



Agricultural Conservation Easement Program – Wetland Reserve Easements

Compatible Use Authorization

Definition: Compatible use authorization (CUA) means a use or activity conducted on a wetland reserve easement that NRCS determines, in its sole discretion, is consistent with the long-term protection and enhancement of the wetland and other natural values of the easement area when performed according to amount, method, timing, location, frequency, intensity, and duration limitations prescribed by NRCS.

NRCS retains the right to modify or cancel CUAs at any time if the agency determines that such activities do not further the protection and enhancement objectives of the easement, or that the landowner has failed to comply with specified terms and conditions. The landowner engages in CUA activities at his or her own risk. The authorization does not vest any right of any kind in the landowner and is null and void after the expiration date. By signing the document, the landowner agrees to the terms described in the CUA and any referenced documents.

Examples of acceptable compatible use authorizations:

- Haying or mowing under certain conditions
- Grazing to establish or maintain wildlife habitat or wetland functions and values
- Forest management activities including timber harvest, for the specific purpose of restoring protecting and enhancing optimum wildlife habitat and wetland functions and values, especially for migratory birds and at-risk species
- Maintenance of private drainage systems, but only if the activity does not adversely affect the functions and values of the wetland
- Wildlife food plots under certain conditions
- Applying pest management activities
- Hunting blinds at a set dimension (height and width)
- Boundary fence, cross-fencing, and livestock-watering facilities to manage grazing within the easement

Examples of prohibited compatible use authorizations:

- Infrastructure projects
- Placing prohibited structures on the enrollment area
- Planting and harvesting crops for human or domestic animal consumption
- Surface mining, including mining for peat and other organic materials
- Water supply, waste treatment, and incompatible water conveyance systems (e.g., irrigation withdrawal or return flow of contaminated water)

COMPATIBLE USE AUTHORIZATION

1. To be completed by NRCS; check appropriate box:

This transaction is for CCC

This transaction is for NRCS EWP

2. County: _____

3. Contract NO.: _____

4. Agreement NO.: _____

5. Expiration Date: _____

A. Person Responsible for Agreement Activities (Name and Address):

A 1. Person Responsible for Agreement
(Telephone Number): _____

B. Purpose:

C. Location Description (Attach a copy of map showing approximate area of compatible use.):

D. Beginning Condition of Site:

E. Statement of Affect and Compatibility:

F. Special Conditions, Specifications and Other Details Including Information From Consultation with FWS, CD and State Wildlife Agency:

NRCS retains the right to modify or cancel this compatible use authorization at any time if the NRCS determines that such activities do not further the protection and enhancement objectives of the easement, or that the landowner has failed to comply with specified terms and conditions. The landowner engages in such activities at his or her own risk. This authorization does not vest any right of any kind in the Landowner. This authorization is null and void after the expiration date specified above. By signing this document, the landowner agrees to the terms described above and on referenced documents.

G. Recommended (NRCS Signature): _____ G 1. Date: _____

G 2. Title: _____

H. Landowner or Representative (Signature): _____ H 1. Date: _____

I. Approved (NRCS Signature): _____ I 1. Date: _____

I 2. Title: _____

The signature by the NRCS representative signifies a CCC-NRCS transaction as indicated above.

COMPATIBLE USE AUTHORIZATION

OMB DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0578-0013. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 40 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

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COMPATIBLE USE AUTHORIZATION

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