

Course Name: Evaluating Wildlife Habitat - Module	
Course Coordinator: Lynn Sampson	Course Number: MI0056

Overview: This course emphasizes the methods and procedures that are used to evaluate habitat for common wildlife species. It covers the life history information of common wildlife species and their associated habitat requirements. This course covers the two tools used in evaluating habitats to meet wildlife quality criteria requirements. These two tools are the Michigan Habitat Inventory and Habitat Suitability Index Models.

Purpose: The purpose of this course is to provide information and procedures for evaluating wildlife habitat for common wildlife species. This information will result in conservation plans that assist customers in making decisions that conserve, maintain, and improve wildlife resources.

Prerequisites:

- Read the following Standards and Specification in the FOTG

644 Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management
645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management

- Read the following Technical Note

Biology Technical Note #12: Wildlife Habitat Evaluation

Duration: One day

Target Audience: NRCS and conservation partner employees providing conservation planning assistance to customers.

Expected Outcomes: The minimum wildlife planning proficiency level expected at the end of the course is 4 - Apply independently

Resources needed: Michigan Field Office Technical Guide, Michigan Biology Technical Note #12

Outline for: **Evaluating Wildlife Habitat**

Part 1: In classroom

Discuss the components of wildlife habitat

Review life history of common wildlife species including pheasant, deer and salamanders

Discuss quality criteria for wildlife

Discuss the Michigan Habitat Evaluation method and its use

Discuss Habitat Suitability Indexes and its use

Part 2: In field

Apply the Michigan Habitat Evaluation method to a local situation for cropland, woodland and grassland