



NRCS Inflation Reduction Act

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FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center



NRCS – Helping People Help the Land

Mission Statement

We deliver conservation solutions so agricultural producers can protect natural resources and feed a growing world.



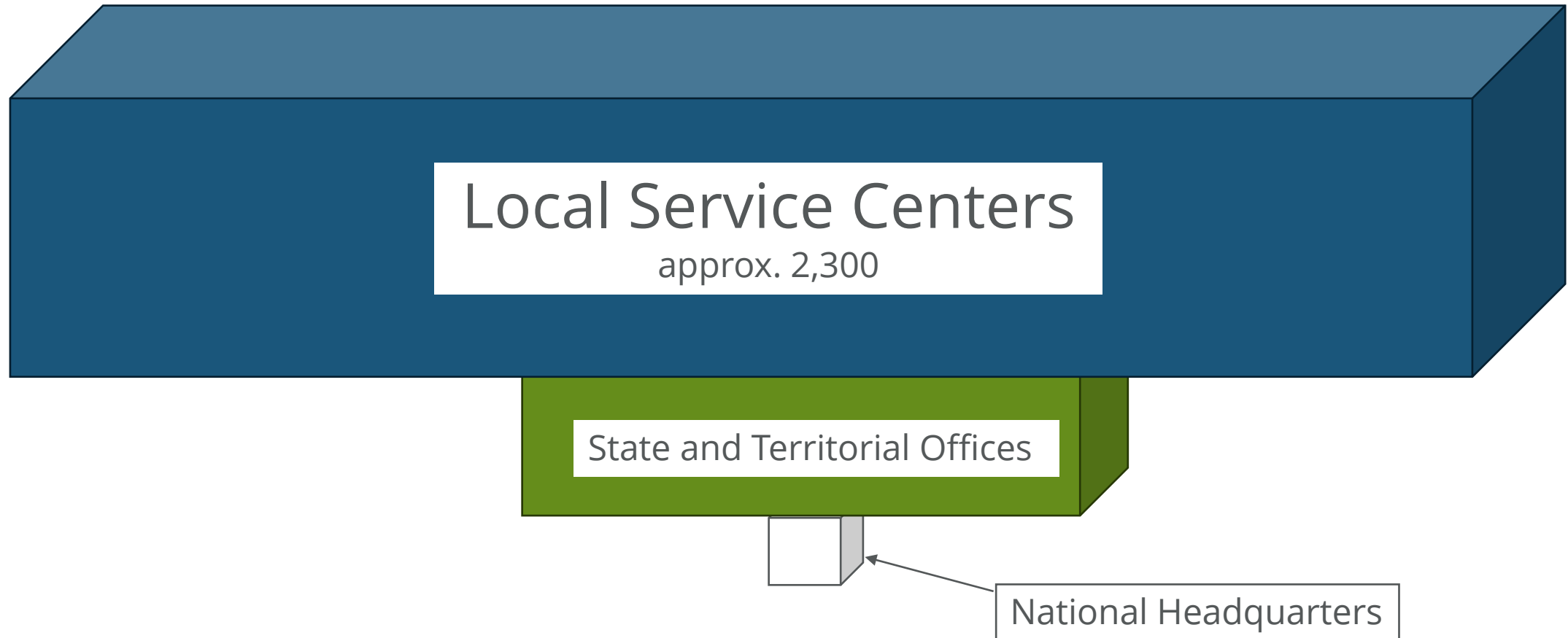
It all starts with the Customer's Land


NRCS provides one-on-one, personalized advice on solutions to meet the unique conservation and business goals of those who grow our nation's food and fiber.

NRCS helps people make investments in their operations and local communities to keep working lands working, boost rural economies, increase the competitiveness of American agriculture, and improve the health of our air, water, soil, and habitat.

NRCS generates, manages, and shares the data, conservation technology and standards to assist customers make informed decisions.

