



# Agreement Stage

## RIM Handbook

The agreement stage involves the development of two separate, but closely related, documents - the Conservation Easement Agreement and its associated Conservation Plan. The development of these two documents, in part, involves the application of practice specifications for the conservation easement programs and may occasionally require the acquisition of a flowage easement to facilitate the acquisition of the conservation easement. Therefore, the Agreement Stage section of the handbook is divided into the following four subsections for ready reference.

- I. The [Conservation Easement Agreement](#) subsection contains development instructions for the documents required to begin the real estate transaction for acquiring the conservation easement.
- II. The [Conservation Plan Development](#) subsection contains the instructions and requirements necessary to develop the conservation plan as required by the conservation easement. This plan will identify the installation and maintenance requirements for the selected conservation practices.
- III. The [Practice Specifications](#) subsection contains program policy information as it relates to cost-sharing, seeding, planting, constructing and maintaining each of the eligible conservation practices.
- IV. The [Flowage Easement](#) subsection contains information specific to acquiring the real estate rights for an associated flowage easement necessary to ensure feasibility of a conservation easement where wetlands are being restored.