Grassland Management and Planning Project Implementation Plan

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& Technical Assistance

319 Watershed Project
October 2009

Sponsored By:

South Dakota Grassland Coalition

Submitted To:

**South Dakota Department of
Environment and Natural Resources
Pierre, South Dakota 57501**

AWARD FISCAL YEAR: 2010

PROJECT TITLE: Grassland Management and Planning Project

NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE AND E-MAIL OF LEAD PROJECT SPONSOR:
South Dakota Grassland Coalition
Lavern Koch, Chairman
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New Underwood, SD 57761

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PROJECT TYPE: Watershed

PROJECT LOCATION: State wide

WATERSHED NAME: State wide

HYDROLOGIC UNIT CODE (HUC): State wide

HIGH PRIORITY WATERSHED: Yes **POLLUTANT TYPE:** Nutrients, Sediment, and Fecal Coliform Bacteria

UWA CATEGORY:

TMDL DEVELOPMENT: (See Table 4) **TMDL IMPLEMENTATION:** (See Table 4)

TMDL PRIORITY (High, Medium, Low): High

WATERBODY TYPES: Lakes, Streams, and Wetlands

ECOREGION: State wide

PROJECT CATEGORY: Agricultural

PROJECT FUNCTIONAL CATEGORY: BMP Implementation/Design

GROUNDWATER PROTECTION: No

Total 319 Funds: $ 310,000.00 **Local and State Match:** $ 257,010 .00

319 Funded Full Time Personnel: 3.0 **Total Project Cost:** $ 728,260.00

GOAL:

The goal of the Grassland Management and Planning Project is to reduce sediment, nutrients and fecal coliform bacteria loading of surface waters in South Dakota by improving range condition on grasslands. By attaining the goal, water quality and wildlife habitat will be improved, biodiversity increased, and grassland manager economics improved. The goal will be attained by providing technical assistance to grassland managers to plan and implement grassland management systems, and through completion of an information and education program on grassland management.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This is a statewide project that will serve producers in all parts of South Dakota, but will give highest priority to assisting producers in active watershed restoration project areas (Section 319 projects). This is a two year continuation of the current Grassland Management and Planning project and will:

a. Provide grassland managers with accelerated technical assistance to plan intensive grassland management systems (100,000ac), and implement (120,000ac.) intensive grassland management systems.
b. Transfer information about grassland management gained from on-ranch demonstration projects and lessons learned through grazing systems implemented to ranchers, researchers, agency specialists, and the public.

2.0 Statement of Need

Grasslands are significant to South Dakota's economy, and to the health of its people and natural resources. Fifty-three percent (25,765,420 acres) of South Dakota's 48,614,000 acres of land are grasslands. These grasslands (2007 Census of Agriculture) are used for livestock grazing and wildlife habitat by 24,000 (77%) South Dakota farms, and the sale of pastured livestock is the primary source of income for 15,000 farms (50% of SD farms). Improved grassland management increases forage production, reduces water runoff and rainfall impact that dislodges and transports water pollutants (sediments, nutrients, bacteria), enhances water infiltration, improves wildlife habitat, and increases carbon sequestration. The estimated 83 percent of South Dakota grasslands rated in poor, fair, or good condition (ecological status) provide less than optimum environmental and economic benefits.

This project will continue the South Dakota Grassland Coalition leadership of providing activities that increase grazing management by landowners, and result in the reduction of non-point source water pollution associated with South Dakota grasslands.

The "South Dakota Grassland Management and Planning (GMP) Project" was initiated during 2001 by the South Dakota Grassland Coalition, with primary funding support from the 319 program. This project proposes continuation of the project for an additional 2 years through December 31, 2011.

The initial GMP project (2001-2007, See Table 1) and the current two year GMP Project that ends December 31, 2009 have met, exceeded, or are on schedule on meeting targeted milestones. These milestones include planning and implementation of rotational grazing systems, installation of Best Management Practice (BMPs) on grasslands, and informational and educational outreach (web site, tours, grazing school, workshops, and media events). The accomplishments of the project demonstrate demand for technical assistance and information on grassland management, and the ability of the SD Grassland Coalition to partner with and coordinate existing grassland management stakeholders to provide effective and efficient services to landowners.

It is difficult to determine load reductions achieved from the Grassland Management Planning project due to the variation in landscape, location of acres of grasslands benefited, and the difficulty in measuring on ground changes due to information and education activities. However, by improving and maintaining range condition and promoting the use of rotational grazing, it is estimated, using research data, that the Grassland Management and Planning project reduced sediment loading by 50%, nutrient loading by 25%, and fecal coliform bacteria loading by 25% on approximately 425,000 acres of grasslands. The load reduction for these 425,000 acres was estimated by the project using GRTS as:

85,016 pounds of N	.20 #/acres reduction
15,964 pounds of P	.037 #/acre reduction
8876 tons of sediment	.02 tons/acre reduction

Additionally, the Grassland Coalition estimates that similar reductions in water pollution were accomplished through the information and education campaign, which was a significant part of project activities. The estimates of grassland improvements resulting from the GMP through 2007 have benefited 1 million acres (4 percent) of South Dakota's 25 million acres of grasslands.

Table 1: Progress - Grassland Management and Planning Grant (2001-2007)
See also "Final Report, at: http://denr.sd.gov/dfta/wp/WQProjects/Grasslands.pdf

Project Activity/Products	Planned Milestone	Milestone Status 12/31/2007 (6.5 years)
Planning of Grassland Management Systems	75 plans @ 150,000 acres	61 plans @ 217,067 acres
Implementation of Grassland Management Systems	300,000 acres	423,657 acres (includes acres completed w/partners)

Practices Installed:	**Planned Milestone**	**Milestone Status (12/31/2007)**
Fencing	105,000 LF	331,015 LF
Pipeline	50,000 LF	291,064 LF
Wells	10 each	1 each
Tanks	30 each	109 each
Pasture Pumps	5 each	NONE
Dugouts/Dams	10 each	0 each
Grass Seeding	250 acres	227
Information and Educational Activities		
On-Ranch Demonstrations	6 @ 5,000 acres	6 @ 7,681 acres
Web Site	1 @ 50,000 hits	1 @ 180,406
On-ranch Tours	15 @ 750 attendees	32 @ 1,572 attendees
News/Media Events	15-750,000 reached	51 @ 2,186,979 reached
5 part program series on Today's Ag made into a Video.	1 – 200,000 reached	1 – 180,000 viewers
Producer Workshops	9 – 450 attending	27 @ 1,256 contacts
Grazing School	4 - 150 students	4 – 105 students
Administration and Oversight	1	1

Grassland managers in South Dakota are interested in improving grassland management using planned grazing systems to increase their environmental stewardship, and improve or stabilize their operation's economic viability. The types of systems most commonly identified to accomplish these objectives are rotational systems that vary in management intensity - from simple two pasture switchback systems, to complicated multi-pasture rapid rotations. Implementation of improved and more intensively managed systems by grassland managers will be delayed in South Dakota without this project's staff and its partner's staff to provide information on grassland management, and technical assistance for planning, implementation, and follow-up.

Grasslands commonly occupy 70-90 percent of the land in western South Dakota watersheds. In eastern South Dakota, grasslands cover 20 to 80 percent of individual watersheds. While lesser in extent in eastern South Dakota, grasslands commonly occupy the environmentally sensitive lands adjacent to streams, wetlands, lakes, and rivers, where they cover riparian areas and sloping drainages, hills and/or breaks. Regardless of extent by region, grasslands in all parts of South Dakota greatly impact runoff volume and are the buffers for intercepting pollutants carried by runoff and in protecting stream banks in both eastern and western South Dakota. Grasslands also provide habitat (nesting, winter cover, food, and reproductive range, etc.) for South Dakota's wildlife.

The South Dakota Non-Point Source Pollution Program priority funding areas include staffing, information and education, animal nutrient management systems, riparian buffers, shoreline stabilization, and practices to exclude livestock from riparian areas. This continuation project will provide the grassland planning, implementation, and education activities necessary to effectively implement these funding priorities as part of the need for a landscape planning approach, to reduce non-point source pollution in South Dakota. The water quality improvements realized from riparian buffers, shoreline stabilization, and livestock management (livestock exclusion, animal feeding areas) are dependent on proper grassland management in the pasture, sub watershed area, and/or watershed associated with the site of BMP installation.

