

Road/Trails/Landing Closure and Treatment

West Virginia Conservation Practice Job Sheet

JS-654



Definition

The closure, decommissioning, or abandonment of roads, trails, and/or landings and associated treatment to achieve conservation objectives

Criteria

Roads, trails, and landings will be designated into one of three levels of treatment:

- 1) Closure and treatment to a level that facilitates future use for management activities.
- 2) Closure, treatment, and reconnection to applicable drainage networks (usually involves culvert removal which limits potential for future use).
- 3) Closure, removal and reshaping to natural contours, treatment and stabilization, and natural landscape and drainage restoration.

Determine the appropriate level of treatment based on the associated severity of environmental effects of existing roads, trails, and landings; future access requirements; and short-term disturbance effects during closure and treatment activities.

Treatment shall result in physical conditions and a configuration that achieve the stated purpose and objective(s). Approved technology tools will be used to support design and specifications development such as prediction models for erosion, hydrology and hydraulics, soil mechanics and slope stability, and wildlife/habitat interactions.

Closure and treatment activities and final conditions and configuration will minimize adverse onsite and off-site effects such as water and wind erosion including particulate matter/dust generation, concentrated flows to unprotected areas, destabilization of slopes and mass wasting, riparian area or wetland degradation, stream channel and streambank damage, barriers to aquatic organism and wildlife movement or migration, hydrologic modification, or other water resource damage. Any seep or spring that is on or associated with the area to be treated shall not be buried under fill nor have its drainage concentrated through unarmored fill areas. Seeps and springs shall be reconnected to appropriate drainage networks.

Treatment and construction techniques will be scheduled to minimize soil erosion, displacement, compaction, aesthetics degradation, safety concerns, barriers to wildlife movement, or unacceptable damage to adjacent areas.

All levels of treatment will utilize measures applicable to that level such as, but not limited to, the following:

- Permanent or temporary traffic barriers and caution signage.
- Excavation and reshaping of roads, trails, landings, and drainage ways to natural conditions including culvert removal and reconnection of the site areas to appropriate drainage networks.
- Ripping to improve infiltration and vegetation root growth.
- Topsoil stockpiling and respreading and, in some cases, importing.
- Rolling grades to disperse runoff of selected road and trail segments to be closed.
- Control of nuisance, noxious or invasive species.

- Establishment of adapted vegetation and soil amendments as necessary to enhance establishment.

Treatments to restore natural topography and surface hydrology will result in stable slopes and be compatible with existing land uses in the vicinity.

Minimize indirect adverse impacts or effects of the practice on species with declining populations, particularly aquatic species in streams or wetlands downslope of project area.

Remove hazardous material from the site prior to the start of construction. Follow all local, state, and federal requirements for removal and disposal. Use soil tests to determine needed remediation.

Installation of this practice will comply with all local, state, and federal regulatory requirements including, but not limited to: West Virginia Silvicultural Best Management Practices for Controlling Soil Erosion and Sedimentation from Logging Operations.

To control emissions of particulate matter to the air during closure and treatment operations, utilize a dust palliative or other method of dust control on bare and disturbed surfaces.

Design, construction criteria, and specifications of other practices used in combination with this practice shall be integrated and compatible to conduct closure and treatment activities and achieve specified final conditions and configuration. Criteria for design of components not addressed in NRCS practice standards shall be consistent with professional engineering practices.

Initial monitoring and patrolling shall be conducted during water and/or wind erosive period(s) as needed until the site is determined to be stable. Stabilizing measures and additional treatment will be applied when and where necessary.

West Virginia Road/Trails/Landing Closure and Treatment

Certification

JS-654

Producer _____ Farm # _____ Tract # _____

Field Office _____ Contract # _____

Producer's Purpose

- Controlling erosion
- Restoring land to a productive state
- Reestablishing drainage patterns that existed prior to construction
- Minimizing human impacts to meet safety, aesthetic, sensitive area protection or wildlife habitat requirements

Existing Site Description

Planned Treatment Level

- Level 1- Closure and treatment to a level that facilitates future use for management activities.
- Level 2- Closure, treatment, and reconnection to applicable drainage networks (usually involves culvert removal which limits potential for future use).
- Level 3- Closure, removal and reshaping to natural contours, treatment and stabilization, and natural landscape and drainage restoration.

