

MO 2019 EQIP-RCPP Restoring Glade and Woodland Communities for Threatened Species Environmental Quality Incentives Program Policy for the 2015 RCPP Project with Missouri Department of Conservation

Revised November 9, 2018

This Policy is based on the Final Rule for EQIP, Federal Register 7 CFR Part 1466 published May 12, 2016.

This policy covers financial assistance to eligible producers with acres located in the following counties: Carter, Iron, Madison, Perry, Reynolds, Ripley, Shannon, Ste. Genevieve, St. Francois, and Wayne.

NRCS will verify Beginning Farmer, Limited Resource Farmer, and/or Veteran Farmer status prior to contract obligation. There is no verification process for participants who self certify as Socially Disadvantaged. All practices must meet the minimum criteria in the Conservation Practice Standard (see the Missouri eFOTG) and the criteria listed below.

If the applicant is a tenant, the applicant must obtain written evidence or assurance of control from the landowner prior to contract obligation. Control may be a written lease, other legal agreement, or letter signed by the landowner indicating the length of control. Zero payment share landowner signature on the contract document does not demonstrate control of land.

Payment Scenarios - Each conservation practice listed in this policy has one or more payment scenarios available. The scenario nomenclature is determined by NRCS at the regional or national level. Where the scenario name is not descriptive enough to cover all the State Conservationist and State Technical Committee approved uses of the scenario for Missouri, a footnote has been added directly below the scenario name to clarify its use in planning and contract development.

Management Practices - Management practice payments are only available on acres where the practice has not been previously applied (with or without financial assistance), or where the practice will result in a higher level of conservation benefit.

Structural Practices - Structural practices include conservation practices that are either structural or vegetative, and have a multi-year lifespan. Structural practices involve the establishment, construction, or installation of site-specific measures. Payments are established as a one-time payment. In addition to control of land, tenants must obtain and provide to NRCS prior to obligation written concurrence from the landowner to apply a structural or vegetative practice. In lieu of written concurrence, the landowner may be a signatory to the contract with 0% payment shares to indicate their concurrence.

Maximum Payments - Maximum payments, where identified in this policy, are implemented at the contract item (CIN) Level in ProTracts by using the Cost Share Cap input box. The contract may have multiple CINs for a practice, however each CIN must be capped utilizing the Cost Share Cap input box at the Maximum Payment level identified in this policy.

An additional 20% of the payment rate will be provided to participants by the Missouri Department of Conservation following the completion of practice implementation.

Practice Code	Conservation Practice	Maximum Payment	HU Maximum Payment	Practice Unit/ Payment Unit	Payment Rate	HU Payment Rate 1/	Lifespan (Years)
472	Access Control <i>Structural</i>			Acre			10
	Animal exclusion from sensitive areas			Acre	\$32.24	\$42.87	
	<p>1 Payment is authorized to exclude livestock only if livestock currently have access to the area to be excluded at the time of EQIP application. An EQIP funded Permanent Fence (382) is required in conjunction with this practice.</p> <p>2 Payment is based on the number of acres protected from livestock.</p> <p>3 To avoid duplicate foregone income payments, (472) Access Control payment is not authorized on the same acres as financial assistance for (327) Conservation Cover, (386) Field Border, and/or (612) Tree/Shrub Establishment-Direct Seeding Scenario only.</p> <p>4 See the (472) Access Control conservation practice standard.</p>						
314	Brush Management <i>Structural</i>			Acre			10
	Medium Brush Management 10% - 39% undesirable woody canopy cover			Acre	\$63.06	\$75.68	
	Heavy Brush Management 40% - 60% undesirable woody canopy cover			Acre	\$150.89	\$181.06	
	Very Heavy Brush Management > 60% undesirable woody canopy cover			Acre	\$246.71	\$296.05	
	<p>1 This practice is authorized for the treatment of woody plants on all non-cropland areas (including those that are invasive, exotic and noxious).</p> <p>2 Sites infested with the following species are eligible for multiple years of treatment: non-native Honeysuckles, Autumn Olive, Multiflora Rose and Callery Pear. Per 440 CPM 512.81D, a site specific technical determination must be documented that identifies the species of concern and additional treatments necessary to achieve effective control.</p> <p>3 This practice is not to be used for conversion of woodlands or forests to grassland; such as the removal of woody vegetation to establish or re-establish grass cover (See IS-MO-314).</p> <p>4 Payment is not for site preparation activities for a new seeding or re-seeding, or maintenance/management of a new seeding or re-seeding. Where additional site preparation activities are needed for adequate seedbed prep a waiver can be requested from the State Office.</p> <p>5 Clipping/mowing as a stand alone treatment is not authorized for payment</p> <p>6 Practice is not authorized for payment on the same acres as (649) Structures for Wildlife.</p> <p>7 When applied on forestland: (a) practice is only authorized for the treatment of non-native species (use 666 Forest Stand Improvement for native species management), (b) payment for this practice is only authorized when included as a planned practice in a Forest Management Plan approved prior to the EQIP cutoff date (see FMP definition in footnote 2/), and (c) Grazing is not allowed on those acres during the practice lifespan unless the FMP prescribes biological control of invasive species with grazing animals.</p> <p>8 See the (314) Brush Management conservation practice standard and Information Sheet IS-MO-314.</p>						

