

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP) MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS ON BUFFER PRACTICES

Nebraska Conservation Planning Sheet 20B-CRP (June 2008)

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

MANAGEMENT IS REQUIRED TO PREVENT THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS IN ESTABLISHED COVER

1. *Sodbound or shaded grasses (excessive mulch/low plant vigor).*
2. *Lack of plant diversity and proper vegetative cover (vegetative cover agreed to in CRP contract is not present).*
3. *Cover is not providing desired wildlife habitat.*

MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS DURING THE LIFE OF CONTRACT

General Requirements and Restrictions

Following stand establishment, management practices that are not listed for specific fields below shall not be used without NRCS approval. Specifications for interseeding shall be obtained prior to seeding. Management practices are restricted to the time periods listed for individual practices and shall not be conducted between May 1 and July 15 to protect nesting birds and young wildlife, except when necessary to control noxious weeds (refer to Nebraska Conservation Planning Sheet 19).

- All cover management activities (options listed below) can be cost-shared.
- A mid-contract management activity must be conducted a minimum of one time during a ten year contract unless otherwise noted.
- Contracts longer than ten years in Vegetative Zones III & IV (approx. east of Hwy 83), require a minimum of two management activities during the contract (a minimum of one management activity in Vegetative Zones I & II – approx. west of Hwy 83).
- Management activities may be conducted and cost-shared more frequently than the required minimum intervals listed, provided that the activity is technically justified and not prohibited by 2-CRP (rev. 4) paragraph 484.
- Incidental grazing is allowed on CP-8A (Grass Waterway), CP-15A/B (Contour Grass Strips), CP-21 (Filter Strip), and CP-33 (Habitat Buffers for Upland Birds) but will not be considered a substitute for management on those acres.
- Consultation with a wildlife biologist is required for management activities implemented on wetland acres associated with CP-9, CP-23/A, CP-27, & CP-30. Consultation is not required for management activities implemented on the buffer acres for wetlands.
- Refer to Nebraska Conservation Planning Sheet 20D for tree planting practices (CP-5A, CP-16A, CP-17A, CP-22, CP-31).
- Refer to Nebraska Conservation Planning Sheet 20A for (SAFE) CP-38E management requirements.

COVER MANAGEMENT OPTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

Tillage and Interseeding Option

CRP Practice CP21, CP28, CP29, CP33 PLUS CP9, CP23/A, CP30 (Buffer Acres Only) – FOTG Practice 647

- Vegetative Zones I & II (approx. west of Hwy 83) every 5-7 years following stand establishment.
- Vegetative Zones III & IV (approx. east of Hwy 83) every 3-5 years following stand establishment.
- Tillage may be needed more frequently on sites with aggressive sod forming grasses such as smooth brome or switchgrass.
- Prescribed Burning or other authorized removal of excessive residue may be needed prior to interseeding.
- Interseeding may be conducted without tillage on sandy sites (soils with an I factor of 134 or greater) provided an interseeder is used or similar device that creates some level of minimal disturbance to allow for germination and establishment.
- Interseeding must be conducted under this option (specifications for interseeding must be obtained prior to seeding).
- Broadcast seeding is only allowed if tillage is completed prior to seeding and seeding rates are doubled.
- Tillage will not be conducted within 50 feet of field boundaries along state and county improved roads and highways or within 50 feet of property ownership boundaries without the approval of the adjacent landowner except as provided for CP-33.
- Note: Tillage may occur within the outside edge (50 feet) of CP-33 field borders provided that tall weedy growth is shredded/clipped after July 15th of the first growing season to a height not less than 18 inches and not greater than 36 inches.
- Tillage cannot be conducted between May 1st and July 15th to protect nesting birds and young wildlife.
- Tillage will not be conducted within 30 feet of streams or wetlands, on extremely sandy sites, slopes greater than 20%, waterways with concentrated flow, and areas with a high risk of noxious weed colonization. A minimum level of residue of 30% will be maintained on slopes greater than 9% and within 100 feet of streams or other permanent waterbody.
- The Conservation Plan of Operations must include Early Successional Habitat Management (647) or be revised to include it.
- Approved legumes/forbs will be interseeded in conjunction with tillage as follows:

Approved Legumes/Forbs (circle): *Alfalfa* *Red clover* *Sweet clover* Other(s): _____

Time Frame for Tillage & Interseeding: _____

Fields/Acres: _____

***Attach a map with acres to receive management noted and additional details for implementing the tillage/seeding operation.**

Interseeding Without Tillage Option

CRP Practice CP15A/B, CP24 PLUS CP9, CP21, CP23/A, CP28, CP29, CP30 (30' Zone near Stream/Wetland) – FOTG Practice 647

- Vegetative Zones I & II (approx. west of Hwy 83) every 5-7 years following stand establishment.
- Vegetative Zones III & IV (approx. east of Hwy 83) every 3-5 years following stand establishment.
- Prescribed Burning or other authorized removal of residue may be needed prior to interseeding with an interseeder or similar device used to create some limited soil disturbance or a “burn-down” herbicide may be needed to reduce competition and allow establishment.

