

Lesser Prairie Chicken Conference Report Conservation Measures by Practice

(642) Water Well

1. NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the State Technical Committees to identify appropriate restrictions on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.
2. Defer implementation of this conservation practice within ½ mile to known leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or State Technical Committee recommendations.
3. Install low profile pumping devices and housings and use solar pumps whenever practicable, as the power source for wells rather than electric lines.
4. Place wells and infrastructure as close as possible to existing structures rather than creating new vertical structure in areas presently devoid of such features. These measures will reduce the presence of raptor perch sites and prevent habitat fragmentation by allowing continued use of suitable habitat.
5. Design the water well to minimize or avoid the loss of desirable shrubs during practice installation.
6. Use the conservation measures provided for the facilitative practice of Critical Area Planting (342) in areas where reseeding disturbed areas is needed.
7. Design solar panel mounting pole as short as possible to avoid use as raptor perch.