

## Access Control

The temporary or permanent exclusion of animals, people, vehicles, and/or equipment from an area. For a complete version of the national practice standard, see web site [HTTP://WWW.NRCS.USDA.GOV/TECHNICAL/EFOTG/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/).

### Purpose

Achieve and maintain desired resource conditions by monitoring and managing the intensity of use by animals, people, vehicles, and/or equipment in coordination with the application schedule of practices, measures and activities specified in the conservation plan.



Figure 1. Gates and fences can selectively control use of an area by people and vehicles.

### Where Used

This practice applies on all land uses.

### Conservation Management System

Use-regulating activities (e.g., posting of signs, patrolling, gates, fences, other barriers, and permitting) are integrated in the conservation management system to facilitate orderly and proper use (timing and intensity) of the area including mitigating associated resource concerns to acceptable levels during their installation, operation, and maintenance.



Figure 2. Poorly timed use of vehicles can accelerate sheet, rill, and concentrated flow erosion on access roads and trails.

Each activity or measure identifies the entity to be monitored and regulated animals, (people, pests, vehicles and equipment) and specifies the intent, intensity, amounts, and timing of use by that entity. Activities may involve temporary to permanent exclusion of one to all entities. Access Control may cover an entire ownership or planning unit consisting of multiple fields or conservation management units. For some activities, implementation may occur immediately, e.g., patrolling.



Figure 3. Unregulated use can result in safety and liability issues for the landowner.



## ACCESS CONTROL – 472 (AC)

### Conservation Practice Specifications

NOVEMBER 2008

|                           |   |                            |  |           |           |
|---------------------------|---|----------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|
| Client/Operating Unit:    |   | Tract:                     |  | Farm No.: |           |
| Farm/Ranch Location:      |   | Field No.:                 |  | Program:  | FSA - CRP |
| Specifications Date:      |   | Planned Installation Date: |  |           |           |
| Proposed Treatment Acres: | : |                            |  |           |           |

**Installation shall be in accordance with the following specifications, drawings, and other requirements. NO CHANGES ARE TO BE MADE IN THE SPECIFICATIONS WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL BY AN AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE.**

### Specifications

1. Entity to be monitored and managed (mark all that apply):

Animals,  People,  Vehicles,  Equipment,  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Intent(s) of control and explanation of specific conditions that are at risk:

Practice Description: Excluding animals, people, vehicles, and other unauthorized uses from areas where vegetative establishment and maintenance, soil condition, water or air quality, wildlife or aesthetic values are in need of protection.

Animals: All domestic animals are required to be excluded from ground enrolled in CRP for the life of the contract. The only exceptions are when incidental grazing is carried out subject to the following restrictions:

#### **Managed Haying and Grazing (limited to once every ten years)**

No more than 50% of a field or contiguous fields may be hayed under this provision; no earlier than 12 months after certification that cover has been fully established.

Up to 100% of the contract acres may be grazed at no more than 75% of the stocking rate.

Before haying or grazing, CRP participants;

-shall request approval to hay or graze eligible acreage.

-shall obtain a modified conservation plan to include haying or grazing requirements, as determined by NRCS or a TSP. Notes: the haying or grazing plan must be site specific and reflect the local wildlife needs and concerns. Managed haying and grazing may be incorporated in the conservation plan for new contracts.

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-shall not hay or graze the same acreage.

-shall not hay or graze during the primary nesting season (April 1 – August 1).

-shall be assessed a payment reduction based on the number of acres actually hayed or grazed times the CRP annual rental payment times 25 percent.

-shall remove all hay or livestock from all CRP fields by a date determined by STC

Vehicles: Vehicle traffic should be limited in the CRP. If you need to use the CRP for access for harvest or other farming operations it should be limited to prevent a road from being established. These roadways produce areas where erosion can take place if traveled enough to restrict the growth of the grass. Try to drive in different areas to allow the grass a chance to regenerate. Areas where the vegetation has been destroyed will need to be replanted to grass.

People: Large gatherings of people on the CRP contracted acres is not permitted unless by the FSA County Committee.

### Specifications (continued)

2. Soils, site factors, and timing of application must be suitable for any ground-based equipment that may be utilized for installing the named activities to avoid erosion and sedimentation. For safety purposes and to protect site resources, treatment methods involving equipment are generally not applied on slopes exceeding 35 percent.
3. Other requirements: Specifically identified unapproved uses include use of CRP acreage for placement and storage of hay/straw stacks, machinery storage for longer in duration than temporary placement between uses during the cropping season, or conversion of cropland to non-cropland uses including buildings or storage facilities for farm or non-farm products and byproducts. However, any activity that may have the potential to harm the vegetative cover on CRP contract acres, or the environmental benefits derived from it, is not allowed without prior approval by the FSA County Committee.
4. All actions associated with applying activities and measures under this practice shall be monitored periodically, maintained, and comply with federal, state, tribal and local laws and regulations. It is the landowner's responsibility to obtain appropriate permits and/or applications prior to commencing an activity.

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### Layout Sketch and Drawing

(Provide sketch, drawings, maps, and/or aerial photos.)

See the CRP plan map.

### References:

- eFOTG, <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/>

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