

For Immediate Release
January 20, 2004

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Conservation Security Program Meetings to be Held

Farmers and Producers in the Red Lake River Watershed are invited to attend an information meeting on the Conservation Security Program (CSP). The Red Lake River Watershed has been selected for signup and contracts in 2005. It is important for you to learn as much as you can about this program if you are interested in a contract this year.

Public information meetings will be held as follows:

Monday Jan. 31 9:00 AM American Legion Crookston, MN	Monday Jan. 31 12:30 PM Community Hall Red Lake Falls, MN	Tuesday Feb. 1 9:00 AM Eagles Thief River Falls, MN	Tuesday Feb. 1 2:30 PM Community Center Goodridge, MN
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The Conservation Security Program is designed to support and encourage voluntary conservation practices by private landowners. CSP will reward those farmers who are meeting the highest standards of conservation and environmental management on their farming operation. CSP is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to promote the conservation and improvement of soil, water, air, energy, plant and animal life on private and tribal working lands. Working lands include cropland, grassland, improved pasture, and forested land that is an incidental part of an agriculture operation.

A signup is anticipated in the March timeframe. A Self-Assessment booklet is available to help you identify your level of potential participation and documentation of your conservation benefits. Additional information about CSP in Minnesota can be found at <http://www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/csp.html> or contact your NRCS District Conservationist.

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