

Expedited Conservation Projects (ECP) Activity List

Forest Habitat
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Winter (Thermal) Cover 2. Tree Planting 3. Promotion of Natural Regeneration 4. Bud Capping 5. Prescribed burning within BMP prescription, including aerial support.
Prairie Habitat
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishment of new prairie 2. Seed purchase of native species 3. Prescribed burning within BMP prescription 4. Mowing/herbicide for invasive species control in established prairie 5. Tree removal/woody encroachment management 6. Interseeding of monoculture/low biodiversity sites
Wetland/Water Habitat
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water level control structures 2. Fish barriers 3. Upland vegetation enhancement 4. Tile breaks/ditch blocks
Fish, Game, and Wildlife Habitat
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brushland shearing 2. Dam removal and modification 3. In-stream habitat modification 4. Trout stream restoration and habitat improvement 5. Site preparation for habitat enhancement 6. All ECP activities from forest, prairie, and wetland/water habitats.

Forest Habitat ECP Activity List Definitions and Details

	Activity	Definitions	Requirements	Included Costs	Excluded Costs
1	Winter (Thermal) Cover	Planting <i>diverse and native</i> woody vegetation (native trees and shrubs) for the purpose of providing overwinter cover for native animal species.	A diverse mix of multiple species must be planted to be considered eligible. A species list must be included in the application.	Planting native trees and shrubs, herbicide, mowing, tree mats/stakes, native seedlings/bare root stock.	Non-native species, capital equipment purchase (including mowers, chainsaws, heavy equipment, etc.)
2	Tree Planting	Planting and purchase of <i>diverse and native</i> tree species for reasons other than replanting of a monoculture forest.	A diverse mix of multiple species must be planted to be considered eligible. A species list must be included in the application.	Native trees, seedlings, contractor costs, equipment rental, herbicide, tree mats/stakes.	Non-native species, capital equipment purchase (hand tools, saws, heavy equipment, etc.), PPE
3	Promotion of Natural Regeneration	Activities that promote natural regeneration within native stand types with <i>clearly defined</i> fish and wildlife habitat benefits.	Expected site and species responses must be included in the application to be considered eligible.	Mowing, shearing, herbicide, hand/mechanical release, thinning, contractor costs, equipment rental.	Capital equipment purchase (including mowers, chainsaws, heavy equipment, etc.)
4	Bud Capping	Protecting young conifer and/or deciduous buds overwinter from deer browse with <i>clearly defined</i> fish and wildlife habitat benefits.	Project must include the budcapping of a diverse mix of tree species to be considered eligible. Species being budcapped must be specified in the application.	Papers, clips, contractor costs, equipment rental.	Capital equipment purchase.
5	Prescribed Burning	Burning of understory to remove heavy fuels, improve stand health, and promote young successional forest species with <i>clearly defined fish</i> and wildlife habitat benefit.	A prescribed burning schedule and map must be included in the application to be considered eligible.	Burn break installation, contractor costs, burn fuel, pre-burn site prep, equipment rental, non-state aerial contractor.	Agency staff time, capital equipment purchase, PPE, burn equipment (sprayers, drip torches, slip-on units), herbicide, chainsaws, vehicles.

Prairie Habitat (Includes Oak Savannas) ECP Activity List Definitions and Details

	Activity	Definitions	Requirements	Included Costs	Excluded Costs
1	Establishment of New Prairie	Restoring native grassland species including forbs in a suitable area currently void of native vegetation.	Work on DNR lands require an approved and adopted prairie restoration plan which must be submitted with the application.	Mowing, herbicide, seed purchase, equipment rental, contractor costs.	Burn costs, capital equipment (seeder, packer, tractor, ATV, sprayer, etc.)
2	Seed Purchase of Native Species	Purchase of <i>diverse and native</i> local ecotype prairie seed mix(es) to be planted before the end of the grant period.	A seed species list must be included as an attachment in the application.	Purchase of seed to complete a prairie restoration and enhancement.	Non-native vegetation, woody vegetation, trees.
3	Prescribed Burning	Burning to restore native prairie species as prescribed by current best management practices.	A prescribed burning schedule and map must be included in the application to be considered eligible.	Mowing burn breaks, contractor costs, burn fuel.	PPE, burn equipment (sprayers, drip torches, slip-on units), herbicide, chainsaws, vehicles.
4	Mowing/Herbicide for Invasive Species Control	Invasive control within established prairie sites, including both cutting and spraying to eliminate invasive species.	Targeted invasive species must be identified in the application. Current DNR BMPs for targeted invasive species must be followed.	Herbicide, equipment rental, contractor costs.	Equipment purchase (including mower attachments, replacement parts for equipment, mowing units, sprayers, etc.), PPE
5	Tree removal/Woody Encroachment Management	Removal of individual trees or woody encroachment within prairie sites.	Species of woody plants being removed must be specified in the application.	Herbicide, equipment rental, contractor costs.	Chainsaws, pruners, brush saws, sprayers, PPE.
6	Interseeding of Monoculture/Low Biodiversity Sites	Increasing the biodiversity of an existing grassland site by adding additional prairie species.	A seed species list must be included as an attachment in the application.	Contractor costs, seed purchase, equipment rental.	Equipment purchase (seeder, packer, ATV, tractor, etc.), management activities (mowing, herbicide, etc.)

Wetland/Water Habitat ECP Activity List Definitions and Details

	Activity	Definitions	Requirements	Included Costs	Excluded Costs
1	Water Control Structures	Installation of a structure to control the level of water, necessary due to the altered hydrology of a shallow lake or wetland.	Engineering, survey, design, and construction estimates must be complete and submitted with the application.	Fixed crest, variable crest structures, contractor costs, equipment rental, materials, site clean-up, associated upland or lowland restoration.	Access or conservation easement acquisition, engineering and design, survey work.
2	Fish Barriers	Barriers placed on larger or shallow lake systems to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.	Engineering, survey, design, and construction estimates must be complete and submitted with the application.	Contractor costs, equipment rental, materials, site clean-up, associated upland or lowland restoration.	Fish removal (commercial or chemical), access or conservation easement acquisition, engineering and design, survey work.
3	Upland Vegetation Enhancement	Enhancement or restoration of uplands associated with existing wetlands or water systems that have been degraded.	A seed species list must be included as an attachment in the application. Targeted invasive species must be identified in the application. Current DNR BMPs for targeted invasive species must be followed.	Invasive species control, prescribed burning, herbicide for habitat enhancement, tree removal, seeding, equipment rental, contractor costs.	PPE, burn equipment (sprayers, drip torches, slip-on units), chainsaws, vehicles, pruners, brush saws, riprap, access or conservation easement acquisition, engineering and design, survey work.
4	Tile Breaks/Ditch Blocks	Decommissioning installed water drainage systems by tile break or removal.	Impacts to surrounding land and NHIS features must be included in the application to be considered eligible.	Equipment rental, contractor costs, re-meandering of ditch channels.	Tile system improvements, access or conservation easement acquisition, engineering and design, survey work.

Fish, Game, and Wildlife Habitat ECP Activity List Definitions and Details

	Activity	Definitions	Requirements	Included Costs	Excluded Costs
1	Brushland Shearing	Use of heavy equipment during ground stable conditions to remove nature trees and brush at ground level to allow for regeneration.	Targeted tree and brush species must be identified in the application.	Shearing, mowing, chopping, hydro-ax, follow-up site burning, contractor costs.	Equipment purchase.
2	Dam Removal/Modification	The removal of an existing dam within a public waterway or installation of a dam modification or nature-like fishway to allow aquatic species to pass the current barrier.	Engineering, survey and design, and construction estimates must be complete and submitted with the application.	Dam removal and weir placement, nature-like fishway, rock arch rapids, rapids construction, contractor costs, equipment rental, materials, site clean-up, river/stream channel modification.	Equipment purchase, barrier/structure replacement or maintenance, fish ladders, fish elevators, engineering and design, survey work, access or conservation easement acquisition.
3	In-Stream Habitat Modification	Restoring or enhancing degraded or missing in-stream habitat or access to habitat to provide spawning, resting, feeding areas for aquatic species.	Engineering, survey and design, and construction estimates must be complete and submitted with the application.	Structure placement, spawning area restoration, natural bank stabilization, log jam removal, equipment rental, contractor costs.	Riprap, access or conservation easement acquisition, engineering and design, survey work.
4	Trout Stream Restoration/Habitat Improvement	Restoring or enhancing degraded or missing in-stream habitat or enhancements to upland/lowlands to provide spawning, resting, and feeding areas for trout species.	Engineering, survey and design, and construction estimates must be complete and submitted with the application.	Beaver dam removal, equipment rental, contractor costs, structure placement, spawning area restoration, upland restoration.	Riprap, access or conservation easement acquisition, engineering and design, survey work.
5	Site Prep for Habitat Enhancement	Use of heavy equipment to remove current vegetation to allow for future enhancement work.	Species to be removed must be identified in the application. Impacts to NHIS features must be included.	Shearing, mowing, chopping, hydro-ax, burning, contractor costs, equipment rental, invasive species control, herbicide.	Equipment purchase, non-native species.
6	All ECP Activities from Forest, Prairie, and Wetland/Water Habitats				