

CRP Planning and Contract Management Guidance

Methods to Increase Early Successional Plant Diversity

Over the last 30 years, the Conservation Reserve Program planning requirements have changed. In an attempt to standardize what we put in a conservation plan of operations, we have developed the following guidance. This is intended to be basic guidance for Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) plans, because depending on other programmatic requirements, i.e., SAFE and CREP, there may be other items needed. This also does not override requirements contained in the Farm Service Agency (FSA) [FSA 2-CRP Handbook](#).

PLANNING

This document is to provide field staff with guidance on planning accepted CRP offers. The following list of practices have been identified for CRP Conservation Plans of Operations (CPO) developed by NRCS for the identified purpose and guidance on use:

1. 315 – Herbaceous Weed Control: Restore or release native or create desired plant communities and wildlife habitats consistent with the ecological site.
 - a. Applicable only within one year after seeding of permanent cover.
2. 327 – Conservation Cover, Establishment and Management: Reduce sheet, rill, and wind erosion, and sedimentation, along with enhancing wildlife, pollinator and beneficial organism habitat.
 - a. Seedbed preparation
 - b. Cover crop – new seeding, if needed
 - c. Permanent seed and seeding – new seeding
 - d. Maintenance of established stand – includes weed control (non-cost shared)
3. 394 – Firebreak: Control and reduce the risk of the spread of fire by treating, removing or modifying vegetation, debris and detritus.
 - a. Only applicable in high-risk areas, such as transportation corridors, rural communities, and adjacent farmsteads (risk of life areas).
4. 472 – Access Control: Achieve and maintain desired resource conditions by monitoring and managing the intensity of use by animals, people, vehicles, and/or equipment in coordination with the application schedule of practices, measures and activities specified in the conservation plan.
 - a. Limits access to CRP fields, except as allowed in CPO (non-cost-shared).
5. 511 – Forage Harvest Management: The timely cutting and removal of forages from the field as hay considering maintenance and/or improvement of wildlife habitat (non-cost shared).
 - a. This is for actions related to routine/managed harvesting and may meet the requirements for contract management. Activity may be conducted 1 in 5 years.
6. 528 – Prescribed Grazing: Managing the controlled harvest of vegetation with grazing animals to improve or maintain the quantity and quality of food and/or cover available for wildlife.
 - a. This is for actions of routine grazing, and may meet the requirements for contract management. Activity may be conducted 1 in 3 years.

7. 645 – Upland Wildlife Habitat Management: Treating upland wildlife habitat concerns identified during the conservation planning process that enable movement, or provide shelter, cover, food in proper amounts, locations and times to sustain wild animals that inhabit uplands during apportion of their life cycle (non-cost shared).
 - a. Completed Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide (WHEG) or Wildlife Species Model (WSM) for the appropriate target species with habitat management plan. The habitat management plan says how you will improve those values in the WHEG that need improvement. WHEGs must be run at time of planning, and again prior to contract management to determine improvement in habitat and management needed.
8. 647 – Early Successional Habitat Development/Management (**for CONTRACT MANAGEMENT**): To provide habitat for species requiring early successional habitat for all or part of their life cycle. The following activities may be used for 647 on CRP. They must be applied according to the practice Standard and/or guidance in the contract management section below:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Residue Management b. Prescribed Burning c. Routine Grazing d. Routine Haying e. Tillage 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> f. Interseeding g. Fertilization – Organic or Inorganic h. Tree – Thinning/Girdling i. Tree – Mowing j. Tree – Replacement
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NRCS does not require a seeded cover crop if the existing crop stubble (cover) is adequate for protecting the site from wind and/or water erosion. To determine if the existing stubble is adequate, WEPS and/or RUSLE2 must be run to show erosion is at or below 'T' through grass establishment period (2 years minimum).

Development of the CPO must be done in Toolkit and the output plan must be on the NRCS-CPA-1155 form with the applicable County cost share rates included. If the practice is non-cost shareable, the acres will be entered for the life of the contract.

Practice narratives used in the CPO must be those developed at the State level. All supporting documents* must be included with CPO reviewed with producer and delivered to the Farm Service Agency (FSA).

The planned date in the CPO for applying the practice is the installation deadline. For example, permanent seedings must be completed by the end of year one; if the contract starts October 2013, the permanent seeding must be completed April 2014 because that indicates the end of the applicable seeding window prior to the end of second year of the contract. Thus, April 2014 goes in the CPO. Please note that 2-CRP policy states that the permanent cover will be seeded within 12-months of contract start. Any additional time to complete seeding of the permanent cover must be approved by FSA prior to conducting the activity.

