

Appalachian Wildlife Center- Habitat Restoration AML Pilot Project
Bell County
Project Description

The proposed Appalachian Wildlife Center- Habitat Restoration AML Pilot Project, approximately 84.3 acres total, consists of installing drainage control ditches to correct erosion problems across a 60 acre general area in the Appalachian Wildlife Center site in the former industrial park in Bell County approximately 10 miles southeast of Pineville. The site is located in the Varilla Quadrangle. The site is at 36° 42 ' 59" N, 83° 34' 43" W. To reach the site starting from Pineville take US 119 north for 7.5 miles and turn right onto Jennifer Jones Memorial Highway (CR-1451). Follow to the road to the gate and then on to the work area as shown on the planview.

The project site is along the southern portion of the developing Appalachian Wildlife Center. Erosion gullies have formed in reclaimed ground and left unchecked will continue to head cut vast amounts of unconsolidated material and transport it downward across the major access routes and to offsite locations. This project will establish proper drainage controls in the form of erosion control blanket diversion ditches along the upper hill slopes, rock lined channels along major flow paths, and installation of silt traps, energy dissipaters, and vernal pools for wildlife watering. Minor gullies will be graded and vegetated after the upper diversion ditches have been installed cutting off the major concentrated water sources. The existing access road back to the work area, currently passible in standard vehicle, will only be improved as needed to maintain access for the construction equipment. The access road corridor accounts for approximately 24 acres of the total project area. An onsite waste area has been designated if needed.

The entire project site has previously been disturbed by coal mining operations consisting of significant upheaval, mixing, and removal of earthen material from deep excavation, grading, sub-surface drilling, fill material placement, and erosion. There should be no undisturbed earthen material to a depth of several dozen feet at the areas slated for significant project-related construction activities. Construction disturbances will be kept to a minimum with a stringently formulated sediment and erosion control program. Prior to beginning any major earth disturbance (excluding initial site preparation for access only), all silt control measures will be installed. These include silt traps and silt barriers (bales & silt fence). No tree clearing is required (site, waste area, and access). All disturbed areas will be promptly revegetated using lime, fertilizer, wildlife seed, and mulch, as necessary. Standard measures will be used for dust control.

Access to the site is via county roads and an existing access roads. This project will include pre-and/or post- project maintenance and repair of existing previously constructed public county roads utilized during the construction of this project, which are administered by the county or local road authority. This construction activity will be conducted under the authority and supervision of the local public road authority and will consist of standard road construction practices appropriate to mitigate impacts to the local community from potential degraded road conditions in order to maintain public traffic safety.