



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
300 Ala Moana Boulevard, RM 4-118  
Honolulu, HI 96850

Date: May 23, 2011

**Pacific Islands Area FOTG Notice PI-35**

**SUBJECT: SECTION IV – DOCUMENTS FOR TEN PRACTICES**

This Notice releases Section IV documents for the following updated conservation practices:

1. Composting Facility (317)
2. Conservation Cover (327)
3. Cover Crop (340)
4. Critical Area Planting (342)
5. Dam (402)
6. Hillside Ditch (423)
7. Irrigation Reservoir (436)
8. Roof Runoff Structure (558)
9. Sediment Basin (350)
10. Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)

**Instructions.**

Please refer to the following table for a description of the specific documents released. The documents have been posted to Pacific Islands Area eFOTG and are available for viewing and printing online at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/index.html>.

**Contact.**

- 327, 340, and 342 documents: contact Adam Reed, State Water Quality Specialist, at (808) 541-2600 ext. 134 or [Adam.Reed@hi.usda.gov](mailto:Adam.Reed@hi.usda.gov)
- 317, 402, 423, 436, 558, 350, and 638 documents: contact David Fischer, State Resource Engineer, at (808) 322-2484 ext. 105 or [David.Fischer@hi.usda.gov](mailto:David.Fischer@hi.usda.gov).
- This notice, contact Kara Nelson, Resource Conservationist, at (808) 541-2600 ext. 121 or [kara.nelson@hi.usda.gov](mailto:kara.nelson@hi.usda.gov).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lawrence T. Yamamoto".

LAWRENCE T. YAMAMOTO  
Director  
Pacific Islands Area

Distribution: AE (All Employees)

The following is a description of the documents released and changes made to eFOTG:

Document	Description
PI FOTG Notice PI-35	New PI Notice.
PI Register of FOTG Notices	Revised PI Register.
Section IV Table of Contents	Revised Section IV Table of Contents.
Section IV – Index of Standards and Specifications	Revised Index.
<b>Composting Facility</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard</li> <li>• Specification</li> <li>• Statement of Work</li> <li>• Operation and Maintenance</li> </ul>	<p><b>Composting Facility (317)</b> – A structure or device to contain and facilitate the controlled aerobic decomposition of manure or other organic material by micro-organisms into a biologically stable organic material that is suitable for use as a soil amendment.</p> <p>This standard was formally reviewed and updated to include public comments received through the <i>Federal Register</i> review process. An additional purpose for organic matter was added, based on comments received from specialty groups. Design criteria for composting facility roofs were changed, based on the revision of practice code 367 – Roofs and Covers.</p>
<b>Conservation Cover</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard</li> <li>• Statement of Work</li> <li>• BLANK Jobsheet</li> <li>• EXAMPLE Jobsheet</li> </ul>	<p><b>Conservation Cover (327)</b> – Establishing and maintaining permanent vegetative cover.</p> <p>This standard was formally reviewed and updated to include public comments received through the <i>Federal Register</i> review process. The code added pollinator habitat to the purpose of wildlife habitat, and added considerations for lighter seeding rates when wildlife and/or pollinators are a primary purpose.</p>
<b>Cover Crop</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard</li> <li>• Statement of Work</li> <li>• BLANK Jobsheet</li> <li>• EXAMPLE Jobsheet</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cover Crop (340)</b> – Crops including grasses, legumes and forbs for seasonal cover and other conservation purposes.</p> <p>This standard was formally reviewed and updated to include public comments received through the <i>Federal Register</i> review process. The standard was revised by adding three additional considerations to address the use of cover crops to break pest cycles, recycle nutrients, and recommend the use of mixtures to support pollinator habitat.</p>
<b>Critical Area Planting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard</li> <li>• Statement of Work</li> <li>• BLANK Jobsheet</li> <li>• EXAMPLE Jobsheet</li> </ul>	<p><b>Critical Area Planting (342)</b> – Establishing permanent vegetation on sites that have, or are expected to have, high erosion rates, and on sites that have physical, chemical or biological conditions that prevent the establishment of vegetation with normal practices.</p> <p>This standard was formally reviewed and updated to include public comments received through the <i>Federal Register</i> review process. The practice was revised to include a purpose to stabilize stream and channel banks and shorelines, and provided additional criteria to establish cover on the stream banks and shorelines. In addition, seeding and planting considerations were added to address pollinators and wildlife.</p>

Document	Description
<p><b>Dam</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Specification</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Dam (402)</b> –The standard was not up for revision, but the PIA engineering staff determined that there should be a specification for this practice.</p>
<p><b>Hillside Ditch</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Standard</b></li> <li>• <b>Specification</b></li> <li>• <b>Statement of Work</b></li> <li>• <b>Operation and Maintenance</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Hillside Ditch (423)</b> – A channel that has a supporting ridge on the lower side, constructed across the slope at defined gradient and horizontal or vertical interval, with or without a vegetative barrier.</p> <p>Clarification was added to the section, "Condition Where Practice Applies," to clearly state that the standard was not for use to protect buildings, roads, or other improvements. The Criteria section was changed to align design requirements with similar approaches in other standards. Ditch capacity requirements are now based on a storm-runoff peak flow, rather than the current criteria used that based design on a minimum cross sectional area. A maximum ditch spacing criteria was added.</p>
<p><b>Irrigation Reservoir</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Standard</b></li> <li>• <b>Specification</b></li> <li>• <b>Statement of Work</b></li> <li>• <b>Operation and Maintenance</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Irrigation Reservoir (436)</b> – An irrigation water storage structure made by constructing a dam, embankment, pit, or tank.</p> <p>The titles were changed and standards combined for "Irrigation Regulating Reservoir" (552) and "Irrigation Storage Reservoir" (436). Considerations were expanded and References added.</p>
<p><b>Roof Runoff Structure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Standard</b></li> <li>• <b>Specification</b></li> <li>• <b>Statement of Work</b></li> <li>• <b>Operation and Maintenance</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Roof Runoff Structure (558)</b> – Structures that collect, control, and transport precipitation from roofs.</p> <p>No significant changes are proposed to this practice standard. NRCS reviews standards periodically to ensure they are still current; this was the situation for this standard.</p>
<p><b>Sediment Basin</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Standard</b></li> <li>• <b>Specification</b></li> <li>• <b>Statement of Work</b></li> <li>• <b>Operation and Maintenance</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Sediment Basin (350)</b> – A basin constructed with an engineered outlet, formed by an embankment or excavation or a combination of the two.</p> <p>The definition changed to better define the type of basin; the purpose changed to reflect the sediment capturing function of the basin; conditions where practice applies changed to define land uses where the practice applies and the physical conditions where the practice is applicable, which are the same as Pond (Code 378); criteria were added for location, basin capacity, spillway design, basin shape, embankment and side slopes, vegetation, and safety while a drawing was added to better define the storage capacities; considerations were added related to improved functioning of the basin, visual concerns, and safety and wildlife habitat; minimum requirements for plan and specification content were added; minimum requirements for O&amp;M plans were added; and additional references were added.</p>

Document	Description
<p><b>Water and Sediment Control Basin</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Standard</b></li> <li>• <b>Specification</b></li> <li>• <b>Statement of Work</b></li> <li>• <b>Operation and Maintenance</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)</b> – An earth embankment or a combination ridge and channel constructed across the slope of minor watercourses to form a sediment trap and water detention basin with a stable outlet.</p> <p>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.</p>