647 – Early Successional Habitat Management (Contract Management) will be planned for years five and six in a 10-year contract and years eight and nine for a 15-year contract. This indicates the deadline for applying that activity/practice and provides time to complete required management activity(ies) within the limits of certain management activities. This does not preclude contract management from being applied prior to that date, but all contract management activities must be approved by FSA prior to application.

Contract management activities are mandatory and cannot be applied during the primary nesting season, March 15 – July 15. Disking will be the standard contract management activity for CRP CPO cost estimates. A producer may change this activity to another, if they have an alternative preference at time of activity application with concurrence and revised CPO from NRCS and authorization from FSA with initials indicating concurrence.

Steps for getting CPO signatures:

1. When CPOs are written, the District Conservationist (DC) will review to ensure technical adequacy.
2. The CPO will then be reviewed with and signed by the producer/operator.
3. After the producer has signed, the producer will acquire other signatures according to CRP-1 provided by FSA.
4. When CPO is returned to NRCS with all signatures, it will be reviewed with and signed by the conservation district.
5. The DC will be last to sign CPO prior to delivering it to FSA.
6. The signed plan will be presented to the Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Committee (COC) and/or County Executive Director (CED) by the DC for their review and signature.
7. A copy of the signed CPO and supporting documents* will be provided to FSA for their records. The original CPO is kept in the NRCS file.

*Supporting documents should include all erosion calculations, WHEGs or WSM, applicable practice specifications, job sheets/implementation requirements, CO-ECS-5, and NRCS-CPA-52.

NRCS completes NRCS-CPA-52 Sections A through P. FSA completes Sections Q through S.

NRCS will conduct a minimum of ten percent of total number of CRP contracts in each County annually, that amount is set by a Memorandum of Understanding between NRCS and FSA. The list of tracts/contracts should be selected annually at the beginning of the fiscal year by the FSA County Executive Director (CED) and NRCS DC. Status reviews will be completed on the attached NRCS-LTP-13 for CRP.

Planning considerations to meet FSA requirements for practice implementation:

1. Producer re-enrolls CRP with the same existing practice from previous sign-up in current sign-up. Not all the fields meet the practice standard signed up for, then only 51% of the field(s) that do not meet the practice must be reseeded to meet the conservation practice. This determination is done on a field by field basis.
2. Producer re-enrolls CRP but changes the practice, for example, CP1 to CP4D, then 100% of the contract acres must meet the new practice requirements. All acres must be reseeded.
3. Producer re-enrolls CRP but changes the practice then all the acres on the contract must meet the new practice requirements (for example going from CP2 40 point mix to CP4D 40 point mix). If the existing grasses are in a good stand and they help meet the new stands requirements the producer may be able to do interseeding into the existing stand (1-2 species). This way we are not destroying a good cover that can be used to help meet the CP4D cover requirements.

CRP CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

Before contract management activities can be applied the CRP vegetative cover must be established and consist of perennial grasses, forbs, legumes and/or shrubs. Plant Materials Technical Note 78 ([PMTN 78](#)) will be used to determine stand establishment.

PURPOSE

The purpose of introducing early successional plant diversity in established conservation cover is to develop plant diversity, habitat structure and wildlife benefits, while protecting soil and water resources.

Early Successional Plant Establishment is intended to:

- Increase plant species and structural diversity.
- Provide habitat for species requiring early successional habitat for all or part of their life cycle by managing plant succession to develop and maintain early successional habitat.
- Remove duff and control undesired vegetation that inhibits plant diversity and wildlife habitat.

In the absence of disturbance, the composition of grassland communities will change over several years through normal plant succession processes. The vegetative structure changes as annual and biennial (early successional) plants are replaced by perennial (later successional) forbs, grasses, and shrubs.

Changes also occur structurally. As bare ground declines, litter accumulates, and vegetation density increases. These changes may lead to a decrease in plant diversity and quality of wildlife habitat.

Managing plant communities is beneficial for wildlife habitat. Early successional plant establishment is designed to achieve the desired plant community in density, vertical and horizontal structure, and plant species diversity needed by the targeted wildlife species.

METHODS

Methods to establish early successional plant species in established cover must meet planning criteria. Existing vegetation generally must be weakened to promote the establishment of early successional plants. Manipulation to the established cover on CRP land will be performed using Farm Service Agency (FSA) approved Contract Management activities including: Inter-seeding, Prescribed Burning, Managed Harvesting (Routine Haying), Routine Grazing, Tillage, Fertilizer, Residue Management, and for tree and/or shrub plantings: Mowing, Girdling/Thinning, and Replacement. These activities are methods to affect early successional plant species and structural diversity in plant communities.

