Clear Form

# WILDLIFE HABITAT EVALUATION
## INVENTORY WORKSHEET FOR CROPLAND

Client: Date: Farm No.:

Tract(s): Field(s): Acres:

Conservationist:

This Wildlife Habitat Evaluation inventory worksheet lists a number of habitat considerations/elements related to wildlife values for cropland and is appropriately used for land planted to row crops, small grain, orchards, and vegetables, as well as hay included as part of a row crop rotation. The inventory worksheet user makes a rating for each habitat element based primarily on visual observations and a few measurements.

**The crop field(s) evaluated must score a rating of 0.5 for each habitat consideration/element listed in the Habitat Index to substantiate reporting conservation practice Upland Wildlife Management (Code 645).**

### WILDLIFE HABITAT INDEX (CROPLAND)

| HABITAT CONSIDERATION | HABITAT POINTS | PRESENT | PLANNED | APPLIED |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **CROP RESIDUE MANAGEMENT** | | | | |
| Over-winter residue >50% ground cover | **0.8 to 1.0** | | | |
| Over-winter residue 30 to 50% ground cover | **0.5 to 0.7** | | | |
| Over-winter residue 10 to 29% ground cover | **0.3 to 0.4** | | | |
| Over-winter residue <10% ground cover | **0.0 to 0.2** | | | |
| **CROP ROTATION** | | | | |
| Row crop or small grain with grass/legume | **0.8 to 1.0** | | | |
| Row crop with small grain | **0.5 to 0.7** | | | |
| Continuous row crop or small grain | **0 to 0.4** | | | |
| **CROP MANAGEMENT** | | | | |
| >10% un-harvested crop or food plots present | **1.0** | | | |
| 1 to 10% un-harvested crop | **0.6 to 0.9** | | | |
| Total crop harvested, stubble height is 25% of crop total growth height | **0.5** | | | |
| Total crop harvested, stubble height is <25% of crop total growth height or crop aftermath is grazed and/or baled and removed from field. | **0.0 to 0.4** | | | |

| HABITAT CONSIDERATION | HABITAT POINTS | PRESENT | PLANNED | APPLIED |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **PESTICIDE APPLICATION** | | | | |
| Pesticides applied and NRCS conservation practice standards and specifications for Pest Management (Code 595) are being followed. | **0.5** | | | |
| No pesticides applied to field | **0.5** | | | |
| Pesticides applied, a Pest Management Plan has not been developed or is not being followed. Over-spray/over-draft of chemical applications not avoided. | **0** | | | |
| **WATER SOURCE** | | | | |
| *Distance to water measured from any point in field* | | | | |
| Average distance to water is ≤½-mile | **0.6 to 1.0** | | | |
| Average distance to water is >½-mile and ≤1-mile | **0.5** | | | |
| Average distance to water is >1-mile | **0 to 0.4** | | | |
| **ADJACENT PERENNIAL COVER** | | | | |
| *Trees, shrubs, or un-mowed strips of perennial vegetation, including natural/native vegetation* | | | | |
| >20-ft field border of permanent perennial vegetation | **1.0** | | | |
| >10 to 20-ft border of permanent perennial vegetation | **0.6 to 0.9** | | | |
| 5 to 10-ft border of permanent perennial vegetation | **0.5** | | | |
| <5-ft border of permanent perennial vegetation | **0 to 0.4** | | | |
| **AQUATIC RESOURCES** ***If aquatic elements not present, enter 0.5 for each condition (Present, Planned, Applied)*** | | | | |
| *Perennial streams, wetlands, and irrigation ditches* | | | | |
| >45-ft buffer of permanent perennial vegetation or native habitat protecting aquatic resources | **0.8 to 1.0** | | | |
| 35-ft to 45-ft buffer of permanent perennial vegetation or native habitat protecting aquatic resources | **0.5 to 0.7** | | | |
| Buffer of permanent perennial vegetation or native habitat protecting aquatic resources is 1-ft to 34-ft | **0.1 to 0.4** | | | |
| No buffer protecting aquatic resources | **0** | | | |
| Total Cropland Habitat Points *(6.5 points maximum)* | | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| **Cropland Habitat Index** ***(Total Points/6.5)*** | | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

*Important wildlife considerations on cropland are cover and food provided to wildlife over winter. Diversity, summer food sources, and nesting cover also affect wildlife. Residue management reflects the importance of grain and crop residue that remains on the soil surface over winter. Crop rotations affect the diversity of cover types available, the amount of over winter cover, and possible nesting cover. The rotation evaluated does not have to match the order of the rotations listed, but should contain all the elements listed. Crop management primarily indicates the amount of food sources, both in summer and winter. Un-harvested grain at field edges, wet spots, or odd areas provide winter food and cover. Many weeds are important wildlife foods.*

Print Form

**NOTES**: