



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Fact Sheet

CP38E Colorado Shortgrass Prairie Buffer SAFE Program

Purpose

The goal of the Colorado Shortgrass Prairie Buffer Program (CSPB) to preserve the integrity of and expand the extent of shortgrass prairie reserves managed for wildlife species in eastern Colorado.

Total acres for the program are: **10,000**

Sign-Up Time Frame

The Program sign-up will take place at the local FSA offices, and it will run on a continuous basis.

This means that eligible land may be enrolled at any time until the program acreage goal is met.

Eligible Land and Practices

To be eligible for this practice the land must be located in the following counties: Adams, Arapahoe, Bent, Elbert, El Paso, Larimer, Logan, Kit Carson, Sedgwick, and Yuma and be located in the SAFE designated area.

In addition, the land must meet the basic CRP eligibility requirements.

The minimum size of tracts entered into the program is 160 acres contiguous with existing tracts of protected native shortgrass prairie. Multiple landowners may go together to come up with a 160 acre tract of eligible acres. The general intent of the program is to get 160 acre square tracts (1/4 section) that share a boundary with a protected area, however, other configurations are eligible. Contiguous means the tracts touch each other at one or more points.

Applicable CRP Practice Include:

CP2 (Establishment of Permanent Native Grasses)

Program Objectives

The programs seeks to enroll new acres into the SAFE program. This will be done through the establishment and management of restored tracts of critical shortgrass prairie habitats adjacent to existing protected grasslands.

Contracts

The effective date of the CRP contract is the first of the month following the month of approval. In certain circumstances, procedures may defer the effective date for up to six months

Contracts can not be less than ten years, and they can not be more than fifteen years.

Cost-Share Payments

CCC will pay up to 50 percent of the eligible cost of establishing a permanent cover.

Rental Rates

Rental rates are based on three predominant soils on land offered for enrollment. FSA bases the rental rates on the average value of dry land cash rent for the past three years, and adjusts rates to reflect the relative productivity of soils within each county.

Cooperating Agencies

Agate Conservation District
Burlington Conservation District
Centennial Conservation District
Colorado Association of Conservation Districts
Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW)
Deertrail Conservation District
Double El Conservation District
East Otero Conservation District
El Paso County Conservation District
Environmental Defense
Farm Service Agency (FSA)
Flagler Conservation District
Fort Collins Conservation District
Fremont Conservation District
Kiowa Conservation District
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
Sedgwick County Conservation District
South Platte Conservation District
The Nature Conservancy
Timpas Conservation District
Turkey Creek Conservation District
United States Fish & Wildlife Service
United States Forest Service
West Arapahoe Conservation District
Yuma Conservation District