This project addresses a key watershed BMP, grassland management, and provides existing watershed projects with technical assistance and information that can be used to make targeted, measurable water quality improvements through improved grassland management. The planning, design, and implementation of

grassland management systems will be based on whole farm/ranch plans that incorporate the goals of the individual producers. Factors addressed in the plans include family, production, natural resources, and finances.

"The 2008 South Dakota Integrated Report for Surface Water Quality" identifies 49 percent of South Dakota Rivers and stream miles, and 51 percent of South Dakota's lake acreage (excluding the Missouri River Reservoirs) as not supporting their designated beneficial uses. The primary pollutants identified as the cause of impairment were Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and Fecal Coliform bacteria for rivers and streams, and sediment and nutrients (non-point sources) for lakes and reservoirs. Approximately 98% of nonsupporting uses for lakes can be attributed to nonpoint sources. Table 4 shows that one of the sources of impairment causing non-support for approximately 31 percent of the miles of rivers and streams in South Dakota is associated with livestock grazing.

Table 4: Total Sizes of Waters Impaired by Various Source Categories in South Dakota: ("The 2008 South Dakota Integrated Report for Surface Water Quality")
(Source items ***in italics and bold*** are being considered impacted by grazing management.

River/Streams	**9,289 River Miles Total: (River Miles can be impacted by more than one source)**
Source Category	**Miles impacted by:**
Acid Mine Drainage	2
Animal Feeding Operations (NPS)	467
Combined Sewer Overflow	1
Crop Production	1,296
Grazing in Riparian or Shoreline Zones	***561***
Streambank Modification	77
Impacts From Abandoned Mine Lands	2
Industrial Point Source Discharge	9
Livestock (Grazing or Feeding Operations)	***1,750***
Mine Tailings	2
Municipal (Urbanized High Density Area)	5
Municipal Point Source Discharge	82
Natural Sources	1,749
On-site Treatment Systems	76
Rangeland (Unmanaged Pasture) Grazing	***367***
Residential Districts	10
Wet Weather Discharges	19
Wildlife	505

Lakes and Reservoirs	**570 lakes or reservoirs with 205,000 surface acres.**
Source Category Acres	**Number of Acres impacted**
Natural Sources	9,375
Non-Point Sources	53,745

The map below (Figure 1) shows the river segments and/or lakes that require the development of and implementation of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL's). Grasslands, because of their extent and critical location in relation to the listed waterbodies, are commonly targeted for BMP installation in South Dakota watershed implementation projects (see Figure 2: Status and Location of Watershed Assessment and Implementation Projects).

Figure 1: Waterbody TMDL Status for South Dakota

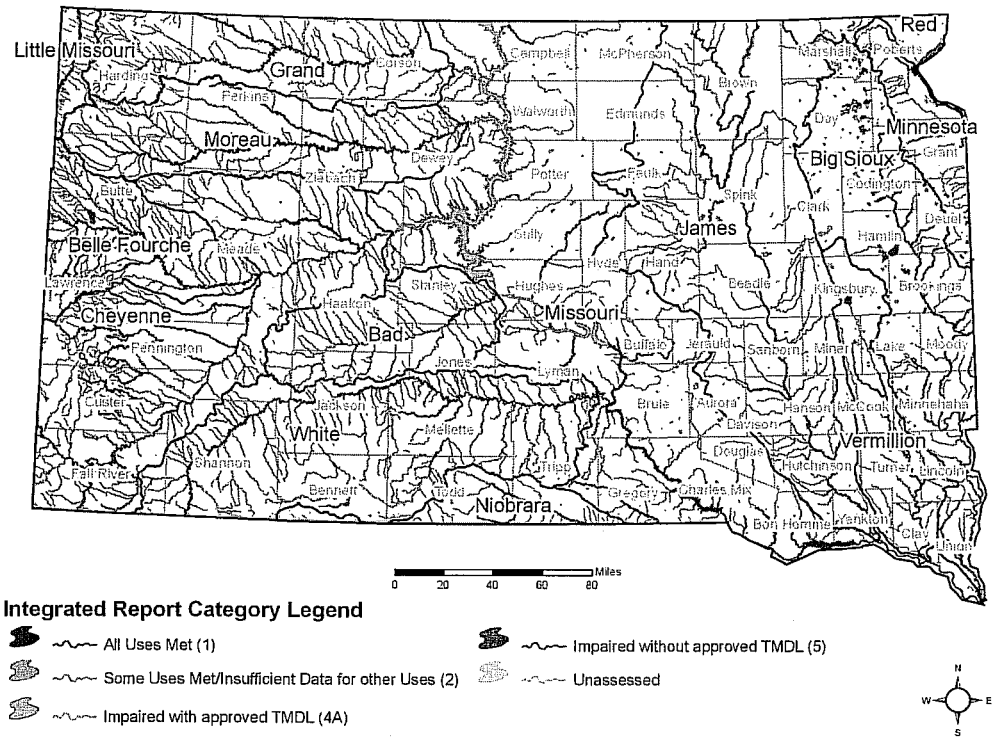
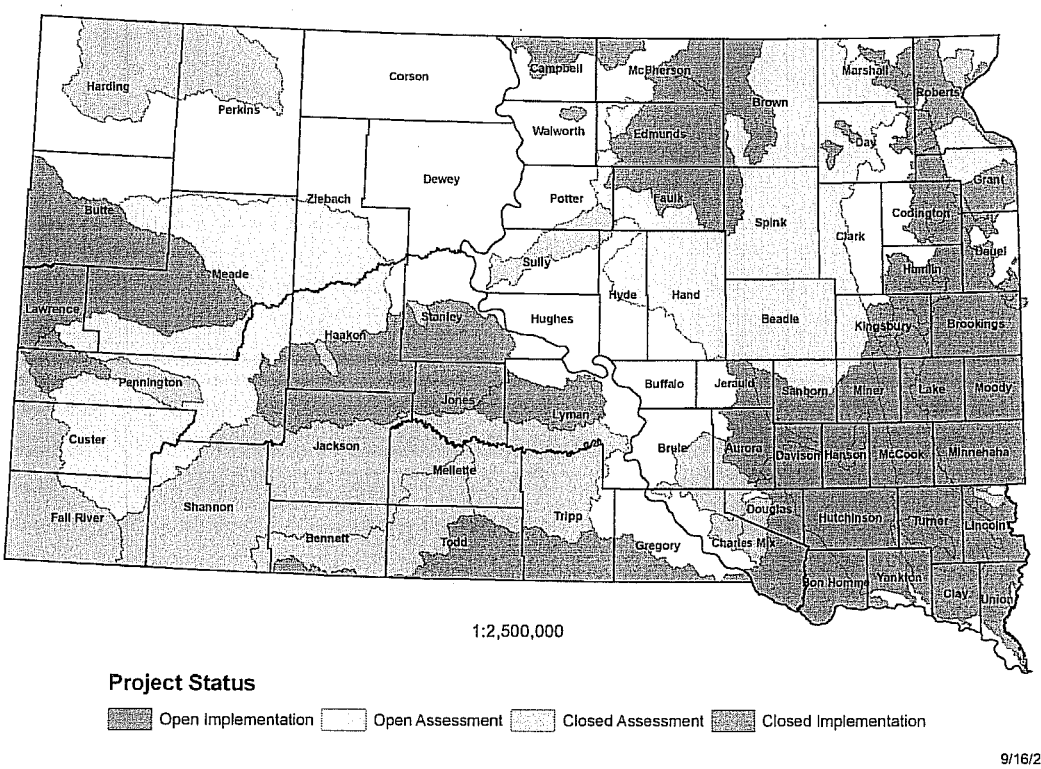


Figure 2: Status and Location of Watershed Assessment and Implementation Projects.

