



CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

E645A

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Reduction of attractants to human-subsidized predators in sensitive wildlife species habitat

Conservation Practice 645: Upland Wildlife Habitat Management

APPLICABLE LAND USE: Crop (Annual & Mixed); Crop (Perennial); Pasture; Range; Forest; Associated Ag Land; Farmstead

RESOURCE CONCERN: Animals

PRACTICE LIFE SPAN: 1 Year

Enhancement Description

Reduction of artificial perching sites ,nest sites, food, and water available to subsidized predators in areas where human-subsidized predators are a threat to sensitive wildlife species. Human-subsidized predators may include ravens, crows, magpies, coyotes, foxes, skunks, raccoons, and other species. Activities under this enhancement may include removal of non-native or invasive trees; removal of unused power poles, corrals, windmills, buildings, and other vertical structures; and/or removal or management of watering facilities, dead livestock, road kill, garbage, animal feed, dumps, and other non-natural food sources.

Criteria

- Identify the targeted sensitive wildlife species.
- Identify the subsidized predator(s).
- Coordinate planned activities with a NRCS or partner biologist.
 - Coordination with US Fish and Wildlife Service and the State Wildlife Agency may be required.

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- Treat only artificial, human caused attractants.
 - This activity shall not be used to remove or modify natural water sources, natural perching and nesting sites, or natural food sources for native predators.
- Develop an assessment of the predator attractants, including:
 - Each individual subsidy with a point on a map,
 - A description of the subsidy,
 - Effects to non-target wildlife species, especially raptors and other native predators, and
 - Potential effects to all sensitive as well as threatened and endangered (T&E) species.
- Conduct attractant removal activities in a manner to avoid direct mortality and outside of the nesting season.
- Lethal control shall not be performed as a component of this activity.



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Documentation and Implementation Requirements

Participant will:

- Prior to implementation, meet with NRCS to review results of predator attractant assessment conducted by NRCS and to discuss predator attractants to be removed.
- During implementation, maintain a field log to include:
 - Map of the assessed and removed predator attractants with point locations and descriptions of each item.
 - Dates when the attractant was removed.
 - Before and after photographs of each removed attractant.
- After implementation, provide the field log to NRCS for review to verify enhancement was implemented to meet criteria.

NRCS will:

- Prior to implementation, identify targeted sensitive species and conduct an assessment of subsidized predator attractants on site .
- Prior to implementation, provide and explain state NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (Code 645) as it relates to implementing this enhancement.
- Prior to implementation, develop technical specifications for attractant removal needed to improve habitat for the targeted sensitive species consistent with NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (Code 645).
- Prior to implementation, assess effects on non-target wildlife species and complete any required coordination with US Fish and Wildlife Service and the State Wildlife Agency.
- After implementation, review field log to verify enhancement was implemented to meet criteria.

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NRCS Documentation Review:

I have reviewed all required participant documentation and have determined the participant has implemented the enhancement and met all criteria and requirements.

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Participant Name _____ Contract Number _____

Total Amount Applied _____ Fiscal Year Completed _____

NRCS Technical Adequacy Signature

Date



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SD SUPPLEMENT TO CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

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Additional Criteria for SD:

In addition to the criteria specified in the national job sheet E645C the following additional criteria apply in SD:

- If in a Sage Grouse Focal Area, then use the current SD Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Sage Grouse Threat Checklist for attractant reduction criteria.

https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/nrcs_southdakota/Programs/Programs/Fo rms/AllItems.aspx?FolderCTID=0x01200050E1689B9BDEBF469B8123E8FDB7E8D6&id=%2Fsites%2Fnrcs%5Fsouthdakota%2FPrograms%2FPrograms%2 FEnvironmental%20Quality%20Incentives%20Program%20%28EQIP%29%2D 1%2FArchieved%20Information%2FFY2020%20Information%2FSage%20Grou se%20Initiative%20Information&viewid=4c5a9e24%2Df70f%2D492f%2D80a8 %2Dd8d6054a6dcd.