
Farm Bill Participant

Contract Number

Purpose: To provide a stable, non-eroding surface for areas frequently used by animals, people, or vehicles and to protect and improve water quality.

I. NRCS will:

- Assist producers with a design for the protection of an area of heavy use consistent with NRCS Conservation Practice Standards and Specification: Heavy Use Protection Code 561.
- Prepare a design that meets the Conservation Measures outlined in the Lesser Prairie-Chicken (LPC) Initiative Biological Opinion providing ESA predictability.
 - Timing of treatment^a (check one);
 - no restriction
 - prohibited March 1st – July 15th
 - Evaluate the site's potential for soil erosion and invasion of undesirable species
 - Design practice to minimize or avoid loss of shrubs during installation
 - Use site specific reclamation strategies developed using ecological site descriptions with timing of planting and post-establishment management as per local site conditions
- Provide a copy of the design for Heavy Use Protection on the appropriate Job Sheet, Specification or Conservation Plan with plan map for guidance on construction.
- Identify and plan other supporting conservation practices (Critical Area Planting, etc.) as needed and in accordance with Biological Opinion.
- Certify practice meets standards and implementation specifications.^b

II. Participant will:

- Construct an area of Heavy Use Protection within the time constraints identified above and specified in the Conservation Plan provided by NRCS.
- Limit duration of construction period to the minimum time practicable.
- Ensure that machinery associated with the practice is clean and free of vegetative debris prior to use to prevent the spread of invasive plant species.
- Minimize soil and vegetative disturbances during construction.
- Construct area of Heavy Use Protection in accordance with Job Sheet design and specifications provided by NRCS.
- Notify NRCS upon completion of the practice.
- Regularly monitor and control State-listed noxious and invasive plants.
- Regularly monitor site after implementation to ensure erosion and invasive weed issues are addressed quickly.
- Provide required maintenance to ensure the function of the practice as designed.

Continued on Back

- Limit access to site for operation and maintenance to one vehicle width and to one side of facility

a should a lek be discovered within ½ mile of project area, construction shall not occur from March 1st – July 15th.

b any payment will only be processed upon practice certification by NRCS personnel.

I understand the requirements of the practice, and my questions concerning the practice have been answered. I further understand that a failure to adhere to the above requirements may jeopardize any and all payments and ESA predictabilities provided by the LPCI Biological Opinion.

Participant Signature

Date