

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service South Dakota State Technical Committee Meeting

September 11, 2024 | 10 a.m. Central Daylight Time

Huron Event Center & Crossroads Hotel, 100 4th Street SW, Huron, SD 57350

Join the STC meeting via Microsoft Teams on your computer, mobile app or room device: Join the meeting now Meeting ID: 288 325 553 751 Passcode: QkXy9j Dial-in by phone <u>+1 202-650-0123,,648488771#</u> Phone conference ID: 648 488 771#

<u>AGENDA</u>

1. Welcome

Moderator, Colette Kessler, Assistant State Conservationist Partnerships

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence for those who served and in respect for current service men and women.

Reminders

Subscribe to updates for the USDA NRCS SD State Technical Committee, please visit <u>www.farmers.gov</u>, then scroll down to "Subscribe to Updates"—follow the menus and look for "State Technical Committee" in the topic list. Also, please take the opportunity to consider other topics and geographic locations down to the county level.

State Technical Committee (STC) meeting notifications are also distributed via a shared mailbox: <u>sm.fpac.nrcs.sd.partnerships@usda.gov</u>. Notifications via U.S. Postal Service may be requested by contacting the NRCS State Office Randi Papka <u>randi.papka@usda.gov</u> or calling (605) 352-1200.

INTRODUCTIONS

2. Opening Remarks

Tony Sunseri, State Conservationist, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

3. Congressional Delegates Updates

4. Updates of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Serving South Dakota Tony Sunseri, State Conservationist

Staffing and Personnel Updates

-> NRCS South Dakota Web Page: Personnel Directory can be found under Contact Us https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/state-office-contacts/south-dakota-state-office

- **5.** Ecological Sciences Update, Conservation Planning and Conservation Practices Update Jessica Michalski, State Resource Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - Training Report from FY2024
 - Upcoming October updates for Ecological Sciences Conservation Practices
- 6. Workload Update for Wetland Determinations and Highly Erodible Land Deke Hobbick, Assistant State Conservationist for Compliance, NRCS

7. NRCS SD Engineering Division Update

James Reedy, State Conservation Engineer, NRCS

8. Farm Service Agency Conservation Program of the Farm Bill Update

Owen Fagerhaug, Agricultural Program Specialist, Farm Service Agency

• Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

9. NRCS Conservation Programs of the Farm Bill Updates

Val Dupraz, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs, NRCS

- FY2025 Timelines
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
- Agricultural Conservation Easements Program (ACEP)
 - News release
- Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
 Matt Morlock, RCPP Coordinator
 - > FY 2024 National Funding Opportunity Proposal Overview
 - > Bruce Toay, Manager of Conservation Programs, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

10. NRCS Soils Update

• How Soil Health Principles and Practices Fit with Conservation Easements on Working Farms Kent Vlieger, State Soil Health Specialist

11. Partnerships and USDA NRCS Agreements Update

Colette Kessler, Assistant State Conservationist Partnerships, NRCS

- Update of Conservation Collaboration Cooperative Agreements (CCCA) for FY2024
- Tribal Relations Update
- Outreach Update
 - Beginner Farmer and Rancher (BFR)
 - Direct mail effort within reservation boundaries.
- Dakota Conservation Network through an agreement with NRCS/SDACD
 <u>Dakota Conservation Network (https://conservesd.org)</u>

12. General Discussion, Questions, Round Robin of Conservation Partners Updates:

Due to meeting agenda time constraints, the topics and length of time allocated may be limited.

• South Central RC&D – Jewel Bork, Director

13. Upcoming State Technical Committee Meeting Dates

December 17, 2024 location TBD

Find individual STC Meeting archived information at the USDA NRCS SD web page for https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/events/south-dakota-state-technical-committee-meeting.

Shortened URL: <u>https://bit.ly/StateTechnicalCommittee</u>

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SD NRCS Website: <u>https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-by-state/south-dakota</u> Service Center Locator: <u>https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/find-a-service-center</u>

SD NRCS Leadership Team:

Anthony (Tony) Sunseri, State Conservationist Valorie (Val) Dupraz, State Conservationist-Programs Denise Gauer, Assistant State Conservationist-Management and Strategy Deke Hobbick, Assistant State Conservationist- Compliance James (Jim) Reedy, State Conservation Engineer Nathan Jones, State Soil Scientist Jessica Michalski, State Resource Conservationist Colette Kessler, Assistant State Conservationist-Partnerships/Public Affairs Tami Burmiester, Executive Assistant Assistant State Conservationist-Field Operations:

- Tate Lantz, Rapid City Area
- Michael Larson, Pierre Area
- Michelle Burke, Brookings Area

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE - SOUTH DAKOTA



Resource Unit	Resource Unit Conservationist
Hills	Justin Boerboom
Northwest	Jaime Fuhrman
Prairie	Ryan Willert
Southwest	Matthew Odden
Three Rivers	Paul Drayton

Resource Unit	Resource Unit Conservationist
Central Plains	Eric Rasmussen
Lower James	Heidi Rients
Lower Missouri	Kelly Tschumper
Mid Missouri	Dillon Blaha
North Missouri	John Bender
River Hills	Shane Reis

Resource Unit	Resource Unit Conservationist
Big Sioux	Deron Ruesch
Coteau	James Dylla
Glacial Lakes	Jeremy Sova
Upper James	Valeree DeVine
Vermillion	Lynsee Planting

SD NRCS Ecological Sciences Report State Technical Committee 9/11/2024

- The following trainings were conducted in Fiscal Year 2024 by Ecological Sciences staff
 - Cultural Resources
 - Urban Agriculture
 - Conservation Planning Part II
 - Shelterbelt Renovation
 - Introduction to Agronomy
 - Nutrient Management
 - Conservation Planning on Grazing lands
 - Shelterbelt Technology and Establishment
- All these trainings will be held in FY2025, and we will be adding an additional in person course-Economics of Conservation Planning
- The following conservation practice standards (CPS), technical notes and implementation guidance will be updated/adopted in October 2024
 - Windbreak Establishment and Renovation CPS (380)
 - Riparian Forest Buffer CPS (391)
 - Tree and Shrub Establishment CPS (612)
 - NEW Feed Management CPS (592)
 - Feed Management Implementation Requirements
 - High Tunnel Implementation Guide
 - Woodland Technical Note 37 (Tree and Shrub Characteristics for Riparian or Specialty Plantings)
 - Woodland Technical Note 42 (Windbreak Design Guide)
 - NEW Woodland Technical Note 46 (Tree Food and Cover Values to Wildlife)
 - Conservation Tree and Shrub Group List
 - If any partner would like to review any of the draft documents, please contact <u>Jessica.michalski@usda.gov</u> or via phone (605) 880-5670.
- Ecological Sciences Staff List
 - Jessica Michalski-State Resource Conservationist
 - Marcia Deneke-State Agronomist
 - Emily Rohrer-State Grazinglands Management Specialist
 - Brandon Walter-State Biologist (NRCS CRP & ECP Program Manager)
 - Victor Tuschen-State Economist
 - Rachel Lawton-State Urban Conservationist (Kelsey Ramerth acting through December)
 - Laura Bosworth-State Forester
 - Paige Olson-State Archaeologist

- o Brenda Shierts-Archaeologist
- Madison Rutter-Archaeologist
- Sara Newman-Administrative Assistant
- Ryan Kruse-Business Tools Team Lead
- $\circ \quad \text{Joel Milos-Business Tools Specialist}$
- Adam Madigan-State GIS Specialist
- Anne Dunckel-GIS Specialist
- Matt Johnson-GIS Specialist
- Cristina Burgos Otero-GIS Specialist
- Mike Knigge-Cartographic Technician
- Jordan Hopper-Cartographic Technician

SD NRCS Engineering Update

State Technical Committee

9/11/2024

State Office Engineering staff are currently working on updates to 7 CPS' where the national version is newer than the current SD version on the FOTG:

- Composting Facility (317)
- Obstruction Removal (500)
- Pond Sealing or Lining, Geomembrane or Geosynthetic Clay Liner (521)
- Drainage Water Management (554)
- Saline and Sodic Soil Management (610)
- Wetland Creation (658)
- Wetland Enhancement (659)
- 8th being updated Livestock Shelter Structure (576) being updated to remove one of the tables in the current SD standard.

I don't have any insider knowledge at the moment on specific differences between the new national and current state standards, but if anyone has any questions, I'll certainly hunt down answers from my staff.

Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program flood disaster assistance update:

- SD NRCS jumped the gun just a little and submitted our EWP electronic disaster report (EDR) to NHQ with a disaster date of July 1, fully expecting a federal declaration to come by mid-July. Our program rules have specific timeline requirements after an event happens, but it also has the flexibility to grant an extension, as needed. So, the way things unfolded through July and August, and because the Federal Disaster wasn't declared until August 15, we decided to request an extension to give us longer than the required "within 60 days of a sponsor request" to complete Damage Survey Report site visits.
- We've received requests for assistance from two sponsors, the TLC Vermillion River Water District for a couple sites along the Vermillion River, and SD GF&P for severe erosion in the earth auxiliary spillway on Dimock Lake. We're working on completing the DSR's for those now and will be pursuing funding and agreements with the sponsors once we have those done.

Watershed Operations (WFPO) update:

- The Firesteel Creek/Lake Mitchell project is seeing some progress. We have a Preliminary Investigations Findings Report (PIFR) ready to submit, which is just the cursory findings summary that assures NHQ that there are no insurmountable obstacles that would prevent the project from moving forward to planning. The goal and primary purpose of the project, at least at the moment, is watershed protection; trying to slow the transport of sediment and nutrients into Lake Mitchell.

- But before we can submit the PIFR, we need to get more Sponsoring Local Organizations (SLO's) on board. This is because the scope of the planning has now grown to encompass the entire Firesteel Creek watershed rather than just a couple of Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) areas at the lower end of the watershed right around Lake Mitchell.
- Joe Schroeder, Public Works Director and City Engineer with the City of Mitchell, myself, and my Watershed Program Manager, Daniel Ostrem, have been meeting with the water development districts and counties in the watershed in the hopes that they'll be willing to sign on as partner sponsors with the city of Mitchell to at least move into planning, which is 100% funded by NRCS. Attending commission/board meetings and public meetings has been happening all summer, but of course approval to sign on from those boards depends on their meeting timelines, so hopefully we'll see some progress over the next couple weeks. James River Water Development District has sponsorship approval on the agenda for this week's board meeting.

And with all the new staff onboard, we held a very successful annual Basic Survey & Design Class in Pierre at the end of July; 21 field staff, most of whom are new employees who've joined NRCS within the last year or so. Given all the new people still coming onboard, we'll be spending time this winter looking at making a few changes to the class to focus a little more on the planning side of our engineering work, and possibly offering it a couple times a year to both NRCS and partner staff. We did the livestock water portion of it for GF&P folks back at the end of May, and it was very well received. More to come on that.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Classic Funding Breakdown - Initiative Funds									
Fund Code	Initial Allocation	Additional Allocation	Value of Funded	Funds Returned to	Remaining	Number of	Number of Assessments Funded	Assessments Funded in Other Fund Pools	Percentage of Applications Funded Across All
				Headquarters	Allocation	Assessments	Fullded	FUUIS	Pools
National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI)	\$123,210.00		\$0.00	\$123,210.00	\$0.00	0	0	0	0.00%
Sage Grouse Initiative (SGI)	\$523,809.00		\$596,208.00		\$0.00	4	4	1	125.00%
Organic Transition Initiative (OTI)	\$25,660.00	\$450,000.00	\$474,216.00	\$1,444.00	\$0.00	2	2	0	100.00%
Joint Chief - Great Plains Grassland Biome	\$386,546.00	\$227,429.00	\$613,975.00		\$0.00	6	6	0	100.00%
EQIP-CIC (Soil Health) (General Funds)	\$711,454.00	\$77,445.00	\$788,899.00		\$0.00	14	9	2	78.57%
Animal Waste Management	\$1,500,000.00	\$1,375,892.00	\$2,869,207.00		\$6,685.00	17	12	3	88.24%
Organic	\$25,000.00	\$58,059.00	\$83,059.00		\$0.00	4	3	1	100.00%
On-Farm Energy	\$10,000.00	(\$5,828.00)	\$4,172.00		\$0.00	1	1	0	100.00%
High Tunnel/Small/Speciality	\$450,000.00	\$657,280.00	\$1,107,280.00		\$0.00	76	35	11	60.53%
Wildlife	\$550,000.00	(\$238,739.00)	\$311,261.00		\$0.00	59	14	36	84.75%
Northern Plains Grassland Bird WLFW	\$550,000.00	\$23,214.00	\$573,214.00		\$0.00	11	2	7	81.82%
State Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG)	\$150,000.00	(\$150,000.00)			\$0.00	0	0	0	0.00%
Total Allocation:	\$5,005,679.00	\$2,547,151.00	\$7,421,491.00	\$124,654.00	\$6,685.00	194	88	61	76.80%
National Funded Initiatives		•	•						•
State Funded Initiatives									

State Funded Initiatives

State Funds Used for Initiatives

Funds Returned to Headquarters
Application originally selected for funding cancelled

Summary Of FY 2024 EQIP Classic Allocations					
Initial General Allocation	\$14,229,085.00				
Additional General Allocation	\$6,500,000.00				
National Initiative Allocation	\$647,019.00				
Additional National Initiative Allocation	\$82,775.00				
Organic Transition Initiative (OTI)	\$25,660.00				
Additional OTI Allocation	\$450,000.00				
Joint Chief	\$386,546.00				
Allocation Returned	\$124,654.00				
Total Final EQIP Allocation	\$22,196,431.00				

Summary of Final Classic Obligations				
Final Classic EQIP Allocation \$22,19				
Number of Contracts	237			
Initial Obligation Amount	\$22,189,270.00			
Initial Percent of Obligation	99.97%			
Final Obligation Amount (ProTracts)	\$22,163,443.60			
Percent of Obligation	99.85%			

Fund Code	Initial Allocation	Allocation Change	Value of Funded Applications	Remaining Allocation	Number of Assessments	Number of Assessments Funded	Number of Assessments Funded in Other Fund Pools	Percentage of Applications Funded Across All Pools
American Indian (StrikeForce) (19% of General)					128	32	30	48.44%
Standing Rock Sioux	\$344,274.00	\$921,331.00	\$1,265,605.00	\$0.00	21	6	2	38.10%
Cheyenne River Sioux	\$569,022.00	(\$67,421.00)	\$501,601.00	\$0.00	45	2	15	37.78%
Pine Ridge Oglala Sioux	\$562,107.00	\$136,436.00	\$698,543.00	\$0.00	21	4	4	38.10%
Rosebud Sioux	\$207,697.00	\$630,576.00	\$838,273.00	\$0.00	20	9	2	55.00%
Lower Brule	\$86,678.00	\$44,002.00	\$130,680.00	\$0.00	10	2	5	70.00%
Crow Creek Sioux	\$95,323.00	\$515,714.00	\$611,037.00	\$0.00	7	6	1	100.00%
Yankton Sioux	\$122,984.00	\$48,449.00	\$171,433.00	\$0.00	1	1	0	100.00%
Flandreau Santee Sioux	\$41,728.00	(\$41,728.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	0	0	0.00%
Lake Traverse Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux	\$59,017.00	\$15,585.00	\$74,602.00	\$0.00	3	2	1	100.00%
Watershed Fund Pools								
Brookings Area	\$1,359,576.00	\$115,932.00	\$1,475,508.00	\$0.00	194	31	106	70.62%
Big Sioux	\$313,020.00	(\$50,713.00)	\$262,307.00	\$0.00	77	2	47	63.64%
Coteau	\$283,309.00	\$326,267.00	\$609,576.00	\$0.00	24	8	14	91.67%
Glacial Lakes	\$187,487.00	(\$29,427.00)	\$158,060.00	\$0.00	19	8	8	84.21%
Upper James	\$277,767.00	(\$160,328.00)	\$117,439.00	\$0.00	36	5	19	66.67%
Vermillion	\$297,993.00	\$30,133.00	\$328,126.00	\$0.00	38	8	18	68.42%
Pierre Area	\$1,251,322.00	\$627,246.00	\$1,878,568.00	\$0.00	392	29	131	40.82%
Central Plains	\$177,521.00	\$270,499.00	\$448,020.00	\$0.00	54	3	21	44.44%
Lower James	\$279,629.00	\$811.00	\$280,440.00	\$0.00	46	5	20	54.35%
Lower Missouri	\$219,503.00	(\$61,060.00)	\$158,443.00	\$0.00	123	5	31	29.27%
Mid Missouri	\$166,924.00	\$4,660.00	\$171,584.00	\$0.00	32	5	15	62.50%
North Missouri	\$184,395.00	\$61,721.00	\$246,116.00	\$0.00	51	7	21	54.90%
River Hills	\$223,350.00	\$350,615.00	\$573,965.00	\$0.00	86	4	23	31.40%
Rapid City Area	\$1,248,278.00	\$285,961.00	\$1,534,239.00	\$0.00	350	14	117	37.43%
Northwest	\$325,847.00	\$35,216.00	\$361,063.00	\$0.00	78	3	26	37.18%
Three Rivers	\$211,668.00	\$341,917.00	\$553,585.00	\$0.00	66	2	18	30.30%
Prairie	\$211,830.00	\$171,149.00		\$0.00	39	2	17	48.72%
Hills	\$262,168.00	(\$232,736.00)	\$29,432.00	\$0.00	116	2	42	37.93%
	\$236,765.00	(\$29,585.00)	\$207,180.00	\$0.00	51	5	14	37.25%
Beginning Farmer or Rancher (5% of General)	\$549,692.00	\$1,175,985.00	\$1,725,677.00	\$0.00	167	12	76	52.69%
Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher (5% of								
General)	\$549,692.00	\$450,286.00	\$999,978.00	\$0.00	86	4	39	50.00%
Total General Allocation:	\$7,047,390.00	\$4,858,354.00	\$11,905,744.00	\$0.00	1317	122	499	47.15%
Cost Overrun	\$51,912.38	(\$3,362.54)	\$26,991.48	\$21,558.36				

