

CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

E314A

Brush management to improve wildlife habitat

Conservation Practice 314: Brush Management

APPLICABLE LAND USE: Pasture, Range, Forest, Associated Ag Land

RESOURCE CONCERN: Plants; Animals

ENHANCEMENT LIFE SPAN: 10 years

Enhancement Description

Brush management is employed to create a desired plant community, consistent with the related ecological site steady state, which will maintain or enhance the wildlife habitat desired for the identified wildlife species. It will be designed to provide plant structure, density and diversity needed to meet those habitat objectives. This enhancement does not apply to removal of woody vegetation by prescribed fire or removal of woody vegetation to facilitate a land use change.

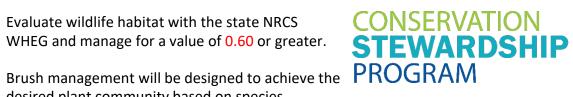
Criteria

- This enhancement will be applied in a manner to achieve the desired control of the target woody
 species while protecting the desired species through mechanical, chemical, or biological methods, alone
 or in combination. NRCS will not develop biological or chemical treatment recommendations except for
 biological control using grazing animals. NRCS may provide clients with acceptable biological and/or
 chemical control references.
- Identify wildlife species of concern and landscape specific brush habitat functionality that is consistent with the related ecological site steady state or another desired state that will meet the objective.
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 with the related ecological site steady state or another desired state that will meet the objective.
- Brush management will be planned and applied in a manner to meet the habitat requirements for wildlife species of concern as determined by the state's NRCS Wildlife Habitation Evaluation Guide (WHEG).

E314A - Brush management to improve	April 2021	Page 1
wildlife habitat		



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- desired plant community based on species composition, structure, density, and canopy (or foliar) cover or height.
- Conduct treatments during periods of the year that accommodate reproduction and other life-cycle requirements of target wildlife and pollinator species.





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Documentation and Implementation Requirements

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Participant will:				
	Prior to implementation, meet with NRCS	to		
	complete the Wildlife Habitat Evaluation	Guide		

	complete the Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide (WHEG) evaluation at the site.	
	Prior to implementation, determine and write down clear objectives for brush management and implementation of this enhancement.	
	Prior to implementation, develop a map delineating the areas to be treated and enrolled in this enhancement.	
	During implementation, maintain records of applied treatments (pesticide used, rate applied, timing, etc.) and grazing restrictions. The records must support the label requirements for re-entry or grazing restrictions when applicable.	
	After implementation, reassess habitat condition with NRCS using the WHEG.	
	After implementation, provide records for review by NRCS to verify enhancement was implemented to meet criteria.	
NR	CS will:	
As	needed, provide technical assistance to participant as requested.	
	Prior to implementation, provide and explain NRC <mark>S Conservation Practice Stan</mark> dard Brush Management (Code 314) as it relates to imp <mark>lementing this enhancement</mark> .	
	Prior to implementation, confirm brush management and grazing management plan objectives clearly identify the wildlife of concern for the area.	
	Prior to implementation, meet with participant to complete WHEG evaluation at the site. Existing WHEG score =Planned Post Implementation WHEG score =	
	Prior to implementation, NRCS will make cover or density measurements at georeferenced transects on key areas within the treatment area.	
	After implementation, NRCS will return to georeferenced area to measure cover or density and report the results.	
	After implementation, review records to verify participant implemented enhancement to	

E314A - Brush management to improve	April 2021	Page 3
wildlife habitat		



United States Department of Agriculture

	After implementation, review record of applied treatment (pesticide used, rate applied, timing, etc.) and grazing restrictions.	CONSE STEW PROGR	RVATION ARDSHIF
	After implementation, reassess habitat condition	rnour	(/\tau)
	using the Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide. Post Implementation WHEG score =		
N	RCS Documentation Review:		
	nave reviewed all required participant documentation articipant has implemented the enhancement and met		
Pá	articipant NameC	Contract Number	
To	otal Amount Applied I	Fiscal Year Comp	leted
_ N	IRCS Technical Adequacy Signature	Date	
Ν	ID SIDEBOARDS: lative shrubs are not eligible for treatment with this en lanagement 314 Standard and Specifications.	h <mark>ancement.</mark> Mu	st m <mark>eet Brush</mark>
	Itilize Ecological Site Descriptions to identify appropriations to set as post-treatment targets.	te loc <mark>ations and</mark>	percentages of
S	he ND State Wildlife Action Plan does not identify brus pecific wildlife habitats for Species of Conservation Coro choose a particular wildlife species to plan for.	_	
	an only be scheduled once per site.		

E314A - Brush management to improve	April 2021	Page 4
wildlife habitat		