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I have an idea for the 2007 farm bill. I think that anyone receiving a LDP or participating in any USDA farm program should have to put 1% of there total enrolled land into CRP or some kind of set a side program. This would help raise the price of grain, by reducing the amount of grain produced. It would also benefit the environment, which would in return benefit all tax payers. (cleaner water, cleaner air, wildlife habitat) The farmer would be allowed to pick which land they enroll, of course they would pick their worst most marginal land that probably shouldn?t be farmed anyway. Land bordering drainage ditches, sloughs, and lakes could earn extra points. This land should be planted in some kind of grass or riparian buffer strip for a term of five years or more. If the farm refuses to do this, no more LDP. The farmer would receive a LDP payment on the set aside land. The USDA can provide the seed the farmer will provide the labor and equipment needed to plant it. This marginal land only produces a profitably crop once out of ever three to five years. If the farmer didn?t have to spend their time, fuel, wear and tear on equipment and seed costs on this land, and with the LDP payment they would be money ahead.

Chad Yaeger