



# Irrigation Technology & Conservation Program

## Cost- Share Guidelines & Requirements



### Soil Moisture Sensors (W-1)

#### Focus Areas:

Bow Creek Watershed, Bazile Groundwater Management Area, Wellhead Protection Areas

#### ❖ Guidelines

- Up to 75% cost-share with a maximum of \$1,250 per year per sensor
- Max 2 sensors per applicant
- One sensor up to 160 acres with a minimum of 33 acres
- Length of contract is 3 consecutive years and includes all data collection requirements
- Payments will be made after installation and annually until the end of contract
- Option to lease and/ or purchase with maintenance and service contract

#### ❖ Requirements of Operator/ Landowner

- Have soil samples taken annually by approved contractor- Reimbursable by LCNRD up to \$4/ac
  - One sample per 40 acres
  - Individual depths of 0"-8" (Routine Test, Ward Lab S-4), 8"-24" (Nitrate), 24"-36" (Nitrate)
- Must have a flow meter installed- **Cost- share is available on new adoption**
  - Flow meter readings must be submitted at the start of contract, then annually
- Sensors must be installed by a contractor immediately after planting throughout the root zone based on the crop grown
- Equipment purchases and installer will need to be approved prior to installation
- No- till is encouraged, but not a requirement- **Cost- Share is available**



# Irrigation Technology & Conservation Program

## Cost- Share Guidelines & Requirements



### Flow Meters with Telemetry (W-2)

#### Focus Areas:

Bow Creek Watershed, Bazile Groundwater Management Area, Wellhead Protection Areas

#### ❖ Guidelines

- Up to 75% cost-share with a maximum of \$2,250 per meter
- Telemetry data plan will be cost- shared at 75%, up to \$160 per year for three years
- One flow meter per irrigation system that irrigates a minimum of 33 acres
- Length of contract is 3 consecutive years and includes all data collection requirements
- Payments will be made after installation and at the end of the contract

#### ❖ Requirements of Operator/ Landowner

- Must be a McCrometer flow meter including telemetry
- Equipment purchases need to be approved and installed by a contractor prior to first irrigation event
- No- till is encouraged, but not a requirement- **Cost- Share is available on new adoption**



# Conservation Program

## Cost- Share Guidelines & Requirements

### Variable Rate Irrigation Upgrade (W-3)

#### Focus Areas:

Bow Creek Watershed, Bazile Groundwater Management Area, Wellhead Protection Areas

#### ❖ Guidelines

- Option to upgrade to variable speed and/or section control
- Up to 75% cost-share with a maximum of \$15,000 per producer
- Annual subscriptions will be cost- shared at 75% up to \$225 per year for three years
- Minimum of 66 acres irrigated per system
- Max 2 system upgrades per applicant
- Length of contract is 3 consecutive years and includes all data collection requirements
- Payments will be made after installation and at the end of the contract

#### ❖ Requirements of Operator/ Landowner

- Share VRI prescriptions created by crop consultants
- Must have a flow meter and a soil moisture sensor- **Cost- share is available on new adoption**
- Must have been irrigated for two of the last five years
- Equipment purchases need to be approved and installed by a contractor prior to first irrigation event
- Nutrient management plan is strongly encouraged – **Cost-share is available**
- No- till is encouraged, but not a requirement- **Cost- Share is available**

# Cost- Share Guidelines & Requirements

## Chemigation Equipment Upgrade (W-4)

### Focus Areas:

Bow Creek Watershed, Bazile Groundwater Management Area, Wellhead Protection Areas

### ❖ Guidelines

- Up to 75% cost-share with a maximum of \$1,350 per system
- Max 1 system upgrade per applicant irrigating a minimum of 33 acres
- Length of contract is 3 consecutive years and includes all data collection requirements
- Payments will be made after installation and at the end of the contract
- Eligible components include:
  - Variable rate pump
  - Standard pump can be cost-shared if pivot is set up for variable rate
  - Slam Valve (If none is present)
    - Not eligible for new construction

### ❖ Requirements of Operator/ Landowner

- Chemigation permit
- Operator must have certified chemigation applicator license
- Equipment purchases need to be approved and installed by a contractor prior to first irrigation event
- No- till is encouraged, but not a requirement- **Cost- Share is available on new adoption**

## Sensor- Based Nutrient Management (W-5)- (DWEE Application)

### Focus Areas:

Bow Creek Watershed, Bazile Groundwater Management Area, Wellhead Protection Areas

### ❖ Guidelines

- Up to 75% cost-share with a maximum of \$11 per acre per year
- Max 320 acres of prescription cost- share per applicant with a minimum of 20 acres
- Length of contract is two corn years and includes all data collection requirements
  - Can be consecutive or can move to second field in year two
    - Must be approved by LCNRD prior to growing season
- Payments will be made at the beginning and the end of the contract

### ❖ Requirements of Operator/ Landowner

- Chemigation permit (If applicable)
- Operator must have certified chemigation applicator license (If applicable)
- **Must have Variable Rate fertilizer capabilities to be eligible-** can enroll irrigated and dryland acres
  - Share prescriptions created by crop consultants with LCNRD
- Must work with an approved provider
- No- till is encouraged, but not a requirement- **Cost- Share is available on new adoption**



# Irrigation Technology & Conservation Program Cost- Share Guidelines & Requirements



## Weather Station with Telemetry (W-6)

### Focus Areas:

Bow Creek Watershed, Bazile Groundwater Management Area, Wellhead Protection Areas

