

## Effects of NRCS Conservation Practices - National

### Heavy Use Area Protection

The stabilization of areas frequently and intensively used by people, animals or vehicles by establishing vegetation cover, by surfacing with suitable materials, and/or by installing needed structures.

Code: 561  
Units: sq. ft.

All-Other  
 O-Other  
 D-Developed  
 R-Residential  
 P-Practices  
 F-Forest  
 C-Crop

Typical Landuse: C F R P P F S D O AL

<u>Soil Erosion</u>	<u>Effect</u>	<u>Rationale</u>
Soil Erosion - Sheet and Rill Erosion	2	Establishment of vegetative cover, surfacing with suitable materials, or installing needed structures will provide needed cover to protect area from soil erosion.
Soil Erosion - Wind Erosion	2	The surface is protected from erosion by establishing vegetative cover, by surfacing with suitable materials, and/or by installing needed structures.
Soil Erosion - Ephemeral Gully Erosion	2	The surface is protected from erosion by establishing vegetative cover, by surfacing with suitable materials, and/or by installing needed structures.
Soil Erosion - Classic Gully Erosion	0	Not Applicable
Soil Erosion - Streambank, Shoreline, Water Conveyance C	0	HUAs are not installed on streambanks
<u>Soil Quality Degradation</u>		
Organic Matter Depletion	0	If vegetation is used to protect the site, organic matter may be increased. If some other material is used to protect the site, organic matter will be decreased or unchanged.
Compaction	-1	If non vegetated material is used to protect the site, compaction of the site is normally mandated. If vegetation is used to protect the site, compaction may or may not change depending on methods used to establish vegetation.
Subsidence	0	Not Applicable
Concentration of Salts or Other Chemicals	0	Not Applicable
<u>Excess Water</u>		
Excess Water - Seeps	0	Not Applicable
Excess Water - Runoff, Flooding, or Ponding	-1	Impermeable surfaces will cause increased runoff.
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	0	Not Applicable
<u>Water Quality Degradation</u>		
Pesticides in Surface Water	0	Not Applicable
Pesticides in Groundwater	0	Not Applicable
Nutrients in Surface water	1	HUAs will allow collection of manure that would otherwise runoff to contaminated surface water
Nutrients in Groundwater	0	Not Applicable
Salts in Surface Water	0	Not Applicable
Salts in Groundwater	0	Not Applicable
Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solid	2	Enables better runoff management
Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solid	0	Not Applicable
Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	2	Protection can reduce erosion and sediment.
Elevated Water Temperature	0	Not Applicable
Petroleum, Heavy Metals and Other Pollutants Transport	0	Not Applicable
Petroleum, Heavy Metals and Other Pollutants Transport	0	Not Applicable
<u>Air Quality Impacts</u>		
Emissions of Particulate Matter (PM) and PM Precursors	2	Stabilizing high-traffic areas can reduce the amount of dust generated from human, animal and vehicular traffic.
Emissions of Ozone Precursors	0	Not Applicable
Emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)	0	If used, vegetation removes CO2 from the air and stores it in the form of carbon in the plants and soil.
Objectionable Odors	0	Not Applicable
<u>Degraded Plant Condition</u>		
Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health	2	If vegetation is selected, it will be maintained at optimal growing conditions for the intended purpose.
Inadequate Structure and Composition	0	Not Applicable
Excessive Plant Pest Pressure	4	Management of the area controls undesired plants.
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	Not Applicable
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

<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