Non structural Ag – Cover Crops

Location: Across Milaca GMZ



One of the fields located south of Bogus Brook

Project Summary

Melissa Willits is looking to continue exploring soil health practices with cover crops. She has chosen to put cover crops on 141 acres, majority of which are in the Bogus Brook Sub watershed. Winter cereal rye will be drilled into fields immediately after harvest to provide living cover through the winter, reduce compaction, and increase organic matter. The rye will be drilled at a rate of at least 66lbs/acre pure live seed to provide dense cover and ensure seed to soil contact. The rye will be terminated in the spring with herbicide when the next cash crop is being planted. The fields are all in the Milaca GMZ and this practice will be a step towards the Rum River Watershed Partnership goal of implementing 1,000 acres of non-structural soil health practices in Priority Waterbody Sub watershed Areas. Using the MPCA BMP Effects Estimator Tool (BEET) pollution reduction will be 214lbs/yr Nitrogen, 15lbs/yr Phosphorus, and 7 tons/yr Total Suspended Solids.

Project Status:

Initiated: 9/11/2026

Contract Approved:

Completed:

Funding:

Total Cost: $7,050.00

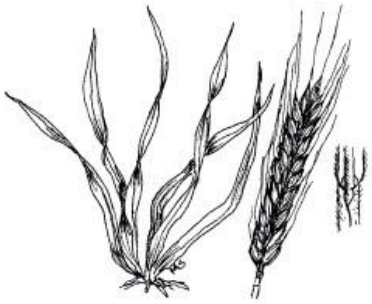
Funding Assistance: $7,050.00

Flat Rate $50/acre/year for three years on 141 acres

BWSR Soil Health Delivery

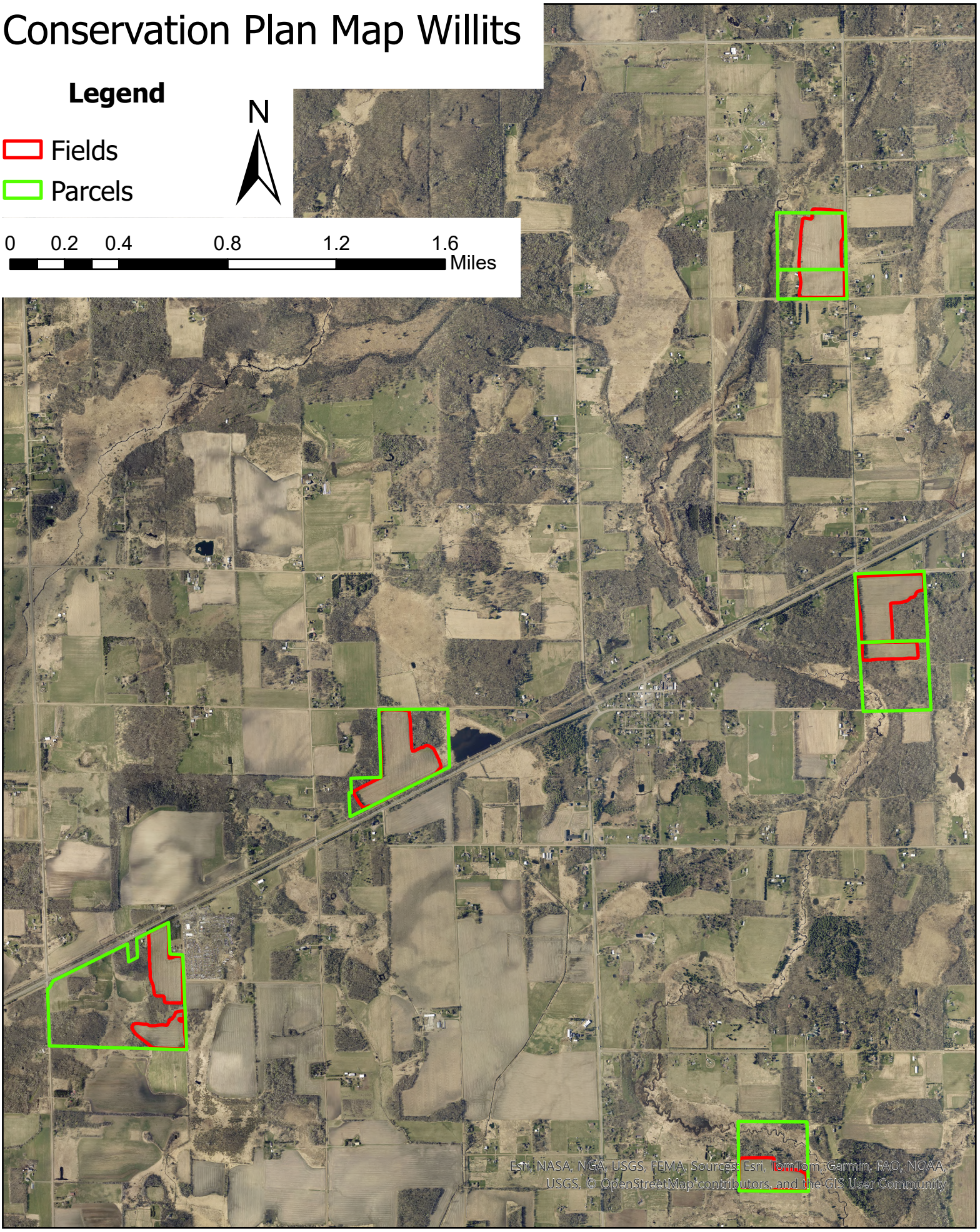
Resource Concern:

