United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Animal Enhancement Activity – ANM32 – Extend existing filter strips or riparian herbaceous cover for water quality protection and wildlife habitat

State Criteria (same as NATIONAL CRITERIA)
Additional Criteria for Nebraska

Existing filter strip/riparian herbaceous cover to be extended must be 20 feet wide measured outward and perpendicular to the stream from a point at the top of the bank adjacent to the stream. It is not necessary that the entire stream segment under the control of the cooperator be buffered by an existing 20 feet wide buffer. However, only that segment with the existing 20 feet buffer in place is eligible for this enhancement. The existing filter strip/riparian herbaceous cover must be extended so that the total buffer is 60 feet or more wide.

Mixture planted to extend the filter strip or riparian herbaceous cover must contain the following:
A minimum of 5 species of grasses and forbs or legumes used in combination to meet the NRCS Conservation Practice Standard, Filter Strip (393) or (390) Riparian Herbaceous Cover. This requires a minimum seeding rate of 40 PLS/ft^2 for grasses and 60% of the grass mixture shall consist of sod-forming, stiff-stemmed species. Acceptable grass species are located on the "wildlife friendly" plant list.

All seedings must contain forbs and/or legumes at a seeding rate of 10% to 25% of the grass mixture (4 PLS/ft^2 to 10 PLS/ft^2). Acceptable species are located on the "wildlife friendly" plant list.

Document recommended site preparation, planting method, seed mixture, seeding rates and other pertinent information on the Grass Seeding Job Sheet (NE-CPA-8).

The following activities are allowed for operation/maintenance and management:
Haying (including harvest for biomass) is permitted up to once per three year period (following establishment) provided it is conducted after July 15 and prior to September 1.

Grazing is permitted once per three year period (following establishment) provided it is conducted after July 15 and does not exceed a 30 day period during the growing season OR a 60 day period during the dormant season.

Specific management practices approved by NRCS and intended to improve plant diversity and vigor are allowed but are not required during the CSP contract period. These activities include prescribed burning, tillage and interseeding (on areas outside of the 20 feet zone closest to the stream), and/or site-specific herbicide treatments to accommodate interseeding desired grasses, forbs, or legumes.

Documentation Requirements (SEE NATIONAL ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY JOBSHEET)

Complete the Table below to document approved operation/maintenance and management activities:

To be completed by NRCS and Producer during planning					To be completed by Producer during certification (if different than planned)	
1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**
Tract	Field	Acres	Approved Activity	Allowed Dates	Implemented Activity	Applied Dates
Ex. 1	*2b*	*3.0*	*Haying*	*July 15-Sept 1 2013*	*Grazing*	*November 2013*

EX= EXAMPLE, COLUMNS 1-5 NRCS COMPLETES, COLUMNS 6-7 PRODUCER COMPLETES

I certify that the enhancement criteria have been met and the required documentation provided to NRCS.

Certified by: _____ Date:_____

URL for "wildlife friendly" plant list:
http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/references/public/NE/Wildlife_Friendly_Plant_List_2012.pdf