WILDLIFE HABITAT APPRAISAL GUIDE-MISSOURI

Landowner _____ Appraiser _____

ation T R S _____ Date _____

l Acres Appraised _____ County _____

PRAIRIE CHICKEN

Habitat Characteristics	Habitat Types: Cropland				Past/Hay			
Field No. / Acres								
Percent Pasture/Hayland within 2 Mile Wide Circle[1] (2000 Ac.)								
1. 75-90% (1500-1800 Ac	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
2. >90% (>1800 Ac.)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
3. 50-75% (1000-1500 Ac.)	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
4. 25-50% (500-1000 Ac.)	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5. <25% (<500 Ac.)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Percent Native Grass within 2 Mile Wide Circle (2000 Ac.)								
1. >25% (>500 Ac.)	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
2. 15-25% (300-500 Ac.)	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
3. 10-15% (200-300 Ac.)	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
4. <10% (<200 Ac.)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Percent Pasture/Hayland in Grass Areas >80 Acres in size within 2 Mile Wide Circle (2000 Ac.)								
1. >75%	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
2. 50-75%	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
3. 25-50%	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
4. <25%	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Average Pasture/Hayland Use within 2 Mile Wide Circle (2000 Ac.)								
1. >75% light to mod. use with mod. to good plant diversity	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
2. 50-75% light to mod. use with mod. to good plant diversity	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
3. 25-50% light to mod. use with mod. to good plant diversity	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
4. <25% light to mod. use with mod. to good plant diversity	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
'eld Size (% Field within 660' of treeline, lterbelt, woodlot or woodland)[2]								
<10%	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
2. 10-25% (Footnote applies only to Past/Hay)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
3. 25-50%	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
4. 50-75%	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5. >75%	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Woody Invasion (% Field occurring as trees, shrubs and vines[1]								
1. <5%					5	5	5	5
2. 5-15%					4	4	4	4
3. 15-25%					2	2	2	2
4. >25%					1	1	1	1
Vegetative Cover (% Ground covered by herbaceous and shrub canopy 6"-18")								
1. 25-50%					10	10	10	10
2. 10-25%					6	6	6	6
3. <10% or 50-75%					4	4	4	4
4. >75%					1	1	1	1
Legume Canopy Coverage (Percent)								
1. 15-25%					5	5	5	5
2. 5-15%					3	3	3	3
3. <5 or >25%					1	1	1	1
Forb Canopy Coverage (% Field covered by broad leaf plants other than grasses and including legumes)								
1. 25-50%					5	5	5	5
2. 50-75%					3	3	3	3
3. <25% or >75%					1	1	1	1
Average Height of Herbaceous Vegetation (April 1)[2]								
1. 8-16" April 1 height is 2" less					10	10	10	10
2. 16-20" than fall height. Mowing WSG after					8	8	8	8
3. 4-8" Aug. 1 will usually mean April 1					6	6	6	6
4. >20" height <8".					4	4	4	4
5. <4"					1	1	1	1
Grassland Management								
1. Rotation use - hay July or grazed L to Mod. with periodic burn					10	10	10	10
Annual use - hay July 1-15 or grazed L to Mod. with periodic burn					8	8	8	8
3. Annual use - hay July 1-15 or grazed L to Mod					6	6	6	6
4. Annual use - hay after July 15 or grazed heavy					4	4	4	4
5. Mowed April 2 to July 1; or not managed annually					1	1	1	1
Subtotal								

Habitat Planning Key

Prairie Chicken ◯-Existing ⊕-Planned ●-Applied

Habitat Characteristics											
Subtotal											
Field No.											
Acres											
Crop Rotation											
1. Small grains-row crop-legume (meadow)	5	5	5	5							
2. Small grains-row crop	3	3	3	3							
3. Continuous small grains or row crop	1	1	1	1							
Cropfield Management											
1. No fall tillage, residues undisturbed	10	10	10	10							
2. Chisel plowing once in fall	8	8	8	8							
3. Crop residues grazed, chopped or baled; or residues <3"	6	6	6	6							
4. Fall discing; or with winter wheat	4	4	4	4							
5. Fall moldboard plowing	1	1	1	1							
Concealment Cover (Dense brush, rock piles, fallen logs, rock crevices, brushpiles, etc.)											
1. >10%									10	10	10
2. 5-10%									7	7	7
3. 1-5%									4	4	4
4. Zero									1	1	1
Distance to Winter Cover[1]											
1. <1/4 mi. ungrazed woodland or dense woody or herbaceous cover (native grass, cattails, etc.)	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
2. 1/4-1/2 mi. ungrazed woodland or dense woody or herbaceous cover	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
3. <1/2 mi. grazed woodland or sparse woody or herbaceous cover	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
4. >1/2 mi. to any woodland or woody or herbaceous cover	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Distance to Grassland (grass border, waterway, pasture, hayland)											
1. <1/4 mi. light-mod. use, good plant diversity (Good plant diversity = grasses, forbs and legumes)	10	10	10	10					10	10	10
2. 1/4-1/2 mi. light-mod. use, good plant diversity	8	8	8	8					8	8	8
3. <1/4 mi. light-mod. use, mod. plant diversity	6	6	6	6					6	6	6
4. 1/4-1/2 mi. light-mod. use, mod. plant diversity	4	4	4	4							
5. Heavy use; poor plant diversity; or >1/2 mi. to pasture/hayland	1	1	1	1					1	1	1
Distance to Cropland or Food Plot											
1. <1/4 mi. no fall tillage					10	10	10	10	10	10	10
2. 1/4-1/2 mi. no fall tillage					8	8	8	8	8	8	8
3. <1/4 mi. fall disced or chiseled; or winter wheat					6	6	6	6	6	6	6
4. 1/4-1/2 mi. fall disced or chiseled; or winter wheat					4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5. >1/2 mi. to cropfield; or cropfield fall plowed					1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Distance to Old Field											
1. <1/4 mi.	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10			
2. 1/4-1/2 mi.	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5			
3. >1/2 mi.; or old field with poor plant diversity	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
Existing Total											
Habitat Type Index = Planned Total											
Total Actual Score / Max. Possible Score — Applied Total											
					Check Footnotes						
Farm Habitat Index = Maximum Possible Score	95	95	95	95	115	115	115	115	95	95	95
Σ[Habitat Type Indexes x Acres] / Total Acres Appraised — Existing Index											
Planned Index											
Applied											

Existing Farm Index _____ Planned Farm Index _____

Habitat Quality	Score	0.75-1.0	0.50-0.75	0.25-0.50	0.0.25
	Rating	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Acres per bird		10-20	20-30	30-40	>40

NOTE:

1. If either Percent Cropland, Percent Pasture/Hayland, Grassland Management, Average Height of Herbaceous Vegetation or Distance to Winter Cover score 1, disregard other characteristics and enter .1 as Index.

Missouri Department of Conservation

U.S.D.A.
Soil Conservation Service
Columbia, MO.
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