

**Plant Enhancement Activity – PLT29 – Rehabilitating damaged or cut over stands**



**Enhancement Description**

This enhancement is designed to restore a forest that has been damaged or cut-over leaving very few desirable trees along with undesirable tree species. Action will be taken to reduce the undesirable tree species and promote the desirable tree species. Over time, the favoring of desirable species will bring the stand back to a productive and healthy forest.

**Land Use Applicability**

Forestland

**Benefits**

A forest restored from a degraded condition to a healthy, well-stocked forest will have habitat for wildlife and vegetative cover to protect the soil and filter water.

**Conditions Where Enhancement Applies**

This enhancement applies to forest land use acres damaged by wildfires, high winds, ice, insects or past cutting practices that did not lead to adequate regeneration of desirable trees.

**Criteria**

Implement the following:

1. Identify the targeted area to restore.
2. Develop a forest management plan which details the prescription needed to restore the affect area.
3. Identify the site condition to be used in the selection of the desirable trees and/or shrubs.
4. Evaluate the area to determine the appropriate forestry practices to use to help restore the targeted area.
5. Conduct or halt the restoration activities when the site conditions will not cause further damage, rutting or soil compaction.
6. Favor trees and shrubs that are suited for the site, are of good quality to improve the residual forest and are desirable for the forest’s objective.
7. Less desirable trees and shrubs must be removed or reduced to allow space and nutrients to the residual trees and shrubs.
8. Documentation of activities and photo points should be established to view the changes in the forest over time.

**Adoption Requirements**

The enhancement is considered adopted when the criteria above have been implemented on the land use acre.



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2015 Ranking Period 1

### **Documentation Requirements**

1. Site suitability
2. Trees and/or shrubs species to promote.
3. The activities used to restore the subject area (i.e., cutting, mowing, pruning, spot spraying, single stem injection, etc.)
4. A map showing where the treatments occurred, and
5. Documentation that treatment activities were completed (e.g., photos, receipt for contracting services or diary of activities completed by the landowner).

### **References**

Baker, J.B., 1986. The Crossett Farm Forestry Forties After 41 Years of Selection Management. *Southern Journal of Applied Forestry*. Volume 10, Number 4, 1 November 1986, pp. 233-237(5).

Bragg, D.C., and J.M. Guldin, 2014. The Silvicultural implications of age patterns in two southern pine stands after 72 years of uneven-aged management. *For. Sci.* 60(2):000–000, <http://dx.doi.org/10.5849/forsci.13-137>.

Clatterbuck, W. K. Treatments for improving degraded hardwood stands. UT Extension Publication SP680, also published at Professional Hardwood Note #6 for Tennessee and Kentucky