



CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

E382A

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Incorporating “wildlife friendly” fencing for connectivity of wildlife food resources

Conservation Practice 382: Fence

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

RESOURCE CONCERN: Animals

ENHANCEMENT LIFE SPAN: 20 Years

Enhancement Description

Retrofitting or constructing fences that provide a means to control movement of animals, people, and vehicles, but minimizes wildlife movement impacts.

Criteria

- The type and design of fence retrofitting or construction will meet the management objectives and site challenges.
- The fence jobsheet will specify:
 - Animal species of concern, both wildlife and domestic,
 - Wildlife movement specific modifications to be made to existing fences to meet these management objectives, or
 - Wildlife movement specific specifications that will be incorporated into newly constructed fences, and

E382A– Incorporating “wildlife friendly” fencing for connectivity of wildlife food resources	July 2019	Page 1
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CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

- Location of the "wildlife friendly" fence(s) and location of the habitat types affected by the fence.
- Examples:
 - Pronghorn antelope need to be afforded a smooth wire at the bottom of the fence with a 14" height above ground.
 - Deer need a maximum height of 42" with a minimum of 12" between the top two wires.
 - Fawns and turkeys need a stranded fence to negotiate (not woven wire).
 - Fences should be retrofitted to let down and put back up for migrating herds.
 - All open top pipes should be capped for songbirds.
 - If bats or sage grouse/lesser prairie chicken are selected as species of concern, then fences should be marked for visibility.
 - For bats, height requirements above water sources will be honored.
- Height, size, spacing and type of materials used will provide the desired control, life expectancy, and management of people and animals of concern. New fences will be designed, located, and installed to meet appropriate local wildlife and land management needs and requirements.
- Avoid clearing of right-of-way vegetation during the nesting season for migratory birds.
- Plans and specifications are to be prepared for all fence types, installations and specific sites.

E382A– Incorporating “wildlife friendly” fencing for connectivity of wildlife food resources	July 2019	Page 2
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Documentation and Implementation Requirements

**CONSERVATION
STEWARDSHIP
PROGRAM**

Participant will:

- Prior to implementation, obtain an NRCS jobsheet that clearly identifies the species of concern. This document should clearly identify construction techniques for wildlife friendly modifications on existing fences, or specifications for newly constructed fences.
- Prior to implementation, develop a map with assistance from NRCS as needed, which identifies the location of the wildlife friendly fences to be modified or constructed.
- During implementation, consult with NRCS if there are any changes to modification or construction techniques.
- After implementation, provide a map of the actual location of constructed or modified fences for review to verify the enhancement was implemented.
- After implementation, provide pictures of newly constructed or modified fences depicting the specified construction techniques to benefit wildlife for review to verify the enhancement was implemented.

NRCS will:

- Prior to implementation, as requested, assist the participant in the development of a map identifying the location of wildlife friendly fences to be constructed or modified.
- Prior to implementation, develop a jobsheet (or specification as required in the state) for the participant that details wildlife friendly construction techniques.
- During implementation, assist the participant with modification of construction techniques to allow fences to function for both wildlife and domestic species.
- After implementation, review actual fence location map and photo documentation of constructed or modified wildlife friendly fences.

E382A– Incorporating “wildlife friendly” fencing for connectivity of wildlife food resources	July 2019	Page 3
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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



E382A– Incorporating “wildlife friendly” fencing for connectivity of wildlife food resources	July 2019	Page 4
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OREGON SUPPLEMENT TO CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

E382A

Additional Documentation Requirements for Oregon

- In addition to the documentation requirements specified in the National job sheet E382A the following additional documentation requirements apply in Oregon:
 - Utilize the following guide for additional wildlife friendly options and alternative:
[A Landowners Guide to Wildlife Friendly Fences](#)
 - If increased visibility of fencing is needed, use flagging, vinyl markers, PVC pipe or other similar materials that will meet NRCS state standards for spacing, interval and size. A good example of improving visibility for prairie grouse (e.g. prairie chickens, sage grouse, etc.) in rangeland can be found at:
[Fence Markers for Wildlife](#)
[Sage Grouse Fence Collision Risk Tool](#)
- In addition to the documentation requirements specified in the National job sheet E382A the following additional documentation requirements apply in Oregon:
 - 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 Priority Oregon Wildlife Species Slicer or the Oregon Conservation Strategy Species to identify the species of concern.
[Slicer – Priority Oregon Wildlife Species](#)
[Oregon Conservation Strategy Species](#)

Document in the practice specification how this enhancement will maintain or enhance the habitat for the identified wildlife species.