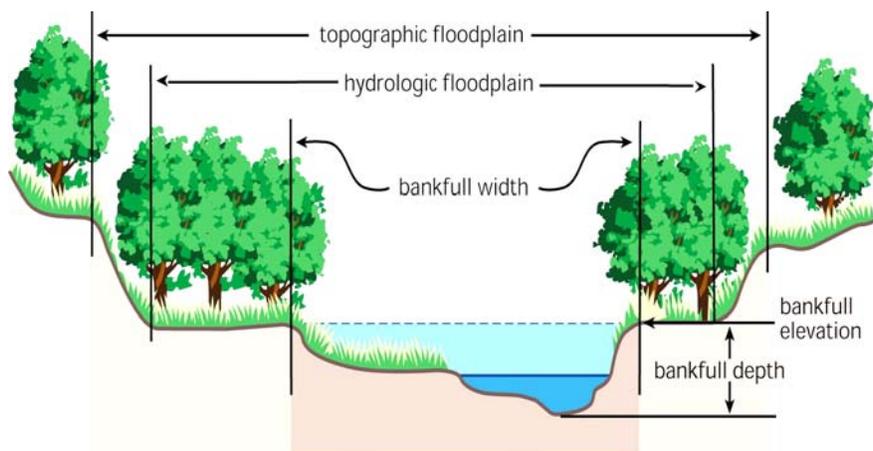


2008 Conservation Security Program

This tool may be used to help determine if the CSP Habitat Assessment needs to be completed for a proposed Tier 3 contract. Only use habitat features that are owned or controlled by the applicant for the contract life. Conditions or management of adjacent lands under different ownership and control are not to be considered. If all applicable questions below are answered yes the applicant is eligible for Tier 3. The biologist could then assist with the Wildlife Assessment Tool if needed.

Streams & Rivers

1. Do all rivers and perennial and intermittent streams on your farm have a riparian buffer which includes grasses, forbs, shrubs, and trees at least 2.5 times bankfull channel width or 33' which ever is less on at least 70% of the stream's length on your property?



Lakes and Ponds

1. Do ponds or lakes on your farm have a buffer that includes grasses, forbs, shrubs, and trees at least 33' wide around at least 10 – 50% of the perimeter?
2. If so, is the vegetation diverse with good ground cover and with no evidence of concentrated flows?

Non-Flooded Cropland

1. Do most all cropland fields include field borders, CRP land, brushy draws, buffers, woodlands with wildlife friendly vegetation that are not mowed or grazed between March 15th and July 15th within or immediately adjacent to the cropland field?
2. Are these areas at least 30 feet wide and surrounding at least ¼ of field perimeters?

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Pastureland

Contact the NRCS Biologist if either set of questions has 2 yes answers and any applicable criteria above are met.

1. Are most pastures dominantly composed of wildlife friendly forage species?
2. Are livestock rotated according to a prescribed grazing plan based on minimum grazing heights?

Or

1. Do most all pasture fields include field borders, CRP land, brushy draws, buffers, woodlands with wildlife friendly vegetation that are not mowed or grazed between March 15th and July 15th within or immediately adjacent to the pastureland field?
2. Are these areas at least 30 feet wide and surrounding at least ¼ of field perimeters?

Hayland

Contact the NRCS Biologist if either set of questions has 2 yes answers and all applicable criteria above are met.

1. Do most hayfields contain at least 2 wildlife friendly species?
2. Hay not cut but once a year and is cut only after July 15th?

Or

1. Do most all hay fields include field borders, CRP land, brushy draws, buffers, woodlands with wildlife friendly vegetation that are not mowed or grazed between March 15th and July 15th within or immediately adjacent to the pastureland field?
2. Are these areas at least 30 feet wide and surrounding at least ¼ of field perimeters?

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