South Dakota Non-point Pollution Project Status



9/16/2009

This project is designed to meet the clean water, economic and wildlife goals of grassland managers and the people of South Dakota on a statewide basis, through acceleration of implementation of grassland management practices that improve vegetation health and forage quality. These practices will lead to attaining the goals by:

1. Reducing soil erosion and sediment transfer in runoff through:
   a. increased water intake - reduced runoff reduces stream and river peak flow volumes and velocities, which in turn reduces stream bank erosion and abnormally long periods of flooding that damage wildlife habitat.
   b. rainfall interception - soil anchoring and ground protection by vegetation decreases the dislodging of soil and subsequent transport in runoff.
2. Providing a buffer adjacent to wetlands, lakes, waterways and drainages to intercept sediment and nutrients transported by water.
3. Providing producers with additional profits from increased livestock or wildlife production, and/or decreased production costs.
4. Increasing vegetation production on grasslands, which will increase the sequestration of carbon in the grassland ecosystem.

Grazing duration and intensity have been identified as factors that impact nonpoint source pollution that originates from grasslands and riparian areas. Continuous or season-long grazing, in conjunction with improper stocking rates, has been linked to degraded riparian areas and low range condition (ecological status). Increased runoff from impaired riparian areas and grasslands carries higher nutrient, sediment and fecal coliform bacteria loads to surface water bodies. Rangelands with low ecological status have lower biodiversity, produce less forage that is lower in nutrient quality, and provide habitat for fewer wildlife species.

Conversely, management systems that include proper stocking rates and rotational grazing promote functioning riparian systems, and higher range ecological status. These rangelands typically contribute reduced amounts of nonpoint source pollutants, have higher biodiversity, produce more forage that has better quality, and support a greater variety of wildlife. In addition, better managed rangelands produce more pounds of marketable livestock, which translates to increased economic stability of the farm/ranch community.

The following research supports the benefits of proper grassland management:

* High condition grasslands yield 25 percent of the precipitation received as runoff (Welch et.al, 1991), versus 45 percent for low condition sites dominated by sod forming grasses, and 75 percent for bare ground.
* Sediment peaks on high condition grasslands are 20 percent of sediment peaks on low condition grasslands (Section 2.5).
* Gullies, headcuts and stream bank erosion are more prominent on low condition grasslands.
* Khaleel et al. (1979) stated that continuously grazed rangelands contribute at least four times more nitrogen and phosphorus to the watershed compared to rotationally grazed rangelands, and that when significant nutrient contamination occurs on grasslands, it is usually explained by erosion and sedimentation processes in the watershed.
* Annual soil erosion ranges from 10 to 60 times higher for watersheds predominated with continuous cropping versus perennial grass watersheds (Krishna, et. al. 1988).
* Sediment and phosphorus losses in pasture runoff may be reduced by managing rotational stocking to maintain adequate sward height, and/or using vegetative buffer strips along pasture streams. This is particularly important in pastures on soils with high P concentrations (Russell, 2004, Iowa Beef Center).

The Bad River Phase II water quality project in South Dakota (June 1996) studied two clayey soils in relation to the impact of grassland management on sediment transfer. Results of the study show:

1. as grass production, percent canopy cover, vegetation height, and ground litter increase - water runoff and the sediment transfer decrease,

2. sediment peaks were six to eight times higher on poor condition grassland than good condition grassland, and
3. gullies and headcuts are accelerated in poor condition grasslands dominated by short grasses.

2.4 General Watershed Information

Except for two small areas in the northeastern corner, which are in the Red River and Minnesota River Watersheds, South Dakota is in the Missouri River watershed. Western South Dakota is drained by six major rivers; the Bad, Cheyenne, Belle Fourche, White, Moreau, and Grand - which flow west to east into the Missouri River. The area is dominated by rolling native grassland with as little as 10–30 percent of any area in cropland (hay & wheat). The eastern portion of the state, unlike the western portion of the state, was influenced by glacial action. Eastern South Dakota has less defined drainage patterns, numerous natural wetlands and lakes, and is commonly corn/soybean cropland. Cropland increases from 20 to 80 percent of land use moving from the Missouri River toward the southeast corner of the state. Likewise, grasslands decrease in prevalence to the southeast and become increasingly concentrated along streams, creeks, rivers, and wetlands. Eastern South Dakota's major rivers - the James, Vermillion, and Big Sioux - generally flow north to south to the Missouri River.

3.0 Project Description

This is a statewide project that will serve producers in all parts of South Dakota, but will give highest priority to assisting producers in active watershed restoration project areas (see Figure 2: current projects).
This is a two year continuation of the current Grassland Management and Planning project and will:

c. Provide grassland managers with accelerated technical assistance to plan, design (100,000 ac.), and implement (120,000 ac.) intensive grassland management systems.
d. Transfer information about grassland management gained from on-ranch demonstration projects and lessons learned through grazing systems implemented to ranchers, researchers, agency specialists, and the public.
e. Use a project workgroup consisting of a partnership of grassland managers (ranchers/producers), researchers, agency specialists, and agricultural organizations to serve as a project advisory team.

Complete a project final report that includes an evaluation of the impact of the project on non-point source water pollution in South Dakota.

The South Dakota Grassland Coalition is the project sponsor and will be responsible for completion of tasks undertaken to attain the project goal. The South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts will lead implementation of the project work plan under an agreement with the South Dakota Grassland Coalition. Project staff will include:

1. Project Coordinator/Range Specialist who will provide leadership, coordination, and technical assistance for all project implementation activities. Activities will include planning and implementation of rotational grazing systems with landowners on approximately 40,000 acres.
2. Project Range Specialist who will provide planning and implementation technical assistance to landowners for grazing management on 80,000 acres.
3. Range Consultants who will be contracted to provide planning and implement technical assistance to landowners for grazing management on 100,000 acres.
4. Outreach Coordinator/Information Specialist will provide leadership to the Grassland Coalition and project staff for planning, and coordination of information and education events.to include; the grazing schools, birding tours, grassland educational workshops, newsletters, and summer bus tours. This position is a .35 FTE to the project and will be a South Dakota State University Animal and Range Sciences Department staff person.
5. Administrative and management staff provided by the South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts to complete progress reporting, employee hiring and management, and management of equipment, supplies, and vehicles.

This project will provide accelerated technical assistance for planning and design of managed grazing systems, and information activities with funding for the implementation of grassland BMPs or conservation practices coming from other programs. Programs that are projected to provide funding for BMP implementation include: Section 319 Clean Water Act (NPS), USDA Environmental Quality Improvement Program (EQIP), SD Soil and Water Conservation Grant, SD Game, Fish, and Parks (GFP), US Fish & Wildlife (US FWS), and other private or government sources such as Ducks Unlimited.

Project information transfer and education activities planned include:

a. Continuation of the grassland web site.
c. Completion of two additional SD Grazing Schools.
d. Grassland workshops (6) (includes 2 Grassland Birding Workshops)
e. Grassland Coalition summer grazing bus tours (2)
f. News Release/Media Events (4)

The current BMPs advisory group will be continued and become this project's "Project Advisory Group". The advisory group will assist the Grassland Coalition with project management, coordination of existing assistance, prioritization of requests for assistance, and information transfer through existing networks such as extension, conservation districts, and NRCS.

Requests for assistance will be accepted by referral from 319 project coordinators, landowners, conservation districts, and SD NRCS field offices using an assistance request (see – Attachment C: Grassland Project Request For Technical Assistance also available on the internet at: http://www.sdconservation.org/grassland/managing/started.htm. Grassland management technical assistance provided through this project will be delivered to grassland managers using the following priority system:

1. Land users in active 319 TMDL Water Quality Implementation projects where additional technical assistance to plan and implement improved grassland and riparian management are critical to meeting TMDL and/or watershed restoration goals. An estimated 40 percent of grassland rotational grazing systems planned and implemented through this project will be to support the needs of the Belle Fourche River Watershed Project (Section 319 project).
2. Land users whose operations area is in an area of the state where grassland management has limited implementation by landowners, such as southeast SD.

Project technical assistance to land users will include identification of potential sources of financial assistance to support landowner implementation of improved grassland management systems.

