

# Forestry/Water Quality Cost Share



## D.13 Forestry Conservation Practice

### Forestry Conservation Practice

Establishment or improvement of long term forestry practices to improve or protect water quality or control soil erosion.

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Eligible Component(s):

Access Road (560)	Forest Slash Treatment (384)
Brush Management (314)	Forest Trails and Landings (655)
Clearing and Snagging (326)	Fuel Break (383)
Conservation Cover (327)	Grade Stabilization (410)
Critical Area Plantings (342)	Prescribed Forestry (409)
Early Successional Habitat	Restoration and Management of Rare or Declining Habitats (643)
Development/Management (647)	Riparian Forest buffer (391)
Fence (82)	Stream Crossing (578)
Forest Site Preparation (490)	Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
Forest Stand Improvement (666)	Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)

The number in parentheses corresponds to the practice number in the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG). Please refer to the FOTG for a definition of the practice, its purpose, applicability, and recommended standards and specifications.

(In certain circumstances, other eligible components may be applicable. If other eligible components are needed, please see Part V.E. Other Recognized Technical Practices)

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**Policies**

- A **Small Acreage Assessment** must be completed to document needs.
- Cost share is authorized where at least 80 percent of the contributing watershed controlled by the land occupier has the appropriate cultural, management, or structural practices in place (or scheduled to be installed) to stabilize sources of sediment and reduce surface water runoff.
- Cost share is not authorized where runoff or sediment from the contributing watershed would prevent the practice from achieving its intended purpose with normal operation and maintenance. The contributing watershed includes land not controlled by the land occupier.

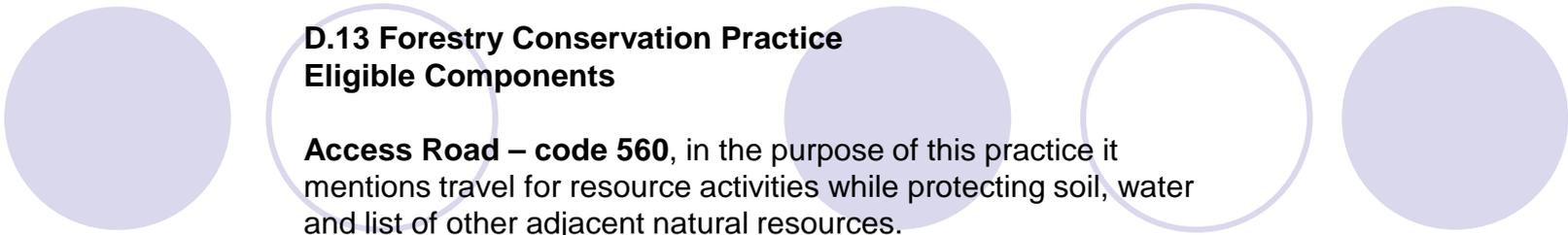
Cost sharing is authorized up to 75% (Districts can set lower rates.) of total eligible project costs for the materials and activities required to establish the practice and protect the site during construction of the practice. They include, but are not limited to:

**Materials:**

Seed  
Trees/Shrubs  
Herbicides  
Fertilizer  
Minerals  
Fence Materials  
Mulch  
Tubes  
Mats

**Activities:**

Grading (Earthwork)  
Planting  
Fertilizer/Herbicide Application  
Fencing Labor  
Mulching Labor  
Site Preparation



### **D.13 Forestry Conservation Practice Eligible Components**

**Access Road – code 560**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions travel for resource activities while protecting soil, water and list of other adjacent natural resources.

**Brush Management – code 314**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions restoring desired vegetative cover to protect soil, control erosion, reduction sedimentation, improve water quality and enhance stream flow.