The appropriate wildlife habitat evaluation guide (WHEG) ([NRCS CO Biology Technical Note 40, FOTG Section I](#)) will be used to determine the limiting habitat component needing enhancement through CRP contract management.

ACTIVITIES

CRP lands, per FSA 2-CRP (Rev 5) Par. 428C, and other FSA State guidance, must have a contract management (CM) activity completed on **all** CRP contract acres for all CP practices. Activities must be completed before the end of year 6 of a 10-year contract, and by the end of year 9 of a 15-year contract. Activities may be applied on all acres during a fiscal year, except for haying and tillage, which are limited to 50% in any one-year, and grazing, which can be done on 100% of acres in one year with limitations.

A combination of contract management activities may be performed to treat the required acres.

Example: A 600-acre field. 150 acres is a sandy area with a high percentage of bare ground with scattered desired grass and forb species. Species diversity is lacking. 150 acres is in a low-lying area and has an abundance of desired species with excess litter. The remaining part of the field has erosion controlled and contains required species for the CRP practice. Plants are healthy and wildlife habitat is adequate. We may recommend that interseeding be done on the sandy site, tillage be done on the low-lying area, and grazing on the remaining 300 acres to meet required treatment.

Management activities **cannot** be performed during the Primary Nesting Season (PNS), which is March 15 – July 15. Activities may be performed October 1– March 14, and July 16 – September 30.

A. INTERSEEDING

Must follow the [550 – Range Planting Standard](#). Interseeding may be used to enhance existing conservation cover by providing an early successional plant component. The addition of wildflowers, grasses and shrubs will add diversity and structure to existing cover. Interseeding may be used alone or in conjunction with other early successional plant establishment techniques. Interseeding should be considered when/where:

- Existing cover does not meet diversity requirement, only 3-4 species exist, or
- Sites are sandy, fragile, and/or susceptible to wind and water erosion if disturbed, or

**If the first considerations exists on loam and clay soils, you may consider interseeding with a single pass light disking prior to seeding to provide soil disturbance for seed placement. Light disking then limits application to 60% of acres per fiscal year. Activity must be approved by NRCS State CRP Lead.*

1. Seedbed - Ensure the prepared or existing seedbed will allow proper seed/soil contact. Reduction of weed competition from the established vegetation will be accomplished by mechanical operation or herbicide application consistent with [CO NRCS Herbaceous Weed Control \(315\)](#). Refer to [CO Agronomy Technical Note 82, Estimating Residue with Line Transect Method](#).
2. Adequate vegetative hoop or point assessments will be completed throughout the field to determine representative density and composition percentages. Use Conservation Cover Assessment form. [PMTN 78](#)
3. Develop seed mix (CO-ECS-05) with species that are not currently found in the site inventory, or that do not occur in a density to be effective for the desired wildlife habitat. Refer to [Plant Materials Technical Note 59](#) and CRP Seeding Matrix as applicable.
4. Acres to be seeded each year are site specific. Seeding should be performed in strips from 100'-200' wide across the field. An area the width of the seeded strip shall be left between the strips.
5. Drill equipment requirements - NO BROADCAST SEEDING ALLOWED.
 - Seed boxes to accommodate all seed types (may require multiple boxes).
 - Must have agitator and/or picker wheels for fluffy seed.
 - Features: depth bands, double-disc openers, press wheels or drag chains, with openers spaced 7-12 inches.
 - Existing seedbed: no-till or rangeland interseeder grass drill will be used that is capable of drilling seed into established vegetation.
 - Must be inspected by NRCS prior to first use approved.
6. Protect the seeding from livestock grazing for two successive growing seasons or until NRCS determines the stand is established per PMTN 78.

Use the recommended seeding dates listed below (from PMTN 59) for interseeding mixtures of cool and warm season species, and plan the application using Grass Seeding Planned and Applied Worksheet, CO-ECS-05.

