United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS

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SOUTH CAROLINA TECHNICAL GUIDE
NOTICE 332

File Code: TCH 450

SUBJECT: Release of an updated version of the South Carolina Technical Guide Notice.

Purpose: This notice transmits revisions posted in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG).

Effective Date: This notice is effective when received.

Instruction: "Reload Domain Data" which is located under "file" on the main toolbar in Customer Service Toolkit, on all computers. Reloading Domain data will insure the Toolkit user has updated practices and narratives from Conservation Practice Standards.

Section I

South Carolina Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species Inventory Link
Located in Threatened and Endangered Species Folder

South Carolina Routine Minimal Effect Procedure dated September 2011
Located in Reference List Folder in Wetland Determination Forms Folder

CRP Addendum to SC Standard 391A Riparian Forest Buffer dated February 2011
Located in Conservation Programs Folder in CRP Folder

Section II

Cultural Resources Undertaking List
Located in Cultural Resources Information Folder in Cultural Resources Forms, Directions, and Undertakings List Folder

Section III

FY 2011 & 2012 CAPS

- Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (Code 102)
- Nutrient Management Plan (Code 104)
- Forest Management Plan (Code 106)
- Integrated Pest Management Plan (Code 114)

- Irrigation Water Management Plan (Code 118)
- Agricultural Energy Management Plan-Headquarters (Code 122)
- Agricultural Energy Management Plan-Landscape (Code 124)
- Drainage Water Management Plan (Code 130)
- Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition (Code 138)
  Located in CAP Technical Criteria Folder

SC Quality Criteria for Resource Management Systems
Located in Resource Management System Quality Criteria

Section IV

Conservation Practice Standards:

Alley Cropping (Code 311) – A new Purpose of "Develop Renewable Energy Systems" with accompanying additional Criteria was added.

Conservation Crop Rotation (Code 328) – Two new Purposes of "Reduce Energy Use" and accompanying Criteria were added to (1) Supply plant produced nitrogen to reduce energy use and (2) Manage crop consumptive use of water to conserve water and reduce energy. Where the practice applies was clarified for time basis for annual produced crops. Additional Criteria were added to Improve Soil Quality. The crops grown shall produce a positive OM (Organic Matter) sub factor value over the life of the rotation, as determined by the Soil Conditioning Index procedure, with appropriate adjustments for additions to or subtractions from biomass on the field. This addresses the problem in low rainfall areas where producers could not plan a rotation with multiple other purposes and benefits because they are unable to achieve a positive OM sub factor.

Cover Crop (Code 340) – The purpose to produce supplemental forage was removed. A Purpose and accompanying Criteria were added to promote biological nitrogen fixation and "Reduce Energy Use" by using legume cover crops. Additional Operation and Maintenance criteria were added to evaluate the onsite application of the practice to ensure the planned purposes are achieved.

Dam (Code 402) – A new Purpose of "Develop Renewable Energy Systems" with accompanying additional Criteria was added.

Dam, Diversion (Code 348) – A new Purpose of "Develop Renewable Energy Systems" with accompanying additional Criteria was added.

Early Successional Habitat Development/Management (Code 647) - Modified the considerations and plans and specifications.

Farmstead Energy Improvement (Code 374) – The title was changed from "On-Farm Equipment Efficiency Improvements" to "Farmstead Energy Improvement." The Definition was changed. A new Purpose of "Reduce Energy Use" with accompanying Criteria was added. Technologies with corresponding industry standards were added to the Criteria section.

Fence (Code 382) – This standard has not been updated. The specifications changed to remove "New" Materials.

Forage and Biomass Planting (Code 512) – The title was changed from "Pasture and Hayland Planting" to "Forage and Biomass Planting."

Forest Stand Improvement (Code 666) – A new Purpose of "Develop Renewable Energy Systems" with accompanying additional Criteria was added.

Heavy Use Area Protection (Code 561) – Criteria for the "minimum design load for areas that support vehicular traffic will be a wheel load of 4,000 lbs." was added. Also, a Consideration was added to address considering cultural resources when installing this practice.

Irrigation Ditch Lining (Code 428) – A new Purpose of "Reduce Energy Use" with accompanying Criteria was added.

Irrigation Pipeline (Code 430) – New Purposes of "Reduce Energy Use" and "Develop Renewable Energy Systems" along with accompanying Criteria and Reference were added.

Irrigation Reservoir (Code 436) – New Purposes of "Reduce Energy Use" and "Develop Renewable Energy Systems" along with accompanying Criteria and Reference were added.

Irrigation System, Microirrigation (Code 441) – The Unit was changed from (No. & Ac.) to (Ac.). A new Purpose of "Reduce Energy Use" and accompanying Criteria were added. The filter permissible design head loss was changed, and a requirement for an Irrigation Water Management Plan was added.

Irrigation System, Sprinkler (Code 442) – A new Purpose of "Reduce Energy Use" and accompanying Criteria and Reference were added.

