



ANM15 - Montana Supplement

Forest Stand Improvement for Wildlife Habitat and Soil Quality - (Animal Enhancement Activity)

Montana Clarification

All three National criteria are required to be done for this enhancement to be successfully completed.

- Where snag supplies are limited, they can be created by killing select trees. Girdling, topping, and limbing are potential methods. Topping and limbing can be done by hand cutting, use of explosives, burning, or mechanical cutting. Limit firewood cutting in areas where snag supplies are inadequate.

Provide snags in various stages of decay. Some cavity-nesting birds can excavate holes in hard snags, but others must have soft (fairly decayed) wood in order to excavate nest cavities.

- Western larch, Ponderosa pine, and Douglas fir are preferred species for snags. Cottonwood and aspen also receive considerable use.

- Leave at least five large diameter dead and downed logs per acre during timber harvest activities. The larger the diameter and longer the log, the better. Avoid charring downed logs during broadcast burning. Retain slash on 10 percent of clear-cut areas to provide downed woody material. Provide downed logs in all stages of decay.

- Orient downed logs across slope contours when possible to maximize cover underneath them.

- Use uneven-aged timber management to maximize habitat diversity. This provides trees of varying species, ages, and size classes for diverse habitat structure. Small group selection and shelterwood methods also provide habitat diversity. When clearcutting is necessary, retain up to 20 percent of the original stand scattered across the harvest unit to provide cover and diverse habitats. Leaving dense patches, at least one-half acre in size, of young conifer regeneration provides escape and hiding cover for many species.

- Avoid a plantation-like appearance when thinning timber stands. Leave dense patches of conifers and brush to provide cover and break up sight distances.

- Use artificial nest boxes, where tree cavities are limited, to favor such diverse species as mountain bluebirds and wood ducks.

Montana Specifications

This enhancement requires the creation of all three of the following types of habitat for a total of 9 trees per acres:

Snags: 3-5 standing snags per acre (at least 8 inches dbh)

Dead and down logs: 3-5 dead and down logs per acre (at least 8 inches dbh)

Den trees: 3-5 standing live rotten/hollow trees per acre (at least 10 inches dbh)

Incompatible Enhancements

This enhancement may not be contracted with the following enhancements:

For forest: ANM20, PLT01, ANM29, ANM30

Eligible Land

Forestland

Applicable Amount

Acre of forest

Example (System)

The applicant has 300 acres of forest land. The applicant agrees to incorporate this activity on 30 acres in the second year of the contract. The Toolkit would plan would appear as the following:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
ANM15	0	30	30	30	30

Documentation Requirements

Following implementation of this activity, the land owner must document:

- 1) The average number of snags per acre.
- 2) An estimate of percentage of the forest floor covered by downed wood.
- 3) The average number if den/cavity trees per acre.
- 4) Delineations on a map or aerial photo of the areas having the distribution if snags per acre, percentage of downed wood, and/or den/cavity trees per acre.
- 5) Representative digital pictures of snags, downed wood, and den/cavity trees.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand all that is required for the implementation of this CSP Enhancement Activity.

Contract participant

Date