



COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

POSTCARD AND LETTER OUTREACH

A MAJOR FOCUS FOR THE RWBJV THROUGHOUT THE LAST YEAR (2023) WAS ON POSTCARD AND LETTER OUTREACH.

PROGRAM FOCUS AREAS INCLUDED:

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

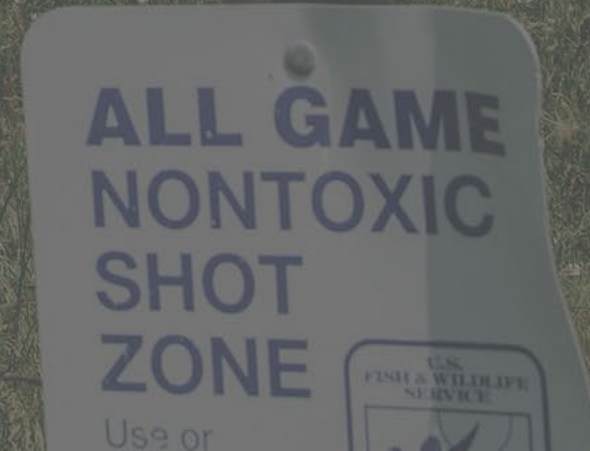
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

GREAT PLAINS GRASSLAND INITIATIVE

PRESCRIBED FIRE AND WOODY ENCROACHMENT

PIT FILLS

WETLAND RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PARTNERSHIP



INFLATION REDUCTION ACT | POSTCARD AND LETTER

51,110
POSTCARDS

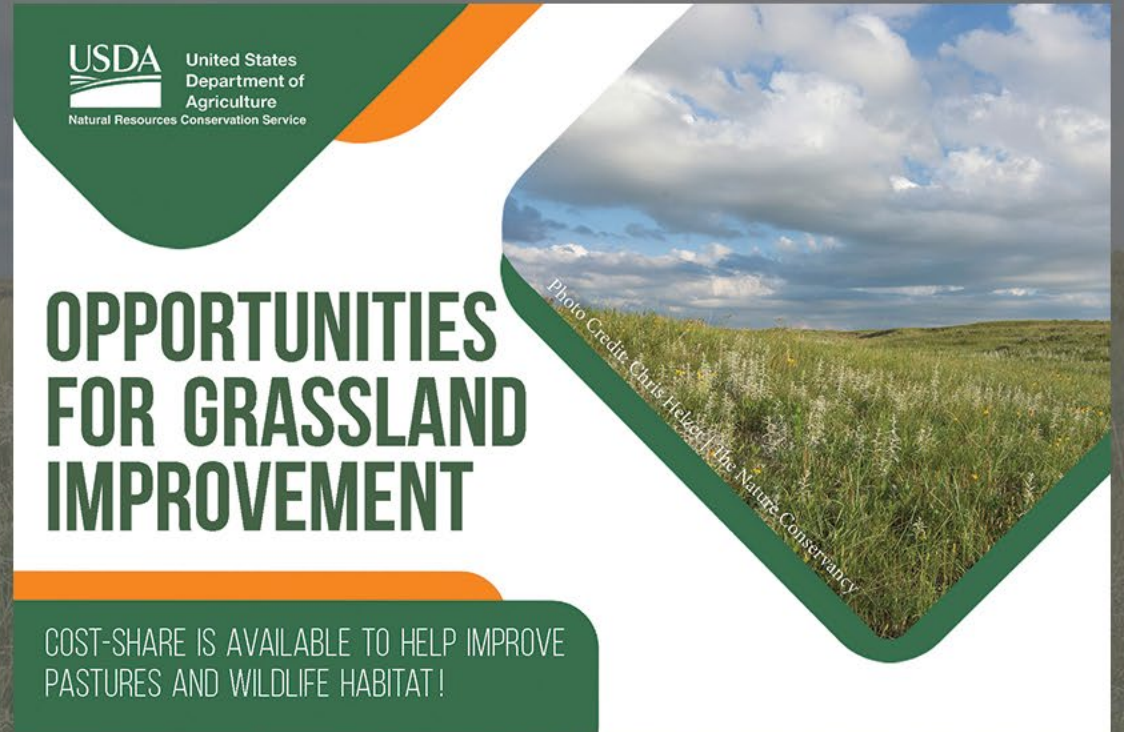
19,902
EMAILS



EQIP - LOWER LOUP AND MIDDLE REPUBLICAN NRD'S | POSTCARD

3,137
POSTCARDS
LOWER LOUP NRD

2,266
POSTCARDS
MIDDLE REPUBLICAN NRD



The image shows a postcard with a green and orange design. The top left corner features the USDA logo and the text "United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service". The main title is "OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRASSLAND IMPROVEMENT". Below the title, it says "COST-SHARE IS AVAILABLE TO HELP IMPROVE PASTURES AND WILDLIFE HABITAT!". The right side of the postcard features a photograph of a grassy field under a cloudy sky. A diagonal line separates the text from the photo, with the text "Photo Credit: Chris Heiser, The Nature Conservancy" written along it.

USDA United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRASSLAND IMPROVEMENT

COST-SHARE IS AVAILABLE TO HELP IMPROVE PASTURES AND WILDLIFE HABITAT!

Photo Credit: Chris Heiser, The Nature Conservancy

GPGI - LOWER LOUP AND MIDDLE REPUBLICAN NRD'S | POSTCARD

915
POSTCARDS
LOWER LOUP NRD

421
POSTCARDS
MIDDLE REPUBLICAN NRD



PRESCRIBED FIRE AND WOODY ENCROACHMENT | POSTCARDS

3344
LLNRD

1875
CPNRD

1107
TPNRD

966
TBNRD



OPPORTUNITIES FOR
PASTURE AND HABITAT
IMPROVEMENT

GRAZING DEFERMENT

CEDAR TREE REMOVAL

PRESCRIBED FIRE

CPNRD
CENTRAL PLATTE
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

TWIN PLATTE
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

Nehras
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

JOINT VENTURE

NRF

LOWERLOUP
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

The Basin
Natural Resources District



PIT FILL COST-SHARE | POSTCARDS

507
POSTCARDS

USDA
United States
Department of
Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

It's the Pits

**Funding Available
to Remove
Irrigation Reuse
Pits**




AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM | LETTERS AND EMAIL

2788
LETTERS

945
EMAILS

United States Department of Agriculture

 **USDA** **NRCS**

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Grand Island Area Office
703 S. Webb Road, Suite C
Grand Island, NE 68803
308-392-3508

www.NRCS.USDA.gov/Nebraska

August 17, 2023

Dear Landowner,

There is currently an open enrollment sign-up period for the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP). A tentative cutoff is set for October 1st, 2023. To ensure eligible producers are aware of this opportunity we wanted to provide you with an overview of the program ahead of the sign-up deadline.

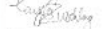
ACEP provides a variety of options for flood-prone cropland or wetland acres. The Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE) option compensates landowners at up to 95% of appraised land value for acres enrolled in ACEP – WRE. The wetland and associated upland buffer are restored to benefit wildlife, recharge the aquifer, and reduce runoff to minimize flood damage.

Another option is the Wetland Reserve Enhancement Partnership (WREP) easement option. This option allows landowners to retain the ability to pass a pivot over enrolled acres. This ensures enrolled acres do not negatively impact irrigation of the adjacent cropland acres. Like with the WRE option the landowner is compensated for enrolled acres and restoration costs.


With WREP options the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture partnership can provide 85% cost-share for infrastructure, such as fencing, livestock watering systems, pivot crossings in the fence, and pivot modifications to facilitate crossing the wetland (e.g., flotation tires) and improve irrigation efficiency (e.g. Variable Rate Irrigation components).

Visit your local NRCS field office or scan the QR code below for more information. If you have any questions or would like to set up a no obligation site review, please contact Kaycee Zuschlag to schedule a site visit or discuss the program.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

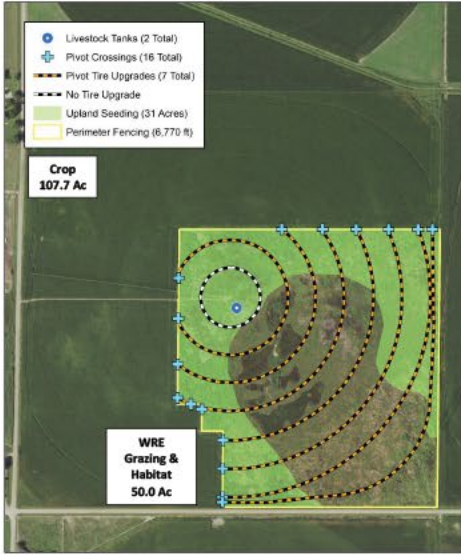
Sincerely,

Kaycee Zuschlag
Area Easement Specialist
308-392-3526

[LEARN MORE](#)



Helping People Help the Land
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Wetland Reserve Enhancement Partnership (WREP) Example




Legend:

- Livestock Tanks (2 Total)
- Pivot Crossings (16 Total)
- Pivot Tire Upgrades (7 Total)
- No Tire Upgrade
- Upland Seeding (31 Acres)
- Perimeter Fencing (6,770 ft)

Crop
107.7 Ac

WRE Grazing & Habitat
50.0 Ac

0 0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3 Miles



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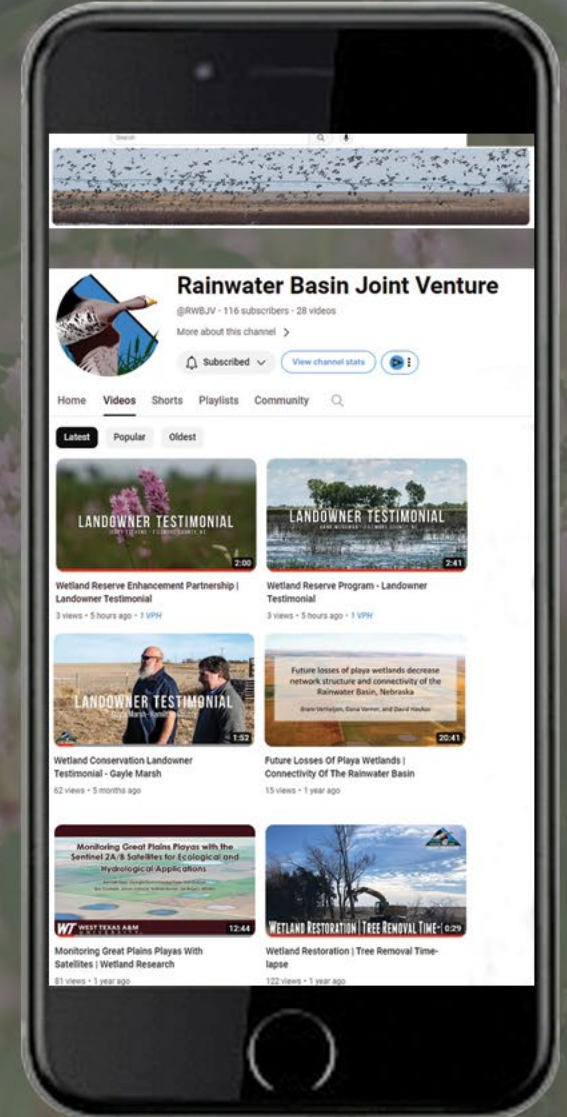
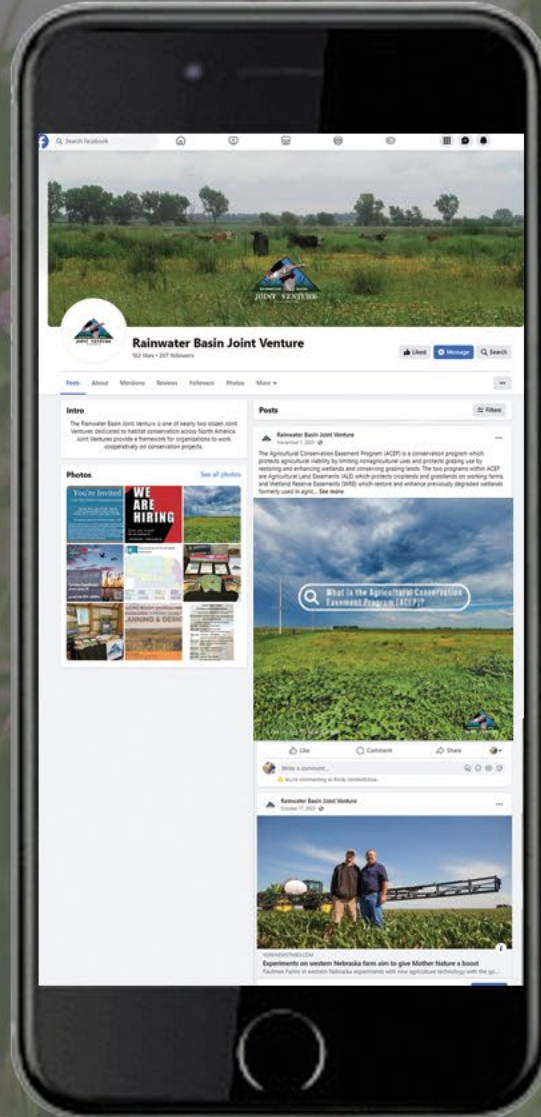
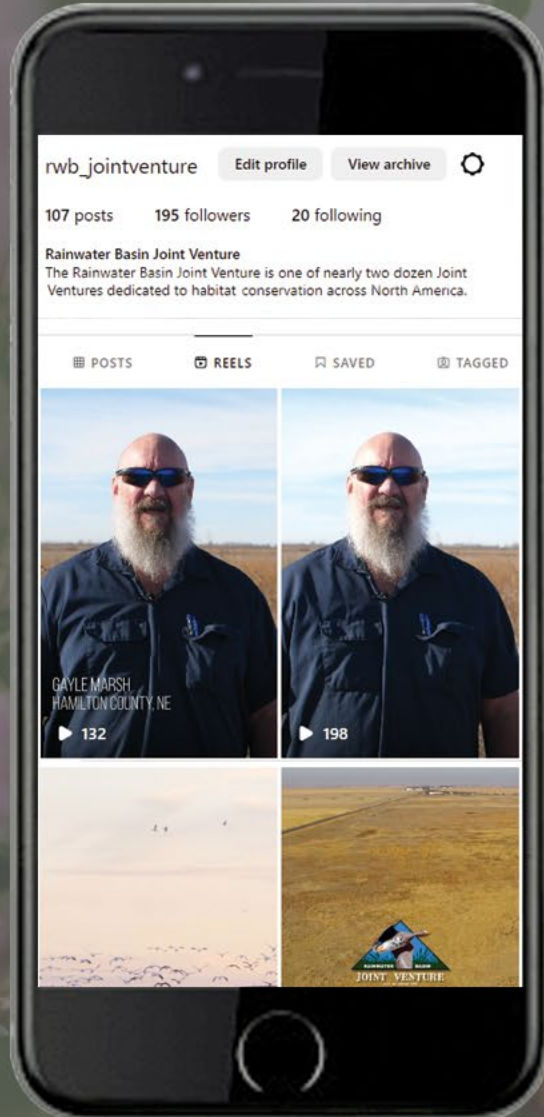
POSTCARD AND EMAIL OUTREACH TOTALS

