

Conservation Stewardship Program Conservation Activity List



Name: _____

Date: _____

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) encourages agricultural producers to improve conservation systems by undertaking additional conservation activities and improving, maintaining, and managing existing conservation activities. Conservation activities include enhancements and conservation practices.

Enhancements – Conservation activities selected by producers that are used to treat natural resources and improve conservation performance.

Bundles- Are specific enhancements whose installation as a group produce a synergy of conservation performance improvement and addresses resource concerns in a more comprehensive manner. Enhancement bundles are made up of five enhancements from this list.

Practices – Conservation practices are used in CSP for the purpose of encouraging producers to meet additional stewardship thresholds. During the application process, an applicant may identify resource concern stewardship thresholds by land use are not meeting with existing activities, and agree to meet them by installing new conservation practices. The new conservation practices that need to be installed will be identified by NRCS during the application process. During on-site field verification for approved applicants, NRCS will determine the required practices using the conservation planning process.

Activities that interest you	NRCS Code	Eligible Land Use				Enhancement Name	Enhancement Description (See Job Sheet criteria for requirement details)
	AIR03	Crop				Replace burning of prunings, removals and other crop residues with non-burning alternatives	The use of non-burning alternatives to dispose of prunings, removals and other crop residues from orchards, vineyards and other woody perennial crops. Non-burning alternatives include chipping, grinding, shredding, mowing or composting of these materials.
	AIR04	Crop	Pasture			Use drift reducing nozzles, low pressures, lower boom height, and adjuvants to reduce pesticide drift	Use drift reduction technologies to reduce the drift of agricultural chemicals away from the intended target when spraying.
	AIR07	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	GPS, targeted spray application (SmartSprayer), or other chemical application electronic control technology	Utilize electronically-controlled or managed chemical spray application technology to more precisely apply agricultural pesticides to their intended targets.
	AIR09	Crop	Pasture			Nitrification inhibitors or urease inhibitors	The use of an ammonia or ammonium fertilizers with a substance that inhibits the biological oxidations of ammoniacal nitrogen to nitrate nitrogen or the use of surface applied urea products with a substance that inhibits hydrolytic action on urea by urease enzyme that when applied to soils results in less urea nitrogen lost by ammonia volatilization (AAPFCO). This enhancement is only applicable to nitrogen applied within 30 days of planting or after consecutive warm days (i.e., greater than 75°F). This does not apply to “pop-up” or starter nitrogen sources applied at planting time.
	AIR10	Crop				Discontinue burning crop residue	Utilize non-burning crop residue management techniques after a crop harvest.

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	ANM03		Pasture			Incorporate native grasses and/or legumes into 15% or more of herbage dry matter productivity	Improve pasture by increasing native grasses and/or legumes to 15% of herbage dry matter (productivity by weight) using adapted species and varieties, appropriate seeding rates, and timing of seeding. Pastures containing about 15% native grasses and/or legumes by weight dry matter are approximately equal to 30% foliar cover.
	ANM09		Pasture	Range	Forest	Grazing management to improve wildlife habitat	Implement a grazing management plan that allows for rest periods to provide adequate residue for nesting and fawning cover and increase diversity of vegetation structure to benefit a variety of wildlife species.
	ANM11		Pasture	Range	Forest	Patch-burning to enhance wildlife habitat	Use prescribed burning with livestock grazing to create patches of different vegetation structure and species composition for the benefit of wildlife.
	ANM12	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Shallow water habitat	Construct or renovate small, shallow sites to impound or hold water seasonally, typically from late winter through early summer (e.g., vernal pools).
	ANM21	Crop	Pasture	Range		Prairie restoration for grazing and wildlife habitat	This activity consists of restoring/renovating prairie habitat by establishing native vegetation and managing the restored plant community.
	ANM25		Pasture			Stockpiling of forages to extend the grazing season	Livestock are excluded from forages on specified acres during the growth season. The "stockpiled" forages are grazed at a later time using strip grazing to allow animals to utilize the forage within a strip for a specified period of time.
	ANM27	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Wildlife friendly fencing	This enhancement involves the use of wildlife friendly fencing techniques that allow free passage of daily wildlife movement and seasonal migration; and/or increase visibility to prevent entanglement and mortality. <u>Selection of this enhancement requires the activity to be planned concurrently on all eligible land use acres.</u>
	ANM29		Pasture	Range	Forest	On-farm forage based grazing system	A forage based grazing system that supplies all roughage (forage and supplemental hay) requirements for a livestock operation.
	ANM31	Crop				Drainage water management	This enhancement consists of seasonal hydrology management during non-cropping periods for wildlife habitat on working lands.
	ANM32	Crop	Pasture	Range		Extend existing filter strips or riparian herbaceous cover for water quality protection and wildlife habitat	Where existing filter strips or riparian herbaceous covers (i.e., buffers) are utilized, extend them to gain more efficiency in intercepting overland flow and reducing the transport of nutrients, pesticides and agro-chemicals, and for wildlife habitat.
	ANM33	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Riparian buffer, terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat	This activity consists of managing riparian zones by utilizing select conservation measures (such as re-locating equipment operations, trails, or livestock; establishing diverse native vegetation and controlling invasive species; fencing; and extending the width of the riparian zone to enhance wildlife habitat adjacent to riparian zones of streams, ponds, lakes, or wetlands) to achieve stream side cover and vegetative diversity and structure to improve terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat.

