

Job Sheet – CP384

Landowner:		Farm #:
Field(s):	Acres:	Tract #:
Soil Map Unit(s):		County:
Designed by:		Approved By: Signature:
Date:		Date:

DEFINITION: Treating woody plant residues created during catastrophic events, to achieve management objectives.

Specific specifications for applying this practice are listed below. Follow all specifications for this practice that are checked.

PURPOSE: (check all that apply)

- Reduce hazardous fuels
- Reduce the risk of harmful insects and disease
- Protect/maintain air quality by reducing the risk of wildfire
- Improve access to forage for grazing and browsing animals
- Enhance aesthetics
- Reduce the risk of harm to humans and livestock
- Improve the soil organic matter
- Improve the site for natural regeneration
- Maintain property access

Reduce hazardous fuels. Slash is treated so concentrations of 1” size material and larger (10.0-hour fuels) do not exceed 2 feet in height (with exceptions for piling and windrowing of up to 10 feet heights and 20 feet widths). Piles and windrows should be positioned to prevent fire damage to crop trees and desirable vegetation. Treat slash to prevent spread of fire within 100 feet of public roads and railroads and 200 feet of areas with frequent concentrated public use. Slash treatment will be coordinated with fire break needs as applicable.

SPECIFICATIONS: (check all that apply)

General specifications. Apply these practices for all purposes.

- Maintain necessary filter strips and/or riparian forest buffer areas.
- Remaining slash and debris should allow and not hinder normal forest operations.
- Windrows will align with contours.
- All operations will comply with the Arkansas BMP recommendations for water quality.
http://www.forestry.state.ar.us/bmp/bmp_review.html
- Soil compaction and soil displacement will be minimized.

Reduce the risk of harmful insects and disease. Based on the characteristics and life cycles of existing and anticipated pest species, treat and/or remove trees stressed by excessive damage.

Enhance aesthetics. Slash will be treated sufficiently to comply with client objectives for aesthetics and be consistent with the specifications used to Reduce Hazardous fuels. Consider wildlife needs when performing treatments. Occasionally, leave a few small scattered piles for wildlife cover.

Protect/maintain air quality by reducing the risk of wildfire. Specifications are the same as those used to Reduce Hazardous fuels.

Improve access to forage for grazing and browsing animals. Slash shall be piled or removed sufficiently to allow access to forage. Trees of undesirable species or with low quality can be cut

and incorporated with the slash to allow the increased production of forage. A stand specific practice plan is required describing current conditions and desired conditions with guidance for what and how much can be removed from the existing stand. The site can not be converted to non-forest.

Reduce the risk of harm to humans. Slash and damaged trees will be treated to facilitate safe access by humans. Hazard trees (trees that are likely to fall or have large limbs that are likely to fall) will be cut and piled or removed.

Improve the soil organic matter. Slash will be treated to minimize its size and maximize its contact with the forest floor to accelerate decomposition. Where chips are produced in sufficient quantities to uniformly cover the ground surface, depth shall not exceed 3 inches. Slash and debris left on the site after treatment shall not present an unacceptable fire, safety, environmental or pest hazard and be consistent with the specifications used to Reduce Hazardous fuels. Such remaining material shall not interfere with the intended purpose or other management activities.

Improve the site for natural regeneration. Slash treatment and intensity will be done so as to favor natural regeneration of the desired species. Usually, this means lowering the stand density enough to allow sunlight to the forest floor or creating small openings to do the same. A stand specific practice plan is required describing current conditions and desired conditions with guidance for what and how much can be removed from the existing stand.

METHODS: (check all that apply)

The method of slash treatment will be based on; 1) desired purpose(s) and 2) the condition and extent of residual slash. When determining method and timing of slash treatment, consider air quality regulations, burning requirements, available resources, and ability to use the woody biomass and regeneration needs.

Slash treatment methods:

Removal: Slash is removed from the site. This method is suited to areas with higher slash

accumulations where other methods may not sufficiently reduce undesired materials in order to utilize the material, or dispose of it safely.

Lopping and scatter: Lopping is the cutting of limbs, branches, treetops, small diameter trees, or other woody plant residue into lengths so that the remaining slash will lie close to the ground. Scattering is the spreading of lopped slash evenly over the ground so that the remaining slash will lie close to the ground. This method is suited to areas with lower slash accumulations and is effective for such accumulations in meeting height requirements, facilitating use of the treated area by humans and animals, improving aesthetics, and distributing material more uniformly and closer to the forest floor for faster decomposition. Safety equipment (e.g., goggles, gloves, chaps, ear plugs) must be worn when using chainsaws or other lopping equipment.

Piling and burning: Piling is placing, laying, heaping or stacking of slash into piles to facilitate intended burning. Burning is igniting piled slash under prescribed conditions to reduce the amount and continuity of fuels. Slash piles should be placed in openings, away from property lines, and/or away from trees to avoid damaging or scorching them when piles are burnt. These methods are suited to areas with adequate spacing between residual trees or areas with few or no residual trees. Unburned piles or windrows can serve as nesting and escape cover for wildlife. When machine piling or windrowing, a “brush rake” (blade with tines) will minimize pushing surface soil into slash accumulations. Synthetic materials (e.g., old tires, petroleum products) will not be incorporated in piles. Burning must be consistent with the Prescribed Burn Practice 338. A written detailed prescribed burn plan MUST be developed PRIOR to the implementation of the burn according to standards specified in GM 190 – Part 413 Subpart B and the Arkansas amendment to national policy. (See Job Sheet JS-338 for the prescribed burn plan worksheets) A copy of the burn plan MUST be kept in the client’s conservation plan folder along with the management prescription.