65,648
LANDOWNER
POSTCARDS

5,663
LANDOWNER
LETTERS

22,690
LANDOWNER
EMAILS





OUTREACH MATERIALS



RAINWATER BASIN JOINT VENTURE

Balancing the needs of agriculture and conservation

OUR MISSION:
To support our agricultural communities while providing habitat conservation for millions of migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, and other wildlife through cooperation and sound science. We work with landowners, conservation agencies, researchers, agriculture associations, and others, in pursuit of our shared vision. Together we demonstrate that wildlife and agriculture can not only co-exist, but thrive together.

950,000 acres of wetlands and grasslands positively impacted by RWBJV partners on public and private lands in 2022

20 YEARS bringing private and public partners together to leverage resources



\$81 MILLION in on-the-ground habitat conservation leveraged by partners since 2006

10:1 ratio of leveraged funds to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service base funding allocation

ENTREPRENEURIAL APPROACH: Our business structure, Management Board composition, and diverse financial portfolio embodies our entrepreneurial approach to conservation.

NON-REGULATORY SOLUTIONS: We support voluntary, strategic, and highly organized conservation to prevent the need for regulatory actions.

PROVEN MODEL: Our strategic, partnership-driven approach and demonstrated track record of success serves as a conservation model for the future.

PROFITABLE OPERATIONS: Seamless adoption of conservation solutions into working farm and ranch operations to help provide wildlife habitat, increased profitability, and improved water quality and quantity.


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E. information@rwbjv.org

www.facebook.com/RWBJV




www.instagram.com/rwb_jointventure/

www.youtube.com/@RWBJV

www.rwbjv.org



Essential Plant ID for Rainwater Basin Wetland Landowners



AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE



VALENTINE WILDLIFE REFUGE TIMELAPSE CAMERAS

2 TIMELAPSE CAMERAS DOCUMENTING
THE REMOVAL OF EASTERN RED CEDAR
ON VALENTINE WILDLIFE REFUGE



RAINWATER BASIN LANDOWNER TESTIMONIALS

GAYLE MARSH - HAMILTON COUNTY

HANK MCGOWAN - FILLMORE COUNTY

JERRY STEVENS - FILLMORE COUNTY

