CRITICAL AREA PLANTING

Conservation Practice Jobsheet *342*

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

Landowner _____

WHAT IS CRITICAL AREA PLANTING
The establishing of permanent vegetation on sites that have or are expected to have high erosion rates, and on sites that have physical, chemical, or biological conditions that prevent the establishment of vegetation with normal practices

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

- Stabilize area with existing or expected high rates of soil erosion by water.
- Restore disturbed or degraded sites that cannot be stabilized through normal methods.
- Stabilize coastal areas, such as sand dunes and riparian areas.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES
On areas with existing or expected high rates of erosion or degraded sites that usually cannot be stabilized by ordinary conservation treatment and/or management, and if left untreated, could be severely damaged by erosion or sedimentation or could cause significant off-site damage.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
Critical area planting is used as a component of a resource management system that is applied with other practices such as mulching, diversions, waterways, and structures for water holding or control. Critical area plantings take into consideration what the function or use of the site will be following establishment.

PRACTICE SPECIFICATIONS
Practice specifications are provided to assure that critical area planting 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.

CRITICAL AREA PLANTING – 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)		
	Stabilize areas with existing or expected high rates of soil erosion by water	
	Restore disturbed or degraded sites that cannot be stabilized through normal methods	
	Stabilize coastal areas, such as sand dunes and riparian areas	
	Other	

Site Conditions			
Site Treatment	Area (sq ft) (ac)	Date Planned	Date Applied
Temporary Cover			
Permanent Cover			
Tree and Shrub Planting			
Sod Used			
Mulch Used			

Plant Materials for Temporary Cover Cultivar and Species – see note below	Full Seeding Rate lb/ac (PLS or Bulk)	Planned % of Seeding Mix	Planned Area	Treatment Area Total lbs Seed Needed (Bulk or PLS)
Totals				
Note – Planner may attach copy of "Louisiana Seed Mixture Worksheet" if used to figure mixture for temporary cover.				

Plant Materials for Permanent Cover Cultivar and Species – see note below	Full Seeding Rate lb/ac	Planned % of Seeding Mix	Planned Area	Treatment Area Total lbs Seed Needed (Bulk or PLS)
Totals				
Note – Planner may attach copy of "Louisiana Seed Mixture Worksheet" if used to figure mixture for temporary cover.				

Tree and Shrub Planting (Species)	Area (sq ft) (ac)	Spacing (ft X ft)	Number Needed	Date Planted

Sod Used (Species)	Area (sq ft) (ac)	Date Applied	Anchors Used (stakes, staples, netting)

Mulch Used (Type)	Area (sq ft) (ac)	Date Applied	Method Applied

Critical Area Site Preparation and Establishment		
	Site One	Site Two
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 Critical Area Establishment		
	Strip One	Strip Two
Dominant Soil Series		
Representative Slope %		
Existing Vegetation Present		
Erosion Problems		
Fertility Requirements		

Operation and Maintenance				
Item	Year 1 – Area Treated and ID Method Used	Year 2 – Area Treated and ID Method Used	Year 3 – Area Treated and ID Method Used	Year 4 – Area Treated and ID Method Used
Re-seed or re-plant if adequate ground cover (50%) is not obtained in the second growing season				
Protect site from disturbances such as grazing, fire, vehicle traffic, and pests as long as necessary to stabilize the site				
Weed Control – chemical, mechanical				
Habitat Manipulation After Establishment – disking, inter-seeding, thinning				

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 342 Critical Area Planting Standard and the guidance in the 342 Critical Area 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

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

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