

Conservation Stewardship Program 2011 Ranking Period 1 Activity List for Planners

Code	Eligible Land Use				Enhancement Name	Enhancement and Criteria	Units	Actual/System	Conservation Performance Effectiveness	Relative Cost	Amount Applicable	Information States Need to Develop Prior to Signup	May Be Applicable on Land Adjacent to Eligible Land
AIR01	Crop				Injecting or incorporating manure	Injecting manure 2 inches or more below soil surface or incorporating applied manure within 24 hours to keep nutrients in place and manage odors.	acre	System			Acres of Cropland		No
AIR02	Crop	Pasture			Nitrogen stabilizers for air emissions control	The use of a nitrogen stabilizer with either urea or ammonium fertilizers to control the rate of ammonia and ammonium conversion. For this enhancement "nitrogen stabilizers" includes nitrification inhibitors and urease inhibitors.	acre	System			Acres of Cropland		No
AIR03	Crop				Replace burning of prunings, removals and other crop residues with non-burning alternatives	Use of non-burning alternatives to dispose of prunings, removals and other crop residues from orchards, vineyards and other crops. Non-burning alternatives would include chipping, grinding, shredding, mowing or composting these materials.	acre	System	Low	Low	ac of orchards, vineyards and other perennial woody crops where burning is currently used	State List of acceptable alternatives to burning	No
AIR04	Crop	Pasture			Use drift reducing nozzles, low pressures, lower boom height, and adjuvants to reduce pesticide drift	Use chemical drift reduction technologies to reduce drift of applied agricultural chemicals from the intended target. Drift reduction reduces damage to non-target desirable plants and animal habitats and reduces pollution of water bodies. Reducing chemical drift may improve air quality by decreasing particulate matter in the air, and in some cases reduce the potential for release of volatile organic compounds (ozone precursors) into the air.	acre	System	High	Low	ac crop or pasture	List of acceptable drift reducing methods that are applicable to their states	No
AIR06	Crop				Replacing oil- and wood-fired heaters in orchards and vineyards	Replace oil- and wood-fired heaters in orchards and vineyards to manage particulate matter emissions from frost protection.	no.	Actual	Low	Very High	No. of oil or wood fired heaters currently used	Identify acceptable alternatives	No
AIR07	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	GPS, targeted spray application (SmartSprayer), or other chemical application electronic control technology	Utilize electronically-controlled or managed chemical spray application technology to more precisely apply agricultural pesticides to intended targets, which can reduce the total amount of chemical applied, and reduces the potential for chemical drift.	acre	System	High	Low	ac crop, pasture, rangeland, or forest land		Yes
ANM01	Crop				Drainage water management for seasonal wildlife habitat	Managing soil and/or surface water levels during the off-season to provide seasonal wildlife habitat.	acre	Actual	Medium	Low	ac of cropland that have the potential for flooding	Identify types of landscape that have the potential for flooding	No
ANM02	Crop				Defer crop production on temporary and seasonal wetlands	Deferring crop production on temporary and/or seasonal wetlands until after spring migratory bird season to promote early successional wetland habitat.	acre	System	Medium	High	ac of seasonal wetlands that might be cropped (FW)	State need to identify dates that area is left undisturbed	No
ANM03		Pasture			Incorporate native grasses and/or legumes into 15% or more of the forage base	Incorporate native grasses and/or legumes into 15% or more of the forage base using adapted species and varieties, appropriate seeding rates, and timing of seeding.	acre	Actual	Medium	Medium	ac of pasture that not currently meeting this enhancement criteria	States need to identify adapted species, seeding rates, and seeding dates.	No
ANM04	Crop	Pasture			Extend existing filter strips for water quality protection and wildlife habitat	Extend existing filter strips to gain more efficiency in intercepting overland flow and reducing the transport of nutrients, pesticides and agro-chemicals. Wider filter strips provide more effective habitat for terrestrial animals and provide more inputs to benefit instream habitats.	acre	Actual	High	Low	length of existing buffers x the difference between the minimum width of 60 feet and the state width for a water quality.	States need to identify list of 5 species of non-noxious, wildlife friendly grasses and/or perennial forbs	Yes
ANM05	Crop	Pasture	Range		Extending riparian forest buffers for water quality protection and wildlife habitat	Extend existing buffers to gain more efficiency in intercepting overland flow and reducing the transport of nutrients, pesticides and agro-chemicals. Wider buffers provide more effective riparian habitat for terrestrial animals and provide more inputs to benefit instream habitats.	acre	Actual	High	Low	length of existing buffers x the difference between the minimum width of 60 feet and the state width for a water quality.	States need to identify list of 5 species of non-noxious, wildlife friendly trees and/or shrubs.	Yes
ANM06	Crop	Pasture	Range		Extending existing riparian herbaceous cover for water quality protection and wildlife habitat	Extend existing buffers to gain more efficiency in intercepting overland flow and reducing the transport of nutrients, pesticides and agro-chemicals. Wider buffers provide more effective riparian habitat for terrestrial animals and provide more inputs to benefit instream habitats.	acre	Actual	High	Low	length of existing buffers x the difference between the minimum width of 60 feet and the state width for a water quality.	States need to identify list of 5 species of non-noxious, wildlife friendly grasses and/or perennial forbs	Yes

Conservation Stewardship Program 2011 Ranking Period 1 Activity List for Planners

