

August 6, 2012

TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE WY - 98

Purpose: This notice transmits the following changes to conservation practice standards in Section IV eFOTG:

Major changes to these standards

Animal Mortality Facility (316): This standard was formally reviewed and updated to include public comments received through the *Federal Register* review process. Design criteria were changed, based on the revision of practice code 367 – Roofs and Covers. Disposal pits (masonry, treated timber, and pre-cast concrete structures constructed in the ground with the bottom of the pit exposed to the soil) have been omitted from the standard since most State regulations no longer allow these types of structures, and they are not considered environmentally friendly.

Clearing and Snagging (326) Clearing and Snagging (Code 326).—No significant technical changes were made to this practice standard; however, significant edits and grammatical changes have been made. Revised Definition to clarify that clearing and snagging includes the removal of vegetation from streambanks. Criteria were limited to the purposes stated, while Considerations were expanded to improve the conservation function. Policy statements (e.g., must comply with Federal, State, and local laws and regulations) were removed from the standard. Minimum requirements for plan and specification content were added. References were added.

Dam (402) A new Purpose of “Develop Renewable Energy Systems” with accompanying additional Criteria was added.

Dam Diversion (348) A new Purpose of “Develop Renewable Energy Systems” with accompanying additional Criteria was added.

Diversion (362) Revisions include: a change from permissible velocity to an effective stress approach in design for stability and capacity of the diversion; expansion of the Plans and Specifications section; and updated references.

Hedgerow Planting (422) The purpose was broadened for aquatic organisms and expanded to add habitat for terrestrial species, specifically pollinators. Criteria were added for pollinator habitat. References were also added.

Land Reclamation Abandon Mine Land (543) Significant changes were made to both the content and format. The standard has been expanded to provide more direction in developing the plans and specifications and access to references.

Land Reclamation Currently Mined Land (544) Significant changes were made to both the content and format. The standard has been expanded to provide more direction in developing the plans and specifications and access to references.

Lined Waterway or Outlet (468) Lined Waterway or Outlet (Code 468).—Changes to the standard include the following: revision in the range in Manning’s roughness, and references cited in the criteria section; expansion of the “Considerations” section to include fish and wildlife and soil bioengineering, etc.; and more comprehensive guidance on what should be included in the “Plans and Specifications” section.

Monitoring Well (353) This standard was formally reviewed and updated to include public comments received through the *Federal Register* review process. References to American Society for Testing Materials standards were updated, and minor edits were made.

Pond Sealing or Lining Flexible Membrane (521A) The material requirements have been revised to conform to industry-wide practice and to the most current versions of accepted generic standards, such as American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) and other industry standards. NHCP September 2011

Spoil Spreading (572) The criteria was edited and a section specifically for spreading of spoil along channels was added; consideration was added for evaluating channels capacity; minimum requirements for plan and specification content were added; minimum requirements for O&M plans were added; and references were added.

Stormwater Runoff Control (570) The title was changed from Runoff Management System. The definition was changed to reflect the new title and the broader scope of the practice. The purpose was rewritten to include erosion and sedimentation, water quality, and water quantity.

Subsurface Drain (606) Revised Purposes; expanded Conditions Where Practice Applies; revised Criteria; expanded Considerations; added Operation and Maintenance; and added References. NRCS, NHCP September 2011.

Surface Drain Field Ditch (607)): The title was changed from "Surface Drainage, Field Ditch." Criteria for capacity was added, considerations expanded, and References were added.

Trails and Walkways (568) The title was changed from Recreation Trail and Walkway. The definition changed to include farm workers, construction/maintenance access, and small walk-behind equipment. The purpose changed to include agricultural and construction/maintenance purposes. Conditions where the practice applies was changed to cover recreational, agricultural, and non-agricultural installations. Criteria changed to include more detailed requirements for all land uses and information was added on accessibility of public access trails. Considerations were added on maximum grades, drainage issues, parking issues, scenic values, fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, and wind erosion. Minimum requirements for plan and specification content were added. Minimum requirements for O&M plans were added and additional references were added.

