



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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February 13, 2013

KANSAS BULLETIN NO. KS190-13-2

SUBJECT: ECS—Biology—Lesser Prairie-Chicken Initiative Monitoring

Action required for fall monitoring by: March 31, 2013 (Field offices)
April 26, 2013 (Area offices)

Action required for spring monitoring by: April 15—June 15, 2013 (Field offices)
July 31, 2013 (Area offices)

Purpose. To provide guidance in completing fiscal year (FY) 2013 monitoring efforts for the Lesser Prairie-Chicken Initiative (LPCI)

Expiration Date. September 30, 2014

As part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Conference Report for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) LPCI, NRCS has agreed to annually monitor vegetation on land contracted through the LPCI. The objective of this monitoring effort is to assess the baseline condition and the response of vegetation to the application of conservation practices to establish, improve, and maintain habitat.

The vegetation monitoring protocol, training presentation from March 2012, and LPCI Monitoring Questions and Answers are attached. Vegetation data forms are included with the vegetation monitoring protocol. If monitoring efforts have not already been completed, do so by March 31, 2013. Supervisors may want to consider utilizing the Strategic Watershed Action Team and Pheasants Forever personnel to complete LPCI monitoring.

Field offices will maintain the grazing plan, precipitation data, and vegetation data forms in the case file. They will provide a scanned copy of the vegetation data forms to their area office where the forms will be collected and forwarded to the state biologist by April 26, 2013, for fall monitoring and July 31, 2013, for spring monitoring.

Contact: Andrew G. Burr, State Biologist, at 785-823-4593 or andy.burr@ks.usda.gov.

(signed)

ERIC B. BANKS
State Conservationist

Attachments

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