Application originally selected for funding cancelled

Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS)										
Conservation Implementation Strategies (CIS)	Initial Allocation	Allocation Change	Value of Funded Applications	Remaining Allocation	Number of Assessments	Number of Assessments Funded	Number of Assessments Funded in Other Fund Pools	Percentage of Applications Funded Across All Pools		
FY 2022 Projects										
CIS - Flood Damage Repair-Whetstone River_North Fork of										
the Yellow Bank River	\$190,659.00	(167,458.00)	\$23,201.00	\$0.00	1	1	0	100.00%		
CIS - Hot Springs Wildfire and Pest Mitigation	\$36,716.00	(36,716.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	0	0	0.00%		
CIS - Jasper Area Fire	\$90,000.00	395,067.00	\$485,067.00	\$0.00	2	2	0	100.00%		
CIS - Minnehaha Sustainable Ag	\$59,085.00	(590.00)	\$58,495.00	\$0.00	3	3	0	100.00%		
CIS - Oakwood Lake	\$356,547.00	(253,427.00)	\$103,120.00	\$0.00	1	1	0	100.00%		
CIS - Rangeland and Riparian Health (Custer Co)	\$332,681.00	(123,665.00)	\$209,016.00	\$0.00	2	2	0	100.00%		
CIS - Rapid Creek Water Restoration #2	\$218,713.00	(218,713.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	0	0	0.00%		
FY 2023 Projects										
CIS - Homestead	\$278,580.00	(98,099.00)	\$180,481.00	\$0.00	5	5	0	100.00%		
CIS - Charles Mix Irrigation	\$249,141.00	(244,368.00)	\$4,773.00	\$0.00	2	1	0	50.00%		
CIS - Frozen Man Creek	\$200,000.00	175,766.00	\$375,766.00	\$0.00	1	1	0	100.00%		
CIS - Extending Grazing in Shadehill	\$739,550.00	280,280.00	\$1,019,830.00	\$0.00	39	7	6	33.33%		
CIS - Dry Creek Watershed	\$81,320.00	100,578.00	\$181,898.00	\$0.00	2	1	1	100.00%		
CIS - Cheyenne River - Wasta Area	\$402,249.00	(181,861.00)	\$220,388.00	\$0.00	5	3	0	60.00%		
CIS Totals	\$3,235,241.00	(\$373,206.00)	\$2,862,035.00	\$0.00	64	27	7	53.13%		

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 IRA Funding Breakdown - Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS)								
Conservation Implementation Strategies (CIS)	Initial Allocation	Allocation Change	Value of Funded Applications	Remaining Allocation	Number of Assessments	Number of Assessments Funded	Number of Assessments Funded in Other Fund Pools	
FY 2021 Projects								
CIS - American Creek Watershed	\$95,147.00	(14,180.00)	\$80,967.00	\$0.00	1	1	0	
CIS - Resilient Forest Landscapes (Custer County)	\$51,788.00	(27,645.00)	\$24,143.00	\$0.00	4	2	0	
CIS - Medicine Creek	\$91,045.00	117,998.00	\$209,043.00	\$0.00	2	2	0	
FY 2022 Projects								
CIS - CAFO	\$230,983.00	233,041.00	\$464,024.00	\$0.00	6	6	0	
CIS - Clear Lake and Hiddewood Creek Water Quality	\$181,549.00	(56,711.00)	\$124,838.00	\$0.00	3	2	0	
CIS - Resilient Forest Landscapes – Lawrence County	\$66,438.00	(44,785.00)	\$21,653.00	\$0.00	3	2	0	
CIS - Resilient Forest Landscapes-Meade County	\$74,330.00	(70,519.00)	\$3,811.00	\$0.00	2	1	0	
CIS - Conservation Implementation Strategy for Sharp-tailed								
Grouse	\$1,500,000.00	(174,754.00)	\$1,325,246.00	\$0.00	25	18	4	
FY 2023 Projects								
CIS - Clark Co. Range Resoration	\$350,000.00	(209,151.00)	\$140,849.00	\$0.00	3	3	0	
CIS - Upper Deer Creek	\$78,280.00	(18,483.00)	\$59,797.00	\$0.00	3	1	0	
CIS - Yankton Range Improvement	\$109,274.00	72,470.00	\$181,744.00	\$0.00	7	4	3	
CIS - Hand-Hyde Erosion Mitigation	\$211,654.00	(211,654.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00		CIS has been Ca	ncelled	
CIS - Soil Health Long Term Grazing	\$350,000.00	(9,970.00)	\$340,030.00	\$0.00	7	5	2	
CIS Totals	\$3,390,488.00	(\$414,343.00)	\$2,976,145.00	\$0.00	66	47	9	
Application originally selected for funding cancelled								

Application originally selected for funding cancelled

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 IRA Funding Breakdown - General Funds							
Fund Code	Initial Allocation	Allocation Change	Value of Funded Applications	Remaining Allocation	Number of Assessments	Number of Assessments Funded	Number of Assessments Funded in Other Fund Pools
Great Plains Grassland Initiative (GPGI)	\$500,000.00	(\$83,529.00)	\$416,471.00	\$0.00	43	23	17
Watershed Fund Pools							
Brookings Area	\$5,768,795.00		\$5,552,088.00	\$0.00	198	116	39
Big Sioux	\$1,328,169.00	\$27,210.00	\$1,355,379.00	\$0.00	62	34	16
Coteau	\$1,202,105.00	(\$30,929.00)	\$1,171,176.00	\$0.00	36	28	8
Glacial Lakes	\$795,522.00	(\$111,290.00)	\$684,232.00	\$0.00	21	15	3
Upper James	\$1,178,588.00	(\$97,551.00)	\$1,081,037.00	\$0.00	33	21	2
Vermillion	\$1,264,411.00	(\$4,147.00)	\$1,260,264.00	\$0.00	46	18	10
Pierre Area	\$5,309,466.00	\$527,943.00	\$5,837,409.00	\$0.00	339	108	71
Central Plains	\$753,237.00	\$13,103.00	\$766,340.00	\$0.00	48	18	5
Lower James	\$1,186,488.00	\$30,295.00	\$1,216,783.00	\$0.00	66	19	11
Lower Missouri	\$931,371.00	\$11,700.00	\$943,071.00	\$0.00	77	29	13
Mid Missouri	\$708,272.00	\$339,885.00	\$1,048,157.00	\$0.00	25	11	5
North Missouri	\$782,405.00	\$106,618.00	\$889,023.00	\$0.00	46	16	19
River Hills	\$947,693.00	\$26,342.00	\$974,035.00	\$0.00	77	15	18
Rapid City Area	\$5,296,551.00	\$206,515.00	\$5,503,066.00	\$0.00	233	50	70
Northwest	\$1,382,595.00	\$74,329.00	\$1,456,924.00	\$0.00	65	14	14
Three Rivers	\$898,126.00	(\$87,709.00)	\$810,417.00	\$0.00	30	6	13
Prairie	\$898,813.00	\$143,654.00	\$1,042,467.00	\$0.00	37	6	12
Hills	\$1,112,403.00	\$48,340.00	\$1,160,743.00	\$0.00	75	16	21
	\$1,004,614.00	\$27,901.00	\$1,032,515.00	\$0.00	26	8	10
Beginning Farmer or Rancher (5% of General)	\$1,125,850.00	\$45,972.00	\$1,171,822.00	\$0.00	122	8	61
Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher (5% of							
General)	\$1,125,850.00	(\$65,851.00)	\$1,043,839.00	\$16,160.00	53	10	33
Total General Allocation:	\$19,126,512.00		\$19,524,695.00	\$32,320.00	988	315	291
Cost Overrun	\$89,863.53	(\$7,815.30)	\$13,426.09	\$68,622.14			
Application originally calcoted for funding concelled							

Application originally selected for funding cancelled

Summary of Final IRA Obligations					
Final IRA Allocation	\$22,517,000.00				
Number of Contracts	361				
Initial Obligation Amount	\$22,500,840.00				
Initial Percent of Obligation	99.93%				
Cost Overrun returned	\$68,622.14				
Final Obligation Amount (ProTracts)	\$22,445,744.90				
Final Percent of Obligation	99.68%				

Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry (CSAF) Mitigation Activities List for FY2025



Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ^[1] (practice unit)	Code Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Enhancement Activities ^[1]					
<u>311</u>	Alley Cropping (acres)		None Available				
<u>313</u>	 Waste Storage Facility (number) Used to implement compost bedded-pack^[2] 		None Available				
<u>314</u>	 Brush Management (acres) Used to remove woody invasive vegetation in arid regions and the removed material will be left onsite ^[2] 	<u>E314A</u>	Brush management to improve wildlife habitat				
<u>315</u>	 Herbaceous Weed Treatment (acres) Used to release desired deep rooted perennial species ^[2] 	E315A Herbaceous weed treatment to create desired plant communities consistent with the ecological site					
<u>317</u>	Composting Facility (number)	None Available					
<u>327</u>	Conservation Cover (acres)	<u>E327A</u>	Conservation cover for pollinators and beneficial insects				
		<u>E327B</u>	Establish Monarch butterfly habitat				
		E327C	Wildlife habitat for nesting and brooding in non-cropped areas				
<u>328</u>	Conservation Crop Rotation (acres)		Resource conserving crop rotation				
		<u>E328B</u>	Improved resource conserving crop rotation				
		<u>E328E</u>	Soil health crop rotation				
		<u>E328F</u>	Modifications to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter				
		<u>E328H</u>	Conservation crop rotation to reduce the concentration of salts				
		<u>E328N</u>	Intercropping to improve soil health				
		<u>E3280</u>	Perennial grain crop conservation rotation				
<u>329</u>	Residue and Tillage Management, No Till	<u>E329A</u>	No till to reduce soil erosion				
	(acres)	<u>E329B</u>	No till to reduce tillage induced particulate matter				
		<u>E329C</u>	No till to increase plant-available moisture				
		<u>E329D</u>	No till system to increase soil health and soil organic matter content				
		E329E No till to reduce energy					
<u>332</u>	Contour Buffer Strips (acres)	None Available					
<u>336</u>	Soil Carbon Amendment (acres)		None Available				
<u>338</u>	 Prescribed Burning (acres) To reduce wildfire hazards in forest systems at risk of wildfire^[2] 		None Available				

Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ^[1] (practice unit)	Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Enhancement Activities ^[1]	
<u>340</u>	Cover Crop (acres)	<u>E340A</u>	Cover crop to reduce soil erosion	
		<u>E340B</u>	Intensive cover cropping to increase soil health and soil organic matter content	
			Use of multi-species cover crops to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter	
		<u>E340D</u>	Intensive orchard/vineyard floor cover cropping to increase soil health	
		<u>E340E</u>	Use of soil health assessment to assist with development of cover crop mix to improve soil health	
		<u>E340F</u>	Cover crop to minimize soil compaction	
		<u>E340G</u>	Cover crop to reduce water quality degradation by utilizing excess soil nutrients	
		<u>E340H</u>	Cover crop to suppress excessive weed pressures and break pest cycles	
		<u>E340I</u>	Using cover crops for biological strip till	
		<u>E340J</u>	Cover crop to improve moisture use efficiency and reduce salts	
<u>342</u>	Critical Area Planting (acres)	None Available		
<u>345</u>	Residue and Tillage Management,	<u>E345A</u>	Reduced tillage to reduce soil erosion	
	Reduced Till (acres)	<u>E345B</u>	Reduced tillage to reduce tillage induced particulate matter	
		<u>E345C</u>	Reduced tillage to increase plant-available moisture	
		<u>E345D</u>	Reduced tillage to increase soil health and soil organic matter content	
		<u>E345E</u>	Reduced tillage to reduce energy use	
<u>366</u>	Anaerobic Digester (number)		None Available	
<u>367</u>	 Roofs and Covers (number) Used to cover a waste management facility to capture biogas^[2] 		None Available	
<u>372</u>	Combustion System Improvement	<u>E372A</u>	Switch to Renewable Power Source	
	 (number) Used for stationary or mobile engine replacement or repower to electric motor^[2] 	<u>E372B</u>	Renewable Energy Source for Large Internal Combustion Engines	
<u>374</u>	Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation (number)		None Available	
<u>379</u>	Forest Farming (acres)		None Available	
<u>380</u>	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation (feet)	None Available		
<u>381</u>	 Silvopasture (acres) Establishing woody plant species^[2] 	E381A Silvopasture to improve wildlife habitat		
<u>383</u>	Fuel Break (acres)	<u>E383A</u>	Grazing-maintained fuel break to reduce the risk of fire	
<u>384</u>	Woody Residue Treatment (acres)	<u>E384A</u>	Biochar production from woody residue	

Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ^[1] (practice unit)	Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Enhancement Activities ^[1]			
<u>386</u>	Field Border (acres)	<u>E386A</u>	Enhanced field borders to reduce soil erosion along the edge(s) of a field			
		<u>E386B</u>	Enhanced field borders to increase carbon storage along the edge(s) of the field			
		<u>E386C</u>	Enhanced field borders to decrease particulate emissions along the edge(s) of the field			
		<u>E386D</u>	Enhanced field borders to increase food for pollinators along the edge(s) of a field			
		<u>E386E</u>	Enhanced field borders to increase wildlife food and habitat along the edge(s) of a field			
<u>390</u>	Riparian Herbaceous Cover (acres)	<u>E390A</u>				
		<u>E390B</u>	Increase riparian herbaceous cover width to enhance wildlife habitat			
<u>391</u>	Riparian Forest Buffer (acres)	<u>E391A</u>	Increase riparian forest buffer width for sediment and nutrient reduction			
		<u>E391B</u>	Increase stream shading for stream temperature reduction			
		<u>E391C</u>	Increase riparian forest buffer width to enhance wildlife habitat			
<u>393</u>	Filter Strips (acres)	<u>E393A</u>	A Extend existing filter strip to reduce water quality impacts			
<u>412</u>	Grassed Waterways (acres)	<u>E412A</u>	Enhance a grassed waterway			
<u>420</u>	Wildlife Habitat Planting (acres)	<u>E420A</u>	E420A Establish pollinator habitat			
		<u>E420B</u>	Establish monarch butterfly habitat			
<u>422</u>	Hedgerow Planting (feet)		None Available			
<u>430</u>	 Irrigation Pipeline (feet) Used to reduce fossil fuel energy use^[2] 		None Available			
<u>441</u>	 Irrigation System, Microirrigation (acres) Used to reduce fossil fuel energy use^[2] 		None Available			
<u>442</u>	 Sprinkler System (acres) Used to reduce fossil fuel energy use^[2] 		None Available			
<u>449</u>	 Irrigation Water Management (acres) Used as part of an alternated wetting and drying (AWD) system in rice fields^[2] 	<u>E449B</u>	Alternated Wetting and Drying (AWD) of rice fields			
<u>453</u>	Land Reclamation, Landslide Treatment (acres) ^[3]	None Available				
<u>484</u>	Mulching (acres) Apply natural mulch materials^[2] 	<u>E484A</u>	Mulching to improve soil health			
		<u>E484B</u>	Reduce particulate matter emissions by using orchard or vineyard generated woody materials as mulch			
		<u>E484C</u>	Mulching with natural materials in specialty crops for weed control			
		<u>E484D</u>	Lowbush Blueberry Mulching for Moisture Management			

Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ⁽¹⁾ (practice unit)	Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Enhancement Activities ^[1]
<u>512</u>	Pasture and Hay Planting (acres)	<u>E512A</u>	Cropland conversion to grass-based agriculture to reduce soil erosion
		<u>E512B</u>	Forage and biomass planting to reduce soil erosion or increase organic matter to build soil health
		<u>E512C</u>	Cropland conversion to grass for soil organic matter improvement
		<u>E512D</u>	Forage plantings that help increase organic matter in depleted soils
		<u>E512I</u>	Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect and/or monarch habitat
			Establish wildlife corridors to provide habitat continuity or access to water
		<u>E512L</u>	Diversifying forage base with interseeding forbs and legumes to increase pasture quality
		<u>E512M</u>	Forage plantings that improve wildlife habitat cover and shelter or structure and composition
<u>528</u>	Prescribed Grazing (acres)	<u>E528A</u>	Maintaining quantity and quality of forage for animal health and productivity
		<u>E528D</u>	Grazing management for improving quantity and quality of food or cover and shelter for wildlife
		<u>E528E</u>	Improved grazing management for enhanced plant structure and composition for wildlife
		<u>E528F</u>	Stockpiling cool season forage to improve structure and composition or plant productivity and health
		<u>E528G</u>	Improved grazing management on pasture for plant productivity and health with monitoring activities
		<u>E528H</u>	Prescribed grazing to improve/maintain riparian and watershed function- elevated water temperature
		<u>E528I</u>	Grazing management that protects sensitive areas-surface or ground water from nutrients
		<u>E528J</u>	Prescribed grazing on pastureland that improves riparian and watershed function
		<u>E528L</u>	Prescribed grazing that improves or maintains riparian and watershed function-erosion
		<u>E528M</u>	Grazing management that protects sensitive areas from gully erosion
		<u>E528N</u>	Improved grazing management through monitoring activities
		<u>E5280</u>	Clipping mature forages to set back vegetative growth for improved forage quality
		<u>E528P</u>	Implementing Bale or Swath Grazing to increase organic matter and reduce nutrients in surface water
		<u>E528R</u>	Management intensive rotational grazing
		<u>E528S</u>	Soil Health Improvements on Pasture
		<u>E528T</u>	Grazing to Reduce Wildfire Risks on Forests
		<u>E528U</u>	Contingency Planning for Resiliency
<u>533</u>	Pumping Plant (number)	<u>E533C</u>	Install VFDs on pumps
	Used to reduce fossil fuel energy use ^[2]		Switch fuel source for pumps
<u>543</u>	Land Reclamation, Abandoned Mined Land (acres) ^[3]		None Available

Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ^[1] (practice unit)	Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Enhancement Activities ^[1]		
<u>550</u>	Range Planting (acres)	<u>E550A</u>	Range planting for increasing/maintaining organic matter		
		<u>E550B</u>	Range planting for improving forage, browse, or cover for wildlife		
<u>554</u>	 Drainage Water Management Raise the groundwater table on organic soils in offseason^[2] 	None Available			
<u>585</u>	Stripcropping (acres)	None Available			
<u>590</u>	Nutrient Management (acres)	<u>E590A</u>	Improving nutrient uptake efficiency and reducing risk of nutrient losses		
		<u>E590B</u>	Reduce risks of nutrient loss to surface water by utilizing precision agriculture technologies		
		<u>E590C</u>	Improving nutrient uptake efficiency and reducing risk of nutrient losses on pasture		
		<u>E590D</u>	Reduce risks of nutrient losses to surface and groundwater by increasing setback awareness via precision technology		
<u>592</u>	 Feed Management (animal unit) Used to reduce enteric methane emissions^[2] 	None Available			
<u>601</u>	Vegetative Barriers (feet)		None Available		
<u>603</u>	Herbaceous Wind Barriers (feet)		None Available		
<u>604</u>	 Saturated Buffer Replacing a cultivated riparian area^[2] 	None Available			
<u>612</u>	Tree-Shrub Establishment (acres)	<u>E612B</u>	Planting for high carbon sequestration rate		
		<u>E612C</u>	Establishing tree/shrub species to restore native plant communities		
		<u>E612D</u>	Adding food-producing trees/shrubs to an agroforestry system		
		<u>E612E</u>	Cultural plantings		
		<u>E612F</u>	Sugarbush management		
		<u>E612G</u>	Tree/shrub planting for wildlife food		
<u>632</u>	Waste Separation Facility (number)	None Available			
<u>643</u>	Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural	<u>E643A</u>	Restoration of sensitive coastal vegetative communities		
	 Communities (ac) Used to restore floodplain hydrology or restore an oyster reef^[2] 	<u>E643D</u>	Low-tech process-based restoration to enhance floodplain connectivity		
<u>657</u>	 Wetland Restoration (acres) Restoration of histosol wetland^[2] 		None Available		

Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ^[1] (practice unit)	Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Enhancement Activities ^[1]
<u>666</u>	Forest Stand Improvement (acres)	<u>E666A</u>	Maintaining and improving forest soil quality
		<u>E666D</u>	Forest management to enhance understory vegetation
		<u>E666E</u>	Reduce height of the forest understory to limit wildfire risk
		<u>E666F</u>	Reduce forest stand density to create open stand structure
		<u>E666G</u>	Reduce forest density and manage understory along roads to limit wildfire risk and improve habitat
		<u>E666H</u>	Increase on-site carbon storage
		<u>E666I</u>	Crop tree management for mast production
		<u>E666J</u>	Facilitating oak forest regeneration
		<u>E666K</u>	Creating structural diversity with patch openings
		<u>E666L</u>	Forest Stand Improvement to rehabilitate degraded hardwood stands
		<u>E6660</u>	Snags, den trees, and coarse woody debris for wildlife habitat
		<u>E666P</u>	Summer roosting habitat for native forest-dwelling bat species
		<u>E666R</u>	Forest songbird habitat maintenance
		<u>E666S</u>	Facilitating longleaf pine regeneration and establishment
<u>670</u>	Energy Efficient Lighting System (number)		None Available
<u>672</u>	Energy Efficient Building Envelope (number)		None Available

Notes

In addition to the designated CSAF conservation activities listed, conservation practices that facilitate the management or the function of a CSAF activity but may not achieve the desired effects on their own (and may not have a quantifiable benefit), may be planned as applicable in consultation with your local professional conservation planner. Examples: Tree-Shrub Establishment (612) may need facilitating practices such as Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (490) or Access Control (472). Conservation Crop Rotation (328) may need facilitating practices such as Pest Management Conservation System (595), Cover Crops (340), Irrigation Water Management (449), or Drainage Water Management (554). Waste Separation Facility (632) may need facilitating practices such as Waste Transfer (634) or Roofs and Covers (367). Prescribed Grazing (528) may need facilitating practices such as Wastering Facility (614), Stream Crossing (578), Brush Management (314), Fence (382), or Livestock Shelter Structure (576).

The following was removed from the list for FY2025: Enhancement (338B) Strategically planned, patch burning for grazing distribution and wildlife habitat. Bundles for CSP and NRCS Easement activities are not listed in this document, please refer to program guidance for information.

[1] The included Conservation Practice Standard and Conservation Stewardship Program links provide national information. Please consult the NRCS office at your local USDA Service Center for any local and state level criteria. Visit farmers.gov/service-locator to find contact information for your local office.

[2] The practice is considered a mitigation activity only when implemented in a specified way. The practice is considered a mitigation activity only when implemented in the specified way; as identified in the brief description. See the associated narrative and additional planner guidance section at the end of this document.

[3] Eligibility for financial assistance is based on the land use where practice would be applied.



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FACTSHEET • AUGUST 2024

Additional Planner Guidance for FY25 Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry (CSAF) Mitigation Activities with Specified Implementations



This document provides a conservation planner with additional guidance to plan, design, and implement the identified CSAF Mitigation Activities with specific implementations to meet the intended goal of providing mitigation benefits. The practices in the table below are only considered CSAF Mitigation Activities when implemented according to the description in the corresponding narrative.

Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name (practice unit)	Narrative		Additional Planner Guidance/Applicability of the Practice	
313	Waste Storage Facility (number)	01N	Compost Bedded Pack waste storage facility — a livestock agricultural waste storage fabricated structure where manure is composted within the animal housing.	 Use 01N when specifically planning a compost bedded pack structure. When implemented this way, the practice can lead to reduced methane (CH₄) emissions resulting from the added carbonaceous bedding material and regularly tilling to promote composting, as compared to a liquid storage system. For any other waste storage structure, use 00N (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity). 	
314	Brush Management (acres)	03N	Remove woody (non-herbaceous and succulent) invasive vegetation to maintain or enhance deep rooted native perennial grass and forb communities, in arid regions leaving treated woody material onsite to mitigate above ground carbon loss.	 Use 03N when specifically planning the practice to remove woody (nonherbaceous and succulent) invasive vegetation to maintain or enhance native perennial grass and forb communities in arid regions. Woody residue from mechanical or chemical treatments must be left onsite. When implemented this way, the practice can be used to maintain or re-establish native perennial plant communities and associated carbon stocks and carbon balance equilibrium. Restoring reference perennial plant communities may increase resistance to disturbances such as wildfire that would result in even greater carbon losses. Practice must be implemented in areas where mean annual precipitation is less than 340 millimeters or 13.4 inches. Literature suggests that in these arid areas, woody infestations that result in a decrease in above and below ground carbon stocks, as compared to reference native communities, can be mitigated through brush management. Use the climate normals annual precipitation map, available as a data layer in Conservation Desktop, from <u>Climate.gov, NOAA</u> data for the reference period 1991-2020 to determine applicability. Woody residue left on site should be treated in a manner (i.e., lop and scatter) not to cause additional resource concerns or increase wildfire hazard. When available, planners should use Ecological Site Descriptions (ESDs) to assess the potential for a plant community to address carbon stocks is situational and relies on planner's professional judgment and familiarity with the ecological site being evaluated. Planning the practice in a way that addresses soil erosion and the soil organic carbon. For any other application of brush management that does not meet these criteria, including for instance implementations that involve burn piles or hauled residue, use the appropriate narrative (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity). 	

Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name (practice unit)		Narrative	Additional Planner Guidance/Applicability of the Practice	
315	Herbaceous Weed Treatment (acres)	01N	Removal of herbaceous weeds to release desired deep rooted perennial grass and forb species.	 Use 01N when specifically planning the practice to treat herbaceous weeds to release desired deep rooted perennial species. When implemented this way, the practice can be used to restore plant communities containing significant herbaceous weeds to deep rooted perennial dominated plant communities, which can result in increased soil organic carbon stocks over time. When available, planners should use Ecological Site Descriptions (ESDs) to assess the potential for a plant community to address soil carbon sequestration. Determining if the practice can maintain or increase carbon stocks is situational and relies on planners' professional judgment and familiarity with the ecological site being evaluated. Planning the practice in a way that addresses soil erosion and the soil organic carbon stocks over time. For best results, practice should be applied early when invasive species begin to occupy and infest a desirable plant community. For any other application of herbaceous weed treatment that does not meet these criteria, use 00N (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity). 	
338	Prescribed Burning (acres)	01N	Conducting a prescribed burn on a forested ecosystem with the purpose of reducing wildfire hazards in an area with increased risk of wildfire.	 Use 01N when specifically conducting a prescribed burn on a forested ecosystem with the purpose of reducing wildfire hazards in an area with increased risk of wildfire. When implemented this way, the practice is expected to result overall in decreased net emissions compared to emissions that would result from catastrophic wildlife even though there are emissions associated with its implementation. Practices should be applied only on areas with increased risk of wildfire with a fire return interval of 20 years or less. Use resources such as LANDFIRE.gov to determine the fire return interval at each location. Practices should be applied for the primary purpose of reducing wildfire hazards from biomass accumulation. For any other application of prescribed burning that does not meet these criteria, including applications in areas where the fire return interval is greater than 20 years and on other land uses, use 00N (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity). 	
367	Roofs and Covers (number)	01N	Capture Biogas — Place a rigid, semirigid, or flexible manufactured membrane, composite material, or roof structure placed over a waste management facility to capture biogas and reduce odor.	 Use 01N when specifically planning a waste facility cover to capture biogas. When implemented this way, the practice can lead to reduced CH₄ emissions as biogas is captured and either flared or used as a natural gas substitute, as compared to an uncovered anaerobic lagoon or liquid storage system. For other applications, such as a rain exclusion cover, use the appropriate narrative (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity). 	
372	Combustion System Improvement	02N	Stationary engine to electric motor replacement or repower — Replace or repower an existing stationary engine with an electric motor.	 Use 02N when specifically replacing or repowering an existing diesel or gaspowered stationary engine (e.g., irrigation engine, emergency generator, etc.) with an electric motor. Use 05N when specifically replacing existing on-farm mobile equipment (e.g., tractor, loader, forklift, etc.) powered by an internal combustion engine with a new mobile device powered by an electric motor. For other applications of this practice, use the appropriate narrative (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity). 	
		05N	Mobile internal combustion engine to electric motor replacement — Replace an existing on-farm mobile device (i.e., tractor, loader, forklift, etc.) powered by an internal combustion engine with a new mobile device powered by an electric motor.		

Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name (practice unit)	Narrative	Additional Planner Guidance/Applicability of the Practice
381	Silvopasture (acres)	01N Establishment - Establish desired woody plant species and forage resources for livestock.	 Use 01N when specifically establishing desired woody plant species and forage resources on pasture or cropland for livestock. When implemented this way, the practice is expected to increase biomass carbon stocks and enhance soil carbon stocks over time. When using the practice to manage existing tree canopy and forage resources for livestock, including through tree removal and maintenance of reduced tree stocking levels, use narrative 00N, which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity as doing so would remove stored carbon and reduce potential for sequestering and storing carbon on the site.
430	Irrigation Pipeline (feet)	01N Replacement of an earthen channel that is supplied by pumping water with a closed conduit, resulting in enhanced conveyance efficiency and reduced fossil fuel energy use.	 Use 01N when specifically replacing an earthen channel system with a closed conduit system supplied irrigation water by a pumping plant. When implemented this way, this practice enables more efficient water conveyance due to reduced seepage and evaporation, which in turn would result in fossil fuel energy savings that, in most cases, would lead to GHG emission reductions. The system must not currently be supplied water solely by a renewable energy driven pumping plant to provide expected energy savings. Additional criteria in the practice standard to meet the purpose of reducing energy use is required to be met when using this narrative and to be considered a mitigation activity. Because the potential mitigation benefits from energy efficiency and reduction assume a baseline scenario that relies on a fossil fuel-based energy source, some areas of the country (i.e., those already using solely renewable or nuclear energy sources) would therefore not realize any GHG emissions benefits from the implementation of this practice. Planners must consider local energy sources when planning the practice as a CSAF mitigation activity; existing system must not be solely powered by a renewable or nuclear energy source. When considering downstream flows of irrigation water, if in the planner's judgment there is a reasonable likelihood that irrigation water saved through this practice will be used downstream, this practice may not result in the desired overall GHG emissions reductions. For other applications of the practice, use 00N (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity).
441	Irrigation System, Microirrigation (acres)	02N Switching from higher to lower pressure irrigation system, resulting in enhanced applicatior efficiency and reduced fossil fuel energy use.	Use 02N when specifically switching an existing system from a higher to lower pressure micro-irrigation system. When implemented this way, this practice

Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name (practice unit)		Narrative	Additional Planner Guidance/Applicability of the Practice
442	Sprinkler System (acres)	02N 03N 04N	Utilization of variable rate irrigation (VRI) technology resulting in enhanced application efficiency and reduced fossil fuel energy use. Switching from higher to lower pressure irrigation systems resulting in enhanced application efficiency and reduced fossil fuel energy use. Renozzling sprinkler head resulting in enhanced application efficiency and reduced fossil fuel energy use.	 Use 02N when specifically using the practice to use variable rate irrigation (VRI) technology resulting in enhanced application efficiency and reduced fossil fuel energy use. Use 03N when specifically using the practice to switch from higher to lower pressure irrigation systems resulting in enhanced application efficiency and reduced fossil fuel energy use. Use 04N when specifically using the practice to renozzle the sprinkler head resulting in enhanced application efficiency and reduced fossil fuel energy use. When using narratives 02N, 03N, and 04N, this practice enables more precise and efficient water use which in turn would result in fossil fuel energy savings that, in most cases, would lead to GHG emission reductions. Practice implementation should not result in increased irrigated acres on the operation. Additional criteria regarding the analysis of pressure, flow rate, seasonal hours of operation, and application depth in the practice standard to meet the purpose of reducing energy use is required to be met when using this narrative and to be considered a mitigation activity. Because the potential mitigation benefits from energy efficiency and reduction assume a baseline scenario that relies on a fossil fuel-based energy source, some areas of the country (i.e., those already using solely renewable or nuclear energy sources) would not realize any GHG emissions benefits from the implementation of this practice. Planners must consider local energy sources when planning the practice as a CSAF mitigation activity; existing system must not be solely powered by a renewable or nuclear energy source. When considering downstream flows of irrigation water, if in the planner's judgment there is a reasonable likelihood that irrigation water saved through this practice will be used downstream, this practice may not result in the desired overall GHG emissions reductions. For other applications of the pr
449	Irrigation Water Management (acres)	03N	Managing water levels in rice fields to include dry down between full flood conditions prior to re-flooding (alternated wetting and drying) to minimize greenhouse gas production in accordance with an irrigation water management plan.	 the appropriate narrative (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity). Use 03N only when implementing the practice as part of an alternated wetting and drying (AWD) system in rice fields. When implemented this way, this practice may reduce CH₄ emissions from rice production. For other applications of the practice, use the appropriate narrative (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity).
484	Mulching (acres)	02N	Natural Material- Apply only natural mulch materials for full or partial soil coverage.	 Use 02N when specifically applying natural mulches. When implemented mulch application is expected to improve soil organic matter and increase carbon stocks. The main natural types of mulches include: straw, hay, pine needles, woody residue (shredded), woody residue (chopped). Other mulch materials applied for this practice are not a CSAF mitigation activity.

ADDITIONAL PLANNER GUIDANCE FOR CSAF MITIGATION ACTIVITIES

Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name (practice unit)	Narrative		Additional Planner Guidance/Applicability of the Practice	
533	Pumping Plant (number) Drainage Water Management (acres)	02N 03N	Replacing existing pumps with high-efficiency pump.	 Use 02N when specifically using the practice to replace an existing pump with a higher-efficiency pump. When implemented this way, this practice increases pump efficiency, which in turn would result in energy savings that, in most cases, would lead to emission reductions. Additional criteria in the practice standard to meet the purpose of reducing energy use is required to be met when using this narrative and to be considered a mitigation activity, including but not limited to meeting or exceeding the Nebraska Pumping Plant Performance Criteria for fossil fuel or electrical grid powered pumping plants. Because the potential mitigation benefits from energy efficiency and reduction assume baseline scenarios that rely on a fossil fuel-based energy source; some areas of the country (i.e., those already using solely renewable or nuclear energy sources) would therefore not realize any GHG emissions benefits from the implementation of this practice. Planners must consider local energy sources when planning the practice as a CSAF mitigation activity; existing system must not be powered solely by a renewable energy or nuclear source. If the objective is switching the power source for the pumping system and not replacing the pump itself with a high-efficiency pump, CPS Combustion System Improvement (Code 372) should be considered. Where payment scenarios for CPS Code 372 do not adequately support switching power source to the size of the pump system, CPS Code 533 can be used as applicable. If the narrative is used to switch from a diesel source to an on-farm renewable power source thereby eliminating fossil fuel associated emissions, additional criteria to reduce energy used is not required. For other applications of the practice, use the appropriate narrative (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity). Use 03N when specifically using the practice to implement drainage water management on cultivated organic soils to raise the	
	Management (acres)		soils to raise the groundwater table in the non-growing season.	 Intralagement of cultivated of gaine solis to have the water table in the non- growing season. When implemented this way the practice is expected to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions, while maintaining crop productivity. Fields must contain existing drainage systems; this practice should not result in increased drainage acres on the operation. Use appropriate data layers to determine soil type to support determination of site applicability. Consider the likelihood of methane emissions when water tables are maintained close to or above the peat surface when establishing non-growing season water table elevations. Additional criteria in the practice standard to meet the purpose of reducing oxidation of organic matter in soils is required to be met when using this narrative and to be considered a mitigation activity. For other applications of the practice, use the appropriate narrative (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity). 	
592	Feed Management (animal unit)	03N	Reduce enteric methane emissions from animal feeding operations by manipulating the quantity and quality of dietary nutrients, incorporating feed additives and feed ingredients, or adjusting concentrate to forage ratio in livestock and poultry diets to lower methane produced and emitted during digestion.	 Use 03N when specifically using the practice to reduce enteric CH₄ emissions from animal feeding operations by manipulating the quantity and quality of dietary nutrients, incorporating feed additives and feed ingredients, or adjusting concentrate to forage ratio in livestock and poultry diets to lower CH₄ produced and emitted during digestion. When implemented this way, this practice can lead to reduced enteric CH₄ emissions through adjustments in animal feed and management, diet formulation, and feed additives that influence CH₄ production during animal digestion. For applications of the practice other than methane reduction, use the appropriate narrative (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity). 	
604	Saturated Buffer (feet)	02N	Replacement of a cultivated riparian area with an optimized saturated buffer system.	 Use 02N only when implementing the practice in a way that replaces a cultivated riparian area with an optimized saturated buffer system with perennial vegetation. When implemented this way, this practice can lead to increased carbon sequestration in soils and perennial biomass, as well as minor N₂O emissions reductions associated with the reduced fertilizer application on the formerly-cultivated cropland and nitrogen scavenging of nitrogen runoff. For any other implementation of the practice, use 00N (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity). 	



Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name (practice unit)	Narrative	Additional Planner Guidance/Applicability of the Practice
643	Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural Communities (acres)	 01N Restoration of streams and associated floodplains using low-tech structures (such as beaver dam analogs or other stick-and-stone structures) to kick-start natural ecological and hydrologic processes required for maintenance of healthy and functioning streams and associated floodplains. 02N Restoration of an oyster reef on shallow subtidal, subaqueous soils without harvest. 	 Use 01N only when implementing the practice to restore streams and associated floodplains using low-tech structures to kick-start natural ecological and hydrologic processes required for maintenance of healthy and functioning streams and associated floodplains. When implemented this way, this practice can revitalize hydrologic conditions that limit the decomposition and extend the residence time of soil organic carbon stocks and enhance organic matter input from regenerated riparian vegetation, leading to increased carbon sequestration. Use 02N only when implementing the practice to restore oyster reefs on shallow, subtidal, subaqueous soils without harvest of oysters. When implemented this way, this practice can reduce the availability of carbon and nitrogen by removal, assimilation into oyster biomass, and burial, in addition to nutrient removal through nitrogen burial and promoting microbial conditions that promote denitrification in nearby subaqueous soils. For other applications of this practice, use the appropriate narrative (which
657	Wetland Restoration (acres)	01N Restoration of a previously drained wetland on temperate or boreal histosols.	 would not be a CSAF mitigation activity). Use 01N only when implementing the practice to restore previously drained wetlands on temperate and boreal histosols. When implemented this way, the practice is expected to result in lower net greenhouse gas emissions through a decrease in CO₂ emissions related to the oxidation of soil carbon and enhancement of its function as a carbon sink, despite an increase in potential CH₄ emissions. Use appropriate data layers to determine soil type and climate region to support determination of applicability Tropical histosols are not applicable at this time. For any other implementation of the practice, use 00N (which would not be a CSAF mitigation activity).



FACTSHEET • AUGUST 2024

SOUTH DAKOTA WETLAND DETERMINATIONS (as of Sept.12th,2024)



SOUTH DAKOTA HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND DETERMINATIONS (as of Sept.12th,2024)



Conservation Stewardship Program Report State Technical Committee September 11, 2024 Danielle Rhine, Conservation Stewardship Program Manager Danielle.Rhine@usda.gov

FY 2024 CSP Obligations	Contracts	Total Contract Acres	Total	Obligation
2024 Renewal	38	98, [,]	493	\$3,319,214
HU	7	26,	760	\$576,892
Traditional	15	28,	342	\$1,442,201
IRA HU	2	7,	020	\$181,943
IRA Traditional	14	36,	371	\$1,118,178
2024 Classic	257	693,	963	\$37,273,203
HU	13	83,	109	\$2,523,139
Traditional	130	317,	149	\$19,794,806
Beg. Farmer/Rancher	15	51,	589	\$2,265,693
IRA HU	8	44,	326	\$1,178,786
IRA Traditional	75	182,	392	\$9,731,595
IRA Beg. Farmer/Rancher	16	15,	298	\$1,779,184
2024 GCI	8		320	\$28,740
Traditional & HU	8		320	\$28,740
Grand Total	303	792,	776	\$40,621,157

FY2024 Obligations

- 2-Classic apps to obligate still totaling in an additional \$366,000
- 2-Classic-IRA apps to obligate still totaling in an additional \$400,000
- Additional \$54,524 of CSP-GCI funds approved and being contracted
- **Current Active CSP Contracts-** 1,041 / 2,889,827 acres
- > Current Active CSP-GCI Contracts- 210 / 15,857 acres

2025 CSP Planning

- 94 2025 Renewal applications on file. Still waiting on National Bulletin for Renewals.
- Approximately 129- FY2025 CSP applications uploaded and still accepting applications till Nov 1, 2024. Most uploaded after the new FY so expected to go up.

