



Natural Resources Conservation Service Nevada

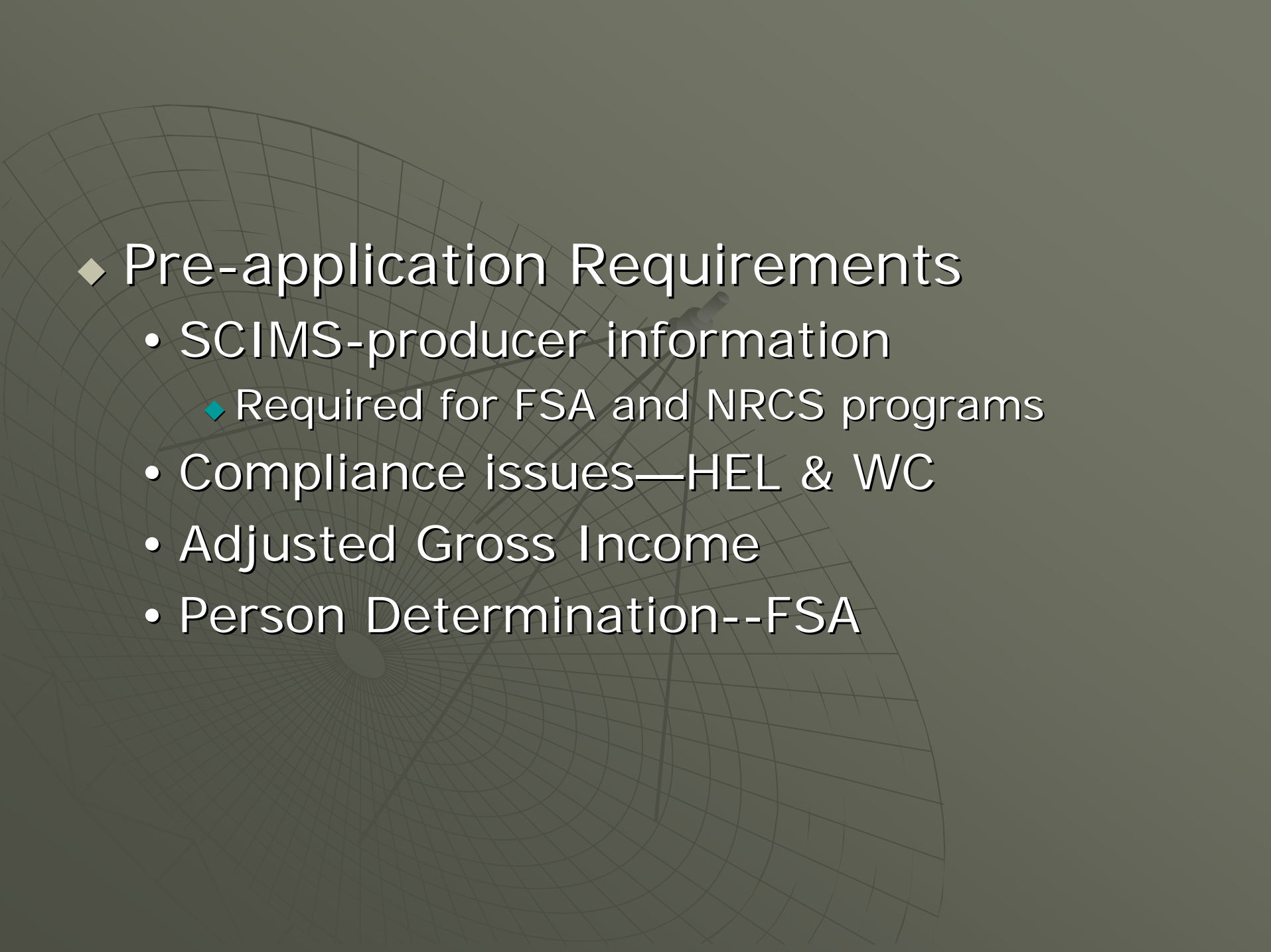
EXHIBIT S - LANDS

Document consists of 28 slides.

