

# Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control

Ag Water Quality Plan Fact Sheet

March 2002

Erosion costs landowners money by robbing them of the most fertile layers of soil. Gullies formed by unchecked runoff bring additional costs in lost acreage. Sediments deposited by erosion often contain concentrations of contaminants that can pollute surface water or leach into ground water aquifers. Sediment can increase the likelihood and severity of flooding and tax water filtration equipment when it's washed into streams. It is relatively easy to determine if your land is under compliance with the Ag Water Quality Plan erosion limits. Fields generally fall into three classes: 1) Erosion BMPs are clearly visible and working, 2) No erosion is visible but absence of BMPs leaves room for improvement, and 3) Evidence of excessive erosion clearly indicates non-compliance with Ag Water Quality Plan rules.

## 1) BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs)



*Planting vegetation between rows of perennial crops reduces erosion.*



*Filter strips leading to waterways catch and filter sediment.*



*Planting ditches helps to filter runoff from fields and orchards.*



*Minimum tillage offers great soil erosion protection.*

### Yamhill River Basin SB 1010 Ag Water Quality Standards



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## 2) ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT



*Farming to the edge of the road may lead to high runoff.*



*Lack of a buffer strip increases the potential for erosion.*

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## 3) CLEAR INDICATORS OF NON-COMPLIANCE



*Silt accumulated at the bottom of gullied field.*



*Lack of ground cover made it easy for these gullies to form.*



*Lack of buffer strip allows sediment to wash into ditches and waterways.*



*Gully caused by lack of a grass filter strip and/or adequate ground cover.*