

# POND

## PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Code 378



### POND

A pond is a water impoundment made by constructing a dam or excavating a pit or dugout.

### PRACTICE INFORMATION

If a dam is constructed, the pond is referred to as an embankment pond; if the pond storage is achieved solely by excavating material, the pond is referred to as an excavated pond.

The purpose of this type of pond is to provide water for livestock, recreation, and fish and wildlife. Other uses include providing a water supply for things such as fire control and crop or orchard spraying.

The Pond practice standard applies where failure will not result in loss of life, damage to homes, commercial buildings, main highways, railroads, or interruption of public utilities; the product of the storage (acre/feet) times the effective height of the dam is less than 3,000 and the effective height of the dam is 35 feet or less.

The site must be such that runoff from the design storm can pass safely through a natural or constructed spillway. The drainage area must be protected from erosion that would significantly reduce the expected life of the structure and be large enough so that surface runoff and ground water flow will normally maintain an adequate supply of water in the pond. The water quality must be suitable for the intended use of the water.

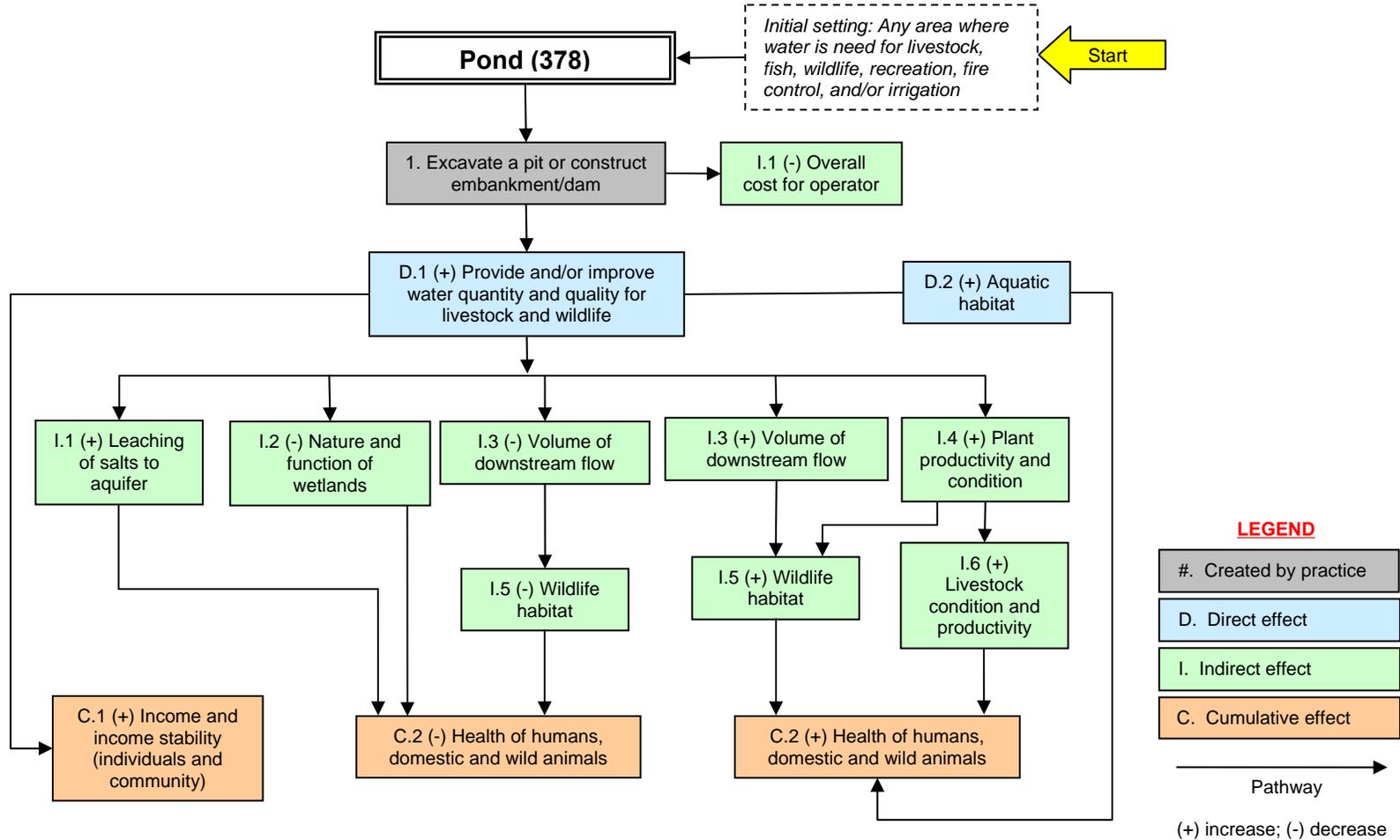
### COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

Pond is commonly planned as part of a Conservation Management System with Prescribed Grazing (528), Fence (382), Access Control (472), and Critical Area Planting (342).

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