

Effects of NRCS Conservation Practices - National

Terrace

An earth embankment, or a combination ridge and channel, constructed across the field slope.

Code: 600

Units: ft.

Typical Landuse: C

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

<u>Soil Erosion</u>	<u>Effect</u>	<u>Rationale</u>
Soil Erosion - Sheet and Rill Erosion	5	Terrace shortens slope length and reduces erosion by water.
Soil Erosion - Wind Erosion	1	Vegetative terraces may shorten the unsheltered distance and trap saltating soil particles when orientation is across the prevailing wind erosion direction.
Soil Erosion - Ephemeral Gully Erosion	4	The slope length of the concentrated flow channel is shortened.
Soil Erosion - Classic Gully Erosion	2	Changes hydrology of the land unit
Soil Erosion - Streambank, Shoreline, Water Conveyance C	1	Reduces concentrated flow from the land unit. May increase sediment carrying capacity of runoff water entering stream.
<u>Soil Quality Degradation</u>		
Organic Matter Depletion	1	Reduced erosion will reduce losses of organic matter.
Compaction	-1	Construction activities cause compaction in the terrace channel and embankment.
Subsidence	0	Not Applicable
Concentration of Salts or Other Chemicals	0	Not Applicable
<u>Excess Water</u>		
Excess Water - Seeps	-2	Because of increased infiltration
Excess Water - Runoff, Flooding, or Ponding	4	Water storage is increased and runoff is reduced.
Excess Water - Seasonal High Water Table	-2	Because of increased infiltration
Excess Water - Drifted Snow	-1	Terrace embankments will collect snow
<u>Insufficient Water</u>		
Insufficient Water - Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water	0	Not Applicable
Insufficient Water - Inefficient Moisture Management	3	The action reduces erosion and runoff and improves water efficiency.
<u>Water Quality Degradation</u>		
Pesticides in Surface Water	2	The action reduces runoff and erosion.
Pesticides in Groundwater	-2	this practice increases infiltration
Nutrients in Surface water	2	Reduced erosion and increased infiltration can result in fewer dissolved and sediment-attached nutrients leaving the field.
Nutrients in Groundwater	-2	The action increases infiltration which may provide transport for nutrients.
Salts in Surface Water	2	The action can increase infiltration, which will reduce runoff of salts from a field.
Salts in Groundwater	-2	The action increases infiltration of water and soluble contaminants.
Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solic	2	Increases infiltration and reduces runoff.
Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solic	-1	The action increases infiltration of water and contaminants, including pathogens.

Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	2	Terraces slow water and allow sediment deposition.														
Elevated Water Temperature	0	Not Applicable														
Petroleum, Heavy Metals and Other Pollutants Transport	2	The action traps sediment, reduces ephemeral gully erosion and increases infiltration of surface runoff.														
Petroleum, Heavy Metals and Other Pollutants Transport	-1	The action increases infiltration of water and soluble contaminants.														
<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	2	Conserving moisture and reduced erosion will improve plant productivity and health.														
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	1	Vegetation-backed terraces provide limited cover.														
Inadequate Habitat - Water	5	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	1	Equipment will not need to cross gullies nor do tillage to fill the gullies														
Farming/Ranching Practices and Field Operations	1	Equipment will not need to cross gullies nor do tillage to fill the gullies														
		<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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