Conservation Districts and the Natural Resources Conservation Service will provide guidance and support for the technical portions of this project through existing range specialist staff, provide access to the "SD Field Office Technical Guide", and assist project staff with locating maps, soils data, and existing farm plans.

3.1 Project Goal

The goal of the Grassland Management and Planning Continuation Project is "Reduce sediment, nutrient and fecal coliform bacteria loading of surface waters in South Dakota by improving range condition".

By attaining the goal, water quality and wildlife habitat will be improved, biodiversity increased and grassland manager economic sustainability maximized.

3.2 Objectives and Tasks

Objective 1: Provide technical assistance to grassland managers to complete the planning and design of an additional 160,000 acres of rotational grazing systems, and complete the implementation of rotational grazing systems on an additional 180,000 acres of grasslands by December 31, 2011. Grasslands in 319 water quality project areas, riparian grasslands, and southeast South Dakota will receive priority for technical assistance during this project segment. The Belle Fourche River Watershed Project is requesting assistance to plan 70,000 acres, and implement 30,000 acres by 12/31/2011.

Task 1: Provide grassland management system planning, design, and monitoring technical assistance by working cooperatively with project partners.

Product 1: Grazing Management Plans on 160,000 grassland acres.

Grazing systems will be planned using methods outlined in the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) National Planning Procedures Handbook, National Range and Pasture Handbook, and the South Dakota Technical Guide.

Milestones:

- 25 grassland grazing system plans/year @ 2000ac./plan = 50,000 acres.
- 50 plans/2 years @ 2,000 ac./plan = 100,000 acres.

Product 1 Cost: The technical assistance costs of Product 1 are included in the project personnel costs. Costs include salaries, travel, and consulting contracts.

Product 2: Implement improved grassland management systems on 120,000 acres of grasslands. The project total includes the 60,000 acres planned by the project, and 60,000 acres planned and implemented with significant technical assistance from partnering agencies. The installation of the BMPs will be completed using funds available through existing and new 319 Projects, EQIP, and Wildlife Programs. BMPs anticipated include but are not limited to: prescribed grazing, water development, (pipelines, rural water hook-ups, tanks, pasture pumps, dugouts, and dams), fencing (cross fencing, riparian area fencing), stream crossings, and grass seeding.

The quantity and estimated cost per unit of BMPs to be installed by grassland managers to implement 120,000 acres of rotational grazing systems is as follows.

BMP	Units	Cost/Unit	Total
Planned Grazing Systems	160,000 acres	See practices listed below	
Fence	100,000 LF	$1.10 /LF	$110,000
Pipeline (buried)	80,000 LF	$1.95 /LF	$156,000
Rural Water Hook-ups	2	$1,500 each	$ 3,000
Tanks	25	$1,000 each	$ 25,000
Dugout/Dams	2	$4,000 each	$ 8,000
Grass Seeding	100 ac.	$100/acre	$ 10,000
Stream Crossings	1	$1,500 each	$ 1,500

Milestones:

- 60,000 acres of planned grazing systems planned by project staff installed.
- 60,000 acres of planned grazing systems planned by project partners installed.

Total Cost: Task 1, Product 2: $ 313,500 **319 Cost: $0.0**

RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES (products 1 and 2):

Technical Assistance Coordination:
Project Coordinator
South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts

Planning Assistance:
Project Coordinator/Range Consultant/Range Specialist
South Dakota Conservation Districts
Natural Resources Conservation Service
SD Department of Agriculture
South Dakota State University
SD Department of Game, Fish, and Parks
US Fish and Wildlife Service

Implementation:
Project Coordinator/Range Consultant/Range Specialist
South Dakota Conservation Districts
Natural Resources Conservation Service
SD Department of Agriculture
South Dakota State University
SD Department of Game, Fish, and Parks
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Farmers and Ranchers

Financial Assistance:
USDA Farm Service Agency
Natural Resources Conservation Service (EQIP, CRP)
Water Quality 319 Projects
SD Department of Agriculture
SD Department of Game, Fish, and Parks
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Ducks Unlimited

Objective 2: Transfer grassland management information to a minimum of 10,000 South Dakota producers, 20 researchers, 40 grassland specialists, and the public (189,940).

Task 2: Complete information and education activities on grassland management, and water quality impacts of improved grassland management targeted towards 319 water quality project areas, riparian grassland areas, and grasslands in southeast South Dakota.

Product 3: Existing web site maintenance, Farmer/Rancher workshops, Grazing Schools, News Releases and Summer Grazing tours.
Information transfer and educational outreach activities on grassland management will be completed to include: web site maintenance, six rancher/farmer workshops (includes birding workshops on grassland birds), two grazing schools, four news releases, and two summer grazing management tours.
The grazing management web site established within SDACD's web site (http://www.sdconservation.org/grassland/managing/gmd/index.html) during 2000 will be maintained during the project. Site features in place include: journal of prior demonstration site activities, interactive technical assistance bulletin board, and links to other grazing information resources. In addition, the project will use social marketing through the use of Facebook to provide information to a youth, non-agricultural audience. Operation and maintenance of the site will be accomplished by the SDACD web master.

With local partners, a minimum of four (4) grassland workshops will be held throughout the state, to include continuation of the successful summer birding tours. This project will also provide technical and financial assistance to continue the annual grazing school, summer grazing bus tours, and work with the media to promote grassland management through multi-media (newspaper, magazine, TV, radio, etc.).

The estimated quantity and cost of the planned outreach activities is shown in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Information and Education activities and costs.

Activity	Units	Outreach	Cost/unit	Total cost
Web site maintenance	2 years	100,000	$1000/yr.	$2,000
Rancher/Farmer Workshops	6	3,000	$2,500 ea.	$15,000
Grazing School	2	50	$7,500 ea.	$15,000
News Releases	4	96,800	project staff - $0.00	
Summer Grazing Tour	2	150	$7,500 ea.	$15,000

Target audience: Farmers/ranchers, resource managers, research community, university students, and the general public.

Activity team leader: Project Coordinator and Information Specialist/Outreach Coordinator

Milestones:

As shown in Table 5 above.

Total Cost – Task 2, Product 3: $47,000 **319 Cost: $11,761**

RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

Technical Assistance Coordination:
Information Specialist/Outreach Coordinator
Project Coordinator
South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts

Planning Technical Assistance:
Information Specialist/Outreach Coordinator
Project Coordinator/Range Consultants
Natural Resources Conservation Service
SD Department of Agriculture
South Dakota State University
Conservation Districts
Demonstration Site Farmers/Ranchers

Information Transfer:
Information Specialist/Outreach Coordinator
Project Coordinator
SD Association of Conservation Districts
Natural Resources Conservation Service
South Dakota State University Cooperative Extension Service
Demonstration Site Farmers/Ranchers

Implementation:
Information Specialist/Outreach Coordinator
Project Coordinator
South Dakota State University
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Demonstration Site Farmers/Ranchers
Bootstraps Groups

Financial Assistance:
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Water Quality 319 Projects
South Dakota State University

Monitoring Assistance:
Information Specialist/Outreach Coordinator
Project Coordinator/Seasonal Employee
South Dakota State University

Objective 3: Monitor and evaluate project progress to complete project goal, objectives, tasks, and products by December 31, 2011.

Task 3: Ensure all activities, reporting requirements, personnel actions and financial obligations associated with the project are completed, and terms of all agreements complied with as outlined in implementation plans, grant and contractual agreements, memoranda of understandings, any state and federal reporting requirements, and the Coalition's by-laws.

Product 4: Reporting and project management will be completed using a management agreement with the SD Association of Conservation Districts for project management and administration.

Milestones:

- Employees and Consultants hired and supervised
- Accounting completed to meet federal grant requirements
- 2 mid-year project progress reports completed (April 10 and April 11)
- 2 annual project progress reports completed (October 10, October 11)
- 1 final project progress report completed (12/31/2011)

Total Cost – Task 3, Product 4: Total Cost: $17,500 319 Cost: $17,500

Responsible Agencies:

Technical Assistance Coordination:
Project Coordinator
South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts
South Dakota Grassland Coalition
South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Implementation:
Project Coordinator
South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts
South Dakota Grassland Coalition

Financial Assistance:
Grassland Management and Planning Project – 319

3.3 Milestone Table

3.4 Required Permits

All required permits will be obtained for the installation of BMPs during this proposed project. It is anticipated that:

- 401 and 404 permits will be required for shoreline and riparian BMP installation.
- State Historical Preservation Office clearance will be needed for any BMPs involving ground disturbing activities.
- BMPs will meet the compliance requirements of the Threatened and Endangered Species Act.

