

# Moist-Soil Management Specification Sheet

Landowner:

Tract No.:

Farm No.:

Program: Wetland Reserve Program

Contract No.:

Moist-Soil Acres Planned:

Assisted by:

Date:

Field Number/ Hydrology Unit	Year	Drawdown Timing			Drawdown Length		Drawdown Degree <sup>a</sup>		Unit Maintenance <sup>b</sup>					Flood Timing				
		Early	Mid	Late	Slow	Fast	C	P	CD	PD	PB	FP	N	Early	Norm	Rsv		
			X		X			X		X							X	
		X			X			X		X							X	
			X		X				X		X							X
			X		X				X								X	
		X			X			X		X							X	
		X			X				X								X	
			X		X				X		X							X
			X		X				X								X	
		X			X			X		X							X	
			X		X				X									X
		X			X				X									X
			X		X				X								X	
		X			X				X								X	
		X			X				X								X	
			X		X			X		X								X
			X		X				X								X	
		X			X				X								X	
		X			X				X								X	
			X		X			X		X								X

<sup>a</sup> C – complete drawdown, P – partial drawdown

<sup>b</sup> CD – complete disk, PD – partial disk, PB – prescribed burn, FP – food plot, N – no maintenance

**General Information:**

Drawdown Timing: Early – March 15 to May 1, Mid – May 1 to June 15, Late – After June 15  
Drawdown Length: Slow – 2 to 4 weeks, Fast – 1 to 2 days  
Drawdown Degree: Complete – all boards are removed, Partial – ¼ to ½ of boards removed  
Unit Maintenance: Complete disk – entire area is disked for vegetation control and/or successional setback  
Partial disk – area is strip disked or spot disked for vegetation control and/or wildlife benefits  
Prescribed burn – area is burned for vegetation control and/or successional setback  
Food plot – all or portion of area is prepared and planted to floodable food plot, this should be included in plan and shown on plan map, see MS-ECS-646-02(JS)  
No maintenance – no maintenance is required at this time  
Flood Timing: Early – a few boards are replaced between August 15 and September 15 to shallowly flood 25% of the area, remainder of boards are replaced between September 15 and November 30  
Normal – boards are slowly replaced between September 15 and November 30  
Reserved – boards are replaced between November 15 and December 30

**See MS-ECS-646-01(JS) “Moist-Soil Management for Wildlife” for additional information.**

**Example Moist-Soil Management Schedules:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1) Early drawdown<br>Slow drawdown<br>Complete drawdown<br>No maintenance<br>Early flood     | 2) Midseason drawdown<br>Slow drawdown<br>Complete drawdown<br>Partial disk<br>Early flood                     |
| 3) Midseason drawdown<br>Slow drawdown<br>Partial drawdown<br>No maintenance<br>Normal flood | 4) Midseason drawdown<br>Slow drawdown<br>Complete drawdown<br>Complete disk or prescribe burn<br>Normal flood |
| 5) Late drawdown<br>Fast drawdown<br>Partial drawdown<br>No maintenance<br>Reserve flood     | 6) Early drawdown<br>Fast drawdown<br>Complete drawdown<br>Food plot<br>Normal flood                           |

**Results:**

- 1) Diversity of smartweeds, docks, beggarticks, grasses, etc. providing good seed production; woody encroachment may become a problem
- 2) Diversity of plants favoring grasses with good seed production; spot disking can help control undesirables, disking in strips can increase invertebrate abundance and provide additional wildlife benefits
- 3) Diversity of plants favoring grasses with good seed production; remaining water provides summer wildlife habitat and assures early migrant habitat
- 4) Provides spring and early summer wildlife benefits; disking or prescribe burning controls woody encroachment and stimulates early successional plants
- 5) Favors grasses and can result in monotype; remaining water provides summer wildlife habitat and assures early migrant habitat, undesirables may become a problem
- 6) Goal is to establish floodable food plot, food plot preparation can also control woody encroachment

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