

Missouri 2013 Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) Policy for the 2010 MRBI "Livingston and Carroll Lower Grand Watershed Project"

11/29/2012

This FY13 WHIP Policy is based on the Interim Final Rule (IFR) for WHIP, published 1/16/09 in Vol. 74, No. 11 of the Federal Register, under 7 CFR Part 636, and the MRBI Request-for-Proposals (RFP) published 3/2/2010 in Vol 75 No. 40 of the Federal Register, pages 9380 thru 9387.

Wildlife Habitat Appraisal Guide (WHAG) Community Models will be used to document habitat changes under WHIP. The WHDP must at least reach a quality level of 0.5 habitat suitability index for all contract acres (i.e., fields with essential practices and/or used to obtain ranking score). If the WHDP acres are not planned to reach the 0.5 level, the offered acres are not eligible for WHIP.

Planned conservation practices must be maintained for the lifespan of the practice, as indicated on the NRCS-CPA-1155 or -1156. All practices must also meet the minimum criteria in the Conservation Practice Standard (see the Missouri eFOTG) and the criteria listed below. Extents above the minimum necessary to meet practice criteria are not eligible for WHIP payment. Note: Payment for some practices is only authorized when used in conjunction with another practice, as detailed in the Conservation Plan of Operation (CPO), with or without payment.

Payment Rates are the rate of compensation (by payment unit) for the practice scenario/activity. A payment rate is the sum of all eligible cost data categories for the practice scenario/activity, multiplied by the allowable program payment percentage. The program payment percentage is established, within specific program limits as detailed in the program regulation and policy, by the State Conservationist (STC) with input from the State Technical Committee. Additional information on Payment Schedules is available on the eFOTG Section I, Economic Data, 3 Practice Payment Schedules, FY2013. Selection of the Payment Scenario is based on the activity (as described in this Policy and the Scenario Description) that most closely will address the targeted resource concern.

Maximum Amounts for the life of the contract are established on certain conservation practices or options, as noted in this Policy. WHIP funds provide financial assistance to eligible farmers and ranchers to help these producers enhance agricultural and forested lands in a cost-effective and environmentally beneficial manner. Establishing Maximum Amounts for the contract allows Missouri NRCS to make WHIP funding assistance available to a larger number of eligible farmers, ranchers and forest producers here in Missouri, and also as a method to make funding available to eligible producers regardless of size of operation (i.e., by not obligating large amounts of funds on operations with more acres, Missouri WHIP funds will be available to a larger number of separate operations). The specified "Maximum Amounts" for identified practices within this policy does not allow applicants to exceed the maximums through multiple offers/contracts on different acres when those acres are controlled by the same applicant(s), where 'control' means possession of the land by ownership, written lease, or other legal agreement (as generally indicated on FSA's EZ156 &/or Producer Farm Data Report forms). Historically Underserved Maximum Amounts refers to the maximum contract payment for Historically Underserved Farmers (Limited Resource Farmers, Beginning Farmers, and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers as defined in the 2009 EQIP Interim Final Rule). NOTE: While there is no restriction on the number of applications (or contracts, if funded) that may be submitted by an applicant for FY13 WHIP, all FY13 WHIP applications (and contracted amounts) will count towards the FY13 Maximum Amount as listed in FY13 WHIP Policy for any and all FY13 WHIP applications (and FY13 WHIP contracts, if funded) where acres are controlled by the same applicant(s), where 'control' means possession of the land by ownership, written lease, or other legal agreement (as generally indicated on FSA's EZ156 &/or Producer Farm Data Report forms).

HU Payment Rate refers to the payment rate for Historically Underserved Farmers (Limited Resource Farmers, Beginning Farmers, and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers as defined in the 2009 WHIP Interim Final Rule). **It is the applicant's responsibility to provide adequate documentation AT THE TIME THEY SIGN THE CPA-1200** that supports their BF/LRF request before the applicant can apply for these HU funds; applicants who do not meet BF/LRF requirements, or who do not provide the requested documents in a timely manner (generally within 30 days of signing their CPA1200 application), will NOT be eligible for BF/LRF funds.

Payments for some practices (identified by "**Adoption Period Required**" in the title or option line), are intended to encourage the adoption via application of certain types of practices &/or practice options. These types of payments are only available on acres where the practice option has not been previously applied &/or utilized, AND where there will be a higher level of management required for the requested practice option. These types of payments are NOT authorized if the conservation practice option has previously been implemented on the acres applying for EQIP, with or without financial assistance. "Adoption Period Required" practices must be adopted/applied two years within the length of the contract period. No more than three separate "Adoption Period Required" practice options may be combined per acre.

Structural practices involve the establishment, construction, or installation of site-specific measures. Vegetative practices involve the establishment or planting of site-specific vegetative measures. Practices that are structural or vegetative are indicated by an "(S)" in the conservation practice heading. Payments are established as a one-time only payment, not multi-year payments (with exceptions as noted). Missouri policy requires the owner be a signatory to a contract which has WHIP funds used for any structural or vegetative practice, due to the long-term lifespan on these practices.

Conservation activities that generally require site-specific management techniques and/or methods with a practice lifespan of one year are indicated by an "(M)" in the title or option heading. These are only available for payment on acres where the practice option has not been previously applied &/or utilized.

The WHIP applicant is responsible for the installation, use, and maintenance of all components required in the conservation management system and/or Wildlife Habitat Development Plan WHDP.

MRBI Core Practice List: ONE Core Practice MUST be included in the Conservation Plan of Operations (CPO) for the WHIP-contracted acres before a closely associated Supporting Practice can be contracted on the same acres.

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A filter has been enabled for filtering by practice code. However, if you enable the filter and then want to print the policy you may have to re-set the print setup options to print on fewer pages.

Practice Code	Practice Unit	Conservation Practice	Payment Unit	Payment Rate	Maximum Amount 1/	HU Payment Rate 2/	HU Maximum Amount	Lifespan
390	Acre	Riparian Herbaceous Cover (S)	Acre					5 Years
		Giant Canebreak Restoration		\$ 1,394.71		\$ 1,673.66		
		Prairie Cordgrass Restoration		\$ 982.93		\$ 1,179.52		
1. See the "Riparian Herbaceous Cover" conservation practice standard.								
645	Acre	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (M)			\$ 12,500.00		\$ 16,000.00	1 Year
		Downed Wildlife Tree Structure	Each	\$ 182.65		\$ 219.18		
		Edgefeathering	Acre	\$ 664.97		\$ 797.96		
		Permanent Forest Opening	Acre	\$ 1,258.43		\$ 1,510.11		
		Glade/Savanna/Open Woodland Restoration	Acre	\$ 318.14		\$ 381.76		
		Payment for the Glade/Savanna/Open Woodland Restoration option is authorized when more than 60 square feet per acre of basal area (or more than 400 stems per acre) are removed, and is only authorized for the restoration of savannas, glades and open woodland natural communities as specified within 643 Restoration and Management of Rare and Declining Habitats conservation practice standard.						
	Wildlife Watering	Each	\$ 574.85		\$ 689.82			
1. See the "Upland Wildlife Habitat Management" conservation practice standard.								

