

Clearing and Snagging

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service - practice code 326



DEFINITION

Clearing and snagging is removing logs, boulders, drifts, and other obstructions from a channel.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

The flow area of a channel may become clogged by various kinds of obstructions. When that happens, the stream flow is reduced and some or all of the obstructions may need to be removed. Clearing and snagging is a conservation practice used for that purpose.

Special attention is given to restoring, maintaining, or improving the natural resources associated with the channel. If after careful study it is determined that the work is likely to result in channel erosion,

impairment to fish and wildlife, or other adverse impacts, the clearing and snagging will either not be done or practices to minimize such damages will be applied concurrently with the clearing and snagging.

In addition to onsite considerations, the downstream effects are also considered.

Proper planning will result in measures and construction methods that enhance fish and wildlife values, aesthetics, shade trees, and other natural resources in the channel area.

Additional information including design criteria and specifications are in the local NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.

The following pages list the conservation effects expected to occur when this practice is applied. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, and soil. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.

CONSERVATION PRACTICE PHYSICAL EFFECT WORKSHEET

NOTE: recorded in Microsoft word 6.0 - use tabs to change cells/fields

STATE	Iowa	FIELD OFFICE	DATE	5/15/97
PRACTICE: 326 Clearing and Snagging			NOTES:	
RESOURCE: SOIL RESOURCE CONCERN: EROSION			Help Message: Click on form field for choice lists. Tab key to move around. "N/A" is the default.	
RESOURCE INDICATORS			PHYSICAL EFFECTS	
SHEET AND RILL			N/A	
WIND			N/A	
EPHEMERAL GULLY			N/A	
CLASSIC GULLY			situational concerning classic gullies	
STREAMBANK			situational concerning streambank erosion	
IRRIGATION INDUCED			N/A	
SOIL MASS MOVEMENT			N/A	
ROADBANK/CONSTRUCTION			N/A	
OTHER				
RESOURCE CONCERN: SOIL CONDITION				
SOIL TILTH			N/A	
SOIL COMPACTION			N/A	
SOIL CONTAMINATION				
• SALTS			N/A	
• ORGANICS			N/A	
• FERTILIZERS			N/A	
• PESTICIDES			N/A	
• OTHER				
DEPOSITION/DAMAGE				
• ONSITE			situational concerning onsite deposition damage	
• OFFSITE			situational concerning offsite deposition damage	
DEPOSITION/SAFETY				
• ONSITE			N/A	
• OFFSITE			N/A	
OTHER				
RESOURCE: WATER RESOURCE CONCERN: WATER QUANTITY				
SEEPS			slight reduction in seepage hazard	
RUNOFF/FLOODING			sign. decrease in runoff/flooding	
EXCESS SUBSURFACE WATER			slight reduction in excess subsurface water	
INADEQUATE OUTLETS			significant improvement in H2O outlet concern	
WATER MGT. IRRIGATION				
• SURFACE			N/A	
• SPRINKLER			N/A	
WATER MGT. NON-IRRIGATED			N/A	
RESTRICTED FLOW CAPACITY (H2O convey.)				
• ONSITE			significant improvement in onsite drainage	
• OFFSITE			situational concerning drainage/offsite	
RESTRICTED STORAGE			situational concerning sedimentation of H2O stor.	

RESOURCE: WATER	
RESOURCE CONCERN: WATER QUALITY	
RESOURCE	PHYSICAL EFFECTS
GROUNDWATER CONTAMINANTS	
• PESTICIDES	N/A
• NUTRIENTS AND ORGANICS	N/A
• SALINITY	N/A
• HEAVY METALS	N/A
• PATHOGENS	N/A
• OTHER	
SURFACE WATER CONTAMINANTS	
• PESTICIDES	N/A
• NUTRIENTS AND ORGANICS	N/A
• SUSPENDED SEDIMENTS	N/A
• LOW DISSOLVED OXYGEN	N/A
• SALINITY	N/A
• HEAVY METALS	N/A
• WATER TEMPERATURE	situational concerning SWater contam./H2O temp.
• PATHOGENS	N/A
AQUATIC HABITAT SUITABILITY	situational concerning animal habitat suitability
OTHER	
RESOURCE: AIR	
RESOURCE CONCERN: AIR QUALITY	
AIRBORNE SEDIMENT AND SMOKE PARTICLES	
• ONSITE SAFETY	N/A
• OFFSITE SAFETY	N/A
• ONSITE STRUCT. PROBLEMS	N/A
• OFFSITE STRUCT. PROBLEMS	N/A
• ONSITE HEALTH	N/A
• OFFSITE HEALTH	N/A
AIRBORNE SEDIMENT CAUSING CONVEYANCE PROBLEMS	N/A
AIRBORNE CHEMICAL DRIFT	N/A
AIRBORNE ODORS	N/A
FUNGI, MOLDS, AND POLLEN	N/A
OTHER	
RESOURCE CONCERN: AIR CONDITION	
AIR TEMPERATURE	N/A
AIR MOVEMENT (windbreak effect)	N/A
HUMIDITY	N/A
OTHER	

RESOURCE: HUMAN	
RESOURCE CONCERN: SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS	
RESOURCE INDICATORS	PHYSICAL EFFECTS
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY	mod. improvement in public health & safety
PRIVATE/PUBLIC VALUES	mod. improvement in private/public values
CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS	N/A
RISK TOLERANCE	N/A
TENURE	N/A
OTHER	
RESOURCE CONCERN: CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS	
ABSENCE/PRESENCE OF CULTURAL RESOURCES	situational regarding cultural resources
SIGNIFICANCE OF CULTURAL RESOURCES	situational regarding cultural resources
MITIGATION OF NEGATIVE CULTURAL RES. IMPACTS	situational regarding cultural resources
OTHER	