Terrace: Table 1 Summary of Effects to Atlantic Salmon

Practice Information

This practice generally applies to cropland but may also be used on other areas where field crops are grown such as wildlife or recreation lands.
Terraces are installed for one or more of the following purposes:

1. Reduce slope length for erosion control,
2. Reduce sediment content in runoff water,
3. Improve water quality,
4. Intercept and conduct runoff to a safe outlet,
5. Retain runoff for moisture conservation,
6. Prevent gully development,
7. Reform the land surface for better farmability, and
8. Reduce flooding.

A variety of terrace configurations has developed as a result of research and field experience. Four common types of terraces include broad-based which are farmed on both sides and used on more uniform gently sloping fields; flat channel which are used to conserve moisture; steep backslope which result in a benching effect; and narrow based which have permanent cover planted on both sides of the ridge.

Terraces may be parallel on fairly uniform terrain or vary from parallel when the terrain is undulating. Since parallel terraces are more acceptable, designs often provide for cuts and fills to improve terrace alignment and farm- ability. Channel grades may be uniform or variable as long as the water velocity is nonerosive and meet other design criteria. The runoff from terraces may be handled by grassed waterways or underground pipe outlets depending on site conditions and economics. Soil infiltration may also be utilized for disposal of runoff when level terraces are installed and the soil is sufficiently permeable to remove the water stored in the channel before crop damage occurs

Network Diagram Effect Number	Life cycle affected:	Effect on Essential Fish Habitat (EFH):	Essential Fish Habitat Conservation Measures (CMs):	Effect on EFH (with CMs):
I.1 Decrease in run-off amount	Eggs & Larvae, Juveniles, Adults, Spawning Adults	None, limited emplacement of terraces; drainage area not a significant portion of stream flow volumes	None	No adverse effect
I.3 Decrease and increase in contaminants, pathogens, sediments to receiving waters	Eggs & Larvae, Juveniles, Adults, Spawning Adults	Long-term potential for groundwater pollution from applied agrichemicals on coarse textured, shallow soils or other sensitive areas.	Groundwater Pollution Control Measures: Nutrient Management and Pest Management of agrichemical use and application to reduce to minimize adverse impacts by evaluation of runoff/infiltration hazards from agrichemicals.	No adverse effect

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Network Diagram Effect Number	Life cycle affected:	Effect on Essential Fish Habitat (EFH):	Essential Fish Habitat Conservation Measures (CMs):	Effect on EFH (with CMs):
I.5 Decrease in run-off velocity	Eggs & Larvae, Juveniles, Adults, Spawning Adults	None	None	No adverse effect
I.6 Decrease in sheet and rill erosion	Eggs & Larvae, Juveniles, Adults, Spawning Adults	None	None	No adverse effect
I.9 Decrease in maintenance of drainage ditches and other structures	Eggs & Larvae, Juveniles, Adults, Spawning Adults	None	None	No adverse effect
C.1 Increase in fishable and swimmable waters; health and safety issues for humans, domestic and wild animals	Eggs & Larvae, Juveniles, Adults, Spawning Adults	No effect due to full mitigation of all adverse effects	Groundwater Pollution Control Measures: Nutrient Management and Pest Management of agrichemical use and application to reduce to minimize adverse impacts by evaluation of runoff/infiltration hazards from agrichemicals.	No adverse effect
C.2 Increase in quality of surface waters and aquatic habitats	Eggs & Larvae, Juveniles, Adults, Spawning Adults	No effect due to full mitigation of all adverse effects	Groundwater Pollution Control Measures: Nutrient Management and Pest Management of agrichemical use and application to reduce to minimize adverse impacts by evaluation of runoff/infiltration hazards from agrichemicals.	No adverse effect