

# Effects of NRCS Conservation Practices - National

## Vegetative Barrier

Permanent strips of stiff, dense vegetation established along the general contour of slopes or across concentrated flow areas.

Code: 601

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	4	Stiff-stemmed vegetation planted along the contour or across areas of concentrated flow slows runoff, effectively reducing slope length and increasing infiltration .
Soil Erosion - Wind Erosion	1	Stiff-stemmed vegetation effectively reduces the unsheltered distance when oriented across the prevailing wind erosion direction.
Soil Erosion - Ephemeral Gully Erosion	5	Stiff-stemmed vegetation planted along the contour or across areas of concentrated flow slows runoff, effectively reducing slope length and increasing infiltration .
Soil Erosion - Classic Gully Erosion	2	Vegetation planted across slopes reduces runoff and contributes to gully stabilization.
Soil Erosion - Streambank, Shoreline, Water Conveyance C	0	Not Applicable
<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	-2	The action can over time collect or redistribute salts within a field due to seepage, if present.
<u>Excess Water</u>		
Excess Water - Seeps	0	Not Applicable
Excess Water - Runoff, Flooding, or Ponding	0	Not Applicable
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	NA
Insufficient Water - Inefficient Moisture Management	0	NA
<u>Water Quality Degradation</u>		
Pesticides in Surface Water	2	The action reduces runoff and erosion and traps adsorbed pesticides.
Pesticides in Groundwater	0	Not Applicable
Nutrients in Surface water	2	Solid organics and nutrients attached to sediment may be filtered out. Soluble organics infiltrate into the soil and may be taken up by plants and soil organisms.
Nutrients in Groundwater	0	Not Applicable
Salts in Surface Water	1	The action increases infiltration and reduces runoff, which may reduce salt movement off-site..
Salts in Groundwater	0	Not Applicable
Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solic	1	Vegetative barriers capture sediment-bound pathogens and retard pathogen movement, allowing more time for mortality to occur before pathogens can reach water bodies.
Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solic	0	Not Applicable

Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	2	Vegetation slows runoff, filters water, and increases infiltration.														
Elevated Water Temperature	0	Not Applicable														
Petroleum, Heavy Metals and Other Pollutants Transport	0	Not Applicable														
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<u>Air Quality Impacts</u>																
Emissions of Particulate Matter (PM) and PM Precursors	2	Vegetative cover reduces wind erosion and fugitive dust generation.														
Emissions of Ozone Precursors	0	Not Applicable														
Emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)	1	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	1	Reduced erosion and improved water management creates site conditions favorable to plant health and productivity.														
Inadequate Structure and Composition	1	Plants selected are adapted and suited.														
Excessive Plant Pest Pressure	0	NA														
Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation	0	Not Applicable														
<u>Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat</u>																
Inadequate Habitat - Food	1	Food species can be included in the barrier.														
Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter	1	The barrier provides cover for some species.														
Inadequate Habitat - Water	4	The available water meeting the quality required by target species is improved by the filtering functions of the barriers.														
Inadequate Habitat - Habitat Continuity (Space)	1	Barriers provide some additional space.														
<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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