

Angela's notes on grant applications:

Outreach applications in general: I have a philosophical concern with the Commission now paying CDs for long-standing activities such as speech contest, Arbor Day creative writing contest and Arbor Day poster contest. At what point is there local responsibility and buy-in?

Brule-Buffalo brush management: Project partners budget is not accurate. Where is the commitment letter from NRCS? Why do neither projects consider including an effort to address woody encroachment at the smaller plant size which is much less expensive and labor intensive - and recommended by the woody encroachment group?

Davison brush management: Would be a much better application if this were not a single practice focus with no plan for assisting producers with grazing plans or other conservation practices to improve/sustain the grasslands. Missing a big opportunity for further engagement with producers. In the Brule-Buffalo application, NRCS is slated to provide assistance in identifying sites to be addressed and then providing planning assistance – this becomes a full package instead of one practice . Why do neither projects consider including an effort to address woody encroachment at the smaller plant size which is much less expensive and labor intensive- and recommended by the woody encroachment group?

Coteau watershed project: Good project involving multiple partners. Livestock stream crossings are effective component of grassland management.

Hamlin tree planting: Budget indicates 40% Commission funds but project narrative says Commission funds will be 45%. Why the difference?

Hyde tree planting: Haven't they spent any of their previous grant? If not, can't they use some of that money for this spring's tree plantings?

Kingsbury conservation practices: Is project narrative paragraph correct with its numbers?

Pennington thinning: When will they have their current grant expended? Overall, seems to be good project.

