Private Lands Habitat Management Cost-Share Programs

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MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

USDA Farm Bill

- WHIP (Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program)
- EQIP Environmental Quality Incentives Program

CRP (Conservation Reserve Program Mid Contract Management)
MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS
US Department of Interior
US Fish & Wildlife Service

- Partners For Fish & Wildlife
- NAWCA North American Wetlands Conservation Act
  - Prairie Pothole Joint Venture
  - Upper Mississippi / Great Lakes Joint Venture
MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

State of Minnesota

- Heritage Enhancement
- PHIP (Pheasant Habitat Improvement Program)
- Turkey Stamp (Online Grant)
- Non Game Funds
- Forestry DOF State C/S Program
- Native Buffer Cost Share Program
- RIM Cost Share (Reinvest In Minnesota)
MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

Non Government Organizations

- Pheasants Forever
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- Ducks Unlimited
- Minnesota Deer Hunters Associations
- Local Sportsman’s Clubs
- The Nature Conservancy
- Minnesota Waterfowl Association
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- **WHIP** (Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program)
  - Flat Rate Based on 75% C/S
  - Non Federal Program Land
  - No Land Payment Involved

- **EQIP** (Environmental Quality Incentives Program)
  - Flat Rate Based on 50% C/S
  - Some Program Incentives
  - Non Federal Program Land
  - $1,000.00 in Commodities Sales
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- **CRP** (Conservation Reserve Program Mid Contract Management)
- 50% NTE Rate
- 2 Mid Contract Management Practices on 15 year Contract
- 1 Mid Contract Management Practice on 10 Year Contract
- Practice Has to Take Place Between Years 1 & 7
**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

- **Partners For Fish & Wildlife**
  - No Association with Federal Funds
  - 50%-100% Cost Share
  - Priority on Easements
  - Focus on Waterfowl and Grassland Bird Habitat
  - High Priority at least 40 acres

- **NAWCA (North America Wetland Conservation Act)**
  - Grant Funds, usually through club.
  - 50% non Federal Match Required
  - Focus on Waterfowl and Grassland Bird Habitat
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- **MN DNR Grants**
  Heritage Enhancement & PHIP (Pheasant Habitat Improvement Program)
  Focused on Grassland and Wetland Habitat.
  **Turkey Stamp** – Woodland Projects through local club.
  **MN DNR DOF State C/S Program** Forest Stewardship Plan Required, Flat Rate Payment
  Private Lands Specialist or Area Wildlife Manager May Set Limits.
  **LIP (Landowner Incentives Program)** Non Game Funds focused on Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

- **Native Buffer Cost Share Program**
  75% Max Cost Share
  At least 15 Year Contract
  Prairie Seeding must be Local Seed Sources, Tree Removal, Prescribed Burning, Seed Harvest, Site Prep and a Rental payment (3 yrs X 75% of the Rental Payment)
  **Must Achieve 25 species goal**
  Administered By Local SWCD’S (Soil & Water Conservation Districts)
**RIM Cost Share**

- Applications taken on “Case by Case” basis.
- A Practice Implementation/Amendment Request Form has to be Completed at your local SWCD office.
- 100% Cost Share NTE $300 or $600 per acre.
- Eligible practices: Wetland Restoration, Native Grass Establishment, Brome Conversion to Natives, and Tree Planting.
PRESCRIBED BURNING

- WHIP $45 - $56 per ac.
- EQIP $30 - $38 per ac.
- CRP (MCM) 50% NTE
  $30 - $40 per ac.
- MN DNR PHIP, Heritage - Set by Specialist
- MN DNR DOF State C/S Program - $35 per acre
- Native Buffer Cost Share Program 75% C/S
TSI & TREE/BUCKTHORN REMOVAL

- WHIP $113 - $553 per ac.
- EQIP $104 - $369 per ac.
- CRP (MCM) 50% NTE $15 per ac.
- USFWS Partners For Fish & Wildlife 50% - 100%
- MN DNR DOF State C/S Program $25 - $89 per acre.
- MN DNR Heritage, PHIP, Turkey Stamp, Non Game – Set by Specialist
- Native Buffer Cost Share Program 75% C/S
EARLY SUCCESSIONAL HABITAT

DEVELOPMENT and MANAGEMENT
(Brush Mowing or Shearing, Edge Feathering)

- WHIP $75 to $159 per ac.
- EQIP $50 to $106 per ac.
- CRP (MCM) 50% NTE $15.00 per ac.
- USFWS Partners For Fish & Wildlife 50% - 100%
- MN DNR Wildlife - Set by Specialist
- MN DNR DOF State C/S Program $32 - $75 per acre
LIGHT DISKING

- CRP (MCM) 50%
  NTE $8.00 per ac.

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INTERSEEDING
NON-NATIVE CONVERSION

- WHIP $138 - $169 per ac.
- EQIP $85 – 149 per ac.
- CRP (MCM) 50% NTE $30 - $40 per ac. (an additional $20 per ac. Can be added for site prep and $8 per ac. Can be added if mix contains 8 oz. of forbs per ac.)
- Partners For Fish & Wildlife 50% - 100%
- MN DNR PHIP or Heritage - Set by Specialist
- Native Buffer Cost Share Program 75% C/S
- RIM Cost Share 100% NTE $300 per acre

Photo by: Kristy Zajac
WETLAND RESTORATION

- WHIP (Rate per structure)
- EQIP (Rate per structure)
- Partners For Fish & Wildlife
  50% - 100%
- MN DNR Heritage, PHIP,
  Duck Stamp - Set by Specialist
- RIM Cost Share 100% NTE
  $600 per acre
SHOULD I PLANT TREES?

- Am I managing for only Pheasants?
- Do I have quality winter cover within 2 miles or less? (Emergent wetlands with large stands (≥10 acres) of cattail, Phragmites, or sandbar willow provide excellent winter cover) or
  Where wetlands are not available, large (3-5 acre) shelterbelts containing ≥10 rows of shrubs and conifers can be established where they will protect heavy grass cover (e.g., 10-acre blocks of switchgrass).
- What species of trees can I plant that will not spread.
- Any food plots should be within ¼ mile of the quality winter cover.
BRUSH, EVERGREEN
FORESTRY TREE PLANTING

- **WHIP** $164 per acre Conifers or $254 per ac. Direct Seeding.
- **EQIP** $0.67 per seedling or Direct Seeding $255 per acre.
- **MN DNR DOF State C/S Program** $155 - $164 per acre seedlings, $491 per acre w/shelters. Direct Seeding $255 per acre
- **RIM Cost Share** 100% NTE $300 per acre
Low Cost Solutions

- Sell Timber to Remove Trees
- Allow Wood Cutting
- Prescribed Haying and Grazing Plans With Neighbors.
- Sell Fill to Create Scrapes
- Burn CO-OP with Neighbors

*Always check with regulating authority on permits, plans, and changes in contract.*
For More Information Contact:

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Contact:
Your Local USDA Service Center

US Fish & Wildlife Service
www.fws.gov/midwest/maps/minnesota.htm