

**Wildlife and SEKESH Initiatives
Fund Account Fact Sheet
Fiscal Year 2022**

Eligibility

The Wildlife and Southeastern Kentucky Early Successional Habitat (SEKESH) Initiatives are for applicants who are interested in protecting and/or creating wildlife habitat on their land. The Wildlife Fund Account is a Statewide account. The SEKESH Fund Account is specifically for applicants with land located in the forested Southeastern portion of the State (Counties listed below). The SEKESH Initiative includes forest thinning for wildlife habitat, which is not offered in the Wildlife Fund Account. Applicants outside of the SEKESH focal area can apply to implement forest thinning for wildlife habitat under the Statewide Forestland Initiative Fund Account.

SEKESH Eligible Counties			
Bell	Greenup	Lee	Owsley
Boyd	Harlan	Leslie	Perry
Breathitt	Jackson	Letcher	Pike
Carter	Johnson	Lewis	Powell
Clay	Knott	Magoffin	Rockcastle
Elliott	Knox	Martin	Rowan
Estill	Laurel	Menifee	Whitley
Floyd	Lawrence	Morgan	Wolfe

Ranking Questions
1. Is the applicant a covered producer participating in the CRP-TIP and NRCS is evaluating the assessment during the two-year period covered by the CRP-1R?
2. Does this application include incorporating at least 50% of the offered acres to contiguous habitat improvement practices?
3. Answer the following questions related to Grassland:
3a. Does this application include the removal of woody vegetation from a barren, glade or prairie remnant?
3b. Does this application include establishing pollinator habitat through the establishment of at least 9 forbs?
3c. Does this application include implementing a native grass/forb mixture planting or undesirable species control on up to 10% of the offered acres OR does this application include implementing multiple practices in order to address wildlife resource concerns on up to 10% of the offered acres?
3d. Does this application include implementing a native grass/forb mixture planting or undesirable species control on 10% or more of the offered acres OR does this application include implementing multiple practices in order to address wildlife resource concerns on 10% or more of the offered acres?
3e. Does this application include implementing a native grass/forb mixture planting or undesirable species control on 25% or more of the offered acres OR does this application include implementing multiple practices in order to address wildlife resource concerns on 25% or more of the offered acres?

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3f. Does this application include implementing a native grass/forb mixture planting or undesirable species control on more than 50% of the offered acres OR does the application include implementing multiple practices in order to address wildlife resource concerns on more than 50% of the offered acres?
3g. Does this application include at least 7 species of forb enrichment within an existing grassland setting?
3h. Will the application result in the conversion of cropland, hayland or pastureland that is currently in production to wildlife habitat?
3i. Does this application include at least 1 acre of native grass field border at least 30' wide planned in a crop field or pasture field?
3j. Does this application include a native shrub planting in conjunction with native grass or undesirable species control? Shrub plantings must be within or adjacent to native grass or undesirable herbaceous species control practice.
3k. Does this application include applying a practice in the Grassland Bird Conservation Area?
3l. Does this application include applying a practice in the Bobwhite Quail Focus Area?
4. Answer the following questions related to Forestland:
4a. Does this application include Patch Clearcut, Edge Feathering or for SEKESH applications mid-story removal or crop tree release?
4b. Does this application include Fence planned to exclude livestock from a woodland?
4c. Does this application include Fence planned to exclude livestock from a woodland with a setback?
4d. Does this application include applying a practice in the Forestland Bird Conservation Area?
4e. If this application includes Brush Management (314) for invasive shrub treatment, does it also include other practices to benefit wildlife?
5. Answer the following questions related to Aquatic Habitat:
5a. Does this application include Fence planned to exclude livestock from a stream or open throat karst basin?
5b. Does this application include fence planned to exclude livestock from a stream or open throat karst basin with a setback?
5c. Is livestock exclusion being planned on a stream noted to have aquatic listed species according to the KICT?
5d. Is stream or sink hole exclusion fence with setback being applied within an Aquatic Conservation Area (8-digit)?
5e. Does this application include an ephemeral pool or shallow water area?
5f. Does this application include a native bottomland hardwood planting?

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- 5g. Is an ephemeral pool, shallow water area or bottomland hardwood planting being planned in an Amphibian Conservation Area or in the Copperbelly Watersnake Conservation Area?
6. Does this application include applying a practice in a Grouse Focus Area?
7. Are the offered acres adjacent to an established conservation area including Wildlife Management Areas (WMA), easement acres such as Agricultural Conservation Easement Programs (ACEP), National Forests, etc.
8. Does this application include a grassland management practice such as disking, spraying or burning?
9. Does this application include practices that will restore rare or declining habitats such as tall grass prairies, glades, barrens, savannas, native cane breaks, short leaf pine stands, and/or special aquatic sites and streams containing native mussel populations?

Eligible Practices

Conservation Practice	Practice Code	Unit	Practice Lifespan (years) ¹	Payment Cap ²	Payment Limits
Access Control	472	Ac.	10		
Brush Management	314	Ac.	10		
Conservation Cover	327	Ac.	5		
Critical Area Planting	342	Ac.	10		
Early Successional Habitat Development & Management	647	Ac.	1		
Fence	382	Ft.	20		
Field Border	386	Ac.	10		
Firebreak	394	Ft.	5		
Forest Stand Improvement (Available in SEKESH only)	666	Ac.	10		
Heavy Use Area Protection	561	SqFt.	10		
Herbaceous Weed Treatment	315	Ac.	5		
Livestock Pipeline	516	Ft.	20		
Mulching	484	Ac.	1		
Pond	378	No.	20		
Prescribed Burning	338	Ac.	1		
Riparian Forest Buffer	391	Ac.	15		
Riparian Herbaceous Cover	390	Ac.	5		
Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment	654	Ft.	10		
Spring Development	574	No.	20		
Stream Crossing	578	No.	10		
Structure for Water Control	587	No.	20		
Structures for Wildlife	649	No.	5		

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Conservation Practice	Practice Code	Unit	Practice Lifespan (years) ¹	Payment Cap ²	Payment Limits
Tree/Shrub Establishment	612	Ac.	15		
Tree/Shrub Site Preparation	490	Ac.	1		
Underground Outlet	620	Ft.	20		
Water Well	642	No.	20		
Watering Facility	614	No.	10		
Wetland Creation	658	Ac.	20		
Woody Residue Treatment	384	Ac.	10		

¹ The conservation practice in the EQIP contract must be maintained and used for the intended purpose and the practice lifespan.