

Fencing Opportunities with HPP

12/09

One of the original purposes of HPP, fence projects remain an important issue for landowners and are an important part of projects approved by local committees. Fencing projects are normally done on private, not public, lands and are directed to agricultural operators. Committees usually have eligibility requirements so be sure to check with your local committee.

New Fences: New fences may be considered by local committees when there is a need to replace large sections of fence damaged by big game.

If a new fence is approved, committees will likely require that it be “wildlife friendly”, which means 42” high and no more than 4 wires with adequate spacing between them. Committees want to work with the landowner to resolve the problems but do not want to create additional barriers for big game or rebuild a fence that will cause the same problems as the old one did.

Committees may also discuss with the landowner alternative types of fences, such as high tensile or lay down fences. The use of a highly visible top wire that causes big game to see the fence and clear it is often a part of fence projects to lessen damages after the fence is built.

Fence Repairs: Many committees have a program that provides a landowner a small amount of basic fence repair supplies (post, wire, staples, stays, etc) on a yearly basis to repair small ongoing damage problems.

Stackyards: HPP may also provide stackyards or stackyard materials to eligible landowners to protect haystacks.

A project application is needed by the committee. For your convenience, a project proposal form is on the HPP home page. This form will work for all committees but they often have other questions they will ask when you present your project to them.

Since HPP is a partnership, landowners are expected to provide a match to the HPP committee’s contribution. A common match, but not the only one, is when HPP provides the materials and the landowner provides the labor to put them up but this can vary among committees and projects.

If you are interested in fencing or stackyard opportunities provided by HPP in your area, contact your local District Wildlife Manager or attend a HPP meeting in your area for more details.