September 2010

UPLAND WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Code 645

UPLAND WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT

Upland wildlife habitat management is creating, maintaining, or enhancing areas to provide food, cover, and habitat connectivity for upland wildlife.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

The population dynamics of wildlife are highly dependent on food, water, and cover. The purpose of this practice is to treat habitat concerns identified during the NRCS conservation planning process to enable movement or provide shelter, cover, and food to sustain wild animals that inhabit uplands during a portion of their life cycle. The practice applies to all areas where a need to improve upland wildlife habitat has been identified.

Upland wildlife habitat management usually involves the establishment or manipulation of vegetative communities. Common activities include planting permanent or seasonal vegetation, disking strips within existing vegetation, mowing, burning, and herbicide treatments.

COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

Upland Wildlife Habitat Management is commonly used in Conservation Management Systems with one or more of the following component practices:

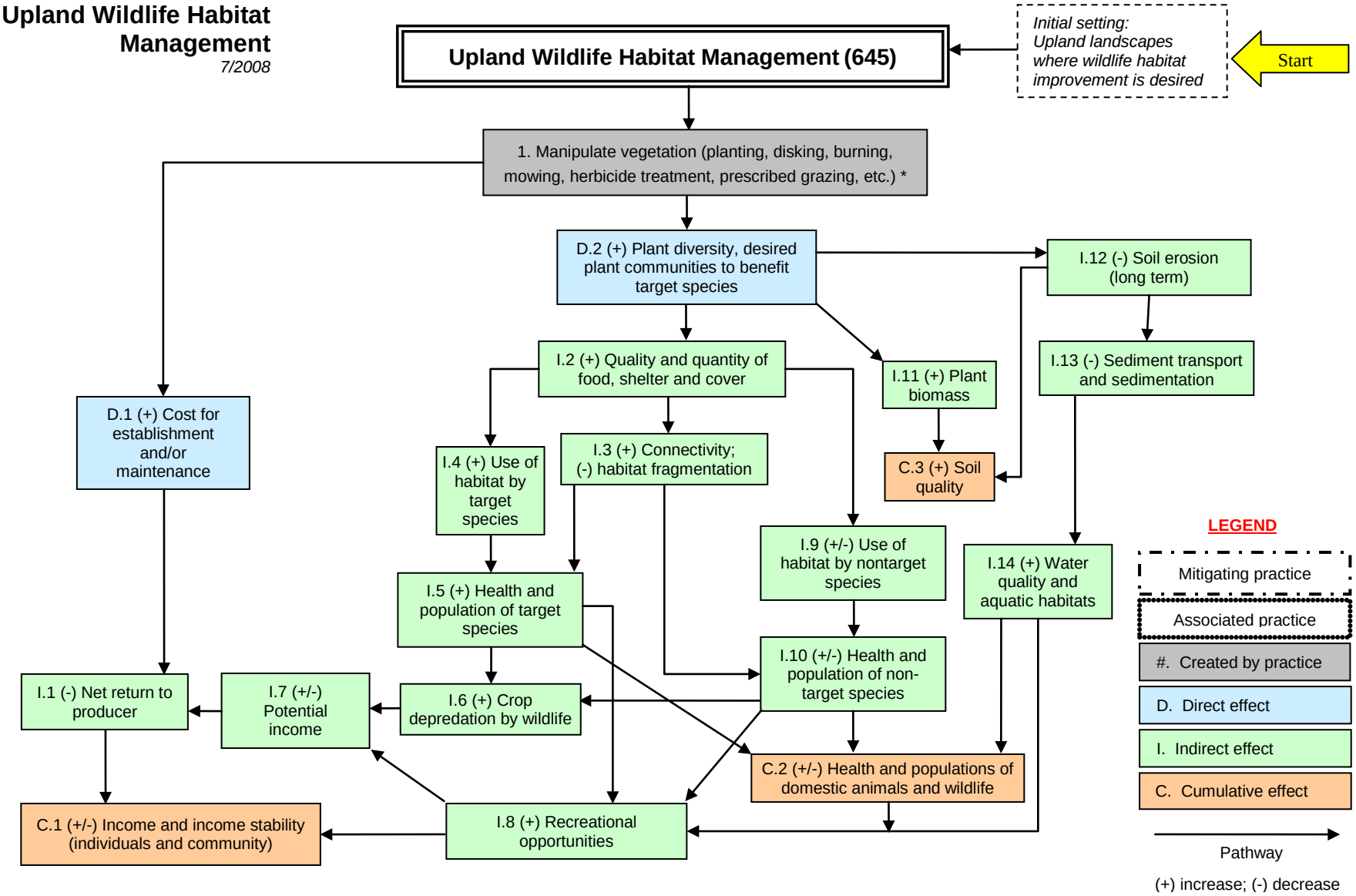
- Prescribed Burning (338)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Brush Management (314)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Forest Stand Improvement (666)
- Early Successional Habitat Development and Management (647)
- Use Exclusion (472)
- Field Border (386)
- Watering Facility (614)

Refer to the practice standard in the local Field Office Technical Guide and associated Job Sheets for further information.

The following page identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowner and are presumed to have been obtained. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.

Upland Wildlife Habitat Management

7/2008



Note: Effects are qualified with a plus (+) or minus (-). These symbols indicate only an increase (+) or a decrease (-) in the effect upon the resource, not whether the effect is beneficial or adverse..
* Management activities are species, guild, suite or ecosystem specific; see network diagrams for individual component practices for impacts (e.g., Prescribed Burning

The diagram above identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied according to NRCS practice standards and specifications. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowners and are presumed to have been obtained. All income changes are partially dependent upon market fluctuations which are independent of the conservation practices. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.