

Timber Stand Improvement (TSI) practices that can benefit wildlife.

TSI practice	Wildlife benefits	Timber management considerations
Retention of cavity trees can be concentrated within 50' of woods' edge (where timber value is lowest), or in wetland areas, or adjacent to streams (where timber harvest is difficult or not recommended for water quality concerns).	Provides den and nest sites for wildlife.	Some cavity trees also may be timber trees; provides a diverse bird and mammal population important to the ecology of the forest (i.e., squirrels distribute seeds; woodpeckers eat harmful insects, etc.).
Girdle nonmarketable trees that must be culled from the stand. Inject with herbicide instead of removing and leave existing dead trees or snags.	Create snags that provide food sources for insect-eating birds such as woodpeckers, nuthatches, etc.; creates perches for hawks; creates small openings when done in groups for early successional species.	Saves time and labor cost over removal; reduces damage caused by felling cull trees.
Encourage mix of mast producing trees (red oak species, white oak species, beech, hickory, walnut, cherry, blackgum, ash, maple, and tulip poplar).	Provides food for wildlife.	Provides seed source for future tree regeneration; many mast-producing trees are valuable timber species – oak, cherry, walnut, hickory, maple, and ash; diversity protects against insect and disease infestations that can destroy single tree species (i.e., Chestnut blight, Dutch elm disease).
Perform no TSI or management on inoperable sites (areas where logging equipment cannot reach).	Provides mature trees for species requiring this cover type.	Saves time and labor cost in areas providing no economic return.