

Animal Enhancement Activity – ANM35 – Enhance wildlife habitat on expired grass/legume covered CRP acres or acres with similar perennial vegetated cover managed as hayland



Enhancement Description

Implement a focused habitat management plan for the benefit of selected wildlife species on expired CRP grass/legume covered acres that has CRP conservation cover or acres with similar perennial vegetated cover managed as hayland.

Land Use Applicability

Cropland (hayland)

Benefits

Acres of preexisting conservation cover from expired CRP contracts or acres of similarly vegetated perennial conservation cover implemented as a component of an operation’s conservation plan have utilitarian value when managed for both wildlife and forage production. Targeted management of wildlife species on working lands will maintain valuable cover on sensitive lands for continued reductions in soil erosion while providing habitat for recreational and economically important wildlife as well as species of broader conservation interest.

Conditions Where Enhancement Applies

This enhancement only applies to hayland acres in the crop land use where a predominance of perennial grass/legume conservation cover vegetation exists and a hayland management system can be demonstrated or documented.

Criteria

1. Identify the targeted species or suite of species (e.g., Lesser prairie chicken, Greater sage grouse, Bobwhite quail, etc.) described in need of action within the State Wildlife Action Plan or other reputable wildlife conservation plan(s).
2. Defer 66% of the enrolled land use acres from haying during the nesting/fawning season each year. Annually, rotate the deferred acres on the enrolled land use acres as much as practical.
3. Develop and implement a focused wildlife habitat management plan that identifies the following:
 - a) Targeted wildlife species and wildlife management objectives for the hay land,
 - b) Critical nesting and fawning period for targeted species,
 - c) The location and number of acres to be deferred each year,
 - d) A schedule for the year of deferment, and
 - e) Any unique management scenarios to promote diverse vegetation composition and structure for targeted wildlife while maintaining plant health.



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4. Utilize both of the following techniques (A and B) to protect wildlife during haying activities.
 - a) Defer haying. The producer *will apply the following* management actions specifically for improving or protecting grassland functions for the state identified targeted wildlife species.
 - i. Do not cut hay on at least 2/3 of the hay acres each year. Uncut blocks must be at least 30 feet wide.
 - ii. Hay cutting must be either before and/or after the primary nesting or fawning seasons based on state established dates for the targeted species.
 - iii. Increase forage heights after mowing to state specified minimum heights for the targeted species on all hayed acres.
 - b) For all haying, the producer will implement *the following* mowing procedures:
 - i. A flush bar attachment will be required on the mower
 - ii. All mowing will be done during daylight hours
 - iii. Haying pattern will be either:
 - a. Begin on one end of the field and work back and forth across the field, or
 - b. Begin in the center of the field and work outward

Adoption Requirements

The enhancement is considered adopted when each of the criteria above has been fully implemented on the enrolled land use acre.

Documentation Requirements

1. A schedule of when haying activities occurred documenting that haying activities were deferred on a minimum of 66% of the available acreage.
2. A map showing the acreage where these activities are applied and the location of the deferred hay acreage.
3. Technique A – A picture showing residual heights of hay after mowing
4. Technique B – A picture showing the flush bar attachment on tractor

References

Greene, C. 2007. Reducing Mortality of Grassland Wildlife during Haying and Wheat-Harvesting Operations. Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Oklahoma State University, OSU Extension Wildlife and Forestry, NREM-5006. <http://www.okrangelandswest.okstate.edu/files/wildlife%20pdfs/NREM-5006.pdf> .

Herkert, J. R., D. W. Sample, and R. E. Warner. 1996. Management of midwestern grassland landscapes for the conservation of migratory birds. Pages 89-116 in F. R. Thompson, III, ed. Management of midwestern landscapes for the conservation of neotropical migratory birds. U.S. For. Serv., Gen. Tech. Rep. NC-187. North Central For. Exp. Sta., St. Paul, MN. <http://nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/gtr/other/gtr-nc187/index.html>

Sample, David W., and Michael J. Mossman. 1997. Managing habitat for grassland birds - a guide for Wisconsin. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Madison, WI, PUBL-SS-925-97. 154 pp. Jamestown, ND: Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center Online. <http://www.npwr.usgs.gov/resource/birds/wiscbird/index.htm> (Version 03JUN2002)



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USDA-NRCS. 2010. Management Considerations for Grassland Birds in Northeastern Haylands and Pasturelands by Noah Perlut, Allan Strong and Therese Donovan. Wildlife Insight No. 88. Washington, D.C.
<http://directives.nrcs.usda.gov/OpenNonWebContent.aspx?content=27175.wba>

Utah State Supplement 2015 for ANM35

Notes: This enhancement applies CRP and hayland

Enhancement Name	Enhancement Code	Potential Duplicative Practices (code)	Incompatible Enhancements
Enhance Wildlife Habitat on Expired Grass/Legume Covered CRP Acres or Acres with Similar Perennial Vegetated Cover Managed as Hayland	ANM35	511 – Forage Harvest Management 381 – Silvopasture Establishment 645 – Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	none

In sage grouse habitat, sage grouse shall be a targeted species. Other state sensitive species may also be selected. Follow ANM10 when harvesting hay. Nesting/fawning season is Apr 1 – July 15.

The following conservation measures are required to be planned and implemented with this enhancement in all sage grouse habitat:

Enhancement Name	Enhancement Code 2015 (Old Code^)	Associated SGI Practices (Code)	Conservation Measures*
Enhance Wildlife Habitat on Expired Grass/Legume Covered CRP Acres or Acres with Similar Perennial Vegetated Cover Managed as <u>Hayland</u>	ANM35	315, 327, 342, 390, 511, 550, 645	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 10

See full table complete list of conservation measures in FOTG for more information.

Sage Grouse Initiative Supplement 2015 for ANM35

No additional information.



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Operations & Maintenance, Conservation Measures, and Client Acknowledgement

Operation and Maintenance	
Operation:	
Maintenance:	
Conservation Measures	
Actions that must be implemented by the landowner/manager during practice implementation:	
Client's Acknowledgement Statement	
The Client acknowledges that:	
a. They have received a copy of the enhancement and understand the contents and requirements.	
b. It shall be the responsibility of the client to obtain all necessary permits and/or rights, and to comply with all ordinances and laws pertaining to the application of this practice.	
Cooperator:	_____
	Date: _____
Planner:	_____
	Date: _____