



Source: Caltrans Construction Site Best Management Practices Manual, 2003.

Description

Seeding and planting of trees, vines, shrubs, and ground cover for temporary or permanent stabilization of soil.

Applications

Soil stabilization during or after the construction phase applies to the following site conditions:

- Graded/cleared areas without on-going construction activity;
- Open space and fill areas;
- Steep slopes;
- Spoil piles or temporary stockpile of fill material;
- Vegetated swales;
- Landscape corridors; and
- Stream banks.

Installation and Implementation Requirements

Requirements for each seeding/planting application shall be considered and include:

- Type of vegetation;
- Site and seedbed preparation;
- Seasonal planting times;
- Fertilization; and
- Water.

Grasses

- Ground preparation requires fertilization and mechanical stabilization of the soil.
- Short-term temperature extremes and waterlogged soil conditions tolerable.

Seeding and Planting

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Installation and Implementation Requirements (Continued)

- Appropriate soil conditions include a shallow soil base, good drainage, and 2:1 or flatter slope.
- Quickly develops from seeds.
- Vigorous grass growth dependent on mowing, irrigating, and fertilizing.

Trees and Shrubs

- Selection dependent on vigor, species, size, shape, and potential wildlife food source.
- Consider wind/exposure and irrigation requirements.
- Use indigenous species where possible.

Vines and Ground Cover

- Lime and fertilizer required for ground preparation.
- Use appropriate seeding rates.
- Consider requirements for drainage, acidity, and ground slope.
- Use indigenous species where possible.
- Avoid species which require irrigation.

Limitations

- During dry periods without irrigation, permanent and temporary vegetation may not be appropriate.
- Improper application of fertilizer may contribute to storm water pollution.

Inspections and Maintenance

Monitor vegetation growth and water, fertilize, mow, and/or prune the grasses/plants as needed.