

**FISCAL YEAR 2003 MINNESOTA WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVES PROGRAM  
(WHIP) PROGRAM PROVISIONS, CONSERVATION PRACTICE PAYMENT  
DOCKET AND PRACTICE REQUIREMENTS**

**PROGRAM PROVISIONS**

Conservation Practice Payments are authorized for practices:

1. Implemented following the contents of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide,
2. Implemented following:
  - general provisions, and,
  - specific provisions for each practice included in the docket,
3. Where a positive environmental benefit from the benchmark condition can be documented. Payments are not authorized for, or on, existing, in place practices unless approved by the State Conservationist.
4. Land enrolled in CRP, WRP, or Federal Waterbank are not eligible for cost share.
5. Minimum individual applicant land ownership is 5 acres.
6. A minimum individual or group ranking score of 120 points is required for funding consideration.
7. Applicant must provide evidence of ownership or control of the land for the duration of the contract.
8. The maximum NRCS cost share is 75% of the actual cost not to exceed maximums, or otherwise specified by practice in the docket.

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. An applicant may choose to obtain technical assistance from NRCS or from a technical service provider. If an applicant chooses to use a technical service provider (TSP), the TSP must be registered in TECHREG and certified to provide technical assistance for the specific practice or plan.
2. Pesticides used as a component of any practice will be state approved for the use involved. These pesticides will also be applied according to registered uses, label directions, and other applicable federal or state regulations.
3. Soil testing - Any practice which includes the application of liming materials and/or commercial fertilizer shall be prescribed based on a soil test taken during the current year or the two preceding calendar years from a soil testing laboratory shown on the attached list. Application rates of lime and fertilizer shall be based on University of Minnesota recommendations, those from an adjoining state's Land Grant University, or those from the MN Department of Agriculture Soil Testing Certification Program.
4. Liming Materials - Lime refers to Agricultural Liming Material (ALM). All liming material must meet the label information required by Minnesota Statue Section 18C.545 and include: 1) ALM type and; 2) ALM quality rating (minimum pounds of effective neutralizing power (ENP) per ton). The University of Minnesota soil test reports provide ALM recommendations in pounds of ENP per acre.
5. The amount to be cost shared on will be limited to that required by the practice being installed. When additional or alternative work or material is performed or used at the landowner's request, any costs greater than that required for the practice will be borne by the producer.

6. NRCS Wetland Policy as found in the General Manual 190, Part 410 must be followed. This policy provides direction to the agency for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This policy prohibits NRCS from providing technical or financial assistance to producers that will adversely affect wetlands, unless the lost functions are fully mitigated.
7. Payment is not authorized where offsite or onsite impacts from the contributing watershed would prevent a practice from achieving its intended purpose with normal operation and maintenance during its intended lifespan.
8. Applicants wanting to perform practices on land they do not own, or to install practices that require permits are responsible for obtaining easements, permits, rights-of-way, water rights or other permission necessary to perform and maintain the practices. The permission from the authority must be in writing and a copy must be provided to the NRCS field office prior to payments being made on the practice.

## **CONSERVATION PRACTICE PAYMENT DOCKET AND PRACTICE PROVISIONS**

The WHIP Conservation Practice Payment Docket lists practices that have been authorized for payments under the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) in Minnesota. The docket is a complete listing of primary practices and payment rates. The narrative lists additional program provisions that must be followed.

NRCS Field Office Technical Guide conservation practices not listed in the docket, and new practices may be added upon review and approval by the WHIP Program Manager AND State Conservationist. Written justification must be included in requesting a practice be added to the docket. This justification should include why the addition of the practice is required, including evidence that the practice has potential to address the resource concern, and identification of who will provide technical assistance in implementing the practice.

