

CRP-1 (05-05-25)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Commodity Credit Corporation	1. ST. & CO. CODE & ADMIN. LOCATION 18 113	2. SIGN-UP NUMBER 63
CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM CONTRACT		3. CONTRACT NUMBER 11611	4. ACRES FOR ENROLLMENT 9.35
5A. COUNTY FSA OFFICE ADDRESS (Include Zip Code) NOBLE COUNTY FARM SERVICE AGENCY 100 E. PARK DRIVE ALBION, IN 46701-1437		6. TRACT NUMBER 15932	7. CONTRACT PERIOD FROM: (MM-DD-YYYY) TO: (MM-DD-YYYY) 10/01/2025 9/30/2035
5B. COUNTY FSA OFFICE PHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code): (260) 636-7682		8. SIGNUP TYPE: SAFE - IN Ring-necked Pheasant SAFE	

INSTRUCTIONS: RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.

THIS CONTRACT is entered into between the Commodity Credit Corporation (referred to as "CCC") and the undersigned owners, operators, or tenants (referred to as "the Participant"). The Participant agrees to place the designated acreage into the Conservation Reserve Program ("CRP") or other use set by CCC for the stipulated contract period from the date the Contract is executed by the CCC. The Participant also agrees to implement on such designated acreage the Conservation Plan developed for such acreage and approved by the CCC and the Participant. Additionally, the Participant and CCC agree to comply with the terms and conditions contained in this Contract, including the Appendix to this Contract, entitled Appendix to CRP-1, Conservation Reserve Program Contract (referred to as "Appendix"). By signing below, the Participant acknowledges receipt of a copy of the Appendix/Appendices for the applicable contract period. The terms and conditions of this contract are contained in this Form CRP-1 and in the CRP-1 Appendix and any addendum thereto. **BY SIGNING THIS CONTRACT PARTICIPANTS ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE FOLLOWING FORMS: CRP-1; CRP-1 Appendix and any addendum thereto; and, CRP-2, CRP-2C, CRP-2G, or CRP-2C30, as applicable.**

9A. Rental Rate Per Acre	\$ 157.76	10. Identification of CRP Land (See Page 2 for additional space)			
9B. Annual Contract Payment	\$ 1,475.00	A. Tract No.	B. Field No.	C. Practice No.	E. Total Estimated Cost-Share
9C. First Year Payment	\$	15932	0005	CP38E-2	\$ 2,012.00
(Item 9C is applicable only when the first year payment is prorated.)		15932	0015	CP38E-2	\$ 1,027.00

11. PARTICIPANTS (If more than three individuals are signing, see Page 3.)

A(1) PARTICIPANT'S NAME AND ADDRESS (Include Zip Code) NOBLE ACRES LLC 4728 N 200 W ALBION, IN 46701-9761	(2) SHARE 100.00 %	(3) SIGNATURE (By) Rebecca M. Schroeder	(4) TITLE/RELATIONSHIP OF THE INDIVIDUAL SIGNING IN THE REPRESENTATIVE CAPACITY Manager	(5) DATE (MM-DD-YYYY) 06-03-2025
B(1) PARTICIPANT'S NAME AND ADDRESS (Include Zip Code)	(2) SHARE %	(3) SIGNATURE (By)	(4) TITLE/RELATIONSHIP OF THE INDIVIDUAL SIGNING IN THE REPRESENTATIVE CAPACITY	(5) DATE (MM-DD-YYYY)
C(1) PARTICIPANT'S NAME AND ADDRESS (Include Zip Code)	(2) SHARE %	(3) SIGNATURE (By)	(4) TITLE/RELATIONSHIP OF THE INDIVIDUAL SIGNING IN THE REPRESENTATIVE CAPACITY	(5) DATE (MM-DD-YYYY)

12. CCC USE ONLY	A. SIGNATURE OF CCC REPRESENTATIVE Jennifer Beling	B. DATE (MM-DD-YYYY) 9/17/25
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NOTE: Privacy Act Statement: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714 et seq.), the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.), the Agricultural Act of 2014 (16 U.S.C. 3831 et seq.), the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 (Pub. L. 115-334), the Further Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act, 2024 (Pub. L. 118-22), the American Relief Act, 2025 (Pub. L. 118-158), and the Conservation Reserve Program 7 CFR Part 1410. The information will be used to determine eligibility to participate in and receive benefits under the Conservation Reserve Program. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for USDA/FSA-2, Farm Records File (Automated). Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility to participate in and receive benefits under the Conservation Reserve Program.

Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) Statement: The information collection is exempted from PRA as specified in 16 U.S.C. 3846(b)(1).

