

**US Fish and Wildlife Conference Report for NRCS and Lesser Prairie-Chicken: Conservation Measures**

2/3/2012

<b>Core Practices</b>		Technical Guidance
<b>645</b>	<b>Upland Wildlife Habitat Management</b>	
1	The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the State Technical Committees (STCs) to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the Lesser Prairie-Chicken (LPC) and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	The best scientific data available will guide the development of this practice; to ensure effectiveness, adaptability, and increase knowledge.	
3	Utilize acceptable habitat evaluation tools and monitoring protocol such as the WHEG to evaluate habitat condition, on a regular basis, to ensure the conservation plan is adapted to meet the habitat and wildlife needs.	See Practice Code TX 645 Supplement-Lesser Prairie Chicken
4	Ensure all facilitating practices include critical non-disturbance dates to minimize their effects on leks and nesting periods, as appropriate to the practice.	
5	This practice may be used to modify existing infrastructure to reduce or eliminate potential adverse effects resulting from those structures; including installation of wildlife escape ramps in open water sources or in open trenches/pits, and marking fence lines to prevent bird collision in critical areas.	See Practice Codes TX 614 and TX 382
6	NRCS shall ensure that plans and specifications for this practice are prepared by persons with adequate training in the fields of wildlife management, biology, or range ecology.	GM_TX_180_409
7	For the purpose of the Lesser Prairie-Chicken Initiative (LPCI), NRCS will encourage the establishment of "permanent" photo points to serve as visual documentation of changing habitat conditions over a period of time for the life of the management system.	
8	NRCS will work with conservation partners to implement strategies to determine habitat use by wildlife species and/or to determine estimates/indices of abundance where possible.	
<b>528</b>	<b>Prescribed Grazing</b>	
1	Implementation of grazing management plans, to the extent practicable, will meet habitat conditions for each habitat type as recommended by the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency.	See Practice Code TX 645 Supplement-Lesser Prairie Chicken
2	Frequency—Grazing recurrence will occur at a rate necessary to create or maintain desired habitat structure. Grazing systems which prescribe high intensity or rapid forage removal will allow for adequate recovery time (non-grazed periods) to meet LPC habitat needs as recommended by the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency.	See Practice Code TX 645 Supplement-Lesser Prairie Chicken
3	Duration—Grazing periods (days, weeks, or months) for scheduled grazing events will be designed to address limiting habitat factors as identified by the habitat assessments for the LPC. Scheduled grazing periods will also be used to manipulate or create desired or targeted habitat conditions as recommended by the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency.	See Practice Code TX 645 Supplement-Lesser Prairie Chicken
4	Timing—Grazing events will be scheduled when [possible to avoid potential disturbance to known breeding or lek sites.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
5	Intensity—The amount of forage removed (or left) during any particular grazing cycle will be in keeping with the specific life cycle requirements (i.e., nesting, leking, brood rearing)	See Practice Code TX 645 Supplement-Lesser Prairie Chicken

<b>Facilitating Management Practices</b>		
<b>643</b>	<b>Restoration and Management of Rare and Declining Habitats</b>	
1	The conservation measures under Conservation Practice 645, Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, shall be used. In addition, any vegetative or structural facilitating practices used to implement this management practice will follow the conservation measures of the practice used.	See Practice Code TX 645 Supplement-Lesser Prairie Chicken
2	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
3	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
<b>472</b>	<b>Access Control</b>	
1	This practice standard will be designed to support other practices which will create the desired habitat conditions for the LPC as recommended by affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency.	
2	Routine follow-up will occur to monitor the effectiveness of the practice, at least annually.	
3	If fence construction is needed to facilitate this practice, use Conservation Practice Standard 382, Fence, for specific conservation measures.	
<b>511</b>	<b>Forage Harvest Management</b>	
1	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
2	Operate machinery in a manner that allows wildlife to flush and escape by methods such as starting operations in the middle of field and working outward, and/or by modifying equipment with flush bar attachments.	
3	Leave corners, field borders, and off areas un-harvested for supplemental cover and brood rearing habitat.	
<b>338</b>	<b>Prescribed Burning</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	This practice standard will be designed to support other practices which will create the desired habitat conditions for the LPC as recommended by affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency.	
3	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to known leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
<b>Vegetative Practices</b>		
<b>314</b>	<b>Brush Management</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	This practice standard will be designed to support other practices which will create the desired habitat conditions for the LPC as recommended by affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency.	
3	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
4	Minimize soil and vegetative disturbances during installation of conservation practices. Avoid disturbing the soil on sensitive area with a high potential for soil erosion.	
5	On disturbed areas, use site specific reclamation strategies developed using ecological site descriptions with consideration of LPC habitat needs.	

6	Use the conservation measures provided for the facilitative Conservation Practice 342, Critical Area Planting, in areas where reseeding disturbed areas is needed.	
7	Regularly monitor the site after implementation to ensure erosion and weed issues area addressed quickly.	
8	Evaluate the site's potential for soil erosion and invasion by undesirable plants during practice planning and design.	
9	The practice will be designed to minimize or avoid unintentional damage to not-target plants.	
10	The implementation plan shall clearly identify any special resources that need to be avoided; such as riparian areas, wetlands/playas, leks, or habitat of other at-risk species.	
11	Large brush (>5') will be felled unless other consideration necessitate leaving them standing.	
12	Woody slash shall be treated if significant buildup of fuels occur. Slash piles shall be burned when wildfire risk is low (usually when soils are frozen or saturated). Follow state forestry laws, when applicable, for treating slash to minimize wildfire risk.	
13	Treated sites may be deferred from livestock grazing for a period of time determined to be adequate based on pre and post site conditions (i.e. brush densities, potential for erosion, potential for plant community to improve health, vigor and cover). NRCS with input from the STC and the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency will identify appropriate deferment periods.	
14	This practice does not apply to removal of woody vegetation to facilitate a land use change.	

<b>394</b>	<b>Firebreak</b>	
1	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to known leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
2	Disked fire breaks will be allowed to re-establish or be seeded to beneficial grasses, forbs and legumes to provide bugging or brood rearing habitat.	
3	State-listed noxious and invasive plants will be identified and controlled following firebreak installation.	
4	Firebreaks will only be installed as part of a grazing management or wildlife habitat plan.	
5	Operate machinery in a manner that allows wildlife to flush and escape by methods such as starting operations in the middle of field and working outward, and/or by modifying equipment with flush bar attachments.	
<b>340</b>	<b>Cover Crop</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
3	Evaluate the site's potential for soil erosion. Minimize soil and vegetative disturbances during installation of conservation practices. During installation, utilize soil erosion protection measures if potential for offsite soil erosion exists.	
4	Monitor, evaluate, and control state-listed invasive and noxious plants during practice planning and design.	
5	Machinery associated with practice should be clean and free of vegetative debris prior to se to prevent the spread of invasive plant species.	
6	Where practicable use of more than one cover crop species will provide greater benefit to LPC.	
<b>342</b>	<b>Critical Area Planting</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
3	Evaluate the site's potential for soil erosion. Minimize soil and vegetative disturbances during installation of conservation practices. During installation, utilize soil erosion protection measures if potential for offsite soil erosion exists.	
4	Use site specific reclamation strategies developed using ecological site descriptions. Native species will be used whenever possible to meet practice objectives with preference to forbs, grasses and grass-like plants preferred by LPC as well as those plants that reflect the potential of the specific ecological site to optimize LPC habitat needs. Seed mixes should be state-certified, meeting the appropriate state certification criteria as being free of state declared noxious and invasive vegetative material.	
5	Monitor, evaluate, and control state-listed invasive and noxious plants during practice planning and design.	
6	Machinery associated with practice should be clean and free of vegetative debris prior to se to prevent the spread of invasive plant species.	
7	Timing of planting and post-establishment vegetation management will be designed as per local site conditions to meet NRCS practice specifications.	
8	Regularly monitor the site after implementation to ensure erosion and weed issues area addressed quickly.	