Approved Legumes/Forbs (circle): Alfalfa Red clover Sweet clover Other(s): _____

Time Frame for Interseeding: _____

Fields/Acres: _____

* **Attach a map of area to be interseeded.**

Prescribed Burning Option

CRP Practice CP21, CP27, CP28, CP29, CP33 PLUS CP9, CP23/A, CP30 (Wetland and Buffer Acres) – FOTG Practice 338

- Vegetative Zones I & II (approx. west of Hwy 83) every 5-7 years following stand establishment.
- Vegetative Zones III & IV (approx. east of Hwy 83) every 3-5 years following stand establishment.
- This management option may not be appropriate on sandy sites or where safety risks exist.
- Broadcast seeding following a burn is only allowed if tillage is completed prior to seeding and seeding rates are doubled.
- A prescribed burn plan must be developed prior to the burn and must comply with state and local laws and regulations (including a burn permit from the local fire district), and the Field Office Technical Guide standard for Prescribed Burning (338).
- Interseeding of legumes may be appropriate for this option (specifications for interseeding must be obtained prior to seeding).
- The Conservation Plan of Operations must include Prescribed Burning (338) or be revised to include it.
- Landusers are liable for any damage and are responsible for confining prescribed burns to their own land.

Approved Legumes/Forbs (circle): Alfalfa Red clover Sweet clover Other(s): _____

Time Frame for Burning and Interseeding: _____

Fields/Acres: _____

* **Attach a map of area to be burned and associated prescribed burning plan, copy of permit, and other appropriate materials.**

Chemical Herbaceous Vegetation Control

CRP Practice CP28, CP33 PLUS CP9, CP23/A, CP30 (Buffer Acres Only) – FOTG Practice 647

- Vegetative Zones I & II (approx. west of Hwy 83) every 5-7 years following stand establishment.
- Vegetative Zones III & IV (approx. east of Hwy 83) every 3-5 years following stand establishment.
- Chemical Herbaceous Vegetation Control includes using burn-down chemicals to eradicate undesired cover (e.g. smooth brome) or suppress existing cover (chemical mowing) to allow for increased plant diversity. (The chemical must be labeled for that use.)
- Chemical burn-down may be substituted for tillage under certain circumstances (specifications must be obtained).
- Interseeding of legumes may be appropriate for this option (specifications for interseeding must be obtained prior to seeding).
- Prescribed Burning or other authorized removal of excessive residue may be needed prior to interseeding.
- This option is not to be used as a substitute for noxious weed control or weed control during establishment.

Approved Legumes/Forbs (circle): Alfalfa Red clover Sweet clover Other(s): _____

Time Frame for Application and Interseeding: _____

Fields/Acres: _____

* **Attach a map of area to be treated with chemical and associated details (type of chemical, application rate, site preparation).**

Tillage Only or Chemical Herbaceous Vegetation Control Only (No Interseeding)

CRP Practice CP9, CP23/A, CP27 & CP30 (Wetland Acres Only) – FOTG Practice 647

Management must encourage beneficial wetland plants (e.g. smartweed, etc.) or reduce aggressive wetland vegetation (e.g. cattail, etc.).

- Vegetative Zones I & II (approx. west of Hwy 83) every 5-7 years following stand establishment.
- Vegetative Zones III & IV (approx. east of Hwy 83) every 3-5 years following stand establishment.
- Plant succession in wetlands may be accelerated and require more frequent management than listed.
- Tillage will not be conducted within 50 feet of field boundaries along state and county improved roads and highways or within 50 feet of property ownership boundaries without the approval of the adjacent landowner.
- Tillage and/or chemical treatments may not be appropriate for wetlands with perennial vegetation such as wet meadows.

Time Frame for Treatment: _____

Fields/Acres: _____

* **Attach a map of area to be treated and associated details (type of equipment or chemical, application rate, site preparation).**

I (We) concur in the management provisions outlined in Nebraska Conservation Planning Sheet 20B-CRP.

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