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TECH DEV APPL 450-15-ISSUE-387

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**SUBJECT: VIRGINIA FIELD OFFICE TECHNICAL GUIDE – SECTION IV –
Virginia Conservation Practice Standards**

Purpose: To transmit the following Virginia Conservation Practice Standards:

Field Border, Code 386, dated July 2010
Filter Strip, Code 393, dated July 2010
Forest Trails and Landings, Code 655, dated July 2010

Effective Date: Upon receipt.

Filing Instructions: These standards can be accessed electronically in Section IV of the Virginia Electronic Field Office Technical Guide at:
<http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/treemenuFS.aspx>.

If your office maintains a hard copy of the Field Office Technical Guide, please follow these filing instructions:

Replace Field Border, Code 386, dated May 2005 with Field Border, Code 386, dated July 2010.

Replace Filter Strip, Code 393, dated May 2005 with Filter Strip, Code 393, dated July 2010.

Replace Forest Trails and Landings, Code 655, dated May 2007 with Forest Trails and Landings, Code 655, dated July 2010.

Job Sheets and Statements of Work for each of these Practice Standards have been placed in Section IV of the Virginia Electronic Field Office Technical Guide.

The outdated standards will be archived in the archived folder in Section IV of the Virginia Electronic Field Office Technical Guide.

Explanation:

Field Border (Code 386): Changes were made throughout the standard. The condition where the practice applies has been revised to better define the perimeter and field edges where field borders apply. Additional criteria have been added for all purposes to better meet the intended purposes of the practice.

Filter Strip (Code 393): Significant changes have been made to this standard. The Purposes section has been revised, with the number of purposes reduced to three. The purposes for wildlife habitat have been removed as a primary purpose. In the Criteria section, the slope gradient along the leading edge of the filter strip has been revised from a maximum of 1 percent to not exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ of the upland slope immediately adjacent to the filter strip. A new design procedure, outlined in Agronomy Technical Note #2 is now mandated to design filter strips planned for sediment removal. The minimum flow length required for irrigation tail water situations has been increased to 20 feet.

Forest Trails and Landings (Code 655): The changes made to this standard include the addition of an important Criteria on the re-use of trails in future management activities "designated skid trails" and additional clarification of environmental mitigation measures.

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Acting For

Enclosures