**alliance practice worksheet**

MINNESOTA

Silvopasture (381)

*The conditions and specifications below are adapted from the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Producers who are installing these practices under the Alliance will use the conditions and implementation guides below but are exempt from NRCS verification and certification. Completing the Purposes and Practice Specifications on this document is sufficient to self-verify practice installation and completion.*

# Farm Info

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| --- | --- |
| Name | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| County | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Alliance Contract Number | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Field Number(s) | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Tract Number(s) | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Practice Area | Click or tap here to enter text. |

# PRACTICE: sivlopasture (381)

**DEFINITION:**Establishment and/or management of desired trees and forages on the same land unit.

**CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES:** This practice may be applied on any area that is suitable for the desired forages, trees, and livestock.

See <https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/api/CPSFile/3013/381_MN_CPS_Silvopasture_2020> to access the NRCS Conservation Practice Standard.

**NOTE:** *This practice has a lifespan of 15 years, according to NRCS. Therefore, enrollment is only possible for year one (implementation) of this practice.*

**AT A MINIMUM, PRODUCERS WILL PROVIDE A RECORD OF THE FOLLOWING:**

* Objective(s) for installing practice.
* Drawings to illustrate installation or implementation requirements.
* Map showing the location of the silvopasture and any areas planned for planting.
* Soils map, and description of soils and ecological sites (where available).
* Establishment methods.
* Number of trees/shrubs to be planted per acre, by species.
* Timing of establishment relative to considerations for seasonal factors, disease, insects, wildlife impacts, etc.
* Mitigation measures, if needed, to reduce wildfire hazard or the potential for pest damage.

# GENERAL CRITERIA APPLICABLE TO ALL PURPOSES

* Use plant species (i.e., trees and forages; shrubs where desired) that are adapted to the climate, soil, and biological conditions of the site and compatible with its planned use and management.
* Establish and maintain silvopasture in a forested condition that is at least 10-percent stocked by singlestemmed woody species of any size that will be at least 4 meters (13 feet) tall at maturity.
* Do not plant species on the Federal or State invasive species or noxious weeds lists.
* Manage grazing at appropriate levels to establish and maintain silvopasture productivity and function. Facilities for providing water, minerals, or supplemental feed will be located and distributed such that livestock will properly utilize forages in the silvopasture. Control livestock access to areas with sensitive soils (e.g., wetlands, riparian zones, habitats of concern, karst areas, etc.). Use NRCS Conservation Practice Standard (CPS) Prescribed Grazing (528).
* Where trees, or a combination of trees and shrubs, are added to existing pasture, range, or crop land, perform site preparation and tree/shrub planting as needed based on existing vegetation and soil conditions. Conduct site preparation using CPS Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (490), and establish trees/shrubs using criteria in CPS Tree/Shrub Establishment (612), as needed. Plant trees according to design specifications for the desired tree species and configuration (e.g., rows, clumps, or single trees). Design the tree planting based on site factors (e.g., climate, topography, aspect, wind, etc.) to optimize the amount of sunlight reaching the ground to maintain desired forages, while providing the desired shelter and/or shade for livestock.
* Protect plantings from unacceptable adverse impacts from pests, wildlife, livestock, and/or fire. Refer to plant protection criteria in CPS Tree/Shrub Establishment (612), and Prescribed Grazing (528). When establishing silvopasture in existing forestland, remove enough trees, and/or prune existing trees, to allow adequate light penetration for forage establishment and growth. For tree pruning, use criteria in CPS Tree/Shrub Pruning (660). For establishment of forage species, use criteria in CPS Forage and Biomass Planting (512) or CPS Range Planting (550).
* Removal of products (e.g., trees, medicinal herbs, nuts, and fruits) is allowed, provided that silvopasture conservation purpose(s) are not compromised by the loss of vegetation or by harvesting disturbance.
* Select stocking rates and tree species to optimize growth rates and lifespans, suited to site capability, to enhance and sustain carbon sequestration. Use forage species that are deeply rooted and allocate higher amounts of carbon to below-ground portions.

# treatment methods and plans (complete all that apply)

Map of project area is attached (including location of silvopasture establishment).

Soil map, which includes description of soil and ecological sites, is attached.

Drawings to illustrate installation or implementation requirements are attached.

Establishment methods (pasture to silvopasture or forestland to silvopasture and details about how to obtain):

Click or tap here to enter text.

Establishment Details:

If doing a forage planting, attach the Forage and Biomass Planting (512) IR sheet.

If doing a tree/shrub planting, attach the Tree/Shrub Establishment (612) IR sheet.

If doing tree removals, attach the Forest Stand Improvement (666) IR sheet.

Additional notes related to the details can be include below:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Establishment – Mitigation measures related to wildfire, pests etc.:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Other Information and notes (including Prescribed Grazing (528) plan reference etc.):

Click or tap here to enter text.

If additional practices are required to accomplish the purpose of this practice, please include the list below and designate if an Implementation Requirement sheet is required.

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| **Additional Practice Required** | **Implementation Requirements Needed** | **If “Yes”, IR is also attached** |
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# operation and maintenance plan

The following actions shall be carried out to ensure this practice functions as intended throughout its

lifespan. These actions include normal repetitive activities in the application and use of the practice

(operation), and repair and upkeep of the practice (maintenance), such as:

* Manage trees, forages, and shrubs as needed to provide appropriate light conditions for forages, and shade/shelter conditions for livestock.
* Inspect the site at an appropriate time following planting to determine whether the tree and shrub survival rate meets practice and client objectives. Replant or provide supplemental planting when survival is inadequate.
* Control competing vegetation and livestock impacts until plantings are established.
* Apply nutrients as needed for establishment and to maintain plant vigor.
* Inspect trees and/or shrubs periodically following establishment, and protect them from adverse impacts including insects, diseases, competing vegetation, wildfire, livestock, wildlife, etc.
* Where wildlife habitat enhancement is an objective, maintenance practices and activities shall not disturb vegetative cover during the primary reproductive period (e.g., nesting period) of wildlife. Exceptions can be considered for periodic burning or mowing when necessary to maintain the health of the plant community.

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| Notes:  Click or tap here to enter text. |

# PRODUCER SELF-CERTIFICATION

By signing below, I certify that I have reviewed all required documentation and have implemented the practice and met all criteria and requirements as defined in the Natural Resources Conservation Service **SILVOPASTURE (381)** standard and specifications for the identified acres or animal units.

Further, I agree that:

I am not currently receiving a payment for this conservation practice on these fields and acres from another USDA Conservation Program, another USDA Partnership for Climate-Smart Commodities grant partner, or a state cost-share program.

I will retain all practice documentation to support this certification for up to 12 months following practice adoption and will provide this documentation to the Alliance if selected for a spot check. *(Up to 10% of enrolled Alliance participants will be randomly selected for spot checks).*

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| ***Participant Name:*** | Click or tap here to enter text. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Participant Signature:*** | Click or tap here to enter text. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Date:*** | Click or tap to enter a date. |