

TREE AND SHRUB PRUNING (BLUEBERRY PRODUCTION)

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service – Practice Code 660



TREE AND SHRUB PRUNING

Tree and shrub pruning is removal, reduction, or manipulation of tree and shrub species.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

This is a multipurpose practice applied on blueberry land where tree and/or shrub species are competing with blueberry species.

The tree and shrub pruning practice is designed to achieve the optimum level of control of the target woody species and protection of the desired species. This is accomplished by mechanical, chemical, biological, or a combination of these techniques. The practice is also planned and applied to meet the habitat requirements of fish and wildlife.

Tree and shrub pruning is applied to accomplish one or more of the following:

Restore natural plant community balance; create the desired plant community; reduce competition for space, moisture and sunlight to favor the desired species; manage noxious woody plants; restore vegetation to control erosion and sedimentation; improve air quality; improve water quality; enhance stream flow; and maintain or enhance wildlife habitat including habitat for threatened and endangered species.

COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

Tree and shrub pruning is commonly used in a Conservation Management System with the following practices:

- Integrated Pest Management
- Nutrient Management

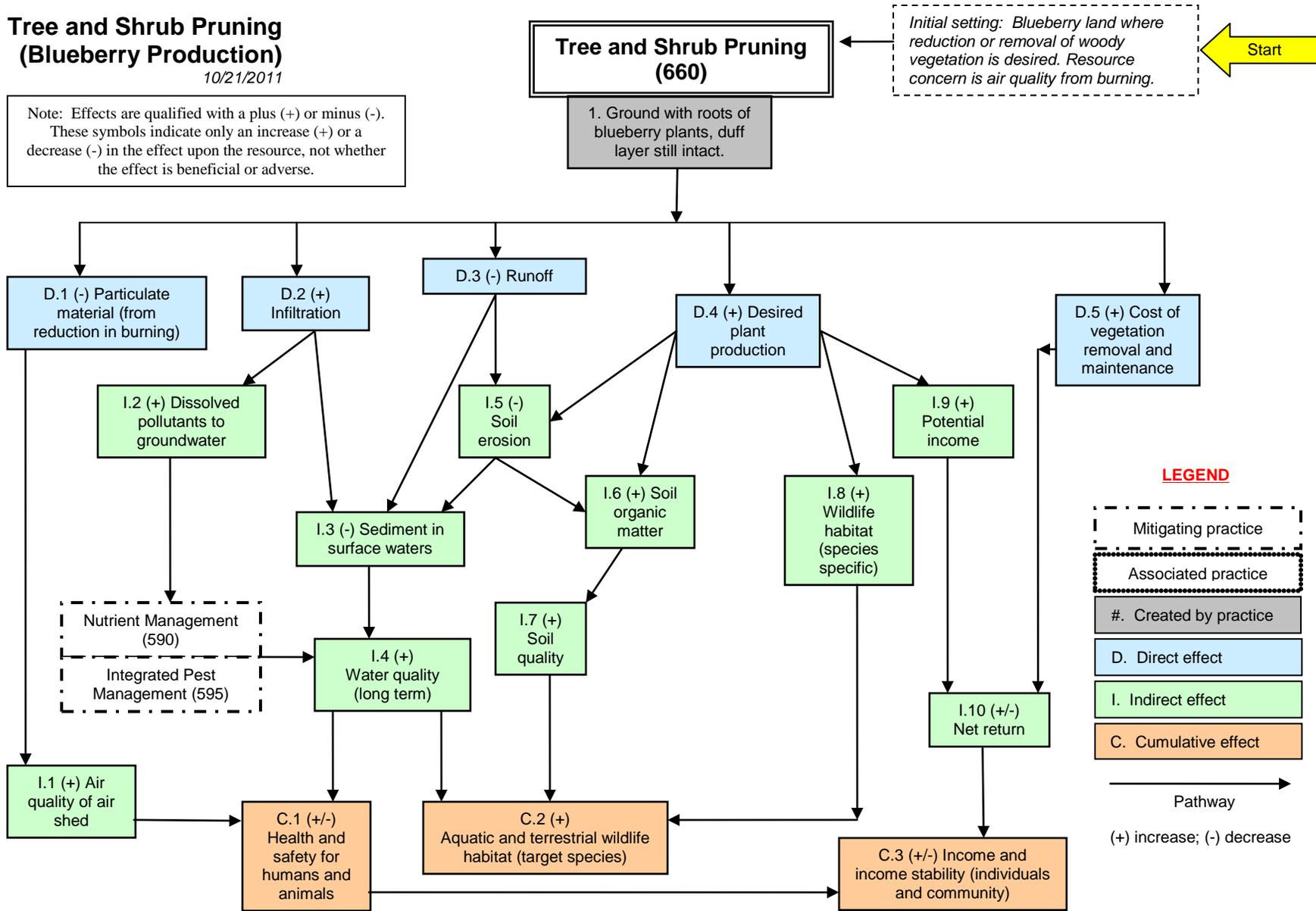
Refer to the practice standard in the local Field Office Technical Guide and associated Job Sheets for further information.

The following page identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowners and are presumed to have been obtained. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.

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Note: Effects are qualified with a plus (+) or minus (-). These symbols indicate only an increase (+) or a decrease (-) in the effect upon the resource, not whether the effect is beneficial or adverse.



The diagram above identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied according to NRCS practice standards and specifications. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowners and are presumed to have been obtained. All income changes are partially dependent upon market fluctuations which are independent of the conservation practices. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.