

MN Farm Bill Assistance Partnership

Staffing Guidance FY2019

The purpose of the MN Farm Bill Assistance Partnership is to accelerate the implementation of conservation programs in Minnesota by adding capacity to consult with landowners in the delivery of conservation programs on private land. The end result is more acres of BMP's, buffers, grasslands and wetlands for water quality and wildlife habitat. The following is a listing of general requirements and activities relating to the work priorities of the FBAP committee (DNR, BWSR, NRCS, MASWCD, and PF). Should you have any specific questions about eligible duties, please contact Dusty Van Thuyne at 507-344-2819 or dusty.vanthuyne@state.mn.us.

General Requirements:

- Staff employed through this funding should possess experience and/or education in wildlife science or natural resource conservation related field.
- This added capacity is designed to proactively outreach/consult with private landowners regarding resource priorities and programs that work to address concerns related to wildlife, water, and soil.

Duties Eligible for Funding:

- Marketing and consultation with farmers and landowners on conservation programs that achieve clean water, grass, and wetland cover: Programs such as MN Buffer initiative, CREP, RIM, CRP, CCRP, WRE, WLI, EQIP, CRP Re-enrollment, MN Clean Water Funding, MN Prairie Conservation Plan, MN Pheasant Action Plan, Prairie Bank, USFWS Habitat Easements.
- As it relates to the MN Buffer initiative, staff will assist with landowner contacts, establishment, cost-share, and conservation program enrollment options. Staff are not to be involved in regulatory actions. Landowner contacts, promotional materials, and communication should exclude such references in favor of a more proactive approach.
- Contracts, Easements, and Conservation Plans for these programs.
- Facilitate practice implementation with vendors.
- Mid-contract management planning/consulting or vegetation enhancement activities.
- Guidance of landowners on non-FBA activities to appropriate staff/programs.
- Attendance at training events and meetings necessary to stay up-to-date on private lands program offerings.

Duties Not Eligible for Funding:

- Tree planting/matting-SWCD tree program
- Grass planting-SWCD drill program
- Conducting a prescribed burn
- Construction management of general conservation practices
- Non-compliance (inventory/evaluation) and enforcement procedures of existing laws