



United States Department of Agriculture
 Natural Resources Conservation Service

CSP Job Sheet H-2

HABITAT MANAGEMENT ENHANCEMENT

July 2005

LOWER BIG BLUE AND LOWER LITTLE BLUE WATERSHEDS IN NEBRASKA

Name: _____

Establish or maintain grassy areas to provide wildlife habitat

Payment = \$25.00 / acre / year for grassy areas which are established or maintained to provide quality wildlife habitat. Payment applies only to those grassy areas that were maintained and are periodically enhanced as needed through management activities.

The intent of this enhancement is to provide nesting, brood-rearing, feeding/pollinating, loafing, and winter cover for most wildlife, including insects, song birds, and game birds, in an area where this habitat type is limiting.

This enhancement requires that grassland habitats such as field borders, filter strips, contour buffer strips, and odd areas such as pivot corners and abandoned farmsteads which are located adjacent to cropland be managed to improve overall habitat values. These areas must be a minimum of 30 feet wide and contain at least two native or desired introduced grasses (intermediate wheatgrass, pubescent wheatgrass, orchard grass, meadow brome grass) and one or more perennial forbs/legumes which comprise 10% or more of the stand composition. Grasses such as smooth brome cannot account for more than 10% of the stand composition unless they are intensely managed for early successional habitat. They must also be protected from annual haying, grazing, or burning. Management may include periodic tillage or prescribed burning followed by interseeding of desired grasses, forbs, and/or legumes.

Documentation Required: Use the following table for documentation of existing grassy area plant species composition and the application of management activities applied to maintain diverse grassy areas. An example is provided.

Tract & Field #s	Grassy Area Acres	List Existing or Planned Plant Species Composition for Grassy Areas	Management Activities Applied to Existing Grassy Areas
T486 - 1	15	Big bluestem, Switchgrass, Illinois bundleflower	Interseed Illinois bundleflower and Big bluestem
T486 - 2	5	Switchgrass, Little bluestem, Sideoats grama, Maximilian sunflower	Prescribed burning

Example

