



Natural Resources Conservation Service
WASHINGTON

ANM10 – Harvest hay in a manner that allows wildlife to flush and escape

CSP Enhancement Washington State Supplement

Land Use Applicability: Cropland (Hayland)

January 2014

Client/Operating Unit:

Tract Number:

Farm/Ranch Location:

Farm Number:

Specifications Date:

Field Number(s):

Planned Installation Date:

Proposed Treatment Acres:

Enhancement Description:

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Harvesting hay using conservation measures that allow wildlife to flush and escape. These measures include timing of haying to avoid periods when upland wildlife are nesting or fawning, idling hay land during the nesting or fawning period, and applying haying techniques that reduce mortality to wildlife.

Benefits

Many species of birds and animals use pastures and hay lands as cover, to find food, nesting areas, and rearing their young. Examples include song birds, quail, turkey, pheasants, deer, and rabbits. Some species of ground nesting birds are in decline and others have become uncommon. Managing haying techniques can be beneficial to the survival of ground nesting birds and other wildlife species. Altering harvesting routes can provide escape routes for hens, hens with broods and hiding fawns. Delaying harvests or leaving portions of a field unharvested provide nesting habitat.

Conditions Where Enhancement Applies

This enhancement only applies to any annual planted or perennial hayland acres (a sub-component of the crop land use).

Criteria for harvesting hay in a manner that allows wildlife to flush and escape

Use one of the following techniques (A or B) to protect wildlife during haying activities.

A. Defer haying. The producer will apply and maintain at least two of the following management actions specifically for improving or protecting grassland functions for the state identified targeted wildlife species.

1. Do not cut hay on at least 1/3 of the hay acres each year. Idle strips or blocks must be at least 30 feet wide.
2. For at least 1/3 of the hay acreage, hay cutting must be either before and/or after the primary nesting or fawning seasons based on state established dates for the targeted species.
3. Increase forage heights after mowing to state specified minimum heights for the targeted species on all hayed acres.

B. For all haying that will be conducted during the nesting/fawning season the producer will implement at least two of the following to flush wildlife from hay fields during the mowing operation:

1. A flush bar attachment will be required on the mower
2. All mowing will be done during daylight hours
3. 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

Layout Sketch & Drawing (Provide sketch, drawings, maps, and/or aerial photographs.)

- Geo-referenced field map with all delineated treatment areas where CSP Enhancement ANM10 is to be applied.

Adoption Requirements

This enhancement is considered adopted when either technique A or B from the criteria above has been implemented.

Documentation Requirements

1. Map showing the fields that were treated
2. Option A – A picture showing residual heights of hay after mowing
3. Option 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>

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>

Field Office Technical Guide:

eFOTG, <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/>

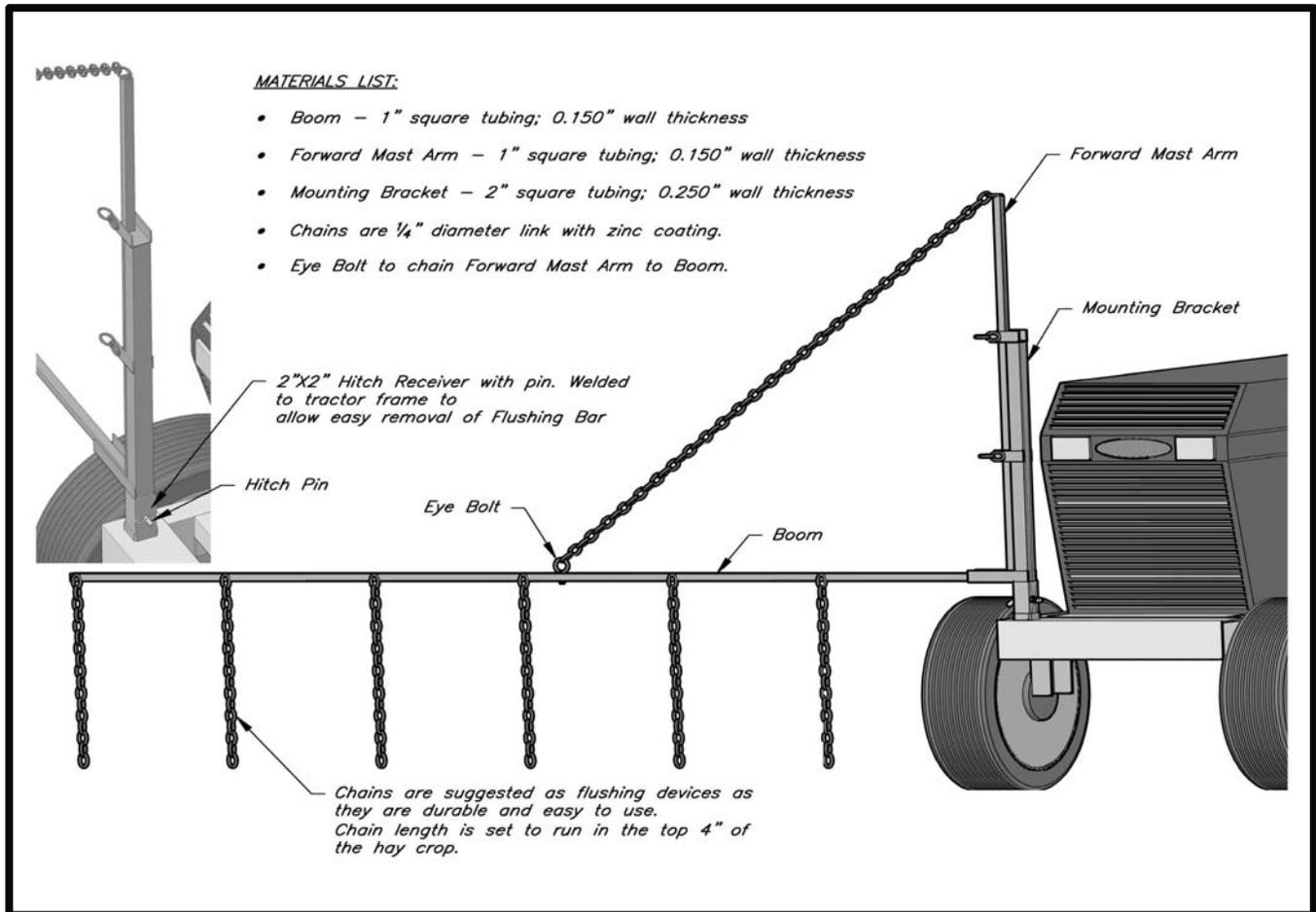
* Some online documents may take several minutes to download.

State Supplemental Information

States need nesting/ fawning dates and minimum forage heights.

The nesting and fawning period will be April 1st to August 1st.

How to Make a Flushing Bar



Documentation Form

Producer:

Date:

Tracts:

County:

No Worksheet required

1. Map showing the fields that were treated
2. Option A – A picture showing residual heights of hay after mowing
3. Option B – A picture showing the flush bar attachment on tractor

Client's Acknowledgement (To be signed before the Enhancement is applied.)

By signing below, I acknowledge that I:

- have reviewed and understand the site specific design, installation specifications and operation/maintenance requirements in this State Supplemental Sheet and have an understanding of the purpose(s) of this Enhancement;
- will install, operate, and maintain this Enhancement in accordance with the National Sheet, the Washington State Supplemental Sheet and the site specific specifications.
- will make no changes to the planned design and installation without prior written approval of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.
- will obtain all necessary permits and/or rights, and comply with all ordinances and laws pertaining to the installation, operation, and maintenance of this Enhancement, prior to the start of installation; and
- will assume responsibility for notifying all Utilities affected by the installation, operation and maintenance of this Enhancement.

Signature

Date

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