



<<Coordinator Name>>

<<Coordinator Title>>

<<Coordinator Address>>

<<Coordinator City State, Zip>>

<<Coordinator Office Phone>>

<<Coordinator Email>>

<<Date>>

<<Respondent Name First>> <<Respondent Name Last>>

<<Respondent Address Line 1>>

<<Respondent Address Line 2>>

Dear <<Respondent Name>>,

I am writing to ask for your help with a study being conducted by the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Partners Program). The purpose of this study is to understand ways in which the Partners Program can improve so that it may better serve landowners like yourself. Your input on this topic is very valuable and we are excited to provide you with an opportunity to share your opinions and experiences in regards to working with the Partners Program. You were selected to participate in this study because you began a project with the Partners Program more than 10 years ago and therefore have long-term experience working with them.

You began work on a project with the Partners Program in <<project start year>> in <<county name >> County. This survey refers to that project. As part of this project you did the following activity(s) or practice(s): <<practice list>>

Your participation in this survey is voluntary and has been approved through the requirements of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB Control # 1040-0001). It should take you take no more than 18 minutes to complete. When you return your completed questionnaire, your name and address will be deleted from the mailing list and never connected to your answers in any way.

If you have any questions or comments about this study, we would be happy to talk with you – simply contact us by email at Brad_Milley@fws.gov or by calling 970-266-2998.

Sincerely,

<< Signature>>

<<Signatory's Name>>

Your Experience Working with the US Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program

1. What type of operation(s) do you have on your property? (Check all that apply)

- Cattle Sheep Other livestock
- Farming / Agriculture Timber harvesting Dude Ranch / Agricultural-tourism
- Oil, Gas, Mineral extraction Recreation Outfitting (fishing, hunting)
- Other(s) (please list): _____

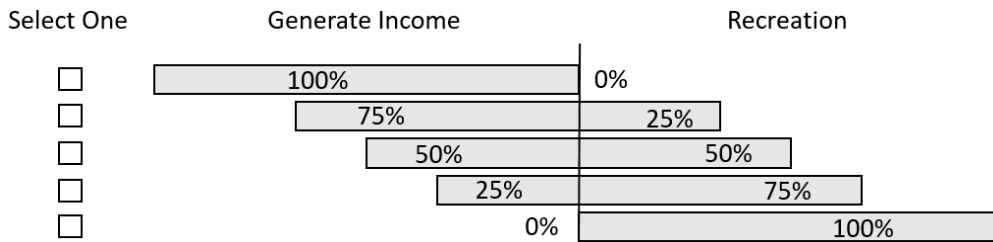
2. About how many acres is your operation? _____ Number of acres

3. About how many years has your family or group owned this property? _____ Number of years

4. Is use of your property restricted by an easement that was put in place for wildlife habitat or other resource conservation purposes?

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure

5. Thinking about how you use your property, what proportion is used to generate income and what proportion is for recreation. Select one the choices below that most closely represents that proportion.



6. For purposes of this survey we'd like you to select one of the practices you worked on with the Partners Program. For example, you may have entered into an agreement with the Partners Program to do plantings, grazing management and fencing, all of which are called "practices".

Please select the **one** practice below you are most interested in talking about (there may only be one listed). This list comes from our files, if a practice you worked on is not listed use the space in the table below to write it in.

(Circle only one)

- Planting Water Management Fencing Invasive Species Control
- Stream Modification Grazing Management Fire Management Vegetation Management
- Farm Management Fish/Aquatic Species Passage

Other(s) (please list): _____

For the rest of this survey please answer each question with this single practice in mind.

7. Did you keep the practice in place after the agreement with the Partners Program expired?
- Yes
 - No *if 'no' skip to question 12*
8. Most agreements with the Partners Program last 10 years (although some may vary). About how long past the end of the agreement with the Partners Program **did you keep** the practice in place?
- The practice is still in place
 - I removed the practice... (Check the appropriate box below)
 - Less than a year after
 - A year after
 - 2 years after
 - 3 to 4 years after
 - 5 to 6 years after
 - 7 + years after
 - Don't know
9. If the practice is still in place beyond the terms of the agreement, how long **do you intend to keep** the practice in place?
- 1 to 2 years
 - 3 to 5 years
 - 6 to 15 years
 - 16 to 20 years
 - More than 20 years
 - As long as I own the property
10. What factors would **encourage** you to **remove** the practice?

