

Prescribed Forestry



Definition

Manage forested areas for forest health, wood and/or fiber, water, recreation, aesthetics, wildlife habitat and plant biodiversity.

Purpose

The purpose of this practice is to improve forest health, protect soil quality and condition, and maintain or enhance water quality and quantity. At the same time, prescribed forestry may also be used to improve forest productivity, maintain or improve plant diversity and improve aesthetic and recreational values. Other purposes include improving wildlife habitat and achieving or maintaining a desired understory plant community for forest products, grazing and browsing.

Where used

This practice is used on all forest land and land capable and suited to growing trees.

Operation and maintenance

Periodic inspections during treatment activities are necessary to ensure that objectives are achieved and resource damage is minimized. Follow-up and ongoing management activities, as indicated in the annual Project Plan, will be needed to obtain desired results.

Considerations

Silviculture and wildlife management objectives and harvest-regeneration strategies may change over time and may be limited by prior management. Successful regeneration of desirable species and restoration of habitat types are usually dependent upon the appropriate planning and timely application of forest management activities.

Adjust the extent, timing, size of treatment area, or the intensity of the practice to minimize the cumulative effects (on-site and off-site), e.g., habitat fragmentation, nutrient cycling, biodiversity, and visual resources. This adjustment is especially true for endangered and threatened species. Time the activities so they minimally affect seasonal wildlife activities and retain essential wildlife habitat requirements.

Comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations during the installation, operation and maintenance of this practice, including the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), ME Forest Practices Act, ME Pesticide application regulations, ME Best Management Practice Guidelines, and ME Forest Operations Notification requirement (commercial harvests only).

Specifications

Site-specific information required in the written prescribed forestry plan and project plan are listed on the respective worksheets and are presented in the form of brief checklists on these job sheets.

Job sheets are prepared by NRCS for the landowner in accordance with the ME NRCS Field Office Technical Guide, practice standard and specification guide for Prescribed Forestry, Code 409.

Prescribed Forestry – Job Sheet –Prescription Worksheet

<i>For:</i>	<i>Farm #:</i>
<i>Field(s):</i>	<i>Tract #:</i>
<i>Prepared By:</i>	<i>Approved By:</i>
<i>Date:</i>	<i>Signature:</i>
<i>Date:</i>	<i>Date:</i>
Purpose (check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Maintain or improve forest health	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintain or improve plant diversity
<input type="checkbox"/> Protect soil quality and condition	<input type="checkbox"/> Improve aesthetic and recreational values.
<input type="checkbox"/> Maintain or enhance water quality and quantity	<input type="checkbox"/> Improve wildlife habitat
<input type="checkbox"/> Maintain or improve forest productivity	Target species:
	<input type="checkbox"/> Achieve or maintain a desired understory plant community for forest products, grazing, and browsing

Prescription Checklist (Check items that are required. Add other items as appropriate to the purpose(s). Refer to the Standard and Specification Guide for Prescribed Forestry, 409)

General Management Unit Information	Present Condition - Subunit/Habitat Descriptions
Landowner or primary contact-name, address, phone	Cover type, including composition of overstory, understory and ground cover, and type of silvicultural system or habitat management system
Plan Preparer- name, address, phone, License No.	Acreage
Plan date	Structure
Planning period	Age/history/present condition
Town and County	Volume, stocking and growth rate
Tax map Information, including tax status	Health and quality
Parcel Location, including boundary lines and surrounding neighbors	Objectives
Goals and Objectives	Other -
Legal obligations	
Resource Inventory Information	Maps (include legend, north arrow, scale, property boundary lines)
NRCS land uses/forest cover types/Habitat, acreage and history/overall present condition	Location, including boundary lines with lat/long on corners, access system
Threatened and endangered species, rare or exemplary natural communities	Land use/Forest Cover/Habitat Type
Fish and wildlife habitat	Soils
Water resources, water quality, riparian areas	Water resources
Soil resources	Topography and hydrology
Topography and hydrology	Wildlife Habitat (MNAP or better)
Access system, including roads, trails, landings	Other -
Historic Properties	
Recreation and Aesthetic Values	
Forest/wildlife inventory methods used and accuracy	
Future Condition – Subunit/Habitat Descriptions and Management Activities	
Silviculture or Habitat management system specification(s), include models used or other basis with reference literature cited	
Practice specifications for habitat management for targeted species	
Practice specifications to protect environmental functions and values	
Project or Harvest Plan, including when appropriate the practice Schedule (type, quantity, timing)	
Operation and Maintenance Plan, including specifications for the monitoring, evaluation and updating of the prescriptions annually	
Environmental compliance documentation	

Reference: 2004 WoodsWISE Manual (1/20/05) Section III – Forest Management Plans – Page 11. ME Department of Conservation, ME Forest Service. Questions regarding prescribed forestry should be directed to [tech. spec.], at [phone #].

