



Lesser Prairie-Chicken Habitat Threats Checklist

Cooperator:	County:	Date:
Legal Description: T. R. Sec.	UTM Coordinates:	
Evaluator:	Field Office:	
Instructions: Indicate which potential threats to lesser prairie-chicken are present on the treatment unit(s) and then identify which threats the participant agrees to address. These threats do not represent all possible threats to LEPC but are those that are generally within the control of the participant and can be addressed through the LEPC Initiative. Monitoring needs refers to those methods specific to LPCI, and are outside of standard compliance and implementation of NRCS programs.		

Potential Threats identified in CR	Potential Threat Present?	Potential Conservation Measures	Threat Addressed?	Monitoring needed
Invasive Vegetation				
Invasive vegetation (e.g., eastern red cedar, mesquite, hybrid oak motts) are present to an extent that threatens the quality or persistence of herbaceous vegetation and that of LEPC habitat.		Develop a brush management plan that treats identified invasive species. Mechanical removal is preferred. Treat slash materials through lop-and-scatter, burning piles, chipping, or hauling off site. Prescribed fire should be applied to 33% of the treatment area at a time. Herbicides should be used judiciously. As needed, seed desirable perennial vegetation. NRCS Practices: Brush Management (314), Slash Treatment (384), Range Planting (550), Critical Area Planting (342), Obstruction Removal (500)		Use remote sensing techniques and photo-points to document changes in invasive vegetation distribution. Consider use of vegetation protocol. Coordinate with State Wildlife Agency to ensure nearby leks are monitored for changes in lek size.
Infrastructure				
Fences are located within ½ mile of a lek <u>or</u> there is an observed or expected area of LEPC collisions with fences.		Remove, modify, or mark potential problem fences. Remove or modify the location of fences, or improve visibility by installing fence markers. At a minimum, fences within 1/2 mile of leks will be addressed. NRCS Practices: Fence (382), Obstruction Removal (500)		Coordinate with State Wildlife Agency to ensure nearby leks are monitored for changes in lek size.
Stock water troughs are not equipped with properly designed wildlife escape ramps.		Retrofit existing watering troughs with properly designed wildlife escape ramps. NRCS Practice: Watering Facility (614)		Report number of troughs retrofitted.
Livestock Grazing				
Livestock grazing management is not providing adequate vegetation structure for LEPC nesting and brood rearing habitats.		Adjust grazing regime to improve vegetation structure for LEPC habitat needs. Provide seasonal or yearlong rest from grazing in critical areas. NRCS Practice: Prescribed grazing (528), Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)		Vegetation monitoring protocol
Habitat loss				
CRP lands are about to expire and if converted will result in loss of LEPC habitat.		Coordinate with FSA to re-enroll acres (if possible). Use EQIP, GRP or other programs to keep land in herbaceous cover beneficial to LEPC.		Vegetation monitoring protocol
Number of Potential Threats Present		Number of Potential Threats Addressed		