The MN State WHIP docket lists primary practices authorized for conservation practice payments, the maximum payment rates and limits, and the program specific provisions for various practices. The maximum cost share rate is not more than 75% of reasonable and customary costs. The maximum unit costs listed in the docket may not be increased by the field. However, counties may adjust maximum unit costs **downward** to more accurately reflect local costs. The NRCS state office will solicit changes from the local work groups to the NRCS program dockets, on an annual basis. All locally submitted recommendations or requested changes should be submitted with adequate documentation.

### **Conservation Practice Payment Methods:**

#### 1. Cost Share Payments:

Cost sharing is authorized on the actual cost of implementing a practice up to the maximum cost listed in the docket. The cost share payment shall be the cost share rate applied to either the actual cost, or the maximum cost, whichever is less. For several practices, the maximum cost shall equal the cost estimate for implementing the practice as calculated by the planner or technician.

#### 2. Incentive Payments:

WHIP funds may not be used for incentive payments. WHIP funds may, however, be combined with other, non USDA, funds. The total payment to the landowner must not exceed the total cost of implementing the practice. Producers wanting to perform practices on land they do not own, or to install practices that require permits are responsible for obtaining the: easements, permits, right-of-way, water rights or other permission necessary to perform and maintain the practices. The permission from the authority must be in writing and a copy must be provided to the local office prior to payments are made on the practice.

## SPECIFIC PRACTICE PROVISIONS

### **EARLY SUCCESSIONAL HABITAT DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT - 647**

PURPOSE: To manage early plant succession to benefit desired wildlife or natural communities.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

1. A detailed plan is required.

**A. BRUSHLAND AND BROWSE MANAGEMENT:** - To develop and maintain brushland and browse in transition and forest areas to benefit deer, moose, sharp-tail grouse, and other wildlife. To control encroachment of undesirable woody vegetation into existing grasslands (see also 388 prescribed burning). NOTE: this practice is not to be utilized as site preparation for permanent vegetative cover plantings.

**B. WILDLIFE OPENINGS:** - To construct new openings or maintain existing openings in forested areas to improve habitats for deer and other species which utilize openings. Cost includes site preparation, seed and seeding.

	Cost Share					Lifespan
	Unit	Method	Rate	Unit Cost, \$	Max. C/S \$	
						15 years
<b>A. Brushland and Browse Mgt.</b>						
1. Chemical	ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	64.00	48.00	
2. Mechanical	ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	90.00	67.50	
3. Chemical and Mechanical	ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	108.00	81.00	
<b>B. Wildlife Openings</b>						
1. Chemical	ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	160.00	120.00	
2. Mechanical	ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	290.00	217.50	
3. Chemical and Mechanical	ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	370.00	277.50	

### **FENCE - 382**

PURPOSE: To protect stands of desirable forest trees, streams or sensitive areas from destructive effects of grazing and to prevent soil erosion and water quality impairment in critical areas.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Cost share is eligible for existing livestock operations. Establishment of fencing is limited to permanent fences utilizing new materials, excluding property boundary and road fences.
2. Cost share is not authorized unless the purpose of the fence is documented as providing resource protection. Cost share amounts listed include all appurtenances.
3. Cost share is not authorized for removal of existing fence, clearing obstructions, providing power sources, or removal of woody vegetation.
4. Cost share is not authorized when the primary purpose of the fence is for keeping livestock off roads or marking property boundaries.
5. When fencing is a component of a prescribed grazing system, applicant must have a NRCS approved grazing plan.

		Cost Share				Lifespan
	Unit	Method	Rate	Unit Cost	Max. C/S \$	
						20 years
Barbed Wire	ft.	AM	75% of actual cost	1.25	0.94	
Woven Wire	ft.	AM	75% of actual cost	1.40	1.05	
Other Fences	ft.	AM	75% of actual cost	1.40	1.05	

### FISH STREAM IMPROVEMENT - 395

PURPOSE: To improve or restore aquatic ecosystem functions and values within a stream corridor for one or both of the following purposes: to increase survival and/or production of desired fish, or increase diversity and/or abundance of fish in a stream ecosystem.

#### REQUIREMENTS:

1. **NRCS conservationist will consult with MDNR Area Fisheries Manager for a feasibility determination and preliminary plan prior to approval.**
2. Applicant is responsible for obtaining all applicable permits in advance of final contract approval and construction activities.
3. Where instream structures are proposed, priority funding will be considered where the landowner agrees to provide a public access easement.

		Cost Share				Lifespan
	Unit	Method	Rate	Unit Cost	Max. C/S \$	
Fish Steam Improvement	Ft.	AM	75% of actual cost	Cost Estimate	75% of actual cost	15 years

### FOREST IMPROVEMENT - 666

PURPOSE: The purpose of this practice is to improve or protect a stand of desirable trees, to enhance the growth of the stand, or to remove noxious or exotic woody plant species from existing stands.

#### REQUIREMENTS:

1. **Technical Responsibility is assigned to the MN/DNR Division of Forestry, or qualified planner.**
2. All improvements will be accomplished according to a detailed forest management plan.
3. Cost sharing is not authorized for pruning trees.
4. **Control of competition is eligible only where competition has become a significant threat to regeneration.**

		Cost Share				Lifespan
	Unit	Method	Rate	Unit Cost \$	Max. C/S \$	
	Ac.					10 years
<b>A. Thinning</b>						
1. Hardwoods	Ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	100.00	75.00	
2. Softwoods	Ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	150.00	112.50	
<b>B. Release</b>						
1. Mechanical	Ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	100.00	75.00	
2. Chemical	Ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	108.00	81.00	
3. Chemical/Mechanical	Ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	174.00	130.50	

<b>C. Control of Competition</b>						
1. Mechanical	Ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	88.00	66.00	
2. Chemical/Mechanical	Ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	154.00	115.50	

### FOREST SITE PREPARATION - 490

PURPOSE: To prepare sites for tree and forest riparian buffer planting.

	Unit	Method	Cost Share			Lifespan
			Rate	Unit Cost \$	Max. C/S \$	
						1 year
Chemical	Ac.	AM	50% of actual cost	94.00	47.00	
Mechanical						
Light	Ac.	AM	50% of actual cost	68.00	34.00	
Heavy	Ac.	AM	50% of actual cost	154.00	77.00	
Chemical/Mechanical	Ac.	AM	50% of actual cost	174.00	87.00	

### PIPELINE - 516

PURPOSE: Pipeline installed for conveying water from a surface water source to an offsite location.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Cost sharing is authorized when required as a component of a Prescribed Grazing System, Practice Standard 528A.
2. Cost sharing is authorized for permanently installed pumps required as an integral part of a system for supplying stock water.
3. Cost share is not authorized for power sources.

	Unit	Method	Cost Share			Lifespan
			Rate	Unit Cost, \$	Maximum C/S, \$	
Pipeline	Ft.	AM	75% of actual cost	Cost Estimate	75% of actual cost	20 years

### PRACTICE STANDARD 378 - POND

PURPOSE: Improve water quality, provide water for fish, wildlife and recreation.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. **Cost share is restricted to upland embankment type ponds, excavated ponds are not eligible for cost share. Projects involving the restoration or enhancement of former or existing wetlands shall be considered under practice 657 - Wetland Restoration/Enhancement.**
2. Livestock must be excluded from pond.
3. Practice lifespan is 20 years.
4. Livestock watering facility components are eligible as part of a Prescribed Grazing System.

	Unit	Method	Cost Share			Lifespan
			Rate	Unit Cost, \$	Max. C/S, \$	
Pond	no.	AM	75% of actual cost	Cost Estimate	5000.00	20 years

## PRESCRIBED BURNING - 338

PURPOSE: Control undesirable vegetation and plant disease, improve wildlife habitat, and improve forage quality and production.