Underground Outlet (620) The "Purpose" section was expanded to include other water concentration areas.

Waste Facility Closure (360) Waste Facility Closure (Code 360) - This standard was updated to include the remediation of contaminated soil in dry waste storage facilities. The title was also changed from "Closure of Waste Impoundments" to "Waste Facility Closure" to reflect the expanded definition of decommissioning dry waste facilities. A more widespread use of this standard is anticipated with the inclusion of dry waste facilities.

Waste Recycling (633) The title was changed from "Waste Utilization" to "Waste Recycling." A new Purpose of "Reduce Energy Use" and accompanying Criteria was added. The application is more focused on processing and recycling agriculture waste material into a valuable by-product.

Waste Storage Facility (313) This standard has been revised to include air quality considerations

Waste Transfer (634) Formerly titled "Manure Transfer," this practice standard was expanded to encompass manure and other byproducts of agricultural operations. Previously, the standard only addressed manure. This standard applies where excess byproducts (wastes) accumulate and can be transferred to an area for utilization as a resource. The Criteria Section is expanded to include a description of solid-liquid separation and a clarification of clean-out access requirements.

Waste Treatment Lagoon (359) This standard has been revised to include air quality considerations.

Water and Sediment Control Basin (638) Significant editing has been performed on this standard. Every section of the standard was rewritten to add clarity and readability. However, the underlying design requirements contained in the "Criteria" section have not been significantly modified from the current version of the standard. The "Considerations", "Plans and Specifications", and "Operations and Maintenance" sections have been significantly expanded.

Water Harvesting Catchment (636) Changes included the revision of the "Purpose" section; streamlining of text; and expansion of the "Considerations" section.

Water Well Decommissioning (351) The standard's name was changed from Well Decommissioning, distinguishing water well decommissioning from industry practices for closure of other purposed wells (oil, injection, etc.). The purpose was clarified. Additional clarification on plugging materials was added.

Wetland Creation (658) The standard was reorganized to put considerations into topics (hydrology, vegetation, and soils) to make the practice easier to use and understand; added statement about federal, state and local laws, etc. Updated practice name for code 396 and references were added.

Wetland Enhancement (659) The definition of this practice standard was changed to ensure its clear differentiation from the wetland restoration practice; added hydrology considerations; reorganized considerations into topics (hydrology, vegetation, and soils) to make the practice easier to use and understand; added statement about federal, state and local laws, etc. Updated practice name for code 396 and references were added.

Wetland Restoration (657) The definition of this practice standard was changed to ensure its clear differentiation from the wetland enhancement practice; added functional assessments or equivalent in criteria; added hydrology considerations; reorganized considerations into topics (hydrology, vegetation, and soils) to make the practice easier to use and understand; added statement about federal, state and local laws, etc. Updated practice name for code 396 and references were added.

Minor changes to these standards

Anionic Polyacrylamide (PAM) Erosion Control (450)

Grassed Waterway (412) National standard lists only minor changes from state standard

Land Reclamation Landslide Treatment (453)

Land Reclamation Toxic Discharge Control (455)

Land Smoothing (466)

Open Channel (582)

Pipeline (516)

Prescribed Grazing (528) A statement on biosecurity safeguards was added

Restoration Management Rare or Declining Habitats (643)

Sediment Basin (350)

Shallow Water Development (646)

Solid Liquid Waste Separation Facility (632)

Stream Habitat Improvement (395)

Surface Roughening (609)

Terrace (600)

Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)

Vertical Drain (630) Additional emphasis was placed on water quality protection if practice is used

Waste Treatment (629)

Waterspreading (640) Date change

Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)

Windbreak Shelterbelt Renovation (650) A minor change, the term "pollinator" was added to the wildlife planning consideration that discusses species diversity.

Effective Date. This notice is effective when received.

Filing Instructions: The revised conservation practice standards and forms are electronically filed in the Wyoming eFOTG at this site:

http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/efotg_locator.aspx?map=US

ASTRID MARTINEZ
State Conservationist