

United States Department of Agriculture



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FIELD OFFICE TECHNICAL GUIDE

CHANGE NOTICE 122

Purpose. To transmit technical documents to be inserted into the local FOTG.

Effective. This notice is effective when received.

The enclosed materials shall be filed in the appropriate section of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) in accordance to these filing instructions. Electronic copies of these materials may be found in the eFOTG located at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/>.

SECTION I

NRCS Administrative Areas & Field Service Centers Florida – This map has been revised to reflect current information associated with office locations etc.

Federal, State & Local Table of Contents – This table has been revised to include newly prepared information.

Florida Wetland Mapping Conventions and Procedures (REMOVED) - National Bulletin 180.8.2 and subsequent guidance direct NRCS to use Wetland Mapping Conventions as a guide for use only when making offsite wetland determinations on agricultural lands where the natural vegetation has been removed. In other words, a state should have Mapping Conventions only if it decides that available offsite tools are of sufficient quality to make a determination of ineligibility on these lands without an onsite delineation. NRCS Florida has determined that certified wetland determinations require onsite delineations; thus Wetland Mapping Conventions are not appropriate in Florida. The current document in the FOTG entitled State Mapping Conventions may continue to be used as guidance for analyzing remote and onsite conditions and assigning wetland labels; however, in accordance with National Bulletin 180.8.2 it has been removed from the eFOTG.

Wetland Functional Assessment – This information has been revised to reflect current agency policy.

Uniform Mitigation Assessment Method (UMAM) – This wetland functional assessment method, including the field data forms, was revised by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection on September 12, 2007. A summary of the revisions may be found at <https://www.flrules.org/> by entering Notice ID 4167234. Because not all parts of the UMAM are applicable to NRCS use, the version used by NRCS contains modifications as noted on the document. Because there are relatively few NRCS Florida staff trained in the use of UMAM, the UMAM will no longer be kept in the FOTG, but will continue to be located in the eFOTG for certified users of this wetland assessment tool.

Filing Instructions

<u>Remove and Archive</u>	<u>Insert</u>
USDA Service Centers – Map, Federal Page 2, September 2006.	NRCS Administrative Areas & Field Service Centers Florida – Map, Federal Page 2, November 2007.
Federal, State & Local Table of Contents , page i – ii, July 2006.	Federal, State & Local Table of Contents, page i – ii, December 2007.
Florida Wetland Mapping Conventions and Procedures, Pages 1 – 17, March 2004.	----
Wetland Functional Assessment, page 1 of 1, October 2005.	Wetland Functional Assessment , 1 of 1, October 2007.
Uniform Mitigation Assessment Method (UMAM), Pages 1 -20, Layout Revised by FL NRCS.	----

SECTION II

State and Federally Listed Species for FL & Associated Habitat – This list of protected plant and animal species has been revised for field office use. Please note that individual county lists are also being provided and need to be maintained within this section.

Endangered and Threatened Mussels in the Apalachicola – Chattahoochee – Flint Basins – Information is being provided to Area I & Columbia, Union, Bradford, and Alachua counties in Area 2 **ONLY**. Please note that these mussel species has recently received Critical Habitat Designation by the Secretary of the Interior.

Filing Instructions

<u>Remove and Archive</u>	<u>Insert</u>
State and Federally Listed Species for FL & Associated Habitats – pages 1 – 11, December 2006.	State and Federally Listed Species for FL & Associated Habitats – pages 1 – 11, December 2007.
----	Endangered and Threatened Mussels in the Apalachicola – Chattahoochee – Flint Basins, page 1 of 1, double sided, USFWS Release, behind the county specific list.

SECTION IV

Table of Contents – This table has been revised to include new information provided.

Field Border (Code 386) – New criteria under the General Criteria Applicable to all Purposes has been added. New water quality criteria under Additional Criteria to Protect Soil and Water Quality and additional items under Operation and Maintenance has also been included.

Field Border Job Sheet (386JS) – The Job Sheet for this practice has been revised and new layout in the information provided has been changed to ensure users can distinguish this document from the practice standard.

Steam Habitat Improvement and Management (Code 395) - This conservation practice has been updated to include current information and technology.

Filing Instructions

<u>Remove and Archive</u>	<u>Insert</u>
Table of Contents, pages 1 -7, October 2007.	Table of Contents, pages 1 – 7, December 2007.
Field Border (Code 386), March 2004.	Field Border (Code 386), December 2007.
Field Border Job Sheet (386JS), January 2000.	Field Border Job Sheet (386JS) December 2007 directly behind the conservation practice standard.
Steam Habitat Improvement and Management (Code 395), July 2006.	Steam Habitat Improvement and Management (Code 395), December 2007.

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State Resource Conservationist

DIST: AO, FO, ENG, PMC