

March 16, 2012

NRCS Announces Sign-up Period for Wetlands Reserve Program Deadline for Applications is March 30, 2012

Denver - The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) recently announced that **Friday, March 30, 2012** will be the deadline to submit applications to be considered for fiscal year 2012 funding for the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP).

“Wetlands support diverse populations of wildlife and plants,” said Phyllis Ann Philipps, NRCS State Conservationist, Colorado. *“WRP offers landowners an opportunity to establish long-term conservation and wildlife practices and protection.”*

Though conservation plans are not required in order to participate in any of the NRCS programs, it is strongly suggested that landowners develop one because, in doing so, it will provide them with an inventory and assessment of their resources and a right start to the enhancement and improvement of the quality of their soil, water, air, plants, and wildlife.

Landowners who participate in WRP voluntarily limit future use of the land but retain private ownership. The program offers landowners three enrollment options: Permanent or 30-year easements, or a restoration cost-share agreement.

For more information about WRP, visit our website at www.co.nrcs.usda.gov. You can also contact Dawn Jackson, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs, NRCS, Denver, at 720-544-2805, or email her at dawn.jackson@co.usda.gov.

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