

LAND SMOOTHING

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Codes 466



LAND SMOOTHING

Land smoothing is removing irregularities on the land surface.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

Land smoothing is used to improve surface drainage, provide for more uniform cultivation, and improve equipment operation and efficiency.

Land smoothing creates a more level area for crop production. It is used where depressions, mounds, old terraces, turn-rows, and other surface irregularities interfere with the application of needed soil and water conservation and management practices. It is also used to reduce the amount of flood water needed for cranberry and rice production. In flooded fields, it applies where leveling is included in an overall irrigation water

management plan and where it will reduce the amount of water required to adequately flood the field for harvesting, trash removal, winter protection, pest control, or other purposes.

COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

Land Smoothing is commonly used in a Conservation Management System with the following practices:

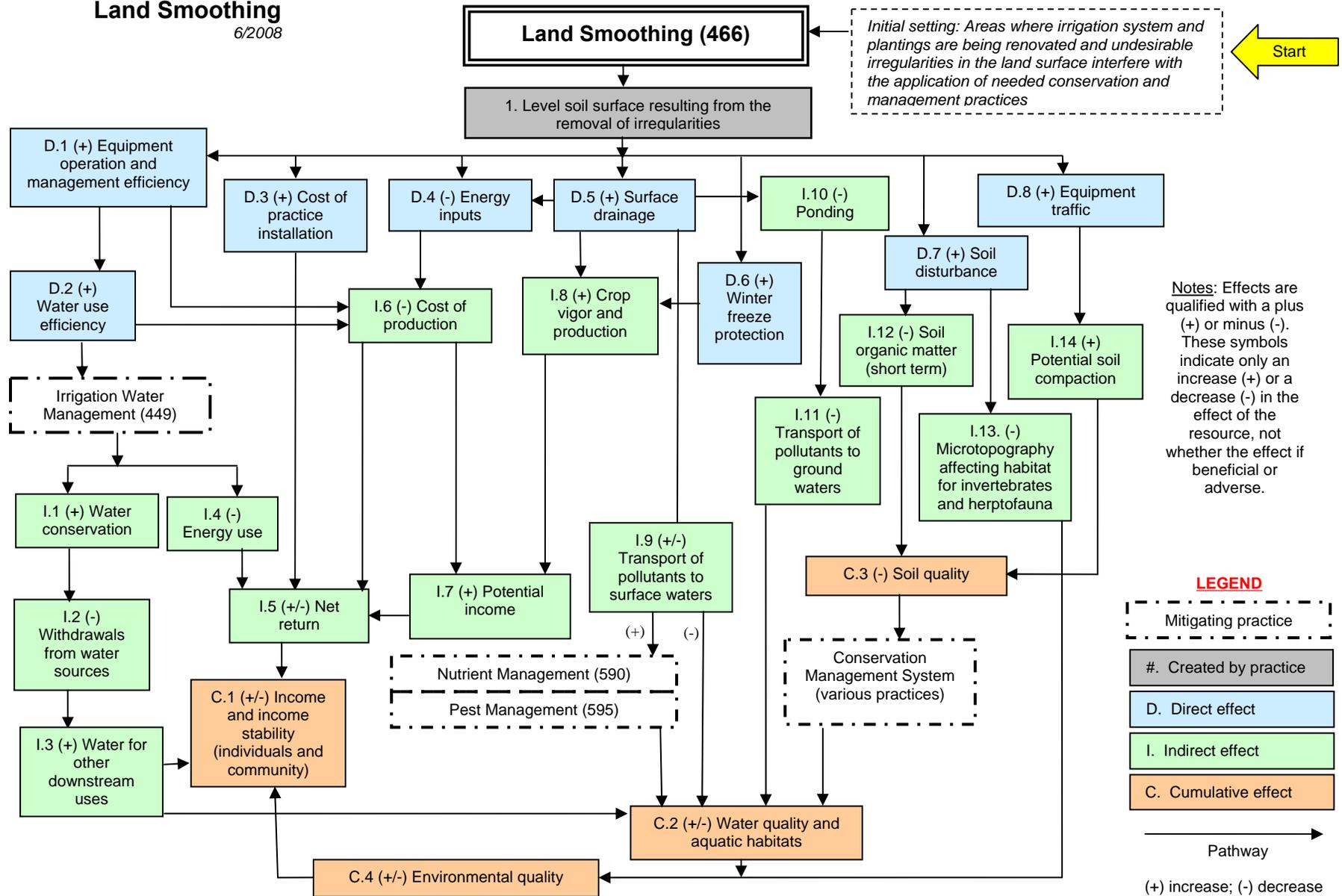
- Dike (356)
- Structure for Water Control (587)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)
- Drainage Water Management (554)

For further information, refer to the practice standard in the local Field Office Technical Guide and associated 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.

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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.