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. A detailed burn plan describing the practice objective, species to control and species to be benefited, timing, weather conditions and management guidelines will be developed.
2. Technical assistance will be provided through technically qualified Technical Service Providers.
3. All laws and regulations pertaining to burning will be followed.
4. **The conservation plan must document that the landowner has been notified in writing that they are subject to all liability due to damages caused by out of control fire.**
5. It is the landowner's responsibility to obtain all permits and notify surrounding landowners who may be affected.
6. Cost share is eligible once every 5 years and not more than twice for the same area for the life of the contract.
7. Associated costs with obtaining and notification of neighbors, units of government, and agencies is entirely the landowners expense.

	Cost Share					Lifespan
	Unit	Method	Rate	Unit Cost, \$	Max. C/S, \$	5 years
less than 10 acres	ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	35.00	26.25	
10 – 20 acres	ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	25.00	18.75	
Greater than 20 acres	ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	20.00	15.00	

## PRESCRIBED GRAZING - 528A

PURPOSE: Controlled harvest of vegetation with grazing animals to improve plant health and vigor, provide food and cover for wildlife, improve water quality and reduce accelerated soil erosion.

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. A detailed pasture management plan is required.
2. The life span of this practice is 5 years.
3. No cost share authorized for technical assistance.

## RESTORATION AND MANAGEMENT OF DECLINING HABITATS - 643

PURPOSE: to restore and conserve rare and declining native vegetative communities and associated wildlife species.

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. A detailed plan is required, in accordance with the specifications outline in the standard.

- Eligible costs include, seedbed preparation, seeding, clipping (up to 5 times during the first 24 months of establishment), seed, fertilizer, lime and herbicide as appropriate.

	Unit	Method	Cost Share			Lifespan
			Rate	Unit Cost, \$	Max C/S, \$	
						15 years
Tall Grass Prairie	ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	400.00	300.00	
Oak Savanna	ac.	AM	See 645 for cost share information			
Red/White Pine	ac.	AM				

## RIPARIAN FOREST BUFFER - 391

PURPOSE: An area of trees, shrubs and other vegetation located in areas adjacent to water bodies. The purpose is to reduce excess sediment, nutrients and pesticides, and improve fish and wildlife habitat

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Cost share assistance is available for restoring **mixed native species and composition** of forest communities.
- Planting cost includes cost of seedlings and planting.
- Weed Control where required will be accomplished within 24 months from planting.
- Direct Seeding includes site preparation, seed and seeding.
- Difficult sites include those where the site contains trees greater the 12 inches in diameter, the slope exceeds 12% or the area contains downed material over 8 inches in diameter.

	Unit	Method	Cost Share			Lifespan
			Rate	Unit Cost \$	Max. C/S \$	
<b>Hardwoods (trees and planting)</b>						
<b>A. Hand Planting</b>						15 Years
1. Grass Cover	Ac.	AM	50% of actual cost	630.00	315.00	
2. Bare Ground	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	528.00	264.00	
3. Difficult Sites	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	704.00	352.00	
<b>B. Machine Planting</b>						15 Years
1. Grass Cover	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	406.00	203.00	
2. Bare Ground	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	326.00	163.00	
3. Difficult Sites	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	460.00	230.00	
<b>Conifers (trees and planting)</b>						
<b>A. Hand Planting</b>						15 Years
1. Grass Cover	Ac.	AM	50% of actual cost	444.00	222.00	
2. Bare Ground	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	364.00	182.00	
3. Difficult Sites	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	498.00	249.00	
<b>B. Machine Planting</b>						15 Years
1. Grass Cover	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	354.00	177.00	
2. Bare Ground	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	274.00	137.00	
3. Difficult Sites	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	408.00	204.00	
<b>Transplants/Containers/Shrubs (trees and planting)</b>						
<b>A. Hand Planting</b>						15 Years
1. Grass Cover	Ac.	AM	50% of actual cost	582.00	291.00	
2. Bare Ground	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	502.00	251.00	
3. Difficult Sites	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	636.00	318.00	

