



Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, Governor • Sara Parker Pauley, Director

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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MEMORANDUM

2013-005

DATE: October 2, 2012

TO: All Soil and Water Conservation Districts

FROM: ^{Ken} Ken Struempf, District Operations Section
Soil and Water Conservation Program

SUBJECT: N472 Livestock Exclusion Policy

The Soil and Water Districts Commission approved the new N472 Livestock Exclusion Practice policies during their September meeting. The new practice policies will be included in the Cost-Share Handbook available at the Training Conference in November. Please note that this practice will take the place of the current DFR-05 Woodland Protection through Livestock Exclusion and the N472 Use Exclusion practices and becomes effective for FY14 Cost-Share contracts starting January 1, 2013.

The following changes were approved by the commission:

The DFR-05 Woodland Protection through Livestock Exclusion and the N472 Use Exclusion practices were combined into the new **N472 Livestock Exclusion Practice**. Practice Policy changes have been bolded.

Applicability statement:

“Applies to existing ponds, woodlands, sinkholes, streams, or sensitive areas where vegetation, soil condition, and water quality are in need of protection from livestock.”

Specifications were clarified to state:

“The completed practice must meet NRCS Standards and Specifications for Fence (382) and livestock exclusion under Access Control (472) contained in the Field Office Technical Guide.”

The following policy items were updated or added:

2. Spraying is allowed to control noxious weeds along fence lines for maintenance purposes. Prescribed burning of warm season grass stands is an allowed maintenance practice. Prescribed burning of woodland areas is allowed when part of a timber management plan and only in areas that leaf litter removal will not increase erosion processes.

- 3. The area excluded must have boundary fence or natural barriers that contain livestock to the property prior to installing exclusion fence.**
- 4. Annual grazing must occur next to the exclusion area for the maintenance life of the practice.**
- 5. Cost-share is authorized for:**
 - a. Exclusion fence that lies within an existing functional interior or property line fence/natural barrier.**
- 6. Cost-share is not authorized for:**
 - a. Fence that does not serve the purpose of excluding livestock, such as property lines, rights-of-way, farm road boundaries or livestock lanes.**
 - e. Reconstruction: The Soil and Water Conservation Program will not pay for the rebuilding of fence. High Tensile Electric (HTE) is recommended in areas where fence is likely to be damaged to lower the landowner's cost if reconstruction is necessary during the maintenance period.**

The \$5 per acre incentive associated with the N472 practice has been removed. There is no out-of-production incentive for this practice.

The new N472 Livestock Exclusion policy has been attached for your reference. If you have suggestions for changes to any cost-share policy, they can be submitted at any time and will be taken into consideration when that practice policy comes up for review. Program staff would like to thank districts for the comments submitted for the practice policy review process.

KS:afd

Attachment

Woodland Erosion Resource Concern

N472 Livestock Exclusion

Purpose

Protect soil and plant resources from grazing by livestock.

Applicability

Applies to existing ponds, woodlands, sinkholes, streams, or sensitive areas where vegetation, soil condition, and water quality are in need of protection from livestock.

Erosion Requirements

Practice has no erosion requirements.

Specifications

The completed practice must meet the NRCS Standards and Specifications for Fence (382) and livestock exclusion under Access Control (472) contained in the Field Office Technical Guide.

Policies

1. The area where the practice will be applied must currently have livestock to qualify.
2. Spraying is allowed to control noxious weeds along fence lines for maintenance purposes. Prescribed burning of warm season grass stands is an allowed maintenance practice. Prescribed burning of woodland areas is allowed when part of a timber management plan and only in areas that leaf litter removal will not increase erosion processes.
3. The area excluded must have boundary fence or natural barriers that contain livestock to the property prior to installing exclusion fence.
4. Annual grazing must occur next to the exclusion area for the maintenance life of the practice.
5. ***Cost-share is authorized for:***
 - a. Exclusion fence that lies within an existing functional interior or property line fence/natural barrier.
6. ***Cost-share is not authorized for:***
 - a. Fence that does not serve the purpose of excluding livestock, such as property lines, rights-of-way, farm road boundaries or livestock lanes.
 - b. Bringing electrical power to the site.
 - c. Clearing of rocks or other obstructions from the area.
 - d. Tree plantation.
 - e. Reconstruction: The Soil and Water Conservation Program will not pay for the rebuilding of fence. High Tensile Electric (HTE) is recommended in areas where fence is likely to be damaged to lower the landowner's cost if reconstruction is necessary during the maintenance period.

Maximum State Cost-Share

1. Assistance for components is limited to 75% of the county average cost, not to exceed the state average cost.

Map Requirements

1. A CMT Map Number must be entered in MoSWIMS prior to contract approval. The map must show the following information that pertains to the contract:
 - Farm Perimeter
 - Existing Fence
 - Planned Fence
 - Acres treated with practice.
 - Any other feature that may affect the practice, such as natural barriers that serve as a boundary.
2. A map that displays the completed practice must be scanned and attached as a “Map Document” in MoSWIMS prior to contract payment submission.

Technical Responsibilities

Technical staff has the responsibility for determining the need for the practice, for design of the practice based upon the minimum extent necessary, and to certify that the completed practice meets NRCS standards and specifications within commission policy.

Acres Served

Acreage excluded.

Extent Installed

Acres.

Maintenance Life

10 years.