



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



# WOODLAND LANDOWNER PROJECT ASSISTANCE OPPORTUNITIES WORKSHOP



**JUNE 19, 2021**  
**9 AM - 10 AM**

## Location

Online/Virtually

To register please email:  
[patricia.weyrich@state.sd.us](mailto:patricia.weyrich@state.sd.us)

# Conservation Commission

## 2021 Grants

# What is a Conservation District?

- The Mission of the DANR Conservation Program is to:
  - Provide Conservation of the Soil and Soil Resources
  - Control and Prevent Soil Erosion
  - Prevent Floodwater and Sediment Damages
  - Further the Conservation, Utilization, and Disposal of Water
  - Preserve Natural Resources, Control Floods, Prevent Impairment of Dams and Reservoirs, Preserve Wildlife, Protect the Tax Base, Protect Public Lands, Etc.
- SD is divided into 69 Conservation Districts that are each governed by a board of 5 supervisors who are elected on a non-partisan ballot for a 4 year term
- Conservation districts are the “boots on the ground” for the SD DANR Conservation Programs

# In General – How SD DANR Conservation Grants Work

1. A conservation district identifies a need and/or project in their area.
2. The conservation district develops and submits grant proposals/requests to the supervisory board.
3. Supervisory board reviews all grant proposals/requests and determines which requests to fund
4. Conservation district is notified of the award of the requested grant
5. Conservation district notify landowners that a project exists and where to apply
6. Landowners can then apply for the grant
7. The conservation district determines to fund the individual landowner project
8. Landowner is then notified if their application is awarded funding
9. Landowner contacts contractors/work on the project
10. SD DANR RCF staff inspect project, provide technical assistance if/when needed, and will certify when project is complete
11. Conservation district receives certification of completion & required documentation

Grant funding is awarded on a reimbursement basis



# Conservation Districts in Black Hills Region

Butte Conservation District

Custer Conservation District

East Pennington Conservation District

Elk Creek Conservation District

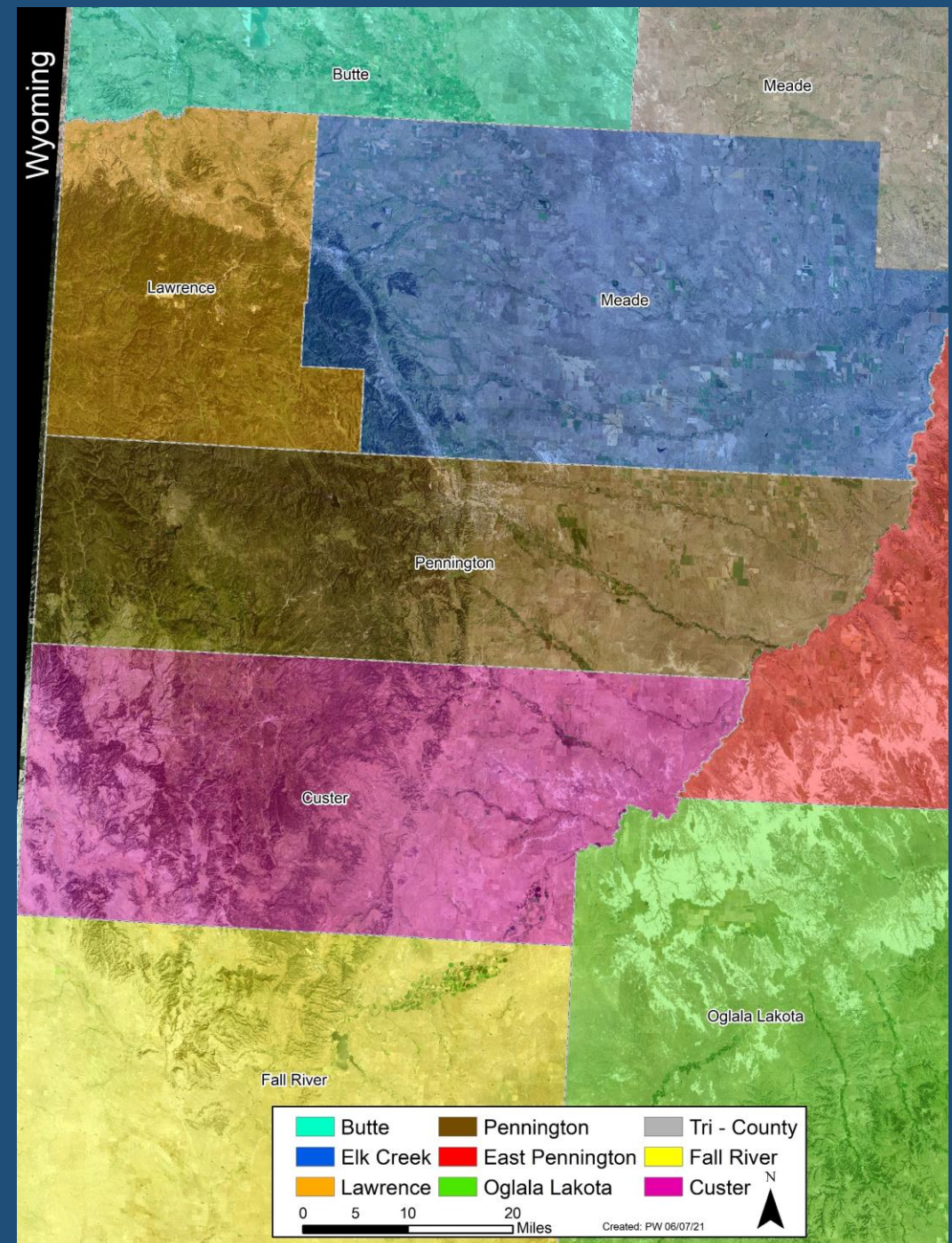
Fall River Conservation District

Lawrence Conservation District

Pennington Conservation District

Oglala Lakota (Shannon)  
Conservation District

Tri-County Conservation District

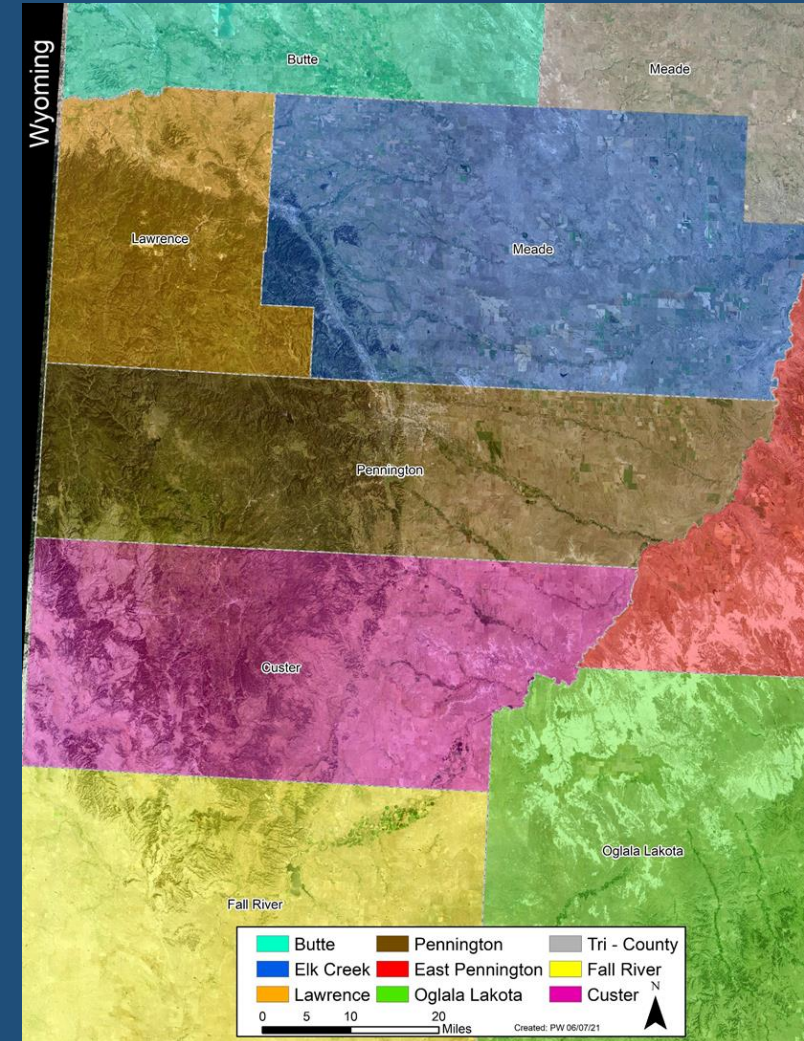




# Custer Conservation District Thinning Grant

Project Active From July 1, 2021, until June 30, 2022

- Improve Forest Conditions by Thinning Overstocked Pine Trees & Reducing Fuels
- Landowners who are not located within the boundaries of a current NRCS EQIP CIS Project Area
- Landowners will have a preferred minimum of 5 contiguous acres to thin
- Landowners will pay a **minimum** of 50% of the cost of completing the work on their property.
- Practices will include
  - Thinning overstocked pine trees
  - Brush management by removing pine encroachment from meadows & grasslands
  - Follow-up fuels reduction
- Landowners will be required to maintain project areas for **10 years** following completion of the project including the control of invasive species.



# Custer Conservation District Thinning Grant

Project Active From July 1, 2021, until June 30, 2022

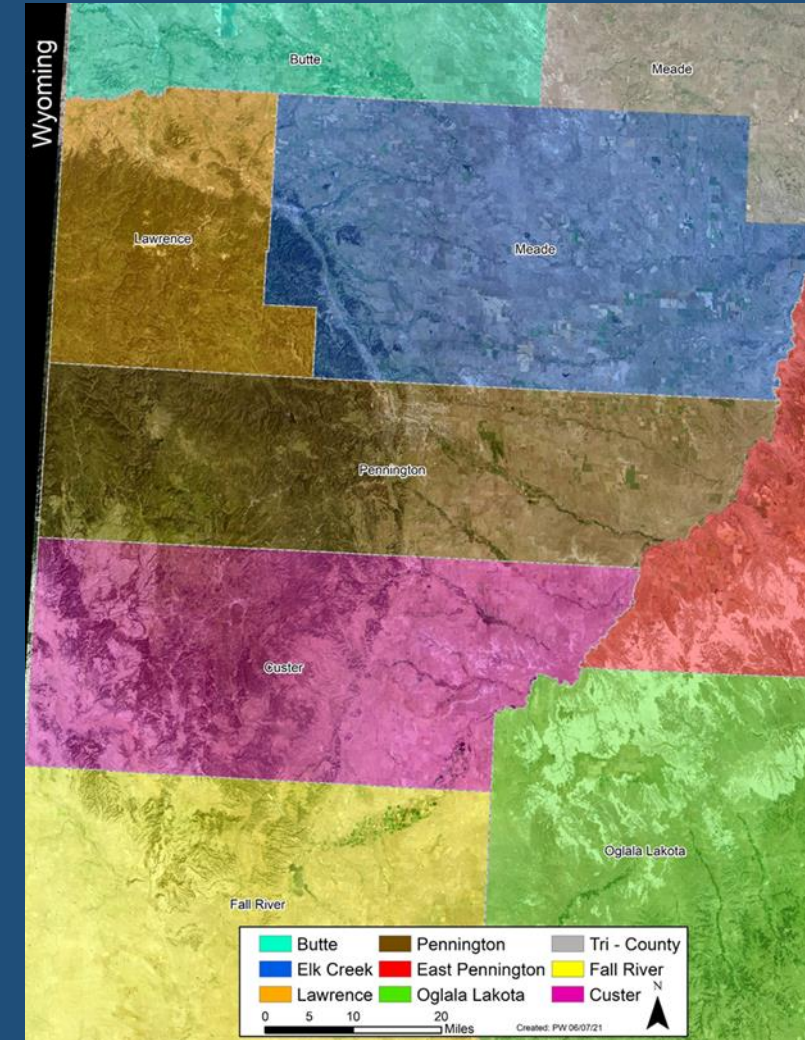
Target: 80 Acres

- The cost share is a minimum of a 50% split with the Landowner
- Breakdown on payments:
  - If a landowner completes a precommercial thinning practice with lop & scatter option
    - paying 50% of the cost up to a maximum of \$225/acre
  - If a landowner completes a precommercial thinning practice with slash treatment above & beyond lop & scatter
    - paying 50% of the cost up to a maximum of \$100/acre
  - Total payment to landowners for thinning & slash removal is a maximum of \$325/acre
- The Conservation district reserves the right to limit the number of acres/dollars allocated to an individual landowner
- All Thinning Slash must be treated to meet the minimum SD Logging Slash Abandonment & Treatment Standards

# Fall River Conservation District Thinning Grant

Project Active From July 1, 2021, until June 30, 2022

- Improve Forest Conditions by Thinning Overstocked Pine Trees & Reducing Fuels
- Landowners who do not qualify for NRCS Funding
- Landowners will pay a **minimum** of 50% of the cost of completing the work on their property
- Practices will include
  - Thinning overly dense stands of conifers to increase resilience to insects, disease, & fire
  - Removing conifers from hardwood stands to promote increased diversity
  - Removal of encroaching conifers from meadows to improve diversity and forage capabilities for livestock and wildlife
- Landowners will be required to maintain project areas for **10 years** following completion of the project including the control of invasive species.





