

Classification of Conservation Practice Effects on Cultural Resources

The following listing of conservation practices indicates the potential of each practice to have an adverse effect on historic properties (cultural resources that are considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places) if any are present in the area of potential effects. Detailed definitions for the three classification categories are as follows:

Conservation Practices Considered as Potentially Adverse Undertakings by NRCS - HP

Some conservation practices have a high potential to affect cultural resources when installed according to standard NRCS criteria because they are generally ground disturbing (HP). Such practices are considered Potentially Adverse and cultural resource documentation is required.

Conservation Practices Considered as Potentially Adverse Undertakings Except When Non-intrusive - PNI

Some conservation practices have potential to affect cultural resources (PNI) unless they are installed under either of two different situations:

1. Installation of the practice will not exceed the depth, extent, or kind of previous cultivation or
2. The land has not been previously cultivated and the installation of the practice will result in no ground disturbance.

If either of these situations apply, no further cultural resource documentation is needed. If they do not apply cultural resource documentation is required.

Conservation Practices Not Considered as Potentially Adverse Undertakings - N

Some conservation practices are primarily management related and will not have any physical effects or alteration to a cultural resource (N). Some of these practices are not just benign, but provide beneficial effects by affecting soil or cover stability. Such practices do not require cultural resources considerations.

The following practice list should be used to determine whether the Cultural Resources Review Worksheet should be used for planning a conservation practice:

Legend:

- HP - High Potential to Affect because practice is generally ground disturbing**
- PNI - Potentially can be installed in a Non-Intrusive manner**
- N - No adverse affect**

Practice Name and Unit(s)	Cultural Resource Affect Potential	Practice Code
Access Road (ft)	HP	560
Alley Cropping (ac)	N	311
Amendments for Treatment of Agricultural Waste	N	591
Anaerobic Digester, Ambient Temperature (no)	N	365
Anaerobic Digester, Controlled Temperature (no)	N	366
Animal Mortality Facility (no)	PNI	316
Animal Trails and Walkways (ft)	PNI	575
Anionic Polyacrylamide (PAM) Erosion Control (ac)	N	450
Aquaculture Ponds (ac)	HP	397
Atmospheric Resources Quality Management (ac)	N	370
Bedding (ac)	HP	310
Brush Management (ac)	PNI	314
Channel Bank Vegetation (ac)	N	322
Channel Stabilization (ft)	PNI	584
Clearing & Snagging (ft)	PNI	326
Closure of Waste Impoundments (no)	N	360
Composting Facility (no)	PNI	317
Conservation Cover (ac)	N	327
Conservation Crop Rotation (ac)	N	328
Constructed Wetland (no)	HP	656
Contour Buffer Strips (ac)	N	332
Contour Farming (ac)	N	330
Contour Orchard and Other Fruit Areas (ac)	N	331
Cover Crop (ac)	N	340
Critical Area Planting (ac)	N	342
Cross Wind Ridges (ac)	PNI	589A
Cross Wind Trap Strips (ac)	N	589C
Dam, Diversion (no)	HP	348
Dam (no & ac-ft)	HP	402
Deep Tillage (ac)	N	324
Dike (ft)	HP	356
Diversion (ft)	HP	362
Drainage Water Management (ac)	N	554
Dry Hydrant (no)	HP	432
Early Successional Habitat Development/Mgt. (ac)	N	647
Feed Management (no & au)	N	592
Fence (ft)	PNI	382
Field Border (ft)	N	386
Filter Strip (ac)	N	393
Firebreak (ft)	HP	394
Fish Passage (no)	PNI	396
Fish Raceway or Tank (ft & ft ³)	PNI	398
Fishpond Management (no)	PNI	399

