

**Practice: 644 - Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management**

**Scenario: #1 - Haul Fill with Native Seed Bank**

**Scenario Description:**

This scenario covers all wetland habitats not covered under 643. Involves hauling in material (mats and plugs obtained from off site) with a unique soil texture, seedbank, and vegetative reproductive potential. Haul/fill is used as macrotopographic development of unique texture and seedbank that will provide the soil medium (texture) to increase plant richness and diversity in an otherwise monotypic soil/landscape/plant community. This scenario is utilized when habitat assessment indicates Inadequate Habitat for Fish or Wildlife-habitat degradation. The typical size range for this scenario is 5 to 50 acres. This scenario would be applied on any land use where wetland habitats are utilized by targeted species. This practice scenario is typically used to reduce soil erosion, improve soil quality, improve water quality, and develop wildlife habitat as part of a habitat management system. This scenario is utilized to increase species diversity and richness. Monitoring of site by a biologist, post installation, will be required to determine management strategies for appropriate wetland dependant species. Establishment of vegetation will require methods including the use of seed-bearing topsoil, transplanted vegetation mats and plugs, and other appropriate methods used to cover and treat patches, 10-25% of each wetland acre. Fertilization will NOT be required.

**Before Situation:**

A habitat assessment (using State Office approved habitat assessment method, protocol or tool) has indicated a lack of annual cover (non-persistent) or vegetation for wetland dependant wildlife. Resource concerns identified may indicate that the current management system provides little to no wildlife habitat, with habitat limiting factors such as quality, quantity and continuity of forage, cover, shelter and space being identified.

**After Situation:**

Planning unit has adequately addressed needed cover by adding macrotopography with annual and/or perennial vegetation. Mats and plugs will provide plants for cover and forage for target species. Forage may include the vegetation itself or promote an abundance of beneficial insects. This scenario does not apply to plantings for forage production or critical area plantings, and vegetation established under this scenario will remain unharvested. Fertilization will NOT be required.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Acres Managed and Monitored

**Scenario Unit:** Acre

**Scenario Typical Size:** 10

**Scenario Cost:** \$1,835.34

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$183.53

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<b>Equipment/Installation</b>						
Rangeland/grassland field monitoring kit	967	Miscellaneous tools needed to complete rangeland/grassland monitoring. Materials may include camera, clippers, plot frame, scale, tape measure, etc. Includes materials and shipping only.	Each	\$45.96	1	\$45.96
Earthfill, Manually Compacted	50	Earthfill, manually compacted, includes equipment and labor	Cubic yard	\$5.17	100	\$517.00
<b>Labor</b>						
Specialist Labor	235	Labor requiring a specialized skill set: Includes Agronomists, Foresters, Biologists, etc. to provide additional technical information during the planning and implementation of the practice. Does not include NRCS or TSP services.	Hour	\$92.63	10	\$926.30
General Labor	231	Labor performed using basic tools such as power tool, shovels, and other tools that do not require extensive training. Ex. pipe layer, herder, concrete placement, materials spreader, flagger, etc.	Hour	\$18.71	5	\$93.55
<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	\$179.03	1	\$179.03
Mobilization, very small equipment	1137	Equipment that is small enough to be transported by a pick-up truck with typical weights less than 3,500 pounds. Can be multiple pieces of equipment if all hauled simultaneously.	Each	\$73.50	1	\$73.50

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**Scenario: #2 - Wetland Hydrology Management**

**Scenario Description:**

Water level manipulation will require the use of Water Control Structures (587) and hand labor implementation techniques on constructed wetlands. The setting is all landuses, but typically is on lands used for the production of crops and/or fish and wildlife where the slope gradient is less than two percent and soils that are not excessively drained. The State-approved habitat evaluation or appraisal found that a limiting factor for wetland wildlife is the absence of sufficient cover and food in the area. The manipulation of existing cover will be accomplished thru managing water levels to provide a diverse vegetation mosaic within and adjacent to the existing wetland addressing inadequate habitat for wetland wildlife. Stop log structure is installed under a separate conservation practice code (587) Structure for Water Control.

