

# Habitat Management Enhancements



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
United States Department of Agriculture

Minnesota, 2006

## ***Enhance wildlife habitat by converting existing non-beneficial (non-pasture) grass areas to native grass/forb species.***

### **Definition**

This enhancement includes converting existing non-wildlife beneficial grass areas that are not currently providing quality wildlife habitat to native grass and forbs.

### **Purpose**

Secure nesting cover is often limited where crop and hay production is the primary land use. Diverse native grass/forb cover blocks provide nesting and brood rearing cover. Herbaceous cover plots also provide roosting and thermal cover allowing a variety of wildlife species to access adjacent cropland food supplies during winter. Pollinator insects also benefit from undisturbed cover.

### **Where Used**

Native herbaceous cover forbs (at least 3 grasses and 2 forbs) can be established on areas of existing non-native vegetation such as; pivot corners, odd areas, between crop fields, etc.

### **Operation and Maintenance**

Native herbaceous cover plots will remain undisturbed during the primary nesting season (May 1 – August 1). Prescribed grazing, burning, or haying (maximum of 1 year in 5) may be done, under a plan approved by NRCS, to maintain vigor of the cover and as a part of biological weed control.

### **Documentation Required**

Field Number	Acres	Native grass and forb species	Target Wildlife Species

### **Payment Rate**

The payment rate is an annual payment per acre of non-native grass converted to native grasses and forbs.

**I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the above information is correct and that, if requested, I will provide additional documentation to support the above information.**

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_