

**Huggins Farm / Dr. David Huggins
Pullman, WA
Site Visit – Wednesday, June 10, 2009**

Management Scenarios #1

The producer wants to expand their acres of organic wheat. Assume the field to be transitioned is currently in alfalfa/smooth brome hay. What options exist to kill the hay crop? What are the advantages and disadvantages to each of your options?

What is the lowest calculated Soil Condition Index score? Does this meet NRCS Quality Criteria? What options might the producer consider to improve this score?

The producer is considering grazing sheep on this property. Are there issues associated with this practice that need to be considered so as not to jeopardize his organic certification?

What additional crops might the landowner consider incorporating into the current organic rotations? What would be advantages and disadvantages of doing so?

The producer currently uses mechanical weed management to control wild oats. What are the advantages and disadvantages to mechanical control? What implications exist to the soil resource? What other organic weed control strategies could be considered?

The producer has expressed an interest in using prescribed burning to control weeds and to revitalize pastures. What would be the resource issues and organic certification implications associated with this option?

How do soil quality and erosion rates compare in organic sites vs. long-term conventionally managed wheat fields? How did you arrive at your answer?

If the producer decided to develop this property which area would be best suited for housing units? Why?

What organic options does the producer have to address problems with voles? Aphids? Lygus bugs (in lentils)?

What is the Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide score for the existing condition? What might the producer do to meet the target score? If habitat plantings are part of your suggestion, what plants might you consider? Are there implications to organic certification that should be addressed?