

Prepared for: _____

Prepared by: _____

Farm: _____ Tract: _____ Date: _____



Brush Management.



DEFINITION

Management or removal of woody (non-herbaceous or succulent) plants including those that are invasive and noxious.

PURPOSE

- Manage fuel loads to achieve desired conditions.
- 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.

CRITERIA

Brush Management will be accomplished by mechanical, chemical, biological, prescribed burning, prescribed grazing, or a combination of these methods.

MANAGEMENT METHODS

Before starting a brush control treatment, it is important to identify the plants targeted for control and any non-target plants that you want to maintain and enhance. It is important to understand the life cycles of both types of plants and to time the treatment of the targeted plants when they are most vulnerable. When possible, try to avoid treatments when non-target plants could be impacted.

Chemical: When using chemical control, spot treatment methods should be used whenever feasible to apply herbicides. Apply herbicides at the correct rate when weather conditions are favorable and when the species to be controlled is weakest. Examples of chemical treatments are stump treatment, foliar application, and basal bark treatment. *Herbicides must be handled and applied in accordance with the product label and any federal, state, or local regulations.*

Manual and Mechanical: Manually or mechanically removing brush species can be successful if done repeatedly over the growing season and over multiple years. Brushy species tend to re-sprout, and follow-up treatments will be necessary. Examples of

manual/mechanical methods are hand pulling, cutting and girdling. Properly dispose of invasive species materials after treatment to prevent reseeding or spread to new areas.

Prescribed Fire: Prescribed fire can be an effective tool for brush management by suppressing undesirable species and removing thatch layers. Success will greatly depend on the species present, time of the year applied, and the temperature of the fire. In general, fire applied in late spring or fall will be most effective at controlling brush. *All NRCS cost share programs (WHIP, EQIP, etc.) require a burn plan to be submitted to the local NRCS office for approval prior to burning (see Prescribed Burning (338) job sheet).*

Grazing: Grazing with livestock can be an effective tool to manage invading brush species in conjunction with other treatments. Because grazing will only impact above ground vegetation, it may take multiple treatments to fully manage unwanted species.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Brush management operations will comply with all local, state, and federal laws and ordinances.

Evaluate regrowth or reoccurrence of target species after sufficient time has passed to monitor the situation and gather reliable data to determine success and/or need for additional treatment.

Following initial application, some regrowth, re-sprouting, or reoccurrence of brush should be expected. Spot treatment of individual plants or areas needing retreatment should be done as needed.

Additional Operation and Maintenance requirements specific to this Plan:

PRE-TREATMENT CONDITIONS

Transect methods used to determine the Degree of Infestation by Species:

- Line Intercept
 Belt
 1/10th acre Plots
 Zigzag
 Photo
 ATTACHED
 IN CASE FILE

SPECIFICATIONS

Site-specific requirements are listed on the following page of this job sheet. Specifications are prepared in accordance with the North Carolina NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.

Target Plants to Control	
Mechanical Treatment of Methods and Plans <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable (Producer is responsible for making sure all equipment is clean and free of invasive seed sources before treatment begins)	
Field (s)	
Plants to be controlled	
Amount to be controlled per acre	
Types of equipment to be used (Mowing, hand clearing, roller chopping, light disking, etc.)	
Dates of treatment	
Operating instructions	
Techniques and procedures to be followed	
Chemical Treatment Methods and Plans <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable (Chemical application will be according to label)	
Field(s)	
Plants to be controlled	
Amount to be controlled per acre	
Planned Herbicide(s) (Carrier/Surfactant)	
Rate(s) of application or spray volumes	
Acceptable dates of application	
Any special application techniques, timing consideration, for safe and effective applications	
Reference to label instructions	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pest Management Plan and WIN PST Soil Pesticide Interaction Loss Potential and Hazard Rating Report is attached and was discussed with landowner in formulating alternatives.	

Biological Treatment Methods and Plans		<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
Field(s)		
Plants to be controlled		
Amount to be controlled per acre		
Kind(s) of biological agent or grazing animal to be used (Insects, plants, diseases, etc.)		
Timing, duration, intensity of grazing or browsing		
Desired degree of grazing or browsing use for effective control of target species		
Maximum allowable degree of use on desirable non-target species		
Special precautions or requirements when insect or plants are used for control agents		
Prescribed Grazing. See Prescribed Grazing Plan.		<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
Prescribed Burning. See Prescribed Burning Plan.		<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
See attached Conservation Plan map showing areas to be treated and areas to be left undisturbed.		