Entire Exhibit Provided

Meeting Date: 04-28-06

<i>Program Type</i>	<i>Program</i>	<i>Benefits</i>	<i>2006-2005 Funding</i>	<i>Regional Equity Funds</i>	<i>Sign-up Information</i>
<i>Cost-share</i>	Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Environmental Quality Incentives Program—Ground and Surface Water (EQIP-G&W) Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)	75% cost share rate, \$150,000 limit \$50,000 annual limit NV, UT, WY, 12 northeastern states 50-90% cost share rate, \$450,000 limit 50-90% cost share rate, \$450,000 limit 50-75% cost share rate	\$0 \$603,743 \$5,956,833--\$4,963,342 \$603,743--\$603,743 \$1,029,383--\$289,286	None none none	Continuous sign-up, 1 st batching ends 01-13-06 (tentative) Continuous sign-up, 1 st batching ends 01-13-06 Continuous sign-up, 1 st batching ends 01-13-06 Continuous sign-up, 1 st batching ends 01-13-06
<i>Easement</i>	Farmland and Ranchland Protection Program (FRPP) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)	Easement programs are based on number of acres enrolled Easement programs based on rental rates NRCS pays up to 50% of costs	\$1,629,941-\$905,570 \$0 --\$1,500,000		Sign-up period—to be announced CRP continuous sign-ups Continuous sign-up, 1 st batching period ends 01-13-06 Continuous sign-ups
<i>Entitlement</i>	Conservation Security Program (CSP)	Stewardship payments Existing practice payments New practice payments Enhancement payments 3-tiered system, \$20,000, \$35,000, \$45,000 statutory limits annually Compete individually, national ranking 5-10 year contracts	\$273 million nationwide, 110 new watersheds. Nevada received approx. \$650,000 in 2005 for 45 contracts.	None	Unknown—hopefully mid-December through mid-February 2006 Upper Carson, West Walker, South Fork Humboldt (Upper Carson and West Walker are shared with California)
<i>Technical assistance & other</i>	Conservation Technical Assistance Snow Survey Soil Survey	Engineering, agronomy, soils, basic agronomic services Water Supply Forecasts Soil Survey Publications	None	None	New program being piloted in 10 states

- 
- ◆ Pre-application Requirements
 - SCIMS-producer information
 - ◆ Required for FSA and NRCS programs
 - Compliance issues—HEL & WC
 - Adjusted Gross Income
 - Person Determination--FSA

NRCS Program Opportunities

- ◆ Program areas include stewardship, easement, and cost-share/incentive programs
- ◆ Technical assistance program

Cost-share and Incentive programs

- ◆ Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- ◆ Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA)
- ◆ Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- ◆ EQIP is available to all producers
- ◆ Requires producer to address an environmental concern—
soil, water, air, plants, animals
- ◆ 72 resource concerns within SWAPA
- ◆ Treat resource concern to bring it to NRCS quality criteria
- ◆ Can treat multiple resource concerns

EQIP

- ◆ Available to all producers statewide
- ◆ Cost share rates set at 50 to 90%
- ◆ Limited resource and beginning farmers may be eligible for high cost share rates.
- ◆ \$450,000 total contract limit (separate from other programs)
- ◆ Contracts 1-10 years
- ◆ Must initiate a practice within first 12 months

Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA)

- ◆ Objectives are for organic farming, alternative agriculture, conversion of systems, water conservation
- ◆ Project can be above NRCS quality criteria
- ◆ Risk management program
- ◆ Cost share rate 75%
- ◆ \$150,000 limit for program
- ◆ \$50,000 annual limit
- ◆ Contracts 1-5 years

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Programs (WHIP)

- ◆ Intended to provide additional conservation measures to help improve and promote wildlife food, shelter and habitat.
- ◆ Cost share rates 50-75%
- ◆ Available statewide
- ◆ Can do practices on private or public lands.
- ◆ Can do projects in cooperation with other entities

Stewardship Programs

- ◆ Conservation Security Program (CSP New in Nevada in 2005)
- ◆ New watershed in 2006 – South Fork Humboldt (Elko County)

CSP

- ◆ New in USDA—NRCS in 2004
 - Introduced in 18 watersheds
- ◆ Nevada funded in 4 watersheds in 2005
 - Walker, Warner Lakes, Pine Creek, and Carson Desert
- ◆ Nationwide in 2006 110 watersheds—approximately \$110 million.

