

**CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP)  
MANAGED HARVESTING (HAYING) AND ROUTINE (MANAGED) GRAZING  
– SPRING OR SUMMER OPTIONS**

**Nebraska Conservation Planning Sheet 12K-CRP (July 2016)**

Landuser: \_\_\_\_\_ OPID: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CRP Contract No./Revision No. : \_\_\_\_\_ Tract No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Field No(s): \_\_\_\_\_

<b>OPTION SELECTED:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>MANAGED HARVESTING (HAYING) [JULY 16 – SEPTEMBER 1]</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>ROUTINE (MANAGED) GRAZING (select):</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>SPRING [APRIL]</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>SUMMER [JULY 16 – SEPTEMBER 15]</b>

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Farm Service Agency (FSA) will be contacted to designate area(s) prior to any managed harvesting (haying) or routine (managed) grazing of CRP land. FSA will also be contacted to certify completion.
- Managed Harvesting (Haying)/Routine (Managed) Grazing is only approved for: *CP-1, CP-2, CP-4B/D, CP-10, CP-18B/C, and CP-38E.*
- Managed Harvesting (Haying) is limited to once out of every three years or Routine (Managed) Grazing is limited to once out of every two years (inclusive of emergency harvesting (haying) and/or grazing operations) on any eligible CP practice, once cover is fully established.
- Only 50% of the contract acres can be harvested (hayed) in a single year on contracts larger than 20 acres. Contracts which are 20 acres and smaller can be harvested (hayed) all in one year.
- Exceptions to allow 100% of the contract acres to be harvested (hayed) may be granted through the local FSA County Committee when being used to also prepare a site for another treatment (i.e. herbicide application) in order to facilitate an upgrade or mid-contract management to improve the stand composition.
- A minimum of three years must elapse between harvesting (haying) events and two years between grazing events on any given acre.
- Areas within 120 feet of a stream or other permanent waterbody are ineligible for managed harvesting (haying)/routine (managed) grazing.
- CRP cover that will be sprayed with a non-selective herbicide in the fall for enhancing grass/forb cover must have haying completed or livestock removed in time to allow for adequate re-growth in order to get an adequate kill.
- Additional requirements/restrictions may apply if in an area that has an endangered species present.
- Managed Harvesting (Haying) or Routine (Managed) Grazing may be useful to remove excessive residue prior to conducting other management practices (i.e. tillage/interseeding, prescribed burning/interseeding, or non-selective herbicide treatment/interseeding).
- It may be possible to use Routine (Managed) Grazing (high intensity – short duration or incidental) as a management practice.\*
- It may be possible to use Managed Harvesting (Haying) as a management practice. This option is only allowed when all diversity requirements as outlined in the 2-CRP (Rev. 5) are met for the existing stand.\*
- \* When using managed harvesting (haying) or routine (managed) grazing as a management practice refer to Nebraska Conservation Planning Sheet 20A – CRP Management Practice Requirements for acre restrictions and guidance.

**MANAGED HARVESTING (HAYING)**

- Harvesting will only be allowed after recently seeded grass/forb/legume seedings are established.
- Harvesting (haying) prior to August 15<sup>th</sup> is *preferred* for warm-season stands.
- Only one cutting is permitted with a minimum stubble height of 5”. (A minimum stubble height of 4” is allowed if 50% or less of the field (or contiguous fields) are hayed during the year to encourage “rotational” haying).
- Hay bales/stacks must be removed from the CRP field by October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- When using managed harvesting (haying) as a management practice refer to Nebraska Conservation Planning Sheet 20A – CRP Management Practice Requirements for acre restrictions and guidance.

**ROUTINE (MANAGED) GRAZING**

- Grazing will only be allowed after recently seeded grass/forb/legume seedings are established.
- Spring grazing during April 1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> is allowed provided that **no more than 50% of the contract is grazed** in a given year.
- Grazing cannot occur during both the spring and the summer **on the same acres in the same year**.
- It is possible to graze 50% of the acres in April and the remaining 50% during the summer.
- Livestock will be removed when the minimum grazing height listed below is reached.\*  
(If adequate regrowth occurs prior to September 1<sup>st</sup>, grazing may be reinitiated provided that at least 20 consecutive days of rest has occurred since the previous grazing period AND regrowth height requirements listed below have been met).
- If less than 50% of the CRP field (or contiguous fields) is grazed during the year, the minimum grazing height can be reduced by 1” for all species listed. (This is to encourage “rotational” routine (managed) grazing in each field).
- \*When using routine (managed) grazing (high intensity – short duration or incidental) as a management practice minimum grazing heights would not apply. Refer to Nebraska Conservation Planning Sheet 20A – CRP Management Practice Requirements for guidance.
- **Identify on a plan map the acres to be grazed and appropriate details (i.e. livestock class, stocking rate, duration)**

Livestock class: \_\_\_\_\_

Stocking Rate: \_\_\_\_\_

Duration: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**MINIMUM GRASS HEIGHTS FOR GRAZING  
(APPLICABLE SPECIES SHALL BE HIGHLIGHTED)**

Key Forage Species (Cool-season grasses)	*Minimum Grazing Height	**Regrowth Height Required	Key Forage Species (Warm-season grasses)	*Minimum Grazing Height	**Regrowth Height Required
Cool-Season Mix	6”	8	Tall Warm-Season Mix	8”	10”
Intermediate/Pubescent wheatgrass	6”	8	Medium Warm-Season Mix	5”	7”
Crested wheatgrass	5”	7	Switchgrass	8”	10”
Smooth brome	6”	8	Big/sand bluestem	8”	10”
Reed canarygrass	6”	8	Little bluestem	5”	7”
Orchardgrass	6”	8	Sideoats grama	5”	7”
Western wheatgrass	5”	7	Buffalograss/Blue grama	3”	4”
Other:			Other:		

\* Minimum Grazing Height is the average height of grass species when leaves are lifted to vertical position.

\*\* Regrowth Height Required is the average height of grass required prior to September 1<sup>st</sup> if grazing is reinitiated.

**I (We) concur with the haying/grazing provisions outlined in Nebraska Conservation Planning Sheet 12K-CRP.**

COOPERATOR (Producer):		Date:	
COOPERATOR (Producer):		Date:	
NRCS Representative:		Date:	
FSA County Committee:		Date:	
NRD Representative:		Date:	