

Pasture Land Conversion

Definition/Purpose

A Pastureland Conversion Practice means establishing trees or perennial wildlife plantings on excessively eroding land with a visible sediment delivery problem to the waters of the state being used for pasture that is too steep to mow or maintain with conventional equipment to improve water quality. Benefits may include reduced soil erosion and sedimentation.

Policies

1. Adequate fencing is required. If new, permanent fence is necessary it may be cost shared (see Livestock Exclusion).
2. All tree species are to be planted for long term timber management. Cost share for planting Christmas trees or ornamentals is not allowed.
3. Cost share for competing vegetation control is limited to mowing or herbicide application.
4. BMP soil, nitrogen, and phosphorus impacts are required on the contract. Include the planted acreage as well. Refer to the Minimum NCACSP Effects Requirements table later in this section for the correct methods of calculation.
5. All contracts that include pre- or post- plant site preparation or competition control treatments must include a statement from either the county forest ranger or a registered forester that the specified treatments are necessary. This statement cannot be substituted for the forest management plan required for CREP contracts. A forest management plan recommending the specified treatments can be submitted in lieu of the above statement.
6. When determining the acreage for which payments can be made for this practice, only the acreage actually planted shall be considered. The area occupied by farm roads, best management practices, ditches, structures, etc. shall not be included in planted acreage.
7. Minimum life of BMP is ten (10) years.

Standards

N. C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Standard #342 (Critical Area), #472 (Access Control) and #382 (Fence).