Practice Code	Conservation Practice	Maximum Payment	HU Maximum Payment	Practice Unit/ Payment Unit	Payment Rate	HU Payment Rate 1/	Lifespan (Years)
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327	Conservation Cover						5
	<i>Structural</i>			Acre			

	Introduced with Forgone Income			Acre	\$398.87	\$518.75
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Introduced grass is only eligible in association with a perennial green browse plot.

	Native Species with Forgone Income			Acre	\$445.16	\$574.30
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	Pollinator Species with Forgone Income			Acre	\$1,120.60	\$1,384.83
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Scenario is applicable to pollinator habitat and prairie restorations. For prairie restorations, payment is only authorized where the Ecological Site Description indicates a prairie, and is restored as specified within the 643 Restoration and Management of Rare and Declining Habitats conservation practice standard.

	Monarch Species Mix with Forgone Income			Acre	\$1,430.92	\$1,757.20
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	Monarch Species Mix - Interseeding			Acre	\$365.52	\$438.62
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- 1 *Payment is authorized for the establishment and maintenance of permanent vegetative cover on land not utilized for forage production.*
- 2 *Payment includes site preparation equivalent to two activities or passes (spraying, disking, mowing, burning, etc). Where additional site preparation activities are needed through 314, 315 or 338 for adequate seedbed prep a waiver can be requested from the State Office.*
- 3 *Only one scenario is applicable per acre (i.e., multiple options such as native species and pollinator species cannot be stacked on the same acre).*
- 4 *For plantings addressing Inadequate Fish and Wildlife Habitat, refer to the (645) Upland Wildlife Habitat Management conservation practice standard.*
- 5 *See the (327) Conservation Cover conservation practice standard and (723) Vegetation Establishment, Herbaceous Seeding Specification*

342	Critical Area Planting						10
	<i>Structural</i>			Acre			

	Native or Introduced Vegetation - Normal Tillage (Organic and Non-Organic)			Acre	\$137.96	\$165.55
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- 1 *Only herbaceous species with a Good or Excellent wildlife habitat rating in Table 1 - Vegetation Establishment Herbaceous Seeding (723) are eligible for payment.*
- 2 *See the (342) Critical Area Planting conservation practice standard and (723) Vegetation Establishment, Herbaceous Seeding Specification.*

Practice Code	Conservation Practice	Maximum Payment	HU Maximum Payment	Practice Unit/ Payment Unit	Payment Rate	HU Payment Rate 1/	Lifespan (Years)
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647 Early Successional Habitat Development and Management Management