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PARTICIPANT NOBLE ACRES LLC	COUNTY AND STATE Noble County, Indiana	PROGRAM AND CONTRACT NUMBER CRP SAFE CP38E-2 11611	FUND CODE
LAND UNITS OR LEGAL DESCRIPTION Tract: 15932 Fields: 5, 15		WATERSHED Not Applicable	ACRES 9.35
		EXPIRATION DATE 9/30/2035	

Contract Item 1

General Cover - Establish and/or maintain permanent vegetation to reduce wind and water erosion, delivery of sediment to surface water, to reduce particulate matter and precursors, and reduce greenhouse gases.

Fields: Tract: 15932 Fields: 5, 15

Contract Item	PLANNED CONSERVATION TREATMENT	Planned Amount	Unit Cost	Cost Share Rate/Method	Completion Schedule and Estimated Cost Share or Payment by										
					Year										
1	Conservation Cover (327)	9.35 Ac		\$3,693.25	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	
1a	CP21 - Native Grasses/Forbs - Installation Cost	9.35 Ac	\$300.00/Ac	50% AM	\$ 1,402.50										
1b	CP21 - Native Grasses/Forbs - Seed Cost	9.35 Ac	\$490.00/Ac	50% AM	\$ 2,290.75										

Contract Item 2

Early Successional Habitat - Manage plant succession to develop and maintain early successional habitat that benefits desired wildlife and / or natural communities.

Fields: Tract: 15932 Fields: 5, 15

Contract Item	PLANNED CONSERVATION TREATMENT	Planned Amount	Unit Cost	Cost Share Rate/Method	Completion Schedule and Estimated Cost Share or Payment by Year										
					2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	
2	Early Successional Habitat Development-Mgt (647)	6.26 Ac		\$0.00	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
2a	Mgmt Activity, 10-year contract; see attached IIR for selected activity	6.26 Ac	\$0.00/Ac	0% NC				0.00							

PARTICIPANT NOBLE ACRES LLC	COUNTY AND STATE Noble County, Indiana	PROGRAM AND CONTRACT NUMBER CRP SAFE CP38E-2	FUND CODE
LAND UNITS OR LEGAL DESCRIPTION Tract: 15932 Fields: 5, 15		WATERSHED Not Applicable	ACRES 9.35
		EXPIRATION DATE 9/30/2035	

Contract Item 3

Early Successional Habitat - Manage plant succession to develop and maintain early successional habitat that benefits desired wildlife and / or natural communities.

Fields: Tract: 15932 Fields: 5

Contract Item	PLANNED CONSERVATION TREATMENT	Planned Amount	Unit Cost	Cost Share Rate/Method	Completion Schedule and Estimated Cost Share or Payment									
					by Year									
3	Early Successional Habitat Development-Mgt (647)	3.09 Ac		\$0.00	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
3a	Mgmt Activity, 10-year contract; see attached IR for selected activity	3.09 Ac	\$0.00/Ac	0% NC	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
									0.00					

11/9/11

PARTICIPANT NOBLE ACRES LLC	COUNTY AND STATE Noble County, Indiana	PROGRAM AND CONTRACT NUMBER CRP SAFE CP38E-2	FUND CODE
LAND UNITS OR LEGAL DESCRIPTION Tract: 15932 Fields: 5, 15		WATERSHED Not Applicable	ACRES 9.35
		EXPIRATION DATE 9/30/2035	

Total Cost-Share or Payment by Year										
Year	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Amount(\$)	3,693.25			0.00	0.00					
										Total Payment
										\$3,693.25

NOTES: A. All items numbers on form NRCS-CPA-1155 must be carried out as part of this contract to prevent violation.
 B. When established, the conservation practices identified by the numbered items must be maintained by the participant at no cost to the government.
 C. All cost share rates are based on average cost (AC) with the following exceptions.
 AA = Actual costs not to exceed average cost. FR = Flat rate. NC = Non cost-shared. AM = Actual cost not to exceed the specified maximum.
 NP = Non-Participant Payment.
 D. By signing, the participant acknowledges receipt of this conservation plan including this form NRCS-CPA-1155 and agrees to comply with the terms and conditions here of.

