

RECREATION TRAIL AND WALKWAY

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service - Practice Code 568



RECREATION TRAIL AND WALKWAY

Recreation Trails and Walkways are pathways prepared especially for pedestrian, equestrian, and cycle travel.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

Recreation trails and walkways are prepared paths, trails, and walkways that are needed for effective and safe use of a recreation resources.

Recreation trail and walkways are designed to save and maintain key trees and other vegetation having scenic value, providing shade, reducing erosion and runoff, providing dens and food for wildlife, or adding to the visual quality of the area. Sustained grades are dictated by good judgment for the purpose intended, considering the topography, but must not exceed 10 percent. Where general public use is anticipated, roads are designed to meet applicable federal, state and local criteria.

Walkways and trails are constructed to a planned guide and cross section. All drainage structures and surfacing is installed according to plans and detailed specifications. Safety features, including signs and guardrails, safety fences at key locations, and removal of existing fences, must be included according to the plans. Construction operations are carried out in such a manner that erosion and air and water pollution are minimized and held within legal limits.

COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

Recreation Trails and Walkways are commonly used in Conservation Management Systems with the following practices:

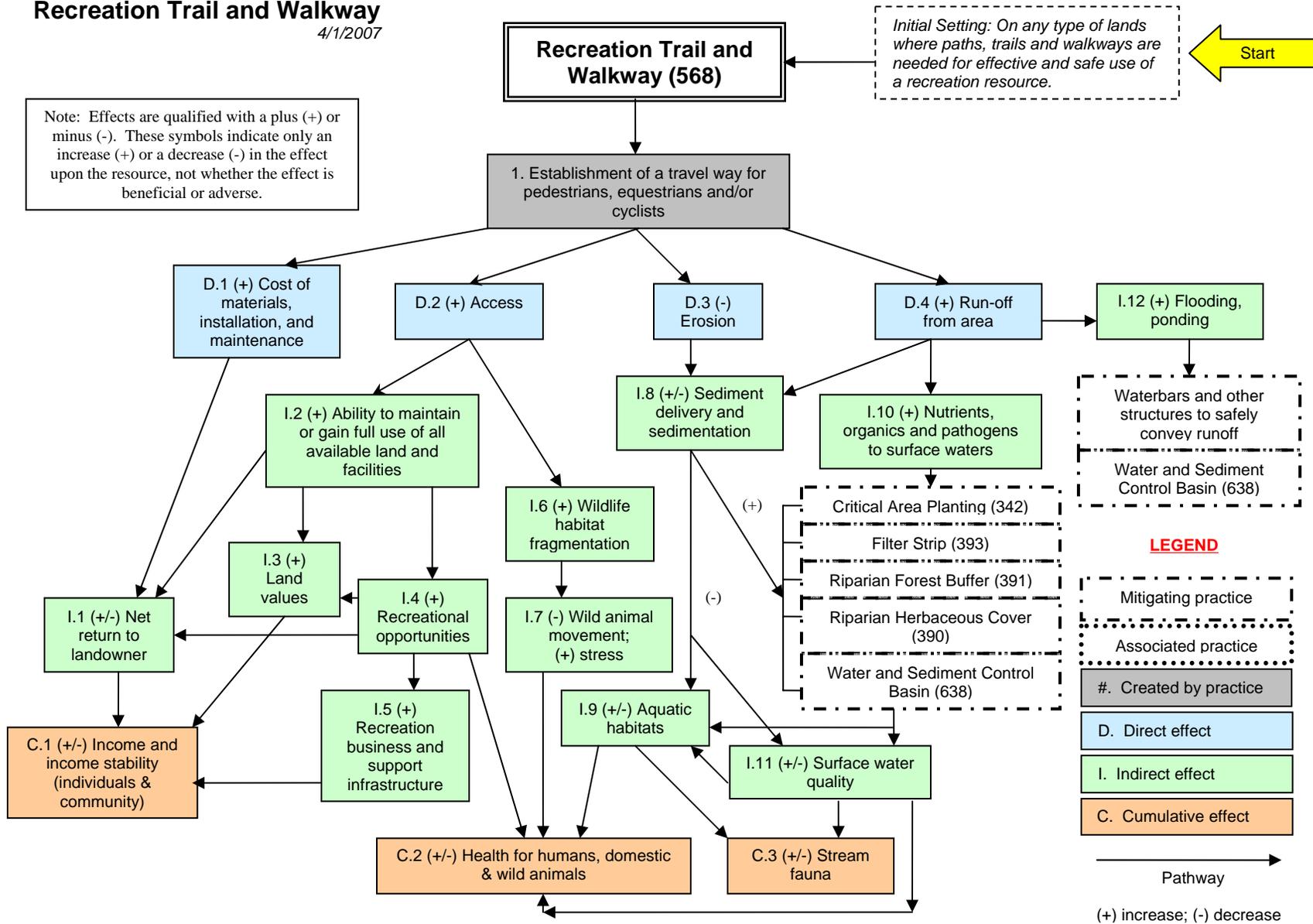
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management,
- Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management,
- Use Exclusion.

Refer to the practice standard in the local Field Office Technical Guide and associated Job Sheets for further information.

The following page identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowner and are presumed to have been obtained. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.

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The diagram above identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied according to NRCS practice standards and specifications. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowner and are presumed to have been obtained. All income changes are partially dependent upon market fluctuations which are independent of the conservation practices. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.