



Developing a Conservation Plan CREP



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for the citizens of North Carolina*





Partnership Involvement

Development of a conservation plan involves many partners during its development.

- The participant
- The NRCS DC
- The Soil & Water Conservation District
- Wildlife Biologist
- NCFS/Registered Forester





CREP Conservation Plan

- Design the plan to meet the standard guidelines for the specific practice.
- Management plans must address establishment requirements.
 - Practice requirement that meet guidelines, site preparation & planting requirements
 - Maintenance Measures: practices needed to control noxious weeds, destructive insects, and livestock. (For CP22 only: \$2 per acres is included in the annual rental fee, \$4 per acre for permanent fencing, \$5 per acre permanent fencing and water facility development)
 - Management Measures – items such as burning, thinning, or fire line installment. Will differ between Conservation practices

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CREP Conservation Plan

- Includes site preparation, artificial or natural regeneration on new fields according to the standard for the specific practice.
- Use of fertilizer is allowed only for practice establishment
- Bedding should only be used in extreme circumstances
- Site should not be altered for the sole purpose of tree establishment not suited to the site.
- Conservation Plans not written by a private forester must be approved by a NCFS registered forester.

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Future Management

● FM Plan “Check List”

- The FM plan check list are guidelines that need to be followed for future management of older CREP stands.
 - may included pre-commercial or commercial harvesting
 - As long as the harvesting is conducted according to the “FM check list”
 - In accordance with FPG for water quality
 - And recommended in a written FM plan by or approved by a registered forester.

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FM Plan “Check List”

- NO trees in the 50’ minimal impact zone (MIZ) adjacent to the water body are to be harvested...
 - Unless the practice is necessary to maintain the health of individual trees.
 - Unless removal of dead trees or other harvesting practices are needed to maintain the health of the stand.
- Thinning activities allowed according to FM plan:
Guidelines
 - Pines that have never been thinned – Thin to SI (base 50)
 - Pine previously thinned – Thin to SI minus 20 BA (not less than 50 BA)

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FM Plan “Check List”

- ◎ Prescribed Burning
 - Is allowed according to a burn plan and included in the FM Plan.
- ◎ Harvesting
 - Single tree or group selection methods are allowed
 - More intensive harvesting is allowed to remedy adverse catastrophes
 - Logging decks are not allowed within 200 ‘ of the CREP water body.
 - Utilize a pre-harvest plan approved by a registered forester
 - Periodic inspection of the harvest operation required by a registered forester.

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NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER SERVICES



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