ANM07	Crop	Pasture			Extending existing field borders for water quality protection and wildlife habitat	Extend existing field borders to gain more efficiency in intercepting overland flow and reducing the transport of nutrients, pesticides and agro-chemicals. Wider field borders provide more effective habitat for terrestrial animals.	acre	Actual	Medium	Low	length of existing buffers x the difference between the minimum width of 60 feet and the state width for a water quality.	States need to identify list of 5 species of non-toxic, wildlife friendly grasses, perennial forbs and/or shrubs.	Yes
ANM08	Crop	Pasture			Improve the plant diversity and structure of non-cropped areas for wildlife food and habitat	Improve plant diversity and structure of non-cropped areas for wildlife food and habitat through the planting and/or management of native plant species.	acre	Actual	Medium	Low	calculated using a ratio of 1 ac per 40 ac of crop or pasture	States need a list of acceptable plants suitable for wildlife habitat	Yes
ANM09		Pasture	Range	Forest	Grazing management to improve wildlife habitat	Implement a grazing management plan that allows for rest periods to provide adequate residue for nesting and fawning cover and increase diversity of vegetation structure to benefit a variety of wildlife species.	acre	System	Medium	Low	ac of grazing land	States need nesting/fawning dates	No
ANM10	Crop				Harvest hay in a manner that allows wildlife to flush and escape	Harvest hay using conservation measures that allow wildlife to flush and escape. Includes timed haying to avoid periods when upland wildlife are nesting or fawning, idling paddocks or pastures and idling hay land during the nesting or fawning period, leaving a residual forage height conducive to wildlife nesting and fawning for the following year, and applying haying techniques that reduce mortality to wildlife.	acre	System	Medium	Medium	ac of hay	States need nesting/fawning dates	No
ANM11		Pasture	Range	Forest	Patch-burning to enhance wildlife habitat	Use prescribed burning to create patches of different vegetation structure and species composition for the benefit of wildlife.	acre	System	Medium	Very Low	ac pasture, range and/or forest	States need nesting/fawning dates	No
ANM12	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Shallow water habitat	Construct, manage or renovate small, shallow wetland sites to encourage water to remain seasonally, often from late winter through early summer (e.g., vernal pools).	acre	Actual	Medium	Low	calculated using a ratio of 1 ac per 100 ac of crop, pasture, range or forest land		No
ANM13	Crop	Pasture	Range		Non-forested riparian zone enhancement for fish and wildlife	Utilizing select conservation measures such as relocating equipment operations, trails, or livestock; establishing diverse native vegetation and controlling invasive species; fencing; and extending the width of the riparian zone to enhance wildlife habitat adjacent to riparian zones of streams, ponds, lakes, or wetlands.	Lin. Ft.	Actual	Medium	Low	Lin. Ft. of non-forested riparian zone (double the length if both sides are controlled)	States need list of suitable woody and/or herbaceous plants	Yes
ANM14	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Riparian forest buffer, terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat	Managing forested riparian zones to achieve streamside cover and vegetative diversity and structure to improve terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat.	Lin. Ft.	Actual	Medium	Low	Lin. Ft. of forested riparian zone (double the length if both sides are controlled)	States need a list of suitable woody and/or herbaceous plants	Yes
ANM15	Crop			Forest	Forest stand improvement for Wildlife Habitat and Soil Quality	Creating snags, den trees, and coarse woody debris on the forest floor to a level optimum for native wildlife usage and long-term forest soil health. May be implemented separately or during thinning or harvesting.	acre	System	Medium	Low	ac of forest	NRCS State Offices will need to develop an example site description that defines the number of snags, the amount of downed wood and number of den trees expected per acre.	No
ANM17		Pasture	Range		Monitoring nutritional status of livestock using the NUTBAL PRO System	Use of the NUTBAL PRO software to determine if current diet meets livestock nutritional needs. Requires collection and laboratory analysis of forage or fecal samples to determine the nutritional value of grazing forages.	acre	System	Medium	Low	ac of pasture and range		No
ANM18		Pasture	Range	Forest	Retrofit watering facility for wildlife escape	Retrofit existing watering facilities (troughs, tanks, etc.) to allow for escape of wildlife that become trapped while trying to drink.	no.	Actual	Low	Very Low	Number of existing watering facilities		No
ANM19	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Wildlife corridors	Wildlife corridors are linear strips of vegetation that connect 2 or more patches of suitable wildlife habitat. Participants will establish vegetative corridors as described below.	acre	Actual	High	Low	30' x distance between all existing wildlife habitat	States will need to be able to identify "suitable wildlife habitat"	Yes
ANM20		Pasture		Forest	Silvopasture for wildlife habitat	Manage silvopastures to promote plant diversity for wildlife habitat.	acre	System	Medium	Medium	ac of existing silvopasture	States need to identify target species that would benefit from improved habitat	No
ANM21	Crop	Pasture	Range		Prairie Restoration for Grazing and Wildlife Habitat	Restoration/renovation of prairie habitat by establishing native vegetation and managing the restored plant community.	acre	Actual	High		ac of cropland, pasture or range that historically were prairie	States will need to develop seed mixes for prairie restoration	No

Conservation Stewardship Program

2011 Ranking Period 1 Activity List for Planners

ANM22	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Restoration and Management of Rare or Declining Habitats	Restoration of habitats recognized as rare or declining.	acre	Actual	High		ac of cropland, pasture, range or forest that have rare habitats	States will need to identify eligible habitats and the type of restoration that will be necessary	No
ANM23	Crop	Pasture	Range		Multi-species Native Perennials for Biomass/Wildlife Habitat	Establishment of native perennial vegetation for biomass production and wildlife habitat.	acre	Actual	Medium		ac of cropland, pasture or range	States will need to identify suitable native perennial planting mixes	No
ANM24				Forest	Upland forest wildlife structures	Installation of structures for wildlife on forest land.	acre	System			acres of forest land	States need to identify activities and structures that are appropriate	No
ANM25		Pasture			Stockpiling forages to extend the grazing season	Management of grazing to allow some portions a pasture to go ungrazed in order to extend the grazing season and reduce the need for making hay.	acre	System			acres of pasture	States need to identify the grazing season	No
ANM26		Pasture	Range		Managing Calving to coincide with Forage Availability	Management of breeding so that calving occurs during time periods when grazing is available in order to reduce the need for hay and other supplementary feed.	acre	System			acres of pasture or range	States need to identify the grazing season	No
ANM27	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Wildlife Friendly Fencing	Making livestock fencing friendly to wildlife, e.g. using tags to mark barbed wire fence making them more visible to wildlife reducing injury and mortality to sage grouse, prairie-chicken and other susceptible birds	Ft.	Actual			20% of total existing permanent fence	Review fence standard to see if it has criteria for wildlife friendly fencing	Yes
ANM28	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Aquatic Organism Passage Barrier Removal	Removal and/or replacement of in stream barriers to aquatic organism passage and replacement with approved structures to allow passage.	No.	Actual			Number of barriers located within water courses	States will need to identify those barriers that are most common in their areas	Yes
ANM29		Pasture	Range	Forest	On-farm forage based grazing system	Promote the use of a on-farm forage based grazing system in which all forage is grown on the farm and harvested by livestock through grazing on pastures or feeding of hay harvested on the farm.	acre	System			Acres of pastureland, rangeland and grazed forestland		No
ANM30		Pasture	Range	Forest	Ultra high density grazing system to improve soil quality	Managing pastures using a high density stocking rate to improve forage and soil quality. This requires a fast rotation (less than one day) with a majority of available forage harvested, the remainder would be left or incorporated by livestock tromping.	acre	System			Acres of pastureland, rangeland and grazed forestland	State will need to develop guidelines for acreage density allowed	No
ENR01	Crop				Fuel use reduction for field operations	Fuel savings of 20% or greater achieved by a reduction in field operations.	acre	System			Acres of cropland		No
ENR03	Crop	Pasture	Range		Pumping plant powered by renewable energy	Requires the use of renewable energy—solar or wind – to power pumping plants for irrigation, drainage, livestock, or wildlife.	no.	Actual	Medium	Medium	No. of existing pumping plants		Yes
ENR05	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Locally grown and marketed farm products	At least 85% of the nutrients and /or feed needed for crops and/or livestock come from sources within 100 miles of the farm. Products from the farm are retail marketed within 100 miles of the farm.	acre	System	Medium	Very Low	acres of cropland, pasture, range and/or forest		No
ENR06	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Upgrade of Old Diesel Powered Pumping Plants	Upgrading of diesel powered pumping plants with more efficient and cleaner alternatives that closely fit irrigation or livestock water needs.	no.	Actual			Number of existing diesel powered pumping plants with no emission controls		Yes
ENR07	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	On-farm energy audit	Conducting energy audits to evaluate energy use in agricultural production systems and implementing recommendations with a 2 year or less payback. Implementation is required only for findings associated with CSP land uses.	no.	Actual			One per application		Yes
ENR08	Crop	Pasture			Using nitrogen provided by legumes, animal manure and compost to supply 100% of the nitrogen needs	Reduce energy usage by providing 100% of crop nitrogen needs through the use of legumes, on farm manure or compost and/or management of rotations.	acre	System			Acres of cropland and pastureland		No
ENR09	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Variable Frequency Drive Electric Motors	Reducing energy use by incorporating variable speed drives on electric motors for fans, pumps and other motors involved with agricultural production	no.	Actual			Number of pumping plant with single speed electric motors		Yes
PLT01	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Establish pollinator habitat	Establish nectar and pollen producing plants in non-cropped areas such as field borders, vegetative barriers, contour buffer strips, waterways, shelterbelts, windbreaks, conservation cover, and riparian forest and herbaceous buffers.	acre	Actual	Medium	Medium	calculate using a ratio of 0.5 ac per 40 ac of crop, pasture, range or forest land	State need to develop list of suitable plants for pollinator habitat, also might need a seed source list	Yes

