

Conservation Implementation Strategy Project

Castle Rock



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.

For more information, go to:
<https://bit.ly/SDNRCS-CIS>

This Project At-A-Glance

Partners

World Wildlife Fund
The Nature Conservancy
Pheasants Forever
Butte Conservation District

Funding for this project is provided by the EQIP Program and partners with financial and in-kind contributions.

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Background

From 2002 to 2004, water had to be hauled to livestock. Without a dependable water source, producers cannot plan to utilize the land to the full potential and grazing distribution continues to cause the declining health of the land. Wildlife, such as grassland birds, deer, and antelope, also suffer from over and under utilized land. The Castle Rock Corporation is looking at this project as an opportunity to address numerous resource concerns to vastly improve the overall health of the land across the project area.

Resource Concern(s)

The resource concerns include soil erosion, soil quality, degraded plant community, water quality degradation, and livestock production limitations (inadequate feed and storage, shelter, and water).

Goals

The goals and objectives for this project are to install and implement conservation practices that will ensure producers operate more efficiently and effectively to create a more sustainable landscape for production agriculture and wildlife.

Desired Outcomes

The outcome from improving grazing distribution by installing conservation practices and addressing resource concerns will vastly improve greater Sage Grouse habitat, an important factor as the project area is located within the Sage Grouse habitat core area.

South Dakota
**Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service**

