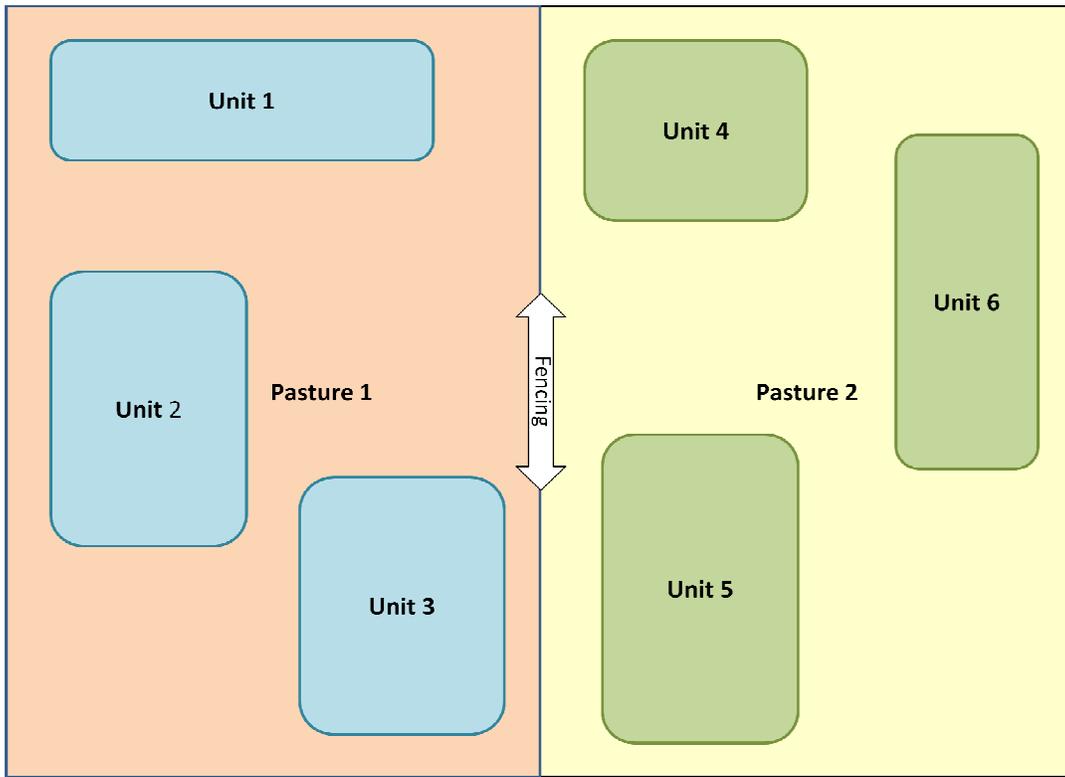


Wetland Conservation and Management for the Texas Central Coast

Wetland Complex Management

Example B – Wetland management rotation in pastures containing multiple wetland units



	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Units 1-3	<i>Moist-soil management</i> Slow drawdown (1-2 months) beginning in March and disk to promote seed producing annual plants (millet, smartweed). Flood (6-18") Sept-Dec for waterfowl.	Maintain water levels for mottled ducks through mid July, then slow drawdown by pulling 1 board every 2-3 wks to expose mudflats for shorebirds. Mow and disk if necessary. Flood for waterfowl in Nov.	<i>Moist-soil management or wetland unit maintenance</i> Follow recommendations to encourage seed producing annuals or consider maintenance work, such as control of invasive plants or levee repair.	Maintain water levels for mottled ducks through mid July, then slow drawdown by pulling 1 board every 2-3 wks to expose mudflats for shorebirds. Mow and disk if necessary. Flood for waterfowl in Nov.
Units 4-6	Maintain water levels for mottled ducks through mid July, then slow drawdown by pulling 1 board every 2-3 wks to expose mudflats for shorebirds. Mow and disk if necessary. Flood for waterfowl in Nov.	<i>Moist-soil management</i> Slow drawdown (1-2 months) beginning in March and disk to promote seed producing annual plants (millet, smartweed). Flood (6-18") Sept-Dec for waterfowl.	Maintain water levels for mottled ducks through mid July, then slow drawdown by pulling 1 board every 2-3 wks to expose mudflats for shorebirds. Mow and disk if necessary. Flood for waterfowl in Nov.	<i>Moist-soil management or wetland unit maintenance</i> Follow recommendations to encourage seed producing annuals or consider maintenance work, such as control of invasive plants or levee repair.
Pasture 1	Follow regular stocking rate and schedule for grazing. Conduct haying after June 1 to avoid damaging mottled duck nests.	No grazing or reduced grazing intensity until June. Conduct haying after June 1 to avoid damaging mottled ducks nests.	Follow regular stocking rate and schedule for grazing. Conduct haying after June 1 to avoid damaging mottled duck nests.	No grazing or reduced grazing intensity until June. Conduct haying after June 1 to avoid damaging mottled ducks nests.
Pasture 2	No grazing or reduced grazing intensity until June. Conduct haying after June 1 to avoid damaging mottled ducks nests.	Follow regular stocking rate and schedule for grazing. Conduct haying after June 1 to avoid damaging mottled duck nests.	No grazing or reduced grazing intensity until June. Conduct haying after June 1 to avoid damaging mottled ducks nests.	Follow regular stocking rate and schedule for grazing. Conduct haying after June 1 to avoid damaging mottled duck nests.

The above management rotation schedule and diagram are conceptual, provided here to be used as a guide by wetland managers who desire to manage their property for waterfowl and other wetland birds in an effective and efficient manner. Wetland systems are dynamic and no generic management recommendations can be written to account for all possible environmental scenarios.



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