

Kansas Technical Committee

August 30, 2011

Agenda

- Review Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 Accomplishments
- FY 2012 Preparation
- Review Recommendations

FY 2011 Accomplishments

FY 2011 Accomplishments

- 242 Applications Received (includes Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program–Lesser Prairie–Chicken Initiative [WHIP-LPCI])
- 120 Contracts Approved (Includes WHIP-LPCI)
- \$1,490,409.68 Total Obligations
- 23,882.8 Total Contracted Acres

FY 2012 Preparation

FY 2012 Preparation

- State Conservationist is seeking recommendations for:
 - Wildlife Priorities
 - Ranking Criteria
 - Ranking Worksheet
 - Eligible Practice List

Wildlife Priorities

- Threatened and Endangered Species (T&E)
- Species in Need of Conservation (SINC)
- Grassland Birds
 - Bobwhite Quail
 - Ringed–Neck Pheasant
 - Lesser Prairie–Chicken
 - Greater Prairie–Chicken



Wildlife Priorities

- Natural Communities
 - Prairies
 - Wetlands
 - Riparian Areas

Ranking Criteria

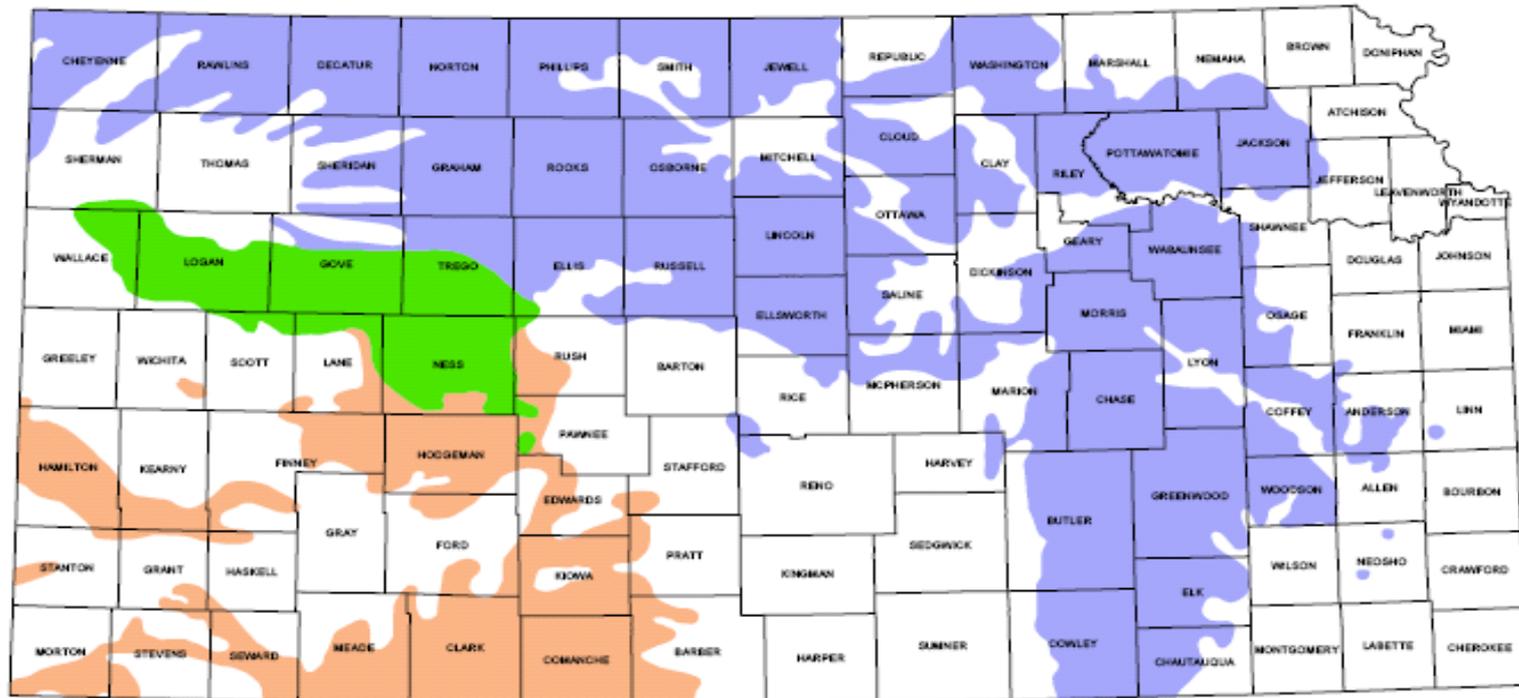
- Wildlife Habitat Development Plan (WHDP) meets requirements for species of statewide concern
- WHDP restores or enhances critical habitat for T & E species and/or SINC
- WHDP restores, enhances, or creates natural communities
- WHDP targets species of statewide concern, but does not meet the specific requirements for the habitat assessment
- WHDP addresses non–priority species

FY 2011 Weightings

- Efficiency 10 Percent
- National 25 Percent
- State 40 Percent
- Local 25 Percent

Ranking Criteria

Kansas Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) Essential Habitat Areas



0 20 40 80 Miles

Legend

- Greater Prairie Chicken
- Greater Prairie Chicken/Lesser Prairie Chicken
- Lesser Prairie Chicken



Eligible Practices List

Practice Code	Practice Name ¹	Reporting Units
Management Practices		
472	Access Control ⁷	Acre
528	Prescribed Grazing ^{9,13}	Acre
528	Prescribed Grazing ^{9,15}	Acre
644	Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management ^{9,17,18,19}	Acre
645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management ¹⁶	Acre
645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management ^{9,10}	Acre
645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management ^{9,11}	Acre

**FISCAL YEAR 2011 KANSAS
WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVES PROGRAM ELIGIBLE PRACTICES LIST**

Practice Code	Practice Name¹	Reporting Units
Structural and Vegetative Practices		
314	Brush Management ⁶	Acre
322	Channel Bank Vegetation	Acre
332	Contour Buffer Strips	Acre
338	Prescribed Burning	Acre
340	Cover Crop	Acre
342	Critical Area Planting	Acre
356	Dike ²	Feet
362	Diversion ²	Feet
378	Pond (\$3,500 limit per contract)	Number
380	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	Feet
382	Fence ⁸	Feet
386	Field Border	Acre
391	Riparian Forest Buffer	Acre
393	Filter Strip	Acre
394	Firebreak	Feet
412	Grassed Waterway	Acre
422	Hedgerow Planting	Feet
430	Irrigation Pipeline ³	Feet
441	Irrigation System, Microirrigation ³	Acre
484	Mulching	Acre
490	Tree and Shrub Site Preparation	Acre
512	Pasture and Hay Planting	Acre

516	Pipeline ⁵	Feet
521B	Pond Sealing and Lining, Soil Dispersant ⁴	Number
521C	Pond Sealing and Lining, Bentonite Sealant ⁴	Number
521D	Pond Sealing and Lining, Compacted Clay Treatment ⁴	Number
533	Pumping Plant ¹⁴	Number
550	Range Planting	Acre
561	Heavy Use Area Protection	Acre
574	Spring Development	Number
580	Streambank and Shoreline Protection	Feet
587	Structure for Water Control	Number
589C	Cross Wind Trap Strips	Acre
595	Pest Management ⁶	Acre
603	Herbaceous Wind Barrier	Feet
612	Tree/Shrub Establishment	Acre
614	Watering Facility ¹²	Number
638	Water and Sediment Control Basin	Number
642	Water Well	Number
643	Restoration and Management of Rare and Declining Habitats	Acre
645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	Acre
650	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation	Feet
657	Wetland Restoration	Acre
658	Wetland Creation	Acre
659	Wetland Enhancement	Acre
666	Forest Stand Improvement	Acre

Ranking Worksheet

Fish and Wildlife Resource Concerns (Check all that apply)			
1) Habitat Fragmentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	5) Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species: Declining Species, Species of Concern	<input type="checkbox"/>
2) Inadequate Cover/Shelter	<input type="checkbox"/>	6) T&E Fish and/or Wildlife Species	<input type="checkbox"/>
3) Inadequate Food	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4) Inadequate Water	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Eligible Land Uses (acres)			
Cropland	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hayland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grazed Range	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pasture	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forest	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/>

National Priorities (Select **all** questions that apply)

Total possible points = 250

1 Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Wildlife Habitat Conservation–Will the proposed project assist the producer to:

- a) Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program? (40 points)
- b) Address and support existing conservation initiatives such as but not limited to the following or new conservation initiatives that support state, national, or tribal fish or wildlife plans: Sage Grouse, Lesser Prairie–Chicken, Longleaf Pine, New England–New York Forestry? (40 points)
- c) Benefit federally listed T&E, at–risk, candidate, fish or wildlife species of concern? (20 points)
- d) Benefit prioritized native habitat critical to a fish or wildlife species? (20 points)
- e) Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat? (20 points)
- f) Eradicate or control prioritized noxious or invasive species? (20 points)
- g) Benefit declining or important aquatic wildlife species prioritized in the State WHIP Plan? (20 points)
- h) Implement conservation practices which benefit prioritized fish or wildlife species in forested areas? (15 points)
- i) Establish habitat on pivot corners and irregular areas on agricultural land? (10 points)
- j) Provide self–sustaining habitat for prioritized fish and wildlife while reducing net carbon emissions or boosting carbon storage (e.g., warm season perennial grasses, trees or shrubs)? (10 points)
- k) Benefit migration and other movement corridors for prioritized wildlife? (15 points)

2 Business Lines–Conservation Implementation–Additional Ranking Considerations–Will the applicant in the proposed project.

