



The Nebraska Environmental Trust

preserving NATURAL NEBRASKA™ for future generations

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nebraska Department of Natural Resources Receives Grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust

Lincoln, NE –April 19, 2005–The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources announced today that it will receive \$30,000 from the Nebraska Environmental Trust for the Nebraska Augmentation Program for USDA Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Efforts. The Trust Board announced funding for the project at its last meeting on April 7 in Lincoln. The Nebraska Augmentation Program for USDA CREP Efforts is one of the 72 projects receiving \$9,046,319 in lottery proceeds this year from the Nebraska Environmental Trust.

The purpose of Nebraska Augmentation Program for USDA CREP Efforts is to help reduce the quantity of water being used for irrigated agriculture in selected areas of the Platte and Republican River Basins in Nebraska. The targeted areas have an imbalance between surface water supplies and demand. This program can help those areas adjust as long-term water management plans are developed and implemented. Cost share funds will be provided to landowners to seed areas to grass, reducing water use in these water-short areas while providing major conservation benefits to the state. Conservation practices to be used include native grass, filter strips, wetland restoration, wildlife habitat, riparian buffers, and rare and declining habitat.

The Nebraska Legislature created the Nebraska Environmental Trust in 1992. Using revenue from the Nebraska Lottery, the Trust has provided grants to 790 projects across the state. Anyone – citizens, organizations, communities, farmers and businesses – can apply for funding to protect habitat, improve water quality and establish recycling programs in Nebraska. The Nebraska Environmental Trust works to preserve, protect and restore our natural resources for future generations.

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