



United States Department of Agriculture
 Natural Resources Conservation Service

CSP Job Sheet H-14

HABITAT MANAGEMENT ENHANCEMENT

July 2005

LOWER BIG BLUE AND LOWER LITTLE BLUE WATERSHEDS IN NEBRASKA

Name: _____

Habitat Index – Greater Prairie Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*)

- Payment =
- \$0.00 / Acre / Year for a habitat index value of 0.5 or less
 - \$2.00 / Acre / Year for a habitat index value of 0.51 to 0.60
 - \$4.00 / Acre / Year for a habitat index value of 0.61 to 0.70
 - \$6.00 / Acre / Year for a habitat index value of 0.71 to 0.80
 - \$8.00 / Acre / Year for a habitat index value of 0.81 to 0.90
 - \$10.00 / Acre / Year for a habitat index value of 0.91 to 1.0

Greater prairie chicken is being targeted for enhancement for the following reasons:

- Considered a species of concern due to a long term decline in populations across its range.
- A species that is representative of overall habitat quality for a variety of other wildlife species that occupy a landscape dominated by grassland habitat as pasture/rangeland.
- A species with adequate research available on habitat needs to develop an accurate evaluation model for habitat assessments.
- A species that is highly visible and appreciated or valued by landowners and others.

The Prairie Chicken Home Range Habitat Evaluation Tool is used to determine the habitat index value. Biologists or trained field office personnel are to complete the assessment in the field to arrive at the index value. All tracts of land that are within one mile proximity of each other will be evaluated as one unit with an overall average score using each field or pasture within it. If a tract is segregated from other lands by more than one mile, it will be evaluated separately and may qualify for a different payment level.

Documentation Required: Attached a copy of a completed Prairie Chicken Home Range Habitat Evaluation Tool and record the habitat index value and appropriate payment rate by tract in the space provided on the back of this job sheet. Habitat elements identified on the attached habitat index will be maintained. Recommended habitat developments or management activities are also to be noted on this job sheet.

Tract & Field #s	Total Acres	Habitat Index	Payment Rate/Acre
T 945	319	0.53	\$2.00
T 946	37	0.64	\$3.00

Example

Tract & Field #s	Total Acres	Habitat Index	Payment Rate/Acre

Required “Temporary” Habitat Conditions:

These conditions influenced the habitat index value and are temporary in nature due to applied annual management techniques. Therefore, they must be maintained throughout the contract to qualify for the appropriate payment level. (e.g. post-harvest stubble management; grass height during nesting season)

Recommended Habitat Development/Management Activities:

These activities may be implemented to improve the Habitat Index Value and receive a higher payment.

Certification:

I certify that I have implemented the appropriate management actions as explained in the narrative for the field(s) listed in the table above.

Name: _____ Date: _____