

Changes to the January 2009 NC WHEP Learning and Activity Guide

January 2014 changes are found in italics below.

These notes explain the some changes made to Table 1 of the guide, Wildlife Management Practices. These changes were made to clarify some areas of discrepancy and to keep our materials in line with the national WHEP manual. Not all changes are listed below, so I encourage teams to print out the revised table.

Overall, increase/decrease harvest has been selected for any wildlife species that can be legally hunted/trapped in North Carolina, even if not specified as a management practice in the guide.

Bobcat and Brown Thrasher: You would not plant trees for either of these species as they do not require successional stages 5 or 6. However – you would plant shrubs in areas to increase stages 3 and 4 of succession.

Eastern Grey Squirrel: You would not plant food plots for squirrels. This is an error carried over from the national manual which has been corrected. Cross this out on page 37 of the NC WHEP guide. Also for squirrels, they will use nesting structures; however this is not required as they will build nests in the absence of cavities. *However, the guide says to build nest structures, so this has been added back in for 2014.* Additionally, the national manual does not see grain crops as an important food source for squirrels. Remove leaving grain unharvested. However, keep tillage management as squirrels will forage for waste grain, and is so stated in national manual. *Keep (2014 change) retaining snags and downed woody material as these items should be kept during Forest Management (TSI), but do not necessarily need to be created.*

Hairy Woodpecker: You would retain snags and down woody material for nesting sites and a potential food source. This is mentioned in cover, and is also now listed under wildlife management practices in the national manual. Wildlife Damage Management is also a possible management practice as the damage woodpeckers can cause is discussed in the description of the practice (page 61 of the NC WHEP guide).

Mourning Doves: You would not construct ponds for mourning doves. However, if there is a pond on site, the spillway may need to be repaired in order to keep the water at a proper depth to minimize vegetation around the banks.

Northern Bobwhite: Though against my better judgment, plant trees should be selected. The national WHEP manual states this practice is viable in some coastal savannahs for bobwhite. This is also discussed briefly in the general habitat preference for bobwhites.

Wild Turkey: The last line for the wild turkey description has been completed in the national manual (pg 30 of the NC WHEP guide). It should read: "*Wildlife Damage Management*: may be necessary in rare instances when wild turkeys are depredating crops."

Wood duck: Plant food plots to shallowly flood and provide a food source in fall/winter, especially if mast production is low.

Tillage management should be added to American kestrel and great horned owl as the waste grain will attract prey species. This practice should also be added to black bear, raccoon, and wood duck to provide additional food sources in the fall/winter.

Planting shrubs has been removed from the management practices of the hairy woodpecker, ovenbird, and red-eyed vireo as these are species found in mature forests and do not utilize shrubs.

Table 1. Wildlife Management Practices (revised January 2014)

<i>Wildlife Management Practices</i>	American Kestrel	Black Bear	Bluegill	Bobcat	Box Turtle	Brown Thrasher	Coyote	Eastern Bluebird	Eastern Cottontail	Eastern Gray Squirrel	Great Horned Owl	Hairy Woodpecker
1. Decrease Harvest		X	X	X			X		X	X		
2. Increase Harvest		X	X	X			X		X	X		
3. Establish Native Grasses and Forbs	X				X		X	X	X		X	
4. Fish or Wildlife Surveys	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
5. Grain: Leave Unharvested		X							X			
6. Harvest Timing of Crops												
7. Manipulation of Succession	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
8. Nesting Structures	X							X		X		
9. Plant Food Plots		X							X			
10. Plant Trees	X	X						X		X	X	X
11. Plant Shrubs (create hedgerows)	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
12. Pond Construction			X									
13. Ponds: Deepen Edges			X									
14. Ponds: Fertilize			X									
15. Ponds: Reduce Turbidity			X									
16. Ponds: Repair Spillway			X									
17. Ponds: Restock			X									
18. Retain Snags & Down Woody Material	X	X		X				X		X	X	X
23. Tillage Management	X	X							X	X	X	
24. Forest Management Techniques	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
25. Water Level Manipulation Techniques			X									
26. Water Development for Wildlife												
27. Wildlife Damage Management		X		X			X		X	X	X	X

Table 1. (continued) Wildlife Management Practices (revised January 2014)

<i>Wildlife Management Practices</i>	Largemouth Bass	Mallard (winter)	Mourning Dove	Northern Bobwhite	Ovenbird	Raccoon	Ruffed Grouse	Red-eyed Vireo	White-tailed Deer	Wild Turkey	Wood Duck
1. Decrease Harvest	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X
2. Increase Harvest	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X
3. Establish Native Grasses and Forbs			X	X					X	X	
4. Fish or Wildlife Surveys	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
5. Grain: Leave Unharvested		X	X	X		X			X	X	X
6. Harvest Timing of Crops			X	X					X		
7. Manipulation of Succession	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
8. Nesting Structures											X
9. Plant Food Plots		X	X	X		X			X	X	
10. Plant Trees			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
11. Plant Shrubs (create hedgerows)			X	X		X	X		X	X	X
12. Pond Construction	X										
13. Ponds: Deepen Edges	X										
14. Ponds: Fertilize	X										
15. Ponds: Reduce Turbidity	X										
16. Ponds: Repair Spillway	X										
17. Ponds: Restock	X										
18. Retain Snags & Down Woody Material			X				X				X
23. Tillage Management		X	X	X		X			X	X	X
24. Forest Management Techniques				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
25. Water Level Manipulation Techniques	X	X				X					X
26. Water Development for Wildlife		X	X			X			X	X	X
27. Wildlife Damage Management						X			X	X	