

**Missouri State Technical Committee Minutes
January 17, 2023**

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Nate Goodrich, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Assistant State Conservationist – Partnership and Initiatives. Nate thanked everyone for attending and went through the agenda for the meeting (see attached), then he passed the meeting on to Scott Edwards, NRCS State Conservationist, for opening comments.

Scott welcomed the group and explained that he would like to hold 4 meetings a year. He provided staff updates on the leadership team and state office staff.

Scott then highlighted somethings in the first fiscal year (FY) quarter and Climate smart projects. Missouri leads the nation with 32 projects that will be bringing in funding for climate smart initiatives.

FY2022 Farm Bill Program Review

Marilyn Gann, NRCS Assistant State Conservationist – Programs, provided a highlight on how funding was spent.

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

CSP had 2 opportunities this FY, CSP Classic and CSP Renewal. There were 452 contracts, \$16.1 million obligated, and 199,053 acres were contracted.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Some EQIP funds are required to be allocated to Missouri River Basin Initiative (MRBI) and National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI). Also had the opportunity for EQIP Conservation Incentives Program (EQIP-CIC). \$1.5 million were utilized and this is how the EQIP Allocation was distributed:

Category	Obligated	Final Allocation	Target
Animal Feeding/Waste	\$ 5,064,337	17.6%	15.0%
Pasture	\$ 10,072,109	35%	35.0%
Cropland	\$ 8,449,352	29.3%	29.5%
Wildlife	\$ 2,383,795	8.3%	10.0%
Forestland	\$ 2,801,723	9.7%	10.0%
Organic	\$ 41,492	0.1%	0.5%
Total	\$ 28,812,808.00		
Farm Bill Funding %			
State Specific Allocation from NHQ			

The areas in white are where there is flex in the funding.

EQIP top practices planned among all fund pools include:

Practice	Obligation	Extent Planned
Cover Crop	\$4,976,777.80	92,054.3
Fence	\$3,425,831.28	1,910,317.1
Terrace	\$2,727,297.52	553,383.0
Pasture and Hay Planting	\$2,074,438.33	34,932.4
Livestock Pipeline	\$1,712,120.04	782,096.4
Roofs and Covers	\$1,705,130.00	17.0
Wildlife Habitat Planting	\$1,328,591.00	1,747.3
Watering Facility	\$1,076,415.25	9,775.0
Prescribed Grazing	\$1,071,497.00	30,249.5
Water Well	\$989,197.75	1,121.0

There were 933 contracts, \$32.9 million obligated, and 125,090 acres enrolled.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

RCPP in Missouri had 5 projects in 77 Missouri Counties in 2022. There were 55 contracts, \$2.1 million obligated, 165,564 acres contracted.

Questions:

Jim Ball asked if copies of the slides would be made available.

Scott said they will be.

Dan Engemann asked about not hitting the 10 percent for wildlife, unsure what programs are offered under that umbrella?

Lauren Cartwright, NRCS EQIP-Coordinator, responded that we did hit the 10 percent for wildlife practice requirement. We were able to fund everything this year and it ended up being between 9 percent and 10 percent as well as getting funding for wildlife within other programs. With what is available for programs there are any form of planting, structures, wildlife watering facility development and wetland creation projects are just a couple items that are offered for wildlife.

Jeff Hodges made a comment regarding Working Lands for Wildlife Northern Bobwhite project. He continued to explain an opportunity to do a pasture planting to utilize wildlife dollars in the future with different programs.

Jim Ball expressed concern about invasive species and asked if there are funding options for controlling them.

Lauren replied if a problem arises then a technical specialist will assess, and it will be handled accordingly.

Jim Ball also suggested that additional research be done for chemicals to control *Sericea lespedeza*.

Lauren explained that it could be done and explained how Programs and NRCS handle these types of situations.

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Brief Overview

Scott Edwards provided a brief overview of the IRA. This was signed into law on August 18, 2022. It is the single largest investment in climate and clean energy solutions in American history. It promotes climate-smart agriculture and forestry and protects communities from climate impacts. It will provide approximately \$20 billion to support conservation programs that yield climate-related benefits. The department will get \$40 billion and NRCS is expected to get between \$18-\$20 billion.

IRA Funding:

IRA Funding

Program	Fiscal Year (dollars in millions)					Notes
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	-	250	1,750	3,000	3,450	
Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)	-	250	500	1,000	1,500	
Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)	-	250	800	1,500	2,400	
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)	-	100	200	500	600	
Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA)	1,000					Available until September 30, 2031
Quantify Carbon Sequestration Program (\$300)	300					Available until September 30, 2031
Administrative Costs for this section	100					Remain available until September 30, 2028,

We will address this by agency staffing, program delivery, and partnerships.

Scott covered the Activities list for 2023.

Questions:

Dan Engelman asked for reassurance on traditional funding for working lands and climate smart with ponds.

Scott believes that each state will be able to address those resource concerns.

Ethan Miller expressed concern with deliver compacity. Asked about the possible for using TSPs.

Scott hopes that we can expand and use TSPs.

Jim Ball noticed some of the practices expand filter strips. He wanted to know about how that is going to work with FSA since they offer that in CRP.

Scott said there is no CRP tied to this.

EQIP Native Forage Initiative (NFI)

Nate Goodrich talked about the new EQIP Native Forage Initiative. The sign up started December 5 and runs through August 1, 2023. Eligible applications will proceed with ranking. Applications with a ranking score of 60 or greater will proceed with contract development. The EQIP application and planning process will be followed. He explained how the ACT NOW process works. NFI address 3 resource concerns: Reducing greenhouse gas emission, enhance carbon sequestration, and managing moisture and drought. There is financial assistance in the ranking pool available for Pasture and hay land, native grass establishment/renovation, high diversity native grass establishment/renovation, annual forage for grazing systems interim Conservation Practice Standard 810. As of last week, over 70 applications were pre-approved, over \$1.6 million were requested with approximately 3500 acres.

Questions:

Dan Engemann asked about drought resilience. Is there proof that native forbs reduce greenhouse emissions?

Nate responded that we are going with guidance from National Headquarters (NHQ) and what practices we use.

Regan Bluel asked if this is for warm season grass, cool season grass, or forbs?

Nate said it is for all.

Jim Ball offered comment on Dan's comment about native forage and Fescue and explained it more.

Amy Hamilton from Hamilton Native Outpost invited Dan to attend one of their field days so he could learn more about this. She said NRCS needs to add/expand cool season grasses.

Jeff Hodges from American Forage and Grassland Council has podcasts/links that can be utilized. They have many Missouri Producers. The website is <https://www.afgc.org/>.

Lisa Potter, Programs Supervisor with Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), talked about the Missouri Department of Conservation Incentive EQIP Climate Smart Ag Native Forages Initiative (NFI).

MDC is offering \$100 per acre per sign up. They have \$250,000 dollars available. If someone is interested the link is <https://mdc.mo.gov/your-property/improve-your-property/eqip-native-forage-initiative>. To apply, contact the local Private Land Conservationist, Quail Forever Biologist, NRCS, SWCD or MASWCD in the area. Private Land Conservationist (PLC) can assist with site visits, planning, site establishment, and native drill coordination. To find a PLC by county: <https://mdc.mo.gov/contact-engage/local-mdc-contacts>

Questions:

Dan Engemann asked how many drills MDC has available.

Lisa said they have approximately 40 around the state.

The committee was asked if they had any questions or comments for today meeting.

Scott asked the group if they had something that they want discussed at the April 25th face to face meeting.

Jim Ball asked that we talk about the mission of this group. What is the expectation the NRCS wants for the group and what should the group expect from NRCS. And what should be done with the information given.

Scott agreed to making sure to address that.

Jeff Powelson from American Bird Conservancy asked that we review the subcommittees.

Tom Lampe said he has a problem with CSP. In his location CSP and monarch is popular. He found out that Monarch pollinators cannot be renewed. He is concerned it will be destroyed after the lifespan.

Scott said we will look into it.

Jim Ball expressed the same concern.

STC Committee Meeting adjourned at 10:50 am.

Attending

Kayla Alexander	Jennifer Eggemeyer
Amy Hamilton	Jeremy
Neil M Baalman	Jim Ball
Amy Blattner	Jim Plassmeter
Brady Lichtenberg	Jon Wingo
Lauren Cartwright	Ken Henderson
Casey Bergthold	Kent Wamsley
Chris Klenklen	Kurt Boeckmann
Ronna Chrisman	Andrea King
Christopher McLeland	Lisa Potter
Clayton Light	Selma Mascaro
Dan Engemann	Paul McDonald
Shannon Dean	Nashad Carrington
Scott Edwards	Nick Cuchetti
Elizabeth Steele	Brad Powell
Ethan Miller	Andrew Rackers
Marilyn Gann	Amanda Reed
Keely Malone	Robert Stout
Nate Goodrich	Lori Robinson
Chris Hamilton	Spencer Tuma
Brent Herring	Ken Sudduth
Rick Howard	Tom Lampe
Mark Hultgren	Alyssa Travlos
Jeff Hodges	William White
Jeff Powelson	Tim Gibbons

Missouri State Technical Committee

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Location: Virtual Teams Meeting

Date: January 17th, 2023

Time: 9:00 am – 11:00 am

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 9:00 – 9:15 | Welcome and Opening Comments
<i>Scott Edwards, State Conservationist</i> |
| 9:15 – 9:45 | FY2022 Farm Bill Program Review
<i>Marilyn Gann, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs</i> |
| 9:45 – 10:10 | Inflation Reduction Act Overview
<i>Scott Edwards, State Conservationist</i> |
| 10:10 – 10:35 | EQIP Native Forage Initiative
<i>Nate Goodrich, Assistant State Conservationist for Partnerships and Lisa Potter, MDC Private Land Program Supervisor</i> |
| 10:35 – 10:45 | Question/Answers
<i>Scott Edwards, State Conservationist</i> |
| 10:45 – 11:00 | State Technical Committee Member Updates: Opportunity for committee members to provide brief update regarding emerging issues, upcoming events, items of interest, etc.

<i>Moderated by Nate Goodrich, Assistant State Conservationist for Partnerships</i> |

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

2022 Contract Summary

- Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
- Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)
- Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

Marilyn Gann

Assistant State Conservationist for Programs

January 2023

CSP Classic and Renewal

- 452 Contracts
- \$16.1 Million Obligated
- 199,053 Acres Contracted
 - Ag Land (cropland, pasture, hayland)
 - 350 contracts, 180,365 acres
 - NIPF (nonindustrial private forest land)
 - 102 contracts, 18,688 acres

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)

EQIP

Some EQIP funds are required to be allocated to specific initiatives. Such as:

- Mississippi River Basin Initiative (MRBI)
- National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI)

EQIP

New in 2022: EQIP Conservation Incentives Program (EQIP CIC). \$1.5M EQIP funds were utilized:

- Native Grassland Restoration (Statewide)
- Soil Health Management System (Statewide)
- Source Water Protection for Water Quality and Quantity (Offered in Source Water Protection Priority Watersheds)

EQIP Allocation Distribution

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EQIP

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- 125,090 Acres

EQIP Top Practices Planned

(all fund pools)

Practice	Obligation	Extent Planned
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Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

- Partners submit project proposals to NRCS
- Selected proposals receive funding
- Opportunity for producer contracts with NRCS to carry out agreed-to conservation activities

RCPP

Offered through 5 projects in 77 Missouri Counties in 2022

- 55 Contracts
- \$2.1M Obligated
- 165,564 Acres Contracted

Thank You

Questions



United States Department of Agriculture

January 2023

IRA Briefing

Scott Edwards,
State Conservationist



Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

nrcs.usda.gov/

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Brief Overview of NRCS Provisions

- Signed into law August 18, 2022
- Single largest investment in climate and clean energy solutions in American history
- Will help producers stay on the farm and increase access to conservation assistance.
- Promotes climate-smart agriculture and forestry
- Protects communities from climate impacts
- Provides approximately \$20 billion to support conservation programs that yield climate-related benefits

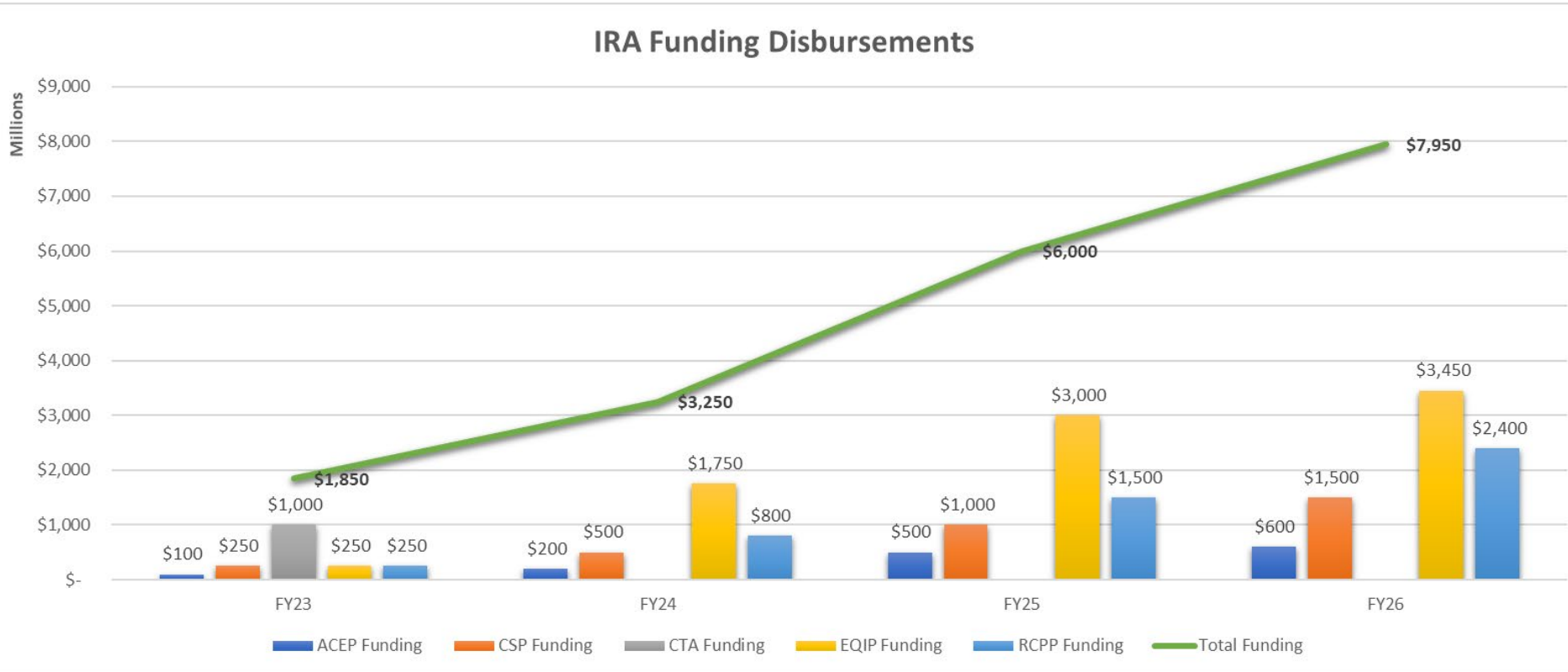
IRA Charge to all NRCS Staff

- Charge –
 - Seamlessly expand opportunities for producers, including underserved producers, to participate in our core conservation programs: EQIP, CSP, RCPP, and ACEP
 - Disburse and track IRA funds with scientific integrity and accountability

What makes IRA different

- **Climate Smart Ag and Forestry Focus**
 - Practices need to focus on emission reduction
 - Climate mitigation
- **Funds expiration**
 - IRA agreements cannot be for a term beyond September 30, 2031.
 - Additionally, the funds have an expiration date of September 30, 2031, and ***MUST BE EXPENDED*** by that date.
 - No other funds, such as regular program funds, can be used to fulfill obligations initially made with IRA funds.

IRA Funding Disbursements



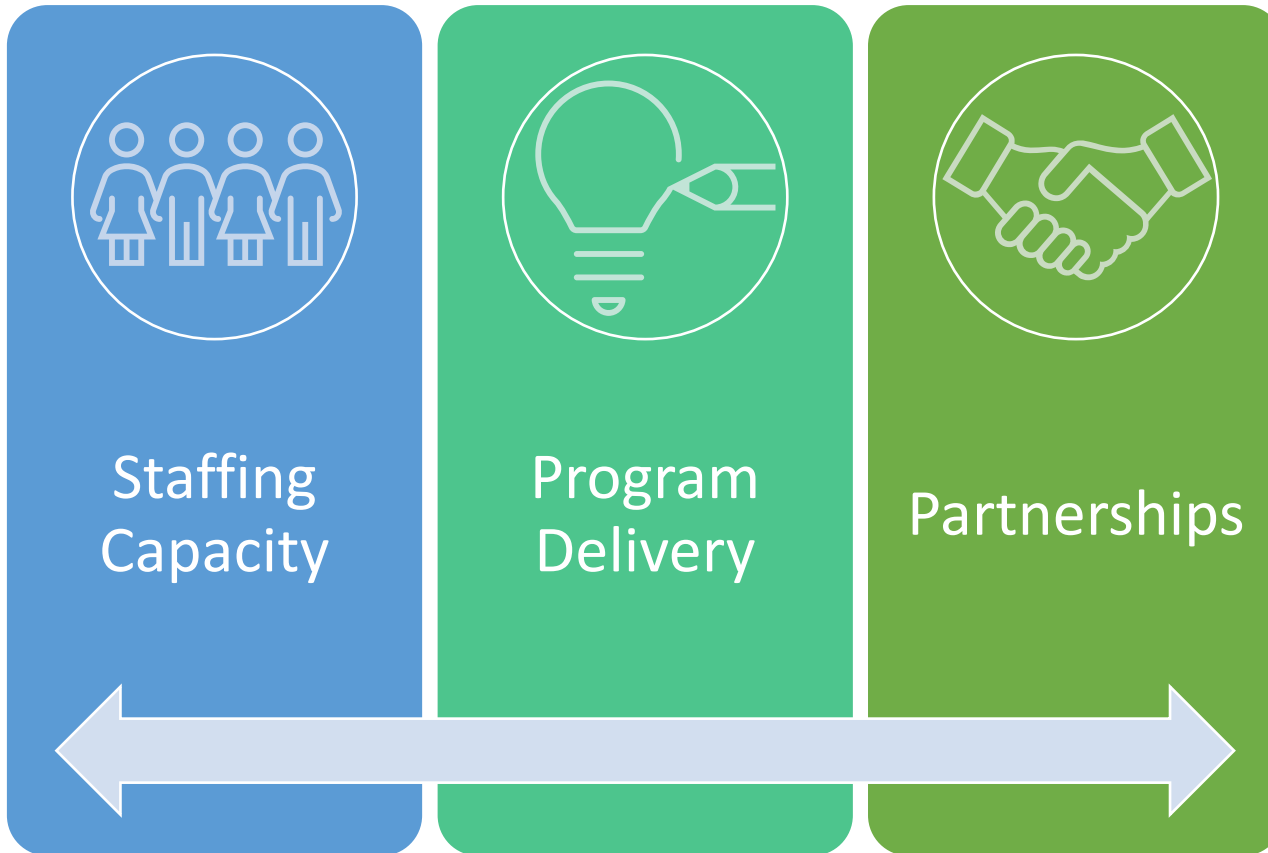
*CTA Funds Not Given Disbursement Schedule—Assume FY23 Full Amount

