



April 25, 2016

TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE NUMBER 228

Purpose

This notice transmits updates to the FOTG – Field Office Technical Guide for Conservation Practices:

- Section IV- Standard PA561, *Heavy Use Area Protection* and PA528, *Prescribed Grazing*
- Section III - *Contingency Statement Worksheet*

Effective Date

This notice is effective immediately.

Explanation of Changes

PA561, *Heavy Use Area Protection Standard, Statement of Work, Design and Check Data Requirements, Construction Specification, and Instruction for Use of Specification* have been updated. Key changes are listed below.

- The sections labeled “**Additional Criteria for Livestock Areas**” and “Unpaved Surface Treatment Areas” have been removed. These have been combined and included into PA528, *Prescribed Grazing*, under a new section “**Criteria for Temporary Earthen Livestock Heavy Use Areas**”.
- Section “Equine Drylots used for Turnout and Exercise” has been renamed “**Additional Criteria for Equine Heavy Use Areas.**” Changes include a reduced vegetated buffer length with criteria for a minimum.
- A new section called “**Offsite Runoff Control**” was added.

PA528, *Prescribed Grazing Standard and Statement of Work* have been updated. Key changes are listed below.

- Under CRITERIA, a new section “**Criteria for Temporary Earthen Livestock Heavy Use Areas**” has been added. The criteria is similar to that which was under the “Unpaved Surface Treatment Areas” found in the previous version of PA561, *Heavy Use Area Protection*.
- Additional wording was added to the CONSIDERATIONS section dealing with Sacrifice Areas, Contingency Statements and developing a prescribed grazing plan with the use of a Pasture Condition Scoring (PCS) guide.

PA528 *Contingency Worksheet*, which can be used when planning for seasonal conditions or soil limitations on pasture areas, has been added to Section III.



United States Department of Agriculture

Access Instructions

These revised standards and associated items along with all of the other standards can be accessed at the following website: <http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/>

You may access Section III Table of Contents directly at the following web address:

<http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/toc.aspx?CatID=12477>

You may also access Section IV Table of Contents directly at the following web address:

<http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/toc.aspx?CatID=12487>

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