



ANM06 - Montana Supplement

Extending Existing Riparian Herbaceous Cover for Water Quality Protection and Wildlife Habitat – (Animal Enhancement Activity)

Montana Clarification

In Montana, required width of riparian herbaceous buffers to meet the Montana water quality criteria is 35 feet. As required by this enhancement activity, riparian herbaceous buffers must be extended to 60 feet or more. NRCS will use the average existing width of the buffer if the buffer width is variable.

Montana Specifications

The following species and species groups are suitable for extending riparian buffers for water quality protection and wildlife habitat:

1. Wheatgrasses: Tall, intermediate, pubescent, slender, thickspike, and western.
2. Wildryes: Basin, beardless.
3. Native forbs such as Maximillian sunflower, purple and white prairie clover.
4. American vetch.
5. Small burnet.
6. All grass species listed in Table 1, Specification MT 393, Filter Strip

Table 1. Grass Species Characteristics and Adaptability		Soil Protection and Cover 1/		
Species	Moisure Range of Adaptability (inches)	Riparian Areas	Critical Areas	NitrogenUptake2/
Bromegrass, Mountain	14-20	N	Y	M
Needlegrass, Green	12-18	N	Y	L
Orchardgrass	15+	N	Y	M
Wheatgrass, Intermediate	13-22	N	Y	H
Wheatgrass, Pubescent	12-20	N	Y	H
Wheatgrass, Slender 3/	12-20	N	Y	M
Wheatgrass, Thickspike	10-18	Y	Y	L
Wheatgrass, Streambank	8-18	Y	Y	L
Alfalfa	12+	N	Y	M
Clover, Alsike	16+	N	Y	M
Clover, Ladino	16+	N	Y	M
Clover, White	14+	N	Y	M
Sweetclover	10+	N	Y	L

Trefoil, Birdsfoot	14+	N	Y	L
Milkvetch, Cicer	14+	N	Y	M
Fescue, Hard	14-20	N	Y	M
Gramma, Blue	10-18	N	Y	L
Ricegrass, Indian	10-18	N	Y	L
Needle and Thread	10-18	N	Y	L
Saltgrass, Inland	15+	Y	Y	L
1/ Y = well adapted; N = not adapted. 2/ uptake potential is based on relative N, use efficiency assuming adequate moisture is available for plant growth. (L) low uptake, (M) moderate uptake, (H) high uptake. 3/ Slender Wheatgrass cannot be more than 10% of the mix				

Incompatible Enhancements

This enhancement may not be contracted with the following enhancements:

For cropland: ANM04, ANM05, ANM07, ANM08, ANM19, PLT01, PLT08, WQT06

For pasture: ANM04, ANM05, ANM07, ANM08, ANM19, PLT01, WQT06

For range: none

Eligible Land

Crop, pasture and rangeland

Applicable Amount

Length of existing buffers x the difference between the minimum width of 60 feet and the state width for water quality.

Example (Actual)

Participant has 800 feet of existing buffers that “average” 40 feet wide. Therefore, to meet the 60 foot requirement (60-40 = 20’) the actual applicable acres would be calculated as (800 x 20)/43,560 or 0.37 acres. Or...A producer could agree to widen their buffers to 70 feet which would calculate 0.55 additional acres. He agrees to implement this enhancement the first year.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
ANM06	0.37	0	0		

Documentation Requirements

1. A map showing the location and size of enhanced riparian herbaceous buffers.
2. Documentation of the type and rates of vegetation planted in the newly expanded section of the riparian herbaceous buffers.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand all that is required for the implementation of this CSP Enhancement Activity.

Contract participant

Date