<b>512</b>	<b>Forage and Biomass Planting</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
3	Use site specific reclamation strategies developed using ecological site descriptions. Native species will be used whenever possible to meet practice objectives with preference to forbs, grasses and grass-like plants preferred by LPC as well as those plants that reflect the potential of the specific ecological site to optimize LPC habitat needs. Seed mixes should be state-certified, meeting the appropriate state certification criteria as being free of state declared noxious and invasive vegetative material.	
4	Timing of planting and post-establishment vegetation management will be designed as per local site conditions to meet NRCS practice specifications.	
5	Monitor, evaluate, and control state-listed invasive and noxious plants during practice planning and design.	
6	Machinery associated with practice should be clean and free of vegetative debris prior to use to prevent the spread of invasive plant species.	
7	Operate machinery in a manner that allows wildlife to flush and escape by methods such as starting operations in the middle of field and working outward, and/or by modifying equipment with flush bar attachments.	
8	Control livestock access as needed to allow for initial establishment of new vegetative plantings and control weeds through flash grazing.	
<b>550</b>	<b>Range Planting</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to known leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
3	Evaluate the site's potential for soil erosion. Minimize soil and vegetative disturbances during installation of conservation practices. During installation, utilize soil erosion protection measures if potential for offsite soil erosion exists.	
4	Use site specific reclamation strategies developed using ecological site descriptions. Native species will be used whenever possible to meet practice objectives with preference to forbs, grasses and grass-like plants preferred by LPC as well as those plants that reflect the potential of the specific ecological site to optimize LPC habitat needs. Seed mixes should be state-certified, meeting the appropriate state certification criteria as being free of state declared noxious and invasive vegetative material.	
5	Timing of planting and post-establishment vegetation management will be designed as per local site conditions to meet NRCS practice specifications and NRCS biologist or State Fish and Wildlife Agency recommendations.	
6	Monitor, evaluate, and control state-listed invasive and noxious plants during practice planning and design.	
7	Machinery associated with practice should be clean and free of vegetative debris prior to use to prevent the spread of invasive plant species.	
8	Control livestock access as needed to allow for initial establishment of new vegetative plantings and control weeds through flash grazing.	

<b>Conservation Practice Standards - Facilitating Structural Practices</b>		
<b>614</b>	<b>Watering Facility</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to known leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
3	Evaluate the site's potential for soil erosion. Minimize soil and vegetative disturbances during installation of conservation practices. During installation, utilize soil erosion protection measures if potential for offsite soil erosion exists.	
4	Design conservation practice to minimize or avoid loss of shrubs during practice installation.	
5	If access for operation and maintenance is required, limit access to one side of disturbance and limit access to one vehicle width.	
6	Use site specific reclamation strategies developed using ecological site descriptions. Native species will be used whenever possible to meet practice objectives with preference to forbs, grasses and grass-like plants preferred by LPC as well as those plants that reflect the potential of the specific ecological site to optimize LPC habitat needs. Seed mixes should be state-certified, meeting the appropriate state certification criteria as being free of state declared noxious and invasive vegetative material.	
7	Monitor, evaluate, and control state-listed invasive and noxious plants during practice planning and design.	
8	Machinery associated with practice should be clean and free of vegetative debris prior to use to prevent the spread of invasive plant species.	
9	Timing of planting and post-establishment vegetation management will be designed as per local site conditions to meet NRCS practice specifications.	
10	Regularly monitor the site after implementation to ensure erosion and weed issues area addressed quickly.	
11	Install wildlife escape ramps.	
12	Limit duration of construction period to the minimum practicable.	
<b>574</b>	<b>Spring Development</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
3	Evaluate the site's potential for soil erosion. Minimize soil and vegetative disturbances during installation of conservation practices. During installation, utilize soil erosion protection measures if potential for offsite soil erosion exists.	
4	Use site specific reclamation strategies developed using ecological site descriptions. Native species will be used whenever possible to meet practice objectives with preference to forbs, grasses and grass-like plants preferred by LPC as well as those plants that reflect the potential of the specific ecological site to optimize LPC habitat needs. Seed mixes should be state-certified, meeting the appropriate state certification criteria as being free of state declared noxious and invasive vegetative material.	
5	Monitor, evaluate, and control state-listed invasive and noxious plants during practice planning and design.	
6	Machinery associated with practice should be clean and free of vegetative debris prior to use to prevent the spread of invasive plant species.	
7	Timing of planting and post-establishment vegetation management will be designed as per local site conditions to meet NRCS practice specifications.	
8	Regularly monitor the site after implementation to ensure erosion and weed issues area addressed quickly.	
9	Ingress/egress routes will avoid nesting/brood rearing/lek areas as mortality may occur on routes resulting from bird-vehicle collisions.	

