

Five Buckles



Scott Ressler,
Environmental Services Director
Mandan



I often get calls about cost-share for pasture wells, tanks, fencing and grass seeding. I'd like to highlight one program that could help beef producers with cost-share for these items: the Meadowlark Initiative Rangeland Legacy Program.

This program, administered by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, incentivizes the long-term protection of native grassland habitat, promotes biodiversity and supports western North Dakota ranching operations. The program offers a one-time payment in exchange for voluntary protection of native rangeland.

Cost-share through the Meadowlark Initiative is available for these best management practices: native and tame grass plantings; prescribed grazing; fencing; water development (wells and pipelines); prescribed burning; brush management; and wetland restoration and enhancements.

The Meadowlark Initiative is intended to provide landowners a one-stop shop for programs and practices available through various private, state and federal conservation entities. For information about it, call Heather Husband, the Meadowlark Initiative coordinator, at (701) 223-8501.

Information about other programs that provide cost-share can be found at www.dakotalegacyinitiative.com. It is an easy-to-follow website that serves as a clearinghouse for the various conservation programs available to landowners here in North Dakota.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

A while back, NDSA President Randy Schmitt's wife Stacey changed the GPS voice on her in-car mapping system to a male. Now, for every set of directions, he says, "It's around here somewhere. Keep driving!"

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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HOW THE SERVICE WORKS

- Members contact the NDSA.
- A site visit is scheduled.
- A site visit and evaluation are conducted.
- NDSA recommendations are prepared and delivered to members.
- The NDSA helps members file appropriate paperwork, seek cost-share assistance and identify qualified resource people, if applicable.

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