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	ANM34	Crop				Leave standing grain crops un-harvested to benefit wildlife	Implement a crop management plan that will allow a portion of grain crops to be left in fields un-harvested to provide food and cover for wildlife during winter months.
	ANM35	Crop				Enhance wildlife habitat on expired grass/legume covered CRP acres or acres with similar perennial vegetated cover managed as hayland	Implement a focused habitat management plan for the benefit of selected wildlife species on expired CRP grass/legume covered acres that has CRP conservation cover or acres with similar perennial vegetated cover managed as hayland.
	ANM36				Forest	Enhance wildlife habitat on expired tree covered CRP acres or acres with similar woody cover managed as forestland	Implement a focused habitat management plan for the benefit of selected wildlife species on expired CRP tree covered acres that has CRP conservation cover or acres with similar woody cover managed as forestland.
	ANM37	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Prescriptive grazing management system for grazed lands (includes expired CRP grass/legume or tree covered acres converted to grazed lands)	Implement a prescriptive grazing management system for all grazed lands and for all eligible land uses in the operation. This includes expired CRP grass/legume or tree covered acres that are now converted to a grazing system. <u>Selection of this enhancement requires the activity to be planned concurrently on all eligible land use acres.</u>
	ANM38	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Retrofit watering facility for wildlife escape and enhanced access for bats and bird species	Retrofit all existing watering facilities (troughs, tanks, etc.) to allow for the escape of wildlife that become trapped while trying to drink and to remove obstructions above the watering facility such as boards and wires. <u>Selection of this enhancement requires the activity to be planned concurrently on all eligible land use acres.</u>
	ANM39	Crop	Pasture	Range		Extending riparian forest buffers for water quality protection and wildlife habitat	Where existing riparian forest buffers (i.e., buffers) are utilized, extend them to gain more efficiency in intercepting overland flow, reducing the transport of nutrients, pesticides, pathogens and agro-chemicals, and for wildlife habitat.
	ANM40	Crop	Pasture			Extending existing field borders for water quality protection and wildlife habitat	Where existing field borders are utilized, extend them to gain more efficiency in intercepting overland flow and reducing the transport of nutrients, pesticides and agro-chemicals, and for wildlife habitat.
	ANM41	Crop	Pasture	Range		Multi-species native perennials and native self-seeding annuals for biomass/wildlife habitat	This enhancement consists of establishing native perennial and native self-seeding annual vegetation for biomass production and wildlife habitat. The biomass may be harvested for renewable energy or forage, grazed, or left in place.
	ANM42				Forest	Forest stand improvement for wildlife habitat and soil quality	This enhancement consists of the creation of snags, den trees, forest stand structural diversity, and coarse woody debris on the forest floor to a level optimum for native wildlife, ecosystem function, and long-term forest soil health. It may be implemented during thinning or harvesting, or it can be implemented separately.
	ANM43	Crop				Removal of woody vegetation from rice field levees to improve habitat for nesting king rail	This enhancement is to improve the suitability of rice fields for nesting king rail and other secretive marsh birds by removing trees and shrubs from rice field levees.

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	ANM44	Crop				Close structures to capture and retain rainfall for waterfowl and wading birds during winter	This enhancement provides seasonal, shallow water habitat for migratory waterfowl and wading birds.
	ANM45	Crop				Manipulate vegetation on fields where rainfall is to be captured and retained	This enhancement benefits seasonal, shallow water habitats for migratory waterfowl, wading birds, and shorebirds by manipulating vegetation.
	ANM46	Crop				Extend retention of captured rainfall to provide late winter habitat for migratory waterfowl and shorebirds	This enhancement is to provide late winter, shallow water habitats for migratory waterfowl and shorebirds by retaining water into mid-March.
	ANM47	Crop				Shorebird habitat, late season shallow water with manipulation	This enhancement is to encourage capture and retention of water, and vegetation manipulation on field units with seasonal water management capabilities, in order to provide habitat for migrating shorebirds.
	ANM48	Crop				Shorebird habitat, extended late season shallow water with manipulation	This enhancement is to encourage capture and retention of water, and vegetation manipulation on crawfish ponds or other field units with water management capabilities, in order to provide habitat for migrating shorebirds.
	ANM49	Crop				Early successional habitat between first rice crop and ratoon crop	This enhancement is to encourage the manipulation of rice stubble by rolling to create early successional habitat for migratory and resident wildlife species.
	ANM50	Crop	Pasture		Forest	Control of undesirable woody vegetation in moist soil wetlands for wildlife	This enhancement is to remove or manage unwanted woody vegetation within moist soil wetlands in order to encourage growth of native grasses, sedges, herbaceous plants and other desirable vegetation.
	ANM51	Crop	Pasture	Range		Establish and maintain early successional, naturally occurring vegetation in ditches and ditch bank borders for wildlife habitat and water quality protection	This enhancement is to encourage the establishment of early successional, naturally occurring vegetation in ditches, side slope and bank borders to provide cover, critical nesting and brood rearing habitat as well as filtering overland flow and improving water quality.
	ANM52			Range	Forest	Implement fallow disking to improve wildlife habitat	This enhancement is to encourage the implementation of fallow disking as a means to improve early successional habitat for wildlife species of concern.
	ANM53			Range	Forest	Hinge cutting for wildlife	This enhancement creates hinge cuts for wildlife cover, resting or loafing areas while providing valuable browse and cover for several game and non-game species.
	ANM54		Pasture	Range		Prescribed burning for upland birds and other wildlife	This enhancement is to encourage the use of prescribed burning to improve rangeland and pastureland habitat by reducing excess plant litter, encouraging the germination and growth of forbs and legumes, suppressing woody plants and retarding the growth of nonnative plants.

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	ANM55				Forest	Creation and retention of snags, den trees and coarse woody debris for wildlife habitat	This enhancement is to create and/or retain snags, den trees and coarse woody debris on the forest floor to reverse the leading cause of upland wildlife population decline – habitat loss.
	ANM56				Forest	Increase summer roost habitat for forest dwelling bat species	This activity consists of managing forestland and forested riparian areas by creating new potential roost trees within a forest and associated riparian areas to achieve desired summer habitat for forest dwelling bat species.
	ANM57	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Removal of all threats to sensitive wildlife species on the operation	This activity consists of implementing all activities required to address all identified threats to sensitive wildlife species on the operation.
	ANM58	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Reduction of attractants to human-subsidized predators in sensitive wildlife species habitat	This activity consists of reducing artificial perching sites, nest sites, food, and water available to subsidized predators in areas where human-subsidized predators are a threat to sensitive wildlife species. Human-subsidized predators may include ravens, crows, magpies, coyotes, foxes, skunks, raccoons, and other species. Activities under this enhancement may include removal of non-native or invasive trees; removal of unused power poles, corrals, windmills, buildings, and other vertical structures; and/or removal or management of watering facilities, dead livestock, road kill, garbage, animal feed, dumps, and other non-natural food sources.
	ANM59		Pasture	Range		Grazing management to improve Sage grouse habitat	Implement a grazing management plan that will allow for rest periods to provide adequate residue for nesting cover and increase diversity of vegetative structure to benefit a variety of wildlife species.
	ANM60	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Grouse friendly fencing	This enhancement involves the retrofit of existing fences to increase visibility and prevent grouse from collision and mortality. Selection of this enhancement requires all fences that are a high or medium risk to grouse be marked. Selection of this enhancement requires the activity to be planned concurrently on all eligible land use acres.
	ANM61	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Hosting a grazing related field day	This enhancement requires a producer to host a grazing field day. Grazing field days provide an opportunity for producers, state, and federal employees to visually learn grazing principles from others to help encourage, plan, and implement effective grazing management. Assistance from state/federal employees or other agriculture organizations is encouraged.
	ANM62		Pasture	Range		Deferred Grazing to improve Lesser Prairie-chicken (LPC) habitat	Implement a grazing management plan that will include year-long deferrals to insure that adequate standing residue is available to meet the nesting and brood rearing cover requirements for lesser prairie-chickens (LPC).