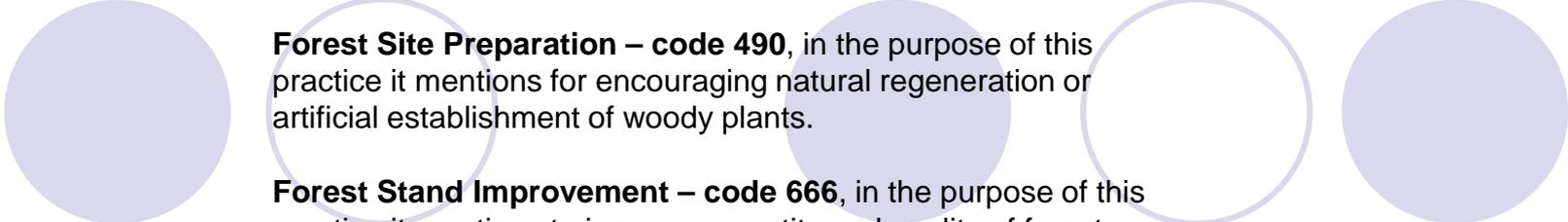
**Clearing and Snagging – 326**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions removal of material from stream channel to prevent bank erosion.

**Conservation Cover – 327**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions reduces soil erosion and sedimentation, improve water quality and others. This practice does not apply to plantings for forage production or to critical area plantings.

**Critical area plantings – 342**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions stabilizing area with existing or expected high rates of soil erosion by water.

**Early Successful Habitat Development/Management – code 647**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions increasing plant community diversity. This may be a step in brush control in the north.

**Fence – 382**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions applies to facilitate the application of conservation practices by providing a means to control movement of animals or people.



**Forest Site Preparation – code 490**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions for encouraging natural regeneration or artificial establishment of woody plants.

**Forest Stand Improvement – code 666**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions to increase quantity and quality of forest products, but also to initiate forest stand regeneration, improve water conservation and yield.

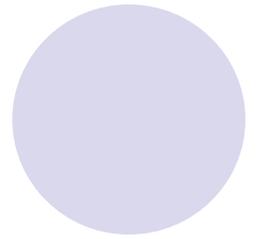
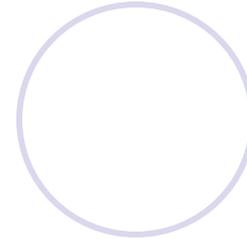
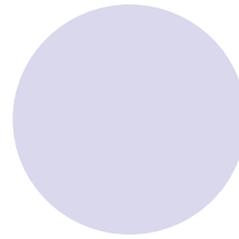
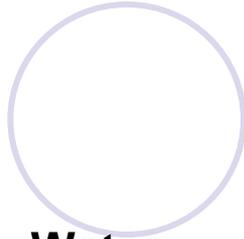
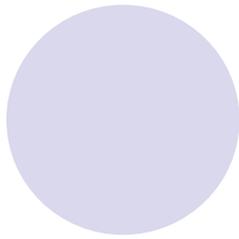
**Forest Trails and Landings – code 655**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions that this similar to forest access but for a more infrequent activities that may include fire suppression.

**Prescribed Burning – code 338**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions this to control undesirable vegetation and also for site preparation.

**Riparian Forest Buffer – code 391**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions reducing the amounts of sediment, nutrients, and pesticides or other chemicals.

**Stream Crossing – code 578**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions improving water quality by reducing sediment, nutrient, organic and inorganic materials. It also mentions reduction in stream bank/streambed erosion.

**Tree/Shrub Establishment – code 612**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions the practice may be for long term erosion control and improvement of water quality.



**Water and Sediment Control Basin – 638**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions practice is to reduce gully erosion, trap sediment and improve downstream water quality.

**Forest Slash Treatment – code 384**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions reducing hazardous fuels and improving the soil organic matter. This one may be a stretch, but may be worthwhile including.

**Fuel Break – code 383**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions controlling or reducing the risk of spread of wildfire. This may be applicable because the potential of increased erosion after a fire.

**Prescribed Forestry – code 409**, in the purpose of this practice it mentions maintaining or improving forest health, protecting soil quality and condition, maintaining or enhancing water quality. The way I read this practice it is addressing implementation of a forest plan.

