

USDA NRCS Conservation Stewardship Program

“Enhancements” List

Click on each link to be directed to that enhancements description in more detail.

These enhancements are based on the conservation planning process and the assessment of the land use and its associated natural resources, including the SOIL, WATER, ANIMAL, PLANT, AIR, HUMAN, and ENERGY resources. Learn more [here](#) about “SWAPA+HE” and its role in conservation planning.

Soil - Enhancements

- [E328E](#) Soil health crop rotation
- [E328F](#) Modifications to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter
- [E328H](#) Conservation crop rotation to reduce the concentration of salts
- [E329A](#) No till to reduce soil erosion
- [E329D](#) No till system to increase soil health and soil organic matter content
- [E334A](#) Controlled traffic farming to reduce compaction
- [E340A](#) Cover crop to reduce soil erosion
- [E340B](#) Intensive cover cropping to increase soil health and soil organic matter content
- [E340C](#) Use of multi-species cover crops to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter
- [E340D](#) Intensive orchard/vineyard floor cover cropping to increase soil health
- [E340E](#) Use of soil health assessment to assist with development of cover crop mix to improve soil health
- [E340F](#) Cover crop to minimize soil compaction
- [E340I](#) Using cover crops for biological strip till
- [E345A](#) Reduced tillage to reduce soil erosion
- [E345D](#) Reduced tillage to increase soil health and soil organic matter content
- [E382B](#) Installing electrical fence offsets and wire to facilitate cross-fencing for improved grazing management
- [E386A](#) Enhanced field borders to reduce soil erosion along the edge(s) of a field
- [E386B](#) Enhanced field borders to increase carbon storage along the edge(s) of the field
- [E484A](#) Mulching to improve soil health
- [E512A](#) Cropland conversion to grass-based agriculture to reduce soil erosion
- [E512B](#) Forage plantings that help increase organic matter in depleted soils
- [E512C](#) Cropland conversion to grass for soil organic matter improvement
- [E512D](#) Forage plantings that help increase organic matter in depleted soils
- [E528K](#) Improved grazing management for soil compaction on pasture through monitoring activities
- [E528L](#) Prescribed grazing that improves or maintains riparian and watershed function-erosion
- [E528M](#) Grazing management that protects sensitive areas from gully erosion
- [E550A](#) Range planting for increasing/maintaining organic matter
- [E580A](#) Stream corridor bank stability improvement

Water - Enhancements

- [E328I](#) Forage harvest to reduce water quality impacts by utilization of excess soil nutrients
- [E329C](#) No till to increase plant-available moisture
- [E340G](#) Cover crop to reduce water quality degradation by utilizing excess soil nutrients
- [E345C](#) Reduced tillage to increase plant-available moisture
- [E390A](#) Increase riparian herbaceous cover width for sediment and nutrient reduction
- [E391A](#) Increase riparian forest buffer width for sediment and nutrient reduction
- [E391B](#) Increase stream shading for stream temperature reduction
- [E393A](#) Extend existing filter strip to reduce water quality impacts
- [E412A](#) Enhance a grassed waterway
- [E447A](#) Advanced Tailwater Recovery
- [E449B](#) Alternated Wetting and Drying (AWD) of rice fields
- [E449C](#) Advanced Automated IWM - Year 2-5, soil moisture monitoring

- [E449D](#) Advanced Automated IWM - Year 1, Equipment and soil moisture or water level monitoring
- [E449E](#) Convert from Cascade to Furrow Irrigated Rice Production - reduce irrigation water consumption
- [E449F](#) Intermediate IWM- Year 1, Equipment with Soil or Water Level monitoring
- [E449G](#) Intermediate IWM- Years 2-5, Soil or Water Level monitoring
- [E449H](#) Intermediate IWM— Years 2 -5, using soil moisture or water level monitoring
- [E449I](#) IWM - Year 1, Retrofit Equipment with Speed Control on Sprinkler Irrigation System
- [E472A](#) Manage livestock access to waterbodies to reduce nutrients or pathogens to surface water
- [E528H](#) Prescribed grazing to improve/maintain riparian and watershed function-elevated water temperature
- [E528I](#) Grazing management that protects sensitive areas -surface or ground water from nutrients
- [E528J](#) Prescribed grazing on pastureland that improves riparian and watershed function.
- [E533A](#) Advanced Pumping Plant Automation
- [E590B](#) Reduce risks of nutrient loss to surface water by utilizing precision agriculture technologies
- [E590C](#) Improving nutrient uptake efficiency and reducing risk of nutrient losses on pasture
- [E595A](#) Reduce risk of pesticides in surface water by utilizing precision pesticide application techniques
- [E612A](#) Cropland conversion to trees or shrubs for long term improvement of water quality

