

# ACCESS CONTROL

(Acre)  
Code 472

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Conservation Practice Standard

## I. Definition

The temporary or permanent exclusion of animals, people, vehicles, and/or equipment from an area.

## II. Purpose

Achieve and maintain desired resource conditions by monitoring and managing the intensity of use by animals, people, vehicles, and/or equipment in coordination with the application schedule of practices, measures and activities specified in the conservation plan.

## III. Conditions Where Practice Applies

This practice applies on all land uses.

## IV. Federal, Tribal, State, and Local Laws

Users of this standard shall comply with applicable federal, tribal, state and local laws, rules, regulations or permit requirements governing use exclusion. This standard does not contain the text of federal, tribal, state, or local laws.

## V. Criteria

Use-regulating activities (e.g., posting of signs, patrolling, gates, fences and other barriers, permits) shall achieve the intended purpose and include mitigating associated resource concerns to acceptable levels during their installation, operation, and maintenance. Activities will complement the application schedule and life span of other practices specified in the conservation plan.

Each activity or measure will identify the target entity(ies) to be monitored and regulated (animals, people, vehicles and/or equipment) and specify the intent, intensity, amounts, and timing of exclusion of the targeted entity. Activities may involve temporary or permanent exclusion of one to all target entities.

Barriers must be adequate to prevent, restrict, or control use by targeted vehicles, animals or people and not create a safety hazard.

Barrier life expectancy must be adequate to address the intended purpose.

Placement, location, dimensions and materials (e.g., signs, gates), and acceptable frequency of use (e.g., continuous, specific season, or specific dates) shall be described for each restricted activity including monitoring methods and frequency.

Barriers associated with roads and trails shall be adequately marked to safeguard human safety and minimize the risk of liability.

## VI. Considerations

Develop public access alternatives in areas where public right of access has previously been established by past use and law.

Barrier type and design should account for and minimize impact to impair wildlife health and animal movement.

Barriers should account for and minimize impact on public safety activities such as fire control.

## VII. Plans and Specifications

Specifications for applying this practice shall be prepared for each site and recorded using applicable technical standards found in the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) Section IV. Job sheets, technical notes, narrative statements in the conservation plan, and a map showing location and extent of fencing will serve as acceptable planning documentation.

## VIII. Operation and Maintenance

Monitoring of the effectiveness of use-regulating activities will be performed routinely and at least annually with changes made to specifications and operation and maintenance requirements as necessary to achieve the desired resource conditions.

Modifications to activities and use of measures are allowed temporarily to accommodate emergency-level

contingencies such as wildfire, drought, or flood as long as desired resource conditions are maintained.

## **IX. References**

USDA, NRCS Wisconsin Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG), Section IV, Practice Standards and Specifications.

Gucinski, H.; M.J. Furniss, R.R. Ziemer, M.H. Brookes. 2001. Forest roads: a synthesis of scientific information. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNWGTR-509. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station.

U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. 2003. Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways - Part 5, Traffic Control Devices for Low-Volume Roads. Washington, DC.  
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