

WETLAND RESTORATION

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Code 657



WETLAND RESTORATION

Wetland restoration is construction or restoration of wetlands to provide the hydrological and biological benefits of a wetland site.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

This practice applies only to areas that were once wetland but were drained to accommodate another land use. Hydric soils must be present, and it must be possible to approximate the natural hydrologic conditions. In most cases, dikes or other water control structures are used to create or improve water storage on the site.

The purpose of this practice is to establish or reestablish wetlands for the benefit of wildlife, to reduce flooding, provide offsite water quality benefits, and increase ground water recharge.

COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

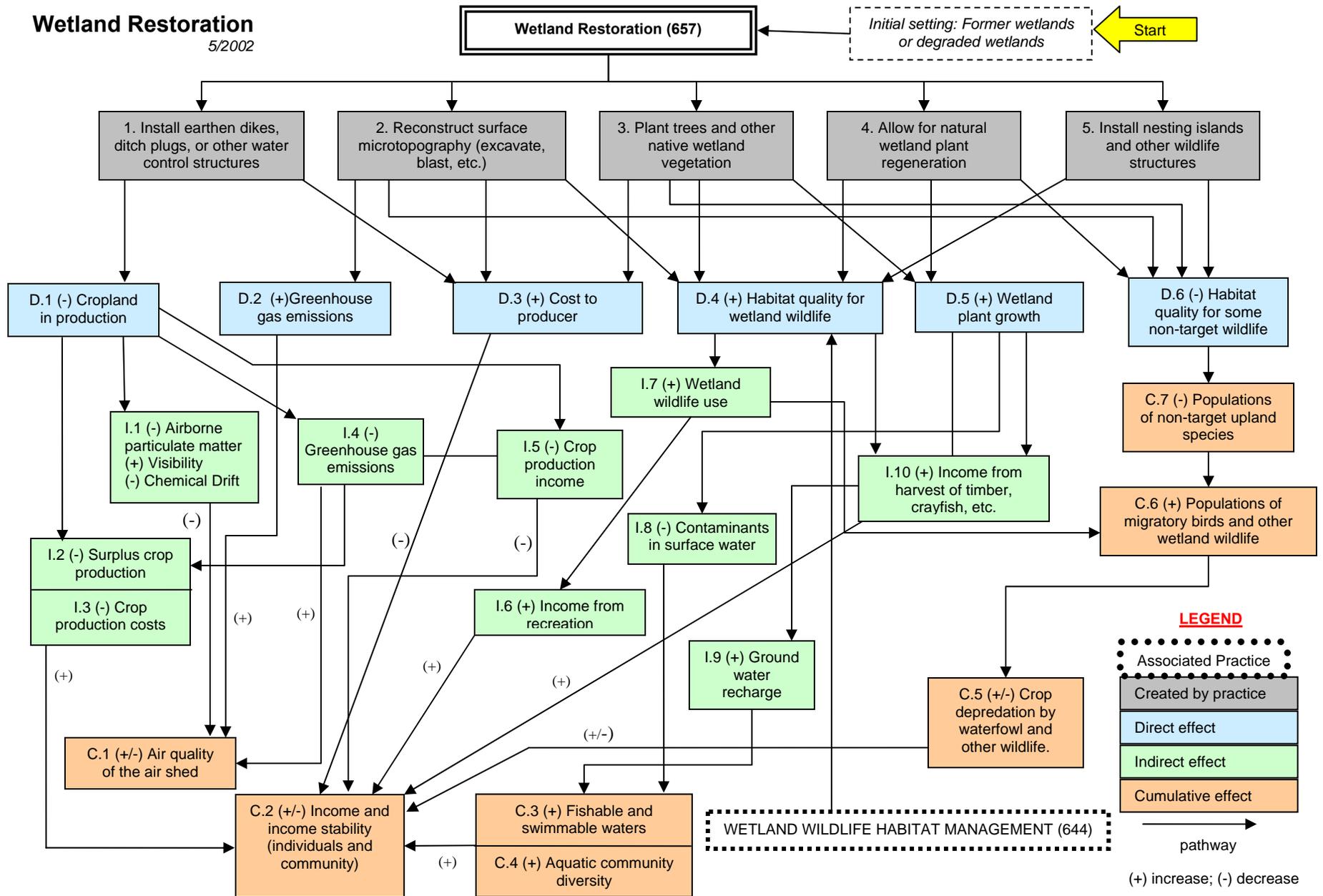
Wetland Restoration is commonly used in a Conservation Management System with practices such as Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644), Structure for Water Control (587), Dike (356), and Riparian Forest Buffer (391).

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 conservation effects expected to occur when this practice is applied. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, and soil. 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.