



# Critical Area Planting

## Conservation Practice Job Sheet

342 OR-JS

February 2009

Client: \_\_\_\_\_



Photo courtesy of NRCS

### Definition

Establishing 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.

### Purposes

Critical area planting may be applied as part of a resource management system to accomplish one or more of the following:

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

### Where used

Critical area planting may be used on highly disturbed areas such as active or abandoned mined lands, mine spoil, surface mined lands, urban conservation sites, road construction areas, cuts, fills, dams, dikes, temporary or abandoned access roads, areas needing stabilization before or after natural disasters, and other denuded or gullied

areas where vegetation is difficult to establish by usual planting methods.

### Resource Management System

A Critical Area Planting is normally established concurrently with other conservation practices as part of a resource management system. These practices may include mulching, grass waterways, filter strips, diversions and grade stabilization structures.

### Specifications

Site-specific requirements for critical area planting are listed on the 342 OR Specification Sheet. Specifications are prepared in accordance with the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide and are designed to meet the resource needs and the producer's objectives.

### Operation and maintenance

Use of the planted area shall be managed as long as necessary to stabilize the site. Inspections, reseedling or replanting, fertilization, and pest control may be needed to insure the planting functions as intended through out its expected life.



Photo courtesy of NRCS

Client \_\_\_\_\_ Farm/Tract \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_ County/SWCD \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared By \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESIGN APPROVAL:

Practice Code NO.	PRACTICE	LEAD DISCIPLINE	CONTROLLING FACTOR	UNITS Inches %	JOB CLASS				
					I	II	III	IV	V
342	Critical Area Planting	BCSD-Agron	Precipitation Slope	Inches %	>17 <13	12-17 <21	9-11 All	Irr. All	All All

This practice is classified as Job Class \_\_\_\_\_

Design Approved by: /s/ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Job title: \_\_\_\_\_

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### CLIENTS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT:

The Client acknowledges that:

- a. They have received a copy of the specification and understand the contents and requirements.
- b. The following information must be provided to NRCS by the client before this practice can be certified as applied:
  - Site preparation performed, seeding depth and seeding method, plant species/cultivars used and amounts per acre.
  - Fertilizer (s) applied at or after planting, and weed and/or pest control performed.
- c. It shall be the responsibility of the client to obtain all necessary permits and/or rights, and to comply with all ordinances and laws pertaining to the application of this practice.

Accepted by: /s/ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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### CERTIFICATION:

I have completed a review of the information provided by the client and certify this practice has been applied.

Certification by: /s/ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Job title: \_\_\_\_\_

**CRITICAL AREA PLANTING SPECIFICATION SHEET**

Purpose (check all that apply)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stabilize area and reduce water erosion	<input type="checkbox"/>	Restore degraded areas
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stabilize area and reduce wind erosion	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stabilize coastal areas such as sand dunes and riparian areas
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:		
Site Conditions			
Soil:	Slope:      %	Slope Aspect:	Effective Rainfall                      inches

Plant Materials Cultivar and Species <small>For woody species see attached Tree/ Shrub Establishment Specification 612</small>	Full Seeding Rate (lbs/acre of pure live seed)	% Mix Desired	Rate Per Acre	Acres	Lbs. PLS Needed
Location 1:					
TOTALS					
Location 2:					
TOTALS					

Critical Area Planting Establishment			
Site Preparation:			
Seedbed/Planting Bed Preparation ( <i>Example - Firm and weed free</i> ):			
Additional Requirements ( <i>Example - Topsoil guidance [if applicable]</i> ):			
Seeding/Planting ( <i>Example - Justification for species selection, timing, method, seed source and analysis</i> ):			
Protection of Planting:			
Fertilizer Application ( <i>Example - Rate, method, timing</i> ):			
Mulching Required:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes ( <i>If Yes see 484 OR-Specification, Mulching.</i> )	No
Irrigation Required:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes ( <i>If Yes see 449 OR-Irrigation Water Management Specification.</i> )	No

# CRITICAL AREA PLANTING SPECIFICATION SHEET

## Operation and Maintenance

Operation and Maintenance Requirements:

- *Planting should be inspected at regular intervals to assure successful establishment and function as intended. Inspections, reseeding or replanting, additional fertilization and pest management may be needed.*
- *Pesticides considered will be evaluated using WinPST. Pesticides with ratings of Intermediate or High will be mitigated.*
- *Grazing is not permitted unless a controlled grazing system is implemented using Prescribed Grazing criteria.*

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

Scale 1"= \_\_\_\_\_ ft. (NA indicates sketch not to scale: grid size=1/2" by 1/2")



**Additional Specifications and Notes: (Including Successful Establishment Requirements, e.g. minimum percent ground/canopy cover, percent survival, stand density, etc.)**

Blank area for additional specifications and notes.

**CRITICAL AREA PLANTING SPECIFICATION SHEET**

Additional Critical Area Planting Narrative:

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