				Acre			1
	Disking			Acre	\$77.80	\$93.36	
	Mowing and Heavy Disking			Acre	\$173.41	\$208.09	
	<i>Scenario is applicable to brush hog plus multiple disk passes.</i>						

1 Practice is only authorized for one payment per acre within the contract period.

2 No more than three separate management practices may be combined per acre.

3 See the (647) Early Successional Habitat Development and Management conservation practice standard

382 Fence Structural

				Feet			20
	Permanent High Tensile Electric Single Strand			Foot	\$0.79	\$0.95	
	Permanent High Tensile Electric 2-3 Strand			Foot	\$1.15	\$1.38	
	<i>Scenario is applicable to all multi-strand high tensile electric fence installations, and small ruminant electrified woven wire fence products.</i>						
	Permanent Barbed Wire Multi Strand			Foot	\$1.61	\$1.93	

1 This practice is only authorized as a component of (472) Access Control, (410) Grade Stabilization Structure to exclude livestock from areas that need protection.

2 Only one Fence payment can be earned for each length/reach of fence (i.e., multiple options can not be stacked on the same running length/reach of fence).

3 Boundary fence (property line fence) or Perimeter fence is only eligible under the following three exceptions; (1) on expired (2 years or less) or expiring Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land to establish a grazing operation; (2) on land to protect, restore, or enhance an environmentally sensitive area, such as riparian area or wetland; (3) on land to facilitate a change in production systems per the requirements of section 515.81D(4). Refer to 440 CPM 515.81E, 515.52C and 515.81D(4) for complete policy guidance.

4 See the (382) Fence conservation practice standard.

Practice Code	Conservation Practice	Maximum Payment	HU Maximum Payment	Practice Unit/ Payment Unit	Payment Rate	HU Payment Rate 1/	Lifespan (Years)
386	Field Border						10
	<i>Structural</i>			Acre			
	Field Border, Native Species, Forgone Income			Acre	\$399.77	\$519.83	
	Field Border, Pollinator, Forgone Income			Acre	\$1,093.21	\$1,351.96	
	<p>1 Payment includes vegetation establishment. Payment is not available for natural regeneration.</p> <p>2 Payment includes site preparation equivalent to two activities or passes (spraying, disking, mowing, burning, etc). Where additional site preparation activities are needed through 314, 315 or 338 for adequate seedbed prep a waiver can be requested from the State Office.</p> <p>3 Only one scenario is applicable per acre (i.e., multiple options such as native species and pollinator cannot be stacked on the same acre).</p> <p>4 For plantings addressing Inadequate Fish and Wildlife Habitat, refer to the (645) Upland Wildlife Habitat Management conservation practice standard.</p> <p>5 See the (386) Field Border conservation practice standard and (723) Vegetation Establishment, Herbaceous Seeding Specification</p>						
394	Firebreak						5
	<i>Structural</i>			Feet			
	Constructed - Handline			Foot	\$0.08	\$0.10	
	Constructed - Light Equipment			Foot	\$0.05	\$0.05	
	<i>Disking or equivalent</i>						
	Constructed - Medium equipment, flat-medium slopes			Foot	\$0.28	\$0.34	
	<i>Small dozer or equivalent. Scenario is applicable to all slope types. Payment includes erosion control.</i>						
	Vegetated permanent firebreak			Foot	\$0.12	\$0.14	
	<i>Payment includes vegetation establishment.</i>						
	<p>1 Payment is only authorized in conjunction with (338) Prescribed Burning.</p> <p>2 See the (394) Firebreak conservation practice standard</p>						
512	Forage and Biomass Planting						5
	<i>Structural</i>			Acre			
	Native Grass Establishment or Renovation - with fertility			Acre	\$315.20	\$390.57	
	<i>Scenario is applicable to any native grass establishment or renovation regardless of fertility requirements (follow standards and specifications for soil test and fertility requirements).</i>						
	<p>1 Payment is not authorized for the conversion of native prairie or woodland to pasture or hayland.</p> <p>2 See the (512) Forage and Biomass Planting conservation practice standard and (723) Vegetation Establishment, Herbaceous Seeding Specification</p>						

