

EQIP Special Project Species of Concern Protocol Fiscal Year 2005

The following protocol is to be used for the development of Fiscal Year 2005 EQIP special projects for species of concern.

- The application must have a direct benefit to one or more of the species listed for these funds
- Applications for this special project only may be accepted until close of business 2/28/05
- Applications must include a statement from either a state or federal wildlife agency that details the positive benefits of the project for the targeted species
- The application must use the Cost Share list for Special Projects – Species of Concern
- The application must draw funds from the Special Projects funding
- The application must only be listed under Conservation Management Unit (CMU) as “Special Projects – Wildlife”
- Applications containing other CMU land uses will not be considered
- Projects will compete on a Statewide basis against each other for funding

Conservation Practice Restrictions

- All cost shared conservation practices must either be crucial for the protection of species habitat or be facilitating other conservation practices that are crucial for the protection of the targeted species habitat
- Watering facilities for livestock are authorized only when accompanied by riparian or critical habitat exclusion and there will be no negative impact to a species of concern resulting from the development of the watering facility such as the drying up of a spring that is providing critical habitat
- Streambank and Shoreline Protection using rock or hard surfacing will only be used when it is a critical element to habitat protection and will be limited to \$50,000 maximum cost share at a cost share rate of 50%
- To gain points for Water Quantity – Inadequate Flows, there must be an agreement or situation that will insure that any increase in flows can be maintained in the stream habitat by agreement or water law.
- Pest Management - Hand Wand ONLY Spraying - MUST HAVE USF&WS SPRAY PLAN. If Pest Management is selected as a conservation practice and it will involve the use of chemical control where the “Species of Concern” is a plant, then the applicant MUST agree to have a USF&WS spraying plan approved before application of chemicals to assure that the species targeted for removal using chemicals are clearly identified and chemical application methods are approved. We do not want to kill the plants we are trying to encourage through poor application techniques or plant identification.
- Wetland Enhancement practice is limited to 10 acres maximum
- Range Planting must include a seeding plan that meets specific species needs
- Prescribed Burning is to be used only as needed for habitat improvement and must be designed for the specific species being addressed.
- Conservation Practice “Pumping Plant for Water Control -533” is only eligible for species of concern Bruneau Hot Springsnail.