MLRA	Cool Season Plants		Warm Season Plants	
	Dormant-Spring	Summer	Dormant-Spring	Summer
D 34A&B, D 35, and D 36	Oct. 25 to Apr. 30	Jul. 15 to Sep. 15	Oct. 15 to Apr. 30	Jun. 15 to Jul. 15
E 47	Oct. 15 to Apr. 30		Oct. 1 to Apr. 30	Jun. 15 to Jul. 15
E 48A&B	Oct. 15 to Apr. 30	Jun. 15 to Jul. 15	Oct. 1 to Apr. 30	Jun. 15 to Jul. 15
E 49	Oct. 15 to May 15	Aug. 1 to Aug. 31 (irrigated sites)	Oct. 15 to May 31	
E 51	Oct. 25 to Apr. 15	Jul. 15 to Aug. 31	Oct. 15 to Apr. 15	Jun. 15 to Jul. 15
G 67B south, H 70A, and H 77A	Nov. 1 to Apr. 30	Aug. 15 to Sep. 15 (irrigated sites)	Nov. 1 to May 15	
G 67A, G 67B north, and H 72	Nov. 1 to Apr. 30	Aug. 15 to Sep. 15 (irrigated sites)	Nov. 1 to May 15	
G-69	Nov. 1 to Apr. 30	Aug. 15 to Sep. 15 (irrigated sites)	Nov. 1 to May 31	

*For dormant season planting soil temperatures below 45 degrees Fahrenheit for a minimum of five consecutive days. Winter scarification requires a minimum of 45 days with soil temperatures of 45 degrees Fahrenheit or less.

B. TILLAGE

Must follow [548 – Grazingland Mechanical Treatment Standard](#). Ground disturbance may be achieved by shallow disking, chiseling with straight points, or spring tooth or spike tooth harrowing, to increase the amount of open ground and encourage a diverse plant community of annual and perennial plants. Ground disturbance by tillage may be used alone or in conjunction with other early successional plant establishment techniques. Tillage depths should not exceed 2-4 inches and be performed perpendicular to the prevailing winds in strips. Site conditions and equipment utilized may have varying results in trying to achieve desired habitat conditions.

Methods and Timing

All CRP fields are eligible for this activity, but depending on the activity, there may be additional factors to consider before applying this contract management activity, i.e., cover remaining and potential for soil erosion. Operations will be completed in a manner to control erosion at or below 'T'.

- November 1st to March 14th unless soil erosion by wind or water is a concern, then
- January 1st to March 14th
- July 16th to September 30th

Ground disturbing activities from July 16 to November 1 must be approved with concurrence of a wildlife biologist and the District Conservationist. **No more than 50% of a field may be done during a fiscal year.** The remainder of the field will be done in a subsequent year or by using another type of activity.

The tilled area should provide no less than 50% ground cover of residue to prevent soil erosion. Refer to [CO Agronomy Technical Note 81](#), Residue Cover as Affected by Tillage, to estimate residue burial from field operations. Refer to [CO Agronomy Technical Note 82](#), Estimating Residue with Line Transect Method, to estimate surface residue cover after treatment. Treated fields will not remain exposed during the dormant season with less than 50% cover for more than three continuous months. The dormant season is the timeframe generally from November 1 to March 14.

Additional Considerations

Perform ground disturbance across the slope or on the contour with slopes greater than 9 percent. Rotate the tillage passes in equal width strips across the field. An area the width of the disked strip should be left between the strips. Tillage may be performed as a component of seedbed preparation for interseeding or as a stand-alone practice.

Activity	Requirement	Scheduling/ Interval
Shallow disking Straight-point chisel, Spring tooth or spike tooth harrow	Depth should not exceed 2-4 inches 50% soil surface cover must be maintained. Ground disturbance should not be conducted in areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not capable of maintaining 50% ground cover - With a high risk of noxious weed colonization. - With high risk to wind/water erosion. 	July 16 th to September 15 th October 1 st to March 14 th

C. PRESCRIBED BURNING

Must follow [338- Prescribed Burning Standard](#). Prescribed burning is used to remove excess litter, which may reduce the quality of wildlife habitat. In areas of decadent vegetation, prescribed burns facilitate germination of seed bearing annuals, increase plant species diversity, control unwanted woody cover, and open up the stand for movement of small animals and birds. Prescribed burning may be used alone or in conjunction with other early successional plant establishment techniques.



Methods and Timing

For optimum wildlife habitat, no more than one-third of a field should be burned at one time each year for fields >160 acres or up to 60% of a field each year for fields <160 acres in size. Prescribed burns may be conducted from October 1 to March 14 within the specified contract management timeframe. Please note prescribed burning may not fit well in these parameters. If soil erosion is a concern, prescribed burns should not be used.

Prescribed burn plans for early successional habitat development must be reviewed by Colorado NRCS State Rangeland Management Specialist before implementation.

