



Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) For Private & Tribal Landowners

Overview

The Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) is a voluntary program to help landowners and operators protect eligible grazing lands, pastureland, and certain other lands using a conservation easement or rental contract.

The program emphasizes support for working grazing operations, enhancement of plant and animal biodiversity, and protection of grassland under threat of conversion to cropping, urban development, and other activities.

GRP is implemented jointly by the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Program funding comes through the Commodity Credit Corporation.



Land Eligibility

Privately owned and Tribal lands may be enrolled in GRP. The land must be grassland, which includes pastureland (including improved pastureland) and certain other lands. The offered land must:

- 1) Be part of a viable grazing operation,
- 2) Be under the threat of conversion to uses other than grazing, and
- 3) Have plant and animal biodiversity.



Enrollment Options

There is no minimum acreage for enrollment and the program offers:

- 1) A permanent easement - landowners may receive the lowest of fair market value, established payment cap, or amount offered by the landowner; or
- 2) Rental contracts - based on the fair market value of the land, less the grazing value. County rental rates are determined by FSA. Participants may choose: a 10-year, 15-year, or 20-year rental contract.

For More Information

If you need more information about GRP, please contact your local USDA-NRCS Service Center listed in the telephone book under U.S. Department of Agriculture or your local conservation district. Information is available on the Internet at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs> or <http://www.ms.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/>