**Pheasant Cooperative: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Year established: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Attach a map of the cooperative including details of the habitat types found within the cooperative border. You can work with your local Farm Bill Biologist, or DNR Wildlife Biologist to create this.**

Number of members: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of landowners: \_\_\_\_\_ Is there a membership list: Yes No

Number of total acres: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of quality habitat acres: \_\_\_\_\_ Percent forest cover: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Existing Co-Op Acres (total): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Nesting & Brood Rearing Cover: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Winter Cover: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Food Plots: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Acres Needed (total): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Nesting & Brood Rearing Cover: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Winter Cover: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Food Plots: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Habitat goals for the coming year:**

**Crowing Counts:** Conduct a survey three times each spring, mark the number of crows you hear at each stop each time you do your route. The stopping points should be consistent each year.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Year: | | | Year: | | | Year: | | | Year: | | | Year: | | |
|  | **1** | **2** | **3** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **1** | **2** | **3** |
| Stop 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stop 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stop 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stop 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stop 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stop 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stop 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stop 8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stop 9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stop 10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Hunter Success:** If you were able to hunt pheasants, please indicate the number of pheasants that where harvested by cooperative members.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Year: | Year: | Year: | Year: | Year: | Year: | Year: |
| Wild birds harvested |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Please note the various activities your cooperative conducted over the past year:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Habitat Days** |  |
| **Youth Events** |  |
| **Educational Events** |  |
| **Other Cooperative Activities** |  |

**Notes:**

**Management Tips:**



**Habitat Criteria for Pheasant Release:**

**Cooperative Size:**  Must be at least 10,000 acres

**Habitat Criteria:**  All of the following must be met to be eligible for a translocation

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cover Type** | **Co-op Requirements** | **Cover Distribution** | **Cover Description** |
| **Nesting Cover** | 1,200 acres (~12%)  - 600 acres (~6%) of high quality  - Grassland fields 5+ acres included  - Grassland strips 50+ feet wide included (exception: filter strips) | - 40+ acres of high quality nest cover in at least 6 different sections (square miles)  - For cooperatives larger than 10,000 acres, the minimum distribution must be 40+ acres of high quality nest cover in 1/3 of the sections (square miles) | - High quality grassland would include unharvested and ungrazed cool season or warm season grasses with or without forbs (wildflowers, legumes)  - Low quality would include grassland that is grazed or mowed during the nesting season (April 1 – July 15) or consists primarily of bluegrass |
| **Winter Cover** | - 60+ (0.6%) acres  - included fields must be 2+ acres | - Winter cover must be found in parcels of at least 5 acres in at least 2 non-adjacent sections (square miles) | - Only permanent or semi-permanent cover may be counted  -Winter cover to be counted includes dense switchgrass, cattail marsh not dominated by trees, and wetlands dominated by shrubs but not trees (shrub-carr)  - Upland shrubs and Phragmites dominated wetlands do not count toward the minimum required |

**Additional Habitat Considerations:**

Food Plots:  There is not a minimum acreage required for food plots, but provision of food plots both for food and to reduce vulnerability to predation is encouraged.  Cooperatives that meet the other habitat requirements will be located in open landscapes that are dominated by grain agriculture that will provide food. Food plots do not count toward nesting or winter cover.

Woodland: Woodland must cover less than 20% of the cooperative.

**Habitat Map:**  A habitat map must be supplied to document the locations of the habitat, and the map must be signed off by a local wildlife professional (Examples: Farm Bill Biologist, DNR staff, Conservation District staff, US Fish & Wildlife Service Staff)

**Pheasant Surveys:**  Pheasant surveys must be conducted for the 3 years from the time the habitat criteria is met in order to determine if there is insufficient remnant pheasant population response that justifies a translocation of pheasants from another source.  Cooperatives are encouraged to begin surveys before the habitat is restored in order to help all see the magnitude of pheasant response.  The surveys must have annually consistent routes, using consistent methods, and must be submitted annually to a biologist designated by the DNR to ensure that procedures are followed to enable an accurate conclusion on pheasant response.