Practice Name and Unit(s)	Cultural Resource Affect Potential	Practice Code
Forage Harvest Management (ac)	N	511
Forest Slash Treatment (ac)	PNI	384
Forest Stand Improvement (ac)	N	666
Forest Trails and Landings (ac)	HP	655
Fuel Break (ac)	PNI	383
Grade Stabilization Structure (no)	HP	410
Grassed Waterway (ac)	HP	412
Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment (ac)	PNI	548
Heavy Use Area Protection (ac)	PNI	561
Hedgerow Planting (ft)	N	422
Herbaceous Wind Barriers (ft)	N	603
Hillside Ditch (ft)	HP	423
Irrigation Canal or Lateral (ft)	HP	320
Irrigation Field Ditch (ft)	HP	388
Irrigation Land Leveling (ac)	HP	464
Irrigation Regulating Reservoir (no)	HP	552
Irrigation Storage Reservoir (no & ac-ft)	HP	436
Irrigation System	PNI	
Microirrigation (no & ac)	PNI	441
Sprinkler (no & ac)	PNI	442
Surface & Subsurface (no & ac)	PNI	443
Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery (no)	PNI	447
Irrigation Water Conveyance	PNI	
Ditch and Canal Lining	PNI	
Plain Concrete (ft)	PNI	428A
Flexible Membrane (ft)	PNI	428B
Galvanized Steel (ft)	PNI	428C
Pipeline	PNI	
Aluminum Tubing (ft)	PNI	430AA
Asbestos-Cement (ft)	PNI	430BB
Nonreinforced Concrete (ft)	PNI	430CC
High-pressure, Underground, Plastic (ft)	PNI	430DD
Low-pressure, Underground, Plastic (ft)	PNI	430EE
Steel (ft)	PNI	430FF
Reinforced Plastic Mortar (ft)	PNI	430GG
Rigid Gated Pipeline (ft)	PNI	430HH
Irrigation Water Management (ac)	N	449
Land Clearing (ac)	PNI	460
Land Reclamation, Landslide Treatment (no & ac)	HP	453
Land Reclamation, Toxic Discharge Control (no)	PNI	455
Land Reconstruction, Abandoned Mined Land (ac)	HP	543
Land Reconstruction, Currently Mined Land (ac)	HP	544
Land Smoothing (ac)	HP	466
Lined Waterway or Outlet (ft)	PNI	468
Manure Transfer (no)	N	634
Mine Shaft & Adit Closing (no)	PNI	457

Practice Name and Unit(s)	Cultural Resource Affect Potential	Practice Code
Mole Drain (ft)	HP	482
Monitoring Well (ea)	PNI	353
Mulching (ac)	N	484
Multi-Story Cropping	N	379
Nutrient Management (ac)	N	590
Obstruction Removal (ac)	PNI	500
Open Channel (ft)	HP	582
Pasture & Hay Planting (ac)	N	512
Pest Management (ac)	N	595
Pipeline (ft)	PNI	516
Pond (no)	HP	378
Pond Sealing or Lining	N	
Bentonite Sealant (no)	N	521C
Flexible Membrane (no)	N	521A
Soil Dispersant (no)	N	521B
Compacted Clay Treatment (no)	N	521D
Precision Land Forming (ac)	PNI	462
Prescribed Burning (ac)	N	338
Prescribed Grazing (ac)	N	528
Pumping Plant (no)	PNI	533
Range Planting (ac)	N	550
Recreation Area Improvement (ac)	PNI	562
Recreation Land Grading and Shaping (ac)	PNI	566
Recreation Trail and Walkway (ft)	PNI	568
Residue and Tillage Management, No Till/Strip Till/Direct Seed (ac)	N	329
Residue and Tillage Management, Mulch Till (ac)	N	345
Residue and Tillage Management, Ridge Till (ac)	N	346
Residue Management, Seasonal (ac)	N	344
Restoration and Management of Rare or Declining Habitats (ac)	N	643
Riparian Forest Buffer (ac)	N	391
Riparian Herbaceous Cover (ac)	N	390
Rock Barrier (ft)	PNI	555
Roof Runoff Structure (no)	PNI	558
Row Arrangement (ac)	N	557
Runoff Management System (no & ac)	PNI	570
Salinity and Sodic Soil Management (ac)	PNI	610
Sediment Basin (no)	HP	350
Shallow Water Development and Management (ac)	PNI	646
Silvopasture Establishment (ac)	N	381
Solid/Liquid Waste Separation Facility	HP	632
Spoil Spreading (ac)	HP	572
Spring Development (no)	HP	574

