



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Animal Enhancement Activity –ANM18- Retrofit Watering Facility for Wildlife Escape



Enhancement Description

Retrofit existing watering facilities (troughs, tanks, etc.) to allow for the escape of wildlife that become trapped while trying to drink.

Land Use Applicability: This enhancement is applicable to pastureland, rangeland and forest.

Benefits

This practice will provide wildlife with a means of escape while utilizing a livestock water facility as a water source. It is also intended to replace escape structures that are not functioning properly.

Criteria for Water Facility Retrofit

An effective escape device should:

- Extend into the water and meet the inside wall of the trough
- Reach to the bottom of the trough
- Be firmly secured to the trough rim and to the bottom of the trough so as not to be displaced by livestock
- Be built of grippable, long-lasting materials, such as painted or coated metal grating, roughened fiberglass, concrete, rock and mortar, or high-strength plastic composites.
- Have a slope no steeper than 45 degrees
- Be located to cause minimal interference with livestock
- One structure for every 20 linear feet of trough edge.

Documentation Requirements for Water Facility Retrofit:

- Producer will provide a photograph that clearly shows properly installed escape/access device *for each* water facility.