<b>B. Machine Planting</b>						15 Years
1. Grass Cover	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	492.00	246.00	
2. Bare Ground	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	412.00	206.00	
3. Difficult Sites	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	546.00	273.00	
1. Grass Cover	Ac.	AM	50% of actual cost	492.00	246.00	
2. Bare Ground	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	500.00	250.00	
3. Difficult Sites	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	554.00	277.00	

<b>Animal Damage Control Devices</b>						15 Years
Tree Shelter - Hardwoods	Ea.	AM	50% of actual cost	4.00	2.00	
Bud Caps - WHIP	Ea.	AM	50% of actual cost	0.24 <u>1/</u>	0.12	
<b>Weed Control</b>						15 Years
Chemical	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	108.00	54.00	
Mechanical	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	100.00	50.00	
Chemical/Mechanical	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	174.00	87.00	
<b>Site Preparation - See Practice Standard 490 - Forest Site Preparation</b>						15 Years

1/ Cost share includes materials and annual installation costs for the first three years.

### STREAMBANK AND SHORELINE PROTECTION - 580

PURPOSE: To stabilize or protect banks of streams and lakes to reduce downstream sediment loads and improve the stream or lake for fish and wildlife habitat.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Applicant is responsible for obtaining all applicable permits in advance of construction activities.

	Unit	Method	Cost Share			Lifespan
			Rate	Unit Cost, \$	Max. C/S, \$	
Streambank and Shoreline Protection	Ft.	AM	75% of actual cost	cost estimate	75% of actual cost	20 years

### TREE/SHRUB ESTABLISHMENT - 612

PURPOSE: An area of trees, shrubs and other vegetation located on historically forested sites. The purpose is to improve fish and wildlife habitat.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Cost share assistance is only available for establishing and restoring **mixed native hardwood and conifer species.**
2. **Technical responsibility for this practice is assigned to the MN/DNR Division of Forestry.**
3. Mixed plantings **shall not be more than 550, or less than 300 trees per acre.**
4. Planting cost includes cost of seedlings and planting.
5. Weed Control where required will be accomplished within 24 months from planting.
6. Direct Seeding includes site preparation, seed and seeding.



7. Difficult sites include those where the site contains trees greater the 12 inches in diameter, the slope exceeds 12% or the area contains downed material over 8 inches in diameter.

	Cost Share					Lifespan
	Unit	Method	Rate	Unit Cost \$	Max. C/S \$	
<b>Hardwoods (trees and planting)</b>						
<b>A. Hand Planting</b>						15 Years
1. Grass Cover	Ac.	AM	50% of actual cost	630.00	315.00	
2. Bare Ground	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	528.00	264.00	
3. Difficult Sites	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	704.00	352.00	
<b>B. Machine Planting</b>						15 Years
1. Grass Cover	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	406.00	203.00	
2. Bare Ground	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	326.00	163.00	
3. Difficult Sites	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	460.00	230.00	
<b>Conifers (trees and planting)</b>						
<b>A. Hand Planting</b>						15 Years
1. Grass Cover	Ac.	AM	50% of actual cost	444.00	222.00	
2. Bare Ground	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	364.00	182.00	
3. Difficult Sites	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	498.00	249.00	
<b>B. Machine Planting</b>						15 Years
1. Grass Cover	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	354.00	177.00	
2. Bare Ground	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	274.00	137.00	
3. Difficult Sites	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	408.00	204.00	
<b>Transplants/Containers/Shrubs (trees and planting)</b>						
<b>A. Hand Planting</b>						15 Years
1. Grass Cover	Ac.	AM	50% of actual cost	582.00	291.00	
2. Bare Ground	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	502.00	251.00	
3. Difficult Sites	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	636.00	318.00	
<b>B. Machine Planting</b>						15 Years
1. Grass Cover	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	492.00	246.00	
2. Bare Ground	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	412.00	206.00	
3. Difficult Sites	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	546.00	273.00	
<b>Direct Seeding (all methods includes site prep and seeding)</b>						
1. Grass Cover	Ac.	AM	50% of actual cost	492.00	246.00	15 Years
2. Bare Ground	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	500.00	250.00	
3. Difficult Sites	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	554.00	277.00	
<b>Animal Damage Control Devices</b>						
Tree Shelter - Hardwoods	Ea.	AM	50% of actual cost	4.00	2.00	15 Years
Bud Caps - WHIP	Ea.	AM	50% of actual cost	0.24 <sup>1/</sup>	0.12	
<b>Weed Control</b>						
Chemical	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	108.00	54.00	15 Years
Mechanical	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	100.00	50.00	
Chemical/Mechanical	Ac	AM	50% of actual cost	174.00	87.00	
<b>Site Preparation - See Practice Standard 490 - Forest Site Preparation</b>						15 Years

