



**CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY**

**E3280**

**CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM**

**Perennial grain crop conservation rotation**

**Conservation Practice 328: Conservation Crop Rotation**

**APPLICABLE LAND USE: Crop (Annual & Mixed)**

**RESOURCE CONCERNS: Soil; Plants**

**ENHANCEMENT LIFE SPAN: 1 year**

**Enhancement Description**

Establish a perennial grain crop as part of a rotation with two other crops. The crop rotation will reduce soil erosion (water and wind), improve soil health, improve soil moisture efficiency, and reduce plant pest pressures.

**Criteria**

- Crops shall be grown in a planned sequence. The rotation must include one perennial grain crop with two other crops in rotation. The perennial grain crop will be grown for at least two years after planting.
- Crop rotation must produce a positive trend in the Organic Matter (OM) subfactor value, as determined by the Soil Conditioning Index (SCI) calculated using current NRCS wind and water erosion prediction technologies. (management SCI value)
- Design the crop sequence to provide sufficient diversity in plant family and species as well as timing and type of field operations to suppress the pest(s) of concern, which may include weeds, insects, and pathogens. Use land grant university or industry standards to determine a suitable crop sequence.



- Select crops, varieties of crops, and the sequences of crops based on local climate patterns, soil conditions and irrigation water availability. Plan for rotation substitutions for planting delays or crop failures.

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**Documentation and Implementation Requirements**

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Participant will:

- Prior to implementation, provide NRCS with the planned crop rotation including the perennial grain and tillage operation(s) used for each crop.

Field	Acres	Planned Crops (in sequence)	Length of Crop Rotation (years)

Field	Crop	Field Operation	Timing of Field Operation (month/year)

- During implementation, notify NRCS of any planned changes in crops, crop rotation, or field operations to verify the planned system meets the enhancement criteria.
- After implementation, if changes to the rotation were made, complete the tables above to document the applied Conservation Crop Rotation for the contract period and provide to NRCS.

NRCS will:

- As needed, provide technical assistance in selecting crop rotations or substitute crops that would meet the criteria of the enhancement.
- Prior to implementation, verify that the crop rotation includes a perennial grain crop in a minimum three-year crop rotation.
- Prior to implementation, verify the perennial grain crop.



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- Prior to implementation, use the information provided from the participant to calculate the management Soil Conditioning Index (SCI) value using current NRCS wind and water erosion prediction technologies. Crop rotation must produce a positive trend in the Organic Matter (OM) subfactor value.

Management SCI Value = \_\_\_\_\_ OM subfactor value = \_\_\_\_\_

- During implementation, evaluate planned changes in crops, crop rotation, or field operations to verify the planned system meets the enhancement criteria.
- After implementation, if the applied crop rotation is different than the planned crop rotation, use the information provided from the participant to calculate SCI value to document that the applied rotation met the enhancement criteria.

Management SCI Value = \_\_\_\_\_ OM subfactor value = \_\_\_\_\_

### NRCS Documentation Review

I have reviewed all required participant documentation and have determined the participant has implemented the enhancement and met all criteria and requirements.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Name Contract Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Total Amount Applied Fiscal Year Completed

\_\_\_\_\_  
NRCS Technical Adequacy Signature

**Design Approvals & Acknowledgements:**

Design Approval	Date	Job Approval Authority
Designed by:		
Approved by:		

**Client's Acknowledgement Statement:**

The client acknowledges:

- I have received a copy of the specification and understand the contents and requirements.
- It is my responsibility to obtain all necessary permits and/or rights and to comply with all ordinances and laws pertaining to the application of this practice.
- I will not begin installation of this practice until I have received appropriate approval to do so. I understand NRCS also has Federal and state laws to comply with that may take some time to address (e.g. cultural resources).

Client's Signature	Date

**Certification Documentation:**

	Field Evaluation: Post-treatment inventory, measurements, notes, as-built, and supporting documentation (document completion in conservation plan), as required.
	Map(s): Including field numbers, fields treated, and units treated (may document on conservation plan map), as required.
	Photos or other supporting documentation (e.g., seed tags, soil tests, receipts, invoices, spray records, fertilizer records, etc.)
Brief Description of Work Accomplished (types of equipment used, date of application, extents and quantities installed, etc.)	

**Certification Statement:**

The employee certifies the implementation of this conservation practice:

- Meets the purpose, general criteria, and any required additional criteria as documented in the conservation practice standard and/or enhancement sheet.
- Meets the specifications contained herein and is complete.
- Conforms to my existing Job Approval Authority controlling factors and levels.

Name	Date	Job Approval Authority

<b>Field Level Certification</b> – For multiple applications of this design.				
Land Unit/ Contract Item Number	Date	Unit(s)	Amount Installed	Certifier