



Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278

November 12, 2013

INDIANA FIELD OFFICE TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE IN-214

This notice transmits changes to the Indiana Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) as described below.

1. The following new standard(s) or documents have been added to Section IV of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) with the following significant changes.
 - a. **340 – Cover Crop Termination Guidelines – Non-Irrigated Cropland (June 2013 - national)**
Significant Changes: new national requirement to post with the 340 Cover Crop standard related to the national NRCS/Risk Management Agency guidelines for the timing of cover crop termination.
 - b. **735 – Waste Gasification Facility (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: new interim standard for Indiana to use in Energy conservation and initiatives.

The Toolkit domain data will need updated to use these new FOTG codes.

2. The following revised standard(s) have been added to Section IV of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) with the following significant changes.
 - a. **584 - Channel Bed Stabilization (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Name = changed from “Stream Channel Stabilization”; Definition = definition broadened to include measures other than structures; Purposes = brand new and expanded purposes; Criteria = minor additions based on expanded definition and purposes.
 - b. **328 – Conservation Crop Rotation (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Criteria = refers to the Agronomy Technical Note: *Crop Rotations for Soil Quality and Soil Health* for species-specific details and other criteria for meeting the additional soil quality criteria.
 - c. **340 – Cover Crop (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Criteria = refers to the national *Cover Crop Termination Guidelines- Non-Irrigated Cropland* Technical Note.

- d. **747 – De-Nitrifying Bioreactor (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Criteria = minimum design capacity lowered to 15% of peak flow; lining must be plastic; bioreactor material may be mounded in certain situations instead of underground; bioreactors may be driven over if suitable cover is provided; monitoring is no longer required in O & M.
- e. **382 – Fence (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Criteria = the Fence Tool is referenced for the specifications and has been updated (previously the Fence Engineering Design Spreadsheet is now located with the standard in section IV of the FOTG); existing fence corners, braces, etc. that are of sufficient quality are acceptable to use as is, but used materials are not suitable for new fence components.
- f. **511 – Forage Harvest Management (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Purposes = removed “Maintain stand life”; Criteria = added additional criteria when wildlife habitat is a purpose.
- g. **412 – Grassed Waterway (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Criteria = Legumes will be required with grass to meet the fertility requirements in the Seeding Guidelines; typical seeding tables removed as seeding specifications refer to (342) Critical Area Planting through the Seeding Calculator; the seeding information in the Waterway Design Spreadsheet is updated accordingly;
- h. **516 – Livestock Pipeline (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Name = changed from “Pipeline”; Criteria = capacity must accommodate livestock and/or wildlife needs depending on purpose; criteria for irrigation pipeline are now found in 430 – Irrigation Pipeline.
- i. **590 – Nutrient Management (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Criteria = No applications of P on frozen/snow covered/saturated soils or in floodplains prior to the expected time of flooding; adaptive management is an acceptable method; single applications of manure that are N based are limited to certain sites and conditions.
- j. **(590) – Indiana Nutrient and Sediment Transport Risk Assessment Tool (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Replaces the previous Offsite Risk Index; updated Soil Data Mart references to the Web Soil Survey; updated references to outdated standards; updated references to new resource concerns.

- k. **378 - Pond (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Criteria = contaminated runoff must be diverted so as not to flow into ponds for all purposes.
 - l. **521A - Pond Sealing or Lining, Flexible Membrane (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Purposes = added the terms “restrict” and “impede” along with the current “control”; Criteria = significant additions to criteria (too numerous to list).
 - m. **533 – Pumping Plant (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Minor.
 - n. **390 – Riparian Herbaceous Cover (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Purposes = added more habitat functions, and pollinator habitat.
 - o. **390 – Riparian Herbaceous Cover - Statement of Work (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Minor.
 - p. **646 - Shallow Water Development and Management (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Minor.
 - q. **442 – Sprinkler System (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Name = changed from “Irrigation System Sprinkler”; Conditions = nozzle replacement needs are a specific condition.
 - r. **568 – Trails and Walkways (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Name = changed from “Recreational Trails and Walkways”; Criteria = added more details to the criteria, and reference to “NRCS Trails and Walkways Design Aid”.
 - s. **632 – Waste Separation Facility (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: Name = changed from “Solid/Liquid Waste Separation Facility”.
3. The following Tools have been updated/added to Section IV of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) with the following significant changes.
- a. **Indiana Seeding Tool - Seeding Calculator (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: allows for multiple soil drainage classes to select species suitable to both; separated out cover crops; requ.
 - b. **Indiana Seeding Tool – Cover Crop Seeding Calculator (October 2013)**
Significant Changes: new; allows for multiple soil drainage classes to select species suitable to both; separated out cover crops; documents plants/ft²; documents carbon:nitrogen ratio; allows for

up to 10 cover crop species; incorporates cover crop attributes (from the Midwest Cover Crops Council tool).

c. *Indiana Seeding Tool – Seeding Guidelines (October 2013)*

Significant Changes: Planned seeding dates for annuals/cover crops expanded; fertility for critical areas (including grassed waterways) updated with an emphasis on less up-front fertility, the requirement of a legume in the initial seeding, and follow-up application as needed to minimize water quality impacts during initial construction.

4. The following Technical Notes have been added to Section I of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) in the ‘Technical Notes’ folder:

a. *Agronomy Technical Note: Cover Crop Seeding Methods (October 2013)* = Minor

b. *Agronomy Technical Note: Crop Rotations for Soil Quality and Soil Health (October 2013)* = New

c. *Agronomy Technical Note: Entry Phase No-Till (October 2013)* = Minor

d. *Agronomy Technical Note: N Management in No-Till (October 2013)* = Minor

e. *Agronomy Technical Note: No-Till Planter Set Up (October 2013)* = Minor

f. *Agronomy Technical Note: Phosphorus Management in Conservation Cropping Systems (October 2013)* = Minor

g. *Agronomy Technical Note: Guidelines for Herbaceous Stand Evaluation (October 2013)* = Added plants/ft² for annuals (cover crops).

h. *Agronomy Technical Note: Top 15 Basics of No-Till (October 2013)* = Minor

5. The following Fact Sheets have been added to Section I of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) in the ‘Resource Fact Sheets’ folder:

a. *Biology Fact Sheet – Guidelines for Use of Snake-Friendly Erosion Control Blankets (October 2013)* = New

6. The following have been added to Section III of the Field Office Technical Guide in the ‘Resource Concerns, Land Uses, and Planning Criteria’ folder. These items take effect in fiscal year 2014 and will be integrated into planning and contracting tools. Documents include:

a. *National Resource Concerns* (list of the 31, with 44 components).

b. *Resource Concerns National Definitions*

- c. *National Land Use Designations and Modifiers* – definitions
- d. *Circular 180-14-1, ECS – Implementation of New Land Use Designations and Modifiers*
- e. National-Level *Resource Concerns and Planning Criteria for Conservation Planning* (as required by National Bulletin 450-13-2).
 - i. Indiana-specific planning criteria will be issued under separate Indiana bulletin and subsequently posted to Section III of the FOTG in the near future.

New and revised standards may be downloaded from the Indiana NRCS FOTG web page: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/FOTG/>. Standards are all located in Section IV along with their respective Job Sheets and other information.

If you need more information please contact Shannon Zezula at 317-295-5888.

/s/

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