

North Dakota Conservation Forage Program (CFP)



The North Dakota Conservation Forage Program (CFP) will begin accepting applications starting on November 15, 2021.

Mission

CFP partners with North Dakota's producers to convert marginal crop lands back to grasslands to improve forage availability and quality. By providing support through financial and technical assistance to landowners, CFP aims to accelerate grassland establishment across the state.

Objective

The North Dakota Conservation Forage Program aims to improve forage availability and quality, soil health, and wildlife habitat by restoring and integrating grazing and haying land management techniques on privately owned land.

Resources Available

- 3-year transition payments
- 60% forage seed mix cost share*
- 50% grazing infrastructure cost share*

*Cost share reimbursements are based off of and cannot exceed 2020 NRCS Field Office Technical Guide rates.



Application Process

Collaborate with a technical service provider to complete the North Dakota Conservation Program producer application form.

Contact information by region can be found in the North Dakota Conservation Forage Program producer guide to enrollment.

The North Dakota Conservation Forage Program "moves us in the direction of true innovation, keeping the working land working, knowing we can provide something for wildlife and those who enjoy driving in the countryside and seeing all the great things we see and sometimes take for granted as farmers and ranchers." - Daryl Lies, ND Farm Bureau

Applicant's Responsibilities

- **Commit:** selected projects will enter into a project agreement with Audubon Dakota committing to maintain enrolled land in grassland habitat for at least 10 years from the signing date.
- **Plan:** work with an Audubon representative or project partner biologist, to develop an establishment management plan. Plans will include site preparation, seed composition, seeding rate, timing, and post-planting management.
- **Implement:** complete seeding and any infrastructure installation.
- **Manage:** monitor and actively manage, which may include practices such as: weed control, haying, resting, and prescribed burning.

