

BEDDING

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Codes 310



BEDDING

This practice involves forming the surface of flat, poorly drained land into a series of parallel ridges and furrows. The practice is used to create a warm, dry planting bed for establishment of vegetation.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

Bedding is a relatively low cost practice that improves surface drainage and creates an elevated, more favorable planting condition for establishment of field crops, trees, and other types of vegetation. It does not apply to the cultural practice of “listing” or bedding cropland on an annual basis.

The ridges and furrows minimize ponding, provide gradients for removing excess water, permit efficient operation of equipment, and help eliminate mosquito production.

Beds run in the direction of the general slope so that drainage can be provided without causing erosion. Engineering surveys are not needed when the general slope of the land is known. However, the furrows are to be graded toward a natural or constructed outlet with sufficient capacity and protection from erosion.

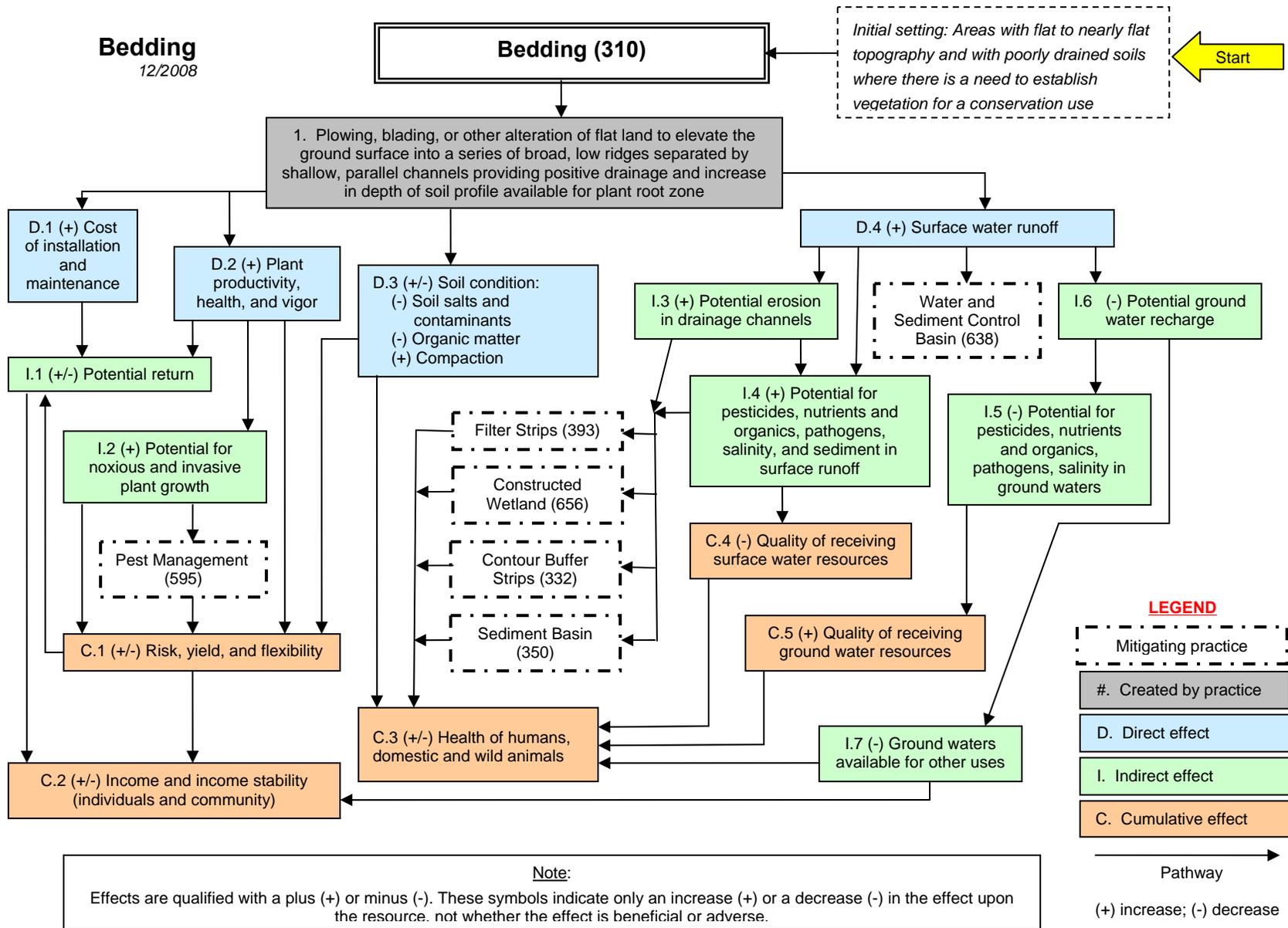
COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

Bedding is commonly used as part of a Conservation Management System to facilitate vegetative practices such Tree/Shrub Establishment (612).

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 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.

Bedding
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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.