



The Nevada Conservation Credit System (CCS)

Greater Outcomes for Greater Sage- Grouse Resource Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) in Nevada

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Recent Efforts

- Efforts with NRCS to roll out the project in NV have recently included:
 - Planning application period for FY17 (ended July 17th).
 - Drafting and distributing announcements.
 - Developing a screening tool to sort out priority applicants.
 - Formulating a ranking process for priority applicants to determine funding awards.
 - Communicating with NRCS field staff to offer direction on implementing the screening and ranking processes.



Next Steps

- Assisting NRCS as necessary with the screening process.
- Leading a portion of the ranking process for high priority applicants.
- Ultimately, the SETT will estimate the credit potential of the project and provide a ranking score.
- A summary sheet of the SETT's assessment of the project using the HQT and the HSI will be submitted to NRCS staff for their use in finishing the ranking questions.
- After project(s) is/are selected, the full HQT protocols will be used to measure pre and post-project habitat function to measure existing conditions and the uplift associated with the conservation actions implemented with the RCPP funding.



Overall SETT Goals

- Successful improvements to quality GRSG habitat.
- Utilization of the HQT to select projects and measure the resulting uplift.
- Marketing the CCS and establishing relationships that could lead to credit development.
- Continuing to strengthen our partnership and coordination with NRCS and the programs they offer to enhance and protect GRSG habitat with the potential to generate significant credits while also benefitting Nevada's agricultural producers.