Conservation Stewardship Program

2011 Ranking Period 1 Activity List for Planners

PLT02		Pasture	Range	Forest	Monitor key grazing areas to improve grazing management	Monitor key grazing areas on pastureland and rangeland to determine if current grazing management meets management goals and objectives. A key grazing area is a small area of a pasture that is identified as being representative of the entire pasture.	acre	System	Medium	Low	ac of pasture, range or forest	Need to identify acceptable monitoring methods	No
PLT03				Forest	Forest stand improvement pre-treating vegetation and fuels	Manage vegetation and fuels in a forested area with mechanical/manual methods to facilitate future treatment with prescribed fire to restore native forest condition.	acre	System	Low	Low	ac of forest	States will provide a list of volatile plants.	No
PLT04				Forest	Forest Stand Improvement, Prescribed burning	Prescribed use of fire in a forest to restore native forest conditions with a focus on improving the condition of fire-adapted plants and wildlife habitat and reducing the risk of damage from intense, severe wildfires.	acre	System	Medium	Low	ac of forest		No
PLT05	Crop			Forest	Multi-story cropping, sustainable management of nontimber forest plants	Manipulation of forest species composition, structure, and canopy cover to achieve or maintain a desired native plant community to facilitate the sustainable management of native non-timber forest plant(s) (e.g., goldenseal, ramps, mushrooms, ginseng, ferns, "sugarbush", etc.).	acre	System	Medium	Medium	ac of forest	List of common non-wood forest products for the state	No
PLT06	Crop	Pasture			Renovation of a Windbreak, Shelter Belt or Hedgerow for Wildlife Habitat	Renovate a windbreak or shelter belt to add diversity for wildlife habitat. Replace plants threatened by invasive pests such as the emerald ash borer.	acre	Actual	High	Low	ac of existing windbreaks or shelterbelts	State list of wildlife species that would benefit from renovation, list of windbreak species that are needed to accomplish this.	Yes
PLT07	Crop			Forest	Hardwood Crop Tree Release	Hardwood Crop Tree Release (CTR) in hardwood stands is a silvicultural technique used to enhance the performance of individual trees, while improving other objectives such as wildlife management, recreation, timber value, and aesthetics.	acre	System	Low		ac of hardwood forest	States will need to identify target species for CTR	No
PLT08	Crop				Habitat Development for Beneficial Insects for Pest Management	Establishment of habitat to attract and support populations of beneficial insects that provide natural suppress of undesirable insects or other pests. Beneficial insects used for pest management include insect arthropod, predators and parasitoids. Habitat requirements include shelter and food that attract and support beneficial insects. These can include trap crops and insectary strips (both permanent and annual.)	acre	Actual	Medium		Calculate at a ratio of 0.5 ac per 40 ac of cropland	States will need to develop lists of plants beneficial to insects	Yes
PLT10		Pasture	Range		Intensive Management of Rotational Grazing	The intensive management of livestock and grazing forages to improve vegetation quality in the pasture and the health of livestock.	acre	System	Medium		ac of pasture and/or range	States will need to establish criteria for length, intensity and frequency of grazing	No
PLT11				Forest	Conifer Crop Tree Release	A silvicultural technique for western softwood forests used to enhance the performance of individual trees, while improving other objectives such as wildlife management, recreation, timber value, and aesthetics.	acre	System	Low		ac of hardwood forest	States will need to identify target species for CTR	No
PLT12				Forest	Patch harvesting to improve degraded hardwood stands	Patch Harvesting is a silvicultural practice used to naturally regenerate over-mature and/or degraded hardwood stands while providing added cover and browse for several game and non-game species of wildlife.	acre	System			acres of forest land	States will need to identify acceptable post harvest regeneration species	No
PLT13				Forest	Forest Stand Improvement for Wildfire Reduction	Requiring landowners to approach wildfire management by establishing fire lines (where appropriate and applicable), fuel breaks (where appropriate and applicable), develop an approved fire plan which would include plan to maintain critical access roads, scouting, access control, identification of water sources, critical contacts, training and posting of plans and phone numbers.	acre	System			acres of forest land		No
PLT14	Crop			Forest	Alley cropping establishment for wildlife and beneficial insect habitat	Planting trees or shrubs in alternating rows with row crops, forage or horticultural crops in areas between the rows, providing plant diversity, improve soil quality and wildlife habitat.	acre	Actual			25% of cropland or forestland acres		No
SOE01	Crop				Continuous no till with high residue	Utilize continuous no-till/strip till/direct seed in the rotation in combination with high and low residue producing crops or cover crops to maintain a high level of residue cover through critical erosion periods.	acre	System	Very High	Medium	ac of cropland	States need to define high residue, low residue crops	No

Conservation Stewardship Program

2011 Ranking Period 1 Activity List for Planners

SOE02	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Protection of Cultural Resource	Protect cultural resources by establishing conservation cover on culturally significant sites.	acre	Actual	Medium	Medium	ac of existing cultural resource sites	States need to consult with state historic information officer and appropriate tribe historical officers and/or BIA	Yes
SOE03	Crop				Continuous No Till Organic System	The use of continuous no-till, strip till or direct seeding method of planting throughout the planned rotation on an organic farm. High residue levels are maintained by including high residue-producing crops, or by low residue crops followed by a cover crop in the rotation. Termination of all cover crops is accomplished using non-chemical methods, such as flail mowing, roller crimper and frost kill. No herbicides are used for weed control.	acre	System	Very High	Medium	ac of cropland	States need to define high residue, low residue crops	No
SQL01	Crop				Controlled traffic system	Confines heavy traffic from tractor drive wheels/tracks, combine wheels, fertilizer or manure spreaders and grain carts to specific lanes through crop fields year after year.	acre	System	High	Low	ac of cropland		No
SQL02	Crop				Continuous cover crops	Growing continuous seasonal cover crops of grasses, legumes or forbs following all annual crops during all the non-crop production periods of the rotation. Continuous cover cropping is applicable to conventional, specialty and organic crop production systems.	acre	System	Very High	High	ac of cropland	States will need to be sure their cover crop recommendations are up to date and cover the five different criteria listed in the enhancement	No
SQL03	Crop				Drainage water management for nutrient, pathogen, or pesticide reduction	Managing soil and/or surface water levels during the off season to reduce nutrients, pathogens, or pesticides leaving the field through drainage systems and flowing into downstream receiving waters. This enhancement may also be utilized to reduce the oxidation of organic matter in the soil and/or reduce wind erosion or particulate matter (dust) emissions.	acre	Actual	Low	Medium	ac of cropland that have the potential for flooding	States Identify types of landscape that have the potential for flooding	No
SQL04	Crop				Use of Cover Crop Mixes	Use of cover crop mixes that contain two (2) or more different species of cover crops.	acre	System	Medium	Medium	ac of cropland	States need to develop list of approved cover crop mixes	No
SQL05	Crop				Use deep rooted crops to breakup soil compaction	Use deep rooted crops to break up pans in the soil to improve internal drainage.	acre	System	Medium	Low	ac of cropland	States need to develop list of approved deep rooted crops	No
SQL06	Crop				Conversion of cropped land to grass-based agriculture for biomass or forage production and wildlife habitat	Conversion of cropped land to grass-based agriculture for biomass or forage production and wildlife habitat supports establishment and management of a mixture of high biomass producing perennial species on cropland where annually-seeded cash crops have been grown in monocultures.	acre	Actual	High		ac of cropland	States need to develop list of acceptable perennial seed mixtures	No
SQL07	Crop			Forest	Forest Stand Improvement for Soil Quality	The management of the forest to improve the soil quality in the forest.	acre	System			acres of forest land		No
SQL08	Crop				Intercropping to improve soil quality and increase biodiversity	Growing two or more compatible crops in close proximity to mimic natural ecosystem patterns in capturing the synergies of biodiversity.	acre	System			25% of cropland acres		No
WQL01		Pasture	Range		Biological Suppression and Other Non-chemical Techniques to Manage Brush, weeds and Invasive Species	Removal, reduction or manipulation of non-herbaceous plants with biological suppression methods.	acre	System	High	Very High	ac of pasture or range	State will need to get information from land grants on Biological suppression techniques that are suitable for their area. Need analysis information to determine which method is best.	No
WQL03		Pasture	Range	Forest	Rotation of supplement and feeding areas	Rotation of Supplementation and Feeding Areas to manage areas of concentrated livestock use to improve livestock distribution and reduce localized areas of disturbances.	acre	System	High	Very Low	ac of pasture, range or forest		No

