

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 11, 2021

Terry Cosby
Chief
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Chief Cosby:

We are writing to express our support for the application submitted by North Dakota Agricultural Mitigation (NDAM) to the Wetland Mitigation Banking Program (WMBP). Thank you for your consideration.

Providing agriculture producers with resources to meet conservation compliance requirements is vital, especially in states like North Dakota that are located in the Prairie Pothole Region. Wetland mitigation banking gives producers a valuable tool to use when wetland avoidance or on-site mitigation presents challenges.

The NDAM is a coalition of several farm groups, including the North Dakota Corn Growers Association, North Dakota Farm Bureau, North Dakota Farmers Union, North Dakota Grain Growers Association, North Dakota Soybean Growers Association, and the U.S. Durum Growers Association. The group is focused on providing North Dakota agriculture producers with an efficient and cost-effective program for wetland mitigation. In order to achieve this goal, NDAM plans to leverage funds from the WMBP with private investment to establish a mitigation bank, creating more than 200 acres of credits. These efforts will help ensure producers remain conservation compliant, while allowing them to continue producing high-quality, low-cost commodities.

We strongly believe NDAM's application meets the requirements, goals and congressional intent of the WMBP. Accordingly, we hope that this application receives your favorable consideration. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Please keep us informed of the review process and feel free to contact our offices should you have any updates or inquiries.

Sincerely,



John Hoeven
U.S. Senator



Kevin Cramer
U.S. Senator



Kelly Armstrong
U.S. Congressman