



**CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY**

**E645A**

**CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM**

**Reduction of attractants to human-subsidized predators in sensitive wildlife species habitat**

**Conservation Practice 645: Upland Wildlife Habitat Management**

**APPLICABLE LAND USE: Crop (Annual & Mixed); Crop (Perennial); Pasture; Range; Forest; Associated Ag Land; Farmstead**

**RESOURCE CONCERN: Animals**

**PRACTICE LIFE SPAN: 1 Year**

**Enhancement Description**

Reduction of artificial perching sites ,nest sites, food, and water available to subsidized predators in areas where human-subsidized predators are a threat to sensitive wildlife species. Human-subsidized predators may include ravens, crows, magpies, coyotes, foxes, skunks, raccoons, and other species. Activities under this enhancement may include removal of non-native or invasive trees; removal of unused power poles, corrals, windmills, buildings, and other vertical structures; and/or removal or management of watering facilities, dead livestock, road kill, garbage, animal feed, dumps, and other non-natural food sources.

**Criteria**

- Identify the targeted sensitive wildlife species.
- Identify the subsidized predator(s).
- Coordinate planned activities with a NRCS or partner biologist.
  - Coordination with US Fish and Wildlife Service and the State Wildlife Agency may be required.

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- Treat only artificial, human caused attractants.
  - This activity shall not be used to remove or modify natural water sources, natural perching and nesting sites, or natural food sources for native predators.
- Develop an assessment of the predator attractants, including:
  - Each individual subsidy with a point on a map,
  - A description of the subsidy,
  - Effects to non-target wildlife species, especially raptors and other native predators, and
  - Potential effects to all sensitive as well as threatened and endangered (T&E) species.
- Conduct attractant removal activities in a manner to avoid direct mortality and outside of the nesting season.
- Lethal control shall not be performed as a component of this activity.



# CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

## Documentation and Implementation Requirements

### Participant will:

- Prior to implementation, meet with NRCS to review results of predator attractant assessment conducted by NRCS and to discuss predator attractants to be removed.
- During implementation, maintain a field log to include:
  - Map of the assessed and removed predator attractants with point locations and descriptions of each item.
  - Dates when the attractant was removed.
  - Before and after photographs of each removed attractant.
- After implementation, provide the field log to NRCS for review to verify enhancement was implemented to meet criteria.

### NRCS will:

- Prior to implementation, identify targeted sensitive species and conduct an assessment of subsidized predator attractants on site .
- Prior to implementation, provide and explain state NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (Code 645) as it relates to implementing this enhancement.
- Prior to implementation, develop technical specifications for attractant removal needed to improve habitat for the targeted sensitive species consistent with NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (Code 645).
- Prior to implementation, assess effects on non-target wildlife species and complete any required coordination with US Fish and Wildlife Service and the State Wildlife Agency.
- After implementation, review field log to verify enhancement was implemented to meet criteria.

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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.

**CONSERVATION  
STEWARDSHIP  
PROGRAM**

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
NRCS Technical Adequacy Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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**2024 CSP ENHANCEMENTS – GUIDANCE & PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATION**

ENHANCEMENT NUMBER AND TITLE:

**E645A – Reduction of attractants to human-subsidized predators in sensitive wildlife species habitat**

**Conservation Practice 645: Upland Wildlife Habitat Management**

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ENHANCEMENT:

Reduction of artificial perching sites available to hawks in areas where these predators are a threat to bobwhite quail. These artificial perching sites cause hawks to be considered human-subsidized predators.

**Some important things to note:**

- **Minimum Required Treatment:** 100% of the number of existing artificial raptor perch sites (those not in use by landowners) must be removed.
- The target sensitive species is bobwhite quail. In order to be eligible for this enhancement, the landowner must be managing for bobwhite quail or doing early successional habitat management.
- This practice is applicable where artificial perching sites are no longer being used for the original intent (abandoned power poles, etc) and could be removed without impacting current farming operations.
- Artificial perching sites could be old power poles, telephone/cable poles, tall fence posts (tall enough to document use by raptors) or other documented human installed perching sites that are no longer in intended use.
- Treatment will consist of removal through bulldozer, track hoe, chainsaw felling or other reasonable methods to remove these artificial perch sites.

ATTACH COPIES OF REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AS NOTED BY THE ENHANCEMENT JOB SHEET. CHECK THE BOX OR OTHERWISE IDENTIFY THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION.

- MAPS OF THE LOCATION(S) WHERE THIS PRACTICE WAS APPLIED
- REPRESENTATIVE IMAGES/PHOTOS OF THE PERCH SITES BEFORE AND AFTER REMOVAL AND INDICATE AREA OF EACH ON MAP
- DATES OF COMPLETED ACTIVITY

The attached documents support the full implementation of this Conservation Stewardship Enhancement.

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CSP Participant Name

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Date