3.5 Lead Sponsor and Why

The project sponsor is the South Dakota Grassland Coalition. The Coalition represents a broad range of interests related to agriculture and grassland management in South Dakota. The organization is the sponsor of the existing "Grassland Management and Planning Project", initiated in 2001.

The SD Grassland Coalition has close working relationships with and the support of farm/ranch organizations, South Dakota State University Range Department, and resource management agencies (NRCS, US F&W, SD GF&P, SD DENR, Conservation Districts, etc.), and private organizations such as Ducks Unlimited. The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service recognized the previous project's accomplishments when they awarded the project sponsor, the South Dakota Grassland Coalition, the agency's 2007 Excellence in Conservation Award. Only one award is given each year. In 2007, the Coalition and project staff also received Environmental Achievement Awards from Region 8 of the US Environmental Protection Agency.

3.6 Maintenance and Operations Roles and Responsibilities

The project primarily involves providing technical assistance for grassland management, and for completion of an information and education campaign. This project will also provide general information to, and refer landowners to other service providers for information on the installation of conservation practices on private lands. The monitoring of demonstration sites will require the use of specialized monitoring and support equipment for staff operations. Conservation practices and equipment will require maintenance and identification of responsibilities for maintenance.

The conservation practice that will be installed is the NRCS prescribed grazing practice. This practice includes grazing systems that allow a landowner to improve their range condition through installation of a planned grazing system. Fencing, pipelines, tanks, stream crossings, grass seeding, dugout/dams, pasture pumps, and wells are system components. The practice and its components will be maintained by landowners based on the Natural Resources Conservation Service Technical Guide length of life practices guidelines. Monitoring equipment will be acquired by the South Dakota Grassland Coalition by purchase, lease or loan from other project partners. Ownership of all equipment and/or control of its use will remain with the partner organization funding purchase of the equipment, or by the SD Grassland Coalition through a contractual agreement.

4.0 Coordination Plan

The "Grassland Management and Planning" project was initially developed by a partnership of producers, agencies, and organizations in South Dakota. This proposed continuation project will build on and use the established partnerships for cooperation and information sharing for grassland management and other non-point source pollution control efforts.

The project is unique. It offers producers access not only to technical assistance for designing a grazing system, but also to ongoing technical assistance during the implementation, an opportunity to be involved in water quality monitoring, and the ability to share information with other producers, the research community, agricultural organizations, and agencies representing a wide range of environmental interests.

AGENCY/PROJECT PARTNER RESPONSIBILITIES

South Dakota Grasslands Coalition:
The South Dakota Grasslands Coalition is the project sponsor. The Coalition will provide leadership for project management, coordination, and administration.
Project Advisory Team:
The Grasslands Coalition will coordinate resources and participation in the project from its member producers, and agricultural and environmental organizations. Agricultural and private organizations will be asked to serve on the established project advisory team, and participate in the project through both technical and financial assistance investments in project activities.

Organizations that will participate in the project advisory team include:

- Farm organizations: SD Cattleman's and Stockgrowers Associations
- Wildlife Organizations: Ducks Unlimited, Nature Conservancy
- Livestock industry: Equipment, feed, marketing, and processing companies
- Private foundations and organizations such as: Cows, Critters, & Condos and the Society for Range Management.
- South Dakota State University, Natural Resources Conservation Service, SD Game, Fish and Parks, US Fish and Wildlife, SD Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

South Dakota Conservation Districts:
South Dakota conservation districts will:

- Inform landowners of project assistance available and how to request assistance.
- Serve as the local contact for producers who participate, and refer producers for assistance.
- Provide technical assistance to producers installing conservation practices, to include development of NRCS program contracts for the funding of conservation practices.
- Sponsor and partner in information and education activities proposed.

South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts:
The South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts (SDACD) provided assistance in planning this project and will be asked to participate as a member of the project advisory team, and through a contractual agreement, serve as the sponsor's administrative, management, and financial agent.

The Association will support conservation district participation in the project by using its information network to keep conservation districts informed of the project activities and results. SDACD will continue to provide space on their web site for the project's grassland management pages.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service:
The Natural Resources Conservation Service provided technical assistance for the development of this proposal and will be asked to:

- Continue membership on the project advisory team.
- Provide in-kind staff resources to the project through local Conservation Field Offices (NRCS & Conservation District) providing technical assistance for planning, implementation, monitoring, follow-up, and evaluation of grazing management are services currently provided to producers by NRCS through their partnership with conservation districts.
- Support use of NRCS cost-share programs such as EQIP, WHIP, and CRP for conservation

practices needed to establish the grazing systems.

South Dakota State University and Cooperative Extension Service:
South Dakota State University has provided technical assistance for the development of this proposal, and will continue as a member of the project advisory team. SDSU staff will provide technical assistance for grassland management and provide an Information Specialist/Outreach Coordinator for the project's information campaign.

South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources:
The SD Department of Environment and Natural Resources provided technical assistance for the development of this project proposal. DENR will provide:

- Oversight and assistance to the sponsor, its agent(s), and the project advisory team in all matters pertaining to project management, water quality and general environmental issues.
- Technical assistance with the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of any water quality monitoring activities.

South Dakota Department of Agriculture:
The SD Department of Agriculture will provide technical assistance on grassland management, riparian and forestry management, and agricultural issues (economics, weed control, etc.), and serve on the project advisory team.

South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks:
The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks will continue as a member of the project advisory team and provide technical assistance for wildlife habitat development, and the monitoring and evaluation of the impacts of grazing management on wildlife and wildlife habitat.

Financial assistance for the application of grassland conservation practices (fencing and ponds) will be requested from SD GF&P.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service:
The United States Fish and Wildlife Service will continue membership on the project advisory team and provide technical assistance for wildlife habitat development, and the monitoring and evaluation of the impacts of grazing management on wildlife and wildlife habitat (upland and water bodies).

Financial assistance for the application of grassland conservation practices (fencing, tanks, and ponds) will be requested from the US FWS.

4.2 Project Support

The project has local support as indicated by the individual ranchers who serve on the Grassland Coalition Board of Directors, the Coalition's landowner members, the demand for project services by landowners since 2001, and by organizations and agencies that participate as members of the advisory team.

4.3 Coordination With Other Programs

The completion of the Grassland Management Planning project will be coordinated with several other programs and funding sources. Grassland Management practices will be implemented using available local, state, and federal cost-share programs.

- The Natural Resources Conservation Service and Conservation District technical assistance and information networks will be used for planning and implementing grassland management systems and information transfer activities.
- The South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts web site will be used to house the

grassland management project web site.

- The South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks and the US Fish & Wildlife Service will work with individual grassland managers to provide funding for water developments and fencing.
- South Dakota State University will designate one of the university range department staff members to be the project's information specialist/outreach coordinator.

4.4 Non-Duplication of Effort

This project is designed to provide accelerated technical assistance to grassland managers, and complete an information campaign to serve the needs identified by this project's work group which represent producers, agencies, and organizations. This project will serve as primary grassland technical assistance to existing watershed, Section 319 projects, and coordinate existing assistance to maximize efficient partnerships and accelerate grassland technical assistance.

5.0 Evaluation and Monitoring

Evaluation of success in reaching the project goal will be accomplished by monitoring project activities to measure:

- meeting established milestones.
- effects on water quality and vegetation parameters.
- contributions to improving sustainability of grassland managers' operations.

Project monitoring will be completed through a team consisting of:

- The project coordinator.
- Grassland managers/producers.
- SDSU, Animal and Range Science Department staff (Outreach Coordinator).
- Other Advisory Team members and other project partners.

