Animal Enhancement Activity – ANM 14 - Riparian forest buffer, terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat

Enhancement Description
The activity consists of the managing forested riparian zones to achieve stream side cover and vegetative diversity and structure to improve terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat.

Land Use Applicability
Cropland, pastureland, rangeland and forestland

Benefits
Targeted conservation measures are implemented to enhance habitat for aquatic species such as fish, turtles, frogs, salamanders, aquatic insects and other species of concern in riparian zones of rivers or steams and their floodplains. These measures include re-location of equipment or forest management activities out of riparian zones and floodplains, and riparian forest stand management to increase tree canopy cover to streams or rivers and standing snags for riparian wildlife.

Criteria
This enhancement is implemented mainly by managing existing live trees and shrubs. The producer will apply and maintain management actions specifically for improving or protecting natural riparian zones and their functions associated with terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat. These actions include:

1. The width of forested riparian zones must be wider than the NRCS State standard width for Riparian Forest Buffers to a maximum width of 150 feet.
2. Manage the riparian area to maintain a diversity of non-invasive tree, shrub, and herbaceous species by techniques such as selective thinning, controlled grazing, prescribed burning, selective use of herbicides and/or the planting of native species.
3. Retain existing snags or create new snags by girdling live trees of at least one/acre.
4. Manage the riparian vegetation to provide tree canopy shade of the stream and good stream side cover.
5. Do not use heavy equipment such as bull dozers and tractors within the forested riparian zone to implement enhancement activities.

Documentation Requirements
Following implementation of this activity, the landowner must document:
1. Management activities conducted in the riparian zone for terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat.
2. Delineations on a map or aerial photo indicating the stream channel length where the riparian zone has improved habitat.

ALABAMA SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FOR

ANM14- Riparian Forest Buffer, Terrestrial and Aquatic Wildlife Habitat

PRODUCER:	DATE:
TRACT(S):	COUNTY:

Field Number	Field Acres	Riparian Zone Activity	CHECK below if a Management Activity For Terrestrial Habitat	CHECK below if a Management Activity For Aquatic Habitat

Required Documentation:
Delineations on a map or aerial photo indicating the stream channel length where the riparian zone has improved habitat.

This information accurately represents the implementation of this enhancement.

Signature:_____