

THE LINK BETWEEN THE FARM BILL AND A HEALTHY MISSISSIPPI RIVER



**September 25, 2012
10:30 – 11:30 AM CDT
Briefing webinar
for the media**

GOALS FOR TODAY'S WEBINAR

1. Better understand need for link between conservation compliance and federal subsidies on crop insurance premiums.
2. Compliance is not an extra burden for USDA employees and assistance is available if a farmer is not in compliance.
3. Provide insights from professionals who work on farm bill conservation programs on a regular basis.





BILL GRADLE

Until his retirement in January 2012, Bill Gradle served as Illinois State Conservationist for USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) since January 1997. Bill received a Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Management from the University of Illinois in Champaign, Illinois. His NRCS career has taken him to New Mexico and California, but brought him back to his home state of Illinois.



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CRAIG LANG

Craig Lang is President and CEO of The Prairie Strategy Group, a company engaged in identifying and solving complex challenges in food production, policy and logistics. Lang is a nationally and internationally recognized consultant for rural economic development, consensus and opportunity building.



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GREG FOGEL

Greg Fogel, Policy Associate, is a graduate of the University of Michigan and the University of California, Berkeley. He holds an M.S. in Environmental Planning and a Master of Public Policy degree. Greg staffs NSAC's Conservation, Energy, & Environment Committee and coordinates NSAC's annual appropriations work.



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RECONNECTING CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE TO CROP INSURANCE

- Conservation compliance applies to
 - highly erodible lands
 - wetlands
- Compliance is only to obtain the crop insurance premium subsidy: a stewardship contract for taxpayer support
- Farmers are free to farm however they want and still get crop insurance
- More wetlands and highly erodible lands converted w/out reconnecting compliance



CONTACT INFORMATION

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THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE WEBINAR

We will make the powerpoint and other relevant materials available here:

<http://1mississippi.org/events/month/>

under the list of events for

September 25.



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MISSISSIPPI RIVER
NETWORK, PLEASE CONTACT:

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