- a) Complete habitat development within the first two years of the agreement? (20 points)

1	<p>If applicable, answer ONE of the following questions related to the Kansas WHIP priority concerns. If none apply, leave the answers "NO."</p> <p>a) Will the WPO meet the minimum requirements for a priority species of statewide concern (pheasants, northern bobwhite quail, or greater or lesser prairie-chicken) based on Kansas WHIP Species Specific Habitat Assessment? (40 points)</p> <p>b) Will the WPO restore or enhance critical habitat for T&E species or provide habitat for species in need of conservation (SINC)? (40 points)</p> <p>c) Will the WPO restore, enhance, or create priority natural communities (wetlands, prairie, or riparian areas)? (30 points)</p> <p>d) Will the WPO target priority species of statewide concern, but not meet the minimum habitat requirements for those species, based on the Kansas Species Specific Habitat Assessment? (10 points)</p> <p>e) Will the WPO address habitat for non-priority species? (5 points)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
2	<p>If applicable, answer ONE of the following questions related to native grass. If none apply, leave the answers "NO."</p> <p>Will the WPO acres include an existing stand of native grass that is:</p> <p>a) greater than or equal to 80 acres ? (25 points)</p> <p>b) 21.0 to 79.9 acres? (15 points)</p> <p>c) less than or equal to 20.9 acres? (5 points)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
3	<p>Answer the following question related to the priority wildlife species and brush management.</p> <p>Will the WPO address brush management for the priority wildlife species on all of the applicable WPO acres on Kansas grasslands? (10 points)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	<p>Answer the following question related to tree species with invasive potential on existing native grass.</p> <p>What level of infestation of a tree species with invasive potential is present (refer to Section IV of electronic Field Office Technical Guide [eFOTG], Conservation Practice Construction Specifications 314, Brush Management, Table 2, for percentages)?</p> <p>a) None to low infestation. (10 points)</p> <p>b) Medium level of infestation. (5 points)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

5	<p>Answer the following question related to use of prescribed fire, if applicable.</p> <p>Will Conservation Practice 338, Prescribed Burning, be included in the WPO to improve habitat for priority species? (15 points)</p>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
6	<p>Answer the following questions related to native grass mix plantings.</p> <p>Will the WPO include vegetative establishment, meeting Conservation Practice 645, Upland Wildlife Habitat Management?</p> <p>a) Greater than or equal to 20 acres? (20 points)</p> <p>b) Greater than or equal to 10 acres but less than 20 acres? (15 points)</p> <p>c) Less than 10 acres? (10 points)</p>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
7	<p>Answer the following question related to complementary conservation programs. If none apply, leave the answers "NO."</p> <p>Are there complementary conservation programs, other than federal WHIP, including Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP), Grassland Reserve Program (GRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Continuous CRP (CCRP), Conservation Security Program (CSP), Forestry Land Enhancement Program (FLEP), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Partners for Wildlife, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program, or other similar programs that are actively managed for wildlife on the applicant's land or adjacent to the WPO acres?</p> <p>a) 4 complementary programs actively present. (15 points)</p> <p>b) 3 complementary programs actively present. (11 points)</p> <p>c) 2 complementary programs actively present. (8 points)</p> <p>d) 1 complementary program actively present. (6 points)</p>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
8	<p>Answer the following question related to the WPO acres.</p> <p>Are the WPO acres adjacent to property with long-term conservation easements (greater than 10 years) that are actively managed for wildlife? (10 points)</p>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

State Priorities (continued)		Total possible points 160
9	Answer the following question <i>if and only if</i> there is another partner's financial assistance contribution. Is the partner's financial assistance contribution to the WPO greater than or equal to 10 percent? (10	
10	Answer the following question related to access programs. Are the WPO acres currently enrolled in KDWP Walk-In Hunting Access (WIHA), Fishing Impoundment Stream Habitat (FISH), or similar access programs? (5 points)	
Local Priorities		Total possible points 30
1	Answer the following question related to the planned habitat improvement score from the eFOTG Kansas Wildlife Habitat Assessment Guide (KWHAG). The planned habitat value improvement score from the KWHAG meets the minimum threshold for the location of the offered acres (West-18; Central-21; East-24). (20 points)	
2	Answer the following question related to wetland habitat. Will the WPO acres include a shallow water development area or a wetland development area of less than 10 acres in size, that includes either an existing or planned buffer of native grass at least 30 feet wide? (10 points)	

RECOMMENDATIONS for FY 2012

Implemented Recommendations FY 2011

- WHDP meets requirements for species of statewide concern.
- WHDP restores or enhances critical habitat for T&E and priority habitat for SINC.
- WHDP restore, enhance, or create natural communities.
- WHDP targets species of statewide concern but does not meet the specific requirements for the habitat assessment.
- WHDP addresses non-priority species.

FY 2012 Recommendations

- Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism (KDWPT) has Quail focus areas identified in Wabaunsee, Osage, Lyon, Coffey, Neosho and Labette Counties and would like to see the ranking worksheet include priority points for WHIP Plan of Operations (WPO) with at least 50 percent of the acres falling in these priority areas-
 - Answer the following question related to KDWPT's Quail Initiative:
 - Does the WPO meet the minimum habitat requirements for northern bobwhite quail AND does at least 50 percent of the WPO acres fall within the Quail Focus areas in southeast Kansas?

FY 2012 Recommendations

- Stream bank and shoreline protection (580, also referred to as stream bank stabilization) should be removed from the eligible practices list

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Helping People Help the Land

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