



CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY
E512138Z

CONSERVATION
STEWARDSHIP
PROGRAM

Establish wildlife corridors to enhance access to water

Conservation Practice 512: Forage and Biomass Planting

APPLICABLE LAND USE: Pasture, Associated Ag Land, Farmstead

RESOURCE CONCERN ADDRESSED: Fish & Wildlife Inadequate Habitat

PRACTICE LIFE SPAN: 5 years

Enhancement Description

Establishing adapted and/or compatible species, varieties, or cultivars of perennial, herbaceous species that can provide cover needed for wildlife species of concern to move from food/cover/water sources to other food/cover/water sources as needed for their life cycles, and/or to enhance the utility of underused wildlife habitat areas.

Criteria

- Select native, perennial, grass/forb/legume plant species and their cultivars based on climatic conditions, soil condition, landscape position and resistance to disease and insects, that meet the cover demand for movement by the wildlife species of concern.
- Recommendations for planting rates, methods, depths, and dates from land grant universities (LGU), plant materials program, extension agencies, or agency field trials will be followed.
- Seeding medium that does not restrict plant emergence will be provided, and planting will take place when soil moisture is adequate for germination and establishment.
- Federal, state, or local noxious species will not be planted.



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- Plant nutrients and/or soil amendments for establishment purposes will be applied according to a current soil test. Legume seed will be pre-inoculated or inoculated with the proper viable strain of Rhizobia immediately before planting.
- Plant selection will be made and maintained based on the state's approved NRCS habitat evaluation procedure.
- Protection from grazing or other plant defoliation/biomass loss will be provided as needed to assure adequate corridor cover during the primary wildlife movement time frames.
- Wildlife species of concern for corridor utilization will be specified on the state's approved NRCS Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide (WHEG).

Documentation Requirements

- NRCS State approved Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide (WHEG) as completed and certified by an NRCS or partner wildlife biologist. Wildlife species of concern for corridor movement to water will be specified on the WHEG. Total WHEG score after installation will equal 0.75 or greater.
- Documentation of seed (Pure Live Seed) and any fertilizer or amendments purchased.