

COOPERATIVE CONTRACT FOR  
BUFFER STRIP PROGRAM

THIS CONTRACT made and entered into this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, by and between of \_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter referred to as the "Cooperator," and the Natural Resources District, hereinafter referred to as the "District."

WHEREAS, LB 1126 as adopted by the 1998 Nebraska Legislature establishes the Buffer Strip Act to encourage landowners to take sensitive land out of production for the purpose of reducing agricultural pollutants in runoff;

WHEREAS, the District and the Nebraska Department of Agriculture are responsible for implementing the Act and have established a Buffer Strip Program ("Program");

WHEREAS, the Cooperator desires to participate in the Program and has made an application to enroll land in the Program; and

WHEREAS, the application has been approved by the District and the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises and covenants contained herein, the parties agree as follows:

I. THE COOPERATOR AGREES:

- A. To designate the tract(s) of land described in the application and shown in the aerial photo(s) as a Buffer Strip for the purposes of this Program.
- B. To develop and maintain, throughout the term of this contract, the tracts enrolled in the Program in the manner required by the Buffer Strip Act, its regulations, and the terms of this contract.
- C. To control all noxious weeds on lands enrolled in the Buffer Strip Program.
- D. All haying and grazing of land enrolled in the program shall meet NRCS conservation practice standards.
- E. The Cooperator shall immediately notify the district if land enrolled in the Program also becomes enrolled in the CRP, or receives payment from any other source, or if the land has, or is to be taken out of, the Program prior to the termination of the contract. In addition, during the contract period, the Cooperator shall notify the District if fields adjacent to the enrolled acres are planted to grass, or other vegetation, which would cause the adjacent field to be considered as something other than cropland through this program.
- F. To allow an inspection of the buffer strip to ensure compliance.