

The Purpose of this practice is to develop or restore shallow water areas to an average depth of 6 to 18 inches for wildlife.

Apply this practice to eligible cropland that is suitably located and adopted to the development or restoration of a shallow water area for wildlife that will provide a source of water for the majority of the year.

The practice must include an adequate buffer area of perennial vegetation to protect the water quality and provide wildlife habitat. The buffer shall not be less than 20 feet and not exceed an average maximum width of 120 feet.

The practice, including buffer areas, shall not exceed 10 acres per tract. The total acres enrolled in CRP devoted to CP9 shall not exceed 10 acres per tract. Only one CP9 contract is allowed per tract.

It is the responsibility of NRCS to determine the technical feasibility for CP9. This includes determining whether the site in question is an appropriate site for this practice and whether it is financially feasible to install the practice. Limit cost-sharing to the minimum work and materials necessary to develop or restore the shallow water area for wildlife and establish an adequate cover to improve environmental benefits.

Shallow water areas for wildlife may be created or restored through construction of low head dams, dikes, or shallow scrapes if needed to develop or restore the shallow water area. Shallow water areas for wildlife will provide permanent water.

1. Requirements for all shallow water areas for wildlife include:

- The shallow water area will have a maximum water depth of 4 feet with an average depth of 6 to 18 inches.
- The buffer area outside of the shallow water area will be seeded according to Standard 645, Wildlife Upland Habitat Management or Wisconsin Agronomy Technical Note 5, Prairie Restoration Seeding.
- All newly excavated spoil, not used in embankment or ditch plug construction, may be removed from wetland areas if present with no cost sharing. Spoils may be spread on the site at not more than 3 inch depth. Obtain necessary permits.

2. Shallow Scrapes

It is expected that the greatest majority of CP9 sites will occur on hydric soils and will be shallow scrapes. In addition to requirements for all shallow water areas, shallow scrapes will follow these requirements:

- Side slopes will be 8:1 or flatter.
- Maximum depth of the excavation will be 4 feet with an average depth of 6 to 18 inches.
- Scrapes will be a minimum of 0.1 acre and less than 1 acre in size.
- When possible, scrapes will have an irregular shape.