

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD**

ACCESS CONTROL

(Ac.)

CODE 472

DEFINITION

The temporary or permanent exclusion of animals, people, vehicles, and/or equipment from an area.

Comply with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations during the installation, operation and maintenance of this practice.

PURPOSE

To achieve and maintain desired resource conditions by monitoring and managing the intensity of use by animals, people, vehicles, and/or equipment in coordination with the application schedule of practices, measures and activities specified in the conservation plan.

CONSIDERATIONS

Assess potential landowner and user liability before installing barriers.

Public use may be an issue in areas where public right of access has previously been established by past use and law.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

Access Control applies on all land uses.

Barrier type and design should account for and minimize impact to impair wildlife health and animal movement.

Barriers should account for and minimize public safety activities such as fire control.

CRITERIA

Barriers shall consist of either natural and/or artificial structures such as logs, vegetation, earth-fill, boulders, fences, gates, electronic and sonic devices, patrolling, or signs.

Barriers must be adequate to prevent, restrict, or control use by targeted vehicles, animals or people and not be a safety hazard.

Barrier life expectancy must be adequate for the intended purpose.

Timing and exclusion periods must be described to accomplish intended purposes.

To prevent accidents associated with the use of vehicles, barriers associated with roads and trails shall be adequately marked to safeguard human safety and minimize the risk of liability.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Specifications for applying Access Control shall be prepared for each site and recorded using approved specification sheets, job sheets, technical notes, and narrative statements in the conservation plan, or other acceptable documentation.

Fencing materials chosen by the landowner shall provide exclusion of livestock. Fencing will consist of woven wire, barbed wire, or Electrified High Tensile wire as outlined in the Conservation Practice Standard, Fence - Practice Code 382 and shall be constructed to meet the practice standard.

Fencing around ponds and lakes shall be located no closer than 25 horizontal feet from the normal water line. The earth fill and

emergency spillway shall also be fenced from livestock accessibility.

Fences constructed to improve or maintain water quality will be a minimum of 50 feet from any perennial stream, pond or lake.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The effectiveness of access control will be reviewed to determine any needed changes made to specifications and operation and maintenance.

Modifications to exclusions are temporarily allowed to accommodate for emergencies such as wildfire, drought, or flood as long as resource conditions are maintained.

REFERENCES

Gucinski, H.; M.J. Furniss, R.R. Ziemer, M.H. Brookes. 2001. Forest roads: a synthesis of scientific information. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNWGTR-509. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station.

U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. 2003. Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways - Part 5, Traffic Control Devices for Low-Volume Roads. Washington, DC.

http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/pdfs/2003r1r2/pdf_ind_ex.htm