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November 30, 2011

NEBRASKA TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE (NETGN) NOTICE NE-634

This notice transmits updates to Section IV – Practice Standards and Specifications in the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG).

We are adding the National Conservation Practice Standards that are used by Programs (CSP, EQIP, etc) in Nebraska. Policy requires that Nebraska must have the conservation practice standard developed by the state and as a minimum, all National practice standards adopted for use in Nebraska will contain the name or abbreviation of the State in the footer of the standard.

If you have any questions, please contact Catherine-Jo W Mills, State Conservation Planning Specialist, at (402) 437-4139 or by e-mail at: catherine.mills@ne.usda.gov.

SECTION IV

- **SECTION IV INDEX**
- **STANDARDS:**

Alley Cropping (Code 311) – Adopted national standard format issued in 2001.

Monitoring Well (Code 353) – Adopted new national standard format issued in 2010. This national standard was formally reviewed and updated to include public comments received through the Federal Register review process. References to American Society Materials standards were updated, and minor edits were made.

Well Water Testing (Code 355) – Adopted new national standard format issued in 2010. This national standard was formally reviewed and updated to include public comments received through the Federal Register review process. The “Conditions Where Practice Applies” section was updated to exclude water wells not for agricultural use, and minor edits were made.

Combustion System Improvement (Code 372) – This is a new standard to improve the air quality and energy efficiency of agricultural combustion systems. Adopted new national standard issued in 2010.

Woody Residue Treatment (Code 384) – Adopted new national standard format issued in 2011. The title was changed from “Forest Slash Treatment”. A new Purpose of “Develop Renewable Energy Systems” and accompanying additional Criteria was added. This standard was formally reviewed and updated to include public comments received through the *Federal Register* review process. The term “pollinator” was added to general criteria and to the wildlife planning considerations. Practice standards referenced in the standard were updated to reflect

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their new names (e.g., “Access Control and Integrated Pest Management”). A slash treatment reference from Northern Arizona University was also added.

Fish Raceway or Tank (Code 398) – Adopted new national standard format issued in 2009.

Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (Code 490) – Adopted national standard format issued in 2006.

Drainage Water Management (Code 554) – Adopted national standard format issued in 2008.

Stormwater Runoff Control (Code 570) – Adopted new national standard format issued in 2010. This national standard was formally reviewed and updated to include public comments received through the Federal Register review process. The title was changed from Runoff Management System. The definition was changed to reflect the new title and the broader scope of the practice. The purpose was rewritten to include erosion and sedimentation, water quality, and water quantity.

Spoil Spreading (Code 572) – Adopted national standard format issued in 2010. The criteria was edited and a section specifically for spreading of spoil along channels was added; consideration was added for evaluating channels capacity; minimum requirements for plan and specification content were added; minimum requirements for O&M plans were added; and references were added.

Animal Trails and Walkways (Code 575) – Adopted national standard format issued in 2010. Revisions are limited but include greater emphasis of potential impacts to water courses and other environmental and cultural resources.

Vegetation Barrier (Code 601) – Adopted national standard format issued in 2010. The primary revision included the addition to use the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation, Version 2 for the design and spacing of the vegetative barriers. Other revisions included edits to improve clarity.

Waste Treatment (629) – Adopted national standard format issued in 2009.

Vertical Drain (630) – Adopted national standard format issued in 2010. This national standard was formally reviewed and updated to include public comments received through the Federal Register review process. Additional emphasis was placed on water quality protection if practice is used.

Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment (654) – Adopted national standard format issued in 2008.

Constructed Wetlands (656) – Adopted national standard format issued in 2010.

/s/ Craig Derickson

CRAIG DERICKSON
State Conservationist

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