

Open Fields and Waters (OFW)

97% of Nebraska's land base is privately owned



OFW is a voluntary program that offers financial incentives to landowners willing to allow public walk-in access for hunting, trapping and fishing.



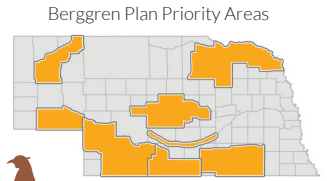
381,643 acres enrolled statewide in 2021-22 (RECORD HIGH)

42.9 stream miles enrolled for fishing access warm & cool water streams

42 ponds and lakes enrolled

Over **1/3** of upland gamebird harvest occurs on publicly accessible lands

In 2021, NGPC biologists added 10,982 acres of OFW lands within the Berggren Plan priority areas.



Since 2016, public access opportunities for upland gamebirds increased by:

116%



OFW: Increasing Access to Private Lands in Nebraska

How it works:

Hunters and anglers purchase permits and habitat stamps. By purchasing a habitat stamp and a hunting, fishing or fur harvest permit, you are contributing to this program.

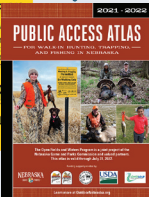


Permit and habitat stamp dollars are matched with contributions from other conservation partners, USDA's Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program and Pittman-Robertson Act funds to provide incentives to landowners.



Private landowners that enroll in OFW receive annual payments and are afforded liability protection through the Nebraska Recreation Liability Act.

Properties are evaluated by NGPC to ensure high-quality sites are enrolled. Incentives are offered to landowners to create and enhance habitat on their land.



Maps of OFW properties and other public lands are published in the Public Access Atlas.

Hunters, trappers, and anglers have more access to high-quality private lands. OFW lands provide excellent opportunities on a wide variety of habitat types.



Thank you hunters and anglers!

Because of your contributions, thousands of acres of important habitat are restored, maintained, and made accessible to public hunting and angling in Nebraska.

Learn more at OutdoorNebraska.org/OFW

