

Minnesota SED Makes “Conservation Reserve Program Outstanding Conservationist Awards” at NRCS Wetland Restoration Event

Albert Lea, Minn., May 15, 2006—Minnesota State Executive Director, John Monson, presented "Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Outstanding Conservationist Awards" to leaders from: The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Ducks Unlimited, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Pheasants Forever, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. The awards recognized 20 years of dedicated and professional service and partnership with the Farm Service Agency in administering the Conservation Reserve Program.

Monson made the awards at the Minnesota Natural Resources Conservation Service Wetlands Reserve Program 50,000 Acre Ceremony. US Representative Gil Gutknecht served as master of ceremonies and NRCS Chief, Bruce Knight, delivered the key note address. In his remarks, Monson congratulated NRCS for the enrollment of 50,000 acres into the Wetlands Restoration Reserve Program in Minnesota and for its continued service to the State's farmers and ranchers. "There are currently 269,963 acres enrolled in CRP wetlands restoration projects and since 2001 in the CRP continuous signup, 50,896 acres have been enrolled in wetlands restoration projects and 64,137 wetland acres were gained by enrollment in the Conservation Reserve Program between 2001-2003," said Monson.

Monson used the event to extol the 20th Anniversary of CRP and its successes. At the conclusion of his remarks, Monson made this presentation of CRP 20 awards.

Pictured below are:

Front row: Carrol Henderson, Department of Natural Resources, left, Charlie Wooley, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Ryan Heiniger, Ducks Unlimited, Bill Hunt, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Matt Holland, Pheasants Forever, Joe Martin, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, LeAnn Buck, Minnesota Association Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Gary Demmer, Freeborn County Soil Water & Conservation District, Jerome Deal, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. Back row: Bruce Knight, Natural Resources Conservation Service, left, John Monson, Farm Service Agency, Gil Gutknecht, US House of Representatives.



Last Modified: Wednesday, June 7, 2006