

# Regional Conservation Partnership Program

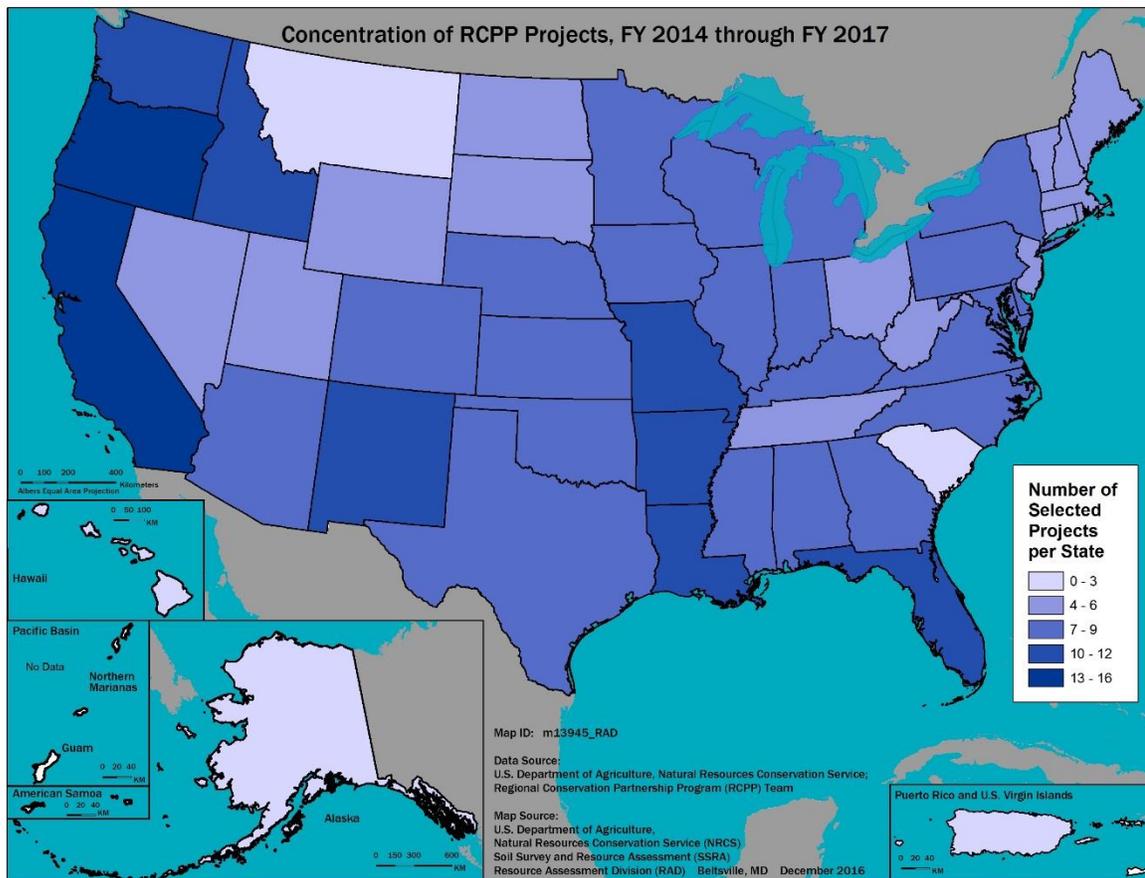
Investing in Kansas



## Regional Conservation Partnership Program

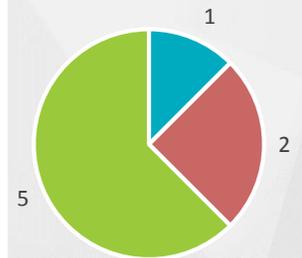
Created by the 2014 Farm Bill, the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) is a partner-driven, locally-led approach to conservation. It offers new opportunities for USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to harness innovation, welcome new partners to the conservation mission, and demonstrates the value and efficacy of voluntary, private lands conservation.

In 2017, NRCS is investing up to \$225 million in 88 projects that impact nearly every state in the nation, including one in Kansas. Since 2014, NRCS has invested more than \$825 million in 286 high-impact projects, bringing together more than 2,000 conservation partners who have invested an additional \$1.4 billion. By 2018, NRCS and partners will have invested at least \$2.4 billion. These projects are leading to cleaner and more abundant water, better soil and air quality, enhance wildlife habitat, more resilient and productive agricultural lands and stronger rural economies.



### Kansas Projects to Date

#### Projects by Resource Concern



- Water Quantity/Drought
- Water Quality
- Wildlife Habitat

**8**

Projects

**\$37.4 million**

NRCS Investment

**80**

Partners

## Existing RCPP Projects

Year	Title	Funding Pool	Lead Partner	Number of Partners	NRCS Investment
2016	Improving Working Lands for Monarch Butterflies	National	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	12	\$6 million
2016	Native Grazing Lands Protection in the Plains	National	The Nature Conservancy	7	\$3.6 million
2014/2015	Advanced Irrigation Water Management on the High Plains Aquifer in Kansas	State	Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District 3	11	\$2.4 million
2014/2015	Kansas Pheasant Initiative	State	Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism	7	\$800,000
2014/2015	Improving Water Quality through The Implementation of Forestry Practices and the Assessment of Riparian Systems in Kansas Priority Watersheds	National	Kansas State University	10	\$13 million
2014/2015	Middle and Lower Neosho River Basin Regional Conservation Partnership Program Project	National	Oklahoma Conservation Commission Water Quality Division	12	\$4 million
2014/2015	Regional Grassland Bird and Grazing Lands Enhancement Initiative	National	The Missouri Department of Conservation	15	\$5 million

## 2017 RCPP Projects

### Kansas Wetland Easements

Proposed NRCS Investment: \$2,607,100 (State)

Lead Partner: Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Number of Initial Partners: 6

Participating States: Kansas (Lead State)

Through the Kansas Wetlands Easements project, Duck Unlimited and partners will assist with the delivery of Agricultural Conservation Easement program on priority Kansas wetlands, with 800 or more additional protected easement acres. The project will provide landowner outreach and education and assist with the application process and site restoration. Conservation priorities will include protecting and restoring sensitive wildlife habitat, groundwater recharge and improving water quality.

