



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
P.O. Box 1458  
Bismarck, ND 58502-1458

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August 16, 2013

## TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE ND-142

### Section I and II

The Windbreak Suitability Groups (WSG's) have been revised and renamed as Conservation Tree and Shrub Groups (CTSGs). The major change is the addition of CTSG category 1S, which includes all high water table sands, allowing the establishment of all climatically suited species with an initial year or two of supplemental water.

CTSG reports from Web Soil Survey Soil Interpretive Tables are currently available to counties east and north of the Missouri River in ND. In the near future, CTSG data will be available statewide. Until further notice, field offices should continue to use the Soil Interpretive Tables located in FOTG - Section II – Soil Information – within the respective county subfolder to determine the CTSG (WSG for west river counties) for each soil component. The CTSGs include 123 new soil component names, primarily due to Major Land Resource Areas (MLRAs) shared with adjacent states.

The document titled *Expected 20-Year Tree Heights and Windbreak Suitability Group Descriptions* is outdated and has been replaced by *Expected 20-Year Tree Heights by Conservation Tree and Shrub Groups*. Please note: The CTSGs include correction/reclassification of some WSG soil component rankings, based on additional field data.

The document titled *Summary of Changes from Windbreak Suitability Groups (WSG) to Conservation Tree and Shrub Groups (CTSG) – August 2013*, is new. Both documents have been posted to:

FOTG – Section I – Reference Subjects – Windbreaks and Woodlands, **and**  
FOTG – Section II – Windbreaks and Forest.

Question regarding these documents may be directed to Craig Stange, Forester, at 701-250-4330 Extension #2 (PMC) or 701-530-2082 (State Office) or [craig.stange@nd.usda.gov](mailto:craig.stange@nd.usda.gov).

/s/

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Distribution: All FOTG Holders

