

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
MONTANA CONSERVATION PRACTICE SPECIFICATION

**DUST CONTROL ON UNPAVED ROADS AND SURFACES  
(SQUARE FEET)**

**CODE 373**

**DUST/PARTICULATE MATTER CONTROL FOR UNPAVED ROADS/EQUIPMENT  
YARDS**

**I. SCOPE**

The work shall consist of improving air quality from agricultural operations by modifying cultural and management operations to reduce the amount of airborne dust/particulate matter as shown on the drawings, plans and/or as staked in the field.

**II. GENERAL**

Agricultural operations shall be performed as specified on the Practice Requirements Sheet. The landowner will be responsible for acquiring and following all necessary local, state, tribal, and federal permits.

**III. DUST/PARTICULATE MATTER MANAGEMENT**

**Roads**

Treat unpaved roads, staging areas, and equipment storage yards with water, chemicals, soil stabilizers, mulch, or other cover during harvest and other heavy use periods as specified on the Practice Requirements Sheet to reduce dust from the dust-producing areas.

Treatment shall minimize mud sticking to equipment tires. Dual tire trucks should be inspected and clods removed from between tires before going from a field onto a paved road. Avoid turning tractors and implements on paved roads if soil will be dropped on the road or damage to the road surface may occur. Soil dropped on the roads should be removed in a timely manner. Grizzlies may be placed at ingress/egress locations to facilitate mud removal.

Reduced speeds, restricted access, watering, use of washed gravel and sand can be applied to unpaved roads to reduce dust. Treat unpaved farm roads early enough in the day so that mud will not be carried onto paved roads. Vegetate or keep surfaces on road shoulders stable to reduce dust.

Materials used for dust control on unpaved farm roads and unpaved equipment storage areas shall conform to the following requirements:

1. **ROAD OILS:** Liquid asphalts shall meet the requirements as specified within Cal Trans Standard Specifications, Section 93-1.01 for SC-250 and SC-800.
2. **LIGNIN/POLYMER EMULSIONS:** Manufacturer's specifications and guidelines shall be used and followed for all polymer emulsions used as dust retardants.
3. **OTHER:** Other materials may be applicable and shall be considered on a case-by-case basis by the NRCS engineer.

## **Specification MT373-2**

### **IV. OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

The owner, operator, contractor, and other persons shall conduct all work and operations in accordance with proper safety codes for the type of equipment and operations being performed with due regard to the safety of all persons and their property.

Other conservation practices might be appropriate to use in conjunction with this practice, such as Heavy Use Area Protection (Code 561) and Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (Code 380).

All materials used for dust control shall meet federal, state, and local regulations and shall be applied strictly in accordance with authorized registered uses, label directions, and all regulations. Containers shall be properly stored and disposed of in a safe manner according to all ordinances and procedures. All safety precautions and industry guidelines shall be followed. Materials used shall not cause negative impacts to ground and surface water quality and shall meet EPA and state regulations for water quality.

### **V. MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE**

Maintain the roadway surface in a good condition. This may require inspections and repair or maintenance as needed.

Prevent surface ponding by grading or filling to remove depressions prior to treatment(s).

Promptly repair damaged areas to prevent further decline. Repair any vandalism, vehicular or livestock damage to earthfills, spillways or outlets or other apparatuses. Re-distribute or re-apply material as needed to maintain effectiveness.

Other items specific to your project are listed on the Practice Job Sheet.