

CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

E328L

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Annual precipitation > 14 inches

Leaving tall crop residue for wildlife

Conservation Practice 328: Conservation Crop Rotation

APPLICABLE LAND USE: Crop (annual and mixed)

RESOURCE CONCERN ADDRESSED: Animals

ENHANCEMENT LIFE SPAN: 1 Year

Enhancement Description

Fields may be harvested, but crop residues must be left standing a minimum of 14 inches. Residues will be left through winter and into spring, providing valuable winter cover and forage for wildlife spanning late summer and through the following winter.

<u>Criteria</u>

- The entire field must be harvested with a residual stubble height minimum of 14 inches on average throughout the field. Only acres with this minimum stubble height are eligible for payment.
- Stubble height must be maintained until 10 days or less prior to the typical date of the first primary tillage operation in the spring.
- Planting and management of cover crops are not prohibited if they do not compromise the height and structure of the stubble cover.
- Eligible crops include those which can be harvested to leave a minimum 14-inch stubble height, and the stubble will be stiff enough to persist standing through winter.
- When possible, reduce or eliminate the use of herbicide treatments on weedy growth between the rows to provide additional cover and food sources for wildlife.

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Documentation and Implementation Requirements

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Participant will:

Prior to implementation, develop a map showing planned location(s), crop type(s) and acreage of crops to leave tall standing stubble.

After implementation, provide photo documentation of stubble height left standing.

NRCS will:

- As needed, provide technical assistance in selecting crop rotations or substitute crops that would meet the criteria of the enhancement.
- As needed, provide additional assistance to the participant.
- After implementation, verify stubble height and ensure stubble is left standing after winter months.

NRCS Documentation Review:

I have reviewed all required participant documentation and have determined the participant has implemented the enhancement and met all criteria and requirements.

Participant Name	Contract Number
Total Amount Applied	Fiscal Year Completed
NRCS Technical Adequacy Signature	Date

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