

**332- Contour Buffer Strips  
Implementation Requirements**

**Producer:**

**Project or Contract:**

**Location:**

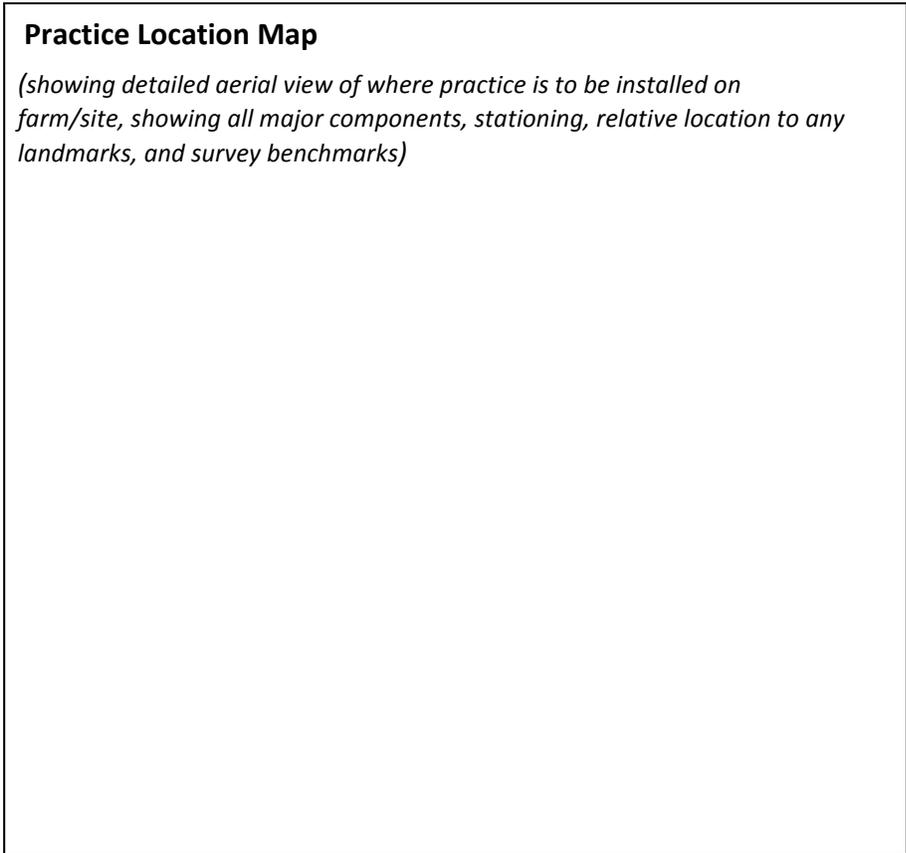
**Tract/Field Number:**

**County:**

**Acres:**

**Practice Location Map**

*(showing detailed aerial view of where practice is to be installed on farm/site, showing all major components, stationing, relative location to any landmarks, and survey benchmarks)*



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CO-ECS-05
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Maintenance Plan

Utility Safety /  
One-Call System  
Information

On the map, delineate the contour baseline (2) and stable outlets for concentrated flow. Attach additional sheets as needed.

**Description of work:**

**NRCS Review Only**

<b>Designed By:</b> _____	<b>Date:</b> _____
<b>Checked By:</b> _____	<b>Date:</b> _____
<b>Approved By:</b> _____	<b>Date:</b> _____

**Purpose(s) for planning and application of this practice** (check all that apply)

- Reduce sheet and rill erosion
- Reduce water quality degradation from the transport of sediment and other water-borne contaminates downslope
- Improve soil moisture management through increased water infiltration
- Reduce water quality degradation from the transport of nutrients downslope

**Specifications**

Percent land slope used for conservation planning:

Minimum allowable row grade for the contour system:

Maximum allowable row grade for the contour system:

Widths of equipment used in cultivated strips:

Layout	Strip 1	Strip 2	Strip 3	Strip 4
Cultivated strip width (feet)				
Buffer strip average width (feet)				
Buffer strip length (feet)				
Area in buffer strips (acres)				

Site and seedbed Preparation:

Seeding Recommendations:

Refer to the attached Colorado Grass Seeding Planned and Applied Worksheet, CO-ECS-05

**Operation and Maintenance**

1. Conduct all farming operations parallel to the strip boundaries except on headlands or end rows with gradients less than the criteria set forth in this standard.
2. Time mowing or harvest of buffer strips to maintain appropriate vegetative density and height for optimum trapping of sediment from the upslope cropped strip during the critical erosion period(s).
3. Fertilize buffer strips as needed to maintain stand density.
4. Mow or harvest sod turn strips and waterways at least once a year.

5. Spot seed or totally renovate buffer strip systems damaged by herbicide application after residual action of the herbicide is complete.
6. Redistribute sediment that accumulates along the upslope edge of the buffer strip/crop strip interface as needed. This sediment shall be spread evenly upslope over the cultivated strip when needed to maintain uniform sheet flow along the buffer/cropped strip boundary.
7. If sediment accumulates just below the upslope edge of the buffer strip to a depth of 6 inches or more, or stem density falls below specified amounts in the buffer strip, relocate the buffer/cropped strip interface location.
8. Cultivated strips and buffer strips shall be rotated so that a mature stand of protective cover is achieved in a newly established buffer strip immediately below or above the old buffer strip before removing the old buffer to plant an erosion-prone crop. Alternate repositioning of buffer strips to maintain their relative position on the hill slope. If an established buffer is removed, a equipment width will be added to one crop strip and subtracted from another.
9. Renovate vegetated headlands or end row area as needed to keep ground cover above 65 percent.