



CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY
E472118Z

CONSERVATION
STEWARDSHIP
PROGRAM

Manage livestock access to streams, ditches, and other waterbodies to reduce nutrients in surface water

Conservation Practice 472: Access Control

APPLICABLE LAND USE: Crop (Annual & Mixed); Crop (Perennial); Pasture; Range; Forest; Associated Ag Land; Farmstead

RESOURCE CONCERN ADDRESSED: Water Quality Degradation

PRACTICE LIFE SPAN: 10 years

Enhancement Description

Installation of structures and implementation of grazing management actions that restrict livestock access to streams, ditches, and other waterbodies in order to reduce nutrient loading to surface waters.

Criteria

- Manage livestock access to provide positive benefits to surface water quality, especially due to better manure distribution and reduction of nutrient input into surface waters.
- Use-regulating activities (e.g., gates, fences, and other barriers) shall be implemented to eliminate livestock access to streams to reduce nutrients in surface water.
- Limit stream access to hardened stream crossings or water access points. Preferably, install alternative water sources away from water courses and waterbodies.
- Implement riparian area grazing management strategies, including herding and seasonal exclusion with a rotational grazing system.
- Activities will complement the application schedule and life span of other practices specified in the conservation plan.



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- Livestock activity will be monitored and regulated, and management plans will specify the intent, intensity, amounts, and timing of livestock exclusion access/exclusion from the target water course or waterbody. Activities may involve temporary to permanent livestock exclusion.
- Placement, location, dimensions and materials (e.g., gates), and frequency of use (e.g., continuous) shall be described for each activity including monitoring frequency.

Documentation Requirements

- A written grazing management plan.
- For riparian grazing management strategies, a written narrative describing planned season of livestock grazing use.
- A map showing locations of installed structures.
- Specifications for this practice shall be prepared for each site. Specification shall be recorded using approved specifications sheets, job sheets, narrative statements in the conservation plan, or other acceptable documentation.