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United States Senate

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AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY
ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES
SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON AGING
JOINT ECONOMIC
COMMITTEE
SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ETHICS
VETERANS

Mr. Ernest D. Ables Idaho Chapter, The Wildlife Society University of Idaho Moscow, 83844

Dear Ernest:

Thank you for contacting me with your views regarding the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). I appreciate having the benefit of your thoughts.

I generally support CRP and am pleased that Idahoans have benefitted from this program in the past. Many farmers from our state have contacted me and shared their views and suggestions regarding CRP.

It is anticipated that the CRP provisions of the 1995 Farm Bill will require a more careful targeting of CRP land to include primarily highly erodible and environmentally sensitive areas. This may result in an overall reduction of land which would be eligible for CRP. Efforts are also under way to ensure that the CRP rental rate is more representative of local cash rental rates so that the amount paid to farmers is closer to the actual market value.

I hope this information is helpful. As a member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, I appreciate being kept informed of your views as the Committee reviews this important matter. Feel free to contact me again if you have any further questions or comments.

Sincerely,

LARRY E. CRAIG United States Senator

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