

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD**

ACCESS CONTROL

(Acre)

CODE 472

DEFINITION

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

PURPOSE

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

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

This practice applies on all land uses.

CRITERIA

General Criteria Applicable to All Purposes

Use-regulating activities (such as posting of signs, patrolling, gates, fences and other barriers, and permits) must 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 entity to be monitored and regulated (animals, people, vehicles, and equipment) and specify the intent, intensity, amounts, and timing of exclusion by that entity. Activities may involve temporary to permanent exclusion of one to all entities.

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

Barriers must be adequate to prevent, restrict, or control use by targeted vehicles, animals, or people and not be a safety hazard. Consider water concentration and/or water flow restrictions when planning the barrier.

Barrier life expectancy must be adequate for the intended purpose.

Timing and exclusion periods must be described to accomplish intended purposes.

Adequate warnings or markings will be displayed where there is potential danger with the use of a barrier.

Comply with applicable federal, State, and local laws and regulations during the installation, operation, and maintenance of this practice.

CONSIDERATIONS

Even though usage of the area is monitored and controlled, the land manager and/or tenant should be advised about emergency preparedness agencies and related information (such as the local fire/wildfire control agency and pumper truck water sources) on or near the area. Information should be designated initially and updated as needed.

Barriers may consist of either natural and/or artificial structures (such as logs, vegetation, earth-fill, boulders, fences, gates, electronic and sonic devices, or signs).

Public use may be an issue in areas where public right-of-access has previously been established by past use and law.

Barrier type and design will have minimal impacts to non-targeted wildlife, animal movement, and human health.

Minimize barriers impact on public safety activities (such as fire control).

Consider the effects of installation of barriers and fences on the integrity of subsurface cultural resources (including compaction). Also, consider the benefits installation may have on cultural resources by reducing the potential for erosion due to livestock and vehicle traffic.

Assess potential landowner and user liability before installing barriers.

For fencing specifications, refer to Kansas Conservation Practice Standard 382, Fence, Construction Specifications.

For living fences of trees or shrubs, refer to Kansas Conservation Practice Standard 422, Hedgerow Planting, Construction Specifications.

For prescribed grazing specifications, refer to Kansas Conservation Practice Standard 528, Prescribed Grazing, Construction Specifications.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Specifications for applying this practice must be prepared for each area and recorded using approved specification sheets, job sheets, and narrative statements in the conservation plan or other acceptable documentation. Use Form KS-ECS-23, Vegetative Management, to document the practice.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Monitoring 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.

Modifications to activities and use of measures are allowed temporarily to accommodate emergency-level contingencies (such as wildfire, hurricane, drought, or flood) if resource conditions are maintained.

Barriers will be inspected regularly with repairs performed as needed.

REFERENCES

Gucinski, H., M. H. Brookes, M. J. Furniss, and R. R. Ziemer. May 2001. [*Forest Roads: A Synthesis of Scientific Information*](#). General Technical Report PNW-GTR-509. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Portland, Oregon.

[USDA NRCS Form KS-ECS-23, Vegetative Management](#)

[USDA NRCS Kansas Conservation Practice Standard 382, Fence, Construction Specifications](#)

[USDA NRCS Kansas Conservation Practice Standard 422, Hedgerow Planting](#)

[USDA NRCS Kansas Conservation Practice Standard 528, Prescribed Grazing, Construction Specifications](#)

U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. 2009. [*Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways, Part 5—Traffic Control Devices for Low-Volume Roads*](#). Washington, D.C.