



CRP Management

And a bit on Haying and Grazing...



Management - Overview

- ▶ Management (formerly called Mid-Contract Management) is required on all “suitable” practices in CRP
- ▶ No cost-share assistance will be provided to conduct Management
- ▶ The State Conservationist can recommend CRP practices to be “exempt” from Management with proper approval at state and national levels – gathering input today to go to FSA State Committee in two weeks
- ▶ Expanded opportunity for grazing and haying on various CRP practices may be useful to accomplish management



Management Recommendations

- ▶ Basically – allow options for setting back plant succession as was offered in previous years:
 - ▶ Tillage or Disking
 - ▶ Site Specific Herbicide Use
 - ▶ Prescribed Burning
 - ▶ High Intensity – Short Duration Grazing
 - ▶ Haying (as a stand alone practice on diverse grass/forb stands)
- ▶ Interseeding of additional forbs or legumes
 - ▶ Optional to increase or prolong benefits
 - ▶ Only required when needed to maintain the appropriate plant composition required by that conservation practice



Exempt Practice Recommendations

- CP-8A Grass Waterways
- CP-12 Food Plots
- CP-5A Field Windbreaks
- CP-16A Shelterbelts
- CP-17A Living Snowfence

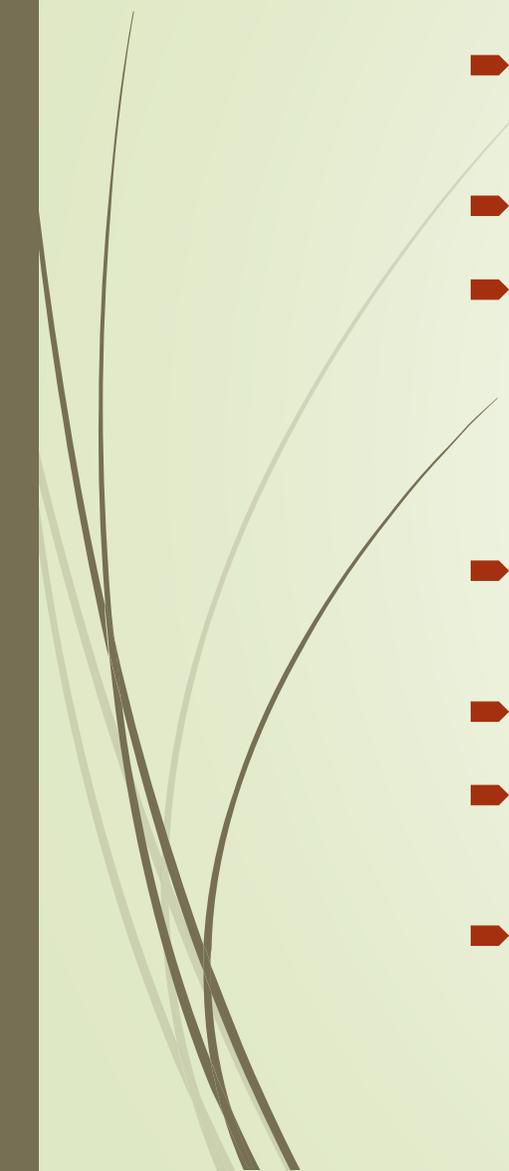
NOTE: These practices either require substantial maintenance and/or it is not practical to implement management

- CP-88 Native Grass in CRP Grasslands (management not required)



Haying and Grazing as Management

- Haying as a “stand alone” practice on “block” enrollments with adequate diversity, limited sod-forming grass, etc.
 - Limit haying to 50% of the total acres (in block) if used as management
 - Allow haying to count as management on grass “buffer” practices where authorized – filter strips, contour buffers, field borders, cross wind trap strips, prairie strips, and “narrow” buffers on wetlands

 - Grazing must be “high intensity – short duration” if intended to apply as management on “block” enrollments
 - Grazing during the nesting season does not count as management
 - Allow incidental grazing to be considered management on grass “buffer” practices where authorized
 - Dormant season grazing on “diverse stands” during November or March/April may be considered management
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Management on Tree Practices

- ▶ Management in initial enrollment period will focus on herbaceous vegetation diversity
- ▶ Management in subsequent re-enrollments will use thinning, pruning, interplanting of shrubs, etc. for more diversity and creation of snags and small brush piles to accomplish management
- ▶ Not significant acres of riparian forest buffer or block tree plantings in Nebraska affected by these options



Management on Pollinator Habitat

- ▶ Treat small areas of pollinator (<10 acres) different than those 10 acres and larger
- ▶ Hay only a portion (i.e. 50%) in any given year
- ▶ Graze only a portion (i.e. 50%) in any given year during growing season
- ▶ Grazing of entire pollinator habitat allowed during dormant season

- ▶ Other management techniques must not diminish forb diversity (i.e. herbicide use) unless interseeded to replace forb diversity
- ▶ Implement outside of growing season if possible (tillage, burning, etc.)
- ▶ On larger blocks, only treat 50% of acres in any given year



Haying and Grazing NOT as Management

- ▶ Nesting season grazing is allowed at 50% stocking rate – will be estimated using forage production data or clipping
- ▶ Incidental grazing is allowed on grass “buffers” during gleaning of crop stubble AND during the dormant season for small grains
- ▶ Dormant season grazing may occur during November and also March/April – but limit to 50% of the contract acres (except <10 acres)
- ▶ A site specific grazing plan may be used to target an invasive species. Invasive species will be defined by the list generated by the Invasive Species Council

Discussion of Recommendations

