Maine
August 2012

UNDERGROUND OUTLET

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Code 620

UNDERGROUND OUTLET

An underground outlet is a conduit installed beneath the surface of the ground to collect surface water and convey it to a suitable outlet.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

The purpose of the practice is to dispose of excess water from structures such as terraces, diversions, and surface drains without causing damage by erosion or flooding. An underground outlet can be installed when a buried outlet is needed or when surface outlets are impractical because of stability problems, climatic conditions, land use, farmability, or equipment traffic.

The outlet must be sufficiently stable for all anticipated flow conditions and designed for the maximum anticipated water surface. Outlets should not be placed in areas of active erosion.

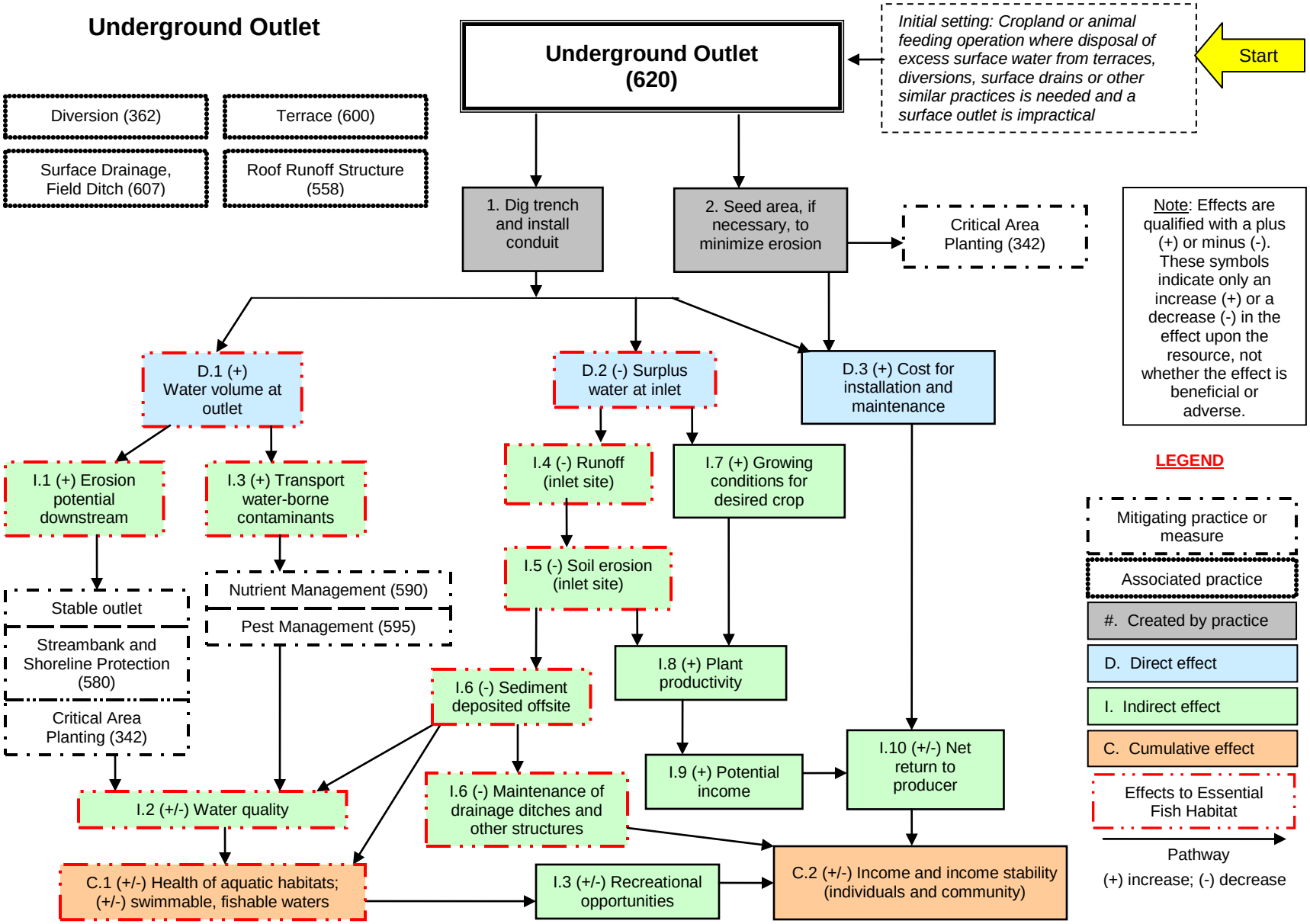
COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

Underground Outlet is commonly used in a Conservation Management System with:

- Filter Strip (393)
- Diversion (362)
- Surface Drainage, Field Ditch (607)
- Surface Drainage, Main or Lateral (608)
- Roof Runoff Structure (558)
- Terrace (600)
- Nutrient Management (590)
- Pest Management (595)

For further information, refer to the practice standard in the local Field Office Technical Guide and associated practice specifications and job sheets.

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.



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.