Chipping: This method includes the mechanical conversion of slash to chips and chunks

of varying sizes to distribute on site or utilized offsite as landscape mulch. For safety purposes, humans and animals must be excluded from areas being treated by equipment that flails and throws chips and chunks. Operate machinery to minimize bark damage to the residual trees. This chipped material can also be used as woody biomass fuel or pulp for paper products.

Crushing: This method involves the use of heavy ground-based equipment that crushes/grinds slash to a depth not exceeding 2 feet. The closer crushed material is to the forest floor, the quicker decomposition occurs and the less chance of fire reaching into the above canopy layers.

MINIMUM TREATMENT:

Slash that is lopped and scattered, shredded, or crushed will not exceed 24 inches in depth on any part of the treatment area.

TIMING:

Treatment shall coincide with the intended purposes and minimize impact on other resources.

Pile and burn the piles when the piles are dry [usually six (6) months after being cut] and at a time when it can be conducted in a safe manner.

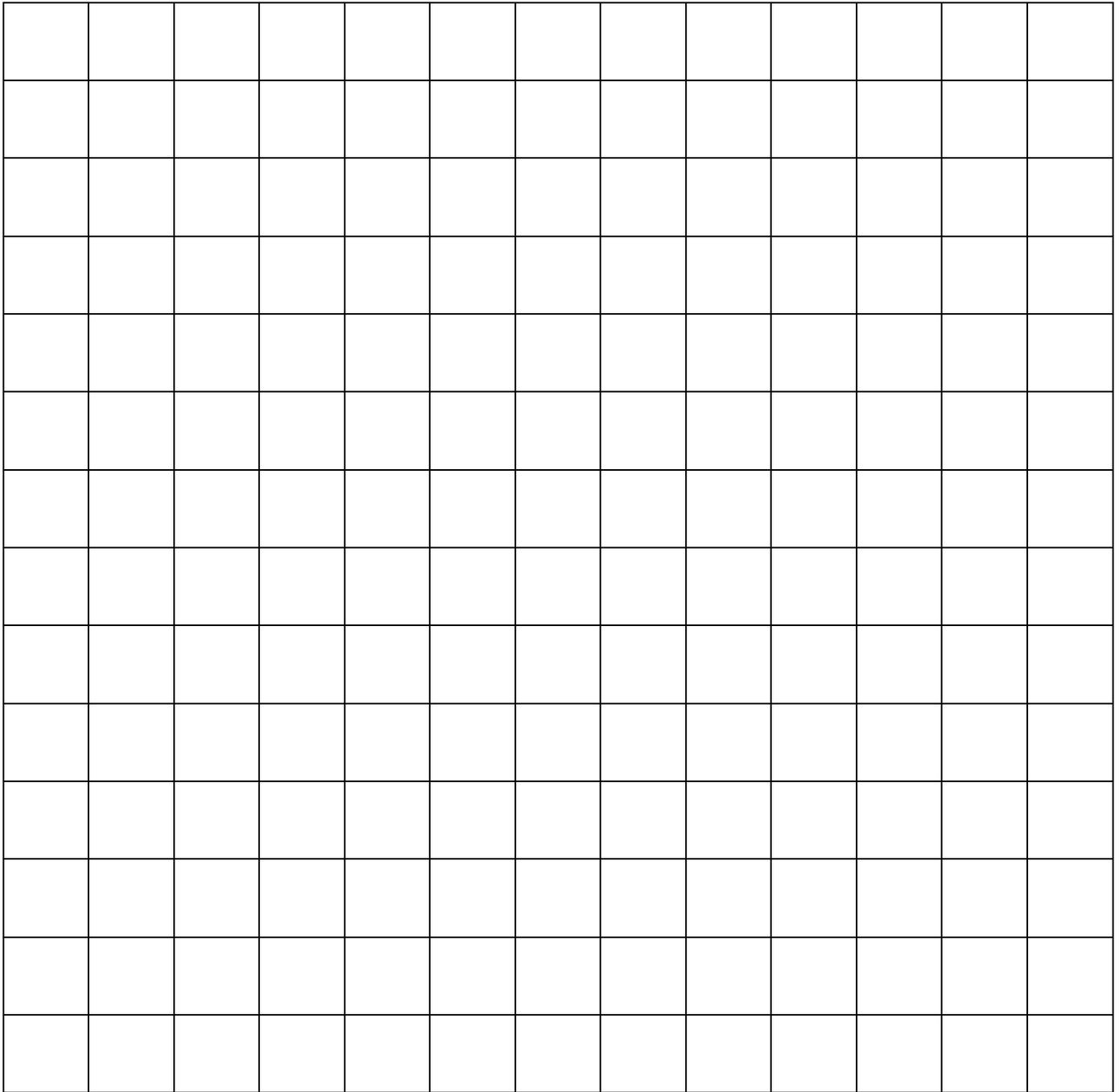
MONITORING:

Monitor the potential damage to site resources by harmful pests and take necessary controlling actions. Access by vehicles or people will be controlled during slash treatment for safety.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Planning Map of Treatment Area (indicate North on map)

Scale 1" = _____ ft. (NA indicates sketch not to scale. Grid size = 1/2" by 1/2")



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