Locally Led Conservation

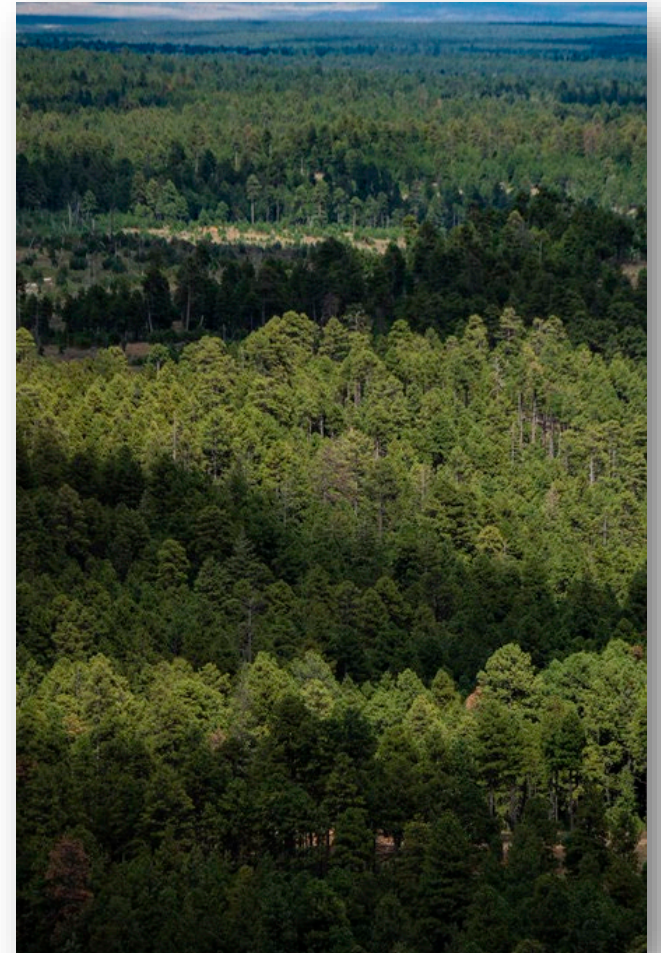


An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. In the center, a small farmstead with several buildings is situated on a green hillside. The surrounding area consists of rolling hills with various green fields, some of which appear to be planted in crops like corn. The landscape is partially shrouded in a thick layer of white mist or fog, particularly in the lower and background areas, creating a soft, ethereal atmosphere. The sky is a pale, hazy blue.

NRCS invested an average of over \$15.5 million every day in FY2024 into conservation systems that treat natural resource issues while helping customer's operations stay profitable and productive.

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)

- IRA does not create any new programs
- IRA provides NRCS with \$19.5 billion in **additional** funds for its **existing** conservation programs
 - Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
 - Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
 - Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)
 - Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
 - Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA).
- IRA invests \$300 million to support USDA's broader Measuring, Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MMRV) efforts.



A Foundation in Science

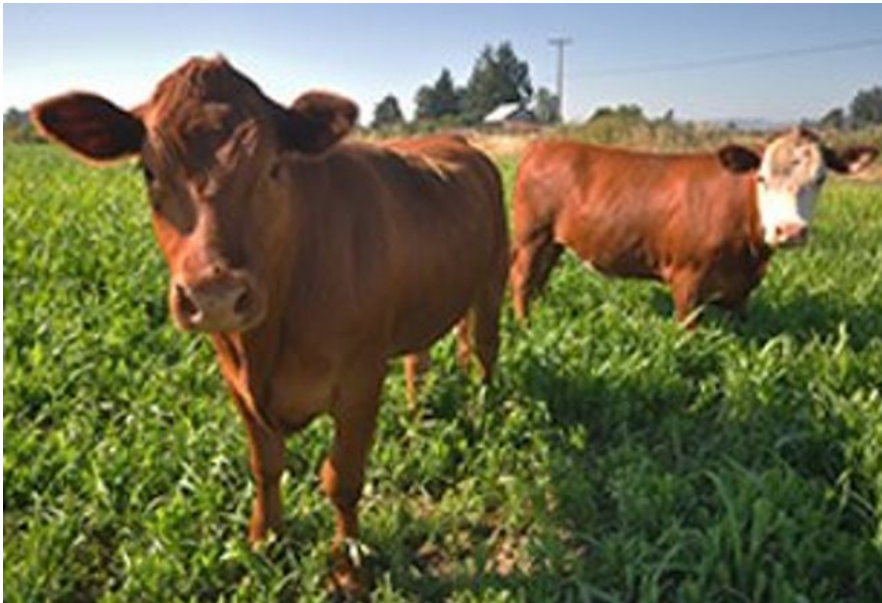
- NRCS delivers science-based information...
- To evaluate Natural Resources Concerns
 - Soil
 - Water
 - Air
 - Plants
 - Animals
 - Energy
- Soils Data
- [e-Field Office Technical Guide \(FOTG\)](#)



Delivery of Science

...to help customers effectively manage their natural resources.

- Conservation Practice Standards
 - Ecological
 - Engineering
- Climate-Smart Agriculture & Forestry



USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry (CSAF) Mitigation Activities List for FY2025

Highlighted activities have been added or updated in FY2025.

Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ⁽¹⁾ (practice unit)	Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Enhancement Activities ⁽²⁾
311	Alley Cropping (acres)		None Available
313	Waste Storage Facility (number) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used to implement compost bedded-pack⁽³⁾ 		None Available
314	Brush Management (acres) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used to remove woody invasive vegetation in and around areas and the removed material will be left onsite⁽⁴⁾ 	E314A	Brush management to improve wildlife habitat
315	Herbaceous Weed Treatment (acres) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used to release desired deep rooted perennial species⁽⁵⁾ 	E315A	Herbaceous weed treatment to create desired plant communities consistent with the ecological site
327	Composting Facility (number)		None Available
327	Conservation Cover (acres)	E327A	Conservation cover for pollinators and beneficial insects
		E327B	Establish Monarch butterfly habitat
		E327C	Wildlife habitat for nesting and brooding in non-cropped areas
328	Conservation Crop Rotation (acres)	E328A	Resource conserving crop rotation
		E328B	Improved resource conserving crop rotation
		E328E	Soil health crop rotation
		E328E	Modifications to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter
		E328H	Conservation crop rotation to reduce the concentration of salts
		E328N	Intercropping to improve soil health
		E328Q	Perennial grain crop conservation rotation
329	Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (acres)	E329A	No till to reduce soil erosion
		E329B	No till to reduce tillage induced particulate matter
		E329C	No till to increase plant-available moisture
		E329D	No till system to increase soil health and soil organic matter content
		E329E	No till to reduce energy
332	Contour Buffer Strips (acres)		None Available
336	Soil Carbon Amendment (acres)		None Available
338	Prescribed Burning (acres) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce wildfire hazards in forest systems at risk of wildfire⁽⁶⁾ 		None Available

FACTSHEET • AUGUST 2024 FARMERS.GOV/CLIMATE-SMART

CSAF Mitigation Activity List FY25

CSAF Mitigation Activity Evaluation Criteria

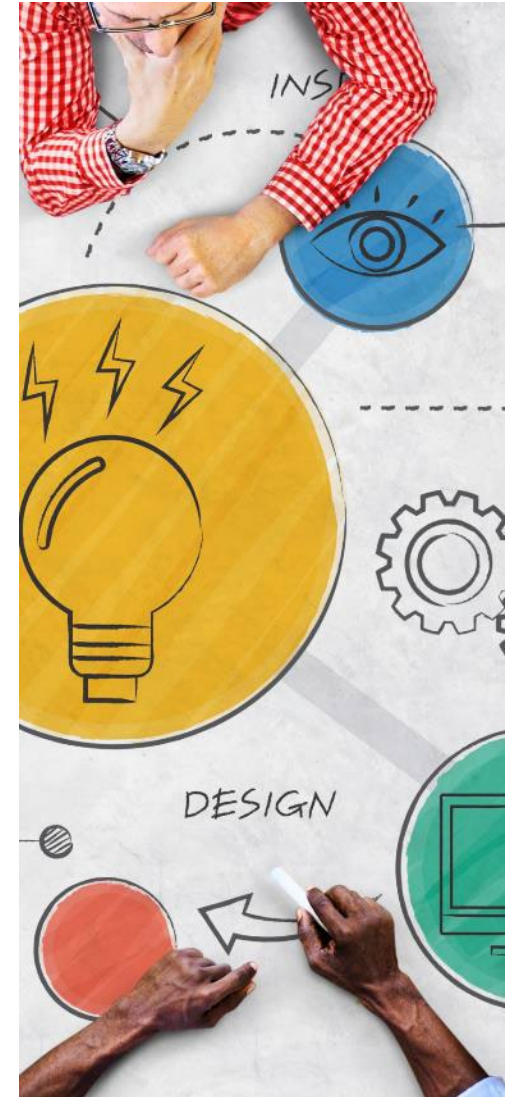
Criterion 1

- Is the activity expected to result in direct impact on ... net greenhouse gas emission reduction or removal within a given scope...as supported by the scientific literature?

Criterion 2

- Does NRCS have a science-based approach for quantitatively estimating mitigation benefits using available NRCS activity data?

Note: "Provisional" designation will no longer be used, as all listed practices are expected on average to result in net GHG emission reduction or removal as supported by the scientific literature



FY24 CSAF Mitigation Activities

- **154 activities** –
 - 53 practices
 - ✓ 13 specific implementations of 12 practices
 - 101 enhancements

