Shallow Water Development & Management

South Carolina Practice Job Sheet 646

Prepared for: _____

Prepared by: _____

Farm: _____ Tract: _____ Date: _____

Shallow water area for wildlife.

DEFINITION

Managing shallow water on agricultural lands and moist soil areas for wildlife habitat.

PURPOSE

- To provide open water areas on agricultural fields and moist soil areas to facilitate waterfowl resting and feeding.
- To provide habitat for reptiles and amphibians and other aquatic species which serve as important prey species for waterfowl, raptors, herons, and other wildlife.

CRITERIA

- Soils should allow for maintenance of proper water levels.
- Shallow water impoundments require an adequate water supply and a water control structure for removing water when necessary.
- Landowner shall obtain all local, state, and federal permits necessary.

REQUIRED STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS

Source of water: (Check if required)
See engineering design for details.

- ☐ Diversion
- ☐ Pond/reservoir
- ☐ Well with pump
- ☐ Pump
- ☐ Dikes (See engineering design for design location)
- ☐ Water control structure on tile line, ditch, or dike
- ☐ Other source to be developed
- ☐ Surface water (seasonal flood events and/or surface runoff is usually sufficient)

Acres in Shallow Water Management _____

Width and height of Berm _____

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Management Recommendations.

Target wildlife species (required):_____

☐ Slow drawdown starting on or about:

Year 1: Year 2: Year 3: Year 4: Year 5:

☐ Leave drained over summer for moist soil plants to grow.

☐ Allow shallow water to gradually refill for migration, start refilling or flood on:

Year 1: Year 2: Year 3: Year 4: Year 5:

☐ Maintain shallow water over winter. Vary water depth 6-8 inches from year to year.

☐ Maintenance Plan: Dewater interval (check one): ☐ 2 years ☐ 3 years

☐ Weed control: Biological (e.g. using predator or parasite species). _____

☐ Weed control: Burning: See Prescribed Burn Plan.

☐ Weed control: Discing

_____

☐ Weed control: Berm maintenance interval:

_____

☐ Weed control: Chemical: See Pest Management Plan.

Additional Operation and Maintenance requirements specific to this Plan:

_____

_____

_____

_____

See Conservation Plan Map and Soils Map for soils and location of Shallow Water Development and Management.