# Fall River Conservation District Thinning Grant

Project Active From July 1, 2021, until June 30, 2022

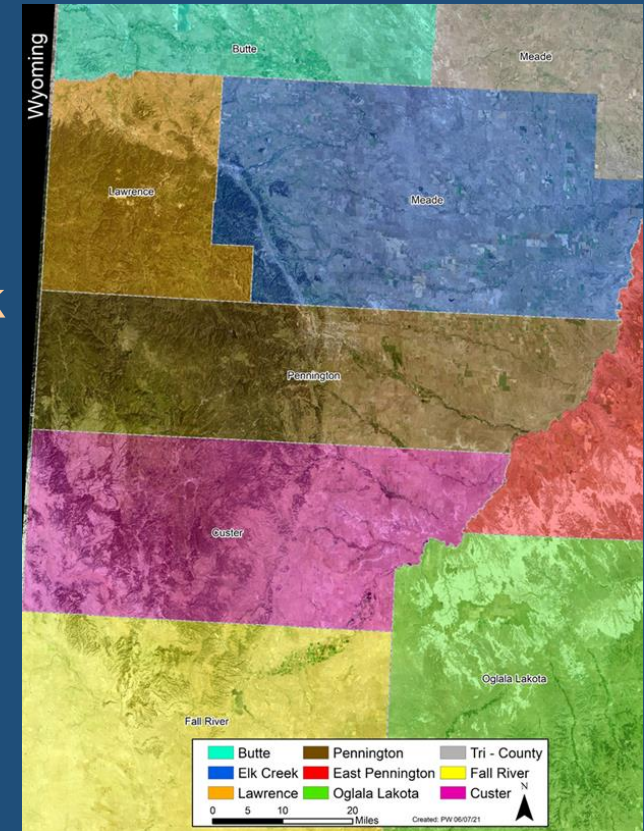
Target: 40 Acres

- The cost share is a minimum of a 50% split with the landowner
- Breakdown on payments:
  - If a landowner completes a thinning practice with lop & scatter option
    - paying 50% of the cost up to a maximum of \$225/acre
  - If a landowner completes a thinning practice with slash treatment above & beyond lop & scatter
    - paying 50% of the cost up to a maximum of \$100/acre
  - Total payment to landowners for thinning and slash removal is a maximum of \$325/acre
- The Conservation district reserves the right to limit the number of acres/dollars allocated to an individual landowner
- All thinning slash must be treated to meet the minimum SD Logging Slash Abandonment & Treatment Standards

# Lawrence Conservation District Thinning Grant

Project Active until November 30, 2021

- Improve Forest Conditions by Thinning Overstocked Pine Trees & Reducing Fuels
- Landowners who do not qualify for NRCS Funding
- Landowners will have a preferred minimum of 10 contiguous acres to thin
- Landowners will pay a **minimum** of 50% of the cost of completing the work on their property
- Practices will include
  - Thinning overly dense stands of conifers to increase resilience to insects, disease, & fire
  - Removing conifers from hardwood stands to promote increased diversity
  - Removal of encroaching conifers from meadows to improve diversity & forage capabilities for livestock & wildlife
- Landowners will be required to maintain project areas for **10 years** following completion of the project including the control of invasive species



# Lawrence Conservation District Thinning Grant

Project Active until November 30, 2021

Target: 100 Acres

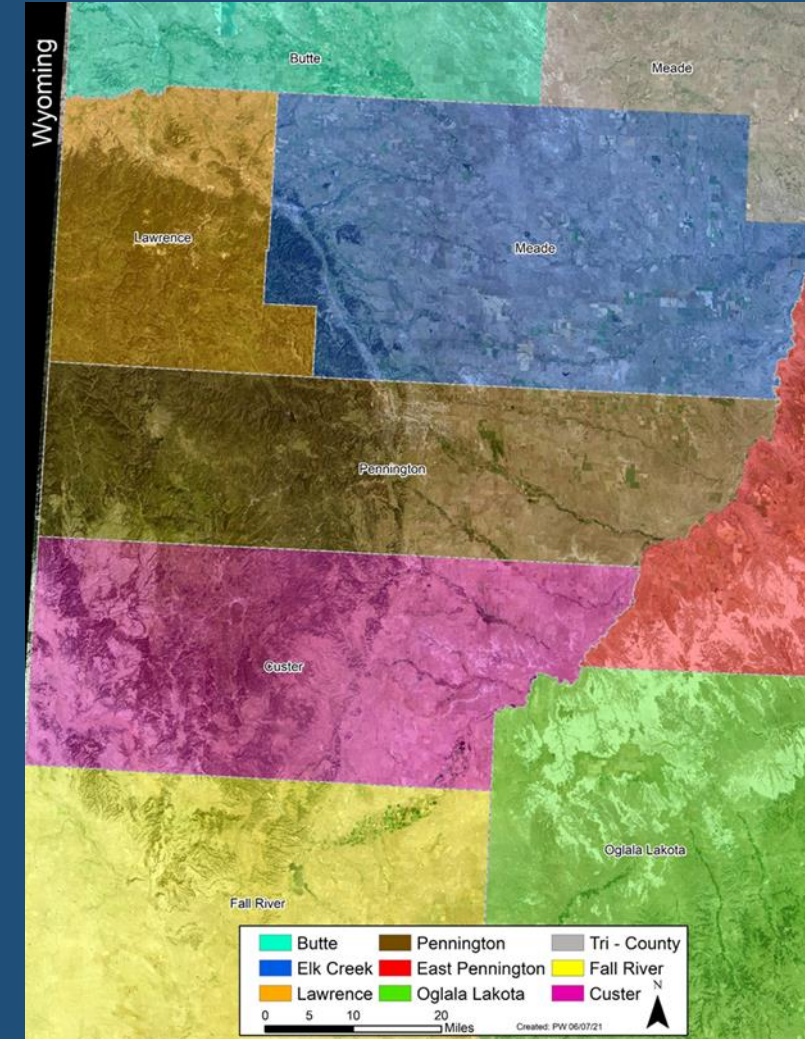
- The cost share is a minimum of a 50% split with the landowner
- Breakdown on payments:
  - If a landowner completes a precommercial thinning practice with lop & scatter option
    - paying 50% of the cost up to a maximum of \$225/acre
  - If a landowner completes a precommercial thinning practice with slash treatment above & beyond lop & scatter
    - paying 50% of the cost up to a maximum of \$100/acre
  - Total payment to landowners for thinning & slash removal is a maximum of \$325/acre
- The Conservation district reserves the right to limit the number of acres/dollars allocated to an individual landowner
- All Thinning Slash must be treated to meet the minimum SD Logging Slash Abandonment & Treatment Standards



