

LCRA HB 1437 AGRICULTURAL WATER CONSERVATION COST-SHARE PROGRAM

Apply for up to 50% of the cost of laser land leveling and structures for water control

The Agricultural Water Conservation Cost-Share Program encourages on-farm agricultural water conservation measures by providing funding to help with surveying, touching up permanently leveled fields and converting fields with temporary levees to permanent levees.

Who can apply?

LCRA interruptible water customers in the Gulf Coast, Garwood and Lakeside agricultural divisions

What types of projects are eligible?

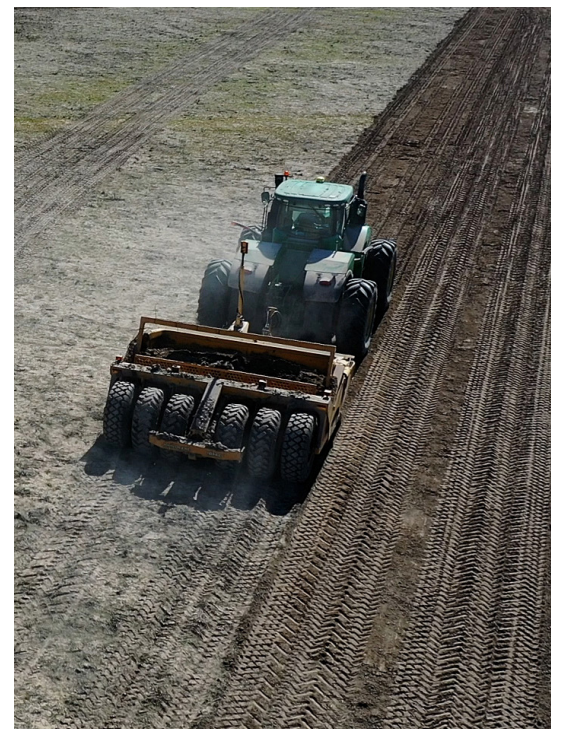
Laser land leveling and structures for water control, as defined by Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

What is not eligible?

- Fields that have never been laser land leveled.
- Fields less than 70% irrigated with water from LCRA.
- Fields that have not been irrigated with water from LCRA at least twice in the past 10 years.

How is this program different from LCRA's 2006-2013 land leveling cost-share program?

- A NRCS EQIP funding match is not required.
- A survey for the new design must have been completed within the last three years.
- The field design must include permanent levees with an average field levee density of less than 0.10 levees per acre and at least two internal overflow structures per levee. Fields less than 20 acres are exempt from the average field levee density requirement.
- Land leveling maintenance touch-up work must be completed every five to six years during the contract term.
- Structures for water control, including field perimeter and in-field lateral multiple inlets and overflow structures within permanent levees, are eligible for funding.



Requirements consistent with the previous cost-share program

- A match of at least 20% from the producer.
- 15-year contract term.

How to apply for a grant

- Complete the online application at www.lcra.org/agwaterconservation.
- The application requires a recent land survey and a design contour map for the proposed project.



APPLICATION DEADLINE

Jan. 31, 2024

More about the program

- Project design and completed work must be inspected by an LCRA-certified inspector.
- Funds awarded may be lower than the amount requested, depending on the number and type of projects being funded.
- LCRA and the grant recipient must sign an agreement before funding is released.
- Recipients must complete the project within two years of the date the grant is awarded.
- The field must be placed in rice production within one year of the project completion date, or at the earliest practicable date after that time if LCRA has curtailed interruptible water supply.
- Previously funded projects must be complete before an additional project is funded.
- LCRA will prioritize applications meeting these criteria:
 - The field was leveled at least 15 years ago through the NRCS or Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, and the field has not been redesigned since.
 - The proposed field design has only permanent levees with an average field levee density of less than 0.10 levees per acre.
 - The field is 100% irrigated with water from LCRA.

Questions?

Contact Senior Water Conservation Coordinator Stacy Pandey at stacy.pandey@lcra.org or 800-776-5272, ext. 7471.

