

Upland Wildlife Habitat Management - 645

Massachusetts Conservation Practice Job Sheet



DEFINITION

Provide and manage upland habitats and connectivity on a landscape scale to benefit upland wildlife.

PURPOSE

To treat upland wildlife habitat concerns identified during the conservation planning process that enable movement or provide shelter, cover and food in proper amounts, locations and times to sustain wild animals that inhabit uplands during a portion of their life cycle.

WHERE USED

This practice targets land where the decision maker has identified an objective for conserving wild animals and/or for enhancing habitat or ecosystems for the benefit of wildlife or land within the range of targeted wildlife species and capable of supporting the desired habitat.

Other facilitating NRCS conservation practice standards such as *Early Successional Habitat Development and Management*, code 647, *Tree and Shrub Establishment*, code 612, *Riparian Forest Buffer*, code 391, *Pest Management*, code 595. etc., can be used in conjunction with this standard to develop and enhance upland habitat for wildlife.

SPECIFICATIONS

This practice can involve many components that include, but are not limited to: **plantings** of trees, shrubs, grass, herbs and forbs, and wildflowers; **structures** for nesting, denning, colony establishment; protective cover; and **management** to restore or enhance habitat.

Written specifications, schedules and maps shall be prepared for each planning area and each habitat type. Specifications shall:

- Identify the amounts and kinds of habitat elements, locations and management actions necessary to achieve the management objectives.
- Describe the appropriate method, timing and intensity of management needed to produce the desired habitat conditions and sustain them over time.

Site-specific requirements are listed on the specifications sheet. Additional provisions may be entered on the job sketch sheet. Specifications are prepared in accordance with the MA NRCS Field Office Technical Guide. See practice standard *Upland Wildlife Habitat Management*, code 645.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The following actions shall be carried out to ensure that this practice functions as intended throughout its expected life:

- Evaluate habitat conditions on a regular basis in order to adapt the conservation plan and schedule of implementation.
- Annually inspect and repair structural or vegetative components of this practice.
- Any use of fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals shall not compromise the intended purpose.

Upland Wildlife Habitat Management Job Sheet

Client:	Farm #:
	Tract #:
Planned By:	Date:
Management Goals/Objectives:	

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Field(s)	Type of Management	Management Frequency

Notes (e.g., type of treatment and additional details as needed, refer to any attached NRCS technical notes, etc.):
Vegetation management will occur outside the primary reproductive season (i.e., April 15 - August 1st), unless specified by NRCS for the restoration and maintenance of healthy native plant communities.

PLANTINGS ¹

Site Preparation:				
Field(s)	Species or Mix	Planting Stock	Rate (no. or lbs) \Units\ac.	Planting Details (e.g., broadcast, drill to depth, spacing, etc.)
			\	
			\	
			\	

Notes (e.g., additional details as needed, refer to any attached NRCS technical notes, etc.):

¹ - See conservation plan for recommended treatment year and month for plantings. Specifications for tree and shrub plantings beneficial to wildlife are provided under the appropriate NRCS conservation practice standard (e.g., tree and shrub establishment - code 612, hedgerow planting - code 422, etc.)

STRUCTURAL HABITAT SUPPLEMENTS

Field(s)	Type of Structure (e.g., type of nest box, brush piles, snag\cavity tree, etc.)	Number

Notes (e.g., refer to attached as-built drawings, placement recommendations, NRCS technical notes, etc.):

ADDITIONAL SPECIFICATIONS

1) Any use of pesticides and other chemicals shall follow label instructions and will not compromise the intended purpose.
2)
3)
4)

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

1) Annually inspect and repair structural or vegetative components of this practice.
2) Clean out nest boxes if present; add appropriate nesting material, if needed.
3)
4)

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Provide a map (may be attached) showing the location of the proposed practice and practice components.

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

RECORD OF COMPLETION AND CHECK OUT CERTIFICATION:

Treated Acres:	Date Completed by Client:	Date Inspected:	Inspector:
Notes:			

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