WILDLIFE PROVISIONS OF THE 1996 FARM BILL

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Abstract: The Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform (FAIR) Act of 1996 provided the greatest array of federal farm programs beneficial to northern bobwhites *(Colinus virginianus)* and other wildlife within the memory of most wildlife managers. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), Conservation of Private Grazing Land, and Forestry Incentives Program (FIP) are described. Where applicable, opportunities for bobwhite quail habitat improvement are explained for each program.

Introduction

The Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform (FAIR) Act of 1996, known as the 1996 Farm Bill, has provided the greatest array of federal farm programs directed at benefiting wildlife within the memory of most wildlife professionals (Helenski et al. 1998). Title III of the 1996 Farm Bill contains the conservation provisions of this bill and encompasses those programs which have the greatest interest to wildlife managers. The conservation programs available under the 1996 Farm Bill can have significant impacts on wildlife populations when applied and managed properly (Benson et al. 1996, Burger et al. 1994, Smith 1996, Kantrud et al. 1994, Dorsey 1994, Lee and Henderson 1994). The 1996 Farm Bill simplified existing programs and created new programs to address high priority conservation needs. It authorized more than $2.2 billion in additional funding for conservation programs.

This paper is a summary of some of the programs available to landowners under the 1996 Farm Bill which can have direct impact on northern bobwhite quail (*Colinus virginianus*) and other upland game birds.

The information for this paper, unless otherwise noted, is derived from information provided for public access on the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) internet site (http://www.nrcs.usda.gov), the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) internet site (http://www.fsa.usda.gov) and the Farm Bill Network internet site of the National Association of Conservation Districts (http://www.fb-net.org), G. Whitaker, ed.

Environmental Conservation Acreage Reserve Program

The 1996 Farm Bill established the Environmental Conservation Acreage Reserve Program (ECARP) as the broad umbrella program containing the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP); each a significant conservation component of the 1996 Farm Bill. ECARP was authorized for the 1996 through 2002 calendar years. It also authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to designate conservation priority areas (CPAs) that will be eligible for enhanced assistance under CRP, WRP and EQIP. Assistance can be based upon soil, water, wildlife habitat, or other natural resource problems within the CPA.

Conservation provisions of the 1996 Farm Bill

Some of the major provisions of the 1996 Farm Bill which have the greatest impact on northern bobwhite quail and other wildlife are listed in Table 1. The following is a detailed description of each program and how it can be applied to bobwhite quail management.

Conservation Reserve Program

Originally authorized in the 1985 Farm Bill, the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) protects highly erodible and environmentally sensitive lands with grass, trees and other long-term cover. The program has proven highly popular with 36.4 million acres enrolled nation-wide under the 1985 and 1990 Farm Bills. However, cover types that were approved under the 1985 Farm Bill (and in many areas encouraged) on

the local level were not always those with the highest benefits to wildlife. Many were monoculture plantings of species such as old world bluestems (*Diachanthium* spp.) (Miller, G.T., TX Parks & Wildlife, pers. commun.), tall fescue (*Festuca arundincacea)* or densely planted pines (*Pinus* spp.) (Thackston, R.E., GA Dept. Nat. Res., pers. commun.).

The 1996 Farm Bill extended CRP to 2002 with a cap of 36.4 million acres. New enrollments are accepted during scheduled sign-up periods to replace acres leaving the program. The 1996 Farm Bill also strengthened the wildlife provisions of the CRP.

The CRP is administered by the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) through the FSA. The NRCS, Cooperative Extension Service, state forestry agencies and local soil and water conservation districts provide support.

In order to be enrolled in CRP land must meet the following requirements:

Cropland that is planted or considered planted to an agricultural commodity during 2 of the 5 most recent crop years which is also physically and legally capable of being planted in a normal manner to an agricultural commodity; or

Marginal pasture land that is either certain acreage enrolled in the Water Bank Program or suitable for use as riparian buffer to be planted to trees.

Also, in order for **cropland** to be eligible it must:

Have an Erosion Index (EI) of 8 or higher or be considered highly erodible land according to the conservation compliance provisions;

Be considered a cropped wetland;

Be in a beneficial land use such as filter strips, riparian buffers, grass waterways, shelterbelts, well-head protection areas;

Be subject to scour erosion;

Be located in a national or state CRP conservation priority area; or

Be cropland associated with or surrounding non-cropped wetlands.

Acres offered for CRP are ranked according to an Environmental Benefits Index (EBI). The EBI gives a numerical value to a variety of criteria based upon their relative environmental benefits. All bids received (nationally) are ranked in order of EBI and selections are made from that ranking. The EBI factors include:

The wildlife habitat benefits resulting from the type of cover to be planted on the acres offered;

- Water quality benefits achieved through reduced erosion, runoff and leaching;

The on-farm benefits of reduced erosion;

The long-term benefits from the cover planted on acres offered (i.e. trees);

- Air quality benefits from reduced wind erosion;

Additional benefits accrued if the acres offered occur in a CPA; and

Cost

The rental rate for accepted CRP acres is based upon the relative productivity of soils within each county and the past 3 year average of the local dryland cash rent or its equivalent. Producers offering land for the CRP are informed in advance the amount of the calculated rental rate. They may offer the land at that rate or bid a lower rental rate to increase their EBI and therefore increase the likelihood their offer will be accepted.

In addition to the standard rental rates, CCC offers up to 20% annual incentive bonus for certain continuous sign-up practices. If the CRP contract involves wetland restoration, CCC offers a one-time incentive payment of 25% of the costs incurred for establishment. This is in addition to the 50% cost share for establishment of approved cover.

Continuous CRP Sign-up

In order to encourage conservation practices on

areas of high environmental value, certain areas are not subject to the competitive bidding process and may be enrolled at any time. Eligible practices include: riparian buffers, filter strips, grassed waterways, shelterbelts, living snow fences, contour grass strips, salt tolerant vegetation, and shallow water areas for wildlife. If eligible, these areas are automatically accepted into CRP (subject to national acreage limitations) with a 20% rental payment bonus.

Since the inception of CRP there have been 18 sign-up periods. Conservation practices that were available under the 18th sign-up are listed in Table 2.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a state-federal partnership program designed to address specific state and national conservation needs of high priority. These conservation needs can be improved water quality, erosion control, and wildlife habitat in defined geographic areas. In those states with an approved CREP proposal, the program uses financial incentives to encourage producers to enroll in 10-15 year programs to remove land from agricultural production.

CREP proposals must:

- Address resource issues of state and national importance.
- Be cost effective in comparison to other conservation programs.
- Be results oriented with measurable goals and a monitoring program to track progress.

  Provide significant (ideally 20%) non-federal funding.
- Demonstrate support from farmers and ranchers and other interest groups.

  Be consistent with applicable laws and regulations.

  Contain a maximum of 100,000 acres per state.

  Provide for voluntary enrollment.

Each state must submit a CREP plan to USDA for approval. The governor of each state transmits the locally-developed CREP plan to the USDA where an interagency panel reviews the proposal and provides comments back to the governor. The governor then submits a revised proposal to USDA and draft agreement which, when approved by USDA, is signed by the Secretary of Agriculture and governor.

Currently the states of Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Oregon and Washington have approved CREP plans. Draft plans are under review for the states of Delaware, Idaho, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Wisconsin.

Benefits of CRP to northern bobwhite

Application of selected practices on standard CRP and Continuous CRP acres can have important beneficial impacts to northern bobwhites. Many of the approved Conservation Practices (CPs) can be favorable to quail, especially if used in combination with other practices.

In my opinion, CP2, CP4D, CP10 and CP12 offer the greatest opportunity to establish and maintain high quality quail nesting and brood rearing cover. These practices involve planting of permanent vegetative cover (grasses and legumes) which is an important component of quail habitat in Texas (Guthery 1986:115-116). Burger et al. (1994) in evaluating factors affecting habitat value of CRP lands in Missouri found that 55% of nests of radio-marked bobwhites were found in the permanent vegetative cover of CRP fields. The structural characteristics (height and density) of CP2 fields was consistently greater than CP1 and CP4. Burger et al. (1990) suggested that CP2 fields might provide nesting cover sooner than CP1 fields. He also theorized that CP4 fields with a legume component might increase the value of these fields as brood rearing habitat because of abundant invertebrate populations (Burger 1993). Invertebrates are an important component of bobwhite chick diets and serve as an index to brood habitat quality (Hurst 1972).