Soil health, run off, erosion



Cereal Winter Rye (Secale cereale) is a cover crop with a later planting date than most species. With the last of the growing season, it grows and protects soils over winter. In the spring rye will keep growing, termination method is important to ensure the cover crop does not affect the cash crop.

Conservation Plan Map Willits



Minnesota Cover Crop Design Worksheet

Note: Yellow areas indicate required data. Blue areas indicate optional data.

Name: Melissa Willits, Daily Bread Custom Farming
Address: 1331 Ivory St, Mora, MN 55051
Field No.: multiple
Section: **Township:** **Range:**
Program:
Contract #: VSR-P25-0526-SoilHealthDeliver
Contract Item No.:
Acres: 215

Indicate the decision-maker's objective(s) for applying cover crop, in priority order (1, 2, 3,etc.)

1	Reduce Erosion from Wind & Water		Suppress excessive weed pressures & break pest cycles.
	Improve Soil Moisture use efficiency	3	Maintain or increase soil health & organic matter content.
	Minimize Soil Compaction	2	Reduce water quality degradation by utilizing excessive soil nutrients.

Seeding Method: (•) Incorporated Seed ( ) Non-Incorporated Seed

Seeding Window: Oct 15- Nov 17
Termination Method: Herbicide
Fertilizer Applied: None
Primary Crop Planted Soybeans and Corn

Management Considerations:	Weeds will be controlled with clipping or proper herbicides as needed following product label directions and current U of M Use recommendations. Species marked with an asterisk (*) require *Rhizobium* inoculation.
Terminate cover crops only after they have achieved 8 to 10 inches of growth for erosion control	
Single species cover crops will generally produce less total biomass than cover crop mixes containing multiple crop types	

Planned Cover Crop Mixture

Cover Crop Species	Full Seed Rate of PLS lb/ac	Acres	Percent of Full Rate of PLS	Rate of PLS lb/ac	Total PLS lbs	Crop Type	Seeding Depth (inches)	Seeds per Sq/Ft
Rye, Winter Cereal	55	215	120%	66.00	14190	CG	0.75 - 1.5	27.52
-	-					-	-	0.00
-	-					-	-	0.00
-	-					-	-	0.00
-	-					-	-	0.00
-	-					-	-	0.00
-	-					-	-	0.00
-	-					-	-	0.00
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-	-					-	-	0.00
-	-					-	-	0.00
-	-					-	-	0.00
-	-					-	-	0.00
-	-					-	-	0.00
			120%	Total lbs/PLS	14190.0		Total Seeds per Sq/Ft	27.52

Estimated PLS seeding rate (lbs/acre): 66
Planned Seeding Depth (inches): 1.125

Notes:

