CONSERVATION COVER

Conservation Practice Jobsheet *327*

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) **July 2015**

Landowner _____

WHAT IS CONSERVATION COVER
Establishing and maintaining permanent vegetation to protect soil and water resources.

PURPOSE
This practice may be applied to accomplish one or more of the following:

- Reduce erosion and sedimentation.
- Improve water quality.
- Improve air quality.
- Enhance wildlife habitat.
- Improve soil quality
- Manage plant pests

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES
This practice applies on land retired from agricultural production requiring permanent protective cover, and on other lands needing permanent protective cover. This practice does not apply to plantings for forage production or to critical area plantings

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
Conservation cover is normally established along with other conservation practices as part of a resource management system. Other conservation practices may include nutrient and pest management, residue management, wildlife habitat improvement, irrigation water management, field borders, mulching, grass waterways, filter strips, diversions and grade stabilization structures.

PRACTICE SPECIFICATIONS
Practice specifications are provided to assure that conservation cover meets the resource needs and producer's objectives.

Specifications for the establishment of this practice shall be prepared for each field or treatment unit according to the Criteria and Considerations described in the standard.

CONSERVATION COVER – SPECIFICATIONS SHEET

Landowner/Cooperator _____

Field Office _____

Plan Number _____ **Location** _____

Field Area (ac) _____ **Treatment Area (ac)** _____ **Precipitation (inches)** _____

Purpose/Objective of the Practice (Check all that apply)		
	Reduce erosion and sedimentation	
	Improve water quality	
	Improve air quality	
	Enhance wildlife habitat	
	Improve soil quality	
	Manage plant pests	
	Other	

Site Conditions				
Plant Materials – Cultivar and Species (see note below)	Full Seeding Rate (lb/ac PLS)	Planned % of Seeding Mix	Planned Acres	Treatment Area Total lbs. of PLS Needed
Totals				
Note – Planner may attach copy of “Louisiana Seed Mixture Worksheet” if used to figure seed mixture.				

Conservation Cover Site Preparation and Establishment	
Site Preparation Activities:	
Planting/Seeding Method:	
Nutrient and Pest Management Planned:	

Soil Amendments and Fertilization			
Soil Test Taken		Soil pH from Soil Test	
Other Important Factors (i.e., salinity, iron, etc.)			

	Low	Medium	High
Phosphorus			
Nitrogen			
Potassium			

Site Conditions for Planning Conservation Cover Establishment		
	Site One	Site Two
Dominant Soil Series		
Representative Slope %		
Existing Vegetation Present		
Erosion Problems		
Fertility Requirements		

Operation and Maintenance				
Item	Year 1 – Area Treated	Year 2 – Area Treated	Year 3 – Area Treated	Year 4 – Area Treated
Prescribed burning – improve vigor, control weeds and diseases				
Haying – improve vigor, control weeds and diseases				
Weed Control – chemical, mechanical				
Habitat Manipulation – disking, interseeding				

If applicable, provide a site view of the practice design and application in area below or as an attached diagram. Location of other relevant information and complimentary practices may be included.

Scale 1"=_____ ft. (NA indicates sketch not to scale: grid size=1/2" by 1/2")

Additional Specifications and Notes

_____

_____

_____

Practice Design Certification (To be completed after jobsheet is complete and before practice installation)

By signing below, I certify that:

- the site specific requirements for the installation, operation, and maintenance of the practice on the client's treatment unit, as recorded in this jobsheet, have been prepared in accordance with the 327 Conservation Cover Standard and the guidance in the 327 Conservation Cover Practice Specification.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Practice Installation Certification (To be completed after practice installation and check out)

By signing below, I certify that:

- The practice has been installed according to the site specific installation requirements

Signature _____ **Date** _____

This practice requires a current Louisiana One Call Dottie Confirmation Number.

Call before you dig, wait 48 hours for the site to be marked, observe the marks and dig with care. The service is free. It's the law! Civil Penalties range up to $25,000 for violations of the "Dig" law

LA One Call™ Dottie says, Dig Safely. 1.800.272.3020

Failure to notify Louisiana One Call before installing this practice may delay or terminate NRCS assistance.

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