

## Guidance for the Grassland Restoration Incentive Program (GRIP)

### General Guidance

The primary objective of the Oaks and Prairies Joint Venture's (OPJV) Grassland Restoration Incentive Program (GRIP) is to reverse the decline of grassland bird and pollinator populations through voluntary habitat restoration of private lands within the Oaks and Prairie conservation region. Starting in 2018, there will be additional incentive funding available through NRCS-EQIP, as well as other partner organizations, through a Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) agreement available through 2021.

Interested applicants should contact Texas's GRIP coordinators (listed below) to facilitate plan development and GRIP ranking. **Only applicants who are able to produce a GRIP habitat ranking sheet prepared and signed by an OPJV partner biologist will be considered for funding.** Partner biologists include staff from Oaks and Prairie Joint Venture (OPJV), National Turkey Federation (NWTF), Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), Quail Forever (QF), American Bird Conservancy (ABC), USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and others.

### Available Area (Texas)

**Northern Texas OPJV counties:** Wise, Montague, Clay, Archer, Baylor, Throckmorton, Shackelford, Callahan, Stephens, Fannin, Lamar, Red River, Delta, Hunt, Ellis, and Navarro. Contact OPJV staff for assistance in evaluating and planning restoration efforts.

- Derek Wiley, (940) 736-5949, [DWiley@QuailForever.org](mailto:DWiley@QuailForever.org); Throckmorton Service Center, 109 W Chestnut St, Throckmorton, TX 76483
- Ken Gee, (580) 319-8440, [kennethlgee@gmail.com](mailto:kennethlgee@gmail.com); Ardmore, OK
- Steve Riley, (512) 902-7379, [Steven.Riley@TPWD.Texas.Gov](mailto:Steven.Riley@TPWD.Texas.Gov); Georgetown, TX

**Southern Texas OPJV Counties:** Real, Edwards, Val Verde, Kinney, Uvalde, Washington, Austin, Colorado, Fayette, Lavaca, Gonzales, Dewitt, Karnes, and Wilson. Contact OPJV staff for assistance in evaluating and planning restoration efforts.

- Will Newman, (817) 528-9455, [WNewman@QuailForever.org](mailto:WNewman@QuailForever.org); Floresville NRCS Service Center, 1106 10th St, Floresville, TX 78114
- Steve Riley, (512) 902-7379, [Steven.Riley@TPWD.Texas.Gov](mailto:Steven.Riley@TPWD.Texas.Gov); Georgetown, TX

### NRCS Conservation Practices

Practices may include:

Prescribed Grazing  
Prescribed Burning  
Firebreak  
Brush Management

Range Planting  
Herbaceous Weed Control  
Fence



**Resource Concerns addressed**

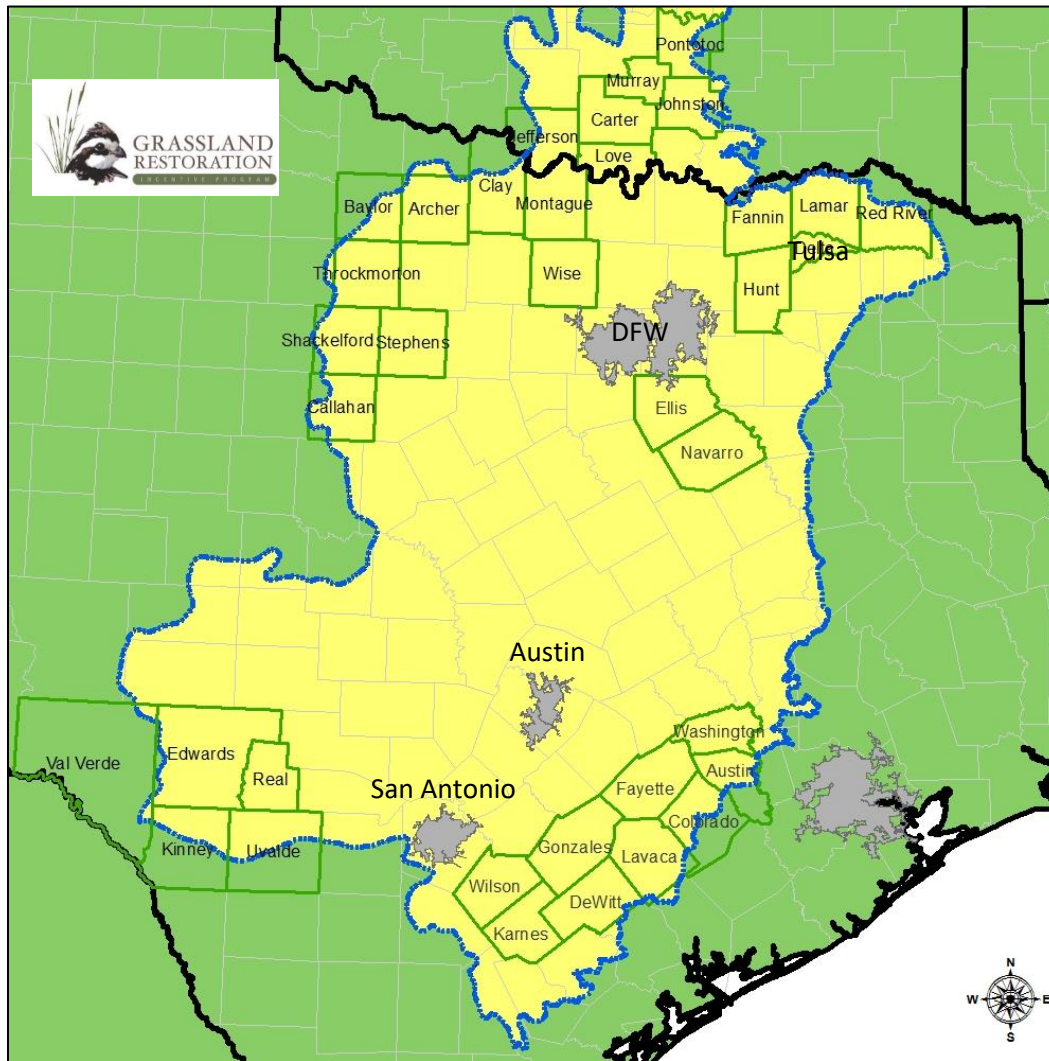
Inadequate Habitat for Fish and Wildlife – Habitat degradation

**Lands where applicable**

The conservation effort is applicable to all private land uses where participants are willing to restore native plant communities indicative of the ecological site.

**Application Evaluation**

All applications will be reviewed and scored by OPJV partners and staff. Project managers will work with OPJV staff to direct applications to appropriate GRIP funding pools. Applications received by OPJV before **August 24, 2018** will be reviewed by OPJV partners, and ranked using the GRIP screening tool in order to provide an official ranking to NRCS by August 31, 2018 so that they can enter eligible federal projects into their NRCS systems, if needed.



For OPJV partnership information contact Jim Giocomo, OPJV Coordinator, [jgiocomo@abcbirds.org](mailto:jgiocomo@abcbirds.org)  
For more information see...<http://www.opjv.org>