

DEFINITION

The management or removal of woody (non-herbaceous or succulent) plants including those that are invasive, exotic, and noxious.

Woody plant species often found to be undesirable include, but are not limited to: bush honeysuckle, Japanese honeysuckle, tree-of-heaven, autumn olive, multiflora rose, and several buckthorn species.

PURPOSE

Treatment activities will encourage the control of woody plant species in non-cropland areas, including newly established tree plantings.

Early detection and treatment are necessary to eradicate or control the establishment and spread of woody plant species in non-cropland areas. If left unchecked, woody plants can threaten forest regeneration, forest and pasture productivity, plant diversity and wildlife habitat.

MANAGEMENT

Control can be difficult once a population becomes established. Multiple treatments may be necessary to achieve eradication and are often dependent on species and extent of infestation. Appropriate herbicide applications often provide the most effective long-term control.

Other effective methods include mechanical (cutting or specialized machinery), manual (pulling by hand), biological, and prescribed burning. The best results are often achieved by using a combination of methods, such as (cutting + herbicide application) or (cutting + herbicide application + prescribed burning).



Bush Honeysuckle

Photo By: Gene Barickman

SPECIFICATIONS

Treatment of woody species is often described as a component of resource inventories, grazing plans, or Forest Management Plans (FMP). In instances where inventories or plans do not exist or do not sufficiently describe the extent of infestation, utilize the "OPTIONAL WORKSHEET FOR DETERMINING % CANOPY COVER OF TARGET SPECIES" to determine the extent and level of treatment.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

- Scout infested areas annually to detect re-growth or re-introduction of undesirable species into the site.
- Apply follow-up treatments to re-growth of targeted species within the application area.
- Target species will be considered eradicated when target species are no longer detectable two growing seasons following the final treatment measure.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS – WOODY SPECIES IN NON-CROPLAND

SECTION I

LANDOWNER AND PROPERTY INFORMATION:

Landowner:	County:
Date:	Field Name/Number(s):
Designed By:	Tract Name/Number(s):

SECTION II

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND GUIDANCE: (Provide detailed, site-specific information as needed)

Disposal: Plan how treated material will be disposed before beginning any treatment methods. With cutting applications, stems and branches without berries can be left on site with little to no chance for re-establishment. With pulling methods, ensure all roots are exposed and not in contact with the soil surface to prevent re-rooting. Other solutions include burning or removing the material for appropriate off-site disposal. If berries are present, destroy branches by burning. If seed heads are present, bagging and removal for offsite disposal is an effective method.

Recommendations for disposal of treated material:

Herbicides: If herbicides are used, follow label rates, directions, and manufacturer recommendations. Be sure to apply herbicide when the target plant is most susceptible to the chemical and the chosen treatment method. When choosing herbicides, review leaching, runoff potential, setback requirements, persistence, and toxicity ratings of chemical formulations. Use the safest available herbicide. Adhere to all application setbacks directed by chemical label for use in proximity to water bodies and other environmentally sensitive areas. Mention of trade names for plant control chemicals is not an endorsement for a particular product.

Attach a reproducible map or aerial photo that shows:

- Unit Boundaries (Field or Stand)
- Location & Description of Sensitive Resources (If Applicable)
- Treatment Area (If Different than Unit)
- Location & Description of Setbacks (If Applicable)
- Planned Treatment Year (If Applicable)

SECTION III

List woody species in each unit (field or stand) that require control.			
Unit Number	Unit Acres	Average % Canopy Cover	Invasive target plant specie(s) to be controlled

SECTION IV

NRCS CHECK OUT

SCHEDULE OF TREATMENTS (If available, utilize information from Section III to complete schedule)

Unit #	Unit Acres	Average %Canopy Cover <u>1/</u>	Treatment (Year) (Number)		Target Specie(s) To Be Controlled	Treatment Method(s) (Cutting, Chemical, Prescribed Burning, Pulling, etc.) <u>2/</u>	Extent Applied Acres	Description & Treatment Date for Applied Acres

1/ Average % Canopy Cover (for the Unit) of target specie(s) will be used to determine level of the infestation within the unit boundary. Estimate the average % cover over the entire unit. The *Optional Worksheet for Determining % Canopy Cover of Target Species* may be used for an inventory procedure. Treatment will be needed over the entire area of infestation regardless of percent cover of the target species in different areas of the unit.

2/ Include specific application method(s), equipment type, herbicide type and rate, and timing of application(s). Provide reference documentation if methods, herbicide rate, and timing are provided through an alternative fact sheet, management plan, information sheet, study result, or other credible alternate source which is specific for control of the target species.

Additional Specifications and Notes:

NRCS CHECK OUT

The practice as installed meets or exceeds USDA/NRCS standards & specifications:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Alternative Certification: For FDA/EQIP practice, IDNR certification can be documented on the "EQIP Forest Management Practice Certification Form", and attached.