I would remove the practice if:	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Neither	Slightly Agree	Strongly Agree
I could increase my income	1	2	3	4	5
It got in the way of my operation (e.g., reduced forage for livestock, recreational opportunities and/or aesthetics of my property)	1	2	3	4	5
It did not work as intended	1	2	3	4	5
Please explain: _____					
I wanted to reduce government influence on my property	1	2	3	4	5
It had negative unintended consequences	1	2	3	4	5
Please explain: _____					
Other(s) (please describe): _____					

11. What factors would **encourage** you to **keep** the practice?

I would keep the practice if:	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Neither	Slightly Agree	Strongly Agree
It increased my income	1	2	3	4	5
It enhanced my operation (e.g., improved forage, recreational opportunities and/or aesthetics of my property)	1	2	3	4	5
It worked as intended	1	2	3	4	5
I wanted to work with the government	1	2	3	4	5
It provided unintended benefits	1	2	3	4	5

Please explain: _____

Other(s) (please describe): _____

12. If you answered ‘no’ in question 7, why did you remove or discontinue the practice after the agreement with the Partners Program expired? *(If you DID keep the practice in place please skip to question 13)*

	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Neither	Slightly Agree	Strongly Agree
I was able to increase my income by removing the practice	1	2	3	4	5
The practice was intrusive and got in the way of my operation	1	2	3	4	5
The practice did not work as it was intended	1	2	3	4	5
I wanted to reduce government influence on my property	1	2	3	4	5
The practice had negative unintended consequences	1	2	3	4	5

Please explain: _____

Other(s) (please describe): _____

13. Thinking of the practice you identified in question 6, to what extent did each of the following influence you to work with the Partners Program on that practice?

	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Neither	Slightly Agree	Strongly Agree
I wanted to improve my property	1	2	3	4	5
I wanted to leave my land in a good state for my kids and/or grandkids	1	2	3	4	5
I wanted to do conservation on my property	1	2	3	4	5
I was encouraged by my friends, neighbors and/or business associates	1	2	3	4	5
I wanted to increase my income through property improvements:					
Increased forage yield	1	2	3	4	5
Increased hunting lease quality and quantity	1	2	3	4	5
Increased recreation opportunities on my land other than hunting and fishing	1	2	3	4	5
I trusted the Partners Program staff	1	2	3	4	5
I value wildlife and their habitat	1	2	3	4	5
I wanted to establish a relationship with the Partners Program prior to any potential endangered species listing decision	1	2	3	4	5
I wanted technical assistance	1	2	3	4	5
I felt a moral obligation to protect wildlife	1	2	3	4	5
Other(s) (please describe): _____					

14. Overall, how satisfied are you with your experience working with the Partners Program on the identified practice?

- Extremely dissatisfied
- Slightly dissatisfied
- Neither dissatisfied nor satisfied
- Slightly satisfied
- Extremely satisfied

15. Overall, how satisfied are you with the following aspects of the Partner Program?

	Extremely Dissatisfied	Slightly Dissatisfied	Neither	Slightly Satisfied	Extremely Satisfied
Staff	1	2	3	4	5
Policies	1	2	3	4	5
The terms of the agreement	1	2	3	4	5
Cost-share arrangement	1	2	3	4	5
Technical assistance	1	2	3	4	5
Ability to manage my property under the terms of the agreement	1	2	3	4	5

16. Did your experience working with Partners Program encourage you to work on another project with the Partners Program?

- Yes If yes, please continue
- No *If 'no' skip to question 18*

17. What factors led you to the decision to work on another project with the Partners Program (Check all that apply)?

- I wanted to improve my property
- I value the outcomes of these activities
- I want to have more wildlife on my property
- I enjoy working with Partners Program staff
- I believe Partners Program staff will work with me for the duration of the project
- I had concerns about a potential listing under the Endangered Species Act
- Other(s) (please describe):

18. Did working with the Partners Program make you more or less likely to want to continue that kind of work on your property (either with the Partners Program or another organization)?

- Less likely
- Neither
- More likely

19. Did your experience with the Partners Program encourage you to work on a project(s) with another organization (e.g., USDA/NRCS-FSA, local or state government, land trusts or non-governmental organizations)?

