



TRI-STATE CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP



COLLABORATIVE CONSERVATION

Working at eco-regional scale
Delivering conservation on-the-ground
Coordinating through communication, trust & fellowship

WHO WE ARE

- ▶ Strong partnership working in support of ACEP-WRE

OUR FOCUS

- ▶ Wetland restoration and management
- ▶ Bottomland hardwood restoration and management
- ▶ Wildlife habitat, water quality and quantity
- ▶ Minority landowner enrollment

HOW WE WORK

- ▶ Champions - advocating for conservation
- ▶ Programs - enhancing administration and delivery
- ▶ Policy - enhancing statutory language and maximizing funding
- ▶ Funding - driving additional dollars to the region

WHERE WE WORK

- ▶ Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi
- ▶ Lower MS River Valley wide impact
- ▶ National influence

WHY IT WORKS

- ▶ Committed NRCS leadership and support
- ▶ Broad partner participation and engagement
- ▶ Complementary conservation objectives
- ▶ Dedicated capacity



Lower Mississippi Valley
JOINT VENTURE
www.lmrv.org



Natural Resources Conservation Service

A powerful example of effective regional partnership

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ NRCS & Lower MS Valley Joint Venture Declaration of Partnership
- ▶ Awarded >\$150M in Conservation Funding
- ▶ 13 Wetland Reserve Enhancement Partnership Projects (WREP)
- ▶ 13 Shared Capacity Positions
- ▶ Harmonized Tri-state WRE Ranking Criteria
- ▶ Strengthened the WRE Closing Process
- ▶ Enhanced Approaches to Hydrology Restoration
- ▶ 2017 Tri-state 700,000 Acre WRE Celebration
- ▶ WRE Communications Plan
- ▶ Enhanced WRE Policy in 2014 & 2018 Farm Bills
- ▶ Annual Targeted Outreach to Increase WRE Enrollment
- ▶ Supporting Increased Minority Landowner Enrollment
- ▶ Assisting with WRE Easement Monitoring
- ▶ Supporting NRCS Easement Program Division Working Groups

EDUCATIONAL & OUTREACH PRODUCTS

- ▶ *Restoring America's Wetlands Through the Farm Bill* - Video for Senate and House Ag Committees
- ▶ *Tool for Assessing & Treating WRP/E Forest Plantations* Booklet
- ▶ *Landowner Guide - Habitat Improvements in Hardwood Plantations on WRE* Brochure
- ▶ *WRE Plantation Age Estimator* Database
- ▶ *Understanding NRCS Wetland Reserve Easements* Booklet
- ▶ *Managing Your Wetland Reserve Easement* – 7 Part Video Series

TCP PRIORITIES

Forest & Wetlands Management

Supporting NRCS and landowners in meeting habitat management objectives

WRE Enrollment & Management Outreach

Advancing program knowledge & awareness through videos, mailouts and workshops

Minority Landowner Enrollment

Increasing program awareness and providing enrollment assistance

2023 Farm Bill

Addressing funding and key policy improvements



ENGAGED PARTNERS

Tri-state Representation

focused on common objectives

Strength in Diversity

15 federal, state, private and non-governmental organizations

Broad Participation

rallying around shared interests