

STATEMENT OF WORK

Residue Management--Seasonal (344)

Arizona

These deliverables apply to this individual practice. For other planned practice deliverables refer to those specific Statements of Work. Planners shall follow and document all the requirements as outlined in the practice standard. The planner shall also follow the specification requirements for the practice. Documentation and certification requirements for the practice are outlined in the AZNRCS General Manual-Title 450, Part 407, Subpart A, B, C Documentation, Certification, and Spot Checking for Ecological Science Practices.

DESIGN

Deliverables:

1. The conservation practice narrative in the Conservation Plan must include:
 - a. Purpose(s) for applying this practice.
 - b. Planned residue management period and crops.
 - c. Lifespan of practice (1 year)
2. Records must be kept and provided annually to NRCS for financial assistance programs.
3. Control of land and water rights documentation must be obtained from the client.
4. Supporting information needed for practice design, for all practice purposes, must be in the case file. At a minimum this includes:
 - a. Cropland Operation and Management Workbook documenting benchmark conditions
 - b. WEPS and/or RUSLE2 reports showing the Soil Condition Index (SCI) for the benchmark and planned crop(s) to address targeted criteria. SCI for the planned crop(s) will meet or exceed Arizona Quality Criteria
5. Supporting information needed for practice design to address selected practice purposes must be in the case file and will include:
 - a. Reduce Water Erosion
 - i. RUSLE2 reports showing predicted soil loss for the benchmark and planned crop(s). Predicted soil loss for the planned crop(s), crop residue amounts, residue orientation, and residue distribution are included in the prediction tool and soil loss will meet or be less than the soil loss tolerance as stated in Arizona Quality Criteria
 - b. Reduce Wind Erosion and Airborne Particulate Matter
 - i. WEPS reports showing predicted soil loss for the benchmark and planned crop(s). Predicted soil loss for the planned crop(s), crop residue amounts, residue orientation, and residue distribution are included in the prediction tool and soil loss will meet or be less than the soil loss tolerance as stated in Arizona Quality Criteria
 - c. Harvest and Utilize Renewable Bioenergy Feedstocks
 - i. Limit partial removal of crop residues by baling, grazing, or other harvest methods to the amount needed to meet the erosion prediction objective. Use WEPS or RUSLE2 reports to identify amount of residue to be removed, removal method, and amount of residue to remain after planned residue harvest.
 - d. Manage Snow to Increase Plant-Available Moisture
 - i. Crop stubble height is documented based on current Arizona 344 Conservation Practice Standard.
 - e. Provide Food and Cover for Wildlife
 - i. The Cropland Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide is used to document that the crop management activities (residue management period, residue amount and height) that will provide food and cover for the identified wildlife and or pollinator species to meet or exceed Arizona Quality Criteria.
6. The specification must demonstrate that criteria in NRCS practice standard will be met and will be compatible with other existing and planned practices.
7. The specifications must comply with all federal, state, tribal, and local laws, regulations, and NRCS policies.

8. The specification must be signed by the client stating that they understand their requirements for applying the practices.
9. The specification must be signed by an NRCS representative with appropriate approval authority certifying that the design meets practice standard criteria and comply with applicable laws and regulations.

APPLICATION

Deliverables

1. Initial conference with client to explain the Residue Management--Seasonal design and record keeping requirements.
2. Application guidance to implement the Residue Management—Seasonal Practice, as needed.
3. Design modifications as required.

CHECK OUT

Deliverables

1. Practice certification must be completed by person with approval authority.
2. The practice application is to be checked against the specifications to insure a satisfactory job. Check notes or observations become part of the supporting data along with previous planning documenting records.
3. Minimum check out documentations include
 - a. The date the check out field visit was done.
 - b. Crop(s) grown, planting & harvest dates on each field being checked.
 - c. Residue Management Period is specified.
 - d. Producer provided records as identified in specification with crops and sequence applied.
 - e. Signed check notes, with a statement that the practice does or does not meet NRCS standards and specifications.
4. Practice certification and progress reporting in ProTracts or Customer Service Toolkit

REFERENCES

- NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG), Section IV, Conservation Practice Standard - Residue Management, Seasonal - 344
- NRCS National Agronomy Manual (NAM) parts 501, 502 and 506
- NRCS National Environmental Compliance Handbook
- NRCS Cultural Resources Handbook