

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
CONSERVATION PRACTICE DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS**

**UPLAND WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT**

(ac.)  
CODE 645

**REQUIRED FORMS**

SD-CPA-19, Wildlife Habitat Appraisal Guide (WHAG), Existing (Benchmark) and Planned Rating  
SD-CPA-58, Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, for primary purpose existing herbaceous cover management

**OPTIONAL DOCUMENTS**

SD-CPA-57, Visual Obstruction Reading for Herbaceous Wildlife Habitat  
SD-CPA-26, Wildlife Habitat Management, and map with habitat elements

**PLANNING REQUIREMENTS**

Provide at least the minimum habitat requirements to attain a Quality Criteria Rating (SD-CPA-19, WHAG) of at least 0.5 for the land use and/or habitat element(s). Persons who desire abundant wildlife populations should plan to develop more habitat than the minimum 0.5 quality criteria.

Land use and/or habitat element(s) change from the existing condition to the planned condition are rated on the SD-CPA-19. The planned conservation practice that facilitates the change in the WHAG rating must be included in the conservation plan along with the rating change.

For example: Cropland – Existing management is conventional tillage that results in <15 percent previous year residue remaining. Planned management is no-till with 30 percent residue remaining over winter. The existing Cropland rating is 0.1 and the planned Cropland rating is 0.5, and the conservation plan would include Conservation Crop Rotation (328) and Residue and Tillage Management (329).

For herbaceous cover establishment, follow the requirements of the selected conservation practice (550, 643, and 327).

For tree/shrub establishment follow the requirements of the selected conservation practice (612, 422, 380, and 650).

For clump planting requirements, contact a Natural Resources Conservation Service biologist.

Delineate existing and planned habitat elements required for the desired wildlife species on the conservation plan map.

**PERFORMANCE**

Examine planting or seeding at least once annually until established to evaluate weed control, deferment, planned Quality Criteria Ratings are met, and other needs.