Planned By: Siena Storm
Date: 10/5/2026

Approved By: Siena Storm
Date: 10/5/2025
JAA: 1

Cover Crop Certification Worksheet

Name:	Melissa Willits, Daily Bread Custom Farming	**Program:**	
Address:	1331 Ivory St, Mora, MN 55051	**Contract #:**	BWSR-P25-0526-
Site location:	multiple	**Contract Item #:**	
Section:	**Township:**	**Range:**	**Acres Planted:** 215.0

Instructions: Document producer's actual cover crop planting information below. Attach or include photos of the cover crop to this Job Sheet.

Species	Total PLS Pounds Planted
Rye, Winter Cereal	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
Total Lbs:	0

Practice Check Out Conditions	
Site Preparation:	
Fertility Used:	
Date Planted:	
Planting Depth:	inches
Planting Method:	-
Weed Control (chemical/mechanical):	
-	
Termination Method:	

Irrigated: -

Cover Crop Height at Termination: inches

Notes and Comments:

Producer Signature **Date**

I certify that the above information **does / does not** meet NRCS specifications for design and installation.

Conservationist Signature **Date** **JAA**

FLAT RATE CONSERVATION PRACTICE ASSISTANCE CONTRACT

General Information

Organization	Contract Number	Amendment ☐ Date(s):	Canceled ☐ Date:
Mille Lacs SWCD	BWSR-P25-0526-SoilHealthDelivery-2€		

*If contract amended, attach amendment form(s) to this contract.

Applicant (Landowner or Authorized Agent)

Name	Address	City/State	Zip code
Daily Bread Custom Farming	1331 Ivory Street	Mora, MN	55051

* If a group contract, this must be filed and signed by the group spokesperson as designated in the group agreement and the group agreement attached to this form.

Conservation Practice Location

Township Name	Township	Range	Section	1/4,1/4
Borgholm	38	26	26	**NW of NE**

Contract Information

I (we), the undersigned, do hereby request assistance to help defray the cost of completing the following practice(s) listed on the second page of this contract. It is understood that:

1. The landowner and/or authorized agent is responsible for full establishment, operation, and maintenance of the practice(s) applied under this program to ensure that the conservation objectives are met, and the effective life is achieved. The specific operation and maintenance requirements for the conservation practice listed are described in the Operation and Maintenance Plan prepared for this contract by the technical assistance provider.
2. Should the landowner and/or authorized agent fail to complete or maintain the practice(s) during the effective life, they are liable to the organization for up to **150**% of the amount of financial assistance received to complete the practice(s) unless the failure was caused by reasons beyond their control or if conservation practices are applied at their expense that provide equivalent protection of the soil and water resources.
3. If title to this land is transferred to another party before expiration of the aforementioned effective life, it shall be the responsibility of the landowner who signed this contract to advise the new owner that this contract is in force and to notify other parties to the contract of the transfer.
4. Practice(s) must be planned and installed in accordance with technical standards and specifications of the: **FOTG**
5. Increases in the practice(s) units or cost must be approved by the organization through amendment of this contract as a condition to increase the payments.
6. This contract, when approved by the organization, will remain in effect until the effective life of the practice(s) is achieved as described in Conservation Practices Table below, unless canceled or amended by mutual agreement or if the practice(s) covered by this contract have not been installed by **11/17/2026**, in which case the organization may immediately terminate the contract.
7. Reimbursement requests must be supported by a completed Flat Rate Voucher Form.
8. If applicable, based on Minnesota Statutes 177.41 to 177.44 and corresponding Minnesota Rules 5200.1000 to 5200.1120, this contract may be subject to the prevailing wages as established by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry. Specifically, all contractors and subcontractors may be required to pay all laborers and mechanics the established prevailing wages for work performed towards this contract. Failure to comply with the aforementioned, when required, may result in civil or criminal penalties.
9. The landowner and/or authorized agent must:
   a. Grant the organization's representative(s) access to the parcel(s) where the conservation practice(s) will be located.
   b. Have all required legal land rights, including but not limited to: access and authority to both construct and maintain the conservation practice(s) agreed upon in this contract for the effective life of the practice(s).

c. Obtain any permits required in conjunction with the completion of the practice(s) prior to starting work on the practice(s).

d. Be responsible for the operation and maintenance of conservation practice(s) applied under this program in accordance with an Operation and Maintenance Plan prepared by the technical assistance provider.

The applicant's signature indicates agreement to abide by all terms of the contract.

Date	Applicant
10/3/26	Melissa Willits, Dirtyhead Custom Farming
Date 10/7/26	Landowner, if different from applicant X Address, if different from applicant information:
Date	Landowner, if different from applicant Address, if different from applicant information:

Conservation Practice(s)

The practice(s) for which assistance is requested:

Practice(s)	Effective Life (years)	Duration (years) [only if annual practice]	Rate per Unit	Number of Units	Total Practice Cost
340 (1 Species)	1	1	$50/ac	15 acres	$750.00

Technical Assessment

I have the appropriate technical expertise and have reviewed the site where the above-listed practice(s) will be completed and deem the practice(s) needed and that the estimated quantities are practical and reasonable.

Date	Technical Assistance Provider
10/9/26	

Amount Authorized for Financial Assistance

The organization has authorized the practice(s), rate(s), and Total Practice Cost(s) listed in the Conservation Practice section.

Approval Date	Authorized Signature	Total Amount Authorized
		$

FLAT RATE CONSERVATION PRACTICE ASSISTANCE CONTRACT

General Information

Organization	Contract Number	Amendment ☐ Date(s):	Canceled ☐ Date:
Mille Lacs SWCD	BWSR-P25-0526-SoilHealthDelivery-2D		

*If contract amended, attach amendment form(s) to this contract.

Applicant (Landowner or Authorized Agent)

Name	Address	City/State	Zip code
Daily Bread Custom Farming	1331 Ivory Street	Mora, MN	55051

* If a group contract, this must be filed and signed by the group spokesperson as designated in the group agreement and the group agreement attached to this form.

Conservation Practice Location

Township Name	Township	Range	Section	1/4,1/4
Borgholm	38	26	21	**NE of SW**

Contract Information

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The applicant's signature indicates agreement to abide by all terms of the contract.

Date	Applicant
10/9/26	Melissa Willets, Daily Bread Custom Farming
Date	Landowner, if different from applicant
10/5/26	X Rodney H. Haeck Address, if different from applicant information:
Date	Landowner, if different from applicant Address, if different from applicant information:

Conservation Practice(s)

The practice(s) for which assistance is requested:

Practice(s)	Effective Life (years)	Duration (years) [only if annual practice]	Rate per Unit	Number of Units	Total Practice Cost
340 (1 Species)	1	1	$50/ac	27 ac	$1,350.00

Technical Assessment

I have the appropriate technical expertise and have reviewed the site where the above-listed practice(s) will be completed and deem the practice(s) needed and that the estimated quantities are practical and reasonable.

Date	Technical Assistance Provider
10/9/26	

Amount Authorized for Financial Assistance

The organization has authorized the practice(s), rate(s), and Total Practice Cost(s) listed in the Conservation Practice section.

Approval Date	Authorized Signature	Total Amount Authorized
		$

FLAT RATE CONSERVATION PRACTICE ASSISTANCE CONTRACT

General Information

Organization	Contract Number	Amendment ☐ Date(s):	Canceled ☐ Date:
Mille Lacs SWCD	BWSR-P25-0526-SoilHealthDelivery-2C		

*If contract amended, attach amendment form(s) to this contract.

Applicant (Landowner or Authorized Agent)

Name	Address	City/State	Zip code
Daily Bread Custom Farming	1331 Ivory Street	Mora, MN	55051

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Conservation Practice Location

Township Name	Township	Range	Section	1/4,1/4
Borgholm	38	26	15	**NE of SW**

Contract Information

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Date	Applicant
10/2/26	Randy Johnson
Date	Landowner, if different from applicant
10/9/26	Address, if different from applicant information: Melissa Willits, Daily Bread Custom Farming
Date	Landowner, if different from applicant
	Address, if different from applicant information:

Conservation Practice(s)

The practice(s) for which assistance is requested:

Practice(s)	Effective Life (years)	Duration (years) [only if annual practice]	Rate per Unit	Number of Units	Total Practice Cost
340 (1 Species)	1	1	$50/ac	34 ac	$1,700

Technical Assessment

I have the appropriate technical expertise and have reviewed the site where the above-listed practice(s) will be completed and deem the practice(s) needed and that the estimated quantities are practical and reasonable.