Practice Name and Unit(s)	Cultural Resource Affect Potential	Practice Code
Streambank and Shoreline Protection (ft)	PNI	580
Stream Crossing (no)	PNI	578
Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (ac)	PNI	395
Stripcropping (ac)	N	585
Structure for Water Control (no)	HP	587
Subsurface Drain (ft)	HP	606
Surface Drainage, Field Ditch (ft)	HP	607
Surface Drainage, Main or Lateral (ft)	HP	608
Surface Roughening (ac)	PNI	609
Terrace (ft, m)	HP	600
Tree/Shrub Establishment (ac)	N	612
Tree/Shrub Preparation	N	490
Tree/Shrub Pruning (ac)	N	660
Underground Outlet (ft)	HP	620
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (ac)	PNI	645
Use Exclusion (ac)	N	472
Vegetative Barrier (ft)	N	601
Vertical Drain (no)	HP	630
Waste Facility Cover (no)	N	367
Waste Storage Facility (no)	HP	313
Waste Treatment	N	629
Waste Treatment Lagoon (no)	HP	359
Waste Utilization (ac)	N	633
Wastewater Treatment Strip (ac)	N	635
Water Harvesting Catchment (no)	PNI	636
Watering Facility (no)	PNI	614
Water and Sediment Control Basin (no)	HP	638
Waterspreading (ac)	HP	640
Water Well (no)	HP?	642
Well Decommissioning (no)	N	351
Well Water Testing (no)	N	355
Wetland Creation (ac)	HP	658
Wetland Enhancement (ac)	PNI	659
Wetland Restoration (ac)	PNI	657
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (ac)	PNI	644
Wildlife Watering Facility (no)	PNI	648
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (ft)	N	380
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation (ft)	PNI	650

Attachment 2

Practices which have Little Potential to Effect Historical Properties

1. Activities which involve no more than two square meters of cumulative surface disturbance and no more than one square meter of contiguous disturbance in any given location, unless within the boundaries of a known historic property or an unevaluated cultural resource.

2. Acquiring lands and easements
3. Minor, routine, or preventive operations and maintenance activities requiring no new surface disturbance and where facilities being maintained are not historic properties
4. Installing signs and markers adjacent to existing roads, or placing recreational, special designation or information signs, or visitor registers, unless within known historic properties. Disturbance cannot exceed the exemption allowed in Item 1 above.
5. Maintenance of crowned or ditched roads that does not widen or otherwise extend surface disturbance, unless archaeological features which have not been evaluated are exposed.
6. Activities limited within stream channels, not including terraces and cut banks.
7. Continued development of borrow sources which have previously removed all Holocene and Pleistocene sediments and will not extend into any area which contains Holocene and Pleistocene sediments.
8. Water lines laid on the surface that do not require excavation or other surface disturbance and do not cross known historic properties or previously recorded unevaluated cultural resources.
9. New fence construction and modifications of existing fence lines that do not require disturbance beyond placement of posts and will not result in concentrations of animals or creation of two track trails from vehicles.

Attachment 4
Guidelines for Quality Assurance of NRCS Cultural Resource Compliance in Wyoming

Program responsibility for cultural resources and conducting quality assurance reviews belongs to the State Resource Conservationist. Cultural resource reviews will be done in consultation with the SHPO, according to the State Memorandum of Agreement and National policy.

NRCS District Conservationists, RC&D coordinators and Soil Survey Party Leaders are responsible for the quality of work, and cultural resource compliance, in their respective offices.

1. Activities to be reviewed: All undertakings as defined by NRCS policy and section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, are subject to Quality Assurance Reviews.
2. Frequency: Quality Assurance Reviews are to be conducted by personnel meeting the Secretary of Interior's Professional Qualification Standards 36 CFR 61, for each employee who has had the cultural resources training, and will occur at a minimum of 25% of the field offices, based on the fiscal year. The reviews will cover as many different practices as possible, demonstrating the employees' proficiency for compliance with cultural resource regulations in varying circumstances.
3. SHPO may initiate Quality Assurance Reviews on any NRCS undertaking after notifying the CRC.
 - a. If errors or deficiencies are found, additional undertakings in the same category will be checked until reasons for deficiencies are defined and corrected.
 - b. Note: Quality Assurance Reviews will exclude undertakings where advanced reviews or inspections were conducted by the Cultural Resources Specialist (CRS).
4. Methods: Cultural resources Quality Assurance Reviews will be combined with other program reviews.
 - a. The Environmental Evaluation Data Sheet (Part II) will be checked for consideration of cultural resources.
 - b. Cultural Resources documentation will be checked for accuracy and completeness.
 - c. Field checks will be made of the area of the undertaking to confirm accuracy of information on ECS 41 Part 2.
 - d. Quality: The Quality Assurance Review will check the cultural resource evaluation. If there are deficiencies such as incomplete or inaccurate documentation, error in description or size of APE, etc., then the Quality Assurance Review report is to include:
 - i) Details of deficiencies in relation to compliance with National policy and established State procedures.
 - ii) Recommendations for corrective actions needed for policy and section 106 compliance.

