On steep, open slopes with plenty of forage, cattle tend to walk along contours as they graze, creating "terracces" such as these in central California.

A trampled-down bank and a cattle trail across a wash on BLM land in central New Mexico. Cattle prints mar the sand for miles up and down the wash.

Cattle-ravaged riparian area. Note the poor condition of the trees. Branches have been broken off, trampled to pieces, and scattered. *(USFS)*