



The Nevada Conservation Credit System (CCS)



Public Lands Framework

Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team (SETT)

April 17, 2025



Need

- Running out of Private
- Need to incentivize restoration on Public Lands
 - Limited by:
 - NEPA process/permitting
 - Approved locations
 - Locations that generate enough credits
 - Costs - restoration and verification
 - Success/Weather
 - Maintenance Responsibility for the long term
- Still require to purchase the first 1/3 from Private
 - Though that may be limited in near future

Current SEC Approved Project Types

- Pinyon-Juniper Woodland (Phase I and II) Removal
 - Credits released with each treatment action
 - Re-treatments occurs in 10-year intervals after the first treatment for the duration of the debit project
 - One-time prophylactic herbicide treatment in Phase II
- Meadow Improvements
 - Must used SETT approved plant list for seeding and planting efforts
- Anthropogenic Disturbance Removal
 - Project Proponent must own the anthropogenic feature
 - Reclamation or restoration after the removal
 - No maintenance, monitoring, or financial assurances are required

Current Programmatic Policies

- The first one-third (1/3) of the total obligation must be met by purchasing credits generated on private lands
- A Credit Establishment Plan must be approved by the SEC if not one of the previously listed project types
- Project area must be within Management Category Areas
- Project Proponents must work in coordination with all land use plans, grazing permittees, and other relevant parties
- Verification must be done prior to work and upon “success” of efforts
- Credits are not awarded until success happens
- Financial Assurances are required (dependent of project type)
- Signed Participant Contract and Management Plan

Ideas

- Credits in Phase III pinyon-juniper woodlands
 - Strict coordination with federal and state agencies and tribes
 - Not in forested ecotypes
 - Prophylactic herbicide treatment and seeding required
- Post-fire restoration and invasive grass removal
 - No Verification
 - Credit Release Schedule/Action Based
 - Full debit term
 - Acreage Based Restoration
 - Short term, but intense

Action Based Credit Release

- Long term and better with large debit projects
- Will cover full term with multiple credit releases
 - Action based, will get credits for conducting actions as long as outcomes trend positively
- We would ensure credit project covers the appropriate amount of debits

- 10,000 Credit Obligation

- Bin 1

- Year 1 – First effort (e.g., herbicide)
 - Contract
- Year 2 – Second effort (e.g., annual monitoring and seeding)
- Year 4
 - Credit Output: 2,500
 - Compliance Letter

- Bin 2

- Year 5 – Five Year Project Monitoring and Plan Third effort (dependent monitoring results)
- Year 6 – Potential Third effort
- Year 10 – Ten Year Project Monitoring
 - Credit Output: 2,500
 - Compliance Letter

- Bin 3

- Year 11 – Potential Fourth effort (dependent on 10-year monitoring results)
- Year 20 – Twenty Year Project Monitoring
 - Credit Output: 2,500
 - Compliance Letter

- Bin 4

- Year 21 – Potential Fifth effort (dependent on 20-year monitoring results)
- Year 30 – Thirty Year Project Monitoring
 - Credit Output: 2,500
 - Compliance Letter

Acreage Based Restoration

- Suitable for small debit projects that just want to be done
- Restoration area based on proportion of direct and indirect debit acres
- 5-year effort, then done
- We would ensure credit project covers the appropriate amount of debits
- Restoration would be intense
 - Year 1 – First effort (e.g., data collection, herbicide)
 - Year 2 – Second effort (e.g., annual monitoring and seeding)
 - Year 3 – Three Year Project Monitoring
 - Year 5 – Five Year Project Monitoring and Third Treatment

QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU!