United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

HABITAT MANAGEMENT (CSP Enhancements) WEST VIRGINIA 2006

CSP Enhancement Activity Task Sheet

CLIENT: _____

WORKSHEET 2 – Non-disturbance of nesting areas during the primary ground nesting season April 15 – July 15 to protect eastern meadowlark and other wildlife

☐ **THIS ENHANCEMENT IS REQUIRED FOR THE CURRENT CSP CONTRACT**

Payment = $100/acre/year to manage nesting areas in grassland communities (hay fields, field borders, riparian zones, grassland communities, odd areas, etc.). Management activities including maintenance cropping, mowing, harvesting, burning or application of nutrients do not occur during the primary nesting season. Payment is for grassland acreage protected during nesting per year. Payment limited to 25% of hayland on the farm with a 5 acre minimum.

☐**(March 15 – July 15).**

Grassland management practices are usually directed toward the maximum production of forage and hay for livestock. However, these practices may be performed with a timing and intensity that are wildlife friendly and productive agriculturally. The timing and intensity of harvesting grass is probably the most critical of all the factors that can affect the value of grasslands for both wildlife and livestock.

Wildlife, especially birds that nest in grassland communities, may be detrimentally affected by harvesting during certain periods of the year. Areas such as hayfields look particularly attractive to wildlife which may construct nests only to have them destroyed immediately prior to fledging or soon thereafter. This can cause significant decreases in populations of certain species like the Eastern meadowlark.

Mowing, grazing, harvesting, disking or other disturbance should occur outside the identified primary nesting season in areas identified under this contract.

Refer to the West Virginia Conservation Practice *Early Successional Habitat Development/Management (647) - Cool Season Grassland Management for Wildlife* and/or other applicable job sheets for more information regarding the management and maintenance of this practice.

Certification for Non-Disturbance of Vegetative Communities During the Primary Nesting Season March 15 – July 15

Farm# _____ **Tract #** _____

Field #	Acreage Protected	Acreage Type (grassland, odd area, etc)

I certify that I have not disturbed vegetative communities during the Primary Nesting Season March 15 – July 15 as described above and as outlined in the job sheet(s) I was provided.

Client's Signature: _____**Date:** _____

Additional Notes: