

HAYLAND HABITAT EVALUATION WORKSHEET

Client _____ County _____
 Tract No. _____ Field No. _____ Section No. _____ Township _____ Range _____
 Evaluator _____ Date _____

Enter the score for the conditions described that most closely resemble the present or planned condition of the site being evaluated. To meet the quality criteria requirements for wildlife habitat (food, water, cover, etc.) in Section III of the FOTG the planned system must provide a total rating of 0.5 or higher for the conservation treatment unit. For sites that are presently cropland but will be planted or otherwise converted to hayland, score the site as 0.0 (present).

Note: Only long-term hayland (≥ 10 years) should be scored using this worksheet. Alfalfa in a short-term rotation with annual crops should be scored using the Cropland Habitat Evaluation Worksheet (NE-CPA-32).

Timing of Haying

Give a rating of:

- .3 Hay cut after July 15 **and** prior to August 15 (predominantly warm-season stands) and/or prior to September 1 (predominantly cool-season stands).
- .2 Hay cut after August 15 (warm-season stands) or after September 1 (cool-season stands).
- .1 Hay cut between June 16 and July 15 **and** either a flushing bar is used or mowing is done from center outward.
- .0 Hay cut on or between April 1 and April 30 **and/or** on or between June 16 and July 15 without mitigation factors.
- .1 If hay cut on or between May 1 and June 15.

A. Rating for Timing of Haying Present _____ Planned _____

Haying Frequency

Give a rating of:

- .2 Hay cut less than once per year (or only a portion of field is hayed each year in rotation).
- .1 Hay cut only once per year.
- .0 Hay cut more than once per year.

B. Rating for Haying Frequency Present _____ Planned _____

Species Composition

Give a rating of:

- .3 Mixture contains a minimum of five species (native grasses, forbs, and/or legumes) with at least one forb/legume present at a significant level (e.g., the forb/legume must constitute a minimum of 10% of the stand).
- .2 Mixture consists of a combination of two or more grasses **and** at least one forb or legume is present at a significant level (e.g., the forb or legume must constitute a minimum of 10% of the stand composition).
- .1 Mixture consists of only two species **and/or** lacks significant forb or legume component.
- .0 Only single species is present (grasses/forbs/legumes).
- .1 Stand is dominated by Kentucky bluegrass or annual grasses and forbs (>50%).

C. Rating for Species Composition Present _____ Planned _____

Residual Cover Areas (critical areas such as field perimeter, buffers on streams/wetlands and adjacent to wooded draws/ditches, and travel corridors are maintained (not hayed or grazed) – only count areas 20' wide and greater).

Give a rating of:

- .2 If 25% of field acreage is protected from haying and grazing in the noted locations.
- .1 If 10% of field acreage is protected from haying and grazing in the noted locations.
- .0 If residual cover areas do not exist or are manipulated by haying and grazing or tillage on an annual basis.

D. Rating for Residual Cover Areas Present _____ Planned _____

COMPOSITE RATING (A+B+C+D)

Present _____ Planned _____