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WAFWA Lesser Prairie-Chicken Oil & Gas CCAA 2025 Mitigation Fee Adjustment January 01, 2025

The WAFWA and Lesser Prairie-Chicken Initiative Council (LPCIC) approved an annual adjustment of the mitigation fees for the Oil & Gas Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) for the lesser prairie-chicken.

As part of the CCAA’s 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 fees, 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 cost determines what proportion of the paid mitigation fees are committed to administration of the program, and can be adjusted up to 4% per year for inflation.

Effective January 1st 2025, 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	
	2024	2025	2024	2025
Mixedgrass Prairie	\$56.87	\$56.87 (0%)	17.2%	17.2% (0%)
Sand Sagebrush Prairie	\$26.24	\$27.02 (+3.0%)	17.2%	17.2% (0%)
Shinnery Oak Prairie	\$39.54	\$39.54 (0%)	17.2%	17.2% (0%)
Shortgrass Prairie	\$37.16	\$37.16 (0%)	17.2%	17.2% (0%)

The restoration payment rates are based their recommendations using the 2024 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. Changes for inflation are limited to a 3% change annually. The 2025 restoration payment rates are as follows:

RESTORATION PRACTICES (1 x payment)	Mixedgrass Prairie	Sand Sagebrush Prairie	Shinnery Oak Prairie	Shortgrass Prairie
Brush Management: Chemical	\$48	\$48	\$67	\$29
Brush Management: Heavy Infestation	\$355	\$388	\$463	\$374
Brush Management: Moderate Infestation	\$175	\$226	\$374	\$143
Brush Management: Light Infestation	\$99	\$124	\$228	\$56
Grassland Restoration	\$390	\$320	\$285	\$318

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