



Natural Resources Conservation Service

WASHINGTON

# ANM36 – Enhance wildlife habitat on expired tree covered CRP acres or acres with similar woody cover managed as forestland

## 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:

[Table of Contents](#)

Implement a focused habitat management plan for the benefit of selected wildlife species on expired CRP tree covered acres that has CRP conservation cover or acres with similar woody cover managed as forestland.

### Benefits

Acres of preexisting conservation cover from expired CRP contracts or acres of similarly vegetated woody conservation cover implemented as a component of an operation’s conservation plan have utilitarian value when managed for both wildlife and forest products (e.g., wood, food, fiber). 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 recreationally and economically important wildlife as well as species of broader conservation interest.

### Conditions Where Enhancement Applies

This enhancement only applies to forest land use acres where a predominance of tree conservation cover from expired CRP contract(s) exists or where woody cover implemented as a component of an operation’s conservation plan exists, and a management system can be demonstrated or documented.

### Criteria for riparian buffer, terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat.

1. Identify species or suite of species (e.g., Bobwhite quail, New England cottontail, Golden-winged warbler, Gopher tortoise, wild turkey) described in need of action within State Wildlife Action Plans or other reputable wildlife conservation plans.
2. Fire tolerant sites
  - a) Develop and implement a focused wildlife habitat management plan that identifies the following:
    - i. As applicable, the critical nesting and fawning periods for targeted wildlife
    - ii. The number of snags expected per acre (max 4) where the snags are in wood decay classes 2-5 (see Figure 1 below) and are 10 inches dbh (diameter at breast height) or greater, and
    - iii. Method to increase tree species diversity and greater structural (vertical and horizontal) diversity.
  - c) Develop and implement a tree release plan with the following components:
    - i. The number of trees to be retained based upon site productivity and spacing guide developed within each state for the existing tree species as suited for the targeted wildlife species or suite of species,

**Note: If more than one tree species are present, base spacing upon the most abundant tree species.**

- ii. The landowner's objectives for the forest,
- and horizontal structure of the stand and reduce the potential of an epidemic event (e.g. insect outbreak) that may kill some/all trees,
- iv. Impact of crowns touching the crop tree's crown on three or four sides,
- v. Method for handling the marked trees (i.e., cut for harvest or killed using approved methods within in the state), and
- vi. Where pockets of dead trees occur, ensure the Criteria # 2(a)(ii) is met.