### ❖ Guidelines

- Up to 75% cost-share with a maximum of \$3,000 per station
- Telemetry data plan will be cost- shared at 75% up to \$240 per year for three years
- Max 2 weather stations per applicant
- One station up to 160 acres with a minimum of 33 acres
- Length of contract is 3 consecutive years and includes all data collection requirements
- Payments will be made after installation and annually until the end of the contract

### ❖ Requirements of Operator/ Landowner

- Must have a flow meter and soil moisture probe with capabilities to connect to the weather station- **Cost-Share available**
- Equipment purchases need to be approved and installed prior to first irrigation event
- No- till is encouraged, but not a requirement- **Cost- Share is available on new adoption**



# Irrigation Technology & Conservation Program Cost- Share Guidelines & Requirements



## Conservation Crop Rotation- Small Grain (W-7)

## Focus Areas:

Bow Creek Watershed, Bazile Groundwater Management Area, Wellhead Protection Areas

### ❖ Guidelines

- A flat rate payment of \$40 per acre on a small grain (Only on year planted)
- Payment will be made after the small grain is established and at the end of the contract
- Acres enrolled must be irrigated, payments will not include dryland acres
- Max 80 acres per applicant with a minimum of 20 acres
- Length of contract must include 2 years following the small grain year and includes all data collection requirements
- Eligible small grain crops include, but are not limited to:
  - Rye, wheat, oats, triticale, barley
- Allowed to double-crop with normal 2 crops in rotation
- Alfalfa is not accepted as a small grain crop

### ❖ Requirements

- Must have an existing 2 crop rotation
  - Acres enrolled cannot have current harvested small grain rotation
- Must plant a small grain once in the contract term
- Must be harvested as small grain
  - A minimum of 6 inches of stubble must be left after harvest
  - Can be followed by a forage mix to graze (must have 75% soil cover after grazing)
- Must do No-Till into bean and/or small grain stubble and encouraged through the entire length of the contract - **Cost- Share is available on new adoption**
- No baling or silage production
- Have soil samples taken annually for the length of the contract by approved contractor- Reimbursable by LCNRD up to \$4/ac
  - One sample per 40 acres
  - Individual depths of 0"-8" (Routine Test, Ward Lab S-4), 8"-24" (Nitrate), 24"-36" (Nitrate)
- Must have a flow meter- **Cost- share available**
- A crop/ rotation plan will need to be approved before seeding



# Irrigation Technology & Conservation Program



## Cost- Share Guidelines & Requirements

### Alternative Cash Crop (W-8)

## Focus Areas:

## ❖ Guidelines

- Payments are a flat rate of \$115 per acre on an Alternative Crop (Only on year planted)
- Payments will be made after the alternative crop is planted and at the end of the contract
- Acres enrolled must be irrigated, payments will not include dryland acres
- Max 80 acres per applicant with a minimum of 20 acres
- Eligible alternative cash crops include, but are not limited to:
  - Grain sorghum, sunflowers, canola, buckwheat, millet
  - Small grains will not qualify for an alternative cash crop (Wheat, Rye, Oats, Triticale, Barley, etc.)
- Alfalfa is not accepted as a third cash crop

## ❖ Requirements

- An alternative third cash crop must be added into a three-year rotation (Small grains excluded)
- Must have an existing 2 crop rotation
- Acres enrolled cannot have current alternative cash crop rotation
- Must be harvested as grain or grazed
  - A minimum of 6 inches of stubble must be left when mechanically harvested
  - Grazed forage mix must have 75% soil cover after grazing
- Must do No-Till into bean and/or alternative crop residue and encouraged through the entire length of the contract- **Cost- Share is available on new adoption**
- No baling or silage production
- Have soil samples taken annually for the length of the contract by approved contractor- Reimbursable by LCNRD up to \$4/ac
  - One sample per 40 acres
  - Individual depths of 0"-8" (Routine Test, Ward Lab S-4), 8"-24" (Nitrate), 24"-36" (Nitrate)
- Must have a flow meter- **Cost- share available**
- Crop/ rotation plan will need to be approved before seeding
- Seeding rates and grazing plan will need to be approved before seeding



# Irrigation Technology & Conservation Program Cost- Share Guidelines & Requirements



## Irrigated Cropland Conversion (W-9)

### Focus Areas:

## ❖ Guidelines

- Payments are a flat rate of \$450 per acre per year
- Payments will be made after the perennial is planted and annually until end of the contract
- Max 40 acres per applicant with a minimum of 30 acres
- Forgone income included in payment
- Alfalfa is not accepted as a perennial crop

## ❖ Requirements

- May be grazed or harvested as a forage crop
  - Must leave 75% soil cover
  - Cannot cut stubble below 6 inches
  - Paddock grazing is encouraged but not required- **Cost- share is available**
- Have soil samples taken annually for the length of the contract by approved contractor- Reimbursable by LCNRD up to \$4/ac
  - One sample per 40 acres
  - Individual depths of 0"-8" (Routine Test, Ward Lab S-4), 8"-24" (Nitrate), 24"-36" (Nitrate)
  - Vadose Sampling down to 50 ft
- Irrigated two of the last five years
- Implementation for 5 consecutive years
- Must have a flow meter- **Cost- share available**
- Seeding rates and grazing plan will need to be approved before seeding



# Irrigation Technology & Conservation Program Cost- Share Guidelines & Requirements



## No- Till Management (W-10)

### Focus Areas:

Bow Creek Watershed, Bazile Groundwater Management Area, Wellhead Protection Areas

## ❖ Guidelines

- Must be adopted with another practice
- Payment of \$8 per acre
- Max 160 acres with a minimum of 20 acres
- Payments will be made only where new no-till management practices are performed
- Length of contract will follow contract length of other practice
- Payments will be made annually