The information collected will be used by the SD Grassland Coalition to complete mid –year (April) and annual (October) reports of project activities, and provide a copy to all project partners and funders. A final report will be completed at the end of this project.

Mid-year reports will include current activities and an evaluation relative to project milestones, as well as cumulative progress toward reaching the project goal. The reports will contain a financial summary showing match, income and expenses.

5.1 Project Monitoring Plan

1. Management Assistance Activities

   Project activities that assist project cooperators with grassland management will be monitored and evaluated relative to project milestones. The information that will be collected includes:

   - Number of on-farm visits and landowner/operator contacts
   - Acres of whole ranch plans developed
   - Acres of grassland management plans implemented
   - Kinds and number/units of BMP applied
     (Acres planned grazing systems; if fencing, if pipeline, number wells, tanks, pasture pumps and dams/dugouts; and acres grass seeding)
   - Project accounting (expenditures, receipts, matching funds and their sources)
   - Location of operations assisted and demonstrations sites using GPS and entry into a GIS data base.

2. Information Transfer and Education

Type and number of information transfer and education activities, and the number of contacts reached by the activity (producers, specialists, general public, etc.) will be recorded and evaluated relative to project milestones. Evaluation questionnaires will be used at each workshop/school sponsored as a mechanism to help determine their effectiveness in helping attain the overall project goal. Information that will be recorded includes:

- Attendance at tours and workshops.
- Visits to the web pages and producer/public web questions/comments.
- Number of individuals attending the grazing schools.
- Media releases/events by type (TV, radio, newsprint), topic, and estimated coverage or outreach by the release/event.

6.0 Budget

See budget: Attachment A:
See Detailed Planning Budget – Attachment B:

PART 1: FUNDING SOURCES

Funding Source	2010	2011	Total
EPA SECTION 319 FUNDS			
1.) FY 08 (FA)	$ 146,162	$ 163,838	$ 310,000
Subtotals:	$ 146,162	$ 163,838	$ 310,000
OTHER FEDERAL FUNDS			
1.) NRCS (FA)	$82,650	$117,600	$ 200,250
2.) US F&W	$ 500	$ 500	$ 1,000
3.) FSA (FA)			
Subtotals:	$83,150	$ 118,100	$201,250
STATE/LOCAL MATCH (FA&TA)			
1.) Local (Grassland Coalition/CD) (TA)	$ 18,250	$ 18,250	$ 36,500
2.) Landowners(FA)	$ 44,252	$ 52,737	$ 96,989
3.) GF&P(FA)	$ 36,000	$ 40,000	$ 76,000
4.) DENR (TA)	$ 1,000	$ 1,000	$ 2,000
5.) SDSU (TA)	$ 2,760	$ 2,761	$ 5,521
Subtotals:	$102,262	$114,748	$ 217,010
TOTAL BUDGET	**$ 331,574**	**$ 396,686**	**$728,260**

7.0 Public Involvement

Public involvement in the project will be accomplished through:

- the project advisory team and
- project information transfer and educational activities.

The Project Advisory Group will serve in an advisory role to assist with prioritizing and coordinating requests for assistance through the project, general project management, and information dissemination through their established organization and agency networks. Information transfer and educational activities are outlined in Task 3 of the work plan. The activities were selected to offer a broad cross section of interests, and the opportunity to learn from and/or become actively involved with the project. For example, grazing schools and workshops offer producers and agency professionals an opportunity for in-depth learning. The media releases and radio ads provide general information to a more general audience. The web site combines opportunities for

both groups by continuing sections providing:

- general information about the project and grassland management,
- interactive technical assistance, and
- links to more specific information sources.

8.0 Threatened and Endangered Species

The procedure that will be followed to ensure the project will promote the recovery of threatened and endangered species and will not adversely affect the species is based on three main premises:

1. the managed grazing systems planned and implemented will promote the restoration or preservation of critical grassland habitat,
2. while the project will be implemented on a statewide basis, with first priority for assistance directed to 319 project areas, many of the grazing systems planned and implemented will be within areas for which threatened and endangered species consultation has been completed, and
3. involvement of NRCS and the US FWS in planning and constructing grazing systems ensures personnel trained with the recovery of threatened and endangered species will be involved with the design and implementation of project BMPs.

A list of threatened and endangered species by county is added as appendix A. Species most likely to be encountered during the project and the procedure to be followed relative to each species are:

1. Bald Eagle

   Project activities that disturb possible nesting sites or reduce food sources are not planned. If any actions become necessary during the project that might impact bald eagle(s) that are in or might visit the area, the sponsor or its agent will contact DENR for approval to complete the action before proceeding.

2. Whooping Crane

   If a whooping crane or cranes are observed at any project work site, all mechanical activities at the site will be suspended until the bird(s) leave the site under their own volition. Spring migration of the species through the state occurs during mid to late April and mid to late October.

3. Topeka Shiner

   The project sponsor agrees to work closely with the USFWS during the site evaluation and design of multipurpose dams and riparian restoration actions, to ensure that construction of the BMPs does not adversely affect the organism.
   In stream, activities are not planned. Riparian activities that will be implemented to stabilize stream banks and maintain or improve meanders are management in nature rather than construction.

4. Black Tailed Prairie Dog

   The Black Tailed Prairie Dog is a candidate species for listing under the Threatened and Endangered Species Act. The State of South Dakota is in the process of preparing a management plan for the species. Once the plan is finalized (goal October 2001), activities implemented as part of the project will comply with the plan developed by the South Dakota Prairie Dog Management Work Group, and adopted by the state.

5. Black Footed Ferret

   The existence of Black Footed Ferrets (BFF) is directly linked to the presence of prairie dogs. The sponsor will address the BFF by:

- complying with the SD Prairie Dog Management Plan, and
- consulting with the USFWS relative to the need to complete a survey for the organism if any actions are planned that may adversely effect the survival of a native, or introduce population of BFF.

The three demonstration sites installed before but included in this project are in areas blocked cleared by USFWS for BFF surveys.

6. Pallid Sturgeon

Riparian activities included in the project workplan are management rather than construction in nature, and therefore will not affect Pallid Surgeon habitat or population(s). None of the three demonstration sites installed prior to but included in this project are adjacent to water bodies that contain the species.

Milestone Table

Grassland Management And Planning Project

1/1/2010 Through 12/31/2011

OBJECTIVE/TASK/PRODUCT	Quantity	Group	Year 1				Year 2			
			Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-Jun.	Jul.-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-Jun.	Jul.-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.
Objective 1: Grassland Management Systems										
Planning and Implementation										
Task 1: Planning & Implementation of Grassland										
Management Systems:										
Product 1: Planning	160,000 ac.	1,5,6,7,8,12								
Year 1: 80,000 acres			7,000	7,000	7,500	15,000	7,500	8,000	8,000	20,000
Year 2: 80,000 acres			7,000	7,000	7,500	15,000	7,500	8,000	8,000	20,000
Product 2: Implementation	180,000 ac.	1,5,6,7,8,12								
Year 1: 90,000 acres			6,000	2,000	4,000	30,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	30,000
Year 2: 90,000 acres			6,000	2,000	4,000	30,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	30,000
Fencing	100,000 LF	1,4,5,6,7,12	10,000	10,000		30,000	10,000	10,000		30,000
Pipeline	80,000 LF	1,6,7,12		15,000		25,000	20,000			20,000
Rural Water Hook-ups	2 each	1,6,7,12		1		1				
Tanks	25 each	1,6,7,12	5	5		5		5		5
Dugouts/Dams	2 each	1,4,5,6,7,12		1		1				
Stream Crossing	1 each	1,6,7,12		1						
Grass Seeding	100 acres	1,4,5,6,7,12		25		25		25		25
Objective 2: Information Transfer										
Task 2: Information and Education Events										
Product 3: Web site, workshops, grazing schools,										
tours, and media events.										
Site maintenance	2 years	1,10								
Farmer/Rancher Workshops	6 each	1,2,4,5,6,7,9,12	1		2		1		2	
Grazing School	2 each	1,6,7,9,11,12			1				1	
Press Releases	4 each	1,7,10,11,12			1	1			1	1
Summer Ranch Tours	2 each	1,2,4,5,6,7,9,12			1				1	
Objective 3: Reporting and Monitoring										
Task 3: Reporting										
Product 4: Reports/Project Management										
Contract For Services										
Two (2) Mid-year Reports	2 each	1,9,10		1				1		
Two (2) Annual Reports	2 each	1,9,10				1				1
One (1) Final Report	1 each	1,9,10								1

