



United States Department of Agriculture

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**COLORADO FIELD OFFICE TECHNICAL GUIDE**  
**TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE 696**

FEBRUARY 29 2016

**Purpose.** This notice transmits changes to the Colorado Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG).

**Explanation of FOTG Changes:**

**Section I, Laws**

[Synopsis of Colorado Water Law \(CDWR, 2011\)](#). Updated. Linked to the most current version.

**Section I, Reference List, Wildlife**

[Fish & Wildlife Mgmt. Leaflets](#). Relocated. Moved from Biology Technical Notes.

[Key to Amphibians & Reptiles of Colorado](#). Relocated. Moved from Biology Technical Notes.

**Section I, State Technical Guide Committee**

[STGC 2016 Members](#). New. The NRCS State Conservationist appoints a State Technical Guide Committee (STGC) to assist in the development and maintenance of the State's FOTG. Colorado NRCS's membership and operations are provided herein.

- NRCS employees and affiliates are encouraged to submit FOTG technology needs, or comments and suggestions to a committee member or on the [FOTG SharePoint](#) (CO NRCS\ECS\FOTG).

[STGC 2015 Members](#). Superseded.

**Section I, Technical Notes, Biology**

[Biology Tech Note 04, Wildlife Food and Cover Values of Selected Plants](#), dated March 2004 was archived. The guidance is no longer relevant.

[Biology Tech Note 49, Key to Amphibians & Reptiles of Colorado](#). Relocated to FOTG Section I, References, Wildlife.

[Biology Tech Note 62, Fish and Wildlife Management Leaflets](#). Relocated to FOTG Section I, References, Wildlife.

**Section III, Conservation Planning Guidance, Coordinated Resource Management (CRM) Planning**

[CRM Planning Handbook](#). New. Defines and provides guidance on the process of coordinated resource management planning.

[CRM Plan Guidance](#). New. Provides guidance on the content of a CRM Plan.

**Section III, Conservation Activity Plans (CAP) -Technical Criteria**

[CAP Criteria FY16, NRCS website](#). New. Link to NRCS's national website on FY16 Conservation Activity Plan Criteria. Provided to assist the public.

FY16 CAP's Technical Criteria. New. Announced in National Bulletin 300-16-4.

- [FY16 CAP 102 - Comp. Nutrient Mgmt. Plan Criteria](#)
- [FY16 CAP 104 - Nutrient Mgmt. Plan Criteria](#)
- [FY16 CAP 106 - Forest Mgmt. Plan Criteria](#)
- [FY16 CAP 108 - Feed Mgmt. Plan Criteria](#)
- [FY16 CAP 110 - Grazing Mgmt. Plan Criteria](#)
- [FY16 CAP 112 - Prescribed Burning Plan Criteria](#)
- [FY16 CAP 114 - Integrated Pest Mgmt. Plan Criteria](#)
- [FY16 CAP 118 - Irrigation Water Mgmt. Plan Criteria](#)
- [FY16 CAP 128 - Ag. Energy Mgmt. Plan Criteria](#)
- [FY16 CAP 130 - Drainage Water Mgmt. Plan Criteria](#)
- [FY16 CAP 138 - Organic Transition Plan Criteria](#)
- [FY16 CAP 142 - Fish & Wildlife Habitat Plan Criteria](#)
- [FY16 CAP 146 - Pollinator Habitat Plan Criteria](#)
- [FY16 CAP 154 - IPM Plan Criteria](#)

FY15 CAP's Technical Criteria. Superseded. This content will remain accessible on the FOTG until such materials are no longer relevant to any conservation contract.

[CAP Plan Templates, NRCS website](#). New. Link to NRCS's national website on FY16 Conservation Activity Plan Templates. Provided to assist the public.

#### **Section IV, Standards and Specifications**

***Policy reminder.*** Practice standards in effect at the time the client makes a decision regarding a course of action (NRCS planning process, step 7) may be used for practice implementation unless public health, safety or welfare is adversely affected; however, NRCS will encourage the use of the current standard unless there are compelling reasons to utilize the former (GM-450-401).

[Standards and Specifications Index](#). Revision. A column was added to provide the practice lifespan.

[Channel Bed Stabilization \(584\) Standard](#). Revision.

[Channel Bed Stabilization \(584\) Specification](#). Revision.

[Channel Bed Stabilization \(584\) Statement of Work](#). Revision.

[Channel Bed Stabilization \(584\) Operation and Maintenance Plan](#). Revision.

[Open Channel \(582\) Standard](#). Revision.

[Pond \(378\) Standard](#). Revision.

[Pond \(378\) Statement of Work](#). Revision.

[Pond \(378\) Operation and Maintenance Plan](#). Revision.

[Spring Development \(574\) Standard](#). Revision. Criteria was removed: "A certified wetland determination for Food Security Act purposes is required". Criteria was added: "Complete the Environmental Evaluation (NRCS-CPA-52), wetland worksheet. If wetlands are affected, follow appropriate mitigation measures". This distinction was made by NRCS national headquarters.

[Conservation Practice Lifespan Table](#). Archived. The conservation practice lifespans were merged into the Standard and Specification Index.

[Channel Bed Stabilization \(584\) Standard \(9/11\)](#). Archived.

[Channel Bed Stabilization \(584\) Specification \(9/11\)](#). Archived.

[Channel Bed Stabilization \(584\) Statement of Work \(9/11\)](#). Archived.

[Channel Bed Stabilization \(584\) Operation and Maintenance Plan \(9/11\)](#). Archived.

[Pond \(378\) Standard \(9/11\)](#). Archived.

[Pond \(378\) Statement of Work \(9/11\)](#). Archived.

[Pond \(378\) Operation and Maintenance Plan \(9/11\)](#). Archived.

[Open Channel \(582\) Standard \(8/02\)](#). Archived.

[Spring Development \(574\) Standard \(10/14\)](#). Archived.

This notice and each of the materials referenced can be accessed electronically through the Colorado Field Office Technical Guide at [http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/efotg\\_locator.aspx?Map=CO](http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/efotg_locator.aspx?Map=CO). Materials indicated to be archived will be maintained at the NRCS State office in Denver, Colorado for a period of 10 years or longer as required by policy.

**Contact.** For further information regarding this transmittal, contact Eugene Backhaus, State Resource Conservationist, by telephone 720-544-2868 or by email at [eugene.backhaus@co.usda.gov](mailto:eugene.backhaus@co.usda.gov)

/s/

CLINT EVANS  
State Conservationist

DIST: electronically to all Colorado NRCS employees and affiliates