<sup>1/</sup> Cost share includes materials and annual installation costs for the first three years.

## UPLAND WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT - 645

PURPOSE: Several practices may be applied as part of a wildlife system to provide food, cover or water for desired upland species, or manage wildlife habitat to achieve desired seral stage.

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Cost sharing is authorized for practice establishment and management. This practices applies to tree/shrub plantings on sites  $\leq 10.0$  acres per contract. **Tree/shrub plantings greater than 10.0 acres per contract will be planned and cost shared in accordance with practice standard Tree Planting - 612.**
2. For introduced grasses and legumes, a soil test during the year of seeding or the preceding two calendar years is required to determine the needs of commercial fertilizer and liming materials. The rate of application of commercial fertilizer and lime shall not be less than 75% of the recommended rate per acre of total available plant food. Small grain nurse corps must be left unharvested until August 1 of the establishment year to be eligible for cost share reimbursement.
3. Individual grass, tree and shrub plantings should be designed with a diverse mix of trees and shrubs to restore natural plant communities or maximize wildlife benefits. In all cases, plantings greater than 10.0 acres will consist of a mixture of species. Plantings less than 10.0 acres may consist of monotypic species if the purpose of the design is to restore natural community conditions (example; white pine restoration).
4. Practice will be protected from mowing, grazing and uncontrolled fire for the duration of the contract unless specifically identified in the management plan.

	Unit	Method	Cost Share			Lifespan
			Rate	Unit Cost, \$	Max. C/S, \$	
<b>A. Permanent Veg. Cover-grasses, legumes, forbs. 1/</b>						15 years
1. Introduced grasses and legumes with lime.	Ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	250.00	187.50	
2. Introduced grasses and legumes without lime	Ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	125.00	93.75	
3. Native grasses	Ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	210.00	157.50	
4. Native grasses and forbs	Ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	260.00	195.00	
<b>B. Permanent Veg. Cover - Trees &amp; Shrubs</b>						15 years
<b>Animal Damage Control Devices - Installed</b>						
Tree Shelters - 4'	Ea	AM	75% of actual cost	4.00 <u>2/</u>	3.00	
Bud Caps - Softwoods	Ea	AM	75% of actual cost	0.24 <u>3/</u>	0.18	
<b>Weed Control 4/</b>						
Tree Mats - Roll (installed)	100 ea	AM	75% of actual cost	40.00	30.00	
Tree Mats - Square (installed)	Ea	AM	75% of actual cost	1.00	0.75	
Mechanical	100'	AM	75% of actual cost	7.20	5.40 <u>5/</u>	
Chemical <u>6/</u>	100'	AM	75% of actual cost	2.40	1.80	
<b>Site Preparation</b>						
Chemical	Ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	94.00	70.50	
Mechanical (light)	Ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	68.00	51.00	
Chemical/Mechanical	Ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	153.00	114.75	

Trees/Shrubs and Planting						
Trees/Shrubs and Planting	100 ea	AM	75% of actual cost	140.00	105.00	
Container Conifers & Planting	Ea	AM	75% of actual cost	7.00	5.25	

- 1/ Unit costs include seedbed preparation, seeding, seed, fertilizer lime, herbicide and establishment clipping (up to 5 times during the first 24 months).
- 2/ Includes shelter, stake and installation.
- 3/ Cost share payment includes materials and annual installation costs for the first three years.
- 4/ Performed during the first 36 months after planting as needed for establishment.
- 5/ Up to three cultivations per year, cost share is the maximum payment per year, not per cultivation.
- 6/ One application per year.

