

IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

# CONSERVATION AND CROP INSURANCE

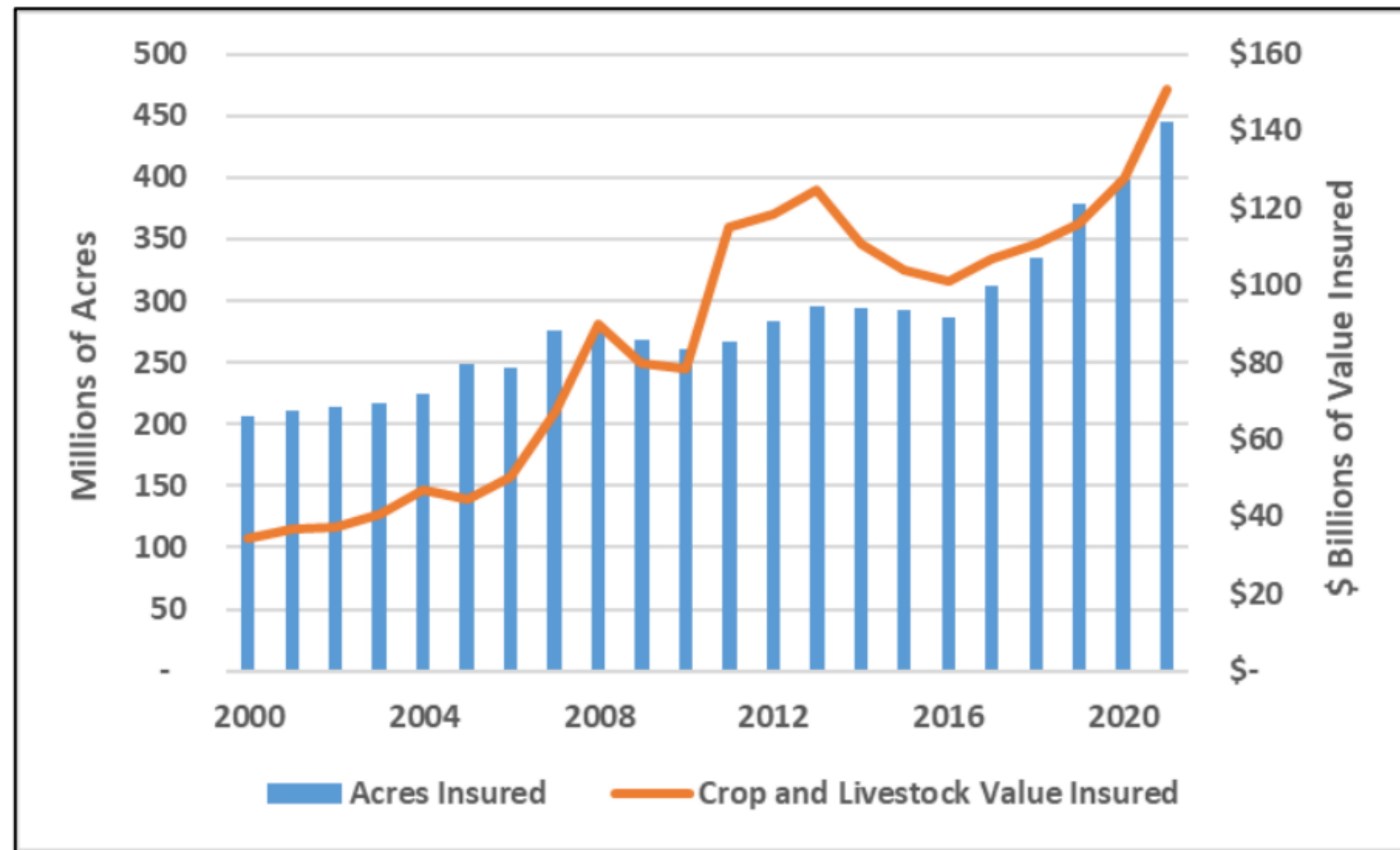




# FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE



**Figure 1. Acres and Value Insured by the Federal Crop Insurance Program, 2000-2021**



Congressional Research Service

**444 million** acres  
insured (2021)

**880 million** acres ag  
land (2022)

**382 million** acres  
cropland (2022)

# FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE



**1,900,487** farms & ranches in the United States (2022)

**369,393** farms & ranches enrolled in federal crop  
insurance (2022)

# FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE



**More than 90%** of planted acres for corn, soybeans, and cotton and **more than 85%** of wheat planted acres were insured through FCIP (2019).

# REDUCE BARRIERS TO CONSERVATION



## Good Farming Practices (GFP)

- Established by the Risk Management Agency (RMA).
- Cover crops added to GFP in 2018 Farm Bill.
- RMA added ALL Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) conservation practices added to GFP in Dec. 2023.
  - Senate proposal - would align.

