



Excerpts to be included in the next State Tech Committee Minutes

Subcommittee Actions between Regular Scheduled Meetings

The conservation subcommittee of the state technical committee met August 25, 2015, in the Oklahoma State FSA office at 9:00 a.m. to discuss the establishment of a State Grassland Zone per FSA Notice CRP-790. Subcommittee members notified of the meeting called by Rod Wanger of FSA were Steve Glasgow, Dwayne Elmore, Doug Schoeling, John Hendrix, D. Crase, Jay Pruett, and S. G. Smith. Those attending the meeting were Rod Wanger, Dwayne Elmore, Doug Schoeling and John Hendrix.

Rod presented a PowerPoint of the CRP Grasslands program for subcommittee member's background information. The subcommittee then reviewed existing CRP priority areas, and a CRP grasslands conversion chart provided by the FSA National office for the conversion factor evaluation portion of the ranking criteria to consider in establishing the CRP grassland zone. The subcommittee then proceeded to establish the zone that would provide Oklahoma producers the best possible chance of their eligible land being selected for the program considering grassland preservation, wildlife concern and water quality. The zone essentially encompasses the panhandle counties and those counties along the west edge of Oklahoma. The CRP grassland zone was limited to 25 percent of the total acres of hay, pasture rangeland, and CRP in the State which was 5.9M acres. Those offer land in the zone will receive additional evaluation points ranking selection process. See attached map. The zone was named the Oklahoma CRP Grasslands Preservation Zone. The objective was stated: "To maintain intact grasslands for the preservation of the wildlife species such as the Scaled and Bobwhite quail and Cassin's Sparrow as well as to enhance water quality."

The subcommittee adjourned at 11 a.m.