

## Animal Trails and Walkways

North Carolina Practice Job Sheet 575

Prepared for: \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_

Farm: \_\_\_\_\_ Tract: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Improved animal trails and walkways.

### DEFINITION

Established lanes or travel ways that facilitate animal movement.

### PURPOSE

- ☐ Provide or improve access to forage, water, working/handling facilities, and/or shelter,
- ☐ Improve grazing efficiency and distribution, and/or
- ☐ Protect ecologically sensitive, erosive and/or potentially erosive sites.

Trails or walkways are often needed when animal movement is impeded or restricted because of steep rough terrain, rock outcrops, dense vegetation, water, etc.

### CRITERIA

Trails and walkways should be located away from watercourses using a filter strip

(25 ft) on level areas. Add two additional feet of filter for each percent of increase in slope.

Sensitivity of the animal's feet will be included as a design parameter in selecting surface material.

Trails or walkways seeded or planted to vegetative cover will be protected from grazing until the vegetation is fully established (see Critical Area Planting job sheet).

Use fencing when needed to keep animals confined to the trail or walkway until desired destination is reached.

### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

- ☐ Periodic grading or re-shaping trails or walkways to maintain designed grade, dimensions, and water movement.
- ☐ Periodic addition of surfacing materials.
- ☐ Mend and replace fences and gates.

### PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Detailed instructions, specification, material lists, design, etc. for the establishment of this practice is attached or will be provided \_\_\_\_\_. If cost-sharing is being provided for this practice, do not begin construction without NRCS or SWCD approval. Staking or flagging the area may be necessary. Contact NRCS or SWCD prior to starting construction.