

Conservation Practice Standard Overview

Woody Residue Treatment (384)

Woody residue treatment reduces or otherwise addresses the management of woody plant residues created during forestry, agroforestry or horticultural activities, or resulting from natural disasters.

Practice Information

This practice applies on areas with quantities of woody slash and debris requiring treatment.

Conservation benefits include but are not limited to:

- reduced wildfire hazard
- reduced risk of smoke
- reduced risk of harmful insects and disease
- improved access to forage for grazing and browsing animals
- improved soil organic matter retention
- improved site conditions for natural or artificial regeneration.

Treatment options include burning, chipping, shredding, and off-site disposal. When determining the method and timing of woody material treatment, considerations will include air quality regulations, burning regulations, available resources, ability to use woody biomass as bio-fuel, and future regeneration objectives. Long-term negative impacts to soil



quality may occur with off-site removal of woody material.

Common Associated Practices

Woody Residue Treatment (384) is commonly applied with conservation practices such as Access Control (472), Critical Area Planting (342), Firebreak (394), Forest Stand Improvement (666), Integrated Pest Management (595), Prescribed Burning (378), Prescribed Grazing (528), Sediment Basin (350), and Structure for Water Control (587)

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.