Practice Code	Conservation Practice	Maximum Payment	HU Maximum Payment	Practice Unit/ Payment Unit	Payment Rate	HU Payment Rate 1/	Lifespan (Years)
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666	Forest Stand Improvement <i>Structural</i>			Acre			10
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	Forest Stand Improvement, Light			Acre	\$92.94	\$111.52	
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Reduce basal area by 20-29 sq ft/ac, or kill 100 to 199 trees/ac, or release 20-40 crop trees/ac.

	Forest Stand Improvement, Medium			Acre	\$114.08	\$136.89	
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Reduce basal area by 30-40 sq ft/ac, or kill 200 to 400 trees/ac, or release 41-60 crop trees/ac.

	Forest Stand Improvement, Heavy			Acre	\$144.35	\$173.22	
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Reduce basal area by > 40 sq ft/ac, or kill > 400 trees/ac, or release >60 crop trees/ac.

	Temporary Forest Openings, patch clearcuts			Acre	\$250.75	\$300.90	
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Refer to the Temporary Forest Openings Job Sheet.

1 Payment for this practice is only authorized when included as a planned practice in a Forest Management Plan approved prior to the EQIP application cutoff date (see FMP definition in footnote 2/).

2 Payment is not authorized if forest products are removed commercially (timber, posts, or fuel wood) with forest stand improvement work.

3 Payment for FSI may be used either before or after a commercial harvest to treat the stand.

4 See the (666) Forest Stand Improvement conservation practice standard.

655	Forest Trails and Landings <i>Structural</i>			Acre			5
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	Shaping and Grading			Foot	\$0.39	\$0.47	
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	Shaping and Grading with Vegetation Establishment			Foot	\$0.57	\$0.68	
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Payment includes vegetation establishment.

	Water Bar Installation			Each	\$49.72	\$59.66	
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Scenario is also utilized for rolling dip installations. Payment includes shaping and grading.

	Log Landing Shaping and Grading with Vegetation Establishment			Acre	\$1,350.58	\$1,620.70	
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Payment includes vegetation establishment.

1 Payment for this practice is only authorized when included as a planned practice in a Forest Management Plan approved prior to the EQIP application cutoff date (see FMP definition in footnote 2/).

2 Eligible acres for this practice are limited to existing trails/landings needing treatment to address documented resource concerns, or as recommended according to a current forest harvest plan prepared by a professional forester as an addendum to the FMP.

3 See the (655) Forest Trails and Landings conservation practice standard.

Practice Code	Conservation Practice	Maximum Payment	HU Maximum Payment	Practice Unit/ Payment Unit	Payment Rate	HU Payment Rate 1/	Lifespan (Years)
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315	Herbaceous Weed Treatment						5
	<i>Structural</i>			Acre			
	Medium Spot Treatments			Acre	\$70.86	\$85.03	
	<i>≥ 10% undesirable herbaceous cover</i>						
	Blanket Treatment One Pass			Acre	\$47.03	\$56.44	
	Blanket Treatment Multi Pass			Acre	\$102.45	\$122.94	
	Tree & Shrub Post-planting Weed Control			Acre	\$91.83	\$110.20	

- 1 This practice is authorized for the treatment of herbaceous plants, including those that are invasive, exotic and noxious on all non-cropland areas.
- 2 Sites infested with the following species are eligible for multiple years of treatment: Kudzu, Spotted Knapweed, Sericea Lespedeza, Garlic Mustard, Japanese Stiltgrass, and Johnson grass. Per 440 CPM 512.81D, a site specific technical determination must be documented that identifies the species of concern and additional treatments necessary to achieve effective control.
- 3 This practice is not to be utilized for forage production.
- 4 Payment is not for site preparation activities for a new seeding or re-seeding, or maintenance/management of a new seeding or re-seeding. Where additional site preparation activities are needed for adequate seedbed prep a waiver can be requested from the State Office.
- 5 See the (315) Herbaceous Weed Control conservation practice standard.

