



**ANM04 - Montana Supplement – REVISED 2/22/11**

**Extend Existing Filter Strips for Water Quality Protection and Wildlife Habitat – (Animal Enhancement Activity)**

**Montana Clarification**

This enhancement is to widen an existing filter strip that currently meets the 393 Montana standards for a filter strip. This includes adequate density and vigor of vegetation and an average strip width of 30 feet. Where field boundaries prohibit extending the buffer to 60 feet, the planner may GPS the existing filter strip boundary and the proposed location of the boundary, import this information into Toolkit and determine the area.

To determine actual area to be added, subtract the existing filter strip width from 60 feet. Multiply this value by the length of the strip and divide by 43560 to determine acreage. See example below.

**Montana Specifications**

The Montana minimum width for an existing filter strip for ANM04 is 30 feet; the existing filter strip (that meets NRCS standards) would need to be extended an additional 30 feet to meet the 60 feet minimum width to qualify for this enhancement.

The following species and species groups are suitable for extending existing filter strips for water quality protection and wildlife habitat:

1. Wheatgrasses: Tall, intermediate, pubescent, slender, thickspike, western and bluebunch.
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 seed mix				

**Incompatible Enhancements**

This enhancement may not be contracted with the following enhancements:

For pasture: ANM05, ANM06, ANM07, ANM08, ANM19, PLT01, WQT06

For cropland: ANM05, ANM06, ANM07, ANM08, ANM19, PLT01, PLT08, WQT06

**Eligible Land**

Cropland and pastureland

**Applicable Amount**

Length of existing buffers x the difference between the minimum width of 60 feet and the state width for water quality (30 feet in Montana).

**Example (Actual)**

These applicable acres can be on cropland or pastureland. If a participant has 500 feet of existing filter strips that “average” 30 feet wide; to meet the 60 foot requirement (60-30 = 30’) the actual applicable acres would be calculated as (500 x 30)/43,560 or 0.34 acres. Or...A producer could agree to widen their filter strips to 70 feet (60 feet is a minimum) which would give an actual applicable acres as 0.46 acres. Planting the additional filter strip width in Year 3, the Toolkit plan would look like the following:

	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>
<b>ANM04</b>	0	0	0.34		

**Documentation Requirements**

1. A map showing the location and size of enhanced filter strips.
2. Documentation of the type and rates of vegetation planted in the new filter strip areas.

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

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Contract participant

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Date