



Early Successional Habitat Development/ Management

Create, manage, and maintain early successional habitat.

Lifespan of Practice: 1 year

**Tennessee Implementation
Requirements No. TN-647**



PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

This practice will manage plant succession to develop and maintain early successional habitat to benefit desired wildlife and/or natural communities on all suitable lands for desired wildlife habitats.

Plan management timing to minimize negative impacts to wildlife. Management practices and activities shall not disturb cover during the primary nesting period for grassland species (April 15 – August 15). NRCS biologists may allow for periodic burning, disking, selected herbicide techniques, selected mechanical removal or mowing when necessary to maintain the health of the plant community.

Minimize soil disturbance in natural communities where soil integrity is essential, on steep slopes, on highly erodible soil, and where establishment or persistence of invasive species is likely. Implement this standard with the following potential practices:

- Controlling Undesirable Species
- Disking and Strip Disking
- Edge Feathering
- Forb Interseeding
- Hedgerow Planting
- Mowing
- Native Grass and Forb Establishment
- Prescribed Burning
- Prescribed Grazing
- Shrub Planting

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

Carry out the following actions to ensure that this practice functions as intended throughout its expected life. These actions include normal repetitive activities in the application and use of the practice (operation), and repair and upkeep of the practice (maintenance).

Incorporate into the management plan occasional disturbance to ensure the intended purpose of this practice.

Any use of fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals shall not compromise the intended purpose.



Plant response after disking.

