



United States
Department of
Agriculture

395 – Stream Habitat Improvement and Management Implementation Requirements

Producer:

Location:

Client Name:

Project or Contract:

County:

Tract Number:

Practice Lifespan – 5 years



Practice Purpose(s): (check all that apply)

Improve or manage stream habitat by evaluating and addressing factors that impair stream function and structure.

Other: (Specify)

Description of Work, Goals and Objectives of the Planned Action:

NRCS Review Only

Designed By:

Date

Checked By:

Date

Approved By:

Date

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GENERAL CRITERIA:

Planned stream habitat improvements must—

- Be applied within the context of the overall watershed conditions and with clear objectives for stream habitat management goals.
- Be based on a site-specific assessment of local hydrology, channel morphology, geomorphic setting, fish and other aquatic species present, riparian area and floodplain conditions, and any habitat limitations including streamflow conditions, water quality, food supply, and restriction on upstream and downstream movement of aquatic species, as determined using the NRCS Stream Visual Assessment Protocol, Version 2 (SVAP2) or comparable State-approved aquatic habitat evaluation tool.
- When applied, results in a conservation system that addresses specific habitat objectives and meets or exceeds the minimum planning criteria for stream and aquatic habitat established in Section III of the Field Office Technical Guide.
- Design in-stream structures to be compatible with the dynamic nature of streams and rivers, facilitate natural geomorphic recovery where possible, and minimize disruption of recreational and other traditional uses of the stream corridor.
- Use acceptable design methodologies and criteria for in-stream structures. Coordinate with State- level technical experts to determine design methodologies applicable to your State or area.
- Enable adjoining floodplain and riparian areas to support a diverse vegetation community suitable for the site conditions and desired ecological benefits to the greatest extent possible.
- Use native plant materials in project installations to the maximum extent possible.
- Manage livestock to sustain a healthy stream corridor and associated habitats.

Structures installed for the purposes of this standard must not—

- Impede or prevent passage of fish and other aquatic organisms, unless they are intended to isolate populations of native species of conservation concern as directed by State or Federal species management plans or similar guidance.
- Cause unintentional lateral migration, aggradation, or degradation of the channel.
- Hinder channel-floodplain interactions.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS:

Site Description:

Current structure and composition of the streambed and banks:

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Stream Condition

Stream Condition Existing:	
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Evaluation Tool Used: **SVAP2** **Other Tool**

SVAP2 Score:	Date:	
Other Tool Assessment:	Date:	
Comments:		

Survey data is attached depicting existing conditions

Survey data illustrates proposed changes to the subject reach's dimension, pattern, and profile

The following measures are planned to improve In-Stream Habitat to the planned condition:

Stream Section	Planned Measure	Amount	Units	Scheduled Date

The following measures are planned to improve Stream Morphology to the planned condition:

Stream Section	Planned Measure	Amount	Units	Scheduled Date

Design drawings, Conservation Plan Maps and Job Sheets that document quality, quantity, placement, dimensions, and elevations of structures and associated conservation practices, including installation timing and location are attached.

If you have questions regarding this Stream Habitat Improvement and Management practice, contact:

Name:		Tel:		Email:	
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All associated conservation practices that need to be implemented in conjunction with this practice are listed below.

Specifications or Implementation Requirements for associated practices are attached
Operation and Maintenance requirements for associated practices are attached.

Practice	Number/Amount	Units	Scheduled Date

If wood will be added to the stream, refer to 'Practical Guide to Adding Wood to Streams in Vermont'
Attached N/A

The following permits are needed to implement this practice. It is your responsibility to obtain all necessary permits and approvals before beginning installation.

Permit Type:

Additional Information:

Post-construction survey data will be collected by:

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE:

- At a minimum, periodic inspections will be made on an annual basis. Provide prompt repair or modification of any structures or practice components that are not meeting design objectives.
- Inspections will also be made after large storm events. If repairs are needed, they will be performed promptly, before the streambanks or streambed becomes instable.
- Additional periodic monitoring may be required to determine the effect of this practice on stream stability, capacity, temperature, and sediment transport as appropriate.
- Associated/facilitating practices shall be managed according to their operation and maintenance requirements.
- Coordinate any needed repair actions in compliance with State and Federal guidelines for protecting aquatic and terrestrial species.
- Post-project evaluation of stream and riparian habitat conditions will be conducted using the same pre-project evaluation tool (e.g., SVAP2, or other) to determine if the implemented actions have resulted in improved habitat or have fully addressed resource concerns. This evaluation will be conducted by:

Specific Additional Operation and Maintenance Requirements For Your Practice:

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