

Restoration & Management of Rare & Declining Habitats

Eastern Shore Tree/Shrub Migratory Bird Habitat

Virginia Conservation Practice Job Sheet

643



Definition

Restoring and maintaining a predominance of native trees and shrubs to conserve biodiversity on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

Purpose

This job sheet is provided as a component of a resource conservation plan. This practice may be applied to land dedicated to rare and declining migratory bird species and other wildlife.

Conditions where practice applies

This practice is only available in Accomac and Northampton Counties. This practice applies on any land that previously or currently supports this rare or declining habitat.

General Criteria and Specifications

Table 1 lists species of plant materials approved for this practice. All other plant species are not eligible for this practice.

Tree Planting

Tree shelters and mats are generally required. Hardwood seedlings must have a root collar diameter of 3/8" or greater. A 4' tree shelter must be used. Tree shelter brand will be Tubex, TreePro, or equivalent. Tree shelters must be installed at least 2-3 inches below the ground surface and tied securely using zip-ties to a 1" by 1" (7/8" minimum) hardwood stake (typically white oak). Use 20' x 20' spacing at 110 trees per acre.

Shrub Planting

5 clumps of 10 individuals will be planted per acre. Use 10' x 5' spacing.

Plantings must be protected from grazing animals and un-necessary traffic.

If a Prescribed Burn is planned, the burn should be conducted according to a plan prepared by a VA DOF certified burner. Conservation Practice Standard 338, Prescribed Burning shall be followed.

Operation and Maintenance

- 1) Prior to and during establishment
 - a. Perform necessary site prep- chemical, mechanical, prescribed burn or agronomic methods may be used.
 - b. **Obtain quality planting stock early** (the fall/winter prior to spring planting).
 - c. Ensure that trees are planted correctly.
 - d. Monitor the plantings and replace dead plants.
 - e. Control and eliminate invasive species.
 - f. Insure protection from grazing livestock.
- 2) After establishment
 - a. Monitor and control pests.
 - b. Remove tubes when the tree is 2 inches in diameter.
 - c. Protect from grazing.
 - d. Replace dead or missing plants the first year.
 - e. Maintain necessary access to site.
 - f. **Spot spray invasive species early.**

Landowner _____ Farm # _____
 Tract(s) # _____ Assisted by _____

Purpose Wildlife Beautification Other _____

Planting Stock Natural Regeneration (If yes, show seed source on sketch below.)
 Bare Rooted or Container Seedling
 Direct Seeding

Field	Existing land use	Site Prep (type)	Planned species	Planting spacing	#Trees /ac.	Planned Planting dates

Site preparation (Burn, Mechanical, Chemical)
 Requirements _____

Sketch of Layout

Installation shall be in accordance with the specified drawings, specifications, and special requirements. **No changes are to be made in the drawings or specifications without prior approval from the technical specialist developing the plan.**

Table 1. List of approved plant materials for 643, Eastern Shore Tree and Shrub Habitat

Plant species	Species name	Type	Hydrologic regime*	Mast (hard/soft)	Light	Growth Rate	Height	Width
Trees - Select minimum of 4 species from this list (minimum of 2 oaks)								
Bitternut hickory	<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	canopy tree	U	H	sun/shade	slow	80 ft.	50 ft.
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	canopy tree	U	S	sun	moderate	60 ft.	40 ft.
American beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	canopy tree	U	H	shade/sun	slow	80 ft.	50 ft.
Green Ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	canopy tree	W	H	sun	mod-rapid	70 ft.	45 ft.
Blackgum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	canopy tree	W/U	S	sun	moderate	60 ft.	40 ft.
Willow oak	<i>Quercus phellos</i>	canopy tree	W	H	sun	rapid	70 ft.	60 ft.
White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	canopy tree	U	H	sun	moderate	90 ft.	60 ft.
Southern red oak	<i>Quercus falcata</i>	canopy tree	U	H	sun	moderate	90 ft.	60 ft.
Swamp chestnut oak	<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	canopy tree	W	H	sun	moderate	100 ft.	65 ft.
Water oak	<i>Quercus nigra</i>	canopy tree	W/U	H	sun	moderate	60 ft.	40 ft.
Northern red oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	canopy tree	U	H	sun	moderate	80 ft.	50 ft.
Black oak	<i>Quercus velutina</i>	canopy tree	U	H	sun	moderate	70 ft.	60 ft.
Midstory Shrubs - Select minimum of 5 species from this list								
Downy serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	midstory/shrub	U	S	shade/sun	moderate	40 ft.	20 ft.
Shadbush serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	midstory/shrub	W/U	S	shade/sun	moderate	25 ft.	15 ft.
Indigobush	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	midstory/shrub	W/U	H	shade/sun	moderate	12 ft.	5 ft.
Silky dogwood	<i>Cornus amomum</i>	midstory/shrub	W	S	sun/shade	rapid	10 ft.	5 ft.
Flowering dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>	midstory/shrub	U	S	sun/shade	moderate	30 ft.	25 ft.
Washington hawthorn	<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	midstory/shrub	U	S	sun	moderate	20 ft.	20 ft.
Persimmon	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	midstory/shrub	U	S	sun	moderate	50 ft.	25 ft.
Inkberry	<i>Ilex glabra</i>	midstory/shrub	W	S	sun/shade	slow	8 ft.	10 ft.
American holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	midstory/shrub	W/U	S	sun/shade	moderate	40 ft.	20 ft.
Common winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	midstory/shrub	W	S	shade/sun	moderate	25 ft.	10 ft.
Yaupon holly	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	midstory/shrub	U	S	sun/shade	slow	25 ft.	15 ft.
Wax myrtle	<i>Myrica cerifera</i>	midstory/shrub	W/U	S	sun/shade	rapid	15 ft.	10 ft.
Northern bayberry	<i>Myrica pensylvanica</i>	midstory/shrub	W/U	S	sun/shade	moderate	30 ft.	15 ft.
Red Bay	<i>Persea borbonia</i>	midstory/shrub	W	S	shade/sun	moderate	50 ft.	20 ft.
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	midstory/shrub	U	S	sun/shade	moderate	40 ft.	25 ft.
Highbush blueberry	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	midstory/shrub	W	S	shade/sun	slow	12 ft.	12 ft.
Arrowwood	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	midstory/shrub	W	S	sun/shade	moderate	10 ft.	10 ft.