



## Chemical Brush Management

# SAND SHINNER OAK PRAIRIE

Restoring plant composition of sand shinnery oak prairie to a historical mosaic and/or codominance of shinnery oak, grass, and forb ecosystem has potential for improving habitat conditions.

The treatment prescription will be based on achieving the historic climax plant community as outlined by the USDA Ecological Site Descriptions which represents the desired ecological condition.

The following treatment actions may be prescribed on the conservation properties enrolled in WAFWA's Oil & Gas Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) with WAFWA's authorization:

### Criteria

- Aerial application at a reduced rate of 3/10 lbs. per acre of the active ingredient tebuthrion (Spike™). Converted as 0.3 lbs./ac. or 0.14 kg./ac.
- All chemical label restrictions followed.
- No more than 50% of the enrolled property will be treated during any two-year period.
- No treatment within 45 meters (150 feet) of sand hills ecological sites (i.e., sand dunes/blowouts).

*Note:* Within dunes sagebrush lizard range, the buffer expands to 500 meters with a corridor between dunes that are <2,000 meters apart.

## STRATEGIC

### Post-Treatment Management

Strategic land management actions following the treatment is essential for ensuring establishment of the native grass and forb plant community.

- Grazing will be deferred for at least two years after treatment (a.k.a. grazing deferment).
- Any activity of ground or vegetation disturbance (mowing, chaining, burning etc.) is prohibited for 2 years post-treatment.
- After the grazing deferment, a prescribed grazing plan that includes the CCAA grazing requirements of a reduced 33% forage utilization rate or less is required for the duration of the enrollment period.
- The grazing plan will generally prescribe an initial 1-2 years of dormant season grazing (November - March) to further promote the establishment of a healthy grass/forb community.
- Repeat or overlapping chemical treatments are not authorized.
- WAFWA's annual monitoring of the enrolled property will document vegetation trends over time and will help inform any adaptive management changes to ensure success.

Example of buffering sand dunes



For additional information:

**Chanda Pettie**

Lesser Prairie-Chicken Program Director

Email: [chanda.pettie@wafwa.org](mailto:chanda.pettie@wafwa.org)

[www.wafwa.org](http://www.wafwa.org)

