



Plant Enhancement Activity – PLT26 – Forest stand improvement to treat understory vegetation to minimize the risk of damaging wildfires, and/or manipulate the density and composition of tree species to improve wildlife habitat and forest health

State Criteria (same as NATIONAL CRITERIA)

A copy of a forest management plan that contains a management objective and outlines specific management actions pertaining to this enhancement must be provided to NRCS to support this enhancement. The plan must include a plan map which delineates areas to be treated. Consultation with a Nebraska Forest Service forester or NRCS staff with adequate job approval authority in Forest Stand Improvement is recommended to develop or review the forest management plan.

Additional Criteria for Nebraska

Forest types that contain undesirable or invasive species in the understory should be targeted with this enhancement. Stands with excessive understory growth of desirable tree species are also eligible.

Areas where wildfire risk is high or near features needing protection from wildfire (i.e. building sites, trails, historic or ecologically important sites, etc.) may be well suited for this enhancement. The removal of Eastern red cedar from the understory of other forest types (i.e. cottonwood) may also be appropriate.

Treatments involving tree removal should not occur during the primary nesting period for migratory birds (April 1 to July 15) with consideration for early or late nesting species (i.e. raptors).

Documentation Requirements (SEE NATIONAL ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY JOBSHEET)

Additional State Documentation Requirements

Complete the Table below:

To be completed by NRCS and Producer during planning			To be completed by Producer during certification		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Tract	Field	Acres Planned	Acres Applied	Management Activities Applied	Date Completed
<i>EX. T1001</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>Thinning/Invasive tree removal Removal of dead woody material</i>	<i>11/15/2015 04/15/2016</i>

EX= EXAMPLE, COLUMNS 1-3 NRCS COMPLETES, COLUMNS 4-6 PRODUCER COMPLETES



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

NE-PLT26 2015 Ranking Period 1

I certify that the enhancement criteria have been met and the required documentation provided to NRCS for review.

1. A copy of the forest management plan or similar document that identifies required elements.
2. Map showing where treatments were applied (highlighted, outlined, etc.).
3. Documentation of completed management activity, as required. – (COMPLETE TABLE ABOVE)
4. Representative digital images of the area showing before and after photos of the area that was treated.

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____