

CLEARING AND SNAGGING

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Code 472



DEFINITION

Clearing and snagging is removing logs, boulders, drifts, and other obstructions from a channel.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

The flow area of a channel may become clogged by various kinds of obstructions. When that happens, the stream flow is reduced and some or all of the obstructions may need to be removed. Clearing and snagging is a conservation practice used for that purpose.

Special attention is given to restoring, maintaining, or improving the natural resources associated with the channel. If after careful study it is determined that the

work is likely to result in channel erosion, impairment to fish and wildlife, or other adverse impacts, the clearing and snagging will either not be done or practices to minimize such damages will be applied concurrently with the clearing and snagging.

In addition to onsite considerations, the downstream effects are also considered. Proper planning will result in measures and construction methods that enhance fish and wildlife values, aesthetics, shade trees, and other natural resources in the channel area.

Additional information including design criteria and specifications are in the local NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.

The following page identifies the conservation effects expected to occur when this practice is applied. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, and soil. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.

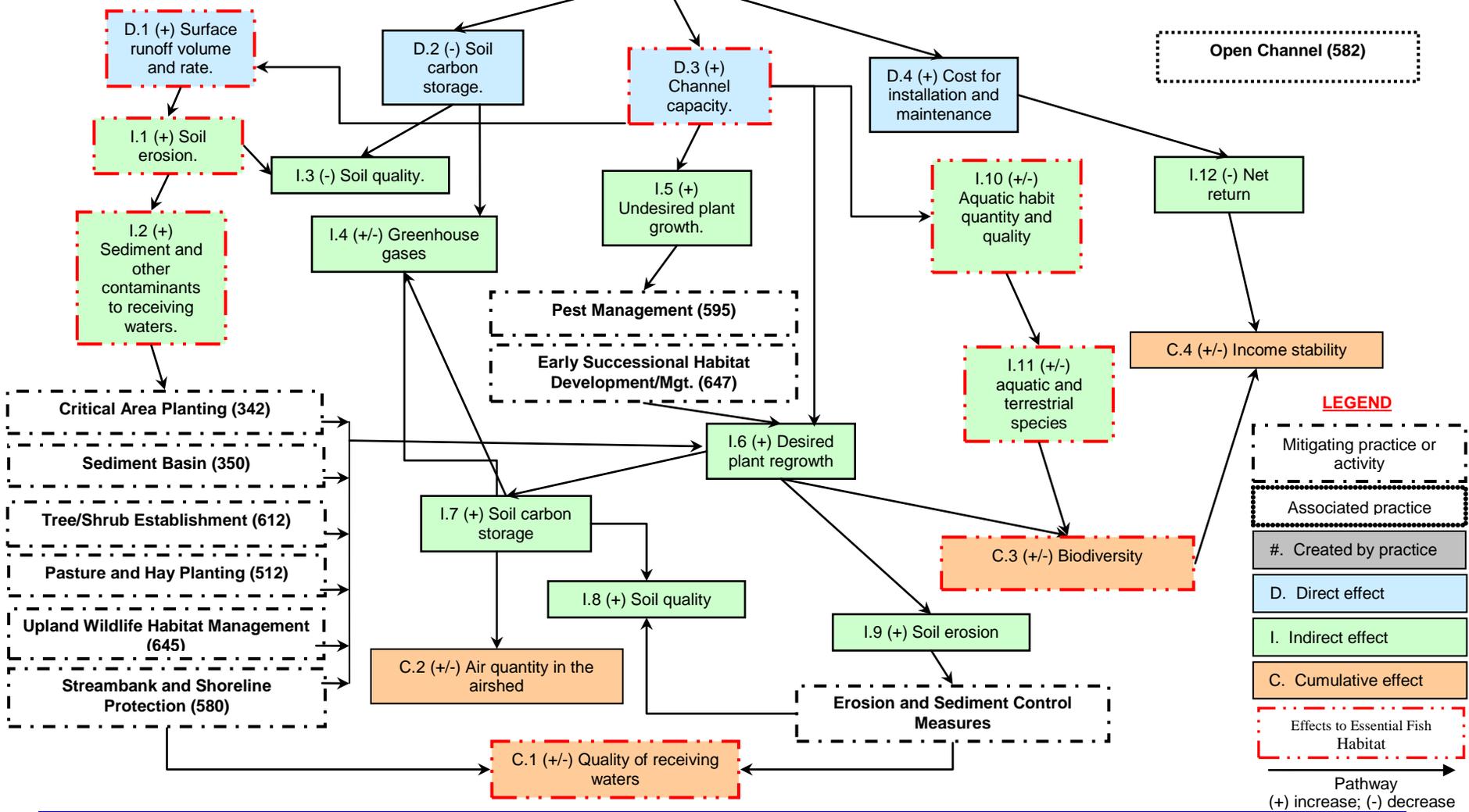
Clearing & Snagging

Clearing & Snagging (326)

Initial Setting: Channel or drainage way where the removal of trees, brush, and other obstructions is needed to reduce human and/or natural environmental risks.



1. Channel free of major obstructions that limit flow



The diagram above identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied according to NRCS practice standards and specifications. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowners and are presumed to have been obtained. All income changes are partially dependent upon market fluctuations which are independent of the conservation practices. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.