*Funds Expire
Sept 30, 2031

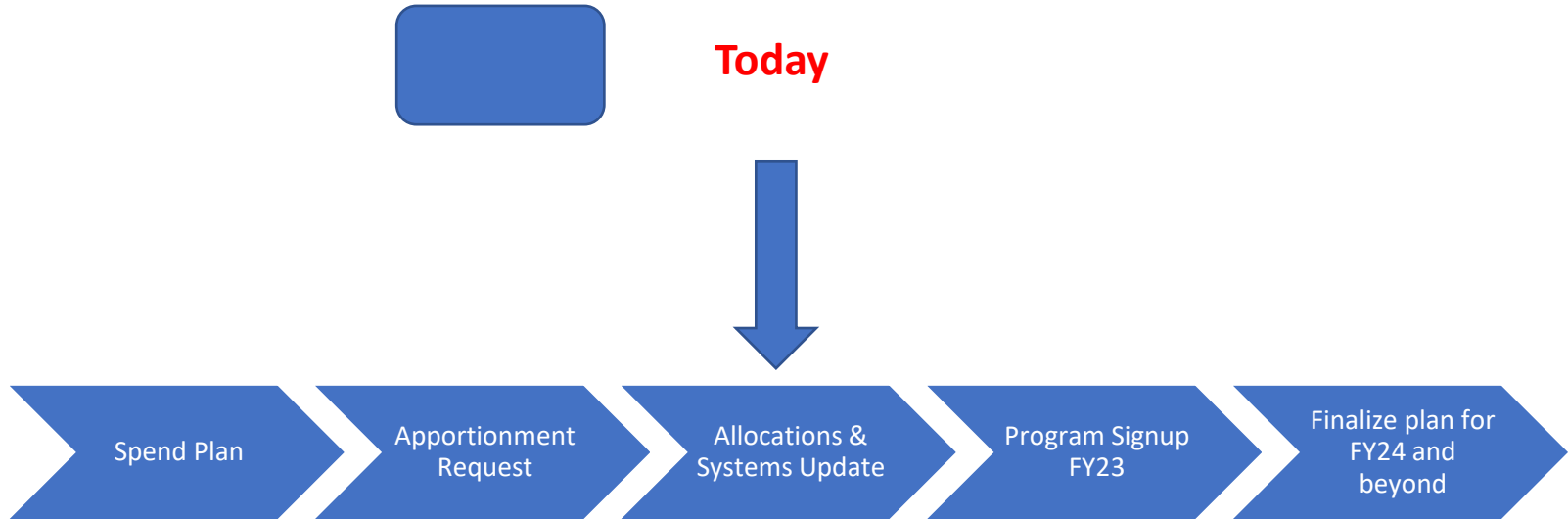
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Major Focus Areas for Success



Timeline





Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry (CSAF) Mitigation Activities List ^[1] FY2023



Climate Change Mitigation Practice Categories	Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ^[2] (units)	CSP Enhancement Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Bundle and Enhancement Activity			
Soil Health			B000BFF1	Buffer Bundle#1*			
			B000CPL24	Cropland soil health management system*			
			B000CPL25	Climate smart advanced soil health*			
		327	Conservation Cover (acres)	E327A	Conservation cover for pollinators and beneficial insects		
				E327B	Establish Monarch butterfly habitat		
		328	Conservation Crop Rotation (acres)	E328A	Resource conserving crop rotation		
				E328B	Improved resource conserving crop rotation		
				E328E	Soil health crop rotation		
				E328F	Modifications to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter		
				E328G	Crop rotation on recently converted CRP grass/legume cover for soil organic matter improvement		
				E328N	Intercropping to improve soil health		
				E328O	Perennial grain crop conservation rotation		
		329	Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (acres)	E329A	No till to reduce soil erosion		
				E329B	No till to reduce tillage induced particulate matter		
				E329C	No till to increase plant-available moisture		
				E329D	No till system to increase soil health and soil organic matter content		
				E329E	No till to reduce energy		
		332	Contour Buffer Strips (acres)	None Available			
		340	Cover Crop (acres)	E340A	Cover crop to reduce soil erosion		
				E340B	Intensive cover cropping to increase soil health and soil organic matter content		
				E340C	Use of multi-species cover crops to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter		
				E340D	Intensive orchard/vineyard floor cover cropping to increase soil health		
				E340F	Cover crop to minimize soil compaction		
				E340G	Cover crop to reduce water quality degradation by utilizing excess soil nutrients		
				E340H	Cover crop to suppress excessive weed pressures and break pest cycles		
				E340I	Using cover crops for biological strip till		
				345	Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (acres)	E345A	Reduced tillage to reduce soil erosion
						E345B	Reduced tillage to reduce tillage induced particulate matter
		E345C	Reduced tillage to increase plant-available moisture				
		E345D	Reduced tillage to increase soil health and soil organic matter content				
		E345E	Reduced tillage to reduce energy use				
		386	Field Border (acres)	E386A	Enhanced field borders to reduce soil erosion along the edge(s) of a field		
	E386B			Enhanced field borders to increase carbon storage along the edge(s) of the field			
	E386C			Enhanced field borders to decrease particulate emissions along the edge(s) of the field			
	E386D			Enhanced field borders to increase food for pollinators along the edge(s) of a field			
	E386E			Enhanced field borders to increase wildlife food and habitat along the edge(s) of a field			
	393	Filter Strips (acres)	E393A	Extend existing filter strip to reduce water quality impacts			
	412	Grassed Waterways (acres)	E412A	Enhance a grassed waterway			
	484	Mulching (acres)	E484A	Mulching to improve soil health			
			E484B	Reduce particulate matter emissions by using orchard or vineyard generated woody materials as mulch			
			E484C	Reduce particulate matter emissions by using orchard or vineyard generated woody materials as mulch			
	585	Stripcropping (acres)	None Available				
	601	Vegetative Barriers (feet)					
	603	Herbaceous Wind Barriers (feet)					

Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry (CSAF) Mitigation Activities List ^[1] FY2023



Climate Change Mitigation Practice Categories	Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ²⁰ (units)	CSP Enhancement Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Bundle and Enhancement Activity
Nitrogen Management	590	Nutrient Management (acres)	E590A	Improving nutrient uptake efficiency and reducing risk of nutrient losses
			E590B	Reduce risks of nutrient loss to surface water by utilizing precision agriculture technologies
			E590C	Improving nutrient uptake efficiency and reducing risk of nutrient losses on pasture
			E590D	Reduce risks of nutrient losses to surface and groundwater by increasing setback awareness via precision technology
Livestock Partnership	366	Anaerobic Digester (number)	None Available	
	632	Waste Separation Facility (number)*		
Grazing and Pasture	512	Pasture and Hay Planting (acres)	E512A	Cropland conversion to grass-based agriculture to reduce soil erosion
			E512B	Forage plantings that help increase organic matter in depleted soils
			E512C	Cropland conversion to grass for soil organic matter improvement
			E512D	Forage plantings that help increase organic matter in depleted soils
			E512E	Forage and biomass planting that produces feedstock for biofuels or energy production
			E512I	Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect and/or monarch habitat
			E512J	Establish wildlife corridors to provide habitat continuity or access to water
			E512L	Diversifying forage base with interseeding forbs and legumes to increase pasture quality
			E512M	Forage plantings that improve wildlife habitat cover and shelter or structure and composition
	528	Prescribed Grazing (acres)	E528A	Maintaining quantity and quality of forage for animal health and productivity
			E528D	Grazing management for improving quantity and quality of food or cover and shelter for wildlife
			E528E	Improved grazing management for enhanced plant structure and composition for wildlife
			E528F	Stockpiling cool season forage to improve structure and composition or plant productivity and health
			E528G	Improved grazing management on pasture for plant productivity and health with monitoring activities
			E528H	Prescribed grazing to improve/maintain riparian and watershed function-elevated water temperature
			E528I	Grazing management that protects sensitive areas -surface or ground water from nutrients
			E528J	Prescribed grazing on pastureland that improves riparian and watershed function
			E528L	Prescribed grazing that improves or maintains riparian and watershed function-erosion
			E528M	Grazing management that protects sensitive areas from gully erosion
			E528O	Clipping mature forages to set back vegetative growth for improved forage quality
			E528P	Implementing Bale or Swath Grazing to increase organic matter and reduce nutrients in surface water
			E528R	Management intensive rotational grazing
			E528S	Soil Health Improvements on Pasture
			E528T	Grazing to Reduce Wildfire Risks on Forests
			550	Range Planting (acres)
	E550B	Range planting for improving forage, browse, or cover for wildlife		

Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry (CSAF) Mitigation Activities List ^[1] FY2023



Climate Change Mitigation Practice Categories	Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ^[2] (units)	CSP Enhancement Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Bundle and Enhancement Activity
Agroforestry, Forestry and Upland Wildlife Habitat	311	Alley Cropping (acres)		None Available
	342	Critical Area Planting (acres)		
	379	Forest Farming (acres)		
	380	Windbreaks/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation (feet)		
	381	Silvopasture (acres)	E381A	Silvopasture to improve wildlife habitat
	390	Riparian Herbaceous Cover (acres)	E390A	Increase riparian herbaceous cover width for sediment and nutrient reduction
			E390B	Increase riparian herbaceous cover width to enhance wildlife habitat
	391	Riparian Forest Buffer (acres)	E391A	Increase riparian forest buffer width for sediment and nutrient reduction
			E391B	Increase stream shading for stream temperature reduction
			E391C	Increase riparian forest buffer width to enhance wildlife habitat
	420	Wildlife Habitat Planting (acres)*	E420A	Establish pollinator habitat*
			E420B	Establish monarch butterfly habitat*
	422	Hedgerow Planting (feet)	None Available	
	612	Tree/Shrub Establishment (acres)	E612A	Cropland conversion to trees or shrubs for long term improvement of water quality
			E612B	Planting for high carbon sequestration rate
			E612C	Establishing tree/shrub species to restore native plant communities
			E612G	Tree/shrub planting for wildlife food
645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (acres)	E645B	Manage existing shrub thickets to provide adequate shelter for wildlife	
		E645C	Edge feathering for wildlife cover	
666	Forest Stand Improvement (acres)*	E666A	Maintaining and improving forest soil quality*	
		E666D	Forest management to enhance understory vegetation*	
		E666E	Reduce height of the forest understory to limit wildfire risk*	
		E666F	Reduce forest stand density to create open stand structure*	
		E666H	Increase on-site carbon storage*	
		E666I	Crop tree management for mast production*	
		E666J	Facilitating oak forest regeneration*	
		E666K	Creating structural diversity with patch openings*	
		E666L	Forest Stand Improvement to rehabilitate degraded hardwood stands*	
		E666P	Summer roosting habitat for native forest-dwelling bat species*	
		E666R	Forest songbird habitat maintenance*	
E666S	Facilitating longleaf pine regeneration and establishment*			
Restoration of Disturbed Lands	453	Land Reclamation, Landslide Treatment (acres)		None Available
	543	Land Reclamation, Abandoned Mined Land (acres) ^[3]		
Energy, Combustion, and Electricity Efficiency	372	Combustion System Improvement (number)		None Available
	374	Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation (number)*		
			E533C	Install VFDs on pumps[4] *
			E533D	Complete pumping plant evaluation for energy savings[4] *
	672	Energy Efficient Building Envelope (number)*	None Available	
670	Energy Efficient Lighting System (number)*	None Available		
Wetlands	657	Wetland Restoration (acres)*	None Available	
Rice	449	Irrigation Water Management (acres) ^[4]	E449B	Alternated Wetting and Drying (AWD) of rice fields



**NATIVE FORAGES
INITIATIVE**

**EQIP CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE—
NATIVE FORAGES INITIATIVE (NFI)**

ACT NOW PROVISIONS OF THE FARM BILL

ACT NOW allows NRCS to immediately approve and obligate a ranked application in a designated ranking pool when an eligible application meets or exceeds a State determined minimum ranking score without waiting until the NRCS field office ranks all applications in the ranking pool.

The ACT NOW process expedites contracting.



NFI IS A TARGETED INITIATIVE THAT FOCUSES ON ADDRESSING THE FOLLOWING RESOURCE CONCERNS:

- reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- enhancing carbon sequestration
- Managing moisture and drought susceptibility



FY 2023 NFI ELIGIBLE PRACTICES

Initiative is designed for converting non-native forages to native forages for haying or grazing or converting cropland to native forages for haying or grazing

❖ Financial assistance within this initiative ranking pool is only available for the following conservation practices:

❖ Pasture and Hay Planting (Code 512)

❖ Native Grass Establishment or Renovation - with fertility

❖ High Diversity Native Grass Establishment or Renovation - with fertility

❖ *Scenario is applicable when establishing a high diversity native forage mix that includes at least 3 species of native grasses and at least 9 species of native forbs.*

❖ Annual Forages for Grazing Systems (Code 810)

❖ Annual Forages Mix

2023 EQIP Payment Scenarios

❖ 512 Pasture and Hay Planting (High Priority Practice)

❖ Native Grass Establishment or Renovation - with fertility Acre \$459.09

Scenario is applicable to any native grass establishment or renovation regardless of fertility requirements (follow standards and specifications for soil test and fertility requirements).

❖ High Diversity Native Grass Establishment or Renovation - with fertility Acre \$511.01

Scenario is applicable when establishing a high diversity native forage mix that includes at least 3 species of native grasses and at least 9 species of native forbs.

❖ Annual Forages for Grazing Systems (Code 810)

❖ Annual Forages Mix

❖ \$70.76/acre

❖ HU Annual Forages Mix

❖ \$84.91



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of 13



SIGNUP HIGHLIGHTS

- FY 2023 Signup started December 5, 2022 and runs through August 1, 2023
- Eligible applications will proceed with ranking
- Applications with a ranking score of 60 or greater will proceed with contract development
- The EQIP application and planning process will be followed

There will likely be plantings completed this spring as a result of the expedited process.

PLANNING ASSISTANCE FOR LANDOWNERS



AS OF LAST WEEK:

- Over 70 applications pre-approved
- Over \$1.6 million requested
- Approximately 3500 acres

QUESTIONS???



**NATIVE FORAGES
INITIATIVE**

MDC Incentive EQIP Climate Smart Agriculture - Native Forages Initiative

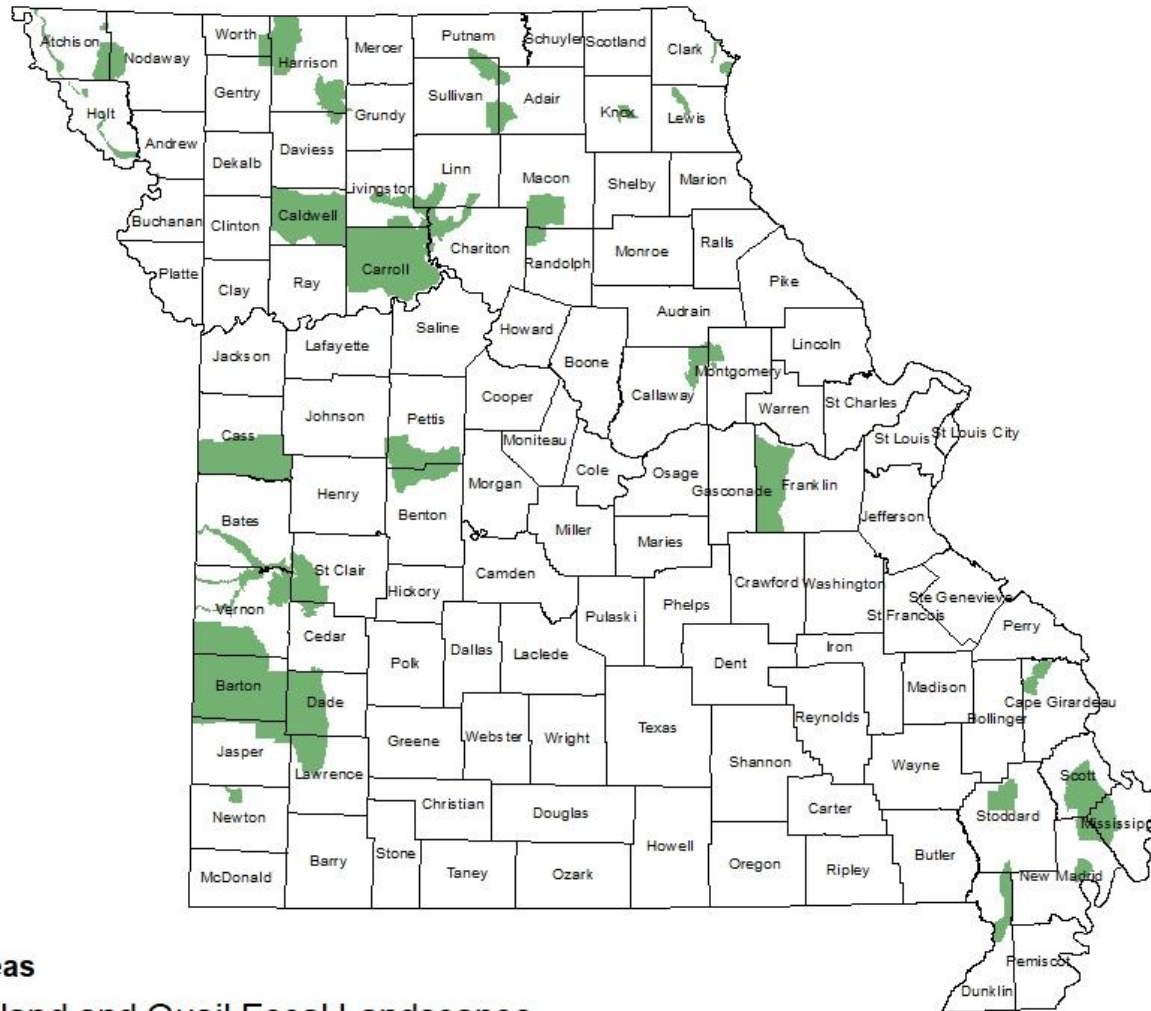


Lisa Potter
Private Land Programs Supervisor
Missouri Department of Conservation
1.17.23



MDC \$100/acre Sign-Up Incentive

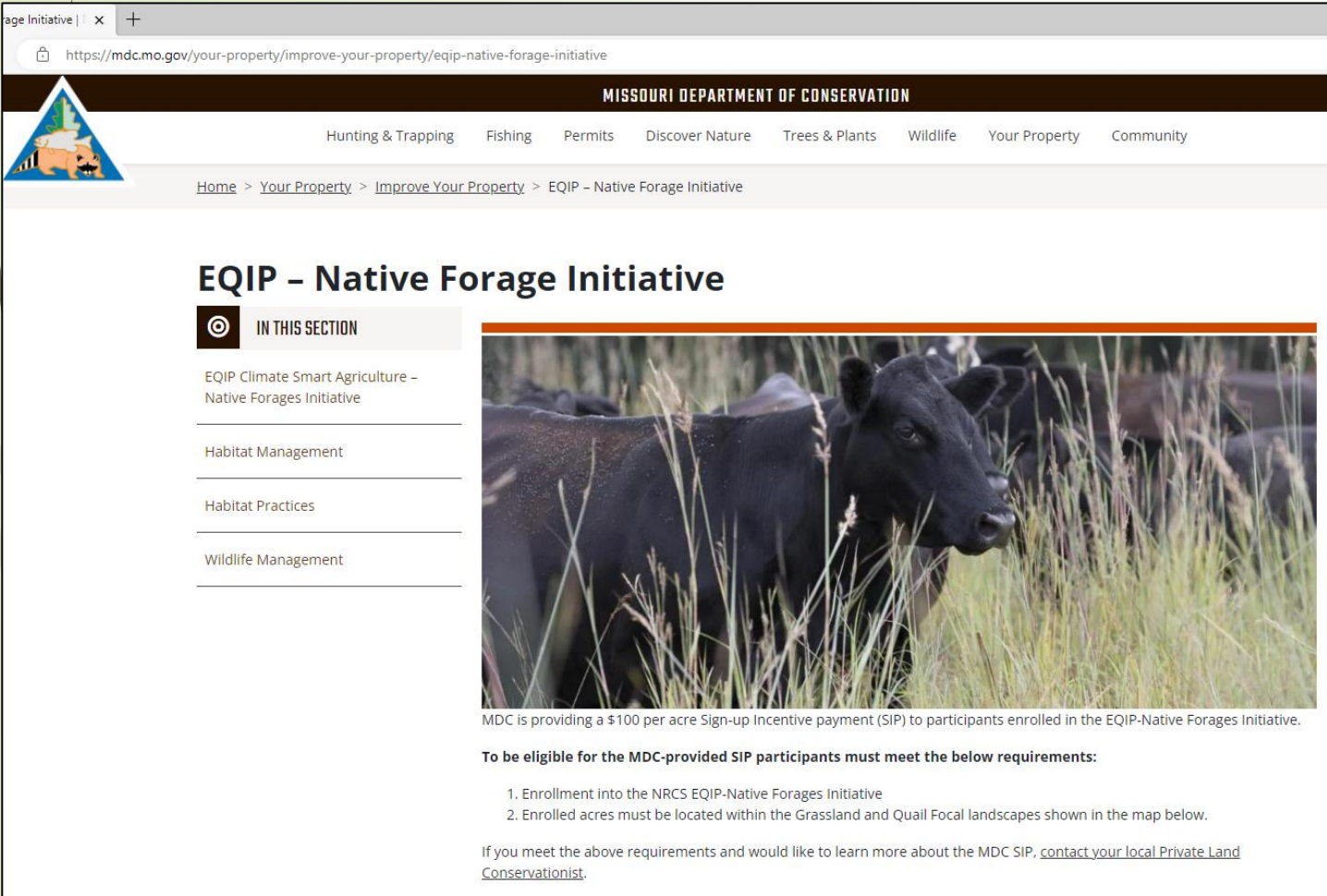
EQIP - Native Forages Initiative MDC \$100/Acre Sign-up Incentive Eligible Areas