Additional Considerations

A prescribed burn plan may be provided by an approved TSP (NRCS Technical Service Provider) or state or federal agencies with prescribed burn expertise (Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Colorado State Forest Service, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management).

Prescribed burn areas must be protected from livestock for one growing season or until plant density is determined sufficient by a range conservationist, biologist or the District Conservationist.

Follow the [NRCS Colorado Prescribed Burning \(338\)](#) and [Firebreak \(394\)](#) standards, specifications, job sheets/implementation requirements and job approval authority. Prescribed burning must be according to an approved prescribed burn plan written in accordance with state and county laws.

Activity	Requirement	Scheduling/ Interval
Prescribed Burn	Approved burn plan provided by TSP or state or federal entity reviewed by NRCS state rangeland management specialist If the site is vulnerable to wind and water erosion	November 1 st to March 14 th January 1 st to March 14 th

D. ROUTINE GRAZING

Must follow the [528 – Prescribed Grazing Standard](#). When implementing routine grazing with early successional habitat development as the focus, vegetative diversity and wildlife habitat will increase. Routine grazing may be used alone or in conjunction with other early successional plant establishment techniques.



Routine grazing may be used to remove excess plant litter and manipulate plant community composition in order to increase the quality of wildlife habitat, promote the germination of seed bearing annuals, and plant diversity, height and density.

For CRP lands, Per FSA handbook 2-CRP (Rev 5) Par. 680, CO CRP Notice 050, the two 60 calendar-day grazing periods are October 1 – November 30, and July 16 – September 14. Grazing may occur on 100% of the acres at a 75% stocking rate or on 75% of the acres at a 100% stocking rate.

Requirements

The routine grazing plan must meet 528 – Prescribed Grazing standard, maintain vegetative cover to minimize soil erosion, protect water quality, and enhance wildlife habitat.

Develop a routine grazing plan that will promote early successional plant establishment and address the WHEG limiting factor.

1. Provide the number of animals and time allowed for grazing. Identify indicators to meet CRP objectives. Clipping is the best method to determine amount of standing forage biomass.
2. Ensure the existing vegetative cover is manipulated to enhance the limiting wildlife habitat component identified in the WHEG. This must be stated on the grazing implementation worksheet.
3. Table 1 provides a conservative AUMs/acre estimate if field clippings are not done.

SOIL TYPE/GRASS MIX	PRODUCTION	AUM's/Acre Available
Sandy / native grass	Low	0.20
	Normal	0.35
	High	0.59
Loamy / native grass	Low	0.15
	Normal	0.25
	High	0.42
Clayey / native grass	Low	0.14
	Normal	0.18
	High	0.30

4. Animal Unit Equivalent (AUE): 1000 lbs = 1.00 AU
5. Calculate Stocking Rate: $\text{Acres} \times \text{AUM's/ac available} = \text{Total Months Available}$
 $\text{Total Months Available} \div \text{AUE} \times \text{Planned \# months Grazed}$.

Example: 500 acres of sandy, native grass mix with low production. Client will graze from July 16 to Sept 14 (2 months). Client has yearlings weighing 800 lbs. (AUE = 0.8)

Field	Soil type/grass (Table 1)	Acres (A)	AUM's/Ac Available (Table 1) (B)	Total Months Available (AxB=C)	AUE (D)	Planned # months grazed (E)	# of Head allowed (C/(DxE))
1	Sandy/native	500	0.20	100	0.8	2	62.5

Additional Resources: [Colorado Grazing Land Planning](#) (FOTG Section III, Resource Planning Criteria).

E. MANAGED HARVESTING (Routine Haying)

Must follow [511 – Forage Harvest Management](#). When implementing haying with early successional habitat development as the focus, vegetative diversity and wildlife habitat may increase, especially if other activities also done. Managed haying may be used alone or in conjunction with other early successional plant establishment techniques.



Haying provides removal of dead litter and provides sun and space for re-invigorating existing species. Through dead litter removal you may be able to manipulate plant community composition by applying an additional activity to increase the quality of wildlife habitat, promote the germination of seed bearing annuals, plant diversity, height and density.

Implement haying to help remove excess litter, which may be a limiting wildlife habitat component while maintaining adequate vegetative cover to minimize soil erosion and protect water quality.

1. Existing vegetation minimum height prior to haying is 8”.
2. After haying, minimum vegetation height is 6”.
3. No haying will be performed within 120 ft. a stream or permanent water body.
4. Only 50% of the contract acres may be hayed in a fiscal year during the allowable haying period, July 16 – September 30. This can then be used to manipulate species germination and establishment of reseeding or seeded annuals.

