

## Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan

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### Land Owner Information

Name		email	
Mailing Address		Phone (Home)	
		(Work)	
City		(Cell)	
State/Zip Code			

### Property Location/Information

Landowner(s) Name		Farm Num.	
		Tract Num.	
Property Address		County	
		Township	
City		Range	
State/Zip Code		Section(s)	
Lat.		Operation Acres	
Long.		Pollinator Acres	

### Plan Author's (TSP) Contact Information

Name		email	
TSP ID#			
Mailing Address		Phone (Home)	
		(Work)	
City		(Cell)	
State/Zip Code			

TSP Signature	Date
Landowner Signature	Date
NRCS Signature	Date

## Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan

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This section establishes the minimum criteria to be addressed in the development of Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plans

(Use of this form is optional)

**A. Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan Definition:**

A pollinator habitat enhancement plan is a site-specific conservation plan developed for a client that addresses the improvement, restoration, enhancement, or expansion of flower-rich habitat that supports native and/or managed pollinators. (See appendix for complete definition)

**B. General Criteria (see appendix)**

**C. Document existing management practices and activities on cropped and non-cropped portions of the property.**

Management Unit (see map)	Land use	Crops and/or Farming/Management Practices

Additional operation/management comments

**D. Location Map**

- a. Provide a map showing location of planning unit.

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### E. Soils Map/Descriptions

- a. Provide a soils map of the planning unit. A soils map can be obtained at the **Web Soils Survey** website ([websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/](http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/)). Include a soil report generated from the Web Soil Survey website.
  - i. Where available, include an ecological site map with descriptions.

### F. Resource Inventory/Map

- a. Provide a resource inventory map, include the following: scale, north arrow, field boundaries, streams, surface waters, wetlands, structures, land uses, etc.
- b. Describe current vegetation and use for each area within the planning unit. Also include:
  - i. Identified Resource Concerns for each field/land unit (see Step J below).
  - ii. Identify and indicate size (acres) of potential pollinator habitat.
  - iii. Describe pollinator habitat on nearby (within ½ mile) land.

### G. Landowner Objectives

Example Objectives (see appendix)

### H. Desired Future Conditions/Goals (see appendix for more examples)

Example - The plant species composition benefits a diverse pollinator community, i.e. 5 – 9 species of flowing plants blooming throughout the growing season. (See *WA Biology Technical Note No. 24, Plants for Pollinators in the Inland Northwest*, located in the *eFOTG Section I/Reference lists/Technical Notes by Discipline/Biology* folder for guidance on appropriate species and number of species for your area.)

Goal	Desired Future Condition/Goal

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I. **Assess Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife Habitat** – Use **Biology Technical Note 14** to evaluate wildlife habitat. This can be found in *eFOTG, Section 1/Reference Lists/Technical Notes by Discipline/Biology* folder.

J. **Assess Pollinator Habitat** – Use the [Xerces Pollinator Habitat Assessment Form and Guide](#) to evaluate the condition of pollinator habitat in the planning unit. This can be found in *eFOTG, Section III/Conservation Activity Plans (CAPs) Technical Criteria/146 – Pollinator Habitat Plan*

Enter Scores from Pollinator Habitat Assessment Form	Before	After
Section 1: Landscape Features (max score 20)		
Section 2: Farmscape Features (max score 35)		
Section 3: Foraging Habitat (max score 40)		
Section 4: Nesting Habitat (max score 38)		
Section 5: Farm Practices (max score 80)		
Overall Score		

K. **Is There a [Resource Concern](#)?** –Concerning pollinators is there **Inadequate Habitat for Fish & Wildlife** (i.e. is the “Before” score **less than 100**)?      YES                      NO

L. **Assess other Resource Concerns** using the *Resource Concern Checklists (use appropriate land use checklist and Landscape checklist) in eFOTG, see Section III/Resource Concerns* folder. (Note – Pollinators are wildlife and pollinator habitat is within the resource concern Inadequate Habitat for Fish and Wildlife.)

Identify the Pollinator Limiting Factor(s) and other Resource Concerns and list practices that address these factors/Resource Concerns.

Limiting Factor (e.g. Foraging Habitat) & Resource Concerns	Alternative 1 Practices*	Alternative 2 Practices*

\* See Appendix for list of appropriate practices.

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### L. Record of Decision (List practices and reason for choosing practices)

M. **Schedule of Operations** – Attach a copy of the Schedule of Operations. Schedule should include practices to be applied, land unit and number of acres to which the practices are applied, date when the practices are to be applied.

- a. Include a contingency plan for harsh winter conditions, drought, fire, flooding, and other extraordinary events.

N. **Conservation Practice Job Sheets** – Include site specific NRCS job sheets for each practice in the conservation plan.

- a. Use WA *Biology Technical Note No. 24, Plants for Pollinators in the Inland Northwest*, located in the *eFOTG Section I/Reference lists/Technical Notes by Discipline/Biology* folder for guidance on appropriate [plant](#) species and [required](#) number of species for your area.)
- b. Conservation practice Job Sheets and Specification Guide Sheets are available in *eFOTG Section IV* in the Washington Conservation Practices folder.
- c. On the Job Sheets include [Operation and Maintenance](#) activities for each practice.