# Pennington Conservation District Thinning Grant

Project Active From July 1, 2021, until June 30, 2023

- Improve Forest Conditions by Thinning Overstocked Pine Trees & Reducing Fuels
- Landowners who do not qualify for NRCS Funding
- Landowners will pay a **minimum** of 50% of the cost of completing the work on their property
- Practices will include
  - Thinning overly dense stands of conifers
  - Removing conifers from hardwood stands to promote increased diversity
  - Removal of encroaching conifers from meadows to improve diversity & forage capabilities for livestock & wildlife
- Landowners will be required to maintain project areas for **10 years** following completion of the project including the control of invasive species



# Pennington Conservation District Thinning Grant

Target: 100 Acres

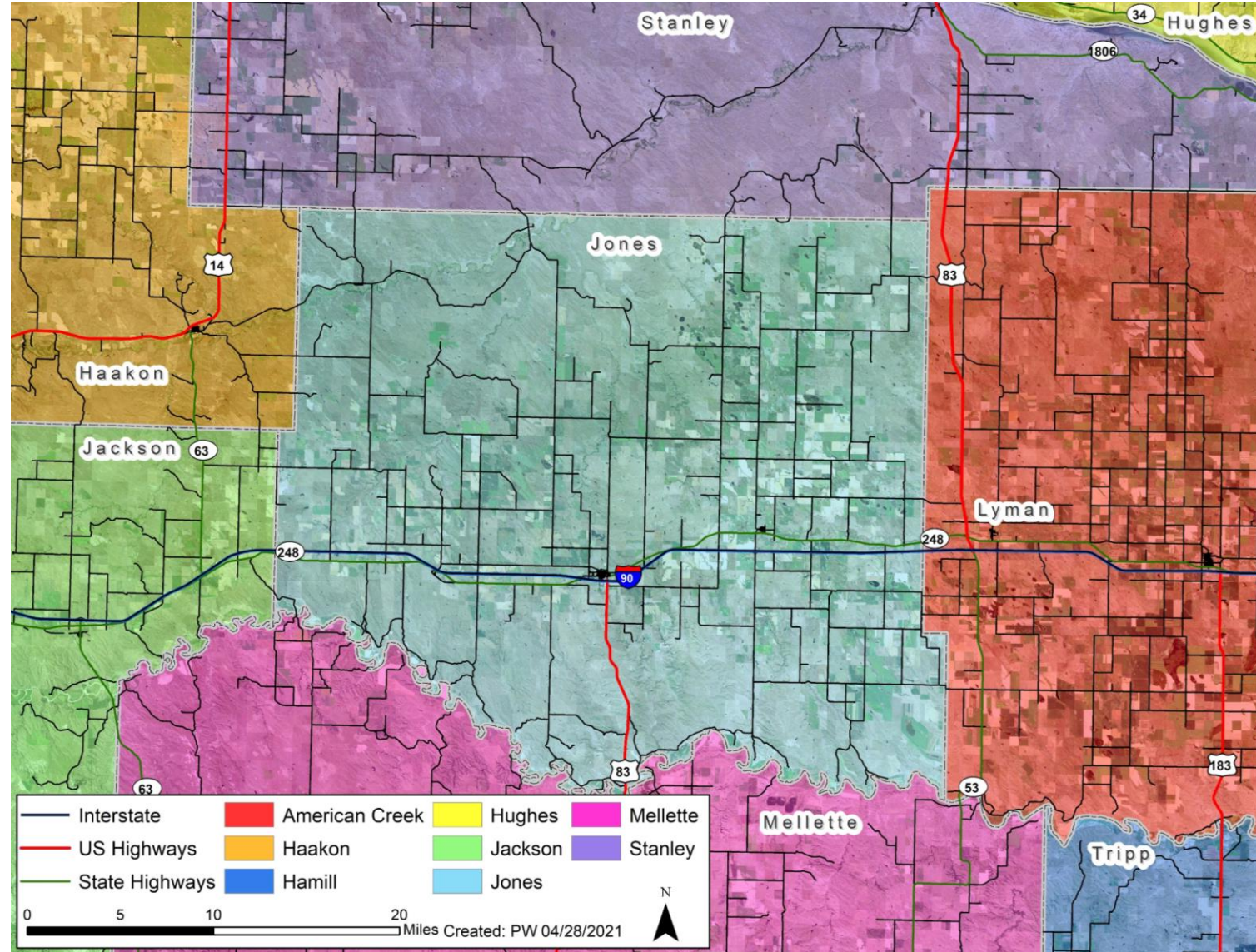
Project Active From July 1, 2021, until June 30, 2023

- The Cost share is a minimum of a 50% split with the landowner
- Breakdown on payments:
  - If a landowner completes a precommercial thinning practice with lop & scatter option
    - paying 50% of the cost up to a maximum of \$225/acre
  - If a landowner completes a precommercial thinning practice with slash treatment above & beyond lop & scatter
    - paying 50% of the cost up to a maximum of \$100/acre
  - Total payment to landowners for thinning & slash removal is a maximum of \$325/acre
- The Conservation district reserves the right to limit the number of acres/dollars allocated to an individual landowner
- All Thinning Slash must be treated to meet the minimum SD Logging Slash Abandonment & Treatment Standards



# Fire Recovery Grant

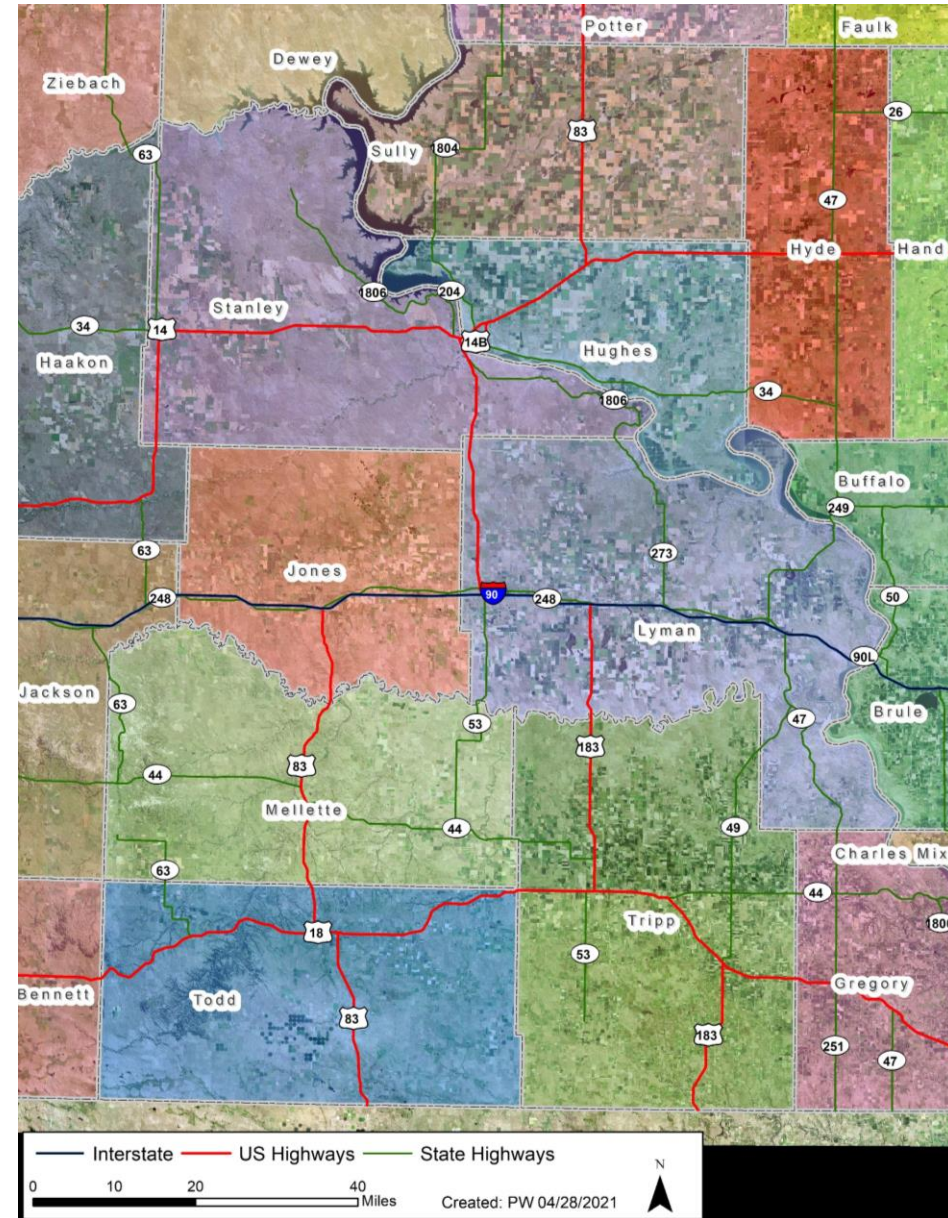
- Jones County Conservation District
  - Restoration Activities for properties directly affected by the Dry Creek Fire that was started March 29, 2021
  - Within the 9,911 acres affected



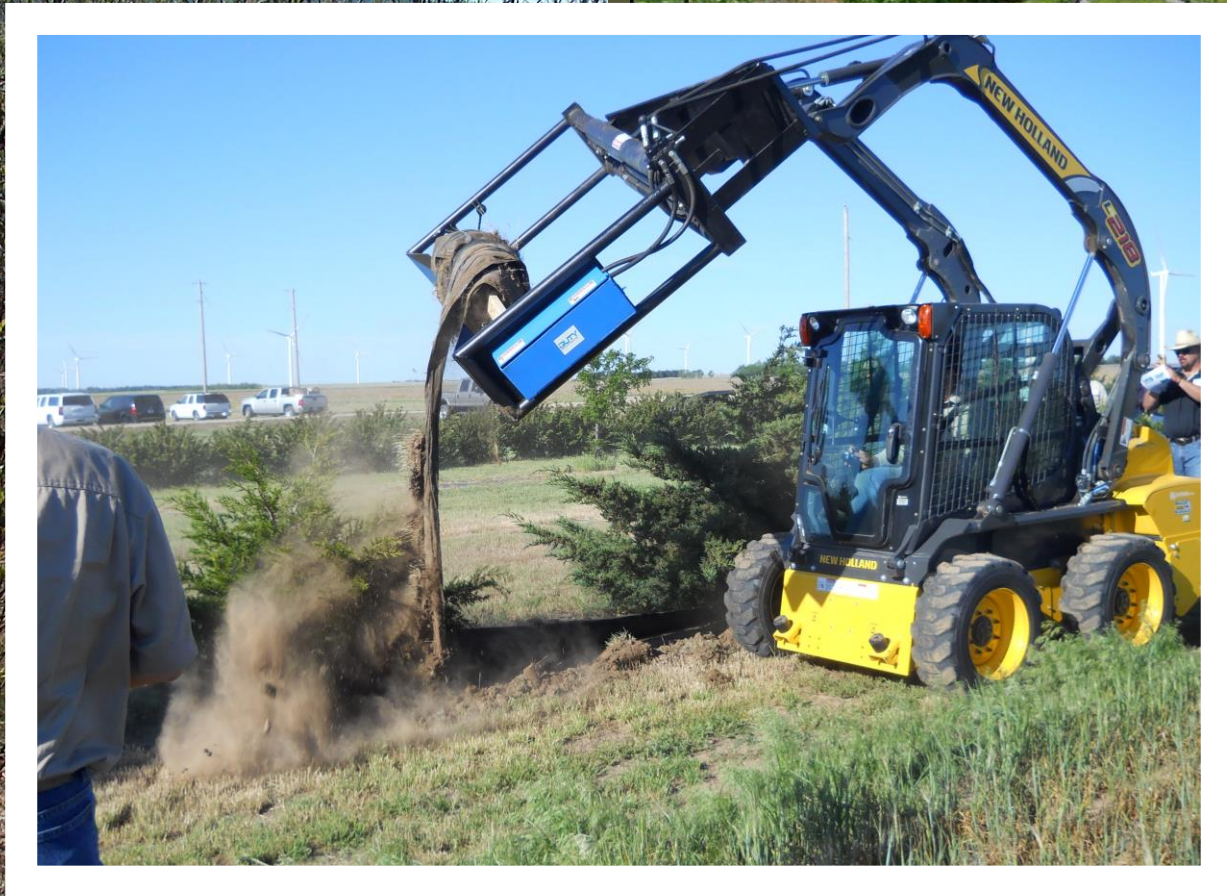


# Tree Planting Grants

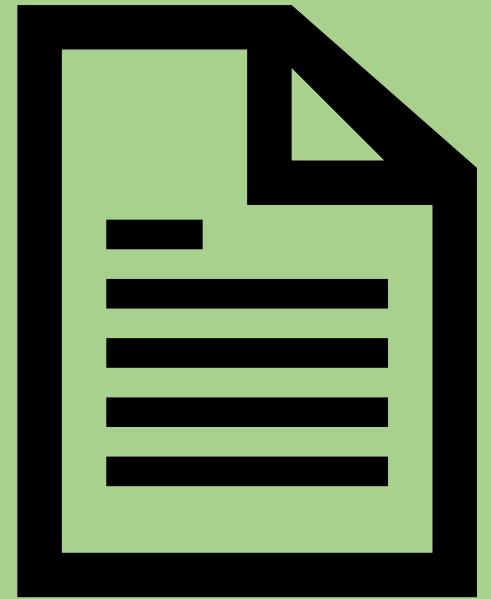
- Hyde & Hand Conservation District
  - Benefit Natural Resource Management for 10 or more Farmers/Ranchers
  - Creation of Shelterbelt Establishment
  - Up to 50% cost share for tree planting, fabric purchasing & installation
- Todd & Mellette Conservation District
  - Creation or Renovation of Shelterbelt Establishment
  - Up to 50% cost share for tree planting, fabric purchasing & installation











# OTHER GRANTS

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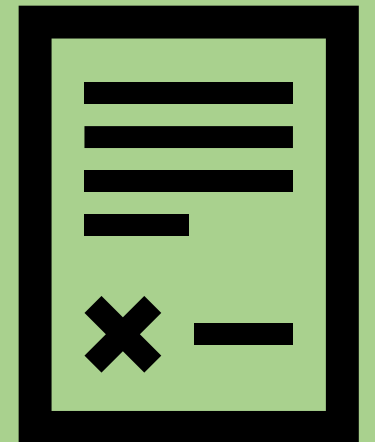
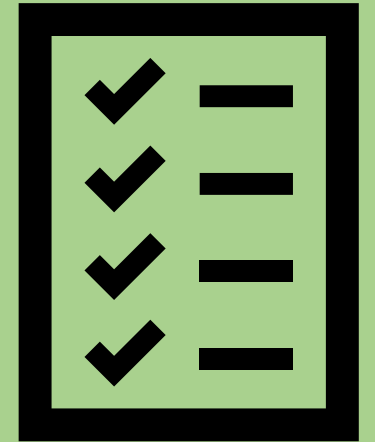


# SD DANR Resource Conservation & Forestry

## Forest Stewardship Plan Development

- Cost-share payments to landowners for the preparation of Forest Stewardship Plans
- Minimum Acreage to Receive Cost-Share is 20 Acres of Forest Land (Minimum 40 acres total)
- The cost share rate will be \$500 for the first 40 acres, \$2.50 per acre for each additional acre, not to exceed 50% of plan preparation cost with a cap of \$1,500 per plan.
