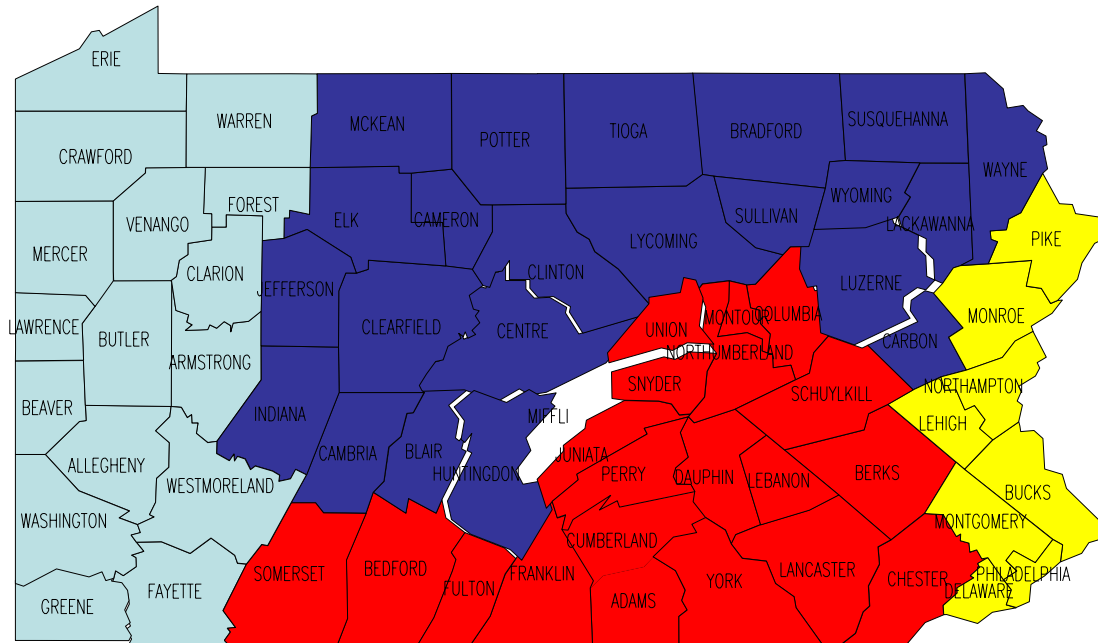


# PENNSYLVANIA CREP

- Began June 2000 in 20 Counties of the Lower Susquehanna
- Expanded 2003 to 23 Counties of Upper Susquehanna
- Ohio River CREP began April 2003

# PA CREP Areas



# PENNSYLVANIA CREP

- Current Enrollment - April 2008
  - Total CREP
    - 10,239 Contracts – 194,467 acres of 265,000 allocation
  - Chesapeake Bay
    - 9,161 Contracts – 171,703 acres of 200,000 allocation
  - Ohio River
    - 1,078 Contracts – 22,764 acres of 65,000 allocation

# Conservation Practices

- CP1 Cool Season Grasses & Legumes
- CP2 Warm Season Grasses
- CP3A Hardwood Tree Planting
- CP4D Wildlife Habitat
- CP8A Grassed Waterway
- CP9 Shallow Water Area for Wildlife

# Conservation Practices

- CP12 Wildlife Food Plots
- CP15A Contour Grass Strips
- CP21 Filter Strip (Herbaceous Buffer)
- CP22 Riparian (Forest) Buffer
- CP23 Wetland Restoration
- CP29 Marginal Pasture Wildlife Hab Buffer
- CP30 Marginal Pasture Wetland Buffer

# PENNSYLVANIA CREP

- Enrollment Highlights
  - Native Grasses
    - 38,000 acres established or to be established
    - Biomass potential at expiration of contract
  - Buffer Practices
    - 24,000 total acres in buffer practices/wetland practices
    - 21,162 Acres of Riparian Forested Buffers

# PENNSYLVANIA CREP

- CREP Payment Summary
  - To Date \$106,195,100.00 Federal dollars to Pennsylvania (see handout)
  - Cost Share to Establish Practices
    - \$28,000,000 of federal cost share
    - Estimated \$22,000,000 State Cost Share to Date
    - \$17,000,000 of Federal Cost Share total to riparian forested buffer (60% of total)

# PENNSYLVANIA CREP

- Monitoring
  - Water Quality
  - Grassland Birds
    - On-going research by PSU and PGC
    - Positive response
    - Birds using CREP acres
    - Increase in number of birds and variety of species

# PENNSYLVANIA CREP

- ISSUES

- Whole Farm Enrollment

- Most contracts are small acreage
    - Average Contract Size – 19 acres

- Landlord/Tenant

- Some Issues but tenants signing releases

- Erodibility

- Average EI above 20

# PENNSYLVANIA CREP

- FUTURE ISSUES

- Farm Bill

- Extension or New
    - Reauthorization of CRP/CREP (likely)
    - CRP National Acreage Cap
      - Current 39 million acres
      - Proposed 32 million acres
      - Currently 34 million acres enrolled

# PENNSYLVANIA CREP

- Future Issues (continued)
  - Re-enrollment of CREP Acres
    - Possible option to re-enroll CREP acres when current contract expires
    - Receive higher rental payment incentive but no signing incentive
    - Promote practice maintenance on most sensitive area

# PENNSYLVANIA CREP

- Future Issues (continued)
  - CREP partners lobbied to get additional herbicide applications to help establish Riparian Forested Buffers
  - DC approved 2 additional applications on case by case basis
  - Protect large investment USDA/State has into this practice and its water quality benefits
  - Rolling this out very soon