

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
MONTANA CONSERVATION PRACTICE SPECIFICATION

## USE EXCLUSION (ACRE)

### CODE 472

**DEFINITION:** To exclude animals, people, or vehicles from an area.

**PURPOSE(S):**

- To prevent, restrict, or control access to an area to protect, maintain, or improve the quantity and quality of natural resources or minimize liability and human health concerns.
- To temporarily exclude livestock and/or wildlife from areas where it is critical to protect, maintain, and/or establish/re-establish vegetation.
- To maintain enough cover to protect the soil resources from wind and water erosion.
- To maintain hydrologic resources.
- To increase natural beauty.

**SCOPE:** This practice applies on the following conditions:

- On all land uses where permanent or temporary use exclusion is needed;
- In areas where herbaceous and woody plant establishment/reproduction, soil hydrologic values, existing vegetation (including trees), or aesthetic/ recreation values need to be protected from damage by livestock, wildlife, people, or vehicles
- Only if a barrier needs to be constructed and a natural barrier does not exist.

**USE EXCLUSION SPECIFICATIONS:**

Specifications for applying this practice shall be prepared for each site and recorded using approved specifications sheets, job sheets, and narrative statements in the conservation plan, or other acceptable documentation.

Design use exclusion areas around the needs of the site.

Barrier type and design should account for:

- Type of livestock, wildlife or use of area
- People or vehicle use exclusion
- Terrain
- Duration of exclusion
- Size of area
- Minimizing impact to impair wildlife health and animal movement

## **Specification MT472-2**

### **OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE:**

The following actions shall be carried out to insure that this practice functions as intended throughout its expected life. These actions include normal repetitive activities in the application and use of the practice (operation), and repair and upkeep of the practice (maintenance):

Periodically inspect barriers and perform repairs as needed.