Winter food plots can have a significant impact on quail survival in northern portions of their range (Robel 1972). Practice CP12 allows producers to plant wildlife food plots and count those acres as part of the CRP contract eligible for rental payment. All of the costs of food plot planting must be borne by the producer. Also, NRCS technicians must be consulted and authorize the size and location of the food plots.

Woody cover is an important component in quail habitat (Guthery 1986:18-35) Practices CP3 and CP4B can be applied to plant shrub cover to provide valuable travel lanes, loafing sites, and winter protective cover.

All of the above listed practices with the exception of CP12 can also be applied to Continuous CRP acres. In addition, practices CP15A, CP16A CP21, CP22 and CP24 can be highly beneficial to bobwhite quail on certain sites. Each of these practices involves strip cover which can add vegetative diversity to the site, provide secure travel lanes and create "edge" or the transition zone between cover types.

Wetlands Reserve Program

The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) is a voluntary program to restore and protect wetlands on private property. It offers landowners a financial incentive to enhance wetlands in exchange for retiring marginal agricultural land. Continuous sign-ups of WRP began on 1 October 1996. Participating landowners may sell a conservation easement or enter into a cost-share agreement with the USDA to restore and protect wetlands. The landowner and USDA develop a plan for restoration and maintenance of the wetland. Landowners voluntarily limit the future use of the land, yet retain ownership in return for the sale of an easement or for 75% cost-share of the restoration activity.

The program offers landowners 3 land retirement options: permanent easements, 30-year easements, and 10-year contract duration restoration cost-share agreements.

Eligible land must be restorable and suitable for wildlife benefits which includes:

- Wetlands farmed under natural conditions;
- Farmed wetlands;
- Prior converted cropland;
- Farmed wetland pasture;
- Farmland that has become a wetland as a result of flooding;
- Rangeland, pasture, or production forest land where the hydrology has been significantly degraded and can be restored;
- Riparian areas which link protected wetlands;
- Lands adjacent to protected wetlands that contribute significantly to wetland functions and values; and
- Previously restored wetlands

Access to WRP lands remains in control of the landowner who may lease the land for hunting, fishing, and other undeveloped recreational activities.

Benefits of WRP to northern bobwhite

At first glance, this program may appear to have little to do with bobwhite quail habitat; however, restoration of wetland-associated upland acres can be beneficial to bobwhite quail in the proper setting. Upland acres may be restored to permanent vegetation with the same benefits as those described for CRP cover plantings.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a new program of the 1996 Farm Bill. It supersedes and combines 4 of USDA's former conservation programs: the Agricultural Conservation Program, Water Quality Incentives Program, Great Plains Conservation Program, and the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program. The CCC through the NRCS and FSA administers and funds the program. Congress authorized $1.3 billion over the seven-year period of FY 1996 through FY 2002 for EQIP with $130 million the first year and $200 million thereafter. Fifty percent of the funding is targeted at practices relating to livestock-related natural resource concerns including concerns on grazing lands and other lands directly attributable to livestock. Total payments are limited to $10,000 per person per year and $50,000 for the length of the contract.

EQIP provides technical, educational, and financial assistance to farmers and ranchers to address soil, water and related natural resource concerns that are addressed in 5-10 year contracts. Contract applications are accepted throughout the year and applications are ranked based upon previously approved criteria. County FSA committees approve funding of eligible applications based upon the ranking and the environmental benefits achieved. The goals are achieved through implementation of structural, vegetative and land management practices that address

the identified conservation needs.

EQIP applicants must meet the following criteria in order to be eligible:

- Be in compliance with highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions of the 1996 Farm Bill;
- Have control of the land for the life of the proposed contract;
- Comply with provisions to protect the interests of tenants and sharecroppers;
- Supply information to the NRCS that land used as cropland, rangeland, pasture, forest land, and other land on which crops or livestock are produced poses a threat to soil, water, or related natural resources.

