

MAP CODE  
ECB

# EROSION CONTROL BLANKET

USE

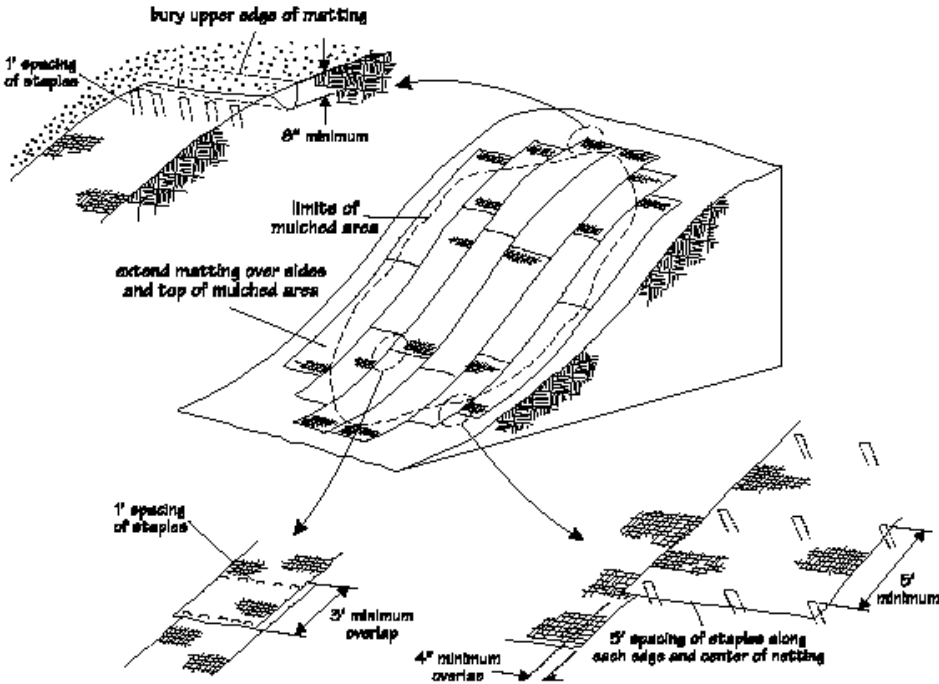
Erosion  
Sediment  
Stormwater

## What

- A temporary protective blanket laid on top of bare soil vulnerable to erosion, commonly made of mulch, wood fibre or synthetics.

## Purpose

- Placed onto prepared, seeded soils to prevent washing away of the seed and erosion of the prepared seedbed. After the vegetation grows, the blanket degrades over time until only the vegetation is left in place. Once established, the vegetation provides permanent erosion control.
- Can be used on steep slopes where severe erosion control problems are anticipated.



Source: Idaho Department of Lands, 1992.

## Erosion Control Blanket Installation

## Where

- YES:** Erosion control blankets are superior to hydroseeding when the growing season is short and plants cannot stabilize the slope quickly, when at high altitudes or where major storms are a frequent occurrence.

## Materials Equipment & Costs



Mulch, wood fibre, synthetics or combinations, and staples, stakes or anchors.

Hand tools, labour.

Medium to high.

## Plans & Spec's

- Applying erosion control blankets over large areas can be prohibitively expensive. However, small applications in areas that are especially steep and/or prone to erosion can be very effective in conjunction with cheaper methods such as hydro-mulching and/or hay mulch and netting.
- The effectiveness of jute netting and mulch fabrics is greatly reduced if rills and gullies form beneath these fabrics. Therefore, proper anchoring and ground preparation are essential.
- To further control the amount of stormwater that may flow over an area, consider installing a diversion ditch at the top of the slope.

## Installation

- Care should be taken to anchor edges (particularly on the up-slope side) and overlap joining sections to ensure adequate protection.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions.

## Maintenance

- Close inspection after storms and major runoff occurrences is essential, as erosion control blankets will often mask slope failures from all but the closest scrutiny until erosion is so far along that the slope can no longer be effectively treated with spot methods.

## Sources

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