FY25 CSAF Mitigation Activities

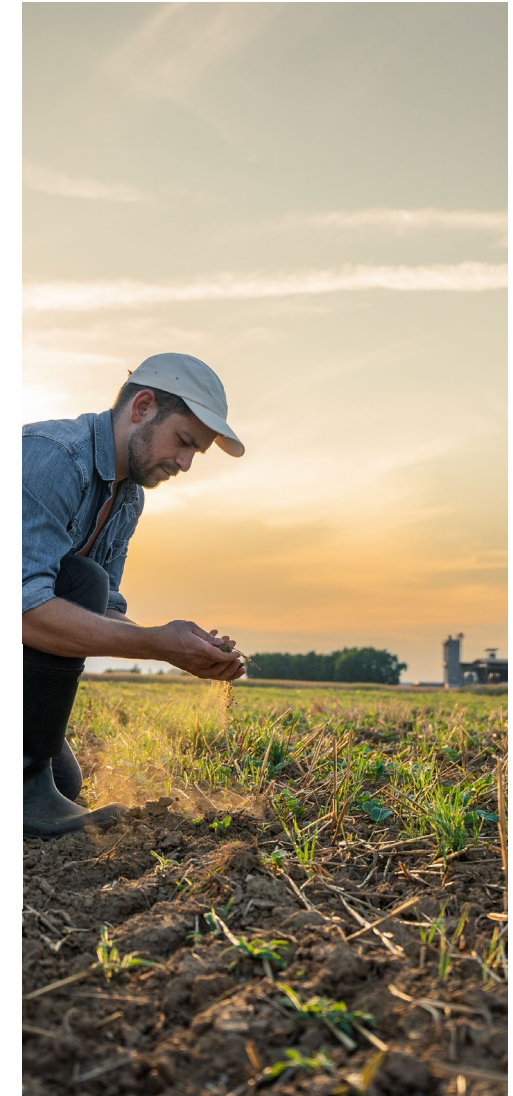
- **166 activities** –
 - 55 practices
 - ✓ 22 specific implementations of 18 practices
 - 111 enhancements

Code	Conservation Practice Standard	Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Enhancement Activities
314	Alley Cropping (practice unit)		
313	Waste Storage Facility (number) • Used to implement compost bedded-pack		
314	Brush Management (acres) • Used to remove woody invasive vegetation in and around regions and the removed material will be left onsite	E314A	Brush management to improve wildlife habitat
315	Herbaceous Weed Treatment (acres) • Used to release desired deep rooted	E315A	Herbaceous weed treatment to create desired plant communities consistent with the ecological site

Specific Implementations

- Certain practices are only considered CSAF Mitigation Activity when implemented in a specific way
 - 367 – Roofs and Covers – when used to cover a waste a management facility to capture biogas

367	Roofs and Covers (number)	01N	Capture Biogas – Place a rigid, semirigid, or flexible manufactured membrane, composite material, or roof structure placed over a waste management facility to capture biogas and reduce odor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use 01N when specifically planning a waste facility cover to capture biogas. When implemented this way, the practice can lead to reduced CH₄ emissions as biogas is captured and either flared or used as a natural gas substitute, as compared to an uncovered anaerobic lagoon or liquid storage system. • For other applications, such as a rain exclusion cover, use the appropriate narrative (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity).
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Inflation Reduction Act Implementation

- In FY24, NRCS made \$5.1 billion available for conservation
 - Inflation Reduction Act = \$3.1 billion
 - Farm Bill = \$2 billion
- 97.6% obligation rate of FY24 Inflation Reduction Act financial assistance

PRACTICE	# OF INFLATION REDUCTION ACT PRACTICE OBLIGATIONS		# OF FARM BILL PRACTICE OBLIGATIONS		TOTAL	
	FY2023	FY2024	FY2023	FY2024	FY2023	FY2024
Cover Crop (340)	3,324	22,023	12,120	9,995	15,444	32,018
Prescribed Grazing (528)	1,446	10,830	9,169	9,188	10,615	20,018
Nutrient Management (590)	879	6,607	4,159	5,738	5,038	12,345
Forest Stand Improvement (666)	1,308	6,760	5,194	4,343	6,502	11,103
Pasture and Hay Planting (512)	764	6,544	5,540	3,966	6,304	10,510