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE) Agricultural Land Easements (ALE)

Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-Year End Update

FY2024 WRE Applications			
Status	Total Acres	Number of Applications	
Eligible	2,113	24	
30-year	381	3	
30-year RGR	100	1	
30-year conversion	49	1	
Permanent	1,433	18	
Permanent RGR	150	1	
Cancelled	0	0	
Ineligible	2,258	7	
Permanent	-	5	
Permanent RGR	-	2	
Total	4,371	31	

Projected FY2024 WRE Agreements (Farm Bill Funded)				
			Number of	
	Total		Tentative	
Duration	Acres	Cost	Agreements	
Permanent RGR	150	\$534,590	1	
Permanent	322	\$1,814,738	2	
30 Year RGR	100	\$389,222	1	
30 Year				
Conversion	49	\$79,212	1	
Total	621	\$2,817,222	5	

FY2024 ALE Applications			
Status	Total Acres	Number of Applications	
Eligible	18,379	10	
General	374	1	
Grasslands of Special			
Environmental			
Significance (GSS)	18,305	10	
Cancelled	0	0	
Ineligible	0	0	
Total	18,379	11	

Projected FY2024 ALE Agreements				
			Number of	
			Tentative	
Fund Pool	Total Acres	Cost	Agreements	
Parcel Selection				
Funded Through IRA				
(Funds reserved, one				
obligated, one				
pending)	6,724	\$2,877,750	2	
Parcel Selection				
Funded Through Farm				
Bill (Funds Reserved,				
obligation pending)	1,297	\$830 <i>,</i> 400	2	

Proposed ACEP-WRE Screening Criteria Update for FY2025

Offer Type	Priority
Permanent Duration Easement (2:1 up to 9:1 upland to wetland ratio) OR Tribal 30-year Contract	Very High
30-year Duration Easement (2:1 up to 9:1 upland to wetland ratio)	High
Any Duration Offer with Less Than 2:1 Upland to Wetland Ratio	Medium
Any Duration Offer with Existing Conservation Easements; OR Any Duration Offer Requiring an Appraisal	Low

*The proposed screening applies to Farm Bill Funded ACEP-WRE only, IRA does not allow for state level screening criteria

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release September 4, 2024 State Contact David Flanery Easement Program Manager david.flanery@usda.gov 605-692-2344



Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Fiscal Year 2025 Funding for Agricultural Conservation Easements through the Investing in America Agenda

USDA announced today funding provided by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) for fiscal year 2025.

Natural Resources Conservation Service accepts applications year-round for ACEP Agricultural Land Easements (ACEP-ALE) and Wetland Reserve Easements (ACEP-WRE). Interested producers, landowners, and partners should apply by the next two ranking dates, October 4, 2024, or December 20, 2024, at their local NRCS office, to be considered for these two state-led funding cycles. In addition, any application submitted to NRCS that was unfunded in fiscal year 2024 will be automatically reconsidered during the October 4 funding cycle.

In fiscal year 2025, states will receive IRA funding and all eligible applications within a state will compete. The current ACEP priorities for the IRA funding are unchanged from last fiscal year and are available in all states. Depending on location, NRCS may also have a state-specific priority. The Inflation Reduction Act funding is in addition to the funding authorized and available under the Farm Bill.

Follow this link to learn more via the national news release.

RCPP Update

FY 2024 RCPP Proposal Update

South Dakota

- 16 proposals as the Lead State (FY 23 7 proposals Submitted)
 - Total Funding \$241,121,313 (FY 23 \$151,516,624)
 - Easement Funding \$150,226,172
 - Land Management \$90,895,141
- 4 Proposals as non Lead State (FY 23 1 Proposal Submitted)
- 10 RCPP Classic and 10 Alternative Funding Arrangement (FY23 1 Classic, 7 AFA)

Nation Wide

- Approximately 320 Proposals submitted
 - Equal Split between Classic and Alternative Funding Arrangement proposals
- Over \$5 Billion in Funding Requested
- \$1.5 Billion available

FY 2024 RCPP Proposal Update

Proposals have been reviewed and scored by SD

Currently being reviewed and ranked by NHQ

Will go to Chief Cosby Next

• Expect announcement of funded projects late in October
WORKING GRASSLANDS PARTNERSHIP

REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (RCPP)

A GRASS RESTORATION OPPORTUNITY BY DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Partners are excited to announce a statewide cost share opportunity for grass restorations through a partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Interested parties that are completing new grass restorations will have the opportunity to secure a "Grass Establishment Deferral Payment" on planted acres.

The Grass Establishment Deferral Payment is designed to alleviate the loss of income on seeded acres during the establishment period. The cooperating landowner/operator agrees to defer grazing or haying for 2-3 years while perennial species establish. The annual per-acre payment on seeded acres are based on the County Average CRP Rate. This program will prioritize farming systems that transition land from cropland to grassland. After the establishment period, grasslands are eligible for haying and grazing. Cooperating partners also have options for grazing infrastructure.

Signup is open. For more information, please reach out to staff at the listed organizations below. Follow the QR code or link to have staff reach out to you.



Ducks Unlimited Audubon Great Plains SD Dept of Game, Fish and Parks SD Soil Health Coalition SD Grassland Coalition USFWS Partners for Wildlife



RCPP RENTAL RATES

*CURRENT RATES ELIGIBLE FOR 2024

County	Rate/Ac	County	Rate/Ac
Aurora	\$116.00	Hyde	\$77.00
Beadle	\$135.00	Jackson	\$34.00
Bennett	\$33.00	Jerauld	\$101.00
Bon Homme	\$153.00	Jones	\$35.00
Brookings	\$193.00	Kingsbury	\$158.00
Brown	\$150.00	Lake	\$196.00
Brule	\$102.00	Lawrence	\$25.00
Buffalo	\$79.00	Lincoln	\$217.00
Butte	\$28.00	Lyman	\$69.00
Campbell	\$76.00	McCook	\$178.00
Charles Mix	\$132.00	McPherson	\$92.00
Clark	\$155.00	Marshall	\$151.00
Clay	\$213.00	Meade	\$31.00
Codington	\$171.00	Mellette	\$37.00
Corson	\$46.00	Miner	\$144.00
Custer	\$35.00	Minnehaha	\$205.00
Davison	\$162.00	Moody	\$219.00
Day	\$140.00	Pennington	\$36.00
Deuel	\$183.00	Perkins	\$32.00
Dewey	\$34.00	Potter	\$102.00
Douglas	\$146.00	Roberts	\$163.00
Edmunds	\$105.00	Sanborn	\$126.00
Fall River	\$35.00	Oglala Lakota	\$34.00
Faulk	\$102.00	Spink	\$118.00
Grant	\$149.00	Stanley	\$43.00
Gregory	\$76.00	Sully	\$93.00
Haakon	\$45.00	Todd	\$30.00
Hamlin	\$194.00	Tripp	\$65.00
Hand	\$107.00	Turner	\$196.00
Hanson	\$167.00	Union	\$219.00
Harding	\$25.00	Walworth	\$94.00
Hughes	\$80.00	Yankton	\$194.00
Hutchinson	\$165.00	Ziebach	\$35.00



Easements and Soil Health



















PRINCIPLES OF SOIL HEALTH: PROTECT & EFEED

Keep the Soil covered

Minimize Soil Disturbance

Plant Diversity

Continual live root/plant

Livestock Integration

IN SEASON RESULTS



PREVIOUS YEAR'S MGMT. RESULTS





COMMENTS, OUESTIONS, KENI VLEGER SOIL HEALTH SPECIALIST HURON 3D Redevicer@usedc.cov 303-070-1312