

Conservation Implementation Strategy Project

Rapid Creek Watershed Restoration



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

Pennington Conservation District
Pennington County Weed and Pest

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

Contact:
Lindsay Mader
District Manager
penningtondc@sdconservation.net
(605) 441-5026

Background

Pennington County has seven irrigation ditches between Rapid City and Farmingdale. The St. Germain irrigation ditch is causing erosion and allowing seeping around the edges of the ditch. The area has invasive Russian Olives encroaching it. It is also breeding grounds for mosquitos. Due to the flood irrigation in the area soil health practices have not been implemented by very many producers.

Resource Concern(s)

This project will address excess and insufficient water distribution; undesirable plants and excessive plant pest pressure; and depleted organic matter and soil compaction.

Goal

The goal is to reduce the sheet erosion, reduce plant pest pressure, increase soil health and organic matter, and improve water delivery within

the St. Germain irrigation ditch. Addressing those resource concerns will reduce flooding and soil health depletion on the higher and the lower table levels.

Desired Results

Once the ditch is converted to a pipeline, that will reduce the problem of seeping, erosion, and insufficient usage of water. Secondly, if the invasive species are removed, that will help conserve water.

South Dakota
**Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service**

