



UTAH CSP ENHANCEMENTS/PRACTICES

March 2005

Utah Enhancement Activities/New Practices

UT-CSP-EA

Enhancement Activities

Enhancements activities refer to actions that provide resource benefits beyond the level prescribed by NRCS Conservation Practice Standards. Once implemented, Enhancement Activities should result in an observable or measurable improvement to the condition of one or more of the soil, water, air, plant, or animal resources, or provide for more efficient resource utilization and/or energy conservation.

CSP Enhancement Payments

You can earn payments as shown below by participating in one or more of the following activities:

Soil Management Enhancements

- Improving soil quality and condition by increasing Soil Condition Index (\$1.16/acre/0.1 increase in SCI).
- Reduce soil compaction by controlling areas of traffic that result in a Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) between 31 and 60. \$0.50/acre.
- Reduce soil compaction by controlling areas of traffic that result in a Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) between 16 and 30. \$1.00/acre.
- Reduce soil compaction by controlling areas of traffic that result in a Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) of 15 or less. \$2.00/acre.
- Using GPS or other similar guided technology, reduce soil compaction by controlling traffic that results in a Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) between 31-60. \$1.00/acre.
- Using GPS or other similar guided technology, reduce soil compaction by controlling traffic that results in a Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) between 16-30. \$2.00/acre.
- Using GPS or other similar guided technology, reduce soil compaction by controlling traffic that results in a Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) of 15 or less. \$4.00/acre.

Nutrient Management Enhancements

- Prevent runoff of nutrients by composting animal manure and utilizing it as bedding. \$1,000/year.
- Prevent runoff of nutrients by properly applying animal manure or compost as a nutrient source on fields with STP < 15 ppm. \$15/acre.
- Increase accuracy of animal manure applications through the use of manure testing twice yearly within 45 days of application. \$100/year.
- Prevent runoff of nutrients by not applying manure during winter months (based on acres needed for proper application). \$5/acre.
- Prevent runoff of nutrients and build up of nutrients by not applying manure on fields with STP greater than 50 ppm. \$10/acre)
- Reduce odors, runoff of nutrients, and volatilization of nitrogen by incorporating manure within 24 hours of application (based on actual acres applied to). \$7.50/acre
- Increase accuracy of nutrient application or forage balance by collecting accurate yield and/or



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quality data (cropland and pastureland only). \$500/year.

- Improve precision of nutrient applications by performing additional soil testing beyond that required by the standard. \$1/acre.
- Improve nutrient cycling by including alfalfa in dryland rotations. \$5/acre.
- Reduce nitrogen volatilization, nitrate leaching, and better match crop uptake by using split nitrogen or controlled-release nitrogen applications. \$5/acre.
- Manage runoff of pollutants by widening and managing field borders or filter strips. \$75/acre.

Pest Management Enhancements

- Reduce pesticide use, break pest cycles and decrease pest pressure by utilizing conservation crop rotation. \$10/acre.
- Reduce environmental hazards by using non-chemical control methods such as biological controls and/or cultural controls. \$15/acre.
- Reduce pesticide use by scouting for insects, weeds, and pests and using economic thresholds prior to chemical application. \$5/acre.
- Reduce environmental hazards by using pesticides with “low” or “very Low” WIN-PST hazard ratings. \$15/acre.
- Reduce pesticide use by using pest avoidance techniques - plant pest resistant varieties, trap crops, etc. \$5/acre.

Irrigation Management Enhancements

- Irrigation Enhancement Index,
 - Level 1 – 60 – 64%. \$2/acre
 - Level 2 – 65 = 69%. \$4/acre
 - Level 3 – 70 – 74%. \$6/acre
 - Level 4 – 75 – 79%. \$8/acre
 - Level 5 – 80 – 84%. \$10/acre
 - Level 6 – 85% + \$12/acre

Grazing Management Enhancements

- Improve the balance of forage quality and quantity by annually applying recommendations that result from the NUTBAL assessment. \$200/year.
- Improve pasture condition and productivity by increasing the grazing management intensity. \$4/acre.
- Improve range health by managing grazing distribution through increase and/or movement of salt, supplements, and off-site watering facilities. \$2/acre.
- Improve rangeland health by monitoring grazing units using an NRCS accepted monitoring technique (i.e., photo points, nested frequency, etc.) and adjusting grazing management (up to 300 acres, minimum of 1 point). \$1/acre.
- Improve rangeland health by monitoring grazing units using an NRCS accepted monitoring technique (i.e., photo points, nested frequency, etc.) and adjusting grazing management (up to 300 to 3,000 acres, minimum of 1 point for 50 acres). \$0.60/acre.



