Habitat Scenarios

A marsh has been dredged to allow a marina to be built.
Remove one "habitat haven" from the *stopover* habitat.

A landowner has agreed to re-flood fields after harvesting, increasing acreage for wintering birds. **Add one "habitat haven" to the *wintering* habitat.**

A joint federal and state wetland restoration project involved removing "drain tiles" (perforated pipes), allowing a former wetland to flood and return to its natural state. **Add one "habitat haven" to the *stopover* habitat.**

A large increase in the number of mink and raccoons has reduced the value of a marsh nesting area. **Remove one "habitat haven" from the *nesting* habitat.**

Wintering habitat is reduced by the conversion of bottomland hardwood forests to cropland. **Remove one "habitat haven" from the *wintering* habitat.**

New legislation restricts motorboat traffic on a number of lakes and large marshes, reducing the human disturbance to wildlife. **Add one "habitat haven" to *stopover* habitat.**

Several years of sufficient rain and snow has replenished the water supply, thus increasing the food supply. **Add one "habitat haven" to the *nesting* habitat.**

A timber company has agreed to preserve a forested wetland in exchange for tax credits. **Add one "habitat haven" to the *stopover* habitat.**

Filling and diking reduces the amount of tidal wetlands available to waterfowl. **Remove one "habitat haven" from the *wintering* habitat.**

A large condominium development has been built on a drained marsh that was prime duck wintering habitat. **Remove one "habitat haven" from the *wintering* habitat.**

A large oil spill from a supertanker has severely damaged a number of salt marshes that were prime wintering areas. **Remove three "habitat havens" from the *wintering* habitat.**

A canal was constructed to remove boat traffic from a river that was used by a large number of waterfowl years ago. It is returning to its natural state. **Add one "habitat haven" to the *stopover* habitat.**

A number of consecutive dry years have occurred, resulting in numerous small wetlands drying up. **Remove one "habitat haven" from the *nesting* habitat.**

A prime wetland area has just been included in a new National Park. Because human disturbance is reduced in the area, **add one "habitat haven" to the *wintering* habitat.**

A coastal resort town has annexed a nearby area containing a wetland, which it has drained to allow tourist hotel development. **Remove one "habitat haven" from the *wintering* habitat.**

Habitat Scenarios

A "cookie cutter" (machinery that removes some vegetation and exposes a small area of water) has been brought to a marsh to improve waterfowl habitat. **Add one "habitat haven" to the *nesting* habitat.**

Acid rain has reduced the number of invertebrates needed by hens during nesting. **Remove two "habitat havens" from the *nesting* habitat.**

A marsh has been dredged to allow a marina to be built. **Remove one "habitat haven" from the *wintering* habitat.**

Prime waterfowl habitat has been severely damaged by the use of a marsh as an irrigation pond. **Remove one "habitat haven" from the *stopover* habitat.**

Water in a human-made marsh has been drawn down to speed decomposition and consolidate the bottom. **Remove one "habitat haven" for a season and then add two "habitat havens" the next season because of the improvement in *nesting* habitat.**

A large increase in the number of mink and racoons has reduced the value of a marsh as a nesting habitat for waterfowl. **Remove one "habitat haven" from the *nesting* habitat.**

The muskrat population explodes, "eating out" cattails in a dense marsh. This makes the marsh more suitable for waterfowl. **Add one "habitat haven" to the *nesting* habitat.**

The owners of fragile wetland areas agree to place their lands in a wetland conservation program. **Add one "habitat haven" to the *wintering* habitat.**

A new dam is built on a river, creating a lake that covers the wetlands above it. **Remove two "habitat havens" from the *wintering* area.** However, the following year the area below the dam is declared a wildlife sanctuary. **Add one "habitat haven" to the *wintering* habitat.**

Pesticides infiltrate marsh water, altering the food web and affecting resistance to disease. **Remove one "habitat haven" from the *nesting* habitat.**

Rough fish, such as carp, that stir up bottom sediments are prevented from entering a wetland by a fish trap. This improves the water quality and habitat for waterfowl. **Add one "habitat haven" to the *stopover* habitat.**

Filling and diking reduces the amount of tidal wetlands available to waterfowl. **Remove one "habitat haven" from the *wintering* habitat.**

New federal laws ban the use of lead shot nationwide. This reduces waterfowl deaths due to lead poisoning. **Add one "habitat haven" to the *stopover* habitat.**

Heavy spring rains in the nesting habitat stimulate aquatic plant and invertebrate growth, creating more food sources for waterfowl. **Add one "habitat haven" to the *nesting* habitat.**

A new water treatment plant reduces the amount of pollutants released into a wetland. **Add one "habitat haven" to the *nesting* habitat.**