Certification of Participants

Signature *Noble Acres LLC by Belva Schneider* Date *8-6-2025*
 NOBLE ACRES LLC Member/Manager

PARTICIPANT NOBLE ACRES LLC	COUNTY AND STATE Noble County, Indiana	PROGRAM AND CONTRACT NUMBER CRP SAFE CP38E-2	FUND CODE
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			EXPIRATION DATE 9/30/2035

Signature of Reviewing Officials

Technical Adequacy Certification

Signature

Date

NRCS Approving Official

Signature

Date

[Signature]

7/31/2025

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

Signature

Date

[Signature]

9/11/25

NOBLE COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PRIVACY ACT

The following statements are made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 522a). Furnishing this information is voluntary; however failure to furnish correct, complete information will result in the withholding or withdrawal of such technical or financial assistance. The information may be furnished to other USDA agencies, the Internal Revenue Service, the Department of Justice, or other state or federal law enforcement agencies, or in response to orders of a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal.

This information collection is exempted from the Paperwork Reduction Act under 16 U.S.C. 3801 note and 16 U.S.C. 3846.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

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Date: 7/24/2025

Conservation Plan Map

Client(s): [REDACTED]
 Noble County, Indiana
 CRP Sign-Up No.: 63
 CRP Sign-Up Type: State Acres for Wildlife SAFE

Acres for Enrollment: 9.35
 Contract Period: 10-01-2025 to 09-30-2035
 Assisted By: RUSSELL BAKER
 ALBION SERVICE CENTER

Tract	Land Unit	Practice Name	Planned Amt	Planned Date
15932	5	Conservation Cover (327)	6.19	2026
15932	15	Conservation Cover (327)	3.16	2026



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Prepared with assistance from USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

0 752 Feet

- Conservation Practice Polygons
- Conservation Cover (327)
 - Practice Schedule PLUs



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Conservation Plan Map

Client(s): [REDACTED]
Noble County, Indiana
CRP Sign-Up No.: 63
CRP Sign-Up Type: State Acres for Wildlife SAFE

Acres for Enrollment: 9.35
Contract Period: 10-01-2025 to 09-30-2035
Assisted By: RUSSELL BAKER
ALBION SERVICE CENTER

Tract	Land Unit	Practice Name	Planned Amt	Planned Date
15932	5	Early Successional Habitat Development-Mgt (647)	3.10	2029
15932	5	Early Successional Habitat Development-Mgt (647)	3.09	2030
15932	15	Early Successional Habitat Development-Mgt (647)	3.16	2029



Prepared with assistance from USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service



Conservation Practice Polygons

Early Successional Habitat Development/Management (647)

Practice Schedule PLUs





United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service - Indiana – January 2023

CRP CP38E (CP2 & CP4D) Ring-necked Pheasant v1.2

State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) Permanent Wildlife Habitat and Permanent Native Grasses Program Implementation Requirements



PURPOSE

The purpose of this practice is to restore native grassland habitat for Ring-necked Pheasant and grassland songbirds and maintain the cover in a diversity of successional stages that meet the nesting and brood rearing requirements of those species.

WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

On fields that meet eligibility requirements for the State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) Initiative of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) as determined by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Fields must be located within the counties identified in the Ringed-neck Pheasant Priority Areas (refer to Indiana guidance eligibility maps in 2-CRP). The contract duration for CP38E is 10 years. Minimum Acreage is 3 acres.

PLANNING

A wildlife conservation plan will be developed in consultation with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) District Wildlife Biologist, Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist, or other wildlife professional. When selecting plant species, consider the requirements for optimum wildlife habitat, and adaptability to the soils, and moisture conditions in the field being established. Elements of the plan will include in detail the following requirements (check all that apply).

- ☐ **Winter Cover/Shrubland (required for CP4D, optional for CP2)** 20% of the acreage of a CP4D (limit of optional 10% if a CP2) may be planted to shrubs or trees planted in clumps or strips or may be allowed to revert to trees or shrubs through natural succession.
- ☒ **Nesting cover (required CP2 and CP 4D):** Offers will be planted to native grasses, forbs and legumes. Offers may be seeded to a combination of listed practices (CP2 and CP4D). A minimum of 3 grass species is required when planting for CP2, a minimum of 2 grass species for CP4D.
- ☐ **Food plots (CP12 - recommended):** Food plots are recommended but not required. Preferred location is adjacent to dense shrub plantings or tall herbaceous cover as site feasibility allows. No more than 10% of the field, not-to-exceed 5 acres, may be planted to food plots.

SELECTION OF RATES AND SPECIES

The IN Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Seeding Tool will be used when developing seeding mixes and to determine tree and shrub species for this practice. Native grass plantings will be planned in the Indiana Wildlife Seeding Calculator and introduced cool season mixes planned in the Indiana General Seeding Calculator. Prepackaged mixes must be approved before seeding. Site-specific requirements are listed on the attached Specifications Sheet.

