



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Conservation Practice Overview

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Wetland Restoration (Code 657)

Wetland restoration is the re-establishment of abiotic conditions (e.g., hydrology, topographic features, and substrate) on filled, or partially, effectively, or fully drained wetlands to a close approximation of pre-disturbance conditions.

Practice Information

There are three major characteristics of all wetlands; hydric soils, inundation or soil saturation, and the presence of hydrophytic (water-tolerant) vegetation. Within what is practicable, this practice is applied to restore the abiotic conditions necessary to support the pre-disturbance wetland characteristics.

This practice has an expected lifespan of 15 years. The operation and maintenance plan will include an inspection schedule, a list of items to inspect, recommended repairs, and procedures for documentation. A list of operation and monitoring activities will also be included.



Common Associated Practices

Wetland Restoration (Code 657) is commonly applied along conservation practices such as Dike or Levee (Code 356), Diversion (Code 362), and Structure for Water Control (Code 587) to restore the wetland's hydrology. If the vegetation is to be reestablished by planting, then Wildlife Habitat Planting (Code 420), or Tree and Shrub Establishment (Code 612) apply; Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (Code 644) may be applied after restoration to actively manage the habitat while Seasonal Water Management for Wildlife (Code 646) may be applied to mimic the historic wetland hydrologic conditions.

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

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