

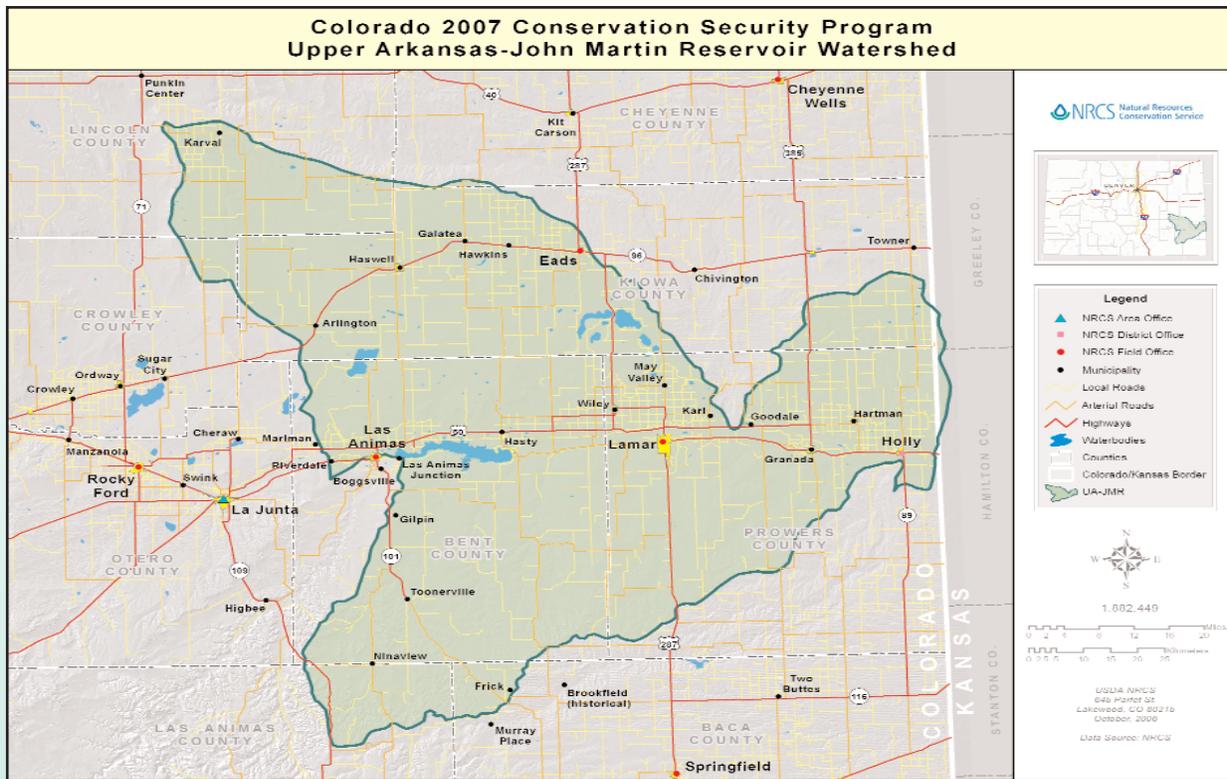
2007

# Conservation Security Program

# CSP

*Rewarding the Best...Motivating the Rest*

## Upper Arkansas-John Martin Reservoir Watershed



The **Upper Arkansas-John Martin Reservoir Watershed** was selected as a 2007 CSP priority watershed. The watershed covers 2,456,473 surface acres in southeastern Colorado and drains to the Arkansas River. It encompasses portions of eight Colorado counties, including Baca, Bent, Cheyenne, Crowley, Kiowa, Las Animas, Lincoln, and Prowers. A small portion of the watershed lies in southwestern Kansas. There are an estimated 846 farms in the watershed covering 1,925,255 acres. Agricultural land uses in the Upper Arkansas-John Martin Reservoir Watershed are irrigated cropland (9%), non-irrigated cropland (19%), and rangeland (72%). For more information, visit our website at [www.co.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/csp2007/csp2007.html](http://www.co.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/csp2007/csp2007.html)



**Helping People Help the Land**

## 2007 Conservation Security Program

**Benefits of CSP --** Through CSP, the conservation benefits gained will help farms and ranches be more economically and environmentally sustainable and will increase the natural resource benefits for all Americans.

### Basic Eligibility Criteria

The land must be privately owned or Tribal land with the majority of the land located in the Upper Arkansas-John Martin Reservoir Watershed.

The applicant must be in compliance with highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985, have an active interest in the agricultural operation, and show control of the land for the life of the contract.

The applicant must share in the risk of producing any crop or livestock and be entitled to a share in the crop or livestock marketed from the operation.

All applicants must meet minimum tier eligibility and contract requirements, plus any additional requirements in the sign-up announcement.

**Tier I** - The producer must have addressed water quality\* and soil quality\* to meet the minimum treatment requirements on **part** of the agricultural operation for the previous two crop years.

**Tier II** - The producer must have addressed water quality\* and soil quality\* to meet the minimum treatment requirements on the **entire** agricultural operation for the previous two crop years and agree to address one additional resource concern by the end of the contract period.

**Tier III** - The producer must have addressed **all** resource concerns on the **entire** agricultural operation for the previous two crop years and agree to **additional** enhancement activities outlined in the sign-up announcement.

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\* Water quality practices might include filter strips, grassed waterways, managed access to streams, nutrient and pest management, prescribed grazing, and irrigation water management.

\* Soil quality practices might include crop rotation, cover crops, conservation tillage, prescribed grazing, and adequate wind barriers.

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### CSP Contract Payments

*CSP Contract Payments include one or more of the following:*

- ♦ An annual stewardship component for the existing base level conservation treatment.
- ♦ An annual existing practice component for maintaining existing conservation practices.
- ♦ A one-time new practice component for additional practices.
- ♦ An enhancement component for exceptional conservation effort and additional conservation practices or activities that provide increased resource benefits beyond the prescribed level.

*Total payments are determined by the tier of participation:*

- ♦ **Tier I** contracts are for 5 years with a maximum payment of \$20,000 annually.
- ♦ **Tier II** contracts are for 5-10 years with a maximum payment of \$35,000 annually.
- ♦ **Tier III** contracts are for 5-10 years with a maximum payment of \$45,000 annually.

Visit [www.co.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/csp2007/csp2007.html](http://www.co.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/csp2007/csp2007.html) for more information.