



## CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

E327C

# CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

### Wildlife habitat for nesting and brooding on non-cropped areas

#### Conservation Practice 327: Conservation Cover

**APPLICABLE LAND USE:** Associated Ag Land, Farmstead

**RESOURCE CONCERN:** Animals

**ENHANCEMENT LIFE SPAN:** 5 Years

#### Enhancement Description

Grass and legume mixtures provide refuge areas for nesting, brood rearing and winter survival of wildlife in non-cropped areas.

#### Criteria

- Plant species, seedbed preparation, seeding rates, seeding dates, seeding depths, fertility requirements, and planting methods will be consistent with applicable local criteria and soil/site conditions **(REFER TO STATE SPECIFIC LISTS)**.
- Select a minimum of 2 species of grass and 3 legumes or forbs that will provide wildlife habitat and food.
- Inoculate all legumes with the appropriate rhizobia bacteria as available before planting.
- Do not disturb cover during the primary nesting/fawning season **(REFER TO STATE SPECIFIC DATES)**.
- Create non-linear edges, when possible, to increase the value of the conservation cover plant near other habitats, like wetlands, woodlands or pollinator habitats.



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## Documentation and Implementation Requirements:

### **NRCS and Participant will:**

- Prior to implementation, discuss State criteria for wildlife habitat that must be followed and the control of disturbance of the conservation cover during primary nesting/fawning seasons.
- Revise or develop a plan map showing the location of existing habitat areas, if applicable.
- Inventory existing stand plant species.

### **Participant will:**

- Make decisions on new plant species both grasses and legumes to add.
- During implementation, purchase specified seed mix or plant materials that meet the planting requirements provided by NRCS.
- During implementation, follow habitat establishment guidance provided by NRCS in the state specifications for NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Conservation Cover (Code 327).
- After implementation, provide a list of management and/or maintenance activities carried out to manage the habitat areas and the dates on which those activities occurred.
- After implementation, take photographs as documentation of habitat condition.
- Provide seed tags or receipts showing the quantity and quality of seed purchased.

### **NRCS will:**

- After implementation, verify successful establishment by review of seed tags, record of planting date, management activities and/or disturbances, and photographs.



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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.

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

NRCS Technical Adequacy Signature

Date