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	ANM63	Crop				Harvest crop in a manner that allows wildlife to flush and escape	Harvest crops (hay or small grains) using conservation measures that allow wildlife to flush and escape. These measures include timing of haying to avoid periods when upland wildlife are nesting or fawning, idling land during the nesting or fawning period, and applying harvest techniques that reduce mortality to wildlife.
	ANM64		Pasture	Range		Managing livestock parturition to coincide with forage availability	This enhancement uses a controlled breeding season to match livestock nutrient requirements to available pasture forage and reduce supplemental feeding. This enhancement is applicable to all grazing livestock.
	ANM65		Pasture	Range		Monitoring nutritional status of ruminant livestock using the NUTBAL system	Use the NUTBAL Online application to determine if the current diet is sufficient to meet ruminant livestock nutritional needs and develop a least cost nutrition management plan. This requires the collection and laboratory analysis of forage or fecal samples to determine the nutritional value of grazing forages.
	ENR01	Crop				Fuel use reduction for field operations	This enhancement is for fuel savings of 20% or more achieved by a reduction in field operations when compared to existing management system.
	ENR10	Crop	Pasture			Using nitrogen provided by legumes, animal manure and compost to supply 90 to 100% of the nitrogen needs	This enhancement involves using nitrogen (N) produced by legumes and/or available animal manure and compost to supply 90 to 100% of N nutrient needs for crops, hay and/or forages produced on the farm.
	ENR11	Crop	Pasture			Improving energy feedstock production using alley cropping systems with short rotation woody crops	This enhancement involves the use of short rotation woody plants that produce energy feedstock planted in multiple rows with crops or forages produced in the alleyways between the woody rows.
	ENR12	Crop				Use of legume cover crops as a nitrogen source	This enhancement is for the use of legume cover crops as a primary source of nitrogen in a cropping system. Use of legume cover crops is applicable to conventional, specialty and organic crop production systems.
	ENR13	Crop	Pasture			Variable speed motor-drive systems	This enhancement activity is for upgrading of existing single speed motors through the addition of variable speed drives. A motor replacement may also be included in some cases. The primary use of this enhancement is for irrigation water pumping. This enhancement is not intended for farmstead or animal housing applications.
	PLT02		Pasture	Range	Forest	Monitor key grazing areas to improve grazing management	Adjust grazing management based on monitoring data. Monitor key grazing areas to determine if current grazing management is meeting management goals and objectives. A key grazing area is a small area of a grazed field that is identified as being representative of the entire field.

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	PLT06	Crop	Pasture	Range		Renovation of a windbreak, shelter belt or hedgerow for wildlife habitat	This enhancement is for the renovation of existing sites that are declining in vigor, need additional woody plants (trees or shrubs) or otherwise no longer provide wildlife habitat benefits. Existing rows of woody plants may be thinned, removed or replaced with new plantings. Existing woody plants may be pruned, either branches or roots or both, to improve windbreak function, health and vigor.
	PLT15	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect habitat	Seed or plug nectar and pollen producing plants in non-cropped areas such as field borders, vegetative barriers, contour buffer strips, waterways, shelterbelts, hedgerows, windbreaks, conservation cover, and riparian forest and herbaceous buffers.
	PLT16		Pasture	Range	Forest	Intensive rotational grazing	This enhancement is for the <u>harvest efficiency</u> of grazing livestock to increase forage harvest, and to improve forage quality and livestock health. The grazing system is managed to produce high quality, nutritious forage and maintain plants with sufficient energy reserves to recover quickly when adequate soil moisture is available for regrowth. Generally, livestock are rotated through pastures in the grazing system based on the physiological growth and nutritional stage of the forage plants and the daily dry matter intake and nutritional requirements of the animal. This enhancement is for: rotational grazing systems with increased numbers of pastures or paddocks, the accompanying required infrastructure, shorter grazing periods, and increased stock density. <u>Selection of this enhancement requires the activity to be planned concurrently on all eligible land use acres.</u>
	PLT17				Forest	Creating forest openings to improve hardwood stands	Creating forest openings or patches is a silvicultural practice used to naturally regenerate over-mature and/or degraded hardwood stands while providing added cover and browse for several game and non-game species of wildlife.
	PLT18	Crop	Pasture		Forest	Increasing on-farm food production with edible woody buffer landscapes	This enhancement is for the enhancing of windbreaks, alley cropping, silvopasture, or riparian forest buffer systems with trees and shrubs that produce edible products for human or wildlife consumption.
	PLT19	Crop				Herbicide resistant weed management	Adoption of multiple agronomic principles to manage herbicide resistant weeds in annually planted crop fields.
	PLT20	Crop				High residue cover crop or mixtures of high residue cover crops for weed suppression and soil health	Utilize biomass from a cover crop or cover crop mixture as a living or killed mulch to suppress weed seed germination and to add carbon to the terrestrial carbon pool.
	PLT21				Forest	Forest stand improvement pre-treating vegetation and fuels preceding a prescribed fire	This enhancement is to manage the vegetation and fuels in a forested area with mechanical or manual methods in advance of a prescribed fire AND to complete one or more treatments with prescribed fire during the contract period to restore native forest conditions.