### O. Conservation Plan Map

- a. Provide a conservation plan map, include the following: scale, north arrow, Landowner, planned and existing boundaries, fields, streams, surface waters, wetlands, structures, land uses, etc.
- b. Locate, identify and indicate size (acres) of planned conservation practices on map (use appropriate map symbols).

## **Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan**

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P. Pesticide Risk (Information used to develop a Pesticide Risk Mitigation Plan, i.e. management practices to reduce hazards for pollinator populations.)

1. Soils:

2. Identify Pollinator Resource Concern:

3. Pesticides, Formulations & adjuvants, rates, and uses:

4. Application method, timing, and equipment

5. Management Practices

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**Q. Monitoring and Record Keeping** – Provide the “Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Monitoring Form” located in *eFOTG/Section III/Conservation Activity Plans (CAPs) Technical Criteria/146 Pollinator Habitat Plan* to the landowner.

**R. Deliverables for NRCS Field Office**

- a. Complete hardcopy and electronic copy of the client’s plan (MsWord copy) and other applicable digital support documents.
- b. Digital Conservation Plan Map with fields, features, and structural practices located.
- c. Digital Soils Map.

**S. Deliverables for landowner**

- a. Hardcopy or electronic copy, depending on landowner’s preference, of the complete plan. Include all maps, inventory/analysis, alternatives, decisions, Schedule of operations, jobsheets, etc. (i.e. all items identified in this guide).

# Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan

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## Appendix

### Definition

A pollinator habitat enhancement plan is a site-specific conservation plan developed for a client that addresses the improvement, restoration, enhancement, or expansion of flower-rich habitat that supports native and/or managed pollinators.

The pollinator habitat enhancement plan will:

- a. Meet NRCS quality criteria for soil erosion control, water quality, soil quality, plant condition, fish and wildlife, rangeland/pasture/grazed woodland health and productivity, and other identified resource concerns.
- b. Comply with federal, state, tribal, and local laws, regulations, and permit requirements.
- c. Meet the client's objectives.

### General Criteria

A Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan shall be developed by certified Technical Service Providers (TSP's). In accordance with Section 1240 (A), the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) program provides funding support through contracts with eligible producers to obtain services of certified TSP's for development of Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plans. The 3 specific TSP criteria required for Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan development is located on the TSP registry (TechReg) web site at:  
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/technical/tsp>

### Example Objectives :

- Improve pollination service provided by wild (unmanaged) bees by:
  - o Increasing floral diversity and ensuring continuous and diverse bloom,
  - o Increasing undisturbed habitat/ground (including the creation of alkali or other ground-nesting bee beds),
  - o Increasing nesting opportunities for tunnel-nesting bees, and
  - o Providing pollinator refugia.
- Improve pollination service provided by managed bees by:
  - o Increasing floral diversity and ensuring continuous and diverse bloom,
  - o Providing readily accessible clean water
- Increasing diversity and availability of butterfly host plants.
- Increase abundance of beneficial insects important for pest management
- Improve cost efficiency (e.g. removal of marginal crop land from production and/or improvement of produce quality from enhanced pollination).
- Maintain or improve wildlife habitat.
- Maintain or improve water quality.

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- Prevent or reduce erosion.
- Beautify the landscape.
- Provide pollinator populations with refuge from pesticides.
- Change or adjust pesticide use to reduce hazards for pollinator populations.

### Example Desired Future Conditions/Goals

1. The plant species composition benefits a diverse pollinator community, i.e. 5 – 9 species of flowing plants blooming throughout the growing season. (See *WA Biology Technical Note No. 24, Plants for Pollinators in the Inland Northwest*, located in the *eFOTG Section I/Reference lists/Technical Notes by Discipline/Biology* folder.)
  - a. If the planting is designed to support insect-pollinated agriculture, then:
    - i. Minimize bloom competition with insect-pollinated crops (if this is a concern of the client), and
    - ii. Avoid plants that may serve as crop pest or disease hosts.
2. There is minimal weed completion, but the inclusion, where appropriate, of beneficial “weeds” (e.g. milkweed as Monarch butterfly host plants).
3. Large areas of undisturbed pollinator habitat are available:
  - a. No tillage in areas appropriate for ground-nesting bees
  - b. Overgrown bunchgrass for bumble bee nest sites
  - c. Host plants for butterflies
  - d. Tree cavities, standing dead trees, exfoliating bark (e.g., in riparian or adjacent land) for wood-nesting bees.
4. Adequate clean water source(s) for honey bees

### Conservation Practices for Pollinator Habitat Enhancement\*

Code	Practice Name
327	Conservation Cover
340	Cover Crop
342	Critical Area Planting
386	Field Border
390	Riparian Herbaceous Cover
391	Riparian Forest Buffer
393	Filter Strip
422	Hedgerow Planting
595	Integrated Pest Management
643	Rare and Declining Habitat
645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management

\* Other practices may be used as well