Animals - Enhancements

- [E327A](#) Conservation cover for pollinators and beneficial insects
- [E328D](#) Leave standing grain crops unharvested to benefit wildlife
- [E328J](#) Improved crop rotation to provide benefits to pollinators
- [E328K](#) Multiple crop types to benefit wildlife
- [E328L](#) Leaving tall crop residue for wildlife
- [E328M](#) Diversify crop rotation with canola or sunflower to benefit pollinators
- [E338B](#) Short-interval burns to promote a healthy herbaceous plant community
- [E338C](#) Sequential patch burning
- [E382A](#) Incorporating "wildlife friendly" fencing for connectivity of wildlife food resources
- [E386D](#) Enhanced field borders to increase food for pollinators along the edge(s) of a field
- [E386E](#) Enhanced field borders to increase wildlife food and habitat along the edge(s) of a field
- [E390B](#) Increase riparian herbaceous cover width to enhance wildlife habitat
- [E391C](#) Increase riparian forest buffer width to enhance wildlife habitat
- [E395A](#) Stream habitat improvement through placement of woody biomass
- [E399A](#) Fishpond management for native aquatic and terrestrial species
- [E420A](#) Establish pollinator habitat
- [E511A](#) Harvest of crops (hay or small grains) using measures that allow desired species to flush or escape
- [E511B](#) Forage harvest management that helps maintain wildlife habitat cover, shelter or continuity
- [E511C](#) Forage testing for improved harvesting methods and hay quality
- [E512G](#) Native grasses or legumes in forage base
- [E512J](#) Establish wildlife corridors to provide habitat continuity or access to water
- [E528A](#) Maintaining quantity and quality of forage for animal health and productivity
- [E528C](#) Incorporating wildlife refuge areas in contingency plans for wildlife.
- [E528D](#) Grazing management for improving quantity and quality of food or cover and shelter for wildlife
- [E528Q](#) Use of body condition scoring for livestock on a monthly basis to keep track of herd health
- [E570A](#) Enhanced rain garden for wildlife
- [E578A](#) Stream crossing elimination
- [E580B](#) Stream corridor bank vegetation improvement
- [E595D](#) Increase the size requirement of refuges planted to slow pest resistance to Bt crops
- [E595E](#) Eliminate use of chemical treatments to control pests and to increase the presence of dung beetles
- [E612G](#) Tree/shrub planting for wildlife food
- [E643B](#) Restoration and management of rare or declining habitat
- [E643C](#) Restore glade habitat to benefit threatened and endangered species and state species of concern
- [E644A](#) Managing Flood-Irrigated Landscapes for Wildlife
- [E645A](#) Reduction of attractants to human-subsidized predators in sensitive wildlife species habitat
- [E645B](#) Manage existing shrub thickets to provide adequate shelter for wildlife
- [E645C](#) Edge feathering for wildlife cover
- [E646A](#) Close structures to capture and retain rainfall for waterfowl and wading bird winter habitat

- [E646B](#) Extend retention of captured rainfall for migratory waterfowl and wading bird late winter habitat
- [E646C](#) Manipulate vegetation and maintain closed structures for shorebirds mid-summer habitat
- [E646D](#) Manipulate vegetation and maintain closed structures for shorebird late summer habitat
- [E647A](#) Manipulate vegetation on fields with captured rainfall for waterfowl & wading bird winter habitat
- [E647B](#) Provide early successional shorebird habitat between first crop and ratoon crop
- [E647C](#) Maintain most soil vegetation on cropland edges to enhance waterfowl and shorebird habitat
- [E647D](#) Establish and maintain early successional habitat in ditches and bank borders
- [E666R](#) Forest songbird habitat maintenance
- [E666O](#) Snags, den trees, and coarse woody debris for wildlife habitat
- [E666P](#) Summer roosting habitat for native forest-dwelling bat species

