

# SPOIL SPREADING

## PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Code 572



### SPOIL SPREADING

Spoil spreading is the disposal of surplus excavated materials. It is used to dispose of excess soil from construction activities in an environmentally sound manner that minimizes soil erosion, protects water quality, and fits with the land use and landscape.

### PRACTICE INFORMATION

This practice applies to sites where spoil material is available from the excavation of open channels, ponds, or other construction sites. It can also apply to sites where sediment is excavated from channels or ditches.

The spoil material is placed in a designated area then graded to blend with the surrounding topography. Spoil placement areas are selected to facilitate the use of the site. Grading is done so that runoff is not trapped by the spoil placement. Flat slopes are maintained for stability and reduction of erosion. Spoil areas are revegetated as soon as possible after construction.

### COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

Spoil Spreading is commonly used in a Conservation Management System with the following practices:

- Open Channel (582)
- Grade Stabilization Structure (410)
- Critical Area Planting (342)

For further information, refer to the practice standard in the local Field Office Technical Guide and associated practice specifications and job sheets.

The following pages identify the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowner and are presumed to have been obtained. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.

**Spoil Spreading**  
(from ditch or open channels)  
6/2008

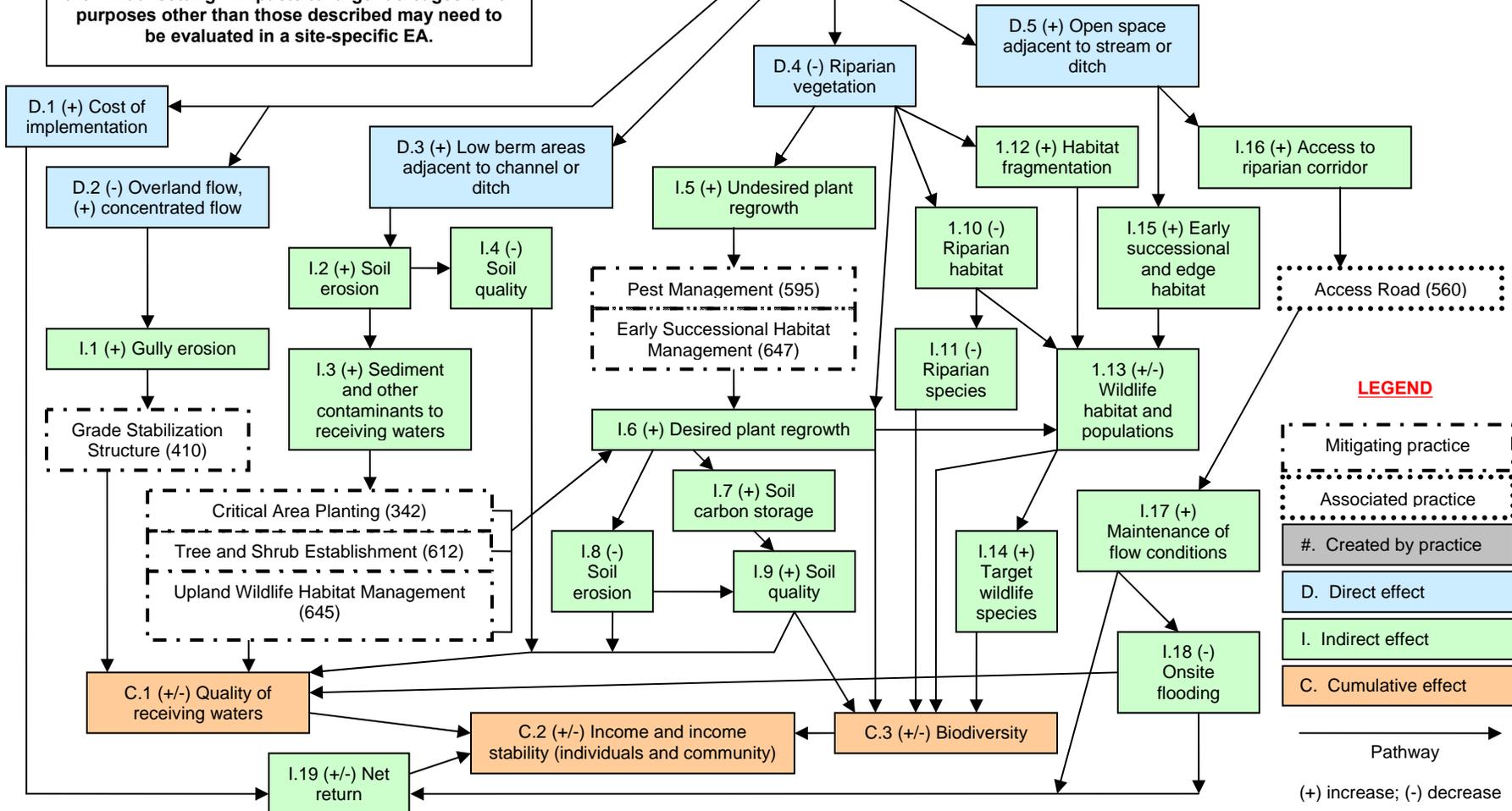
Initial setting: Small area, less than 5 acres in size, of excavated materials removed during construction or maintenance of a ditch or open channel

Start

**Spoil Spreading (572)**

**Notes:**  
Effects are qualified with a plus (+) or minus (-). These symbols indicate only an increase (+) or a decrease (-) in the effect upon the resource, not whether the effect is beneficial or adverse.  
**The scope of the practice implementation and resulting effects are limited to those described in the "initial setting." Impacts to larger acreages or for purposes other than those described may need to be evaluated in a site-specific EA.**

1. Linear mounds of excavated material alongside a ditch or open channel. Material is shaped and smoothed to allow for drainage and revegetation



The diagram above identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied according to NRCS practice standards and specifications. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowner and are presumed to have been obtained. All income changes are partially dependent upon market fluctuations which are independent of the conservation practices. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.

