

Effects of NRCS Conservation Practices - National

Hillside Ditch

A channel that has a supporting ridge on the lower side constructed across the slope at definite vertical intervals and gradient, with or without a vegetative barrier.

Code: 423

Units: ft.

Typical Landuse:

AL-Aso Land	
O-Other	
W-Water	
D-Developed	
FS-Farmstead	
Pr-Protected	
P-Pasture	
R-Range	
F-Forest	
C-Crop	

<u>Soil Erosion</u>	<u>Effect</u>	<u>Rationale</u>
Soil Erosion - Sheet and Rill Erosion	2	A channel constructed across the slope diverts damaging runoff and shortens slope length
Soil Erosion - Wind Erosion	0	Not Applicable
Soil Erosion - Ephemeral Gully Erosion	2	A channel constructed across the slope diverts damaging runoff to a protected outlet.
Soil Erosion - Classic Gully Erosion	2	Diverts damaging runoff and shorten slope length.
Soil Erosion - Streambank, Shoreline, Water Conveyance C	1	Diverts overland flow that may reach streambanks.
<u>Soil Quality Degradation</u>		
Organic Matter Depletion	0	Not Applicable
Compaction	0	Not Applicable
Subsidence	0	Not Applicable
Concentration of Salts or Other Chemicals	0	Not Applicable
<u>Excess Water</u>		
Excess Water - Seeps	0	Hillside ditch may provide outlet for seepage
Excess Water - Runoff, Flooding, or Ponding	4	Collects and conveys runoff to safe outlet.
Excess Water - Seasonal High Water Table	0	Not Applicable
Excess Water - Drifted Snow	0	Not Applicable
<u>Insufficient Water</u>		
Insufficient Water - Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water	0	Not Applicable
Insufficient Water - Inefficient Moisture Management	1	Helps collect excess water and convey to other locations where the water maybe used.
<u>Water Quality Degradation</u>		
Pesticides in Surface Water	1	The action diverts water from the pesticide application site.
Pesticides in Groundwater	0	Not Applicable
Nutrients in Surface water	-1	The action collects runoff and delivers possible organics and dissolved nutrients to surface water.
Nutrients in Groundwater	-1	The action increases infiltration which may provide transport for nutrients.
Salts in Surface Water	0	The action collects runoff but does not affect the total salt load from the field.
Salts in Groundwater	0	Not Applicable
Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solic	-2	Collects runoff and delivers possible pesticides to surface water
Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solic	0	Not Applicable

Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	2	Collects and slows run-off to a non-erosive velocity.														
Elevated Water Temperature	0	Ditches collect but do not retain overland flow.														
Petroleum, Heavy Metals and Other Pollutants Transport	-1	The action collects runoff and may deliver heavy metals to surface water.														
Petroleum, Heavy Metals and Other Pollutants Transport	0	Not Applicable														
<u>Air Quality Impacts</u>																
Emissions of Particulate Matter (PM) and PM Precursors	0	Not Applicable														
Emissions of Ozone Precursors	0	Not Applicable														
Emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)	0	Not Applicable														
Objectionable Odors	0	Not Applicable														
<u>Degraded Plant Condition</u>																
Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health	1	Diverting runoff and reducing erosion will enhance the health and vigor of desired species.														
Inadequate Structure and Composition	0	Not Applicable														
Excessive Plant Pest Pressure	0	Not Applicable														
Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation	0	Not Applicable														
<u>Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat</u>																
Inadequate Habitat - Food	0	Not Applicable														
Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter	0	Not Applicable														
Inadequate Habitat - Water	2	Water will be temporarily available in the ditch.														
Inadequate Habitat - Habitat Continuity (Space)	0	Not Applicable														
<u>Livestock Production Limitation</u>																
Inadequate Feed and Forage	0	Not Applicable														
Inadequate Shelter	0	Not Applicable														
Inadequate Water	0	Not Applicable														
<u>Inefficient Energy Use</u>																
Equipment and Facilities	0	Not Applicable														
Farming/Ranching Practices and Field Operations	0	Not Applicable														
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"><u>CPPE Practice Effects:</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>5 Substantial Improvement</td> <td>0 No Effect</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 Moderate to Substantial Improvement</td> <td>-1 Slight Worsening</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 Moderate Improvement</td> <td>-2 Slight to Moderate Worsening</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 Slight to Moderate Improvement</td> <td>-3 Moderate Worsening</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Slight Improvement</td> <td>-4 Moderate to Substantial Worsening</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>-5 Substantial Worsening</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>CPPE Practice Effects:</u>		5 Substantial Improvement	0 No Effect	4 Moderate to Substantial Improvement	-1 Slight Worsening	3 Moderate Improvement	-2 Slight to Moderate Worsening	2 Slight to Moderate Improvement	-3 Moderate Worsening	1 Slight Improvement	-4 Moderate to Substantial Worsening		-5 Substantial Worsening
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