

May 2006

BIOLOGY NO: 40

SUBJECT: GAME BIRD WINTER FOOD AREA

This Technical Note provides information needed for installing a "Game Bird Winter Food Area" for one or more of the following species: Turkey (Merriam's and Rio Grande), Ring-necked Pheasant, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Hungarian Partridge, and Chukar Partridge. Installing a "Game Bird Winter Food Area" is an acceptable component for the conservation practice entitled "Upland Wildlife Habitat Management".



- 2000-4000 pounds (about 3-5 round bales) of grain bearing straw should be provided in an area measuring 16 feet x 16 feet that is excluded from livestock.
- Food grain should be made available from the period December 1 through March 31 during each winter.
- Bales should be stacked in a pyramid fashion to insure availability under deep snow conditions.
- The proper use of this wildlife habitat component requires reliable species population data. Therefore, a Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) biologist should help determine the need, number, and location of winter food areas.

Materials needed for this wildlife component are:

- Suggested metal panels, 16 feet long (ea.) (4)
- Baled straw with unpicked grain, ton (ea.) (1-2 ton per winter)*

Revised by: Paul Obert, State Biologist



GERALD E. JASMER
State Resource Conservationist