



Paying for Performance: Improving the Cost-effectiveness of Farm Bill Conservation Programs

Winrock International and its partners are convening a participatory workshop focused on the issue of pay for performance conservation, which rewards producers for quantifiable conservation outcomes. The specific objectives of this workshop are:

- To increase the technical and cost-effectiveness of farm bill conservation programs by increasing producer flexibility and innovation for providing conservation outcomes.
- To develop specific recommendations for incorporating pay for performance approaches into Farm Bill conservation programs.

Who Should Attend?

This workshop is designed for collaboration across the conservation spectrum. Participants will include:

- ◇ Farmers
- ◇ Watershed coordinators
- ◇ Local, state, and federal agency staff
- ◇ Conservation organization leaders
- ◇ Farm and commodity group representatives
- ◇ Extension and research specialists
- ◇ Policy experts

Workshop Details

This workshop will take place on **July 20-21, 2011** at the **Omni Shoreham Hotel** in Washington, DC. The workshop will start at Noon on July 20th and end at 2PM on July 21st. This is immediately following, and at the same venue as, this summer's SWCS annual conference. Full workshop information and updates can be found at www.flexincentives.com/2011workshop. The registration fee is \$150, some scholarships are available based on need. Registration is through the online SWCS Conference registration process at www.swcs.org/11ac. You can choose just this workshop, add the special Farm Bill Forum on Wednesday morning or attend the entire conference. For more information, contact Dr. Jon Winsten at jwinsten@winrock.org; Mr. Joseph Britt at jbritt@sandcounty.net; and Mr. Mitch Hunter at mhunter@farmland.org.

July 20-21, 2011

Omni Shoreham Hotel
Washington, D.C.

WORKSHOP OVERVIEW

Day 1 – Opportunities for Change

- Opening lunch with discussion of participant's goals and expectations
- Opening keynote comments from USDA and EPA
- Examination of current conservation programs and the future regulatory environment
- An alternative vision for the delivery of conservation through pay for performance
- The theory and mechanics of pay for performance conservation
- Keeping it Real: Panel discussion with farmers and farm group representatives
- Q&A with open discussion
- Assignments for Day 2

Day 2 – Challenges and Choices

- Understanding the context for the upcoming Farm Bill
- Quantifying performance related to nonpoint source pollution
- Incentivizing producers to take cost-effective actions
- Breakout groups to:
 - ◇ Flesh out policy ideas and strategies
 - ◇ Develop specific recommendations for next Farm Bill
- Working lunch
- Synthesis of recommendations and key insights
- Identification of next steps
- Adjourn at 2PM



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