Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative



MBHI Activities List

Activity 1

Late Season Shallow Water With Manipulation



Name Shorebird Habitat

Duration

May 1 through July 31

Objective

To provide a diverse habitat of shallow water, mud flat, and moist soil habitats to benefit a variety of shorebird species during the mid to late summer migration.

Eligible Site

An eligible site will contain 8 to 18 inches of water on May 1, and be capable of providing the habitat that meets the objective of the activity. The field must not contain more than 25% woody cover.

Required Management

• Structures will remain closed, catching and holding all available precipitation, until July 31.

 Vegetative manipulation of the site will be triggered if after June 15, the site becomes dry with emergent vegetation covering 50% or more, at a height of 6 inches or more. Manipulation by rolling or disking to bring the majority (75% or more) or the vegetation at or below the soil surface. Rolling is the preferred method of manipulation to maintain soil quality.

Payment Rate \$34.19

Activity 2

Extended Late Season Shallow Water With Manipulation



Name

Extended Shorebird Habitat

Duration

May 1 through August 31

Objective

To provide a diverse habitat of shallow water, mud flat, and moist soil habitats to benefit a variety of shorebird species for an extended period during the mid to late summer migration.

Eligible Site

An eligible site will contain 8 to 18 inches of water on May 1, and be capable of providing the habitat that meets the objective of the activity. The field must not contain more than 25% woody cover.

Required Management

- Structures will remain closed, catching and holding all available precipitation, until August 31.
- Vegetative manipulation of the site will be triggered if after June 15, the site becomes dry with emergent vegetation covering 50% or more, at a height of 6 inches or more. Additional manipulations will likely be required, triggered by the same conditions, should they occur again. Manipulation by rolling or disking to bring the majority (75% or more) or the vegetation at or below the soil surface. Rolling is the preferred method of manipulation to maintain soil quality.

Payment Rate \$44.80

Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative



MBHI Activities List

Activity 3

Catch Rainfall November 1 - February 15



Name Migratory Waterfowl

Duration

November 1 through February 15

Objective

To provide seasonal, shallow water habitat for migratory waterfowl and wading birds.

Eligible Site

The site must be capable of holding an average of 6 to 18 inches of water for the duration of the activity.

Required Management

- Structures for water control affecting eligible sites will be closed by November 1 and remain closed through February 15. While not required, water depths of 6 to 10 inches provide maximum benefit to targeted species.
- Manipulation can occur prior to holding water. No large scale (greater than 80%) manipulation is allowed during the water holding period.

Payment Rate \$6.28

Activity 4

Manipulate, Catch Rainfall October 1 - February 15



Name

Migratory Waterfowl With Manipulation

Duration October 1 through February 15

Objective

To provide seasonal, shallow water habitat for migratory waterfowl and wading birds where vegetative manipulation may be needed.

Eligible Site

The site must be capable of holding an average of 6 to 18 inches of water for the duration of the activity.

Required Management

- Vegetative manipulation by either lightly disking or bush hogging the majority of the contracted acres (50 80%) between October 1 and October 31. Manipulation shall not be done in a large, continuous block. Strip disking/ mowing, mosaic patterns, or other irregular patterns is required. No large scale (greater than 80%) manipulation is allowed during the water holding period.
- Structures for water control affecting eligible sites will be closed by November 1 and remain closed through February 15. While not required, water depths of 6 to 10 inches provide maximum benefit to targeted species.

Payment Rate \$13.75

Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative



Activity 5

Manage Grassland, Seasonal Wetland



MBHI Activities List

Name

Mottled Duck Habitat System

Duration

Annually applied system

Objective

To create and/or enhance wetland habitat that will lead to improved breeding and brooding habitat for mottled ducks and other water birds that share this habitat.

Eligible Site

The site must include both existing permanent grassland and seasonal or permanent wetland component – may include a mixture of agricultural land and non-agricultural wetlands. The system shall include maintaining or enhancing a grassland component that exhibits adequate biodiversity required for nesting, and a nearby (< 1 mile) wetland component for brood habitat and to encourage breeding activity. In order to be eligible, the grassland component of the site must have no more than 20% canopy cover of woody vegetation, a current habitat index score of .50 or greater, and be capable of providing adequate habitat for mottled ducks. Refer to the Pasture and Hayland Wildlife Habitat Inventory Worksheet.

Required Management

- The grassland component may be permanent pasture or other grasslands (fallow rice field). Grassland component may be enhanced by planting native grasses. Grassland component must have a minimal amount of trees and shrubs (< 5%), with a diverse mix of grasses, especially native grasses, with a varying canopy height throughout. Grasslands components are ideally at least 40 acres, with larger blocks (500 1000 acres) being preferred habitat.
- The wetland component could consist of fallow rice fields or crawfish-type impoundments flooded throughout the brooding season for mottled ducks, and/or non-agricultural wetlands < 6 inches in depth with short emergent vegetation not exceeding 50% coverage and minimal coverage of more dense escape cover flooded from February 1 through July 31. Deep water habitat is not considered a suitable component of the habitat. Again, a larger acre wetland component (500 acres or more) is most desirable.

Grassland Component Payment Rate \$46.11 Wetland Component Payment Rate \$7.85

For more information on the Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative or these activities, contact:



MBHI Activities List

Notes

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