SITE PREPARATION

Site preparation is the most critical step in the establishment of habitat. Even the most well-planned seed mix will fail if the site preparation is not thorough. A well-prepared planting bed will increase the likelihood of establishment and reduce maintenance and management in the future. Weed control efforts should begin as early as 12 months prior to planting and may require multiple applications over the course of one to two years. Pay attention to sites where noxious and potentially invasive species are likely to occur, or areas of sod, such as old fescue pastures. Many of these species are perennials that spread through seed and roots, and many have rhizomatous root systems that will persist and negatively impact the planting.

Site preparation can use a combination of methods, including herbicide treatment, prescribed burning, mowing, and tillage. Each of these methods must be used with the appropriate timing and combination to maximize effectiveness. Disking should be used with caution, as soil disturbance can release additional weed seeds and increase the potential for erosion, creating larger problems. Mowing alone is not likely to be sufficient and should be combined with chemical, prescribed fire or additional mechanical treatments. Non-chemical methods and organic methods are possible but are labor intensive and will likely take longer to get the site ready for planting and are best suited for smaller sites. See Indiana Job Sheet 315 Herbaceous Weed Control- Site Preparation, for more information.

If prescribed burning is used for site preparation, it must meet the IN NRCS FOTG Standard (338) *Prescribed Burning*.

COMPANION/NURSE CROPS

A companion/nurse crop will be used when erosion control and weed suppression are needed. Companion/nurse crops include Winter Wheat (after the Hessian Fly-free dates in Table 2), Oats, Barley, Cereal Rye or Annual Ryegrass; native Wildryes (i.e. – *Elymus sp.* such as Canada, Riverbank, and Virginia Wildrye) and other species are also effective.

Companion crops will be clipped after jointing, but before seed head pollination unless otherwise directed (control of Wildrye species is not necessary so that they persist as part of the seedings). A second and subsequent clipping is necessary if re-growth provides competition. Clipping height should be above developing seedlings. Where excessive growth has accumulated, the vegetation will be chopped rather than swathed.

PLANTING

All seeding must be completed within 12 months of the effective date of the contract to remain in compliance. If circumstances beyond the landowner's control prohibit completion within the first 12 months, the local FSA County Committee may approve an extension to the next planting season.

Seeding Dates

Selected species will be planted within the dates on the specification sheet or in the wildlife habitat management plan that will be provided for the site.

Seed preparation

Inoculate legume seed with the proper rhizobia bacteria for the species no more than 60 days prior to seeding or as specified on the seed / inoculant tag. Inoculant left in the sun, even for a short period of time can significantly reduce the viability and effectiveness. Pre-inoculated seed will have a coating that changes the pure live seed per pound and thus the bulk seeding rate per acre. Be aware that blending seed of varying size, shape and weight can make calibration of equipment and seeding uniformity difficult.

Some seeding mixtures contain seed that is extremely small and thus have very low seeding rates. This may make it difficult to set seeding equipment to uniformly seed these low rates. To add enough volume to the mix for proper metering, a **carrier** or coated seed may be desirable. The carrier should be no larger than the largest seed species and have similar shape, density and texture to the majority of seeds in the mix. The carrier can be an inert material (i.e. cracked corn) that does not have abrasive properties that may cause damage to the equipment or the seed. Inexpensive seed (unimproved varieties) that will have no significant negative impact on the purpose of the seeding may also be used.

Planting Methods

No-Till seeding: Use a no-till drill with seven (7) inch or less row spacing. Ensure the drill is designed to handle the type of seed being planted (especially important for native grasses). Set the no-till drill to provide good seed- to-soil contact and a planting depth preferred for the desired species (see table below). Soils that are too wet or too dry can also cause improper seed placement.

Conventional Seeding: Prepare a fine firm seedbed to a depth of three (3) to four (4) inches. Use a drill with seven (7) inch or less row spacing, or a culti-packer seeder designed for the seed to be planted. Seed should be drilled uniformly at a proper seeding depth for the desired species.

Broadcast Seeding: Seed may be broadcast if completed in a uniform manner. Pre-mix the seed with 200 pounds per acre of pelletized lime if using an airflow applicator. Seedbeds should be worked to a minimum depth of three (3) inches and firmed before seeding. The seedbed should be culti-packed before and after seeding. It is acceptable to see up to one-third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of the seed on the soil surface. Wind speed should be 15 miles per hour or less when broadcasting.

Inter-seeding:

Legumes/Forbs (frost seeding): No-till drill or broadcast as above into existing vegetation or residues. Broadcasting relies on freeze/thaw cycles, rain and/or snow to incorporate the seed. This method does not include a seedbed preparation. This is most commonly used during the dormant seeding period.