Date	Technical Assistance Provider
10/9/26	

Amount Authorized for Financial Assistance

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Approval Date	Authorized Signature	Total Amount Authorized
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FLAT RATE CONSERVATION PRACTICE ASSISTANCE CONTRACT

General Information

Organization	Contract Number	Amendment ☐ Date(s):	Canceled ☐ Date:
Mille Lacs SWCD	BWSR-P25-0526-SoilHealthDelivery-2A		

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Applicant (Landowner or Authorized Agent)

Name	Address	City/State	Zip code
Daily Bread Custom Farming	1331 Ivory Street	Mora, MN	55051

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Conservation Practice Location

Township Name	Township	Range	Section	1/4,1/4
Borgholm	38	26	2	**E1/2 of SE**

Contract Information

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The applicant's signature indicates agreement to abide by all terms of the contract.

Date	Applicant
10/9/26	Melissa Wilds, Daily Bread Custom Farming
Date: 10/5/26	Landowner, if different from applicant: Maggie Kuchenbecker Address, if different from applicant information: 18417 60th Ave Milaca MN 56353
Date: 10/5/26	Landowner, if different from applicant: Address, if different from applicant information: 18417 60th Ave Milaca MN 56353

Conservation Practice(s)

The practice(s) for which assistance is requested:

Practice(s)	Effective Life (years)	Duration (years) [only if annual practice]	Rate per Unit	Number of Units	Total Practice Cost
340 (1 Species)	1	1	$50/ac	32 ac	$1,600.00

Technical Assessment

I have the appropriate technical expertise and have reviewed the site where the above-listed practice(s) will be completed and deem the practice(s) needed and that the estimated quantities are practical and reasonable.

Date	Technical Assistance Provider
10/9/26	

Amount Authorized for Financial Assistance

The organization has authorized the practice(s), rate(s), and Total Practice Cost(s) listed in the Conservation Practice section.

Approval Date	Authorized Signature	Total Amount Authorized
		$

FLAT RATE CONSERVATION PRACTICE ASSISTANCE CONTRACT

General Information

Organization	Contract Number	Amendment ☐ Date(s):	Canceled ☐ Date:
Mille Lacs SWCD	BWSR-P25-0526-SoilHealthDelivery-2B		

*If contract amended, attach amendment form(s) to this contract.

Applicant (Landowner or Authorized Agent)

Name	Address	City/State	Zip code
Daily Bread Custom Farming	1331 Ivory Street	Mora, MN	55051

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Conservation Practice Location

Township Name	Township	Range	Section	1/4,1/4
Borgholm	38	26	13	**NW of NW**

Contract Information

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The applicant's signature indicates agreement to abide by all terms of the contract.

Date	Applicant
10/9/26	Melissa Willits, Daily Bread Custom Farming
Date 10/7/26	Landowner, if different from applicant Address, if different from applicant information:
Date	Landowner, if different from applicant Address, if different from applicant information:

Conservation Practice(s)

The practice(s) for which assistance is requested:

Practice(s)	Effective Life (years)	Duration (years) [only if annual practice]	Rate per Unit	Number of Units	Total Practice Cost
340 (1 Species)	1	1	$50/ac	33 ac	$1,650.00

Technical Assessment

I have the appropriate technical expertise and have reviewed the site where the above-listed practice(s) will be completed and deem the practice(s) needed and that the estimated quantities are practical and reasonable.

Date	Technical Assistance Provider
10/9/26	

Amount Authorized for Financial Assistance

The organization has authorized the practice(s), rate(s), and Total Practice Cost(s) listed in the Conservation Practice section.

Approval Date	Authorized Signature	Total Amount Authorized
		$