



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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**COLORADO FIELD OFFICE TECHNICAL GUIDE**  
**TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE 698**

July 05, 2016

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

**Explanation of FOTG Changes:**

**Section I, Reference List, Wetlands**

[Playa Decision Support Tools for Colorado](#). New. Online web application that provides spatial data, maps, and guidance that can inform decisions that may impact playas and their associated wildlife.

**Section I, Reference List, Wildlife**

[CO Honey Bees & Farm Bill Programs, pamphlet](#). New. Honey Bee Habitat, Beekeeping and USDA Farm Bill Conservation Programs.

**Section II, Soils Information, 2. Soil Survey Areas**

[Colorado Soil Survey Areas](#). New.

**Section II, Special Environmental Concerns, T&E**

[Protected Species Record Search](#). Revised. Updated to include listing revisions.

- Change: Designation of Critical Habitat for the New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse.

**Section II, NRCS Resource Plans**

[LPCI Investment Strategy 2016-2018](#). New. NRCS remains firmly committed to promoting and delivering long-term conservation of the working grassland ecosystems that the lesser prairie-chicken requires. The USDA yesterday announced the release of this three-year conservation strategy for the species.

**Section III, Legislated Programs, Wetland Conservation Compliance**

[WCC CO-CPA-33, Indirect Vegetation](#). New. New guidance/form to assist with Food Security Act, hydrophytic vegetation determinations.

[WCC Job Approval Authority](#). Revised. The roster includes new team members with job approval authority for completing Food Security Act, Wetland Conservation Compliance (WCC) annual compliance reviews.

**CONT.**

#### **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).

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

CO-CP33, Whistle Count Form. Archive.

CO-ECS-14, Wetland Id Record. Archive.

#### **Section V, Conservation Practice Physical Effects (CPPE)**

CPPE Guidance. New. Conservation Practice Physical Effects (CPPE) Guidance Document.

CPPE CO FY16. New. Conservation Practice Physical Effects (CPPE) for Colorado in FY16.

CPPE CO FY16 Air Quality Degradation. New.

CPPE CO FY16 Degraded Plant Condition. New.

CPPE CO FY16 Excess/Insufficient Water. New.

CPPE CO FY16 Fish & Wildlife Habitat. New.

CPPE CO FY16 Inefficient Energy Use. New.

CPPE CO FY16 Livestock Production Limitations. New.

CPPE CO FY16 Soil Erosion. New.

CPPE CO FY16 Soil Quality Degradation. New.

CPPE CO FY16 Water Quality.

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

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