Inflation Reduction Act Implementation

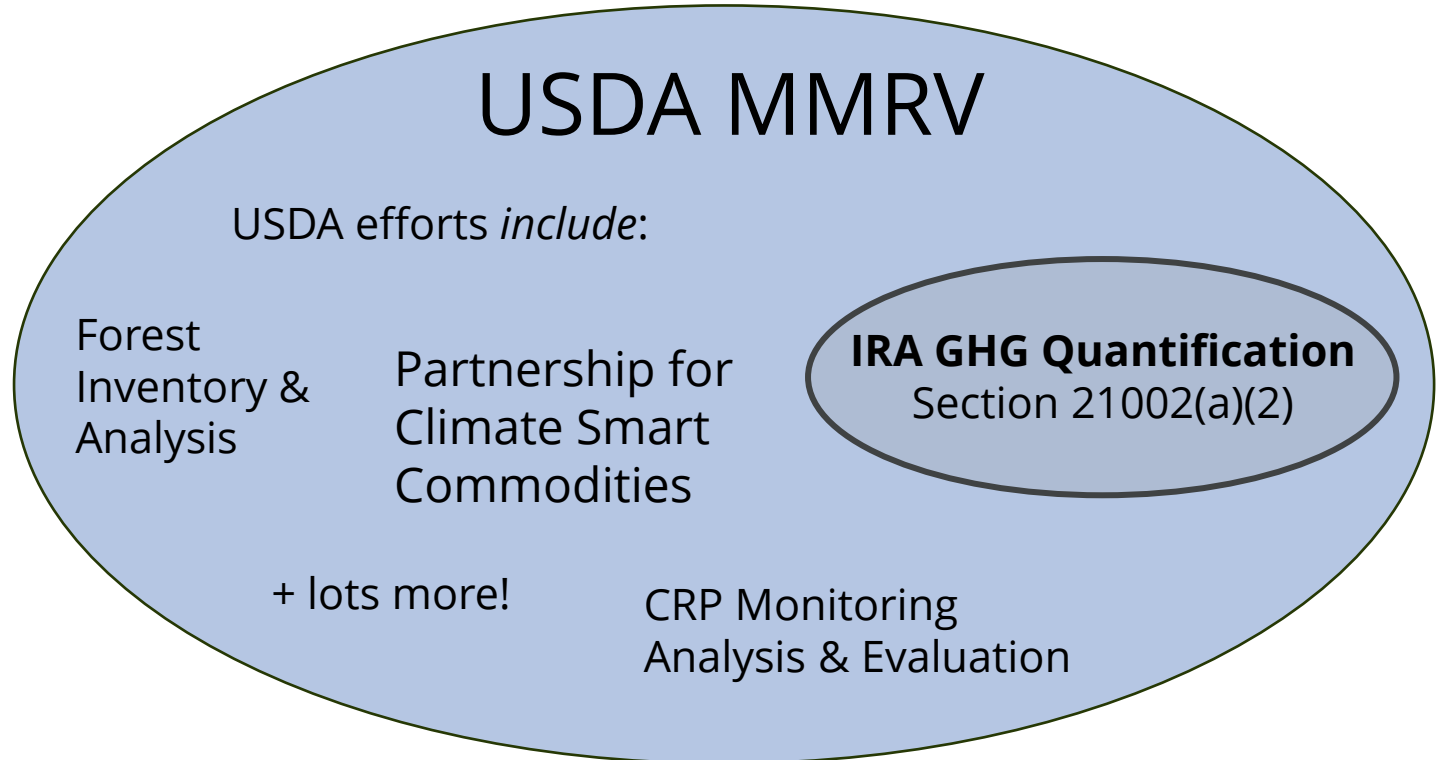
END-OF-YEAR 2024 FINAL NUMBERS

PROGRAM	FY24 FUNDING AVAILABLE ¹	TOTAL INFLATION REDUCTION ACT REQUESTS	CONSERVATION ON THE LANDSCAPE
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	\$1.675 billion	Over 25,000 ² applications	18,137 landowners received climate focused contracts on over 6.3 million acres
Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)	\$472 million	Over 6,900 ² applications	5,269 landowners received climate focused contracts on 5.4 million acres
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)	\$189 million	Over 1,000 ² applications (\$488 million)	26 ACEP-ALE agreements funded covering over 36,920 acres.
			68 ACEP-WRE agreements funded covering over 9,490 acres.
Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)	\$754 million	Nearly \$5.4 billion requested through 323 proposals	More than \$1 billion is being invested to advance partner-driven solutions to conservation on agricultural land through 81 new projects and two renewals.










































¹Values reflect sequestered fiscal year 2024 program totals. ²Totals include only valid, qualified applications.

There's a lot going on in Measurement, Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification!

**NATIONAL STRATEGY TO
ADVANCE AN INTEGRATED
U.S. GREENHOUSE GAS
MEASUREMENT,
MONITORING, AND
INFORMATION SYSTEM**



Collaboration among USDA agencies

Action area	Agency involved						
	Natural Resources Conservation Service	Agricultural Research Service	Economic Research Service	National Agricultural Statistics Service	Office of Energy & Environmental Policy	National Institute for Food & Agriculture	Other – eg Forest Service
1) Carbon data							
2) GHG data							
3) Data infrastructure/capacity							
4) Models/tools							
5) NRCS practice standards							
6) Conservation activity coverage							
7) GHG Inventory & Assessment Program							