Conservation Stewardship Program

2011 Ranking Period 1 Activity List for Planners

WQL04	Crop				Plant tissue tests and analysis to improve nitrogen management	Use corn stalk and/or leaf tissue tests to adjust nitrogen application rates.	acre	System	Medium	Low	ac of cropland or pastureland	States may need to have information available on how to conduct the test, where to send the samples and how to interpret the results.	No
WQL05	Crop				Apply nutrients no more than 30 days prior to planned planting date	Apply nutrients (fertilizer, manure, etc.) no more than 30 days prior to the planned planting date of the crop.	acre	System	Low	Low	ac of cropland		No
WQL06	Crop	Pasture			Apply controlled release nitrogen fertilizer	At least 50% of the pre-emergent and early post emergent nitrogen fertilizer used for crop production must be slow-release or controlled release formulations.	acre	System	Medium	Medium	ac of cropland or pasture	States need to identify those materials that are considered to meet this criteria	No
WQL07	Crop	Pasture			Split nitrogen applications 50% after the crops/pasture emerge/green up	Apply 50% or more of the total nitrogen needs after crop emergence.	acre	System	Medium	Low	ac of cropland or pasture		No
WQL08	Crop				Split applications of nitrogen based on a PSNT or other crop-based indicators	Use of a Pre-Sidedress Nitrogen Test (PSNT) to determine the need and/or rate of additional nitrogen to be applied during a sidedress application.	acre	System	High	Low	ac of cropland	States may need to have information available on how to conduct the test, were to send the samples and how to interpret the results.	No
WQL09	Crop				Apply phosphorus fertilizer below soil surface	Apply all Phosphorus fertilizer at least 3 inches deep and/or as a 2X2 row starter.	acre	System	Low	Very Low	ac of cropland		No
WQL10	Crop				Plant a cover crop that will scavenge residual nitrogen	Plant an annual, grass-type cover crop that will scavenge nitrogen left in the soil after the harvest of a previous crop.	acre	System	High	High	ac of cropland	States will need to have list of approved cover crops for this and a way to estimate the amount of N that is scavenged.	No
WQL11	Crop	Pasture			Precision application technology to apply nutrients	Use of precision agriculture technologies to apply nutrients to fit the variation in site-specific conditions found within fields.	acre	System	Medium	Low	ac of crop or pasture		No
WQL12		Pasture	Range	Forest	Managing livestock access to water bodies/courses	Install structures or implement grazing management actions that assist in managing livestock access to water bodies and water courses.	acre	System	Medium	Very Low	ac of pasture, range or forest lands that are grazed and have water bodies or courses accessible to livestock		Yes
WQL13	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	High level Integrated Pest Management to reduce pesticide environmental risk	Utilize advanced Integrated Pest Management (IPM) prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression techniques, and only apply the lowest risk pesticides available in an environmentally sound manner when monitoring indicates that an economic pest threshold has been exceeded. Pesticide applications must follow all label requirements.	acre	System	High	Low	ac of crop, pasture, range or forest land	States need to identify what constitutes "high level IPM"	No
WQL14	Crop	Pasture			Land Application of Treated Manure	Field apply only manure that has been treated to stabilize nutrients and reduce odors and pathogens. Acceptable treatment alternatives are composting, anaerobic digesters or storage in a composting barn.	acre	System	Medium	Low	ac of cropland & Pasture (not including Orchards & Vineyards)		No
WQL15	Crop	Pasture			Reduce the concentration of nutrients on farm by limiting the amount of feed and fertilizer brought on livestock farms	Grow at least 75% of feed for livestock on the farm and use manure from the livestock to supply at least 50% of N, 90% of P and 90% K for crops grown on the farm.	acre	System	High	High	Acres of cropland or pastureland, select only one land use	Follow State Land Grant Uni. Guidelines for credits	No
WQL16	Crop				Use of legume cover crops as a nitrogen source	Produce at least 70% of the operation's nitrogen needs through the use of cover crops or the utilization of manure.	acre	System	Very High	Low	ac of cropland	Follow State Land Grant Uni. Guidelines for credits	No
WQL17	Crop				Use of non-chemical methods to kill cover crops	Where cover crops are grown, eliminate herbicide use by using a roller crimper to kill the cover crop or use a cool season crop that will die back naturally as summer crops grow.	acre	System	High	High	ac of cropland		No
WQL18		Pasture	Range	Forest	Non-Chemical Pest Management for Livestock	Non-chemical Livestock Pest Management addresses management of external pests and internal parasites of livestock without using chemical pesticides. Management techniques include grazing management, use of beneficial plants and other biological methods. Monitoring of both pest levels and effectiveness of management application is an integral part of this enhancement. All techniques also address the necessary basic considerations to reduce the life cycle opportunities of the target pest(s).	acre	System	Low		ac of pasture, range or forest used for grazing	States will need to identify acceptable non-chemical pest control methods	No

