

RIM COMPATIBLE USE AGREEMENT FORM

PURPOSE

When planning enhancement activities, landowners may seek to utilize traditional agricultural practices.

Invasive, aggressive vegetation can be difficult to address when managing or enhancing restored grasslands. In some situations, the best option for control is to complete one year of cropping using conventional farming practices. Soybeans or an annual cover crop can be used on restored grasslands where one year of cropping is applicable.

This form should be used in situations where landowners are requesting the managed use of traditional agricultural practices as a tool for enhancement. Approval on the use of these strategies will depend on site assessment, soil type, topography, and landowner interest. Cost-share is *not* available for these activities. Questions regarding this form can be sent to Sara Reagan (sara.reagan@state.mn.us).

This form should be submitted to the RIM inbox (bwsr.rim@state.mn.us) for approval by BWSR staff.

By signing this Compatible Use Agreement Form, I understand that:

1. No cost-share is available for this work. All expenses of crop planting, weed control, and harvest are at my expense.
2. When applicable, I must communicate my intentions with the local Farm Service Agency (FSA) prior to the planting of crops. BWSR is not responsible for any FSA-related program restrictions.
3. A map(s) of planned management activity must be attached with this form.
4. Any changes made to the Statement of Work must be pre-approved by the SWCD and BWSR. This includes complications due to weather or other on-site conditions.
5. The SWCD and BWSR reserves the right to modify or terminate this agreement based upon site conditions or actions not consistent with management of the easement. Ten days written notice will be provided.
6. I am responsible for all work included in this agreement, regardless of use of contractor or cooperator. Any damage to the easement shall be corrected at my expense.

Landowner signature and date	Cooperator signature and date (if applicable)

SWCD signature and date	BWSR approval

Annual cropping systems as site preparation

1. Landowners may begin prepping the site August 01 the year before cropping.
2. Harvest must be completed by May 15 the year following cropping.
3. Not all sites will be suitable for this practice. Soil type, topography, and time/financial commitment should be considered.
4. Sensitive areas of the RIM easement, including but not limited to wetlands, frequently-flooded sites, highly erodible land, and open water, will not be eligible.
5. The field must be left in a smooth, firm condition after harvest. Any tillage following harvest will be limited to specific field conditions and requires prior approval.
6. Approval from BWSR is *required* prior to any implementation.

Easement number		Landowner name	
Practice area(s) and Practice type(s)			

Map(s) of planned management activity must be attached with this form.

Crop year		Crop type		Acres to be treated	
Statement of work:					