# INCENTIVIZE THE GOOD



## Discounts in Senate framework:

- Directs USDA to consider offering discounts for cover crops, crop rotations, precision irrigation or fertilization.
- Federal match of state cover crop payments up to \$5/acre.
  - USDA can provide similar matching for other conservation practices likely to improve long-term soil fertility.

# DISINCENTIVIZE THE BAD



## Sodsaver

- Reduces crop insurance premium subsidies by 50% on newly broken sod for 4 years.
  - APH is limited to 65% of T-yield.
- Currently in Prairie Pothole Region: IA, MN, MT, NE, ND, SD.
- Senate proposal would make nationwide.
  - Estimated to save \$50 million over 10 years.



# ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS



## Senate framework:

- Directs research and development on a policy to insure crops on fields regularly using cover crops.



# EXPAND, IMPROVE ACCESS



Photo: Drew Dietz



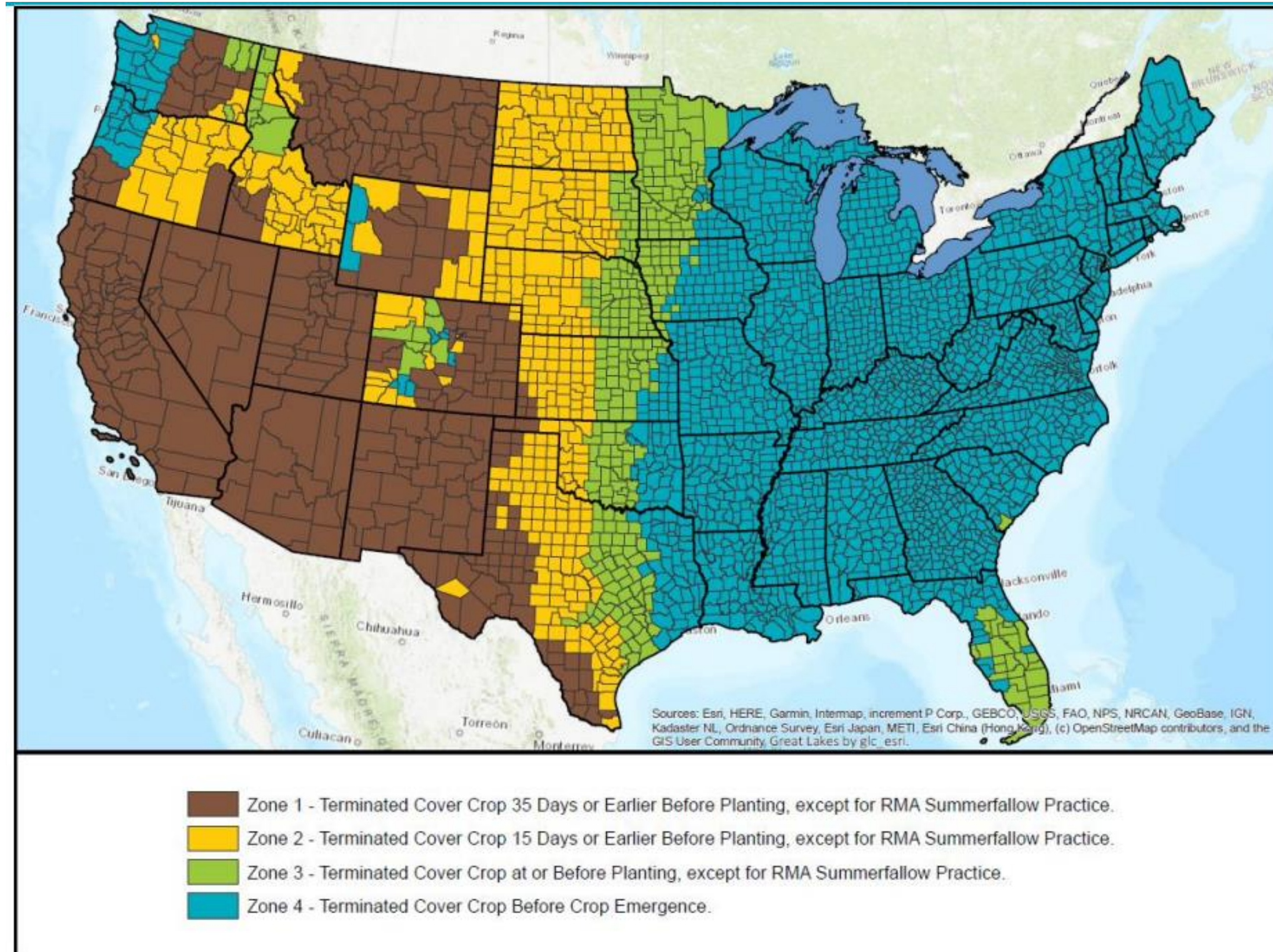
# EXPAND, IMPROVE ACCESS



**38,678 acres** of oats for grain, Iowa  
(2022)

**11,356 acres** of oats insured, Iowa  
(2022)

# EXPAND, IMPROVE ACCESS



USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA



**THANK YOU**  
[khansen@iwla.org](mailto:khansen@iwla.org)