**Tree/Shrub Site Preparation – code 490**, this is the same practice as forest site preparation.

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- Technical panel developed template plan
    - BWSR
    - SWCDs with forestry programs
    - DNR Forestry
    - UM Extension
    - Firewise representative
    - Master Gardener representative

# Templates

## Small Acreage Template

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Assessment Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Planner: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ E911 Sign: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ LAT/LONG (X/Y): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Township Range Section: \_\_\_\_\_

**Stand Inventory Worksheet** (Complete one sheet for each stand or different area on the property.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Stand number or letter (mark this on your map)  Neighboring property

**Soil** – dig a small hole about a foot deep. Is the soil at the bottom of the hole:  
 Sand  Wet  OR  County Soil Survey: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clay (sticky and hard to dig)  Dry Soil Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Loam (rich, black dirt)

**Slope** – is the land:  Level  Hilly (if it's hilly, which direction does the hill face):  
 North  East  South  West  Rolling, no specific direction  
 Comments/suggested opportunities: \_\_\_\_\_

**Woodland** – Predominant tree type:  
 Deciduous (broadleaf, loses leaves in fall). List species you recognize in order of predominance: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evergreen (leaves are needles). List species you recognize in order of predominance: \_\_\_\_\_

**Predominant tree size:**  
 Seedling (under 5 feet tall)  Sapling (5' tall to 5" in diameter)  
 Pole (5-8" in diameter)  Sawtimber (+8" in diameter)  
 Comments/suggested opportunities: \_\_\_\_\_

**Tree Condition:**  
 Vigorous (no leaf discoloration, stems are straight without blemishes, few dead branches in the crown)  
 In trouble – check conditions that apply:  
 Discolored or shredded leaves  Odd growths on stems and branches  
 Many dead branches in tree crowns  Many dead trees in the area  
 Other observed problems: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Comments/suggested opportunities: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are trees in rows?  Yes  No  
 Undergrowth:  Pine needles or bare soil  
 Short (<1') shrubs and form (species): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Medium brush (1-3') (species): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tall brush (+3') (species): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Density:  Heavy (hard to walk through)  Moderate  Sparse  
 Comments/suggested opportunities: \_\_\_\_\_

**Developed:**  
 Homesite:  
 Predominant trees:  Deciduous  Evergreen – list species: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tree size:  Seedlings  Saplings  Pole  Sawtimber  
 Tree condition:  Vigorous  Problems – list: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hard space mitigation needs: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other significant features: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Comments/suggested opportunities: \_\_\_\_\_

## Conservation Needs Assessment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Basic type:**  
 Open (grassland, bare soil, pasture, crops, predominantly brush or shrubs – few or no trees)  
 Woodland (predominantly trees)  
 Wetland (open water, wet soil, or periodically wet area)  
 Developed (property with buildings on it or utility right of way)  
 Comments/suggested opportunities: \_\_\_\_\_

**Shoreline:**  
 River  Lake  
 Small stream or intermittent stream  
 Wetland  
 Riparian zone condition:  None  Poor  Good  
 Concerns or suggested opportunities: \_\_\_\_\_

**Wetland character:**  
 Open water:  Lake  Stream  Pond  Forested wetland  
 Seasonally wet area (not always open water). Predominant vegetation:  
 Bare soil  Grasses  Cattails  Shrubs  Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Concerns or suggested opportunities: \_\_\_\_\_

**Invasive species present:**  
 Open  Wooded  Wetland  
 Concerns or suggested opportunities: \_\_\_\_\_

**Water Quality:**  
 Erosion:  Gullies present  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Concerns or suggested opportunities: \_\_\_\_\_

**Wildlife:**  
 Types:  Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Food  Habitat  Water  
 Birds:  Food  Habitat  Water  
 Concerns or suggested opportunities: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other significant features:**  
 Nest (bird?): \_\_\_\_\_  Animal den (animal?): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Beaver dam  Steep slope  Water seep or spring  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special species of concern present: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Concerns or suggested opportunities: \_\_\_\_\_