Blue = lead

Brown = working group member

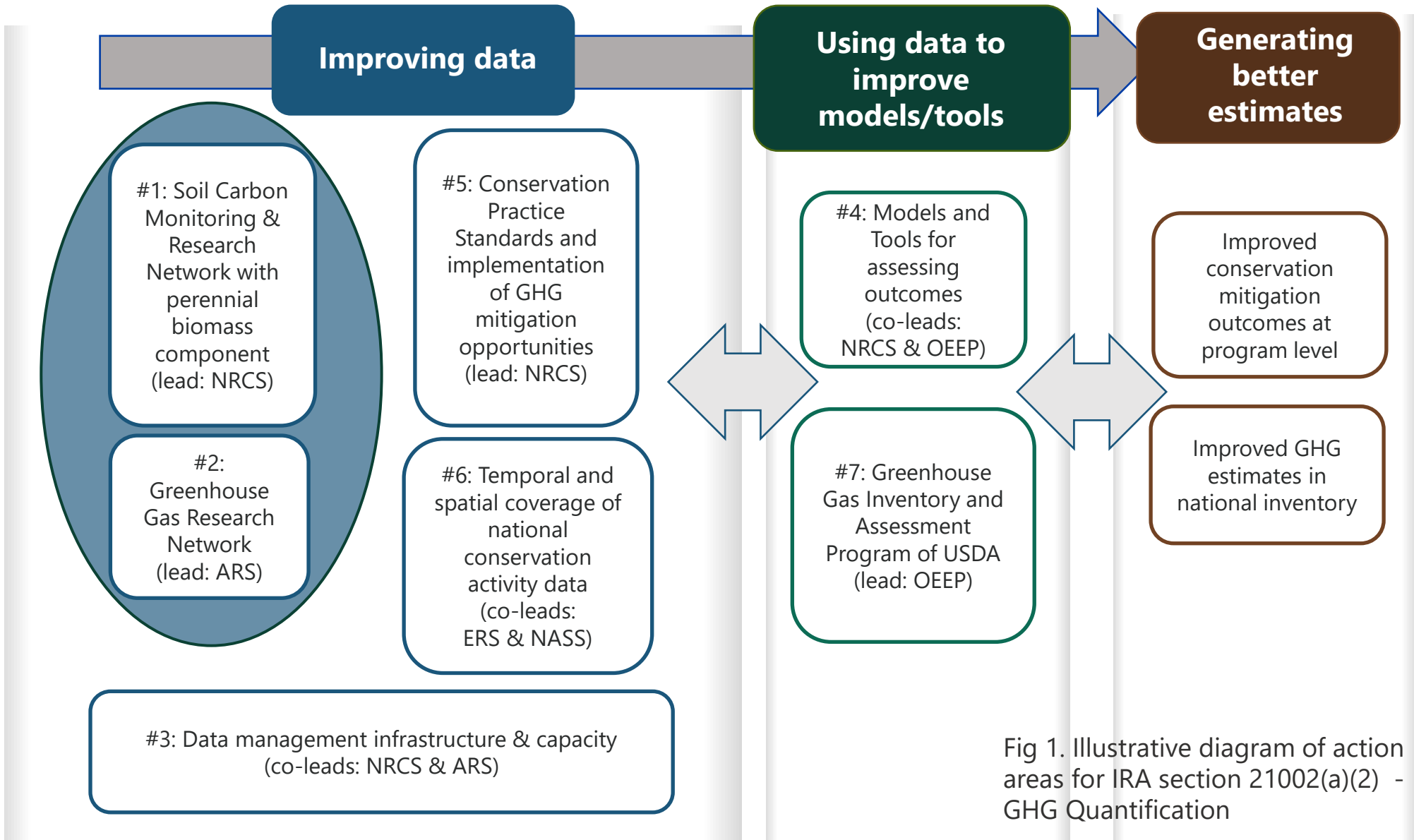


Fig 1. Illustrative diagram of action areas for IRA section 21002(a)(2) - GHG Quantification

Quantifying the Benefits

[NRCS Conservation Practices and Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Information Dashboard](#)

- Mitigation benefits of NRCS Conservation Practices
- Includes Estimation Approaches and Assumptions, Scientific Literature References, and Specific Implementation Requirements (if any)

[COMET-Planner](#)

- Evaluation tool designed to provide generalized estimates of GHG impacts of conservation practices

[FAQs: Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry Mitigation Activities and Inflation Reduction Act Funding](#)



NRCS Conservation Practices and Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Information

Select the NRCS Practice of Interest

Residue and Tillage Management No-till



[Download Summary PDF](#)

Residue and Tillage Management No-till (329)

