

RANGE PLANTING

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Code 550



RANGE PLANTING

Range planting is establishment of adapted perennial vegetation.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

This practice applies to rangeland, native or naturalized pasture, grazed forest, or other suitable land areas where the principle method of vegetation management is grazing.

Vegetation types might be grasses, legumes, shrubs, forbs, shrubs, and trees.

The practice applies where desirable vegetation is below the acceptable level for natural reseeding to occur or where the potential for enhancement of the vegetation by grazing management is unsatisfactory.

Species, cultivars, or varieties selected must be compatible with management objectives and adapted to climatic conditions, soil, landscape position, and range site. In addition, the selected species for planting must provide adequate cover for erosion control. Plants selected for establishment should also contribute to wildlife and aesthetics when opportunities exist and are in line with planning objectives.

Plant establishment requires the following:

- Proper seedbed preparation
- Observation of recommended planting dates
- Planting at the recommended rate or spacing
- Using quality seed and plant material
- Apply recommended soil amendments and fertilizer
- Control weeds and grazing during establishment period

COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

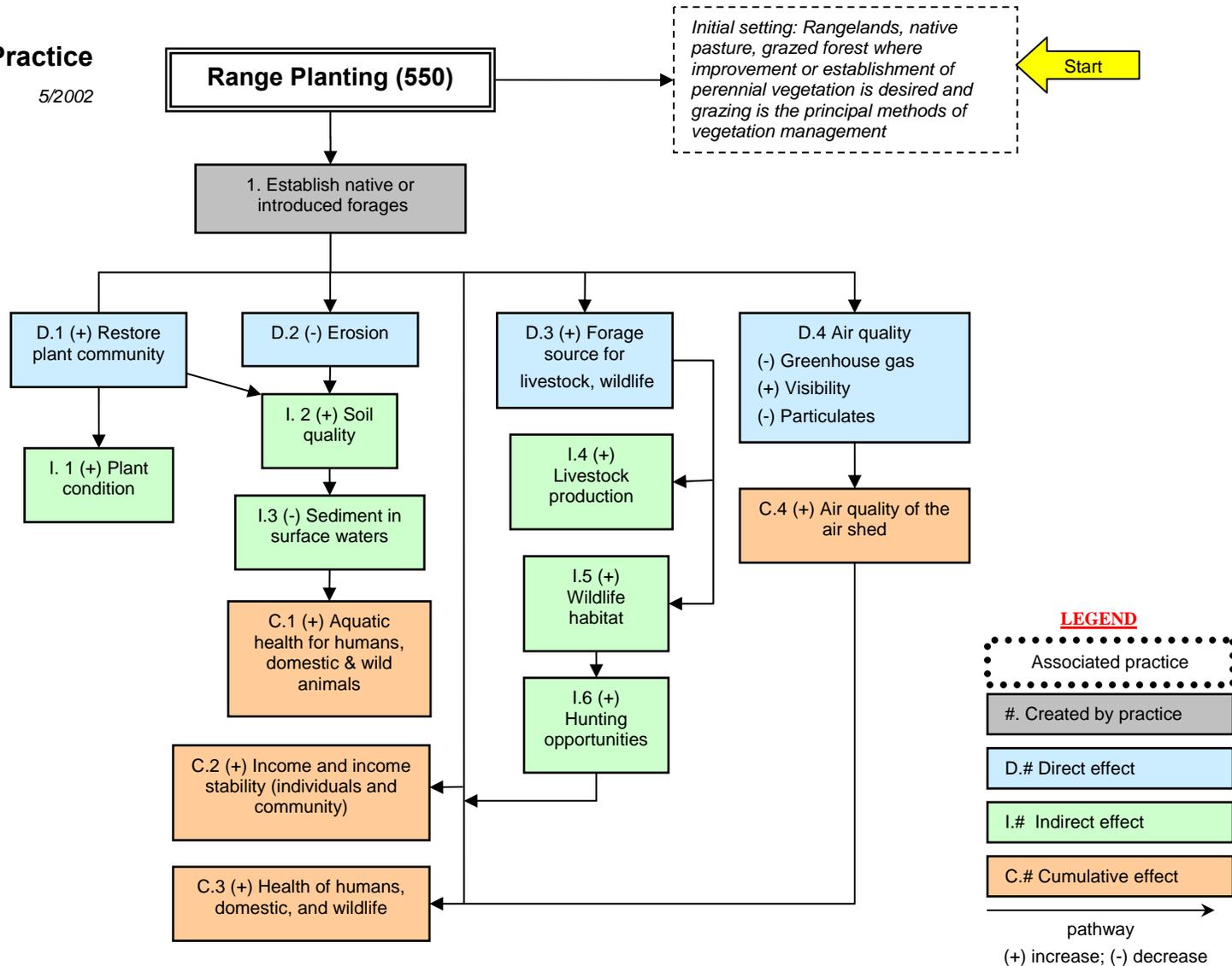
Other conservation practices such as Brush Management (314), Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment (548), Prescribed Burning (338), and livestock watering systems may be needed as part of a Conservation Management System to promote establishment and management of a successful range planting.

Refer to the practice standard in the local Field Office Technical Guide and associated specifications and Job Sheets for further information.

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.

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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 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.