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	PLT22	Crop			Forest	Multi-story cropping, sustainable management of non-timber forest plants	This activity, sometimes called forest farming, involves the manipulation of forest species composition, structure, and canopy cover to achieve or maintain a desired native plant community to facilitate the sustainable management of native non-timber forest plant(s) (e.g., goldenseal, ramps, mushrooms, ginseng, ferns, "sugarbush", etc.).
	PLT23				Forest	Conifer crop tree release	Conifer Crop Tree Release (CCTR) is a silvicultural technique used to enhance the growth, health and productivity of individual trees, while improving other resources such as wildlife habitat, recreation, timber value, and aesthetics.
	PLT24				Forest	Crop tree release in young hardwood stands	Crop Tree Release (CTR) in young hardwood stands is a silvicultural technique used to enhance the health and productivity of individual trees, while improving other resources such as wildlife habitat, recreation, timber value, and aesthetics.
	PLT25				Forest	Prune low density pine or hardwood trees to improve tree quality and wildlife habitat	This enhancement is to enrich the health and productivity of individual trees, while improving other resources such as recreation, timber value, and aesthetics through the use of a silvicultural technique--pruning.
	PLT26				Forest	Forest stand improvement to treat understory vegetation to minimize the risk of damaging wildfires, and/or manipulate the density and composition of tree species to improve wildlife habitat and forest health	This enhancement is to manage the understory vegetation in a forested area with mechanical, chemical or manual methods to reduce the fuel load to lessen the risk of a wildfire, improve the plant species mix to benefit wildlife or to improve the health of the residual trees.
	PLT27				Forest	Create small openings in pine stands to improve wildlife habitat or to prepare the area for natural regeneration	This enhancement is to create small openings in pine stands (i.e., one-half (0.5) to three (3) acres in size). The cleared area will have the vegetation removed through harvesting, mulching, or means compatible with the site.
	PLT28				Forest	Prescribed burning to promote and enhance conifer forests and maintain a healthy understory	This enhancement is to conduct a single prescribed burn in a conifer forest, but to only burn portions of the area each year creating a patchwork burn. The patchwork of burning creates a diverse habitat in several stages of development.
	PLT29				Forest	Rehabilitating damaged or cut over stands	This enhancement is designed to restore a forest that has been damaged or cut-over leaving very few desirable trees along with undesirable tree species. Action will be taken to reduce the undesirable tree species and promote the desirable tree species. Over time, the favoring of desirable species will bring the stand back to a productive and healthy forest.
	PLT30		Pasture			Monitor pasture health using pasture condition scores (PCS)	Evaluate current pasture productivity and stability of the plant community and soil resources; and utilize the information for management decision making.

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	PLT31				Forest	Forest stand improvement, prescribed burning – short return interval	This enhancement is the controlled use of fire in a forest to restore native forest conditions with a focus on improving the condition of fire-adapted plants and wildlife habitat and reducing the risk of damage from intense, severe wildfires.
	SOE05	Crop				Intensive no-till (Organic or Non-organic systems)	This enhancement is for using an intensive no-till, strip till, or direct seeding method of planting throughout the planned rotation. High residue levels are maintained by including high residue-producing crops, or by low residue crops followed by a cover crop in the rotation. Termination of all cover crops is accomplished using chemical methods or non-chemical methods, such as flail mowing, roller crimper and frost kill.
	SQL01	Crop				Controlled traffic system	Controlled traffic confines heavy traffic from tractor drive wheels/tracks, combine wheels, fertilizer or manure spreaders and grain carts to specific lanes in crop fields year after year.
	SQL04	Crop	Pasture			Use of cover crop mixes	This enhancement is for the use of cover crop mixes that contain two (2) or more different species of cover crops or cultivars of a single species.
	SQL05	Crop				Use of deep rooted crops to breakup soil compaction	This enhancement is for the use of deep rooted crops to break up compacted soils and improve soil quality. Deep rooted crops can be perennial plants like alfalfa or annual plants like forage radish.
	SQL08	Crop				Intercropping to improve soil quality and increase biodiversity	This enhancement involves the use of intercropping principles (i.e., growing two or more crops in close proximity to each other during part or all of their life cycles) to promote interactions that improve soil and water quality via increased biodiversity and contribute to pest management.
	SQL09	Crop				Conversion of cropland to grass-based agriculture	Conversion of cropland to grass-based agriculture is the establishment of mixtures of perennial grasses, forbs and/or legume species on cropland where annually-seeded cash crops have been grown in monocultures. Select perennial species based on species compatibility, forage quality potential, improvements to soil quality, beneficial effects for wildlife and/or production of biomass.
	SQL10	Crop				Crop management system where cropland acres were recently converted from CRP grass/legume cover or similar perennial vegetation	Implement a prescriptive crop management system on cropland acres that have been recently converted from CRP grass/legume conservation cover or similar perennial vegetated cover to a rotation of annually planted crops. Note: this enhancement is limited to acres where the conversion event took place not more than 2 years prior (not including hayland).

