

Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008

Title II, Subtitle G—Other Conservation Programs—Public Access

- *State and Tribal governments may apply for grants to encourage owners and operators of privately-held farm, ranch, and forest land to voluntarily make that land available for access by the public for wildlife-dependent recreation, including hunting or fishing under programs administered by State or Tribal governments.*
- *State or Tribal governments grant application must include:*
 - *The benefits intended to be achieved by encouraging public access to private farm and ranch land;*
 - *The methods to accomplish the intended benefits;*
- *Priority is authorized for State and Tribal governments that propose to:*
 - *Maximize participation by offering a program the terms of which are likely to meet with widespread acceptance by landowners;*
 - *Ensure that enrolled under the State or Tribal government program has appropriate wildlife habitat;*
 - *Strengthen wildlife habitat improvement efforts on land enrolled under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program by providing incentives to increase public hunting and other recreational access on that land;*
 - *Use Federal, State, Tribal government, or private resources; and*
 - *Make available to the public the location of the land enrolled.*
- *State or Tribal government law, including any State or Tribal Government liability law, is pre-empted.*
- *A grant shall be reduced by 25 percent if the opening dates for migratory bird hunting in the State are not consistent for residents and non-residents.*
- *\$50 million is available during FY 2009 through FY 2012.*