

# WATERSPREADING

## PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Code 640



### WATERSPREADING

Waterspreading involves the use of a system of dams, dikes, ditches, or other means of diverting or collecting runoff from natural channels, gullies, or streams and spreading it over relatively flat areas.

### PRACTICE INFORMATION

The purpose of waterspreading is to supplement natural precipitation in areas where extra moisture is needed. Waterspreading systems are suited to locations where the topography and climate are such that additional moisture can be expected to improve plant growth. Areas that receive 8 to 25 inches of precipitation are generally well suited for waterspreading if other site conditions are adequate.

### COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

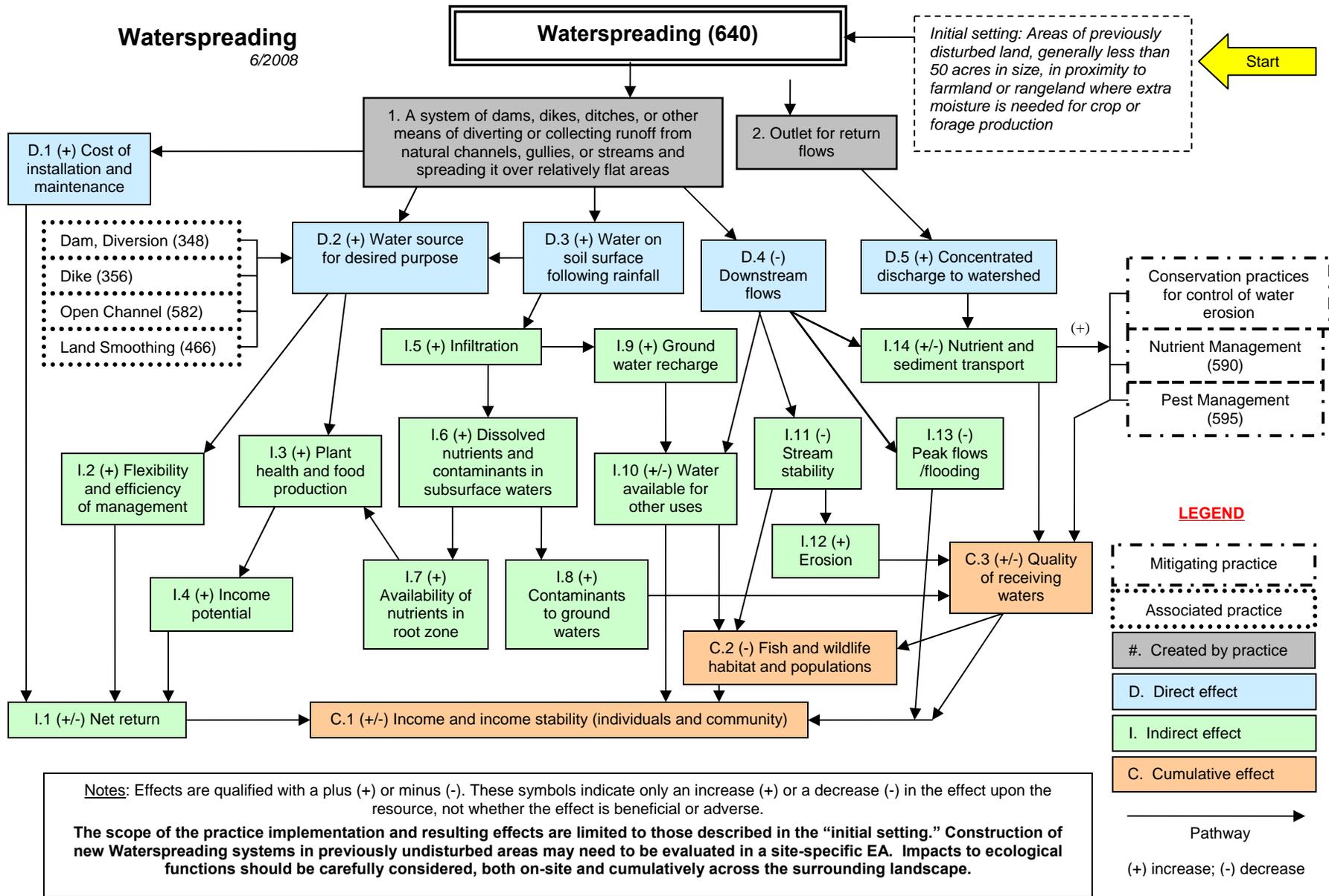
Waterspreading is commonly used in a Conservation Management System with the following facilitating practices: Dam, Diversion (348), Dike (356), Open Channel (582), Land Smoothing (466), Critical Area Planting (342), Nutrient Management (590), Pest Management (595), Crop Rotation (328), and erosion control 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 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.

# Waterspreading

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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 landowners 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.