

# STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

## AN ILLUSTRATED SERIES TO HELP PREVENT STORM WATER POLLUTION

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#IA0516-01

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Inactive Areas

**Inactive areas of construction:** Areas of construction activity that have been disturbed and are not scheduled to be re-disturbed for at least 14 days. (CGP)

**Foot traffic through an area does not change the status of the area to active.** This applies not only to areas that have not been used in 14 days, but for any areas not scheduled to be used for 14 days or more.

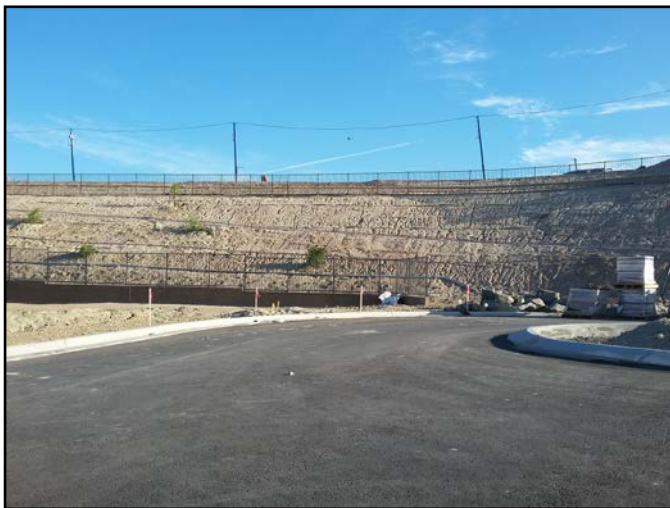
Inactive areas must be stabilized with either permanent or temporary erosion control methods. (EC-2 through EC-16)

**EC-2** suggests a method that is often the most cost effective measure, to **preserve existing vegetation**. Preserving existing vegetation may be more common and feasible on larger sites where areas remain inactive through the beginning of construction.

An example of wood mulch applied to a slope to prevent erosion.



This is the same site on the same day in an area where erosion control measures have not yet been implemented. Notice the rill erosion throughout the entire slope.



Often retaining current vegetative cover for an area or even creating temporary vegetative cover for large areas of exposed soil will be **more cost effective in greater spans of time** than any other temporary erosion control measures.

The most common inactive areas on many construction sites are slopes around the perimeter of the site. These slopes should be stabilized since they are the most likely areas for erosion to occur and sediment to travel off site. In addition to normal linear sediment controls, (fiber rolls or straw waddles) if a slope is designated to be inactive for 14 days, implementing erosion controls such as: hydraulic mulching, hydro-seeding, soil binders, straw mulch, geotextiles and mats, or wood mulching may be required.