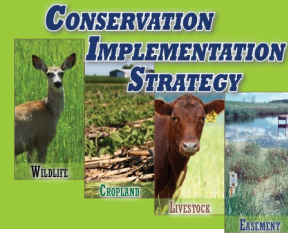


**Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**

**Conservation Implementation Strategy Project**  
**Beadle County Resiliency Strategies for**  
**Grazingland Management and Recovery**



**This Project At-A-Glance**

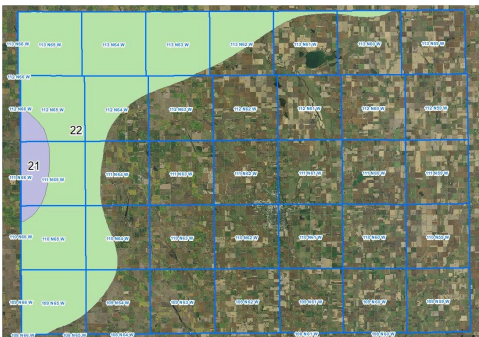
**Partners**

Beadle County Conservation District

Ducks Unlimited

**Funding** for this project is provided by the EQIP Program and partners with financial and in-kind contributions.

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The Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) is a new phased-in approach to deliver conservation programs to farmers and ranchers across South Dakota. Funding for CIS comes through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Funding and support from other agencies and groups can be leveraged and coordinated to focus on mutual issues of the highest priority.

**Background**

Agricultural policies, new technologies, and short-term profit potential have incentivized grassland conversion to cropland causing our grasslands to disappear. Additionally, attempts to maintain livestock numbers while reducing grassland acres has encouraged the mismanagement of our grasslands. Overgrazing our remaining grasslands causes compaction, reduces carbon sequestration, production, and decreases infiltration. All of these issues allow land to be dependent on timely rain events rather than resilient against floods and drought conditions. By investing in proper grazing management strategies, we can ensure the land remains in grass and provides the highest environmental benefits to all community members.

**Goals**

1. Offer technical management strategies to improve rangeland diversity, resiliency, and productivity through management improvements.
2. Invest in needed infrastructure to allow proper grazing of grasslands and improve the resiliency and recovery during extreme wet and dry conditions.
3. Implement conservation practices and improved management strategies that will reduce pressure on Beadle County lands.

4. Education and outreach
5. Utilize monitoring strategies to document successes, failures, resiliency, productivity, and rangeland health.

**Desired Outcomes**

1. Improved Rangeland Health: Implement grazing strategies to promote plant diversity and root growth to promote grassland stability.
2. Incorporate Soil Health Practices: Integrate soil health practices into grazingland management to aid in grassland resiliency during extreme weather conditions.
3. Improve Infrastructure: Improve availability and distribution of grazingland infrastructure to allow for improved grazing management.

**South Dakota**  
**Natural**  
**Resources**  
**Conservation**  
**Service**



Core Practices	Supporting Practices
Prescribed Grazing (528)*	Cover Crop (340)***
Conservation Crop Rotation (328)**	Pasture and Hayland Planting (512)
	Range Seeding (550)
	Watering Facility (614)
	Livestock Pipelines (516)
	Water Well (642)
	Pumping Plant (533)
	Fence (382)
	Heavy Use Protection (561)
	Prescribed Burning (338)
	Brush Management (314)
	Firebreak (394)

**Practices Requirements/Limitations:**

\*Conservation Crop Rotation (328): Rangeland must be included in application to include cropland and 328 practice.

\*\*Prescribed Grazing (528): Must be implemented on rangeland and cropland offered in application. Minimum grass height after grazing 4” tame grasses, 6” native.

\*\*\*Cover Crops (340): To be grazed by livestock to reduce pressure on grazinglands. Must integrate livestock on acres planted to cover crops

**Funding Priorities**

Applications newly implementing Prescribed Grazing (528), allow monitoring annually for 5 years, 51% or more land offered in targeted project area, compliant with all USDA-NRCS programs participated in.

**Applications Requirements**

- a. NRCS-CPA-1200, Conservation Program Application
- b. Completed Form 1199, Direct Deposit
- c. CCC-941, Average Adjusted Gross Income(AGI).
- d. Conservation Planning Workbook

**2022 Application Deadline:** November 30, 2021

