

Aquatic Organism Passage

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service - Practice Code 396



AQUATIC ORGANISM PASSAGE

Aquatic Organism Passage is the modification or removal of barriers that restrict or prevent movement or migration of fish or other aquatic organisms. An aquatic organism passage allows fish and other aquatic organisms to move upstream and downstream.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

The purpose of this practice is to allow upstream and downstream movement of fish and other aquatic organisms past barriers where feasible or desirable.

This practice applies to all rivers, streams, and outlets of ponds or lakes where barriers impede desired fish passage and other aquatic organisms. Modification or removal of barriers, particularly on large river systems, may significantly affect hydrology, for example by creating impoundments or increasing seasonal inundation in the

floodplain. The context and intensity of these impacts must be considered when planning

any project involving a fish passage another aquatic organisms.

COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

Aquatic Organism Passage is commonly used in a Conservation Management System with the following practices:

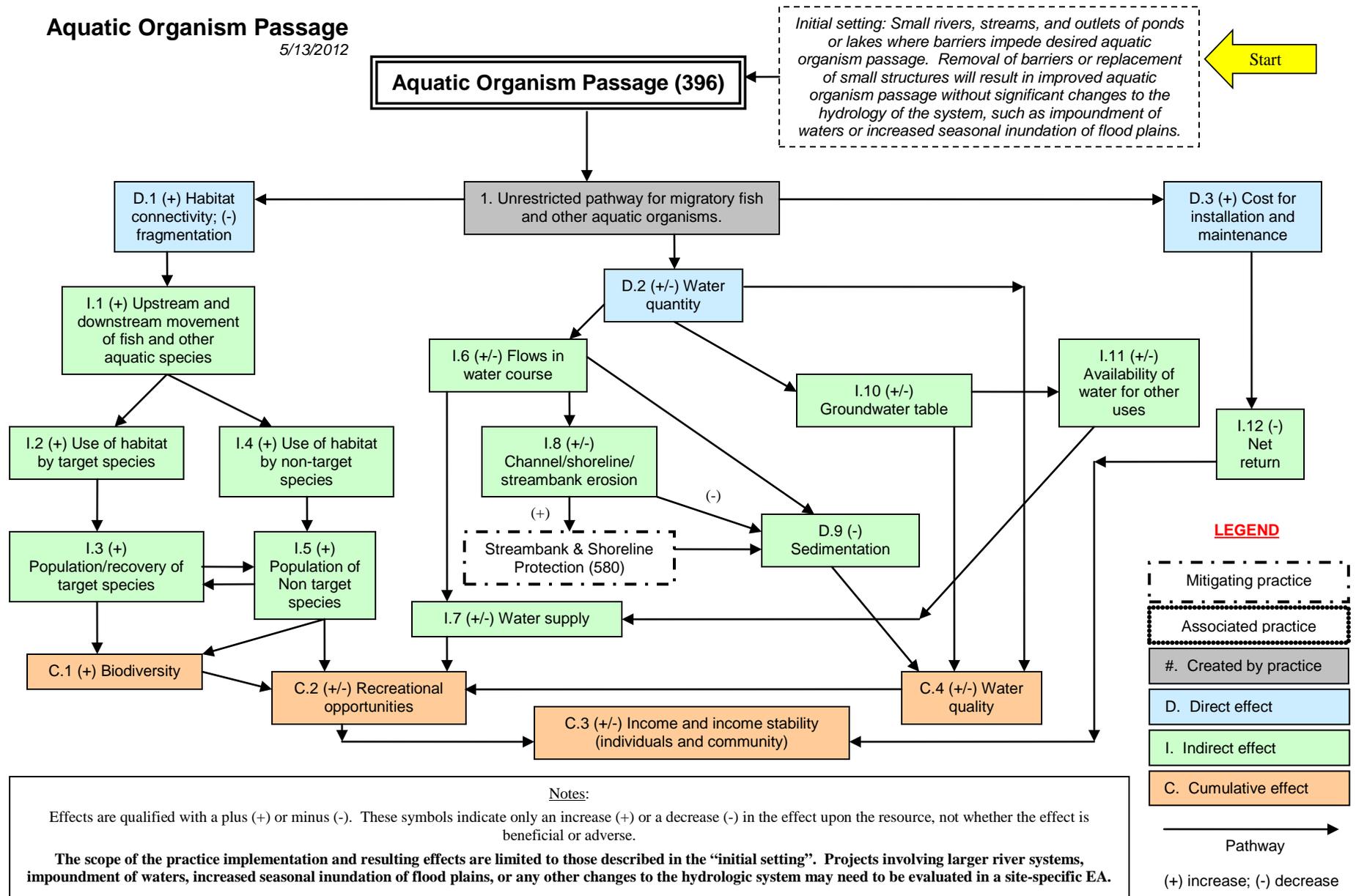
- Obstruction Removal,
- Riparian Buffer,
- Streambank and Shoreline Protection,
- Stream Habitat Improvement and Management.

Refer to the practice standard in the local Field Office Technical Guide and associated Job Sheets for further information.

The following page identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied. 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 landowner and are presumed to have been obtained. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.

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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 landowner 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.