

RICELAND[®]

NEXT-GEN IMPACT PROGRAM[™]

USDA ADVANCING MARKETS FOR PRODUCERS INITIATIVE

CONSERVATION RICE INCENTIVES

Funds available for:

- ✓ Supplies + equipment to help implement or monitor conservation practices (<\$10,000 per piece of equipment)
- ✓ Consulting + planning services to aid in implementing conservation practices
- ✓ Technology and data utilization services to help finetune field-level conservation management
- ✓ Conservation education + training
- ✓ Funding is available for up to \$50,000 per producer in 2026*
*Cap includes Rice Premium Program funding

CONTACT US

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Funding Opportunity: Conservation Rice Incentives

Next-Gen Impact Program

Program Overview

The **Conservation Rice Incentives** are a component of Riceland's *Next-Gen Impact Program*, funded by USDA's Advancing Markets for Producers Initiative and delivered in partnership with Winrock International. The program also includes the **Conservation Rice Premiums**, which provides premium payments to producers implementing conservation management.

Through the Conservation Rice Incentives, eligible rice producers may enroll their operation to receive an **"Incentive"** to support activities that strengthen conservation management implementation and improve farm profitability. All activities must benefit the specific fields enrolled in the program as well as specific practices selected.

Eligible Incentive Activities

Producers may request funding for one or more of the following categories:

Technology and Data Utilization

Precision agriculture tools and technologies that improve conservation outcomes, including:

- Nutrient management optimization
 - *Example: Soil sampling, variable rate applications,*
- Remote sensing technology
 - *Example: Soil moisture sensor service fee, grain bin monitoring service fee, satellite imagery service fee*
- Conservation-focused farm management tools
 - *Example: precision ag subscriptions i.e. (climate field view, My John Deere, Field Ops)*

Consulting and Planning Services

Tools and professional services related to conservation practice implementation.

- Agronomy services related to conservation practice implementation
 - *Example: Hire an agronomist to complete a nutrient management plan, soil testing services, provide consulting services on cover crop management, crop rotation planning, irrigation water management services.*
- Drone Consulting Services
 - *Crop monitoring, yield mapping, topographical analysis*
- Financial Analysis

- *Example: Conservation Farm Profitability Analysis.*

Conservation Supplies & Equipment (not to exceed \$10,000 per piece of equipment)

Equipment that supports conservation practice implementation, including:

- Conservation practice implementation supplies
 - *Examples: Cover crop seed, irrigation equipment and supplies*
- Grain bin management system improvements
 - *Examples: API grain bin monitoring system*
- Drones or other precision ag equipment

Conservation Education & Training

- Educational opportunities related to conservation practice management and implementation.
 - *Example: Cotton and Rice conference, Arkansas soil and water, USA Rice outlook conference. (can include up to 3 farm employees for conference fees).*

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet all project eligibility requirements, including **USDA eligibility and compliance requirements**. Producers must also be **properly registered with the Farm Service Agency (FSA)**. Conservation Incentives applicants must also participate in the premium program. Exceptions will be made on a limited case by case basis. Please discuss your individual circumstances with your Riceland representative if you are unable to participate in the premium program.

Application Timeline

Applications will be accepted:

May 1, 2026 – November 30, 2026

Funding Cap

For 2026, the **Next-Gen Impact Program** has a **\$50,000 total cap per producer**. This cap includes both:

- Conservation Rice Premium payments (Premium Program), and
- Conservation Advancement Incentives

Application Requirements for Conservation Rice Incentives

At the time of program enrollment, applicants must prepare and submit to Riceland:

- An **incentive application form** which includes clear descriptions of how each budget item supports the proposed project activity.
- A **budget table** outlining estimated costs for each proposed activity.

Riceland will submit your Conservation Incentives application package along with your Conservation Rice Premiums enrollment documents to Winrock. Upon receipt of the completed enrollment package, you will receive a confirmation email from Winrock approving your application with directions for next steps.