Conservation Stewardship Program 2011 Ranking Period 1 Activity List for Planners

WQL19		Pasture	Range	Forest	Transition to Organic Grazing Systems	Transition to Organic Grazing Systems supports the conversion of a conventional to an organic livestock grazing system.	acre	System	High		ac of pasture, range or forest used for grazing	States should be familiar with NOP requirements	No
WQL20	Crop				Transition to Organic Cropping Systems	Transition to Organic Cropping Systems supports the conversion of a conventional to an organic cropping system. Key to the enhancement is the inclusion of management activities that improve soil and water quality in a "Organic System Plan" that adheres to the National Organic Program (NOP) 205.201 criteria.	acre	System	High		ac of cropland	States should be familiar with NOP requirements	No
WQL21	Crop	Pasture	Range		Integrated Pest Management for Organic Farming.	Managing pests on an organic farm, including farms transitioning to organic, with a high level Integrated Pest Management (IPM) system that is based on an understanding of pest ecology. This system utilizes the IPM principles of prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression, while excluding the use of synthetic pesticides.	acre	System	High		ac of pasture, range or forest	States should be familiar with NOP requirements	No
WQL22	Crop	Pasture			On Farm Composting of Farm Organic Waste	The composting of all organic waste produced on a farm such as manure, livestock mortality and crop residues removed from the field.	acre	System	High	High	Ac of cropland or pastureland		No
WQL23		Pasture	Range		Protection of sensitive areas on winter grazing land	Grazing management activities that remove livestock from environmentally sensitive areas on winter pastures by providing shelter away from these areas.	acre	System			pasture or range acres with sensitive acres	States will identify areas that are considered sensitive and acceptable structure types	No
WQT01	Crop	Pasture			Irrigation system automation	Using GPS guided variable rate irrigation or other innovative technologies that allow irrigation water application based on variable site conditions within a field.	acre	System	High	Low	ac of irrigated cropland or pasture		No
WQT02	Crop				Mulching for moisture conservation	Using plastic or fiber mulch to reduce irrigation evaporation losses from bare soil surfaces.	acre	System	Medium	Medium	ac of irrigated land		No
WQT03	Crop	Pasture			Irrigation pumping plant evaluation	Evaluate existing pumping plant and identify and implement maintenance items needed to improve efficiency.	no.	Actual	Medium	Medium	No. of pumping plants		Yes
WQT04	Crop	Pasture			Regional weather networks for irrigation scheduling	Use data from a regional weather network to improve irrigation scheduling.	acre	System	High	Medium	Ac of cropland or pasture, select this enhancement only once per contract	Identify regional weather networks available in the state	No
WQT05	Crop	Pasture			Remote monitoring and notification of irrigation pumping plant operation	Soil moisture monitoring with remote access to download soil moisture data.	no.	Actual	Medium	Medium	No. of pumping plants		No
WQT06	Crop	Pasture			Conversion to Non-Irrigated Crop Production	The conversion of land that has been irrigated 2 out of the last 5 years to crops or pasture production that does not require irrigation.	acre	Actual			Acres of irrigated cropland or pastureland		No
NRCS Code	Eligible Land Use			Supplemental Payment Activity		Activity Criteria							
CCR99	Crop				Resource-Conserving Crop Rotation	The rotation shall cover at least 3 years of the CSP contract. The rotation is considered adopted when the resource conserving crop is planted on at least 1/3 of the rotation acres. The resource conserving crop must be adopted by the third year of the contract and planted on all rotation acres by the fifth year of the contract.	acre	System	Very High			States will need to identify acceptable resource conserving crop rotations	No

Conservation Stewardship Program 2011 Ranking Period 1 Activity List for Planners