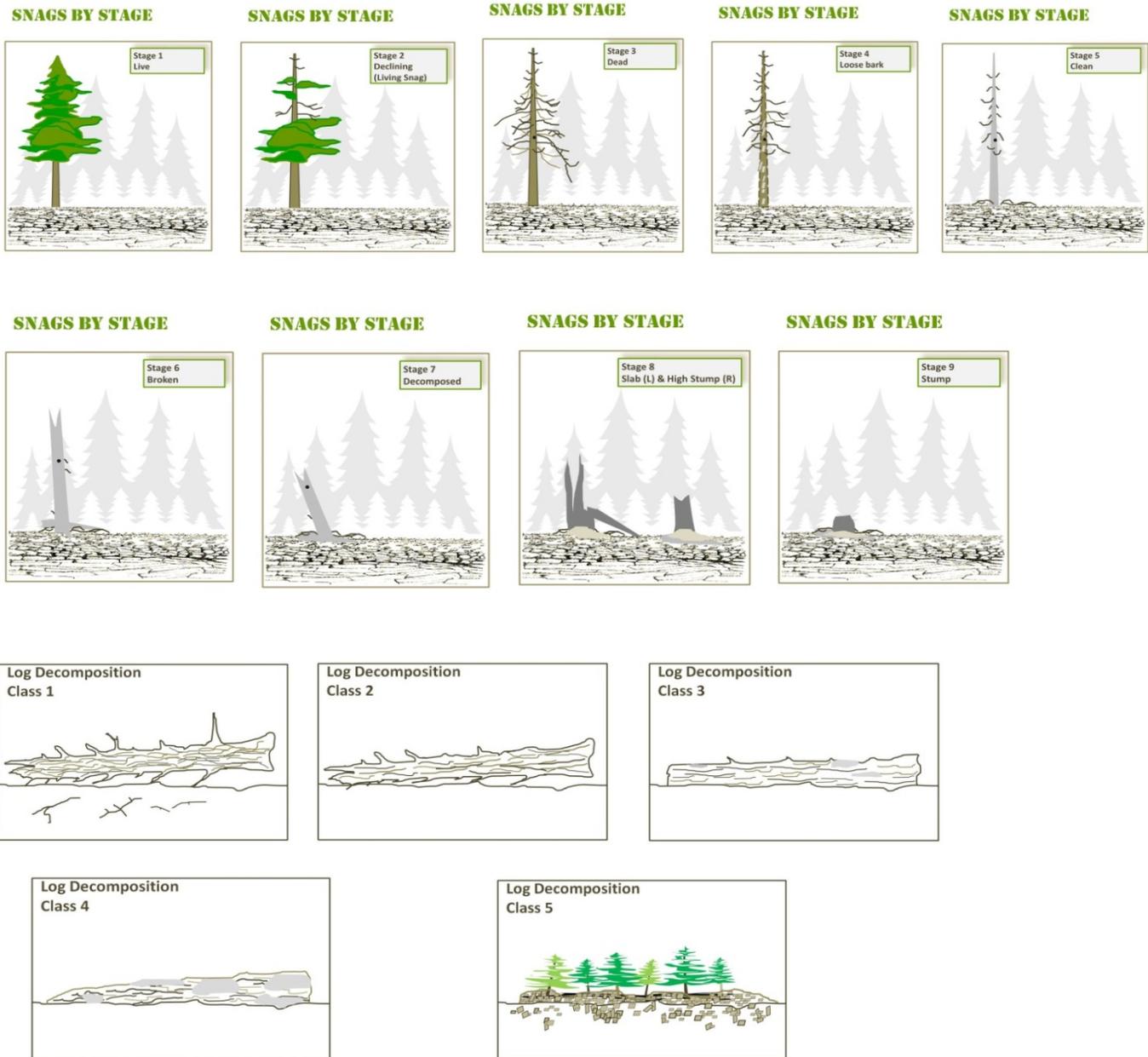


Figure 1. Snag and down wood decay classification system (Maser et al. 1979)

3. Non-Fire tolerant sites
  - a) Develop and implement a focused wildlife habitat management plan that identifies the following:
    - i. As applicable, the critical nesting and fawning periods for targeted wildlife classes 2-5 (see Figure 1 above) and are 10 inches dbh (diameter at breast height) or greater, and
    - iii. Method to increase tree species diversity and greater structural (vertical and horizontal) diversity.
  - b) Develop and implement a tree release plan with the following components:
    - i. Identifies the number of trees to be retained (e.g., between 25-35 trees per acre) for the targeted wildlife species or suite of species,
    - ii. Identifies targeted tree species as determined by NRCS state office (e.g. white and red oak or other species that have a high market value and provide wildlife benefits),
    - iii. The landowner's objectives for the forest,
    - iv. The impact of crowns touching the crop tree's crown on three or four sides,
    - v. Method for handling the marked trees (i.e., cut for harvest or killed using approved methods within in the state).

### Adoption Requirements

The enhancement is considered adopted when Criteria #1 plus either 2 or 3 above has been fully implemented.

### Documentation Requirements

1. The average number of snags per acre,
2. Delineations on a map or aerial photo of the treated areas,
3. Copy of the tree release plan,
4. Representative digital images/photos of the area showing before and after treatment conditions,

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

- Geo-referenced field map with all delineated treatment areas where CSP Enhancement ANM36 is to be applied.

### References\*:

Maser, C., R.G. Anderson, K. Cromack, Jr., J.T. Williams, and R.E. Martin. 1979. Dead and down woody material. In: Wildlife habitats in managed forests of the Blue Mountains of Oregon and Washington, USDA Handbook No. 553. pp 78-95.

Twedt, D.J. 2012. Wildlife Forestry, Global Perspectives on Sustainable Forest Management, Clement A. Okia (Ed.), ISBN: 978-953-51-0569-5, InTech, Available from:

<http://www.intechopen.com/books/global-perspectives-on-sustainable-forest-management/wildlife-forestry>

#### Field Office Technical Guide:

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

#### Biology Technical Note #24, Plants for Pollinators in the Inland Northwest

[http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/WA/Bio\\_TN\\_24\\_012411.pdf](http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/WA/Bio_TN_24_012411.pdf)

#### Plant Materials Technical Note # 1, Seeding Guide

[http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/WA/PM\\_TN1\\_Seeding\\_Guide\\_113010.zip](http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/WA/PM_TN1_Seeding_Guide_113010.zip)

#### Plant Materials Technical Note # 2, Species Descriptions

[http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/WA/TN2\\_species\\_descriptions.pdf](http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/WA/TN2_species_descriptions.pdf)

\* Some online documents may take several minutes to download.

## State Supplemental Information

States need list of suitable woody and/or herbaceous plants

Please refer to the Technical Notes above for information on suitable plant materials for Washington.

Utilize Plant Materials Technical Note 1 – Seeding Guide (*To make the best use of the Seeding Guide load it onto your desktop, see directions in box below*).

### Loading and Using the Seeding Guide

The Seeding Guide is a Microsoft Access database and can be found in Washington State's **efotg** in the **Section I/Reference Lists/Technical Notes by discipline/Plant Materials** folder.

To load the Seeding Guide on your desktop:

1. Go to Section I/Reference Lists/Technical Notes by Discipline/Plant Materials folder in efotg.
2. Double click on the Seeding Guide, and then click OPEN
3. Select the Seeding Guide and then click EXTRACT. Extract the Seeding Guide to your desktop folder.
4. Go to your desktop and double click to open the Seeding Guide (PM\_TN1\_Seeding\_Guide\_113010.accdb)
5. The first time you use the Seeding Guide you will need to do the following:
  - A. Click on the Microsoft Office button in the upper left hand corner.
  - B. Click on "Access Options".
  - C. Click on "Trust Center", select (click on) "Trust Center Settings".
  - D. Click on Macro Settings and select "Enable all Macros"
  - E. Close, then reopen the Seeding Guide.

**With a click of the mouse you will have access to seed mixtures and plant data.**

Documentation Form

Producer: [ ]

Date: [ ]

Tracts: [ ]

County: [ ]

- 1. The average number of snags per acre. [ ]
- 2. Delineations on a map or aerial photo of the treated areas.
- 3. Copy of the tree release plan.
- 4. Representative digital images/photos of the area showing before and after treatment conditions.

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