\$250,000 Available
(2,500 acres)

*First Come, First Serve

MDC Website – Eligible Areas




The screenshot shows the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) website. The browser address bar displays <https://mdc.mo.gov/your-property/improve-your-property/eqip-native-forage-initiative>. The page header includes the MDC logo and navigation links: Hunting & Trapping, Fishing, Permits, Discover Nature, Trees & Plants, Wildlife, Your Property, and Community. The breadcrumb trail is: Home > Your Property > Improve Your Property > EQIP - Native Forage Initiative.

EQIP - Native Forage Initiative

IN THIS SECTION

- EQIP Climate Smart Agriculture - Native Forages Initiative
- Habitat Management
- Habitat Practices
- Wildlife Management



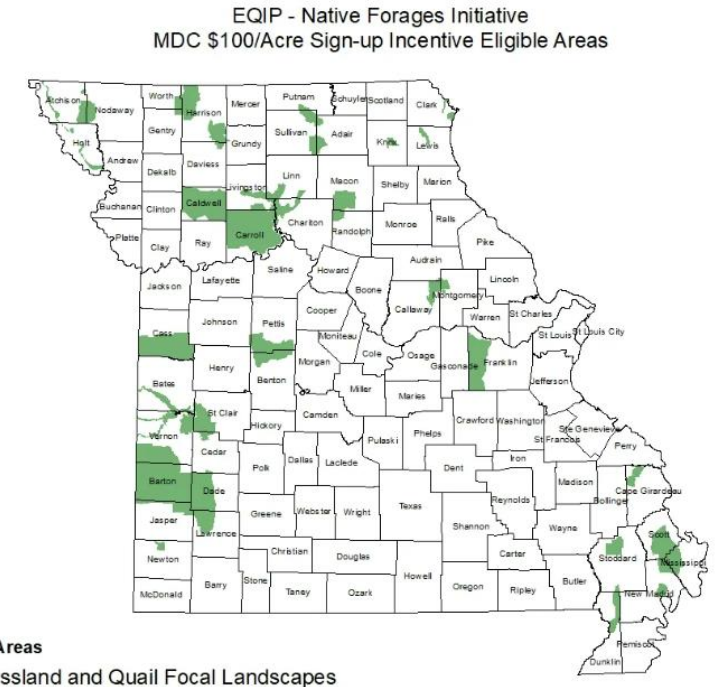
MDC is providing a \$100 per acre Sign-up Incentive payment (SIP) to participants enrolled in the EQIP-Native Forages Initiative.

To be eligible for the MDC-provided SIP participants must meet the below requirements:

1. Enrollment into the NRCS EQIP-Native Forages Initiative
2. Enrolled acres must be located within the Grassland and Quail Focal landscapes shown in the map below.


If you meet the above requirements and would like to learn more about the MDC SIP, [contact your local Private Land Conservationist](#).

<https://mdc.mo.gov/your-property/improve-your-property/eqip-native-forage-initiative>



MDC

ENROLLING WITH NRCS

NRCS in Missouri  will accept applications for the EQIP-Native Forages Initiative until August 1, 2023. Applications submitted prior to August 1, 2023, will be assessed and ranked as soon as the applicant has made treatment decisions through a conservation plan.

NRCS financial assistance within this initiative is only available for the following conservation practices and scenarios:

1. 512 Pasture and Hay Planting
 1. Native Grass Establishment or Renovation – with Fertility
 2. High Diversity Native Grass Establishment or Renovation – with Fertility

Eligibility



1. Acceptance into the NRCS EQIP-Native Forages Initiative
2. Enrolled acres must be located within the Grassland and Quail Focal landscapes

Requirements

- ▶ No minimum species/diversity requirements
- ▶ No maximum acres or payment cap
- ▶ The Incentive is paid after practice completion

How to Apply

- Contact your local PLC, QF Biologist, NRCS, or SWCD staff to apply
- In partnership with the Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD)
 - MASWCD will be administering the funds to participants

EQIP NATIVE FORAGES INITIATIVE – MDC INCENTIVE APPLICATION
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS AND THE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF: _____	MASWCD OFFICE USE ONLY FINAL PAYMENT AMOUNT _____ DATE APPROVED _____ ACCOUNT NUMBER _____ <hr/> AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE AND DATE
--	--

Landowner/Cooperator Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone(s): _____
County: _____ Township: _____ Range: _____ Section: _____ Farm Number: _____ Tract Number: _____

Select Option(s) that Apply	PRACTICE	PLANNED YEAR OF ESTABLISHMENT	ACRES PLANNED	MDC INCENTIVE	TOTAL FUNDING REQUEST	ACRES COMPLETED /PLC INITIALS	TOTAL MDC FUNDING PAID
<input type="checkbox"/>	512 – Native Grass Establishment or Renovation – with Fertility			\$100			
<input type="checkbox"/>	512 – High Diversity Native Grass Establishment or Renovation – with Fertility			\$100			

Select Option(s) that Apply	PRACTICE	PLANNED YEAR OF ESTABLISHMENT	ACRES PLANNED	MDC INCENTIVE	TOTAL FUNDING REQUEST	ACRES COMPLETED /PLC INITIALS	TOTAL MDC FUNDING PAID
<input type="checkbox"/>	512 – Native Grass Establishment or Renovation – with Fertility			\$100			
<input type="checkbox"/>	512 – High Diversity Native Grass Establishment or Renovation – with Fertility			\$100			

I REQUEST MDC INCENTIVE FUNDING FOR THE ABOVE SELECTED PRACTICE(S). IF FUNDED, I AGREE TO REFUND ALL OR PART OF THE INCENTIVE PAID TO ME IF, BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE NRCS CONTRACT, I REMOVE OR DESTROY THE PRACTICE OR I VOLUNTARILY RELINQUISH CONTROL OR TITLE TO THE LAND ON WHICH THE PRACTICE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AND THE NEW OWNER AND/OR OPERATOR OF THE LAND DOES NOT MAINTAIN THE PRACTICE FOR THE REMAINDER OF ITS LIFESPAN, WHETHER OR NOT THE NEW OWNER AGREES TO MAINTAIN THE PRACTICE. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS AGREEMENT MAY MAKE ME INELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION IN FUTURE MDC COST SHARE PROGRAMS.