CSP

- ◆ “Reward the Best, Motivate the Rest”
 - Intended to be NRCS program of the future.
 - 1/8 of producers in each state annually.
 - Watershed basis for number of reasons
 - ◆ Common land use
 - ◆ Able to track progress
 - ◆ Natural boundaries

CSP

- ◆ Payments in four categories
 - Stewardship payments
 - Existing practice payments
 - New practice payments
 - Enhancement payments

CSP

- ◆ Payments based on Tier and Category Placement
 - Three tiers
 - ◆ Tier 1—must meet soil and water quality on at least a field
 - ◆ Tier 2—entire farm including farmstead—soil and water quality plus one additional resource
 - ◆ Tier 3—must address all resource concerns to NRCS RMS level for entire property.

CSP--categories

- ◆ Category placement based on those benchmark practices producer is already doing
 - Higher categories (A) funded 1st.
 - Categories B, C, and D if funding is available.

CSP Payments

- ◆ Stewardship payment
 - Based on rental rates, reduction factors and other nationwide criteria
- ◆ Existing practice payment
 - 25% of stewardship payment
- ◆ New practice payment
 - Limited to \$10,000 at 50% cost share rate, based on 2001 cost list
- ◆ Enhancements
 - 100%, approximately 70 different choices

CSP—Enhancement Payments

- ◆ Enhancements for good management of soil, water, air, pests, wildlife, grazing, energy, air quality, nutrients and salinity
- ◆ 5 to 10 years of annual payments

CSP

- ◆ Can participate in CSP along with other programs except WRP, GRP, and CRP
- ◆ \$450,000 total payment limitation (10 yrs x \$45,000).

CSP—Watershed Selection

- ◆ Watersheds nominated by states
- ◆ National criteria—ability to run RUSLE2 and digitized soils
- ◆ Past NRCS progress reporting
- ◆ Represent 1/8 of farms in each state annually.

Easement Programs

- ◆ Grassland Reserve Program
- ◆ Wetland Reserve Program
- ◆ Farmland and Ranchland Protection Program

Easement Programs

- ◆ Farmland and Ranchland Protection Program
 - Intended to preserve agricultural lands nationwide
 - Permanent agricultural easement

Easement Programs

- ◆ Grassland Reserve Program
 - Intended to protect grasslands which are under the threat of conversion to other uses
 - 10-year, 30-year and permanent easements

