



Conservation Practice Standard Overview

May 2016

Clearing and Snagging (Code 326)

Clearing and snagging is removing vegetation along streambanks, logs, boulders, drifts, and other obstructions from natural or improved channels and streams.

Practice Information

The flow area of a channel may become clogged by various kinds of obstructions resulting in a reduced stream flow. If removal of obstructions is required, clearing and snagging is a conservation practice used for that purpose.



Special attention is given to restoring, maintaining, or improving the natural resources associated with the channel. If it is determined, after careful study, that the work is likely to result in channel erosion, impairment to fish and wildlife, or other adverse impacts, then the clearing and snagging will either not be done or practices to minimize such damages will be applied concurrently with the clearing and snagging. In addition to on sight considerations, the downstream effects are also considered.

Proper planning will result in measures and construction methods that enhance fish and wildlife values, aesthetics, shade trees, and other natural resources in the channel area.

Clearing and snagging will require maintenance over the expected life of the practice.

Common Associated Practices

Clearing and Snagging (Code 326) is commonly applied with practices such as Critical Area Planting (Code 342), Sediment Basin (Code 350), Streambank and Shoreline Protection (Code 580), Tree/Shrub Establishment (Code 612), Forage and Biomass Planting (Code 512), and Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (Code 645).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.