Prescribed Forestry – Job Sheet – Project Plan Worksheet

<i>For:</i>	<i>Farm #:</i>
<i>Field(s):</i>	<i>Tract #:</i>
<i>Designed By</i>	<i>Approved By:</i> <i>Signature:</i>
<i>Date:</i>	<i>Date:</i>

Project Plan Checklist (Check items that are required. Add other items as appropriate to the purpose(s). Refer to the Standard and Specification Guide for Prescribed Forestry, 409)

General Information	Present Condition of the Activity Area(s)
Landowner or primary contact-name, address, phone	Cover type, including composition of overstory, understory and ground cover, and type of silvicultural system or habitat management system
Plan Preparer- name, address, phone, License No.	Acreage
Plan date	Structure
Planning period	Age/history/present condition
Town and County	Volume, stocking and growth rate
Tax map Information, including tax status	Health and quality
Parcel Location, including boundary lines and surrounding neighbors	Activity Objectives
Brief description of the activities/practices to be completed	Other -
Legal obligations	
Future Condition of the Activity Area and Management Activity Descriptions	Maps (include legend, north arrow, scale, property boundary lines)
Silviculture or Habitat management system specification(s) include models used or other justification for the practice/activity, include reference literature as appropriate.	Location of the activities/practices, including boundary lines with lat/long on corners, access system to the activities/practices, directions to the activity site, and natural resource protection measures
Site-Specific Practice specifications for habitat management for targeted species as per HFRP contract requirements	Other -
Practice specifications to protect other environmental functions and values. Follow NRCS practice standards when applicable.	
Practice/Activity Schedule (type, quantity, timing, frequency and intensity)	
Administrative and Operational details, such as design development and layout, pre- and post- work inspections	
Operation and Maintenance Plan, include specifications for the monitoring and evaluation of the projects	
Environmental compliance documentation prior to work beginning	

Reference: 2004 WoodsWISE Manual (1/20/05) Section IV – Projects – Page 6. Maine Department of Conservation, Maine Forest Service.

COMPLETION/CHECKOUT CERTIFICATION

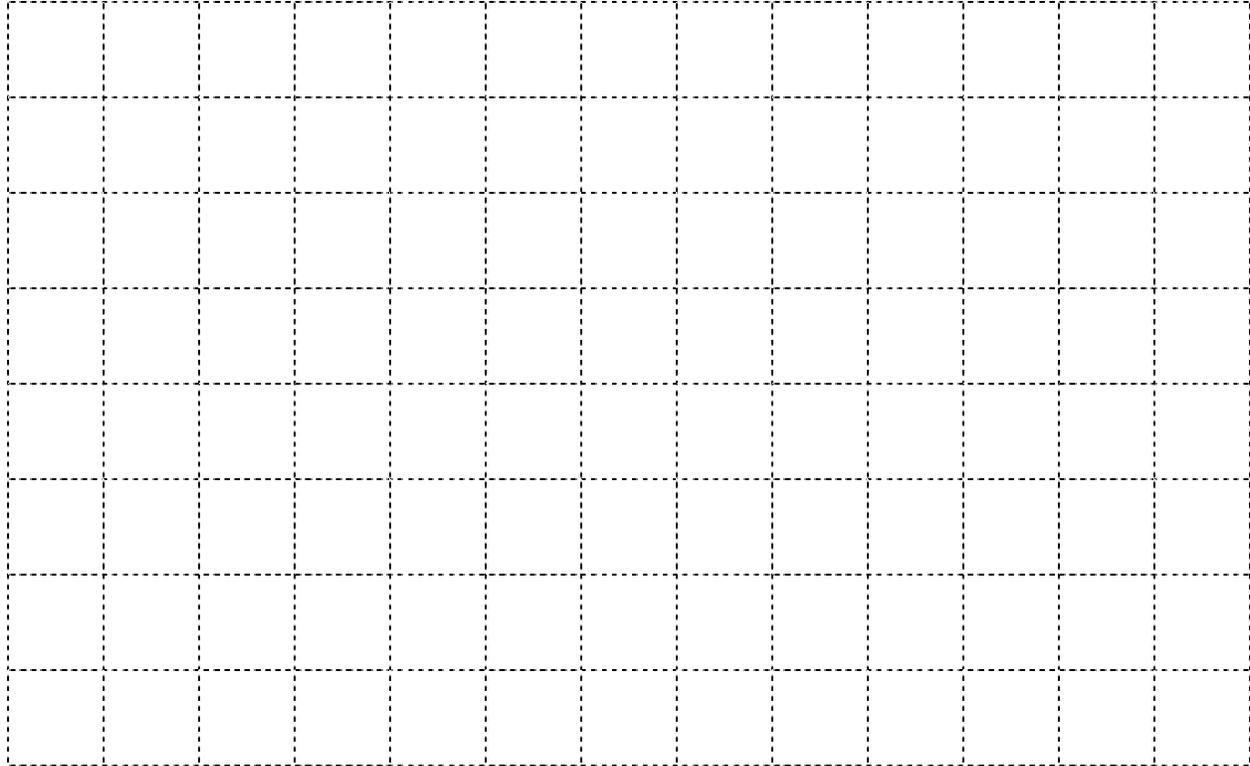
I have job approval authority and certify this practice has been applied and meets design specifications:

NRCS Representative name and title (type or print):		
NRCS Representative Signature:		Date:
As-Built Notes (include date completed by client, treated acres and describe any changes to original design):		

Prescribed Forestry – Job Sheet

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.

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



Additional Specifications and Notes:

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