Prime Agricultural Soils Mitigation

Example: Disturbance of 100 acres of prime agricultural soils

Baseline Mitigation Ratio 1 : 1

100 acres of prime ag soils must be conserved offsite for every 100 acres of prime ag soils disturbed on-site. The developer can choose on-site mitigation options to reduce off-site mitigation acres.

On-Site Mitigation Options

On-Site Prime Ag Soil Preservation Options

Developer can choose any of these options to reduce the 100 acres of off-site mitigation:

Option 1-No Change in Grade (1 : 10)*

100 baseline acres reduced by 90 acres leaving 10 acres for off-site mitigation.

Option 2-Preservation of Topsoil (1 : 4)

100 baseline acres reduced by 75 acres leaving 25 acres for off-site mitigation.

Option 3-Decompaction of Surface Soil on Cut/Fill Areas (1 : 2)

100 baseline acres reduced by 50 acres leaving 50 acres for off-site mitigation.

Additional On-Site Options

The options below could be used in combination with any of the three on-site options above to reduce off-site mitigation acres by an **additional 25%.**

Managed Grazing

Active Cropping/Hay

Pollinator Vegetation

Example 1: If **option 1-*No Change in Grade*** is selected, this would reduce the 100-acre baseline mitigation requirement to 10 acres of off-site conservation.

If ***Managed Grazing*** were then also employed on-site, this would further reduce the off-site conservation requirement (by 2.5 acres or 25%) to 7.5 acres.

*Ratio of area conserved to the area disturbed.

Off-Site Mitigation Options

Perpetual Conservation Easement (1 : 1)

Conservation easement would preserve 100 acres of prime ag soils in same mitigation district as disturbance.

Riparian Forest Buffer Off-Site (1 : 2)

Preserving or planting 50 acres of off-site riparian forest buffers would meet the 100-acre baseline mitigation requirement. Riparian forest buffers must be protected by a perpetual conservation easement.

In-Lieu Fee (1 : 1)

Fee would purchase a perpetual conservation easement to preserve 100 acres of prime ag soils in same mitigation district as disturbance.

After calculating the reduction of baseline acres from on-site mitigation remaining acreage must be mitigated by off-site mitigation options.

Using example 1 (light blue), the remaining 7.5 acres must be mitigated by any of the off-site mitigation options (orange).

Contiguous Forest Land Mitigation

Example: Disturbance of 100 acres of contiguous forest land

Baseline Mitigation Ratio 1 : 1

100 acres of forest land must be conserved off-site for every 100 acres of contiguous forest land disturbed on-site. The developer can choose on-site mitigation options to reduce off-site mitigation acres.

On-Site Mitigation Options

Riparian Forest Buffers On-Site (1 : 2)

Preserving riparian forest buffers on-site would reduce or meet off-site baseline mitigation depending on the number of acres preserved:

Example 1-Reduced Mitigation (off-site mitigation still required)

Preserving 25 acres of riparian forest buffers on-site would reduce 100-acre baseline mitigation requirement by 50 acres. Remaining 50 acres must be met by off-site mitigation options.

Example 2-Full Mitigation (no off-site mitigation required)

Preserving 50 acres of on-site riparian forest buffers would meet the 100-acre baseline mitigation requirement.

NOTE: On-site riparian forest buffers must be protected by a perpetual conservation easement.

Off-Site Mitigation Options

Perpetual Conservation Easement (1 : 1)

Conservation easement would preserve 100 acres of forest land in same mitigation district as disturbance.

Riparian Forest Buffer Off-Site (1 : 2)

Preserving or planting 50 acres of off-site riparian forest buffers would meet the 100-acre baseline mitigation requirement. Riparian forest buffers must be protected by a perpetual conservation easement.

In-Lieu Fee (1 : 1)

Fee would purchase a perpetual conservation easement to preserve 100 acres of forest land in same mitigation district as disturbance.

After calculating the reduction of baseline acres from on-site mitigation, remaining acreage must be mitigated by off-site mitigation options.

Using example 1 (light blue), the remaining 50 acres must be mitigated by any of the off-site mitigation options (orange).

C1 or C2 Forest Cores Mitigation

Example: Disturbance of 100 acres of C1 or C2 Forest Cores

Disturbance of C1 or C2 forest cores will **require mitigation**, even if **less** than the 50-acre mitigation threshold for contiguous forest lands.

C1 Forest Core Off-Site Mitigation (7 : 1)

Perpetual Conservation Easement or Easements

Disturbing 100 acres of C1 forest cores on-site would require mitigation of 700 acres of C1 forest cores off-site.

The conservation easement or easements must be in the same mitigation district as the disturbance.

OR

In-Lieu Fee

Fee would purchase a perpetual conservation easement to preserve 700 acres of C1 forest cores in same mitigation district as disturbance.

C2 Forest Core Off-Site Mitigation (2 : 1)

Perpetual Conservation Easement or Easements

Disturbing 100 acres of C2 forest cores on-site would require mitigation of 200 acres of C2 forest cores off-site.

The conservation easement or easements must be in the same mitigation district as the disturbance.

OR

In-Lieu Fee

Fee would purchase a perpetual conservation easement to preserve 200 acres of C2 forest cores in same mitigation district as disturbance.