Incentive Completion Requirements

Successful applicants are encouraged to complete the following within 30 days after project activities are finished, but are required to submit the following no later than **February 28, 2027**:

1. Compile and submit **all receipts and supporting documentation to Winrock.**
2. Submit a **Final Incentive Report after** completing project activities.

Reimbursement Process

Producers will be reimbursed for Incentive costs once **Winrock receives**:

- The Final Incentive Report approved by Winrock
- All receipts and supporting documentation. Expenses must have been incurred in 2026 for 2026 conservation activities and projects. Expenses from 2025 or earlier will not be accepted nor reimbursed.

Producers receiving a **Conservation Rice Incentive** will also be enrolled in the **Conservation Rice Premium Program**. Payments for both programs will be issued **with a single direct deposit electronic payment**. If your activities will be split among more than one business entity, you must identify on the Incentive Application the entities to receive the funds. You must also provide appropriate direct deposit information for each entity receiving funds.

For payment to be issued, Winrock must also receive required documentation for the **Premiums**, which includes a **Rice Bushels Report**, and the **Conservation Checklist** verifying conservation practice implementation in addition to the required incentive documentation. Riceland will assist producers with compiling and submitting those.

2026 Conservation Rice Incentives Application Form

NEXT-GEN IMPACT PROGRAM

APPLICANT INFORMATION

PRODUCER NAME (FIRST, LAST)

NAME OF ENTITY/ENTITIES APPLYING FOR CONSERVATION RICE INCENTIVES:

EMAIL ADDRESS OF PRODUCER:

PRODUCER PHONE NUMBER:

RICE PRODUCTION SEASON:

TOTAL REQUESTED INCENTIVE AMOUNT (TOTAL FROM BUDGET IN APPLICATION):

PROCEED TO NEXT PAGE TO FILL OUT PROJECT DETAILS

2026 Conservation Rice Incentives Application Form

NEXT-GEN IMPACT PROGRAM

PROJECT DETAILS

DESCRIBE THE PROJECT ACTIVITIES YOU'D LIKE TO ACCOMPLISH USING THESE GRANT FUNDS. BE SPECIFIC. INCLUDE THE CONSERVATION PRACTICES ASSOCIATED WITH YOUR PROPOSED ACTIVITIES IN YOUR DESCRIPTION.

WHICH CATEGORY OR CATEGORIES DO YOUR PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FALL UNDER? WHAT IS YOUR PROPOSED BUDGET FOR EACH? CHECK ALL CATEGORIES OF WORK YOU'LL APPLY FOR AND FILL OUT THE BUDGET TABLE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE WITH ALL SUPPLIES AND SERVICES NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT YOUR PROJECT.

- Conservation Equipment + Supplies. Est. Budget:
- Conservation Consulting + Planning Services. Est. Budget:
- Conservation Technology and Data . Est. Budget:
- Conservation Education + Training . Est. Budget:

DESCRIBE HOW THIS PROJECT WOULD HELP ADVANCE CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT IN RICE PRODUCTION ON YOUR OPERATION. PLEASE BE SPECIFIC.

SIGNATURE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF APPROVAL & REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

By signing below, I acknowledge and agree that: (1) this application represents a proposed project and budget, and I will receive email confirmation from Winrock International indicating approval or requesting modifications; (2) I am not eligible for reimbursement for any materials or services purchased unless and until I receive written approval via email; (3) upon approval of the application, I will adhere to the proposed project and budget and will not make any changes without prior written approval from Winrock International and (4) I am required to submit a final grant report, including all relevant receipts and supporting documentation, by February 28, 2027, in order to receive reimbursement of costs.

Signature

Date

2026 Conservation Rice Incentives Application Form

NEXT-GEN IMPACT PROGRAM

BUDGET TABLE

Incentive Category (Equipment + Supplies, Consulting and Planning Services, Technology + Data Services, Conservation Training + Education)	Description of Item/Service	Unit Cost	Total Cost Requested
Total Budget Request:			