchers and forest landowners integrate conservation into working lands. The 2018 Farm Bill authorized NRCS to create the MBRI due to a pressing need for migratory bird species. MBRI is aimed at preserving, protecting, and improving habitat for migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, neotropicals and other avian species in the Prairie Pothole Region and in key portions of the Pacific, Mississippi, and Central Flyways.

“Creating habitat on private lands in Arkansas’s flyways is vital in sustaining our migratory bird populations as well as building climate resiliency and carbon stewardship on working lands,” said NRCS Arkansas State Conservationist Mike Sullivan. “Providing migratory birds with more areas to nest and additional food and resting areas for overwintering will lead to improved habitat that not only benefits wildlife but will result in greater natural resource conservation.”

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC) conducted similar efforts through the Arkansas Waterfowl Rice Incentive Conservation Enhancement program. The objectives from AGFC’s program and MBRI align by providing cost-share incentives to enhance habitat for migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, neotropical migrants, and other avian species.

“The practices we are focusing on in Arkansas are similar to some of the conservation practices we have already been doing for the (Waterfowl Rice Initiative Conservation Enhancement) program,” Bubba Groves, private land biologist in the AGFC’s Monticello Regional Office, said. “Except this practice will apply statewide and can be used on other agricultural lands than rice production. There’s also no expectation of providing any public hunting opportunities, this is strictly about flooding fields in winter for waterfowl and other migratory birds who depend on this type of habitat.”

In Arkansas, there were 600 applicants and over \$60 million in demand, which resulted in 56 contracts and \$6.9 million obligated.





NRCS FY 2023 Financial Assistance by Arkansas Congressional Districts



Congressional District 1

COUNTY	TOTAL FY23 FA
ARKANSAS	\$3,647,938
BAXTER	\$294,871
CHICOT	\$5,517,867
CLAY	\$1,323,453
CLEBURNE	\$667,123
CRAIGHEAD	\$5,232,312
CRITTENDEN	\$1,037,552
CROSS	\$4,694,506
DESHA	\$8,261,602
FULTON	\$793,350
GREENE	\$4,713,742
INDEPENDENCE	\$1,315,899
IZARD	\$764,090
JACKSON	\$2,151,706
JEFFERSON	\$652,176
LAWRENCE	\$7,983,215
LEE	\$3,147,254
LINCOLN	\$2,813,951
LONOKE	\$4,177,579
MISSISSIPPI	\$4,630,763
MONROE	\$4,168,538
PHILLIPS	\$6,360,827
POINSETT	\$2,443,819
PRAIRIE	\$3,084,118
RANDOLPH	\$1,731,176
SEARCY	\$406,809
SHARP	\$1,435,915
ST. FRANCIS	\$9,810,479
STONE	\$955,036
WOODRUFF	\$2,508,120
TOTAL	\$96,725,786

Congressional District 2

COUNTY	TOTAL FY23 FA
CONWAY	\$1,678,779
FAULKNER	\$1,536,043
PERRY	\$387,554
PULASKI	\$284,805
SALINE	\$103,760
VAN BUREN	\$263,177
WHITE	\$2,588,004
TOTAL	\$6,842,122

Congressional District 3

COUNTY	TOTAL FY23 FA
BENTON	\$910,995
BOONE	\$453,526
CARROLL	\$1,402,371
CRAWFORD	\$69,788
MARION	\$246,785
NEWTON	\$80,277
POPE	\$1,578,437
SEARCY	\$58,115
SEBASTIAN	\$174,539
WASHINGTON	\$1,268,309
TOTAL	\$6,730,229

Date Source: ProTracts — February 2024

Includes: Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Conservation Stewardship Program, Agricultural Conservation Easement Program and Regional Conservation Partnership Program.

Figures in blue denote counties with two Congressional Districts.

Congressional District 4

COUNTY	TOTAL FY23 FA
ASHLEY	\$1,484,785
BRADLEY	\$342,229
CALHOUN	\$271,894
CLARK	\$514,599
CLEVELAND	\$729,835
COLUMBIA	\$933,578
CRAWFORD	\$69,788
DALLAS	\$138,424
DREW	\$1,008,402
FRANKLIN	\$771,285
GARLAND	\$36,197
GRANT	\$542,206
HEMPSTEAD	\$1,067,336
HOT SPRING	\$249,785
HOWARD	\$893,208
JEFFERSON	\$1,304,353
JOHNSON	\$526,378
LAFAYETTE	\$1,670,686
LITTLE RIVER	\$1,088,046
LOGAN	\$941,474
MADISON	\$594,708
MILLER	\$699,945
MONTGOMERY	\$225,912
NEVADA	\$1,183,642
NEWTON	\$160,555
OUACHITA	\$586,855
PIKE	\$349,836
POLK	\$1,129,394
SCOTT	\$132,624
SEBASTIAN	\$174,539
SEVIER	\$1,408,216
UNION	\$661,331
YELL	\$1,184,655
TOTAL	\$23,076,700



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