



Natural Resources Conservation Service
Vermont State Office
356 Mountain View Drive Suite 105
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TO: All Holders of the Field Office Technical Guide

December 19, 2007

VERMONT TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE NO. 35

PURPOSE: Revisions and Additions to the Field Office Tech Guide

EXPIRATION DATE: Upon Receipt

BACKGROUND:

The following items have been revised or added to the Field Office Tech Guide.

1. **Add** to Section IV-A (Conservation Practices): 647 Early Successional Habitat Management--Shrub and Young Forest Management Jobsheet.
2. **Add** to Section IV-A (Conservation Practices): Engineering Job Sheet for Spring Developments. This Job Sheet can also be found on the Vermont NRCS Website.
3. **Add** to Section I-A-13 (Reference Lists): Biology Tech Note #1, Vernal Pools in Conservation Planning.
4. **Add** to Section IV-A (Conservation Practices): VT Field Border Job Sheet.
5. **Add** to Section IV-A (Conservation Practices): VT Filter Strip Job Sheet.
6. **Add** to Section I-C-3 (Maps): Vermont Biophysical Regions Map.
7. **Update** to Section IV-A (Conservation Practices) – Pest Management Job Sheet (Excel WinPST Workbook). The Users Guide, Pest Management Plan Template and Example PM Plan document have been edited. An example Pest Management Plan for Invasive Species, including plan maps, has been added to this workbook.
8. **Update** to Section IV-E (Tools): Vermont Pasture Score Sheet. Minor modifications were made to this Excel Worksheet to improve functionality.
9. **Add** to Section III-E-1 (VT CNMP Templates) – The Vermont CNMP MSWord templates have been added to the eFOTG. These templates are also available from the VT NRCS Technical Resources Web Page.
10. **Update** Section IV-E (Tools): VT Grazing Plan Excel Worksheet. A “Photos” worksheet has been provided within this workbook. This page is available for you to provide the grazer with clips of digital photographs showing significant issues within the existing or planned grazing area which should be addressed through the implementation of conservation practices.
11. **Update** to Section IV-E (Tools): Vermont Streambank Stabilization and Stream Temperature Assessment Worksheet. This tool has been converted to excel format to enhance usability. In addition, photographic examples of streambank stability conditions have been included.

12. **Add** to Section I-B-2 (Cost Data – Average Cost Tables): Conservation Practice Payment Schedule Scenarios. The payment schedule scenarios were used for development of NRCS USDA Program Payment (EQIP and WHIP). The payment scenarios are based on typical conservation practice installations in typical settings. They do not include extra costs incurred by unusual or extreme circumstances encountered during practice installation.
13. **Update** to Section IV-A-1 (Conservation Practices) – Replace O&M Package Cover Sheet and Table of Content. A few minor changes have been made.
14. **Update** to Section IV-A-1 (Conservation Practices) – Revised Transition to Organic Production Practice Standard.
15. **NEW:** Section II-D-5 – the new ‘**ESA Compliance**’ subsection under ‘Threatened and Endangered Species’ contains the following reference materials:
 - ESA Procedural Guidance,
 - Species Town List,
 - Practice Effects (NRCS Practices Effects on Threatened and Endangered Species,
 - CPA-52B - Request For T&E Review,
 - CPA-52C - Authorization For Release of Plan,
 - USFWS Concurrence Letter,
 - Endangered Species Contact List,
 - Habitat Conservation Plans,
 - Bald Eagle Management Guidelines.
16. **Add** to Section I-A-15 (Reference Lists) - Ecological Sciences Reference #8: New England Mapping Conventions.
17. **Delete:** from Section IV-A-1 (Conservation Practices) – Forest Site Preparation – 490 Conservation practice Standard, Job Sheet and SOW have been deleted. New practice name ‘Tree/Shrub Site Preparation – 490’ will take its place.
18. **Add:** to Section IV-A-1 (Conservation Practices) – Tree/Shrub Site Preparation – 490 Conservation practice Standard, Job Sheet and SOW.

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

These changes have already been made in eFOTG. If you are still maintaining a hard copy of the FOTG, please make the appropriate copies and file accordingly. Discard all old copies. If you have any questions regarding this notice please feel free to call me.

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