

# National Watershed Coalition- National Association of State Conservation Agencies



**NRCS – National Office**

September 27, 2017  
Nebraska City, NE

## 1. House Agriculture Committee Testimony

- a. Testimony in conjunction with members of NWC
- b. Highlighted value of Watershed Programs
- c. \$2.2 Billion Average Annual Benefits
- d. 48,000,000 people benefiting from installed works



## 2. Conservation Program Highlights

- a. FAPD – CSP – Largest Conservation Program – 80 million acres
- b. FAPD – EQIP – Most funds ever obligated by NRCS in 2017
- c. FAPD – RCPP – Over 2,000 partners investing \$2.4 billion
- d. Easements – 21,800 + easements, covering 4.4 million acres
- e. Watersheds - \$150 Million, EWP \$103 Million, ECP \$789K



## 3. Conservation Planning ahead of Program Contracting

- a. National Conservation Planning Partnership (NCPP)
- b. NRCS Agency Policy Updates for Conservation Planning Training and Certification
- c. Technical Service Providers (Certified and Non-Certified) and Conservation Planning

## 4. Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans

- a. 313 language is confusing and restricting
- b. Locally-led conservation good, but creates variations
- c. Conservation Planning Criteria is confusing and not consistent



## 5. Multiple Contracts on Same Property – CRP

- a. Enrolling land into EQIP and/or CSP for expiring CRP Contracts
- b. Installing Saturated Buffers on CRP Land – requires authority

