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Climate Smart Beef and Bison Program

Incentive payments for your responsible grazing practices!

Prescribed grazing – \$ 5,000 flat payment per year

Other Eligible CLIMATE SMART LAND PRACTICES (up to 200 acres each):

Forage planting – \$75 per acre

Range planting – \$100 per acre

Cover crop planting – \$50 per acre

Silvopasture – \$125 per acre

Riparian herbaceous cover – \$160 per acre

Prescribed burning – \$20 per acre

Upland Wildlife Habitat Management – \$136 per ac.



A Herd of Benefits!

- **We can assist with a prescribed grazing or burn plan!**
- For any practice, submit a grazing plan including – a map, pasture names, location, and acreage, stocking rates with approx. dates, types and classes of animals.
- Must enroll with the USDA Farm Service Agency.
- The same acres cannot be enrolled with a USDA program for the same practice.
- Provide permission to soil-sample and data-share with our grant partners.
- Need Tribe and BIA Acknowledgement letter if you wish to enroll tribal trust or allotted land (if tribal fee or individual owned fee land, no letter needed).

Contact us for enrollment application, prescribed grazing requirements, definitions of eligible practices, or any other questions:

Range Ecologist, Zintkala Eiring, zintkala.eiring@tankafund.org, or

Range Ecologist Technical Assistant, Janét Moore janet.moore@tankafund.org.

Information on our website coming soon!

Funding is made possible by the "Grass is Greener on the Other Side: Climate Smart Beef and Bison Commodities" 5-year grant awarded to **South Dakota State University (SDSU)** in 2023 by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Partnership for Climate Smart Commodities Program. **Tanka Fund** is a major partner in this award, as well as the **National Bison Association (NBA)**, **AgSpire**, **AdoptAg**, **Cold Creek Buffalo Company**, **Millborn Seeds**, and **C-Lock**.

Premium Livestock Payments

You may have heard of “soil carbon cowboys”, and understand that responsible grazing can build soil carbon, but many people believe that all livestock harm the climate. This Climate Smart incentives program is part of a national effort to create market opportunities for commodities produced under land management practices considered to be ‘climate smart’ and sustainable, under a recognized “Climate Smart Agriculture” (CSA) label. To help develop this market for livestock, the USDA has provided funds for livestock buyers to offer a premium to producers who enroll with Climate Smart Ag. programs.

The NBA is leading the effort to provide premiums to producers that participate in this program, including partnering with buyers such as Cold Creek Buffalo Co. Through a network of buyers, the project expects to purchase 85,000 head of CSA-raised cattle, for an average premium of \$40/head, and 39,500 head of CSA-produced bison, for a \$100/head premium. **We can’t guarantee that your livestock will be purchased for a CSA premium, but ranchers who enroll with us are expected to benefit.**

Each eligible practice will follow USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) practice standards for the state that you are in. Check out this website to learn about climate smart mitigation activities: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/natural-resource-concerns/climate/climate-smart-mitigation-activities>

Tanka Fund is a Native American-led 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. We aim to revitalize Native American buffalo populations, ecosystems, and economies. The organization provides grants, technical assistance, and other resources to Native American tribal producers who are working to restore buffalo populations and promote sustainable buffalo-based businesses.

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