

# Upland Wildlife Habitat Management

## Virginia Conservation Practice Job Sheet

645



### Definition

Provide and manage upland habitats and connectivity within the landscape for wildlife.

### Criteria

#### General Criteria Applicable to all Purposes

A Wildlife Habitat Evaluation, approved by the NRCS State Office, shall be used to identify habitat-limiting factors in the planning area.

Application of this practice shall remove or reduce limiting factor(s) as indicated by results of the habitat evaluation.

Application of this practice alone, or in combination with other supporting and facilitating practices, shall result in a conservation system that will meet or exceed fifty percent (50%) of the general wildlife habitat potential for the planned project condition regardless of land use. Conservation plans developed with wildlife as the primary objective shall meet or exceed seventy-five percent (75%) of the general habitat potential for the planned project condition.

#### Additional Criteria for Establishing Plants that Enable Movement or Provide Shelter or Food

Plant material specifications shall require the use of native species whenever possible and include

only high quality and adapted species. Natural succession may be used to establish the desired vegetative community, where soil quality is high, and a desirable seed source is nearby.

Where planting is required, site preparation, planting dates, and planting methods shall optimize vegetation survival and growth. Introduced/exotic plants species are discouraged. Refer to the Plant Establishment Guide for Virginia.

#### Additional Criteria for Manipulation of Vegetation to Sustain Desirable Habitat Conditions over Time

Actions needed to sustain desirable wildlife habitat conditions over time include reapplication of this practice at intervals longer than 3 years.

Equipment travel, grazing, haying, and other disturbance to habitat shall be minimized during April 15<sup>th</sup> – August 15<sup>th</sup> to avoid disturbing wildlife reproduction activities. Exceptions for establishing habitat-forming vegetation and controlling invasive or unwanted plants may be implemented when these activities are necessary to maintain the health of the plant community.

Regulated noxious weeds and invasive plants shall be controlled.

**Note: This summary does not address all requirements and considerations in the VA Upland Wildlife Habitat Management Conservation Practice Standard (VA-645). Consult the Conservation Practice Standard for further details.**

# Virginia Upland Wildlife Habitat Mgt - Practice Certification

645

Landowner:	Farm #:
Field(s):	Tract #:
Acres:	Date:

<b>Purpose</b> (check all that apply):
<input type="checkbox"/> Provide Shelter <input type="checkbox"/> Provide Movement Corridor <input type="checkbox"/> Provide Food

<b>Landuse</b> (check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cropland	<input type="checkbox"/> Pastureland/Grassland/Hayland
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Shrubland	<input type="checkbox"/> Meadow
<input type="checkbox"/> Woodland	<input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Corridor
<input type="checkbox"/> Shallow Water Habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Wetland
<input type="checkbox"/> Streambank and Shoreline	<input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species

Habitat Evaluation Scores		
Landuse Evaluated	Benchmark Score	Planned Score
EX. 1 - Cropland	35	76

Practice Planned (practice yielding the planned score)	Field Number(s)	Planting requirements (mix)	Management	Size
EX. 1 - 386	3 – 2 sides	NWSG	647 – light disking	35'w x150' long



**Planner Certification**

The Upland Wildlife Habitat Management practice planned in this job sheet fulfills minimum requirements of Virginia NRCS Conservation Practice Standard 645.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Certification of Practice Completion**

The Upland Wildlife Habitat Management practice planned in this job sheet has been completed and maintained according to Virginia NRCS specifications (indicate in Practice Specifications if any changes to the planned activities and acreage.)

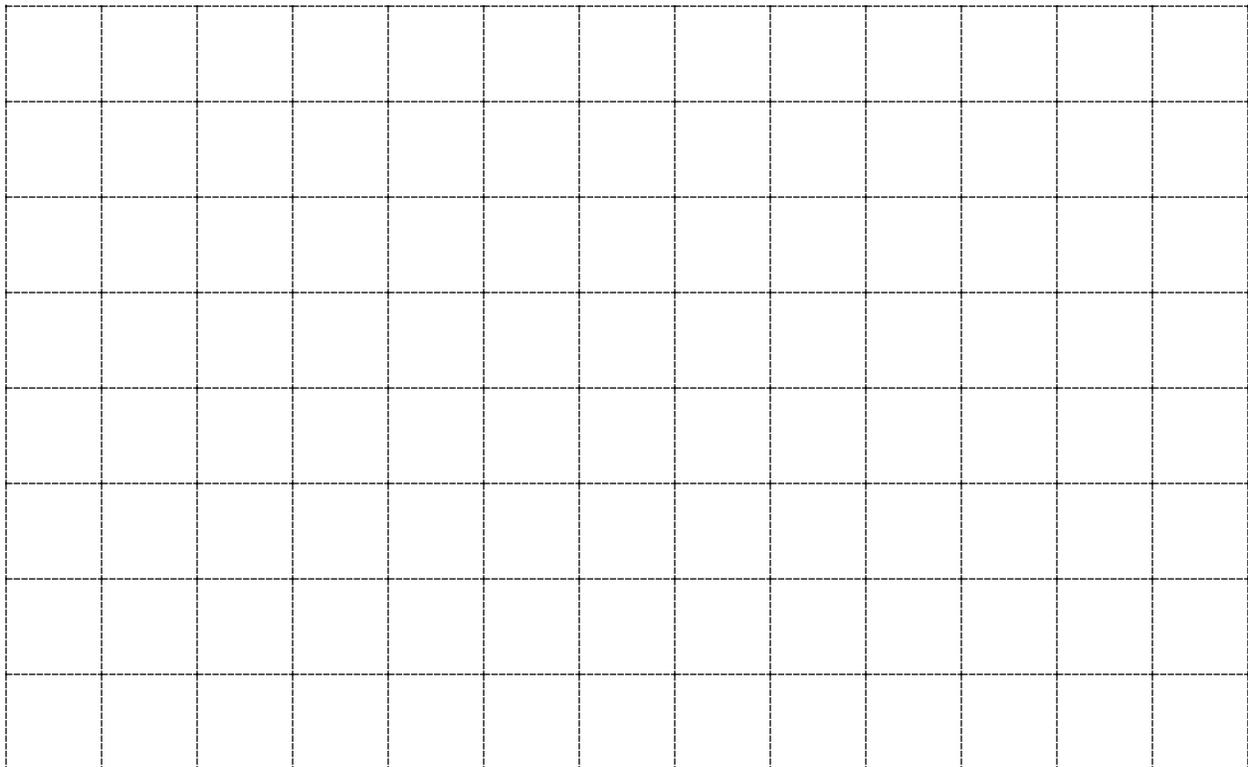
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

If needed, an aerial view or a side view of the practice can be shown below. Other relevant information, complementary practices and measures, and additional specifications may be included.

Scale 1"= \_\_\_\_\_ ft. (NA indicates sketch not to scale: grid size=1/2" by 1/2")



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