Groups:

1. 319 Grassland Mgt. & Planning
2. SD Dept. Agriculture
3. SD Lakes & Streams Assoc.
4. SD Dept. Game, Fish, & Parks
5. US Fish & Wildlife Service
6. USDA Natural Resources Cons. Serv.
7. Producers/Operators
8. SD Conservation Districts
9. SD Grassland Coalition
10. SD Association of Conservation Districts
11. SD Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources
12. South Dakota State University

Budget - Attachment A

Grassland Management Planning and Assistance

01/1/2010 through 12/31/2011

CATEGORY	Year 1	Year 2	Total	319	State	Federal	Local
	2010	2011		Grassland	GF&P/SDRCF/SDSU	NRCS/US&FW	
Personnel:							
Range Specialist/Project Coordinator	$45,000.00	$45,000.00	$90,000.00	$67,500.00		$22,500.00	
(Benefits Included) (3/4 319, 1/4 FBITA)							
Range Specialist - Planning and Implementation	$35,000.00	$35,000.00	$70,000.00	$52,500.00		$17,500.00	
(Benefits Included)							
Range Consultant - Contractual							
100,000 ac=30,000 acres Followup/Implementation & 70,000 acres planning.	$40,000.00	$60,000	$100,000.00	$100,000.00			
Outreach Coordinator/Information Specialist (indirect Included)	$22,239.00	$23,351	$45,590.00	$40,069.00	$5,521.00		
Administrative staff:							
Support Staff	$1,000.00	$1,000.00	$2,000.00				$2,000.00
Project Work Group							
Grassland Coalition	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$4,000.00				$4,000.00
State: DENR, GF&P, DOA	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$4,000.00		$4,000.00		
Federal: NRCS, SDSU, USF&W	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$4,000.00			$4,000.00	
Private Organizations: DU, Ranchers	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$4,000.00				$4,000.00
Project Administration/Management							
General Liability	$500.00	$500.00	$1,000.00	$1,000.00			
Audit/Compilation		$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$1,500.00			
Endangered Species and/or Historical/Cultural Surveys (4 @ $500 each)	$1,000.00	$1,000.00	$2,000.00				$2,000.00
Office Supplies/Operations							
Supplies: Paper	$3,000.00	$3,000.00	$6,000.00	$2,000.00			$4,000.00
Postage	$100.00	$100.00	$200.00	$200.00			
Cell Phone	$500.00	$500.00	$1,000.00	$1,000.00			
Computer Maintenance/Lease	$700.00	$700.00	$1,400.00	$1,400.00			
Computer Software	$300.00	$300.00	$600.00	$600.00			
Travel:							
Vehicle Lease	$3,000.00	$3,000.00	$6,000.00	$6,000.00			
Vehicle Mileage (8000 miles/yr. @ $.32/mi.)	$2,560.00	$2,560.00	$5,120.00	$5,120.00			
Vehicle Insurance	$700.00	$700.00	$1,400.00	$1,400.00			
Lodging and Per Diem (3/yr. @ $75)	$225.00	$225.00	$450.00	$450.00			
Subtotal: Personnel, Administration, Operations, Supplies, and Travel	**$163,824.00**	**$186,436.00**	**$350,260.00**	**$280,739.00**	**$9,521.00**	**$44,000.00**	**$16,000.00**
Objective 1: Technical Assistance for Rotational Grazing							
Task 1: 100,000 acres planned/120,000 acres implemented							
Product 1: Rotational Grazing Plans - 100,000 Ac.							
(Technical assistance costs are shown under Personnel (Project Coordinator,							
Range Specialists, and Range Consultant)							
Product 2: Rotational Grazing Plans implemented - 120,000 ac.	**$135,500.00**	**$178,000.00**	**$313,500.00**		**$93,500.00**	**$117,250.00**	**$102,750.00**
(Technical assistance costs are shown under Personnel (Project Coordinator,							
Range Specialists, and Range Consultant)							
Objective 2: Information and Education							
Task 2: Information and Education Activities:							
Product 3: Web Site, Workshops, Grazing Schools, News Releases,	**$23,500**	**$23,500.00**	**$47,000.00**	**$11,761.00**			**$35,239.00**
and Ranch Grazing Tours							
Objective 3: Reporting/Monitoring							
Task 3: Reporting							
Product 4: Reports/Project Management: progress/final reports	**$8,750.00**	**$8,750.00**	**$17,500.00**	**$17,500.00**			
Subtotal: Reporting and Monitoring							
Project Totals:	**$331,574.00**	**$396,686.00**	**$728,260.00**	**$310,000.00**	**$103,021.00**	**$161,250.00**	**$153,989.00**
Match Ineligible For This Project: (Federal or Allocated to Another Project)			**$161,250.00**			**$161,250.00**	
Project Match (Eligible):			**$567,010.00**	**$310,000.00**	**$103,021.00**		**$153,989.00**
				60%	15%		25%

Attachment B: Detailed Planning Budget

Grassland Management Planning and Assistance

01/1/2010 through 12/31/2011

CATEGORY	Year 1	Year 2	Total	319	State	Federal	Local
	2010	2011		Grassland	GF&P/SDRCF/SDSU	NRCS/US&FW	
Personnel:							
Range Specialist/Project Coordinator	$45,000.00	$45,000.00	$90,000.00	$67,500.00		$22,500.00	
(Benefits Included)							
Range Specialist - Planning and Implementation	$35,000.00	$35,000.00	$70,000.00	$52,500.00		$17,500.00	
(Benefits Included)							
Range Consultant - Contractual							
100,000 ac=30,000 acres Followup/Implementation & 70,000 acres planning.	$40,000.00	$60,000	$100,000.00	$100,000.00			
Outreach Coordinator/Information Specialist	$15,391.00	$16,160	$31,551.00	$31,551.00			
Indirect Costs: (44.5%)	$6,848.00	$7,191	$14,039.00	270 $8,518.00	$5,521.00		
Administrative staff:							
Support Staff	$1,000.00	$1,000.00	$2,000.00				$2,000.00
Project Work Group							
Grassland Coalition	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$4,000.00				$4,000.00
State: DENR, GF&P, DOA	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$4,000.00		$4,000.00		
Federal: NRCS, SDSU, USF&W	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$4,000.00			$4,000.00	
Private Organizations: DU, Ranchers	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	$4,000.00				$4,000.00
Project Administration/Management							
General Liability	$500.00	$500.00	$1,000.00	$1,000.00			
Audit/Compilation		$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$1,500.00			
Endangered Species and/or Historical/Cultural Surveys (4 @ $500 each)	$1,000.00	$1,000.00	$2,000.00				$2,000.00
Office Supplies/Operations							
Supplies: Paper	$3,000.00	$3,000.00	$6,000.00	$2,000.00			$4,000.00
Postage	$100.00	$100.00	$200.00	$200.00			
Cell Phone	$500.00	$500.00	$1,000.00	$1,000.00			
Computer Maintenance/Lease	$700.00	$700.00	$1,400.00	$1,400.00			
Computer Software	$300.00	$300.00	$600.00	$600.00			
Travel							
Vehicle Lease	$3,000.00	$3,000.00	$6,000.00	$6,000.00			
Vehicle Mileage (8000 miles/yr. @ $.32/mi.)	$2,560.00	$2,560.00	$5,120.00	$5,120.00			
Vehicle Insurance	$700.00	$700.00	$1,400.00	$1,400.00			
Lodging and Per Deim (3/yr. @ $75)	$225.00	$225.00	$450.00	$450.00			
Subtotal: Personnel, Administration, Operations, Supplies, and Travel	**$163,824.00**	**$186,436.00**	**$350,260.00**	**$280,739.00**	**$9,521.00**	**$44,000.00**	**$16,000.00**
Objective 1: Technical Assistance for Rotational Grazing							
Task 1: 100,000 acres planned/120,000 acres implemented							
Product 1: Rotational Grazing Plans - 100,000 Ac.							
(Technical assistance costs are shown under Personnel (Project Coordinator,							
Range Specialists, and Range Consultant.)							
Product 2: Rotational Grazing Plans implemented - 120,000 ac.							
(Technical assistance costs are shown under Personnel (Project Coordinator,							
Range Specialists, and Range Consultant.)							

