



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Wildlife/CRP STAC Meeting

Jessica Weis
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USDA NRCS

March 2026





Intro

- Wisconsinite
- Almost 22 years of Federal service
- Previously a Management Analyst



General Format

- Partner Updates
- Upcoming events, training opportunities
- Guest Speakers
- NRCS Information, Updates, etc.

FY2025 Program Recap

- EQIP
 - \$66.8 Million Obligated
 - 88,000 Acres Contracted
 - 2024: \$94.8 Million
- CSP
 - \$44 Million
 - 273,000 Acres
 - 2024: \$48 Million
- RCPP
 - \$1.4 Million
 - 44 Contracts

FY2025 EQIP Obligations for Wildlife Related Practices

Code	Practice	Sum of Obligation	Sum of Amount	Unit
420	Wildlife Habitat Planting	\$995,165.85	678.4	Ac
645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	\$816,628.97	3,878.3	Ac
327	Conservation Cover	\$645,993.44	714.8	Ac
647	Early Successional Habitat Development-Mgt	\$326,191.41	473.6	Ac
338	Prescribed Burning	\$174,721.20	435.8	Ac
394	Firebreak	\$9,441.00	17,176.0	Ft
643	Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural Communities	\$7,438.00	5.2	Ac
649	Structures for Wildlife	\$5,083.00	40.0	Each
383	Fuel Break	\$3,006.00	1.0	Ac
Total EQIP Obligations for Wildlife Related Practices		\$2,983,668.87		



National Practice Standards under review

- 645 (644 will be combined)-Wildlife Habitat Management
- 658 (MN does not offer)-Wetland Creation



MN Updates Needed

- 338 Prescribed Burning
- 383 Fuelbreak IR
- 394 Firebreak IR
- 422 Hedgerow
- 657 Wetland Restoration



Future Needs

- Updating Tech Note 31
- Seed Calculator
- Nesting Dates
- Other items you wish to discuss???



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MN STAC: Grazing Sub- committee Updates

Jeff Duchene

State Grazing Specialist

USDA NRCS





General Format

- Partner Updates
- Upcoming events
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Brush Management and Herbaceous Weed Treatment

- **Species eligible for 3 treatments in practice lifespan**
 - Brush Management:
 - 10 Year Lifespan
 - Herbaceous Weed Treatment
 - 5 Year Lifespan





314 Brush Management: 3 Treatments

- **New!!!**

- Smooth Sumac
- Western Snowberry
- European Alder
- Siberian Pea Shrub
- Tree of Heaven
- Willow Species
- Amur Maple

- **Existing**

- Buckthorn
- Multiflora Rose
- Amur Honeysuckle
- Bell's Honeysuckle
- Japanese Honeysuckle
- Morrow's Honeysuckle
- Tartarian Honeysuckle
- Japanese Barberry
- Autumn Olive
- Russian Olive



315 Herbaceous Weed Treatment: 3 Treatments

- **New!!!**

- Common Tansy
- Leafy Spurge
- Oxeye Daisy

- Existing

- Garlic Mustard
- Spotted Knapweed
- Wild Parsnip
- Purple Loosestrife



Additional Brush and Herbaceous Species to Add

- Brush Species

- Prickly Ash
- Saltcedar

- Herbaceous Species

- Japanese Knotweed
- Orange Hawkweed
- Yellow Toadflax
- Dalmatian Toadflax
- Tall Buttercup
- Common Wormwood



528 Grazing Management CPS Updates

- CPS
- SOW
- Grazing Plan Checklist
- Grazing Management On-Site Inventory Form
- Grazing Plan Template
- Grazing Management Assessment Form
- Implementation Requirements
- Grazing Management Technical Note
- Estimating Forage Production and Carrying Capacity





National Practice Standards under review

- 810 Annual Forages for Grazing Systems
 - Full adopt: 513 Annual Forages for Grazing Systems
- 314 Brush Management
- 315 Herbaceous Weed Treatment
- 338 Prescribed Burning
- 381 Silvopasture
- 382 Fence
- 472 Access Control
- 490 Tree and Shrub Site Preparation
 - Changing to general "Site Preparation" for all perennial plantings?
- 511 Forage Harvest Management
- 512 Pasture and Hay Planting
- 516 Livestock Pipeline
- 642 Water Well

FY2025 EQIP

Fiscal Year 2025 EQIP Allocations for Grazing-Related Practices			
Conservation Practice	Quantity	Unit	\$ Obligated
Fence	1,182,444	Feet	\$3,093,699.00
Brush Management	3,632.10	Acres	\$1,725,640.07
Grazing Management	11,365.20	Acres	\$1,282,395.00
Livestock Pipeline	311,880	Feet	\$1,171,671.93
Pasture and Hay Planting	4,245.50	Acres	\$877,958.21
Water Well	6,066	Feet	\$471,721.40
Watering Facility	NA	NA	\$364,241.82
Pumping Plant	NA	NA	\$218,003.00
Livestock Shelter Structure	NA	NA	\$96,830.80
Annual Forages for Grazing Systems	NA	Acres	\$88,862.10
Trails and Walkways	NA	NA	\$62,554.00
Strategic Harvested Forage Management	NA	Acres	\$55,234.00
Herbaceous Weed Treatment	1,591.80	Acres	\$21,117.51
Forage Harvest Management	774	Acres	\$15,750.00
Stream Crossing	2104	Sq. Ft.	\$13,500.80
Access Control	NA	NA	\$4,178.00
Total EQIP Allocations for Grazing-Related Practices			\$9,563,357.64

FY25 Top 10 CSP Grazing Enhancements

Fiscal Year 2025 Top 10 Grazing-Related Scenarios			
Practice/Enhancement	# Contracted	\$ Obligated	Acres
512 Pasture and Hay Planting			
E512L Diversifying Forage Base with Interseeding Forbs and Legumes to Increase Pasture Quality	17	\$119,719.00	1,427.0
512 Pasture and Hay Planting	45	\$28,618.00	946.9
528 Prescribed Grazing (Grazing Management)			
E528P Implementing Bale or Swath Grazing to increase organic matter and reduce nutrients in surface water	23	\$93,770.00	486.6
E528R Management Intensive Rotational Grazing	22	\$50,703.00	1,086.1
E528O Clipping mature forages to set back vegetative growth for improved forage quality	5	\$40,930.00	1,707.0
E528F Stockpiling cool season forage to improve structure and composition or plant productivity and health	9	\$25,288.00	817.7
E528Q Use of body condition scoring for livestock on a monthly basis to keep track of herd health	26	\$23,556.00	11,000.9
511 Forage Harvest Management			
E511A Harvest of crops (hay or small grains) using measures that allow desired species to flush or escape	57	\$23,574.00	9,204.2
E511D Forage Harvest Management to Improve Terrestrial Habitat for Wildlife during Over-Winter Periods	20	\$11,276.00	370.8
314 Brush Management			
314 Brush Management	55	\$9,738.00	547.3
Total CSP Application for Top 10 Practices		\$427,172.00	27,594.50

Looking ahead...FY2026 and beyond

- EQIP
- CSP



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Regenerative Pilot Program

Kala Eiring: Tanka Fund



Questions?



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