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	SQL11	Crop				Cover cropping in orchards, vineyards and other woody perennial horticultural crops	Grow perennial or annual cover crop mixtures of grass, legumes, native flowering plants and/or other forbs year round to provide soil coverage, organic mulch, beneficial insect habitat, and other conservation benefits in orchards, vineyards or other perennial horticultural crops. Cover crops, once planted, are replanted annually or maintained year after year.
	SQL12	Crop				Intensive cover cropping in annual crops	Grow and manage <i>seasonal</i> cover crops of grasses, legumes or forbs to maintain soil coverage and other conservation benefits during all the non-crop production periods in an annual crop rotation. Intensive cover cropping is applicable to conventional, specialty and organic crop production systems.
	SQL13				Forest	Forest stand improvement for soil health	This enhancement consists of forest management activities (planting, tending, and harvesting) to minimize impacts on forest soils and improve soil health.
	SQL14	Crop			Forest	Integrate grazing into crop and forest systems	This enhancement integrates of grazing into land use systems where they are absent.
	SQL15	Crop	Pasture			Utilize the soil health nutrient tool to assess soil nutrient pools	Use a soil health nutrient tool to assess soil nutrient pools for soil health.
	SQL16		Pasture	Range		High species diversity grazing lands	Warm-season perennial grazing lands will be overseeded with a multi-species diverse mixture of annual grasses, clovers, and broadleaf species.
	SQL17		Pasture			Placement of hay feeding areas on low fertility soils	This enhancement combines soil testing and remediation of low fertility grazing areas with targeted hay feeding sites. Selected sites will have the hay unrolled. Only specific grazing areas will be targeted instead of the entire farm.
	SQL18	Crop				Soil health crop rotation	Implement a crop rotation which addresses the four principle components of a soil health: adds diversity to the cropping system; maintains residue throughout the year; keeps a living root; and minimizes soil chemical, physical and biological disturbance.
	SQL19			Range		Management for rangeland soil health	Professional assessment of rangeland health by evaluating the presence, descriptions and amounts of rills, water flow patterns, pedestals or terracettes, bare ground, gullies, wind erosion affected areas, litter movement, soil surface loss and resistance to erosion, plant community composition and distribution, compaction, functional/structural groups, plant mortality/decadence, amounts of litter, annual production, invasive plants, and reproductive capability of perennial plants; and implementing measures that help avoid degradation of the resource.
	WQL03		Pasture	Range	Forest	Rotation of supplement and feeding areas	The proper location and regular movement of livestock concentration areas such as feeding areas and mineral blocks in a manner that will improve livestock distribution, reduce localized areas of disturbances and reduce impacts on water bodies.

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	WQL04	Crop				Plant tissue tests and analysis to improve nitrogen management	Use plant tissue tests to adjust nitrogen application rates.
	WQL05	Crop				Apply nutrients no more than 30 days prior to planned planting date	This enhancement is for applying nutrients from fertilizer, manures and/or compost no more than 30 days prior to the planned planting date of the crop.
	WQL07	Crop	Pasture			Split nitrogen applications, 50% after the crop emergence or pasture green up	Apply no more than 50% of total crop nitrogen needs within 30 days prior to planting or in the case of pasture or hay after green up of the dormant grasses. Apply the remaining 50% or more of the total nitrogen needs after crop emergence or pasture green up.
	WQL09	Crop				Apply phosphorus fertilizer below soil surface	This enhancement is for the application of all phosphorus fertilizer at least 3 inches deep, including manure, or as a 2X2 row starter. Note: the use of this enhancement may require a revised Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELC) plan.
	WQL10	Crop				Plant a cover crop that will scavenge residual nitrogen	Plant a cover crop that will scavenge nitrogen remaining in the soil after the harvest of a previous crop. Suitable cover crops include those with at least a "Very Good" rating for scavenging nitrogen as documented in <i>"Managing Cover Crops Profitably, 3rd Edition"</i> (Sarrantonio, 1998), Chart 2 Performance & Roles, pg 67. Examples include cereal rye, barley, forage radish and sorghum sudan.
	WQL11	Crop	Pasture			Precision application technology to apply nutrients	The use of precision agriculture technologies to apply nutrients to fit variations in site-specific conditions found within fields.
	WQL18		Pasture	Range	Forest	Non- chemical pest management for livestock	The use of management, monitoring, and prevention techniques to manage external livestock pests without the use of pesticides.
	WQL19		Pasture	Range	Forest	Transition to ORGANIC grazing systems	"Transition to Organic Grazing Systems" supports the conversion of a conventional to an organic livestock grazing system. Key to the enhancement activity is following ecological and pasture-based grazing requirements, applying materials according to the National List of Allowed Synthetic and Prohibited Natural Substances, and managing livestock according to National Organic Program (NOP) rules (Subpart C – Organic Production and Handling Requirements) for organic certification. This enhancement activity facilitates compliance with NOP rules for organic certification.

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	WQL20	Crop			Transition to ORGANIC cropping systems	<p>“Transition to Organic Cropping Systems” supports the conversion of a conventional to an organic cropping system. Key to the enhancement is the inclusion of management activities that improve water and soil quality in an “Organic System Plan (OSP)” that adheres to the National Organic Program (NOP) 205.201 criteria. Included in the plan are specifics on how producers will manage pests, weeds, diseases, and plant nutrients by following a crop rotation that incorporates cover crops and by using other cultural, biological and physical methods. The OSP also covers uses of manure and compost, measures to prevent exposure of organic crops and soils to NOP-prohibited substances, and seed sources.</p>
	WQL22	Crop	Pasture		On-farm composting of farm organic waste	<p>This enhancement consists of composting organic waste generated from the agricultural operation(s) on-farm. This includes animal manures, livestock mortality (where state or local laws allow), and waste from on-farm processing of agricultural products (e.g., slaughter by-products or vegetable culls removed from the field during harvest). It does not include any hazardous household waste, any general hazardous waste products or bio-hazard waste products. Yard waste such as grass clippings and leaves can be included but are not required. Composted products must be used in compliance with all federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations.</p>
	WQL25	Crop			Split applications of nitrogen based on a PSNT	<p>Use <u>pre-sidedress</u> soil nitrate test (PSNT) to determine the need and/or amount of additional nitrogen to be applied during a sidedress/topdress N application.</p>
	WQL26	Crop	Pasture		Reduce the concentration of nutrients imported on farm	<p>Grow at least 75% of feed for livestock on the farm and use manure from the livestock to supplement up to 50% of N, 90% of P and 90% K for crops grown on the farm.</p>
	WQL27	Crop			Drainage water management for nutrient, pathogen, or pesticide reduction	<p>This enhancement consists of managing soil and/or surface water levels during the non-cropping season in order to reduce the loss of nutrients, pathogens, or/and pesticides from a crop field through drainage systems and into downstream receiving waters. This enhancement may also be utilized to reduce the oxidation of organic matter in the soil and/or reduce wind erosion or particulate matter (dust) emissions.</p>

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	WQL28		Pasture	Range	Forest	Biological suppression and other non-chemical techniques to manage brush, herbaceous weeds and invasive species	This enhancement is for the reduction of woody brush, herbaceous weeds and invasive plants using non-chemical methods. Physical methods include burning, hoeing, mowing, mulching, pulling or other similar techniques. Biological methods include targeted livestock grazing, the use of natural enemies either introduced or augmented and planting desired species after weed/brush control measures. The addition of mineral amendments to favor desired plant species is recommended. Use of chemicals is prohibited with this enhancement.
	WQL29	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	High level integrated pest management to reduce pesticide environmental risk	Utilize advanced Integrated Pest Management (IPM) prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression techniques to eliminate or minimize the need for pesticide while maintaining satisfactory pest control. Apply pesticides in an environmentally sound manner only when monitoring indicates an economic pest threshold has been exceeded and other measures are not sufficiently effective. Choose the lowest risk pesticide available labeled for and effective against the target pest(s), and implement appropriate mitigation techniques to minimize environmental risks. Pesticide applications must follow all label requirements.
	WQL30	Crop	Pasture	Range		Integrated pest management for ORGANIC farming	Managing pests on an organic farm, including farms transitioning to organic, with an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) system that relies on high level prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression techniques that are based on an understanding of pest ecology. Organic IPM relies primarily on ecologically-based cultural and biological practices that result in healthy soil, healthy plants and habitat for beneficial organisms. Appropriate mitigation techniques are utilized to reduce environmental risks from selected suppression techniques.
	WQL31	Crop	Pasture			Land application of treated manure	This enhancement is for the use of manure that has been treated to reduce odors and/or pathogens prior to land application. Acceptable practices include controlled temperature anaerobic digestion (mesophilic or thermophilic), composting, and chemical treatment or amendment. Waste treatment lagoons and injection of manure alone do not qualify as acceptable practices.
	WQL32	Crop	Pasture			Apply enhanced efficiency fertilizer products	At least 50% of the pre-emergent and early post emergent nitrogen fertilizers, phosphorus fertilizers or manure used for production must include enhanced efficiency formulations.
	WQL33	Crop				Use of non-chemical methods to kill cover crops	Use non-chemical methods to kill cover crops prior to no-tilling, direct seeding or strip-tilling the normal production crop. These methods include mowing, rolling, undercutting and weather kill.

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	WQT01	Crop	Pasture			Irrigation system automation	This enhancement entails using GPS guided variable rate irrigation or other innovative technologies that allow irrigation water application based on variable site conditions within a field.
	WQT03	Crop	Pasture			Irrigation pumping plant evaluation	This enhancement consists of the evaluation of the pumping plant performance and efficiency using the Nebraska Irrigation Pumping Plant Performance Criteria.
	WQT05	Crop	Pasture			Remote monitoring and notification of irrigation pumping plant operation	A system for monitoring the status of an irrigation pumping plant and notifying the operator by a wireless connection of a change in the operating status of the irrigation system.
	WQT07	Crop	Pasture			Regional weather networks for irrigation scheduling	Crop evapotranspiration (crop ET) information from a regional weather network is utilized as a part of the irrigation water management plan for irrigation scheduling. Water use is planned and adjustments in application rates and timing are made using the regional weather network data.
	WQT08	Crop	Pasture			Decrease irrigation water quantity or conversion to non-irrigated crop production	This enhancement consists of reducing the total quantity of irrigation water used to produce crops and forages or the conversion of land to non-irrigated production.
	WQT09	Crop	Pasture			High level or advanced irrigation water management	This enhancement entails using high level irrigation water management (IWM) methods and other innovative technologies to evaluate precise soil and crop conditions to schedule irrigation water application based on variable site conditions within a field.
	WQT10	Crop	Pasture			Center pivot irrigation system end gun removal	This enhancement consists of removing the end guns from center pivot irrigation systems.
	WQT11	Crop				Low energy precision application (LEPA) irrigation	This enhancement consists of converting existing conventional sprinkler irrigation systems to a low energy precision application (LEPA) irrigation system.
	WQT12	Crop				Computerized hole selection for polypipe	This enhancement consists of calculating hole sizes for polypipe tubing using computer software to determine the optimal size hole per furrow in order to improve irrigation efficiency and decrease the quantity of irrigation water need per season.
	WQT13	Crop				Intermittent flooding of rice fields	This enhancement consists of managing irrigation water on rice fields by allowing them to “dry down” between full flood conditions to a saturated soil condition prior to re-flooding the field.

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Activities that interest you	NRCS Code	Eligible Land Use				Supplemental Payment Activity	Enhancement Description (See Job Sheet criteria for requirement details)
	CCR98	Crop				Improved Resource Conserving Crop Rotation (IRCCR)	Improving a resource-conserving crop rotation means strengthening an existing resource-conserving crop rotation to further: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduces erosion; 2. Improves soil fertility and soil health; 3. Interrupts pest cycles; and 4. In applicable areas, reduces depletion of soil moisture or otherwise reduces the need for irrigation.
	CCR99	Crop				Resource-Conserving Crop Rotation	Resource-conserving crop rotation means a crop rotation that: 1) Includes at least one resource conserving crop as determined by the State Conservationist, 2) Reduces erosion, 3) Improves soil fertility and tilth, 4) Interrupts pest cycles, and 5) In applicable areas, reduces depletion of soil moisture or otherwise reduces the need for irrigation. Resource-conserving crop means a crop that is one of the following: 1) A perennial grass, 2) A legume grown for use as forage, seed for planting, or green manure, 3) A legume-grass mixture, and 4) A small grain grown in combination with a green manure crop consisting of a grass, legume, forbs, or grass-forbs mixture, whether interseeded or planted in rotation.
Activities that interest you	NRCS Code	Eligible Land Use				Bundle Name	Bundle Criteria
	BCR10	Crop				BCR10 (Improves nutrient and pesticide application techniques and widens buffers)	This bundle of enhancement activities includes: AIR04-Use drift reducing nozzles, low pressures, lower boom height, and adjuvants to reduce pesticide drift; AIR07-GPS, targeted spray application (SmartSprayer), or other chemical application electronic control technology; WQL11-Precision application technology to apply nutrients; WQL29-High level IPM to reduce pesticide environmental risk; and one of the buffer widening enhancements ANM32, ANM39 or ANM40.
	BCR11	Crop				BCR11 (Addresses orchard and vineyard resource concerns)	This bundle of enhancement activities includes: AIR03-Replace burning of pruning, removals and other crop residues with non-burning alternatives; AIR04-Use of drift reducing nozzles, low pressures, lower boom height, and adjuvants to reduce pesticide drift; PLT15- Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect habitat; SQL11-Cover cropping in orchards, vineyards and other woody perennial horticultural crops; and WQL29-High level IPM to reduce pesticide environmental risk.

