

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE SPECIFICATION**

PRESCRIBED FORESTRY

(Ac.)

CODE 409

Prescribed Forestry is a management practice used to develop and scheduled silvicultural treatments needed to meet landowner/operator objectives, sustain and protect forest resources and monitor the implementation of treatments prescribed to meet these needs and objectives.

The practice of prescribed forestry will be documented with three integrated components. The first is a **forest management plan** or a **conservation plan**, the second is a conservation plan or forest management **schedule of operations** and the third component is a **yearly summary of forest operations**.

Plan Requirements

Plan will be based on no shorter than a 10 year planning cycle with an estimate of forest crop rotation age if applicable. The plan must identify or include:

1. Owner's objectives for the management area.
2. Resources not meeting RMS quality criteria for forestland.
3. Inventory that identifies:
 - a.) Soil types
 - b.) Forest/natural community types
 - c.) Past Harvest or disturbance history.
 - d.) Successional Trends
 - e.) *Soil Loss expressed in Tons/ac**
 - f.) *Water quality concerns**
 - g.) *Volume and growth estimates for productivity objectives**
 - h.) *Recreational, Wildlife and Plant community descriptions.**
 - i.) *Forage Value Ratings**

j.) *Appropriate Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide.*

** Only needs to be addressed if identified as a resource concern or objective in the owner's objectives.*

4. Prescription based on acceptable silvicultural treatments.
 - a.) Silvicultural treatment description
 - b.) Present and desired future condition referenced by stand descriptions, size, age, successional state, etc.
5. Appropriate Maps, Tables and Sketches.

Conservation/Forest Plan Schedule of Operations

Activities will be scheduled for a minimum of 5 years

1. Schedule of conservation practices, activities and treatments includes:
 - a.) date of implementation
 - b.) size of treatment unit
 - c.) applicable units, extents, length, sizes etc.

Yearly Summary of Forest Operations

1. Provide a yearly summary of forest management activities and maintain records of yield for all forest products harvested including non-timber resources produced/utilized.
2. Review and document activities scheduled in the Plan of Operations.

3. Reschedule, delete and amend the Forest management plan, conservation plan and/or schedule of operations as

needed and documented in the yearly summary

List of Common Forestry and Forest land Ownership Operations

AK NRCS Practices\

Forest Management Actions

Tree and Shrub Establishment (612)

- Tree and shrub planting
- Direct seeding
- Coppice reproduction
- Live cutting and staking

Site Preparation for Tree and Shrub Establishment (490)

- Scarification for natural and direct seeding
- Site preparation preceding tree plantings

Forest Slash Treatment (384)

- Slash disposal for fuel reduction, safety, aesthetics and wildlife

Forest Stand Improvement (666)

- Clear cutting for regeneration, salvage, and harvest,
- Commercial and precommercial thinning
- Selection or group thinning for uneven age management
- Seed tree or shelter
- Shelter wood harvest.

Fire Break (394)

Fuel Break (383)

Tree and Shrub Pruning (660)

- Fruit tree pruning
- Bole limb removal
- Shearing and shaping for ornamental purposes
- Limb removal for fire risk reductions
- Limb removal for grazing

Pest Management (595)

- Insect ,disease and plant scouting and monitoring
- Insect and disease control

- Noxious and invasive plant control

Forest Trails and Landings (655)

- Log landings and staging areas
- Skidder, forwarder and other harvesting equipment trails

Use Exclusion (472)

- Road and trail closure and access control
- Land trespass and boundary identification

Access Road (560)

- Forest harvest access

Recreational Trails and Walkways (568)

Recreational Area Improvement (562)

Wildlife Habitat Improvement Practices Upland Wildlife Habitat Mgmt. (645)

Prescribed Grazing (528)

Forestry Operations & Maintenance Actions

- Boundary establishment and maintenance; Trespass reconnaissance
- Fish and Wildlife monitoring
- Growth and yield evaluations/inventory
- Monitoring of new forestry technology; state and federal legislation; insect and disease trends; forest products markets.
- Harvest of non-timber forest products
- Monitoring Grazing and use trends