

Animal Enhancement Activity – ANM02 – Defer crop production on temporary and seasonal wetlands



Enhancement Description

Deferring crop production on temporary and/or seasonal wetlands until after spring migratory bird season to promote early successional wetland habitat.

Land Use Applicability

Cropland

Benefits

Undisturbed temporary and seasonal wetlands provide cover and food for waterfowl, shorebirds, and other wetland-dependent wildlife species. Delaying the physical disturbance of temporary and seasonal wetlands allows migratory species to reach nesting grounds in better physical condition and improves hatching success.

Criteria

Temporary and seasonal wetlands in cropland will be left undisturbed according to dates established by NRCS State Offices.

1. This enhancement can be used to protect temporary and seasonal wetlands on all cropland acres.
2. The area enrolled under this enhancement may only be cultivated after the dates established for this enhancement.
3. Haying, grazing, prescribed burning, and light disking can only be used on applicable acreage to manipulate the herbaceous vegetation after the established dates.

Documentation Requirements

1. An aerial photograph showing the areas where deferred cropping takes place
2. A schedule showing when crops were planted on the deferred areas



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Reference: 644 – Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management

Temporary and seasonal wetlands in cropland will be left undisturbed until after **June 15**.