Easement Programs

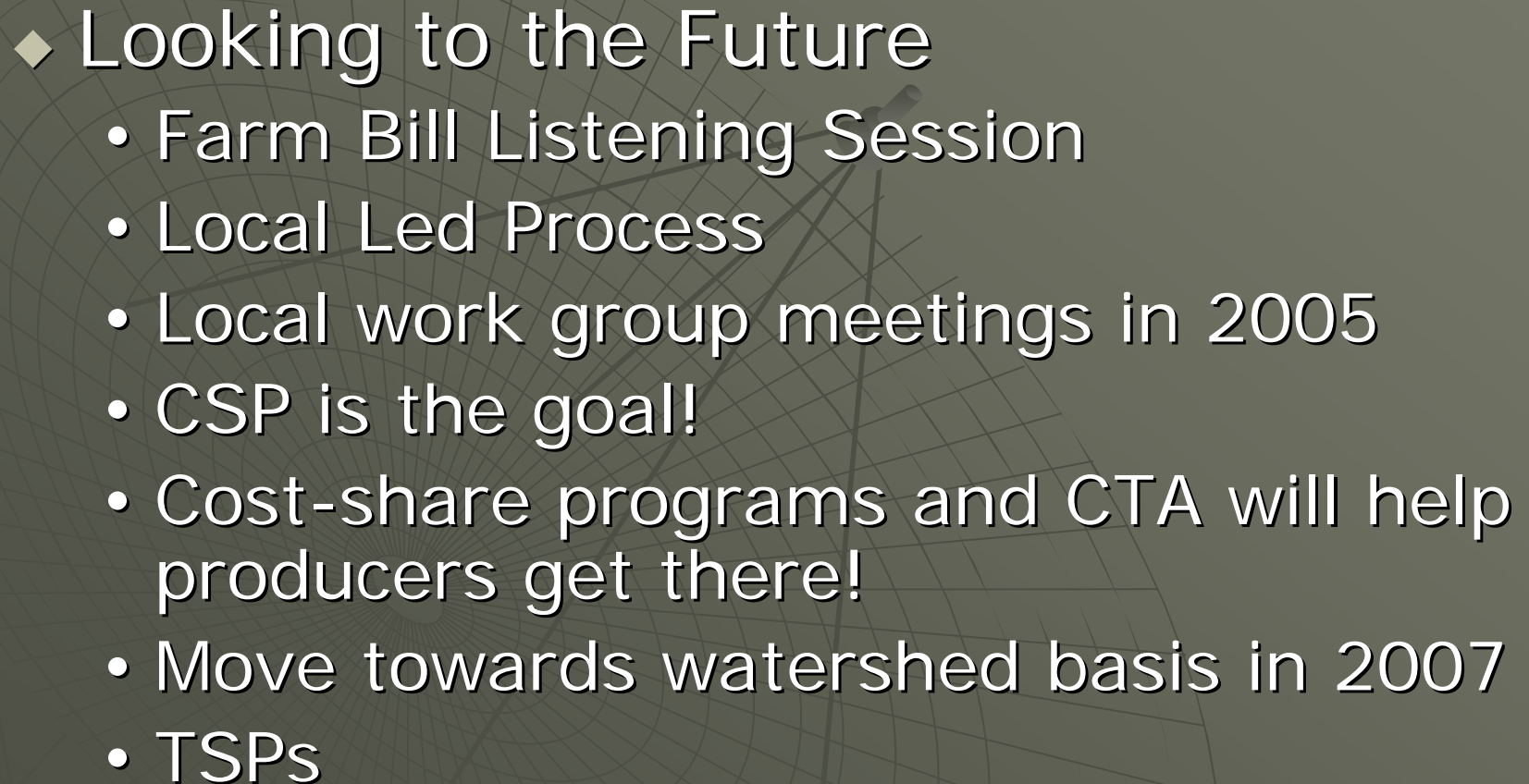
- ◆ Wetland Reserve Program
- ◆ 10-year, 30-year, and permanent easements to protect wetlands and wetland wildlife habitat.

Nevada Conservation Programs

- ◆ 2006 Funding Changes
 - Need to address national priorities
 - ◆ i.e. AFO/CAFO and sage grouse
 - All watersheds were reduced
 - Nevada priorities
 - ◆ Pest management
 - Applications were too big
 - ◆ Look at doing projects in phases
 - ◆ \$450,000 limit

2006 Program Priorities

- ◆ National Priorities?
- ◆ State Priorities
 - Pest management
 - Nutrient management
 - Pasture
 - CSP watersheds
 - Future CSP watersheds
 - AFO/CAFO

- 
- ◆ Looking to the Future
 - Farm Bill Listening Session
 - Local Led Process
 - Local work group meetings in 2005
 - CSP is the goal!
 - Cost-share programs and CTA will help producers get there!
 - Move towards watershed basis in 2007
 - TSPs

Other Activities

- ◆ Snow Survey – on May 2, we're celebrating 100 years of the snow survey program, started by Dr. James Church of the University of Nevada
- ◆ Great Basin Plant Materials Center – two employees have been hired and are starting soon, Plant Materials Specialist and Farm Manager
- ◆ Resource Conservation and Development



- ◆ Thank you.

- ◆ Questions???