Yes If yes, what organization(s): _____

Please describe the project or projects: _____

No If no, why not? Please explain: _____

20. In addition to those you identified in question 19, what other types of organizations could you work with and which would you consider working with in the future? (Circle your responses to both)

	Could work with		Would consider working with	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Local government agencies (for example municipal or county)	Yes	No	Yes	No
State agencies (for example State wildlife agency, State Parks)	Yes	No	Yes	No
Federal agencies (for example Farm Service Agency (FSA) that administers the CRP program)	Yes	No	Yes	No
Land Trusts (for example Cattleman's Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy)	Yes	No	Yes	No
Non Governmental Organizations (for example Ducks Unlimited, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Trout Unlimited)	Yes	No	Yes	No
Other(s) (please describe): _____	Yes	No	Yes	No

21. Were there any factors that lead you to work with the Partners Program instead of other organizations? Please be as specific as possible.

22. To what extent do you disagree or agree with the following statements regarding working with the Partners Program?

	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Neither	Slightly Agree	Strongly Agree
I feel that the Partners Program will maintain a relationship with me for the long haul	1	2	3	4	5
I trust the Partners Program staff	1	2	3	4	5
The cost-share arrangement with the Partners Program fits my financial needs	1	2	3	4	5
The Partners Program bureaucracy /paperwork/ red tape is not burdensome	1	2	3	4	5
The Partners Program allows me to still manage my property the way I want to	1	2	3	4	5
The Partners Program places no permanent restrictions on my property	1	2	3	4	5
The Partners Program helps me better prepare for potential endangered species listing decisions	1	2	3	4	5
My family, friends, neighbors and/or business associates work with the Partners Program	1	2	3	4	5
I've worked with the Partners Program in the past and had a good experience	1	2	3	4	5
I needed technical assistance to help plan restoration activities that were beneficial to wildlife on my operation	1	2	3	4	5

23. Was there anything about the Partners Program that made you hesitant to want to work with them? Please be as specific as possible.

Yes If yes, what were those things: _____

No

Don't know

24. In your opinion, how can the Partners Program improve to make itself better for landowners?

25. People think about the land and land ownership in different ways. The following questions help us understand how landowners who work with the Partners Program view and relate to the land. By understanding this the Partners Program will be able to better serve their partners. To what extent do you *disagree* or *agree* with each of the following statements about land ownership by circling the number that matches your response.

	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Neither	Slightly Agree	Strongly Agree
Landowners have the right to use their land as they see fit.	1	2	3	4	5
Landowners have an obligation to consider how their management affects other people.	1	2	3	4	5
Other people have no right to tell private landowners how to manage their land.	1	2	3	4	5
Landowners have an obligation to maintain the land for future generations.	1	2	3	4	5
Private landowner rights outweigh any responsibilities the landowner has to manage land for public benefit.	1	2	3	4	5
The public has a role in deciding how private land is used.	1	2	3	4	5
Conservation is a voluntary choice of the landowner.	1	2	3	4	5
Conservation is one of the responsibilities of private landownership.	1	2	3	4	5
Conservation is a state of harmony between people and land.	1	2	3	4	5
When people see land as a community to which they belong, they may begin to use it with love and respect.	1	2	3	4	5
Land management is right when it tends to preserve the integrity of the land.	1	2	3	4	5
People abuse land because they regard it as a commodity belonging to them.	1	2	3	4	5
Landowners have an obligation to manage the land in the interest of the community.	1	2	3	4	5
A landowner is a custodian of the land.	1	2	3	4	5
Landowners have a responsibility to manage land for private and public benefit.	1	2	3	4	5
The private landowner is a custodian of wildlife.	1	2	3	4	5

The following two questions help us understand more about the type of people who work with the Partners Program. As a reminder, your responses will never be shared individually.

26. Are you: ____ Male or ____ Female

27. What is your age? ____ Years old

Thank You!

Please return your completed survey in the provided postage paid return envelope.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: We estimate it will take you 18 minutes to complete the survey, including time to read instructions, gather information, and complete and submit the survey. We will use the information to support voluntary habitat restoration through financial and technical assistance and to better meet the needs of private landowners. Your response is voluntary and results will be anonymous. We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number (1040-0001). You may submit comments on any aspect of this information collection to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803. Please do not send your survey to this address.