

## **Missouri Riparian Community WHAG Model Instructions**

(For CSP, Riparian WHAGs will typically be used only on Tier 3 contracts. They may be used for Tier 2 contracts if they help increase the WHAG scores for a field.)

(1) Average Width:

- Measure average width from the high bank of the stream. **Anything less than 30' receives zero points as the total WHAG score.**

(2) Riparian Zone Plant Composition:

- Score based on the dominant type of vegetation. Site with over 50% woody canopy and a strong herbaceous understory would receive 10 points.
- Herbaceous filter strips would score one point.

(3) Grazing Pressure:

- Any grazing system that is less than 528a standards would score zero points.

(4) Crown Canopy Coverage:

- This refers to woody plants only. Estimate crown coverage at full leaf-out.

(5) Alternate Water Supply Present:

- If livestock are completely excluded from the riparian corridor, score 10 points.
- Incidental grazing of crop stubble and adjacent riparian area would still score 10 points.
- Any rotational grazing system that excludes livestock from the riparian area for the majority of the season would score five points.