

Guidance Document

Heavy Use Area Protection, Code 561

I. References

A. Design Criteria

1. Georgia FOTG Section IV, conservation practice standard, Heavy Use Area Protection, Code 561.

B. Design/Layout Surveys

1. TR-62 Engineering Layout, Notes, Staking & Calculations.
2. NEFH Part 650, Chapter 1, Engineering Surveys.

II. Documentation

A. Preliminary Investigation Make a preliminary investigation to determine site suitability, structural requirements, and the appropriate surface treatment needed to stabilize the site.

B. Engineering Surveys

1. Record all surveys in an engineering field survey notebook.
2. Reference all surveys to a bench mark where needed to establish elevations for construction. Bench marks reference to NGVD should be used if possible.
3. Surveys shall be taken to determine the location, elevations, cut and fill volumes, erosion and water control structures needed to control runoff. As a minimum, cross sections shall be taken to adequately show the site topography and design the treatment.
4. Note location of any utilities or utility markers.

C. Design

1. Design in accordance with the design criteria in the conservation practice standard Heavy Use Area Protection, Code 561. Record design data on NRCS-ENG-523A (or equivalent).
2. Compute earth fill or excavation quantities and quantities of material used for treating the area.
3. Develop engineering plans and specifications. As a minimum the plans and specifications shall include:
 - a. Location of practice.
 - b. Length and width of area to be treated.
 - c. Critical elevation of heavy use areas.
 - d. Type and thickness of surface treatment including any base course requirement or reinforcement if concrete is used.
 - e. Cut and fill slopes where applicable.
 - f. Drainage areas and structure requirements.
 - g. Vegetative requirements.
 - h. Location of utilities and notification requirements.
4. Develop a site specific O&M Plan for the practice.

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D. Construction Layout

Review the plans and specifications with the landowner and contractor prior to the start of construction. Ensure the landowner/contractor thoroughly understand their responsibilities including obtaining all permits, easements, etc. Record the layout information in the engineering field survey notebook.

1. Stake the location and elevations of required structures.
2. Set a sufficient number of stakes to guide the landowner or contractor in constructing the heavy use area.

E. Construction

Adequate site visits and checks shall be made during construction to verify that the plans and specifications are followed. Any changes in the design must be reviewed and concurred by the landowner and shall be approved by the designer and person with appropriate engineering design job approval authority.

F. Construction Checkout

1. Survey cross sections as needed to determine if the heavy use area is constructed to the design elevations.
2. Survey or otherwise obtain measurements as needed to determine the dimensions of the area treated. Compute the area treated.
3. Check the surface treatment type, thickness and quality and determine if it meets the design requirements.
4. Check the location, size and elevations of all structures.
5. Check adequacy of vegetation.
6. Prepare as-built drawings showing final construction dimensions, details, etc. if changes were made during construction. Use red pencil or ink to record changes to the drawing.
7. If the practice meets NRCS standards and specifications, then the statement "This practice meets NRCS practice standards and specifications" shall be placed on the checkout document and signed and dated by the responsible person with appropriate level of engineering job approval authority.

G. Reporting and/or Certifying

After it has been determined and documented that the practice meets NRCS plans and specifications, it can be reported and certified. The extent of the practice to be reported is the constructed area in acres. The extent of the practice to be certified is the quantities used as the basis of payment such as the cubic yards of earth moved, square feet, cubic yards or acres of surface treatment, etc.