Planned Treatment Description

- See attached drawings and specifications for engineering components.

Practice Specifications - Area to be treated

Cut Slope:	Trail Surface:	Fill Slope:
Width (Height):	Width:	Width:
Length:	Length:	Length:
Total Length (ft.):		Average Width (ft.):
Total area (ac) or 1,000 ft ² :		

Additional treatment requirements:

Planner Certification

This plan meets the requirements of West Virginia NRCS Conservation Practice Standard *Road/Trails/Landing Closure and Treatment (Code 654)*.

Signature

Title

Date

Certification of Practice Completion

This practice has been completed according to NRCS plans and specifications. (Indicate in Practice Specifications if there were any changes to the planned practice and acreage.)

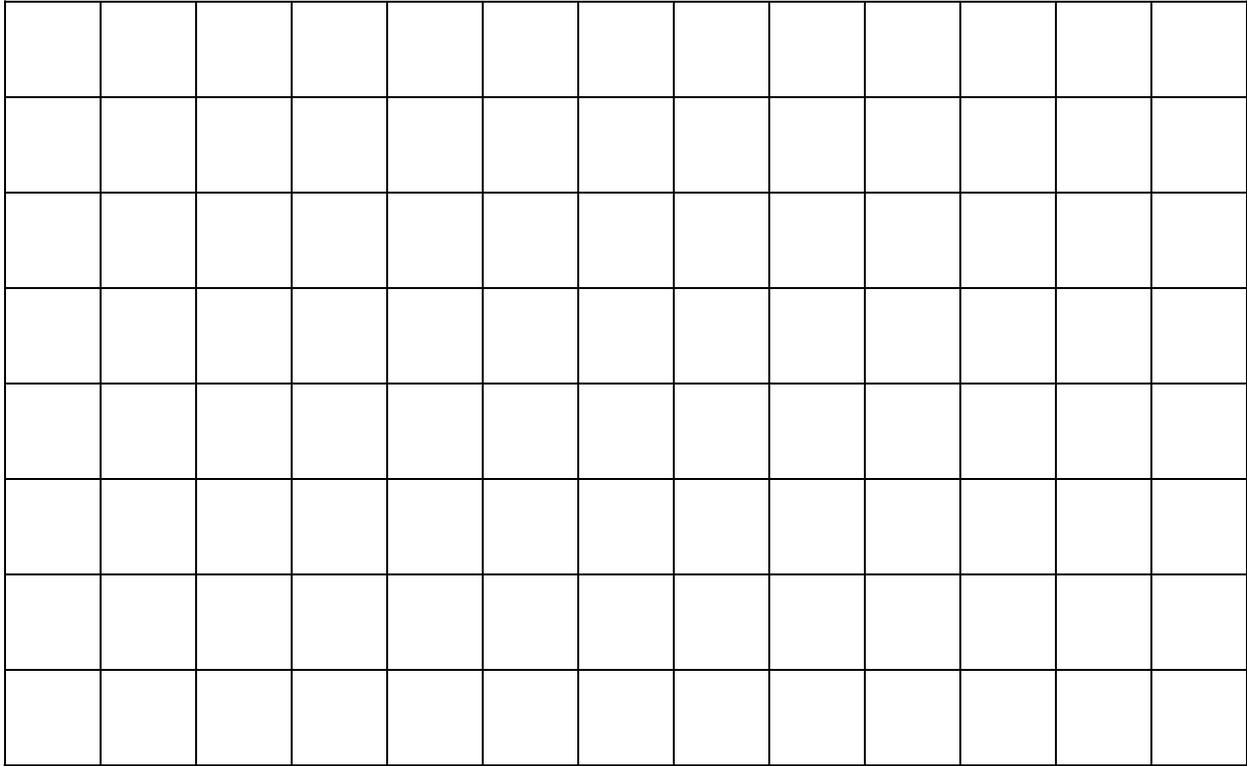
Signature

Title

Date

If needed, an aerial view or a side view of the practice can be shown below. Other relevant information, complementary practices and measures, and additional specifications may be included.

Scale 1"= _____ ft. (NA indicates sketch not to scale: grid size= $\frac{1}{2}$ " by $\frac{1}{2}$ ")



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