<b>533</b>	<b>Pumping Plant</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
3	Monitor, evaluate, and control state-listed invasive and noxious plants during practice planning and design.	
4	Machinery associated with practice should be clean and free of vegetative debris prior to use to prevent the spread of invasive plant species.	
5	Limit construction and access footprint and future vehicle traffic access to one vehicle width.	
6	Windmills for pumping or power generation will not be used within the Action Area (unless individually approved by the Service).	
7	Design solar panel mounting pole as short as possible to avoid use as a raptor perch.	
8	Minimize noise levels of fuel-powered plants to less than 40dbA.	
<b>642</b>	<b>Water Well</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
3	Install low profile pumping devices and housings and use solar pumps whenever practicable, as the power source for wells rather than electric lines.	
4	Place wells and infrastructure as close as possible to existing structures rather than creating new vertical structure in areas presently devoid of such features. These measures will reduce the presence of raptor perch sites and prevent habitat fragmentation by allowing continued use of suitable habitat.	
5	Design the water well to minimize or avoid the loss of desirable shrubs during practice installation.	
6	Use the conservation measures provided for the facilitative Conservation Practice 342, Critical Area Planting, in areas where reseeding disturbed areas is needed.	
7	Design solar panel mounting pole as short as possible to avoid use as raptor perch.	
<b>516</b>	<b>Pipeline</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
3	Use site specific reclamation strategies developed using ecological site descriptions. Native species will be used whenever possible to meet practice objectives with preference to forbs, grasses and grass-like plants preferred by LPC as well as those plants that reflect the potential of the specific ecological site to optimize LPC habitat needs. Seed mixes should be state-certified, meeting the appropriate state certification criteria as being free of state declared noxious and invasive vegetative material.	
4	Design pipeline route to minimize or avoid the loss of desirable shrubs during practice installation.	
5	Monitor, evaluate, and control state-listed invasive and noxious plants during practice planning and design.	
6	Machinery associated with practice should be clean and free of vegetative debris prior to use to prevent the spread of invasive plant species.	
7	Timing of planting and post-establishment vegetation management will be designed as per local site conditions to meet NRCS practice specifications.	
8	Regularly monitor the site after implementation to ensure erosion and weed issues are addressed quickly.	

9	Use the conservation measures provided for the facilitative Conservation Practice 342, Critical Area Planting, in areas where reseeding disturbed areas is needed.	
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<b>410</b>	<b>Grade Stabilization Structure</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
3	Evaluate the site's potential for soil erosion. Minimize soil and vegetative disturbances during installation of conservation practices. During installation, utilize soil erosion protection measures if potential for offsite soil erosion exists.	
4	Use site specific reclamation strategies developed using ecological site descriptions. Native species will be used whenever possible to meet practice objectives with preference to forbs, grasses and grass-like plants preferred by LPC as well as those plants that reflect the potential of the specific ecological site to optimize LPC habitat needs. Seed mixes should be state-certified, meeting the appropriate state certification criteria as being free of state declared noxious and invasive vegetative material.	
5	Monitor, evaluate, and control state-listed invasive and noxious plants during practice planning and design.	
6	Machinery associated with practice should be clean and free of vegetative debris prior to use to prevent the spread of invasive plant species.	
7	Timing of planting and post-establishment vegetation management will be designed as per local site conditions to meet NRCS practice specifications.	
8	Regularly monitor the site after implementation to ensure erosion and weed issues are addressed quickly.	
9	Ingress/egress routes will avoid nesting/brood rearing/lek areas as mortality may occur on routes resulting from bird-vehicle collisions.	
10	Use the conservation measures provided for the facilitative Conservation Practice 342, Critical Area Planting, in areas where reseeding disturbed areas is needed.	
<b>382</b>	<b>Fence</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
3	Alternatives to fencing will be evaluated prior to fence installation (e.g., water placement, placement of minerals, prescribed burning) to achieve the desired outcome.	
4	Machinery associated with practice should be clean and free of vegetative debris prior to use to prevent the spread of invasive plant species.	
5	Shrub removal will only occur in a <15 ft wide swath where fences are being constructed.	
6	Mark fences or use high visibility designs within 1/2 mile of a known lek when construction cannot be avoided or relocated.	See <a href="http://www.suttoncenter.org/">http://www.suttoncenter.org/</a>
7	Temporary electric fencing may be used in some cases to minimize potential collision fatalities.	
8	Permanent interior fence requires a maximum of 4 strands of wire < 42 inches high.	
9	Permanent exterior fencing must meet local fence laws and insurance liability clauses.	
10	Use the conservation measures provided for the facilitative Conservation Practice 342, Critical Area Planting, in areas where reseeding disturbed areas is needed.	

<b>500</b>	<b>Obstruction Removal</b>	
1	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
2	Evaluate the site's potential for soil erosion. Minimize soil and vegetative disturbances during installation of conservation practices. During installation, utilize soil erosion protection measures if potential for offsite soil erosion exists.	
3	Use site specific reclamation strategies developed using ecological site descriptions. Native species will be used whenever possible to meet practice objectives with preference to forbs, grasses and grass-like plants preferred by LPC as well as those plants that reflect the potential of the specific ecological site to optimize LPC habitat needs. Seed mixes should be state-certified, meeting the appropriate state certification criteria as being free of state declared noxious and invasive vegetative material.	
4	Monitor, evaluate, and control state-listed invasive and noxious plants during practice planning and design.	
5	Machinery associated with practice should be clean and free of vegetative debris prior to use to prevent the spread of invasive plant species.	
6	Regularly monitor the site after implementation to ensure erosion and weed issues are addressed quickly.	
7	Ingress/egress routes will avoid nesting/brood rearing/lek areas as mortality may occur on routes resulting from bird-vehicle collisions.	
8	Use the conservation measures provided for the facilitative Conservation Practice 342, Critical Area Planting, in areas where reseeding disturbed areas is needed.	
<b>315</b>	<b>Herbaceous Weed Control</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)
3	Spot treatment should be utilized where practicable.	
4	Use site specific reclamation strategies developed using ecological site descriptions. Native species will be used whenever possible to meet practice objectives with preference to forbs, grasses and grass-like plants preferred by LPC as well as those plants that reflect the potential of the specific ecological site to optimize LPC habitat needs. Seed mixes should be state-certified, meeting the appropriate state certification criteria as being free of state declared noxious and invasive vegetative material.	
5	Monitor, evaluate, and control state-listed invasive and noxious plants during practice planning and design.	
6	Machinery associated with practice should be clean and free of vegetative debris prior to use to prevent the spread of invasive plant species.	
7	Use the conservation measures provided for the facilitative Conservation Practice 342, Critical Area Planting, in areas where reseeding disturbed areas is needed.	
8	Operate machinery in a manner that allows wildlife to flush and escape by methods such as starting operations in the middle of field and working outward, and/or by modifying equipment with flush bar attachments.	
<b>378</b>	<b>Pond</b>	
1	NRCS shall coordinate with the affected State Fish and Wildlife Agency and confer with the STCs to identify appropriate restriction on the placement, extent, configuration, and timing of this conservation practice standard and the area where these practice restrictions would apply so as to avoid or minimize adverse effects to the LPC and supporting habitat conditions.	
2	Defer implementation of this conservation practice within 1/2 mile to know leks and nest sites until all breeding and nesting activities are completed, typically March 1 through July 15, or as modified by State Fish and Wildlife Agency or STC recommendations.	See LPCI Action Area (Map 1 from CR)

3	Use site specific reclamation strategies developed using ecological site descriptions. Native species will be used whenever possible to meet practice objectives with preference to forbs, grasses and grass-like plants preferred by LPC as well as those plants that reflect the potential of the specific ecological site to optimize LPC habitat needs. Seed mixes should be state-certified, meeting the appropriate state certification criteria as being free of state declared noxious and invasive vegetative material.	
4	Monitor, evaluate, and control state-listed invasive and noxious plants during practice planning and design.	
5	Machinery associated with practice should be clean and free of vegetative debris prior to use to prevent the spread of invasive plant species.	
6	Use the conservation measures provided for the facilitative Conservation Practice 342, Critical Area Planting, in areas where reseeding disturbed areas is needed.	
7	This practice will only be applied where needed to meet the daily water requirements of livestock and to facilitate prescribed livestock grazing distribution.	