

STATUS REPORT

These status sheets describe projects and programs that are being implemented in the Red River Basin that assist in carrying out the mission of the Red River Basin Commission.

Project/Program: **RED RIVER CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP)**

Project Sponsor: Red River Basin Commission
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Project Summary:

This Red River Basin CREP will primarily address Red River Basin flood damage reduction with secondary goals being improved water quality and an increase of fish and wildlife habitat. Implementing a CREP targeting these issues will provide numerous benefits to residents of the Red River Basin and the Federal Government.

The focus for this CREP application will be the mediation agreement developed by the Minnesota Flood Damage Reduction Work Group. The mission of the Red River mediation is to reach consensus on long-term solutions for reducing flood damage and for protection and enhancement of natural resources. Such agreements should balance important economic, environmental and social considerations. The mediation agreement was intended as the framework for a new, collaborative approach to implementing both flood damage reduction and natural resource protection and enhancement in the Red River Basin. Chronic flood-prone areas identified by local watershed organizations can utilize this CREP application to address flood damage reduction with natural resource enhancement goals.



Local watershed organizations utilize local work groups to implement specific priority projects. Local project teams are made up of watersheds; state, federal and tribal agencies; local units of government; affected landowners and interested citizens and interest group representatives.

This CREP application will assist with the implementation of specific components of flood damage reduction and natural resource enhancement projects such as buffer strips, wetland restorations, river corridor restoration and setback levees.

Submitted to RRBC: December, 2001

Plan Management Action: October, 2002

RRBC Action: Approval to develop application in December, 2001

Follow-up Action:

October, 2002- Meeting with ND Game and Fish Department to discuss sponsorship of a North Dakota CREP application.

February, 2003- Revised CREP application presented to Red River Watershed Management Board and Minnesota Flood Damage Reduction Work Group.

March, 2003- RRBC authorized submittal of CREP application to the State of Minnesota (BWSR) and USDA Farm Service Agency in Minnesota.

July, 2003 - Red River CREP is presented to Minnesota Governor Pawlenty in Crookston.



Red River Basin Commission

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