NRCS Code	Eligible Land Use				Special Project Activity	Special Project Criteria								
FPP02	Crop	Pasture	range	Forest	On Farm Pilot Projects	On-farm pilots consist of the installation, monitoring and publicizing of projects that fit within the identified state priority areas. Pilots should be practices, components, or management techniques that have shown environmental benefits through research but are not used by farmers in the project area. Practices, components, or management techniques must be implemented, monitored and publicized according protocols developed specifically for the project.	acre	Actual	Medium				States will need to identify acceptable on-farm pilot projects	Yes
FRD01	Crop	Pasture	range	Forest	On Farm Research and Demonstrations	On farm research and demonstration consists of the implementation of applied research projects on working farms to gather information and demonstrate the efficacy of the activity. The projects must fit within identified state priority topic areas.	acre	Actual	Medium				States will need to identify acceptable on-farm research projects	Yes
NRCS Code	Eligible Land Use				Bundle Name	Bundle Criteria	Units	Actual/System						
BCR01	Crop				Crop Technology Bundle #1	This bundle of enhancements consists of using precision techniques to apply nutrients and pesticides while widening buffers to protect non-cropped areas. Includes AIR04, AIR07, WQL11, WQL13 and one of the buffer widening enhancements.	acre	System						
BCR02	Crop				Crop Technology Bundle #2	This bundle of enhancements includes activities to reduce inputs while improving the soil and water quality and benefiting pollinators or other beneficial insects. Includes ENR05, WQL16, SQL02, WQL13 and PLT01 or PLT08	acre	System						
BCR03	Crop				Crop Technology Bundle #3	This bundle of enhancements includes activities to reduce inputs of energy, pesticides and nutrients while protecting non-cropped areas by widening buffers. Includes SOE01, WQL07, WQL10, WQL13 one of buffer widening enhancements.	acre	System						
BCR04	Crop				Crop Technology Bundle #4	This enhancement consist of activities that address resource concerns in orchards and vineyards. Includes AIR03, AIR04, PLT01, SQL02 and WQL13.	acre	System						
BCR05	Crop				Crop Technology Bundle #5	This enhancement consist of activities to improve wildlife habitat on cropland and adjacent areas. Includes ANM08, ANM12, SQL04, WQL13 or WQL21 and one of the four buffer enhancements.	acre	System						
BFO01				Forest	SE Pine Forest Bundle # 1	This enhancement consists of treating SE pine forest with prescribed fire to improve wildlife habitat and forest production. Includes ANM15, PLT03, PLT04, ANM24 and ANM22.	acre	System						
BFO02				Forest	Forest Bundle # 2	This enhancement includes activities to improve wildlife habitat on increase forest productivity. Includes ANM15, PLT07, ANM14, ANM24 and ANM22.	acre	System						
BFO03				Forest	Forest Bundle # 3	This enhancement bundle consist of activities that reduce wildfire potential while improving wildlife habitat and soil quality. Includes ANM14, ANM15, PLT11, PLT13 AND SQL07	acre	System						
BFO04				Forest	Forest Bundle # 4	This enhancement bundle consist of activities that increases wildlife habitat (aquatic and terrestrial) while reducing wildfire potential and improve soil quality. Includes ANM11, ANM15, ANM24, PLT13 and SQL07	acre	System						
BFO05				Forest	Forest Bundle # 5	This enhancement bundle consist of activities that increase diversity of non-timber plants while reducing wildfire risk, improving soil quality and reducing energy consumption. Includes ANM14, ENR05, PLT13, PLT05 and SQL07	acre	System						
BPA01		Pasture			Pasture Grazing Bundle # 1	This enhancement bundle consists of activities to improve the forage base while protecting water quality and protecting wildlife. Includes ANM03, WQL03, WQL12, ANM09 and PLT02.	acre	System						
BPA02		Pasture			Pasture Grazing Bundle # 2	This enhancement bundle consist of activities that will improve wildlife habitat by reducing the impact of pasture management activities using IPM and non-chemical controls to control pest and diseases while improving vegetation beneficial to both livestock and wildlife. Includes ANM03, ANM06, ANM09, WQL01, and WQL18	acre	System						

Conservation Stewardship Program 2011 Ranking Period 1 Activity List for Planners

BPA03		Pasture			Pasture Grazing Bundle # 3	This enhancement bundle consist of activities that reduce energy use on pasture acres. Includes AIR07, ANM03, ENR03, ENR05 and WQL13.	acre	System
BPA04		Pasture			Pasture Grazing Bundle # 4	This enhancement bundle consists of activities to improve forage utilization for a longer period of the growing season while saving energy, protecting water quality and improving soil. Includes ANM25, ANM26, PLT10, WQL03 and WQL15	acre	System
BPA05		Pasture			Pasture Grazing Bundle # 5	This enhancement bundle consist of activities that address all aspects of pasture management pest, nutrient and improve forage quality while improving wildlife access to water. Includes AIR04, ANM03, ANM18, PLT02, AND WQL07	acre	System
BRA01			Range		Range Grazing Bundle # 1	This enhancement bundle consists of activities to improve range management while protecting water quality and protecting wildlife. Includes PLT02, WQL12, ANM18 or ANM11, ANM09, and WQL03.	acre	System
BRA02			Range		Range Grazing Bundle # 2	This enhancement bundle consist of activities that increase wildlife habitat and water quality. Includes ANM19, PLT02, WQL12, ANM05 or ANM06 and ANM13 or ANM14	acre	System
BRA03			Range		Range Grazing Bundle # 3	This enhancement bundle consist of activities that aid in the restoration of plant communities, increase wildlife habitat and monitor the impact of grazing. Includes ANM09, ANM11, ANM21, ANM22 AND PLT02	acre	System
BRA04			Range		Range Grazing Bundle # 4	This enhancement consist of activities that focus on improving habitat by reducing wildlife mortality range plant communities, while saving energy. Includes ANM18, ANM27, ENR03, PLT02, and WQL01	acre	System
BRA05			Range		Range Grazing Bundle # 5	This enhancement consist of activities that address multiple resource concerns on rangeland, e.g. forage quality, control of undesirable plants and improved wildlife habitat. Includes ANM09, ANM26, WQL01, WQL03 and WQL13	acre	System
Code	Eligible Land Use				Practice Name	Practice Definition	Units	Actual/Sys tem
314	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Brush Management	Removal, reduction or manipulation of non-herbaceous plants on rangeland, native or naturalized pasture, pasture, hayland and forest lands where removal or reduction of excessive woody (non-herbaceous) plants is desired.	acre	Actual
328	Crop				Conservation Crop Rotation	Growing crops in a recurring sequence on the same field to control erosion, improve soil organic matter, balance nutrients, improve water use efficiency, manage saline seeps, manage pests and/or provide food and cover for wildlife	acre	System
329	Crop				Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till/Strip Till/Direct Seed	Managing the amount, orientation and distribution of crop and other plant residue on the soil surface year round while limiting soil-disturbing activities to only those necessary to place nutrients, condition residue and plant crops.	acre	System
338		Pasture	Range	Forest	Prescribed Burning	Controlled fire applied to a predetermined areas to maintain or enhance fire dependent ecologies.	acre	System
340	Crop				Cover Crop	The planting of crops such as grasses, legumes and forbs to provide seasonal cover that will reduce erosion, improve soil organic matter, promote efficient nutrient cycling, fix nitrogen in the soil, suppress weeds, increase biodiversity and/or provide food and cover for wildlife.	acre	System
342	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Critical Area Planting	Establishment of permanent vegetation on sites that have or are expected to have high erosion rates, and on sites that have physical, chemical or biological conditions that prevent the establishment of vegetation with normal practices.	acre	Actual
344	Crop				Residue Management, Seasonal	Managing the amount, orientation, and distribution of crop and other plant residues on the soil surface during a specified period of the year, while planting annual crops on a clean-tilled seedbed, or when growing biennial or perennial seed crops.	acre	System
345	Crop				Residue and Tillage Management, Mulch Till	Managing the amount, orientation and distribution of crop and other plant residue on the soil surface year round while limiting the soil-disturbing activities used to grow crops in systems where the entire field surface is tilled prior to planting.	acre	System
346	Crop				Residue and Tillage Management, Ridge Till	Managing the amount, orientation, and distribution of crop and other plant residues on the soil surface year-round, while growing crops on pre-formed ridges alternated with furrows protected by crop residue.	acre	System

