

Conservation Implementation Strategy Project

The American Creek Watershed



For more information, go to:

<https://bit.ly/SDNRCS-CIS>

The Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) is a new phased-in approach to deliver conservation programs to farmers and ranchers across South Dakota. Funding for CIS comes through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP). Funding and support from other agencies and groups can be leveraged and coordinated to focus on mutual issues of the highest priority.

Background

The American Creek Watershed spans a total area of 99,086 acres. Within the watershed sits the towns of Chamberlain, Pukwana, and Kimball. The predominate production within the watershed varies between crop and livestock. The American Creek Watershed is comprised of five smaller individual watersheds. American Creek itself is of most significance as it is the largest stream in the watershed so it has the largest drainage area.

Resource Concern(s)

Sedimentation that is occurring in the American Creek is the priority resource concern to be addressed. Concentrated soil erosion by water and field sediment loss occur initially on farmland. Livestock production limitations with the lack of watering facilities, forcing farmers to use streams and creeks as a water source which threaten the integrity of the stream banks, ultimately causing erosion.

tion continues to cause

a loss of both aquatic and terrestrial habitat and decrease in overall water quality.

Goal

The goal is to install a host of conservation practices that reduce soil runoff which includes grassed waterways, crop rotation, cover crops, prescribed grazing, and stream crossing, and possibly including fencing, a pipeline, heavy use areas and more.

Desired Results

The installed practices will address major gullies and eroded areas on pasture and cropland, and healed by seeding back to grass using species unique to their forage suitability classes.

This Project At-A-Glance

Partners

Brule-Buffalo Conservation District
Brule County Commissioners
City of Chamberlain
SD Department of Game, Fish and Parks
Pheasants Forever
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
Lake Francis Case Development Center
City of Pukwana
Aurora-Brule Rural Water
Ducks Unlimited
South-Central Water Development Center
SD Association of Conservation Districts

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