

**Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)  
Report To  
Pappio-Missouri River NRD Board  
July 12, 2012  
Neil Jensen, District Conservationist**



**Missouri River Conservation Cover Special Initiative Announced**

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced that funding is available to assist farmers and ranchers whose agricultural land suffered severe damage during last year's flooding along the Missouri River. Applications for these funds are due at NRCS offices by close of business on July 25.

This assistance is available to agricultural lands in five states - Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and South Dakota - impacted by the 2011 flood on either side of the Missouri River from Ft. Randall Dam to St. Louis, MO. Within the five states, over 450,000 cropland acres were impacted by the 2011 flood. Nebraska had an estimated 104,415 acres impacted. The most significant impacts to cropland were sand deposition and scouring from the abnormally long flood period.

In Nebraska, NRCS has \$50,000 available to assist those with severely damaged ag land in the following fourteen counties: Boyd, Burt, Cass, Cedar, Dakota, Dixon, Douglas, Knox, Nemaha, Otoe, Richardson, Sarpy, Thurston, and Washington. The NRCS will provide financial and technical assistance to install conservation practices that will help stabilize areas with heavy sand deposits. Conservation practices available from NRCS include: cover crops, range planting, no-till, and tree/shrub establishment.

There are several conservation practices that can help stabilize areas severely impacted by the flooding. When implemented, they will provide stable vegetation for reclaimed cropland or other grassland communities and prevent erosion.

Interested applicants should visit their local NRCS field office located in the USDA Service Center before the July 25 deadline.

## **Additional Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) Funds Become Available.**



Additional funding in the amount of \$150,000 has been received by the field offices in the Papio-Missouri River NRD. Money is being targeted to erosion control on cropland. Practices include terraces, underground outlets and critical area planting.



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