Irrigation System, Surface and Subsurface (Code 443) – A new Purpose of "Reduce Energy Use" and accompanying Criteria was added.

Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery (Code 447) – A new Purpose of "Reduce Energy Use" and accompanying additional Criteria was added.

Livestock Shade Structure (Code 717) – Reactivated this standard in South Carolina. Criteria were modified so that commercially available structures may be used in implementing the practice.

Pipeline (Code 516) – New Purposes of "Reduce Energy Use" and "Develop Renewable Energy Systems" along with accompanying Criteria and Reference were added.

Pond (Code 378) – A new Purpose of "Develop Renewable Energy Systems" and accompanying additional Criteria was added.

Pumping Plant (Code 533) – A new Purpose of "Reduce Energy Use" and accompanying additional Criteria was added. The Criteria Applicable to All Purposes was augmented for renewable power units and Additional Criteria Applicable to the Improvement of Energy Efficiency was removed.

Residue and Tillage Management, Mulch Till (Code 345) – A new Purpose of "Reduce Energy Use" and accompanying additional Criteria was added. The revision combined Additional Criteria for wind and water erosion into one set of criteria. Criteria were added to the Operation and Maintenance section of the practice to evaluate on-site performance of the practice. This will help to determine if the purpose(s) are being achieved.

Residue and Tillage Management No Till/Strip Till/Direct Seed (Code 329) – A new Purpose of "Reduce Energy Use" and accompanying additional Criteria was added. Additional Criteria to Reduce Sheet/Rill Erosion; Reduce Wind Erosion; and Reduce Soil Particulate Emissions were combined into one set of criteria. The Operation and Maintenance had additions to evaluate the function of the practice onsite to ensure the purpose(s) is/are achieved.

Residue and Tillage Management, Ridge Till (Code 346) – A new Purpose of "Reduce Energy Use" and accompanying additional Criteria was added. Criteria were added to the Operation and Maintenance section of the standard to evaluate the effectiveness of the practice to achieve the planned Purpose(s).

Residue Management, Seasonal (Code 344) – A new Purpose of "Develop Renewable Energy Systems" and accompanying additional Criteria was added to provide crop residues for bioenergy feedstocks. Then additional criteria to harvest crop residues for bioenergy feedstocks for renewable energy production tied to erosion. Where Practice Applies section was revised to include all cropland where biomass is removed for bioenergy feedstocks. This allows the use of this practice to remove crop residues from other residue management practices without adding specific criteria to each of those practices for biomass removal. Additional Operation and Maintenance criteria were added to evaluate the onsite application of the practice to ensure the planned purposes are achieved.

Restoration and Management of Rare or Declining Habitats (Code 643) – Modified the criteria to reflect adherence to specific SC natural communities.

Solid/Liquid Waste Separation Facility (Code 632) – Adopted National conservation practice standard. Modified criteria to reflect adherence to specific South Carolina regulations

Silvopasture Establishment (Code 381) – A new Purpose of "Develop Renewable Energy Systems" and accompanying additional Criteria was added.

Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (Code 395) – Adopted National conservation practice standard.

Tree/Shrub Establishment (Code 612) – A new Purpose of "Develop Renewable Energy Systems" and accompanying additional Criteria was added.

Waste Recycling (Code 633) – The title was changed from "Waste Utilization" to "Waste Recycling." A new Purpose of "Reduce Energy Use" and accompanying Criteria was added. The application is more focused on processing and recycling agriculture waste material into a valuable by-product.

Water Well (Code 642) – Modified the criteria to reflect adherence to specific SC well regulations.

Watering Facility (Code 614) – Text was added to the Considerations section to include the use of small water troughs if the water supply is adequate and to incorporate the need for considering cultural resources when installing this practice.

Wetland Restoration (Code 657) –Text was added to Criteria to involve planning with the functional assessment

Windbreak/Shelterbelt – Establishment (Code 380) – A new Purpose of "Reduce Energy Use" and accompanying additional Criteria was added.

Woody Residue Treatment (formerly Forest Slash Treatment) (Code 384) – The title was changed from "Forest Slash Treatment" to "Woody Residue Treatment." A new Purpose of "Develop Renewable Energy Systems" and accompanying additional Criteria was added.

Tools: SC Native Seed Mix Calculator and Job sheet

Filing Instructions: The updated standards, statements of work, various job sheets, and operation and maintenance templates have been loaded into Section IV of the Field Office Technical Guide. A copy of this notice can be found in Section I under the folder "FOTG Notices and Updates".

Contact: Stephen Henry, Assistant State Conservation Engineer, (803) 765-5350 or stephen.henry@sc.usda.gov for engineer practices. Contact the Resource Conservation discipline leader for ecological science practices.

A. Eric Fleming	11/10/11	Evelyn C. Whitesides	11/10/11
ERIC FLEMING, P.E.	Date	EVELYN WHITESIDES	Date
State Conservation Engineer		State Resource Conservationist	

Attachments

DIST: All FOTG Holders