

Brush Management

Maine Conservation Practice Job Sheet 314



DEFINITION

Brush Management is the removal of woody plants, including those that are invasive and/or noxious.

PURPOSE

- Create the desired plant community consistent with the ecological site.
- Restore or release desired vegetative cover to protect soils, control erosion, reduce sediment, improve water quality or enhance stream flow.
- Maintain, modify, or enhance fish and wildlife habitat.
- Improve forage accessibility, quality and quantity for livestock and wildlife.
- Manage fuel loads to achieve desired conditions.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

This practice applies on all lands, except active cropland, where the removal, reduction, or manipulation of woody (non-herbaceous or succulent) plants is desired.

This practice does not apply to removal of woody vegetation by burning, or removal to facilitate a land use change.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Brush management practices shall be applied using approved materials and procedures. Operations will comply with all local, state, and federal laws and ordinances.

If using herbicides, keep records of all applications including plants/areas treated,

amounts and types of herbicides used, and dates of application. This information will be important in evaluating the project's success, improving methodology, and identifying mistakes.

Success of the practice shall be determined by evaluating post-treatment regrowth of target species after sufficient time has passed to monitor the situation and gather reliable data.

Following initial application, some regrowth, or reoccurrence of brush may be expected. Spot treatment of individual plants or areas needing re-treatment should be completed as needed while woody vegetation is small and most vulnerable to desired treatment procedures. Review and update the plan periodically in order to:

- incorporate new Integrated Pest Management technology;
- respond to grazing management and complex plant population changes; and
- avoid the development of plant resistance to herbicide chemical

Additional O&M Where chemical control is used:

WIN-PST will be used to evaluate potential risk of the pesticide(s) being used, and appropriate mitigations will be developed as needed.

The operator will develop a safety plan for individuals exposed to chemicals, including telephone numbers and addresses of emergency treatment centers and the telephone number for the nearest poison control center.

*Northern New England Poison Center
22 Bramhall St. Portland, Maine 04102
1-800-222-1222*

The National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC) telephone number in Corvallis, Oregon, may also be given for non-emergency information: 1-800-858-7384

Monday to Friday
6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Pacific Time

The national Chemical Transportation Emergency Center (CHEMTRAC) telephone number is: 1-800-424-9300

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- Follow label requirements for mixing/loading setbacks from wells, intermittent streams and rivers, natural or impounded ponds and lakes, and reservoirs.
- Post signs, according to label directions and/or federal, state, tribal, and local laws, around fields that have been treated. Follow restricted entry intervals.
- Dispose of herbicides and herbicide containers in accordance with label directions and adhere to federal, state, tribal, and local regulations.
- Read and follow label directions and maintain appropriate Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS). MSDS and pesticide labels may be accessed on the Internet at: <http://www.greenbook.net/>
- Calibrate application equipment according to recommendations before each seasonal use and with each major chemical and site change.
- Replace worn nozzle tips, cracked hoses, and faulty gauges on spray equipment.
- Maintain records of Brush/shrub control for at least two years. Herbicide application records shall be in accordance with USDA Agricultural Marketing Service's Pesticide Recordkeeping Program and Maine state Regulations

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Desired Condition - Refer to ME Specification Guide Sheet Identify preferred species by using an asterisk (*) by the name.				DESIGNED/PREScribed POST-TREATMENT STOCKING RATE		
Field/ Stand	Ac	Plant Species (common name)	Size Class	D+X Spacing or Carbon Stock	Avg. Spacing Ft X Ft	Trees per Acre or
Tot.						

If needed, an aerial view of the practice location can be shown below. Other relevant information, complementary practices and measures, and additional specifications may be included.

Additional Specifications and Notes:

NEPA requirements met, including ESA assessment? Permits required? Permit No. (if Yes)

Additional Remarks (Include information on salable or usable products, other values and considerations):

COMPLETION/CHECKOUT CERTIFICATION

I have job approval authority and certify this practice has been applied and meets design specifications:

NRCS Representative name and title		
NRCS Representative Signature:		Date:

As-Built Notes (include date completed by client, treated acres and describe any changes to original design):

Questions or changes regarding this practice should be directed to Gerald Barnes, at (207)990-9580