Grassed Waterway

A natural or constructed earthen channel or swale established with suitable vegetation for the stable movement of excessive runoff.

This practice is used to convey runoff from diversions, terraces, or other concentrated water sources, to reduce gully erosion, reduce sediment delivered to receiving waters, and improve water quality downstream.

Grassed waterways are usually installed on cultivated land and field ditches adjacent to cultivated land.

Grassed waterways **will not** divert water out of the natural sub-watershed.

Rarely, grassed waterways may be installed within a 100 foot setback, however, existing riparian vegetation, if present, will not be removed in order to install a grassed waterway.

Environmental values considered during planning and design include cultural resources; rare, threatened, and endangered species; air quality; and water quality and water quantity.

How the Permit Coordination Program Works for Landowners

- Landowner requests assistance from the NRCS/Cachuma RCD
- NRCS/Cachuma RCD develops a conservation plan to meet landowner needs, enhance natural resources, and comply with Program permits
- Landowner signs Cooperator Agreement to implement the conservation plan
- Project is covered by Program’s programmatic approvals and agreements
- Participating agencies include California Department of Fish and Game, Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, NOAA Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service*, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

- **All practices completed under this program must have a clear environmental benefit**

*pending

Cachuma Resource Conservation District
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**PARTNERING WITH AGRICULTURE TO BRING CONSERVATION TO SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SINCE 1944—The NRCS and the RCD are equal opportunity providers and employers**