

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD**

ACCESS CONTROL

(Ac.)

CODE 472

DEFINITION

The temporary or permanent exclusion of animals, people, vehicles, and/or equipment from an area.

Placement, location, dimensions and materials (e.g., signs, gates), and frequency of use (e.g., continuous, specific season, or specific dates) shall be described for each activity including monitoring frequency.

PURPOSE

Achieve and maintain desired resource conditions by monitoring and managing the intensity of use by animals, people, vehicles, and/or equipment in coordination with the application schedule of practices, measures and activities specified in the conservation plan.

CONSIDERATIONS

Even though usage of the area is monitored and controlled, the land manager and/or tenant should be advised about emergency preparedness agencies and related information, e.g., the local fire/wildfire control agency and pumper truck water sources on or near the area. Information should be designated initially and re-designated annually.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

This practice applies on all land uses.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Specifications for applying this practice shall be prepared for each area and recorded using Form ND-CPA-472, Access Control Data, and complementary narrative statements in the conservation plan. A scaled map or GIS image of the area with legal description and relevant physical features labeled (type, length, etc.) on the map shall be included in the plan.

CRITERIA

Use-regulating activities (e.g., posting of signs, patrolling, gates, fences and other barriers, permits) shall achieve the intended purpose and include mitigating associated resource concerns to acceptable levels during their installation, operation, and maintenance. Activities will complement the application schedule and life span of other practices specified in the conservation plan.

If the purpose of the practice is for human safety and a control method other than woven or chain-link fence is planned, the design must be approved by the State Resource Conservationist prior to installation.

Each activity or measure will identify the entity to be monitored and regulated (animals, people, vehicles and/or equipment) and specify the intent, intensity, amounts, and timing of exclusion by that entity. Activities may involve temporary to permanent exclusion of one to all entities.

If fence or a tree planting is planned as a component of this practice, it shall be installed, maintained and documented according to requirements for the corresponding practice, Fence – 382 or Tree/Shrub Planting - 612.

INSTALLATION AND CHECK OUT

Confer with decision-maker prior to installation of physical features. Stake and lay out any physical features as necessary to ensure proper installation. Check out the quality and extent of physical components in the field and record relevant data.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Monitoring of the effectiveness of use-regulating activities will be performed routinely and at least annually with changes made to specifications and operation and maintenance requirements as necessary.

Modifications to activities and use of measures are allowed temporarily to accommodate emergency-level contingencies such as wildfire, drought, or flood as long as resource conditions are maintained.

The Operation and Maintenance Plan shall be specified on Form ND-CPA-472 and signed by the decision-maker.

REFERENCES

Gucinski, H.; M.J. Furniss, R.R. Ziemer, M.H. Brookes. 2001. Forest roads: a synthesis of scientific information. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNWGTR-509. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station.

U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. 2003. Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways - Part 5, Traffic Control Devices for Low-Volume Roads. Washington, DC.
http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/pdfs/2003r1r2/pdf_ind_ex.htm