

## **CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY**

E645A



# 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.

## <u>Criteria</u>

- 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:
  - o 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.

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## **Documentation and Implementation Requirements**

#### Participant will:

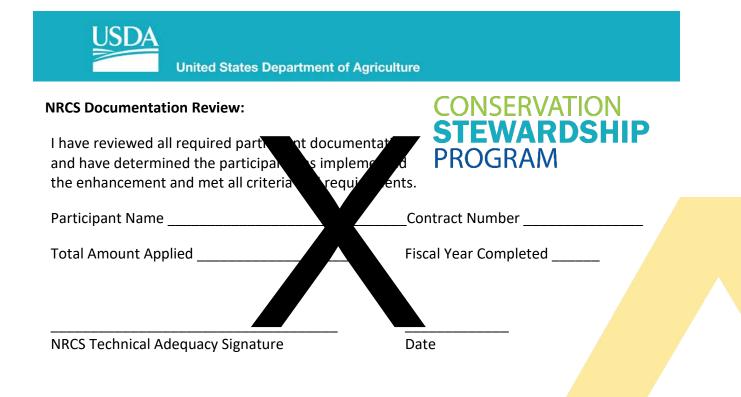
- Prior to implementation, meet with NRCS to review results of predator attractant assessment conducted by NRCS and to discuss predator attractants to be removed.
- During implementation, maintain a field log to include:
  - Map of the assessed and removed predator attractants with point locations and 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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## CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM



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CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP

**PROGRAM** 

## **OREGON SUPPLEMENT TO CONSERVATION**

**ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY** 

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## **Additional Documentation Requirements for Oregon**

In addition to the documentation requirements specified in the National job sheet E645A, the following additional documentation requirements apply in Oregon:

 Use an Oregon Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide to determine general habitat condition.
eFOTG: Section 3: Oregon Conservation Planning Documents: Wildlife

**Habitat Inventory Documents** 

2. Use the Priority Oregon Wildlife Species Slicer or the Oregon Conservation

Strategy Species to identify the species of concern.

Slicer – Priority Oregon Wildlife Species

**Oregon Conservation Strategy Species** 

Document in the practice specification how this enhancement will maintain or enhance the habitat for the identified wildlife species.

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## **Design Approvals & Acknowledgements:**

Design Approval	Date	Job Approval Authority
Designed by:		
Assessment to a		
Approved by:		

## **Client's Acknowledgement Statement:**

The client acknowledges:

- I have received a copy of the specification and understand the contents and requirements.
- It is my responsibility to obtain all necessary permits and/or rights and to comply with all ordinances and laws pertaining to the application of this practice.
- I will not begin installation of this practice until I have received appropriate approval to do so. I understand NRCS also has Federal and state laws to comply with that may take some time to address (e.g. cultural resources).

Client's Signature	Date

## Natural Resources Conservation Service Specification & Implementation Requirement Signature Pages

#### **Certification Documentation:**

Field Evaluation: Post-treatment inventory, measurements, notes, as-built, and supporting documentation (document completion in conservation plan), as required.
Map(s): Including field numbers, fields treated, and units treated (may document on conservation plan map), as required.
Photos or other supporting documentation (e.g., seed tags, soil tests, receipts, invoices, spray records, fertilizer records, etc.)
Description of Work Accomplished (types of equipment used, date of application, extents uantities installed, etc.)

## **Certification Statement:**

The employee certifies the implementation of this conservation practice:

- Meets the purpose, general criteria, and any required additional criteria as documented in the conservation practice standard and/or enhancement sheet.
- Meets the specifications contained herein and is complete.
- Conforms to my existing Job Approval Authority controlling factors and levels.

Name	Date	Job Approval Authority

Field Level Certification – For multiple applications of this design.				
Land Unit/ Contract	Date	Unit(s)	Amount	Certifier
Item Number			Installed	

Oregon- Acknowledgment & Certification	January 2024
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