

Ranking Category – Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program/Environmental Quality
Incentives Program Lesser Prairie-Chicken Special Initiative

Primary Resource Concern –

- **Fish and Wildlife – Declining Species, Species of Concern (Lesser Prairie-Chicken [LEPC])**

Eligible Land Uses –

- **Grazed Range, Pasture, Crop**

Additional Requirements for this Category –

- **Enrolled pasture consisting of a single species or tame grass will be required to be restored to a plant community with species diversity to benefit LEPC.**
- **Enrolled crop must be established to permanent perennial herbaceous vegetation.**
- **No State Issue points will be awarded to any applicant who has had a cancelled or terminated EQIP contract in the past.**
- **A grazing management plan to benefit the LEPC will be required.**
- **Must be in designated eligible area (see map).**

State Issues –

- 1) Answer ONE of the following questions related to the location of the application.
 - 1a) Any part of the unit of concern is within a Playa Lakes Joint Venture (PLJV) Core Habitat area. (110 points)
 - 2a) Any part of the unit of concern is within a PLJV Core Buffer Habitat area. (55 points)
- 2) Answer the following question related to the application acres.
 - 2a) Does the application include expired Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage? (250 points)
- 3) Answer ONE of the following questions related to trees on the application acres (see Table II in the Specifications for Conservation Practice 314, Brush Management). If none apply, leave all answers NO.
 - 3a) Application acres have no trees present, except for low infestations in low elevations and narrow riparian areas that do not cause fragmentation of LEPC habitat. (15 points)
 - 3b) Application acres have trees widely scattered over the upland areas (1.0 to 5.0 percent coverage). (10 points)
 - 3c) Application acres have trees widespread over the entire area (5.1 to 15.0 percent coverage). (5 points)

- 4) Answer ONE of the following questions related to the application acres size or proximity to existing rangeland. If neither apply, leave the answers NO.
 - 4a) Application acres consist of 1240 acres of rangeland or are 0.5 mile or less from a 1240-acre-minimum block of rangeland. (25 points)
 - 4b) Application acres are greater than 0.5 mile to 1.0 mile from a 1240-acre-minimum block of rangeland. (10 points)

Local Issues –

Answer the following questions related to the application.

- 1) Application includes at least one practice with a lifespan of 10 years or greater as documented in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG). (5 points)
- 2) Practices are scheduled to be completed within four years. (5 points)
- 3) Producer has secured funding for portions of the project from other contributors which may include, but is not limited to, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks' (KDWP) "State Wildlife Grant," conservation districts, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams, or other cost-share programs. (5 points)
- 4) Planned treatment will benefit natural wetlands exceeding one acre in size. A certified wetland determination is not required. (5 points)