

Habitat Management Activity Definitions and *Measures*

Forest Opening Management

Sites, acres

All efforts related to developing, improving, and maintaining forest openings for wildlife that are created during normal timber harvest management. Includes slash clearing, seeding of log landings and logging roads and trails to legumes for improvement of wildlife habitat, periodic or regular maintenance to maintain openings, etc.

Forest Stand Burns

Burns, acres

The use of prescribed burning to enhance and restore forest communities and related wildlife habitat including openings. Includes firebreak development.

Forest Stand Improvement

Stands, acres

All efforts relating to forest stand improvement including timber harvest, regeneration, mast enhancement, thermal cover establishment, browse regeneration, and oak wilt control.

Hunter Walking Trail Maintenance

Sites, linear miles

Maintenance of hunter walking (HW) trails that provide access to hunters in public forests. Work includes trail mowing, disking, seeding, gating, and signing. Priority will be given to work on HW trails that have been designated.

Openland/Brushland Burns

Burns, acres

The use of prescribed burning to enhance and restore brushland communities and related wildlife habitat. Includes firebreak development.

Openland/Brushland Management

Sites, acres

Non-prescribed burn efforts (i.e., shearing, herbicides, etc.) relating to the restoration of brushland habitats and related complexes. Any pesticide use must follow DNR pesticide guidelines. Priority will be given to Open Landscape Priority Areas.

Prairie/Grassland Burns

Burns, acres

The use of prescribed burning to enhance and restore remnant or planted native prairie and other grassland communities and related wildlife habitat. Also include firebreak development here. Firebreaks are measured by area (width x length in acres). Operational Order 47 - Prescribed Burning, must be followed.

Prairie/Grassland Management

Plantings, acres

All efforts related to the initial planting of native prairie/cool season grasslands as well as efforts undertaken to improve existing stands of grass by converting cool season stands to native grass, interseeding with additional grass or forbs, or brushing out invading woody vegetation. This includes the necessary follow up management needed to establish the cover (e.g. clipping, spot mowing or spot herbicide), harvesting and cleaning local native grass seed to be used for native prairie planting, efforts to stop erosion in grasslands and addition of nesting structures such as bluebird or kestrel

houses. Operational Order 59 – Pesticides and Pest Control must be followed when using pesticides.

Wetland Enhancement

Wetlands, acres

All activities that enhance wetland habitats for wildlife including dugouts/scrapeouts, aquatic vegetation removal, aquatic seeding, and bog removal at basin outlets. Also includes the enhancement of a wetland through the removal of unwanted fish (i.e., carp, bullheads) but this activity must have an approved project proposal and will require environmental assessment. Cattail management using both mechanical and chemical means should be included here.

Wetland Impoundment Development

Wetlands, acres

The development of a new wetland where none historically existed by constructing a dike and water control structure in the appropriate topographic area.

Wetland Restoration

Wetlands, acres

The restoration of a drained wetland by the plugging of drainage ditches or removal of drain tiles. Often a new water control structure and dike is necessary to contain water within property boundaries. Note: may include the restoration of part of an original basin where full restoration is not possible.

Wetland Water Controls

Wetlands, acres

The addition or rehabilitation of water control structures, fish barriers, dikes and related inlets and outlets that enhance the value of existing wetland habitat.

Woody Cover Development

Plantings, acres

The initial and all follow up efforts to establish woody cover for the improvement of farmland wildlife habitat for the first 5 years after planting. Include all replacement of stock as part of establishment costs. Woody cover development work is limited in the Prairie Parkland Province.