Specific Implementation (when applicable): Not applicable

Summary of Expected Mitigation Benefits: Soil carbon change from decreased soil disturbance, and changes in nitrous oxide emissions due to changes in the soil environment. Selected References: Huang et al., 2018; Ogle et al., 2019; Ruis et al., 2022

Greenhouse Gases Mitigated: Carbon dioxide (CO₂), Nitrous oxide (N₂O)

Estimation Approach: COMET-Planner

NRCS Key Estimation Assumptions: Conversion from spring conventional tillage (full width) or reduced tillage to NRCS conservation practice standards Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till (Code 329) or Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (Code 345). Other cropland management practices remain the same with adoption of the practice. Estimated do not include potential changes in nitrogen fertilizer that may accompany tillage changes.

Select References Cited:

Huang, Y., Ren, W., Wang, L., Hui, D., Grove, J. H., Yang, X., Tao, B., & Goff, B. (2018). Greenhouse gas emissions and crop yield in no-tillage systems: A meta-analysis. *Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment*, 268, 144–153. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.agee.2018.09.002>

Ogle, S. M., Alsaker, C., Baldock, J., Bernoux, M., Breidt, F. J., McConkey, B., ... & Vazquez-Amabile, G. G. (2019). Climate and soil characteristics determine where no-till management can store carbon in soils and mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. *Scientific reports*, 9(1), 11665.

Ruis, S. J., Blanco-Canqui, H., Jasa, P. J., & Jin, V. L. (2022). No-till farming and greenhouse gas fluxes: Insights from literature and experimental data. *Soil and Tillage Research*, 220, 105359. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.still.2022.105359>

Swan, A., Toureene, C., Easter, M., Chambers, A., Brown, K., Williams, S., Creque, J., Wick, J., Vorster, A., & Paustian, K. (2024). COMET-Planner Companion Report: Carbon and greenhouse gas evaluation for NRCS conservation practice planning (Version 3.1; p. 167). USDA NRCS. <https://storage.googleapis.com/comet-planner-public-assets/fiftyStates/pdfs/COMET-PlannerReport.pdf>

Data Visualization Tools

IRA Data Visualization Tool

- State-by-state data showing investments for Farm Bill and Inflation Reduction Act funding.
- Data is uploaded bi-weekly.

Financial Assistance Program Dashboard

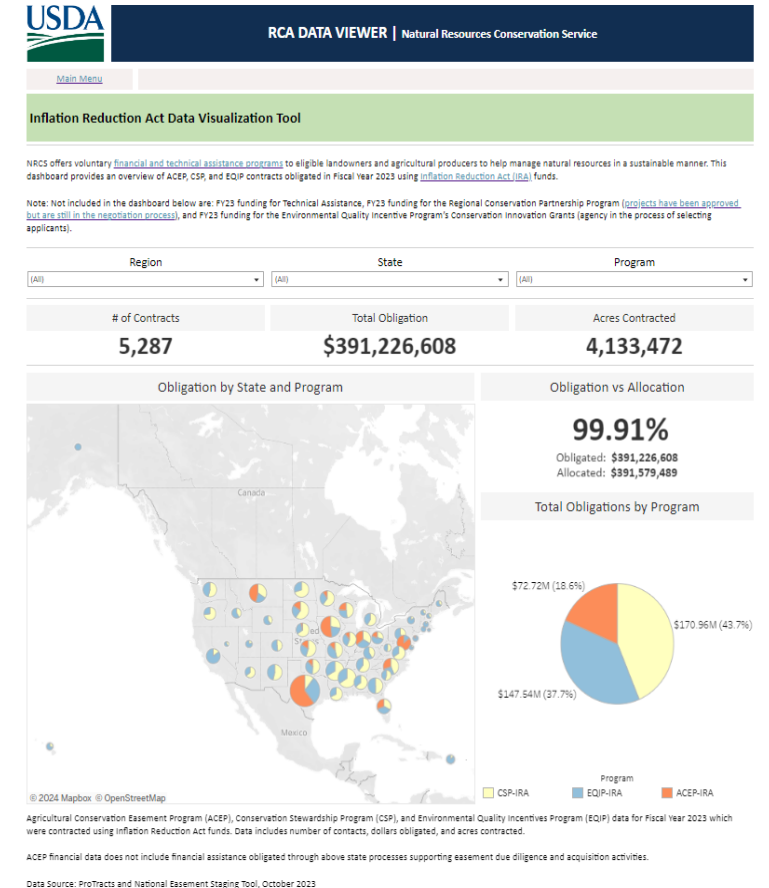
- Data for NRCS' working land financial assistance programs in clear, easy-to-interpret charts and maps.
- Users may view data by contract count, total treated acres, and dollars obligated.

