



**CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY**

**E338A**

**CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM**

**Strategically planned, patch burning for grazing distribution and wildlife habitat**

**Conservation Practice 338: Prescribed Burning**

**APPLICABLE LAND USE: Forest, Pasture, and Range**

**RESOURCE CONCERN: Plants**

**ENHANCEMENT LIFE SPAN: 1 year**

**Enhancement Description**

Patch burn grazing is the application of prescribed fires on portions of an identified grazing unit at different times of the year. Patch burn grazing allows grazing animals to select where they want to graze creating a mosaic of vegetation structures and diversity that will maintain or enhance the wildlife habitat desired for the identified wildlife species and maintain livestock production.

**Criteria**

Each burn event will cover 10% to 50% of any grazing unit’s acreage. Subsequent individual burn events will occur during different seasons (as defined by the state NRCS office), whether conducted during the same year or a subsequent year as the prior burn event.

The following examples are to be used for illustration purposes only:

- Grazing unit A is burned in March. Another part of grazing unit A is burned in August of the same year.
- Grazing unit A is burned in March. Grazing unit B is burned in August two years later.
- Grazing unit A is burned in March. Grazing unit C is burned in August of the same year.
- At least two burn applications will be applied during the contract period.

E338A – Strategically planned, patch burning for grazing distribution and wildlife habitat	July 2020	Page   1
--	-----------	----------



## CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

- Annual application by burning different patches each year or different patches in different seasons in one year is acceptable and desirable for many wildlife species.
- Prescribed burning 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).
- Conduct treatments during periods of the year that accommodate reproduction and other life-cycle requirements of target wildlife and pollinator species.
- Evaluate wildlife habitat with the state NRCS Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide (WHEG) and manage for a WHEG value of 0.60 or greater.
- A written prescribed burn plan for each burn that meets or exceeds NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Prescribe Burning (Code 338) criteria.



# CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

## Documentation and Implementation Requirements

Participant will:

- Y Prior to implementation, obtain a written grazing plan with guidelines and recommendations for matching the forage quantity and quality produced with the grazing and/or browsing demand and clearly identify the wildlife species of concern for the area that includes a Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide.
- Y Prior to implementation, obtain a written prescribed burn plan with map delineating the areas that will be burned, burn prescription, timing of burn, and method of burn.
- Y During implementation, keep grazing/herd in/out records,
- Y During implementation, keep prescribed burn documentation such as date, weather conditions, etc.
- Y After implementation, make the following items available for review by NRCS to verify implementation of the enhancement:
  - o Written grazing plan, including Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide with before and after evaluation values.
  - o Grazing /herd in/out records
  - o Prescribed burn plan with documentation of conditions during implementation.

NRCS will:

- Y Prior to implementation, provide and explain NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Prescribed Burning (Code 338) as it relates to implementing this enhancement.
- Y As needed, provide technical additional assistance to the participant as requested.
- Y After implementation, complete forage utilization jobsheet for NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Prescribed Grazing (Code 528).
- Y After implementation, verify implementation of the written grazing plan, by reviewing plan and grazing/herd in/out records kept during enhancement implementation.

E338A – Strategically planned, patch burning for grazing distribution and wildlife habitat	July 2020	Page   3
--	-----------	----------



After implementation, verify the completed and certified Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide (WHEG) has a total score after implementation of equal or greater than 0.60.

WHEG score after = \_\_\_\_\_

# CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

### 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.

Participant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Contract Number \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Applied \_\_\_\_\_ Fiscal Year Completed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
NRCS Technical Adequacy Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**OREGON SUPPLEMENT TO  
CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY**

**CONSERVATION  
STEWARDSHIP  
PROGRAM**

**E338A**

**Additional Documentation Requirements for Oregon**

- In addition to the documentation requirements specified in the National job sheet E338A the following additional documentation requirements apply in Oregon
  - Prescribed burning must meet the weather requirements contained in the practice specification. Typically, in Oregon, these weather conditions can be met in mid to late spring and in early to mid-fall.
  - Oregon NRCS procedures for planning and conducting prescribed burning will be followed. This includes submittal of the prescribed burn specification (which included the prescribed burning checklist) for review and signature by the fire cadre prior to implementation.
  - Use an Oregon Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide to determine general habitat condition.

[eFOTG: Section 3: Oregon Conservation Planning Documents: Wildlife Habitat Inventory Documents:](#)

- Use the CSP State Wildlife Species List for the WHEG for the species of interest. Direct any additional questions regarding this WHEG guidance to your basin or state wildlife biologist.

[Slicer – Priority Oregon Wildlife Species](#)