

LAND SMOOTHING

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Codes 466



LAND SMOOTHING

Land smoothing is removing irregularities on the land surface.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

Land smoothing is used to improve surface drainage, provide for more uniform cultivation, and improve equipment operation and efficiency.

Land smoothing is classified as “rough grading” and does not require a complete grid survey. Irregularities are smoothed to the degree required for installation of other conservation practices and farming activities.

Land smoothing is used to improve surface drainage, provide for a more effective use of precipitation, provide for more uniform planting and cultivation, improve equipment operation and efficiency, improve terrace alignment, and facilitate contour cultivation.

Land smoothing creates a more level area for crop production. It is used where depressions, mounds, old terraces, turn-rows, and other surface irregularities interfere with the application of needed soil and water conservation and management practices.

Land smoothing will require maintenance over the expected life of the practice.

COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

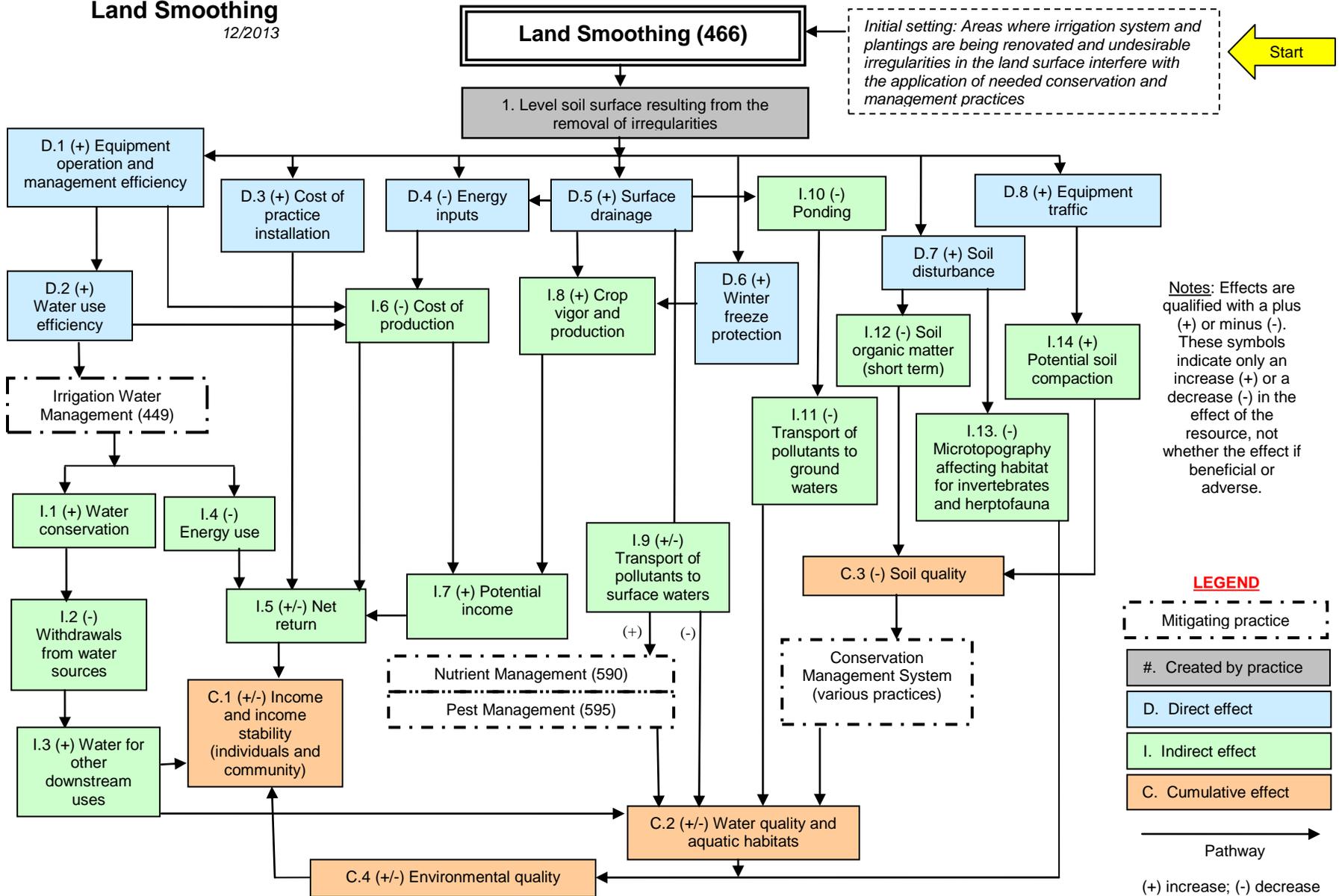
Land Smoothing (466) is commonly applied with conservation practices such as Dike (356); Structure for Water Control (587); Drainage Water Management (554); and Surface Drain, Field Ditch (607).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.

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.

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12/2013



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 landowner 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.