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## WAFWA Lesser Prairie-Chicken Oil & Gas CCAA 2023 Mitigation Fee Adjustment December 30, 2022

The WAFWA and Lesser Prairie-Chicken Initiative Council (LPCIC) approved an annual adjustment of the mitigation fees for the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA). The revised rates will take effect on January 1, 2023.

As part of the adaptive management process, an annual review determines adjustments to mitigation fees, specifically the habitat management cost (unit value) and the administration cost. The unit value determines both landowner payment rates and mitigation costs, and is limited to increases of 3% per year for inflation based on USDA practice costs and 4% per year for changes to adaptive management. The administrative percentage rate determines what proportion of the mitigation rates are committed to administration of the program, and can be adjusted up to 4% per year. Effective January 1st 2023, the habitat management and administration costs are as follows for each of the four service areas (ecoregions). These rates apply to active and new CCAA contracts.

| Service Area/Ecoregion | Habitat Management Cost |                | Administration Cost |             |
|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------|
|                        | 2022                    | 2023           | 2022                | 2023        |
| Mixedgrass Prairie     | \$50.83                 | \$56.49 (+3%*) | 17.2%               | 17.2% (+0%) |
| Sand Sagebrush Prairie | \$20.72                 | \$25.47 (+3%*) | 17.2%               | 17.2% (+0%) |
| Shinnery Oak Prairie   | \$33.63                 | \$38.77 (+3%*) | 17.2%               | 17.2% (+0%) |
| Shortgrass Prairie     | \$31.02                 | \$36.09 (+3%*) | 17.2%               | 17.2% (+0%) |

\* Includes a formula error correction identified by the 2019 audit, corrected by LPCIC approval.

The restoration payment rates are based their recommendations using the 2023 USDA payment rates. These rates were established by averaging the state NRCS practice costs for Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Kansas. In some cases, the average rates are higher than presented in this table. The CCAA restricts the annual cost increase to 3% due to inflation. The 2023 restoration payment rates are as follows:

|                                        | Mixedgrass Prairie | Sand Sagebrush Prairie | Shinnery Oak Prairie | Shortgrass Prairie |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| RESTORATION PRACTICES (1 x payment)    | 2023               | 2023                   | 2023                 | 2023               |
| Brush Management: Chemical             | \$70.0             | \$0.0                  | \$70.0               | \$0.0              |
| Brush Management: Heavy Infestation    | \$405.00           | \$405.00               | \$405.00             | \$405.00           |
| Brush Management: Moderate Infestation | \$197.00           | \$197.00               | \$197.00             | \$197.00           |
| Brush Management: Light Infestation    | \$122.00           | \$122.00               | \$122.00             | \$122.00           |
| Grassland Restoration: Range Planting  | \$330.00           | \$330.00               | \$330.00             | \$330.00           |

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