

Name of Practice: VOLUNTARY WOODLAND EROSION STABILIZATION
VACS Program Specifications for No. VFR-4

This document specifies terms and conditions for the Virginia Agricultural Best Management Practices Cost-Share Program's Voluntary Woodland Erosion Stabilization best management practice, which are applicable to all contracts entered into with respect to that practice.

A. Description and Purpose

This practice will document land shaping and planting of permanent vegetation on critically eroding areas on forest harvesting sites.

The purpose of this practice is to improve water quality by stabilizing soil, thus reducing the movement of sediment and nutrients from the site.

B. Policies and Specifications

1. This practice should document measures needed to stabilize a source of sediment, such as grading, shaping, and filling, the establishment of grass and legumes (including soil amendments such as fertilizer and lime), vehicle barriers and fencing needed to protect the established area, and other similar measures that are practical for the solution of the problem.
2. The practice must not be in lifespan from any other conservation program.
3. Soil loss rates must be computed for all applications.
4. Consideration should be given to wildlife and enhancing the appearance of the area when establishing the protective measures.
5. This practice is not intended to correct problems currently being created by an active logging operation which is not applying the required BMPs. Sites are eligible for this practice from one to fifteen years after timber product harvesting activities are completed.
6. Grazing livestock on established areas is prohibited.
7. Areas established should be protected from vehicle traffic. This practice is not intended for roadways that receive infrequent but regular use. All stabilized areas must have some type of vehicle barrier (cable, chain, posts, etc.).

8. This practice is subject to NRCS Standard No. 342 Critical Area Planting or "*Forestry BMPs for Water Quality in Virginia.*"
9. All practice components implemented should be maintained for a minimum of 5 years following the calendar year of installation. The lifespan begins on Jan. 1 of the calendar year following the year of certification of completion. This practice is subject to spot check by the District throughout the lifespan of the practice.

C. Technical Responsibility

Technical and administrative responsibility is assigned to qualified technical DCR and District staff in consultation, where appropriate and based on the controlling standard, with DCR, Virginia Certified Nutrient Management Planner(s), NRCS, DOF, and VCE. Individuals certifying technical need and technical practice installation shall have appropriate certifications as identified above and/or Engineering Job Approval Authority (EJAA) for the designed and installed component(s). All practices are subject to spot check procedures and any other quality control measures.

Revised April 2023