EQIP works primarily in priority areas where significant natural resource needs exist. EQIP priority areas are determined in each state to maximize the overall environmental benefits. Priority areas may be defined as a watershed, an area, or a region of special environmental concern. Applicants who have conservation plans that address natural resource concerns within a designated priority area will be given special consideration. Normally 65% of funds are targeted for priority areas with 35% used for significant conservation concerns outside of the priority areas.

Program applicants must submit a conservation plan that, when implemented, protects the soil, water or related natural resources consistent with the purpose of the program. Participants are responsible for implementing the plan; however, may seek additional assistance from other public or private organizations or private agribusiness to implement the plan.

The conservation practices that are eligible for funding under EQIP, determined by the NRCS, shall provide beneficial cost-effective approaches to conserve or improve soil, water, or related natural resources or to provide for environmental enhancement.

Benefits of EQIP to northern bobwhite

These broad guidelines allow states to adopt a wide array of eligible practices capable for funding under EQIP. Many have multiple resource benefits including benefits to bobwhite quail and other wildlife. Examples of practices eligible for cost-share in Kansas under EQIP and their application to quail habitat management are listed in Table 3.

The list will vary in each state as determined by the conservation needs identified in that state; however, Table 3. is representative of practices available in the Great Plains.

As can be readily deduced from review of the listed practices, almost any bobwhite habitat need that might exist on a property can be addressed through the use of this program. What's more, EQIP is by far the largest of the 1996 Farm Bill programs with $200 million available *each year* whereas programs such as WHIP are funded at just $50 million for the entire 7 year life of the 1996 Farm Bill. It's clear that the greatest opportunities for bobwhite management exist under EQIP.

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

The Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program to help participants develop or improve habitat for upland and wetland wildlife, threatened and endangered species, fish, and other wildlife on private lands. It provides technical assistance and cost-share payments for approved practices. The state conservationist in consultation with the State Technical Committee establishes the program direction for the NRCS in each state.

In order to participate a person must own or control the land under consideration and be prepared to implement a wildlife habitat improvement plan. The NRCS offers financial and technical assistance plus participants may receive additional funding from state wildlife agencies, nonprofit or private organizations.

WHIP was originally funded for $50 million through the year 2002. At present funds are very limited; however, additional appropriations are being sought due to the early popularity of the program.

The NRCS and the program participant enter into a cost-share agreement for a duration of 5-10 years from the time the agreement is signed. The participant agrees to install and maintain the WHIP practices and allow NRCS access to monitor the progress. The NRCS agrees to provide technical assistance and pay up to 75% of installing the practices.

Benefits of WHIP to northern bobwhite

This program has the potential to provide significant beneficial impacts to bobwhites. The program highlights wildlife management and habitat improvements. Almost any habitat related factor that may be limiting the growth or health of a bobwhite population can be addressed under this program. Examples of typical practices eligible for cost-share under WHIP are listed in Table 3.

Conservation of Private Grazing Land

Conservation of Private Grazing land is a new program of the 1996 Farm Bill. It authorizes the NRCS to provide technical, educational, and related assistance to owners of private grazing land. No cost-share assistance is included in this program.

The program is designed to provide:

- Improved management of grazing lands;

  Reduction of soil and wind erosion;

  Water conservation;

  Wildlife habitat;

  Healthy and functioning grassland communities;

The program was funded at $10 million for FY 1997 with authorization for up to $60 million for subsequent fiscal years to FY 2002. The program offers interested landowners the opportunity to receive technical assistance in designing grassland management plans. These plans can consider bobwhites and other rangeland wildlife.

Forestry Incentives Program

The 1996 Farm Bill extended the existing Forestry Incentives Program (FIP) through the year 2002. The cost-share program was first authorized in 1978 to pay part of the costs associated with tree planting, timber stand improvement, and related practices on nonindustrial private forests. The program provides natural resources benefits including improved wildlife habitat.

FIP is available as a nationwide program; however, only in those counties designated by the USDA Forest Service as suitable for timber production. The program provides up to 65% cost-share for approved practices with a $10,000 maximum per person. FIP is under the supervision of the State forester who provides technical advice in developing the management plan.

In order to be eligible for FIP a landowner must meet the following requirements:

Own no more than 1,000 acres of eligible forest land;

- Be a private landowner of nonindustrial forest;

  Have land that is suitable for conversion from cropland to forest land that is capable of producing marketable timber crops if not in trees; or for improved forest management;

- Have at least 10 acres of eligible land.

FIP cost shares for most practices involving tree planting, timber stand improvement or site preparation for natural regeneration. Some practices of the program can be used to improve woodland understory for northern bobwhites.

National Conservation Buffers Initiative

In April 1997, USDA announced the new National Conservation Buffers Initiative to encourage agricultural producers to use conservation buffers. The program had a stated goal of installing 2 million miles or 7 million acres of buffers by year 2002.

Buffers are areas or strips of land in permanent vegetation designed to intercept sediment, nutrients and pesticide runoff from farm fields and manage other environmental concerns. Buffers can include: riparian buffers, filter strips, grasses waterways, shelterbelts, windbreaks, living snow fences, contour grass strips, cross-wind trap strips, shallow water areas for wildlife, field borders, alley cropping, herbaceous wind barriers and vegetative barriers.

In addition to the obvious water quality benefits of reduced agricultural runoff, buffers can produce significant wildlife benefits. They provide nesting and brood rearing cover, winter shelter, feeding and loafing sites, plus secure travel lanes between nearby habitats.

Conservation buffers are eligible for rental payments and/or cost-share payments for establishment under one or more of the following USDA programs: CRP; EQIP; WHIP; WRP; and Stewardship Incentives Program. The continuous CPR sign-up offers an excellent opportunity for many producers to enroll in the National Conservation Buffers Initiative, install beneficial conservation practices (Table 2.) and receive an annual rental payment.

Benefits of the National Conservation Buffer Initiative to northern bobwhite

Bobwhites are an edge-associated species with generally increased populations as habitat diversity increases. The National Conservation Buffer Initiative will significantly increase the amount and diversity of edge habitats for bobwhites. The buffer initiative will improve the "transition zone" between cropped lands and adjoining land uses. In working with landowners across much of the northern bobwhite range, I have often identified lack of transition zone between cropland or pasture habitats and adjoining mature woodland habitats as a critical limiting factor for bobwhites. The Buffer Initiative allows landowners to address this bobwhite habitat need through a variety of practices that will provide year-round cover.

Conclusion

The suite of programs available to producers in the 1996 Farm Bill is by far the most comprehensive package of programs with benefits to wildlife that has come available in recent memory (maybe ever). Conservation groups, agencies and individuals working cooperatively with agricultural interests and the USDA tailored this program to address the conservation needs of the land and wildlife. The program offers producers the opportunity to retire fragile agricultural land and restore wildlife habitats in exchange for annual rental payments. It offers cost-share assistance for installing practices that protect the water and the environment while providing wildlife habitat, and it provides for educational materials and technical assistance to assist producers and landowners in deciding how to best implement the opportunities that are available to them.

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Table 1. Key provisions of the Federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 1996 with greatest benefits to northern bobwhite *(Colinus virginianus)* and other wildlife.

Conservation Provision	National Acreage Limit	Other Conditions or Descriptions
Conservation Reserve Program	36.4 million	Converts highly erodible cropland to permanent cover. Contract length 10-15 yr.
Wetlands Reserve Program	975,000	Voluntary program to restore wetlands. Payment can be as much as the ag value of the land. Must be a balance of permanent easements, 30-year easements and voluntary restoration agreements.
Environmental Quality Incentives Program	none	Cost sharing for conservation practices. Contract length 5-10 years; $200 million annually; 50% of funds for conservation associated with livestock operations.
Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	none	Financial incentives to develop fish and wildlife habitat on private land. $50 million over 7 years for wildlife habitat on private lands.
Conservation of Private Grazing Land	none	Provides technical assistance for conservation and enhancement of natural resources on private grazing land.
Forestry Incentives Program	none	Supports good forest management on private non-industrial forest land.
National Conservation Buffer Initiative	7 million	Designed to encourage the use of buffer strips as a conservation practice in agricultural landscapes.

Table 2. Conservation practices eligible for CRP land enrolled in standard sign-up 18 and for the continuous CRP sign-up. (Source: Farm Bill Network. G. Whitaker, ed. Internet address: http://www.fb-net.org).

