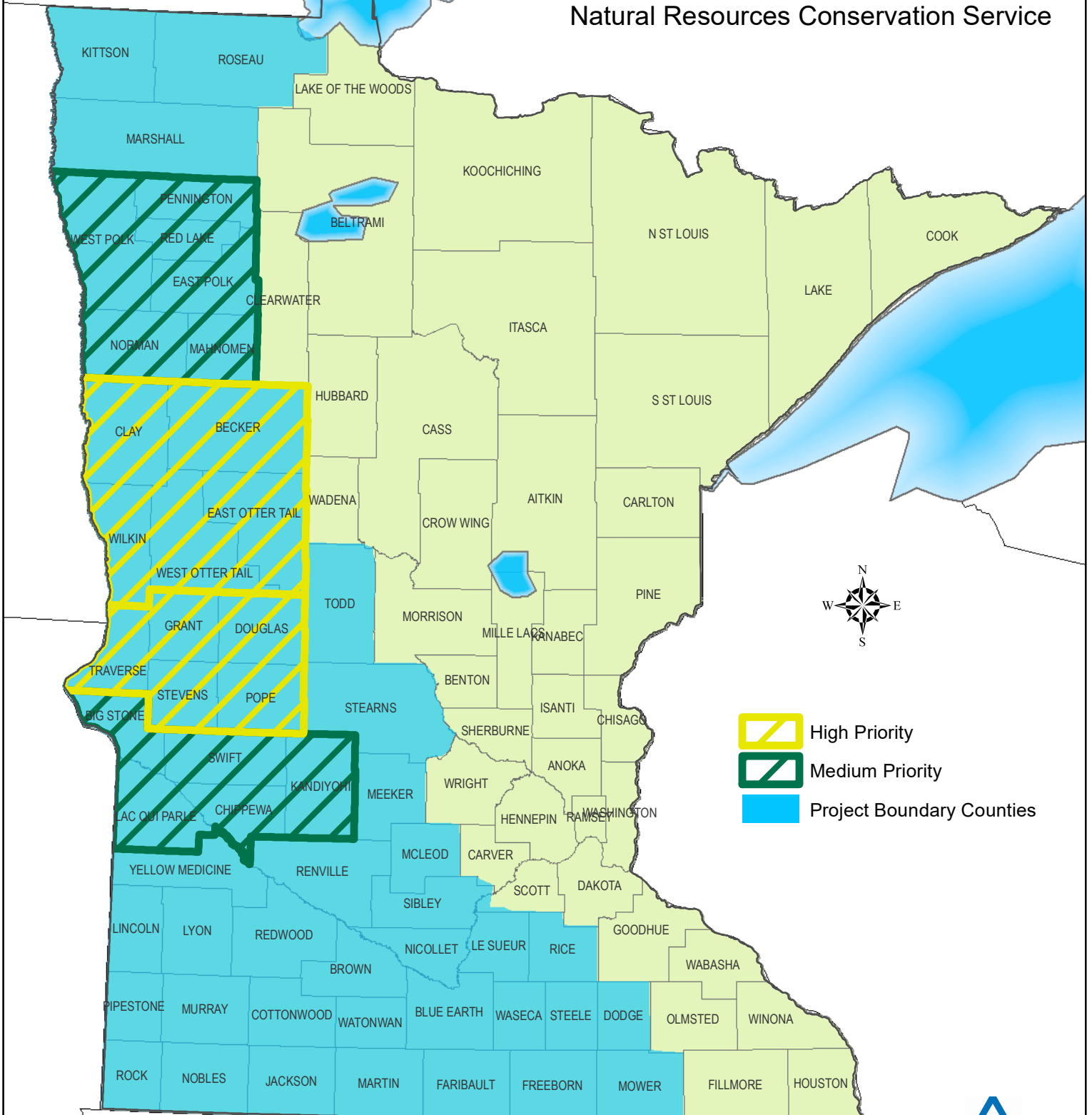




United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

# Prairie Pothole Region Workload Prioritization

Minnesota  
Natural Resources Conservation Service



Maps are for graphical purposes only. They do not represent a legal survey.  
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



# Environmental Quality Incentives Program

## Prairie Pothole Water Quality and Wildlife Program

2020 - Minnesota Supplement for:

Practice Standard 644 – Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management

### Supplemental Criteria

1. Eligible land use is cropland with wetlands located in Prairie Pothole Area. Wetlands must be  $\leq$  2 acres in size with hydrology remaining as identified on the NWI or as verified and documented via a field visit.
2. Hydrology will be maintained or enhanced for migratory bird habitat.
3. Invasive Species must be managed on all scenarios.
4. Monitoring will include an annual site visit with photo documentation.
5. **The following is applicable to Scenario 4.**
  - a. This scenario is applicable on temporary and seasonal wetlands that are 2 acres or less and have **partial or intact hydrology**.
  - b. Must be used in conjunction with the conservation cover scenario 12.
  - c. Must not be scheduled in the first year or in the same year as the conservation cover practice.
  - d. Wetlands may be buffered not to exceed a 1:1 ratio of wetland to buffer.
6. **The following is applicable to Scenario 5.**
  - a. This scenario is applicable on temporary and seasonal wetlands that are 2 acres or less and have **intact hydrology (No Drainage)**.
  - b. This scenario will **NOT** be cropped and cropping inputs such as seed, pesticides and fertilizers will not be applied.
  - c. This area may be disked, mowed, or manipulated to enhance migratory bird habitat.
  - d. Wetlands may be buffered not to exceed a 1:1 ratio of wetland to buffer.
7. **The following is applicable to Scenario 6.**
  - a. This scenario is applicable on temporary and seasonal wetlands that are 2 acres or less and have **intact hydrology (No Drainage)**.
  - b. This scenario may be cropped and cropping inputs such as seed, pesticides and fertilizers may be applied.
  - c. No buffer authorized.

### Scenarios

#### **Scenario #4: Management and Monitoring on Idled Cropland for Wetland Wildlife, foregone income – Level 1 (Year 2-5)**

This scenario addresses wildlife habitat management for wetter or more water saturated portions of cropland fields which are valuable source of forage and cover for many waterfowl, shorebird and wading bird species. The cessation of cropping and maintenance of hydrology will provide adequate forage and cover in areas where normal cropland production restricts the growth of cover and forage sources. Where this occurs on cropped fields, annual crops will be lost for one growing season (foregone income is included).

#### **Scenario: #5 - Idling Cropland for Wetland Wildlife - Level 2**

This scenario addresses wildlife habitat management for wetter or more water saturated portions of cropland fields which are valuable source of forage and cover for many waterfowl, shorebird and wading bird species. The cessation of cropping and maintenance of hydrology will provide adequate forage and cover in areas where normal cropland production restricts the growth of cover and forage sources. Where this occurs on cropped fields, annual crops will be lost for one growing season (foregone income is included).

**Scenario: #6 - Monitoring and Management - Level 3**

Scenario Description: This scenario applies to cropped wetlands, two acres or less in size identified on the National Wetland Inventory, with intact hydrology, currently cropped (typically in a corn-wheat-soybean rotation) and lacking adequate food and cover for migratory waterfowl during critical periods. The inadequate wildlife habitat resource concern can be addressed by allowing EXISTING annual vegetation (crops or other annual vegetation) to establish and persist during critical nesting and brood rearing seasons. Annual crops may be lost for one growing season.

# Environmental Quality Incentives Program

## Prairie Pothole Water Quality and Wildlife Program

2020 - Minnesota Supplement for:  
Practice Standard 327 – Conservation Cover

### **Supplemental Criteria**

1. This scenario is applicable on temporary and seasonal wetlands that are 2 acres or less and have partial or intact hydrology.
2. Scenario 12 may include cropland adjacent to wetlands not exceeding a 1:1 ratio of wetland to upland.
3. Scenario 12 is only to be scheduled in year 1 for vegetative establishment.
4. Scenario 12 is only to be used in conjunction with Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644) Scenario #4. (No other 644 scenario may be used)

### **Scenarios**

**Scenario #12** – Conservation Cover for Water Quality and Wildlife, Foregone Income – Level 1 (Year 1)

**Scenario Description:** Permanent vegetation, including a mix of introduced cool season grasses and legumes, established on cropped wetland area needing permanent vegetative cover that improves water quality and provides wetland wildlife habitat. Typical practice size is 2 acres. Practice applicable on cropland.