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	BFO09			Forest	BFO09 (Improve wildlife habitat, soil quality and forest health)	This bundle of enhancement activities includes: PLT15- Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect habitat; PLT21- Forest stand improvement pre-treating vegetation and fuels preceding a prescribed fire; SQL13- Forest stand improvement for soil health; WQL28- Biological suppression and other non-chemical techniques to manage brush, weeds and invasive species; and either PLT23- Conifer crop tree release, or PLT24- Crop tree release in young hardwood stands.
	BFO10			Forest	BFO10 (Improves wildlife habitat in hardwood or mixed forests)	This bundle of enhancement activities includes: ANM12-Shallow water habitat; PLT15-Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect habitat; PLT17- Create forest openings to improve hardwood stands; WQL28-Biological suppression and other non-chemical techniques to manage brush, weeds and invasive species; and WQL29-High level IPM to reduce pesticide environmental risk.
	BOI01	Crop			BOI01 (Improves irrigation water conservation and widens buffers)	This bundle of enhancement activities includes: WQT01-Irrigation system automation; WQT03-Irrigation pumping plant evaluation; WQT09-High level or advanced level irrigation water management; WQT10-Center pivot irrigation system end gun removal; and one of the buffer widening enhancements ANM32 or ANM40.
	BOI02	Crop			BOI02 (Improves irrigation water conservation and widens buffers)	This bundle of enhancement activities includes: WQT03-Irrigation pumping plant evaluation; WQT09-High level or advanced level irrigation water management; WQT10-Center pivot irrigation system end gun removal; WQT11-Low elevation precision application irrigation; and one of the buffer widening enhancements ANM32 or ANM40.
	BOI03	Crop			BOI03 (Improves irrigation water conservation and widens buffers)	This bundle of enhancement activities includes: WQT01-Irrigation system automation; WQT03-Irrigation pumping plant evaluation; WQT05-Remote monitoring and notification of irrigation pumping plant operation; WQT07-Regional weather network; and one of the buffer widening enhancements ANM32 or ANM40.
	BPA09		Pasture		BPA09 (Addresses multiple resource concerns)	This bundle of enhancement activities includes: AIR04-Use drift reducing nozzles, low pressures, lower boom height, and adjuvants to reduce pesticide drift; ANM03-Incorporate native grasses and/or legumes into 15% or more of herbage dry matter productivity; ANM27-Wildlife friendly fencing; PLT16-Intensive rotational grazing, and WQL07-Split nitrogen applications 50% after the crops/pasture emerge/green-up.

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	BPA10		Pasture		BPA10 (Improves forage utilization)	This bundle of enhancement activities includes: ANM25-Stockpiling of forages to extend the grazing season; ANM29-On-farm forage based grazing system; ANM64- Managing livestock parturition to coincide with forage availability; PLT16-Intensive rotational grazing; and WQL07-Split nitrogen applications 50% after the crops/pasture emerge/green-up.
	BPI01				Forest BPI01 (Improves conifer forest health through prescribed burning and grazing management)	This bundle of enhancement activities includes: PLT21-Forest stand improvement pre-treating vegetation and fuels preceding a prescribed fire, or PLT28-Prescribed burning to promote and enhance conifer forests and maintain a healthy understory, or PLT31-Forest stand improvement, prescribed burning-short return interval; and following four enhancements: ANM09-Grazing management to improve wildlife habitat, ANM11-Patch-burning to enhance wildlife habitat, ANM38-Retrofit watering facility for wildlife escape and enhanced access for bats and bird species, and PLT02-Monitor key grazing areas to improve grazing management.
	BPI02				Forest BPI02 (Improves conifer forest health through prescribed burning and forest stand management)	This bundle of enhancement activities includes: PLT21-Forest stand improvement pre-treating vegetation and fuels preceding a prescribed fire, or PLT28-Prescribed burning to promote and enhance conifer forests and maintain a healthy understory, or PLT31-Forest stand improvement, prescribed burning-short return interval; and four of the following five enhancements: ANM27- Wildlife friendly fencing, ANM55- Creation and retention of snags, den trees and coarse woody debris for wildlife habitat , PLT15- Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect habitat, PLT27- Create small openings in pine stands to improve wildlife habitat or to prepare the area for natural regeneration, and WQL28- Prescribed burning to promote and enhance conifer forests and maintain a healthy understory.
	BPI03				Forest BPI03 (Improves forest health and wildlife habitat through forest stand management)	This bundle of enhancement activities includes ANM42- Forest stand improvement for wildlife habitat and soil quality; PLT26- Forest stand improvement to treat understory vegetation to minimize the risk of damaging wildfires, and/or manipulate the density and composition of tree species to improve wildlife habitat and forest health; SQL13- Forest stand improvement for soil health; PLT23- Conifer crop tree release or PLT24- Crop tree release in young hardwood stands; PLT15- Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect habitat or PLT18- Increasing on-farm food production with edible woody buffer landscapes or PLT29- Rehabilitating damaged or cut over stands.