484	Mulching						1
	<i>Management</i>			Acre			
	Natural Material, Vegetation Establishment			Acre	\$180.15	\$216.18	
	Natural Material, Soil Moisture Management			Acre	\$233.19	\$279.83	
	Synthetic Material, Soil Moisture Management			Acre	\$1,112.87	\$1,335.44	
	Tree and Shrub, Individual Treatment, Soil Moisture Management			Each	\$1.74	\$2.08	
	<i>Use this scenario when trees/shrubs will be mulched individually rather than in a continuous mulched row. Otherwise use the appropriate per acre soil moisture management mulching option.</i>						

- 1 Practice is only authorized for one payment per acre within the contract period.
- 2 See the (484) Mulching conservation practice standard.

Practice Code	Conservation Practice	Maximum Payment	HU Maximum Payment	Practice Unit/ Payment Unit	Payment Rate	HU Payment Rate 1/	Lifespan (Years)
338	Prescribed Burning Management			Acre			1
	Grassland, > 10 acres			Acre	\$24.65	\$29.58	
	Grassland, Small acreage (<=10 acres)			Acre	\$31.32	\$37.58	
	Woodland, >10 acres			Acre	\$64.19	\$77.02	
	Woodland, Small acreage (<=10 acres)			Acre	\$92.54	\$111.04	

1 Practice is only authorized for one payment per acre within the contract period.

2 Payment is not for site preparation activities for a new seeding or re-seeding, or maintenance/management of a new seeding or re-seeding. Where additional site preparation activities are needed for adequate seedbed prep a waiver can be requested from the State Office.

3 See the (338) Prescribed Burning conservation practice standard.

Practice Code	Conservation Practice	Maximum Payment	HU Maximum Payment	Practice Unit/ Payment Unit	Payment Rate	HU Payment Rate 1/	Lifespan (Years)
643	Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural Communities <i>Structural</i>			Acre			1
	Woodland Restoration, Light <i>Reduce basal area by 20-29 sq ft/ac, or 100-199 stems/ac.</i>			Acre	\$127.33	\$152.80	
	Woodland Restoration, Medium <i>Reduce basal area by 30-40 sq ft/ac, or 200-400 stems/ac.</i>			Acre	\$156.96	\$188.35	
	Woodland Restoration, Heavy <i>Reduce basal area by >40 sq ft/ac, or >400 stems/ac.</i>			Acre	\$202.26	\$242.72	
	Savanna or Prairie Restoration, Light <i>10% - 39% canopy cover across the treatment area is in undesirable non-herbaceous cover.</i>			Acre	\$71.71	\$86.05	
	Savanna or Prairie Restoration, Medium <i>40% - 60% canopy cover across the treatment area is in undesirable non-herbaceous cover.</i>			Acre	\$173.73	\$208.48	
	Savanna or Prairie Restoration, Heavy <i>Greater than 60% canopy cover across the treatment area is in undesirable non-herbaceous cover.</i>			Acre	\$283.07	\$339.68	
	Glade Restoration, Light <i>10% - 50% canopy cover across the treatment area is in undesirable non-herbaceous cover.</i>			Acre	\$334.23	\$401.08	
	Glade Restoration, Heavy <i>Greater than 50% canopy cover across the treatment area is in undesirable non-herbaceous cover.</i>			Acre	\$635.92	\$763.11	

1 Payment for Woodland Restoration is only authorized where the Ecological Site Description indicates woodland, is included as a planned practice in a Forest Management Plan approved prior to contract obligation (see FMP definition in footnote 2/), and is planned in conjunction with (338) Prescribed Burning.