Practice	Available for Sign-up 18	Available for Continuous Sign-up	Other Restrictions Applicable on Continuous Sign-up
CP1 Establishment of permanent introduced grasses and legumes	X	X	Eligible within approved wellhead protection areas only
CP2 Establishment of permanent native grasses	X	X	Eligible within approved wellhead protection areas only
CP3 Tree planting	X	X	Eligible within approved wellhead protection areas only
CP3A Hardwood tree planting	X	X	Eligible within approved wellhead protection areas only
CP4B Permanent wildlife habitat (corridors). Noneasement	X	X	Eligible within approved wellhead protection areas only
CP4D Permanent wildlife habitat. Noneasement	X	X	Eligible within approved wellhead protection areas only
CP5A Field windbreak establishment. Noneasement		X	
CP6 Diversions	X		
CP7 Erosion control structure			
CP8A Grass waterways. Noneasement		X	
CP9 Shallow water areas for wildlife		X	
CP10 Vegetative cover - grass - already established	X	X	Eligible within approved wellhead protection areas only
CP11 Vegetative cover - trees - already established	X		
CP12 Wildlife food plots	X		
CP15A Establishment of permanent vegetative cover (contour grass strips). Noneasement		X	
CP16A Shelterbelt establishment. Noneasement		X	
CP17A Living snow fences. Noneasement		X	
CP18B Establishment of permanent vegetation to reduce salinity. Noneasement		X	
CP18C Establishment of permanent salt tolerant vegetative cover. Noneasement		X	
CP19 Alley cropping	X		
* CP20 Alternative perennials	X		
CP21 Filter strips		X	
CP22 Riparian buffer		X	
CP23 Wetland restoration	X		
CP24 Establishment of permanent vegetative cover as cross wind trap strips		X	
CP25 Rare and declining habitat	X		

* CP20 is not an available practice for sign-up, but contracts enrolled under other acceptable codes may be converted to CP20.

Table 3. Typical practices beneficial to northern bobwhites *(Colinus virginianus)* eligible for EQIP and WHIP program cost-share in the Great Plains. From Kansas NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.

Practice	Available for EQIP	Available for WHIP	Where applied to benefit bobwhites
Critical area planting	X	X	To plant native warm season grasses (NWSG) and forbs for nesting and brood rearing.
Fencing	X	X	To restrict livestock from selected areas.
Field border fertilization	X	X	To enhance transition zones between units.
Filter strip	X	X	Planting of NWSG along riparian zones.
Firebreak establishment	X	X	Preparation for a safe prescribed burn.
Forest stand improvement	X	X	Woody cover management.
Grassed waterways		X	Establishment and management of NWSG and forbs.
Grazing land mechanical treatment	X	X	For brush management in rangelands.
Hedgerow planting	X	X	To establish deciduous and coniferous woody cover.
Pasture and hay planting	X	X	Planting of NWSG and forbs on uplands.
Pasture and hay land management		X	Lime and fertilizer to improve stands of NWSG and forbs.
Prescribed burning		X	Brush control and rejuvenation of NWSG.
Range planting	X	X	Planting of NWSG and forbs on uplands.
Rangeland brush management	X	X	To control excessive woody invasion in rangelands and restore quality nesting and brood rearing habitat.
Riparian forest buffer	X	X	Allows planting and establishment of tree/shrub borders in riparian zones.
Spring development	X	X	To develop an existing spring and provide access to water.
Tree / shrub establishment	X	X	To establish deciduous and coniferous woody cover.
Trickle and sprinkle irrigation systems		X	To improve establishment tree / shrub and NWSG and forb plantings.
Trough or tank	X	X	Provide water in a dry environment.
Underground outlet	X		Applied to a trough or tank for water access.
Upland wildlife habitat management	X	X	Can include light disking and tree / shrub establishment.
Well	X	X	Provide water in a dry environment.
Wetland restoration	X	X	Construction and renovation of wetlands.
Wetland wildlife habitat management	X	X	Associated bordering upland sites can also be improved.
Wind stripcropping	X	X	To add edge and cover diversity in an agricultural setting.
Windbreak	X	X	Woody protective cover.
Windbreak / shelterbelt renovation	X	X	Restoration of existing woody cover.
Woodland direct seeding	X	X	Woody cover establishment.