

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
MONTANA CONSERVATION PRACTICE JOB SHEET

**FOREST STAND IMPROVEMENT—PRE-COMMERCIAL THINNING**  
**(ACRE)**  
**CODE 666B**

LANDOWNER	FIELD / MANAGEMENT UNIT	DATE
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	CONTRACT ITEM NUMBER	AREA (ACRES)
		JOB CLASS

**DEFINITION AND PURPOSE:** Removing un-merchantable or unwanted trees from forested areas to fully use a site's potential; to maintain plant cover; to improve stand composition by leaving the best trees - spaced for best growth; to improve forage production; or improve natural beauty, wildlife, or recreation values.

**OBJECTIVES**

- Reduce Stocking
- Change Composition
- Improve Condition
- Reduce Health Problems
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**STAND DESCRIPTION**

	<u>BEFORE THINNING</u>	<u>AFTER THINNING</u>
Stocking: (# / AC.)	_____	_____
Composition: (%)	_____	_____
Average Age(s) (YRS.)	_____	_____
Average Diameter (IN.)	_____	_____
Insects & Disease	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

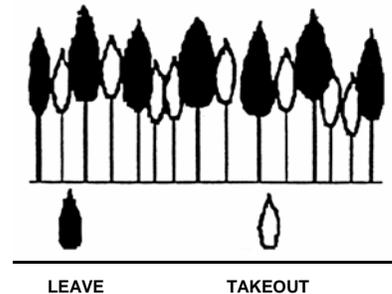
**THINNING SPECIFICATIONS**

Desired Spacing: \_\_\_\_\_ TREES/ ACRE  $\pm$  25%  
APPROXIMATELY \_\_\_\_\_ FEET X \_\_\_\_\_ FEET

Trees to Leave/Remove: LEAVE ONLY GOOD QUALITY TREES OF \_\_\_\_\_ THAT HAVE FULL CROWNS, GOOD FORM AND GROWING VIGOROUSLY. REMOVE ALL CROOKED, DYING, DISEASED, INJURED, AND SUPPRESSED TREES.

Dates to be Performed: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Equipment: \_\_\_\_\_



**SLASH DISPOSAL**

- Interior Treatment Area
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Pile & Burn
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Lop & Scatter \_\_\_\_\_ INCHES SLASH HEIGHT
- Property Boundary – 100-foot swath
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Pile & Burn
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Lop & Scatter \_\_\_\_\_ INCHES SLASH HEIGHT

**Job Sheet MT666B-JS2**

**JOB SKETCH**

Attached Plan Map       YES       NO

**ATTACHED SPECIFICATIONS**

Prescribed Burning (Code 338)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Prescribed Grazing (Code 528A)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Forest Slash Treatment (Code 384)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

**ADDITIONAL NOTES**

**OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE**

- Periodic inspections during treatment activities are necessary to ensure that objectives are achieved and resource damage is minimized. A stocking survey should be performed following thinning to make sure that desired stocking rates are achieved. Acceptable stocking rates are plus or minus 25 percent of the desired rate.
- Maintain marking of sensitive areas and monitor equipment exclusion throughout harvesting operations. Follow-up and ongoing management activities will be needed to obtain desired results.
- Monitor stands for insect/disease outbreaks and for new weed infestations. Monitor natural regeneration, planted seedling survival and effectiveness of site scarification.

**APPROVALS:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
NRCS Conservationist

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOB APPROVAL AUTHORITY

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Producer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Installation Certification:**

Conservation Management Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Practice Design Size: \_\_\_\_\_ ACRES    Practice Applied Size: \_\_\_\_\_ ACRES    Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Designed Installation Date: \_\_\_\_\_    Practice Installed Date: \_\_\_\_\_    Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Equipment: \_\_\_\_\_    Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Stand Description - After Thinning: Stocking \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER TREES/ACRE    Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ FEET by \_\_\_\_\_ FEET    Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Composition (%) \_\_\_\_\_    Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Leave Trees \_\_\_\_\_    Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Average Size (DBH) \_\_\_\_\_ INCHES    Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Insect & Diseases (G F P) \_\_\_\_\_    Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Slash Disposal:    Method \_\_\_\_\_    Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Timing \_\_\_\_\_    Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Slash Height \_\_\_\_\_ INCHES    Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION STATEMENT:**

I hereby certify that this practice has been installed in accordance with NRCS standards and specifications.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NRCS Conservationist

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOB APPROVAL AUTHORITY

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date