

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

**RIPARIAN FOREST BUFFER
(Ac.)
CODE 391**

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The riparian forest buffer will be inspected periodically and protected from adverse impacts such as excessive vehicular and pedestrian traffic, pest infestations, concentrated flows, pesticides, livestock or wildlife damage, and fire.

Replacement of dead trees or shrubs and control of undesirable vegetative competition will be continued until the buffer is, or will progress to, a fully functional condition.

Any manipulation of species composition, stand

structure, and stocking by cutting or killing selected trees and understory vegetation shall sustain the intended purpose(s). Refer to the practice standard Forest Stand Improvement, 666.

Control or exclusion of livestock and harmful wildlife shall continue. Refer to the practice standards Prescribed Grazing 528 and/or Use Exclusion 472, as applicable.

Fertilizers, pesticides, and other chemicals used to maintain buffer function shall not impact water quality.