

Structures for Wildlife (Cavity Nesting boxes)

S. C. Practice Job Sheet 649

Prepared for: _____

Prepared by: _____

Farm: _____ Tract: _____ Date: _____



DEFINITION

A structure installed to replace or modify a missing or deficient wildlife habitat component

PURPOSE

Cavity nesting structures can increase wildlife reproductive success in areas where natural nest sites are unavailable or unsuitable. Cavity nesting structures cannot replace natural nesting habitats, but they can increase the number of nesting sites available in an area.

CONDITON WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

For Eastern bluebirds: Typical areas that would be improved by the installation of bird boxes include open fields, meadows, old orchards; open rural country with scattered mature tree cover.

CRITERIA

For Bluebirds: Place each box 4-6 feet above ground with the entrance hole facing the open

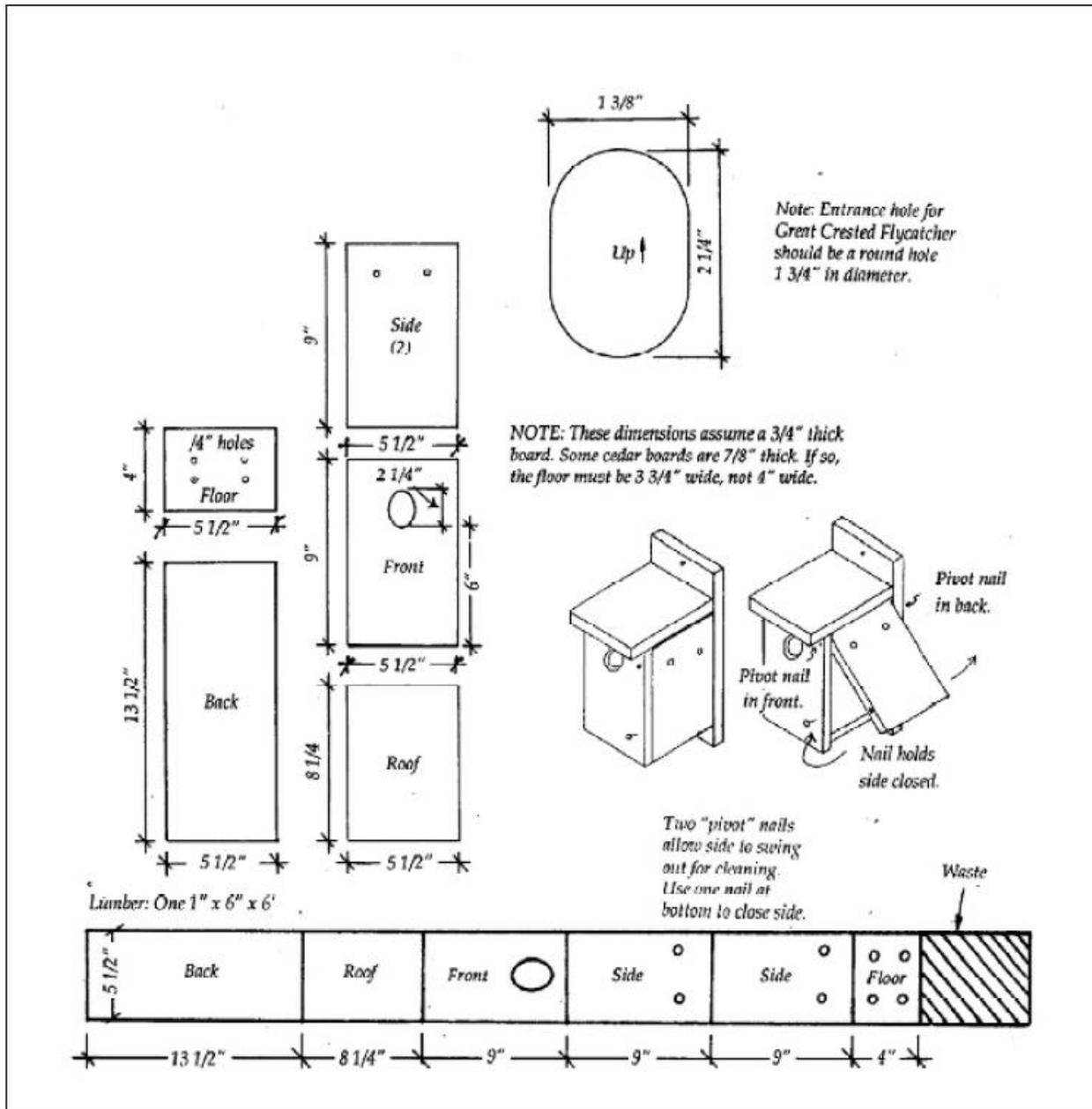
areas. Placement should be in clusters with boxes placed approximately 150 feet apart.

OPERATIONS

Nesting structures should be monitored throughout the nesting season to track use and nest success. Periodically remove undesirable exotic species, and clean the structure after young have fledged. Many nests will be used again for second and late nesting attempts. Some birds tolerate limited levels of human disturbance, such as occasional (once a week or once every ten days) nest checks, but others do not. Nest checks should be completed quickly to minimize stress on parent birds and young.

For additional information provide the landowner a copy of the NRCS **Fish and Wildlife Habitat Management Leaflet, Number 20, Artificial Nesting Structures**

Blue Bird Nest Design



Upland Habitat Type:

- Open field
- Old Field
- Orchard
- Meadow

Acres of Habitat Improved: _____

Number of Bluebird Boxes Installed: _____

Certification:

Job Sheet

Prepared by: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Approved by: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Installation

Meets NRCS Standards and Specifications? YES NO

Certification by: _____ Date: _____