- Placed in SD DANR RCF's Monitoring System – Possible Inspection once every 5 years

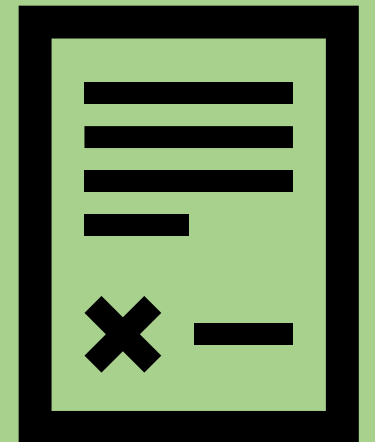
• <https://danr.sd.gov/Conservation/Forestry/RuralForestry/ForestStewardshipProgram/default.aspx>



# South Dakota Family Forests Association

## Forest Stewardship Plan Development Grant

- Cost-share payments to landowners for the preparation of Forest Stewardship Plans
- Minimum Acreage to Receive Cost-Share is 40 Acres of Forest Land
- The cost share rate will be \$1,000 for the first 40 acres, \$5.00 per acre for each additional acre, not to exceed 75% of plan preparation cost with a cap of \$2,500 per plan.
- Must become a paying SDFFA Member
- Will be visited by inspector once every 5 years
- <https://www.treefarmssystem.org/south-dakota-resources>



# QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PROGRAMS COVERED TODAY

NRCS



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