At Time of Application:

DATE
LANDOWNER'S SIGNATURE

DATE
MDC PRIVATE LAND CONSERVATIONIST (PLC) SIGNATURE

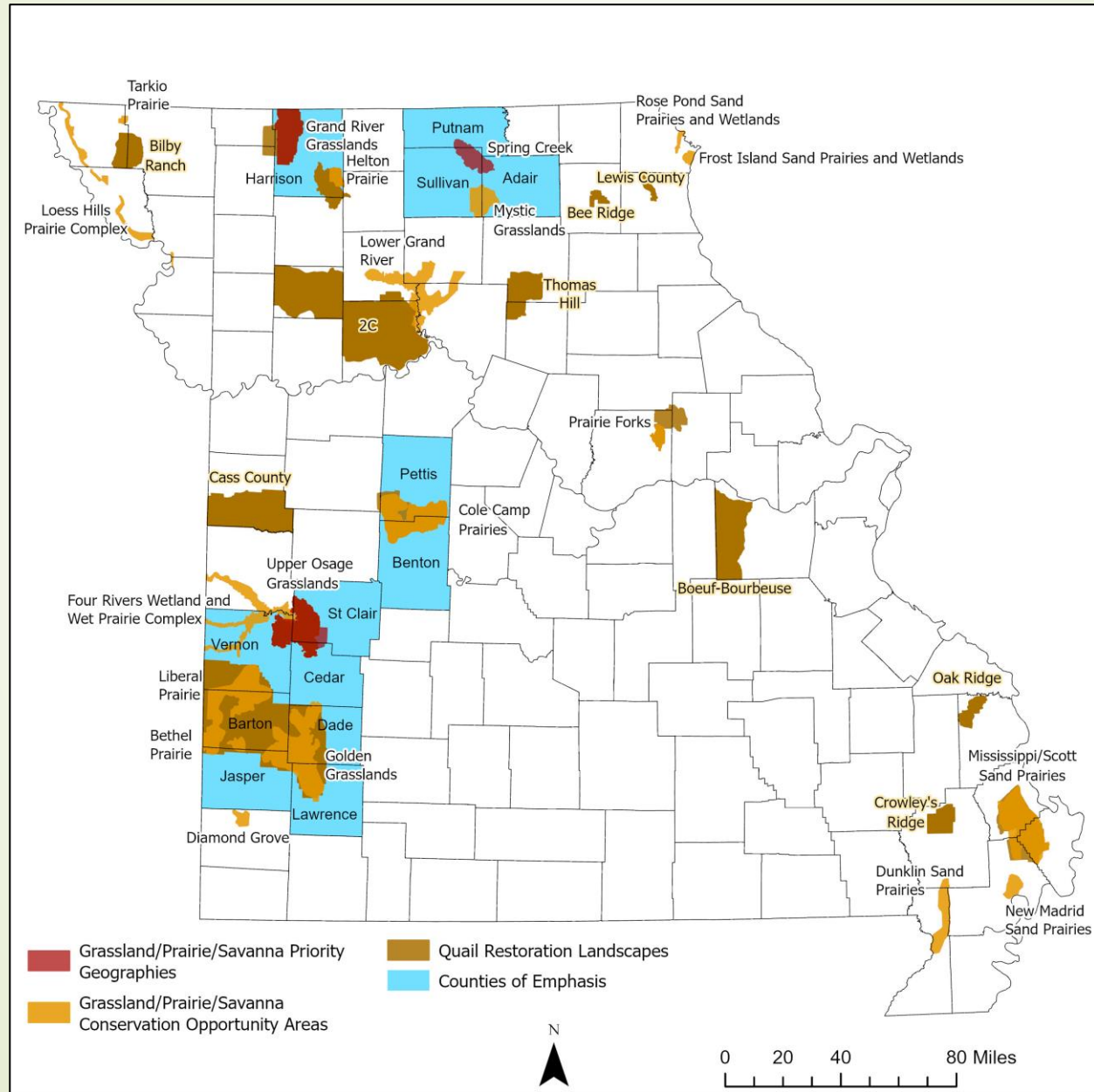
DATE
SWCD BOARD SIGNATURE

Private Land Conservationist (PLC) Assistance

- ▶ PLCs can provide assistance with planning and establishment
 - ▶ Find your PLC at <https://mdc.mo.gov> – Contact & Engage – Local Contacts (by county)
- ▶ Assistant PLCs
 - ▶ 6 new positions dedicated to grassland management in discussions
 - ▶ Northwest (1)
 - ▶ Kansas City (1)
 - ▶ Southwest (3)
 - ▶ Northeast - 1 Partnership Position
 - ▶ Technical Assistance to Private Landowners
 - ▶ On-site visits
 - ▶ Hands-on assistance with establishing and managing native grasses and forbs



PLC Assistant Focus Areas



Native Grass Drill Coordination

- ▶ SWCD Drills will be used first
- ▶ If SWCD Drills are not available, MDC Drills will become an option
- ▶ MDC Regional Contact will coordinate MDC Drill availability and rental
 - ▶ Only to be used for Native Forage Initiative

MNRC Native Forage and Grassland Workshop



February 7th, 2023

Save the Date

Join us at
Margaritaville for a

**NATIVE FORAGE &
GRASSLAND**

**Establishment &
Management Workshop**

at
10AM

Informative presentations &
hands-on how-tos about
establishing & managing native
grasses with a focus on grazing!

Register at bit.ly/nwsg2-7-23



Topics

NWSG Establishment
Site Prep
Establishment
Management

Invasives

What to look for
How to treat

Herbicides

Landowner Perspectives

Animal Performance/Economics

Drill Calibration

Sprayer Calibration

Native Forage

A guide to getting the most from your grazing operation



Josh Marshall



<https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/mx451>



Questions?



Serving nature and you®