

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

TECHNICAL GUIDE
SECTION IV

STATEWIDE

Obstruction Removal 500-1

Obstruction Removal (acre)

Conditions where practice applies

On land where existing obstructions interfere with planned use and development.

Design criteria

Rock piles, boulders, stones, fences, hedge rows, abandoned buildings and structures, trash, and similar obstructions that would interfere with planned use and development shall be removed. All debris such as broken concrete and masonry, structural steel and wood, stones, stumps, slash, and sterile or toxic soil material shall be disposed of so that they will not impede subsequent work or cause damage to offsite or other areas. Disposal shall be by burning, burying, or removing to an approved land fill in an environmentally acceptable manner. All required gully shaping shall be performed to specified dimensions and grades. Gully fills shall be compacted to the required density. The cover over buried materials shall be designed to be adequate for the planned use, treatment, and vegetation. Historical or archeological significant and scenic values shall be identified and preserved as appropriate.

Definition

Removal and disposal of unwanted, unsightly or hazardous buildings, structures, vegetation, landscape features, trash, and other materials.

Purpose

To safely remove and dispose of unwanted obstructions and materials in order to apply conservation practices or facilitate planned use of abandoned mine lands, farms, ranches, construction sites, and recreation areas.

Scope

This standard applies to removal and disposal of all types of obstructions and materials that prevent or hinder installation of conservation practices or present a hazard to their use and enjoyment.

Plans and specifications

Plans and specifications for obstruction removal shall be in keeping with this standard and shall describe the requirements for applying and achieving the practice purpose.

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NATIONAL
SUPPLEMENT
500-NS-1

Obstruction Removal (acre)

Planning considerations for water quantity and quality

Quantity

Effects upon components of the water budget, especially effects on volume and rate of runoff, infiltration, evaporation, transpiration, deep percolation, and ground water recharge.

Quality

1. Effects on the visual quality or downstream water resources.
2. Short-term and construction-related effects on the quality of water resources.
3. Potential uncovering or redistributing toxic materials such as saline soils.

MONTANA SUPPLEMENT

Obstruction Removal (MT-500)

The following additional standards apply to obstruction removal.

Construction Operations. Construction operations shall be carried out in such a manner that erosion and air and water pollution are minimized and held within legal limits.

Plans and Specifications. Plans and specifications are to be approved for each installation by an individual having design approval authority for the project.

Montana Construction Specification MT-500 applies to this practice.

If other additional specifications or measurement and payment clauses are required, they shall be in keeping with the requirements of Construction and Material Specifications, NEH Section 20. (Consult area engineer.)