

## Moran's Eighth "Partners in Conservation" Tour to be Held Next Week in North Central Kansas

House Agriculture Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte to Join in Tour

SALINA - Congressman Jerry Moran has announced his upcoming conservation tour to learn more about conservation efforts in north central Kansas. This year's First District "Partners in Conservation" tour will feature stops in -----Republic, Jewell, Cloud, Mitchell, Lincoln and Saline Counties on Monday and Tuesday, April 17 and 18. Joining Moran on the tour will be Congressman Bob Goodlatte, Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee.

"Conservation efforts and issues affecting rural areas are at the forefront in Kansas," Moran said. "This conservation tour is an opportunity to share with my colleague, Chairman Goodlatte, the efforts of conservation stakeholders in Kansas as they work together to improve our state's natural resources. The Chairman and I will take this input back to Washington, D.C. with us as we begin discussions on the 2007 Farm Bill."

"Kansas producers understand the importance of conserving natural resources," Goodlatte said. "I look forward to traveling to Kansas with my fellow Agriculture Committee colleague and friend of agriculture Jerry Moran and seeing first hand some of the conservation issues affecting Kansans."

Moran has held regular conservation tours to study conservation practices in various parts of the state. This year's tour, the eighth of its kind, will focus on a variety of conservation issues important to Kansas including water use and conservation, wildlife habitat protection, CRP re-enrollment and other conservation programs offered by the Department of Agriculture.

Anyone interested is invited to attend at any point during the tour. The schedule is as follows:

Monday, April 17, 2006

9:00 a.m. Opening Comments, Introductions and Instructions

Republic County - Tour Stop: USDA Service Center

1319 23rd Street, Belleville

9:45 a.m. Conservation Reserve Program Re-enrollment, Quality and Maintenance Issues

Republic County - Field Tour: David Heyka Farm

§ Driving Directions: From USDA Service Center, west on 23rd Street to Highway 81; north on Highway 81 to Lincoln Road (or L Road); west on Lincoln about 4 miles to 140 Road; north  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile on 140 Road; farmstead on west side of the road

11:00 a.m. Water Conservation, Lovewell Reservoir Operations and Lower Republican Water Supply Study

Jewell County - Field Tour: Lovewell State Park, Southwinds Group Shelter

§ Driving Directions: From Heyka Farm, 5 miles north on Highway 81; 22 miles west on Fur Road/CR-334 to Weber;  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile past Weber Cemetery turn south; 1 mile to Lovewell State Park, continue to Southwinds Group Shelter

12:15 p.m. Lunch

Jewell County - Formoso Senior Center

108 N. Main, Formoso

\*\* Those interested in attending, please contact the Hutchinson District Office of Congressman Moran at (620) 665-6138.

§ Driving Directions: From city of Lovewell, south on gravel road to the stop sign at Highway 36; continue south into Formoso, over railroad tracks, turn right on Patterson Street (first corner); 3 blocks west to Main Street

1:30 p.m. Renovation of Wetlands at Jamestown

Cloud County - Field Tour: Jamestown Wildlife Area

§ Driving Directions: Stop 1: 6 miles south of Formoso, 3 ½ miles east to an overlook at Jamestown Wildlife Area (JWA)

Stop 2: 1 ½ miles east, 2 ½ south to the Gun Club at JWA, across the water and to new structure.

3:00 p.m. Environmental Quality Incentives Program and Irrigation

Mitchell County - Field Tour: Steve Boehner Farm

§ Driving Directions: South to Highway 28; west on Highway 28 to Jewell; Highway 14 south to Highway 24; 9 ½ miles west from intersection of Highway 14 and Highway 24 to Felix Trail; west ¼ mile; south on Frank Lane ½ mile to (Boehner) Center Pivot

3:45 p.m. Environmental Quality Incentives Program and Livestock Waste System

Mitchell County - Field Tour: Harry Schmitt Farm

§ Driving Directions: From Highway 24, west to Great Spirit Lane (1 ½ miles), south across dam approximately 6 miles to K Road; west on K Road 8 ½ miles; south to Tipton (6 ½ miles); from 110 Road and Highway 181 intersection continue south 1 ¼ miles (ag waste site)

4:20 p.m. Wildlife Quality Incentives Program, Conservation Security Program and Environmental Quality Incentives Program

Mitchell County - Field Tour: Ringneck Ranch

§ Driving Directions: From Schmitts to Ringneck Ranch, ¾ mile south on Highway 181; ½ mile east on S Road; ½ mile south on Solomon Lane

Tuesday, April 18, 2006

8:00 a.m. PL-566 Watershed Program

Lincoln County - Field Tour: Spillman Creek Watershed Site 14

§ Driving Directions: South of Tipton on Highway 181 through Hunter; 3 miles south of Hunter, west 2 miles on East Wheat Drive (Spillman Creek Watershed Site 11); Secondary Location (if muddy roads) - from Hunter, east 2 miles; 4 miles south; 3 miles east

10:00 a.m. Kanopolis Lake Watershed Protection and Restoration Strategies and the Future of the Ogallala Aquifer

Saline County - Tour Stop: K-State Salina

2310 Centennial Road, Salina

§ Driving Directions: Highway 181 south to 60th Road to U.S. I-70; east on U.S. I-70 to U.S. I-135 (40 miles); south on U.S. I-135 (5 miles); west on Magnolia Road exit; north on Centennial Road to main entrance

11:15 a.m. Lunch

Saline County - K-State-Salina College Center Conference Room

2310 Centennial Road, Salina

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