Brush Management

Maine Conservation Practice Job Sheet 314

DEFINITION

Brush Management is the removal of woody plants, including those that are invasive and/or noxious.

PURPOSE

- Create the desired plant community consistent with the ecological site.
- Restore or release desired vegetative cover to protect soils, control erosion, reduce sediment, improve water quality or enhance stream flow.
- Maintain, modify, or enhance fish and wildlife habitat.
- Improve forage accessibility, quality and quantity for livestock and wildlife.
- Manage fuel loads to achieve desired conditions.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

This practice applies on all lands, except active cropland, where the removal, reduction, or manipulation of woody (non-herbaceous or succulent) plants is desired.

This practice does not apply to removal of woody vegetation by burning, or removal to facilitate a land use change.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Brush management practices shall be applied using approved materials and procedures. Operations will comply with all local, state, and federal laws and ordinances.

If using herbicides, keep records of all applications including plants/areas treated, amounts and types of herbicides used, and dates of application. This information will be important in evaluating the project's success, improving methodology, and identifying mistakes.

Success of the practice shall be determined by evaluating post-treatment regrowth of target species after sufficient time has passed to monitor the situation and gather reliable data.

Following initial application, some regrowth, or reoccurrence of brush may be expected. Spot treatment of individual plants or areas needing re- treatment should be completed as needed while woody vegetation is small and most vulnerable to desired treatment procedures. Review and update the plan periodically in order to:

- incorporate new Integrated Pest Management technology;
- respond to grazing management and complex plant population changes; and
- avoid the development of plant resistance to herbicide chemical

Additional O&M Where chemical control is used:

WIN-PST will be used to evaluate potential risk of the pesticide(s) being used, and appropriate mitigations will be developed as needed.

The operator will develop a safety plan for individuals exposed to chemicals, including telephone numbers and addresses of emergency treatment centers and the telephone number for the nearest poison control center.

Northern New England Poison Center
22 Bramhall St. Portland, Maine 04102
1-800-222-1222

The National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC) telephone number in Corvallis, Oregon, may also be given for non-emergency information: 1-800-858-7384

Monday to Friday
6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Pacific Time

The national Chemical Transportation Emergency Center (CHEMTRAC) telephone number is: 1-800-424-9300

- Follow label requirements for mixing/loading setbacks from wells, intermittent streams and rivers, natural or impounded ponds and lakes, and reservoirs.
- Post signs, according to label directions and/or federal, state, tribal, and local laws, around fields that have been treated. Follow restricted entry intervals.
- Dispose of herbicides and herbicide containers in accordance with label directions and adhere to federal, state, tribal, and local regulations.
- Replace worn nozzle tips, cracked hoses, and faulty gauges on spray equipment.
- Read and follow label directions and maintain appropriate Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS). MSDS and pesticide labels may be accessed on the Internet at: http://www.greenbook.net/
- Calibrate application equipment according to recommendations before each seasonal use and with each major chemical and site change.
- Maintain records of Brush/shrub control for at least two years. Herbicide application records shall be in accordance with USDA Agricultural Marketing Service's Pesticide Recordkeeping Program and Maine state Regulations

Brush Management – Job Sheet - 314

Producer:	*County:* *Town:*
Field(s): *Tot. Acres:*	*Farm #:* *Tract #:*
Designed By *Lic #:*	*Approved By:* *Lic. #:* *Signature:*
Date:	*Date:*

Purpose (check all that apply) Refer to 314 Standard and Specification Guide Sheet to complete.	
☐ Create the desired plant community	☐ Restore or release desired vegetative cover
☐ Improve accessibility, quality and quantity of forage	☐ Maintain, modify, or enhance fish and wildlife habitat
☐ Manage fuel loads to achieve desired conditions.	

Existing Conditions: Summary Inventory Information Refer to 314 Standard and Specification Guide Sheet to complete.

Field/ Stand	Ac	Plant Species (common name)	Suit.[4]	Size Class[3]:	Ave. DBH[1]	Basal Area	PRE-TREATMENT STOCKING RATES Trees per acre, tally of trees, or carbon stock	Avg. Spacing[2]: Ft X Ft
Total	0							
Average								

[1]DBH = Diameter at Breast Height. [2]Spacing between plants achieved by trees/acre. Trees/acre = 43,560 (ft^2/ac) ÷ [Between-Row Spacing (ft) X In-Row Spacing (ft)}. [3]Size Class = sapling/seedling, pole, sawlog. [4] 1 = Preferred, 2 = Acceptable, 3 = Weed species.

Mechanical Treatment Methods and Plan		
Types of equipment to be used:		
Planned treatment period:		
Instructions/precautions:		
Treatment techniques or procedures to be followed:		
Chemical Treatment Methods and Plans – Apply products per label instructions and rates		
Planned herbicide(s):		
WINPST hazard ratings:	Groundwater:	Surface Water:
Mitigation Techniques (where WIN-PST ratings "extra high", "high", or "intermediate":		
Planned treatment period:		
Application techniques or procedures to be followed:		
Biological Treatment Methods and Plan		
Biological agent or grazing animal to be used:		
Timing, frequency and duration of grazing:		
Instructions/precautions:		

Brush Management – Job Sheet - 314

Desired Condition - Refer to ME Specification Guide Sheet Identify preferred species by using an asterisk (*) by the name.				DESIGNED/PRESCRIBED POST-TREATMENT STOCKING RATE		
Field/ Stand	Ac	Plant Species (common name)	Size Class	D+X Spacing or Carbon Stock	Avg. Spacing Ft X Ft	Trees per Acre or
Tot.	0					

If needed, an aerial view of the practice location can be shown below. Other relevant information, complementary practices and measures, and additional specifications may be included.

Additional Specifications and Notes:

NEPA requirements met, including ESA assessment? Permits required? Permit No. (if Yes)

Additional Remarks (Include information on salable or usable products, other values and considerations):

COMPLETION/CHECKOUT CERTIFICATION

I have job approval authority and certify this practice as applied meets NRCS Standards and Specifications:

NRCS Representative name and title		
NRCS Representative Signature:		Date:
As-Built Notes (include date completed by client, treated acres and describe any changes to original design):		

Questions or changes regarding this practice should be directed to Gerald Barnes, at (207)990-9580

LANDOWNER/OPERATOR ACKNOWLEDGES:

a. They have received a copy of the specifications and understand the contents including the scope and location of the practice.
b. They have obtained all necessary permits and/or rights in advance of practice application, and will comply with all ordinances and laws pertaining to the application of this practice.
c. No changes will be made in the installation of the job without prior concurrence of the NRCS.
d. Maintenance of the installed work is necessary for proper performance during the life of the practice. The practice life is _____.

I have reviewed all specifications and agree to install as specified:

Landowner/operator name and title (type or print):		
Landowner/operator Signature:		Date: