Use Exclusion Fencing Q&A

Question: What is the difference between Livestock Exclusion Fencing and Use Exclusion Fencing?

Answer: The Livestock Exclusion Fencing BMP does not permit livestock entry to streams or streambank at any time during the contract maintenance period (with the exception of temporary water supply failures). Use Exclusion Fencing permits planned flash grazing for occasional management of riparian areas. Flash grazing is intended to maintain desired riparian resource conditions by managing the frequency, duration, timing, and intensity of use by flash grazing animals in pasture systems.

Question: What fencing components may be contracted with Use Exclusion Fencing?

Answer: Any permanent fence component suitable for livestock exclusion may be used. Examples include:

FENCE-3-strand perm, electric, incl. Gates

FENCE-4+-strand perm, electric, incl. Gates

FENCE-perm, 3 strand interior, electric or non- electric, incl. Gates

FENCE-perm, non-electric, incl. Gates

FENCE-1-2 strand perm, electric or barbed, incl. Gates

Note: 'USE EXCLUSION FENCE-Includes gates and signs' is an available component in the ACSP cost list Construction and Building Materials section. While not intended for this BMP, it is an acceptable component, but the cost may be prohibitive to installing for exclusion fence.

Question: This BMP policy states it is permitted at the discretion of the District board based on local priorities with a site-specific determination by the conservation planner. Does the board need to approve use of the BMP in the district before it may be used?

Answer: No, the BMP is approved for use in ACSP. Local boards may determine if they want to offer the BMP in the district and include any restrictions in their annual strategic plan.

Question: What are the JAA requirements for this BMP?

Answer: In order to sign for JAA the conservation planner must possess JAA for one of the following.

- 1. SWCC Use Exclusion Fence
- 2. NRCS ECS 382 Fence and NRCS ECS 472 Access Control

The SWCC has approved <u>Technical Competency Requirements</u> for Use Exclusion Fencing. District staff may apply for this JAA at any time. Environmental Services is compiling a list of individuals that possess NRCS job approval authority for both Fence and Access Control so they may be granted SWCC JAA for Use Exclusion Fencing, if interested.

Question: What are the spot-check requirements for Use Exclusion Fencing?

Answer: Use Exclusion Fencing includes an additional annual spot-check requirement during the 10-year maintenance period. Spot-check responses will be used to evaluate functionality of the BMP. Continuance of spot-check will be periodically re-evaluated.

Question: How would contracting in CS2 work if someone wants to modify their existing contract?

Answer: Where an active Livestock Exclusion Fencing BMP was installed and meets all the flash grazing provisions of the Use Exclusion Fencing BMP a contract modification may be requested by the district board. The district will plan the new BMP to meet program policy requirements, and the cooperator must agree to the additional management and maintenance requirements. The contract maintenance period does not change due to the modification. The district will complete a contract modification form, approved by the board, update maps, then upload them to CS2 and notify the cost share specialist. Division staff will then process the modification and notify the district when complete.