F. RESIDUE MANAGEMENT (Shredding, Flail Chopping, and Harrowing)

Must follow [548 – Grazingland Mechanical Treatment Standard](#). When implementing residue management with early successional habitat development as the focus, vegetative diversity and wildlife habitat will increase. Residue management may be used alone or in conjunction with other early successional plant establishment techniques.

Primary purpose is to place residue in contact with the soil surface to facilitate organic breakdown, slice the root mass to reinvigorate growth, and enhance wildlife habitat.

This activity will be limited to areas where shrubs and trees are not present. Consider this activity when the existing vegetative cover consists of tall grass species with an increased bare ground component.

1. Shredder/Flail Chopper/Mowing – clips, shreds and scatters the vegetation. The cut residue must be uniformly scattered to avoid excess litter piling on established plants. A stubble height of 6” should remain (**not an applicable option unless average beginning height exceeds 8”**). According to CRP Notice 805, this option is only available if there is no other option and must be done in strips across the contract acres. This option requires approval by the District Director as the FSA State Office representative.



Shredding: Flail Chopper

2. Harrowing – Used to disturb, chop and/or incorporate residue into the soil. This activity also has application limitations as described in the photo captions below.



Disc Harrow – 2-4 inches deep



Spike-tooth Harrow – grasses <8” tall

G. FERTILIZER (Organic or Inorganic)

Must follow [590 – Nutrient Management Standard](#). When utilizing fertilizer to enhance a grass stand you must get a soil test with yield results based on the annual production stated in the Range/Ecological site description for the existing moisture condition. A nutrient management plan must be developed for the type and rate of fertilizer application. Nutrient management may be used alone or in conjunction with other early successional plant establishment techniques.

Over application of inorganic fertilizer may damage or kill native grass and forb species, which would require re-establishment of the lost stand. To protect against this accidental loss, stands will be at least 75% introduced species and show signs of nutrient stress.

Organic fertilizer application can be just as damaging depending on condition. Raw manure should only be used for treating blowout areas to assist in re-establishment of grasses. Compost application is the recommended method of fertilization and may be done without as much concern but application is limited to the rate identified in the soil test results and nutrient management plan

TREE ACTIVITIES

Contract management activities are still required for tree and shrub plantings. Management activities are limited because you cannot destroy the tree and/or shrub planting activity. So, to meet the contract management requirement the following activities have been identified to meet the program requirements:

1. Replacing dead trees **must follow [612 – Tree & Shrub Establishment Standard](#)**.
2. Thinning and/or Girdling trees where the density is greater than desired, **must follow [660 – Tree/Shrub Pruning Standard](#)**.
3. Mowing around trees to control growth of competing material. If weed barrier material used, please do not mow over the barrier material, **must follow [548 – Grazingland Mechanical Treatment Standard](#)**.

CRP CONTRACT MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY

Please check the selected contract management activity and complete the needed information along with the practice job sheet/implementation requirement for the applicable practice standard.

Tillage

	Planned Operation	Application Dates	Producer Instructions
	Light Disking		
	Straight-point Chisel		
	Spring-tooth, straight point		

Residue Management

	Planned Operation	Application Dates	Producer Instruction
	Mower		
	Flail Chopper		
	Disk Harrow		
	Spike-tooth Harrow		

Interseeding

Existing Species	% of Stand	Species to Seed	% Recommended

Routine Grazing

Total Available Forage:		Useable Forage:	
Desired Grazing Period:		Allowable Animals:	
Desired Animal Units:		Allowable Days:	
Key Grass Species:		Starting Height:	

Managed Harvesting (Routine Haying)

Total Contract Acres:		Minimum Cutting Height:	
First Haying Date:		First Haying Acres:	
Second Haying Date:		Second Haying Acres:	

Prescribed Burn

Planned Developed By:		Acres Planned:	
NRCS Reviewer:		Acres Burned:	

Fertilization

Soil Test Recommendations	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Potassium
Planned Application			
Organic - Manure Compost			
Inorganic			

Tree Activities

	Mowing to control competition
	Thinning to maintain or improve health
	Replace dead or dying trees or shrubs
	Girdling to slowly thin stands

Activity Additional Information/Guidance

Plan Approval:

Producer's Signature: _____

Date: _____

NRCS Signature: _____

Date: _____

Approval to Conduct

FSA Signature: _____

Date: _____