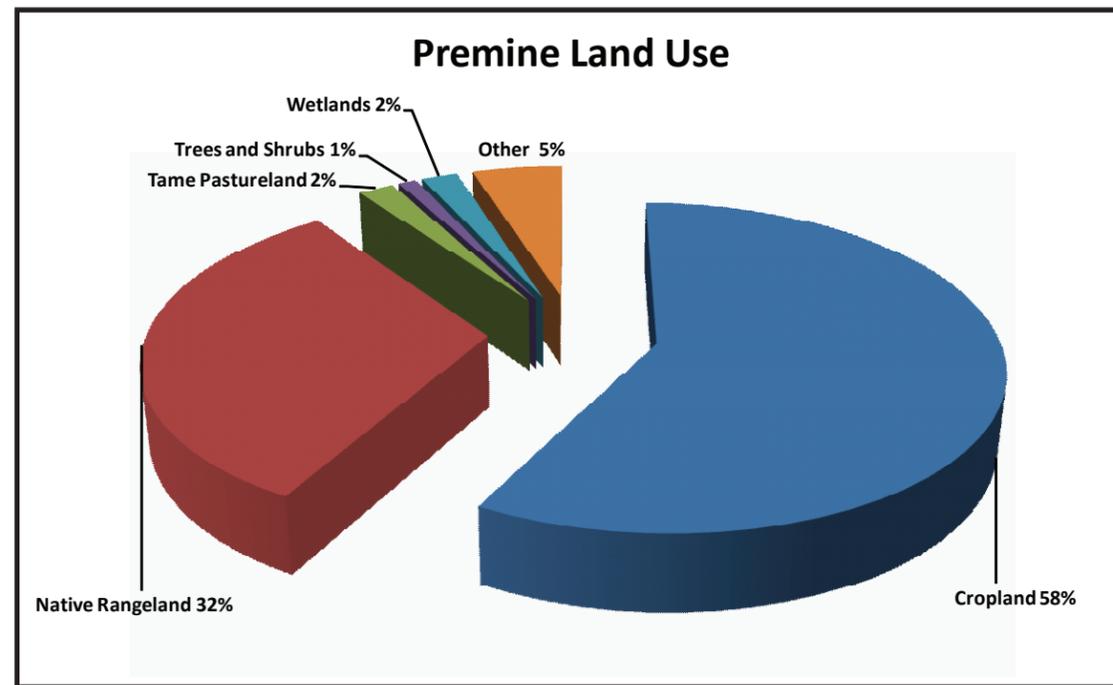
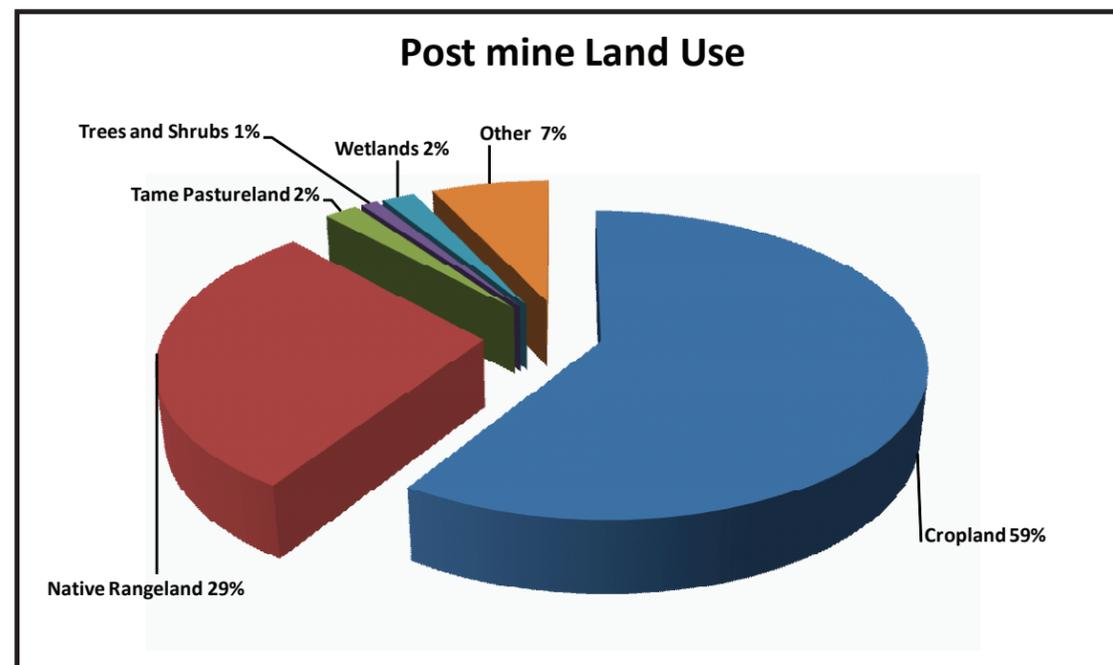


# Mine Reclamation in North Dakota



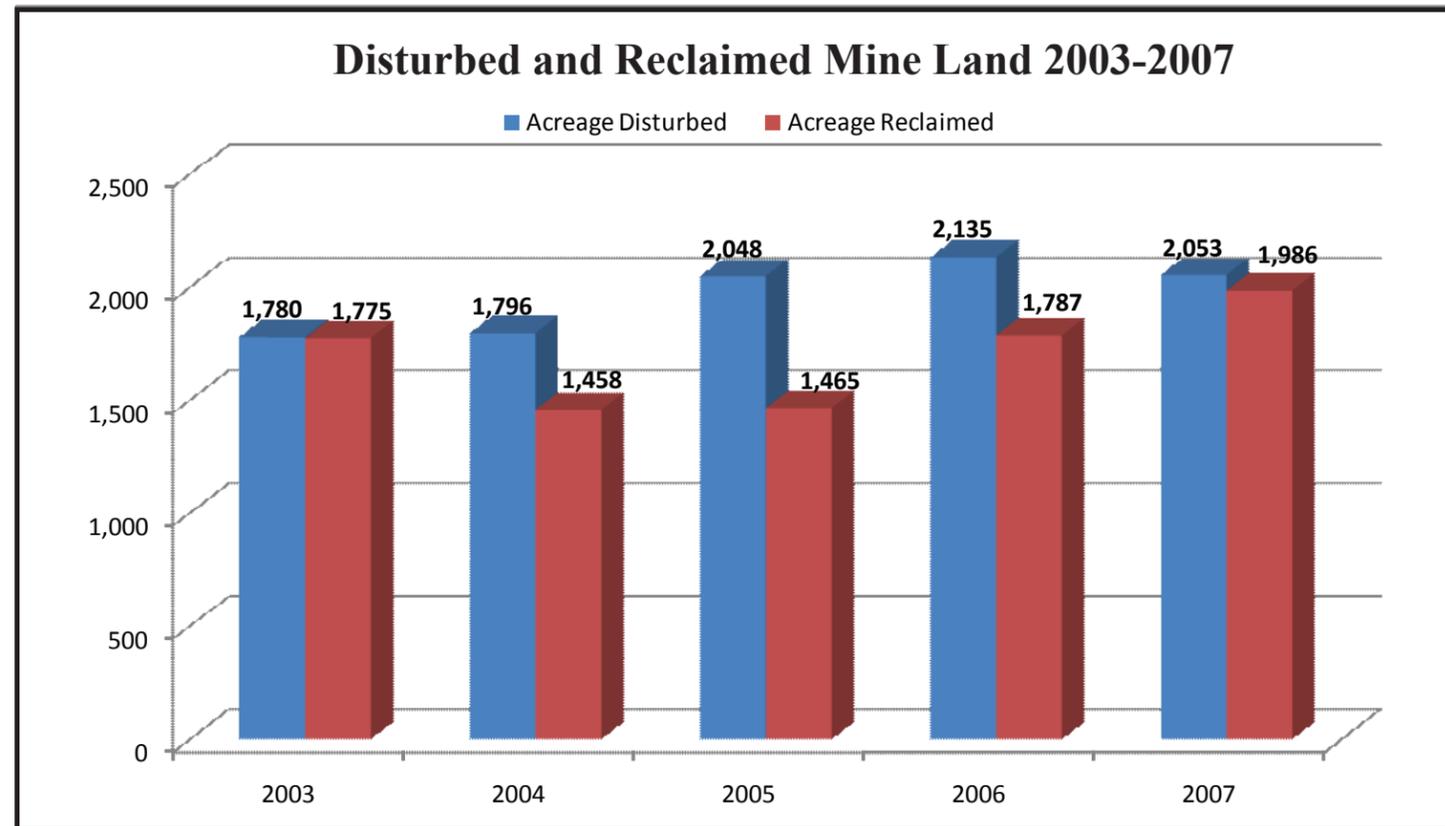
The photo to the right shows a mine pit at the Coteau Property Co.'s Freedom Mine in Mercer County. The Public Service Commission ensures that mined land is reclaimed before the company is released of its legal liability. The pie charts show that most of the land that is mined is returned to the same type it was before being mined.



The photo to the right shows reclaimed cropland land at Falkirk Mining Co.'s Falkirk Mine in McLean County. As you can see, the land was restored to a condition that allows farming operations to continue. Cropland makes up the majority of the land that is used for mining.



# Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation Fact Sheet



- ❖ North Dakota's first reclamation law was effective January 1, 1970
- ❖ Current reclamation law based on federal law became effective July 1, 1979
- ❖ Total acreage currently permitted for mining – 109,522 acres
- ❖ Acreage permitted since January 1, 2003 – 36,916 acres
- ❖ Total acreage that has received Final Bond Release – 15,803 acres
- ❖ Acreage that has received Final Bond Release since January 1, 2003 – 5,495 acres
- ❖ Acreage of pending Final Bond Release applications – 3,111 acres
- ❖ Coal Production for Fiscal Year 2007 – 30.5 million tons of lignite
- ❖ Major coal mines in North Dakota include: BNI Coal Ltd.'s Center Mine in Oliver County, Coteau Property Co.'s Freedom Mine in Mercer County, Dakota Westmoreland's Beulah Mine in Mercer and Oliver counties and Falkirk Mining Co.'s Falkirk Mine in McLean County