IRRIGATION RESERVOIR

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service – Practice Code 436

IRRIGATION RESERVOIR

An Irrigation Storage Reservoir is a water storage structure made by constructing a dam, embankment or pit.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

The purpose of Irrigation Storage Reservoirs is to conserve water by holding it in storage until it is used to meet crop irrigation requirements, and on cranberries for flooding and debris flushing. It is used on cropland where there is insufficient water supply to meet the irrigation requirements for part or all of the irrigation season, where water is available for storage from surface runoff, stream flow, or a subsurface source, and where a suitable site is available for the reservoir.

Planning consideration is given to short-term and construction-related effects; effects on the water budget; downstream flows or aquifers that would affect other water uses or have undesirable environmental, social or economic effects; erosion, sediment, soluble contaminants and contaminants attached to sediment in runoff; water temperature changes downstream that could affect aquatic and wildlife communities; wetlands or water-related wildlife habitats; and cultural resources.

COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

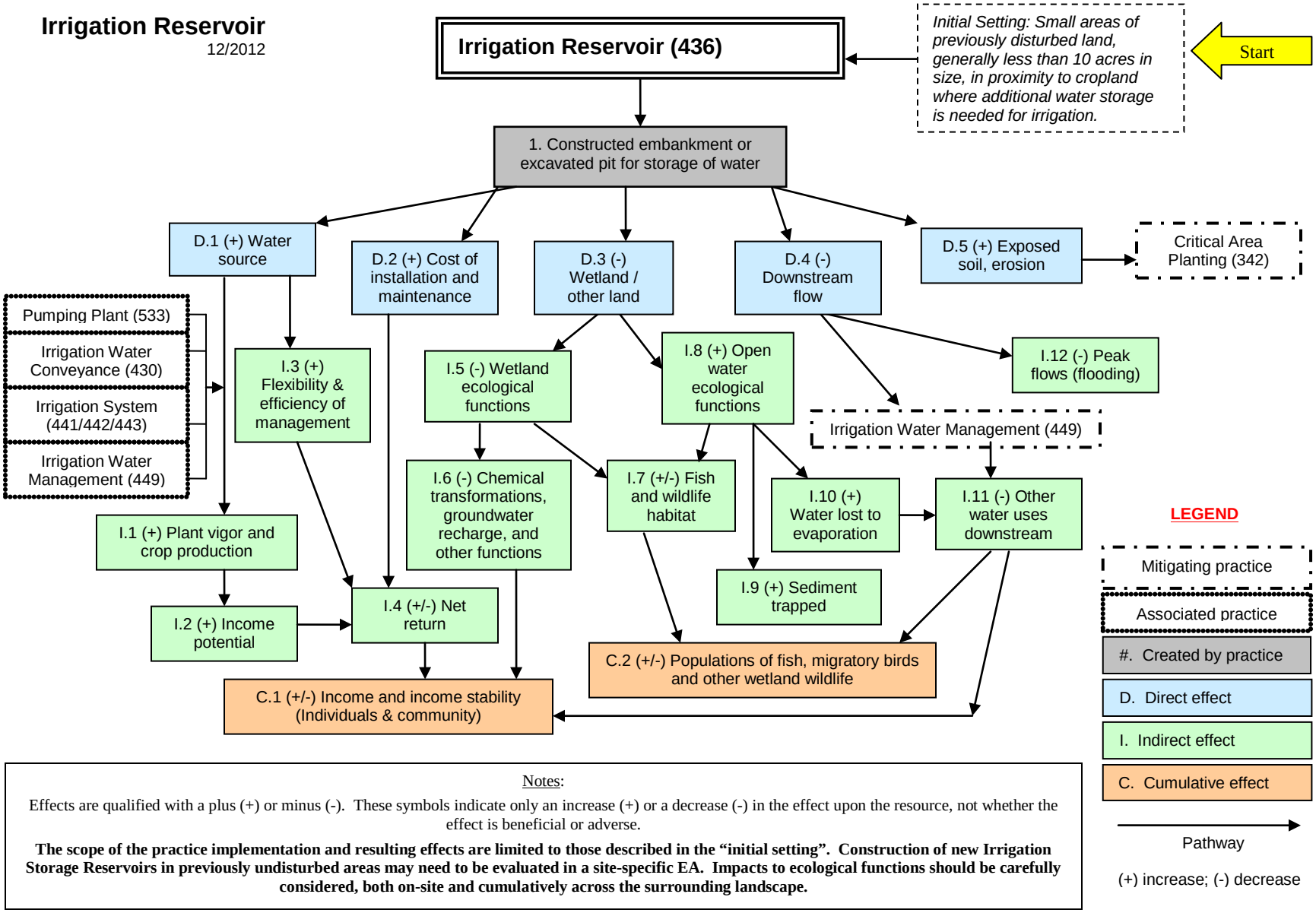
This practice is commonly used in a Conservation Management System with the following practices

- Pumping Plant,
- Irrigation Water Conveyance,
- Irrigation System,
- Irrigation Water Management.

Refer to the practice standard in the local Field Office Technical Guide and associated specifications and 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 landowners 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.

Irrigation Reservoir
12/2012



Notes:

Effects are qualified with a plus (+) or minus (-). These symbols indicate only an increase (+) or a decrease (-) in the effect upon the resource, not whether the effect is beneficial or adverse.

The scope of the practice implementation and resulting effects are limited to those described in the "initial setting". Construction of new Irrigation Storage Reservoirs in previously undisturbed areas may need to be evaluated in a site-specific EA. Impacts to ecological functions should be carefully considered, both on-site and cumulatively across the surrounding landscape.

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.