

CONSERVATION COVER

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Code 327



CONSERVATION COVER

Conservation cover is establishing and maintaining perennial vegetative cover to protect soil and water resources on land retired from agricultural production or other lands needing permanent protective cover that will not be used for forage production.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

The purposes of this practice include:

- Reduced soil erosion and sedimentation
- Enhancement of wildlife habitat
- Improved water quality

Conservation cover applies on land to be retired from agricultural production and on other lands needing permanent protective cover. It does not apply to plantings for forage production or to critical area plantings.

COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

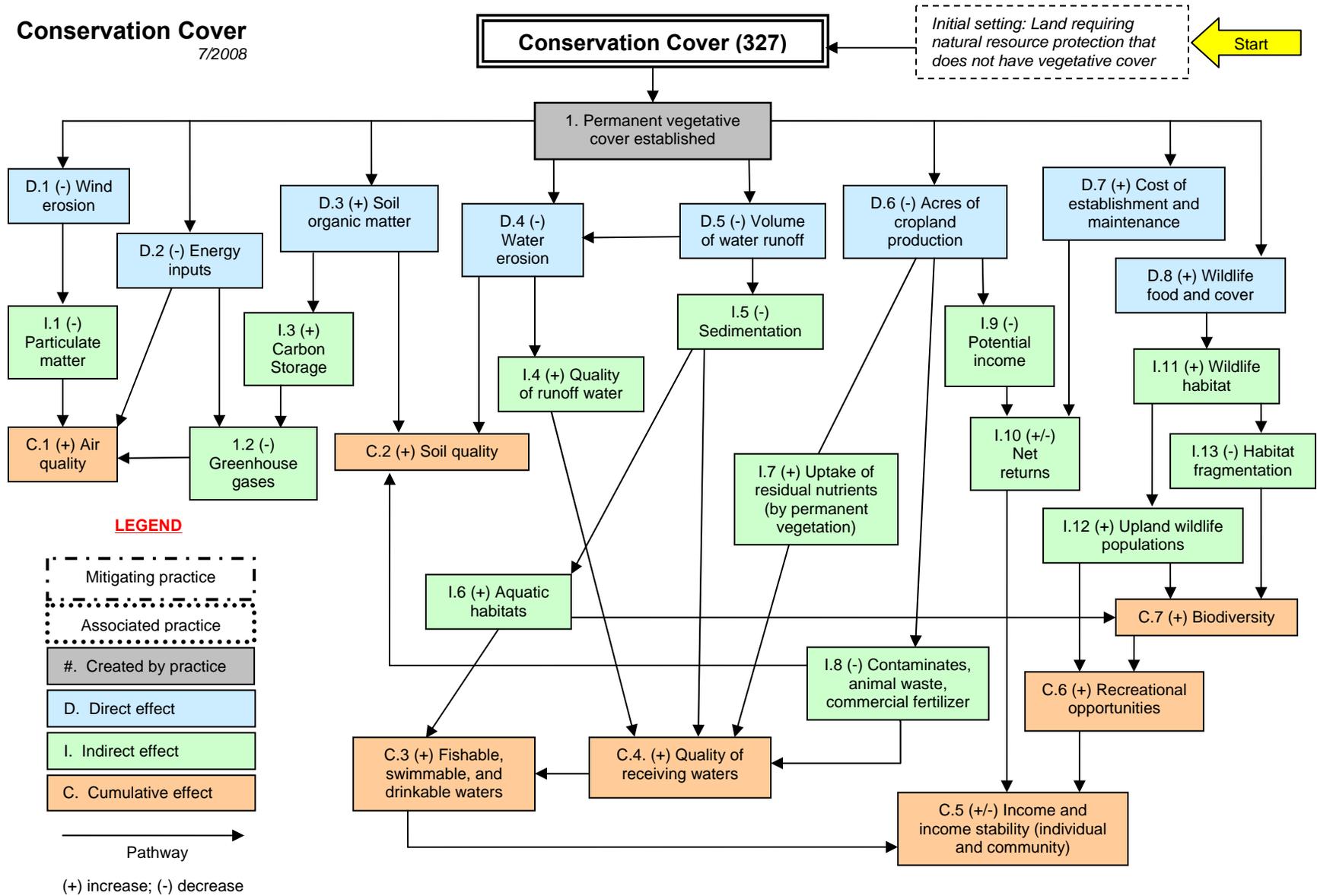
Conservation Cover is commonly used in a Conservation Management System with the following practices:

- Brush Management (314)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Fence (382)
- Tree and Shrub Establishment (612)
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Use Exclusion (472)

Refer to the practice standard in the local Field Office Technical Guide and associated specifications and Job Sheets for further information.

The following page identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowners and are presumed to have been obtained. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.

Conservation Cover
7/2008



Note: Effects are qualified with a plus (+) or minus (-). These symbols indicate only an increase (+) or a decrease (-) in the effect upon the resource, not whether the effect is beneficial or adverse.

The diagram above identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied according to NRCS practice standards and specifications. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowners and are presumed to have been obtained. All income changes are partially dependent upon market fluctuations which are independent of the conservation practices. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.