



PLT11 - Montana Supplement – REVISED 4/20/2011

Conifer Crop Tree Release – (Plant Enhancement Activity)

Montana Clarification

This practice releases desirable crop trees by selectively removing less desirable competing trees in overstocked forests.

Montana Specifications

Crop trees should have good form, vigor and are either dominate or co-dominate in the crown canopy structure. Spacing should follow the D+X spacing guidelines in the Forest Stand Improvement (code 666) practice (see below). Retain a mixture of trees when possible.

Targeted species in Montana are: Ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, Western Larch, and young stands (15 to 30 years old) of Lodgepole pine.

Ponderosa pine.

Even-aged:	D+ 6 to 10*
Uneven-aged:	63–84 FEET ² /ACRE*

Douglas-fir, Spruce, Fir, Cedar, Hemlock.

Even-aged:	D+ 7 to 9*
Uneven-aged:	65–88 FEET ² /ACRE*

Western larch.

Even-aged:	D+ 8 to 10*
Uneven-aged:	56–75 FEET ² /ACRE*

Lodgepole pine.

Even-aged:	D+ 5 to 7*
Uneven-aged:	78–110 FEET ² /ACRE*

* Use the *upper* stocking levels in healthy stands on more productive sites where understory production (grass, shrub, and tree seedlings) is not a concern.

Use the *lower* stocking levels on less productive sites, to encourage growth of established tree seedlings, to improve forage production on grazable forests, to reduce fire hazards, or where lower levels are necessary when removing undesirable species or infected trees.

Incompatible Enhancements

This enhancement may not be contracted with the following enhancements:

For forest: ANM19, ANM29, ANM30, PLT07

Eligible Land

Forest land

Applicable Amount

Total acres of conifer forestland recommended for forest stand improvement.

Example (System)

The applicable acres would be all overstocked forested acres (not total forested acres). For example, a NIPF applicant has 30 acres of NIPF; of which 16 acres are overstocked. The applicable acres would be 30 and if the participant would begin thinning in year 2, the Toolkit plan would be written as:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
PLT11	0	16.0 ac	16.0 ac	16.0 ac	16.0 ac

Documentation Requirements

1. Identify the objectives for the treatment, i.e. what trees will be retained for crop trees, how many trees per acre will be left, snags maintained/created.
2. Brief written documentation detailing the pre-treatment conditions and post-treatment conditions.
3. Representative digital images/photos of the area showing before and after treatment conditions, including snag retention.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand all that is required for the implementation of this CSP Enhancement Activity.

Contract participant

Date