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	BRA10			Range		BRA10 (Addresses multiple resource concerns)	This bundle of enhancement activities includes: ANM09-Grazing management to improve wildlife habitat; ANM64-Managing livestock parturition to coincide with forage availability; PLT02-Monitor key grazing areas to improve grazing management; WQL03-Rotation of supplement and feeding areas; and WQL29-High level IPM to reduce pesticide environmental risk.
	BRA11			Range		BRA11 (Addresses multiple resource concerns)	This bundle of enhancement activities includes: ANM09-Grazing management to improve wildlife habitat; ANM11-Patch-burning to enhance wildlife habitat; ANM27-Wildlife friendly fencing; ANM64-Managing livestock parturition to coincide with forage availability; and WQL29-High level IPM to reduce pesticide environmental risk.
Activities that interest you	Code	Eligible Land Use				Practice Name	Practice Definition
	311	Crop	Pasture			Alley Cropping	Trees or shrubs are planted in sets of single or multiple rows with agronomic, horticultural crops or forages produced in the alleys between the sets of woody plants that produce additional products.
	314	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Brush Management	Removal, reduction or manipulation of non-herbaceous plants on rangeland, native or naturalized pasture, pasture, hayland and forest lands where removal or reduction of excessive woody (non-herbaceous) plants is desired.
	328	Crop				Conservation Crop Rotation	Growing crops in a recurring sequence on the same field to control erosion, improve soil organic matter, balance nutrients, improve water use efficiency, manage saline seeps, manage pests and/or provide food and cover for wildlife
	329	Crop				Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till/Strip Till/Direct Seed	Managing the amount, orientation and distribution of crop and other plant residue on the soil surface year round while limiting soil-disturbing activities to only those necessary to place nutrients, condition residue and plant crops.
	338		Pasture	Range	Forest	Prescribed Burning	Controlled fire applied to a predetermined areas to maintain or enhance fire dependent ecologies.
	340	Crop				Cover Crop	The planting of crops such as grasses, legumes and forbs to provide seasonal cover that will reduce erosion, improve soil organic matter, promote efficient nutrient cycling, fix nitrogen in the soil, suppress weeds, increase biodiversity and/or provide food and cover for wildlife.
	342	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Critical Area Planting	Establishment of permanent vegetation on sites that have or are expected to have high erosion rates, and on sites that have physical, chemical or biological conditions that prevent the establishment of vegetation with normal practices.
	345	Crop				Residue and Tillage Management, Mulch Till	Managing the amount, orientation and distribution of crop and other plant residue on the soil surface year round while limiting the soil-disturbing activities used to grow crops in systems where the entire field surface is tilled prior to planting.

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	380	Crop	Pasture	Range		Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	Windbreaks or shelterbelts are single or multiple rows of trees or shrubs in linear configurations to reduce surface wind speeds in order to control wind erosion, manage snow deposition, reduce the spread of odors, reduce pesticide spray drift and/or provide wildlife food and cover.
	382	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Fence	A constructed barrier to animals or people.
	383		Pasture	Range	Forest	Fuelbreak	A strip or block of land on which the vegetation, debris and detritus have been reduced and/or modified to control or diminish the risk of the spread of fire crossing the strip or block of land.
	384		Pasture	Range	Forest	Woody Residue Treatment	The treatment of residual woody material that is created due to management activities or natural disturbances.
	386	Crop				Field Border	A strip of permanent vegetation established at the edge or around the perimeter of a field to provide a buffer between cropland and non-cropped areas to reduce cropland impacts and provide wildlife food and cover.
	390	Crop	Pasture	Range		Riparian Herbaceous Cover	Grasses, grass-like plants and forbs that are tolerant of intermittent flooding or saturated soils and that are established or managed in the transitional zone between terrestrial and aquatic habitats to provide a buffer between agricultural areas and riparian areas and to enhance riparian zone functions.
	391	Crop	Pasture			Riparian Forest Buffer	An area predominantly trees and/or shrubs that are tolerant of intermittent flooding or saturated soils and that are established or managed in the transitional zone between terrestrial and aquatic habitats to provide a buffer between agricultural areas and riparian areas and to enhance riparian zone functions.
	393	Crop				Filter Strip	A strip or area of herbaceous vegetation established on cropland that removes contaminants from overland flow.
	394		Pasture	Range	Forest	Firebreak	A permanent or temporary strip of bare or vegetated land established to retard the movement of fire.
	395	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Stream Habitat Improve/Mgmt	Maintain, improve or restore physical, chemical and biological functions of a stream, and its associated riparian zone, necessary for meeting the life history requirements of desired aquatic species.
	449	Crop	Pasture			Irrigation Water Management	The process of determining and controlling the volume, frequency and application rate of irrigation water in a planned, efficient manner.
	484	Crop				Mulching	Applying plant residues or other suitable materials produced off site, to the land surface.
	511	Crop	Pasture			Forage Harvest Management	The timely cutting and removal of forages from the field as hay, green-chop or ensilage.
	512	Crop	Pasture			Forage and Biomass Planting	Establishing adapted and/or compatible species, varieties, or cultivars of herbaceous species suitable for pasture, hay, or biomass production.

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	528		Pasture	Range	Forest	Prescribed Grazing	Managing the harvest of vegetation with grazing and/or browsing animals in order to enhance or maintain good forage production and provide wildfire food and cover.
	550	Crop	Pasture	Range		Range Planting	Establishment of adapted perennial vegetation such as grasses, forbs, legumes, shrubs and trees in order to establish a function range ecology.
	612	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Tree/Shrub Establishment	Establishing woody plants by planting seedlings or cuttings, direct seeding, or natural regeneration.
	614	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Watering Facility	A permanent or portable device to provide an adequate amount and quality of drinking water for livestock and or wildlife.
	643	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Restoration and Management of Rare and Declining Habitats	Restoring and managing rare and declining habitats and their associated wildlife species to conserve biodiversity.
	644	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management	Retaining, developing or managing wetland habitat for wetland wildlife.
	645	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	Provide and manage upland habitats and connectivity within the landscape for wildlife.
	647	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Early Successional Habitat Development/Management	Manage early plant succession to benefit desired wildlife or natural communities by increasing plant community diversity.
	650	Crop	Pasture	Range		Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation	Replacing, releasing and/or removing selected trees and shrubs or rows within an existing windbreak or shelterbelt, adding rows to the windbreak or shelterbelt or removing selected tree and shrub branches.
	654	Crop			Forest	Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment	The closure, decommissioning, or abandonment of roads, trails, and/or landings and associated treatment to enhance forest functions.
	655	Crop			Forest	Forest Trails & Landings	A temporary or infrequently used route, path or cleared area within a forest established to provide access to the forest while limiting damage to the forest.
	660	Crop			Forest	Tree/Shrub Pruning	The removal of all or part of selected branches, leaders or roots from trees and shrubs to improve forest health and functions.
	666	Crop			Forest	Forest Stand Improvement	The manipulation of species composition, stand structure and stocking by cutting or killing selected trees and understory vegetation to enhance forest health and functions.