

Fact Sheet



United States
Department of
Agriculture

CP 38E Colorado Lesser Prairie Chicken Habitat Enhancement SAFE Program

Purpose

The goal of the Colorado Lesser Prairie Chicken Habitat Enhancement SAFE Program is to restore and enhance short and mid-grass sand sagebrush prairie to maintain and enhance lesser prairie chicken (LPC) populations in Colorado.

Total acres for the program are: 11,600

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.

The applicable counties are capped with CRP enrollment. Offers for enrollment may become effective October 2009 providing eligible acres under CRP are terminated or expired.

Eligible Land and Practices

To be eligible for this practice the land must be located in the following counties: Baca, Cheyenne, Kiowa, and Prowers and be located within the SAFE designated area.

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

Applicable CRP Practices Include:

CP4D (Permanent Wildlife Habitat, Noneasement)

CP10 (Vegetative Cover - Grass - Already Established)

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.

Cost-Share Payments

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

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 cannot be less than ten years, and they cannot be more than fifteen years.

Additional Practice Requirements

Acres being re-enrolled under CP10 must be inspected by NRCS or a CDOW biologist and then modified as prescribed before re-enrollment per practice requirements.

Mid-contract management activities apply and cost share is authorized for management activities.

Cooperating Agencies

- Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW)
- Lesser Prairie Chicken Interstate Working (LPCIWG)
- Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (RMBO)
- US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Farm Service Agency (FSA)
- Baca, Cheyenne, Kiowa, Northwest Prowers, and Prowers Conservation Districts
- Playa Lakes Joint Venture
- The Nature Conservancy
- Environmental Defense
- Pheasants Forever
- Colorado Farm Bureau Federation
- Colorado Watershed Network