APPLICATION

# **PLANTING FOR THE FUTURE HABITAT PROJECT**

Please complete the form, sign the terms and conditions acknowledgement, and e-mail or mail with a project diagram to the address indicated below.

## **PROJECT CONTACT INFO**

**FULL NAME:** **PHONE:**

**ADDRESS:**

**CITY, STATE & ZIP:**

**EMAIL:**

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

**LEGAL LOCATION:**

**GENERAL LOCATION:**

**COUNTY WHERE PROJECT IS LOCATED:**

**CONTRACTOR** [ ]  Planting for the Future Contractor [ ]  Soil Conservation District [ ]  Self

*See page 2 for more information.*

**PREFERRED PLANTING METHOD** [ ]  Scalping [ ]  Knifing with fabric

*See page 2 for more information about each method*

**ESTIMATED TOTAL LINEAR FEET OF PROJECT:**

**TREE VARIEITES (***If you know which species of trees you would like to plant, you may enter the number below. If you are not sure and would like to speak with the consultant, you may leave blank. Note that about 600 trees can be planted in a linear mile.)*

 **Buffaloberry *(K)***

 **Caragana *(S, K)***

 **Cedar *(S, K)***

 **Chokecherry *(K)***

 **Juniper *(S, K)***

 **Lilac *(S, K)***

 **Plum *(K)***

 **Ponderosa Pine *(S, K)***

 **Scotch Pine *(S, K)***

 **Silverberry *(K)***

 **Willow *(S, K)***

 **Other:**

**ESTIMATED LINEAR FEET TO BE PLANTED:**

**LAND DESCRIPTION *(Please include information about the planting, how your project may benefit wildlife, whether it’s a new project or extension of existing habitat project, soil conditions and any other information that may be useful in assisting with your project.)***

# CONTRACTING

Planting for the Future (PFTF) offers three ways of participating in the program:

1. Self-Planting
2. PFTF Contractors
3. County Soil Conservation District Cost-Share
4. Self-Planting: If you have your own equipment and do not require the assistance of a contractor to help complete your project, you may apply for assistance with trees and fabric.
5. PFTF Contractors: PFTF has contractors available to help you plan your project, select trees, and provide equipment and guidance during and after your project. Landowners must pay for 25% of the cost of fabric and provide volunteers to help plant the project. See the Program Handbook for details on volunteers and duties. Because the landowner is providing the labor to help plant trees, the method is often the most cost-effective.
6. SCD Cost-Share: PFTF is now partnering with area conservation districts to support projects that may not otherwise qualify for NRCS or USDA cost-share. The landowner will work with the SCD to plan and implement the project. The ND Petroleum Foundation will pay for 75% of the project cost and the landowner is responsible for the remaining 25% of the project cost. This option is usually more expensive for the landowner, but is a good option for those who cannot or do not want to provide workers to help complete the planting.

# Planting Methods

Planting for the Future will offer two methods of tree planting that landowners may consider for their project.

## Preparation

Both methods will require the site to be prepared ahead of time, which is the responsibility of the landowner. The area should be treated twice with Round-Up to kill grass and weeds. Additional preparation may be needed and recommendations will be given upon project approval.

## No-Till Knifing

No-till knifing is a mechanical process whereby the planter slices or “knifes” the earth. A tree is deposited into the slice, and packing wheels close the furrow. Fabric may be installed depending on the landowner’s preference. No-till helps keep soil from losing moisture. A video of the process may be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CQwGE5hPNP0&list=PLoTdtDDory5v2hHDyhcKn8Vd-Yw817_pG>. An article outlining no-till planting can be found here: <https://cattlebusinessweekly.com/Content/Headlines/Headlines/Article/Consider-no-till-tree-preparation/1/1/809>.

## No-Till Knifing with Plastic

After the trees have been planted, plastic may be laid over the trees. This involves a barrier machine. A demonstration of this equipment may be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=srJg_cr65ks&index=2&list=PLoTdtDDory5v2hHDyhcKn8Vd-Yw817_pG>.

## Scalping

Scalping is a mechanical process whereby the soil is peeled back in a wide (30-36”) shallow (6-8”) furrow. Trees are then placed within the furrow and packing wheels close the furrow. The preparation process is simplified since the scalping blade removes forest litter and competitive vegetation from the planting site and does not require ripping or disking before planting takes place. Fabric is not used, but subsequent chemical treatments may be necessary.

Because scalping peels back the upper layer of soil where a large portion of annual weed seed bank resides, competition is controlled in the first growing season. Additional benefits include improved moisture, reduced pressure from certain root pathogens such as fungi, and reduced insect damage. Up to 3,000 trees per day can be planted with the scalping method barring any inclement weather or difficulty with terrain or equipment. For more information about the scalping method, visit <https://www.longleafalliance.org/what-we-do/restoration-management/restoration/preparing-the-site-for-restoration/preparing-the-site-for-restoration-situation-2-abandoned-agricultural-fields-pastures/check-2-determine-the-site-preparation-that-fits-the-situation/additional-information-on-scalping>.