DSP 3.3 Grazing System Fence

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 Fence (382) and Prescribed Grazing (528) 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. Deterrent fence to create or intensify a grazing system where livestock graze on both sides of the installed fence in accordance with the grazing plan.
      1) Construction of fence on an existing system if paddock numbers are increased or acreage is added.
      2) Cost-share on the least cost wire component. If the board of supervisors determines that fence other than high tensile electric is the minimum necessary for system, then cost-share can be provided to install other types of deterrent fence. The board's justification must be properly documented in MoSWIMS as a General note type.
      3) The number of strands of wire allowed must be appropriate for the livestock species in the grazing system. Additional strands may be added at a later date if the species changes or for allowance of co-grazing. Fence must meet Standards and Specifications for deterrent of species as listed in the NRCS *Wire Height and Spacing* table.

Wire Height & Spacing

Fence type	Livestock type	Purpose	Min Number of Wires	Height of Top Wire	Suggested Wire Spacing
Barbed Wire (12.5 gauge standard; 12.5 gauge, 2 strand, twisted, barbless; or 15.5 gauge high tensile)	Cattle	Containment	4	48"	12,12,12,12
		Deterrent	4	48"	12,12,12,12
	Sheep/Goats	Containment	6	48"	6,6,6,8,10,12
		Deterrent	5	36"	6,6,6,8,10
	Horses	Containment	4	48"	12,12,12,12
		Deterrent	4	48"	12,12,12,12
Woven wire (Conventional -- top & bottom strands 12.5 gauge with 14.5 wire for intermediate strands with verticals every 4 – 12") (High tensile - all 12.5 gauge high tensile wire with verticals every 6 – 24")	Cattle	Containment	39" woven + 1 barb or HTE	48"	4 (woven), 5
			32" woven + 2 barbs or HTE	48"	4 (woven), 6, 6
	Sheep/Goats	Containment	39" woven + 1 barb or HTE	48"	2 (woven), 7
			36" woven + 2 barbs or HTE	48"	2 (woven), 2, 8
			32" woven + 2 barbs or HTE	48"	2 (woven), 6, 8
		Deterrent	36" woven	36"	0-2"

			32" woven + 1 barb or HTE	36"	0-2"(woven), 4
	Horses	Containment	39" woven + 1 barb or HTE	48"	4 (woven), 5
		Deterrent	32" woven + 1 barb or HTE	42"	4 (woven), 6
Permanent Electric (12.5 gauge high tensile, 12.5 gauge vinyl coated, or 16 gauge multi-strand braided cable)	Cattle	Containment	2	36-48"	18-24", 18-24"
		Deterrent	1	26-36"	26-36"
	Sheep/Goats	Containment	5	38-40"	6-8,6-8,8,8,8,8-10
		Deterrent	3	30-32"	8-10, 10, 10-12
	Horses	Containment	3	48"	24,12,12
		Deterrent	2	40-44"	24,16-18

5. ***Cost-share is not authorized for:***
   a. Property line/perimeter fence.
   b. Fence that cannot be grazed on both sides. The only exception is fence along a stream within a paddock.
   c. Fence to create paddocks within dense woodlands.
   d. Fence along roads/lanes utilized to access a residence.
   e. Fence along crop fields where the primary grain crop is mechanically harvested.
   f. Fence to exclude a pond. Utilize the N472 Use Exclusion practice to exclude an existing pond.

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 $60 per acre. The acres to be considered for the maximum will be the acreage of paddocks where new fence is installed.

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 fence is installed. Heavily forested acreage and cropland are not eligible.

Extent Installed

Acres.

Maintenance Life

10 years.