Practice Code	Practice Unit	Conservation Practice	Payment Unit	Payment Rate	Maximum Amount 1/	HU Payment Rate 2/	HU Maximum Amount	Lifespan
659	Acre	Wetland Enhancement (S)	Acre					15 Years
		Riverine Levee Removal, Ditch Plugs & Floodplain Features		\$ 550.32		\$ 660.39		
1. See the "Wetland Enhancement" conservation practice standard.								
657	Acre	Wetland Restoration (S)	Acre					15 Years
		Riverine Levee Removal, Ditch Plugs & Floodplain Features		\$ 550.32		\$ 660.39		
1. See the "Wetland Restoration" conservation practice standard.								
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327	Acre	Conservation Cover (S)	Acre		\$ 25,000.00		\$ 35,000.00	5 Years
		Introduced Grass		\$ 411.99		\$ 494.39		
		Native Grass		\$ 440.70		\$ 528.84		
		Pollinator Habitat		\$ 521.15		\$ 625.38		
		Prairie Restoration		\$ 695.51		\$ 834.61		
1. Payment is authorized for the establishment and maintenance of permanent vegetative cover on land being retired from agricultural production use. □ 2. Refer to the 645 conservation practice standard for the Pollinator Habitat option 3. Refer to the 643 conservation practice standard for the Prairie Restoration option 4. See the "Conservation Cover" conservation practice standard and Vegetation Establishment, Herbaceous Seeding Specification								
342	Acre	Critical Area Planting (S)	Acre					10 Years
		Grass or Grass/Legume Mix		\$ 282.51		\$ 339.01		
1. See the "Critical Area Planting" conservation practice standard and Vegetation Establishment, Herbaceous Seeding Specification.								
484	Acre	Mulching (M)						1 Year
		Natural Material, Vegetation Establishment	Acre	\$ 222.72		\$ 267.26		
		Natural Material, Weed Control	Acre	\$ 303.14		\$ 363.77		
		Tree and Shrub Establishment Weed Control	Each	\$ 1.63		\$ 1.96		
1. See the "Mulching" conservation practice standard.								
646	Acre	Shallow Water Development & Management (S)	Acre		\$ 12,500.00		\$ 16,000.00	5 Years
		Shallow Water Management		\$ 51.84		\$ 62.20		
1. See the "Shallow Water Management for Wildlife" conservation practice standard.								
587	Number	Structure for Water Control (S)						20 Years
		Commercial Inline WCS 6" - 10" Pipe	Ft Pipe	\$ 27.91		\$ 33.50		
		Commercial Inline WCS 12" - 18" Pipe	Ft Pipe	\$ 40.52		\$ 48.62		
		Commercial Inline WCS > 18" Pipe	Ft Pipe	\$ 84.79		\$ 101.74		
		Weir Box ≤ 16" Pipe	Each	\$ 2,939.45		\$ 3,527.33		
		Weir Box > 16" Pipe	Each	\$ 4,175.23		\$ 5,010.27		
		Weir Box Only	Each	\$ 426.73		\$ 512.08		
		Flap Gate ≤ 15"	Each	\$ 1,740.19		\$ 2,088.23		
		Flap Gate >15"	Each	\$ 2,861.60		\$ 3,433.92		
1. Payment is authorized for water control structures when needed for "Shallow Water Development and Management for Wildlife". 2. When used in conjunction with subsurface irrigation systems, existing subsurface tiles &/or surface ditches must be in place when the WHIP application is initiated (i.e., CPA1200 is signed). 3. See the "Structure for Water Control" conservation practice standard.								

Practice Code	Practice Unit	Conservation Practice	Payment Unit	Payment Rate	Maximum Amount 1/	HU Payment Rate 2/	HU Maximum Amount	Lifespan
612	Acre	Tree/Shrub Establishment (S)						15 Years
		Direct Seeding	Acre	\$ 284.83		\$ 341.80		
		Bareroot Trees and Shrubs	Each	\$ 0.62		\$ 0.75		
		Container Trees and Shrubs	Each	\$ 8.96		\$ 10.75		
1. Container shrubs are eligible for payment at the 'Container' payment rate only if used for (A) farmstead shelterbelt/windbreaks or (B) covey headquarters. 2. See the "Tree/Shrub Establishment" conservation practice standard.								
490	Acre	Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (S)	Acre					1 Year
		Chemical Application		\$ 37.13		\$ 44.55		
		Light Mechanical		\$ 47.11		\$ 56.53		
		Light Mechanical with Chemical		\$ 84.23		\$ 101.08		
		Heavy Mechanical with Chemical		\$ 188.66		\$ 226.39		
1. See the "Tree/Shrub Site Preparation" conservation practice standard.								
Footnotes and Acronym Information								
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S	Conservation practices that are either structural or vegetative, and have a multi-year lifespan. Structural practices involve the establishment, construction, or installation of site-specific measures. Vegetative practices involve the establishment or planting of site-specific vegetative measures. Payments are established as a one-time only payment, not multi-year payments. Missouri policy requires the owner be a signatory to a contract which has WHIP funds used for any structural or vegetative practice.							
This Program Policy is approved for use for the implementation of FY13 WHIP for the 2010 "Linivngston and Carroll Lower Grand Watershed Project".								
				Karen D Brinkman _____ Acting Missouri State Conservationist		1/11/2013 _____ Date		