

## Conservation Practice Standard Overview

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### Forest Trails and Landings (655)

Forest trails and landings involves the creation and/or management of temporary or infrequently used routes, paths, or cleared areas.

#### Practice Information

Forest trails and landings are installed and/or maintained for infrequent access to conduct management activities such as forest stand improvement, pruning, fire suppression, or harvest of forest products. The conservation objective is to allow suitable access while minimizing on-site and off-site damage to other natural resources.

Specifications will consider the following:

- Timing and use of equipment to maintain site productivity and minimize soil disturbance.
- Management of slash, debris, and vegetative material so as not to present an unacceptable fire or pest hazard.
- Proper design of water bars, dips, and other drainage measures.
- Seeding for erosion control.
- Planting of vegetation that provides wildlife food and cover.
- Location of trails and landings to preserve aesthetic qualities of the area.
- Periodic removal of refuse and garbage.



- Closing the trails after the management activity to help control erosion and reduce maintenance costs.

#### Common Associated Practices

Forest Trails and Landings (655) is commonly applied with conservation practices such as Access Road (560), Critical Area Planting (342), Firebreak (394), Forest Stand Improvement (666), Fuel Break (383), Mulching (484), Stream Crossing (578), Structure for Water Control (587), Tree/Shrub Pruning (660), Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645), and Woody Residue Treatment (384).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.