

## CHAPTER 1 TEMPORARY EROSION CONTROL MANAGEMENT

### 1.1 Introduction

The requirement that erosion control be initiated on all exposed soil surfaces within a given timeframe is an integral compliance component on virtually all construction and maintenance projects. Temporary erosion control best management practices (BMPs) are short-term measures that should always be considered during a period where areas are disturbed due to construction or maintenance activities. When an emergency such as a slide or flood occurs, a temporary BMP should facilitate erosion protection, or at least be compatible with, long-term or permanent BMPs.

A temporary erosion control BMP is normally used for 1—6 months, or until a more permanent BMP is put into place. Temporary BMPs are used to minimize or eliminate erosion and are designed and installed to keep as much sediment on-site as possible.

The proper installation and maintenance of temporary BMPs allow for cleaner water runoff into the receiving waters such as streams, rivers, and lakes. Erosion control is the primary and initial consideration in a construction soil-disturbing project. If erosion control BMPs are installed and maintained correctly, there should be minimal sediment control needed on a project.

### 1.2 Erosion Control Goals

Erosion control goals can be separated into three categories.

#### 1. Perimeter Controls

- a. Ensure that no sediment or sediment laden water, or only a minimal amount, enters onto or leaves the project area.
- b. Treat or filter sediment-laden discharge waters as many times as required to meet Idaho water quality standards before leaving the project area.

#### 2. Controls within the Project

- a. Maintain erosion control on cut-and-fill slopes and in ditches or channels.
- b. Prevent erosion on disturbed areas.
- c. Divert stormwater away from the project, and especially disturbed areas.
- d. Maintain stockpiles such that run-on, runoff, and wind erosion are minimized.
- e. Protect all Waters of the United States (ponds, streams, wetlands, etc.), and ensure that discharges meet applicable Idaho water quality standards.

#### 3. Final Product

- a. Coordinate all temporary erosion controls to facilitate permanent measures.
- b. Remove and properly dispose of all controls that were installed and maintained during construction, except those that are intended for long-term use or those that are biodegradable.