

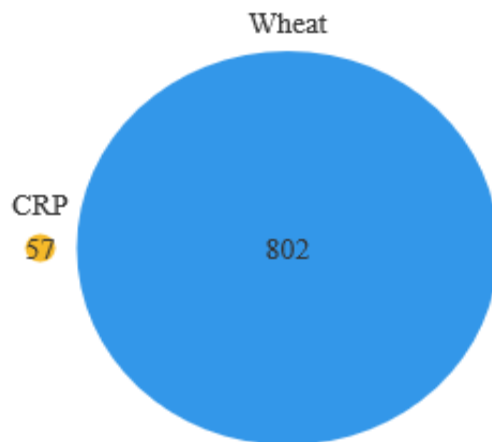


CRP in Lincoln County, Washington

Wheat farming in Lincoln County, Washington, contributed [more than \\$300 million](#) to the local economy in 2015. The majority of that economic activity – about \$178 million -- came from the inputs and services that contribute to wheat production, including seed, fertilizer, labor, fuel, repairs and land rent.

The thousands of acres enrolled in the USDA’s Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contributed about [\\$9 million](#) to the county’s economy that year. The government paid \$57 for an acre in CRP in 2015, but an acre planted to corn had the potential to generate \$802 of economic activity (including expenses and revenue).

Comparison of Lincoln County WA Direct Economic Activity for CRP vs. Wheat (\$/Acre)



Even though CRP acres contribute far less to the local economy, in 2015, more than 164,000 acres in the country were idled in CRP.

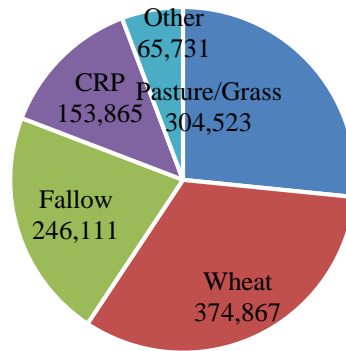
CRP’s intended purpose is to pay farmers to remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production. When whole farms are enrolled in CRP as in Lincoln County, the local economy suffers and productive farmland – which could be enhanced with targeted conservation practices – is wasted.

The NGFA advocates for conservation practices that improve the resources needed for an agricultural economy to thrive – principally, soil and water. However, USDA data shows that a majority of the CRP acres in Lincoln County aren’t maintained with practices that directly improve soil and water quality.

In fact, fewer than [1,500 acres](#) of the county’s CRP land are being preserved with practices specific to water and soil quality improvement. The vast majority – a whopping 152,482 -- are idled primarily for wildlife habitat.



Lincoln County WA Land Use in 2016 (In Acres)



While restoring wildlife habitat is an important aspect of conservation, there are already several USDA programs assisting the practice, including the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program. Moreover, Lincoln County already dedicates more than 304,500 acres to native grassland.

If CRP operated as a program that truly targeted the most environmentally sensitive land, Lincoln County would be allowed to more fully reap the economic benefits of its productive farmland while also conserving natural resources.

View more information about the NGFA and CRP at <http://www.ngfa.org/farm-bill/>

***Information last updated January 25, 2017**

Table 1: Lincoln County Washington: Population, CRP Acres, CRP Rents, and Cash Rents

Year	Population 1/	CRP Acres 2/	Avg. Gov't Paid CRP Rental Rate 2/	Avg. Farmer-Paid Cash Rental Rate 3/
1980	9,604	0	NA	NA
1990	8,864	99,807	\$49.74	NA
2000	10,184	74,365	\$45.12	NA
2010	10,570	159,854	\$53.36	NA
2015	10,321	164,214	\$56.73	NA
2016		153,865	NA	\$42.50

1/ Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

2/ Source: USDA's Farm Service Agency.

3/ Source: USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. This is the average rate paid by farmers to rent non-irrigated cropland.



Table 2: Lincoln County Washington CRP Practices in 2016

Primary Focus on Soil Erosion & Water Quality	Acres
CP8A Grass Waterway Nonease	162
CP18C Est Permanent Salt Tolerant Veg Cover Non	24
CP21 Filter Strips	733
CP22 Riparian Buffer	464
Subtotal	1,383
Primary Focus on Wildlife or Other	Acres
CP1 Introduced Grass and Legume Establishment	20,198
CP2 Native Grass, Forb and Legume Establishment	104,159
CP3 Tree Planting	37
CP4D Permanent Wildlife Habitat Nonease	1,942
CP9 Shallow Water Areas for Wildlife	10
CP10 Veg Cover, Grass Already Est	19,800
CP11 Veg Cover, Trees Already Est	132
CP12 Wildlife Food Plot	104
CP38E State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement Grass	5,789
CP42 Pollinator Habitat	311
Subtotal	152,482
Total	153,865

Source: USDA's Farm Service Agency.

Table 3: Lincoln County Washington Top CRP Payment Recipients in 2014

Rank	Residence of CRP Payment Recipient	CRP Payment
1	Local	\$261,579
2	Local	\$135,504
3	Local	\$74,930
4	Local	\$62,908
5	Local	\$59,672
6	Local	\$56,397
7	Local	\$52,973
8	Local	\$52,432
9	Local	\$50,000
10	Local	\$50,000



Table 4: Lincoln County Washington Direct Economic Activity for Wheat in 2015

Item	Per Acre of Wheat 1/	Wheat Acres in Lincoln County 2/	Direct Economic Activity for Wheat
Wheat grain	\$318.05		
Silage/straw/grazing	\$6.78		
Total Value of Production	\$324.83	374,867	\$121,766,803
Seed	\$18.34		
Fertilizer	\$43.75		
Chemicals	\$17.95		
Custom operations	\$14.08		
Fuel, lube, and electricity	\$27.25		
Repairs	\$34.89		
Other variable expenses	\$8.16		
Interest on operating inputs	\$0.14		
Hired labor	\$9.92		
Opportunity cost of unpaid labor	\$23.18		
Capital recovery of machinery and equipment	\$121.25		
Opportunity cost of land (rental rate)	\$129.89		
Taxes and insurance	\$11.33		
General farm overhead	\$16.94		
Total Cost	\$477.07	374,867	\$178,837,623
Total Value of Production and Cost	\$801.90	374,867	\$300,604,426

1/ Source: USDA's Economic Research Service.

2/ Source: USDA's Farm Service Agency.

Table 5: Lincoln County Washington Direct Economic Activity for CRP in 2015

Item	Per Acre 1/	CRP Acres 1/	Direct Economic Activity
CRP Payments	\$56.73	164,214	\$9,315,860

Source: USDA's Farm Service Agency.