

**Practice: 647 - Early Successional Habitat Development and Management**

**Scenario: #1 - Mowing**

**Scenario Description:**

This scenario address inadequate habitat for fish and wildlife where setting back succession by mowing incoming woody species will improve habitat for the target species. Mowing can be used to increase structural diversity by creating areas of shorter vegetation preferred by some species or certain life stages of species. This scenario can be used nationwide. The typical setting for this scenario is at the edge of crop fields, in pastures, at the edge of woodlands or brushy areas, and in odd areas such as pivot corners. Where the management of woody plants is require to create or maintain early successional habitat conservation practice 314 brush management should be used. Where chemical control of weeds, including invasives, is required to reduce competition for the desired plant community conservation practice 315 herbaceous weed control should be used. Where the seed bank is inadequate for natural regeneration and seeding is required, use conservation practice 327 Conservation Cover. Where the need is to create early successional habitat within or at the edge of woodland or forest use conservation practice 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (edge feathering).

**Before Situation:**

The site is static or trending to later successional plant community. The disturbance regeme to maintain an earlier successional plant community is lacking. Pastures are often monotypic, lacking in diversity. Competition for sunlight from dense grass stands prevents seedling establishment. Stands are often dense and inhibit the movements of young wildlife such as game bird chicks. Area lacks diversity in the height of vegetation.

**After Situation:**

Early successional habitat maintained. Mowing has provided more sun light for forb establishment. The heterogeneity of the habitat structure has been increased.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** width and length of treated area

**Scenario Unit:** Acres

**Scenario Typical Size:** 2

**Scenario Cost:** \$394.65

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$197.33

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<b>Equipment/Installation</b>						
Mower, Bush Hog	940	Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hour	\$51.43	3	\$154.29
<b>Labor</b>						
Equipment Operators, Light	232	Includes: Skid Steer Loaders, Hydraulic Excavators <50 HP, Trenchers <12", Ag Equipment <150 HP, Pickup Trucks, Forklifts, Mulchers	Hour	\$22.08	3	\$66.24
<b>Mobilization</b>						
Mobilization, small equipment	1138	Equipment <70 HP but can't be transported by a pick-up truck or with typical weights between 3,500 to 14,000 pounds.	Each	\$174.12	1	\$174.12

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**Scenario: #2 - Disking**

**Scenario Description:**

This practice addresses inadequate wildlife habitat for species requiring early successional habitat. This scenario provides early successional habitat by setting back succession and manipulating species composition by disking vegetation and exposing bare ground. The typical setting for this scenario is at the edge of crop fields, in pastures, and in odd areas such as pivot corners. This scenario is applicable nationwide. Where the management of woody plants is require to create or maintain early successional habitat conservation practice 314 brush management should be used. Where chemical control of weeds, including invasives, is required to reduce competition for the desired plant community conservation practice 315 herbaceous weed control should be used. Where the seed bank is inadequate for natural regeneration and seeding is required, use conservation practice 327 Conservation Cover. Where the need is to create early successional habitat within or at the edge of woodland or forest use conservation practice 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (edge feathering).

**Before Situation:**

The site is static or trending to higher successional plant species. The disturbance regeme to maintain a lower successional stage is lacking. Pastures are often monotypic, lacking in diversity. Bare ground for seedling establishment is absent. Stands are often dense and inhibit the movements of younger wildlife species suchh as game bird chicks.

**After Situation:**

The application of this scenario improves wildlife habitat for species requiring early successional plant communities by reducing competition and creating bare ground for the establishment of early successional plants. Additionally, brood rearing habitat is improved both by the resultant food resources and the increased openness of the plant community that allows chicks to negotiate the terrain and exploit those food resources.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** width and length of treated area

**Scenario Unit:** Acres

**Scenario Typical Size:** 2

**Scenario Cost:** \$195.46

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$97.73

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<b>Equipment/Installation</b>						
Tillage, Light	945	Includes light disking (tandem) or field cultivator. Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Acre	\$10.67	2	\$21.34
<b>Mobilization</b>						
Mobilization, small equipment	1138	Equipment <70 HP but can't be transported by a pick-up truck or with typical weights between 3,500 to 14,000 pounds.	Each	\$174.12	1	\$174.12

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**Scenario: #3 - Mowing and Disking**

**Scenario Description:**

This practice addresses inadequate wildlife habitat for species requiring early successional habitat. This scenario provides early successional habitat by setting back succession and manipulating species composition by mowing dense vegetation and then a light disking to expose bare ground. All mowed areas are also disked. The typical setting for this scenario is at the edge of crop fields, in pastures, idle land and in odd areas such as pivot corners. Where the management of woody plants is require to create or maintain early successional habitat conservation practice 314 brush management should be used. Where chemical control of weeds, including invasives, is required to reduce competition for the desired plant community conservation practice 315 herbaceous weed control should be used. Where the seed bank is inadequate for natural regeneration and seeding is required, use conservation practice 327 Conservation Cover. Where the need is to create early successional habitat within or at the edge of woodland or forest use conservation practice 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (edge feathering).

**Before Situation:**

The site is static or trending to higher successional plant species. The disturbance regeme to maintain a lower successional stage is lacking. Pastures are often monotypic, lacking in diversity. Bare ground for seedling establishment is absent. Stands are often dense and inhibit the movements of younger wildlife species suchh as game bird chicks.

**After Situation:**

The application of this scenario improves wildlife habitat for species requiring early successional plant communities by reducing competition and creating bare ground for the establishment of early successional plants. Additionally, brood rearing habitat is improved both by the resultant food resources and the increased openness of the plant community that allows chicks to negotiate the terrain and exploit those food resources.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Width and length of treated area

**Scenario Unit:** Acre

**Scenario Typical Size:** 2

**Scenario Cost:** \$415.99

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$208.00

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<b>Equipment/Installation</b>						
Tillage, Light	945	Includes light disking (tandem) or field cultivator. Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Acre	\$10.67	2	\$21.34
Mower, Bush Hog	940	Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hour	\$51.43	3	\$154.29
<b>Labor</b>						
Equipment Operators, Light	232	Includes: Skid Steer Loaders, Hydraulic Excavators <50 HP, Trenchers <12", Ag Equipment <150 HP, Pickup Trucks, Forklifts, Mulchers	Hour	\$22.08	3	\$66.24
<b>Mobilization</b>						
Mobilization, small equipment	1138	Equipment <70 HP but can't be transported by a pick-up truck or with typical weights between 3,500 to 14,000 pounds.	Each	\$174.12	1	\$174.12

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**Scenario: #4 - Mowing and Heavy Disking**

**Scenario Description:**

This practice addresses inadequate wildlife habitat for species requiring early successional habitat. This scenario provides early successional habitat by setting back succession and manipulating species composition by mowing dense vegetation and then a heavy disking (multiple passes) to expose bare ground. All mowed areas are also disked. The typical setting for this scenario is at the edge of crop fields, in pastures, idle land and in odd areas such as pivot corners. This scenario is applicable nationwide. Where the management of woody plants is require to create or maintain early successional habitat conservation practice 314 brush management should be used. Where chemical control of weeds, including invasives, is required to reduce competition for the desired plant community conservation practice 315 herbaceous weed control should be used. Where the seed bank is inadequate for natural regeneration and seeding is required 327 Conservation Cover. Where the need is to create early successional habitat within or at the edge of woodland or forest use conservation practice 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (edge feathering).

**Before Situation:**

The site is static or trending to higher successional plant species. The disturbance regeme to maintain a lower successional stage is lacking. Pastures are often monotypic, lacking in diversity. Bare ground for seedling establishment is absent. Stands are often dense and inhibit the movements of younger wildlife species suchh as game bird chicks.

**After Situation:**

The application of this scenario improves wildlife habitat for species requiring early successional plant communities by reducing competition and creating bare ground for the establishment of early successional plants. Additionally, brood rearing habitat is improved both by the resultant food resources and the increased openness of the plant community that allows chicks to negotiate the terrain and exploit those food resources.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Width and length of treated area

**Scenario Unit:** Acre

**Scenario Typical Size:** 2

**Scenario Cost:** \$437.33

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$218.67

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<b>Equipment/Installation</b>						
Tillage, Light	945	Includes light disking (tandem) or field cultivator. Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Acre	\$10.67	4	\$42.68
Mower, Bush Hog	940	Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hour	\$51.43	3	\$154.29
<b>Labor</b>						
Equipment Operators, Light	232	Includes: Skid Steer Loaders, Hydraulic Excavators <50 HP, Trenchers <12", Ag Equipment <150 HP, Pickup Trucks, Forklifts, Mulchers	Hour	\$22.08	3	\$66.24
<b>Mobilization</b>						
Mobilization, small equipment	1138	Equipment <70 HP but can't be transported by a pick-up truck or with typical weights between 3,500 to 14,000 pounds.	Each	\$174.12	1	\$174.12