Conservation Forage Program:

Goal:
Audubon Dakota's Conservation Forage Program (CFP) is designed for North Dakota's producers to restore marginal crop lands back to grasslands to improve forage availability and quality for grassland birds. The CFP aims to accelerate grassland restoration and recover overall soil health and grassland bird habitat across the state.

Eligibility Requirements:
• No minimum requirement of land ownership
• Land capability classes between a score of 4 through 8 on at least 25% of the priority given to land that meets that classification
• Cannot be enrolled in CRP to be enrolled in CFP
• Project area must be located in North Dakota, regardless of owner’s address
• Currently cropland (no minimum number of years)

Payments*:
• Based on the most recently published NASS rate for the year enrolled for your county (Cash rental rate for non-irrigated cropland for your county)
• Cost share assistance: Provided to participants who establish approved cover on eligible land.
  • Includes 60% of actual forage seed-mix cost based off EQIP Rates for 2020
  • Includes 50% of grazing infrastructure.

Conservation Reserve Program

Goal:
The long-term goal of the program is to re-establish valuable land cover to help improve water quality, prevent soil erosion, and reduce loss of wildlife habitat.
Remove environmentally sensitive land from agriculture production and plant species that will improve environmental health and quality

Eligibility requirements (must meet one of the following):
• A producer must have owned or operated the land for at least 12 months prior
• Have a weighted average erosion index of eight or higher
• Be expiring CRP acres
• Be in national or state CRP conservation priority area
• Must have been crop land the past 3-5 years

Payments:
Rental Payment: rates are based on the relative productivity of the soils within each county and the average dryland cash rent subject to a statutory 85 percent proration.
Cost-Share Assistance: provided to participants who establish approved cover on eligible land. Cannot exceed 50% of the participant’s costs to establish approved practices.

Audubon Dakota and partners provide a technical assistance partner and one-on-one planning to ensure your projects success.

Technical Assistance Partner – Either an Audubon Dakota staff member or one of our partners. The technical assistance partner is available to guide the process and answer any questions that come up.

“\nThe biggest benefit of enrolling in CFP is the flexibility it offers beyond year 3 for producers to graze, hay, and otherwise manage their land."

- Josh Lefers, Audubon Dakota Working Lands Program Manager

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>CFP</th>
<th>CRP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term Agreement</td>
<td>10 Year</td>
<td>10-15 Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payments</td>
<td>3 Year Established*</td>
<td>Yearly Rental Payments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost Share</td>
<td>60% forage seed mix, 50% grazing infrastructure (perimeter fencing, water)</td>
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CFP vs. CRP

Why CFP?
CFP is less competitive than CRP. Landowners are able to use enrolled acres to produce forage and therefore income from grazing or haying.

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