2 Payment for Savanna or Prairie Restoration is only authorized where the Ecological Site Description indicates a savanna or prairie, and is planned in conjunction with (338) Prescribed Burning.

3 Payment for Glade Restoration is only authorized where the Ecological Site Description indicates a glade, and is planned in conjunction with (338) Prescribed Burning.

4 Payment is not authorized for (314) Brush Management on the same acres. Where additional treatment activities are needed, a waiver can be requested from the State Office.

5 See the (643) Restoration and Management of Rare or Declining Habitats conservation practice standard.

Practice Code	Conservation Practice	Maximum Payment	HU Maximum Payment	Practice Unit/ Payment Unit	Payment Rate	HU Payment Rate 1/	Lifespan (Years)
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578	Stream Crossing						
	<i>Structural</i>			Number			10
	Concrete Crossing			Sq Ft	\$5.76	\$6.91	
	Rip Rap Crossing			Sq Ft	\$2.56	\$3.08	

1 Payment is only authorized as a component of (472) Access Control, or when included as a planned practice in a Forest Management Plan approved prior to the EQIP application cutoff date (see FMP definition in footnote 2/) on forestland.

2 Financial assistance is not available for bridges or culverts.

3 Stream crossings will be constructed at the same elevation as the channel bed.

4 Applicant will acquire all US Army Corps of Engineers permits and wetland determinations before practice commencement.

5 See the (578) Stream Crossing conservation practice standard.

649	Structures for Wildlife						
	<i>Structural</i>			Number			5
	Downed Tree Structure			Each	\$192.53	\$231.04	
	Edgefeathering, heavy			Acre	\$773.10	\$927.72	

1 See the (649) Structures for Wildlife and (645) Upland Wildlife Habitat Management conservation practice standard, and the Downed Tree Structures Job Sheet.

612	Tree/Shrub Establishment						
	<i>Structural</i>			Acre			15
	Direct Seeding			Acre	\$612.24	\$774.79	
	Bareroot Trees and Shrubs, Each			Each	\$0.64	\$0.77	

1 Containers 1 quart and smaller will use the applicable bareroot payment rate.

2 Tree shelters are tubes made of light stabilized polypropylene or polyethylene material and come in various heights (2-6') determined by the need and intended function of the shelter.

3 See the (612) Tree/Shrub Establishment conservation practice standard.

Practice Code	Conservation Practice	Maximum Payment	HU Maximum Payment	Practice Unit/ Payment Unit	Payment Rate	HU Payment Rate 1/	Lifespan (Years)
490	Tree/Shrub Site Preparation <i>Structural</i>			Acre			1
	Chemical Application			Acre	\$49.05	\$58.86	
	Light Mechanical			Acre	\$97.65	\$117.17	
	Light Mechanical with Chemical			Acre	\$146.69	\$176.03	
<i>1 See the (490) Tree/Shrub Site Preparation conservation practice standard.</i>							
645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management <i>Structural</i>			Acre			1
	Macro Topography, deep			Each	\$685.33	\$822.40	
<i>Scenario is applicable to the installation of a wildlife watering facility.</i>							
<i>1 See the (645) Upland Wildlife Habitat Management conservation practice standard and the Wildlife Watering Facility Job Sheet.</i>							

Footnotes and Acronym Information

- 1/ HU Payment Rate refers to the payment rate for Historically Underserved Farmers (Limited Resource Farmers, Beginning Farmers, Socially Disadvantaged Farmers, and Veteran Farmers who also qualify as Beginning Farmers).
- 2/ FMP = Forest Management Plan. Approved FMP's are any plans written by NRCS, Technical Service Providers, or partners that meet the Forest Management Plan Criteria for Practice/Activity Code 106 found in Section III of the Missouri eFOTG.

This Program Policy is approved for use in Missouri

Karen Brinkman, Acting

November 13, 2018

Missouri State Conservationist

Date