**Before Situation:**

The site lacks sufficient and diverse cover and food needed for optimal wetland wildlife habitat or target species. Typically the site has been previously manipulated and utilized for agricultural, livestock or forest production. With the loss of abundant and diverse cover and food throughout the site, both plant and animal species that are dependent on these elements are no longer present or are in decline within the planning unit.

**After Situation:**

Wetland water levels are managed to create optimal winter forage and cover for migrating wetland wildlife by drawing down water levels during the summer creating vegetative features essential for identified species. As a result of the installation, habitat needs have been met adequately.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Wetland Wildlife Food and Cover

**Scenario Unit:** Acres

**Scenario Typical Size:** 5

**Scenario Cost:** \$343.32

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$68.66

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<b>Equipment/Installation</b>						
All terrain vehicles, ATV	965	Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Hour	\$31.90	2	\$63.80
<b>Labor</b>						
Supervisor or Manager	234	Labor involving supervision or management activities. Includes crew supervisors, foremen and farm/ranch managers time required for adopting new technology, etc.	Hour	\$37.49	3	\$112.47
General Labor	231	Labor performed using basic tools such as power tool, shovels, and other tools that do not require extensive training. Ex. pipe layer, herder, concrete placement, materials spreader, flagger, etc.	Hour	\$18.71	5	\$93.55
<b>Mobilization</b>						
Mobilization, very small equipment	1137	Equipment that is small enough to be transported by a pick-up truck with typical weights less than 3,500 pounds. Can be multiple pieces of equipment if all hauled simultaneously.	Each	\$73.50	1	\$73.50

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**Scenario: #3 - Management and Monitoring only, foregone income**

**Scenario Description:**

Site management will include managing/monitoring the site to provide food and cover for wetland wildlife species on cropland. Annual vegetation (crops or other annual vegetation) will be allowed to establish and persist during critical nesting and brood rearing seasons and will remain standing (not harvested) until migratory species have left the site. The setting is on lands used for the production of crops where the slope gradient is less than two percent and soils are not excessively drained. The State-approved habitat evaluation or appraisal found that a limiting factor for wetland wildlife is the absence of sufficient cover and food in the area. The manipulation of existing cover will be accomplished through mechanical methods to provide a diverse vegetation mosaic, within and adjacent to the existing wetland, addressing inadequate habitat for wetland wildlife. Where this occurs on cropped fields, annual crops will be lost for one growing season (foregone income is included).

**Before Situation:**

The site lacks sufficient and diverse cover and food needed for optimal wetland wildlife habitat or target species. Typically the site has been previously manipulated and utilized for agricultural. With the loss of abundant and diverse cover and food throughout the site, both plant and animal species that are dependent on these elements are no longer present, or are in decline, within the planning unit.

**After Situation:**

Agricultural crop or annual vegetation has been allowed to persist providing needed food and cover for identified species. Crops and annual vegetation will not be harvested during the critical seasons as identified by the habitat evaluation. As a result of the installation, habitat needs have been adequately met.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Wetland Wildlife Cover and Food

**Scenario Unit:** Acre

**Scenario Typical Size:** 10

**Scenario Cost:** \$1,927.70

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$192.77

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<b>Equipment/Installation</b>						
Tillage, Primary	946	Includes heavy disking (offset) or chisel plow. Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Acre	\$16.36	10	\$163.60
<b>Foregone Income</b>						
FI, Soybeans Dryland	1961	Dryland Soybeans is Primary Crop	Acre	\$271.04	3.3	\$894.43
FI, Wheat Dryland	1963	Dryland Wheat is Primary Crop	Acre	\$115.67	3.4	\$393.28
FI, Corn Dryland	1959	Dryland Corn is Primary Crop	Acre	\$144.36	3.3	\$476.39