Farmers.gov

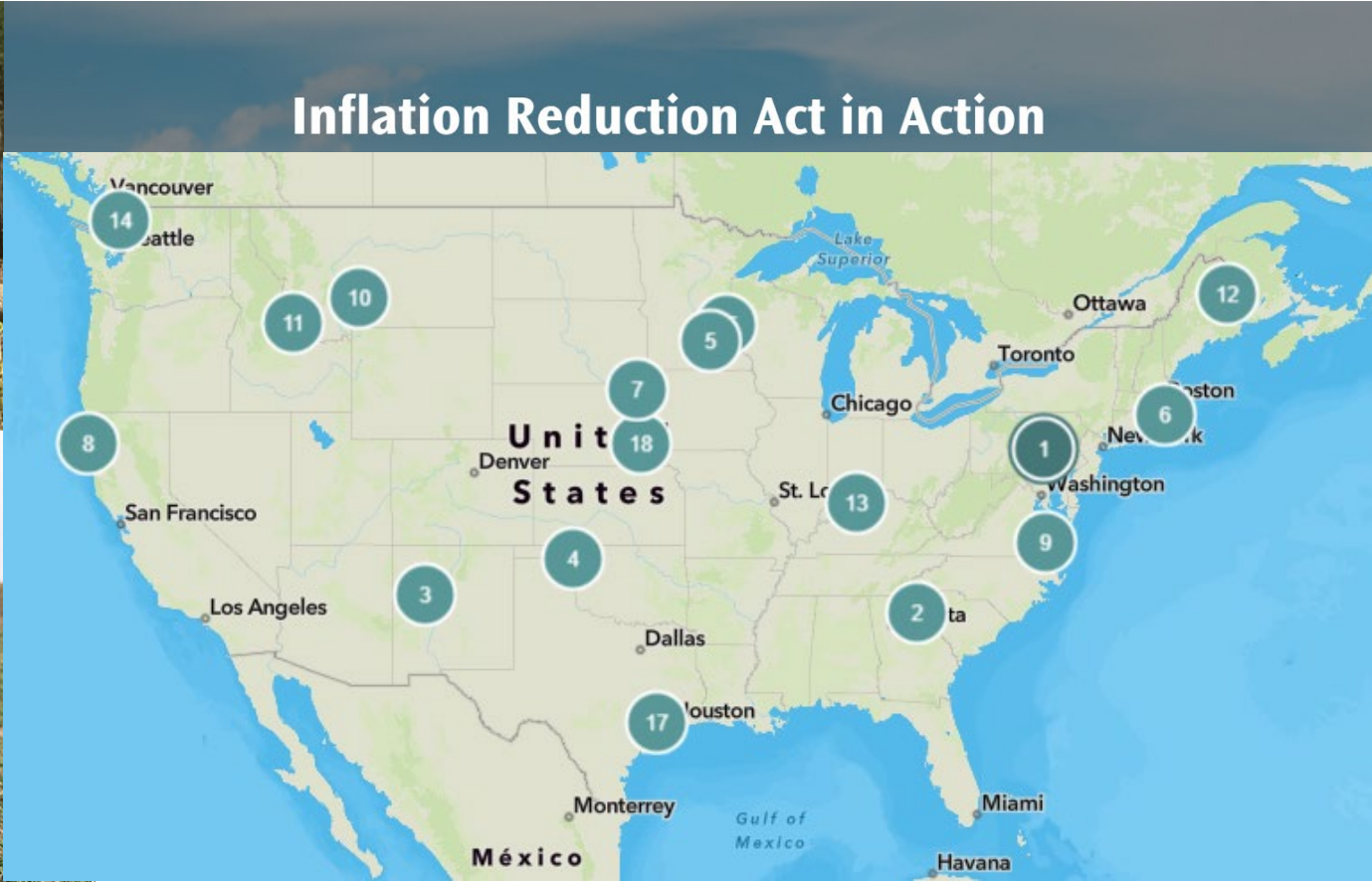
- Additional data resources including those highlighted on this slide.
- Customer specific tools and resources.

Easement Program Data

- State-by-state data showing investments for Farm Bill and Inflation Reduction Act funding.
- Data is uploaded bi-weekly.



Producer Success Stories



Link: [Inflation Reduction Act in Action StoryMap](#)



Conservation at Work was created to help farmers, ranchers and forestland owners see the benefits of NRCS' conservation practices and hear from producers who have successfully implemented them.

REAL STORIES. REAL SUCCESSES. REAL QUICK.

Scan the QR code, or visit: farmers.gov/conservation/conservation-at-work.

Questions?

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