Snow Accumulation and Snow Melt BMPs

Winter conditions such as heavy snow and ice can cause BMP failure.

Snow accumulation, icing, and snowmelt cause significant problems in Montana, particularly in Montana's upper mountain valleys. Heavy accumulation of snow in disturbed areas or poor snow removal practices can lead to severe erosion and sediment transport. In addition, freezing can cause BMPs to fail resulting in sediment discharge. Other soil stabilization and sediment control BMPs may also be effective. Snow accumulation and snow melt BMPs are shown in Table 2-3.

Table 2-3 Snow Accumulation and Snow Melt BMPs

ID	BMP Name	Primary Purpose	Erosion Processes
SN-1	Snow Management	Reduce the volume of runoff in disturbed areas	Rill/Gully, Sheet, Stream Bank, and Snow Melt.
SN-2	Snow Barriers	Reduce the volume of runoff in disturbed areas	Rill/Gully, Sheet, Stream Bank, and Snow Melt.
SN-3	Freeze Reduction	Increase effectiveness of structures and BMPs	Rill/Gully, Sheet, Stream Bank, and Snow Melt.

Removal of snow in sensitive areas prior to Spring melting can reduce erosion (BMP SN-1).

Fence can be used to limit snow accumulation in selected areas (BMP SN-2).