



Northeast Red Watershed District
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Riparian Area Management

Riparian areas are the vegetated (trees, shrubs and herbs) zones adjacent to rivers, streams, lakes and wetlands. A riparian area is considered a transition zone or interface between a waterbody or wetland, and the surrounding drier upland.

The purpose of Riparian Area Management is to conserve, enhance or restore riparian areas to provide:

- improvements to surface water quality, by capturing sediments, pathogens, nutrients and pesticides;
- water storage and flow reductions that reduce downstream flooding during high water events;
- greater landscape resiliency to the impacts of climate change;
- carbon storage and sequestration;
- riverbank and shoreline stabilization and erosion control; and
- wildlife habitat and continuity, and greater biodiversity through the re-establishment or rehabilitation of riparian vegetation.

Eligible Practices

- Alternative livestock watering systems (solar, wind, grid power, pipeline)
- Establishment of riparian vegetation, including tame forage
- Riparian fencing
- Improved crossings (establishment of new or improvement to existing)
- Constructed works to stabilize erosion (contour terraces, gully stabilization, bank stabilization, drop inlet structures, enhanced infiltration systems, in-channel control, sediment traps, retention ponds and erosion control dams)

Ineligible Practices

- Perimeter fencing for upland grazing management
- Expenses related to removing or replacing existing fences
- Portable livestock corral panels not directly associated with the livestock watering system operation and protection