- iii) Suggested training needs for specific persons or staffs to help prevent recurrence of deficiencies.
 - iv) Deficiencies that result in possible adverse effects to cultural resources will be documented with notification of the SHPO and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, if needed.
 - v) Corrective or necessary mitigation actions will be scheduled as part of the follow-up.
 - vi) The Quality Assurance Review will be completed before leaving the NRCS office and will be reviewed by the NRCS office supervisor and Quality Assurance Review team leader. Items not agreed to will be documented along with the reasons for not agreeing and proposed actions for correction.
- e. Recognition: High quality work and significant efforts by NRCS employees, which is revealed in the Quality Assurance Review will also be documented and appropriately recognized.

Attachment 5
Standard Cultural Resource Procedures for Wyoming NRCS Personnel

1. Trained NRCS field office personnel will determine whether or not the planned action/practice is listed as having the potential to adversely effect cultural resources
2. Trained NRCS field office personnel will then determine whether the section(s) contain previously documented historic resources using the list provided by the Cultural Records Office of the SHPO. If the list indicates that cultural resources are present, a file search will be requested. A field inspection will be conducted to determine if cultural resources are present in the Area of Potential Effect (APE) or if the APE has characteristics that warrant field inspection by a specialist.
3. If no cultural resources are present and the APE has no characteristics that warrant field inspection by a specialist, then the field office personnel will document that information with a copy sent to the SHPO, and proceed.
4. If cultural resources are present and/or if the APE has characteristics that warrant field inspection by a specialist, then field office personnel will notify the CRC. The CRC will review the information and determine the proper course of action. If further work is required, the CRC will notify the District Conservationist who will:
 - a. Re-evaluate alternatives to planned action(s) with landowner, in lieu of conducting further investigation
 - b. Inform NRCS CRC of decision regarding alternatives
5. If alternative, non-sensitive location or non-ground disturbing action can be planned, the DC documents alternative, and proceeds with assistance.
6. If no feasible alternative can be found, the CRC will arrange for a Cultural Resource Specialist (CRS) or State Certified Archaeologist (with technical review of CRS or SHPO) to proceed with investigation, if NRCS funding and/or personnel are available.
7. If NRCS Funding/Staff is not available the CRC will arrange for the following:
 - a. A site visit to obtain additional technical information and/or confirm the SHPO's recommendation about the sensitivity or likelihood of the APE having significant cultural resources.
 - b. The CRC will obtain a cost and time estimate for further investigation. The CRC will discuss the need and feasibility of further investigation with the DC who informs the landowner of NRCS requirements and asks if they are willing to pay for the work.
8. If funding from the NRCS or the landowner is available, but the landowner does not wish NRCS to proceed according to policy, then NRCS will withdraw assistance related to the undertakings.

9. If the landowner decides to proceed, then NRCS CRC will coordinate arrangements or contract with State and Federal certified CRS and other staff to conduct field investigations as required by the SHPO.
10. If the CRS determines that any resources in the APE may be potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) then a CRS will conduct a formal evaluation of the site through a testing program in accordance with Wyoming SHPO standards for name of standards.
11. If before or after the Phase II testing is conducted, the cultural resource is determined by the NRCS to not be of significance for inclusion in the NRHP, and the SHPO concurs, or if the SHPO fails to respond within 30 days, then NRCS has met its Section 106 obligations and the practice may proceed.
12. If the cultural resource is determined eligible for the NRHP, then the NRCS, in consultation with the SHPO, shall develop plans to mitigate any adverse effects upon the resource. The preferred option is avoidance of the cultural resource by redesigning the project to avoid any disturbance of the cultural resource.
13. In the case that the cultural resource can not be avoided, a data recovery plan will be developed by NRCS in consultation with the SHPO. Details and conditions of the data recovery plan will be specified in a MOA developed by NRCS and signed and agreed to by the NRCS, the SHPO, the ACHP, and other interested parties as may be necessary.
14. The SHPO or specialist will analyze the information and determine whether or not further investigations are required. The SHPO agrees to respond to the CRC within 30 working days.
15. If no further investigations are required, the CRC will notify the field office, provide copies of pertinent correspondence, and the work may proceed.