November 2013

Appropriate grazing management can greatly increase the amount of forage produced per acre, at the same time protecting water quality.

## What is a GMP CAP?

A Grazing Management Plan (GMP) is a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) which documents how pasture land will be managed for forage production and to address resource concerns. Proper grazing management results in improved pasture forage yields, improved forage utilization by livestock, and protection of the natural resources. In addition, for organic producers needing to meet the Pasture Rule, a GMP will provide an estimate of the amount of pasture forage available to meet the pasture dry matter intake requirements.

A GMP is developed in accordance with the NRCS Criteria outlined for this CAP. The plan includes:

- Producer Objectives
- Evaluation of existing resources, such as soils, pasture condition, current management, existing infrastructure (fence, laneways, watering system), and resource concerns

- Type, number and size or class of livestock grazing, and their daily dry matter intake needs
- Number of available grazing acres
- Contingency planning for mud, drought, and winter conditions
- Planned forage/animal balance
- Monitoring Plan
- Recordkeeping

In addition to Prescribed Grazing
Management principles and practices,
the plan may include other supporting
conservation practices such as Fence,
Watering Facility, Forage and Biomass
Planting, and Nutrient Management.
These practices can help you to better
manage your pasture resources. They
are potentially eligible for some funding
in a future Environmental Quality
Incentives Program (EQIP) contract.

# **Developing a GMP**

Grazing Management Plans will be developed by an independent Technical Service Provider (TSP). You will be responsible for contacting and hiring the TSP. You can find the names of certified TSPs at <a href="http://techreg.usda.gov/">http://techreg.usda.gov/</a>, or through your local NRCS office (listed on page 2).

# **Payment Information**

The NRCS payments for a GMP are fixed, regardless of what a TSP charges for the plan. Participants are responsible for paying the difference. The current rates for a GMP are:

Component	2014 Payment Rate
-	General / HU*
< 100 acres	\$736 / \$884
101-1,500 acres	\$1,933 / \$2,320
1,500-5,000 acres	\$3,222 / \$3,866
>5,000 acres	\$4,142 / \$4,971

Applications are being accepted on a continuous basis. However, applications received by **December 20, 2013** will be considered for funding in 2014.

### **Need More Information? Contact:**

# **Androscoggin/Sagadahoc Counties**

254 Goddard Road Lewiston, ME 04241-1938 Tel: 207-753-9400

### **Aroostook County:**

Central Aroostook 735 Main Street, Suite #3 Presque Isle, ME 04769 Tel: 207-764-4153

Southern Aroostook 304 North Street Houlton, ME 04730-9527 Tel: 207-532-2087

St. John Valley 139 Market Street, Suite 106 Fort Kent. ME 04743-1425 Tel: 207-834-3311

### **Cumberland and York Counties**

306 U.S. Route 1, Suite A1 Scarborough, ME 04074-9774

Tel: 207-883-0159

## Franklin County

107 Park Street Farmington, ME 04938-1915 Tel: 207-778-4767

# **Hancock County**

1423 Broadway, Suite #4 Bangor, ME 04401 Tel: 207-947-6622 ext. 5

## Kennebec and Lincoln Counties

Central Maine Commerce Center 21 Enterprise Drive, Suite #1 Augusta, ME 04330

Tel: 207-622-7847

# **Oxford County**

17 Olson Road So. Paris, ME 04281 Tel: 207-743-5789

### Penobscot County

1423 Broadway, Suite #2 Bangor, ME 04401 Tel: 207-947-6622

### **Piscataguis County**

42 Engdahl Drive Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426-3717 Tel: 207-564-2321

### Somerset County

12 High Street, Suite #3 Skowhegan, ME 04976-1998 Tel: 207-474-8324

### Waldo and Knox Counties

266 Waterville Road Belfast, ME 04915-1224 Tel: 207-338-1964

### **Washington County**

8 M & M Place, #5B Machias, ME 04654-0121

Tel: 207-255-3995