

Practice: 647 - Early Successional Habitat Development/Management

Scenario: #1 - Mowing

Scenario Description: This scenario address inadequate habitat for fish and wildlife where setting back succession by mowing incoming woody species will improve habitat for the target species. Mowing can be used to increase structural diversity by creating areas of shorter vegetation preferred by some species or certain life stages of species. This scenario can be used nationwide. The typical setting for this scenario is at the edge of crop fields, in pastures, at the edge of woodlands or brushy areas, and in odd areas such as pivot corners. Where the management of woody plants is require to create or maintain early successional habitat conservation practice 314 brush management or 666 forest stand improvement should be used. Where chemical control of weeds, including invasives, is required to reduce competition for the desired plant community conservation practice 315 herbaceous weed control should be used. Where the seedbank is inadequate for natural regeneration and seeding is required use conservation practice 550 range seeding or 327 Conservation Cover. Where the need is to create early successional habitat within or at the edge of woodland or forest use conservation practice 666 forest stand improvement to remove trees.

Before Situation: The site is static or trending to later successional plant community. The disturbance regeme to maintain an earlier successional plant community is lacking. Pastures are often monotypic, lacking in diversity. Competition for sunlight from dense grass stands prevents seedling establishment. Stands are often dense and inhibit the movements of young wildlife such as game bird chicks. Area lacks diversity in the height of vegetation.

After Situation: Early successional habitat maintained. Mowing has provided more sun light for forb establishment. The heterogeneity of the habitat structure has been increased.

Scenario Feature Measure: width and length of treated area

Scenario Unit: Acre

Scenario Typical Size: 2

Total Scenario Cost: \$468.04

Scenario Cost/Unit: \$234.02

Cost Details

Component Name	Id	Description	Unit	Cost	Qty	Total
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Labor

Equipment Operators, Light	232	Includes: Skid Steer Loaders, Hydraulic Excavators <50 HP, Trenchers <12", Ag Equipment <150 HP, Pickup Trucks, Forklifts, Mulchers	Hour	\$25.30	4	\$101.20
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Equipment Installation

Mower, Bush Hog	940	Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hour	\$50.15	4	\$200.61
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Mobilization

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	\$166.24	1	\$166.24
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Practice: 647 - Early Successional Habitat Development/Management

Scenario: #2 - Disking

Scenario Description: This practice addresses inadequate wildlife habitat for species requiring early successional habitat. This scenario provides early successional habitat by setting back succession and manipulating species composition by disking vegetation and creating bare ground. The typical setting for this scenario is at the edge of crop fields, in pastures, and in odd areas such as pivot corners. This scenario is applicable nationwide. Where the management of woody plants is required to create or maintain early successional habitat conservation practice 314 brush management or 666 forest stand improvement should be used. Where chemical control of weeds, including invasives, is required to reduce competition for the desired plant community conservation practice 315 herbaceous weed control should be used. Where the seedbank is inadequate for natural regeneration and seeding is required, use conservation practice 550 range seeding or 327 Conservation Cover. Where the need is to create early successional habitat within or at the edge of woodland or forest use conservation practice 666 forest stand improvement to remove trees.

Before Situation: The site is static or trending to higher successional plant species. The disturbance regime to maintain a lower successional stage is lacking. Pastures are often monotypic, lacking in diversity. Bare ground for seedling establishment is absent. Stands are often dense and inhibit the movements of younger wildlife species such as game bird chicks.

After Situation: The application of this scenario improves wildlife habitat for species requiring early successional plant communities by reducing competition and creating bare ground for the establishment of early successional plants. Additionally, brood rearing habitat is improved both by the resultant food resources and the increased openness of the plant community that allows chicks to negotiate the terrain and exploit those food resources.

Scenario Feature Measure: width and length of treated area

Scenario Unit: Acre

Scenario Typical Size: 2

Total Scenario Cost: \$187.77

Scenario Cost/Unit: \$93.88

Cost Details

Component Name	Id	Description	Unit	Cost	Qty	Total
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Equipment Installation

Tillage, Light	945	Includes light disking (tandem) or field cultivator. Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Acre	\$10.77	2	\$21.53
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Mobilization

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	\$166.24	1	\$166.24
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