

Heavy Use Area Protection

Definition/Purpose

A Heavy Use Area Protection means an area used frequently and intensively by animals which must be stabilized by surfacing with suitable materials to improve water quality. Benefits may include reduced erosion, sedimentation and pollution from dissolved, particulate, and sediment-attached substances. (DIP)

Policies

1. When the Heavy Use Protection Area is employed as or in conjunction with feeding areas and barn lots, it must be located 100 feet from surface water and a vegetated filter strip must be established before the practice is eligible for cost-sharing. The NRCS NC Feeding Site Assessment Tool shall be used to determine appropriate feeding site location. A concrete heavy use area is recommended for feeding sites, but depending on site conditions, cloth and gravel may be substituted.
- ~~1-2.~~ **Heavy Use Area Protection is not to be used as a substitute for access roads.**
- ~~2-3.~~ The requirement of fencing around a heavy use area is to be left to the technical staff as to whether it is needed.
4. Livestock exclusion fencing in conjunction with heavy use area protection measures (waste storage structures, loafing lots, barns, feeding stations, watering facilities, stock trails, etc.) will be required to have a minimum ~~set-back~~setback of 20 feet from the top of the stream bank. ~~A statement must be included on the contract indicating the established setback distance from the stream bank and must also indicate distance on sketch included with contract.~~Refer to Stream Protection Management or Waste and Nutrient Management Measures General Policy for fencing setback requirements and documentation.
- ~~3-5.~~ Conservation planners should consider stable access to the heavy use area.
- ~~6.~~ —An approved waste management plan that meets NRCS standards is required for all waste and nutrient management measure contracts. The plan must be revised, if necessary, to meet any changes in the operation which alter the waste management needs of the operation.
- ~~4-7.~~ Heavy use areas that are components of 15A NCAC 02T .1300 waste management plans must meet additional buffer requirements, if required, as prescribed in the 1217 Interagency Guidance ~~Memorandum~~Document.

Agriculture Cost Share Program

HEAVY USE AREA PROTECTION	
Maintenance Period	10 years
BMP Units	EACH
Required Effects	ACRES_AFFECTED ANIMAL TYPE ANIMAL UNITS N and P Waste Managed <u>(for Waste and Nutrient Management Measures)</u>
JAA	<u>ENG - 561 - Heavy Use Area Protection</u>
NRCS <u>Standards and Reference Materials</u>	ENG - 561 - Heavy Use Area Protection ENG - 382 - Fence National Engineering Handbook, Construction Specification 217 - Geotextiles and Material Specification 592 - Geotextiles
CS2 Reference Materials	NC-ACSP-11 Signature Page Map with BMP location, fields, and roads- NC-WMP Form <u>Waste Management Plan (for Waste and Nutrient Management Measures)</u>
Additional Spot-check Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>All waste and nutrient</u> management systems for operations not permitted by the Division of Water Resources must be spot-checked annually for five years following implementation. • <u>Heavy Use Area Protection BMPs for Stream Protection Management do not have additional spot-check requirements.</u>

Agriculture Cost Share Program

Active Stream Protection Measure Policy

Heavy Use Area ProtectionDefinition/Purpose

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Policies

1. When Heavy Use Area Protection is employed in conjunction with feeding areas and barn lots, a filter strip must be established before the practice is eligible for cost-sharing. **Heavy Use Area Protection is not approved for access roads.**
2. The requirement of fencing around a heavy use area is to be left to the technical staff as to whether it is needed.
3. Livestock exclusion in conjunction with heavy use area protection measures (**loafing lots, barns, feeding stations, watering facilities, stock trails, etc.**) **will be required to have a minimum set-back of 20 feet from the top of the stream bank.** (see Stream Protection Measures General Policy for setback requirements and documentation).
4. Conservation planners should consider stable access to the heavy use area.
5. Heavy use areas which are components of 15A NCAC 02T.1300 certified animal waste management plans must meet additional buffer requirements as included in SB 1217 interagency guidance documents.

HEAVY USE AREA PROTECTION	
Maintenance Period	10 years
BMP Units	EACH
Required Effects	ACRES_AFFECTED ANIMAL TYPE ANIMAL UNITS
JAA/NRCS Standard unless otherwise noted	ENG - 561 - Heavy Use Area Protection
Supporting Practices	ECS - 382 - Fencing National Engineering Handbook, Construction Specification 217 - Geotextiles and Material Specification 592 - Geotextiles
CS2 Reference Materials	NC-ACSP-11 Signature Page Map with BMP location, fields, and roads.

Agriculture Cost Share Program

Active Waste Management Measure Policy

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Policies

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4. Heavy use areas that are components of 15A NCAC 02T .1300 waste management plans must meet additional buffer requirements as prescribed in the 1217 Interagency Guidance Memorandum.

HEAVY USE AREA PROTECTION	
Maintenance Period	10 years
BMP Units	EACH
Required Effects	ACRES_AFFECTED ANIMAL TYPE ANIMAL UNITS N and P Waste Managed
JAA/NRCS standards unless otherwise noted	ENG - 561 - Heavy Use Area Protection ENG - 382 - Fence National Engineering Handbook, Construction Specification 217 - Geotextiles and Material Specification 592 - Geotextiles
CS2 Reference Materials	NC-ACSP-11 Signature Page Map with BMP location, fields, and roads. NC-WMP Form
Additional Spot-check Requirements	All waste management systems for operations not permitted by the Division of Water Resources must be spot-checked annually for five years following implementation.

(May 2019, March 2013, July 2012)