

## **V-A-1. GENERAL EFFECTS DATA: Soil, Water, Air, Plants and Animals**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This section is filed in a separate binder, called Conservation Practice Physical Effects Worksheets, located next to the Field Office Technical Guide. These worksheets were modified for California and are currently too bulky to include here.

These worksheets are matrices that show how NRCS conservation practices affect a variety of natural resource problems, such as sheet and rill erosion. These worksheets focus solely on the physical, or natural resource, effects associated with conservation practices. They also serve to flag unintended side effects that might accompany a practice.

Over 6,000 effects have been listed. Naturally enough, collecting hard, scientific evidence for this quantity of resource effects can be daunting, especially given the variety of resource settings found in California. The effects shown in these matrices apply on a very broad, general level, covering the entire state. These effects should be viewed as a good starting point for understanding the physical effects of a conservation practice. They can not replace firsthand experience gained from seeing how well conservation practices work in the field.

These 6000 entries need continual refinement and improvement. They will be updated on a periodic basis as better information becomes known.

Individual practice effects on conservation practices are available on the National NRCS Webpage [http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/nhcp\\_2.html](http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/nhcp_2.html)