Properly Implementing Your Wildlife Management Plan & Keeping Good Records

Plateau
Land & Wildlife
Management

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What we're going to cover:

- General overview
- Do's and don'ts
- Activity categories
- Things to consider
- Resources & help
- Questions

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This is what you're doing now instead of keeping cows and other livestock or producing crop or timber.

Wildlife are your "crop" now.

Getting started, getting comfortable and staying that way.

Generally Speaking

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- **Activity** based, not just results based – **just do it!**
- Following a good plan can increase success and **enjoyment**
- Doing the activities is the **fun** part – what you are doing instead of feeding cows, tending fences or harvesting timber
- Falling behind and bad timing can make wildlife less **rewarding**, as well as more difficult and expensive
- **You're not in this alone**

Do’s & Don’ts

DON’T -

Wait until you are “approved” to get started

DON’T -

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Expect to hear from the Appraisal Districts (CAD) about approval

DON’T -

Do the minimum

DON’T -

Fail compliance by performing fewer than three activities in a calendar year

DON’T -

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Think that you have to do everything in your plan

DON’T -

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Think that you can only do what is in your plan

DON’T -

Hesitate to ask for help

DO -

Have fun!

DO -

Get started early

DO -

More than is “required”

DO -

Get organized and prepared with your plan

DO -

Keep good records

DO -

Take a lot of photos

DO -

Think about your annual report

DO -

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Expect your property to be inspected

DO -

Expect your property to change

DO -

Get some reward out of wildlife management valuation

DO -

Make it easier on yourself

DO -

Get help if needed – it’s okay!

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Plateau products

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Activity Categories

Habitat control

- Game population management
- Brush management
- Riparian management

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Erosion control

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- Pond / tank construction
- Streamside, pond, wetland re-vegetation
- Dam construction / repair

Predator control

- Feral animals (hogs, cats, etc.)
- Imported Red Fire Ant control
- Native predators (skunks, raccoons)

Supplemental food

- Grazing management
- Food plots
- Feeders & mineral supplementation

Supplemental shelter

- Nest boxes, bat boxes
- Brush piles & slash retention
- Pasture management (strip mowing)

Supplemental water

- Wildlife rain collectors
- Wells, troughs, windmill overflow
- Spring development / enhancement

Census counts

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- Spotlight counts
- Harvest data collection
- Songbird count

Considerations

Things to consider

- Tools
- Timing
- Action
- Assistance

Tools

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- **Wildlife management plan – the tool you'll use most**
- Log sheets
- Activity calendar
- Camera (phone) – most important
- GPS – good, but not a must
- Maps – always helpful
- Log book – for notes
- Calendar – for notes
- Folder (outline or otherwise) – receipts, reports, etc.
- Annual report

Log sheets – plateauwildlife.com/forms

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Supplemental Water

Property Name:

Installation

Note: Take photo of each wildlife water source. Keep receipts. Label approximate location of each water source on map.

Date	Name/#	Type of water source	Water added? (Y/N)	GPS coordinates (optional)	Photo taken?	Have receipt?
Ex: 12/30/11	W01	305 gallon rain water catchment	Yes	30.2747, -97.7403	✔	✔
					☐	☐
					☐	☐
					☐	☐
					☐	☐
					☐	☐

Maintenance

Note: Take before and after pictures of refill. Keep receipts. Wildlife activity should include wildlife tracks or signs around feeder. Label approximate location on map.

Date	Name/#	Wildlife utilizing water source	Amount of water present	Amount of water added	Photo taken?	Have receipt?
Ex: 12/31/11	W01	Raccoon, turkey tracks	about 100 gallons	100 gallons	✔	✔
					☐	☐
					☐	☐
					☐	☐

Prescribed Control of Species

Property Name:

Note: Take before and after photos of representative vegetative areas. Outline approximate area of prescribed control of vegetation on map. Also include animals removed in applicable harvest log sheet.

Date	Species targeted	# seen	# removed	Control method	Photos taken?	Notes
Ex: 12/30/11	Axis deer	2	1	Bow	✔	Juvenile, male
Ex: 12/30/11	Chinaberry	20	15	Herbicide	✔	Treated approx. 2 acres
					☐	
					☐	

Timing

Timing for Wildlife Management Activities

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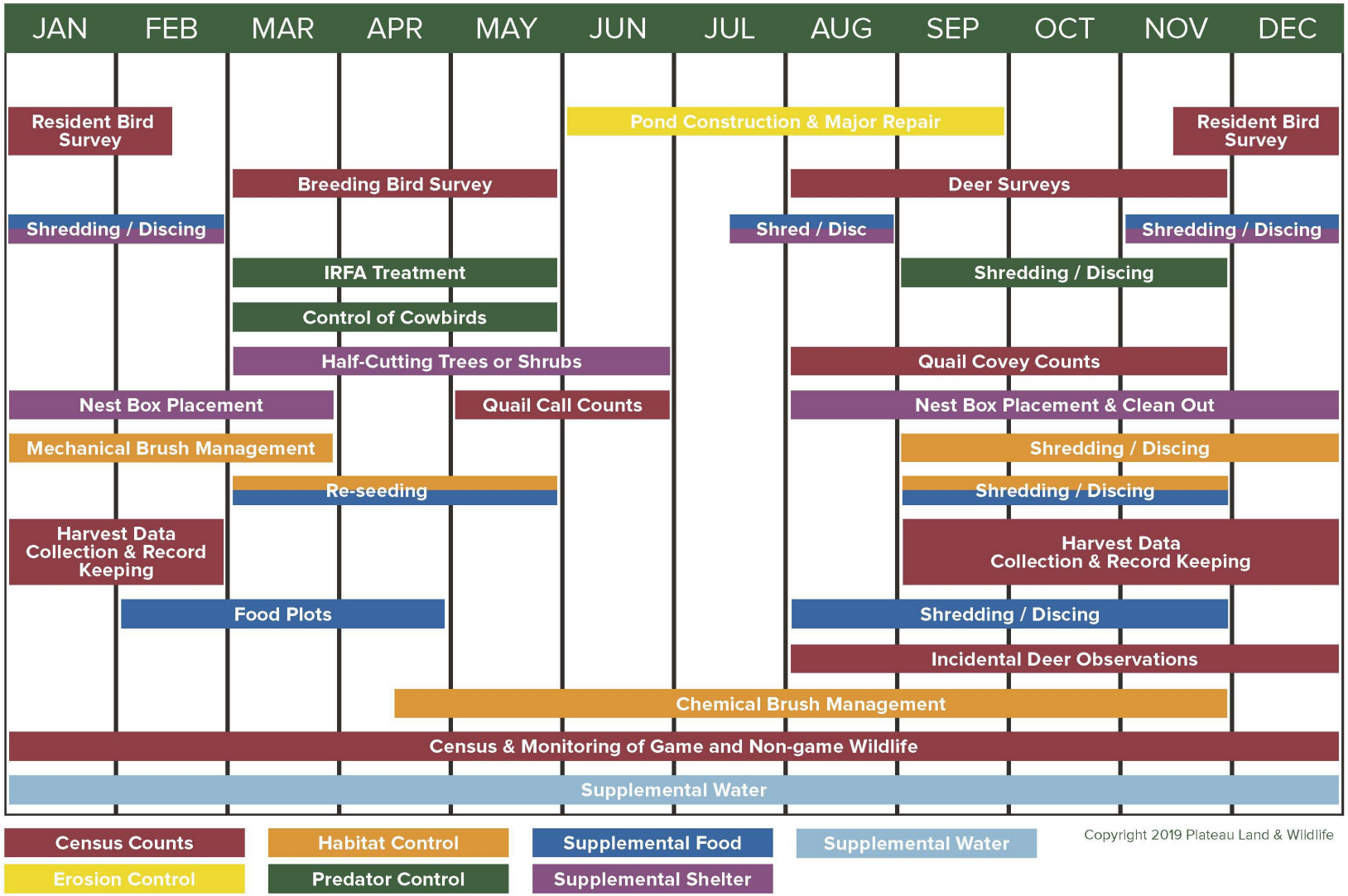

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Action

1. Habitat control
2. Erosion control
3. Predator control
4. Supplemental food
5. Supplemental shelter
6. Supplemental water
7. Census counts

Assistance - Plateau resources

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- Refer to your wildlife management plan or the Plateau website for contact information
- Sign up for Plateau Post and Seasons Newsletter
- Visit plateauwildlife.com
- Call (512) 894-3479

Summary

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- A **good plan** makes wildlife management fun and rewarding
- Proper **timing** will improve results
- **Inspect** what you expect – is this working?
- Use **tools** like calendars, cameras and checklists
- Use what you **know** to make better decisions
- Look for little rewards and go forward with **confidence**
- What you are doing is working and it's **worth** it

Family of Companies

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Thank you!

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Questions?