Cover Crops: No-till drill or broadcast as above into existing vegetation or residues. Broadcasting relies on freeze/thaw cycles, rain and/or snow to incorporate the seed. Inter-seeding does not include a seedbed preparation. This method can be used to establish cover crop species or combination mixes into relatively light (e.g. soybean) and weed free crop residues, or to establish vegetation into standing crops.

Grasses: No-till drill into existing covers only if prior-treated with herbicides or tillage, or if existing cover is diminishing (i.e. – older alfalfa plantings).

Tree Planting

Bare rooted stock (seedlings) should be planted in the spring after the ground thaws, but no later than June 1; or planted in the fall using dormant seedlings (usually after November 1). Container stock may be planted between September 15 - June 1 as local soil moisture and weather conditions permit.

All planting stock shall not be planted when the soil is frozen or dry and will be planted with the root collars approximately at or slightly below the ground line.

Planting stock will be protected from desiccation prior to and during planting. Planting stock should be planted immediately upon delivery to the site. If planting is delayed stock will be stored in accordance with NRCS Practice FOTG (612) Tree/Shrub Establishment.

WEED CONTROL DURING ESTABLISHMENT

Weed Control in native grass plantings: Control competing vegetation as needed until established or a Final Status Review is issued. *Mowing multiple times during this establishment period is critical to the success of the native grass planting.* Mow when competing weeds are taller than the planted vegetation, and at a height above the planted vegetation. Use selective herbicides and/or spot spraying to protect the desired species, or for problem perennial weeds. Refer to the Purdue/Ohio State *Weed Control Guide for Ohio and Indiana* for herbicide timing and treatment.

Weed Control in Tree/Shrub Plantings: Weed control is also important to ensure survival and maximum growth of the trees after they are planted. Nine (9) ft² around each tree should remain weed-free to maximize tree growth. Mowing is not recommended for weed control for trees. CRP cost share is authorized for one weed control application within 24 months after planting.

HAYING AND GRAZING

Exclude all acres from haying and grazing year-round. Managed haying or grazing are not authorized for Indiana's SAFE practices.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Operation and maintenance is required and begins with the purchase of the seed. Purchase seed from reputable dealers that is tested and verified to not contain noxious or other species that may become a problem such as Palmer Amaranth. Do not plant seed from unknown sourcing or with weeds, as it could result in long-term management problems. Throughout the life of the contract, noxious weeds and other undesirable plants, insects, and pests will be controlled, including such maintenance as necessary to avoid detrimental effects to the surrounding land.

After the Final Status Review, maintain the planting according to your CRP conservation plan - See the attached *CRP Operation and Maintenance* for more details. Maintenance activities are allowed only on a spot basis and only if necessary to maintain stand health, maintain stand diversity, or control pests that will damage the CRP cover or adjacent lands. Burning must be in accordance with a prescribed burn plan. **MOWING and other maintenance activities are not authorized between April 1 to August 1** to protect ground-nesting wildlife (i.e. - the Primary Nesting and Brood-Rearing season). If maintenance activities are needed (allowed on a spot basis only) during these times, the FSA County Committee must approve the maintenance activity prior to the activity occurring. Native grasses will not be mowed lower than 12 inches. **Mowing for generic weed control or for cosmetic purposes is prohibited.**

The contract area cannot be used for field roads or other uses that will damage or destroy the cover.

Operation and Maintenance in Tree/Shrub Plantings. Check survivability of planted tree/shrub species after three (3) years to ensure that the desired stocking rate for the site is present, usually 70% survival of the planted rate. Additional planting will be completed if it is determined that additional natural regeneration will not be sufficient to colonize the site within an acceptable time frame (usually 5 years) so that 300 acceptable woody plants per acre are established.

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Management Activities are required on areas. At least one "management activity" must occur on no less than 25% of the enrolled acreage in years 4-7 of the contract period. For maximum habitat value, disturb no more than 1/3-1/2 of the contract acreage in any given year. Grassland areas must be established for a minimum of three (3) years before initiating.

Areas devoted to grass have the following options:

Strip Disking
Prescribed Burning
Strip Spraying

Areas devoted to shrubs have the following options:

Pruning
Thinning

Avoid Environmentally sensitive areas as marked on the plan map including:

Concentrated flow areas, critical areas, within the first 20 feet of a practice that borders a water resource to avoid water quality resource concerns, and other areas where gully erosion is likely.

Management Activities will not be performed from April 1 through August 1 to protect the primary nesting period for grassland bird species. It is also recommended, but is not required, to delay Management Activities until after August 15 to reduce the chance of harming fledgling birds and other young wildlife.

Management Activities will be performed along field contours, or across the slope, when practical. Strips will parallel brushy or woody escape cover when feasible.