



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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February 7, 2013

**NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE TECHNICAL GUIDE  
TRANSMITTAL NOTICE NO. 54**

**SUBJECT:** ECS – Section IV, Lesser Prairie-Chicken Conference Report, Amendment 1

*Affected Geographic Area:* Quay, Curry, Roosevelt, De Baca, Lea, Chaves, and Eddy Counties

Purpose: To relay a regionally issued amendment to the Conference Report.

Effective Date: This notice is effective when received.

Summary: On January 31, 2012 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service accepted NRCS' request to include conservation practice Tree/Shrub Establishment (code 612) into the conference report. Provided below is a summary:

**Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)**

*This practice may be used to establish native shrubs beneficial to the lesser prairie-chicken; as consistent with the Ecological Site Description and species needs.*

**Highlights**

- Tree planting is not authorized under a LPCI or WLFW contract; however, tree planting is now covered by the conference report, and may occur within the LEPC Action Area, when the conservation measures are followed.
- Shrub planting is now authorized to be used under a LPCI or WLFW contract, when the practice application criteria and conservation measures are followed.
- Biologist Coordination and Approval. Within the LEPC Action Area, all practice 612 plantings shall be completed in coordination with the local biologist (FWS, NRCS, Joint Farm Bill Biologists, or NMDGF) who will sign off on the planting as either providing LEPC habitat (LPCI/WLFW requirement) or not negatively impacting LEPCs. These are to be conducted on a case-by-case basis.

File Location: The conservation measures will be located in NM Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG), Section IV - Practice Standards and Specifications, and in NM FOTG Section I - Biology Technical Note No. 60 - Lesser Prairie-Chicken Conference Report.

If you have any questions, please contact Chanda Pettie, State Biologist, at (505)761-4432.

GEORGE CHAVEZ

State Resource Conservationist

Attachments:

LPC\_CR\_Amendment\_Signed\_02-2013

LPC CR Conservation Measures 2-2013