## USE EXCLUSION - 472

PURPOSE: To protect, maintain or improve the quality of soil, water, plant and animal resources through the exclusion of animals from an area.

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. The operator must not graze, hay, or harvest the area to be excluded unless specifically authorized by the plan.
2. Practice is only authorized in conjunction with practices benefiting riparian areas where the current condition shows environmental damage and the exclusion directly results in environmental benefits.
3. Practice lifespan is 10 years.
4. This practice not authorized for cost share.

## WATERING FACILITY - 614

PURPOSE: To provide an off stream site for livestock watering.

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Cost sharing is authorized when required as a component of a Prescribed Grazing System, Practice Standard 528A.
2. Cost sharing is authorized for permanently installed pumps required as an integral part of a system for delivering stock water.
3. Cost sharing is not authorized for power sources.

	Unit	Method	Cost Share			Lifespan
			Rate	Unit Cost, \$	Max. C/S, \$	
Trough or Tank	no.	AM	75% of actual cost	Cost Estimate	75 % of actual cost	20 years

## WELL -642

PURPOSE: To protect surface waters from livestock degradation by providing a ground water source for livestock watering

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Cost sharing is authorized when required as a component of a Prescribed Grazing System, Practice Standard 528A.

		Cost Share				Lifespan
	Unit	Method	Rate	Unit Cost, \$	Max. C/S, \$	
Well	No.	AM	75% of actual cost	cost estimate	75% of actual cost	20 years

## WETLAND RESTORATION - 657

PURPOSE: To establish or restore the appropriate hydrological and vegetative characteristics necessary to meet the desired wetland functions and values.

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. The producer is responsible for obtaining easements, rights of way, local, state and federal permits and other permission necessary to perform and maintain the practice. Contract will not be approved until proof of necessary permits has been provided.
2. **NOTE:** Wetland enhancement (type conversion) applications shall be reviewed in consultation with the DNR Area Wildlife Manager and FWS local private lands coordinator as appropriate, to determine whether significant wetland functions will be adversely effected. Where inter-agency concurrence is secured, the application shall be considered eligible. Where inter-agency concurrence is not reached locally, the application shall be submitted to the NRCS State Conservationist for a final eligibility determination.
3. The restored area shall not be used for irrigation water purposes.
4. The restored area shall not be used to produce agricultural commodities.

		Cost Share				Lifespan
	Unit	Method	Rate	Unit Cost, \$	Max. C/S, \$	
Wetland Restoration	ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	533.00	400.00	15 years

## WINDBREAK/SHELTERBELT -380

PURPOSE: Multiple rows of trees and shrubs established to: reduce wind erosion, manage snow, provide shelter for structures and livestock, provide wildlife habitat and improve aesthetics.

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Cost sharing components for establishing windbreaks shall follow the costs of Practice 645 - Wildlife Upland Habitat Management; Permanent Vegetative Cover - Trees/Shrubs.
2. Farmstead shelterbelts shall be a minimum of 10 rows. See Biology Technical Note #MN-4 for wildlife considerations.
3. Field windbreaks shall be a minimum of 3 rows.
4. The life span for this practice is 15 years.

## WINDBREAK/SHELTERBELT RENOVATION - 650

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Requirements identified under practice 380 must be met.
2. Cost share on tree removal is authorized if determined needed by technician.

		Cost Share				Lifespan
	Unit	Method	Rate	Unit Cost, \$	Max. C/S, \$	
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation	ac.	AM	75% of actual cost	1000.00	750.00	15 years