

## Heavy Use Area Protection

### Definition/Purpose

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 soil erosion, sedimentation and pollution from dissolved, particulate, and sediment-attached substances. (DIP)

### 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.

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