



July 29, 2003

FIELD OFFICE TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE OK450-161

SUBJECT: To distribute a revised Section I, References List and Index, Erosion Prediction Index, and a new Wind Erosion Equation (WEQ Management Period Method) instruction sheet and WEQ computer program for use in Oklahoma field offices.

Effective Date: Effective when received.

Explanation of Changes: The Section I Reference List and Index have been revised to reflect the addition of the WEQ computer program template to the list.

NRCS has been nationally committed to converting to the WEQ Management Period Method of estimating soil erosion by wind since the late 1980s. However, many states have been reluctant to make the change to this method because it requires a number of mathematical calculations to derive a result. A computer program has been needed to make the calculations. The Wind Erosion Research Unit at Kansas State University has been working on the Wind Erosion Prediction System (WEPS) computer program for that purpose. It will be based solely on the WEQ Management Period Method. Since the WEPS program is still under development, a WEQ Excel program has been created to provide an interim computer based model to calculate soil erosion using the management period method until the WEPS computer model is completed.

Effective **October 1, 2003**, all field offices in Oklahoma will use the WEQ Management Period Method of estimating soil loss by wind in conservation planning. The WEQ Excel computer program, WEQvs8.02, will be stored electronically on the eFOTG website. All offices need to download the WEQ computer program from the eFOTG website.

Resource Specialists in each Zone have received training with the new WEQ Excel computer program, and will schedule sessions for employees needing training on the program.

Filing Instructions.

| <u>Remove</u> | <u>Insert</u> |
|---|---|
| Section I, Reference List Index and Oklahoma Reference List dated 02/03 | Section I, Reference List Index and Oklahoma Reference list dated 07/03 |
| Section I, Erosion Prediction Index dated 04/02 | Section I, Erosion Prediction Index dated 07/03 |
| | Wind Erosion Equation (Management Period Method) dated 07/03 |

/s/ Kevin Norton acting for

M. DARREL DOMINICK
State Conservationist

Enclosures

DIST: AO