Conservation Stewardship Program

2011 Ranking Period 1 Activity List for Planners

380	Crop	Pasture	Range		Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	Windbreaks or shelterbelts are single or multiple rows of trees or shrubs in linear configurations to reduce surface wind speeds in order to control wind erosion, manage snow deposition, reduce the spread of odors, reduce pesticide spray drift and/or provide wildlife food and cover.	feet	Actual
383		Pasture	Range	Forest	Fuelbreak	A strip or block of land on which the vegetation, debris and detritus have been reduced and/or modified to control or diminish the risk of the spread of fire crossing the strip or block of land.	acre	Actual
384				Forest	Forest Slash Treatment	Treating woody plant residues created during forestry, agroforestry and horticultural activities to reduce fire hazards, insect infestations and/or improve the site for natural regeneration.	acre	Actual
386	Crop				Field Border	A strip of permanent vegetation established at the edge or around the perimeter of a field to provide a buffer between cropland and non-cropped areas to reduce cropland impacts and provide wildlife food and cover.	acre	Actual
390	Crop	Pasture	Range		Riparian Herbaceous Cover	Grasses, grass-like plants and forbs that are tolerant of intermittent flooding or saturated soils and that are established or managed in the transitional zone between terrestrial and aquatic habitats to provide a buffer between agricultural areas and riparian areas and to enhance riparian zone functions.	acre	Actual
391	Crop	Pasture			Riparian Forest Buffer	An area predominantly trees and/or shrubs that are tolerant of intermittent flooding or saturated soils and that are established or managed in the transitional zone between terrestrial and aquatic habitats to provide a buffer between agricultural areas and riparian areas and to enhance riparian zone functions.	acre	Actual
393	Crop				Filter Strip	A strip or area of herbaceous vegetation established on cropland that removes contaminants from overland flow.	acre	Actual
394		Pasture	Range	Forest	Firebreak	A permanent or temporary strip of bare or vegetated land established to retard the movement of fire.	feet	Actual
395	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Stream Habitat Improv/Mgmt	Maintain, improve or restore physical, chemical and biological functions of a stream, and its associated riparian zone, necessary for meeting the life history requirements of desired aquatic species.	acre	System
449	Crop	Pasture			Irrigation Water Management	The process of determining and controlling the volume, frequency and application rate of irrigation water in a planned, efficient manner.	acre	System
511	Crop	Pasture			Forage Harvest Management	The timely cutting and removal of forages from the field as hay, green-chop or ensilage.	acre	System
512	Crop	Pasture			Pasture and Hay Planting	Establishing native or introduced forage species.	acre	Actual
528		Pasture	Range	Forest	Prescribed Grazing	Managing the harvest of vegetation with grazing and/or browsing animals in order to enhance or maintain good forage production and provide wildlife food and cover.	acre	System
550			Range		Range Planting	Establishment of adapted perennial vegetation such as grasses, forbs, legumes, shrubs and trees in order to establish a function range ecology.	acre	Actual
612	Crop			Forest	Tree/Shrub Establishment	Establishing woody plants by planting seedlings or cuttings, direct seeding, or natural regeneration.	acre	Actual
643	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Restoration and Management of Rare and Declining Habitats	Restoring and managing rare and declining habitats and their associated wildlife species to conserve biodiversity.	acre	System
644	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management	Retaining, developing or managing wetland habitat for wetland wildlife.	acre	System
645	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	Provide and manage upland habitats and connectivity within the landscape for wildlife.	acre	System
647	Crop	Pasture	Range	Forest	Early Successional Habitat Development/Management	Manage early plant succession to benefit desired wildlife or natural communities by increasing plant community diversity.	acre	System
650	Crop	Pasture	Range		Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation	Replacing, releasing and/or removing selected trees and shrubs or rows within an existing windbreak or shelterbelt, adding rows to the windbreak or shelterbelt or removing selected tree and shrub branches.	feet	Actual
654	Crop			Forest	Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment	The closure, decommissioning, or abandonment of roads, trails, and/or landings and associated treatment to enhance forest functions.	feet	Actual
655	Crop			Forest	Forest Trails & Landings	A temporary or infrequently used route, path or cleared area within a forest established to provide access to the forest while limiting damage to the forest.	acre	Actual
660	Crop			Forest	Tree/Shrub Pruning	The removal of all or part of selected branches, leaders or roots from trees and shrubs to improve forest health and functions.	acre	System
666	Crop			Forest	Forest Stand Improvement	The manipulation of species composition, stand structure and stocking by cutting or killing selected trees and understory vegetation to enhance forest health and functions.	acre	System