

Restoration and Management of Rare or Declining Habitats

Virginia Conservation Practice Job Sheet

643



Definition

Restoring, conserving, and managing unique or diminishing native terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.

Criteria

Methods used shall be designed to protect the soil resource from erosion and compaction.

Invasive plant and animal species and noxious weeds shall be controlled. When possible, control will be limited to that necessary to control undesirable species while still protecting habitat that benefit native pollinators and other fish and wildlife species that depend on the site for food, cover, and water.

Undisturbed areas shall be conserved on a sufficient extent of the area to sustain disturbance-intolerant species.

Plant species and seeding rate specifications will be prepared to achieve desired habitat condition. Select species from the Virginia Plant Establishment Guide. Only high quality and ecologically adapted plant materials will be

used. When feasible, only local ecotypes will be used.

Site preparation, planting dates and methods, and plant material care and handling shall optimize vegetation survival and growth.

A pretreatment assessment of the targeted habitat will be documented to provide a baseline for comparison with post-treatment habitat conditions. Goals or success criteria will be established using reference sites for guidance and comparison. Where no such reference site exists, use ecological site description or historic data to establish restoration goals.

Use of fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals shall not compromise the intended purpose of this practice

Management practices and activities are not to disturb cover during the primary nesting period (April 15 – August 15). Exceptions could be granted for periodic management when necessary to maintain the health of the plant community or to meet specific requirements of target species.

The practice shall be protected from livestock grazing and trampling to the extent necessary to ensure that it will perform the intended purpose(s).

Note: This summary does not address all requirements and considerations in the VA Restoration and Management of Rare or Declining Habitats Conservation Practice Standard (VA-643). Consult the Conservation Practice Standard for further details.

General Information

Client: _____	County: _____
Field Office: _____	Contract #: _____
Farm #: _____	Tract #: _____
Field # and acreage: _____	

Purpose

To return aquatic or terrestrial ecosystems to their original or usable and functioning condition and to improve biodiversity by providing and maintaining habitat for fish and wildlife species associated with the ecosystem.

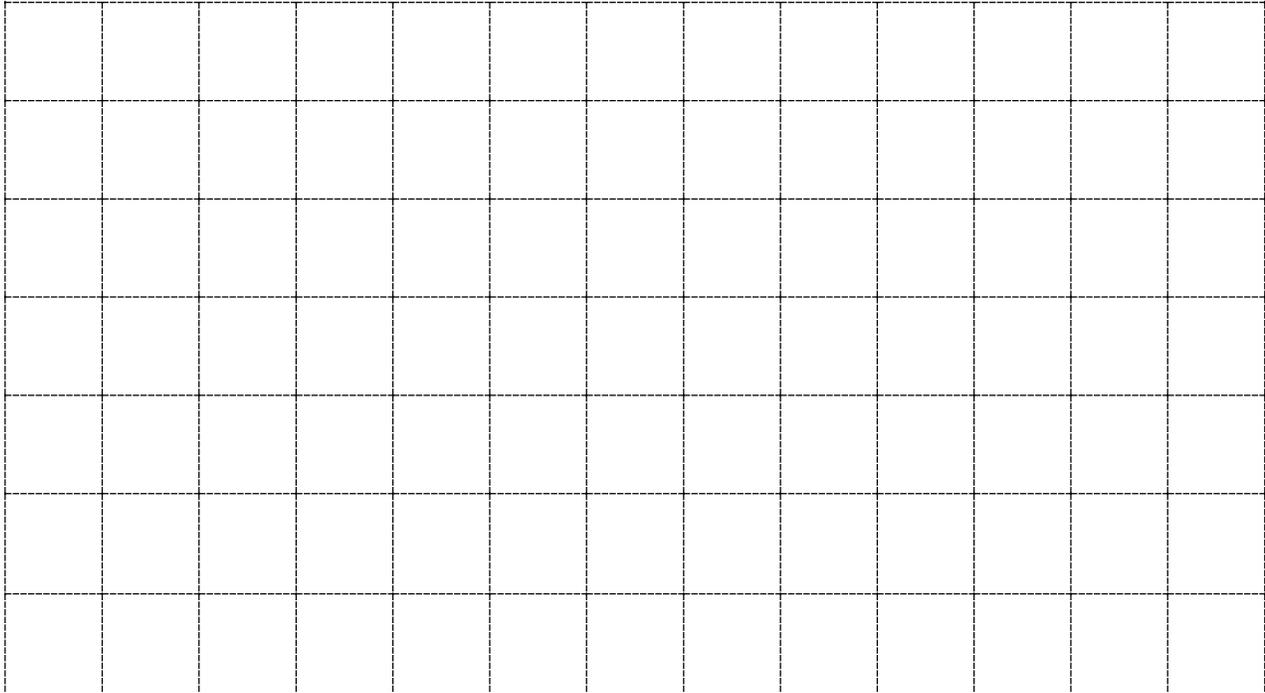
Practice Specifications:

(Identify the kind of habitat to be restored, primary species, locations (attach map), and restoration actions necessary to achieve the client's management objectives. Describe the appropriate method, timing, and intensity of practices and/or management needed to produce the desired habitat conditions and sustain them over time):

Practice Planned (practice yielding the planned score)	Field Number(s)	Planting requirements (species, density, and dates)	Management	Size

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:

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