



CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

E328137Z

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Leave standing grain crops unharvested to benefit wildlife cover and shelter

Conservation Practice 328: Conservation Crop Rotation

APPLICABLE LAND USE: Crop (Annual & Mixed)

RESOURCE CONCERN ADDRESSED: Fish & Wildlife – Inadequate Habitat

PRACTICE LIFE SPAN: 1 Year

Enhancement Description

Implement a crop rotation which allows a portion of grain crops to be left in fields unharvested to provide food and cover for wildlife during winter months.

Criteria

- Crops shall be grown in a planned sequence as outlined in Plans and Specifications. The crop rotation shall include a minimum of three different crops. For purposes of these criteria a cover crop is considered a different crop.
- Where applicable, plan suitable crop substitutions when the planned crop cannot be planted due to weather, soil conditions, or other local situations.
- Select the crops and crop management activities that provide food for the targeted wildlife species using an approved habitat evaluation procedure.
- Leave a minimum ½ acre of unharvested, standing grain crops for each 40 acres of cropland. Unharvested plots shall be located in a single location on the 40 acre unit and additional plots shall be located on different 40 acres.
- Locate the unharvested plots adjacent to permanent cover such as brushy fencerows, field borders, forest land, or wetlands (this does not include newly established vegetation).



- Leave unharvested crops standing over winter until it is time to prepare the soil for planting the next crop.

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Documentation Requirements

- Conservation Crop Rotation, 328, Implementation Requirements document must be completed per the Plans and Specifications for the planned purpose.
- Map showing location(s), crop type(s), and acreage of crops to be left unharvested.