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- Improve rangeland health by monitoring grazing units using an NRCS accepted monitoring technique (i.e., photo points, nested frequency, etc.) and adjusting grazing management (>3,000 acres, minimum 1 point per 1,000 acres). \$0.30/acre.
- Improve wetland/riparian pasture condition by implementing a rest rotation grazing system. \$20/acre.
- Improve rangeland health by implementing a rest rotation grazing system (based on acres rested yearly). \$12/acre.
- Improve rangeland health by implementing a deferred rotation grazing system. \$5/acre.
- Reduce habitat fragmentation by leaving strips of crop or hay unharvested on field borders (acreage based on 2 to 3 equipment widths). \$250/acre.
- Improve fish and wildlife habitat by excluding livestock access on wetland or riparian areas (per acre excluded). \$20/acre.
- Improve wildlife habitat by managing grazing to optimize structure and composition of the plant community. \$12/acre.
- Reduce habitat fragmentation by managing woody vegetation for wildlife on crop, hay, or pastureland (only on woody areas). \$250/acre.

Habitat Management Enhancements

- Optimize habitat values by enhancing the habitat structure in brush dominated areas (based on untreated acres). \$10/acre.
- Improve wildlife food and cover by leaving unharvested crop or stubble > or = 8 inches over winter on cropland. \$2/acre.
- Improve wildlife food and cover by leaving unharvested hay or pasture > or = 8 inches over winter on hayland or pastureland. \$40/acre.
- Improve wildlife nesting cover by delaying haying until after July 15. \$100/acre.
- Improve wildlife nesting cover by using flush bars and/or beneficial mowing pattern during daylight hours. \$5/acre.

Air Resource Mgmt. Enhancements

- Reduce particulate matter emissions by not burning crop residues or pastures that have previously been burned within the last 3 years. \$35/acre.
- Improve the precision of pesticide application and reduce drift by yearly pre-season sprayer calibration and additional calibration as needed. \$100/acre.

Energy Management Enhancements

- Energy audit of agriculture operations. \$500/acre.
- Recycling of all used motor oil for tractors and lubricating oil for other farm equipment such as irrigation pumps or grain drying motors. \$200/year.



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- Use of perennial legumes in the crop rotation to reduce energy need for production of nitrogen. \$0.70/acre.
- Use of annual legumes in the crop rotation to reduce energy need for production of nitrogen. \$0.10/acre.
- Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) rating is less than 60. \$0.50/acre.
- Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) rating is less than 30. \$0.70/acre.
- Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) rating is less than 15. \$0.90/acre.
- Use of renewable energy fuel (Biodiesel or Ethanol). Payments are made in \$25 increments for each 100 gallons actual biofuel used per year. \$25/100 gallons.
- Renewable energy generation (solar, wind, geothermal, and methane). \$2.50/per 100 KWh.
- 5 percent energy use reduction. \$100/total BTU's.
- 10 percent energy use reduction. \$200/total BTU's.
- 20 percent energy use reduction. \$500/total BTU's.

CSP Payments

CSP Enhancement earnings are subject to payment caps and actual payments will depend on CSP Tier level and the number of acres enrolled.

It is the responsibility of the participant to obtain all necessary permits and to comply with all ordinances and laws pertaining to the application of these activities.

CSP New Practices

Participants can receive cost share assistance by implementing one or more conservation practices that will help them move to a higher Tier of conservation. Below is a list of new practices that can potentially receive cost-share through the CSP Program:

CSP New Practices

- Chemical Brush Management. \$27/acre.
- Mechanical Brush Management. \$55/acre.
- Prescribed Burning for Brush Management. \$10.60/acre.
- Channel Vegetation (With bank manipulation). \$10/foot of row
- Channel Vegetation (Without bank manipulation). \$5/foot of row
- Micro-Irrigation System in conjunction with Tree/Shrub Establishment. \$0.45/foot of System.
- Fence (Only for fencing off riparian areas or where cross fencing is needed for improved grazing management above the standard). \$1.60/foot.
- Field Border. \$100/acre.
- Filter Strip. \$200/acre.
- Pasture/Hayland Planting. \$100/acre.
- Pipeline (Only to improve grazing distribution or wildlife in conjunction with a watering facility). \$1.50/foot.
- Livestock/Wildlife Pond (Only to improve grazing distribution and/or



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wildlife habitat above that required by the standard). \$5.0/cubic yard.

- Range Planting (Introduced). \$75/acre
- Range Planting (Native). \$125/acre
- Watering Facility (Only to improve grazing distribution and/or wildlife habitat). \$3.0/gallon
- Well (Only to improve grazing distribution and/or wildlife habitat). \$30/foot.

- Tree and Shrub Establishment. \$2.95/tree.

CSP New Practice Payments

New practices will be cost-shared at a rate of 50% of the amount listed. Limited resource and new beginning farmers will receive cost share at a rate of 65%. New practice payments cannot exceed a total of \$10,000 during the life of the contract and must be completed in the first three years of the contract.

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