

ANIMAL TRAILS AND WALKWAYS

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Code 575



ANIMAL TRAILS AND WALKWAYS

Animal trails and walkways provide a travel lane through difficult or ecologically sensitive terrain.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

This practice is installed on grazing lands as part of a conservation plan to accomplish one or more of the following:

- Improve access to forage, water, and or shelter
- Improve grazing efficiency and distribution
- Divert travel away from ecologically sensitive and/or erosive sites

Trails or walkways are often needed where animal movement is impeded or restricted because of steep rough terrain, rock outcrops, dense vegetation, water, etc.

The structures will be wide enough for livestock movement and vehicles. Walkways will be constructed based on normal high water levels. Supporting structures for water management will be provided. Soil erosion will be minimized during construction. Walkway borrow pits will be staggered to provide access to grazing areas on either side of the structure.

COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

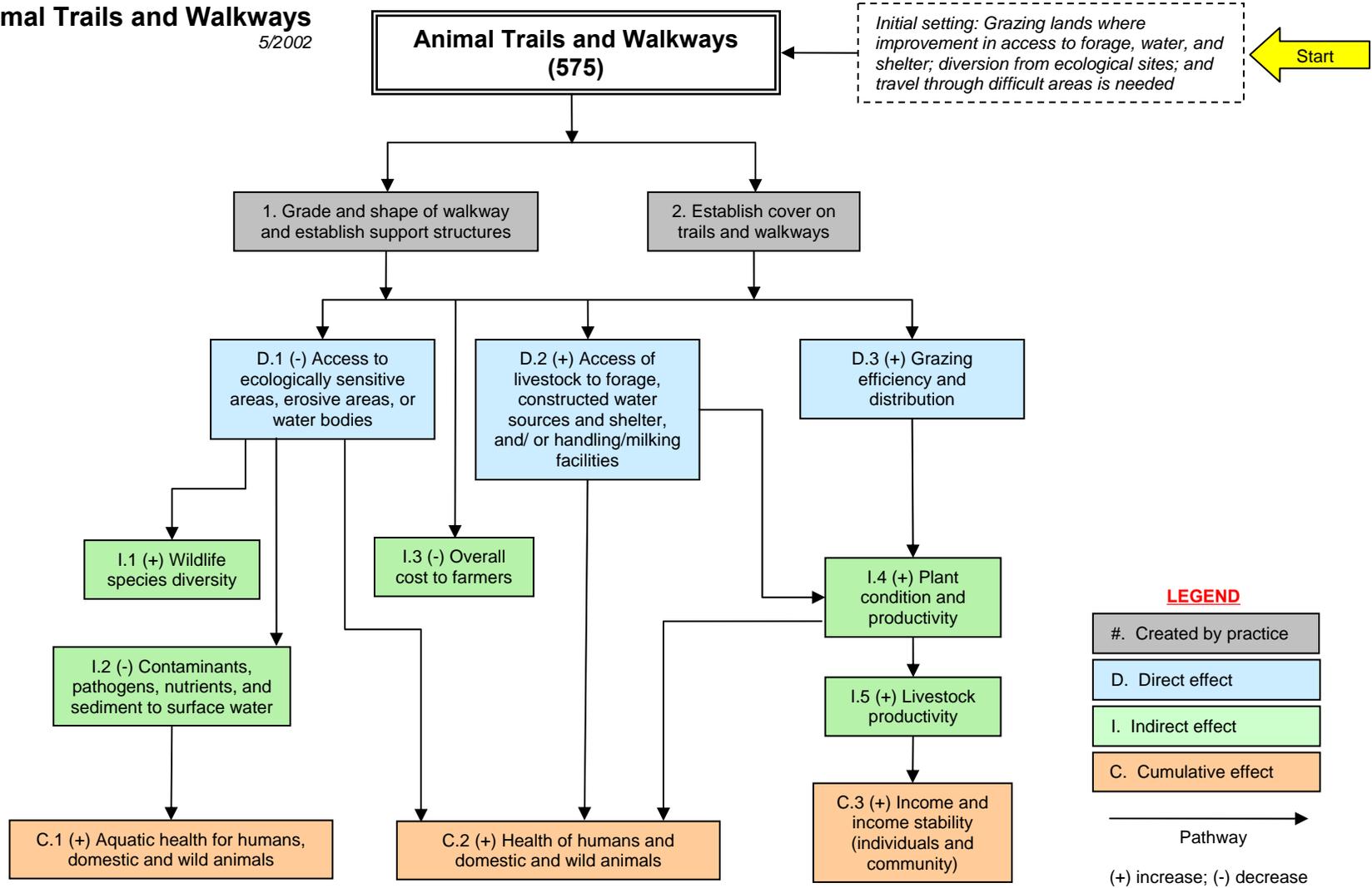
Animal Trails and Walkways is commonly planned as part of a Conservation Management System with Prescribed Grazing (528), Fence (382), Access Control (472), and other conservation practices.

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.

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Note: Effects are qualified with a plus (+) or minus (-). These symbols indicate only an increase (+) or a decrease (-) in the effect upon the resource, not whether the effect is beneficial or adverse.

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.