

## Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)

The WHIP program is a voluntary program for people who want to develop or improve wildlife habitat on their land. It provides both the technical assistance and incentive funding needed to help establish and improve fish and wildlife habitat.

Landowners prepare and implement a wildlife habitat development plan.

Land that is not eligible for other state or federal conservation programs may be eligible for WHIP.

### **What's Eligible?**

*Any landowner is eligible to participate. Almost any type of land may be eligible, including:*

- Grassland
- Wooded land
- Pastureland
- Wetlands
- Streams and riparian area
- Agricultural or non-agricultural land

WHIP proposals will be evaluated based on Minnesota wildlife concerns.

*WHIP applications will be ranked on a number of factors, including:*

- Type of habitat to establish or manage
- Proximity to other wildlife area
- Expected habitat quality improvement
- Benefits to at risk species.

### **Land that is not eligible:**

- Land currently enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), is not eligible.
- Land is also ineligible if it is being used for mitigation to remedy violations, or the site is owned by the Federal Government, or is USDA determines that onsite or offsite conditions would undermine or reduce the benefits of the habitat development.

Applications are taken on a continuous basis, with ranking and funding done periodically throughout the year.

