DSP 3.2 Grazing System Water Distribution

Purpose

1. Improve or maintain desired species composition and vigor of plant community.
2. Improve or maintain surface and/or subsurface water quality and quantity.
3. Improve or maintain riparian and watershed function.
4. Reduce accelerated soil erosion and maintain or improve soil condition.

Applicability

Applies to pastureland where permanent vegetative cover is established and can be enhanced through the use of a planned grazing system. The system operator must follow an approved grazing system plan. The system operator must attend an approved grazing school provided by University of Missouri, in conjunction with NRCS, prior to the district's submittal of a contract for review.

Erosion Requirements

Practice has no erosion requirements.

Specifications

The completed practice must meet the NRCS Standards and Specifications for Livestock Pipeline (516), Prescribed Grazing (528), Stream Crossing (578) and Watering Facility (614) contained in the Field Office Technical Guide.

Policies

1. Cooperators must have an approved grazing plan prior to contract board approval.
   a. A system may be approved for land where livestock do not currently graze; however, the district must verify that the system has livestock within the first year after meeting the Prescribed Grazing (528) standard and specifications.
   b. After a grazing plan is developed, grazing practices may be installed independently of one another to work towards its implementation.
      1) Cost-share payments will be authorized as each practice is completed, according to NRCS standards and specifications within the grazing plan.
   c. The entire grazing system must meet the standard and specifications for Prescribed Grazing (528) within three years after payment of the first contract or the entire amount of cost-share received must be repaid. The district should give funding priority to cooperators working toward the Prescribed Grazing (528) standard and specifications.
   d. The size and number of paddocks will be determined by the grazing system plan, which must be designed for appropriate grazing height and rest periods as listed in the NRCS "Grazing Management Guidelines." The planner and district should encourage the cooperator to develop an effective system that meets the program's and cooperator's objectives, and enables the cooperator to stay in compliance. There is no time limit for adding to existing systems.

2. All losing streams and streams that have a perennial pool or permanent flow that lie within paddocks served by a water source through a DSP 3.2 must be fenced to exclude livestock.
   a. When properly designed and installed, the operator may limit access to the excluded area for "flash" grazing if specific, brief time periods are defined in the grazing plan.
   b. Streams may be fenced out with the DSP 3.3 in any paddock within the grazing system.
3. The following applies to fencing and providing additional water to paddocks. Enter documentation into MoSWIMS as appropriate.
   a. Water may be provided where a paddock is subdivided or acreage is added to create a new paddock without a water source.
   b. Additional livestock watering facilities may not be added to paddocks where a water source exists.
   c. Livestock watering facilities may not be added to paddocks where a pond was excluded using N472 and no subdivision of the paddock is planned.
   d. A livestock watering facility may be provided in a paddock where a fenced pond has never been utilized for watering and the cooperator has utilized water in an adjacent field.
4. ***Cost-share is authorized for:***
   a. Components needed to install pipeline and a water distribution point(s) for livestock watering from a water source.
   b. All newly approved grazing systems and existing systems (systems that meet NRCS Standards and Specifications for Prescribed Grazing, Code 528).
      1) Watering facilities are allowed in an existing system if paddock numbers are increased or acreage is added. An exception is if water is to be distributed to paddocks that previously did not contain a water source (such as systems that involve moving livestock through lanes/paddocks to a central water source). Justification must be entered into MoSWIMS.
      2) One watering facility may be installed per paddock.
5. ***Cost-share is not authorized for:***
   a. Pipeline and/or components that serve lots, buildings, or areas outside of the grazing system.
   b. Livestock watering facilities added to paddocks where a pond was excluded using N472 and no subdivision of the paddock is planned.
   c. Watering facilities to be enhanced or added to paddocks that currently contain an adequate watering facility. An exception would be if a pond/spring cannot provide water for the duration of the grazing period designated in the grazing plan. Justification must be entered in MoSWIMS.

Maximum State Cost-Share

1. Assistance is limited to 75% of the established county cost, not to exceed the state average cost.

2. Maximum of $85 per acre. The acres to be considered for the maximum will be the acreage within the paddocks served by the water distribution system.
3. Utilize the Practice Limits Detail report in MoSWIMS to ensure compliance with applicable maximums.

Map Requirements

1. Shapefiles from NRCS's Toolkit program must be saved on the district's T:\ drive prior to contract approval. The shapefiles must contain attributes that show the following information that pertains to the contract:
   - Farm Perimeter
   - Acreage Completed under DSP 3.4 and/or DSP 3.5
   - Location of Power Source
   - System Acreage
   - Field Numbers
   - Any other feature that may affect the completed system.

   a. Planned items must be shown and labeled with the fiscal year to be installed.
      - Planned Fence
      - Planned Pipeline
      - Planned Water Source
      - Planned Watering Facility (Specify Tank or Hydrant)
      - Planned Lime Application
      - Planned Seeding Application

   b. Existing items must be labeled with the fiscal year installed and funding source (EQIP, SWCP, etc.).
      - Existing Fence, including existing perimeter and cross fences
      - Existing Pipeline
      - Existing Water Source
      - Existing Watering Facility (Specify Tank or Hydrant)
2. A map that displays the completed practice must be scanned and attached as a document type "Map" in MoSWIMS prior to contract payment submission.

Technical Responsibilities

Technical staff has the responsibility for determining the need for the practice, for design of the practice based upon the minimum extent necessary, and to certify that the completed practice meets NRCS standards and specifications within commission policy.

Acres Served

Acreage established in permanent vegetative cover within the paddocks where water is delivered that did not previously contain an adequate water source. Heavily forested acreage and cropland are not eligible.

Extent Installed

Acres.

Maintenance Life

10 years.