Plant - Enhancements

- [E315A](#) Herbaceous weed treatment to create desired plant communities consistent with the ecological site
- [E338A](#) Strategically planned, patch burning for grazing distribution and wildlife habitat
- [E484C](#) Mulching with natural materials in specialty crops for weed control
- [E528E](#) Improved grazing management for enhanced plant structure and composition for wildlife
- [E528F](#) Stockpiling cool season forage to improve structure and composition or plant productivity and health
- [E528G](#) Improved grazing management on pasture for plant productivity and health with monitoring activities
- [E528R](#) Management Intensive Rotational Grazing
- [E612D](#) Adding food-producing trees and shrubs to existing plantings
- [E612E](#) Cultural plantings
- [E612F](#) Sugarbush management
- [E643A](#) Restoration of sensitive coastal vegetative communities
- [E340H](#) Cover crop to suppress excessive weed pressures and break pest cycles
- [E383A](#) Grazing-maintained fuel break to reduce the risk of fire
- [E512E](#) Forage and biomass planting that produces feedstock for biofuels or energy production.
- [E666E](#) Reduce height of the forest understory to limit wildfire risk

Enhancement “Bundles” of Multiple Natural Resources

Air	Air/Water	Energy	Water/Energy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E329B No till to reduce tillage induced particulate matter • E345B Reduced tillage to reduce tillage induced particulate matter • E373A Dust suppressant re-application for stabilization • E376A Modify field operations to reduce particulate matter • E386C Enhanced field borders to decrease particulate emissions along the edge(s) of the field • E484B Reduce particulate matter emissions by using orchard or vineyard generated woody materials as mulch • E612B Planting for high carbon sequestration rate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E595B Reduce risk of pesticides in water and air by utilizing IPM PAMS techniques • E590A Improving nutrient uptake efficiency and reducing risk of nutrient losses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E329E No till to reduce energy • E345E Reduced tillage to reduce energy use • E374A Install variable frequency drive(s) on pump(s) • E374B Switch fuel source for pump motor(s) • E533B Complete pumping plant evaluation for energy savings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E449A Complete pumping plant evaluation for water savings
Plant/Animal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E314A Brush management to improve wildlife habitat • E338B Short-interval burns to promote a healthy herbaceous plant community • E512H Forage plantings that 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E666N Creating structural diversity in dry Western forests • E666L Forest Stand Improvement to rehabilitate degraded hardwood stands • E666Q Increase diversity in 	Plants/Soils <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E328A Resource conserving crop rotation • E328B Improved resource conserving crop 	Plant/Animal/Water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E666D Forest management to enhance understory vegetation

enhance bird habitat cover and shelter or structure and composition	pine plantation monocultures	rotation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E528Q Clipping mature forages to set back vegetative growth for improved forage quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E512F Establishing native grass or legumes in forage base to improve the plant community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E384A Biochar production from woody residue
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E666F Reduce forest stand density to create open stand structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E512H Forage plantings that enhance bird habitat cover and shelter or structure and composition	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E666G Reduce forest density and manage understory along roads to limit wildfire risk and improve habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E612C Establishing tree/shrub species to restore native plant communities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E666I Crop tree management for mast production	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E381A Silvopasture to improve wildlife habitat	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E666J Facilitating oak forest regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E314A Brush management to improve wildlife habitat	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E666K Creating structural diversity with patch openings		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E666M Maintaining structural diversity in dry Western forests		
Soil/Air	Soil/Water	Soil/Water/Plants
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E666A Maintaining and improving forest soil quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E528P Implementing Bale or Swath Grazing to increase organic matter and reduce nutrients in surface water	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E528N Improved grazing management through monitoring activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E666H Increase on-site carbon storage		