Attachment B: Detailed Planning Budget

Grassland Management Planning and Assistance

01/1/2010 through 12/31/2011

CATEGORY	Year 1	Year 2	Total	319	State	Federal	Local
				Grassland	GF&P/SDRCF/SDSU	NRCS/US&FW	
Product 2 Continued: Rotational Grazing Plans Implemented:							
Best Management Practices - System Implementation							
Fence: 100,000 LF @ $1.10/LF (4 barbed wire)	$55,000.00	$55,000.00	$110,000.00		$82,500.00		$27,500.00
Pipeline: 80,000 LF @ $1.95/LF	$60,000.00	$96,000.00	$156,000.00			$100,000.00	$56,000.00
Rural Water Hook-ups: 2 each @ $1,500 each	$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$3,000.00			$1,500.00	$1,500.00
Tanks: 25 tanks @ $1,000 each (800 gal. @ $1.25/gal)	$10,000.00	$15,000.00	$25,000.00			$15,000.00	$10,000.00
Dugouts/Dams: 2 each @ $4000.00	$4,000.00	$4,000.00	$8,000.00		$4,000.00		$4,000.00
Grass Seeding: 100 acres @ $100/ac.	$5,000.00	$5,000.00	$10,000.00		$7,000.00		$3,000.00
Stream Crossing: 1 @ $1,500 each		$1,500.00	$1,500.00			$750.00	$750.00
Subtotal: BMP Installation - Grasslands	**$135,500.00**	**$178,000.00**	**$313,500.00**	**$0.00**	**$93,500.00**	**$117,250.00**	**$102,750.00**
Objective 2: Information and Education							
Task 2: Information and Education Activities							
Product 3: Web Site/Events							
Web Site Maintenance/Updates	$1,000.00	$1,000.00	$2,000.00				$2,000
Rancher/Farmer Workshops							
6 each @ $2,500 each (450 total attendance)	$7,500.00	$7,500.00	$15,000.00	$4,261.00			$10,739.00
Grazing School; (2010/2011)							
50 ranchers @ $300 each (25/yr.)	$7,500.00	$7,500.00	$15,000.00	$7,500.00			$7,500.00
News Releases: Multi-media							
4 press releases (costs included in personnel budget)							
Summer Ranch Grazing Tour (2)							
150 ranchers @ $100 each	$7,500.00	$7,500.00	$15,000.00				$15,000.00
Subtotal: Information and Education	**$23,500.00**	**$23,500.00**	**$47,000.00**	**$11,761.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$35,239.00**
Objective 3: Reporting/Monitoring							
Task 3: Reporting							
Product 4: Reports/Project Management							
Project Management and Administration:							
SD Association of Conservation Districts	$8,750.00	$8,750.00	$17,500.00	$17,500.00			
(Project employees, payroll, accounting, day-to-day oversite)							
2 mid-year progress reports (April 10 and April 11)							
2 annual progress reports (October 10 and October 11)							
Final Report (Dec. 2011) 1 each @ 20 hrs.							
Subtotal: Reporting and Monitoring	**$8,750.00**	**$8,750.00**	**$17,500.00**	**$17,500.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**
Project Totals	**$331,574.00**	**$396,686.00**	**$728,260.00**	**$310,000.00**	**$103,021.00**	**$161,250.00**	**$153,989.00**
Match Ineligible For This Project (Federal or Allocated to Another Project)			**$161,250.00**			**$161,250.00**	
Project Match (Eligible)			**$567,010.00**	**$310,000.00**	**$103,021.00**		**$153,989.00**
				55%	18%		27%

CONSERVATION PLANNING DATA

Client Info

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

_____ E-mail: _____

Other people associated with operation: _____

Goals & Objectives

Long-term goals: _____

_____

_____

Intermediate short-term goals: _____

_____

_____

How much is obligated to conservation each year? _____

Background

Land owned: _____ Acres Land leased: _____ Acres

Type and length of leases: _____

Major conservation problems: _____

_____

Historic or archeological resources on the land: _____

_____

Cropland/Hayland

CROP	YIELD	TIME AND TYPE OF TILLAGE IMPLEMENT USED

Resource concerns (erosion, noxious weeds, etc.): _____

_____

Hay production (ave. T/yr): Tame: _____ Native: _____ Alfalfa: _____

Livestock

Livestock Type: _____ Breeding season: From: _____ To: _____

Birthing dates: _____ Percent birth rate: _____ Death loss: _____

Weaning date: _____ Date sold: _____ Weight: _____

Female numbers: _____ Breed: _____

Male numbers: _____ Breed: _____

Number of replacements each year: _____ • • Raised or Purchased • •

Yearling Numbers: _____ Weight: _____ Date sold: _____

Normal winter feeding season: _____

Winter supplemental feeding: _____

Other livestock (horses, mules, etc.): _____

Vaccination, health program, and dates: _____

_____

Producer Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

BUILDING A VISION
SETTING FARM/RANCH GOALS

Producer Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Building a vision or establishing long-term goals is one of the first steps in the planning process. Knowing where you want to go is key in determining how to get there. Goals can be categorized as social, economic, and environmental. Social goals describe family, community, or personal relationships; economic goals describe financial or business objectives; and environmental goals describe the use or protection of natural resources. Conflicts often arise between each category. For example, leisure time (social) may conflict with income objectives (economic), while these same income objectives conflict with resource enhancement objectives (environmental). As a result, it's important to acknowledge and understand these goals to set priorities during the planning process.

To help identify and establish a vision or long-term goal of your farm/ranch, it may help to answer the following three questions:

Social Goal

What do you want your family to look like in the future?

Economic Goal

What do you want your business to look like in the future?

Environmental Goal

What do you want your land to look like in the future?

Producer Signature: **Date:**

Complete all the information on this form. A complete application for assistance must include Conservation Planning Data, Farm/Ranch Goals, and the project area delineated on a copy of a USGS topographic map.

GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT PROJECT APPLICATION FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Producer Name:_____ County:_____

Sponsor Name:_____ County: _____ _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____Email: _____

Target Area (# 1-7, see map): _____ Assistance requested for *(circle those that apply)*: **Planning** **Application**

Does a current resource inventory exist for this operation *(circle one)*: NO YES
If so, when was it developed and by whom:_____

Does a current conservation plan exist for this operation *(circle one)*: NO YES
If so, when was it developed and by whom:_____

Is all or a portion of this unit currently covered under a cost share contract *(circle one)*: NO YES
If so, what program:_____

Eleven Digit Hydrologic Unit Number: _____

PRIORITY RANKING SYSTEM *(circle the highest point value that applies)*

	Land is located all or partly in active 319 TMDL water quality project area	Applicant is an active member of a Bootstraps group	Applicant agrees to conduct a monitoring program, host tours, & participate in other information programs	Applicant is in EQIP priority area & requests technical assistance to develop & implement a grassland management plan	Applicant requests technical assistance to develop & implement grassland management plan
River, stream, or lake is found in or within ½ mile of the project area	100 points	90 points	80 points	70 points	70 points
River, stream, or lake is found within 1 mile of the project area	90 points	80 points	70 points	60 points	60 points
River, stream, or lake is found within 2 miles of the project area	80 points	70 points	60 points	50 points	50 points
River, stream, or lake is over 2 miles from the project area	70 points	60 points	50 points	40 points	40 points

In making this application, I agree and commit to participate in the Grassland Management and Planning Project:

Producer: _____ Date: _____

This application has been reviewed and approved:

Sponsor: _____ Date: _____

I certify this application is technically adequate:

District Conservationist: _____ Date: _____